

**Town of Somerset & Village of Somerset
with Somerset Fire/Rescue Commission
Joint Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, July 25, 2018
(Not official until approved at next meeting)**

Village of Somerset President Melvin called the meeting to order at 7 pm at the Village Hall. Present: John Melvin, Tony Lueck, Kim Putz, and Ali Peterson for the Village. Ed Schachtner, Shane Demulling, Larry Rauch, Tim Witzman, and Douglas Plourde for the Town of Somerset. Rita Lawson for the Fire/Rescue Commission. Travis Belisle, Jason Crotty, and secretary/treasurer Sarah Kobs from the Fire Department. Also Present: Mark Bezek, Somerset School Superintendent; Tom Heinz, Star Prairie Town Supervisor. Absent: Bartt Palmer, James Chandler, Ron Hill, Jon Mitchell, Dave Wolner, and Wally Neumann. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Agenda: *Motion by Demulling, second by Lueck to approve the agenda with the addition of a brief presentation by Mark Bezek, Somerset School Superintendent. Motion carried.*

Public Input: Mark Bezek presented the Somerset School District's Strategic Plan 2017-2018 Update.

Several Somerset residents shared their concerns about the condition of the Apple River. They are upset about the abundance of trash along the river and carried to their residences. They are also concerned about the safety of their families because tubers show up in their yards needing assistance. A resident distributed pictures to the board that showed garbage above and below the surface of the water.

Minutes from Previous Joint Meeting: The minutes were reviewed. Demulling stated that there were concerns about the fencing materials and length of time they were in place during Northern Invasion. The Conditional Use Permit for 2019 needs to be reviewed to address traffic concerns. *Motion by Melvin, second by Lueck to approve the minutes of the April 25, 2018 Joint Meeting. Motion carried.*

Fire/Rescue Financial Report: The financial reports were reviewed. *Motion by Schachtner, second by Rauch to approve the 2018 Somerset Fire and Rescue Budget Report and the 2018 Somerset Fire and Rescue Balance Sheet. Motion carried.*

Old Business: None

New Business:

Food Shelf Location: Discussed a possible location for the Food Shelf on Village-owned property on Rivard Street. There were no reservations from the Town of Somerset about the proposed location.

Apple River Clean-up / Apple River Floaters Association: The board and local business owners reviewed the history of the tubing association and the lack thereof at present. Police and/or Sherriff patrol was also discussed.

Town and Village Create a Committee to Handle Issues Regarding Apple River: Discussed the creation of a joint committee including the Town of Somerset, Village of Somerset, the Town of Star Prairie, and the local tubing businesses. It may also be beneficial to confer with Xcel Energy. Melvin would like to consult the Village's attorney concerning structure of the committee.

River Hills 2nd Addition Plat / 80th Street Jurisdiction: The Town has concerns about increased traffic and maintenance. The Town of Star Prairie may also be impacted. Melvin requested more time for engineering discussion.

New Signage on Building: The fire hall has a new sign featuring their logo. *Motion by Demulling, second by Melvin to allow Somerset Fire/Rescue Department to install their new sign. Motion carried.*

Excess Pension Money After Closing Account Out: After paying their senior members and fully investing, Somerset Fire/Rescue Department finds itself with an excess amount in their pension account. *Motion by Schachtner, second by Melvin to postpone discussion until next meeting. Motion carried.*

Next Meeting Date: The next joint meeting was set for September 26, 2018 at 7 pm at the Town Hall.
The next fire commission meeting was set for September 19, 2018 at 7 pm at the Fire Hall.

Adjournment: *Motion by Schachtner, second by Lueck to adjourn the joint meeting at 8:23 pm. Motion carried.*

Chris Dubak, Administrative Assistant