

CITY OF FRANKLIN
BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY
Meeting Minutes
May 29, 2007

Opening

Mayor Brenda Jones-Matthews called the regular meeting of the Board of Public Works and Safety to order at 6:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Room.

Present

The roll was called and Mayor Jones-Matthews, Board Members Steve Hougland and Joe Ault were present.

Also present for this meeting were Police Deputy Chief Steve Hood, Deputy Fire Chief Greg Nelson, Street Commissioner Richard Hughes, Sewer Billing Office Manager Brenda Poe, Cemetery Superintendent Mark Webb, City Engineer Mike Buening, Staff Planner Krista Linke, WWTP Superintendent Rick Littleton, City Attorney Robert H. Schafstall, Clerk-Treasurer Janet P. Alexander, and Clerk-Treasurer Assistant Kristi Bruther. No representative from the news media was present at this meeting.

Mr. Hougland offered an invocation which was immediately followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Consent Agenda

Approval and Acceptance of Minutes

Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on April 24, 2007.

Accounts Payable Voucher Registers

#052307 in the amount of \$1,001,288.67
#052507 in the amount of \$5,009,559.49
#051207 in the amount of \$5,686.25
#051107 in the amount of \$4,949.11
#050407 in the amount of \$92,417.49
#050507 in the amount of \$31,354.52
#043007 in the amount of \$1,593.70
#042807 in the amount of \$900,552.45
#042707 in the amount of \$2,911,583.73
#051807 in the amount of \$204,139.03
#051507 in the amount of \$202,053.55

#051407 in the amount of \$44,598.97

Accounts Payable Payroll Vouchers

Sewer dated April 26, 2007 in the amount of \$49,991.92

General Payroll and Pension dated April 26, 2007 in the amount of \$581,254.93

Mr. Hougland, seconded by Mr. Ault, made a motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion carried and the consent agenda was approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Request for a Stop Sign and Speed Limit Sign in Countryview

Mr. Anthony Abernats, Manager of Countryview Mobile Home Park, appeared before the Board to request that a four-way stop sign to be placed at Cambridge Drive and Vindale Boulevard within Countryview Mobile Home Park and requested a change in the speed limit to 10 or 15 miles per hour. Police Chief, John Borges, commented that the existing stop sign is a two-way stop and the recommendation to make the intersection a four-way stop is reasonable. Chief Borges commented that in order to have a speed limit changed, surveys would be needed.

Mr. Hougland, seconded by Mr. Ault, made a motion to approve the recommendation and install the stop sign at the intersection.

Request for a “Children at Play” and/or Speed Limit Sign be Placed in the Alley off Home Avenue

The petitioner, Ms. Barb Kinsey was not present at this meeting. Police Chief John Borges and City Engineer Mike Buening recommended the installation of a two-way stop sign at the end of the alley. Mr. Hougland, seconded by Mr. Ault, made a motion to approve the recommendation and install the requested stop sign. The motion carried and the request for a speed limit sign was approved.

Request for Speed Bumps on Johnson Avenue

The petitioner, Ms. Sarah Shaw was not present. Mr. Ault, seconded by Mr. Hougland, made a motion to notify Ms. Shaw that the City does not place speed bumps on avenues or streets. The motion carried and a notification will be mailed.

Request for Street Closures for the Fair Parade

Ms. Jennifer Westerfeld and Mr. Tracy Rumble, representatives of the Johnson County Fair Board, appeared before the Board to discuss the route change for the Johnson County Fair Parade. Ms. Westerfeld requested permission to start the parade at the Masonic Home due to the construction at the Franklin Community High School. Police Chief John Borges commented, that in the past using the Masonic Home grounds had created traffic problems. He explained that if

there were a medical emergency at either Homeview, the nursing care facility across the street from the Indiana Masonic Home, or the Home itself, ambulances responding would have a difficult time getting there due to the parade. A discussion was held. Mr. Ed Andrews from the Johnson County Shrine also appeared to discuss the route of the Fall Festival Parade. Mr. Hougland, seconded by Mr. Ault, made a motion to have the Mayor and City Departments, including the Police Department, Fire Department and Planning, as well as representatives from the Johnson County Sheriff's Department, meet and discuss the route options for both parades.

Discussion of Retention Pond Issue in the Oak Leaf Manor Subdivision

Mayor Brenda Jones-Matthews stated that Mr. Warren Nerz requested that this matter be tabled until the next meeting. Mr. Ault, seconded by Mr. Hougland, made a motion to table the matter and to strike if the petitioners do not attend the June meeting. The motion carried and the matter was tabled.

