

**PROCEEDINGS OF VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN  
VILLAGE COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING  
MONDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2008, 8:00 PM  
FRANKLIN VILLAGE HALL – BROUGHTON HOUSE  
32325 FRANKLIN ROAD, FRANKLIN, MICHIGAN 48025**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by President Pro-Tem Coyer at 8:06 p.m. at the Franklin Village Hall, Franklin, Michigan.

**II. ROLL CALL**

Present: Mark Jahnke, Dominick Schiano, Brian Coyer, Alan Harnisch, Bill Lamott, Amie Saltzman

Absent: Fred Gallasch (excused)

Also Present: Jon Stoppels, Administrator  
Eileen Pulker, Clerk  
Patrick Browne, Police Chief  
Tony Averbuch, Fire Chief  
John Staran, Hafeli Staran Hallahan Christ & Dudek, P.C., Village Attorney

**Motion by Schiano, supported by Lamott to excuse President Gallasch in his absence from this meeting.**

**Ayes: Harnisch, Jahnke, Lamott, Saltzman, Schiano, Coyer**

**Nays: None**

**Absent: Gallasch**

**Motion carried.**

**III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Jahnke requested that 8B be tabled until January and yard waste (1) and fuel costs (2) be added to 11B.

**Motion by Jahnke supported by Schiano to adopt the agenda as amended.**

Lamott asked if there was a recommendation regarding the Parking Lot Agreement from the Finance Committee.

Jahnke advised that there will be a split recommendation from the Committee and added that since the letter from the church did not include specifics, meetings continue with various community and church members to get a plan that was more specific.

**Ayes: Harnisch, Jahnke, Lamott, Saltzman, Schiano, Coyer**

**Nays: None**

**Absent: Gallasch**

**Motion carried.**

**IV. MINUTES**

**A. November 10, 2008 Regular Village Council Meeting.**

**Motion by Lamott supported by Harnisch to approve the minutes of the November 10, 2008 regular Village Council Meeting as provided.**

**Ayes: Harnisch, Jahnke, Lamott, Saltzman, Schiano, Coyer**

**Nays: None**

**Absent: Gallasch**

**Motion carried.**

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

Thomas Morrow, Treasurer, reviewed the Bills List as provided to Council and advised that the amounts are consistent with normal monthly spending, the expenditures are generally consistent with the budget, and the Village has sufficient funds to meet its current and anticipated obligations. Morrow continued by pointing out the drop in interest income for the Village and advised that he has looked at money market funds and the safety of the Village's funds. He provided further information regarding the interest amounts and investing principals used by Comerica Bank for the Villages accounts. Morrow also advised that he has looked at the Post-Employment Health Fund, provided a status summary, and opined that despite the negative return, it is it is a good place for this type of long term investment as positive returns will be generated once the recession has passed which will grow this fund once again.

Discussion ensued regarding Morrow's report, the investments, and the benefits of the Village's conservative investment policy.

Jahnke clarified the distinction between operating funds and long-term funds such as pension and retiree health care.

Morrow further clarified that all of the Village's money is in very conservative vehicles as required by law. Equity funds, such as the debt service bonds, had to be moved into trusts outside of the Village, and stated that once money is moved into a Trust it cannot be moved back.

Discussion ensued regarding pre-refunding and defeasement of bonds.

Patrick Browne, Police Chief, reviewed his report as provided to Council, advised that two serious incidents had occurred in the Village since the last Council meeting, provided a summary of the November 11, 2008 fatal accident and the November 19, 2008 hold-up at the Bank of America, and praised the support received by various responding departments and agencies. Browne continued by suggesting that a message-reporting database such as Smart Message might facilitate more efficient and effective delivery of alert type messages when safety issues arise, and he would like to investigate acquisition costs.

Browne continued by advising Council that Officer Vanlacken is still off, there is no time frame, yet, for his return to work, and he is reviewing bringing on a part-time officer to back fill the shift that Officer Vanlacken had been staffing as outlined in his Memo, and briefly provided a synopsis of that Memo.

Discussion ensued with Trustees praising the Department's response to the two serious incidents as well as the response of all agencies and departments who assisted with these incidents.

Harnisch requested additional information relative to hours, etc., regarding the part-time officer position, with Browne advising that specific hours will depend upon where the greatest need is and the highest number of calls and this requires some flexibility, but the initial thoughts have been something along the lines of 8 - 4.

