WEST FRANKFORT REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2026

1. MAYOR ARVIEW CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 6:00 P.M. REQUESTING A ROLL CALL. ALL COMMISSIONERS WERE IN ATTENDANCE INCLUDING, THE CITY ATTORNEY AND CITY CLERK.

2. MAYOR ARVIEW ASKED FOR APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA. THE MAYOR STATED AS FAR AS I KNOW THERE ARE NO CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO THIS. COMMISSIONER HARKINS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER STANLEY. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR ARVIEW VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED.

3. THE NEXT ITEM WAS APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE FEBRUARY 24TH, 2026 REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING. COMMISSIONER HOWARD MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WARREN. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR ARVIEW VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED.

4. THE NEXT ITEM WAS APPROVAL TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR DISCUSSIONS PURSUANT TO 5 ILCS 120/2(C)(1), 5 ILCS 120/2(C)(5), 5 ILCS 120/2(C)(6), 5 ILCS 120/2(C)(11) PERSONNEL, REAL ESTATE, LITIGATION. 6:03 P.M. COMMISSIONER WARREN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER STANLEY. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR ARVIEW VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED.

5. THE NEXT ITEM WAS APPROVAL OF A MOTION TO RETURN TO OPEN SESSION 6:24 P.M. COMMISSIONER HARKINS MADE THE MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER STANLEY. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR ARVIEW VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED.

6. THE NEXT ITEM WAS DISCUSSION WITH POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING APPROVAL OF MODIFYING THE TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT FOR PERSONNEL, SPECIFICALLY THE FIRE CHIEF. WE DISCUSSED IT IN THE BACK, AND I WOULD ENTERTAIN A MOTION TO RETAIN THE TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT AS THEY ARE FOR THE FIRE CHIEF. COMMISSIONER HARKINS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED

BY COMMISSIONER STANLEY. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR ARVIEW VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED.

7. THE NEXT ITEM WAS APPROVAL TO ACCEPT THE ANNUAL AUDIT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024. COMMISSIONER HOWARD MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WARREN. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR ARVIEW VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED.

8. THE NEXT ITEM WAS APPROVAL OF THE OPIOID LITIGATION UPDATE. THE MAYOR STATED THIS IS SOMETHING THAT'S ALSO DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE, SO WE'RE NOT PERMITTED TO PRESENT ALL THE TERMS PUBLICLY, BUT I WOULD ENTERTAIN A MOTION TO APPROVE THE OPIOID LITIGATION UPDATE. THE CITY ATTORNEY STATED I JUST WANT TO HELP WITH THE MOTION. BASED ON THE INFORMATION WE GOT FROM THE OPIOID LITIGATION ATTORNEYS, I WOULD ASK FOR A MOTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO EXECUTE THE COMBINED SUBDIVISION PARTICIPATION AND RELEASE FORM, WHICH IS THE LATEST SETTLEMENT. THE MAYOR STATED IF ANYONE WOULD LIKE TO MAKE THAT MOTION, JUST SAY SO MOVED. COMMISSIONER HOWARD SAID SO MOVED: MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WARREN. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR ARVIEW VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED.

9. THE NEXT ITEM WAS APPROVAL TO PUT THE WEST FRANKFORT MALL AND WEST FRANKFORT BUSINESS INCUBATORS EMPLOYEES UNDER THE COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC PROPERTIES AND CODES, WHICH WOULD BE LINDA WARREN. COMMISSIONER WARREN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HOWARD. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR ARVIEW VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED.

10. THE NEXT ITEM WAS DISCUSSION WITH POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING APPOINTING AN ADA COORDINATOR. THE MAYOR STATED OUR CODES OFFICER, THAD, HAS VOLUNTEERED TO TAKE THAT ON WITHOUT THE STIPEND. LAST MEETING WE APPROVED A STIPEND AMOUNT FOR THOSE DUTIES, BUT THAD HAS OFFERED TO DO THAT WITHOUT THE STIPEND. COMMISSIONER HOWARD MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WARREN. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR ARVIEW VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED.

11. THE NEXT ITEM WAS APPROVAL TO PUBLISH NOTICE INVITING BIDS FOR THE SALE OF REAL ESTATE LOCATED AT 208 SOUTH HORN, PARCEL NUMBER 11-24-410-004, AS SURPLUS PROPERTY IN THE CITY OF WEST FRANKFORT. BIDS ARE DUE BY APRIL 14TH, 2026. COMMISSIONER WARREN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER STANLEY. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR ARVIEW VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED.

12. THE NEXT ITEM WAS APPROVAL TO OPEN BIDS AND POTENTIALLY APPROVE ORDINANCES SELLING REAL ESTATE AT 411 NORTH PARKHILL, 507 WEST 7TH, AND 1109 EAST LINDLELL. THE CITY ATTORNEY STATED WE'VE GOT MULTIPLE SEALED BIDS.

411 N. PARKHILL STREET:

1. BID FROM CHRISTINE TURLEY, THE BID AMOUNT IS FOR $650.00. 10% DEPOSIT- A CHECK FOR $65.00 AS REQUIRED.

507 WEST 7TH STREET:

1. BID FROM CHRISTINE TURLEY, THE BID AMOUNT IS $1,200.00. 10% DEPOSIT- A CHECK FOR $120.00 AS REQUIRED.

1109 EAST LINDELL STREET:

1. BID FROM TINA ROSE, THE BID AMOUNT IS $1,020.00. 10% DEPOSIT- A CHECK FOR $102.00 AS REQUIRED.
2. BID FROM ROBERT STANLEY. THE BID AMOUNT IS FOR $1,200.00. 10% DEPOSIT- A CHECK FOR $120.00 AS REQUIRED.

THE MAYOR STATED WE WILL JUST DO THEM ONE AT A TIME. 411 NORTH PARK HILL, WE ONLY HAVE ONE BID. DO WE HAVE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE BID FOR THAT PROPERTY OF $650.00? COMMISSIONER STANLEY MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WARREN. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR ARVIEW VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED.

