Village of Franklin
Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting Minutes
October 1, 2019
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, October 1, 2019 in the town hall. Trustees present were Tami Thompson, Nicole Fromme, Amanda Ahlers, Josh Slaughterback and Wyatt Smith. Trustees Lincoln Hill entered the room at 7:00 pm.

Guest Reggie Toler wanted to follow up with the Board about the concerns he addressed a month ago and presented a photo of a line hanging in a residents home recently. Mayor Turpin informed him the Village Board is working on having the railroad ties removed. The Village Board is also trying to figure out who is responsible for the excess lines hanging from the utility poles around town. The attorney is assisting with this process. Reggie then asked the Board about their plans for Main Street. Mayor Turpin explained fixing Main Street has been a priority for some time but it is important to the Village Board to ensure it truly gets fixed and not just band-aid per say. Mayor Turpin informed Reggie the Village spent $80,000 on the other roads this year. Reggie suggested asking Morgan County if they could loan their equipment or assistance with some of the repairs.

The second guest, Jason Ford came to the Board requesting that they revisit the policy regarding past due water bills. Jason explained that when a tenant has a past due water bill, it falls back on the property owner. The current policy states that it will be shut off at $250 or 2 months. He suggests the Village raise the deposit to $250 or adjust the policy. Jason believes it is unfair to the property owner to be responsible for the tenant not paying. Mayor Turpin informed Jason the Board will have to review the ordinance and decide what to do.

Treasurer Susan Smith presented the Treasurer's Report for September. Susan reviewed the list of accounts, bank balances for the checkbooks, profits and losses, and actual balances for all four businesses. Susan also told the Trustees that she has several questions for Cindy, the auditor. Tami Thompson made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report for September. Wyatt Smith seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Josh Slaughterback-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 August and September. Tami Thompson made a motion to accept the Bills Paid and to be Paid for August and September. Josh Slaughterback seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Wyatt Smith-yes, Lincoln Hill-yes, Tami Thompson-yes, Nicole Fromme-yes, Amanda Ahlers-yes, and Josh Slaughterback-yes. The motion was carried.

Amanda Ahlers made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from September 2019. Tami Thompson seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Lincoln Hill-yes, Tami Thompson-yes, Nicole Fromme-yes, Amanda Ahlers-yes, Josh Slaughterback-yes and Wyatt Smith-yes. The motion was carried.

Andy Fairless presented his Utility Supervisor report. Andy informed the Board he talked to Taylor from Ameren and someone will come out to look at the light pole. Andy received paperwork back from Jeff Boeckler from Northwater for reimbursement. He ask Tami

Thompson if there was a way the Village could purchase more mulch for the park and how much that would cost. Tami said she would look into it. Andy talked with Chris from Castco today and received a bid for $1800 to redo the basketball court in the park but wasn't sure if that included stripping and sealing. Andy also received a bid for the ditches on Wyatt for additional seeding. The bid came in at $688. The grass is growing where the it was recently seeded. Lastly Andy informed the Board the Village workers have a choice between USDI and IMGA for training. Andy provided pros and cons to both and the Board agreed the Village should stick with USDI until IMGA has more feedback from other communities.

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

Finance/Payroll - Josh Slaughterback presented the audit report to the Board. He stated overall the audit went well, but questioned a couple areas. Josh asked what the auditors response was to having a relative of the Mayor for Treasurer. Mayor Turpin said it was okay because Susan Smith does not sign any checks. The Board continued to review the audit and revisited the fact that Susan Smith has some questions for the auditor as well. Mayor Turpin agreed and added some of her questions do not pertain to the audit. Josh Slaughterback made a motion to accept the audit report. Amanda Ahlers seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Tami Thompson-yes, Nicole Fromme-yes, Amanda Ahlers-yes, Josh Slaughterback-yes, Wyatt Smith-yes, and Lincoln Hill-yes. The motion was carried.

Insurance - Tami Thompson stated that once a decision is made on insurance the Board will need to meet again to read bids and discuss options. She believes it will be late October.

Personnel - Tami Thompson made a motion to go into closed session to discuss employee compensation and reviews at 8:38 pm. Amanda Ahlers seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Nicole Fromme-yes, Amanda Ahlers-yes, Josh Slaughterback-yes, Wyatt Smith-yes, Lincoln Hill-yes, and Tami Thompson-yes. The Board re-entered into regular session at 9:01 pm. Lincoln Hill made a motion to give employee bonuses discussed in closed session. Tami Thompson seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Josh Slaughterback-yes, Wyatt Smith-yes, Lincoln Hill-yes, Tami Thompson-yes, Nicole Fromme-yes, and Amanda Ahlers-yes. The motion was carried.

Utility Reconnect - Amanda Ahlers reported there are currently 2 shut offs and a couple from last month paid their balances.