Jahnke added to the compliments extended to the responding departments and agencies how the Department's extensive efforts in cultivating relationships with other agencies and departments has benefited the Village as shown through the response to the two serious police incidents.

Coyer commended Browne for his contact with the Birmingham school system regarding the incident at the Bank of America and stated that this has spurred the school district to begin to develop response protocols for these types of emergency situations and encouraged Browne to follow up with the school system in this regard.

In the absence of Tony Averbuch, Fire Chief, Coyer referred Council to Averbuch's submitted report. Chief Averbuch, who arrived at 9:00, advised Council that he was late due to an alarm going off, and reported that things are moving well with the Fire Department. They had an event-free Winterfest, are trying to keep in budget, and are looking to implement the overnight program in January 2009 to supplement existing coverage which will help to augment those hours where they have traditionally experienced slightly lower response times.

## VI. SUBMISSION OF CURRENT BILLS

### **Motion by Jahnke, supported by Saltzman to pay the bills list as presented.**

Jahnke queried if Page 2 under Police Department, the Fire Department usage of BP is a pass-through, with Stoppels replying in the affirmative.

Jahnke asked for clarification regarding the adjustment on page 3, Tax Fund, Taxable Value change.

**Ayes: Harnisch, Jahnke, Lamott, Saltzman, Schiano, Coyer**

**Nays: None**

**Absent: Gallasch**

**Motion carried.**

## VII. PUBLIC REQUESTS AND COMMENTS

**Marica Gershenson, Oakland County Commissioner, District 17:** Thanked Walter Banacki, Fred Gallasch, David Goldberg, Frank Ashinger, Marge and Lew Hoy, and Richard Rubin for their help with the November 1, 2008 clean-up. She advised the Council that neighbors from the Telegraph entrance of that Homeowner's Association would like to coordinate a clean-up for April 2009.

Commissioner Gershenson continued by advising Council about several items including:

- a Michigan Citizen Core Grant Program that is focused on increasing domestic preparedness, which is extra grant money that Oakland County has received and is interested in distributing to neighborhood watch groups, volunteers, police, fire, and emergency response teams, and encouraged interested Franklin community members to contact her if they are interested in applying.
- flu shots are available at Oakland County Health Division in Pontiac or on Greenfield for \$11.00.
- Commissioner Gershenson updated Council regarding the Oakland County Road Commission's open position and encouraged Council to contact her if they know of any interested applicants who have expertise in this area.

She wished the Council a happy holiday and advised them that she would see them next year.

## VIII. OLD BUSINESS

### **A. Consider Establishment of Corridor Improvement Authority and Designation of Development Area Boundaries.**

Coyer introduced this item by advising Council that this item requires no action of the Village Council this evening, a public hearing was held on this matter at 7:00 p.m. this evening, minutes will be available, and in no more than 60 days, probably at the February meeting, there will be a resolution to form the Corridor Improvement Authority "CIA" at which time Council can take action on this question.

Lamott inquired as to where the Village is at in terms of the process of appointing the Main Street program's Board.

Stoppels advised that you can have a Main Street Board separate from the CIA but that is not recommended, and that you would not appoint a Board until you determine whether we are moving forward with the CIA.

Lamott stated that it his sense that we need a Board fairly quickly and that he would like to see some recommendations and get this process moving.

Jahnke inquired as to the timing of establishing the CIA Board with Staran responding that it would have to be at least 60 days and can now be done by Resolution and handled in a single meeting..

Jahnke requested clarification as to the appointment process, stating that appointees are brought forward by the President of the Village Council and then ratified by the Village Council, to which Staran responded in the affirmative.

Jahnke, with the concurrence of Lamott, stated that he would hope that we would end up with one Board.

Coyer stated that they are independent decisions.

Discussion ensued as to how to appoint one Board that would meet the requirements of both entities, nomination process, terms, with Coyer suggesting that Council could direct the President to put together a list if Council so desires.

Planning Commission Chair, Pamela Hansen, responding to questions/comments from Schiano and Saltzman, advised the Council that this appointment process has been informally discussed, and that the suggestion to build the Main Street Board using CIA criteria makes sense. She continued by advising Council that she will be talking with Gallasch and Stoppels this month about Planning Commission's continued involvement and that she sees no reason why Gallasch can't prepare a list of candidates as well as a process of governance by the next meeting.

