

# 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: JANUARY 12, 2009

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 Wiese seconded Vojta 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 December 8, 2008, December 17, 2008 and January 5, 2009 town board meetings be approved as written. Approved.
5. **Approval of Treasurer's Report (Town and Golf Course):** Balance General Account as of 12-31-2008: \$6,721.28; Lakes Account \$19,033.86; Lakes Committee CD \$15,189.47; Park Fund \$1,819.22; Rental Account \$3,363.32; Bag Account \$2,207.22; Room Tax Account \$16,641.47; Debt Reserve \$108,859.57; Bike & Hike Trail Acct. \$23,773.12, First National Money Market \$1,759,426.53, Playground Equipment Fund \$3,625.08. Golf Course Regular Account \$26,921.00; Money Market \$151,829.68; CD \$180,000.00. Fire & Rescue Checkbook Balance \$2,481.09. Motion Christensen seconded Vojta that the treasurer be approved as read. Approved. .
6. **Payment of Invoices:** Motion Wiese seconded Christensen that vouchers 17199 – 17363 be approved along with the following additional bills Neal's Truck Repair \$601.83 –repairs; Carquest \$273.34— parts. Approved.
7. **Communications:** Mr. Vojta passed around pictures of damage that had been done to the golf course by snowmobiles last year. Snowmobiles have been running on the golf course again this year. Mr. Vojta stated that he had talked to DNR warden, Mike Sealander. Mr. Sealander will check on the course. Mr. Vojta also stated that the town needed to keep an eye on the Landfill Venture Group. The town has a 1/14 ownership in the landfill. One option that has been discussed is to close the site. If a fourth cell is completed, it will cost the town even more money.

Ms. Nimz noted that she had received a letter of complaint concerning the cleaning of the community center. As of February 1, 2009, the town crew will be doing the cleaning.

Mr. Vojta stated that this Thursday the loss control crew from EMC will be in town to do their study of the town assets. Mr. Wiese will be joining Mr. Vojta and assisting the insurance company.

### 8. Town Committee Reports:

**8A. Fire Department:** Tim Ebert reported that there had been 18 calls last month. There has been no word from Pomasal concerning the fire truck. There should be a meeting with the engineer in January. Ms. Nimz asked that the department be sure that the truck includes everything that had been ordered.

**8B. Planning & Zoning:** Mr. Wiese noted that he had sent a letter to Cornerstone Builders concerning the setback problem at Serenity Bay. The estimate for moving a portion of Halberstadt Road is around \$20,000. Favorite & Maines Surveying has submitted amendments to two condominium plats. Mr. Wiese informed the board that for minor changes to condo plats he has charging the basic \$200 review fee. He hasn't been charging the \$100 fee for each unit above three, unless there were also amendments to the unit space as well. Mr. Wiese stated that he would continue to do so unless there were objections from the board. There were no objections noted.. The next meeting will be on Monday, January 19, 2009 at 5:00 P.M. in meeting room #4 of the community center.

**8C. Public Works/Parks & Recreation:** Jenny Weber presented a check from WPS for \$2,000 to be put towards the Caring for Kids Park. Irrigation for the fields, a new patrol truck and roadwork was discussed at the last committee meeting. Ms. Nimz asked that the clerk put an ad in the paper for a part-time snowplow operator. The community center will be rekeyed. The committee is looking into purchasing a new diesel fuel tank so that fuel could be purchased from any vendor. The snowmobile club will be using the loader for the vintage snowmobile race. A town employee will operate the loader. Mr. Ebert has been checking prices for a new air handler for the fire department.

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**8E. Bike & Hike Trail:** Clyde reported that snowmobiles have still been running the bike trail. The bike trail signs have been covered over with bags.

**8F. Red Brick Schoolhouse:** Mr. Vojta stated that there was an item later in the agenda.

**8G. Golf Course:** Mr. Christensen stated that the new carts should arrive early in April. The old carts have all been cleaned. The crew will decide which carts to keep.

**8H. Finance & Personnel:** Mr. Christensen noted that employee contracts would be discussed during the closed session at the end of the meeting. The clerk and treasurer will look into finding the best interest rates for the loan for the fire truck. The town board will do the paperwork.

**8I. Housing Authority & Cemetery:** Mr. Christensen stated that the Housing Authority had six vacancies. He also handed out a sheet with the rental rates for the Housing Authority. Mr. Wiese asked the chair to make sure that the person doing the snowplowing for the Housing Authority either doesn't plow across the town road, or plows the snow back far enough so that it is not on the roadway. Mr. Wiese will also discuss a similar problem with the manager of the Hearthside Motel.

**8J. Lakes:** Mr. Wiese noted that he had prepared the grant application for a \$6,000 grant for 2009. The 2008 grant has been finalized.

**8K. Room Tax:** Mr. Radtke and Ms. Janssen noted that collections seemed to be down for the fourth quarter.

**8L. Vilas County Board Representative:** Mary Platner noted that there has been a one-third increase in meals on wheels usage. Mr. Radtke noted that the Oldenburg land deal at the fairgrounds was being discussed. The ballparks will be moved to Hwy. G by the soccer fields.

