

TOWN OF SOMERS
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, September 5, 2024, at 6:00 pm
Town Hall Auditorium

A.) CALL TO ORDER: First Selectman Tim Keeney called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

B.)

1. Pledge of Allegiance: All members participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Roll Call: First Selectman Tim Keeney, Selectmen Bill Meier and Bob Schmidt, CFO Brian Wissinger, Human Services Director Matthew Cox, Human Resources Generalist Dayna Carpenter, Land Use and Public Works Director Todd Rolland, Town Sanitarian Andrea Vitrano, Melissa Peirce and Lieutenant Ray Stovall

C.) PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Public Comment: None.

D.) PRESENTATIONS BY THE FIRST SELECTMAN

First Selectman Tim Keeney presented the following items:

- The Economic Development Commission will be hosting a Networking event on 9/19/24 at 5pm at Worthington Winery to which the Board of Selectmen have been invited to. The Board of Selectmen meeting for that week has been scheduled as a special meeting on Wednesday 9/18/24 at 6pm. Ms. LaFleur will be responsible for providing notice and posting both special meeting agendas
 - Mr. Keeney proposed Frank Poirier to be the recipient of the Robert B. Percoski Community Service Award
 - Mr. Keeney proposed Maureen Parsell to be the recipient of the Adolph P. Anderson Quality Employee Award
- Both Selectmen agreed with the recommendations. The awards will be presented at a future Board of Selectmen meeting.

E.) CONSENT AGENDA

1. Boards and Commissions: Appointments/Resignations: None.

F.) OPPORTUNITY TO ADD URGENT AGENDA ITEMS – None.

G.) FINANCE

- a) Transfers and Appropriations -None.
- b) CFO Finance Report/Updates – Mr. Wissinger Presented on the following items:
 - a. Mr. Wissinger provided the Board with the Monthly Budget Report that's provided to the Board of Finance.
 - b. Today there was a meeting with the State of Connecticut Office of Policy and Management (OPM) and The Connecticut Association of Assessing Officers (CAAO) and all Statewide Town Assessors. CAAO and OPM provided an update on the Motor Vehicle Law changes that were put into effect by Legislation this law goes into effect October 1, 2024. Town Assessors will no longer use the National Automobile Dealer Association (NADA) book values to value motor vehicles. Town Assessors will now have to assess Motor vehicles based on the MSRP with a 20-year depreciation schedule. The first amount will be based on 85% of the Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price (MSRP) and each year it will go down 3-1/2% depreciation until reaches 15% - it will never drop below 15%.

OPM will provide the Town Assessors with a table to use as guidelines.

No Vehicle will be valued less than \$500. Snowmobiles, ATV's and utility trailers used for personal use will be fully exempt. The Board of Assessment Appeals no longer will be able to adjust values according to conditions, mileage, if the vehicle has a salvage title or if has been rebuilt.

The only thing that the Board of Assessment Appeals will be able to adjust is if the MSRP was set incorrectly.

We will no longer receive the annual Supplemental list. The Town will receive a file from the Department of Motor Vehicles on the 15th of each month for the vehicles that were registered in the previous month. It will be up to the Town what the billing frequency will be.

The Assessors office is expecting at least 20% of the vehicles on the 10/1/24 grand list to not be priced. The Assessors office will have to purchase a subscription to Price Digest to get the MSRP and manually price about 2,100 vehicles.

Mr. Wissinger recommended drafting an ordinance and getting the word out to the residents with a mailer.

c) Presentation of Scheduled Payments

Mr. Schmidt made a motion to approve the scheduled payments in the amount of \$118,192.85, seconded by Mr. Meier. The motion unanimously passed.

H.) UPDATES FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSION:

I.) PENDING BUSINESS

1. Presentation of a Revised Employee Performance Evaluation – Dayna Carpenter
Mr. Schmidt made a motion to approve the revised performance evaluation, seconded by Mr. Meier. The motion unanimously passed.

