

**VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
MONDAY, July 10, 2023, at 7:00 PM  
Franklin Village Hall, Broughton House  
32325 Franklin Road, Franklin, Michigan 48025**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by President Bill Lamott, at 7:00 P.M.

**II. ROLL CALL**

Present: Kathy Erlich, David Goldberg, Mark Hanke, Pam Hansen, David Sahli, Mike Seltzer, and Bill Lamott

Absent: None

Present: Dan Roberts, Police Chief; Tony Averbuch, Fire Chief; Roger Fraser, Village Administrator; Susan Goldstrom, Assistant Administrator; and Peter Gojcaj, Village Attorney

**III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**Motion by Seltzer, seconded by Hanke to adopt the Agenda as presented.**

**AYES: Erlich, Goldberg, Hanke, Hansen, Sahli, Seltzer, and Lamott**

**NAYS: None**

**ABSENT: None**

**Motion carried.**

**IV. MINUTES**

**A. Regular Meeting of June 12, 2023**

**Motion by Seltzer, seconded by Erlich to adopt the Minutes for the Regular Meeting of June 10, 2023, as presented.**

**AYES: Erlich, Goldberg, Hanke, Hansen, Sahli, Seltzer, and Lamott**

**NAYS: None**

**ABSENT: None**

**Motion carried.**

**V. PUBLIC REQUESTS AND COMMENTS**

**Public Comments were opened by President Bill Lamott at 7:05 PM.**

Joe Mastro, non-resident

- He spoke on the condition of the Franklin Post Office. He was looking for Franklin to address the appearance of the post office.

Erlich stated that the Garden Club was working on a way to fix up the appearance of the post office. Hansen stated that the post office is on privately owned land and that maybe Rashida Tlaib could be a potential source of help.

Pete Halick, 26177 West 13 Mile Road

- He stated that there will be a memorial at the Unitarian Church at 11 o'clock, Saturday, July 15<sup>th</sup> for Betty Lee Hepworth.
- He gave an update on the Pickering Farm, he spoke to Marcia Gershenson, an Oakland County Commissioner last week. She stated that she has funds to move the barn, and the Superintendent of Holly Township also has funds to move the barn but would like it moved to Holly.

Rich Pirrotta, 31265 Woodside

- He thanked the board for sponsoring the cellular service information session held on June 27<sup>th</sup>. He spoke about the municipal code and that the Village and stated that the Council can exercise its authority regarding the cellular service. According to the code this would require a special use approval, therefore it would be required to go before the Planning Commission and a Public Hearing held.

Cat Phillips, 31265 Woodside

- She stated that in regard to the public hearing, she would like it to be well noticed in advance of any kind of decision that is in process right now with any of the cellular providers or vendors. Because as part of the public hearing, the citizens should be able to move forward in a direction that might be different and have another option that might be better suited for the community. She would like to see the public hearing be an investigative informational type of hearing and that they receive the materials that will be reviewed at the hearing.

Ankita Vyas, 24501 Franklin Park

- She stated that she was almost hit by a car on the corner of Franklin Park Drive and 13 Mile Road. Her question was does the Village have plans to move the speed detector sign closer to 13 Mile Road?

**Public Comments were closed by President Bill Lamott at 7:16 PM.**

## **VI. REPORTS OF VILLAGE OFFICERS AND AGENTS**

### **REPORTS OF VILLAGE OFFICERS AND AGENTS**

#### **A. Police Report**

Lieutenant Mike Bastianelli

- Bastianelli reported that June was quiet, but noted since the beginning of June auto larcenies of unlocked vehicles are up.
- He informed the Council, the police department is in the progress of planning for Labor Day including securing barricades and segways, the ATVs and the personnel.

- They also have a potential new part-time officer coming aboard, currently they are waiting for him to renew his MCOLES certifications. He is now taking a recertification course.
- He also reminded residents to sign up for the vacation check sheet.

### **B. Fire Report**

#### **Tony Averbuch, Fire Chief**

- Tony Averbuch, Fire Chief reviewed with Village Council his submitted report.
- June has been quite busy with 72 runs.
- Due to the forecast of potentially severe weather this week, he is asking everyone to check their generator and make sure the area is clear. That will help protect you from carbon monoxide gas.
- He also suggests investing a little money if your smoke detectors are more than 10 years old. Remember smoke detectors cannot go in the regular garbage. There is a radioactive source within, so hold those for hazardous waste drop off.
- During storms, Chief Averbuch reminded residents that chain link fences can conduct electricity. So, the safest bet is to stay put and do not go out to explore.

### **C. Treasurer Report**

#### **Lance Vainik, Village Treasurer**

- Lance Vainik, Village Treasurer reviewed with the Village Council his treasurer's report.
- There were two large entries of \$12,942.01 and \$9,455.19 for various project estimates and assessments the Village paid to Hubbell, Roth and Clark.

