

FRANKLIN CITY COUNCIL
MARCH 18, 2019

Members of the Franklin City Council met in regular session on Monday, March 18, 2019, 6:00 p.m. at the Franklin City Building, Mayor Todd Hall presiding.

Roll call showed:

Denny Centers	present
Paul Ruppert	present
Brent Centers	present
Todd Hall	present
Michael Aldridge	present
Debbie Fouts	present
Matt Wilcher	present

There was one member of the press and no visitors at tonight's meeting. Also present: Cindy Ryan, Finance Director; Russ Whitman, Police Chief; Ross Coulton, Assistant Safety Director; Steve Inman, Public Works Director; Karisa Steedman, Assistant to City Manager; Barry Conway, City Engineer; Lynnette Dinkler, Law Director; Sonny Lewis, City Manager and Jane McGee, Clerk of Council.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chief Russ Whitman.

Mr. Aldridge made the motion to approve the Clerk's Journal and Accept the Tapes as the Official Minutes of the March 4, 2019 meeting; seconded by Mrs. Fouts. The vote:

Mr. Ruppert	yes
Mr. B. Centers	yes
Mayor Hall	yes
Mr. Aldridge	yes
Mrs. Fouts	yes
Mr. Wilcher	yes
Mr. D. Centers	yes

Motion passed.

RECEPTION OF VISITORS

There were no visitor comments tonight.

PRESENTATION: MAJOR STEVE ARRASMITH – WARREN COUNTY DRUG TASK FORCE

Major Arrasmith presented his 2018 Annual Report to Council (copy attached). He briefly noted the following:

- the Drug Task Force is a multi-jurisdictional unit operating in all of Warren County and the City of Wilmington
- part of HIDTA Initiative since 2004
- reports to the Policy Board, which consists of Warren County Sheriff, Warren and Clinton County Prosecutors, Clearcreek Township Police Department, Franklin Police Department, Hamilton Township Police Department, Lebanon Police Department, Loveland Police Department, Maineville Police Department, Mason Police Department, Monroe Police Department, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation, Springboro Police Department, Waynesville Police Department and the Wilmington Police Department
- current staff of 23 law enforcement and support personnel provided by several agencies

- funding from several sources: Ohio HIDTA program, the justice Assistance Grant, the Drug Law Enforcement Grant (DLE); annual contributions from Warren County Commissioners and most personnel is funded by their home agencies and contributions from local communities.
- drug trends shifted in 2018 from heroin and fentanyl to crystal methamphetamine
- 142% increase in methamphetamine seized by the Task force from 2017-2018
- during 2018, combined investigations & interdiction operations resulted in 768 criminal cases; Drug Task Force detectives conducted 482 of those cases utilizing various specialized techniques and common undercover tactics for drug enforcement; uniform interdiction staff produced 286 criminal cases and conducted 2,291 vehicle traffic stops, deployed drug detection k9's 209 times; resulting in 300 felony arrests & 159 misdemeanor arrests. During 2018, combined enforcement efforts resulted in 125 search warrants and the seizure of 85 firearms and zero meth labs in 2018
- many of the investigations are a direct result of drug tips received from the community
- crystal methamphetamine coming from the southwest border is everywhere and is cheap

Major Arrasmith thanked the City for their support and Chief Whitman and his department - we value our relationship with the City.

Mr. B. Centers asked if funding is decreased, what's the first thing that will be cut. Major Arrasmith stated that staffing will be the first thing decreased. We've had some concerns over the past several years and we've been just getting by. Last year, Mason contributed \$100,000 for the program.

Mayor Hall stated we appreciate all that you and your staff do. Also, Mayor Hall asked if there are any new drugs coming down the road. Major Arrasmith stated that there are a lot of synthetics and it's very scary what's coming into our country. Major Arrasmith added we still have a lot of methamphetamines that are coming from the southwest border, are everywhere and are cheap. He explained the effects of the drug

Mr. Aldridge asked about an update on the new jail. Major Arrasmith stated that they are working on it and it's moving ahead, probably will begin after the school year ends.

Mayor Hall thanked Major Arrasmith for coming tonight and for all that they do.

