

**City of Franklin  
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES**

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

Monday August 25, 2003 @ 6:00 P.M.

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Presiding Officer:	Mayor Norman P. Blankenship
Roll Call:	Mr. Stephen D. Hougland, President Pro-Tempore Mr. Joseph R. Ault Mrs. Katherine L. Poynter Mr. Jerry B. Maguire Dr. William T. Murphy Mr. Lyman Snyder
Absent	Mr. Phillip Barrow
Also present:	Clerk Treasurer Janet P. Alexander, Robert H. Schafstall, Esq.

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After the Invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance Dr. Murphy, seconded by Mr. Ault, made a motion to approve the minutes of August 11, 2003 meeting. The motion carried.

**PETITIONS AND PUBLIC COMMENTS**

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

**OLD BUSINESS**

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

**Ordinance No. 03-15 - Insight Communications Contract:** Mr. Rob Schafstall, the City Attorney introduced Mr. Alex Crowley and Mr. Tom Flora. Mr. Crowley reviewed the revenue history of the City's Cable Franchise fees. He also gave the Council an update on the current number of subscribers. Discussion held. The Mayor stated that this is the Public Hearing for this matter and asked if anyone from the Public wished to speak for or against the proposed ordinance. No one asked to speak. A motion and a second were offered to read the proposed ordinance by title only. Dr. Murphy seconded by Mr. Ault made the motion to approve Ordinance No. 03-13. The motion to approve carried. The council was polled and the votes cast were recorded as follows:

Ayes – 6 Mr. Hougland, Mr. Ault, Mr. Maguire, Dr. Murphy, Mrs. Poynter, & Mr. Snyder

Nays – 0 None

**Ordinance No. 03-16 – An Ordinance Imposing Fees For Inspection And Testing Of Public And Related Improvements:** Mike Buening reviewed the proposed ordinance which will authorize the City to charge \$50.00 per hour for Engineering Inspection and Testing Services. The Mayor stated that this is the Public Hearing for this matter and asked if anyone from the Public wished to speak for or against the proposed ordinance. No one asked to speak. A motion and a second were offered to read the proposed ordinance by title only. Mr. Ault seconded by Mr. Maguire made the motion to approve Ordinance No. 03-16. The motion to approve carried. The council was polled and the votes cast were recorded as follows:

Ayes – 6 Mr. Hougland, Mr. Ault, Mr. Maguire, Dr. Murphy, Mrs. Poynter, & Mr. Snyder

Nays – 0 None

**Budgetary Ordinance No. 03 – 19 – The 2004 City Budget:** The Mayor stated that this is the Public Hearing for this matter and asked if anyone from the Public wished to speak for or against the proposed ordinance. No one asked to speak. The Mayor stated that this matter will be set for final reading and adoption hearing September 8, 2003.

**Budgetary Ordinance No. 03-12 - Additional Appropriation And Transfer Between Funds Ordinance (General Fund to the Abandoned Vehicle Fund):** Chief John Borges introduced the request for an additional appropriation of \$5000 from the General Fund to be transferred into the Abandoned Vehicle Fund pursuant to I.C. 9-22-1-27(2) d. Chief Borges reported that officers tagged 60 vehicles last week. The Council Members complimented the newspaper article and the efforts made by the officers. The Mayor stated that this is the Public Hearing for this matter and asked if anyone from the Public wished to speak for or against the proposed ordinance. No one asked to speak. A motion and a second were offered to read the proposed ordinance by title only. Mr. Hougland seconded by Mrs. Poynter made the motion to approve **Budgetary Ordinance No. 03-12**. The motion to approve carried. The council was polled and the votes cast were recorded as follows:

Ayes – 6      Mr. Hougland, Mr. Ault, Mr. Maguire, Dr. Murphy, Mrs. Poynter, & Mr. Snyder