507 WEST 7TH, ONLY ONE BID FOR $1,200.00 DO WE HAVE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THAT BID? COMMISSIONER STANLEY MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HOWARD. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR ARVIEW VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED.

1109 EAST LINDELL, WE HAVE TWO BIDS. THE HIGH BID IS FROM ROBERT STANLEY FOR $1,200.00 THE OTHER BID IS $1,020.00 FROM TINA ROSE. COMMISSIONER HOWARD MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE HIGH BID TO ROBERT STANLEY, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WARREN. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR ARVIEW VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED.

13. THE NEXT ITEM WAS A DISCUSSION WITH POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING ALLOWING TAX LEVY MONEY COLLECTED ON BEHALF OF THE FIRE AND POLICE PENSION FUNDS TO BE DEPOSITED DIRECTLY INTO EACH ACCOUNT BY THE COUNTY TREASURER. THE MAYOR STATED KEITH, I'LL LET YOU SPEAK TO THIS BECAUSE I'M NOT SURE THE PARTICULARS OF IT, BUT FROM WHAT I UNDERSTAND IS THEY'RE WANTING TO KIND OF JUST BYPASS THE CITY AND JUST DEPOSIT THAT DIRECTLY. COMMISSIONER HOWARD STATED THE WAY IT WORKS NOW; THEY SEND US A CHECK AND THEN WE DEPOSIT IT AND THEN WE HAVE TO WRITE A CHECK OUT TO THE FIRE AND POLICE PENSION. AND WE HAVE TO GO THROUGH A PROCESS AND IT TAKES A FEW DAYS. THIS WOULD GO STRAIGHT TO THAT FROM THE COUNTY CLERK. IT'S NOT COSTING US ANYTHING, WE'RE NOT LOSING ANYTHING, AND THE POLICE AND FIRE PENSION MAY GAIN A LITTLE BIT IN THAT THEY MAY GET A LITTLE MORE INVESTMENT INCOME BECAUSE IT GETS THERE A LITTLE BIT QUICKER. MY RECOMMENDATION IS THAT WE APPROVE THAT. THE CITY ATTORNEY STATED MR. MAYOR, IF I MAY, I JUST HAVE ONE COMMENT. THE COUNTY TREASURER, I THINK, WILL ALSO HAVE TO APPROVE IT, BUT I AGREE WITH EVERYTHING. COMMISSIONER HOWARD STATED HOW ABOUT I MAKE THE MOTION SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE COUNTY? MR. CANTRELL STATED IF THE COUNTY DOESN'T ALSO APPROVE IT, IT'LL BE COMMITTED ANYWAY. COMMISSIONER HOWARD MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WARREN. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR ARVIEW VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED.

14. THE NEXT ITEM WAS APPROVAL TO APPLY FOR FINANCING OF THE 2025 CASE SKID STEER WITH BUCKET AND PLANER ATTACHMENT FOR THE STREET DEPARTMENT WITH BANTERRA BANK. COMMISSIONER HOWARD STATED WE'RE FINANCING THIS, BUT IT WILL BE PAID FOR BY MOTOR FUEL TAX. IT'S NOT GOING TO COST THE CITY ANY MONEY OUT OF THEIR GENERAL ACCOUNT. COMMISSIONER HOWARD MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THAT WE OBTAIN THE FINANCING FROM BANTERA BANK., SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER STANLEY. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR ARVIEW VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED.

15. THE NEXT ITEM WAS APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SIGNERS FOR LOAN DOCUMENTS TO PURCHASE THE 2025 CASE SKID STEER WITH BUCKET AND PLANER FOR THE WEST FRANKFORT STREET DEPARTMENT THROUGH BANTERRA BANK. THE CITY ATTORNEY STATED, WE LEFT TWO AUTHORIZED SIGNERS BLANK WHERE WE WOULD NORMALLY DO IT, AND THE TREASURER, AND THE FINANCE COMMISSIONER, THE MAYOR, AND THE TREASURER,

WHOEVER. I THINK YOUR MOTION SHOULD INCLUDE AT LEAST TWO AUTHORIZED FOLKS TO SIGN THE LOAN DOCUMENTS. THE MAYOR STATED WHY DON'T WE JUST SAY TREASURER AND FINANCE COMMISSIONER. COMMISSIONER HARKINS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WARREN. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR ARVIEW VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED.

16. THE NEXT ITEM WAS APPROVAL OF THE 2026 MFT MUNICIPAL ESTIMATE FOR MAINTENANCE IN THE AMOUNT OF $392,436.48. COMMISSIONER STANLEY MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HOWARD. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR ARVIEW VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED.

17. THE NEXT ITEM WAS APPROVAL OF THE 2026 MFT RESOLUTION FOR MAINTENANCE IN THE AMOUNT OF $400,000.00 COMMISSIONER STANLEY MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WARREN. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR ARVIEW VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED.

18. THE NEXT ITEM WAS APPROVAL OF THE 2026 MFT ENGINEERING AGREEMENT FOR MAINTENANCE. COMMISSIONER STANLEY MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HOWARD. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR ARVIEW VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED.

19. THE NEXT ITEM WAS APPROVAL TO PAY AN INVOICE FROM DIAMOND EQUIPMENT, INC. FOR THE PURCHASE OF A 36-FOOT DITCH BUCKET FOR THE WEST FRANKFORT WATER DEPARTMENT. COMMISSIONER STANLEY MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HOWARD. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR ARVIEW VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED. THE MAYOR STATED AND FOR THE PUBLIC'S INFORMATION, $1,700 IS THE AMOUNT THAT WAS APPROVED FOR THAT.

20. THE NEXT ITEM WAS APPROVAL TO PAY AN INVOICE FROM APPTEGY, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF $8,511.30 FOR THE CITY OF WEST FRANKFORT WEBSITE AND APP. THE MAYOR STATED IT'S AN ANNUAL THING. COMMISSIONER WARREN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER STANLEY. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR ARVIEW VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED.

