Village of Somers
Proceedings from the Regular Board October 13, 2026

President Stoner called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

President Stoner led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: President Stoner, Trustees Ben Harbach, Jack Aupperle, Joe Smith, Jackie Nelson, and Karl Ostby. Also present: Administrator Jim Hurley, Assistant Administrator Kevin Poirier, Clerk/Treasurer Wendy Burnette and Chief Andersen.

Consent and Approval of Minutes of Regular meetings on Sept. 8, Sept. 22, Special Meeting on Oct. 6, Vouchers dated Sept. 10, Sept 17, Sept. 24, Oct. 1, and Oct. 8, & September ACH Payments, September Building Report, August Investment Statements

Trustee Aupperle moved to approve Minutes of Regular meetings on Sept. 8, Sept. 22, Special Meeting on Oct. 6, Vouchers dated Sept. 10, Sept 17, Sept. 24, Oct. 1, and Oct. 8, & September ACH Payments, September Building Report, August Investment Statements

Seconded by Trustee Nelson

Trustee Ostby mentioned the building report is definitely a sign this has not been a good year for us. He mentioned we are down around 44%.

Motion carried. 6-0 vote

Correspondence: Mount Pleasant Ordinance 07-2026 to Amend the Comprehensive Plan, Mount Pleasant Ordinance 08-2026 to Amend the Comprehensive Plan, Letter from County Executive Kerkman congratulating the Village for receiving the 2026-2031 STP and Bridge project allocation awards from the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, Council of Government meeting invitation.

Motion to Adopt Proclamation 2026-002 recognizing former Trustee and Plan Commissioner Scott Fredrick for his service

Trustee Ostby motioned to Adopt Proclamation 2026-002 recognizing former Trustee and Plan Commissioner Scott Fredrick for his service

Seconded by Trustee Harbach

Administrator Hurley read the Proclamation. Motion carried. 6-0 vote

President and Trustee Comments

Trustee Ostby mentioned he would like to discuss at the next work session the continuation of only having 1 board meeting a month.

President Stoner reported that the new Somers Creek subdivision has received five building permits, with four foundations already in place. He also noted that dirt work is underway at the Maplecrest subdivision. He stated that development activity is beginning to pick up.

Citizens Comments: None

Motion to approve proposal from Clean Cut Tree Service for emergency work to remove timber under the 13th Avenue Bridge in the amount of $45,000.

Trustee Harbach moved to approve proposal from Clean Cut Tree Service for emergency work to remove timber under the 13th Avenue Bridge in the amount of $45,000.

Seconded by Trustee Ostby

The Trustees mentioned it is unbelievable how bad this situation is. Superintendent Sullivan stated that the pictures don't even do it justice.

Trustee Harbach asked if there was any damage to the bridge. Josh stated that from what they can see, no.

Trustee Nelson asked if the creek has changed at all with this weather Somers has been having.

Motion carried. 6-0 vote

Motion to approve the Village's Mailbox Replacement Policy, in relation to snowplowing operations

Trustee Harbach move to approve the Village's Mailbox Replacement Policy, in relation to snowplowing operations

Seconded by Trustee Aupperle

Motion carried. 6-0 vote

Motion to approve purchase of road salt from Compass Minerals in the amount of $32,606.68.

Trustee Aupperle moved to approve purchase of road salt from Compass Minerals in the amount of $32,606.68.

Seconded by Trustee Nelson

The Board discussed the winter road salt purchase. Staff explained that the amended budget included $40,000 for the purchase, which came in at approximately $32,000. The Village typically maintains 850 tons of salt in storage, and the purchase replenishes the 350 tons used last winter to maintain that inventory level

Motion carried. 6-0 vote

Motion to approve University of Wisconsin – Parkside sewer meter replacement reimbursement agreement in the amount of $42,985

Trustee Ostby moved to approve University of Wisconsin – Parkside sewer meter replacement reimbursement agreement in the amount of $42,985

Seconded by Trustee Nelson

The Board discussed replacing the sewer flow meter at Parkside, which monitors the university's sewer flow and provides readings. After the meter began failing, staff obtained quotes for replacement options. Parkside elected to replace the existing meter, as retrofitting the manhole with a flume would cost more. The Village will pay the cost upfront, and Parkside will reimburse the Village upon completion. A draft reimbursement agreement was presented

Motion carried. 6-0 vote

Motion to approve improvements to the Pike Creek Lift Station and junction vault in the amount of $3,835,000

Trustee Harbach moved to approve improvements to the Pike Creek Lift Station and junction vault in the amount of $3,835,000.

