

**VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN
VILLAGE COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 13, 2017, 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 Pam Hansen, at 7:01 PM at the Franklin Village Hall, Franklin, Michigan.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Fred Gallasch, Brian Gordon, Pam Hansen, Judy Moenck, Mira Stakhiv
Absent: Tom Morrow (excused), Mike Seltzer (excused)
Also Present: Jim Creech, Village Administrator
Chief Dan Roberts, Police Department
Eileen Pulker, Village Clerk
Lance Vainik, Treasurer
Ann Christ, Village Attorney
Sarah Traxler, McKenna Associates, Planning Commission consultant

Motion by Hansen to excuse Morrow and Seltzer from the meeting.

Ayes: Gallasch, Gordon, Hansen, Moenck, Stakhiv
Absent: Morrow, Seltzer
Nays: None
Motion carried.

III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion by Gordon, seconded by Stakhiv to adopt the agenda, as presented.

Gallasch requested that under **IX. NEW BUSINESS**, item **A. Consider Finance Committee Recommendation for Distribution of Village Funds to MBS**, be postponed until the next meeting as the Finance Committee has not met yet to consider Creech's recommendations and produce a proposed proposal.

Motion by Gordon, seconded by Stakhiv to adopt the agenda, as amended.

Ayes: Gallasch, Gordon, Hansen, Moenck, Stakhiv
Absent: Morrow, Seltzer
Nays: None
Motion carried.

IV. MINUTES

A. Regular Meeting of February 13, 2017.

Gallasch pointed out the highlighted corrections on pages 5 and 13 of the revised minutes which were distributed at the meeting.

Motion by Moenck, seconded by Gallasch to approve the Regular Meeting minutes for February 13, 2017, as presented with corrections.

Ayes: Gallasch, Gordon, Hansen, Moenck, Stakhiv

Absent: Morrow, Seltzer

Nays: None

Motion carried.

V. REPORTS OF VILLAGE OFFICERS AND AGENTS

Dan Roberts, Police Chief, referred to his written report and noted that February was a quiet crime month. During the windstorm last Wednesday the Department received 5-6 times the normal call volume for 3-4 days due to downed power lines, traffic signals being out, accidents, and the false home alarms going off due to the power outages and restorations. The Facebook page (Franklin-Bingham Farms Police Department) is now up. The annual report, as well as informative articles, can be found there and on the Village web site. Hard copies of the report would be available tomorrow at the Village Hall.

Gordon complimented the Chief and the Department on the vast reduction of criminal activity for the first two months of the year. He inquired about the personnel budget for the Special Assessment District (SAD). Roberts explained the SAD's financial responsibilities for those officers he assigns to the District and the reasons behind the increase in the District's overtime budget. Gallasch complimented Roberts on his memo about the budget with his detailed explanations for each line item. Gallasch noted it was stellar and would make the Council's job of doing the budget a lot easier. Roberts mentioned that, if needed, he has supporting documentation for each line item. Moenck also complimented the Chief and noted that his report would be an excellent example for Main Street Franklin to follow, as it is preparing its budget. Roberts added that each year he goes before the Bingham Farms Council to defend the SAD's budget. He invited those interested to attend the meeting. He will notify Council members of the exact date and time of the meeting.

Main Street Franklin, Deanna Yow, Executive Director Main Street Franklin, referred to her written report to Franklin Village Council, dated March 13, 2017. She reported that all the businesses in town now have power after a few days of being "dark". From her report she highlighted and detailed the DIA Inside/Out Program coming this spring and Main Street Oakland County's annual review of MSF which would be Wednesday, March 15. Hansen inquired about any news on the Market Basket space. Yow reported that on Friday she met with Steve Showers, the building owner, but he did not have any updates at that time. Referring to an item from last month's Council meeting, Hansen inquired about a major fundraiser which is important to supplement the Village's contribution to Main Street. Yow stated that a date and location where to hold Gem of the Night have not been established but it and the Golf Raffle would hopefully be held later in the year. They have ideas for other fundraisers which could be held earlier in the year and are working through them.

