

# TOWN OF ST. GERMAIN

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

P.O. BOX 7

ST. GERMAIN, WISCONSIN 54558

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## MINUTES TOWN BOARD MEETING: AUGUST 9, 2004

The chairman noted that this was a duly called meeting in accordance with the Wisconsin Open Meeting Law.

The chairman asked all present to rise to Pledge Allegiance to the Flag.

Board members present: Wendt, McConnell, Nimz, Ritter, Odette, Schuettner, Martens.

Motion Nimz seconded McConnell that the agenda be approved as posted. Approved.

Motion Ritter seconded Odette that the minutes of the July 1, 2004, July 12, 2004 and July 29, 2004 town board meetings be approved as written. Approved.

Treasurer's report: Balance General Account as of July 31, 2004: \$427,610.94; Money Market Account \$42,729.37; Debt Reserve \$117,109.34; Lakes Account \$39,515.55; Room Tax Account \$61,349.94; Bag Account \$13,072.34; Park Fund \$11906.77; Rental Account \$10,431.44; Golf Course Regular Account \$160,571.97; Money Market \$25,097.37; Debt Reserve \$218,829.00; Rainy Day \$-0-; Capital Improvement \$21,500.00. Motion Nimz seconded Ritter that the treasurer's report be approved as read. Approved.

Motion Ritter seconded Odette that vouchers 13701 – 13700 be approved along with the following extra bill subject to the clerk receiving the documentation; \$7,826.85 – Lakes Aquatic Plant Study. Approved. There was a question concerning the attorney bill from Steve Lucareli. The board decided to pay the bill, but would consider other attorneys in the future.

The only communication that Mr. Wendt had to report was the notification from the DNR that the Stewardship Grant for the bike trail had been approved for \$170,000. Brian Sherren was present to inform the board that the Vilas County board was considering a moratorium on bike trails. The problem seems to be that the county does not want to go into a 20-year land use agreement with towns that would be using county right of way. Mr. Sherren encouraged the town board to notify the Vilas County board that they should continue to allow the bike trails in the towns that already have them and in the towns that are in the process of building them. The county also wants whatever trails there are to be crushed limestone rather than blacktop. St. Germain wants its trail to be blacktopped. The town also applied for a D.O.T. grant. St. Germain did not make the cut. However, the next step is for the application to be reviewed by the Governor. Mr. Sherren also asked that the town board write to Governor Doyle requesting that he approve some of the block grant for St. Germain's bike trail. Mr. Sherren asked that the letters be written this week.

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There was no fire department report.

There was no finance committee report.

Parks & Recreation Committee report: Mr. Wendt noted that Pat Zatopa wanted to meet with members of the town board, Vilas County, Wisconsin Valley Improvement and all other interested parties concerning the entire bike trail project. The meeting will be on Wednesday, August 18, 2004 at either 9:00 or 10:00 am. The group will visit the bike trail site. Ms. Nimz reported that she had people interested in serving on the Parks & Recreation starting in October. Mr. Wendt reminded Ms. Nimz that she would have to advertise for interested committee members in the paper. Mr. Odette presented two checks from the Evangelical Free Church totaling \$300 to be used for Memorial Wall maintenance. The clerk and treasurer will keep a separate line item for the money. Mr. Odette will write a thank you letter to the church.

Lakes Committee Report: Mr. Ritter reported that the aquatic plant study was well underway.

Golf Course Committee Report: Mr. Wendt stated that July was up over last year. The course was in great shape. The superintendent is watching the budget very closely.

Zoning Committee Report: Mr. Odette noted that there would be meeting on August 16, 2004 and August 30, 2004 to discuss amendments to the zoning ordinance and map. A date for a public hearing will be set when the changes are finalized.

Personnel Committee Report: Ms. McConnell reported that the board still had several policies to work on. She also was working on a checklist for new town board member orientation.

Public Works Committee Report: Ms. Nimz stated that the Lions Club had done the staining at the playground. Officer Gary Peske would not be able to attend the September town board meeting to discuss the fire number system and 911. It will have to be an issue for the 2005 budget. Ms. Nimz had a quote of \$800 from Vogel Enterprises for repairing the culvert on Forest Primeval Road. She was not sure, however, if the work actually needed to be done. Mr. Odette had not heard anything about the new dumpster at the transfer station. The Anderson's had asked that work on Deadman's Gulch Road not continue until their house had been moved in. The house is now there.

Grants Committee: Ms. Nimz stated that her report had already been given concerning the Stewardship Grant.

Red Brick Planning Committee Report: Mr. Ritter reported that the committee was concerned about what to do with the one bid for the exterior restoration. There was a

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concern about whether if Waldmann Construction did the work it would qualify for historical status and funding. Or if the town should redo the bidding process focusing on firms that specialize in restoration. Mr. Ritter also stated that he has been trying to contact the Wisconsin State Historical Society, but has had no answer. There was also a concern over the locked rooms. If the town needs to get into a room, who has the keys? Once the wildlife club room is opened, it will be used for meetings. It will also be used for the Red Brick rummage sale on Mondays, but it will be cleaned out at the end of the day.

Fred Radtke reported that the Vilas County board was considering several resolutions. They were also hiring a part-time bookkeeper for the law enforcement office.

Mr. Radtke also reported that Prime-Timers were going on a waterfall tour on August 26<sup>th</sup>. Their picnic will be held on September 1, 2004.

Motion McConnell seconded Odette that informational item #1, payment of claims, be tabled. Approved.

