

**TOWN OF SOMERS
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES – PUBLIC HEARING AND REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, June 18, 2009
Immediately following 6:00 p.m. Special Town Meeting and Public Hearing
Selectmen's Conference Room**

Public Hearing re: Ordinance establishing fees for permits from the Building Official and Fire Marshal.

First Selectman David Pinney called the hearing to order at 6:12 p.m. After a brief review of the ordinance and fee schedules, the following citizens were heard:

Jeff Lipton, 452 South Road: wanted to know if permits for parade floats were really necessary. Mr. Lipton also submitted that permittees pay for liquor license and that the fire marshal's inspection of fire suppression equipment should be included as part of the liquor license inspection and not charged separately. Mr. Lipton also asked that "competitions" under the fire marshal schedule be defined, and expressed concern about what constituted "special inspections".

David Reed, 32 Mountain View Road: commented that the NFPA document referred to in the fire marshal schedule is not readily available to the general public, and that some of the language in the fire marshal schedule is confusing. Mr. Reed recommends that after the BOS adopts this ordinance, public notice be given prior to any changes to the fee schedule, and that a grace period be allowed on any fee changes.

Kathy Mashiak, 54 Springfield Road: requested clarification on how a "special inspection" permit from the fire marshal would work as regards the (Four Town) fair – is it based upon the event, or on each building. Ms. Mashiak also wanted to know if a cap was being considered for each amusement. Ms. Mashiak said that the fire marshal schedule should not include items for which there is no charge.

Bradley Pellissier, 167 Scully Road: recommended creation of a waiver process for certain types of organizations i.e. non-profits, civic groups, scouts, etc. In other words, require the permit for the situation but waive the fee for these groups.

Michelle Young, 447 Mountain Road: Wanted to know if the chimney cleaning permit fee applied to residences having their chimneys cleaned, or just to services/businesses.

There being no other comments at this time, Mr. Pinney stated that there clearly was some work to be done prior to adoption of the ordinance, and that there would be another public hearing to review any changes made prior to a vote. Mr. Pinney closed the hearing at 6:30 p.m.

Board of Selectmen Meeting

- 1 Call to order – First Selectman David Pinney called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
- 2 Members present – Kathleen Devlin and David Pinney. Approximately 35 interested citizens were also in attendance. Mr. Pinney notified the audience that Selectman Tolisano wanted to be present for any discussion of item 6.3 and that the agenda would be taken out of order to handle other business prior to Mr. Tolisano's arrival. Mr. Tolisano arrived shortly after 7:00 p.m.
- 3 Pledge of Allegiance

- 4 Correspondence – Mr. Pinney stated that his office had received a variety of correspondence via e-mail, snail mail, hand delivery and fax pertaining to the potential elimination of the planner position. He further stated that all of that correspondence would be considered by the Board of Selectmen as part of their review in this regard.

Under a different topic, Mr. Pinney stated that a letter had been received from Deputy Fire Chief Falcone regarding a FEMA AFF grant application to replace hose at a total cost of \$138,390. If the grant is approved it would cover all but \$6,919 of this expense, which would become the town's responsibility, and Deputy Chief Falcone's letter requested the BOS endorsement and support of the grant application. While Mr. Pinney and Ms. Devlin said they support the application, no official action was taken.

- 5 Citizen Comments - Mr. Pinney opened the floor for any public comments not related to item 6.3. Several comments were made regarding whether or not correspondence related to item 6.3 would be posted to the town website, and part of the official record. Mr. Pinney said that the correspondence was directed to the selectmen, and that he would take the request to publish under advisement. Several individuals expressed concern that the correspondence was not being "read into the record" and Mr. Pinney reminded the audience that this was not a public hearing requiring such an action. Mr. Pinney said that all the correspondence received would be available for public review upon request at the town hall.

