

CITY OF FRANKLIN
BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY
Meeting Minutes
September 8, 2009

Opening

Mayor Paris called the regular meeting of the Board of Public Works and Safety to order at 9:30 a. m. in City Hall.

Roll Call

The roll was called and member Dan Murray was present.

Also present were: Police Deputy Chief Tim O'Sullivan, Fire Chief Jim Reese, Sewer Billing Office Manager Brenda Poe, DPW Superintendent Rick Littleton, Planning Director Krista Linke, Director of Engineering Todd Wilkerson, Street Commissioner Steve Compton, Parks Superintendent Chip Orner, Clerk-Treasurer Janet P. Alexander, and City Attorney Robert H. Schafstall

Mayor Paris offered an invocation immediately followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Consent Agenda

Mayor Paris made a motion seconded by Mr. Murray to approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion carried.

1. Minutes of the August 18, 2009 Board of Works Meetings
2. Accounts Payable Voucher Register
 - #082209 Sewer Utilities in the amount of \$18,262.50
 - #083009 RDC-TIF in the amount of \$175,000.00
 - #082109 BOW Utilities in the amount of \$189,280.82
 - #082709 Sewer Utilities in the amount of \$181,557.42
 - #082309 2nd Qtr. Co. PERF in the amount of \$54,786.82
 - #082909 BOW Utilities in the amount of \$73,470.47
 - #090409 BOW Utilities in the amount of \$26,394.28
 - #090509 Sewer Utilities in the amount of \$1,088,360.88
 - #090809 BOW in the amount of \$148,774.34
 - #090709 Sewer in the amount of \$34,642.69

OLD BUSINESS

Follow-up on review of storage barn placement in utility easement - Julie Heck-Garzotto

Mrs. Heck-Garzotto came and told the Board that the shed was modified and is now portable. The Mayor made a motion to remove this item from the agenda, the motion carried.

Traffic congestion and alley near 135 N. Morton

Petitioner Larry Buck explained newest traffic issue along this alleyway fronting his business. One idea that was suggested was to make the alley a one way street heading west. A discussion was held. Tabled.

Proposed Cemetery Fee Schedule

The Mayor stated that the proposed ordinance was introduced to Common Council last evening and is set for public hearing at the next regular meeting. A motion to remove this from the agenda was made and seconded. The motion carried and the matter is removed.

Golf Cart Ordinance

Rob H. Schafstall stated that he is chasing down the newest rumor that every street must be posted. Mayor Paris stated that the draft ordinance will be presented to the Common Council at the next regular meeting. Mayor Paris made a motion to forward this matter to the Common Council with the recommendation that the registration fee would be for a period of two years. Mr. Murray seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Flooding Issues in Hurricane Industrial Park and Paris Estates

The Mayor stated that he has been approached by individuals making various claims about the cause of the drainage problems in Hurricane Industrial Park. The Mayor asked Todd Wilkerson to pull the drainage plans for that area. Mr. Compton stated that the pipes in that area are clear, and he is planning to clean out the ditches. A discussion was held. Mayor Paris suggests they have someone check the elevations.

Mr. Compton stated that they scoped the pipes in Paris Estates and found that there are tree roots blocking the pipes. One willow tree broke through 6 points. There are 4 – 5 trees in the easement and should be removed.

Dan Murray made a motion that we strongly suggest that the homeowners remove the trees within the easement and that Steve Compton will request their cooperation in removing any trees along the ditch line causing problems. Mayor Paris seconded the motion. The Homeowners will be responsible for removal and to shoulder the cost.

NEW BUSINESS

Discover Downtown Franklin - Downtown Market Analysis Presentation

Planning Department Franklin College Interns Megan Sweany & Andrew Keinsley presented their results of a survey of downtown businesses. Ninety two businesses were contacted and fifty eight responded. The survey focused on local business sales patterns, location satisfaction and future plans, paring, advertising and promotion effectiveness and financing interests. The purpose of the study was to help Discover Downtown Franklin, the Planning Department and City Officials to better understand the challenges faced by businesses operating in our downtown and to identify specific areas of concern. Mayor Paris thanked both Megan and Andrew for their efforts and complimented the report presentation.

