

**TOWN OF SOMERS
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES - REGULAR MEETING
Monday, August 21, 2006
7:00 p.m.
Town Hall Auditorium**

1. Location of Emergency Exits: Not necessary, less than 100 in attendance.
2. Call to Order:
First Selectman David Pinney called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.
3. Members Present:
Selectmen David Pinney and Kathy Devlin
4. Pledge of Allegiance: The pledge of allegiance was recited.
5. Correspondence: There was none.
6. Citizen Comments: There were none.

A motion was made by Kathy Devlin, seconded by David Pinney and approved unanimously to change the order of the agenda and consider New Business, item 8.

8. New Business:
 - 8.1 Approval of Workshop and Seminar Attendance
A motion was made by Kathy Devlin, seconded by David Pinney and unanimously approved to authorize attendance at the following seminars/workshops:
 1. Steve Jacobs, well water workshop, September 21, 2006 in Meriden
 2. Pat Juda, CAAO fall symposium, September 26, 2006 in Berlin, CT
 3. Patrice Carson, 2006 So.N.E. Planning Conference, 9/28 and 9/29/06 in New Haven, CT

9. Authorization of Scheduled Payments:
Kathy Devlin made a motion, seconded by David Pinney and unanimously approved to authorize scheduled payments generated on August 10, 17, 18, and 21, 2006 in the amount of \$129,054.45.

10. Appropriations/Transfers: There were none.
 - 10.1 Tax Refunds:

Kathy Devlin made a motion, seconded by David Pinney and unanimously approved to authorize tax refunds in the amounts of \$32.22 and \$815.69 respectively.

The meeting returned to agenda item #7, Old Business.

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7. Old Business:

7.1 Meet with Individuals interested in serving on the Somersville Planning Committee

The following people volunteered to serve on the Somersville Planning Committee and were present at this meeting.

Ann Levesque, Teresa Bogacz, Robert Lapadula, Dave Sarno, David Bastarache, Todd Vella, Jeff Foss, and Janet Warnock. Several other people are also interested in serving but were unable to attend tonight's meeting.

First Selectman David Pinney outlined the main responsibilities of this proposed steering committee. The immediate concern is to plan improvements in Somersville - particularly on Main Street, that would enhance its appearance and make Somersville more appealing as a place to shop for services already available and to patronize restaurants that already exist. The Town has received a STEAP grant of \$25,000 from the state for architectural development planning. The purpose is to make Somersville aesthetically attractive with additions such as signage, sidewalks, lighting improvements and general overhauling to improve the general appearance of the commercial area.

Kathy Devlin remarked that Somersville is a precious gem that just needs a little tweaking.

A general discussion evolved that touched on the following items:

- Currently the telephone poles and lighting in Somersville are not attractive.

- Sidewalks on the north side of Main Street

- Zoning regulation issues

- Development of the Somersville Mill

- Plantings and flowers to improve the general appearance

- Giving a continuity to business signs by having them similar in nature

David Pinney said that the committee would probably meet initially two times per month, lowering it to once a month once the committee has established specific goals. The committee

will need a representative from the Planning Commission, probably Karl Walden. David Reed will represent the Economical Development Commission. The Town Planner Patrice Carson will also be involved. The representative from the Zoning Commission has not been named as yet. It will be the responsibility of the Board of Selectmen to choose the committee members and get the group together to meet within the next two weeks. Each volunteer present was asked to state his reason for wanting to be on this committee.

Jeff Foss said he owns Colonial Auto Sales on Main Street and is also owns several apartment buildings in Somersville and is looking to buy more. He has a huge interest in improving the appearance of Somersville.

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Robert Lapadula said he has lived on Hall Hill Road since 1985. He has an artistic background and is interested in improving businesses appearance. He wants to make the Somersville area look great.

Ann Levesque has lived in Somersville all of her life. She wants to see Somersville come back to life and wants to be a part of this happening. She would like to see Somers and Somersville become more connected.

David Bastarache said he has occupied 111 Main Street in Somersville for 48 years. He does not want sidewalks going through the parking areas for his businesses.

David Sarno owns Car Place Auto Repair and is also concerned about sidewalks infringing upon his parking area.

Todd Vella also owns property on Main Street and wants to be a part of improving this area.

Jan Warnock has lived on Maple Street for 35 years and wants to be a part of revitalizing Somersville. She wants to be proud of her Somersville address and to improve business opportunities on Main Street.

Teresa Bogacz said she would like to be a member of this committee. She is still attending law school but believes she could also have time to be an active member.

Kathy Devlin said if everyone who has volunteered can not be appointed, the town has openings for members of the Zoning Commission and the Zoning Board of Appeals if anyone might be

interested. The Board of Selectmen will be in touch with all volunteers when the complete board can be present to select the members of this committee.

David Pinney remarked that Pat Kennedy and Barry Moynihan have also volunteered for this committee but were unable to attend the meeting tonight.

The selectmen plan to have a special meeting on Friday, August 25, 2006, to select the committee members.

11. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Kathy Devlin to approve the minutes of the following BOS meetings; seconded by David Pinney and unanimously approved.

- 11.1 BOS minutes of 8/7/06
- 11.2 BOS Sp. Meeting Minutes of 8/7/06
- 11.3 BOS Sp. Meeting Minutes of 8/9/06
- 11.4 BOS Sp. Meeting Minutes of 8/14/06

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12. Board of Selectmen Remarks

- 12.1 Update from First Selectman - nothing further was discussed.

13. Citizen Comments: Nothing further was discussed.

14. Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned by mutual consent at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Connie Carenzo, Recording Secretary
TOWN OF SOMERS

MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVAL AT A SUBSEQUENT MEETING.

