

# TOWN OF ST. GERMAIN

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

P.O. BOX 7

ST. GERMAIN, WISCONSIN 54558

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

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## MINUTES SPECIAL TOWN BOARD MEETING: JULY 7, 2005

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.

- 1. Roll Call:** Jim Wendt, Ted Ritter, Peggy Nimz, Lee Christensen, Todd Wiese, Tom Martens, Town Clerk.
- 2. Approval of Agenda:** Motion Nimz seconded Ritter that the agenda be approved as posted. Approved.
- 3. Communications:** There were no communications
- 4. Informational Items For Consideration.**

**4A. Red Brick Restoration, Inc.:** Marlene Bartelt read the mission, goal, and the plan for Red Brick Restoration, Inc. Ms. Bartelt also stated that they had filed for 501 (3c) status and had filed a form 990EZ with the Internal Revenue Service. The group would like to establish a partnership with the town board so that they can work together on the restoration of the Red Brick Schoolhouse. Ms. Bartelt also provided a list of planned events for the remainder of this year.

Patty Schoppe gave an overview of grants that were available. Some of the grants would only be available after the building received historical status that would mean that the windows and entrance way would have to be restored first. Most of the grants are available only after the group receives its 501 (3c) status. Grants are available from WPS, Verizon, Walmart, Target, and the Gates Foundation. Community Development Grants can be used to bring the building into ADA compliance. Emergency Management Grants could be used to make the basement into a community storm shelter. Ms. Schoppe also listed grants from the USDA, D.O.T., Jeffreys Group, and Cyber grants. There is a professional grant writer from Park Falls who will help with some of the grant writing.

Linda Kunelius explained some of the history of the property. Kate Pier donated two acres of land to the Town of Farmington in 1924 that was to be used solely for educational purposes. In the mid 1970's, the St. Germain Graded School District #1 Was combined into the Northland Pines School District. In 1997 the new grade school was built and the Red Brick Schoolhouse was deeded back to the town. Even though the reverter clause in the original deed had expired long ago, the Northland Pines School Board felt that it was important enough to be added back into the deed in 1997. Patty Schoppe added that Kate Pier had been a very influential woman in the late 1800's and early 1900's. Ms. Schoppe also added that the Wisconsin Historical Society is very interested in the Red Brick Schoolhouse since it is still intact and one of the few two-room schoolhouses left in the State.

Mr. Ritter asked whether the grants were 100% funded or matching. Ms. Schoppe stated that she had only listed grants that were 100% funded. Mr. Ritter also asked if money would be received

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up front or if the town would have to do the work and then be reimbursed. Ms. Schoppe did not know how the money would be received. Mr. Wiese asked when the money would be available. Ms. Schoppe stated that nothing could be done until the group received its 501 (3c) status.

The clerk stated that Mr. Wendt called the referendum inconclusive at the last town board meeting. The clerk also noted that question #5 asking for the remodeling of the present building had received the most votes and how could the board find that inconclusive. Mr. Wendt stated that the referendum was merely advisory. Mr. Ritter stated that that was the opinion of only one of the board members. He stated that he found the referendum very conclusive. .

Patti Wenzel asked how the building would be maintained once the restoration was complete. Ms. Schoppe stated that there would be money available to maintain the building. The town board now has on file a resolution stating that the town board will maintain and preserve the 1941 portion of the building.

Questions again came up concerning the financial statements that had been provided by Red Brick Schoolhouse Restoration, Inc.

Art Hook stated that if maintained, the building would be here for a long time. He mentioned the brick and stone buildings in Europe.

Barb Zimmerman noted that the Lions and Lionesses used the building for storage. Tom Zimmerman added that question #5 had received the greatest percentage of the vote in the referendum. Fred Radtke stated that he would like to see the center wall removed in order to make town offices.

Mr. Wendt stated that the decision was now up to the town board. The Red Brick Schoolhouse will be on the agenda for the July 11, 2005 meeting.

## 5. Action Items (Approve, Disapprove, Table)

**5A. TREK, LLP. Zoning Map Amendment Request:** Motion Wiese seconded Christensen that the TREK, LLP. Zoning map amendment request be tabled at this time. Approved.

## 6. Citizens Concerns: There were no citizen concerns.

## 6. Board Concerns:

**6A. Table Resale:** Mr. Wendt asked Mr. Christensen about the resale of some of the new town tables. Mr. Christensen stated that since only 72 tables had been requested and 92 had been purchased, he thought that some of them could be sold. Mr. Christensen also thought that the old tables should be sold. The rest of the town board was not aware that the tables were being sold. Mr. Christensen stated that he had contacted most of the groups in town and that they did not want the tables since they had no place to store them.

## 11. Adjournment: Motion Ritter seconded Wiese that the meeting be adjourned. Approved. Meeting adjourned 8:23 p.m. The next meeting will be Monday, July 11, 2005.

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Town Clerk

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Chairman

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Supervisor

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