

**Village of Germantown Hills
Village Board Meeting Minutes
August 20, 2020 6:00 p.m.**

- 1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Pledge of Allegiance-** Mike Hinrichsen, Village President, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Village President/Trustees	Roll Call	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Mike Hinrichsen – President	Present														
Julia Miller	Present	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Stephanie Chaon	Present	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Dick Hartman	Present	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Jim O’Laughlin	Present	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
Marty Clinch	Present	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Todd Rice(electronic)	Present	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

Todd Rice attended the board meeting by electronic means as per allowed by the Governor’s Executive Order and the modification of the Open Meetings Act. The village hall was open for the public.

Also, in attendance:

Rich Brecklin, Superintendent of Public Works
Scott DeSplinter, CMT, Village engineer (electronic)
Bill Streeter, Village Attorney
Chuck Urban, Village Attorney (electronic)

Everyone stood and said the Pledge of Allegiance. Mike Hinrichsen stated that he would like to do a moment of silence thanking those serving our Country both near and afar preserving our freedom.

2. Public Hearing-Appropriation Ordinance

Mike Hinrichsen called the public hearing to order. There was no public in attendance for the public hearing. The public hearing was closed at 6:01 p.m.

3. Minutes Approval

a. July 16, 2020 Village Board Meeting

A motion was made by Marty Clinch to approve the July 16, 2020 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Jim O’Laughlin. **Motion passed #1.**

4. Public Comments on Any Action Item on the Agenda

The public comments are intended to be a summary and not verbatim. Mike Hinrichsen explained that due to COVID provisions we will have to rotate approximately 10 people at a time in and out of the village hall. Mike reviewed the public speaking guidelines and that there won’t be any dialogue with the village board during the public portion of the meeting.

Dr. Kaufman, 1279 Forrest Drive stated he has lived in the area for over 25 years and was attracted to the area due to the schools, safe community and family values. He noted he has loved living here and has put his heart and soul into the community with being involved for 25 years as the team doctor at the High School, coached many kids, donated thousands of dollars to local programs and charities, served on the School Board, founding President of the Germantown Hills Chamber and has been totally committed to this community. He noted he couldn't be prouder of our law enforcement and First Responders as they all have done an outstanding job. He also couldn't be prouder of the First Responders that saved the boy at White Oak Lake. We are a law-abiding community and we support our First Responders because they support us. They keep our community safe and he couldn't be more thankful. Dr. Kaufman asked the board to please not change any of the flags as he loves them and are proud of them.

Connie Reeb, resident of Germantown Hills stated she taught kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grade at the Germantown Hills School. She stated she knows every October the First Responders come to the school to come face to face with the kids. She asked what's more important than the safety of our children? She stated she is so thankful the kids get to meet these heroes face to face as the kids need heroes with our fire, EMT, and police.

Melinda Kaufman stated she would like to reiterate what everyone else has said. We are in a tough place right now as we have the right to respect and honor our police but that doesn't mean we can't respect people of color. She stated she has friends of color that respect the flags so why can't we do both. She noted people need to be educated. We have bad teachers, police, doctors, all professions across the board. We need to respect the officers that put their lives on the line every day. She noted Chief Wilmot gets called out on a call serving our community all of the time. We need to be thanking these people for all that they do for us. There's evil in every career. The flags are beautiful and they need to stand strong for the respect of our law enforcement.

Mike Gaetz stated he has lived around Germantown Hills for 60 years and has two sons-in-law's in law enforcement and thanked the village for what they are doing.

Megan Beck stated she grew up in Germantown Hills and is now here raising her kids. She thanked Germantown Hills for flying the flags. She noted it has been a hard year but the flags give a sense of security to many within the community. There is law enforcement sprinkled among our community and asked that the board to please let the flags to continue to fly.

Doug Cullett stated he is a 30-year resident and he has watched officers protect the kids every day in our community. He noted we are a village, not a big city. We know what is right and the people in this town speak with their vote so please don't change the flags.

Kath Chittick stated she lives in Germantown Hills but she did live in Dunlap for 32 years having moved here recently because of the flags. She loves it here and her heart broke when she heard that this topic was going to be discussed. She stated she is the founder of a prayer group for law enforcement and is proud of what has been done.

Veronica Axelson stated she loves our community and it is a safe community. She supports the blue line flags and the First Responder Flags.

Deb Wernsman stated she has lived here a long time and thanks God we have our police force and wants them here for her grandkids.

Jake resident on Linden Avenue stated he thinks it's a great opportunity to recognize our First Responders.

Mary Couri stated she moved here 20 years ago and she picked Germantown Hills due to the topography and small-town feel. She stated she is thankful for our wonderful police and fire department and feels very blessed. She noted it is unfortunate the BLM platform has confused some really good people. She noted she loved it when the flags went up as our officers have taken the oath to protect all of us.

