City of Franklin
Minutes of the Board of Works and Safety

City Hall
55 W. Madison St.
Franklin Indiana 46131

Tuesday July 10, 2001 @ 6:00 P.M.

Presiding Officer: Mayor Norman P. Blankenship

Members Present:	Mr. Joseph R. Ault	
	Mr. Stephen D. Hougland	
Non-Voting Members Present:	Mr. John Borges	Police Chief
	Mr. Robert H. Schafstall	City Attorney
	Mr. Michael Herron	Fire Chief
	Mr. Rick Littleton	Wastewater Utility Superintendent
	Mr. Jerry Ott	City Engineer
	Mrs. Brenda Poe	Sewer Billing Office Manager
	Mr. Mark Webb	Cemetery Superintendent
	Mr. David Weir	Planning Director
	Mrs. Janet Alexander	Clerk Treasurer

Karen Bridges a correspondent for the Indianapolis Star was present at this meeting.

After the Invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance, Mr. Ault, seconded by Mr. Hougland made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 26, 2001 meeting as distributed. The motion carried.

The Clerk Treasurer presented the following claims for approval: Fifth Third Bank 23290 - 23320, Heartland Bank 4013 – 4027, Payroll (6-29-01) 90000 - 90016. Mr. Ault moved to approve the claims as presented. Mr. Hougland seconded this motion. The motion passed.

The Mayor reorganized the agenda to allow the following matter to be heard first.

Eastview Drive Truck Route Signage – Mrs. Connie Eggers and Mrs. Linda Richards appeared to voice their concern about the truck traffic through downtown Franklin and to request that the Board consider improving the truck route signage from State Road 44 to Eastview Drive, following the natural route to U.S. 31 North. Mrs. Eggers passed out photographs showing the existing signage or lack thereof. She also suggested that an effort should be put toward educating the community and local businesses about the location of the truck routes. Mayor Blankenship told Mrs. Eggers that the Planning Office has been working on a truck route signage plan. Mr. Hougland asked if they would allow us to keep the photos and a copy of her comments to forward to Mr. Joe Csikos the Staff Planner who is working on this problem. Mr. Ault stated that the City could send a letter to Wal-Mart suggesting that they use the truck route. Mr. Hougland enlarged on that suggestion, asking whether the City should direct a letter to all industries with a map showing the route. Mrs. Eggers stated that it was their belief that if the truck drivers could find the route they would use it.

OLD BUSINESS

Policy Manual Discussion – Mayor Blankenship stated that he has the fourth draft and will have copies prepared as soon as possible for a final review and confirmation. He plans to place it on the Board of Works agenda this month and on the Council agenda the first meeting in August. Mr. Hougland asked that Mr. Ripley be present at one or both of those meetings.

Johnson County Interlocal Agreements – Mr. Ott explained the order of approval stipulated in Indiana Code concerning the procedure to be followed by municipalities when they enter into "Interlocal Agreements". Indiana statute requires the fiscal body to adopt an ordinance or resolution before or after the executive body has executed the interlocal agreement. Mr. Ott suggested that the decision to use an ordinance rather than a resolution should be based on the nature of the agreement. Finally the Clerk Treasurer must record each executed interlocal agreement within 60 days in the County Recorders Office. Mr. Ott mentioned the following Interlocal agreements under consideration at this time between Johnson County and the City of Franklin.

1. Hazelett Ditch – Mr. Ott recommended the use of a Resolution; this agreement allows the County to use our right of way.
2. North Graham Road Guardrail Project – Mr. Ott suggests the use of a Resolution for this agreement. The Board has authorized the execution of this agreement.
3. King Street Bridge – Suggests that this be prepared in the form of a Resolution.
4. Wilson Overlook Annexation

Mr. Ott recommended that Hazelett Ditch, King Street Bridge and N. Graham Road Guardrail be put into Resolution form and scheduled for Common Council consideration at their next meeting. The N. Graham Road Project is the only agreement that has a financial obligation by the City ($3,200).

Mr. Hougland made a motion to allow the Mayor to sign the agreement between Johnson County and the City of Franklin regarding the planned improvements of the Hazelett Ditch pending approval of Counsel. Mr. Ault seconded this motion. Motion carried. After reviewing the document, Mr. Schafstall recommended that the agreement should be amended to include an indemnification of the City by Johnson County. The Board asked Mr. Schafstall to speak to the County Attorney Joe Pitcher about indemnifying the City.

