

TOWN OF ST. GERMAIN

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

P.O. BOX 7

ST. GERMAIN, WISCONSIN 54558

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MINUTES TOWN BOARD MEETING: FEBRUARY 9, 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, Marion Janssen, Town Treasurer, Tom Martens, Town Clerk. Fred Radtke was absent. There were 12 people in attendance.
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 Christensen seconded Wiese that the minutes of the January 12, 2009, and the January 21, 2009 town board meetings be approved as written. Approved.
5. **Approval of Treasurer's Report (Town and Golf Course):** Balance General Account as of 01-31-2009: \$(68,006.58); Lakes Account \$19,035.78; Lakes Committee CD \$15,210.63; Park Fund \$1,819.41; Rental Account \$3,363.66; Bag Account \$3,437.48; Room Tax Account \$24,652.86; Debt Reserve \$108,859.57; Bike & Hike Trail Acct. \$23,875.50, First National Money Market \$1,882,998.79, Playground Equipment Fund \$5,625.54. Golf Course Regular Account \$49,067.28; Money Market \$101,829.68; CD \$180,000.00. Fire & Rescue Checkbook Balance \$3,685.16. Motion Wiese seconded Christensen that the treasurer be approved as read. Approved. .
6. **Payment of Invoices:** Motion Wiese seconded Vojta that vouchers 17364 – 17448 be approved. Approved.
7. **Communications:** Mr. Vojta stated that he had received complaints about the plowing of the town roads. Apparently several people have gone off into the ditch. Mr. Ebert explained that they are not plowing any differently this year then they have done in the past. He thought that it might have something to do with the new road construction that was done. The roadways were raised making the drop off along the shoulder greater.
8. **Town Committee Reports:**
 - 8A. **Fire Department:** Tim Ebert reported that there had been 18 calls last month.
 - 8B. **Planning & Zoning:** Mr. Wiese stated that the ordinance amendment and new section concerning gas system storage tanks of more than 5,000 gallons had been approved by the county, been posted and were now in effect. There is now an application for such a gas system storage tank. The committee is still working on codifying the town ordinance book.
 - 8C. **Public Works/Parks & Recreation:** Ms. Nimz noted that she had asked a representative from Eagle Waste to be present to discuss raising the road limit to eight tons. Mr. Ebert thought that it might be all right to raise the limit if it was to be done between midnight and 6:00 am and only if the temperature was below 25 degrees. He also thought that there should be some kind of permit. Mr. Wiese was against changing the limit and Mr. Vojta was also in favor of keeping the five-ton limit that we now have. Mr. Ebert will check with Pitlik & Wick to see what they would recommend. There is an estimate for \$2,500 to fix the air exchanger at the fire department. The lock company has ordered new

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software for the locks on the town buildings. There will be new codes issued. There seems to be grass seed for the new soccer field both in the town shop and at the golf course. The golf course will purchase what is not needed. Mr. Wiese complained once again that the door of the community center has been propped open with the heat on. Also, the lights have been left on. Mr. Vojta asked once again that the dead tree near the Red Brick Schoolhouse be cut down.

8E. Bike & Hike Trail: Mark Hiller stated that there have been meetings concerning the rerouting of phase two of the trail. There will be an archaeological dig this spring. Ms. Janssen will see if she can find a plat for Parkway Road. The clerk is not to pay any invoices from Northern Environmental.

8F. Golf Course: Mr. Christensen stated that the crew is working on the equipment. The course netted about \$200 for some logs that had been cut.

8G. Finance & Personnel: Mr. Christensen noted that Ms. Janssen had gotten the loan papers for the fire truck from First National Bank. The employee contracts still need to be signed.

8H. Housing Authority & Cemetery: Mr. Christensen stated that the Housing Authority had one applicant for a unit, but that there were still five vacancies.

8I. Lakes: Mr. Wiese stated that he had to make some corrections to the grant application that had been submitted for 2009. The competition for the grant has increased greatly.

8J. Room Tax: Ms. Janssen noted that \$26,715.75 had been collected for the fourth quarter.

8K. Vilas County Board Representative: Mary Platner noted that the county is revising the library plan. There is a convention for lake-district commissioners. A group called Vilas Visions is looking into the problems with the dog pound.

