

TOWN OF ST. GERMAIN

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

P.O. BOX 7

ST. GERMAIN, WISCONSIN 54558

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MINUTES TOWN BOARD MEETING: APRIL 10, 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.

The town clerk swore in the two newly elected supervisors, Todd Wiese and H. Lee Christensen.

1. **Roll Call:** Jim Wendt, Todd Wiese, Ted Ritter, Lee Christensen, Peggy Nimz, Treasurer, Val Schuettner, Clerk, Tom Martens.
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 Ritter seconded Christensen that the minutes of the February 13, 2006 meeting be approved as written. Approved.
4. **Treasurer's Report:** Balance General Account as of 03-31-2006: \$61,352.05 Money Market Account \$246,092.70; Lakes Account \$20,966.16; Park Fund \$7,134.34; Rental Account \$6,537.13; Bag Account \$7,043.75; Room Tax Account \$13,421.65; Debt Reserve \$194,572.07; Bike & Hike Trail Acct. \$88,982.75. Golf Course Regular Account \$21,492.00; Money Market \$22,352.00; Debt Reserve \$228,943.10; Rainy Day Fund \$5,310.45; Capital Improvement \$92,700.00. Motion Nimz seconded Ritter that the treasurer's report be approved as read. Approved.
5. **Approval of Bills:** Motion Wiese seconded Christensen that vouchers 14957 – 15070 be approved along with an extra bill to Lee Christensen \$42.00—reim. WTA meeting & surveys. Approved.
6. **Communications:** There were no communications.
7. **Reports:**
 - 7A. **Fire Department:** Tim Ebert reported that there had been 29 calls since the last meeting. The annual Firemen's Fish Fry will be at Golden Pines on April 23rd. The department has applied for a FEMA grant to update their airparks. There will be a meeting this Thursday regarding St. Germain's disaster plan. Burning Permits are now required.
 - 7B. **Finance Committee Report:** Mr. Wendt reported that the committee would be starting the process of getting a loan for the new truck, tractor, and to pay back the debt reserve account from last year.
 - 7C. **Parks & Recreation Committee Report:** Mr. Christensen noted that the committee had met with John Gartner from the UW Extension office. Mr. Gartner is preparing a survey that will be sent out for feedback on what is needed in town. The committee has also determined

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that there should be another soccer field. The plan is to build one to the west of the skateboard park. Mr. Christensen and William Sunderlage will be setting up the Memorial Day ceremony.

7D. Lakes Committee Report: Mr. Ritter reported that the committee had received word that the grant for this summer's projects had been approved. The next committee meeting will be held tomorrow night at 7:00 P.M.

7E. Golf Course Committee Report: Mr. Wendt noted that two of the greens still had snow on them. So far there appears to be no winter damage. The committee hopes to have the course open by April 21, 2006.

7F. Zoning Committee Report: Mr. Wiese reported that there would be a public hearing on April 17th concerning a rezone request by Donald Eliason for his property along Hwy. 70. Mr. Eliason is asking that the property be zoned in the downtown business district. The committee has given preliminary approval for a small subdivision on Old Hwy. 70 for Mr. & Mrs. Frey. There will be a discussion concerning an easement problem between Ronald Loos and Jack Klotz at the next meeting. Mr. Wiese is waiting for the attorney's opinion concerning the renumbering of the town ordinances. A shed in Wilderness Estates has been used as a dwelling. The owner has been very cooperative and will apply for the necessary permits to make it into a dwelling. The committee will be reviewing the final plat for Heart of the Woods Condominiums. The committee had asked the developer to name the road, change the setbacks of the proposed storage buildings to 15 feet, prepare the condo declarations, and pay the park fund fee. Mr. Wiese also stated that he had received a letter from a land-locked property owner. I might turn out that the town would have to seize property from the adjacent property owners for an easement.

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

7H. Public Works Committee Report: Ms. Nimz reported that there were 90 hours of snowplowing this winter by non-employee workers. Of those hours, 55 hours were by non-resident workers. The new truck should be here in May. The committee is working with the county cross-referencing to solve over 100 problems in the GIS numbering system. The TRIP grant for Four Corner Lane is larger than expected. Mood Road might get paved in its entirety rather than just one side of it for the bike trail. There was a complaint concerning the mud on Woodland Drive. It appears that Woodland is not a town road. The culvert for Muskellunge Creek on Birchwood Drive is plugged and ready to overflow. The culvert is in the Town of Cloverland. Mr. Wendt will call the Town of Cloverland and the Vilas County Highway Department to get it opened. Mr. Ritter also stated that something needs to be done about keeping that culvert open as the water quality in Little St. Germain is greatly affected when the water stands.

7I. Citizens Groups & County Rep.: Fred Radtke reported that there had been four new members elected to the county board. The fairgrounds problem is at a standstill. The proposed three 911 towers in the county has increased to eight. The county committee assignments will be made at the April 18th meeting.

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Mr. Radtke also reported that the Prime-Timers had donated \$100 to the local PTA, \$75 to SERVE, \$100 to the Snowmobile Hall of Fame. On May 6th they will be going to see Romeo and Juliet, and on May 12th the group will be going on their trip to New York and Philadelphia.

