

TOWN OF ST. GERMAIN

OFFICE OF THE CLERK
P.O. BOX 7

ST. GERMAIN, WISCONSIN 54558

www.townofstgermain.org

MINUTES TOWN BOARD MEETING: MARCH 14, 2011

1. **Call To Order:** The 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:** Peggy Nimz, Walt Camp, Fred Radtke, John Vojta, Marion Janssen, Town Treasurer, Tom Martens, Town Clerk. Lee Christensen was absent. There were also 34 other people in attendance.
3. **Approval of Agenda:** Motion Vojta seconded Radtke that the agenda be approved in any order at the discretion of the chair. Approved.
4. **Approval of Minutes:** Motion Camp seconded Vojta that the minutes of the February 14, 2011 town board meeting be approved as written. Approved.
5. **Approval of Treasurer's Report (Town, Golf Course and Fire Dept):** Balance General Account as of 2-28-2011: \$56,627.44; Lakes Account \$35,235.30; Lakes Committee CD \$15,448.48; Room Tax Account \$9,842.98; Debt Reserve \$291,989.18; Bike & Hike Trail Acct. \$67,299.04; First National Money Market \$287,270.41; Playground Equipment Fund \$5,785.21; Golf Course Regular Account \$27,341.65; Payroll Acct. \$10,111.44; CD \$1000.00. Fire & Rescue Checkbook Balance was not available. Mr. Martens stated that he had submitted the first two reimbursement requests to the D.O.T. for the bike trail grant. Motion Radtke seconded Vojta that the treasurer's report be approved as read. Approved.
6. **Payment of Invoices:** Motion Camp seconded Radtke that vouchers 19048-19096 be approved along with three extra bills: Nicolet College \$645.10—EMR refresher course; Nicolet College \$53.80 – BLS refresher course; Hicks Oil \$1,290.12 -- #2 diesel fuel. Approved.
7. **Communications:** Ms. Nimz noted that she had received a letter from the Vilas County Museum thanking the town for its donation. She also noted that the town board had been copied a letter from the Prime Timers concerning their usage of the community center. The road limits will be posted this Friday and will go into effect at 12:01 A.M. Monday, March 21, 2011.
8. **Items for Consideration (Approve, Disapprove, Table):**
 - 8.1 **Fire Department Recommendation for Communication Equipment Purchase:** Fire Chief, Tim Clark stated that by the end of June, Vilas County would be switching their radios over to narrow band. By 2012, the FCC will require that all radios be switched to narrow band. 30 of the department's radios could be converted to narrow band. However, 10 additional radios need to be replaced. Mr. Clark presented two options. Option #1 would be to purchase all new equipment. Option #2 would be to move the repeater from the town shop over to the fire department. Option #2 is about \$9,000.00 less than option #1. Motion Radtke seconded Camp that the town board accepts option #2 to move the repeater from the town shop to the fire department for \$395; purchase 10 portable radios for \$4,100.00; purchase three mobile radios for \$1,272.00; purchase 10 portable radio mics for \$890.00 for a total bid of \$6,657.00. Approved.
 - 8.2 **Fire Department Narrow Band Fire Repeater Purchase:** Item #2 was discussed in item #1.
 - 8.3 **Fire Department Finance Ordinance:** Motion Camp seconded Vojta that the Town of St. Germain Department Volunteer Funds Ordinance be approved as presented. Approved. Mr. Radtke abstained. The ordinance provides for a savings account for donations that are collected by the fire department. The fire chief will have access to the funds.
 - 8.4 **Fire Department MABAS Resolution:** Motion Radtke seconded Vojta that the MABAS resolution be approved. Approved. The resolution will make it easier for departments to get aid in case of an emergency. Vilas County would know what departments to send as aid and what departments to send to cover for the departments that have been sent as the aid. The town's insurance will cover the fire department when sent to other towns and the other town's insurance will cover those departments when helping our department.

