

# 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 TOWN BOARD MEETING: JANUARY 9, 2006

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, Todd Wiese, Ted Ritter, Lee Christensen, Peggy Nimz, Clerk, Tom Martens. Val Schuettner was absent.
2. **Approval of Agenda:** Motion Wiese seconded Christensen that the agenda be approved in any order at the discretion of the chairman. Approved.
3. **Approval of Minutes:** Motion Nimz seconded Ritter that the minutes of the December 12, 2005, and December 29, 2005 meetings be approved. Approved.
4. **Treasurer's Report:** Balance General Account as of 12-31-05: \$38,305.60; Money Market Account \$1,254,643.50; Lakes Account \$20,502.97; Park Fund \$6,803.26; Rental Account \$6,520.96; Bag Account \$12,683.65; Room Tax Account \$6,987.93; Debt Reserve \$192,583.50; Bike & Hike Trail Acct. \$80,910.55. Golf Course Regular Account \$10,307.90; Money Market \$116,768.52; Debt Reserve \$228,943.10; Rainy Day Fund \$0; Capital Improvement \$92,700.00. Motion Nimz seconded Wiese that the treasurer's report be approved as read. Approved.
5. **Approval of Bills:** Motion Nimz seconded Ritter that vouchers 14729 – 14845 be approved along with the following extra bills Lawson Products, Inc. \$1,035.71—shop bolt selection. Approved. Voucher 14842 to Monroe is to be held until Tim Ebert checks to see that a credit was applied.
6. **Communications:** There were no communications.
7. **Reports:**
  - 7A. **Fire Department:** Tim Ebert reported that there had been 21 calls last month. The department is trying to flood the ice rink, but it has been too warm. Some of the equipment purchased with the DNR grant has been coming in. There are now 29 members.
  - 7B. **Finance Committee Report:** There was no report.
  - 7C. **Parks & Recreation Committee Report:** Mr. Christensen noted that John Gartner from the UW Extension office would be at the next committee meeting to discuss a plan for the town park.
  - 7D. **Lakes Committee Report:** The next meeting will be tomorrow night at 7:00 P.M. The 2006 grant projects will be on the agenda. Mr. Ritter will inform the town board of new members.

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**7E. Golf Course Committee Report:** Mr. Wendt noted that the budget was on the agenda of tonight's meeting for approval.

**7F. Zoning Committee Report:** Mr. Wiese reported that the committee was working Chapter 15 of the town ordinance regarding park regulations. Ms. Platner and Mr. Martens are still working on formatting the town ordinances. The next meeting will be on Monday, January 16, 2006 at 4:00 P.M.

**7G. Personnel Committee Report:** Mr. Ritter reported that all of the contracts had been signed except for one. There will be a closed session later in this meeting to discuss that contract.

**7H. Public Works Committee Report:** Ms. Nimz reported that the town crew trimmed the branches along Border Creek Road and Riverview Drive with a demo chipper. The committee will meet tomorrow to discuss the GIS project. There are over one hundred discrepancies with the county. The project should be finished sometime this summer. There has been no decision made as to who is going to install the new fire numbers. There has been another break-in at the Community Center. Mr. Ebert and Ms. Nimz will try to come up with some way of securing the windows. Fred Radtke noted that he had seen people playing floor hockey in the gym that night.

**7I. Citizens Groups & County Rep.:** Fred Radtke reported that Dave Zielinski and Bill Neider have filed papers to run for Charlie Marquardt's county representative position. A 1.3 million dollar bid has been accepted for the county shop in Arbor Vitae.

Fred Radtke also reported that 49 people attended the last Prime-Timers meeting. Mr. Radtke invited the town board to the Snowflake Dance this Saturday from 7:00 P.M. until 11:00 P.M. The Valentine's Day Dinner will be at Golden Pines on February 9, 2006.

## 8. Informational Items for Consideration:

**8A. St. Germain DSL Service:** The 542 exchange still does not have DSL service from Verison. Mr. Wendt suggested that the residents contact Verizon to let them know that the town wants the service.

**8B. Lac du Flambeau Band Request to EPA Regarding Water Quality:** Mr. Wendt noted that he had received a request from the LDF Chippewa Band asking that the town support their request for control of the water quality on the reservation. The board decided that it could not make any comment since there was not information at this time.

**8C. Snowmobile Signage:** Mr. Wendt stated that a snowmobile stop sign at the intersection of Dogwood and Little Lane in Leisure Estates had been taken down. Mr. Wiese wanted to know why the sign was in that location. It was originally put there to slow down the snowmobile traffic on Dogwood. Mr. Wiese thought that the town should ask the county for more law enforcement on the road instead of putting the sign back up. Mr. Wendt will write to Dale Mayo stating that the town board feels that the sign should be put back up.

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

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**9A. Housing Authority Insurance:** The clerk had given each town board member copies of insurance proposals for the Housing Authority. The board once again asked just what the Housing Authority does. The board also wanted a recommendation from the Housing Authority concerning the insurance. Motion Nimz seconded Ritter that the matter be tabled. Approved.

**9B. Sanction Antique Snowmobile Races:** Motion Wiese seconded Nimz that the town sanction the antique snowmobile run in the town park. Approved. Since there is so little snow, and basically no base, the clerk asked if there would be any preparations ahead of time so that the outfield grass would not be damaged. Mr. Wendt stated that snow would be hauled in, if necessary.

