

OFFICE OF THE CLERK  
P.O. BOX 7  
ST. GERMAIN, WISCONSIN 54558  
[www.townofstgermain.org](http://www.townofstgermain.org)

**MINUTES TOWN BOARD MEETING: NOVEMBER 13, 2017**

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, Jim Swenson, Doug Olson Tom Martens, Town Clerk. John Vojta and Marion Janssen, Town Treasurer, were absent. There also 18 other people in attendance.
4. **Open Meeting Verification:** Mr. Christensen noted that he had posted the meeting agenda at three locations in town on November 11, 2017 before noon.
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 – 4, 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 October 4, 2017, October 9, 2017, October 12, 2017, October 25, 2017 and October 31, 2017 town board meetings are approved. By a voice vote: Yes – 4, No – 0. Motion carried.
7. **Citizen's Comments – Citizens are encouraged to share their concerns and ideas with the Board. Please limit your comments to five minutes or less:** Bob Schell asked that the public works crew check the culvert for Found Creek by Found Lake Road. Jon Strom's yard is flooding. Mr. Christensen will call Tim Ebert. Phil Monday stated that the ATV trails and snowmobile trails are closed yet there are ATV and snowmobile tracks by South Bay Road.
8. **Report of the Standing Committees:**
  - a. **Zoning:** Mr. Ritter had nothing to report
  - b. **Finance:** Mr. Christensen stated that the committee had not met.
9. **Report of the Special Town Committees:**
  - a. **Lakes Committee:** Mr. Ritter had nothing to report.
  - b. **Non-Motorized Trail Committee:** Mr. Swenson noted that Steve Vogel had completed the work for the Awassa Trail extension. Mr. Martens said that he had received a phone call from a man who wants to hunt on the Awassa property. Mr. Christensen noted that as far as he knew, there are no special town regulations, but that all other hunting regulations would have to be followed.
10. **Report from Lake Districts and Other Organizations:** Mr. Christensen said that the Little St. Germain District had received university system funding. The district is waiting for a report from Onterra to see if they will need to do spot treatments next summer. The district is also working on updating its master plan. They are also working on applying for another weed cutting permit. Mr. Ritter reported that the Lost Lake District is doing pretty much the same thing and that the first treatment this past summer seems to have been successful.
11. **Discussion /Action Items:**
  - a. **Payment of Bills:** Motion Swenson seconded Olson that golf course account checks 15676-15701, general account checks 25106-25151 and direct deposit checks DD1028-DD1083 be approved. By a voice vote: Yes – 4, No – 0. Motion carried
  - b. **Animal Control Officer Report by Don Bauman:** Mr. Bauman reported that he had three lost dog calls and two lost cat calls. He hoped that Ms. Janssen would put something in the tax bill letter noting that renters need to be aware of the animal control ordinance.
  - c. **Treasurer's Report:**

