

Village of Franklin
Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting Minutes
February 1, 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, February 1, 2021 in the town hall. Trustees present in Village Hall were Abby Flynn, Lauren Anders, Sarah Carter, Vickie Adkins, and Amanda Ahlers. Trustee Wyatt Smith was present via Zoom.

Treasurer Susan Smith presented the Treasurer's Report for January. Susan discussed each businesses profits & losses, current balances, year-to-date balances and check details. Amanda Ahlers made a motion to accept the Treasurers Report for January. Sarah Carter seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Lauren Anders-yes, Sarah Carter-yes, Vickie Adkins-yes, Amanda Ahlers-yes, Abby Flynn-yes, and Wyatt Smith-yes. The motion was carried. The bills paid and to be paid will be approved for January will be approved at the March meeting.

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

Andy Fairless presented the Utility Supervisor Report. He reported the house that recently burnt on Main Street is waiting for insurance to finalize clean-up. The Village is still waiting on Panhandle to upgrade the gas pressure. Andy has not received the bid for the Village Hall roof. Lastly, Andy presented the idea of upgrading the gas system with a GIS mapping program called the 192GIS System. It is something that the ICC is pushing for municipalities to get. He explained how the system works and provided costs for the Village trustees. The cost for the system is \$4400.00 with an annual fee of \$2600.00. It would also require an iPad, costing around \$1300.00, with a monthly fee of \$85.00 for internet access through a phone service.

Buildings, Roads, and Drainage – Vickie Adkins presented the quote for the park mulch. In 2018, the Village purchased 33 tons of rubber mulch. The cost has decreased since then. The quote came in at \$10,500.00 for 33 tons.

Finance/Payroll – The budget will be presented at the March meeting. Mayor Turpin asked the trustees what they would like to see done with the windmill money. Mayor Turpin suggested looking into getting an ordinance in place that allows the Village to save some of the funds, but gives access to using it if it is needed for any reason. The trustees agree to looking into it.

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

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

Utility Reconnect – Mayor Turpin said the utility workers were supposed to shut-off 10 customers for late bills today. However, with the snow storm moving in, Mayor Turpin decided shut-offs would happen on Monday if they are still late. This will avoid the utility workers

coming in and out of town in the storm to turn customers back on. They'll already spend overtime plowing.

Utilities – The water rates were raised by Jacksonville by .39 cents so we will raise Alexanders rates by .39 cents. Mayor Turpin suggests raising water rates by 25 cents. It wouldn't cover the full price increase the Village is seeing, but it would help it some and not be such a significant hit to customers. Trustees also looked into raising gas meter charge by 50 cents. Raising gas prices some would help if there was another huge price increase like most of the Midwest saw last February. The Village would be able to help cover the upfront costs rather than needing a loan. The sewer rates also need increased. Sewer is the lowest income for the Village. The Village just paid a \$10,000 bill to try to find out why there was a big backup in the system a couple months ago. The trustees are going to look into the utility rates more and make a decision at the March meeting.

The park benches bid will come in around March.

Vickie Adkins presented the bid for the park mulch. Mayor Turpin read through the proposal. Lauren Anders discussed the possibility of purchasing a little extra with the cost being lower and storing it until needed. Sarah Carter made a motion to accept the proposal from Rubber Safe, LLC, including the rubber mulch and delivery fee, for \$10,500.00. Lauren Anders seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Vickie Adkins-yes, Amanda Ahlers-yes, Abby Flynn-yes, Wyatt Smith-yes, Lauren Anders-yes, and Sarah Carter-yes. The motion was carried.

Kingery Construction has not given a new bid on the town hall roof.

Amanda Ahlers made a motion to go into closed session to discuss the bids for the Villages' gas business, from Liberty and Ameren. The board entered into closed session at 7:42 pm and re-entered into open session at 7:52 pm. Mayor Turpin said after discussion in closed session, the Village board agrees to not sell the gas business at this time, based on the bids received.

Mayor Turpin said the trailer on 104 that burnt has sat for three or more years. The Village does not want to spend money on cleaning the property unless the Village owns the property. There were issues with the property and the tax ID number that was attached to it, causing the process to start over. The Village would have to put a lien on the property and pay the taxes for the next three years. Lauren Anders made a motion to clean-up the property at 2950 State Highway 104, at the Village expense and place a lien on the property. Amanda Ahlers seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Wyatt Smtih-yes, Lauren Anders-yes, Sarah Carter-yes, Vickie Adkins-yes, Amanda Ahlers-yes, and Abby Flynn-yes. The motion was carried.

The trustees would like to look further into the options for iPad devices and internet costs per month for the GIS system Andy mentioned in his report. They will discuss the system again in April.

Trustees discussed purchasing additional Christmas lights for the Village light poles. Lauren Anders made a motion to purchase 5 of the four-foot candy cane swirl lights. Sarah Carter seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Lauren Anders-yes, Sarah Carter-yes, Vickie Adkins-yes, Amanda Ahlers-yes, Abby Flynn-yes, and Wyatt Smith-yes. The motion was carried.

