

Village of Franklin  
Board of Trustees  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
May 13, 2025  
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, May 13, 2025 in the town hall. Trustees present in Village Hall were Abby Flynn, Craig Miller, Sarah Carter, Vickie Adkins, and Kendra Marcel. Trustee Lauren Whalen was absent.

Daryl Smith and TJ Thompson from the Lions Club were present to ask the Village for access and permission to use the empty lot between the Red Wall and Green Wall as a sand volleyball court. They asked the Board if they would like to lease or sell the lot. Mayor Turpin and the Board suggested donating it to the Lions Club with the agreement that if they no longer wanted it, it would go back to the Village. Mayor Turpin will ask the lawyer to draw up paperwork. Daryl and TJ will present the offer to the club.

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

Clerk Ashley Turpin presented the meeting minutes from April to the Board of Trustees. Vickie Adkins made a motion to approve the minutes from April. Abby Flynn seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Abby Flynn-yes, Craig Miller-yes, Sarah Carter-yes, Vickie Adkins-yes, and Kendra Marcel-yes. The motion was carried.

### **Committee Reports:**

Andy Fairless provided the Utility Supervisor Report. Andy informed the Board that the Village has lost over two million gallons of water over the last two months. After calling in Rural Water to assist looking for a leak, two leaks were found and are fixed. Yesterday it read approximately 33,000 gallons which would be about average. The sink hole in town is repaired. Trustee Sarah Carter asked if there was a way to prevent these types of issues. Mayor Turpin said there is not unfortunately. It would cost millions to repair all the old pipes hooked up to the water system. Andy then told the Board that MCC came into town to help put the new 911 system in. They did not call Andy before coming into the Village to begin the work, as planned, so he could assist them. They called Andy around noon to tell him that they hit the sewer main, after they were finished boaring. They were not supposed to go more than two feet and they went 4 ½ feet. They argued that Andy never told them, however he has records that they spoke on the phone. Andy asked them to re-do it and follow the ordinance, but they do not feel they need to comply. He told them there were not allowed to come back into town and that their permit was revoked. Andy has an invoice for approximately \$4,700.00 to send to them. Mayor Turpin called the attorney to



inform him. Next, Andy said the septic tank near the Green Wall can be removed and the other man holes can be lowered a couple of inches so they do not get in the way of the sand volleyball court. Daryl mentioned that it could be a problem because they were going to dig 2 feet into the ground to build a pit for the sand. Daryl will discuss it with the Lion's Club. Andy said they had to borrow a shoring box from Waverly. Andy asked to purchase a digging lance for the vac trailer that would cost approximately \$1,072.72. Craig Miller made a motion to purchase the digging lance for the vac trailer for \$1,072.72 from Coe Equipment. The voting was as follows: Craig Miller-yes, Sarah Carter-yes, Vickie Adkins-yes, Kendra Marcel-yes, and Abby Flynn-yes. The motion was carried. The bid for the basketball court included cleaning, prepping, filling cracks, two coats of sealer, and painting the stripes again for \$2,125.00. Mayor Turpin asked Andy to confirm that it can be done for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. In addition, Mayor Turpin asked Andy to get the backboards up. Next, Andy told the Board the first time he borrowed Joe Wood's roller it broke, Andy took it to be repaired, but they did not repair it correctly. Therefore, it was fixed for a second time and was considered under warranty. The hose on the grappling broke. It was about \$500 for the hose. The roller was between \$2,000 and \$3,000. Andy said the two attachments the Village needs are a set of forks for \$1,150, used, and a broom sweep for the skid steer at \$6,950, new, and \$5,200 used. Mayor Turpin said we will not order this month, but Andy should revisit it with the Board in a couple of months. With the water leak issue the last two months, the accounts need some time to recover. Lastly, the backhoe thumb needs repaired. It needs a washer, but the washer cannot come separately. It is \$250, but the tariff fee right now is \$750. It is in-stock, but will take two months to arrive. This piece of equipment is something that Nick and Andy use during heavy trash pick-up. Andy is looking into other options.

Buildings, Roads, and Drainage – Sarah Carter made a motion to donate the vacant lot to the Lions Club, with the stipulation that if they do not need it any longer, it will be donated back to the Village. Kendra Marcel seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Sarah Carter-yes, Vickie Adkins-yes, Kendra Marcel-yes, Abby Flynn-yes, and Craig Miller-yes. The motion was carried. Mayor Turpin reached out to Jake Mahan regarding the paint peeling off the pavilion. He would power wash it, prime, and paint two coats back to the original colors for a total of \$8,875. It would be done by the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Abby Flynn made a motion to have the pavilion painted by Jake Mahan before the 4<sup>th</sup> of July for \$8,875. Craig Miller seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Vickie Adkins-yes, Kendra Marcel-yes, Abby Flynn-yes, Craig Miller-yes, and Sarah Carter-yes. The motion was carried.

