

**Village of Germantown Hills  
Village Board Meeting Minutes  
January 21, 2021 6:00 p.m.**

- 1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Pledge of Allegiance-** Mike Hinrichsen, Village President, called the meeting to order at 6:12 p.m. The meeting was started late due to technical difficulties with the computer.

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

Todd Rice and Marty Clinch 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 Streeeter, Village Attorney (Electronic)
- Chuck Urban, Village Attorney (Electronic)
- Jeff DeGroot, (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. Minutes Approval**

**a. December 10, 2020 Village Board Meeting**

A motion was made by Jim O’Laughlin to approve the December 10, 2020 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Dick Hartman. **Motion passed #1.**

**3. Public Comments on Any Action Item on the Agenda-None**

**4. Public Comments on Any Non-Action Items**

Tamra Watts was in attendance to ask for a change in her liquor license. Tamra is interested in having video gaming machines in her business but in order to do that she has to have an on-site consumption license. Tamra asked the board if they would consider changing her license from an “A” license to a “B” license in order for her to apply for a gaming license. She

noted the need to expand as she has outgrown her space and needs additional storage. If the board is inclined to make the change then a license can be created.

Mike Hinrichsen recommended having a special board meeting on January 26<sup>th</sup> to assist Tamra Watts on the timing of getting the license for her business. The board agreed.

## 5. Current Agenda Items

### a. **Approval of an Ordinance Amending Title 3 (Business and Licenses Regulations) of the Germantown Hills Code pertaining to Adult-Use Cannabis**

Marty Clinch noted the Cannabis Act is changing daily. He stated there are other products that are similar and felt until there was a clear understanding from the State the Village may want to defer this. Marty Clinch questioned how the village can receive some taxes from the State but not allow this that would create additional tax dollars.

Mike Hinrichsen noted there are differences between the cannabis products but the issue is that the residents have spoken and the village needs to follow through on what was agreed upon.

A motion was made by Todd Rice to approve Ordinance #832 an Ordinance Amending Title 3 (Business and Licenses Regulations) of the Germantown Hills Code pertaining to Adult-Use Cannabis. The motion was seconded by Dick Hartman.  
**Motion passed #2.**

This Ordinance will prohibit cannabis dispensaries in the Village of Germantown Hills. Not all of the board members agreed with the action but did agree to listen to the residents and change the ordinance. This is not a forever vote and can be changed if things change within the village.

### b. **Discussion on the Donald Fandel property Annexation Agreement**

Bill Streeter drafted an Annexation Agreement for the Donald Fandel property but the board needs to give some additional direction on some questions within the agreement. One question was the time limit on when the property owners would be required to hook onto the sewer system. The board agreed the requirement to hook onto the sewer system would be when their septic system fails. Another question was about the old lot that the village had deeded to Donald Fandel. The title was never changed so that will need to be completed as a part of the Annexation Agreement. The goal is to approve the Annexation Agreement at the next board meeting.

### c. **Approval of an Ordinance amending the Germantown Hills Village Code, Village of Germantown Hills, Illinois regarding Sign Regulations**

Ann Sasso stated the proposed ordinance is the same ordinance that was considered in October on regulating compliance for sign violations. Our current code gives too much time and defeats the purpose of timely compliance.

Jim O'Laughlin asked why we can't regulate flags and feels a political sign and flag are the same thing.

Bill Streeter explained if the board wants him to take a closer look on what's allowed, he can but the proposed ordinance is on enforcement. Bill has also previously stated

that you can't regulate flags on what they say as you can't discriminate against political flags.

Marty Clinch recited Woodford County's sign code that allows a sign to be up to 32 square feet with specific time limits.

Todd Rice stated he has no interest in having the attorney look at regulating flags.

Mike Hinrichsen noted if the size is a question then that is for another meeting.

A motion was made by Stephanie Chaon to approve Ordinance #833 an Ordinance amending the Germantown Hills Village Code, Village of Germantown Hills, Illinois regarding sign regulations. The motion was seconded by Dick Hartman. **Motion passed #3.**

## **6. Ongoing Agenda Items-None**

**a. Discussion and approval on returning to normal works schedules, and opening the hall-**The board agreed to leave things as is.

**b. Approval on the development of Triangle Park with a Veteran's Display-**Rich Brecklin didn't have anything new to report.

## **7. Presentation of Bills**

**a. General/Sewer Bills-**A motion was made by Jim O'Laughlin to approve the General and Sewer bills. The motion was seconded by Stephanie Chaon. **Motion passed #4.**

## **8. Reports of Standing Committees**

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

**b. Streets/Equipment-**Todd Rice stated Rich is getting ready to start looking at our roads for the street program. He noted the employees have done a great job on keeping the streets cleaned. Rich had to get a new part for the backhoe and Todd agreed to get a new part versus getting a used part without knowing how long it will last. Rich is getting quotes on a new backhoe.

**c. Personnel-**Julia Miller was not in attendance.

**d. Police-**Marty Clinch had nothing new to report.

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

**f. Sewer-**Jim O'Laughlin stated there have been some problems at plant 2 and an electrical problem with German Hills lift station.

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

**h. Economic Development Council-**Ann Sasso noted the Village has used up and has been reimbursed for all of the CURE funds. We are still waiting to hear if we will receive additional funds in order to use them on the amount the village paid for the business air purifiers that exceeded the allotment to the village.

**9. Reports of Special Committees-**Nothing new to report.

**10. Reports of Officers**

**a. Zoning Officer/Village Clerk/Village Administrator-**Ann Sasso stated some old documents were found at the Community Center. Ann noted all the year end reports have been completed. Rotary is meeting every other week virtually.

**b. Superintendent of Public Works-**Rich Brecklin stated he is starting to work on the road inspections but over all our roads are in good shape. He stated he's not impressed with the Transmap inspection part of the report.

Rich is getting pricing for a new backhoe and skid steer. The German Hills generator is having a problem they are working on. The guys have been on several calls where "wipes" have been an issue. We may need to up our fees on this as it's not getting people to change their ways.

Rich Brecklin is getting items removed from the Community Center before it is demolished. We have contacted all users of the building.

**c. Village Attorney-**Bill Streeter and Chuck Urban had nothing new to report.

**d. Village President-**Mike Hinrichsen stated that PPUATS and the Tri-County Planning Commission are merging since there was a duplication of efforts. The target date is July 1<sup>st</sup>. Mike will be getting with Jeff DeGroot as the County and GPEDC are wanting Mike to stay on as the Germantown Hills representative for each organization.

**11. Communications to the Board-**The Village received a thank you note from Rich Brecklin's family on the passing of his Dad. The Village received a thank you note on the wonderful cleanup of the streets after the last snow storm and from St. Mary's School on the air purifiers the Village purchased for them.

**12. Adjournment-**A motion was made by Todd Rice to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m. The motion was seconded by Jim O'Laughlin. **Motion passed #5.**

Ann Sasso, Village Clerk