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

**9.1 Ray Salla & Steven Sward Regarding the Naming of Knapp Lane:** Mr. Sward explained that Doug Knapp owned the portion of the easement road adjacent to Birchwood Drive, but that he owned the remainder of the road. Mr. Knapp has constructed a private driveway into his home. Mr. Salla and Mr. Sward would like the road name to be more neutral. They have not talked to Mr. Knapp. It was the consensus of the board that Mr. Salla and Mr. Sward talk to Mr. Knapp to try to work things out.

**9.2 John Raabe Request for Town Elector Meeting pursuant to Sec. 60.10(g) for Removal of the Red Brick Schoolhouse:** Mr. Raabe stated that after the discussion at the last meeting, he wanted there to be a special elector meeting to grant the town board the power to dispose of town property. He emphasized that did not only mean the Red Brick Schoolhouse. The clerk informed Mr. Raabe that pursuant to Sec. 60.12(2), he would have to submit a petition signed by 112 eligible electors to call for the meeting. He would also have to list the purpose of the meeting on the petition.

**9.3 Property Tax Discussion on the Jorgensen Property on Hwy. 70E:** Ms. Janssen noted that assessor, Paul Carlson, had made a mistake on the assessment for the property owned by Richard Jorgensen. The home had burned down in 2007 when Adam Schenkenberg owned the property. The property in the meantime was sold to Mr. Jorgensen for \$35,000. Mr. Carlson assessed the home in 2008 as though the home were still there. The original tax bill had been for \$1,091.64. Mr. Carlson told Mr. Jorgensen that he had made a mistake and that the tax bill would be reduced to \$192.00. As of this time, Mr. Jorgensen has not paid any of the tax bill.

The clerk suggested that the balance of the tax bill be submitted to the county treasurer as a charge back on the clerk's apportionment sheet in November. That way, the town would not be out any money. The unpaid portion of the tax bill would become delinquent, but there would be no penalties since the county is aware of the problem. Motion Wiese seconded Radtke that the bill be submitted for a charge back from the county. Approved. The clerk will find out how that is to be done. The matter of Mr. Carlson's payment for the revaluation, which was to have taken place in 2008, will be discussed at the next meeting.

**9.4 Approval for the 2009 Town Facility Rental Rates:** Motion Wiese seconded Radtke that the rental rates be approved as presented. Mr. Radtke asked that the motion be amended so that non-profit organizations would not be required to post a \$1,000 deposit for the use of the community

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center. Amendment to the motion Radtke seconded Nimz that the deposit requirement for non-profit organizations be deleted. Amendment carried. Mr. Wiese and Mr. Vojta voted against. Mr. Wiese felt that if the non-profit organizations didn't have to pay a deposit, nobody should. Vote on the original motion by Mr. Wiese as amended carried. Mr. Wiese and Mr. Vojta vote against.

**9.5 Approval for the 2009 Town Facility Rental Agreement:** Motion Radtke seconded Christensen that the rental agreement be approved as presented. Approved. Mr. Wiese voted against.

**9.6 Town Acceptance of Donation of Facility Building:** Verdelle Mauthe presented the keys and warrantee papers for the garage that the Prime Timers had built as a donation to the town. Ms. Mauthe noted that \$500 has been held back until a leak is fixed in the spring. The Prime Timers thanked that town for the use of the garage.

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

**10a. Carol Radtke:** Ms. Radtke was concerned that Mr. Jorgensen might get a negative comment on his credit report concerning the delinquent tax bill.

**10b. Ellen Allen:** Ms. Allen once again thought that if the town board would indicate that it was in favor of maintaining the Red Brick Schoolhouse, donations would come in.

**10c. Pat Falkenstern:** Ms. Falkenstern noted that she would donate to the Red Brick Schoolhouse if the town board decided to maintain the building. But, she doubted that there would be enough money raised from donations to do all of the work that had to be done.

**10D. Rosalie Sherwin:** Ms. Sherwin suggested that the town rent a storage unit for \$30 per month to store the town records that are being kept in the official's homes.

**10E. Verdelle Mauthe:** Ms. Mauthe reported that 129 people had attended the Snowflake Dance. The Prime Timers will be taking a trip to Branson, MO in September.

## 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 Vojta seconded Christensen that the meeting be adjourned into closed session at 7:08 P.M.  
Approved.

Motion Christensen seconded Radtke that the meeting be reconvened into open session at 8:38 P.M.  
Approved.

## 12. Action on Closed Session, if Necessary:

The board decided that Mr. Vojta should contact Mr. Stippich regarding the deposits. If nothing can be worked out, the matter should be brought back to the board for a solution.

Motion Nimz seconded Wiese that the part-time snowplowing wages be increased to \$15/hour.  
Approved.

## 12. Board Concerns:

**Fred Radtke:** Mr. Radtke noted that he will be out of town from January 20<sup>th</sup> to March 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Lee Christensen:** Mr. Christensen asked when the meeting with Boyd Best was to be held. Ms. Nimz stated that she would have to contact Mr. Best to find out.

## 13. Set Date & Time For Next Meeting.

The next regular town board meeting will be held on Monday, February 9, 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, January 21, 2009 at 4:30 P.M. in meeting room #4 of the Community Center.

## 14. Adjournment:

Motion Nimz seconded Christensen that the meeting be adjourned. Approved. Meeting adjourned 8:47 P.M.

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Chairman

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Supervisor

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Supervisor

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Supervisor