

City of Franklin Common Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
July 17, 2023

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 Kenneth Austin, Anne McGuinness, Irene Nalley and Josh Prine answered roll call. Clerk-Treasurer Jayne Rhoades, and City Attorney Lynnette Gray were also present.

Council members Bob Heuchan, Jennifer Price and Shawn Taylor were absent.

Mayor Barnett opened the meeting and asked the Clerk-Treasurer to call the roll.

Bryan Ries offered an invocation, & led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Announcements & Public Comments

There were no announcements or public comments.

Consent Agenda

Mayor Barnett presented the consent agenda for approval.

- Approval of the July 5, 2023 Common Council Minutes

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

Old Business

Council President Austin made a motion to read all old business by title only, seconded by Councilor Nalley. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Public Hearing

Approval of Adding Aquatic Director to the 2023 Salary Ordinance therefore Amending Budgetary Ordinance 22-18 – Director of Parks & Recreation Chip Orner stated this was introduced at the previous council meeting. Mayor Barnett opened the public hearing. There were no public comments. Mayor Barnett closed the public hearing. Council President Austin made a motion to approve Budgetary Ordinance 23-06, seconded by Councilor Prine. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

New Business

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

Introduction of Stormwater Rate Study and Ordinance 23-08 to amend the method for determining non-residential stormwater fees - Christopher Burke Engineering Sheila McKinley gave a presentation to the council on the stormwater rate study. The funding from stormwater fees is specifically for MS4 projects. The current rate is at \$5/month for single-family residential, multi-family residential is \$2.50/month, non-residential less than 40,000 square feet is \$5/month and larger than 40,000 square feet is \$15/month. Currently it is generating \$575,000/year. The residential fees will not change. The proposed changes to charges to non-residential parcels would increase the money generated for the city to \$1.45 million/year. Ms. McKinley gave a break-down of what the city could do with these funds including capital improvement projects and operating costs. City Engineer Mark Richards stated there were a couple of typos on the report that will be corrected and the ERUs will be rounded up to the next whole number. The study will be uploaded to the city's website. The Ordinance will go for public hearing at the City Council meeting on August 21st. The new billing would begin January 2024.

Additional appropriation from General Fund for two projects at Greenlawn Cemetery. \$105,000 for the purchase and installation of a Columbarium and \$25,000 to have military and damaged headstones repaired - Director of Parks and Recreation Chip Orner stated there are a couple of projects that need done at the cemetery. Mr. Orner gave a brief overview of both projects. The columbarium will take up 42 spots but there will be 800 available spots created by the columbarium. Single spots will cost \$2,000 and double spots will be \$3,000. There was a discussion about the revenue from cemetery plots that were purchased from the Masonic Home. So far, there have been 262 plots sold. Mr. Orner explained that Mayor Barnett requested the cemetery look into repairing headstones with focus on the military section. The cemetery did apply for two grants but were not awarded with that money to repair the headstones. These additional appropriation requests were for introduction only. Both projects will go for public hearing at the August 7th council meeting.

Other Business

Tax Impact Analysis Annual Presentation to Taxing Units - Jeff Peters gave a 10-minute presentation of the tax impact analysis of the Redevelopment Commission. The Redevelopment Commission is a vital part of the city's growth and can cover the costs of many types of projects in the revitalization area.

Council Comments

Chief of Staff Tara Payne stated the high school roundabout ribbon cutting will be August 1st at 10 a.m.

Adjournment

As there was no further business to come before the Common Council, a motion and a second were made to adjourn at 6:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jayne Rhoades, Clerk-Treasurer
Enrolled: 7/19/23

Steve Barnett, Mayor

Attest:

Jayne Rhoades, Clerk-Treasurer