

TOWN OF ST. GERMAIN
OFFICE OF THE CLERK
P.O. BOX 7
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www.townofstgermain.org

MINUTES TOWN BOARD MEETING: January 26, 2023

1. **Call to Order:** Chairman Tom Christensen called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Roll Call to Establish a Quorum:** Jim Swenson, Brian Cooper, Tom Christensen, Ted Ritter and Kalisa Mortag along with Jeanna Vogel town treasurer and June Vogel town clerk are in Community Center in room 4 with 10 community members. There were 7 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 Wednesday, January 25, 2023 before 6:30 pm.
5. **Review meeting conduct of residents attending the Town Board Meeting.** Reviewed by Chairman Christensen.
6. **Citizen's Comments – Citizens are encouraged to share their concerns and ideas with the Board. Please limit your comments to five minutes or less.**

Tim Clark – Asking why when one of the fire trucks was requested in Minocqua for a fire it was reported the truck was out of service, would like someone to followup to him with this.

7. **Discussion /Action Items:**

- a. **Payment of the bills.** Motion by Ritter to approve the bills as presented; second Mortag. Discussion none. The motion passed by voice vote with four votes in the affirmative and one abstention by Cooper.
- b. **Approval of past meeting minutes.** Motion by Swenson to approve the meeting minutes of January 9, 2023 as presented; second Mortag. Discussion: None. The motion passed by voice vote unanimously.
- c. **Continuing Town Projects.**
 - 1) **Peterson Road – No Update expected.**
 - 2) **Sixteen Road – No Update expected.**
 - 3) **Fiber Optic –** Spectrum will be at next board meeting to present updated report. Given the areas that Spectrum is going live, does the direction ChoiceTel is taking get looked at to address nonduplicated areas. Get clarification on nongrant areas from Spectrum.
 - 4) **Road Maintenance/Repair Program – No Update expected.**
 - 5) **Fire Department High Volume Well** Qualification changed to around \$37,500 due to service area of Fire Department.
 - 6) **WIFI in Town Community Park Area** Computer Success and ChoiceTel can both complete the job.
 - 7) **New Streetlight – Veteran's Dr & Hwy 70** Area was marked. Cost to install in winter would be approximately \$685.00, including plug for Christmas light and plus monthly fees. If wait until after April 1st, cost would be approximately \$200.00 plus monthly fees. Approximately an extra \$485 to install in winter. Will proceed with this location after April 1st. Additional permits required for DOT placement of poles. Board members to identify what intersections are of concern to need additional lighting.
 - 8) **International Truck Replacement** DPW crew discussing and will come back with a recommendation.
 - 9) **Pavilion Replacement at Vandervort Park** Phil and Al in attendance from MSA. Pavilion is deteriorating, concrete slab has shifted. Discussion on replacement of pavilion on current site. Next step would be to get a geo tech report and boring to know if this design can proceed; Phil will get a quote to Christensen. 50/50 grant program available; not to exceed total grant application of \$500,000 to keep it from going to finance department of grant application.

10) New Pavilion at Fern Ridge Fern Ridge committee would like put up a pavilion on the west side of parking lot, looking at 24' x 40' x 9' high to include concrete floor, changing rooms, open air set up. Discussion by board. Would MSA have to go out to bid and plan or can the committee move forward with. Discussion on including electric and water at the site. Swenson will send specs to Christensen and will send to MSA for a quote. 50/50 grant program available; not to exceed total grant application of \$500,000 to keep it from going to finance department of grant application.

11) Location Change for the Yard Waste Facility DNR will not allow yard waste facility at closed land fill off of Pedykort due to it having a CAP. ATV Club looking to move trail off of the closed land fill. Potential to move yard waste facility to wooded area in front of transfer station. The area has plenty of room to protect residential area, would allow for a buffer.

