

# TOWN OF ST. GERMAIN

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

P.O. BOX 7

ST. GERMAIN, WISCONSIN 54558

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## MINUTES TOWN BOARD MEETING: MAY 9, 2011

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:** Walt Camp, Fred Radtke, Lee Christensen, John Vojta (Mr. Vojta came in at 5:20 P.M. due to storm damage), Marion Janssen, Town Treasurer, Tom Martens, Town Clerk. There were also 37 other people in attendance.
3. **Selection of New Town Supervisor:** The five people who submitted letters of interest were William Bates, Tom Christensen, Rod Ingram, Marsha Kriek, and Robert Myers. Mr. Camp asked each candidate to state why he or she was interested in serving on the town board. Ms. Kriek was not at the meeting. The clerk handed out a ballot with the names of the five candidates. Mr. Camp asked the members of the board and the clerk to rank each candidate from 1 to 5 with 5 being the candidate of their choice. William Bates was appointed supervisor #2.  
  
3A. **Swearing in of the New Supervisor:** William Bates was sworn in by the town clerk.
4. **Open Board of Review:** Per the Wisconsin Statutes, Mr. Camp opened the board of review.
5. **Approval of Agenda at the Chair's Discretion:** Motion Radtke seconded Christensen that the agenda be approved in any order at the discretion of the chair. Approved.
6. **Approval of Minutes:** Motion Christensen seconded Radtke that the minutes of the April 11, 2011 town board meeting and the April 27, 2011 special town board meeting be approved as written. Approved.
7. **Approval of Treasurer's Report (Town, Golf Course and Fire Dept):** Balance General Account as of 4-30-2011: \$35,301.67; Lakes Account \$35,238.25; Lakes Committee CD \$15,455.98; Room Tax Account \$23,752.09; Debt Reserve \$292,208.82; Bike & Hike Trail Acct. \$67,304.67; First National Money Market \$216,237.40; Playground Equipment Fund \$5,785.70; Fire Department Restricted Acct. \$5,815.80; Golf Course Regular Account \$9,559.81; Payroll Acct. \$117.09; CD \$1000.00. Motion Radtke seconded Christensen that the treasurer's report be approved as read. Approved.
8. **Payment of Invoices:** Motion Camp seconded Radtke that vouchers 19184-19239 be approved along with three extra bills: Chamber of Commerce \$14,094.63 – 1<sup>st</sup> Qt. Room Tax; AVFCO \$71.80 – toilet seat; Jack Santerelli \$427.83 – constable jacket, hat, and lights; Renee Depue \$476.40 – Room Tax refund. Approved.
9. **Communications:** Mr. Camp read a letter from town attorney, Steve Lucarelli, stating that under section 19.59 of the State Statutes, it is unethical for elected or appointed town officials to receive free or discounted golf. It was the consensus of the board that the practice should stop immediately. Mr. Vojta thought that there should be a motion to that effect. Mr. Christensen thought that a motion was not necessary since the town was not supposed to be doing it in the first place. Mr. Radtke

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asked that the letter be filed with the town clerk. Mr. Camp did state, however, that the electors could approve the free or discounted golf for elected and appointed officials at an Elector Meeting.

- 10. Citizens Comments on Items to be Considered by Town Board:** Brian Sherren asked that the town board look into ways of lowering the equalized value for St. Germain like it has been lowered in some of the other towns in the county.

Mr. Camp noted that he had received six boxes of papers from the previous town chairman.

Mr. Camp read letters from State Senator, Jim Holperin and State Representative Dan Meyer stating their positions on the prevailing wage law. Both men said that they expected changes in the law.

Mr. Camp noted that he had received a letter from Horton saying that there was a patient handling class being held in the next few weeks.

Mr. Camp also noted that he had received a letter from Tammy Schmidt from Northern Waste stating that she would like to resubmit her bid since the bid from Eagle Waste did not follow the criteria set by the town board.