1. **Town Bank Account Balances:** Balance General Account as of 10-31-2017: \$ 165,779.46; Room Tax Account \$101,656.23; Lakes Committee Account \$15,684.70; Lakes Committee CD \$15,679.98; Skateboard Park Fund \$2,845.73; Bike & Hike Trail \$28,832.49; mBank Money Market \$81,203.67; Playground Equipment Fund \$3,049.68; Public Works Equipment Fund \$60,000.4; Fire Department Restricted Account \$7,550.03; Fireworks Donation Account \$2,648.61; Community Development Account \$26,095.37; Golf Course General Account \$125,293.60; Awassa Trail Fund Savings \$12,008.93.
- d. Town Chairman's Report**
1. **Culvert on Big St. Germain Drive:** Mr. Christensen reported that the culvert is in. Mr. Olson said that the gravel had been hauled in today and that the stones and riprap would be put in tomorrow. The road should be open by this weekend. Mr. Christensen thanked the residents of both Found and Lost Lakes for being patient during the installation of the culvert.
  2. **Golf Course Update:** Mr. Christensen noted that the course has closed. There were no problems with the closing. The maintenance is working on winter projects.
- e. Chamber Quarterly Room Tax Report:** Mr. Christensen read the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter room tax report from Ms. Janssen. The total collections for the quarter were \$197,442.80. The town's share is \$49,360.70 and the chamber share is \$148,082.10. Penny Weismann gave the second and third quarter chamber of commerce reports to the town board. Motion Ritter seconded Olson to approve the room tax report as prepared by the treasurer and read by the chairman. By a voice vote: Yes – 4, No – 0. Motion carried
- f. Review and/or Changes to the Budget for 2018:** Mr. Martens stated that he a request from Walter Olson Memorial Library to increase the town's contribution to \$8,093.00. The board had budgeted \$6,771.00. Motion Ritter seconded Olson to approve the Walter Olson Memorial Library request for \$8,093.00. By a voice vote: Yes – 4, No – 0. Motion carried. Mr. Ritter asked that Mr. Martens send a copy of the budget to be posted on the town website.
- g. Reappoint Sue Kessro to the Housing Authority:** Motion Christensen seconded Swenson to reappoint Sue Kessro to the St. Germain Housing Authority for another term. By a voice vote: Yes – 4, No – 0. Motion carried.
- h. Request to Participate in the Planning and Construction of a Bike Trail between Eagle River and St. Germain.** Mr. Christensen read a resolution from the Town of Cloverland concerning a commission to manage and create new bike trails and maintain existing trails. Mr. Christensen said that he was concerned about the trail, except for a small portion, not being in St. Germain; how expenses were to be paid; and would the commission take over the trails that St. Germain currently has. Mr. Ritter thought that the concept of the commission was good. He thought that there should, first of all, be a resolution to form a commission. Then, the commission could decide what its duties would be. He had responded to an email from Steve Favorite. Mr. Swenson and Mr. Vojta were to have attended the last meeting of the group, but were not able to attend. Motion Ritter seconded Olson that the Town of St. Germain not adopt the Cloverland Resolution 2017-03 a joint powers agreement, and in its place consider another format. By a voice vote: Yes – 4, No – 0. Motion carried
- i. Town Gravel Roads – How will they be maintained in the future.:** Mr. Christensen stated that the gravel roads need maintenance more often than the blacktopped roads. He thought that the town board needed to weigh in on the problem. Most of the gravel town roads are not close to being brought up to the town specifications. Some of the town roads are not even in the right location. Mr. Christensen thought that a survey would need to be done first. And, that there needed to be a policy. Mr. Ritter thought that the board should ask public works to list the gravel roads and somehow try to rank them as to which ones should be done first. Mr. Christensen will talk to Mr. Vojta.
- j. Funktion Design Studio Proposal going forward with the Red Brick / Community Center Building project:** Mr. Christensen handed out a new proposal from Funktion Design Studios for civil engineering services, architectural services and MEP engineering services. The base proposal would cost \$15,925. If the town board could not make a decision as to proposal #3 or proposal #4 from earlier, the fee for looking at both proposals would be \$26,255. Mr. Christensen thought that it would be foolish to pay for the alternate proposal. The board should be able to pick one of the options. Mr. Christensen thought that when all five town board members are present, a decision could be made. Motion Swenson seconded Ritter to accept the base proposal from Funktion Design Studios for \$15,925. By a voice vote: Yes – 4, No – 0. Motion carried. Mr. Martens added that the last time that there was a referendum concerning the buildings, some of the town

board members were not behind it. The project was bad-mouthed around town so much that it didn't have a chance of being approved. Mr. Martens stated that unless the entire town board was 100% behind the project, there was no point in moving forward. Mr. Ritter and Mr. Christensen agreed that once the town board had made a decision, whether all of the town board members agreed or not, the board would have to be united in presenting it to the electors.

- k. Approve Town Roads for Snowmobile Routes, 2017-2018 Season:** Motion Christensen seconded Olson that the town roads to be approved as snowmobile routes for the 2017-2018 season be the same as those approved for the 2016-2017 season. By a voice vote: Yes – 4, No – 0. Motion carried. Mr. Christensen will get a copy of the list of roads to the clerk to be sent to the Vilas Count Sheriff's Department.

**12. Next Regular Town Board Meeting Date – December 11, 2017:**

**13. Budget Hearing & Special Elector Meeting – October 15, 2017:**

**14. Adjourn:** Motion Ritter seconded Swenson that the meeting be adjourned. By a voice vote Yes – 4, No – 0. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned 7:53 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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