

**VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN  
VILLAGE COUNCIL ORGANIZATION MEETING  
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2018  
FRANKLIN VILLAGE HALL – BROUGHTON HOUSE  
32325 FRANKLIN ROAD, FRANKLIN, MICHIGAN 48025**

Brian Gordon, Bill Lamott, and Ed Saenz were sworn in for four year terms by Clerk Pulker.

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

President Hansen called the meeting to order at 8:00 PM at the Franklin Village Hall, 32325 Franklin Road, Franklin, Michigan.

**II. ROLL CALL**

Present: Fred Gallasch, Brian Gordon, Pam Hansen, Bill Lamott, Ed Saenz, Mira Stakhiv  
Absent: Mike Seltzer  
Also Present: Jim Creech, Administrator  
Eileen Pulker, Clerk  
Lance Vainik, Treasurer

**III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

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

Hansen proposed changes to the agenda and suggested this be an informal, fast-moving meeting. Under **VIII. APPOINTMENTS BY COUNCIL**, she wished to add items: I. Road Committee, J. Main Street Franklin Liaison, K. Planning Commission Liaison, L. Historic District Commission Liaison, and M. NEXT Representative; in conjunction with who would like to serve on these committees.

Hansen also proposed discussions on two (2) issues: External Village Communications and Building Inspector enforcement.

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

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

**Nays: None**

**Absent: Seltzer**

**Motion carried.**

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**V. FILE ELECTION RESULTS**

**#2018-84 Motion by Gordon, seconded by Saenz to accept the election results as provided below:**

Village Clerk	Eileen Pulker	1,372 votes
Village Council	Brian Gordon	1,026 votes
	William Lamott	1,034 votes
	Edward Saenz	922 votes

Library Board Member	Kim Greidanus	1,188 votes	
	Robin Rosen	write in, 51 votes	
Pedestrian Lighting	Precinct 8	754 yes	288 no
	Precinct 9	584 yes	265 no
Proposal 18-1	Precinct 8	658 yes	403 no
State of Michigan Marijuana	Precinct 9	484 yes	368 no
Proposal 18-2	Precinct 8	726 yes	306 no
State of Michigan Redistricting Criteria	Precinct 9	572 yes	270 no
Proposal 18-3	Precinct 8	792 yes	252 no
State of Michigan Voter registration, no reason absentee, straight ticket voting, etc.	Precinct 9	619 yes	235 no

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

**Nays: None**

**Absent: Seltzer**

**Motion carried.**

## **VI. ELECTION OF PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE**

Hansen opened the nominations for candidates who were interested in being considered for the President Pro Tempore position. Candidate's attendance record of meetings would be most important. Gordon was interested in the position and Seltzer had indicated to Hansen his intentions of being in Franklin every month for Council meetings.

### **#2018-85 Motion by Stakhiv, seconded by Gordon to open up the nominations for President Pro Tempore.**

Gallasch, Gordon, and Seltzer indicated interest in the position. Discussion ensued about the voting procedure with the result being that the majority ruled.

Pulker tallied the "hand-raised" vote: Gallasch – 3 votes; Gordon – 3 votes, Seltzer – 0 votes. Vote tied.

Stakhiv stated she supported both Gordon and Seltzer. However, she was of the opinion that "meeting attendance" was a very important factor of being the Pro Tem and in the last two (2) years Gallasch has shown that he can fulfill that requirement.

Gordon stated he was committed to being at the meetings as his schedule would allow it.

Saenz indicated he would change his vote if there be another count.

Pulker took a recount of the vote: Gallasch – 4 votes; Gordon – 2 votes, Seltzer – 0 votes.

