

**City of Franklin Common Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
August 20, 2012**

The regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Franklin, Indiana was called to order at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall, 70 E. Monroe Street, with Mayor Joseph E. McGuinness presiding. Council members Joseph Abban, Kenneth Austin, Stephen Barnett, Robert Henderson, Stephen Hougland, and Richard Wertz answered roll call. Clerk-Treasurer Janet P. Alexander, Records Clerk Kathy Cragen, City Attorney Lynnette Gray were also present. Council member Joseph Ault was absent.

Mayor McGuinness opened the meeting and asked the Clerk-Treasurer to call the roll. Councilor Hougland offered an invocation, which was followed by a recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Announcements & Presentations

Resident John Wales came forward to publicly thank the City and Mayor McGuinness for their support of the “Remember Blake (Dickus)” car show. He said that they raised a lot of money for local charities. Ms. Christina Dickus, the mother of Blake Dickus also spoke. She asked the city to increase the reward fund from \$10,000 to \$25,000 for a tip that will help find the murderer(s). Mayor McGuinness asked for the Council’s permission to request that the City Attorney bring a resolution authorizing the increase to the September meeting. A discussion was held. Councilor Abban made a motion to move forward with an increase in amount offered for the reward, seconded by Councilor Wertz. A voice vote was taken with all members stating Aye. No members stating Nay. The motion carried, this matter will be brought back at the September 17th meeting.

Consent Agenda

Mayor McGuinness presented the consent agenda for approval.

- Approval of the August 6, 2012 Common Council Minutes
- Common Council Budgetary Resolution No.: 12-07 - A Transfer from Cemetery Trust Fund 200 Supplies to Cemetery Trust Fund 300 Professional Services for Renovation Work to be Completed on the Greenlawn Cemetery Mausoleum - Parks Superintendent Chip Orner

BUDGETARY RESOLUTION No.: 12-07

A COMMON COUNCIL BUDGETARY RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A TRANSFER

WHEREAS, monies are needed in the Cemetery Trust Fund for Services expenses related to the renovation of the Cemetery Mausoleum;

THEREFORE, bet it ordained by the Common Council of the City of Franklin, Johnson County, Indiana, that the following sum of money is hereby transferred into the account named and for the purpose specified, subject to the laws governing same.

	AMOUNT
FROM: <u>Cemetery Trust 717 001 200</u>	\$ <u>8,000.00</u>
TO: <u>Cemetery Trust 717 001 300</u>	\$ <u>8,000.00</u>

Adopted this 20th day of August, 2012, by the following vote:

COMMON COUNCIL of the CITY of
FRANKLIN, INDIANA
Joseph E. McGuinness, Mayor

Attest:
Janet P. Alexander,
City Clerk Treasurer

Councilor Barnett made a motion to approve the consent agenda, including the minutes of the prior meeting and the resolution authorizing a transfer in the Cemetery Trust fund as presented, seconded by Councilor Abban. A voice vote was taken with all members stating Aye. No members stating Nay. The motion carried.

Old Business

There was no old business presented.

New Business

Introductions

Council President Barnett made a motion to read the next three items by title only, seconded by Councilor Abban. A voice vote was taken with all members stating Aye. No members stating Nay. The motion carried. Mayor McGuinness read all three titles.

Common Council Ordinance No.: 12-21 - An Ordinance Approving Vacating Right-of-Way within the City of Franklin, Indiana Between Lots 20, 33 & 34 of Original Plat of Franklin (To be known as Original Plat of Franklin Lots 20, 33 & 34 Alley Vacation), and

Common Council Ordinance No.: 12-22 - An Ordinance Approving Vacating Right-of-Way within The City of Franklin, Indiana West of Lot 1 of Franklin Addition No. 2 by George King (To be known as Franklin Addition No.2 by George King Lot 1 Alley Vacation), and

Common Council Ordinance No.: 12-23 - An Ordinance Approving Vacating Right-of-Way within City of Franklin, Indiana between Lots 66 & 67 of Original Plat of Franklin (To be known as Original Plat of Franklin Lots 66 & 67 Alley Vacation)

President Barnett stated that all three proposed ordinances vacating alleys were presented to the Board of Works and that the members voted they should be forwarded with favorable recommendations to the Common Council. The three proposed ordinances Common Council Ordinance No.: 12-21, Common Council Ordinance No.: 12-22, and Common Council Ordinance No.: 12-23 are presented tonight for introduction only. Councilor Barnett summarized the purpose of each proposed vacation and stated that they will all be up for public hearing at the next regular council meeting.

