

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR FRANKLIN CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Monday, July 8, 2013**

A Regular Meeting of the Franklin City Council was held on Monday, July 8, 2013, at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall. Council members present were: Degner, R. Kokesch, Lyon, Scharfencamp, and Wiese. Staff Department Heads present were: K. Kokesch, Pederson, and DeBlieck. Guests were present were: Tim and Katie Joehnck, Corey Gruendemann, Katie Swigart, Cindy Nesburg, and Brandon Koerner.

At 7:00 p.m., Mayor Degner called the meeting to order with roll call showing all council present.

Mayor Degner called for approval of the agenda. **Wiese motioned to approve the agenda, second by Lyon, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.**

Mayor Degner called for approval of the minutes of the June 10, 2013 Regular Meeting and the June 20, 2013 Special Meeting. Lyon motioned to approve both sets of minutes as presented, second by Scharfencamp, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.

Citizens were addressed. The city regulations on 4-wheelers were discussed. Currently, ATV's and golf carts cannot be legally driven on city streets. Due to the number of complaints received and the potential liability, this has been enforced. The operators requested the city consider allowing or permitting licensed drivers to drive them in the city. **R. Kokesch motioned that until the city figures out its policing situation the ordinance should stay as written and to look at it again if complaints continue; the motion failed for lack of a second. Wiese motioned to look into permitting and try to come up with something, second by Scharfencamp; RCV-4 Yes, 1-No, R. Kokesch.** The consensus was this would give some time to see how the enforcement is working and it was suggested to use the snowmobile ordinance as a reference. Katrina Swigart requested a one week extension on paying her utility bill. **Wiese motioned to allow Swigart until 7/15/13 to have her utility bill paid, second by R. Kokesch, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.**

The projects are moving along. There has been a lot of activity at the water treatment plant, especially in trying to get all of the chemicals working with the new well. It was noted that it will probably take six months for the water to "settle in." The computer software is being worked on and a punch list is being written.

Partial Pay Estimate No. 4, to Kuechle Underground, Inc. was presented for approval. **Wiese motioned to approve PPE #4 to Kuechle Underground in the amount of \$158,084.17, pending USDA approval; second by Scharfencamp, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.**

Change Order No. 2, to Kuechle Underground was presented for approval, noting that the bulk of the change order was requested by the county. **R. Kokesch**

motioned to approve Change Order No. 2 to Kuechle Underground, pending USDA approval; second by Wiese, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.

Partial Pay Estimate No.7, to KHC Construction was presented for approval. **Scharfencamp motioned to approve PPE #7 to KHC in the amount of \$49,376.25, pending USDA approval; second by Wiese, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.**

Pay Draw No. 14 in the amount of \$114,202.33 was presented for approval, which was motioned for approval by R. Kokesch, second by Scharfencamp, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.

DeBlieck reported to the council on his police calls to date; he has the taser working and noted that Roger Degner still has one weapon that is unaccounted for and he is taking the weapons to the sheriff's office. Pederson was told by Degner that all of the weapons were taken care of and gave him his last paycheck; Degner must turn all of the weapons in and report to ATF or he may be charged with a felony. DeBlieck also requested more hours, noting the 5-7 hours is not enough. It was decided that when the 185 hours are reached, the council will see what needs to be done. DeBlieck is to respond to calls as he is able, when he is off duty he is not required to respond. It was also noted that on Catfish Days all officers (including DeBlieck) will be paid \$20/hour. DeBlieck received approval to order shirts for Catfish Days patrolling from Deano Hartwig and to sell the old radio. Brandon Koerner reported that Morton is very interested in sharing police coverage with Franklin. They do not want to administer the department and want the same type of contract as they currently have with the sheriff's office, but would like to contract twenty hours per week with the city. Koerner requested the city give him a contract price. Pederson noted that it will be difficult to come up with an exact cost, but it should not be as high as the county's. Pederson will work on some preliminary figures for Koerner to present to Morton.

The financial status of the city was reviewed. June receipts totaled \$232,709.13; current bills were presented for payment in the amount of \$316,976.13. **Wiese motioned for approval of the bills and financial report as presented, second by Lyon, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.**

Department Heads were addressed. K. Kokesch reported that Catfish Days cleaners are lined up; per a councilor request he checked with LMCIT and found that a volunteer citizen can operate the street sweeper provided the council approves them to and it is documented in the minutes; a map of the mosquito spraying was presented, noting it is on all public streets and will be continues as is; there have been two incidents with items from the nursing home being flushed causing plugging in the lift station causing issues with the check valves and is costly to remove (\$1566) and/or to replace (\$3500). Per city ordinance §51.05, this may be assessed; at this time the council does not want to assess, but rather remedy the situation and Kokesch is to discuss this with the GLC administrator. The current mowing situation is not working and will need to be changed for next year. The VFD at the ponds blower building is not working

properly. Kokesch presented city ordinance §52.05 in regard to his request for city sewer outside the city limits; Pederson noted that this is a water ordinance. The auger at the pellet building needs fixing, the council directed it be taken care of before winter use. There are no handicap portable toilets available, but if there were, the city would be liable for replacement if damaged (\$2000) and the cost would be \$150/month. Pederson requested the council review confidential legal correspondence when they have time; Catfish Days camping licensing is in progress, a fire lane needs to be established for approval; the council denied the Heartland Express Donation due to its lack of use here; council members will be responsible for picking up their agenda packets; due to the larger number of past due utilities, disconnection will be on July 15th for all.

A zoning permit was issued to Rick Hempel to install a 40' x 6' wood fence at 245 Fourth St. S. R. Kokesch questioned who mandates the zoning, and it was noted that these are not inspected unless someone questions or there is a complaint, it is the property owner's responsibility to follow the zoning code and adhere to their permit requirements.

Pederson presented the LMCIT Worker's Comp. renewal, questioning what to do with the police salary section; it was decided to use 75% of the previous year. **Lyon motioned to approve the LMCIT Worker's Compensation Renewal as previous, and to continue to include elected officials; second by Wiese, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.**

Councilor requests: R. Kokesch was questioned about the swimming lessons bus; Pederson noted it was advertised in the newsletter, on the public access, and posted at City Hall, the post office, and the bank and there were not enough signed up; the bus company needed to know by the deadline in order to line up a driver.

At 9:46 p.m., Mayor Degner called for adjournment, with Wiese motioning for adjournment, second by Lyon, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No. The next regular city council meeting will be held Monday, August 12, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.

Respectfully Submitted by
Wendy Pederson, City Clerk/Treasurer