

City of Franklin
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES

City Hall
55 W. Madison St.
Franklin Indiana 46131

Monday, January 13, 2003 @ 7:00 P.M.

Presiding Officer: Mayor Norman P. Blankenship

Roll Call:

Mr. Stephen D. 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: Clerk Treasurer Janet P. Alexander, Mr. Robert Schafstall, Esq.

Mrs. 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 Mr. Hougland, made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 9, 2002 meeting as distributed. The motion carried. Mrs. Poynter abstained.

Election of Council President

Mr. Hougland requested nominations for Council President. Dr. Murphy nominated Council Member Hougland. Mrs. Poynter seconded the nomination. No other nominations were offered. Nominations were closed. The members voted to re-appoint Mr. Hougland Council President.

Employee Wellness Program

Mr. John Auld Jr. of Franklin Insurance and Mr. Steven Gray of Molloy Wellness presented information to the Council concerning reduction of health costs by participation in an employee wellness program. Discussion held. The Mayor asked the Council whether the plan presented could be presented to City employees. The Council Members stated individually that they would support the adoption of a wellness program. Mayor Blankenship stated that he would schedule an evening and a morning meeting with City employees to introduce the program. Tabled.

OLD BUSINESS

Public Hearings

Ordinance Number 2003 – 01 of the City of Franklin, Indiana An Ordinance Authorizing Inter-Departmental Loans From The City's Sewer Utility. Mr. Schafstall stated that this ordinance is a home rule ordinance that would permit the loan of Wastewater Utility Funds to other City Departments. There was no discussion. Mayor Blankenship stated that this is the public hearing and asked whether anyone from the public wished to speak for or against the proposed ordinance. No one asked to speak. There was a motion and a second to read the ordinance aloud by title only. Mrs. Poynter seconded by Mr. Barrow made a motion to approve the ordinance. The motion to approve carried. The Council was polled and the votes cast were:

Ayes – 7, Nays – 0 **Ayes:** Mr. Hougland, Mr. Ault, Mr. Barrow, Mr. Maguire, Dr. Murphy, Mrs. Poynter, & Mr. Snyder

Nays: None

Budgetary Resolution No. 03-01 – A Resolution Authorizing a Transfer of Monies from Board of Works Engineering Services 101-5-322 to Board of Works Engineer 101-5-112 The Clerk Treasurer Janet Alexander introduced the resolution transferring \$59,000 within the Board of Works budget from the major budget category 300 to major budget category 100. Mayor Blankenship stated that this is the public hearing and asked whether anyone from the public wished to speak for or against the proposed resolution. No one asked to speak. There was a motion and a second to read the resolution by title only. Mrs. Poynter seconded by Mr. Barrow made a motion to approve the resolution. The motion to approve carried. The Council was polled and the votes cast were:

Ayes – 7, Nays – 0 **Ayes:** Mr. Hougland, Mr. Ault, Mr. Barrow, Mr. Maguire, Dr. Murphy, Mrs. Poynter, & Mr. Snyder

Nays: None

NEW BUSINESS

Budgetary Resolution No. 03-03 – A Resolution Authorizing the Fire Department to Transfer Monies from Garage & Motor Supplies 101-6-221 to Fire Fighter / EMT 101-6-119 \$868.53 & from Operating Supplies 101-6-215 to Clothing Allowance 101-6-132 \$1,048.81 The Clerk Treasurer Janet Alexander introduced the resolution transferring \$1,917.34 within the Fire Department budget from the major budget category 200 to major budget category 100. Discussion held. Mayor Blankenship stated that this is the public hearing and asked whether anyone from the public wished to speak for or against the proposed resolution. No one asked to speak. There was a motion and a second to read the resolution by title only. Mr. Ault seconded by Mr. Barrow made a motion to approve the resolution. The motion to approve carried.

Budgetary Resolution No. 03-04 – A Resolution Authorizing Greenlawn Cemetery to Transfer of Monies from Machinery & Equipment 205-1-444 To Part-time 205 – 1-124 \$752.64, FICA / Medicare 205-1-125 \$535.58, To Overtime 205-1-199 \$216.24 Mr. Mark Webb the Superintendent of Greenlawn Cemetery introduced the resolution transferring \$1,504.46 within the Greenlawn Cemetery budget from the major budget category 400 to major budget category 100. Discussion held. Mayor Blankenship stated that this is the public hearing and asked whether anyone from the public wished to speak for or against the proposed resolution. No one asked to speak. There was a motion and a second to read the resolution by title only. Mrs. Poynter seconded by Mr. Barrow made a motion to approve the resolution. The motion to approve carried.

Budgetary Resolution No. 03-05 – A Resolution Authorizing a Transfer of Monies from Local Road and Street Department Operating Supplies 202-1-215 to Professional Services 202-1-331 \$559.00 Clerk Treasurer Janet Alexander introduced the resolution creating line item 202-1-331 & transferring \$559.00 within the Local Road and Street budget from the major budget category 200, to major budget category 300. No discussion. Mayor Blankenship stated that this is the public hearing and asked whether anyone from the public wished to speak for or against the proposed resolution. No one asked to speak. There was a motion and a second to read the resolution by title only. Dr. Murphy seconded by Mrs. Poynter made a motion to approve the resolution. The motion to approve carried.

