

**MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION  
OF THE  
CITY OF FRANKLIN  
CITY COMMISSION**

**August 10, 2020**

**City Hall  
117 West Cedar Street  
Franklin, Kentucky  
(Pursuant to Senate Bill 150)**

The Franklin, Kentucky City Commission met in Regular Session at 12:00 Noon, Monday, **August 10, 2020**, in the City Hall meeting room located at 117 West Cedar Street, Franklin, Kentucky.

Members attending were as follows:

Mayor Larry Dixon	Present
Commissioner Jamie Powell	Present
Commissioner Herbert Williams	Present
Commissioner Brownie Bennett	Present
Commissioner Wendell Stewart	Present

Others present included City Attorney Scott Crabtree; City Personnel Director/Deputy Clerk, Rita Vaughn; City Finance Director, Shaunna Cornwell; City Police Chief, Roger Solomon; Community Development Director Tammie Carey; and, City Clerk, Cathy Dillard.

Mayor Dixon called the meeting to order at 12:00 Noon, and Commissioner Jamie Powell offered the opening prayer.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Bennett to approve the minutes as presented of the July 27, 2020, regular meeting of the Franklin City Commission.

Voting Aye by Roll Call: All. Motion carried unanimously.

**COMMUNITY SERVICES**

Community Development Director Tammie Carey provided the Commission with an update of the upcoming Bicentennial activities. Carey indicated that in September a safe family-friendly scavenger hunt is planned followed by the October 26, 2020, Commission meeting scheduled to take place on the Courthouse lawn. In addition, the historic cemetery walk will

take place in early October. The finale event will take place in November with the 200 Mile Relay Run from Frankfort to Franklin. The relay run will begin in Frankfort on November 19 and will end on the anniversary date of the founding of the City of Franklin with delivery of a proclamation from the state capitol to Franklin.

No action was taken by the Commission on this matter.

### **GENERAL GOVERNMENT**

City Clerk Cathy Dillard asked the Commission to approve sponsorship of a proposed ordinance to adopt the supplement to the City of Franklin Code of Ordinances. This supplement includes all ordinances and applicable changes to state statutes adopted in 2019.

Commissioner Powell and Commissioner Stewart asked to sponsor the ordinance with first summary reading taking place during the ordinance portion of the meeting.

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Finance Director Shaunna Cornwell asked the Commission to consider approval of the audit engagement with Kirby & Moore, CPAs for the fiscal year 2019-2020 financial audit. Cornwell anticipated fieldwork to begin in September.

Motion was made by Commissioner Bennett and seconded by Commissioner Williams to approve the audit engagement with Kirby & Moore, CPAs for fiscal year 2019-2020 and further authorized the Mayor to sign any and all documents necessary for the audit.

Voting Aye by Roll Call: All. Motion carried unanimously.

### **UTILITIES**

Finance Director Shaunna Cornwell addressed the Commission regarding the impact of the pandemic on utility accounts. Pursuant to Governor Beshear's executive order, during the pandemic Franklin Municipal Utilities suspended all late payment penalties and service disconnections for non-payment of utility bills. To date, the financial impact of past due accounts has surpassed normal projections by approximately \$100,000.00. Cornwell indicated that some utility customers were experiencing financial hardships due to unemployment while other utility customers were simply avoiding paying their accounts while disconnections were suspended.

The Commission discussed potential options regarding possible grant funds and relief funds for these growing past due accounts and asked Cornwell to provide an update each month of the uncollected accounts. CARES funding is not eligible for these past due accounts.

No action was taken on this matter.

**ORDINANCES**

City Clerk Cathy Dillard provided second summary reading of the following ordinance:

Ordinance No. 2020-008 titled: *An Ordinance to Close the Public Portion of a 0.31 Acre Tract, more or less, of Barrett Lane Fronting the Stark Truss Site*

Motion was made by Commissioner Bennett and seconded by Commissioner Stewart to adopt Ordinance No. 2020-008 and was approved by the following roll call vote:

Mayor Dixon	<u>Yes</u>	Commissioner Bennett	<u>Yes</u>
Commissioner Powell	<u>Yes</u>	Commissioner Stewart	<u>Yes</u>
Commissioner Williams	<u>Yes</u>		

City Clerk Cathy Dillard provided first summary reading of the following ordinance:

Ordinance No. 2020-009 titled: *An Ordinance Enacting and Adopting a Supplement to the Code of Ordinances for the City of Franklin, Kentucky*

No action is taken on first reading of an ordinance.

**OTHER COMMISSION BUSINESS**

Commissioner Stewart asked for an update regarding the Census 2020. Mayor Dixon indicated that personal visits from census-takers were now in progress but responses could still be submitted online, by mail or by telephone.

The response rate for the City of Franklin was 65.5% with the response rate in Simpson County at 69.1%.

The Commission encouraged everyone in the community to respond as valuable federal tax dollars are allocated utilizing census data.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 12:58 PM, motion was made by Commissioner Stewart and seconded by Commissioner Powell to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of: (1) Litigation – Discussion of proposed or pending litigation {KRS 61.810(1)(c)} and (2) Personnel – Discussions or hearings which might lead to the appointment, discipline, or dismissal of an individual employee or member {KRS 61.810(1)(f)}.

Voting Aye by Roll Call: All. Motion carried unanimously.

Entering Executive Session were Mayor Dixon; Commissioners Powell, Bennett, Williams and Stewart; and City Attorney Scott Crabtree.

At 1:40 PM, motion was made by Commissioner Williams and seconded by Commissioner Bennett to exit Executive Session and return to open session.

Voting Aye by Roll Call: All. Motion carried unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 1:41 PM, motion was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Stewart to adjourn the regular meeting of the Franklin City Commission.

Voting Aye by Roll Call: All. Motion carried unanimously.

  
Larry Dixon, Mayor  
City of Franklin, Kentucky

  
Cathy Dillard, City Clerk  
City of Franklin, Kentucky