

WEST FRANKFORT REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2016

1. MAYOR JORDAN CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 7:00 P.M. REQUESTING A ROLL CALL. ALL COMMISSIONERS WERE IN ATTENDANCE, ALONG WITH THE CITY ATTORNEY AND CITY CLERK.

2. MAYOR JORDAN ASKED FOR APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF FEBRUARY 9, 2016. COMMISSIONER HARKINS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SIMPSON. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR JORDAN VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED.

3. MAYOR JORDAN NEXT ASKED FOR APPROVAL TO PAY CITY BILLS AND PAYROLL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$219,866.82. COMMISSIONER SIMPSON MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HARKINS. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR JORDAN VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED.

4. THE NEXT ITEM WAS APPROVAL OF A DONATION TO THE OLD KING COAL COMMITTEE TO BE PAID FROM THE TOURISM FUND IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,000.00. THE MAYOR STATED OLD KING COAL IS MAY 12TH-15TH. COMMISSIONER SIMPSON MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CHAMBERS. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR JORDAN VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED.

5. THE NEXT ITEM WAS DISCUSSION WITH POSSIBLE ACTION, REGARDING FAÇADE IMPROVEMENT GRANT APPLICATIONS. THE MAYOR STATED THE APPLICATION IS FROM SARA AND RYAN RIDGEWAY FOR 99 E. MAIN STREET. THEY ARE REQUESTING A FAÇADE IMPROVEMENT GRANT. THEY ARE GOING TO USE THIS TO DO SOME PAINTING AND FAÇADE REPAIRS ON EXTERIOR DOORS, WINDOWS, EXTERIOR LIGHTS AND ROOF REPAIRS. THEY HAVE A PICTURE ATTACHED SHOWING THE A COMMERCIAL GRADE FRONT DOOR THEY ARE GOING TO PUT ON THE BUILDING. THEY ARE GOING TO PAINT THE GARAGE DOORS GRAY AND PAINT THE BUILDING REDBIRD COLORS. THEY ARE ALSO GOING TO PUT A SIGN ON THE FRONT OF THE BUILDING. THIS WILL COST 5,993.89 THE FAÇADE IMPROVEMENT GRANT WILL PAY \$2,500.00. COMMISSIONER CHAMBERS STATED PART OF THE FAÇADE IMPROVEMENT GRANT

INCLUDES THEIR NEW SIGN. DO THEY NEED TO DO A SIGN PERMIT ALSO? THE MAYOR STATED THE MOTION IS FOR THE FAÇADE GRANT AND SIGN. I WOULD LIKE TO THANK MR. RIDGEWAY FOR INVESTING IN OUR COMMUNITY AND I THINK IT IS A GREAT THING TO FIX THAT BUILDING UP. COMMISSIONER BLADES MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SIMPSON. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR JORDAN VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED.

6. THE NEXT ITEM WAS APPROVAL FOR THE WEST FRANKFORT FIRE DEPARTMENT TO PURCHASE FOUR MEDVAULTS FOR THE ACCOUNTABILITY, SECURITY AND LIABILITY OF THE MEDICATIONS CARRIED IN THE AMOUNT OF \$6,044.00, PLUS SHIPPING. CHIEF ALLEN STATED THESE ARE JUST LIKE A SAFE. THE ONES WE USE NOW ARE LITTLE TIN BOXES. THERE NEEDS TO BE A TRACKING SYSTEM OF WHO GOT IN THE BOX AND WHEN THEY GOT IN IT. THE MAYOR STATED OUR AMBULANCE SERVICE CONTINUES TO UPGRADE. THE DRUGS THAT THEY ARE NOW GIVING ARE A STEP HIGHER THAN WHAT THEY HAVE BEEN GIVING. I THINK THE IMPROVEMENT IN THE CARE THAT WE ARE GIVING MAKES A BIG DIFFERENCE IN THE OUTCOME. THAT FIRST GOLDEN HOUR IS PRECIOUS. THE FIREFIGHTERS HAVE TAKEN ADDITIONAL TRAINING TO BE ABLE TO USE THESE MEDICATIONS. THIS GOES HAND IN HAND TO BE ABLE TO PROPERLY SECURE THEM IN THE AMBULANCE. CITY ATTORNEY MIKE RIVA STATED HE WOULD LIKE TO COMPLIMENT THE FIREFIGHTERS AND THE AMBULANCE SERVICE. TWICE IN THE LAST THREE WEEKS THEY HAVE BEEN CALLED OUT TO FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH. COMMISSIONER HARKINS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SIMPSON. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR JORDAN VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED.
7. THE NEXT ITEM WAS APPROVAL OF AN ESTIMATE FROM DUKE'S ROOT CONTROL TO PERFORM A FOAMING ROOT CONTROL SERVICE ON VARIOUS SEWER LINES AND MANHOLES FOR THE SEWER DEPARTMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$6,341.90. THE MAYOR STATED THIS IS BASICALLY TREE ROOTS THAT GROW INTO OUR SEWER MAIN'S. THIS TREATMENT WILL ELIMINATE THE ROOTS. COMMISSIONER BLADES MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CHAMBERS. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR JORDAN VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED.

