

TOWN OF ST. GERMAIN

OFFICE OF THE CLERK
P.O. BOX 7

ST. GERMAIN, WISCONSIN 54558

www.townofstgermain.org

MINUTES TOWN BOARD MEETING: AUGUST 8, 2016

1. **Call to Order:** Chairman Tom Christensen called the meeting to order at 6:34 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 7 other people in attendance.
4. **Open Meeting Verification:** Mr. Christensen noted that he had posted the meeting agenda at three locations in town on August 6, 2016 by 6:00 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 Olson seconded Swenson to dispense with the reading of the minutes and that the minutes of the July 11, 2016, and the July 19, 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 Jane VanWormer, candidate for Vilas County Register of Deeds. Marv Anderson gave an overview of some recent county board happenings. Mr. Anderson noted that the Master Gardeners of Vilas County may be able to help with the landscaping around the Veterans' Memorial. The county is considering a \$10,000,000 addition to the courthouse. A sheriff department survey indicated that the county needs at least three more deputies and three detention officers. The county board has approved of a resource officer for Northland Pines High School. TRIP funds are available. Mr. Vojta will complete the forms.
8. **Town Chairman Report and Concerns:** Mr. Christensen reported that MSA Engineering has been retained to conduct a survey concerning the specifications for the Big St. Germain Drive culvert over Lost Creek. Representatives from Becker-Hoppe were here last week to go through the Red Brick Schoolhouse and the Community Center. They will be preparing a proposal. There will be a special town board meeting to meet with them to discuss their proposal. Mr. Christensen noted that he thought that Chapters 20 & 14 of the town ordinances, which deal with alcohol licenses and consumption could be combined with the Provisional License Ordinance. An ordinance that he found also included a provision whereby the town clerk is given permission to issue bartender and special picnic licenses without getting town board approval each year.
9. **Town Supervisors' Reports and Concerns:** Mr. Vojta reported that Mr. Martens had given him an insurance certificate from Stantec. It appears that it is for applying chemicals to the lakes. Mr. Vojta gave it back to Mr. Martens to be filed. Mr. Ritter noted that he had received a phone call from a home owner on Balsam Blvd. stating that they have not been able to sell their home because of all of the junk in a neighbor's yard. Mr. Ritter suggested that the town board members drive past the property. Mr. Ritter found a sample of a junk car ordinance.
10. **Town Clerk's Report and Concerns:** Mr. Martens reported that he had found the minutes from a public hearing in 1995 where the south 1300 feet of Dollar Road had been abandoned. Mr. Christensen thought that the town should have a title search done just to make sure that all of the sections of Dollar Road that have been abandoned have been abandoned properly. Hopefully, the title search will also indicate to whom that land will revert to. Mr. Martens also noted that should the community center ever become the official town offices there needed to be designated parking spaces for town employees. During the Flea Market this morning, there were no parking spaces available near the community center.
11. **Town Treasurer's Report and Concerns:** Balance General Account as of 7-31-2016: \$48,671.10; Room Tax Account \$61,178.44; Lakes Committee Account \$27,291.87; Lakes Committee CD \$15,628.37; Skateboard Park Fund \$2,843.94; Bike & Hike Trail \$28,864.11; First National Money Market \$279,007.07; Play Ground Equipment Fund \$3,047.24; Fire Department Restricted Acct \$11,939.71; Fireworks Donation Account \$5,159.39; Fire Dept. Vehicle/Equipment \$46,011.88; Community Development \$71,039.85; Golf Course Gen Acct \$229,955.07; Golf Course Money Market \$54,479.71; Awassa Trail Funds Savings \$7,716.03
12. **Report of the Standing Committees:**

- a. **Golf Course:** Mr. Christensen reported that the golf course committee had not met. The committee will be meeting tomorrow night at 6:00 P.M. in meeting room #5 of the community center.
- b. **Public Works:** Mr. Vojta noted that root cutting on the bike and hike trail has been started. The road signs are in, but probably will not be put up until this fall. The mowing of the town road shoulders should begin this week. The town has received a bill for the new patrol truck chassis.
- c. **Planning & Zoning:** Mr. Ritter reported that the committee had not met. They are just about finished reviewing chapter one. Chapter two is the zoning map and could be incorporated into chapter one. The committee is reviewing chapter three and chapter four, the travelway and mobile home ordinances. Chapter five, the subdivision ordinance is on hold until Vilas County finishes working on its subdivision ordinance.
- d. **Finance:** Mr. Vojta stated that the committee had met earlier tonight. The budget is in good shape. Some of the accounts need to be updated.

1. Report of the Special Town Committees:

a. **Lakes Committee:** There was no report.

b. **Non-Motorized Trail Committee:** Mr. Swenson noted that committee has met at the end of July. Work has been started by the Eagle Scouts on the kiosk for the Awassa Trail. Eliason Realty has donated \$300 and mBank \$500 towards the kiosk. The survey of the town property has been completed. Mr. Swenson is waiting for the maps. Ms. Janssen noted that the committee had applied for grants that they hope to get for next year. Mr. Vojta asked that when the committee is working on projects that they consider a plan for the maintenance of that project.

