

**FRANKLIN CITY COUNCIL  
JANUARY 4, 2016**

Judge Rupert E. Ruppert administered the Oath of Office to the newly elected Council Members Todd Hall, Brent Centers, Paul Ruppert and Debbie Fouts.

Members of the Franklin City Council met in regular session on Monday, January 4, 2016, 6:05 p.m. at the Franklin City Building, Mayor Denny Centers presiding.

Roll call showed:

Brent Centers	present
Carl Bray	present
Paul Ruppert	present
Denny Centers	present
Michael Aldridge	present
Debbie Fouts	present
Todd Hall	present

Mayor Centers thanked the previous Council members for their service and contributions.

There were two members of the press and 46 visitors at tonight's meeting. Also present: Mr. Jonathan Westendorf, Fire Chief; Mr. Russ Whitman, Police Chief; Mr. Russ Coulton, Assistant Safety Director; Mr. Steve Inman, Public Works Director; Ms. Karen Ervin, Finance Director; Ms. Donnette Fisher, Law Director; Mr. Sonny Lewis, City Manager and Mrs. Jane McGee, Clerk of Council.

**RESOLUTION 2016-01 APPOINTING A MEMBER OF COUNCIL AS MAYOR FOR THE YEAR 2016**

Mayor Centers asked for nominations for Mayor.

Mr. Bray nominated Denny Centers for Mayor. Mr. Ruppert seconded the nomination.

There being no further nominations, Mayor Centers closed the nominations.

The vote on Resolution 2016-1, appointing Denny Centers as Mayor:

Mr. Bray	yes
Mr. Ruppert	yes
Mr. D. Centers	abstain
Mr. Aldridge	yes
Mrs. Fouts	yes
Mr. Hall	yes
Mr. B. Centers	yes

Motion passed. Mr. Centers will serve as Mayor for 2016.

**RESOLUTION 2016-02 APPOINTING A MEMBER OF COUNCIL AS VICE-MAYOR FOR THE YEAR 2016**

Mayor Centers asked for nominations for Vice Mayor

Mr. Aldridge nominated Carl Bray for Vice Mayor. Mr. Ruppert seconded the nomination.

There being no further nominations, Mayor Centers closed the nominations.

The vote on Resolution 2016-2, appointing Carl Bray as Vice Mayor:

Mr. Ruppert	yes
Mr. D. Centers	yes
Mr. Aldridge	yes
Mrs. Fouts	yes
Mr. Hall	yes
Mr. B. Centers	yes
Mr. Bray	abstain

Motion passed.

#### RESOLUTION 2016-03 APPOINTING COUNCIL MEMBERS TO THE COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR 2016

The following Committees of Council are appointed for 2016.

##### FINANCE

Carl Bray, Chair  
Michael Aldridge  
Paul Ruppert

##### SAFETY

Paul Ruppert, Chair  
Brent Centers  
Todd Hall

##### PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES

Todd Hall, Chair  
Denny Centers  
Carl Bray

##### GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS/FACILITY NEEDS

Debbie Fouts, Chair  
Carl Bray  
Brent Centers

##### PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Brent Centers, Chair  
Paul Ruppert  
Denny Centers

##### PARKS & RECREATION

Michael Aldridge, Chair  
Todd Hall  
Debbie Fouts

##### ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

Denny Centers, Chair  
Debbie Fouts  
Michael Aldridge

Mr. Hall made the motion to adopt Resolution 2016-03; seconded by Mr. Bray. The vote:

Mr. D. Centers yes  
Mr. Aldridge yes  
Mrs. Fouts yes  
Mr. Hall yes  
Mr. B. Centers yes  
Mr. Bray yes  
Mr. Ruppert yes

Motion passed.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Wilbur DePew.

#### APPROVE THE CLERK'S JOURNAL AND ACCEPT THE TAPES AS THE OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 7, 2015 REGULAR MEETING

Mr. Bray made the motion to adopt the December 7, 2015 with the amendment that "Mr. Lipps left the meeting before Council entered into the executive session"; seconded by Mr. Aldridge. The vote:

Mr. Aldridge yes  
Mrs. Fouts abstain  
Mr. Hall yes  
Mr. B. Centers abstain  
Mr. Bray yes  
Mr. Ruppert abstain  
Mr. D. Centers yes

Motion passed.

