

**PROCEEDINGS OF VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN  
VILLAGE COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING  
MONDAY, MARCH 14, 2005, 8:00 P.M.  
FRANKLIN VILLAGE HALL – BROUGHTON HOUSE  
32325 FRANKLIN ROAD, FRANKLIN, MICHIGAN**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by President Jahnke at 8:00 p.m. at the Franklin Village Hall, Franklin, Michigan.

**II. ROLL CALL**

**Motion by Coyer, supported by Sosin to excuse Alan Harnisch in his absence from this meeting.**

**Ayes: McElroy, Sosin, Gallasch, Lamott, Coyer, Jahnke**

**Nays: None**

**Absent: Harnisch**

**Motion carried.**

Present: Mark W. Jahnke, Fred Gallasch, Randy McElroy, Ralph Sosin, Bill Lamott, Brian Coyer, Alan Harnisch (arrived 8:05 p.m.)

Also Present: Jon Stoppels, Administrator  
Eileen Pulker, Clerk  
Tony Averbuch, Fire Chief  
Dominick Schiano, Treasurer  
Lisa Martin, Historic District Commissioner

**III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**Motion by Sosin supported by Gallasch to approve the agenda, deleting item VIII.C. Long Term Planning.**

**Ayes: Gallasch, McElroy, Sosin, Lamott, Coyer, Jahnke**

**Nays: None**

**Absent: Harnisch**

**Motion carried.**

**IV. MINUTES**

**A. Regular Meeting of February 14, 2005**

**Motion by Coyer supported by Gallasch to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of February 14, 2005, as presented.**

**Ayes: Gallasch, Sosin, Lamott, Coyer, Jahnke**

**Nays: None**

**Abstain: McElroy**

**Absent: Harnisch**

**Motion carried.**

**V. REPORTS OF VILLAGE OFFICERS AND AGENTS**

Chief Glomb was excused due to a prior commitment, but had provided a written report to Council.

Fire Chief Tony Averbuch directed Council to his written report. Averbuch also stated that the new addition to the Fire Hall was now progressing as scheduled and was expected to be completed in the next eight weeks. Averbuch also reported that the new apparatus ordered will be delivered by August or September 2005.

Treasurer Dominick Schiano stated that the current list of bills totaled \$219,952.54 which were generally consistent with the approved '04-'05 budget, and that the Village has sufficient funds to meet its current obligations. Schiano stated that the Finance Committee had met on February 16, 2005 to discuss long term financial health items. Schiano also stated that the Finance Committee will meet again on April 18, 2005 to review spending against the approved 2004-2005 Budget, which is expected to require budget amendments, resulting in pluses and minuses to several accounts. Schiano added that the final audit of the financial statement of the Village for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2004 were published by Janz and Knight, independent auditors of the Village, and that the audit reported an unqualified opinion with no material adverse findings, and that copies are available in the Clerk's office. Schiano also complimented the Village staff for their day to day work on the finances of the Village. Schiano closed his report stating that the tax settlement with the County was progressing, and by the end of the month, the documents will be submitted with the Village having collected 97% of the taxes by usual practices.

#### **VI. SUBMISSION OF CURRENT BILLS**

**Motion by McElroy supported by Sosin to approve the bills list as presented.**

<b><u>Totals:</u></b>		
<b>General Administration</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>4,406.93</b>
<b>Building</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>9,355.35</b>
<b>General Debt</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>136,791.07</b>
<b>Insurance</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>27,092.60</b>
<b>Legal</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>3,210.22</b>
<b>Police</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>14,405.23</b>
<b>Roads</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>8,790.12</b>
<b>Rubbish</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>13,497.00</b>
<b>Trust &amp; Agency</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,200.00</b>
<b>Village Hall &amp; Grounds</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,029.02</b>
<b>Waste Water</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>175.00</b>
<b>All Funds</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>219,952.54</b>

**Ayes: McElroy, Gallasch, Sosin, Lamott, Coyer, Jahnke**

**Nays: None**

**Absent: Harnisch**

**Motion carried.**

Alan Harnisch arrived.

#### **VII. PUBLIC REQUESTS AND COMMENTS**

No comments were stated at this time.

