

**FRANKLIN CITY COUNCIL
MAY 7, 2012**

Members of the Franklin City Council met in regular session on Monday, May 7, 2012, 6:00 p.m. at the Franklin Municipal Building, Mayor Scott Lipps presiding.

Roll call showed:

Denny Centers	Present
Matt Wilcher	Present
Jason Faulkner	Present
Scott Lipps	Present
Carl Bray	Absent
Michael Aldridge	Present
Todd Hall	Present

There was one member of the press and six visitors at tonight's meeting. Also present: Mr. Russ Whitman, Police Chief; Mr. Jonathan Westendorf, Fire Chief; Mr. Ross Coulton, Police Captain; Mr. Sonny Lewis, Public Works Director and Mrs. Jane McGee, Clerk of Council.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mrs. Jane McGee.

Mr. Faulkner made the motion to approve the Clerk's Journal and accept the tapes as the official minutes of the April 16, 2012 regular meeting; seconded by Mr. Aldridge. The vote:

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

Motion passed.

RECEPTION OF VISITORS

Mr. Johnny Lamb requested October 6, 2012 for the 'Thunder on the River' event. Last year \$2,000 was raised for the food pantry. He stated they appreciate what Council has done for them the last three years.

Mayor Lipps stated that the City supports the event, confirmed the October 6th date and that this will be forwarded to the Finance Committee.

Mr. Centers asked what he needs this year & if there are any changes. Mr. Lamb stated basically the same as last year.

Mr. Aldridge asked if they were going to have a beer garden again. Mr. Lamb said he didn't know yet.

Mr. Centers stated that last year it didn't raise any revenue as it was cold and didn't get advertised correctly.

There was some discussion on the October date – maybe it should be held earlier in the year.

Mr. Lamb added that they have been asked to combine the bike show with the car show – some of the members don't like the idea of the bike show being on River Street - maybe next year we can work it out.

Mayor Lipps noted the weather has been bad the last three years the bike show has been held.

RESOLUTION 2012-26 DECLARING NECESSITY OF IMPROVING CITY STREETS AND PUBLIC WAYS BY THE LIGHTING THEREOF FOR THE YEAR 2013

Mr. Lewis stated that this is part of the street lighting process that we do every year. The City pays 2% of the cost and 98% of the cost is assessed to the residents. This is the first of several steps in the assessment process.

Mr. Hall made the motion to adopt Resolution 2012-26; seconded by Mr. Faulkner. The vote:

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

Motion passed.

RESOLUTION 2012-27 REPEALING RESOLUTION 2012-25 IN ITS ENTIRETY

Mr. Lewis stated that the next two Resolutions go together. Resolution 2012-27 repeals Resolution 2012-25, passed at the last meeting, putting a 3.5 mill levy on the ballot for EMS services. This Resolution placed the tax on the 2013 tax duplicate for collection in 2014. We asked for clarification from the County Auditor & County Prosecutor on when we could collect taxes for our levy. They have advised that the tax should be placed on the 2012 tax duplicate for collection in 2013. This will provide tax monies sooner and we should use less money from the General Fund. In order to do this and for it to be cleaner & easier to understand, we have to repeal Resolution 2012-25 and then adopt Resolution 2012-28.

Mr. Faulkner asked if there is an answer on the division of assets. Mr. Lewis stated yes, we have a letter with clarification from the both the Auditor & Prosecutor offices, saying we will get our percentage of the money and equipment.

Mr. Faulkner made the motion to adopt Resolution 2012-27; seconded by Mr. Wilcher. The vote:

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

Motion passed.

RESOLUTION 2012-28 DETERMINING TO PROCEED WITH THE LEVY OF A PROPERTY TAX IN EXCESS OF THE TEN MILL LIMITATION FOR FIRE AND EMS PURPOSES AND TO SUBMIT THE QUESTION OF THE TAX TO THE ELECTORS AT THE AUGUST 7, 2012 SPECIAL ELECTION

Mr. Lewis stated this is as explained previously – changes the ballot language to read that the tax is placed on the 2012 tax duplication for collection in 2013.

Mr. Faulkner made the motion to adopt Resolution 2012-28; seconded by Mr. Hall. The vote:

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

Motion passed.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Lewis reported that the following is in your Council packet:

- The Warren County Health Department News & Information newsletter
- Ms. Morgan's 2012 collections update

LAW DIRECTOR'S REPORT

None tonight as Ms. Fisher is on vacation.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mr. Aldridge had no comments tonight.

Mr. Hall stated he received a citizen complaint about 20 John Street, NIC needs to check.

Mr. Wilcher thanked Ms. Reed & all involved, for the lunch last Friday held at the Fire Department.

Mr. Centers had no comments tonight.

Mr. Faulkner thanked everyone for coming tonight; thanked Council & staff for attending the lunch with the 5th graders last Friday; and Governor Kasich will be in town at VRI tomorrow.

Mayor Lipps stated this is the last year we will be working with Congressman Mike Turner & he has done a good job in representing Franklin. He is being replaced with Congressman Steve Chabot, have asked him to visit the City and he has accepted. We hope to meet with Senator Jones tomorrow on receiving demolition assistance money. Mayor Lipps stated he had contact with a Township representative who is upset with Chief Riddiough and his comments. Chief Riddiough was misquoted, and he was uncomfortable with the situation and some of the information. Mayor Lipps added he has talked with Mr. Lewis & Mr. Faulkner about the comments and what was said about the City of Franklin and Chief Riddiough. Mayor Lipps stated what we are doing is allowing our citizens to make an educated decision on how they want their EMS service delivered – things included are quality of equipment & service, response time, dispatch time, utilization of employee skills and control of the services for the citizens of Franklin.

Mr. Centers stated he has been asked by a citizen that all facts are presented in the newspaper.

Mr. Lipps stated that the Middletown Journal is working on an article now; the Fire Department is working on the educational part; a fund raiser is going to be needed for costs for our levy; and his issue now is that a female (Trustee) in the Township is spreading vicious and vile gossip and lies. I want to make sure everyone understands we are educating our citizens to allow them to make an educated decision.

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

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

Motion passed.

Mayor Lipps adjourned the meeting at 6:22 p.m.

Vice Mayor

Clerk of Council