City of Franklin
COMMON COUNCIL

City Council Chambers
70 E. Monroe St.
Franklin, Indiana 46131

Monday, April 4, 2011 @ 6:30 p.m.

Presiding Officer:	Mayor Fred Paris
Members Present:	Dr. William T. Murphy, President Mr. Joseph Abban Mr. Joseph Ault Mr. Kenneth W. Austin Mr. Stephen D. Barnett Mrs. Ann Gordon
Members Absent:	Mr. Stephen D. Hougland
Also Present:	City Attorney Robert H. Schafstall and Clerk Treasurer Janet Alexander

Mayor Paris opened the meeting and asked the Clerk-Treasurer to call the roll. Dr. Murphy offered the invocation, which was followed by a recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA

- Approval of the March 21, 2011 Common Council Minutes

Mayor Paris presented the consent agenda for approval and requested that the word 'grant' be included into the comments concerning the FDC grant application to the Bowen Center at Ball State.

Mr. Barnett asked if a comment could be added to the minutes concerning the Council's vote to not sell the former City Hall building, stating that Mr. Grimmer did not present a plan to the City Council at any time, and that the Council was not voting on Mr. Grimmer's plan but on Mr. Gutting's offer to purchase.

A motion and a second were made to approve the consent agenda and insert the word 'grant' under the FDC grant application portion of the March 21, meeting minutes. The motion passed.

Mr. Barnett then requested that the minutes for this evenings meeting state that the Council never received a plan from Mr. Grimmer, and that the Council voted only on Mr. Gutting's offer, not Mr. Grimmer's.

OLD BUSINESS

Ordinance No.: 11-02 An Ordinance to Protect the City's Tree Resources (Amended After Introduction)

City Attorney Rob H. Schafstall presented the proposed Tree Board Ordinance No.11-02 and requested that the Council adopt the amended document. Mr. Ault moved to read Ordinance 11-02 by title only, Dr. Murphy seconded. The motion carried. Mr. Schafstall then asked that the Council move to accept the amendments. Mr. Ault, seconded by Dr. Murphy made a motion to amend Ordinance 11-02 as presented. The motion carried. Mr. Schafstall then requested that the Council void proposed Ordinance 11-03 which was introduced at the last meeting explaining that the amendments to proposed Ordinance 11-02 incorporated the language from Ordinance 11-03 and therefore it is no longer necessary to adopt two separate documents. Mr. Ault, seconded by Dr. Murphy made a motion to void Ordinance 11-03. Motion carried. Mr. Schafstall clarified that this ordinance disbands the current Tree Board, in order to resurrect it. Also, any future vacancies would be filled by the members of the Tree Board. Up until now, appointments had been made by the Mayor. Mayor Paris stated that it is his intent to reappoint the current board members. A discussion was held. It was explained that the new regulations would be communicated directly to current tree care companies and to the public through information provided in their sewer bills, postings on the City of Franklin website, and in the Daily Journal. The Tree Board was directed to provide the Clerk-Treasurer's Office with the necessary forms.

A "street tree" was defined as "trees between the street and sidewalk, or if no sidewalk, anything within eight feet of the right of way." The Mayor opened the public hearing. Resident Gary Moody asked questions about the proposed ordinance.

The Mayor closed the public hearing. Mr. Austin, seconded by Mr. Barnett made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 11-02. All members present voted in favor of adoption and the motion carried. Due to the publication requirements, the ordinance will not take effect until 30 days after its publication.

NEW BUSINESS

Introduction

Ordinance No. 11-04: An Ordinance Approving Resolution No.: 11-04 of the City of Franklin, Indiana Plan Commission, Rezoning Certain Property to Industrial: Business Development (IBD) (To Be Known as the Hurricane Industrial Park)

Senior Planner, Joanna Myers explained that the Plan Commission Resolution 11-04 was adopted with favorable recommendation. The matter is set for public hearing April 18, 2011.

OTHER BUSINESS

Engineering Department Project Supervisor, Todd Wilkerson, appeared before the Council to present information regarding a requested additional appropriation. He explained that the appropriation is for an inventory of street signage and eventual sign replacement. The grant is a Federal Highway Safety and Improvement Project grant (HSIP) administered by the Indianapolis MPO. He explained that this is a reimbursement grant requiring the City to pay the expenses upfront and that we would be reimbursed for 90% of the total cost of the project. He stated that the grant is a 90/10 split, with 90 percent of the funding being provided from Federal Highway dollars and our responsibility is a 10% percent local match. He explained that the Council would be asked to appropriate $275,400, of which $202,716 would be reimbursed through the grant process. Mr. Wilkerson stated that he wanted the Council's approval before he presented a request for an additional appropriation. A discussion was held. The Council consented to Mr. Wilkerson moving forward with the process.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRESENTATIONS & COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Resident Stan Brown told the members that curb replacements on East Adams Drive need to be completed. Mr. Compton noted that repair was delayed due to the weather. Gary Moody voiced his concerns regarding the sale of city property.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion and a second were made to adjourn. As there was no further business to come before the Common Council, the meeting adjourned at 7:34 p.m. The next regular meeting will be held Monday, April 18, 2011 at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet P. Alexander, Clerk-Treasurer

Enrolled: 4/15/2011 Approved by Common Council: 4/18/11