Review of INDOT Proposals, U.S. 31 and S.R. 44 Mr. Ott and Mayor Blankenship discussed their recent meeting with INDOT officials concerning:

- Eastview Drive
- State Road 44 and Westview Drive – INDOT is considering a “Round About” at this location. If they elect to construct a “Round About”, construction would not start for three years or more.
- Commerce Drive & U.S. 31
- CVS & Walgreen’s – INDOT considers the CVS location is more of a problem. They suggest Vaught Street be widened on the East side at the intersection of Vaught and 44. They also suggested that the City might want to take on this project rather than wait for the State. Traffic volume has gone up 39% in 4 years.
- Knollwood Farms & U.S. 31 – Traffic light issue.
- S.R. 44 & I-65 - Fence Removal & Fence Covenant

These items of business will be moved to staff reports.

Discussion of I-65 and SR 44 Fence Removal – Mr. Ott stated that he spoke with INDOT and was told that permission to remove the fencing at this location would have to be obtained from each property owner. The Mayor asked the City Attorney and the Engineer to contact the City Attorney of Columbus to get information about how they managed to address a similar project in their community.

NEW BUSINESS

Proposed Amendment to Taxicab City Code 112 (Ordinance 640, Feb. 1959) – Chief Borges stated that Mr. George Edwards an individual who intends to open a taxi service in Franklin had contacted him. Upon reviewing the existing codebook, Chief Borges thought the Board of Works might consider amendments to the City’s taxi ordinance. Several provisions of the current code are outdated. The Chief cited a provision in the code that requires the Chief of Police to inspect the vehicle. The Chief stated that a qualified mechanic should be performing this inspection. He also cited several other examples within the code, which are antiquated or may not comply with Indiana Code. Mr. Hougland stated that he believed changes had been made during the last administration and asked the Clerk Treasurer to look for information on the actions taken by the Board of Works on this matter. Mayor Blankenship stated that this matter should be referred to the City Attorney and to the Common Council.

Wal-Mart Plaza (Final Plat) Mr. Ott introduced Eric Gleissner of Roger Ward Engineering representing the owner. Due to concerns about the Letter of Credit provided by the developer, Mr. Hougland, seconded by Mayor Blankenship, made a motion to table. Motion carried.

RUMPKE – Ms. Terri Littleton appears to give the monthly report concerning trash collection. She stated that this year the volume collected has increased by 250.99 tons, increasing the average to a total of 42 tons per month. She also gave her office's version of the handling of a telephone complaint from an individual who had complained to the Council last evening. Ms. Littleton also asked to be informed of planned road closings.

STAFF REPORTS

Mr. Rick Littleton, Sewer Utility Superintendent – Mr. Littleton turned his report over to Mr. Jeff Ponist of Commonwealth Engineering – Mr. Ponist requested that the Mayor sign a report to be submitted to IDEM. Mr. Ponist reviewed the project and gave a written financial report to the Board concerning the Bio-Solids Facility project costs. The projected completion date is July 28^{th}. Mr. Ponist asked for the Board to approve a change order, #2 – requesting permission to increase to the contract with Dunlap & Company by $9,485.24. Mr. Hougland, seconded by Mr. Ault made a motion to approve the change order. Motion carried.

Mr. Ponist also presented a request to install an additional water line to augment the flow of non-potable water through the belt press in the Bio-Solids Facility. This water line would be an 8" line. He obtained quotes for the installation – the lowest quote received from Mattox Industrial Contractors, for this water line was $11,700.00. Mr. Ponist suggested that this be paid for from the SRF. Mr. Ault seconded by Mr. Hougland made a motion to approve. Motion carried.

Mr. Littleton reviewed the status of the project. He stated that they have begun producing the bi-product. He stated that chemical costs for production are on line with what he had budgeted. Mr. Ponist stated that they are working with IDEM regarding the plan to sell the product to fertilizer producers.

Mr. David Weir, Planning Director

1. Stated that on July 12 at 3:00 p.m there will be a TEA 21 meeting at the Planning Office.
2. Ratio Architects are planning a Comprehensive Plan "kick-off" meeting on July 21, 2001.

Ms. Brenda Poe, Sewer Billing Manager **No Report**

Mr. Richard Hughes, Street Commissioner

1. Stated that the new signage approved for Knollwood Drive and Cottonwood have been installed.
2. Within a few days he will be letting out bids for a loader.

Mr. Ott, City Engineer

1. He was approached by a company offering to assist the City with the development of the storm water plan due March of 2003.
2. Eastside Sanitary Sewers – He will have a preliminary report ready in early August – for $5, - $10,000 – The Mayor asked Mr. Ott and Planning Staff to meet with Mr. Schafstall about this project.
3. Branigin Boulevard Project – The traffic study has been completed and Mr. Ott asked that the Board authorize the Mayor to submit the report to INDOT to request their concurrence with the findings. He also asked for the Board's authorization for the full distribution of the report to the Common Council, Plan Commission, Branigin Way Task Force Members, and the News Media. He stated that the report supported our assumptions that in whether the Boulevard is designed as one way or two-way street, no left turn modifications are required on Jefferson Street. Mr. Hougland made a motion to approve the requests, seconded by Mr. Ault. Motion carried. The Mayor asked Mr. Ott to deliver a copy to the Clerk-Treasurers Office to be available for inspection by the general public.

