

Village of Franklin
Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting Minutes
December 1, 2020
7:00 pm

Mayor Paul Turpin called the regular monthly meeting of the Village of Franklin Board of Trustees to order at 7:01 pm on Tuesday, December 1, 2020 in the town hall. Trustees present in Village Hall were Abby Flynn, Wyatt Smith, Lincoln Hill, Tami Thompson, Nicole Fromme and Amanda Ahlers.

Treasurer Susan Smith presented the Treasurer's Report for November. Susan provided profits and losses, balance sheets, current banking numbers, and copies of each check written from each account. Susan also said the Village paid several large payments made this month including insurance and the water loan. Gas took a huge loss in November and it is the 3rd month it has not profited. Susan and Mayor Turpin will look into the losses. Payroll was resubmitted to the CARES Act for reimbursement again. Amanda Ahlers made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report for November. Nicole Fromme seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Abby Flynn-yes, Wyatt Smith-yes, Lincoln Hill-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 November. Abby Flynn made a motion to accept the Bills Paid and to be Paid for November. Amanda Ahlers seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Wyatt Smith-yes, Lincoln Hill-yes, Tami Thompson-yes, Nicole Fromme-yes, Amanda Ahlers-yes, and Abby Flynn-yes. The motion was carried. Trustee Wyatt Smith asked if the Village was eligible for the Rebuild IL Grant. Mayor Turpin will check with the engineers at Benton & Associates.

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

Andy Fairless presented his utility supervisor report. Andy said the veterans banner is moved to the corner near the Lion's Den and all of the Christmas lights are up. For the month of October, he checked water and we sold 10% more than we used. There are some leaks that need fixed. The village employees received their new handheld devices to help with meter readings. They are preprogrammed for each of their routes. Andy also mentioned his concerns regarding COVID-19 numbers increasing in the area. He requested the village trustees discuss possibly closing the office to protect the employees and their families.

Buildings, Roads, and Drainage - There is nothing to report at this time.

Finance/Payroll - Mayor Turpin asked if any of the trustees had any questions about the audit booklets he handed out in November. In the next couple of months, the trustees will approve the budget based off of the audit.

Insurance - Tami Thompson received rates for short term disability plans from AFLAC. Tami presented the two options to the board. The personnel committee met and felt the best

plan was the 14/14 plan. Tami Thompson made a motion to approve and offer village employees the 14/14 short term disability plan starting January 2021. Lincoln Hill seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Nicole Fromme-yes, Amanda Ahlers-yes, Abby Flynn-yes, Wyatt Smith-yes, Lincoln Hill-yes, and Tami Thompson-yes. The motion was carried.

Personnel - Nicole Fromme made a motion to go into closed session to discuss employee pay increases. Tami Thompson seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Wyatt Smith-yes, Lincoln Hill-yes, Tami Thompson-yes, Nicole Fromme-yes, Amanda Ahlers-yes, and Abby Flynn-yes. The board entered into closed session at 7:33 pm. They re-entered into open session at 7:54 pm. Nicole Fromme made a motion to accept the wage increases as discussed in closed session along with the audit bonuses. Tami Thompson seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Wyatt Smith-yes, Lincoln Hill-yes, Tami Thompson-yes, Nicole Fromme-yes, Amanda Ahlers-yes, and Abby Flynn-yes. The motion was carried.

Utility Reconnect - There is nothing to report at this time.

Utilities - There is nothing to report at this time.

Abandoned property legal action was discussed in closed session.

There is nothing new to report on the Panhandle Municipal Defense update.

There was nothing new to discuss in regards to the maintenance building.

Due to the time of year, the sidewalks will have to wait for repairs. The village will contact Slabjackers when the weather warms back up and MediaCom is finished.

There are two open positions for trustee to run in March. Tami will post on the Facebook page.

The village Christmas lighting contest will be held on December 15th and 16th.

MediaCom services will be ready during the second quarter of 2021. The rates will be posted soon according to the company.

Mayor Turpin read the Tax Levy to the trustees. Tami Thompson made a motion to approve the certified copy of the Tax Levy. Amanda Ahlers seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Wyatt Smith-yes, Lincoln Hill-yes, Tami Thompson-yes, Nicole Fromme-yes, Amanda Ahlers-yes, and Abby Flynn-yes. The motion was carried.

Nicole Fromme made a motion to give a Christmas bonus of \$100 to all village employees and a \$200 Christmas bonus to our web administrator. Tami Thompson seconded the vote. The voting was as follows: Lincoln Hill-yes, Tami Thompson-yes, Nicole Fromme-yes, Amanda Ahlers-yes, Abby Flynn-yes, and Wyatt Smith-yes. The motion was carried.

Mayor Turpin read the resignation letter from Lincoln Hill. Due to his family moving outside of the village limits, Lincoln is resigning as of December 2, 2020. Tami Thompson made a motion to regretfully accept the resignation from Lincoln Hill on December 2, 2020. Wyatt Smith seconded the vote. The voting was as follows: Tami Thompson-yes, Nicole Fromme-yes,

Amanda Ahlers-yes, Abby Flynn-yes, Wyatt Smith-yes, and Lincoln Hill-yes. The motion was carried.

In November the trustees discussed donating to the Franklin High School FFA Greenhouse project. The trustees wanted more information regarding the plans for when it will be built. Ashley Turpin and Wyatt Smith provided updates they received from school board members. The trustees agree they would prefer to wait until the project is approved by the school board and a timeline is put into place.

Customers will need to call the village office to schedule appointments with Reitha if they need to come in. The village office will be closed to the public beginning tomorrow, December 2nd until further notice.

The board may want to sell vacant property so Mayor Turpin talked with the attorney about selling village property. The attorney explained the state statute on taking bids and about accepting bids if the buyer will improve the property in the best interest of the community.

Wyatt Smith made a motion to adjourn. Tami Thompson seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Nicole Fromme-yes, Amanda Ahlers-yes, Abby Flynn-yes, Wyatt Smith-yes, Lincoln Hill-yes, and Tami Thompson-yes. The meeting adjourned at 8:22 pm.