

Town of Somerset
2008 Adjourned Board of Review &
Special Town Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, August 27, 2008

2008 Board of Review

Chairman Schachtner called the 2008 Board of Review to order at 6:30 p.m. Present: Plourde, Demulling, Germain, Gunderson, Schachtner and Bob Irwin, assessor. Motion by Gunderson, seconded by Plourde to postpone to a later date. Motion carried. All members voted yes. Motion by Plourde, seconded by Demulling to adjourn. Motion carried. All members voted yes. Board of Review adjourned at 6:32 p.m.

Special Town Board Meeting

Chairman Schachtner called the special meeting to order. All present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Schachtner stated Bob Irwin would give a presentation on the assessment of property and equalized value data from the state. 2008 equalized value is \$470,547,600; 2007 equalized value was \$456,697,400. After 2008 current re-evaluation the Town is at 98% of the state's value. Discussion on lowering the total assessed values a certain percentage, millrate, number of years WI statute allows for being out of compliance, economy, assessment formulas, base price of 3 acre lot and additional price per acre, general assessment formulas and guidelines and grading of interior of homes. Demulling questioned Irwin if he went into every home to evaluate the interior assessment. Irwin stated he was in 71% of the homes. Irwin stated he attempted to get into all of the homes, left card if they weren't home, and many residents did not call for an appointment. More discussion on equalized value, assessed values, foreclosure/sheriff's sales, taxes and current housing market. Town will contact Sheriff's Dept. and find out how many foreclosures.

Board consensus was that more open book dates need to be scheduled, along with new Board of Review dates. Gunderson suggested an informational session, possibly at open book dates. Discussion on postcard mailing to all residents with new open book dates/times and new Board of Review dates/times as follows: Open book dates: Friday, September 12, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. and Thursday, September 18th, 3:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Board of Review dates: Thursday, October 9th 1:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. and Friday, October 10th 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Demulling stated his opinion was Irwin should mail the postcard out, as the assessment notices were received 1-2 days prior to the first two sessions of open book. Bob Irwin left meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Board continued discussion on content of information on mailing to include: additional Open Book dates/times and Board of Review dates/times, Bob Irwin's name and phone number, Town office phone number 247-3470, Town website and St. Croix County's website-land information online. More discussion on postcard mailing, including content and who would do the mailing and incur the expenses. Board agreed nothing would be mailed out until after discussion and action at September 3rd Town Board meeting.

Board consensus was to add discussion of re-evaluation and consideration of adjusting total assessed value, along with mailing to residents, to the September 3rd Town Board agenda.

Meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Jeri Koester, Clerk

