

**TOWN OF SOMERS
BOARD OF FINANCE
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
SOMERS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AUDITORIUM
APRIL 26, 2011**

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman, Jim Persano called the special meeting of the Board of Finance to order at 9:15 pm.

Members: Michael Parker, George Warner and Marilyn Pronovost were present and constituted a quorum.

Also present First Selectman, Lisa Pellegrini, Kathy Devlin and Bud Knorr, of the Board of Selectmen, and Town CFO, Kim Marcotte. Dr. Maynard Suffredini, Bill Boutwell and Tim Potrikus from the Board of Education, along with a large crowd of interested citizens were also present.

II. BUDGET DISCUSSION:

Mr. Warner addressed the strong support during the public hearing to increase the mil rate by 1.00 rather than the half mil that is proposed which would result in a reduced reliance on the general fund balance. Ms. Pronovost noted that less reliance on fund balance is the prudent thing to do considering the use of fund balance in the current fiscal year and uncertainty with the state funding. Mr. Parker did not see the impact of returning the \$75,000 in funding back to the Town and BOE although he was not happy with the reduction to the library. Mr. Parker believes that the general fund balance should be used to balance the budget as it was money that has already been paid by the taxpayers. He could support an increase of .70 mills to reinstate the budget funding. Mr. Persano wanted to protect the fund balance and budgets by increasing the mil rate by a full point this year rather than waiting until next year. The members debated various mil rates, use of fund balance and budget scenarios.

Motion by Mr. Persano to reinstate the previous budget reductions of \$75,000 to the Town and \$75,000 to the BOE, to propose a mil rate increase of 1.00 mil which would bring the proposed 2011-2012 mil rate to \$22.12 per \$1,000 of assessed value and to reduce the use of general fund balance to \$247,034 in the 2011-2012 revenues. Seconded by Ms. Pronovost and unanimously voted as approved.

Motion by Mr. Persano to recommend that the 2011-2012 Town of Somers budget consisting of total revenues of \$28,254,522 (including the use of \$247,034 of general fund balance) and the total expenditures of \$28,254,522 be submitted to a Town Meeting for a subsequent vote at referendum. Seconded by Ms. Pronovost and unanimously voted as approved.

III. APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT AUDITOR FOR FY2011

Ms. Marcotte distributed copies of a letter from Scott Trenholm, Partner, CCR, as to this firm's proposed auditing fee of \$40,000.00, which is the same as 2010.

A motion was made by Mr. Warner to engage the firm of CCR for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011 with the fee not to exceed \$40,000; seconded by Mr. Persano, and unanimously voted as approved.

IV. BILLS, TRANSFERS and APPROPRIATIONS:

Ms. Marcotte presented the following transfers and appropriations:

Transfer/ Appropriation	Dept.	Amount	From Account	To Account	Explanation
1. Appropriation/Transfer	Fire/Ambulance	\$2,000	Uniforms	Vehicle Maintenance	Vehicle maintenance, equipment & building maintenance requirements
		\$750	Oxygen	Vehicle Maintenance	
		\$1,000	Radio Maintenance	Building Maintenance	
		\$1,000	Laundry	Equipment Maintenance	
		\$500	Volunteer Stipend	Gas Allowance	
		\$1,000	Part time	Overtime	
		\$1,500	Volunteer Stipend	Vehicle Maintenance	
		\$375	Volunteer Stipend	Fire Chief Stipend	
		\$500	Copier Maintenance	Water	
		\$646	Other Revenue	Building Maintenance	

A motion was made by Mr. Warner to approve the above listed Selectmen Transfer; seconded by Mr. Mazzoli, and then unanimously voted as approved by the members.

Remaining Transfers/Appropriations on agenda deferred until the 5/23/2011 BOF regular meeting.

V. ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Mr. Parker to adjourn the April 26, 2011, Board of Finance special meeting at 9:55 pm; seconded by Mr. Warner, and unanimously voted as approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Marcotte, CFO

MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVAL AT A SUBSEQUENT MEETING.