ORDINANCE 2019-01 PROVIDING APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES FOR THE CITY OF FRANKLIN, OHIO, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2019, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY (2019 ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE)

Mr. Lewis stated that this is the permanent budget for 2019 and noted that there is an approximate \$650,000+ increase in the permanent budget from the temporary budget passed on December 3, 2018. The total 2019 budget is \$30,270,505.00. Mr. Lewis referred to the handout on the podium (attached) and funds are in good shape. The first page is an overview of the cash reserve policy that was adopted in 2003. He noted we will need to review the Trash Collection Fund as the administrative fee has not been increased since 2008 (\$.10).

Mr. Lewis added that this has been reviewed by the Finance Council Committee. Total transfers are up 18% or \$696,201 from last year. Fire & EMS \$250,000 increase and Issue II increase of \$550,000. Recreation Fund will increase \$300,000. This is for the Land & Water Grant. We will pay the project cost up front and then receive one-half of the cost back, or \$150,000. The grant has not been awarded yet. The big project is the first phase of the traffic signal improvements; fiber will be on the poles and underground; phase 2, fiber will all be underground and phase 3 fiber will be underground and radio waves. Decorative poles can have a different base, but the grants don't pay for ornamental bases. Mr. Lewis continued and noted the following:

- Issue Two transfers increased as we are putting money aside for our share of the cost for OPWC & Issue II projects. We have to pay 100% of the cost up front and when the project is complete, 50% of the cost is returned. There are no projects this year, in 2020 we have North Old 25 and in 2021 we have Industrial Drive.
- Joint Recreation Fund – our normal transfer of \$150,000. Maintenance to the pool is budgeted at \$38,000, for fixing cracks and painting the pool.
- Parks & Recreation Fund - \$300,000 transfer for upfront costs of the grant project, and if we get it, we will be reimbursed 50% of the cost.
- Fire Department renovation is this year and we have received a grant from the State – will pay the costs upfront and then be reimbursed by the State
- \$25,000 for Council expenditures

Mr. D. Centers stated that the Finance Council Committee has reviewed the information and staff does a great job. Mr. D. Centers stated that he thinks large capital item expenditures, over \$100,000 should go to the Finance Council Committee for review, and knows the money has been appropriated. Mr. Lewis stated that this info was brought to you - is in the budget's capital plan and to let him know if you want it specifically brought back to you when it's to be on the Council agenda. Mr. Ruppert stated he also agrees with that the Finance Committee should review. Mr. Lewis added that it was brought to the Committee in the capital plan, which is included in the budget. We can't spend anything over \$25,000 without Council approval. If you want it brought back to the Committee, before it's on Council's agenda for approval, we can do. Mr. Aldridge stated he doesn't have a problem with it, everyone is good stewards, and we plan and include the items in the budget. Mayor Hall added that we have seen it and we now are acting on it. Mr. D. Centers again stated that he thinks the Finance Council Committee should review.

Mr. D. Centers made the motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-01; seconded by Mr. Aldridge. The vote:

- Mr. B. Centers yes
- Mayor Hall yes
- Mr. Aldridge yes
- Mrs. Fouts yes
- Mr. Wilcher yes
- Mr. D. Centers yes
- Mr. Ruppert yes

Motion passed.

RESOLUTION 2019-17 AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF A NEW SCHWARTZE A7 TORNADO STREET SWEEPER FOR THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT FROM SOUTHEASTERN EQUIPMENT THROUGH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM (STEVE INMAN)

Mr. Steve Inman, Public Works Director, stated that this is to authorize the purchase of a new street sweeper from Southeastern Equipment through the Ohio Department of Administrative Services Cooperative purchasing program. The total cost is \$240,324.48 and will be a lease/buy for a period of 5 years at \$51,885.48 per year. We've been having a lot of maintenance problems with the current street sweeper and this will help with the leaf pick-up program and EPA reports.

There were questions on the capacity of the new sweeper (larger capacity & faster than current sweeper); if we will trade-in the current machine (will sell on Gov Deals); if it should be kept for smaller jobs (don't think it should be kept, as maintenance costs on it are costly and it's down more than its used); if we have talked with other Cities (yes, have talked with other Cities); if all City roads are done (120 days to do entire City); cost of a Pelican (pretty comparable to this); and how many bids were received. (looked at and tried several, purchasing from the State and there is a dealer in Blue Ash).

Mr. Lewis explained that we are using the State bid through the Department of Administrative Services Cooperative Purchasing Program and the cost is comparable. Mr. Inman added that he feels this is the best one that meets our needs.

Discussion continued on going out to bid, have contacted other Cities, have tried the equipment and it's comparable.

