



Celebrate Independance Day

"Celebrate the Red, White & Blue in 2022" is this year's parade theme.

The 1.2 mile route begins at Shoreland Lutheran High School and ends at Somers Elementary School.

The parade steps off at 2 p.m. and usually lasts about an hour depending on the number of entries. There are usually 60 to 70 entries.

Staging will take place at Shoreland Lutheran High School from noon to 1:30 p.m.

Music groups registered include: the KUSD Rambler Marching Band, the Mike Schneider Polka Band, Bagpiper Michael O'Connell, MGv Harmonia, River City Rhythm drummers, Shoreland Lutheran High School Band and a

Mariachi band.

Other entertainment acts currently booked are the Milwaukee Flyers Tumbling team, Jolly Giants stilt walkers, the Lions Club Mighty Mite Jeep and juggler Arik Mendelieviz. Other local entries include Snap-on, Kenosha Kingfish baseball and UW-Parkside.

Somers Elementary students will distribute American flags to spectators along the parade route.

The Shoreland Lutheran High School Booster Club will be selling food and drink in the staging area and the Fireman's Association will provide food and drink at the fire station before and during the parade.

Portable toilets will be located

along the parade route.

Parking is available at Somers Elementary, Somers Village Hall, the Post Office and the back lot at Shoreland Lutheran High School.

Road closures at 100th Avenue and highways E, EA and H at 18th Street will start at noon. Highway E will remain open at Green Bay Road.

No ice cream social is planned following the parade.

The parade committee is looking for volunteers to help organize next year's parade. The committee meets Mondays once a month starting in January.

If interested, call Parade Chair Judy Schantek at 262-818-4448.

Fire Department gets new rig



The Somers Fire and Rescue Department took delivery of its new Multi-hazard Emergency Response Vehicle.

The Somers Fire and Rescue Department just took delivery of a Multi-hazard Emergency Response Vehicle (MERV). The rig is built by Rosenbauer Fire Apparatus on a 2022 Ford F550 chassis at a cost of \$224,928. It will feature a 300-gallon water tank, a 250-gallon-per-minute pump, carry 10 gallons of foam and be able to transport five firefighters inside the cab.

The vehicle's height will allow it to respond to calls off-road, travel through high water and in deep snow.

"The MERV will allow us to better respond to construction sites, which is essential with the growth in the Village," said Fire Chief Ben Andersen.

It is designed to respond to grass and field fires, off-road vehicle fires, remote medical emergencies, severe weather emergency calls, car accidents and fires, water rescues, hazardous material and technical rescue calls, carbon monoxide alarms, natural gas leaks and burning violations, among other calls.

It will carry the following equipment:

- Grass fire brooms
- Water pump back packs
- Hydraulic cutter/spreader combina-



Somers Fire Chief Ben Andersen demonstrates how the nozzle at the front of the MERV can be operated from inside the cab.



Andersen shows the storage area of the new vehicle.

tion tool for vehicle extrication (Jaws of Life)

■ Assorted Milwaukee brand battery power tools for vehicle and machinery extrication calls

■ Truck mounted and portable lighting

■ Assorted hand tools (axes, pry bars, bolt cutters, shovels, etc)

■ Oil dry for car accidents and hazardous material spill calls

■ Four gas monitors for carbon monoxide calls, gas leaks, confined space rescue calls, hazardous materials leaks, etc

■ Water rescue suits and ropes

■ Technical rescue equipment

■ Hazardous materials leak stop kit

■ Two self-contained breathing apparatus

■ Multiple chain saws

■ Two Milwaukee M18 leaf blowers

(which are used for accident scene debris clean up as well as grass fire extinguishment)

■ Basic life support supplies

■ Stokes basket for rope rescue or remote area rescues

■ Hoses

This vehicle will be able to pull the UTV trailer, Kenosha County Dive Boat and Kenosha County Hazardous Material Team trailer.

Open-burning rules

Residents are allowed to burn without a permit between April 15 and May 15 and between Oct. 15 and Nov. 30. An annual permit is required at other times. Below are guidelines for burning in Somers, which are also printed on the burn permit.

