

**VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN
VILLAGE COUNCIL
WORKSHOP MEETING
AUGUST 5, 2014, 6:30 PM
AT THE VILLAGE HALL
32325 FRANKLIN ROAD
FRANKLIN, MICHIGAN**

WORKSHOP

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Pro Tem, Pam Hansen at 6:32 P.M. at the Franklin Village Hall, Franklin, Michigan.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Brian Gordon, Pam Hansen, Judy Moenck, Tom Morrow, Ed Saenz
Absent: Jim Kochensparger, Mike Seltzer
Also Present: Eileen Pulker, Clerk; Jim Creech, Village Administrator; John Staran, Village Attorney

Hansen provided information concerning the concept and purpose of the workshop-style meeting. Morrow remarked about the extensive list of items on the agenda, similar to that of a regular Council meeting. Morrow opined that discussions on items should be during the regular meetings which are video- taped for public viewing. Saenz supported Morrow's comments. Staran addressed the technicality of a "special" meeting and a "workshop".

Hansen asked the Council to quickly move over those items on the agenda that can be postponed to later meetings.

III. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Franklin Branch Streambank Stabilization Project

Sherwood Krause, Brookwood Lane, provided a brief presentation on his concern about the rapid erosion of the Franklin River bed in the common space of the Cressbrook Association and his desire to stabilize it. He confirmed that the project has the support of Cressbrook residents and provided documentation stating that all the necessary permits and approvals from the county and state were in place. Ordinance 1226.13 was referenced in terms of obtaining Village Council approval. This item will be placed on the August 11 agenda.

B. Irving Drive Road Vacation

Stuart Greidanus, Captains Lane and owner of an adjoining property to the undeveloped (Appletree Lane) Irving Road discussed that he and his neighbors', Eric and Amy Grosinger desire to vacate the property. To date he has been partially maintaining it and would continue to do so to preserve its natural beauty. He stressed that they want to keep it beneficial for themselves and the Village. He also mentioned that behind his house is the "magic path", as it is known by the kids, would remain as a public right-of-way and be maintained, even though it is not part of the "vacated road".

Creech and Staran discussed the necessary steps of the process. Creech will pursue this matter further, obtaining the appropriate information. This item will be placed on the September Council meeting agenda for further public discussion.

C. Forest Drive Road Dedication

Creech noted that he still needs to obtain certain documentation and Staran still has some concerns. It was questionable if this would be on August's Council meeting agenda.

D. Main Street Franklin

1. Franklin 2020 Update

Gordon stated that he believed that since a separate committee has been established to lead "Franklin 2020" it should not be considered a sub-topic of Main Street Franklin, but rather its own entity.

Moenck asked that the Council formalize Saenz's appointment as the Council representative on the "Franklin 2020" committee.

Katherine White, Executive Director of Main Street Franklin, and Pat Burke, lead member of the "Franklin 2020" committee and member of Main Street Franklin gave the Council an update on the funding request. Burke stated that it is the committee's desire to lessen the burden on Village government. Burke indicated that they have 100% participation from Village Council for pledges to "Franklin 2020"; almost 100% participation from HDC; Planning Commission has over 50% participation. So far the committee has raised over \$4400 from individuals, in addition to the \$5000 that MSF has been able to raise. She has asked the Franklin Foundation and the FCA to partner with MSF who gave her suggestions as to fundraising (direct mailing and phone calls). The committee members are: Connie Ettinger (Planning Chair), Gayle Timmis (HDC), Ed Saenz (VC), Bill Finnicum (preservation architect and Historic District resident), herself, and Cathy Watkins (MSF Design Committee Chair).

White informed the Council that an application has been submitted to the Franklin Foundation and she is waiting to hear feedback and how much it would like to contribute. She has also met with people who have concerns about the actual final product. She has spoken with Main Street Oakland County and other Main Street programs, and gathered information from other communities.

2. Funding for Main Street "Franklin 2020"

Burke noted that she followed up with Bill Dwyer, our county commissioner, and spoke with those people he had recommended, but unfortunately there was no available funding. However, she and Katherine mentioned a new state program, Crowd Funding MI, which would match funds up to \$100,000 for a project which is "shovel-ready". But the guidelines need to be in place.

Item will be placed on the August agenda.

Jane Polan, Oakhills Dr., Franklin Community Association (FCA) President, stated that she has spoken with Jay Gardner, Franklin Foundation President. about what is happening with “Franklin 2020”. They have several concerns about the RFP, fundraising, and enforceability of the guidelines. Morrow asked if she and/or Gardner were involved on the committee, to which she replied to the negative, stating that at this time she doesn’t have the effort or time it needs. She confirmed that Mike Seltzer who is on the FCA Board was supportive and wanted to get the money immediately, while other Board members had questions and concerns and were in favor of having a meeting to discuss the issue.

Hansen suggested that item **3. Kreger House MSF Office Use** be deferred, pending additional information from the administrator regarding usage regulations.

E. Proposed Road Work

The Administrator introduced the subject and suggested several options. Gordon would like to thoughtfully pick those roads where the need is the greatest. Since everyone has concerns, Moenck would like this issue be put aside while Creech does more investigation into costs and brings back recommendations.

Morrow reminded the Council that the roads need to last until 2018 when the existing bond expires as funding is a big issue.

F. Snow Removal Contract

Morrow re-iterated his comments that he made during the winter concerning the failure of a fixed price contract. Gordon concurred and recommended that a “pay per push” contract be considered. Creech will work on it.

G. Zoning/Sign Board of Appeals appointments

Postponed until the August Village Council Meeting.

H. Household Hazardous Waste Day, September 6th

Postponed until the August Village Council Meeting.

I. Fee for Solicitor Permit Application

Creech said that \$75 appears to be a common fee in the surrounding communities. Council needs to approve the amount at the next Village Council Meeting.

J. 2nd Reading Noise Ordinance

Postponed until the August Village Council Meeting.

K. Street and Tree Administrator Appointment

Postponed until the August Village Council Meeting.

L. Comcast Corporation/Midwest Cable, Inc. Transaction

Staran explained that what is proposed is part of the larger Comcast acquisition of Time Warner. This item will be on the agenda of the September Village Council Meeting.

IV. ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE

Creech has received several quotes for the Broughton House maintenance. Special Approval Uses application from the Franklin Community Church will go before the Planning Commission (PC) in August to set a date for a September Public Hearing, after which PC will send its recommendation to Council for its October meeting. The Arbor Day/Tree City Designation will be on the agenda of the August meeting.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jane Polan, Oakhills, regarding the planting of trees, asked that if trees are to be located on the Village Green to please be mindful that the Art Fair, “Art in the Village” during Round Up is there. Also, FCA, Village, and the playground have concrete items and garbage cans that need repair. She asked if the Council would be willing to pay 1/3 of the cost.

Bill Lamott, Scenic Highway, shared some suggestions as to the Broughton House maintenance and recommended Hopkins Burns. He had questions and comments about Franklin 2020.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Moenck, seconded by Saenz to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:40 P.M.

Submitted,

Gail Beke, Recording Secretary

Eileen H. Pulker, Clerk

Pamela Hansen, President Pro Tem