City of Franklin
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES

City Hall
55 W. Madison St.
Franklin Indiana 46131

Monday, July 9, 2001 @ 7:00 P.M.

Presiding Officer: Mayor Norman P. Blankenship

Roll Call:
Council Members Present:
Mr. Stephen P. Hougland, President Pro Tempore
Mr. Joseph R. Ault
Mr. Phillip R. Barrow
Mr. Jerry B. Maguire
Mr. William T. Murphy
Mrs. Katherine L. Poynter
Mr. Lyman A. Snyder

Also Present:
City Attorney Robert H. Schafstall
Clerk Treasurer Janet P. Alexander

Karen Bridges a correspondent for the Indianapolis Star was present at this meeting.

After the Invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance, Dr. Murphy, seconded by Mrs. Poynter, made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 26, 2001 meeting as distributed. Motion carried.

Mayor Blankenship introduced the new City Attorney Mr. Robert H. Schafstall. The Mayor swore in Mr. Schafstall.

OLD BUSINESS

Ordinance No. 01-13 – Wilson Overlook – (Public Hearing) Mr. Joseph Csikos introduced the Ordinance stating that the Plan Commission gave this project a favorable recommendation. Mr. Csikos also reviewed the estimated financial impact of the annexation on the City of Franklin. Mayor Blankenship stated that this is the public hearing and asked whether anyone present wished to speak for or against the petition. Mr. Fred Paris asked to speak. Mr. Schafstall swore in Mr. Paris. Mr. Paris described the area. The subdivision is planned to include 29 homes. The building lots are zoned R4 and he hopes to purchase and move homes from purchased from Franklin College, located on Wilson Street in Franklin.
Mr. Paris has asked the City of Franklin to enter into an interlocal agreement between the City of Franklin and Johnson County which will allow him to plan the subdivision according to City standards rather than Johnson County standards, which have different requirements. Mrs. Poynter, seconded by Mr. Ault made a motion to read the ordinance by title only. Dr. Murphy, seconded by Mr. Barrow made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 01-13. Motion carried. The Council was polled and their votes were recorded as follows: Mr. Hougland - Aye, Mr. Ault - Aye, Mr. Barrow - Aye, Mr. Maguire, - Aye, Dr. Murphy - Aye, Mrs. Poynter - Aye, Mr. Snyder - Aye. Vote to Approve 7 - 0. This matter is set for adoption hearing July 23rd.

Ordinance No. 01-12 – Meadows at Simon Farms – (Public Hearing) Mr. Joseph Csikos introduced the Ordinance stating that the Plan Commission gave this project a favorable recommendation. Mr. Csikos also reviewed the estimated financial impact of the annexation on the City of Franklin. Mayor Blankenship stated that this is the public hearing and asked whether anyone present wished to speak for or against the petition. Mr. Steve Williams representing Glen Brizendine the developer of this planned subdivision, asked. to speak. Mr. Schafstall swore in Mr. Williams who proceeded to describe the planned subdivision. The addition is zoned R6 and will include approximately 99 homes on large lots, a park, and a large lake.
Mr. Snyder, seconded by Mr. Ault made a motion to read the ordinance by title only. Mr. Murphy, seconded by Mr. Barrow made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 01-13. Motion carried. The Council was polled and their votes were recorded as follows: Mr. Hougland - Aye, Mr. Ault - Aye, Mr. Barrow - Aye, Mr. Maguire, - Aye, Dr. Murphy - Aye, Mrs. Poynter - Aye, Mr. Snyder - Aye. Vote to Approve 7 – 0. This matter is set for adoption hearing July 23rd.

Access Johnson County Funding Request for 2002 – no one appeared concerning this matter. Mr. Hougland made a motion to table, seconded by Dr. Murphy. Tabled.

Resolution No. 01-14 – Interlocal Agreement with Johnson County – Mr. David Weir introduces this matter. City Attorney Robert H. Schafstall stated that he has received the revised document with the signatures of the County Commissions and he explained that if the Wilson Overlook annexation (Ordinance 01-13) does not occur within three months, the subdivision control authority reverts back to Johnson County. Mr. Hougland made a motion to read the resolution by title only, seconded by Mr. Barrow. Motion carried. Motion to accept the ordinance made by Mr. Ault, seconded by Mrs. Poynter. Motion carried. The Council was polled and their votes were recorded as follows: Mr. Hougland - Aye, Mr. Ault - Aye, Mr. Barrow - Aye, Mr. Maguire, - Aye, Dr. Murphy - Aye, Mrs. Poynter - Aye, Mr. Snyder - Aye. Vote to Approve 7 – 0.

