



Meeting Minutes

Work Session

Tuesday, August 8, 2023

5:00 PM

Board Room

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor called the meeting to order at 05:00 PM

Board Members Present: Clyde Barnhill, Gabrielle Hanson, Matt Brown, Ann Petersen, Jason Potts, Patrick Baggett, Brandy Blanton, Beverly Burger, Ken Moore

Board Members Absent:

Staff Present: Eric Stuckey, Shauna Billingsley, Vernon Gerth, Mark Hilty, Angie Johnson

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Comments on agenda items may be made in person at City Hall or by emailing recorder@franklintn.gov before noon on the day of the meeting. Comments will be submitted for the record.

WORK SESSION DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. **Discussion Regarding Ethics Commission Findings And Recommendations Regarding Alderman Gabrielle Hanson**

Sponsors: Ethics Commission Counsel

Mr. Stuckey explained that his and Ms. Billingsley's role is to facilitate the process and assist the Ethics Commission. Once the Ethic Commission deemed a review was warranted, outside counsel was obtained, and they conducted a hearing, heard testimony, and heard public comment regarding the possible ethics violation. At the August 22, 2023 Board of Mayor and Alderman meeting a formal written report will be provided.

Ms. Billingsley introduced Gail Ashworth as independent counsel for the Ethics Commission. Ms. Billingsley explained that she was too close to the situation even though she is the Ethics Officer.

Ms. Ashworth stated that on July 27th, the Public Hearing was held in which three claimants appeared, testimony was heard along with testimony of one claimant's witness, and four citizens spoke. After the hearing, the Ethics Commission deliberated in an open session considering the claims, testimony, citizen comments, witness statements, documents, and arguments from Alderman Hanson's attorney. Alderman Hanson did not appear. The Commission determined that two violations of the Franklin City Municipal Code of Ethics had occurred after considering specific substantiated evidence from credible sources. The Commission determined that censure is recommended for Alderman Hanson and should be determined and appropriately delivered by the Board of Mayor and Alderman. The Ethics Commission has not finalized the written report, but Ms. Ashworth explained that a formal written decision will be available for the Alderman that includes findings of facts, conclusions of the law, and reasons for the decision at the August 22, 2023 Board of Mayor and Alderman meeting. The transcript of the hearing will also be available along with any documents presented during the hearing.

Mr. Stuckey added that the Ethics Commission will meet on August 14, 2023 to consider the final report, including the July 27th hearing transcripts, bringing closure to the matter and for the Board of Mayor and Alderman to consider a Resolution.

Mayor Moore stated that he would like to hear from the Board regarding a Resolution and stated that four citizens are present to provide comments regarding this item. Each citizen will have two minutes to speak.

Public Comments:

Walter Simmons, 20 Prescott Place, Franklin, TN, explained that his organization was called a black right-wing organization in an email. Mr. Simmons went on to reference causes his group is involved in, which includes back-to-school supply give away to children, celebration of Martin Luther King Jr. Day and awareness of black history. The email created conflict which resulted in the loss of friends, church partners, sponsors, and other corporate sponsorships. Mr. Simmons stated that the Franklin Justice and Equity Coalition (FJEC) has followed all procedures for event permitting and has always obeyed the laws. Mr. Simmons finished by saying that Alderman Hanson's constituents voted for her and need her representation.

Peggy Kingsbury, 220 Winter Hill Road, Franklin, TN, stated that, at the least, Alderman Hanson should be publicly censured by the Board of Mayor and Alderman and removed from all committee participation. As an Alderman, Ms. Hanson has damaged relationships with the African American community and has fostered an environment of mistrust among citizens. Ms. Hanson's behavior has brought about negative publicity for BOMA and the City of Franklin.