#### **VIII. SPECIAL REPORTS**

**A. Marcia Gershenson, District 17, Oakland County Commission**

Jahnke introduced Ms. Gershenson, who began by thanking the Council and the Villagers for their support. Gershenson added that she had spent most of her time since beginning in January learning about all of the different services provided by the County, and will be disseminating that information to constituents. Gershenson stated that the County oversees \$500,000,000.00 that is spent to serve and protect County residents, that public safety and security is a priority, and the commissioners are involved with local police, corrections and rehabilitation programs. Gershenson further stated that the County is involved in: combating childhood obesity; continues funding for anti-bullying programs in schools; Mainstreets (a program that might be of benefit to Franklin), an economic development plan for downtown revitalization programs and historic preservation; consultation services, workshops and help in designing and promoting business recruitment; and offer small business loans.

Gershenson reported on "Automation Alley" the County program to bring jobs to Michigan, which combines Oakland County's high tech companies with a national marketing strategy to bring skilled talent and new businesses to the County. Gershenson attended a legislative conference in Washington D.C. at which County Commissioners from all over the United States were addressed by local legislative representatives as well as John McCain, Joe Biden and Nancy Polosee and lobbied against the proposed cuts for Community Block Development Grants for which Franklin receives \$8,000.00 annually. Gershenson reported that the Village has \$6,826.10 left in an Environmental Infrastructure Grant Fund that must be used by March 1, 2006, to reimburse the Village for environmental remediation, or improvement projects related to ground or surface water, sewer and drainage systems.

Gershenson added that the number one concern for voters were the conditions of the roads to which she added that particular concerns can be directed to her for referral to the proper department at the Road Commission which receives 18,000 calls per year. Gershenson reported that she had attended the Oakland County Senior Advisory Council, providing many services to County seniors, adding that many of the advisory groups are made up from appointments by the County Commissioners, and if anyone is interested in serving on an advisory group to please let her know.

Gershenson closed by stating that the Commission meetings are held twice a month on Thursday mornings, are open to the public, and may soon be broadcast on Cable Television soon. Gershenson offered brief remarks on the upcoming Wireless Oakland summit to be held at the County offices and stated that the Intermediate School district matters do not fall under County Commissioner's jurisdiction.

#### **B. Historic District Commission 2004 Annual Report**

Lamott began by stating that the Historic District Commission is required by Ordinance to provide an annual written report to the Village Council, and that the Commissioners, who as volunteers do more than what is generally realized, are here tonight to present their report. Lamott introduced Lisa Martin, Secretary, who presented the report, and the other Commissioners present; Charlie Whitelaw, Madeline Haddad, Gary Roberts, and appointee Judy Ernst. Martin read the report (Attachment #1) into the record. Discussion ensued regarding Ordinance enforcement and the need to increase fines due for infractions.

#### **#2005-12 Motion by Coyer supported by Harnisch to accept the report as presented by the Historic District Commission report for 2004.**

**Ayes: McElroy, Gallasch, Sosin, Lamott, Coyer, Harnisch, Jahnke**

**Nays: None**

**Motion carried.**

**D. Land Conservancy - Public Information Meetings Planned**

- 1. April 7, 2005, 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Village Hall - Broughton House, Tim Doppel and Lillian Dean on Healthy Lawns and Fertilizer Use.**
- 2. April 14, 2005, 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Franklin Community Church, Dick Gleason on the Destructive Emerald Ash Borer.**
- 3. April 25, 2005, 7:00pm to 8:30 p.m. at the Franklin community Church, Rick Lazell on Environmentally Friendly Landscape Design and Management Practices.**

Lamott reported that he and Pam Hanson had worked to secure speakers and sites for these informational meetings to be held throughout April 2005, with an invasive plant meeting to be planned for which a speaker had not yet been confirmed. Lamott added that resources used include Oakland County Planning and SOCWA for speakers and materials. Lamott stated that a mailing was proposed to go out to the villagers to make them aware of these meetings, and the cost would be approximately \$1,000.00. Discussion ensued regarding possible Cable TV coverage to be taped and broadcast on Comcast Channel 15, and the source of the monies to fund this project, adding that Master Plan budget or the possible use of grant funds would be looked at.

