

**VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, JANUARY 13, 2020, 7 PM
FRANKLIN VILLAGE HALL – BROUGHTON HOUSE
32325 FRANKLIN ROAD, FRANKLIN, MICHIGAN 48025**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Pamela Hansen, at 7:00 PM at the Franklin Village Hall, Franklin, Michigan.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Fred Gallasch, Brian Gordon, Pam Hansen, Bill Lamott, Ed Saenz, Mira Stakhiv
Absent: Mike Seltzer
Also Present: Roger Fraser, Interim Village Administrator
Eileen Pulker, Village Clerk
John Staran, Village Attorney
Lance Vainik, Village Treasurer
Sarah Traxler, AICP, McKenna and Associates, Project Manager for the Task Force

III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion by Gallasch, seconded by Lamott to adopt the agenda, as presented.

Ayes: Gallasch, Gordon, Hansen, Lamott, Saenz, Stakhiv
Nays: None
Absent: Seltzer
Motion carried.

IV. MINUTES

A. Special Meeting of December 2, 2019, 5:00 PM

Motion by Stakhiv, seconded by Gordon to approve the Special Meeting minutes of December 2, 2019, as presented.

Ayes: Gallasch, Gordon, Hansen, Lamott, Saenz, Stakhiv
Nays: None
Absent: Seltzer
Motion carried.

B. Special Meeting of December 2, 2019, 6:00 PM

Motion by Gordon, seconded by Stakhiv to approve the Special Meeting minutes of December 2, 2019, as presented.

Ayes: Gallasch, Gordon, Hansen, Lamott, Saenz, Stakhiv
Nays: None
Absent: Seltzer
Motion carried.

C. Special Meeting of December 9, 2019

Motion by Stakhiv, seconded by Gallasch to approve the Special Meeting minutes of December 9, 2019, as presented.

Ayes: Gallasch, Gordon, Hansen, Lamott, Saenz, Stakhiv

Nays: None

Absent: Seltzer

Motion carried.

D. Special Meeting of December 16, 2019

Motion by Saenz, seconded by Stakhiv to approve the Special Meeting minutes of December 16, 2019, as presented.

Ayes: Gallasch, Gordon, Hansen, Lamott, Saenz, Stakhiv

Nays: None

Absent: Seltzer

Motion carried.

V. PUBLIC REQUESTS AND COMMENTS

Hansen explained the normal procedures for Public Requests and Comments. However, she suggested those in attendance who wished to address items already on the Agenda would have the opportunity to comment at that time.

Vytas Petruelis, Oakleaf Lane, expressed his concern about the increasing deer population which he felt was now out of control. He wondered what discussions and what actions had been proposed by the Council to reduce the population. Hansen replied that the topic had been brought up from time to time but there had not been any support of thinning the deer herd. However, Council was willing to have a talk about it. Lamott added this was not just a Franklin issue and it would be advantageous to have Farmington, Southfield, and other communities involved. Staran stated this was a state-wide issue and anything the Village or any community wanted to do about it would need to be vetted by the state.

Nick Bevins, Hersheyvale Dr., wanted Council to re-open the conversation about regulating short term rentals (Airbnbs) in Franklin. He believed there were now three (3) in Franklin and possibly another one coming on his street. He listed his concerns about maintaining the appearance of Franklin. He also mentioned the State House bill which had been introduced but was still in committee. Hansen acknowledged the Council had discussed this subject in the fall; however, due to pending legislation, Council, on the advice of the Village's attorney, decided not to act on it at that particular time. Staran stated this topic was not specific to Franklin, although it had even been on the Planning Commission agenda. If the bill had been adopted he explained the severe limitations of local governments' ability to deal with short term rentals. He was in favor of Council being pro-active and continuing to do research on this topic.

#2020-01 Motion by Lamott, seconded by Stakhiv to refer the subject of short term rentals to the Planning Commission for research and recommendation.

Ayes: Gallasch, Gordon, Hansen, Lamott, Saenz, Stakhiv

Nays: None

Absent: Seltzer

Motion carried.

VI. REPORTS OF VILLAGE OFFICERS AND AGENTS

Dan Roberts, Police Chief, referred to his written submission for December and followed up by saying that the holiday season had been very busy for our officers due to “family troubles”, significant accidents on Telegraph, and many “home watch checks”. The 2019 Annual Report with statistics was being compiled and would be given to Council shortly. The overall crime rate in both Franklin and Bingham Farms was similar to that of last year which was very low. Continuing the opportunities for the Command Staff to get additional training, starting today, Sgt. Mark Dyjewski would be attending Northwestern University’s School of Police Staff and Command College for two (2) weeks out of the month until June. He would be the last Command Officer of the department to go through the special certification. The Troy Police Department was hosting Northwestern’s training sessions.

