

**City of Franklin
COMMON COUNCIL**

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

Tuesday, January 19, 2010 @ 6:30 p.m.

Presiding Officer: Mayor Fred L. Paris

Members Present: Dr. William T. Murphy, President
Mr. Joseph Abban
Mr. Joe Ault
Mr. Kenneth W. Austin
Mr. Stephen D. Barnett
Mrs. Ann M. Gordon
Mr. Stephen D. Hougland

Also present: City Attorney Robert H. Schafstall, Clerk Treasurer Janet P.
Alexander and Clerk Treasurer's Assistant Kathy Cragen

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

Mayor Paris presented the consent agenda for approval.

- a. Approval of the January 4, 2010 Common Council Minutes

Dr. Murphy, seconded by Mr. Ault, made a motion to adopt the consent agenda. The motion carried and the meeting minutes of January 4, 2010 were approved and signed.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Public Hearings

Resolution No. 10-01 Resolution of the Common Council of the City of Franklin, Indiana Making Preliminary Determination to Issue Bonds (Davidson Industries Building)
Mayor Paris stated that this is the public hearing for the proposed resolution. Dr. Murphy made a motion to read by title only, seconded by Mrs. Gordon. The title was read. Mayor Paris explained that this bond resolution will start the process to issue bonds up to \$3,500,000 to retire the existing debt on the former police station and to fund the purchase of the Davidson Industries

Building. He stated that this is the advertised public hearing on this matter and asked if anyone from the public wished to speak for or against the proposed resolution. No one asked to speak. Dr. Murphy made a motion to approve. This motion was seconded by Mr. Ault. The motion carried.

Ambulance Service

Mayor Paris opened the discussion by reviewing the process undertaken in 2008 addressing issues with the ambulance services provided by the Franklin Fire Department which concluded with a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) specifying goals and objectives. He also revisited the circumstances of last December which led to the issuance of an executive order discontinuing the in-house ambulance service and the agreement with Seals Ambulance Service.

Chief Jim Reese outlined progress made by the department in meeting the conditions set in the MOU. A discussion was held. Chief Reese expressed concern about the department's ability to staff 3 fire stations and continue to provide ambulance services without an increase in staffing.

Captain Matt Culp reported on the improvements made in regard to ambulance service reporting, data collection, and billing. He provided an income report stating that \$569,786 has been billed. Of the totaled amount billed, only \$325,390 has been collected. He explained that the gross billing was reduced by \$148,930 due to automatic adjustments. He also provided expense scenarios which demonstrated that the service is losing money. His staffing examples included Option 1 at \$472,432 in expenses and Option 2 at \$834,964. His report also stated that neither option took into account the expenses incurred for merit firefighter's salaries providing backup. A discussion was held.

Mayor Paris opened the discussion up for public comment.

- Firefighter/EMT Ken Ford questioned Captain Culp about the figures he presented.
- Sara Duncan a representative of Rural Metro Ambulance told the Council that they have been providing Emergency Medical Dispatch for Franklin for over a decade at no cost. They also have replaced supplies used if they participate on a run with Franklin ambulance.
- Randy Seals representing Seals Ambulance Service offered to answer questions from the Council concerning the service his firm is providing.
- Firefighter/EMT Kevin Kieffer questioned the use of fire trucks to follow ambulances.
- Paramedic Ryan Bertram stated that he was an EMS worker who would lose his job if the service is eliminated.

No one else asked to speak.

The Mayor closed the public comment period.

Mayor Paris stated that he has learned that the ambulance service costs much more than projected and that when the third station opens, they will not have the staff to run two full time ambulances and that the department will need to cut back to one ambulance or hire additional civilian personnel.

The Mayor asked the members to consider five options including:

1. End the temporary service agreement put in place by executive order he issued last December.
2. Consider running a first out ambulance with City paid civilian personnel and depend on another service provider or fire department staff for back up ambulance.
3. Consider increasing staff to fully run one civilian or two civilian City ambulances.
4. Agree that the City should get out of the business but reopen the process to all providers to make a pitch for the business.
5. Affirm the executive order of the Mayor and direct that it be made a permanent order and direct the Mayor, Board of Works and City Attorney to work out the contract details with the current provider to provide all ambulance service to the community.

The Mayor asked the Council to affirm the executive order issued in December and direct that it be made permanent. A discussion was held. Mrs. Gordon seconded by Dr. Murphy made a motion to affirm the executive order of the Mayor.

The Council Members were polled and their votes recorded as follows:

	Aye	Nay
Abban		X
Ault		X
Austin		X
Barnett		X
Gordon	X	
Hougland		X
Murphy	X	

The motion failed 5 to 2.

Mr. Ault made a motion to use the private ambulance as the main ambulance and the Franklin Fire Department as the backup. The motion was seconded by Dr. Murphy. Executive order will stay in place until something is figured out in the future, per Mayor Paris.

The Council Members were polled and their votes recorded as follows:

	Aye	Nay
Abban		X
Ault	X	
Austin		X
Barnett		X
Gordon		X
Hougland		X
Murphy	X	

The motion failed 5 to 2.

No further action was taken.

INTRODUCTIONS

Ordinance No.: 10-02 of the City of Franklin Indiana: An ordinance Approving a Loan From the Sewer Utility For the Purchase of A Fire Truck

Mayor Paris presented the proposed ordinance for a loan from Sewer Utility Funds to the General Fund for the purchase of a fire truck in the amount of \$475,012. No action was taken. The matter was tabled until the next meeting at which time a public hearing will be held.

Budgetary Ordinance No.: 10-01: An Additional Appropriation Police Grant Supplies & Capital Outlay of \$42,629.91 Federal JAG Grant

The Clerk Treasurer Janet P. Alexander presented the budgetary ordinance on behalf of the Police Department. No action was taken. The matter was tabled until the next meeting at which time a public hearing will be held.

Budgetary Ordinance No.: 10-02: An Additional Appropriation Ordinance appropriating \$17,576.50 from JCASA Grant for the Narcotics Unit

The Clerk Treasurer Janet P. Alexander presented the budgetary ordinance on behalf of the Police Department. No action was taken. The matter was tabled until the next meeting at which time a public hearing will be held.

Budgetary Ordinance No.: 10-03: An Additional Appropriation Ordinance appropriating \$1,224.66 from JCASA Grant for the "IF You Say Yes" school program

The Clerk Treasurer Janet P. Alexander presented the budgetary ordinance on behalf of the Police Department. No action was taken. The matter was tabled until the next meeting at which time a public hearing will be held.

OTHER BUSINESS

2009 Interest Earnings Report

Clerk-Treasurer Janet P. Alexander submitted the Interest Earnings Report for 2009.

Request to Void checks 2 years old or older

The Clerk-Treasurer asked the Council for permission to void checks that were two years old or older. Dr. Murphy made a motion to approve this request, seconded by Mrs. Gordon. The motion carried.

2009 Encumbrance Report

Clerk-Treasurer Janet Alexander submitted the 2009 Encumbrance Report and stated that this same list will be submitted to DLGF.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & PUBLIC COMMENTS

No one asked to speak.

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 8:55 p.m. The next regular meeting will be held Monday, February 1, 2010 at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet P. Alexander, Clerk-Treasurer

Enrolled: 1-22-10

Approved by Common Council: 2-1-10