## **VII. SUBMISSION OF CURRENT BILLS**

<b>Totals: 7-9-2023</b>	
<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>SUB TOTALS</b>
General	\$ 115,275.06
Major Streets	\$ 19,903.54
Local Streets	\$ 31,399.79
Police	\$ 92,647.09
Garbage and Rubbish	\$ 105.00
Building Dept.	\$ 20,968.88
Library	\$ -
Street Project	\$ -
Road Millage	\$ -
Sewer Fund	\$ -
Tax Collection	\$ -
Wastewater	\$ 18,210.02
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 298,676.06</b>

#### **Discussion:**

- Questions regarding Johnson Landscaping invoices, replacing signs, and a luncheon for Rashida Tlaib at the Kreger House.

**It was moved by Seltzer, seconded by Hansen to approve the submitted bills.**

**AYES: Erlich, Goldberg, Hanke, Hansen, Sahli, Seltzer, and Lamott**

**NAYS: None**

**ABSENT: None**

**Motion carried.**

## **VIII. PRESENTATION**

### **A. Franklin Public Library Presentation**

**Rick David and Susan Stevens presented the Franklin Public Library Presentation to the Village Council.**

**Discussion followed.**

## **IX. SPECIAL REPORTS**

### **A. President's Report**

Lamott received information from DTE regarding the biggest issue in the Village. That is the age of the infrastructure. It will take a lot of time and money to update it. When he spoke to DTE, they were finishing the tree trimming. They anticipate about a 60 to 70% reduction in issues for the Village. They are currently spending money to update the system like creating smaller circuits, so if there is a power outage on that circuit fewer homes will be without power.

### **B. Council Report**

Seltzer stated he was honored to be the ribbon cutter of the new Franklin Judaic Art Studio. It is managed and created by Rabbi Bentzi Geisinsky and family. They will be teaching art courses and allowing kids to experiment in different media.

Erlich was honored to participate in a day-long conference that evaluated Jewish preparedness and resiliency in the event of a terrorist attack. The conference made it clear that a terrorist attack on any one group affects significantly more people than just those targeted.

Erlich also stated she was disappointed in how she was treated at the last Council meeting, after she voiced her concerns on the health risks cell towers posed. The decision to create flyers came from an obligation to educate the residents of the health risks and for them to come to the town hall. She was also concerned about the lack of transparency and believes that subcommittee meetings should be recorded and minutes taken.

**Discussion followed.**

Items discussed included privacy issues with the legal and personnel committees, will the Clerk be required to attend these meetings, how to record these meetings. It was suggested that minutes be written and submitted to the Clerk.

**It was moved by Erlich, seconded by Goldberg to require all subcommittee meetings have minutes taken.**

**Roll Call Vote:**

<b>Erlich</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Goldberg</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Hanke</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Hansen</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Lamott</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Sahli</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Seltzer</b>	<b>Aye</b>

**Motion carried.**

**C. Administrator Report**

Fraser stated that the Road Commission invited the administrators from Franklin, Bingham Farms and Beverly Hills to talk with Dennis Koehler and his staff about what the Road Commission has planned for their work activities in our communities. They understand that the reconstruction of Franklin Road from 13 Mile to Northwestern Highway is a priority for the Village. Also, the improvement of the gravel and road maintenance on 14 Mile between Inkster and Franklin Roads.

Discussion followed.

**D. Planning Commission Report**

Pete Halick, Chairperson

Halick stated that the Planning Commission started reviewing the possible golf cart ordinance. They also reviewed the possible amendments to the Chickens and Ducks Ordinance. Finally, he stated that Anna Cangialosi's and Albert Ludwig's terms expire this month and he would love to see them reappointed.

Discussion followed.

Items discussed included the Master Plan review and a possible Planning Commission workshop.

**Action Item: Schedule a Planning Commission Workshop for early September.**

**E. Main Street Franklin Report**

Goldstrom reported that Main Street is busy working on the Summer Block Party. This event will be on Wednesday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> from 5:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

#### **F. Cellular Service Report**

Lamott stated that the cellular service subcommittee has not met since the Town Hall meeting. He also stated that he heard no feedback on the proposal to change the location of the small cell facility at Woodside and 13 Mile Road. He would like to schedule a public meeting. Goldberg announced that he is resigning from the subcommittee. He believes there is nothing more the subcommittee can do.

Discussion followed.

Items discussed included the safety concerns, doing a possible survey and providing residents with a list of things they can do to improve cellular service and whether Franklin's codes are in compliance with State law.

#### Residents of Woodside

- They stated that they had no problems with their cellular service.

#### Cat Phillips, 31265 Woodside

- She stated that the Village has options that have not been explored. She stated that the Council, Planning Commission, and the cellular service subcommittee should have looked into multiple resources, that was not done. She mentioned she went to Planning and asked about safety and they asked for her safety information. She stated that the Village has technical people available to volunteer. Her point was the Village does not need a cell tower.

