

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

MARCH 14, 2022 MINUTES APPROVED APRIL 11, 2022

On March 14, 2022 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, Kydreel Green, Paul Erisman, Shantel Schafer, Mike Crofton, Attorney Considine, President Atkinson and Clerk Stephanie Sprague

Absent: Trustee Sprague

MINUTES

Motion made by M. Crofton, seconded by S. Thompson to approve the meeting minutes of February 14, 2022. Passed: 5/0

VISITORS

*Note: Trustee Nick Sprague arrived at 7:06pm.

Kate Gross addressed the board to ask what steps can be taken to change the ordinance to allow chickens within village limits. President Atkinson advised the place to start is to start a petition.

Kate also shared her concern with the amount of junk accumulating at the old Pfoutz warehouse building. President Atkinson stated he spoke with the new owner and it does sound like he has good intentions with the property and has agreed to get it cleaned up.

VILLAGE CLERK'S REPORT

Motion made by S. Thompson, seconded by S. Schafer to pay bills. Passed: 6/0

POLICE REPORT
(Chief Harney)

Complaints/Calls for Service – 8
Traffic Stops – 4
Traffic Warnings – 5
Ordinance Warnings – 3
House Checks – 2
Assist other Agency – 3

LEGAL ISSUES
(Attorney Considine)

Attorney Considine advised the board of two ordinance violations that have been served. One has been paid in full (Koenig) and the other has an arrest warrant (Wetch). Chief Harney asked if there has been any progress on the Bruce Currier property and Attorney Considine advised she passed the contact info on.

GENERAL ISSUES

Town wide clean up day will be April 30th from 8:00 am to Noon. Trustee Thompson will get 3 dumpsters ordered.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

STREETS & ALLEYS

(N. Sprague Chairman)

Trustee Sprague advised the board the bid letting came in around \$12,000 higher than the engineer projected.

Motion made by M. Crofton, seconded by N. Sprague to accept the patching and seal coat bids from Helm Civil. Passed: 6/0

WATER & SEWER

(M. Crofton Chairman)

Trustee Crofton informed the board Dan is working on the drying beds, changing the sand.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

(S. Schafer Chairman)

Trustee Schafer stated John Nicholson asked her to follow up with the properties he previously brought up to the board to get an update:

- Cowboy Steve's old property is currently being worked on
- President Atkinson spoke to the new owner of the old Pfoutz warehouse
- Trustee Erisman stated they are moving stuff out of Bob Schwarz property
- President Atkinson will talk to Bob Logan

Trustee Schafer informed the board she has been looking into plats for the village beautification project for stop signs. She is looking into Tiger Lilys or something along those lines that maintains itself. She received a quote from Merlins for \$1,000 for soil and plants.

Motion made by M. Crofton, seconded by K. Green to spend \$1,000 on the stop sign beautification project. Passed: 6/0

Trustee Schafer inquired about LED lights for stop signs/speed limit signs. President Atkinson thought they would be too much of a nuisance for the residents that live by the signs.

Trustee Schafer asked about getting new trash can lids or having kids/art class paint our existing lids. President Atkinson recommended she look into getting new ones.

Trustee Schafer asked if we could keep spare flags on hand rather than flying tattered flags.

Trustee Schafer asked about getting the armed forces flags we purchased put up at Flat Iron Park. President Atkinson told her to get with the employees to have them put up. Trustee Schafer stated there is lack of volunteers for the Harvest Fest, the Harvest Fest is part of the Historical Society and various groups will be responsible for their activities. Trustee Schafer asked about the possibility of getting the weight room open for something geared towards teens. President Atkinson was concerned with the liability with the free weights.

PROPERTIES

(P. Erisman Chairman)

Trustee Erisman stated the new street light bulbs are in and waiting for warmer weather to be installed.

Village employees had an estimate for a plow for \$11,000. President Atkinson asked Trustee Erisman to look at more option.

Trustee Erisman got a new door for the well house and the guys will install. He will also be looking to get a window put in to the clerk's office where the old air conditioner unit was removed.

FINANCE AND INSURANCE COMMITTEE

(S. Thompson Chairman)

Trustee Thompson stated he will order three dumpsters for the village clean up day. He stated the alleys need drug.

TOURISM

(K. Green Chairman)

Trustee Green informed the board a back-up generator for village hall and warning siren would be \$11,000 (which is less than battery back-up).

Motion made by P. Erisman, seconded by S. Thompson to approve for \$11,000 ARPA funds be used to purchase back-up generator for village hall and warning siren. Passed: 6/0

HISTORIC PRESERVATION/EARLY WARNING

None

Marilyn Spangler asked who to talk to about burning the grass at the property we acquired from Friends of the Prairie. President Atkinson stated he will approach the fire department.

Marilyn stated the Easter Egg Hunt will be Saturday April 6th at the football field, if bad weather it will be at the elementary school gym.

Marilyn informed the board the care show will be Saturday May 7th from 8-3 and she will give barricade locations to the employees.

Marilyn asked about the threshold at the women's club shelter. Trustee Erisman stated it has been ordered.

Marilyn informed the board the Harvest Fest events are the Big Rig show and Chaplain event will be Aug 6, Park Board movie night Friday Aug 5th, Saturday Duck Derby, Rooney's will be having outdoor bands two weekends, Rummage Sales all weekend. Trustee Erisman stated they are looking into possibly doing tractor rides.

As no further business was brought before the board, a **motion** to adjourn was made by M. Crofton, seconded by P. Erisman and carried by unanimous vote at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie M. Sprague
Village Clerk