

Village of Germantown Hills Village Board Meeting Minutes

May 13, 2021 6:00 p.m.

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

Village President/Trustees	Roll Call	1	2	
Mike Hinrichsen – President	Present			
Julia Miller	Present	Y	Y	
Stephanie Chaon	Present	Y	Y	
Dick Hartman	Present	Y	Y	
Jim O’Laughlin	Present	Y	Y	
Marty Clinch	Present	Y	Y	
Todd Rice	Present	Y	Y	

Everyone stood and said the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. **Minutes Approval**

- a. **April 15, 2021 Village Board Meeting**

A motion was made by Jim O’Laughlin to approve the April 15, 2021 Village Board meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Dick Hartman. **Motion passed #1.**

3. **Comments**

Jim O’Laughlin thanked Marty Clinch and Mike Hinrichsen for their time and service on the Village Board.

4. **Adjournment**

A motion was made by Marty Clinch to adjourn the meeting at 6:02 p.m. The motion was seconded by Jim O’Laughlin. **Motion passed #2.**

Ann Sasso, Village Clerk

Village President/Trustees	Roll Call	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Jeff DeGroot – President	Present														
Julia Miller	Present	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y			
Stephanie Chaon	Present	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y			
Dick Hartman	Present	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y			
Jim O’Laughlin	Present	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Karl Figg	Present	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y			
Todd Rice	Present	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y			

Also, in attendance:

Rich Brecklin, Superintendent of Public Works

Zack Hecht, Public Works

Scott DeSplinter, CMT, Village engineer

Bill Streeter, Village Attorney

1. **Convening of the New Village Board**
2. **Call to Order**-Ann Sasso, Village Clerk called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.
3. **Administering the Oath of Office for Village President, Jeff DeGroot and Village Trustees, Todd Rice, Jim O'Laughlin and Karl Figg**
Ann Sasso administered the oath to Village President, Jeff DeGroot and Village Trustees, Todd Rice, Jim O'Laughlin and Karl Figg.
4. **Roll Call**
5. **Public Comments on Any Action Item on the Agenda-None**
6. **Public Comments on Any Non-Action Items-None**
7. **Current Agenda Items**

- a. **Discussion regarding Germantown Grille**

Jake Adkins was in attendance to discuss a proposed site plan with a building addition to the southside of his building near Apple Drive. He explained the addition would have windows that could be opened. Jake noted his current building is 46 feet to the road.

Ann Sasso noted the building has to meet setbacks and needs to be measured from the property line not the road.

Scott DeSplinter stated he thinks the building is already on the lot line and there have been drainage concerns on the lot.

Jeff DeGroot noted the village is supportive in helping businesses but we have to still follow the regulations and would need more information on the location of the building.

Jake Adkins stated he will find the property pins in order to confirm the location for a proposed addition. Jake noted they would not have live music but just need additional space for the gaming machines and additional tables.

- b. **Village President appointments for the Village Clerk, Village Treasurer and committee Appointments**

Jeff DeGroot made the appointment of Ann Sasso as Village Clerk.

A motion was made by Julia Miller to approve the appointment of Ann Sasso as Village Clerk. The motion was seconded by Todd Rice. **Motion passed #1.**

Jeff DeGroot made the appointment of Cassandra Schlatter as Village Treasurer.

A motion was made by Stephanie Chaon to approve the appointment of Cassandra Schlatter as Village Treasurer. The motion was seconded by Julia Miller. **Motion passed #2.**

Jeff DeGroot made the committee appointments of Karl Figg to fill the vacancy left by Marty Clinch, Jacob Cupples to the ESDA committee and Jeff DeGroot as EDC chairperson.

A motion was made by Julia Miller to approve the committee appointments of Karl Figg to fill the vacancy left by Marty Clinch, Jacob Cupples to the ESDA committee and Jeff DeGroot as EDC chairperson. The motion was seconded by Stephanie Chaon. **Motion passed #3.**

c. Appointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals to fill a vacancy

Jeff DeGroot made the appointment of Marty Clinch to the ZBA.

A motion was made by Julia Miller to approve the appointment of Marty Clinch to the ZBA. The motion was seconded by Todd Rice. **Motion passed #4.**

d. Approval of an Ordinance providing for the Annexation of Certain Territory to the Village of Germantown Hills, Woodford County, Illinois (Brinkman)

Ann Sasso noted this property is the lot on the corner of Forrest Drive and Woodland Knolls Road that is being rebuilt and needs to be annexed for the sewer.

