

# TOWN OF ST. GERMAIN

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

P.O. BOX 7

ST. GERMAIN, WISCONSIN 54558

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## MINUTES TOWN BOARD MEETING: JULY 10, 2006

The chairman noted that this was a duly called meeting in accordance with the Wisconsin Open Meeting Law. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M.

The chairman asked all present to rise to Pledge Allegiance to the Flag.

1. **Roll Call:** Jim Wendt, Todd Wiese, Ted Ritter, Lee Christensen, Tom Martens, Town Clerk, Val Schuettner, Town Treasurer. Peggy Nimz was absent.
2. **Approval of Agenda:** Motion Wiese seconded Ritter that the agenda be approved as posted. Approved.
3. **Approval of Minutes:** Motion Christensen seconded Ritter that the minutes of the June 12, 2006 town board meeting be approved as written. Approved.
4. **Treasurer's Report:** Balance General Account as of 06-30-2006: (\$49,255.93); Money Market Account \$28,277.00; Lakes Account \$15,081.96; Park Fund \$8,548.60; Rental Account \$6,548.69; Bag Account \$15,328.83; Room Tax Account \$9,293.94; Debt Reserve \$196,796.33; Bike & Hike Trail Acct. \$84,961.19. Golf Course Regular Account \$45,205.31; Money Market \$0; Debt Reserve \$206,664.71; Rainy Day Fund \$0; Capital Improvement \$0. Motion Ritter seconded Christensen that the treasurer's report be approved as read. Approved.
5. **Approval of Bills:** Motion Ritter seconded Christensen that vouchers 15189 – 15269 be approved along with bills to Just Vinyl \$170.00 – lettering on town boat; Ellen Finch \$68.50 – Lakes Committee labels; and Onterra LLC \$652.46 – bal. Aquatic plant study. Approved.
6. **Communications:** Mr. Wendt noted that he had received a note from the town assessor, Paul Carlson, indicating that the town would be billed approximately \$150 for copies of the building permits from the county. The board thought that perhaps Tim Ebert could supply the copies for Mr. Carlson.
7. **Reports:**
  - 7A. **Fire Department:** There was no report.
  - 7B. **Finance Committee Report:** There was no report. The clerk noted that Don Eliason has stated that he would meet with members of the board to discuss the Housing Authority buildings.
  - 7C. **Parks & Recreation Committee Report:** Mr. Christensen noted that he had deposited \$2,801.96 in fireworks donations. There were also additional donations of \$100 from the Sherrens and \$1,500 from the Prime-Timers. Ms. Nimz also has fireworks donations. Mr. Ritter asked if there could be a final accounting by the August meeting. Mr. Wiese noted that he had received complaints concerning the condition of the park after the Independence Day Celebration. The park, especially the bathrooms, was very dirty on Monday morning for the Flea

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Market. Mr. Wiese added that Ms. Nimz has said that she would meet with representatives of the various civic groups concerning their duties after events.

**7D. Lakes Committee Report:** Mr. Ritter noted that the next meeting would be on July 19, 2006 at 7:00 P.M. The topic of the meeting would be a discussion of the status of summer projects. Mr. Ritter also noted that he had sent all of the board members a letter concerning what would be required of the town when the Big St. Germain Lake Association petitions to become a lake district.

**7E. Golf Course Committee Report:** Mr. Wendt reported that play has been good and that the course is about even with last year.

**7F. Zoning Committee Report:** Mr. Wiese reported that Senate Bill 681, which was recently passed, would eliminate the park fees that are currently being charged for each lot in a new subdivision. An assessment could be collected once a permit is issued in the subdivision, but the money would have to be kept in a separate account for each subdivision. The money could only be used for improvements in that subdivision. And, if after seven years, the money has not been used, it is to be returned to the property owner. There will be a class in Minocqua this Thursday. Mr. Wiese asked permission for someone from the zoning committee to attend. Mr. Wiese also noted that the clerk had found in the minutes from August 4, 1980, that there had been an amendment to Ordinance B-1 banning motors on Little Bass Lake. However, the clerk could not find the actual ordinance. Mr. Ritter thought that the town board should continue to support the intent of the town board from 1980. He thought that we should update that ordinance. Mr. Wiese questioned if the town could ban motors on a lake at all. Mr. Ritter said that the town could ban motors with an ordinance. The matter will be given the Planning & Zoning Committee to research. Mr. Wiese also reported that all of the town's zoning forms were now available on the town's website. 56 zoning permits have been issued so far this year. Vilas County's corporate counsel has indicated that the county will issue a complaint and that the Burgess/Jackson dispute will be taken to court.

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

**7H. Public Works Committee Report:** Mr. Wiese noted that there have been problems with people blocking the gas pumps at the town shop on Flea Market days. There also has been parking in the cemetery. The board suggested that cones and ribbons be set up to block parking in the areas. The Vilas County Sheriff's Dept. was notified that another window had broken in the community center. A letter from the GIS committee will be going out concerning the naming of private roads. A gate will be placed on Little Bass Lake Road closing off the snowmobile trail to the stump dump. Property owner, Mike Connors, has given the club permission to make improvements on the trail over his property. Mr. Ritter reported that there had been two bicycle accidents on Shields Road after Fahrner had done the chip sealing. The small rubber pellets had been swept off of the roadway, but they made the shoulder very slippery. One of the accidents was at the entrance to Bibs Resort where the pellets had been pushed into the entrance of the driveway. Mr. Wendt stated that he would have the town crew go out and push the pellets farther into the woods. Mary Platner asked that in the future an advanced warning be given to

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the residents. People could not get out of their driveways for up to an hour while the road was being sealed.