Finance/Payroll – Mayor Turpin informed the Board the governor of Illinois got rid of the 1% sales tax, but will allow the municipalities to collect the 1% sales tax if they feel they need to. Mayor Turpin said the Village received \$71,000 from the sales tax last year. Mayor Turpin read the ordinance to the Board of Trustees. If the Board chooses to collect the 1% sales tax, it would go into effect in January 2026. The state is still collecting until December 2025. Abby Flynn made a motion to approve and implement an ordinance implementing a municipal grocery retailers' occupation tax and a municipal grocery service occupation tax. Kendra Marcel seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Kendra Marcel-yes, Abby Flynn-yes, Craig Miller-yes, Sarah Carter-yes, Vickie Adkins-yes, and Mayor Paul Turpin – yes. The motion was carried.

Insurance – Mayor Turpin provided some background information regarding the insurance policy that the Village employees have. When the employees chose to go with the policy, they knew it would prevent them from going outside of their network, even to specialists.



One of the employees insurance is \$920.64 this month and will be \$1,143.25 next month. If the Village moved to the PPO policy, it would be \$1,489.64. Making it a difference of over \$300 per month. Mayor Turpin and the Trustees discussed how costly the insurance policies were and that the Village pays a generous amount of each employee's insurance. The employee plans to drop the Village insurance next month, as well as drop the AFLAC coverage. The employee wants to return to work when able to, however signing up for FMLA.

Personnel – Trustee Vickie Adkins presented the job descriptions, goals, and performance ratings for utility supervisor and utility employee that she wrote. She will update them to reflect getting the Christmas lights up by the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. In addition, Vickie will add an area for the employees to write three goals on their review. Craig Miller made a motion to accept the Utility Supervisor and Utility Worker reviews and goals with the changes suggested being made. Sarah Carter seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Abby Flynn-yes, Craig Miller-yes, Sarah Carter-yes, Vickie Adkins-yes, and Kendra Marcel-yes. The motion was carried. Next, the Board reviewed the goals and description for the office secretary. Mayor Turpin said that the part-time help will not set goals. Vickie will add professional appearance and exemplary customer service to the description also. Susan Smith mentioned to Mayor Turpin that the part-time help does not receive holiday pay. They work every other day. Mayor Turpin said he would like the Board to decide. He does not think that they need it. Trustee Abby Flynn said she feels like they are helping the Village out and the office would be in a tight place without them. The utility workers are paid 8 full days and 2 half days for holiday pay. The Board suggested Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Years, and the 4<sup>th</sup> of July for the part-time help. Mayor Turpin will get the policy updated and present it at the next meeting.

Utility Reconnect – Vickie Adkins gave a summary on any shut-offs, no pays, and residents who moved.

Utilities – Mayor Turpin would like to help the water and gas accounts by moving the gas employee to municipal and the other utility employee to the sewer. It would be 4 months out of one business and 3 months out of the other. Abby Flynn made a motion to pay Andy out of municipal for 4 months and Nick out of sewer for 3 months beginning as soon as possible. Kendra Marcel seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Craig Miller-yes, Sarah Carter-yes, Vickie Adkins-yes, Kendra Marcel-yes, and Abby Flynn-yes.

### **Old Business:**

Abby Flynn made a motion to accept the re-seal of the basketball court for \$2,125 by MidWest Asphalt, if it can be done by the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Kendra Marcel seconded the vote. The voting was as follows: Sarah Carter-yes, Vickie Adkins-yes, Kendra Marcel-yes, Abby Flynn-yes, and Craig Miller-yes. The motion was carried.

Mayor Turpin said he is still waiting on a proposal and plan for the mural on the Village wall.

### **New Business:**

Abby Flynn suggested doing heavy trash pick-up in the fall. Vickie agreed and said September. Kendra said the weekend after Labor Day would be nice to give residents time to clean out some things for heavy trash pick-up over the long weekend. The Board will re-discuss it in August.



Mayor Turpin said the Village has not needed summer help in a long time. The only way he foresees a need for it, would be if MCC came in and Nick and Andy had to help them. If that happens, we can re-discuss it at that time.

The South County Ball Club asked the Village to renew their sign. Abby Flynn made a motion to approve a 2x3 metal sign for the South County Ball Club for \$100. Sarah Carter seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Vickie Adkins-yes, Kendra Marcel-yes, Abby Flynn-yes, Craig Miller-yes, and Sarah Carter-yes. The motion was carried.

Mayor Turpin told the Board that Ed McKinnon from Ed's Parts requested a new back door for his shop because the current door leaks water in. It would be approximately \$800. He also asked if the Village would allow him to put an additional trailer behind the shop. All Trustees agree he can add an additional trailer behind his current one.

Abby Flynn presented the banner displays to the Board. She will call to get quotes on the ones the Trustees picked out. She will also get measurements from Andy to see if the same size can be ordered to save money on brackets. Kendra Marcel will get more information on the Christmas lights and their prices.

George Hamilton from the Green Wall called Mayor Turpin recently. He is struggling to find workers, however is in the process of interviewing people and training new employees. He said the menu selections may be basic for a while. He asked the Board and the Village residents to be gracious and give them some forgiveness while they work through the difficult situation.

Craig Miller made a motion to adjourn. Sarah Carter seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Kendra Marcel-yes, Abby Flynn-yes, Craig Miller-yes, Sarah Carter-yes, and Vickie Adkins-yes. The meeting adjourned at 8:43 pm.