

CITY OF FRANKLIN
BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY

Meeting Minutes
September 26, 2006

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

Mayor Jones-Matthews and Board Members Joe Ault and Stephen Hougland were present. Also present were Police Chief John Borges, Fire Chief Jim Reese, Greenlawn Cemetery Superintendent Mark Webb, Sewer Billing Manager Brenda Poe, Street Commissioner Richard Hughes, WWTP Superintendent Rick Littleton, City Engineer Mike Buening, Planning Director Joseph Csikos, City Attorney Robert H. Schafstall, and Clerk-Treasurer Assistant Kristi Bruther.

An invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag were offered.

Public Comments

Mayor Jones-Matthews asked if anyone from the public wished to speak on anything not listed on the agenda. No one asked to speak.

Consent Agenda

Mr. Ault, seconded by Mr. Hougland, made a motion to approve the consent agenda.

1. Approval of the Minutes of the meeting held September 12, 2006
2. Approval of Claims

The motion carried and the consent agenda was approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Request Permission to Close Branigin Rd. for Road Improvements

Mr. Jim Burkett, representing Geupel•DeMars•Hagerman (GDH), appeared before the Board requesting permission from the Board to close Branigin Road for improvements. Mr. Burkett provided several options to the Board through the use of diagrams. The options presented were:

Option 1: Branigin Road (260 North) would be closed to through traffic and open to local traffic only. The traffic would be rerouted through new Commerce Drive. The work would take approximately 2 weeks in October, with the road opening up at the first of November.

Option 2: The road would be finished in two phases. The first phase would include road improvements by closing Branigin from U.S. 31 to Woodfield Boulevard. The second phase would close Branigin from Woodfield Boulevard to Centerline Road.

Both phases would allow for local traffic only, no through traffic. He explained that it would take approximately two weeks to complete the job beginning in mid October and re-opening the road to through traffic by the first of November.

Option 3: The road would be finished in three phases and would include working sections of the road one lane at a time. This is not a preferred option by the vendor.

Mr. Burkett explained that the company is in the process of talking with neighbors and local business owners including Franklin Animal Clinic and Flinn and Maguire Funeral Home.

The City Engineer recommended that the first section of Branigin Road be partially closed from the west of the first entrance (Woodfield Boulevard) to U.S. 31, with one lane open during construction for local traffic. Then, after the work is completed on that section, Branigin Road would be fully closed from the first entrance (Woodfield Boulevard) to Centerline Road. A discussion was held.

Mr. Ault, seconded by Mr. Hougland, made a motion to accept the recommendation of the City Engineer contingent upon the acceptance by Franklin Animal Clinic and Flinn and Maguire Funeral Home. The motion carried and the recommendation was accepted.

Request for Street Light on DeCourcey Ct.

Mrs. Odel Pederson, resident of Franklin, contacted the Mayor's office to request that the necessary departments review the area for the placement of a street light at 1635 DeCourcey Court. Mrs. Pederson was unable to attend the meeting.

Mr. Ault, seconded by Mr. Hougland, made a motion to direct the Street Department and Planning Department to review the area and provide recommendations to the Board at the next meeting to be held October 10, 2006.

Request for a Sign Showing the Direction to Franklin Memorial Christian Church to be Placed at U.S. 31 and Commerce Drive

Mr. Neal Gardner, representative for Franklin Memorial Christian Church, appeared before the Board and asked permission to place directional and informational road signs for the church. He requested that one sign be placed at Commerce Drive and Graham Road and another sign at Arvin Road and Graham Road. Mr. Gardner also inquired about financial assistance from the City for the installation of the signs. It was explained that the City has installed signage in the past, but the requester is required to pay for the construction or manufacture of their signs. Mr. Hougland, seconded by Mr. Ault, made a motion to allow the placement of the two signs and have the requester work with the Planning and Street Departments regarding installation. The motion carried.

Request to Close Wright Court on September 29th or October 7th for a "Get to Know Your Neighbor" Cook-Out

Mrs. Julie Heck-Garzotto, a resident of Franklin, appeared before the Board to ask permission to close Wright Street for a cook-out to get to know the neighbors. Mrs. Heck-Garzotto stated that

the date has been changed to Saturday, October 14, 2006, and also requested a rain date of Saturday, October 21, 2006. Mr. Ault, seconded by Mr. Hougland, made a motion to approve the request. The motion carried and the request was granted.

Discussion of the Possibility of Replacing Sidewalks on the South Side of West Jefferson St. Ms. Linda Richards, resident at 445 W. Jefferson St., appeared before the Board to discuss the possibility of replacing the sidewalk on the south side of West Jefferson Street and the procedures for requesting and / or requiring this of all residents along the street.

