

Village of Franklin
Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting Minutes
January 9, 2024
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 9, 2024 in the town hall. Trustees present in Village Hall were Wyatt Smith, Lauren Whalen, Sarah Carter, Vickie Adkins, and Amanda Ahlers. Trustee Abby Flynn was absent.

Darryl Smith was in attendance on behalf of the Lions Club. The Lions Club asked the Village Trustees to consider eliminating the bond for the Queen of Hearts. The Lions Club had to spend about \$2,000 more than a typical year, on food baskets for families at Christmas time this year. The Lions Club supplied the chicken and awards for the honors banquet as well. This year they estimate that fireworks are going to cost \$12,000. The club is looking into ways they can save to help the rising costs and to continue helping the community. Mayor Turpin reminded Darryl that the Lions Club needs to renew their license, but also said the board would discuss the bond at the next meeting.

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

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

Committee Reports:

Andy Fairless presented the Utility Supervisor Report. We do not know when the sidewalks and approaches will be finished. When the weather clears and the temperature warms up a bit, Andy and Nick will start working on Dahman Road. The disaster declaration is complete and we are waiting on reimbursement. The street signs were ordered after the last meeting, but some of the materials are on backorder. The EPA audit is tomorrow. There should be a cross connection survey link going out with the utility bills this month. The actual survey will also be sent to residents. The THM's had a violation from the EPA. Benton & Associates is looking into the situation because Andy found that the Jacksonville facility was already in violation which could affect the Villages water. Water loss was at 3.27% for the year. Palmyra bought a machine for checking water leaks and may be willing to help the Village of Franklin. Mayor Turpin asked Andy to ask what the cost would be for them to do a survey for us. Andy continued, informing the board

the Christmas lights are not down yet because he must rent a lift. The elevator has a lift that normally they can borrow, but it is out of service.

Buildings, Roads, and Drainage – Andy updated the board in his report regarding Dahman Road. Mayor Turpin received several inquiries about putting a sidewalk along Highway 104 from the Woodson-Franklin Blacktop. Andy expressed his concern with costs trying to run the sidewalk near the Village pump station. Mayor Turpin would like to get pricing and Lauren Whalen suggested looking into grants.

Finance/Payroll – The audit report would be easier to follow and better if there was a separate account for all rentals. This would show that the money made is also being used for upkeep on the rental properties. Amanda Ahlers made a motion to open a new account for rentals under the municipal account. Lauren Whalen seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Vickie Adkins-yes, Amanda Ahlers-yes, Wyatt Smith-yes, Lauren Whalen-yes, and Sarah Carter-yes. The motion was carried.

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

Personnel – The board entered closed session at 7:27 pm to discuss employee discipline. Mayor Turpin had to leave at 7:32 due to a personal emergency and Wyatt Smith took over as mayor for the remainder of the meeting. The board re-entered into open session at 7:39 pm.

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

Utilities – Lauren Whalen made a motion to move the Royel rent check from municipal to water. Sarah Carter seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Lauren Whalen-yes, Sarah Carter-yes, Vickie Adkins-yes, Amanda Ahlers-yes, and Wyatt Smith-yes. The motion was carried. The gas refund account to interest account discussion was tabled until the February meeting.

Old Business:

The burned trailer property update was tabled until February.

Andy discussed the disaster declaration status in his report. He will check on the insurance.

Andy has not heard back from Ameren in regards to the old cable wires.

Lauren Whalen said she is willing to research prices for new copiers if needed.

New Business:

The board is not interested in purchasing new welcome signs currently. They all agree that if they could find some grants to cover some of it, that would be best.

The lot appraisal discussion was put on hold until the February meeting.

Lauren Whalen made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2024-01 to move the windmill money from municipal to water. Amanda Ahlers seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Wyatt Smith-yes, Lauren Whalen-yes, Sarah Carter-yes, Vickie Adkins-yes, and Amanda Ahlers-yes. The motion was carried.

Lauren Whalen made a motion to approve Stefanie from Benton & Associates to draft the IDOT MFT Expenditures. Amanda Ahlers seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Sarah Carter-yes, Vickie Adkins-yes, Amanda Ahlers-yes, Wyatt Smith-yes, and Lauren Whalen-yes. The motion was carried.

The Christmas light winners were as follows:

1st Place – Eric Burgess and Ashley Cordrey

2nd Place – Adam and Monica Lush

3rd Place – Krystina McHatton and Justin Wilson

Wyatt Smith made a motion to adjourn. Sarah Carter seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Amanda Ahlers-yes, Wyatt Smith-yes, Lauren Whalen-yes, Sarah Carter-yes, and Vickie Adkins-yes. The meeting adjourned at 7:57 pm.