

**City of Franklin Common Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
February 19, 2025**

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, Anne McGuinness, Irene Nalley, Jennifer Price, Josh Prine and Shawn Taylor answered roll call. Clerk-Treasurer Jan Jones, and City Attorney Lynnette Gray were also present. Todd Shuck was absent.

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

Swearing in of firefighter Gavin Bane - Fire Chief Joshua Snyder called Gavin Bane forward for his swearing in.

Consent Agenda

Mayor Barnett presented the consent agenda for approval.

- Approval of the February 3, 2025 Common Council Minutes

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

Introduction of Amended Budgetary Ordinance 24-22 Salary Ordinance for 2025 - Clerk-Treasurer Jan Jones explained that this is to correct the position of Human Resource Generalist to an exempt position. Councilor Nalley made a motion to approve as presented, seconded by Councilor Price. 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 Taylor. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Request approval of City Council Resolution 2025-03 approving an application to the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs for the Owner-Occupied Rehab Grant - Community Development Director Krista Linke introduced our grant administrators, Tobi Herron and Whitney Koelling from ARa Resources. Ms. Gray noted that a Public Hearing is a requirement and asked if this served as the Public Hearing. Ms. Koelling said it did and opened the Public Hearing. Ms. Koelling provided an overview and explained the process, program

limitations, and resident eligibility (presentation available on the online agenda). Ms. Koelling stated the maximum award is \$350,000.00; Franklin Development Corporation has contributed the required \$35,000.00 in local matching funds. An online survey is available for public input and information was available for those present to take with them. The floor was opened for questions. Discussion ensued and the floor was closed. ARa was authorized to take transcribed minutes of the Public Hearing. Ms. Linke stated that the City had used this program to help thirteen homeowners from 2016-2018 through the Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority. Council President Austin made a motion to approve City Council Resolution 2025-03 approving an application to the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs for the Owner-Occupied Rehab Grant, seconded by Councilor Taylor. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Approval of Council Resolution 2025-02 Declaring an Official Intent to Reimburse Expenditures - City Attorney Lynn Gray stated this resolution is confirming that funds received from Sewer Bonds will only be used on sewer projects. Councilor Taylor made a motion to approve the Council Resolution 2025-02 Declaring an Official Intent to Reimburse Expenditures, seconded by Councilor Taylor. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Report of Designation of current Title VI Coordinator and appoint of ADA Coordinator to succeed Mark Richards - City Attorney Lynn Gray stated that City Engineer Mark Richards is currently our ADA Coordinator, and Senior Planner Joanna Tennell is our Title VI Coordinator. With Mr. Richards's retirement, Matt McElroy will assume ADA Coordinator, and Ms. Tennell will continue as Title VI Coordinator. Councilor Taylor motioned to approve as presented, seconded by Councilor Nalley. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Approval of Resolution approving Interlocal Agreement between City and FUN providing funds for purchase of equipment - City Attorney Lynn Gray said she and Township Trustee Lydia Wales had a conversation regarding township grant funds that were available for limited purposes, one of which was township Fire services. This authorizes the acceptance of money from the Township to pay for Fire Water Rescue Equipment as allowed. The Board of Works and the FUN Board have already approved this. Councilor McGuinness motioned to approve as presented, seconded by Councilor Taylor. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried. The Mayor thanked Lydia Wales for always working with the City.

Request approval and execution of Amendment #2 to the Interlocal Agreement with INDOT for the US 31 Corridor Project - Assistant City Engineer Matt McElroy informed that INDOT awarded this contract to Milestone Contractors. This amendment revises cost allocations to both the City and INDOT. The City's increase is \$62,650 for aesthetic improvements, changing the original cost from \$1,196,500.00 to \$1,259,125.00. INDOT's increase is approximately \$18.4 million dollars. This has been approved at the RDC and Board of Works. Mayor Barnett gave background on the project which started in 2017, but as things progressed, the plans and budget had to be reworked. Mayor Barnett shared that \$1,259,125.00 will come from our EDIT funds, and has already been figured into the budget with additional money from

the RDC. The City of Franklin's total is \$4,459,125.00, which includes multi-use paths for bikes and pedestrians along Highway 31. Construction should begin no earlier than March 31, 2025. Councilor McGuinness made a motion to approve as presented, seconded by Councilor Taylor. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Other Business

There was no Other Business.

Council Comments

Council President Ken Austin thanked the Street Department for all their efforts on snow removal.

Councilor Price wished City Attorney Lynn Gray a happy birthday.

Adjournment

As there was no further business to come before the Common Council, a motion and a second were made to adjourn at 6:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Jones, Clerk-Treasurer
Enrolled: 02/21/25

Steve Barnett, Mayor

Attest:

Jan Jones, Clerk-Treasurer