

**TOWN OF SOMERS
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, March 1, 2017
2:30pm
Selectmen's Conference Room**

Call to Order: First Selectman Lisa Pellegrini called the meeting to order at 2:30pm.

Members Present: First Selectman Lisa Pellegrini and Selectmen Kathy Devlin and Bud Knorr. Also in attendance were CFO Michael Marinaccio, Senior Accountant Brian Wissinger, and Police Lt. Jose Claudio.

Pledge of Allegiance: All members participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Staffing- Library:

Ms. Pellegrini read a letter from Library Board Chairman Michelle Vargo and Library Director Jessica Miller recommending the hiring of Mr. Daniel Spada to fill the position of part time Teen/Reference Librarian.

Mrs. Devlin made a motion to accept the recommendation and approve the hiring of Mr. Daniel Spada as part time reference/teen librarian, seconded by Mr. Knorr. A unanimous vote followed.

FY17/18 Budget Discussion:

The Selectmen and staff continued working on the Police Budget. Several options were reviewed with Lt. Claudio. The Selectmen discussed the option of deleting the third Resident State Trooper and replacing the position with a Town Constable to maximize savings. Ms. Pellegrini wished to go on record stating she believed it would be best for the Town to keep the three Resident State Troopers as she believed additional analysis was needed to ensure the Town was ready to take on the responsibility of an additional full time constable. At this point she was not convinced that the dollar savings justified the change as she believed the framework was not in place to support the change. She also believed that if an additional constable was brought on board there would be an insufficient number of police cars available. Selectmen Devlin and Knorr supported replacing one State Trooper position with that of a full time constable. Lt. Claudio believed that he could get by without an additional vehicle, noting however that at some times it may prove to be difficult. If a vehicle was needed, one could be purchased using emergency CIP funds, however there would be a 6 to 8 month lead time. Noting that the decision was 2 to 1 it was decided to proceed with using the police budget option which included replacing a Trooper with a Constable to finalize the overall Town Budget.

Lt. Claudio left the meeting and the Selectmen began discussing the Town Budget in length.

At approximately 3:30pm the meeting was recessed. At approximately 4:15pm the meeting reconvened without the presence of Mr. Knorr.

Mrs. Devlin made a motion to approve the proposed FY2017/2018 Town Government Budget in the amount of \$7,789,524, which includes a 5.11% increase of \$378,675 from last year, seconded by Ms. Pellegrini. The motion passed.

Mrs. Devlin made a motion to approve the proposed FY2017/2018 Debt Service Budget in the amount of \$ 1,717,945, which includes a 0,1388% decrease from last year, seconded by Ms.

Pellegrini. The motion passed.

Mrs. Devlin made a motion to approve the proposed FY2017/2018 Capital Improvement Budget in the amount of \$250,000, which represents no change from last year, seconded by Ms. Pellegrini. The motion passed.

Minutes:

2/7/17 Regular Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes

2/14/17 Regular Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes

2/16/17 Regular Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes

Mrs. Devlin made a motion to approve the above the 2/7/17, 2/14/17 and 2/16/17 Regular Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes, seconded by Ms. Pellegrini. The motion passed.

Authorization of Scheduled Payments:

Mrs. Devlin made a motion to approve the authorization of scheduled payments in the amount of \$55,374.57, seconded by Ms. Pellegrini. The motion passed.

Adjournment:

Ms. Pellegrini made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:45pm, seconded by Mrs. Devlin. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Pellegrini -Recording

Minutes are not official until accepted at a subsequent meeting.