**B. Consider Proposed Franklin Community Church Parking Lot Agreement and Cost Participation.**

Tabled.

**C. Schedule Huda School meeting for December 18, 2008, 7:00 pm, 8:00 pm.**

Coyer stated that it is his understanding that at the last Council meeting there was an agreement that a public meeting be held at the Huda School that would be noticed as a public meeting of the Village Council, on December 18, 2008.

Stoppels advised Council that this item is on the agenda this evening so that Council can reaffirm this meeting so the Village can publish notice.

Coyer stated that it is his understanding that there has been communication between the Huda School and the Council through the administrative staff to establish questions and other items that might be appropriate for such an agenda, to which Stoppels concurred.

Discussion ensued regarding the meeting, communications between the Huda School and the Village, and the need to have a clear, mutual understanding that this meeting will include a Special Meeting of the Village Council.

Coyer reviewed the times of the meeting and advised that Council needs to establish how the public record of the meeting will be handled.

Discussion ensued regarding sound system equipment and video constraints/benefits, the meeting, communication, agenda, timing of publishing notice of the agenda to meet the needs of the community, and the need for details relative to topics be included on the agenda.

Steve Rosenthal, 26091 Romany Way addressed the Council and suggested it might be wise to actually give Huda School the questions and receive their answers before the actual meeting so the meeting itself might be more productive and that he believes videotaping is a good choice.

**D. Consider Historic District Commission payment for Kreger House Engineering and Planning.**

At this point the Fire Chief arrived and provided his report to Council which is included under Agenda Item V.

Coyer advised Council that there are several items of business that relate to the Kreger House, and this item addresses an outstanding item for which a question had been raised regarding the Historic District Commission's (HDC) authority to take on this obligation, and added that legal counsel has indicated the HDC does have the authority to do so.

Gary Roberts, 26820 Wellington, advised Council that, early on in the process, the biggest gap in planning was determining exactly what property the Village owned and to make this evaluation the HDC authorized the Historical Society to get a base level survey, which has been completed by Kieft Engineering.

Discussion ensued regarding whether this item was approved subject to review and whether additional action is required by Council.

**Motion by Lamott, supported by Harnisch to approve the HDC's request to spend \$2,000.00 and make the check payable to Kieft Engineering for the work completed supporting the HDC's request in regard to the Kreger House move.**

Schiano questioned how this will impact the HDC's budget to which Lamott and Roberts replied that it comes out of the HDC's current budget, there is no increase, and they usually spend less than half of their budgeted amount in any given year.

Jahnke observed that it would be helpful to have these kinds of items included in the budget as much as possible, to which Roberts replied that they prepare a line-item budget each year, and this item would be included under consultants in the current year budget.

**Ayes: Jahnke, Schiano, Coyer, Harnisch, Lamott, Saltzman**

**Nays: None**

**Absent: Gallasch**

**Motion carried.**

**IX. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Consider Demolition Application for 26565 Scenic Drive (Kreger Property).**

Coyer introduced the item and stated that there are a number of integrated issues for the Kreger Property.

Lamott advised Council that the HDC has entertained this motion and asked the applicant to change his request. The HDC's motion approves relocation with some specificity about not demolishing the property to which the applicant was agreeable at that time. Lamott added that he was not certain why Council is considering a demolition permit.

Coyer stated that Council is considering it because the Applicant has submitted a demolition application for this matter.

Craig Kallen, representative for the Applicant addressed Council by stating that they are following the Village's procedure in terms of obtaining a new building permit. He then summarized the procedural steps the Applicant has taken adding that they intend to move the home and the only item being demolished is the basement foundation after the structure is moved. Stoppels advised Council that the Building Official has determined that there are two items being demolished: 1) the building is being removed from the site, albeit in one piece; and 2) the basement foundation.

Coyer opined regarding the order of business that logically one would take into account what is expected to happen with the structure (first step) so what would remain is what is expected to be demolished (second step) and inquired if there is a procedure for considering removal of this building. Coyer continued, adding, that there is an additional question in the future as to what will happen with this building, but that is down the road, logically, in terms of what is before Council this evening.

