

TOWN OF ST. GERMAIN

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

P.O. BOX 7

ST. GERMAIN, WISCONSIN 54558

www.townofstgermain.org

1

MINUTES TOWN BOARD MEETING: JULY 11, 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, Todd Wiese, Lee Christensen, Treasurer, Valerie Schuettner, Clerk, Tom Martens.
2. **Approval of Agenda:** Motion Ritter seconded Wiese that the agenda be approved as amended with informational item #4 being moved to before citizens concerns. Approved.
3. **Approval of Minutes:** Motion Wiese seconded Ritter that the minutes of the June 13, 2005, and July 7, 2005 meetings be approved as written. Approved.
4. **Treasurer's Report:** Balance General Account as of 06-30-05: \$56,824.95; Money Market Account \$27,152.59; Lakes Account \$22,405.33; Park Fund \$6,039.33; Rental Account \$4,651.45; Bag Account \$12,241.34; Room Tax Account \$41,376.60; Debt Reserve \$124,623.97; Bike & Hike Trail Acct. \$3,441.55. Golf Course Regular Account \$66,571.74; Money Market \$10,822.29; Debt Reserve \$203,227.10; Rainy Day Fund \$0; Capital Improvement \$0. Motion Nimz seconded Ritter that the treasurer's report be approved as read. Approved.
5. **Approval of Bills:** Motion Ritter seconded Wiese that vouchers 14377 – 14432 be approved along with the following extra bills: Graphic Impressions \$645.50—Lakes key chains; David Zielinski \$347.32—Lakes committee petty cash fund; Vilas County Land Information Office \$28.00—surveys.
6. **Communications:** Mr. Ritter once again read a portion of a letter from Russell Weber in Whitetail Estates. Mr. Weber suggested that the town include the personal property taxpayers with all mailing lists. The town could do that, but there would be quite a few double mailings.
7. **Reports:**
 - 7A. **Fire Department:** There was no fire department report.
 - 7B. **Finance Committee Report:** There was no finance committee report.
 - 7C. **Parks & Recreation Committee Report:** Mr. Christensen reported that around \$1,500 had been collected towards the fireworks. There were also donations from the Prime-Timers and the Sportsman's Chalet. Twelve people spoke at the June 29, 2005 public hearing concerning the park facilities. Most of the people spoke in favor of adding some new facilities if they were necessary. Mr. Christensen felt that there were scheduling concerns and that perhaps there should be a field administrator, but would also be in favor of the new facilities if it were shown that they were necessary. A lengthy discussion followed concerning the town's new tables.

TOWN OF ST. GERMAIN

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

P.O. BOX 7

ST. GERMAIN, WISCONSIN 54558

www.townofstgermain.org

2

Ninety-two tables were purchased instead of the planned seventy-two. Four of the new tables have been sold. Mr. Christensen also took it upon himself to sell 22 of the damaged old tables for \$10. Some of the other board members were upset that they were not included in the decision. Mr. Ritter stated that he was glad that the town got some money for tables that otherwise would have cost the town to throw them away. Mr. Wiese thought that the remainder of the usable tables should be divided among the civic groups in town. There are 23 tables remaining that could be sold. There are 28 tables that could still be usable to the town. Mr. Ritter asked about the fireworks collections. Mr. Christensen stated that he needed more help with seeking donations. Also, next year, the donation drive would start earlier in the year. Mr. Wiese was concerned with the garbage in the park and the build up of ashes in the grills. The board felt that the organizations holding the events should be responsible for the garbage pickup. The town crew will take care of the grills. Tom Caroselli and his ball teams worked on the ball fields. They prepared the infields for a small tournament later this month. Pitlik & Wick donated clay for the infields.

7D. Lakes Committee Report: Mr. Ritter stated that there had been a training session in June. Mr. Wiese and Mr. Christensen had attended. There is at least some monitoring on all of the lakes. No property owners on Big St. Germain have volunteered to monitor the lake. The Lakes Fair was well attended and proved to be very beneficial.

7E. Golf Course Committee Report: Mr. Wendt noted that the July 4th weekend was very good. The course is about even with last year. The winterkill is just about taken care of. The half way house will be open from 9 to 5, but will be operated through the pro shop.

