

**FRANKLIN CITY COUNCIL  
AUGUST 5, 2013**

Members of the Franklin City Council met in regular session on Monday, August 5, 2013, 6:00 p.m. at the Franklin City Building, Mayor Scott Lipps presiding.

Roll call showed:

|                  |         |
|------------------|---------|
| Denny Centers    | absent  |
| Matt Wilcher     | present |
| Jason Faulkner   | present |
| Scott Lipps      | present |
| Carl Bray        | present |
| Michael Aldridge | present |
| Todd Hall        | present |

There was one member of the press and 14 visitors present at tonight's meeting. Also present: Mr. Jonathan Westendorf, Fire Chief; Mr. Ross Coulton, Assistant Safety Director; Ms. Sandra Morgan, Finance Director; Ms. Donnette Fisher, Law Director; Mr. Russ Whitman, Police Chief; Dr. Mark Gebhart, EMS Medical Director; Mr. Sonny Lewis, City Manager and Mrs. Jane McGee, Clerk of Council.

The Pledge of Allegiance was lead by Mr. Aaron Reed.

Mr. Faulkner made the motion to approve the Clerk's Journal and accept the tapes as the official minutes of the July 15, 2013 regular meeting; seconded by Mr. Bray. The vote:

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

Motion passed.

**PRESENTATION - WARREN COUNTY UNITED WAY ANNUAL REPORT - AARON REID, DIRECTOR**

Mr. Aaron Reid, Executive Director of United Way, passed out information to Council and shared with Council the work they do and the impact they have in the City. He noted the following:

- United Way of Warren County is managed & governed locally by people who live and work in Warren County
- Provides funding & support to local nonprofit programs organizations; currently fund 53 programs through 28 different nonprofit agencies in Warren County
- Approximately 20% of the money goes to Franklin; 30,000 different services and \$200,000+ funding to residents of Franklin
- Rely on private donations; can donate thru workplace campaigns where employees can give through payroll deduction; \$11,000+ raised from Franklin last year
- Committed to this area

Mr. Reid stated he appreciated the opportunity to be here tonight and thanked the Mayor for his help.

Mayor Lipps stated he is participating in the Warren County Leadership Program this year where he has gotten to know Mr. Reid. We are working on a personal project, Interfaith Hospitality Network for the Homeless as we found there is a need for the homeless in Warren County – only one & half homeless shelters are in the County. Mayor Lipps stated that through this, he has found how good & passionate he is and asked how many staff members he has. Mr. Reid stated he has 3 full-time and 2 part-time employees – very lean and get a lot done.

Mr. Faulkner asked what is their overhead and budget. Mr. Reid stated 27% overhead and feels can do better, and a budget of \$1.8. We have maintained the budget over the last several years.

Mayor Lipps & Council thanked him for coming.

#### PRESENTATION - FIRE & EMS DIVISION SIX-MONTH REPORT - CHIEF WESTENDORF AND DR. GEBHART

Chief Westendorf stated this is an update on Fire & EMS services for the last six months. He introduced Dr. Mark Gebhart, Medical Director.

Dr. Gebhart thanked Council for the opportunity to be here tonight. He stated that the Fire & EMS Division has delivered a high level of care in such a short time and that he is amazed. They take care of some of the sickest in the area – doing a great job.

Chief Westendorf handed out the report to Council (attached). He noted the following from the report:

- Fire/EMS Stats – calls as of the end of June: fire runs 369; 967 EMS
- Patient Disposition by Month – encounters, transport, aeromedical, dead on scene, unfounded, refusals
- EMS Response Time by Month & EMS Calls by Time of Day – average 4 minute response time
- Patient Age by Month
- EMS Hospital Destinations – policy is to go to the hospital of the patient’s choice within reason
- Financial Summary – just received Medicare/Medicaid number in April; received \$100,000+ to date; don’t know how the Affordable Act is going to affect revenues
- Patient Breakdown –transport data, level of care services provided
- Nature of Calls – Fire contains info for the last 5 years; EMS contains info for the last 6 months
- Significant Incidents – Street sweeper & semi collide; structure fire & injuries; cardiac arrest, first successful resuscitation; ethanol spill, no injuries; Ohio State Patrol trooper struck, with injuries;
- Changing Roles – addition of EMS personnel, response & procedures to fire services
- Received - Assistance to Firefighters Grant of \$42,750 & Ohio Emergency Medical Services Grant of \$3,250

Chief Westendorf stated the entire department has worked hard; everyone is enthusiastic; residents are receiving faster level of care; he’s proud of everyone and thanked Council and the Community for their support.

Mr. Faulkner noted that JEMS response time is 6 minutes compared to our 4 minutes. He also thanked Dr. Gebhart for his leadership and help; thanked staff and this is fantastic.