4. Jackson Oil – Materials Bid - Mr. Ott stated that he wrote to Jackson Oil requesting that they respond to his request for specifications for their diesel fuel and gasoline. He set a deadline of July 23rd for their response and stated that failure to respond by that date could result in the rejection of their bid. He also wrote that the City may elect to call their bid bond to pay the additional expense of re-biding the fuels.
5. 2000 Sidewalk Project Milestone Contractors – Presented a change order #1 for Board approval to reduce the contract by $2,554.00. Mr. Hougland seconded by Mr. Ault. Motion carried.

The Clerk Treasurer stated that two property owners along West Jefferson Street have paid her office for the sidewalks. Two other property owners called and agreed to pay but the City has not received their agreed payments. She said that she is considering taking the property owners to small claims court. The Mayor asked Mr. Schafstall to look at this issue. Particularly the notification letters to property owners informing them of the City's intent to construct sidewalks. The Mayor asked Mr. Schafstall to prepare a letter to be sent to the property owners requesting payment for the completed work. The Mayor also asked the Clerk Treasurer to provide a copy of the Sidewalk Ordinance to the City Attorney.

6. Street Cut Permit Process – Mr. Ott asked for Board direction. Mr. Schafstall stated that he had prepared a street cut ordinance during the last administration that was not adopted. The Mayor stated that he would like an ordinance prepared to present to the Council, Mr. Hougland seconded. Motion carried.

Chief Michael Herron, Fire Department – Chief Herron reported that the Test results for aerial #21 indicate that the aerial platform drifts more than standards allow. Parts have been ordered. The Chief stated that the aerial truck is not in-regular use – it may be called out for fire emergencies. The problems have been identified by mechanics at Stoops, who are certified in repair of emergency fire apparatus. The truck was purchased in 1987. The company that built the truck went out of business after the purchase. Mr. Ault stated that the problem is in the hydraulics – there are leaking valves. Chief Herron agreed but stated that he understood from Stoops that there is an electrical problem as well. Mayor Blankenship asked Mr. Ault to look into the matter for the Board and the Fire Department. When asked how much a new truck would cost Chief Herron stated that the Indianapolis Fire Department recently put out a bid for these trucks and the price they received was around $500,000.

Mr. Webb, Cemetery Superintendent – Mayor Blankenship stated that he and Mr. Webb are looking into creating a fund for the improvement of the Cemetery.

Mayors Comments

1. American Consulting gave the City a quote to prepare the additional report requested - to consider building two new stations rather than a third station. The study will be paid for from Board of Works budget.
2. Asked Mr. Weir about the alley vacation on Walnut Street. Mr. Weir stated that this has been advertised for hearing July 23rd.
3. Mayor Blankenship asked staff to be conscientious about turning off unneeded electrical appliances – to conserve energy this summer.
4. The Mayor complemented participating staff for their work on the 4th of July Fireworks event. The Mayor stated that staffing was costly and will be factored into next years budget. He also stated that he would be increasing the amount budgeted for fireworks.

Clerk Treasurer

Requested the Boards approval to pay claims for Commonwealth Engineering for Engineering services - $2, 491.00 & $10,942, and for Clarifier Design $1,838.50. Also requested approval for payment of Dunlap Application #6 for $187,645.00. Mr. Littleton approved these claims. Mr. Hougland seconded by Mr. Ault made a motion to approve payment of the claims. Motion carried.

The Clerk reported that a resident of Fairground St. contacted her office and asked about the planned closure of that street during the fair next week. The resident and his family live in an apartment with no off street parking. The Police Chief and Board stated that during fairweek the Sheriff's Department have jurisdiction over that street. Mayor Blankenship agreed to call the Sheriff about this question and agreed to contact the resident.

Board Members Comments

Mr. Hougland

- Mr. Dick Graham has submitted his resignation from the Plan Commission.
- He received a complaint about the condition of the side walk at Yandes Street between Madison and Jefferson Street on the west side adjacent to Accu Print

Mayor Blankenship stated that he and Mr. Hughes would take a look at this section of sidewalk.

Mayor Blankenship stated that he has received complaints about a drainage problem on Shelby Road by Arvin – he asked Mr. Ott and Mr. Hughes to take a look at this area with him, this week.

As there was no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

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Janet P. Alexander, Clerk-Treasurer
Secretary to the Board of Works and Safety
Enrolled Date: 7/21/01

Approved by Board of Works: __________
Date

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Norman P. Blankenship, Jr. Mayor Date