21. THE NEXT ITEM WAS APPROVAL TO HIRE SKUTA CONSTRUCTION TO INSTALL A MANHOLE IN THE ALLEY NEAR THE HIGH RISE AND PAY AN

INVOICE IN THE AMOUNT OF $9,650.00 FOR THE SEWER DEPARTMENT. COMMISSIONER STANLEY MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HOWARD. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR ARVIEW VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED.

22. THE NEXT ITEM WAS APPROVAL TO PAY AN INVOICE FROM PLANTSCAPE NURSERY IN THE AMOUNT OF $1,671.51 FOR NEW HANGING BASKET LINERS TO BE PAID OUT OF THE WEST FRANKFORT BEAUTIFICATION FUND. COMMISSIONER STANLEY MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WARREN. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR ARVIEW VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED.

23. THE NEXT ITEM WAS APPROVAL TO PAY AN INVOICE FROM ATLAS IN THE AMOUNT OF $10,295.40 FOR THE FINAL BILLING FOR AUDIT SERVICES FOR THE YEAR ENDED APRIL 30, 2024 FOR THE CITY OF WEST FRANKFORT. COMMISSIONER HOWARD MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HARKINS. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR ARVIEW VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED.

24. THE NEXT ITEM WAS APPROVAL TO PAY AN INVOICE FROM FRANKLIN COUNTY OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS IN THE AMOUNT OF $1,500.00 FOR THE SPECIAL OPERATIONS CONTRIBUTION FOR THE WEST FRANKFORT FIRE AND POLICE DEPARTMENTS. COMMISSIONER HARKINS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WARREN. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR ARVIEW VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED.

25. THE NEXT ITEM WAS APPROVAL TO PAY AN INVOICE FROM EMS ACUMED GROUP IN THE AMOUNT OF $2,676.13 FOR EMS BILLING SERVICE FEE FROM 1-1-26 TO 1-31-26 FOR THE WEST FRANKFORT FIRE DEPARTMENT. COMMISSIONER HARKINS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WARREN. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR ARVIEW VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED.

26. THE NEXT ITEM WAS APPROVAL TO PAY AN INVOICE FROM FRANKLIN COUNTY JOINT EMERGENCY TELEPHONE SYSTEM BOARD IN THE AMOUNT OF $1,601.29 FOR 10 FIELD SUBSCRIPTION FEES FOR THE WEST FRANKFORT FIRE DEPARTMENT. COMMISSIONER HARKINS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HOWARD. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR ARVIEW VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED.

27. THE NEXT ITEM WAS APPROVAL TO PAY AN INVOICE FROM AMERICAN TEST CENTER IN THE AMOUNT OF $1,940.00 FOR QUINT #1 INSPECTION FOR THE WEST FRANKFORT FIRE DEPARTMENT.COMMISSIONER HARKINS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WARREN. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR ARVIEW VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED.

28. THE NEXT ITEM WAS APPROVAL TO PAY AN INVOICE FROM SINC IN THE AMOUNT OF $2,346.48 FOR THE TRANSFER OF HOSTING EMAIL MIGRATION FOR THE CITY OF WEST FRANKFORT. THE MAYOR STATED WE HAD SOME ISSUES WITH OUR PREVIOUS HOSTING PROVIDER. THEY WERE SENDING SOME THINGS TO SPAM THAT DIDN'T NEED TO GO TO SPAM AND A LOT OF OTHER ISSUES. WE ARE CHANGING WHAT WE DID CHANGE OVER. COMMISSIONER HOWARD MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WARREN. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR ARVIEW VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED.

29. THE NEXT ITEM WAS APPROVAL TO PAY INVOICE #8 FROM LOCHMUELLER GROUP IN THE AMOUNT OF $63,728.31 FOR PHASE 2 ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR SECTION 18-00061-00-ES I-57, ILLINOIS 149 INTERCHANGE MODIFICATION. THE MAYOR STATED I WILL JUST SAY FOR THE PUBLIC THAT 80% IS IDOT, AND THEN 20% IS THE CITY. WHICH WOULD BE PAID OUT OF THE TIF FUND. COMMISSIONER HOWARD MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER STANLEY. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR ARVIEW VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED.

30. THE NEXT ITEM WAS APPROVAL TO TRANSFER LAKE LOT LEASE #84 FROM JAMES REEDER TO MARILYN K. SIZEMORE. COMMISSIONER WARREN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HOWARD. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR ARVIEW VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED.

31. THE NEXT ITEM WAS APPROVAL TO TRANSFER LAKE LOT LEASE #86 FROM SHARON NORTON JORDAN TO SHARON K. NORTON AND RONALD G. NEWBOLD JR. COMMISSIONER WARREN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER STANLEY. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR ARVIEW VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED.

32. THE NEXT ITEM WAS APPROVAL TO TRANSFER LAKE LOT LEASE #8W1/2 FROM RONALD AND NANCY MABRY AND JAMIE MABRY TO RONALD AND NANCY MABRY, JAMIE MEZZO, AND JODI HUFFINE.

COMMISSIONER WARREN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER STANLEY. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR ARVIEW VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED.

33. THE NEXT ITEM WAS THE CONSENT AGENDA:
    a. APPROVAL TO PAY BILLS.
       COMMISSIONER HOWARD MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WARREN. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR ARVIEW VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED.

34. **BUILDING AND SIGN PERMITS** ~ CODE OFFICER SNELL STATED THE FIRST ONE IS FOR SIGN PERMIT FOR FRANKFORT SMOKE SHOP AT 606 W. MAIN. IT MEETS ALL OF OUR REQUIREMENTS. I RECOMMEND YOU GO AHEAD AND APPROVE THAT. COMMISSIONER HARKINS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WARREN. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR ARVIEW VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED.

    THE NEXT PERMIT WAS FOR A SOLAR PERMIT FOR 410 N. BRYAN ST. FOR CLAUDE AND ANN TURNER. CONTRACTOR IS ADVANCED ENERGY SOLUTIONS. I DO HAVE STAMPED PLANS FROM THE ENGINEER, REGISTERED CONTRACTOR. RECOMMEND WE GO AHEAD AND APPROVE THAT. COMMISSIONER WARREN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HOWARD. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR ARVIEW VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED.

