

Village of Germantown Hills
Village Board Meeting Minutes

May 18, 2023, 6:00 p.m.

- 1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Pledge of Allegiance-** Jeff DeGroot, Village President called the meeting to order at 6:18p.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 | Y | Y | |
| Stephanie Chaon | Present | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Heather Armistead | Present | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Nathan Henricks | Present | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Tom Eckstein | Present | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Karl Figg | Present | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Todd Rice | Present | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |

Also, in attendance:

Bill Streeter, Village Attorney

Rich Brecklin, Director of Public Works

Chuck Urban, Village Attorney

Zack Hecht, Public Works

Everyone stood and said the Pledge of Allegiance. There were two scouts in attendance.

- 2. Administering the Oath of Office for Village Trustees, Stephanie Chaon, Heather Armistead, Nathan Henricks, & Tom Eckstein**

The clerk administered the oath to the Village trustees.

- 3. Minutes Approval**

- a. April 20, 2023, Village Board Meeting**

A motion was made by Stephanie Chaon to approve the April 20, 2023, Village Board meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Nathan Henricks. **Motion passed #1.**

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

- 5. Public Comments on Any Non-Action Items-None**

- 6. Current Agenda Items**

- a. Approval of naming the 26-acre park**

Heather Armistead stated some name ideas have been briefly discussed with “Village Park” as being the most discussed. No one has come up with any other ideas.

Nathan Henricks stated he would like to think of something different for the park.

A motion was made by Heather Armistead to recommend naming the 26-acre park "Village Park". The motion was seconded by Todd Rice. **Motion passed #2.**

b. Approval of an engineering agreement on the 26-acre park concepts

Heather Armistead had asked Scott to do a concept that is more natural and a concept that has more amenities such as pavilion, restrooms, and play area. The engineering agreement is not to exceed \$30,000.

Rich Brecklin noted part of the cost is the survey and flying of the drone to get a topographical view of the property.

Heather Armistead noted in the end the plan could end up being a combination of the two concepts.

A motion was made by Todd Rice to approve the engineering agreement on the 26-acre park concepts not to exceed \$30,000. The motion was seconded by Heather Armistead. **Motion passed #3.**

c. Discussion on the maintenance of the parks and the summer position

Jeff DeGroot stated he had this put on the agenda as this is the first year the village hasn't hired an entry level person to mow. His concern is that we have higher paid and trained people to cut the grass and want to make sure things are being kept up.

Nathan Henricks noted the employees had asked to take on the responsibility but have also stated if they can't keep it up due to other duties then they would say something.

Rich Brecklin stated there's always plenty of work to do.

Zack Hecht noted everything is caught up and they have done some things that aren't normally done by the summer person. The grinder pump p.m.'s are ahead of schedule along with other job duties.

The board discussed and agreed to leave things as is and if there ends up a need to hire someone then the employees will let the board know.

d. Approval of the Budget for FY 23-24

The budget line items were discussed.

A motion was made by Stephanie Chaon to approve the budget for FY 23-24 as amended. The motion was seconded by Nathan Henricks. **Motion passed #4.**

7. Ongoing Agenda Items-None

a. Village Board review of the Journal Entry Report-Ann noted the journal entry report is included for review. The journal entries are revenues and transfers entered each month.

8. Presentation of Bills

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

9. Reports of Standing Committees

- a. **Finance**-Stephanie Chaon noted the journal entries were in the packet for review.
- b. **Streets/Equipment**-Todd Rice had nothing new to report.
- c. **Personnel**-Nathan Henricks had nothing new to report.
- d. **Police**-Karl Figg had nothing new to report.
- 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 updated the board on the status of the grants. Each one is at a different stage. The Tri-County Planning Commission Special Studies Feasibility Study Grant opened up. It is for the Germantown Hills to McCluggage Bridge feasibility study. The cost is \$50,000 which we previously discussed a match of \$10,000. No match is required but the village could score higher if we do. We will need to do a resolution committing funds at the next meeting. The board agreed to commit up to \$10,000 if needed.

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

11. Reports of Officers

- a. **Zoning Officer/Village Clerk/Village Administrator**-Ann Doubet reported the audit is starting next week. They are going to try and do most of the audit remotely this year.

There's a request for the village to put up a sign along Westminster Road for a Child with autism in order to draw awareness. The board agreed.

Ann noted the insurance will be renewed in July. The Farmers Market starts June 3rd. Ann asked if the board was willing to help with the Michaels Run for Life again with the portable toilets, garbage boxes and dumpster. The board agreed. Next week is Community Cleanup week. The new street maintenance account has been set up at the Illinois Funds and \$170,000 was transferred as requested.

- b. **Director of Public Works**-Rich Brecklin stated a new truck should be coming by the end of June.

Rich will order the mulch once we confirm whether the village is applying for another grant for J.R. White Park due to the huge cost of the mulch each time it is ordered and put down. The grant request would be to update the old, outdated equipment and make the park ADA accessible with new equipment and better access.

Zack Hecht is setting up the striping for J.R. White Park. We are waiting on parts for the street sweeper. All the salt has been delivered. Rich noted they will start doing some street patching. Due to issues with sewer plant 2, we will need to amend the facility plan. Rich updated the board on the issues with the sewer plant and gave an update on the German Hills lift station.

The back up generator is not going to be financially smart to use at the hall since it will be costly to enclose it.

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

d. Village President-Jeff DeGroot had nothing new to report.

12. Communications to the Board-None

13. Adjournment-Next regular meeting: June 15, 2023-A motion was made by Stephanie Chaon to adjourn the meeting at 7:14 p.m. The motion was seconded by Nathan Henricks.
Motion passed #6.

Ann Doubet, Village Clerk