■ All fires must be at least 25 feet from any structure

■ All fires must be monitored at all times by someone 18 years of age or older

■ Burn barrels are prohibited

■ No burning is allowed if winds are greater than 10 mph

■ You are only allowed to burn natural materials such as sticks, leaves and tree wood

■ Prohibited materials include but are not limited to construction materials, garbage, furniture and tires

■ Daytime fires (sunrise-sunset) cannot exceed 4ft x 4ft x 4ft

■ Night time fires (sunset-sunrise) cannot exceed 2ft x 2ft x 2ft

■ You must have a way of extinguishing the fire if needed.

If you are concerned about someone burning please call 911 or the non-emergency line at 262-605-5100.

Please understand that any calls to dispatch about a fire will be investigated even if a burn permit was issued. If all rules are being followed you will be allowed to continue burning.

Additional questions about burning in Somers can be answered by calling either station or the Somers Fire Chief at 262-859-2277.

Water rates to increase

The Water Utility has recently received approval from the Public Service Commission (PSC) for a rate increase to meet Somers' immediate financial needs and to maintain financial stability for the water utility. The PSC sets water rates for municipal water utilities in Wisconsin. The new rates are mandated by the PSC.

The utility has not submitted a complete rate case application since 2012. That year, the PSC implemented a rate increase of 64 percent. In 2013, 2015, and 2016, the utility did go through the PSC's simple rate case process which allowed for a 3 percent increase each time. Over this time, annual operating costs have increased, and the utility has begun to address outdated infrastructure. The rate increase to our customers is not related to funding infrastructure to new development or the Village's annual operating budget. Water utility payments directly impact the Somers Water Utility.

In June of 2020, the utility submitted its application for a complete rate case. The PSC held a public hearing on the proposed rates on Dec. 16, 2021. After almost 2 years, the utility received the final decision March 29 as to the rates required by the PSC. It was determined that the overall rate increase must generate an additional \$415,322 in revenue to maintain financial stability. This represents a 35.68% increase in the existing rates.

The Village Board realizes that this PSC-implemented rate is a large increase at one time. The reason is that there has not been a significant review of these rates by the PSC in over 10 years. To avoid such large one-time increases to the utility customers, the Board is committed to more frequent full rate case applications to the PSC in the future which will lessen the impact on customers.

At right you will find a new water rate schedule as determined by the PSC and a spreadsheet summarizing changes. Those are also available on the Somers [website](#).

For more information, call the Somers Water Utility at 262-859-2822.

Below is how the new rates would affect a typical residential user.

Quarterly bill (3 months) based on a 3/4" meter

Usage	Old Rate	New Rate	Change
8 cubic ft.	\$ 63.43	\$ 94.92	49.65 %
10 cubic ft.	\$ 71.47	\$ 105.90	48.17 %
48 cubic ft.	\$ 224.23	\$ 314.52	40.27 %
100 cubic ft.	\$ 433.27	\$ 600.00	38.48 %

Monthly bill based on a 3/4" meter

Usage	Old Rate	New Rate	Change
2.67 cubic ft.	\$ 13.99	\$ 21.88	56.40 %
3.33 cubic ft.	\$ 14.89	\$ 23.10	55.14 %
16 cubic ft.	\$ 31.86	\$ 46.28	45.26 %
33.33 cubic ft.	\$ 55.09	\$ 78.00	41.59 %

VILLAGE/TOWN OF SOMERS WATER UTILITY ANNUAL NOTICE: RATE STRUCTURE - 2022 - JUNE

TELEPHONE: (262) 859-2822 FAX: (262) 859-2331 P.O. BOX 197, SOMERS, WI 53171 or 7511 - 12TH ST, KENOSHA WI 53144

PWAC (Purchase WA Adj Clause)

WATER SERVICE:

RATE SCHEDULE - PSC (Mg-1)

General Service-Metered

Service Charge: All Classes of Customers

	3/2022
5/8" & 3/4" meter (Qtrly)	\$51.00
1" meter (Quarterly)	\$59.54
1 1/4" meter (Quarterly)	\$89.67
1 1/2" meter (Quarterly)	\$107.07
2" meter (Quarterly)	\$159.00
3" meter (Quarterly)	\$231.00
4" meter (Quarterly)	\$321.00
6" meter (Quarterly)	\$498.00
8" meter (Quarterly)	\$705.00
10" meter (Quarterly)	\$960.00
12" meter (Quarterly)	\$1,230.00

