

**MINUTES OF THE  
PUBLIC HEARING AND REGULAR FRANKLIN CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
Monday, September 12, 2016**

Public Hearings and a Regular Meeting of the Franklin City Council were held on Monday, September 12, 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: Corey Gruendemann, Mike Uhlenkamp, Mandi Kerkhoff, Doug Pomplun, Myron Gehrke, and Richard Steffen.

At 7:00 p.m. Mayor Degner opened the public hearing on the Amendment to Article III of the city's Zoning Ordinance, the city chose to opt-out of the requirements MN462.3593. There were no public comments or dissention. The council recommendation is to proceed with the amendment. The public hearing was closed.

The hearing on the Franklin Depot Liquor Violation was opened. Chief Deputy Pomplun noted that there was a liquor violation at the Depot (sale of liquor to a minor) and charges were brought against the Depot employee, but the charges were dropped because the undercover kids did not follow the rules. The city questioned what they should do being it is a gray area and they felt the bar and the employee should be held responsible. Pomplun stated that the Depot employees will be taking the Beverage Server Training and it was a good wake-up call for all. The council felt the ordinance and its consequences are good and will be adhered to with future violations.

At 7:09 p.m., Mayor Degner called the regular meeting to order. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, roll call showed all council present.

**Mayor Degner called for approval of the agenda, R. Kokesch motioned for approval, second by Wiese, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.**

**Mayor Degner called for approval of the minutes of August 8, 2016. Wiese motioned to approve the minutes as presented, second by Heibel, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.**

Citizens were addressed. Kerkhoff requested council approval for the Longbranch to have a band on the patio on October 1<sup>st</sup>. Discussion included that it has been done before with few complaints; windows should be closed; it doesn't happen often; and questioned how late it went in prior years. **R. Kokesch motioned to approve the Longbranch music on the patio until midnight or 12:30 a.m. depending on what had been done in the prior year; second by Scharfencamp, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.** R. Steffen questioned if he needed a permit for a temporary extension on the garage to allow him to work on a vehicle; the council consensus was that it was not needed as long as it is temporary.

Mike Uhlenkamp presented the 2015 Audit and Financial statements, noting the Fire Relief Assoc. did not adopt GASB67 so the city is liable for a percentage of the covered payroll. The net position of the city increased mostly due to grant funding for infrastructure improvements. Uhlenkamp thanked the city for the years of providing auditing services. **Scharfencamp motioned to approve the 2015 Audit and Financial Statements as presented, second by R. Kokesch, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.**

Pederson presented an RFP for auditing services, noting it had been reviewed by LMC. The RFP will be advertised on the LMC website, the city's website, and sent to area CPA firms. **R. Kokesch motioned to advertise and proceed with the RFP for Auditing Services, second by Wiese, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.**

The financial status of the city was reviewed. August receipts totaled \$26,532.18 current bills were presented for payment in the amount of \$32,489.97. **Wiese motioned for approval of the bills and financial report with the addition of the M.A.A. invoice, and authorized payment of seal coating once invoiced, second by Scharfencamp, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.**

Department Heads were addressed. Kokesch reported the price for two impellers at the lift station are about \$15,000; Steffen's lift station pump went down, it has been sent in for repair, a back-up must be kept on hand; TNT is scheduled to repair the rip rap at the boatlanding, but the water level is too high; TNT pumped the bottom of two of the lift stations, the nursing home one was too low, they will attempt to pump it after harvest; wastewater permit application has been submitted to MPCA; plans are to repair the pellet building soon; parks will be closed and winterized in early October; pea rock has been swept from the sealcoat project and is available; mower had 225 hours put on it this season. Pederson reported that Board of Appeal Training is available; LMC Regional Meeting will take place in October, Degner and Pederson plan to attend; the sheriff's office is compiling a list of administrative fines; the seal coat pay estimate is \$32,857.22 to be billed by the city of Olivia; police equipment was removed, a gun was sold to River Valley Arms, a gun was dismantled by River Valley Arms; outdated taser donated to the sheriff's office; council approved donating radar equipment to Alexandria Tech.; MN DOT meeting will be 10/7/16 in Litchfield. A request for a resolution of support was received from Renville County; **R. Kokesch motioned to approve supporting the Boarder to Boarder Broadband Grant Application by Resolution (2016-8); second by Heibel, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.** Wiese reported there are 3 open positions on the fire department; Firefighter I and II training will be held in Olivia in November, hopes to have hiring completed in time to take the training; Paula Mogard passed her EMT; EMT training will begin Nov. 9<sup>th</sup> in Morgan, it will be advertised in the newsletter; EMT's will be required to take a 40 hour refresher and a training officer will be needed. **R. Kokesch motioned to accept Jason Schacher's resignation from the Fire and Ambulance Departments, second by Scharfencamp, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.** R. Kokesch questioned Wiese spreading himself too thin with too many jobs, Wiese responded that a decision will be made in November.

