

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

March 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 Lucia made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 18, 2026 meeting as submitted. Bureau Deputy Chief Russell seconded the motion. All were in favor.

SUBMISSIONS

North Edge Realty

Last month, a submission was received from the Planning Board for North Edge Realty. It was reviewed and discussed. The Bureau sent a memo requesting that the applicant address all aspects of compliance of the 2025 NYS Fire Code. They wanted to know what the plans are for sprinkling the buildings, and finally, the Bureau wanted to have the opportunity to review the building elevations as to the type of construction and height.

This evening, the Bureau was joined by developers Gus and Jared Boniello. It was explained that the North Edge Realty development will be very similar to that of Somers Crossing. There are no trusses, but heavy lumber. The end units are 1 ½ story and the center units 2 story. They are researching whether the buildings have to have sprinklers, but if they do, it will be done. There is a mix of one and two car garages. All of the roads are specked roads and will be maintained and plowed by the Town. There are hydrants through out the development. Parking will not be permitted on the roadways, be there are communal parking spots throughout. There will be a sewage

pump and rec building. They have an easement with the neighboring church and controlled traffic patterns have been established. The Bureau had no additional concerns. A memo will be sent to the Planning Board.

OLD BUSINESS

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.

Universal Elevator Key Update

Mr. Tooma received an email from Chief Fire Inspector Rich Servello regarding the suggestion of adopting a universal elevator key policy. Mr. Servello spoke with a representative of Elite Elevator Company. Some cities in Westchester use a universal elevator key. A discussion ensued and since Somers doesn't have many buildings in Town with elevators and the buildings are not tall, the current local law will remain in place, those with an Otis can continue to use it and moving forward a Yale 2642 should

be used.

SOMERS FIRE DEPARTMENT CHIEF'S REPORT

Somers Volunteer Fire Department Chief Lucia continues to work on getting Knox Boxes installed at commercial buildings.

A restaurant in the Somers Commons shopping center will be issued a violation by the Chief Fire Inspector for resetting their alarms.

Burger Barn is changing hands so Chief Lucia wants to make sure that all is in order there.

Chief Lucia is working on drafts for both the hydrant color coding and apartment master key local laws.

BUREAU CHIEF'S REPORT

Bureau Chief Tooma wants to be sure that the Chief Fire Inspector has the alarm system information updated and tested at the former Burger Barn.

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

There was no New Business this evening.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m. and the Bureau will meet next on April 15th 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