**MINUTES**

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING**

**November 1, 2012**

The Mayor and Council of the City of Franklin, Georgia, met in regular session Thursday, November 1, 2012 at city hall at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Pro Tem Johnny Adams began the meeting by welcoming everyone in attendance. He told the public there was a sign up sheet for anyone wanting to speak under public comments. Councilman Hamil gave the invocation followed by Councilman Almond leading in the pledge to the flag.

**MINUTES OF October 4, 2012**

Councilman Rogers made a motion, seconded by Councilman Manders, to approve the minutes as presented. The vote was unanimous.

**ORDER OF THE AGENDA**

Mayor Pro Tem Adams asked to amend the agenda to under new business to include a copy of the proposed budget for 2013. Councilman Manders asked to amend the agenda to include cell phone allowances under new business. Councilman Hamil made the motion to amend the agenda. It was seconded by Councilman Rogers. The vote was unanimous.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

**Finance -** City Clerk Myra Braswellsubmitted a written report. She also spoke briefly on the following:

1.LOST revenues were down in October and down about $138, 592.39 from the same time last year.

2. Expenditures are still on track.

3. Additional revenues in the form of a COPS grant and insurance premium tax showed October revenues over expenditures by $31.657.74 for the month of October.

4. Overall, revenues are still down about $98,000.00 for the year.

**Police Department** - Chief Hannah reported on the following:

1. The city received the COPS grant for $10,671.59 this month.

2. All officers attended training on legislative case law updates.

3. He, along with Officers Cameron and Chapman and deputies from the Sheriffs Department attended Red Ribbon Week at Heard Elementary. They spoke on the problems children can encounter with drugs, alcohol, strangers and many other general safety issues.

4. He and his officers also attended the annual Trunk or Treat held each year at the covered arena. All participants have to complete a background check. This helps to insure the safety of the children and provides a safe environment for the children.

**Street Department -** Street Department Supervisor Alan Holcomb spoke on the following:

1. He spoke to a Mr. Wardlow from Bowdon about the tree on Main Street and a dead pine tree on city property. He was given a price of $1650.00 to cut down both trees, grind the stumps and remove all debris.

2. He needs some guidelines from the city about hanging the Christmas lights. Previously they have used the backhoe. Councilman Manders said this was dangerous and OSHA could fine the city heavily. He suggested buying a used bucket truck. He thought one could be purchased for around $5500.00. Mayor Pro Tem Adams said he would see if EMC could help.

3. He told the council the motor was worn out on the trash truck. It would need to be repaired or replaced or it would tear the transmission up again. A new motor, including labor, will cost $9400.00 and rebuilding the PTO would be $700.00. A new chassis will be $67,000.00. Councilman Manders told the council the motor can be rebuilt in frame for around $1700.00. He will check on this and report back.

**City Attorney David Mecklin -** Mr. Mecklin spoke on the following:

1. The LOST negotiation with the county and the other cities went into mediation on November 17, 2012. The mediation process lasted all day and concluded unsuccessfully. He will continue to talk to them to discuss a possible settlement. The next requirement is for a lawsuit to be filed. A judge from outside the circuit will preside. He said he did not think a settlement would be reached by December 31. The tax will continue under the current arrangement until resolved. He will speak further about the litigation in executive session.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**1. LMIG -** The council was presented with a list of streets that included Davis Street, Maple Street and Sargent Circle. Mayor Pro Tem Adams said Sargent Circle did not qualify under the conditions of the LMIG. He recommended Davis Street to the stop sign on Franklin Parkway and around the circle in front of Regions Bank. The balance of the funds can come from SPLOST. Councilman Manders made a motion, seconded by Councilman Hamil, to approve the recommendation. The vote to approve was unanimous.

**2. Rental Property on Franklin Parkway**

A.Mayor Pro Tem Adams told the council the housed was infested with fleas and needed to be torn down.

B. Councilman Rogers mentioned it had asbestos siding and should be left alone.

C. Councilman Hamil said, in addition, the roof leaked, the weather stripping was rotten and smoke from the fireplace was leaking into the walls. He suggested tearing it down and grading the property for a future Boys and Girls Club. It would be hazardous to rent.

D. Councilman Almond agreed the property should not be rented and made a motion to have the house torn down. Councilman Hamil seconded the motion. The vote to approve the motion was unanimous.

E. Councilman Rogers said he would like to see the house sold and moved from the property. He

made a motion to take sealed bids to purchase the house and have it moved. Councilman Manders

seconded the motion. The vote to approve was unanimous.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**1. Pouring License - Rogers Loco Rio**

Mayor Pro Tem Adams told the council the applicant, Hope Skinner, had checked out with no problems. He asked for a recommendation from the council. Councilman Hamil said he did not think the city needed it. Councilman Manders made a motion, seconded by Councilman Almond, to grant the pouring license. Councilman Almond, Manders and Rogers voted in favor of the motion. Councilman Hamil opposed the motion. Mayor Pro Tem Adams abstained from voting. The motion was approved by a majority vote.

**2. Proposed 2013 Budget**

Mayor Pro Tem Adams gave the council members a copy of the proposed budget for 2013 along with the items that had been cut from the budget. He asked them to look over it and be prepared to discuss any changes they thought necessary at the December meeting. Councilman Almond said he would like to see some training made available to employees of the street department.

**3. Cell Phone Allowance**

Councilman Manders told the council he realized the city was still paying a cell phone allowance to a mayor who was suspended from office. He wanted to suspend all cell phone reimbursements to the mayor as long as she remained suspended. Mayor Pro Tem Adams told him it had been omitted from the 2013 proposed budget. Mr. Mecklin told the council the cell phone reimbursement was not set by ordinance and could be suspended at any time. Councilman Manders made a motion, seconded by Councilman Rogers, to suspend the mayors cell phone allowance until the end of the year. Councilmen Adams, Hamil Manders and Rogers voted in favor of the motion. Councilman Almond abstained. The motion was approved by a majority vote.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS: None**

**COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

1. Councilman Rogers said he would like to commend the police department for the job they did at the ball game.

2. Councilman Manders stated he would like to wish the new business the best of luck.

3. Councilman Hamil also wished them well and said he was glad they were here.

4. Mayor Pro Tem Adams said he would like to commend the school athletic department for their show of sportsmanship at the last ball game. Councilman Rogers said the school had some of the best coaches in the State of Georgia.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Councilman Manders made a motion, seconded by Councilman Rogers, to enter in an executive session to discuss potential litigation. The vote was unanimous.

Councilman Rogers made a motion, seconded by Councilman Manders, to re-enter the regular session. The vote was unanimous.

Mayor Pro Tem Adams said the council discussed potential litigation. No decisions were made.

There was no further business to conduct and Councilman Manders made a motion, seconded by Councilman Rogers, to adjourn. The vote was unanimous.

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Johnny R. Adams, Mayor Pro Tem

**Members Present: Clerks Present:**

Shane Manders, Post #1  Myra Braswell

Willie Almond, Jr., Post #2

Joel Rogers, Post #3

Jimmy Hamil, Post #5