

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR FRANKLIN CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Monday, October 10, 2016**

Regular Meeting of the Franklin City Council was held on Monday, October 10, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall. Council members present were: Degner, Heibel, R. Kokesch, Scharfencamp, and Wiese. Staff Department Heads present were: K. Kokesch and Pederson. Guests present were: Scott Nissen, Brian Pederson, Steve Palmer, Corey Gruendemann, Duane Smith, Bob Fox, and Joel Harmoning.

At 7:00 p.m. Mayor Degner called the regular meeting to order, noting a public hearing would not be held because the proposed assessment for services has been paid. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, roll call showed all council present.

Mayor Degner called for approval of the agenda with the deletion of the public hearing, Wiese motioned for approval of the agenda as amended, second by Scharfencamp, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.

Citizens were addressed. Duane Smith received a citation for a dog at large and contested the context of the events as reported by the affected citizen, noting it was reported a day after the incident and the story changed; he explained that his wife was outside with the dog on a Sunday morning, the dog barked at the victim but did not bite him and was under the control of his wife; the city's ordinance allows for no leash if the dog is under control of the owner; his dogs are now tied up. The sheriff referred Smith to the city council, noting administrative fines have not yet been implemented. **R. Kokesch motioned to make Smith's citation this one time a warning, second by Heibel, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.** Pederson invited Nicole Rendon to the meeting to explain her sidewalk request, and attempted to explain that she is hoping to request the city consider extending sidewalk to their property, this was tabled until she presents more information.

Mayor Degner called for approval of the minutes of September 12, 2016. R. Kokesch motioned to approve the minutes as presented; R. Kokesch rescinded her motion as the minutes are included in the consent agenda. **Scharfencamp motioned to approve the consent agenda items as presented (Minutes of September 12, 2016, Bills and Financial Report, Utility Disconnections, Zoning Report) second by Wiese, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.**

Joel Harmoning of Franklin Industries reported on the progress of the community center/day care facility, noting the contractors have been working weekends and it is nearly back on schedule, weather will no longer be a factor. Sheet rocking will begin soon; \$14,000 worth of changes were made to the HVAC system to upgrade the air conditioning and hide the duct work. A \$17,000 audio/visual system with wired speakers and a projection system were installed, the Lion's Club committed \$13,000 to this expense. There are three, 500 gallon LP tanks installed and placed on a cement pad, along with an area for a dumpster, which may or may not be partially fenced in. Scharfencamp questioned how far over budget they are, so far they are using their contingency dollars.

Community Center policies were open for discussion. A draft addendum to the lease agreement between the school and the city for utilities, cleaning and outdoor maintenance was reviewed. R. Kokesch was concerned with the daycare using the facility, if it would be clean for community center events? R. Kokesch also recommended that the landfill costs be included with the garbage costs. Also questioned was the single water line and metering, noting the costs of the larger meter that was discussed and approved at the time of construction. Pederson explained that at this point there are many unknowns for costs and the agreement will be reviewed annually and adjusted as needed; this is a draft that needs to be reviewed and approved by the school board, and that it is to be a fair arrangement. Pederson also questioned what the city rental policy regarding liquor, janitorial services, and rental fees would be; Pederson will check with the bars if they would be interested in providing liquor and provisions used by other event centers for liquor; Pederson is to contact C. Smith and T. Miller for interest in providing janitorial services as they are already contracted/employed by the city. Tables and chairs are being researched, it is more cost and space effective to use rectangular tables; Pederson will draft a sample budget with quotes received. A number of sample rental agreements/policies were received, Pederson will compile a draft policy for the council to review. A special meeting may be needed to discuss the community center details.

Department Heads were addressed. K. Kokesch reported on the Well Head Protection meeting with the MN Dept. of Health, noting all is moving along; it's been such a wet fall that sump pumps discharging on the streets may pose ice issues when the temperatures fall, there really is no solution for this; discussed the city's tree ordinance regarding boulevard trees, the council felt that amending the ordinance would be a good idea to help plan for the future by only allowing smaller trees on the boulevards by permit and that the city maintains the street portion of the current boulevard trees; trees that are damaging the curb and gutter will be removed; the wastewater permit to MPCA has been noted as complete, but is still being processed; K. Kokesch plans to replace his cell phone and the council confirmed they will continue paying his phone/data package and he pays for his phone; vacation plans are being made, he has people lined up to cover urgencies; K. Kokesch added that Pat Crain's shop is for sale for around \$80,000 and is a heated facility and would make a great city shop; the parks are being winterized, a plumber is needed to winterize the ballpark; MRWA will meet with Degner and Heibel regarding the needed water tower maintenance. Wiese reported that Erich Koester and Jake Olson were interviewed and recommended for hire to the fire department and they are aware of needing a physical and willing to take the training. **R. Kokesch motioned to hire Erich Koester and Jake Olson to the Fire Department, second by Heibel, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.** Keith Heinrich sent the Redwood County Mutual Aid Agreement which is to be reviewed and formally approved in November; there will be a house burn on Oct. 29th; it was confirmed that radios are being taken care of and codes are being updated at the fire hall. Pederson met with Matt Johnson on the ordinances which should be completed soon, the public hearing will be planned for November if they are ready and Pederson will check on the liquor ordinance regarding community center; the new copier is working great, electronic council packets will also be sent; all is ready for the election; Degner and Pederson will attend the LMC regional meeting in Paynesville.

Well #4 was discussed with the MN Dept. of Health. There is a possibility for a Source Water Protection Grant of up to \$10,000 for this and there is about \$12,000 of USDA money left to offset the estimated \$100,000 cost. K. Kokesch has been in contact with Andy Kehren and Irving Well and televising is necessary to see what actually needs to be done, noting the water quality of that well is better. The council would like to pursue televising so Pederson will find out from USDA if this is an eligible expense.

Resolution 2016-9, Annual Ambulance Assessments for 2017 in the amount of \$4,550.00 was motioned for approval by Wiese, second by Scharfencamp, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No. No assessment of services resolution was necessary.

Five responses to the RFP for auditing services were received, with costs varying from \$7,750 to \$21,500 per year plus escalation. The firms all had high credentials and recommendations. Dennis E. Oberloh, LTD, is a local familiar firm with the lowest fees. **Wiese motioned accept Oberloh's Audit Proposal, second by Degner, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.**

Councilor requests included: a letter was received by Xcel Energy that they intend to convert street lights to LED by 2018. Wiese noted the fire department is submitting a FEMA grant application for safety equipment and would require a 10% city match if received; R. Kokesch questioned coffee urns at the community center and if council meetings should be held there. Degner reported that the DNR is compiling a Master Conservation Plan for the MN River Valley and is accepting questions and comments, a link will be included in the city newsletter.

At 9:37 p.m., Mayor Degner called for adjournment, with Scharfencamp motioning for adjournment, second by Wiese, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No. The next regular meeting will be October 10, 2016, at City Hall.

Respectfully Submitted by
Wendy Pederson, City Clerk/Treasurer