A motion was made by Jim O’Laughlin to approve Ordinance #839 an Ordinance providing for the Annexation of Certain Territory to the Village of Germantown Hills, Woodford County, Illinois (Brinkman). The motion was seconded by Stephanie Chaon. **Motion passed #5.**

e. Approval of contractor’s application for payment for the Woodland Knolls Rd sidewalk

Jim O’Laughlin thanked Rich Brecklin and the engineers on the great work on the Woodland Knolls Road sidewalk.

Scott DeSplinter noted there is a one-year warranty on the work. Rich Brecklin is working with the contractor on a couple of spots that will need to be corrected in regards to the drainage.

A motion was made by Jim O’Laughlin to approve the contractor’s application for payment for the Woodland Knolls Rd sidewalk in the amount of \$85,562.47. The motion was seconded by Dick Hartman. **Motion passed #6.**

f. Approval on the development of Veteran’s Park

Dick Hartman noted we are hoping to move forward on the development of the Veterans Park. It will be a time and materials project. Rich Brecklin was the general contractor on the First Responders Park and would do the same on the Veterans Park. Dick noted that Rich Brecklin, Zack Hecht, Jim O’Laughlin and himself went to the property and laid some things out in order to visualize the plans. He noted the design includes 3 monuments, 1 flag pole, lights, concrete, bricks, benches, sidewalks, granite and landscaping. Dick showed a layout he had put together. He explained there will be some Arbor Vitaes around the back of the property. Rich Brecklin had put together the design. Dick Hartman stated he and Jim O’Laughlin had taken a trip to Pontiac Granite in Pontiac to see what they had to offer.

Jim O'Laughlin stated after talking to Pontiac Granite they think the stones need to be bigger and no bases are needed. He stated the person in Pontiac knows what he's doing.

Jeff DeGroot stated he appreciates buying local.

Dick Hartman noted Pontiac Granite has a US source for the granite from Pennsylvania which comes from Rock of Ages, with a perpetual warranty and feels there's added value in going with the person in Pontiac. Dick stated Wilbur monument has to get his black granite from India.

Stephanie Chaon asked about the stone color. Rich is looking to get an all-black stone so that even the inside is all black. The board initially had wanted that and the only place to get the all-black stone is India. Other stones will have a white speck in it and if that's what the board wants, we can get that through our local vendor, Wilbur Monument.

Julia Miller stated that she thought the emblems were going to be in color.

Dick and Jim have discussed doing etching instead. Dick Hartman noted to simplify the decisions anyone that is a veteran, which would include himself and Jim O'Laughlin, will make the decisions moving forward. The decisions would include if it's going to be metal, or engraving and what messages are on the stones.

Jeff DeGroot stated this will be a majority of the six trustee's decision and not just his.

Stephanie Chaon stated she has family members in the military.

Jim O'Laughlin noted they have been told in 10-15 years you may have to redo the colors on the emblems. If you get the bronze it will tarnish over the years but you will just have to polish them.

Julia Miller stated she recommends the colors because as you are driving by it will be so much easier to recognize the emblems.

Rich Brecklin explained the proposed design and costs for the project and presented the board with an engineered conceptual design that CMT had put together. Rich explained where the brick pavers would be coming from. He explained the proposed sizes and the need to have the bases for the lighting of the monuments at night. Rich noted he will need some engineering assistance to mark the exact locations.

The board agreed on everything but the emblems, etching and vendor.

A motion was made by Jim O'Laughlin to do the project not to exceed \$200,000. The motion was seconded by Dick Hartman. There was no vote taken.

Jeff DeGroot noted there is more information that needs to be sorted out but there's a need to get this going as the board has been discussing it for a long time.

Rich Brecklin noted the cost is probably more like \$160,000. He needs to be able to tell the granite people the size in order to get it ordered.

Todd Rice noted he feels because there are some differences of opinions the need to discuss at committee level to confirm the recommendation.

Ann Sasso stated this has been discussed at committee level.

A motion was made by Todd Rice for Rich to proceed on electrical, concrete, pavers, lighting and working with CMT. No second was made.

Jim O'Laughlin left the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

The board agreed on everything except the vendor and the emblems or etching. The board discussed whether or not the plaques should be bronzed, etched or colored emblems. The board also discussed whether or not to work with our local vendor or go to Pontiac. Todd Rice noted he's not sold on everything at this time.

A motion was made by Julia Miller not to exceed \$200,000 for the larger size monuments with the layout proposed, the colored emblems and purchasing through our local vendor. The motion was seconded by Stephanie Chaon. **Motion #7 failed.**

Ann Sasso noted this project would be paid out of Business District funds.

