

**TOWN OF SOMERS  
BOARD OF FINANCE  
REGULAR MEETING  
MONDAY, APRIL 24, 2006**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting was called to order by Chairman James Persano at 8:32 p.m. Present were: Stephen Krasinski, Thomas Mazzoli, Michael Parker, James Persano, Marilyn Pronovost and George Warner. Also attending: Treasurer Edward Sullivan and First Selectman David Pinney.

**II. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS**

Carlin, Charron & Rosen has submitted a proposal which includes a 3.8% increase over last year. No other bids were sought.

A motion was made by Michael Parker, seconded by George Warner and unanimously approved to appoint Carlin, Charron & Rosen as the auditors for the 2006-2007 fiscal year.

**III. 2006-2007 PROPOSED BUDGET**

A motion was made by Marilyn Pronovost and seconded by George Warner to move forward with the 2006-07 budget as proposed and ask that the Board of Selectmen call a Town Meeting for revenues of \$25,518,701.00 and expenditures of \$25,518,701.00. The Town Meeting is to be on May 8, 2006 and the referendum will be on May 16, 2006.

Mr. Krasinski asked First Selectman David Pinney to clarify issues regarding highway maintenance. Mr. Pinney stated that he was aware of concerns expressed over the proposed budget increase for highway maintenance not being as high as what the Public Works Department had originally requested and residents comments that some of the highway repair issues were not being addressed. He added that the chip-sealing cycle of 11 miles of road per year is appropriate and has not been decreased.

Eventually the Town will have to repave the subdivision roads, which is a long-term challenge. Mr. Pinney noted that after the October 2005 flooding, the crack sealing work was stopped and some of the maintenance work that was scheduled to be done was not completed. Expense reports have been submitted to FEMA and the funds received may be put back into the road account to provide the necessary funding for getting the maintenance work back on schedule. Also, road expenses are eligible for LOCIP funding. He noted that next year's budget is proposing a \$20,000.00 increase in road maintenance.

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Tom Chilicki, Recreation Department, joined the meeting at this time and was asked about the athletic field concerns brought up at the public hearing. Mr. Chilicki explained that the field is in need of irrigation. The field has new top soil and seed, but putting fertilizer on it without the necessary watering is a waste of money.

A request was made to CIP for a pump irrigation system with a well, but the request did not make it onto the CIP list for 2006-07 budget year. A portable irrigation system would be expensive and the option of pumping up the water from the brook would require the purchase of a pump, requiring buying a pump similar to the pump which would have to be purchased with a well irrigation system.

The Recreation Department determined that the backstops and fences were necessary for safety reasons, which is why these were requested first. The fences were budgeted at \$24,000.00.

Mr. Krasinski suggested a reallocation of the CIP budget to put in the irrigation system rather than the fences. He requested an amendment to the original motion to include the provision that the details outlining the use of the \$517,000.00 proposed for CIP are not yet approved and will not be until after the referendum. This would provide time for the Recreation Department to gather more specific information regarding the irrigation system to present for consideration.

An amended motion was made by Stephen Krasinski, seconded by Michael Parker and unanimously approved to move forward with the 2006-07 budget as proposed, with the condition that the details outlining the use of the \$517,000.00 proposed for CIP are not yet approved and will not be until after the budget referendum. The Board of Selectmen will be asked to call a Town Meeting on May 8, 2006, for revenues of \$25,518,701.00 and expenditures of \$25,518,701.00. The referendum will be on May 16, 2006.

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**IV. RECOMMEND MIL RATE** - This item was deferred.

**V. CORRESPONDENCE**

A memo was received from Ed Sullivan dated April 18, 2006 updating the Board of Finance on the Somersville Sewer Plant Expansion. He reminded the Board that the Town will need to pay

one-half of the total cost of the expansion. This will mean an expenditure of \$300,000.00 or more which will be presented to the Board of Finance after the start of the fiscal year in July 2006 and which is not included in the 2006-07 proposed budget. Should the mill project move forward, the Town may receive partial reimbursement of it's share.

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## **VI. MINUTES APPROVAL**

A motion was made by Stephen Krasinski, seconded by George Warner and unanimously voted to approve the minutes of the February 27, 2006, March 6, 2006, March 13, 2006, March 20, 2006 and March 27, 2006 meetings of the Board of Finance as presented.

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**VII. MINUTES CORRECTIONS** – There were none.

## **VIII. BILLS, TRANSFERS AND APPROPRIATIONS**

A motion was made by Tom Mazzoli, seconded by Stephen Krasinski and unanimously voted to approve the payment of a bill from Printing Inc, LLC dated April 10, 2006, in the amount of \$440.00 and the following transfers and appropriations:

From the Fire Marshal a transfer of \$75.00 from Acct. 20-10-565.1 (Uniforms) to Acct. 20-10-534.2 (NFPA Membership).

From the Tax Collector a transfer of \$75.00 from Acct. 10-13-599.1 (Tax Collection) to Acct. 10-13-534.1 (Dues and Seminars).

From the Library a transfer of \$1,000.00 from Acct. 50-21-611.1 (Services) to Acct. 50-21-559.1 (Heat).

From the Assessor a transfer of \$273.00 from Acct. 10-15-521.1 (Copy Machine) to Acct. 10-15-532.1 (Computer Services) and a transfer of \$102.00 from Acct. 10-15-533.1 (Postage) to Acct. 10-15-532.1 (Computer Services).

From the Fire Department a transfer of \$2,500.00 from Acct. 20-16-568.1 (Training) to Acct. 20-16-531.1 (Building Maintenance).

From the Town Clerk a transfer of \$89.32 from Acct. 10-12-521.1 (Copy Machine) to acct. 10-12-520.1 (Supplies) and a transfer of \$32.00 from Acct. 10-12-521.1 (Copy Machine) to Acct. 10-12-534.1 (Dues/Seminars).

From Capital Projects a transfer of \$3,176.94 from Acct. 69-10-235.3 (Contingency) to Acct. 69-10-160.1 (Police Building).

From Elderly Bus an appropriation of \$12,401.74 to Acct. 68-10-634.3 (Elderly Bus).

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**IX. OTHER** - No other business was presented.

**X. ADJOURNMENT**

It was the consensus of the Board to adjourn the meeting at 9:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Timmons, Recording Secretary

MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVAL AT A SUBSEQUENT MEETING.