Request for a Storm Drain

Ms. Debbie Steager, a resident at 995 Canary Creek Drive, appeared to request that a storm drain be placed in her yard to allow proper drainage. The City Engineer, Mike Buening, agreed that there is a drainage problem at this location and that a connection to the storm drain is a reasonable solution. Mike said that he would oversee work. Mr. Buening requested that the connection be completed by TDX. Mr. Ault, seconded by Mr. Hougland, made a motion to approve the request with the provision that all work be completed in accordance with the City Engineer's specification. The motion carried and the request was approved.

Request for a "Children at Play" sign or "Stop" Signs on Turning Leaf Drive

Ms. Azra Duheric and Ms. Allison Small, residents of 2150 Turning Leaf Dr. within the Meadows at Simon Farms, appeared before the Board to request that a stop sign be placed at the corner of Turning Leaf Dr. and Harvest Ridge. Mr. Ault, seconded by Mr. Hougland, made a motion to direct the Police Chief, City Engineer, and Street Commissioner to review the area and present a recommendation at the next meeting. The motion carried.

Discussion of a Speeding Problem in the Neighborhood and Request for Speed Limit Signs

Ms. Karen Jones, a resident of 83 Highland Avenue, appeared before the Board to discuss the speeding problem on Highland Avenue and request that another stop sign or speed limit sign be posted along Highland Avenue between Main Street and Yount Street. Mr. Ault, seconded by Mr. Hougland, made a motion to direct the Police Chief, City Engineer and Street Commissioner to review the area and present a recommendation at the next meeting. The motion carried.

Request Approval of Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement for Ken Ford

Mayor Jones-Matthews presented the conflict of interest statement for Ken Ford, a Franklin Firefighter/EMT, who often is hired to perform construction work for various City departments.

Mr. Hougland, seconded by Mr. Ault, made a motion to accept the conflict of interest disclosure statement. The motion carried and the statement was signed.

Discussion of the Renewal for Annual Maintenance Agreement for EWS (Warning Sirens)

WWTP Superintendent, Rick Littleton, requested the Board accept the annual maintenance agreement from Federal Field Services for the inspection of the warning sirens and to allow payment of the invoice from the BOW budget. Mr. Hougland, seconded by Mr. Ault, made a motion to approve payment of the invoice. The motion carried.

Discussion of Outstanding Code Violations

The Clerk-Treasurer, Janet P. Alexander, requested that the Board table this matter until the next meeting. Mr. Hougland, seconded by Mr. Ault, made a motion to table the matter. The motion carried and the matter was tabled.

Request for Review of Mr. Larry Nunn's Claim for Damages

The City Attorney, Rob Schafstall, requested that the Board review the claim from Larry Nunn for damages incurred. Mr. Nunn explained that herbicides, which had been sprayed by city employees along the roadway, had damaged many trees on his property. The City Attorney requested that the Board authorize him to negotiate with Mr. and Mrs. Nunn and report back to the Board. Mr. Hougland, seconded by Mr. Ault, made a motion to grant the City Attorney's request. The motion carried.

Discussion of an Appeal on Parking Ticket

The City Attorney, Rob Schafstall, requested that the Board review a letter from Mr. Dennis Kolp concerning a parking ticket that he received on March 25, 2007. The Mayor requested that Chief Borges review the area and report back to the Board. Mr. Ault, seconded by Mr. Hougland, made a motion to table until the next meeting. The motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

REPORTS BY DEPARTMENTS

Planning Department

Planning Director Joseph Csikos provided the Board with a memorandum dated May 29, 2007 with status updates concerning:

1. 450 East King Street

- The structure was posted as an unsafe structure after the fire that gutted the home. Staff will be working with the Franklin Fire Department to determine the safety and security of the structure as it pertains to surrounding structures. Further examination is needed to determine any further action on the home.

- Mr. Ron Witt, property owner, has been contacted by the Department of Planning. Mr. Witt has stated that a dumpster is currently on order, and would be delivered to the home site by 14-April-07 and cleanup will begin shortly. Staff observed no progress on the structure or cleanup of the property following the 14-April date given by the property owner.
- Follow up conversations with the property owner have provided minimal progress toward cleanup of the property. The owner was given until 30-April-07 to make substantial cleanup efforts.
- Mr. Witt has contacted the office after receipt of the previous notice and has indicated his intent to remodel the property. To date, little to no progress has been made toward the necessary cleanup and no permit(s) have been pulled.
- Department of Planning and Johnson County Health Department staff would request the Board of Works determine the property an immediate threat to the public health and safety. If this determination is made, demolition quotes will be solicited and cleanup activity will begin as soon as possible.

