

# 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: MAY 12, 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, Fred Radtke, Todd Wiese, Marion Janssen Town Treasurer and Tom Martens, Town Clerk
3. **Approval of Agenda:** Motion Christensen seconded Vojta that the agenda be approved in any order at the discretion of the chairman and that Tim Gebhardt and Tim Ebert be added to 9.1. Approved.
4. **Approval of Minutes:** Motion Vojta seconded Wiese that the minutes of the April 14, 2008 town board meeting, the April 16, 2008 special town board meeting and the April 28, 2008 special town board meeting be approved as written. Approved.
5. **Approval of Treasurer's Report (Town and Golf Course):** Balance General Account as of 04-30-2008: \$10208.79; Lakes Account \$27,771.95; Park Fund \$1,601.05; Rental Account \$1,824.07; Bag Account \$6,169.24; Room Tax Account \$24,064.27; Debt Reserve \$427,610.19; Bike & Hike Trail Acct. \$6,227.44, First National Money Market \$1,113,595.17, Playground Equipment Fund \$22,364.20. There was no golf course report. Motion Vojta seconded Christensen that the treasurer's report be approved as read. Approved.
6. **Payment of Invoices:** Motion Wiese seconded Christensen that vouchers 16663 – 16727 be approved. Approved. Mr. Vojta questioned voucher #16694 and the charge for the bid notice for the Red Brick roof. He thought that Red Brick Restoration, Inc. should be paying the bill.
7. **Communications:** Mr. Radtke noted that he had received a license agreement with Integrys Energy Group, Inc.(WPS) for the Freedom 5k Run. The clerk noted that he had received a copy of the certificate of insurance. The clerk stated that Charles Vogel had given the town a \$2,000 credit for topsoil and hydro seed for the soccer field. The clerk also noted that the Dept. of Workforce Development had determined that Val Schuettner was not eligible for unemployment insurance. Paul Carlson had sent a letter stating that he would be ready for the Board of Review during the week of October 27<sup>th</sup>. The board will determine the exact date at the next meeting. The clerk stated that he would take the minutes for the Public Works Committee as long as the meeting time fit into his schedule.
8. **Town Committee Reports:**
  - 8A. **Fire Department:** Tim Ebert reported that there had been 18 calls last month. With the three new members, the department will now be at its maximum of 35 members. There are actually two more members and two junior members. There 662 fish fry dinners served at the Annual Firemen's Fish Fry.
  - 8B. **Planning & Zoning:** Mr. Wiese reported that the committee has been working on the sign ordinance. The committee is proposing an off-premise sign moratorium. The zoning ordinance has been retyped. There are some of the other ordinances that can probably be abolished. There are also some ordinances that need to be renumbered before they can be retyped.

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**8C. Emergency Preparedness Plan:** Mr. Vojta stated that he had the quotes from contractors for costs in the case of a disaster. The board will have to approve those quotes. Mr. Radtke asked if any of the quotes were from out of town, He thought that if there was a disaster in town the local contractors may not be available.

**8D. Public Works:** Ms. Nimz noted that the clerk will be publishing the list of roads due for work this summer. The problems with Crispell-Synder seem to be worked out. The list of fire numbers and road names has been sent to Lange Enterprises. Lange Enterprises will be making the fire numbers and road signs.

Mr. Christensen noted that he and Jim Kelsey will be organizing the Memorial Day Ceremony. It will be held at the Veterans' Memorial on Sunday, May 25, 2008 at 3:00 P.M. Mr. Wiese will be representing the town board. Bruce Weber will be the master of ceremonies. Mr. Christensen added that there should be irrigation to water the grass and shrubbery around the Veterans' Memorial.

Mr. Wiese brought up the front-end loader. There have been around \$6,000 in repairs in the past few months. Mr. Wiese felt that perhaps the town should look into purchasing a different loader rather than sinking more money into the present one.

Mr. Vojta asked whether Tim Ebert has talked to Brian Pitlik about the sinkhole and crack in Four Corner Lane. Mr. Ebert stated that Mr. Pitlik said that he would take care of patching the crack. He also stated that there wasn't much that could be done about the sinkhole.

**8E. Parks & Recreation:** Ms. Nimz stated that the committee felt that the new soccer field should not be seeded until after the fireworks display for Independence Day. The skateboard people are looking into new prices for fencing.

**8F. Bike & Hike Trail:** Mark Hiller that the Phase II bids should be going out in mid July. Ms. Nimz has applied for a partial advance payment of the grant. Clyde Owens explained several fundraisers that are being planned for this summer.

**8G. Red Brick Schoolhouse:** Mr. Radtke had nothing to report except that there had been a special town board meeting to open bids for the roof of the Red Brick Schoolhouse. No bids were awarded. The bids were so that the grant application process could begin.

