

TOWN OF ST. GERMAIN

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

P.O. BOX 7

ST. GERMAIN, WISCONSIN 54558

townofstgermain.org

MINUTES TOWN BOARD MEETING: FEBRUARY 8, 2010

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 also 14 other people in attendance.
3. **Approval of Agenda:** Motion Vojta seconded Wiese that the agenda be approved in any order at the discretion of the chair. Approved.
4. **Approval of Minutes:** Motion Vojta seconded Christensen that the minutes of the January 11, 2010 and January 29, 2010 town board meetings be approved as written. Approved.
5. **Approval of Treasurer's Report (Town and Golf Course):** Balance General Account as of 01-31-2010: \$(20,744.61); Lakes Account \$75,813.73; Lakes Committee CD \$15,392.05; Rental Account \$5,378.23; Bag Account \$5,760.84; Room Tax Account \$29,078.67; Debt Reserve \$264,449.81; Bike & Hike Trail Acct. \$64,362.23, First National Money Market \$1,682,389.69, Playground Equipment Fund \$5,781.20. Golf Course Regular Account \$(2,457.18); Money Market \$177,112.14; CD \$0.00. Fire & Rescue Checkbook Balance \$6,732.38. Motion Christensen seconded Wiese that the treasurer be approved as read. Approved.
6. **Payment of Invoices:** Motion Wiese seconded Christensen that vouchers 18213 – 18297 be approved along with the following extra bills: Todd Wiese \$4.34 – reim. postage; Carl Eliason & Co. \$59.40 – fire dept tubes. Approved.
7. **Communications:** There were none.
8. **Town Committee Reports:**
 - 8A. **Fire Department:** Tim Ebert reported that there had been 15 calls last month. There will be in house training this month
 - 8B. **Planning & Zoning:** Mr. Vojta noted that the next meeting would be on Monday, February 15, 2010 at 4:05 P.M.
 - 8C. **Public Works/Parks & Recreation:** Mr. Wiese stated that the committee had sent a letter to Veolia terminating the five-year agreement and that it should continue month to month while bids are being sent out. There have been complaints about snowmobiles speeding on Big St. Germain Drive. The DNR warden asked that more speed limit signs be put up. The town has been trying out used wood chippers. Mr. Wiese stated that the committee would like one with a winch. The committee would like to give Tim Ebert authority to negotiate the best price. Mr. Wiese thought that the price would end up being around \$12,000. The McNaughton inmates have been chipping along the town roads. There was a complaint about the chipping in Leisure Estates. Mr. Wiese also noted that, if there were no objections, the committee wanted to give Mr. Ebert the authority to start purchasing fuel from the cheapest bidder.
 - 8E. **Bike & Hike Trail:** Clyde Owens reported that the land agreements along Sunrise Lane had been worked out. Pat Zatopa from the DNR thought that the town would be able to get an extension for the grants.
 - 8F. **Golf Course:** Mr. Vojta noted that there have not been any snowmobilers on the golf course. The crew is working the equipment. Mr. Christensen noted that some of the rates have been increased.
 - 8G. **Finance:** There was no report.
 - 8H. **Housing Authority & Cemetery:** Mr. Christensen had nothing to report. Ms. Nimz asked that Mr. Christensen make sure the Barb Zimmerman posts the agendas and sends them to the media.
 - 8I. **Lakes:** Mr. Wiese reported that the first portion of the lake grants has been received. The next meeting will be on April 8, 2010.

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8J. Room Tax: Ms. Janssen reported that the next meeting would be this Wednesday. The total fourth quarter collections were \$22,855.52

8K. Invasive Committee: Mr. Christensen asked that the committee name be changed to the “invasive committee”. The committee will deal mostly with terrestrial species, but will also deal with aquatic species. The committee hopes to become self-sustaining by October 31, 2011. Ted Ritter had prepared a CWMA symposium for January 27, 2010.

8K. Vilas County Board Representative: Ms. Platner stated that the county board had approved contracts for architects and consultants to study remodeling the courthouse. Ms. Nimz asked if they would have to go to a referendum. Ms. Platner will check.

8L. Yard Waste: There was no report.

8M. Landfill Venture Group: There was no report.

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

9.1 Excessive Assessment Complaint Decision – Richard & Karla Gern: Mr. Martens noted that the Gerns had appeared before the Board of Review in November. The Gerns objected to the assessment of their land, which had increased from \$150,000 to \$375,000. At the Board of Review, assessor Paul Carlson, stated that he had used \$1,500/front ft. for property on Alma Lake. That was up from \$600/front ft. last year. Mr. Gern presented a list of his assessments from 2001 to the present. Each year, the fair market value had increased by around 10.4%. This year it increased by 45.8%. Mr. Gern felt that \$270,000 would be a fair assessment for the land. Mr. Gern also presented two comparisons. One was on Alma Lake, and one was on Finley Lake in the Town of Cloverland. Both appeared to be assessed at much lower values, but Mr. Gern would not give the owner’s name or computer number so the town board could not make a decision. Motion Wiese seconded Vojta that the matter be tabled until the board can determine whether Mr. Gern’s comparisons were valid. There was also a concern as to when the 90-day period would start. The board was not sure if it started when the complaint was filed, or if it would be tonight, or if it would not start until a decision was made. Approved.

9.2 Appointment of Lee Christensen to a 5-year Term on the St. Germain Housing Authority: Motion Vojta seconded Wiese that Lee Christensen be appointed to the St. Germain Housing Authority for a term of five years. Approved.

9.3 Big St. Germain Lake District and Little St. Germain Lake District Employee Contract: Motion Wiese seconded Christensen that the lake, district employee contract be approved as written. Approved. Ted Ritter stated that there was a good chance that the town would not be asked to hire the workers.

9.4 Appointment to the Board of Appeals: Ms. Nimz appointed Phil Monday as an alternate to the Board of Appeals.

9.5 Appointment of Committee for Financial Accounts: Motion Wiese seconded Christensen that the matter be tabled. Approved.

10. Citizens Concerns and Non-Appointed Committee Reports (3 Minute Maximum): There were none.

11. Board Concerns:

John Vojta: Mr. Vojta thought that the board should meet to make a decision on the Gern’s complaint very soon. He also thought that if the town purchases a chipper that it should have a winch.

Todd Wiese: Mr. Wiese asked if Mr. Ebert had given a job description for a third public works employee to Ms. Nimz. Ms. Nimz stated that, in the past, the public works committee interviewed the job candidates.

Marion Janssen: Ms. Janssen that if Paul Carlson was asked to be at a town board meeting to discuss the Gern’s complaint, she would also like to discuss personal property taxes.

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12. Set Date & Time For Next Meeting. The next regular town board meeting will be held on Monday, March 8, 2010 at 5:00 P.M. in meeting room #4 of the Community Center.

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

Town Clerk

Chairman

Supervisor

Supervisor

Supervisor

Supervisor