

Village of Franklin
Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting Minutes
June 11, 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, June 11, 2024 in the town hall. Trustees present in Village Hall were Abby Flynn, Wyatt Smith, Lauren Whalen, and Vickie Adkins. Trustee Sarah Carter was absent.

Clerk, Ashley Turpin swore in new Village Trustee, Kendra Marcel.

Guest Darin Seymour was present to see if the Board had any questions regarding the fireworks agreement and events scheduled for the Fourth of July Celebration. The fireworks are on Dahman Road again. Darin asked if the Lions Club could block off the parking in front of the Methodist Church because of issues it causes during the parade. The Board agreed that was fine if the Methodist Church was okay with it. Darin said he would reach out to them.

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

Clerk Ashley Turpin presented the Trustees with minutes from May. Vickie Adkins made a motion to approve the minutes from May. Lauren Whalen seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Lauren Whalen-yes, Vickie Adkins-yes, Abby Flynn-yes, Kendra Marcel-present, and Wyatt Smith-yes. The motion was carried.

Committee Reports:

Andy Fairless provided the Utility Supervisor Report. He said the burned trailer property should be transferred and purchased on July 18th. Andy and Nick will cut the evergreens down that are blocking the sidewalks at the burned trailer property. Mayor Turpin said a local resident would like to plant wildflowers in the space. Andy and Nick fixed a culvert on Mills Street. The patch is in and they are working on putting it in, along with mowing. The ICC audit was a little over a week ago while Andy was out for a personal reason. Nick handled the audit and did a great job. If the report comes back with any errors, the Village has a year to fix it. There is a relief valve at the odorization building that will be put in tomorrow. It has been an issue for years and constantly blows off in cold weather causing a loss of gas. Andy would like to have an outdated computer with no data on it, that was going to be recycled. All the Trustees agreed it was fine for Andy to have it. Trustee, Vickie Adkins asked Andy about Dahman Road. Andy said they can patch it or dig it up and put in concrete like Lake Drive. He called for a second opinion from the County, but the contact was out of town.

Buildings, Roads, and Drainage – Mayor Turpin said there are several spots that have been patched over and over throughout the years, but it does not hold. It was suggested to tear out an area of Lake Drive and put in concrete. Andy and Nick did that, but they cannot get it evened out with the road. The spots on Dahman Road are smaller so it may work better. Wyatt Smith suggested reaching out to Joe Wood. Wyatt asked if milling it and laying new oil and chip would help. Mayor Turpin will have Andy talk with Joe Wood. He also mentioned the basketball court at the park needs re-sealed before next year.

Finance/Payroll – The Village needs to open a CD to move approximately \$50,000 to make sure the municipal account is below the threshold. Abby Flynn made a motion to move money from municipal to a CD. Lauren Whalen seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Vickie Adkins-yes, Kendra Marcel-yes, Abby Flynn-yes, Wyatt Smith-yes, and Lauren Whalen-yes. The motion as carried. The Village needs an additional Trustee to sign checks. Vickie Adkins said she would do so.

Insurance – Mayor Turpin sent the medical policy updates to the Trustees. We are currently paying \$4,800.00 per month. If the Village moved plans, it would increase to \$5,700.00 per month. An employee asked if their deductible was already met, and the Village changed plans, would it still be considered as met. All doctors would remain the same. The Trustees discussed the policies in length and will continue the discussion in July. In addition, the policy for our gas insurance has changed over the years. Mayor Turpin spoke with RMA and they suggested getting new bids in August before ours are due in December. The Village will hold a special meeting to allow representatives to come in a present their bids.

Personnel – Mayor Turpin suggested the Village Board consider training pay for Reitha while she trains Lincoln Hill. Reitha has never received training pay and has trained three people. Other Village employees have received training pay. Mayor Turpin estimates training to last 3-6 months. Trustee Abby Flynn asked if an hourly pay would be better. Lauren Whalen said she felt a weekly pay would be more appropriate. Lauren Whalen made a motion to pay Reitha an extra \$35.00 per week while she is training Lincoln Hill. Vickie Adkins seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Abby Flynn-yes, Wyatt Smith-yes, Lauren Whalen-yes, Vickie Adkins-yes, and Kendra Marcel-yes. The motion was carried.

