

Village of Germantown Hills
Village Board Meeting Minutes

July 20, 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	Absent	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Nathan Henricks	Absent	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
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

Chuck Urban, Village Attorney

Rich Brecklin, Director of Public Works

Everyone stood and said the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. **Public Hearing-Appropriation Ordinance**

Village President opened the public hearing. No public was in attendance, so the public hearing was closed.

3. **Minutes Approval**

- a. **June 15, 2023, Village Board Meeting**

A motion was made by Stephanie Chaon to approve the June 15, 2023, Village Board meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Tom Eckstein. **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 the Annual Appropriation Ordinance and Estimate of Revenues**

A motion was made by Todd Rice to approve Ordinance #865 the Annual Appropriation Ordinance and Estimate of Revenues for FY 23-24. The motion was seconded by Stephanie Chaon. **Motion passed #2.**

b. Discussion and Approval of the Mother House Sewer Extension Agreement

The Mother House is looking to construct a force main adjacent to Rt. 116 and hook on to the village's sewer system. The village had proposed a basic user fee that was calculated based on the potential replacement of the force main as their facility is out of the village and 5,000 feet away. They had proposed a basic user fee as a single household user. The sewer force main most likely will never have any additional users in the future, thereby not generating any additional revenue for the village. The concern is that in the future if the force main needs to be replaced the village residents shouldn't be impacted by the cost of the repair. The board discussed the reasons for the calculation and agreed to have Bill Streeter send a response.

c. Approval of An Ordinance Authorizing the Sale of the F350 2019 Truck and Snowplow Blade

A motion was made by Todd Rice to approve Ordinance #866, an Ordinance Authorizing the Sale of the F350 2019 Truck and Snowplow Blade. The motion was seconded by Karl Figg. **Motion passed #3.**

d. Discussion and Approval of the FY 23-24 Amended Budget

Ann noted in working on the audit the auditor mentioned separating the different projects in the budget which would make it easier to track the grant revenues and expenses. This change was made to the budget along with increasing the cost for the comprehensive plan to \$6,000.

A motion was made by Stephanie Chaon to approve the FY 23-24 Amended Budget. The motion was seconded by Karl Figg. **Motion passed #4.**

e. Approval of the Sign Ordinance Amendment

Ann noted in the past there was an issue with getting timely compliance with a sign code violation and recently the question came up again. Bill and Ann worked on amending the sign code so that it is clearly stated moving forward.

A motion was made by Todd Rice to approve Ordinance #867 an Ordinance Amending the Village Code, Village of Germantown Hills, Illinois Regarding Sign Regulations. The motion was seconded by Tom Eckstein. **Motion passed #5.**

f. Discussion and Approval of an Engineering Agreement for Sludge Removal

A motion was made by Todd Rice to Approve an Engineering Agreement for Sludge Removal with CMT not to exceed \$16,000. The motion was seconded by Karl Figg. **Motion passed #6.**

g. Discussion and Approval of Legal Action on Non-Payment on a Garbage Account and Nuisance Complaint on a Property in Whispering Oaks

The board discussed the garbage account and nuisance complaint and next steps for compliance for a property located in Whispering Oaks Subdivision. Chuck Urban stated he would check the village code. The board discussed getting additional pictures taken of the nuisance complaint. Bill Streeter noted they will look at the alternatives for compliance.

6. Ongoing Agenda Items-None

a. **Village Board review of the Journal Entry Report**-Ann noted the journal entries are revenues and transfers entered each month. The journal report will be sent to the board for review as the report was not ready for this month.

7. Presentation of Bills

a. **General/Sewer/Audit/Business District/MFT Bills**- A motion was made by Todd Rice to approve the General, Sewer, Audit and Business District bills. The motion was seconded by Stephanie Chaon. **Motion passed #7.**

8. Reports of Standing Committees

a. **Finance**-The journal entry report will be emailed tomorrow to the board for review.

b. **Streets/Equipment**-Todd Rice recommended checking to see if there would be an advantage to paying off Anker Lane ahead of time. Ann will check.

c. **Personnel**-Nathan Henricks was not in attendance.

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

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

f. **Sewer**-Nathan Henricks was not in attendance.

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

h. **Economic Development Council**- Ann Doubet noted the Michael's Run for Life is this Saturday. The band may play until 11:00 p.m. as they are expecting a large crowd. The Sheriff's office will let Ann know if there are complaints.

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

10. Reports of Officers

a. **Zoning Officer/Village Clerk/Village Administrator**-Ann Doubet stated the old community center lot bids will be advertised in August for the bid opening at the August meeting. The property will not be able to be used for commercial purposes as it is zoned residential and no structures will be able to be built on the lot.

The township is going to request a traffic study for Old Germantown Road to get the speed limit lowered. They were waiting on the state to confirm ownership.

Caterpillar Trail is requesting a solar permit on their property. We are waiting on Caterpillar Trail on the type of permit they are requesting.

MTCO Park-The school had to cut some expenses because the bids came in high. The development will need to have some branding signage and sponsorships. Ann noted we looked for a model ordinance from other communities and it appears most don't regulate inside the athletic complexes.

Village hall improvements-Ann stated we are looking to replace the flooring and do some painting, electrical and lighting. Ann asked the board to confirm they wanted to tear out the ceiling and fix the lighting and electrical. The board agreed to get an estimate.

The RFQ for the Germantown Hills to Metamora Trail engineering is going to be posted next week. It will be posted for 14 days on our website. This is an IDOT requirement. At the August board meeting the qualifications will be evaluated and selected. At the September meeting the contract will be recommended to the board for approval. I reached out to John Cummings, Mayor of Metamora to see if they wanted to be involved in the process and he said to keep him in the loop.

b. Director of Public Works-Rich Brecklin stated the new truck is getting set up for the plow and the other truck on order is being built. The milling machine is coming tomorrow in order to start doing some roadwork. The sewers have been televised in Whispering Oaks. Rich and Scott will be watching the videos to put a plan together. The new lift station is operational. The grass has been planted and they may look to put some bushes up around it.

Ann noted there will be a variance request in front of the ZBA on August 8, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

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: August 17, 2023-A motion was made by Stephanie Chaon to adjourn the meeting at 7:02 p.m. The motion was seconded by Tom Eckstein.
Motion passed #8.

Ann Doubet, Village Clerk