

Village of Franklin  
Board of Trustees  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
July 15, 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, July 15, 2025 in the town hall. Trustees present in Village Hall were Abby Flynn, Craig Miller, Lauren Whalen, Vickie Adkins, and Kendra Marcel.

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

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

**Committee Reports:**

Andy Fairless provided the Utility Supervisor Report. As Andy reported last month, MCC hit the sewer force main in May. Andy sent an invoice to MCC for the cost of the damages, and two weeks later sent a corrected invoice. Andy waited a month to hear back and heard nothing. He reached out to Terry Miller who said she passed the invoice along, but referred Andy to speak with someone else. The next person of contact said they had not seen the invoice. He was then referred on to Brandon who said he needed to see evidence of the Julie ticket, pictures of the damage, etc. Andy informed him that MCC called in the Julie and that was not his responsibility, but he does have pictures. Andy then reached out to the bond company and Paul met the Village attorney. Andy read the bond, verbatim, to the Trustees. The one step the Village did not complete according to the bond was to send MCC a notice of default with the date. Therefore, the Village attorney is writing the notice and it will be sent this week. Once that is completed, the bond company will call MCC and tell them it is in their best interest to pay. If they refuse, the bond money will be paid to the Village and they will no longer be permitted to come into Franklin for anything, ever again. It would most likely affect their bonds for future projects also. Next, Andy reported that an FS tractor sprayer hit one of the spray heads in the field at the sewer plant that is leased out for farming. Andy reached out to FS, but does not believe it is anything that needs immediate attention. He will wait until the beans are harvested before getting in there to look at it and then he will reach back out to FS to update them. Next, the water line on Gordon Road will cost \$36,283.52 for the boring, engineering, and fittings. Andy said the buyer is waiting on the appraisal to come back on the house he is purchasing and then he will reach out to Andy. There are possibly two other residents in the area who would like to tap into the Village water as well. Andy suggested they discuss

splitting the cost. To move the gas line on the Village lot for the Lions Club to put in the sand volleyball courts, it is going to cost about \$900. The Village is looking at \$326 out of pocket to rent the trencher. The remainder of the supplies are in stock at the Village, however, will need replenished at some point. There will also be some lawyer fees included to get an easement to go across Shannon White's property and to have an agreement drawn up stating that the Lion's Club will donate the property back to the Village if they no longer want it. Andy then reported on the water tower. It was inspected a few years ago which is when they found some paint debris sitting at the bottom of the tank. They suggested the Village drain the tower, clean it and repaint it. It was estimated to cost approximately \$42,000. However, MaGuire Iron, Inc. reached out to Andy and offered to look at the tank. They believe the paint chips are from when the water tower was drained initially for inspection. The top layer of paint is held on by the pressure from the water and when the tank drains, it is common for it to chip off. He said the layer of paint that is a coat of zinc looks good and is turning green as it is expected to. He suggests draining the tank, power washing it, and cleaning the debris out. There are a few dark spots that could be rust. If not, the Village should be able to leave it as is for another 5 to 7 years. It would be \$2,500 for a half day. He does not believe it will take longer, but if needed it is \$675 per hour for anything over a half day, and an additional \$5,500 per day following the first day. He believes the Village does not need to continue with the current yearly maintenance plan. MaGuire's believes their yearly protection plan would help with yearly maintenance and allows the yearly balance to go towards larger, more costly projects in the future. They would build a plan based off the inspection. Andy believes it would be beneficial and would help protect the Village's assets. Royell came to the Village to fix a camera and do maintenance on the others. In the park, they bored in a new main and replaced a hard drive. The beeping is no longer an issue. Andy also informed the Board that the resident who lives in the alleyway near the camera has been doing burnouts and driving at a high speed down the alleyway behind the residents on Wyatt Street. Andy is hoping the issue is resolved as he has not been doing it as much lately. Andy also said Bill Wallbaum reached out regarding the bollards that Franklin CUSD1 wants to install. The bollards would be installed on the inside of the fence, right next to the fence. The fence is on the Village property. The Village gave the school permission several years ago to install it. Andy said the school maintains it and does a great job. He does not see a concern with putting the bollards inside the fence, on Village property. Andy said the safety of the kids is of highest priority. Mr. Jeff Waggener, superintendent of schools, is waiting on a bid for the bollards and then will be in touch with Mayor Turpin about the cost. Trustee Abby Flynn asked Andy for an update regarding the equipment the Village obtained for the school. Andy said some of it was blown over and twisted from a storm recently. He is hoping it is still good, but needs to inspect it. Before they can install the equipment, the old water tower pit needs to be torn out which will be a big project. With the water leak, they have not had a chance to do so. Once the pit is out, they'll call someone in to set the poles and then Andy and Nick can do the remainder of the work.

