

**TOWN OF SOMERS
BOARD OF SELECTMAN
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, December 21, at 6:00 pm
Town Hall Auditorium**

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

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, Town Assessor Karen Neal, Land Use and Public Works Director Todd Rolland, Veterans Affairs Director David McCaffrey and two concerned citizens Colleen Reidy and Dorothy Reidy.

B.) PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Public Comment: Dorothy Riedy of 104 Heritage Drive, Springfield Ma. 01129. Ms. Riedy made a complaint about someone approaching her at the Cemetery while visiting her grandson's grave. A discussion followed.

C.) PRESENTATIONS BY THE FIRST SELECTMAN

First Selectmen Tim Keeney made the following Announcements:

- A decision was released from the Connecticut Supreme Court this week, the Supreme Court found in Favor of the Town of Somers the defendant. The owners of the vehicles that were registered out of Town are required to pay the taxes in the amount of \$20,572.23. The Town paid about the same amount in legal fees.
- The Department of Economic and Community Development came out with a statement that the Governor approved \$7.2 million in Brownfield relief funds. Somers applied for this grant last summer and was on a list to receive funds in the amount of \$995,000. The Town received notification that the Department of Economic and Community Development and Office of Brownfield Remediation and Development (OBRD) finds that the grant monies is contingent upon Low Income Housing credits and other Connecticut Housing Finance Authority sources of funds which have not been secured. The conditional offer from the Department of Economic and Community Development is one year 12/31/2024. Mr. Keeney and others are working with Mathew Robayna of WinnCo to work on the validation of the low-income Housing Finance Authority to secure the funds.
- There was a public Informational meeting held on December 13, 2023, at 6pm by the Department of Transportation in the Town Hall Auditorium with regards to Intersection improvements at Route 190 and Route 83. The Department of Transportation showed 3 proposals for the intersection and took public comments.

D.) CONSENT AGENDA

1. Boards and Commissions: Appointments/Resignations:
 - a. Resignation of Susan Peck from the Zoning Board of Appeals as of 12/22/23.
Mr. Meier made a motion to accept the resignation of Susan Peck from the Zoning Board of Appeals as of 12/22/23. Seconded by Mr. Schmidt. The motion unanimously passed.

- b. Sidewalk Ad Hoc Committee Reappointment term expiration date is when project is completed.

Mr. Schmidt made a motion to appoint Stephen Getman, Jim O’Hearn, Peter Settevendemie, Patrice Carson, Bradley Pellissier, Karl Walton until the project is complete, seconded by Mr. Meier. The motion unanimously passed.

Member	Representative of	Voting Member	Date of Appointment	Term Expiration
Stephen Getman	Advisory Committee for Seniors	Y	01/12/23	
Jim O’Hearn	Economic Development	Y	01/12/23	
Dan Thayer	Interested Citizen	Y	02/02/23	
Peter Settevendemie	Interested Citizen	Y	02/02/23	
Patrice Carson	Open Space & Trails	Y	01/12/23	
Brad Pellissier	Planning Commission	Y	01/12/23	
Karl Walton	Zoning Commission	Y	01/12/23	
Todd Rolland Town Liaison, Non-Voting	Public Works	N	01/12/23	

- E.) OPPORTUNITY TO ADD URGENT AGENDA ITEMS** – Mr. Meier had a couple of follow up items from the prior Cemetery presentation. He asked Mr. Wissinger to follow up in January on two items. 1. Who has authority over the Cemetery funds. 2. Regarding the Committee governing rules (scope of the Committee), are they finalized?

F.) FINANCE

- a) Transfers and Appropriations – Transfer Request for to cover additional cost of Fire Marshal services proved to Stafford due to the Building Inspector Agreement in the amount of \$4,024.90. A discussion followed.
- b) CFO Finance Report/Updates – Mr. Wissinger provided the Audit packages from Mahoney and Sabol. The same packages were also provided to the Board of Finance at their regular meeting. A discussion followed.
- c) Presentation of Scheduled Payments

Mr. Schmidt made a motion to approve the payments in the amount of \$293,709.90, seconded by Mr Meier. The motion unanimously passed.

G.) UPDATES FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSION

Update from Director of Veterans Affairs David McCaffrey – Mr. McCaffrey provided an update on Veterans Affairs. A discussion followed.

H.) PENDING BUSINESS- None

I.) NEW BUSINESS

1. Request to purchase nearmap software in the amount of \$7,976.25 and authorize the First Selectman to sign the contract. **Todd Rolland and Karen Neal**
Mrs. Neal presented the request to purchase nearmap software. A discussion followed.

Mr. Schmidt made a motion to approve the purchase of nearmap software in the amount of \$7,976.25, seconded by Mr. Meier. The motion unanimously passed.

2. Request to approve the annual Spring Splash for March 23, 2024(with a rain date of March 30, 2024) and authorize the First Selectman to approve the Resolution - **Todd Rolland.**

Mr. Meier made a motion to approve the Spring Splash for March 23, 2024(with a rain date of March 30, 2024) and authorize the First Selectman to approve the Resolution, seconded by Mr. Schmidt. The motion unanimously passed.

3. Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) Requests Fire Department – **John Roache**
 - a. Replace Service 246 – Ford Expedition Proposed Acquisition Cost: \$85,000
 - b. Repair and refinish the bay floors Proposed Acquisition Cost: \$110,000
 - c. Mini-split HVAC unit Proposed Acquisition Cost: \$10,000
 - d. Radio infrastructure upgrades Proposed Acquisition Cost: \$65,000
 - e. Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) – Qty 7 Proposed Acquisition Cost: \$82,000

Mr. Meier Made a motion to approve the repair and refinish the bay floors in the amount of \$110,000. Seconded by Mr. Schmidt. The motion unanimously passed. All other proposed Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) items were tabled.

4. 2025 Budget Calendar and Budget Discussion – **Brian Wissinger**
Mr. Wissinger provided the Board of Selectmen with the Budget Calendar. A discussion followed.

- J.) Approval of Minutes of December 7, 2023, Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen.
The Board of Selectmen waives the reading of the minutes of the Regular Meeting from December 7, 2023, and that minutes of said meeting be approved.

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

- K.) **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Meier made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:45pm, seconded by Mr. Schmidt. The motion unanimously passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kim LaFleur-Recording

Minutes are not official until accepted at a subsequent meeting.