

**TOWN OF SOMERS
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, June 11, 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, Selectmen Kathy Devlin and Bud Knorr. Also in attendance: Michael Marinaccio-CFO, Brian Wissinger-Accountant, Director of Public Works Todd Rolland, Recreation Coordinator Chris Boucher and interested residents.

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

Opportunity to Add Agenda Items: None.

Selectmen's Update:

Flags:

American Legion Post Commander David McCaffrey notified Selectmen of Flag Retirement Ceremony on June 14th and provided Selectmen with updates as to Flag Display on Main Street. The Legion will be changing Flag vendors in the future and will be purchasing them directly from the American Legion. In an effort to purchase flags Mr. McCaffrey asked the Selectmen to consider allocating the funds Richard Jackson American Flag Fund to the American Legion.

Mrs. Devlin made a motion to approve the allocation of funds in the Richard Jackson American Flag Fund to the American Legion with the understanding the Legion will use the money to purchase flags for the Main Street Flag Display, seconded by Mr. Knorr. A unanimous vote followed.

Fire Ad Hoc Committee Update:

Mr. Knorr asked for the status of the Fire Agreement between the Town of Somers and the Volunteer Fire Association. An agreement has not yet been made and the Selectmen discussed the possibility of bringing in a consultant to help expedite the process.

Mrs. Devlin made a motion to authorize First Selectman Lisa Pellegrini to hire a consultant to assist with the above mentioned Fire Agreement as well as the job description and hiring process for the paid Fire Chief position, seconded by Mr. Knorr. A unanimous vote followed.

Veteran's Monument at Town Hall:

Ms. Pellegrini shared with the Selectmen the news that the appearance of the Veteran's Memorial in front of Town Hall was greatly improved as a result of extraordinary volunteer efforts from the following businesses:

Barry Dolby from Mountain Tree Service worked with the Somers Public Works Department to remove the bushes that were obscuring the Veteran's Memorial in front of Town Hall. Once that work was complete a crew led by Frank Cicciarella from Frank's Landscaping spent eight hours

installing granite and sod around the monument. Mike Eldridge of One Way Decorating power washed the monument. Sod was generously donated by Twin State Turf Farm of Somers.

The Selectmen thanked all mentioned above for their time, efforts and resources to make such a profound improvement to the monument.

Blacksmith Shoppe:

Ms. Pellegrini shared with the Selectmen news regarding the motor vehicle accident at the Black Smith Shoppe on the corner of Pinney Road and Maple Street. The building is secured and the insurance company has deployed an adjustor. The Town is working with the Somersville Congregational Church and the Ladies Aide Society to remove their belongings from the building in a safe manner. The Chairman of the Historical Society was also contacted to gain some information about the history of the building. Ms. Pellegrini then distributed an executive summary of the building's history received from Historical Society Chairman Carole Pyne. Ms. Pellegrini stated the best course of action in the short time line is to work with the insurance company, obtain quotes for repair and ultimately repair the building so that the Ladies Aide Society could return and do the good things they do.

Easter Seals Agreement:

Ms. Pellegrini would like authorization to sign the Easter Seals Agreement for 2015/2016.

Mr. Knorr made a motion to authorize First Selectman Lisa Pellegrini to sign the Easter Seals Agreement for 2015/2016 between the Town of Somers and Easter Seals, seconded by Mrs. Devlin. A unanimous vote followed.

Cultural Commission Concerts:

Mrs. Devlin asked about food vendors at the Cultural Commission Concerts on Battle Street. Mr. Pellegrini said the Sanitarian responded back to the Cultural Commission and DPW is currently suggesting designated vendor staging areas to the Commission to ensure safety.

Boards & Commissions:

Resignations:

Ms. Pellegrini received notification that Mr. Lou Stetson has resigned from the Recreation Commission.

Mrs. Devlin made a motion to accept the resignation of Mr. Lou Stetson from the Recreation Commission with regrets and thanks for service, seconded by Mr. Knorr. A unanimous vote followed.

