

TOWN OF SOMERS  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING  
Monday, January 14, 2008, 7:00 p.m.  
Town Hall Auditorium

1. Location of emergency exits
2. Call to order – 7:00 p.m.
3. Members present – Kathleen Devlin, David Pinney and Joseph Tolisano. Marcia Mitchell, Exec. Asst./Operations Mgr. was present as recording secretary. Bruce Urbon, Parks Department Maintainer, and his wife Kim, were present as interested citizens.
4. Pledge of Allegiance
5. Correspondence
  - 5.1 12/13/07 E-mails from Planning Commission members re: Correspondence from Fire Commission – Mr. Pinney commented that this was presented as an FYI to the selectmen at the request of members of the Planning Commission, and that no action was required. A brief conversation took place regarding the requirement of sprinklers, the length of time it takes to set up an aerial truck unit at the scene of a fire, and the cost of an aerial unit.
  - 5.2 1/3/08 Resignation from Recreation Commission and Computer Committee-Rick Lees. ***Ms. Devlin moved that Mr. Lees' resignation be accepted, with regrets and congratulations on his election to the Board of Education. Mr. Tolisano seconded and the motion unanimously carried.***
6. Citizen Comments – none at this time
7. Old Business
  - 7.1 Update - Reconstruction of intersection at Main Street, Ninth District and Sokol Road – The State is providing the proper language for issuing a public notice regarding the RFP for an engineer for the project, and the notice will be placed as soon as it is ready.
  - 7.2 Committee appointments – issues, responses – Two issues had been raised by the Town Clerk after the Board of Selectmen made several appointments at their December 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting. First, the appointment of Lise Wood to full membership on the Conservation Commission conflicted with the membership criteria set forth by ordinance. The ordinance requires that the current opening be filled by a member of the Zoning Commission. After discussion, the Selectmen rescinded the 12/10/07 appointment and reappointed Ms. Wood as a Conservation Alternate. The second issue, the appointment of Robert Cafarelli, the Director of Public Works and Town Engineer, to the Civil Preparedness Advisory Board, conflicts with a Town Charter requirement that all members of appointive boards shall be electors and residents of the town. Since Mr. Cafarelli resides in East Longmeadow, he is disqualified for appointment by the charter. The Board of Selectmen asked that this issue be documented for a future town charter revision, rescinded the 12/10/07 appointment and appointed Mr. Cafarelli as an ex-officio

member of the Civil Preparedness Advisory Board. The Selectmen then reviewed the responses received to date on current board/commission expirations. ***Mr. Tolisano moved to reappoint/appoint the following individuals to the boards/commissions noted for terms expiring as noted below. Ms Devlin seconded, and the motion unanimously carried.***

### Appointments/Reappointments Unanimously Approved

		<b>1/14/2008 Board of Selectmen Meeting</b>		
<i>Name</i>		<i>R/N*</i>	<i>Board/Commission</i>	<i>Term Exp.</i>
Candace	Aleks	R	Conservation Commission	12/22/12
Patricia M.	Bachetti	R	Advisory Commission to the Elderly	12/22/08
Elaine L.	Bemont	R	Advisory Commission to the Elderly	12/22/08
Clifford R.	Bordeaux	R**	Planning Commission	12/22/12
Henry H.	Broer	R	Conservation Commission	12/22/12
Jean	Bryanton	N	Cultural Commission	12/22/08
Robert	Cafarelli	N	Civil Preparedness Advisory Board	<b><i>ex-officio</i></b>
Charles J.	Colby, Jr.	R	Prison Liaison/Public Safety	12/22/08
John	Cowles	R	Cultural Commission	12/22/08
Francis W.	Devlin Jr.	R**	Board of Assessment Appeals	12/22/10
Donna F.	Doyker	R	Advisory Commission to the Elderly	12/22/08
Brian	Duperre	R	Ethics Commission	12/22/09
Barbara	Flebotte	N	Advisory Commission to the Elderly	12/22/08
Daniel A.	Fraro	R**	Zoning Commission Alternate	12/22/12
Maura	Gardner	R	Economic Development Commission	12/22/12
Donald W. 1	Gaskell	R**	Board of Assessment Appeals	12/22/10
Philip J.	Hendel	R	Ethics Commission	12/22/09
Dorothy	Hillman	R	Advisory Commission to the Elderly	12/22/08
Joseph N.	Iadarola Jr.	R**	Planning Commission	12/22/12
Anthony J.	Liquori	R	Prison Liaison/Public Safety	12/22/08
Robert L.	Minch	R	Prison Liaison/Public Safety	12/22/08
Stephen J.	Minikowski	R	Prison Liaison/Public Safety	12/22/08
Dee M.	Moak	R	Cultural Commission	12/22/09
Karen E.	Murdoch	R	Recreation Commission	12/22/08
Anthony L.	Pellegrino	R	Advisory Commission to the Elderly	12/22/08
Myrtle	Pixley	R	Advisory Commission to the Elderly	12/22/08
Daniel P.	Scully	R**	Zoning Board of Appeals	12/22/12
Scott	Sutter	N**	Planning Commission Alternate	12/22/12
Joseph R.	Tolisano	R	Emergency Management Director	12/22/09
George W.	VanTasel	R	Prison Liaison/Public Safety	12/22/08
Allyson	Vecchiarelli	R	Ethics Commission	12/22/08
J. J.	Wassmuth	R	Recreation Commission	12/22/08
Lise	Wood	R	Conservation Commission Alternate	12/22/12
Arlene	Yarnes	R	Advisory Commission to the Elderly	12/22/08
Jerome A.	Young	R	Prison Liaison/Public Safety	12/22/08
Jerome A.	Young	R**	Zoning Board of Appeals Alternate	12/22/12

