

TOWN OF ST. GERMAIN

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

P.O. BOX 7

ST. GERMAIN, WISCONSIN 54558

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MINUTES TOWN BOARD MEETING: DECEMBER 8, 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, Todd Wiese, John Vojta, Fred Radtke, Marion Janssen, Town Treasurer, Tom Martens, Town Clerk.
3. **Approval of Agenda:** Motion Christensen seconded Wiese that the agenda be approved in any order at the discretion of the chair. Approved.
4. **Approval of Minutes:** Motion Radtke seconded Christensen that the minutes of the November 10, 2008, November 12, 2008 town board meetings be approved as written. Approved.
5. **Approval of Treasurer's Report (Town and Golf Course):** Balance General Account as of 11-30-2008: \$44,010.73; Lakes Account \$10,031.43; Lakes Committee CD \$15,159.12; Park Fund \$1,818.99; Rental Account \$3,337.89; Bag Account \$22,435.20; Room Tax Account \$9,051.19; Debt Reserve \$407,064.83; Bike & Hike Trail Acct. \$53,653.86, First National Money Market \$309,489.76, Playground Equipment Fund \$3,424.64. Golf Course Regular Account \$35,760.92; Money Market \$211,829.68; CD \$180,000.00. Fire & Rescue Checkbook Balance \$2,481.09. Motion Christensen seconded Wiese that the treasurer be approved as read. Approved. .
6. **Payment of Invoices:** Motion Wiese seconded Christensen that vouchers 17149 – 171179 be approved along with the following additional bills Schwartz & Shea Insurance Co. \$1,255.00—Fire Fighter Blanket Accident policy; Crispell-Snyder \$263.50—fire numbering system, and that voucher #17175 to Neal's Truck Parts be held. Approved.
7. **Communications:** There were none.
8. **Town Committee Reports:**
 - 8A. **Fire Department:** Tim Ebert reported that there had been 14 calls last month. Mr. Ebert also said that he would look into raising the fees for the fire district agreements with Cloverland and Newbold for the 2010 budget.
 - 8B. **Planning & Zoning:** Mr. Wiese noted that a variance request in Holiday Estates had been denied by the Board of Appeals and that there would be a discussion concerning the setback requirements in Holiday Estates at next Monday's committee meeting.
 - 8C. **Public Works:** Ms. Nimz stated that the committee had not met for a while. Plowing would be done during the week if there were two or more inches of snow. On the weekends, it will be done if there are four or more inches. Ms. Nimz reminded everyone not to use the new addresses until the signs are up in the yards.
 - 8D. **Parks & Recreation:** Ms. Nimz stated that the ice rink is usable, but not in very good shape.
 - 8E. **Bike & Hike Trail:** Mark Hiller reported that the letter to Northern Environmental from the town attorney had been drafted. The archeological survey has been completed. The committee is looking into rerouting the trail behind Rustic Manor. Ms. Nimz has signed the contract. The committee is waiting for the governor's signature.
 - 8F. **Red Brick Schoolhouse:** There was no report.
 - 8G. **Golf Course:** Mr. Christensen stated that the course is closed and the crew is working on winter maintenance. The golf course budget is ready to be placed on the agenda for the next town board meeting. The town board had been invited to inspect the Sievert property to see what brush would be removed.
 - 8H. **Finance & Personnel:** Mr. Christensen noted that employee contracts would be discussed during the closed session at the end of the meeting. The fire truck loan is listed later on the agenda.
 - 8I. **Housing Authority & Cemetery:** Mr. Christensen stated that the Housing Authority was going to be meeting tomorrow. There are four or five vacancies. Mr. Radtke asked about the subsidized units.

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8J. Lakes: Mr. Wiese noted that he had prepared the grant application for a \$6,000 grant for 2009. He also noted that the Big St. Germain Lake Rehabilitation & Protection District had been formed.

8K. Room Tax: Mr. Radtke noted that there had been record collections for the 3rd quarter, although it was partially due to the 1% increase in the room tax rate. There are still a few non-payers.

8L. Vilas County Board Representative: Mary Platner noted that an Aging Disability Resource Center was being considered. Ms. Platner thought that all septic systems in the county would be required to be inspected within the next five years. Since there have been more requests, the social services budget has been increased.

Mr. Radtke noted that the county sales tax collections for 2008 were up, which would indicate that businesses were doing well, but that construction and zoning permits were down. Mr. Radtke also noted that the ball fields would be moved to Hwy G near the soccer fields in 2010. The county is looking for grants to help with the boat ramp near Heckels.

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

9.1 Approval of Sanctioned Snowmobile Races January 23 & 24, 2009: Motion Wiese seconded Christensen that the town board sanction the radar races which are to be held on January 23, 2009 and January 24, 2009 from 10:00 A.M. until 7:00 P.M. in the same format as last year for the West one half of West Bay of Little St. Germain Lake, all trails on Little St. Germain Lake, and the trail which runs from Hearthside to Thunderbird Pass. Approved. Mark Hiller noted that Phelps would like to work in conjunction with St. Germain.

9.2 Approval of Vintage Snowmobile Races February 28, 2009: Motion Wiese seconded Vojta that Vintage Snowmobile Races that are to be held on February 28, 2009 be approved. Approved.

