

# TOWN OF ST. GERMAIN

OFFICE OF THE CLERK  
P.O. BOX 7

ST. GERMAIN, WISCONSIN 54558

[www.townofstgermain.org](http://www.townofstgermain.org)

## MINUTES ANNUAL ELECTOR MEETING: APRIL 16, 2019

**Call To Order:** Chairman Tom Christensen called the annual elector meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

**Roll Call:** Tom Christensen, Jim Swenson, Brian Cooper, Ted Ritter, Marion Janssen, Town Treasurer, Tom Martens, Town Clerk. There were a total of 51 qualified electors in attendance.

The Supervisor #1 Ted Ritter administrated the oath of office to Tom Christensen, Town Chairman, Tim Clark Supervisor #3, Jim Swenson Supervisor #4, Marion Janssen, Town Treasurer and Tom Martens, Town Clerk.

The clerk distributed the financial statements for 2018. There were no questions or comments.

Mr. Christensen opened the floor for comments.

**Marion Janssen:** Ms. Janssen brought up four points: (1) the parking lot for the Fern Ridge Trail on Forest Lane needs to be done as soon as possible in order to remove the current parking area on STH155. Ms. Janssen suggested that the money come out of the community development account; (2) The town board should hire someone to steam clean the kitchen in the community center at least once a year with the money coming out of the community development account; (3) The pavilion roof needs to be fixed; (4) Ms. Janssen reported that the ambulance is going strong. The loan for engine #1 will be paid off in August. Ms. Janssen also suggested that the fire department work with the town board to replace some of the older equipment.

**Carolyn Ritter:** Ms. Ritter commended the town board for all of the work that it has done over the past two years. Ms. Ritter also noted that she was happy with the way that the town board had the electors decide on the proposed building projects rather than making the decisions themselves.

**Tom Andersen:** Tom Andersen said that he could not hear anything of what was being said either in the gym or in meeting room #4. He asked when the town was going to purchase a better sound system.

**Brian Siekierzynski:** Mr. Siekierzynski asked about the snowmobile trail on Forest Lane. Mr. Christensen explained that there was more to approving the park lot for Fern Ridge than just building the parking lot. All of the issues were going to have to be considered. Forest Lane would have to be plowed instead of being a groomed snowmobile trail. The snowmobile trail probably would have to be moved off of the road and the snowmobiles would have to stay out of the way of the cars in the parking lot. In the past the cost of chipping the yard waste was about \$1,500. The projected cost for this year is about \$11,000. The plan is to move the yard waste facility to the old land fill site on Pedycourt Road. The parking lot should be completed this summer. A man in the back of the room asked if the board could find a different company to grind the yard waste. Mr. Christensen said that the board was trying to find someone.

**Jack Bourgeois:** Mr. Bourgeois noted that he had given Mr. Swenson information on a grant that could possibly help several projects. The application has to be in by May 1, 2019. If the grant was approved, the funds would not be dispersed until 2020. The board will look into it.

**Brian Siekierzynski:** Mr. Siekierzynski asked what the next step would be if the vote on May 9<sup>th</sup> to renovate the Red Brick Schoolhouse failed. Mr. Christensen stated that he thought that there were three options: (1) leave the building as it is, which he thought was not really an option; (2) renovate it; (3) demolish it. Mr. Siekierzynski asked if the vote was no, could the board ask for another plan. Mr. Christensen said that the board could look at a cheaper way to renovate the school.

Motion Wally Geist seconded Sharon Ingram that if the vote on May 9<sup>th</sup> fails that the town board proceed with tearing it down.

**Fred Radtke:** Mr. Radtke thought that the motion was a bad motion and that a vote to demolish the Red Brick Schoolhouse should be done at another elector meeting where the vote was posted on the agenda.

**Stacy Swenson:** Ms. Swenson said that this meeting had been posted and published and if people were really interested, they would have attended the meeting.

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**Tim Gebhardt:** Mr. Gebhardt asked if the town board had another plan from the design people if the vote on May 9<sup>th</sup> failed. Mr. Christensen said that the town board did not have another plan.

**Joyce Owens:** Ms. Owens asked if the five members of the town board would still be the ones to make the final decision. Mr. Ritter said that if the motion that is on the floor were to pass, and if the vote on May 9<sup>th</sup> were to fail, that he would vote to have a special elector meeting to vote on demolishing the school.

**Carolyn Ritter:** Ms. Ritter added that if the vote on May 9<sup>th</sup> failed, but the vote had been close, that perhaps the town board could make changes to modify the price of the renovation. But, if the vote on the floor passes, the town board would still have the power to demolish the building.

**John Vojta:** Mr. Vojta said that if people really want to have a say in the fate of the Red Brick Schoolhouse, they need to vote on May 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Fred Radtke:** Mr. Radtke once again added that he felt that the town board should call a special elector meeting for a vote on demolishing the Red Brick Schoolhouse.

**Tom Christensen:** Mr. Christensen noted that the vote on May 9<sup>th</sup> would be a one question yes or no vote to renovate the Red Brick Schoolhouse as presented in the Funktion Design Plan. **Ken Dahnke** asked if the vote to demolish the school would be added to the ballot on May 9<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Christensen added that it couldn't be added to the ballot since there would be a chance that both votes would be a yes vote.

**Wally Geist:** Mr. Geist withdrew his motion and Sharon Ingram withdrew her second so that the motion could be reworded.

Motion Wally Geist seconded Sharon Ingram that in the event that the resolution to renovate the Red Brick Schoolhouse on May 9<sup>th</sup> fails, the town board be given the authority to remove real property, namely the Red Brick Schoolhouse. By a show of hands: Yes-43; No-8, motion carried.

Mr. Christensen asked for more comments from the floor. There were none.

Motion John Vojta seconded Brian Cooper that the Annual Elector Meeting be adjourned at 7:54 P.M. Motion carried by a voice vote.

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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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Supervisor