

The Franklin City Commission convened in **regular session** at 6:00 p.m., Monday, **January 26, 2009**, in the Simpson County School Board meeting room, 430 S. College Street, Franklin, Kentucky. In the chair presiding was the Honorable Mayor Jim Brown, with the following City Commissioners present: Bill Austin, Wendell Stewart, Henry Stone and Herbert Williams. Also present were City Manager, Hal W. Toomey; City Attorney, Scott Crabtree; Assistant Police Chief, Dallas Whiles; City Clerk, Kathy Stradtner; and members of the public. F-S High student Adam Whilshire was present to video tape the meeting. A member of the media, Keith Pyles, from Franklin Favorite/WFKN was present.

Mayor Brown called the meeting to order, and Commissioner Austin offered an opening prayer.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Commissioner Stone and seconded by Commissioner Williams, to approve with corrections the minutes from the January 12, 2009 regular Commission meeting. Ayes: All. Motion carried. *Note: the corrections were under Discussion Regarding Commission Appointment, year correction and Discussion Regarding Chemical Building deleted in-correct wording.*

HEAR THE PUBLIC

No items.

REGULAR BUSINESS

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

- **Discussion and/or Possible Action Regarding Morris Street Properties**

City Manager Hal Toomey reviewed documents that were in this meeting's packet regarding the Morris Street properties that were discussed during the last Commission meeting. Mayor Brown discussed the cost estimate information he had obtained for demolition work on several of the worst properties.

401, 421, 503, 507, and 514 Morris \$17.150

The properties would have to be inspected and condemnation proceedings completed before the City could initiate any work. Discussion included, but was not limited to, the availability of funds within the City budget for such a project and the time line for condemnation proceedings; Marcquel & Carol Bryant, 423 Morris Street, were present for the discussion. Following further discussion, motion was made by Mayor Brown and seconded by Commissioner Stewart to authorize the initiation of possible condemnation procedures for the five properties on Morris Street as discussed, take the funds for the project from reserves and/or authorize the City Manager or Finance Director to borrow the funds up to the small purchase limit (\$20,000). Ayes: All. Motion carried.

- **Discussion and/or Possible Action Regarding Retaining Legislative Consultant**

Recently, House Bill 158 was submitted and relates to approving video lottery games at horse race tracks. The current version of the bill has no provision to provide any local revenues from this added activity, and takes away the local government's ability to charge license fees, thereby effectively lowering the amount of revenue the City could generate. The City has no official stance for or against the legislation subject itself, but City Attorney Crabtree feels the City should be concerned that if such legislation is adopted, it include language to generate revenues for the City in which such activity takes place as additional expense will be incurred by the City in which any additional gaming activities take place. Accordingly, City Attorney Crabtree made inquiries about the cost to hire a lobbyist on a consulting basis to help the City lobby to add the appropriate language to the proposed legislation. Following a lengthy discussion, motion was made by Commissioner Stone and seconded by Commissioner Austin to employ lobbyist Gene McLean at a cost not to exceed \$10,000 to represent the City's interest in any proposed legislation allowing the operation of slot machines at race tracks in the Commonwealth, and authorize the Mayor to sign any documents necessary per the intent of this motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

PUBLIC SERVICES

No items.

PUBLIC SAFETY

No items.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

No items.

UTILITIES

- **Update on Chemical Building at Wastewater Treatment Plant**

Per the discussion held at the January 12 Commission meeting, Mayor Brown gave an update on the construction of a chemical building at the Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP). After consulting with the WWTP staff, it was determined a 30x40 building would be most appropriate and exclusive of any City staff wages, the project cost was estimated at \$75,000. After discussion, motion was made by Commissioner Stewart and seconded by Commissioner Austin to authorize construction of a 30 x 40 chemical building at the WWTP at a cost not to exceed \$75,000, exclusive of City staff costs or the cost of any required professional services. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

ORDINANCES

No items.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Commissioner Stone and seconded by Commissioner Williams to enter in to executive session for discussions, or hearings, which might lead to the appointment, discipline, or dismissal of an individual {KRS 61.810(f)}. Ayes: All. Motion carried at 6:54 p.m. Entering executive session were Mayor Brown and the four Commissioners, City Attorney Scott Crabtree, City Manager Hal W. Toomey, and Jamie Powell.

At 7:00 p.m., City Manager Toomey and City Attorney Crabtree exited the executive session.

At 7:21 p.m., City Manager Toomey and City Attorney Crabtree reentered the executive session.

At 7:30 p.m., motion was made by Commissioner Williams and seconded by Commissioner Stewart to exit executive session and return to open session. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

CITY ATTORNEY REPORTS

No items.

CITY MANAGER REPORTS


No items.

OTHER COMMISSION BUSINESS


Commission Stewart inquired as to who was responsible for emptying and maintaining the trash receptacles that had formerly been located directly on the square and were now located a block off the square. When new public trash receptacles were donated and placed at locations around the square, the old concrete receptacles were placed at locations just off the square and local businesses have been emptying and putting clean trash bags in them when they see the receptacles full. After discussion, the City Manager said he would follow up on this project since it was believed Franklin-Simpson Renaissance should be taking care of having these receptacles emptied.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Commissioner Williams and seconded by Commissioner Stewart to adjourn the City Commission meeting. Ayes: All. Motion carried at 7:40 p.m.



Jim Brown, Mayor



Kathy Stradner, City Clerk