Grady Bros. – Request for release of Retainage

The Mayor asked to table this request until Grady Bros. improves the “bump”

Request for Children at Play Signage – Jason and Heather Jones

Mrs. Heather Jones explained that there are several young children who play in and around the streets in her neighborhood due to the poor condition of the sidewalks in the area. The Mayor explained that the Indiana Department of Transportation and the National Departments of

Transportation have recommended that communities avoid installation of these types of signs because they imply that children are permitted or encouraged to play in public streets. However the Mayor suggested that she and her neighbors could make warning signs themselves and place them along the roadway when the kids are out playing. The Mayor made a motion to deny the request which was seconded. The request was denied.

OTHER BUSINESS

Waiver of Mowing Charges issued to 151 W. Jefferson Street

Mayor Paris explained that the business was damaged in the flood and he believes that we should treat this lot the same as we have the homes around the Cemetery. Mayor Paris made a motion to release. Mr. Murray seconded and the motion carried.

Approval of Application and Certificate for Payment #5 – McDougal Pierce in the amount of \$194,965.65 for Station #23

Architect William E. Burd submitted this claim for payment. Mr. Wilkerson does not object to payment. Mayor Paris seconded by Mr. Murray made a motion to approve. The motion carried.

Request to File Tax Liens for Non-Payment of Mowing Charges

Mr. Murray seconded by Mayor Paris made a motion to allow the Clerk Treasurer to file property tax liens for unpaid mowing bills issued due to ordinance violations. Approved.

Public Comments

Mayor Paris asked if anyone from the community had anything to bring before the Board that was not on the agenda. Resident Gary Moody provided a letter to the Board members outlining various concerns.

REPORTS BY DEPARTMENTS

Mayor Paris reviewed the written Department Reports.

Street Department

Mayor Paris directed Steve Compton to take a look at the ditch line behind Davidson Lumber – the ditch line must be cleaned out. He also asked about the Forester search. Steve reported that he has received five applications. The Mayor asked about fertilization of trees. Mr. Compton stated that Lindsey Purcell, Purdue Extension Agent for the Forestry Department told Mr. Compton that he did not have any recommendation for fertilization and suggested that individual homeowners should be responsible for mulching trees. He thinks the City could use a full time forester. He reviewed the dead tree listing. Steve is waiting on an email confirming his opinion. The Mayor recommended that dead or dying trees should be marked now for removal and asked Steve to see that the home owners are notified.

Fire Department

Fire Chief Jim Reese plans to bring staffing recommendations to BOW as well as asked when he should plan to bring an Ambulance Service report to Council. The Mayor suggested mid October.

Planning Department

Planning Director stated that the State of Indiana has committed to provide the 25% financial match covering the City's share for the mitigation buy-out program.

Parks Department

Superintendent Chip Orner – Memorial 5K Run along the trail Saturday October – 3rd during the Fall Festival in memory of two Public Safety officers killed last year. The Mayor asked about the Run for Rex. Deputy Chief Tim O'Sullivan stated that he is working with Loran Snyder on issues concerning the 5K run stating that this event will run through the Masonic Home Community. Chip listed the street closings needed for the Fall Festival. He provided a map showing the requested closures to the Board and to the Police Department. They are asking to close North Main just past W. Madison Street and the intersection of N. Main and W. Madison up to City Hall. They also plan to close Monroe Street from Water Street to South Main. A noise variance is requested from 7:00 to 10 p.m. Mayor Paris made a motion to approve, seconded by Mr. Murray. Approved.

Mr. Orner thanked the Fire Department for assisting with the clean-up of the tennis courts following the recent flood. He also thanked Steve Compton for assisting with the removal of trees lodged under bridges.

Deputy Chief O'Sullivan reported that there is a neighborhood dispute concerning an alley that appears to be abandoned. Krista Linke says that the alley way must be vacated following the required procedure. Mayor requested more information – he and Dan will go look at it.

The Mayor congratulated Officer Rich Whitaker who recently received his second Police Commendation Medal.

Clerk-Treasurer

Janet P. Alexander presented a new list of delinquent Fire Medic Service bills Mayor Paris made a motion to forward unpaid ambulance bills to collection. Mr. Murray seconded. The motion carried and was approved.

Adjournment

Mayor Paris made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Mr. Murray. The motion carried, and the meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m. The next meeting will be held Sept. 22, 2009 at 9:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by,
Janet P. Alexander, Clerk-Treasurer

Enrolled: 9/17/09 Approved by the Board of Works: 9/22/09