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

9.1 Red Brick Schoolhouse Testing: Motion Christensen seconded Vojta that Bass Inspections be hired to inspect the Red Brick Schoolhouse for asbestos, lead paint, and mold for \$425. Approved. Mr. Vojta also noted that Mr. Bass would like to be considered for the town's Uniform Dwelling Code inspector. Ms. Nimz will keep him in mind for next year. The current contract automatically renews on January 1st each year unless either party is notified 30 days in advance.

9.2 Signage at County Highway O and State Highway 70 East: Ms. Nimz stated that in view of the accidents that have occurred at the intersection of Hwy. 70 and County Hwy. O, she would like to install a flashing light at the stop sign on Hwy. O. The cost for a solar powered sign would be \$1,700. There was a concern as to whether or not the intersection is in Vilas or Oneida County. No decision was made.

9.3 Reconstruction of a Portion of Halberstadt Road: Mr. Wiese explained the situation concerning a setback violation for a condo that was built at Serenity Bay on Halberstadt Road. Cornerstone Builders has agreed to, at their expense move Halberstadt Road so that the building will conform to the setback requirements. The road would still be within the present road right of way. At the last zoning committee meeting, it was suggested that Cornerstone Builders provide a performance bond.

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9.4 Mr. Wiese stated that since that time, Cornerstone has offered to pay Pitlik for the project so that the work can be done as soon as possible. Motion Vojta seconded Christensen that the Town of St. Germain go into an agreement with Pitlik & Wick to reconstruct a 450' portion of Halberstadt Road. Approved.

9.5 Diesel Fuel Storage Tanks: Mr. Ebert stated that he had not received a quote from Ritchie Oil for the current fuel tank that the town has been leasing. Motion Wiese seconded Vojta that the diesel fuel storage tank be tabled until the quote is received from Ritchie Oil. Approved.

9.6 Patrol Truck Purchase: Motion Wiese seconded Vojta to approve of the purchase of a 2009 International patrol truck in the amount of \$144,189 from Monroe Truck. Approved. The bid for the chassis was from Mid-State Truck for \$72,200 with a \$50,000 trade-in, if not sold outright. The bid for the equipment to outfit the chassis for \$71,989 for a total of \$144,189. Mr. Ebert will attempt to sell the patrol truck for up to \$69,000.

9.7 '09 Road Construction: Ms. Nimz noted that Jackson Lane, Lost Lake Drive North, Parkway Road, and the community center parking lot, and a culvert on Lost Lake Drive North are on the list for roadwork this summer. The county would pay for a portion of the culvert. The cost of the projects should be around \$450,000. The town will have to seek bids. Mr. Vojta stated that the town already has a new loan for the fire truck. He thought that another loan would place a greater stress on families. He agreed that there needed to be a roadwork program, but thought that the town should slow down a little. Mr. Christensen agreed and thought that the projects should be postponed. Mr. Vojta agreed that the town should seek bids, but would not be able to approve the work at this time.

9.8 '09 Road Maintenance: Ms. Nimz asked for permission to seek bids for chip-sealing Big St. Germain Drive. The cost should be around \$50,000. If done, Big St. Germain Drive should last up to five more years before it will have to be repaved. The 2.8 miles will take the entire construction budget for that year.

9.9 First National Bank Resolution for the Purchase of Fire Truck:

WHEREAS, the Town of St. Germain, Vilas County, Wisconsin, is presently in need of funds aggregating five hundred seventy one thousand dollars (\$571,000.00) for public purposes for purchasing a 2009 Pierce Fire Truck, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board deems it necessary and in the best interests of the Town that, pursuant to the provisions of Section 67.12(12), Wisconsin Statutes, the sum of five hundred seventy one thousand dollars (\$571,000.00) be borrowed for such purpose upon the terms and conditions hereinafter set forth:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that for the purpose hereinabove set forth the Town, by its Chairperson, and Clerk, pursuant to Section 67.12(12), Wisconsin Statutes, borrow from First National Bank of Eagle River, the sum of \$571,000.00 and, to evidence such indebtedness, said Chairperson and Clerk shall make, execute and deliver to the Lender for and on behalf of the Town the promissory note of the Town to be dated February 10, 2009, in said principal amount with interest at the rate of three and ninety three hundredths percent (3.930%) per annum and payable as follows: Installments of Principal and interest in 10 equal payments of \$35,539.93 due on January 31, 2010 and on the same day of each six months thereafter, plus a final payment of the unpaid

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balance and accrued interest due on July 31, 2014. All payments include principal and interest. Interest is computed for the actual number of days principal is unpaid on the basis of a 360-day year. Said interest to be payable on the dates set forth above on the outstanding principal balance with no prepayment privileges.