\* R=Reappointment; N=New Appointment

\*\* Subject to Confirmation at Town Meeting

- 7.3 Open positions review – The Highway maintainer position recently filled may once again be open. The person to whom the job was offered received a counter-offer from their current employer and asked for a couple of days to make his decision. Interviews for Building Official have been completed, and one clear candidate has been identified. Discussions with this candidate are taking place. Five candidates have been presented for the position of Fire Marshall, and the interview process is being established and coordinated by Deputy Chief Falcone.
- 7.4 Position descriptions update – Ms. Mitchell reported that the project was about a month behind schedule, but expects to be completed by the end of January. The Selectmen commented that they would prefer to see a quality project completed a little later than expected.
- 7.5 Update on Mill redevelopment activity – none to report.
- 7.6 Whitaker property transfer – Payment from the Northern Connecticut Land Trust has been received and preparations to transfer the deed are under way.
8. New Business
- 8.1 Special meetings for budget/planning process – After a brief discussion, the Selectmen asked that a high-level budget draft be presented for their review at their regular meeting on January 28, and that the final budget recommendations be available for review at their regular meeting on February 11. Mr. Pinney will alert the other Selectmen to the need for any additional meetings as that need arises.
- 8.2 CT DEP Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) Project Contracts – Three contracts have been received from the State to provide funds for 62 Gulf Road, 58 Schneider Road, and 232 Stafford Road. Mr. Pinney asked that the Board adopt a resolution authorizing the First Selectman to take necessary action to complete each of these three contracts. ***Ms. Devlin moved that the Board of Selectmen adopt three resolutions authorizing the First Selectman to take necessary actions to complete CT DEP Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) Project Contracts, one for each of the following addresses within the Town of Somers, Connecticut: 62 Gulf Road, 58 Schneider Road, 232 Stafford Road. Mr. Tolisano seconded, and the motion unanimously carried.***
- 8.3 Reauthorize Agricultural Viability Grant – Mr. Pinney reviewed this grant for \$24,100, which was authorized some time ago. Paperwork is now being presented for completion to receive the funds, and Mr. Pinney asked that the Board renew this authorization in the form of a resolution. ***Ms. Devlin moved that the Board of Selectmen adopt a resolution authorizing the First Selectman to take necessary actions to complete the Agricultural Viability Grant. Mr. Tolisano seconded and the motion unanimously carried.***
- 8.4 Conference Approvals – The Selectmen reviewed a request from the Deputy Fire Marshal to attend three technical seminars in the coming six months. Ms. Devlin moved to approve seminar request for the Deputy Fire Marshall to attend three technical seminars in the following six months; Mr. Tolisano seconded and the motion unanimously carried.
- 8.5 Schedule special meetings for budget review – Duplicate of item 8.1

- 8.6 Schedule next town meeting to authorize:
- 8.6.1 appropriations approved by Board of Finance; and
- 8.6.2 appointments recommended by Board of Selectmen

***Mr. Tolisano moved that a Town Meeting be scheduled for January 28, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. to authorize appropriations approved by the Board of Finance and appointments recommended by the Board of Selectmen. Ms. Devlin seconded, and the motion unanimously carried.***

9. Authorization of Scheduled Payments – ***Mr. Tolisano moved the approval of two scheduled payment reports, including 19 tax refunds, dated January 10 and January 14, 2008, for a total of \$398,360.52. Ms. Devlin seconded, and the motion unanimously carried.***
10. Appropriations/Transfers – The Board reviewed a request from Town Clerk, Ann Logan, for the following transfers to cover Legal notices for: Voting Machine Audit, Municipal Election, Endorsement of Candidates by their Political Parties. These transfers are in anticipation of the Presidential Primary, Referendum, and Miscellaneous required Political Notices.

