

July 2023

City Newsletter

City Council Briefs Not Formally Approved by Council

Meeting Date: June 12, 2023

Council Present: Gruendemann, Wiese, Lund, Mumme and R. Kokesch

Staff Present: Radermacher, K.Kokesch, J. Olson, C. Minkel

Guests: J. Mathwig, B. Ortloff, D. Scharfencamp, G. Scharfencamp,

Regular Meeting called to order, Pledge and Roll Call.

Approved minutes of the regular meeting 5/8/23

Approved consent agenda: bills of \$49,607.20; 12 past due utility accounts; one zoning permit issued— a 12'x16' shed at 250 5th street

- G. and D. Scharfencamp requested council approval to install lights to illuminate the flags by the highway. Council approved and noted they should check with the county and state to ensure there would be issues on their end.
- Dept heads: Deputy Mathwig spoke to council about blighted properties and the best ways to address them. He mentioned that there is a program through Renville County that may help some property owner pay for some of the repairs/improvements needed. Ortloff and Radermacher rode together earlier in the day to review some of the properties. Mathwig spoke to council about the changes to the new Sheriff's department contract and showed the council an itemized list of expenses to explain the increase in contract fees. Mathwig also noted that cots and blankets will be brought down for placement at the community center for future emergency use. J. Olson and B. Wiese reported that the lockers that were ordered are in and they are now waiting on lumber needed for installation. C. Minkel informed council that there are expired medications that need to be replaced and she only plans to order the ones that EMRs are allowed to administer as there is often not an EMT on calls and does not want to see it wasted. The AED machine for the MRU dept recently had batteries replaced and new pads ordered. K. Kokesch noted that the recent rain event was hard on the town and the storm sewer system. He asked for assistance in finding a bathroom cleaner for Catfish days. A fire hydrant that was damaged in a fire call will be repaired soon. He is trying working with Bolton and Menk to start and complete the lead and copper inventory required by the state. K. Kokesch also discussed with council an area of the city with multiple properties that do not have their own shut offs; this could lead to issues if there are leaks that need repairing. Recent break ins and vandalism has been reported to the Sheriff's department and video of the individuals has been turned over to the authorities for identification. Radermacher reported the budgeted donation to the summer rec program was not needed and the funds can be allocated elsewhere. She asked about any reported water damage from the recent rainfall. There were no sign ins for walking at the community center but suggested that it could be tried again in the winter. A citizen planning and zoning committee member is needed and asked about best way to go about that. Radermacher also reported one of the newer Fire Department hires completed Firefighter 1 & 2 training and asked about paying for the hours; to be paid with annual payroll in December. Radermacher asked for approval to begin abatement process on two properties in town, approved.
- A new cost estimate was presented to council for the park equipment. The same equipment approved last year is now on sale. Grants and other funding options have been heavily researched.
- A fire call resulted in two council members having to leave and the new Sheriff's department contract discussion to be tabled.
- The 2023 Fire Relief temporary liquor license was approved.
- Radermacher asked if council may be interested in trying for the Local Road Improvement Grant that was attempted in 2021. Bolton and Menk would like to know if Franklin is interested so that they may gather the necessary Resolutions and letters of support.
- The bills authorized for payment are as follows:



City of Franklin

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Web: <https://www.franklinmn.us>

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City of Franklin is an equal Opportunity provider and employer

Salaries	Net	\$7,775.20	TNT	Streets	\$2,464.41	Electric Pump	Maint.	\$650.00
PERA	Retirement	\$634.54	MNASC	Dues	\$340.50	Core & Main	Maint.	\$30.57
MN Dept. of Rev.	Withholding	\$358.55	MVTL	Lab	\$133.69	Xcel	Energy	\$436.21
IRS	Withholding	\$2,237.20	Walton Law	Legal	\$508.70	MN Dept of Health	Dues	\$510.00
SWWC	Insurance	\$4,123.36	Kerkhoff Plumbing	Maint.	\$490.00	Mike's Auto parts	Supplies	\$24.47
Ren-Sibley Coop.	Energy	\$53.15	Kevin Kokesch	Phone	\$74.13	Runnings	Supplies	\$39.49
Clobes Sanitation	Garbage	\$3,075.63	Claudia Kokesch	Cleaning	\$307.50	Kandi-Ren health	Catfish	\$145.00
Madison National	Insurance	\$21.20	Hawkins	Chemicals	\$773.00	Clarke	Mosquitos	\$1,004.00
Marco	Printing	\$362.52	Farm Merchantile	Supplies	\$26.69	VISA	Supplies	\$594.52
Gopher State	Locates	\$12.15	PT Mac	Supplies	\$38.31	Alex Air Apparatus	Supplies	\$918.84

2023 Catfish Days needs your help!!



Trista's Kiss the Catfish fundraiser of memorabilia cozies showcasing the burning water tower from 1985 are still available at City Hall for \$5 each. Funds raised go toward new park equipment at the Lion's park.

- ◆ The Miss Franklin variety show is searching for youth willing to show off their talents. Do you have a child or a know a group of children that would like to show off a talent or put on an act Friday July 21st at the Miss Franklin variety show? Contact Jane Sullivan for questions or to sign up!! 320-212-3407
- ◆ Monetary donations are requested to help purchase prizes for the Medallion hunt. Please drop off donations at City Hall during business hours or drop in drop box in an envelope labeled for medallion hunt donation. Thank you!!
- ◆ Kids are needed to participate in the kiddie parade on Sunday July 23rd at 1PM. Line up at 12:45 at Cedar Heart Home's parking lot. Participants may wear a costume, ride a bike or roller skates, or walk along with the group. Contact Jane Sullivan: 320-212-3407
- ◆ Volunteers are needed throughout the weekend, for set up of activities or for cleaning up on Monday July 24th.
- ◆ We are looking for a bathroom cleaner for Catfish Days. This is a paid gig. Inquire at City Hall or call Kevin Kokesch. 507-829-4631



Central Lutheran Church will be celebrating our heritage on Sunday August 13, 2023. Worship at 10 AM.

Lunch to Follow.

Everyone Welcome

RSVP no later than August 1, 2023 by calling the church office 507-426-7540 or email fxluth@gmail.com

If you have photos and memorabilia or stories to share, drop off at the Church's office no later than August 6th

Palmyra Farmers Mutual is giving away a new playhouse! Register to win at Palmyra, City Hall, or other local businesses. Limit of one entry per person. Drawing to be held on July 24th and the winner is responsible to pick up preassembled playhouse.

Community Calendar July 2023

July 4	Happy Independence Day
July 10	Lions Club, 6 PM City Council, 7 PM, City Hall
July 20	Fire/MRU monthly meetings
July 21-23	Catfish Derby Days

The Franklin Planning and Zoning Committee is looking for a new member from the community to volunteer to help with zoning questions, variances and conditional use permits. Please submit your interest in writing to Franklin City Hall. Stop in with any questions.

Did you get a blight letter for your property?
Do you have questions, comments, or concerns?

Come to City Hall on July 10th at 7PM to talk over any comments or questions you may have.

*Renville County has a home rehab program that offers a grant opportunity to help with paying for improvements to your home. For more info visit the Renville County website or ask for info at City Hall.



Mosquito Spraying Schedule

(Subject to change due to weather conditions)
June 13 & 27; July 11, 19, & 25; August 8 & 22

2023 Curbside Recycling:

July – 5 & 18



Thank You!

Thank you to all the blood donors who came to our blood drive on June 1st. We made our goal with 35 units collected. Thanks again for donating to help save lives!!

Please stop dropping items off without initial contact or permission at my private residence.

-Myron Gehrke