Nays – 0      None

**Budgetary Ordinance No. 03-13 – An Additional Appropriation and Transfer Between Funds Ordinance (Criminal Justice Institute grant re-imbursement):** Chief John Borges presented the ordinance to appropriate \$3,987.00 received from the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute as reimbursement for one in-car video camera and DUI prevention promotional materials purchased by the Franklin Police Department. This grant was received because the Franklin Police Department received an award naming the department, "Best in State in DUI Enforcement". The Mayor stated that this is the Public Hearing for this matter and asked if anyone from the Public wished to speak for or against the proposed ordinance. No one asked to speak. A motion and a second were offered to read the proposed ordinance by title only. Mr. Snyder seconded by Mrs. Poynter made the motion to approve. The motion to approve carried. The council was polled and the votes cast were recorded as follows

Ayes – 6      Mr. Hougland, Mr. Ault, Mr. Maguire, Dr. Murphy, Mrs. Poynter, & Mr. Snyder

Nays – 0      None

**Budgetary Ordinance No. 03-15 – Additional Appropriation Ordinance (Canine)** Police Chief John Borges presented the ordinance appropriating \$2,000 received from JCCASA for the purchase of a Drug Sniffing Canine for the department. The Mayor stated that this is the Public Hearing for this matter and asked if anyone from the Public wished to speak for or against the proposed ordinance. No one asked to speak. A motion and a second were offered to read the proposed ordinance by title only. Mrs. Poynter seconded by Dr. Murphy made the motion to approve. The motion to approve carried. The council was polled and the votes cast were recorded as follows:

Ayes – 6      Mr. Hougland, Mr. Ault, Mr. Maguire, Dr. Murphy, Mrs. Poynter, & Mr. Snyder

Nays – 0      None

**Budgetary Ordinance No. 03-16 – Additional Appropriation Ordinance (General Fund for Police Dept. operating supplies, travel and training and office equipment):** Police Chief John Borges presented the ordinance appropriating \$3,599.21 received by the department in reimbursements and rebates. The Mayor stated that this is the Public Hearing for this matter and asked if anyone from the Public wished to speak for or against the proposed ordinance. No one asked to speak. A motion and a second were offered to read the proposed ordinance by title only. Mrs. Poynter seconded by Dr. Murphy made the motion to approve. The motion to approve carried. The council was polled and the votes cast were recorded as follows:

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Ayes – 6      Mr. Hougland, Mr. Ault, Mr. Maguire, Dr. Murphy, Mrs. Poynter, & Mr. Snyder

Nays – 0      None

**Budgetary Ordinance No. 03-17 – Additional Appropriation Ordinance (Motor Vehicle Highway, Garage & Motor supplies):** Street Commissioner Richard Hughes presented an outline summarizing anticipated expenditures to justify his request for an additional appropriation of \$20,000. Discussion held. The Mayor stated that this is the Public Hearing for this matter and asked if anyone from the Public wished to speak for or against the proposed ordinance. No one asked to speak. A motion and a second were offered to read the proposed ordinance by title only. Mr. Hougland seconded by Mrs. Poynter made the motion to approve. The motion to approve carried. The council was polled and the votes cast were recorded as follows:

Ayes – 6      Mr. Hougland, Mr. Ault, Mr. Maguire, Dr. Murphy, Mrs. Poynter, & Mr. Snyder

Nays – 0      None

**Budgetary Ordinance 03-18 - Additional Appropriation Ordinance (Challenge Course Grant):** Park Superintendent Suzanne Findley presented the request for appropriation for a \$3,000 grant received from JCCASA for the Blue Herron Challenge Course. The Mayor stated that this is the Public Hearing for this matter and asked if anyone from the Public wished to speak for or against the proposed ordinance. No one asked to speak. A motion and a second were offered to read the proposed ordinance by title only. Mr. Snyder seconded by Mr. Maguire made the motion to approve. The motion to approve carried. The council was polled and the votes cast were recorded as follows:

