

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

MINUTES REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING: November 8, 2021

1. **Call to Order:** Chairman Tom Christensen called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Roll Call, Establish a Quorum:** Kalisa Mortag, Ted Ritter, Tom Christensen, Brian Cooper, Jim Swenson along with Jeanna Vogel town treasurer and June Vogel town clerk are in Community Center room 4 with 20 community members. 11 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, November 6, 2021 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.**

Sherry Stecker – Would like to know more information about the vote to purchase the Whitetail Inn.

6. **Cemetery Sexton's Report**

7. **Discussion /Action Items:**

- a. **Update regarding mBank/Nicolet Bank changes and concerns.** Tom Myrin from US Bank is here. Update from Jeanna - Unfortunate Nicolet bank will be closing branch in St Germain. Discussion of ACH fees that we are being charged. Have been offered use of a check scanner, easier to make deposits. Nicolet Bank is willing to work with us on making banking easier for St Germain. Jeanna has adjusted account balances to avoid fees. Jeanna will work with June and Margo to get an overview of town's banking needs in preparation of discussions with other banks going forward. Tom Myrin expressed the town is in a position to go out for bid for banking services, trying to meet our needs.
- b. **Payment of the bills.** Motion by Swenson to approve the bills as presented; second Cooper. Discussion none. By voice vote; all in favor.
- c. **Approval of past meeting minutes.** Motion by Ritter to approve the meeting minutes as presented for October 26, 2021 and October 28, 2021; second Mortag. Discussion none. By voice vote; all in favor.
- d. **Fire Chief Report.** September 26 ambulance calls, 3 fire calls. October 32 ambulance calls, 4 fire calls. New ambulance getting graphics, to take ownership soon and will be ready for use. Where is the roof at? Bond company has been notified that roof is not complete, currently no claimed filed. A crew should be here tomorrow to work on it, if not claim will be filed.
- e. **Continuing discussion concerning the purchase of a new fire truck.** Constant Contact information has been sent out to citizens regarding the potential purchase of a new fire truck. Community and board members had questions for Chief Gebhardt which he and members of fire department addressed. Discussion by board members. Motion by Christensen that the town purchase a Pierce Manufacturing Ascendant 107' Heavy Duty Aerial Ladder Truck at an approximate cost of \$1.2 million; second Cooper. Discussion none. By voice vote; all in favor.
- f. **Request to use the closed land fill property by Soldiers on Sleds.** Jack Bourgeois sent out a letter to the board asking for a permit to use the old dump site to set up a field hospital and give demonstrations of what happens in a battle situation. This will be an event open to the community. Town will ask the DNR if this use is appropriate. There are some logistical questions to work out. Will let Jack know when information is returned.
- g. **Review 3rd quarter utilization of room tax revenues.** Discussion by board and Penny on what was spent and budgeted.
- h. **Review status of Chamber contract renewal for utilization of room tax revenues.** Letter from Penny and Cheryl with proposal to modify contract going forward, to be in effect 2023. Discussion by town board, Penny and Chamber members. Currently Chamber gets 75% of room tax monies and town gets 25%. Potential to keep contract as it is, change of chamber to retain 70% of room tax monies and town get 30% or have a nonprofit entity maintain and develop the tourism development in town utilizing recreation. Motion by Ritter that the

conversation be tabled until board has opportunity to discuss the possibility of another entity; second Swenson. Discussion none. By voice vote 4-1.