Mr. Lewis stated that if Council wants three quotes, we will do that but don't think they will be comparable as there are just a couple of companies. Mr. B. Centers stated that the State bid isn't always the lowest and that he thinks we should get bids on the big equipment items. Mr. Inman added that on April 1st, the State Bid is increasing by \$13,000.00.

Mr. Aldridge made the motion to adopt Resolution 2019-17; seconded by Mrs. Fouts. The vote:

Mayor Hall	yes
Mr. Aldridge	yes
Mrs. Fouts	yes
Mr. Wilcher	yes
Mr. D. Centers	yes
Mr. Ruppert	yes
Mr. B. Centers	yes

Motion passed.

Mr. Inman stated that a Resolution to approve the purchase of a Combination Sewer Cleaner will be on the next agenda and asked if there's anything that Council wants to see as it will be purchased through the State Purchasing Program. Discussion continued on lease/purchasing and maintenance costs. Mr. Lewis explained why we do it this way, spread over 5 years and it does include maintenance costs.

RESOLUTION 2019-18 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE AMENDMENT TO THE FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDED AND RESTATED SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH VEOLIA WATER FOR THE OPERATION OF THE FRANKLIN AREA WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT (SONNY LEWIS)

Mr. Lewis stated that we passed two Resolutions in November 2018 and this one of them. There are a few changes to the agreement with Veolia as they wanted definitions and calculations included. All of the Cities are amending this agreement – the calculation didn't change, just the definitions.

Mr. Ruppert made the motion to adopt Resolution 2019-18; seconded by Mr. Wilcher. The vote:

Mr. Aldridge	yes
Mrs. Fouts	yes
Mr. Wilcher	yes
Mr. D. Centers	yes
Mr. Ruppert	yes
Mr. B. Centers	yes
Mayor Hall	yes

Motion passed.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW LEGISLATION

Mayor Hall introduced the following Ordinance and the Public Hearing will be held on April 1, 2018.

Ordinance 2019-02 Levying Assessments for Sidewalks, Curbs And Gutters for the Annual Sidewalk Repair Program, Phase 3

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Lewis had no report tonight.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mr. Wilcher had no comments tonight.

Mr. D. Centers stated he had no comments – ‘Go Duke’.

Mrs. Fouts stated she had no comments tonight.

Mr. Ruppert stated he had no comments tonight.

Mr. Aldridge stated that he's been attending the Forever Franklin meetings and that they need help and money. Mr. B. Centers asked if we need an update from them. Mr. Aldridge stated it wouldn't hurt, they need direction and members. Mr. Aldridge added that he'd like for them to come up with a specific project – they've been more event focused. Mrs. Fouts added property owners also need involved. Mr. Aldridge added they've spent a lot of time getting organized and are in a tough spot at this time. Amy Johnson is President for one more month and then a new President will be selected. Mayor Hall stated let's wait until the new President takes office. Mr. Lewis added that they are struggling with ideas and getting people to help. Mr. Aldridge added he wants them to succeed, they've had some good ideas, talked about a food rally, and think they know the City supports them. Again, Mayor Hall stated we need to wait until the new President takes office and then we'll talk with them. Discussion continued on what they should do, ideas, need direction from the City, etc.

Mr. Lewis stated he meets with Mrs. Johnson once a month and he'll continue to meet with the new President. They know the City supports them. We should support and help them – they should do the work – and we do support them. Mrs. Fouts added it's tough with the downtown businesses not supporting them and it's for the businesses and the property owners and we do support them. Mr. Lewis stated he thinks they feel supported by Council as Debby, Brent and Mike do attend the meetings. Mr. Aldridge added they need people for their committees. Mrs. Dinkler added that Walmart has community grants available and there may also be other grants available. Mrs. Fouts added that Kohl's also has a grant. Mr. Aldridge added our businesses get contacted all the time for donations. Mr. Ruppert stated that the Methodist Church is considering putting a free clinic downtown in the Meeker building.

Mayor Hall stated it's been exciting to see how far the girls' basketball went in the playoffs, as well as Waynesville and Dayton Carroll.

Mr. Aldridge made the motion to adjourn; seconded by Mr. D. Centers. The vote:

Mr. Wilcher yes
Mr. D. Centers yes
Mr. Ruppert yes
Mr. B. Centers yes
Mayor Hall yes
Mr. Aldridge yes
Mrs. Fouts yes

Motion passed.

Mayor Hall adjourned the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Todd Hall, Mayor