Ayes – 6      Mr. Hougland, Mr. Ault, Mr. Maguire, Dr. Murphy, Mrs. Poynter, & Mr. Snyder

Nays – 0      None

**Budgetary Ordinance No. 03-14 - An Ordinance Fixing The Annual Salaries And Providing Compensation For All Elected Officials & Providing For The Publication Thereof:** Mayor Blankenship repeated that he would not accept an increase above his current salary. Discussion held. Mr. Hougland made a motion to increase the Mayor, Clerk Treasurer, and Council 1.5 % and the Judge 5%. The motion was seconded and the Council voted 2 in favor, 4 opposed. Mr. Hougland amended his motion to increase the Clerk Treasurer, and Council 1.5 %, the Judge 5% and the Mayor 0%. The motion was seconded and put to a vote. Three (3) voted in favor, three (3) voted opposed. The motion died due to the tie. This matter was tabled to the public hearing to be held September 22, 2003.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**INTRODUCTIONS:**

**Budgetary Ordinance No. 03-20 – Additional Appropriation and Transfer between Funds:** Chief Borges introduced the proposed ordinance and explained that the Criminal Justice Institute has given the department a \$4,000 grant for Operation Pullover to pay overtime for hours dedicated to this project. This matter was tabled and will be set for public hearing September 8, 2003.

**Resolution No. 03-10 – A Resolution Establishing An Economic Revitalization Area and Designating A Tax Abatement for International Fuel Systems, Inc.:** Mr. David Weir the Planning Director presented the proposed resolution of the City of Franklin Economic Development Commission recommending that the Common Council approve a 5 year tax abatement on personal property of International Fuel Systems. A motion and a second were offered to read the proposed resolution by title only. Mr. Maguire seconded by Dr. Murphy made the motion to approve **Resolution No. 03-10**. The motion to approve carried. The council was polled and the votes cast were recorded as follows:

Ayes – 6      Mr. Hougland, Mr. Ault, Mr. Maguire, Dr. Murphy, Mrs. Poynter, & Mr. Snyder

Nays – 0      None

**The resolution was approved and will be advertised for public hearing and confirmation September 22, 2003.**

#### OTHER BUSINESS

The Clerk Treasurer Janet Alexander reported that the Public Employees Retirement Fund has notified her that the IRS will allow public employees to make contributions to their annuity account if the Council approves a resolution adopting this as a policy. She will present a draft resolution at the next meeting for the Council's consideration.

#### **Firefighter Mcelyea.**

Mrs. Poynter read a newspaper article aloud containing information about an award given to Franklin firefighter Dan Mcelyea by the American Legion in Franklin for outstanding service. Mrs. Poynter requested that a letter from the Council be sent congratulating him. Mr. Snyder cautioned that unless this is a common practice (letters of congratulations / recognition from the Council) that they should be careful not to forget other employees in similar circumstances. The Mayor stated that it is the Department Head's responsibility to notify the Council in the event that an employee receives a special award or recognitions. Mayor Blankenship stated that his office would draft a letter to Mr. Mcelyea.

#### **Firefighter Scott Holland**

Mayor Blankenship also asked Chief Herron to recount for the Council an event involving Firefighter Scott Holland. The Chief explained that a week ago, a woman and her mother were traveling home on I-65 when their car broke down. The two women walked to the BP Gas Station located at the Franklin exit where they happened to meet Scott Holland. Upon learning that they had car trouble, he took them back to their car, diagnosed the problem, drove them to the auto parts store, selected the part - an alternator, and installed it for them. This event took several hours and at the conclusion Mr. Holland refused to accept any payment for his help. The woman Melissa Bridson e-mailed Mayor Blankenship and told him what happened and asked that Scott receive recognition for his kindness.

As there was no further business to come before the Common Council, the meeting adjourned 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Janet P. Alexander, Clerk-Treasurer

Enrolled Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Approved by Common Council: \_\_\_\_\_

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Norman P. Blankenship, Jr. Mayor