Mayor Brenda Jones-Matthews excused herself from the meeting at 6:25p.m. Mayor Jones-Matthews turned the chair over to Board Member Steve Hougland.

The consensus of the Board was that the City could require action by residents when the sidewalks presented a safety concern. The City Engineer reported that there is a 106 foot stretch that would be considered a safety concern and that he has sent a letter to the property owner recommending replacement. The Board directed the City Engineer to contact local residents in the area to explain that the sidewalks are deteriorating and that some action may be required in the near future.

Mr. Ault mentioned that a resident had requested that the Street Department remove a limb at the northwest corner of Banta and Walnut Street.

REPORTS BY DEPARTMENTS

Police Department

Police Chief John Borges requested that the Board approve trick-or-treating hours for Halloween on October 31, 2006 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Mr. Ault, seconded by Mr. Hougland, made a motion to approve the recommendation of the Police Chief. The motion carried and the hours for trick-or-treating were approved for October 31, 2006 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Report on the Request of Heather Barnett for Stop Signs, Speed Limit Signs, and/or Speed Bumps on Woodfield Blvd. entering into Branigin Woods

Chief Borges provided a report related to Woodfield Boulevard, in which speeding in the subdivision does not appear to be occurring based on the traffic study completed. City Engineer, Mike Buening, stated that there are two intersections along the boulevard (Fielding and North Aberdeen) that would be candidates for four-way stops. Mr. Ault, seconded by Mr. Hougland, made a motion to approve the recommendation of the City Engineer. The motion carried and the request for additional stop signs within the area was approved at the intersections of Woodfield Boulevard and Fielding as well as Woodfield Boulevard and North Aberdeen.

Fire Department

Fire Chief Jim Reese had nothing to report.

Sewer Billing

Sewer Billing Manager Brenda Poe had nothing to report.

Street Department

Street Commissioner Richard Hughes had nothing to report.

WWTP

Superintendent Rick Littleton provided Board members with a copy of a legal advertisement to bidders for curbside recycling and solid waste management services within the City of Franklin. Mr. Littleton requested that the bid opening be scheduled for Tuesday, October 24, 2006 at 6:00 p.m. Discussion was held regarding the need for revisions/updates to the current City ordinance related to trash collection. The current contract with Best Way expires December 31, 2006, in which this is the City's third year in the contract. A recommendation was made to approach Best Way to extend the current contract in order to make necessary changes to the ordinance. Mr. Ault, seconded by Mr. Hougland, made a motion to extend the contract with Best Way for three months. The motion carried. Mr. Littleton and Mr. Schafstall will contact Best Way regarding this request.

Engineering Department

City Engineer Mike Buening reported that the 2006 Paving project is nearing completion and asked the Board to approve the use of the unexpended balance in the following areas:

1. North Shore Drive in Franklin Lakes subdivision – a 30 ft. by 50 ft. area of broken up pavement
2. Home Avenue – asphalt that approaches to the Bridge over Youngs Creek

Mr. Ault, seconded by Mr. Hougland, made a motion to approve the request of the City Engineer to use the balance of funds. The motion carried and the request was approved.

Planning Department

Planning Director Joe Csikos had nothing to report.

City Attorney Comments

The City Attorney distributed the signature page for the Geographic Information System Interlocal Agreement with Johnson County for the Board's signatures. This agreement was approved at the September 12, 2006 meeting.

Clerk-Treasurer Comments

Ms. Kristi Bruther presented the professional support and technology transfer agreement between N-Viro International Corporation and the City of Franklin for the Board's signature. This

agreement was approved at the September 12, 2006 meeting, in which the original has been returned from N-Viro with signature. The agreement only provided a single signature line. Mr. Hougland, seconded by Mr. Ault, made a motion to approve the Mayor to sign on the Board's behalf. The motion carried and the contract was forwarded to the Mayor's office for signature.

Board Member Comments

Mr. Ault asked Chief Reese if the documentation that was received from the manufacturer regarding the specifications for the new fire engine was sufficient. Chief Reese stated that there are still concerns. Mr. Ault agreed to contact the vendor again.

Chief Borges inquired about the status of insurance paperwork for the Shrine Club related to the Fall Festival Parade. Mr. Hougland, seconded by Mr. Ault, made a motion to direct the City Attorney to get involved in order to insure that the proper paperwork is obtained and completed. The motion carried.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m. The next regular meeting will be held on October 10, 2006 at 6:00 p.m. in City Hall.

Respectfully submitted by,
Janet P. Alexander, Clerk Treasurer

Enrolled: 10-3-06

Approved by the Board of Works: 10-10-06