**Gallasch was declared President Pro Tempore.**

## **VII. BANK RESOLUTIONS**

**#2018-86 Motion by Lamott, seconded by Saenz to approve Level One Bank (hereinafter referred to as the “Bank”) be it hereby designated as a depository of the Village of Franklin and authorized to accept for its credit and/or for collection, any and all checks, drafts and other negotiable instruments when endorsed in its name by rubber stamp or otherwise, and that its treasurer be and as he is authorized to open with the bank such accounts under such captions as may be determined to be necessary or desirable and, that any and all funds credited to such accounts with the bank may be paid out or withdrawn upon by the following:**

**H. Frederick Gallasch, Deputy Treasurer  
Brian Gordon, Deputy Treasurer  
James Zack, Deputy Treasurer  
James Creech, Administrator**

**Whose signatures shall be duly certified to the bank and the bank thereby is authorized to honor and pay any and all checks so signed, without inquiry as to the circumstances of issue or the disposition of the proceeds thereof and with the transfer of funds from savings to checking accounts, any two signatories among the mentioned individuals; and Eileen Pulker, the Village Clerk shall act for that purpose. Those banks with which the Village of Franklin has accounts are: Level One Bank, Bank of America, Chase Bank, US Bank, Main Street Bank and other depositories including CDs, as comply with the Village’s Investment Policy.**

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

## **VIII. APPOINTMENT BY COUNCIL**

### **A. Village Treasurer**

Hansen led a discussion about the recent history of this position, its full responsibilities, and the future of this role in the coming years. Vainik agreed to continue as the treasurer, even though he is unable to sign checks due to regulations of his employment, until such time as a suitable replacement can be found. Gallasch commented on Vainik’s expertise in the new investment strategies which the Village has not had in the past which was a valuable asset. Even though he cannot sign a check, Vainik volunteered to come in to review some of the material so as to familiarize himself with the day-to-day financial obligations of the Village.

**#2018-87 Motion by Gallasch, seconded by Gordon to appoint Lance Vainik as the Village Treasurer.**

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

**B. Village Deputy Treasurer (s)**  
**#2018-88 Motion by Stakhiv seconded by Gallasch to appoint Gordon, Gallasch and Jim Zack as Deputy Treasurers.**

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

**Gallasch, Gordon, and Zach were declared Deputy Treasurers.**

**C. Council Liaison to Fire Commission**  
**#2018-89 Motion by Stakhiv, seconded by Saenz to appoint Brian Gordon as a Commissioner to the Franklin-Bingham Farms Fire Commission.**

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

**D. Village Representative to the Birmingham Area Cable Board**  
**#2018-90 Motion by Gordon, seconded by Saenz to appoint Mira Stakhiv as the Village Representative to the Birmingham Area Cable Board.**

Stakhiv initially declined the appointment as she had been considering resigning as of March 31, 2019. The reason for delaying her resignation was so she could conduct one more performance appraisal of the Executive Director before she handed over the responsibility.

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

Stakhiv accepted the position under the condition and with the understanding that she would be resigning effective March 31, 2019. She had high praise and complimented the Cable Board on its members and the hard and important work it does.

Hansen suggested she might consider sharing the role. Stakhiv acknowledged that Beverly Hills and Birmingham have alternates so if the representative could not make the meeting, the alternate would sit on the Board and would have voting rights. However, such an arrangement would not work for her.

Pulker will post in her email blast the future vacancy of the seat on the Cable Board. Hansen remarked this was not a Council position so it was available to any and all Villagers. She encouraged Council members to reach out to Villagers for a possible representative who could be very focused and detail-oriented.

**E. Village Finance Committee**

**#2018-91 Motion by Gallasch to nominate Saenz and Vainik to be on the Village Finance Committee.**

**Motion by Stakhiv to nominate Gallasch to be on the Village Finance Committee.**

Vainik and Gallasch volunteered to continue on the committee. Saenz declined the nomination as he was more interested in another position.

**Motion by Saenz to nominate Lamott to be on the Village Finance Committee.**

Hansen commented that other than during the budget process considerations this committee was not very active. She continued by listing issues she would like this committee to consider: Is the Council as literate about the Village financial condition as need be? Does Council understand how it would fund retirements? Vainik suggested that in February or March Council could deal with financial liabilities and responsibilities (“State of the Village”). Former Council member Morrow implemented a rolling 4-5 year budget plan which Hansen would like Council to consider and possibly continue. In conjunction with that she would also like to see a summary of the Village’s finances every quarter. She would hope Vainik could deliver that so adjustments could be made, if necessary. Stakhiv was in favor of having an educational seminar (special meeting) to go over future finances; i.e. future pensions and how the salaries are affected and its impact on the Village budget. Creech suggested inviting someone from MERS to educate the Council on such matters. Vainik and Creech will make arrangements for a special meeting.