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

Utilities – Mayor Turpin suggested looking to using a flat rate for the gas billing. He thought \$12.00 would be a sufficient start. Lauren Whalen asked if a notification would be posted to let residents know we are doing a trial run and will re-evaluate later. Mayor Turpin said an advantage to doing a flat rate is avoiding a loan in the future if the gas prices go up significantly again. By switching, the Village would look at making approximately \$4.00 per dekatherm in the summer. The Village has kept prices low for the last several years. Unfortunately, gas prices are rising again. Abby Flynn and Wyatt Smith asked Mayor Turpin if he could provide a breakdown of the last year with what it was and how it would look if the flat rate would have been applied. Mayor Turpin will provide the data at the next Board meeting. In addition, UCI sent a new contract to be approved for drug testing throughout the year. Our collection site is in Jacksonville. The admin fee is \$300.00, and an additional \$75.00 per urine test and \$40.00 per alcohol test. Wyatt Smith made a motion to accept the UCI drug testing annual fees. Abby Flynn seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Wyatt Smith-yes,

Lauren Whalen-yes, Vickie Adkins-yes, Kendra Marcel-yes, and Abby Flynn-yes. The motion was carried.

Old Business:

The court date for the burned property is July 18th. It will be \$750.00 to purchase.

There are a lot of cables still left on poles around town. We need to find someone else who can remove them. Ameren came to look at them, but has not contacted the Village again.

Stefanie from Benton & Associates said the location the Village was looking into a crossing on Highway 104 was not a good location. It comes too close to a curve and would likely cause an accident. If we added a sidewalk on the west side of the square from the school to the highway, it would likely be covered by grant funds. Stefanie and Mayor Turpin are looking into other locations that a crossing could be on Highway 104.

Mayor Turpin is waiting to hear back from the attorney regarding the jake braking.

Wyatt Smith will provide Mayor Turpin with the information regarding the time clock app he has used before.

New Business:

Mayor Turpin said someone reached out about a Jeep and side-by-side benefit ride in August. It starts at the American Legion in Waverly and they would like to stop at The Green Wall. Abby Flynn made a motion to allow side-by-sides to go to The Green Wall for the benefit in August. Lauren Whalen seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Lauren Whalen-yes, Vickie Adkins-yes, Kendra Marcel-yes, Abby Flynn-yes, and Wyatt Smith-yes. The motion was carried.

Mayor Turpin read through the list of activities for the 4th of July Celebration, provided by the Lions Club. Wyatt Smith made a motion to accept the Lions Club events on the Village property. Lauren Whalen seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Vickie Adkins-yes, Kendra Marcel-yes, Abby Flynn-yes, Wyatt Smith-yes, and Lauren Whalen-yes. The motion was carried.

The usual roads will be closed during the 4th of July Celebration. In addition, the parking spaces in front of the Methodist Church will also be blocked off. Abby Flynn made a motion to close the roads for the July 3rd and 4th. Vickie Adkins seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Abby Flynn-yes, Wyatt Smith-yes, Lauren Whalen-yes, Vickie Adkins-yes, and Kendra Marcel-yes. The motion was carried.

Each year the Lions Club reached out to the Village asking for a donation towards the fireworks. Lauren Whalen made a motion to make a \$500.00 donation to the Lions Club for fireworks. Abby Flynn seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Wyatt Smith-yes, Lauren Whalen-yes, Vickie Adkins-yes, Kendra Marcel-yes, and Abby Flynn-yes. The motion was carried.

Mayor Turpin read the resolution for alcohol in the park aloud. Abby Flynn made a resolution suspending prohibition of possession and consumption of alcoholic liquor in the

Village Park on July 3rd from 5 pm to midnight and July 4th from 12:01 am to 4 am. Vickie Adkins seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Lauren Whalen-yes, Vickie Adkins-yes, Kendra Marcel-yes, Abby Flynn-yes, and Wyatt Smith-yes. The motion was carried.

Abby Flynn made a motion to accept the agreement permitting fireworks in Franklin. Wyatt Smith seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Vickie Adkins-yes, Kendra Marcel-yes, Abby Flynn-yes, Wyatt Smith-yes, and Lauren Whalen-yes. The motion was carried.

A reminder that the July meeting is set for Monday, July 8th.

Mayor Turpin said a while back Rainbow Gutters provided bids for new gutters on the office, pavilion, shed, and bulk water building. The pricing was as follows: offices-\$684.00, pavilion-\$1,224.00, shed-\$2,790.00, and bulk water-\$1,794.00. Vickie Adkins suggested doing the office gutters first since the new roof was just put on. Mayor Turpin agreed and said he believes it would be good to space them out a little. The Trustees all agreed to start with the office and bulk water.

Wyatt Smith made a motion to adjourn. Vickie Adkins seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Kendra Marcel-yes, Abby Flynn-yes, Wyatt Smith-yes, Lauren Whalen-yes, and Vickie Adkins-yes. The meeting adjourned at 8:26 pm.