

TOWN OF ST. GERMAIN

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

P.O. BOX 7

ST. GERMAIN, WISCONSIN 54558

townofstgermain.org

MINUTES TOWN BOARD MEETING: OCTOBER 8, 2007

1. **Call To Order:** 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 5:00 P.M.
2. **Roll Call:** Peggy Nimz, Todd Wiese, John Vojta, Lee Christensen, Tom Martens Town Clerk, Marion Janssen Town Treasurer, and 13 other people. Fred Radtke was absent.
3. **Approval of Agenda:** Motion Vojta seconded Christensen that the agenda be approved as posted. Approved.
4. **Approval of Minutes:** Motion Wiese seconded Christensen that the minutes of the September 10, 2007, September 28, 2007 and October 4, 2007 meetings be approved as written with the following correction. The park maintenance category in the proposed projects should be \$25,000 with \$5,000 for picnic tables, \$10,000 for bleachers, \$5,000 for fence at the skateboard park, and \$5,000 for fence at Vandervort Park and that the rates for a cat were from \$100 - \$130 per hour. Motion carried.
5. **Approval of Treasurer's Report (Town and Golf Course):** Balance General Account as of 09-30-2007: \$34,584.60; Money Market Account \$1,421.94; Lakes Account \$26,842.66; Park Fund \$3,198.67; Rental Account \$7,915.68; Bag Account \$10,317.03; Room Tax Account \$19,555.74; Debt Reserve \$5,073.37; Bike & Hike Trail Acct. \$5,329.03, First National Money Market \$1,012.05. Golf Course Regular Account \$71,644.62; Money Market \$46,666.00; Debt Reserve \$248,995.92; Rainy Day Fund \$106,150.00; Capital Improvement \$122,184.00. Motion Christensen seconded Wiese that the treasurer's report be approved as read. Approved.
6. **Payment of Invoices:** Motion Wiese seconded Christensen that vouchers 16137 – 16181 be approved along with the following extra bill; Tom Wranik, Inc., \$285.00—set up park well for ease of draining. Approved.
7. **Communications:** Ms. Nimz noted that she had received a request from the Plum Lake Library for \$10,000 for the 2008 budget and a request from Walter Olson Memorial Library for \$8,626 for the 2008 budget.
8. **Town Committee Reports:**
 - 8A. **Fire Department:** There was no report.
 - 8B. **Planning & Zoning:** Mr. Wiese noted that the committee was continuing with codifying the town ordinance. The committee would be working on a sign ordinance at the next meeting. There has been a complaint about an encroachment in Timbergate subdivision near the Housing Authority. The number of building permits for 2007 has been down.
 - 8C. **Emergency Preparedness Plan:** Mr. Vojta reported that he had three responses to his request to the town board. He has not had a response from the fire chief. The county has approved the plan. Mr. Vojta is still waiting for replies from Woodland Tree Service and Lumberjack's for their rates. It was the consensus of the town board that Mr. Vojta should go ahead with the plan as it is.

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8D. Public Works: Ms. Nimz stated that the committee has been working on getting quotes for the proposed loan project. Cripell-Snyder has added the new road names to the map. They are preparing a new list of road names and fire numbers. The committee hopes to have letters ready to send out by November 15th to the people whose numbers have changed. Mr. Vojta noted that according to Dan Shanahan, inspector for the Department of Commerce, per sec. 61.30 of the Wisconsin Statutes, a state approved plan must be submitted and filed with the State before the HVAC project at the community center can begin. The yard waste facility is open the first Saturday of each month from 12:30 P.M. until 4:00 P.M. No logs or stumps can be dumped at this time.

8E. Parks & Recreation: There was no report.

8F. Bike & Hike Trail: There was no report.

8G. Red Brick Schoolhouse: There was no report.

8H. Golf Course: Mr. Christensen said that at its meeting today, the committee decided that the course starters and rangers should be paid minimum wage along with getting free golf. There was a question of whether or not the course could afford the expense, but Mr. Vojta noted that the course could not afford not to pay them. The course will close on or about October 20th. A list of equipment has been compiled. Twenty to twenty five trees will be taken down this winter to let in more light. Mr. Vojta noted that five wolves have been sighted in the area. A letter will be sent to the DNR with the committee's concerns.

