



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, August 13, 2020 – 6:00 p.m. Virtual Conference

MINUTES

Present:

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

Staff:

Bo Mills

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Skelley called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM:

A quorum for the Environmental Commission meeting was established.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES:

The minutes from the July 9, 2020 meeting were approved. A motion was made by Paul Mosteller and seconded by Urania Erskine to accept the minutes.

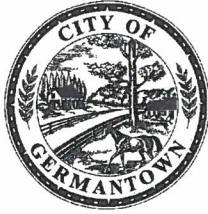
ALDERMAN LIAISON REPORT:

"Germantown Strong" signs are available to put into your yard promoting the use of masks.

STAFF REPORTS:

Director Mills:

- Public Works staff has had only two positive COVID-19 cases. The social distancing, masking and sanitation programs seem to be working.
- The second reading of the budget occurred this past Monday night. Alderman Janda made a motion to amend the budget and add another half million dollars to the Paving Contract if revenues suffice; this motion made it through the second reading and is moving forward.



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- Lift station repairs continue at Cordova Sewer Lift Station and the Western Gateway Sewer Extension is almost complete.

COMMISSION MEMBER REPORTS:

Linda Kaplan:

- Article Turning Manure into Money from the Washington Post shares how in Massachusetts, a farmer created a bio-digester to turn manure into methane gas which can be used for fuel or electricity. "Trapping methane, processing it and burning it for energy or selling it to the electric grid is a way to remove it from the atmosphere. It turns manure — a 1,400-pound dairy cow produces nearly 54,000 pounds of it annually — into money."

Francoise Mireles:

- Article Food Waste in America in 2020 - The United States is the global leader in food waste, with Americans discarding nearly 40 million tons of food every year. That's 80 billion pounds of food and equates to more than \$161 billion, approximately 219 pounds of waste per person or \$1,600 per family and 30-40 percent of the US food supply. Every year in the U.S. 80 billion pounds of food is thrown away which is the equivalent of 1,000 Empire State Buildings.
- Multiple states are implementing initiatives to reduce food waste; Three years ago Tennessee started a task force to study food waste, with TDEC heading it up but not many statistics or information about the effort is available on the State's website. Madison, Wisconsin implemented an initiative called "The One Pound Diet" promoting each household reducing food waste one pound per week. The World Wildlife Federation calculated that the world production of wasted food would be the equivalent of the greenhouse emissions of 37 million cars.

Urania Erskine:

Nothing to report.

Susan Threlkeld:

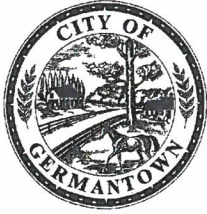
Nothing to report.

Jayu Wagh:

Nothing to report.

Paul Mosteller:

- What will our world be like in 50 years? America's capitalist system, the free enterprise system will take care of global warming and climate change through technology; not only is America doing this but the whole world. Europeans no longer manufacture combustion engines, everything is electronic and more and more people are purchasing those. The domino effect of this is more electric cars on the road, less need for petroleum, less need for convenience stores, less need for fracking or pulling anything from the ground; subsequently the environment will start healing itself and cleaning itself up.



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Scott Schoefnacker:

- University of Memphis and their work on Well Head Protection for the City of Germantown - Models are created based on aquifer characteristics to produce well head protection zones. One zone is directly around the well head, approximately 250-300 feet around, and zone 2 is a lot larger; the zones are based on pumping rates. Well head protection plans have to be created every three years and the last was created in 2019. Every year windshield surveys are done of the well field areas looking for potential contaminate sources; there are 206 locations total, 168 at the Southern Ave well field and 38 locations at Johnson Road. These locations consist mainly of doctors' offices and commercial businesses and of the 206, only 20% are regulated by the EPA. The main concerns are underground storage tanks, such as gas stations, and dry cleaners. Germantown's contaminate sources are few and confinement is good. Unconfined areas in the neighboring eastern part of Shelby County are being monitored by the EPA and TDEC.

Claudio Meier:

- Nothing to report.

Jimmy Davis:

- Nothing to report.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business.

NEW BUSINESS

- Amnesty Day will take place on September 26, 2020. – Director Mills addressed the guidelines for COVID prevention for the Amnesty Day event.
- There will not be a regularly scheduled Environmental Commission meeting in September.

ADJOURNMENT:

Paul Mosteller made a motion to adjourn; the motion was seconded by Susan Threlkeld. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:58 p.m.



Joe Skelley, Commission Chairman

Amnesty Day September 26, 2020 Event Guidelines

Task	Responsibility
Employees and Volunteers:	
Everyone temperature Check before start of event	Public Works
Gloves for all participants/ leather and latex	Public Works
Mask Distribution - Germantown Fighting Together Note: Fire Department indicates that all employees and volunteers will be required to wear masks	Public Works
Hand sanitizer (located near food and drink area)	Public Works
Scheduling: Crews to be assigned to specific drop-off areas in order to minimize interaction with larger group. Assignment will be based, as best as possible, on weekday crew assignments.	Public Works
Event Signage:	
Number signs for each dumpster (1,2,3,4)	Neighborhood Services
Informational Sign at Entrance for Residents	Neighborhood Services
Food Delivery:	
Prepackaged Box lunches	Neighborhood Services
Drinks in Coolers	Neighborhood Services
Residents:	
Required to remain in vehicle	Env Comm Members Reinforce
No material will be removed from the passenger cabin/seating area. Only from trunk or rear of SUV/Truck	Env Comm Members Reinforce
No ID check to minimize contact and interaction	Neighborhood Services & Env Comm Members Reinforce