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- 8.5 Approval Class B Combination License for Knocker's Pizza Company:** Motion Vojta seconded Radtke that Knocker's Pizza Company, Inc., Shelley Hodkiewicz, agent be granted a Class B Combination Intoxicating Liquor and Fermented Malt Beverage License. Approved.
- 8.6 Approval of Bartender License Application for Barry Hodkiewicz:** The clerk explained that he had found some misdemeanor offenses while doing Mr. Hodkiewicz's background check. While the offenses involved liquor and drugs, they resulted in fines, and didn't appear to warrant denying the license. The clerk did, however, suggest that the town board come up with a policy concerning the results of the background checks. Motion Vojta seconded Camp that Mr. Hodkiewicz be granted an operator's license. Approved. Mr. Radtke was against.
- 8.7 Community Center Space and Storage – Board:** Ms. Nimz explained that the item was on the agenda because of a complaint that the Prime Timers room was not available for other groups. However, the problem seems to have been resolved. July Berard, the new president of the Prime Timers, had apologized to the other group for forgetting to open the room. Verdelle Mauthe noted that Lois Reudiger had been given a list of dates when the room is used by the Prime Timers. Ms. Reudiger will also be given a key to the room. Ms. Mauthe also stated that the Prime Timers had been given permission to use the room by a previous town board. The group had made renovations to the room at their expense.
- 8.8 Transfer Station Operational Request – John Vojta:** Mr. Vojta explained that the public works committee had discussed privatizing the transfer station and would like town board permission to seek bids from the local haulers. Ms. Janssen thought that the bid request should contain a cap on the bag prices. Mr. Martens noted that the recycling grant might not be available under Governor Walker's budget proposal. Mr. Martens had also noted to the public works committee that by raising the bag fees to \$3 and hiring an attendant by the hour rather than under a contract, the site would probably break even. Motion Radtke seconded Camp that the town seek bid requests for the possibly privatization of the transfer station. Approved. An ad will also be placed in the paper.
- 8.9 Landfill Venture Group Update:** Ms. Nimz stated that she had attended the last LVG meeting. It seems that Watersmeet, MI and Land O Lakes, both non-members of the LVG, are able to haul garbage to the landfill at a lower rate than the member towns. It also seems as though the commission doesn't know what is going on. Ms. Nimz informed the group that St. Germain had never opted out of the LVG. The town has checked into the procedure, however. The LVG is going to look into how to allow Land O Lakes and Watersmeet to join the LVG. The problem is that the member towns had all contributed over \$200,000 to the construction of the site. It also appears that one of the LVG employees is suing the LVG. The LVG is a separate entity. It is not part of the Vilas County Board.
- 8.10 Town Constable/Humane Officer Job Description – Fred Radtke:** Mr. Radtke stated that he had received a model ordinance from Presque Isle and had also received information from the WTA. Several of the other towns in the area have done away with the constable position. Some of the towns have the constable solely as the humane officer and pay him \$30 per call plus mileage. Mr. Radtke handed out a proposal with eight duties for the town constable. The constable would also be required to attend the regular town board meetings to give a report. Motion Camp that the matter be tabled at this time.
- 8.11 2011 Budget – Board:** Mr. Vojta noted that radios that had been budgeted for in 2010 were not paid for until 2011. He asked that the \$8,266 be taken from the carry over balance and applied to the 2011 public works budget. He also stated that \$125 had been paid to A-1 Septic for the portable toilet at Vandervort Park from last summer. Motion Vojta seconded Camp that the Town Budget for 2011 be approved as presented with \$8,391 to be transferred from the carry over balance to the public works portion of the budget. Approved.
- 8.12 Letter to State to Rescind Prevailing Wages – Walt Camp:** Motion Camp seconded Vojta that the matter be tabled at this time. Approved. Mr. Camp will prepare a resolution for the April meeting.
- 8.13 Red Brick Schoolhouse – Storm Shelter Ellen Dahnke:** Mr. Martens stated that Ellen Dahnke had asked him to bring the matter of using the Red Brick Schoolhouse basement as a storm shelter at a town board meeting. Mr. Martens thought that since the volunteer firemen

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were at the fire department, one of them could open the schoolhouse in case of a severe storm warning. Mr. Clark stated that none of the volunteers would be available to open the door. Ms. Nimz stated that there would not be any water. Ms. Nimz suggested using the community center for a storm shelter. Mr. Clark suggested using the new elementary school. Mr. Vojta asked if this was supposed to be after the fact or during a storm. The request was for during a storm. The board will look into using the community center or the elementary school. It was also suggested that the town residents be reminded to get their phone numbers into the Vilas County Sheriff Department to be included in the Red Alert system.

