

# TOWN OF ST. GERMAIN

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

P.O. BOX 7

ST. GERMAIN, WISCONSIN 54558

[www.townofstgermain.org](http://www.townofstgermain.org)

## MINUTES PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE:

JANUARY 6, 2011

1. **Call To Order: committee chairman, John Vojta at 3:00 P.M, called the meeting to order.** The chairman noted that this was a duly called meeting in accordance with the Wisconsin Open Meeting Laws.
2. **Roll Call:** John Vojta, Peggy Nimz, Tim Ebert, Todd Wiese, Jim Lenz, Tom Martens, town clerk. There were 8 other people in attendance.
3. **Approval of Agenda:** Motion Nimz seconded Wiese that the agenda be approved as amended in any order at the discretion of the chairman. Approved.
4. **Approval of Minutes:** Motion Wiese seconded Lenz that the minutes of the December 13, 2010 meeting be approved as presented. Approved.
5. **Public Works Foreman Update:** Mr. Ebert noted that the crew didn't plow today because they were hoping that the snow would stick to the ice and make the roads less slippery. He also stated that he had a request from Vogel Enterprises to push back the snow banks in the parking lot at the Whitetail Inn in February for the groomer show and that the owner of the Whitetail Inn had requested them to be pushed back for the ride with the champs. The consensus of the committee, because of budget cuts, that Mr. Ebert should tell the owner of the Whitetail Inn to call a private contractor. Mr. Ebert was also told that he should sand Big St. Germain Drive from Hwy. C to Hwy. 155 for the Angel On My Shoulder Plunge this Saturday.
6. **Items for Consideration--(Approve, Disapprove, Table):**
  - 6.1 **Frontier Corp. Representative – High Speed Internet:** Todd Luche and Ryan Curtis were present from Frontier Corp. Mr. Curtis stated that the current plan was for high-speed internet service to be in the Sayner area by June of this year. The main hub would be at the building near the library in Sayner. There would also be hubs at Juve Road and Hwy. 155, near the St. Germain Cemetery, and at Plum Creek Ave on Hwy. C. The schedule is for most of the area to have the service by September of this year. Some of the outlying areas might not get high speed internet until 2013. There will be three speeds offered. The service will use the existing telephone lines. It can be either wireless or through cable. Mr. Luche stated that Frontier would offer a home installation package. Mr. Wiese stated that Verizon had told him that the existing wires were too old to handle high speed internet. Mr. Curtis and Mr. Luche said that wasn't true. Mr. Vojta asked if he could spread the word about the high-speed internet service. The two representatives said that the dates were tentative but that the work was on their schedule.
  - 6.2 **Insurance Update:** Mr. Vojta noted that he was having trouble getting a second bid, but that a letter had been sent to another company. He is awaiting a reply.
  - 6.3 **Dead End Sign Apache Trail:** Mr. Ebert stated that in the 19 years that he has worked for the town, a dead end sign has never been necessary on Apache Trail. He thought that since there is

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no turn around, a dead end sign might cause more problems. Mr. Ebert suggested that a curve sign be placed on Apache Trail to direct traffic to Indian Trail. Motion Lenz seconded Nimz that a curve sign be placed directing traffic onto Indian Trail. Approved.

**6.4 Budget Cut Items:** Mr. Vojta noted that before the committee talked about budget cuts, they had to consider two additions to the budget. John Shay will be having surgery as soon as there is an opening at the VA hospital. A substitute will have to be hired for about \$3,000. Also, Mike VanMeter would like his health insurance benefit to be changed to the married status. That should be another \$1,500 that needs to be added to the budget.

Mr. Ebert suggested that the transfer only be open one day a week during the winter to save some money. Mr. Lenz suggested that rather than trying to cut from the budget the committee should look at increasing the town's revenues. He suggested charging for more the use of the town facilities. He also thought that the various groups should pay for supplies and utilities that they use. Ms. Nimz stated that about \$40,000 could be cut from the budget if the town didn't do any road maintenance or crack filling in 2011. Motion Nimz seconded Vojta that no road maintenance or crack filling be done during 2011 and that \$40,000 be cut from the public works budget. Mr. Ebert - abstained; Mr. Lenz - no; Mr. Vojta - yes; Ms. Nimz - yes; Mr. Wiese - yes. Motion carried.

**6.5 Transfer Station Options:** Alan Albee representing Eagle Waste, Tammy Schmidt representing Northern Waste and Mike Ready representing Veolia were all present. Mr. Albee stated that his option #3 was to hire the transfer station out to a third party. He suggested that there be a contract and that the town would still have control over the site. He thought that the hours should be looked at. He also noted that the issue of the employee might be a concern. All three representatives noted that the town would have to check into the effect this might have on the recycling grant money. Mr. Lenz asked if we would still use the bags and what the charge would be. Mr. Ebert thought that we should not use the bags at all. Mr. Wiese thought that option #3 from Eagle Waste and option #1 & #2 from Veolia concerning hours and \$3 bags could be combined. Mr. Vojta stated that costs of curbside pickup also needed to be considered. Possibly, the best solution would be to close the facility altogether. Bill Neider didn't think that would be a good idea since many older people take their small bags of garbage to the facility rather than hiring someone for curbside pickup. Ms. Nimz will place the transfer station on the agenda for the January 10, 2011 town board meeting so that the board can offer suggestions. Mr. Neider said that someone from the Chamber of Commerce would serve on a committee concerning the transfer station.

**7. Communications:** There were none.

**8. Citizens Concerns:** Fred Radtke thought that charging groups such as the Prime Timers for use of the town facilities and supplies would not be a good idea since they donate money to the town. Mr. Lenz stated that perhaps that it was just a matter of terminology and that a donation could be considered a fee.

**9. Committee Concerns:**

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**Tim Ebert:** Mr. Ebert noted that there had been a complaint about the fire numbers on Rocky Road. The numbers are now in order from 1053 to 1061, but the home with #1061 had #1069 on their tax bill. The committee suggested that Mr. Ebert contact Vilas County noting the #1061 was the correct number. Mr. Ebert also stated that an inmate from McNaughton was still scheduled for February. He also asked if the town crew of the fire department was to take care of the skating rink. The committee thought that it should be the fire department.

**10. Set Date and Time of Next Meeting:** The next Public Works Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, February 3, 2011 at 3:00 P.M. in meeting room #4 of the Community Center.

**11. Adjournment:** Motion Lenz seconded Wiese that the meeting be adjourned. Approved. Meeting adjourned 4:45 P.M.

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Town Clerk

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Chairman

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Vice Chair

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Member

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Member

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Member