

**TOWN OF SOMERS
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES
April 28, 2011
Town Hall Auditorium
6:00pm**

Call to Order – First Selectman Lisa Pellegrini called the public hearing to order at 6:03pm.

Members Present – First Selectman Lisa Pellegrini, Selectmen Kathy Devlin and Bud Knorr, and CFO Kim Marcotte and many interested citizens.

2011 Small Cities Grant Public Hearing Discussion and Decision –

The purpose of the hearing was to discuss the Fiscal Year 2011 Community Development Block Grant Program and to solicit citizen input. Mr. Peter Sanborn from Community Opportunities Group, Inc. explained the Small Cities Grant to the audience, stating the national objectives of the grant are for projects which benefit low and moderate income persons, eliminate blight and meet critical community need. The Town is applying for the grant to complete Phase II of Woodcrest. This project meets the requirement as it benefits low and moderate income persons. Mr. Sanborn explained that grant funding has been reduced this year to \$12.3 million from \$14.7 million and it is very competitive. In addition, the primary focus will be for projects for housing. He also explained that a Small Cities Grant was received for the construction of Phase I of Woodcrest.

Housing Authority Chairman David Pinney was introduced and stated that he was pleased that the Board of Selectmen was supportive of this application. He explained how Phase I was paid for and stated that he understood that there would be no tax abatement for Phase II. Mr. Knorr asked how long the tax abatement was for Phase I and Mr. Pinney stated that it was for a total of 20 years. It was anticipated that PILOT fees would be paid to the Town. Mr. Knorr asked what the amount would be and Mr. Pinney stated that 10% of the shelter rent is anticipated to be between \$25,000 and \$30,000 for Phase II.

Woodcrest Developer Mr. Harvey Edelstein of REDI was introduced and shared with audience the visual conception drawings of the development. He explained that there would be a total of 54 new units with 12 units reserved for residents at 25% medium income. The units would be handicapped or handicapped adaptable.

Mrs. Pellegrini thanked the presenters and asked if there were any comments or questions from the audience. There were none.

Mrs. Devlin made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:35pm, seconded by Mrs. Pellegrini. A unanimous vote followed.