**8H. Golf Course:** Mr. Christensen stated that the course had opened on April 29<sup>th</sup>. There was not very much winterkill, but there was damage to be repaired from snowmobiles that had gotten on to the course over the winter. The next committee meeting will be next Monday at 11:00 A.M. Jeff Sievert will be at the meeting to explain his proposed condo project along with requesting that the condo owners be able to use their own golf carts on the course.

**8I. Finance & Personnel:** Mr. Christensen stated that there was nothing new to report. Ms. Nimz noted that the budget process would start in June.

**8J. Housing Authority & Cemetery:** Mr. Christensen had nothing to report concerning the cemetery, but reported that there was still one vacancy at the Housing Authority.

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

**8L. Room Tax:** Ms. Janssen reported that the next meeting will be on May 14<sup>th</sup>.

**8M. Vilas County Board Representative:** Ms. Platner had nothing to report. Mr. Radtke reported that all of the committees had been reorganized. Both he and Ms. Platner have been assigned to several committees.

**8N. Caring for Kids Park:** The three moms reported that their goal had been met. The excavation has been completed and installation of the equipment will be this week. Marlene Bartelt has donated shrubs for the park. The Prime Timers have donated picnic tables.

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

**9.1 Recommendation/Approval of Sale of 1960 American LaFrance 65' Ladder Truck by St. Germain Volunteer Fire Association – Chad Bacon and/or Glen Svetnicka:** The Volunteer Fire Association would like to sell the 1960 LaFrance truck and purchase a 1990 Pierce ladder truck at no cost to the town. The new truck will have a power squirt. Motion Wiese seconded Radtke that the St. Germain Volunteer Fire Association be allowed to sell the 1960 American LaFrance 65' ladder truck and purchase a 1990 Pierce ladder truck at no cost to the town. Approved.

**9.2 Sonic Net – Internet Services for St. Germain:** Jeff Collins from Sonic Net presented his plan for internet service for St. Germain. With a 200' tower, there would be high-speed internet service within a 6-mile radius of the tower. Probably not everyone would be able to get the service, however. Terrain and tree cover may cause interference. It is possible that the tower on Birchwood Drive could be used. It is also possible for the town to put up its own tower at a cost of approximately \$30,000. The charge for the 1-mb service would be around \$39.95 per month. Mr. Collins will find out who owns the tower on Birchwood Drive.

**9.3 Approve/Disapprove of Bartender's License for Andrew Williams:** Motion Radtke seconded Christensen that the bartender license for Andrew Williams be denied. Motion carried. Mr. Vojta

abstained. The clerk is to get a legal opinion from the town's attorney. Mr. Williams had a pending felony battery charge. His trial date is June 23<sup>rd</sup>

**9.4 Mandatory Criminal History Checks on Bartender's Licenses/Liquor licenses:** In the future, the town board wants the clerk to do a background check on all retail licensees as well as bartenders.

**9.5 Recommendation/Approval of Kiosk for the St. Germain Bike & Hike Trail:** Motion Radtke seconded Christensen that the Bike & Hike Trail committee be allowed to construct the kiosk and that they be allowed to charge the material at Eliason Lumber. Approved.

**9.6 Recommendation/Approval of Shelter Building Behind Chamber:** Mr. Wiese reported that he had a quote from Menards for material only for \$3,500. He also had a quote from Northland Buildings for \$4,992.00 complete. Motion Radtke seconded Christensen that the quote from Northland Buildings be approved. Approved. The money for the building will either be taken from the Park Project Fund or from the capital improvement money from the Baird loan.

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- 9.7 Approval to Name Pavilion/Park Behind Chamber – St. Germain Bike & Hike Park:** Motion Radtke seconded Christensen that the park behind the Chamber of Commerce building be named the St. Germain Bike & Hike Park. Approved.
- 9.8 Recommendation/Approval of Repair of Concrete Slab at Pavilion and Community Center:** Motion Radtke seconded Christensen that the concrete slab at the Community Center be removed and replaced with an approximately 12' x 24' blacktop patch. Approved. The cost was part of the Baird loan. As of this time, Mr. Radtke had not received an estimate for the concrete work in the pavilion.
- 9.9 Recommendation/Approval of Snow Plowing Rates and Billing for Northland Pines School District:** Motion Vojta seconded Wiese that the Northland Pines School District be charged according to the rate sheet as presented. Approved. The costs will be as follows: Patrol Truck \$38.84; With Plow \$11.62; With Underbody Plow \$15.26; With Wing Plow \$12.58; Articulated John Deere Loader \$52.06; Public Works Patrolman \$17.06 x 1.5 = \$25.89; Part-time \$12.00. The Public Works Supervisor will submit the bill to the town clerk.
- 9.10 Deliberation on “Off-Premise Signs” Moratorium:** Motion Radtke seconded Wiese that the town board hold a public hearing on Monday, June 2, 2008 at 7:00 P.M. in meeting room #4 of the Community Center for the purpose of reviewing a proposed Off-Premise Sign Moratorium. Approved. The clerk is to publish the notice in the Vilas County News Review on May 21<sup>st</sup> and May 28<sup>th</sup>. The town board will deliberate on the moratorium following the public hearing.
- 9.11 Abolishment of Chapter 6.01 Through 6.11, “Pier Regulation”:** Motion Vojta seconded Christensen that sections 6.01 through 6.11, “Pier Regulation” be abolished pending a decision by attorney Steve Lucareli. Approved. Mr. Lucareli will determine whether or not a public hearing will be necessary and whether approval by Vilas County will be necessary. The clerk will contact Mr. Lucareli.
- 9.12 2010 Decennial Census Local Update of Census Addresses Program (LUCA) – Mary Platner:** Ms. Platner noted that Vilas County will be doing the address updates.
- 9.13 Approval of Committees:** Mr. Radtke presented the following list of people for the Bike & Hike Trail Committee: Mark Hiller – Chairman, Fred Radtke – Town Board Representative, Clyde Owens, Joyce Owens, Peggy Nimz, Jim Wendt, Joan Kazda, Anne Small, Sally Reuling. All of the other committees stayed as they were last year. Motion Wiese seconded Christensen that the committee appointments remain as they were last with exception of the Bike & Hike Trail committee which will be as presented. Approved.
- 9.14 Closed Session for Discussion Regarding Contract Issues:** Motion Radtke seconded Wiese that the meeting be adjourned into closed session. By a roll call vote. Unanimous. Meeting adjourned into closed session 8:05 P.M.