Coyer stated that the demolition permit does specify this particular building and he is not sure that is Council's or the Applicant's intent, to which Kallen stated that it is not.

Lamott advised that Roberts is prepared to give an overview of the process and vision and opined that it may be appropriate to hear that first.

Coyer suggested the order of the steps may be: consideration of the donation of the house, consideration of the designation of the house as a government building, consideration of building fees, with the question of building demolition being the last step if all else has moved forward.

Schiano suggested the order could be: approving the demolition (getting rid of the house and foundation and preparing it for the new construction) followed by approving the disposition (where the house is going).

Discussion ensued regarding the order of the steps.

Schiano suggested moving forward by making sure the paperwork is in order for the demolition. Stoppels commented that what makes this different than a typical demolition is that the building is not leaving the Village.

Schiano suggested that perhaps Council would have to approve the demolition subject to disposition in a proper way, and inquired if Council can do that.

Discussion ensued regarding this circular argument of which comes first: demolition or donation. Coyer suggested that we could approve the demolition first because that is what the Applicant has requested and then proceed to the donation step.

Jahnke inquired if the contractor is responsible for insurance for the actual travel of the building, to which Lamott answered in the affirmative, adding that the contractor has provided insurance information.

Schiano inquired as to when title passes, to which Lamott stated that title has passed from the owner to the Historical Society, and would then pass when the building leaves Scenic Drive, the contractor would be responsible during the move, and title would pass to the owner of the destination property upon the building's arrival.

Discussion ensued regarding insurance and passing of title.

**Motion by Schiano, supported by Lamott to approve demolition subject to conditions that are normally placed on demolition, the building official's requirements, and subsequent items on the Agenda.**

Coyer clarified/restated the motion.

**Ayes: Jahnke, Schiano, Coyer, Harnisch, Lamott, Saltzman**

**Nays: None**

**Absent: Gallasch**

**Motion carried.**

**B. Consider Designation of use of Village Property and Use as Government Buildings, Dwelling, Shed and Barn (Kreger Property).**

Lamott suggested this discussion will be about what to do with this building should it end up in the Village, and provided an overview of the process that began 90 days ago, adding that he is speaking on behalf of the Historical Society. He reminded Council that the owner had agreed to give the improvements at no cost and to donate the money to move the house if the Village so chose, with the understanding that this had to be done by December 31, 2008 or the deal was off and he would then proceed with demolition of the building.

Roberts began his overview by stating that the Historical Society retained the services of Gene Hopkins, a noted historic preservation architect with the Hopkins Burns Design Studio in Ann Arbor, which led to an open meeting/visioning session of possible uses led by Mr. Hopkins. This was followed by a number of planning sessions, public hearing at the Planning Commission level, on site work sessions, preliminary staking, more on site work sessions, organizational meetings, with a true goal of not short cutting the Village's processes.

Roberts continued by reviewing the plan as follows: Visioning session led to a pronounced and overwhelming sentiment that the community does not have enough space for Village gatherings especially for the numerous volunteer organizations/groups. This would provide these groups to have some place to meet, in groups of less than 12 and some storage space in the basement. The thought with the shed is to convert it into two single public restrooms. Relative to the barn, it is a small structure too, and therein lies the opportunity to have a larger group gathering if the Village chose, but this would be someday down the road.

Roberts continued reviewing the plan in terms of orientation as follows: House will face the street and it will appear the way that it does now. There is an obvious opportunity to make a pedestrian connection to the back sidewalk. Buildings have been offset a little to create a small open space in between for gardens, picnic tables, etc., and this will require engaging a landscape architect, and may include a children's garden in the back. Parking is an issue, but we did not think that it was appropriate to address all of the parking needs with this one application.

Roberts continued by stating that it is extremely important to note that this application speaks to a number of points in the Master Plan and that this application addresses head-on at least 6 of those goals, which he covered in specificity to the Planning Commission. Briefly, this application addresses the following Master Plan goals: Gathering Place, Identity, Balancing property owner rights and the desirability to preserve for the good of the public, Village Center, Promote a unique identity, Village Business – volunteer activity, and Community Facilities and Open Space – lack of public meeting space.

