

Village of Franklin
Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting Minutes
October 4, 2022
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 4, 2022 in the town hall. Trustees present in Village Hall were Abby Flynn, Wyatt Smith, Lauren Whalen, Vickie Adkins, and Amanda Ahlers. Trustee Sarah Carter was absent.

Guest, Gerard O'Donnell came on behalf of GoPaul and Everest from the AM/PM Mart. Gerard wanted to express that if the Village Board would decide to add a liquor license to the ordinance to allow liquor and gaming at the AM/PM, it would not cut into the business of The Green Wall. He also mentioned The Green Wall is closed three days per week. The AM/PM would be open 7 days per week from 6am to 10pm for gaming. He said the customer base would be different. Waverly, Illinois is a good example of that. Gerard said the plan is to utilize the office space behind the cash register as the gaming room. Employees would be 21 or older. The gaming area would have surveillance that is monitored by the State of Illinois.

Treasurer Susan Smith presented the Treasurer's Report for September. Susan discussed each businesses profits & losses, current balances, year-to-date balances and check details. She explained water's large increase was due to the second half of the grant the Village received to help with the 104-water project. Municipal also received its second portion of the property tax income. Wyatt Smith made a motion to accept the Treasurers Report for September. Amanda Ahlers seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Abby Flynn-yes, Wyatt Smith-yes, Lauren Whalen-yes, Vickie Adkins-yes, and Amanda Ahlers-yes. The motion was carried. Vickie Adkins made a motion to accept the Bills Paid and to be Paid for September. Abby Flynn seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Wyatt Smith-yes, Lauren Whalen-yes, Vickie Adkins-yes, Amanda Ahlers-yes, and Abby Flynn-yes. The motion was carried.

Clerk Ashley Turpin presented the trustees with minutes from September. Wyatt Smith made a motion to approve the minutes from September. Lauren Whalen seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Lauren Whalen-yes, Vickie Adkins-yes, Amanda Ahlers-yes, Abby Flynn-yes, and Wyatt Smith-yes. The motion was carried.

Committee Reports:

Andy Fairless presented the Utility Supervisor Report. Nick Speaks passed his water exam and is now licensed in water. The court date in September was postponed because the proper notices were not sent out. It is rescheduled for November 7th at 11am. Andy and Reitha Holtzman must attend. Water is currently at a 2% loss for year-to-date. The system will continue to rechecked every few years with the Board's approval prior to scheduling. There are two bids for tires for the half-ton truck. One was from Checkpoint around \$1,100 and the second was from Dugan Tires for \$800. The box blade request from Andy has three bids which Mayor Turpin will present later in the meeting. Andy said he uses Waverly's box blade several times per year to smooth and re-work alleyways around the Village. He also uses it for the waterways at the spray-fields when they get washed out. The water tower inspection is set for next Wednesday. On

Monday they'll start emptying the tower so the inspection can be done. Samples will also be taken for testing. The roof at the Village Hall has come to a halt again. The gentleman the Village hired was supposed to come at the end of August, but he called and said he was behind. He would be in near the end of September. Andy called recently and he is still two jobs behind and he'd have to let the Village know when he could come. Andy's concern is getting it done before the cold weather. The Waverly board is interested in purchasing the service truck. There is also a private party interested. Waverly is also looking into a Jet truck that would help with manholes, potholes, and power washing. If Waverly gets the truck, they would get rid of one of their older trucks. Andy is interested in the Village purchasing their old one. He called Terry Treece to ask about the sidewalk repairs. Wyatt Smith added there is a sidewalk on Walnut Street that doesn't have much left. The resident would like it torn out completely or replaced. Lastly, Andy received bids for the handicap ramps to be put in the sidewalks near the Village, Transitions Salon, and The Green Wall, plus the driveway to be put in at the Fire Station leading out to Main Street. It came in at \$35,396.

Buildings, Roads, and Drainage – Wyatt Smith made a motion to tear out the sidewalk on Walnut Street in front of John Whalen's. Abby Flynn seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Vickie Adkins-yes, Amanda Ahlers-yes, Abby Flynn-yes, Wyatt Smith-yes, and Lauren Whalen-yes. The motion was carried.

Finance/Payroll – Mayor Turpin let the board through the audit report. He explained the finances and any concerns he had with income and losses. All four businesses profited.

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

Personnel – Amanda Ahlers made a motion to go into closed session to discuss a water license completion. The board entered into executive session at 7:37 and re-entered into open session at 7:41. Abby Flynn made a motion to compensate Nick Speaks, as discussed in closed session, and to adjust Andy Fairless' rate, as discussed in closed session. Amanda Ahlers seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Wyatt Smith-yes, Lauren Whalen-yes, Vickie Adkins-yes, Amanda Ahlers-yes, and Abby Flynn-yes. The motion was carried.

