

**MUNICIPALITY OF GERMANTOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD THURSDAY FEBRUARY 12, 2009**

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The Municipality of Germantown Council met in special session on Thursday, February 12, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building Council Chambers.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

The following members were present at the Call to Order: Mayor Theodore Landis, Mr. Scott Johnson, Mr. Terry Johnson, Mr. Robert McClain and Mr. Edward Schwaberow.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

The following members were absent at the Call to Order: Mrs. Jeanne Gentry and Mr. Jim Lawson.

ALSO PRESENT:

Also present were Tom Schiff, Law Director; Steve Fugate, Water Department Supervisor; and Anna M. Sizemore, Assistant Village Manager/Clerk of Council and several guests.

FIRST LEGO LEAGUE- "Reducers":

The First Lego League gave a presentation regarding water conservation. They thanked Steve Fugate and Council for all their help.

DRY RUN PRESENTATION:

Mayor Landis introduced Mr. Tom Borck with the Poggemeyer Company.

Mr. Tom Borck stated that the estimate was done last year when the asphalt was high. He plans to leave the estimate the same due to the fluctuation in prices.

Mr. Borck stated the project should cost \$2,000,000 for the Butter Street project. He tried to get an easement for Butter Street, but he was unsuccessful at getting that easement.

Mr. Borck stated that he doing all he can do to put Germantown's projects on the stimulus list.

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Mr. Borck stated it will vary how accepting the property owners will be. It may be as simple as hiring a appraiser to evaluate the property and then the Village will make them an offer based on fair market value. At that time the owner will decide if they want that or not.

Mr. Borck stated that in his experience it would be difficult for this to fall under eminent domain.

Mr. Scott Johnson stated that taking the property by force would cause more problems to the Village.

Mr. McCain questioned if property owners were contacted on past projects of this nature and if so what was the response at that time.

Mrs. Gentry stated they were shocked.

Mr. Borck stated his past projects here in the Village never made it as far as this hopefully will, and he does not recall the reaction.

Mr. Scott Weidle stated that the project would add property value to those who are affected. This project will effect the next generation.

Mr. Scott Weidle stated that Dry Run will be much more accessible than Butter Street. The cost is approximately the same amount.

Mr. Borck stated that the Dry Run location would provide a sanitary sewer service to a larger area. This location would also be more beneficial to the Village on a money standpoint.

Mayor Landis expressed concern about the service to the Township.

Mr. Borck stated that the Village and Council would need to make a decision about the service outside the Village itself.

Mr. Borck stated that it would provide benefits in the problem areas currently in the Village. One example is the Hillcrest pump station.

Mr. Borck stated that he spoke with Steve about replacing the Hillcrest pump station.

Mr. McClain questioned if replacing Hillcrest pump station would benefit the Village.

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Mr. Schwaberow stated that the Economic Development Committee was looking into the projects, and which project would be more beneficial.

Mr. Schwaberow questioned if the Dry Run project could be done in phases.

Mr. Borck stated yes it can be done in phases.

Mr. Schwaberow stated if the Dry Run project could be done in phases it could save funds.

Mr. Schwaberow questioned how much of the Dry Run project needs to be built to achieve the same outcome.

Mr. Scott Johnson stated since the time he has been here we have wanted to provide service to the Township.

Mr. McClain stated that the property owners will not want to have any more of their property "taken". He also expressed concern about the property at the Golf Course.

Tom Schiff stated it is one thing to go through someone's pasture but it is a whole different thing to go through the Golf Course.

Mr. Terry Johnson stated he would think the Golf Course would want to have homes on the course itself.

Tom Schiff stated they would only agree if it did not disrupt the income for the course.

Mr. Schwaberow stated the project should have been done November thru March and no money would had been lost.

Mr. Scott Johnson questioned how much time the Village is going to spend trying to get the easements dealt with. He understands that with the Hillcrest project they gave up on trying to use easements and ran the lines up the street.