Mayor Turpin explained that Governor Pritzker allowed virtual meetings without an ordinance due to the pandemic. However, that will come to an end eventually. If the board would like to continue using virtual meetings while sick, traveling, quarantined, weather conditions, etc. then an ordinance will need to be put into place. Mayor Turpin and clerk, Ashley Turpin, discussed the possibility of purchasing equipment to better equip the office for virtual attendance, such as a webcam, microphone system, large monitor with a swivel mount, desktop computer, etc. The board is open to the idea. Mayor Turpin and Ashley will look into pricing. Mayor Turpin will speak to the attorney about an ordinance.

In addition, trustee, Amanda Ahlers, checked with Trash Queen and they are still looking at \$15 per customer if the Village would pursue their offer. Amanda will schedule a public meeting for Trash Queen to come explain their offer in full and answer questions.

Also, Mayor Turpin said the attorney sent a letter to the renter asking him to remove his belongings from the quarter of the Quonset Hut he rents from the Village. He has until the end of the month to vacate the premises.

Clerk, Ashley Turpin reminded trustees to fill out an Economic Statement of Interest within the next week or so.

Wyatt Smith made a motion to adjourn. Vickie Adkins seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Sarah Carter-yes, Vickie Adkins-yes, Amanda Ahlers-yes, Abby Flynn-yes, Wyatt Smith-yes, and Lauren Anders-yes. The meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Village of Franklin
Board of Trustees
Special Meeting Minutes
February 22, 2022
7:00 pm

Mayor Paul Turpin called the special meeting of the Village of Franklin Board of Trustees to order at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, February 22, 2022 in the town hall. Trustees present were Abby Flynn, Wyatt Smith, Lauren Anders, Vickie Adkins, and Amanda Ahlers. Sarah Carter entered the meeting at 7:18 pm.

Trash Queen representative, Levi began his presentation stating they would offer Franklin residents the rate of \$15 per meter. At the moment, it's estimated at 192 meters, costing the Village \$2880.00, that would be charged at the beginning of each month. The Village would add the trash fees as a line item on their utility bills. Trash Queen would provide a city-wide clean-up once per year, at no charge. The contract would be for the extension of three years. Several guests and trustees asked Levi questions throughout the meeting.

1. What if someone wanted to opt out of the service?
The secretary for Trash Queen would only bill the Village for the amount of meters needing service.
2. Do you need a minimum amount of meters to service Franklin?
If would have to be discussed if it came to several were opting out. Trash Queen would like at least half of the Village meters to be registered.
3. If a resident had a second toter, who would receive the payment for that?
The homeowner would pay Trash Queen directly.
4. Do you offer recycling?
No, Trash Queen does not.
5. What do you allow or not allow for the yearly city-wide clean-up?
There is a list that Trash Queen puts out. It is typically the same for all sanitation services. For example: batteries, liquid paint, large appliances.
6. If a homeowner has service with another company currently, could the homeowner switch next year?
Yes, this whole process will take some time regardless.
7. With the ordinance discussed, would it mandate that everyone in the Village has trash pick-up?
Mayor Turpin stated that yes it would require everyone to have trash service. However, it is his understanding that the attorney does not believe it can be dictated which service a homeowner uses. Levi from Trash Queen said they are not allowed in a couple of towns because another sanitation company is contracted with them. Trash Queen is also contracted with a couple of towns which prevents other services from coming in.

8. What is the cost for a dumpster?
Trash Queen offers multiple sizes, 2 yards, 4 yards, and 6 yards. The pricing begins at \$200 for 3 months. Payments for dumpsters would be given to Trash Queen directly.
9. With meters, are you including all water customers or gas customers? Would it include anyone within the city limits?
It would be everyone within city limits.
10. Would this be an option for residents at Franklin Lake?
Possibly, another village has it contracted in for a small subdivision outside of the village limits.
11. If gas prices went up significantly, would Trash Queen come back on the contracted price of \$15 and raise it?
Not while the contract is in place. Possibly after the term is up.
12. Will there be another meeting for the residents to discuss whether or not they want an ordinance in place?
Mayor Turpin stated there will be another meeting with GFL. Trustees will discuss the survey results and any feedback they've heard as well. It will not happen quickly, so there will be more meetings for residents to attend.
13. Will Trash Queen come to Franklin if the Village of Franklin does not accept an ordinance?
Most likely not if an ordinance is not put in place to secure their business.
14. Does a resident have to use Trash Queen, even with the ordinance in place?
No, the homeowner would still receive the monthly charge of \$15, but could still pay for another service on their own.

Levi concluded his presentation.

Carrie from Republic was also present. She said Republic would like to propose a contract as well.

She suggested the Village put out an RFP to allow an even comparison between all offers. Republic currently has offices in Edwardsville, Virden, and Springfield. The company owns their own landfills and offers trash and recycling services. Kerry is more than happy to pass along any complaints or issues. She hopes as the merge continues from Flowers to Republic the service quality increases.

Wyatt Smith made a motion to adjourn. Amanda Ahlers seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Abby Flynn-yes, Wyatt Smith-yes, Lauren Anders-yes, Sarah Carter-yes, Vickie Adkins-yes, Amanda Ahlers-yes. The motion was carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm.