

TOWN OF ST. GERMAIN

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

P.O. BOX 7

ST. GERMAIN, WISCONSIN 54558

townofstgermain.org

MINUTES TOWN BOARD MEETING: DECEMBER 10, 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, Fred Radtke, Tom Martens Town Clerk, Marion Janssen Town Treasurer, and 26 other people.
3. **Approval of Agenda:** Motion Vojta seconded Wiese that the agenda be approved in any order at the discretion of the chairman. Approved.
4. **Approval of Minutes:** Motion Radtke seconded Christensen that the minutes of the November 12, 2007, November 20, 2007 and November 28, 2007 meetings be approved as written. Approved.
5. **Approval of Treasurer's Report (Town and Golf Course):** Balance General Account as of 11-30-2007: \$377.22; Money Market Account \$422.34; Lakes Account \$27,732.00; Park Fund \$199.68; Rental Account \$992.25; Bag Account \$3,734.57; Room Tax Account \$748.05; Debt Reserve \$5,073.37; Bike & Hike Trail Acct. \$7,884.72, First National Money Market \$1,193.81, Playground Equipment Fund \$451.62. Golf Course Regular Account \$13,339.81; Money Market \$47,470.62; Debt Reserve \$248,995.92; Rainy Day Fund \$106,150.00; Capital Improvement \$122,184.00. Motion Wiese seconded Vojta that the treasurer's report be approved as read. Approved.
6. **Payment of Invoices:** Motion Wiese seconded Christensen that vouchers 16244 – 16304 be approved along with the following extra bills; Marion Janssen. \$327.61--reim. mileage, postage & printing; St. Germain Post Office \$52.00 – P.O. Box 67 rental; Vilas County Clerk \$71.00 – dog licenses. Approved.
7. **Communications:** Ms. Nimz noted that she had received an email from Karl Grupp suggesting uses for the entire Red Brick Schoolhouse.
8. **Town Committee Reports:**
 - 8A. **Fire Department:** Tim Ebert reported that there were 15 calls this month. He also handed out the fire department report for the 2nd half of 2007. There were 40 more calls this year over last year. The first half of the Homeland Security grant application was denied. The second half remains to be determined. The department has received a 50%-50% grant from the DNR for \$19,000. The \$9,500 share will come entirely from funds collected by the fire department. The ice rink is flooded. There will be a blood drive tomorrow from noon until 5:00 P.M. Mr. Radtke asked if there was an inventory of all of the fire department equipment. Mr. Ebert stated that Meyer Insurance had an inventory of the major equipment, but that the department kept the only list of the smaller things is the station.
 - 8B. **Planning & Zoning:** Mr. Wiese reported that there had not been a meeting in November. He also reported that the registered letter that he had sent to a property owner on Hug Road had not been picked up. The committee will decide whether or not to contact the town's attorney.
 - 8C. **Emergency Preparedness Plan:** Mr. Vojta stated that there was nothing new to report other than that there was a grant for radios for the town board to be used in case of an emergency.

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8D. Public Works: Ms. Nimz noted that the transfer station would be closed on December 24th and December 26th. John Shay has asked for a snow blower at the transfer station. The town has been granted a TRIP grant for Birchwood Drive for \$23,000. There is an outstanding TRIP grant for Found Lake Road from 1998. The TRIIP grant for Four Corner Lane should be received shortly. There is an electrical problem with one of the patrol trucks. Right now, nobody can figure out what the problem is. Mr. Radtke said that since there was no snow predicted as least for the next few days that the truck should be taken in to be fixed. Northern Lake Service is trying to see whether or not the DNR will allow the town to stop monitoring the wells at the old dumpsite. Gary Shambo noted that the homeowners within 2,500 feet of the dumpsite have signed a variance giving the DNR permission to check their wells. Mr. Vojta asked that someone be hired to man the transfer station on at least December 26th.

8E. Parks & Recreation: There was nothing to report.

8F. Bike & Hike Trail: Mr. & Mrs. Owens reported that the mailings were being held until spring. Mr. Wiese noted that snowmobiles have already been running on the bike trail along Hwy. 70W. Mr. Owens stated that the committee has been working with the snowmobile club to either cover the bike trail signs or mark them so that snowmobilers know that they are on a bike trail and not a snowmobile trail. The grant for the second phase of the trail will not be received until the trail has been completed. The town will not know about the Stewardship Grant until sometime in February. The town will have to come up with the funds to do the work.

8G. Red Brick Schoolhouse: Mr. Radtke reported he had received more bids, but that they would be discussed later in the meeting.

