

**City of Franklin Common Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
November 5, 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, Joseph Ault, Kenneth Austin, Stephen Barnett, Robert Henderson, Stephen Hougland, and Richard Wertz answered roll call. Deputy Clerk Sue Midkiff, Records Clerk Kathy Cragen, City Attorney Lynnette Gray were also present.

Mayor McGuinness opened the meeting and asked the Deputy Clerk to call the roll. Mr. Austin offered an invocation, which was followed by a recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Consent Agenda

Mayor McGuinness presented the consent agenda for approval.

- o Approval of the October 15, 2012 Common Council Minutes
- o Common Council Budgetary Resolution No.: 12-10 A Common Council Budgetary Resolution Authorizing a Transfer from Fire Department 200 to 300 in the amount of \$20,000.00

Council President Barnett made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Councilor Abban. The motion carried.

Old Business

Council President Steve Barnett made a motion to read all of the titles of each item listed on the agenda from item (a.) through (g.) as listed under Old Business. The motion was seconded. A voice vote was taken with all members voting aye.

Common Council Resolution No.: 12-15 A Resolution Granting Tax Abatement for Runnebohm Construction Company, Inc.

Mayor McGuinness read the title aloud. Planning Director Krista Linke asked the Board to remove this item from the agenda. Council President Barnett made a motion to remove Common Council Resolution 12-15 from the agenda, seconded by Councilor Abban. A voice vote was taken with all members present stating Aye. No members stating Nay. The motion carried.

Common Council Resolution No.: 12-18 A Resolution Setting Forth Final Action in Determining an Economic Revitalization Area and Confirming Resolution 12-17 of October 15, 2012 (EDC 12-06: Overton Carbide Tool and Engineering)

Mayor McGuinness read the title aloud. Planning Director Krista Linke stated that that Mr. Overton is present to answer questions. She explained that this resolution confirms Resolution No.:12-17 which was approved at the last council meeting. It was reported that the EDC unanimously voted to recommend a five (5) year abatement on the personal property. Mayor McGuinness stated that this is the

public hearing and asked if anyone from the public wished to speak for or against the proposal. No one asked to speak. Councilor Austin made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor Wertz. A voice vote was taken with all members present stating Aye. No members stating Nay. The motion carried.

Common Council Budgetary Ordinance No.: 12-09 A Budgetary Ordinance Fixing the Annual Salaries and Providing Compensation for all Elected Officials of the City of Franklin, Indiana for Year 2013

Mayor McGuinness read the title aloud and stated that the ordinance presented includes the original proposal for a 2% increase. He suggested that a motion for an amendment be offered stating that there would be no increase. Councilor Abban made a motion to amend the ordinance to include no increases in salaries, and with that amendment the ordinance will be approved, seconded by Councilor Barnett. A voice vote was taken with all members present stating Aye. No members stating Nay. The motion carried.

Public Hearing – Common Council Budgetary Ordinance No.: 12-12 An Additional Appropriation Ordinance to Fund the Municipal Share of PERF, & Police & Fire Pension From General - \$279,277, MVH - \$10,626 & Park & Rec - \$10,003 Funds)

Mayor McGuinness read the title aloud. The Mayor and Deputy Clerk Midkiff explained that PERF now requires the City to submit payments in conjunction with each payday rather than at the end of each quarter. The amount owed remains unchanged. Mayor McGuinness stated that this is the public hearing and asked if anyone from the public wished to speak for or against the proposed additional appropriation. No one asked to speak. Council President Barnett made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor Abban. A voice vote was taken with all members present stating Aye. No members stating Nay. The motion carried.

Public Hearing - Common Council Budgetary Ordinance No.: 12-13 An Additional Appropriation Ordinance Police Grant Fund 230 - Grant/Local - Supplies 230 002 200 in the amount of \$4,035.00

Mayor McGuinness read the title aloud then stated that the proposed ordinance was introduced during the last meeting. He explained that they are also approving how grant money received from Drug Free Johnson County by the Police Department. Police Chief O'Sullivan said that the funds received will be used to purchase five computers for detectives. Mayor McGuinness stated that this is the public hearing and asked if anyone from the public wished to speak for or against the proposed additional appropriation. No one asked to speak. Council President Barnett made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members present stating Aye. No members stating Nay. The motion carried.

