

**City of Franklin Common Council  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
March 6, 2017**

The regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Franklin, Indiana was called to order at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall, 70 E. Monroe Street, with Mayor Steve Barnett presiding. Council members Joseph Abban, Joseph Ault, Kenneth Austin, Andrew Eggers, Keith Fox, Bob Heuchan and Richard Wertz answered roll call. Clerk-Treasurer's Assistant Stephanie Shepherd, Records Clerk Kathy Cragen, City Attorney Lynnette Gray were also present.

Councilor Ault offered an invocation. Mayor Barnett opened the meeting and asked the Clerk-Treasurer's Assistant to call the roll. Mayor Barnett led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Announcements, Presentations & Public Comments**

**Swearing in of Firefighter Robert Biro** - Mayor Barnett & Fire Chief Dan McElyea introduced Firefighter Robert Biro. Mayor Barnett swore in firefighter Biro, and welcomed him to the Franklin Fire Department.

**Presentation of Volunteer of the Year Award** - Mayor Barnett announced the names of the volunteers nominated for volunteer of the year: Lynn Schuetz; Tara Burcham; Carol Phepps; Sheila Morton; Janet Gorrell; Stephanie Wagner; Gary Kiesel; and James A. Martin, Jr., and read a recognition letter recognizing all of their volunteer work in the community. Mayor Barnett announced this year's winner was Stephanie Wagner. The Mayor thanked all of the volunteers for their work and dedication to the community.

**IPEP Grant/Fire Department Presentation** – John Auld of Franklin Insurance Agency stated that Fire Chief McElyea and Captain Culp had applied for a matching safety grant from the Indiana Public Employees Plan (IPEP), and they had been awarded this grant in the amount of \$1,215.07. Mr. Auld presented this check to the Fire Department.

**Consent Agenda**

Mayor Barnett presented the consent agenda for approval.

- Approval of the February 6, 2017 Common Council Minutes

Councilor Eggers made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Council President Fox. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

### **Old Business**

Councilor Eggers made a motion to read all old business by title only, seconded by Councilor Abban a voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

### **Public Hearing**

**Common Council Budgetary Ordinance No.: 17-03 An Additional Appropriation of Non-Tax Supported Funds** – Mayor Barnett read the title, and stated this was introduced at the previous meeting, and is ready for approval tonight. The Mayor opened the floor for public hearing, no one asked to speak. Councilor Eggers made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor Abban. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

**Common Council Budgetary Ordinance No.: 17-04 An Additional Appropriation from Rainy Day Capital** – Mayor Barnett read the title, and stated this was introduced at the previous meeting, and is ready for approval tonight. The Mayor opened the floor for public hearing, no one asked to speak. A discussion was held. Council President Fox made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

### **New Business**

Councilor Eggers made a motion to read all new business by title only, seconded by Councilor Wertz. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

**Common Council Ordinance No.: 17-01 An Ordinance Approving Resolution 17-02 of the City of Franklin, Indiana Plan Commission, Rezoning Certain Property to IBD (Industrial: Business Development) (To be known as RSW Lot 8 Rezoning)** – Mayor Barnett stated this was for introduction only tonight. Mr. Steve Williams stated this ordinance is for approval of rezoning RSW Lot 8. This will be brought back at the next meeting for approval.

**Common Council Budgetary Ordinance No.: 17-05 An Additional Appropriation Local Road and Bridge Matching Grant Fund - Capital 258 001 400 in the amount of \$1,000,000.00** – Mayor Barnett stated this was a grant from the state that was approved last year for Wayne Street and paving projects, and this is to appropriate the money we have already spent on these projects. This is for introduction only tonight.

**Common Council Budgetary Ordinance No.: 17-07 An Additional Appropriation for Donation Fund in the amount of \$43,965.57** – Mayor Barnett stated this is reimbursement

money from Indiana American Water for work that was completed on North Main Street. A discussion was held. This is for introduction only tonight.

**Request Approval of Interlocal Agreement between Johnson County and city of Franklin -** City Attorney Lynn Gray stated this is an Interlocal Agreement with Johnson County, this agreement is for the county to give the city the Red Carpet Inn parcel in exchange for 97 parking spaces in the Oren Wright parking lot to be used by county employees. Ms. Gray stated this agreement has already been approved by the Board of Works, Redevelopment Commission (RDC), County Council, and County Commissioners, and now needs the City Council agreement, and signatures. A discussion was held. Councilor Eggers made a motion to approve, seconded by Council President Fox. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

### **Other Business**

Mayor Barnett welcomed new council member Bob Heuchan to the Council.

City Attorney Gray stated when the mayor resigns and someone from the council replaces them as Mayor then the Council Vice-President becomes Council President. At that time a Council Vice-President needs to be elected if the Council so chooses. Ms. Gray stated it is not required to have a vice-president, it is at the Council's discretion. A discussion was held. It was decided not to elect a vice-president this year.

### **Council Comments**

Councilor Wertz stated that he had received calls regarding driving changes on Simon Rd., and stating new signage may be needed in this area. City Engineer Richards stated this was discussed at their department head meeting this morning, and they were looking into this issue. A discussion was held. Councilor Wertz also stated there would be a special Redevelopment Commission (RDC) meeting on the 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m.

Councilor Ault asked for an update on finding a new City Court location. Mayor Barnett stated there have been ongoing conversations with one of the County Commissioners, and hopefully they will give us an extension for the date City Court must vacate their current location.

Police Chief O'Sullivan came forward to state that three officers: Rick Sharp; John Borges, and Pete Ketchum will be retiring within the next few months. Chief O'Sullivan stated he needs permission to look into moving forward with the new hire list, as this is a very lengthy process to get new officers through the training process, and on the force. A discussion was held. Councilor Eggers made a motion to move forward with the new hire list, seconded by Councilor Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

### **Adjournment**

As there was no further business to come before the Common Council, a motion and a second were made to adjourn at 6:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Jayne Rhoades, Clerk-Treasurer  
Enrolled: 3/13/17

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Steve Barnett, Mayor

Attest:

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Jayne Rhoades, Clerk-Treasurer