

TOWN OF ST. GERMAIN

OFFICE OF THE CLERK
P.O. BOX 7

ST. GERMAIN, WISCONSIN 54558

www.townofstgermain.org

MINUTES SPECIAL TOWN BOARD MEETING: SEPTEMBER 20, 2016

1. **Call to Order:** Chairman Tom Christensen called the meeting to order at 6:01 P.M.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Roll Call, Establish a Quorum:** Tom Christensen, Ted Ritter, John Vojta, Jim Swenson, Doug Olson, Tom Martens, town clerk was absent. Marion Janssen came in the middle of the meeting. There were several 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 19, 2016 by 5:00 P.M.
5. **Approval of the Agenda:** Motion Swenson seconded Olson 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. **Citizen's Comments:** There were none.
7. **Town Board Member Concerns:** Mr. Christensen noted that he may not be here for the September 28, 2016 special town board meeting. Mr. Christensen asked if any other town board member would be able to attend the Vilas County Turn Out for Transportation meeting at the Eagle River City Hall at 7:00 P.M. on September 29, 2016. Mr. Christensen also stated that after the last meeting, someone came up and suggested that he keep the meetings to as close to two hours as possible.
8. **Discussion /Action Items:**
 - a. **Review, refine and adopt Chapters 1, 3, 4 and 11 of the Town of St. Germain Code of Ordinances:** Mr. Ritter started the discussion by saying that Chapters 1,3, and 4 were zoning ordinances. Before discussing those ordinances, the town board needed to have a discussion as to whether or not the town board wanted to keep zoning at the town level. Mr. Vojta noted that he thought that Attorney Steve Garbowicz had told the town board to drop zoning during a closed session at an earlier special meeting. Ms. Janssen added that the Vilas County zoning map and current town zoning map are very different. Many people would probably be very upset to learn that they were now in a business district. Mr. Ritter will check with the WTA to see what would be involved if the town board did decide to drop town zoning. Mr. Ritter will also keep the zoning question on the agenda for future town board meetings.

Mr. Vojta had several questions concerning the Licensing and Control of Dogs Ordinance. He questioned section 11.03(b): late fees collected from every person. He asked if everyone in a household would be responsible for a late fee for every year that a home had a dog and didn't have a license. The consensus was that the ordinance should read per dog and for the current year. Mr. Vojta also questioned on page 3, if dogs could be taken onto the bike & hike trail. The consensus was that they could. Sidewalks and parkways should be removed from the ordinance. Also, the ordinance should read that dogs are not allowed on private lands without the owners' permission. The consensus of the board was also that a maximum of only four dogs should be allowed per residence. Mr. Christensen thought that sporting and hunting dogs should be removed from the ordinance. The board questioned if section 2 should be removed from the ordinance altogether. And, the board questioned whether present owners of more than four dogs would have to be made exceptions in the ordinance. Section 11.6 would allow each event coordinator to decide whether or not dogs should be allowed. Mr. Ritter noted that he had reduced the section concerning vicious dogs down to "vicious dogs are not allowed". Mr. Christensen stated that he had not read the ordinance as Mr. Vojta had. He thought that except for the maximum of four dogs portion, that the ordinance was good. Mr. Ritter added that now the town board needs to set up how the ordinance will be enforced. Motion Ritter seconded Vojta that Chapter 11, the ordinance for Licensing and Control of Dogs, be returned to Attorney Garbowicz for review of the revisions that have been made, before the town board adopts the ordinance. By a voice vote Yes – 5, No – 0. Motion carried.
 - b. **Approval for the Financing of the Repairs to the Town Roads:** Ms. Janssen stated that she had received four quotes. Peoples State Bank 2.48%, Nicolet Bank 2.97%, US Bank 2.74% and mBank 2.45%. Motion Vojta seconded Olson that the town board accept the quote from mBank for a \$500,000 loan at 2.45% with closing costs of \$250 with no prepayment penalty for the

reconstruction of Hemlock Lane, Hemlock Road, Lost Lake Drive North and the resurfacing of Half Mile Road, and that if the final bill comes in for less than \$500,000 that the excess be used to immediately pay back on the loan. By a voice vote Yes – 5, No – 0. Motion carried.

- c. Approval of the Liquor License for the Wild Bear Pub & Grill:** Motion Vojta seconded Olson that a Class B Combination Intoxicating Liquor and Fermented Malt Beverage license be granted to Wild Bear Grill & Pub, Thomas J. Ludwig, agent, effective October 1, 2016 and that the license currently held by Craig Born be surrendered to the town clerk. By a voice vote Yes – 5, No – 0. Motion carried.

 - d. Approval of the Bike Path Blacktop Repairs:** Mr. Vojta stated that the roots along portions of the bike & hike trail had been cut but that the roller didn't work. It was breaking up the blacktop. Public Works has suggested that from 1,000 ft. to 1,250 ft. of the blacktop be cut out and replaced at a cost of \$12/foot. The blacktop will be pulverized to a depth of 12 inches also pulverizing any roots. Motion Swenson seconded Olson to go along with the recommendation from public works to pulverize up to 1,250 ft. of the bike & hike trail and replace the blacktop at a cost of \$12/ foot up to \$15,000, with the money coming out of the bike & hike account per the 2016 proposed budget. By a voice vote Yes – 5, No – 0. Motion carried. Pitlik & Wick will do the work this fall while they are in town doing the road work.

 - e. Winter ATV/UTV Routes and Usage:** Mr. Swenson noted that he had been approached by the ATV club to open the ATV/UTV routes during the winter so that ice fishermen could ride out onto the lakes from the boat landings. Mr. Christensen noted that would take a change in the ordinance since it currently says that the routes would be closed on October 31st. He was also concerned, as were the other town board members, that one selling point of opening the town roads to ATV/UTV use was that the routes would be closed during the winter. Another issue is that there would be no crossing over STH155. Riders could get to the Big St. Germain boat landing from Big St. Germain Drive, and riders could get to the Lost Lake, Found Lake and Little St. Germain landings, but they could not cross the highway. Mr. Christensen stated that the ATV/UTV users could always trailer their machines to the boat landings. No action was taken. Mr. Swenson will check the other towns and neighboring counties to see what they do.
- 9. Next Town Board Meeting Date:** The next regular town board meeting will be held on Monday, October 10, 2016 at 6:30 P.M. in meeting room #4 of the community center. There will be a special town board meeting held on Wednesday, September 28, 2016 at 6:00 P.M. in meeting room #4 of the community center.
- 10. Adjournment:** Motion Ritter seconded Swenson that the meeting be adjourned. By a voice vote Yes – 5, No – 0. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned 7:50 P.M.

Town Clerk

Chairman

Supervisor

Supervisor

Supervisor

Supervisor