9.3 Recommendation from the Golf Course Committee to Remove and Install Acceptable Barrier with Adjacent Property Including Removal and Maintenance of said Area: Motion Radtke to table the recommendation died for lack of a second. Motion Wiese seconded Christensen that the golf course committee is allowed to work along with Jeff Sievert to remove the brush along the #10 tee and Mr. Sievert's property and provide an acceptable barrier. Approved. Mr. Radtke and Mr. Vojta voted against. Both Mr. Radtke and Mr. Vojta thought that nothing should be done until Mr. Sievert was ready to start building his condo units. Mr. Radtke thought that once all of the condos are sold, the board would then have to deal with a condo association. There will be no restrictions on the rental of the condos. Mr. Christensen noted that Brian Baldwin had suggested that since the town owns the property on either side of Mr. Sievert's property, there could possibly be a land swap to move Mr. Sievert's property over to alleviate the problem.

9.4 Review of Proposals from Lenders for Purchase of Fire Truck: Motion Christensen seconded Radtke that, unless a lower rate is found, the town apply for a State Trust Fund loan with the first payment not due until 2010. Approved. Between now and when the loan money is received, \$300,000 will be borrowed from the town's State Pool account at River Valley Bank and \$271,000 will be borrowed from the town's Money Market Account at First National Bank. By paying in advance, the town will save approximately \$26,000 on the cost of the fire truck.

9.5 Approve Lender for Purchase of Fire Truck: Covered under item #9.4.

9.6 Discussion of Adding a TIFF District to Annex Rustic Manor and Pickeral Lake Area to St. Germain's Room Tax: Ms. Janssen noted that there had been a discussion concerning adding Rustic Manor and the Pickeral Lake businesses to the town's room tax ordinance. Mr. Janssen, however, said that after considering it, she was not in favor of annexing them. Boyd Best thought that some of the other towns had marketing assessments for such businesses. Mr. Radtke will check with the Chamber. Motion Radtke seconded Vojta that the matter be tabled. Approved.

9.7 Extension of Sign Moratorium: Motion Vojta seconded Wiese that the off-premise sign moratorium is extended for another six months. Approved. The clerk is to publish a notice.

9.8 Telephone Answering Proposal from Business Connection: Motion Radtke seconded Christensen that the town accepts the proposal from Business Connection for \$45 per month for up to 50 calls and \$.30 for each additional call. Approved. Ms. Nimz noted that the town will have to

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have a landline phone in order for calls to be forwarded to Business Connection. The clerk is to see if the old town office number can be reactivated.

9.9 Discussion on Insurance with Regards to Policies, Our agent, Cost, Etc.: Mr. Radtke had a concern about how to handle claims with the new insurance company. Mr. Vojta noted that the phone numbers for both John Strom and the EMC Company were in the packet that each board member had received. The total cost of the town's insurance with EMC is about \$50,000.

9.10 Request for Light Pole to be Placed by Skating Rink: Mr. Nimz noted that WPS had said that it would be very difficult to install another light pole near the skating rink. However, if the present pole was moved to a more central location, it should solve the problem.

9.11 Request for New Bookkeeping Method: Mr. Radtke was concerned about not knowing the balances remaining in the budgeted categories. He thought that there should be more than just a listing of checks each month. The clerk noted that each month the Financial Statement and both the town's budget and the room tax budget are updated on the town's website. If Mr. Radtke had any questions, he should call.

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

10a. Mary Platner: Ms. Platner stated that she had read an article in the Lakeland Times concerning the community center in Boulder Junction. She stated that they were going through much of the same concerns with their community center that we were with the Red Brick Schoolhouse. Ms. Platner handed out copies of the Boulder Junction survey and asked that the town board look it over before the December 17th meeting.

10b. Carol Radtke: Ms. Radtke thought that a list of duties of each elected official and their phone numbers should be posted in town.

10c. Boyd Best: Mr. Best thought that the people at the Chamber's Information Booth could direct calls to the elected officials.

11. Closed Session: It is anticipated a motion will be made and seconded to convene into closed session pursuant to sec. 19.85(1)(e) for the purpose of discussion of employee contracts.

Motion Christensen seconded Wiese that the meeting be adjourned into closed session at 7:06 P.M.
Approved.

Motion Christensen seconded Wiese that the meeting be reconvened into open session at 8:10 P.M.
Approved.

12. Board Concerns:

Fred Radtke: Mr. Radtke noted that he had seen the Ritchie Oil driver spill some fuel while filling one of the storage tanks. The board will look into it.

Todd Wiese: Mr. Wiese noted that he was not very happy with the new Christmas Decorations.

13. Set Date & Time For Next Meeting. The next regular town board meeting will be held on Monday, January 12, 2009 at 5:00 P.M. in meeting room #4 of the Community Center. There will be a special town board meeting held on Wednesday, December 17, 2008 at 7:00 P.M. in meeting room #4 of the Community Center.

14. Adjournment: Motion Wiese seconded Christensen that the meeting be adjourned. Approved.
Meeting adjourned 8:13 P.M.

Town Clerk

Chairman

Supervisor

Supervisor

Supervisor

Supervisor

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