

Town of Somerset
Town Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, February 4, 2009

Chairman Schachtner called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Germain, Gunderson, Plourde, Demulling and Schachtner. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Motion by Germain, seconded by Gunderson to approve the agenda. Motion carried. All members voted yes.

Public Input: Bert Krueger inquired about the number of delinquent property tax parcels. Report is not available until after February 6th. Krueger stated his opposition to the donation to Somerset Youth Hockey.

Clerks & Treasurer's Reports: Plourde commented on the motion that rescinded the previous motion regarding the Mike Germain Letter of Good Faith in the January 7th minutes. To clarify, the Letter of Good Faith dated May 5, 2004 is still in effect. Motion by Plourde, seconded by Demulling to approve the January 7th minutes as provided. Motion carried. All members voted yes. Motion by Gunderson, seconded by Germain to approve the January Financial Report. Motion carried. All members voted yes.

Building Inspector's Report: Board reviewed the January and 2008 Annual Reports. Motion by Plourde, seconded by Demulling to refund Weatherguard the inspection fee only for Tim Trautmiller \$122.00 and Don Nimmo \$130.00 due to the projects being cancelled. The administration fee will not be refunded because the Town has performed the administration work. Motion by Demulling, seconded by Germain to approve the January Report. Motion carried. All members voted yes.

Animal Control Report: No animal calls for January.

Fire/Rescue Commission Report: Demulling read the January report from Chief Belisle. 28 total calls, 2009 F450 Brush/Rescue Truck is at Foreman Fire being equipped, FEMA generator grant is being put out to bid, website is up and functional at: www.somersetfirerescue.com. Wittig requested the Town and Village run totals be listed separately in the monthly/yearly totals. Motion by Plourde, seconded by Gunderson to approve the January Report. Motion carried. All members voted yes.

Transportation & Facilities Committee Report: Schachtner reported road crew will replace salt shed roof. Demulling has spoken to Keith Boardman about swapping land at 85th St. /160th Ave. to move the road. Schachtner will contact utility companies about moving power poles on 160th Ave. and on 80th St. Discussion on adding saw cutting new roads requirement to road construction ordinance. Road crew will attend Highway Safety Seminar in Eau Claire on February 26th. March agenda to include discussion on fixing roof and painting two exterior walls of Town Hall. 80th St. project to be coordinated with Town of Star Prairie. Jurisdiction of 80th St. from County Road C to 1886-80th St. to be discussed at joint Town & Village meeting on February 11th. Motion by Gunderson, seconded by Demulling to approve the January Report. Motion carried. All members voted yes.

Parks & Rec Committee Report: Gunderson reported 2009 CIP was prioritized-Pine Lake Boat Landing, parking lot signage and trails at property co-owned by Town & Village on 45th St., develop site plan for the co-owned property, reconstruction and expansion of 45th St. and 80th St. to include bike lanes, develop strategies for public safety and maintenance of parks, and develop trail design standards. WI Land Trust is purchasing 316 acres in Town-discussion of viewing platform and

possible usage of property. Continue to apply for grants. March agenda to include checklist and requirements for park donation requests.

Appointment of Russell Hultman to Parks & Rec Committee: Motion by Gunderson, seconded by Demulling to appoint Russell Hultman to the Parks & Rec Committee. Motion carried. All members voted yes.

Twin Springs Park Permits/Law Enforcement Contract with County Sheriff: Discussion on Twin Springs Park Permit issuance, pay box, County Sheriff contract and/or possibly working with Village's police for patrol and using their municipal court system. March agenda item.

New Business-Rural Mutual Insurance Review: Tom Jenkins was present to review the policies and premiums. Discussion on 6% increase for buildings and reviewing equipment values. Schachtner will meet with road crew to review the equipment values. Motion by Gunderson, seconded by Plourde to not increase the 6% in coverage on the Town Hall Buildings for the next renewal period. Motion carried. All members voted yes. Pine Lake Boat Landing dock and dry hydrant, Twin Springs Park, Turtle Lake, co-owned property on 45th St., Marine Landing, North Bass Lake and Bass Lake to be listed on the policy. Consensus to have County assign address numbers and order signs for installation and identification at parks. Jenkins will check on liability for all town roads. Schachtner requested safety videos for road crew and loss prevention specialist to visit and offer suggestions at no charge.

Mark Aufderhaar-Request for Refund Due to Assessment Error by Irwin: Aufderhaar filed a written grievance on 1/29/09. Aufderhaar was present to explain that Irwin made an error on his assessment of 2.81 acres that was not in Managed Forest Land-parcel #032-2052-70-000. Aufderhaar stated he had called Irwin several times throughout the years, however, Irwin did not respond to his calls. In 2008, Irwin visited his residence and Aufderhaar addressed the excessive tax assessment with Irwin. Irwin admitted he had the land over assessed and made the adjustment in his letter dated August 22, 2008. Aufderhaar stated he signed up for the Managed Forest Program to save money and his taxes always seemed too high. Plourde pointed out that in Irwin's letter to Aufderhaar dated August 22, 2008 the assessed value on the improvements at \$63,400 is inaccurate as the 2008 tax bill shows the improvements assessed at \$120,500. Barrett Brenner has verified the error on the assessment of the 2.81 undeveloped acres at \$51,900. The following refund would apply: 2006 millrate .017510040 X \$51,900 = \$ 908.77 and 2007 millrate .019305959 X \$51,900 = \$1,001.98 for a total refund of \$1,910.75. Motion by Demulling, seconded by Plourde to refund 2006 and 2007 tax errors in the total amount of \$1,910.75 as detailed above and charge back the tax error to the Dept. of Revenue. Motion carried. All members voted yes.

Planning Commission Report-New Subdivision Ordinance Draft: Rauch met with County Technical Committee. Overall, the committee was pleased with the ordinance but asked for a few clarifications on waivers and fees. Designated open space was well received. Flag lots were discussed and Town needs to decide what to do if the lot is more than 3 acres and may access multiple lots. Design waiver could apply to each individual situation at the Town level. Plourde suggested development of a checklist for waiver requests. Rauch agreed a waiver request and new land division worksheets will be developed for the developers/land owners, Planning Commission and Town Board.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Jeri Koester, Clerk