Rod Burger, 211 Snowden Street W, Franklin, TN, stated that he is one of the seven people who filed a complaint against Alderman Hanson and is in full support of the findings of the Ethics Commission. Ms. Hanson misrepresented the Board of Mayor and Alderman and the City of Franklin when she spoke out against the Covenant School shootings and the Juneteenth Celebration, as well as her emails to BNA. Mr. Burger explained that the proper response and consequence to such overreach is removal from the position of Alderman. This type of behavior is unfair to the citizens of Franklin and the Board of Mayor and Alderman. Mr. Burger commended the city's Ethics Commission volunteers and the city's counsel for their professionalism and decorum in handling the proposed litigation via Alderman Hanson's representation by Daniel Horowitz.

Emily Jenkins, 215 Franklin Road, Franklin, TN, explained that she is one of the citizens who filed a complaint against Gabriel Hanson and thanked the Ethics Commission for their thorough attention to the complaints and for not bowing to the threats and intimidation by Alderman Hanson. Alderman Hanson wrongfully abused her power and has proved repeatedly she either doesn't understand the Code of Ethics or refuses to follow them. Ms. Jenkins requested that the Board of Mayor and Alderman follow the recommendation of the Ethics Commission, at minimum, disavow Alderman Hanson's conduct, require her recusal from all future votes involving African American non-profits and include a prohibition against using a personal email when representing the City of Franklin.

Mayor Moore asked for comments from the Board.

Board Comments:

Alderman Brown stated that it's important for the public to know his role in the referenced complaint and to disclose that he sits on the Board of the African American Heritage Society (AAHS) and was the author of the response email that was sent to BNA from AAHS.

Alderman Baggett asked if Ms. Hanson wanted to comment on the discussion.

Alderman Hanson stated that her attorney will be present when any further conversation takes place. Further, Ms. Hanson stated that her attorney should have been notified that this item was on the agenda. Alderman Hanson explained that her attorney was told that discussion on the ethics complaint would not be on the August 8, 2023 Agenda.

Mr. Stuckey asked who Alderman Hanson's attorney asked and explained the agenda was publicly noticed. Mr. Stuckey did not receive any correspondence about the meeting or its agenda from Alderman

Hanson's attorney.

Ms. Ashworth explained that the only attorney to attorney conversation that happened was in reference to the completed written decision of the Ethics Commission which Mr. Horwitz was told was not complete, but he would be notified upon completion of the document.

Vice Mayor Barnhill stated that a decision should be possible by the August 22, 2023 Board of Mayor and Alderman meeting once the meeting minutes are received.

Ms. Ashworth explained that the Aldermen will receive the written decision with the findings of fact, conclusions of law and the reasons for the decision from the Ethics Commission, authorized and signed. This document will have the transcript of proceedings from the July hearing along with all the documents referenced during the hearing. The written decision will be complete by next Monday, August 14, 2023.

Vice Mayor Barnhill asked what the parameters of censureship are.

Ms. Billingsley read the definition of censure, which means to reprimand or to criticize harshly. Censureship could also mean removal of certain committee assignments. Ms. Billingsley explained that she has not been a part of censure since she has been City Attorney. In 2007, the Ethics Ordinance was created, but the City Charter has had censorship ability since 1970. Official censure would be stating, on the record, that the behavior was inappropriate or unethical, but censorship does not include removal from elected office. The only way to remove an elected official in the state of Tennessee is by ouster.

Mayor Moore asked the Board if they wanted to see a Resolution at the August 22, 2023 Board of Mayor and Alderman meeting.

Alderman Potts stated it was necessary to move forward with a Resolution on August 22, 2023, after the Ethics Commission's written findings and rulings are available.

Mayor Moore asked for confirmation that Alderman Hanson's attorney will receive appropriate notice.

Ms. Ashworth explained that Alderman Hanson's attorney will be notified once the written decision is available, as he was made aware on July 27, 2023, and again last week.

Ms. Billingsley explained that the item will be on the agenda and will be publicly noticed the same as the other matters to be considered by the Board.

Alderman Baggett asked if an ethics violation is necessary for censure.

Ms. Billingsley explained that censure is not contingent on an ethics violation. In this case, there were complaints filed pursuant to the Ethics Ordinance which required the process to begin. The City Charter provides for censure ability by the Board since 1970 even before the Ethics Commission was established.

