

# TOWN OF ST. GERMAIN

OFFICE OF THE CLERK  
P.O. BOX 7

ST. GERMAIN, WISCONSIN 54558

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## MINUTES TOWN BOARD MEETING: OCTOBER 9, 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, Peggy Nimz, Ted Ritter, Lee Christensen, Tom Martens, Town Clerk, Val Schuettner, Town Treasurer.
2. **Approval of Agenda:** Motion Ritter seconded Wiese that the agenda be approved as posted with the order arranged at the discretion of the chairman. Approved.
3. **Approval of Minutes:** Motion Wiese seconded Nimz that the minutes of the September 11, 2006 town board meeting and the September 15, 2006 special town board meeting be approved as written. Approved.
4. **Treasurer's Report:** Balance General Account as of 09-30-2006: \$129,320.85; Money Market Account \$3,282.84; Lakes Account \$17,909.02; Park Fund \$1,702.21; Rental Account \$756.62; Bag Account \$9,888.80; Room Tax Account \$25,977.51; Debt Reserve \$199,252.61; Bike & Hike Trail Acct. \$12,368.13. Golf Course Regular Account \$166,125.59; Money Market \$0; Debt Reserve \$206,664.71; Rainy Day Fund \$100,000.00; Capital Improvement \$50,000.00. Motion Nimz seconded Ritter that the treasurer's report be approved as read. Approved.
5. **Approval of Bills:** Motion Nimz seconded Ritter that vouchers 15416 – 15463 be approved with exception of #15454 to Veolia along with an additional bill to Northern Environmental for \$2,722.97—bal. Phase one of Hike & Bike Trail. Approved. Ms. Nimz also noted that she had received a check from the Town of Woodruff for \$1,500 for a brush which they purchased from the town.
6. **Communications:** Ms. Nimz noted that she had received a letter from Cora Mollen stating that she and her family had cleaned the debris from the Fern Ridge hiking trail. Mr. Wiese noted that he had received complaints about how the town was blowing the sand from the bike trail onto Hwy. 70.
7. **Reports:**
  - 7A. **Fire Department:** Tim Ebert reported that there had been 19 calls. The department will not be receiving the DNR grant. There will be an open house at the fire department this Saturday from 9:00 A.M. until 1:00 P.M. There will be free brats and drinks supplied by WRJO radio. There will also be tours of the fire station.
  - 7B. **Finance Committee Report:** There was no finance committee report.
  - 7C. **Parks & Recreation Committee Report:** Mr. Christensen reported that the committee had met on September 26, 2006 and will be meeting again on October 24, 2006. The Prime Timers had volunteered to help repair the old pavilion behind the information booth, but it appears that it is beyond repair and should be torn down. The Lions Club has donated \$1,500 to be used for granite around the pavilion. Fred Radtke has volunteered to help prepare the park survey. The survey will be included with the property tax bills.
  - 7D. **Lakes Committee Report:** Mr. Ritter noted that the next meeting would be on October 10, 2006 at 7:00 P.M. The agenda will be to tabulate the final cost of the summer employee and to wrap things up from the busy summer.
  - 7E. **Golf Course Committee Report:** Mr. Wendt noted that play in September and October has been very good. The plan is to close the week of October 25, 2006. The course may stay open a little longer, weather permitting.
  - 7F. **Zoning Committee Report:** Mr. Wiese reported that the next committee meeting will be on Monday, October 16, 2006 at 4:00 P.M. in the boardroom of the Red Brick Schoolhouse. The

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committee will look at plats for Lake Content and Balsam Lodge Condos. The owner of the building on Forest Primeval Road has agreed to tear it down next spring. Mr. Beaver will provide a schedule for the work. The committee will also be looking at Fire and Fireworks Ordinances.

**7G. Personnel Committee Report:** Mr. Ritter noted that the closed session later in tonight's meeting will be concerning personnel issues.

**7H. Public Works Committee Report:** Ms. Nimz reported that everything that has been done on the GIS project has been done through the county and the sheriff department. If the county decides to do a county wide numbering project, St. Germain should be in pretty good shape. Ms. Nimz is going to call some of the people who have not responded to the road naming letter. Mr. Nimz also noted that she had talked to Sherry Otto of the DNR concerning having the brush dump open from May through October for at least one Saturday a month. The town will have to meet all of the State requirements and also have an attendant on duty. The town crew had to once again open the culverts on the Hermanson Road. The beavers had plugged it up again. Mr. Ritter suggested that someone from the USGS may be able to take care of the problem permanently. Mr. Wiese noted that he had hired someone to trap the beavers for now. The man who will provide the wireless service has been meeting with the county. He should be ready in a few weeks. There will be a WTA meeting concerning GIS on September 21, 2006 in Plum Lake.

