

# TOWN OF ST. GERMAIN

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

P.O. BOX 7

ST. GERMAIN, WISCONSIN 54558

[townofstgermain.org](http://townofstgermain.org)

## MINUTES TOWN BOARD MEETING: FEBRUARY 11, 2008

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, John Vojta, Lee Christensen, Todd Wiese, Tom Martens Town Clerk, Marion Janssen Town Treasurer. Fred Radtke was absent. There were 17 other people present.
3. **Approval of Agenda:** Motion Vojta seconded Christensen that the agenda be approved in any order at the discretion of the chairman. Approved.
4. **Approval of Minutes:** Motion Vojta seconded Christensen that the minutes of the January 14, 2008 and January 28, 2008 town board meetings be approved as written. Approved.
5. **Approval of Treasurer's Report (Town and Golf Course):** Balance General Account as of 01-31-2008: \$(52,535.78); Lakes Account \$27,748.49; Park Fund \$599.94; Rental Account \$1,022.69; Bag Account \$2,585.42; Room Tax Account \$20,529.35; Debt Reserve \$125.99; Bike & Hike Trail Acct. \$1,051.09, First National Money Market \$1,775,541.77, Playground Equipment Fund \$2,307.45. Golf Course Regular Account \$15,020.07; Money Market \$12,813.76; Debt Reserve \$250,000.00; Rainy Day Fund \$0.00; Capital Improvement \$151,234.00. Motion Christensen seconded Wiese that the treasurer's report be approved as read. Approved.
6. **Payment of Invoices:** Motion Christensen seconded Wiese that vouchers 16446 – 16540 be approved along with the following extra bill; Jenny Weber. -- \$334.71 reim. for Caring for Kids postage. Approved.
7. **Communications:** Ms. Nimz noted that each board member was given a letter from Red Brick Restoration, Inc. concerning the Red Brick Schoolhouse and an informational newsletter concerning Hike & Bike Trail grants.
8. **Town Committee Reports:**
  - 8A. **Fire Department:** Tim Ebert reported that there were 19 calls this month. He also noted that the department had applied for another Homeland Security grant. It would be a 95-5 grant. Once the new members finish the level one and two courses, there will be 33 or 34 members qualified to go into burning buildings. Mr. Ebert once again reminded everyone that his or her driveways need to be plowed at least 10 feet wide.
  - 8B. **Planning & Zoning:** Mr. Wiese reported that Howard Beaver, Jr. would be burning the debris at his property on Forest Primeval Road on either Wednesday or Thursday. Ms. Nimz will be notified. Mary Platner and Lee Holthaus are doing a study of the signs in town in preparation of a new sign ordinance. Pictures were taken of the Trznetski property on Hug Road. The town attorney suggested that the pictures of the vehicles at the Trznetski property be forwarded to Vilas County for possible action. The county has an ordinance concerning junk cars. Eliason Financial is planning on purchasing a lot in Barrington Pines to be used for additional parking. The zoning administrator didn't see any problems. The committee is looking into the problem of private and public roads in subdivisions. The next committee meeting will be on Monday, February 18, 2008 at 4:00 P.M.

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**8C. Emergency Preparedness Plan:** Mr. Vojta stated that there was nothing new to report.

**8D. Public Works:** Ms. Nimz noted that emergency repairs were done on the front-end loader. Lange Enterprises will be getting the fire numbers and road signs for the roads that have no changes in fire numbers. The proposed roadwork for 2008 is estimated at \$810,000. The committee will have to eliminate some of the roads to get the cost down to the \$400,000. The committee is getting estimates for air conditioning for the gym in the community center. A private individual will pay for the air conditioning. Mr. Wiese reported that there have some problems with people plowing the snow from their driveways across the town roads. The banks are getting big enough that they have become a problem for the town plows.

**8E. Parks & Recreation:** Ms. Nimz noted that the committee would be looking into what needs to be done with the new soccer field this spring. Jenny Weber reported that the Prime Timers donated \$1,000, the Lionesses \$ 2,500 and the Lions Club \$5,000 to the Caring for Kids playground project. The group will be holding several fundraisers this spring. Home Depot might be able to send a crew to help set up the equipment and also donate supplies.

**8F. Bike & Hike Trail:** Mr. & Mrs. Owens reported that Tim McCormick has sent in the necessary applications for phase two of the trail. Mr. McCormick is also working with four private property owners seeking right of way across their property. There is a possibility that there are grants available to build a bridge across the river near Sisters. Things seem to be on schedule. Construction should begin in May. Part of the trail will be in the Town of Newbold. The committee will be working with Newbold to get permission. The D.O.T. might not allow the town to block off the bike trail on the state road right of way in an effort to keep snowmobiles off of the trail.

**8G. Red Brick Schoolhouse:** Ms. Nimz read a letter from Red Brick Restoration, Inc. stating that they have contacted the federal grant writers. They will begin work when they return in March. The grant writers will first try to get grants to repair the roof on the 1965 portion of the building. A comprehensive plan will be needed from the town board.

**8H. Golf Course:** Mr. Christensen stated that Steve Spears is working on the paperwork for NR-151, which will control the use of phosphorus. The crew is continuing work on the equipment.

**8I. Finance & Personnel:** Mr. Christensen stated that there was nothing new to report.

**8J. Housing Authority & Cemetery:** Mr. Christensen reported the next Housing Authority meeting is tomorrow. There have been three vacancies, but only one application.

