

# TOWN OF ST. GERMAIN

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

P.O. BOX 7

ST. GERMAIN, WISCONSIN 54558

[www.townofstgermain.org](http://www.townofstgermain.org)

## MINUTES TOWN BOARD MEETING: DECEMBER 13, 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, Walt Camp, Fred Radtke, Lee Christensen, John Vojta, Marion Janssen, Town Treasurer, Tom Martens, Town Clerk. There were also 20 other people in attendance.
- 3. Approval of Agenda:** Motion Vojta seconded Christensen that the agenda be approved in any order at the discretion of the chair. Approved.

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion Christensen seconded Vojta that the minutes of the November 8, 2010 meeting, the November 15, 2010 special meeting be approved as written. And, that the minutes of the October 11, 2010 meeting be approved with the following correction: **Rosalie Sherwin:** Ms. Sherwin read from a prepared list of complaints: (1) Town Clerk has two deputies; (2) Are deputies oaths and bonds on file – can they be inspected?; (3) Town Clerk editing of board meeting minutes; (4) Lee Christensen, town supervisor, is financially supporting “Friends of the Old Schoolhouse”. The honorable thing for Lee to do is refrain from voting regarding the Red Brick School; (5) I stated reason why proponents of Red Brick School felt they list at elections. The minutes of the October 5, 2010 special meeting were to show that the town had not entered into a contract with Eagle Waste. Approved.

- 4. Approval of Treasurer’s Report (Town, Golf Course and Fire Dept):** Balance General Account as of 11-30-2010: \$47,526.72; Lakes Account \$35,621.98; Lakes Committee CD \$15,436.93; Rental Account \$0; Bag Account \$0; Room Tax Account \$40,487.90; Debt Reserve \$189,514.06; Bike & Hike Trail Acct. \$109,034.93; First National Money Market \$86,693.46; Playground Equipment Fund \$5,784.50; Golf Course Regular Account \$458.20; Money Market \$0; CD \$80,060.42. Fire & Rescue Checkbook Balance \$20,032.97. Motion Christensen seconded Vojta that the treasurer’s report be approved as read. Approved.
- 5. Payment of Invoices:** Motion Radtke seconded Christensen that vouchers 18819-18876 be approved along with following additional bills: Janke General Contractors, Inc. \$167,675.52 -- first draw Phase II; St. Germain Post Office \$56.00 – P.O. Box 67 rent; Silver Bay \$39.95 – toner. Approved. Motion Vojta seconded Christensen that golf course vouchers 11809-11885 be approved as presented. Approved.
- 6. Communications:** There were none.
- 7. Town Committee Reports:**
  - 8A. Fire Department:** Tim Ebert noted that there had been 18 calls last month. There have been 235 calls for the year compared to 203 calls last year. The fire department smoke detector give-away has been very successful. The money for the 200 to 300 detectors that have been given away has come from fundraisers. Mr. Vojta noted that the fire district fee from Cloverland would be going up from \$3,000 to \$5,000. The fee from Newbold will also be going up.

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**8B. Planning & Zoning:** Mr. Vojta stated that the plat for Eagle Woods subdivision had been approved. An inventory sheet for the sign ordinance had been approved. The town board still needs to look at the fees. Ms. Janssen is checking into the dog ordinance. Mary Platner and Mr. Martens will try to finalize the ordinance book in January.

**8C. Public Works/Parks & Recreation:** Mr. Vojta stated that the town crew had agreed to plow from midnight thru the night after the last snowstorm. It seemed to work well. The committee is considering hiring a crew from McNaughton for up to three weeks in February. The loader will not be used to plow unless there are more than two inches of snow. If there are more than four inches of snow, a decision will have to be made. Three area vendors have been asked to give suggestions concerning the transfer station. Mr. Ebert is also checking to see if the town can hire a third employee from McNaughton. Mr. Vojta would like a written contract for the employee.

**8D. Emergency Preparedness:** Mr. Vojta had nothing new to report.

**8E. Bike & Hike Trail:** Mark Hiller noted that 3.9 miles of Phase II had been grubbed and that the first layer of gravel had been spread. The trail has been moved to that it crosses Parkway Road more to the north of Thunderbird Pass and the trail has also been moved more to the south so that it is not visible from Ruth Camp's house. The Janke bill has been approved. Ms. Janssen is working on the loan. There was a concern about the black erosion plastic along the trail. Snowmobiles might get caught up in it. It was suggested that orange fencing be put up in the area. If snowmobiles do damage to the new construction, it will cost more in the spring to make any repairs.

