

**TOWN OF SOMERS
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, August 27, 2009, 6:00 p.m.
Selectmen’s Conference Room**

- 1 Call to order – First Selectman David Pinney called the meeting to order at 6:14 p.m.
- 2 Members present – Kathleen Devlin, David Pinney & Joseph Tolisano. Marcia Mitchell was also present as recording secretary as well as two interested citizens.
- 3 Pledge of Allegiance
- 4 Correspondence - none
- 5 Citizen Comments - none
- 6 Old Business
 - 6.1 Board & Commission vacancies and potential appointments – the selectmen have met and discussed several vacancies with potential appointees, and acknowledged the Town Clerk’s notification that she had received Planning chair Karl Walton’s resignation. After brief discussion of the available appointees, ***motion by Ms. Devlin, seconded by Mr. Tolisano and unanimously carried to appoint:***
 - ***William Salka as a full member of the Planning Commission to fulfill the term vacated by Joseph Iadarola that expires 12/22/2012;***
 - ***Thomas Clark as a full member of the Planning Commission to fulfill the term vacated by Karl Walton that expires 12/22/2009; and***
 - ***Timothy Caravella as an alternate member of the Planning commission with a term that expires 12/22/2009.***
 - 6.2 Expanded operational plan – Mr. Pinney shared the specific items that will be assigned to the directors to fulfill the operational plan set forth at the last meeting. Mr. Tolisano suggested that the Directors be invited to an upcoming meeting for an update, and it was agreed that they would be invited to attend the regular meeting scheduled for Thursday, September 24.
- 7 New Business
 - 7.1 Appointment of Communications/RACES Officer – the selectmen welcomed Deputy Emergency Management Director Dan Thayer, who introduced George J. Collins to the board. Mr. Thayer and Mr. Collins gave an overview of the RACES (Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service) process and how it differs from the ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Service). Mr. Tolisano stated that it would be important for the town to have a RACES team in the event of any emergency where standard communications channels were impacted, and described the value of having a dedicated Communications Officer in the event of any emergency where the EOC needed to be opened. ***Motion by Ms. Devlin, seconded by Mr. Tolisano and unanimously carried to appoint George Collins as Communications Officer.***
 - 7.2 Accept property and easements from Four Bridges Road subdivision – ***Motion by Mr. Tolisano, seconded by Ms. Devlin and unanimously carried to accept property and easements as set forth in the approved Somers Sun Estates subdivision plan.***
 - 7.3 Energy conservation projects – Mr. Pinney informed the selectmen that there is an opportunity for the Town to apply for \$56,000 of funding under the ARRA for

energy conservation projects. He has been speaking with a resident, Peter Blauvelt, who has volunteered his services as an energy consultant to assist the town in determining where this funding might be best put to use. The selectmen welcomed Mr. Blauvelt's offer to share his expertise, and will look forward to hearing his recommendations.

- 8 Authorization of Scheduled Payments – ***motion by Mr. Tolisano, seconded by Ms. Devlin and unanimously carried to authorize scheduled payments totaling \$286,587.42.***
- 9 Appropriations/Transfers - none
- 10 Approval of Minutes – 8/13/09 & 8/24/09 – ***motion by Mr. Tolisano, seconded by Ms. Devlin and unanimously carried to accept the 8/13/09 minutes as written. Motion by Mr. Tolisano, seconded by Mr. Pinney, and unanimously carried (with Ms. Devlin abstaining as she was not present at the meeting), to accept the minutes of the 8/24/09 meeting as written.***
- 11 Board of Selectmen Remarks – Ms. Devlin raised the issue of the recent accident at the intersection of Stafford and Hampden Roads, and asked that the selectmen determine if there was any action that the BOS could take to make the intersection safer. Mr. Pinney reminded Ms. Devlin that studies had been done on the intersection in the past and that law enforcement had determined that the intersection was not a candidate for a traffic signal. Mr. Tolisano suggested that the pavement approaching the intersection be grooved as a warning of the required stop. Mr. Pinney said he would discuss this option with the Public Works director to determine if it was a feasible option.
- 12 Citizen Comments - none
- 13 Adjournment – the meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVAL AT A SUBSEQUENT MEETING