

Village of Germantown Hills

Village Board Meeting Minutes

December 14, 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					
Stephanie Chaon	Present	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y					
Heather Armistead	Present	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y					
Nathan Henricks	Absent	-	-	-	-	-	-					
Tom Eckstein	Present	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y					
Karl Figg	Present	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y					
Todd Rice	Present	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y					

Also, in attendance:

Chuck Urban, Village Attorney

Rich Brecklin, Director of Public Works

Scott DeSplinter, Village Engineer

Everyone stood and said the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Minutes Approval

a. November 16, 2023, Village Board Meeting

A motion was made by Karl Figg to approve the November 16, 2023, Village Board meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Heather Armistead. **Motion passed #1.**

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

4. Public Comments on Any Non-Action Items-Jeff DeGroot noted public comments would be limited to five minutes per person.

Kitty Cullett asked a couple of questions about the Somerset multi-use path.

Jeff DeGroot stated he couldn't answer the questions at this time.

5. Current Agenda Items

a. Discussion on the Germantown Hills Chamber Liquor License Request

Ann noted she had received notice that the chamber will not be taking the BYOB liquor license request any further.

Todd Rice stated he and Ann Doubet had discussed a recommendation for the board that in the future if there's an interested party wanting a code change to have them draft a proposal for board consideration. This way the village is not spending funds to draft an ordinance without knowing the full request.

b. Approval of the Tax Levy Ordinance for FY 23-24

Ann stated the tax levy ordinance was drafted similar to what the board has done in the past in that it would for the same total tax dollars with no increase.

Todd Rice noted that this is now nine years that the board has not raised taxes, which is a great accomplishment for the board. The village has been able to do a lot of things within the community without raising taxes.

A motion was made by Todd Rice to approve the Tax Levy Ordinance for FY 23-24. The motion was seconded by Tom Eckstein. **Motion passed #2.**

c. Approval of An Ordinance Regarding the Illinois Paid Leave for all Workers Act for the Village of Germantown Hills

A motion was made by Stephanie Chaon to approve Ordinance #870, an Ordinance Regarding the Illinois Paid Leave for all Workers Act for the Village of Germantown Hills. The motion was seconded by Todd Rice. **Motion passed #3.**

d. Discussion and Approval of a Donation to the Mars/Wars Robotics

A motion was made by Stephanie Chaon to approve a donation of \$2,000 to Mars/Wars Robotics. The motion was seconded by Karl Figg. **Motion passed #4.**

Jeff DeGroot noted he loves that this group promotes technology with the students.

e. Presentation of the MFT Compliance Review for the period beginning January 1, 2021, and ending December 31, 2022

Ann Doubet presented to the board the report on the MFT Compliance Review for the period beginning January 1, 2021, and ending December 31, 2022, as required.

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 was reviewed by the board.

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 Tom Eckstein. **Motion passed #5.**

8. Reports of Standing Committees

a. Finance-Stephanie Chaon had nothing new to report other than review of the journal entries.

b. Streets/Equipment-Todd Rice stated there will need to be a meeting at some point to talk about potential traffic issues with MTCO Park. Todd asked Rich to check on getting Townhall Road swept due to the excess rock.

c. Personnel-Nathan Henricks was not in attendance.

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

e. Parks-Heather Armistead asked if the school was working on naming the park. Ann will check with the school.

f. Sewer-Nathan Henricks was not in attendance.

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

h. Economic Development Council-. Blue Margarita and the Chamber Business Community Improvement grants have been paid out.

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

10. Reports of Officers

a. Zoning Officer/Village Clerk/Village Administrator-Ann Doubet stated a miscellaneous entry to balance cash was entered into the general ledger as of May 2023. The auditor confirmed the entry in order to balance cash and start the new fiscal year balanced. Ann stated there was a coordination meeting with Terra Engineering on the proposed location for the pedestrian bridge and trail. They now have four alternatives that they are looking at. More information will be shared as soon as they meet with IDOT and have more information on the proposed project. Ann noted Rich had an idea that in order to keep the community tree and donation leaves without the huge frame at the hall, we could have a mural painted on one of the office walls. Ann is checking on an estimated cost. The landscape waste dumpster is done for the year.

b. Director of Public Works-Rich Brecklin stated Townhall Road has been opened up after being closed for the sewer installation. They didn't get an EPA permit, so Rich had stopped the work, and they won't be able to tie into the sewer until they have the permit. Rich noted he is checking on the stormwater permit as well.

Altorfer came out to service the backhoe and skidsteer. The EPA inspection last month went great but then Rich was informed of a violation. Additional sampling was being conducted more than is required, so the village received a violation. Rich answered the EPA violation. He is checking on an automatic sampler.

c. Village Attorney-Chuck Urban had nothing new to report. Bill Streeter was not in attendance.

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

11. Communications to the Board-None

12. Adjournment-Next regular meeting: January 18, 2024-A motion was made by Karl Figg to adjourn the meeting at 6:33 p.m. The motion was seconded by Tom Eckstein. **Motion passed #6.**

Ann Doubet, Village Clerk