

**TOWN OF SOMERS
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES - REGULAR MEETING
Monday, October 2, 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, Kathy Devlin and Ernie Allsup

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

5. Correspondence: There was none.

6. Citizen Comments: There were none.

7. Old Business:

7.1 Call a Special Town Meeting to Accept Open Space Land, Consider Road Discontinuances, and accept Demolition Delay Ordinance

After a brief discussion, Ernie Allsup made a motion to call a Special Town Meeting for Monday, October 16, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Auditorium to accept land dedicated to the town fronting on Stafford Road representing the open space component of the Greystone Farms Estates Subdivision and to act on a recommendation from the Planning Commission to discontinue Old Hampden Road and Cooley Road. This motion was seconded by Kathy Devlin and unanimously approved.

Acceptance of the Demolition Delay Ordinance will not be part of this town meeting.

7.2 Other:

Kathy Devlin inquired as to the status of the Whitaker Woods open space property. David Pinney indicated that the Town Attorney had just finished providing the information that the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) needed to finalize the conservation easement and this easement is now under review at the Attorney General's office.

8. New Business:

8.1 Authorize the First Selectman to sign a lease agreement with Municipal Leasing Credit Corporation to finance the purchase of a Fire Department Service Truck

A motion was made by Ernie Allsup, seconded by Kathy Devlin and unanimously approved to authorize the First Selectman David Pinney to sign a lease agreement with Municipal Leasing Credit Corporation to finance the purchase of a Fire Department service truck.

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8.2 Petitions regarding town recreation fields and town tennis courts

There was general discussion noting that some of the concerns of those petitioning for the tennis courts have been addressed and are being addressed but the prospects of completely rebuilding the courts would have to wait for a significant capital investment by the town or possibly might be funded through the Small Town Economical Assistance program.

The Recreation Commission is currently reviewing long term maintenance plans for the recreation fields.

8.3 Seminar approval - Steve Jacobs, Sanitarian

A motion was made by Ernie Allsup, seconded by Kathy Devlin and approved unanimously to approve the attendance of both Steve Jacobs and Steve Dupre at their respective seminars.

9. Authorization of Scheduled Payments:

A motion was made by Ernie Allsup; seconded by Kathy Devlin and approved unanimously to authorize scheduled payments in the amount of \$385,262.27 generated on September 28 and October 2, 2006.

10. Appropriations/Transfers:

A motion was made by Ernie Allsup; seconded by Kathy Devlin and unanimously approved to authorize a Police Department transfer of \$1,300 from acct. #10-10-511.1 health insurance to account #20-17-561.2 cell phone.

10.1 Tax Refunds:

A motion was made by Ernie Allsup, seconded by Kathy Devlin and unanimously approved to authorize tax refunds in the amount of \$1,593.22 and \$5589.67.

11. Approval of Minutes:

11.1 BOS regular meeting of 9/18/06

A motion was made by Ernie Allsup; seconded by Kathy Devlin and approved unanimously to approve the BOS regular meeting minutes of 9/18/06.

12. Board of Selectmen Remarks12.1 Update from First Selectman:

David Pinney informed the Board that the DEP had contracted with the firm that would repair the Somersville Mill Pond dam and that this project would be getting underway shortly.

David Pinney received notification from the Department of Transportation (DOT) that the projects to modify the intersection of South Road (Rte. 83) and Parker Street as well as Main Street (Rte. 190), Turnpike and Gulf Roads were scheduled to begin this fall.

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David indicated to the Board that the project proposed for the intersection of Main Street (Rte. 190), Ninth District and Sokol Road was ready to go forward once the town had committed to its portion of the expense. The town's portion of the project would be to cover the cost of the construction design estimated to run between \$50,000 and \$70,000. The bulk of this project is being funded through an STP-Urban grant authorized by the Capitol Region Council of Government (CRCOG). CRCOG has just announced a new round of applying for new road projects. David Pinney will review with the Town Planner what might be next on the town's priority list.

12.2 Other:

Kathy Devlin inquired about whether or not the town is better prepared to respond to flood events as we approach the one year anniversary of last year's significant flooding. Ernie Allsup indicated that last year's experience has led to some improvements in the setup at the Fire Department to serve as a more effective emergency operation center.

13. Citizen Comments:

Jackie Larabee inquired about the impact of discontinuing Old Hampden Road on limiting access to the road. She was told that the owners abutting the discontinued road would be able to barricade the right-of-way and maintain access through a shared lock and key system.

Robert Owens asked the selectmen about the process for adopting a new town ordinance. He is specifically interested in an ordinance that would prohibit the use of outdoor wood burning furnaces in town. The Board discussed whether this would be an ordinance issue or a town regulation. Since the town does not regulate air quality, it was thought that the ordinance route was the only option. Mr. Owens stated that the Town of Vernon has adopted such an ordinance. First Selectman David Pinney will contact Vernon to learn more about that operation.

14. Adjournment:

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

Respectfully submitted,

David Pinney, First Selectman
TOWN OF SOMERS

MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVAL AT A SUBSEQUENT MEETING.