

**MINUTES OF THE  
TRUTH IN TAXATION PUBLIC HEARING AND  
REGULAR FRANKLIN CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
Monday, December 14, 2015**

A Truth in Taxation Public Hearing and Regular Meeting of the Franklin City Council were held on Monday, December 14, 2015, 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, Pederson and Wiggin. Guests present were: Ray Thompson, Jeremy Schultz, Myron Gehrke, Corey Gruendemann, and *Standard-Gazette & Messenger* reporter, Amy Berg.

At 7:00 p.m., Mayor Degner called the Public Hearing to order. The 2016 Budget and Levy were presented, with no changes to the preliminary budget and levy in the amount of \$174,592. Thompson and Schultz questioned their property tax increases and it was noted that increases were due to valuation as well as county and school district increases, because the city levy did not increase from 2015. Pederson referred them to the county assessor regarding valuations and the county auditor for the breakdown of the tax capacity. Pederson noted that the budget included major expenditures for seal coating and ballpark building improvements. There were no further questions or comments. **Wiese motioned to approve the budget and levy as read, second by Scharfencamp, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No. At 7:10 p.m. Mayor Degner called for approval to close the public hearing and open the regular meeting, which was motioned for approval by R. Kokesch, second by Wiese, RCV 5 Yes, 0 No.**

Mayor Degner called the Regular Meeting to order with roll call showing all council present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Mayor Degner called for approval of the agenda, with a motion to approve by Wiese, second by Scharfencamp, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.**

**Mayor Degner called for approval of the minutes. R. Kokesch motioned to approve the minutes of the November 9, 2015 Regular Meeting as presented, second by Heibel, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.**

No citizens requested to be addressed.

The financial status of the city was reviewed. November receipts totaled \$160,410.76; current bills were presented for payment in the amount of \$50,460.40. **Wiese motioned for approval of the bills and financial report as presented, second by Scharfencamp, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.**

Department Heads were addressed. Wiggin reported that there were 18 calls for service, it was a quiet month. Kokesch reported that junk was dumped at the boatlanding, Clobes has removed the dumpster; there have been numerous questions and comments about the new recycling carts; snow removal went well, the ground was soft; the water meters are all in except for a couple of second meters that will need to be properly plumbed in or removed. Pederson reported on Fire Call billings, noting a search and rescue was the only billable call; the civil defense siren is to be installed tomorrow; Pederson has information ready for the city newsletter regarding the new recycling carts and schedules; Itron training for the new radio read meters is scheduled for Thursday. Fire Chief Wiese reported that the Fire Dept. has approved using relief reserves with the city to purchase a rescue saw, more air tanks, and a new gas meter.

The Zoning Report was presented. A permit was issued to Ryan Radermacher to install a 12' x 20' x 10' wood shed at 150 Third Ave. E.

**Pederson presented the 2015 Fire and Ambulance Wages, which were motioned for approval by R. Kokesch, second by Scharfencamp, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.**

**R. Kokesch motioned to approve the amended 2016 Fee Schedule, second by Scharfencamp, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.**

**The amendment to Ordinance 03-2003, Fees and Charges for Services, was motioned for approval by Wiese, second by Scharfencamp, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.** The amendment will be published in the Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup> issue of the *Standard-Gazette & Messenger*.

**The City Utility Billing Policy and the Summary of the Amendments to Ordinances Chapter 50, 51, and 52 was motioned for approval by Scharfencamp, second by Wiese, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.** The amendment will be published in the Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup> issue of the *Standard-Gazette & Messenger*.

Pederson presented a Utility Bill Payment Notice that will be sent out to all utility customers explaining that the new payment terms and disconnection policy and that beginning May 1, 2016, all account balances must be current to remain connected.

The 2016 Budget was presented as follows: General Fund income of \$190,915, expenses of \$450,480; Water Fund income of \$99,200 and expenses of \$85,500 with transfers out of \$13,700; Sewer Fund income of \$98,100, expenses of \$80,500, with transfers out of \$17,600; with the net 2016 Levy of \$174,592 (no change from 2015). Pederson also presented the Summary Budget for Publication. **Scharfencamp motioned to approve the 2016 Budget and Levy as presented, second by Heibel, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.**

**R. Kokesch motioned to approve Resolution 2015-19, the 2016 Property Tax Levy of \$174,592, second by Scharfencamp, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.**

At the request of Mayor Suzanne Hilgert of Olivia, Pederson presented a resolution supporting increases in LGA funding in the 2016 Legislative Session. **Wiese motioned to approve Resolution 2015-20, Support of Increasing LGA in the 2016 Legislative Session, second by Scharfencamp, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.**

**Wiese motioned to approve tort liability limits with LMCIT, second by Scharfencamp, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.**

The council discussed the 2016 annual appointments, noting the positions will be formally approved in January. It was noted that Bill Wiese is the Ambulance Chief, the Medical Director has changed, and Wiggin will assist R. Kokesch as Emergency Services Director and will take NIMS Training.

There were no councilor requests. **At 7:30 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 January 11, 2016, at City Hall.

Respectfully Submitted by  
Wendy Pederson, City Clerk/Treasurer