**11. Items for Consideration (Approve, Disapprove, Table):**

**11.1 Garbage Contract/Transfer Station:** Mr. Camp noted that the town board has been considering proposals from three local contractors plus a proposal to purchase a used garbage truck and operate the facility through the town. Mr. Camp also noted that he had met with Alan Albee from Eagle Waste. Mr. Albee thought that \$6,000 was too much for the compactor. He thought that the town should go to a third party for a new price or sell the compactor to someone else. Eagle Waste would provide its own compactor. Mr. Vojta stated that he had been waiting for new information from Mr. Radtke concerning the purchase of a garbage truck. Mr. Radtke said that he was looking for alternatives when he made the proposal. He also felt that Eagle Waste would be making a profit, and that the town could also make a profit if the town operated the facility. The town would not have to purchase new dumpsters. Veolia has offered to allow the town to use the present dumpsters while the town experiments with hauling the garbage. Mr. Radtke felt that over 10 years, the town would make around \$100,000 versus spending around \$40,000 with Eagle Waste. Mr. Camp stated that he didn't see how the town could go out and purchase a garbage truck right now. He thought that after two years, the town could look at the proposal again. Mr. Vojta added that two of the vendors had said that the most cost effective thing to do would be to close the facility altogether. The St. Germain Chamber of Commerce was not in favor of closing the facility. The Chamber said that it was a service to the town. Mr. Vojta stated that he felt that there would be less volume at \$3.00 per bag. He also stated that the public works committee had voted on a motion to go with Eagle Waste, but that the motion failed because some committee members felt that they needed more information. Mr. Radtke asked if Eagle Waste would go with a one-year contract.

Motion Vojta seconded Christensen that the town accept the bid from Eagle Waste with the understanding that there would be negotiations to iron things out. Motion Carried by a voice vote. Mr. Bates abstained. Mr. Radtke was opposed.

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**11.2 MSA Well Monitoring Contract for 2011/2012:** Mr. Camp stated that the town had budgeted around \$2,800 for the monitoring of the wells at the old dumpsite. The new contract with MSA is a two-year contract for \$7,240 per year. The board asked how long the monitoring would have to continue. Lee Emmer from MSA said that the DNR would not commit to a time limit. The company doing the monitoring previously had not filed the necessary reports. The DNR was ready to come down on the town. The contract is a per diem contract. Mr. Vojta asked if MSA could give a firm figure. He also asked if the town could delay signing the contract. The work for the first half of 2011 has already been completed based on a verbal agreement with the previous town chairman. Mr. Camp felt that the contract should be signed. MSA is also looking into block grants that might be available to help with some of the cost. Motion Camp seconded Christensen to accept the two-year contract with MSA, not to exceed \$7,240 per year. Motion Carried. Mr. Emmer initialed the contract indicating that it would not exceed \$7,240 per year.

**11.3 Resolution for Opening a Line of Credit:** The town board had discussed opening a line of credit for either \$100,000 or \$200,000 to help the golf course make its debt payment for 2011. The town clerk and town treasurer felt that the town could make both the town portion of the payment and the golf course portion of the payment at this time. The golf course would repay as much as it could as revenues began to come in this summer. In the fall, the town board would once again have to look into the line of credit if the course needed money to carry it through the winter. Mr. Radtke wanted it noted in the minutes that the town would be using town taxpayer funds to make the June 1, 2011 golf course debt payment.

**11.4 Handicap Access to Community Center:** The clerk noted that in 2009 he had notified that town board that the community center entrance was not handicapped accessible for voting. Mr. Camp received a quote from Northern Glass for \$3,700 for two Tormax TTX!! Low energy handicap door operators. He also received a quote from HT Glass for \$4,550 for two single record 8100 series auto door operators. There was a discussion concerning how groups renting the community center would get into the building using a code with the automatic doors. The clerk suggested that the board table the proposals until more information is received.

Motion Radtke seconded Vojta that the matter of the handicap access to the community center be tabled at this time. Approved.

