

**TOWN OF SOMERS
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES– REGULAR MEETING
Monday, June 16, 2008, Immediately following 7:00 p.m. Public Hearing
Town Hall Auditorium**

1. Location of emergency exits
2. Call to order – First Selectman Pinney called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m.
3. Members present – Kathleen Devlin and David Pinney. Also present was Marcia Mitchell, Exec. Asst./Ops. Mgr. as recording secretary; Donna Doyker, Tax Collector; members of the Playground Committee; and other interested citizens
4. Pledge of Allegiance – said at the Public Hearing prior to the meeting

Mr. Pinney moved directly to item 7.1 & 7.2 and said that items 5 & 6 would be handled at the conclusion of the awards presentation.

5. Correspondence – Mr. Pinney has received correspondence from the Economic Development Commission, discussion of which is deferred to the next meeting.
6. Citizen Comments – J.J. Wassmuth, Chair of the Recreation Commission, was present and asked to be heard regarding the potential of a new field at the Field Road facility. Not all the property pins have yet been located, so the potential for a new field is based only on the deed. Ms. Wassmuth commented that they had determined in discussions with Mike Provencher of the Parks Maintenance department that the project could be cost neutral, with the value of the lumber and gravel to be removed exceeding the cost of removal and surfacing of the field. Ms. Wassmuth wanted to know if any surplus funds might be applied to other needs at the Field Road facility, potentially the skate park. The size of any future skate park was also discussed, and clarification regarding an insurable size for the skate park was requested. Mr. Pinney commented that any income stream would need to be flowed through the Town accounts and allocated back out. Ms. Wassmuth commented that potential contractors could not be contacted to discuss material value vs. cost of removal until a survey is completed. It was determined that this topic should be discussed at a joint meeting of the BOS, the Recreation Commission, and the various sports organizations, which will be scheduled at a future date. Ms. Wassmuth also asked for permission to do a skateboard demo during the Arts & Crafts fair later this summer. She was asked to put this request in writing for the BOS to consider.
7. Old Business
- 7.1 Presentation of Adolph P. Anderson Quality Employee Award – Donna F. Doyker
- 7.2 Presentation of Robert B. Percoski Community Service Award – Playground Committee

At 8:10 p.m. after the presentations, Mr. Pinney called for a brief recess to allow the award recipients and their families/friends to enjoy some refreshments. Mr. Pinney reconvened the meeting at 8:30 p.m., beginning with item #5.

- 7.3 Consideration of proposed Tax Abatement Ordinance discussed at public hearing. Ms. Devlin and Mr. Pinney agreed to call a special meeting at which all three Selectmen would discuss the feedback from the Public Hearing and the proposed ordinance, and potentially make a decision. The special meeting will be held within the next 48 hours.

- 7.4 2008 budget status – not much to discuss. Mr. Pinney is developing a list of items/ services for potential use of any surplus funds prior to year-end.
8. New Business
- 8.1 Board/Commission Appointment – Robert Socha, Sr. to Library Building Committee. ***Ms. Devlin moved to appoint Robert Socha, Sr. to the Library Building Committee; Mr. Pinney seconded, and the motion unanimously carried.***
- 8.2 Consideration of proposed Tax Abatement Agreement between the Town and Woodcrest Elderly Housing LP. Both Mr. Pinney and Mr. Tolisano will attend the Board of Finance (BOF) meeting scheduled for 6/23/08 to review this agreement with its members.
- 8.3 Other – none at this time.
9. Authorization of Scheduled Payments & Tax Refunds – ***Ms. Devlin moved to approve 72 scheduled payments totaling \$169,680.78; Mr. Pinney seconded, and the motion unanimously carried.*** It was noted that none of these payments were for tax refunds.
10. Appropriations/Transfers
- 11.1 Transfer Request from Tax Office – ***Ms. Devlin moved to approve transfers from the office of the Tax Collector totaling \$585.01; Mr. Pinney seconded, and the motion unanimously carried.*** The approved transfer will be referred to the BOF.
11. Board of Selectmen Remarks – Ms. Devlin recommends that the BOS invite Mr. Thompson, a geothermal consultant to make a presentation to them regarding alternative energy sources potentially for the Library, Fire House, Woodcrest. The topic of July scheduled BOS meetings was discussed. Mr. Pinney will be away on 7/14, so the selectmen agreed to cancel the scheduled meeting on that day, but to schedule a special meeting after 7/14 to review year-end transfers prior to the next scheduled BOF meeting. The Selectmen asked Ms. Mitchell to coordinate both the presentation for a near-future meeting and the Special meeting.
- Mr. Pinney had on hand the minutes of the two BOS meetings held earlier in the month. Ms. Devlin moved that the minutes of the meetings held 6/2/08 and 6/5/08, be accepted as written; Mr. Pinney seconded, and the motion unanimously carried.
- Mr. Pinney said that he had received at least two requests for the BOS to consider the waiver of Transfer Station fees for low-income residents. He and Ms. Devlin agreed that a process is needed prior to adopting this waiver, and Mr. Pinney will strive to develop a process for an August 1, 2008 implementation date.
12. Citizen Comments – none at this time.
13. Adjournment – ***Ms. Devlin moved that the meeting be adjourned at 9:28 p.m.; Mr. Pinney seconded and the motion unanimously carried.***

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia L. Mitchell
Exec. Asst./Ops. Mgr.
Recording Secretary

MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVAL AT A SUBSEQUENT MEETING