

# 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 14, 2019

1. **Call to Order:** The chairman called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Roll Call, Establish A Quorum:** Tom Christensen, Jim Swenson, Ted Ritter, Doug Olson, Brian Cooper, Tom Martens, Town Clerk. Marion Janssen, Town Treasurer. There were also 10 other people in attendance.
4. **Open Meeting Verification:** Mr. Christensen noted that he had posted the meeting agenda at three locations in town on Saturday, January 12, 2019 before 6:30 P.M.
5. **Approval of the Agenda:** Motion Olson seconded Cooper that the agenda be approved in any order at the discretion of the chairman. By a voice vote, motion carried unanimously 5 – 0.
6. **Read and Approve Minutes of Past Meetings:** Motion Swenson seconded Olson to dispense with the reading of the minutes and that the minutes of the December 10, 2018, December 18 (AM), 2018, December 18(PM), 2018, December 19, 2018, January 7, 2019 and January 10, 2019 meetings are approved as written. By a voice vote, motion carried unanimously 5 – 0.
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:** Phil Monday asked if the new home rental law has affected the amount of room tax that is being collected. Ms. Janssen said that Vilas County has been very good about notifying her about homes that are being rented. Mr. Christensen added that a lot of homes in St. Germain had already been rented and that the room tax collections have not been effected very much.
8. **Report of the Standing Committees:**
  - a. **Zoning:** Mr. Ritter stated that the committee had approved one CUP application and denied another. There is a Board of Appeals hearing scheduled for later in January.
  - 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 said that Awassa Trail has been groomed and that it is in OK condition. The annual Candlelight event will be held on February 9, 2019 at 6:00 P.M. There will be parking at the elementary school.
10. **Report from Lake Districts and Other Organizations:** Mr. Christensen reported that the Little St. Germain Lake District had met with representatives of the DNR and WVIP to discuss the annual draw down. The USGS has recommended that the drawdown be in September to help with the phosphorus coming in from Muskellunge Creek into East Bay. The first drawdown in September would not be until September of 2020. Mr. Cooper stated that the Big St. Germain Lake District had met on December 17, 2018 and talked more about the Ilid Cameras.
11. **Discussion /Action Items:**
  - a. **Payment of Bills:** Motion Swenson seconded Olson that golf course account checks 16084-16099, general account checks 25972-26039, along with extra bills to EMC \$4,207.10—January insurance installment; Menards \$695—5 chairs for the shop; Monroe Truck \$141.23—parts, and direct deposit checks DD12019-DD12060 & DD1-DD8 be approved. By a voice vote, motion carried unanimously 5 – 0.
  - b. **Town Chairman's Report**
    1. **Golf Course Report:** Mr. Christensen said that the committee was looking at what adjustments had to be made to the 2019 golf course budget.
    2. **Public Works:** Mr. Christensen that the crew was working on keeping the town roads clear and safe. There will be a special town board meeting on January 24, 2019 to meet with

Funktion Design to review a proposal for the Red Brick Schoolhouse. The information concerning the upcoming roadwork on Found Lake Road and Dean Road is being reviewed.

**c. Treasurer's Report:**

**1. Bank Account Balances:** Balance General Account as of 12-31-2018: \$21,626.97; Room Tax Account \$62,504.33; Lakes Committee Account \$16,222.77; Lakes Committee CD \$0.00; Skateboard Park Fund \$2,847.39; Bike & Hike Trail \$42,904.28; mBank Money Market \$2,260,642.40; Playground Equipment Fund \$1,501.34; Public Works Equipment Fund \$60,035.43; Fire Department Restricted Account \$8,719.46; Fireworks Donation Account \$1,662.04; Hometown Bank Ambulance Acct \$4,362.88; Fern Ridge Trail Savings \$3,000.23; Road Work Savings \$270,102.40; Community Development Account \$28,333.06; Golf Course General Account \$32,078.11; St. Germain Ambulance Fund \$100.00; Awassa Trail Fund Savings \$8,510.96.

**d. Fire Chief's Report**

**1. Year End Report:** Fire Chief Tim Gebhardt reported that there had been 297 calls in 2018. 47 of them had been fire calls and 138 of them had been rescue calls prior to the town's new ambulance service. There had been 104 ambulance calls. Approximately 83% of the calls were EMS related and 17% fire related.

**2. Ambulance Report:** Chief Gebhardt handed out a report from LifeQuest Services with a call summary for the ambulance as of December 31, 2108. The report showed 56 calls, \$38,272.40 in charges made; \$4,013.24 in credits received; and \$34,259.16 as the balance due. Chief Gebhardt said that he had talked to LifeQuest and was told that the billing cycle had not been completed. LifeQuest determines the charges that are submitted based on codes. Medicaid and Medicare pay based on the codes and on costs limits that they establish. The balance of the charges would come either from supplement insurance companies or from the patients. Mr. Christensen once again stated that the town needs to know which patients have paid and which ones haven't. For confidentiality purposes, the calls could be assigned numbers rather than the patients' names. Chief Gebhardt stated that he was told that hopefully the billing would be straightened out by March.

