CITY OF FRANKLIN
BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY
Meeting Minutes
October 10, 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 Deputy Chief Greg Nelson, Greenlawn Cemetery Superintendent Mark Webb, Street Commissioner Richard Hughes, WWTP Superintendent Rick Littleton, City Engineer Mike Buening, Planning Director Joseph Csikos, City Attorney Robert H. Schafstall, Clerk-Treasurer Janet P. Alexander, 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.

Best Way Disposal Service
Ms. Colleen Mason, an account representative from Best Way Disposal Service, appeared before the Board to present trash collection and recycle numbers for the month of August. Ms. Mason also provided the Board members with copies of survey results.

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

1. Approval of the Minutes of the meeting held September 26, 2006
2. Approval of Claims
3. Budgetary Resolution 06-02: A Board of Works Budgetary Resolution Authorizing a Transfer from 300 to 200 Series-Sewer Billing

The motion carried and the consent agenda was approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Request for a Handicapped Sign in Front of 1855 Lochry Rd.
Mrs. Willie Brielmaier, resident of 1855 Lochry Rd., appeared before the Board to ask permission to have a handicapped sign installed in front of the residence. Mayor Jones-Matthews explained that if a handicapped space was designated, the homeowner does not have

an exclusive right to the parking space, and that any person with a handicap sticker may park in this space.

Mayor Jones-Matthews requested that the City Departments (Planning, Street, and Police) review the area and provide recommendations in regard to the placement of a handicapped sign at this location. Mr. Ault, seconded by Mr. Hougland, made a motion to approve the request pending favorable recommendations from City Departments. The motion carried.

Presentation on Request for Proposals for Feasibility Studies

Mr. Mike Reinke, Representative from the Indiana Coalition on Housing and Homlessness Issues (ICHHI), appeared before the Board to present a request for endorsement of an application from a grant to perform a feasibility study. The ICHHI want to award funds to Indiana cities, towns, and/or counties to conduct Feasibility Studies which will be used to identify the needs of homeless or at risk individuals living in Johnson County and to identify possible solutions for homelessness and related issues. Mr. Reinke explained that the end goal is to create or preserve decent, safe, affordable, and long-term housing solutions for the population identified by the study. Mr. Reinke explained that this is different from the services provided by the township trustees and the study and proposed solutions would address needs county-wide, not just the Franklin area. It was explained that Gateway Services has possible resources (i.e. land) for the implementation of the recommendations. Gateway Services is located in Franklin, therefore, the ICHHI is approaching the City for endorsement versus the County. The City Attorney requested clarification regarding the 10% match. Mr. Reinke explained that a document clarifying this would be presented to the City prior to getting a signature. Pam Leffler, the representative from Christian Help, stated that the numbers of homeless individuals in the City is increasing. She explained that her hope is that all of the agencies will work together.

J. P. Renner, a private investigator providing services for five of the County's nine townships, inquired about the manner in which the data will be collected and the definition of "homeless." Mr. Renner also inquired about why the ICHHI did not approach the Johnson County Commissioners.

Mr. Reinke responded to the questions stating that the first step would be to create a steering committee. This committee would identify how the data would be collected. Mr. Reinke explained that the definition of "homelessness" is the same as the Department of Education's standard which can be found on their website. The U.S. Census Bureau would also be utilized for general demographic information.

Mrs. Cecilia Campbell, Franklin Township Trustee, stated that in her opinion, past surveys have identified a larger number of people described as homeless, than those the individual trustees are seeing. Mrs. Campbell requested that the Board table the matter to give the trustees the opportunity to conduct a survey of their own. Mrs. Campbell explained that she does not agree with the definition of "homeless" that ICHHI utilizes. Mrs. Campbell also said that she would like the trustees to conduct their own study before the Board approves the proposed grant application.

Mr. Phil Barrow, City of Franklin Council Member, addressed the Board and asked for a clarification of how much the study will cost and secondly, the rationale for using information from the last census for homeless individuals, who would not have been included in the census.

Mr. Reinke explained that the census provides area specific demographics and is incorporated to present a broader picture of the community. He also said that the cost of the feasibility study is $25,000, which includes the design, research, mailings, architecture fees, etc.

Ms. Jane Blessing, a representative from Partnership for a Healthier Johnson County, explained that the goal is to establish a collaborative effort in the County between social service agencies and government offices such as the township trustees to identify the issues, existing resources, and potential solutions. Mr. Reinke explained that this grant application must be submitted by October 20, 2006 and that there is no cost to the City for the study.

Mr. Hougland, made a motion to endorse the application subject to the restrictions that we have discussed, confirmation regarding the financial arrangements, especially the 10% match, and that it be county-wide initiative. Mr. Hougland's motion was seconded by Mayor Jones-Matthews. The motion carried 2-1, with Mr. Ault voting against.

Request for Discussion and Approval of Medicare Modernization Act – Creditable Coverage Certificate
Clerk-Treasurer, Janet P. Alexander, reminded the Board about the requirements of the Medicare Modernization Act. Ms. Alexander explained that annual re-notification of eligible employees is due by November 15, 2006. Clerk-Treasurer Alexander explained that the last year the City paid Principal to send out the notification. To properly identify eligible employees requires that a survey be completed. The cost for this service is $350. Clerk-Treasurer Alexander recommended that the Board approve the expenditure. Mr. Ault, seconded by Mr. Hougland, made a motion to accept the recommendation of the Clerk-Treasurer. The motion carried.