35. **OFFICER'S REPORT** ~

    POLICE REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2026: DEPUTY CHIEF WILLIS REPORTED OFFICERS ANSWERED A TOTAL OF 788 CALLS FOR SERVICE. OF THOSE CALLS 15 WERE TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS, 5 WITH INJURIES. OFFICERS RESPONDED TO 25 DOMESTIC DISPUTES,16 ALARMS, 1 INTOXICATED PERSONS, 9 BURGLARIES, 10 REPORTS OF CRIMINAL DAMAGE TO PROPERTY, 17 COMPLAINTS OF JUVENILE PROBLEMS, 25 REPORTED THEFTS, AND 20 COMPLAINTS OF DISORDERLY CONDUCT/DISTURBANCES. AND OFFICERS MADE 30 STREET CONTACTS. OFFICERS CONDUCTED 280 TRAFFIC STOPS, WHERE THEY ISSUED 59 CITIATIONS, 228 WARNINGS, AND 7 LW-27'S. THERE WERE 67 ADULT ARRESTS MADE AND 1 JUVENILE ARREST, RESULTING IN 97 CRIMINAL CHARGES

FILED.

DISPATCHERS ANSWERED 910 CALLS.
OF THOSE, 454 WERE 9-1-1 CALLS, 148 WERE WALK IN REQUESTS. 788 WERE FOR POLICE. FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY, WE COLLECTED $1,985.00 IN FINES AND FEES.

FIRE REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2026: FIRE CHIEF SAILLIEZ STATED SINCE THIS IS MY ONLY CHANCE TO TALK FOR THE EVENING, IS THERE ANY CHANCE WE CAN DISCUSS THE PARTICULARS OF MY CONTRACT? I'VE NEVER SEEN A CONTRACT PERSONALLY. THE MAYOR STATED THERE'S NOT A CONTRACT. CHIEF SAILLEZ STATED OKAY, SO THERE WAS NO CHANGE IN WHAT I'M GETTING PAY-WISE? THE MAYOR STATED CORRECT. CHIEF SAILLIEZ STATED MR. MAYOR, THIS IS FOR YOU. PLEASE ACCEPT.

CODES REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2026. CODES OFFICER SNELL REPORTED NEW CASES STARTED 20. CODES AND VIOLATIONS, 18. VEHICLES TAGS, 16 RENTAL INSPECTIONS PERFORMED, 2. NEW RENTALS REGISTERED, 1. BUILDING PERMITS APPROVED, 2. BUILDING AND ZONE REVIEWS PERFORMED, 4. BUILDING PERMIT INSPECTIONS PERFORMED, THAT'S FINAL INSPECTIONS ON PERMITS, IS 2. NEW CONTRACTORS REGISTERED 4. A TOTAL FEES COLLECTED, $750.00.

STREET DEPARTMENT REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2026: STREET DEPARTMENT HAS REMAINED ACTIVE THROUGHOUT THE PAST MONTH ADDRESSING A VARIETY OF MAINTENANCE AND SERVICE NEEDS ACROSS THE CITY.

CREWS HAVE BEEN WORKING ON EDGING ROADWAYS WITH ASPHALT, PATCHING POTHOLES IN MULTIPLE AREAS TO HELP MAINTAIN SAFER DRIVING CONDITIONS. TREE LIMBS OVERHANGING ROADWAYS HAS BEEN TRIMMED IN VARIOUS LOCATIONS TO IMPROVE VISIBILITY AND CLEARANCE FOR TRAFFIC AND SERVICE VEHICLES. THE DEPARTMENT HAS CONTINUED ROUTINE MAINTENANCE WORK BY CLEANING, DRAINING DITCHES AND STORM DRAINS TO HELP ENSURE PROPER WATER FLOW DURING RAINFALL. THE STREET SWEEPER HAS BEEN IN OPERATION CLEANING DEBRIS AND SEDIMENT FROM THE CITY'S STREETS. CREWS HAVE ALSO BEEN COMPLETING ROCK JOBS IN SEVERAL ALLEYS AND PROBLEM AREAS TO IMPROVE SURFACE CONDITIONS. EQUIPMENT

MAINTENANCE HAS BEEN ONGOING AS WELL, INCLUDING CHANGING BLADES, SERVICING BUSH HOGS, ZERO-TURN MOWERS IN PREPARATION FOR THE MORNING SEASON. IN ADDITION, THE DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN PICKING UP BRUSH THROUGHOUT THE CITY AND OPERATING THE JET TRUCK TO CLEAR DRAINAGE LINES AND RESPONDING TO CITIZEN CALLS AND SERVICE REQUESTS AS THEY ARISE. THE STREET DEPARTMENT HAS REMAINED BUSY AND THEY HAVE DONE A GREAT JOB.

SEWER DEPARTMENT REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2026: SEWER DEPARTMENT REMAINED ACTIVE WITH A ROUTINE MAINTENANCE INSPECTION AND CUSTOMER SERVICE REQUEST TO ENSURE THE SYSTEM CONTINUED TO OPERATE EFFICIENTLY. A TOTAL OF 84 JULE LOCATES REQUESTS WERE COMPLETED, INCLUDING 8 EMERGENCY JULE LOCATES. ALL OF WHICH WERE ADDRESSED PROMPTLY TO PREVENT POTENTIAL DAMAGE TO UNDERGROUND UTILITES. THE DEPARTMENT RESPONDED TO 8 SEWER RELATED SERVICE CALLS DURING THE MONTH. ONE OF THESE CALLS INVOLVED AN ISSUE ON THE CITY SIDE THAT WAS RESOLVED BY DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL. THE REMAINING CALLS WERE ADDRESSED WITHOUT ANY PROBLEMS FOUND ON THE CITY'S SEWER MAIN. IN ADDITION, THE DEPARTMENT HANDLED 7 CUSTOMER REQUESTS AND NONE OF THESE WERE RELATED TO ISSUES WITH THE CITY SEWER SYSTEM. ROUTINE ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING CONTINUED THROUGHOUT THE MONTH. STAFF COLLECTED 73 SAMPLES FOR LABORATORY TESTING AND ALL RESULTS WERE ACCEPTABLE AND MET EPA STANDARDS, INDICATING THE SYSTEM IS OPERATING WITHIN REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS. FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY, THE DEPARTMENT COLLECTED $80,073.00 IN THE SEWER REVENUE. OVERALL, THE PERSONNEL CONTINUE TO DO AN EXCELLENT JOB MAINTAINING DAILY OPERATIONS AND KEEPING UP WITH THE SCHEDULED MAINTENANCE, HELPING TO ENSURE THE SEWER SYSTEM REMAINS RELIABLE FOR THE COMMUNITY.

