

Village of Franklin
Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting Minutes

January 5, 2021

7:00 pm

Mayor Paul Turpin called the regular monthly meeting of the Village of Franklin Board of Trustees to order at 7:02 pm on Tuesday, January 5, 2021 in the town hall. Trustees present in Village Hall were Abby Flynn, Wyatt Smith, Tami Thompson, Nicole Fromme and Amanda Ahlers.

Treasurer Susan Smith presented the Treasurer's Report for December. Tami Thompson made a motion to accept the Treasurers Report for December. Amanda Ahlers seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Abby Flynn-yes, Wyatt Smith-yes, Tami Thompson-yes, Nicole Fromme-yes, and Amanda Ahlers-yes. The motion was carried. Amanda Ahlers made a motion to accept the Bills Paid and to be Paid. Abby Flynn seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Wyatt Smith-yes, Tami Thompson-yes, Nicole Fromme-yes, Amanda Ahlers-yes, and Abby Flynn-yes. The motion was carried.

Clerk Ashley Turpin presented the trustees with minutes from December. Tami Thompson made a motion to approve the minutes from December. Nicole Fromme seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Tami Thompson-yes, Nicole Fromme-yes, Amanda Ahlers-yes, Abby Flynn-yes, and Wyatt Smith-yes. The motion was carried.

Andy Fairless presented his utility supervisor report. Andy attended court yesterday for the four-wheeler violations. The first offender pled guilty and has until March 1st to pay the fine. He was ordered a cease and desist. The second offender pled not guilty. He will attend trial on March 1st. Andy also met with a resident to show them what needed to be cleaned up on their property before the March 1st court date and further action is pursued. The maintenance building received a couple bids for insulation. Andy presented both of those quotes to the board. The board asked him to get more details regarding one of the quotes and then they would make a decision. He said he is not getting a response from any of the electricians that came for bids. All of the Christmas lights are down around town except a few in the corner of the park. They will be taken down soon and all replacement bulbs have already been ordered. The water tower is having issues with the relay used for automatic tank filling. The Village workers are continually going to the tower to open and close the bypass valve. Richards came out and found the bad cell on the relay unit due to corrosion causing it to short out. Lastly, Andy said Mr. Werries did not respond to Mr. Beard in 30 days regarding the default judgement. Therefore the Village has a court order and the board can vote to shut the electricity off with Ameren. After that Mr. Werries has two weeks to get anything out that he wants to keep. As of January 21st the demolition can begin.

Buildings, Roads, and Drainage - There is nothing to report at this time. Mayor Turpin asked Abby Flynn if she'd drive around the village next month to make a list of roads that need work.

Finance/Payroll - There is nothing to report at this time.

Insurance - There is nothing to report at this time.

Personnel - There is nothing to report at this time.

Utility Reconnect - There are two people who were shut off and called to set up a payment plan or plan to come in to make a payment. In total there are nine shut offs. Mayor Turpin said as of last week he found three people owed \$2400. Nicole Fromme asked about the plan set in place to let the board know and take action on people who are behind in payments. Mayor Turpin said he was going to check into things and make sure everyone knew the protocol.

Utilities - There is nothing to report at this time.

Abandoned property legal action was presented in Andy Fairless' Utility Supervisor Report. Mayor Turpin presented a letter that will allow the board to shut off the electricity and he read it aloud. Abby Flynn made a motion to move forward with the Werries property destruction and to turn off the electricity. Wyatt Smith seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Nicole Fromme-yes, Amanda Ahlers-yes, Abby Flynn-yes, Wyatt Smith-yes, and Tami Thompson-yes. The motion was carried. Wyatt Smith added that a local resident complained on Facebook about the burned property on Highway 104. The resident did not reach out to board members. Mayor Turpin said as of now, someone has interest in purchasing the property for owed back taxes. Those don't usually come up for purchase until August though. It costs the village a lot of money to move forward with the legal process in order to demolish a property. The village believed someone might purchase that property for back taxes.

There is nothing new to report on the Panhandle Municipal Defense update.

Andy Fairless will get clarification on one of the bids and report back to the board.

The Christmas Light Contest winners are Jason and Emily Fuchs for first place. Rick Smith in second place and Gail Courtney in third.

The Village will remain closed until further notice. Customers should continue to call ahead if they need anything.

Wyatt Smith made a motion to appoint Lauren Anders to the village board as a trustee. Amanda Ahlers seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Amanda Ahlers-yes, Abby Flynn-yes, Wyatt Smith-yes, Tami Thompson-yes, and Nicole Fromme-yes. The motion was carried.

Clerk, Ashley Turpin handed out the Statements of Economic Interest for board members to complete.

Tami Thompson made a motion to renew the contract with Wade & Dowland. Amanda Ahlers seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Abby Flynn-yes, Wyatt Smith-yes, Tami Thompson-yes, Nicole Fromme-yes, and Amanda Ahlers-yes. The motion was carried.

Benton & Associates was out of the office recently and the village has not received the IDOT MFT Expenditures for approval. It will be moved to next month.

Wesley Kohler sent an email to the village board asking for their consideration in a new server for hosting the village webpage. The current one is outdated and not very compatible with today's demands for a webpage. The wix.com server costs \$168 per year and has the option of paying more to save money over time. Tami Thompson made a motion to approve the wix.com as the host for the village as suggested by Wesley Kohler. Amanda Ahlers seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Wyatt Smith-yes, Tami Thompson-yes, Nicole Fromme-yes, Amanda Ahlers-yes, and Abby Flynn-yes. The motion was carried.

Wyatt Smith made a motion to adjourn. Amanda Ahlers seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Tami Thompson-yes, Nicole Fromme-yes, Amanda Ahlers-yes, Abby Flynn-yes, and Wyatt Smith-yes. The meeting adjourned at 8:06 pm.