

**City of Franklin Common Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
December 7, 2015**

The regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Franklin, Indiana was called to order at 6:00 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, Joseph Ault, Kenneth Austin, Stephen Barnett, Stephen Hougland, Dr. William T. Murphy and Richard Wertz answered roll call. Clerk-Treasurer Janet P. Alexander, Records Clerk Kathy Cragen, City Attorney Lynnette Gray were also present.

Councilor Murphy offered an invocation. Mayor McGuinness led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Announcements & Presentations

Police Chief Tim O’Sullivan introduced new probationary Police Officer Nicholas Davis. Mayor McGuinness swore in Officer Nicholas Davis, and welcomed him to the department.

Consent Agenda

Mayor McGuinness presented the consent agenda for approval.

- Approval of the November 16, 2015 Common Council Minutes

Council President Barnett made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Councilor Murphy. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Old Business

Council President Barnett made a motion to read all old business by title only, seconded by Councilor Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Public Hearings

Common Council Budgetary Ordinance No.: 15-21 An Additional Appropriation Rainy Day Capital - Mayor McGuinness presented the proposed ordinance for an additional appropriation of \$125,000.00 in the Rainy Day Fund for the purchase of Right of Ways needed for the Jefferson Street road project. This was introduced at the last meeting and is ready for public hearing. A discussion was held. Mayor McGuinness opened the floor for public hearing, no one asked to speak. Councilor Austin made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor Wertz. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Common Council Ordinance No.: 15-04 An Ordinance Authorizing Longevity Pay to Merit Police Officers and Fire Fighters Upon Twenty (20) Years of Service - City Attorney Lynn Gray stated this was brought forward at the previous meeting, and is ready for public hearing. Mayor McGuinness opened the floor for public hearing, no one asked to speak. Councilor Barnett made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor Abban. A Voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Council President Barnett made a motion to move up item #1 under Other Business, seconded by Councilor Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Redevelopment Commission (RDC) Shell Building Proposal – RDC President Bob Heuchan came forward and gave an overview of the proposed shell building the RDC is proposing. Mr. Heuchan stated that there is seventy (70) acres in the Franklin Business Park, where they are proposing to build this shell building. The RDC is wanting Council approval to move forward with this project. Cheryl Morphew of Johnson County Development Corporation; Mark Writt of CBRE; Jim Karozos of Colliers; and Chris King of Runnebohm Construction all spoke in support of this project. A discussion was held.

New Business

Council President Barnett made a motion to read all new business by title only, seconded by Councilor Abban. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Introductions

Common Council Budgetary Resolution No.: 15-07 - A Common Council Budgetary Resolution Authorizing a Transfer from Planning Services 300 to Planning Supplies 200 – Mayor McGuinness read the title, and stated this is a transfer within the Planning Department budget for \$4,200.00, to cover expenses through the end of the year. Councilor Wertz made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor Murphy. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Common Council Budgetary Resolution No.: 15-08 - A Common Council Budgetary Resolution Creating a Board of Works Part-Time Line Item and Authorizing a Transfer - Mayor McGuinness stated that this is to create a line item to pay for the Administrative Assistant position at the Fire Department for the remainder of the year. Mayor McGuinness stated this is to request to transfer \$4,000.00 from the Board of Works unemployment account to create this line item. Councilor Austin made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor Abban. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Common Council Resolution No.: 15-23 Waiver of Non-Compliance for JM Stevens Enterprises, LLC - Community Development Director Krista Linke came forward and explained this resolution. JM Stevens Enterprises of 215 Industrial Drive was granted a tax abatement on a 4000 sq. ft. addition. There was a failure to comply which was reviewed in June 2015 by the Council. The Economic Development Commission (EDC) did review this, and the waiver was granted. The waiver was filed with the county, but the county also has a form 411 that needed to be filed at the same time, and was not. Mr. Stevens is requesting a waiver to file and receive this abatement. All of the correct paperwork has been filled out at this time. Councilor Austin made a motion to approve, seconded by Council President Barnett. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Common Council Ordinance No.: 15-10 An Ordinance Repealing Ordinance No.: 02-04 Relative to the Civilian Personnel Policy & Procedural Manual and Adopting the City of Franklin Employee Handbook - City Attorney Lynn Gray stated that this ordinance is for changes, updates and new items that were made to the employee handbook. A discussion was held. This will be brought back at the December 21st meeting for approval.

Common Council Ordinance No.: 15-11 An Ordinance Adopting Employee Benefits - City Attorney Lynn Gray stated this goes along with previous ordinance, and will be brought back at the December 21st meeting.

Common Council Ordinance No.: 15-14 An Ordinance Setting the Amount of Surety Bonds for Persons Covered Under Indiana Code 5-4-1-18 (a) (7) and Authorizing the Purchase of Blanket Bonds, Schedule Bonds and/or Crime Insurance Policies - City Attorney Lynn Gray stated that the legislature has now ordered that all communities must have all employees who handle money in any way be covered by a blanket bond. A discussion was held. This will be brought back at the December 21st meeting.

Other Business

Anti-Nepotism Forms- Hiring & Supervision IC 36-1-20.2 & Contracting with a Unit Policy IC 36-1-21 – City Attorney Lynn Gray explained these forms, and stated that since we will be having new council members starting in January, this should be brought back at the first meeting in 2016.

Council Comments

Mayor McGuinness told the Council that the City was approved to receive a Stormwater Grant in the amount of one million dollars, he stated that this was for cleanup of roaring run ditch, and other areas of the city that have drainage issues. The Mayor thanked all of the Planning Department, and other city

employees who worked hard to make this happen. The Mayor thanked Civil Technician Mark St. John, who was the Project Manager who put this application together.

Mayor McGuinness stated that the holiday schedule for next year would be the same, except Christmas and New Year's fall on a Saturday/Sunday, so the holidays will be celebrated on the Friday/ Monday.

Councilor Abban thanked everyone that worked on the Holiday Lighting this past weekend. Councilor Austin stated that the holiday lighting event was well attended, and that everyone involved did a great job getting this together. Councilor Murphy asked if there was anything we could do to honor the people who worked so hard on the Stormwater Grant. Councilor Austin also asked the Mayor about getting some sort of plaque for recognition of Civil Technician Mark St. John who was the leader on this project.

Adjournment

As there was no further business to come before the Common Council, a motion and a second were made to adjourn at 7:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet P. Alexander, Clerk-Treasurer
Enrolled: 12/17/2015

Joseph McGuinness, Mayor

Attest:

Janet P. Alexander, Clerk-Treasurer