36. **MAYORS REPORT~**

THE MAYOR STATED, I KNOW THAT TENSIONS ARE HIGH BECAUSE OF DIFFERENT ISSUES. THERE'S LOTS OF DIFFERENT ISSUES. EVERYBODY SEEMS TO HAVE AN ISSUE, A CONTROVERSY, SOMETHING THAT THEY WANT TO START AN ARGUMENT ABOUT, POSTING ON FACEBOOK. I'LL JUST SAY, IT SEEMS REALLY KIND OF

RIDICULOUS TO ME THAT PEOPLE WOULD DO THAT. WE ACT LIKE CHILDREN AND NOT ADULTS WHEN WE HAVE 28 PEOPLE, AT LEAST, EMPLOYED BY THE CITY WHO MAKE MORE THAN MOST OF THE PEOPLE IN WEST FRANKFORT. THE COMPLAINT HAS BEEN THAT YOU MAKE LESS THAN THE PEOPLE WHO WORK FOR YOU. DO YOU WANT THIS JOB? DO YOU WANT ANY OF THESE JOBS? THEY VOLUNTEERED AS WELL. THEY GOT HIRED FOR THE JOB. WE HAD A PRIVATE MEETING, ME, HIM AND COMMISSIONER HARKINS, AND WITHIN MINUTES OF LEAVING THAT MEETING, THERE WAS A POST ON FAEBOOK FROM SOMEONE WHO WAS NOT IN THAT MEETING. HOW DID THIS PERSON GET THIS INFORMATION, WHERE DID IT COME FROM? I UNDERSTAND YOU ARE FUSTRATED, I GET THAT.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS~

COMMISSIONER HARKINS- NO REPORT WAS MADE.

COMMISSIONER HOWARD STATED WE GOT THE REPORT AS I TOLD YOU BEFORE, AND WE ARE STARTING TO GET THE NEXT YEAR SUBMITTED.

COMMISSIONER STANLEY- NO REPORT WAS MADE.

COMMISSIONER WARREN- NO REPORT WAS MADE.

37. **CITY ATTORNEY REPORT:** NOTHING TO REPORT.

38. **AUDIENCE COMMENTS**:

THE MAYOR STATED I WANT TO REMIND EVERYONE TO STICK TO THE ORDINANCE, IM SURE THERE WILL BE A LOT OF PEOPLE WHO WANT TO TALK. TAKE YOUR 5 MINUTES AND THEN LET SOMEONE ELSE COME UP.

DANNY LOEH STATED I AM VICE CURATOR OF THE MILLITARY MUSEUM. I WANT TO THANK MICHAEL FOR EVERYTHING THAT HE HAS DONE FOR THE MUSEUM. I HAVE BEEN ABLE TO VISIT MANY MILLITARY ESTABLISHMENTS WITH THE INORMATION HES POSTED I BEEN TRYING TO HELP OUT VETERANS AT THE V.A. HOSPITAL. I WANT TO THANK EVERYONE WHO HELPS US.

AMANDA SAILLIEZ STATED I WOULD LIKE TO PUBLICLY SAY YOU ALL SHOULD BE ASHAMED OF YOURSELF FOR THE WAY YOU VOTED TONIGHT. IT HAS NEVER BEEN ABOUT THE MONEY IT HAS BEEN

ABOUT SHOWING SOMEONE THAT HAS GIVEN TWENTY YEARS OF THEIR LIFE TO THIS CITY THE RESPECT HE DESERVES. YOU GUYS HAVE DISAPPOINTED A LOT OF PEOPLE THAT CAME HERE TONIGHT. BUT MOST IMPORTANTLY YOU DISAPPOINTED A TWELVE YEAR OLD BOY THAT BELIEVES IN HIS FATHER, AND EXPECTED TO HEAR TONIGHT THAT HE CAME HOME AND HE WAS STILL GOING TO BE FIRE CHIEF, THAT YOU GUYS SHOWED HIM ENOUGH RESPECT TO GIVE HIM THE RAISE HE DESERVES. NOW WE HAVE TO GO HOME AND TELL HIM NO HES NOT, BECAUSE YOU GUYS CAN NOT STAND UP FOR WHAT IS RIGHT. I HOPE YOU GUYS ARE PROUD OF THE DECISION YOU MADE TONIGHT.

