

TOWN OF SOMERS  
BOARD OF FINANCE  
REGULAR MEETING  
MONDAY, JULY 27, 2009

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Jim Persano called the regular meeting to order, at 7:10pm. Members present were Steve Krasinski, George Warner and Marilyn Pronovost. Also present were Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA) Chairman Jim Botellio, First Selectmen David Pinney and Finance Director Greg Simmons.

Mr. Persano made a motion to take the agenda out of order to hear from those present regarding transfer requests. The board unanimously agreed.

Mr. Botellio explained that the transfer request from the WPCA for \$255,377 would enable the town to proceed with the project for water lines on Sunset Drive. This project is funded in a large part by the Federal Governments Clean Water Fund, which passes through the State's Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). The funds have been approved for the Somers project by the DEP for 100% of project costs excluding the cost of fire hydrants. The current estimate for hydrants is \$16,400. This amount could be less depending upon the recommendation by the Town's Fire Department for the number of hydrants needed.

The members of the Board felt we should have more solid assurance from the State that the funds will be provided for reimbursement and asked Mr. Botellio to obtain written confirmation of this fact. Mr. Botellio agreed to seek the confirmation and indicated that with the approval for the remainder of the design costs (\$12,700), the project could proceed pending the written confirmation for reimbursement.

*Mr. Warner made a motion seconded by Mr. Krasinski to approve a reimbursement appropriation of \$12,700 to Water Construction account #66-10-372.0 which will be reimbursed by the State. The motion was approved unanimously.*

*Mr. Krasinski made a motion seconded by Mr. Warner to approve a reimbursement appropriation of \$242,677 contingent on the Town receiving a written confirmation from the State Department of Environmental Protection that Federal Clean Water funds will be available for reimbursement to the Town. The motion was approved unanimously.*

Chief Pagani provided some explanations for the Fire Department transfer requests to the Board.

Mr. Warner questioned why there was so much capacity in the Health Insurance line item to cover these requests. Mr. Simmons said the health insurance estimate assumes traditional coverage for eligible participants; unfilled positions, waivers of coverage and employees electing the health savings high deductible account all save the town money in this line item.

Mr. Persano asked why there were overages in the heat and fuel line items. Chief Pagani said the Town entered into contracts with vendors for these fuels at rates that were higher than those anticipated at the time the budget was adopted. Mr. Simmons added that the lock in for heat was at \$3.65 a gallon and this caused problems with heat line items throughout the budget.

Chief Pagani said the current year's budget may not be sufficient for vehicle fuel depending on the pricing but he would stay within the bottom line budget for the Fire Department even if he has to cut back on other items to do so.

*Mr. Krasinski made a motion seconded by Mrs. Pronovost to accept transfer #63 (see detail below). The motion was approved unanimously.*

<u>Dept.</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Reason</u>
<b>7/27/2009 #63</b>				
Fire	Health/Bond insur.	Overtime	\$ 2,647.00	Cover overage for FY 08/09
Fire	Health/Bond insur.	PT salaries	\$ 181.00	Cover overage for FY 08/09
Fire	Health/Bond insur.	Volunteer stipend	\$ 2,751.00	Cover overage for FY 08/09
Fire	Health/Bond insur.	Printing & supplies	\$ 99.00	Cover overage for FY 08/09
Fire	Health/Bond insur.	New equipment	\$ 67.00	Cover overage for FY 08/09
Fire	Health/Bond insur.	Building maint.	\$ 2,140.00	Cover overage for FY 08/09
Fire	Health/Bond insur.	Vehicle maint.	\$ 7,159.00	Cover overage for FY 08/09
Fire	Health/Bond insur.	Vehicle fuel	\$ 10,616.00	Cover overage for FY 08/09
Fire	Health/Bond insur.	Heat	\$ 11,119.00	Cover overage for FY 08/09
Fire	Health/Bond insur.	Electricity	\$ 571.00	Cover overage for FY 08/09
Fire	Health/Bond insur.	Telephone & alarm	\$ 645.00	Cover overage for FY 08/09
Fire	Health/Bond insur.	Water	\$ 180.00	Cover overage for FY 08/09
Fire	Health/Bond insur.	Paid uniform	\$ 497.00	Cover overage for FY 08/09
Fire	Health/Bond insur.	Training	\$ 299.00	Cover overage for FY 08/09
Fire	Health/Bond insur.	Personal protective	\$ 1,182.00	Cover overage for FY 08/09
Fire	Health/Bond insur.	Gasoline allow.	\$ 1,449.00	Cover overage for FY 08/09
Fire	Health/Bond insur.	Health & safety	\$ 542.00	Cover overage for FY 08/09