8H. Golf Course: Mr. Christensen stated that the crew had done some tree trimming before it snowed. Bob Stippich is overhauling the equipment. Brian Baldwin is holding his annual Christmas Sale this week.

8I. Finance & Personnel: Listed later in the agenda. There was no committee meeting this month. The employee contracts should be signed next week.

8J. Housing Authority & Cemetery: Mr. Christensen reported the next Housing Authority meeting will be tomorrow morning at 9:00 A.M. Peggy Anderson has agreed to be the treasurer. The Housing Authority is looking for someone to replace Carl Herrmann.

8K. Lakes: Mr. Wiese noted that the committee will meet next week to finalize the grant project for next year. Mr. Wiese also noted that Ted Ritter, AIS coordinator for the county, had been let go.

8L. Room Tax: Mr. Radtke stated that the 3rd quarter collections of \$106,000 were the largest ever. The commission has designed new forms. The ordinance has been updated and the name, Room Tax, has been changed to Accommodation Tax.

8M. Vilas County Board Representative: Mr. Radtke noted that the county had approved of a fulltime AIS coordinator, but that he felt that the application had been written in such a way so that Ted Ritter would not be able to apply. The county has also not replaced the director for the Commission on Aging. The director of the Social Services department has been appointed. The county board has tabled the Commission on Aging appointment since October.

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

9.1 Maintenance of Woodland Drive: Ms. Nimz reported that Mr. Jankowski had complained to her about Woodland Drive not being plowed last winter. He had stated that the town had plowed and maintained the road for at least 25 years. Tim Ebert noted that in the past, the school bus had to go to the end of Woodland Drive to turn around. Now, however, there is a residence at the end of Weber Road where the bus can turn around. Former town chairman, Jim Wendt, decided last year that the road would no longer be plowed or maintained. It is not a town road. The town board is of the opinion that if the town plows one private road, it will have to plow them all. Motion Radtke seconded Wiese that Ms. Nimz write to Mr. Jankowski informing him that the town will not plow or maintain Woodland Drive and that he should hire a private contractor to do his plowing. Approved. Ms. Nimz stated that she would send copies of the letter to the other property owners on Woodland Drive.

9.2 St. Germain Fire Auxiliary Donation: The item was deleted from the agenda.

9.3 Caring For Kids Project: Jenny Weber and Julie Schiddel were present to give the town board the latest proposal from Lee Recreation, LLC for the kid's park equipment. The company will give the town a \$8,000 discount and it is possible that Jim Lenz could pick up the equipment, which would eliminate the shipping charges. The total cost would then be about \$54,000. The pricing would be good through January 31, 2008. Therefore, Ms. Weber and Ms. Schiddel stated that the town board will have to set some deadlines. The question was brought up about using the elementary school playground. It was noted that the playtime would be limited to when the school children were not using the equipment and people using the playground would have to sign in at the school. There also is not any equipment for very young children at the elementary playground. Ms. Weber and Ms. Schiddel asked if the town crew could do some of the work of excavating and moving of the equipment from the old park area. Ms. Nimz stated that she thought that something could be worked out. The demo of the old equipment that is not going to be used would cost about \$800. Marlene Bartelt stated that she would check to see if she could get the woodchips donated. She also stated that she would donate shrubs and trees for the area around the new kids park.

9.4 Aquatic Invasive Species Control Grant Resolution: Motion Vojta seconded Christensen that the Aquatic Invasive Species control Grant Resolution SG07-12-1 be approved as presented. Approved.

9.5 Future Intentions of the Red Brick Schoolhouse (Turn Over to Restoration Committee to Seek Funding?, Invest Taxpayer Money to Restore): Mr. Radtke read through the proposal from the Town Hall Feasibility Committee. The recommendation was to replace the flat roof on the annex for \$26,000 and to install new windows in the 1941 upper level for \$24,500. Mr. Radtke asked that the town spend \$50,818 to replace the roof and windows. Mr. Radtke also stated that he had a very comprehensive proposal from "R" Home Builders to remodel the entire building for \$291,000.

Mr. Radtke also noted that he had just received a notice from a plumber from the Madison area who attended the Red Brick Schoolhouse who said that he would donate all of his time and some of the fixtures to update the plumbing and kitchen.

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Ms. Nimz quoted resolution SG04-10-1 that states that the town board shall maintain and preserve the 1941 portion of the building, but does not address the 1965 portion. Mr. Radtke was of the opinion that since the annex is not mentioned, that it is the responsibility of the town board to maintain it. Some members of the town board also felt that resolution SG04-10-1 gave Red Brick Restoration, Inc., authority to go ahead and apply for grants. It was noted that that might be the case, but the former town chairman would not sign the papers necessary to begin the process. Ms. Nimz stated that she would sign whatever is necessary.

