

REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING  
VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN GROVE  
LEE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

AUGUST 17, 2020 MINUTES APPROVED SEPTEMBER 14, 2020

On August 17, 2020 the Regular meeting of the Village of Franklin Grove, held at the Village Hall, 105 E. South Street, Franklin Grove, Lee County, Illinois, was called to order by President David Atkinson at 7:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Trustees Karmen Sage, Nick Sprague, Scott Spangler, Shantel Schafer, Michael Crofton, President David Atkinson and Clerk Stephanie Sprague

**Absent:** Trustee Shaun Thompson and Attorney Considine

**MINUTES**

**Motion** made by N. Sprague, seconded by M. Crofton to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 13, 2020. Passed: 5/0

**RECOGNITION OF VISITORS**

None

**VILLAGE CLERK'S REPORT**

**Motion** made by N. Sprague, seconded by K. Sage to pay bills and make necessary transfers. Passed: 5/0

**Motion** made by N. Sprague, seconded by S. Spangler to approve the final appropriation ordinance reading. Passed: 5/0

**POLICE REPORT**

Miles on the police car – 410  
Complaints/Calls for Service – 13  
Traffic Stops – 3  
Traffic Warnings – 3  
Ordinance Warning – 2  
Motorist Assist – 2  
House Check – 1  
Assist other Agency – 2  
Investigation – 1

**LEGAL ISSUES**  
**(Attorney Considine)**

None

## **GENERAL ISSUES**

**Motion** made by N. Sprague, seconded by S. Spangler to pass the Lee County Hazard Mitigation Committee Resolution. Passed: 5/0

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **STREETS & ALLEYS**

(N. Sprague Chairman)

The village employees did a great job cleaning up after the recent storm that came through. All the tree storm clean up has been completed.

### **WATER & SEWER**

(M. Crofton Chairman)

Trustee Crofton advised cost to replace broken water line will be around \$300,000. He has to get back with IML and will get with Fehr Graham to see about a grant.

## **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

(S. Schafer Chairman)

Trustee Schafer informed the board she discussed the library situation with WIPFLI, auditor stated there is only one other town that she is aware of which the library is with the village. Auditor understands where the village is coming from and in order for them to separate, they would need their own tax ID. Marilyn stated they would have to become a library district before getting a new tax ID. Trustee Spangler stated it may be hard to get the library on board as the director did not want to separate. There are new library board members so maybe they would be on board. President Atkinson stated besides the money effects of having the library as part of the village, it also effects us being able to offer our employees IMRF. Trustee Schafer stated the auditor stated there is potential for money laundering, not that there is anything suspicious, but the potential is there so it could benefit the village and the library if they were their own district. Trustee Schafer asked if she could get back in contact with Attorney Considine and President Atkinson stated to go ahead.

Trustee Schafer stated the village clerk/treasurer being the same person might be more of a problem. President Atkinson stated it is not, he has already ran it up the pole and there is not a problem with the clerk/treasurer being one in the same. Trustee Schafer stated she looked at a bunch of towns about our size and they don't seem to have the same person doing both positions. President Atkinson said there are a lot of villages that one person shares the responsibility. There are lots of checks and balances, two signatures required and the clerk is not one of them. President Atkinson stated he spoke with the auditors in the past and they indicated it is not uncommon for a community our size.

BJ accepted the ISDA responsibility.

Marilyn asked if the village would be interested in office chairs from the library. The board said they would be interested.

**PROPERTIES**  
(K. Sage Chairman)

Clerk Sprague advised she spoke with Rich Bartlett regarding the park sidewalk light bid and he said when he left the poles would be in, everything would be done except the actual connecting the power to the pole and connecting the power to the panel box.

**Motion** made by S. Spangler, seconded by N. Sprague to accept the bid from RMB Services Inc for \$4,600 (\$4,300 for 2<sup>nd</sup> option of directional bore plus \$300 for additional conduit). Passed: 5/0

Trustee Schafer mentioned there were wasp nests on the equipment. Ron Miller said he would take care of them.

**FINANCE AND INSURANCE COMMITTEE**  
(S. Thompson Chairman)

None

**TOURISM**  
(S. Spangler Chairman)

Trustee Spangler informed the board the Historical Society is down to a few people, need next generation involvement or Chaplain Creek will be no more. They need funding, the old money has dried up and they are trying to come up with ways to earn money for upkeep. Scott suggested an Air B&B out there and they are mulling it over.

Trustee Spangler stated the new tourism page is up and running at franklingrove.org. The tourism page looks great, Scott is trying to get a place for people to be able to share their beautiful sunset pictures, etc. Trustee Schafer suggested adding some old pictures as well.

Trustee Spangler said the car show is raising money for new restrooms at the park. He talked to someone that recommended adding on to the Women's Club Shelter, one handicap accessible restroom with baby changing station, urinal and handicap accessible toilet, we could pipe into the existing plumbing and possible heating.

**HISTORIC PRESERVATION/EARLY WARNING**  
(S. Spangler Chairman)

None

Trustee Spangler stated we should consider adding something to the effect of we can burn in the event of an emergency with Street & Alley chairman/Mayor approval. President Atkinson asked why not just chip it. Scott stated we in the event we ever get hammered like some other towns did, it would be too much to chip. Trustee Crofton stated in that case the state would come in with a big tub grinder. Trustee Sprague suggested a piece of land out side of town. Trustee Spangler stated in a small town you expect to see people helping out, it would be nice if there was somewhere, they could help. Trustee Schafer stated it could be a problem if there was a big fire, we would be liable.

Ron Miller stated he is trying to get a hold of someone to get rid of chips. President Atkinson stated he didn't believe the landfill would charge. Trustee Sprague suggested Timber would probably take them. President Atkinson suggested maybe a Sunday to get a couple big trucks on it.

President Atkinson advised he talked to Duane Harvey and Chad Murphy regarding the Middle School property and they are working on the agreement. Dave told them the sooner the better so we can get working on separating the water line, if worse comes to worse they can water football field with fire hydrant, Marilyn Spangler reminded him the concession stand would still need water.

**Motion** made by K. Sage, seconded by N. Sprague to go into Executive Session at 8:08 p.m. to discuss Personnel Matters in accordance with 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1). Passed: 5/0

**Motion** made by N. Sprague, seconded by K. Sage to come out of Executive Session at 8:32 p.m. Passed: 5/0

**Motion** made by S. Schafer, seconded by M. Crofton to pay 2 weeks of normal salary to Larry June's benefit. Passed: 5/0

As no further business was brought before the board, a **motion** to adjourn was made by N. Sprague, seconded by K. Sage and carried by unanimous vote at 8:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie M. Sprague  
Village Clerk