

**City of Franklin Common Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
February 21, 2024**

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, Jennifer Price, Josh Prine and Shawn Taylor answered roll call. Clerk-Treasurer Jan Jones, and City Attorney Lynnette Gray were also present.

Council member Todd Shuck was 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

Promoting Jesse Brown to Sergeant – Police Deputy Chief Scott Summers gave a brief presentation thanking Jesse Brown for his hard work and presenting him with his promotion to Police Sergeant Jesse Brown.

Consent Agenda

Mayor Barnett presented the consent agenda for approval.

- Approval of the February 5, 2024 Common Council Minutes

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

Approval of City Council Ordinance 2024-01 Establishing a Municipal Riverfront Development Project Area with the City of Franklin – Attorney Gray identified Dana Monson, Community Development Specialist as representing Community Development Director Krista Linke. Attorney Gray stated this project needed to be acted on and said a public hearing was required this evening. Mayor Barnett opened a public hearing. An attendee asked exactly

where this project was. Attorney Gray answered and some discussion was had. Mayor Barnett closed the public meeting, stating it ready for action. Council President Austin made a motion to approve the City Council Ordinance 2024-01 as presented, seconded by Vice President Taylor. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Approval of Budgetary Ordinance 24-01 Authorizing an Additional Appropriation for Non-Tax Supported Funds – Clerk Treasurer Jones stated this Budgetary Ordinance was introduced at a previous meeting and was ready for a public hearing. Mayor Barnett opened a public hearing. There were no comments from the public. Mayor Barnett closed the public hearing, and called for action. Councilor McGuinness made a motion to approve Budgetary Ordinance 24-01, seconded by Councilor Nalley. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Approval of Budgetary Ordinance 24-02 Transfer of 2023 Unused Appropriations to Board of Works Capital Fund – Councilor Nalley made a motion to approve Budgetary Ordinance 24-02, seconded by Council Vice President Taylor. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

New Business

Update regarding Opioid Collaboration – Attorney Gray gave an update on opioid collaboration; the City of Franklin is projected to receive an amount of \$332,978.93. Attorney Gray stated some of this has already been received and has been put into a separate account which is designated for help on the Opioid remediation within the City of Franklin. An amount of \$124,869.87 is unrestricted, meaning the City Council can use it for any appropriation. The remaining projected monies net of fees, are restricted which can only be used for specific opioid abatement programs. This results in approximately \$11,000.00 per year. Attorney Gray stated if we join the county with the Collaboration option with our money, we could possibly get more than our \$11,000.00 per year, or additional funds. We may not receive any. Councilor Price asked if there are stats on Bargersville and Franklin’s for their runs. Fire Chief Josh Snyder stated, they have a program started over a year ago, implementing when they go on their overdose runs, they offer them the information that Betsy Burkhart has set up through the Crisis Intervention Team. They can get help right away. The county is striving to get more people to join. They only have one paramedic, one person from rehab and one of the County Health Department’s staff. They need the whole county to get involved. This would help with all of these calls that come through at all hours of the day and night. Everyone in Johnson County is on board with this collaboration except for Greenwood stated by Attorney Gray. Mayor Barnett suggested that the city collaborate with the county but he wants the Common Council to discuss and decide. Councilor McGuinness stated her agreement with Mayor Barnett that the city should collaborate with the County. Other Council members expressed their agreement with Mayor Barnett also. Attorney Gray suggested entering into an interlocal agreement for the city to give an ex amount of dollars to the county with a seat on the board. Mayor Barnett summarized by saying the Council is interested in instructing Attorney Gray to move forward with the county, providing someone from Common Council serve on their Board, and trying it for two years.

Introduction of Budgetary Ordinance 24-03 Repealing and Replacing Budgetary Ordinance 23-07 Salary Ordinance – Clerk Treasurer Jones introduced Budgetary Ordinance 24-03 stating the salary line items in Clerk Treasurer’s Office have been separated in the past, (if approved.) Mayor Barnett clarified with Clerk Treasurer Jones that there will only be one line item with a maximum amount of \$59,000.00. Clerk Treasurer Jones answered affirmatively, but with some salaries less than this amount.

Other Business

Cable Pollution Project Update – Natasha Merson from The Masters Group gave an update how they are getting the above and underground cables improved by getting the utility companies involved within the City of Franklin.

Council Comments

No comments except for wishing Attorney Gray a happy belated birthday.

Adjournment

As there was no further business to come before the Common Council, a motion and a second were made to adjourn at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Jones, Clerk-Treasurer
Enrolled: 02/29/2024

Steve Barnett, Mayor

Attest:

Jan Jones, Clerk-Treasurer