

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

JANUARY 12, 2025 MINUTES APPROVED DECEMBER 8, 2025

On January 12, 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, Mark Delhotal, President Eric Grendahl, Attorney Considine, and Clerk Jessica Ford.

**Absent:** None

**MINUTES**

Motion made by J. Nicholson, seconded by M. Delhotal to approve the Minutes of the Regular and Executive Meetings of December 8, 2025. Passed: 5/0

**RECOGNITION OF VISITOR'S**

Natalie Sondergroth stated that she has had to call Lee Co. Sheriffs twice in three months concerning activity at Atlasta Park after hours (about 9:45pm). Discussion about police doing rounds at the park around that time. Will ask to have officers drive by regularly.

**VILLAGE CLERK'S REPORT**

**NONE**

**BILLS & LATE BILLS**

Motion made by J. Nicholson seconded by M. Delhotal to pay bills, late bills and make necessary transfers, including bills brought forward by Clerk Ford. Passed: 5/0

**POLICE REPORT**

None.

## **LEGAL ISSUES**

(Attorney D. Considine)

None.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **STREETS & ALLEYS**

(M. Delhotal, Chairman)

Trustee M. Delhotal stated that ComEd has a list of lights that need to be fixed and will be getting this done.

Asked for a Facebook post to notify residents that bagged leaves will be picked up per normal schedule. Any others left on the parkway will be vacuumed in the spring.

### **WATER & SEWER**

(K. Murphy, Chairman)

Trustee K. Murphy stated that Willett Hoffmann has the approval from the EPA for Phosphate change. Need operator license. Should improve water color when change is done. Hydrant should be in and replaced in the spring.

## **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

(J. Nicolson, Chairman)

Trustee J. Nicholson stated that the Dollar General is still looking good to open March 1<sup>st</sup>. Has water and electric. Now plumbing bathrooms.

### **PROPERTIES**

(S. Murphy, Chairman)

Trustee S. Murphy asked if we have any news regarding the Eagle Hill park signs.

Attny Considine stated that she was still waiting for the approval of the survey and would reach out again.

Trustee S. Murphy stated that Atlasta Park is looking good and making progress. Still working on getting personal properties addressed regarding garbage and old cars in yards.

## **FINANCE AND INSURANCE COMMITTEE**

(S. Murphy, Chairman)

**None.**

## TOURISM

(S. Spangler, Chairman)

Trustee S. Spangler stated that he has a meeting scheduled for this coming week, Thursday, to review the website and get it updated. Nothing done to website since about 2006. Should website include Village limits only or within Township? Agreed to include all with a Franklin Grove address.

-Stated that the Christmas Walk went well.

-Feb 14<sup>th</sup> will have a WW2 reenactment at Chaplain Creek. Not open to the public. Land rented for reenactment. Would like to have a national event next fall.

-May 15-17<sup>th</sup> will have 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary event.

## GENERAL ISSUES

President Grendahl asked for a vote to appoint Mitch Reuter as Trustee.

**Motion** to appoint made by S. Spangler, seconded by J. Nicholson. Passed: 5/0  
M. Reuter sworn in at 7:23pm by Clerk J. Ford.

President Grendahl brought discussion forward to discuss Village taking over Cemetery. Has 3 years of financials handled by Karen. Have not had rate adjustment in years. Sterling Vault does openings and closings. Attny Condsidine to look into what happens to bank account if we take over. Mowing is currently the biggest expense. Question on annual income to be looked into as well.

Discussion on making the Clerk position and appointed rather than elected position. Also, discussion on appointing a second person as Treasurer. Clerk J. Ford would have to resign as Treasurer to appoint another. Some discussion on allowing Clerk J. Ford to hire a Deputy Clerk.

**Motion** to change Clerk position from elected to appointed made by M. Delhotal, seconded by S. Murphy. Passed 6/0

Pres Grendahl brought forward 401K, insurance, and paternity leave discussion for Village employees.

**Motion** made by J. Nicholson to enter Executive Session to discuss Personnel Matters in accordance with 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)., seconded by S. Murphy. Passed 6/0

Executive Session entered at 7:45pm.

Regular Session re-entered at 8:17pm.

As no further business was brought before the board, a **motion** to adjourn was made by J. Nicholson, seconded by M. Reuter and carried by unanimous vote at 8:17pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Ford  
Village Clerk