

**Village of Germantown Hills
Village Board Meeting Minutes
August 19, 2021 6:00 p.m.**

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

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								
Stephanie Chaon	Present	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y								
Nathan Henricks	Present	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y								
Tom Eckstein	Absent	-	-	Y	Y	Y	Y								
Karl Figg	Present	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y								
Todd Rice	Present	-	-	-	Y	Y	Y								

Also, in attendance:

Rich Brecklin, Superintendent of Public Works

Bill Streater, Village Attorney

Chuck Urban, Village Attorney

Everyone stood and said the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Minutes Approval

a. July 22, 2021 Village Board Meeting

A motion was made by Stephanie Chaon to approve the July, 22, 2021 Village Board meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Karl Figg. **Motion passed #1.**

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

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

5. Current Agenda Items

a. Approval of the appointment to fill the Village Board Trustee Vacancy left by Jim O’Laughlin-

Jeff DeGroot made the appointment of Tom Eckstein to fill the Village Board Trustee vacancy left by Jim O’Laughlin.

A motion was made by Karl Figg to approve the appointment of Tom Eckstein to fill the Village Board Trustee vacancy left by Jim O’Laughlin. The motion was seconded by Nathan Henricks. **Motion passed #2.**

b. Swearing in of the new trustee

Tom Eckstein was sworn in as the new Village Trustee by Village Clerk, Ann Sasso.

**c. Presentation of the Annual Audit and Financial Reports for FY 20-21-
CliftonLarsonAllen**

Sandy Cook and Derek Orendorff from CliftonLarsonAllen were in attendance to discuss the audit and financial reports for FY 20-21.

Julia Miller arrived at 6:14 p.m.

Sandy Cook explained the financial reports to the board and noted the village is in a good position.

Ann Sasso noted the audit went well and appreciates all of their help. She noted CliftonLarsonAllen are assisting the village on the Annual Treasurer's Report this year due to some challenges with the old software program and the new one.

d. Village President Committee Appointments

Jeff DeGroot stated he was appointing Tom Eckstein to all of the committees Jim O'Laughlin was on and as stormwater chairperson. Jeff noted he would need to adjust some members on the EDC as there are currently 4 trustees on the EDC with the new trustee appointments. Two of the trustees will need to be taken off the committee and two village residents will need to be added.

e. Approval of the Planning Commission Appointments

Jeff DeGroot made the appointment of Kyle Perry to the Planning Commission.

A motion was made by Stephanie Chaon to approve the appointment of Kyle Perry to the Planning Commission. The motion was seconded by Nathan Henricks. **Motion passed #3.**

Todd Rice arrived at 6:26 p.m.

f. Approval of a Community Cleanup Day

Ann Sasso stated the community wide fall garage sales are being held on September 23-26th so she recommended having the community cleanup day the week of September 27th. The board agreed. This cleanup day would be funded by the village.

A motion was made by Stephanie Chaon to approve the Community Cleanup Day the week of September 27th. The motion was seconded by Karl Figg. **Motion passed #4.**

6. Ongoing Agenda Items-None

a. Village Board review of the Journal Entry Report-Ann Sasso noted the journal entry report is included in the board packet for review. The board reviewed the journal entry report. This report shows the revenues for the prior month plus any transfers between funds.

7. Presentation of Bills

a. General/Sewer/Audit/MFT Bills- A motion was made by Stephanie Chaon to approve the General, Sewer and audit bills. The motion was seconded by Karl Figg. **Motion passed #5.**

The board agreed to hold the Altorfer bill for now as there are still problems with the backhoe.

8. Reports of Standing Committees

a. **Finance**-Stephanie Chaon noted we will be working on the levy.

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

c. **Personnel**-Julia Miller stated we have a new employee, Cory Davis. The Village received the compensation study back but more information has been requested. The Village is planning a thank you pot luck with all of the law enforcement personnel, village board members and staff.

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

e. **Parks**-Julia Miller had nothing new to report.

f. **Sewer**-Nathan Henricks had nothing new to report.

g. **Storm Water**-Tom Eckstein had nothing to report.

h. **Economic Development Council**-Ann Sasso stated there's a new hair salon in Paul Herzog's building. Paul has also changed his business name so new signs will be going up soon. There will also be new signs going up at Little Oaks Daycare. The Germantown Crossing sign still needs some discussion. Ann Sasso received some feedback on the sign and reached out to the sign company for some new ideas.

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

10. Reports of Officers

a. **Zoning Officer/Village Clerk/Village Administrator**-Ann Sasso noted she had attended the Midwest Community Development Institute. There were some neat ideas that she will be sharing.

Ann reported that the preliminary Census number for Germantown Hills is 3,412. The Village received the first installment of the American Rescue Funds in the amount of \$232,000. This will be used for necessary sewer improvements. There are some area municipalities still leaving funds on the table if they don't respond by September 30th. Ann reached out to several of them to make sure they know about the deadline. Caterpillar Trail Water has requested Village funds for some water projects. The board stated there are several necessary sewer projects that need to be completed so the Village will be unable to assist the water company.

A cell tower company is working on a potential cell tower in the area but the Village hasn't heard back on the timeline yet. The Village has someone very interested in a Farmer's Market in Germantown Hills but we may have to wait until next year to get it going due to timing.

The Woods at Germantown Hills letter of credit is up. Ann Sasso is waiting to hear from the Developer's engineer on what items are still needing to be completed.

Ron Sutter had asked if the village would waive the audible alarm fee. In talking with Jeff DeGroot and Rich Brecklin, they don't think it is appropriate as the grinder alarm works. The board agreed.

A Thornridge resident is having a block party in September. Ann discussed the event with Rich Brecklin, the Fire Chief and Woodford County Sheriff's office. There were no concerns.

The resident that is not paying their garbage bill owes the Village over \$10,000. The resident hasn't paid their bill since approximately 2012. The board agreed to update the lien on the property.

b. Superintendent of Public Works-Rich Brecklin noted he is looking to order some mulch and coincidentally the boy scouts are looking for a project in the community. He noted a truck load costs approximately \$3,200. The delivery will need to be coordinated with the scout group's availability. Rich stated the park equipment should be here soon.

Rich reported the granite has been ordered. CMT has surveyed the property and he is meeting with the electrical and concrete contractors. Rich is also getting an estimate for a sidewalk down Woodland Knolls Road.

Rich stated we won't have the Illinois truck bid prices until next May or June. He is getting a quote on the seal coating for the parking lots. The grinder pump and lift station pms are being completed. The German Hills lift station replacement is going to the EPA for permit.

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

d. Village President-Jeff DeGroot noted with three new board members he wanted to explain the committee process. In order to streamline things, the village tries to do most of the discussing of topics at committee level, with a recommendation to the board. This way we minimize discussions at the board level.

Jeff DeGroot stated there have been some issues with ATV's and golf carts on village streets. He noted the huge safety concern at the intersections with the history of past accidents and doesn't think it is a good idea at this time to consider an ordinance. The board discussed and agreed.

11. Communications to the Board-None

12. Adjournment-A motion was made by Stephanie Chaon to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 p.m. The motion was seconded by Todd Rice. **Motion passed #6.**

Ann Sasso, Village Clerk