

TOWN OF ST. GERMAIN
P.O. BOX 7
OFFICE OF THE CLERK
ST. GERMAIN, WISCONSIN 54558
www.townofstgermain.org

MINUTES TOWN BOARD MEETING: AUGUST 11, 2014

- 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, Marv Anderson, John Vojta, Alan Albee, Tom Christensen, Marion Janssen, Town Treasurer, Tom Martens, Town Clerk. There were also 23 other people present...
- 4. Approval of Minutes:** Mr. Vojta asked that the clerk change a motion in the July 14, 2014 minutes. The approval of the minutes was postponed until the next meeting.
- 5. Financial Report:** Balance town general account as of 07-31-2014: \$33,053.09; room tax account \$79,558.23; lakes CD account \$15,578.49; lakes account \$27,979.49; skateboard park fund \$2,840.93; bike & hike trail account \$17,053.08; money market account \$125,413.63; playground equipment account \$4,392.86; debt reserve account \$401,663.77; fire department \$6,728.72; fireworks donation account \$1,050.90; community development account \$37,207.26; golf course general account \$247,916.50; golf course money market \$54,364.83; Loan Reserve Fund \$60,321.09; Fire Dept. Vehicle/Equip. \$48,135.00. Ms. Janssen also added that the loan for the fire truck with First National Bank had expired on July 31, 2014. First National Bank is working out the terms for renewing the loan. Mr. Albee suggested to the entire board that it may be beneficial to look at competing financing options to ensure that we get the best deal for our constituents. Ms. Janssen also asked that the board look over the golf course budget. She felt that at the present rate, the golf course would fall about \$46,000 short in revenues for 2014. The board agreed on a special meeting to discuss the golf course budget on Monday, August 18, 2014 at 4:00 P.M.
- 6. Payment of Vouchers, Town, Fire Department, Golf Course:** Motion Anderson seconded Albee that vouchers 763-842, 7001-7013 and 22206-22298 be approved.
- 7. Correspondence:** Mr. Camp noted that the town had received a \$27 refund from Meyer Insurance by reducing the insurance on the old truck to just liability. The town had also received a letter from the WTA asking that the town not support a petition from Move Wisconsin Alliance. Mr. Christensen asked about the other correspondences that had been received during the month. He asked about the two letters that had been received from the Vilas County District Attorney. Mr. Christensen stated that the issues should be put on the agenda so that they can be ironed out. Ms. Janssen asked about the emails that she had sent concerning items that she wanted to see on the agenda. Mr. Vojta stated that he hadn't heard anything about the items that he had brought up at the last meeting concerning the DOT connection permit application for the road into Eaglewatch Ct. There was supposed to have been a reply within 48 hours.
- 8. Specific Matters for Discussion and possible Action By Town Board:**
 - A. Proposal to purchase 5.93 acres from Integrys:** Mr. Camp noted that the purchase of the 5.93 acres was separate from the Stewardship Grant part of the proposal. The trails that are on the property would be grandfathered in, but in order to have any new trails, the 50ft wide strip of land on the eastern edge of the property and along Half Mile Road is necessary. Mark Ratty from the DOT explained to Mr. Camp that the DOT would rather have the town sign the permit since the road would become a town road. The width of the entrance for a town road is different than the width for a private road. Patty Van Den Elzen from Integrys stated that both the attorney from Integrys and the town's attorney had drafted the letter. She also explained that the Integrys property to the west of the proposed town road could not be included in the Stewardship Grant portion of the proposal because the grant would not allow a road to traverse the two sections of the property. The price has been based on the two appraisals that had been done. 3.7 acres were priced at \$4,100/acre and 2.2 acres were priced at \$3,400/acre. The total price is \$73,890. Ms. Van Den Elzen said that there were two contingencies. One is that the 5.92 acre strip would be included with the remaining 224 acres. The second contingency is that if the town doesn't sign the connection permit application from the DOT, the town can't purchase the 50ft strip. Mr. Christensen suggested not doing the permit now. The discussion turned to the

