

Village of Franklin
Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting Minutes

January 7, 2020

7:00 pm

Mayor Paul Turpin called the regular monthly meeting of the Village of Franklin Board of Trustees to order at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, January 7, 2020 in the town hall. Trustees present were Wyatt Smith, Tami Thompson, Nicole Fromme, and Amanda Ahlers. Trustee Lincoln Hill entered the board room at 7:23 pm.

Treasurer Susan Smith presented the Treasurer's Report for December. She provided the Trustees with balance sheets, profits and loss sheets, and projected versus actual balances. She answered all questions regarding each municipality business. Tami Thompson made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report for December. Wyatt Smith seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Wyatt Smith-yes, Tami Thompson-yes, Nicole Fromme-yes, and Amanda Ahlers-yes. The motion was carried. Susan Smith presented the Bills Paid and to Be Paid for December. Tami Thompson made a motion to accept the Bills Paid and to be Paid for December. Amanda Ahlers seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Tami Thompson-yes, Nicole Fromme-yes, Amanda Ahlers-yes, and Wyatt Smith-yes. The motion was carried.

Clerk, Ashley Turpin presented the Trustees with minutes from December. Wyatt Smith made a motion to approve the minutes from December. Nicole Fromme seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Nicole Fromme-yes, Amanda Ahlers-yes, Wyatt Smith-yes, and Tami Thompson-yes. The motion was carried.

Andy Fairless presented his Utility Supervisor report. Andy reported the GUA audit is on the 14th of January. The meter counts are down from 315 to 288. On the 23rd of January USDI will be at the Village to complete Andy's certification. The certification is good for three years. Andy requested to go into closed session to discuss abandoned properties. Tami Thompson made a motion to go into closed session to discuss abandoned properties. Amanda Ahlers seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Amanda Ahlers-yes, Wyatt Smith-yes, Tami Thompson-yes, and Nicole Fromme-yes. The Board re-entered into regular session at 7:26 pm.

Buildings, Roads, and Drainage - There is nothing to report from this committee.

Finance/Payroll - Mayor Turpin provided a copy of the budget to the Trustees and asked if anyone had any suggestions to improve or change the budget. Mayor Turpin is going to get a hold of the audit company to see if there is another format the Village could be using to make it more user friendly.

Insurance - There is nothing new to report from this committee.

Personnel - There is nothing new to report from this committee.

Utility Reconnect - There is nothing new to report from this committee.

Utilities - Wyatt Smith asked about the status on utilities for the business on Mill Street. Mayor Turpin said he believes it is taken care of and they are waiting until the Spring to hook up. Wyatt also questioned what meters were removed for the numbers to jump significantly, in reference to what Andy Fairless mentioned earlier. Mayor Turpin said they were on vacant lots around town or areas that no longer needed access. Mayor Turpin also added that the water main on 104 is now waiting on an analysis from the consultant company to determine the drainage requirements. Once Jim Morris from Benton and Associates gets the information from the county, we will be able to move forward.

Abandoned Property was discussed in closed session due to legal action being taken.

Mayor Turpin received a letter stating the railroad company is projected to come through and pick up the railroad ties within a couple of months, weather permitting.

The Christmas Light Contest results were the following: 1st place-Abby Flynn, 2nd place-Valori Mahan, and 3rd place-Fred Roberts. Mayor Turpin suggested the Franklin Fourth Committee enter the competition for their display at the park next year. The funds would go back to the committee if they place.

Ashley Turpin will call the Morgan County Clerks office to check the status of the Statements of Economic Interest.

Tami Thompson made a motion to approve the Wade & Dowland contract. Lincoln Hill seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Tami Thompson-yes, Nicole Fromme-yes, Amanda Ahlers-yes, Wyatt Smith-yes, and Lincoln Hill-yes. The motion was carried.

Ashley Turpin and Susan Smith will get all of the information together for IDOT MFT Expenditures and send it in. There is a fee that will apply. B&A will charge the MFT account for this work.

On renting the Quonset huts the Trustees agree the Village needs to keep the space that is still available for its own use and not rent more space out. Mayor Turpin will call the person interested tomorrow.

Wyatt Smith made a motion to approve Abby Flynn as a new trustee. Amanda Ahlers seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Nicole Fromme-yes, Amanda Ahlers-yes, Wyatt Smith-yes, Lincoln Hill-yes, and Tami Thompson-yes. The motion was carried.

The mayor and the village employees worked to get village owned property exempt from property taxes which will save the Village businesses money.

Mayor Turpin stated in the past, the Village gives a new business utilities at cost to help them get started for the first 6 months. Lincoln Hill made a motion to give The Green Wall Bar and Grill utilities at the Village cost for six months. Tami Thompson seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Amanda Ahlers-yes, Wyatt Smith-yes, Lincoln Hill-yes, Tami Thompson-yes, and Nicole Fromme-yes. The motion was carried.

Mayor Turpin asked the attorney to redo the contract for the farm land lease at the sewer plant. There will continue to be no tilled practices and low crops only to protect the rules

and regulations of the water plant property. The bid dates and information will be in the newspaper, on the webpage, and Facebook. The Village will advertise in the Waverly Journal as well. The bids will be opened at the March meeting and the winning bidder will be notified. The contract is valid for five years.

Wyatt Smith made a motion to adjourn. Tami Thompson seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Wyatt Smith-yes, Lincoln Hill-yes, Tami Thompson-yes, Nicole Fromme-yes, and Amanda Ahlers-yes. The meeting adjourned at 8:00pm.