

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

**January 11, 2021**

**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, January 11, 2021, via live video/audio teleconference originating from 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 Manager Kenton Powell; City Attorney Scott Crabtree; City Personnel Director/Deputy Clerk, Rita Vaughn; City Police Chief, Roger Solomon; Public Works Superintendent Chris Klotter; City Clerk, Cathy Dillard; and Dylan Holder joined the meeting by teleconference.

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 Bennett and seconded by Commissioner Powell to approve the minutes as presented of the December 14, 2020, Regular Meeting of the Franklin City Commission.

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

**COMMUNITY SERVICES**

Dylan Holder, President of the Legendary Legacy Association and District Director for the Historic Harristown District, joined the meeting via teleconference to discuss the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Celebration taking place on Monday, January 18, 2021. Due to COVID restrictions the F-S Human Rights Commission proposed a motorcade event rather than the

annual walk and breakfast. Mr. Holder indicated guidelines were in place to allow participants in the motorcade celebration to remain in their cars for the duration of the event and asked the City to provide traffic control for the event route and requested to close College Street in front of the Methodist Church for motorcade vehicle parking. In addition, Mr. Holder asked if the Commission would approve to air the “Let Freedom Ring” celebration on the City of Franklin website and social media outlets.

Motion was made by Commissioner Bennett and seconded by Commissioner Stewart to approve Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration motorcade activities with assistance for traffic control from the Franklin Police Department and City of Franklin Public Works Department and to further approve to close College Street in front of the Methodist Church for motorcade participants to pay tribute to Dr. King, so long as motorcade participants remain in their cars throughout the duration of the tribute. In addition, the Commission further approved to allow the “Let Freedom Ring” celebration to be viewed on the City of Franklin media and social media outlets following the event.

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

**GENERAL GOVERNMENT**

City Attorney Scott Crabtree asked the Commission for two sponsors for the proposed ordinance rezoning 12.14 acres located on Kennedy Lane/Aspen Drive owned by Mitra, LLC from R-1 (Single Family Residential) to R-1S (Single Family Residential). Mayor Dixon and Commissioner Bennett asked to sponsor the proposed ordinance.

First reading of the proposed ordinance took place during the ordinance portion of the meeting.

City Attorney Scott Crabtree asked the Commission to consider approval of Resolution No. 2021-001 supporting proposed legislation to increase transportation funding and to modernize Kentucky’s road funding formula for allocation of revenues.

Motion was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Stewart and unanimously approved by roll call vote the following Resolution No. 2021-001:

**RESOLUTION NO. 2021-001**

**CITY OF FRANKLIN, KENTUCKY**

*WHEREAS, safe, efficient transportation is an essential public service provided in every Kentucky city; and,*

*WHEREAS, Kentuckians who drive in Kentucky cities depend on the transportation network to access education, health care, employment and other necessities; and,*

*WHEREAS, Kentucky cities are responsible for more than 10,000 miles of public roads; and,*

*WHEREAS, more people live in Kentucky’s cities, city streets are utilized more frequently, and they have a much higher cost of maintenance per mile; and,*

*WHEREAS, city spending on streets increased 35% from FY 2010 to FY 2019, while state and federal funding dropped nearly 24%; and,*

***WHEREAS**, FY 2020 motor fuels tax revenues were 16% less than the most collected in FY 2014, and they are the only portion of the Road Fund provided to local governments for the maintenance of city streets; and,*

***WHEREAS**, the road funding formulas that determine how motor fuels tax revenues are allocated to cities and counties have not changed in almost 50 years, and Kentucky has not changed its motor fuels tax since 2015.*

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of City Commissioners of the City of Franklin, Kentucky urges the Kentucky General Assembly to enact legislation that increases transportation funding and modernizes Kentucky's road funding formula to provide a more equitable allocation of revenue to cities to ensure the safety, maintenance and construction of vital city streets and bridges.*

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** on this 11<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2021, by a unanimous vote, that the Board of City Commissioners of the City of Franklin, Kentucky strongly encourages the Kentucky General Assembly to pass legislation in the 2021 Regular Session of the General Assembly that addresses Kentucky's growing infrastructure needs.*

City Attorney Scott Crabtree asked the Commission to consider a proposed Emergency Leave Policy for City of Franklin employees. On December 31, 2020, the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) expired and, with it, the emergency sick leave for employees or their families who contracted COVID. The proposed policy allows the City Manager to continue to have flexibility to address emergency paid leave for employees when the need arises and also provides some basic guidelines until vaccines are readily available for City of Franklin staff.

