

**TOWN OF SOMERS
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES – SPECIAL MEETING
Tuesday, August 24, 2010
Town Hall**

Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 6:04 PM

Members present – First Selectman Lisa Pellegrini, Selectman Kathy Devlin, Selectman Joe Tolisano was absent, on vacation, Douglas Minich Operations Manager – recording. Fire Commission members present were Dave Palmer, Ed Pagani and Jim McFeat.

Added items - Mrs. Devlin added ambulance billing and Mrs. Pellegrini asked for Executive Session for a personnel matter.

Fire Ordinance discussion – Mrs. Devlin reviewed the history of the Fire Ordinance which was written in 2002 when Bill Meier was chief but had no public hearing so did not become an ordinance. The present ordinance is substantially unchanged since then, but updated. Mr. David Palmer asked about the reporting hierarchy and Mrs. Pellegrini clarified that it is Fire Chief to Fire Commission and Fire Marshal to First Selectman. The Fire Commission asked that they be given time by their board to review the ordinance and it was granted by the Board of Selectmen.

Volunteer Firemen Insurance Coverage – The Town has three policies covering the Somers Volunteer Firemen, two from Provident provided by an independent agent, purchased separately and one written by The Hartford provided under the CIRMA policy. The Town has engaged both CIRMA, and an independent risk management professional to evaluate the policies and provide an analysis to the Board of Selectmen. Bill Meier provided some history of the Provident coverage, that prior to CIRMA it was needed as the former carrier did not provide that coverage. Ed Pagani volunteered that V.F.S. also provides coverage and the Town will investigate that company. Mrs. Pellegrini assured the Fire Commission that the Town was not trying to eliminate any coverage, simply being fiscally prudent in examining coverage and cost. Decision tabled until all analysis is complete.

Budget – Mrs. Pellegrini asked the Fire Commission to be more active in formulating the Fire Department budget and to be supportive in presenting the budget to the Board of Finance. The Fire Commission agreed to do so.

Ambulance – Mrs. Pellegrini clarified that the \$60,000 approved by the Board of Finance for a new ambulance does not mean the purchase of a new ambulance was approved by

the Board of Finance. Public comment revealed a great deal of confusion and the approval of purchase of an ambulance should be confirmed by the Board of Finance.

Added item – Mrs. Devlin stated that the Ambulance Service Billing contract had not been out to bid for 10 years and it should be bid. Fire Commission agreed. CFO Kim Marcotte will write the RFP.

Executive Session – ***Motion to enter Executive Session at 6:55 PM by Mrs. Pellegrini, second by Mrs. Devlin. Unanimous vote to approve.*** Members in attendance were Mrs. Pellegrini, Mrs. Devlin. Mr. Minich, Mr. David Palmer, Mr. Jim McFeat and Mr. Ed Pagani were asked to attend. The Board exited Executive Session at 7:09 PM.

Readiness state of fire equipment. – Chief Pagani will provide a readiness state report to Board of Selectmen to be included in overall condition report of all town assets.

Adjournment – ***Motion to adjourn by Mrs. Pellegrini, seconded by Mrs. Devlin. Unanimous vote to approve.*** Meeting adjourned at 7:14 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Douglas H. Minich, Recording

Minutes are not official until accepted at a subsequent Selectmen's meeting