8. THE NEXT ITEM WAS APPROVAL FOR PAYMENT OF AN INVOICE FROM WIGGS EXCAVATING AND REPLACEMENT ON 4TH STREET BETWEEN ILLINOIS AND WASHINGTON FOR THE SEWER DEPARTMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$7,844.94. COMMISSIONER BLADES STATED THIS IS A DEEP MANHOLE WE HAVE HAD PROBLEMS OVER THERE SINCE 1974 THAT I KNOW OF. HOPEFULLY THIS WILL HELP OUT OVER THERE. THE MAYOR STATED HE WOULD LIKE TO THANK ED AND THE SEWER DEPARTMENT FOR BEING PROACTIVE. LAST ADMINISTRATION WE REPLACED THE WATER LINES ON MAIN STREET AND NOW WE ARE REPLACING THE SEWER LINES. COMMISSIONER BLADES MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SIMPSON. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR JORDAN VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED.

9. BUILDING AND SIGN PERMITS:

CODES OFFICER ED HAMMONDS STATED HE HAS ONE SIGN PERMIT AND ONE BUILDING PERMIT.

THE FIRST REQUEST IS FROM MR. RICK CAMPBELL FROM THE GAZETTE. HE IS ASKING FOR APPROVAL FOR THE SIGN THAT IS ALREADY UP AT THEIR LOCATION ON MAIN STREET. COMMISSIONER CHAMBERS STATED SHE SPOKE WITH HIM TODAY HE WASN'T AWARE AT WHAT HE NEEDED TO DO AND HE TRIED TO RESOLVE IT AS SOON AS HE BECAME AWARE. HE CAME IN THIS AFTERNOON TO TRY AND GET IT PAID AND FIXED. COMMISSIONER CHAMBERS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SIMPSON. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR JORDAN VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED.

THE NEXT ITEM I HAVE IS A BUILDING PERMIT FOR BEN WYANT AT 706 N. LINCOLN STREET. HE IS GOING TO ADD A 30X30 ADDITION TO HIS HOUSE; ALL SET BACKS ARE WITHIN STANDARDS. COMMISSIONER HARKINS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BLADES. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR JORDAN VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED.

10. MAYOR'S REPORT:

I WENT TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING LAST NIGHT. WE TALKED A LOT ABOUT WEST FRANKFORT. WE HAVE BEEN WORKING ON THE COMPLETION OF THE QUIT CLAIM DEED TRANSFER FOR IN FRONT OF THE WF MALL. THIS WILL RESOLVE ANY PERMIT PROBLEMS AS FAR AS GETTING BUSINESSES OUT THERE. WE ARE WORKING A LOT ON

