

Village of Germantown
Meeting of the President and Board of Trustees
June 18, 2024

The regular monthly Board meeting of the President and Board of Trustees for the Village of Germantown was held on June 18, 2024 at 7:00 pm. Those present included the following: Village Clerk Dawn Lakenburg, Trustees: Ken Albers, Michael Albers, Ken Brauer, Roger Rickhoff, Brad Schroeder and Jerald Schroeder. Public Works Supt. Steve Mullins, and Village Attorney Aaron Epplin were also present. Village President Duane Ripperda and Police Chief Dean Darnall were absent. Guests included: Joyce Lucas, Diane Schniers, Mary Kay Sutton and Mert Albers.

In the absence of Village President Duane Ripperda, Trustee Michael Albers made a motion to appoint Trustee Jerald Schroeder as temporary chairman for the meeting. Trustee Ken Albers seconded the motion and the motion carried.

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

Joyce Lucas on behalf of the group, presented the Board with an idea for a "Beautification Committee" for Germantown. She explained neighboring communities have started these committees to "beautify" the town, such as planting flowers, updating our welcome sign, just some cosmetic items. A discussion ensued on conditions of properties, yards, etc. Attorney Aaron Epplin explained the Village does have an unsightly yard ordinance along with a dangerous building ordinance. He also explained that unless there is an ordinance violation, the Village can't demand people to have pristine yards or homes. It was decided to advertise a "Beautification Committee" meeting in the GNEWS and the Street & Sidewalk Committee will oversee the community committee.

Diane "Mert" Albers then spoke about the drainage issues in her sister's yard on Jennifer Street. After a discussion, Attorney Aaron Epplin explained these matters are civil matters to be handled between property owners.

Attorney Aaron Epplin will check into the court status of the Red Deuce property and report back next month.

A residential complaint of loud music after hours was reported on Millside. Police Chief Dean Darnall will speak with the owner.

Trustee Ken Albers, Chairman of the Water & Sewer Committee, along with Supt. Steve Mullins reported on the lift station estimates. Mullins said he received two estimates, one from Vandevanter Engineering and the other from Illinois Electric. Mullins said Vandevanter has done numerous projects for the Village and he feels most comfortable with their work.

Trustee Michael Albers made a motion to forego the bidding procedures. Trustee Ken Brauer seconded the motion with a roll call vote showing Trustees voting "Aye": Ken Albers, Michael Albers, Ken Brauer, Roger Rickhoff, Brad Schroeder and Jerald Schroeder. There were no "nay" votes. Motion carried.

Trustee Ken Brauer then made a motion to spend up to \$100,000 on a new sanitary sewer lift station at Pleasant Acres. Trustee Brad Schroeder seconded the motion and the motion carried.

A discussion on curbing and sidewalks followed. It was suggested contracting those projects out since the Maintenance Department is busy with other projects. This was tabled for a later date.

Attorney Aaron Epplin asked the Board what to do about Fuehne Rental Properties not complying with the inspection repairs on his rental property. Epplin was told to pursue the case.

Epplin also said there is no updated news on the mesothelioma lawsuit the Village is in.

Epplin presented the Board with an ordinance updating the allowed use at the Village Debris Yard. Trustee Michael Albers made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2024-05, *AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 7 OF ARTICLE IV, CHAPTER 27 OF THE REVISED CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE VILLAGE OF GERMANTOWN, CLINTON COUNTY, ILLINOIS*. Trustee Roger Rickhoff seconded the motion and the motion carried.

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

Trustee Roger Rickhoff then made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Ken Brauer seconded the motion and the motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.