**11.5 2011 Committee Assignments:** Mr. Camp made the following committee assignments for 2011: *Golf Course Committee* – Lee Christensen – chair, Walt Camp – vice chair, Marion Janssen, Tom Wenzel, Tom Christensen, Steve Spears (advisory non-voting), Brian Baldwin (advisory non-voting): *Public Works Committee* – Walt Camp – chair, Fred Radtke – vice chair, Rod Ingram, Terry Holmes, Elmer Koegler, Time Ebert (advisory non-voting): *Lakes Committee* – Chuck Their – chair, William Bates – vice chair, Walt Camp, Bob Schell, Gary Heller, Lou Mirek, Dave Zelinski, Jim Harold: *Finance Committee* – John Vojta – chair, Fred Radtke – vice chair, Marion Janssen, Tom Martens, Boyd Best: *Planning & Zoning Committee* – William Bates – chair, John Vojta – vice chair, Tim Gebhardt, Tim Nampel, Bob Myers, Tim Ebert (advisory non-voting): *Personnel* – Fred Radtke – chair, John Vojta – vice chair: *Room Tax Commission* – Jim Anderson – chair, Fred Radtke – vice chair, Marion Janssen, David Weber, Deb Harvey, Jim Kelsey: *Cemetery* – Lee Christensen – chair, William Bates – vice

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chair, Jane Powell, Cathy Humbaugh, Tim Ebert, Dorothy Drews, Pat Eliason, Jerry Eliason, Wilmer Weber: **Housing Authority** – Jerry Eliason (9/1/2013) – chair, Lee Christensen (9/1/2014) – vice chair, Nancy Neff (9/1/2011), Barb Zimmerman (9/1/2012), Peggy Anderson (9/1/2015): **Emergency Preparedness** – John Vojta – chair, Phil Kohout – vice chair: **Bike & Hike Trail Committee** – Mark Hiller – chair, Fred Radtke – vice chair, Clyde Owens, Joyce Owens, Ann Small, Joan Kazda, Sally Reuling, William Bates: **Walter Olson Memorial Library** – Ed Johnston: **Plum Lake Library** – Sue Fath.

Motion Camp seconded Radtke to accept the appointments as amended. Approved. Mr. Camp asked that all committee secretaries send the minutes to the town clerk so that they can be posted on the town 's website.

**11.6 Redistricting:** Motion Camp seconded Christensen to concur with the Vilas County Redistricting Committee to leave the boundaries for Ward 1 & Ward 2 as they are. Approved.

**11.7 Background Checks for Town Licensees:** Motion Vojta seconded Bates that the town clerk perform background checks annually for a fee of \$10 and that background checks performed by licensees not be accepted. Approved. The board will consider on an individual basis any background checks that turn up a questionable charge or conviction.

**12. 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 7:43 P.M. By a roll call vote: Mr. Radtke – yes; Mr. Bates – yes; Mr. Vojta – yes; Mr. Christensen – yes; Mr. Camp – yes. Motion carried.

**12.1 Open Session: Return to open session:** Motion Vojta seconded Christensen that the meeting be reconvened into open session. By a roll call vote: Mr. Radtke – yes; Mr. Bates – yes; Mr. Vojta – yes; Mr. Christensen – yes; Mr. Camp – yes. Motion carried.

**12.2 Action on Closed Session (if necessary):** Motion Radtke seconded Vojta that Mr. Radtke sends a 30-day letter of termination to the transfer station employee. Approved.

**13. Town Committee Reports:**

**13A. Fire Department:** Tim Clark reported that there had been 25 calls last month. The new engine needs to go back to the manufacturer. The foam gun is not working properly. The ISO rating is on hold. Mr. Clark has called, but he has not heard back.

**13B. Planning & Zoning:** Mr. Vojta stated that the committee reviewed a plat amendment for Birch Lane Condominiums.

**13C. Public Works/Parks & Recreation:** Mr. Vojta stated that since two of the committee members had resigned, he had nothing new to report.

**13D. Emergency Preparedness:** Mr. Vojta stated that the quotes from the contractors have been coming in. The committee is working on updating the plan.

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**13E. Bike & Hike Trail:** Mark Hiller noted that the bridge has been completed and billed. The trail will be blacktopped as soon as the plants open. Janke has bid \$38,000 to continue the trail to Old Hwy 70. The committee has applied for a Stewardship Grant that would cover 80% of the work. Perhaps, if the town crew did the work, it could be applied to the cost. Scott Small swept the bike and hike trail at no cost to the town. The diesel fuel cost could come out of the trail maintenance fund. Holiday Drive to Cathy's is going to be a pedestrian trail. It is going to look different than the rest of the trail. Mr. Vojta noted that the area will be heavily used and need to be well signed.