Mr. Borck suggested that a team go speak with the property owners that are involved. He suggested a representative from the city and the township to answer questions.

Mr. Borck suggested that you start at the bottom and work your way North. He suggested not charging to tie in, in exchange for the easement property. Farmers have a different value on land, so working with them could be more difficult.

Mr. Scott Johnson questioned why we think this project will be accepted, when we could not get the Butter Street project done.

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Mr. Schwaberow stated the Village should get an appraiser in and get a dollar amount for the value. If the property owner does not agree with the value, it just goes to court.

Mr. Schiff stated until the Village finds out who is on board with the project, money wise, the total amount of this project is undetermined. Some people may be more then willing to trade for the service and increase in property value, but others may be very difficult, running the project cost up.

Mr. Borck explained the water main piping and the prices for a suction lift pump station and the submersion version. The suction lift works well up to 20-21 elevated feet. The submersion version is more expensive.

Mr. Terry Johnson asked Steve Fugate just how much would it take to get the Hillcrest station working properly.

Steve Fugate stated he has estimates of \$60,000.

Mr. Scott Johnson questioned if the Hillcrest station still overflows when it rains.

Steve Fugate stated the station does still overflow when we have extreme downpours.

Mayor Landis questioned if the Hillcrest project is done, what will come of the Dry Run project.

Mr. Borck stated from what he has seen the concrete structure is sound, and the average life of a pump station is 15-20 years. If you decide to redirect the flow and install a course main you gain flexibility. If you do not replace the pumps you do not have any options.

Mr. Scott Johnson questioned if there is any more liability with the submersible then the suction.

Steve Fugate stated that the suction could loose suction if air bubbles are trapped inside, and also trash can get inside causing problems.

Mayor Landis questioned when the project could get started.

Mr. Borch stated he could possible start 10-12 weeks. It does not take much to install it, the prep work must be completed first then, they like to bring it in set it in place and then hook up the electric and plumbing.

Mayor Landis stated that the Council needs to get someone out and meet with the property owners.

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Mr. Borck stated you may want to hire someone from an outside company to gather information from the property owners. He stated the Council would know best, if the property owners would react better to an outsider or a neighbor.

Mr. Lawson questioned how long will it take to contact all these people on Dry Run.

Mr. McClain stated that Council needs to get a plan together before we go out and talk to anyone.

Mr. Borck stated if the Village does not act on this project and drive forward, ten years from now someone else will be having the same conversation.

Mr. Borck suggested surveying be done first, this would also allow legal description of the land and easements to be looked at. This could determine how much property would be used from each property.

Mr. McClain questioned the plans going to the Township and the County Engineer.

Mr. Borck stated that the County Engineer may not have jurisdiction. He has Engineers from Bowling Green that could look at the project.

Mr. Borck stated that the Village may consider looking into a local Engineer or someone who has been used in the past. By doing this locally it could save money.

Mr. Schwaberow stated guidelines would have to be given to a local Engineer from Poggemeyer.

Mr. McClain questioned if they would need to have bids on the Engineering services.

Mr. Borck stated it would be professional services, not a bid.

Mr. Schwaberow stated before we get engineers out to evaluate, we should decide on which type of lift we are considering.

Mr. Borck stated the Village could purchase a pump station outright, and hire local workers to do some of the work. If you look at purchasing the same size of pumps the Village may be considered for funds that are for improvements not a new project.

Mr. Scott Johnson stated regardless of the grant funds the Council needs to make a decision soon.

Mr. McClain stated that Council needs to give Steve Fugate, Tom Borck and Annie Sizemore some direction of what is going to happen so they can follow through with the next step.

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Mayor Landis stated he has worked for the Village for many years and the Steve and himself have done a lot of maintenance over the years to the lift station. It is long overdue to be replaced.

Steve Fugate stated the old pump station is approximately 47 years old. The last 18 years have been barrowed time, this station was expected to last 25 years, and at this point it will start costing more money every year.

