

TOWN OF ST. GERMAIN
OFFICE OF THE CLERK
P.O. BOX 7
ST. GERMAIN, WISCONSIN 54558
www.townofstgermain.org

MINUTES TOWN BOARD MEETING: January 11, 2021

1. **Call to Order:** Chairman Tom Christensen called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Roll Call, Establish a Quorum:** Tim Clark, Ted Ritter, Tom Christensen, Brian Cooper, Jim Swenson and June Vogel town clerk are in Community Center room 4 with 5 community members. Marion Janssen town treasurer in attendance via Zoom.us with 15 community members attending via Zoom.us.
4. **Open Meeting Verification:** Mr Christensen noted that he had posted the meeting agenda at three locations in town on Saturday, October 10, 2020 before 6:30 pm.
5. **Citizen's Comments – Citizens are encouraged to share their concerns and ideas with the Board. Please limit your comments to five minutes or less.** Marv Anderson – Updates from the county. Public Health Board, COVID vaccines. About 130,000 vaccines have been given statewide to phase 1A which includes frontline health care workers. Some counties have started to administer vaccine to phase 1b which includes EMTs and firemen. Anticipate phase 1b will be available in March. The new recreation trails coordinator was finalized as a supervisor, is now posted. State Hwy 155 continues to be in rough condition. Marv received an email from Mary Felzkowski and provided contact information. Marv called her about Hwy 155 in hopes of getting help from the state. Mary Felzkowski will get back to Marv and the County Hwy commissioner with an update on plans for Hwy 155.

Jeanna Vogel – Introduced herself, running for town treasurer.

Sharon Subel Seegert – Introduced herself, running for town treasurer.
6. **Discussion /Action Items:**
 - a. **Upcoming Fiber Optic Project to bring Fiber Optic Internet Service to all Residences and Businesses in Town.** Ted Bogeman on phone from ChoiceTel. Discussion with questions and answers about fiber optic internet service. Grant notification coming soon, potentially to have an answer no later than midFebruary. Contract already signed that commits town to project for grant application. Town needs to reach younger families with outreach. Consider creating a FB page as an outreach avenue. Motion by Ritter to commit with the fiber optic project and proceed without seeking elector approval, giving high priority to outreach and educating electors efficiently and effectively; second Cooper. Discussion none. By roll call vote: Clark – yes, Swenson – yes, Cooper – yes, Christensen – yes, Ritter – yes. Mr Bogeman will provide a copy of what was put in Land O Lakes tax bill regarding notification of ChoiceTel coming to town. Mr Christensen would like to write a letter of objection to considering very expensive household connections vs the most cost effective. Motion by Clark for Mr Christensen to write a letter to the grant committee in objection to those with high household costs on the grant application; second Swenson. Discussion: Keep our nose out of it, thinking this letter will not work in our favor. Message to be sent is we are the most cost effective. By roll call vote: Clark – yes, Ritter – yes, Christensen – yes, Cooper – yes, Swenson – yes.
 - b. **Proposed Recycled Plastics Program – Joyce Owens** Program intent to start in St Germain. Explained of NexTrex recycle program to the board so they can inform community members if they have questions. Plastic recycling will help the environment, water systems and animals. Intend to publicize when ready, still have 4-6 weeks of prep work. Fish and Wildlife to sponsor this group in St Germain and Sentry (David Weber) will house bags of plastic until they can be shipped to Trex facility by semi truck that comes in. trex.com/recycling
 - c. **Consider appointing someone else to answer emails addressed to the entire Board** Question whether Mr Clark sent response after receiving email from Len Larsen addressed to the whole board? Tim does not recall getting this email, it was sent to the whole board and Tim's email

address was correct. Should this responsibility be taken on by someone else? Motion by Swenson that Brian Cooper will respond to group correspondence that comes to all board members; second Cooper. Discussion none. By roll call vote: Clark – yes, Ritter – yes, Christensen – yes, Cooper – yes, Swenson – yes.

