

**TOWN OF SOMERS
BOARD OF SELECTMAN
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
December 21, 2021
Town Hall Selectmen's Conference Room**

Call to order: First Selectman Tim Keeney call the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

All members participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present: First Selectman Tim Keeney, Selectmen Bill Meier and Bob Schmidt.

Correspondence (Acknowledgement of USA Hauling Community Development Funds) Mr. Keeney announced the Town received \$5,000.00 from USA Hauling for Community Development The Board of Selectmen thanked them for their contribution.

Discuss and Consider a plan of Replacement of the Town Sanitarian Position:

Mr. Keeney provided the sequence of events as to why the Town is currently looking for replacement of the Town Sanitarian. Mr. Keeney's recommendation is hire Andrea Vitrano as the full time Sanitarian with an annual salary of 62,000.00 and as she successfully acquires the necessary certifications she will be compensated accordingly. Mr. Keeney also recommended to the Town hire Steven Knauf, Registered Sanitarian as a per diem employee with an hourly wage of \$45.00. up to 15 hours a week on an as needed basis. Mr. Knauf has worked as a Town Sanitarian and Chief Sanitarian for a Regional Health Department for 35 years. He will assist Ms. Vitrano with field visits to get the necessary experience and certifications. A lengthy discussion followed.

Mr. Schmidt made a motion to hire Andrea Vitrano as a full time employee at a starting salary of \$62,000. With a start date of 1/3/22, as well as to hire Steven Knauf as a per diem employee averaging about 15 hours a week at a rate of \$45.00 an hour, seconded by Mr. Meier. Both motions passed.

As a follow up with the hiring of Andrea and Steven, Mr. Meier recommended the Ad Hoc Committee be dissolved since their work is complete.

Mr. Meier made a motion to dissolve the Ad Hoc Committee effective immediately and the Board of Selectmen will take on the role of monitoring and evaluating the health needs of the Town of Somers, seconded by Mr. Schmidt. The motion passed.

Discuss and Action to set Newly Elected Town Clerk Salary:

The Board of Selectmen had a lengthy discussion about the salary for the newly elected Town Clerk.

Mr. Meier requested the following be noted in the minutes:

The Board of Selectmen recommend before the next municipal election there be consideration of establishing a salary for the position on the ballot and also consider establishing a salary schedule.

Mr. Meier made a motion to set the Town Clerk's annual salary at \$67,000.00, seconded by Mr. Schmidt. The motion passed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Anticipated executive session for the purpose of discussing documents and communications privileged by the attorney-client relationship.

Mr. Meier made a motion to go into executive session at 6:25 and invited Attorney Patrick McHale, seconded by Mr. Schmidt. The motion passed. Those in executive session included: First Selectman Tim Keeney, Selectmen Bill Meier and Bob Schmidt, with Attorney Pat McHale joining by phone.

Executive Session ended at 7:10pm.

Adjournment:

Mr. Meier made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:10pm, seconded by Mr. Schmidt the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Kim LaFleur

MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVAL AT A SUBSEQUENT MEETING

Video of this meeting can be found at
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uWqywN77sMI>