JESSE JEFFORDS STATED I AM THE FORMER CAPTAIN WITH THE WEST FRANKFORT FIRE DEPARTMENT. I STARTED MY CAREER UNDER THAT MAN AS A CAPTAIN. HE TOOK ME DAY ONE GAVE ME HIS EXPECTATIONS. I OWE HIM A LOT OF WHAT I KNOW TO HIM. ONCE HE WAS PROMOTED TO CHIEF I WAS PROMOTED TO CAPTAIN, AND WORKED AS HIS RIGHT-HAND FOR THE PAST FOUR YEARS. ONE OF THE BIGGEST THINGS HE HAS ALWAYS TOLD ME WAS IF YOU HAVE A COMPLAINT, BRING A SOLUTION WITH THE COMPLAINT. HE HAS LIVED THAT; HE HAS DONE NOTHING BUT THAT SINCE EVEN BEFORE HE WAS CAPTAIN. I KNOW BECAUSE I HAVE WORKED WITH HIM ON A LOT OF THESE PLANS. HE HAS COME AND TALKED WITH EACH OF YOU GUYS ABOUT A BUDGET. THE FIRE DEPARTMENT, WE DO NEED A LOT OF STUFF. DO YOU REALIZE WE ARE ONE OF TWO FULL TIME DEPARTMENTS IN FRANKLIN COUNTY. HOW PRIVILEGED WE ARE IN WEST FRANKFORT TO HAVE THAT. EVERYONE ELSE AROUND US RELIES ON US, AND WE RELY ON THEM. WE HAVE GOOD WORKING RELATIONSHIPS, AND ITS BECAUSE OF THAT OFFICE AND THE MAN THAT WAS IN THAT OFFICE RIGHT THERE. MULITIPLE TIMES OVER THE LAST YEARS HE HAS CAME TO YOU GUYS WITH COMPLAINTS AND SOLUTIONS FOR THOSE COMPLAINTS. HEY WE NEED NEW AMBULANCES, HERES A GEMT PROGRAM WHERE WE CAN MAKE MORE MONEY, HERES WHERE WE CAN SAVE MONEY BY FINANCING A USED AMBULANCE NOW BUT LET'S GET A BETTER ONE ON THE WAY, SO WE CAN KEEP THE AMBULANCE GOING BECAUSE THAT IS WHAT MAKES THE MONEY. HE KNOWS ALL OF THAT STUFF, HES BEEN IN THE OFFICE AND HAS THE EXPERIENCE. I DON'T CARE WHAT ANY OF YOU SAY, NOT A ONE OF YOU GIVES A DAMN ABOUT THE FIRE DEPARTMENT BASED ON HOW YOU VOTED TONIGHT. YOU SAY WE SUPPORT YOU, BUT WE ALWAYS COME LAST WHEN IT

COMES TO GETTING THINGS, YOU GUYS ALWAYS SCRUTINIZE EVERY PURCHASE DOWN TO THE DOLLAR. BUT WE CAN APPROVE A $20,000.00 RAISE WHEN WE DO NOT HAVE MONEY, WE CAN APPROVE AN $80,000.00 SKID STEER WHEN WE DO NOT HAVE ANY MONEY. I AM NOT SAYING THAT THOSE DEPARTMENTS DON'T NEED THAT. THEY NEED THAT TOO. BUT I AM SAYING THE FIRE DEPARTMENT NEEDS IT AS WELL TO KEEP THE DOORS OPENED TO TAKE CARE OF THE COMMUNITY LIKE WE LOVE TO DO. NOT TO MENTION THE OVERSIGHT THAT WE HAD ENOUGH OVER SIGHT TO CHANGE EVERYONE PAY CHECKS IN THE CITY LAST MINUTE. BUT NOT THE OVER SIGHT OVER THE TREASURER THE LAST FIVE YEARS WE ONLY PUT IN $42,000.00 INTO THE PENSION SYSTEMS. AND WE LOST 12% FUNDING OVER THE PAST THREE YEARS. WHICH IS RIDICULOUS. THE CHIEF IS NOT ASKING FOR A LOT OF MONEY, HE IS ASKING FOR WHAT HE WOULD GET AS A CAPTAIN SO THAT WAY HE CAN CONTINUE TO LEAD THE DEPARTMENT. YES, HE CAN DROP DOWN BUT HE DOESN'T WANT TO. HES LEFT A LOT OF MONEY ON THE TABLE BECAUSE HES MADE THE CHIEF JOB IS SOLE FOCUS, AND HAS DONE A FANTASIC JOB TOO.

TINA ROSE STATED TONIGHT THE COUNCIL MADE A DECISION INVOLVING THE CITY'S CODES ENFORCEMENT OFFICER, AND APPOINTED HIM AS THE CITY'S ADA COORDINATOR. RESIDENTS NEED TO UNDERSTAND WHAT IS BEING PROPOSED HERE. RECENTLY THE SAME COUNCIL VOTED TO ALLOW THE CODES OFFICER TO CARRY A WEAPON AS PART OF HIS CONTRACT. CODE ENFORCEMENT IS AN ADMINISTRATIVE JOB. CODES OFFICERS INSPECT PROPERTIES, ISSUE NOTICES, AND ENFORCE MUNICIPAL REGULATIONS. THEY ARE NOT POLICE OFFICERS. WHEN A SITUATION BECOMES UNSAFE THE NORMAL PROCEDURE IS TO CALL THE POLICE. THAT IS WHAT TRAINED LAW ENFORCEMENT EXSITS FOR. IT IS NOT NORMAL ANYWHERE IN THE COUNTRY FOR A COMMUNITY TO AUTHORIZE A CODES ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OR BUILDINGS INSPECTOR TO CARRY A WEAPON AS PART OF THEIR JOB. YET THESE INDIVIDUALS HERE, THEY VOTED FOR THAT. THEY KNOW THAT OUR TRAINED LAW ENFOREMENT OFFICERS REQUIRE EXTENSIVE TRAINING FOR OUR COMMUNITY SAFETY AND SHOULD STAND UP TO THIS ADMINISTRATION DECISION TO ARM A CODE OFFICER. OUR CODE OFFICER WAS REQUIRED TO BE CERTIFIED WITHIN SIX MONTHS OF HIS HIRING, AND HE HAS TOOK NO INITIATIVE IN THAT IN FIVE YEARS. OUR FIRE CHIEF SHOULD NOT BE BEGGING