TRYING TO FIND BUSINESSES AND TENANTS FOR THE MALL. THIS IS SOMETHING THAT WE TAKE VERY SERIOUSLY. JUST TO MAKE IT CLEAR, VANITY FAIR RENTS THE NORTH SECTION OF THAT MALL. MR. WILSON IS A TENANT OF VANITY FAIR NOT A TENANT OF THE CITY OF WEST FRANKFORT. VANITY FAIR PAYS FOR THAT, THEY SUBLEASE THE SPACES OUT. YOU MAY HAVE HEARD THERE HAS BEEN SOME DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN MR. WILSON AND VANITY FAIR ABOUT HIS LEASE. WE HAVE BEEN WORKING WITH THEM TO TRY AND RESOLVE IT. IT IS THE LEASE BETWEEN HIM AND VANITY FAIR. ALSO, I AM COMMITTED THAT WE CAN PUT STORES IN THERE THAT WILL DRAW PEOPLE OFF OF THE INTERSTATE. I THINK ONE OF THE OBSTACLES THAT WE HAVE TO OVERCOME IS THE FACT THAT IN ORDER FOR THE CITY TO GROW, WE HAVE TO BRING NEW BUSINESS HERE. WE HAVE TO ATTRACT NEW BUSINESSES AND I THINK THERE IS SOME CONFUSION WITH THAT. PEOPLE THINK IF WE GET NEW BUSINESSES IT WILL HURT THE BUSINESSES THAT WE ALREADY HAVE. WE NEED TO GROW, WE NEED GROWTH. THE MORE BUSINESSES WE HAVE AND THE MORE VARIETY YOU HAVE TO SHOP, THE MORE PEOPLE IT WILL BRING TO OUR CITY. THIS WILL BE BETTER FOR EVERYBODY. I DON'T SEE THIS AS A NEGATIVE. I NEVER SEE ANYTHING NEGATIVE IN THE PAPER ABOUT TOO MUCH GROWTH. IT CAN CAUSE PROBLEMS WITH TRAFFIC CONTROLS AND THINGS LIKE THAT. AS FAR AS MORE PLACES TO EAT AND SHOP I SEE THAT AS A POSTIVE THING. WE NEED TO LOOK DOWN THE ROAD AT FIVE TO TEN YEARS FROM NOW AND WHAT WEST FRANKFORT CAN BE. WE'RE NOT GOING TO BE ABLE TO MAKE EVERYBODY HAPPY. AS LONG AS PEOPLE UNDERSTAND WE ARE DOING THIS FOR THE BETTERMENT OF OUR COMMUNITY. I JUST WANT THE COMMUNITY TO GROW, I WANT THE BUSINESSES TO GROW, I WANT ALL THE DOWNTOWN BUILDINGS TO BE FIXED UP AND RENTED. IN ORDER TO DO THAT, WE HAVE TO HAVE REGULATIONS. THERE ARE BUILDINGS IN SUCH BAD CONDITION WE WILL HAVE TO TEAR THEM DOWN. WE ARE WORKING WITH OUR COUNCIL ON THAT. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS YOU CAN GET AHOLD OF ME AND I WILL TALK WITH YOU. THE CITY IS TRYING TO FILL THE MALL UP WITH BUSINESSES THAT WILL BRING PEOPLE OFF THE INTERSTATE AND DEVELOP THE LAND AROUND IT. HOPEFULLY THE GROWTH WILL BEGIN AND WE CAN ADD ADDITIONAL PROPERTY TO EXPAND AND GROW. I TALKED TO KATIE WARD AND SHE TALKED TO ME ABOUT A MEETING SHE WAS IN THAT TALKED ABOUT TAKING VACANT PROPERTY IN YOUR COMMUNITY AND PUTTING GARDENS ON IT. I MET WITH THE AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT TODAY

FROM THE HIGH SCHOOL AND OFFERED TO LET THEM TO USE OUR VACANT LOTS. THEY CAN USE THESE TO SELL THE VEGTABLES, GIVE THEM TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD, ASK THE NEIGHBORHOOD IF THEY WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE GARDEN, THEY CAN BRING THEM TO THE HIGH SCHOOL AND USE THEM IN THE CAFETERIA. THEY COULD ALSO PLANT MUM'S AND FLOWERING PLANTS THAT THEY COULD SELL. IF YOU WANT TO HAVE YOUR DAY MADE SIT DOWN WITH A BUNCH OF HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS THEY WILL REALLY GET YOU MOTIVATED. I APPRECIATE PEOPLE LIKE KATIE GIVING US SUGGESTIONS ON THINGS WE CAN DO. THEY WOULD LIKE TO MAYBE BUILD SOME FLOWER BOXES FOR OUR DOWNTOWN. THEY EVEN TALKED ABOUT POSSIBLE LONG TERM PLANS OF MAKING A HIKING PATH OR BIKE PATH AROUND THE OLD LAKE. THEY WERE REALLY EXCITED ABOUT GOING OUT THERE AND FINDING A PLACE THAT WOULD WORK. WE REALIZE SOME OF THESE PROJECTS COULD HAPPEN THIS YEAR, NEXT YEAR OR IN TWO-THREE YEARS.

11. COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS:

COMMISSIONER HARKINS STATED BOTH THE POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENTS ARE A GOOD BUNCH OF PROFESSIONAL PEOPLE THAT RISE TO THE OCCASION.

COMMISSIONER SIMPSON STATED THE FINANCES ARE DOING OKAY; WE WOULD LIKE TO DO BETTER. ONCE WE GET THE BUSINESSES IN TOWN IT WILL GENERATE MORE MONEY FOR THE CITY.

COMMISSIONER CHAMBERS STATED I WAS AT CITY HALL ALL DAY TODAY. I AM ALWAYS HAPPY TO BE HERE. SOME DAYS YOU LEAVE A LITTLE MORE HAPPY AND ENCOURAGED THAN OTHERS AND TODAY WAS ONE OF THOSE DAYS. I HAD A CHANCE TO FOLLOW UP WITH EVERYBODY. EVERYWHERE YOU GO AND EVERY DEPARTMENT YOU STOP IN AND TALK TO SOMEONE THERE IS SOMETHING GOOD GOING ON IN THE CITY. ED HAMMONDS AND I WENT THROUGH COMPLAINTS FROM LAST WEEK THAT HAVE ALREADY BEEN RESOLVED. ISSUES THAT HAVE BEEN DRAGGING ALONG THAT WE NOW HAVE A PLAN OF ACTION ON. THERE IS A LOT OF GOOD STUFF GOING ON IN THE CODES DEPARTMENT THAT IS GOING TO MAKE SOME REALLY VISIBLE CHANGES. ANGIE AND I WERE ABLE TO TALK ABOUT SOME GOOD CONVERSATIONS I HAD WITH BUSINESSES ABOUT SOME OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT THAT WE HAVE GOING ON. THIS WAS REALLY EXCITING AND ENCOURAGING. WHEN YOU CAN ALL SOMEONE

WHO IS FROM ANOTHER STATE AND TELL THEM ABOUT WEST FRANKFORT AND THEM BE AS EXCITED TO BE TALKING TO YOU AS YOU ARE THEM MAKES FOR A GOOD AFTERNOON. THERE IS A LOT OF GOOD STUFF GOING ON IN THE STREET DEPARTMENT AND ALL OF THE STUFF THAT IS GOING ON IN THE WATER AND SEWER DEPARTMENT. WE HAVE \$90,000.00 WORTH OF SEWER PROJECTS THAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN BEFORE THE ST. LOUIS STREET PROJECT TAKES PLACE. IT DOESN'T MATTER WHERE YOU GO RIGHT NOW THERE ARE GOOD THINGS GOING ON IN THE CITY. IT IS REALLY ENCOURAGING FOR US TO BE MOVING FORWARD ACROSS THE BOARD. IT SEEMS LIKE OUR TOWN IS ON THE RIGHT PATH AND I AM THANKFUL TO BE A PART OF IT AND FOR EVERYONE WHO IS WORKING SO HARD.

12. AUDIENCE QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS:

TALKING ABOUT ALL THE EMPTY LOT'S THAT WE HAVE. IF YOU COULD FIND A GROUP OF KIDS OR EVEN ADULTS WHO WOULD LIKE TO SPEND THEIR TIME DOING THAT. THEY COULD TAKE IT TO THE FARMERS MARKET AND SELL IT OUT THERE. OR LIKE YOU SAID GIVE IT BACK TO THE COMMUNITY OR THE HIGH SCHOOL. THAT'S A GOOD IDEA.

13. MAYOR JORDAN ASKED FOR APPROVAL TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS, PERSONNEL, LAND ACQUISITION AND/OR PENDING LITIGATION, WITH POSSIBLE ACTION. COMMISSIONER HARKINS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SIMPSON. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS ALONG WITH THE MAYOR VOTED YES. MOTION CARRIED. THE COUNCIL WENT INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 7:27 P.M.

14. THE COUNCIL RETURNED TO OPEN SESSION AT 8:57 P.M. ON A MOTION BY COMMISSIONER SIMPSON, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HARKINS. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS ALONG WITH MAYOR JORDAN VOTED TO RETURN TO OPEN SESSION. MOTION CARRIED.

15. WITH NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO BE DISCUSSED, THE MEETING WAS
ADJOURNED ON A MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HARKINS AT 8:58 P.M.


MAYOR TOM JORDAN


ANGIE BAKER, CITY CLERK