

**TOWN OF SOMERS  
BOARD OF SELECTMAN  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
Thursday, October 19, 2023, at 6:00 pm  
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 Bob Schmidt, CFO Brian Wissinger, Library Director Joanne Nichting, Assistant Land Use Director/Zoning Enforcement Officer Jennifer Roy, and Zoning Commission Chairman Karl Walton.

**B.) PUBLIC COMMENT:**

1. Public Comment: None

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

**First Selectman Tim Keeney announced the following items:**

- Drug takeback is on Saturday, October 28, from 10 am – 1 pm at the Somers Fire Department.
- A Solar Farm is being proposed on the Bordeaux property at 159 South Road on Rt 83. Mr. Keeney requested a Public Hearing from The Executive Director of the Sighting Council for any concerned residents. The meeting of the Sighting Council to consider the application is on November 9, 2023. There is potential for the Public Hearing to be on the same day. Residents would be able to participate in person or via Zoom meeting.
- A presentation of the Bond referendum packages for the HVAC and Senior/Community Center will be on October 24<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 at the Senior Center, and a Special Town Meeting on Thursday, October 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm in the Town Hall Auditorium.
- On October 18, 2023, the Town of Somers participated in the Statewide Emergency Response drill. Over 80 Towns were involved.
- Somers Team met with the Department of Transportation regarding the intersection at Rt. 83 and Rt.190. The Department of Transportation would like to hold a public informational meeting to present two options:
  1. Re-alignment so that it is more of a direct crossing.
  2. A rotary.The gold building has the historical significance of an 1830 foundation. The Department of Transportation would have to move the building for both options.

Mr. Meier attended the Somers Fire Department annual awards banquet this week. The following individuals were recognized for their years of service. Deputy Chief Greg Smith 25<sup>th</sup> years of service, Deputy Chief Keith Allard 40 years of service and past Chief Ed Pagani recognized 40 years of service. Firefighter Sam Corriveau received the Firefighter of the Year award, and EMT Cadence Bidwell received the Emergency Medical Service Member of the Year. Mr. Meier thanked them all for their service.

**D.) CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Boards and Commissions: Appointments/Resignations:

- E.) **OPPORTUNITY TO ADD URGENT AGENDA ITEMS-**  
*Mr. Schmidt made a motion to add the agenda item to the agenda. To accept the resignation of Taylor Setzler, Substance Use Prevention Coordinator, seconded by Mr. Meier. The motion unanimously passed.*

*Mr. Schmidt made a motion to accept the resignation of Taylor Setzler, Substance Use Prevention Coordinator, seconded by Mr. Meier for discussion. The motion was unanimously passed.*

F.) **FINANCE**

- a) Transfers and Appropriations – none
- b) CFO Finance Report/Updates:

Mr. Wissinger provided updates on the following items:

- Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) approved the gear washer, exhaust ventilation system, and gear racks that the Board of Selectmen previously approved.
- Mr. Wissinger proposed a new debt service fund to the Board of Finance last month. If the Board of Finance approves the creation of the fund, it will come before the Board of Selectmen to create an Ordinance to set the legislation around how the fund acts. The fund would pay for current and future debt service, and it would allow the smoothing of any future debt issuance with the Mil Rate. A discussion followed.

- c) Presentation of Scheduled Payments

*Mr. Schmidt made a motion to approve the scheduled payments in the amount of \$153,269.59, seconded by Mr. Meier. The motion passed.*

G.) **UPDATES FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSION**

Update from the Zoning Commission Chairman Karl Walton and Jennifer Roy, Assistant Land Use Director/Zoning Enforcement Officer

Mr. Walton and Ms. Roy provided an update on the Zoning Commission. A discussion followed.

H.) **PENDING BUSINESS**

I.) **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Accept the Resignation of Firefighter Christopher Uyar effective October 24, 2023.  
**John Roache**  
*Mr. Schmidt made a motion to accept the resignation of Firefighter Christopher Uyar with an effective date of October 24, 2023, seconded by Mr. Meier. The motion unanimously passed.*
2. Library Staffing Request. Request to hire Taylor Reynolds as the Children's Library Assistant with an hourly rate of \$16. with a start date of Monday, November 20, 2023.  
**Joanne Nichting**  
*Mr. Meier made a motion to hire Taylor Reynolds as the Children's Library Assistant with an hourly rate of \$16. And a start date of Monday, November 20, 2023, seconded by Mr. Schmidt. The motion unanimously passed.*
3. Provide an Update on the Human Resources Position. **Tim Keeney**  
Mr. Keeney provided an update on the Human Resources position. A discussion followed.

- J.) Approval of Minutes of October 5, 2023, Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen.  
The Board of Selectmen waives the reading of the minutes of the Regular Meeting from October 5, 2023, and that minutes of said meeting be approved.  
***Mr. Meier made a motion to approve the minutes of October 5, 2023, as presented, seconded by Mr. Schmidt. The motion unanimously passed.***
- K.) **ADJOURNMENT:**  
***Mr. Schmidt made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:11 pm, seconded by Mr. Meier. The motion unanimously passed.***

Respectfully Submitted,

Kim LaFleur-Recording

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