

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 15, 2012

- 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 6:30 P.M.
- 2. Roll Call:** Walter Camp, William Bates, Fred Radtke, John Vojta, Marv Anderson, Tom Martens, town clerk. Marion Janssen, town treasurer, was absent. There was also a full house of people in attendance.
- 3. Approval of agenda at the Chair's Discretion:** Motion Anderson seconded Bates that the agenda be approved in any order at the discretion of the chairman. Approved.
- 4. Approval of Minutes:** Motion Radtke seconded Vojta that the minutes of the April 15, 2012 regular town board meeting be approved as presented. Approved. Mr. Vojta abstained.
- 5. Open Board of Review:** Mr. Camp opened the Board of Review at 6:33 P.M. Board members present: Walter Camp, William Bates, Fred Radtke, John Vojta, Marv Anderson, Tom Martens, Town Clerk.
- 6. Financial Report:** Balance town general account as of 4-30-2012: \$44,034.53; room tax account \$12,864.81; lakes CD account \$15,499.82; lakes account \$14,568.05; skateboard park fund \$3,713.98; bike & hike trail account \$7,118.73; money market account \$205,599.03; playground equipment account \$4,387.91; debt reserve account \$204,725.87; fire department \$7,319.01; fireworks donation account \$6,424.85; community development account \$22,626.92; golf course general account \$22,054.06; golf course payroll account \$1,000.00.
- 7. Payment of Vouchers: Town, Fire Department, Golf Course:** Motion Radtke seconded Vojta that vouchers 435-521 and 20180-20256 be approved along with a bill for Lucareli Law Office - \$225.00; legal services. Approved.
- 8. Communications:** Mr. Camp stated that he and Mr. Vojta and Tim Clark attended a DOT meeting in Rhinelander concerning work to be done on Hwy. 70 from Hwy. 155 to Cty. O scheduled for 2015. The businesses have asked that work not begin until mid August. Mr. Clark had asked that the roadway be widened by Little St. Germain River for when the fire department needs to use the hydrant. Hwy. 70 will be resurfaced and the curbs in town will be replaced. Mr. Radtke asked that the speed limit through town be lowered to 30 mph. The driveways from Subway and Camp's Supervalu onto St. Germain Blvd. will have to be closed. They are too close to the intersection. The DOT is also asking for two designated snowmobile crossings from St. Germain Sport Marine to Cathy's Ice Cream.

Vilas County is working on opening the culverts in the business district.

Mr. Camp also received a donation request from the St. Germain Youth Baseball team. The town didn't budget anything for the team. Mr. Camp noted that the teams use Vandervort Park, and both the St. Germain and Plum Lake ball fields.

Mr. Camp read a letter from Ellen Allen and The Friends of the Old School. She asked that the town board look at the Red Brick Schoolhouse in a new light. She asked that the town board restore the landmark. Ms. Allen also added that projects that have been supported by the town board have always done well.

Mr. Camp read several requests from the Lions Club. The club would like to place Lions Club signs at the Hwy. 70E & Hwy. 70W and Cty. J entrances into town. Mr. Camp suggested that perhaps all of the organizations in town should be listed. David Tikalsky said that the signs are ordered out of a catalog. The club also suggested that the pavilion be named the Charlie Vogel memorial shelter. The public works committee recommended against the suggestion. The matter will be placed on the agenda for the June meeting. Finally, the club would like to construct a 1000 sq. ft. building on the town property. Plans would be submitted prior to approval by the board. The public works committee recommended that the Lions Club move forward with the project. Motion Camp seconded Radtke to proceed with approval of the Lions Club building on town property subject to

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approval of final plans that are to be submitted to the town board at a later date. Approved. If approved, the Lions Club would remove everything that they have in the Red Brick Schoolhouse, shelter building and community center.

- 9. Town Committee Reports/Comments:** Tim Clark reported that there were 8 calls last month. Mr. Clark asked why a discussion of the tanker truck went to the public works committee. Mr. Clark didn't know anything about a bid. The person making the bid gave no warranties and didn't even look at the tank. Monroe estimated that it would cost about \$2,320 to inspect the tank. If it can be repaired, it would cost an additional \$3,753 plus the cost of the fuel to take the truck to Monroe. It has to be taken to Monroe. Members of the department would drive the truck down to Monroe. The board asked why the town should purchase a tank when possibly the truck isn't any good. Mr. Anderson asked if the town board purchase the tank if the town could afford it. A new tank would have a 15 year warranty. Motion Bates seconded Anderson to have the fire department take the tanker truck to Monroe to be inspected. Approved.

