City of Franklin
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES

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

Monday, July 23, 2007 @ 7:00 p.m.

Presiding Officer:	Mayor Brenda Jones-Matthews
Members Present:	President Dr. William T. Murphy Mr. Joseph P. Abban Mr. Joseph R. Ault Mr. Kenneth W. Austin Mr. Phillip R. Barrow Mr. Jeffrey C. Eggers
Absent:	Mrs. Ann M. Gordon
Also present:	City Attorney Robert H. Schafstall & Clerk-Treasurer Janet P. Alexander
News Media:	A reporter from the Daily Journal newspaper was present.

Mayor Brenda Jones-Matthews opened the meeting and asked the Clerk-Treasurer, Janet P. Alexander, to call the roll. Council President, Dr. William T. Murphy, offered an invocation which was followed by a recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Brenda Jones-Matthews asked if anyone from the public wished to comment on any matter not listed on the agenda. No one requested to speak.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Eggers, seconded by Dr. Murphy, made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented.

1. Minutes of the regular meeting held July 9, 2007.

The motion carried and the consent agenda was approved. Mr. Ault abstained.

PUBLIC HEARING

Ordinance 07-05: A Common Council Ordinance Providing for and Updating Purchasing Guidelines and Repealing Ordinance 01-07

The City Attorney, Robert H. Schafstall, presented the proposed ordinance providing for and updating the City's purchasing guideline terms, provisions and requirements relative to its purchase and use of good, supplies, materials and other necessities, and repealing ordinance 01-07. Mayor Brenda Jones-Matthews asked if anyone from the public wished to comment on this matter. No one asked to speak. A motion and second were offered to read by title only. The motion carried and the ordinance was read by title only. Mr. Ault, seconded by Dr. Murphy, made a motion to adopt Ordinance 07-05. The motion carried. The Council was polled and the votes cast were as follows:

Ayes – Abban, Ault, Austin, Barrow, Eggers, Murphy

Nays –

NEW BUSINESS

Introduction of Ordinance 07-07: An Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance of the City of Franklin, Indiana Economic Development Revenue Bonds, Series 2007 – Keone Ele, LLC Project, and to Loan the Proceeds thereof to Keone Ele, LLC and Authorizing and Approving Other Actions in Respect Thereto

The City Attorney, Robert H. Schafstall, presented the proposed ordinance authorizing the issuance of Revenue Bonds to Keone Ele, LLC and to loan the proceeds thereof to Keone Ele. The Borrower, Keone Ele, LLC, desires to finance the acquisition, construction, and/or equipping of the expansion and rehabilitation to its existing facility from approximately 14,700 square feet to 35,000 square feet with additional parking, the purchase of $500,000 of new equipment, and to pay costs of issuance of the Bonds. Mr. Schafstall requested that the Council consider a suspension of the rules to allow for introduction and approval at the first reading. Mr. Rick Hall, legal counsel for Keone Ele, LLC, explained that the Economic Development Commission forwarded a favorable recommendation to the Council regarding this matter. Ms. Cheryl Morphew, Executive Director of the Johnson County Development Corporation appeared before the Council to offer her support in regard to this matter. Representatives from Koene Ele, LLC were introduced and offered to answer questions.

Dr. Murphy, seconded by Mr. Abban, made a motion to suspend the rules. The motion carried. The Council was polled and the votes cast were as follows:

Ayes – Abban, Ault, Austin, Barrow, Eggers, Murphy

Nays –

Mayor Brenda Jones-Matthews asked if anyone from the public wished to comment on this matter. No one asked to speak. A motion and second were offered to read by title only. The motion carried and the ordinance was read by title only. Dr. Murphy, seconded by Mr. Austin, made a motion to adopt Ordinance 07-07. The motion carried. The Council was polled and the votes cast were as follows:

Ayes – Abban, Ault, Austin, Barrow, Eggers, Murphy

Nays –

Introduction of Ordinance 07-08: An Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance of the City of Franklin, Indiana Economic Development Revenue Refunding and Improvement Bonds, Series 2007 – Franklin United Methodist Home, Inc. Project, and to Loan the Proceeds thereof to the Franklin United Methodist Home, Inc. and Authorizing and Approving Other Actions in Respect Thereto

Mayor Brenda Jones-Matthews presented the proposed ordinance authorizing the issuance of Revenue Bonds to Franklin United Methodist Home and to loan proceeds thereof to Franklin United Methodist Home. The borrower, Franklin United Methodist Home, Inc., desires to refinance the 1999 Bonds and to finance the acquisition, construction, and/or equipping of the renovation and expansion of the Wesley Center, the renovation and expansion of the Health and Wellness Centers, and certain other renovations to the campus of the borrower's comprehensive retirement care community, including the purchase of furniture and equipment, and to pay insurance for the Bonds, capitalized interest and the costs of issuance of the Bonds. Mr. Schafstall requested that the Council consider a suspension of the rules to allow for introduction and approval at the first reading. Mr. Eggers, seconded by Mr. Barrow, made a motion to suspend the rules. Dr. Murphy abstained. The motion carried. The Council was polled and the votes cast were as follows:

Ayes – Abban, Ault, Austin, Barrow, Eggers

Nays –

Mr. Rick Hall appeared before the Council to explain the ordinance in which he introduced Dr. Joe Trueblood and offered to answer any questions. Mayor Brenda Jones-Matthews asked if anyone from the public wished to comment on this matter. No one asked to speak. A motion and second were offered to read by title only. The motion carried and the ordinance was read by title only. Mr. Ault, seconded by Mr. Austin, made a motion to adopt Ordinance 07-08. The motion carried. Dr. Murphy abstained. The Council was polled and the votes cast were as follows:

Ayes – Abban, Ault, Austin, Barrow, Eggers

Nays –

Introduction of Budgetary Ordinance 07-04: A Budgetary Ordinance Fixing the Annual Salaries of Elected Officials

The Clerk-Treasurer, Janet P. Alexander, presented the proposed budgetary ordinance fixing the annual salaries of elected officials for 2008. Ms. Alexander explained the supporting documents were included in Council Members' packets and went over the timeline for the adoption of the budget.

