

TOWN OF ST. GERMAIN

OFFICE OF THE CLERK
P.O. BOX 7

ST. GERMAIN, WISCONSIN 54558

www.townofstgermain.org

MINUTES TOWN BOARD MEETING: SEPTEMBER 12, 2016

1. **Call to Order:** Chairman Tom Christensen called the meeting to order at 6:32 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 25 other people in attendance.
4. **Open Meeting Verification:** Mr. Christensen noted that he had posted the meeting agenda at three locations in town on September 10, 2016 before 5:30 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 Ritter seconded Olson to dispense with the reading of the minutes and that the minutes of the August 8, 2016 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. **Town Chairman Report and Concerns:** Mr. Christensen noted that two items had been left off of the agenda. One was the approval of a liquor license for Wild Bear Pub & Grill, Thomas Ludwig, agent and the second was approval of the financing for the roadwork that is being done this fall. Mr. Christensen also noted that the title company is researching whether or not the southern portion of Dollar Road was abandoned properly. Sometime next year, the DNR is going to be updating Birch Spring Road at no cost to the town so that a logging operation can be completed.
9. **Town Supervisors' Reports and Concerns:** Mr. Olson asked what was being done about the property owners on Lost Lake Drive North as far as septic lines underneath the roadway. Mr. Christensen stated that the properties that might be affected already have septic lines under the roadway. Mr. Olson also asked about some junk cars.
10. **Town Clerk's Report and Concerns:** There were none.
11. **Town Treasurer's Report and Concerns:** Balance General Account as of 8-31-2016: \$313,300.47; Room Tax Account \$43,615.53; Lakes Committee Account \$27,293.10; Lakes Committee CD \$15,630.36; Skateboard Park Fund \$2,844.07; Bike & Hike Trail \$24,016.26; First National Money Market \$54,027.82; Play Ground Equipment Fund \$7,623.51; Fire Department Restricted Acct \$11,940.25; Fireworks Donation Account \$5,159.62; Fire Dept. Vehicle/Equipment \$46,013.96; Community Development \$67,365.86; Golf Course Gen Acct \$205,356.32; Golf Course Money Market \$54,484.64; Awassa Trail Funds Savings \$7,887.71
12. **Report of the Standing Committees:**
 - a. **Golf Course:** Mr. Christensen reported that there is a new tee on #18. Work is being done on the Mulligan's Short Game Practice Area. In the future, there are trees that need to be trimmed throughout the course, and blacktop that needs to be replaced near the pro shop. The controls for the irrigation system need to be replaced. More carts are needed. The two larger pumps need to be replaced. Mr. Vojta suggested that the balance of the golf course loans be paid off now. Mr. Christensen said that might cause a cash flow problem next spring for the planned projects to be completed.
 - b. **Public Works:** Mr. Vojta noted that the mowing along the town roads was almost completed. The roots along the bike and hike trail have been cut, but now it appears that rolling the blacktop might not work. The crew is going to replace the culvert on Heeler Road. Pitlik & Wick has started the proposed roadwork. About 50% of the road signs have been replaced.
 - c. **Planning & Zoning:** Mr. Ritter reported that several years ago, the Vogel subdivision on Little St Germain Lake had been approved by the town and county, but that it had never been recorded. The Vogel family has had the plat approved again and now the plat will be recorded.

d. **Finance:** Mr. Vojta stated that the committee not met.

13. Report of the Special Town Committees:

- a. **Lakes Committee:** Mr. Ritter reported that the September 19, 2016 meeting had been cancelled. The meeting to discuss general lake management is rescheduled for October 18, 2016. On the same night, there is a two hour training session that Mr. Ritter encouraged the other town board members to attend. If the other town board members can't attend the training session, Mr. Ritter encouraged them to attend the lakes committee meeting.
- b. **Non-Motorized Trail Committee:** Mr. Swenson noted that the kiosk for the Awassa Trail has been completed. The mileage signs are being put up. On October 11, 2016, the governor's wife will be in town to tour the Awassa Trail. Details of her time in town will be forthcoming.

