

**City of Franklin Common Council
Special Meeting Minutes
August 26, 2013**

The special meeting of the Common Council of the City of Franklin, Indiana was called to order at 5:00 p.m. at City Hall, 70 E. Monroe Street, with Mayor Joseph E. McGuinness presiding

Mayor McGuinness opened the meeting and asked the Clerk-Treasurer to call the roll. . Council members Joseph Abban, Kenneth Austin, Stephen Barnett, and Richard Wertz answered roll call. Clerk-Treasurer Janet P. Alexander, Records Clerk Kathy Cragen, City Attorney Lynnette Gray were also present. Council member Robert Henderson arrived at 5:05 p.m.

The Mayor stated that he had received a financial plan from the city's financial advisor, which he provided, to the members and to the Clerk Treasurer. Commenting on the revenue estimates Clerk-Treasurer Alexander stated that she is confident, the City will receive even more than what is estimated since the State Auditor just released the CAGIT estimates which are higher than what was included in the report.

Prior to this workshop, the Mayor met with every department head individually to discuss their proposed 2014 budgets. Mayor McGuinness prefaced the department presentations stating that all of the estimates minimally include a 3% cost of living salary increase. He said that department heads understood that individual salary increases above 3% are permitted as long as the overall budget did not increase more than 3%.

New Business

2014 Budget Workshop

a. Community Development Director – Krista Linke stated she is proposing the same operating budget as 2013. A discussion was held.

b. Fire Department Chief John Henderson presented a power point of Fire Department achievements and strategic department goals. He did not make any specific requests for funding over the prior year.

Council member Steven Houglund arrived at 5:26 p.m.

c. Parks & Recreation Superintendent Orner presented his proposed 2014 budgets for both the Parks and Greenlawn Cemetery. He requested the addition of one (1) full-time park/grounds maintenance employee at the starting salary of \$28,814. He also increased the amount funded for lifeguards, pool upkeep, and a 5% increase for utilities. He did not propose any changes or increases in the cemetery budget.

d. Police Department - Chief Tim O'Sullivan requested three (3) additional police officers, and funding to purchase 7 new police cars and for a \$100 increase to the police uniform allowance A discussion was

held. Council Members indicated that they were in favor of hiring three new officers and funding the requested vehicle purchases.

e. Planning & Engineering – City Engineer Travis Underhill requested the Council authorize the creation of a new position in his department titled Civil Technician that would assist him with the large number of projects being undertaken. He also requested that the EDC stipend be moved from his department budget to the Community Development. A discussion was held.

f. Interim Street Department Supervisor Andrew Duckworth requested two (2) new full time laborers starting at \$24,000 per year. He explained that he will have the need to purchase additional trucks and tractors in the future.

h. Council, Mayor's Office/Clerk-Treasurer's Office/Law/City Hall- Mayor McGuinness stated that he is eliminating the \$2,500 from his part-time budget. A discussion was held regarding employee health care premiums and the amount paid by each employee for their health care costs. Councilors Wertz and Henderson stated that they believe that employees need to pay a larger percentage of their healthcare premium. A discussion was held.

Clerk-Treasurer's Office – Clerk-Treasurer Alexander stated her chief deputy is retiring at the end of October and she plans to reorganize. She intends to equalize some salaries and will make adjustments by reducing her supply budget to absorb any increases..

The Mayor and Clerk Treasurer commented on the Board of Public Works and Safety budget. Mayor McGuinness stated he might ask for a decrease in the fuel budget since more vehicles are being converted to autogas, which will make less money being spent for fuel; this line item is \$446,000 at this time.

Ms. Alexander stated the Law Department is on target but that the hourly rate paid to attorneys has not been increased for several years and that this probably will be looked at in 2014. She stated that the budgets for the non-tax supported funds will be advertised using the June 30th balance including the Rainy Day fund and the donation funds. She indicated that an appropriation from Disaster Recovery will be maintained to allow the Council the opportunity to authorize loans to purchase the remaining homes in the flood buy-out area. All funds used in this process are reimbursed to the city.

The Clerk-Treasurer reviewed the budget adoption timeline. Significant dates include:

- Monday September 16 - Introduction of the 2014 Budget and introduction of Salary Ordinances
- Tuesday September 17 - Johnson County Council Non binding review will take place
- Monday October 7 - Public Hearing for the 2014 Budget, Levy and Tax Rates and the public hearing on the proposed 2014 salary ordinances
- Monday October 21st - The adoption hearing will be held

**Common Council Budget
Workshop - Minutes
August 26, 2013**

The Clerk Treasurer stated that she has drafted the budget advertisement and informed the Council that it would be in the paper on September 13th and September 20th. She reminded them that the advertised figures are always presented at 10% or more than the amount actually proposed. This is done under the advice of the SBOA and the DLGF to ensure that the Mayor and Council have the flexibility to adopt the budget they need. Once the budget is advertised the council can reduce the budget but they cannot increase it above the amount advertised.

Adjournment

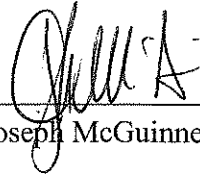
A motion and a second were made to adjourn. As there was no further business to come before the Common Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m. The next regular meeting will be held Monday, September 16, 2013 at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



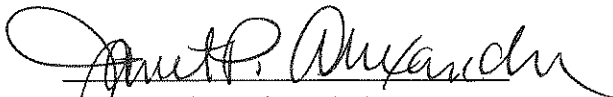
Janet P. Alexander, Clerk-Treasurer

Enrolled: 9/13/2013



Joseph McGuinness, Mayor

Attest:



Janet P. Alexander, Clerk-Treasurer