

**FRANKLIN CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES - JUNE 1, 2020**

**CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING - VIRTUAL MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 1, 2020
6:00 PM**

CITY COUNCIL

**Brent Centers, Mayor
Todd Hall, Vice Mayor
Michael Aldridge
Denny Centers
Deborah Fouts
Paul Ruppert
Mathew Wilcher**

CITY STAFF

**Sonny Lewis, City Manager
Karisa Steed, Assistant to the City Manager
Amber Copenhaver, Secretary to the City Manager
Lynnette Dinkler, Law Director
Cindy Ryan, Finance Director
Steve Inman, Public Works Director
Barry Conway, City Engineer
Ross Coulton, Assistant Safety Director
Russ Whitman, Police Chief
Jonathan Westendorf, Fire and EMS Chief
Khristi Dunn, Clerk of Council**

Members of the City Council met in regular session on Monday, June 1, 2020, 6:00 PM via Virtual Meeting held in compliance with amended Substitute House Bill 197 under the declared state of emergency by the State of Ohio and City of Franklin, Warren County, Ohio with Mayor Brent Centers presiding.

1. Roll Call. Mayor Centers called the Franklin, Ohio City Council Regular Meeting of Monday, June 1, 2020 to order at 6:00 PM. Roll call (called in alphabetical order) showed:

MR. MICHAEL ALDRIDGE	present
MAYOR BRENT CENTERS	present
MR. DENNY CENTERS	present
MRS. DEBBIE FOUTS	present
VICE MAYOR TODD HALL	present
MR. PAUL RUPPERT	present
MR. MATHEW WILCHER	present

Mr. Conway, Ms. Copenhaver, Captain Coulton, Ms. Dinkler, Ms. Dunn, Mr. Inman, Mr. Lewis, Ms. Ryan, Chief Westendorf, and Chief Whitman were also present. Ms. Steed was absent. There was one member of the press and one visitor at tonight's meeting; both joined after the Reception of Visitors.

2. Pledge of Allegiance. The pledge of allegiance was led by Mayor Brent Centers.

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3. Approve the Clerk’s Journal and Accept the Tapes as the Official Minutes of the May 18, 2020 Meeting. Vice Mayor Hall made the motion to approve the Clerk’s Journal and accept the tapes as of the Official Minutes of the May 18, 2020 general meeting; seconded by Mr. Aldridge. The vote:

MR. DENNY CENTERS	yes
MR. PAUL RUPPERT	yes
VICE MAYOR TODD HALL	yes
MAYOR BRENT CENTERS	yes
MR. MICHAEL ALDRIDGE	yes
MRS. DEBBIE FOUTS	yes
MR. MATHEW WILCHER	yes

Motion passed.

4. Reception of Visitors. The Mayor opened and closed the Reception of Visitors as none asked to be heard.

5. Presentation. None.

6. Public Hearing.

A. ORDINANCE 2020-08 AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF CITY OWNED REAL ESTATE
SITUATED AT 449 SOUTH MAIN STREET, FRANKLIN, OHIO BY COMPETITIVE BIDDING

Ms. Dinkler explained this Ordinance allows the property to go up for bid in Compliance with the City’s Charter, Section 3.03(i). If approved by Council, the property will be advertised for several weeks with a minimum starting bid of \$10,000.

Mayor Brent Centers opened and closed the Public Hearing at 6:03 PM with no comments. The ordinance was then opened to council discussion.

Mayor Brent Centers asked if we had any parties interested in the property. Mr. Lewis answered that we had several calls on the property. The Mayor asked if the minimum bid was too low. Mr. Lewis deferred the question to Ms. Dinkler. Ms. Dinkler responded that the minimum bid was at Council’s instructions, if the amount were to be changed, it could be discussed by Council. The Mayor confirmed with Mr. Lewis that Council had previously discussed the bid and decided on \$10,000.

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Mr. Denny Centers asked Mr. Lewis to recall an offer that had been made on the building by an interested party. Mr. Lewis confirmed the interested party offered \$10,000.

The Mayor asked for any further discussion. With no further council discussion, the Mayor called for a motion. Mr. Denny Centers made the motion to adopt **ORDINANCE 2020-08** as submitted; seconded by Mrs. Fouts. The vote:

MR. PAUL RUPPERT	yes
VICE MAYOR TODD HALL	yes
MAYOR BRENT CENTERS	yes
MR. MICHAEL ALDRIDGE	yes
MRS. DEBBIE FOUTS	yes
MR. MATHEW WILCHER	yes
MR. DENNY CENTERS	yes

Motion passed.