NEW BUSINESS

Introduction of Ordinance No. 01-16 Franklin Tech Park Annexation – Mr. Joseph Csikos summarized the estimates of receipts and expenditures - receipts estimated $4,427,729.98, estimated expenditures $145,777.44 leaving a projected surplus $4,300,000.00 at build-out. Mr. Harry F. (Mac) McNaught of Denison Properties Inc. presented his plan for his proposed development and request for annexation. This matter will be set for Public Hearing August 13th..

Introduction of Ordinance No. 01-17 Franklin Tech Park Rezoning – This will be set for 1st reading July 23, 2001.

Repeal of Ordinance No. 96-20 and Introduction of Ordinance No. 01-18 (Proposed Curfew Ordinance) Tabled until July 23, 2001.

Transfer of Funds and Additional Appropriation for Fire Department – Chief Herron requested that the Council allow the transfer of $5,510 from Fund 61 – Fire Medic Service Fees to the Fire Department line item 1-6-320 Travel & Training to reimburse the department for EMS & Paramedic training expenditures. The Chief also asked the Council to appropriate $8,000 from Fund 61 for training expenses for the department through the end of this year. The Clerk Treasurer stated that the Additional Appropriation from Fund 61 to the General Fund would require the Council to approve an additional appropriation ordinance to transfer the monies between funds. The second request should be treated the same way. An ordinance approved by the Council would be required to "appropriate" $8,000 in Fund 61, thereby allowing expenses to be paid from the fund up to the appropriated amount. The Clerk will prepare the required ordinances for the Councils consideration at the next meeting.

Salary Ordinance Discussion – The Mayor requested individual presentations by Department Heads requesting the opportunity to discuss their personnel services budget proposals to the Council. Each Department Head was allowed 20 minutes for their presentation.

Ms. Suzanne Findley – Director of Parks and Recreation

> Reported that the Park Board requested a special increase for one maintenance employee and wants to create a full time custodian for the Cultural Arts Center and the Wonder Five Center. Suzanne explained that they intend to cancel the contractual cleaning service they currently use from their 2002 budget. Mr. Maguire seconded by Mr. Snyder made a motion to accept the requests. Motion carried.

Mr. Hughes – Street Commissioner

> Requested two new positions in the street department for laborers at approximately $20,000.00 per year. Mr. Hughes explained the reason for this request is based on the increase in street mileage throughout the City and the department has taken on the sidewalk repair and replacement project. The Mayor stated that he supports this request. Mr. Snyder seconded by Dr. Murphy made a motion to approve the creation of two new positions in the Street Department. Motion approved.

Mrs. Janet P. Alexander - Clerk Treasurer

Requested salary adjustments for her staff. She requested an increase for the Claims Coordinator from $22,342 to $25,200, the Records Coordinator from $21,400 to $24,000, the Payroll Coordinator from $27,159 – to 30,258, and the Accounts Coordinator from $22,342 to $25,200 plus $2000 additional if she accepts the position of Chief Deputy for total increase to $27,200.00. Mr. Barrow spoke in favor of the Clerk's request. Mr. Maguire seconded by Mrs. Poynter made a motion to accept the Clerk Treasurers request. Motion carried.

Chief Michael Herron – Fire Department & Chief John Borges – Police Department

The Chiefs jointly presented their salary requests. Due to concerns about a shortage of supervisory staff, the Chiefs requested the Council approve a re-organization of the existing positions and to fund rank promotions in both agencies. Also the Chiefs requested salary increases for both of their agencies. The Chiefs expressed their concern about the small number of applicants they have attracted. They also stated their concern that because other municipalities are offering higher salaries and benefits to public safety officers their departments are becoming a training ground from which other municipalities recruit. They submitted two proposals for salary adjustments. To increase the base pay of fire and police by $4,000.00 in 2002 or to agree to raise the salary $2000.00 and a 4% increase and to agree to increase the salary of the officers in 2003 again by $2000. President Hougland asked the Council to consider these two issues separately.

