

TOWN OF ST. GERMAIN

OFFICE OF THE CLERK
P.O. BOX 7

ST. GERMAIN, WISCONSIN 54558

www.townofstgermain.org

MINUTES TOWN BOARD MEETING: JULY 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, Ted Ritter, John Vojta, Jim Swenson, Doug Olson, Marion Janssen, Town Treasurer, Tom Martens, Town Clerk. There also 16 other people in attendance.
4. **Open Meeting Verification:** Mr. Christensen noted that he had posted the meeting agenda at three locations in town on July 9, 2016 by 6:00 P.M...
5. **Approval of the Agenda:** Motion Olson 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 Ritter seconded Swenson to dispense with the reading of the minutes and that the minutes of the June 13, 2016, June 27, 2016 and June 29, 2016 town board meetings are approved as written. By a voice vote: Yes – 5, No – 0. Motion carried.
7. **Citizen's Comments:** Mr. Christensen introduced Janet Clark from Senator Ron Johnson's office and Martha Milanowski, candidate for Vilas County District Attorney. There were no other comments.
8. **Town Chairman Report and Concerns:** Mr. Christensen reported that the work in the right of way permits needed to be completed and that the crossing permits for the ATV/UTV trails on STH70 & STH155 should be here soon. Mr. Christensen has not heard anything from MSA engineering concerning the culvert issue. If he doesn't hear from them this week, Mr. Christensen will contact a different engineering firm. Becker-Hoppe has undergone reorganization. They were under the impression that the town would be sending a proposal. Mr. Christensen has asked that a representative from Becker-Hoppe come up here to help decide what can be done with the community center and red brick schoolhouse properties.
9. **Town Supervisors' Reports and Concerns:** Mr. Vojta reported that he had received an application to install a tower in the right of way on STH70. He is going to let the company know that they have to contact the DOT.
10. **Town Clerk's Report and Concerns:** There was no report.
11. **Town Treasurer's Report and Concerns:** Balance General Account as of 6-30-2016: \$17,475.27; Room Tax Account \$16,525.96; Lakes Committee Account \$27,359.76; Lakes Committee CD \$15,626.51; Skateboard Park Fund \$2,843.83; Bike & Hike Trail \$28,920.25; First National Money Market \$278,973.82; Play Ground Equipment Fund \$4,397.07; Fire Department Restricted Acct \$11,939.24; Fireworks Donation Account \$3,790.72; Fire Dept. Vehicle/Equipment \$46,010.05; Community Development \$71,037.03; Golf Course Gen Acct \$99,457.24; Golf Course Money Market \$34,473.24; Awassa Trail Funds Savings \$7,715.72
12. **Fire Chief's Report and Concerns:** Tim Gebhardt reported that there had been 72 calls last quarter. The new tanker chassis has been delivered, the truck is being built. It is about two weeks behind schedule. The water fights held during the Independence Day Celebration seemed to be enjoyed. The traffic control during the parade seemed to go well.
13. **Report of the Standing Committees:**
 - a. **Golf Course:** Mr. Christensen reported that the golf course committee meets on the Thursday prior to the town board meeting at 6:00 P.M. The revenues through June were just about even with last year. So far in July, they are up about 17%. The pro shop now has both Frontier and Sonic Net for internet service. Four of the rented carts were hit by lightning. So far, the company has paid for the repairs. It may turn into an insurance claim. Yamaha has offered to fly Ms. Rogers-Anderson and a town board member to their plant in Georgia to see how the golf carts are built. A ventilation fan has been installed in the cart barn. Mr. Becker reports that the course is in excellent shape. The new rough mower is working very well. Sand has been placed around the irrigation pump to help keep it cool. So far, it has worked without any problems this summer. Rainbird will come out for a site

survey for a new irrigation system. Flowers have been purchased for the course. The stumps at the end of the driving range still need to be ground. The ladies T at the 18th hole should be started this month. Work will be started on the short game facility. There are some small tools that need to be replaced.

- b. Public Works:** Mr. Vojta noted that there were no replies from the WTA bulletin ad for the sale of the old truck. The root cutting on the bike & hike trail should begin this week. The work on the pavilion has been completed. The work on the BBQ pit has been completed. The crew will start to mow the shoulders within two weeks. The pier at Vandervort Park needs repairs or replacing. The cost may be split between the town, the Lost Lake District and the Lost Lake Association.
- c. Planning & Zoning:** Mr. Ritter reported that the committee has reviewed the town zoning ordinance, line by line. A final copy will be forwarded to the town board. Mr. Ritter thought that there would have to be a special town board meeting in August to go over it.
- d. Finance:** Mr. Vojta stated that the committee will be meeting soon and that he would like a copy of the financial statement and the town budget through June.

