

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR FRANKLIN CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Monday, May 10, 2021**

A Regular Meeting of the Franklin City Council was held on Monday, May 10, 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: Radermacher, Wiese, K. Kokesch arriving late, and noting McCorquodale absent. Guests present were: Dennis Oberloh, Wesley Lund, Kara Schottenbaur, Denise Johnson, Kami Johnson, and Bill Helget.

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 April 12, 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 \$37,242.91, cash receipts for April were \$26,223.61; there were 4 past due utility accounts; No zoning permits issued. **Wiese motioned to approve the consent agenda items as presented, second by Mumme, RCV-4 Yes, 0 No, R. Kokesch abstained due to technical difficulties.**

Mayor Gruendemann continued the public hearing on the variance request of Wesley Lund for parcel 32-00835, 225 3rd Ave West from April. 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. Lund informed the council that the pad for the building is to be built up to the level of his drive way. The proposed resolution for the variance request was amended, adding the acknowledgment of the shed being placed near a flood prone area. **R. Kokesch motioned to approve Resolution 2021-6, approving the variance request, Second by Mumme, RCV-5 yes, 0 No. Scharfencamp motioned to close the public hearing, Second by Wiese, RCV- 5 Yes, 0 No.**

Kara Schottenbaur, representing the Cougar Cub Daycare, addressed the council to ask permission to put sand around a tree at the park near the daycare. The sand would come at no expense to the city and the daycare would have the responsibility to keep the sand clean. Council agreed to the sand request. Minnesota Valley Rail Authority requested two letters of support for their grant request to make improvements, council agreed to show support and the mayor signed the letters. Dennis Oberloh presented the 2020 audit and financial reports to the council. Oberloh went over the required letters/statements pointing out a missing part from the government activities that does not show information from the fire relief association but will be included on future audit documents due to changes in requirements; no major errors or discrepancies were found; the funds were discussed, pointing out the need to strengthen the unassigned fund balance and showing the need to allocate some money from the debt service fund to the water and sewer funds. Overall, the audit went well and the need to strengthen the funds will be looked at in the near future. **R. Kokesch motioned to accept the audit and financial report, Second by Wiese, RVC- 5 yes, 0 No.** D. Johnson addressed the council asking questions about property lines and the street being vacated next to her property by sixth street and second avenue. There was some discussion to clarify the confusion and Johnson was told she can stop in to City Hall for further clarification.

Scharfencamp motioned to approve Resolution 2021-7, Vacating a platted street and alley, Second by R. Kokesch, RCV- 5 Yes, 0 No.

Department heads reported. Wiese made the radio inventory but has not typed it into the spread sheet do to issues with the shared spread sheet document, Radermacher to correct. K. Kokesch reported the window in the community center previously reported needed to be re-caulked and would be done within the week; he is taking vacation at the end of the month and will be gone for 11 days; the part time summer mower has begun working; SCADA system recently had a glitch involving a static IP address; that has been corrected, this system will prove useful during his vacation as he will be able to monitor things from afar; MN Pollution Control audit went well; weight limit signs were taken down on the gravel roads in town; first hydrant flush went well, good quality water. Radermacher reported having recent computer problems involving IP address issues; former Clerk Pederson is officially off payroll and will continue to offer consulting help as needed; Radermacher asked about the process of reviewing the community center lease agreement, R. Kokesch offered her knowledge of the steps to the process; the SWWC insurance pool is changing the provider they use for 2022 from Blue Cross Blue Shield to Medica, more information will be available later this year; reported an address issue for Valley View apartments, not to be corrected at this time; Ambulance radios that were won from the Redwood County bid are programmed and will be made available at City Hall by Wednesday May 12.

There were no bids received for painting the interior of the community center. Topic tabled until fall. Park opening was discussed, council feels that the kitchen and bathrooms should stay locked for day to day use but can be made available for rentals. Initial site plans for Cedar Heart Homes were brought to council and discussed. Two areas were found not in compliance with zoning regulations and will be addressed before the variance request public hearing is set up for the June 14 council meeting.

Miscellaneous topics were discussed. Town citizens are sharing ideas to replace the old tennis courts with some council members. R. Kokesch would like to begin planning for the future of the City of Franklin's Parks. R. Kokesch requests an update on the progress of the thrift store in town and requests the deputy to address some complaints in town and enforce the city ordinances.

Wiese motioned to close the open session for the six-month probationary employment review of Clerk Radermacher, Second by Mumme, RCV- 5 Yes, 0 No.

Scharfencamp motioned to end the closed session and reopen the regular meeting, Second by Wiese, RCV- 5 Yes, 0 No.

Wiese motioned to end probationary employment term for Clerk Radermacher, Second by Mumme, RCV- 3 Yes, 1 No, Scharfencamp abstain.

At 9:48 p.m., Scharfencamp motioned for adjournment, second by R. Kokesch, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No. The next regular meeting will be June 14, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. at the Community Center.

Respectfully Submitted by
Trista Radermacher, City Clerk/Treasurer