

**MINUTES OF THE  
REGULAR FRANKLIN CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
Monday, February 13, 2017**

A Regular Meeting of the Franklin City Council was held on Monday, February 13, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall. Council members present were: Gruendemann, Heibel, 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. Roll call showed all council present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Mayor Sherman called for approval of the minutes. Scharfencamp motioned to approve the minutes of the January 9, 2017, Regular Meeting, second by Gruendemann, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No. R. Kokesch motioned to approve the minutes of the February 6, 2017 Ambulance Association and Rural Fire Association Meetings as presented, second by Heibel, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.**

Mayor Sherman called for approval of the consent agenda: bills were presented in the amount of \$35,366.43, noted and approved was the increase of the Mid-MN Contract for ordinance codification and the MN River Valley Scenic Byway membership; cash receipts for January were \$33,839.92; there is one past due utility account that has the Cold Weather Rule; there were no new zoning permits. **R. Kokesch motioned to approve the consent agenda items as presented, second by Gruendemann, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.**

No citizens requested to be addressed.

Resolution 2017-1, Official Designations and Annual Appointments was amended to include R. Kokesch as Emergency Services Director. **Scharfencamp motioned to approve Resolution 2017-1 as amended, second by Gruendemann, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.**

**Resolution 2017-4, Approval of State of Minnesota Joint Powers Agreement was motioned for approval by R. Kokesch, second by Scharfencamp. R. Kokesch amended her motion to include approval of Resolution 2017-4, Approval of State of Minnesota Joint Powers Agreement, State of Minnesota BCA Joint Powers Agreement Authorized Agency, Court Data Services Subscriber Amendment to CJDN Subscriber Agreement, second by Scharfencamp, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.**

Department Heads reported. Kokesch reported that the water treatment plant had been broken into and a printer was stolen; the building has been rekeyed and he is to look into code entry options; Pat Crain inquired whether the city will rent his building for another month, a decision will be made in March; Kokesch questioned whether the city should consider the old county shop as an option, the council said all options should be researched; discussed the need for summer help with mowing and trimming, a smaller mower will be needed for the community center/daycare; discussed the need for signage for no smoking at the community center and the need for no parking at the daycare entrance during daycare hours, the council felt the signs should be placed on the building; much work has been done at the water treatment plant and the water quality has improved. Assistant Fire Chief Gruendemann noted that one fireman still does not have his paperwork completed, it will be addressed. Pederson questioned extending the warranty on the Dell laptops at a cost of \$83.30 per computer for 2 years, the council felt it was not necessary; questioned pet licensing and whether or not it will be enforced as new tags are needed, they are to be ordered in bulk as done previously; in applying the utility fee increases it was noted that the larger rural meter base rate was set at \$35 and rural water maintenance is \$3 (as previous); water consumption is being billed at 83%, the remainder is likely hydrant flushing which is not metered; costs for door replacement at the parks is needed; the city attorney responded to sewer back up attorney letter; GoldenLiving Center has been sold; Pederson is to use discretion on attending LMCIT Loss Control Workshop; reported landfill changes and the need to change the city cleanup to adapt to these changes, more information will be available when Commissioner Fox meets with Jon Mitchell.

Gruendemann presented cost estimates totaling about \$30,000 for proposed city shop renovations, noting these are rough estimates and different contractors could present different ideas and costs. Any construction would not be done until at least spring and all options are being considered.

The personnel policy was discussed, noting it needs to be updated. Discussion included how to proceed, when to have them reviewed, meeting to discuss, approving sections, with no decision being made. All council members will receive copies of the LMC model policy and the current personnel policy for comparison.

The community center was discussed. Kokesch will research signs needed for no smoking and no parking; it was requested to have a flag displayed for meetings; the consensus was that none should be hung on the walls; Heibel will research options. Council members are to put together a punch list of needed repairs/corrections to review with Franklin Industries and RBC.

The Rural Fire Association approved proceeding with specs and bids for a new pumper truck at an estimated cost of \$335,000. The Fire Relief committed \$60,000, and the rural would pay 80% and the city 20% of the remaining balance due. Pederson discussed funding with USDA Rural Development, who felt the city would qualify for a loan and possibly some grant funds. It was questioned whether or not the truck would fit in the fire hall. **Gruendemann motioned to complete the preliminary funding request with USDA Rural Development, second by Scharfencamp, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.**

The annual contract for mosquito control was presented and discussed; it seems citizens like having it and it was budgeted; discussed the number of applications noting additional applications may be purchased for \$335 each if needed. **Scharfencamp motioned to contract for 8 applications at the cost of \$330 each, total of \$2640, second by Heibel, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.**

Pederson reported that the Secretary of State and the League of MN Cities are encouraging Elections by Mail, noting new election equipment will be required within the next few years at an estimated cost of \$10,000 per precinct; election judges are hard to find and cost money; the city has fewer than 400 registered voters and would qualify. The council felt they would like public opinion on this before pursuing.

Councilor requests included: Gruendemann requested council approval to possibly close part of 1<sup>st</sup> Ave. for an antique tractor pull during Catfish Days; several scenarios were discussed. **Scharfencamp motioned to give preliminary approval to close the street if it works with volleyball, parking, etc., second by Heibel, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.** Scharfencamp would like policing put on the next agenda.

**At 8:43 p.m., Mayor Sherman called for a motion to adjourn, with Scharfencamp motioning for adjournment, second by R. Kokesch, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.** The next regular meeting will be March 13, 2017, at City Hall; Board of Review will be April 4, 2017, at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by  
Wendy Pederson, City Clerk/Treasurer