

**Town of Somers
Board of Selectmen
Minutes of Meeting August 24, 2017
Selectmen's Conference Room**

Call to Order: 6:02 P.M.

Members Present: First Selectman Knorr, Selectmen Potrikus and Devlin

Mill Demolition: First Selectmen Knorr reported on the first construction meeting. The first week entails sorting and stockpiling. On every day, air quality and safety are carefully monitored. Materials are being sorted, washed, bricks are being crushed. As the demo is being completed contaminated material is being removed to an out of state land fill that holds this type of material. The construction is a week behind schedule and the process is going to be sped up. The Town received 5000 yard of clean, washed fill from the Antonacci family. This amounts to a savings of \$65,000 for the project. The Board agreed upon a public thank you for such a generous offering.

Boards and Commissions: Betty Domer has resigned from the Ethics Commission. Mr. Knorr will ask Pat Kennedy if he would like to serve on this committee to replace Betty. Motion: Devlin. Second: Potrikus "To accept Mrs. Domer's resignation with regrets." Passed unanimously. Bud Knorr will send her a note of acknowledgement and thank her for her service to the Town.

Strategic Bonding Committee: Chairman of the Committee, Selectman Devlin, told the Board that based on the uncertainty of the times, and until there is stabilization at the Connecticut Legislature, it was prudent to delay further meetings for this committee. She sent a note to all participants explaining that during this hiatus, the Town officials would collect as much data as possible so when it seems acceptable to reconvene, the data will allow the committee to assess needs, costs, and prepare a futuristic vision and mission for the Town. The Board of Selectmen agreed to defer, prioritize, and spend time to look at the needs. Mr. Knorr said the Fire House repairs are top priority for him now, and when the group meets they need to also view the education needs.

Financial Update: Mike Marinaccio reported that he had sent a message to the Boards. He explained that what he and Brian Wissinger have prepared is a backup plan. The Town is in a 'wait mode' until the Legislature comes to an agreement. If there is no resolution before October 1st, the Board of Finance will be asked to vote. What it would comprise is a 6% cut, use of fund balance, and a tax increase. It would be an equivalent amount for all. He tried to make it very clear that this is a *working draft phase* now.

Road repairs were halted as of August 10th. Motion: Devlin. Second: Potrikus “To freeze overtime at the discretion of the First Selectman as requested” Passed Unanimously. Discussion continued the impact of the budget for the next few months, the ECS cuts proposed by the governor, the loss of revenue proposed by the governor through discontinuation of PILOT funds and Pequot grants.

Neither Sen. Kissel nor Rep. Vail responded to the Board request that they attend tonight’s meeting. Mr. Potrikus asked Bud Knorr to contact our State Representative and our State Senator to attend our next meeting.

Chief John Roach; Fire Chief John Roach has been accepted into the National Fire Academy Executive Fire Officers Program. This is run by FEMA and DHS. The first class is October 1. This is a distinguished honor and the Board of Selectmen. Motion: T. Potrikus. Second: K. Devlin “To allow Chief John Roach to participate in the program with the best of congratulations for his achievement.” Passed Unanimously.

Performance Objectives: Reminder messages have been sent by our Operations Manager and Kathy Devlin who chairs this effort. She will follow up with the remainder of participants who have not yet submitted them for their staff. At the suggestion of Mike Marinaccio, the Board is looking for three objectives maximum. This helps to set standards and review progress.

Caretakers of Soapstone Mountain: Tim Potrikus talked about the letter received from DEEP who claim they will rebuild the tower. The Caretakers have done a fabulous job and the Selectmen would like to ask the group if they need permits, timelines, and use of the Economic Development Commission once it is reopened to promote the destination in Somers. Mr. Potrikus it is better to get the wheels in motion to the advantage of the Caretakers. Us of the Journal Inquirer and the Town Facebook Page and Website are other avenues. The Board would like them invited to the next meeting.

ALS Town of Somers: Chief Roach has worked diligently with staff members and the Finance Department had reviewed with Chief the costs and revenues analysis. They recommend supporting the proposal, Motion: T. Potrikus . Second: Devlin “To approve the ALS recommended and provided by Chief Roach. Approved Unanimously.

Ordinances: Selectwoman Devlin suggested that at the next BOS meeting, the Board review and move forward with ordinances already under legal review and review rules associated with public meetings including the use of video, audio and live streaming. The Board agreed to review the standards adopted by the Board of Education and will review those recommended by the Mayor of South Windsor.

Approval of Payments: Motion: T. Potrikus. Second: Devlin. “To approve payments in the amount of \$633, 998.10. “ Passed Unanimously

Adjournment: 7:00 P.M. “Motion: Potrikus. Second: Devlin . Approved Unanimously

Recorded by: Kathleen A. Devlin

Minutes are not Official until Approved at a Subsequent Meeting