

**TOWN OF SOMERS
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES - REGULAR MEETING
Monday, May 1, 2006
7:00 p.m.
Town Hall Auditorium**

1. Call to Order:

First Selectman David Pinney called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Location of Emergency Exits: unnecessary, less than 100 in attendance.

3. Members Present:

Selectmen David Pinney and Ernie Allsup

4. Pledge of Allegiance: The pledge of allegiance was recited.

5. Citizen Comments: There were none.

6. Correspondence:

A letter was received from Allyson Vecchiarelli officially resigning from the Ethics Commission so that she can chair the newly formed Charter Revision Commission. Ernie Allsup made a motion to accept her resignation, seconded by David Pinney and unanimously approved.

7. Old Business:

7.1 Review Powers and Duties of the Advisory Committee to the Elderly

Kathy Devlin studied the text and left some comments for the other selectmen's review. Ernie feels that this committee should act as liaison between town government and all the seniors in town, and that the duties listed should be more general and less specific. David Pinney is working with the committee and he will review both selectmen's comments and come up with an updated version of the powers and duties of the Advisory Committee to the Elderly.

7.2 Fiscal Year 07 Proposed Budget

David Pinney remarked that he had overlooked the cost of cell phones for the Police budget and that \$1,650 should be budgeted for cell phones for the next fiscal year.

Depending on the actual renewal rates for property and liability insurance, we may need to revisit what is proposed in that account.

7.3 Fiscal Year 06 Budget Update

Ed Sullivan has not had a chance to project figures to the end of this fiscal year because the auditors are in all week. David Pinney is looking at tipping fees, police services and electrical and fuel accounts for each department.

David has talked with Ken Anderson, head of Public Works, about road maintenance. There

should be funds left in the salary line that should cover overage in fuel.

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Walter Summers has asked for about four to five thousand dollars out of fire protection to put a hydrant at Jamestown and South Road.

All things considered, the end of the fiscal year budget situation looks good.

7.4 Other:

David Pinney said small American flags are needed for the girl scouts to place on gravesites around Memorial Day. These flags will cost \$760 and there is \$800 in the Memorial Day account. Also, the American flags the Fire Department hangs on the telephone poles are in sad shape. Frank Falcone said all of the flags need replacement. Fifty flags will cost \$750 and if we make do with forty flags, the cost would be \$550. It was the consensus of the two selectmen that these flags should be replaced.

Ernie Allsup asked about permanent staffing for the Parks Department. Bruce Urban has been working with Mike Provencher and worked alone when Mike was on vacation. However, this was not a permanent assignment and Bruce is scheduled for minor surgery which will keep him out of work for several weeks. Therefore, a parks assistant is necessary to be assigned to work with Mike Provencher.

Ernie asked if the Town Attorney has given an opinion on the cemetery tour issue. David said he has not received anything definitive about how much we can restrict cemetery tours. The town could come up with some regulations to establish cemetery rules.

David Pinney said he is refining some of the requirements of the demolition delay ordinance with Patrice Carson and Carol Pyne.

8. New Business:

8.1 Town Hall Summer Hours

Ernie Allsup said he is agreeable to summer hours but does not want these hours to be permanent and he does not want to see an employee campaign for continuing summer hours in the fall. He believes that Kathy Devlin feels the same way. David Pinney would like to see a permanent change of hours whereas everybody works until 7:00 p.m. on Thursday and Town Hall closes at 1:00 p.m. on Friday. It was the consensus of the two selectmen present to delay a

decision on this issue until all three selectmen are available.

8.2 Other: Nothing further was discussed.

9. Plan of Conservation and Development

The selectmen present agreed to wait until Kathy Devlin is available to contribute to this discussion. Kathy was the selectman that attended most of the POCD meetings. David Pinney remarked that the Economic Development Commission is talking tonight

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about coordinating with POCD concerning business and industrial development in town.

10. Authorization of Scheduled Payments

Ernie Allsup made a motion; seconded by David Pinney and approved unanimously to authorize scheduled payments in the amount of \$450,152.77 generated on April 18, 19, 29 and May 1, 2006.

11. Appropriations/Transfers:

Ernie Allsup made a motion, seconded by David Pinney and approved unanimously to authorize the following additional appropriation and transfers. The Assessor's appropriation is to reappropriate some of the original funds set aside for revaluation from the surplus account.

Assessor

additional appropriation of \$43,352 to Account #10-15-780.1 Revaluation

Fire Department

transfer \$1,000 from Acct. #41-24-531.8 vehicle fuel to Acct. #20-16-531.8 vehicle fuel
transfer \$560 from Acct. #20-16-580.1 tires and tubes to Acct. #20-16-531.5 vehicle maintenance
transfer \$60 from Acct. #20-16-583.1 health & safety to acct. #20-16-534.1 dues & seminars
transfer \$1,500 from Acct. #20-16-583.1 health & safety to acct. #20-16-531.8 vehicle fuel
transfer \$960 from Acct. #20-16-577.1 hose to Acct #20-16-559.1 heat.

11.1 Tax Refunds: There were none.

12. Approval of Minutes:

12.1 BOS Regular Meeting of April 17, 2006

12.2 Special BOS Meeting of April 24, 2006

Ernie Allsup made a motion to approve both the BOS minutes of 4/17/06 and the special BOS meeting minutes of 4/24/06, as written. This motion was seconded by David Pinney and unanimously approved.

13. Board of Selectmen

13.1 Update from First Selectman

13.2 Other

Nothing further was discussed.

14. Citizen Comments

Town Clerk Ann Logan asked about dividing the tax payment on vehicles. Tax Collector Donna Doyker has stated that most citizens seem to prefer getting just one bill to pay all at once.

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Ernie Allsup was told that everyone has been converted to the new e-mails. However, he has not been at the last few Computer Committee meetings so he will have to check on this. David said that all e-mails are not adjusted to the new system. Also, treasurer information has not been placed on the server where it can be accessed by other departments.

There is still no feedback from our insurance company about the skateboard park other than it is not recommended that we go to an unmonitored park.

Frank Lawlor was present and stated that as a member of the Fire Commission, he is working on a long range plan for the Fire Department.

There was a brief discussion about rolling the library expansion in with the tail end of the school project at MBA as another bonding issue.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen is scheduled for May 15, 2006. However it was the consensus of the selectmen to change the date to Tuesday, May 16, 2006 (which would make it a special meeting) in order to be available after the referendum vote to meet with the Board of Finance.

15. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned by mutual consent at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Pinney, First Selectman

Connie Carenzo, Recording Secretary

MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVAL AT A SUBSEQUENT MEETING.