

**City of Franklin Common Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
June 16, 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 and Josh Prine answered roll call. Clerk-Treasurer Jan Jones and City Attorney Lynnette Gray were also present.

Council Vice President Shawn Taylor was absent.

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

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

Announcements & Public Comments

Volunteer of the Year Award – Mayor Barnett and Carolyn Williams presented the 2025 Marty & Carolyn Williams Volunteer of the Year Award to Bryan Ries. Mayor Barnett outlined his commitment to the community and thanked him for his service to Franklin.

Oath of Office for 1 Merit Officer: Salinger Redden - Police Chief Kirby Cochran and Mayor Barnett swore in Police Officer Redden.

K. Shirley Life Saving Award - Police Captain Ryan Mears presented Officer Shirley with the Life Saving Award. On April 30th, Officer Shirley responded to a resident who was getting attacked by a dog. Shirley stopped the dog from attacking the homeowner and helped render first aid to the resident. Captain Mears thanked Officer Shirley for her quick thinking and bravery.

Consent Agenda

Mayor Barnett presented the consent agenda for approval.

- Approval of the June 2, 2025 Common Council Minutes

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

Old Business

There was no old business presented.

New Business

Council President Austin made a motion 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 Ordinance 2025-05 Amending Ordinance 2025-03 Sewage Works Revenue Bond - City Attorney Lynn Gray explained in the original ordinance that was approved, there was an escrow requirement for the entire 20 years of the bond. Because of the size of the bond, the city would have to escrow \$3.9 million that could not be accessed for the full 20 years. The more cost-effective route is to purchase a surety bond to cover the required escrow amount. Ordinance 2025-05 allows the city to either enter into an escrow account or choose to purchase the surety bond (which is the goal for the city). Ordinance 2025-05 will go for public hearing at the July 7th Council meeting.

Introduction of Budgetary Ordinance 2025-10 Fikes Fresh Brand Refund \$284.00 - Fire Chief Josh Snyder explained the refunds were from payments made in 2021 and 2022 so it could not be adjusted back into the appropriation account. Chief Snyder plans to use the funds again for cleaning supplies. Budgetary Ordinance 2025-10 will go for public hearing at the July 7th meeting.

Introduction of Budgetary Ordinance 2025-11 JCCF-Fire Dept REMC Grant \$4,800.00 - Fire Chief Josh Snyder explained this is a bi-annual grant from Johnson County REMC. The grant money will be used on weight lifting equipment for all three Fire Stations. Budgetary Ordinance 2025-11 will go for public hearing at the July 7th meeting.

Introduction of Budgetary Ordinance 2025-12 Francis Melton Memorial Donation \$5,577.90 - Fire Chief Josh Snyder explained this is funding for Fire Department training. Chief Snyder explained this can be used for multiple classes such as rope technician and elevator rescue training. Budgetary Ordinance 2025-12 will go for public hearing at the July 7th meeting.

Other Business

There was no other business.

Council Comments

Council President Austin expressed his thanks to all city employees for all of their hard work.

Chief of Staff Tara Payne stated there is a ribbon cutting on June 30th at 10:00 a.m. for the Pickleball Lighting Project at the amphitheater. Also, there will be a ribbon cutting on July 1st at 11:00 a.m. for the new Active Adult Center.

Mayor Barnett explained the budget approval dates: Budget Introduction 08/18/25, public hearing 09/02/25 and adoption on 09/15/25. Mayor Barnett explained he's already been working on the budget for over a month. He will meet with the city's financial advisor Jeff Peters, then he will meet with Clerk-Treasurer Jan Jones and all department heads and city council members.

Adjournment

As there was no further business to come before the Common Council, a motion and a second were made to adjourn at 6:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Jones, Clerk-Treasurer
Enrolled: 06/19/25

Steve Barnett, Mayor

Attest:

Jan Jones, Clerk-Treasurer