

**TOWN OF SOMERS
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, June 28, 2011
4:30pm
Selectman Conference Room**

Call to Order: First Selectman Lisa Pellegrini called the meeting to order at 4:30pm.

Members Present: First Selectman Lisa Pellegrini, Selectman Kathy Devlin and Budd Knorr. Also in attendance was Kimberly Marcotte, CFO, several Town Hall Staff Members, residents and special guest Staff Sergeant Brian Leibelt.

Presentation of American Flags by Staff Sergeant Brian Leibelt:

Staff Sergeant Leibelt presented the Town with a gift of two American Flags that were flown in Afghanistan. One of the Flags that were presented is a 10'x19' 'Post Flag' that was flown by Staff Sergeant Leibelt's Team at FOB Shank, Afghanistan on October 10, 2010. The second Flag is the normal size 'national color' was flown at the Headquarters, 19th MP BN (CID), Camp Sabalu-Harrison, Bagram Air Field, Afghanistan on November 19, 2010. Staff Sergeant Brian Leibelt is a 2001 graduate of Somers High School and has served three tours of duty in Iraq and Afghanistan training and mentoring Police Detectives in Logar and Wardak provinces. He is also the recipient of a Bronze Star. The Selectmen were extremely honored by such a gift and thanked Staff Sergeant Leibelt not only for this gift to the Town but also for his service to our Country.

Correspondence:

1. We received approval from Shelia Hummel the Community Development Manager from the Department of Economic and Community Development to move ahead with the revised spending plan for the remaining \$268,000.00 of 2006 and 2008 STEAP grant money for improvements to the Somersville Streetscape. The date has also been extended to June 30, 2012.
2. Mrs. Pellegrini received a proposal from a company regarding a program to provide citizens with their branded mobile applications (iPhone, Android and Blackberry) and their Interactive, social map widget for publicly reporting and routing non-emergency issues. The Board of Selectman discussed the way that citizens currently report non emergency issues and have decided that we already have in place the most efficient and effective reporting structure by way of telephone, email and the Town's website. To incorporate such another tracking method would cause confusion.
3. Mrs. Pellegrini received an email from David Pinney regarding a Missions Outreach ice cream social event to be held by the Somersville Congregational Church on 7/30/11; Mr. Pinney asked that the Board of Selectmen to attend, along with social services personnel however Mrs. Pellegrini will not be available on this date; the other Selectman were going to check their schedules to see if they could attend. Mrs. Devlin asked Mrs. Pellegrini to contact the Pastor to obtain more information about what is expected with regard to Social Services.

Set Town Meeting Date:

Mrs. Devlin made a motion to have the Town Meeting on July 25, 2011 at 7:00pm the meeting will cover the purchase of the Stevenson Property and the Town vs. Lipton/Gringas settlement, seconded by Mr. Knorr. A unanimous vote followed.

Town Insurance for 2011/2012:

Mrs. Pellegrini announced to the Board of Selectman that she recently met with Roy Ivins the Town's Insurance Consultant, Fire Chief Gary Schiessl and Fire Officer Rick MacDonald to discuss Insurance options for the Fire Department Buildings and Vehicles. Mrs. Pellegrini shared with the Board of Selectman what the Town currently has CIRMA insuring the LAP policy for Town Buildings and Vehicles and a separate policy for insuring the Fire Department Buildings and Vehicles. CIRMA now includes the same coverage as the separate fire department policy at a reduced cost. To eliminate the additional policy would save the Town \$26,000 a year. At the meeting fire personnel also agreed that it was prudent to make this change. CIRMA has quoted the Town \$166,405 for the combined coverage with a three year price guarantee. The fire department has an additional accidental policy that costs \$6,600.00. No decision was made to cancel the renewal this policy as Chief Schiessl has requested feedback from the broker as to the comparison of benefits. Mrs. Pellegrini stated it is not the Town's intent to reduce benefits for the volunteer firefighters. This is part of the Insurance Consultant's review of the Town's insurance programs.

Mrs. Devlin made a motion to go ahead with the purchase of the combined CIRMA LAP Insurance at \$166,405.00 per year with a 3 year rate guarantee, seconded by Mr. Knorr. A unanimous vote followed.

2011/2012 Budget:

Mrs. Pellegrini found an un-cashed check for a fee in lieu of Open Spaces; there was a document showing that the check was received but was not cashed. The Selectman discussed having an auditor come in to investigate to insure proper procedures are being followed regarding the collection of fees in lieu of Open Space, as well as determine what other checks may be uncashed.. Mrs. Pellegrini is following up with getting prices. Currently there is a standard operating procedure that all checks be received go through finance.

Capital Projects:

Mrs. Pellegrini announced that tires on the loader at the Transfer Station need to be replaced and the roof, gutters and fascia boards at the Police Station Garage are in severe disrepair and need to be replaced. The gutters fell off the building due to rotten fascia boards which also fell off the building. No one was injured during this occurrence. Money is available in the DPW budget for the tires and in the Selectmen Budget for Town Building Maintenance.

Mrs. Devlin made a motion to allow the purchase of the tires for the loader, as well as to repair the roof, and install new fascia boards and gutters at the Police Station Garage, seconded by Mr. Knorr. A unanimous vote followed.

Strategic Goals/Long Range planning:

1. Mrs. Pellegrini announced that the Septic Cleaning of Town Buildings went out to bid and Avery was the only bidder. However, the prices were very reasonable and actually less then what they are now paying for at the fire station.
2. Mrs. Devlin recommended that the Board of Selectman begin to develop their Board of Selectmen Strategic Plan starting next month at every other meeting and go over one item on the list whether it be the mission, long and short-term goals or opportunities. Mrs. Devlin also suggested notifying the Board of Directors to get their input as to what the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats are for the Town's long term goals.

Mrs. Devlin suggested that the Planning Commission and Town Attorney, Carl Landolina be invited to the next Regular Board of Selectman meeting on July 14, 2011.

Mrs. Pellegrini made a motion to use Avery for Town Building Septic Cleaning Services, seconded by Mr. Knorr. A unanimous vote followed.

Adjournment:

Mrs. Pellegrini made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:45pm, seconded by Mrs. Devlin. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kim LaFleur-Recording

Minutes are not official until accepted at a subsequent meeting.