

**FRANKLIN CITY COUNCIL
JULY 21, 2014**

Members of the Franklin City Council met in regular session on Monday, July 21, 2014, 6:00 p.m. at the Franklin City Building, Mayor Denny Centers presiding.

Roll call showed:

Scott Lipps	present
Matt Wilcher	present
Jason Faulkner	present
Denny Centers	present
Carl Bray	present
Michel Aldridge	absent
Todd Hall	present

There were 4 visitors and no members of the press at tonight's meeting. Also present: Mr. Russ Whitman, Police Chief; Mr. Jonathan Westendorf, Fire Chief; Ms. Donnette Fisher, Law Director; Mr. Sonny Lewis, City Manager and Mrs. Jane McGee, Clerk of Council.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chief Whitman.

Mr. Hall made the motion to approve the Clerk's Journal and accept the tapes as the Official Minutes of the July 7, 2014 regular meeting; seconded by Mr. Faulkner. The vote:

Mr. Wilcher	abstain
Mr. Faulkner	yes
Mr. Centers	yes
Mr. Bray	abstain
Mr. Aldridge	absent
Mr. Hall	yes
Mr. Lipps	abstain

Motion passed.

RECEPTION OF VISITORS

There were no visitor comments.

LIQUOR PERMIT APPLICATION FOR CHANGE OF CORPORATE STOCK OWNERSHIP FOR D5 AND D6 PERMITS FOR SAMAAN VENTURES, INC. D/B/A J.D. LEGENDS

Chief Whitman stated that this is a change of corporate stock ownership from Wasfi Samaan, Charles Samaan and Ala Samaan to Wasfi Samaan and Charles Samaan. There are no violations or issues with the permit. There being no motion made requesting a hearing, this will be returned that the City does not request a hearing.

RESOLUTION 2014-23 RESOLUTION OF INTENT TO APPROPRIATE RIGHT-OF-WAY AND A TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION EASEMENT FROM WALGREEN CO.

Ms. Fisher stated that a formal offer was made to Walgreen Co. on June 5, 2014 to purchase the needed right-of-way and temporary construction easement for the E. Second Street widening project. The appraiser's report was received on June 3, 2014. The appraiser recommended \$14,157 for both the right-of-way and temporary construction easement. Ms. Fisher added that she has been in contact with

Walgreens and that they indicated they were going to accept the offer. They were told that paperwork was needed by last Thursday, July 17, 2014 – have not received any paperwork or had any contact from them. At the August 4th meeting, there will be emergency legislation for petition to do a quick take. At the August 19th meeting, there will be legislation to award the project.

Mayor Centers asked what is the problem. Ms. Fisher stated the only thing that they can question is the money amount – don't know what's going on. They did state that their concern is the SR 73 entrance and losing 17 parking places.

Mr. Bray stated he heard they were closing the store.

Mr. Lewis stated he talked to the Manager at Walgreens and they are not aware of closing and he wants to be part of the community.

Mr. Faulkner made the motion to adopt Resolution 2014-23; seconded by Mr. Hall. The vote:

Mr. Faulkner	yes
Mr. Centers	yes
Mr. Bray	yes
Mr. Aldridge	absent
Mr. Hall	yes
Mr. Lipps	yes
Mr. Wilcher	yes

Motion passed.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW LEGISLATION

Mayor Centers introduced the following: Ordinance 2014-08 Levying Assessments for the Improvement of City Streets and Public Ways by the Lighting Thereof for the Year 2015. Public hearing will be held at the August 4, 2014 meeting.