7. New Business.

A. RESOLUTION 2020-28 - AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF DE-ICING SALT FROM THE CARGIL INC. DEICING TECHNOLOGY BUSINESSS UNIT THROUGH THE WARREN COUNTY JOINT SALT PURCHASING PROGRAM

Mr. Inman stated this purchase is through the Warren County Joint Salt Purchasing Program. The awarded bid was from Cargill Deicing Tech at \$80.35 per ton, a \$4.05 decrease from last year, in which Cargill was also awarded the bid. Council is asked to approve the purchase of salt for the 2020/2021 winter season.

The Mayor opened the floor for council discussion.

Mrs. Fouts asked how much salt needed to be purchased considering the mild winter. Mr. Inman answered we had approximately 100 tons. Mr. Inman anticipated the cost being lower this year, but it was not as low as he thought it would be. Mrs. Fouts expressed her hopes that we have another mild winter, Mr. Inman agreed.

The Mayor asked for any further discussion. With no further council discussion, the Mayor called for a motion. Mr. Ruppert made the motion to adopt **RESOLUTION 2020-28** as submitted; seconded by Mr. Wilcher. The vote:

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VICE MAYOR TODD HALL	yes
MAYOR BRENT CENTERS	yes
MR. MICHAEL ALDRIDGE	yes
MRS. DEBBIE FOUTS	yes
MR. MATHEW WILCHER	yes
MR. DENNY CENTERS	yes
MR. PAUL RUPPERT	yes

Motion passed.

B. RESOLUTION 2020-29 – APPROVING THE TENTATIVE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF FRANKLIN FRANKLIN LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSOCIATION AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE WAIVER AGREEMENT

Mr. Lewis stated that in a previous meeting Council approved a waiver for the City to sign with the Union following negotiations. This resolution approves a tentative agreement with the Union. The only contract change is to Article 49, Duration, extending the effective date through December 31, 2020.

The Mayor asked Mr. Lewis if he knew when negotiations were planned. Mr. Lewis responded that he did not. The Mayor asked for any further discussion. Mr. Lewis added the negotiations have not been scheduled for several reasons, mainly due to the limits on gatherings by the Public Health Order. Both parties would like to meet in person, rather than virtually, for negotiations. The second reason is to see how the finances will be affected by the current State of Emergency. The Mayor confirmed he understood.

With no further council discussion, the Mayor called for a motion. Vice Mayor Hall made the motion to adopt **RESOLUTION 2020-28** as submitted; seconded by Mr. Ruppert. The vote:

MAYOR BRENT CENTERS	yes
MR. MICHAEL ALDRIDGE	yes
MRS. DEBBIE FOUTS	yes
MR. MATHEW WILCHER	yes
MR. DENNY CENTERS	yes
MR. PAUL RUPPERT	yes
VICE MAYOR TODD HALL	yes

Motion passed.

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8. Introduction of New Legislation.

A. None.

9. City Manager's Report.

Mr. Lewis notified Council that The City received an award from the Safety Council of Southwestern Ohio for the second consecutive year in the Group Category for a low incident rate. This award will benefit The City's Workers Compensation Group rating.

Mr. Lewis received email confirmation from Cox Ohio regarding the Curbside Advertisement Opt-Out form on the City's website. This is the first time Cox Ohio has sent information regarding the completion of these forms. The email stated that Cox has had sales distribution removed from several addresses. Mr. Lewis advised that if the form had been previously completed, but a confirmation email had not been received, to complete the form again. Once confirmation is received, the curbside ads should stop within three weeks. If in three weeks the ads have not been stopped, Cox Ohio should be contacted again. Mr. Lewis stated he believes Cox Ohio is now acting on the opt-out forms and hopes to see the result of less ads being delivered to those who use the form to opt-out.

The Farmers Market opened for the season on Saturday. Mr. Lewis believes this may be the best opening day of the market. One indicator of success is the happiness of the vendors. Two vendors told Mr. Lewis that they had sold more in this weekend than any other weekend in past seven years of participating in the market. There was a large crowd with no incidents or complaints about restrictions that were put into place due to the State of Emergency. Mr. Lewis believes the season will continue to improve as more produce is supplied from the farm vendors.

