

**Village of Germantown**  
**Meeting of the President and Board of Trustees**  
**February 17, 2026**

The regular monthly Board meeting of the President and Board of Trustees for the Village of Germantown was held on February 17, 2026 at 7:00 pm. Those present included the following: Village President Duane Ripperda, Village Clerk Dawn Lakenburgs and Trustees: 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 James Gebke, Colby Voss and Joe Santel. Trustee Ken Albers was absent.

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

Joe Santel and Colby Voss were present representing the GIC. They reported that Kohnen Concrete Products donated \$4,000 toward new Christmas Lights. They have applied for Spassfest funds giving them another, possible, \$4,000. They asked if the Village would be ok with the committee choosing the new lights and bringing to the Village Board for approval. The Board agreed and the issue was tabled until next month.

James Gebke, of Millside Inn, was present to ask permission for the 3 local bars to participate in a Pub Crawl on March 21<sup>st</sup>. He asked if Munster Street could be closed to traffic from 7pm - 2am. The Board reminded him all music must stop by 12am. The Board approved the event.

Police Chief Dean Darnall gave his report for the month. Darnall said the speed signs are up and working. He feels they are working on slowing traffic down.

Chief Darnall asked the Board about the entrance to school from Munster Street. Today he witnessed a child almost get hit by a car. He is suggesting one way traffic into the church/school parking lot off of Munster and one way out onto Westfall Street. Attorney Aaron Epplin will draft an ordinance to reflect the same and present at next month's meeting.

Chief Darnall then asked about sponsoring someone to the full-time police academy. The program takes about 4months and currently, the costs are reimbursable by the state. He has a person in mind who recently graduated with a criminal justice associates degree from SWIC. The individual will be paid a salary while in school and required to sign a commitment to stay on after graduation. Trustee Jerald Schoeder made a motion to approve the request. Trustee Brad Schroeder seconded the motion and the motion carried. The Police Committee will meet to discuss salary and details.

Supt. Steve Mullins gave his report next. He said Well 6 & 7 are still in development stage and if all tests and permits go through, the electrical will start soon.

Mullins said the new dump truck is finished and operational. The board will have to decide options to sell the old truck.

Clerk Dawn Lakenburgs said she received a request from the SW Board of Realtors to install a food pantry or library box at the parks or somewhere in town. The Board agreed since Germantown has a public library and food pantry to pass on the request.

Trustee Landon Schroeder asked about excessive dust and rocks and debris from the recent snow storm in residents' yards. Supt. Mullins said we need a good rain to wash the streets of the dust. The maintenance department continues to sweep streets when the weather permits. He also said part-time maintenance employee, Joe Delozier, has been blowing the rocks from the sidewalks back on the road.

President Ripperda asked the Street Committee to work on a plan for curbing this summer.

Attorney Aaron Epplin had a farm lease for the Village property Richard Peters was interested in renting. The lease is for one year at \$275 per year. Trustee Jerald Schroeder made a motion to approve the lease. Trustee Brad Schroeder seconded the motion and the motion carried.

A discussion on the intergovernmental agreement presented by the Clinton County Animal Control was discussed next. Epplin had a few questions for the Village insurance company. This was tabled for now.

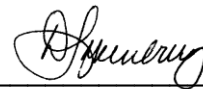
Epplin contacted the attorney for the owner of the Red Deuce property. The case has a court hearing on March 26, 2026. More information will be known after the hearing.

Epplin presented the Board with an Ordinance on nuisances. The ordinance cleans up a few questionable items. Trustee Jarod Lohman made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2026-01, *AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 25-2-1 OF ARTICLE II, CHAPTER 25 OF THE REVISED CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE VILLAGE OF GERMANTOWN, CLINTON COUNTY, ILLINOIS*. Trustee Ken Brauer seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Epplin presented the Board with an Ordinance correcting some typing mistakes. Trustee Brad Schroeder made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2026-02, *AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 25-2-10 OF ARTICLE II, CHAPTER 25 OF THE REVISED CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE VILLAGE OF GERMANTOWN, CLINTON COUNTY, ILLINOIS*. Trustee Brad Schroeder seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Trustee Brad Schroeder 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 Jarod Lohman seconded the motion and the motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.



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