J.) NEW BUSINESS

1. Accept the resignation of Dayna Carpenter Human Resources Generalist with an effective date of September 12, 2024.
Mr. Schmidt made a motion to accept the resignation of Dayna Carpenter, Human Resources Generalist, with an effective date of September 19, 2024, seconded by Mr. Meier. The motion unanimously passed.
2. Update on Advanced Life Support (ALS) Services. David Lenart
Chief David Lenart provided an update on Advanced Life Support (ALS). A discussion followed.
3. Staffing Request to hire Brittany Hailer as a part time Firefighter/Paramedic.
Mr. Schmidt made a motion to hire Brittany Hailer as a part time Firefighter/Paramedic with a start date of October 1, 2024, seconded by Mr. Meier. The motion unanimously passed.
4. Staffing Request: Request to hire Annette Ramsdell for the Social and Senior Services Specialist Position with an annual salary of \$50,000 and a proposed start date of September 9, 2024. Matthew Cox
Mr. Schmidt made a motion to approve the request to hire Annette Ramsdell for the Social Senior Services Specialist position with an annual salary of \$50,000 and a start date of September 9, 2024, seconded by Mr. Meier. The motion unanimously passed.

5. Request to Enter into a Contract with B.Weylan Smith Consulting for Town of Somers Drug Free Communities, for Evaluation and Data Technical Assistance Services and authorize the First Selectmen to execute all associated documents. Matthew Cox
Mr. Meier made a motion to enter into a contract with B. Weylan Smith Consulting for Town of Somers Drug Free Communities, for Evaluation and Data Technical Assistance Services and authorize the First Selectman to execute all associated documents, seconded by Mr. Schmid. The motion unanimously passed.
6. Request to enter into a contract with B. Weyland Smith Consulting for the Town of Somers Drug Free Communities, for youth Survey Data Collection and analysis, using Youth Voices Count Survey and authorize the First Selectman to execute all associated documents. Matthew Cox
Mr. Meier made a motion to enter into a contract with B. Weyland Smith Consulting for the Town of Somers Drug Free Communities, for Youth Survey Data Collection and analysis, using Youth Voices Count Survey and authorize the First Selectman to execute all the associated documents, seconded by Mr. Schmidt. the motion unanimously passed.
7. Discussion and possible Action on “Food Handling Establishments Ordinance” (Public Hearing was held on August 15, 2024).
Mr. Schmidt made a motion to adopt the Food Handling Ordinance and to be effective 15 days after publication, the publication will be published in summary form, seconded by Mr. Meier. The motion unanimously passed.
8. Accept Resignation of Public Health Director Luigi Sartori with an effective date of September 5, 2024.
Mr. Meier made a motion to accept the resignation of Public Health Director Luigi Sartori with an effective date of September 5, 2024, seconded by Mr. Schmidt. the motion unanimously passed.
9. Approval of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Between the Town of Somers and Melissa Pierce MPH, RS and Authorize the First Selectman to sign the Memorandum of Understanding. Todd Rolland
Mr. Schmidt made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Town of Somers and Melissa Pierce, MPH, RS and authorize the First Selectman to sign the Memorandum of Understanding. The motion unanimously passed.
10. Appointment of Melissa Pierce, MPH, RS as the Public Health Director with an effective date of September 5, 2024. Todd Rolland
Mr. Schmidt made a motion to appoint Melissa Pierce, MPH, RS as Town of Somers Public Health Director with an effective date of September 5, 2024, seconded by Mr. Meier. The motion unanimously passed.
11. Review, Discussion, and Action to Upgrade Town of Somers Network Speeds and Enter Into Agreement to Move from our Public Safety Data Network (PSDN) Connection to a Connecticut Educational Network (CEN) Connection and Authorize First Selectman to sign All Documents
Mr. Schmidt made a motion to enter into an agreement to move from the Public Safety Data Network (PSDN) Connection to a Connecticut Educational Network (CEN) connection and authorize the First Selectman to execute all documents, seconded by Mr. Meier. The motion unanimously passed.

K.) Approval of Minutes of August 29, 2024, Special Meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

The Board of Selectmen waives the reading of the minutes of the Special Meeting from August 29, 2024, and that minutes of said meeting be approved.

Mr. Meier made a motion to approve the Special Meeting minutes of August 29, 2024, as presented, seconded by Mr. Schmidt. the motion unanimously passed.

L.) **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Schmidt made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:12pm, seconded by Mr. Meier. The motion unanimously passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kim LaFleur-Recording

Minutes are not official until accepted at a subsequent meeting.