

**Town of Somers  
Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes  
September 7, 2017 7:00 P.M.  
Selectmen's Conference Room**

**Call to Order:** 6:00 P.M.

**Present:** First Selectman Bud Knorr, Selectman Tim Potrikus, and Selectman Kathy Devlin

**Board and Commissions:** Pat Kennedy(D) has accepted the appointment to the Ethics Commission and is going for the CCM training program. Mr. Knorr acknowledged the resignation of Betty Domer with a thank you note and apprising her of the Board acceptance of her resignation.

**Chief John Roache:** The Fire Chief reported on a meeting with the Four Town Fair officials relative to man hours for the Fire Watch. Motion: Tim Potrikus. Second: Kathy Devlin "To allow Mr. Van Tassel to participate in the discussion with Chief Roache relative to the Fair Fire Watch.

The agreement is for a 30 man-hour (total) fire watch based on crowd attendance. It is as follows:

|           |             |                          |
|-----------|-------------|--------------------------|
| Friday:   | one Fireman | 6 :00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M. |
| Saturday: | two Firemen | 12:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M. |
| Sunday:   | one Fireman | 11:00 A. M. to 5:00 P.M. |

Because of the language within the union contract the use of the career staff requires notice of duty several days in advance. The schedule accounts for the use of the career staff, meeting the qualifications for fire and EMS duties, with a total cost of \$1200. The Chief and the Fair Association discussed that the need would be reduced if the crowds were lighter, due especially from a possible storm. In that case, the solution needed to be made for the assumption of the expenses. The Chief cannot remove the hours, thus if it rains, he will move the staff to work at the Fire House on other projects. The chief also said that he cannot mandate the additional 20 hour of the Fair, there will be no EMS on site from the Town based on the conversation with the Fair Association. Mr. Van Tassel commented that the police are on the site for every open hour and there is 24-hour coverage. Budget wise, the Association could not pay more than the \$1200. He also said that the conversation with the Fire Chief was very favorable. Mr. Potrikus said that if there are any questions, and if the Association hears rumors, call the Selectmen. This is an important Town event.

To handle the needs Mr. Van Tassel said the Association will all 911 if needed, Police are EMR, not EMT. There will be equipment on the site during the Fire Watch, and the Association has fire extinguishers and first aid supplies. He said they understand the risk. When questioned about

the parking situation, there is insurance on several of the parking lots, parking lot patrons, private property, etc.

**Motion: Potrikus. Second: Devlin. Passed Unanimously; “If weather causes attendance levels to decrease the crowd numbers to a level that would not require Fire Watch, the Town agrees to waive those hours and the fees for those hours and the assignment of personnel will be managed at the discretion of the Fire Chief”**

**Director of Public Works:** Todd Rolland spoke to the Selectmen and presented a letter from Sherry Yarrows, transition teacher at Somers High School. She had asked Mr. Rolland to place a student in the program who is interested in landscaping with the Park group for four hours a week. This would take place during the regular hours a student would be in the school program.

**Motion: Devlin. Second: Potrikus. “To approve the request from Mrs. Yarrows.” Unanimously approved.**

**Financial Overview:** Director of Finance, Mike Marinaccio provided over the impact of the lace of a Legislative decision on the State Budget regarding Town planning., Mr. Marinaccio feels it is important to wait until the State makes a decision. There are some new proposals that came out today but since there is no clear direction nor agreement at the State level, he will wait to make recommendations and frugally use the funds to cover current bills. There is a three-way stalemate at the current time. He will speak with the Board of Education, share the facts to date and ask them to walk carefully before cutting positions, perhaps discuss with them a future furlough situation.

Mrs. Devlin and Mr. Potrikus will attend a CCM meeting on Public Health to better understand the Public Health initiative to investigate public health activities at a local level.

**State Elected Officials:** Mr. Knorr confirmed for the Board that neither the State Representative nor the State Senator responded to the request to attend the Board of Selectmen meetings twice. Mr. Potrikus asked that the First Selectman reach out once again for the next Board meeting.

**Scheduled Payments: Motion: Devlin. Second: Potrikus approved unanimously. “To approve payments in the amount of \$212, 4786.61”**

**Adjournment: Motion: Knorr. Second: Potrikus. Approved unanimously. 6:45 P.M.**

**Respectfully submitted: Kathleen A Devlin**