

# 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: NOVEMBER 9, 2015

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, Marv Anderson, John Vojta, Jim Swenson, Marion Janssen, Town Treasurer, Tom Martens, Town Clerk. Mr. Albee had resigned from the town board on October 16, 2015. There was also a standing room only crowd in attendance.
4. **Open Meeting Verification:** Mr. Christensen noted that he had posted the meeting agenda at three locations in town on November 7, 2015 by 6:00 P.M.
5. **Approval of the Agenda:** Motion Vojta seconded Anderson 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 Swenson seconded Christensen to dispense with the reading of the minutes and that the minutes of the October 12, 2015, & October 16, 2015 town board meetings are approved as written. By a voice vote: Yes – 4, No – 0. Motion carried. Mr. Vojta abstained.
7. **Citizen's Comments:** Wally Geist noted that there was no building permit posted at the new home site in Eaglewatch. Mr. Christensen will call Tim Ebert. Fred Radtke asked why the town was paying for new mower blades at the golf course now instead of adding them to the 2016 budget. Mr. Christensen noted that the money was available now. Mr. Radtke also asked if the golf course was still paying the town \$10,000 each year toward expenses. Mr. Christensen stated that the board's main concern is get the debt paid.
8. **Town Chairman Report and Concerns:** Mr. Christensen stated that the items that he would discuss are listed later in the agenda.
9. **Town Supervisors' Reports and Concerns:** Mr. Anderson handed out a walk through report from Becker Hoppe for the Red Brick Schoolhouse. He asked that the board read through it. Mr. Anderson and Mr. Martens will meet to discuss the possibility of grants as suggested by Becker Hoppe. Mr. Anderson also reported that the yard waste facility was open for six Saturdays this fall. The cost was \$480. The receipts were \$410. Mr. Anderson is going to meet this week with the municipal judge from Presque Isle to continue discussing the possibility of a municipal judge for St. Germain and also the enforcement of the town's ordinances.
10. **Town Clerk's Report and Concerns:** Mr. Martens reminded the board that the assessor's open book session will be tomorrow from 9 to 11 am. The board of review will be held on Thursday, November 12, 2015 beginning at 6:30 P.M. in the community center.
11. **Town Treasurer's Report and Concerns:** Balance General Account as of 10-31-2015 \$46,961.84; Room Tax Account \$88,911.68; Lakes Committee Account \$25,546.68; Lakes Committee CD \$15,610.97; Skateboard Park Fund \$2,842.76; Loan Reserve Fund \$0.00; Bike & Hike Trail \$30,236.90; First National Money Market \$125,432.96; Play Ground Equipment Fund \$4,395.42; Debt Reserve Account \$0.00; Fire Department Restricted Acct \$11,934.76; Fireworks Donation Account \$2,012.77; Fire Dept. Vehicle/Equipment \$158,194.71; Community Development Acct \$36,805.71; Golf Course Gen Acct \$195,723.61; Golf Course Money Market \$54,448.65. Ms. Janssen asked what was happening with the carpeting for the meeting rooms. Mr. Vojta stated that the carpeting should be installed sometime this month. Ms. Janssen also asked that the bike and hike trail donation boxes be emptied.
12. **Fire Chief's Report and Concerns:** Fire Chief Tim Clark reported that there had been 16 calls last month. Mr. Clark is on the agenda for the Housing Authority meeting this Wednesday. He has submitted a bill for around \$10,500 to the Landfill Venture Group for damage done to equipment during the recent fire call to the Hwy. G. Landfill. A new dryer was purchased from Jensen Akins.
13. **Report of the Standing Committees:**
  - a. **Golf Course:** Mr. Christensen reported that Mr. Becker had given him a season in review report. Mr. Christensen asked that the other board members read the report. The committee will be having a budget meeting on Wednesday. The pro shop computers are being upgraded.

**b. Public Works:** Mr. Vojta reported that the parks are closed. There are still problems with Mr. Ebert's truck, but just recently the idle was turned up and that seems to be helping with the problem. The culvert replacement on Forest Primeval Road has been completed. Fifty percent of the cost will be reimbursed by the county. Mr. Anderson complimented the town crew on the good job that they did.

**c. Finance:** There was no report.

#### **14 Report of the Special Town Committees:**

**a. Lakes Committee:** Mr. Christensen noted that the committee had met on October 21, 2015. The Wisconsin Lakes Association has doubled the dues for some of the lakes. Some of the associations are leaving the group. Clean boats and clean water has been renewed for next year. Little St. Germain District has received help from the DNR, but the lakes committee has to commit to contributing 10% of the cost.

**b. Non-Motorized Trail Committee:** There was no report.

#### **15 Discussion /Action Items:**

**a. Installation of new Supervisor to fill the vacant seat created by Alan Albee's resignation:** Mr. Christensen noted that he received letters of interest from Ted Ritter, Doug Olson, and Tim Faesi. The board took a few minutes to read the letters. The candidates each said a few words. Mr. Christensen handed out ballots to each town board member and the town clerk. He instructed them to assign #3 to their favorite candidate; #2, to the next favorite; and #1 to the least favorite candidate. Doug Olson received the highest total. The town clerk swore Mr. Olson in to fill the vacancy for Supervisor #3 due to Mr. Albee's resignation.

**b. Payment of Bills:** Motion Anderson seconded Vojta that vouchers 1029-1099; 10001-10011; 1101-1107; 23349-23395 be approved along with the following extra bills: Paul's Rent All \$655—rent excavator Forest Primeval Culvert; Jensen Akins \$324.99—new dryer fire department; Legacy Construction \$25,000—partial Big St. Germain & Old Hwy. C. culverts; Badger States Industries \$201.85—trail signs. By a voice vote: Yes – 5; No – 0. Motion carried.