10. Council Comments.

Mr. Wilcher had no comments.

Mrs. Fouts commented that there does not appear to be fear of going in public to dine in a restaurant. On a personal note, she commented that the people of Franklin have been extremely good to her and it has been nice to see everyone again. She looks forward to the Council sitting down together in person soon.

She has heard positive feedback on the Farmer's Market. People have commented that they are glad the market has opened. She also said good things are coming for her pizza shop.

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Mr. Aldridge stated it was good to see everyone again, virtually. He sent his condolences on the passing of Bill Brumfield to Mr. Lewis, Chief Whitman and the Police Department, and to Officer Brumfield's family.

Mr. Aldridge thanked the community for their efforts in making the Senior Class of 2020 feel special considering the events the class has missed due to the State of Emergency. Mr. Aldridge has a daughter who is a senior and she participated in the Gallery of Graduates in the High School parking lot. He was impressed with the large turnout at the event and appreciative of the sense of community.

Mr. Aldridge complimented Ms. Dunn on her first meeting as Clerk of Council.

The Mayor congratulated Mr. Aldridge on his daughter's intent to attend the University of Dayton in the fall.

Mr. Denny Centers complimented Ms. Dunn on the minutes and agenda for the Council Meeting.

Mr. Denny Centers addressed Mr. Inman stating that he had seen mulch being put down on the I-75 ramps on St. Rt 123. He stated that the mulch looked great but was concerned about the weeds on the southbound ramp, which overshadows the nice mulch job. He asked if there was a plan to take care of the weeds. Mr. Inman replied that weed removal and pruning of the bushes for that location was already scheduled and that it should take place next week.

Mr. Ruppert addressed Mr. Lewis to communicate that he is no longer receiving the curbside ads from the Dayton Daily News at his residence after completing the form on the website. His neighbor does still receive the ads. He also commented on the Farmer's Market success citing the large crowd and great produce selection.

Mr. Ruppert thanked the City for great job they are doing with mowing during the excessive grass growth.

Vice Mayor Hall commented that he agreed with Mr. Aldridge on the success of the Gallery of Graduates event. He informed Council that as of today, student athletes can begin participation in skills and agility training for fall sports. This will increase traffic at and usage of the park. Vice Mayor Hall appreciates Mr. Inman's past comments about cleaning off the tennis courts as this was something he had planned to inquire about.

Vice Mayor Hall observed that things are slowly starting to move back to normal. He misses seeing everyone in person. He commented that it was nice to see Mr. Richter in attendance, complimented Ms. Dunn on her performance and expressed gratitude for a concise meeting.

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Mayor Brent Centers addressed Chief Whitman to let him know he has been on his mind recently and he appreciates the service that he and the police department provide, especially considering the current stressful atmosphere. He commented that this Council has always been supportive of the Franklin Police Department.

The Mayor thanked Ms. Dinkler for her efforts as Acting Clerk of Council during the absence of a Clerk. He appreciated the peace of mind her efforts provided. He complimented Ms. Dunn and expressed that he was glad to have her on board.

The Mayor hosted virtual Office Hours to address the push back that was received on the closing of the pool from residents on Facebook. The virtual Office Hours were scheduled for two consecutive nights, each for a one-hour duration. The first night had one person in attendance and no one in attendance on the second night.

The Mayor addressed the budget projections for Ohio with an anticipated decrease in income. He complimented Vice Mayor Hall, Mr. Denny Centers and Mr. Aldridge for their years of service and the forethought they put into budget in conjunction with conservative spending. Their actions have prepared the City for this unexpected loss of income without detriment. The Mayor thanked the Council members for their actions.

The Mayor thanked Mr. Richter for covering the Meeting.

11. Adjournment. Mr. Ruppert made the motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Mrs. Fouts. The vote:

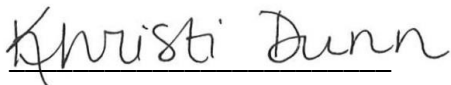
MR. MATHEW WILCHER	yes
MR. PAUL RUPPERT	yes
VICE MAYOR TODD HALL	yes
MRS. DEBBIE FOUTS	yes
MR. DENNY CENTERS	yes
MAYOR BRENT CENTERS	yes
MR. MICHAEL ALDRIGE	yes

Motion passed.

Mayor Brent Centers adjourned the meeting at 6:21 PM.



Brent Centers, Mayor



Khristi Dunn, Clerk of Council