

TOWN OF ST. GERMAIN

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

P.O. BOX 7

ST. GERMAIN, WISCONSIN 54558

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MINUTES TOWN BOARD MEETING: JUNE 12, 2006

The chairman noted that this was a duly called meeting in accordance with the Wisconsin Open Meeting Law.

The chairman asked all present to rise to Pledge Allegiance to the Flag.

- 1. Roll Call:** Jim Wendt, Todd Wiese, Ted Ritter, Lee Christensen, Tom Martens, Town Clerk. Peggy Nimz came at 7:50 P.M..
- 2. Approval of Agenda:** Motion Ritter seconded Christensen that the agenda be approved. Approved. Mr. Wiese noted that he had notified Mr. Wendt that he wanted the Quam-Hoff rezone request on the agenda as an action item. Mr. Wiese had sent all of the town board members the necessary information several days prior to tonight's meeting. Mr. Wendt refused and placed the rezone request on the agenda as a discussion item. Mr. Wiese voted "no" to approving the agenda.
- 3. Approval of Minutes:** Motion Wiese seconded Christensen that the minutes of the 4/25/06, 5/5/06, 5/8/06, 5/12/06, 5/19/06, 5/22/06, 5/31/06, and 6/7/06 special town board meetings and the 5/8/06 regular town board meeting be approved as written. Approved.
- 4. Treasurer's Report:** The clerk read the treasurer's report. Balance General Account as of 05-31-2006: \$27,021.06; Money Market Account \$53,256.82; Lakes Account \$21,741.75; Park Fund \$8543.89; Rental Account \$6,545.09; Bag Account \$10,112.79; Room Tax Account \$17,709.91; Debt Reserve \$194,572.07; Bike & Hike Trail Acct. \$89,331.25. Golf Course Regular Account \$35,614.47; Money Market \$0; Debt Reserve \$206,664.71; Rainy Day Fund \$0; Capital Improvement \$0. Motion Ritter seconded Christensen that the treasurer's report be approved as read. Approved.
- 5. Approval of Bills:** Motion Ritter seconded Christensen that vouchers 15095 – 15188 be approved along with three bills for Northern Environmental totaling \$9,418.28 – Hike & Bike Trail Professional Services. Approved.
- 6. Communications:** Mr. Wendt noted that he had a letter from the Department of Agriculture stating that the area near Alma, Moon and Wakefield lakes would be sprayed for gypsy moths. People in the audience stated that it already had been done

Mr. Christensen stated that he had received a letter from Richelle Kruse from the Youth Baseball asking for a donation. Mr. Christensen will write to Ms. Kruse informing her that the town will not donate to individual teams, but will put any extra money into improving the town parks.

Mr. Christensen also noted that he received a notice from WVIC stating that there was money available for Little St. Germain Lake and Big St. Germain Lake. The deadline for the application is August 1, 2006. Mr. Ritter asked that the information be given to him so that it could be discussed at the next Lakes Committee meeting.

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7. Reports:

7A. Fire Department: Tim Ebert reported that there had been 6 calls since the last meeting. There have been 102 calls so far this year. Mr. Ebert noted that the Northern Lights Harley Davidson Club donated a defibrillator that is to be kept in the pavilion. The value is between \$1,800 and \$2,500. It will have to be insured as it will not be able to be locked. The board had a concern about vandalism.

7B. Finance Committee Report: Mr. Wendt reported that letters had been sent to six local lending institutions concerning loans. The replies are to be back by June 16, 2006. The loan would be for \$485,000.

7C. Parks & Recreation Committee Report: Mr. Christensen noted that the Memorial Day Service went well. Fireworks donation boxes have been placed in 25 locations. Tom Caroselli and the baseball teams along with Pitlik & Wick have improved the two infields. A new soccer field proposal will be discussed at the next committee meeting. The park signs will also be discussed. If the wording remains as it is proposed, the town park ordinance will have to be amended concerning dogs in the parks.

7D. Lakes Committee Report: Mr. Ritter reported that the summer coordinator had been hired. The committee also received a donation of a boat, 40 hp motor and trailer. The \$15,000 grant for 2006 is being well spent.

7E. Golf Course Committee Report: Mr. Wendt noted that the course is approximately equal to last year. The Angel on My Shoulder activities last Friday were a success. About 200 golfers played last Saturday.

7F. Zoning Committee Report: Mr. Wiese reported that the committee set a date for the Quam-Hoff rezone request at its May 15, 2006 meeting. The committee also approved the final plat for a four-lot subdivision for the Freys. The committee heard from Diane Newby's attorney, Bill Joost and Mary Jackson's attorney Butch Neilsen. Mr. Joost stated that if the matter were not in Circuit Court within 60 days, Ms. Newby would have to find another attorney. Mr. Wiese had received a complaint about an unfinished foundation at 8225 Half Mile Road. Since receiving a letter from the town's attorney, Robert Odhe, the owner has begun construction. The agent for Donald Eliason LLC withdrew Mr. Eliason's rezone request. The committee approved a Manufactured Home Inspection Report form. The committee held a public hearing for the Quam-Hoff rezone request.