VOLUME CHARGE:	
First 5,000 cubic ft. each Quarter	
(per 100 cu ft.)	\$5.49
Next 20,000 cubic ft. each Quarter	
(per 100 cu ft.)	\$4.86
Over 25,000 cubic ft. each Quarter	
(per 100 cu ft.)	\$4.73

WATER SERVICE:	
PUBLIC FIRE PROTECTION SVC - PSC (F-1)	
Annual Charge	\$217,077.00

PUBLIC FIRE PROTECTION SVC	
Quarterly Service Charges (F-1)	
5/8" & 3/4" meter (Qtrly)	\$12.00
1" meter (Quarterly)	\$30.00
1 1/4" meter (Quarterly)	\$44.40
1 1/2" meter (Quarterly)	\$60.00
2" meter (Quarterly)	\$96.00
3" meter (Quarterly)	\$180.00
4" meter (Quarterly)	\$300.00
6" meter (Quarterly)	\$600.00
8" meter (Quarterly)	\$960.00
10" meter (Quarterly)	\$1,440.00
12" meter (Quarterly)	\$1,920.00

PRIVATE FIRE PROTECTION SVC-Unmetered

Quarterly Service Demand Charges (Upf-1)

2" connection or smaller (unmetered).....\$13.80

3" connection (unmetered).....\$25.80

4" connection (unmetered).....\$42.90

6" connection (unmetered).....\$87.00

8" connection (unmetered).....\$138.00

10" connection (unmetered).....\$207.00

12" connection (unmetered).....\$276.00

14" connection (unmetered).....\$348.00

16" connection (unmetered).....\$414.00

ADDITIONAL METER RENTAL CHARGE (Am-1)

Installed on same svc lateral as primary meter

Schedule Mg-1 rates apply.

Quarterly Additional Meter Rental Charges:

5/8" & 3/4" meter (Qtrly).....\$25.50

1" meter (Quarterly).....\$34.77

1 1/4" meter (Quarterly).....\$44.85

1 1/2" meter (Quarterly).....\$53.55

2" meter (Quarterly).....\$79.50

PUBLIC SERVICE - PSC (Mpa-1)

Metered Service:

Flushing sewers, skating rinks, street washing

etc. Rates Schedule (Mg-1)

Unmetered Service:

Estimated volume water usage based on pressure,

size of opening & time water used.

Rates Schedule (Mg-1) excluding Svc Charge.

GENERAL WATER SERVICE-UNMETERED

PSC (Up-1)

Temporary Unmetered Svc-Residential &

Commercial & Construction

(Qtrly 5/8" Mtr Svc Chg & Volume Chg Qtrly 1,800cf

= \$149.82 estimated.) Estimated excess usage

over 1,800 cf rates under Schedule Mg-1.

(1" or smaller service connection)

(Larger Svc-Install Temp Meter & Schedule(Mg-1)

SEASONAL SERVICE PSC (Sg-1)

Seasonal Customers shall be charged the

General Service Rate & Volume Chg (Mg-1)

& General WA Svc-unmetered (Ug-1)

or Additional Mtr Rental Chg (Am-1)

Further, if service has been discontinued

a charge under Reconnection Chg (R-1) is

applied at the time of reconnection.

BULK WATER - PSC (BW-1)

Hydrants or other connections Svc Chg ..\$82.00

WA SVC Volume Charge - Rate Schedule (Mg-1)

SWIMMING POOLS - BULK WATER

Service Charge (business hours).....\$160.00

Service Charge (after business hours).....\$223.00

WA SVC Volume Charge - Rate Schedule (Mg-1)

RECONNECTION CHARGE - PSC (R-1)

Reinstallation of meter and turning on the

valve at the curb stop.

Charge (business hours).....\$82.00

Charge (after business hours).....\$100.00

NOTE: No Charge for Disconnection.

WATER LATERAL INSTALLATION

CHARGES - PSC (CZ-1)

Actual cost of installing water svc lateral from main

through curb stop and box & costs not contributed

as part of subdivision or otherwise recovered under

Wis. Stats. Chapter 66. Billed Schedule Mg-1.

LATE PAYMENT OF BILLS

A late payment charge of 1% per month will be

charged to the total unpaid bill not paid within 20

days of issuance. This late payment charge is

applicable to all classes of customers.

NON-SUFFICIENT FUNDS CHARGE- NSF

PSC (OC-1) \$25.00 Charge is applied to customer's

account when a payment rendered for utility

service is returned.