9. Town Committee Reports:

9A. Fire Department: Tim Clark reported that there had been 21 calls last month. A letter of commendation had been sent to Veolia for the driver who had stopped to help a lady who had fallen in her yard. The department is doing an inventory of the equipment. The papers have been sent for the ISO rating. The volunteers are taking refresher courses.

9B. Planning & Zoning: Mr. Vojta stated that the next meeting Monday, March 21, 2011 at 4:05 P.M.

9C. Public Works/Parks & Recreation: Mr. Vojta stated that an ad for the transfer station bid request would be placed in the paper.

9D. Emergency Preparedness: Mr. Vojta stated that he will check on the storm shelter issue and is also contacting the local contractors to update their pay rates.

9E. Bike & Hike Trail: Mark Hiller noted that work was started up again today. In two weeks work will be done on the bridge. The pay requests have been submitted to the D.O.T. The next meeting will be on March 28, 2011 at 5:00 P.M. The cost of the bridge has been lowered by about \$40,000..

10F. Golf Course: Ms. Nimz noted that there had been a meeting last week. She also noted that the article in the paper was not correct. There had been proposals, but nothing has been finalized. The committee is also reviewing some recommendations from Boyd Best. Ms. Nimz also stated that the concessions at the course did not change. The town board had approved of some changes in the contract with the Whitetail Inn. The committee is looking into combining the phones at the golf course so that it would be cheaper, but more like a party line. The ad rates should be lower this season.

10G. Finance: Ms. Janssen thought that the golf course could borrow from the town debt reserve account for the upcoming bills, but that there would have to be a loan in order to cover the bonding payment. The clerk thought that the last two years of the bonding payment could be refinanced.

10H. Housing Authority & Cemetery: There was nothing to report.

10I. Lakes: Mr. Camp reported that the next meeting would be in April.

10J. Room Tax: Mr. Radtke said that the next meeting would be the second Wednesday in May.

10K. Invasive Committee: There was no report.

10L. Vilas County Board Representative: Fred Radtke noted that the Vilas County chairman had resigned. The board would appoint one of the other supervisors as chairman. The county is looking into hiring a fulltime person to keep the records for the county jail. The county is in the process of negotiating contracts.

10M. Yard Waste: Mr. Radtke added that the hours would be set by the April meeting.

10N. Landfill Venture Group: The LVG was discussed earlier in the meeting.

10O. Insurance: Mr. Vojta had nothing new to report.

10. Citizens Concerns and Non-Appointed Committee Reports (3 minute maximum):

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Verdelle Mauthe: Ms. Mauthe stated that the speaker this month had been a taxidermist. Over 60 people attended the Valentine Party. The Spring Fling will be at Golden Pines on March 17th. The group donated \$50 to the town to be put towards the Christmas lighting. Ms. Mauthe introduced Judy Berard, the new president.

Alan Albee: Mr. Albee asked that the town consider allowing Eagle Waste to use a truck with dual rear tires during road limit time next year. He also stated that Eagle Waste is given a discount for hauling trash from Land O Lakes and Watersmeet to the Hwy. G landfill because of the large volume. It isn't that the LVG is giving Land O lakes and Watersmeet a lower rate than the other towns.

Ellen Allen: Ms. Allen stated that the Friends of the Old School would like the help of the other organizations in town with upgrading the Red Brick Schoolhouse. Luella Sherren added that the group made a profit of \$1,365 at the Spaghetti Dinner.

11. Board Concerns:

Fred Radtke: Mr. Radtke noted that he had not received any complaints concerning the usage of the community center.

John Vojta: Mr. Vojta apologized for the ice by the entrance. He stated that it was not there during the day when he left the community center. He also stated that he had a check from the Town of Cloverland for the fire district aid.

Peggy Nimz: Ms. Nimz stated that a health inspector has reported that the stove and sink at the Pavilion need to be replaced. Otherwise, food can't be prepared in the kitchen.

Tom Martens: Mr. Martens reminded the town board that it needed to come up with a policy relating to the background checks.

13. Set Time & Date for Next Meeting: The next regularly scheduled town board meeting will be held on Monday, April 11, 2011 at 5:00 P.M. in meeting room #4 of the community center.

14. Adjournment: Motion Vojta seconded Nimz that the meeting be adjourned. Approved. Meeting adjourned 6:55 P.M.

Town Clerk

Chairman

Supervisor

Supervisor

Supervisor

Supervisor