

# 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: FEBRUARY 8, 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 town treasurer. There also 14 other people in attendance.
4. **Open Meeting Verification:** Mr. Christensen noted that he had posted the meeting agenda at three locations in town on February 6, 2016 by 5:00 P.M.
5. **Approval of the Agenda:** Motion Vojta seconded Swenson 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 Vojta to dispense with the reading of the minutes and that the minutes of the January 11, 2016 meeting are approved as written. By a voice vote: Yes – 5, No – 0. Motion carried.
7. **Citizen's Comments:** Ted Ritter asked to be able to speak to item #15b. Ann Small noted that there is sharp chicken wire around the base of the tennis court fence.
8. **Town Chairman Report and Concerns:** Mr. Christensen stated that he has not heard anything from the DNR concerning the old landfill site. Mr. Christensen asked the board for an alternate date for the fireworks so that he could complete the contract with Krueger. Mr. Vojta suggested that Mr. Christensen check with the Chamber of Commerce.
9. **Town Supervisors' Reports and Concerns:** Mr. Anderson will draft a letter to State Senator Jerry Petrowski with copies to the DOT, Vilas County Highway Commissioner and the local State Senator and Representative concerning the condition of STH155.
10. **Town Clerk's Report and Concerns:** Mr. Martens stated that QuickBooks is working out, but that the screen through Team Viewer is very hard to read. The print is extremely small.
11. **Town Treasurer's Report and Concerns:** Balance General Account as of 01-31-2016 \$93,711.39; Room Tax Account \$46,223.51; Lakes Committee Account \$29,050.14; Lakes Committee CD \$15,616.81; Skateboard Park Fund \$2,843.12; Bike & Hike Trail \$28,346.72; First National Money Market \$1,757,160.73; Play Ground Equipment Fund \$4,395.98; Fire Department Restricted Acct \$11,936.26; Fireworks Donation Account \$3,789.78; Fire Dept. Vehicle/Equipment \$158,214.65; Golf Course Gen Acct \$107,655.01; Money Market \$54,462.37; Awassa Trail Funds Savings \$2,214.23. Ms. Janssen also stated that she was trying to find a way to make the screen for Team Viewer bigger.
12. **Fire Chief's Report and Concerns:** Fire Chief Tim Gebhardt reported that there had been 21 runs last month. Four people are enrolled in EMR classes. The application for the 2% fire dues has been completed. Mr. Anderson asked if the department was reviewing the by-laws and the ISO rating. Mr. Gebhardt noted that he was still working on getting around \$10,000 in damages to department equipment at the Hwy .G Landfill fire last fall.
13. **Report of the Standing Committees:**
  - a. **Golf Course:** Mr. Christensen reported that Mr. Becker is working the summer work schedule and Mr. Stippich is working on the equipment. Plum Lake is purchasing the old sprayer for \$500. Ms. Rogers has sent the season pass letters. Don Baumann has been checking on the carts and batteries. Ms. Rogers is working with the Chamber of Commerce to update the course website. Ms. Rogers purchased an iPhone in order to take videos. She is also working on the advertising.
  - b. **Public Works:** Mr. Vojta reported that as soon as it was warm enough the crew would be putting reflective tape on the town road sign posts at the intersections where there are no street lights.
  - c. **Finance:** The finance committee will be meeting to discuss the financing of the new patrol truck.

#### 14. Report of the Special Town Committees:

- a. **Lakes Committee:** Mr. Christensen reported that the committee had approved \$1178 for Copy Cat Printing to revise the sign on the AIS trailer. An ad for the St. Germain Business Directory for \$530 was approved. An application for an education grant for AIS and other lake problems.
- b. **Non-Motorized Trail Committee:** Ann Small reported that the elementary school has been using the Awassa Trail. The committee is looking at other types of fundraising. The committee is working on updating the trail map. The committee is also considering working with a trail designer. The signage for the hike and bike trail and also a bike work station are being looked into. The bike work station would cost \$1590, but the committee would seek donations.

