

**TOWN OF SOMERS
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, September 23, 2010
Town Hall**

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM in the Selectmen's Conference Room and was moved to the Town Hall Auditorium because of an expected large public presence.

Members present: First Selectman Lisa Pellegrini, Selectman Kathy Devlin. Also in attendance were CFO Kim Marcotte and Operations Manager, Doug Minich – recording.

Correspondence: First Selectman Lisa Pellegrini read a letter from Robert Jalbert requesting a waiver from installing streetlights on his recent development. The Selectmen were sympathetic to his case as it would save the Town money in street light usage, but the letter was referred to Planning for their approval.

Citizen Comments: None

Selectman's update:

First Selectman Pellegrini reported that the Tax Sale on Thursday, September 23, 2010 successfully sold the Somersville Mill for \$33,000 to Mr. Robert Giusti, and 60 Springfield Road to Mr. David Marti for \$39,000. Mr. Giusti has plans to develop the mill as residential condominium units, and Mrs. Devlin would like to be included on an advisory committee for that project.

New computer servers are to be installed Friday September 24, 2010.

The need for a new phone system for the Town was addressed by Ms. Pellegrini as the Town has used its last spare and the Fire Department's answering machine feature has become disabled and is not able to be repaired. Phone problems continue. A new system will cost approximately \$65,000 and two companies have expressed interest in meeting the Town's needs. Mrs. Pellegrini will address the Board of Finance with this issue.

Mrs. Pellegrini reported that the roof on the Resident Troopers office is in desperate need of repair and should be done before more serious repair is needed.

The tennis court installation is progressing, but there are some issues with the fence and markings on the courts. These issues are being addressed with the contractor.

Mr. Culver Modisette representing the Northern Connecticut Land Trust asked about the tax bill on the Trappe property recently acquired by the NCLT. He reported that the property is 138 acres on Bald Mountain and their purchase will keep this from being developed. The tax liability on the property is \$3,400 and previous purchases by NCLT have had the tax bills waived. The NCLT owns 111 properties comprising 727 acres valued at 2.8 million dollars. The Trappe property was purchased with a state grant and town funds of \$550,000 and Mr. Modisette asked that the tax bill be waived. Tax

Collector Donna Doyker was asked for background on the matter. She stated that since the Town was involved in the purchase of the property this tax bill will be waived as of the date of the transfer of the deed.

Appropriations/Transfers: The following transfers were presented to the Board of Selectmen

<u>Account Name</u>	<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Revenue – 2009 STEAP grant	315-6003-070-0880-4-00	\$200,000
Expend – Construction STEAP	315-6003-070-0350-5-00	\$200,000
To: Kibbe Fuller Maintenance	100-0010-010-0431-5-00	\$ 2,000
From: Kibbe Fuller Heat	100-0010-010-0624-5-01	\$ 2,000
To: Land Services-sediment/ Erosion	100-9036-090-0335-5-00	\$ 12,570
From: Sediment Control	100-9036-090-0335-5-00	\$ 12,570
To: Auditing	100-0028-010-0331-5-00	\$ 2,500
From: Contingency	100-9099-090-0890-5-03	\$ 2,500
To: Clerical – Police PT	100-2017-020-0120-5-02	\$ 12,078.51
From: Planning Secretary	100-0025-010-0120-5-00	\$ 6,039.25
WPCA Secretary	100-4019-040-0120-5-01	\$ 6,039.26
		\$ 12,078.51
To: Land & Building Services	100-0010-010-0335-5-00	\$ 2,500
From: Contingency	100-9099-090-0890-5-03	\$ 2,500
To: TN Special Sevices	100-2016-020-0339-5-00	\$ 378.60
To: TN	100-2016-020-0339-5-00	\$ 150.00
		\$ 528.60
From: Electricity	100-2016-020-0622-5-00	\$ 528.60

Motion to approve all transfers was made by Mrs. Devlin, seconded by Mrs. Pellegrini. The motion was approved.

Old Business:

8.1 Somers/NCCD Agreement was tabled for further discussion

8.2 Fire Commission

Ambulance – The Fire Commission and Fire Department presented the Board of Selectmen with quotes for an ambulance. After some discussion of the merits of each proposal, it was decided to present the proposals to the Board of Finance.

Fire Ordinance – The Fire Commission presented their suggestions to the proposed Fire Ordinance to the Board of Selectmen and they will take them under advisement.

Firemen's Insurance- The Provident policies that provide added benefits to the volunteer firemen are in force and have not be eliminated.

Budget/Management – Tabled for a later meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

New Business:

9.1 Cultural Commission: Linda Abbott Cultural Commission Chair sent a letter to Mrs. Pellegrini reporting the resignation of Jeannie Bryanton and her recommendation of John Reeves as a replacement. Mrs. Devlin asked that Mrs. Abbott and Mr. Reeves appear at a future Selectmen's meeting and that Mr. Reeves be interviewed by the Board as is their custom. ***Motion was made by Mrs. Devlin and seconded by Mrs. Pellegrini to place the interview on a future Selectmen's meeting. The motion was approved.***

9.2 Recreation Commission: A discussion was held regarding the expectations of both the Board of Selectmen and the Recreation Commission regarding field preparation for various athletic events. DPW Director Todd Rolland pointed out that because of the workload on the Parks Department (Bruce Urban), it is critical that the DPW be given two weeks notice for events and games requiring their participation. The Recreation Commission pointed out that up until last year the Board of Education participated in field preparation and usage. The Board of Selectmen will have a conversation with the Somers school authorities in order to arrive at a solution. Mr. Tolisano suggested that perhaps tournaments be charged a fee for services to help defray the cost to the Town. Further investigation is needed.

Storage of equipment by various teams at Kibbe-Fuller building was discussed. It was pointed out that some organizations need more space than others and it was suggested by Mr. Tolisano that the Recreation Commission manage the storage of equipment and if more space is needed than the Town can provide, that organization may have to rent other space from private companies.

Summer Recreation camp counselors pay was discussed and it was suggested that a tiered pay scale be implemented based upon experience and seniority. Jenifer Charette will coordinate with the Recreation Commission to formulate a pay structure for the 2011 season.

The Recreation Commission asked if the Board of Education would allow the use of a gymnasium and a classroom, for the Recreation Program in case of inclement weather. The Board of Education will be consulted regarding building usage.

Approval of Minutes: 9/9/10

Motion to approve the minutes of September 9, 2010 was made by Mr. Tolisano and seconded by Mrs. Devlin. The motion was approved.

Adjournment: ***A motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Pellegrini and seconded by Mr. Tolisano. The motion was unanimously approved.***

Respectfully submitted,

Douglas H. Minich – Recording Secretary

Minutes are not official until approved at a subsequent meeting.