Introduction of 2013 Proposed Budget

Mayor McGuinness said that he has met with all department heads to go over their needs and wants. He stated that the September 17th meeting will be the public hearing on the proposed budget. The Clerk-Treasurer, Janet P. Alexander provided an outline of the gross budget requests and stated that she and Mayor McGuinness planned to meet with department heads this week to review each of their proposals. The Clerk-Treasurer also stated that the rest of the budget forms including the Form 1's - Department Budget Estimates, Form 2 - Revenue Estimates, Form 3 - Advertisement of Proposed Appropriations, Tax Rates and Levies, Form 4A and Form 4B will be prepared and submitted to them at their next meeting. She stated that the Form 4B includes estimated revenues as well as proposed tax rates and levies. She reported that she will provide the required information needed by Johnson County next week for their Non Binding Recommendation process. She also stated that each Council member received an IACT salary survey from 3rd class cities, as well as salary ordinances from surrounding cities and towns in the budget folders. A discussion was held.

Other Business

Councilor Abban commented that cars are not slowing down when they go over the speed hump on King Street. He asked if rumble strips could be added to get drivers attention and to slow them down. Mayor McGuinness stated that they have made several attempts to slow traffic in this area. Another issue is that GPS systems direct commercial vehicles to follow King Street to Highway 31. The Mayor said that additional signage is coming from INDOT. Councilor Barnett stated that maybe we need to have police officers sit in this area and write tickets for a while to let people know that this area is being watched. Mayor McGuinness stated that the radar detector has been moved over by the college for the time being since students will be moving back in soon and that it could be moved to King Street for this purpose.

Council Member Comments

Councilor Austin asked about reducing commercial truck traffic on Jefferson Street and said that the street is in terrible shape. Mayor McGuinness stated that he has been working with INDOT asking that the section of Jefferson Street that passes through the downtown area be turned over to the care of the City. Councilor Abban stated that there was a great article concerning upcoming projects scheduled for the Parks Department in the paper today. Councilor Wertz asked why the speed has not been reduced on King Street after the removal of the speed hump. Councilor Henderson stated that the RDC had a meeting with a private developer concerning the G.C. Murphy building. He also stated that the former Franklin Engineering site has been cleared out, and that they passed a resolution authorizing the construction of a shell building.

Mayor McGuinness stated that the RDC is hosting an informational meeting about Public Access and the Open Door Law at Beeson Hall September 12th at 6:00 p.m. The Mayor also stated that Franklin had been chosen to receive a \$250,000 grant from the state for nine different downtown facades. Work should start in the spring. Mayor McGuinness thanked the Planning Department and the FDC for their work on this grant.

Council President Barnett commented on the agreement between Johnson County and the City which permits the City Court to remain in the current location until February of 2013. He stated that according to the contract after February 2013 it will cost the City \$500 per month or \$6,000 per year plus pro-rated utilities for the Court to remain. However Mr. Barnett said that he would like the City Court to move to the old City Hall building on Madison Street. He stated that he had received estimates from Bemis Brothers \$350,000 - \$450,000 and Mike Waugh quoted \$400,000. He said he would like the Council to take a strong look at this building. He said we should be thinking about having our own home for our own court. He said that we are eighteen months from having to make a decision.

Mayor McGuinness stated that he will be meeting with County Commissioner Price and Judge VanValer this week. The Mayor also reminded the Council that Judge Van Valer is an elected official and her requests and recommendations should be considered. A discussion was held.

Adjournment

A motion and a second were made to adjourn. As there was no further business to come before the Common Council, the meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m. The next regular meeting will be held Monday, September 17, 2012 at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet P. Alexander, Clerk-Treasurer
Enrolled: 09/12/12

Joseph McGuinness, Mayor

Attest:

Janet P. Alexander, Clerk-Treasurer