**#2005-13 Motion by Lamott supported by McElroy for the approval of an expenditure not to exceed \$1,000.00 for the purpose of conducting four (4) information seminars in April 2005, and that the funding would come from block grant monies if possible.**

**Ayes: McElroy, Gallasch, Sosin, Lamott, Coyer, Harnisch, Jahnke**

**Nays: None**

**Motion carried.**

**E. Hearing Officer's Order for the property located at 27170 Gardenway.**

Jahnke reported that the Village had appointed a hearing officer in regards to the property located at 27270 Gardenway, a hearing was held on Friday February 18, 2005 and a subsequent report had been issued with a recommendation regarding that property. Stoppels added that the determination of the Hearing Officer, for a number of reasons, was that the action to be taken should be that the home be demolished, in part based on the testimony of the Village Building Official and staff as a result of in depth inspections of the property. Stoppels added that no current owner of the property was present at the hearing, despite notification, to plead as to why it should not be demolished or otherwise made safe. Stoppels stated that the next step in the process would be to provide a second show cause hearing, which is planned during the Regular Council meeting of April 11, 2005, after which the Council will decide how to proceed. Stoppels suggested that staff could be directed to begin to bid out the demolition, in the event the hearing officer's order is not adhered to. Discussion ensued in which it was provided that the cost of any work to be done would be billed to the homeowner and if necessary, would become a lien on the property, and in the interest of time the staff should begin to bid out the possible demolition.

**#2005-14 Motion by Coyer supported by Harnisch to direct staff to proceed with obtaining the necessary bids, in the event Council decides at their April 11, 2005 meeting to uphold the hearing officer's recommendation, for the demolition of the property located at 27170 Gardenway,**

**Ayes: McElroy, Gallasch, Sosin, Lamott, Coyer, Harnisch, Jahnke**  
**Nays: None**  
**Motion carried.**

**IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**A. Consider Demolition Application for the property located at 31250 Inkster Road.**

Jahnke introduced the demolition application, and asked Stoppels to elaborate on the tree damage waiver applicable to the project. Stoppels reported that the trees indicated as needing to be moved on the site plan provided last month, will actually not be moved or damaged during the demolition, but will be addressed, under the guidelines provided in the Village's Tree Ordinance, when the building application is reviewed. Jahnke added that this application had been previously reviewed by the Historic District Commission and found not to be located in the Historic District or to have any historic significance.

**#2005-15 Motion by Sosin supported by McElroy to approve the application for demolition of the property located at 31250 Inkster Road, subject to a \$5,000.00 bond and requirement of the Building Official.**

**Ayes: McElroy, Gallasch, Sosin, Lamott, Coyer, Harnisch, Jahnke**  
**Nays: None**  
**Motion carried.**

**X. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Ratify Election Results.**

Pulker read the election results into the record as follows:

The Special Village election held on February 22, 2005 has been canvassed by the Oakland County Board of Canvassers, and as such are ratified and the official results are as follows:

For the Question, "Shall Chapter III, Sections 4 and 5 of the Village of Franklin Charter be amended to establish four (4) year terms of office for the Village President and Trustees commencing with the next regular municipal election after year 2004?"

Total Votes Cast 138, Votes marked YES 109, Votes marked NO 29.

Discussion ensued during which it was clarified that the next Village election, being the first under the new election laws enacting biennial elections for all Villages in Michigan, will be held on September 13, 2005, the day after the regular Village Council meeting for September of September 12, 2005. In addition, the organization meeting will be held on September 26, 2005 (the second Monday following the election).

**B. Consider Application for Civic Event "Movies on the Green".**

Jahnke began by explaining that the Franklin Community Association had applied for a permit to hold a Civic Event to be called "Movies on the Green". The first night July 13, 2005 (Wednesday) will follow "Music on the Green", and the second night of July 21, 2005 will be a solo event.

**#2005-16 Motion by Gallasch, supported by Harnisch to approve the application for Civic Event "Movies on the Green" to be sponsored by the Franklin Community Association to be held following "Music on the Green" on one of two evenings in**

**July, July 13, 2005 and July 21, 2005, beginning at 9:15 pm and concluding at 11:00 pm with the usual documentation provided for proper insurance coverage and the usual clean-up necessary.**

**Ayes: McElroy, Gallasch, Sosin, Lamott, Coyer, Harnisch, Jahnke**

**Nays: None**

**Motion carried.**

**C. Consider appointment to Village Historic District Commission.**

Lamott introduced Judy Ernst who has agreed to serve on the Historic District Commission, replacing Marc Marcelli who moved out of state recently and resigned his position. Lamott added that Ms. Ernst has been a resident in the Village for thirty-three years and her husband Steve had previously served on Council.

