

**TOWN OF SOMERS
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES - REGULAR MEETING
Monday, June 26, 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: Not necessary, less than 100 in attendance

3. Members Present:

Selectmen David Pinney and Kathy Devlin

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

5. Citizen Comments: There were none.

6. Correspondence:

David Pinney introduced a letter of resignation from Jim Taylor, Zoning Enforcement Officer, effective June 30, 2006. Kathy Devlin made a motion to accept this resignation, with regret; seconded by David Pinney and unanimously approved.

7. Old Business:

7.1 Field Road Playground: This item will be discussed during the Board of Finance meeting.

7.2 Fire Marshal: The options for this position are still being reviewed by the Fire Chief and Fire Commission prior to further discussion with the Board of Selectmen.

7.3 Land Use Permit Fees: This item is still being reviewed with Building Official, Steve Dupre.

7.4 After School Programs:

The YMCA is soliciting interest from the parents of Somers elementary school children. The organization is interested in setting up a before and after school program that would operate at the Kibbe-Fuller Community Center. The Recreation Coordinator anticipates that it would be possible to use this space for this type of program and not interfere with other recreation programs. The YMCA program would require cooperation from the schools in regard to transporting the children to and from Kibbe-Fuller and the schools. The transportation issues are currently under discussion with the school district. The YMCA program is targeted to elementary school children and does not address concerns from the Library Board as to middle school children being in or around the library after school. This issue is still to be discussed with the Library Board, Board of Education, Recreation Commission and the Board of Selectmen. The First Selectman will schedule a time to have that discussion with all these groups present.

At 7:07, the selectmen recessed to attend the Board of Finance meeting already in progress.

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The Board of Selectmen resumed their own meeting at 8:25 p.m.

7.5 Senior Bus Services:

The new senior bus is arriving this week. It is time to publicize the availability of a second bus and to begin scheduling its trips. There should be one central place for people to go to identify their needs for this bus service. Perhaps this second bus could be used for trips to the library, restaurants and perhaps movies and shows.

7.6 Other:

It was the consensus of the selectmen present to invite Karl Walton, Chairman of the Planning Commission, to a future board meeting to discuss the letter he wrote to the Board concerning the Planning Commission budget.

8. New Business:

8.1 To authorize the First Selectman David Pinney to Accept the STEAP grant of \$25,000 to be used for developing a master plan for streetscape improvements on Main Street in Somersville

Kathy Devlin made a motion to authorize the First Selectman David Pinney to accept the STEAP grant of \$25,000 to be used for developing a master plan for streetscape improvements on Main Street in Somersville. This motion was seconded by David Pinney and unanimously approved.

8.2 Other:

Barbara Flebotte and Donna Doyker were in attendance to represent the Advisory Committee for the Elderly. They gave the selectmen an advance copy of the latest Senior Newsletter and indicated that the newsletter was the most important tool available for communicating with all of the seniors in town. Barbara Flebotte indicated that the Advisory Committee for the Elderly would like to have this newsletter published monthly, rather than bi-monthly. The cost of producing this newsletter has dropped dramatically since it is copied and posted in-house. The cost of postage is about \$1,300 per year. For an additional \$100 per month, this newsletter could be published monthly.

The Advisory Committee for the Elderly feels that by announcing upcoming events on a monthly basis, participation by more seniors in these events will be generated.

There was a brief discussion about ways to save money in other areas in order to justify the increased publication of the Senior Newsletter. David Pinney said the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving Grant has indicated that seniors would be one of their top priorities in passing out grants. It was asked if the town has a grant writer on staff and the Board indicated that we do not.

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9. Plan of Conservation and Development

A special meeting date for this discussion was proposed for July 7, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Auditorium but verification of this date will have to wait until Ernie Allsup can be contacted as to his availability for this meeting.

10. Approval of Minutes, BOS Meeting of 6/12/06, Special BOS meeting of 6/16/06

Kathy Devlin made a motion to approve the BOS minutes of 6/12/06 and the special BOS minutes of 6/16/06, as written. This motion was seconded by David Pinney and unanimously approved.

11. Authorization of Scheduled Payments:

Kathy Devlin made a motion to authorize scheduled payments in the amount of \$861,580.64 generated on June 20 and 26, 2006. This motion was seconded by David Pinney and unanimously approved. Final invoices will confirm what we will have to be covering for the end of the year.

12. Appropriations/Transfers:

Kathy Devlin made a motion, seconded by David Pinney and unanimously approved to authorize the following transfers and appropriations:

Selectmen:

transfer \$4,715 from Acct. #10-10-523.1 Other to Acct. #10-10-518.1 Economic Development
transfer \$1,000 from Acct. #10-10-517.1 Elections to Acct. #10-10-523.1 Other
transfer \$500 from Acct. #10-10-560.2 Kibbe-Fuller electricity to Acct. #10-10-560.3 electricity

Town Clerk:

reimbursement appropriation in the amount of \$646.00, town clerk historic preservation.

12.1 Tax Refunds

Kathy Devlin made a motion, seconded by David Pinney and unanimously

approved to authorize tax refunds in the amount of \$3,191.81.

13. Board of Selectmen Remarks:

13.1 Update from First Selectman: Nothing further was discussed.

13.2 Other:

Kathy Devlin feels that the subject of increased fees at the Transfer Station should be discussed further at the next Board of Selectmen meeting.

14. Citizen Comments: There were none.

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5. Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Pinney, First Selectman
TOWN OF SOMERS

MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVAL AT A SUBSEQUENT MEETING.

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