

**VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, September 11, 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; Lieutenant Michael Bastianelli; Tony Averbuch, Fire Chief; Roger Fraser, Village Administrator; Susan Goldstrom, Assistant Administrator; and Peter Gojcaj, Village Attorney

III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion by Hanke, seconded by Sahli to adopt the Agenda with the removal of item VIII. (F) Committee on Pathways Report and moving X. (D) Reappointments to the Planning Commission, Historic District & Zoning Board of Appeals to after VII. Submission of Current Bills.

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried.

IV. MINUTES

A. Regular Meeting of August 14, 2023

Motion by Seltzer, seconded by Hanke to adopt the Minutes for the Regular Meeting of August 14, 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 7:02 PM.

Jeffery Weinger, 25866 Balsam

- He handed out the Village of Franklin's permit requirements to the Council. In it, he highlighted the section regarding construction and the requirements to attain a building permit, especially elevations and surface water drainage. He reminded them of the video he provided showing the water emanating from his neighbor's property because he increased the elevation of his property. The Village is aware of this and the Village Attorney has sent the neighbor a letter. He stated the Village is not enforcing its own ordinance. He also stated that the Village's administration has failed him.
 - Gojcaj stated that a letter was sent to the neighbor. He also stated that HRC has been in communication with the neighbor and he has complied with HRC recommendations.

Cat Phillips, 31265 Woodside Drive

- She wanted to know if the Planning Commission had shared any information regarding their review. She also requested at least two weeks' advance notice of the public hearing in an email.
 - Fraser explained that is an item for the upcoming Planning Commission meeting.

Angelina Sulaka, 26172 Meadow Drive

- She spoke about the meeting the Village President and his wife had with Congresswoman Tlaib and her staff. The meeting to which no other Trustee or Commissioner was invited. She believes this is a conflict of interest using taxpayer money to lobby a politician. She wants him to reimburse the voters for this lunch.

Public Comments were closed by President Bill Lamott at 7:20 PM.

VI. REPORTS OF VILLAGE OFFICERS AND AGENTS

REPORTS OF VILLAGE OFFICERS AND AGENTS

A. Police Report

Dan Roberts, Police Chief

- Dan Roberts, Police Chief reviewed with Village Council his submitted report.
- He stated that Labor Day went well. It was an uneventful day for the police department.
- He gave the floor to Lieutenant Mike Bastianelli to thank the Council and the residents of the Village as he is preparing to retire from the police department.
- He then gave the Council an update on the Deputy Chief position. He stated that they have received 17 applications with half of them being exceptional candidates.

B. Fire Report

Tony Averbuch

- Tony Averbuch asked, since it was the 22nd anniversary of 9/11, for a moment of silence for the 343 firefighters, 60 police officers and the 1000s of others who lost their lives on that date.
- He reviewed with Village Council his submitted report.

- On Labor Day, due to the weather conditions at the time, they experienced several heat-related medical emergencies. He asked residents to please be considerate of their own health and dress appropriately for the weather conditions.
- They are continuing with their normal apparatus maintenance, host testing, apparatus testing, and ladder testing programs. They are also continuing with commercial building inspections for both villages.
- Finally, he wanted to thank Roger Fraser, Ken Marten, and Eileen Harryvan for working together on a first responder equipment grant for \$30,000.00.

Lance Vainik, Village Treasurer

- Lance Vainik, Village Treasurer reviewed with the Village Council his treasurer’s report.
- There was a large entry of \$38,880.00 for storm drain repairs on Carol Street.

VII. SUBMISSION OF CURRENT BILLS

Totals: 9-10-2023	
CATEGORY	SUB TOTALS
General	\$ 20,368.43
Major Streets	\$ 1,113.88
Local Streets	\$ 542.83
Police	\$ 72,758.32
Garbage and Rubbish	\$ 15,321.49
Building Dept.	\$ 7,933.23
Library	\$ -
Street Project	\$ -
Road Millage	\$ -
Sewer Fund	\$ -
Tax Collection	\$ 2,472.81
Wastewater	\$ 38,880.00
TOTALS	\$ 159,4083.99

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

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

D. Reappointment to the Planning Commission, Historic District & Zoning Board of Appeals

1. Planning Commission

Sara Grezlik, Albert Ludwig, Quincy Harrison, and Daniel Ferris all spoke on their interest to serve on the Planning Commission. Candidate Anna Cangialosi was unable to attend the meeting.