The fire was twelve (12) weeks ago and none of the action steps listed on the notice have been done to date. Notification was mailed first class and certified, in which Mr. Csikos reported that the home owner received the first class letter and came into the office. But he refused to accept the certified letter. He said that the department is in the process of placing the notice in the Daily Journal. Jon Bonsett, Director of the Johnson County Health Department, appeared to ask that the Board move forward with action in this area. Mr. Bonsett explained that the house and grounds are a detriment to public health. The City Attorney recommended that the Planning Director obtain demolition quotes. Mr. Hougland, seconded by, Mr. Ault, made a motion that “the City Planning office, in concert with the City Attorney, move to bring this matter to a close with the utmost haste, either by demolition or show of substantial progress and the financial where-with-all to rehab the property”. The motion carried.

Police Department

Police Chief John Borges requested that the Board approve the payment of the agreement for the fire suppression in the amount of \$6,400.00. Mr. Ault, seconded by Mr. Hougland, made a motion to approve the chief’s request.

He also reported that Officer Tom Harke, who had been on administrative leave, has returned to work. The City Attorney and Chief Borges explained that he returned to work May 28th and asked the Board to ratify the wages paid to him for the period including May 15 – May 27, 2007. Mr. Hougland, seconded by Mr. Ault, made a motion to approve the request to ratify the payment. The motion carried.

Chief Borges also reported that there are several reports of parking problems in the Canary Creek Addition. Chief Borges requested that the Board authorize him to coordinate with the Street Department, to paint curbs yellow to indicate limitations on parking in the area. He explained that this is needed due to the layout of the streets and location of the hydrants. Mr. Ault, seconded by Mr. Hougland, made a motion to approve the request. The motion carried.

Fire Department

Fire Chief Jim Reese reported that six civilian paramedics have been hired to date and that he has ten more applications.

Greenlawn Cemetery

Greenlawn Cemetery Superintendent Mark Webb had nothing to report. Mayor Jones-Matthews thanked Mark for the cemetery being in good condition.

Street Department

Street Commissioner Richard Hughes had nothing to report.

WWTP

WWTP Superintendent Rick Littleton requested the Board's approval of pay request #8 to Maddox in the amount of \$83,205.75 and Commonwealth Engineering invoices for \$6,124.76 and \$5,362.65 . Mr. Ault, seconded by Mr. Hougland, made a motion to approve pay request #8. The motion carried.

Engineering Department

City Engineer Mike Buening provided the Board with a memorandum dated May 29, 2007 with status updates concerning the following projects:

1. Cumberland Commons Section 1

- The developer has requested the following performance guarantee be released:
Bond Safeguard Insurance Co. bond #5007829 for Erosion Control \$20,000.00.

Mr. Hougland, seconded by Mr. Ault, made a motion to approve the request. The motion carried.

2. Eastview Drive Bike Path

- The Parks Department has requested Board approval to allow marking a bike path on the shoulder of Eastview Drive.

The City Engineer reported that Traveler's, the City's liability insurance carrier stated that as long as the markings were made according to regulations found in the Manual for Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD), then there would not be a problem. Mr. Ault, seconded by Mr. Hougland, made a motion to approve the request to mark the trails along Eastview Drive. The motion carried.

3. 2007 Paving Program

- Initial cost estimates for identified paving areas are listed below:

○ Industrial & KYB Drives -	\$225,000
○ Banta Street -	\$100,000
○ Martin Place -	\$17,000
○ Monroe (Home – Jackson)	\$60,000
○ <u>Hospital Road (US31 – Drake)</u>	<u>\$85,000</u>
Total - \$487,000	

- Both Industrial Drive and KYB Drive were included in a grant application for state fund reimbursement of up to \$100,000.
- The current Street Department budget LRS & MVH includes \$175,000 paving dollars
- The BOW is requested to give staff direction for this years paving program as to an additional appropriation from LRS.

CLERK-TREASURER

Janet P. Alexander stated that she has received quotes from Thompson West (Westlaw) for a subscription to Westlaw for the City Attorney. If approved the monthly fee of \$169.20 will be paid from the Law Department budget. Mr. Hougland, seconded by Mr. Ault, made a motion to approve the request. The motion carried.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Board member Joe Ault inquired about the status of the City Engineer's bee problem. Mr. Buening stated that there was no longer a problem.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Brenda Jones-Matthews reported that limbs on the corner of Hurricane Street and Kentucky Street are blocking a stop sign. She also said that limbs are blocking the speed limit signs located on South Street and S. State Street.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:56 p.m. The next regular meeting will be held on June 12, 2007 at 6:00 p.m. in City Hall.

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

Enrolled: June 7, 2007

Approved by the Board of Works: June 12, 2007