Lisa Koenig stated she has lived here since 1996 and moved here because of the schools and the safety. The people opposing this are misguided. She truly appreciates the flags and doesn't want them to come down. She also appreciates all of the flags along Rt. 116.

Barbara Ferris stated she moved to Germantown Hills because she saw the flags and wanted to be in a safe, homey close-knit community. She supports the flags and the police.

Chip Wilmot, stated he has lived here a long time and is here to show support to leave the flags up at each ends of the village and the row along Rt. 116.

Adam Stone has been in Germantown Hills since 2015 and the flags are wonderful to look at. He noted it would be offensive and a slap in the face to remove them. We would be in a world of hurt without the police so please leave the flags.

Steve Gorrell says he has lived here 51 years and it is of the utmost importance to stay on the path and don't veer from it. We are here for God, Country and Family.

Don Nicholson was in attendance to show support.

Renea Gorrell stated thank you for standing up for the First Responders and Police and that it sends a message for law and order.

Jake Beck stated he is a part of the police family and this means a ton to himself and other officers.

Wayne Lewandowski thanked the board for supporting the community and the blue line flags.

Tammy Poppen a resident of Germantown Hills stated she is so proud to be a part of this community and supportive of law enforcement. She has a family member that puts his life on the line every day and is so proud to support him.

Kevin Poppen stated he is supportive in the honoring of our First Responders and you can never have too many flags.

Linda Hartman stated she is amazed at what's going outside with all of the support and asked the village to please keep the blue line flags in place.

Greg Neaveill, resident that lives on Fandel Road stated he has several family members that are law enforcement and asked to please leave the flags up.

Cheryl Wilmot stated she is the wife of the Fire Chief and she totally understands the sacrifices that Fire and Police make. On behalf of the families, she thanked the board.

Ty Wilmot, son of a fire fighter stated he has seen the dangers of being along the side of the road and understand what they are all going through. Ty thanked the board for keeping the flags flying.

Patrick Kouri, resident on Independence Court stated he is happy the flags are up. He noted not every institution is perfect but he thanked the board for keeping the flags up.

Mike Casey from Peoria Heights came to show support for what the Village is doing. He supports the flags and hopes Germantown Hills will keep them up both the American flags and the police flags.

Gage Stewart noted this is a tight knit community with a feeling of family and the police have a great relationship with the community.

5. Public Comments on Any Non-Action Items-None

6. Current Agenda Items

a. Approval of the Amended Appropriation Ordinance and Estimate of Revenues

Ann Sasso explained that the Appropriation Ordinance needed to be amended with the addition of the Business District Fund.

A motion was made by Marty Clinch to approve Ordinance #824 the Annual Appropriation Ordinance as amended and the Estimate of Revenues. The motion was seconded by Stephanie Chaon. **Motion passed #2.**

b. Approval of the Journal Entries

Ann Sasso explained the journal entries since the last finance committee meeting. Most of the journal entries are our normal monthly transfers.

A motion was made by Jim O'Laughlin to approve the journal entries to date. The motion was seconded by Dick Hartman. **Motion passed #3.**

c. Discussion and approval on the Community Center

This was deferred.

d. Discussion and approval of two Business Community Improvement Grants

Ann Sasso stated the EDC had recommended approval of two Business Community Improvement Grants. One was to Germantown Automotive to clean and paint the building and the other was to Dr. Kaufman to replace some windows and canopies.

A motion was made by Stephanie Chaon to approve a Business Community Improvement Grant in the amount of \$2,615 to Germantown Automotive to paint the building and \$3,369 to Dr. Kaufman for the windows and canopies. The motion was seconded by Dick Hartman. **Motion passed #4.**

e. Discussion and approval on an engineering effort to obtain a preliminary design for a sidewalk in front of State Farm

Rich Brecklin explained that he is unable to get an estimate from the contractor on the portion of sidewalk in front of the State Farm building without some engineering being performed. The estimated cost is no more than \$4,000.

A motion was made by Dick Hartman to approve the engineering effort to obtain a preliminary design for a sidewalk in front of State Farm not to exceed \$4,000. The motion was seconded by Julia Miller. **Motion passed #5.**

f. **Approval of the design of the First Responders Park sign**

The park committee made a recommendation on the design of the First Responders Park Sign.

A motion was made by Jim O'Laughlin to approve the design of the First Responders Park sign. The motion was seconded by Marty Clinch. **Motion passed #6.**

g. **Approval on the extension of the sidewalk at First Responder Park**

This was deferred.

h. **Approval on the Fandel Road sidewalk drainage**

The park committee made a recommendation on the repair of the Fandel Road Sidewalk drainage.