Buildings, Roads, and Drainage –Mayor Turpin said Jake Mahan will match the tan color that is already on the side of 114 Main to give it a base coat, in hopes that the Village will get someone to do the mural still.

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

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

Personnel – Mayor Turpin received an update regarding the Village employee. She has a diagnosis and applied for disability. She and the Village are still waiting on confirmation for her disability.

Utility Reconnect – Trustee Vickie Adkins provided an update regarding the Utility Reconnect for the Board. In short, there are currently 47 residents with a past due amount, totaling in \$8,104. With the late fees accrued, it totals over \$11,000. Vickie stated the highest and lowest amounts owed. One account has not been paid since November 2024. Andy said some residents will go without water for a month or longer. Vickie added that some move out of town and refuse to pay the remainder. It is an ongoing concern with property owners and their tenants. Vickie said most of the residents on the list pay the minimum needed and carry over a balance each month, never fully paying off their balance. Vickie's suggestion is for the Board to consider shutting off the resident's gas utility when water is shut off. Mayor Turpin explained that cannot be done in the winter months, but it can during the warmer months. Andy and Vickie also suggested the Board consider a sliding scale for utility reconnects. The first time in a 12-month period that a resident has their water turned off, it could be \$75. The second time in a 12-month period, it could increase to \$100 and so on. It would restart at the beginning of the year again. Andy also asked the Trustees if anyone cared if he took over the shut-off reports. It would help eliminate Brenda and Barbie's work and he already must approve them and do the labor. No one had a complaint. All agreed, as of August 1<sup>st</sup>, the customer shall not exceed \$300 in past due amounts during the warmer months and \$450 during the colder months when gas is used. In summary, the payment plan will be \$300.00 for everyone.

Utilities – Craig Miller made a motion to accept the cleaning cost for MaGuire Iron, Inc. for \$2,500, including power-washing and cleaning up the debris, with an additional \$5,500 for added days and \$675 per hour after the first half day. Lauren Whalen seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Lauren Whalen-yes, Vickie Adkins-yes, Kendra Marcel-yes, Abby Flynn-yes and Craig Miller-yes. The motion was carried. Next, Mayor Turpin presented a packet of information regarding the prepay gas system. He read through the presentation with the Trustees explaining briefly how it works and what the benefits or disadvantages would be. He is going to have Heather from IMGGA come in to explain it in more depth and answer any questions the Trustees may have.

### **Old Business:**

Trustee Abby Flynn said Display Sales still has the banners that the Village originally purchased. Abby will purchase 2 brackets and 4 flags. She will contact the representative to get the costs.

Mayor Turpin has not heard back from Pam Wall or Walldog.org. He will reach out to Walldogs again.

### **New Business:**

Mayor Turpin read through the ordinance regarding the 10-minute parking in front of the Post Office to the alleyway by the Legion. It will be finalized and approved at the next meeting.

Andy and Nick will move the no parking signs on West Street closer to the road. They are closer to the sidewalk and some blocked by utility poles. No one paid attention to them during the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Next year, they will also rope off the area next year.

As stated earlier, Mr. Waggener is waiting on a bid for 58 bollards. He will be in touch with Mayor Turpin when he receives it. Andy does not see a problem with the school putting bollards on the Village property to ensure the safety of the kids. Lauren Whalen made a motion to let CUSD1 install bollards on the Village property behind the fence that is also on the Village property, on Wyatt Street. Kendra Marcel seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Craig Miller-yes, Lauren Whalen-yes, Vickie Adkins-yes, Kendra Marcel-yes and Abby Flynn-yes. The motion was carried.

Mayor Turpin added that he received the amendment for the capitalization policy from the attorney, but it was too late to add it to the agenda. It will be discussed further at the August meeting. It will be amended for \$10,000.

Lastly, in discussing all the utilities this evening, Mayor Turpin said the office secretaries reached out to a resident regarding a late payment and found she had actually paid already. This brought to Mayor Turpin's attention that the credit card number was put in incorrectly. Therefore, he is adding another line to the Excel spreadsheet for the secretaries to make sure they match up during their verification process. This should help eliminate that issue.

Kendra Marcel made a motion to adjourn. Craig Miller seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Vickie Adkins-yes, Kendra Marcel-yes, Abby Flynn-yes, Craig Miller-yes and Lauren Whalen-yes. The meeting adjourned at 8:31 pm.