14. Report of the Special Town Committees:

- a. Lakes Committee:** Mr. Ritter reported that Don Richter will be speaking on shoreland zoning tomorrow night. The committee will also decide how the money in the Lakes Accounts should be divided.
- b. Non-Motorized Trail Committee:** Mr. Swenson noted that committee is waiting for the mile marker signs. They should be here by the end of July. Over 400 people took part in the Fun Run. A kiosk for the Awassa Trail by Eagle Watch will be an Eagle Scout project.
- c. Zoning:** Mr. Ritter noted that the Planning & Zoning Committee had approved the conditional use permit for Northwoods Storage of St. Germain for mini storage buildings. The conditions are that Mr. Marion needs to construct a 6' x 150' privacy fence 15ft from the north line of his property; any lights must be faced away from the neighbor to the north. The drainage plan that was submitted by Mr. Marion appeared to take care of any drainage problems. Mr. Ritter also noted that the St. Germain Zoning map needed to be updated. Since it had not been updated since 2005, Vilas County basically has to start over. The cost could be up to \$500.

15. Report from Lake Districts and Other Organizations: Mr. Ritter reported that the Lost Lake District may be asking for \$15,000 from the Lakes Account. They also probably will be levying around \$50,000 to the property owners in the district.

16. Discussion /Action Items:

- a. Payment of Bills Including Van Hoozen Electric Bill:** Motion Christensen seconded Vojta that general account bills 24320-24365, golf course bills 15156-15199, direct deposit bills DD630-DD638 & direct deposit bills DD700-DD50 be approved along with the following extra bills: Peterson-Metz - \$20.00 QuickBooks help; CTL \$58.04 golf course supplies; WPS \$1,586.65; golf course electricity; Eagle Waste \$144.16 – golf dumpster; Carl Eliason & Co \$147.25 – golf course pump house project, and that the payment request letter from VanHoozen Electric from the June meeting be denied. By a voice vote Yes – 5, No – 0. Motion carried. Mr. Vojta asked Mr. Christensen how he came to decision to deny the request from VanHoozen Electric. Mr. Christensen stated that attorney Steve Garbowicz advised that the bill not be paid since Mr. VanHoozen had not done any work or supplied any supplies for the town. .
- b. Recommendation from Public Works to Submit Bridge Aid Form to Vilas County Highway Department:** Motion Vojta seconded Swenson that Mr. Christensen be authorized to submit a bridge aid form to Vilas County for the culvert on Four Corner Lane at Found Creek. By a voice vote Yes – 5, No – 0. Motion carried.
- c. Business Connection – Discussion of the Services and Charges the Town hires Business Connection to provide for our Town:** Lois Ruediger handed out a review of her services to the town from Business Connections. Ms. Ruediger stated that she answers phone calls and directs them to the proper board members for \$45 per month. She manages the town facilities, rents them and collects the money for a charge of \$80.00 per month. Ms. Ruediger has also distributed dump vouchers, absentee ballot & voter registration applications and printed town reports as needed. Ms. Ruediger thought that the old pavilion should be opened for gathering with a charge of \$25 per event. She asked that the lawn mower be moved from under the pavilion at

Vandervort Park. Mr. Vojta asked to be added to the list to receive a schedule of events that are scheduled in the town facilities.