**7I. Citizens Groups & County Rep:** Fred Radtke reported that work was being done on the new county shop in Arbor Vitae. The county will be purchasing the old railroad right of way from Phelps to Conover.

Mr. Radtke also reported that Verdelle Mauthe had been elected as the new president of the Prime-Timers. The group has donated \$1,500 towards the fireworks and \$1,000 towards the Hike & Bike Trail. The next meeting will be on August 1, 2006. The annual picnic will be on August 22, 2006.

Mr. Ritter asked if there weren't one or two more groups in attendance that wanted to give a report. Mr. Wendt indicated that he had talked to Ellen Allen and told her that she could talk under citizens concerns.

## 8. Informational Items for Consideration:

**8A. Bike Trail Update:** Mr. Wendt reported that paving had been completed and the edging probably had been finished today. Signs should be up next week. There had been an accident on the hill by the dam over Big St. Germain River. The committee knows that something has to be done in that area. Possibly barriers will have to be placed at the top of the hill so that the cyclists have to walk their bicycles down the hill. Fencing will be placed at Mud Creek and Plum Creek. There will also be a barrier between Hwy. C and the trail near Mud Creek.

**8B. Town Emergency Management Plan:** Mr. Wendt handed out a copy of the Emergency Management Plan. There are only two or three pages of things pertinent to St. Germain. The rest of the packet is generic wording. The plan will be on the August agenda as an action item.

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

**9A. Town Loan and Resolution:** Mr. Wendt had received a packet of forms and a resolution from M & I Bank. The board felt that the town's attorney should study the resolution before the board signs it. There was a discussion concerning the amount of money being borrowed. Mr. Ritter asked for a breakdown of the \$475,000. \$100,000 would be paid back to the debt reserve account; \$80,000 would be for the fire numbering system; \$210,000 for the Hike & Bike Trail; and the remainder would be for the new town patrol truck. Motion Ritter seconded Wiese that the town loan and resolution be tabled at this time.

**9B. Liquor License Application:** Motion Wiese seconded Ritter that a Class B Combination Intoxicating Liquor and Fermented Malt Beverage License be granted to Farrow Enterprises, Ted Ritter, agent subject to publication. Approved. The license became available when Taylor Street North surrendered their license back to the town.

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**9C. Voting Equipment Resolution:** Motion Wiese seconded Christensen that the town approve the Intergovernmental Cooperative Agreement to Facilitate Purchase of an Accessible Voting System with Vilas County. Approved.

**9D. Town Park Ordinance:** Motion Ritter seconded Wiese that Ordinance D-1 (Chapter 11) be amended to allow dogs and cats in any town park if on a leash and under the control of a person physically able to control it; that no dog or cat shall be allowed on any beaches or swimming areas open to the public in the Town; and that the owner of any dog or cat shall be responsible for removal and proper disposal of any waste or excrement from said animal. Approved.

## 10. Citizens Concerns:

**10A. Friends of the Old School:** Ellen Allen stated that her group is ready to work on making the Red Brick Schoolhouse handicapped accessible. The group is asking for town board guidance. Any funds collected will be turned over to the town to be put into an account for the Red Brick Schoolhouse.

**10B. Arnold Bagley:** Mr. Bagley noted that any signs posted at Little Bass Lake need to be very specific as to what type of motors, if any are to be allowed.

**10C. Fred Radtke:** Mr. Radtke complimented the board on the fireworks display. He also wanted to know how many shells had been fired. Mr. Radtke asked if perhaps the town was being charged too much and if we should possibly look at another company. Mr. Wendt noted that there had been three bids for the fireworks.

**10D. Verdelle Mauthe:** Ms. Mauthe asked that Pitlik & Wick do something about the gravel that is being spilled onto Hwy. C at the entrance to Hermanson Road.

## 11. Board Concerns:

**11A. Meeting Notices:** Mr. Ritter asked what had happened to the town bulletin board at the old grocery store. Mr. Wendt noted that Bruce Weber will allow the board on the new store as long as it is painted green.

**11B. Stump Dump:** Mr. Wiese asked if Mr. Wendt had checked into anything concerning the stump dump. He had not.

**11C. Facilities:** Mr. Ritter and Mr. Christensen asked what the board was going to do now that the referendum had been defeated. Mr. Wendt stated that there would be a discussion at the August board meeting. Mr. Wendt noted that the board would have to go back to look at some of the proposals that had been discussed earlier. Mr. Ritter asked that discussions begin soon as there were citizens groups that needed to know what was happening.

**11D. Fireworks:** Mr. Wendt noted that Bartolotta had informed him that there seems to have been a concern about a conflict of interest. Mr. Wendt, Tim Nagel, Dennis Nagel and Craig Coan have been helping to send off the fireworks for the past eight years. They volunteer their

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time. They are on the company's workmen's compensation policy. This way Bartolotta has to pay four fewer people.

**11E. Agendas:** Mr. Wendt noted that he did not want to consider changing the format of the town meeting agendas. Mr. Ritter stated that he would like to have all items be discussion/action rather than having a separate sections for discussion and action items. Mr. Wiese and Mr. Christensen agreed with Mr. Ritter. Mr. Wendt noted that the statutes allow him to setup the agenda. Mr. Ritter noted that did not include the format of the agenda. For now, the agenda will not change.

**12. Meeting Schedule:** There will be a special town board meeting on Thursday, July 13, 2006 at 5:00 P.M. in the boardroom of the Red Brick Schoolhouse. The next regular town board meeting will be on Monday, August 14, 2006 at 7:00 P.M. in the boardroom of the Red Brick Schoolhouse.

**13. Adjournment:** Motion Wiese seconded Christensen that the meeting be adjourned. Approved. Meeting adjourned 9:05 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