

**MINUTES OF THE  
REGULAR FRANKLIN CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
Monday, August 12, 2019**

A Regular Meeting of the Franklin City Council was held on Monday, August 12, 2019, at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall. Council members present were: Deming, Gruendemann, R. Kokesch, Scharfencamp and Sherman. Staff Department Heads present were: K. Kokesch, Pederson, Menk and Wiese. Guests present were: John Clobes, Tim Joehnck, Kyle and Christie Larson, and Joel Harmoning.

At 7:00 p.m., Mayor Sherman called the meeting to order with roll call showing all council present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Mayor Sherman called for approval of the July 8, 2019 minutes with Scharfencamp motioning to approve the minutes as presented, second by Deming, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.**

Mayor Sherman presented the consent agenda items. Bills were presented for approval in the amount of \$58,736.51; cash receipts for July were \$84,904.19. There were four past-due utility accounts approved for disconnection. No new zoning permits were issued. **Gruendemann motioned to approve the consent agenda items as presented, second by Deming, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.**

Citizens were addressed. T. Joehnck will be moving out of the city limits and his position on the Planning Commission will need to be replaced. D. Menk is fine with the property lines of the recent survey but his garage and driveway are located on city property; the consensus is to correct the property line ownership to make his property compliant.

J. Clobes presented a proposal for a four-year contract for garbage hauling and to change to a roll-out cart system with three cart sizes and prices (which include the landfill costs) to begin January 1, 2020. A letter will be included with a future utility bill for residents to choose their cart size. The cart fees will be included with the city's utility billing and the fees collected will be reimbursed to Clobes Sanitation. **Scharfencamp motioned to proceed with the proposal as presented, second by R. Kokesch, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.**

J. Harmoning presented the annual report of the Franklin Fire Relief Association noting their assets are in excess of liabilities by over \$100,000, there are 5 fully vested members. The Relief Association requested that the city continue with the \$5000 donation and to increase the pension amounts to \$1600 in 2020 and to \$1700 in 2021 per year of service. Deming questioned the survivorship payouts, Harmoning will look into them. **Sherman motioned to approve the Relief Association pension increases as requested, second by Deming, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.**

The council discussed the request of the Larson's for zoning reclassification (from R-1 to Ag) and CUP allowing for horses at 471 Fourth St. S.; a public hearing was held and the Planning Commission recommended approval. The property owner, Kathy Larson, provided a letter approving the request. Questioned were the electric fence and who would be liable for injury; Larson's noted they will have signs posted and they have liability insurance. **Sherman motioned to approve Resolution 2019-6: Approving the Zoning Reclassification and Conditional Use Permit Allowing for Horses on parcel 32-01230-00; second by Deming, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.**

Department Heads reported. Wiese: FFI & FF2 will begin in December; some air packs failed testing; Koerner is not joining the department. K. Kokesch: Catfish Days needs more clean up help on Monday morning and people should be responsible for their own yard clean up; the water tower building is not registered as a historic building; there has been some park vandalism with water being left running, when the faucets need replacing either automatic shut off or spring loaded faucets will be installed; M. R. Paving will be patching some damaged street areas; water tower workers will be allowed to camp at the ballpark during the project provided they register with the city; one sewer pumps needs to be repaired, estimated cost is \$2617 plus freight and installation, council approved repair; the boatlanding has a lot of sand and will pose problems next year, the DNR wants nothing to do with it. Pederson presented RADC invoice for membership (\$2355 which does not include grant writing) the council declined membership; discussed city campground policy and temporary housing ordinance, the council felt they are sufficient as is; recommended Pederson renew Notary Commission.

Road repairs were discussed previously.

The water tower workers have moved in and will be welding and the project will be underway.

The Dept. of Health has approved the Well No. 6 plans; Ervin Well is to be delivering the bid specs tomorrow and construction could begin yet this week.

The 2020 preliminary budget discussions began with fees: will remove Fire Hall rental, swimming lessons, and landfill fees; Zoning Permits to \$25; Conditional Use/Variance Permits to \$200; garbage rates will be set by Clobes Sanitation at \$13.75, \$17.19, and \$19.38 plus tax; water base rate to \$21.50 and user rate to \$6.00/1000 gallons; sewer base rate to \$28.00 and user rate to \$6.50/1000 gallons. Discussed suggestion to charge camping fees, the council consensus is that it would be difficult to enforce. Part-time salaries were discussed, Sherman motioned to increase the officer pay (except secretary) 5%, motion failed for lack of a second; in further discussion it was noted that their current pay is on the high-end as compared to other departments our size. It was decided to increase experienced public works assistant to \$11 per hour, police special event to \$50 per hour, and the rest of the part-time salaries will remain as is. Full-time salaries were discussed, and it was noted that Franklin's salaries are lower than average. The proposed health insurance rate increased 5.7%. Gruendemann recommended a 4% raise to the full-time employees, following discussion it was decided to approve the 4% increase. The preliminary budget included adding money for radios, pick-up replacement, fire hydrants, sewer safety equipment, skid loader/tractor, and park equipment.

**R. Kokesch motioned to approve the SWWC Insurance Pool health insurance contract renewal as presented, second by Scharfencamp, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.**

Councilor requests: Sherman questioned if the city could pay bills with a credit card that awards cash back, Pederson will look into this but noted that many of the city vendors do not accept credit card payments. Gruendemann requested removal of the sign by the Day Care, it will be kept up until winter. Discussed whether or not to hold Truth in Taxation hearing because of varying population estimates, decided it was best to hold it and it will be on December 9<sup>th</sup>.

**At 9:40 p.m., Mayor Sherman called for a motion to adjourn, with Scharfencamp motioning for adjournment, second by Gruendemann, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.** The next regular meeting will be September 9, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at the City Hall.

Respectfully Submitted by  
Wendy Pederson, City Clerk/Treasurer