Summary of Rate Increases/Decreases

General Service Metered Quarterly Fee					Private Fire Protection SVC				
	New Fee	Old Fee	Increase	% Increase		New Fee	Old Fee	Decrease	% Decrease
5/8" & 3/4" meter	\$51.00	\$31.27	\$19.73	39%	2" connection or smaller	\$13.80	\$14.21	-\$0.41	-3%
1" meter	\$69.54	\$46.90	\$22.64	33%	3" connection	\$25.80	\$26.57	-\$0.77	-3%
1 1/4" meter	\$89.67	\$62.53	\$27.14	30%	4" connection	\$42.90	\$44.19	-\$1.29	-3%
1 1/2" meter	\$107.07	\$75.04	\$32.03	30%	6" connection	\$87.00	\$89.61	-\$2.61	-3%
2" meter	\$159.00	\$109.42	\$49.58	31%	8" connection	\$138.00	\$142.14	-\$4.14	-3%
3" meter	\$231.00	\$168.83	\$62.17	27%	10" connection	\$207.00	\$213.21	-\$6.21	-3%
4" meter	\$321.00	\$243.86	\$77.14	24%	12" connection	\$276.00	\$284.28	-\$8.28	-3%
6" meter	\$498.00	\$406.43	\$91.57	18%	14" connection	\$348.00	\$358.44	-\$10.44	-3%
8" meter	\$705.00	\$600.26	\$104.74	15%	16" connection	\$414.00	\$426.42	-\$12.42	-3%
10" meter	\$960.00	\$850.37	\$109.63	12%					
12" meter	\$1,230.00	\$1,100.48	\$129.52	11%					
Volume Charge					Bulk Water - PSC				
	New Fee	Old Fee	Increase	% Increase		New Fee	Old Fee	Increase	% Increase
First 5,000 cubic ft					Hydrants or other connections				
(per 100 cu ft.)	\$5.49	\$4.02	\$1.47	27%	Service Charge	\$82.00	\$55.00	\$27.00	33%
Next 20,000 cubic ft									
(per 100 cu ft.)	\$4.86	\$3.45	\$1.41	29%					
Over 25,000 cubic ft									
(per 100 cu ft.)	\$4.73	\$3.30	\$1.43	30%					
Water Service Public Fire Protection					Seasonal Service PSC Additional Mtr Rental				
	New Fee	Old Fee	Increase	% Increase		New Fee	Old Fee	Increase	% Increase
Annual Charge	\$217,077.00	\$164,171.00	\$52,906.00	24%	5/8" & 3/4" meter	\$25.50	\$0.00	\$25.50	100%
Public Fire Protection SVC					1" meter	\$34.77	\$0.00	\$34.77	100%
	New Fee	Old Fee	Increase	% Increase	1 1/4" meter	\$44.85	\$0.00	\$44.85	100%
5/8" & 3/4" meter	\$12.00	\$11.31	\$0.69	6%	1 1/2" meter	\$53.55	\$0.00	\$53.55	100%
1" meter	\$30.00	\$28.20	\$1.80	6%	2" meter	\$79.50	\$0.00	\$79.50	100%
1 1/4" meter	\$44.40	\$41.52	\$2.88	7%	Installation Charge	\$82.80	\$0.00	\$82.80	100%
1 1/2" meter	\$60.00	\$56.08	\$3.92	7%					
2" meter	\$96.00	\$89.86	\$6.14	6%					
3" meter	\$180.00	\$168.25	\$11.75	7%					
4" meter	\$300.00	\$280.42	\$19.58	7%					
6" meter	\$600.00	\$560.52	\$39.48	7%					
8" meter	\$960.00	\$896.71	\$63.29	7%					
10" meter	\$1,440.00	\$1,344.75	\$95.25	7%					
12" meter	\$1,920.00	\$1,793.11	\$126.89	7%					
Reconnection Charge - PSC									
	New Fee	Old Fee	Increase	% Increase					
Charge (Business Hours)	\$82.00	\$55.00	\$27.00	33%					
Charge (After Business Hours)	\$100.00	\$75.00	\$25.00	25%					

Staff Update

Accounting Manager Heather Teigland's last official day with the Village was May 6. She will be helping out on a contract basis for the payroll system, until a new person is trained.

"We thank her for service to the Village/Town and she will be missed!" said Village Administrator Jason Peters.