It was moved by Seltzer, seconded by Hanke to approve the appointments to the Planning Commission Board of Sara Grezlik, Daniel Ferris and the reappointment of Albert Ludwig with terms now set to expire on July 1, 2026.

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried.

2. Zoning Board of Appeals

Mark Ziessow and Bryan Rockoff both spoke about their interest in serving on the Zoning Board of Appeals. Candidates Bruce Kueck and Edward Albers were not in attendance.

Discussion:

There was discussion that the three incumbents should retain their current positions. But Sahli has concerns about one of the incumbents only attending the meetings about 50% of the time. He suggested considering Quincy Harrison for one of the openings.

Public Comment:

Angelina Sulaka, 26172 Meadow Drive

- She spoke on the importance of attending the ZBA meeting. She stated that when the Council appoints people who do not show up for meetings, the ZBA cannot conduct a meeting.

It was moved by Goldberg, seconded by Seltzer to approve the appointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals of Quincy Harrison, and the reappointment of Mark Ziessow and appointing Edward Albers to a permanent member and making Bryan Rockoff an alternate with terms now set to expire on July 1, 2026.

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried.

Action Item: Commissioner Sulaka of the Zoning Board of Appeals requests from the Village Administration ordinance binders for the Commission.

3. Historic District Commission

Alex Stchekine spoke about his interest in remaining on the Zoning Board of Appeals. Candidates Gary Roberts and Alek Kokoszka were not in attendance. There was one position that is open due to the death of Jill Wilke.

It was moved by Seltzer, seconded by Hanke to approve the reappointments of Alex Stchekine, Alek Kokoszka and Gary Roberts to the Historic District Commission and appointment Anna Cangialosi to replace Jill Wilke on the board with terms now set to expire on July 1, 2026.

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried.

IX. SPECIAL REPORTS

D. President's Report

No report.

E. Council Report

Seltzer announced the passing of Vivian Carmody and offered his heartfelt condolences to her family. She was a part of the community. She was the Village's first Main Street Director in 2008.

Sahli spoke about receiving an email from one of the candidates. He stated that he was told by the Village President not to come because he would not be appointed to the Planning Commission. Sahli stated this is an interference with the appointment process.

Sahli stated he was still concerned about the luncheon the Village President held with Congresswoman Tlaib without Council knowledge.

It was moved by Sahli, seconded by Hanke to approve having President Lamott reimburse the Village of Franklin \$290.00 for the luncheon he had with Rashida Tlaib.

Roll Call Vote:

Erlich	Nay
Goldberg	Nay
Hanke	Aye
Hansen	Aye
Lamott	Abstain
Sahli	Aye
Seltzer	Aye

Motion carried.

Discussion followed regarding telling prospective candidates not to come for the appointment process.

Public Comment:

Cat Phillips, 31265 Woodside Drive

- She stated that when she applied for the Planning Commission, she had a similar experience. She also stated that did not dissuade her. She liked that the Council was talking about transparency. But every member of this Council has had side meetings, especially meetings with cellular data people. She would like the rest of the Council to reflect on their own participation in closed doors and secret meetings.

Hansen had a request for the Village staff and it has to do with streetlights. She wanted the goal to be fixing the problems with the streetlights. She is looking for a commitment from the staff to get them fixed.

Erlich wanted to know when would the Council be able to view the minutes from the subcommittees meetings. She thought they would be in the Council packets. She mentioned the Roundup and how everything went smoothly. She also said that the picnic benches on the Village property are not in good condition.

Al Beke, 32900 Colony Hill

- He stated that the picnic tables are the Village's property and the Village should either repair or replace them.

Discussion followed.

F. Administrator Report

Fraser stated the Village has been awarded money from the State to help with MERS. It will help the Village pay its obligation. He also mentioned the \$30,000.00 award to the Fire Department. That money will be used to purchase equipment they need.

G. Planning Commission Report

Stuart Wooters, Chairperson

Wooters stated the 90 days the Planning Commission was given to research the possible Pickering Barn move will begin at its next meeting. Another action item they are working on is the ranking of the planning priorities list. They were waiting until the appointment process was completed. They had also reviewed the site plans for the old Bank of America location. He brought up the ordinance on short term rentals or Airbnbs, just to let Chief Roberts know the Planning Commission has worked on it.

Discussion followed.