7G. Personnel Committee Report: There was no report.

7H. Public Works Committee Report: Ms. Wiese reported that the new town patrol truck was here. The sheriff's department will be conducting training sessions in one of the town parking lots on June 13th. The town will begin to mow the shoulders after July 1st. The county waits until then because of birds nesting in the long grass, and because of protected wild flowers. Fahrner Asphalt crack filled a private road by mistake. The town will not be charged. Mr. Ritter

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asked the amount of the fireworks so far. Mr. Wiese did not know the amount. Mr. Wiese stated that since the budget has become so tight, that this might be the last year for the fireworks display unless another way funding of them is determined.

7I. Citizens Groups & County Rep.: Fred Radtke reported that the county was upgrading the surveillance equipment at the jail for \$67,000. There were several rezone applications, and the Manitowish Waters Zoning Ordinance was being approved.

Mr. Radtke also reported that there were now over 280 Prime-Timer members. They donated \$200 to Camp Awesome, \$100 to the Little League, \$1,000 to the Hike & Bike Trail, and \$1,500 to the fireworks. On June 22, 2006 the group will visit the prison at McNaughton. There will be a speaker from the Children's Museum in Eagle River. A trip to Las Vegas is being planned for 2007.

8. Informational Items for Consideration:

8A. Housing Authority Overview and Insurance Issue: Jerry Eliason, Carl Herrmann and Barb Zimmerman were present from the Housing Authority. Mr. Herrmann gave an insurance quote to the town board. It was the same quote that had been presented in January. The Housing Authority had met all of the requirements of the company. The premium is still \$2,100. It would become effective on June 12, 2006 if payment were received within 10 days. Mr. Eliason explained the Housing Authority to the town board. Mr. Ritter noted that the Housing Authority needed to meet the open meeting law requirement and needed to post all of their agendas. Don Eliason asked the town board why they wanted to own the housing units. Mr. Eliason stated that there was no reason for owning the housing units. Any new owner would have to run it as it is now since it is Federally funded. The Housing Authority gave the town board a copy of their 2005 audit.

8B. Bike Trail Update: Mr. Wendt reported that the trail had been graded from town to Hwy. C. A conflict with the snowmobile trail near Normandy Court Road and the wayside will have to be resolved. Mr. Wendt hoped that the trail would be completed by the Fourth of July. The town will know by July 5, 2006 whether or not it received a grant for phase two of the project.

8C. Quam-Hoff Rezone: Mr. Wiese noted that Jeff Sievert had made the rezone request on behalf of Ms. Quam and Mr. Hoff on April 25, 2006. The Zoning Committee had discussed the request at its May 15, 2006 meeting. The public hearing had been held on June 5, 2006. Three residents spoke in favor of the rezone request. There was a letter from property owner and town chairman Jim Wendt that was in opposition to the request. The committee had also received an opinion from attorney William O'Connor stating that in his opinion, it was inappropriate for the town to zone private property in the Parks and Recreation District. The committee voted unanimously in favor of the rezone request. On June 7, 2006, Mr. Wiese sent packets of information to all of the town board members and asked the town chairman to have the rezone request as an action of the June 12, 2006 town board agenda. Mr. Wiese again stated that he was disappointed that Mr. Wendt refused to have the request as an action item. Mr. Wiese also stated that Mr. Sievert had waited long enough for an answer from the town.

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Mr. Wendt stated that he was concerned about the town property surrounding the Quam-Hoff property. Mr. Wendt stated that when the golf course was being built, it was hoped that the Quam-Hoff property could one day be used as a golf learning center or part of a par three course. Mr. Wendt thought that the town should have had a chance to purchase the property. Mr. Wiese stated that the town probably should have gotten a first right of refusal from the Quams when the course was built. Mr. Wendt continued to contend that the rezone was not in the best interest of the town.

Joy & Jeff Sievert were in attendance. Ms Sievert asked Mr. Wendt why he wrote his letter as town chairman and not as a concerned citizen. Mr. Wiese noted that the first sentence of Mr. Wendt's letter does say that he was writing the letter as a citizen and town chairman. Mr. Sievert wanted to know why the town had not expressed an interest in the property until now.

Ms. Nimz asked if the town would now make an offer to purchase. Mr. Wendt noted that it had not been discussed. Ms. Nimz wanted to know where the money would come from. Mr. Wendt noted that each individual situation has to be considered separately.

Don Eliason noted that he had gone to Mr. & Mrs. Quam while he was on the town board asking them to sell their property to the town. They refused to sell or to give the town an option to purchase the property. Mr. Eliason felt that the town is now trying to hold the property hostage.

Motion Wiese seconded Nimz that the Quam-Hoff Rezone Request be on the agenda of the next regular or special town board meeting as an action item. Approved.

8D. Referendum Update: Mr. Wendt noted that about 20 people attended the question and answer session on June 7th. The next session will be on Tuesday, June 20, 2006 at 7:00 P.M. in the Community Center. The radio session has been changed until June 21, 2006 from 6:00 P.M. until 7:00 P.M. on WERL.

