

TOWN OF ST. GERMAIN

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

P.O. BOX 7

ST. GERMAIN, WISCONSIN 54558

www.townofstgermain.org

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MINUTES TOWN BOARD MEETING: OCTOBER 10, 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, Todd Wiese, Lee Christensen, Treasurer, Valerie Schuettner, Clerk, Tom Martens. Peggy Nimz was absent
2. **Approval of Agenda:** Motion Ritter seconded Wiese that the agenda be approved in any order at the discretion of the chairman. Approved.
3. **Approval of Minutes:** Motion Ritter seconded Wiese that the minutes of the September 12, 2005 meeting be approved as written. Approved.
4. **Treasurer's Report:** Balance General Account as of 09-30-05: (-\$26,324.31); Money Market Account \$27,186.83; Lakes Account \$33,023.24; Park Fund \$6,054.72; Rental Account \$5,985.09; Bag Account \$7,650.70; Room Tax Account \$23,840.40; Debt Reserve \$125,604.44; Bike & Hike Trail Acct. \$5,863.62. Golf Course Regular Account \$121,483.93; Money Market \$111,063.56; Debt Reserve \$228,943.10; Rainy Day Fund \$0; Capital Improvement \$92,700.00. Motion Christensen seconded Ritter that the treasurer's report be approved as read. Approved. The treasurer and clerk also pointed out to the board that since the town had paid \$69,899 in cash for the tractor, we would probably have to borrow to make it through the rest of the year.
5. **Approval of Bills:** Motion Ritter seconded Christensen that vouchers 14570 – 14625 be approved. Approved.
6. **Communications:**
 - 6A. **Budget Requests:** Mr. Wendt noted that he has been receiving requests for funds from various organizations. The budget workshops will begin soon.
7. **Reports:**
 - 7A. **Fire Department:** Tim Ebert reported that there had been 17 calls last month. Their sign is completed. The department has received a 50-50 grant from the DNR for \$9,000 that will be used for leather boots, hose, and jump suits. The NAMS class will be offered in Arbor Vitae on October 17, 2005 at 6:30 P.M. All town board members need to take the class in order to receive any FEMA aid in the event of a disaster. Nicolet College would like to lease a 100' x 100' piece of land for a splash tower. It would be about 30' tall. They would also like to lease a classroom. Mr. Ebert will check to see exactly what they want.
 - 7B. **Finance Committee Report:** Mr. Wendt reported that it would soon be budget time. The workshops will begin within the next two weeks.

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7C. Parks & Recreation Committee Report: Mr. Christensen reported that the committee recommended that the town match funds from the skateboard park group up to \$2,500 for a fence for next year's budget. The committee also recommended that the town not donate to any of the youth basketball teams. The committee plans on contacting Foth & Van Dyke concerning a long-range plan for the park. The clerk is to write to Wayne Ebert thanking him for repairing the roof over the horseshoe pit and the backstop boards. The clerk is also to write to the Prime Timers thanking them for painting the press box.

7D. Lakes Committee Report: Mr. Ritter stated the next meeting would be on October 27, 2005 at 7:00 P.M. It is very important that someone from each lake organization be present as a representative from Onterra will be present to discuss lake specific plant management plans for the future.

7E. Golf Course Committee Report: Mr. Wendt reported that the depending on the weather, the course would stay open for another week to two weeks. The committee meeting for next week has been canceled.

7F. Zoning Committee Report: Mr. Wiese reported both the preliminary and final plat of Spirit Pines subdivision had been approved. Mr. Wiese noted that the committee was discussing closing hours for the town parks. The town board was in favor of having the parks close at 10:00 P.M. The hours for the transfer station have been uploaded to the town's website. The class in Stevens Point was very good. The town chairman, by law, needs to appoint two alternates to the Board of Appeals. The Board of Appeals can meet with only three of its five members. And, there only needs to be a majority vote of those three members in order to make a decision.

7G. Personnel Committee Report: Mr. Ritter noted that the committee has met with Tim Ebert and Steve Spears to begin contract negotiations. The main issue this year will be health insurance. The committee will bring a recommendation to the town board for the budget discussions.

7H. Public Works Committee Report: Mr. Wiese reported that the committee has recommended that the recycling station be closed on Holidays. It would also be open on the day following a holiday. A part time person would be hired as casual labor as a sub for John Shay. Mr. Wiese also reported that beavers had plugged the culverts and that Hermanson Road had flooded over. While cleaning out the culverts it was discovered that one was collapsed and that the other was badly rusted. Vilas County has a program that will pay one-half of all costs if the project totals more than \$700. Mr. Wiese was given permission to order the culverts from the county. Since Pitlik & Wick's gravel pit is at the end of the road, they may help with the work.

7I. Citizens Groups & County Rep.: There was no county representative report.

Verelle Mauthe reported that 54 of the Prime-Timers were in Branson, MO. There were 72 members at the last meeting. The Christmas Party will be at Clearview Supper Club on December 8, 2005. On November 2, 2005, there will be a birthday party for Alice DeVlyder who will be 99 years old.

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8. Informational Items for Consideration:

8A. Bike Trail Update: Mr. Wendt reported that all of the environmental consent forms had been written and will be published. After that, Madison will send a commitment letter and the town will receive 50% of the grant money for the Bike & Hike Trail. Vogel Enterprises, weather permitting, will do the excavating this fall.