FOR A RAISE. WHILE SOMEBODY THAT HAS CAUSED ISSUE FOR THIS COMMUNITY GETS REWARDED. THE STATE OF ILLINOIS THROUGH THE ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS HAS ALREADY FILED A DISCRIMINATION AND RETALIATION CHARGE. THE MAYOR STATED THE STATE HAS NOT FILED ANYTHING. MS. ROSE STATED AFTER CONDUCTING INVESTIGATIONS AGAINST THAD SNELL. ASK YOUR SELF WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE TO YOUR VOTERS THAT YOU VOTED TO GO AGAINST WHAT IS NORMALLY GOVERNMENT. AND VOTE FOR THIS ADMINISTRATIVE POSITION TO BE WEAPONIZED. RESIDENCE WHO RELIES ON ADA ACCOMMODATIONS SHOULD NOT FEEL INTIMIDATED IN SEEKING ACCESS TO THE SERVICES. HAS ANYONE TAKEN FIVE MINTUES TO UNDERSTAND WHAT THIS LOOKS LIKE TO YOUR VOTERS. THE CITY'S JOB POSTING REQUIRED CERTIFICATION. YOUR FIRE CHIEF GETS CERTIFIED EVERY YEAR AND DOES TRAINING. THE PERSON WHO IS THE REASON WE ARE IN A FEDERAL LAWSUIT, IN COUNTS THAT INVOLVE RETALIATION, CIVIL CONSPIRACY AND HATE CRIME THAT INVOLVE MR. SNELL ARE ON THE TABLE. AND YET THEY MADE HIM THE ADA COORDINATOR, AND AUTHORIZED FOR HIM TO CARRY A WEAPON. THESE PEOPLE ARE THE RESPONISBLE FOR THESE DECISIONS, AND WHY I AM HERE AND HAVE BEEN HERE FOR TWO YEARS. BEGGING FOR A ZONING HEARING.

SUSAN MALKOVICH STATED FIRST RESPONDERS THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO FOR US. YOU ARE ALL WE HAVE; THE POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENT ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT INDIVIDUALS AND TEAM THAT WE HAVE IN WEST FRANKFORT. WE LOST OUR HOSPITAL; WE WERE PROMISED A 24 HOUR EMERGENCY SERVICE WHEN WE DIDN'T HAVE IT. WHO DO WE DEPEND ON? OUR FIREMAN AND POLICEMAN TO KEEP US SAFE. I AM NOT SPEAKING PERSONALLY HERE; I AM SPEAKING PROFESSIONALLY. I DON'T KNOW HOW MANY TIMES THERE HAS BEEN A CALL OUT AND IT IS A MATTER OF LIFE AND DEATH AND DEREK SAILLIEZ GOES TO THAT CALL. BECAUSE HE IS THE MOST EXPIRIENCED IN THE DEPARTMENT. BECAUSE OF THE RETIREMENT OF SO MANY OF OUR FIREMAN. WE HAVE A YOUNG CREW. BECAUSE OF THAT DEREK HAS TAKEN IT UPON HISSELF TO GO AND MAKE SURE THAT THESE YOUNG MEN THAT ARE GIVING UP SO MUCH FOR OUR COMMUNITY IS FOLLOWING THE RULES, AND LAWS THAT THEY SHOULD. DOES HE GET COMPLIMENTED FOR THAT? A RAISE FOR THAT? HAVE YOU EVER CALLED THE AMBULANCE AND IT BEEN A LIFE-OR-DEATH SITUATION? I HAVE, AND

ITS SCARY BECAUSE WE HAVE TO GO TO MARION, BENTON, HERRIN, OR CARBONDALE. OUR CREW DOES A VERY GOOD JOB. DO YOU KNOW WHY? BECAUSE, THEY HAVE A VERY GOOD LEADER. HE EXPECTS THE BEST OUT OF THEM. DOESN'T WEST FRANKFORT NEED TO HAVE A GOOD LEADER? I GUESS NO ONE WANTS TO ANSWER THAT. DEREK, I WANT TO THANK YOU PERSONALLY, PROFESSIONALLY FOR EVERYTHING YOU HAVE DONE AND TAUGHT THESE YOUNG MEN. WITHOUT THEM WE WOULD OF LOST MORE OF OUR CITIZENS. AS FAR AS THE EDUCATION IS CONCERNED MA'AM, HE HAS THE EQUIVALENT OF A MASTERS DEGREE IN FIRE AND LEADERSHIP. DID YOU TAKE THAT INTO CONSIDERATION WHEN YOU TALKED TO HIM ABOUT A RAISE? THIS IS BEEN GOING ON FOR TWO YEARS. DOES HE NOT DESERVE SOMETHING FOR THE TIME AND ENERGY HE PUTS INTO SAVING OUR COMMUNITY. WITHOUT THEM WHERE WOULD WE BE? IT BREAKS MY HEART BECAUSE I HAVE LIVED HERE ALL MY LIFE. I KNOW DEREK PERSONALLY, I KNOW WHAT HE PUTS INTO THE JOB. I KNOW WHAT HE PUTS INTO HIS MEN. IT'S A SHAME OUR COMMUNITY HAS COME TO THIS. I RESPECT OUR FIRE AND POLICE DEPARTMENTS, BECAUSE THEY KEEP US SAFE.

RICK HANNERS STATED I OWN KINSMAN ENTERPRISES HERE IN TOWN. MOST PEOPLE HERE IN WEST FRANKFORT, DONT KNOW VERY MUCH OR HASN'T HEARD MUCH OF MY BUSINESS. BUT WE ARE ONE OF THE ORIGINAL OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURES NOT JUST IN THE COUNTY BUT THE WHOLE WORLD. WE HAVE BEEN DESIGNING AND OPERATING OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY RIGHT HERE IN WEST FRANKFORT FOR ALMOST THIRTY-FIVE YEARS. FORMER MAYOR, AND FIRE CHIEF TOM JORDAN USED TO JOKE WITH ME THAT MY COMPANY WAS THE BEST KEPT SECERT OF WEST FRANKFORT. I AM ALSO A FORMER WEST FRANKFORT VOLUNTEER FIRE FIGHTER. I SERVED WITH THE DEPARTMENT FROM 2007 UNTIL 2020. THE REASON WHY I AM HERE TONIGHT IS BECAUSE I SEE A SERIOUS PROBLEM DEVELOPING WITH THE CITY. I AM NOT SURE IF EVERYONE HERE IS FULLY AWARE OF IT OR IF YOU ARE IF THE SERIOUSNESS OF IT HAS BEEN CONSIDERED. I REALIZED THIS MEETING IS SPECIFICALLY ABOUT CHIEF SAILLIEZ, BUT I WANT TO TALK FIRST ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT AS A WHOLE THEN I WANT TO COME BACK TO CHIEF AT THE END. I WANT TO BE CLEAR ABOUT SOMETHING, I HAVENT BEEN INVOLVED WITH THE DEPARTMENT SINCE I LEFT IN 2020. I DID NOT TALK WITH CHIEF SAILLIEZ OR ANY OF THE FIREMEN BEFORE I CAME HERE. IM SURE THEY ARE JUST AS

