

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR FRANKLIN CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Monday, July 8, 2024**

A Regular Meeting of the Franklin City Council was held on Monday, July 8, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. at the Franklin Community Center. Council members present were: C. Gruendemann, D. Schneider, M. Mumme, R. Kokesch, and Lund. Staff Department Heads present were: Radermacher and K. Kokesch. Guests present were: S. Traulich, M. Weinzetl, D. Menk, Beth & Bill McCorquodale, J. Lund.

At 7:00 p.m., Mayor Gruendemann called the meeting to order. Roll call showed all members present. The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Mayor Gruendemann called for approval of the minutes of the regular council meeting on June 12, 2024. Mumme motioned to approve the minutes as presented, Second by Lund, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.

Mayor Gruendemann called for approval of the consent agenda: bills were presented in the amount of \$50,391.12, Cash receipts for June were \$57,317.32; there were 12 past due utility accounts; no zoning permit issued. **Schneider motioned to approve the consent agenda as presented, second by Lund, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No.**

Mayor Gruendemann opened the public hearing for improvements to Second Avenue at 19:03. Traulich begins by showing photos of the existing conditions of Second Avenue and explains why improvements are needed. The project will relocate the water main on 2nd avenue to the public right away as well as include a complete resurface of the street. The portion of second avenue with curb and gutter will be replaced with new curb and gutter while the westerly half of the project area, currently graveled, will not have curb and gutter but will be resurfaced with concrete. The project plans also include looping the dead-end water main of second avenue to third avenue, improving water conditions for the residents on both streets. Traulich stated that plans for the project have been certified through PFA but there is no determination yet on funding. The special assessment policy was shown to the public and council and some assessment options were discussed. Traulich presented an estimated timeline for the project and reported that an environmental review will need to be completed this fall before advertising for bids for the project. The asphalt wear course is planned to be laid a year after the utility improvements are made in anticipation of some settling. Other public comments and questions included B. McCorquodale stated that a city she knows of has been able to do improvements within the city by funding with grant money as to not assess property owners; it was stated that more funding options should be available so property owners are not assessed; Radermacher to follow up on this statement to see if other options may be available. B. and B. McCorquodale stated that they have continued to report complaints to the county Sheriff's Department about the condition of the neighborhood with no results on improving conditions and requested that Franklin City Council focus on the issue with blighted properties; Radermacher to follow up on the continued complaints and why nothing has been addressed by Sheriff's Department. Access to properties during the project was discussed because some properties will have a harder time being accessed than others, Traulich stated that this will be addressed and resolved before the project begins. Mayor Gruendemann closed the public hearing at 19:52.

R. Kokesch motioned to approve Resolution 2024-12: Ordering Improvement and Preparation of Plans, Second by Mumme, RCV- 5 Yes, 0 No.

Department heads reported: Menk reported completion of the annual compressor test and was found not to be to OSHA code. The Fire Department is applying for a grant to purchase a washer and dryer. The new grass rig will be heading to Sioux Falls for the completion of the bed build. K. Kokesch reported the annual lift station check; one pump had a broken impeller and was quoted \$5189 to fix. **Lund Motioned to approve repairs to the pump, Second by Schneider, RCV- 5 Yes, 0 No.** K. Kokesch pointed out many lights to be out at the community center and asked if they should be replaced immediately or wait, council agreed to wait for now. K. Kokesch reported a property owner that recently installed a sump pump that dug the drain pipe into and through their yard with the drain pipe draining to the ballfield causing some issues by the shelter and dug out; property owners were informed of the city ordinance on drainage and have not complied with the request to move their drainage pipe, the Sheriff Deputy will be asked to enforce the ordinance. Lund reported a recent complaint of mold around the seal on the fridge in the ballpark kitchen. Radermacher reported a complaint received about the dirty concrete by the statues and Veteran's Park; Fire Dept will power wash. Radermacher reported a new Franklin sign posted on the hill and asked who put it there, the Franklin Lion's club had a new sign made and put up.

Radermacher presented the council with a tree design the Lion's Park made by Redwood Falls Nursery. The design included removal of all existing trees and the current swing set; trees kept out of the middle areas to allow space for growth of the park. Pictures of the suggested trees were presented. Council agreed to post notice to local businesses and residents to allow sponsorship or donations to be accepted to plant new trees. Council discussed installation of the park edging that was purchased; ground levels vary greatly making installation difficult. Got Dirt is willing to level the ground out as best as possible to help with the process; Radermacher to asked about the cost to return the border and talk to the council park committee for final decision on the border. Council held discussion on the horseshoe pits; it was agreed to remove one horseshoe pit and leave the other; council would like to find a local expert on restoring one horseshoe game and investigate putting in a permanent corn hole game.

Catfish Derby Days 2024 was discussed; street sweeping to be done after both street dances, a reminder to the public to help in cleaning up their yards after the weekend will be posted on the City Facebook page. The Fire Department will help clean up after the street dances by spraying the streets to help with dust and flies. Mosquito spraying is scheduled for the week of Catfish Days. Radermacher asked about the power connection at City Hall; fixing and adding outside outlets was previously discussed after 2023 Catfish Days. Council agreed not to continue with this as it has not been requested since last year.

Radermacher to resend the application received for a new MRU employee and aid Mumme in any way possible to set up an interview. Radermacher will also make a public post stating the Franklin MRU is hiring in efforts to hire and train more than one.

At 8:28 P.M., Lund motioned for adjournment, Second by R. Kokesch, RCV-5 Yes, 0 No. The next regular meeting will be August 12, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.

Respectfully Submitted by
Trista Radermacher, City Clerk/Treasurer