7F. Zoning Committee Report: Mr. Wiese stated that there will be a C.U.P. hearing for Camp's Supervalu on July 14, 2005. Mr. Wiese has been working on the Hiawatha Avenue abandonment. The zoning amendments have been sent to Vilas County for approval. The amendments are on the County's July 14th agenda. Roger Scott was sent a letter concerning a building permit violation. The Consoer plat was tabled pending the County decision concerning the town's amendments. There are two variance applications. One is in Holiday Estates and the other on Paton Road. Hearings must be held in St. Germain as well with Vilas County. The Tom Gilomen semi-trailer in Indian Woods has been removed. The TREK, LLP public hearing has been rescheduled for July 21, 2005 at 7:30 P.M.

7G. Personnel Committee Report: There was no report.

7H. Public Works Committee Report: Ms. Nimz reported that the tractor and trimmer have been in use on the West end of town. The trimming arm has been overheating. Mr. Wiese stated that a main breaker needed to be replaced in the Red Brick Schoolhouse. Ms. Nimz reported that that the notice for bids for the fire numbering system were being published and that the deadline for the bids was September 1, 2005.

7I. Grants Committee Report: There was no report.

TOWN OF ST. GERMAIN

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

P.O. BOX 7

ST. GERMAIN, WISCONSIN 54558

www.townofstgermain.org

3

7K. Citizens Groups & County Rep.: Fred Radtke reported that the county was going to be building a new highway shop in Arbor Vitae for 1.5 million dollars. The county was also having the fairground property appraised. Several positions were being filled.

Mr. Radtke also reported that the Prime-Timers were going to hear a speaker on Medicare Part B. Over 50 people will be seeing seven plays, and 50 people have signed up to go to Branson this fall. The Prime-Timers have donated \$4,000 to various organizations. They have completed their elections. The picnic will be on August 18th at noon. The air-conditioning needs to be repaired in the van.

8. Informational Items for Consideration:

8A. Vilas County Health Department Presentation: Keshani Bhushan gave a report stating that the State wants all municipalities to have a resolution banning smoking in public buildings. St. Germain has a no-smoking policy, but not a resolution. Mr. Ritter will write a draft of a resolution.

8B. Bike Trail Update: Mr. Wendt reported that the stakes for the trail had been moved to the South side of Hwy. 70, beginning near the grade school. The D.O.T. was concerned about bicyclists crossing the highway on Flea Market and event days. The D.O.T. has a new person who is working with Tim McCormick. The town may hear something about the grant this week.

8C. Lost Lake Club Donation: The Lost Lake Club would like to purchase windscreens for the pavilion at Vandervort Park. They would be for the club's use only. Mr. Wendt will check to see if they would be available for special events such as weddings.

9. Action Items (Approve, Disapprove, Table)

9A. Lakes Committee Resolution: Motion Wiese seconded Ritter that the format and procedures of the Lakes Committee Lakes Fair Proceeds Resolution be accepted and that the committee be given the authority to adopt the resolution. Approved. The resolution will become effective with posting by the town clerk.

9B. Policy for Landowners Naming Private Roads: Motion Nimz seconded Christensen that Ordinance #SG05-07-01 Relating to Naming or Re-Naming of Private Roads be adopted as presented. Approved. The ordinance will become effective with posting by the town clerk.

9C. Board of Appeals Appointment: Motion Nimz seconded Ritter that Ray Weber be appointed to the Board of Appeals. Approved. Mr. Wiese asked that he be notified of the Board of Appeals' first meeting.

Informational Item #4 Red Brick Building Deliberations moved from above: Mr. Wendt gave a brief overview of the situation. The Red Brick committee had been abandoned. The town has spent money on a new roof and furnace in the 1941 portion of the building. There has not been a complete engineering study. Mr. Wendt asked Ms. Nimz to give a usage analysis. Ms. Nimz listed the organizations that were using the building. Ms. Nimz stated that she would