SURPRISED TO SEE ME HERE AS ANYONE ELSE. I ONLY LEARNED ABOUT THIS MEETING A FEW DAYS AGO. THE CONCERNS I AM GOING TO BRING UP TONIGHT ARE NOT NEW. THESE ARE THINGS THAT I WAS ALREADY THINKING ABOUT WHEN I WAS LEAVING THE DEPARTMENT AND I WAS AWARE OF. I DIDN'T REALLY NEED TO TALK TO ANYONE PRIOR TO THIS MEETING BECAUSE I THINK THE NUMBERS SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES. ONE THING THAT ALWAYS STOOD OUT TO ME WHEN I WAS A FIREFIGHTER HERE, THAT MOST PEOPLE REALLY HAVE NO IDEA JUST HOW BUSY OUR DEPARTMENT IS. THE WEST FRANKFORT FIRE DEPARTMENT IS ONE THE BUSIEST FIRE DEPARTMENTS IN ALL OF SOUTHERN ILLINOIS. WHEN YOU JUST TALK ABOUT FIRE ALONE, PER FIREFIGHTER, WEST FRANKFORT FIRE FIGHTERS FIGHTS MORE FIRE THAN EVERY OTHER FIRE DEPARTMENTS IN SOUTHERN ILLINOIS EXCEPT FOR EAST SAINT LOUIS. WHEN YOU ADD UP ALL OF THE CALLS, FIRE, EMS, AND EVERYTHING ELSE. WEST FRANKFORT FIRE FIGHTERS ARE HANDLING MORE CALLS PER FIRE FIGHTER THAN ANY OTHER DEPARTMENT IN THIS REGION. TO GIVE YOU AN IDEA OF HOW BUSY THIS DEPARTMENT REALLY IS I WILL LET THE DATA SPEAK FOR ITS SELF. WHEN I LEFT THE DEPARTMENT IN 2020 THE TOTAL CALL VALUE WAS 1,800 TO 2,000 CALLS ANNUALLY. SINCE THEN, IT IS INCREASED ROUGHLY TO 2,400 ANNUALLY. THAT IS A 30% INCREASE IN THE LAST 5 YEARS. TO REALLY UNDERSTAND WHAT OUR FIRE FIGHTERS ARE DEALING WITH, YOU HAVE TO COMPARE WEST FRANKFORT TO THE OTHER FULLTIME DEPARTMENTS IN THIS AREA. CARBONDALE HAS 33 FIREFIGHTERS AND RESPONDS TO ABOUT 1,700 CALLS PER YEAR THAT ADDS UP TO ROUGHLY 52 CALLS PER FIREFIGHTER. HERRIN HAS 16 FIREFIGHTERS, AND ABOUT 635 CALLS PER YEAR THAT ADDS UP TO ROUGHLY 40 CALLS PER FIREFIGHTER. MARION HAS 28 FIREFIGHTERS, AND ABOUT 850 CALLS PER YEAR THAT ADDS UP TO ROUGHLY 37 CALLS PER FIREFIGHTER. MOUNT VERNON IS ONE OF THE BUSIEST DEPARTMENTS IN SOUTHERN ILLINOIS. THEY HAVE 29 FIREFIGHTERS, AND ABOUT 4,300 CALLS PER YEAR. THE MAYOR STATED TIME IS UP, WE HAVE TO LIMIT IT TO FIVE MINUTES. AS YOU CAN SEE THERE IS A LOT OF OTHER PEOPLE THAT WANT TO TALK. MR. HANNERS STATED CAN I JUST SUMMERIZE IT. MOUNT VERNON RUNS 148 CALLS PER FIREFIGHTERS. RIGHT NOW WEST, FRANKFORT HAS 12 FIREFIGHTERS AND A CHIEF THEY RUN 2,400 CALLS PER YEAR, AND 200 CALLS PER FIREFIGHTER ANNUALLY. THAT IS ABOVE EVERY OTHER DEPARTMENT IN THIS REGION. WHEN

YOU HAVE TO MAKE THAT MANY CALLS SHIFT AFTER SHIFT IT WEARS ON YOU. I CAN TELL YOU RIGHT NOW THAT ALL OF THESE GUYS ARE BURNT OUT, IF YOU DON'T FIX IT REALLY SOON THE CITY IS GOING TO HAVE A MAJOR RETENION PROBLEM. CAPTAIN JEFFORDS LEFT BECAUSE OF IT. THEY WORK 3-4 TIMES THE WORK LOAD OF MOST DEPARTMENTS IN THIS AREA. HE LEFT BECAUSE HE COULD GO GET THE SAME MONEY AND WORK HALF AS MUCH. IF YOU DON'T DO SOMETHING ABOUT THIS SOON, THERE ARE MORE FIREFIGHTERS GOING TO LEAVE THIS DEPARTMENT. FIREFIGHTERS THAT GREW UP IN THIS TOWN AND SERVED THEIR COMMUNITY THEIR WHOLE LIFE. CHIEF SAILLIEZ IS A LEGACY FIREMAN, HIS DAD WAS A WF FIREMAN. EACH FIREFIGHTER HAS A DIFFERENT LEVEL OF EXPIRENCE, DEREK IS THE SPECIAL FORCES OF FIREFIGHTERS.

39. WITH NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO BE DISCUSSED, THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED ON A MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HOWARD, SECONDED BY STANLEY. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR ARVIEW VOTED TO APPROVE. MOTION CARRIED. AT 7:22 P.M.

MAYOR, TIM ARVIEW

ANDREA BOLEN, CITY CLERK