

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR FRANKLIN CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Monday, March 8, 2021**

A Regular Meeting of the Franklin City Council was held on Monday, March 8, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. in the Franklin Community Center to allow for social distancing. Council members present were: Gruendemann, Scharfencamp, R. Kokesch, Mumme and Wiese. Staff Department Heads present were: K. Kokesch, Radermacher, and Wiese. Guests present were: Deputy Sheriff Andrew Hussman and Karen Hoffman-Distad.

At 7:00 p.m., Mayor Gruendemann called the meeting to order. Roll called showed all council present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mayor Gruendemann called for approval of the minutes of February 8, 2021. Scharfencamp motioned to approve the minutes as presented, second by Wiese, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.

Mayor Gruendemann called for an amendment to the agenda, adding a bid received for spring park clean up under new business.

Mayor Gruendemann called for approval of the consent agenda: bills were presented in the amount of \$47,093.37, cash receipts for February were \$41,003.47; there are 7 past due utility accounts, 1 having the Cold Weather rule; no new zoning permits issued. **Wiese motioned to approve the consent agenda items as presented, second by Mumme, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.**

Deputy Sheriff Andrew Hussman addressed the council to introduce himself as the new officer assigned to the City of Franklin. Mayor Gruendemann discussed the City's snow removal policy with Hussman and asked that it be enforced as written. Hussman to attend future council meetings for further discussion on ordinance enforcement. Karen Hoffman-Distad addressed the council with an update on the proposed assisted living building. Blue prints have been made and sent out to contractors for bidding. The timeline to begin construction is still unknown as it will depend upon the winning contractor. Distad asked the council about the next steps needed from the city at this point in the process. She was instructed to request a building permit so that the planning board can review the plans before permit is issued. Distad asked about a possible tax break, stating that over the first year in operation there are many unknowns and a tax break may help ensure the new business would be able to stay open. Distad excused herself from the council meeting to attend another meeting for the proposed business. Council discussed the request, Mayor Gruendemann to look into options.

Department heads reported. Wiese reported that the Fire Department had questions on the personnel policy at the last fire department meeting and the questions were resolved with further review of the policy following the meeting. New personnel policy booklets were made available at the fire hall over the past month and a signature acknowledgement form was placed. Fire Chief Wiese believes there will not be any issue with compliance of the new direct deposit policy for the current year with the fire department personnel. **Mumme motioned to approve the last payment of 2020 wages to a fire department personnel via paper check with the agreement of direct deposit use only from now on, second by Gruendemann, RCV-5 Yes, 0-No.** K. Kokesch spoke to the council about a fire hydrant that needs new concrete and feels that the city should hold off until May to decide to see if the city is awarded the LRIP grant that was submitted as this hydrant would be in the construction zone of the project and could be fixed up during that project, council agrees. K. Kokesch asked permission to get quotes for street patching within the city and quotes on possibly relocating some of the Oak trees at the boat landing, council approves. K. Kokesch reports to have some 5-ton weight limit signs from the county to be posted on 1st Avenue and the graveled portion of 3rd st. Scharfencamp requested 7-ton weight limit signs instead of the 5-ton signs. K. Kokesch has not begun street sweeping yet as the ground is still too frozen. K. Kokesch reports of an outlet not working in the community center, a call has been put in to be fixed. K. Kokesch also reported the transfer at the wastewater ponds froze up during the last cold snap as well as the computer at the water plant. K. Kokesch called in help to fix. Radermacher reported not receiving the monthly Sheriff's report yet. Radermacher shared good reports from the 2021 Loss Control meeting about fleet management with the League on Minnesota Insurance Trust. Radermacher spoke with Clobes Sanitation about city wide spring clean-up. A tentative date and a change to this year's disposal method was discussed. John Clobes to attend the April council meeting to discuss further and make arrangements with the city.

The storm sewer was out on K. Kokesch land was discussed. R. Kokesch reached out to the DNR to ask them to come and look at the issue and offer guidance. Mumme has spoken to a person with soil and water conservation that is willing to look at and assess the problem. From there, engineers will look at making a plan to mitigate the problem. Mumme asked if this would be something the city would like to look into and if there asks for there be permission from the land owner to have people on the property. K. Kokesch gives permission. **Mumme motioned for approval to have soil and water conservation look at the storm sewer washout with landowner permission, Second by Scharfencamp, RCV-5 Yes, 0-No.**

Quotes for demolition of the tennis courts was presented to the council. The council would like to see one more quote and tabled this discussion until April. Scharfencamp to look into acquiring one more quote.

R. Kokesch motioned for approval the Clarke Mosquito spraying contract choosing to lock in prices for 2021-2023, Second by Mumme, RCV-5 Yes, 0- No.

The Redwood County Bid request for fire and ambulance radios was discussed at length. Inventory of current radios is to be made. Wiese stated that the fire department has no need to purchase more radios as they have enough for on site use. **R. Kokesch motioned to approve a bid for up to 10 radios spending no more than \$300 a piece including programing fees, Second by Scharfencamp, RCV-5 Yes, 0-No.** Radermacher to get program pricing through Alpha Wireless. Ambulance Chief McCorquodale to write the letter to submit with the bid.

The City received a bid for spring park clean up from McGowan Lawn and Snow for the 2021 season for \$485. **Scharfencamp motioned to approve the bid for 2021 park clean up to McGowan Lawn and Snow, Second by R. Kokesch, RCV- 5 Yes, 0-No.**

At 8:32 p.m., Scharfencamp motioned for adjournment, second by Mumme, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No. The next regular meeting will be April 12, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. at the Community Center.

Respectfully Submitted by
Trista Radermacher, City Clerk/Treasurer