

TOWN OF ST. GERMAIN

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

P.O. BOX 7

ST. GERMAIN, WISCONSIN 54558

townofstgermain.org

MINUTES TOWN BOARD MEETING: NOVEMBER 10, 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, Lee Christensen, John Vojta, Fred Radtke, Marion Janssen, Town Treasurer, Tom Martens, Town Clerk. Todd Wiese was absent.
3. **Approval of Agenda:** Motion Radtke seconded Christensen that the agenda be approved in any order at the discretion of the chair. Approved.
4. **Approval of Minutes:** Motion Christensen seconded Vojta that the minutes of the October 13, 2008, town board meeting be approved as written. Approved.
5. **Approval of Treasurer's Report (Town and Golf Course):** Balance General Account as of 10-31-2008: \$42,580.48; Lakes Account \$11,629.36; Lakes Committee CD \$15,126.74; Park Fund \$1,368.81; Rental Account \$3,212.48; Bag Account \$20,714.55; Room Tax Account \$85,476.80; Debt Reserve \$407,064.83; Bike & Hike Trail Acct. \$41,647.69, First National Money Market \$383,899.28, Playground Equipment Fund \$3,424.21. Golf Course Regular Account \$63,043.17; Money Market \$430,822.20. Fire & Rescue Checkbook Balance \$16,863.62. Motion Christensen seconded Vojta that the treasurer be approved as read. Approved. .
6. **Payment of Invoices:** Motion Christensen seconded Vojta that vouchers 17084 – 1717148 be approved. Approved.
7. **Communications:** Ms. Nimz stated that she had received a notice that the WPS land had been taken off of the market. She also noted that Northland Pines had not accepted St. Germain's bid for plowing the elementary school, and that the Fish & Wildlife Club once again asked for \$5,000 to be placed in the 2009 budget. Ms. Nimz also noted that if the town pays 50% down by January, Bartolotta would take 10% off of the cost of the fireworks.

Mr. Radtke stated that the developer who had bid on the five WPS lake lots had planned on dividing the lots into 100' lots regardless of the covenants placed on it by WPS.
8. **Town Committee Reports:**
 - 8A. **Fire Department:** Tim Ebert reported that there had been 16 calls last month. The fire truck committee is finalizing the numbers. The fire inspections of the businesses have been completed.
 - 8B. **Planning & Zoning:** Mr. Vojta reported that there was going to be a public hearing on Wednesday, November 12, 2008 at 7:00 P.M. concerning an amendment and a new section of the zoning ordinance. He also noted that the next regular meeting would be on Monday, November 17, 2008 at 4:00 P.M.
 - 8C. **Public Works:** Ms. Nimz reported that the trucks were ready for the plowing season. Mr. Ebert stated that his truck was still missing and would have to be taken back to be checked.
 - 8D. **Parks & Recreation:** Ms. Nimz stated that the new soccer field had not been seeded. It will be done first thing in the spring.
 - 8E. **Bike & Hike Trail:** Mark Hiller reported that there has been contact with the landowners to relocate a portion of the new bike trail to the high line behind Rustic Manor. The information concerning Northern Environmental was delivered to Attorney Steve Lucareli this morning. The committee will take the signs down near the snowmobile trails.
 - 8F. **Red Brick Schoolhouse:** There was no report.
 - 8G. **Golf Course:** Mr. Christensen stated that the course had done well this summer, although it was down around \$50,000 from last year. Work on the equipment will begin soon. The committee had met this morning. There will be a proposal for carts later in the meeting.
 - 8H. **Finance & Personnel:** Mr. Christensen noted that the committee is asking the town board that any large expenditures be put off until a later date. Work is still being done on employee contracts.

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8I. Housing Authority & Cemetery: Mr. Christensen stated that the Housing Authority was going to be meeting tomorrow, and that the Housing Authority would like Jerry Eliason reappointed as chairman.

8J. Lakes: It was noted that the Big St. Germain Lake Rehab. and Protection District would be holding its first meeting this Wednesday.

8K. Room Tax: Mr. Radtke noted that the \$140,120.14 that had been collected during the 3rd quarter was the most ever collected for one quarter. The next committee meeting will be tomorrow.

8L. Vilas County Board Representative: Mary Platner noted that the county levy will be going up by 2%, but that the tax rate will actually be doing down slightly. Ms. Platner also noted that the county is investing heavily into data process equipment. There is an agreement with Oneida County that if either county's equipment should shut down, the other county will pick it up. The average health insurance cost for a county employee is now around \$20,000.

Mr. Radtke noted that there was a problem at the county shooting range. The range is open seven days a week from 7:00 A.M. until sunset. The backstops have been raised from 10' to 20'.

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

9.1 Handicapped Accessibility for Community Center: Motion Radtke seconded Christensen that the quote for an automatic door for \$3,660 be tabled and sent to the public works committee to see what is all involved in the installation and to get more bids. Approved.

9.2 Addition of Voting Booths: Motion Christensen seconded Radtke that the town crew construct a new handicapped accessible voting booth that would be wider to accommodate a wheelchair and that the shelf be made lower. Approved.

9.4 Appointment of Jerry Eliason for 5 Year Term to the St. Germain Housing Authority: Motion Christensen seconded Vojta that Jerry Eliason be reappointed to the housing authority for a 5-year term. Approved.

