

# Village of Germantown Hills

## Village Board Meeting Minutes

**February 16, 2023, 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 - 13
Jeff DeGroot – President	Present	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y			
Stephanie Chaon	Present	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y			
Heather Armistead	Present	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y			
Nathan Henricks	Present	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y			
Tom Eckstein	Present	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y			
Karl Figg	Present	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y			
Todd Rice	Present	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y			

Also, in attendance:

Bill Streeter, Village Attorney

Zack Hecht, Public Works

Scott DeSplinter, Village Engineer

Everyone stood and said the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. **Minutes Approval**

a. **January 19, 2023, Village Board Meeting**

A motion was made by Heather Armistead to approve the January 19, 2023, Village Board meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Tom Eckstein. **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 to hire a part time Assistant Bookkeeper/Village Treasurer to work up to 20 hours a week as needed.**

Ann Doubet noted she and Jeff DeGroot had met with a potential applicant for the position and they feel she will be a good fit for the village.

Todd Rice recommended having her complete an application to have on file with her resume.

A motion was made by Todd Rice to hire Patricia Yost a part time Assistant Bookkeeper/Village Treasurer to work up to 20 hours a week as needed for \$20/hour. The motion was seconded by Heather Armistead. **Motion passed #2.**

**b. Approval for the Assistant Bookkeeper/Village Treasurer to be added to the CEFCU Accounts for transactions and the Illinois Fund Accounts**

A motion was made by Nathan Henricks to approve Patricia Yost, the Assistant Bookkeeper/Village Treasurer to be added to the CEFCU accounts for transactions and the Illinois Fund Accounts. The motion was seconded by Tom Eckstein. **Motion passed #3.**

**c. Approval of an Ordinance Establishing the Compensation of the Village President & Trustees**

Jeff DeGroot noted the change to the Trustee compensation had been recommended at the previous meeting, but the President pay is not being changed, just restated in the ordinance.

A motion was made by Todd Rice to approve Ordinance #862 an Ordinance establishing the compensation of the Village President and Trustees. The motion was seconded by Heather Armistead. **Motion passed #4.**

**d. Discussion and Approval on the Business District Sidewalk Improvements**

Ann noted there's approximately \$130,000 in the business district fund to be used within the business district.

Zack Hecht stated he had talked to a contractor about the addition of some sidewalks around the business district to see about an estimated cost. One sidewalk would be from the library to Anker Lane and then another along Anker Lane to the side road into the shopping center. Due to the topography the sidewalk from Woodland Knolls across to Anker Lane could be expensive. The board agreed to get an estimated cost so that it can be discussed as to next steps.

**e. Discussion and Approval on the Submission of a Grant Application for the IDNR Recreational Trails Grant Program**

Heather Armistead stated at the park meeting the committee recommended applying for a Recreational Trails Grant with IDNR for a trail on the 26 acres off of Fandel Road.

A motion was made by Nathan Henricks to approve the submission of a grant application for the IDNR Recreational Trails Grant Program for a recreational trail in the Village Park off of Fandel Road. The motion was seconded by Stephanie Chaon. **Motion passed #5.**

**f. Village President Committee Appointments**

Jeff DeGroot stated he knows this isn't a good subject but he's planning on changing committee assignments. Jeff stated Nathan is doing a good job but wants to spread the workload, so he was going to have Karl Figg take over personnel.

Nathan Henricks stated Jeff had sent him a text message and made a judgement independently without talking with the board members or talking to Nathan.

Jeff DeGroot stated the sewer committee would be discussing the facility plan and discussing future sewer expenditures.

Scott DeSplinter had indicated there would be a sewer committee meeting to approve the facility plan.

Todd Rice noted he doesn't see a need to make any changes as all of the decisions on sewer spending is already identified in the facility plan, which the board will approve.

Nathan Henricks noted important information shouldn't be sent by a text as there are times people don't get text messages.

Nathan Henricks asked to go into executive session as he would like to discuss specific employees. The board agreed to complete the meeting first and then go into executive session.

**6. Ongoing Agenda Items-None**

**a. Village Board review of the Journal Entry Report-**Ann Sasso noted the journal entry report for January will be sent to the board when completed. The journal entries are revenues and transfers entered each month.

**7. Presentation of Bills**

**a. General/Sewer/Audit/Business District/MFT Bills-** A motion was made by Todd Rice to approve the General, and Sewer bills as amended. The motion was seconded by Tom Eckstein. **Motion passed #6.**

**8. Reports of Standing Committees**

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

**b. Streets/Equipment-**Todd Rice stated the road inspections would be coming up soon as he has talked with Zack Hecht about getting them done.

**c. Personnel-**Nathan Henricks had nothing new to report.

**d. Police-**Karl Figg stated there will be a new police services contract in May so he would be scheduling a meeting.

**e. Parks-**Heather Armistead had nothing new to report.

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

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

**h. Economic Development Council-** Ann Doubet stated there is a new business in the ATC building called Zinger Zanger Shop. The chamber pork chop/vendor and garage sale event will be on May 6<sup>th</sup>. The community cleanup day is the week of May 22<sup>nd</sup> on your normal garbage day. Ricky's is asking for video gaming. The board stated they are not interested in changing the liquor license at this time.

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

## 10. Reports of Officers

**a. Zoning Officer/Village Clerk/Village Administrator-**Ann Doubet noted the police contract is going up and there will be a committee meeting to discuss. The texting program is up to 175 users. The cell tower permit has been issued and construction is to start April 1<sup>st</sup> with projected completion date of November 1<sup>st</sup> weather permitting. MTCO Park will start construction this spring. We will need to discuss the signage once we know what they need. There are several roof top solar systems going in with varying costs. Caterpillar Trail water is having an informational meeting on March 28<sup>th</sup> for the neighborhood concerning their solar system construction. The fire department may be asking for a ground sign for the sheriff's office substation.

**b. Director of Public Works-**Zack Hecht stated the German Hills lift station has been up for a month. Todd Rice thanked Zack for the pictures. Zack noted he is looking at the streets. He stated the guys are working hard on maintenance items.

Zack Hecht will be attending a wastewater class in March along with the test at the completion of the class. Eddie Flatt would like to attend the Class 4 if the board is ok with sending two people. The board agreed to send two people.

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

**d. Village President-**Jeff DeGroot noted the need to make sure the lift station will handle additional users and have the capacity with the potential development of the 4 acre parcel on Lourdes Road.

Rich Brecklin and Scott DeSplinter will have to see if flows can be moved around and it will also be dependent on what type of users are on the system with the development of the property.

## 11. Communications to the Board-None

**Executive Session- Executive Session: Open Meetings Act 2(c) 1 to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body.**

A motion was made by Nathan Henricks to go into executive session at 6:56 p.m. The motion was seconded by Todd Rice. **Motion passed #7.**

The Board returned to open session at 7:53 p.m., with all members still present.

A discussion was held regarding the upcoming employee review and evaluation process.

A special Board meeting was set for March 9, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. to discuss that process, and its application to employees. The meeting might include a closed session to discuss specific employees (Section 2(c)(1) of the OMA).

## 12. Adjournment-Next regular meeting: March 16, 2023-A motion was made by Nathan Henricks to adjourn the meeting at 8:02 p.m. The motion was seconded by Stephanie Chaon. **Motion passed #8.**

Ann Doubet, Village Clerk