- d. **Finance Bids for the Road Replacement Projects:** Mr. Vojta reported that he had received a quote from one other bank other than the two that Ms. Janssen already had received. When the town is ready, the financing for the road work will be available. That should be near the end of September or in early October.
- e. **Road replacement projects for this coming fall:** Motion Olson seconded Vojta that Mr. Christensen be authorized to sign the contract with Pitlik & Wick for the proposed road work. By a voice vote Yes – 5, No – 0. Motion carried. The financing will close this fall.
- f. **First Review of the Revised Dog Ordinance:** Mr. Ritter noted that he had looked at several other dog ordinances, used a template from the Wisconsin Towns Association, had asked advice from the attorney, and had studied the statutes. Mr. Swenson asked about the use of a remote control collar. Mr. Christensen asked questions about the format. He thought that all of the town ordinances should use the same format. He also asked about the section concerning sporting dogs. It is the same as in the old ordinance. There is a problem with sporting dogs now. Mr. Ritter stated that he had highlighted that section and would consult the town's attorney. The board thought that the fines that Mr. Ritter had suggested were good. Don Bauman's position's title needed to be changed to Animal Control Officer. There was a question concerning out of state dogs and their being tagged or not tagged. Ms. Janssen thought that zoning areas needed to be stressed. If sporting dogs are to be allowed, it should not be in a residential area. Mr. Bauman stated that he has been charging \$20 to pick up a stray dog. Motion Vojta seconded Ritter that after the changes have been made; the first draft of the dog ordinance should be taken to the town's attorney for review. By a voice vote Yes – 5, No – 0. Motion carried.
- g. **Golf Course Committee Recommendation to Sell Tommy Lift and Old Ice Maker:** Tim Clark stated that the old ice maker from the golf course really had no value. The Tommy lift has been removed from the old 1-Ton truck and is just sitting in a corner. Motion Christensen seconded Swenson to authorize Mr. Becker to sell the Tommy Lift at a price that he determines to be fair. By a voice vote Yes – 5, No – 0. Motion carried. Motion Christensen seconded Ritter to authorize Trollan Heating & Cooling to remove the old ice maker at no charge to the town for the value of the ice maker. By a voice vote Yes – 5, No – 0. Motion carried.
- h. **Provisional Liquor License Ordinance – Do we want to have one or need one:** Mr. Martens said that the town needs a provisional license ordinance. Each year, several of the businesses don't get their license applications returned in time to report them to the town board. The ordinance would allow those businesses to sell alcohol until their applications can be approved by the town board. Motion Christensen seconded Swenson to send the updated Provisional License Ordinance to attorney Garbowicz for review. By a voice vote Yes – 5, No – 0. Motion carried.
- i. **Appointed Clerk and Treasurer – Do we want to switch from an elected Clerk and Treasurer to an appointed Clerk and Treasurer?** Mr. Christensen noted that he had placed the possibly switch to an appointed clerk and treasurer because of an article in the WTA bulletin. There are between 100 and 200 towns in the state that have either an appointed clerk or treasurer or an appointed combined clerk/treasurer. Mr. Christensen also noted that if the town board approved of an ordinance for the switch, everything would have to be in place by August 29th in order for the referendum question to be placed on the ballot for the November 8, 2016 general election. Ms. Janssen thought that if the town board were to consider combining the clerk and treasurer positions, the board would have to come up with a salary or hourly wage equal to the position. It would require holding regular office hours. Mr. Martens thought that it would be different if either he or Ms. Janssen were considering not running again, but that to bring the switch up now is kind of a slap in the face to them. Mr. Ritter thought that there were too many details to consider being ready by August 29th. Mr. Vojta thought that the costs of making the switch or combining the clerk and treasurer positions needed to be considered. Mr. Christensen said that one of the reasons that some of the towns have switched to appointed positions is that they have had a hard time finding someone to run for the positions. Mr. Martens said that if the time comes when either he or Ms. Janssen decided not to run again, that the town board would know in plenty of time to consider making the positions into appointed positions. Mr. Vojta and Mr. Ritter thought that there not enough time to have everything in place by August 29th. Mr. Swenson and Mr. Olson agreed. Mr. Ritter added that the board should start a discussion during the summer of 2017 for the 2019 election, if the board was going to consider the switch.

17. What Items From This Meeting Need To Be On The Website? Mr. Ritter said that there were still a lot of holes on the website for minutes and agendas from the committees. Mr. Vojta asked, that if they

are not already there, that the rental fees be placed on the website. Mr. Ritter said that they are already there.

18. Next Regular Town Board Meeting Date: The next regular town board meeting will be held on Monday, August 8, 2016 at 6:30 P.M. in meeting room #4 of the Community Center. There will be a Board of Appeals public hearing held on Thursday, July 14, 2016 at 5:00 P.M. in meeting room #4 of the community center to hear a request from Northwoods Storage of St. Germain, Chris Marion, agent. There will be a public hearing concerning the vacating of a portion of Dollar Road on Tuesday, July 19, 2016 at 6:00 P.M. in meeting room #4 of the community center.

19. Adjourn: Motion Swenson seconded Vojta that the meeting be adjourned. By a voice vote Yes -5, No -0. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned 8:20 P.M.

Town Clerk

Chairman

Supervisor

Supervisor

Supervisor

Supervisor