

**Town of Somerset
Public Hearing on Park Fee Ordinance
& August Town Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, August 6, 2008**

7:00 p.m. Public Hearing-Park Fee Ordinance

Chairman Schachtner called the public hearing to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Plourde, Demulling, Gunderson, Germain and Schachtner. Suzanne Peoples explained the ordinance based upon WSS Sec. 236.45 to establish park fees in the amount of \$400.00 for each newly created lot, in lieu of land dedication. Bill Hunt questioned why the fee was in the ordinance. Peoples responded if the fee is changed, the ordinance would need to be updated. Peoples defined the definitions set forth in WSS Sec. 236.45 (6)(ac) as to what the park fees would be used for. Hunt requested it be noted in the record that walkways/bikeways be included for park fee uses. Motion by Plourde, seconded by Demulling to close the public hearing at 7:10 p.m. Motion carried. All members voted yes.

7:10 p.m. August Town Board Meeting

Call to Order, Roll Call, Approval of Agenda: Chairman Schachtner called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. All present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Motion by Demulling, seconded by Gunderson to approve the agenda. Motion carried. All members voted yes.

Public Input:

Geri Campbell-Candidate for St. Croix County Register of Deeds Office: Campbell addressed all attendees regarding her qualifications, experience and endorsements for the St. Croix County Register of Deeds position. She encouraged everyone to vote September 9th.

Carol Hokenson-Concerns over Discharge of Firearms in Developments: Hokenson presented the Board with a packet of information and sample ordinance regarding the discharge of firearms. Hokenson lives in a development with neighbors who discharge firearms within close proximity of her house. Hokenson asked the Board to consider an ordinance regulating the discharge of firearms in residential developments. Board consensus was to add the discussion of this topic to the September agenda and directed the Planning Commission to do some research.

Bill Hunt-Concerns over 50th Street Reconstruction: Hunt questioned why residents weren't informed prior to the road construction beginning and gave many reasons why residents should have been notified. Schachtner stated the Town usually doesn't notify residents unless the road is completely shutdown, however, Hunt's comments will be taken into consideration.

Clerk's & Treasurer's Reports: Motion by Plourde, seconded by Germain to approve the July 2nd Minutes. Motion carried. All members voted yes. Motion by Gunderson, seconded by Demulling to approve the Financial Report for July. Motion carried. All members voted yes.

Animal Control Report: Motion by Germain, seconded by Gunderson to approve the July Animal Control Report. Motion carried. All members voted yes.

Building Inspector's Report: Discussion at September meeting on changing the requirements for roofing permits, window replacement, and general maintenance so that a permit is not needed. Motion by Demulling, seconded by Plourde to approve the July Building Inspector's Report. Motion carried. All members voted yes.

Fire/Rescue Commission Report: Demulling read a monthly summary from Chief Belisle on run volume, generous donation for purchase of D-fibs, discussion on Length of Service Awards and new members. Belisle reported on some equipment problems.

Parks & Rec Committee Report:

Consideration of Adoption of Comprehensive Park & Recreation Plan: Demulling requested Committee check to see if the outlot on N. Bass Lake Estates is owned by the DNR or a private party. Pages 13 & 14 are still identical. Add labels to pictures on front cover. Resolution #2008-02 to be on September agenda for consideration of adoption of Park Plan. Motion by Plourde, seconded by Germain to postpone the adoption of the Comprehensive Park & Recreation Plan. Motion carried. All members voted yes.

Acquisition of Park Land: Committee is looking for direction from Town Board to proceed or not. Demulling asked if Committee is recommending a parcel. Gunderson responded the Committee has 2-3 specific parcels as possibilities. Bill Lawson stated the next step is to get to appraisals on each parcel and then talk to the landowners. Plourde suggested an engineer draw up a concept plan for each parcel. Much discussion. Peeples will talk to an engineer and report back at September meeting on what is the best approach and associated costs.

Old Business:

Pine Lake Boat Landing Improvements Update and DNR Grant: Schachtner, Germain and engineer, Chris Strom, went up to Ashland; Town was awarded a DNR grant of \$28,880, with a 60-40 match. An extra \$5,000 is available if the Town installs a user fee box. Ordinance with a fee schedule will have to be adopted. Motion by Gunderson, seconded by Plourde to accept the DNR grant of \$28,880 for the Pine Lake Boat Improvements and proceed with the installation of the user fee box, and adoption of an ordinance, to obtain an extra \$5,000 in grant money. Motion carried. All members voted yes.

Law enforcement agreement with County Sheriff: Next month's agenda and budget item.

Mobile Home Ordinance Draft: Referred to Planning Commission, with the letter from Attorney Brose. September agenda item.

New Business:

JEO/Mike Germain-Recommendation on 13.5 acre Parcel to be Split into 2 Lots: Board consensus was to have the shared driveway access off of 201st Ave. with no access off of 60th St.

Repeal Resolution 2005-01 Park Fees: Motion by Gunderson, seconded by Plourde to repeal Resolution 2005-01 Park Fees. Motion carried. All members voted yes.

Ordinance 2008-02 Park Fees: Motion by Demulling, seconded by Gunderson to adopt Ordinance #2008-02 Park Fees. Motion carried. All members voted yes.

Bill Hunt-Requested Town Adopt a Policy on not Mowing Cattails and other Aquatic Vegetation: Schachtner will take a look into this issue and will talk to road crew.

Bill Hunt-Question on Taxation of Land under Water: Hunt questioned whether the land under the water is included in the 3-acre minimum lot. Board advised no definite answer has been given from the DNR and County. Schachtner will contact the WTAS about who owns the land under the water when it is on the deed, does the landowner have any rights to keep people off the land between the current water and the ordinary high water mark and what if the ordinary high water mark changes?

Creation of Town Road & Facilities Committee and Appointment of Town Board Members: Motion by Plourde, seconded by Gunderson to create a Town Road & Facilities Committee. Motion carried. All members voted yes. Schachtner appointed Germain, Demulling and himself to the committee.

Approval of Operator's Licenses for Mallory Rorabeck & Elysa Putz: Motion by Demulling, seconded by Plourde to approve operator's licenses for Rorabeck and Putz. Motion carried. All members voted yes.

Planning Commission-Update on Land Division Ordinance Draft: Commission is working on final revisions and road standards for conservation design and conventional development.

Other Announcements: Open Book w/assessor Friday, August 15, 12 noon-8 pm and Saturday, August 16, 9 am-3 pm. Board of Review-Wednesday, August 27, 6:30 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

Jeri Koester,
Clerk