

**TOWN OF SOMERS
BOARD OF SELECTMAN
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, July 20, 2023
Town Hall Auditorium**

A.) CALL TO ORDER: First Selectman Tim Keeney called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

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, CFO Brian Wissinger, Land Use and Public Works Director Todd Rolland.

B.) PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Public Comment: none

C.) PRESENTATIONS BY THE FIRST SELECTMAN

First Selectman Keeney announced August 1, 2023, 6-8 pm, Somers is holding their First National Night Out in partnership with Somers Comes Together. The event will take place at 96 Field Rd. Park. Residents can meet their local Police and firefighters/EMTs.

D.) CONSENT AGENDA

1. Boards and Commissions: Appointments/Resignations:
 - a. Appointment of Matthew Cox as the Municipal Agent to the Elderly –
Mr. Meier made a motion to appoint Matthew Cox as the municipal Agent to the Elderly with a term expiring 12/22/25, seconded by Mr. Schmidt. The motion unanimously passed.

E.) OPPORTUNITY TO ADD URGENT AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Schmidt made a motion to add to the agenda a proposal from GEI Consultants and to authorize the First Selectman to sign the proposal, seconded by Mr. Meier. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Wissinger provided the scope of services and requested that the Board authorize the First Selectman to sign the proposal. The funding source will come out of Land and Building Services in the Selectman budget.

Mr. Meier made a motion to authorize the First Selectman to sign the agreement with GEI Consultants for the Somersville Mill as presented, seconded by Mr. Schmidt. The motion unanimously passed.

F.) FINANCE

- a) Transfers and Appropriations - None
- b) CFO Finance Report/Updates – Mr. Wissinger provided an update on training with the new financial software. CIP met on Tuesday, July 18th, the committee approved both bonding projects, and both bonding resolutions are in front of the Board of Selectmen this evening for approval.
- c) Presentation of Scheduled Payments
Mr. Schmidt made a motion to approve the scheduled payments in the amount of \$1,313,188.06, seconded by Mr. Meier. The motion unanimously passed.

G.) UPDATES FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSION

H.) PENDING BUSINESS

I.) NEW BUSINESS

1. Fire Department Update –
 - Chief Roache provided an update on the Suboxone program. Somers is the first in Ct and New England Department to go live with this program. In partnership with Johnson Hospital Trinity Health and CHR. It is for those suffering from opioid addiction and withdrawals. This provides another treatment option in the field that paramedics

can administer.

- Chief Roache announced after training this week that the ambulances will carry whole blood products for more traumatic injuries.
- Trinity went live with their paramedic services. They are predominantly getting tied up with transfers. They are helping slightly with the Stafford calls.
- Chief provided an update on Fire Marshall Services
- The Department is Working with Worthington Pond to install a Dry Hydrant at Worthington Pond through a DEEP Grant. It will help protect the area from Broadway to Camp Road on Mountain Road.

2. Authorize the First Selectman to Execute the Construction Agreement and all associated documents for the Pleasant View Drive Reconstruction Project.

Mr. Schmidt made a motion to authorize the First Selectman to execute the construction agreement and all associated documents for the Pleasant View Drive Reconstruction Project, seconded by Mr. Meier. The motion unanimously passed.

3. Authorize the First Selectman to Execute the Hurds Lake Dam Design and Option of Probable Construction Costs Proposal.

Mr. Meier made a motion to authorize the First Selectman to execute the Hurds Lake Dam Design as presented, seconded by Mr. Schmidt. The motion unanimously passed.

4. Accept the Resignation of Florence Hurley, Senior Center Program Coordinator, Effective June 30, 2023.

Mr. Schmidt made a motion to accept the Resignation of Florence Hurley, Senior Center Program Coordinator, effective June 30, 2023, seconded by Mr. Meier. The motion unanimously passed.

5. Authorize the First Selectmen to Sign the Contract between the State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, the Division of State Police, and the Town of Somers.

Mr. Meier made a motion to authorize the First Selectman to sign the contract between the State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, the Division of State Police, and the Town of Somers, seconded by Mr. Schmidt. The motion unanimously passed.

6. Discuss and Approve the Buyback of Lot 209 in Somers Center Cemetery.

Mr. Wissinger provided an update on Lot 209. The Cemetery Committee approved the buyback on 7/12/23 and now needs the Board of Selectmen's approval to authorize the buyback of Lot 209.

Mr. Schmidt made a motion to approve the Buyback of LOT 209, seconded by Mr. Meier. The motion unanimously passed.