Roberts continued by updating Council on what is happening now as follows: Civil engineering has been authorized, architect has to evaluate that the floor live loads and structural elements of that house are safe for public use, move construction is underway, and foundation plans are in progress. The priority is to get the house on a basement, reconnected to utilities, heat back on, and the facility connected and secured as soon as possible. The Shed has no slab and the barn is the second phase.

Roberts continued by reviewing financing as follows: The first phase (house set on a basement, reconnected, and toilet facilities) is about \$200,000.00. As of this minute \$50,000 has been committed or in the bank and the Franklin Foundation has created a dollar-to dollar matching grant of \$50,000.00, and there are only few days until formal fundraising begins.

Roberts continued by mentioning the flyer and stating that the overarching goal is to facilitate bringing the community together in a gathering place that people will want to come to and participate in volunteer activities within. He stated that he has talked to just about everyone he knows and has only received two negative comments both dealing with open space issues, which he recognizes as an important matter that in many ways defines our image. He added that this opportunity will cover about 2,000 sq. ft. of the 1,200,000 sq. ft. designated public and quasi public open space, and with site placement along the tree line, a cost/benefit analysis, in his opinion, would place this on the benefit side.

Roberts finished by advising Council that the goal tonight is to have Council accept the bill of sale with the understanding that for the entitlement process this will be for government use, and advised that until the foundations can be prepared, the buildings will be placed on blocks. The intent is to follow the normal Village process, and the tentative move date is December 17, 2008. Lamott added that in digging through the archives they had found a picture of the Franklin Community Hall that burned down in 1958 at the place where the current Fire Department is, so this is basically the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of recreating the Community Hall.

Schiano inquired as to what happens if the needed funds are not raised to which Roberts answered that the phases would be deferred according to the prioritized plan, but they would ultimately like usage to be the highest and best use.

Schiano inquired if any thought has been given to how the structures appear (safe, secure, and not an eyesore) during the time period that funds are still being raised, if enough is not raised initially, to which Roberts replied that they have raised almost enough to put the basement in, to date.

Lamott added that they don't want to put a bunch of old buildings in that look bad, and that is just not going to happen.

Saltzman asked how the Village is going to pay for this.

Lamott answered that an analysis has been provided showing a cost of about \$10,000.00, for the foundation for the dwelling and that raising \$400,000.00 (\$350 per house) would be the perfect scenario. If additional funds were raised those funds could be devoted to ongoing maintenance.

Schiano clarified the distinction between voluntary and involuntary funds and that the issue is whether we, the Village residents, are willing to pay about \$10.00 per house for this transformative opportunity.

Mike Seltzer, 27160 Scenic Drive, advised the Council that perhaps the last time a house was moved in the Village was his home, back in 1972. That had been a big story at that time, and was covered widely by the press. He believes there is a significant amount of enthusiasm for this project, they have not heard criticism, and if we have to take this to a vote most people would be supportive of paying \$10.00 per house to keep this tradition alive, and ended by adding that he is very supportive of this project and hopes that the Council is too.

Jahnke inquired if Council needs Planning Commission to weigh in on this before we accept it to which Staran replied that ultimately the Planning Commission is responsible for site plan approval but the acceptance of the donation and the decision to locate there subject to that approval is the Council's decision.

Discussion ensued as to Planning Commission's involvement, with Lamott summarizing what has occurred and will be occurring in terms of appearing before the Zoning Board of Appeals to ask for a temporary use permit and seeking variances for height, setback, and parking.

Harnisch commented that he has two concerns though he believes this is a wonderful project: 1) Financial concerns due to the budget squeeze and potentially even tighter one in the next few years, and 2) Whether any structural damage will arise due to being placed on blocks for the winter, to which Roberts replied that the architect is advising on this matter and that plumbing needs to be addressed but since this is being moved as one piece, structurally the building should remain sound.

Coyer inquired to what extent they have been informally marketing this to potential tenants (volunteer associations) to line up future tenants who could help to defray some costs, to which Lamott replied that the Historical Society is the facilitator and just about every volunteer organization in town has been contacted.

Saltzman inquired, administratively, who will be overseeing the day-to-day rental and maintenance needs of the buildings, to which Stoppels replied that hearing that there are 22 local groups, if each one donated \$200.00 per year which allowed them up to 4 – 5 sessions in the building, there would a few thousand dollars to devote to this right there. Original guess was annual maintenance costs of \$12,500 which includes putting funds aside for repainting and major repairs, which is based upon what the Village does with the Village Hall building, Broughton House.