A motion was made by Karl Figg to approve everything except the plaques and send it back to committee and then the committee can come back with a recommendation. The motion was seconded by Dick Hartman. No vote was taken.

Scott DeSplinter asked the board about timing because that is the issue Rich is fighting right now. If the board is expecting to get this project done this construction season any delays are going to push it out.

Rich Brecklin noted the other parts of the project can't be done until we know where we are getting the granite and what's going on it as it all goes together.

Ann Sasso noted the conversations from the beginning were to have the color emblems so that you can have the visual from the road to recognize the military branches.

Jeff DeGroot noted 95% of the people will be driving by this park so it should be visible from the road.

Todd Rice noted he likes the colored emblems but does like the raising of the flag in the middle that is etched

Julia Miller noted she feels strongly about using a local vendor in our community to keep the funds local.

Todd asked to confirm what the warranty is through the local vendor.

The board discussed next steps. Rich Brecklin stated it will be difficult to have to go to Pontiac for this project because he doesn't have the extra time this time of year.

There will be a special board meeting and park committee meeting on June 7th at 5:00 p.m. Jeff DeGroot noted a decision will be made next month or the topic will be off the table as this has been discussed for a year and a half.

g. Approval of the construction of a sidewalk along Jubilee Lane

This was deferred.

h. Approval of the IDOT Traffic Signal Master Intergovernmental Agreement

A motion was made by Todd Rice to approve the IDOT Traffic Signal Master Intergovernmental Agreement. The motion was seconded by Julia Miller. **Motion passed #8.**

i. Approval to change the June EDC meeting date

A motion was made by Todd Rice to cancel the June EDC meeting and reschedule it if needed. The motion was seconded by Julia Miller. **Motion passed #9.**

6. Ongoing Agenda Items-None

a. Discussion and approval on returning to normal works schedules, and opening the hall-The board discussed whether or not to go back to normal work schedules. Julia Miller reviewed some proposed guidelines in going back.

Todd Rice felt it should still be left that we are splitting staff and hours. Stephanie Chaon noted after going through it at her place of business she feels there's a need to leave it as is.

A motion was made by Karl Figg to return to normal work schedules but keep the hall closed. The motion was seconded by Dick Hartman. **Motion passed #10**

7. Presentation of Bills

a. General/Sewer Bills-A motion was made by Todd Rice to approve the General and Sewer bills. The motion was seconded by Julia Miller. **Motion passed #11.**

8. Reports of Standing Committees

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

b. Streets/Equipment-Todd Rice stated Hannah Drive looks good and thanked everyone for all of the work to get through the project. The skidsteer is here but we are still waiting on the backhoe. Todd noted he doesn't recall ever hearing that it was a used backhoe.

c. Personnel-Julia Miller stated she is having a personnel committee meeting on May 24th at 5:00 p.m. to discuss the job descriptions.

d. Police-Karl Figg had nothing new to report.

e. Parks-Dick Hartman stated the Community Center has been taken down.

f. Sewer-Jim O'Laughlin was not in attendance.

g. Storm Water-Jim O'Laughlin was not in attendance.

h. Economic Development Council-Ann Sasso noted the process is being determined for the American Rescue Plan Funds that the village will be getting through the state. The Spring Fling was a success.

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

10. Reports of Officers

a. Zoning Officer/Village Clerk/Village Administrator-Ann Sasso stated the cleanup day week went well. The landscape dates are the week of May 24th and June 7th. Ann noted she has not heard back from the Woods at GH about the sidewalk extension. The Planning Commission will be considering the erosion and storm water revisions at their May meeting. The auditor is coming in late May and the Michael's Run for Life is on July 24th.

b. Superintendent of Public Works-Rich Brecklin stated the Community Center is down and they are still working on cleaning up the site. The guys are working on grinder pms. Rich noted he is going to the pump school in Ohio with Scott next week. They are working on the facility plan update and looking at sewer lining in Whispering Oaks. He is also looking at a screen that can be used at lift stations to take out the flushable wipes that are causing issues. Rich noted there will be some street patches this year but next year we will do a big MFT program.

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

d. Village President-Jeff DeGroot gave some history on what he has done in his career.

11. Communications to the Board-

12. Adjournment-A motion was made by Todd Rice to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 p.m. The motion was seconded by Stephanie Chaon. **Motion passed #12.**

Ann Sasso, Village Clerk