8B. Grant Information on New Facility: Mr. Wendt reported that he had received a letter from Foth & Van Dyke. St. Germain's individual personal income is too high to receive a Wisconsin Community Development Block Grant. We might be able to get a USDA Rural Development Grant, but only for 35% of the funding. Foth & Van Dyke's other suggestion was that the State Trust Fund Loan Program still has loans for around 4% interest.

8C. ATV Safety Class: Mr. Wendt reported that the local ATV club would like to use the Community Center and soccer field for a safety class on October 14, 2005. The town board would agree to the class only if the club provided a certificate of insurance and that all ATV use is limited to the gravel portion of the park. Mr. Wendt will notify the ATV club of the board's decision.

8D. Animal Control Issues: Mr. Wendt asked that the discussion concerning animals in the town parks be continued from the last meeting. Mr. Ritter felt that since the town has the ordinance for the control of dogs and cats, and since that ordinance states that there are to be no pets in any town parks, the town board needed to do something. Signs should be put up in the town parks. Those signs could also indicate the park closing hours. The constable could be instructed to patrol at some of the town events. The town's organizations could also help to warn people at their events. The dog issue will be discussed again.

8E. Meeting Minutes Structure: The clerk noted that an article in the WTA bulletin stated that the town board minutes needed only to contain motions and important items of discussion. The town board felt that the minutes were very good as they are, and that the clerk should continue to record the minutes as they have been written.

8F. Policy For Town Employee Absences: Mr. Ritter felt that the transfer station should be closed on Holidays. The public works committee will try to find someone to hire as a substitute for John Shay. The current rate of pay for casual workers is \$10 per hour. Unless the rate is changed for all casual labor, the new person will be paid \$10 per hour.

8G. Bo-Boen Snowmobile Club Request: Tom Christensen informed the board that a group from the Antique Snowmobile Club of America would like to hold a race in St. Germain on Saturday, February 25, 2006. The race could be held on the old baseball diamond. The community center would be used for concessions. The race would run from 10:00 A.M. until dusk. The race would be only 1970's and 1980's snowmobiles. There would be no cost to the town. The Bo-Boen Snowmobile and the Town of St. Germain would be named on a certificate of insurance. The town board is in favor of the event, but Tom Christensen will check with the DNR to see if the town needs to sanction the event.

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9. Action Items (Approve, Disapprove, Table)

9A. Recommendation for Fire Number Project: Mr. Wiese reported that it was the consensus of the public works committee that the town should accept the bid from Crispell-Snyder, Inc. for \$18,700. It was not the lowest bid, but the committee was not comfortable with the company with the lowest bid. Mr. Wendt was concerned that he had not been given any information concerning any of the bids. Mr. Wendt asked that Mr. Wiese was requested to have the GPR/Fire Number Subcommittee write a written evaluation of the bids with a rationale as to why a bid was rejected or accepted. Motion Ritter seconded Christensen that the Fire Number bid be tabled at this time.

9B. Discover Wisconsin Proposal: Mark Rose gave a presentation concerning advertising time on the Travel Channel. The program would also air in Chicago, Minneapolis, and in Wisconsin. Mr. Rose would donate \$3,000 worth of editing to the town. The cost for the two-year program would be \$12,000. The cost would be shared with the Chamber of Commerce from the Room Tax Funds. Mr. Wendt noted that the Chamber of Commerce was in favor of the program, but had not made a formal decision. Mr. Ritter felt that the Chamber of Commerce should fund the entire program and that they should take the initiative. The town board could consider a request from the Chamber of Commerce for assistance, if the Chamber first commits to the advertising project. Mr. Wiese and Mr. Christensen agreed with Mr. Ritter. The Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors will meet on Wednesday. Mr. Rose would give the town until 5:00 P.M. on Friday to make a decision. There will be a special town board meeting on Friday, October 14, 2005 at 7:00 A.M. to make a decision, if necessary.

10. Citizens Concerns:

10A. Ellen Allen: Ms. Allen noted that a new group, Friends of the Old Schoolhouse, would be working on ADA accessibility and bathrooms and updating the kitchen. Ms. Allen stated that their fund raising would be much more successful if the town board would be behind them.

10B. Art Hook: Mr. Hook, a member of Friends of the Old Schoolhouse, stated that he had a Federal I.D. number that could be transferred to a 501-C3 group. Mr. Hook also stated that the group needed the support of the town board.

10C. Pat Falkenstern: Ms. Falkenstern was concerned about the amendment to Ordinance ST-1 concerning firearms. Mr. Wendt stated that he would discuss the amendment with her after the meeting.

11. Board Concerns:

11A. Parking Lot Lighting: Mr. Ritter stated that the parking lot by the Community Center was very dark. Mr. Wiese stated that the public works committee knew that some of the lights were out and that WPS had been notified to repair them.

11B. Polling Place: The clerk reported that there was a \$1,500 grant available for updating the polling place. We need a handicapped accessible voting booth. Also, the heated concrete slab in front of the Community Center needs to be repaired. The clerk was told to apply for the grant.

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11D. Budget Workshops: There will be a budget workshop on Tuesday, October 18, 2005 at 7:00 P.M. Mr. Christensen asked that each board member make a list of special things for the budget.

12. Adjournment: Motion Wiese seconded Christensen that the meeting be adjourned. Approved. Meeting adjourned 9:40 p.m. The next regular town board meeting will be held on Monday, November 14, 2005 at 7:00 P.M. in the Red Brick Schoolhouse. Mr. Wendt will not be present. Mr. Ritter will conduct the meeting. The Board of Review will be held on Thursday, October 27, 2005 at 7:00 A.M.

Town Clerk

Chairman

Supervisor

Supervisor

Supervisor

Supervisor