## **II. BOARD OF EDUCATION UP DATE**

There was no update from the Board of Education.

## **III. BOARD OF SELECTMEN UPDATE**

There was no update from the Board of Selectmen.

## **IV. MINUTES APPROVAL**

*Mr. Krasinski made a motion seconded by Mrs. Pronovost to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of June 22, 2009. The motion was approved unanimously.*

## V. CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Simmons provided Chairman Persano with the engagement letter from the Town's auditors, Carlin Charron & Rosen, LLP for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2009.

## VI. BILLS, TRANSFERS AND APPROPRIATIONS

Mr. Krasinski made a motion seconded by Mr. Warner to approve transfers #57 to #62 and #64, #65, #66 and new fiscal year #1 (as shown below). The motion was approved unanimously.

<u>Dept.</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Reason</u>
<b>6/22/2009 #57 Note: Carryover from previous meeting</b>				
Selectmen	Additional Approp.	Social Svc. Director	\$ 15,000.00	
Selectmen	Municipal Agent	Social Svc. Director	\$ 7,698.00	Recognize \$15,000 of grant for salary support with balance from replaced positions and Board Secretary line item.
Selectmen	Recreation Coord.	Social Svc. Director	\$ 12,000.00	
Selectmen	Board Secretary	Social Svc. Director	\$ 500.00	
<b>7/27/2009 #58</b>				
Town Clerk	Advertising election	Asst. town clerk	\$ 467.00	Cover overage for FY 08/09
Planning	Dues & seminars	Cell phone	\$ 262.00	Cover overage for FY 08/09
Zoning	Advertising	Legal	\$ 419.00	Cover overage for FY 08/09
Fire Marshall	Fire system maint.	Salaries	\$ 2,424.00	Cover overage for FY 08/09
Public Safety	Clerical support	Salaries	\$ 3,204.00	Cover overage for FY 08/09
Public Safety	Equip. & supplies	Copy machine	\$ 156.00	Cover overage for FY 08/09
Public Safety	Uniform allowance	Cell phone	\$ 582.00	Cover overage for FY 08/09
Senior Center	Elderly bus	Sr. center expense	\$ 292.00	Cover overage for FY 08/09
<b>7/27/2009 #59</b>				
Highway	Salaries	Heat	\$ 3,913.00	Cover overage for FY 08/09
Highway	Salaries	Electric	\$ 122.00	Cover overage for FY 08/09
Transfer Station	Overtime	Operator MSW	\$ 2,065.00	Cover overage for FY 08/09
Parks	Equip. maintenance	Electric	\$ 1,947.00	Cover overage for FY 08/09
Transfer Station	Overtime	PT salaries	\$ 1,082.00	Cover overage for FY 08/09
Transfer Station	Landfill operation	Fuel	\$ 1,050.00	Cover overage for FY 08/09
Recreation	Shows & concerts	Youth services	\$ 360.00	Cover overage for FY 08/09
Other	Contingency	Police services	\$ 12,431.00	Cover overage for FY 08/09
<b>7/27/2009 #60</b>				
WPCA	Clerical support	Plant supervisor	\$ 143.00	Cover overage for FY 08/09
WPCA	Dues & seminars	Lagoon operation	\$ 152.00	Cover overage for FY 08/09
Ambulance	Vehicle fuel	Volunteer svcs.	\$ 1,500.00	Cover overage for FY 08/09
Ambulance	Vehicle maintenance	Volunteer svcs.	\$ 25.00	Cover overage for FY 08/09
Ambulance	Vehicle maintenance	Medical supplies	\$ 295.00	Cover overage for FY 08/09
Ambulance	Equip. maintenance	Oxygen	\$ 71.00	Cover overage for FY 08/09
Ambulance	Equip. maintenance	Training	\$ 110.00	Cover overage for FY 08/09
Ambulance	Pager purchase	Blood borne path.	\$ 136.00	Cover overage for FY 08/09
<b>7/27/2009 #61</b>				
Selectmen	Temporary salaries	Unemployment	\$ 957.00	Cover overage for FY 08/09
Selectmen	Temporary salaries	Office supplies	\$ 1,361.00	Cover overage for FY 08/09
Selectmen	Temporary salaries	Mileage	\$ 268.00	Cover overage for FY 08/09
Selectmen	Temporary salaries	Capital equip. repl.	\$ 125.00	Cover overage for FY 08/09

