

**TOWN OF SOMERS
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES - SPECIAL MEETING
January 5, 2005 - 9:00 a.m.
Selectmen's Conference Room**

1. Call to Order:

First Selectman David Pinney called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

2. Members Present:

Selectmen David Pinney, Kathy Devlin and Ernie Allsup along with citizen representatives Fred Meyer and Jordan Chatis; Everett Morrill of Public Works and Ed Sullivan, Treasurer.

3. Review Transfer Station Budget with Everett Morrill

Discussion with Everett Morrill regarding current and historical expenses paid out of the Transfer Station operating line. It was suggested and the group agreed that it would be useful for monitoring and budgeting processes to break out into separate lines some of the utility and equipment maintenance items that are currently lumped together into the one line.

There was considerable discussion about the current and historical status regarding the amount of trash processed through the Transfer Station as well as picked up and disposed of by Somers Sanitation. It appears that the volume of trash has increased rather dramatically and there is not a clear explanation as to why this has been the case. Discussion will continue about potential responses to this area of increasing cost.

4. Budget Discussions for Fiscal Year 2005-2006

Discussion about the Treasurer's memo to all town departments as to 2005-06 budget requests. The group agreed to suggest to the treasurer that the recommendation regarding budget increase be modified so as to identify 3% as the target for all town departments.

There was general discussion and development of a list of critical areas on which to focus during the development of FY 06 budget proposals. Those areas included are:

- Transfer station
- Assessor's Office
- Land Use Office
- Police Trooper
- Senior Services
- Social Services
- Employee Health Benefits

- Budget Referendum Questions

Jordan Chatis offered some suggestions about developing a town government organization chart to use in conjunction with identifying percentages of the town

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budget devoted to different departments. He also wondered what potential there might be in soliciting donations to support special opportunities and doing more in soliciting grants to support town needs.

5. Adjournment:

- Kathy Devlin made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Ernie Allsup and unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Pinney
First Selectman

TOWN OF SOMERS

MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVAL AT A SUBSEQUENT MEETING.