Alderman Baggett stated that it's important for the public to understand that the process of the Ethics Commission review has already taken place and was not initiated by the Board of Mayor and Alderman. The Ethics Commission will provide a recommendation to the Board of Mayor and Alderman.

Ms. Billingsley explained that this is one way for censureship to come about. In this case, citizen complaints were specifically made to the Ethics Commission. For example, the Tree Commission might ask the Board to consider one tree versus another tree, and then it's up to the Board of Mayor and Alderman to decide how to proceed. Ms. Billingsley also explained that the Board of Mayor and Alderman is required to consider the recommendation of the Ethics Commission because the Ethics Commission is part of the City's body, and they are asking the Board to consider the findings. However, the Board does not have to rely on the Ethics Commission for Censureship.

The item is expected on the August 22, 2023 Board of Mayor and Aldermen Meeting for consideration.

2. Civil War Historical Commission Report

Sponsors: Kelly Dannenfelser, Rich Buckner

Mr. Stuckey explained that periodically citizen commissions are invited to report to the Board and provide updates.

Rich Buckner stated that the Commission was revamped a year and a half ago and that has energized and brought new focus to the Commission. The Civil War Historical Commission meets six times a year, every other month on the second Thursday of the month. The Commission is currently working on improvements to the audio tours. The goal of the U.S. Line Markers Project is to demarcate the main U.S. Army defense line that was present during the Battle of Franklin on November 30, 1864. Two U.S. Line Markers will be placed on Carter Hill and will be dedicated in the Fall. Over half of the Wayfinding signs (94 signs directing residents and visitors to historic sites around Franklin) have been placed with the remainder to be placed this Fall. Mr. Buckner explained that the reviews have been positive. Mr. Buckner credits the hard work of the City Staff that have collaborated with the Commission on each project they have undertaken.

3. Annual Tree Commission Report

Sponsors: Paige Cruse, Alderman Brandy Blanton

Alderman Blanton stated that the Tree Commission meets every other month. Franklin has had the Tree City USA designation for 17 years and to qualify for the designation the City is required to host an Arbor Day event and to provide advice on tree planting in the community.

Ms. Cruse stated that future plans for the Tree Commission include an educational campaign in schools, workshop and lecture series, PSA's on all City social media platforms, and to begin a street tree inventory. The inventory has begun around the City mainly in the "right of way" areas, which should take a month to complete. The end goal of the tree inventory, with the help of Urban Forestry Department, is to supplement it with a software program to continue adding to the inventory. Ms. Cruse noted the collaboration between the City's Departments and the Tree Commission in accomplishing their goals.

Alderman Burger asked how to request tree replacement for areas around the City that are not governed by an HOA.

Ms. Cruse explained that the tree inventory will help identify where tree replacement is needed. Also, a request can be made through the city's Urban Forestry Department.

Alderman Blanton noted the projects completed by the Tree Commission over the years and that there are appropriate times to plant trees.

Mr. Stuckey explained that the Urban Forestry Department was established three years ago and that anyone can make a request through the City's website 24 hours a day. In the upper right corner of the site, there is an area that says, "Report a Concern..." Citizens can request tree replacement for an area around town, and the portal will send the request to the appropriate department.

4. Consideration Of Event Permit For Franklin High School Homecoming Parade In Downtown Franklin On September 29, 2023

Sponsors: Milissa Reiersen, Monique McCullough

The item was acknowledged and is expected on the August 22, 2023 Board of Mayor and Aldermen Meeting for consideration.

5. **Consideration Of Event Permit For Porchfest Sponsored By The Westhaven Foundation In Westhaven On September 30, 2023**

Sponsors: Milissa Reiersen, Monique McCullough

Alderman Burger asked why Porchfest would require an event permit.

Ms. McCullough explained that a small portion of Front Street will be closed, and the city provides support for the event.

The item is expected on the August 22, 2023 Board of Mayor and Aldermen Meeting for consideration.

