

City of Franklin

Minutes of the Board of Works and Safety

City Hall
55 W. Madison St.
Franklin Indiana 46131

Tuesday July 9, 2002 @ 6:00 P.M.

Presiding Officer: Mayor Norman P. Blankenship

Members Present: Joseph R. Ault

Members Absent: Stephen D. Houglan

Non-Voting Members Present: Mr. Rick Littleton Wastewater Utility Superintendent
Mr. David Weir Planning Director
Mr. Jerry Ott City Engineer
Mr. Robert H. Schafstall City Attorney
Mrs. Sue Midkiff Chief Deputy Clerk Treasurer

Mrs. Karen Bridges a correspondent for the Indianapolis Star was present at this meeting, and Mrs. Holly Yoakum a reporter for the Daily Journal was present at this meeting.

After the Invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance, Mr. Ault made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held June 25, 2002. Mayor Blankenship seconded this motion. Motion carried. The Chief Deputy Clerk Treasurer presented the following claims for approval.

Date	Account	Description	Bank	Amount
6-1-02	Civil City	Longevity June Pay	5 th / 3 rd	136,750.43
6-14-02	Civil City	Payroll	5 th / 3 rd	227,821.75
6-26-02	Civil City	Pension	5 th / 3 rd	43,583.67
6-28-02	Civil City	Payroll	5 th / 3 rd	245,683.18
6-14-02	Sewer	Payroll	Heartland	19,009.27
6-28-02	Sewer	Payroll	Heartland	19,252.29
7-9-02	Civil City	Vendor Claims 26132 – 26143	5 th / 3 rd	59,107.71
		Total		\$751,208.30

Mr. Ault made a motion to approve the claims as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Blankenship, Approved.

The Mayor reordered the agenda allowing the following agenda items from New Business to be presented at the start of the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Senior Center Request To Hold An Outdoor Concert

Ms. Rhonda Gammon the Executive Director of the Franklin Senior Center presented her request for a variance from the City of Franklin Noise Ordinance. Ms. Rhonda Gammon told the Board that on September 28, 2002 the Senior Center would hold an Open House. One planned activity is an outdoor concert in Payne Park, adjacent to the Senior Center located at 160 E. Madison Street, from 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. Mr. Ault seconded by Mayor Blankenship made a motion to approve the variance. Motion carried. Mayor Blankenship recommended that Ms. Gammon contact Chief of Police about this event.

Request For “No Parking” Signs & Speed Limit Signs In The Legends West Subdivision

Mrs. Glenda Williams a resident of the Legends West Subdivision requested that the Board of Works install additional “No Parking”, through out the addition and for the Board of Works to lower the speed limit within the addition. Ms. Williams reported that on June 12, 2002 there were fifty vehicles parked in the neighborhood many of them in marked no parking zones and in front of fire hydrants. The majority of the cars belonged to golfers participating in a golf outing at the adjacent Legends Golf Course. She contacted the Police Department, an officer responded and suggested that she come to the Board of Works to discuss the problem. The developer installed the existing decorative signage. Mr. Weir was asked to contact the Street Department requesting that they survey the signage in the addition. The Board Members explained that before the Board would reduce the speed limit in the neighborhood to 20 mph, the Board requires that a petition signed by the current homeowners is needed. Tabled to the next Board of Works meeting on July 23, 2002. Mr. Ault stated that a letter should be sent to Legends Golf Course Management requesting that they encourage patrons to refrain from parking in restricted areas. The Mayor stated that the Police Department would be told that the decorative signs are enforceable.

Request For “Reserved For Handicapped” Parking Sign

Ms. Jennifer McDowell requested that the City install a “Reserved For Handicapped” parking sign at 497 N. Main Street. Ms. McDowell explained that her Mother is disabled. Mr. Weir stated that the Planning Department had no objection to the request. Mr. Ault made a motion to approve, seconded by Mayor Blankenship. Motion carried. The Street Department will be asked to install the sign.

Gateway Services – Indiana Department of Commerce (IDOC) Community Focus Funds Planning Grant

Mrs. Karen Leuhmann, Executive Director of Gateway Services and Mr. Bob Campbell a Gateway Services Board Member presented information to the Board of Works. Their facility sits on 13 acres along U.S. 31 / Morton Street which they own. Mrs. Leuhmann stated that Gateway would like to develop the acreage and have applied for an Indiana Department of Commerce Community Focus Grant. Some potential uses of the land that they are considering include: a fire station, a childcare center, a transportation center, public housing, a not – for profit agency facility, there are many possible uses for the land. The process requires that a plan for the development must be submitted within a year. Mrs. Leuhmann stated that they have selected two firms InterDesign Group and Prince Alexander Architects to develop the plan. She stated that they prefer Prince Alexander for their project and are asking the City to endorse this selection. Mr. Weir explained that technically the City of Franklin is the applicant for the grant so Gateway needs the City’s endorsement to proceed. He also stated that this matter is set for public hearing with the City Council July 22, 2002. Mayor Blankenship made a motion to endorse the request, in principle, of both architectural firms, and will refer this matter to the City Council. Mr. Ault seconded this motion. Motion carried. The Mayor asked Mr. Weir to prepare a resolution for presentation to the Council at the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Fire Station Location Discussion

Fire Department Chief Michael Herron presented information to the Board concerning the preferred location of a new Fire Station. Chief Herron summarized the current situation and recommendation for a third fire station on north side of the City. He also recommends eventually building a new station on the eastside and closing Station #2, which is currently located on Hamilton Street. The Chief also stated that the Board could consider purchasing enough land to provide a training tower and other training facilities at the eastside location. Tabled to next meeting, July 23, 2002.

