

**Town of Somerset
2008 Public Budget Hearing,
Special Town Meeting of the Electors &
November Town Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, November 7, 2007**

Public Budget Hearing

Chairman Schachtner called the meeting to order at 6:38 p.m. at the Town Hall. Present were Plourde, Germain, Gunderson and Schachtner. Absent: Demulling. Steve Scheidler, LarsonAllen, presented the 2008 proposed budget, reviewing each line item. State will allow 3.86% increase for 2008, with 2% increase for 2009. Taxes for 2007 tax roll (based upon a \$172,000 house) at 2% would be a Town tax of \$347.53 and taxes at 3.86% would be a Town tax of \$353.87. Motion by Gunderson, seconded by Plourde to adjourn. Motion carried. All members voted yes.

Special Town Meeting of the Electors

Chairman Schachtner called the Special Town Meeting of the Electors to order at 6:58 p.m. Lynn Cook commented that he'd like to add the budget to the 2%. Miles Wittig stated he'd like to go with the 3.86%. Motion was made by Donald Kern to set the mill rate at 2.057 (3.86%) and seconded by Bill Lawson with a show of hands vote-6 yes, 2 no. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Larry Rauch and seconded by Lynn Cook to approve \$641,322 for 2008 total highway expenditures. Motion carried. All voted yes.

Motion was made by Lynn Cook and seconded by Donald Kern to establish the compensation of the elected Town officials for the terms of office to begin in April 2008 at \$8,000 annually. Motion carried. All voted yes.

Motion was made by Miles Wittig and seconded by Donald Kern to authorize the Town Board to hire Town officers as employees of the Town (part-time) and set the hourly wage at \$23.02 per hour with no benefits. Motion carried. All voted yes.

Motion by Paul Schottler, seconded by Wittig to adjourn. Special meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

November Town Board Meeting

These Minutes are unofficial until approved at the December 5th meeting.

Chairman Schachtner called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. Present were Plourde, Germain, Gunderson and Schachtner. Absent: Demulling. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Motion by Plourde, seconded by Gunderson to approve the agenda. Motion carried. All members voted yes.

Public Input: Rita Lawson inquired if guardrail would be installed on reconstructed 192nd Avenue. Schachtner stated additional guardrail will be installed.

Clerk's & Treasurer's Reports: Motion by Gunderson, seconded by Germain to approve the October 3rd Minutes. All members voted yes. Motion by Plourde, seconded by Germain to approve the October Financial Report. Motion carried. All members voted yes.

Building Inspector's Report: Total 2007 house permits to date are 18. Motion by Gunderson, seconded by Plourde to approve the October report. Motion carried. All members voted yes.

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

Fire/Rescue Commission Report: Plourde read report from Belisle. 21 calls with 16 medicals/5 fire/rescue. Belisle is waiting for Town & Village Boards to pursue Knox Box Ordinance. Fire Dept. will be presenting a proposal for a new brush/rescue truck to replace the 1985 brush truck at the Dec. 12th joint Town & Village meeting. Belisle requested Board consider a counter for computer workstation in new fire hall. No action taken.

Parks & Rec Committee Report: Next meeting November 12th.

Somerset Senior Center-Request to Use Town Hall: Sheila DeRoiser, Director of the Senior Center, requested use of the Town Hall beyond the contract hours of 9:00-1:00 p.m. The purpose of the request is for the seniors to hold a painting class one afternoon a week, until approximately 4:00 p.m. DeRoiser stated class would be for 9 weeks. Motion by Gunderson, seconded by Plourde to extend the use of the Town Hall Contract to the Senior Center for one afternoon a week, for 9 weeks. Motion carried. All members voted yes.

Mike McCarthy-Indianhead Boy Scout Camp Plans for Expansion: McCarthy stated contractor is planning to break ground in spring 2008 for a new leadership training building; a two story building, large conference area with kitchen, and sleeping area downstairs for 40 people. Building is not in the lower scenic riverway and existing driveway will be used. Board had no objections to project.