#### PRESENTATION: STEVE MUTERSPAW – CANDIDATE FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE FOR DISTRICT 62

Mr. Muterspaw introduced himself to Council and stated he is a candidate for State Representative for District 62. He handed out information to Council. He presented some background information on himself - been in financing, education and his goal is to help families succeed. He thanked Council for letting him be on tonight's agenda, want to be involved and hear from Council. He also congratulated the newly elected Council members. He added he will be available after the meeting for any questions.

#### RECEPTION OF VISITORS

Tony Stickleman, 404 Virginia Avenue, and several other residents from the neighborhood, addressed Council about the activities going on at Highridge Drive. There is a bad problem, was a drive by shooting last night, 12 rounds; we are close to a school; drugs and break-ins are a problem. It is getting worse, know who they are and they are still there. They are selling drugs, cars and property being stolen, and been told the police don't have enough man power/hours to do their job. We know about the problem and something needs done before someone is killed. Something needs done.

Mr. Ruppert stated he just heard about the shooting and asked if there is a nuisance law. Mr. Bray stated we need to deal with it. A resident asked if the County can help with police presence in the City- residents are scared.

Mayor Centers thanked them for coming tonight and that this is the first he has heard of this problem. We will meet with the City Manager and the Police Chief to see what's going on and what can be done. Mr. Bray asked who the contact person for the residents is. Mr. Stickleman and another gentleman gave their contact information to Mr. Lewis.

RESOLUTION 2016-04 APPOINTING COUNCIL MEMBERS AND MEMBERS-AT-LARGE TO CERTAIN DULY-AUTHORIZED BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS OF THE CITY OF FRANKLIN, OHIO AND TO OTHER REGIONAL BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

The following are appointed to Boards & Commissions:

City of Franklin Planning Commission - one (1) year term, January 1, 2016, to December 31, 2016  
(Council member)

Paul Ruppert

Volunteer Firefighters' Dependents Fund - one (1) year term, January 1, 2016, to December 31, 2016 (Council members):

Carl Bray

Todd Hall

Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission (MVRPC) - one (1) year term, January 1, 2016, to December 31, 2016:

Michael Aldridge – Council Member    Sonny Lewis, Alternate

Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission Technical Advisory Committee (MVRPC-TAC) - one (1) year term, January 1, 2016, to December 31, 2016:

Sonny Lewis, City Manager

Barry Conway, Alternate

Warren County Regional Planning Commission - one (1) year term, April 1, 2016, to March 31, 2017:

Sonny Lewis, City Manager

Barry Conway, Alternate

Barry Conway, City Engineer

Debbie Fouts, Alternate

Denny Centers, Councilmember

Brent Centers, Alternate

City of Franklin Planning Commission - four (4) year term, January 1, 2016, to December 31, 2019:

Lee Dunlap

David Hopper

John Robinson

City of Franklin Board of Zoning, Building and Housing Appeals - four (4) year term, January 1, 2016, to December 31, 2019:

Brian Sleeth

Bruce Stewart

Tony Trammel

City of Franklin Historic District Review Board - three (3) year term, January 1, 2016, to December 31, 2018:

Tom Combs, Property Owner

David McDaniel, Member-At-Large

City of Franklin Parks and Recreation Commission - four (4) year term, January 1, 2016, to December 31, 2019:

Ron Simpson

Matthew Wilcher

City of Franklin Civil Service Commission - six (6) year term, January 1, 2016, to December 31, 2021:

Joe Edwards

Brian Graves

City of Franklin Local Board of Tax Review - two (2) year term, January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2017:

Sherry Barnes  
Phyllis Clark

Wilber DePew, Alternate  
Sandi Miller, Alternate

Warren County Board of Health - one (1) year term, January 1, 2016, to December 31, 2017:

Adam McClanahan

Mr. Bray stated that he knows of someone that is interested in being the Civil Service Secretary. Mayor Centers stated to have them send a letter of interest to the City. Also, Mr. Wilbur DePew was recognized for his 58 years of service to the City.

Mr. Hall made the motion to adopt Resolution 2016-4; seconded by Mr. Bray. The vote:

Mrs. Fouts	yes
Mr. Hall	yes
Mr. B. Centers	yes
Mr. Bray	yes
Mr. Ruppert	yes
Mr. D. Centers	yes
Mr. Aldridge	yes

Motion passed.