Public Hearing - Common Council Ordinance No.: 12-25 An Ordinance Regarding the Cost of Public Fire Protection Service to be Provided by Indiana American Water Co.,Inc.

Mayor McGuinness read the title aloud. The Mayor stated that he had spoke with Mr. Ron Ballard from Indiana American Water Company (IAWC) who told him that the City of Shelbyville is considering a similar action. IAWC plans to provide a solid estimate of what residents and businesses should expect to pay to both Franklin and Shelbyville by the end of this week. The Mayor suggested that it would be smart to table the public hearing and adoption of the ordinance until the next meeting. Councilor Abban

made a motion to table, seconded by Councilor Wertz. The motion carried. A voice vote was taken with all members present stating Aye. No members stating Nay. The motion carried.

Public Hearing – Common Council Ordinance No.: 12-26, An Ordinance Establishing a One-Time City-Wide Longevity Compensation for Services in 2012

Mayor McGuinness read the title aloud. The Mayor then explained that the one time payment was discussed during the last budget hearing. The proposed ordinance includes one-time \$1000.00 stipend for all full-time city employees. Councilor Austin asked to discuss offering a stipend to part-time employees. A discussion was held. Mayor McGuinness stated that this is the public hearing and asked if anyone from the public wished to speak for or against the proposed ordinance. No one asked to speak. Council President Barnett made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members present stating Aye. No members stating Nay. The motion carried.

New Business

RDC - Request for Council Input RE: G.C. Murphy Building at 56/58 E. Jefferson St.

Mr. Bob Heuchan President of the Redevelopment Commission (RDC) came forward and explained that he was here to get input from the members regarding proposals submitted for use of the former G.C. Murphy Building which is located at 56/58 E. Jefferson Street. The request for proposals included the assumption that the RDC would provide financial support for remodeling.

Only two proposals were received. The first proposal came from James A. Crusier who indicated that he planned to use building for wedding receptions and reunions. He also plans to lease space for craft shows or similar events. The second proposal came from the Chamber of Commerce. They propose to convert the facility into visitor's center. Their proposal also envisioned the building being used to house a small coffee shop and possibly other small shops and offices.

Mr. Heuchan stated that there are restrictions and limitations attached to both offers. He stated that the RDC will discuss both proposals this Thursday morning. He said that the RDC does not want to retain ownership of this building and needed to move forward on other projects including the Gateway Project.

A discussion was held. The Council had questions about parking, public restrooms, the suggestion that the space could be used to house other not for profit agencies such as Discover Downtown and Franklin Heritage. They also asked what if any role the Franklin Development Corporation (FDC) would have in this project. Council President Barnett asked Mr. Hougland whether the FDC had made any commitments about funding this project. Councilor Hougland stated that the FDC had a proposal, but nothing has been decided at this time.

Executive Director Tricia Bechman of the Chamber of Commerce commented on the proposal explaining that the coffee shop would be a way to bring people into the visitor's center and that she has talked to Franklin Heritage about using the existing office space located on the second floor. She said that ideally RDC and FDC would fund the remodeling of the building and the City would retain ownership. Mr. Marty Williams President of Discover Downtown Franklin stated that he would like to have a spot in this building for offices.

Mr. Heuchan thanked the council for their input and stated that he hopes that whatever they decide to do will provide a long term benefit to the city.

Other Business

Mayor McGuinness provided a copy of his planned holiday schedule for 2013 stating that there are a total of 14 paid holidays. The Mayor also stated that the Board of Works and Council meeting dates for 2013 will stay the first and third Monday, of each month.

Councilor Abban reported that the re-districting project is on schedule.

Councilor Abban made a recommendation that the Police Department to have a “tip hotline”, and reward money to offer for leads/tips to tipsters when an arrest or conviction occurs. A discussion was held.

Announcements & Presentations

There were no announcements or presentations offered.

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 7:42 p.m. The next regular meeting will be held Monday, November 19, 2012 at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet P. Alexander, Clerk-Treasurer
Enrolled: 11-16-12

Joseph McGuinness, Mayor

Attest:

Janet P. Alexander, Clerk-Treasurer