

**TOWN OF SOMERS**  
**Board of Selectmen**  
**Minutes – Special Meeting**  
**December 18, 2006 – 9:00 a.m.**  
**Selectmen's Conference Room**

1. Call to Order:

First Selectman David Pinney called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

2. Members Present:

Selectmen David Pinney, Kathy Devlin and Ernie Allsup  
Tom Chilicki, Chairman of the Recreation Commission

3. Authorize the First Selectman, David Pinney, to sign all necessary documents to establish a joint agreement between the town and the Natural Resources Conservation Service under which the NRCS will make watershed repairs to Thrasher Brook at the property of 232 Stafford Road.

Ernie Allsup made a motion, seconded by Kathy Devlin and unanimously approved to authorize the First Selectman, David Pinney, to sign all necessary documents to establish a joint agreement between the town and the Natural Resources Conservation Service under which the NRCS will make watershed repairs to Thrasher Brook at the property of 232 Stafford Road.

4. Continue with Reappointments

A motion was made by Ernie Allsup, seconded by Kathy Devlin and unanimously approved to appoint Karen Murdock, Rick Lees and Karen Maniscalco as new members of the Recreation Commission with a term expiration date of 12/22/08.

A motion was made by Kathy Devlin, seconded by Ernie Allsup and unanimously approved to appoint Tony Pellegrino to the Advisory Committee for the Elderly with a term expiration date of 12/22/07.

A motion was made by Ernie Allsup, seconded by Kathy Devlin and unanimously approved to appoint Robert Minch as a full member of the Zoning Board of Appeals with a term expiration date of 12/22/11.

Tom Chilicki shared some of his concerns regarding the potential implications for work the Recreation Commission has been pursuing given the replacement of three current members of the commission by three new members.

5. Authorize tax refunds:

A motion was made by Ernie Allsup, seconded by Kathy Devlin and unanimously approved to authorize tax refunds in the amount of \$578.30 as presented by the Tax Collector.

BOS Minutes

12/18/06

Page 2

6. Review options for formalizing a building use policy

There was general discussion regarding continued efforts to establish a formal building use policy that would apply to all town buildings. Kathy Devlin reviewed some of the common characteristics she has identified in reviewing building use policies of other towns. The selectmen also had received from Jay Chittum, Superintendent of Schools, the schools' building use policy and administrative regulations. The selectmen agreed that it would be appropriate for the policy for the Somers town buildings to follow the pattern of the policy for the school buildings.

Common among the policies reviewed were the establishment of a classification system grouping potential users into categories that distinguished among those directly affiliated with town programs, those not directly affiliated but involving town residents, and those having no immediate connection as town residents or town programs. The classification system would be used to establish priority in determining which users might have the first opportunity to occupy town building space. While fees are often charged and the selectmen agree fees would at times be applied, the classification system would also be used to determine what fee, if any, would be paid by the users.

As to administering this policy, the Board of Selectmen would ultimately be responsible for implementation and final resolution of questions that might arise, the Board would look to staff members associated with particular buildings to handle requests for building usage. It was noted that increasingly towns are requiring proof of insurance coverage or a damage deposit from potential users of town buildings and that this was something Somers should pursue as well.

7. Consider a joint meeting with the Board of Finance and Board of Education

The Board discussed and agreed that a joint meeting with the Board of Finance and the Board of Education would be a useful opportunity to review budget issues pertaining to the current year as well as the coming years budget development. The First Selectman will attempt to determine time that works for all three boards and set up the meeting.

8. Consider establishing a committee to review options for the town pension plan

A motion was made by Kathy Devlin, seconded by Ernie Allsup and unanimously

approved to establish an ad hoc committee to review options for the town pension plan and to include as members on that committee representation from existing bargaining units, other town departments and citizens with human resource and pension experience.

9. Review status of contract negotiations with the Somers Firefighters (possible executive session)

The selectmen reviewed some of the ongoing negotiations with the Somers Firefighters in a non-meeting following adjournment of this meeting.

BOS Minutes

12/18/06

Page 3

10. Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned by mutual consent at 10:20 a.m.

Respectively submitted,

David Pinney, First Selectman  
TOWN OF SOMERS

MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVAL AT A SUBSEQUENT MEETING.

-