

**TOWN OF SOMERS
CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
Monday, March 25, 2013
7:00PM – Somers Town Hall**

1. **Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order by the chairman at 7:02PM.
2. **Members Present.** Bill McGurk, Erik Ness, Tim Potrikus, Linda Roberts and Ralph Williams all in attendance.
3. **Approval of Minutes.** A motion to approve the Minutes from February 25, 2013 was made by Mr. Williams, second by Mr. Ness. Unanimous; motion passed
4. **Add/Delete Agenda Items.** A correction to agenda item 7 was made under Add/Delete Agenda Items so that item 7 now reads “Discussion and Vote on Posting of Land Use Applications.”
5. **Correspondence.** There was no correspondence reported.
6. **Discussion and Vote on School and Town Budget.** A motion was made to table until the next meeting the Discussion and Vote on School and Town Budget by Ms. Roberts, seconded by Mr. McGurk. Unanimous; motion passed.
7. **Discussion and Vote on Posting of Land Use Applications.** A motion was made to approve the Notice to Property Owners by Mr. Williams, second by Ms. Roberts. A discussion on the use of the singular “sign” or plural “sign or signs” was raised. The motion was revised to include the changes. Unanimous; motion passed. A copy of the approved draft is attached.
8. **Update on Status of Requests to First Selectmen re: Fire Commission Ordinance.** There was no update available for this meeting.
9. **New Business.** There was no new business reported.
10. **Action Items/Agenda for next meeting – (April 8, 2013).** Discussion of items for the April 8 agenda was noted. Results will be posted on the agenda for April 8, 2013.
11. **Adjournment.** A motion for adjournment was made by Ms. Roberts, second by Mr. Williams. Unanimous, meeting was adjourned at 7:34PM

Recommendation to Board of Selectman for presentation in Spring, 2013
Approved March 25, 2013

The Charter Revision Commission recommends an ordinance to require posting of land-use applications.

- 1.) Whenever an application is made that requires review and/or approval by the town's Planning Commission, Zoning Commission, Conservation Commission, or Zoning Board of Appeals, the applicant shall place a sign or signs on the affected property so that the notice can be seen from all abutting streets.
- 2.) The sign or signs, to be provided by the town's land use office, shall be placed within 10 feet of each street line or in such other location that is clearly visible to the general public. The text shall read: "This property is the subject of a land-use application before the town of Somers. Information is available at Town Hall."
- 3.) The sign or signs shall be posted at least 10 days prior to the first meeting at which any of the above commissions is to discuss the application and shall remain posted until such time as any and all commissions have completed consideration of the application, and shall then be returned to the land use office within five days of the completion of consideration.
- 4.) A deposit for the sign or signs, refundable at the completion of consideration, will be payable when obtained at the land use office. An affidavit to be executed by the applicant or his agent certifying the placement and maintenance of signage in accordance with the provisions of this ordinance must be filed with the land use office before the first meeting at which any of the aforementioned commissions will discuss the application.

Rationale: Decisions affecting the town's development, especially those requiring the approval of public agencies, are by their nature a matter of public interest. Posting of the affected property gives notice to any and all residents, affording them an opportunity to comment and to observe the deliberations.