Concerning the proposal to increase the number of officers holding supervisory rank by three. Mr. Maguire seconded by Dr. Murphy, made a motion to endorse the Chiefs' rank re-organization proposal, which would increase the number of supervisors in each department by three officers, resulting in a $3,000 increase per agency. Motion carried.

The Council discussed the salary request. Mr. Hougland seconded by Dr. Murphy recommended that the Council take the Chiefs recommendation matter under advisement. The Council voted on this motion. Vote to table 5 Aye, 2 Nay. Motion carried. The Mayor stated that he would ask Mr. Ripley to look at this issue between now and the next Council meeting.

Mayor Blankenship repeated his salary recommendation stating "that should we adopt a respectable longevity program for civilian employees, my recommendation still stands at a 3.5 % increase for civilian employees and a 4% increase for police and fire contingent upon the acceptance of a longevity program. Absent that, my recommendation is still a 5% increase across the board and the maintenance of the $500 bonus which had been in place last year which followed a $750 bonus from the year before."

A discussion was held concerning the spreadsheets provided by the Clerk Treasurer pursuant to the Council's request for projecting the financial impact of each of the three options: 3.5 % plus $125 per year for eligible employees, 4 % across the board, and 5% plus a $500 longevity bonus. As well as the adjusted salary figures for those employees whose hours will be increased from 35 to 37.5 hours in 2003.

Mr. Maguire made a motion to approve Option #2 Adjusted – a 4% increase and the salary adjustment (35 hours to 37.5 hours). Mr. Barrow seconded this motion. The motion carried. The Council was polled and their votes were recorded as follows: Mr. Hougland - Aye, Mr. Ault - Nay, Mr. Barrow - Aye, Mr. Maguire, - Aye, Dr. Murphy - Aye, Mrs. Poynter - Aye, Mr. Snyder - Nay. Vote to Approve 5 – 2.

Mr. Hougland seconded by Dr. Murphy made a motion to allow a 4 % overall increase for police officers and firefighters The Council was polled and their votes were recorded as follows: Mr. Hougland - Aye, Mr. Ault - Aye, Mr. Barrow - Aye, Mr. Maguire, - Aye, Dr. Murphy - Aye, Mrs. Poynter - Aye, Mr. Snyder - Aye. Vote to Approve Aye 7 – Nay 0.

The Clerk Treasurer stated that the salary ordinance will be set for 1st reading July 23rd, the adoption hearing will be August 13th.

MAYORS COMMENTS

The Mayor announced that Dr. Graham has resigned from the Plan Commission. The Council will be asked to appoint a replacement. President Hougland gave the resignation letter to the Clerk Treasurer.

American Consulting Engineers have provided a proposal to consider the sale of city property and to look at a two fire station configuration. The fee for the additional study will be $3,250 and the Board of Works will consider the agreement tomorrow.

Mayor Blankenship stated that he would be making a request on behalf of Johnson County Senior Services to be included in the 2002 Board of Works budget.

He also pointed out that he had copied the Council on a letter from Mayor Heaths to the Governor concerning the suspension of the Build Indiana Fund.

PETITIONS & PUBLIC COMMENTS

The Mayor asked if there were any petitions or requests from the public to make comments.

Mr. Art Schlangan asked to speak. Mr. Schlangan stated that he understood the Council's request for a study to look at the information presented by the Chiefs but that the Council may not be aware of the fact that other departments are actively recruiting. He stated that he received letters from other fire departments asking him to apply. He pointed out that many other officers are also being recruited.

Carolyn Hauck also spoke, stating, "I just want to thank the Council for the raise, I appreciated it very much. And I will be back next year to talk about longevity."

OTHER BUSINESS & COMMENTS

The Mayor stated that Dale Saucier, a firefighter who is also a commercial painting contractor, has submitted a Uniform Conflict of Interest statement. This statement must be accepted by the Council before the Clerk –Treasurer may submit it to the State of Indiana. Dr. Murphy seconded by Mr. Hougland made a motion to accept the statement Vote to accept 6 Aye – 0 Nay, (Katherine Poynter abstained due to having hired Mr. Saucier).

As there was no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m

Respectfully submitted

Janet P. Alexander, Clerk-Treasurer
Secretary to the Common Council

Enrolled Date: 6/28/11

Approved by Common Council:__________

Norman P. Blankenship, Jr. Mayor