

Village of Germantown Hills

Economic Development Council Meeting Minutes

October 16, 2025, 5:00 p.m.

1. **Call to Order/Roll Call/Pledge of Allegiance**-Karl Figg called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

EDC Committee	Roll Call	1	2	3	4	5
Karl Figg-Village President/Chair	Present	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Elizabeth Cunningham	Present	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Justin Nena	Absent	-	-	-	-	
Justin Krager	Present	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Nathan Henricks	Present	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Veronica Axelson	Present	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Randy Nash	Present	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Tom Eckstein	Absent	-	-	Y	Y	
Paige Patel	Present	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Ann Doubet-Director	Present	Y	Y	Y	Y	

Also present:

Zack Hecht, Superintendent of Public Works

Everyone stood and said the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. **Public Comments on Agenda Items-None**
3. **Approval of April 17, 2025, EDC meeting minutes**
A motion was made by Randy Nash to approve April 17, 2025, EDC meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Paige Patel. Motion passed #1.
4. **Discussion and Approval of a Recommendation to the Village Board for two Business Community Improvement Grants**
The Village budgets \$10,000 each year to be given out to businesses for building improvements with a match up to \$5,000.

Greg Harman was in attendance to discuss his proposed improvements to update and remodel his building which include façade improvements, awnings and lighting. Greg is proposing to spend over \$50,000. The maximum grant request is for a \$5,000 reimbursement.

A motion was made by Elizabeth Cunningham to recommend to the Village Board a Business Community Improvement Grant for \$5,000.00 to Greg Harman, State Farm for his building improvements. The motion was seconded by Paige Patel. Motion passed #2.

Tom Eckstein arrived at 5:19 p.m.

Veronica Axelson noted her grant request is to replace the Frozen Spoon ice cream sign that is faded. The total cost is \$920.13. The grant request is for \$460.07.

A motion was made by Nathan Henricks to recommend to the Village Board a Business Community Improvement Grant for \$460.07 to Veronica Axelson for the Frozen Spoon sign replacement. The motion was seconded by Elizabeth Cunningham. Motion passed #3.

Two grants that were approved in April before the end of the fiscal year were paid out in this fiscal year, as last year only a little over \$400 was awarded. The board will need to discuss whether these reimbursements will be considered a part of last fiscal year or this fiscal year for any new grants to be considered. EDC discussed whether to let the funds build up each year when the funds aren't used to allow bigger improvements to be made. There will need to be further discussion.

5. EDC Chairman/Director Reports

Ann Doubet noted the farmer's market is done and it was a great success. Thanks to Julia Miller and Betsy Cunningham for helping this season. Ann stated the library is looking to sell two of their lots along Holland Road and the Comprehensive Plan Committee will be having two committee meetings with topical experts that will be set up as virtual meetings in October and November. Karl Figg signed the grant agreement for the Oak Grove Park Phase 2 project that will be constructed next year. The Planning Commission is going to start discussing potential zoning code revisions.

6. Germantown Hills Chamber of Commerce Update-

Veronica Axelson stated the trunk or treat is Saturday, October 25th. The Community Prayer Breakfast is on November 5th and will be starting at 7:15 a.m. this year.

7. School Updates-

Justin Krager gave the update on MTCO Park. They are looking at what the next capital project will be needed at either of the schools. The booster club is looking at potential fundraising opportunities for lighting of the fields at MTCO Park.

8. Business Round Table Updates-

Randy Nash asked if there's a plan for the old Autobody building that is out of the Village.

Ann Doubet stated he is using one of the buildings for storage but not sure of what he is planning on doing with the other building.

Ann Doubet gave the grant updates. Ann noted the Germantown Hills to Metamora Trail engineering is still ongoing. Once we meet with Metamora then a public meeting will be set. The pedestrian bridge engineering is still ongoing as well. The Active Transportation Grant will be started soon by the Tri-County Planning Commission. The Germantown Hills to McClugage Bridge feasibility study is still in the works. The Village submitted three grants to the recent IDOT opportunity but unfortunately, they were not selected.

Karl Figg noted the Village is looking at constructing a crosswalk landing at Rt. 116 and Ten Mile Creek Road which IDOT must approve. The Village has completed the engineering on a proposed sidewalk along Woodland Knolls Road to Forrest Drive. The Active Transportation Plan will address all modes of transportation.

Veronica Axelson stated the traffic is bad along Woodland Knolls Road with all the pedestrian traffic that use that roadway.

Ann Doubet noted we may want to have Tri-County utilize their traffic counting equipment to see how many vehicles and pedestrians use that section of the roadway. The committee agreed.

9. Next meeting– November 13, 2025, 5:00 p.m.

The EDC agreed to move their EDC meetings to November 13th and December 11th.

10. Adjournment-A motion was made by Paige Patel to adjourn the meeting at 5:45 p.m. The motion was seconded by Nathan Henricks. Motion passed #4.

Ann Doubet, Village Clerk