

TOWN OF ST. GERMAIN  
OFFICE OF THE CLERK  
P.O. BOX 7  
ST. GERMAIN, WISCONSIN 54558  
[www.townofstgermain.org](http://www.townofstgermain.org)

**MINUTES REGULAR SPECIAL TOWN BOARD MEETING: September 23, 2021**

1. **Call to Order:** Chairman Tom Christensen called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Roll Call, Establish a Quorum:** Kalisa Mortag, Ted Ritter, Tom Christensen, Brian Cooper, Jim Swenson along with Jeanna Vogel town treasurer and June Vogel town clerk are in Community Center room 4 with 10 community members. 4 community members attending via Zoom.us.
4. **Open Meeting Verification:** Mr Christensen noted that he had posted the meeting agenda at three locations in town on Tuesday, September 21, 2021 before 6:30 pm.
5. **Citizen's Comments – Citizens are encouraged to share their concerns and ideas with the Board. Please limit your comments to five minutes or less.**

Sharon Vonasek – Following up on status of Peterson Road washout project, has anything been accomplished this week. DPW has not made it out this week to look at ruts and erosion, will look at it next week.

Ann Seidl – Asking what was decided about posts for hanging banners in town. Swenson doing more research and compiling to bring to another meeting.

John Bertilino – Represents Snowmobile Hall of Fame. Referring to article in Lakeland Times about after May event. Will be discussed with 7L.
6. **Fire Chief's Report** In June had 22 ambulance calls and 12 fire calls, July 39 ambulance calls and 6 fire calls and August 25 ambulance calls and 10 fire calls. Explained that turnaround time for payments depends on when turned in and when the state releases payments. New firefighters now on board who are state certified. Personnel is spread out now in the community and may look at having some people put red lights on vehicles given their location in town; getting personnel at a call efficiently and in a safe manner. Looking at needing to replace engines/ladder truck. By combining engine and ladder to one truck this would open a garage bay up and push the potential addition to garage out further. New equipment needs to be put on an agenda to figure out budgeting. New engines are 16 months out. New ambulance will be in operation by end of the year. Christensen gave update on FD roof project, communication from MSA indicates project should be finished by end of Friday, October 1, 2021.
7. **Discussion /Action Items:**
  - a. **Presentation of proceeds to the Town from raffle supporting the mountain bike trails at Fern Ridge.** Fund raising via donations via letters and raffles; raised \$20,692.00. Anne Small thanked committee for work, especially Jimmy Vogel for his hard work and devotion to this project.
  - b. **Payment of the bills.** Motion by Mortag to pay the bills as presented with the exception of 27982; second Swenson. Discussion none. By voice vote; all in favor. Motion by Cooper to approve check 27982; second Swenson. Discussion none. By voice vote; 4 in favor and 1 abstain.
  - c. **Approval of past meeting minutes.** Motion by Swenson to approve meeting minutes of September 15, 2021 and public hearing of September 16, 2021 as presented; second Ritter. Discussion none. By voice vote; all in favor.
  - d. **Finalize zoning changes by action of the Town Board concerning Eaglewatch subdivision properties.** Motion by Christensen to rezone Eaglewatch parcels 24-1509-0001 through 24-1509-21, 24-1509-28 through 24-1509-40, 24-1621-13 and 24-1621-14 to lakeshore resort/residential; second Mortag. Discussion none. By voice vote; 4-1. Motion by Christensen to rezone 24-1509-0022-25, 24-1509-0027, 24-1509-0041 through 24-1509-43 remain forestry entirely; second Cooper. Discussion none. By voice vote; all in favor. Discussion on zoning 25-1509-0026, more consistent to be zoned lakeshore resort residential vs residential low density

as recommended by zoning committee which would be spot zoning. Motion by Christensen to rezone 25-1509-0026 to lakeshore resort/residential; second Mortag. Discussion none. By voice vote; 4-1.