9. Action Items (Approve, Disapprove, Table)

9A. Township Liquor Licenses: Motion Nimz seconded Christensen that the licenses for 2006-2007 be approved as presented. Approved. Mr. Ritter abstained. The clerk noted that two licenses needed to be approved for Farrow Enterprises, Inc., at Bibs Resort. One was the remainder of June and the other for 2006-2007. The clerk also noted that there was a Class B Combination license available. The clerk is to publish a notice in the paper. Mr. Wiese asked that the check with the Vilas County Sheriff to see if any of the applicants were convicted felons.

9B. Lay Committee Assignments: Mr. Wendt presented a list of lay committee assignments: Lakes Committee; Alma/Moon Ron Hutts and Dave Zelienski; Big St. Germain Mike Deets, Jim Harold (John Pfister alternate); Found Lake Chuck Their, Dick Kloepfer (Bob Shell alternate); Little St. Germain Tom Best and Lou Mirek; Lost Lake Jeff Heeler and Jack Piel; At large, vacant seat: Golf Course Committee; Craig Callies, Marion Robin, Bruce Weber, Tom Wenzel, Jean Herrmann and Boyd Best: Board of Appeals; Boyd Best, Jim Lenz, Jim Penkalski, Ray Weber and Doug Knapp: Zoning; Mary Platner, Lee Holthaus and Marion Janssen: Room Tax Commission; Jim Kelsey, John Pfister, Fred Radtke and Jim Anderson: Parks & Recreation

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Committee; Joe Koscielniak, Mark Wallen, Bill Sunderlage, Walt Camp, Rod Ingram, Tom Caroselli and Louise Caroselli: Public Works Committee; Jim Lenz, Fred Radtke and Mary Platner. Motion Wiese seconded Christensen that the lay committee members be appointed as presented. Approved.

9C. Vilas County Beaver Program: Mr. Wiese thought that the matter should be discussed by the Public Works Committee. Mr. Ritter noted that the Lakes Committee is looking at the beaver problem all along the length of Muskellunge Creek. Not only do the dams need to be removed. The beavers also need to be removed. Motion Ritter seconded Nimz that the Vilas County beaver program be tabled at this time. Approved.

9D. Town Small Dump Truck Proposal: Ms. Nimz reported that the Town of Plum Lake was selling a 1998 Chevrolet 1 ton dump truck for \$10,500. Mr. Wiese noted that Plum Lake had discontinued plowing private driveways. That was the reason they were selling the truck. There was a lengthy discussion on whether or not the truck was necessary or whether or not the public works employees should continue to borrow the dump truck from the golf course. Motion Wiese seconded Nimz that the town purchase the 1-ton Chevrolet dump truck from the Town of Plum Lake for \$10,500. Approved. Mr. Wendt voted "No".

10. Citizens Concerns:

10A. Tim Ebert: Mr. Ebert noted that it would be cheaper for the town to have the town employees use the 1 ton dump truck instead of paying mileage for the use of their private vehicles. Mr. Ebert also questioned why the Quam-Hoff rezone request had become such a big deal.

10B. Ellen Allen: Ms. Allen noted that the June 7th question and answer session was poorly attended since Northland Pines also had a meeting at the same time at the grade school. Ms. Allen also stated that Mr. Wendt was a good organizer. She also suggested that he change his position concerning the Red Brick Schoolhouse and that he turn his energy towards campaigning to save the building.

11. Board Concerns:

11A. Todd Wiese: Mr. Wiese noted he had received complaints about how dirty the Community Center was after events. Ms. Nimz noted that the cleaning service was not hired to clean up after events. Mr. Wiese also wanted to know where notices should be posted since Camp's Supervalu has moved. Mr. Wendt will check with Bruce Weber concerning the bulletin board. Mr. Wiese also asked if Mr. Wendt had found out anything about the stump dump. Mr. Wendt had not.

11B. Ted Ritter: Mr. Ritter asked that the agendas be restructured so that there were not separate sections for discussion and action items. He thought that it would be better to have all items as discussion/action and that the board should determine whether or not there would be any action.

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11C. Peggy Nimz: Ms. Nimz noted that a phone line had to be run to the pavilion for the defibulator. The board thought that the line could be just for 911 calls and that there would be no monthly charge to the town.

11D. Road Easement: The clerk noted that the DNR had asked if a town road near the northeast corner of Lost Lake had ever been legally abandoned. The clerk noted that he found where it had been added to the gas tax map in 1962, but so far he had not found anything stating that it had been abandoned. It appears as though the DNR, in 1962, would not issue an easement for a private driveway. The application had to be made by a township. The board wanted the clerk to keep looking through the records and to check with the town's attorney to see what could be done.

12. Meeting Schedule: There will be a special town board meeting on Monday, June 19, 2006 at 7:00 A.M. in the boardroom of the Red Brick Schoolhouse. The next regularly scheduled town board meeting will be held on July 10, 2006 at 7:00 P.M. in the Board Room of the Red Brick Schoolhouse..

13. Adjournment: Motion Christensen seconded Ritter that the meeting be adjourned. Approved. Meeting adjourned 9:24 P.M.

Town Clerk

Chairman

Supervisor

Supervisor

Supervisor

Supervisor