

**TOWN OF SOMERS  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING  
Monday, March 24, 2008, 7:00 p.m.  
Town Hall Auditorium**

1. Location of emergency exits – not done, fewer than 50 people in attendance
2. Call to order – First Selectman Pinney called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.
3. Members present – Kathleen Devlin, David Pinney, Joseph Tolisano. Also present was Marcia Mitchell, Exec. Asst./Ops. Mgr. as recording secretary.
4. Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Pinney recessed the meeting for item 7.1. at 7:05 p.m.

Mr. Pinney reconvened the meeting at 8:20 8:20 p.m.

5. Correspondence

5.1 Farmers' Market/Flea Market proposal from Ann Levesque. Mr. Pinney reviewed the proposal requesting that the Farmers' Market be located in the open area behind the Senior Center and the Historical Society building. The group also proposed that the market be expanded to include "flea market" type vendors (for a combined total of about 20 vendors), and asked for permission to use the rest room facilities at Kibbe Fuller. The market would be Saturdays from 9 AM – 1 PM, beginning mid-June for the flea market vendors and mid-July for the farm market vendors, and continuing through mid-September, with from Ann Levesque regarding the proposed location of the Farmers' Market for the coming summer. The group offered to clean the Kibbe Fuller restrooms if they are allowed to use them, and also requested use of the covered stage, with electricity, for demonstration and entertainment possibilities. The Selectmen expressed concern about what the amount of foot traffic would do to the lawns, as well as the impact on Kibbe Fuller, given the Children's Library programs that are offered on Saturdays. They recommended that the Town Hall Parking lot and/or the Field Road park pavilion be considered as alternative locations. They also discussed the fact that the Farmers' market vendors were not required to get peddler's licenses, but that Flea Market vendors would not be exempt from the peddler's license requirement, and recommended that the market be maintained as a "Farmers' market" without the flea market component. Mr. Pinney said that he would relate the Selectmen's recommendations to Ann Levesque and the group.

5.2 Mr. Pinney shared a written resignation from Larry McNeff at the Transfer station. He informed the Selectmen that the vacancy would be filled utilizing current staff for the time being.

6. Citizen Comments - none

7. Old Business

7.1 Join Board of Finance Meeting, in progress, for budget development – covered between items 4 and 5.

- 7.2 Woodcrest – Pilot waiver – The Selectmen discussed the possibility of the amounts of the Pilot waiver being reserved by the Housing Authority into a separate account, accumulating a reasonable operating reserve. Once that reserve is reached, perhaps the Pilot waiver funds could be diverted to programs/improvements for the residents. After further discussion, the Selectmen agreed that they needed to find a way to make the Pilot waiver happen. Mr. Pinney said that given the Selectmen’s endorsement, he would draft proposal terms.
- 7.3 Website Vendor – Ms. Mitchell told the Selectmen that the Director’s staff had viewed an on-line presentation from a vendor that would design a custom template for the site, and provide hosting services as well as licensing the text editor and other on-line municipal tools to us. She also said that she is in the process of checking working references and, pending positive references would be ready to recommend the vendor. Mr. Tolisano wanted to confirm his understanding as to what this would cost with this vendor. Ms. Mitchell said that the template development and design work would be a one-time cost of \$3,600, and the hosting and licenses would be another \$2,500-\$3,000 on an annual basis. The Selectmen recommended that the Directors proceed with content development/ updates and alignment of boards/commissions with internal departments so that when the funds become available to pursue this project, the Town is ready to go.
- 7.4 Property taxes due on property transferred to a tax-exempt entity/individual – The Selectmen determined that there was an ordinance drafted at some point in the past to address this issue, and recommended that the document be located as a starting point. Mr. Pinney said that the Assessor and Tax Collector could edit that document as necessary, and could develop a list of implications and potential financial impact for such an ordinance.

## 8. New Business

- 8.1 Upcoming open enrollment for Town Employees - Healthcare Savings Account (high-deductible health plan) as benefit option. Mr. Pinney stated that this discussion contained topics that would impact future collective bargaining issues, and recommended that the Selectmen take up this discussion in a non-meeting after the BOS meeting adjourned.
- 8.2 Board/Commission Appointments – Ethics Committee Alternates: Martha Rainy Rockett Mr. Pinney recommended Ms. Rockett as an alternate to the Ethics Commission. ***Mr. Tolisano moved that Martha Rainy Rockett be appointed as an Alternate to the Ethics Commission with a term ending 12/22/08; Ms. Devlin seconded, and the motion unanimously carried.*** Ms. Devlin asked if there were any openings currently on the Cultural Commission, that Jean Bryanton had recruited Chris Anthony as a potential Cultural Commission member. Mr. Pinney said that we would investigate the openings, and place Ms. Anthony on the next meeting agenda

## 9. Authorization of Scheduled Payments – ***Mr. Tolisano moved that the Selectmen approve payments scheduled on March 18 and March 24, 2008 in the amount of \$236,085.42, including 4 tax refunds; Ms. Devlin seconded and the motion unanimously carried.***

### 9.1 Payments

9.2 Tax Refunds

10. Appropriations/Transfers – none.

11. Approval of Minutes

***11.1*** March 10, Regular Meeting – after brief discussion noting the addition of the word opinion in the third line of item 6 and the correction of 2009 to 2008 in the third line of item 7.3.3, ***Mr. Tolisano moved that the minutes of the March 10, 2008 regular meeting of the Somers Board of Selectmen be accepted as amended; Ms. Devlin seconded and the motion unanimously carried.***

12. Board of Selectmen Remarks – Mr. Pinney reminded the Selectmen that the Town Budget Hearing was scheduled for April 28, 2008 and that the Town Annual Meeting was scheduled for May 12, 2008. Ms. Devlin said that she would not be available for the regular BOS meeting scheduled for May 5<sup>th</sup>, and asked if the May 5<sup>th</sup> meeting could be cancelled and replaced with a special meeting scheduled for May 12, 2008 immediately following the Town Annual Meeting. Mr. Pinney said that we would put this item on the next meeting's agenda.

13. Citizen Comments - none

14. Adjournment – There being no other business, at 8:57 p.m. Mr. Tolisano moved for adjournment; Ms. Devlin seconded, and the motion unanimously carried.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Marcia L. Mitchell  
Exec. Asst./Operations Mgr.  
Recording Secretary

**MINUTES ARE NOT CONSIDERED FINAL UNTIL APPROVED AT A SUBSEQUENT MEETING**