



# CITY OF GERMANTOWN TENNESSEE

1930 South Germantown Road • Germantown, Tennessee 38138-2815  
Phone (901) 757-7200 Fax (901) 757-7292 www.germantown-tn.gov

## Environmental Commission Meeting

Thursday, January 9, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.

Public Works Building  
7700 Southern Avenue

### MINUTES

**Present:**

Chairman Joe Skelley  
Jimmy Davis  
Urania Erskine  
Linda Kaplan  
Alderman Rocky Janda  
Francoise Mireles  
Paul Mosteller  
Scott Schoefernacker  
Susan Threlkeld

**Staff:**

Bo Mills  
Joe Nunes  
Kathy Cross

**Absent:**

Claudio Meier  
Jayu Wagh

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairman Skelley called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

**ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM:**

A quorum for the Environmental Commission meeting was established.

**CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES:**

The minutes of the December meeting were approved.

**COMMENTS BY CHAIRMAN:**

- Commission Direction for 2020:
  - Recycling
  - Elevated Water Tank
  - Aquifer Health and Protection



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## ALDERMAN LIAISON REPORT:

Alderman Rocky Janda:

- A Recycling Task Force will be formed to assess possible cost changes; The Environmental Commission will be a part of this process.

## STAFF REPORTS:

Director Bo Mills:

- Director Mills announced the City's receipt of the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award and reviewed the City's Mission, Values and Vision.
- The Code of Ethical Conduct for Officials of the City of Germantown were reviewed and distributed to Commission Members to review and sign.
- Public Works preparing for this weekend's forecasted inclement weather.
- BMA meeting on January 13<sup>th</sup> a proposal for the acquisition of property on the east side of Forest Hill Elementary via a land swap with Houston High School for property south of the school to enable them to have athletic facilities to meet their requirements.
- At the BMA meeting on January 27<sup>th</sup>, a Professional Service Agreement for the design of the Elevated Tower and the site will be presented to the Board. Environmental Commission presence and support would be appreciated.

## COMMISSION MEMBER REPORTS:

Joe Nunes:

- Recycling volume has been down significantly over the last few months of F19. Over the last three months there has been a significant increase in recycling, up 7% comparing 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of FY19 compared to FY20.
- Household trash volume is up 8% December 2018 vs. December 2019.
- Yard waste is up 9% in the month of December to 582 tons.
- Amnesty Days this year will be held April 18<sup>th</sup> and September 26<sup>th</sup>.
- Shelby County Solid Waste Region Board quarterly meeting will be held January 23<sup>rd</sup> at 2 p.m. at Shelby County Roads and Bridges Office.
- Complete Count Committee will be meeting to create ways to improve this year's census participation.

Scott Schoefnacker:

- The Shelby County Groundwater Quality Control Board recently tabled a request by the Carrier Corporation to inject wastewater into the Memphis Sand aquifer at its Superfund site in Collierville. Work is being done with a consultant on Collierville's groundwater models and aquifer characterization tests on the groundwater models already in place for possible improvements. Water coming from the aquifer is contaminated with trichloroethylene (TCE) from the Carrier Plant and Hexavalent Chromium (Hex Chrome) from the abandoned Smalley Piper Plant.



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Jimmy Davis:

- Chemistry Journals have published several articles concerning polyflourinated compounds such as non-stick Teflon and water repellent fire fighting foams and their effects on water supplies. Are these contaminants being monitored in our drinking water? Not at the present time.

Francoise Mireles:

- Some communities are trying to reduce food waste being taken to landfills. Food waste in landfills globally increases Green House Gasses about 10%. We can try to increase awareness in our community.

Paul Mosteller:

- Glacier National Park will reportedly remove signs that say, "The glaciers will all be gone by the year 2020." The glaciers not only did not melt but have actually increased in size.

Susan Threlkeld:

- To speak at the BMA meeting, you need to arrive early, come in the door assigned for citizens to be heard, must go through a metal detector and fill out a registration form. Citizens are heard at the beginning of the meeting.
- While attending Leadership Germantown it was stated that 20% of citizens cause the government 80% of their work. About 5% actually speak and are usually against what is proposed. It is important to show support even if it is done via email to your Alderman.

Urania Erskine:

- Taiwan has reduced the amount of waste sent to landfills to only 1% with the remainder being recycled.

Kathy Cross:

- Andy and Jenny Sanders welcomed their new baby Rosie Kate Sanders on Monday, January 6th.

## OLD BUSINESS

No old business.

## NEW BUSINESS

No new business.

## ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn by Jimmy Davis and seconded by Linda Kaplan. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

  
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Joe Skelley, Commission Chairman