2. Report from Lake Districts and Other Organizations: Mr. Ritter reported that the Lost Lake District is having a hard time coming up with a budget. They have applied for grants, but they don't know that they will receive any of them. Several of the lake districts are having their annual meetings over Labor Day Weekend.

3. Discussion /Action Items:

a. **Payment of Bills:** Motion Vojta seconded Olson that golf course account checks 15199-15244, general account checks 24366-24403, Direct deposit checks DD7050-7088 and DD800-835 along the following extra bills: St. Germain Chamber of Commerce \$62,646.10—2nd qt. room tax; Wisconsin Public Service \$1,798.24—golf course electricity; Paul's Rent All \$340—stump grinder; Eagle Waste \$148.05—golf dumpster; CHS Larsen Cooperative--\$1,507.32 golf course various oils; People's State Bank \$208,338.00—refinance loan payment; People's State Bank \$33,898.08—new fire truck loan. By a voice vote Yes – 5, No – 0. Motion carried.

b. **Town Insurance renews on October 1, 2016; do we want to go out for bid?** Mr. Vojta opened the conversation by asking the board if it wanted to seek bids for the town's insurance policies. He added that the difference in the quotes last year was not very significant. Mr. Vojta noted that the town employees had asked that the town look into a dental plan. Up until this year, Meyer Insurance had been the town insurance carrier. Jon Strom from Meyer Insurance was present. Mr. Strom stated that the bidding last year had not been apples to apples. One of the quotes had used the current property values at the time and Mr. Strom said that his company had used the projected new values for this year. He also noted that there was no hail coverage for the golf course greens and the liability policy for the Housing Authority had been double coverage. He suggested that for the bidding for this year all companies use the same property values and that there not be any hail coverage for the greens. Motion Swenson seconded Vojta to invite bids for the town's liability and property insurance which renews on October 1, 2016. By a voice vote Yes – 5, No – 0. Motion carried

c. **Review and Adopt Dog Ordinance:** Mr. Ritter noted that a vicious dog section had been added to the proposed ordinance. Mr. Swenson and Mr. Vojta had questions concerning the electronic collar portion of the ordinance. Mr. Vojta asked about enforcement. Mr. Ritter explained that he had visited with the Vilas County Clerk of Courts. There are citation forms available from Hahn Printing. Anyone can serve a citation. Tim Faesi, member of the planning & zoning committee, has volunteered to serve the citations. Pleadings on town citations go before the Vilas County Circuit Court Judge on Monday mornings. The town would need to adopt a code of ordinances. By adopting a code of ordinances, each individual ordinance doesn't need to be published in its entirety. One ordinance or several ordinances can be approved at a time. The town board needs to adopt a resolution stating that it is going to adopt the code of ordinances. Mr. Vojta questioned

the court costs to the town. If the town wins, who pays the bill? If the town loses, who pays the bill? The board will read the ordinance and emails from Mr. Ritter again. It will be brought up again at another meeting. Ms. Janssen asked dogs in the town park be incorporated into the ordinance. Dogs on all town property should be incorporated into the ordinance.

d. Zoning Committee Member Reassignment: Motion carried n Christensen seconded Ritter that Mr. Swenson be reassigned to the planning & zoning committee to replace Mr. Olson. By a voice vote Yes – 5, No – 0. Motion carried

e. Room Tax Commission Appointments – All of the Commission member’s appointments have expired June 30, 2016 and need to be reappointed: Motion Christensen seconded Vojta that Fred Radtke, Tom Christensen, Tom Best, Paul Bohnen, and Deb Harvey be reappointed to the Room Tax Commission. By a voice vote Yes – 5, No – 0. Motion carried. Marion Janssen, town treasurer, is automatically on the Room Tax Commission per the Accommodation Tax Ordinance.

f. Lakes Committee – Discussion on the makeup of the committee, direction and chairmanship of the committee: Mr. Christensen noted that Chuck Thier had resigned as chairman of the lakes committee. Mr. Christensen thanked Mr. Thier for his years of service and will be sending him a letter on behalf of the town board. Mr. Ritter thought that the town board needed to be more involved in the lakes committee. He also thought that the committee chairman should not have a vote, or could vote only as a tie breaker. Mr. Ritter also thought that there needed to be more education to get the town board and the property owners more together. Motion Christensen seconded Vojta that Mr. Ritter be appointed as the chairman and the town board representative for the Lakes Committee. By a voice vote Yes – 4, No – 0. Motion carried. Mr. Ritter did not vote. Mr. Christensen thought that if money is going to be spent, that rather than spending it on things such as shoreline restoration, that it be spent on getting all septic system around the lakes in good working order. He also added that violators needed to be worked with. Mr. Ritter said that he would come back with some suggestions from the committee.

4. What Items From This Meeting Need To Be On The Website? There were no new suggestions.

5. Next Regular Town Board Meeting Date: The next regular town board meeting will be held on Monday, September 12, 2016 at 6:30 P.M. in meeting room #4 of the Community Center.

6. Adjourn: Motion Swenson seconded Olson that the meeting be adjourned. By a voice vote Yes -5, No -0. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned 9:08 P.M.

Town Clerk

Chairman

Supervisor

Supervisor

Supervisor

Supervisor