

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR FRANKLIN CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Wednesday, December 10, 2025**

A Regular Meeting of the Franklin City Council was held on Wednesday, December 10 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at Franklin City Hall. Council members present were: Gruendemann, Schneider, Mumme, and R. Kokesch. Staff Department Heads present were: Radermacher, K. Kokesch, D. Menk. No guests present.

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

Mayor Gruendemann called for approval of the minutes of the regular council meeting on November 12, 2025. Schneider motioned to approve the minutes as presented, Second by Mumme, RCV-4 Yes, 0 No.

Mayor Gruendemann called for approval of the consent agenda: bills were presented in the amount of \$39,176.33, Cash receipts for November were \$30,893.80; there were 8 past due utility accounts; no zoning permits issued. **R. Kokesch motioned to approve the consent agenda as presented, Second by Schneider, RCV- 4 Yes, 0 No.**

Mayor Gruendemann opened the Truth in Taxation public hearing. No citizens present. No comments or questions received. **R. Kokesch motioned to close the TNT Public Hearing, Second by Mumme, RCV- 4 Yes, 0 No.**

Department heads reported: Menk reported no recent fire calls. Three Fire Department members are starting the Fire Fighter 1 & 2 courses. Menk reported the tanker to have problems and is being repaired; estimates for a new chassis to transfer the tanker equipment to will be researched. Radios are being reprogrammed; Menk to take the radios at city hall for reprogramming and then return when finished. Menk reported one Fire Department officer to have been MIA since July with no contact or response about missed meetings- council discussed. K. Kokesch reported on snow removal and vehicles left on the streets. Radermacher reported: there are five fire department applicants that need to be interviewed or informed that there is no action going to be taken; Radermacher reported a repair completed on the field computer for meter readings; McGowan tree service would like to work on tree trimming again in 2026; the Army Corps of Engineers is on board with the new plan for the Ravine project, now the MPCA will be contacted for approval; Radermacher also spoke to council about the fire department officer that Fire Chief Menk spoke of; a letter of termination has been drafted and Radermacher asked about officer pay for the individual. Council discussed who completed the duties that the officer was tasked with and discussed the annual officer pay. **Mayor Gruendemann motioned to approve half pay (\$250) for officer duties completed for half the year and approved the termination of the employee based on city personnel policy and Fire Department bylaws, Second by R. Kokesch, RCV- 4 Yes, 0 No.**

The 2025 Fire and MRU department annual payroll spreadsheet was presented for review. **R. Kokesch motioned to approve the 20205 annual Fire and MRU payroll with the one correction of the -now terminated- Fire department officer pay; Second by Mumme, RCV- 4 Yes, 0 No.**

A draft policy for the Paid Family Medical Leave was presented and reviewed. Policy tabled for approval and will be brought back with more detail added.

R. Kokesch motioned to approve the 2026 council meeting schedule as presented, Second by Mumme, RCV- 4 Yes, 0 No.

Council reviewed the proposed budget that was set in September. Discussion was held on raises for the two full time employees; Council discussed an additional COLA for the two employees on top of their step increase. **R. Kokesch motioned to accept the step increase raise and to approve a 4% COLA for the two full time employees for the 2026 calendar year, Second by Mumme, RCV- 4 Yes, 0 No.** R. Kokesch volunteered to assist in setting up a spreadsheet for the step increases in salaries to help Radermacher for the future.

Schneider motioned to approve the 2026 budget and Resolution 2025-6: Setting the 2026 levy, Second by R. Kokesch, RCV- 4 Yes, 0 No.

At 7:31 P.M., Gruendemann motioned for adjournment, Seconded by R. Kokesch, RCV-4 Yes, 0 No. The next regular meeting will be Wednesday January 14, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall.

Respectfully Submitted by
Trista Radermacher, City Clerk/Treasurer