H. Main Street Franklin Report

Goldstrom reported that there were 600 attendees at the Summer Block Party. People appeared to be having a great time. There were a lot of people from outside of Franklin in attendance, too. The next big event will be the Franklinstein Frenzy. This is a fun event for the kids.

Discussion followed.

X. OLD BUSINESS

A. Consider First Reading – Outdoor Lighting Ordinance

It was stated that there was a letter from McKenna and Associates that explains the changes to the ordinance. It incorporated feedback from Hansen and Goldberg. The ordinance passed out at the Council meeting was the feedback from Sahli.

Discussion followed.

Public Comment:

Angelina Sulaka, 26172 Meadow Drive

- She was concerned that the code enforcement officer still must figure out how to read, interpret and enforce this ordinance. Also, the residents will have to figure out how to comply with it. Since the Village's ordinance enforcement policy is complaint driven, this ordinance may have unintended consequences.

More discussion followed.

It was moved by Hanke, seconded by Seltzer to refer the Outdoor Lighting Ordinance back to the Planning Commission for further review the changes made by Trustees.

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried.

Action Item: Postpone action on the Outdoor Lighting Ordinance to review Sahli's changes.

Action Item: Refer this ordinance to the Planning Commission for further review.

B. Consider Second and Final Reading – Ordinance to Amend the Zoning Map to Include Certain Properties in the Public Institutional Zoning District

Action Item: Postpone until the November Village Council meeting.

C. Discuss the Public Institutional Zoning for the Properties: Franklin Community Church, FCA Properties, Huda School & Franklin Cemetery

Action Item: Invite these properties to the next Village Council meeting.

Action Item: Postpone this item until October's Village Council meeting for the first reading.

Action Item: Add Franklin Sleighting Hill to this list for October's Village Council meeting.

D. Discussion of the Property Status Report

Gojcaj and Goldberg presented to the Village Council their title search findings.

Discussion followed.

E. Discussion of Village Street Name Signs

- The Council discussed the number of street name signs, the cost to repair signs and the installation cost.
- Goldberg was curious about the cost to repair the signs.
- Hanke would like to see a proposal for the cost of replacement signs, including the post with installation.

More discussion followed.

Action Item: Lamott and Goldberg will work with Fraser to put together a proposal for the Council to review.

F. Revisit Goals and Objectives

Action Item: Schedule a workshop on October 9th at 6 p.m. for the Goals and Objectives.

G. Final Statement from the Cell Subcommittee

Goldberg stated that there are no more communications between the subcommittee and the cellular carriers. They thought that at a minimum, they could control things with legislation. They have learned that their efforts to reach out to the carriers has not been well accepted. Coupled with the struggle of some groups trying to get better cellular services versus some groups focusing on the health ramifications of the cellular services. Finally, he believes that the only thing the Village can do is react to applications if and when they come in.

Discussion followed.

Public Comment:

Cat Phillips, 31265 Woodside Drive

- She asked if a public hearing was scheduled for the pending application. She has put in FOIA requests to get information. She wanted a copy of the application and the contact people from the various cellular providers. She has only received the application.

Sahli explained that the Village did respond to her request but was not able to provide as much material as she wanted.

- She responded that she would scale back her request so that it is reasonable.

Further discussion followed.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Consider the Dog and Donuts Civic Event Permit on October 7th.

It was moved by Seltzer, seconded by Erlich to approve the Civic Event Permit for Dogs and Donuts on October 7th.

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried.

B. Resolution for Proclamation Supporting September as National Recovery Month.

National Recovery Month - September 2023

WHEREAS, according to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), in 2021, 16.5 percent of American (or 46.3 million people) 12 or older, were classified as having a substance use disorder in the past year, including 29.5 million people who were classified as having an alcohol use disorder and 24 million people who classified as having a drug use disorder; and

WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) nearly 105,000 overdose deaths occurred in the United States in 2022, which was a 2% decrease from 2021; and

WHEREAS, substance use recovery is important for individual well-being and vitality, as well as for families, friends, communities, and businesses; and

WHEREAS, OCHN continues to educate and raise awareness of the risks and potential harm associated with prescription drug misuse; and

WHEREAS, stigma and stereotypes associated with substance use disorders often keep people from seeking treatment that could improve their quality of life; and

WHEREAS, substance use disorders occur when the re-current use of alcohol and/or other drugs cause clinically or functionally significant impairment, such as health problems, disability, and failure to meet major responsibilities at work, school, or home; and

WHEREAS, substance use disorder recovery is a journey of healing and transformation, enabling people to live in a community of their choice while striving to achieve their full potential; and

WHEREAS, substance use disorder recovery, benefits individuals with substance use disorders by focusing on their abilities to live, work, learn, and fully participate and contribute to society and enriches the community culture; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that, Oakland Community Health Network hereby recognize September 2023 as National Recovery Month. OCHN calls upon individuals, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses, faith-based organizations, and schools to re-commit our state to increasing awareness and understanding of substance use, and the need for appropriate and accessible services to promote recovery.

