

**VILLAGE OF GERMANTOWN
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES
November 4, 2019**

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by President Wolter.

ROLL CALL: Present: President Wolter, Trustees Hughes, Kaminski, Miller, Myers, Warren, Wing, and Zabel. Trustee Baum was absent excused. Also present: Administrator Kreklow, Clerk Braunschweig, Manager Tucker, Engineer Nitschke, and Paul Roback.

GOALS TO VISIONS WORKSHOP, as facilitated by Paul Roback of UW Extension:

Administrator Kreklow reported on the item and introduced Paul Roback of UW Extension. This is in preparation of the performance based budgeting.

Paul Roback distributed documents to prepare for the mission and vision brainstorming process.

The current vision was pointed out: Working together to respond to our residents and businesses by providing efficient services that enhance the community's quality of life.

After tonight's meeting Paul will merge the Board's results with the Staff results and the board and staff will meet on December 2, 2019.

There will also be an electronic survey to identify the Vision, Mission and goals.

The Brainstorming process was then worked out and then reviewed as a group. This will be a SWAC (Strengths, Weaknesses, and Challenges) analysis. This will start with the Village Government and then the Community of Village of Germantown.

The Village Board listed their Strengths, Weaknesses, and Challenges.

Internal Strengths were listed.

Hughes: Longevity of Employees.

Warren: Collaborative Village Board.

Wing: Outstanding employees.

Kaminski: Village Board and Staff understand conservative fiscal nature; All on same page.

Wolter: Village Board and Staff commitment to Public Service.

Miller: Strength of Police and Fire Services.

Meyers and Zabel: Good Employees and Good Backgrounds in the areas they work.

Warren: Financial Background of Village Administrator.

Kaminski: Strong Contingency Fund.

Wolter: Respect for each other. No one is disrespectful to each other.

Community Strengths were listed:

Meyer and Zabel: Community groups such as the Chamber, Kiwanis, Historical Groups, and Friends of the Library East and West.

Miller: Closeness of many of the neighborhoods.

Wolter: Germantown is a desired area to live and raise a family.

Kaminski: Desirable land that could be developed.

Wing: Location, Location, Location for freeway access for people wanting to live, close to Milwaukee.

Warren: High quality school system.

Hughes: Diversity in Germantown and predominant conservative mentality and grouping. In partisan world the community is leaning on way. Like minded individuals.

Miller: Close to Milwaukee and Urban area.

Wolter: Strong tax base.

Kaminski: Rural character.

Wing: Business friendly.

Internal Weaknesses in government were listed:

Wolter: Inability to share all government information with residents.

Kaminski: Infrastructure needs as we grow. Police, Fire, 2nd floor to library, Public Works Building. Funding the items.

Wing: Totally we do not have the revenue to keep up with the demands of service. Revenue does not match demands.

Warren: Keeping pace with salaries of comparable place with neighbors.

Hughes: Infrastructure is aging.

Meyers/Zabel: Short on staff in different departments and getting back to residents in a timely fashion because of workloads.

Miller: Same with infrastructure of Public Works and Police

Wolter: Limited on how much we can increase budget and limited revenue sources.

Wing: We do not follow the comprehensive plan that we develop.

Community Weaknesses:

Kaminski: Continuing to fund road maintenance.

Wing: Real lack of media focused on stories that are important to residents.

Warren: Lack of a Main Street.

Hughes: Lack of a Main Street, we do not have a central downtown. We are a bedroom community. Lack of community identity.

Myers/Zabel: Not able to work with other community groups.

Miller: Right commerce. Inability to attract restaurants and retail.

Wolter: Overall the residents have a mis-trust of Village Government.

Kaminski: Lack of services, walking, biking lanes, community center.

Zabel: We do not have a local newspaper for getting information out to residents on a daily basis.

Kaminski: Difficult cell phone service. Need landlines in Northeast of Germantown.

Village Opportunities within Government were listed:

Meyers/Zabel: Growth of Multifamily housing.

Miller: Favorable interest rates and bond rating.

Wolter: 2050 Land use Plan.

Kaminski: Developable land for business and residential.

Warren: Proximity to the freeway / Milwaukee.

Hughes: Land and Proximity to Milwaukee. Lower tax rate.

Wing: Conservation Subdivisions. Would like to see conservation subdivisions.

Community Opportunities were listed:

Meyer/Zabel: Growth

Miller: Land available for growth.

Wolter: Sharing borders with like communities for expanding growth.

Kaminski: Fortunate for Menomonee Falls to take the big box stores.

Wing: Opportunities for future use of resources like the Menomonee River.

Warren: Scenic area close to community.

Hughes: Developable land, residential and business. Community Asset.

Challenges were listed:

Hughes: Challenge with other taxing entities, like the school board, that do not have the same goals. We care about the overall impact.

Kaminski: State levy limits and mandate limits.

Zabel: Takes away voting and makes decisions. Cell towers, room tax.

Wing: taking room tax monies.

Wolter: State Government overreach.

Miller: Current relationship with school district.

Wolter: Balancing growth with Public Service needs.

Warren: Competing with neighboring communities for talented staff.

Community Challenges were listed:

Kaminski: Getting people to participate in government.

Miller: Business competition from neighboring communities.

Wolter: Road Repair and keeping up with it.

Kaminski: Managing Emerald Ashborer.

Wing: Quality of life issues with residential and commercial areas.

Kaminski: Strength within community. Good German events. Mai Fest and Oktoberfest.

Zabel: Economic Development within communities.

Tax incentives or other things.

Paul Roback will type of the results and send out a goals survey. He will compile and send out prior to December 2nd.

ADJOURNMENT.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:59 p.m. p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Deanna Braunschweig

Deanna B. Braunschweig, WCMC/CMC
Village Clerk