Over the past month Administrator Peters, Trustee Jackie Nelson, and Trustee Karl Ostby have held final interviews for the Accounting Manager position and Accountant I position.

Tanya Ealy was selected as the new accounting manager. Her first day with the Village/Town was May 26.

"She has jumped right in and I have been very impressed with her work and attention to detail," said Peters.

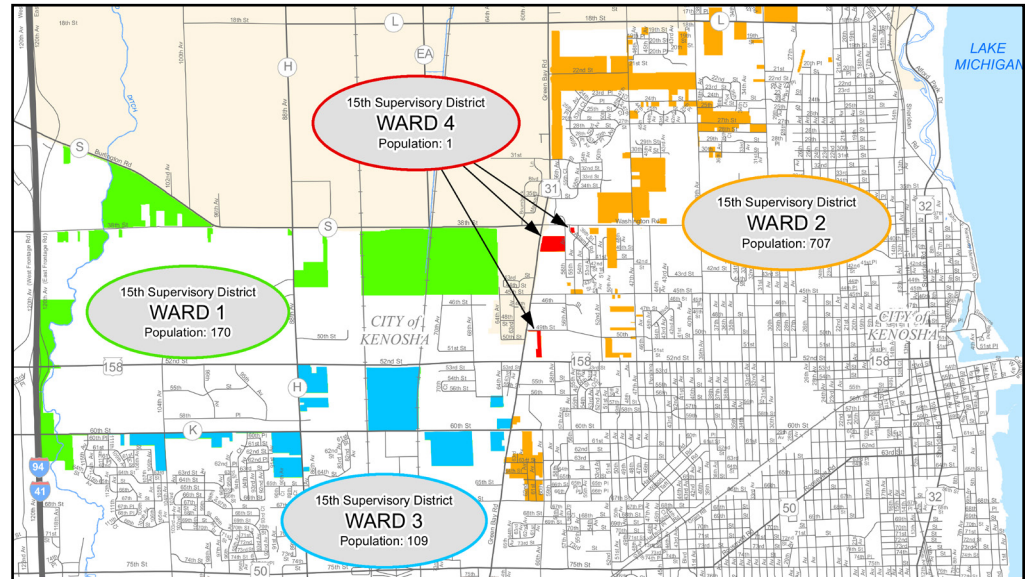
The Accountant I position was offered to Renee Kelly on May 25. She accepted the position and her first day with the Village/Town was June 14.

The Clerk I position has been posted and several resumes have been received. Interviews will be scheduled in the near future.

President George Stoner officially swore in Brandi Baker as the new Clerk/Treasurer May 25.

For available positions and full job descriptions, check our [website](#).

Wards added to Town



The Somers Town Board approved new voting maps, which will increase the number of wards from two to four. This redistricting is due to the April 15 decision by the Wisconsin Supreme Court to adopt the legislative redistricting plan.

Village/Town Hall remodeling

Installation of the carpet and trim in the Village/Town Hall lobby is now complete.

Two tables were added to the lobby, making it a more inviting space.

The remodel also includes added security in the lobby and the addition of a mural commemorating the community.



Upcoming Elections

■ **Aug. 9** Fall primary elections

■ **Nov. 8** Fall general elections

2022 road repaving contract awarded

The Village has retained Payne & Dolan, Inc. to resurface the following roads this year:

■ 22nd Street from address 5000 22nd Street to Green Bay Road
■ Eighth Avenue from Highway KR to the cul-de-sac, Fourth Street, 49th Avenue, and Fifth Place

Work began in June.

Informational flyers have been mailed out to affected residents.

Pritzker Archives & Memorial Park Center expected to seek occupancy in 2023



At top, Pepper Construction Senior Project Manager Chuck Hutton, right, leads (from left) TAWANI Project Manager Leslie Roshto, Somers Trustee Jackie Klaproth Nelson, Pritzker Military Museum & Library Senior Director Roberto Bravo and Village/Town Assistant to the Administrator Cassandra Bodenbach through the first floor of the main Pritzker Archives & Memorial Park Center building. Below, Somers Village/Town Administrator Jason Peters, left, talks to Hutton while walking through the basement of the building.

The Pritzker Archives & Memorial Park Center invited representatives of the Village and Town of Somers to view the building construction progress on May 16 and 17.

The structure is now up and interior construction is underway.

Some of the building features include a room where scholars can access collection items for their research as well as a digital lab which will be used to make the collection more widely accessible via an online gallery of digitized images.

