

**City of Franklin Common Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
April 17, 2023**

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 Kenneth Austin, Bob Heuchan, Anne McGuinness, Irene Nalley, Jennifer Price, Josh Prine and Shawn Taylor answered roll call. Clerk-Treasurer Jayne Rhoades, and City Attorney Lynnette Gray were also present.

Mayor's Youth Leadership Council members Taylor Trueblood, Kalli Cadwell and Marnie Moore.

Mayor Barnett opened the meeting and asked the Clerk-Treasurer to call the roll.

Bryan Ries offered an invocation, & led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Announcements, Presentations & Public Comments

Discover Downtown Franklin Board President Dana Monson stated DDF was awarded a grant for \$24,567.00 from the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs. The plan is to hire a Farmer's Market Manager, hire an intern from Franklin College and hire another full-time employee who will be doing marketing and working with local businesses.

City engineer Mark Richards stated the city was awarded \$1 million for the Community Crossings Grant. Bids will open May 4th for the 2023 Paving Project with the expectation that a bid will be approved at the May 15th Board of Works meeting. The two communities in our county that received the grant are Franklin and New Whiteland. The streets chosen for the project are picked based on a rating program that rates the city's streets annually. The ratings are from 1-10 with 10 being the best. The lowest rated streets are considered for the project. Mr. Richards also stated INDOT opened bids for the Jefferson Street Sidewalk Project, but no bid was awarded due to it being too high at a rate 25% higher than the Engineer's estimate. The plan is to wait until October 2023 to hopefully receive lower bids at the end of the year.

Consent Agenda

Mayor Barnett presented the consent agenda for approval.

- Approval of the April 3, 2023 Common Council Minutes

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

Old Business

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

Public Hearing

Approval of Donation Fund Appropriation - Police Chief Kirby Cochran stated the Police Department will use the donation money for new AEDs. The total amount is \$4,150.00. Council Vice President Taylor made a motion to approve Budgetary Ordinance 23-02, seconded by Councilor Nalley. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

New Business

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

Laugle Properties ERA Declaratory Request - Community Development Specialist Dana Monson explained that last Tuesday the Economic Development Commission discussed approving a new building at 2035 Earlywood Drive. DualTech will be the company taking over the 70,000 square foot building. The state requires the property to be declared an Economic Revitalization Area. Dualtech requested a 10-year tax-abatement for real property and a 10-year tax-abatement for personal property. They estimate to spend \$4,403,000.00 on real property and \$5,267,635.00 on personal property. The public hearing will be held at the next Council meeting at May 1st at 6:00 pm. Council President Austin made a motion to approve Resolution 23-08, seconded by Councilor Nalley. Councilor Price recused herself from the vote due to a client relationship. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye, The motion carried.

Essex Furukawa Real Property and Personal Property Tax Abatement Request - Community Development Specialist Dana Monson requested this topic to be tabled until the next council meeting on May 1st. Council Vice President Taylor made a motion to table this request until the next meeting, seconded by Councilor McGuinness. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Request to appropriate grant funds received from Drug Free Johnson County - Police Chief Kirby Cochran requested appropriation of grant funds in the amount of \$3,196.95. The funds will be used for narcotics surveillance equipment. The request was for introduction only and will go for public hearing at the May 1st Council meeting.

Introduction of Budgetary Ordinance 23-03 Appropriating EDIT (Economic Development Income Tax) Tax - City Attorney Lynn Gray explained the county passed the appropriate requirements for imposing the EDIT tax. The city will eventually receive over \$2 million from this tax. The city receives money on the 10th of each month. This Budgetary Ordinance will go for public hearing at the May 1st Council meeting.

Yearly Tax Abatement Compliance Reports for Approval - Community Development. Specialist Dana Monson stated these are the last 14 tax abatement compliance reports. These reports were recommended for approval by the Economic Development Commission. C 2023-02, C 2023-07, C 2023-09, C 2023-19, C 2023-20, C 2023-21, C 2023-30, C 2023-31, C 2023-32, C 2023-33, C 2023-34, C 2023-26, C 2023-37 and C 2023-38 were all submitted for approval. Council Vice President Taylor made a motion to approve the compliance reports, seconded by Councilor McGuinness. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Other Business

There was no other business presented.

Council Comments

Council President Kenneth Austin thanked the Street Department for their hard work.

Councilor Bob Heuchan asked when the U.S. 31 project is getting started. Mayor Barnett stated he believes it will be April 2024. Councilor Heuchan stated that Yandes Street is looking good.

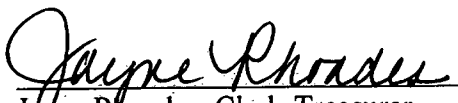
Mayor's Youth Leadership Council member Taylor Trueblood stated the council is still working on fundraising for the Roundabout Sculpture.

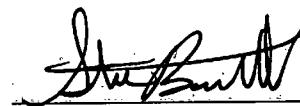
Chief of Staff Tara Payne reminded the council of the joint meeting with the School Board on April 24th at City Hall.

Adjournment

As there was no further business to come before the Common Council, a motion and a second were made to adjourn at 6:30 p.m.

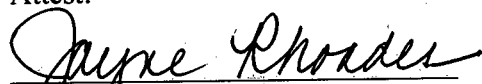
Respectfully submitted,


Jayne Rhoades, Clerk-Treasurer
Enrolled: 4/19/23


Steve Barnett, Mayor

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Attest:


Jayne Rhoades, Clerk-Treasurer