Utilities - Wyatt Smith led the discussion regarding deposits as it was brought to the Board by guest, Jason Ford, earlier in the meeting. The Board discussed the idea of adjusting the shut off policy, raising deposits, and lowering the shut off time and allotted outstanding balance. It was also discussed that raiding the deposit significantly could negatively affect the people who are interested in renting in the Village. The Board came to an agreement: If at the end of the first month, the bill is not paid, for water and sewer only users, or reached $200, they will be shut off. Therefore it is not one month or $200. It must be paid by the 25th of the next month. A formal resolution will be made at the November meeting.

To begin with old business, the attorney is continuing to work with landowners regarding the abandoned property legal action.

Tami Thompson will have Reitha follow up with One Call Now Alerts after they receive an email response.

The attorney is still working on an ordinance for Skyping for Meetings and will provide it to the Board to review when it is complete.

Mayor Turpin presented the Appropriations Bill. The Board reviewed it. Josh Slaughterback made a motion to accept the annual appropriations bill for the 1st day of April 2020 to the 31st day of March 2021. 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 Josh Slaughterback-yes. The motion was carried.

Mayor Turpin discussed the resealing of the basketball court in the park that Andy Fairless mentioned previously in the meeting. Mayor Turpin believes the Board needs a bid with stripping and everything included. The Trustees agree and do not want the work to be done until the Spring. It will be added to the March agenda.

Tami Thompson made a motion to accept the proposal to finish seeding the ditches on Wyatt for $688 from Jason Fuchs. Wyatt Smith seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Lincoln Hill-yes, Tami Thompson-yes, Nicole Fromme-yes, Amanda Ahlers-yes, Josh Slaughterback-yes, and Wyatt Smith-yes. The motion was carried.

Mayor Turpin informed the Board every six months they must decide to keep the closed session minutes closed or to open them up. The Board agreed to keep them closed. Wyatt Smith made a motion to keep closed session minutes closed. Lincoln Hill seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Tami Thompson-yes, Nicole Fromme-yes, Amanda Ahlers-yes, Josh Slaughterback-yes, Wyatt Smith-yes, and Lincoln Hill-yes. The motion was carried.

Mayor Turpin explained the resolution to adopt the Public Comments Policy. To briefly describe, it limits multiple guests from continuously discussing the same topic and limits the discussion to one hour maximum. All guests will be required to sign in prior to the meeting if they would like to speak. The Trustees read through the document and discussed. Tami Thompson made a resolution to adopt the public comments policy. Nicole Fromme seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Nicole Fromme-yes, Amanda Ahlers-yes, Josh Slaughterback-yes, Wyatt Smith-yes, Lincoln Hill-yes, and Tami Thompson-yes. The motion was carried.

Mayor Turpin said in closed session we discussed the recent issue that occurred and asked if there was anything the Trustees wanted to add or needed to discuss further. Josh Slaughterback asked if there was a policy on how to deal with customer complaints. Mayor Turpin said the employee handbook states a little but he also encourages employees to have the customer reach out to a Trustee or himself.

Mayor Turpin added there has been some discussion about cannabis sales for tax revenue. His main concern is not have a police force to control it. The Trustees agreed.

Mayor Turpin also brought up the fact that the Village Board was served an Open Meetings Act and were required to provide meeting minutes and discussion information. Clerk Ashley Turpin and Mayor Turpin worked on compiling the information. Mayor Turpin then received a phone call from the States Attorney stating the complaint was submitted to many days after the meeting of concern. Therefore nothing was going to be done any further. The States Attorney suggested the Board do a couple of things in the future to further back themselves in such cases but stated the Board did everything correctly.

Tami Thompson asked if there were anymore updates on the restuaraunt. Mayor Turpin said George Hamilton is thinking maybe November. He is waiting on equipment from the state and some more remodeling to be completed.

Tami Thompson also asked what was going to be done with the burnt trailer on 104. Mayor Turpin said he will be in contact with the attorney about it.

Lincoln Hill said it would be a good idea to send out one more reminder on Facebook reminding residents that heavy trash pick-up is coming up.

Josh informed the Board that he put in his resignation and it will be reviewed and accepted at the next meeting.

Wyatt Smith made a motion to adjourn. Amanda Ahlers seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Tami Thompson-yes Nicole Fromme-yes, Amanda Ahlers-yes, Josh Slaughterback-no, Wyatt Smith-yes, and Lincoln Hill-yes. The meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm.

Village of Franklin
Board of Trustees
Special Meeting Minutes
October 28th, 2019
6:00 pm

Mayor Paul Turpin called the special meeting of the Village of Franklin Board of Trustees to order at 6:00 pm on Monday, October 28, 2019 in the town hall. Trustees present were Lincoln Hill, Tami Thompson, Nicole Fromme, and Amanda Ahlers. Trustee Wyatt Smith entered the meeting at 6:51 pm. Trustee Josh Slaughterback was absent.

Mayor Turpin began discussing the Village insurance by informing the board that the current policy rates have steadily declined in the last four years. The Board discussed the two policies from ICRMT and RMA. They compared coverage and noted the differences to ask each representative. The most important questions compiled amongst the Trustees were the following: Is the 8 million dollar coverage divided between everyone or 8 million per person or case? Is RMA without a deductible or charge for workman's compensation and ICRMT has it added as an additional charge? Is there any gas coverage under RMA? Is gas automatically covered under the general policy with ICRMT or an additional charge? The Board also noted the quote for ICRMT was slightly higher due to them adding in two months to compensate for when RMA ends due to the difference in the companies calendar years. Tami Thompson will email the two representatives with the questions and they will both be at the special meeting on October 29th to discuss any further concerns or questions.

