

**TOWN OF SOMERS
BOARD OF SELECTMAN
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, September 21, 2023
Town Hall Auditorium**

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

1. Pledge of Allegiance: All members participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Roll Call: First Selectman Tim Keeney, Selectmen Bill Meier and via telephone Selectman Bob Schmidt, CFO Brian Wissinger, Assistant Treasurer Michael Marinaccio, Director of Land Use and Public Works Todd Rolland, Fire Chief John Roache, Police Administrator Kim Littig, Emergency Management Director Anne Cournoyer and members of the Fire Department.

B.) PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Public Comment: **None**

C.) PRESENTATIONS BY THE FIRST SELECTMAN

First Selectman Tim Keeney made the following announcements:

- Town-wide tag sale is October 7th. More information is available on the Town website at www.somersct.gov.
- Friends of the Library Home Tour is Saturday, September 23, 2023, 10 am-3 pm.
- The Municipal Brownfield Grant Program application will be submitted to the (DECD) Department of Economic and Community Development grant on September 22, 2023.
- The Somers Cemetery cleanup will begin fall clean up on November 8, 2023, at the Town's three cemeteries: North Cemetery, West Cemetery, and Center Cemetery. All plot owners must remove all ornamentation before that date. After November 8th, any non-conforming items will be removed and placed in the rear disposal area at Center Cemetery to be removed at a later date. Seasonal items may be placed on grave lots after November 21, 2023. More information is available on the Somers website at www.somersct.gov.

D.) CONSENT AGENDA

1. Boards and Commissions: Appointments/Resignations:
 - a. Accept the Resignation of Mike and Eileen Blouin from the Open Space and Trails Committee with an effective date of September 28, 2023.

Mr. Meier made a motion to accept the Resignation of Mike Blouin of the Open Space and Trails Committee with an effective date of September 28, 2023. Seconded by Mr. Schmidt. The motion unanimously passed.

Mr. Meier made a motion to accept the Resignation of Eileen Blouin of the Open Space and Trails Committee with an effective date of September 28, 2023, seconded by Mr. Schmidt. The motion unanimously passed.

- b. Announce the Resignation of Stephen Getman from the Senior Advisory Committee effective 12.22.23. ***No action is required.***

E.) OPPORTUNITY TO ADD URGENT AGENDA ITEMS

F.) FINANCE

- a) Transfers and Appropriations - None
- b) CFO Finance Report/Updates – CFO Brian Wissinger provided an update on the financial software training.
- c) Presentation of Scheduled Payments
Mr. Meier made a motion to approve the Scheduled Payments in the amount of \$389,812.96, seconded by Mr. Schmidt. The motion unanimously passed.

G.) UPDATES FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS – None.

H.) PENDING BUSINESS - None.

I.) NEW BUSINESS

1. Staffing Request for Human Resources Generalist – Request to hire Sophia Bletsos as the part-time Human Resources Generalist for 28 hours with an hourly rate of \$33.00 and to include Medical, Dental, and Vision benefits. **Tim Keeney**
Mr. Schmidt made a motion to approve the hiring of Sophia Bletsos as the part-time Human Resources Generalist with an hourly rate of \$33.00 and to include Medical, dental, and vision benefits, seconded by Mr. Meier. The motion unanimously passed.
2. Local Traffic Authority Request for the 2023 Annual Holiday Festival Scheduled for Saturday, December 9, 2023. **Trooper Justin Pruess and Kim Littig**
Mr. Meier made a motion to approve the Local Traffic Authority requests for the 2023 Annual Holiday Festival Scheduled for Saturday, December 9, 2023, as presented, seconded by Mr. Schmidt. The motion unanimously passed.
3. Accreditation for Somers Police – Discussion and Authorize the First Selectman to sign the consulting agreement with Badge Six LLC. in the amount of \$7,665.00. **Trooper Justin Pruess and Kim Littig.**
Mr. Meier made a motion to approve the agreement pending the approval of the Town Attorney and authorize the First Selectman to sign the Agreement with Badge Six LLC. , seconded by Mr. Schmidt. The motion unanimously passed.
4. General discussion on the State Firefighter’s Cancer Bill(s) and potential impacts it will have for Somers. **John Roache**
Chief Roache presented the issues regarding the new CT Firefighter cancer mandatory regulations and the potential impact on Somers.
5. Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) Requests – **Todd Rolland and John Roache**
 - a. CIP Request for Replacement backup generator transfer switch for the Fire Department in the amount of \$20,000.
Mr. Meier made a motion to approve the Capital Improvement Project request for a backup generator transfer switch for the Fire Department in the amount of \$20,000, seconded by Mr. Schmidt. The motion unanimously passed.
 - b. CIP Request for funding for a diesel exhaust capture system for the fire station in the amount up to \$165,000.
Mr. Meier made a motion to approve the Capital Improvement Project request for a diesel exhaust capture system for the fire station in the amount up to \$165,000., seconded by Mr. Schmidt. The motion unanimously passed.
 - c. CIP Request for Fire Department SCBA and equipment washer up to \$ 60,000.
Mr. Meier made a motion to approve the Capital Improvement Project request for Fire Department SCBA and equipment washer up to \$60,000., seconded by Mr. Schmidt. The motion unanimously passed.
 - d. CIP Request for new gear racks and storage system so the fire department can accommodate new PPE storage requirements up to \$10,000.
Mr. Meier made a motion to approve the Capital Improvement Project request for new gear racks and storage system so that the Fire Department can accommodate new PPE storage requirements up to \$10,000., seconded by Mr. Schmidt. The motion unanimously passed.
6. Accept the resignation of FF/EMT Mathew Manzione as per the terms of the union contract.

Mr. Meier made a motion to accept the resignation of FF/EMT Mathew Manzione as per the terms of the Union Contract, seconded by Mr. Schmidt. The motion unanimously passed.

7. Authorization to post for the position of Part-time Firefighter/EMT for the Somers Fire Department. **John Roache**

Mr. Meier made a motion to authorize the posting of the part-time Firefighter/EMT for the Somers Fire Department, seconded by Mr. Schmidt. The motion unanimously passed.

J.) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of Minutes of September 7, 2023, Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

The Board of Selectmen waives the reading of the minutes of the Regular Meeting from September 7, 2023, and that minutes of said meeting be approved.

Mr. Meier made a motion to approve the minutes of September 7, 2023, as presented, seconded by Mr. Schmidt. The motion unanimously passed.

K.) ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Meier made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 p.m., seconded by Mr. Schmidt. The motion unanimously passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kim LaFleur-Recording

Minutes are not official until accepted at a subsequent meeting.