

**MINUTES OF THE  
REGULAR FRANKLIN CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
Wednesday, February 11, 2026**

A Regular Meeting of the Franklin City Council was held on Wednesday, February 11, 2026, 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, K. Kokesch, C. Minkel. Guests present: S. Traulich, P. Sullivan, M. Wagner, G. Landgraff.

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 January 14, 2026 and the minutes of the annual Ambulance Association and Rural Fire Meetings on February 2, 2026. R. Kokesch 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 \$59,398.51, Cash receipts for January were \$495,258.99; there were 8 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.**

G. Landgraff addressed council with complaints on the city becoming run down and ordinances not being enforced. He reported that a vacant property near his house that has been housing wild animals. Landgraff stated that he has trapped several wild animals he believes has found shelter in the vacant house. Landgraff also has complaint on dumpers in town becoming permanent fixtures for property owners whom then do not empty the dumpsters

Deputy Wagner addressed the council regarding ongoing concerns with blighted properties within the city. Wagner specifically identified four properties that have been persistent issues for the council, noting that these same properties become problematic year after year and remain unresolved despite repeated attention. Wagner emphasized the need for continued focus on these properties, as the lack of improvement has become a recurring concern for both the council and the community. Council approved Wagner to send letters to these property owners and set deadlines for repairs.

S. Traulich presented the council with a recommendation letter from the bid opening for tree removal on the Ravine project to award the bid to the lowest bidder. One bid was received for \$83,250 from Vada construction. **R. Kokesch motioned to approve Resolution 2026-3: Approving bid and execute landowner agreements, Seconded by Lund, RCV- 4 Yes, 0 No.** Landowner agreements were drawn up by the city attorney and will need to be executed before tree removal begins. Traulich spoke to council about the Lead Service Line replacements and informed council that landowner agreements will need to be completed to continue certifying plans and apply for funds. **R. Kokesch motioned to approve Resolution 2026-4: Authorize landowner agreements for lead service agreement replacements, Seconded by Lund, RCV- 4 Yes, 0 No.**

Department heads reported: P. Sullivan reported on the Rural Fire meeting and the discussion held on ownership of the fire trucks; the discussion was held because the Fire Department has had the funds to purchase two fire department vehicles. Discussion ultimately led to no changes to the agreements for the time being and the topic may be revisited in the future. Sullivan reported on an issue with the new chassis for the tanker equipment; the equipment does not fit and options are being researched. The old tanker is partly working and is back in Franklin and in service. Clarification was made on how the fire department was paying for the new truck, lawful gambling funds held by the city will pay for the truck and any additional accessories. K. Kokesch reported on his MN Dept of Health inspection and things that need to be fixed for compliance. K. Kokesch will be attending the MRWA conference in March. Radermacher reported clear background checks for the new fire department hires. Radermacher reported a fraudulent check; a check that was mailed to a vendor was intercepted, altered and cashed. This was caught by the cashing bank in Wisconsin and was found to be fraudulent. Funds were replaced and council spoke to Radermacher about setting up auto payments or alternate payment methods when available to reduce the risk this happening again.

The fee schedule was brought up for discussion; the fire call fee was increased by the Rural Fire to \$1000 for the call. Also discussed was adding a fee for data requests; council would like to set the fee for data requests as the highest allowable by MN law. Approval was tabled and will be brought up again in March.

Dust Control discussion was tabled until March.

**At 6:42 P.M., Gruendemann motioned for adjournment, Seconded by R. Kokesch, RCV-4 Yes, 0 No.** The next regular meeting will be Wednesday March 11, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall.

Respectfully Submitted by  
Trista Radermacher, City Clerk/Treasurer