

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR FRANKLIN CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Monday, April 12, 2021**

A Regular Meeting of the Franklin City Council was held on Monday, April 12, 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, McCorquodale and Wiese. Guests present were: Karen Hoffman-Distad, Darren Prescott, and John Clobes.

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 an amendment to the agenda, moving Ambulance Chief McCorquodale's department head report before the scheduled public hearing to allow McCorquodale to attend a virtual meeting for the ambulance department.

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

Mayor Gruendemann called for approval of the consent agenda: bills were presented in the amount of \$49,451.41, cash receipts for February were \$28,625.23; there were 5 past due utility accounts; One new zoning permits issued to J. Robertson to build a 10 X 16 shed at 140 3rd Ave E. **Wiese motioned to approve the consent agenda items as presented, second by Scharfencamp, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.**

McCorquodale informed the council of winning the radio bid from last month where ten radios and chargers were bid on for \$100 each. McCorquodale was able to make arrangements for a lower cost on reprogramming costs than originally quoted. McCorquodale informed the council of inactivating an EMT that has been out of work due to medical reasons. The individual is still employed by the city as an EMT but has an expired license. The individual has twelve months to do the required refresher course at which time may be re-activated. McCorquodale was instructed to remove the individual from the pager system and retrieve the ambulance equipment back until re-activation. Mayor Gruendemann asked that an update in the form of a doctor's note to be acquired in regards to the individual. McCorquodale reported that the ambulance department currently has 3 radios in their inventory but did not made an inventory spread sheet with the serial numbers and users whom have them in their possession. McCorquodale also shares good reports of the new assistant ambulance chief.

Mayor Gruendemann opened the public hearing on the variance request of Wesley Lund for parcel 32-00835, 225 3rd Ave W. The variance request is for a third accessory building measuring 30 x 40 on the property. There were no objections received. The Planning Commission met and recommended approval of the variance request with the stipulation that the property owner be officially notified that the proposed building is being constructed in an area prone to flooding and the city is not liable for any damages flooding may cause. With the Planning Commission's recommendation, the proposed resolution for the variance request will need to be amended. **Scharfencamp motioned to recess the public hearing for the variance request until May when the amended resolution may be presented to the council, Second by Wiese, RCV-5 yes, 0 No.**

John Clobes spoke to the council about 2021 spring clean-up day which will be held on June 9, 2021 and handled the same as previous years. Clobes requested that an emphasis on gathering items in boxes or bags be made to those participating. Darren Prescott and Karen Hoffman-Distad asked for a confirmation from the council about the address at the proposed assisted living building, to be named "*Cedar Heart Homes*". Council discussed and agreed it would have the same address as the previous structure on the premise. Mayor Gruendemann and Clerk Radermacher researched possible tax breaks options and came to the same conclusion that tax abatement would be the best route to go if all entities involved come to an agreement. The process was discussed at length. Further information on estimated property taxes will need to be gathered by the co-owners before they can formally present the council with a proposal. They would also need to work with the City's financial representatives to complete an application and GAP analysis. Hoffman-Distad and Prescott informed the council that they hope to break ground in June of 2021. They were informed by the council they need to make their variance request at Franklin City Hall in order to get the public hearing and formal approval done beforehand.

Department heads reported. Wiese reported 3 fire personnel finishing the Fire Fighter Fundamentals classroom training but have not received the test results yet. Wiese reported that all 12 radios in the Fire Department inventory are accounted for. R. Kokesch requested a list of the serial numbers and persons possessing each be turned in by May council meeting. K. Kokesch reported a pump broke at the nursing home lift station and was taken out for repair and replaced temporarily with a loaned pump. It was recommended that the station get vacuumed out. K. Kokesch also reports that many water valves in town are full of sand and that some need to be cleaned out to stay functional, specifically one valve on the west side of town will not turn at all. K. Kokesch asked about continuing to try and risk breaking the valve or leaving it for the time being. Council advised K. Kokesch to leave it alone for the time being. K. Kokesch informed the council that R/S Fiber has finished installing the whip on the water tower and asks if they had planned to give R/S Fiber a key to the water tower. Council questioned their need for a key as they stated they often fix issues remotely from the ground and agreed not to give out a key for now. K. Kokesch presented the council with an estimate for \$1225 from Ron Degner to replace about 15-20 feet a curb that was removed on the corner of 3rd and 5th. Council agreed to the curb replacement. Street sweeping has started out well. K. Kokesch looked into moving trees at the boat landing but was informed by the Redwood Nursery that the trees are too old to be worth moving. K. Kokesch asked council about bringing in gravel for streets and alleys. As it was reported that the alleys have not been graveled in over 30 years, Mayor Gruendemann liked the idea of placing one load of gravel at the lift station and using that patch alleys as needed. Scharfencamp asked about the possibility of fixing the gravel roads that have been widening over time to the width they should be. The discussion on how much gravel to get will be tabled until May until an estimate on how much to get can be determined. Radermacher presented the council with the 6-month review document for her review in May. Radermacher questioned the council on who is to inspect the community center after rentals as she did the inspections over Easter weekend. Mayor Gruendemann to take over inspections. Radermacher also brought the lease agreement on the community center to the council's attention, pointing out that it has not been looked at since the beginning as was supposed to be looked at annually. The council would like to look at it and look over it with the school. Radermacher asked about the possibility of placing one of the newly awarded ambulance radios in City Hall if there is enough. There was a discussion on this, R. Kokesch would like to see the inventory list first and ensure all personnel have one first. Radermacher informed the council of a \$2 hourly rate increase for cleaning at the Fire Hall and City Hall. Radermacher reported about a Corona Virus Fiscal Recovery Fund that is allocating money to counties, cities, and townships all over the United States. Specific details have not been released yet but funds are expected to be seen as early as May.

Quotes for tennis court demo were presented to the council. **R. Kokesch motioned to approve Got Dirt's quote for \$3750 to take down the tennis courts and reseed the grass, Second by Wiese, RCV-4 Yes, 0 No, Wiese abstained.**

Updates on the storm sewer wash out were discussed. An Area 2 representative and an engineer from Bolton and Menk are scheduled to meet April 19 for further assessment.

R. Kokesch motioned for approval the 2021 Dust Treatment contract, Second by Wiese, RCV-5 Yes, 0- No.

The need to paint the interior walls of the Community Center was discussed. Radermacher to post an advertisement for the bid request.

R. Kokesch motioned to approve the liquor license renewal application for AJs Longbranch Saloon and DM Depot, Second by Scharfencamp, RCV- 5 Yes, 0 No.

The porta potty rental for the boat landing was brought up with prices staying the same as in the past, the council agreed to have K. Kokesch line up the rental for the 2021 season. Opening parks for the 2021 season was discussed and tabled for next meeting in hopes there are more COVID guidelines are available by then.

Miscellaneous topics were discussed. Gruendemann questions the cost for renting picnic tables. Picnic tables may be reserved by contacting City Hall. Complaints of a brown Ford driving too fast in town were received, Sheriffs department to be informed. It has been noted that some properties in town need to do some clean up. Deputy Hussman to make door-to-door visits with those property owners. R. Kokesch asked about the broken outlet and streaking of paint near a window at the community center that was reported at the March council meeting. The outlet was fixed and determined to have broken due to outlet covers being placed into the tamper resistant outlet. The streaking of the paint that looks like a water leak still needs to be looked at.

At 9:36 p.m., Scharfencamp motioned for adjournment, second by Mumme, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No. The next regular meeting will be May 10, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. at the Community Center.

Respectfully Submitted by
Trista Radermacher, City Clerk/Treasurer