Seconded by Trustee Ostby

Trustee Nelson asked how much the TID's cover. It was stated about 75%.

Motion carried. 6-0 vote

Motion to approve Pay Request #1 from Lee Mechanical for the 12th Street Water Main Water Transfer Station in the amount of $234,881

Trustee Harbach moved to approve Pay Request #1 from Lee Mechanical for the 12th Street Water Main Water Transfer Station in the amount of $234,881

Seconded by Trustee Ostby

Motion carried. 6-0 vote

Motion to approve Change Order #3 from PTS Contractors for the 12th Street Water Main to lower water main casing in the amount of $17,084.69

Trustee Harbach moved to approve Change Order #3 from PTS Contractors for the 12th Street Water Main to lower water main casing in the amount of $17,084.69

Seconded by Trustee Ostby

Motion carried. 6-0 Vote

Motion to approve Final Change Order and project-closeout from PTS Contractors for the 12th Street Water Main in the amount of $103,903.20

Brett, Village Engineer, explained that Change Order No. 4 for the 12th Street water main project would close out the contract. The change is related to Change Order No. 2, which reduces asphalt trench patching from three lifts to two. Brett will confirm the cost reduction with PTS and reissuing both change orders. The item was tabled pending updated costs.

Trustee Harbach made a motion to table #15. Seconded by Trustee Nelson. Motion carried. 6-0 vote

Motion to approve Pay Request from PTS Contractors for the 12th Street Water Main in the amount of $334,058.69)

Trustee Harbach moved to approve Pay Request from PTS Contractors for the 12th Street Water Main in the amount of $334,058.69

Seconded by Trustee Smith Motion carried. 6-0 vote

Motion to Change Order #1 from Lee Mechanical to replace master meters at 4040 18th Street and 5901 Washington Avenue in the amount of $ 66,320

Trustee Aupperle moved to approve Change Order #1 from Lee Mechanical to replace master meters at 4040 18th Street and 5901 Washington Avenue in the amount of $ 66,320

Seconded by Trustee Smith

Trustee Harbach mentioned it wasn't Washington Avenue. It was clarified that it was Washington Street.

Motion carried. 6-0 vote

Motion to approve agreement with Short Elliott Hendrickson Inc. (SEH) for the design of the replacement of Fire Station #2

Trustee Aupperle moved to approve agreement with Short Elliott Hendrickson Inc. (SEH) for the design of the replacement of Fire Station #2.

Seconded by Trustee Ostby

The Board discussed the proposed design of Fire Station 2 and the scope of the architectural services. Questions were raised regarding whether the design would account for the entire site, including the existing Public Works building, park, cell tower, and maintaining operations during construction. It was clarified that the Public Works building is not currently planned to be relocated; however, the exact location of the new fire station has not yet been determined. The design process will evaluate site considerations, and any proposed changes affecting existing buildings will be presented to the Board for further review.

The Board also discussed oversight of the architectural design process and the anticipated timeline. An oversight committee consisting of Board members, Fire Department representatives, and staff will provide input and review major design decisions. The design process will include 30%, 60%, and 90% design reviews, with work expected to begin in the coming weeks and continue into 2027.

The Board then discussed potential financing for the project. Administrator Hurley proposed borrowing in late 2027 to fund the fire station design, along with other potential capital projects, including the Pike Creek lift station and an ambulance replacement planned for 2028. It was noted that these items were preliminary recommendations and had not yet been approved. The proposed borrowing would be considered as part of the upcoming budget discussions.

Motion carried. 6-0 vote

Motion to approve Site Plan Review & Exterior Fenestration: SRPF D/Burlington Road., LLC for approval of overall site plan and exterior fenestration on Tax parcels # 82-4-222-301-0040; 82-4-222-301- 0030; 82-4-222-194-0101 and 82-4-222-301-0050. (For information only, the property is located east of the Somers Highland Industrial warehouse on Burlington Road).