14. Report from Lake Districts and Other Organizations: Mr. Christensen reported that the DNR did not approve the Little St. Germain District's plan for cutting and treating the weeds. The district, per Wisconsin Statute, is setting up an account for whatever money is left at the end of the year. Mr. Ritter stated that the Lost Lake District has approved a 50% increase in its levy. Mr. Vojta reported that the Big St. Germain District has approved a \$5,000 increase in its levy to be set aside for future use. Mr. Ritter said that the DNR is not issuing permits and not granting money for lake issues. He added that the problem is just going to get bigger. Marv Anderson added that the local legislators needed to get involved. The lake districts cannot do it all by themselves.

15. Discussion /Action Items:

- a. **Payment of Bills:** Motion Vojta seconded Olson that golf course account checks 15249-15288, general account checks 24428-24427, Direct deposit checks DD836-872 and DD900-934 along the following extra bills: Wisconsin Public Service \$2,051.05—golf electricity; Don Bauman \$121.10—constable mileage; Wisconsin Unemployment \$50—golf late filing fee; Wisconsin Unemployment \$50—general account late filing fee; Wisconsin Department of Revenue \$9,174.68—August sales tax. By a voice vote Yes – 5, No – 0. Motion carried.
- b. **Sale of Patrol Truck to the Town of Pelican:** Motion Christensen seconded Olson to sell the #1 patrol truck to the Town of Pelican for \$69,000. By a voice vote Yes – 5, No – 0. Motion carried. The wing mount will be left on the truck. The crew will have everything out of the truck by next Tuesday.
- c. **Fuel Tank Inspection – The Company that has been doing the inspection for us has gone out of business:** Motion Vojta seconded Ritter to approve the contract to provide local program operator coverage with the City of Rhinelander Fire Department to inspect the above and below ground fuel storage tanks for the town's fire jurisdiction area. By a voice vote Yes – 5, No – 0. Motion carried.
- d. **Purchase of 38 Acres – Property is on the east side of Hwy 155 at Big St. Germain Drive:** Mr. Christensen explained that the DNR was selling approximately 38 acres of land along Hwy. 155 in Section 15. The parcel contains the Fern Ridge Hiking Trail and a Bo-Boen Snowmobile Trail. The price would be \$48,000. The DNR would place restrictions on the land, but they would not be as strict as on the Awassa Trail property. The town would be able to build a shelter building on up to .5 acres. The DNR would also allow an ATV trail. The president of the ATV Club noted that the trail would be very important to the club. Other suggestions were a disc golf course, shooting range, mountain bike trail, and winter park. Motion Olson seconded Vojta to send the question of purchasing the property to the finance committee to see if it could be financed without borrowing and if the committee was able to come up with a way of financing without borrowing that the town board move forward with scheduling a public hearing for the possible purchase of the property. By a voice vote Yes – 5, No – 0. Motion carried.
- e. **Consider committing to developing procedures enabling the enforcement of specific Town Ordinances through citations issued by the town and enforced in Vilas County Circuit Court:** Mr. Ritter asked if the town board was serious about enforcing the town ordinances. If the board was not serious, there was no point in revising and codifying any of the ordinances. Mr. Vojta said that he was on board with enforcing the ordinances. Mr. Ritter thought that it would be better to write a resolution committing the board to the enforcement of the ordinance rather than just making a motion. Mr. Christensen asked that Mr. Ritter write the resolution. Phil Monday thought that the town should have a deputized officer.

