

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
Council Chambers, City Hall
December 5, 2022

Members Present: Douglas Baker, Mayor
Donna Fletcher, Deputy Mayor
James Johnson
Christian Marshall
Samuel Lyons
Todd Zahner
Ryan Rudegear (Via teleconference)

Members Excused: None

In Attendance: Tracy Jamieson, City Manager
James Wetzel, Fire Chief
Harmony Motter, Finance Director
T.J. Parks, Recording Secretary
Brian Spaid, Solicitor
Helen Fielding, The Derrick (Via teleconference)
Richard Sayer, Eight & 322 (Via teleconference)
Michael Gorman, City Hall (Via teleconference)
Bev Hart, 1333 Elk Street
Ashley Smith, 1346 Elk Street
Alex Spaid, Dale, Woodard, Gent, McFate
Tom Jamieson, 1445 Elk Street
Gavin Fish, Explore Venango
Jessica LaVerde, 1135 Elk Street

Mayor Baker called the meeting to order at 7:04 P.M.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA – Resolution No. 160

Mrs. Fletcher moved to adopt the agenda as presented, seconded by Mr. Marshall. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Resolution No. 161

Mr. Johnson motioned and Mr. Marshall seconded the motion to approve the CDBG Modifications and Extension Requests Public Hearing minutes and the regular meeting minutes of November 14, 2022. The motion passed unanimously.

PAY THE BILLS – Resolution No. 162

Mrs. Fletcher expressed concern that the cost of \$270 for two port-a-potties is too exorbitant. Mrs. Jamieson said she would send out a request for pricing to several suppliers to find competitive prices.

December 5, 2022

Mr. Johnson moved to pay the bills as presented. Mr. Lyons seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

CITIZENS' INQUIRIES – None

CERTIFICATES OF APPROPRIATENESS – Resolution No. 163

The following request came before HARB at its November 22, 2022 meeting:

- 1135 Elk Street – Window Replacements

Mrs. Fletcher motioned to approve both requests as presented. Mr. Lyons seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

SECOND READING – BILL NO. 8 – BUDGET 2023 – Resolution No. 164

Mr. Spaid read Bill No. 8, "Budget 2023" into the record.

Mr. Lyons moved and Mr. Johnson seconded the motion to pass, on Second Reading, Bill No. 8. Motion passed unanimously.

SECOND READING – BILL NO. 9 – REAL ESTATE TAX 2023 – Resolution No. 165

Mr. Spaid read Bill No. 9, "Real Estate Tax 2023" into the record.

Mr. Marshall moved and Mr. Johnson seconded the motion to pass, on Second Reading, Bill No. 9. Motion passed unanimously.

SECOND READING – BILL NO. 10 – EARNED INCOME TAX 2023 – Resolution No. 166

Mr. Spaid read Bill No. 10, "Earned Income Tax 2023" into the record.

Mr. Marshall moved and Mr. Lyons seconded the motion to pass, on Second Reading, Bill No. 10. Motion passed unanimously.

SET PUBLIC HEARING FOR CABLE FRANCHISE RENEWAL NEGOTIATIONS – Resolution No. 167

Mrs. Jamieson informed Council that she and Mr. Spaid had had a phone conference with Attorney Phil Fraga, the attorney tasked with handling the City's upcoming cable franchise negotiations. It was determined that the first step in the negotiations for renewing the agreement is to hold a public hearing in order to get public comment.

Mr. Johnson motioned to hold the public hearing at 7:00 P.M. immediately preceding the regular Council meeting on January 9, 2023. Mr. Lyons seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

December 5, 2022

SECOND READING – BILL NO. 11 – FIREWORKS ORDINANCE – Resolution No. 168

Mr. Spaid read Bill No. 11, "Fireworks" into the record.

Mr. Johnson moved and Mrs. Fletcher seconded the motion to pass, on Second Reading, Bill No. 11. Motion passed unanimously.

PARK AND PARADE ASSEMBLY REQUESTS – Resolution No. 169

Mrs. Jamieson introduced the public assembly and parade request:

1. February 4, 2023 • Fountain Park • Franklin On Ice • FFAC

Mr. Marshall motioned to approve the request. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

REPORTS

Manager –

- Mrs. Jamieson presented the new job description, which is a combination of duties of current City employee, Michael Gorman, who is taking on many of the roles of previous employee, Eric Fenske.
 - **Resolution No. 170** – Mr. Johnson motioned and Mrs. Fletcher seconded to approve the job description as presented. The motion passed unanimously.
- Informed that the downtown light poles have been delayed again due to an expired PennDOT welding certification for the banner arms and receptacles. She is not sure how long this will further delay the project.
- Stated that this may be the last year for the nativity scene in Bandstand Park due to electric issues within the fixtures. Since public funds cannot be used to purchase a new one, Mrs. Jamieson asked Council and the community to think about an alternative.
- City Hall will have an employee Christmas luncheon on Friday, December 16. Mrs. Jamieson requested permission from Council to close City Hall from 11:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. that day.
 - **Resolution No. 171** – Mrs. Fletcher motioned to approve the closure of City Hall from 11:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. on Friday, December 16, 2022. Mr. Lyons seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
- Requested time in Executive Session to discuss negotiations.

Solicitor – Reported that he received a letter from a Pittsburgh attorney requesting that the City make a payment for using the trademarked term, "Light Up Night." Mr. Spaid continued to state that he sent a response that referred to previous letters with evidence showing that Franklin had used "Light Up Night" before Pittsburgh trademarked the term.

Franklin City Council Minutes

December 5, 2022

Mayor Appointments – Mayor Baker motioned to make the following appointments:

- **Resolution No. 172** – Charles Brehm and Marilyn Anderson to serve on the Shade Tree Commission for the remainder of terms ending June 4, 2024. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
- **Resolution No. 173** – Charles Brehm to the Planning and Zoning Commission for the remainder of the term ending January 31, 2025. Mr. Lyons seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- **Resolution No. 174** – Vincent Witherup to be reappointed to the Franklin Industrial and Commercial Development Authority for another term to expire on January 1, 2028. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Mayor Baker

- Updated everyone on the Honeywell situation. By Feb. 24, 2023, all employees will be done.
- Thanked all City Staff and all volunteers for making Light Up Night a success

Mrs. Fletcher –

- Commended Allison Myers for marvelously coordinating the parade!
- Loves the lights going up the tree trunks in Fountain Park
- Plans to run for Council again

Mr. Johnson – Almost made it to the end of the parade with enough candy. Also received positive feedback from attendees.

Mr. Marshall –

- Also received positive feedback
- Excited to try goodies from new business, Sweetery-to-Go
- Asked if surveys for 12th Street have been sent out. Mrs. Jamieson said they have not. She is waiting to coordinate that with the engineering designs. Hope to get the surveys out in January.

Mr. Lyons – Wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Mr. Rudegeair – None

Mr. Zahner – None

EXECUTIVE SESSION - Resolution No. 175

Mr. Johnson moved and Mr. Lyons seconded to enter into Executive Session for the purposes of negotiations at 7:28 P.M. The motion passed unanimously. The Executive Session ended at 7:40 P.M.

Franklin City Council Minutes

December 5, 2022

ANY OTHER BUSINESS – Resolution No. 176

Mr. Lyons moved and Mr. Zahner seconded to approve the Fire Union Collective Bargaining Agreement for January 2023 through December 2025, as outlined. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:41 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "TJ Parks".

TJ Parks, Recording Secretary