A motion was made by Jim O'Laughlin to approve the Fandel Road sidewalk drainage repair for an estimated cost of \$7,600. The motion was seconded by Stephanie Chaon. **Motion passed #7.**

i. **Approval of an Ordinance adopting temporary regulations for outdoor restaurant and bar space**

A motion was made by Julia Miller to approve Ordinance #825 an Ordinance adopting temporary regulations for outdoor restaurant and bar space. The motion was seconded by Dick Hartman. **Motion passed #8.**

j. **Discussion and approval of an Emergency Spill Response Agreement between the Village of Germantown Hills and Bodine Environmental Services**

Rich Brecklin explained that we had a diesel leak from a generator at Plant 1 a few weeks ago. Bodine is working on the cleanup.

A motion was made by Jim O'Laughlin to approve an Emergency Spill Response Agreement between the Village of Germantown Hills and Bodine Environmental Services. The motion was seconded by Stephanie Chaon. **Motion passed #9.**

k. **Discussion and approval on returning to normal works schedules, and opening the village hall**

Mike Hinrichsen recommended leaving things as is.

l. **Approval of a Resolution amending the Personnel Policy in regards to employment reviews**

Julia Miller stated the personnel committee had recommended the amendment to the personnel policy in regards to the employment reviews.

Dick Hartman asked about the department goals.

Julia Miller stated that the committee had discussed due to the small number of Village employees, designating departments is unnecessary and each employee's evaluation includes goals that address the Village's expectations, as well as personal development goals.

A motion was made by Stephanie Chaon to approve the Resolution amending the personnel policy in regards to employment reviews. The motion was seconded by Julia Miller. **Motion passed #10.**

m. Approval of the employee compensation for FY 20-21

Julia Miller stated the personnel committee had recommended the employee compensation for FY 20-21. Zach Hecht, Eddie Flatt, Rich Brecklin and Ann Sasso were recommended for \$1.25/hour increase, Ray Satchfield, \$1.00/hour and Cassandra Schlatter \$.50/hour.

Jim O'Laughlin noted he is against percentage raises and would like to see everyone get the same amount.

Stephanie Chaon noted as a part of the review process they felt a tier approach made more sense. The fiscal status of the Village along with the results of the performance reviews were considered in the review process.

A motion was made by Stephanie Chaon to approve the employee compensation for FY 20-21. The motion was seconded by Julia Miller. **Motion passed #11.**

n. Approval of the contractor's application for final payment #15 for the WWTP #1 Peak Flow Phase 2 Project

Scott DeSplinter reported the project is completed with some minor warranty items.

A motion was made by Jim O'Laughlin to approve the contractor's application for final payment #15 for the WWTP #1 Peak Flow Phase 2 Project in the amount of \$297,524.70. The motion was seconded by Stephanie Chaon. **Motion passed #12.**

7. Ongoing Agenda Items-None

8. Presentation of Bills

a. General/Sewer/Audit/MFT Bills-A motion was made by Jim O'Laughlin to approve the general, Sewer bills, and audit bills as amended. The motion was seconded by Dick Hartman. **Motion passed #13.**

9. Reports of Standing Committees

a. **Finance**-Stephanie Chaon had nothing new to report.

b. **Streets/Equipment**-Todd Rice had nothing new to report.

c. **Personnel**-Julia Miller stated she had met with Rich Brecklin and Ann Sasso to work on the job descriptions. She stated there have been some talks with the newest employee on a couple of disciplinary issues.

d. Police-Marty Clinch stated there has been more of a police presence to watch the speeding for the new school year and they now have a police officer on a motorcycle.

e. Parks-Dick Hartman had nothing new to report.

f. Sewer-Jim O'Laughlin stated the sewer project is complete and thanked everyone.

g. Storm Water-Jim O'Laughlin had nothing new to report.

h. Economic Development Council-Ann Sasso noted most of the meetings are still being held virtually. Ann noted we may want to start a review of the Comprehensive Plan as the last amendment was in 2014.

10. Reports of Special Committees-Nothing new to report.

11. Reports of Officers

a. Zoning Officer/Village Clerk/Village Administrator-Ann Sasso stated the new website is up and going. Ann asked the board about the annexation process of Doc Fandel's property. There have been some questions about the timing and cost. A proposed buyer has asked what the costs would be to annex. Ann provided the costs for building but needs some guidance on the annexation process and costs. The board agreed if the whole property is annexed at once the village will pay for the attorney to do the agreement.

Dennis Miller has a list of items that will need to be discussed with a committee.

b. Superintendent of Public Works-Rich Brecklin stated the sewer improvement project is complete. They will be starting work on the facility plan amendment. The contractor is coming to repair the two sidewalks. One of the sidewalks MTCO will be reimbursing the village for the costs of the repair.

Rich noted the summer employee is doing a great job.

c. Village Attorney-Bill Streeter had nothing new to report.

d. Village President-Mike Hinrichsen had nothing new to report.

12. Communications to the Board-None

13. Adjournment-A motion was made by Marty Clinch to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m. The motion was seconded by Stephanie Chaon. **Motion passed #14.**

Ann Sasso, Village Clerk