- i. **Adopt Resolution SG2021-11-02, Room Tax Revenues Utilization.** Attorney Garbowicz is concerned there may confusion as to what constitutes tourism promotion and tourism development. Statutes are vague on definition of tourism development. Motion by Cooper to table resolution approval this until we have a generated definition for tangible municipal development state statute 66.0615 (1) (fm) 3 from the state; second Mortag. Discussion: Kalisa will work with state to get an answer. By voice vote; all in favor.
- j. **Status of contract with Chamber for Town facilities usage coordination.** Draft contract was written; Garbowicz wants ordinances attached to contract, town wants to reference ordinances as they can change. Motion by Ritter to table until documentation can be sent to board to review documents; second Cooper. Discussion none. By voice vote; all in favor.
- k. **Status of monthly report from Chamber for Town facilities utilization.** Motion by Cooper to table 7K; second Swenson. Discussion none. By voice vote; all in favor.
- l. **Change order for Birch Spring Road.** The road was cut into a hill. Additional work to handle the water flow from roadway to prevent washouts and maintenance issues at \$6500.00. Motion by Christensen to approve change order for Birch Spring Road of \$6500.00 with funds out of Community Development; second Swenson. Discussion none. By voice vote; all in favor.
- m. **Motion to call special Town meeting November 17, 2021, for the approval of the levy.** Motion by Ritter to call special town meeting November 17, 2021 for the approval of the 2021 levy to be collected in 2022; second Swenson. Discussion none. By voice vote; 4-1.
- n. **Review 2022 Budget for Town website.** Discussion by board. Motion by Swenson to approve the budget document as presented with recommended change, s posting on town website and sending out as Constant Contact; second Cooper. Discussion none. By voice vote; all in favor.

Break 9:07 – 9:10

- o. **Approve 2022 Golf Course Budget.** Reviewed by board. Motion by Christensen to approve gold course budget with changes as discussed; second Cooper. All in favor.
- p. **Approve annual town newsletter.**
- q. **Extend porta potty at Fern Ridge through the winter season.** Motion by Swenson to extend porta potty services through the winter at Fern Ridge with funds coming from Community Development; second Cooper. Discussion none. By voice vote; all in favor.
- r. **Utilize picnic tables at Fern Ridge parking lot area.**
- s. **Continuing discussion concerning cemetery entrance/parking area.**
- t. **Replacement of the chairs in rooms 4 & 5.**
- u. **Approve collection of online donations.**
- v. **Review PTO use on pages 3 & 4 of the DPW employee handbook.** Discussion by the board. Motion by Cooper to change verbiage to read 'PTO may not be used within 90 days of hire date without prior approval from DPW Superintendent'; second Mortag. Discussion none. By voice vote; all in favor.
- w. **Consider a safety plan for the Non-Motorized Committee to work with the Fire Department for Fern Ridge and Awassa properties.**
- x. **Closed Session – Adjourn to closed session at 9:40 in accordance with Section 19.85 (1) (g) of the Wisconsin Statutes to discuss communications from Kravit Hovel & Krawczyk, Attorneys at Law and Attorney Garbowicz. (g) Conferring with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved.** Roll call vote: Swenson – yes, Cooper – yes; Christensen – yes; Ritter – yes; Mortag – yes.
- y. **Reconvene to Open Session – Reconvene to open session by Ritter at 9:47 take such action as the Board deems appropriate, following consideration given in closed session; second Cooper.** By voice vote; all in favor.

8. **Department of Public Works – The Board will hear a report from Brian Cooper, the assigned to oversee the Public Works Department, that may include current projects, proposed new projects, daily workload, purchasing of equipment, concerns about present equipment and future equipment needs.**

9. **Report of the Standing Committees**

- a. **Independence Day Celebration Committee**
- b. **Lakes Committee**
- c. **Non-Motorized Recreational Trails Committee**

- d. Parks and Recreation Committee
- e. Zoning Committee
- f. Sexually Oriented Business Committee

10. Reports from Lake Districts and Other Organizations

Motion by Christensen to table remaining items (6, 7p, 7r, 7s, 7t, 7u, 7w, 8, 9 and 10) second Ritter.
Discussion none. By voice vote, all in favor.

11. Adjourn: Mr Christensen adjourned the meeting at 9:48 pm

Town Clerk

Chairman

Supervisor

Supervisor

Supervisor

Supervisor