Motion Wiese seconded Christensen that the borrowing resolution with First National Bank of Eagle River for \$571,000.00 for a 2009 Pierce Fire Truck be approved as written. Motion unanimously carried by a voice vote.

9.10 Radio Communications: Ms. Nimz noted that the town constable, Dennis Nagel, is no longer able to communicate with the Vilas County Sheriff Department. Mr. Nagel's radio does not pick up the county's digitally encrypted transmission. Ms. Nimz stated that the town could purchase a radio for \$2,900. She thought that the cost should be split with Vilas County. Mr. Ebert stated that his radio didn't work either. Mr. Wiese stated that he thought that as long as the constable and fire chief could contact the sheriff department using the old fire department tack-channel, that they didn't need the new radios. The purpose of the change is to prevent people from picking up confidential transmissions through scanners. Although, now, there might be digital scanners.

9.11 Cooperative Weed Management Area: Ted Ritter was present to explain the situation that the Little St. Germain Lake District is facing with its grant application. Mr. Ritter stated that the District has applied for a \$266,000, 75%-25% grant from the State. However, there is only \$1.3 million to support \$5 million in statewide grant applications. The applications are scored on a point system. One point is gained if there is a letter of commitment from another source. Mr. Ritter asked that the town supply a letter or commitment for \$6,650/year for a four-year period. Mr. Vojta stated that he didn't think that the town could commit to the money since the 2009 budget had already been prepared. The clerk noted that payments to the Lake Districts have, in the past, come out of the room tax budget, which the town board has not yet completed. The clerk also noted that the lakes committee account had around \$34,000, and that money could be used for projects such as this. Mr. Wiese noted that there were four lake districts in town, and they all could come up with projects. No decision was made since the request had not been listed on the agenda. There will be a special town board meeting on Wednesday, February 18, 2009 at 10:00 A.M. to discuss the proposal. In the meantime, Mr. Ritter will draft a letter of commitment.

9.12 Town Logo: Ms. Nimz presented a logo that the Chamber of Commerce has designed for the town. It is similar to the one that is on the town trucks. The Chamber of Commerce would pay to replace the present town logos with the new one. There was no action taken.

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

10a. Ellen Allen: Ms. Ellen asked that the town board actively support a fund drive to renovate the Red Brick Schoolhouse. She stated that she thought that people would contribute to the project if they knew that the town board was behind it. She asked that the town board go to the public, put notices in the paper, and use good PR such as they did with all of the other projects in town.

10b. Pat Falkenstern: Ms. Falkenstern agreed with Mr. Vojta that these are tough times and that the town board should cut back on it's spending. She also thought that the Red Brick Schoolhouse should be torn down.

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11. Board Concerns:

Todd Wiese: Mr. Wiese wanted to know what was happening with the employee contracts. Mr. Vojta stated that he was checking them over and that they would be copied onto a Word program so that they could be updated each year by just making a few changes.

Peggy Nimz: Ms. Nimz noted that there have been several people asking how they can get out of a lake district. They stated that they do not live on a lake, and can't even see a lake. Mary Platner explained that there are no set rules as to how the boundaries are set. She stated that it depended on how the ground water flowed into a lake, and how it was affected by a property. She also stated that if a person wanted to get out of a lake district, they would have to file a petition with the Lake District, and that the Lake District would make the decision, not the town board.

Tom Martens: Mr. Martens noted that the town board should decide upon a room tax budget in the very near future. Ms. Nimz stated that it would be on the agenda for March.

12. Set Date & Time For Next Meeting. The next regular town board meeting will be held on Monday, March 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, February 18, 2009 at 10:00 A.M. in meeting room #4 of the Community Center.

13. Adjournment: Motion Wiese seconded Christensen that the meeting be adjourned. Approved.
Meeting adjourned 7:40 P.M.

Town Clerk

Chairman

Supervisor

Supervisor

Supervisor

Supervisor