There are three utility accounts that are unpaid; the council authorized disconnection.

A zoning permit was issued to Lacey Prescott to install a 24'4" x 8' front porch with a roof at 121 Fourth Ave. E. **R. Kokesch motioned to formally approve the Amendment to Article III of the city's zoning ordinance to opt-out of MN Statute 462.3593, second by Scharfencamp, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.**

The tennis courts were discussed again, noting they have been an issue for many years. Duinick's had done some boring years ago, but there was no formal report; it was suggested that the city have borings done to see what it would actually cost for removal. The council consensus is table this indefinitely and felt it would be better to spend funds on the community center.

Kokesch received a preliminary cost estimate of \$300,284.60 for rehabbing the water tower which would include full removal and replacement of the wet area, spot repair of the stand pipe, and full removal and repainting of the exterior. The council directed Kokesch to get another cost estimate.

**Scharfencamp motioned to approve the 2017 SWWC/BCBS health insurance renewal; second by Heibel, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.**

The 2017 preliminary budget, fee schedule and salaries were discussed. There remains about \$95,000 of the previously restricted funds which could be used to buy tables and chairs and pay-down on the lease, lowering the annual costs to be more in line with the farm rent. **Scharfencamp motioned to approve paying an additional \$75,000 toward the community center, second by Wiese, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.** The proposed 2017 budget included: general fund income of \$188,240, with transfers in of \$64,200 and expenses of \$406,797; water fund income of \$116,400 and expenses of \$86,600 plus transfers out of \$29,800 for debt; sewer fund income of \$111,300, expenses of \$76,900, plus transfers out of \$34,400 for debt; the net levy of \$167,527; a decrease of 4.047% from 2016. **R. Kokesch motioned to approve the 2017 Preliminary Budget and Levy as presented, second by Scharfencamp, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.** Pederson noted that a public hearing with 30 days' notice is required to increase liquor license fees. **R. Kokesch motioned to hold a public hearing on liquor license fees at the November meeting; second by Scharfencamp, RCV-4 Yes; 1 No-Wiese.** Other fee adjustments included: BLS loaded mile to \$15.00; removal of the congregate dwelling water rates and instead add charges for larger meters: 1" \$30.00; 1.5" \$40.00; 2" \$55.00; community center rental rates are to be determined; the entire fee schedule to be adopted in November. Based on area EMT pay scales, **Pederson recommended increasing EMT run pay to \$15.00, which was motioned for approval by R. Kokesch, second by Degner, RCV-3 Yes; Heibel and Wiese abstained.**

**Scharfencamp motioned to approve Resolution 2016-7, Proposed 2017 Levy, second by Wiese, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No. R. Kokesch motioned to approve the Truth in Taxation Public Hearing date of December 12, 2016, at 7:00 p.m., at City Hall, second by Scharfencamp, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.**

Councilor requests included: Wiese thanked Josh Hansen for work done on the pumper; Scharfencamp discussed sign placement; he took the flags down at the park which were supposed to be at half-mast and noted they are already ripped. R. Kokesch questioned the culvert work on 3<sup>rd</sup> St. and it was noted that it has helped.

**At 8:50 p.m., Mayor Degner called for adjournment, with Wiese motioning for adjournment, second by Heibel, 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