6. **Discussion Of Peddlers, Solicitors, And Itinerant Merchants - Pop-Up Commercial Merchandise Sales, Services, And Permitting Requirements**

Sponsors: Eric Stuckey, Vernon Gerth, Jessica Davey, Blake Harper

Mr. Stuckey stated that at the last Board of Mayor and Alderman meeting a brief discussion regarding peddlers, solicitors, and itinerant merchants prompted the need for more information and to circle back for a more detailed discussion.

Mr. Gerth stated that Mr. Harper will provide information on the outdatedness of the Ordinance. The goal is to receive feedback from the Board, so that staff can draft potential updates to the Ordinance for peddlers, solicitors, and itinerant merchants.

Mr. Harper explained that over the last 20 years transient merchants have changed. People sell several items out of the back of their trailers, vans or converted Airstreams. According to the current Franklin Ordinance, a solicitor is someone that goes from dwelling to dwelling as a business offering or attempting to take orders for goods. A peddler is someone that also goes from home to home, street to street, business to business while transporting items that he or she is selling. An itinerant merchant is anyone who sells goods or solicits services from a temporary location in the City with the permission of the owner. This is seen currently on street corners now, if appropriately permitted. The City is seeing requests from business owners for multiple permits for their businesses. In other words, the business owner would like to have multiple locations around the City. The code currently states that a business can have a permit for one location only. The permit fee is \$50 for an itinerant merchant and could theoretically be valid for one year.

Ms. Davey explained that the Municipal Code covers peddlers, solicitors, and itinerant merchants in one section of the code because many of the rules apply to all three classifications. Ms. Davey referred to the matrix prepared by Staff to discuss each type, including an additional classification of farm fresh produce. An itinerant merchant tends to operate more like a business with employees. Questions arise as to whether each person working in the tent or kiosks requires a permit. As the code is written, each person will need a permit. The question mark on the matrix indicates areas where guidance is needed from the Board. Also, Ms. Davey asked if a permit should be required per location. Itinerant merchants have requested a single permit to do business anywhere in the City limits. Now, a permit is required for each location along with the property owner's permission.

Ms. Davey stated that the background check should remain part of the Ordinance. If the Ordinance is changed so that the permit covers the business, the question becomes whether to require background checks for each individual working for the business. Metro Nashville provides a company permit for solicitors, not itinerant merchants, then everyone has an ID badge for an additional fee and a background check. Should the itinerant merchant be required to have background checks for each employee or just for the owner and/or manager?

Alderman Burger pointed out that an itinerant merchant does not go from home to home but are stationary in

one location.

Alderman Baggett stated that the City should know where all the itinerant merchants are at any given time.

Ms. Davey stated that the requests the City is currently seeing are business owners asking if a separate permit is needed if the property owner gives his/her permission.

Mr. Harper stated that in this case, the property owner would hold the permit. Other requests from business owners involve operating in multiple locations at the same time under the same permit. A consideration for the Board is how many locations is too many.

Alderman Burger stated that for seasonal businesses, once the City begins monitoring (for example, people with truckloads of wood), Franklin loses the small-town feel and charm.

Ms. Davey stated that that's the spirit of the farm fresh produce additional designation in the matrix.

Mr. Gerth explained the outdatedness of the ordinance and suggested breaking out peddlers and solicitors from the group as they go from house to house and business to business. The itinerant merchant and farm produce merchant would sell products on private property requiring permission from the owner. Another consideration for peddlers and solicitors is the time of day that they are going from home to home. Also, the permit fee is \$50, should an application fee be instituted, and the permit fee changed to an annual fee of a different amount to cover the cost of the background check?

Alderman Burger stated that itinerant merchants and farm produce merchants should not be in the same category but should potentially be separate. Farm produce merchants should be separate because of the seasonal nature of the products. Ms. Burger also mentioned not overburdening our citizens with application fees and permit fees.

Alderman Potts asked for an example of a similar situation that is not farm related.

Ms. Davey stated that there was a mobile boutique that sets up in the parking lot of another retail establishment and is interested in setting up various locations around town. They applied for a second location permit; however, they are interested in more locations around town.

Alderman Brown asked how food truck permits work for multiple locations around the city.