**#2005-17 Motion by Lamott supported by Gallasch to approve the nomination of Judy Ernst to fill the remainder of Marc Marcelli's term on the Historic District Commission, which is due to expire in July 2007.**

**Ayes: McElroy, Gallasch, Sosin, Lamott, Coyer, Harnisch, Jahnke**

**Nays: None**

**Motion carried.**

**D. Consider RFP for Accounting/Auditing Services.**

Jahnke introduced the possible Request For Proposal for the Accounting/Auditing Services for the Village, noting that no competitive bids have been procured in the last sixteen years. Discussion regarding the Finance Committee's recommendation, and while there were no complaints regarding the work or relationship with the current auditors, the Finance Committee had determined that it was good business practice to obtain competitive bids more frequently than recent practice. Stoppels added that he would obtain appropriate firm names from the Michigan Municipal League and in addition to mailing out copies of the RFP, staff would also place a legal ad in the local newspaper, once Council's approval of the specifics in the RFP were approved.

Jahnke introduced a member of the audience, a long time resident of the Village, Boy Scout Mr. Ashbaugh.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion by McElroy supported by Coyer to adjourn the meeting.**

**Ayes: McElroy, Gallasch, Sosin, Lamott, Coyer, Harnisch, Jahnke**

**Nays: None**

**Motion carried.**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Eileen H. Pulker, Clerk

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Mark W. Jahnke, President

**(Attachment #1)**

*Franklin Historic District Commission  
Report to Franklin Village Council  
January 2005*

A review of the Franklin Historic District Commission's activities for the 2004 calendar year follows:

The current Commissioners are:

- Walter Denison (Chairman, attorney & long time Franklin resident)
- Rick Koslowski (Vice Chairman & long time Franklin resident)
- Lisa Martin (Secretary & historic homeowner)
- Madeline Haddad (Long time Franklin resident)
- Marc Marcelli (builder & historic homeowner)
- Gary Roberts (Architect and long time Franklin resident)
- Charles Whitelaw (builder & historic homeowner)

The following people also provided valuable expertise in carrying out the Commissions functions:

Bill Dinnan, Village Building Official  
Bill Lamott, Council Member  
Eileen Pulker, Village Clerk  
Kate Wilcox, Building Clerk and  
The entire Franklin Village staff.

We bring many areas of expertise to our joint cause. It is the Commissioners' ongoing desire to work with the Council, Historic District residents and all Villagers in a compatible and responsive manner that achieves our mutual goal of preserving Franklin.

*Franklin Historic District Commission  
Report to Franklin Village Council  
2005 (continued)*

FOLLOWING IS A SUMMARY OF OUR 2004 ACHIEVEMENTS AND ACTIVITIES:

- With the assistance of members of the Eastern Michigan University Historic Preservation Program and support from the Franklin Historic District Commission, we have completed an application to update Franklin's listing on the National Historic Register of Historic Places.
- All Commissioners have received training from the Michigan Historic Preservation Network to enhance our knowledge about historic preservation guidelines.
- A qualified consultant, Jennifer Wendler, has been engaged to develop a series of guidelines for historic homeowners. Ms. Wendler will also act as a technical consultant to the Commissioners on issues requiring in-depth knowledge of historic preservation.
- We have reviewed and approved 4 requests for demolition (all outside the Historic District).

- We have reviewed and approved 17 requests for renovation. None have been denied. In several cases, we successfully worked with the homeowner/applicant to successfully achieve compliance with National historic guidelines.
- We have issued and resolved 5 citations for non-compliance with historic guidelines and the local district law. We have one outstanding non-compliance issue with Melinda Saulson on Carol.
- We have addressed 5 signage issues.
- We have worked with 32 Villagers (including Robertson Bros. – ongoing) regarding compliance with the guidelines that will allow Franklin to retain its charm and National Registry registration. We have held **special** meetings when necessary and fielded numerous phone calls from applicants regarding assistance with their official presentation. A specific example includes Les Gorback's request for assistance. Several personal meetings and phone calls with and by Commissioners were required in order to support this project and make sure that National Registry guidelines were met.
- Significant renovation projects that we have reviewed include:
  - Cressbrook (ongoing)
  - Gorback Studio renovation
  - Renovation and expansion of Mr. Christopher Pray's home on 26011 German Mill
- Addressed (and approved) Fire Department expansion
- We have also had numerous discussions regarding the benefit of designation of Franklin as a Certified Local Government unit. This would enable us to receive special grants, but would require compliance with certain requirements and require matching funds from the Village.

In closing, we appreciate the opportunity for this presentation. It is our goal to preserve Franklin and to work on a constructive basis to preserve Franklin's historic heritage.

WE VERY MUCH APPRECIATE THE COUNCIL'S SUPPORT