Mayor Lipps stated that we started working on this 10 years ago; makes us proud and thanks for all your efforts.

Mr. Hall stated he has called for ems; did a great job and are doing a great job.

Mr. Wilcher stated six months later – doing a fantastic job – and asked to give them a standing ovation.

Mayor Lipps and Council thanked everyone for coming and for the report.

## RECEPTION OF VISITORS

David Baker, 176 Charles Court, stated Mr. Lewis took care of part of the problem, parking on Charles Court, and that he is going to take care of the Court – mowing it.

Mr. Faulkner asked about the planting of trees – we don't want something else to take care of. Mr. Baker stated there has been parking problems, that has been taken care of but the area hasn't been taken care of. Instead of arguing and waiting for the City to do – he's going to do it.

Mr. Rick Nunamaker, East Street, stated there is a pothole that needs fixed on his street and also stated that the Police & Fire Departments do a good job.

## PUBLIC HEARING ORDINANCE 2013-15 AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 550 SOUTH MAIN STREET FROM DONNIE HALE

Mr. Lewis stated that this has been discussed with the Finance Committee and that they also looked at this property and the area.

We have been approached by Donnie Hale to purchase the property at the corner of 6<sup>th</sup> & Main Street for \$45,000.00. The back part of the building is leased to Landmark Kitchen & Bath. He is working with Turners Clip Joint to open the barber shop in the front of the building. Mr. Hale's agreement with Turners is for them to prepare the inside and he is to install windows. Our obligation will be to install the windows or reimburse Mr. Hale for them if he has installed them (approximately \$3,000). Mr. Hale wants to continue renting out the back space. The Finance Committee voted 2-1 to purchase the building. The Turner's haven't done anything the last 4-6 weeks to the building and don't know what their intentions are.

Mr. Lewis stated his recommendation is to buy the building with the intent to honor the agreement - \$325 month to lease to Turners Clip Joint/ \$325 month to lease to Landmark Kitchen & Bath.

Mr. Faulkner stated this was talked about at length at the Finance Committee meeting, how it's related to downtown as a whole, and feel we should take advantage of purchasing properties downtown. This is a good opportunity - with tenants already.

Mr. Wilcher stated he feels this is worth doing – as we will have at least one tenant.

Mr. Bray stated he was the no vote in the Finance Committee. He is for buying buildings downtown; need a purpose for the building; this building is in decent shape but questioned the Turners leasing the building as there is a problem as they were promised some Downtown Improvement monies, we have no monies and they have stopped renovations. We walked downtown – there are 3 buildings vacant, Lake's Jewelry (215 S. Main Street), Carlos Robison's building (435 S. Main Street) and this one. Don't want to get into the landlord business, want to bring in jobs. If we are going to purchase a building & be in the landlord business, Carlos' building is a better choice. This building (550 South Main Street) is landlocked now; we didn't buy Scotty's when we had the chance; just saw today that the old Debo's building is for sale, which is a better choice; and that he doesn't think, buying this building, is a wise choice for our money.

Mr. Hall stated we've been talking about doing something downtown for a long time. This building has 2 murals, had a chance to buy Scotty's and we didn't; this building is on the corner and then we can control the corner. We can start buying all the way down Main Street. We've had chances to buy properties in

the past – we didn't and that was a mistake. For example, had the opportunity to buy the Par Three Golf course property to use for park space, we didn't do it and now we are out of park space. We will control the corner and have some money coming in; buy it and start buying properties on 6<sup>th</sup> St. towards Riley Boulevard; and we partnered with Speedway in the past, can do it again. We haven't done anything downtown.

Mayor Lipps stated the biggest thing is we haven't bought any property – need to start.

Mr. Aldridge stated he agrees, the property is landlocked – but other properties might be available in the future – we will be sorry if we don't buy it.

Mr. Wilcher stated we have to buy land as it becomes available – we can do now - have to get it as it becomes available.

Mr. Faulkner stated we talked about the Downtown Improvement Program and at the second meeting to discuss the program, we concluded we had invested money in the past and have little to show for it. There is no recommendation from the Finance Committee – but Council can revisit it.

Mr. Bray added we felt we should take the money and buy property.

Mr. Aldridge added it gives us more leverage and incentive.

Mr. Lewis stated this won't be the last building we bring to Council to purchase. We are working on a vision and will be bringing it to you. It will include demolition, with old and new downtown. If we don't do it – it won't get done – need to go forward. We are looking at 7<sup>th</sup> Street to 1<sup>st</sup> Street.

Mayor Lipps opened the Public Hearing and asked for any public comments.

