

# Village of Germantown Hills

## Village Board Meeting Minutes

**April 18, 2024, 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
Jeff DeGroot – President	Present											
Stephanie Chaon	Absent	-	-	-	-							
Heather Armistead	Absent	-	-	-	-							
Nathan Henricks	Present	Y	Y	Y	Y							
Tom Eckstein	Present	Y	Y	Y	Y							
Karl Figg	Present	Y	Y	Y	Y							
Todd Rice	Present	Y	Y	Y	Y							

Also, in attendance:

Bill Streeeter, Village Attorney

Chuck Urban, Village Attorney

Captain Marc Wright, Woodford County Sheriff’s Office

Zack Hecht, Public Works

Everyone stood and said the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. **Minutes Approval**

- a. **March 21, 2024, Village Board Meeting-Defer**

- b. **March 21, 2024, Special Village Board Meeting-Defer**

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

4. **Public Comments on Any Non-Action Items**

Jim Johanningsmeier stated he is very much in favor of the Somerset Multi-Use path as he sees the number of kids walking and biking to school every day. He worked with the village and IDOT on getting the crosswalk and sidewalk constructed years ago along Arbor Vitae in order to keep the kids off the road.

Damien Cruse asked about the data on the number of accidents along Somerset and when someone is going to discuss the parking issues on his property.

Karl Figg arrived at 6:02 p.m.

Todd Rice noted after the meetings with property owners in December the village was told to not have any further conversations until the review process was completed so that is why there have been no further conversations. After the review process there will be discussions with a couple of property owners that have concerns.

Don Durand stated that he too sees the number of kids and is in favor of getting the kids off the street.

Mike Hinrichsen stated he sees the kids when he walks his dog. The number of kids walking and biking to school is an accident waiting to happen and at some point, someone is going to get hurt.

Julie Hodges mentioned the possibility of making Somerset a one-way street.

Randy Nash noted he was on the Coventry Farm board when they opened Somerset and was on the fire department board for 7 years. He noted the street was always planned to be open. It's important to have the road open and he is supportive of the path.

Marc Wright stated when his child was in grade school he was hit by a car. He noted data doesn't matter when you get a phone call that your kid has been hit by a car. If one kid gets hit that's too many.

Paige Patel noted she's in support of the path as she has two small children and keeping kids safe is important.

Todd Rice spoke on the traffic from the new park, and athletic complex and the effect on the neighborhoods.

## **5. Current Agenda Items**

### **a. Approval of the Woodford County Intergovernmental Agreement for Animal Control Services**

A motion was made by Karl Figg to approve the Woodford County Intergovernmental Agreement for Animal Control Services. The motion was seconded by Nathan Henricks. Motion passed #1.

### **b. Discussion and Approval on the Participation with the Village of Metamora on an Agreement with Discover Peoria**

Ann informed the board that the EDC recommended approval of the agreement.

A motion was made by Nathan Henricks to approve the participation with the Village of Metamora on an Agreement with Discover Peoria subject to an attorney review of the agreement. The motion was seconded by Karl Figg. Motion passed #2.

## **6. Ongoing Agenda Items-None**

**a. Village Board review of the Journal Entry Report**-Ann noted the journal entries are the 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 Todd Rice to approve the General and Sewer bills. The motion was seconded by Karl Figg. Motion passed #3.

## **8. Reports of Standing Committees**

**a. Finance-**Stephanie Chaon was not in attendance.

**b. Streets/Equipment-**Todd Rice noted the village will be sending letters to residents along Woodland Knolls Road letting them know the village is exploring the possibility of extending a sidewalk from Anker Lane to Forrest Drive.

**c. Personnel-**Nathan Henricks stated the review process will be starting once Rich Brecklin returns to work after being out.

**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 stated the chamber had met today. The farmers market will be starting the first weekend in June. The village participated in the School's Touch a Truck and took a dump truck, backhoe, and street sweeper to the event for the kids to view.

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

## **10. Reports of Officers**

**a. Zoning Officer/Village Clerk/Village Administrator-**Ann noted that at the special meeting on Tuesday a resident opposing the path had stated she just learned about the Somerset path in October. Ann noted the meeting minutes show the resident has been to at least 13 meetings on the Somerset discussions since 2011.

**b. Director of Public Works-**Rich Brecklin was not in attendance. Zack Hecht reported the streets have been swept and speed humps have been installed on Somerset. They put in new mulch at the park and replaced a new valve at sewer plant 1.

**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: March 16, 2024-**A motion was made by Nathan Henricks to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 p.m. The motion was seconded by Tom Eckstein. Motion passed #4.

Ann Doubet, Village Clerk