

Village of Germantown Hills
Village Board Meeting Minutes

October 17, 2019 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	14-16
Mike Hinrichsen – President	Present														
Julia Miller	Present	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y			
Stephanie Chaon	Present	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			
Jim O’Laughlin	Present	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y			
Marty Clinch	Present	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y			
Todd Rice	Present	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y			

Also, in attendance:
 Bill Streeter, Village Attorney
 Scott DeSplinter, Village Engineer
 Rich Brecklin, Superintendent of Public Works

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 here and afar.

2. Minutes Approval

- a. **September 19, 2019 Village Board Meeting-**A motion was made by Jim O’Laughlin to approve the September 19, 2019 Village board meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Marty Clinch. **Motion passed #1.**

3. Public Comments on Any Action Item on the Agenda- The public comments are intended to be a summary and not verbatim.

Mike Hinrichsen stated he wanted to make sure everyone knows what the board is considering at the meeting today. Some information out there is that the board is considering the cannabis ordinance for approval and that is not true as the board is authorizing the submittal of an application to the Zoning Board of Appeals to consider a proposed ordinance for Cannabis dispensaries and application fees.

Mike Hinrichsen stated the rules and provisions on speaking and addressing the board. Mike noted the village welcomes input.

Veronica Axelson read a statement of concerns and is against allowing cannabis dispensaries. She told of three stores of persons she knows affected by cannabis and wishes the board would hold the community to a higher standard.

Chuck Nagel stated he was in attendance to ask the board to prohibit the sale of cannabis in the community. He is a 44-year public educator and from personal experiences this is not what we want to model for our kids.

Tim Beechler noted all that has been said are valid points but his view is that there are dangers with drugs and alcohol. He noted there are benefits on the medical side but the downfalls with youth are that parents need to educate them the same as with alcohol. Tim noted the tax revenue benefits for the community.

Rita Demask stated she is in favor of a dispensary and as it becomes legal people will learn more about the benefits.

Mike Hasselbush stated he has been in the community for 30 years and volunteers on the south side of Peoria. He noted cannabis is the gateway drug and youth need a good role model, which we need to continue to be.

Ray Satchfield stated from personal experience his wife is on it for medical reasons and noted how regulated it is and once is it legal how regulated the dispensary will be. Ray shared some statistics.

Kevin Poppen noted he understands the economic data out there but because of the youth it is his biggest concern for public safety. He is asking the board to say no to allowing it.

Bob Yonker asked the board what does the board want the village to look like. What type of people and businesses do we want to attract?

Lisa Seaboch stated there's a difference between people needing it for medical reasons versus people needing it for recreational reasons. She stated she moved here for a bedroom community and doesn't think this is good for the community.

Diane Forney shared the story of her son and his 10-year struggle with addicted tendencies and asked on behalf of the youth for it not to be in our community.

Frank Lombardi stated he's not in favor of a dispensary.

Sterling Seaboch questioned why we need a dispensary in our community and who cares if others are doing it. He stated we don't have to do it right now and we need more data before making that decision.

Jake Mills, Pastor of Great Oaks stated he feels we need more data before moving forward. He questioned why we would bring something in to the community to increase youth usage and what is the village's mission. He noted this doesn't line up with what brought him to the community in the first place.

Tim Beechler explained the people have questioned why the urgency but there's a legal time line in order for the village to protect themselves.

Mike Hinrichsen explained it was the recommendation of the village attorney that something be put into place before the end of the year so that's why the village is acting on it now.

Bill Streeter explained the timeline. It is a multiple step process. The first step is what the board is considering tonight, which is to submit an application to the ZBA to amend the Zoning Ordinance in regards to cannabis-dispensaries & application fees. If the village board agrees to move it forward, then the Planning Commission will meet on October 21st to make a recommendation to the Zoning Board of Appeals. The ZBA will meet on November 12th, conduct a public hearing, and make a recommendation to the village board. Notice of the public hearing will be published in the newspaper. The village board will meet on November 21st to consider the issue and make a decision.