Mr. Schwaberow stated if the Village receives the grant money for the purpose of buying time would be beneficial. By doing this it will resolve our immediate problem which is causing violations.

Mr. Borck stated he would call the EPA and the OPWC to see what funds they may have available. He will try to convince them that the project is an emergency; the Village may receive more grant money.

Mr. Borck stated if a submersible pump is purchased there is a broad variety to choose from. One company is made here in Ohio, which would help lower the cost.

Steve Fugate stated it would be beneficial to have a local company for the maintenance aspect.

Mr. Steve Fugate expressed concern about the crack in the pipes at the bridge at East Market Street. He asked permission to run a camera through the pipes to look at the damage.

Steve Fugate stated he would like to run the camera on a rainy day and determine what the problem truly is.

Mr. McClain questioned the size of the pipe that runs under the East Market Bridge.

Steve Fugate stated it is a eight-inch pipe and is capped in concrete.

Steve Fugate stated over the years the concrete has settled and it has caused cracking. The cracking has probably cracked the sewer also. He stated he would use a fiberglass product that would hopefully solve the problem.

POOL ISSUES:

Mrs. Sizemore stated that the pool hours for May to September. The kids themselves will purchase the swimsuits. We will sell pool passes here at the office until the pool opens.

Mr. Terry Johnson questioned if a credit was issued to the Village if the pool must shut down due to weather.

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Mrs. Sizemore stated the contract with the pool management company is a flat fee, no matter how many days the pool is open or closed during the season.

Mrs. Sizemore stated the Gators will use the pool in the morning when school is out.

Mr. Scott Johnson questioned if they would be using the pool in the evenings for practice.

Mrs. Sizemore stated she would check into the hours the Gators use the pool for practice.

Mr. Schwaberow questioned if the Gators have a key to get into the pool in the morning for practice.

Mrs. Sizemore stated that they practice at 6:30 a.m. and a lifeguard is there to let them in.

Mr. Lawson questioned if the Gators will buy pool passes.

Mrs. Sizemore stated she sold passes at the Gators sign up last year.

All agreed to have the Gators purchasing pool passes.

RUPMKE CONTRACT:

Mrs. Sizemore stated that the Rumpke contract would expire in April. They are willing to do a one-year extension for the same rate.

Mr. Terry Johnson asked if Rumpke could give a new bid.

Tom Schiff stated the contract needed to be looked over before a decision was made for a long-term contract.

Mr. Terry Johnson questioned if the fuel surcharge was added into the current contract.

Mr. Lawson stated the Village will have a large increase if the price of fuel increases.

All agreed to extend the one-year contract with Rumpke.

WEB SITE:

Mr. Schwaberow expressed concern about the website and MVCC handling our new website.

Mr. Schwaberow stated he and Mr. McClain met with Mike Dowden but had not yet met with MVCC due to bad weather.

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Mr. Scott Johnson stated that MVCC may do other things right, but web sites were not their specialty. He stated he glanced at MVCC's web site and had trouble finding the Germantown Village Council Meetings. In the past the Village has had problems getting up dates on the MVCC website.

Mr. Schwaberow questioned why the Mayors 2004 State of the Village was still being posted.

Mrs. Sizemore stated that Tiffany should had been updating the website when she was here. Now when updates are needed she sends them to Tom to due himself.

Mrs. Sizemore stated that MVCC has hacking problems with their system.

Mr. Scott Johnson stated that MVCC has too many problems to mention with the website and he is very displeased with the Germantown web site.

Mr. Schwaberow stated he would call Tom with MVCC and inform him that the Village will be using someone local to handle the Village web site.

Mr. Scott Johnson stated he wanted to see the web site unique and something different from the other city web sites.

Mr. McClain stated he just would like to see the Village web site user friendly more than anything.

ADJOURNMENT:

They're being no further business to come before the Council, Mr. Jim Lawson moved to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelli R. Sanders-Novak
Clerk of Council

Theodore E. Landis
Mayor