WORK SESSION

Ramesh Malhotra - Museum of Spiritual Art

Mr. Ramesh Malhotra addressed Council on his Museum of Spiritual Art. He introduced Donna Tudor, property manager. Mr. Malhotra stated he is investing in the community and is trying to do more things in Franklin. He is in the process of putting a Museum of Spiritual Art in the old "We Two Building". The artist is Jack Marshall; he explained how the paintings have come about and that he has hired Mr. Marshall to do the paintings. He stated he has investments in the surrounding area; started in Mason; decided to fix up the We Two Building for the museum and has done a lot inside to fix it up. It will be non-profit; paintings will be shown by appointment; have had lots of response on Facebook; want to make it a destination place; will be available to anyone of any religion who wants to come; available for schools; and also buying pictures from around the world to put in the museum. He is asking the City to keep the area maintain. This is a spiritual center for any religion to come and see.

Mayor Centers asked if there will be a person there every day. Mr. Malhotra stated yes, will be open by appointments for now; will have an open house, waiting on permits, etc. and as demands grow will be open every day.

Mr. Lipps asked how many pictures does he have and are they for sale. Mr. Malhotra stated that 35-40 paintings are done now; hope to have new ones every couple of months; and originals are not for sale, but can buy a copy of the painting.

Mr. Wilcher asked if there will be occupancy issues. Mr. Lewis stated he thinks occupancy is at 49, but will have to check. Mr. Malhotra stated that should be no problem.

Mr. Lipps asked what else he is doing to the building. Mr. Malhotra stated he may do a fence, fixing up the outside, and also the pillars.

Mayor Centers asked if it fits zoning. Mr. Lewis stated he will have to check – not sure. Mrs. Fisher stated it is a condition use and needs to go to Planning Commission. Ms. Tudor added that she has talked to Mr. Conway about the permit needed.

Mr. Malhotra added that he wants to follow the laws – wants to maintain the building inside & out. He also invited Council to come and see the building/paintings.

Mr. Bray stated it is sad that the other businesses didn't survive there – it is a beautiful building. Mr. Malhotra stated this will put Franklin on the map – restaurants, shops, etc. to follow.

Mayor Centers stated that this will have to go to Planning Commission and if it is approved, when does he plan on opening. Mr. Malhotra stated he hopes by the end of August – first of September to open.

Mr. Bray asked if there is any untasteful art included. Mr. Malhotra stated no, explained the pictures he has are all tied to faith – all different faiths for the different religions.

Mayor Centers stated he agrees with him – he likes the concept, will be destination location for the City. You asked about security and the City is moving forward with security downtown.

Mr. Malhotra stated that he is not asking for any money.

Mayor Centers stated the next step is to go to Planning Commission.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Lewis reported on the following:

- Received plans for an 80,000 sq. ft. expansion at the old Ample Plant, now Huhtamaki Inc.
- Approved the parking lot for Faurecia, added 70 employees in May and plans to add more

LAW DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Fisher had no report tonight.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mr. Hall stated that at the corner of Moore/Second Street, there is a bush that needs trimmed as you can't see traffic coming.

Mr. Bray stated the house with trash (on SR 123, Township) – the trash is gone and the intersection is looking better.

Mr. Lipps stated that the property on Miami Avenue (previously talked about), scaffolding has been moved – but is still up, need to check.

Mr. Wilcher thanked everyone for coming tonight; and best of luck to Mr. Malhotra.

Mr. Faulkner asked who did the entrance to Harpland (at Deardoff Road) as it looks good – City did the mulch and a couple of residents did the plants.

Mayor Centers asked if the SR 123/I-75 interchange is done (Mr. Lewis stated found some drainage issues, grass is growing, replanted plants, etc.); any update on the Marsh building (Mr. Lewis stated he talked to their headquarters, no plans yet); downtown this morning and it was spotless, very clean; and asked when are we going to get together with the two who helped the police officers (Mr. Lewis stated he will talk with the Chief and get back to him on this).

Mr. Faulkner made the motion to adjourn; seconded by Mr. Bray. The vote:

Mr. Centers	yes
Mr. Bray	yes
Mr. Aldridge	absent
Mr. Hall	yes
Mr. Lipps	yes
Mr. Wilcher	yes
Mr. Faulkner	yes

Motion passed.

Mayor Centers adjourned the meeting at 6:50 p.m.

Mayor

Clerk of Council