Motion Radtke seconded Wiese that the meeting be reconvened into open session. By a roll call vote. Unanimous. Meeting reconvened into open session 8: 18. P.M.

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Motion Radtke seconded Wiese that a letter be sent to Darrin Pagel, town UDC inspector, indicating the town board approves of how he is doing his job. Approved. A copy will be sent to Mr. Schuler.

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

**10a. Verdelle Mauthe:** Ms. Mauthe reported that the Prime Timers will be attending plays at the Northern Lights Playhouse again this summer. Ms. Mauthe also noted that she thought that it would be a good idea to have electricity at the shelter building behind the Chamber of Commerce building.

**10b. Ellen Allen:** Ms. Allen noted that her group, The Friends of the Old School will be sending out flyers explaining that they plan on funding the ADA requirements for the Red Brick Schoolhouse.

## 11. Board Concerns:

**Fred Radtke:** Mr. Radtke noted that he had prepared a yard waste facility survey. He would like the attendant to keep track of the usage by type of yard waste and by the hour. Mr. Radtke will meet with the attendants to explain what they have to do. The facility is only for leaves, needles, and branches up to 4 inches in diameter. Mr. Radtke also stated that some towns are purchasing used garbage trucks and are taking their own garbage up to Hwy. G Landfill.

**Todd Wiese:** Mr. Wiese stated that he was not happy with the condition of the Community Center. He would like to have someone do a more thorough check after events. Recently one of the glass doors was broken, but nobody knows how or exactly when it was done. Mr. Wiese also asked whether there have been any fireworks donations. Ms. Janssen stated that there haven't been any. Ms. Janssen also noted that 24 vests have been donated, but now we need volunteers to pass the hat during the parade and fireworks.

**Tom Martens:** Mr. Martens stated that he thought that it was time that the town board made decision concerning the roof on the Red Brick Schoolhouse. He wanted to know how long the town board was going to wait for grants before a decision was made to fix the roof. If the board waited too long, the building would just continue to deteriorate through another winter. Mr. Vojta stated that he thought that it was not a good idea to spend money on a building that had been given to the town for \$1.00. Mr. Martens noted that the Red Brick Schoolhouse had been built by the Town of St. Germain, not the Northland Pines School District. In the 1970's when the Northland Pines School District was formed, the building was probably donated to them for \$1.00. They were just giving it back to the town. Mr. Vojta also added the Red Brick Schoolhouse, Inc. has insisted that they would pay for remodeling the Red Brick Schoolhouse at no cost to the town. Mr. Wiese and Ms. Nimz stated that they would want taxpayer approval before they would spend any taxpayer money. Mr. Christensen stated that he thought that it was the duty of the town board to maintain all of the town property. He felt that the roof needed to be repaired now. Mr. Martens suggested that if the board was not able to make a decision that perhaps a special elector meeting should be called to determine what should be done. Ms. Nimz thought that if the electors were asked to spend \$500,000 to remodel the old school, it would be turned down. Mr. Martens stated that maybe it should be explained to the electors that it would cost about \$100,000 to tear down the Red Brick Schoolhouse. But, it would also cost around \$100,000 to repair the roof and make it ADA compliant. The remainder of the work is something that would make the building something that the town could be proud of, but did not have to be done all at one time.

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**12. Set Date & Time For Next Meeting.** The next regular town board meeting will be held on Monday, June 9, 2008 at 5:00 P.M. in meeting room #4 of the Community Center.

**13. Adjournment:** Motion Wiese seconded Radtke that the meeting be adjourned. Approved. Meeting adjourned 9:00 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