Linda Hartman stated she is proud of the village and community. We are very family oriented so why are we questioning bringing something negative into our community. If it's so good why isn't everyone doing it.

Jodi Williams has a health and wellness business and has dealt with and helped people for over 15 years with addictions.

Nigel Strickfaden stated we don't need this here and stated to not look to do this just for the money.

Chip Wilmot, Fire Chief stated his biggest concern is public safety.

Cheryl Wilmot noted our community draws young families here and asked the board to take a stand.

Bill Streeter explained that the village has three options. One is to do nothing and then there would only be State regulations, prohibit it out right, or allow with the Village's regulations.

Jeff DeGroot asked about the regulations.

Bill Streeter noted the village can regulate time, place and manner.

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

5. Current Agenda Items (the first two items were moved up due to audience participation)

g. Discussion and approval of the Resolution of Adoption of the Tri-County Jurisdictional Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan

A motion was made by Julia Miller to approve Resolution 2019-02 a Resolution of adoption of the Tri-County Jurisdictional Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan. The motion was seconded by Jim O'Laughlin. **Motion passed #2.**

i. Approval of a Resolution authorizing submittal of an application to the Zoning Board of Appeals to amend the Zoning Ordinance (Cannabis-Dispensaries; Application Fees)

A motion was made by Marty Clinch to approve Resolution 2019-03 a Resolution authorizing submittal of an application to the Zoning Board of Appeals to amend the

Zoning Ordinance (Cannabis-Dispensaries; Application Fees). The motion was seconded by Julia Miller. **Motion passed #3.**

a. Discussion concerning the Grinder Pump at 813 Hickory Creek Court

Frank Lombardi, 813 Hickory Creek Court was in attendance to discuss his grinder pump. Mr. Lombardi explained his basement flooded in December due to a failure and it recently happened again. His insurance covered him the first time but is not covering everything this time. He is asking what can be done as the system is not failsafe and we need to figure out how to prevent this from happening again.

Rich Brecklin recommended the homeowner have a backup alarm and he thinks the check valve failed and not the pump.

Mr. Lombardi asked if the board could help in some way and noted the need to come up with a failsafe option

The board discussed whether there was a warranty on the pump. Rich will check with the manufacturer and Ann will check with the insurance company in regards to equipment failure.

Todd Rice recommended Scott DeSplinter take a look at the property to see if there's something that can be done with the tank in the yard to make it more failsafe and then discuss with the sewer committee. Jim O'Laughlin stated he would schedule a sewer committee meeting on October 24th at 5:00 p.m.

b. WWTP #1 Peak Flow Control Phase 2 Project - Contractor's Application for Payment #5

A motion was made by Jim O'Laughlin to approve the WWTP #1 Peak Flow Control Phase 2 Project Contractor's Application for Payment #5. The motion was seconded by Marty Clinch. **Motion passed #4.**

c. WWTP #1 Peak Flow Control Phase 2 Project - IEPA Loan Disbursement Request #5

A motion was made by Todd Rice to approve the WWTP Peak Flow Control Phase 2 Project IEPA Loan Disbursement Request. The motion was seconded by Dick Hartman. **Motion passed #5.**

d. Approval of a Business Community Improvement Grant

Ann Sasso explained the EDC recommended approval of a Business Community Improvement Grant to Dr. Kaufman to install new windows, new door, clean and repaint the building, and some sidewalk repairs.

