

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR FRANKLIN CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Monday, August 9, 2021**

A Regular Meeting of the Franklin City Council was held on Monday, August 9, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. in the Franklin City Hall. Council members present were: Gruendemann, Wiese, Scharfencamp, R. Kokesch, and Mumme. Staff Department Heads present were: Radermacher, Wiese, McCorquodale, and K. Kokesch. Guests present were: M. Gehrke, S. Traulich, H. Hatlewick, J. Harmoning, and T. Sullivan.

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

Mayor Gruendemann called for approval of the minutes of the regular meeting July 12, 2021 and the Rural Fire and Ambulance meetings on August 2, 2021. Corrections called for to the Rural Fire and Ambulance minutes to correct City of Franklin's member presence. **Wiese motioned to approve the minutes as presented, second by Scharfencamp, RCV-4 Yes, 1 No, passed.**

Mayor Gruendemann called for approval of the consent agenda: bills were presented in the amount of \$34,753.08, cash receipts for July were \$166,623.79; there were 7 past due utility accounts; No zoning permits issued. **Scharfencamp motioned to approve the consent agenda items as presented, second by Wiese, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.**

Holly Hatlewick with Renville County Soil and Water Conservation District addressed the council in regards to the storm sewer erosion problem on the South edge of town. She stated that there is a significant amount of erosion that is stemming from the city's storm sewer drain outlet in which there are multiple factors contributing to the problem. She stated that there has been multiple people and departments that have looked at this issue in order to figure out what is happening and what should be done. Hatlewick was asked what Soil and Water could do to help; Hatlewick stated that there needs to be a full survey and design done of the whole area. A drone survey would be the most cost effective and efficient way to do the survey versus a pedestrian survey that would be more time consuming and labor intensive. A drone survey would need to wait until fall when most of the leaves have fallen from the trees for the best visibility of the area. Once the survey and design are complete, this information can be used to apply for funds through Renville County Soil and Water. Other funding opportunities were discussed that may aid in a solution. Estimates on design fees and the drone survey to be obtained from Bolton & Menk.

Bids received from the Fire Department surplus property were submitted and opened by Mayor Gruendemann. Bids received included; \$10-old genny, \$75-Stryker genny, \$15-twenty-four-foot ladder, \$10- sixteen-foot ladder, \$10-drop tank, \$15-generator, \$10-vent fan, and two bids received on the gas-powered Saw-all, \$10 & \$60. **R. Kokesch motioned to accept all high bids as received, Second Wiese, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.** M. Gehrke won the bid on the gas-powered Saw-all and M. Radermacher received high bids on the other items.

Department heads reported: McCorquodale spoke with the council about the recent theft from the Ambulance vehicle. Police report was filed and replacement items were made immediately. R. Kokesch asked when it may have been possible for this to happen and if the camera footage had been looked at from the Fire Hall. McCorquodale reported that the camera footage had not been looked at and the theft happened sometime after inventory was last done in May 2021 but it would not be easy to narrow down when it could have taken place. Discussion was made on how it could have happened and what can be done to prevent theft in the future. T. Sullivan reported Franklin Fire Reliefs 2020 annual financial report to the council and requested an additional \$150 of retirement funds from the city year per active member in 2022 and an additional \$150 per member in 2023. **R. Kokesch motioned to accept the additional funding request, Second by Scharfencamp, RCV- 4 Yes, 0 No, Wiese abstained.** K. Kokesch asked council about removing the porta potty at the boat landing in mid-September as done in the past; asked council if they would like to open the park bathrooms for the remainder of the season, one bathroom per location will remain unlocked; K. Kokesch reported on the damage to the park equipment, stating that a police report and insurance claim was filed, if replacement parts are not found a replacement to the equipment may be needed; the city truck is in need of new tires, quotes to be obtained; a load of gravel to be brought in to use for patching as needed; K. Kokesch will purchase paint to repaint parts of the park shelters; food and equipment is still in the ball park shelter from Catfish Days, Mayor Gruendemann will reach out to whom was in charge to get that cleared out. Radermacher asked for clarification on a retirement agreement made last year, League of Minnesota Cities to be contacted for further clarification; Radermacher asked council for approval to change the locks at City Hall, stating they have not been changed in many years the request was made for security purposes. **Scharfencamp motioned to approve the request to change locks at City Hall, Second by Wiese, RCV- 5 Yes, 0 No.** The committee correction on the agenda will be corrected in January 2022.

The community service hours served from the juveniles were discussed. One individual is short two hours and will receive a letter asking them to finish their hours at City Hall to have park privileges reinstated. One individual moved and will remain banned from the city parks. The remainder of the individuals will receive a letter officially allowing them back into the city parks.

The camera/internet proposals were discussed. The ARPA funds have come in but the topic was tabled to further discuss other spending opportunities for the funds.

Blight properties were discussed; Deputy Hussman revisited all the properties that either received a letter or was verbally asked to correct the blight and found all but two properties made improvements. 280 6th street has not made progress in cleaning up the property, Deputy Hussman to contact. The council felt that 470 3rd Avenue has improved the condition of the property and should continue the progress.

The outfield at the ball park was discussed to be in need of leveling to smooth out the field for future use. Quotes will be looked into. Funding was discussed for this project as to who may help with funds, maybe the Franklin Lion's Club would assist. The council would like to see the field be utilized for more games to help justify the maintenance. Morgan baseball program was discussed as a possibility of a program that could utilize the field regularly next season, Radermacher volunteered to reach out to Morgan coaches to look into this possibility.

The hail storm damage was discussed. An insurance adjuster visited Franklin after the hail storm in July and acknowledged damage to the roofs on many of the city owned buildings. Discussion was made on what roofs should be replaced. The Fire Hall, City Shop, and the water treatment plant roofs will be replaced, at least two quotes will be needed. Also damaged from the hail storm was K. Kokesch's cell phone that was ran over during clean up, an insurance claim was processed. Radermacher asked who is responsible to pay the deductible for the replacement. R. Kokesch stated that sense it was broken during city work hours while cleaning up for the city, that the city should pay the deductible.

Discussion on 2022 salaries, fees, and the preliminary budget was tabled. Radermacher asked for thoughts on what the council would like to see with the preliminary budget so it can be prepared by the regular September meeting. Suggestions on resources to look at were made and thoughts on future projects and purchases were brought up.

At 9:02 P.M., Scharfencamp motioned for adjournment, second by Wiese, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No. The next regular meeting will be September 13, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.

Respectfully Submitted by
Trista Radermacher, City Clerk/Treasurer