Mr. Gerth explained that if a mobile food vendor received permission from the property owner, the vendor could stay there 24/7, one per property, even when the business was not open. Other mobile food vendors would be required to move each night, the same as itinerant merchants. Mr. Gerth strongly encouraged the Board to allow itinerant merchants to set up permanently on a property with permission from the owner. The feedback from the Board has been valuable as the Staff begins work on updating the Ordinance.

Alderman Baggett stated that it appears that everyone agrees with peddlers and solicitor's timeline, permit fee and bond. Alderman Baggett asked if a background check includes a credit check and if a credit check is necessary.

Ms. Davey explained that the background check is handled by the Police Department.

Mayor Moore suggested to Staff that the matrix be setup so that the Alderman can go through and comment on the Municipal Code regulating factors, according to each classification (peddler, solicitor, itinerant merchant and farm produce merchant).

Alderman Burger suggested special consideration be given to itinerant merchants that require the patron to come inside the airstream/trailer for specific services.

7. Development Activity Report

Sponsors: Tom Marsh, Katherine Harelson

Ms. Harelson provided an update concerning the development activity in Franklin for the first six months of 2023 and the entire fiscal year of 2023.

January to June 2023 Developmental Activity

The total number of permits provided for 2023 (January – June) is 2,595. This includes building permits, trade permits and other permits (pool permits, demolition permits & floodplain permits). Ms. Harelson noted that the numbers are lower than they usually are for this time of year. So far in 2023, \$856,335 have been collected from permit fees, \$791,407 collected from water and sewer impact fees, \$1,409,222 collected from road impact fees, and \$574,241 collected from facilities tax. Again, Ms. Harelson noted that the numbers are lower than typically seen at this time of year. The lower numbers are due to the permitting of single-family homes and townhomes. There has also been a noticeable decline in nonresidential and commercial activity on the permitting side as reflected in the impact fees. There has been a 45% decrease for the first six months of calendar year compared to June of 2022. The decrease is due to the lack of commercial permitting activity along with very few permits for multifamily developments. In the last ten years, a decline in single family homes can be seen, whereas townhomes have been up and down. Peaks and valleys can be seen for multifamily units.

July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023 Developmental Activity

The total number of permits for the year was 5,364 including building, trade, and other permits. These numbers are lower but not as low as the calendar year numbers. The last six months of 2022 were very strong, and the City saw a decline in the first six months of 2023. In the fiscal year, a total of \$2,164,167 was collected for permit fees, \$1,951,271 collected for water & sewer service, \$4,744,452 collected for roads, and \$1,294,168 from facilities tax. Ms. Harelson noted that the lower water and sewer fees are due to developments requiring a smaller meter size along with permitted developments that are not in the City's water district, so there would be no collection of water impact fees. Noticeably, the construction value declined in the calendar year, but in the fiscal year, a 13% increase was noted. The total construction value of the permits issued in FY23 was about \$755 million because of the strong second half of 2022. A total of 196 dwelling units for single family homes, 213 townhomes and 92 multi-family dwelling units have been permitted, showing a decrease in 2023. Overall, there has been a slight decrease in permanent activity due to nonresidential development, which has been a trend since the pandemic. Ms. Harelson noted the increase in activity on the plan review side, as several developments are working through the entitlement process for single family development but have not made it to the point of permitting for construction.

Mr. Stuckey noted there has been a decrease in overall office space vacancies showing some increase in "in office" work. The tier-one, class A shows a 7% vacancy rate with the collective office vacancy rate at 17%. The value per square foot is still among the very highest in the region. Mr. Stuckey stated there is some movement toward more "in office" use than seen in the last two years.

8. *Consideration Of Amendment 2 To COF Contract No. 2019-0031, With Clayton Properties Group, Inc. And Reese Farms, LLC For Road Impact Fee Reimbursement Agreement In An Amount Not To Exceed \$200,000

Sponsors: Jimmy Wiseman

Mr. Stuckey stated that this item related to additional improvement work by the developer, on behalf of the City in the Del Rio Pike area.