#### RESOLUTION 2016-05 ESTABLISHING THE ORGANIZATIONAL LISTINGS AND PAY RATES FOR CITY OF FRANKLIN OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES FOR THE YEAR 2016

Mr. Lewis stated that this establishes the rate of pay for union and non-union employees. He noted the following:

- 3% increase for non-union employees
- A new step 4, 5% increase, was added for the Public Works Secretary (steps 2, 3, & 4 were changed to steps 1, 2, & 3)
- Public Works Director, an additional step was added and all step numbers were adjusted
- Chief Utility Clerk was changed to Utility Billing Administrator with a new pay scale, 8 steps established
- Volunteer Fire & EMS, an additional step 8 added
- Clerk of Courts, a new pay scale with 7 steps established
- Chief Probation Officer position, a new pay scale with 7 steps
- Deputy Clerks, an additional step is added (3% increase)
- Magistrate, adding an additional step (3% increase)
- Non-union employees share of health insurance premiums is being increased by ½% to 13 ½%

- Franklin Law Enforcement Association will receive a 3% increase and pay 14% of their share of the health insurance premium. The wage differential for the top step Sergeant will increase by ½% over the top step Patrol Officer and for the top step Lieutenant will increase by ½% over the top step Sergeant
- The Service and Clerical Teamster unions will receive a 3% salary increase and pay 14% of the employees share of the health insurance
- The Clerk of Council's salary is being increased 3%
- The Law Director's salary is being increased 2 ½%
- The Finance Director's salary is being increased 9.09% to \$60,000 (step 1) and will increase another 5% to \$63,000 on March 30, 2016 when she advances to step 2 on her hiring anniversary date.

Mayor Centers stated that this has been discussed, researched and also to the Finance Committee. Mr. Bray stated that the Finance Committee has discussed and agrees on all of the rates of pay.

Mr. Hall made the motion to adopt Resolution 2016-05; seconded by Mr. Aldridge. The vote:

Mr. Hall	yes
Mr. B. Centers	yes
Mr. Bray	yes
Mr. Ruppert	yes
Mr. D. Centers	yes
Mr. Aldridge	yes
Mrs. Fouts	yes

Motion passed.

**RESOLUTION 2016-06 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE AMENDED AND RESTATED INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF FRANKLIN, THE MUNICIPALITY OF GERMANTOWN, THE MUNICIPALITY OF CARLISLE AND THE COUNTY OF WARREN**

Mr. Lewis stated that the Service Agreement was passed in November and the second part is to update the Intergovernmental Agreement with the 3 cities and Warren County. This authorizes him (City Manager) to sign the Intergovernmental Agreement.

Mr. Bray made the motion to adopt Resolution 2016-06; seconded by Mr. Aldridge. The vote:

Mr. B. Centers	yes
Mr. Bray	yes
Mr. Ruppert	yes
Mr. D. Centers	yes
Mr. Aldridge	yes
Mrs. Fouts	yes
Mr. Hall	yes

Motion passed.

**RESOLUTION 2016-07 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR THE 2016 ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS GRANT ON BEHALF OF THE FIRE & EMS**

Mr. Westendorf stated we've been very successful in receiving grant money through this program. There are two primary areas we will be applying for through this program: 1) Firefighter Health and Wellness and 2) Apparatus. Deadline for the application is January 15, 2016. This is only the grant application and we are not obligated to accept. We are submitting for the following: 1) Ward Diesel Filters System, estimated cost of \$36,165.24; Sauna Ray, estimated cost \$9,000.00; Power Cot, estimated cost \$15,000.00

and Fire/Rescue Apparatus, estimated cost \$580,500.00. The total purchase cost is \$640,665.24; Grant Funding of 95% - \$608,631.98; and Local Share of 5% - \$32,033.26. Two grant applications will be submitted – the Fire/Rescue Apparatus will be a separate application.

Mr. Bray made the motion to adopt Resolution 2016-07; seconded by Mr. Hall. The vote:

Mr. Bray        yes  
Mr. Ruppert    yes  
Mr. D. Centers yes  
Mr. Aldridge   yes  
Mrs. Fouts     yes  
Mr. Hall        yes  
Mr. B. Centers yes

Motion passed.

