

Town of Somers

**Annual Town Meeting Minutes**

May 11, 2009

7:00 p.m. – Somers Town Hall

The Annual Town Meeting was called to order by First Selectman David A. Pinney at approximately 7:01 p.m. There were approximately 40 citizens in attendance. Mr. Pinney read the legal notice.

**1. Elect a Moderator**

A motion was made by H.Broer, seconded by M.Madden and unanimously voted to elect David Pinney the moderator of the Annual Town Meeting.

**2. To consider the annual budget for 2009-2010 fiscal year with expenditures and revenues each recommended at \$27,979,120**

Mr. Pinney invited questions from individuals in attendance concerning the proposed budget.

**Mr. Broer**

Was the instructional staff at the schools helpful in reducing the budget amounts? Were there wage concessions? Why is there such a large increase in the fixed charges line item? Dr. Suffradini explained that the fixed charges are insurance premium increased dictated by the carrier. Dr. Suffradini also stated that there were no wage concessions by the unions within the school system.

The question was asked as to the percentage contributed by school personnel toward health insurance. Dr. Suffradini explained that depending upon the coverage; the average contribution was 17%. A. Kirkpatrick asked Mr. Pinney the percentage contributed by town employees. Mr. Pinney stated approximately 12.5%.

The questions was asked if any of the state stimulus or grant monies were expected to be coming to Somers and how would these monies impact the budget. In particular, would the monies reverse teacher layoffs? Mr. Pinney explained that monies coming to the town from grants and stimuli money could only maintain current levels of funding without enhancing particular programs. No additional money would be received to support positions.

**3. To approve transfers within the 2009-09 budget as recommended by the Board of Finance**

Mr. Pinney explained that the total appropriation was \$41,000 to the Fire Department in order to purchase a compressor and re-charging station. The Fire Department received a grant in the amount of \$38,000 and received \$3,000 from the sale of the old compressor, both money amounts being held in the General Fund. A motion was made by M.Madden, seconded by H.Broer and unanimously voted to approve the transfer as recommended by the Board of Finance.

**4. To confirm the appointment of William Salka as an Alternate to the Planning Commission**

A motion was made by G.Warner, seconded by M.Madden and unanimously voted to confirm the appointment of W.Salka as an alternate to Planning for a one year term expiring on December 22, 2009.

**5. To set a date, time and place for a referendum to be conducted by machine vote on the question of adopting the annual budget as proposed, with the selectmen recommending the referendum be conducted on May 19, 2009, between the hours of 6:00 am and 8:00 pm at the Town Hall Auditorium**

A motion was made by S.Warner, seconded by L.Wetheral and unanimously voted to adjourn the Annual Town Meeting to May 19, 2009 for a referendum vote, by machine, on the proposed budget as recommended by the Board of Finance. The voting will take place at the Somers Town Hall Auditorium from 6:00 am until 8:00 pm/

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Marie Logan  
Town Clerk  
Town of Somers