Selectmen	Temporary salaries	Fire protection	\$	1,103.00	Cover overage for FY 08/09
Selectmen	Health insurance	Heat	\$	14,150.00	Cover overage for FY 08/09
Selectmen	Social security	Heat Kibbe	\$	6,913.00	Cover overage for FY 08/09

**7/27/2009 #62**

Selectmen	Legal unions	Telephone	\$	2,114.00	Cover overage for FY 08/09
Selectmen	Legal unions	Streetlights	\$	348.00	Cover overage for FY 08/09

<u>Dept.</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Reason</u>
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**7/27/2009 #64**

Building/Planning	Open space	Computer service	\$	500.00	
Building/Planning	Engineering	Computer service	\$	2,500.00	
Building/Planning	10 year plan	Computer service	\$	2,000.00	
Building/Planning	Advertising	Computer service	\$	2,000.00	Acquiring permit tracking software for use by Land Use Department.
Building/Planning	Legal	Computer service	\$	1,500.00	

**7/27/2009 #65**

Public works	Tipping fees	Test well monit.	\$	5,000.00	DEP consent order non-compliance
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**7/27/2009 #66**

Selectmen	CCM grant revenue	CCM grant expense	\$	8,815.00	Preservation of farmland grant administered by CCM. No cost to the town.
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**7/27/2009 #1 Note: FY 09/10**

Parks	Fund 16	Field marking	\$	500.00	Bulk purchase on field paint. Fund from recreation fund #16.
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**VII. OTHER**

Mr. Pinney told the Board that the Town would be turning back approximately \$250,000 to the fund balance this year from the operating budget. This was achieved by closely monitoring costs throughout the year and will in effect off-set the amount needed for utilization in the current year's budget.

Mr. Pinney explained the transfer request for the Trappe property that the Board did not approve during that section of the agenda. This request is for property that abuts Town owned, State forest owned and Northern Connecticut Land Trust (NCLT) property and completes the protection of Bald Mountain. Two appraisals were obtained to verify the value of the 137 acre parcel. The purchase is being made with the Town's share of the costs coming from the Open Space Fund, which is restricted specifically for this type of purchase. The remaining share of the total cost of \$550,000.00 is being paid from NCLT and the State of Connecticut.

*Mr. Krasinski made a motion seconded by Mrs. Pronovost to approve the appropriations transfer to Open Space Land Acquisition for \$137,500.00 from the Open Space Fund. The motion was approved unanimously.*

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

*Chairman Persano made a motion seconded by Mr. Krasinski to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 pm.  
The motion was approved unanimously.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Greg Simmons, recording secretary

MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVAL AT A SUBSEQUENT MEETING