Mr. Camp reported that so far there have a lot of good comments on the condition of the course. The logs will be picked up tomorrow. Mr. Camp read Margo Rogers-Anderson report for April. The FORE reservation and T-times are working out very well on-line. Concession sales have been good. The Lee & Hazel Christensen event will be held this Sunday. Mr. Radtke noted that there was a hole in the driveway that needed to be patched. Mr. Camp explained that we need to see if that portion of the road is owned by the town or the Sieverts.

Mr. Bates reported that the Big St. Germain Lake District chairman has been in contact with the DNR concerning a proposal for the Lake District to take over the boat landing. There has also been a discussion concerning charging a fee for launching a boat. If it came to a vote, all property owners in the district would have a vote. Mr. Anderson asked whether or not it might hurt tourism in the long run. What is going to stop each Lake District from doing the same thing. Motion Anderson seconded Radtke that the town board express concern and go on record as not being in favor of the Big St. Germain Lake District taking over the boat landing on Big St. Germain Lake. A public hearing may be held, but it is not required.

Mr. Bates reported that the planning and zoning committee was asked to verify the zoning for a second driveway for a business on Hwy. 70.

Mr. Vojta reported that he had received three quotes for the emergency preparedness plan so far.

Mr. Radtke handed out a comparison of the room tax collections from 1998 to the present. He also handed out two proposed room tax budgets. The total room tax collections have been dropping the last few years. Last year the projected collections were \$231,000. The actual collections were \$225,487.08. The proposed budget for 2012 is for collections of \$230,000. The proposed expenditures for 2012 are \$237,927. To balance the budget, there is a fund balance of \$7,912 and interest of \$15. Motion Anderson seconded Vojta that the room tax budget be approved with collections of \$230,000 and expenditures of \$237,927. Approved. As with any budget, the town board can periodically review the budget and make changes as necessary.

Mr. Radtke also reported that the yard waste facility has had 84 drops and collected \$168. The cost for the attendants to date is \$280.

10. Action Items (Approve, Disapprove, Table):

- A. Snowmobile Routes on Town Roads for Winter of 2012:** Mr. Camp stated that the board had received the list of town roads that have been proposed as snowmobile routes from the Bo-Boen Snowmobile Club. The only change is that Sixteen Road would now be open from Big St. Germain approximately 1.3 miles to Joe Koscielniak's property. The change would be necessary for the proposed reroute of corridor trail #15. Mr. Anderson stated that he and Tom Christensen had driven some of the roads last night. Mr. Radtke stated that he had no idea of where some of the proposed roads even are. He would like the list to be tabled at this so that the board can go around to view the roads. He also stated that Vilas County is trying to drop the use of roads for trails. Mr. Vojta stated that he knew all of the proposed roads and he didn't need to view them. Dale Mayo stated that his grant application has been put on hold pending the opening of Sixteen Road. He has until June 22, 2012 to complete the application. If the reroute is not completed, the town could lose corridor #15. Mr. Anderson

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said that it is not the town against the snowmobile club. Motion Radtke seconded Bates that the road list be tabled until the town board can go around to view the roads. Approved. Mr. Vojta voted against. There will be a special town board meeting at 6:00 P.M. on Tuesday, May 22, 2012. The board will drive around the proposed town roads and then meet back at the community center to continue the meeting.

