

**TOWN OF SOMERS  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING  
Monday, November 17, 2008, 7:00 p.m.  
Town Hall Auditorium**

1. Location of emergency exits
2. Call to order – First Selectman David Pinney called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.
3. Members present – Kathleen Devlin, David Pinney, and Joseph Tolisano. Also present were Marcia Mitchell as recording secretary and Greg Simmons, CFO.
4. Pledge of Allegiance
5. Recess to join Zoning Commission meeting, in progress, to discuss organization matters – BOS recessed at 7:55 to join the Zoning Commission in progress; returned and reconvened at 8:10 p.m.
6. Correspondence
  - 6.1 Sen. John Kissel to Commissioner Joan McDonald, DECD re Neighborhood Stabilization Program funds
  - 6.2 Colleen Maniscalco – chooses not to be reappointed to Recreation Commission
7. Citizen Comments - none
8. Old Business
  - 8.1 Review FY 09 & FY 10 Budget issues – Selectmen discussed the potential for reduction in state aid to towns. \$10 million of the \$28 million budgeted revenue is from the state. Selectmen believe that we need to prepare for a reduction of 5-10% of state funds, and would like to be able show savings from this year's operating budget that could be rolled into next year's budget funding.
  - 8.2 Human Services Director – transition – Jim Burgess' last day as Municipal agent is 11/21, and there will be a gathering in his honor from 2-4 p.m. on 11/23 at the senior center. As part of this transition, Mr. Pinney said that we would look to utilizing regional services and sharing services with other towns wherever possible, and that we would continue to identify savings/efficiencies wherever possible.
9. New Business – The selectmen discussed with Mr. Simmons and Ms. Mitchell how they would like to see the directors' activities facilitated going forward. They asked Ms. Mitchell to facilitate a weekly meeting with the directors (without Mr. Pinney) where the directors would analyze problems presented by the BOS and identify solutions. On the Monday of each BOS meeting, Mr. Pinney would join the meeting and the Directors would brief him so that he could present identified solutions to the BOS. Mr. Simmons and Ms. Mitchell agreed that this would be a good working model for the Director's staff. Selectmen asked Ms. Mitchell and Mr. Simmons to work with the Director staff to identify what steps could be taken to roll back 5% of this year's operating expenses, with the eye to reducing where we can with the least possible impact to staffing and service.

The Selectmen discussed a draft vision and mission statement as a basis for their business plan. They believe that compiling these statements will drive everything that the town employees do, as well as drive the compilation of individual goals and objectives for the purpose of job

performance management. After some discussion, the Selectmen agreed in principle on the basics of the statements and will continue to craft acceptable text.

10. Authorization of Scheduled Payments & Tax Refunds – ***Motion by Ms. Devlin, seconded by Mr. Tolisano to approve \$397,192.11 of scheduled payments. Motion unanimously carried.***
11. Appropriations/Transfers – ***Motion by Mr. Tolisano, seconded by Ms. Devlin, to approve \$1,400 in transfers requested by the Fire Department. Motion unanimously carried.***
12. Approval of Minutes – 11/3/08 – ***Motion by Mr. Tolisano, seconded by Ms. Devlin, to approve minutes of the 11/3/08 BOS meeting as written. Motion unanimously carried.***
13. Board of Selectmen Remarks - none
14. Citizen Comments - none
15. Adjournment – ***Motion by Mr. Tolisano, seconded by Ms. Devlin, to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m. Motion unanimously carried.***

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia L. Mitchell  
Exec. Asst./Ops. Mgr.  
Recording Secretary

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