**7I. Citizens Groups & County Rep:** Fred Radtke reported that the county is starting to work on their budget. Each town will receive \$2,750 from the county for libraries. Mr. Radtke felt that the county GIS project could cause problems later on.

Mr. Radtke also reported that 77 people had attended the September Prime Timers meeting. There had been a speaker from Consumer Protection concerning identity theft.

## 8. Informational Items for Consideration:

**8A. Bike Trail Update:** The washouts have been reseeded. The silt fences will be removed and replaced with wood fences. Mr. Ritter asked what was going to be done with the balance in the Hike & Bike Trail Account. It could be used to pay down on the principle on the loan or it could be used towards phase II of the trail. St. Germain has made it to the final stages of approval for a D.O.T. 80% – 20% grant. The governor needs to decide who is going to finally get it. The town could also apply for a DNR 20% grant. If the town got both grants, there possibly would be no cost for phase II. Mr. Wiese asked who was going to maintain the trail. Mr. Wendt noted that would be considered during the budget cycle.

**8B. School Roof Issue:** Tom Christensen reported that according to the Northland Pines insurance company's adjusters, the town's fireworks had done approximately \$60,000 in damage from sparks to the flat roofs at the elementary school. The problem will probably be worked out among the Northland Pines, Bartolotta, and the town's insurance companies.

**8C. Chamber Contract on Room Tax:** Mr. Wendt had written a letter to the Chamber of Commerce concerning the room tax contract. Loren Anderson, the new chamber president, called. A meeting needs to be scheduled sometime before October 1, 2006. The town board is not looking to terminate the contract. The board would like to discuss the terms of the contract.

**8D. Centennial Planning:** Mr. Wendt noted that the Chamber of Commerce had offered to spearhead the centennial celebration next year. Mr. Wendt asked if the town board wanted to do anything. There was no decision made.

**8E. Facilities Options:** It was suggested that either room #4 or room #5 in the Community Center be used as a town office and nothing else. The other room could be used as a meeting room. It was the consensus of the board that the Red Brick Schoolhouse should be closed down entirely for at least the winter. There would be a savings of around \$6,500 in heat and electricity. The matter will be placed as an action item on the next agenda.

**8F. Zoning Change Information:** The Planning & Zoning Committee has approved several zoning ordinance amendments. They will now be given to the town board for approval. The

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board will have to schedule a public hearing and then the amendments will have to be sent to Vilas County for final approval. The amendments will be on the agenda for the next board meeting.

**8G. Snowmobile Routes on Town Roads:** There are no changes to the list from last year.

**8H. Parks Signage:** Mr. Christensen handed out a suggestion for the town park signs. The board suggested that “dogs and cats” be replaced by “pets”. The signs will be placed at the four entrances to the park.

9. **Action Items (Approve, Disapprove, Table):** There were no action items.

**10. Citizens Concerns:**

**10A. Ms. Mauthe:** Ms. Mauthe noted that several prime timers were on TV after the meeting with the Consumer Protection speaker.

**11. Board Concerns:**

**11A. Agenda Format:** Mr. Ritter asked once again that the agendas have items listed as discussion/action rather as either action of discussion. Mr. Wendt stated that he didn’t like to do the agendas that way, but starting with the next meeting he would.

**11B. Grant Committee:** Mr. Wendt stated that Ms. Nimz would be removed from the Parks & Recreation Committee for now and has volunteered for a Grant Committee. Ms. Nimz will look for grants that are available to the town.

**Closed Session:** Motion Nimz seconded Wiese that per Wisconsin Statutes, the meeting be adjourned into closed session to discuss personnel issues. Approved.

Motion Ritter seconded Wiese that the meeting be reconvened into open session. Approved.

**12. Meeting Schedule:** The next regular town board meeting will be on Monday, October 9, 2006 at 7:00 P.M. in the boardroom of the Red Brick Schoolhouse. There will be a special town board meeting held on Friday, September 15, 2006 at 7:00 A.M. in the boardroom of the Red Brick Schoolhouse.

**13. Adjournment:** Motion Nimz seconded Ritter that the meeting be adjourned. Approved.  
Meeting adjourned 10:18 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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