Hansen recommended that a third person be included on the committee who would bring authority and assertiveness and a more diverse financial opinion.

**#2018-91 Motion by Saenz to appoint Lamott, Gallasch, Vainik, Hansen, and Creech (ad hoc.) to be on the Village Finance Committee.**

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

**Nays: None**

**Absent: Seltzer**

**Motion carried.**

**F. Village Legal Committee**

**Motion by Saenz, seconded by Stakhiv to nominate Hansen, Gordon, and Seltzer to be on the Village Legal Committee.**

Hansen stated Seltzer was interested in continuing on the Personnel Committee and she convinced him not to continue on the Legal Committee because when not in town he would need

to “call in” for the meetings. Due to intense discussions in the meetings, this lack of physical attendance to meetings would not be advantageous or beneficial to the Village. However, Seltzer stated he was committed to being in town for the Council Meetings. As for the Personnel Committee he would continue calling in for the meetings and work from a distance.

Discussion ensued about the advantages and disadvantages of physically attending a committee meeting.

Saenz withdrew his motion.

**#2018-92 Motion by Saenz, seconded by Stakhiv to nominate Hansen, Gordon, and Lamott to be on the Village Legal Committee.**

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

**G. Village Liquor Committee**

**#2018-93 Motion by Lamott, seconded by Gordon to appoint Gallasch and Stakhiv to be on the Village Liquor Committee.**

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

**H. Village Personnel Committee**

**Motion by Gordon, seconded by Stakhiv to nominate Saenz and Stakhiv to be on the Village Personnel Committee.**

**Motion by Hansen to nominate Seltzer to be on the Village Personnel Committee.**

Hansen confirmed that it would be acceptable with Stakhiv if Seltzer “called in” for the meetings. Stakhiv, however, stated that she was not a fan of “calling in” and preferred that he or any member be physically present at the meetings. Gallasch concurred. Stakhiv explained how the committee worked when Seltzer was not physically present and added that with the anticipated activity of the coming year she would prefer a three (3) member committee to help shoulder the work load.

Gordon amended his motion.

**#2018-94 Motion by Gordon, seconded by Saenz to appoint Saenz, Stakhiv, and Seltzer to be on the Village Personnel Committee.**

**Ayes: Gallasch, Gordon, Hansen, Lamott, Saenz, Stakhiv**  
**Nays: None**

**Absent: Seltzer**  
**Motion carried.**

**I. Village Road Committee**

**#2018-95 Motion by Gordon, seconded by Lamott to appoint Stakhiv and Gallasch to be on the Village Road Committee.**

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

**J. Main Street Franklin Liaison**

**#2019-96 Motion by Stakhiv, seconded by Gordon to appoint Saenz as the Main Street Franklin (MSF) Liaison.**

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

**K. Historic District Commission Liaison**

**#2018-97 Motion by Stakhiv, seconded by Gordon to appoint Gallasch as the Historic District Commission (HDC) Liaison.**

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

Gallasch added that he was also a member of the Historic District Study Committee.

**L. Village Birmingham NEXT Representative**

**Motion by Stakhiv, seconded by Gordon to appoint Saenz as the Village NEXT Representative.**

There was a discussion as to the time of the monthly meetings. Stakhiv amended her motion.

**#2018-98 Motion by Stakhiv, seconded by Saenz to appoint Pulker as the Village Birmingham NEXT Liaison.**

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

**M. Village Planning Commission Liaison  
#2018-99 Motion by Saenz, seconded by Gordon to appoint Stakhiv as the Planning  
Commission Liaison.**

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

**Nays: None**

**Absent: Seltzer**

**Motion carried.**

Hansen wished to speak to and discuss two (2) potential “Work Efforts”, questioning whether or not it would be advantageous for committees to handle them:

**1. Communications**

Hansen complimented the Village staff and the Road Committee for its work with the roads and other issues, i.e., Pedestrian lighting. It was anticipated that in the spring the Design Team would be bringing future projects to Council and this information would need to be circulated amongst the Villagers, as much as possible.

Using his professional expertise, Saenz expressed his thoughts that the Village needed more and updated methods of communication with its residents. He expanded upon the importance of this and suggested possible tools, also pointing out there needed to be a point person(s) who would disseminate information on behalf of the Village. A committee-like organization might be the best solution to take the lead and direct such a project.