Budgetary Resolution No. 03-06 – A Resolution Authorizing a Transfer of Monies from City Court Equipment Maintenance 101-8-336 to Office Equipment 101-8-445 \$3,723.00 Clerk Treasurer Janet Alexander introduced the resolution transferring \$3,723.00 in the City Court budget from the major budget category 300, to major budget category 400. No discussion. Mayor Blankenship stated that this is the public hearing and asked whether anyone from the public wished to speak for or against the proposed resolution. No one asked to speak. There was a motion and a second to read the resolution by title only. Dr. Murphy seconded by Mr. Snyder made a motion to approve the resolution. The motion to approve carried.

Amendment to Ordinance No. 02-12 - Exhibit B Mr. David Weir the Planning Director and Mr. Schafstall explained that the original document attached to the ordinance contained a “scriveners error” listing a voting precinct twice and omitting another. The new document corrects the error and should be substituted for the original Exhibit B. Mr. Ault made a motion to accept Exhibit B, seconded by Mr. Barrow. The motion to approve carried.

Appointments to the Telecommunications Council Mayor Blankenship explained that three Council Appointments to the Telecommunications Commission, Mr. Phil Rainey, Mr. David Sievertson, & Mrs. Linda Richards expired January 1, 2003. Mr. Rainey and Mr. Sievertson have expressed interest in continuing however Mrs. Richards has requested that she not be re-appointed. Mr. Hougland seconded by Mr. Maguire made a motion to re-appoint Mr. Rainey and Mr. Sievertson. The motion carried. President Hougland asked the Council Members to consider potential candidates for appointment to the single vacant seat. Tabled

Tax Restructuring on TIF Districts City Attorney Mr. Robert H. Schafstall explained that the 2002 tax restructuring by the Indiana State Legislature changed the way schools raise money – effectively reducing Tax Increment Finance (TIF) district revenues. The legislature built in an automatic tax levy that will be effective unless waived or reduced by the Common Council. Mr. Schafstall and Mr. Jim Higgins, a financial advisor from the London Witte Group, both recommend that the City Council do nothing at this time. Mr. Schafstall stated that this could be revisited in the future. Mayor Blankenship suggested that the Council accept the recommendation. The Council Members agreed. Removed.

PETITIONS AND PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Blankenship asked whether anyone from the public had any petitions or public comments. No one asked to speak.

CLERK TREASURER’S COMMENTS

2002 Encumbrances The Clerk Treasurer presented a report listing the encumbrances submitted. Mr. Barrow made a motion to accept the Clerk’s Report titled 2002 Encumbrances & Ending Balances as submitted, seconded by Mrs. Poynter. The motion carried.

The Clerk Treasurer also submitted a list of checks that were outstanding as of December 31, 2002 to be voided pursuant to IC 5-11-10.5. Dr. Murphy seconded by Mrs. Poynter to void the checks submitted by the Clerk Treasurer. The motion carried.

REPORTS

Council Members

Mrs. Poynter thanked the Council for their thoughtfulness following her recent surgery. She requested that rather than flowers that the Council make a donation to the Good Cheer Fund. She also reminded the members that if they are interested in filing to run for office for 2004 the filing date is January 22 until noon February 21, 2003.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Blankenship reported concerning the following matters:

1. The Board of Works who will report to the Council for advice and consent will review fire Medic Fees.
2. He encouraged the Council Members to review the Department Head's Monthly Reports that his office provides– in particular he suggested that they review the reports from the new Senior Center Director Rhonda Gammon, the Parks Department report on the new surveillance equipment, and the Fire Department.
3. The weekend fire at Test Rite required assistance from many other communities including Needham, Bargserville, Whiteland, Amity, Trafalgar, Greenwood, and Franklin P.D., the Street Department, Rural Metro, the American Red Cross, Cinergy, and Vectren, proving that mutual aid works. He said that the City is grateful to these agencies for their help and informed the Council that letters will be sent thanking each of them.
4. Appointments to Boards and Commissions – The Mayor reappointed H. Lee Hodgen to the EDC, Pam Ault to the Parks Board, and Dale Templin to the Police Merit Commission.
5. The Mayor stated that due to concerns about a possible delay of the mid summer tax settlements – He told his Department Heads last Friday, to, “ sit on their budgets going into this first quarter,” until he has a clearer picture of what is going on.
6. He stated that one project that is near and dear to his heart is the Skate Park. He stated that an additional appropriation might be needed for this project.
7. He stated that during the last snowfall he received a ton of phone calls from residents with concerns about the streets. He stated, “Some errors were made but all in all the Street Department did relatively well. However they plan to do some things differently in the future”.

As there was no further business to come before the Common Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet P. Alexander, Clerk-Treasurer

Enrolled Date: _____ Approved by Common Council:_____

Norman P. Blankenship, Jr. Mayor