- d. Repair of Chief St. Germain.** Discussion had about overhauling the chief; either replacing or repairing. Not sure of stability of base chief stands on. It was scoped but difficult to determine. Want to take in consideration of thoughts of tribe chief belongs with. Larry Chamberlain will contact Ojibwe tribe, working with John Young the administrator between Vilas County and tribes.
- e. Chamber Room Tax Budget for 2023.** Discussion by board. Does not include carry over. Chamber will update budget to reflect that. Chamber is putting a proposal together on how to award grant money.
- f. Changes to Room Tax Ordinance.** Reference to renter complaints, more from private home rentals; parking, noise, dogs, etc. From other towns one option would be an ordinance stating local manager to be responsible who can investigate and address issue. Another option is to have renter pay a complete rental application form and pay fee and then use the fees to pay someone to address the complaints that are received. Those using lodging marketplace need to provide the town with name and number of someone to contact if there is a problem. Ritter and Jeanna to draft ordinance to hold property owner responsible, needing a local contact to address issues.
- g. Adopt revisions to Chapter 1 – Zoning after considering public hearing input.** No public input at tonight's public hearing. Motion by Ritter that based on the fact that the town board approved these changes subject at public hearing and no public comments received that Chapter 1 Zoning Ordinances presented for public review be adopted; second Cooper. Discussion none. The motion passed by voice vote unanimously.
- h. ATV Club Opening Hwy 155 & Hwy 70, Birchwood to Sunset Rd.** Received letter from ATV Club. Jurisdiction is the DOT, courtesy to town board. DOT has already approved. Waiting for signage approval and county will then place signs.
- i. Proposal to install cameras in the Community Center.** Discussion by the board. No action taken.
- j. Approve alcohol related license(s).** Motion by Mortag to approve alcohol related licenses as presented; second Cooper. Discussion none. The motion passed by voice vote unanimously.
- k. BoBoen request for Room Tax Dollars.** Letter received from BoBoen Snowmobile Club asking for \$15,000.00 to help offset a new Tucker. Motion by Christensen to approve request for \$15,000 out of room tax dollars for BoBoen Snowmobile Club to pay for new Tucker with check made out to Tucker; second Cooper. Discussion: Check to be cut in summer. The motion passed by voice vote unanimously.
- l. Temporary placement of a shipping container on Town property related to internet installation.** Discussion by board. Ordinance prohibits them, other options for storage.

8. Report of the Standing Committees

- a. Independence Day Celebration Committee** No report.
- b. Lakes Committee** No report.
- c. Non-Motorized Recreational Trails Committee** Successful event at Fern Ridge. Awassa upcoming event on February 18 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm.
- d. Parks and Recreation Committee** Lions Club is donating money towards Easter and Halloween events. Starting process of looking at grants for future projects. Working on Easter Egg Hunt event.
- e. Zoning Committee** Nothing to report.
- f. Report from Lake Districts and Other Organizations** Little Saint Lake Germain District met January 19th; Aeration systems started, creating new website, researching audit firms, working at dividing up work load.

9. Department of Public Works – The Board will hear a report from Brian Cooper concerning the department. Continuing to work at removing snow from roads. DPW office update. Freightliner and

International trucks were down, water pump went out and coolant line was leaking; both are back up and running.

10. Closed Session –Adjourn to closed session in accordance with Section 19.85 (1) (e) of the Wisconsin Statutes to discuss the Golf Course Pro Shop lease. (e) Deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session. Motion by Christensen at 9:26 to convene to closed session in accordance with Section 19.85 (1) (e) of the Wisconsin Statutes to discuss the Golf Course Pro Shop lease. (e) Deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session; second Ritter. Discussion none. The motion passed by roll call vote; Swenson yes, Cooper yes, Christensen yes, Ritter yes and Mortag yes. Break 9:27-9:30

11. Reconvene to Open Session – Reconvene to open session to take such action as the Board deems appropriate, following consideration given in closed session. Motion by Mortag at 10:01 pm to reconvene to open session to take such action as the Board deems appropriate, following consideration given in closed session; second Cooper. Discussion none. The motion passed by voice vote unanimously.

Motion by Swenson that Christensen send letter of intent to exercise renewal option at a rate of \$1500.00 a month by January 30th to Whitetail Country Club LLC; second Cooper. Discussion none. The motion passed by voice vote unanimously.

12. Adjourn Mr Christensen adjourned the meeting at 10:03 pm

Town Clerk

Chairman

Supervisor

Supervisor

Supervisor

Supervisor