

City of Franklin Common Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
October 21, 2024

The regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Franklin, Indiana was called to order at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall, 70 E. Monroe Street, with Mayor Steve Barnett presiding. Council members Kenneth Austin, Todd Shuck, Anne McGuinness, Irene Nalley, and Josh Prine answered roll call. Clerk-Treasurer Jan Jones, and City Attorney Lynnette Gray were also present. Council members Jennifer Price and Shawn Taylor were absent. Maddie McCullough, Grace McCullough, Anna Brumley, and Levi Martin represented the Franklin Mayor's Youth Leadership Council (FMYLC).

Mayor Barnett opened the meeting and asked the Clerk-Treasurer to call the roll.

Bryan Ries offered an invocation, & led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Announcements & Public Comments

There were no Announcements or Public Comments

Consent Agenda

Mayor Barnett presented the consent agenda for approval.

- Approval of the October 7, 2024 Common Council Minutes

Council President Austin made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Councilor Nalley. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Old Business

Council President Austin made a motion to present Old Business by title only, seconded by Councilor Nalley. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Approval of 2025 Budget - Form 1s & Summary - Mayor Barnett reminded everyone this had been introduced Sept. 16th, opened for public hearing Oct. 7th, and a printed article ran in the Daily Journal. With no further discussion, Council President Austin made a motion to approve the 2025 Budget, seconded by Councilor Nalley. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

New Business

Council President Austin made a motion to present New Business by title only, seconded by Councilor McGuinness. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

ERA Declaratory Request for Modern Metal Roofing (Cornett) - Community Development Specialist Dana Monson informed Council that on Oct. 8th the Economic Development Commission (EDC) met and heard from Modern Metal Roofing (locally known as Cornett Roofing) and Mr. Cornett is present tonight. In addition to his property, his plans are to add 9,860 sq. ft. to his building and hire 6 new employees. Ms. Monson explained there is no Economic Revitalization Area (ERA) designation for the property and this request will allow that and scheduling of a public hearing on Nov. 4th. There were no questions for Mr. Cornett. President Austin made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-07, seconded by Councilor Nalley. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried. Attorney Gray stated tonight's approval only recommends the ERA, next will be the public hearing (Nov. 4th) and it will formally be adopted, and then the tax abatement can be considered.

ERA Declaratory Request for Innovative 3D Manufacturing - Community Development Specialist Dana Monson informed Council that on Oct. 8th the EDC met and heard from Innovative 3D Manufacturing was the second request and owner Chris Beck is here tonight. Mr. Beck started his company locally in 2017 and plans to expand to a new 30,000 sq. ft facility at Commerce Dr. and Linville Way and add ten new employees over the next five years. This property's ERA has expired so a new ERA must be issued. Ms. Monson explained this request will allow that and scheduling of a public hearing on Nov. 4th. Attorney Gray informed the public that in order to receive tax abatements, these properties must be determined as appropriate areas to revitalize. Council President Austin made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-13, seconded by Councilor McGuinness. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried. Attorney Gray stated tonight's approval only recommends the ERA, next will be the public hearing (Nov. 4th) and it will formally be adopted, and then the tax abatement can be considered.

Request approval of Resolution 2024-15 Increasing the Credit Card Limit for the Street Department and Mayor's Office Credit Cards - Clerk-Treasurer Jan Jones stated Street Department financially encompasses Fleet and between the two departments, only had a \$5,000.00 limit. The Mayor's limit was also at \$5,000.00. Currently, Parks Dept. and the Active Adult Center carry \$10,000 limits on their cards; all other departments are set at \$5,000.00. Councilor McGuinness made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-15, seconded by Councilor Nalley. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Request approval of Ordinance No. 2024-08 - Community Development Director Krista Linke introduced this ordinance which would appropriate funds for the Economic Development income tax. It was adopted by the County in 2022. A Capital Improvement Plan and a Spending Plan were done for 2023-2024, so the current one expires at the end of this year. To continue use of these funds we need to adopt this moving forward. The State requires that the plan be at least two years in length, which was the length filed the first time. This time the proposal is for a three-year plan. Ms. Linke reviewed the Economic Development Plan and proposed projects (available on the online agenda) and stated this is required by the State. Ordinance 2024-08 will go for public hearing on Nov. 4th.

Approval of Ordinance Number 24-09 An Ordinance Prohibiting Reckless Driving

Exhibitions – City Attorney Lynn Gray introduced this ordinance meant to be preemptive for driving incidents (as outlined) should they occur in our community. This will allow the City to fine individuals and tow vehicles involved in such incidents. Police Chief Kirby Cochran added this allows the Police Dept to get ahead of things and keep the community safe. This will go for public hearing and be voted on at the Nov. 4th meeting.

Other Business

City Council Appointment to Board of Zoning Appeals - Mayor Barnett explained this is a Council Appointment. Potential candidate Joe Gruss addressed the Council. Councilor McGuinness made a motion to approve Joe Gruss to Board of Zoning Appeals until Dec. 31, 2026, seconded by Councilor Prine. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

2025 City of Franklin Redevelopment Commission Annual Spending Plan - Community Development Director Krista Linke reviewed the document's financial information (available on the online agenda attachment). This is a new report required for the Redevelopment Commission to submit for the State Board of Accounts. Ms. Linke gave a brief update on future projects and their financing and took questions from the Council. There is no need for a vote; it is just for the Council's information.

Council Comments

FMYLC Representative Maddie McCullough said they raised \$857 from their pickleball fundraiser for lights at the pickleball courts. Mr. Gruss from Huston Electric is assisting with installation of the lights.

Councilor Shuck said he attended Porchtober these past two weekends and it was great. Also, Raising Spirits fundraiser is this Friday night and is almost sold out at 500 tickets.

Council President Austin said Porchtober has been a big hit; a lot of people and great bands.

Adjournment

As there was no further business to come before the Common Council, a motion and a second were made to adjourn at 6:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Jones, Clerk-Treasurer
Enrolled: 10/24/24

Steve Barnett, Mayor

Attest:

Jan Jones, Clerk-Treasurer