

The Franklin City Commission convened with Simpson Fiscal Court in special called joint session at 6:00PM on Thursday, January 19, 2012, in the second floor meeting room of the Simpson County Court House, public square, Franklin, Kentucky. Elected Officials present were:

City of Franklin Commission

Honorable Mayor Ronnie Clark
Commissioner Mason Barnes
Commissioner Larry Dixon
Commissioner Jamie Powell
Commissioner Henry Stone

Simpson Fiscal Court

Honorable Judge-Ex. Jim Henderson
Magistrate Larry Randolph
Magistrate Kelly Banton
Magistrate Marty Chandler
Magistrate Blake Tarpley

Also present were City Manager, Kenton Powell; City Attorney, Scott Crabtree; Franklin Police Chief, Todd Holder; County Attorney, Sam Phillips; Simpson County Sheriff Chris Cline; Simpson County Chief Deputy, Jacky Hunt; County Attorney, Sam Phillips; Animal Control Officer, Bart Blythe; F-S Fire Rescue Chief, Mark Holcomb; Fiscal Court Clerk, Pam Rohrs; F-S Human Rights Commission Representative, Donzella Lee; F-S High School teacher Brigitte Kilburn and F-S employee Adam Wilshire were present to video tape the meeting. Other members of the public were present. Member of the media Keith Pyles representing the Franklin Favorite/WFKN was present.

At 6:00 am, Judge-Executive Henderson and Mayor Clark called the Fiscal Court and City Commission into special called joint session. City Commissioner Larry Dixon offered an opening prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

CALLED MEETING AGENDA ITEMS

PUBLIC COMMENT

▪ **Boys & Girls Club of Franklin-Simpson**

The session opened with Boys and Girls Club representatives, President Bill Harris, Treasurer Lydia Latham and Chief Professional Officer Jef Goodnight addressing the joint session. Their desire is to educate the public about the Boys and Girls Club of Franklin-Simpson. They expressed appreciation for support, gave a brief history, dispelled misconceptions, encouraged funding, presented a financial report, explained the daily operations and activities of the club and issued an invitation for the public to come by the club. The mission statement of the Boys and Girls Club of Franklin-Simpson is "to enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to realize their full potential as productive, responsible and caring citizens."

▪ **Ms. Ann St. Clair, West Cedar Street of the West Cedar Street Neighborhood Association**

Ms. Ann St. Clair addressed the meeting to relate she was recently the victim of a vicious dog attack which resulted in the death of one of her dogs. She reported the growing concern of the neighborhood about the lack of enforcement of the recently passed animal control ordinance. West Cedar Street resident Kim Buck reiterated this concern as she briefly addressed the joint session. The West Cedar Street Neighborhood Association submitted a petition of approximately thirty names to the City of Franklin, requesting that the pit bull dogs responsible for the incident when Ms. St. Clair's dog was killed, be immediately removed from their owner's West Kentucky Avenue residence. The same dogs, on several occasions, have roamed the neighborhood threatening the safety of the residents and their pets. During the meeting, it was reported

that those three dogs had in fact been removed due to non-compliance with regulations of the animal control ordinance. Animal Control Officer Bart Blythe reported there has been an average of 60 calls per month with 90% of those relating to pit bull dogs, and that at this time enforcement is complaint driven. The majority of those complaint calls are within the city limits or urbanized areas. He does not go out looking for violations. As animal control calls are made, preferably through the non-emergency 270-586-8824 dispatch number so as to generate a CAD (computer-aided dispatch), the appropriate law enforcement agency – city or county – is dispatched. The responding officer makes an assessment, and that officer may ask for the animal control officer to respond. Animal Control Officer Bart Blythe has the authority to deem the animal vicious and the authority to put it down if he thinks it necessary to maintain public safety. Tom Moody, also a resident of West Cedar Street, presented another aspect of regulations within the ordinance that he would like to see enforced relating to the matter of community pride and the unsightly, unsanitary conditions resulting when dogs are allowed to run loose or walked by irresponsible owners.

REGULAR BUSINESS

- **Discussion/Update Regarding 911 Dispatch Transition to KSP**

Fire Rescue Chief Mark Halcomb reported that Simpson County dispatch service, including law enforcement, fire and EMS, has been transitioned to the Kentucky State Police Post 3 in Bowling Green as of 10:00am Tuesday, January 10th. The switch took less than ten seconds with numerous tests to ensure the desired level of functionality. He explained that there is a level of redundancy never before achieved but now, with all the battery back-ups and generators as well as a T-1 two-way circuit monitored 24/7 by Frankfort, any hiccups will set off warning signals resulting in a transition from main to alternate system. The initial projected cost of this transition was \$110,000 but the ultimate burden came closer to \$70,000 after a \$26,000 Office of Homeland Security grant was re-energized. Another benefit of this dispatch consolidation is a partnering with the Commonwealth Office of Technology. Chief Halcomb was commended for his dedication to this transition, with particular emphasis on the technical and equipment side of this endeavor. Franklin City Police Chief Todd Holder worked diligently with the personnel side in maintaining the local dispatch operation in the midst of the transition period, as employees found other jobs and scheduling required numerous part-time temporary employees to get the service to that switchover date.

At 7:40 pm, the joint session took a ten-minute break.

- **Discussion/Update Regarding One Call Now Implementation Plan**

Emergency Management Director Robert Palmer discussed the One Call Now public phone call notification system that Franklin Electric Plant Board, the City of Franklin and Simpson County have partnered to implement. He reported the installation of software is now in progress, and training is scheduled for January 26th for personnel who will use the system. Mr. Palmer stated that this would not replace weather radios or outdoor sirens. Public education will be the key to the success of this system, as citizens become aware of its value and their responsibility for registration of contact information.

- **Discussion/ and/or Possible First Reading Regarding Synthetic Cannabinoids Ordinance**

The City and County both heard first reading of an ordinance prohibiting the sale and possession of synthetic drug products. Motion made by County Magistrate Chandler and second by County Magistrate Banton to except this first reading. Ayes-All. Fiscal Court approved first reading of Ordinance No. 340.1 and second reading scheduled for the regular fiscal court meeting on February 7, 2012.

No vote is required by the City upon first reading of an ordinance, second reading is scheduled for the January 23 City Commission meeting.

• **Discussion/ and/or Possible Action Regarding Joint City/County Codes Enforcement Partnership**

Per previous conversations, discussion followed regarding development of a joint City/County code enforcement officer and a description for the position. Motion made by Commissioner Powell and second by Commissioner Barnes to appoint City Manager Powell and County Judge-Executive Henderson to develop the job description, contract, and all other matters related to retaining a joint city-county code enforcement officer, authorize the City Manager and County Judge-Executive to conduct interviews for said position, and recommend contracting with an individual subject to approval by the Franklin City Commission and Simpson Fiscal Court. Ayes-all. Motion carried unanimously.

Upon motion by Magistrate Chandler and second by Magistrate Tarpley, the Fiscal Court made the same motion. Ayes-All Motion carried.

REPORTS

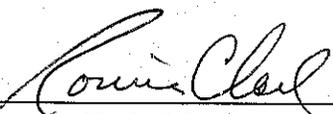
- **Mayor and/or Judge Executive**
None
- **Magistrates and/or City Commissioners**
None
- **City Manager / City Attorney/ County Attorney**
None

OTHER BUSINESS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Mayor Clark and second by Judge-Executive Henderson to adjourn both the City and County, and meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.


Ronnie Clark, Mayor


Kathy Stradtner, City Clerk

Recorded by Simpson Fiscal Court Clerk, Pam Rohrs