Mr. Ritter reported that the Red Brick Planning Committee was at a stalemate. He had been under the impression that the purpose of the committee was to determine how if at all, the Old Red Brick Schoolhouse would fit into the needs of the town. He has been in favor of doing the exterior restoration. Beyond that, however, he is not sure. Mr. Ritter has since found out that the rest of the committee members are there for the sole purpose of saving the building and restoring it in its entirety. The committee members want to make the building fit the town's needs. Mr. Wendt agreed with Mr. Ritter. He felt that the purpose of the committee was to determine how the building would fit in to the town's needs. Ms. McConnell stated that the original committee has felt all along that the purpose was to restore the schoolhouse. Now they don't know what to do. Mr. Ritter presented several recommendations: 1. Dissolve the present planning committee and bring the matter back to the town board. 2. Encourage the private funding initiative to come forward with the \$83,000 and do the exterior restoration. 3. Restore the hot water to the bathrooms and janitor closets. 4. Include in the town's 2005 budget the hiring of an architectural engineer to determine the present and future facilities needs of the town. 5. Present the options to the public as a referendum at the April 2005 election. Mr. Odette stated that there was another option. The Szott building, across Hwy. 155, would have plenty of room. It is on 3.5 acres and is for sale at \$625,000. The town board agreed with Mr. Ritter's suggestions #2, #3, and #4. The referendum would be determined by the outcome of the other suggestions. The board was not in favor of dissolving the planning committee. Mr. Ritter asked that the town board give the committee some direction. Mr. Wendt will place the matter as an action item on the September agenda.

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Mr. Wendt read a request for a variance from Mr. Toynton. Mr. Wendt was not clear on just what was being asked. Mr. Odette is to provide more background for the board. The Board of Appeals must take action within 21 days or Mr. Toynton's variance is automatically approved. Mr. Wendt needs to appoint two citizens to the Board of Appeals.

Motion Ritter seconded McConnell that the Public Records Policy be approved as presented. Approved.

Motion Ritter seconded McConnell that the Alcoholic Beverages Ordinance be adopted. Approved. The clerk will publish the ordinance. The ordinance will be effective on the date of publication. It will be ordinance #SG-04-8-1.

There will be a Public Hearing concerning the makeup of the Board of Appeals on September 1, 2004 at 7:00 P.M. in the board room of the Old Red Brick Schoolhouse.

Motion Odette seconded McConnell that the town accept the proposal for filing cabinets for the Planning & Zoning Committee from Clermont not to exceed \$500. Approved.

Mr. Ritter opened the plumbing bids for restoring hot water to the bathrooms and janitor sinks and an outside faucet in the Old Red Brick Schoolhouse. Ryan Plumbing's bid was \$1,148.00. William Edwards bid was that he would donate his time and material to the town. Motion Ritter seconded McConnell to accept the bid from William Edwards to install a new 40 gal electric hot water heater, and to restore hot water to the bathrooms and downstairs janitor sink. Approved. The board thanked Mr. Edwards for his generosity. Mr. Edwards had a concern about connecting the outside faucet and upstairs janitor's sink. He stated that it would violate State codes to connect the water with the present  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch temporary water line. The board decided not to connect those at this time.

James Miller was present. He stated that his project has been moving slowly partly because of financial concerns. He originally took out his permit in December of 2001. The Planning & Zoning Committee recommended to the town board that Mr. Miller be given 30 days to get a HUD inspectors report of just what needed to be done to bring the building up to code. Mr. Miller is not to do any work on the building until the board receives the HUD report. If Mr. Miller complies with the HUD request, he would be given an additional 30 days to complete the work. Mr. Miller felt that that would not be enough time. The board was concerned with the health, safety and welfare of the town's residents. There was also a concern about Mr. Miller burying building debris on the property. If allowed to go ahead with the construction, Mr. Miller will need to obtain a new permit. Mr. Miller can go ahead with the cleanup of the outside of the property as long as the debris is disposed of properly. Motion McConnell seconded Odette that the letter be sent to Mr. Miller giving him the original 30 days to get the HUD report, however, instead of allowing 30 days to complete the work, Mr. Miller would have an

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additional period of time to be established by the Planning & Zoning Committee to complete the work. The second HUD report, verifying the work, must be reported to the town board within the additional period of time as established by the Planning & Zoning Committee. Approved. Ms. Nimz abstained.

There was a concern about the need for a "Children Playing" sign on Balsam Drive. The board will check.

There was also a concern about dumping of garbage on the old dump site. It is town property. The snowmobile trail now runs through the field. It is open from Indian Trail. The board will check to see how it might be blocked off.

Patty Schoppe stated that the playground looked very good. The board asked that the clerk write thank you letters to the Lions Club, The Wallpaper & Paint Shop, and Marlene Bartelt.

Ms. Nimz reported that she had a proposal from Radtke Plumbing to repair the well & pump servicing the Old Red Brick Schoolhouse and Community Center for \$1740. She also had quotes from Kliss Plumbing for \$5,190 and \$3,490. Ms. Nimz will notify Radtke Plumbing to go ahead with the work. The money will come from the Rental Account.

Ellyn Allen asked that the board seriously consider the Szott building for purchase.

The Board of Review was rescheduled for Wednesday, October 21, 2004 at 7:00 P.M. in the board room of the Old Red Brick Schoolhouse.

Motion Nimz seconded Odette that the meeting be adjourned. Approved.

Meeting adjourned 10:03 P.M.

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Town Clerk

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Chairman

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Supervisor

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