

**BUREAU OF FIRE PREVENTION  
335 Route 202  
Somers, New York 10589**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**April 11, 2011**

Chief Citarella called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. The following were in attendance: Bureau Chief Efrem Citarella, Deputy Chiefs Rob Russell and Al Vigliotti, Somers Fire Chief John Meeker, Somers 1<sup>st</sup> Assistant Fire Chief George Wahlers, Somers Fire Captain Ray Baker and Fire Inspector Bill Premuroso.

**MINUTES**

Mr. Vigliotti made a motion to accept the minutes of the March 14, 2011 meeting as submitted. Mr. Russell seconded the motion. All were in favor.

**SUBMISSIONS**

**Mitchell Subdivision** – Members reviewed the site plans submitted by the Planning Department. There were concerns with the width of the driveways, the amount of room to turn a vehicle around and the grade of the driveways. A memo will be sent to the Planning Board.

**MetroPCS** – A site plan for a co-locator on the existing pole at the Somers Towne Centre was reviewed by the members. There were no objections. A memo will be sent to the Planning Board.

**FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT**

Somers Fire Chief John Meeker reported on the following:

**Election** – Providing that the Fire District accepts the nominations of the recent election, George Wahlers will be the Fire Chief, Irwin Schriro the 1<sup>st</sup> Assistant Chief and Ray Baker the 2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Chief. These new positions will go into effect at the end of the month.

**Angle Fly Preserve** – There are concerns regarding access. A GPS map is in the process of being completed. Once that is done, the Fire Department would like a copy. A memo will be sent to the Somers Land Trust.

**School District Health Classes** – The Fire Department has been making presentations to the School District health classes.

**Knox Boxes** – Both Mount Kisco Medical Group and Il Forno Restaurant have installed knox boxes.

**IBM** – IBM’s new remote monitoring system is fully operational. An ambulance call was responded to there and all went well.

**Astoria Bank** – The Astoria Bank is working on their alarm box and issues are being rectified with the owner and the Fire Department.

### **DEPUTY CHIEF REPORTS**

Deputy Chief Russell reported on the following:

**42 Mekeel Street** – A fire alarm call was responded to at 42 Mekeel Street. A permit was not on file. Mr. Russell called and left a message indicating that a Fire Alarm Permit was required.

Deputy Chief Vigliotti reported on the following:

**Old Tomahawk Street** – Illegal parking continues to be a problem on the weekends on Old Tomahawk Street. A couple of the establishments do not have enough parking for their guests and cars are parked on both sides of the street. If there were ever to be an emergency in that area during these times, the outcome could be detrimental. A memo will be sent to the Police Chief.

**Lupi’s Bikeway Plaza** – Concerns continue as to the illegal parking at Lupi’s Bikeway Plaza. Cars are parking in the entry way, once again preventing access in case of an emergency. The Police Chief will be notified of this situation as well.

**Somers Middle School** – On more than one occasion on the weekend, School District trucks are parked in front of the Siamese fire connection at the Somers Middle School. A suggestion will be made to post “No Parking” signs in that area so that if a fire truck needed to hook up to that connection in an emergency, it could do so. An email will be sent to Joe Bernardi, School District Transportation Director.

### **FIRE INSPECTOR’S REPORT**

Fire Inspector Premuroso reported on the following:

**Keller-Williams** – On Thursday mornings, Keller-Williams conducts training classes which has presented a problem with parking, as there are not enough spaces to accommodate all that attend. Mr. Premuroso will do a site visit on a Thursday morning.

**IBM** – IBM is vacating building number 3 on their campus and has asked if they could shut down the fire protection services on that building. As long as the building is totally clear of all combustibles, this can be done.

**Heritage Hills Activity Center** – The Westchester County Office of Emergency

Management has placed a 300 cot emergency evacuation trailer in the Heritage Hills Activity Center parking lot.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**Somers Towne Centre** – It appears that the ventilation in the Japanese restaurant has been modified. Mr. Premuroso is working with the owner Urstadt Biddle to resolve this problem.

**332 Route 100 (Citibank)** – The problem at Citibank ended up being a communication issue between the alarm panel in the building and the alarm company. The situation has been rectified.

**Heritage Hills Hydrants** – Mr. Premuroso had made several attempts to verify that all the hydrants at Heritage Hills are working and that the valves have been tested yearly. He was also supposed to be given quarterly reports and that had not happened in quite some time. Mr. Premuroso sent a letter to Marc Brassard of the Heritage Development Group, Inc. concerning this matter and there was no response. A Notice of Violation has been issued.

**Algonquin Gas Transmission LLC/Spectra Energy** - This gas line runs parallel to Route 6 and can be accessed by Windsor Road. All agreed that a site visit would be a good idea. Mr. Premuroso will make arrangements with Spectra Energy, who manages the Algonquin Gas Transmission LLC. to arrange for a site visit in the near future. At present, the roadway has a huge ditch in front of it from a recent rain storm.

**Properties with Multi Dwellings** - There are a few properties in Town with multi dwellings. There has been past concern over numbering and signage of the buildings on these properties, as it relates to a fire or medical call.

Mr. Premuroso met with Barry Daniels who oversees the maintenance of all the buildings at the Schwartz's Horse Farm. All eighteen buildings have been identified on a Google Map of the property. Signs still have to be made and installed on the buildings, as well as their four gates. Mr. Premuroso and the Fire Chiefs will continue to work on this project.

There is also a concern about 19 Old Route 100. Mr. Premuroso will conduct a site visit.

A Google map will be obtained for the Amawalk Farm on Wood Street, and the procedures will be the same.

**1 Maple Avenue** - The Fire Department responded to a call at 1 Maple Avenue. They had some equipment and a minimal amount of gas cans being stored on the property. Mr. Vigliotti delivered the required flammable materials stickers and

they claim they don't know where to put them and why they are needed. Mr. Premuroso will do a site visit.

**Fire Alarm Permit Stickers** – On April 13, Mrs. Schirmer will go through the permit books at the dispatch office and send out the remaining Fire Alarm Permit stickers.

**Fire Alarm Permits** – Four residents have had an unregistered fire alarm system, which is against Town Code. Court appearance tickets will be issued by the Police Department and all the paperwork has been filed with the Court.

**Ticketing on School District Property** – The School District and the Town are working on changing the Town Code so that the Town Police are able to ticket cars illegally parked in the fire lanes on school property 24 hours a day, seven days a week. All site visits have been completed. Mr. Premuroso will finish the paperwork and give to Mrs. Schirmer so it can be submitted to the Town Board for approval.

**Hydrant Checks** – Mr. Vigliotti inquired as to whether or not he can use a Town vehicle to perform lengthy inspections of the fire hydrants in Town or can be reimbursed for his mileage. Mr. Citarella will follow up with the Town Supervisor.

**Town Code** – In 2007, Chapters 4, 26, 62, 98 and 116 of the Town Code were reviewed and changes made, and noted. Chapter 158 still has to be reviewed. Since the Town committee created to review the Town Code in its entirety has not met in quite some time, this item is not urgent. The Bureau will review Chapter 158 in the near future, and at that time, will address the following: fire lanes at commercial sites in Town, and deciding which chapter should include the topic of dry hydrants and fire hydrants, to include color coding of all fire hydrants. Once completed, all changes will be forwarded to the Town Board.

The meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be held on Monday, May 9, 2011 at 5:00 p.m. in the Building Department.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Schirmer, Secretary  
Bureau of Fire Prevention

cc: Bureau of Fire Prevention  
Town Board  
Town Clerk  
Planning & Engineering Department

Somers Fire District