#### 15. Discussion /Action Items:

- a. **Payment of Bills:** Motion Anderson seconded Vojta that general account checks 24077-24115 and golf course account checks 15022-15037 be approved along the following extra bills: Trollan Refrigeration \$2,090.00—cart barn surge protector; dex media \$98.33—advertising; DirecTV \$54.98—pro shop TV. By a voice vote: Yes – 5; No – 0. Motion carried.
- b. **Continuing Discussion of the Red Brick Schoolhouse/Community Center:** Mr. Anderson presented a rate comparison from Becher/Hoppe, Ghidorzi Group and Samuels Group for completing an engineering study of the red brick property. Mr. Anderson made a motion to engage Becher/Hoppe to provide the board with the information as stated in their proposal with the cost being paid from the community development account. Before any action could be taken, Mr. Christensen said that he thought that there were questions about other options. Mr. Christensen stated that the proposal sounded as though the only alternative would be to remodel both sections of the red brick schoolhouse. Mr. Anderson said that the proposal was to be a conceptual design for the entire property, not necessarily to keep both portions, or either portion of the building. Mr. Swenson thought that the money could be spent elsewhere like on the community center. Mr. Vojta said that the board needs to identify the town's needs before anything can move forward. Ted Ritter thought that the board would need to work with a consultant, but that the board needs to figure out what is needed first. Mr. Anderson added that the board had started on the path to do something, but now, the board is back to do nothing.
- c. **Review Plowing Restrictions of Snow across Town Roads:** Mr. Christensen said that the board needed to clean up the old 2006 policy before considering a new one. A resident has complained that the town plow hit his mailbox. The policy is that the town would replace a mailbox at a cost of up to \$25, if the plow actually hit the mailbox or post, but not if the mailbox was knocked down by the snow from the plow. Tim Ebert also noted that there has been a problem with cars being parked on the town roads all night.
- d. **Replacement of the 2006 Patrol Truck:** Mr. Vojta stated that the committee has recommended that the town purchase a Freightliner chassis and a truck body from Monroe for approximately \$190,566. The committee is estimating that the town could sell the current 2006 truck for around \$75,000. There would be a five-year Cummins engine and after treatment warrantee. Motion Vojta seconded Olson to recommend that the purchase of the Freightliner chassis and body from Monroe be referred to the finance committee and that Mr. Vojta, Tim Ebert and Mike VanMeter go to test drive the truck. By a voice vote: Yes – 5; No – 0. Motion carried.
- e. **Changes to the Building Specifications for Town Roads:** Motion Vojta seconded Olson to go forward with road specification changes as presented by Mr. Olson and that a map be prepared to show which town roads would receive 3 inches of blacktop and which roads would receive 2.5 inches of blacktop. There was no action. The public works committee will incorporate the changes into the Town Road Specification Policy before the board takes any action.
- f. **Distance Signage for St. Germain Bike & Hike Trail:** Ann Small presented a proposal for mileage signs for the bike & hike trail. The chamber would cover one half of the cost. The cost to the town would be around \$200, depending on what type of posts are used. The committee would decide on the wording and Ms. Small would install the signs. Motion Anderson seconded Olson to approve the invoice for the signs and posts as presented by the bike & hike committee. By a voice vote: Yes – 5; No – 0. Motion carried.
- g. **State Land for Sale in St. Germain:** Mr. Christensen reported that the State is selling several parcels of land in St. Germain. The town would have first choice to purchase the land. Several of the parcels have snowmobile trails running through them. A condition of any sale is that there would be a permanent easement for the snowmobile trails. Mr. Vojta wanted to know what the price would be. Mr. Anderson wanted to know what use the land would be to the town. Ted Ritter

thought that the board could check with the assessor to see what value he would put on the parcels. Mr. Christensen will get more information.

**h. Sanction New Location for the 2016 Radar Run:** Mr. Christensen noted that the radar run has been moved to South Bay of Little St. Germain Lake instead of West Bay. 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. All of South Bay of Little St. Germain Lake; 6. From STH70 all of Halberstadt Road, Gessert Road, Kuenne Road and Estrold Road to Black Bear Lodge. By a voice vote: Yes – 5; No – 0. Motion carried.

**i. Review Chapter 1 Zoning Ordinance:** Mr. Christensen had highlighted some sections of Chapter 1 of the St. Germain Zoning Ordinance that he questioned. The consensus of the board was to remove “Guest House: See Vilas County Zoning Ordinance” and “Home Rental: See Vilas County Zoning Ordinance. The consensus of the board was to have Mr. Christensen check to see what the statutes said about issuing a CUP (Conditional Use Permit). Should it be the zoning committee or town board? The consensus of the board was that section 4(e) should say “recommend” the appointment of the zoning administrator rather than “appoint”.

**j. Review New Ordinance Creating a Plan Commission:** Mr. Christensen had prepared an ordinance for the Town of St. Germain Plan Commission. The clerk needs to find when the town board was given Village Powers. No action was taken.

**16. Next Regular Town Board Meeting Date:** The next regular town board meeting will be held on Monday, March 14, 2016 at 6:30 P.M. in meeting room #4 of the Community Center.

**17. Adjourn:** Motion Olson seconded Vojta that the meeting be adjourned. By a voice vote Yes -5, No -0. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned 9:30 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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