6 Old Business

- 6.1 Outcome of Town Meeting – Trappe. Based upon the action of the Town Meeting, the transaction will be executed. No action was taken
- 6.2 Consider Public Hearing input – possible vote on Building/Fire Marshal Permit Fee Ordinance – comments will be reviewed with the Fire Marshal and a revised schedule will be evaluated for an additional public hearing prior to a vote by the BOS. No action was taken
- 6.3 First Selectman Staffing Recommendations- The selectmen opened the floor to hear comments from interested parties present. The following individuals were heard with some presenting written comments for the record: Katherine Mashiak, Todd Whitford, Ron Vesper, Brad Pellissier, Scott Sutter, George Schober, Anna Gagnon, Michelle Young, Rex Joffray, David Reed, Mandy Gavelak, Rick Cheney, Dan Fraro, Joe Iadarola, Ken Prior and Patrice Carson. Mr. Pinney said that all comments would be heard and considered in the Selectmen's decision making process, that this would not be an easy decision and that he would be taking real care in making his final recommendation. Mr. Pinney then asked the selectmen for their availability for a special meeting at which his final recommendation would be considered for a vote. The special meeting was scheduled for 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, June 24 at the Town Hall Auditorium. No action was taken
- 6.4 FY 09 Budget Status-postponed to next regular meeting.

7 New Business

- 7.1 OSHA inspection of town buildings – Mr. Pinney said that a State of CT OSHA inspection had taken place, and that only minor compliance issues had been identified in a closing meeting earlier today. He also stated that having a public works staff person designated as safety office has proven very effective since the last CONN OSHA inspection seven years ago. No action was taken.

- 8 Authorization of Scheduled Payments – ***Motion by Ms. Devlin, seconded by Mr. Pinney and unanimously carried to authorize scheduled payments totaling \$274,494.82.***

- 9 Appropriations/Transfers – ***Motion by Ms. Devlin, seconded by Mr. Tolisano and unanimously carried to authorize the following transfers and appropriations for forwarding to the Board of Finance:***

<i>Amount</i>	<i>From Acct</i>	<i>To Acct</i>	<i>Requestor/Explanation</i>
<i>\$255,377</i>	<i>Appropriation (reimbursable by CT-DEP excluding fire hydrants)</i>	<i>66-10-372.0</i>	<i>WPCA-Engineering, Design & Construction of water main extension on Sunset Drive</i>
<i>\$14,325</i>	<i>50-21-508.2-PT Library</i>	<i>50-21-508.5-Reference Library</i>	<i>Library-PT Ref Librarian worked extra hours throughout the year to assist with interlibrary loan and evening reference service</i>
<i>\$1,810</i>	<i>10-10-512.1-Pension Plan</i>	<i>20-16-766.1-Fire Dept Pension Plan</i>	<i>Selectmen-Fully fund Fol FD Pension Plan as recommend by Actuary</i>
<i>\$20,198</i>	<i>51-30-502.1-Muni Agt 51-22-509.1-Rec Coord 10-10-504.4-Board Secy</i>	<i>10-10-503.1-Human Svcs Dir</i>	<i>Selectmen-Recognize \$15,000 of grant funds for salary support with remainder funded from the positions replaced by the new Human Services Director and \$500 from Selectmen's Board Secretary position</i>

- 10 Approval of Minutes – 6/4/09 – Patrice Carson requested that amendments be made to the minutes showing in more detail the comments made regarding the First Selectman's staffing recommendation, and submitted those amendments. The selectmen said they would consider attaching Ms. Carson's submission, but would not amend the minutes as they accurately reflected a regular meeting which was not a public hearing. ***Motion by Mr. Tolisano, seconded by Ms. Devlin and unanimously carried to approve the minutes as written.***

- 11 Board of Selectmen Remarks - none

- 12 Citizen Comments – George Schober requested that repairs be made to the rough surfaces on the road and parking areas at the Field Road recreation facility.

- 13 Adjournment – ***Motion by Mr. Tolisano, seconded by Ms. Devlin and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 p.m.***

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia L. Mitchell
Exec Asst/Ops Mgr
Recording Secretary

MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVAL AT A SUBSEQUENT MEETING