

TOWN OF ST. GERMAIN

OFFICE OF THE CLERK
P.O. BOX 7

ST. GERMAIN, WISCONSIN 54558

www.townofstgermain.org

MINUTES TOWN BOARD MEETING: JANUARY 11, 2016

1. **Call to Order:** Chairman Tom Christensen called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Roll Call, Establish A Quorum:** Tom Christensen, Marv Anderson, John Vojta, Jim Swenson, Doug Olson, Tom Martens, Town Clerk. Marion Janssen was absent. There also 18 other people in attendance.
4. **Open Meeting Verification:** Mr. Christensen noted that he had posted the meeting agenda at three locations in town on January 9, 2016 by 5:00 P.M.
5. **Approval of the Agenda:** Motion Anderson seconded Vojta that the agenda be approved in any order at the discretion of the chairman. By a voice vote Yes – 5, No – 0. Motion carried.
6. **Read and Approve Minutes of Past Meetings:** Motion Swenson seconded Olson to dispense with the reading of the minutes and that the minutes of the December 2, 2015 Budget Hearing, Special Elector Meeting and Special Town Board Meeting and the December 14, 2015 town board meeting are approved as written. By a voice vote: Yes – 5, No – 0. Motion carried.
7. **Citizen's Comments:** There were none.
8. **Special Report by County Board Member Carolyn Ritter:** Mr. Ritter reported that the main reason that the county levy went up about 24% for 2015 was short borrowing. Part of that had to do with substitute care for children from homes where there are drugs or the parents have been sent to jail. Ms. Ritter also noted that the county is looking into a \$14.2 million remodeling of the courthouse. The plan is to remove the old jail portion of the building.
9. **Town Chairman Report and Concerns:** Mr. Christensen stated he has not heard anything from Legacy Construction concerning the culvert on Big St. Germain Drive. The contract for the STH70 bike trail crossing has been sent to Pitlik & Wick. Mr. Christensen also stated that the DNR has not agreed to an annual inspection of the wells at the old dump site. The town is going to have to continue monitoring two private wells, as well as the wells at the dump site, bi-annually. One of those wells exceeds the allowable limits. Ted Ritter and John Vojta will be running unopposed for the supervisor #1 and #2 positions in the April election.
10. **Town Supervisors' Reports and Concerns:** Mr. Vojta handed out information concerning Legal Shield to the board members. Mr. Anderson will be meeting with the Presque Isle municipal judge to follow up on the town ordinances. Mr. Swenson reported that the fat bike trail is open. People have been using the hiking and cross country ski trails, but the cross country trail has not been groomed because of the lack of snow. Steve & Jim Vogel had volunteered their time and equipment to widen the trail. Mr. Anderson stated that he had attended an ATV meeting in Cloverland. The Cloverland town board has agreed to open a route to allow ATV's to pass through Cloverland. The ATV club will be bringing a signage proposal to the St. Germain town board.
11. **Town Clerk's Report and Concerns:** Mr. Martens stated that he is trying to figure out how to use QuickBooks. He was not able to print vouchers or the bill list to be handed out at the meeting.
12. **Town Treasurer's Report and Concerns:** Balance General Account as of 12-31-2015 \$108,291.81; Room Tax Account \$38,607.82; Lakes Committee Account \$29,050.14; Lakes Committee CD \$15,614.82; Skateboard Park Fund \$2,843.12; Loan Reserve Fund \$0.00; Bike & Hike Trail \$28,346.72; First National Money Market \$2,424,608.71; Play Ground Equipment Fund \$4,395.98; Debt Reserve Account \$0.00; Fire Department Restricted Acct \$11,936.26; Fireworks Donation Account \$3,789.78; Fire Dept. Vehicle/Equipment \$158,214.65; Golf Course Gen Acct \$120,303.37; Money Market \$54,457.75; Awassa Trail Funds Savings \$2,089.
13. **Fire Chief's Report and Concerns:** There was none.
14. **.Report of the Standing Committees:**

- a. **Golf Course:** Mr. Christensen reported that Mr. Becker has been checking the greens often with all of the freezing and thawing. Bob Stippich is working on the equipment. Mr. Becker is looking at a used Brush Hog Mower.
- b. **Public Works:** Mr. Vojta noted that the committee would be discussing Mr. Olson's proposed changes to the town road specifications at its next meeting. The committee is putting specs together for a new patrol truck. Tim Ebert's truck seems to be working well.
- c. **Finance:** There was no report.

15. Report of the Special Town Committees:

- a. **Lakes Committee:** There was no report. The next meeting is January 20, 2016.
- b. **Non-Motorized Trail Committee:** There was no report.