A motion made by Stephanie Chaon to approve the business community improvement grant to Dr. Kaufman in the amount of approximately \$3,404 but not to include the parking lot repair, which is ineligible for reimbursement. The motion was seconded by Todd Rice. **Motion passed #6.**

e. Approval of Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals Appointments

Mike Hinrichsen made the appointment of Ed Rainville to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

A motion was made by Dick Hartman to approve the appointment of Ed Rainville to the Zoning Board of Appeals. The motion was seconded by Jim O’Laughlin. **Motion passed #7.**

f. Approval of an Ordinance authorizing the amendment to the lease of municipal property to Mediacom, LLC

A motion was made by Jim O’Laughlin to approve Ordinance #818 an Ordinance authorizing the amendment to the lease of municipal property to Mediacom, LLC. The motion was seconded by Marty Clinch. **Motion passed #8.**

g. Completed above

h. Approval to purchase trees and a sign for the welcome lot

Rich Brecklin noted he has awarded the contractors to do the work on the electrical and concrete for the welcome lot. The estimated cost for the welcome sign is \$3,000 and the tree cost is \$4,400 for 4-5” trees along with an 8’ evergreen for \$900. Rich estimates the cost for the welcome lot improvements at \$54,000. The \$25,000 grant will pay for a portion of the expenses with the balance being paid out of the business district. There will be some additional electric work needed for the signage.

A motion was made by Jim O’Laughlin to approve the purchase of the trees and sign for the welcome lot not to exceed \$15,000. The motion was seconded by Todd Rice. **Motion passed #9.**

6. Ongoing Agenda Items-Discussion and approval and /or terminate the lease agreement for the cable tower property-Done

7. Presentation of Bills

a. General-A motion was made by Jim O’Laughlin to approve the general, sewer and audit bills. The motion was seconded by Todd Rice. **Motion passed #10.**

8. Reports of Standing Committees

a. **Finance**-Stephanie Chaon noted she will be scheduling a meeting to discuss the tax levy.

b. **Streets/Equipment**-Todd Rice stated he will be scheduling a meeting in December.

c. **Personnel**-Julia Miller noted she is scheduling a meeting on November 14th at 6:00 p.m.

d. **Police**-Marty Clinch stated he would look at dates for a meeting.

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

f. **Sewer**-Jim O’Laughlin stated he will be scheduling a meeting on October 24th at 5:00 p.m.

g. **Storm Water**-Jim O’Laughlin noted he will be having a meeting in December.

h. Economic Development Council-Ann Sasso reported she had attended The Big Table event in Peoria. There was a huge turnout and brought about great ideas. They are putting the data together to issue a report out to everyone. Approximately 3,000 Chamber magnet and newsletters went out yesterday to the community. Ann had raised the idea of mixed uses (commercial and residential) to the EDC and they were agreeable the village should look at changing the code to allow mixed uses.

9. Reports of Special Committees-None

10. Reports of Officers

a. Zoning Officer/Village Clerk/Village Administrator-

Ann recently learned the accounting and payroll program support will discontinue June 30, 2020. Ann and Cassandra are looking into options to replace the current software. Ann noted Webdesign309 has sent the village a proposal in order to refresh our website. The Finance committee will discuss this at their next meeting.

Agera filed bankruptcy but Nathan Henricks explained it won't affect the village.

Ann noted just as a FYI the village's interest totals for the operating fund for October was \$4,300 compared to previous fiscal years months average of \$300.

The community cleanup day is scheduled for the week of October 28th. The landscape dates are set for November.

b. Superintendent of Public Works-Rich Brecklin reported he is having to order new swings for the park as the frames have been ruined. Rich noted the snow equipment is ready and the salt prices on the contract went way up this year. Rich explained they had repaired the drainage pipe on Fandel but it's not solving all of the problems.

Rich reported the sewer phase 2 is going well but they have been having lift station and grinder pump issues. Eddie Flatt has signed up to take his wastewater test soon. Scott and Rich have discussed the need to update the facility plan. Rich attended the IPWMAN conference.

c. Village Attorney-Bill Streeter stated the board will need to talk about cannabis possession and use for personnel.

d. Village President-Mike Hinrichsen noted he had attended the Tri-County strategic planning meeting. Mike explained the Career Spark event in Peoria that GPEDC and Junior Achievement put on in Peoria giving 8th graders exposure to workplace issues.

11. Communications to the Board-None

12. Adjournment-A motion was made by Jim O'Laughlin to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 p.m. The motion was seconded by Marty Clinch. **Motion passed #11.**

Ann Sasso, Village Clerk