

**Town of Somerset
Joint Town Board & Village Board with
Somerset Fire/Rescue Commission Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, September 24, 2008**

Call to Order and Roll Call: Town Chairman Schachtner called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m. at the Town Hall. Present were Lenny Germain, Denise Gunderson, Shane Demulling, Ed Schachtner, Jeff Johnson, Greg Sayers, Gerald Mullenberg, Bob Campbell, Ron Hill, Rita Lawson, Tom Roy. Absent: Doug Plourde, Ryan Sicard and Bartt Palmer. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Minutes from Previous Joint Meeting: Motion by Johnson, seconded by Demulling to approve the June 25, 2008 Minutes. Motion carried. All members voted yes.

Financial Report: Review of Financial Report as of September 24, 2008. Motion by Mullenberg, seconded by Sayers to approve the Financial Report. Motion carried. All members voted yes.

Chamber of Commerce/Michelle Baillargeon-Discussion on New Business Notification: Baillargeon asked for a bi-weekly or monthly email on new residents or businesses that come into the community so the Chamber can send out a Welcome packet. Discussion on ways to track new residents/businesses. It was noted that the New Richmond News puts together a Somerset Community Guide each year, listing all businesses. Consensus was to notify the Chamber of any new businesses.

Somerset Youth Hockey: Randy Wiederin and John Gauper addressed the Boards on the Somerset Hockey Center. Johnson stated the Village has ruled out snow removal, monthly payment, buying ice time, however, removal of outdoor rink has not been discussed. Gauper asked for signage. Johnson stated the Village could take care of signage within the Village. Demulling will check with County for signage on County Road V V and new highway corridor. Town will look at this issue further at October 1st meeting.

Vision 64: Gunderson reported on last meeting. Park group is meeting at Star Prairie Town Hall to discuss bicycle trails.

Historic Town Hall Committee Update: Lawson reported on gardening and landscaping activities. First batch of commemorative bricks has been installed. Porch and painting still need to be done. Waiting for bench to be installed. Lawson questioned whether roof should be inspected for hail damage. Schachtner will contact insurance company. 2009 budget amount to be the same as 2008. Lawson questioned whether Village has made the budget allocation to the Town for 2008. Discussion on Halloween/fall activity.

County Board Update: Demulling read a letter from State DOT regarding mile markers #4-#14 being installed, crossroad sign for County Road I, four interchanges will have exit numbers added to the advanced exit guide signs at the off ramps. Expected to be installed in late October or early November. Report on WI population growth, building permit decrease from 2005, foreclosures, home sales median price, unemployment rate, equalized value report, County deficit in 2009 budget of 2.5 million and referendum questions on November 4th ballot.

New Brush/Multi Purpose Truck: Belisle presented information on new truck, at a cost not to exceed \$70,000, with equipment. Gunderson asked if any vehicle acquisition grants are available. Belisle is not aware of any grants. Motion by Gunderson, seconded by Johnson to purchase a 2009 brush/multi purpose truck not to exceed \$70,000, with the Town paying up to \$38,500 (55%) and the Village paying up to \$31,500 (45%). Motion carried. All members voted yes. Discussion on aerial truck and future equipment needs.

2009 Fire/Rescue Budget: Discussion on budget and fundraising/grants not being in the actual budget but shown on a separate report. Gunderson suggested a policy written to clarify how fundraising monies are spent. Belisle stated he wanted flexibility in their fundraising budget to purchase the things the department needs. Review of proposed 2009 budget. Motion by Johnson seconded by Demulling to approve the total budget of \$153,879 less 2% receipts of \$16,556 (Town \$11,103 and Village \$5,453) for a total assessment of \$137,323 with the Town paying \$73,530 (55%) and the Village paying \$63,793 (45%). Motion carried. All members voted yes.

Set Tentative Date/Time for Next Joint Meeting: Next meeting scheduled at Village Hall for Wednesday, January 28, 2009 at 7:00 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Jeri Koester,
Town Clerk