**MINUTES**

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING**

**June 1, 2017**

The Mayor and Council of the City of Franklin, Georgia, met in regular session Thursday, June 1, 2017 at City Hall at 6:30 p.m. All councilmembers were in attendance.

Mayor Rogers began the meeting by welcoming everyone in attendance and gave the invocation. Councilmember Almond lead the pledge to the flag.

**MINUTES OF May 4, 2017**

Councilmember Jiles made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Hayes to approve the minutes. The vote to approve the motion was unanimous.

**APPROVE THE ORDER OF THE AGENDA**

Mayor Rogers requested to amend the order of the agenda by adding Court Offices to Unfinished Business. Councilmember Jiles made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Bradfield to approve the addition to the order of the agenda. The vote to approve the motion was unanimous.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

**Finance –** Finance Officer, Karen Boyd, reported the following:

1. All accounts have been reconciled to the bank except for the operating account whereas the May statement is not yet available. Final financials will be emailed to the Council as soon as this account is reconciled. It is estimated that general fund expenditures exceeded revenues by $22,000 in May and revenues exceeded expenditures by $50,000 for the year.
2. Although sales tax decreased $5,034 from last month, it was $2,677 more than last year and the most we have seen for May in the last four years. SPLOST increased $1,844 from last month, was $11,671 more than last year, and the most we have seen for May in the last three years.

**Police Department** – Chief Hannah spoke on the following:

1. **Mary Johnson Drive** – Tractor trailers blocking this road are causing a serious public safety issue. Chief Hannah asked for permission to work with City Attorney Mecklin for a long-term solution to this problem.

**Street Department –** Street Supervisor, Alan Holcomb, was not present. Mayor Rogers updated the Council that the new ATV had been picked up.

**City Attorney -** David Mecklin, reported the following:

1. **Energy Excise Tax** – Attorney Mecklin has been working with the county attorney to possibly implement this tax in January.
2. **Mobile Park Update** – The mobile park owner responded to The City’s 30-day notice by stating that although he has been making improvements to his property, he lacks the funds to remove the mobile homes. Councilmember Hayes made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Jiles to give Attorney Mecklin permission to file a lawsuit against the owner. The vote to approve the motion was unanimous.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

1. **Riverside & Mary Johnson Paving** – Whitaker Paving will have all paving and clean up completed in two weeks.
2. **Court Offices** – Commissioner Lee Boone discussed leasing a portion of Franklin City Hall for a monthly flat fee and negotiated with the Council on the amount. Councilmember Almond made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Jiles to $750/month including utilities except for phone, and usage of the County court custodian for cleaning. The vote to approve the motion was unanimous. The City will have the option to review the cost of utilities based on the additional usage.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **Summerfest (Declare a Special Event) –** Councilmember Jiles made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Bradfield to declare Summerfest a Special Event so alcohol could be allowed in certain outside areas. The vote was approved 4-1, Councilmember Almond declined the motion.
2. **Federico Gimenez –** Mr. Gimenez, representing Loco Mex, came before the council to request the approval of a liquor license and was told by the Council that it would first need to be added as a referendum to the ballot at the upcoming election. Councilmember Jiles made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Bradfield to add the referendum to the election ballot. The vote was approved 4-1, Councilmember Almond declined the motion.
3. **Heard County Water Authority -** Councilmember Almond made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Hayes to pay $117,500 to HCWA which was promised to them from SPLOST IV funds. The vote to approve the motion was unanimous.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

1. Alan Slaughenhaupt voiced his concerns with the paving company not trafficking the paving of Riverside adequately and truck congestion issues at JAC products.
2. Ralph Caldwell requested a document to show that the City gave the sidewalk space needed for his porch. Attorney Mecklin agreed to draft this. Caldwell also asked permission for the newly created second floor of his building to be residential. Attorney Mecklin will review city ordinances to ensure residential lofts are permitted downtown.
3. Kathy Jenkins reminded the Council of Carolyn Bell’s request for mapping of the City Cemetery and that the heritage and ancestral pride of the City was not represented well with the state that the cemetery was being kept.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION: NONE**

**MAYOR COMMENTS: NONE**

**ADJOURN:** There was no further business to conduct and Councilmember Jiles made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Almond, to adjourn. The vote was unanimous.

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Joel Rogers, Mayor

**Members Present: Clerks Present:**

Cynthia Putzek, Post #1 Karen Boyd

Willie Almond, Jr., Post #2

Kevin Hayes, Post #3

Sara Alane Bradfield #4

Cliff Jiles, Post #5