

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

**January 10, 2022**

**City Hall  
117 West Cedar Street  
Franklin, Kentucky**

The Franklin, Kentucky City Commission met in Regular Session at 12:00 Noon, Monday, **January 10, 2022**, 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 Manager Kenton Powell; City Attorney Scott Crabtree; City Personnel Director/Deputy Clerk Rita Vaughn; City Finance Director Carol Riggenbach; Franklin Police Chief Roger Solomon; Public Works Director Chris Klotter; Johnie Skipworth, Charla Sky, Tyrone Edmonds, Kenny Massey, Donzella Lee, Tim Crocker, Chuck Fleming, Carter Munday, Diane Shutt, Sarah Wakefield, Scott Poston, Lee Ross Dinwiddie, and Mason Barnes.

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Williams to approve the revised minutes of the Franklin City Commission December 13, 2021, Regular Meeting and the minutes of the December 16, 2021, Special Called Meeting as presented.

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

**HEAR THE PUBLIC**

Donzella Lee was present to give an update on the Human Rights Commission Martin Luther King, Jr. festivities. Rev. Lee indicated that due to the rising Covid numbers the Human Rights Commission has decided not to have their annual Martin Luther King, Jr. breakfast but planned

to a motorcade. The Human Rights Commission requested a Police escort, meeting at the Greater Taylor AME Church on Jefferson Street, beginning at 8:00 a.m., and ending at the Methodist Church. In addition, they requested a street closure at Kentucky and Cedar Street in front of the Methodist Church for this event.

Motion was made by Commissioner Williams and seconded by Commissioner Stewart to approve this street closure request.

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

### **RECOGNITIONS**

City Manager, Kenton Powell introduced new employees Charla Sky, Class IV Operator at the Water Treatment Plant; and Tyrone Edmonds, Service Maintenance Technician in the Water Distribution Department.

### **COMMUNITY SERVICES**

Mayor Dixon mentioned that he has had several calls from citizens expressing their appreciation for the prompt way the City crews handled the removal of snow, and he also expressed his appreciation to them.

### **GENERAL GOVERNMENT**

Carter Munday was present to discuss a Solar Farm application he received last week. Silicon Ranch Corporation is requesting a Conditional Use Permit to construct a solar project on property located on Highway 100 East, currently owned by James Meador. The property is in the City limits and currently zoned agriculture but concern was expressed that the property is located on a designated gateway area. The application is on the Planning & Zoning Board of Adjustments agenda for their January 24, 2022, meeting.

Motion was made by Commissioner Bennett and seconded by Commissioner Powell to send a letter from the City of Franklin to the Franklin-Simpson Planning & Zoning Board of Adjustments recommending denial of the application and further authorized the Mayor to sign the letter.

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

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Simpson County Judge Executive Mason Barnes asked the Commission to consider a proposal for the Franklin-Simpson Parks to be operated and managed by the County. In addition, Parks Board Chairman Chuck Fleming and Parks Board attorney Tim Crocker provided additional discussion regarding the matter.

After lengthy discussion, it was determined that the discussion regarding operation and management of the Franklin-Simpson Parks be placed on the agenda for the March 1, 2022, regularly scheduled joint meeting of the Franklin City Commission and Simpson Fiscal Court.

For several years, the City has used the services of Bluegrass Cellular for wireless service for 43 devices with cell service. On November 15, 2021, Bluegrass Cellular changed to Verizon, and since that time, we had two on-call cell phones that stopped working, which created issues with after-hours response.

It was determined, after speaking with our designated government sales specialist, the best solution was for the City to do a new agreement with Verizon. Once the agreement was in place and approved by the Verizon government division, new phones were sent to get the on-call phones working again. This was considered an emergency and the Mayor signed the agreement with Verizon in order to get the on-call phones working again.

Motion was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Bennett to authorize the agreement with Verizon and ratify the Mayor's signature on the agreement.