8. Informational Items for Consideration:

8A. Bike Trail Update: Tim McCormick from Northern Environmental reported that the application process for phase II has been started. It is possible that 100% of the project will be paid for within two miles of the elementary school. There will be approximately 4.5 miles of trail, Mood Road and 3.5 miles from St. Germain to Hwy. O, with a crossing at the Little St. Germain River. Construction would begin in July of 2007. The application has to be postmarked by this Friday. The town board signed the application. There is no obligation to the town at this time. The trail would probably have to be on the North side of Hwy. 70 as the south side is in Oneida County. The clerk asked if a public hearing would be necessary for phase II. Mr. Wendt stated that there would be a hearing.

8B. Watercraft Inspector Position Review: Mr. Ritter stated that the Lakes Committee would like to hire someone for a watercraft inspector this summer. It would be a part-time job for approximately 400 hours. The clerk stated that the only extra cost would be the FICA taxes and possibly an additional charge for workmen's compensation insurance. Mr. Ritter stated that the employee would be working under the Lakes Committee and be supervised by someone on the committee. Mr. Ritter will check with the insurance company. The board had no objections to the position. Notices will have to be published and posted.

8C. DSL Update: Ms. Nimz reported that she had found a company called Granite Wireless that could supply broadband service to the whole town. It would work off of the tower on Birchwood Drive. There would be an initial charge of \$150 for a receiver on each house, and then a proposed \$29.95 charge each month. There would be no contract with Granite Wireless. There will be a Public Works Committee meeting in the Community Center on April 24, 2006 at 7:00 P.M. with Granite Wireless, the Vilas County Board, all town officials in the county, and all chambers in the county.

8D. Nicolet Splash Wall Discussion: Jerry Gibson, Dean of Instruction, at Nicolet College reported that since the February referendum failed, there was no money for the splash wall at this time. It has been deferred until 2007-2008. They are still very committed to building the wall. Mr. Wendt stated that the town board is also supportive of the project.

8E. Independence Day Parade Start Time: Mr. Wendt noted that the Chamber of Commerce would like to move the parade start time to 2:00 P.M. or 3:00 P.M. The board wanted to know if the whole Chamber was involved in the decision or just the officers. Ms. Nimz was concerned about the sheriff department. It might be that there would be a change of shifts at that time. Mr. Wendt will check. If there is not a problem with the sheriff's department, the board has no objections to moving the start time. Mr. Ritter also reminded the board that as of this time, there is no contract for fireworks. The Room Tax Budget still has to be approved. He also stated that he had had no reply from the Chamber of Commerce concerning his proposal for room tax.

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9. Action Items (Approve, Disapprove, Table)

9A. Park Rules and Regulations: Motion Nimz seconded Wiese that the Park Rules and Regulations be accepted as presented with a signature page to be added. Approved. Mr. Christensen asked if skateboard rules should be added. The board decided not to add them as then there would have to be specific rules for each park.

9B. Alma-Moon Lake Navigation Buoys: Mr. Ritter reported that the area causing the problem is the sand bar in Moon Lake to the north of the channel. The buoys will be placed on the sand bar to identify the safest passage across the bar and to hopefully cause a channel to be kept open by boat traffic. With the low water last summer, boats were getting stuck. The Alma-Moon Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District would like to place navigation buoys in the channel. Mr. Ritter also stated that since the buoys and navigational, they do not require an ordinance. There is also another provision in Administrative Rule 5.09 that states that the town can apply for the buoy permit and the Lake District can pay for and maintain them. Mr. Ritter presented copies of the application and an agreement between the town and the lake-district. Motion Ritter seconded Wiese that the town board proceed with the Waterway Marker Application and with the agreement between the Town of St. Germain, WI and the Alma-Moon Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District.

10. Citizens Concerns:

10A. Fred Radtke: Mr. Radtke asked if the town board had given its opinion of the recent Northland Pines Referendum. The board had not taken sides either way. Mr. Radtke noted that there had been posters against the referendum placed in the town's notice cases. The board stated that perhaps the cases should be locked.

11. Board Concerns:

11A. SB-1: Mr. Ritter asked if any board members had read the April WTA bulletin. If SB-1 passes, all candidates for elected offices would have to file a Statement of Economic Interests listing investments, business activities, commercial customers, business partners, non-commercial real estate, officers and directors, representatives and spokespersons, creditors, employers, sources of income, entertainment and gifts, honoraria and expenses. Mr. Ritter felt that the town board should take a position against SB-1. He also encouraged each elected official to contact the State representatives and senators to vote against the bill.

12. Combine Committees: Both Mr. Wiese and Mr. Christensen thought since they work so closely together, Mr. Wendt should perhaps combine the Public Works and Parks and Recreation committees.

13. Room Tax, Committee Assignments, Loan: Mr. Wendt stated that he would like to have a special town board meeting next week to discuss room tax and committee assignments and loan proposals. The special meeting will be on Wednesday, April 19, 2006 at 6:00 P.M.

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- 14. Community Center:** The clerk asked that Ms. Nimz not schedule any events that use hot water on election days. When the hot water is run in the Community Center, there is no heat in the election rooms.
- 15. Meeting Schedule:** There will be a special town board meeting held on Wednesday, April 19, 2006 at 6:00 P.M. in the boardroom in the Red Brick Schoolhouse. The next regularly scheduled town board meeting will be on Monday, May 8, 2006 at 7:00 P.M. in the boardroom of the Red Brick Schoolhouse.
- 16. Adjournment:** Motion Wiese seconded Nimz that the meeting be adjourned. Approved.
Meeting adjourned 9:35 P.M.

Town Clerk

Chairman

Supervisor

Supervisor

Supervisor

Supervisor