

BUREAU OF FIRE PREVENTION

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Town of Somers
WESTCHESTER COUNTY, N.Y.

SOMERS TOWN HOUSE
ANNEX
337 ROUTE 202
SOMERS, NY 10589

THOMAS J. TOOMA, JR.
CHIEF



MEETING MINUTES

June 17, 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 May 20, 2026 meeting as submitted. Bureau Deputy Chief Russell seconded the motion. All were in favor.

SUBMISSIONS

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. A letter of response was received which spoke of the water storage, but did not address the request of all aspects of compliance of the 2025 NYS Fire Code. A memo was sent to the Planning Board requesting that the property owner attend the Bureau meeting on May 20th. The property owner and his architect met with the Bureau. A review and discussion took place and they will return to the June meeting with the information that is being requested. The property owner and his architect met with the Bureau this evening. A review and discussion took place. The existing gravel access drive to the

monopole will be in compliance with the Fire Code of NYS prior to the Certificate of Occupancy (CO) being issued. They will provide a report to the Building Department when applying for the CO. As the building is being used for volleyball, the horn strobes will be put on the ceiling and a cage over the pull station. If the building were to be supplied with sprinklers, an access road around the building would not be needed, however, since the plan is to have an access road and not sprinklers, an email with details will be circulated about the width of the existing access road based on the height of the building. When that email is received and approved, a memo will be sent to the Planning Board.

265 Route 202

The Bureau reviewed and discussed information from the Planning Board for Honeybee Grove located at 265 Route 202. The only concern that the Bureau had was cars being parked in areas around the building that would prohibit emergency vehicles from accessing their area. A memo will be sent to the Planning Board with a sketch of the areas of the parking lot that should be striped so no one will park in those areas.

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.

In the meantime, Mr. Lucia presented a draft of a proposed local law. All agreed to move forward with proposing this local law to the Town Board.

Proposed Local Law Apartments Master Key Update

There have been recent incidences with the Fire Department not able to access multi-family apartments when there is an emergency or natural gas issue. A request is being made to propose a local law for the facilities affected provide an emergency access key in the Knox Box on the property that only the Fire Department will have access to. Mr. Lucia provided a draft for which there were no changes. This new local law was proposed to the Town Board. After a discussion, a Public Hearing was set for June 11th, but subsequently changed to July 9th.

SOMERS FIRE DEPARTMENT CHIEF'S REPORT

Fire Chief Lucia reported that there was a small fire at the garbage facility in Town. They had put the fire out prior to the Fire Department arriving. Not that long ago, there was a car fire at that location. Both incidences were reported to NYS DEP.

It was noted that the swing gate has been installed at the solar farm on Pines Bridge Road. Chief Lucia is requesting a two-pad lock system. Mr. Tooma will follow up.

BUREAU CHIEF'S REPORT

Bureau Chief Tooma wanted the Bureau to know that permits have been issued for the first two houses to be built in a new development in Lincolndale. A question came up as to what the road names should be and a turnaround access. Mr. Tooma will follow up.

Regency Centers will be doing upgrades to Heritage 202 Center and Somers Commons which will begin with façade work. The Knox Box at the Heritage 202 Center will have to be upgraded.

Mr. Tooma also wanted everyone to be aware of the upcoming summer road work on Route 202.

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

Chapter 170-36 – E (5)

A review and discussion took place about Chapter 170-36 – E (5) of the Code of the Town of Somers. A request will be made to the Town Board repeal and replace it with "Driveways and access roads shall comply with the Fire Code of NYS that is currently in effect. This shall apply to new construction and alterations."

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m. and the Bureau will meet next on July 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