

**TOWN OF SOMERS
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, April 16, 2015
6:00pm
Selectmen's Conference Room**

Call to Order First Selectman Lisa Pellegrini called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

Members Present: First Selectman Lisa Pellegrini and Selectmen Kathy Devlin and Bud Knorr. Also in attendance: Michael Marinaccio, CFO and Brian Wissinger, Accountant.

Selectmen's Update:

Ms. Pellegrini provided an update on the recent Legislative Session elaborating on Senate Bill #1 issues and several bills regarding unfunded mandates.

Opportunity to Add Agenda Items:

Ms. Pellegrini made a motion to add the following agenda items for Discussion and Review:

1. *FY 2015/16 Budget Presentation*
2. *Design Review Ordinance and Vendors Hawkers Ordinance*
3. *Volunteer Tax Abatement Discussion*

Seconded by Mrs. Devlin. A unanimous vote followed.

1. **FY 2015/16 Budget Presentation:** CFO Michael Marinaccio provided the FY 2015/16 Budget Presentation for discussion and review.
2. **Design Review Ordinance Vendors Hawkers Ordinance:** Town Clerk Ann Logan is in the midst of working on updates to the General Code and on the printing of the Town Charter and brought to the First Selectman's attention that there is no publication date and no effective date for the 2006 Design Review Ordinance as well as no publication date and no effective date for the modification made to the Vendors Hawkers Ordinance in 2010. The Board of Selectmen discussed and agreed that there were administrative errors made and will have the Town Clerk's Office ensure proper procedure is followed in the future. The First Selectman notified the Town Attorney and his initial comment was that he believed too much time had passed for them to be made effective. Thus, the Selectmen will work with the Town Attorney to begin again. With regard to the Design Review Ordinance the Selectmen agree the Town should consult with Glenn Chalder from Planimetrics and consider the POCD update when working on it. With regard to the Vendors Hawkers Ordinance it was agreed additional updates are also needed and the process should start over.
3. **Volunteer Tax Abatement:** Ms. Pellegrini received an email from the Town Clerk posing the question to the Board of Selectmen if they would consider adopting State Statute 12-81w (Volunteer Tax Abatement) in its entirety and after legal review consider amending/clarifying it so that both non-salaried and possibly town salaried volunteers could potentially receive tax abatements up to \$1000. The Board discussed the request and due to the 2015/2016 Town budget being completed and with the possibility of state municipal aid cuts on the table the board agreed it not wise to look at implementing ordinances that abate property taxes. In addition, the Selectmen agreed that any ordinances involving such abatements should include discussion with both the Finance Department and the Board of Finance.

Mrs. Devlin made a motion to add the following Agenda Items:

1. *Open Space and Trails Committee request*
 2. *Somerville Residents in need*
 3. *Reappointment of CFO Michael Marinaccio and Tax Collector Sherri Czyz*
- Seconded by Mr. Knorr. A unanimous vote followed.*

Open Space and Trails Committee: Mrs. Devlin received correspondence from Ann Moses, Chairman of the Open Space and Trails Committee (OSTC) asking the Board of Selectmen to expand the scope of the OSTC to include an opportunity to advise and/make recommendations to the Planning Committee as to when the town should take the open space or fee in lieu of open space during the disposition of future subdivisions. Mrs. Devlin stated the original three charges of the Open Space and Trails Committee did not include such authority. The three charges, which include creating a map of open space and trails, creating a maintenance plan for open space and trails and creating a public awareness campaign for open space and trails, were made based on the recommendations from the Camp Ayapo Ad Hoc Committee. The Board believes adequate consideration regarding open space and conservation issues are already reviewed by both the Planning Commission and the Conversation Commission during the application process. No action was taken to amend the OSTC charges.

Somerville Residents in Need: Due to discussion with some residents not having transportation, Mrs. Devlin asked if the Human Services Director would meet with the All Saints Food Pantry Director to discuss the possibility of having Social Service Staff available during food pantry hours to distribute info regarding social service programs.

Re-appointments of CFO and Tax Collector:

Mrs. Devlin made a motion to have the Selection Committees convene for the Re-appointments of the CFO and the Tax Collector and to recommend to said committees the reappointments of both Michael Marinaccio as CFO and Sherri Czyz as Tax Collector, seconded by Ms. Pellegrini. A unanimous vote followed.

Staffing: Senior Center Bus Driver:

Ms. Pellegrini received correspondence from Deanna Schuetz-Director of Human Services recommending the hiring of Charles Griffith as a per-diem Dial-a-Ride driver with the potential for future part time employment.

Mrs. Devlin made a motion to approve the recommendation to hire Charles Griffith as a per-diem Dial-a-Ride driver with the potential for future part time employment, seconded by Mr. Knorr. A unanimous vote followed.

Authorization of Scheduled Payments:

Mrs. Devlin made a motion to approve the authorization of scheduled payments in the amount of \$78,604.05, seconded by Mr. Knorr. A unanimous vote followed.

Minutes for Approval:

March 19, 2015 BOS Regular Minutes

Mrs. Devlin made a motion to approve the March 19, 2015 Regular Board of Selectmen Minutes, seconded by Mr. Knorr. A unanimous vote followed.

March 26, BOS Special Minutes

April 2, BOS Regular Minutes

Mrs. Devlin made a motion to approve the March 26, 2015 Board of Selectmen Special Meeting Minutes and the April 2, 2015 Regular Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes, seconded by Ms. Pellegrini. A unanimous vote followed.

Adjournment:

Mr. Knorr made a motion to adjourn the Board of Selectmen meeting at 7:00pm, seconded by Mrs. Devlin. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kim LaFleur-Recording

Minutes are not official until accepted at a subsequent meeting.