**e. Final Budget for 2019:** Mr. Christensen stated that he had not had a chance to review the final account balances for 2018 and that the final approval of the 2019 town budget and the 2019 golf course budget would have to be done at a later meeting. Motion Ritter seconded Swenson that item 11e be tabled until the January 24, 2019 special town board meeting. By a voice vote, motion carried unanimously 5 – 0.

**f. Year End Report – Animal Control Officer – Don Baumann:** Mr. Baumann reported that he had 68 calls in 2018. The new ordinance seems to be working. Mr. Baumann didn't have to go back to any of the properties for a second time. Vilas County is interested in looking at the town ordinance. Mr. Baumann stated that since he the animal control officer and not a humane officer, he doesn't need any special training.

**g. Plum Lake Ambulance Contract – Consider Termination of Contract:** Motion Cooper seconded Olson that Mr. Christensen send a letter to Plum Lake Ambulance terminating the contract as of December 31, 2019. By a voice vote, motion carried unanimously 5 – 0. Chief Gebhardt stated that the paperwork for mutual aid between the St. German and Plum Lake fire departments had been sent to Plum Lake, but had not been returned. Chief Gebhardt will send the paperwork again. St. Germain wants to continue the mutual aid agreement with Plum Lake.

**h. 2019 Chamber of Commerce Annual Room Tax Budget:** Mr. Christensen handed out the proposed Chamber of Commerce budget for 2019. Mr. Ritter stated that the contract with the chamber states that the room tax funds are to be spent on advertising, promotion and salaries, not the entire budget. Mr. Ritter added that the room tax commission had been dissolved in the new contract from last year. He felt that the town board was now the overseer of how the chamber spent the room tax funds and needed to know how they were being spent. Mr. Ritter thought that perhaps the contract needed to be reviewed again.

**i. Community Center Cleaning:** Motion Swenson seconded Cooper that item 11i be tabled until the January 24, 2019 special town board meeting. By a voice vote, motion carried unanimously 5 – 0.

- j. **2019 – 2021 UDC Services Contract with Baas Inspection Agency:** Motion Ritter seconded Swenson to approve the UDC contract with Baas Inspection Agency for 2019-2021 with no changes in services. By a voice vote, motion carried unanimously 5 – 0.
- k. **Lingo Lane Update:** Mr. Christensen reported that the refrigerator was gone and that the owner had called and said that the rest of the cleanup would be finished by the end of February. Motion Cooper seconded Swenson that item 11k be tabled until the March meeting. By a voice vote, motion carried unanimously 5 – 0.
- l. **First Review, Code of Ordinances Chapter 9, Snowmobiling on Town Roads:** Mr. Ritter thought that old ordinances S-2 and the access ordinance should be combined as one ordinance. It was also the consensus of the board that the speed limit for snowmobiles on town roads should be the same as for other vehicles on the roads.
- m. **Continuing Discussion on Town Ordinances Chapter 8 – Safety and Trespassing and Chapter 10 – Discharging and Carrying of Firearms:** It was the consensus of the board that Mr. Ritter should draft a resolution to repeal both the Safety and Trespassing Ordinance and the Discharging and Carrying of Firearms Ordinance.
- n. **Remote Meeting Attendance Policy:** Mr. Christensen thought that “at the discretion of the chairman” should be taken out. It was noted that the town board could not prohibit an elected official from attending a town board meeting, but could the town board give permission for an absent board member to attend a meeting remotely. It was the consensus of the board that up to two people could attend a meeting remotely at one time. Mr. Ritter will send a draft to Attorney Steve Garbowicz for review.
- o. **Liquor Licenses Issued to Doorway of the North and the Location of the Old Danny’s Roadhouse:** Motion Swenson seconded Olson that the town clerk send a letter to the owners of Dorway and the old Danny’s Roadhouse property referencing Code of Ordinances Chapter 14 and State Statutes that the town board may not renew their liquor licenses since they have not met the 120 day requirement for being open for business. By a voice vote, motion carried unanimously 5 – 0.

**12. Next Regular Town Board Meeting Date – Monday, February 11, 2019, 6:30 PM, Community Center.**

**13. Adjourn:** Motion Cooper seconded Swenson that the meeting be adjourned. By a voice vote, motion carried unanimously 5-0. Meeting adjourned 8:40 P.M.

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Town Clerk

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Chairman

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Supervisor

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