Request to Appeal Citation Received for the Violation of the Smoking Ban Ordinance
Mr. and Mrs. Jim Barnaby, owners of Don and Dona's Restaurant, did not appear at this meeting. The City Attorney explained that he received a letter from the D & D Club's attorney, John Cook, requesting that the citation for a violation of the City's smoking ordinance be rescinded. The City Attorney said that the D & D Club has not met the criteria exempting them from having to comply with the City's smoking ban ordinance. Mr. Hougland said that the D & D Club has not met the criteria in the ordinance and recommended that the violation not be rescinded. Mr. Ault said that he agreed with Mr. Hougland and the City Attorney based on the issue of membership.

Mr. Csikos said that the City's Code Enforcement Officers have questions about what is expected of them in regard to citing businesses for smoking violations. Mr. Ault explained that the Code Enforcement Officer must directly observe the violations prior to issuing a citation. Mr. Hougland, seconded by Mr. Ault, made a motion to deny the request to rescind the citation. The motion carried and the request was denied. Mayor Jones-Matthews requested that the Board return the smoking ordinance to the Council in order to clarify the section related to the notice of violations. Mayor Jones-Matthews requested that the City Attorney prepare an amendment and notify the D & D Club. The City Attorney agreed to provide proposed language to the Council and to notify the legal counsel for D & D Club.

Ms. Jane Blessing asked whether "The Partnership" should provide more signage and requested clarification about the posting requirement. The City Attorney explained that the ordinance requires all businesses within the corporate limits of the City of Franklin to have "no smoking" signs posted on their property and that failure to have such posting is in violation of the ordinance.

Ms. Charlene Kennedy, Franklin Police Officer, also addressed the Board and explained that she was assigned the duty of passing out stickers to businesses within the City of Franklin and that due to supply shortages, stickers were not provided to all businesses.

REPORTS BY DEPARTMENTS

Request for Street Light on Decourcy Court
Mike Buening, the City Engineer said that the area did meet City standards for the placement of a street light at 1635 Decourcy Court. Police Chief John Borges concurred with the City Engineer and said that the area contains a long stretch of roadway. The Board's consensus was for the City Engineer to obtain prices from Duke Energy for installation of various light fixture styles and to approach the homeowners of Decourcy Court about contributing part of the cost of various light fixtures and the installation.

Mayor Jones-Matthews stated that Mr. and Mrs. Jewel, residents of 700 Samuel Street, contacted her and requested that one of the no parking signs along their street be removed because they cannot get into the back of their home. Mayor Jones-Matthews requested that the City Departments (Engineering, Planning, Street, and Police) review the area and provide recommendations in regard to the request.

Police Department
Police Chief John Borges requested that the Board declare the value of a service weapon in the amount of $200 for retiring police officer Mike Poindexter. Mr. Ault, seconded by Mr. Hougland, made a motion to accept the request of the Chief.

Fire Department
Deputy Fire Chief Greg Nelson had nothing to report.

Greenlawn Cemetery
Superintendent Mark Webb reported that he has received a request to remove a tree located on U.S. 31 which blocks the view of the directional signage to the Masonic Home. The Masonic Home made this request and offered to shoulder the cost of replacing the tree in another location. Mr. Ault, seconded by Mr. Hougland, made a motion to approve the request to remove the tree contingent on the Masonic Home providing a replacement tree to be located elsewhere.

Mr. Webb also requested that the parking area adjacent to the Cemetery equipment and maintenance buildings be improved due to drainage issues. The City Engineer is seeking estimates for this project. Mr. Ault, seconded by Mr. Hougland, made a motion to direct the City Engineer to review the quotes received and move forward with the repair. The motion carried.

Street Department
Street Commissioner Richard Hughes had nothing to report.

WWTP
Superintendent Rick Littleton requested that a computer from City Court be transferred to the Greenlawn Cemetery. He explained that the Court received new computers through at grant. This request was approved by the Board.

Mr. Littleton presented a contract extension with Best Way Disposal for three additional months. Mr. Hougland, seconded by Mr. Ault, made a motion to accept the extension of the Best Way Disposal contract for three months and to authorize the Mayor to sign on the Board's behalf. The motion carried and the contract was signed.

Engineering Department
City Engineer Mike Buening reported that the State Road 44 / Jefferson Street paving project undertaken by INDOT is moving forward. He explained that they are getting close to doing the asphalt work so there will be some night paving work going on within the next month.

Planning Department
Planning Director Joe Csikos reported that he has received a letter from an attorney on behalf of a City of Franklin property owner, Mr. Brian Clem. The letter concerns a violation received due to an unsafe property issued for 1009 Cross Street. The owner intends to appeal the unsafe structure violation.

The Mayor asked about the status of the planned demolition of a garage located behind 152 S. Home. Mr. Csikos told the Mayor that a request for bids on the demolition has been advertised but that Mr. Hughes has not received any offers to date. The Board advised the Planning Department that the area needs to be cordoned off with "caution tape."

Mayor Jones-Matthews reported that Mr. Csikos has been working on a video presentation showcasing the City of Franklin to be sent to students in our sister city, Kuji Japan.

Clerk-Treasurer Comments
Clerk-Treasurer Janet Alexander reported that the employee flexible spending balance notices will be sent out to employees notifying them of their account balances. The Board's consensus is to continue the flexible spending account program for City employees in 2007.

Clerk-Treasurer Janet Alexander reported that IPEP overestimated the 2006 annual city payroll for workers compensation and reimbursed the City $1,562.00.

Adjournment
The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m. The next regular meeting will be held on October 24, 2006 at 6:00 p.m. in City Hall.

Respectfully submitted by,
Janet P. Alexander, Clerk Treasurer

Enrolled: 10-19-06

Approved by the Board of Works: 10.24.06