Motion was made by Commissioner Bennett and seconded by Commissioner Powell to approve as presented the Emergency Leave Policy for City of Franklin Employees.

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

Police Chief Roger Solomon asked the Commission to consider approval of the proposed Appalachia HIDTA Subaward Agreement for 2021. This federal grant program allows for reimbursement of overtime wages up to \$18,000.00 paid to a City of Franklin police officer assisting the South Central Kentucky Drug Task Force.

Motion was made by Commissioner Stewart and seconded by Commissioner Powell to approve entering into the Appalachia HIDTA Subaward Agreement and to authorize the Mayor to sign the agreement on behalf of the City of Franklin.

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

City Manager Kenton Powell asked the Commission to consider approval of the proposed Uniform Policy. The current uniform vendor contract has expired and City employee uniform purchases will be handled in-house. The proposed policy will allow each employee to review and acknowledge the expectations and full understanding of their responsibility for City provided uniforms.

Motion was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Bennett to approve the Uniform Policy for City of Franklin employees required to wear a uniform.

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

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City Manager Kenton Powell asked the Commission to consider re-appointing Larry A. Smith to the Franklin Housing Authority Board for another four year term. Mr. Smith has served on this Board for the past four years and has been an active and involved member.

Motion was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Bennett to re-appoint Larry A. Smith to the Franklin Housing Authority Board of Directors for a four (4) year term to expire on December 31, 2024.

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

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Community Development Director Tammie Carey provided the Commission with an update regarding the AT&T business line at the Franklin Police Department. At the December 14, 2020, meeting Assistant Finance Director Daniel Reetzke asked the Commission to approve a new 12 month agreement for this phone line providing savings of approximately \$230.00 per month. The Commission asked for additional information regarding the line prior to approval.

Carey indicated that this line services the Police Department fax line and also their lobby telephone, both of which require traditional copper lines. The current VOIP service through Franklin EPB Fiber does not support the copper line requirement at this time and the AT&T service is currently necessary.

Motion was made by Commissioner Stewart and seconded by Commissioner Powell to approve the City of Franklin to enter into a 12 month verbal agreement with AT&T for land line services currently provided and further authorized the Mayor to sign any and all necessary documents which may be required for this agreement.

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

### **UTILITIES**

Wastewater Treatment Superintendent Trent Coffee asked the Commission to approve a proposed professional services agreement with Barge Design Solution, Inc., for the Franklin Avenue Sewer Improvements Project.

Motion was made by Commissioner Bennett and seconded by Commissioner Williams to approve a professional services agreement with Barge Design Solution, Inc. for the Franklin Avenue Sewer Improvements Project for \$11,000.00 for the design services and an additional \$3,000.00 for the bid phase services for a total of \$14,000.00, and further authorized the Mayor to sign any the professional services agreement.

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

**ORDINANCES**

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

Ordinance No. 2020-019 titled: *An Ordinance Rezoning Approximately 322.34 Acres Located North of Highway 100 East, South of Gold City Road, And West of Interstate 65 at Exit 6 from B-5 (Interstate Interchange Business District) to I-1 (Light Industrial) by Kycore, LLC*

Motion was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Stewart to adopt Ordinance No. 2020-019 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>		

Ordinance No. 2020-020 titled: *An Ordinance Rezoning 50.12 Acres West of 31-W North from AG (Agricultural District) to B-4 (Highway Business District) by Lewis Memorial, Inc.*

Motion was made by Commissioner Bennett and seconded by Commissioner Williams to adopt Ordinance No. 2020-020 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. 2021-001 titled: *An Ordinance Rezoning Approximately 12.14 Acres Located on Kennedy Lane AKA Aspen Drive from R-1 (Single Family Residential) to R-1S (Single Family Residential) by Mitra, LLC*

No action was taken on first reading of the ordinance.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 1:00 PM, motion was made by Commissioner Williams and seconded by Commissioner Stewart to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of: (1) Land Acquisition – Deliberations on the future acquisition or sale of real property by a public agency where publicity would be likely to affect the value of a specific piece of property to be acquired for public use or sold by a public agency {KRS 61.810(1)(b)}; 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; City Manager Kenton Powell; and City Attorney Scott Crabtree and Chief Roger Solomon.

At 1:10 PM, motion was made by Commissioner Bennett and seconded by Commissioner Williams to exit Executive Session and return to open session.

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

**OTHER COMMISSION BUSINESS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Stewart to accept the resignation of Officer Caleb Holloway.

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

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Motion was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Williams to approve the hiring of Monta Cherry as a full time police officer with the Franklin Police Department with employment to begin on January 25, 2021.

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

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 1:14 PM, motion was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Williams 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