

**VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN
VILLAGE COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2016, 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 Jim Kochensparger, at 7:05 PM at the Franklin Village Hall, Franklin, Michigan.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Fred Gallasch, Brian Gordon, Pam Hansen, Jim Kochensparger
Absent: Judy Moenck (excused), Mike Seltzer (excused), Tom Morrow (excused)
Also Present: Jim Creech, Village Administrator
Chief Dan Roberts, Police Department
Eileen Pulker, Village Clerk
Lance Vainik, Treasurer
John Staran, Village Attorney (arrived at 7:30PM)

III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion by Gallasch, seconded by Gordon, to adopt the Agenda, as presented.

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

Kochensparger requested that the minutes reflect that Council Members Moenck, Morrow, and Seltzer were excused from the February 8, 2016 Regular Council Meeting.

IV. MINUTES

A. Regular Meeting of January 11, 2016

Motion by Hansen, seconded by Gallasch, to approve the Regular Council Meeting Minutes for January 11, 2016, as presented.

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

V. REPORTS OF VILLAGE OFFICERS AND AGENTS

Dan Roberts, Police Chief, referred to and provided an overview of his submitted monthly report. Roberts stated that there had been three (3) residential burglaries from homes that are listed for sale and from which appliances were taken. Roberts noted that neighboring communities have experienced similar burglaries and some leads are being explored. Roberts also reported that due to the difficulties in hiring a new officer and illness, much overtime has been utilized and the part time officers have helped out as well. Roberts also

discussed the recent fire at the group home on Bloomington Court, stating that the Police Department had filed a complaint with the State of Michigan due to the conditions within the home, and that necessary repairs will be completed before residents return to the home. In response to questions, Roberts commented on the loose dog ordinance, noting that only about two (2) tickets per year are issued, and that the Village's response to repeat offenders is similar to that of other communities. Also, in response to questions, Roberts briefly discussed telephone scams and urged everyone to be careful and not respond to personal information questions or requests for money over the phone.

Tony Averbuch, Fire Chief, added to Chief Roberts' report that he has been in contact with Jim Creech, the Village Administrator and Bill Dinnan, Village Building Official about the fire incident last Friday at the group home on Bloomington Court, as to what had been discovered and additional information. In response to questions, Averbuch further stated that he had also filed a complaint with the State of Michigan, noting that the Fire Department does not have open access to the home due to the oversight being handled by the State. State licensing of Adult Foster Care Homes was discussed and it was suggested that our local representative may be able to help with the Village's concerns. Averbuch added that with the recent tragedy in Novi, the safety of residents is always a concern. In addition to his report, he reminded residents that a Burning Permit was required for all yard waste burning, that a permit can be obtained online at www.fbfd.com, and that there is no fee.

(Staran arrived at 7:30 PM)

Main Street Franklin, Barry Silverstein, Chairman of the Board, referred to the report submitted by MSF and commented on Council's request at last month's meeting to provide MSF's 2015 Work Plan and Goals. Silverstein reported that their goals had been accomplished or were in the process of completion. Silverstein noted upcoming events and the 2016 Work Plan, including advertising, recruitment of volunteers, researching grants, clarifying the Historic District signage process, sending out a new quarterly newsletter, and printing an updated Village Map. Discussion ensued regarding the map and additions to it, including the Police Station, Fire Department, and public rest rooms. Silverstein concluded stating that upcoming events include the annual evaluation by Main Street Oakland County and National Main Street on February 16, 2016, and on March 8, 2016 free training will occur in downtown Farmington.

Lance Vainik, Treasurer, referred to his submitted 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 2015-16 Budget. Vainik also reported that the bills list included a large entry to the Village of Bingham Farms for a SAD (Special Assessment District) re-imburement for an overpayment and that there was a payment to Hopkins Burns Design Studio for the restoration of the Broughton House. Vainik added that a list provided of account balances is as of February 5, 2016 of those amounts held at Level One Bank. Vainik concluded stating that the Village has sufficient funds to meet its current and anticipated obligations. In response to questions whether the costs payable to Hopkins Burns Design Studio for the Broughton House would be covered by the Historical Society grant, Creech explained that this payment was to cover the "soft" costs for the engineering

and design and compiling information required to provide for bidders which would not be covered by the grant.

