

Legal Notice
Special Town Meeting
Town of Somers
Tuesday, December 13, 2011
Town Hall Auditorium

A Special Town Meeting will be held at the Somers Town Hall, 600 Main Street, Somers, CT on Tuesday, December 13, 2011 at 7:00pm to act on the following

1. Elect a moderator
2. To Confirm the Following Appointment:
Adam Van Wingerden, Planning Commission Alternate, Term Expiring 12.22.2011
3. To discuss and vote on a Supplemental Appropriation of \$700,000 from the General Fund balance for Storm Alfred costs
4. Storm Alfred Aftermath
5. Adjournment

Dated at Somers, CT this 1st day of December 2011.

Board of Selectmen
Lisa Pellegrini, First Selectman
Kathy Devlin
Bud Knorr

Publication Date: Monday, December 5, 2011

I, Ann Marie Logan, Town Clerk of the Town of Somers, certify that the foregoing is a true and accurate copy of the notice that was duly posted and advertised.
Attest: Ann Marie Logan

Town of Somers
Special Town Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, December 13, 2011

The Special Town Meeting of Tuesday, December 13, 2011 was called to order by First Selectman, Lisa Pellegrini at approximately 7:02 pm with approximately 15 Town of Somers residents in attendance. The pledge of allegiance was recited. The Legal Notice was read by Town Clerk Ann Logan.

1. Elect a moderator

A motion was made by K.Devlin, seconded by B.Knorr and unanimously voted to elect L.Pellegrini as moderator.

2. Confirm Appointment

A motion was made by K.Devlin, seconded by B.Devlin and unanimously voted to appoint Adam Van Wingerden as a Planning Commission Alternate with a term expiring on December 22, 2011.

3. Discuss and vote on Supplemental Appropriation of \$700,000 from the General Fund balance for Storm Alfred Costs.

A motion was made by S.Snyder, seconded by B.Knorr to approve Supplemental Appropriation. Discussion:

- a. FEMA will be reimbursing the town 75% of qualified costs and the town has maintained very good records of all costs incurred but must pay all expenditures and then apply for reimbursement
- b. The possible final costs to the Town for Storm Alfred may run as high as 1.5 million, again 75% reimbursed of qualified expenses
- c. Final expenditures for police coverage for emergency purposes, final costs for the grinding of brush debris which amounted to approximately 55,000 cubic yards have not been received and is not included in the \$700,000 appropriation request
- d. Curbside brush removal will be ending very shortly and the waiver of fees at the landfill end on December 31, 2011.
- e. The Town obtained proposals and hired local contractors for the grinding and removal of debris rather than going to state contractors.
- f. The Town did not hire a state contractor to complete the paperwork involved in the filing for reimbursements. The Town has maintained very good paper records and will be completing the applications to FEMA on its own.
- g. The possible 1.5 million costs to the Town would include, but not limited to the following: fuel, overtime for both police and public works, repairs to equipment, debris removal, shelter operation, debris grinding, janitors at the school.
- h. L.Pellegrini noted that Mountain Tree Service was hired to take down the 'hanger's' on local roadways, but not over the power lines which CL&P would be responsible for.
- i. The Town initially had Public Works, Fire and Police personnel utilized in clearing roadways in anticipation of potential emergency situations rather than wait for CL&P – all personnel was acting in a pro-active manner.
- j. The Town is not responsible for trees currently on lines – CL&P will be dispatching contractors or clear themselves
- k. Mr. Cellato of Collins Road asked what is the average homeowner's tax liability to the \$700,000. L.Pellegrini noted that S.Krasinski of the Finance Board requested a consideration of a one-time tax assessment to cover expenditures associated with the storm. The Board of Selectmen said that this is a

situation where the General Fund Surplus should be used – unexpected emergencies and did not agree with the suggestion of S.Krasinski.

- l. Mr. Collins of Avery Road wanted it noted that the Surplus account is part of the General Fund
- m. L.Pellegrini stated that it cost the Town \$4,500 to rent a bucket truck for one month and repairs to the Town's equipment would be approximately \$5,000-\$10,000 which again would be 75% reimbursable from FEMA
- n. A bucket truck and a loader have been placed on the Capital Improvement list for funding/purchasing

A motion was made for the approval of a supplemental appropriation of \$700,000 from the General Fund. The approval of the appropriation of \$700,000 was unanimous.

4. Storm Alfred Aftermath

Already discussed in Item #3

5. Adjournment

A motion was made by K.Devlin, seconded by B.Devlin and unanimously voted to adjourn the Special Town Meeting of December 13, 2011 at approximately 7:30 pm

Respectfully submitted;

Ann Marie Logan
Town Clerk
Town of Somers