Trustee Harback moved to approve Site Plan Review & Exterior Fenestration: SRPF D/Burlington Road., LLC for approval of overall site plan and exterior fenestration on Tax parcels # 82-4-222-301-0040; 82-4-222-301- 0030; 82-4-222-194-0101 and 82-4-222-301-0050. (For information only, the property is located east of the Somers Highland Industrial warehouse on Burlington Road).

Trustee Nelson commented that the obligation on SRPF for cleaning out of the Kilborne Ditch needs to be in the minutes as well as the Developers Agreement. President Stoner mentioned the design of the building looks nice.

Seconded by Trustee Nelson Motion carried. 6-0 vote

Motion to approve proposed changes to Fire & EMS Billing Rates

Trustee Aupperle moved to approve proposed changes to Fire & EMS Billing Rates

Seconded by Trustee Harbach Motion carried. 6-0 vote

Motion to approve Cleaning Services Agreement with All Finish Remodeling LLC

Trustee Harbach moved to approved Cleaning Services Agreement with All Finish Remodeling LLC

Seconded by Trustee Aupperle

Administrator Hurley mentioned this is a $200.00 a week increase, however part of this we are requiring the cleaning service to provide proof of insurance.

Motion carried. 6-0 vote

Discuss the 2027 Annual Budget

The Board discussed the 2027 budget, including the timing of final budget figures, assessed values, tax levy limits, and tax incremental district (TID) revenues. Staff indicated that approximately 90% of the budget information was available, with final state assessment information expected in the coming weeks. Preliminary assessed values have increased significantly following the revaluation, which will affect property taxes and the Village's debt levy.

The Board also discussed TID increment projections, including a decrease projected for 2027 that would affect the 2028 budget rather than the upcoming 2027 budget. Staff indicated the Village was in a relatively favorable position for 2027 but expressed some concern about the 2028 budget. Potential measures to address future budget pressures include reducing reliance on the identified debt-related funding source, evaluating recycling cost allocations, and closing TID 2 when financially feasible. It was noted that TID 2 would not close in 2027 because it will help fund a portion of the Pike Creek lift station project. The Village will continue evaluating the district's closure timeline as part of future budget planning.

Motion to approve 2027 Capital Improvement Plan

Trustee Nelson moved to approve 2027 Capital Improvement Plan

Seconded by Trustee Aupperle

The Board discussed Public Works expenditures, particularly road paving costs, which have increased beyond the originally anticipated annual amount. Concerns were raised regarding the cost of paving subdivisions, including Whispering Meadows, and the use of other funding sources, including stormwater funds, to offset curb and gutter expenses. It was noted that recent project bids have generally come in below estimates, although future costs remain uncertain due to potential increases in oil prices.

The Board emphasized the importance of finalizing the General Fund budget while recognizing that the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) offers some flexibility to adjust or delay projects as needed. The discussion included a preference to approve the proposed plan while allowing for future adjustments, if necessary, while providing Public Works with greater budget certainly. Appreciation was also expressed to Josh and the Public Works Department for securing grant funding for a tractor and for their work related to the bridge project.

Motion carried. 6-0 vote

Motion to approve Operator's Licenses: Akilah Benson, Lydia Bryant, Logan Hale, Brynn Hendrickson, Julie Horton, Thomas Ketchum, Kaitlynn Libricz, Michelle Northard, Myles Popa, Heath Reece, Anna Rocha, Jessica Rodriguez Marrero, Stella Ruffalo, Eric Shane, Nicole Schopp, John Seekings, Wendy Taylor

Trustee Harbach moved to approve Operator's Licenses: Akilah Benson, Lydia Bryant, Logan Hale, Brynn Hendrickson, Julie Horton, Thomas Ketchum, Kaitlynn Libricz, Michelle Northard, Myles Popa, Heath Reece, Anna Rocha, Jessica Rodriguez Marrero, Stella Ruffalo, Eric Shane, Nicole Schopp, John Seekings, Wendy Taylor

Seconded by Trustee Ostby

Motion carried. 6-0 vote

Motion to Adjourn at 6:08pm

Trustee Harbach moved to approve adjourning at 6:08pm. Seconded by Trustee Nelson.

Motion carried. 6-0 vote

These minutes were approved by the Village Board on November 10, 2026