Discussion ensued regarding financing, economic challenges, volunteer support both in time and funds, the benefits of this project.

Saltzman, with the concurrence of Harnisch and Schiano asked what happens if the money is not raised and the buildings are still on their supports, what happens – worst case analysis - to which Roberts replied that the structures will be parked on mover's equipment and in the event that this



opportunity doesn't come to fruition they could, worst case scenario, be tossed into the dumpster. Their first choice would be to seek other places to donate them to.

Schiano inquired if there should be some sort of a time limit placed on this to which Lamott stated that he would have no problem signing some sort of an agreement to that effect, the risk is small and the benefit is huge.

Dean Moenck, 26148 Meadow Drive, member of the PC and ZBA, stated that, first, what will get people down is the addition of safety paths, but acknowledged that is a separate issue. He inquired as to what would happen if the variances were not passed by the ZBA after the Council has already approved it, to which Stoppels stated that the applicant would have to modify the plan or seek a different type of variance.

Moenck further stated that there will be additional expense as the kitchen will be moved separate from the front of the house, to which Lamott and Roberts replied that this cost has been factored in.

Moenck continued by stating that a key concern is the government use designation as a special use permit would be required for a public meeting place to which Lamott replied that the special use application process will be followed and until that special use is approved the building will only be used for governmental purposes.

Chris Pray, 26011 German Mill, stated that he is very supportive and this campus like atmosphere will be beneficial to the Village.

Jahnke advised Council that when the Village Green was donated to the Village there was a stipulation that another structure would never be put on it – the Village Green will remain the Village Green. He added that Village processes are clearly laid out and Council will ensure that those processes are followed, which in his view will result in a wonderful downtown campus similar to Northville.

**Motion by Lamott, supported by Schiano, to approve the following Kreger House Resolution:**

**We Resolve to accept the donation of the property known as the Kreger House (house, barn and shed) located at 26565 Scenic with the understanding that these buildings will be moved to the Village property located at TF 24 06 257 022 adjacent to the Broughton House and Police Station; that the cost of moving the buildings will be privately funded; and that the intended use of the buildings once relocated to Village property will be for Village Government purposes including meetings, offices, and storage.**

**It is further understood that the Village Council waives any permit application fees associated with the relocation of the Kreger Property Buildings.**

Discussion ensued regarding fiscal concerns, the impressive presentation and the unique opportunity that this gift to the Village presents.

**Ayes: Jahnke, Schiano, Coyer, Harnisch, Lamott, Saltzman**

**Nays: None**

**Absent: Gallasch**

**Motion carried.**

**C. Consider Donation of 26565 Scenic Drive (Kreger Property) to the Village.**

Coyer stated with the concurrence of Council that this item has been covered under Agenda Item IX B.

Staran advised that he will work with Stoppels to handle the appropriate documentation administratively.

**D. Consider Building Department Fees for Kreger Property Project.**

Coyer stated with the concurrence of Council that this item has been covered under Agenda Item IX B.

**E. Consider Proposed Oakland County Drain Commission Proposed Sewer Repairs.**

Coyer stated that this item was addressed at the Wastewater Management Board meeting and involves a claim Oakland County is making against the Village regarding a discharge into the system. He advised that this matter has been referred to Council and Council's Finance Committee by the Wastewater Management Board and will be on an upcoming Council agenda as well as at the next Wastewater Management Board meeting.

**F. Consider Possible Holiday Hours for December 2008.**

Stoppels advised Council that Christmas Eve and Christmas day are recognized holidays in the Village, and in light of the fact that these holidays are a slow time for the Village, the employees are requesting that Council officially close for business on the day after Christmas, Friday, with each employee taking that day as a vacation day.

Harnisch inquired if this would include the Friday following New Years, to which Stoppels replied, not at this time.

Schiano stated that the Personnel Committee has agreed with this request.

Coyer inquired if this decision requires a formal resolution/vote or if a consensus of Council would be sufficient, to which Stoppels replied that Council needs to approve this.

Jahnke stated that having the Village Offices only open two days that week is tough on the Villagers, and that another option would be to close on Thursday and Friday on both weeks, and that he is not in favor of this request.

