

Minutes of April 14, 2020 Germantown Town Board meeting via Zoom, commencing at 7:03pm.

Present: Supervisor Beaury
Councilman Sullivan
Councilman Kukon
Councilmember Suarez
Councilman Christian

Town Attorney, Corinne Smith

Highway Superintendent, Rich Jennings
Administrative Assistant, Janet Crawford

Recorded by: Town Clerk, Joyce Vale

Supervisor Beaury opened the meeting and welcomed everyone, then led with the Pledge to the Flag.

Motion to approve the March 10, 2020 meeting minutes made by Councilman Kukon, seconded by Councilmember Suarez, with all in favor and none opposed.

Motion to pay audited bills made by Councilman Sullivan, seconded by Councilman Kukon, with all in favor and none opposed.

No written communications reported by the Town Clerk.

Old Business

Supervisor Beaury started by stating there is an issue with revenue. The County is looking at losing possibly 12-15 million in revenue for 2020; it could be up to 20 million. That will have an impact on our Town and we should take steps now to preserve cash.

- Salt shed roof- update. Waiting to do construction. Rich Jennings said we could get another year out of the roof if we had to. Supervisor Beaury spoke to the Contractor and he is mandated to wait. Attorney Smith said she can draft a resolution addressing the delay if it goes on more than a couple months.
- Reformation of Waterfront Advisor committee. Christina Bohnsack sent an email regarding a long list of possible projects and talked about volunteer fatigue. Supervisor Beaury suggested the WAC submit a written description of a potential project and the Town Board will discuss it and if approved the WAC could proceed. All Board members agreed with this approach as it would alleviate volunteer fatigue.
- Social Media Policy- (tabled)
- Updated No Smoking Policy- (tabled)

- Census 2020- update. Supervisor Beaury got the report today, we are at about 49% and he said it is important that we all respond.
- Update from the Technology Committee. Councilman Sullivan said they discussed re-vamping the website. Councilman Sullivan also thinks more could be added easily to the website. Councilmember Suarez said this will help communicate more efficiently with people. Councilmember Suarez added it would be a long-term savings. Supervisor Beaury stated that we are about to invest some money in the website and agreed the expense is worth it.
- Trees for Palatine Park Road- (tabled)

New Business

- Sales tax revenue for 2020. Supervisor Beaury said he addressed this matter earlier in the meeting.
- A motion to place a freeze on all non-essential spending effective immediately made by Councilmember Suarez, seconded by Councilman Kukon, with all in favor and none opposed.
- Motion to authorize the Supervisor to determine spending requests made by Councilman Sullivan, seconded by Councilman Kukon, with all in favor and none opposed.
- Motion requesting Department Heads identify non-essential .4 expenses for immediate cuts made by Councilmember Suarez, seconded by Councilman Kukon, with all in favor and none opposed.
- Memorial Day Parade and Festivities. Supervisor Beaury had spoken with Commander of the American Legion, Lauren Williams, and a decision will be made by the end April or the beginning of May.
- Summer Camp- 2020. Waiting for Columbia County Department of Health to take a position on opening summer camps. They should know in the next couple of weeks. Councilmember Suarez asked about the Town wide yard sale? Supervisor Beaury said a decision about all Town sponsored and supported activities for May will be made by the end of April.
- Independence Day- 2020. Supervisor Beaury said it all depends on what the Government wants to do based on science and medicine. Supervisor Beaury asked Janet for a copy of the contract for the fireworks.
- Supervisor Beaury said he and Councilman Sullivan are working on a project with CEDC and GEDAC to raise money for a grant program for Germantown small businesses. The Fund is non-competitive and an award of an equal share of the fund balance will be made to all Germantown small businesses that qualify.

Motion to approve the establishment of the Germantown Small Business Recovery Fund made by Councilman Sullivan, seconded by Councilman Kukon. Councilmember Suarez recused.

- Motion to approve Supervisor Beaury, Councilman Sullivan and CEDC President Michael Tucker to comprise the committee for the Germantown SBRF made by Councilman Kukon, seconded by Councilman Christian. Councilman Sullivan voted in favor and Councilmember Suarez recused.
- Short Term Rentals. Supervisor Beaury thanked the Board for moving swiftly and cooperatively to put out a statement letting the community know that people who visit Germantown should do their part and self-isolate for 14 days.
- Hand sanitizer distributions. Handing out hand sanitizer at the Food Pantry and a gallon was given to Palatine Manor. More has been ordered. Giving away hand sanitizer at the Pavilion on Saturday, April 18, 2020. Folks need to bring their own small containers.
- Food Pantry. Doing an amazing job. Supervisor Beaury wanted to express gratitude to all the volunteers at the Pantry as well as those signing up to help in a variety of ways.
- Germantown Volunteers. Dawn Breeze has a sign-up sheet. Councilmember Suarez added the website is **germantowntogether.com** and that the link is on the Town website.
- LWRP committee. Jen Crawford, Councilman Christian, Supervisor Beaury and Corinne Smith will talk with the State next week about money and the budget for the project
- Boards and committees meeting remotely via Zoom. Supervisor Beaury stated that they need to find out if all the members are comfortable using zoom and to work with anyone that needs assistance accessing the meetings. Councilman Christian suggested to practice with Zoom before the actual meeting. Councilman Sullivan said we can post this zoom link to the website. Discussion on the zoom account. Supervisor Beaury stated that we will publish and post meeting dates and times for all boards and committees as well as post agendas in advance and follow up with posting minutes.
- Motion for one zoom account for the Town Board and one zoom account for the rest of the boards and committees to share, made by Councilmember Suarez, seconded by Councilman Kukon, with all in favor and none opposed.

Supervisor's Report

- Rabies clinic is still scheduled for May 2, 2020, will follow up with them.
- Tentative tax roll will be issued shortly. Board of Assessment Review will meet as scheduled. Assessor Ralph DelPozzo is available to meet with people by appointment.
- Next meeting is May 12, 2020 via Zoom.

Comments for Councilmembers

Councilmember Suarez would like to make a tribute to Ken Hubner who passed away from COVID-19.

Councilman Sullivan said anyone that wants to comment to reach out by email.

Supervisor Beury said practice social distancing and stay home. If anyone needs anything to contact Supervisor Beury, his phone number is in the telephone book or email him. He also stated that the public can reach out to any member of the Board.

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Councilman Sullivan, seconded by Councilmember Suarez, with all in favor and none opposed.

Meeting closed at 7:52pm.

Respectfully submitted,