**9C. Town Truck Purchase:** Motion Nimz seconded Wiese that the town purchases a new patrol truck chassis, Model 7400 SFA 4x2 from Midstate Truck Service, Inc. at a cost not to exceed \$19,000. Approved. Motion Wiese seconded Christensen that the town purchases a new Crysteel Gladiator patrol truck body, plow and equipment from Monroe Truck Equipment at a cost not to exceed \$55,729. Approved.

**9D. Red Brick Building Plans:** Motion Wendt seconded Wiese that the St. Germain Town Board begin planning for a 2006 referendum to fund the removal of the Red Brick Schoolhouse, in its entirety and the construction of a new town facility containing a large group meeting room, town offices, classrooms, ADA compliant washrooms, and appropriate storage and mechanical space as needed. By a roll call vote: Mr. Wiese – Yes; Mr. Ritter – No; Ms. Nimz – Yes; Mr. Christensen – No; Mr. Wendt – Yes. Motion carried. Mr. Wendt said that he made the motion because this had been dragging on for over two years and that Red Brick Restoration, Inc. was defunct and that the grant money wasn't materializing. Mr. Ritter was concerned about the wording of the motion. He felt that the citizens would think that the position of the entire town board was to remove the entire building, when in fact it was not. Mr. Christensen brought up the fact that the town board had already taken the position to maintain and preserve the 1941 portion of the building. Mr. Wendt has a proposal from Foth & VanDyke for a study of the town facilities. The cost of the study would be between \$2,800 and \$3,300. Mr. Ritter wanted to know where the \$2,800 - \$3300 for the study was supposed to come from. The clerk wanted to know just how a referendum question would read. He asked if it would be a Yes or No question of should the entire building be removed. Mr. Wendt stated that it would also have a dollar value attached. The clerk asked a dollar value for what; for removing the old building; for building something new; for remodeling the old building. Mr. Wiese stated that the people needed to know what they were voting for. The clerk stated that he thought that the referendum would end up being as confusing as the last time and that the people would still not know what they were voting for. Mr. Wendt stated that there would be informational meetings before the referendum. The cost question will be an action item on the agenda for the February meeting.

**9E. Golf Course Budget Approval:** Steve Spears noted that a \$2,550 blower had been left out of the capital equipment request. He also noted that the Course category in the budget should be changed from \$340,000 to \$335,000. Motion Wiese seconded Ritter to approve the Golf Course Budget for 2006 as amended. Approved.

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## 10. Citizens Concerns:

**10A. Red Brick Restoration, Inc.:** Marlene Bartelt stated that Red Brick Restoration, Inc. was not defunct. The group had finally received their tax-exempt status. All that they needed to start the grant process was signed approval of the town board.

**10B. Fred Radtke:** Mr. Radtke stated that the grass was still green under the snow in his yard and that he was concerned about the antique snowmobiles ruining the ballpark. He suggested that they use the gravel portion of the park instead.

**10C. Ellen Allen:** Ms. Allen asked if the Foth & VanDyke survey had been put out for bids. The board responded that professional services do not have to be put out for bids and that the dollar amount would have been under the bid requirement anyway.

**11. Closed Session:** Motion Ritter seconded Nimz that the meeting be adjourned into closed session to discuss an employee contract. Approved.

**12. Open Session:** The meeting was reconvened into open session. Motion Ritter seconded Christensen to approve the contract for John Shay as presented. Approved.

## 13. Board Concerns:

**13A. 1965 Portion Thermostat:** Ms. Nimz presented a quote from Trollan Refrigeration for \$250 for a new Honeywell Thermostat in the 1965 portion of the Red Brick Schoolhouse. Tim Clark also suggested blocking each air handler with insulation for the winter and for another \$500 putting hydronic antifreeze into the heating system. Mr. Ritter suggested that in view of the motion concerning the Red Brick Schoolhouse that the board purchases the thermostat to save on the propane bills, but not to purchase the antifreeze. The air handlers will be blocked with insulation. The board agreed with Mr. Ritter's suggestion.

**13B. Community Center Vandalism:** Mr. Wiese asked if the sheriff's department had been notified about the vandalism. Ms. Nimz said that they had been notified. However, since the identities were not known, nothing else was being done. Mr. Wiese suggested that the sheriff's department be asked to investigate. Since the town had given a group of people permission to play floor hockey, Mr. Wiese thought that the investigation would begin with them. Ms. Nimz will talk to Nick Myer. He is the person responsible for the hockey players.

**13C. Tax Refund:** The clerk noted that Ms. Schuettner had also left a request for reimbursement for a tax overpayment by John Eckerman. Mr. Eckerman had been charged for a new home. His home had not been started by January 1, 2005. The board agreed that the clerk should send Mr. Eckerman a refund for \$1,548.48.

**14. Set Time and Date of Next Meeting:** The next regular town board meeting will be held on Monday, February 13, 2006 at 7:00 P.M. in the Red Brick Schoolhouse.

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**15. Adjournment:** Motion Nimz seconded Christensen that the meeting be adjourned. Approved.  
Meeting adjourned 9:48 P.M.

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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

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Supervisor