

**Village of Germantown Hills**  
**Village Board Meeting Minutes**

**June 15, 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.

<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 - 13</b>
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	Absent	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
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	Absent	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			

Also, in attendance:

Bill Streeter, Village Attorney

Chuck Urban, Village Attorney

Rich Brecklin, Director of Public Works

Everyone stood and said the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. Minutes Approval**

**a. May 18, 2023, Village Board Meeting**

A motion was made by Tom Eckstein to approve the May 18, 2023, 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 a Resolution Committing Funds for the Special Studies Transportation Funding Program for the Germantown Hills to McCluggage Bridge Trail Feasibility Project**

Ann Doubet noted the resolution commits up to \$10,000 towards the project if requested or needed in order for the project to be considered for funding.

A motion was made by Stephanie Chaon to approve Resolution 2023-03 a Resolution Committing Funds for the Special Studies Transportation Funding Program for the

Germantown Hills to McCluggage Bridge Trail Feasibility Project. The motion was seconded by Karl Figg. **Motion passed #2.**

Ann noted the grant deadline is tomorrow.

**b. Approval of the QBS Policy**

Ann explained that this policy was needed per IDOT and their grant requirements.

A motion was made by Karl Figg to approve the QBS Policy. The motion was seconded by Tom Eckstein. **Motion passed #3.**

**c. Approval of the Fifth Amendment Garbage Agreement**

This amendment was agreed upon a few months ago but it didn't get passed as originally thought.

A motion was made by Stephanie Chaon to approve the Fifth Amendment Garbage Agreement. The motion was seconded by Karl Figg. **Motion passed #4.**

**d. Approval of an Ordinance Amending the Germantown Hills Village Code, Village of Germantown Hills, Illinois regarding Wastewater Charges**

Scott DeSplinter noted that when they were going through the facility plan update, they determined the sewer rates wouldn't need to go up the full amount on the debt service charge and basic user charge that we had typically done in the past.

A motion was made by Stephanie Chaon to approve Ordinance #864 an Ordinance Amending the Germantown Hills Village Code, Village of Germantown Hills, Illinois regarding Wastewater Charges. The motion was seconded by Tom Eckstein. **Motion passed #5.**

**e. Approval of a Resolution Amending the Personnel Policy Regarding the Uniform Policy**

Rich Brecklin reported an employee had come to work in athletic shorts and steel toed tennis shoes. It hasn't been an issue in the past and in order to clarify more specifically the village policy, the uniform policy was slightly amended. The policy already said jean type of short, but a cargo short option was included. The policy already stated steel toed shoes, but it was amended to state steel or composite-toed leather boots.

The board agreed that this is a safety issue and should be clarified in the policy.

A motion was made by Nathan Henricks to approve Resolution 2023-04 a Resolution Amending the Personnel Policy Regarding the Uniform Policy. The motion was seconded by Karl Figg. **Motion passed #6.**

**f. Discussion on a Golf Cart Ordinance**

Jeff DeGroot noted he is not sure if anyone has interest in revisiting this issue or if the village has the manpower to regulate but wanted to get some input from the board on the idea of the village having a golf cart ordinance. The board discussed and there was not any interest in putting together an ordinance.

**g. Discussion and Update on the J.R. White Park**

Ann noted the park grant was submitted today for the J.R. White Park development. The project included a new playground system with shades, rock wall, merry-go-round, swing set, outdoor fitness area and a safety unitary surface. The area will have a 6' sidewalk around the perimeter of the park along with a sidewalk that runs through the playground area for safe access to all the park features. The equipment is ADA accessible and inclusive to all age groups. The plan is to relocate the merry-go-round, dome climber and buck-a-bout in the new park. There is also one swing set that is newer that will be kept with additional swing sets to be added on to it.

The grant allows for 75% funding. In addition, the park equipment company is offering a grant this fall that the village could apply for to utilize towards the local match. The overall project came in at \$750,000 for the engineering, park equipment, surface preparation and concrete.

The current park equipment is old, rusted, and not ADA accessible with the mulch being a continued maintenance issue. The grant is a great opportunity to bring the park up to date and ADA compliant in addition, to being a huge asset for the community.

**6. 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.

**7. 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 Nathan Henricks. **Motion passed #7.**

**8. Reports of Standing Committees**

**a. Finance-**Stephanie Chaon noted the journal entries were in the packet for review.

**b. Streets/Equipment-**Todd Rice was not in attendance.

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

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

**e. Parks-**Heather Armistead was not in attendance.

**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. We have four grants in the works, two we are still waiting on to see if they have been approved, and two new grants that will be sent today and tomorrow for consideration and hopeful approval.

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

**10. Reports of Officers**

**a. Zoning Officer/Village Clerk/Village Administrator**-Ann Doubet reported the audit is in the process of being completed. The autism sign was put up on Westminster Road for a Child with autism. The Farmer's Market is going well.

Ann asked if it was ok for Mr. Grebner to cut hay on the Village Park property. The board also mentioned the 4-acre parcel on Lourdes Road as a possibility. Stephanie Chaon questioned the timing with the grasses at the present stage at the Village Park. Stephanie will check on this and let Ann know.

Ann stated Woodford County is looking at the old church building along Woodland Knolls Road for their animal control services and asked if there were any issues with the proposed use for the building. The board discussed they would need to meet the code depending on what they plan on doing with the building, and outside areas.

**b. Director of Public Works**-Rich Brecklin stated the streets have been swept. The new truck is delayed on being built but they have some service trucks on the lot, and they are willing to give the village a good trade amount on the F350. Jeff and Rich are going to go look at the trucks to see what the options would be.

Rich noted plant 2 is having some issues that they are trying to figure out. The new lift station is working well. They are planning on tearing down the old building on Saturday.

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

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

#### **11. Communications to the Board-None**

**12. Adjournment-Next regular meeting: July 20, 2023**-A motion was made by Nathan Henricks to adjourn the meeting at 6:43 p.m. The motion was seconded by Tom Eckstein. **Motion passed #8.**

Ann Doubet, Village Clerk