Mr. Holzen explained that the opportunity came from the Streets Department and is scheduled to reopen in early September weather permitting. Additional work will continue over the next three to four months, but Del Rio Pike will be open to the general public.

The item is expected on the August 8, 2023 Board of Mayor and Aldermen Meeting for consideration.

9. ***Consideration Of Resolution 2023-55, A Resolution Authorizing The Use Of A Competitively Sealed Proposal Procurement Methods Related To The Selection Of Owner's Representation Consulting Services For The New City Hall Project**

Sponsors: Eric Stuckey, Vernon Gerth

Mr. Stuckey stated that looking at the most recent step of schematic design of the City Hall project, the goal was to bring on board Owner's Representation Consulting Services to help look at value engineering opportunities the City is pursuing. Also, the City is planning to do a procurement process that allows the City to look at a sealed proposal, but also the quality of the proposals. These actions require the Board's approval before the process can begin. Mr. Stuckey noted that this item is on both agendas tonight. Also, feedback received noted the importance of having a Board representative present during the selection process. Mr. Stuckey noted that the Staff would welcome this if someone wanted to volunteer or nominate a fellow Alderman to help identify ways to reduce cost. Alderman Baggett was suggested by multiple Alderman to serve in this role.

The item is expected on the August 8, 2023 Board of Mayor and Aldermen Meeting for consideration.

10. ***Consideration Of Amendment 4 To COF Contract No. 2020-0041, With Orchard, Hiltz & McCliment, Inc. D/B/A OHM Advisors Regarding The New City Hall Project At No Cost To The City**

Sponsors: Eric Stuckey, Vernon Gerth

Mr. Stuckey stated that this is an update to the schedule and deliverables related to the City Hall Project at no cost to the City.

The item is expected on the August 8, 2023 Board of Mayor and Aldermen Meeting for consideration.

11. ***Consideration Of COF Contract No. 2023-0223, With The Tennessee Department Of Transportation To Enter Into A License Agreement To Provide Secondary Access To The Water Reclamation Facility At No Cost To The City**

Sponsors: Mark Hilty, Chris Franklin

Mr. Franklin explained that this request came from Alderman Brown. Alderman Brown requested that the temporary construction access to the water reclamation facility be made a permanent access point. The only stipulation is that the gate should be locked with access available with a card.

Mr. Stuckey stated that this approval would reduce the truck traffic to the water reclamation facility, and the City is glad to have this access point permanently open.

The item is expected on the August 8, 2023 Board of Mayor and Aldermen Meeting for consideration.

12. ***Consideration Of Ordinance 2023-29, An Ordinance to Rezone 0.10 Acres From Residential 6 (R6) District To Planned (PD 20) District For The Property Located South Of Mount Hope Street And West Of 9th Avenue North, At 611 Mount Hope Street (611 Mt. Hope PUD Subdivision). Establishing A Public Hearing On September 12, 2023**

Sponsors: Emily Wright, Amy Diaz-Barriga, Joseph Bryan

The item was acknowledged and is expected on the August 8, 2023 Board of Mayor and Aldermen Meeting for consideration on First Reading.

13. **Consideration Of Resolution 2023-50, A Resolution Approving A Development Plan For 611 Mt. Hope PUD Subdivision With 1 Modifications Of Development Standards (Parking), For The Property Located South Of Mount Hope Street And West Of 9th Avenue North, Located At 611 Mount Hope Street. Establishing A Public Hearing On September 12, 2023**

Sponsors: Emily Wright, Amy Diaz-Barriga, Joseph Bryan

The item was acknowledged and is expected on the September 12, 2023 Board of Mayor and Aldermen Meeting for consideration.

