

**Board of Public Works and Safety  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
December 16, 2024**

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 and Tina Gross 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, City Engineer Mark Richards, 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 no Announcements or Public Comments.

**Consent Agenda**

Mayor Barnett presented the consent agenda for approval.

1. Approval of Minutes from meeting held December 2, 2024
2. Board of Works Claims.
  - #120224 BOW Contracts/Utilities in the amount of \$139,843.32
  - #120324 Sewer Contracts/Utilities in the amount of \$29,233.65
  - Personal Day Payout in the amount of \$27,484.55
  - Gross Payroll in the amount of \$500,381.40
  - #121224 RDC-TIF Contracts in the amount of \$980,906.83
  - #121024 Sewer Contracts/Utilities in the amount of \$148,554.75
  - #120924 BOW Contracts/Utilities in the amount of \$1,031,831.77
  - #121424 BOW General Obligations in the amount of \$141,553.06
  - #121524 Sewer General Obligations in the amount of \$130,599.03

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

**Old Business**

There was no Old Business.

## **New Business**

**Request renewal of Darktrace network cybersecurity platform** - Director of Technology Rick Littleton explained this renewal is for a 36-month contract. It has been reviewed by legal and the money has been appropriated for. Mr. Littleton also requested that Mayor Barnett be approved to sign on the Board's behalf. Ms. Gross motioned to approve the renewal of Darktrace network cybersecurity platform for a period of three years as presented, seconded by Mr. Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

**Request approval of Taser 10 Quote:** Police Chief Kirby Cochran stated that the tasers they currently use will no longer be produced, and new tasers will be significantly more expensive. Chief Cochran said Deputy Chief Scott Summers reached out to Axon (a large company that dominates this market) and could save \$47,000 if the City contracted for the upgraded Tasers in advance. There is no request for additional funds at this time, as money for this payment is already in the 2025 budget. However, in the 2026 budget, this amount will almost double, but over the life of the contract, there will be an overall savings of \$80,000. The contract has been reviewed by City Attorney Lynn Gray and includes warranties and training. Ms. Gross motioned to approve the request for Taser 10 quote, seconded by Mr. Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

**Request acceptance of quotes for City Hall Flooring** - Chief of Staff Tara Payne presented quotes for City Hall flooring: Vendor #1: \$45,966.73, Vendor #2: \$47,999.47, Vendor #3: declined. Ms. Payne stated Vendor #1, Burton's Floor Coverings, was the lowest, most responsive, and responsible bidder. Ms. Gross motioned to approve awarding the flooring and carpeting contract to Burton's Flooring as the lowest, most responsive, and responsible vendor, seconded by Mr. Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

**Request approval and execution of Change Order 02 for the Graham Road and Earlywood Drive Intersection Improvements Project** - City Engineer Mark Richards stated Change Order 02 is for an increase of \$6,096.00. The original project amount (including two roundabouts) was \$2,939,700.00, with Change Order 01 increasing that to \$2,942,450.00. With approval, this will make the project total \$2,948,546.00, an increase 0.2%. This allows trafficways to be closed only once, even as additional projects occur. Ms. Gross motioned to approve and execute Change Order 02 for \$6,096.00 for the Graham Road and Earlywood Drive Intersection Improvements Project, seconded by Mr. Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

**Request approval and execution of Change Orders 4 and 5 for the East Jefferson Street Sidewalk Project** - City Engineer Mark Richards presented Change Order 4, a sanitary line sewer adjustment for an increase of \$3,952.04. The original project amount was \$1,151,940.65, with Change Order 4 increasing that to \$1,160,420.36, an increase of 0.3%. Mr. Richards presented Change Order 5, an additional mobilization/demobilization for a driveway approach for \$650.00, a 0.06% increase of the contract price, for a total of \$1,157,118.32. Mayor Barnett stated that a grant funds the bulk of this project, and Mr. Richards noted that we are projected to come in under budget. Ms. Gross motioned to approve and execute Change Orders 4 and 5 for

the East Jefferson Street Sidewalk Project, seconded by Mr. Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

**Request approval of Change Order 08 for the Active Adult Center Project** - City Engineer Mark Richards explained this Change Order is to connect downspouts to the ground storm drainage system to prevent slip hazards. Change Order 08 is \$4,239.80; the original contract price was \$4,744,616.00. The new total is \$4,938,581.45, roughly 0.09% of the original contract price, well within our 20% allowance. Mr. Richards also requested Mayor Barnett be approved to sign on the Board's behalf. Ms. Gross motioned to approve Change Order 08 for \$4,239.80 for the Active Adult Center Project and also 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 the following Performance Letters of Credit & Subdivision Performance Surety Agreements be released for Bluffs at Youngs Creek, Sec. 1 & Sec. 2** - Assistant City Engineer Matt McElroy presented the following for release:

Performance – Sec. 1:

LOC # 6297-10-3: Earthwork & Erosion Control - \$297,840.00

LOC # 6297-10-8: Pond Liner - \$53,880.00

Performance – Sec. 2:

