

**MINUTES OF THE  
REGULAR FRANKLIN CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
Monday, Augst 12, 2024**

A Regular Meeting of the Franklin City Council was held on Monday, August 12, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. at Franklin City Hall. Council members present were: C. Gruendemann, D. Schneider, and R. Kokesch. Staff Department Heads present were: Radermacher and K. Kokesch. Guests present were: C. Freitag, B, Tonak, and C. Minkel.

At 7:00 p.m., Mayor Gruendemann called the meeting to order. Roll call showed Lund and Mumme absent. The pledge of allegiance was recited.

**Mayor Gruendemann called for approval of the minutes of the regular council meeting on July 8, 2024. R., Kokesch motioned to approve the minutes as presented, Second by Schneider, RCV-3 Yes, 0 No.**

Mayor Gruendemann called for approval of the consent agenda: bills were presented in the amount of \$56,568.30, Cash receipts for July were \$147,256.36; there were 14 past due utility accounts; no zoning permit issued. **R. Kokesch motioned to approve the consent agenda as presented, second by Schneider, RCV-3 Yes, 0 No.**

The Longbranch Saloon requested permission to hold music outdoors until midnight October 18<sup>th</sup>, council approved. C. Freitag addressed the council requesting a sewer charge adjustment due to higher water use from removing trees, replanting grass seed and new trees; Freitag noted that the trees that were removed Elm trees she wanted removed to prevent the Dutch Elm disease. Freitag expressed her feelings about the City putting boulevard maintenance on property owners. She also stated her disappointment in the city wide clean up changing to drop off vs curbside pick-up and the noticeable lack of policing along with no local compost for public use. Council approved sewer discount to average \$70/month through October. B. Tonak addressed the council requesting reversal of utility late fees and disconnect notice; Tonak stated that the check was written out but never cleared the bank and stated he was unsure of what happened as he had it dropped off in the city drop box. Council approved the fee reversal since his account has never been late before. Tonak also reported to council the willingness of him and his family to help restore the horse shoe pit at Lion's Park.

Department heads reported: Menk and K. Kokesch recently completed an ISO inspection that included flow testing, detailed inventory, and paperwork; reported to have gone well. Menk stated that the new grass rig will soon be complete and noted to council that the old one will be able to be listed as surplus property and sold or be utilized as a city vehicle. R. Kokesch said the Fire Department's bed races at Catfish Days had great feedback. There is no word on the grant submitted for the washer and dryer but Menk reported expecting a donation to be coming to be utilized for washer and dryer purchase. C. Minkel is looking for an EMT class to enroll a new MRU member. Minkel was able to get the medical directors information to be able to purchase epi-pens for the Franklin MRU. K. Kokesch said that Catfish Days clean up went well and stated that it was good to have the Fire Department spray the street after the street dance. K. Kokesch and Radermacher spread over 200 yards of mulch at the new park and more could be used next spring. K. Kokesch reported vandalism on the new park equipment and R. Kokesch noted that there was a chain link busted that may have been more vandalism. K. Kokesch spoke about two lift station pumps that need a back up or replacement pump and shared estimates for new and rebuilt pumps; **R. Kokesch motioned to approve the purchase of two new pumps for the lift stations. Second by Schneider, RCV- 3 Yes, 0 No.** K. Kokesch reported a \$350 discount/donation from Fahey tiling for the tiling done at the park. Volleyball nets were left up after Catfish and will soon be removed. Radermacher asked about the gutters that were to be replaced at city hall earlier in the summer. Radermacher reported receiving one donation for a new tree at the park. AES energy donated a park bench to the Women's Civic Club who would like it to be placed at the Lion's park for the new park equipment. Radermacher reported the election to be happening this month, and the audit is soon to be completed.

The Renville County Sheriff's Department was unable to make it to the meeting; blighted property discussion was tabled.

**R. Kokesch motioned to approve hiring Jada Kokesch to be an EMT pending background check and completion of paperwork, Second by Schneider, RCV- 3 Yes, 0 No.**

Summer and Winter hours for City Hall and Public Works to be posted on the door to City Hall.

AES Solar submitted their application for the solar project north of Franklin.

**R. Kokesch motioned to approve the VOTER funds contract with Renville County, Second by Schneider, RCV- 3 Yes, 0 No.**

A proposal for a notification system was presented to the council with an annual cost of \$1500. Council did not approve the proposal.

Council tabled a decision on Xcel Energy Right of entry agreement. The League on MN contract review specialist will be contacted to review the document.

Council tabled discussion on 2025 salary and fee changes.

**At 8:24 P.M., R. Kokesch motioned for adjournment, Second by Schneider, RCV-3 Yes, 0 No.** The next regular meeting will be Septmeber 9, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.

Respectfully Submitted by  
Trista Radermacher, City Clerk/Treasurer