Tony Averbuch, Fire Chief, reported that the statistics for 2019 were 10% less than 2018. He was also very pleased with the participation of residents in Franklin and Bingham Farms of the voluntary Knox Box program. He explained the program and complimented those who had been interested in it and participate in it, and thanked Pulker for her weekly email blast with information about it, and to the Mobile Watch discussions, press releases, and public statements. He hoped more residents of both communities would get involved as it builds good will between the residents and the public agencies in the Villages. He ended his report by saying that the 2020 plans for inspections of equipment and apparatus were being scheduled, some FEMA Grants for additional equipment would be closed out, and tomorrow there will be the yearly state inspection for an EMS license.

Lance Vainik, Treasurer, referred to his monthly report and noted that the amounts on the Bills List are consistent with normal monthly spending for a total of \$238,700.56. Vainik stated that the expenditures are generally consistent with the FY2019-2020 Budget. The Bills List for this month included a large entry of \$14,775.75 for the “Downtown Project” engineering services paid to Nowak & Fraus Engineers. Vainik concluded by stating that the Village has sufficient funds to meet its current and anticipated obligations. The lists of account balances in the Council’s packets were as of January 9, 2020 held at Level One Bank. A Balance Sheet was also provided from the interest bearing CDs held at Multi-Bank Securities.

VII. SUBMISSION OF CURRENT BILLS

Category	sub totals
General	\$ 36,475.93
Maj Streets	\$ 5,890.50
Local Streets	\$ 5,546.50

Police	\$	84,446.21
Garbage and Rubbish	\$	44,516.70
Building Dept	\$	13,304.02
Street Project	\$	36,071.16
Road Millage	\$	-
Pressure Sewer	\$	-
Tax Collection	\$	12,299.60
Waste Water	\$	149.94
totals	\$	<u>238,700.56</u>

Motion by Gordon, seconded by Saenz to approve the Bills List, as submitted.

Ayes: Gallasch, Gordon, Hansen, Lamott, Saenz, Stakhiv

Nays: None

Absent: Seltzer

Motion carried.

VIII. SPECIAL REPORTS

A. President's Report

1. Downtown Discussion/Franklin Road

Hansen welcomed Roger Fraser as Interim Village Administrator and further explained that Jim Creech, Administrator for over 5 years, had retired. She updated the residents on the three (3) part project to improve the roads in the Village:

- a. The repaving of the roads in the residential areas (including Franklin Road between 13 Mile Road to Scenic Drive);
- b. The continuation of the streetscape work (Franklin Road between Scenic Drive through the downtown to 14 Mile Road) which would include pedestrian walkways, lighting, and some landscaping, and;
- c. The review by the Downtown Improvement Task Force of the Village Ordinances and Building Inspection practices, all of which would help and support the merchants and property owners.

Hansen stated that a community meeting about the streetscape proposal would be held so that residents could voice their opinions and interact with Council members.

Staran briefed Council on the productive meeting he had with the Village Administrator, the Building Official, the Planning consultant, and the Clerk talking about the goals and objectives for the downtown, relative to building maintenance. He suggested there might be more current versions of some of the Ordinances, all of which would be brought back to Council for approval; one such example might be a concept draft of the Business License Ordinance.

B. Council Report

1. Personnel Report

Stakhiv reported that she had received two (2) bids (MML and GOV HR) for hiring a new Administrator and detailed the differences between the two, noting that MML was a high flat bid and GOV HR had a low bid and variables. By next month's meeting she was hoping to have a concise plan of all the variables and amounts of GOV HR so she could present the contract to Council.

Referring to Hansen's report, Gordon was encouraged by the great progress on the Streetscape project. He stressed that the Village needed to protect its historic authenticity, as opposed to everything looking the same, manufactured, and new, as was the case of some of the suggested retaining walls which the engineers had provided. He was in favor of the Village looking more organic and random which to him was more appropriate and natural.

Gallasch confirmed that the audit would be on the February Agenda.

Saenz spoke with the President of Main Street Franklin and John Bry, Director of Main Street Oakland County. There was a concern that Franklin did not have an Executive Director and there was a lack of funding for the position. The search for an Executive Director was on-going but slow. Bry had some options to discuss. Hansen's understanding was that Bry would be meeting with Fraser and she was hoping that by next meeting there would be a plan ready for Council to consider.

C. Administrator Report

Fraser stated that he has discovered that Franklin has a different way of approaching government services and that Franklin was unique. He was impressed with Sarah Traxler, had a meeting with her last week, and would be working with her and Staran on the Ordinances. At the December 9, 2019 meeting there had been a motion to put out a RFP for an Environmental Consultant. He had been trying to get up-to-date information from the Oakland County Health Dept. EGLE (Environment, Great Lakes & Energy). Today he was in contact with Kim Etheridge, who was responsible for this area and who provided him with some background of Franklin's situation, the Department's plans, and what some of the constraints were. Fraser noted that Lamott had some suggestions as to who might be helpful with the Village's environmental concerns. Because of the amount of talent in close proximity with the Village, Fraser was not convinced an RFP would be necessary. Today Council received a copy of the 12/31/19 Budget report which Pulker had provided.