Appointments:

Ms. Pellegrini shared with the Selectmen a recommendation from Zoning Board of Appeals Chairman Dean Hill that Mr. Benjamin Camerota be appointed to replace a vacancy left by Mr. Jerome Young on the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Mrs. Devlin made a motion to appoint Mr. Benjamin Camerota to the Zoning Board of Appeals to replace a vacancy left by Mr. Jerome Young, seconded by Mr. Knorr. A unanimous vote followed.

Fee Structure for Rental of Conner's Place Pavilion and Park Gazebo:

Recreation Coordinator Chris Boucher presented a change to the fee structure for Conner's Place Pavilion and the Park Gazebo as stated in the Building Policy. The changes would allow additional families and groups to rent the structures on the weekends.

Mr. Knorr made a motion to approve the changes to the fee structure for Conner's Place Pavilion and the Park Gazebo as stated in the Building Policy to the following:

\$35 for the first two hours and \$25.00 for each additional hour.

Seconded by Mrs. Devlin. A unanimous vote followed.

Day Camp Parent Handbook:

Recreation Coordinator Chris Boucher presented an updated Somers Day Camp Parent Handbook for the Selectmen to approve. Discussion followed with all questions addressed. The Selectmen congratulated Mr. Boucher on the updated handbook.

Mrs. Devlin made a motion to approve the Day Camp Parent Handbook as presented by Recreation Coordinator Chris Boucher, seconded by Mr. Knorr. A unanimous vote followed.

Vision Government Solution Amendment 1 Contract:

Mrs. Devlin made a motion to authorize First Selectmen Lisa Pellegrini to sign the Vision Government Solution Amendment 1 Contract, seconded by Mr. Knorr. A unanimous vote followed.

Somersville Mill Strategic Planning Ad-Hoc Committee:

Committee Appointments & Resolutions:

Ms. Pellegrini outlined her desire to create a Somersville Mill Strategic Planning Ad-Hoc Committee to assist in developing a strategic plan for the remediation and revitalization of the Somersville Mill Property. It includes the following:

Formation of a Somersville Mill Strategic Planning Ad Hoc Committee.

Purpose:

Would serve as an Advisory Committee to the Board of Selectmen to assist in providing strategic planning options for the Somersville Mill site.

Time:

6 Months, with option to extend

Suggested Committee Members:

Tim Keeney

Erik Ness

Brad Pellissier

Tim Potrikus

Ralph Williams

Suggested Charge Resolution:

The Ad Hoc Committee would have the following charges:

- 1. Identify potential reuse of the Somersville Mill property**

2. Identify potential sources of funding to be to remediate the Somersville Mill property
3. Identify risks associated with taking title to the Somersville Mill property

Mrs. Devlin made a motion to approve the above formation of the Somerville Mill Strategic Planning Ad Hoc Committee, the Committee's Appointments and the Resolution of Charges to the Committee, seconded by Mr. Knorr. A unanimous vote followed.

Budget:

CFO Mike Marinaccio provided a brief overview of close out of the current budget. He also notified the Selectmen the auditors will be at Town Hall next week. In addition, credit card machines will be installed in the near future at Town departments for the convenience of residents.

Authorization of Scheduled payments:

Mrs. Devlin made a motion to approve the authorization of scheduled payments in the amount of \$241,741.68, seconded by Mr. Knorr. A unanimous vote followed.

Transfers/Appropriations: None

Minutes for Approval:

May 28, 2015 Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes:

Mrs. Devlin made a motion to approve the May 28, 2015 Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes, seconded by Mr. Knorr. A unanimous vote followed.

Adjournment:

Ms. Pellegrini made a motion to adjourn the Board of Selectmen meeting at 6:47pm, seconded by Mrs. Devlin. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kimberly LaFleur/Lisa Pellegrini-Recording

Minutes are not official until accepted at a subsequent meeting.