In addition Mayor Turpin added there will be a new aggregation in June and the Village will have to let the residents know if something changes. If need be a representative can come to talk with the Board as well.

Mayor Turpin informed the Board that Trustee Josh Slaughterback submitted his letter of resignation and it will be accepted at the regular monthly meeting in November.

The Village employees insurance policy had one member dropped and one added.

Ameren is checking the poles around town for the extra lines and looking into what it is going to take to have them removed. Ameren owns the poles now so it is their liability so they can ensure it's done safely and correctly. They will also be removing an unnecessary pole in town.

Benton & Associate employee Jim Morris working with IDOT on the village water pipe run on HWY 104. The pipe has to be moved because they will be widening the ditch down the hill to take water runoff off the road. The village is in the easement of the highway and so must move that piping. There are a couple of residents that may need connected to Waverly's water system if possible. Franklin will no longer be connected with Waverly after the project is complete. The Village will not know any more information on the plans until January.

Mayor Turpin received a phone call from Heather Veile with Interstate Municipal Gas Association. She let him know that Panhandle Pipeline wants to raise their transportation costs by $1.50 which would raise the village transportation costs over $42,000 per year. IMGA is going to fight it with all of their municipalities using Panhandle Pipeline and it could cost the village up to $11,000 in attorney fees. The Village would be looking at needing to raise their customer prices by $1.50 which is not something the Village wants to do.

Richard's Electric came to Franklin to fix the part at the Lift Station. It was $1900.00. They discovered another part needed repaired while working and replaced it. There was a miscommunication in the total cost for the second part with labor included and it ended up being more than expected. The total bill came to $3800.00.

Mayor Turpin discussed he's researched other deposit policies in other towns and none of them state it is due immediately following the bill or it will be shut off. Mayor Turpin expressed his concerns with implementing a policy as such. He stated some policies went up to 6 months. He suggested raising the deposits but not lower the amount of time allotted to pay the bill. He informed the Board that gas cannot be shut off if it is 32 degrees or lower or will be within 24 hours. The Village cannot shut-off a veteran, active duty veteran or anyone on LiHeap between December and March. Mayor Turpin will talk with the attorney to get his thoughts.

Tami Thompson made a motion to adjourn. Amanda Ahlers 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. The meeting adjourned at 7:02 pm.

Village of Franklin
Board of Trustees
Special Meeting Minutes
October 29th, 2019
5:30 pm

Mayor Paul Turpin called the special meeting of the Village of Franklin Board of Trustees to order at 5:30 pm on Tuesday, October 29, 2019 in the town hall. Trustees present were Wyatt Smith, Tami Thompson, Nicole Fromme, and Amanda Ahlers. Trustee Lincoln Hill entered the meeting at 5:33 pm. Trustee Josh Slaughterback was absent.

Trustee Tami Thompson began the meeting with an introduction for guest Eric Little from IML Risk Management Insurance to discuss the premium quoted to the Village for insurance. Eric Little informed the Board of his background and the history of ICRMT. Eric then provided an informational book to each Trustee and walked through each page, explaining what the coverage was, how it worked and informed them of any deductibles or additional costs. He answered any questions the Board asked along the way. After his presentation the Board reviewed the information together and discussed the pros and cons they noticed so far in comparison to the current policy the Village holds. Next Curt Reznicek spoke as the second guest of the evening. Curt is with ICRMT Insurance and currently holds the Village of Franklin's insurance policy. He reviewed the customer informational packet provided to each Board member and walked them through each page. He answered all questions and informed them of any changes. Curt also explained where there would be deductibles and additional costs to the policy. One of the main questions the Village Trustees had for Curt was about the new Deadly Weapons Response portion of the policy. Curt explained it is added because ICRMT is proactive in ensuring every area possible is covered to maximize policies to provide the best coverage. However to better answer the questions he called Jeff Weber from ICRMT to help answer specifics. Jeff Weber began at 6:38 pm and explained that the coverage includes any crisis that could potentially put the Village out of their building for an extended amount of time and would need to temporarily relocate. It would include business income and expenses. It would also help cover people involved in a crisis that are not Village employees but involved in the situation. Jeff Weber answered questions and concluded his call at 6:42 pm. Mayor Turpin informed Curt Reznicek that the Village Board would make a decision during the regular monthly meeting in November and will let both companies know their decision. The Board then continued their meeting and discussed their thoughts further. Mayor Turpin pointed out some highlights from both representatives and asked the Trustees to think about both policies and continue comparing. He asked everyone to have a decision ready for the November meeting. The Board also came up with a couple additional questions and Tami emailed the representatives.

Wyatt Smith made a motion to adjourn. Lincoln Hill 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 meeting adjourned at 6:59 pm.