Request For A “4-Way Stop” At Charles Drive And Cumberland Drive

Planning Director Mr. David Weir presented a request for the installation of a “4 Way Stop at the intersection of Charles Drive and Cumberland Drive in the Cumberland Trails subdivision. The Planning Department and City Engineer will conduct a site distance study before making a recommendation to the Board of Works. Tabled to next meeting July 23, 2002.

Request to Reduce Posted Speed Limit Along Paris Drive

Planning Director David Weir reported on the request to reduce the posted speed limit from 30 mph to 20 mph from Red Oak Drive to King Street in the Paris Estates subdivision. Mr. Weir sent a staff member to the area today from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. The staff member observed and recorded 70 vehicles traveling at speeds ranging from 19 mph to 58 mph, (average 32 mph), during this period. A discussion was held. At the conclusion the Board asked Mr. Weir to contact Mr. Gruss and recommend / propose that a petition requesting the City reduce the speed limit from King Street to Upper Shelbyville Road. The matter is removed to Staff Reports.

NEW BUSINESS (2ND)

Request for “Children At Play” Signs to be installed on Red Oak Drive

Mr. Richard Hughes was unable to attend this meeting however Mayor Blankenship read Mr. Hughes memo recommending that the requested signs be installed in Paris Estates along Red Oak Drive. Mr. Ault made a motion to approve this request, seconded by Mayor Blankenship. Motion carried.

Request To Monitor Traffic Speeds On East King Street Between Forsythe And Hurricane Street

Planning Director David Weir summarized the information he has gathered at this time. He stated that at this time no speed limit signs are posted in the area. He recommended making no changes at this time. The Mayor stated that commitments were made to the residents to make an effort to reduce the speeds in the area. Tabled to allow for further study.

STAFF REPORTS

Planning Department – Mr. David Weir

Travis Lane – Resident’s request to move “No Parking” signs from east side of Travis Lane to the west side between Jason Avenue and Israel Lane. Discussion held. The Board Members decided to take no action.

City Engineer – Mr. Jerry Ott

City Engineer – Status of Tasks dated July 9, 2002

1. Congdon Engineering Associates Branigin Boulevard Right of Way Engineering Services proposal. This proposal increases the existing contract by \$18,500.00 and increases the “not to exceed” amount to \$151,500. Mr. Ault made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign on behalf of the Board, seconded by Mayor Blankenship. Agreement signed.
2. Cumberland Trails – Agreement between Brusco, Inc. and the City of Franklin to perform the work. Mr. Ault made a motion to approve the agreement, seconded by Mayor Blankenship.
3. Wal-Mart Plaza issue – Mr. Ault made a motion to accept Mr. Ott’s recommendation that he and the City Attorney proceed to National City Bank to draw the funds guaranteed by the Letter of Credit, seconded by Mayor Blankenship.

4. Paris Drive Street Light – Mr. Ott was contacted by the homeowners association of Paris Estates with a request that the City assume the payments to Cinergy for the security light located at the entrance to the addition. Mr. Ott investigated this and found that the current light is inadequate and recommends that a cobra head streetlight be installed at the intersection of Paris Drive and St. Andrews Court. He also recommended that the Clerk Treasurer be authorized to request the installation of streetlight at the intersection on behalf of the City. Mr. Ault, seconded by Mayor Blankenship made a motion to approve. Motion carried.
5. 2001 Paving Program is now complete.

Rick Littleton - Superintendent Wastewater Treatment Plant

No report

City Attorney Robert H. Schafstall.

Mr. Schafstall stated that at the last meeting Mr. Hougland had requested an opinion as to whether additional indemnification should be required for the Mutual Bank alley-paving project. Because Mr. Schafstall represents Mutual Bank he declined to offer an opinion, but agreed to obtain one from a disinterested attorney. The following day he contacted Mr. Dan Vandivier of Hass, Vandivier and Norris and to request an independent legal opinion and was advised by Mr. Vandivier that no additional insurance is needed to indemnify the City.

Mayor Blankenship's Comments

The Mayor made the following comments:

1. WRTV Channel 6 Fan Club will be hosting a special event at Christina House located at Christina Boulevard on July 19, 2002 at 4:00 p.m. with Kevin Gregory as the Master of Ceremonies.
2. The Mayor asked Mr. Ott to copy him on any letters sent to the Cumberland Trails Drainage Improvement project homeowners concerning the timeline of the repair.
3. The Mayor asked Mr. Ott and Mr. Weir to contact Mrs. Dorothy Rainey the President of the Whispering Ponds Homeowners Association prior to the next meeting. This matter will be placed on next meeting Agenda.

As there was no further business to come before the Board of Works, the meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Janet P. Alexander
Clerk Treasurer
Secretary to the Board of Works and Safety

Enrolled: July 17, 2002

Approved by the Board of Works: _____
Date

Norman P. Blankenship, Jr. Mayor Date