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contracts. Ms. Van Den Elzen stated that the contracts had to be completed by August 28, 2014. The town board stated that the electors had not yet given permission to purchase the property. There is a time frame for the publication of the notices. Mr. Vojta stated that his questions still had not been answered. Ms. Van Den Elzen once again explained that both attorneys had agreed that everything was good to go. Mr. Martens stated that most, if not all, purchases of this size had gone to referendums. The earliest that a referendum could be held is possibly November. Ms. Van Den Elzen stated that she has been instructed to have this project completed by the end of the year. If the town doesn't approve of the purchase as soon as possible, the property will go up for auction along with the other property. Ms. Van Den Elzen also stated that the company needed some kind of insurance from the town that the town is willing to go through with the project. Motion Anderson seconded Albee that the town approve the memorandum of understanding as stipulated in the letter from Integrys dated August 4, 2014 and that it include the connection permit/application for connection to state trunk highway. By a roll call vote: Mr. Christensen-yes; Mr. Vojta-yes; Mr. Albee-yes; Mr. Anderson-yes; Mr. Camp-yes. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Road maintenance of Lost Colony Road: Tim Ebert explained that when Lost Colony Road was built, the portion in front of the Morris property was constructed over a low swampy area. Risers have been put down over the years. It is now sinking again. Water has been standing on the roadway for most of the summer. Brian Pitlik said that the plan would be to elevate the roadway and install two or three culverts. The cost would be approximately \$11,968 plus the cost of the culverts. The present culvert is sticking out above the blacktop. Mr. Vojta suggested putting off the work until next year when it could be put into the budget. Mr. Christensen wanted to see for himself what the problem was. He also asked that if it was so bad, why wasn't it in the budget for this year. Mr. Anderson stated that the work needed to be done. Mr. Pitlik stated that he needed to know by early September in order to schedule the work for this fall. Mr. Vojta stated that water also stands on the curves on Old Hwy. 70. Mr. Ebert stated that the difference was that the blacktop on Lost Colony Road is also deteriorating. Motion Vojta seconded Christensen that the matter be tabled at this time. Motion carried by a voice vote. Mr. Anderson and Mr. Camp voted against.

C. Recent Chip Sealing of 2 miles of town roads: Mr. Camp stated that Brian Pitlik was present to explain why roads in Holiday Estates had been chip sealed when they were not on the list of roads to be done. Mr. Pitlik stated that the contract said that he was to chip seal two miles of town road. It didn't really specify which roads. Tim Ebert stated that the public works committee had discussed doing several of the roads in Holiday Estates. He and Mr. Pitlik had gone out to view the roads. Mr. Camp stated that those roads were not the roads that had been approved by the town board. Mr. Ebert stated that he thought that those were the roads that were to be done. He was not given a copy of the contract and he was not given any other directions. Mr. Vojta wanted to know how the work got awarded in April when the town board did not vote on it until May. Mr. Albee wanted to know if there were any damages. The bid had been for approximately \$28,000. The work so far totals \$22,379.75. Both Mr. Christensen and Mr. Ebert stated that there needs to be direction as to what work needed to be done. The roads in Holiday Estates would have had to be done in another year or two. The roads scheduled for this year will have to be rescheduled for next year. Mr. Pitlik stated that directions will also have to be clearer from his end. Ms. Janssen questioned whether or not the costs of materials, etc. will be the same next year as they are now.

D. Walter E Olson Library Update: Mr. Camp stated that at the last meeting, he had appointed himself and Mary Platner to the Walter Olson Memorial Library joint library commission. There has been some question as to whether or not the appointments needed town board approval. If the appointments had been to a municipal library commission, they would need town board approval. However, since the appointments were to a joint library commission, they don't. Mr. Camp stated that the appointments stand. Mary Platner introduced Nan Andrews, the new director of the Walter E. Olson Memorial Library; Phil Jensen, Walter E. Olson Memorial Library foundation co-chairman; and Lauri Stoegbauer, Walter E. Olson Memorial Library trustee president. Mr. Jensen stated that an endowment had been given based on the design that had been presented. The City of Eagle River now wants to get bids for the

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design. If the design is changed, the people giving the endowment might not agree. The City of Eagle River also wanted to transfer the library to another township. The Town of Lincoln has agreed to take over the land and become the fiscal agent for the library. Ms. Stoegbauer stated that no contracts have been signed. Ms. Stoegbauer also stated that the Visner design is almost one million dollars less than previous designs. The commission will keep the costs in line. There are built-in exclusions for emergencies. Representation on the joint library commission is based on population. St. Germain should have been entitled to two representatives quite a few years ago. The group asked for a letter of support from the St. Germain town board to the Board of Trustees supporting the purchase of the property by the Town of Lincoln and also that the Town of Lincoln become the fiscal agent for the Walter E. Olson Memorial Library.

E. Set Time and Date for Special Electors Meeting: Motion Christensen seconded Camp that a special elector meeting is held on Wednesday, September 3, 2014 at 7:00 P.M. in the Community Center. Motion carried unanimously by a voice vote. The purpose of the meeting will be to get elector approval or disapproval for the purchase of approximately 231 acres of Integrys property. The notice will contain a map of the property, the proposed price and the pros and cons of purchasing the property.

9. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned 9:31 P.M.

Town Clerk

Chairman

Supervisor

Supervisor

Supervisor

Supervisor