Tony Averbuch, Fire Chief, was not in attendance, but Hansen reported on his behalf. He wanted her to report that during the windstorm, March 8-9, the department responded to fifteen (15) storm related service calls. The majority of those were downed wires, but he wanted to note some of the incidents: a tree limb fell on a car with no injuries, a fallen tree caused an electrical surge in one house and the cable and phone wires at another house became energized and burned. Hansen further stated that the Fire Department wanted to thank those who had called them to

report incidents and reminded everyone to be safe when surveying damage to their property; have a plan and supplies in place to prepare for the next storm. Hansen related Averbuch's suggestion that residents go to the website www.ready.gov to get more information about advanced storm preparation.

Lance Vainik, Treasurer, referred to his monthly report and noted that the amounts on the Bills List are consistent with normal monthly spending. Vainik stated that the expenditures are generally consistent with the FY 2016-17 Budget. It was a quiet month with one large entry for police vehicle equipment to Canfield Equipment Services. Vainik added that a list provided of account balances is as of March 8, 2017. He concluded by saying that the Village has sufficient funds to meet its current and anticipated obligations. He reported that there had been a positive meeting with the group that works with Bingham Farms, Multi Bank Securities (MBS) in helping them add additional monetary protection and liquidity, as opposed to leaving monies with one organization as the Village is currently doing. He explained the possible course of action for the Village. He is confident a comfortable determination could be reached the next time the parties meet. Gordon posed questions about MBS, all of which Vainik addressed.

VI. SUBMISSION OF CURRENT BILLS

Motion by Gallasch, seconded by Gordon, to approve the Bill's List, as submitted.

Pulker answered Moenck's questions about the three (3) debit postings involving postcards, stating that they were related to the informational mailings to residents about the road project meetings. She further explained the process she and Creech went through for this task, including the input from Stakhiv, Gallasch, and Hansen with their reviews of the content.

Ayes: Gallasch, Gordon, Hansen, Moenck, Stakhiv

Absent: Morrow, Seltzer

Nays: None

Motion carried.

TOTALS

General Administration	\$	13,605.40
Building	\$	5,975.25
Insurance	\$	46,481.03
Legal	\$	1,874.50
Police	\$	20,345.95
Pressure Sewer	\$	-
General Debt Service	\$	7,275.00
Major Roads	\$	5,533.80
Local Road	\$	5,624.80
Rubbish	\$	29,710.60
Trust & Agency	\$	200.00
Tax Fund	\$	721.14

Waste Water	\$ -
ALL FUNDS	\$ 137,347.47

VII. PUBLIC REQUESTS AND COMMENTS

Derek Kozicki, Sunset Dr. and Serge Sorser, Sunset Dr. had safety concerns about the trees in their neighborhood that are on Village property. Kozicki gave examples of two (2) tall trees that had fallen onto a neighbor’s driveway where his son’s bus stop is and within minutes of the bus arriving. He stated that he has noticed several trees on Village property which are near power lines and are on the verge of falling over and noted that his wife called the Village to report the first fallen tree. Creech will have Johnson Landscaping take a look at the trees in the neighborhood. Creech also explained the options for unplatted roads. Sorser suggested the Village consider underground power lines. Council members gave the residents a brief history of the Village’s discussion about the subject of underground lines and the costs involved. Gordon advised that the residents be pro-active and report all of their concerns to the Village Administrator.

VIII. SPECIAL REPORTS

A. President’s Report

Hansen emphasized that the postcards notifying residents about the two (2) informational community meetings concerning the road project have been sent to all residents. The meetings with the Village engineers would be conducted like an open house at the church. Creech and some Council members also will be available to explain and answer questions. She encouraged Villagers to come, learn about the project, and voice their concerns. A special Council committee of Fred Gallasch and Mira Stakhiv has volunteered to partner with Creech for the duration of this project to be available to community members to answer questions, help communications with the Villagers, problem solve, and be pro-active about Village concerns.