**8K. Lakes:** Mr. Wiese noted that there was nothing new to report.

**8L. Room Tax:** Ms. Janssen reported that the collections for the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2007 were about \$10,000 more than for the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2006. She is also still working on getting all accommodation people to report.

**8M. Vilas County Board Representative:** Mr. Radtke was not present.

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

**9.1 Future Plowing for Northland Pines School District:** Mr. Wiese noted that St. Germain was the only town that didn't charge Northland Pines to plow the school parking lot. Vilas County plows the schools in Eagle River and charges an hourly rate. Land O' Lakes charges an annual fee of \$2,464. Mr. Wiese suggested that the town charge a fee of \$256.50 per each time the crew has to plow the school. Another suggestion was that the town charges a flat rate of \$2,500 per year. Mr. Wiese will talk to Mike Ritchie. The matter will be put on the agenda for the April meeting.

**9.2 Previous Plat Approvals with Names Roads:** Mr. Wiese noted that a problem has arisen concerning the roads in Barrington Pines and Village of the Woods subdivisions. According to Vilas County, unless a road in a subdivision is designated as a private road, it is automatically a town road. Mr. Wiese stated that he is waiting for an opinion from the town attorney. Depending on that opinion, there may or may not be legal action. Larry Jankowski presented information indicating that Woodland Drive was supposed to be a town road. Mr. Wiese also noted that there might be other roads in other subdivisions that fall under the same circumstances. There could be a considerable cost to the town if there are several roads that need to be brought up to the town's specifications.

**9.3 Tom Nelson Claim for Auto Deductible for Cracked Windshield:** Motion Wiese seconded Christensen that Mr. Nelson's claim be denied. Approved.

**9.4 Omega Heating Proposal for Additional Materials:** Ms. Nimz noted that the previous town chairman and Omega had decided what needed to be done in the Community Center. However, Omega has since discovered that the pipes and fins in the baseboard units in meeting rooms #1, #2, #3, the northwest storage room, the weight room, the east storage room, the east mechanical room, the kitchen, and the southeast hallway need to be replaced. The proposed cost of the project would be an additional \$1,980.00. Motion Wiese seconded Christensen that the town board accept the proposal as presented with the stipulation that the work in meeting rooms #2 and #3 be completed by Friday, February 15, 2008. Approved. Ms. Nimz noted that the heat needed to be working in meeting rooms #2 and #3 for the Presidential Preference election that will be held on Tuesday, February 19, 2008.

**9.5 UPS Annual Contract for Storage:** Ms. Nimz noted that the current contract with UPS was for \$350 per month. It was also noted that UPS washes their truck in the town shop. Tim Ebert stated that it is difficult to get all of the town's equipment in the garage when the UPS truck is there. UPS has already been looking for other locations to store their truck. There was a concern that if the town raised the rent that they might just pull out. Motion Vojta seconded Christensen that the monthly rate for the UPS storage contract be raised to \$400 per month. Motion carried by a voice vote. Mr. Wiese voted "No". Ms. Nimz will contact UPS.

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

**10A. Verdelle Mauthe:** Ms. Mauthe noted that there had been letters to the editor in the local papers concerning the sign ordinance in Cloverland. She also noted that there had been an email address that the St. Germain P & Z committee might contact for information. Mary Platner stated that the committee already had the ordinance from Cloverland. Ms. Mauthe also asked if the air conditioning proposal was

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only for the gym. Ms. Mauthe stated that she did not know why the town board did not consider the repair of the roof on the Red Brick Schoolhouse as maintenance.

**10B. Verdelle Mauthe:** Ms. Mauthe reported that there were 44 members at the last Prime Timers meeting. The Valentine's Day Party will be held on February 21, 2008. On February 26<sup>th</sup> there will be a travelogue on China at Nicolet College. The group is considering helping with picnic tables at the Caring for Kids playground. Approximately 100 people have signed up for the trips this summer.

**10C. Clyde Owens:** Mr. Owens noted that if the town is going to consider charging the Northland Pines School District for snowplowing, they better contact the district administrator very soon as the schools budgeting process begins now.

**10D. Ellen Allen:** Ms. Allen stated that her group, The Friends of the Red Brick Schoolhouse has a Plan B that she will present to the Feasibility Committee if grants cannot be found.

## 11. Board Concerns:

**11A. John Vojta:** Mr. Vojta asked if the rest of the board members were happy with Omega. He also asked if the rest of the board members wanted Omega to come to a meeting for questions.

**11B. Marion Janssen:** Ms. Janssen asked when the board was going to begin working on fund raising ideas for the fireworks.

**11C. Tom Martens:** Mr. Martens stated that he agreed with Ms. Mauthe and wondered why the board did not consider the Red Brick roof repair as maintenance. Mr. Christensen stated that he thought that the work was maintenance and should be done. Mr. Wiese stated that he thought that the two groups were working on grants to do the work. Mr. Martens is to call the state inspector to see if the roof repair needs state approved plans.

**12. Set Date & Time For Next Meeting.** If there are sufficient items for the agenda, the next regular town board meeting will be held on Monday, March 10, 2008 at 5:00 P.M. in meeting room #4 of the Community Center. Ms. Nimz will determine whether or not a meeting is necessary.

**13. Adjournment:** Motion Wiese seconded Vojta that the meeting be adjourned. Approved. Meeting adjourned 6:53 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

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