

# 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: JANUARY 9, 2017

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 Tom Martens, Town Clerk, Marion Janssen, Town Treasurer. There also 17 other people in attendance.
4. **Open Meeting Verification:** Mr. Christensen noted that he had posted the meeting agenda at three locations in town on January 7, 2017 before 6:30 P.M...
5. **Approval of the Agenda:** Motion Olson 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 Vojta to dispense with the reading of the minutes and that the minutes of the December 12, 2016 and December 27, 2016 town board meetings. 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 the bonding company was working towards an agreement concerning the culvert on Big St. Germain Drive, but that it was not finished yet. Funktion, the consulting company that will be working with the board concerning the community center and red brick school house will be contacting the board either this week or next week for the list of stakeholders.
9. **Town Supervisors' Reports and Concerns:** There were none.
10. **Town Clerk's Report and Concerns:** There were none.
11. **Town Treasurer's Report and Concerns:** Balance General Account as of 12-31-2016: \$107,672.69 ; Room Tax Account \$44,626.54; Lakes Committee Account \$23,647.60; Lakes Committee CD \$15,638.20; Skateboard Park Fund \$2,844 55; Bike & Hike Trail \$24,435 54; First National Money Market \$2,093,910.78; Play Ground Equipment Fund \$3,048.40; Fire Department Restricted Acct \$6,467.15; Fireworks Donation Account \$6,195.55; Fire Dept. Vehicle/Equipment \$0.00; Community Development \$54,183.67; Golf Course Gen Acct \$146,979.11; Golf Course Money Market \$54,502.71; Awassa Trail Funds Savings \$11,313.75. Mr. Vojta wanted to have a finance committee meeting to discuss what should be done with the carry over balance for 2016. Ms. Janssen thought that the meeting should be after the February county tax settlement. Mr. Vojta still thought that there could be a finance committee meeting in January to discuss the carry over balance and a meeting in February to discuss early payments on some of the town loans.
12. **Report of the Standing Committees:**
  - a. **Golf Course:** Mr. Christensen reported that the committee had met last Thursday and that Mr. Becker had reported that the greens and fairways had frozen nicely. Some of the equipment at the golf course needs more insurance. The public works equipment also needs to be looked at. Ms. Rogers Anderson is working on advertising and events for this year. Mr. Becker was able to get delayed payments until May, June & July for the irrigation work. Don Baumann is keeping an eye on the golf carts.
  - b. **Public Works:** Mr. Vojta reported that both truck #1 & truck #2 are back from repairs and are fueled and ready to go out plowing tomorrow.
  - c. **Planning & Zoning:** Mr. Ritter stated that he had items later on the agenda. He also asked Mr. Christensen to change the name of the committee to the Zoning Committee.
  - d. **Finance:** Mr. Vojta stated that the committee will be meeting sometime this month.
13. **Report of the Special Town Committees:**

- a. **Lakes Committee:** Mr. Ritter noted that the Lakes Committee had sent its first constant contact letter. It went mainly to committee members and town board members.
- b. **Non-Motorized Trail Committee:** Anne Small stated that she had items later on the agenda. She also said that she had been talking with other towns concerning the mile marker signs and promotion. The fat bike trail has been groomed. The Awassa trails have been used quite a bit. The DOT sign for the Awassa Trails has been delivered to the Vilas County Highway Department. Mr. Vojta asked about the status of the Fern Ridge 40 acres. Mr. Christensen stated that the deal had not closed yet. The property would be added to the town's insurance policy when the deal closes. Mr. Vojta also asked if there was a place for a sliding hill on the Fern Ridge property. Ms. Small thought that there would be, although, parking would have to be worked out. Mr. Ritter told Ms. Small that she could use the town's out-reach to get information out the residents. Vilas County Sheriff Deputy Randy Schneider thought that there needed to be more "No Snowmobiling" signs along the bike and hike trail on CTY C to help to keep snowmobile off of the trail.

**14. Report from Lake Districts and Other Organizations:** Cheryl Kelsey noted that the Little St. Germain Lake District was going over bids for the non-invasive weed problem.