9.5 Golf Course Proposal for the Purchase of Golf Carts: Mr. Vojta noted that next season would be the seventh season for the golf carts. They were only guaranteed for five years. From past experience, some of the carts will begin to fail. Mr. Vojta proposed to the committee, and the committee agreed, that the course should purchase one half of the fleet on April 1, 2009 for \$75,400 and at that time returns one half of the old fleet. Then on November 1, 2009, the course would purchase the remaining carts for \$73,600, but payment would not be made until February 1, 2010. If one or two of the carts were to breakdown in between those times, Tiziani would supply a cart. If more broke down, it would take two to three weeks to get the carts. Mr. Radtke asked why the carts would be purchased while the course was closed. Mr. Vojta stated that if they waited until spring, they would not get the same model year and the price would go up. The warrantee would not begin until spring.

Motion Christensen seconded Vojta that the town board follow Mr. Vojta's plan to purchase the golf carts. Motion carried. Mr. Radtke voted against.

9.6 Hike & Bike Trail Archeological Survey and Trail Update: Mark Hiller stated that according to Cedar Corporation, the fieldwork for the survey needed to be started right away. Otherwise there would be even longer delays with the trail construction. Motion Radtke seconded Vojta that the town spends \$1,000 from the Hike & Bike Trail account to pay for the survey. Approved. The cost will not be reimbursed by the grant.

9.7 Approval of 2008/2009 Snowmobile Routes: Motion Radtke seconded Christensen that the town roads to be used as snowmobile routes for 2008/2009 be approved as the same roads as last year. Approved. The clerk asked for a printed list of the 2008/2009 roads.

9.8 Town Constable Concerns Regarding Shelters: Town Constable, Denny Nagel was present. He stated that since the county sold the animal shelter to the Humane Society, there have been times when the shelter has been closed. Mr. Nagel stated that the shelter needed to be available 24 hours a day, seven days a week for stray dogs. The Vilas County sheriff department has had the same problem. Mr. Radtke will check with the county to see what can be done.

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9.9 Accept Resignation of Fred Radtke from RBSH Feasibility Committee: A motion was made by Mr. Radtke that his resignation be accepted, but the motion died from lack of a second. Mr. Radtke stated that in that case, he would be an inactive member of the committee.

9.10 Set Date and Time for Red Brick Schoolhouse Referendum Discussion: There will be a special town board meeting held on Wednesday, December 10, 2008 at 5:00 P.M. to discuss the Red Brick Schoolhouse referendum. Ms. Nimz thought that a special elector meeting should be scheduled for December 17th. The clerk asked why the town board would call an elector meeting when the board had not even voted on what they wanted to do with the building.

9.11 Christmas Decorations Purchase: Motion Christensen seconded Radtke that the town use up to \$5,000 from the Room Tax Account to purchase the Dazzle series Christmas decorations from Display Sales. Approved. Tim Ebert will check into the sturdiness and quality of the decorations.

9.12 Update on WPS Property: Ms. Nimz noted that as stated earlier the WPS property has been taken off of the market.

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

10a. Mary Platner: Ms. Platner asked if the public was aware of any proposals to purchase any of the WPS land. Ms. Nimz stated that the board had met in closed session to discuss the possibility of purchasing some of the property. And, the board was still in the negotiation process and details have not been released.

10B. Verdelle Mauthe: Ms. Mauthe stated that 92 people had attended the last Prime Timers meeting. The garage is nearing completion.

10C. Pat Falkenstern: Ms. Falkenstern asked when there would be an electors meeting concerning the Red Brick Schoolhouse.

10D. Ellen Allen: Ms. Allen stated that since over 500 people had voted to renovate the Red Brick Schoolhouse, the town board now had a chance to maintain the building.

10E. Gary Guymon: Mr. Guymon thought that it might be better to replace one-sixth of the golf cart fleet each year since the life expectancy was six years.

10F. Carol Radtke: Ms. Radtke thought that the accessible voting booth should have two shelves, one normal and one lower.

10G. Adam & Cherie Ruenger: Mr. & Mrs. Ruenger stated that the website concerning the Red Brick Schoolhouse was lying. The mission statement was not correct. They also stated that since they worked, it was difficult to make it to a 5:00 P.M. meeting to voice their opinions.

11. Board Concerns:

John Vojta: Mr. Vojta asked who was going to represent the town board on the Town Hall Feasibility Committee. Ms. Nimz said that it would be discussed at the December 10th meeting.

Lee Christensen: Mr. Christensen stated that although he thought that large expenditures should be put off, expenditures on town facilities would have to be made.

Marion Janssen: Ms. Janssen asked that she be given a key to the thermostat for the days that she would be collecting taxes.

12. Set Date & Time For Next Meeting. The next regular town board meeting will be held on Monday, December 8, 2008 at 5:00 P.M. in meeting room #4 of the Community Center. There will be a special town board meeting to discuss the fire truck referendum on Wednesday, November 12, 2008 at 6:00 P.M. There will be a public hearing concerning the bulk gas storage amendment and ordinance on Wednesday, November 12, 2008 at 7:00 P.M. There will be a special town board meeting on Wednesday, December 10, 2008 at 5:00 P.M. to discuss the Red Brick Schoolhouse referendum. The Board of Review will be held on Monday, December 1, 2008 at 9:00 A.M. with the assessor's open book session on Wednesday, November 26, 2008 from 9:00 A.M. until 11:00 A.M. The Annual Budget

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Hearing and Special Elector Meeting will be held on Monday, December 1, 2008 at 7:00 P.M. All meetings will be held in meeting room #4 of the Community Center.

13. Adjournment: Motion Vojta seconded Christensen that the meeting be adjourned. Approved. Meeting adjourned 6:52 P.M.

Town Clerk

Chairman

Supervisor

Supervisor

Supervisor

Supervisor