

# 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: DECEMBER 9, 2019

1. **Call to Order:** The chairman called the meeting to order at 6:32 P.M.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Roll Call, Establish A Quorum:** Tom Christensen, Jim Swenson, Ted Ritter, Tim Clark, Brian Cooper, Marion Janssen, town treasurer, Tom Martens, Town Clerk. There were also 8 other people in attendance.
4. **Open Meeting Verification:** Mr. Christensen noted that he had posted the meeting agenda at three locations in town on Saturday, December 7, 2019 before 6:30 P.M.
5. **Read and Approve Minutes of Past Meetings:** Motion Swenson seconded Cooper to dispense with the reading of the minutes and that the minutes of the November 6, 2019, November 11, 2019, November 20, 2019 and November 26, 2019 town board meetings are approved as written. By a voice vote, motion carried unanimously 5 – 0.
6. **Citizen's Comments – Citizens are encouraged to share their concerns and ideas with the Board. Please limit your comments to five minutes or less:** There were none.
7. **Report of the Standing Committees:**
  - a. **Independence Day Celebration Committee:** Mr. Swenson had nothing to report.
  - b. **Lakes Committee:** Mr. Ritter had nothing to report.
  - c. **Non-Motorized Recreational Trails Committee:** Mr. Swenson reported that he and Jimmy Vogel had cleared the Awassa Trails after the snowstorm and that the trails were groomed and panned.
  - d. **Parks and Recreation Committee:** Mr. Clark had nothing to report.
  - e. **Zoning:** Mr. Ritter noted that the committee would be meeting this week to discuss four chapters of the Comprehensive Use Plan. The land use chapter would be next.
8. **Report from Lake Districts and Other Organizations:** Mr. Cooper reported that the Big St. Germain Lake District would be meeting Thursday at 5:30 P.M.
9. **Discussion /Action Items:**
  - a. **Payment of Bills:** Motion Swenson seconded Cooper that general account checks 26599-26656 (with the exception of #26652), golf course checks 16375 – 16397 (with the exception of #16381), and payroll checks DD979- DD1037 along with extra bills to Airgas \$151.05—tank rental; Hicks Fuel & Oil \$783.64—diesel fuel; Carquest \$585.69—parts; Paul's Rental \$130.00—lift rental; Paul's Rental \$120.00—golf course lift rental. By a voice vote: Yes – 5; No – 0. Motion carried unanimously. Motion Swenson seconded Cooper check #26652 be paid. By a voice vote: Yes – 4; No – 0. Motion carried. Mr. Ritter abstained. Motion Swenson seconded Cooper that check #16381 be paid. By a voice vote: Yes – 4; No – 0. Motion carried. Mr. Clark abstained.
  - b. **Chairman's Report:**
    1. **Public Works:** Mr. Christensen stated that public works items would be later in the agenda.
    2. **Golf Course:** Mr. Christensen reported that the golf course is closed. There will be a special town board meeting held on Wednesday, December 11, 2019 at 6:30 P.M. to discuss the golf course irrigation system, a club house, and greens repairs.
  - c. **Treasurer's Report:**
    1. **Bank Account Balances:** Balance General Account as of 11-30-2019: \$110,624.38; Room Tax Account \$12,132.29; Lakes Committee Account \$22,826.20; Skateboard Park Fund \$2,848.68; Bike & Hike Trail \$58,643.44; mBank Money Market \$57,739.35 Playground Equipment Fund \$1,502.02; Public Works Equipment Fund \$60,062.82; Fire Department

Restricted Account \$31,778.71; Fireworks Donation Account \$1,687.07; Hometown Bank Ambulance Acct \$10,369.49; Fern Ridge Trail Savings \$5,247.13; Road Work Savings \$325,224.96; Community Development Account \$44,282.64; Golf Course General Account \$204,352.07; St. Germain Ambulance Fund \$100.44; Awassa Trail Fund Savings \$11,114.13; Fire Dept. Donation Account \$1,432.58

