TOWN OF SOMERS BOARD OF SELECTMEN SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, June 26, 2018 4:00PM – Selectmen's Conference Room

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by First Selectman Knorr at 4:02PM.

Members Present: C.G 'Bud' Knorr, Somers First Selectman; Kathy Devlin, Somers Board of Selectmen; Tim Potrikus, Somers Board of Selectmen; Mike Marinaccio, Somers CFO; John Roache, Somers Fire Chief; Brian Wissinger, Somers Assistant Controller; Hon. John Kissel, State Senator; Scott Semple, Commissioner, DOC; Angel Quiros, District Administrator, DOC; Monica Rinaldi, Deputy Commissioner DOC; Edward Maldonado, District Administrator, DOC; David McCluskey, Legislative Liaison, DOC

Mr. Knorr read a letter he had addressed via email on May 29, 2019 to State Senator John Kissel.

Mr Wissinger presented a financial recap and the impact of reduced PILOT funding as an additional burden on the Somers residential and business taxpayers.

Chief Roache expressed the demands on staff and equipment for responses to prison related calls.

Mr. Knorr expressed concern about future deficits at the State level, and the importance of PILOT funding. Senator Kissell stated his support for PILOT, and the complexities surrounding the budget process at the State level.

Comm. Semple stated that Osborne has approximately 1,300 inmates and surmised that the growth in population of inmates over 40 years of age indicates an aging population with increased medical needs.

Chief Roache reviewed the ALS and Ambulance licensing requirements, along with the Public Service Area (PSA) and reviewed the processes for emergency and non-emergency response calls at the prison.

A discussion ensued encompassing the need of additional response equipment, staffing and training; and the possibility of the DOC offsetting those expenses.

Chief Roache clarified that although mutual aid from neighboring towns is under formal arrangement, volunteer staffing at the supporting departments can result in staffing falling short of expectations.

The group discussed the possibility of Somers acquiring a transfer license for non-emergency responses.

Comm. Semple asked to be kept informed should the Town of Somers decide to pursue a request of the State for funding an ambulance, staff, training, or license changes. The Commissioner suggested tat Somers leadership meet with the director of Department of Public Health through Senator Kissel's office; Senator Kissel offered the support of his office for the Town's requests.

Comm. Semple recognized Chief Roache's recent response drill at Osborne as a very positive endeavor.

Mr. Knorr adjourned the meeting at 4:50PM

Respectfully submitted, Tim Potrikus, Selectman

Minutes are not official until accepted at a subsequent meeting