

Village of Germantown
Meeting of the President and Board of Trustees
December 16, 2025

The regular monthly Board meeting of the President and Board of Trustees for the Village of Germantown was held on December 16, 2025 at 7:00 pm. Those present included the following: Village President Duane Ripperda, Village Clerk Dawn Lakenburg and Trustees: Ken Albers, Ken Brauer, Jarod Lohman, Brad Schroeder, Landon Schroeder and Jerald Schroeder were present. Police Chief Dean Darnall, Public Works Supt. Steve Mullins and Village Attorney Aaron Epplin were also present. Guests included Donna Santel, Jen Knobeloch, Jeff & Sarah Pingsterhaus, Chris & Cheryl Holland, Alyssa Loepker, Amber Musenbrock, Central High School student Cameren Biggs and Conxxus Fiber representative Thomas Quick.

The minutes of the previous month's meetings were available for review. A motion to approve the minutes as presented was made by Trustee Brad Schroeder, seconded by Trustee Ken Brauer. Motion carried.

Thomas Quick of Conxxus Fiber Internet Company was present to discuss the fiber optic lines being installed and the services his company will offer customers in Germantown. Quick said his company is the service provider, not the construction crew. The construction crew will be in Germantown spring 2026. No other information was needed at this time so the topic was tabled.

Jen Knobeloch started the conversation on kids and low speed scooters. Attorney Aaron Epplin explained that the state of Illinois passed a law in August of 2024 banning low speed scooters unless municipalities adopt an Ordinance allowing them on the streets. The State of Illinois also limits the age of the low-speed scooters to 18 years of age or older. Epplin explained that the Village can't lessen the restrictions of the state, the Village can only make them stricter, which the Village did not. President Duane Ripperda said the Village has been stalling on this topic until a child was injured. The Village has had many complaints of kids on scooters and has always felt it was a parent responsibility. Mr & Mrs Holland responded that it their son who was hurt and now feels all kids are being penalized. Ripperda assured them this is not the case. It is a state law and the Village can't control that. Questions of whether a safety program, require helmets and other means could be established and kids would get permits for completing the course. Ripperda responded that he loved that idea of a safety course and welcomes the parents to organize that, but at the end of the day, it is still a state law and the Village can't turn its head to it. Amber Musenbrock asked if the Village was going to enforce this, why aren't they enforcing all Village ordinances? Much discussion followed and the guests said they understood that the Village can't change the State laws but aren't happy with the outcome.

Police Chief Dean Darnall introduced Officer Logan Decker as a new part-time officer with the Germantown Police Department. The Board welcomed and thanked Officer Decker.

President Duane Ripperda suggested giving the full-time employees the day after Christmas and New Year's this year since the holiday falls on a Thursday. The Board agreed. Thank you!

Trustee Ken Brauer made a motion to adopt the Clinton County Multi Hazard Plan as presented. Trustee Landon Schroeder seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Police Chief Dean Darnall asked if he could order some lighted speed signs to put on Hanover Street to slow speeders down. Permission granted.

Supt. Steve Mullins said Well 6 & 7 is progressing the project should be complete early 2026.

A discussion on the Village property along Hanover Street was discussed. Last month Rich Peters was present to discuss buying part of it or leasing part of it. It was decided to send a letter to Mr. Peters asking for a written offer for the Village to consider.

The Germantown Improvement Committee asked the Village to contribute to the Christmas lighting contest prizes. It was agreed to apply a utility bill credit to the winners. Total not to exceed \$200. The GIC will decide on how many winners and which houses win the contest.

Clerk Lakenburges asked about how to handle the costs of Well 6 & 7. Should TIF funds be used or General funds. After a brief discussion it was decided to use TIF funds. Clerk Lakenburges will prepare the resolution for next month.

Trustee Ken Albers made a motion to pay all bills as presented. Trustee Ken Brauer seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Trustee Ken Brauer then made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Brad Schroeder seconded the motion and the motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.