VI. SUBMISSION OF CURRENT BILLS

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

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

TOTALS

General Administration	\$	12,914.92
Building	\$	6,141.84
Insurance	\$	42,074.36
Legal	\$	1,591.50
Police	\$	72,263.11
Pressure Sewer	\$	-
General Debt Service	\$	-
Major Roads	\$	5,648.41
Local Road	\$	6,101.39
Rubbish	\$	17,854.60
Trust & Agency	\$	1,000.00
Tax Fund	\$	3,225.89
Waste Water	\$	-
ALL FUNDS	\$	168,816.01

VII. PUBLIC REQUESTS AND COMMENTS

Ed Pugh, volunteer President of NEXT, represented NEXT on behalf of its Executive Director, Cris Braun, who was unable to attend the meeting. He thanked the Council for its continual support of NEXT and its support of the age 50+ population. In response to questions about building awareness and recruiting more members, Pugh outlined the different services and activities it offered and noted that a mailing would soon be going out to residents highlighting such items.

VIII. SPECIAL REPORTS

A. President's Report
None

B. Council Report

Gallasch described the potential changes in the Local Historic Districts regulations which were introduced in House Bill 5232 recently, suggesting that Council and/or citizens

compose an official letter from the Village to be sent to our local politicians to inform them that the proposed changes would not be appropriate for our Village, adding that Franklin is the 2nd oldest Historic District in Michigan and it needs to be preserved and protected. Gordon proposed that a Resolution be drafted and then sent to the HDC for its support. Gordon noted that he had had contact with Representative Moss's office which advised him that there did not appear to have much support of the bill as written, there was always a possibility that such a bill could garner support and move forward very quickly through the process. Gordon noted that it was quite possible that this Bill might be passed and signed into law before the Village Council met in March. Discussion ensued concerning the timeframe, the process of writing such a Resolution, and its effectiveness. Staran advised that a Resolution would only be a symbolic gesture and a more effective method would be direct communication with the local representatives and senators.

C. Administrator Report

Creech reported that there had been a "walk through" of the Broughton House on February 2, 2016, with another one scheduled for February 9, with more general contractors in attendance. Creech reported that he is working on the solid waste bid which should be going out next week, the current contract for which expires on June 30. Creech noted that he had attended a conference in Port Huron for Managers and Administrators, and listed some of the subjects addressed. The next Council meeting on March 14, 2016 will be at the Franklin Community Church, and subsequent months as well, while the renovations of the Broughton House are ongoing. During this time the staff will move their offices and operations into the Council Chambers. Discussion ensued regarding the payroll service and new finance software that had been suggested by the auditor. Creech stated that the Building Department software needed to be changed in order to support the newer version of BS&A; this conversion was included in the budget for the current fiscal year, as well as some technology upgrades for the Building Department Inspectors. Local contractors were discussed that may provide assistance for the renovation project. Hansen requested that at the next meeting Creech provide some costs for the financial software upgrade as well as cost estimates for staff support.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. Consider NEXT Request for Budgeted Expenditure towards Cost of Medical Equipment Loans for the Elderly and Handicapped.

#2016-05 Motion by Hansen, seconded by Gordon, to release the \$1000 earmarked in the Current FY2015-2016 Village Budget for NEXT in order to purchase additional medical equipment.

In response to questions regarding the approved budget funding for this amount, Creech showed where the item had been listed in the approved Budget. Discussion ensued regarding the time sensitivity of this item and whether it needed to be addressed at this meeting with only four (4) members in attendance, which would require affirmative votes from all four to pass. Creech stated that this was the first time that Franklin had approved additional funding to NEXT.

Ayes: Gallasch, Gordon, Hansen, Kochensparger

Absent: Moenck, Morrow, Seltzer
Nays: None
Motion carried.

Discussion ensued regarding that budget specificity was needed, to make sure the correct materials are available, reference the pages, dates, in order that there not be any misinformation or lack of information. Council members discussed that it was their responsibility to do due diligence if he/she had questions or concerns about an item(s) in Council's pre-meeting packet. Creech noted that the Budget is also available online on the Village website.

B. Consider Referral to Planning Commission for Review of the Village's Zoning Districts.

Creech summarized the issue which pertained to density and the ability to divide parcels, providing a brief background of Planning Commission's (PC) involvement dating back to 2005. Council members stated that they had been approached by some residents who were concerned about the opportunities and possibilities for large lots to be split and hence, increase the density, stating that the process could be made more difficult to achieve this.

Discussion ensued and it was determined that referring this to the PC was important to "freshen up" the process and to also look at longer range goals from the future land use perspective in the Village.

#2016-06 Motion by Gordon, seconded by Gallasch, directing the Planning Commission to review areas and lots in the Village with the goal of reducing and limiting opportunities to create smaller lots or increase density where possible and reasonable, and to initiate and recommend appropriate modifications to our current zoning and master plan to accomplish this goal.

Ayes: Gallasch, Gordon, Hansen
Absent: Moenck, Morrow, Seltzer
Nays: Kochensparger
Motion failed.

X. ADJOURNMENT

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

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

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:26 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Beke, Recording Secretary

Eileen H. Pulker, Clerk

James Kochensparger, President