**Motion by Lamott, supported by Schiano to close the Village Offices on December 26<sup>th</sup> 2008, with available vacation days being used by each of the employees.**

**Ayes: Schiano, Coyer, Harnisch, Lamott, Saltzman**

**Nays: Jahnke**

**Absent: Gallasch**

**Motion carried.**

**X. PROCLAMATIONS/ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS**

**A. Consider Tree City USA Resolution.**

Stoppels advised Council that the Village has been a Tree City USA since 2004 and is seeking application to be recognized as a Tree City USA for 2008. One of the requirements is to hold an Arbor Day Celebration as established by Council Resolution and we are proposing to use this Celebration to be held on December 16<sup>th</sup> as an educational opportunity to address two tree problems that we are experiencing in the Village and surrounding areas.

Coyer inquired if other communities would be invited to which Stoppels answered in the affirmative.

**Motion by Harnisch, supported by Lamott to adopt the Arbor Day Proclamation as follows:**

**ARBOR DAY PROCLAMATION**

**Whereas, In 1872, J. sterling Morton proposed o the Nebraska Board of Agriculture that a special day be set aside for the planting of trees; and**  
**Whereas, the holiday, called Arbor Day, was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska; and**  
**Whereas, Arbor Day is now observed throughout the nation and the world; and**  
**Whereas, trees can reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, lower our heating and cooling cost, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce oxygen and provide habitat for wildlife; and**

**Whereas, trees are a renewable resource giving us paper, wood for our homes, fuel for our fires and countless other wood products; and**  
**Whereas, trees in our Village increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and beautify our community; and**  
**Whereas, trees, wherever they are planed, are a source of joy and spiritual renewal.**

**NOW, THEREFORE, I Brian Coyer, Village Council Pro Tem, do hereby proclaim December 16, 2008 as Arbor Day in the Village of Franklin, and I urge all citizens to celebrate Arbor Day and to support efforts to protect our tees and woodlands.**

**Further, I urge all citizens to plant and care for trees to gladden the heart and promote the well-being of this and future generations.**

**Ayes: Jahnke, Schiano, Coyer, Harnisch, Lamott, Saltzman**

**Absent: Gallasch**

**Nays: None**

**Motion carried.**

## **XI. SPECIAL REPORTS**

### **A. Council Reports:**

#### **1. Wireless Report – Brian Coyer, Trustee**

Coyer reported that the Wireless Committee had met with Great Lakes Internet and requested a proposal for a demonstration of wireless for the Village. The proposal is being considered by the Committee and questions/comments would be entertained.

### **B. Administrator's Report:**

#### **1. Yard Waste**

Stoppels referred Council to the Memo he provided in this regard, provided a summary of the schedule used for this year, and added that for each of the remaining years on this contract with Waste Management they will memorialize in writing what will be the last day for pick up of yard waste which will be posted for the residents.

Jahnke commented that we need to get this in writing so that we can rely on what we communicate to our residents.

Discussion ensued regarding the last pick up for yard waste.

#### **2. Fuel Costs**

Stoppels reminded Council that when fuel prices had begun to spike, he and Chief Brown worked out a means of reducing both the cost and demand for fuel for the Village with the goal of breaking even at the end of the budget year. Stoppels referred Council to his preliminary report and advised that they are ahead of schedule and are on line to save \$2,000.00 to \$3,000.00 from the original budget, and that the strategies implemented will continue.

Jahnke inquired if the 4 10 hour days will continue to which Stoppels advised that currently only Police Administration is, and that the Village may consider 4 10 hour days next year.

#### **3. Ice rink**

Stoppels stated that they were not able to purchase one as they had wanted to but one is on order and will be delivered, and advised that the weather has been such that if ice had been established, the ice would have thawed and it would not be usable, but they are aiming for sometime after the first of the year.

**XII. ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion by Coyer, supported by Schiano to adjourn the meeting.**

**Ayes: Jahnke, Schiano, Coyer, Harnisch, Lamott, Saltzman**

**Nays: None**

**Absent: Gallasch**

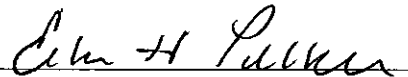
**Motion carried.**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

---

Lori Rich, Recording Secretary



---

Eileen H. Pulker, Clerk

---

Brian Coyer, President Pro Tem