LOC # 6297-20-3: Earthwork & Erosion Control - \$347,858.16

Request the following Subdivision Maintenance Bonds and Surety Agreements be accepted for Bluffs at Youngs Creek, Sec. 1 & Sec. 2:

Maintenance – Sec. 1:

#47SUR300214011057: Earthwork & Erosion Control - \$74,460.00

#47SUR300214011058: Pond Liner - \$13,470.00

Maintenance – Sec. 2:

#47SUR300214011059: Earthwork & Erosion Control - \$86,964.54

Ms. Gross motioned to release the Performance Letters of Credit & Subdivision Performance Surety Agreements and accept the Maintenance Bonds and Surety Agreements for Bluffs at Youngs Creek, Sec. 1 & Sec. 2 as presented, seconded by Mr. Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

**Request acceptance of bids for Paul Hand Boulevard Roadway Improvements Project** -

Assistant City Engineer Matt McElroy said bids were opened on Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>, one from Milestone for \$1,494,000.00 and the other from Dave O'Mara Contractors for \$2,467,000.00. The Engineer's estimate was \$2,190,720.00. This is for acceptance only; the bid will be awarded at the Jan. 6<sup>th</sup> meeting. Mayor Barnett stated that Malarkey is providing \$2,000,000.00 toward this project. Mr. Austin asked why there was such a difference between the two bids. Mr. McElroy said that during the internal Engineers' review, they think this difference may be due to the availability of the amount of dirt needed for the project. Ms. Gross motioned to accept bids for Paul Hand Boulevard Roadway Improvements Project as presented, seconded by Mr. Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

**Request the following Performance Bonds & Subdivision Performance Surety Agreements be accepted for Winterfield, Sec. 1** - Assistant City Engineer Matt McElroy presented the following:

Performance – Sec. 1:

0266195: Earthwork - \$131,760.00

0266196: Plantings & Mounding - \$146,928.00

0266197: Sanitary Sewers - \$478,617.00

0266198: Storm sewers, swales & underdrains - \$867,401.76

0266199: Streets - \$1,230,429.00

0266200: Sidewalks - \$117,784.80

0266201: Survey Monuments - \$22,020.00

Ms. Gross motioned to accept the Performance Bonds & Subdivision Performance Surety Agreements for Winterfield, Sec. 1, as presented, seconded by Mr. Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

**Approval and acceptance of Secondary Plat for Winterfield, Section 1** - Senior Planner Joanna Tennell presented this information. There were no questions. Mr. Austin motioned to accept and execute the Secondary Plat for Winterfield, Sec. 1, seconded by Ms. Gross. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

**Request acceptance of quotes for the Young's Creek Pickleball Courts Lighting Project and award of contract to Huston Electric, Inc.** – Franklin Mayor's Youth Leadership Council (FMYLC) members: President, Marnie Moore; Vice President, Taylor Trueblood; Communications Manager, Willa Thomas, Keegan Turner McQuinn, and Mia Hart presented three quotes. Huston Electric's quote was for \$48,012.00. Midwest Electric and Davis Electric were unresponsive. They requested that Huston Electric's bid be accepted and awarded as the lowest, most responsive, and responsible quote. Joe Gruse, from Huston Electric, stated his company was able to work with some of their lighting vendors and subcontractors for excavating and boring to offer this price. Ms. Moore said FMYLC will continue to raise funds for this project and, in the future, will be requesting funds from the BOW. Ms. Gross motioned to accept and award Huston Electric Incorporated's quote for the Young's Creek Pickleball Courts Lighting Project as the lowest, most responsive, and responsible bidder, seconded by Mr. Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

### **Other Business**

**Request Disposal of Salvage Equipment** - Director of Technology Rick Littleton stated this equipment is ready to be disposed of. There were no questions. Ms. Gross motioned to approve disposal of salvaged equipment as listed, seconded by Mr. Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

### **Department Reports / Staff Reports**

DPW Superintendent Sally Brown stated that the DPW plant is doing well.

City Engineer Mark Richards informed us they are interviewing for a building official position.

Community Development Director Krista Linke said there is an RDC meeting in the morning.

Sewer Billing Manager Sherry Phillips explained that State Board of Account reports are due and that the lien cycle for January is getting ready to start.

Fire Chief Josh Snyder stated they hired a new firefighter, Gavin Bane, who will be sworn in in January.

Police Chief Kirby Cochran shared that the 7th Annual Toy Drive was a huge success, with 150 families and several hundred kids attending. Chief Cochran also welcomed Ryan Mears as the newly appointed Captain.

Parks Department Superintendent Chip Orner said it was a great Holiday Lighting with good weather. Also, the AAC is changing fast, with visible progress made every day.

Chief of Staff Tara Payne thanked all our sponsors for their contributions to the City Employee Christmas Party.

Board of Works Member Tina Gross wished everyone happy holidays and thanked them for their hard work throughout 2024.

### **Adjournment**

As there was no further business to come before the Board of Works, a motion and a second were made to adjourn at 5:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Jan Jones, Clerk-Treasurer  
Enrolled: 12/26/24

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Steve Barnett, Mayor

Attest:

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Jan Jones, Clerk-Treasurer