Mayor Brenda Jones-Matthews requested that the Council consider an increase in the salary of the City Judge, an elected official, raising it to $30,000. Dr. Murphy, seconded by Mr. Barrow, made a motion to amend budgetary ordinance 07-04 and increase the annual salary for the City Judge to $30,000. The motion carried. Mr. Eggers abstained. The Council was polled and the votes cast were as follows:

Ayes – Abban, Ault, Austin, Barrow, Murphy

Nays –

This ordinance is scheduled for public hearing at the next regular meeting to be held on August 13, 2007.

Introduction of Budgetary Ordinance 07-05: A Budgetary Ordinance Fixing the Salaries of Appointed Officers and Employees of the City of Franklin, Indiana

The Clerk-Treasurer, Janet P. Alexander, presented the proposed budgetary ordinance fixing the annual salaries of appointed officers and employees of the City of Franklin for 2008. This ordinance is scheduled for public hearing at the next regular meeting to be held on August 13, 2007.

Mr. Austin asked the Council to consider an increase for the Cemetery Sexton by 10%, which would raise the salary to $40,820, due to an increase in his responsibilities. No action was taken.

Mayor Jones-Matthews presented budgets for the Mayor's office and Board of Works, and stated that there were few changes.

Clerk-Treasurer Alexander presented the budget for the Clerk-Treasurer's office and explained an increase in the request for capital expenditures in order to upgrade to a new financial accounting and payroll system. The request for $42,400 for the purchase of hardware and software upgrades, which will allow the completion of payroll in-house. Ms. Alexander presented the budget for the Common Council and identified an increase in the 300 series for travel and training expenses for newly elected Council members.

Clerk Treasurer Alexander presented the budget for the Law Department and Telecommunications Council in which there are increases to fund license subscription to Westlaw and a new module for the City's website.

Fire Chief Jim Reese appeared before the Council to discuss the Fire Department Budget. Chief Reese explained that restructuring within the Fire Department includes the elimination of the position of Assistant Fire Chief in 2008 and realigns the Captain and Lieutenant positions. The Fire Chief requested that the Council increase the Captains' and Lieutenants' salaries to be consistent with the corresponding officers at the Police Department. Mr. Austin, seconded by Mr. Abban, made a motion. The motion was withdrawn. Mr. Austin, seconded by Mr. Abban, made a motion to increase the salaries for Merit Captains to $48,536 and the salaries for the Merit Lieutenants to $46,144. The motion carried. Dr. Murphy abstained. The Council was polled and the votes cast were as follows:

Ayes – Abban, Ault, Austin, Barrow, Eggers

Nays –

Fire Chief Jim Reese requested permission to hire two (2) additional firefighters, which will allow all shifts to have a total of fifteen (15) firefighters. Mr. Abban, seconded by Mr. Ault, made a motion to approve the hiring of the firefighters. A discussion was held and it was explained that the Chief had included the additional officers in his budget proposal so the total number of positions and the budget were in the member's packets. The motion was withdrawn. Chief Reese explained that this was the only change.

Mayor Jones-Matthews introduced Scott Carter of the Franklin Police Department and Ken Ford of the Franklin Fire Department, in which they requested permission to be placed on the agenda for the next meeting to discuss the current longevity plan adopted under Common Council Ordinance 02-10. The Council agreed to place this matter on the agenda.

Dr. Murphy stated that there are no changes to the Police Department budget. Mr. Eggers requested clarification in regard to the hiring of three additional officers in 2007 for retiring officers in 2007. The Mayor confirmed that the budget is funded for a total of 40 officers.

Planning Director Joe Csikos appeared before the Council to discuss the Planning Department budget. Mr. Csikos is requesting an additional two (2) percent raise for salaried employees that lost the benefit of the take-home vehicles. Mr. Barrow requested that the Council not consider any action until the Council representative reviews the changes with the Department Head. Mr. Csikos requested that the part-time Inspector position become a full-time position, which is the equivalent to an additional $16,000 in the budget. Overall, the Planning Department requested a total of 14.7% increases in the 300 series for travel and training, building repair and maintenance, and rentals for copier lease.

Mr. Austin presented the Cemetery budget and explained increases in part-time and overtime monies and equipment monies.

Park and Recreation Superintendent Suzanne Findley presented the Park and Recreation budget. Ms. Findley explained that she represents a total of four (4) budgets:

Park Systems increased for increases in utilities and other professional services

Community Center increased due to an increase in part-time (employee) monies.

Swimming Pool increased in professional services for repairs to the swimming pool floor. Ms. Findley also explained that the filtration system is approaching 20 years old, and may need to be replaced or upgraded in the future.

Senior Center increased for increases in utilities.

Street Commissioner Richard Hughes discussed the Local Road and Street Budget and Motor Vehicle Highway Budget. Mr. Hughes explained that there were increases in supplies for salt and professional services for travel and training. Mr. Hughes explained that there are no increases for the purchase of equipment.

ADJOURNMENT
As there was no further business to come before the Common Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m. The next meeting will be held August 13, 2007 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet P. Alexander, Clerk Treasurer

Enrolled: August 10, 2007 Approved by Common Council: August 13, 2007