Hansen related some scenarios that the Village had experienced within the last year and possible scenarios which might arise in the future. The handling of such would be most important and needed to be identified.

Discussion ensued about how to accomplish these goals. Gallasch suggested that depending on the subject it could be assigned to the appropriate committee and a member of which could be designated “Communication” or “P.R.” person.

Gordon struggled with identifying which sources of communication were successful in garnering the public’s undivided attention to any particular subject. He felt that Council could have many venues of delivery and still not accomplish its goal because sometimes the receivers can be unreachable. He further suggested that before it gets to the “committee level” Council could form an ad hoc committee which could research different possibilities and then come back to the Council with its thoughts and possible proposals.

As a Council member, Stakhiv felt that as long as the Council provided all four (4) avenues of communication (website, email blasts, print, and Facebook), as was done for the pedestrian lighting issue, Council was doing its duty in being transparent. However, a resident needed to be an active recipient in order to stay informed about Village matters and concerns.



Lamott felt that posting a “Bulletin Board”, on the website and employing someone with the necessary writing skills would be very beneficial. The Board should include activities of all the appropriate organizations/associations in the Village, as almost all have problems with communication. The notice could have a dedicated design, format, and specific location on the website. Gallasch added that if there was an important Village issue to be discussed or whatever, a notification could be included and highlighted. Creech suggested a link be placed on the website.

Further recommendations from Saenz suggested that members could bring to the next Council meeting ideas and/or examples of those things he/she thought would be important to share with the residents and should be put on the website.

## **2. Building Department - Enforcement**

Hansen referenced the discussion at last month’s meeting concerning the Building Official’s work hours, his duties, and how involved he was with building enforcement or lack thereof? She inquired if Council wanted to form a task force to work on these or have the issues handled administratively.

Creech outlined a typical day for the Building Official and his own personal interaction with the Official. Stakhiv inquired if he was accountable to anyone? Creech stated that the Official was not paid hourly and that he submits a report to him of everything he has done. Gordon further inquired what the required duties were and were they being done?

Hansen stated that the concern was about the issue of enforcement. As an example, Stakhiv mentioned an issue with one of the buildings in the downtown area and how it could have been handled more effectively. Discussion ensued.

Hansen thought the main issue was a Policy issue and thought Council should take a pro-active approach to the Building Official’s responsibilities, especially as he would be representing the Village’s perspective when dealing with troublesome properties and property owners. Because of the Village’s desire to upgrade the central downtown area, Stakhiv supported having the Building Official take a more pro-active approach.

Hansen questioned if this was important enough to have it listed as an agenda item at a Council meeting and asked how Council wanted to handle this.

Gallasch was concerned that the Building Official was unaware of some violations. Lamott stated there needed to be a more formal process of documentation. Gordon suggested maintaining a log book listing infractions, which Creech would oversee. Gallasch emphasized the importance of communication with the residents about building Ordinances. Stakhiv had several ideas about how to accomplish this education.

## **IX. CONSIDER SECHEDULING FOR 2019 MEETINGS OF VILLAGE COUNCIL, HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION, PLANNING COMMISSION AND ZONING/SIGN BOARD OF APPEALS**

**#2018-100 Motion by Gallasch, seconded by Gordon to approve the schedule for Village Council, Historic District Commission, Planning Commission, and Zoning/Sign Board of Appeals for Calendar Year 2019 as provided.**

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

**Nays: None**

**Absent: Seltzer**

**Motion carried.**

**X. COUNCIL AND ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS AND COMMENTS**

Stakhiv stated that on the page listing the Franklin Village Officials, there were a few typos: the area code for the Administrator was missing a “2”; Police Clerks- there are two (2), Stephanie and Pat, only one of whom was listed.

Hansen requested that her old home phone be removed.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion by Stakhiv, seconded by Saenz to adjourn the meeting.**

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

**Nays: None**

**Absent: Seltzer**

**Motion carried.**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:40 P.M.

Respectively submitted,

Gail Beke, Recording Secretary

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Eileen H. Pulker, Clerk

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Pamela Hansen, President