- d. **Consider Options for Community Center Cleaning/Maintenance:** Mr. Christensen noted that there have been complaints about the cleaning of the Community Center. But, just what needed to be done and when? Mr. Christensen thought that the board needed a plan. Tim Ebert said that the inmates used to clean the building. Mr. Ebert volunteered to talk to other towns. Mr. Ritter will talk to Lois Ruediger.
- e. **Apply the Difference from the Red Brick Demolition Loan and the Actual Expense plus the Difference from the Insurance proceeds for the BoBoen Groomer Barn and the Actual Expense, less the Difference between the Loan Amount for the Yard Waste Facility and the Actual Expense to an Outstanding Loan:** Ms. Janssen noted that approximately \$8,533.22 from the 2018 loan was remaining unused. Approximately \$9,901.46 was remaining from the demolition of the Red Brick Schoolhouse. However, the chipping at the yard waste site was \$10,725 over budget. The Bo-Boen groomer barn insurance money still had \$8,773.50 remaining. Ms. Janssen suggested that the insurance money be left in the community development account. She also thought that the balances from 2018 and the schoolhouse could be used to offset the chipping of the yard waste. Mr. Ritter was against using the money to offset the chipping. Motion Ritter seconded Cooper to table item 9e until the regular January 2020 town board meeting. By a voice vote: Yes – 5; No – 0. Motion carried unanimously.
- f. **Adopt Code of Ordinances, Chapter 8 – Emergency Vehicle Access (Revision):** Mr. Ritter asked for comments from the floor. There were none. Motion Ritter seconded Clark that Chapter 8 of the St. Germain Code of Ordinances be adopted with the revisions to section 8.04(b). By a voice vote: Yes – 5; No – 0. Motion carried unanimously.
- g. **Adopt Code of Ordinances, Chapter 17 – Community Parks & Building Usage Ordinance, User Rates and Usage Agreement:** Mr. Ritter again asked for comments from the floor. There were none. Mr. Ritter noted that section 17.08 had been added, stating that any usages not covered by the ordinance would be subject to advance approval by the town board. Motion Ritter seconded Cooper that Chapter 17 of the St. Germain Code of Ordinances be adopted as presented. By a voice vote: Yes – 5; No – 0. Motion carried unanimously.
- h. **Approve a Resolution to make the Town of St. Germain a Second Amendment Sanctuary Town:** It was noted that David Mollen had offered that he felt that adopting an resolution such as this one would cast a negative image on the Town of St. Germain. Mr. Ritter thought that it was paranoia that the State of Wisconsin might adopt something concerning the Second Amendment. He also thought that the idea should be discussed with the Vilas County Law Enforcement Committee and the sheriff. Mr. Christensen thought that the legality of resolution such as this proposed resolution needed to be decided in the court system. Motion Ritter seconded Clark that item 9h be tabled to a date uncertain. By a voice vote: Yes – 5; No – 0. Motion carried unanimously.
- i. **Veteran Memorial – Water Tank or Irrigation System and Split Rail Fencing along School Road to keep cars from parking around the Memorial on Mondays:** Ms. Janssen said that she didn't want the water tank idea to get lost in the shuffle. She thought that money could be used from room tax or community development. Mr. Swenson thought that there should be an irrigation system. Mr. Christensen asked about the responsibilities of the parks and recreation committee. Mr. Christensen wanted a quote on an irrigation system and a split rail fence. The parks and recreation committee will look into it.
- j. **Reappoint Commissioners to the Housing Authority:** Motion Ritter seconded Cooper to table item 9j until the January 2020 regular town board meeting. By a voice vote: Yes – 5; No – 0. Motion carried unanimously.
- k. **Audit for Calendar Year 2019:** Motion Ritter seconded Swenson to table item 9k until the January 2020 regular town board meeting. By a voice vote: Yes – 5; No – 0. Motion carried unanimously.

