

TOWN OF ST. GERMAIN

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

P.O. BOX 7

ST. GERMAIN, WISCONSIN 54558

townofstgermain.org

MINUTES TOWN BOARD MEETING: AUGUST 11, 2008

1. **Call To Order:** The vice-chairman noted that this was a duly called meeting in accordance with the Wisconsin Open Meeting Law. The meeting was called to order at 5:00 P.M.
2. **Roll Call:** John Vojta, Lee Christensen, Fred Radtke, Todd Wiese, Tom Martens, Town Clerk Peggy Nimz and Marion Janssen were absent.
3. **Approval of Agenda:** Motion Vojta seconded Radtke that the agenda be approved in any order at the discretion of the chairman. Approved.
4. **Approval of Minutes:** Motion Christensen seconded Radtke that the minutes of the July 14, 2008 town board meeting be approved as written. Approved.
5. **Approval of Treasurer's Report (Town and Golf Course):** Balance General Account as of 07-31-2008: \$24,160.43; Lakes Account \$11,141.42; Lakes Committee CD \$15,031.06; Park Fund \$3,167.24; Rental Account \$2,685.85; Bag Account \$13,339.51; Room Tax Account \$56,520.97; Debt Reserve \$404,725.19; Bike & Hike Trail Acct. \$38,530.12, First National Money Market \$704,397.88, Playground Equipment Fund \$14,081.12. Golf Course Regular Account \$90,033.37; Money Market \$270,369.20. Motion Christensen seconded Radtke that the treasurer be approved as read. Approved. .
6. **Payment of Invoices:** Motion Vojta seconded Christensen that vouchers 16876 – 16939 be approved along with the following extra bills: Wallpaper & Paint Shop - \$591.20—paint for shelter; Todd Wiese - \$40.09 – ink cartridge. Approved.
7. **Communications:** Mr. Vojta noted that he had received complaints from the Chamber and Flea Market about the Prime Timers cars that had been parked in the parking lot during one of their trips. Mr. Wiese stated that the town ordinance allows the parking as long as permission is granted ahead of time. Mr. Vojta also stated that he had received a complaint about someone driving over the grass up to the Caring for Kids Park sign. Mr. Christensen and Mr. Wiese both noted that they have been receiving calls concerning the GIS project letters that had been sent out. Mr. Wiese has asked that all concerns be made in writing. There will be a meeting with the GIS committee, Crispell-Snyder and the county. Mr. Vojta asked if UPS was caught up with their payments. The clerk noted that they had paid, but he thought that they were still one month behind.
8. **Town Committee Reports:**
 - 8A. **Fire Department:** There was no fire department report.
 - 8B. **Planning & Zoning:** Mr. Wiese reported that the committee had received an attorney's opinion concerning the definition of a "home occupation". The next meeting will be on Monday, August 18, 2008 at 4:00 P.M.
 - 8C. **Public Works:** Mr. Wiese asked that the clerk write a letter of thanks to Knitt Hardware for their donation of \$650.00 of paint for the old pavilion.

TOWN OF ST. GERMAIN

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

P.O. BOX 7

ST. GERMAIN, WISCONSIN 54558

townofstgermain.org

8D. Parks & Recreation: Mr. Wiese stated that the Lost Lake Association had donated \$1,885.00 towards the new fencing at Vandervort Park. Mary Platner took a picture for the paper.

8E. Bike & Hike Trail: Mark Hiller reported that there would be a fundraiser dance at the Community Center. Phase II will not be constructed until 2009. Cedar Corporation has not received the necessary third party contract. The contract is due by September 1, 2008. The town board will need to hold a special meeting concerning the contract. Mr. Wiese stated that the guidelines have changed. Instead of just needing a land use agreement with property owners, there must now be an official easement.

