

BUREAU OF FIRE PREVENTION

Telephone
(914) 277-8228
Fax
(914) 277-3790

Town of Somers

WESTCHESTER COUNTY, N.Y.

SOMERS TOWN HOUSE
ANNEX
337 ROUTE 202
SOMERS, NY 10589

THOMAS J. TOOMA, JR.
CHIEF



MEETING MINUTES

February 18, 2026

Bureau Chief Tooma called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

The following were in attendance: Bureau Deputy Chief Greg Lucia, Bureau Deputy Chief Rob Russell, and Bureau Chief Tom Tooma.

MINUTES

Bureau Deputy Chief Russell made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 21, 2026 meeting as submitted. Bureau Deputy Chief Lucia seconded the motion. All were in favor.

SUBMISSIONS

Stop Sign at Cobbling Rock Drive and Wittmann Drive

A proposal to place a stop sign at the intersection of Cobbling Rock and Wittmann Drives was submitted to the Bureau for a review and discussion. All agreed the stop sign was not necessary. An email was sent to the Town Clerk.

North Edge Realty

A submission was received from the Planning Board for North Edge Realty. It was reviewed and discussed. The Bureau would like the applicant to address all aspects of compliance of the 2025 NYS Fire Code. They would also like to know what the plans are for sprinkling the buildings. Finally, the Bureau would like to have the opportunity to review the building elevations as to the type of construction and height. A memo will be sent to the Planning Board.

Trailside Estates

A submission was received from the Planning Board for Trailside Estates. On June 19, 2024, the Bureau met with the property owner/developer to discuss a list of items, all of

which were addressed. Unless anything has changed or there is anything new being proposed, the Bureau has no further comments. A memo will be sent to the Planning Board.

OLD BUSINESS

8 Cottage Place

Last month, the Bureau met with Daniel and Emily Paesano, who are in contract to buy 8 Cottage Place to discuss an emergency access road to a proposed new dwelling on the property. A review and discussion ensued. The Bureau asked that a road map detailing the turning radius for emergency apparatus be secured and emailed to Mrs. Schirmer for distribution. The road map has not yet been received therefore the Bureau cannot determine if fire apparatus can access the proposed dwelling on the property.

247 Route 100

At their January meeting, the Bureau reviewed and discussed a plan that the owners of 247 Route 100 are proposing to build a new commercial building. Currently there is a 10,000-gallon buried water tank on the property and the Bureau would like a 60,000-gallon buried water tank to be added as part of this project. In addition, the Bureau would like the applicant to address all aspects of compliance of the 2025 NYS Fire Code. A memo was sent to the Planning Board. The applicant's representative contacted Mr. Tooma and asked about the 60,000-gallon water storage. Mr. Tooma responded. It was thought that the proposed building may require a sprinkler system.

NFPA Hydrant Color Coding Local Law

At the July 2025 Bureau meeting, Mr. Russell thought it would make a lot of sense for the Town to follow the NFPA Hydrant Color Codes as they are done so by hydrant pressure and all agreed. A motion was made by Mr. Russell that the Town follow the NFPA standards for color coding hydrants and Mr. Vigliotti seconded the motion. All were in favor. This information will first be shared with Chief Fire Inspector Rich Servello and Water Department Superintendent Fred McQuillan. If they concur, a memo will be sent to the Town Board to make it a local law and add it to Chapter 98-10.

At the August 2025 Bureau meeting, it was reported that this information was shared with Chief Fire Inspector Rich Servello and Water Department Superintendent Fred McQuillan who indicated that this process has been in place and began with the former Water Department Superintendent Adam Smith.

Mr. Servello further commented that at the moment, the hydrants are yellow and red signifying Town owned and privately owned, which he is pleased about. Mr. Servello had a conversation with Mr. McQuillan about at least color coding the bonnets based on the GPM's however he simply has no staff to do this, cannot hire additional staff or supervise an Eagle Scout who might do it as a project as suggested by Rob Russell. Although Mr. Servello would like to see this written into the Code, at present it would be difficult to enforce, especially since the work will fall on the Town. Since Mr. McQuillan recently left his position, the thought was to wait until a new Water Department

Superintendent is hired and a meeting set up with the Bureau, Mr. Servello and that new person.

Proposed Local Law Apartments Master Key Update

There have been recent incidences with the Fire Department not able to access apartments when there is an emergency service or natural gas issue. A request is being made to propose a local law that the facilities affected provide an emergency access key in the Knox Box on the property that only the Fire Department will have access to. A memo to the Town Board will be drafted by Mr. Lucia and reviewed as well as discussed at the next meeting.

BOCES Solar Field Access Drive Numerical Identification Update

An extensive amount of time was spent researching a way in which to numerically identify the solar field access drive at BOCES. The Dispatch Map of Somers will show an address that does not necessarily match up with a parcel ID.

With that in mind, all agreed that 1-13 Moseman Avenue could identify the solar field access drive and BOCES has been made aware.

SOMERS FIRE DEPARTMENT CHIEF'S REPORT

Somers Volunteer Fire Department Chief Lucia reported that in the last month, the Fire Department responded to a chimney fire, water issue in a garage, and water issue in a top apartment that affected the apartment below it and the basement.

Chief Lucia noticed that there are some new stop signs on the Lovell Street side of Heritage Hills. They were approved by the Town Board.

Last month, Chief Lucia announced that he was notified that the Lincoln Hall facility is closing in phases beginning in April with completion by the end of June. He would very much like to know which buildings are being closed down and if there will be any staff on the grounds. Mr. Tooma will inquire about this.

BUREAU CHIEF'S REPORT

Bureau Chief Tooma received some supplies from former Deputy Chief Vigliotti to give to Deputy Chief Lucia.

BUREAU DEPUTY CHIEF'S REPORT

Deputy Chief Lucia and Deputy Chief Russell had nothing to add this evening.

CHIEF FIRE INSPECTOR'S REPORT

There was no report this month.

NEW BUSINESS

Incorrect Dispatch

On February 10th, the Fire Department was dispatched to 44 Tomahawk Street (Route 118) which is in the Town of Carmel, not Somers. The call came from an alarm

company. This happened once before a couple of years ago. Mrs. Schirmer will ask Mr. Servello if he can contact the owners of the businesses at that location in an effort to have them contact their alarm company to make them aware of this issue and to ensure that it doesn't happen again.

Universal Elevator Key

Last month it was noticed that the elevator key requirement had been accidentally eliminated from Chapter 26 of the Code of the Town of Somers. Mrs. Schirmer spoke with the Town Clerk who said as she and the Building Inspector are working on updating the Code, it should be reinstated at that point. It was noted that currently only the Yale 2642 key can be used for new elevators. Any building that has an Otis key will be grandfathered in. As a follow up to this, Chief Fire Inspector Rich Servello spoke to Mr. Tooma about a universal elevator key. Mrs. Schirmer will reach out to him to see if he can provide additional details to the Bureau about this.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:40 p.m. and the Bureau will meet next on March 18th at 4:30 p.m. in the Somers Building Department.

Sincerely,

Denise Schirmer, Secretary
Bureau of Fire Prevention

cc: Bureau of Fire Prevention
Town Board
Town Clerk
Planning Board
Principal Engineering Technician
Chief Fire Inspector
Somers Fire District