

**City of Franklin
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES**

**City Hall
55 W. Madison St.
Franklin, Indiana 46131**

Monday November 22, 2004 @ 7:00 P.M.

Presiding Officer: Mayor Norman P. Blankenship

Roll Call Present: Mr. Joseph R. Ault
Mr. Kenneth W. Austin
Mr. Phillip R. Barrow
Mr. Jeffrey C. Eggers
Mrs. Ann Gordon
Dr. William T. Murphy

Absent: President Stephen D. Hougland

Also present: Robert H. Schafstall, Esq. , Clerk-Treasurer Assistant Kristi Bruther

After the Invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance Mr. Ault seconded by Mr. Barrow made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held on October 25, 2004. The motion carried. Dr. Murphy abstained. Dr. Murphy seconded by Mrs. Gordon made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held on November 8, 2004. The motion carried. Mr. Eggers abstained.

PETITIONS AND PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Blankenship asked if anyone from the Public wished to comment on any matter not on the agenda. No one asked to speak.

OLD BUSINESS

None

PUBLIC HEARINGS

INTRODUCTIONS

Budgetary Resolution No. 04-07 – Authorizing a transfer from Line Item 416 to Line Items 332 and 225 within the Fire Department budget

Deputy Fire Chief Jim Reese presented the proposed budgetary resolution authorizing a transfer within the Fire Department budget from the Improvements line item (416) to the Wearing Apparel (225) and Communications line item (332) for uniforms as part of a match to a grant received and communication equipment. A motion and a second were offered to read the ordinance aloud by title only. The motion carried. Mr. Ault seconded by Mrs. Gordon made a motion to approve the proposed ordinance. The motion carried and the ordinance was approved. The Council was polled and the votes cast were as follows:

Aye: Ault, Austin, Barrow, Eggers, Gordon, Murphy

Nay: None

Resolution No. 04-09 – A Resolution Establishing a Capital Asset Policy

Clerk-Treasurer Assistant Kristi Bruther presented the proposed resolution establishing a capital asset policy consistent with GASB 34 guidelines as recommended by the State Board of Accounts. Ms. Bruther stated that the threshold of \$5,000 was approved by the Board of Works in 2003. The City Attorney clarified that this policy was being introduced in the form of a resolution for Council approval at the request of the State Board of Accounts. A motion and a second were offered to read the resolution aloud by title only. The motion carried. Mr. Austin seconded by Mr. Ault made a motion to approve the proposed resolution. The motion carried and the resolution was approved. The Council was polled and the votes cast were as follows:

Aye: Ault, Austin, Barrow, Eggers, Gordon, Murphy

Nay: None

Salary Ordinance No. 04-12 – An Ordinance setting the Salaries of the DPW employees

Mr. Rick Littleton presented the proposed budgetary ordinance on the behalf of the Board of Works establishing the salaries for the Department of Public Works employees for the year 2005. Mr. Littleton stated that the salary increases are consistent with the raises received by other City of Franklin employees. He also pointed out that the Salary Ordinance includes an on-call policy that was approved by Board of Works. City Attorney requested that the Council approve the following two editorial changes:

1. Retract the word “retroactively” in the title.
2. Place a period after the word “Mayor” and eliminate the remainder of the sentence in Section 5.

Mr. Eggers, seconded by Mrs. Gordon made a motion to approve the necessary editorial changes. The motion carried. The budgetary ordinance is set for public hearing on December 13, 2004.

OTHER BUSINESS

City Engineer Mike Buening presented a proposed resolution to establish an overtime line item and to transfer \$1,000 from the Assistant Engineer line item 101-5-113 to the new overtime line item 101-5-199.0 in the Board of Works Budget. The Assistant Engineer is currently earning compensatory time. Mayor Blankenship stated that this is an introduction and the proposed resolution will be set for public hearing at the next meeting, December 13, 2004.

Council Member Comments

Council Member Ken Austin requested that the potential new North Fire Station be discussed by the Common Council. Mayor Blankenship stated that the Fire Department has reviewed the property near the new High School and have determined that the area is in line with their needs and is acceptable to them. Mr. Ault offered that he had unofficially discussed staffing issues with the Chief and that there have been several studies completed in regard to the placement of a new Fire Station. Mayor Blankenship also discussed the three point plan that was addressed in a Council resolution.

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Council Member Ann Gordon inquired about the possible role that the Common Council may have in the development of the Ashbourne Subdivision on East View and Upper Shelbyville Road. Mayor Blankenship and other members of the Council agreed that they no longer played a role in this development. Mr. Austin stated that the development of this area falls within the master plan as originally recommend by the Plan Commission and approved by the Common Council. Discussion held.

Dr. Murphy inquired about the resurfacing of Jefferson Street and the possibility of having the center lines painted. Mike Buening, City Engineer, stated that the resurfacing project was a "band-aid" on the part of INDOT and that State Road 44 would be completely resurfaced in 2005. Mayor Blankenship assured the Council that he would require INDOT to paint lines. Mayor Blankenship also requested that any Council Member notify his office if any work starts on the downtown portion of Jefferson Street due to historical lighting issue that has to take place in conjunction with the resurfacing.

Mayor Blankenship recognized two Franklin firefighters Kevin Kieffer and John Henderson on behalf of Chief Herron for their sponsorship of a memorial softball tournament in honor of Dale McKnight and to raise money for his son's education.

Mayor Blankenship reminded Council Members of the Christmas Luncheon to be held December 8, 2004 at Beeson Hall and wished all Council Members and their families a Happy Thanksgiving.

Adjournment

As there was no further business to come before the Common Council, the meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m. The next meeting will be held on December 13, 2004 at 7:00 p.m.

Signed copies available at the Clerk-Treasurer's Office:

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