#### Rich Pirrotta, 31265 Woodside

- He stated that he thinks it is a good idea to dissolve the subcommittee because this matter belongs at the Council level. He also stated the Franklin code is clear. This is a special approval use. It should have been referred to the Planning Commission. Then a public hearing should be scheduled. He believes the public hearing would have been a good way to start gathering concerns of the residents.

#### Rick David

- He stated that Farmington Hills has a request for three towers. They are not aware of what process will happen at this point, whether it goes to a public hearing or not. But the engineers have reviewed the request.

**It was moved by Goldberg, seconded by Hanke to eliminate the cellular service subcommittee.**

**AYES: Erlich, Goldberg, Hanke, Hansen, Sahli, Seltzer, and Lamott**

**NAYS: None**

**ABSENT: None**

**Motion carried.**

**Action Item: Gojcaj will review the Village ordinances to check if it is in compliance with the State's 2018 Small Cell Act.**

## **X. OLD BUSINESS**

### **A. Consider Outdoor Lighting Ordinance**

Lamott stated that Chris Doozan, the Village Planner, had sent a letter explaining the amendments to the Outdoor Lighting Ordinance. Goldberg provided his comments on the ordinance.

Discussion followed.

**Action Item: The Trustees will send in their comments, so they can be incorporated into the First Reading Amendment.**

**Action Item: Trustee Goldberg will send his comments to Pete Halick and Chris Doozan.**

### **B. Consider Public Institutional Zoning District**

Gojcaj suggested that because the Outdoor Lighting Ordinance and Public Institutional Zoning District both involve zoning amendments and require public hearing, the Council may want to set the public hearing for either August or September.

**Action Item: Set public hearing date.**

**Action Item: Gojcaj will research the ability of the Village to change zoning districts and review similar case law.**

### **C. Consider Chickens and Ducks Ordinance**

Council discussed the Memo Chris Doozan and Roger Fraser sent. Further discussion was on when to hold a public hearing.

**It was moved by Hanke, seconded by Seltzer to approve the First Reading of Possible Amended Chickens and Ducks Ordinance, Sections 612.24(e) Zoning Permit Required with added sentence at the end of subsection (e) and Section 612.24(g)(3)(ii) Coop and Pen Size with added sentence at the end of item (iv).**

**AYES: Erlich, Goldberg, Hanke, Hansen, Sahli, Seltzer, and Lamott**

**NAYS: None**

**ABSENT: None**

**Motion carried.**

## **XI. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Consider the Labor Day Round Up Civic Event Permit.**

**It was moved by Seltzer, seconded by Hanke to approve the Labor Day Round Up Civic Event Permit.**

**AYES: Erlich, Goldberg, Hanke, Hansen, Sahli, Seltzer, and Lamott**

**NAYS: None**

**ABSENT: None**

**Motion carried.**

**B. Consider Reappointments of Citizens to Planning Commission and Historic District Commission.**

Items discussed included the DEI recommendation for vacancy, the reappointment process and what happens when their terms expire. This item was postponed until the reappointments could be posted.

**Action Item: Dana to post the reappointments to the Planning Commission, Historic District Commission, and the Zoning Board of Appeals.**

**C. Consider the JenStan Property Title Split.**

Goldberg explained that this is a formality. Currently, this property is under one tax ID number. The front part of the property is owned by the Franklin Historical Society, and the back part of the property is owned by the Village of Franklin. So, it should be two separate tax ID numbers. An application must be submitted to the Village and then it goes to Oakland County. The Village normally charges \$300 for this process. He is recommending the Village fee be waived.

**It was moved by Seltzer, seconded by Hanke to approve directing the Village Administrator to proceed with completing the title work on the JenStan Property.**

**AYES: Erlich, Goldberg, Hanke, Hansen, Sahli, Seltzer, and Lamott**

**NAYS: None**

**ABSENT: None**

**Motion carried.**

**D. Consider Proposed Expansion of Historic District.**

**Action Item: Postpone proposed expansion of the Historic District to until the August 14<sup>th</sup> Council meeting.**

**Action Item: Invite the FCA stakeholders to the August 14<sup>th</sup> Council meeting.**

**E. Consider Creating Committee to Work on Paths.**

Fraser stated that one of the grants projects the Village has been working on are for sidewalks. Also, the Council has mentioned they want some councilmembers involvement in these projects.

Trustee Hanke and Trustee Sahli both volunteered for this committee.



**F. Consider Village Signs**

Sahli suggested dividing up the sign issues into smaller sections and start with important issues first. He would like to see proposals of the signs to be removed.

Discussion followed.

**Action Item: Have a proposal to remove specific signs for the August 14<sup>th</sup> Council meeting.**

**Action Item: Consider design standards for street name signs.**

**X. ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion by Seltzer, seconded by all to adjourn the meeting.**

**AYES: Erlich, Goldberg, Hanke, Hansen, Sahli, Seltzer, and Lamott**

**NAYS: None**

**ABSENT: None**

**Motion carried.**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:32 P.M.

---

William Lamott, President

---

Dana Hughes, Village Clerk