8F. Red Brick Schoolhouse: Mr. Radtke noted that the Friends of the Old School have a balance of \$2,030.05 in their account. The clerk stated that Patty Schoppe had told him that there was not very much being done about the grants. In her opinion, the town board was still not supporting the project. Mr. Christensen once again stated that it was the duty of the town board to maintain town property until the electors tell the board otherwise.

8G. Golf Course: Mr. Christensen stated that the course was still slightly down from last year. However, the course is in excellent shape and play has been very good for the last few weeks. Mr. Christensen wanted it noted in the minutes that if the course had loaned the three carts to the Chamber of Commerce for Pig In The Pines as requested, the course would have been short carts on both Thursday and Friday, and possibly on Saturday. Mr. Christensen also noted that he has personally been checking all of the golf course bills prior to giving them to Boyd Best for payment.

8H. Finance & Personnel: Mr. Christensen had nothing to report.

8I. Housing Authority & Cemetery: Mr. Christensen stated that the Housing Authority was going to be meeting tomorrow, but that there was nothing else to report.

8J. Lakes: Mr. Wiese reported that a lot of coasters and placemats have been handed out.

8K. Room Tax: Mr. Radtke noted that the next meeting was this Wednesday.

8L. Vilas County Board Representative: Ms. Platner noted that 12 properties in Cloverland had been omitted from the original boundary of the Little St. Germain Lake District. The Cloverland assessor didn't include them on the tax roll because of a problem with their 1/20th interest in a lake access lot. A tax was collected, but it has been going to Cloverland rather than the Lake District. Ms. Platner also noted that the Big St. Germain Lake District was on the County Board agenda for approval.

Mr. Radtke reported that he is now on the Vilas County Planning & Zoning Committee. He also stated that the county considers St Germain to be deficient in its road names and fire numbering system. He also stated that there was going to be a meeting called the Wisconsin Way where there would be brainstorming concerning better State and County government. Mr. Radtke noted that light bulbs, both fluorescent and incandescent were not to be dumped in the landfill. They are to be considered hazardous waste and handled accordingly.

9. Items for Consideration (Approve, Disapprove, Table):

TOWN OF ST. GERMAIN

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

P.O. BOX 7

ST. GERMAIN, WISCONSIN 54558

townofstgermain.org

- 9.1 Approve Date for “Caring For Kids” Project Monies to be Placed into Re-titled Maintenance Account to Include Future Donations:** Motion Vojta seconded Christensen that May 16, 2008 be set as the cutoff date and that \$3,417.00 be left in the Playground Equipment Account along with and additional donations for future maintenance. Approved.
- 9.2 Caring For Kids Final Thoughts: Turning over Maintenance Info and all Playground Materials:** Jenny Weber will give all of the maintenance materials to Tim Ebert. Ms. Weber has included a maintenance schedule for the playground equipment. Jenny, Lori, and Julie thanked the town board for all of their support.
- 9.3 Discussion of Possible Referendum Questions for the November Ballot:** Mr. Vojta presented three questions: (1) Should the Town of St. Germain spend up to a maximum of \$150,000 to replace the roof and heating system in the 1965 portion of the Red Brick Schoolhouse, and make the entire building ADA compliant by adding an elevator and an ADA compliant washroom; (2) Should the Town of St. Germain spend up to a maximum of \$63,000 to remove the Red Brick Schoolhouse entirely; (3) Should the Town of St. Germain leave the Red Brick Schoolhouse building as is and do nothing to fix or maintain it. Ms. Nimz had left a message for Mr. Radtke stating that she thought that a proposal should be given to the people at the budget hearing in November. Mr. Wiese thought that the board should have a workshop meeting devoted entirely to discussing what to do with the Red Brick Schoolhouse. Mr. Christensen stated that he thought that there should be an agenda item to vote on replacing the roof. Mr. Radtke stated that the Town Hall Feasibility Committee has recommended to the town board that the building should be maintained and restored. The town board has never acted on the recommendation.
- The clerk thought that the three questions as presented would end up with results that would be as confusing as in the 2005 referendum. He thought that if there were to be several questions, that there should not be a “yes” or “no” vote, but a “choose one” type choice. He also thought that the town board needed to decide what was going to be done if the voters voted against maintaining the Red Brick Schoolhouse. Should there be new office space added to the community center as proposed in the \$1,000,000 referendum in 2006, or should the community center be completely remodeled to allow for more offices and meeting rooms.
- Motion Vojta seconded Christensen that the matter be tabled until a special meeting to be held on Tuesday, September 2, 2008 at 5:00 P.M. in meeting room #4 of the Community Center.
- 9.4 Road Abandonment Resolution for a Portion of Kelsey Court:** Motion Radtke seconded Vojta that Resolution SG08-08-01, a resolution to vacate approximately 30 feet of Kelsey Court in Barrington Pines subdivision be approved. Approved.
- 9.5 Approval of Construction of Storage Building for Housing Dept. of Aging Transportation Vehicles:** Fred Radtke excused himself feeling that he had a conflict of interest. Verdelle Mauthe noted that the Prime Timers were going to be getting a new 15 passenger shuttle bus. The Prime Timers are proposing to build a 40’ by 40’ storage building with a 10’ door and concrete floor on town property behind the town shop. The Prime Timers will entirely pay for the \$30,000 building. Once completed, they will donate it to the town. They will be storing their old van along with the new shuttle bus on the garage. Presently, the van is stored in the cold section of the town shop. Mr.