B. Council Report

Gordon’s comments were directed to the Village Clerk referencing the contents of her email blast. He clarified that the “Franklin Community Playground” is on church property, not Village property. He is of the opinion that the Village should not be soliciting funds for its renovation and, therefore, should not be included in her email blasts about events in the Village. Moenck also questioned the inclusion of another event and its relationship with the Village. She is concerned that since the Village does not have a newsletter, more and more things are going on the website and the Clerk’s email blast is getting longer. She acknowledged that she didn’t have a solution. Gordon suggested that official "Village Business" be sectioned off from non-official Village business and Stakhiv suggested having a “Village Bulletin Board”.

Stakhiv requested that Mr. Kipp from MBS come to the next meeting and talk to the Council. Gallasch suggested that the Finance Committee formulate a plan first and then invite him to a meeting to introduce it to Council. Council could then have a discussion about it. Stakhiv referred to last month’s meeting regarding an inventory of drainage issues prior to the road project meetings. She inquired if Creech had followed up on that item. Creech replied he had looked

into the plans of the Carol St. drain and did some historical research on it and he provided some background on the subject of “public drains”. Her last comment regarded the cutting down of a tree on Wellington. A resident had contacted her about it and she was requesting an explanation from Creech. Creech noted that it would be replaced with a dedicated tree in observance of Arbor Day.

C. Administrator Report

Creech briefed Council on improving cell coverage in the Village, beginning with what already existed. He has spoken with Mr. Comey, a consultant in New York who had worked with McKenna and Associates and dealt with similar issues in the past. Creech synopsized the consultant’s alternatives and suggestions.

Gallasch inquired about funding for a possible tower. Relying on his past experience, Creech outlined a possible process.

From what he was hearing, Gordon was concerned that a decision that a cell tower would be the most appropriate solution to coverage had already been made and he didn’t understand how or when that decision had been reached. Creech explained that a decision had not been made. Gordon stated that if Council wanted to pursue cell coverage it needed to have forethought and a definite plan adding that the last Council meeting with Mr. Haley was a good informational meeting but he didn’t recall that Council or anyone made a determination about a tower.

Hansen explained that no decision had been made but the Village needed to explore the different options of cell coverage for the Village. With this in mind, she had asked Creech to spearhead the project for the short-term, in terms of exploring and understanding the issues and the process and answering Council’s questions. She would like Council to have a discussion related to those questions.

Stakhiv suggested sending out a community survey. This might be done once more information has been gathered.

Rick David, Wellington, reminded Council that at this past August Council Meeting, he had voiced his concern that the new grinder pump systems would be relying on cellular service to function for emergency back-up and support, not landlines.

Creech noted that at the April 17, 2017 Regular Council Meeting, the Bond Counselor would be present to start the bonding process for the street improvement project. Bids from contractors for the road work might be in for the April meeting or early May. Also, a Farmington Hills attorney would be at the April meeting talking about a sewer issue which had been settled back in 2012 but would be back before the Council for a request for an amendment, for the Brody property at the southwest corner of Inkster and 13 Mile Rd. Creech would provide Council with all the relevant details prior to the meeting.

Hansen requested that the subject of cell towers be kept on the agenda as a discussion item.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

B. Consider Civic Event Permit Application and Installation Contracts for the “Inside/Out” Detroit Institute of Arts Program with Main Street Franklin, from April to July 2017.

Motion by Gordon, seconded by Moenck to approve the Civic Event Application and Installation Contracts for the “Inside. Out” Detroit Institute of Arts Program with Main Street Franklin, from April to July 2017.

Deanna Yow, MSF Executive Director, provided Council with background information on the program.

Ayes: Gallasch, Gordon, Hansen, Moenck, Stakhiv
Absent: Morrow, Seltzer
Nays: None
Motion carried.

C. Consider Civic Event Permit Application for Farmers’ Market by Franklin Community Association, to begin June 1, 2017 and conclude on October 30, 2017.

Motion by Moenck, seconded by Gallasch to approve the Civic Event Permit Application for Farmers’ Market by Franklin Community Association, to begin June 1, 2017 and conclude on October 30, 2017.

