

**TOWN OF SOMERS  
BOARD OF SELECTMAN  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
February 10, 2022  
6:00pm  
Town Hall Lower Level Auditorium**

**A.) CALL TO ORDER: First Selectman Tim Keeney called the meeting to order at 6:06pm.**

1. Pledge of Allegiance – All members participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call - First Selectman Tim Keeney, Selectmen Bill Meier and Bob Schmidt, Assistant Finance Director Brian Wissinger, CFO Michael Marinaccio, Social Services Director Allison Maynard, Police Administrator Kim Littig, Trooper Robert Connor, Police Officer Michael Hevey, Veteran Affairs Director David McCaffrey, DPW Director Todd Rolland and Town Assessor Walter Topliff.

**B.) PUBLIC COMMENT:**

1. Public Comment: None

**C.) EXECUTIVE SESSION: NONE**

**D.) PRESENTATIONS BY THE FIRST SELECTMAN**

Mask Policy - Mr. Keeney announced that Somers has lifted the indoor mask mandate effective February 8, 2022 in all municipal building; this applies to fully vaccinate individuals. We respectfully ask that all unvaccinated individuals continue to wear a mask in municipal buildings. The town decided to lift the mask mandate due to the growth in vaccination rate and the declining positivity rate in Somers.

ARPA Small Business and Non Profit Grant Program Kick-off Ceremony: Mr. Keeney announced the kick off meeting will be held on February 22, 2022 at 1:00pm here at Town Hall joining the Board of Selectmen will be U.S. Congressman Courtney, Senator Kissel, State Rep Vail and U.S. Senator Blumenthal along with local business owners and non-profits organizations.

Presentation by Public Health Director Luigi Sartori – N/A Mr. Sartori was not able to attend the meeting due to personal reasons, Mr. Keeney state that Luigi will respond to any written requests, and will be available by phone for any necessary future discussions.

Mr. Keeney announced that the Board of Selectmen will take a recess at 7:00pm to conduct a Special Town meeting and then re-adjourn immediately after.

**E.) CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Boards and Commissions: Appointments/Resignations –N/A

**F.) OPPORTUNITY TO ADD URGENT AGENDA ITEMS**

**G.) FINANCE REPORT**

1. Transfers/Amendments – N/A

2. CFO Finance Report/Updates: Mr. Marinaccio reported on the ARPA Fund Small Business program and gave handouts of the program announcement post card that will be mailed to all Town businesses and not profits, given out around town and available in all Town Buildings, Mr. Marinaccio briefly reported on the Governor’s proposed budget and pilot funds.

3. Presentation and approval of scheduled payments:

***Mr. Schmidt made a motion to approve the authorization of scheduled payments in the amount of \$92,837.95, seconded by Mr. Meier. The Motion unanimously passed.***

**H.) UPDATES FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

**I.) PENDING BUSINESS**

1. Discussion and possible action on approving recommended Vendor for Police Body Cameras and other equipment. Received Attorney Comments. Contract is with Vendor for revisions. **Officer Michael Hevey provided an update. A discussion followed.**

**J.) NEW BUSINESS**

1. Discussion and Possible Action on Youth Services Advisory Committee Ordinance: **Pending review by Town Attorney**

2. Land Use Director Job Description and Salary Recommendation:

***Mr. Meier made a motion to approve the job description for the Land Use Director with a Salary range of \$84,000.00 – 92,000.00 and forward the request to the Board of Finance for consideration for funding, seconded by Mr. Schmidt. The motion unanimously passed.***

3. Set Public Informational Meeting Date to Discuss the Retail Sales and Growing of Recreational Cannabis and to Take Public Comments:

Mr. Keeney proposed March 17, 2022 at 7pm for a public informational meeting to discuss the retail sales and growing of recreational cannabis and to take public comments.

Mr. Keeney proposed including a survey in the Somers Connects, with the following questions

- Do you think that Somers should allow a retail establishment that sells recreational Marijuana? Yes or No
- Do you think that Somers should allow for a grower to cultivate recreational marijuana? Yes or no

A discussion followed. The Board agreed on adding the following two questions:

1. Are you a Somers Resident
2. Are you 18 years or older.

4. Department of Public works

1. CIP Request for improvements in Kibbe Fuller building and Senior Center.

Mr. Rolland presented the CIP items to the Board of Selectmen. A discussion followed.

***Mr. Schmidt made a motion to approve the CIP requests not to exceed 35,000.00 for improvements in Kibbe Fuller building and Senior Center, seconded by Mr. Meier. The motion unanimously passed.***

5. Budget Workshop

1. Assessor: Mr. Topliff presented the FY 2022/23 Assessor Budget for consideration. A discussion followed.

2. Social Services: Ms. Maynard presented the FY 2022/23 Social Services Budget for consideration. A discussion followed.

***Mr. Meier made a motion to recess the Board of Selectmen at 7:00pm until the conclusion of the Special Town Meeting, seconded by Mr. Schmidt. The motion unanimously passed.***

***Mr. Keeney called the meeting back to order at 7:14pm.***

**Mr. Meier made a motion to add to the agenda the approval of an expense for separation payments to former of employees, seconded by Mr. Schmidt. The motion unanimously passed.**

**Mr. Meier made a motion to authorize the Town Treasurer to issue payments in the amount of \$107,446.05, payments to the following individuals are Steven Jacobs in the amount of \$43,312.01,**

**Ann Marie Logan in the amount of \$56,450.84 and Marie Caron in the amount of \$7,683.20, seconded by Mr. Schmidt. The motion unanimously followed.**

3. Veterans Affairs: Mr. McCaffrey presented the FY 2022/23 Veterans Affairs Budget for consideration. A discussion followed.

4. Police: Ms. Littig presented the FY 2022/23 Land Use Budget for consideration. A discussion followed.

5. Information Technology (IT): Mr. Wissinger presented the FY 2022/23 IT Budget for consideration. A discussion followed.

6. Revenues: The Board Reviewed the expenditures and a discussion followed.

**K.) APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Approval of Minutes of February 3, 2022 Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

The Board of Selectmen waives the reading of the minutes of the Regular Meeting from February 3, 2022 and that minutes of said meeting be approved.

**Mr. Schmidt made a motion to approve the Minutes of February 3, 2022 as presented, seconded by Mr. Meier. The motion unanimously passed.**

**L.) ADJOURNMENT:**

**Mr. Schmidt mad a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:10pm, seconded by Mr. Meier. The motion unanimously passed.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Kim LaFleur-Recording

*Minutes are not official until accepted at a subsequent meeting.*