- B. Appointment of Commissioner to Lost Lake District:** Motion Vojta seconded Anderson that Walter Camp be appointed as the town board representative to the Lost Lake Rehabilitation and Protection District. Approved.
- C. Supervisor Committee Assignments:** **Finance Committee** – Marv Anderson, John Vojta; **Personnel** – Fred Radtke, John Vojta; **Lakes Committee** – Bill Bates, Marv Anderson; **Golf Course Committee** – Walt Camp, Bill Bates; **Public Works Committee** – Walt Camp, Fred Radtke; **Emergency Preparedness** – John Vojta; **Planning & Zoning Committee** - Fred Radtke, Marv Anderson; **Cemetery Committee** – Bill Bates; **Room Tax Commission** – Fred Radtke; **Senior Housing** – Marv Anderson; ***Bike & Hike Trail** – Bill Bates, Fred Radtke; ***Building & Grounds** – John Vojta, Fred Radtke; ***Yard Waste** – Fred Radtke; ***Landfill Venture Group** – John Vojta, Walt Camp; **Lake Commissioners:** Alma-Moon Lake District – Bill Bates; Big St. Germain Lake District – John Vojta; Little St. Germain Lake District – Marv Anderson; Lost Lake District – Walt Camp. The bike & hike, building & grounds, yard waste and Landfill Venture Group are sub-committees of the public works committee.
- D. 1-Ton Truck Replacement for Public Works:** One proposal was to lease a new F350 from Ewald from 1-6 years. The truck could be purchased for \$1 at the end of a six-year lease. A second proposal was to purchase a 2005 truck from Red's Auto for about \$26,000. The public works committee recommended 3-1 to go with the lease. Tim Clark stated that the fire department was looking at trading its brush truck for a new truck. It was suggested that the town use the brush truck chassis and put on a new box and plow. Or, the town and fire department could swap trucks since the fire department doesn't use the brush truck very often. Motion Anderson seconded Vojta that the town not purchase or lease a 1-Ton truck but swap trucks with the fire department. Approved.
- E. Big St. Germain Lake District:** Was discussed under committee reports.
- F. Neighborhood Watch Program & Signs:** Mr. Camp reported that at the last neighborhood watch meeting it was suggested that the town purchase 72 signs at a cost of \$30 to be placed around town. The cost included posts. If the signs can be placed on the posts that are used for the road limit signs, the cost would be less. Mr. Anderson noted that there were around 40 people at the last meeting and that there were 7 or 8 volunteers to be area leaders. Motion Radtke seconded Camp that the town purchases 72 neighborhood watch signs for approximately \$2,160. Approved. Mr. Vojta and Mr. Bates voted against.
- G. Fire Department Tanker:** Was discussed under committee reports.
- H. Lions Club Storage Building on Town Property:** Was discussed under committee reports.
- 11. Board Concerns:** Mr. Anderson noted that Tom Christensen had left copies of the snowmobile clubs crossing permit from the DOT as well as copies of statute 350.02. Mr. Anderson also said that he had several very good comments about the work the Margo Rogers-Anderson is doing at the golf course and pro shop.

Mr. Vojta stated that the regular town board meetings should be moved back to Monday night. He didn't think that it was a good idea to keep switching it.

Mr. Bates added that the cemetery committee would be meeting next Wednesday.

Mr. Radtke reported that there were some big grooves cut into the bike & hike trail off of Hwy. J on the trail by the high-lines. It appears that they may have been caused by the groomers at the groomer show. He also said that the brush needed to be trimmed along the trail from Mood Road to Ross Lake Road.

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Citizens Concerns: Rosalie Sherwin asked if the Prime Timers had to submit a plan when they build their building by shop. She also added that now there is a third group collecting money for the Red Brick Schoolhouse. She said that the town should not pay anything towards the building since it had been promised that the restoration would be done without taxpayer money. Ms. Sherwin also wanted to know what the building would be used for.

Tim Gebhardt asked about the progress of the high-speed internet service from SonicNet.

Carolyn Ritter was also concerned about the use of the Red Brick Schoolhouse. She felt that there should be another survey to see if the residents wanted to keep the building.

Carol Radtke thought that some money could be saved if the neighborhood watch signs were put on trees.

Tom Martens stated that he really didn't want the proposed reroute of the snowmobile trail in front of his home. He also read a paragraph from a letter that was attached to the club's crossing permit stating that the crossing did not meet the DOT's minimum standards. If it caused unsafe conditions, the DOT would consider moving the crossing. Mr. Martens hoped that someone had not been killed by that time. He also stated that he had letters from Senator Holperin, both the St. Germain and Plum Lake Fire Chiefs, all of the property owners along the proposed route, and several other residents in town who were concerned about the safety of the crossing. State Trooper Dennis Bedish has also been out to inspect the proposed crossing and agrees that it would be very dangerous. Trooper Bedish's main concern is the safety of the motorists. He is also concerned that snowmobiles will run the shoulders to get to the crossing. A speed test had been done in January on a snowy day when the roadway was not clear. Of the 168 vehicles that were observed, 122 of them or 72.6% were traveling 50 mph or faster. The sight distance at the proposed crossing had been measured to be 475'. The minimum sight distance at 50 mph is 530'. Those cars on that snowy day would not have been able to stop for a snowmobile. Mr. Martens also stated that club had another alternative to place the crossing at the northern end of Lost Lake Drive South where the sight distance to the north is almost a mile and to the south about 600'. The trail would cross Hwy. 155 at that point and run along the right of way on the west side of the road.

12. Set Time & Date of Next Meeting: There will be a special town board meeting held on Tuesday, May 22, 2012 at 6:00 P.M. at the community center. The town board will travel to review the proposed town roads to be used as snowmobile trails at that time. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the town board will be held on Monday, June 11, 2012 at 6:30 P.M. in meeting room #4 of the Community Center.

13. Adjournment: Motion Vojta seconded Bates that the meeting be adjourned. Approved. Meeting adjourned 9:35 P.M.

Town Clerk

Chairman

Supervisor

Supervisor

Supervisor

Supervisor