

Village of Franklin
Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting Minutes

April 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, April 9, 2024 in the town hall. Trustees present in Village Hall were Abby Flynn, Lauren Whalen, Sarah Carter, and Vickie Adkins. Trustees Wyatt Smith and Amanda Ahlers were absent.

Guest, Stefanie Ballinger from Benton & Associates came to the board to discuss the revised MFT documents. First, there was a blade charged to the MFT account that cannot be. It will need reimbursed since equipment cannot be purchased with MFT. Secondly, the numbers did not match so a resolution is required to fix it. Vickie Adkins made a motion to approve the supplemental resolution for the 2023 MFT expenditures. Lauren Whalen seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Abby Flynn-yes, Lauren Whalen-yes, Sarah Carter-yes, and Vickie Adkins-yes. The motion was carried. In addition, Stefanie discussed the sidewalks in town and the need to expand sidewalks from Osage Street to Highway 104. She mentioned federal funds through Safe Routes to School Program, that are available. They would need to be ADA compliant which is five feet wide. She will look at the area with Andy in the next week or two. Stefanie's concern is that typically the grant requires the sidewalks to begin at the school and build out from there. If there is not a need for new sidewalks near the school, the federal funds may be unattainable.

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

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

Committee Reports:

Andy Fairless presented the Utility Supervisor Report. After further investigation on the leak in Pisgah, they discovered there is not a leak. There was more water sold than purchased last month. It all lead to Nick and Andy believing that the rain water puddled up, causing it to look like a leak. Andy said he is now required to send in quarterly plans for improving the gas system to

ICC. He is under the impression that it is meant to target municipalities that are not keeping up with regular maintenance and updates on their system. The Village of Franklin makes changes and replacements annually. In addition, the USDA is adding new extensive and more accurate gas leak survey equipment to their tools. Therefore, when USDA is called to help detect a gas leak, they will have the capabilities to detect the leak up to the billionth, rather than millionth. This type of equipment could raise the price of surveying tremendously. Andy informed the Board that Slabjackers will be in the Village on May 2, 2024. He added, the county said the Village can put up signs against jake-braking, but would need an ordinance for it. Mayor Turpin said that he talked with the attorney and found out it is a county-wide issue. So, the attorney will work with the county board to make it a county-wide ordinance. Andy continued with his report. The lift station on Main Street flooded and the generator went out recently. He would like the Board to consider purchasing a jet pack to help in the future. Mayor Turpin spoke with Mayor Duewer, from Waverly, and the Board did not vote on it yet. Jon Lyons, from Waverly, said Andy could use it if the two of them were getting along, but Jon would need to come with the truck for any project. The truck would allow Andy to vac the ditches, saving costs with McGuires. Coe Equipment still has the truck available for purchase as well, if the Board is interested. The fiber-optic internet company has 30 days before they can start in the Village. They are required to submit paperwork to the Village before they can begin, which the Village has not received at this point. Andy talked with Slabjackers about Lake Drive, but they did not want to mess with it. Andy is going to reach out to the county to discuss Lake Drive and Dahman Road. He will also ask them about sealing the truck route. The attorney is looking into the situation with the pothole on Wyatt Street.

Buildings, Roads, and Drainage – Curt Reznicek with Reznicek Insurance is moving out of the Villages' rental space in August. A Village resident reached out to Mayor Turpin about renting the space to run their eBay business out of it. However, they would need the entire space, including the garage and office that Nick and Andy use. The trucks would need stored elsewhere, the cost would need increased due to use of a large space, and the office would need to be moved for Nick. The lawyer would write up a contract. The Village will not provide utilities at cost due to the circumstance. It is not a new business coming into town and not an in-person business for community use since it is online. Rent will be \$450 per month and the renter will be required to have renter's insurance.

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

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

Personnel – Mayor Turpin said the Village will post there is an opening for part-time office help. In addition, the Village removed a worker from the drug testing because they are having medical issues and due to medical instruction or prescription, could show a positive on a test. Therefore, until the doctor retracts the orders, they will forego random testing.

Utility Reconnect – A resident who is experiencing a high gas bill, is still under the impression that the fault lies within the Villages realm. He believes the gas meter is reading incorrectly, although the meter was sent off for testing and the results came back with no issues. Mayor Turpin will explain to him that his gas bill is as it states.

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

Old Business:

The Village is hoping they will be able to purchase the burned property in May for \$850. Mayor Turpin said the board could discuss the sale of it, but would need to consider that the Village has over \$11,000.00 in the property.

Andy has not heard back from Ameren in regards to the old cable wires. Mayor Turpin is going to look into other companies who may be able to help.

Mayor Turpin said he has looked into a few new printers. He could purchase any of them for under \$1,000. They all handle the heavy cardstock paper that is needed for billing and each are laser printers. Lauren Whalen made a motion to purchase a new printer for up to \$1,000.00. Abby Flynn seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Abby Flynn-yes, Lauren Whalen-yes, Sarah Carters-yes, and Vickie Adkins-yes. The motion was carried.

Stefanie Ballinger from Benton & Associates updated the Board on the sidewalks and will be in contact soon with more information.

Mayor Turpin will contact Royell this week to let them know that the Village will renew their contract.

New Business:

Vickie Adkins made a motion to approve Slabjackers for sidewalk repairs. Lauren Whalen seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Lauren Whalen-yes, Sarah Carter-yes, Vickie Adkins-yes, and Abby Flynn-yes. The motion carried.

Ashley Turpin, clerk, handed out the Statements of Economic Interest for the trustees to complete in April. They are due at the beginning of May.

The attorney is working on the jake-braking ordinance with the county.

Vickie Adkins made a motion to keep closed minutes closed. Sarah Carter seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Sarah Carter-yes, Vickie Adkins-yes, Abby Flynn-yes, and Lauren Whalen-yes. The motion was carried.

The Board reviewed and approved the supplemental resolution with guest, Stefanie.

The trailer sales business in town is doing great and would like to rent part of the Villages' property to expand on space. The Board will vote on it next month.

Mayor Turpin reminded the Trustees that everyone may receive a letter from Constellation about their electric rates. Constellation rates are above Ameren rates currently.

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