It was moved by Goldberg, seconded by Hansen to approve the following resolution, Proclamation Supporting September as National Recovery Month.

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried.

C. Resolution for Proclamation Supporting September as National Suicide Prevention Month

National Suicide Prevention Month – September 2023

WHEREAS, September is known as National Suicide Prevention Month and is intended to help raise awareness surrounding suicide prevention resources available in the community; and

WHEREAS, World Suicide Prevention Day is observed each year on September 10; and

WHEREAS, suicidal thoughts can affect anyone regardless of age, gender, race, orientation, income level, religion, or background; and

WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), each year more than 48,000 people died by suicide; and

WHEREAS, suicide is the second leading cause of death for people 10 to 34 years of age, the fourth leading cause among people 35 to 54 years of age, and the eighth leading cause among people 55 to 64 years of age; and

WHEREAS, organizations like the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) and National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, 988 work to help individuals in crisis and provide resources to shed light on this highly stigmatized topic; and

WHEREAS, every member of our community should understand that throughout life's struggles we all need the occasional reminder that we are all silently fighting our own battles; and

WHEREAS, Oakland Community Health Network (OCHN) is committed to being a Zero Suicide organization and cultivate a network of providers who are engaged in the Zero Suicide philosophy.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that, Oakland Community Health Network hereby recognizes September 2023 as National Suicide Prevention Month. OCHN calls upon our

individuals, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses, and schools to recommit our state to increasing awareness and understanding of suicide prevention, and the need for appropriate and accessible services to assist individuals in crisis.

It was moved by Sahli, seconded by Seltzer to approve the following resolution, Proclamation Supporting September as National Suicide Prevention Month.

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

NO VOTE: Erlich

Motion carried.

D. Resolution for Proclamation Supporting Constitution Week

Proclamation for Constitution Week

WHEREAS: The Constitution of the United States of America embodies the principles of our constitutional republic and the liberties it proclaims; and

WHEREAS: September 17, 2023, marks the two hundred and thirty-sixth anniversary of the signing of the Constitution of the United States of America by the Constitutional Convention; and

WHEREAS: It is fitting and proper to accord official recognition to this most important document and its memorable anniversary, and to the civic celebrations which will commemorate the occasion; and

WHEREAS: Public Law 915 guarantees the issuing of a proclamation each year by the President of the United States designating September 17th through September 23rd as Constitution Week,

NOW, THEREFORE, I Mike Seltzer, by virtue of the authority vested in me as the Trustee of the Franklin Village Council in the State of Michigan do hereby proclaim the week of September 17th through September 23rd as

CONSTITUTION WEEK

AND ask our citizens to reaffirm the ideals of the framers of the Constitution by protecting the freedoms guaranteed to us through this guardian of our liberties, knowing that lost rights may never be regained.

IN WITNESS THEREOF. I have hereto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Village of Franklin to be affixed to this proclamation this 11th day of September, 2023.

It was moved by Seltzer, seconded by Hanke to approve the following resolution, Proclamation Supporting September 17th through September 23rd as Constitution Week.

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

NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
Motion carried.

E. Discuss Information Board at Broughton House on Franklin Road

The Council discussed the idea of placing a street sign to take advantage of all the traffic on Franklin Road to post official information for the Village.

Seltzer would like to create a subcommittee to look into this type of sign. He also wanted to give Fraser the authority to look at options to present to the Council.

Hanke supported this as long as it is appropriate for the Village.

Hansen liked the idea of an electronic sign. Also, she would like Wooters to look into the electronic signs and then talk to Fraser.

Discussion followed.

Action Item: Village Administrator to look at sign options to present to Council.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Erlich, seconded by Sahli 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 10:13 P.M.

William Lamott, President

Dana Hughes, Village Clerk