8I. Finance & Personnel: Listed later in the agenda.

8J. Housing Authority & Cemetery: Mr. Christensen reported that the next meeting would be tomorrow. Ms. Nimz asked about the increase in rents.

8K. Lakes: Mr. Wiese noted that the committee has wrapped up its summer projects.

8L. Room Tax: Ms. Janssen said that she has had a good response to the notices that she sent out. She thought that she would have a list of the establishments that pay room tax by the next meeting. Attorney Steve Lucareli is going over the room tax ordinance to see what can be done to make it clearer.

9. Items for Consideration (Approve, Disapprove, Table):

9.1 Appointment of Lee Christensen to the St. Germain Housing Authority: Motion Wiese seconded Vojta that Lee Christensen be appointed to the Housing Authority to fill the term of Betty Shufelt which expires in 2009. Approved.

9.2 Appointment of Tim Gebhardt to the Board of Appeals: Motion Vojta seconded Christensen that Tim Gebhardt be appointed as an alternate to the Board of Appeals for a term of approximately 20 months to expire with the other board members. Approved.

9.3 Appointment of Deb Harvey to the Room Tax Commission: Motion Wiese seconded Vojta that Deb Harvey be appointed to the Room Tax Commission to fill the term of John Pfister who resigned. Approved. Ms. Harvey's term will expire with the rest of the commission members.

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- 9.4 Approval of Town Roads for 2007-2008 Snowmobile Routes:** Motion Wiese seconded Christensen that the list of town roads to be used as snowmobile routes be approved as presented. Approved. The list is the same as it was last year.
- 9.5 Approval of Purchase of Laptop for Treasurer:** Motion Wiese seconded Christensen that the town purchases a laptop computer and the necessary software at a cost of up to \$1,500 for the town treasurer. Approved. The annual tax program is not included in the purchase price.
- 9.6 Hiring of “as needed” Employee for Transfer Station and Yard Waste Facility:** Motion Vojta seconded Christensen to have up to three candidates to be able to hire “as needed” with no benefits at the transfer station and yard waste facility. Approved.
- 9.7 Set Date and Hours for Trick or Treating:** Motion Wiese seconded Christensen that from now on, Trick or Treating in St. Germain be set for October 31st each year from 3:00 P.M. until 7:00 P.M. Approved.
- 9.8 Set Date for Board of Review:** Motion Wiese seconded Vojta that the Board of Review be held on Wednesday, October 31, 2007 beginning at 5:00 P.M in meeting room #4 of the Community Center. Approved. The assessor will hold his open book session on Monday, October 29, 2007 from 9:00 A.M. until 11:00 A.M.
- 9.9 Set Date for Budget Workshop:** There will be a budget workshop held on Thursday, October 11, 2007 at 5:00 P.M. in meeting room #4 of the Community Center.
- 9.10 Vilas County Advertising & Economic Development Committee Meeting Attendance:** Ms. Nimz noted that she did not have a date or time for the Vilas County Advertising & Economic Development Committee meeting. They have, however, requested that a town board member attend the meeting. If Mr. Vojta cannot attend the meeting, Mr. Christensen will. Two items of interest to St. Germain are high speed internet for the entire county and a revolving loan for new businesses.
- 9.11 Winter Magic:** The Chamber of Commerce and the Bo-Boen Snowmobile Club used to share the cost of Winter Magic. In the past few years, the Chamber of Commerce has carried the entire expense. They no longer want to do it. The Town of St. Germain also does not want to share in the cost. The discussion now is to have the Christmas Tree lighting with the singing of Christmas Carols.
- 9.12 Snowmobile Club Use of Town Front-end Loader and Road Side Mower/trimmer:** Motion Vojta seconded Christensen to allow the Bo-Boen Snowmobile Club to use the town front-end loader and roadside mower/trimmer as long as it does not interfere with the town’s schedule. Approved. Jim Wendt suggested that his name be added to the town’s insurance policy as an operator of those pieces of equipment. Mr. Wendt needs to contact either Ms. Nimz or Mr. Wiese prior to using the town equipment.
- 9.13 Approval of Proposed Three Year Municipal Projects:** Motion Wiese seconded Vojta to table the proposed three-year municipal projects. Approved. Mr. Christensen thought that the town should only borrow for the things that are necessary now. Mr. Vojta noted that in the future, a loan

