

Town of Somerset
Town Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 8, 2025
(Not official until approved at next meeting.)

Chair Schachtner called the Town Board meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Demulling, Witzmann, Germain, Plourde and Schachtner. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. *Motion by Plourde, seconded by Witzmann to approve the agenda. Motion carried.*

Public Input: Jamie Johnson, running for Circuit Court Judge, introduced himself and his background and qualifications for the position. Johnson stated he has mediated several cases for Small Claims Court, given free legal advice at the clinic, been on the Hudson School Board for 12 years, served in the Rotary and his church. Johnson stated the primary is February 18th and the Spring election is April 1. and asked for everyone's support. Will Riedel, Superintendent of St. Croix National Golf Course, stated their concern regarding the agenda item of a possible sale of a parcel of land on 32nd Street and the effect of the development of the future ski facility at St. Croix National.

Clerk and Treasurer's Report: *Motion by Germain, seconded by Plourde to approve the December 4, 2024, Town Board Meeting Minutes. Motion carried. Motion by Witzmann, seconded by Demulling to approve the December Financial Report. Motion carried.*

Building Inspector's Report: *Motion by Witzmann, seconded by Plourde to approve the December Building Inspector's Report. Motion carried.*

Animal Control Officer's Report: *Motion by Demulling, seconded by Plourde to approve the December Animal Control Officer's Report. Motion carried.*

Fire/Rescue Commission Report: Plourde read the Fire Rescue Commission Report for the month of December. The total runs for 2024 were 526 compared to 444 for 2023. Tom Peterson is retiring after 40 years of service. Fire Rescue Commission meeting will be held January 15, 7 pm at the Fire Hall.

Parnell Prairie Preserve Disc Golf Project: Justin Curran and Kris Holle stated work is still going on without the snow. A grant has been written and submitted for additional basket funding. Witzmann suggested a recognition day for the park and the volunteers, possibly in May.

Parks, Rec and Planning Commission Report: None.

Old Business: None.

New Business-Tyler Tronnes-Request to Rent or Sell Town Parcel 032-2028-91-000: Tyler Tronnes of T & T Trailer requested the Town Board to consider selling or leasing Parcel 032-2028-91-000 for additional space for his business. *Motion by Germain, seconded by Demulling to deny the request to rent or sell parcel #032-2028-91-000 to Tyler Tronnes. Motion carried.*

Nancy Vanasse/Somerset Historical Society-Discussion/Consideration of Usage of Old Town Hall: Nancy Vanasse discussed possible uses of the Old Town Hall. Vanasse suggested Victor Martinsen

hooking up some old phones in the building. Hoping to have a historical display for Pea Soup Days and an outside porta potty. Vanasse stated the old wooden steps could be replaced with cement steps at their cost. Vanasse has spoken to Peter Johnson and the Haunted Halloween event would be continued. Vanasse mentioned she would like to keep the Old Town Hall in the Historical Society and preserve the building and use it as a display center. *Motion by Witzmann, seconded by Demulling to approve the Somerset Historical Society's usage of the Old Town Hall for a 2-year trial basis and look at improvements for the front steps and door. Motion carried.*

Draw Names for Ballot Order: April 1st ballot order is as follows: Supervisors: #1 Lenny Germain, #2 Russell L. Hultman, #3 Jason Crotty.

Village of Somerset Project-LaGrandeur Road Trail Right-of-Way Acquisition .06 Acres-Discuss & Consideration: Discussion that the Town wants the Village to complete the jurisdictional transfer of Parent Street/180th Avenue as discussed at the last two joint meetings. The consensus is the Town Board is not in opposition to the Village's project but would like the agreements to coincide. *Motion by Witzmann, seconded by Germain to postpone until the joint meeting on January 22nd. Motion carried.*

WI Towns Assoc. District Meetings Schedule & Registration/Board of Review Training: Plourde, Witzmann and maybe Germain will attend March 15 in Eau Claire.

Transportation & Facilities Committee-205th Avenue Road Project-Progress Update & Issues: Discussion on the report from Jewell Associates. Fencing-discussion and agreement on replacing the materials on the section of fence that is disturbed.

Consideration of New Truck Warranty: Discussion on options and pricing for the Western Star warranty. No deductible on the warranty work. *Motion by Germain, seconded by Demulling to approve the seven year warranty (two-year factory and five-years extended) at \$12,991 for the Western Star chassis. Motion carried.*

Equipment Update: Nothing to report.

Roads Update: Seal coating approximately ten miles this year. Discussion on hot oil versus cold oil and advertising for sealed bids. Next month agenda-consideration of advertising for sealed bids for seal coating with hot oil.

Tire Dumping on Town Roads: Over Christmas, tires were dumped on three town roads.

Announcements:

Joint Meeting with Village & Fire Dept. at Town Hall, Wednesday, January 22 @ 7 pm
St. Croix Co. Unit of WTA-Thursday, January 23, 6:30 pm @ County Hwy. Shop

Announcements & Adjourn: *Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.*

Jeri Koester, Clerk