Jon LaMirande-Fence along 85th Street: Jon LaMirande requested barbedwire fence along 85th Street be replaced for approximately 100'-150' of fence from south part of the property to the gate. Nothing in construction contract with Belisle Excavating stated fence was to be taken out or replaced. Board consensus was at site visit, prior to construction, Roger LaMirande verbally stated not to worry about that section of the fence. Motion by Germain, seconded by Plourde that Town does nothing with the fence on the south side of the gate, per the conversation with Roger LaMirande at the site visit. Motion carried. All members voted yes.

Adoption of 2008 Budget: Motion by Plourde, seconded by Gunderson to approve the 2008 budget. Motion carried. All members voted yes.

Consideration of Adoption of Impact Fee Ordinance 2007-03: Suzanne Peeples presented a chart on commercial impact fee charges. Impact fee needs assessment is typically set on single-family residential homes, with limited commercial development. Peeples suggested that as impact fees are reviewed annually, adjust them as needed. The right to waive impact fees for affordable housing could be stated in needs assessment study. Plourde questioned where basis for commercial impact fees comes from. Peeples answered it is based off of traffic counts. Peeples suggested commercial impact fee could have park impact fee taken out. Much discussion. Motion by Germain, seconded by Plourde to postpone ordinance adoption and set a date for a special meeting to review commercial impact fees at the January Town Board meeting. Motion carried. All members voted yes.

Private Roadway off of Twin Springs Road-Proposed Maintenance Offer: Attorney Brose requested Board decision on proposed maintenance agreement for private roadway off of Twin Springs Road. Motion by Gunderson, seconded by Plourde that the Town has no interest in maintaining any private roadways or the proposed maintenance agreement pertaining to the private roadway off of Twin Springs Road. Motion carried. All members voted yes.

Gaylen Schilling Construction-Bid Submitted for Town Hall Office Desk/Shelving: Motion by Plourde, seconded by Germain to approve the bid of \$6,000 to Gaylen Schilling Construction for the completion of the new office desk/shelving. Motion carried. All members voted yes.

Planning Commission Report-The Kraemer Company/Rivard Quarry Request to Rezone Parcel #032-2028-80-125 from Ag. to Ag./Residential: County is requesting the rezoning of parcel from ag. to ag./residential that the scale, scale house and materials laboratory are sited on. Motion by Gunderson, seconded by Plourde to recommend approval of computer parcel #032-2028-80-125 from ag. to ag./res, citing this rezoning is consistent with WSS 91.77. Motion carried. All members voted yes.

Ruby Schiefelbein-Request to Rezone 54 +/- Acres from Ag. to Ag./Residential: Motion by Gunderson to approve the rezoning of 54 +/- acres from ag. to ag./res for Ruby Schiefelbein, citing rezoning is consistent with WSS 91.77. Motion carried. All members voted yes.

Donna Summerfield-Request to Rezone 40 +/- Acres from Ag. to Ag./Residential: Motion by Germain, seconded by Plourde to approve the rezoning of 40 +/- acres from ag. to ag./res for Donna Summerfield, citing this rezoning is consistent with WSS 91.77. Motion carried. All members voted yes.

Dennis Benson/Johnson & Scofield Surveying-Preliminary Plat of Prairie Estates on Pine Lake (10 Lots): A special exception permit needs to be applied for from County because project is disturbing more than 10,000 sq. ft. within 1,000 ft. of shoreline. No Chapter 30 Permit required for road construction. Each home will be looked at individually for a Chapter 30 Permit. Motion by Plourde, seconded by Germain to approve the 10 lot Preliminary Plat for Dennis Benson-Prairie Estates on Pine Lake. Motion carried. All members voted yes.

Subdivision Ordinance Draft Update: After discussion with Ellen Denzer at County, Rauch informed Board in conventional design with open space the set aside can be less percentage than 65%. Rauch stated his opinion is to leave conservation design at 65% open space and pursue conventional design with open space also.

Meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Jeri Koester,
Clerk