**c. Continuing discussion and possible action to approve or disapprove the use of Town roads and property by ATVs and UTVs:** Mr. Christensen opened the floor for comments. Mary Platner handed out a copy of the survey that is going to be sent with the Town of Washington's tax bills. Ms. Platner stated that the cost would be around \$1,000. She also thought that Shields Road and South Bay Road were too dangerous for ATV/UTV travel. Mr. Christensen stated that he didn't recall any serious vehicle/snowmobile accidents on Shields Road since he moved here in 1996. Carolyn Ritter suggested an Ad Hoc Committee to work on an ordinance and to decide which roads to open. Ted Ritter stated that if he were on the town board, there are still too many questions that need to be answered. He couldn't vote yes or no at this time. Fred Radtke said that on October 16<sup>th</sup>, it was not all town roads, like what is being requested now. Mr. Anderson said that he had talked to officials from several of the surrounding towns. All thought that ATV/UTV's would be a benefit to the economy. Mr. Anderson suggested a two year sunset clause. Mr. Christensen thought that the town board could repeal an ordinance at any time and that a sunset clause would not be necessary. Mike Musdilek stated that the club has been working on this for 15 years and that the town board needed to act sooner than later. It would take a lot of time for the club to get everything in place.

Motion Anderson seconded Swenson to authorize all town roads and property to be opened and used for ATV's and UTV's. By a voice vote: Yes – 5; No – 0. Motion carried. Carolyn Ritter asked if the motion meant that all town roads and property were open to ATV/UTV travel immediately.

Motion Olson seconded Anderson that effective with date and time of approval of the town ordinance allowing the use, the town roads and town property will not open until there is final inspection of the proposed routes and map by the town and county. By a voice vote: Yes – 5; No – 0. Motion carried.

**d. Adjustments to the Golf Course Budget:** Motion Christensen seconded Vojta that the golf course budget be adjusted to show the miscellaneous account under income as \$18,567.00 and to show the equipment repair account under the superintendent budget as \$23,952.00. By a voice vote: Yes – 5; No – 0. Motion carried.

- e. **Approval to purchase additional cutting heads for the greens mowers that were purchased in 2013:** Motion Christensen seconded Vojta to proceed with the purchase of three Toro cutting blades for a net price of \$8,094.65. By a voice vote: Yes – 5; No – 0. Motion carried.
  - f. **Complaints about the number of dogs living at a house in violation of the Town’s ordinance covering this matter:** Mr. Anderson noted that there is property owner on Cottage Drive who has more dogs than are allowed by the town ordinance. Mr. Anderson stated that he has met with the property owner. A sheriff deputy has met with the owner. Letters have been sent. Nothing has changed. Motion Anderson seconded Vojta to authorize the town chairman to contact an attorney to write a letter to deal with the dogs on Cottage Drive. By a voice vote: Yes – 5; No – 0. Motion carried.
  - g. **Changing the accounting system to QuickBooks so that the Clerk and Treasurer can be on the same system:** Mr. Christensen noted that if the clerk and treasurer each only keep their own books and don’t reconcile with each other, the town will have to have an audit each year. Mr. Vojta questioned how much an audit would cost. The board decided to wait to make a decision until the cost of an audit is determined.
  - h. **Set time and date for the budget workshop:** There will be a budget workshop held on Friday, November 13, 2015 at 5:00 P.M. in meeting room #4 of the community center.
  - i. **Continuing discussion on the landscaping around the Veteran’s Memorial:** Mr. Christensen noted that the Lions Club offered to help with man power, but not with money. Mr. Vojta asked that someone take pictures from several different angles so that once it snows, the contractors can still see what is there now. The board liked the proposal from MK Landscaping. MK provided a sketch, but was also the highest priced estimate. The landscaping was tabled.
  - j. **Approval of the 2015/2016 roads that will be used as snowmobile routes this season:** Motion Vojta seconded Swenson that the town roads to be used as snowmobile routes for the 2015-2016 season be the same as for the 2014-2105 season. By a voice vote: Yes – 5; No – 0. Motion carried.
  - k. **Approval of additional Christmas tree lights for the tree in front of the Fire House:** Motion Anderson seconded Olson to purchase appropriate lights for the Christmas tree in front of the fire house not to exceed \$1,000. By a voice vote: Yes – 5; No – 0. Motion carried.
  - l. **Review Community Center usage for food distribution once a month:** Mr. Christensen reported that there had not been any problems with the food distribution program at the community center. There is no reason not to allow it to continue.
  - m. **Approval for the purchase of a new voting machine:** Motion Christensen seconded Swenson to purchase a new voting machine for approximately \$9,000. By a voice vote: Yes – 5; No – 0. Motion carried. The current voting machines have become obsolete. Dominion Voting will no longer support the old machines. Payment will not be made until sometime in January. The money will be taken from the 2016 carry-over balance.
- 16 Town Board Member Concerns:** Mr. Christensen noted that there are some families that would like to use the community center for a family lock-in on New Year’s Eve. They would be staying through the night. Mr. Swenson reported that the Prime Timers had donated \$200 to the bike and hike trail.
- 17 Next Regular Town Board Meeting Date:** The next regular town board meeting will be held on Monday, December 14, 2015 at 6:30 P.M. in meeting room #4 of the Community Center. There will be a budget workshop held on Friday, November 13, 2015 at 5:00 P.M. in meeting room #4 of the community center.
- 18 Adjourn:** Motion Vojta seconded Swenson that the meeting be adjourned. By a voice vote Yes -5, No -0. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned 9:03 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