

**City of Franklin Common Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
March 4, 2019**

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 Steve Barnett presiding. Council members Joseph Abban, Daniel Blankenship, Andrew Eggers, Bob Heuchan, Danny Richards and Richard Wertz answered roll call. Clerk-Treasurer Jayne Rhoades, Records Clerk Kathy Cragen, City Attorney Lynnette Gray were also present. Council President Kenneth Austin was absent.

Councilor Wertz offered an invocation. Mayor Barnett opened the meeting and asked the Clerk-Treasurer to call the roll. Mayor Barnett led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Announcements, Presentations & Public Comments

Swearing in of Probationary Officers: Alexander Nelson & Jacob Blackburn – Mayor Barnett swore in Probationary Officers Alexander Nelson & Jacob Blackburn, and welcomed them to the City of Franklin Police Department.

The Mayors Youth Council was present to present a project they have been working on regarding FCHS Water Bottle Fountains. Several members of the Mayors Youth Council spoke about the FCHS Water Bottle Fountain Project. The members stated these fountains are environmentally friendly, long lasting, convenient for students, & have an automatic sensor & a manual option. Each of the students took turns explaining the benefits of these water fountains, and where they will be located. One will be by the fieldhouse, one will be in upstairs hallway D & one will be by the cafeteria all of these locations are in good areas for the students. The cost of the two fountains is \$1890.06 with no cost for tax or shipping. They stated they have raised \$575.00 with a go fund me account, and \$440.00 through T-shirt sales, leaving them with \$994.42 left to raise. They stated that one fountain was being purchased by the Wellness Group at the high school. Mayor Barnett stated if they don't raise enough money there is enough in his budget to help them out. Councilor Wertz challenged each Council member to donate \$50.00 to this cause.

Mayor Barnett stated Sally Brown has been appointed the new Interim DPW Superintendent, and that former DPW Superintendent Rick Littleton has taken a new position as IT Director for the City as of February 25th. The Mayor thanked Mr. Littleton for his many years as DPW Superintendent & IT work, and stated that Ms. Brown has over 20 years' experience at the DPW and all of the certifications needed for this new position. Mayor Barnett also stating that Mr. Littleton would be in charge of coming up with the job description & a budget for the new IT Department.

Consent Agenda

Mayor Barnett presented the consent agenda for approval.

- Approval of the February 4, 2019 Common Council Minutes

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

Old Business

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

Common Council Resolution No.: 19-02 Resolution Waiving Non-Compliance with Tax Abatement Compliance Requirements by Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Climate Control - Community Development Specialist Rhoni Oliver came forward to present this resolution requesting a waiver of non-compliance for failure to file form 322 with the Auditor's office. Ms. Oliver stated this was recommended by the EDC. Two resolutions were presented one to allow them to receive the remainder of their abatement for future years, and the other offers the remainder of the abatement for future years and a refund for some portion of the taxes that were paid. A discussion was held. Councilor Wertz made a motion to approve the remainder of the abatement for future years, seconded by Councilor Eggers. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Common Council Resolution No.: 19-03 A Resolution Waiving Non-Compliance with Tax Abatement Compliance Requirements by Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Climate Control, Inc. (Res. 13-31) - Community Development Specialist Rhoni Oliver stated this is the same situation as the one listed above. Ms. Oliver has presented two new resolutions again, one to allow them to receive the remainder of their abatement for future years, and the other offers the remainder of the abatement for future years and a refund for some portion of the taxes that were paid. A discussion was held. Councilor Wertz made a motion to approve the remainder of the abatement for future years, seconded by Councilor Eggers. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

New Business

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

Request to Provide an Update to Council on Grant Cycle, Funds Raised, Current Programs, and Partnerships - Toni Breeden, Franklin Education Connection came forward to give an update regarding the Franklin Education Connection. Ms. Breeden spoke about Study Connection; working with Franklin Police Department; & NSK. Ms. Breeden stated they always

have a Banquet in the spring for all the study connection volunteers. They also have a First Scholars program which is in its 2nd year for kids who are the first person in their family to attend college. A discussion was held. Mayor Barnett thanked Ms. Breeden for her update.

Common Council Budgetary Resolution No.: 19-03 Authorizing a Transfer from Parks 400 Capital to Parks 300 Services in the amount of \$40,000.00 - Parks Superintendent Chip Orner came forward and requested to transfer money from Parks 400 Capital to Parks 300 Services. Mr. Orner stated that the Parks Department & Planning Department have been working together to create a bike & pedestrian plan for the city to map out current & future trails in the city. They will also be doing a passer rating for sidewalks & trails throughout the community also. Mr. Orner stated that the majority of the funding is coming from the MPO the \$40,000.00 is the city amount. A discussion was held. Councilor Eggers made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor Richards. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Common Council Budgetary Ordinance No.: 19-03 A Budgetary Ordinance Repealing & Replacing Budgetary Ordinance No.: 18-09 Fixing & Authorizing the Payment of Certain Salaries of Appointed Officers & Employees of the City of Franklin for Year 2019 (Sewer Utility) - Mayor Barnett stated this is to change the salary for Interim DPW Superintendent Sally Brown to get her to the Assistant Superintendents salary & is for introduction only tonight. Mayor Barnett also stated this salary would be retroactive to February 25th when Ms. Brown started this position. A discussion was held.

Other Business

No other business presented.

Council Comments

Councilor Heuchan gave an overview of the Joint Council & RDC meeting from January 28th. Councilor Heuchan stated the sale of the shell building was stopped, we are close to another prospect on it. RDC did close on Graham property, & Franklin Auction has a pending offer, and will be used by Parks & DDF. RDC approved steps to bond US31 TIF not to exceed ten million dollars for design work by INDOT.

Councilor Wertz stated the Tree Advisory Board has been meeting, & they are in the final stages of having Franklin declared a Tree City within the next month or two. Mr. Wertz stated that he thinks that the Tree Advisory Board should be paid like all other boards in the City. Mr. Wertz stated the Council has to approve this for it to happen. Councilor Wertz would like this to come back as a resolution at the next council meeting.

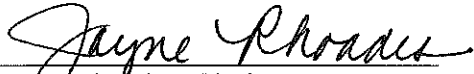
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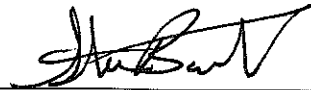
Councilor Eggers congratulated Rick Littleton on his new IT position & Sally Brown as the new Interim DPW Superintendent. Councilor Eggers also thanked the Mayors Youth Council for all of their work on the projects they have completed, and the one they are currently working on.

Adjournment


As there was no further business to come before the Common Council, a motion and a second were made to adjourn at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Jayne Rhoades, Clerk-Treasurer
Enrolled: 3/14/19


Steve Barnett, Mayor

Attest:


Jayne Rhoades, Clerk-Treasurer