- f. **Decided whether the sign ordinance approved by the Town and County Boards in late 2010 and early 2011 respectively is adequate and enforceable or whether the Zoning Committee should be instructed to refine that ordinance so that the previously approved version could be rescinded and replaced:** Motion Ritter seconded Christensen that the town board instruct the planning and zoning committee to proceed with its review of the 2010 off-premises sign ordinance and bring its findings back to the town board. By a voice vote Yes – 5, No – 0. Motion carried.
- g. **Schedule a Special Board Meeting to review, refine and adopt Chapters 1, 3, 4 and 11 of the Town of St. Germain Code of Ordinances:** There will be a special town board meeting held on Tuesday, September 20, 2016 at 6:00 P.M. in meeting room #4 of the community center. The purpose of the meeting will be to approve a Class B Combination license for Wild Bear Pub & Grill, Thomas Ludwig, agent and to approve the financing for the roadwork that is being done this fall. Mr. Christensen will choose either agenda item g or item i to also be on the agenda. There will be a second special town board meeting held on Wednesday, September 28, 2016 at 6:00 P.M. to discuss insurance quotes and either item g or item i from this agenda.
- h. **Usage of Rooms 4 & 5 in the Community Building – Who is allowed to use them and how are they reserved:** Mr. Ritter will write a town board policy stating that meeting room #5 can only be scheduled for meetings that are attended by a town board member of the town clerk or town treasurer. Any meetings scheduled in meeting room #5 should be scheduled through Lois Reudiger. Meetings in room #4 will be scheduled through Lois Reudiger. The clerk and treasurer noted that there may be times when they need to use meeting room #5 and may walk in during a meeting.
- i. **Schedule a Special Board Meeting to meet with Funktion Design Studio to discuss their services concerning the Red Brick Schoolhouse and the Community Center Building.** See agenda item g above.
- j. **Golf Course Budget Adjustments:** Mr. Christensen postponed the budget adjustments and asked Mr. Martens to forward a copy of the golf course reflecting the bills that were approved tonight to Mr. Becker and Ms. Rogers Anderson.

16. Closed Session – Adjourn to closed session in accordance with Sections 19.85 (1) (e) of the Wisconsin Statutes to consider ambulance service for the Town and replacement of the Lost Creek culvert on Big St. Germain Drive.

(e) Deliberating or negotiating the purchase of public properties, the investing of public funds or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session. Motion Christensen seconded Vojta that the meeting be adjourned into closed session at 9:24 P.M. By a roll call vote: Mr. Olson – yes; Mr. Vojta – yes; Mr. Swenson – yes; Mr. Ritter – yes; Mr. Christensen – yes. Motion carried.

17. Reconvene to Open Session – Reconvene to open session to take such action(s) as the Board deems appropriate, following consideration given in closed session. Motion Vojta seconded Swenson that the meeting be reconvened into open session. By a voice vote Yes – 5, No – 0. Motion carried.

Motion Vojta seconded Olson that the chairman writes a letter to the Town of Plum Lake as discussed in closed session and that the chairman writes a letter to Legacy Construction as discussed in closed session. By a voice vote Yes – 5, No – 0. Motion carried.

Mr. Vojta, with Mr. Swenson’s help, will review the town insurance proposals and report to the rest of the town board.

18. What Items From This Meeting Need To Be On The Website? Mr. Ritter will decide what items from the meeting should be placed on the website.

19. Next Regular Town Board Meeting Date – Monday October 10, 2016 at 6:30pm: There will also be a special town board meeting on Tuesday, September 20, 2016 at 6:00 P.M. in meeting room #4, a special town board meeting held on Wednesday, September 28, 2016 in meeting room #4, a budget workshop on Wednesday, November 2, 2016 at 5:00 P.M. and the Annual Budget and Special Elector meeting held on Tuesday, November 15, 2016 at 7:00 P.M. The elector meeting will follow immediately after the budget hearing.

20. Adjourn: Motion Swenson seconded Olson that the meeting be adjourned. By a voice vote Yes – 5, No – 0. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned 10:35 P.M.

Town Clerk

Chairman

Supervisor

Supervisor

Supervisor

Supervisor