Motion Radtke seconded Vojta to authorize Red Brick Restoration, Inc. to apply for grants to repair and maintain the entire building. Approved.

There was a lengthy discussion concerning the repair of the roof. Ms. Nimz asked Marlene Bartelt how much money Red Brick Restoration, Inc. had in their accounts. Ms. Bartelt stated that she had about \$14,000. Ellen Allen's group, The Friends of the Red Brick Schoolhouse, has about \$1,400. Ms. Nimz asked if that money could go towards replacing the roof. Ms. Bartelt stated that she had to talk to the rest of her group.

Motion Radtke seconded Christensen that the town replaces the flat roof on the annex with a gable roof for \$27,000 with funding to come from the proposed new loan. By a voice vote: Radtke – yes; Vojta – No; Wiese – No; Nimz – No; Christensen – Yes. Motion failed.

9.6 Capital Improvement Program Recommendation: Mr. Christensen noted that the Finance Committee had not met since the Elector Meeting last Monday. Mr. Radtke presented his budget ideas. The borrowing would include 2007 expenses of \$719,089 to include roads \$534,089, HVAC \$98,610, concrete slab \$6,390, north pavilion \$25,000, annex roof \$30,000, and fire department air handler \$25,000 and 2008 expenses to include roads \$450,000, south pavilion \$2,500, well(dump) \$20,000, red brick grant-matching \$50,000, salt dome \$100,000, and kids park \$50,000. Mr. Vojta and Mr. Wiese questioned the proposed funds for the red brick schoolhouse. They recommended that the 2007 expense be lowered to \$14,000 and that the 2008 expense be eliminated. Motion Radtke seconded Wiese that Mr. Radtke's list be approved with the proposed changes. By a voice vote: Radtke – Yes; Vojta – Abstained; Wiese – Yes; Nimz – Yes; Christensen – Abstained. Motion carried.

9.7 Borrowing Resolution for \$1,400,000: Mr. Christensen noted that he had talked to someone at M & I Bank who stated that if the town would take out the new loan with M & I Bank, they would try to waive the prepayment penalty on the present M & I loan and include it with the new loan. Motion Radtke seconded Wiese that the town board approves resolution SG07-12-2, a resolution authorizing the issuance and providing for the sale of \$1,400,000 general obligation promissory notes through Robert W. Baird & Co. Inc. By a voice vote: Radtke – Yes; Vojta – No; Wiese – Yes; Nimz – Yes; Christensen – No. Motion Carried.

The town board approved scenario #1 as presented by Brad Viegut from Robert W. Baird & Co., Inc.

9.8 2008-2010 Election Official Appointments: Motion Radtke seconded Wiese that Lorraine Washechek and Patricia Rockafeld as chief inspectors, Judy Kaisler, Margaret Chyko, Lois Pietz and Shirley Shambo as inspectors be appointed to the election board. Approved.

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

10A. Gary Shambo: Mr. Shambo asked if the town purchased a used fire truck. He also thought that something could be stenciled onto the bicycle trail signs to help keep the snowmobiles off the trails. Mr. Shambo also thought that some money could be taken from the Lakes Fair Account “slush fund”.

10B. Joe Koscielniak: Mr. Koscielniak stated that he thought that the town should not do anything about the salt dome until it is mandated by the DNR and that possibly there would be funds available from the state.

10C. Ellen Allen: Ms. Allen asked that an aisle be provided down the center of the room at the next elector meeting. She also asked that each speaker be asked to talk into a microphone.

10D. Jim Schroeder: Mr. Schroeder also stated that the town should wait with the salt dome. He also noted that the town should be able to get more hours out of the equipment.

10E. Sue Hamp: Ms. Hamp stated that she and her husband were impressed with all of the work that is done by the town board.

11. Board Concerns:

11A. Peggy Nimz: Ms. Nimz noted that there would not be any funds available from the state for the salt dome. She also noted that the town assessor stated that lakefront properties would probably have a larger increase than off-water property in next year’s reassessment.

11B. Lee Christensen: Mr. Christensen stated that he is happy that a decision has finally been made concerning the loan.

11C. Marion Janssen: Ms. Janssen noted that most of the tax bills had been sent out today.

12. Set Date & Time For Next Meeting. The next regular town board meeting will be held on Monday, January 14, 2008 at 5:00 P.M. in meeting room #4 of the Community Center.

13. Adjournment: Motion Vojta seconded Wiese that the meeting be adjourned. Approved. Meeting adjourned 7:55 P.M.

Town Clerk

Chairman

Supervisor

Supervisor

Supervisor

Supervisor

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