

TOWN OF FRANKLIN: Town Board Minutes

Date: September 16th, 2024 Call To Order at: 7:00pm by Town Chair

Present: Berent Froiland x Kurt Lucey x Matt Connelly x Hannah Aspenson x Tracy Thelen x

Observers: (12) Todd Tunks, Vicki Tunks, Kay Wienke, Bob Retko, Charlie Harem, Sigrid Harem, Emily Nelson, Andy Nelson, Tom Gronemus, Maureen Adams, Bert Adams, Bordy Rudrud

Minutes:

August 2024 minutes were read by Clerk

Motion to accept Meeting Minutes: Matt 2nd to the motion: Kurt Motion carried: x

Treasurer's Report:

<u>August 31, 2024</u>	Book Balance =	<u>\$136,307.34</u>
	Outstanding Checks =	<u>\$ 6,423.37</u>
	Bank Balance =	<u>\$142,730.71</u>

Checking balance as of meeting date: \$132,677.30. Line of credit balance \$149,213.28,

Money Market Balance: \$1012.32, Grader Loan Balance \$387,500, Firehouse Loan Balance \$300,000.

ABT Mail Company – town has received bill/quote for the processing/mailling the 2024 Tax Bills. The board agrees to accept and have ABT mail the tax bills again. Motion to accept Treasurers report: Matt 2nd to the motion: Kurt Motion carried: x

Public Questions & Concerns:

~Ridgeview Estates residents: to hear about the options of snow plowing in case the road project goes out to spring. The Clarks need to work with the town on the roads because they are technically the owners of the roads in the subdivision. Residents in attendance would just like reassurance & a maintenance agreement made between Clarks/Township that the township for snowplowing for at least the 24/25 winter season. A big concern on the township level is that it is a liability for us to do any maintenance at this time: example - we hit a well head – the township could be sued. Brody has plowed it in the past when there has been a big snow, as a courtesy to the residents living there – however did this not knowing of the liability issue the Township has. Technically, for plowing, the Clarks should contact a private contractor to do the snow removal.

Town Board doesn't have an issue w/Brody continuing to do so on heavy snow events, however Berent will reach out to our insurance & the towns attorney to verify if we should have some sort of agreement drawn up between the Clarks (property owners) and the Township.

Berent also asked the residents to let the town board have more discussion amongst them about a “temporary agreement” & check more on the liability for township. Then by October we will have more information on the subject.

Bills:

Bills are prepared by the clerk & reviewed by the town board.

Motion to accept bills: Kurt 2nd to the motion: Matt Motion carried: x

Other:

~Fire Meeting: no updates really, still moving dirt at the new location. They had a setback on the dirt & had to haul out and back in etc. The preliminary budget from the Fire Chief is about \$2,000 more. Now indicating the three townships need to pay utilities. Utilities vs Rent. Admin wants 50/50, Chief is trying for City do 60%, the towns split the 40%. This raises the question: Why do we need to pay for any utilities? We haven't had to in the past. We paid a “rent” fee. Which is supposed to now be free for 20 yrs per the previous conversations/notes. So, asking us to pay for utilities is just a way around the rent basically.

~Patrolman update: Nothing really to update on the grader. The wheel motors had sent metal “shavings” thru everything. The company needs to flush all the lines etc. Mowing: should be finishing up the mowing in the next two weeks.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn meeting: Kurt, 2nd by: Matt Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned: 8:03pm