

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR FRANKLIN CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Monday, September 9, 2019**

A Regular Meeting of the Franklin City Council was held on Monday, September 9, 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, and Menk. Guests present were: Brian Pederson, Chris Hacker, Mandi Hall, Bobby Tufts, Mark Dummer and Joe Sullivan.

At 7:00 p.m., Acting Mayor R. Kokesch called the meeting to order with roll call showing Sherman late. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Acting Mayor R. Kokesch called for approval of the August 12, 2019 minutes with Scharfencamp motioning to approve the minutes as presented, second by Gruendemann, RCV-4 Yes, 0 No.

The consent agenda items were presented. Bills were presented for approval in the amount of \$35,458.58; cash receipts for August were \$26,856.59; Pederson presented an interfund loan proposal to pay off the community center, no action taken. There were three past-due utility accounts approved for disconnection, a payment plan will be implemented for one account. No new zoning permits were issued, have yet to meet regarding Menk property. **Scharfencamp motioned to approve the consent agenda items as presented, second by Gruendemann, RCV-4 Yes, 0 No.**

Citizens were addressed. **Hall requested council approval to have an outdoor band at the Longbranch Saloon on October 18th from 9 PM-12:30 AM; Gruendemann motioned to approve Hall's request, second by Deming, RCV-4 Yes, 0 No.**

Department Heads reported. Menk: The FEMA grant application is nearly complete, FFI & FF2 will begin in December, open positions will be advertised. K. Kokesch: there have been numerous complaints about stray cats, the city has a live trap people can use or they can file a complaint form; Kokesch is in the process of renewing his water license; Kokesch has 43 excess vacation hours he was unable to use, discussed the need for the city's personnel policy to be reviewed and updated (Deming and R. Kokesch will review it.) **Gruendemann motioned to allow Kokesch to carry over his 43 hours to be used in November, second by Scharfencamp, RCV-4 Yes, 0 No.** Pederson: presented information on the LMC Regional meeting; the council declined IRIS resolution/proclamation request.

K. Kokesch contacted the county engineer about options for Third St. S. Tiling down the center would be the most effective but also most expensive and difficult to do with existing water and sewer lines; tiling alongside would be very helpful. C. Hacker plans to tile his fields soon (probably by the end of this week) and is willing to work with the city on some joint tiling. Fahey Tiling drew up plans for both Hacker and the city, with the city's cost estimate being \$4,745.75. The council consensus is that this would provide a long-term cost savings on road repairs. **Gruendemann motioned to proceed with the 3rd Street tiling project as presented, second by Deming, RCV-4 Yes, 0 No.** Hacker will allow the city permanent easement for tile work to be recorded with the land deed.

The water tower is well underway with 65% of the interior sandblasting completed. The tower is empty and the city is running off of relief valves, the well and high service pumps are running 24/7, wasting about 100,000 gallons of water per day, which is necessary to relieve pressure on the water mains. Good weather is needed for the project. **A schematic of the finished tower and colors were presented and motioned for approval by Gruendemann, second by Deming, RCV-4 Yes, 0 No.**

Well No. 6 looks to be a good well with better water quality than No. 5; it is 173' deep and the whole process has been improved so this well should not take on sand; further developing and test pumping will be needed, followed by connecting it to the water treatment plant, followed by electrical and SCADA System connections. Well No. 4 will be sealed along with the well on the Menk property located north of town in the DWSMA.

The 2020 Fee Schedule was reviewed and motioned for approval by R. Kokesch, second by Scharfencamp, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No. The 2020 Salary Schedule was amended as the state's minimum wage was increased to \$10/hour; Scharfencamp felt that the public works salaries should be higher. **Sherman motioned to approve the 2020 Salary Schedule as presented, second by R. Kokesch, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.** The preliminary budget was presented and discussed; Scharfencamp was concerned about raising the levy amount; Gruendemann recommended adding \$3000 to street capital outlay to fund a future tractor purchase. **Gruendemann motioned to approve the preliminary 2020 budget with the \$3000 increase included, as per Resolution 2019-7, 2020 Proposed Property Tax Levy of \$175,197, second by R. Kokesch, RCV-4 Yes, 1 No-Scharfencamp.** Pederson noted that the December council meeting is scheduled for Dec. 10th, not the 9th so the Truth in Taxation meeting needs to be held accordingly. **Gruendemann motioned to hold the Truth in Taxation Public Hearing at 7 PM on December 12, 2019, second by Scharfencamp, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.**

An estimate of \$1,928 from TNT Construction was received to repair the boatlanding. High water and sand will continue to pose problems. Discussed at length were options for repairs, cost sharing, the DNR's involvement, charging fees for camping, consider making it a county park, etc. The city will research various options with the sheriff's office, the county commissioners, the legislators, and the DNR (asking for planks and assistance). **The council consensus is that the boatlanding repairs are necessary; Scharfencamp motioned to approve the TNT estimate for repairs, second by R. Kokesch, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.**

Parcel 32-00665-00 is up for forfeiture. The Development Corp. feels it should be obtained and either be fixed up or demolished and offered their support if the city would obtain it. Pederson contacted the county auditor's office and if the city pays something for the property, they would get clear title to it vs. paying nothing and then it would have to be used for a public purpose. The new county blight grant program requires ownership to receive funding. The county commissioners set the price of the parcel. **Gruendemann motioned for the city to obtain the property, second by Deming, RCV-4 Yes, Sherman abstained.**

There were no councilor requests.

At 8:45 p.m., Mayor Sherman called for a motion to adjourn, with Scharfencamp motioning for adjournment, second by Gruendemann, RCV-4 Yes, 0 No (Deming left prior to adjournment). The next regular meeting will be October 14, 2019, at 7:00 p.m. at the City Hall.

Respectfully Submitted by
Wendy Pederson, City Clerk/Treasurer