Mr. John Lamb stated that 4<sup>th</sup> Street is the hub – 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> Streets need upgraded – work from the middle and go out.

Mayor Lipps closed the Public Hearing and asked for any Council comments. There were none.

Mr. Faulkner made the motion to adopt Ordinance 2013-15; seconded by Mr. Wilcher. The vote:

|              |        |
|--------------|--------|
| Mr. Wilcher  | yes    |
| Mr. Faulkner | yes    |
| Mr. Lipps    | yes    |
| Mr. Bray     | no     |
| Mr. Aldridge | yes    |
| Mr. Hall     | yes    |
| Mr. Centers  | absent |

Motion passed.

**PUBLIC HEARING    ORDINANCE 2013-16    LEVYING ASSESSMENTS FOR THE  
IMPROVEMENT OF CITY STREETS AND PUBLIC WAYS BY THE LIGHTING THEREOF FOR  
THE YEAR 2014**

Mr. Lewis stated that this is the last piece of legislation that Council has to do to provide street lights for 2014.

Mayor Lipps opened the public hearing and asked for any public comments. There being none, he closed the public hearing and asked for any Council comments. There were none.

Mr. Hall made the motion to adopt Ordinance 2013-16; seconded by Mr. Bray. The vote:

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

Motion passed.

#### RESOLUTION 2013-36 AWARDING THE BID AND AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF DE-ICING SALT FROM NORTH AMERICAN SALT COMPANY THROUGH THE SWOP4G PROGRAM

Mr. Lewis stated bids were opened July 23, 2013 thru the SWOP4G program. The low bid is North American Salt at \$49.85 per ton. Last year's bid was \$64.73 per ton from North American Salt.

Mr. Hall made the motion to adopt Resolution 2013-36; seconded by Mr. Aldridge. The vote:

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

Motion passed.

#### CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Lewis reported on the following:

- At the next Planning Commission meeting, they will be considering an 11,000 sq. ft expansion by F&G Multi-Slide; they have added 5 new employees and with this addition, hope to hire 5-10 additional new employees
- Planning Commission also will be considering a highway sign for A&S Play Zone

#### LAW DIRECTOR'S REPORT

No report tonight.

#### COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mr. Hall thanked everyone for coming tonight; remember to vote tomorrow on the School levy; and schools are getting ready to start so watch out for the kids.

Mr. Aldridge thanked everyone for coming tonight; his wife was to be here tonight, couldn't make it, want to make everyone aware of a September event – Franklin Wildcat Scholarship Event on 9/11/13, is a fundraiser, \$50.00 ticket, & to let him know if interested in attending.

Mr. Bray stated he attended an event for University of Kentucky, good event; this and the Scholarship event could really take off and get the community involved. Also, he asked if there is an update on the traffic signals (Mr. Lewis will check); and the left turn lane is a big help.

Mr. Faulkner thanked Chief Westendorf on the presentation; asked if there is any affect on the Dispatchers with the addition of ems (there are busy times); and even if we had the Downtown Improvement Program, the Turners wouldn't have been eligible as they had already started work and spent money.

Mr. Wilcher thanked everyone for coming tonight; remember the Car Show this weekend; 9/7/13 is the Drug Awareness march; and had a meeting with Chief Whitman about downtown – drugs are a problem and we are working on it.

Mr. Faulkner added that Mr. Lamb was at the Finance Committee meeting tonight, and it will be recommended to approve \$1,500 for 'Thunder on the River' and it will be on the next Council agenda.

Mayor Lipps asked for an update on the Scout Hut (will be painted in the fall); Congressman Chabot will be in Lebanon on Wednesday morning; The Wilson's Building is available, what happened with the proposed racing team that was going to buy it (Mr. Greathouse stated they had no money to purchase it).

Mr. Bray noted that the house across the river is painted on one side.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PENDING/THREATENED LITIGATION AND COLLECTIVE BARGAINING MATTERS

Mr. Bray made the motion to enter into executive session to discuss pending/threatened litigation and collective bargaining matters, with no action afterwards; seconded by Mr. Aldridge. The vote:

|              |        |
|--------------|--------|
| Mr. Bray     | yes    |
| Mr. Aldridge | yes    |
| Mr. Hall     | no     |
| Mr. Centers  | absent |
| Mr. Wilcher  | yes    |
| Mr. Faulkner | yes    |
| Mr. Lipps    | no     |

Motion passed.

Mayor Lipps and members of Council entered into executive session to discuss pending/threatened litigation and collective bargaining matters with no action afterwards, at 7:25 p.m.

Mayor Lipps & Council exited from executive session. Mayor Lipps then reconvened and adjourned the meeting.

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Mayor

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Clerk of Council