

Village of Franklin
Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting Minutes
January 3, 2023
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 3, 2023 in the town hall. Trustees present in Village Hall were Abby Flynn, Wyatt Smith, Lauren Whalen, Sarah Carter, Vickie Adkins, and Amanda Ahlers.

Treasurer Susan Smith presented the Treasurer's Report for December. Susan discussed each businesses profits & losses, current balances, year-to-date balances and check details. Lauren Whalen made a motion to accept the Treasurers Report for December. Amanda Ahlers seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Abby Flynn-yes, Wyatt Smith-yes, Lauren Whalen-yes, Sarah Carter-yes, Vickie Adkins-yes, and Amanda Ahlers-yes. The motion was carried. Abby Flynn made a motion to accept the Bills Paid and to be Paid for December. Vickie Adkins seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Wyatt Smith-yes, Lauren Whalen-yes, Sarah Carter-yes, Vickie Adkins-yes, Amanda Ahlers-yes, and Abby Flynn-yes. The motion was carried.

Clerk Ashley Turpin presented the trustees with minutes from December. Amanda Ahlers made a motion to approve the minutes from December. Vickie Adkins seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Lauren Whalen-yes, Sarah Carter-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. Mayor Turpin and Andy met with Benton & Associates to discuss the lead and copper water line inspection. Andy started a spreadsheet with the customers and is confident in saying he does not expect lead to be in the system. However, he does have to check with the customers also. If there is lead, it has to be replaced by us and the board has to determine who or how it will be paid for. We are responsible for anything 18 inches into the house or up to the first valve. Andy would like to send letters out to the water customers, asking for further information about their homes. Andy spoke with Mr. Nelson at Franklin High regarding the picnic tables. Mr. Nelson is happy to take the project on. The picnic table materials are estimated at \$1,933.00. Ashley Turpin will speak with the art teacher to see if the art class would be interested in painting some of the tables. The remainder can be black, white and orange. Andy received a rough estimate bid for Boyer's lot, if the board would like to use it for burning. The estimate is \$1,260.00 for the spare concrete. Andy informed the trustees that OSHA came and reviewed the municipality. All issues mentioned were fixed by the following business day. On December 13, Nick Speaks took an online, OSHA approved, first aide course. Andy said the Hamilton's meal for the Small Operators luncheon is going to be \$17.95 per person. The meal will consist of butterfly pork chops, bbq chicken breasts, salad, rolls, green beans, mashed potatoes, gravy, and cakes. Andy and Nick will get drinks to provide. It's \$150 for the first two hours at the Emrey Center. All of the Christmas lights are down around town.

Buildings, Roads, and Drainage – Vickie Adkins made a motion to allow Benton & Associates to complete the IDOT MFT Expenditures. Sarah Carter 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 Whalen-yes. The motion was carried.

In addition, the board would like to start putting together a plan for using some of the MFT money for roadwork this year. Last year the cost of materials went up so much that the work was put on hold. Mayor Turpin will call Stefanie at Benton & Associates and let her know we'd like to start discussing the plan by March.

Finance/Payroll – There is nothing new to report from this committee.

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

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

Utility Reconnect – There are some people expecting to make payments by the end of the week.

Utilities – Trustee, Wyatt Smith, asked about the status of purchasing additional natural gas. Mayor Turpin said we will know more on January 6, 2023. Mayor Turpin received a message from a resident asking the board to explain the surcharge on their gas bill when the temperature dropped significantly. The daily charge was increased to \$10 because of the possibility of another loss of gas due to extreme cold in the south. Only the daily rate which is the amount over the 75% we purchase in advance was raised. Right now we have 75% of our expected gas usage purchased at \$3.50 or below until 2028. In other parts of the nation, the daily cost has risen to the \$50-\$60 range. The state is mandating municipalities check their water lines for lead. As a board, the decision has to be made on how things will be handled if lead is detected in the service lines. The Village is responsible for up to 18 inches into the customers home or to the first valve, if it's attached to any galvanized piping. Galvanized will retain lead because of the buildup of residue on the inside of the pipe, according to the State of Illinois. The board has until April to decide the best approach and how to mitigate it. A letter will be sent to all of the water customers. Also, Mayor Turpin sent out a FERC update to the trustees. Nothing has been resolved.

Old Business:

Mayor Turpin stated the Village attorney has the second signature for the easement that was needed for the Route 104 water project. No one will be displaced by the State to complete the project. They bought a portion of one resident's lot to complete the project. The Village of Franklin needs another easement because we cannot use a 2-inch main anymore for two of the customers. A 3-inch pipe is needed. The project is estimated at \$412,000. Wyatt Smith made a motion to accept the Route 104 Water Main Replacement and Abandonment Engineering Proposal from Benton & Associates, for the construction of \$318,000. Amanda Ahlers seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Vickie Adkins-yes, Amanda Ahlers-yes, Abby Flynn-yes, Wyatt Smith-yes, Lauren Whalen-yes, and Sarah Carter-yes. The motion was carried.

Mayor Turpin received a few addresses via email, from trustees and will be contacting the attorney to draw letters up.

Vickie Adkins and Sarah Carter judged the Christmas Light Contest. The first place winner was Adam and Monica Lush, second place was Wayne and Barb Barber, third place was John and Teresa Morris.

Mayor Turpin is working with the attorney to see what options the Village has regarding the burned trailer property. Once they've met, he'll bring the options back to the trustees for them to decide.

New Business:

OSHA visited the Village municipality buildings. There were a few flags, but no fines. All of the paperwork is completed and will be sent in. Everything flagged is fixed.

Abby Flynn made a motion to purchase 19 picnic table repair kits for \$1,933.00. Amanda Ahlers seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Amanda Ahlers-yes, Abby Flynn-yes, Wyatt Smith-yes, Lauren Whalen-yes, Sarah Carter-yes, and Vickie Adkins-yes. The motion was carried.

The board discussed the idea of creating an area for burning. The old location is no longer accessible. The trustees agreed they do not want one in the middle of the Village. They'll look into putting one near the sewer plant.

Andy provided a bid for a remote camera last month. The trustees would like some additional information before purchasing.

Wyatt Smith added that the Lions Club is asking about the bond they have for the Queen of Hearts. It is through the same insurance company the Village uses and the agent is stating they do not need it. They feel as if the bond is not allowing them to profit as much as possible. Mayor Turpin will talk with Mr. Reznicek to see.

Wyatt Smith made a motion to adjourn. Sarah Carter seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Abby Flynn-yes, Wyatt Smith-yes, Lauren Whalen-yes, Sarah Carter-yes, Vickie Adkins-yes, and Amanda Ahlers-yes. The meeting adjourned at 8:18 pm.