TOWN OF ST. GERMAIN

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

P.O. BOX 7

ST. GERMAIN, WISCONSIN 54558

townofstgermain.org

Wiese stated that he thought it was a win-win situation. Mr. Christensen agreed. Mr. Vojta noted that he had heard of the proposal, but that it had not been presented at any previous town board meeting. Mr. Vojta stated that he felt that it would be setting a precedent and that other organizations could then ask to build on town property. Mr. Vojta added that with this proposal, the town would have to maintain the building and the grounds. The town would have to pay for the electric and insurance for the building. Mr. Vojta also stated that the town needed storage space as stated in the one of the arguments for maintaining the Red Brick Schoolhouse. However, the town would not receive any storage space out of this proposal. He also felt that it would not benefit the entire town, only a small portion of the citizens. The Public Works Committee has recommended in favor of the project. The Prime Timers would work with the town concerning colors, etc. Motion Christensen seconded Wiese to allow the Prime Timers to proceed with the project. Approved. Mr. Vojta voted against. The clerk is to check with the town's attorney to see if a vote of only three board members is legal.

9.6 Review and Approval of financing Request for Storage Building: Ms. Mauthe stated that the Prime Timers could pay for the building, but that it would wipe out their bank account. She asked that the town board loan the Prime Timers up to \$10,000 to amortized for no more than five years. Mr. Christensen asked that the board be able to see a more complete plan before making a decision. Motion Christensen seconded Wiese that the matter be tabled until the next meeting. Approved.

9.7 Soccer Field Bids: Motion Radtke seconded Christensen that the \$4,000 bid from Vogel Enterprises be accepted. Approved. Mr. Vojta voted against. Mr. Vojta thought that the bids were incomplete. The first step is to acquire and spread the topsoil. Accepting a bid to do the rest of the work on the soccer field is premature. Asking the bid winner is not an acceptable way of obtaining a bid for government contract work. The clerk questioned whether or not the Shufler bid included topsoil since it was \$4,000 higher, but nobody seemed to know for sure. The board will have to get a price for topsoil and for spreading the topsoil.

9.8 Road Maintenance for 2008: Mr. Wiese stated that Fahrner Asphalt would be chip sealing approximately 2.18 miles town roads at a cost of approximately \$50,000. The roads will include Halberstadt Road, Gessert Road, Kuehne Road, and Hiawatha Circle. If there is any money left, a portion of Big St. Germain Drive will be done.

9.9 Review and Discussion of WPS Land Sale: Mr. Wiese stated that he had gone to a meeting in Eagle River with grant specialist, Pat Zatopa, a Vilas County Forestry representative, and Patty Van Den Elzen from WPS. There had been a discussion of a partnership between St. Germain and Vilas County, but Vilas County decided against it. Pat Zatopa said that there were grants available for the acquisition of land. Mr. Vojta thought that the town should offer \$1,500 per acre for all of the land except the five 10-acre lots that WPS wants to make. Motion Christensen seconded Vojta that Mr. Wiese write a letter to Ms. Van Den Elzen stating that the town has interest in purchasing the land and pursuing different options. Approved.

10. Citizens Concerns and Non-Appointed Committee Reports (3 Minute Maximum):

10a. Verdelle Mauthe: Ms. Mauthe reported that 70 people had attended the last Prime Timers meeting. The speaker was from Northwoods Wildlife. The Prime Timers picnic is on August 15, 2008 starting at noon.

TOWN OF ST. GERMAIN

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

P.O. BOX 7

ST. GERMAIN, WISCONSIN 54558

townofstgermain.org

10b. Ellen Allen: Ms. Allen wanted to thank the town board for at least trying to do something about the Red Brick Schoolhouse.

10c. Russell Steel: Mr. Steel handed out a proposal for a natural history museum that he wanted to build on his property. He asked the town board how he could get money for it. He was told that it would be on the agenda for the September meeting. Mr. Steel should be present to inform the board just what he wants.

10d. Rosalie Sherwin: Ms. Sherwin stated that three years ago, a proposal to renovate the Red Brick Schoolhouse had been defeated. She went on to state that the town did not support remodeling the school and that there was no proof of any grants.

10e. Carol Radtke: Ms. Radtke said that the Prime Timers would have no problem seeking permission to park in the town parking lot, but that when they returned from their trip, the Community Center parking lot was practically empty. She did not feel that they were interfering with the Pig In The Pines at all.

10f. Mary Platner: Ms. Platner stated that within the next 30 years, around 25% of the population of Vilas County will be senior citizens. She felt that the town board needed to take that into consideration with any future plans.

11. Board Concerns:

Fred Radtke: Mr. Radtke stated that he had caught someone doing donuts in the gravel portion of the parking lot. He felt that the person should have to do something in the line of community service. The board agreed.

John Vojta: Mr. Vojta stated that he was disappointed with the Public Works committee. He felt that the Prime Timers garage should have been presented to the town board prior to tonight's meeting. It had been discussed during Public Works committee meetings, but never by the town board.

Todd Wiese: Mr. Wiese noted that there is a very big problem with giving access to the Community Center. Doors are being left open, garbage is left lying around, and building is not being cleaned after events. Also, there are not uniform fees for all groups. Mr. Wiese felt that the Public Works committee needed to find a solution. He also felt that everyone should have to put down a security deposit and have to pay if the building was not left in the condition in which it was found.

Tom Martens: Mr. Martens noted that the board was going to have to look into a loan for the 2009 roadwork very soon so that the payments could be included in the 2009 budget. He also noted that he was going to need extra room for voter registration for the November election.

12. Set Date & Time For Next Meeting. The next regular town board meeting will be held on Monday, September 8, 2008 at 5:00 P.M. in meeting room #4 of the Community Center. There will be a special town board meeting on Tuesday, September 2, 2008 at 5:00 P.M. in meeting room #4 of the Community Center.

13. Adjournment: Motion Christensen seconded Radtke that the meeting be adjourned. Approved.
Meeting adjourned 7:55 P.M.

TOWN OF ST. GERMAIN

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

P.O. BOX 7

ST. GERMAIN, WISCONSIN 54558

townofstgermain.org

Town Clerk

Chairman

Supervisor

Supervisor

Supervisor

Supervisor