

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

JANUARY 11, 2021 MINUTES APPROVED FEBRUARY 8, 2021

On January 11, 2021 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 Shaun Thompson, Karmen Sage, Nick Sprague, Scott Spangler, Shantel Schafer, Michael Crofton, Attorney Considine, President David Atkinson and Clerk Stephanie Sprague

Absent: none

MINUTES

Motion made by S. Thompson, seconded by K. Sage to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 14, 2020. Passed: 6/0

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Lori Cortez, Chris Pilling and Marlene Hilliker informed the board about Sauk Valley Community College promise program, SVCC Impact Program, which AFC may be a pilot school for. Students are able to earn all tuition and fees at SVCC by enrolling in the program, completing 25 hours of volunteer work each year of high school, apply for at least one scholarship and complete FAFSA. They asked that we spread the word about this wonderful program to area business', organizations and philanthropists that would be willing to donate to their fundraising abilities. They can be reached at 815-288-5511 or www.svcc.edu.

VILLAGE CLERK'S REPORT

Motion made by N. Sprague, seconded by S. Thompson to pay bills and make necessary transfers. Passed: 6/0

Clerk Sprague said it was brought to her attention not all board members have keys to village hall and asked who needed a key. Trustees Schafer and Sage stated they needed keys. Clerk Sprague asked Dan Hoffman to please have two keys to village hall made when he or Ron Miller went to Ace Hardware.

POLICE REPORT
(Chief Harney)

Miles on the police car – 477
Complaints/Calls for Service – 16
Traffic Stops – 4
Traffic Arrests – 2
Traffic Warnings – 5
Ordinance Warnings – 1

Motorist Assists – 3
Assist other Agency – 1

Trustee Schafer asked if Chief Harney could inform the board what the two arrests were for. Chief Harney stated they were for speeding and driving with no license. Trustee Spangler stated he sees people blow stop signs all the time and asked Chief Harney if he could sit back a bit from the intersections of Lahmen/State and Lahmen/Elm.

Trustee Schafer stated the speeding on her road (Hughes) is bad and she feels the speed signs are only as good as the enforcement, she feels the chief is too nice and would like to see more tickets and enforcement of speeders.

Trustee Schafer asked if there is anything to report on the house at the corner of Lahmen/State. Chief Harney stated he called the new company that is going to manage the property so we will see this spring if the issues remain.

LEGAL ISSUES (Attorney Considine)

Trustee Schafer informed Attorney Considine the library does have their own tax ID and asked if there were any updates. Attorney Considine stated she sent an email to Mayor Atkinson on October 6th laying out the actions that would be required for the library to separate from the village. Trustee Schafer will send Attorney Considine the board members email addresses and asked the October 6th email be forwarded to her. Marilyn Spangler asked if the library should have received a copy of the email. Attorney Considine stated it was just an outline of the process, the auditor should be asked about the pros and cons of separating.

GENERAL ISSUES

Motion made by N. Sprague, seconded by K. Sage to appoint Amanda Lanning and Justin Munroe to the zoning board. Passed: 6/0

Motion made by S. Spangler, seconded by N. Sprague to select 36-month AEP Energy Electricity Supply Agreement for public works accounts. Passed: 6/0

Motion made by S. Spangler, seconded by S. Thompson to select 38-month Constellation Electricity Supply Agreement for street lighting account. Passed: 6/0

Trustee Schafer asked about the status of the water line for the athletic field at the old middle school. President Atkinson stated the school is taking care of it.

Trustee Schafer asked about the village using their Local CURE act money to donate items to the county. President Atkinson advised he spoke to John Nicholson and he said the county is looking good.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

STREETS & ALLEYS (N. Sprague Chairman)

Trustees Schafer and Crofton asked about the bank using the sidewalk assistance program. They would need to fill out a sidewalk assistance application just like everyone else. Trustee Crofton stated they wanted to do it the same time as the fire station work was being done and they were told no. President Atkinson stated that is not the case.

WATER & SEWER
(M. Crofton Chairman)

Trustee Crofton advised there may be a tear in the sand filters, sound like it may not be a tear. He also advised the wet well by Logan's was shut down and everything went to overflow. The panel is locked now.

Marilyn Spangler stated there is a near by house that has a water leak, the tree that was on top of the shut off has been removed and asked what the village is waiting on. This is the homeowner's responsibility, not the village. Marilyn stated it is causing a problem for McMillians, their sump pump is running continuously even when there is no rain. The village will make sure something is being done.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
(S. Schafer Chairman)

Trustee Schafer stated community development is difficult during covid. Need the community to be tidier and more appealing. She stated ordinances are not being upheld and she would like to have a committee of a couple people to identify issues and loop Chief Harney in on the issues. Mike Crofton will be added to the community development committee.

Other changes to the committee assignment sheet include updating EDSA director to B.J. Harney under Police & Public Safety committee, remove Frank Cahill from Historic Preservation Commisison, remove Gellert's from Neighborhood Watch committee. Trustee Schafer recommended inspections on rental properties before new tenants move in. President Atkinson stated to start with identifying ordinance violations and work with BJ or himself .

Trustee Sage stated Rooney's Bar is making progress.

PROPERTIES
(K. Sage Chairman)

Trustee Schafer asked if the tennis courts are being turned into a parking lot, will the basketball hoops be going. Marilyn Spangler stated no, the fence north of the tennis courts will remain up along with the basketball hoops.

Trustee Sage informed the board of an estimate for the light connections a the park from Kibble & Sons came in at \$685.40. Trustee Spangler informed the board they found that it is currently not ground and this estimate includes grounding. President Atkinson stated it's a go, have the work completed.

FINANCE AND INSURANCE COMMITTEE
(S. Thompson Chairman)

None

TOURISM
(S. Spangler Chairman)

Trustee Spangler informed the board the car show is a go for this year. The new banners should be in this week.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION/EARLY WARNING
(S. Spangler Chairman)

None

As no further business was brought before the board, a **motion** to adjourn was made by M. Crofton, seconded by N. Sprague and carried by unanimous vote at 8:53 p.m. respectfully submitted,

Stephanie M. Sprague
Village Clerk