**8F. Golf Course:** Mr. Christensen noted that the committee is now meeting on the first Monday of each month so that the bills can be approved and presented at the town board meeting on the following Monday. Brian Baldwin will be having his Christmas sale this weekend. The budget will be discussed later during the meeting.

**8G. Finance:** Mr. Radtke stated that First National Bank had received a letter indicating that they needed to increase their assets based on the amount of loans that were outstanding. Mr. Radtke was concerned that the town's deposits were only insured for up to \$250,000. During tax time, the deposits are much higher. Ms. Janssen noted that the bank is still loaning money. She will contact the bank.

**8H. Housing Authority & Cemetery:** Mr. Christensen stated that there was nothing new to report. Ms. Janssen asked that the pile of fill dirt be removed from the cemetery.

**8I. Lakes:** Mr. Camp reported that the committee had not met last month. He did attend the Big St. Germain Lake District Annual meeting. There is a concern about an ice fishing tournament that is scheduled for February 5, 2011. It is by a group called lake link.com. There are supposed to be 350 to 500 fishermen.

**8J. Room Tax:** Ms. Janssen noted that the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter payments are not due until the end of January.

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**8K. Invasive Committee:** Mr. Christensen stated that the next meeting would be on Friday. The committee is planning for next year and also trying to find ways to make the public more aware.

**8L. Vilas County Board Representative:** Mr. Radtke reported that the county budget had passed. The county board voted to replace the detective who won the sheriff race. By 2012 all septic systems have to be on the county program. Land use plans need to be updated every 10 years. The next meeting will be on January 18, 2011.

Mary Platner added that Don Huppert had won the Lumberjack Award..

**8M. Yard Waste:** Mr. Radtke noted that the facility had been kept open for an extra two weeks because of the windstorm.

**8N. Landfill Venture Group:** Mr. Radtke stated that the LVG annual meeting would be in January. Ms. Nimz questioned why Watersmeet, MI could be dumping their garbage without being a member of the LVG. To make matters even worse, they are paying a lower fee than we are. Ms. Nimz also noted that things in the contract were not correct. She asked if she should give it to Steve Lucarelli to see what the town should do. Mr. Radtke suggested that Ms. Nimz ask to have her questions put onto the next LVG agenda. Mr. Radtke also noted that most town representatives don't show up for the LVG meetings.

**8O. Insurance:** Mr. Vojta noted that he had met with the insurance agent for over three hours last week to go over all of the town, fire department and golf course equipment to make sure that everything was correct. The equipment is now listed for "actual cash value".

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

**9.1 Golf Course Payroll Account (Boyd Best):** Boyd Best stated that from an accounting perspective, it would be a lot easier to have a separate account for the golf course payroll. Mr. Vojta suggested that Mr. Best also look into having direct deposit for the employees who might want it. Ms. Janssen stated that she, as town treasurer, would have to make all deposits. Ms. Janssen also stated that she didn't want to be on another signature stamp. She and Mr. Best would have to get together each payroll period so that she could sign the checks. Mr. Best stated that would work for him. Motion Christensen seconded Vojta that Ms. Janssen should open the new account for the golf course payroll effective January 1, 2011. Approved.

**9.2 2011 Golf Course Budget (Lee Christensen):** Steve Spears read "information regarding the St. Germain Golf Course for educational purposes" which he had prepared. He stated that at the November meeting the town board had asked that an additional \$50,000 be taken out of the budget to reflect income figures of \$706,000 rather than the \$758,700 that had been proposed in the 2011 budget.. Mr. Spears noted that there were a total of 21 rainy weekend days during 2010. Those days would translate into approximately \$94,000 in lost income. He also noted that even with all of the bad weather, the course had a better year in 2010 than in 2009. The trend in the area seems to be that play is improving. Mr. Spears also said that his maintenance budget is less for 2011 than it was for 2002. The increase in the golf course bonding payment has negatively impacted the bottom line. In 2007 and 2008, the town board approved of the purchase

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of new golf carts using the debt reserve fund rather than pay the interest on a loan. Mr. Spears felt that reducing the budget would have a negative impact in future years that would be difficult to overcome. He said that positive support by the town board was critical to the success of the course. Mr. Spears also noted that once the bonding debt has been paid off, it is very important that the town board realizes that it must reinvest in the course.

It was noted that Brian Baldwin had five or six ideas for increasing the revenues at the golf course. It was also noted that after 2013 when the bonding debt is paid, the Baird Loan payments increase so that not all of the golf course income can be used to improve the course. Motion Christensen seconded Radtke that the golf course budget for 2011 be approved as presented reflecting revenues of \$720,100. Approved.