- e. **Approve sending a letter to Ahlborn Land Holdings withdrawing a previous requirement to remove shipping containers from their property.** Ritter amended first draft. Discussion to table as shipping containers will be presented to zoning committee to see what is recommended. Motion by Ritter that the letter to Ahlborn Land Holdings on September 23, 2021 be approved for signature and mailed; second Swenson. Discussion none. By voice vote; all in favor.
  - f. **Consider instructing the Zoning Committee to present to the Town Board an Additional proposed revision to the shipping containers provision of the Zoning Ordinance.** Zoning committee proposed a strict no shipping container ordinance, it was board approved and adopted. Discussion by board. Joe Klopotic – He has done research on other communities; taxed as an outbuilding with appropriate setbacks. States it is a legal product. Made comparison to semi-trailers which are unsitely and allowed. Would like to see zoning committee come up with guidelines for shipping containers; not allowed in front yards, fence or trees around it. If not able to see it from road, what is the objection? Discussion by board on how the committee came to this conclusion. Zoning committee voted 3-2 to prohibiting shipping containers. Motion to Christensen direct zoning committee to modify the ordinance to allow shipping containers for storage in certain zoning districts utilizing a CUP; second Mortag. Discussion none. By voice vote; all in favor.
  - g. **Second review of the draft, Chapter 6 – Off premises Sign Ordinance.** Revisions made per board recommendation. Discussion by board on draft ordinance. Changes to be made and will be brought back for another review prior to attorney perusal.
  - h. **Approval of an electronic payment method for property tax and room tax collection.** Have had taxpayers ask for an online option to pay for property taxes and room tax. Jeanna discussed the Point & Pay System. Make link only available December through January 31 to pay property taxes. Upfront cost with a 3-year contract. Motion by Cooper that we allow the treasurer to implement Point & Pay with a \$2000.00 set up fee being paid from the budget line item for attorney's fee; second Mortag. Discussion none. By voice vote; all in favor.
  - i. **Review and approve changes to the Code of Ordinances Chapter 29 – Town Procedures for property tax collection.**
  - j. **Determine the format and content of the information that is included in the mailing of the property tax bills.** Discussion on making it more of a newsletter vs notices with a joint effort of the board, such as things that the town or community has been doing over the year.
  - k. **Consider if Public Hearings should be Zoom Meetings.**
  - l. **Consider changes to the cemetery entrance and parking area to control traffic and parking.** June presented suggestion of fencing along west side of Cemetery Road, gate on north end of road before ATV/UTV trail to block of any through traffic. Cemetery Road is a town road, would have to abandon the road tp block it off. Discussion on how to minimize pathway access for funeral home, vault companies and monument companies. Jon Bertolino- Willing and wanting to work with FD for Snowmobile Hall of Fame to continue, contact FD for cones and SHF to put cones out. June will continue expanding plan from what is it, incorporating things discussed and move forward with some numbers.
  - m. **Consider changes to Code of Ordinances – Chapter 17 Community Parks and Buildings Usage, Appendix A.**
  - n. **Schedule an Electors Meeting for the purchase of the Whitetail Inn.** Motion by Christensen to schedule electors meeting on October 20<sup>th</sup> 7:00 pm for the purpose of purchasing the Whitetail Inn; second Swenson. Discussion none. By voice vote; all in favor.
8. **Department of Public Works – The Board will hear a report from Brian Cooper, the Supervisor assigned to oversee the Public Works Department, that may include current projects, proposed new projects, daily workload, purchasing of equipment, concerns about present equipment and future equipment needs.** Brian explained what is patchable and what is not patchable holes on town roads. Storm damage cleanup is almost all complete. Hermanson road culvert is being monitored; beavers still out there. Roads brushed and swept. Roadside mowing is done. Winter shut down plans are being made. Veteran's irrigation will be shut down. Brian will watch LRIP you tube video.
9. **Towns Association – Fall Town & Village Workshop – Attended by Brian Cooper & Tom Christensen – Review of the workshop held on Monday September 20, 2021.**
10. **Report of the Standing Committees**
- a. **Independence Day Celebration Committee**
  - b. **Lakes Committee**
  - c. **Non-Motorized Recreational Trails Committee**

d. Parks and Recreation Committee

e. Zoning Committee

f. Sexually Oriented Business Committee No report

**11. Reports from Lake Districts and Other Organizations**

Motion by Christensen to table 7i, 7k, 7m, 10 and 11 to another meeting; second Cooper. Discussion none. By voice vote; all in favor.

**12. Adjourn:** Mr Christensen adjourned the meeting at 9:35 pm.

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Town Clerk

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Chairman

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Supervisor

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Supervisor

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