TOWN OF ST. GERMAIN

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

P.O. BOX 7

ST. GERMAIN, WISCONSIN 54558

www.townofstgermain.org

4

be hard pressed to find space if the Red Brick Building were not there. Ms. Nimz also stated that she had some ideas about the building. Mr. Wendt stated that he did not want to hear them at this time. Mr. Wiese thought that the Red Brick Schoolhouse would not meet the town's needs for office space. Mr. Wiese also thought that the building was very expensive to heat. Mr. Ritter stated that he thought that the referendum was very valuable. He stated that there was no one question that had strong public support. There was no clear majority. Therefore, the town board can make a decision without feeling that they are not going along with public sentiment. The clerk noted that since there were five questions, and the voters were instructed to vote on all five, it would be next to impossible for there to have been any one question with a clear majority of support. Mr. Wendt then asked for suggestions. Mr. Ritter suggested (1) that all town government be moved to the Community Center where it would be ADA accessible to the public. Which rooms that were to be used would be determined. (2) Red Brick Schoolhouse, Inc. would be given a period of time, one year, two years, to raise the money for the restoration of the building. If they failed, the town board at that time would still have to make a decision. The clerk asked if the town board was giving up all responsibility for the building. Mr. Ritter stated that the resolution for maintaining and preserving the 1941 portion of the building was still in effect. (3) The Red Brick Schoolhouse would be available for all town clubs and organizations. These groups could work with Red Brick Schoolhouse, Inc. towards the restoration of the building. (4) The 1965 portion of the building needed to be used more efficiently.

Mr. Christensen suggested that the town hold another referendum with two questions. A questions to keep the building and a question to demolish the building. The clerk suggested that the town form a committee to study the actual costs of remodeling the building, demolishing the building and constructing another town office building, and remodeling the 1941 portion but removing the 1965 portion and adding on office space that is ADA compliant. The town board did not want to spend money on engineering studies. Mr. Wendt stated that he would be in favor of keeping the 1941 portion of the building, but thought that there could be a new ADA compliant addition that would connect the building with the Community Center.

Mr. Wendt asked that each town board member write down his or her suggestions for a special town board meeting. The special town board meeting will be held on Thursday, July 21, 2005 immediately following the TREK, LLP hearing. Mr. Wendt would like the town board to make a decision concerning the building at the August meeting.

10. Citizens Concerns:

10A. Ellyn Allen: Ms. Allen stated that a subcommittee of Red Brick Schoolhouse, Inc. had been formed. She, Marilyn Sward and Art Hook will work solely on raising donations for the building.

10B. Marilyn Sward: Ms. Sward thanked Mr. Ritter for his proposal. She thought that it would take care of the immediate problem of ADA accessibility and would still allow Red Brick Schoolhouse, Inc. a chance to restore the building.

10C. Patty Schoppe: Ms. Schoppe stated that she thought that the referendum would have turned completely differently if the word taxpayer had been left out. She felt that Red Brick

TOWN OF ST. GERMAIN

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

P.O. BOX 7

ST. GERMAIN, WISCONSIN 54558

www.townofstgermain.org

Schoolhouse, Inc., and their money raising efforts should have mentioned instead. She also stated that elevators were available at no cost through grants. The town would have to pay for the installation.

10D. Carol Radtke: An emotional Ms. Radtke stated that she thought that this had been a pick of the Prime-Timers night. She stated that the Prime-Timers are a very important organization in town. Several of their members could not attend meetings in the Red Brick Schoolhouse.

10E. Art Hook: Mr. Hook stated that he would like to see the town board make a commitment to the idea and purpose of maintaining the whole building. Mr. Hook also stated that the building is structurally sound. If the taxpayers knew that tax dollars were not being used to restore the building, Mr. Hook felt that people and organizations would help with the restoration. With the formation of Ms. Allen's subcommittee, there were now two groups working on raising money.

10F. Fred Radkte: Mr. Radtke stated that the cigarette butt container at the Community Center was gone. Butts were scattered on the ground. There were also traffic cones in the kitchen that should be removed. Mr. Radtke also stated that the Prime-Timers were actually outgrowing their room. He stated that he thought that the wall could be removed in the 1965 portion of the Red Brick Schoolhouse to make a large meeting room. Restrooms and an elevator could be put in to make it ADA compliant.

11. Board Concerns: Mr. Ritter asked about Village Powers. The power to sell town property had been taken away from the town board. Mr. Ritter wanted to know if that meant real estate, or all town property. And, if it meant all town property, does it include the tables, etc.

12. Adjournment: Motion Nimz seconded Ritter that the meeting be adjourned. Approved. Meeting adjourned 110:40 p.m. The next special town board meeting will be Thursday, July 21, 2005 following the public hearing.

Town Clerk

Chairman

Supervisor

Supervisor

Supervisor

Supervisor