

**Village of Germantown  
Meeting of the President and Board of Trustees  
January 17, 2023**

The regular monthly Board meeting of the President and Board of Trustees for the Village of Germantown was held on January 17, 2023 at 7:00 pm. Those present included the following: Village President Duane Ripperda, Clerk Dawn Lakenburges, Trustees: Ken Albers, Michael Albers, Ken Brauer, Roger Rickhoff, Brad Schroeder and Jerald Schroeder. Police Chief Jeff Wuebbles, Officer Dawson Huelskamp, Supt. Steve Mullins were also present. Village Attorney Aaron Epplin was absent, Guests included Supt. Robin Becker of Germantown Elementary and Central High School students: Riley Monroe and Carson Book.

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 Michael Albers. Motion carried.

Supt. Becker was present to discuss a proposal which will be on the April ballot for the public vote. Clinton County Schools are proposing a 1% County School Facilities Sales Tax. Becker gave a presentation on how the facilities sales tax works and how Germantown Elementary will use the extra funds. It is safe to assure the school will not be eligible for grant money and this is a way to keep the school budget intact without raising taxes. It will also give a means to complete the early childhood wing along with the gymnasium. A few questions and answers followed by the Board giving full support of the tax. The Board thanked Becker for coming and keeping the lines of communication open.

Supt. Steve Mullins explained the process of the EPA putting the Village on a boil order on the Village water supply, which lasted about 24 hours. The EPA came and did their annual inspection and knowing the Village is in the process of building a filtration plant and have a current Compliance Agreement, still issued the boil order. It is unclear on the protocol and if the order should have been issued. The water, of course, passed all the water testing and is safe for public consumption. HMG has been in contact with the EPA and hopefully a resolution and answers will come soon. In the meantime, Village water is safe to drink and was never compromised.

Clerk Dawn Lakenburges presented the board with an email from a resident who had a sewer issue. The resident called a plumber and the plumber determined the problem was in the Village sanitary sewer main. The Village Maintenance Department went and flushed the line which was clogged with flushable wipes, etc. The resident submitted his plumber bill and an email. The Board discussed and determined it was not the result of a Village error or a faulty sewer main. By a majority vote the Board denied to paying the homeowners plumbing bill.

Good Energy has been working with the Village to lower the commercial account of the Village's electric service. Trustee Ken Albers made a motion to approve the 4year contract with Homefield Energy. Trustee Jerald Schroeder seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Trustee Michael Albers, chairman of the Police & Health Committee, said the Village received the comments and recommended changes to the current rental occupancy ordinance. The Police and Health Committee will review the suggestions and report back next month.

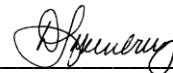
Trustee Brad Schroeder, chairman of the Building and Equipment Committee, said the committee met to discuss the office swap between the Village Clerk's office and the Police Dept. The PD is a much smaller office and the Clerk has suggested moving the offices to accommodate the need. Trustee Roger Rickhoff made a motion to spend up to \$10,000 in renovations for the switch. Trustee Ken Albers seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Trustee Roger Rickhoff, chairman of the Street & Sidewalk Committee, said the curbing project for 2023 will be Walnut Street from West to Molitor and Church St. from West to Molitor.

Trustee Ken Brauer, Chairman of the TIF, Subdivision and Zoning Committee, reported the Committee met and took the advice of Moran Economic Development and recommend to the Board to create TIF 3 instead of changing the boundaries of TIF 1. Trustee Roger Rickhoff made a motion to approve the contract with Moran Economic Development. Trustee Ken Albers seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Trustee Michael Albers made a motion to pay all bills as presented. Trustee Brad Schroeder 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 8:00pm.



---