

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR FRANKLIN CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Monday, October 14, 2024**

A Regular Meeting of the Franklin City Council was held on Monday, October 14, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. at Franklin City Hall. Council members present were: Gruendemann, M. Mumme, D. Schneider, and R. Kokesch. Staff Department Heads present were: Radermacher and K. Kokesch. Guests present were: S. Traulich, J. Harmoning, D. Menk, S. Oberloh.

At 7:00 p.m., Mayor Gruendemann called the meeting to order. Roll call showed Lund absent. Mayor Gruendemann called for an amendment to the agenda to add item 10.d. Fire Dept Bylaws and item 10.e. Community Center Agreement. The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Mayor Gruendemann called for approval of the minutes of the regular council meeting on September 9, 2024. R. Kokesch motioned to approve the minutes as presented, Second by Schneider, RCV-4 Yes, 0 No.

Mayor Gruendemann called for approval of the consent agenda: bills were presented in the amount of \$155,469.63, Cash receipts for September were \$34365.86; there were 8 past due utility accounts; two zoning permit issued: a 36'x24'x8' Garage at 631 3rd Ave E and a 10'x12'10' Pergola at 250 5th St E. **Mumme motioned to approve the consent agenda as presented, second by Schneider, RCV-4 Yes, 0 No.**

J. Harmoning, representing Franklin Industries, asked for council approval to redo and fix up the infield at the Franklin ballpark. Franklin Industries is willing to head the project and fully fund it. R. Kokesch asked if city funds were needed; Harmoning stated that Franklin Industries is willing to fully fund the project but if the city has budget to spend that a pitching rubber or foul poles would be improvements that are not currently in the project plan. New Agri-lime, pitcher's mound, magnetic bases, and a warning track are all improvements being discussed. **Gruendemann motioned to approve the improvements proposed to the ballfield, Second by Mumme, RCV- 4 Yes, 0 No.**

Traulich, Bolton and Menk, presented updates on current projects, The Franklin Ravine project is in need of a wetland study. Traulich stated that the DNR may not let the storm sewer drain pipe extend all the way to the river and may have to end on the south edge of CR5. Easements and agreements should be pursued sooner than later. No updates on the grant have been communicated with the city, Radermacher will reach out via email to the contact person given in the grant award notification and ask if there have been any updates missed. MN Dept of Health has sent out notification letters to cities that they must send out notification letters to the utility customers with lead, galvanized, or unknown service lines. The letters have been drafted and will be sent out. The small cities grant was awarded to the City of Franklin for \$600,000; an environmental review will need to be completed this fall. Traulich informed the council that approving plans and specs will need to be completed to be able to post advertising for bids in the spring. Construction and engineering costs might end up overbudget, but this will be communicated if so.

Department heads reported: Menk reported the new grass rig is ready to be picked up and the old one can be sold; council asked what the value is for the rig and discussed the best course of action for selling. K. Kokesch reported park bathroom vandalism; sheriff's department were able to identify the individuals and were made to clean the mess; K. Kokesch reported his MPCA inspection to have gone well; the American Flag retirement ceremony went well; parks and hydrants are to be winterized for the season; Kokesch met with the DOT about the living fence-the DOT will be cleaning it up after November 1st. Radermacher reported receiving a Fire Department application. Radermacher informed council on her involvement in Morton's current status with no city clerk; Morton found an individual willing to help with their day-to-day work and accounting and Radermacher has been helping teach the software to this individual and nothing else.

Excel Energy right of entry agreement was tabled.

Council discussed donations received for new trees in the Lion's Park. Since only one tree donation has been received, council decided to wait on purchasing trees until spring; donations will continue to be accepted. Salary and fee changes previously discussed were presented for review; Fire Chief Menk asked if council discussed salary changes for the fire department officers; as no fire department was present at the discussion meeting the discussion was not brought up; council told Menk to bring a request to council at the next regular meeting.

Council tabled discussion on Fire Department Bylaws since the document had just been presented and the Fire Department still need to discuss and approve.

The community center agreement was discussed. Radermacher was able to get in touch with the Cedar Mountain superintendent, Dr. Malone, to discuss painting. Painting contractors to be located and sent to Cedar Mountain for hire. Discussion was held on alternate options to ensure the maintenance agreement is being upheld.

R. Kokesch motioned not to waive tort liability limits for LMC workers comp, Second by Mumme, RCV- 4 Yes, 0 No.

Oberloh presented the City of Franklin 2023 financial reports which have already been submitted to the state auditor.

At 8:29 P.M., R. Kokesch motioned for adjournment, Second by Schneider, RCV-4 Yes, 0 No. The next regular meeting will be Tuesday November 12, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.

Respectfully Submitted by
Trista Radermacher, City Clerk/Treasurer