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

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City Attorney Scott Crabtree asked the Commission to consider changes to the current City of Franklin Personnel Policies and Procedures. Most of the recommended changes were a result of the change in Federal laws regarding parental leave.

Motion was made by Commissioner Bennett and seconded by Commissioner Stewart to approve amendments, as presented, to the City of Franklin Personnel Policies and Procedures.

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

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City Attorney Scott Crabtree asked the Commission to consider a proposed ordinance rezoning two tracts of land located on U.S. Highway 31W North. These parcels were approved for rezoning by the F-S Planning & Zoning Commission.

Commissioner Powell and Commissioner Stewart sponsored the ordinance with first reading taking place during the ordinance portion of the meeting.

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Water Distribution Superintendent Kenny Massey asked the Commission to consider approval of new Itron meter reading equipment to replace the old and outdated equipment. United Systems and Software, Inc. is the exclusive distributor for this equipment in Kentucky

Motion was made by Commissioner Bennett and seconded by Commissioner Powell to authorize the purchase of the Itron meter reading equipment from United Systems & Software, Inc. for \$11,350.00, and to authorize the Mayor to sign any necessary documents.

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

**ORDINANCES**

City Attorney Scott Crabtree provided first summary reading of Ordinance No. 2022-001 titled: *An Ordinance Rezoning Land Located on the West Side of U.S. Highway 31-W North as Follows: Approximately 3.89 Acres From I-1 (Light Industrial) to B-4 (Highway Business) (Referred to as Tract I Herein) and Rezoning Approximately 23.83 Acres From I-1 (Light Industrial) (Referred to as Tract II Herein) to R-2 (Single Family and Two Family residential) Based Upon a Recommendation by the Planning and Zoning Commission from a Petition Filed by L's Property, LLC*

No action was taken on first reading of the ordinance.

City Attorney Scott Crabtree provided second summary reading of Ordinance No. 2021-033 titled: *Amendment to Ordinance Adopting a Historic Overlay for the City of Franklin, Kentucky.*

Motion was made by Commissioner Williams and seconded by Commissioner Powell to adopt Ordinance No. 2021-034 and was unanimously 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>		

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 1:15 PM, motion was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Williams 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)}; (2) Litigation – Discussion of proposed or pending litigation {KRS 61.810(1)(c)}; and, (3) 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 members present. Motion carried unanimously.

Entering Executive Session were Mayor Dixon; Commissioners Powell, Bennett, Williams and Stewart; City Manager Kenton Powell; City Attorney Scott Crabtree; Weldon Deweese; Tim Smith; Chris Davenport, Renea Nail; and Tim Crocker entered at the beginning, and Weldon Deweese, Tim Smith; Chris Davenport, Renea Nail exited at 2:15 p.m. Tim Crocker exited at 2:30 p.m. Carol Riggenbach entered at 2:35 PM and exited at 2:40 PM.

At 3:04 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: All. Motion carried unanimously.

**OTHER COMMISSION BUSINESS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Bennett to approve the sale of the property known as the Carter Moore Hospital property from Franklin Affordable Housing, Inc. to Lee Ross Dinwiddie, or his designee, under the terms and conditions approved by the Franklin Affordable Housing, Inc.

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

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Motion was made by Commissioner Bennett and seconded by Commissioner Stewart to hire Charla Sky as a Water Treatment Operator at the Franklin Water Plant.

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

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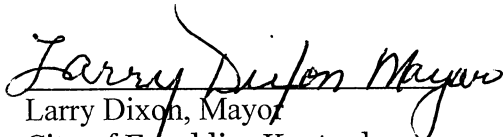
Motion was made by Commissioner Stewart and seconded by Commissioner Bennett to hire Caleb Williams as Customer Service Representative for the City of Franklin.


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

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 3:07 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 members present. Motion carried unanimously.

  
Larry Dixon, Mayor  
City of Franklin, Kentucky

  
Cathy Dillard, City Clerk  
City of Franklin, Kentucky