16. Discussion /Action Items:

- a. **Payment of Bills:** Motion Anderson seconded Vojta that general account checks 24000-24062 and golf course account checks 15000-15016 be approved along the following extra bills: Skarlupka Services \$428.57—patrol truck brakes; WPS \$28.38—golf course electricity; dex Media \$146.16—golf advertising. By a voice vote: Yes – 5; No – 0. Motion carried.
- b. **Sanction New Date for the 2016 Radar Run:** Mr. Christensen noted that since the ice conditions have been poor, the Radar Run has been changed to February 12, 2016 and February 13, 2016. Motion Vojta seconded Swenson that the Town Board sanctions the following trails for the St. Germain Radar Racers Radar Run on Friday February 12, 2016 from 7:00am to 9:00pm and on Saturday, February 13, 2016, from 7:00am to 7:00pm: 1. Hearthside Inn to Thunderbird Pass; 2. St. Germain Rentals along highline to Elberts Condominiums; 3. Trail from West Bay of Little St. Germain Lake to Hwy 70 next to Little Saint Mobil Express Mart; 4. All marked trails on Little St. Germain Lake; 5. West one half of West Bay of Little St. Germain Lake. By a voice vote: Yes – 5; No – 0. Motion carried.
- c. **Appointment of New Fire Chief:** Mr. Christensen reported that Tim Gebhardt has been elected by the fire department members as the new fire chief. Motion Olson seconded Swenson that Tim Gebhardt be appointed as fire chief for a term of five years. By a voice vote: Yes-5; No – 0: Motion carried.
- d. **Fireworks for July 3, 2016 Independence Day Celebration:** It was pointed out that the name and dates were incorrect on the proposed fireworks contract from Krueger Pyrotechnics. Motion Anderson seconded Swenson to accept the contract for the 2016 fireworks display from Krueger Pyrotechnics for \$15,000 with the correct dates and name. By a voice vote: Yes-5; No-0. Motion carried.
- e. **Continuing Discussion from the November Board Meeting on Dog Ordinance Violation – What Action Should the Town Board Take Going Forward:** Mr. Christensen noted that he had sent a letter to attorney Steve Garbowicz concerning a dog ordinance violation. Mr. Garbowicz replied with six possible remedies. Motion Vojta seconded Anderson that the town board have Mr. Garbowicz send a letter of circumstances to the property owner citing three of the possible remedies from Mr. Garbowicz's letter: 1. Issue a Citation under Section 11.06(2)(a); 3. Sue the owner of the dogs under the Writ of Mandamus to get an order from the court to prevent him from having more than four dogs; 4. Talk with Vilas County Department of Health. By a voice vote: Yes – 5; No – 0. Motion Carried. Mr. Christensen will contact the Vilas County Health Department.
- f. **Purchase of Budgeted Lawn Mower for the Golf Course:** Mr. Christensen said that the golf committee has recommended that the course purchase a Toro 4500D mower per Mr. Becker's recommendation. The mower is in the 2016 budget. Motion Christensen seconded Vojta to purchase a Toro 4500D Groundmaster mower from Reinders for \$61,435.66. By a voice vote: Yes-5; No-0. Motion carried.
- g. **Review Plowing Restrictions of Snow Across Town Roads:** Mr. Anderson requested that the town board consider adopting an ordinance prohibiting the plowing of snow across town roads. Mr. Anderson stated that there was a very near accident between a town plow and an ATV. Mr. Ebert was alert and avoided the accident. Mr. Anderson went on to say that there has been a town board policy against plowing across town roads, but now he is asking for an ordinance. Phil Monday added that he has been plowing with the loader. He has seen 10 to 12 properties where the snow has been plowed across a town road. Mr. Christensen said that he would look into it for next winter.

h. Report from Becher and Hoppe Regarding the Red Brick Schoolhouse: Mr. Anderson had handed out a proposal from Becher Hoppe regarding the Red Brick Schoolhouse. The firm would gather data, prepare conceptual designs, review the use of the site and discuss the requirements with the committee. The approximate cost would be \$8,000 to \$9,000. Mr. Christensen stated that when he was on the Northland Pines School Board, a plan from an outside firm was very helpful. Mr. Martens added that this is the first time in almost 19 years of discussing the Red Brick Schoolhouse that the town board is taking some action to come up with a plan. Mr. Vojta suggested that the town board come up with needs for the next 5 to 15 years. He also thought that the community center should be added into the discussions. Mr. Vojta also thought that the project should be put out for bids. Mr. Anderson will be meeting with Becher Hoppe on Wednesday. He will notify them that the board intends on going forward, but that Mr. Christensen will also be looking at other alternative firms. Mr. Anderson and Mr. Christensen want to keep the discussion moving forward.

17. Next Regular Town Board Meeting Date: The next regular town board meeting will be held on Monday, February 8, 2016 at 6:30 P.M. in meeting room #4 of the Community Center.

18. Adjourn: Motion Vojta seconded Olson that the meeting be adjourned. By a voice vote Yes -5, No -0. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned 8:02 P.M.

Town Clerk

Chairman

Supervisor

Supervisor

Supervisor

Supervisor