The full basement will house the organization's growing collection in a state-of-the-art temperature and humidity-controlled environment.

The building is extremely energy efficient, using its own solar array for power. It is expected to seek occupancy in 2023.



Reminders

■ Carbon monoxide detectors are available through the Somers Fire Department

If interested, call 262-620-3285 or email apisula@somers.org and firefighters will gladly come to your home and install a new alarm.

■ Keep Somers looking good

As a reminder, there are Village/Town ordinances regulating the upkeep of your property. The ordinances address items such as grass cutting, junk cars and how a trailer should be kept.

Chapter 9 of the ordinances addresses junk and abandoned vehicles, Chapter 10 addresses public nuisances and Chapter 21 addresses property maintenance requirements.

For more information, Village/Town ordinances can be found under the Government tab on the Somers [website](https://www.somers.org).

■ Update to the weeds ordinance

The Village and Town updated the ordinance addressing grass, weeds and other noxious vegetation.

The new ordinance adds that lawns shall be kept from weeds and other noxious vegetation between April 1 and Oct. 31.

A copy of the new ordinance is available [here](#).

Any parcel that fails to cut weeds will be responsible for all costs incurred by the Village to remove such vegetation and will be subject to penalties as described in the ordinance.

Blood drive

The Somers Fire & Rescue Department will be hosting a blood drive at Station 1, 7511 12th Street, July 27 from 1:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Village mapping update

The Village has hired the Waukesha firm Ayres Associates, Inc. to conduct a GPS field survey of the water distribution, sanitary- and stormwater-sewer systems in the municipality to improve accuracy, completeness and usability of the infrastructure.

Ayres was the lowest bidder at \$61,000. The funds were included in the 2022 Capital Improvement Program. The survey is scheduled to be completed by the end of the year.

The survey will integrate seamlessly with the Brightly software (formerly Dude Solutions) that the Village has started using to efficiently manage work and assets.

That software allows for work orders to be assigned to staff, track storm water, sewer and water assets and includes access to Geographic Information Systems maps.

Foreman Andrew Kreye has implemented the system for Public Works employees and is making sure it is running smoothly.

In conjunction with the new software, employees received new smartphones that the Village was able to procure at no cost.

The phones allow reports to be filed right from the field.

The service is being paid for through the American Rescue Plan Act.

Root-Pike WIN river cleanup

Root-Pike WIN is hosting a cleaning event at the Root River Environmental Education Community Center, 301 W 6th Street in Racine. The event will take place July 13 from 6 to 8 p.m.

A rain date has been setup for July 27 at the same time.

Families are invited to come and learn about the various types of pollution that threaten the waterway in a class

setting and then spend time on the river paddling while cleaning up trash and taking part in a scavenger hunt-style water game.

The event is for ages 9 and up. Those under 18 must be accompanied by an adult for the entirety of the event.

The cost is \$10 and participants are asked to register at this [website](#).

Please wear clothing you do not mind

getting dirty and bring a water bottle if desired. Gloves and trash bags will be provided.

For questions about event attendance, please email [Laura Buska](mailto:Laura.Buska).

For questions about payment or the boating portion of the event, please email [Laura Schulz](mailto:Laura.Schulz).

For questions about class content, please email [Laura Herrick](mailto:Laura.Herrick) or [Aaron Owens](mailto:Aaron.Owens).

New development coming to Somers

■ **Chipotle** — The new restaurant is coming to a one-acre parcel at Somers Market Center just south of the Taco Bell. It will feature a drive through and inside and outside dining areas.

■ **Maplecrest** — A mixture of multi-family

housing and single-family homes is planned for the 162-acres site of the former Maplecrest Country Club. This development is not located in a TID. The current plan calls for 21 three- and four-unit buildings, 77 townhomes, 60 pocket

homes, 110 duplexes and 177 single-family homes.

■ **First Park 94** — A third building is coming to First Park 94. The 450,000-sq.-ft. building is being built on spec and is expandable to 615,000 square feet, if needed.

The Village and Town of Somers "Connecting With Your Community" newsletter is published by the Village/Town of Somers for public education and informational purposes. This newsletter is distributed to the residents through the Somers website in a easily printable format.

Jason Peters, Village/Town Administrator, Managing Editor. Kevin Poirier, News and Creative Editor.

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