

Town of Somers
Board of Finance – CIP Committee
Thursday, March 6, 2014
7:00PM
Town Hall, Selectmen's Conference Room

Meeting was called to order at 7:05PM

Present: Michael Parker, Steven Krasinski, Bill Boutwell, Lisa Pellegrini

In attendance: Kathy Devlin, Budd Knorr, Sgt. Jose Claudio, CT State Police,
Mike Marinaccio

Lisa Pellegrini presented a proposal to alter the makeup of the police contingent providing services to the Town. It was proposed that the current sergeant and a state police officer, currently assigned, would for personal reasons retire from the State Police and obtain positions as constables in and for the Town. Retiring Sgt. Claudio would be named a Lieutenant.

Following the retirements, the available officers would consist of two full-time constables, three resident troopers and three part-time constables.

In order to facilitate the change, the Selectmen requested the immediate purchase of 3 police vehicles, 2 standard cruisers and an SUV, with radios, computer mounts and a single computer. In addition, there was a request for a single, portable radio.

Several members of the Board of Finance had indicated a need for a Memorandum of Understanding between the Town and the State Police regarding the supervision and control issues that might be expected to arise where the resident State Police troopers were in a position to respond to directives from a Town constable. The Committee was advised that such a Memorandum of Understanding was not likely to be reached with the State Police. In lieu of a Memorandum of Understanding, the Lieutenant (Jose Claudio) would develop written policies to govern the various supervision and control issues as they developed. He would work on a case by case basis with the State Police to implement the written policies.

Members Parker, Krasinski and Pellegrini expressed confidence in Sgt. Claudio's ability to carry out the process described above. Parker expressed the notion that we seemed about to enter a new form of police operations. So long as Sgt. Claudio, a known officer with demonstrated ability, was involved we should be fine. Difficulties might arise, however, if Sgt. Claudio was not available and the Town was left with an incomplete operations policy.

A discussion ensued as to the number of police vehicles required in fiscal year 2014.

Upon motion by Steve Krasinski to recommend to the Board of Finance to acquire a cruiser and an SUV with associated equipment and one portable radio for not more than \$78,000 in order to fulfill the Selectmen's staffing plan after April 1, 2014 (Bill Boutwell, second), the motion unanimously approved.

Upon motion by Steve Krasinski to adjourn (Bill Boutwell second), the motion was unanimously approved at 8:25PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael D. Parker, chair