

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

NOVEMBER 10, 2025 MINUTES APPROVED OCTOBER 13, 2025

On November 10, 2025 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 Eric Grendahl at 7:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Trustees Scott Spangler, John Nicolson, Susan Murphy, Kristy Murphy, Heather Grove, Mark Delhotal, President Eric Grendahl, Attorney Considine, and Clerk Jessica Ford.

Absent: None

MINUTES

Motion made by J. Nicholson, seconded by H. Grove to approve the Minutes of the Regular and Executive Meetings of October 13, 2025. Passed: 6/0

NEW BUSINESS

RECOGNITION OF VISITOR'S

Marilyn Spangler presented flyers and information for May 15-17th, 2026. There will be a WW2 reenactment for the 250th national anniversary at Chaplain Creek. Stated that this could be our biggest even to date, and was told that we have the largest site in Illinois for an event like this. Inviting school children to attend event. More information to come.

VILLAGE CLERK'S REPORT

NONE

BILLS & LATE BILLS

Motion made by S. Murphy, seconded by M. Delhotal to pay bills, late bills and make necessary transfers, including bills brought forward by Clerk Ford. Passed: 6/0

POLICE REPORT

None.

LEGAL ISSUES
(Attorney D. Considine)

None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

STREETS & ALLEYS
(M. Delhotal, Chairman)

M. Delhotal stated that the leaf vac is still in the shop. Shop is now saying it could be the 19-20th before we get it back. Ed is looking at other options for getting leaf pick up done. For now, encourage residents to burn, bag, or mulch leaves.

WATER & SEWER
(K. Murphy, Chairman)

K. Murphy stated that we are still waiting on the new hydrants. About 138 faulty meters identified to be replaced. Est \$260k for all new meters in town (400 meters). \$150ea, \$108k for labor. Discussion had on ability to use various grants to help with cost. Installation could be done incrementally.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
(J. Nicolson, Chairman)

J. Nicholson stated that the Dollar General concrete appears to be done. President Grendahl stated that the building is set to start going up this week, and is scheduled to open in March of 2026. Some further discussion about Village signs

PROPERTIES
(S. Murphy, Chairman)

S. Murphy stated that she has been getting comments about the work around town looking good. Asked how to deal with continued violations of property ordinances. President Grendahl stated that he would like to have another letter go out before taking further action. S. Murphy stated that she is looking into the issues with the old school. Current owner has a warrant. Reported that he had reached out to Mr. Lindy about March of '25 to see if the school would buy back the building and property. Will look into a lien on the property as well as address with the Health Department due to health violations.

FINANCE AND INSURANCE COMMITTEE

(S. Murphy, Chairman)

NONE

TOURISM

(H. Grove, Chairman)

Trustee H. Grove stated the costume contest for Halloween went well. Approx 26-30 participants. Officer Bailey came and took pictures with the contestants. Focusing now on the Dec 12th Christmas Walk. Event to start at 5pm, parade to start at 5:30p, will have Santa and Horse Carriage ride as well.

S. Murphy stated that our insurance does cover this event as well.

GENERAL ISSUES

President Grendahl will be out of town the week of the April 2026 meeting. Would like to reschedule to 1st or 3 Monday instead.

Motion to reschedule April 2026 meeting to Tuesday, April 7th, 2026 made by M. Delhotal, seconded by H. Grove. Passed: 6/0

Discussion about Water/Sewer rates. Current base rate is \$21.35. Would like to move rate to \$30. Would like to look through at the ordinance and other fees. Agreed by all to get new meters in to view what water usage looks like accurately before adjusting rates.

Franklin Grove Cemetery reached out to see if the Village would be interested in taking over the cemetery. Discussion about finding out how it is operating currently, and the need to ensure that it is not going to be an additional expense to the Village. Also questioned if it should go to the Township.

S. Spangler brought forward discussion to change ordinance for authorized spending limit for Village President. Other towns consider limit as a percentage of total budget fund. Some discussion on amending ordinance with proper verbiage regarding checks and balance, and emergency/health and safety exceptions. Agreed upon by all that, rather than change ordinance, President Grendahl would agree to reach out to each trustee in regards to spending for individual bills over \$5K.

As no further business was brought before the board, a **motion** to adjourn was made by J. Nicholson, seconded by K. Murphy and carried by unanimous vote at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Ford
Village Clerk