

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR FRANKLIN CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, December 10, 2024**

A Regular Meeting of the Franklin City Council was held on Tuesday, December 10, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at Franklin City Hall. Council members present were: Gruendemann, M. Mumme, R. Kokesch, and Lund. Staff Department Heads present were: Radermacher, K. Kokesch, Menk. Guests present were: S. Traulich, J. Harmoning, J. Carlson, J. Gustafson, P. Sullivan.

At 6:00 p.m., Mayor Gruendemann called the meeting to order. Roll call showed Schneider absent and Lund set to be late. The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Mayor Gruendemann called for approval of the minutes of the regular council meeting on November 12, 2024. R. Kokesch motioned to approve the minutes as presented, Second by Mumme, RCV-3 Yes, 0 No.

Mayor Gruendemann called for approval of the consent agenda: bills were presented in the amount of \$66,641.41, Cash receipts for November were \$115,554.93; there were 4 past due utility accounts; no zoning permits issued. **Mumme motioned to approve the consent agenda as presented, second by R. Kokesch, RCV-3 Yes, 0 No.**

Mayor Gruendemann opened the truth-in-taxation public hearing. No citizens were present for the public hearing. No comments or suggestions were made; Mayor Gruendemann closed the public hearing.

J. Gustafson, on behalf of the Franklin Lion's Club, spoke to the council about holding a street rod event at the 2025 Catfish Derby Days and where would be the best place to hold the event. Council discussed the event and possible locations; the event will be added to the 2025 event list and a spot to hold the event will be determined at a later date. (Lund arrived late)

Mayor Gruendemann began opening the sealed bids for the Fire Department's 2007 Chevy Silverado Grass Rig and Jaws of Life. Bids were opened in the order they were received as follows: J. Morris- \$13,531; City of Mystic Iowa- \$19,254; J. Carlson- \$19,796.28; P. Sullivan- \$13,000 (also bid \$500 for the jaws of life); Wounded Knee Fire Department in Porcupine Iowa wrote a letter asking the Franklin Council to consider donating the grass rig to their fire department; Wabasso Fire Department - \$15,500; B. Mages- 15,330. Two individuals were present at the council meeting and were given the opportunity to increase their bids; no bids were increased. **R. Kokesch motioned to accept Jeff Carlson's bid of \$19,796.28 for the 2007 Chevy Silverado, Second by Mumme, RCV- 4 Yes, 0 No. R. Kokesch motioned to accept the bid of \$500 from Pat Sullivan for the jaws of life, Second by Mumme, RCV- 4 Yes, 0 No.** Menk to contact those that were not awarded the bid.

Traulich, with Bolton and Menk, presented updates to the council on the upcoming projects; the agreement documents have been completed for grant on the Ravine project. Easements will need to be obtained over the coming months. A cultural review has been submitted for the Second Avenue project due to the old pump house and St. Johns Church being historic buildings on the national register. Traulich discussed water and sewer hook ups to one property within the 2nd Ave project that does not currently have the services but has expressed interest in these services. Council discussed putting the hook ups in and assessing property owner or waiting to assess the fees when hook up is made. K. Kokesch will reach out to the owner and ask if the services are wanted.

The amendment to code of ordinance 30.11 was presented to council with the 2025 fee schedule changes previously discussed. **Mumme motioned to approve the 2025 fee changes as presented for the amendment to code of ordinance 30.11, Second by R. Kokesch, RCV- 4 Yes, 0 No.**

R. Kokesch motioned to approve Resolution 2024-20: Approving the purchase agreement of property from Renville County, Second by Lund, RCV-4 Yes, 0 No.

Department heads reported: K. Kokesch reported that the DOT is planning to clean up the living snow soon and the wood will be taken by locals. The circulation pump was installed at the water tower. When the street sweeper was being put into storage, a hydraulic hose broke for the third time this year. Menk report one recent lift assist call and the new grass rig has been put into service. Radermacher reported a request from the Franklin Lions to acquire an estimate for a drinking fountain at the park for the funds raised in the 2024 Kiss the Catfish contest. The elementary school in Franklin is opening their gym up for locals to utilize for walking in the winter months from 6:00 AM to 7:30 AM, five days a week. Radermacher asked if the newly hired MRU member should be paid for the training hours put in this year; hiring documents were reviewed and showed a policy that newly hired MRU members are to be employed for one year and complete their training to be compensated. Follow up to painting at community center needs to be made.

Mumme motioned to approve the 2024 Fire and MRU payroll as presented, Second by R. Kokesch, RCV- 2 Yes, 0 No, Lund and Gruendemann abstained.

Mumme motioned to approve the Fire department Bylaw amendments as presented, Second by Gruendemann, RCV- 4 Yes, 0 No.

Mumme motioned to approve the 2025 salary changes as presented, Second by Lund, RCV- 4 Yes, 0 No.

Radermacher presented a donation request from the Cedar Mountain Area JO. Council discussed. **R. Kokesch motioned to approve a \$1600 donation, Second by Lund, RCV- 4 Yes, 0 No.**

Radermacher presented RRRSWA rate increase notification.

The property owner of parcel # 32-00075-00 requested an address for the property. Radermacher presented the council with a map of the property and discussion was held on what address works best with the address system in the town as well as what address would make most sense for emergency response. **Lund motioned to approve the address of 345 3rd West for parcel # 32-00075-00, Second by Mumme, RCV- 4 Yes, 0 No.**

The 2025 meeting schedule was presented. Council held a discussion on changing the day and time the meeting is held. Radermacher stated that if changing the day and time the regular meeting is to be held that an amendment to the ordinance will need to be made and approved. **Mumme motioned to approve holding the next regular meeting on January 8 at 6:00 PM, Second by R. Kokesch, RCV- 4 Yes, 0 No.** The amendment to the ordinance will be brought to the next regular meeting for approval.

The 2025 budget was presented for discussion. **Lund motioned to approve Resolution 2024-21, no second was made, motion failed.** The preliminary levy was set at \$203,788. Council discussed the 2025 budget and reviewed a letter from the auditor on tracking expenses for projects and capital purchases differently. Changes were made to the capital outlay expenses; changing the levy amount to \$189,488. **R. Kokesch motioned to approve Resolution 2024-21: Approving 2025 levy amount of \$189,488, Second by Lund, RCV 4- Yes, 0 No.**

Council further discussed painting at the community center and it was suggested that the City makes arrangements for painting and split the cost with Cedar Mountain; with the city paying for supplies and Cedar Mountain to pay for the labor. Interviews for interested individuals interested in joining the fire department was discussed. Council members agreed that interviews are not needed. New hire paperwork can be given out and if background check clears, training may begin if Chief Menk approves.

At 7:42 P.M., R. Kokesch motioned for adjournment, Second by Schneider, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No. The next regular meeting will be Tuesday December 10, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall.

Respectfully Submitted by
Trista Radermacher, City Clerk/Treasurer