

**Board of Public Works and Safety
Regular Meeting Minutes
January 5, 2026**

The regular meeting of the Board of Public Works and Safety of the City of Franklin, Indiana, was called to order at 5:00 p.m. at City Hall, 70 E. Monroe Street, with Mayor Steve Barnett presiding. Board members Ken Austin & Tina Jobe answered roll call.

Chief of Police Kirby Cochran, Fire Chief Joshua Snyder, Parks Department Superintendent Chip Orner, Sewer Billing Office Manager Sherry Phillips, DPW Superintendent Sally Brown, IT Director Rick Littleton, Community Development Director Krista Linke, Planning Director Joanna Tennell, Street Commissioner/Fleet Manager Brett Jones, Clerk Treasurer Jan Jones, City Attorney Lynnette Gray were also in attendance.

Mayor Barnett led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Announcements & Public Comments

There were none.

Consent Agenda

Mayor Barnett presented the consent agenda for approval.

1. Approval of Minutes from meeting held December 15, 2025
2. Board of Works Claims.
 - Longevity Payroll in the amount of \$96,000.00
 - Gross Payroll in the amount of \$559,905.31
 - Pension Payroll in the amount of in the amount of \$49652.98
 - #121925 BOW Contracts/Utilities in the amount of \$81,621.25
 - #122025 Sewer Contracts/Utilities in the amount of \$18,228.31
 - #012126 RDC-TIF Contracts in the amount of \$161,244.78
 - #122625 BOW Contracts/Utilities in the amount of \$310,846.97
 - #122725 RDC-TIF Contracts in the amount of \$25,021.71
 - #122825 Sewer Contracts/Utilities in amount of \$36,288.96
 - #010526 BOW General Obligations in the amount of \$332,967.39
 - #010626 Sewer General Obligations in the amount of \$64,222.03

Mr. Austin made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Ms. Jobe. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Old Business

There was no Old Business.

New Business

Approval and Acceptance of Public Right-of-Way for Earlywood Drive (Wawa Food Mart & Fuel Station)- Planning Director Joanna Tennell explained that with the development, Wawa is proposing an entrance off of Earlywood Drive. In order to meet all requirements, they needed to provide a passing blister, which required them to obtain additional right-away from the property owner to the south, which is James Fletcher. He has signed those documents, and it's ready for the board's consideration and action. Ms. Jobe made a motion to approve and accept the public right-of-way for Earlywood Drive, seconded by Mr. Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Request Approval and Execution of Change Order No. 1 (FINAL) for 2025 Maintenance Improvement Program; Crack Sealing Project- City Engineer Matt McElroy presented the final balancing change order to adjust for material quantities for the actual materials used. It is an increase to the contract price of \$2,487.69, which is an increase of about 1.37% overall. He asked for the mayor to be able to sign on the Board's behalf. Ms. Jobe made a motion to approve and execute Change Order No. 1 for the 2025 Maintenance Improvement Program, Crack Sealing Project and authorize the mayor to sign on the Board's behalf, seconded by Mr. Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Request Approval and Execution of Change Order Nos. 3 and 4 (FINAL) for Paul Hand Boulevard Reconstruction Project- City Engineer Matt McElroy explained that change order #3 was created to add two new pay items. One is for turn arrow pavement markings to supplement the signage in place. The other is for additional railroad allowance for the contractor to coordinate construction safety needs while working next to the railway. Change Order #4 is a balancing change order to adjust for the material quantities and the actual materials used and final payment. The total for the two change orders is an overall decrease of \$31,414.69 from the original price. He reminded everyone that funding for this project was provided by Malarkey Roofing; two-million dollars was provided through the Redevelopment Commission. Ms. Jobe made a motion to approve and execute change orders #3 and 4 for Paul Hand Boulevard Reconstruction Project, seconded by Mr. Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Other Business

1 Year Appointment to Plan Commission- Mayor Barnett informed everyone that Michael Spongberg was appointed about halfway through last year to replace Jim Martin. He has spoken to him and Michael is willing to serve on the commission again. Mr. Austin made a motion to approve Michael Spongberg, seconded by Ms. Jobe. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

2025 Completed Projects and 2026 Projected Projects- Mayor Barnett presented the document to the board members and to the public. He stated this was for information only.

Department Reports / Staff Reports

DPW Superintendent Sally Brown stated that they had a new employee start today. Construction is ongoing at the plant.

Community Development Director Krista Linke gave updates on the properties at 678 Johnson Avenue and 599 E. Adams Street. She informed everyone that the Public Arts Commission meeting for this Thursday has been canceled. The next meeting will be in February.

Parks Department Superintendent Chip Orner let everyone know that the summer concert series has been booked and will be released soon. They are currently still hiring for summer seasonal staff.


Adjournment

As there was no further business to come before the Board of Works, a motion and a second were made to adjourn at 5:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Jan Jones, Clerk-Treasurer
Enrolled:



Steve Barnett, Mayor

Attest:



Jan Jones, Clerk-Treasurer