

**Town of Somerset  
Town Board Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, January 3, 2007**

Chairman Schachtner called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Germain, Gunderson, Demulling, Plourde and Schachtner. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Motion by Demulling, seconded by Plourde to approve the agenda. Motion carried. All members voted yes. There was no public input.

**Clerk's & Treasurer's Reports:** Motion by Gunderson, seconded by Germain to approve the December Minutes. Motion carried. All members voted yes. Motion by Plourde, seconded by Demulling to approve the December financial report. Motion carried. All members voted yes.

**Building Inspector's Reports:** 2006 annual report (23 new homes) and December report were reviewed. Motion by Germain, seconded by Gunderson to approve the Building Inspector's reports. Motion carried. All members voted yes.

**Fire/Rescue Commission Report:** Demulling read a report submitted by Chief Belisle. 345 total runs for 2006. \$750.00 donation from S & C Bank applied to radio fund. Total firefighter's grant approved was \$37,720 with Fire Dept. paying \$1,886.00. Bylaws updated. Working on 5-year and long-range equipment plan. In 2008, Fire Dept. will be celebrating their 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and planning has begun. Schachtner presented a letter from Xcel Energy regarding the cost of a night watch light installed on the electric pole between the two driveways-approximately \$325.00. Motion by Demulling, seconded by Plourde to approve \$325.00 for the installation of the night watch light. Motion carried. All members voted yes.

**Parks & Rec Committee:** No meeting held.

**New Business-Belisle Excavating-Request for overcharges of \$11,311.36 for 85<sup>th</sup> Street project:** Demulling met with Belisle Excavating and went over the extra charges, mostly for driveway issues. Unclear where erosion mat (from Petherbridge) was used. Motion by Gunderson, seconded by Germain to approve payment of \$10,011.36 to Belisle Excavating for 85<sup>th</sup> Street overcharges, withholding \$1,300.00 for erosion mat charge until usage is accounted for. Motion carried. All members voted yes.

**Rick Jonk-Concern over 2006 property tax bill:** Jonk presented documentation to Board that his property should be receiving the ag. use assessment. Board consensus was to contact the assessor regarding Jonk property.

**Robert Nagel-180<sup>th</sup> Avenue not meeting up w/north side of his property:** Nagel presented documentation in depth concerning parcel A on map/.04 acres that the Town currently owns. In 1985, Town rebuilt 180<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Nagel donated his land for reconstruction. Much discussion about 1885 road records/highway orders, railroad, correction line of 40, and 1985 road reconstruction. Motion by Gunderson, seconded by Plourde to authorize Nagel to obtain a quit claim deed from an attorney and Town will deed over parcel A, Section 33, SE1/4 of SE1/4, T31N, R19W totaling .04 acres to Nagel. Motion carried. All members voted yes.

**Suzanne Peeples/Stevens Engineers-Capital Improvement Plan (CIP):** Peeples presented the Board members with a worksheet to start identifying existing facilities and propose future projects and costs. Planning Commission is working on needs assessment information. Board members will fill out the worksheet and meet with Peeples on Wednesday, February 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m., prior to regular meeting at 7:00 p.m.

**Repeal Section I.C.2.a. of Ordinance 2000-01 minimum lot standards/setbacks from Town roads:** Discussion over County setback requirements. Wert stated County ordinance has minimum 50' setback for all roads for vacant lots and 100' setback for lots with buildings on them. County is working on amending their ordinance to 50' setback for all lots. Town can be more restrictive, but not less restrictive on setbacks. Motion by Gunderson, seconded by Demulling to repeal Section I.C.2.a of Ordinance 2000-01. Motion carried. All members voted yes.

**Adopt Ordinance 2007-01-setbacks from town roads:** Motion by Demulling, seconded by Gunderson to adopt Ordinance 2007-01 (replacing Section I.C.2.a of Ordinance 2000-01) stating, "Setbacks on that portion of the lot adjacent to or abutting a town road shall be a minimum of 50' from road right-of-way." Motion carried. All members voted yes. Residents must still abide by County's current regulations. Wert will handle setback requirements when building permits are issued.

**2006 property tax bill for Collova's outlot #1, deeded to Town as road:** Town received a tax bill for \$402.53 for the outlot Collova deeded to Town as road (236<sup>th</sup> Ave.) Schachtner will contact Collova regarding tax bill.

**St. Croix County Dept. of Aging-agreement for use of Town Hall for Nutrition Program:** Motion by Germain, seconded by Demulling to approve the agreement for Town Hall use with St. Croix County Dept. of Aging. Motion carried. All members voted yes.

**Draw candidate names for placement on ballot:** Schachtner drew supervisor names in the following order: Douglas Plourde, Denise Gunderson.

**Review draft of employee handbook:** Germain presented revised handbook for Board member's review. Town attorney should review handbook before adoption. February 7<sup>th</sup> agenda item.

**Discussion on animal control after April 2007:** Demulling reported one resident has expressed interest. Schachtner will contact another animal control officer who may be willing to pick up dogs on a per call basis. Possible job sharing for maximum availability to residents.

**Tracey & Thole (audit firm) merger with LarsonAllen:** Town audit firm is merging with LarsonAllen. No big changes foreseen.

**Planning Commission Report:** Rauch reported on December 20<sup>th</sup> meeting. Discussion on Parks & Rec survey results, signs, Kuryakyn special exception permit request, Suzanne Peeples/Stevens Engineering was present to work on needs assessment study, Riverside Ministries sign request, Karl Neumeier-dividing property into two lots, and subdivision ordinance.

Meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Jeri Koester, Clerk

