

Town of Somerset
Town Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, August 5, 2026
(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 Crotty to approve the agenda. Motion carried.* Plourde announced the meeting is on Zoom.

Public Input: None.

Clerk and Treasurer's Report: *Motion by Witzmann, seconded by Demulling to approve July 8, 2026, Town Board Meeting Minutes. Motion carried. Motion by Witzmann, seconded by Crotty to approve the July Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.*

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

Animal Control Officer's Report: *Motion by Demulling, seconded by Witzmann to approve the July Animal Control Officer Report-no calls/retainer \$70. Motion carried.*

Fire/Rescue Commission Report: To date, the total number of calls is 336 compared to 287 for the same time last year, an increase of 17%. Update on membership was given of thirty personnel. Priorities include strategic plan, replacement of equipment and facilities. RFP not on agenda. Tabatha Hansen stated she feels it needs to be scaled down. Plourde suggested a special meeting to go over RFP.

County Board District 2 Report from Dani Erickson: Dani Erickson was in attendance to provide a report on County Board. Erickson stated consensus is to move forward with the new jail without going to referendum, funding through debt service. August 13, 5 pm Public Hearing for Chapter 15 ordinance amendments-data center, self-storage, and two-family dwellings. September County Board meeting will include consideration of amendments to Chapter 15. Comments will be sent on the two-family dwelling definition on the amendment to Chapter 15 regarding both units shall be attached by a common wall or roof, and each shall have a minimum footprint of 500 sq. feet-requesting postponement. Self-storage comments were already submitted.

Parks, Rec, and Planning Commission Report-Sylvia Dalzell/Mark McClenathan-Auth Consulting-2 Lot CSM at 469-208th Avenue: Discussion on driveway location for Lot #2 and if the driveway would be permitted. Crotty reported on his inspection and suggested 20' variance to the west. 208th Avenue is a dead-end road with low traffic. *Motion by Demulling, seconded by Witzmann to approve the 2 Lot CSM for Sylvia Dalzell at 469-208th Avenue with a 1 lot park fee and postpone the driveway location until September Board meeting with variance application. Motion carried.*

Lorraine Germain/Mark McClenathan-Auth Consulting-4 Lot Concept CSM off end of 72nd Street with Road Construction Determination on Town Specs: Germain excused himself from the Town Board meeting. McClenathan stated they are looking to create 3 lots on the west side of 72nd Street, lots 6, 7, 8 and the remainder of the parcel, consisting of the house is lot 9. McClenathan requested Jewell Engineering inspect the current access to report on what needs to be done to bring it up to specs. Plourde stated the Town can request Jewell to inspect the driveway and the Town attorney advised building the road to today's specs, no shared driveways, and no issues with the concept design. No action taken. Germain rejoined the meeting.

Old Business: Plourde reported the DNR grant is being reviewed, scored, and ranked with results expected in the fall. No new information.

Discuss/Consideration-205th Avenue Driveway Change Order: Plourde reported 544-205th Avenue house with new driveway not meeting spec. Plourde advised the builder/homeowner to construct the driveway to Town spec. *Motion by Crotty, seconded by Witzmann to approve the option of contractor/homeowner installing the driveway and Jewell will re-measure the removal of dirt for calculating cost. Total Excavating will blend/final grade for cost overrun. Motion carried.* Ron Baillargeon's shared driveway was omitted on the map. Plourde collaborating with all parties on that issue.

205th Avenue Project Update & Possible Draw #3 Request: No draw request.

Updating Driveway Permit Forms/Ordinance and Process: Witzmann gave a summary of updates. Tabled.

New Business-Larry Mondor-Driveway Permit Access & Setbacks 754-190th Avenue/Fox Tail Avenue: Larry Mondor stated he is proposing a new driveway off Fox Tail Avenue to access his property in the Town for a future build. Plourde advised Town side setback is 10' and the front setback is 50' and driveway permit would have to be obtained from the Village of Somerset.

Transportation & Facilities Committee-Pinecliff Homeowner's Association-Request for Yard Waste Collection Site-Discuss/Consideration: *Motion by Witzmann, seconded by Demulling to check with City of New Richmond Public Works to see if they would open the compost site up to Town residents and fees. Demulling will inquire with Olson Sanitation and Chris Marshall to see if there are any local options for yard waste/debris disposal. Next month's agenda for follow-up. Motion carried.*

Equipment Update-Discussion/Consideration Repair to Truck #772 & Budget Transfer Consideration: Witzmann reported on quotes from Astleford, Blaine Brothers and Triple Tire for comparison. Triple Tire long block \$64,639.74 and in frame rebuild \$41,325.84, Blaine Brothers long block \$61,213.14, Astleford International \$56,114.46. Crotty stated Astleford and Blaine Brothers did not provide in-frame quotes. Witzmann discussed budget review of capital outlay/machinery and equipment account because the truck is worth nothing unless repaired. Triple Tire quote for the in frame rebuild of \$41,325.84 was recommended for approval by the Transportation & Facilities Committee. *Motion by Witzmann, seconded by Demulling to hire Triple Tire to do the in-frame rebuild on truck #772 accepting the estimate of \$41,325.84 with notation of possible additional issues. Motion carried.*

Roads Update -Discussion/Consideration of Issues: Crotty requested a sealcoat list for next year/budget purposes. Mowing is in progress. Wild parsnip sprayed.

2027 Budget Preparations-Workday Friday, Oct. 2, 9 am: Scheduled.

Annual Performance Reviews: Scheduling in October.

Announcements-Partisan Primary Election-August 11th
Park, Rec & Planning Commission Meeting-August 19-Plourde cancelled due to no submissions.

Adjourn: *Motion by Demulling, seconded by Witzmann to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.*

Jeri Koester,
Clerk