- d. Resolution to Restructure the Independence Day Celebration Committee.** Resolution developed after discussion by Independence Day Celebration Committee to change voting members to 5 from 9. The 5 committee members to include: Chair – Cookie Lough, cochair – June Vogel, Town reps Jim Swenson/ted Ritter, chamber rep – Julaine Nampel, community member – Jeff Sauer. All members of Independence Day committee are in favor of this including clubs/organizations. Agenda is not ready for appointments. Motion by Ritter to adopt SG 21-01-1 restructuring Independence Day Celebration Committee; second Cooper. Discussion: Board comfortable with names given to chair committee. By roll call vote: Clark – yes, Ritter – yes, Christensen – yes, Cooper – yes, Swenson – yes.
- e. Possible change in the language of Chapter 18.05(b).** Discussion that expenses payable for DPW work will be close but may not be exact. Suggest that the last sentence in Chapter 18.05 (b) *The PWD shall be reimbursed from the cemetery account to offset PW expenses* be changed to *The PWD shall be reimbursed from the cemetery account to HELP offset PW expenses*. This change will happen when a public hearing takes place.
- f. Uniform Dwelling Code Inspection Services Contract.** Greg Baas is willing to be UDC inspector for 2 year contract. Public notices seeking services showed interest but no responses. Motion by Christensen to renew contract by Baas Inspection Agency for Uniform Dwelling Code Inspection services for 2 additional years starting February 15, 2021 through February 14, 2023; second Ritter. Discussion none. By roll call vote: Clark – yes, Ritter – yes, Christensen – yes, Cooper – yes, Swenson – yes.
- g. Carryover Amount/Budget Adjustments – Future Ideas** Suggestions on earmarking carryover amount for new chairs in the boardroom, mini excavator, replacing road name signs, computer for clerk. Will look at budget first before spending the money.
- h. Consider restricting public use of Room #4.** Discussion of Room 4 having the same level of restriction, given the electronics of it being zoom room, as room 5 where an elected official needs to be present when the room is being used. Motion by Ritter to update policy pertaining to Community Center room use 4 and 5, making room 4 more restrictive like room 5; second Cooper. Discussion none. By roll call vote: Clark – yes, Ritter – yes, Christensen – yes, Cooper – yes, Swenson – yes.
- i. Participation in the 2021 County dead deer removal program.** Cost is \$250, already in budget. Motion by Christensen to participate in dead deer removal program with county; second Clark. Discussion none. By roll call vote: Clark – yes, Ritter – yes, Christensen – yes, Cooper – yes, Swenson – yes. Clerk will respond to the county.
- j. Participation in the 2021 County live beaver removal program.** Cost is \$400 a year, already in budget. Motion by Clark to participate in the live beaver removal program with the county; second Cooper. Discussion none. By roll call vote: Clark – yes, Ritter – yes, Christensen – yes, Cooper – yes, Swenson – yes. Clerk will respond to the county,
- k. Approval of past meeting minutes.** Motion by Clark to approve meeting minutes of December 22, 2020 as presented; second Swenson. Discussion none. By roll call vote: Clark – yes, Swenson – yes, Cooper – yes, Christensen – yes, Ritter – yes.
- l. Cemetery Sexton's Report.** Prior to end of year \$5249.00 was transferred for the work DPW did this past year at the cemetery for 2020. No other updates given time of year.
- m. Treasurer's Report. Balance General Account as of 12/31/2020;** General Fund \$134,983.61; Room Tax Account \$71,302.23; Lakes Committee Account \$6,206.94; Skateboard Park Fund \$2850.22; Bike & Hike Trail \$55,185.08; mBank Money Market \$2,442,270.02; Playground Equipment Fund \$1,502.83; Public Works Equipment Fund \$17.25; Fire Department Restricted Account \$800.70; Fireworks Donation Account \$1,788.16; Hometown Bank Ambulance Acct \$102.65; Fern Ridge Trail Savings \$8,220.71; Road Work Savings \$261,022.44; Cemetery Savings Account \$75,248.13; Community Development Account \$17,146.28; Golf Course

General Account \$294,996.41; St. Germain Ambulance Fund \$100.06; Awassa Trail Fund Savings \$4,866.19; Fire Dept Donation Account \$838.31.

- n. **Payment of bills.** Motion by Cooper to pay the bills as presented along with additional bills; second Swenson. Discussion none. By roll call vote: Clark – yes, Ritter – yes, Christensen – yes, Cooper – yes, Swenson – yes.

7. **Report of the Standing Committees**

- a. **Independence Day Celebration Committee** Next meeting February 2, 2021
- b. **Lakes Committee** Have not met for many months due to COVID
- c. **Non-Motorized Recreational Trails Committee** Need more snow. Awassa trails have been rolled and panned. Foot traffic is acceptable. Have hung bird feeders. Issues with dogs being unleashed, signs at both entrances. Looking for suggestions on what can be done, invite Mr Baumann to a meeting. Fern Ridge getting heavy foot/snowshoe traffic. Received over \$4000.00 in donations for future mountain bike trails.
- d. **Parks and Recreation Committee** Have not met for a couple of months, looking at February.
- e. **Zoning Committee** Meeting monthly, routine business.
- f. **Sexually Oriented Business Committee** Meeting 01/18 on continued discussion of research of signs.

8. **Reports from Lake Districts and Other Organizations** Thursday Little Saint is meeting. Lost Lake meeting later in January.

9. **Adjourn:** Mr Christensen adjourned the meeting at 9:14 pm

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<hr/> Chairman	<hr/> Supervisor	<hr/> Supervisor
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