

**City of Franklin Common Council  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
April 7, 2025**

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, Todd Shuck, Anne McGuinness, Irene Nalley, Jennifer Price, Josh Prine and Shawn Taylor answered roll call. Clerk-Treasurer Jan Jones, and City Attorney Lynnette Gray were also present.

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

Tom Moore offered an invocation and led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Announcements & Public Comments**

**Oath of Office for 2 Merit Officers: Wyatt Everton and Ethan Stewart-** Police Chief Kirby Cochran called Officer Wyatt Everton and Officer Ethan Stewart forward for swearing in.

**Consent Agenda**

Mayor Barnett presented the consent agenda for approval.

- Approval of the March 17, 2025 Common Council Minutes

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

**Old Business**

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

**Approval of Ordinance 25-03 Authorizing the Issuance of Sewage Works Revenue Bonds -** City Attorney Lynn Gray stated that tonight is the Public Hearing. Ms. Gray pointed out two updates on page 27 that were added to reflect a previous Council vote. Mayor Barnett opened the Public Hearing. There were no comments. Mayor Barnett closed the Public Hearing. Councilor McGuinness motioned to approve Ordinance 25-03 Authorizing the Issuance of Sewage Works Revenue Bonds, seconded by Councilor Price. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

**Approval of Budgetary Ordinance 25-03 for permission to spend the State's portion of the Community Crossings Grant 2024 Part 2 -** Mayor Barnett shared that this was introduced on March 17<sup>th</sup>, and tonight is the Public Hearing. The City has already received \$609,482.95 from the State. With the City's match, the project total will be \$1,218,965.95. Mayor Barnett opened the Public Hearing. There were no comments. Mayor Barnett closed the Public Hearing. Councilor Taylor motioned to approve Budgetary Ordinance 25-03 for permission to spend the

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State's portion of the Community Crossings Grant 2024 Part 2, seconded by Councilor Nalley. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

### **New Business**

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

**Introduction of Budgetary Ordinance 25-04 appropriating \$28,074.21 in Opioid Unrestricted Funds to cover expenses related to updating Law Enforcement Policy Manuals** – City Attorney Lynn Gray shared that the City received Opioid Funds, both restricted and unrestricted. The unrestricted funds can be used to fund our approved contract with Lexipol. We will continue to receive more Opioid Funds as the settlements come in.

**Introduction of Budgetary Ordinance 25-05 Amending Salary Ordinance 24-22 for Planning Director Position** - Clerk-Treasurer Jan Jones stated this outlines the restructured positions in the Planning Department: Senior Planner 2 becomes Planning Director with changes in exempt status and salary, and Assistant City Engineer becomes Project Manager with salary changes. This also corrects a mistake with the Plan Commission/BZA Members changing the number from 16 to 14. These changes do not affect the bottom line, the amount has just been reallocated.

**Introduction of Budgetary Ordinance 25-06 Drug Free Johnson County Funds in the amount of \$2,872.56** - Police Chief Kirby Cochran shared that this Drug Free Johnson County Grant money is restricted in its use. The request is to purchase new surveillance equipment.

### **Other Business**

There was no Other Business.

### **Council Comments**

Councilor Prine thanked all departments for their efforts this weekend.

Councilor McGuinness also shared her thanks for the all the departments' work.

Council President Austin repeated his thanks.

Councilor Taylor thanked everyone and said Police Chief Cochran's live Facebook posts were very helpful.

Councilor Shuck said he felt blessed that we didn't get more rain and blessed with our staff and how well everyone works together.

Councilor Nalley agreed with everything already said and thanked Ms. Tennell for her part in the flood response.

Councilor Price added her thanks and echoed everything already said.

Franklin Mayor's Youth Leadership Council Member Rose Mahin introduced fellow members Grace Anderson, Lily Harvey, and Arthur Thomas. Miss Mahin shared that the pickleball lights

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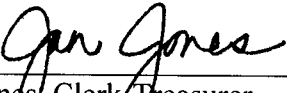
will be installed next week and hopes to have a ribbon cutting before the end of school. They will also host a chili supper at the Elks Club on April 16<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-8:00 PM. Approval for the City Hall generator mural is also in the works.

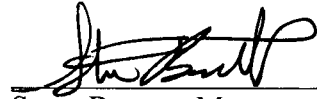
Mayor Barnett thanked all the departments and people who executed the Flood Rescue Plan.

**Adjournment**

As there was no further business to come before the Common Council, a motion and a second were made to adjourn at 6:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Jan Jones, Clerk-Treasurer  
Enrolled: 04/10/25

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Steve Barnett, Mayor

Attest:

  
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Jan Jones, Clerk-Treasurer