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has to be put in place before a project is started. The clerk noted that if this had been done, we would not be in the bind that we are now.

9.14 Approval of \$3,600,000 for Proposed Three Year Municipal Projects with Baird: After a lengthy discussion and input from former town chairman, Brian Sherren, the town board decided not to go through with the proposed three year municipal projects with Baird. Instead, the finance committee is to send out notices to the local lending institutions that the Town of St. Germain wants to borrow up to \$1,300,000 for the road work done in 2007, the refinancing of the loan with M & I Bank from 2006, the community center HVAC project, and other items from the proposed list that need to be done now. Motion Wiese seconded Vojta that the town seeks quotes from the local lending institutions for \$1,300,000 to be amortized for a period of ten years and a second quote with an amortization of 20 years. Approved.

10. Citizens Concerns and Non-Appointed Committee Reports (3 Minute Maximum):

10A. Jenny Weber: Ms. Weber stated that the kid's park was a need not a want. She also stated that her group had presented projected costs and the problems with the present park. The group had also deposited money into the new kids park account.

10B. Mary Platner: Ms. Platner stated that she thought that the town needed much more long range planning.

10C. Ellen Allen: Ms. Allen stated that in February of 2004 there had been a petition circulated to preserve the Red Brick Schoolhouse. Over 900 residents had signed the petition.

10D. Larry Jankowski: Mr. Jankowski lives on Woodland Drive. Up until last year, the town had plowed the road. Last year, since the road is not a town road, the town stopped plowing it. Mr. Jankowski asked that the town once again maintain the road. He also stated that he had a letter with signatures stating that the road should be a town road.

10E. Brian Sherren: Mr. Sherren stated that he thought that the local civic groups would help with the kid's park. He thought that it would not have to be put on the tax roll.

11. Closed Session for Employee Contracts:

Motion Wiese seconded Vojta that the meeting be adjourned into closed session at 7:20 P.M. Approved. Motion Wiese seconded Vojta that the meeting be reconvened into open session at 7:44 P.M. Approved.

12. Board Concerns:

12A. Marion Janssen: Ms. Janssen asked what she was supposed to do with the \$100,000 loan papers. The consensus of the board was that the loan should be applied for even if we don't use the money right now. It will be put on the agenda for the October 11, 2007 special town board meeting.

12B. Peggy Nimz: Ms. Nimz noted that there were now four proposals to look at for the Caring for Kids Park proposal. She also stated that a Monday meeting could be posted no later than on a Saturday. Sunday does not count as part of the 24-hour requirement. Ms. Nimz also noted that Shawn Savel has stated that he would like to plow for the town again this winter.

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12C. John Vojta: Mr. Vojta stated that the town board had to continue to go over the items proposed in the \$3,600,000 loan proposal. Some of the things listed such as the well at the old dumpsite still needed to be addressed.

13. Set Date & Time For Next Meeting: There will be a special town board meeting held on Thursday, October 11, 2007 at 5:00 P.M. in meeting room #4 of the Community Center. The Board of Review will be held on Wednesday, October 31, 2007 beginning at 5:00 P.M. in meeting room #4 of the Community Center. The next regular town board meeting will be held on Monday, November 12, 2007 at 5:00 P.M. in meeting room #4 of the Community Center.

14. Adjournment: Motion Nimz seconded Christensen that the meeting be adjourned. Approved. Meeting adjourned 7:50 P.M.

Town Clerk

Chairman

Supervisor

Supervisor

Supervisor

Supervisor