**13F. Golf Course:** Mr. Christensen stated that the weather has not been cooperating. When the weather is good, the play is good. The green on hole #13 has had a lot of winter kill. The weather has been too cold for the seed to start growing. Brian has been arranging promotions with the Chamber of Commerce.

**13G. Finance:** Mr. Radtke had nothing new to report.

**13H. Housing Authority & Cemetery:** There was nothing to report.

**13I. Lakes:** Mr. Camp reported that placemats and coasters were being distributed. Monitoring at the boat landings began last weekend. The DNR creel study has been started on Big St. Germain. Signs are up at Little Bass Lake. The DNR is going to start enforcing the law concerning invasive species and cleaning boats, etc. The Lions Club will be working at the Big St. Germain boat landing from May 14<sup>th</sup> through Labor Day.

**13J. Room Tax:** Mr. Radtke noted that the Room Tax collections were down \$80 from last year.

**13K. Invasive Committee:** There was no report.

**13L. Yard Waste:** Mr. Radtke stated that there have been some complaints about the facility only being open for one day a week. He asked that the public works committee look into opening the site full-time for one month without an attendant on duty. There might be a problem with things being dumped that do not belong there.

**13M. Insurance:** Mr. Vojta had nothing new to report.

**14N. Personnel:** Mr. Radtke noted that the personnel committee would be working on employee handbooks since the Walker budget repair bill will put an end to contract negotiations.

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

**Verdelle Mauthe:** Ms. Mauthe congratulated William Bates on being appointed to the town board. There were 108 people at the last Prime Timers meeting. There was a speaker on wills, probate and trusts. There will be a trip to the fish hatchery. There will be a bike ride on May 18<sup>th</sup>. The Prime Timers will be donating \$500 towards the fireworks.

**Gary Guymon:** Mr. Guymon asked if there will still be an oil drop at the transfer station/recycling center now that it will be operated privately.

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**Wally Geist:** Mr. Geist asked about storm sirens. Mr. Vojta stated that there have been proposals in the past, but that there needed to be three sirens placed throughout town.

**Ellen Allen:** Ms. Allen stated that last month the second page of the minutes stated that she had not handled the finances correctly for the Red Brick School. The Red Brick Restoration, Inc. has been accused for something similar. The accuser has not provided any information. Ms. Allen thought that some questions should be answered. When did it happen? How is all of this transmitted? Nothing has come forward. We need an accounting. We should give the accuser a month to come forward. Never in her life had Ms. Allen been accused of anything like this. Mr. Radtke stated that it was a public meeting and people can make public comments and say whatever they want to say. Mr. Camp stated that it was not a town thing, but people can make comments. The person is responsible for making false comments. Ms. Allen wanted to put an end to it.

## 15. Board Concerns:

**John Vojta:** Mr. Vojta noted that the everything was setup for the 5K Run. The sinks have been installed at the Pavilion.

**Walt Camp:** Mr. Camp stated that he will be attending a training session in Minocqua on May 25<sup>th</sup>. He suggested that Mr. Bates also attend. On May 19<sup>th</sup>, there will be a VTA meeting in Cloverland Mr. Vojta added that there will be an EMS meeting on May 19<sup>th</sup> also..

**William Bates:** Mr. Bates noted that the golf course in Hayward was charging peak rates. When he asked why, he was told that the course was a privately owned course.

**16. Set Time & Date for Next Meeting:** The next regularly scheduled town board meeting will be held on Monday, June 13, 2011 at 5:00 P.M. in meeting room #4 of the community center.

**17. Adjournment of Board of Review:** Motion Vojta seconded Radtke that the Board of Review be adjourned until such time as the assessor has prepared the assessment roll. Approved. Paul Carlson, town assessor, has suggested the week of August 29, 2011 for the Board of Review.

**18. Adjournment:** Motion Vojta seconded Bates that the meeting be adjourned. Approved. Meeting adjourned 8:08 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

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Supervisor