

**TOWN OF SOMERS
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, August 8, 2013
6:00pm
Selectmen's Conference Room**

Call to Order: First Selectman Lisa Pellegrini called the meeting to order at 6:10pm.

Members Present: First Selectman Lisa Pellegrini, Selectmen Kathy Devlin and Bud Knorr.

Pledge of Allegiance: All members participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Opportunity to Add Agenda Items: None

Selectmen's Update:

Mrs. Pellegrini informed the Board of the following:

1. The Town will be receiving a new FFY 2012 Emergency Management Performance Grant in the amount of \$11,835.68. Mrs. Pellegrini asked for authorization to sign the necessary documents.

Mrs. Devlin made a motion to accept the FFY 2012 Emergency Management Performance Grant and to authorize First Selectman Lisa Pellegrini to sign all documents associated with the grant, seconded by Mr. Knorr. A unanimous decision followed.

2. FEMA Reimbursement from Hurricane Sandy has been approved for the amount of \$20,695.31. The amount represents the full 75 % amount maximum of which the Town is eligible to receive.
3. A CIRMA Members Equity Check has been received in the amount of \$12,433.
4. The rate for the short term 9 month bond for the fire trucks is .3538. This is very good news as we were expecting a rate between .5 and .75.
5. An Appropriation and Bond Schedule time line developed by bond counsel was distributed to the Board. The time line is critical for the bonding vote in November.

New Hires/Staffing:

Mrs. Devlin made a motion to hire Ms. Kim Littig as the part time administrative associate, seconded by Mr. Knorr. A unanimous decision followed.

The Board discussed job flows and staffing requirements for the Finance Office based on communications from the CFO.

Mrs. Devlin instructed Mrs. Pellegrini to prepare and post a job description for a part time Finance Associate, seconded by Mr. Knorr. A unanimous decision followed.

Mrs. Pellegrini shared with the Board a memo from Resident State Trooper Jose Claudio regarding his research into policies and procedures for animal control officers. In an effort to effectively manage the animal control services Sgt. Claudio recommends hiring two part time backup Animal Control Officers and to change the hours and work schedule for the current Animal Control Officer effective September 1, 2013.

Mrs. Devlin made a motion to accept Sgt. Claudio's recommendation to hire Ms. Ashlee Leone and Mr. Michael LaPointe as part time backup Animal Control Officers and to also change the work schedule and work hours of the current Animal Control Officer effective September 1, 2013, seconded by Mr. Knorr. A unanimous decision followed.

Boards and Commissions-

Appointments and Resignations:

Mrs. Devlin made a motion to appoint Mr. Joe Tolisano to the Civil Prep Advisory Council to fill a vacancy with a term expiring on 11/25/13, seconded by Mr. Knorr. A unanimous decision followed.

Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan:

Mrs. Pellegrini presented revisions for the 2014 Capital Region Pre-Disaster Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan and asked the Board for their endorsement of the changes. The changes will be submitted to CRCOG and will then be reviewed by FEMA. Board of Selectmen Approval of the new 2014 Plan will be required in the near future after FEMA's review. The Board endorsed the Plan revisions and instructed Mrs. Pellegrini to forward them to CRCOG with the understanding that the Board will approve the final revision after FEMA's review.

Proclamation-September 19, 2013 "No Texting While Driving":

Mrs. Pellegrini presented a proclamation to designate September 19, 2013 as "No Texting While Driving Day". See attached proclamation.

Mr. Knorr made a motion to approve the above mentioned proclamation, seconded by Mrs. Devlin. A unanimous vote followed.

Tax Sale Update:

Mrs. Pellegrini shared with the Board a letter from the Tax Collector regarding the recent Tax Sale. Three of the four properties auctioned were sold and the amount of taxes recouped from the sale totaled \$11,861.73.

CCM Legislative Priorities:

In preparation for the upcoming legislative session Mrs. Pellegrini asked the Board to think about priorities regarding Education, Environmental Management & Energy, Labor Relations, Land Use, Housing & Community Development, Municipal Law, Liability & Insurance, Public Health & Human Services, Public Safety, Homeland Security & Code Enforcement, Taxes & Finance, Transportation & Infrastructure and/or Task Force on Children, Youth & Families that would affect Somers so that she may share them with the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM).

Authorization of Scheduled Payments:

Mrs. Devlin made a motion to approve the authorization of scheduled payments in the amount of \$409,178.77, seconded by Mr. Knorr. A unanimous decision followed.

Transfers/Appropriations: None

Approval of Minutes-Regular BOS Meeting Minutes 7/25/13:

Mrs. Pellegrini made a motion to approve the Board of Selectmen Minutes from the meeting of July 25, 2013, seconded by Mrs. Devlin. The motion passed.

Adjournment:

Mrs. Pellegrini made a motion to adjourn the Board of Selectmen meeting at 7:30pm, seconded by Mrs. Devlin. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lisa Pellegrini-Recording

Minutes are not official until accepted at a subsequent meeting.

Town of Somers PROCLAMATION

September 19, 2013 “No Texting While Driving Day”

Whereas texting has become the way many people communicate today, which means some people are doing it at the worst possible time-while driving, and

Whereas texting while driving is involved in over 100,000 motor vehicle crashes each year, often causing injuries and deaths, and

Whereas those who text while driving are 23 times more likely to be involved in some type of safety critical event as compared to those drivers who don't text while they drive, and

Whereas in 2009 AT&T launched the public awareness campaign “It Can Wait” to educate the public about the dangers of texting while driving by encouraging consumers to take the personal pledge not to text while driving, and

Now, therefore be it proclaimed, that the Town of Somers designates September 19, 2013 as “No Texting While Driving Day” to focus attention on the dangers of texting while driving, and

Be it further proclaimed that the members of the community are encouraged to not text and drive, supports efforts to raise public awareness about the dangers of texting while driving and encourage others to take the pledge not to text and drive.

Town of Somers

Lisa Pellegrini
First Selectman

Dated: August 8, 2013