**9.3 2011 Town Budget (Board) – Board Recommendations for Reducing Budget:** Ms. Nimz handed out a list of suggestions for budget cuts. Ms. Janssen handed out a sheet showing projected account balances for 2010. It was decided that there should be a budget workshop to decide what should be done. Motion Vojta seconded Christensen that the 2011 town budget be tabled at this time. Approved.

**9.4 Privatizing of the Transfer Station – Northern Waste (Fred Radtke):** Motion Vojta seconded Christensen that item #9.4 be tabled at this time. Approved.

**9.5 Red Brick Schoolhouse – (Walt Camp):** Mr. Camp asked the town clerk if he would use the office at the Red Brick Schoolhouse. He also asked Ms. Janssen if she would rather collect the taxes at the Red Brick Schoolhouse. Mr. Martens stated that he would use the office, but that things could just keep going as they have been. Ms. Janssen stated that it was difficult to keep moving her office hours from one place to another. Ms. Nimz stated that room #5 in the community center needed to be set up for office space..

**9.6 Resolution for Interim Loan for Bike and Hike Trail Construction (Marion Janssen):** Ms. Janssen read “Exhibit A Resolution” from First National Bank. The resolution stated that the Town of St. Germain would borrow \$500,000 for the construction of Phase II of the Bike & Hike Trail at a rate of 3.75% . Ms. Janssen had also prepared the following resolution:

## RESOLUTION: SG10-12-1

The Town Board of the Town of St. Germain, Vilas County, Wisconsin by this resolution, adopted by a majority of the town board on a roll call vote with a quorum present and voting and proper notice having been given, resolves and orders as follows:

That the Town of St. Germain obtain a loan from the First National Bank of Eagle River in the amount of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) for the construction of Phase II of the St. Germain Bike & Hike Trail. It is understood that this is a line of credit and shall be repaid upon receipt of grant monies.

Adopted this 13<sup>th</sup> day of December 2010.

Peggy Nimz, Town Chairperson

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Thomas Martens, Town Clerk

Motion Radtke seconded Camp that Resolution SG10-12-1 be adopted. By a roll call vote: Radtke – yes; Camp – yes; Vojta – yes; Christensen – yes; Nimz – yes. Motion carried.

**9.7 Request to Extend S-ADLP2-997 Phase II Stewardship Funds to June 30 2011 (Mark Hiller):** Motion Vojta seconded Camp that Ms. Nimz send the letter that Mr. Hiller had prepared requesting that the Stewardship Grant #S-ADLP2-997 be extended to June 30, 2011. Approved..

**9.8 Bonestroo Contract (Fred Radtke):** Motion Vojta seconded Radtke that the contract with Bonestroo to oversee Janke General Contractors, Inc., be approved and that the \$12,000 consulting fee be paid. Approved.

**9.9 Continuation of Sanctioning for Sunday, January 23, 2011 for St Germain Drag Racers (Mark Hiller):** Motion Vojta seconded Camp that the town's sanctioning of the Radar Run be extended to cover Sunday, January 23, 2011 from 7:00 A.M. until 6:00 P.M. for the St. Germain Drag Racers. Approved. .

## **9. Citizens Concerns and Non-Appointed Committee Reports (3 minute maximum):**

**Verdelle Mauthe:** Ms. Mauthe stated that 114 members attended the August meeting. That was the highest total ever. 81 members attended the last meeting. The group had a speaker on winter safety. The Christmas Party was held at Moon Beach. The planned trips for next year are to Memphis, Louisville, Nashville and Church Hill Downs.

**Rosalie Sherwin:** Ms. Sherwin stated that she was appalled that the clerk would edit the minutes of the October 11, 2010 meeting. She also stated that the clerk had sent the oath of office for the deputy clerk as she had requested. Ms. Sherwin stated that the deputy clerk bond is to be on file with the town treasurer, according to the Statutes.

**Pat Falkenstern:** Ms. Falkenstern was concerned that the November minutes had not been posted on the website.

## **10. Board Concerns:**

**Peggy Nimz:** Ms. Nimz stated that since the board could not reply to citizens concerns, she would assign a particular board member to respond to a particular concern.

**Fred Radtke:** Mr. Radtke stated that all town contracts should be kept in one place.

**John Vojta:** Mr. Vojta said that someone needed to get room #5 set up. He also asked for a copy of the tax bill for the person who had complained about his taxes to Mr. Radtke.

**11. Adjournment:** Motion Camp seconded Vojta that the meeting be adjourned. Approved. Meeting adjourned 7:16 P.M.

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Town Clerk

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Chairman

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Supervisor

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Supervisor

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Supervisor