Pulker represented the FCA organizers. Gallasch and Stakhiv commented that more Villagers and farmers need to attend and participate. Gordon inquired about promotional opportunities in the surrounding areas and Gallasch added that Oakland County puts out a magazine which lists local farmers’ markets. Pulker mentioned the proposed changes for this summer: hours, farmers’ fees, start date is later in the year. Council thanked John Pulker for his commitment to the event.

Ayes: Gallasch, Gordon, Hansen, Moenck, Stakhiv
Absent: Morrow, Seltzer
Nays: None
Motion carried.

D. Consider Annual Budget Workshop, April, 2017.

Hansen led a discussion about a date and possible format for the meeting. Personally speaking, she stressed the importance of implementation of the Budget and emphasized several points that Council needed to address: possible three (3) year budget, funding of some of the PC’s Master Plan objectives, the road project, Finance Committee looking into possible investments, HDC suggesting its presence and visibility in the Village needed to be more prominent which might mean more financial (fund) commitment, and Main Street Franklin would be looking for funding for the same or more as in the past years. She anticipated the budget process would be easier and more productive if Council looked to where it wanted to invest its cash, time, and efforts. By doing this, she thought this would be an easier and more productive budgeting process and suggested that there be a planning discussion about priorities and what is important to each

Council member and then do the budget. She would like to fund something and thought of this as strategy implementation. Gallasch opined that if Council chose this process then it would be advantageous to work on a three (3) year budget.

Creech suggested a couple of work sessions were needed to begin this process, inviting the Planning Commission to attend. Gallasch suggested Council reach out to the different commissions and compile a list of the top priorities and forward them to Creech. Hansen requested that Moenck work with MSF, Stakhiv with PC, Gallasch with HDC, and Gordon with the Fire Commission/Department. Hansen clarified Creech's idea that there would be a "planning meeting" to look at the priorities before the budget meeting. Creech will schedule a date for the meeting depending on each Council member's personal schedules in April. Hansen encouraged PC, MSF, HDC members to be present at the meeting and participate in the discussion.

X. RESOLUTIONS/ORDINANCES/PROCLAMATIONS

A. Consider Arbor Day Resolution, April 28, 2017.

Creech explained that this celebrates the annual observation of Arbor Day. This is part of the Tree City USA program and qualifications needed.

Motion by Gallasch, seconded by Stakhiv to approve the Arbor Day Proclamation as part of the annual Tree City USA application, as follows: Arbor Day observation will be April 28, 2017:

Whereas, In 1872, J. Sterling Morton proposed to the Nebraska Board of Agriculture that a special day be set aside for the planting of trees, and

Whereas, this holiday, called Arbor Day, was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska, and

Whereas, Arbor Day is now observed throughout the nation and the world, and

Whereas, trees can reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cut heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce life-giving oxygen, and provide habitat for wildlife, and

Whereas, trees are a renewable resource giving us paper, wood for our homes, fuel for our fires and countless other wood products, and

Whereas, trees in our city increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and beautify our community, and

Whereas, trees, wherever they are planted, are a source of joy and spiritual renewal.

Now, Therefore, I, Pamela Hansen, Mayor of the Village of Franklin, do hereby proclaim April 28, 2017 as Arbor Day in the Village of Franklin, and I urge all citizens to celebrate Arbor Day and to support efforts to protect our trees and woodlands, and

Further, I urge all citizens to plant trees to gladden the heart and promote the well-being of this and future generations.

Moenck inquired if there was a way to involve Main Street Franklin in the "Tree planting" event or whatever else is scheduled. Creech would make arrangements for such. Yow stated the more MSF is exposed to the community the more advantageous it will be.

Ayes: Gallasch, Gordon, Hansen, Moenck, Stakhiv

Absent: Morrow, Seltzer
Nays: None
Motion carried.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Gordon, seconded by Moenck to adjourn the meeting.

Ayes: Gallasch, Gordon, Hansen, Moenck, Stakhiv
Absent: Morrow, Seltzer
Nays: None
Motion carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:41 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Beke, Recording Secretary

Eileen H. Pulker, Clerk

Pamela Hansen, President