

**TOWN OF SOMERS
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES – SPECIAL MEETING
AUGUST 14, 2008
Selectmen's Conference Room**

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 PM

2. Members Present

Kathleen Devlin and David Pinney

3. Review Board and Commission openings

D. Pinney noted that openings on Zoning Board of Appeals and Housing Authority still needed to be filled. Possible candidates were discussed.

4. Discuss possible tax abatement for Grower Direct

Grower Direct is installing a large wood-fired boiler to provide heat for the greenhouse range. The owner has asked the town to consider extending some form of tax abatement that would apply to increase in assessment associated with the almost \$3,000,000 project. The owner suggests that not only is the project attractive economic development and tax base enhancement for the town, but it also represents a strong move away from dependence on fossil fuels toward utilization of renewable energy sources – something the town would presumably like to encourage. The selectmen will review available options and extend the discussion to include input from the Economic Development Commission and the Board of Finance.

5. Consider commendation to Firefighters Greg Smith and Dawud Sabater

Firefighters Smith and Sabater responded to a motor vehicle fire on Gulf Road in Stafford where they pulled the victim from the burning vehicle. The West Stafford Fire Department is awarding the men its Medal of Merit. The selectmen agreed the men should also be recognized by Somers with a citation from the Board of Selectmen.

6. Approval of Bills and Transfers

Motion by Devlin, second by Pinney and unanimous agreement to authorize payment of \$518,982.71 in bills as presented within payment reports from July 31, August 7, 8, and 14.

Motion by Devlin, second by Pinney and unanimous agreement to authorize the many transfers pertaining to closing out FY 08 account deficits as presented and attached to these minutes.

7. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 5:45 PM

Respectfully submitted,

David Pinney

These minutes are not official until accepted at a subsequent meeting of the Board of Selectmen