

**MINUTES OF THE
TRUTH IN TAXATION PUBLIC HEARING AND REGULAR FRANKLIN CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Monday, December 11, 2017**

A Truth in Taxation Public Hearing and Regular Meeting of the Franklin City Council were held on Monday, December 11, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall. Council members present were: Gruendemann, R. Kokesch, Scharfencamp and Sherman. Staff Department Heads present were: K. Kokesch and Pederson. Guests present were: Steve Palmer and Myron Gehrke.

At 7:00 p.m., Mayor Sherman called the meeting to order with roll call showing Heibel absent. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. **Mayor Sherman called for approval of the minutes of November 13, 2017 and to amend the agenda with the addition of Item 11.b., Living Snow Fence. R. Kokesch motioned to approve the minutes and amended agenda, second by Scharfencamp, RCV-4 Yes, 0 No.**

Mayor Sherman called for approval of the consent agenda: bills were presented in the amount of \$150,738.48 (it was noted that this included \$106,647 for the fire truck that was budgeted for in 2018) and cash receipts for November were \$141,045.90; also the council approved the council per diems submitted. There are 4 past due utility accounts for disconnection. There was one new zoning permit issued to John Hopp to install a 10' x 20' lofted barn at 440 First St. S. **R. Kokesch motioned to approve the consent agenda items, second by Scharfencamp, RCV-4 Yes, 0 No.** A public Hearing on the Variance and Conditional Use Permit request by Curt and Jen Scharfencamp, at 511 Third St. S., was held by the planning commission; Scharfencamp's will not meet set-back requirements and they have more than two accessory buildings; there was no dissent and the planning commission recommended approval. **Gruendemann motioned approval of the Scharfencamp Variance and CUP Permit via Resolution 2017-14, second by R. Kokesch, RCV-3 Yes, 0 No, Scharfencamp abstained.**

At 7:10 p.m. Mayor Sherman opened the Truth in Taxation Public Hearing; there were no citizens present nor comments received. The 2018 Budget and Levy were presented with no changes to the proposed levy in the amount of \$167,527. **Scharfencamp motioned to close the Truth in Taxation Public Hearing, second by Gruendemann, RCV-4 Yes, 0 No.**

No Citizens requested to be addressed.

Scharfencamp updated the council on the Safe Routes to School initiative, noting there is not a lot of funding for this, rather ideas and recommendations for the city and school district to implement. Law enforcement has been invited to participate and the city committee members will continue to meet and present information received.

Mediacom sent a notice that rates would be increasing.

Several Ordinance Amendments were presented for approval. **R. Kokesch motioned to approve amendments to the Zoning Code, Section 3.09.A. Dwelling Unit Restrictions and the addition of Section 3.31 Renewable Energy Systems (Solar); second by Scharfencamp, RCV-4 Yes, 0 No. R. Kokesch motioned to approve the Summary of Section 3.31 for publication, second by Gruendemann, RCV-4 Yes, 0 No. R. Kokesch motioned to approve the amendments to City Code, Chapter 52, second by Scharfencamp, RCV-4 Yes, 0 No. Gruendemann motioned to adopt the 2018 Fee Schedule as presented and the Amendments to Ordinance 30.11, Charges for Services, second by Scharfencamp, RCV-4 Yes, 0 No.**

The 2018 Budget and Levy were presented for approval. The 2018 Budget was presented as follows: General Fund income of \$246,667, expenses of \$521,424; Water Fund income of \$130,600 and expenses of \$140,100; Sewer Fund income of \$140,800, expenses of \$170,300; with the net 2018 Levy of \$167,527, presenting no change from 2017. **Scharfencamp motioned to approve the 2018 Budget and Levy and Resolution 2017-13 Notice of Property Taxes, second by R. Kokesch, RCV-4 Yes, 0 No. R. Kokesch motioned to approve the 2018 Summary Budget for Publication, second by Gruendemann, RCV-4 Yes, 0 No.**

Department Heads were addressed. Kokesch reported that he has been working with MN Pollution Control on their compliance checks and has been correcting forms that MPCA had formula issues on; winterizing is nearly complete; R. Kokesch noted that John Rebstock may allow the use of his shop for city equipment work if needed; the lip on the sidewalk of the community center was painted and it was noted that the heaving had been there for several months; the Christmas decorations are worn out and blowing fuses and will need to be replaced soon. Pederson sent a notice (invoice) to R. and J. Hall regarding street patching, if it remains unpaid it will be assessed later in 2018, payable 2019. Novel Energy filed an extension into 2018; Pederson is still looking for funding for an AED for the community center (there was no response from the Renville County Hospital Foundation) but Monsanto may have monies available; the council approved writing off a bad utility debt of \$107.71; the DNR Outdoor Recreation Grant is being researched for park improvements, it is unlikely that information can be obtained in time for the 2018 funding cycle; Pederson attended an election equipment demonstration by Renville County, noting the county is not certain how to proceed, but has applied for grant funds for new equipment that could cost each precinct from \$3795 - \$7095; the liquor license applications have been sent to MN Dept. of Public Safety. Pederson presented the Ambulance and Fire Department Annual Payroll, gross amount of \$11,131.50; it was discussed if there should be some type of incentive bonus for people that go on the runs. **R. Kokesch motioned to approve the 2017 Ambulance and Fire Wages as presented, second by Scharfencamp, RCV-4 Yes, 0 No.**

The community center was discussed. Pederson will visit with the school when a financial report can be comprised and expenses will be reviewed with the school. The cleaning contract is for one year so it will be put out for bids again; the Legion will pay up to \$200 for coat racks, two more will be ordered. The garage floor coating representative looked at the floor and stated that it is not damaged, rather the surface is prematurely worn; he is to send out prices and options for repairs. Mayor Sherman will talk with R. and M. Hall about submitting an insurance claim and also with Franklin Industries about ownership manuals, etc. that were not received.

Scharfencamp motioned to table indefinitely, the Personnel Policy review, second by Gruendemann, RCV-4 Yes, 0 No.

R. Kokesch motioned to table alley vacation discussion until the committee (R. Kokesch and Scharfencamp) meet and request it be addressed, second by Scharfencamp, RCV-4 Yes, 0 No.

Pederson presented the 2018 Meeting Schedule, noting the November meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 13, 2018 due to Veteran's Day conflict; also discussed was possibly changing the December meeting date as it usually conflicts with the CMES Christmas program. **Scharfencamp motioned to approve the 2018 City Council Meeting Schedule, second by R. Kokesch, RCV-4 Yes, 0 No.**

Mayor Sherman reported that the poplar trees in the Living Snow Fence should be removed; they were to have been a temporary wind block until the other trees became established; K. Kokesch will talk to Dennis McGowan about removal.

Counselor requests included: R. Kokesch was contacted by the Franklin Rehabilitation and Health Care Center regarding emergency planning and she responded but they did not get a response from Mike Hennen at Renville County; R. Kokesch received council approval to attend the LMC Experienced Officials conference in January.

At 8:52 p.m., Mayor Sherman called for adjournment, with Scharfencamp motioning for adjournment, second by Gruendemann, RCV-4 Yes, 0 No. The next regular meeting will be January 8, 2018, at City Hall.

Respectfully Submitted by
Wendy Pederson, City Clerk/Treasurer