**15. Discussion /Action Items:**

- a. **Payment of Bills:** Motion Vojta seconded Swenson that golf course account checks 15357-15367, general account checks 24604-24653, and direct deposit checks DD1200-DD1235 be approved. By a voice vote Yes – 5, No – 0. Motion carried.
- b. **Chamber of Commerce Building Proposal:** Bruce Weber noted that he had talked to three banks and also had talked to Attorney Greg Harrold concerning the new chamber building. However, he didn't have any details at this time and asked that the chamber building be added to the agenda for the February town board meeting.
- c. **Fat Tire Bike / ATV Trail Proposal on Town Property:** Mr. Christensen noted that he had put the wrong thing on the agenda. Anne Small added that the proposal was for a paved bike trail not a Fat Bike/ATV Trail. The trail will be on the agenda for the February town board meeting.
- d. **Liquor Licenses Concerning Danny's Roadhouse and DePue's Dor-way to the North:** Mr. Christensen said that he was against taking a license from a property that was being tried to be sold again as a bar. Mr. Vojta noted that in the past, the town board would hold a license if it was not being used. Mr. Martens said that Danny Thomas had been using his license and had used it for the required 120 days. He also said that he had talked to Renee Depue and was told that the bar had been opened on the weekends. The consensus of the board was to leave the licenses as they are until the new licensing year on July 1. At that time, the board would have to make a decision on what to do.
- e. **Adopt Ordinance SG17-01-1 "Code of Ordinances":** Motion Ritter seconded Vojta to adopt Ordinance SG17-01-1, an ordinance to adopt a Code of Ordinances. By a voice vote Yes – 5, No – 0. Motion carried.
- f. **Bike Trail Extension Financing – To blacktop from Community Center area to Half Mile Road, it will cost approximately \$158,000; how do we pay for this extension?:** Anne Small stated that the Non-Motorized Trail Committee is proposing to extend the bike trail from the community center to Half Mile Road. One mile of blacktopped trail would cost approximately \$158,000. Ms. Small said that she had recalculated the distance and found that it would be closer to m83 miles for \$131,000. Marion Janssen suggested that the \$12,000 that has been allocated from room tax money for the bike and hike trail could be used with no money being placed on the tax roll. State and Federal funding might be available, but both would require an engineer at an additional cost. Other grants for smaller amounts also might be available. Mr. Vojta suggested the Ms. Small put a package together and then come back to the board. The finance committee would then meet to see how the extension could be financed.
- g. **Consider the position of the Zoning Committee on rescinding the Town Zoning Ordinances:** Mr. Ritter noted that the zoning committee had put together a position statement stating that the committee was unanimously against the town board rescinding the town's zoning ordinance. Almost all of the residential areas in town would be zoned as general business under the Vilas County Ordinance. Mr. Vojta asked how the ordinance would be enforced since the town has had that ordinance for over twenty years and so far it has been unenforceable. Mr. Ritter stated that he had been told by the Vilas County Clerk of Circuit Court that once the town adopts the Code of Ordinances, all town ordinances that are under the Code of Ordinances would be enforceable in Vilas County Circuit Court. Mr. Ritter also added that Dawn Schmidt, Vilas County Zoning

Administrator, had told him that if the town submitted its zoning ordinance for county approval very soon, the Vilas County Zoning Committee would have time to go over it and approve it. Mr. Vojta said that he would go along with keeping the town's zoning ordinance as long it really did become enforceable in court. Motion Ritter seconded Swenson that the town board would not rescind the Town of St. Germain Zoning Ordinance. By a voice vote Yes – 5, No – 0. Motion carried.

- h. Review status of Town Contract with Building Inspector and whether occupancy permit inspections for Mobile & Manufactured Homes should be included in services provided.:** Mr. Ritter stated that the contract with Greg Bass Inspections, the town's UDC inspector had expired. The current contract had a one year automatic renewal clause. The one year also has passed. Mr. Ritter suggested that the town board make a new contract as a two-year contract with no automatic renewal. The new contract would go into effect on February 14, 2017 and expire on February 14, 2019. Mr. Ritter also asked that a clause be added to the contract that would allow the UDC inspector to inspect older mobile homes that are brought into town. The town zoning ordinance would also have to be changed accordingly. The UDC contract will be placed on the February town board agenda.
- i. Consider computer upgrade for Public Works Foreman/Zoning Administrator to include a new laptop, Microsoft Word & Excel software, anti-virus protection, hub software transfer, transfer of existing documents from old computer, CD drive, automatic hard drive backup, multifunction printer, local service and internet provider options:** Mr. Ritter was authorized to get prices for a new computer, software, printer/copier/scanner for Tim Ebert, deputy zoning administrator from a local vendor.
- j. Agent Application Approvals for Golden Pines & Clearview Supper Clubs:** Motion Swenson seconded Olson that the applications for agent from Christina L. Henson for Golden Pines and Kristin Nielsen for Clearview Supper Club be approved. By a voice vote Yes – 5, No – 0. Motion carried.
- k. Stakeholder Groups for the upcoming discussion concerning the Community Center and the Red Brick School House:** The Chamber of Commerce, Bo-Boen Snowmobile Club, Women's' Service Club, Lioness, Lions, ATV Friends of the Red Brick Schoolhouse, Wildlife Club, Prime Timers, Boy Scouts and other were listed as stakeholders for Funktion. It was also suggested that Lois Ruediger also be contacted to get a list of people who would use the community center and red brick schoolhouse. Funktion will be in town sometime in February to meet with representatives from the various groups.
- l. Sanction the necessary areas for the upcoming Radar Run on Little St. Germain Lake:** Motion Christensen seconded Vojta that the Town Board sanctions the following trails for the St. Germain Radar Racers Radar Run on Friday February 3, 2017 from 7:00am to 9:00pm and on Saturday, February 4, 2017, from 7:00am to 7:00pm: 1. Hearthside Inn to Thunderbird Pass; 2. St. Germain Rentals along highline to Elbert's 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. West one half of West Bay of Little St. Germain Lake. By a voice vote: Yes – 5; No – 0. Motion carried.

**16. What Items From This Meeting Need To Be On The Website?** Mr. Ritter will put Ordinance SG17-01-1 and the sanctioning for the radar run on the town's website.

**17. Next Regular Town Board Meeting Date – Monday, February 13, 2017, 6:30pm**

**18. Adjourn:** Motion Vojta seconded Olson that the meeting be adjourned. By a voice vote Yes – 5, No – 0. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned 8:11 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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Supervisor

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Supervisor