Amount	From Acct. & Name	To Acct. & Name
\$150.00	10-12-520.1, Copy Machine	10-12-516.1, Advertising
\$150.00	10-12-533.1, Postage	10-12-516.1, Advertising

***Mr. Tolisano moved to approve the transfer requests totaling \$300 from the Town Clerk, Ann Logan, to cover various political legal notices already incurred in relation to the recent Municipal Election, as well as in anticipation of the Presidential Primary, Referendum, and miscellaneous required political notices. Ms. Devlin seconded and the motion unanimously carried.***

11. Approval of Minutes
- 11.1 December 10, 2007 Regular Meeting – ***Mr. Tolisano moved that the minutes for the December 10, 2007 Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen be approved as written; Ms. Devlin seconded and the motion unanimously carried.***
- 11.2 December 20, 2007 Special Meeting – ***Ms. Devlin moved that the minutes for the December 20, 2007 Special Meeting of the Board of Selectmen be approved as written; Mr. Tolisano seconded and the motion unanimously carried.***
12. Board of Selectmen Remarks – Mr. Pinney briefed the Selectmen on a Little League Opening Day Parade, planned for April 26, 2008, with a rain date of May 3, 2008. The appropriate permits have been received by the Little League from the State and the Town.

Mr. Pinney said that he had received visits from both the Chair and the Vice Chair of the Economic Development Commission (EDC) expressing interest in the Somersville Mill project and in scheduling a meeting to determine next steps. This had raised the notion of re-engaging the ad-hoc Somersville Planning group. Ms. Devlin and Mr. Tolisano asked if the EDC could

prioritize its needs in this area. Mr. Pinney said that there was an approved \$200,000 STEAP grant that was originally intended for Main Street Somersville revitalization. Ms. Devlin commented that she would like to see these funds spent on Main Street in Somersville, and used up so that another grant could be applied for, the question is how should the funds be spent, and on exactly what. Perhaps the EDC or the re-engaged AdHoc group could determine the revitalization priorities so that the funds could be spent and recommendations for additional grants could be made. Mr. Pinney commented that the EDC wants to get more involved with Planning and Zoning.

The Selectmen discussed the status of the evaluation of the Financial Software package, and whether or not we could get that accomplished during this fiscal year. Mr. Pinney allowed that there was about \$40,000 remaining in CIP for Selectmen's projects (2008 computer line, 2007 balance from computer line, and sidewalks line), that could potentially be redirected to the software. Based on the most recent proposal, this would not be enough to cover the intended configuration; in fact, the proposal seemed too high, and Mr. Pinney said that Greg Simmons was going back to the vendor to clarify what the proposal covered, and why the price had increased so dramatically from the original proposal just to the school. Mr. Tolisano asked some technical questions regarding the software, and offered to sit in on the conference call with the vendor if Mr. Simmons wanted some technical evaluation and guidance.

13. Citizen Comments – Bruce Urbon asked whether or not the Town's current policy on the calculation of overtime for the Highway staff would be changed to reflect the current State law. Mr. Pinney explained that, being new, Mr. Simmons had calculated overtime based on his strict interpretation of current state law, and that past practice has taken a different approach for that calculation. Mr. Pinney said that he did not expect any changes forthcoming in the near future.

Kim Urbon asked what it would take to install a crosswalk at the intersection of CT Rt. 190 (Main Street) and CT Rt. 186 (Hall Hill Road/School Street) in Somersville. Mr. Pinney replied that the State of Connecticut DOT would have to be petitioned. Ms. Urbon asked what the procedure would be for that, and Mr. Pinney said that the Selectmen's office would write a letter to determine and initiate the process.

14. Adjournment – There being no other business, Mr. Tolisano moved for adjournment at 8:45 p.m. Ms. Devlin seconded, and the motion unanimously carried.

Respectfully submitted

Marcia L. Mitchell

Executive Assistant/Operations Manager

Recording Secretary

***MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED AT A SUBSEQUENT MEETING***