

Town of Somerset
Town Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, August 6, 2025
(Not official until approved at next meeting.)

Chair Plourde called the Town Board meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Demulling, Witzmann, Germain, Crotty, and Plourde. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. *Motion by Germain, seconded by Witzmann to approve the agenda with Olson Sanitation moved from New Business to right before Parks, Rec, and Planning Commission report. Motion carried.*

Public Input: None.

Clerk and Treasurer's Report: *Motion by Witzmann, seconded by Demulling to approve the July 9th and July 30, 2025, Town Board Meeting Minutes. Motion carried. Motion by Demulling, seconded by Crotty to approve the July Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.*

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

Animal Control Officer's Report: *Motion by Witzmann, seconded by Demulling to approve July Animal Control Officer's Report. Motion carried.*

Fire/Rescue Commission Report: The total calls for 2025 so far are 287 compared to 301 in 2024. Fire Rescue Commission special meeting on August 13 to review the strategic plan proposals and future truck purchase committee.

Discuss/Consider Recycling Program Options & Olson Sanitation's Proposal: Steve Olson and Carrie Josephson were in attendance to discuss the new transfer station opening on Shay Street and no longer staffing the Town Hall recycling program as of August 30th. Proposal offered to allow Town residents to drop off at the new facility free of charge for \$475 per month, which is equivalent to the current fees to Polk County and Olson. The Town will have to sell the blue container they purchased that is in the rotation at Polk County. Olson Sanitation will check identifications and will accept up to one hundred pounds of recycling free of charge. *Motion by Witzmann, seconded by Crotty to approve Olson Sanitation's Recycling Program at \$475/per month, with request that Town receives reports on participation numbers for the first three months. Motion carried.*

Parks, Rec, and Planning Commission Report-Jeffrey & Jacqueline Brenizer/Greg Lundquist-St. Croix Surveying 3 Lot CSM off 40th Street & 160th Avenue: *Motion by Witzmann, seconded by Plourde to approve the 3 Lot CSM for Jeffrey & Jacqueline Brenizer/Greg Lundquist St. Croix Surveying with driveway permits and installation required prior to recording CSM. Motion carried.*

Old Business-Review & Consideration of Quote from Knowbe4: *Motion by Witzmann, seconded by Demulling to approve the quote from Knowbe4 for 36-month subscription \$975/annually (\$2,925 total). Motion carried.*

Concert Traffic Plan Update: No update.

60th Street Update: Plourde stated Jewell has reached out to regional DNR office and WISDOT engineer. Jewell will provide estimates on vertical drop.

205th Avenue Update: Real estate negotiations by Jewell continuing.

Review & Consider a New Variance Application Form: Germain requested adding to #4-any easements and driveway separation from adjacent property and adding to #5-provide a list of adjacent landowner's names and addresses and proof of mailing the notification of the Town meeting date and time. *Motion by Plourde, seconded by Demulling to approve the new Variance application form with the above modifications. Motion carried.*

Consider Adoption of Ordinance 2025-01 Chapter 2 Administration: Town Board & Meetings: *Motion by Demulling, seconded by Crotty to adopt Ordinance 2025-01. Motion carried.*

Consideration of Appointing a Town Chair Pro Tem: Plourde appointed Witzmann as Town Chair Pro Tem.

New Business – Appointment to Transportation & Facilities Committee and Village of Somerset's Sports and Fields Committee: Plourde appointed Witzmann to the Transportation & Facilities Committee and appointed Demulling and Germain to the Village of Somerset's Sports and Fields Committee.

Consider Professional Services Agreement from Jewell for Hillside Estates Construction Conformance: *Motion by Witzmann, seconded by Crotty to approve the Professional Services Agreement from Jewell for Hillside Estates Construction for \$12,700. Motion carried.*

Consider Approving Operators Licenses for Maddison Sislo, Amanda Gasman, Elizabeth Dorschner, Ruby Hall, Cynthia Smith, Julia Blaiser, Emily McCarthy (St. Croix National Golf) & Lauren Enerson (T-Buckets): *Motion by Germain, seconded by Witzmann to approve Operators Licenses for Maddison Sislo, Amanda Gasman, Elizabeth Dorschner, Ruby Hall, Cynthia Smith, Julia Blaiser, Emily McCarthy, and Lauren Enerson. Motion carried.*

Transportation & Facilities Committee-Review of Storm Cleanup Plans & Discuss/Consider Options & Expenses: Plourde thanked all Town Board members who assisted with the storm clean up. New Richmond Tree Service will rent a lift truck to the Town for \$800-\$1,000 per day, with no operator. Witzmann suggested this method to load dump trucks for tree removal and haul debris to Town Hall for disposal. *Motion by Witzmann, seconded by Crotty to approve renting a lift truck from New Richmond Tree Service and approve mutual aid with neighboring municipalities. Motion carried.*

DNR Permits for Parnell Prairie Preserve-Review & Consider: Witzmann reported the Parnell Prairie Preserve drain tile is functioning and there is no water runoff to test. Fencing came down. DNR wants a map of the parcel and what is on it. Witzmann will provide that information.

150th Avenue Data on Traffic from Town of St. Joseph-Review & Discuss: Transportation & Facilities Committee discussed and agreed to put the solar radar sign on 150th Avenue.

Review of Budget Status: Review of the status of the budget. Repairs needed to the grader at McCoy and the mower. All Excavating will transport. John Deere mower will wait for repair until after the mowing season and if budget allows for 2025, otherwise, it will be budgeted for in 2026. Discussion of shouldering machine and bracketing/mounting for Western Star by Universal with consensus to approve.

Safety Recall Notice-Western Star: Being overseen by dealer.

OWL System-Quote from Sunnylink: Postponed.

Announcements & Adjourn:

WISLR/PASER Training-Tuesday, Aug. 12 in Eau Claire-Witzmann & Crotty

Special Fire Rescue Commission Meeting, Wednesday, Aug. 13, 7 pm Fire Hall

Parks, Rec & PC Meeting, Wednesday, Aug. 20, 7 pm

Emergency Preparedness for Town Officials-Tues., Aug. 26, 5-9 pm at SCC Hwy. Dept. Baldwin-Plourde

Motion by Demulling, seconded by Crotty to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Jeri Koester,
Clerk