

**Village of Germantown Hills
Special Village Board Meeting Minutes**

Village Town Hall Meeting-Germantown Hills Fire Department

May 15, 2014 - 6:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Pledge of Allegiance

Village President Jeff DeGroot called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and roll call was taken.

Everyone stood and said the Pledge of Allegiance.

Village President/Trustees	Roll Call	1	2	3	4
Jeff DeGroot – President	Present				
John Ford	Present	Y			
Brian Wysocki	Absent	-			
Jim O’Laughlin	Present	Y			
Marty Clinch	Present	Y			
Todd Rice	Absent	-			
Julia Miller	Present	Y			

Also Present:

Rich Brecklin, Superintendent of Public Works

Bill Streater, Village Attorney

2. Welcome & Introductions

Jeff DeGroot asked for a moment of silence for the people that had recently lost their lives from the mining community.

3. Reports of Standing Committees

a. Finance

John Ford reviewed the FY 13-14 year ending numbers with respect to the budget.

b. Streets/Equipment

Todd Rice was not in attendance.

c. Personnel

Jim O’Laughlin reported the employee reviews have been completed for the year and he will be interviewing for the seasonal position on Friday.

d. Police

Marty Clinch noted there was a joint street/police committee meeting to discuss some speeding concerns through the subdivisions. The Sheriff and Captain Smith were in attendance to talk about what needs to be done. The committee asked for more of a police presence especially along Somerset Drive. The committee's will be looking at others ways to slow down the traffic.

e. Parks

Julia Miller updated the status of the park improvements as follows: The play ground maintenance/safety improvement at J.R. White Park is priority #1. The mulch and border will be replaced with new border and fill along with the removal of the wooden fence. The names on the fence will be put on a plaque. The gazebo at the back of the park will be moved to Oak Grove Park. After the park maintenance/safety issues are addressed the next item will be to construct an 8' bike/walk path around the perimeter of the park once we get funding. We are looking at grant and funding opportunities. There are also plans to add additional parking, basketball court and possibly moving the baseball diamond. We will work with GHAA on what their needs are at J.R. White Park with the baseball and soccer fields.

Julia reported we are in the planning phase to light the flags along Rt. 116. New village signs are being looked at for each entrance into the village with the idea of trying to match a sign concept to the existing village hall, park and Community Center signs.

Julia noted there is going to be an event on July 25th for Michael's 5K Run at Germantown Crossing that we are working with residents to plan. Area businesses are helping to coordinate the efforts to raise funds and we are hoping to plan this annually with other family friendly events in the future.

f. Sewer

Brian Wysocki was not in attendance.

g. Economic Development Council

Marty Clinch noted when they ran for office they had talked about the need to have an Economic Development Council that would involve more of the community. The EDC is made up of village board members, business leaders, school board members, Village residents, a Caterpillar Trail Water representative and a Planning Commission member which is a mix of everyone in different areas of our community. The Village board meets on the 4th Thursday each month and the 2nd Thursday has been dedicated to the EDC. The Tri-County Planning Commission has been working with the EDC on the Village's comprehensive plan which will be completed in June.

Marty Clinch indicated we know the community wants a grocery store and we have been reaching out and making some connections with site selectors and businesses. We have partnered with many organizations to work on our local and regional economic development. We have met with the Germantown Crossing building owners and they are receptive to all working together. The Women's Council of Realtors has asked for

Germantown Hills to speak at their June event about what is going on in Germantown Hills.

Ann Sasso stated we are involved with FFCI and the Peoria Metro group on economic development efforts. We are working on an application for an enterprise zone with Washington, East Peoria, and Tazewell County and have met with the consultant.

Marty Clinch explained we are having CMT work on the right in/right out off of Rt. 116 that was approved by IDOT years ago which will give the shopping center another access. The lighting is being redone along Jubilee Lane. Ann Sasso noted we are also looking at grant opportunities for additional sidewalks.

Rich Brecklin updated the board on the village street and sewer improvements.

4. Public Comments & Discussion

Jeff DeGroot noted when they campaigned they discussed having public forums in order for the community to voice any comments and concerns.

Several village residents were attendance that had some questions and comments. The following topics were discussed: the new village website, landscape waste pickup dates and locations, village welcome signs, electronic recycling locations, Germantown Crossing parking lot, enterprise zone update, the possibility of a TIF District, bicycle signs and the addition of sidewalks within the village.

5. Adjournment

A motion was made by John Ford to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 p.m. The motion was seconded by Jim O'Laughlin. **Motion passed #1.**

Ann Sasso
Village Clerk