D. Clerk Report

Pulker reported on upcoming election dates and deadlines for ballot wording to be submitted, all of which she researched with the Township, and County clerks. There had been some interest in the May election; however, Pulker stated there would not be any other issues in Southfield Township that would be on the ballot in May. If there was any interest, all the cost would be at the Village's expense. She added there would be better voter turnouts for the August and November elections as there would be more issues to consider in the state wide elections. As Franklin's Liaison with Birmingham NEXT, she reported on the programs and opportunities for its 1,966 members, which included the 68 Franklin residents, and many other residents who receive services. Regarding the Birmingham Youth Assistance to which she is also the Liaison, she reported on some of its programs which were now including Middle Schoolers.

Her last announcement was that she was not going to run for re-election for Village Clerk in November. She noted that if Council wanted to change the position to an appointed Clerk, it needed to be reviewed by the State of Michigan Attorney General's Office. She offered to be available if help was needed during the transaction.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. Consider Lighting Design Proposals

Fraser noted that the two (2) proposals that were received were indicative and reflective of the two (2) presentations and interviews. He further explained that the interview committee consisted of Hansen, Lamott, and himself. Fraser highlighted some of the topics they had discussed with the two firms.

Stakhiv requested that whichever firm was selected, a "sealed" or "stamped" design by the engineer would be provided. The importance of writing a Lighting Ordinance was discussed.

Motion by Gordon, seconded by Stakhiv to accept the bid for Exterior Lighting Design Services on Franklin Road, between 13 and 14 Mile Roads from Illuminart, a Division of Peter Basso Associates, Inc. as proposed in the letter dated January 11, 2020 and signed by Robert M. White, IALD, IES, LC.

Lamott suggested that the cost of helping the Village write the Lighting Ordinance be included in the proposal.

Gordon amended his motion to include the option of help writing the Lighting Ordinance.

#2020-02 Motion by Gordon, seconded by Stakhiv to accept the bid for Exterior Lighting Design Services on Franklin Road, between 13 and 14 Mile Roads from Illuminart, a Division of Peter Basso Associates, Inc., as proposed in the letter dated January 11, 2020 and signed by Robert M. White, IALD, IES, LC and not to exceed \$15,000. The bid would include the option of help in writing the Lighting Ordinance which would not exceed \$5,000.00.

Ayes: Gallasch, Gordon, Hansen, Lamott, Saenz, Stakhiv

Nays: None

Absent: Seltzer

Motion carried.

B. Consider Proposed Request for Proposal (RFP) for the Environmental Consultant for the Village.

Hansen proposed this item be tabled until the next meeting.

#2020-03 Motion by Gordon, seconded by Saenz to table any action regarding the request for Proposal (RFP) for the Environmental Consultant for the Village.

Ayes: Gallasch, Gordon, Hansen, Lamott, Saenz, Stakhiv

Nays: None
Absent: Seltzer
Motion carried.

C. Consider Election Dates and Submittal Deadlines for Ballot Language.

Referring to the Clerk's presentation to the Council, no further action was required.

D. Consider Re-Appointment of the Village Historic District Study Committee Members.

#2020-04 Motion by Saenz, seconded by Stakhiv to re-appoint the current members of the Historic District Study Committee: Gary Roberts, Chairman, Amanda Davis, Eileen Harryvan, Nena Downing, and Fred Gallasch.

Stakhiv confirmed that everyone had been contacted and were still interested in continuing. Hansen requested that someone from the committee update the Council.

Ayes: Gallasch, Gordon, Hansen, Lamott, Saenz, Stakhiv
Nays: None
Absent: Seltzer
Motion carried.

E. Consider Scheduling Special Meeting on January 21, 2020 at 6:00 PM.

#2020-05 Motion by Stakhiv, seconded by Gallasch to schedule a Special Meeting on January 21, 2020 at 6:00 PM. to discuss the Streetscape Project.

It was noted that this was another "Committee as a Whole" meeting. Lamott encouraged all residents who were interested in the downtown streetscape and what was going on, to attend.

Ayes: Gallasch, Gordon, Hansen, Lamott, Saenz, Stakhiv
Nays: None
Absent: Seltzer
Motion carried.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Stakhiv supported by Gordon to adjourn the meeting.

Ayes: Gallasch, Gordon, Hansen, Lamott, Saenz, Stakhiv
Nays: None
Absent: Seltzer
Motion carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Beke, Recording Secretary

Eileen H. Pulker, Clerk

Pamela Hansen, President