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

Utilities – Mayor Turpin will meet with Heather from IMGGA on October 21st to see if there are other municipalities purchasing gas reserves this year that we could buy in with, like last year. The trustees agree to purchase for January and February.

Old Business:

The board would like to get another bid for the Fire Station driveway and ramps leading into the Village Hall, Transitions Hair Salon, and The Green Wall.

Andy provided an update in his report about the water tower inspection coming up.

Last month, the board voted to switch to Utilipay, contingent on the contract with CSB. Mayor Turpin said CSB offers the same set-up with a 3.25% charge per transaction and Utilipay is 3.50% per transaction over \$50.00. CSB does not offer online payments, therefore, customers will still have to pay in the office for credit and debit transactions. It does eliminate the charge from the Village and puts it on the customer. Amanda Ahlers made a motion to stay with CSB and resend our motion to go to Utilipay from last month. Abby Flynn seconded the motion. The

voting was as follows: Lauren Whalen-yes, Vickie Adkins-yes, Amanda Ahlers-yes, Abby Flynn-yes, and Wyatt Smith-yes. The motion was carried.

For the Route 104-water project, the Village is still waiting on one easement to be signed. A correction needed to be made to the easement so the lawyer is fixing it and will send it back out.

Mayor Turpin will speak with Lincoln Hill more about the Illinois Safe Routes to School Program to see what his idea might be.

Last month, the board discussed sending letters to properties who needed cleaned up. The trustees will provide the addresses to Mayor Turpin, along with an explanation of what is in violation with the ordinance.

Wyatt Smith mentioned Lake Drive needs a lot of work again. Vickie mentioned Dahman Road as well. Lauren Whalen made a motion to accept the MFT Estimate of Maintenance cost of \$16,625.00. Vickie Adkins seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Vickie Adkins-yes, Amanda Ahlers-yes, Abby Flynn-yes, Wyatt Smith-yes, and Lauren Whalen-yes. The motion was carried.

The trustees discussed the 60inch box blade for the tractor. All were in agreement to wait on purchasing.

The board discussed gaming at the AM/PM Mart at length. Amanda Ahlers and Abby Flynn met with GoPaul, Everest and Stephanie in regards to the proposal. Amanda told the trustees that GoPaul and Everest were confident the building would be safe and secure, also mentioning they could set a limit on how many drinks per customer. Abby said they planned on having additional staff if gaming was approved. Their Franklin location is the only business they have without gaming and a pour liquor license. During the discussion with the board trustees, the AM/PM Mart owners and staff, were not aware that the Village ordinance states no one under the age of 21 can sell liquor in Franklin. Trustees said they reached out to several residents to ask how they felt about a second gaming location. All of the residents, except one, were against adding a gaming location within the Village. Lauren Whalen looked into the finances more and didn't see a significant financial gain from the current machines in town. Lauren and Sarah Carter met with the owners of The Green Wall and Hamilton's Catering. Lauren said it was an emotional discussion. George and Kyle expressed that if they do not continue to make the same money, due to the loss of customers, they would have to sell the business or close their doors permanently. They are currently working on finding a way to open back up more days per week, but like everywhere, they are having trouble finding enough help. The trustees concerns about adding gaming to the AM/PM were the following: making sure someone 21 or older is working at all times, finding enough help, keeping it adequately staffed at all times so that one employee is not taking care of gas, food, liquor sales, gaming and pour license, sales, etc. at the same time. Wyatt Smith made a motion to not change the amount of liquor licenses in the Village of Franklin. Amanda Ahlers seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Amanda Ahlers-yes, Abby Flynn-yes, Wyatt Smith-yes, Lauren Whalen-yes, and Vickie Adkins-yes. The motion was carried. The Green Wall will continue to be the only pour liquor license and gaming facility in the Village.

Lauren Whalen made a motion to purchase the cheaper of the two bids for the half ton tires. Vickie Adkins seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Wyatt Smith-yes, Lauren Whalen-yes, Vickie Adkins-yes, Amanda Ahlers-yes, and Abby Flynn-yes. The motion was carried.

New Business:

Abby Flynn made a motion to accept the MAPS authorization charge for IMGGA to take the gas bill out of the Village gas business account. Amanda Ahlers seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Lauren Whalen-yes, Vickie Adkins-yes, Amanda Ahlers-yes, Abby Flynn-yes, and Wyatt Smith-yes. The motion was carried.

The board decided to hold off on the Fire Station driveway until more bids are received.

Trustees agree to sell the old service truck to Waverly for \$10,000.00. Andy will reach out to their employees.

The purchase for additional gas this winter was discussed previously.

In addition, Ameren just posted their rates through May 2023. Mayor Turpin provided the rates to the Trustees.

Wyatt Smith made a motion to adjourn. Vickie Adkins seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Vickie Adkins-yes, Amanda Ahlers-yes, Abby Flynn-yes, Wyatt Smith-yes, and Lauren Whalen-yes. The meeting adjourned at 8:42 pm.