

TOWN OF ST. GERMAIN

OFFICE OF THE CLERK
P.O. BOX 7

ST. GERMAIN, WISCONSIN 54558

www.townofstgermain.org

MINUTES ANNUAL BUDGET HEARING: DECEMBER 10, 2012

- 1. Call to Order:** The chairman noted that this was a duly called meeting in accordance with the Wisconsin Open Meeting Law. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M.
- 2. Board Members Present:** Walt Camp, Marv Anderson, John Vojta, Fred Radtke, William Bates, Marion Janssen, Town Treasurer, Tom Martens, Town Clerk. There were 23 qualified electors and two visitors in attendance.

Town Budget 2013: The chairman explained that the board had held three budget workshops each for two hours preparing the budget. The only change in the levy was the \$3787 increase allowed by the State and a \$13,839 in the debt reserve payment that was approved at the 2011 budget hearing.

Elmer Koegler asked how the money from the golf course was going to be used once the debt was retired. Mr. Camp explained that some of the money would need to be spent on equipment. The course has been putting off purchasing equipment, hoping that it will all hold out until the debt is paid off.

Mary Platner asked that the payment to the Walter Olson Memorial Library be changed from \$10,000 to \$10,087. Ms. Platner also noted that the county has approved raising the dog license fees to \$5 for a neutered dog and \$10 for a non-neutered dog.

Luella Sherren asked why the roads had been plowed today when there was less than two inches of snow. Mr. Camp explained that the town foreman decided to plow in order to remove the snow from the shoulders of the roads so that they could freeze. If the shoulders don't freeze there is a greater chance of the edges of the blacktop breaking off.

Tom Christensen asked why there was a category for a building inspector and a zoning administrator neither of which seemed to make any sense. The clerk noted that it was a mistake in the new program. The town board could correct the problem before the budget is finally approved in January.

Don Bowman thought that it shouldn't be necessary to plow the edges of the lawns in Forest Downs.

Brian Sherren asked why the town was using trucks with wing plows and belly blades. He stated that the town always got along with a smaller, less expensive truck.

The clerk explained that in 2016 or 2017 when the existing debt is retired, the levy limit will be dropping drastically. The town budget still will not be able to exceed the levy limit as set by the State. In order to purchase large pieces of equipment or to do extensive road work, it probably will be necessary to hold a referendum election every year to exceed the levy limit. If the electorate were to vote down the referendum, the town board would once again be forced to borrow money.

There were no further questions or comments. Mr. Camp closed the Annual Budget Hearing

Town Clerk

Chairman

Supervisor

Supervisor

Supervisor

Supervisor