**RESOLUTION 2016-08        AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION TO WARREN COUNTY FOR FY16 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS FOR THE 2016 CDBG BEAM DRIVE AND MOORE DRIVE CURB AND GUTTER IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT**

Mr. Lewis stated that we are submitting an application for CDBG grant monies to Warren County as they will bid and administer the project. The project is to replace deteriorated curb and gutter along Beam and Moore Drive. These streets will be included in this year's street paving project. The estimated project cost is \$200,000; estimated CDBG funds is \$150,000; and the City's estimated cost is up to \$50,000, to be paid out of the Stormwater Fund.

Mr. Hall made the motion to adopt Resolution 2016-08; seconded by Mr. Ruppert. The vote:

Mr. Ruppert    yes  
Mr. D. Centers yes  
Mr. Aldridge   yes  
Mrs. Fouts     yes  
Mr. Hall        yes  
Mr. B. Centers yes  
Mr. Bray        yes

Motion passed.

**CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

Mr. Lewis asked Council who they want to meet with him about the Highridge problem – Safety Committee or another committee. After some discussion, Mayor Centers, Mr. Aldridge & Mr. Ruppert will meet with Mr. Lewis on the problem tomorrow and he will notify them of the meeting time.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Mr. B. Centers thanked Mr. Wilcher, Mr. Lipps and Mr. Faulkner for serving our community; thanked the voters for voting for him and looks forward to serving the City; good luck to Mr. Mutterspaw; and stated that he is a member of the Air National Guard and is being deployed within the next 2 weeks and will miss the meetings in February, March and the first meeting in April.

Mr. Bray asked what is going on with the old Marsh Building (water damage being repaired); congratulations to Brent, proud of you and have a safe return; attended a benefit at the Franklin American Legion, for Tom Demise, from Franklin Township, has stage 4 cancer, well attended, \$2850 raised; and attended an Eagle Scout presentation for Brendon Erwin on Sunday, very impressive and he is a freshman

at Franklin High School and is one of the youngest to receive this recognition; and congratulations to the newly elected Council members.

Mr. Ruppert thanked the voters for the opportunity to serve, hope to do a good job, hopefully won't disappoint and also thanked his family who supported him. Also, congratulations to Mr. Centers & Mrs. Fouts on being elected to Council.

Mr. Aldridge thanked everyone for coming; congratulations to the newly elected Council members and look forward to working with you; asked if we are going to have a retreat (Mayor Centers will address); and asked if there are rules for panhandlers at the Interstate ramps ( yes, if within City limits). Mr. Bray suggested checking with Springboro to see if they address panhandlers. Mr. Aldridge asked for an update from the Magistrate on the Drug Court (Mr. Lewis stated he just talked with the Judge and a report will be coming).

Mrs. Fouts thanked her family for their support; was a rough month and the Board of Elections is a very professional group; the dumpster across the street from A&G Pizza needs checked, is an eyesore; excited about the future and to Brent, be safe.

Mr. Hall thanked all for re-electing him; welcome to the newly elected Council members and hope in 2016, we continue to move forward; think we have a good group and look forward to the upcoming year.

Mayor Centers congratulated the new Council members and wished Brent the best of luck. After some discussion, the work session will be scheduled for Saturday, April 30, 2016; no Council meeting on Monday, January 18, 2016, Martin Luther King Day; if there is anything we can do about junk mailers being thrown in yards, maybe requiring permits, cite for littering, and noted that he's aware some people may want them (Ms. Fisher will work on and have info at the next meeting); Mr. Stickleman questioned police staffing, has been discussed and we are staffed, making progress on the drug problem, will review and look forward to a great new year.

Mr. Aldridge added, in the future, if Chief Whitman will let them know of problem areas - get frustrated at times as I have to read in the paper what's going on.

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

Mr. D. Centers	yes
Mr. Aldridge	yes
Mrs. Fouts	yes
Mr. Hall	yes
Mr. B. Centers	yes
Mr. Bray	yes
Mr. Ruppert	yes

Motion passed.

Mayor Centers adjourned the meeting at 7:26 p.m.

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Mayor

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City Clerk