- l. Review of the Holiday Week Town Road Snow Removal:** Mr. Clark stated that he had a lot of calls after the snowstorms during Thanksgiving week. Tim Ebert thought that the town needed a third truck with a wing plow. He thought that it would shorten the time needed to get all of the town roads plowed. He also asked that the board watch the weather before sending the trucks out. During the Thanksgiving storm, the crew was trying to plow during white outs. Mr. Ebert also noted that the crew was working on chipping the downed trees and branches from the recent storms.
- m. New Computer for our Town Clerk to be State Compliant for the Upcoming Elections:** Motion Christensen seconded Cooper that the town purchase a Dell Latitude 3590 i7 256GB SSD 15" screen 16GB computer for the town clerk for \$1195 from Computer Success. By a voice vote: Yes – 5; No – 0. Motion carried unanimously. The State of Wisconsin is requiring all polling places to have a secure computer for the upcoming election season. Computer Success is requiring 75% down.
- n. Approve Bartender License Applications:** Motion Clark seconded Ritter that operator licenses be approved for Daily Erickson & Keely Nagel. By a voice vote: Yes – 5; No – 0. Motion carried unanimously. Motion Clark seconded Swenson that the application for Pamela Miller be tabled until a later date in order to get more information. By a voice vote: Yes – 5; No – 0. Motion carried unanimously.
- o. Appoint Members to the Parks and Recreation Committee:** Motion Christensen seconded Swenson that Tim Clark (chairman); Karen Anderson, Lynn Carlson, Heather Koziatsek and Greg Vosz be appointed to the Parks & Recreation Committee. By a voice vote: Yes – 5; No – 0. Motion carried unanimously.
- p. Intersection of South Bay and Hug Roads – Guard Rail Installation:** Mr. Christensen will check on the cost of installing a guard rail at the intersection of South Bay Road and Hug Road. Mr. Clark asked if a guard rail would affect the snow plowing.
- q. Consider an Ordinance to allow a Referendum Question on the April 2020 General Election Ballot to Change the Elected Treasurer to an Appointed Treasurer:** Ms. Janssen stated that she was against having the treasurer position be an appointed position. She thought that she should be working for the electors of the town, and not for the town board. Mr. Martens also stated that he was against either an appointed clerk or treasurer as it would just be a popularity contest. Motion Cooper seconded Swenson to proceed with the question for the appointment of the town treasurer. Mr. Cooper withdrew his motion. Mr. Swenson withdrew his second. Motion Cooper seconded Swenson to adopt an ordinance for the appointment of the town treasurer and that a referendum question is placed on the April 2020 general election ballot. By a voice vote: Yes – 5; No – 0. Motion carried unanimously.
- r. Appoint 2020-2021 Election Poll Workers:** Motion Cooper seconded Clark that the following appointments be made to the 2020-2021 election board: Republican – Tracy Wendt; Democratic – Doug Olejniczak, Doug Kaltenbach, Judy Maloney, Chris Boylan; Unaffiliated – Marie & Don Baumann, Jim & Karen Grace, Connie Wenzel, Cookie Lough. By a voice vote: Yes – 5; No – 0. Motion carried unanimously.
- s. Review Oak Wilt Prevention Practices:** Mr. Ritter stated that he had received a notice to encourage the town's road crew not to damage any oak trees between April and October in an effort to slow down the spread of Oak Wilt. It is already making its way into Vilas County.
- t. Appoint Members to the Non-Motorized Recreational Trails Committee:** Motion Christensen seconded Clark that Anne Small (chairperson), Jim Swenson, Marion Janssen, Jimmy Vogel, Bob Schell, Becky Dunn, Penny McCormick and Bridgette Ryan be appointed to the Non-Motorized Recreational Trails Committee. By a voice vote: Yes – 5; No – 0. Motion carried unanimously.
- u. Community Center use by Little Acorns Daycare:** No action was taken.

- v. **Request from the BoBoen Snowmobile Club for Trail Clearing by the Town Crew:** Mr. Christensen noted that he had informed the Bo-Boen Snowmobile Club that the town crew would not be clearing any of the club’s trails. Going forward, that will be the policy of the town board.

**10. Next Regular Town Board Meeting Date – Monday, January 13, 2020, 6:30 PM, Community Center.** There will be a special town board meeting on Wednesday, December 11, 2019 at 6:30 P.M. to discuss the update of the golf course irrigation system.

**11. Adjourn:** Mr. Christensen adjourned the meeting at 10:15 P.M.

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Town Clerk

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Chairman                      Supervisor                      Supervisor

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Supervisor                      Supervisor