

COMMON COUNCIL
September 13, 2021

The Common Council met in a regular meeting on September 13, 2021, at 7:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers, 301 East Clinton Street, Frankfort, Indiana.

Mayor Judy Sheets called the meeting to order and led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance. Upon roll call, the following members were present: Mayor Judy Sheets, Brandt Fuller, Clarence Warthan, Megan Sheets, Steve Beardsley, Mike Brite, and Eric Woods. Joe Palmer was absent. Also present were Clerk-Treasurer Carol Bartley and City Attorney Les Bergum.

MINUTES: The minutes for the August 10, 2021 budget hearing and August 23, 2021 regular meeting were presented. Councilmember Beardsley made a motion to approve the minutes from both meetings, seconded by Councilmember Sheets. Upon a roll call vote, six ayes were recorded. Motion passed 6-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None

ORDINANCE 21-12: AN ORDINANCE VACATING AN ALLEY IN THE CITY OF FRANKFORT, STATE OF INDIANA

Councilmember Woods made a motion to pass ordinance 21-12 on third reading, seconded by Councilmember Beardsley. Upon a roll call vote, six ayes were recorded. Motion carried 6-0.

Les Bergum informed the council that the ordinance will be signed and recorded with Tom Little.

ORDINANCE 21-14: ORDINANCE FOR APPROPRIATIONS AND TAX RATES (2022 BUDGET)

Councilmember Woods made a motion to read ordinance 21-14 by title only, seconded by Councilmember Sheets. Upon a roll call vote, six ayes were recorded. Motion carried 6-0. Clerk-Treasurer Carol Bartley read the title of the ordinance.

The council discussed the 2022 budget changes and Councilmember Fuller expressed his concern about not adding a new fire department vehicle due to the additional annexed property that will need to be protected in the future. Councilmember Sheets noted that the vehicle being held back is not a detriment to the safety of the crew at this time and it could be discussed in the budget for 2023. Mayor Sheets noted that the annexed territory will not need protection until 2025 which will give the City time to add additional vehicles and personnel in the future.

Mayor Sheets informed the council that the Board of Works would like to move the position of community development director to a line item underneath their budget. The board proposed a salary of \$45,000.00 for the position and will take any additional funds needed out of their budget. The council discussed the need for a continued push in community outreach and marketing.

Councilmember Brite proposed reducing the amount in the budget for the Humane Society to \$15,000.00. After discussion and input from Councilmember Woods and Councilmember Sheets regarding the needs of the humane society, it was decided to leave the budget amount at \$20,000.00

Councilmember Sheets made a motion to pass ordinance 21-14 on first reading, seconded by Councilmember Brite. Upon a roll call vote, six ayes were recorded. Motion carried 6-0.

ORDINANCE 21-15: AN ORDINANCE SETTING THE SALARIES AND HOURLY WAGES FOR EMPLOYEES OF THE CIVIL CITY OF FRANKFORT, INDIANA.

Mayor Sheets informed the council that this ordinance includes a three percent increase in employee salaries for 2022.

Councilmember Woods made a motion to read ordinance 21-15 by title only, seconded by Councilmember Beardsley. Upon a roll call vote, six ayes were recorded. Motion carried 6-0. Clerk-Treasurer Carol Bartley read the title of the ordinance.

Councilmember Woods made a motion to pass ordinance 21-15 on first reading, seconded by Councilmember Beardsley. Upon a roll call vote, six ayes were recorded. Motion carried 6-0.

ORDINANCE 21-16: AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE SALARIES OF THE ELECTED OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF FRANKFORT, INDIANA.

Councilmember Beardsley made a motion to read ordinance 21-16 by title only, seconded by Councilmember Warthan. Upon a roll call vote, six ayes were recorded. Motion carried 6-0. Clerk-Treasurer Carol Bartley read the title of the ordinance.

Councilmember Woods made a motion to pass ordinance 21-16 on first reading, seconded by Councilmember Sheets. Upon a roll call vote, six ayes were recorded. Motion carried 6-0.

RESOLUTION 21-12: A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE TRANSFER OF APPROPRIATED FUNDS.

Clerk-Treasurer Carol Bartley informed the council that this resolution is to transfer funds from the budget line for the HR generalist position which has been eliminated and will not be used. She would like to move the funds to the professional services budget line in order to pay for HR services.

Councilmember Woods made a motion to pass resolution 21-12, seconded by Councilmember Sheets. Upon a roll call vote, six ayes were recorded. Motion carried 6-0.

OLD BUSINESS:

Street Department Superintendent Jason Forsythe spoke to the council regarding the sanitation user fees currently being charged to the citizens of Frankfort. The current fees for trash removal have not been increased since 2018 and the dump fees charged by the landfill have increased every year. With the addition of the annexed area, the street department will need additional vehicles in the future.

The council will have a public hearing prior to the second reading of Ordinance 21-13 for the proposed increase in user fees on September 27, 2021.

NEW BUSINESS:

Shan Sheridan with the Clinton County Chamber of Commerce requested a support letter from the council for the READI grant program. He is working with the North Central Indiana region on several redevelopment projects in the county including the aquatic center. Councilmember Warthan made a

motion to approve the READI grant support letter, seconded by Councilmember Fuller. Upon a roll call vote, six ayes were recorded. Motion carried 6-0.

City Attorney Les Bergum informed the council that the board of works had approved the request for proposals and qualifications to develop and build the new police station and aquatic center. The budget for the aquatic center is \$10,000,000.00 and the police station budget is \$8,500,000.00. The twenty-seven page document regarding the proposals will be posted on the City website and the HWC Engineering website. Mr. Bergum also informed the council that a notice regarding the request for publications was approved to be published in the Times

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Council, Councilmember Woods moved to adjourn, seconded by Councilmember Brite. Mayor Sheets adjourned the meeting at 8:00 P.M.