7. Appropriation and Bonding Resolutions.

- a. Discussion and vote to adopt and recommend to the Board of Finance and to the electors and citizens eligible to vote at Town Meetings of the Town the following Resolutions:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$13,200,000 FOR THE SENIOR/COMMUNITY CENTER PROJECT AND THE FINANCING OF SAID APPROPRIATION BY THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS AND NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF SUCH BONDS IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$13,200,000, AS WELL AS ESTABLISHING A DATE FOR A REFERENDUM

Mr. Meier made a motion to approve the resolution authorizing an Appropriation of \$13,200,000 for the Senior/Community Center project and financing of said appropriation by the issuance of general obligation bonds and notes in anticipation

of such bonds in an amount not to exceed \$13,200,000, as well as establishing a date for referendum, seconded by Mr. Schmidt. A discussion followed. The motion unanimously passed.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$10,500,000 FOR THE HVAC AND ELECTRICAL SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT AND THE FINANCING OF SAID APPROPRIATION BY THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS AND NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF SUCH BONDS IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$10,500,000, AS WELL AS ESTABLISHING A DATE FOR A REFERENDUM

Mr. Schmidt made a motion to approve the resolution authorizing an appropriation of \$10,500,000 for the HVAC and Electrical Systems Improvements project and the financing of said appropriation by the issuance of general obligation bonds and notes in anticipation of such bonds in an amount not to exceed \$10,500,000, seconded by Mr. Meier. The motion unanimously passed.

b. Notice of Special Town Meeting and Referendum

- a. Provisionally call for a Special Town Meeting to be held at the Somers Town Hall Auditorium, 600 Main Street, Somers, Connecticut on Thursday, October 26, 2023, at 7:00 pm to consider and discuss, but not vote on, the resolutions.
- b. Remove the resolutions from the agenda of the Town Meeting and approve vote by voting machine and set the date for referendum on November 7, 2023.
- c. Authorize the preparation and printing of explanatory text and other materials in accordance with section 9-369b.

Mr. Schmidt made a motion to call for a Special Town Meeting to be held at the Somers Town Hall Auditorium, 600 Main Street, Somers, Connecticut on Thursday, October 26, 2023 at 7:00 pm to consider and discuss, but not vote on, the resolutions and remove the resolutions from the agenda of the Town Meeting and approve by vote of voting machine and set the date for referendum on November 7, 2023 and authorize the preparation and printing of explanatory text and other materials in accordance with section 9-369b, seconded by Mr. Meier. The motion unanimously passed.

c. Discussion and vote to approve the following Resolutions:

- a. **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SOMERS BOARD OF EDUCATION TO APPLY TO THE COMMISSIONER OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES AND TO ACCEPT OR REJECT A GRANT FOR THE SOMERS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL HVAC PROJECT AT THE SOMERS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Mr. Schmidt made a motion to authorize the Somers Board of Education to apply to the Commissioner of Administrative Services and to accept or reject a grant for the Somers Elementary School HVAC Project at the Somers Elementary School, seconded by Mr. Meier. The motion unanimously passed.

- b. **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SOMERS HVAC BUILDING COMMITTEE WITH REGARD TO THE SOMERS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL HVAC PROJECT AT THE SOMERS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Mr. Schmidt made a motion to authorize the establishment of the Somers HVAC Building Committee, consisting of
Superintendent or Designee (non-voting member)
Michael Briggs – Board of Education Member
Todd Rolland – Town Official
Jim MacFeat – District Maintenance
Paul Bohonowicz – Community Member/HVAC
Michael Marinaccio – Assistant Treasurer

with a term to expire upon completion of the Somers Elementary School HVAC Project at the Somers Elementary School, seconded by Mr. Meier. The motion unanimously passed.

- c. **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AT LEAST THE PREPARATION OF SCHEMATIC DRAWINGS AND OUTLINE SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE SOMERS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL HVAC PROJECT AT THE SOMERS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Mr. Schmidt made a motion to authorize at least the preparation of schematic drawings and outline specifications for the Somers Elementary School HVAC Project at the Somers Elementary School, seconded by Mr. Meier. The motion unanimously passed.

J.) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of Minutes of July 6, 2023, Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

The Board of Selectmen waives the reading of the minutes of the Regular Meeting from July 6, 2023, and that minutes of said meeting be approved.

Mr. Meier made a motion to approve the July 6, 2023, meeting minutes as presented, seconded by Mr. Shmidt. The motion unanimously passed.

K.) ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Meier made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:54 pm, seconded by Mr. Shmidt. The motion unanimously passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kim LaFleur-Recording

Minutes are not official until accepted at a subsequent meeting.