

**TOWN OF SOMERS
BOARD OF SELECTMAN
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, January 5, 2023
Town Hall Auditorium**

A.) CALL TO ORDER:

Tim Keeney called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

All stood and joined the Board in the Pledge.

2. Roll Call

In attendance was Bill Meier and Bob Schmidt. Also in attendance was Mike Marinaccio, Brian Wissinger, Todd Rolland, Dan Parisi, David McCaffrey, Allison Maynard, Glen Reynolds, and member of the public.

B.) PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Public Comment:

Ralph Williams, 42 Springfield Street spoke on the recent appointments and non-appointments on the zoning board. Ralph's frustration is that those appointed and not re-appointed were not posted on an agenda.

Colleen Reidy, 1116 Enfield Street spoke on the reappointment of Pat Loftus to the Cemetery Committee. Jeffrey Cross of the same address also spoke on the same topic, and both requested that she not be reappointed.

Ann Levesque, 230 Four Bridges Road spoke in support of Pat Loftus. Ms. Levesque also spoke on the need to improve the audio in the auditorium. Brian Wissinger told Ms. Levesque that the project is underway and should be completed by the end of the month.

C.) PRESENTATIONS BY THE FIRST SELECTMAN

Tim Keeney informed the Board that the Federal Omnibus Appropriations Bill had passed and within it was an EPA grant for the WPCA for \$945,000 for improvements to the Sewer Treatment Plant.

There are 2 upcoming public meetings; January 13 at 9:00 am at the Senior Center and January 17 at 6:00 pm at the Town Hall Auditorium to understand and discuss the potential for the new Somers Senior/Community Center.

Keeney gave the Board a list of priority projects in the coming year. This list is the Senior/Community Center Referendum on May 16, Somersville Bridge Project, the intersection improvements for 83/190, Somersville Mill Redevelopment, and the ongoing discussion of EMS service delivery to the Town of Stafford.

D.) CONSENT AGENDA

1. Boards and Commissions: Appointments/Resignations:

- Appoint Pat Pio to a full member of the Planning Commission (12/22/2026) and to appoint him as the Conservation Commission Representative (12/22/2025)

Bill Meier made a motion to appoint Pat Pio as a full member of the Planning Commission with a term expiring 12/22/2026 and to appoint Pat Pio as the Conservation Commission Representative with a term expiring 12/22/2025, seconded by Bob Schmidt. There was no further discussion and a unanimous decision followed.

- Pat Loftus Reappointment to the Cemetery Commission (12/22/2026)

Bill Meier made a motion to appoint Pat Loftus to the Cemetery Committee with a term expiring 12/22/2026, seconded by Bob Schmidt. A very lengthy discussion followed. The motion was called to a vote and a unanimous decision followed.

E.) OPPORTUNITY TO ADD URGENT AGENDA ITEMS

No items were added to the agenda.

F.) FINANCE

a) Transfers/Appropriations

There were none.

b) CFO Finance Report/Updates

Mike Marinaccio informed the Board that a mailer for every household was set to be delivered informing residents of the 2 previously mentioned Senior/Community Center meetings.

Marinaccio and Keeney met with solar consultants regarding their RFP for solar panels at the landfill.

c) Presentation of Scheduled Payments

Bill Meier made a motion to approve the payments of \$370,559.59, seconded by Bob Schmidt. There was no further discussion and a unanimous decision followed.

G.) UPDATES FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

There were none.

H.) PENDING BUSINESS

There was none.

I.) NEW BUSINESS

(a) Recommendation to Hire Taylor Setzler for the Position of Prevention Coordinator – Allison Maynard

Bob Schmidt made a motion to hire Taylor Setzler for the position of Full-Time Prevention Coordinator with a salary of \$55,000, seconded by Bill Meier. There was no further discussion and a unanimous decision followed.

(b) Accept Resignation of Assessor Walter Topliff, Jr. – Mike Marinaccio

Bill Meier made a motion to accept the resignation of Town Assessor Walter Topliff, seconded by Bob Schmidt. There was no further discussion and a unanimous decision followed.

(c) Request Position Changes – Building Inspector – Tim Keeney

Bill Meier made a motion to authorize the job posting for a full-time building inspector with a salary range of \$80,000 - \$95,000, seconded by Bob Schmidt. There was no further discussion and a unanimous decision followed.

(d) Local Traffic Authority – Install Wayfarer Signs (Library) - Todd Rolland

Bob Schmidt made a motion to authorize Todd Rolland to install wayfarer signs on Ninth District Road and to request that CT-DOT OSTA review and determine if the request is warranted on SR-190, seconded by Bill Meier. There was no further discussion and a unanimous decision followed.

(e) CIP Items – Todd Rolland

Bill Meier made a motion to approve the recommendation to the CIP Committee for the FY2024 Capital Budget the requests for Police Security Cameras, Town Hall Improvements, Blacksmith Shop Roof Replacement, Underground Oil Storage Tank Monitoring System at the Fire Department, Fire Department Roof Replacement, and a replacement Snow Plow/Sander Dump Truck, seconded by Bob Schmidt. A request for duct cleaning in the tax office was removed from the request packets and will be added to operating expenses. A unanimous decision followed.

- (f) **Request to Install Disc Golf Course at Field Rd Park – Todd Rolland**
Bill Meier made a motion to approve the installation of a disc golf course at Field Road Park with the funds received from the Hartford Foundation Grant, with the edit to page 4 of the contract of the jurisdiction location, seconded by Bob Schmidt. There was no further discussion and a unanimous decision followed.
- (g) **Request to Sell excess DPW Truck – Todd Rolland**
Bob Schmidt made a motion to authorize the sale of an excess DPW Truck, seconded by Bill Meier. There was no further discussion and a unanimous decision followed.
- (h) **Request to Change Waste Oil Collection – Todd Rolland**
Bob Schmidt made a motion to change the waste oil collection process to an annual event, effective 7/1/2023, seconded by Bill Meier. There was no further discussion and a unanimous decision followed.
- (i) **EMPG Grant Resolution – Glen Reynolds**
Bill Meier made a motion to authorize the First Selectman to sign the EMPG Grant Resolution, seconded by Bob Schmidt.
Bill Meier asked about the receipt of prior year funds. Glen Reynolds said he would pursue the receipt of prior year's funds from the State.
There was no further discussion and a unanimous decision followed.

J.) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There were none.

K.) ADJOURNMENT

Bill Meier made a motion to adjourn at 8:02 pm, seconded by Bob Schmidt. There was no further discussion and a unanimous decision followed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brian Wissinger

MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVAL AT A SUBSEQUENT MEETING
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4FIU4XoiAQ0>