14. **Consideration Of Resolution 2023-51, A Resolution Approving A Revised Development Plan For Westhaven PUD Subdivision, For The Property Located South Of Highway 96 West And West Of Boyd Mill Pike. Establishing A Public Hearing On September 12, 2023**

Sponsors: Emily Wright, Amy Diaz-Barriga, Chelsea Randolph

Ms. Randolph stated that the purpose of this proposed revision of Westhaven PUD Subdivision Development Plan is to increase the height allowance to five stories for the proposed independent living facility located in the Jewell property area and remove the road connection from the Jewell property area to New Highway 96 West. The request to allow for five stories would better align with what is allowed within the Westhaven Pattern book. The request to remove the road connection to New Highway 96 West is to accommodate a stream and a wetland on the north side of the property. The City would not support roadway construction impacts to these features and the Traffic Impact Analysis (TIA) had very minimal trips projected at this connection. The Developer has provided a memo update to the TIA, and there were no significant impacts to the original recommendations. There are no proposed changes to the total number of dwelling units or to the commercial square footage. The Franklin Municipal Planning Commission recommended approval of Resolution 2023-51 by a vote of 8-1 and staff recommends that the Board of Mayor and Aldermen approve Resolution 2023-51.

The item is expected on the September 12, 2023 Board of Mayor and Aldermen Meeting for consideration.

15. ***Consideration Of COF Contract No. 2023-0225, With Travelers Insurance To Renew The City Of Franklin's Fiduciary Liability Policy Effective July 1, 2023**

Sponsors: Kevin Townsel

Mr. Stuckey stated that this item is on both agendas tonight and has to do with ongoing fiduciary coverage the administration of employee pension plans. This consideration requires approval from the Board enabling the Mayor to sign off.

Mr. Townsel stated that he manages health plans and retirement accounts.

The item is expected on the August 8, 2023 Board of Mayor and Aldermen Meeting for consideration.

16. **Consideration Of Ordinance 2022-18, An Ordinance To Amend The City Of Franklin Municipal Code Title 20, Chapter 2 Alarm Systems –Burglary/Holdup/Panic And To Amend - Appendix A – Chapter 20 - Miscellaneous**

Sponsors: Shauna Billingsley, Deb Faulkner

Mr. Stuckey explained that similarly to the Ordinance update discussion on peddlers and solicitors, this consideration would update the Ordinance governing alarm systems.

Ms. Billingsley stated that the Ordinance has not been amended since 2009. Staff is asking for consideration from the Board to increase fees and reduce the number of "false alarm" allowances from five to three.

Chief Faulkner explained that in 2022, the Police Department answered 3,599 false alarm calls. Each call takes a minimum response of 30 minutes, equating to over ten weeks of time answering false alarm calls. Registering and responding to alarms includes paperwork, postage, and staff time (both officers and administrative staff). The Alarm Code has not changed since 2009, but the costs for the City have increased significantly since that time. Chief Faulkner stated that Staff have submitted for the Board's consideration increasing the alarm fees from \$10.00 to \$30.00 for set up, and renewal fees from \$5.00 to \$15.00 annually. Further, Staff recommends that failure to respond to activated alarm fees increase from \$25.00 to \$40.00, false alarm fees increase from \$25.00 to \$40.00 per violation beginning with the third incident, and reinstatement for revoked alarm permit fees increase from \$100.00 to \$150.00.

Alderman Potts asked for a fee comparison from other municipalities.

Ms. Billingsley stated that the proposed fees may be slightly higher, but the Franklin Police Department receives more alarm calls than some of the other municipalities. Salaries have increased for Police Officers and Staff over the years.

Alderman Burger stated her concerns about an increase in fees for Franklin citizens.

Chief Faulkner stated that the proposed fees are on par with Murfreesboro, but the proposed fees would still not cover the complete costs for administrative services or Officers who respond to the alarm.

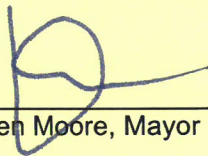
Alderman Baggett stated that he does not have a problem increasing fees but would like to have a better understanding of the actual costs to the City, including administrative service fees and Police Officer costs when responding to alarms.

The item is expected on the August 22, 2023 Board of Mayor and Aldermen Meeting for consideration on First Reading.

OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURN

Work Session Adjourned @ 6:39 PM



Dr. Ken Moore, Mayor

Minutes Prepared by Eydie Hassell and Reviewed by Sarah Schilling, Assistant Deputy City Recorder, City Administrator's Office - 8/9/2023, 10:56 AM

