

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR FRANKLIN CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Wednesday, October 8, 2025**

A Regular Meeting of the Franklin City Council was held on Wednesday, October 8 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at Franklin City Hall. Council members present were: Gruendemann, Schneider, Lund, and R. Kokesch. Staff Department Heads present were: Radermacher, Minkel, K. Kokesch. Guests present were: S. Traulich

At 6:00 p.m., Mayor Gruendemann called the meeting to order. Roll call showed Mumme absent. The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Mayor Gruendemann called for approval of the minutes of the regular council meeting on September 10 2025. Schneider motioned to approve the minutes as presented, Second by Lund, RCV-4 Yes, 0 No.

Mayor Gruendemann called for approval of the consent agenda: bills were presented in the amount of \$104,210.52, Cash receipts for September were \$37,623.65; there were 10 past due utility accounts; no zoning permits issued. **Schneider motioned to approve the consent agenda as presented, Second by Lund, RCV- 4 Yes, 0 No.**

Traulich with Bolton and Menk reported updates on the 2nd Ave project and Ravine project. The 2nd Ave project is starting; silt fence and erosion control is being installed; removals to begin after and pipe work will commence soon after removals. For the Ravine project, the Army Corps of Engineers delivered their determination on the project and deemed the majority of the project area jurisdictional-preventing the current plan of extending the storm sewer pipe down the ravine. New plans are being made to create a natural step system with exiting trees and materials to slow the flow of water; with the current government shut down and certain agencies not function, the new plans cannot be approved until the Army Corps can approve. Once Army Corps can approve the new plans will then need to be approved by the MPCA to ensure the awarded grant dollars may still be used. Funding for a new project design is being researched. Traulich informed the council on an upcoming local road improvement grant; the city has tried for this grant twice in the past five years and not been successful. Council discussed the lack of matching funds at this time and decided not to try for this grant round.

Department heads reported; Two MRU resignations were presented to council for acceptance; **Schneider motioned to accepted the resignations from J. Scharfencamp and C. Gruendemann, Second by Lund, RCV- 4 Yes, 0 No.** Minkel reported the MRU is creating ditch bag. An application was received for the MRU from an individual attending college. Initially the application was set aside as the individual lives out of town for college; however, there is a program through the school that pays for the training to become an EMT if the individual is job tied to an ambulance service. Council agreed to consider the application if more information is presented on the program for the applicant. K. Kokesch got approval from council for road grading. Parks will be winterized for the season; bathrooms will be closed and the drinking fountains will be removed. Previously a broken water pipe caused damage to a relay in the water plant and is in need of replacement; a replacement part has not been located through a distributor but one was found on ebay. Council approved the purchase of the part on ebay. McGowan has agreed to help with snow removal for the upcoming winter season. The payloader has been working well. Radermacher reported a dog bite in town and suggested the council review their ordinances on dangerous dogs, council will review at next regular meeting.

Discussion on the tree removal program was tabled.

No discussion on road signs. Custom signs were reported to be over \$200 each.

Expensing Kiss the Catfish was discussed. Gruendemann will get estimates for a park bench and a sandbox net. R. Kokesch suggested that the offer from the Birch Cooley Solar project's offer to help the community could be fulfilled by adding flag poles for the other government branches. Gruendemann will get an estimate for flag poles.

The agreement with Cedar Heard Homes allowing use of the Franklin community Center in the event of a catastrophe. The agreement was drawn up by the City attorney and was signed by Cedar Heart Homes. **R. Kokesch motioned to approve the agreement as presented, Second by Lund, RCV- 3 Yes, 0 No, Schneider abstained.**

R. Kokesch motioned to approve prepaying for 3000 gallons of propane \$1.51/gallon, Second by Lund, RCV- 4 Yes, 0 No.

Mayor Gruendemann motioned not to waive tort liability limits on the LMC insurance renewal, Second by R. Kokesch, RCV- 4 Yes, 0 No.

At 6:57 P.M., R. Kokesch motioned for adjournment, Seconded by Schneider, RCV-4 Yes, 0 No. The next regular meeting will be Wednesday November 12, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall.

Respectfully Submitted by
Trista Radermacher, City Clerk/Treasurer