

**CITY OF FRANKLIN  
BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY**

Meeting Minutes  
May 27, 2003

**Opening:**

Mayor Norman P. Blankenship called the regular meeting of the Board of Public Works and Safety to order at 6:00 p.m. on May 27, 2003 in City Hall.

**Present:**

Mayor Norman P. Blankenship, Jr., Mr. Joseph Ault and Mr. Stephen D. Hougland were present. Also present was Clerk Treasurer Janet P. Alexander, City Attorney Robert H. Schafstall, Police Chief John Borges, City Engineer Mike Buening, Fire Chief Mike Herron, Street Commissioner Richard Hughes, Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent Rick Littleton, and Planning Department Director David Weir.

Mrs. Karen Bridges a correspondent from the Indianapolis Star attended.

**Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as distributed.

**Approval of Claims**

The following claims were presented and approved for payment.

Date	Type	Description	Amount
5-02-03	Civil City	Payroll	223,775.86
5-16-03	Civil City	Payroll	233,443.80
5-26-03	Civil City	Pension	45,665.64
		Total Civil City Payroll Claims	502,885.3
5-02-03	Sewer	Payroll	21,590.47
5-16-03	Sewer	Payroll	21,833.35
		Total Sewer Payroll Claims	42,501.54
Date	Type	Description	Amount
5-27-03	Civil City	Vendor Claims #28426 – 28470	326,168.04
5-27-03	Sewer	Vendor Claims #5575 - 5592	64,471.24

**Old Business**

**Midwest Electrical Contract:** Tabled.

**Release of Branigin Woods Plat:** Removed.

**Alley Vacation – Lots 11 and 12 in Earlywine Addition:** David Weir re-introduced a request to vacate 50 feet of an alley located between Ott Street and Overstreet in the Earlywine Addition. Mr. Hougland, seconded by Mr. Ault made a motion to forward this request to the Common Council with a favorable recommendation. The motion carried.

## **New Business**

**Request for waiver from Noise Ordinance - 5835 Tamara Way (Knollwood Farms) outdoor wedding 6/28/03** No one appeared. Removed.

**Review of Telecommunications Issues:** Mr. Paul Johnson, of Paul Johnson and Associates and Mr. Frank Schumacher, the Chairman of the City's Telecommunications Commission, presented information to the Board of Works concerning a proposal to lease the proposed telecommunications equipment for twenty-five months and then purchasing the equipment. The Board asked the City Attorney to review the proposed contract. Tabled.

**Install Church Signs at the Welcome to Franklin sites:** Petitioners requested this item be removed from the agenda.

**Parking on Samuel Street:** Mr. Ron Jewell asked the Board to allow parking on the east side of Ott Street adjacent to his home. The Board tabled the request to allow the Fire Department and Police Department to visit the location and make a recommendation. Tabled.

**Request for waiver from Noise Ordinance – outdoor concerts on 6/27/03 and 9/13/03 at Franklin Senior Center:** Ms. Rhonda Gammon did not appear however the Mayor reported that the Senior Center is planning two outdoor events where they plan to have live music. Friday June 27, 2003 from 6:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. and Saturday September 13, 2003 from 5:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. Waiver approved.

**Vacate a portion of Overstreet Avenue that is adjacent to Franklin Power Products:** Mr. David Weir introduced the request. Tabled.

**Contract Change Order for Clarifier Addition Project:** Mr. Rick Littleton asked the Board to approve Change Order # 2 for the Clarifier Addition Project for an additional \$10,314.00 to reroute utility lines and additional labor due to a concrete conduit bank. Approved.

**Power feed to lighting and electrical service to office (underground wiring) at Greenlawn Cemetery office:** Mr. Mark Webb the Cemetery Superintendent explained the issues involved with the removing an electrical pole and running underground electrical wire to the office and to the building which will house the cannon. Tabled.

**Request of waiver from noise ordinance Franklin First Assembly of God out-door concert 6/14/03:** Ms. Kim Sharp of 99 Pitt Street, Franklin asked for a waiver of the Noise Ordinance for a children's program to be held at the Church on Hospital Road June 14, 2003 from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. Approved.

## **Other Business**

None.

## **Reports**

**Street Department - Mr. Richard Hughes had no report.**

**Planning Department** - Mr. David Weir had no report but provided the Board with a memorandum titled Board of Works Status Report dated May 27, 2003.

**Police Department** – Chief Borges reported the following. 1. The Shift Supervisors report that the number of abandoned vehicles is very high and control of the problem may require additional man-hours. 2. Reported to the Planning Director that someone is living in a trailer at 347 East King Street. 3. The Radio Tower annual lease of \$1,000. should be removed from the Police Department budget and included in the Board of Works budget estimate for 2004. The Mayor asked Department Heads to e-mail him with any other recommendations for the Board budget.

**Fire Department** - Chief Herron asked whether the City still plans to hold an auction. He stated that Ms. Findley has indicated that the Parks Department has items for sale. The Police Department has bicycles. Mayor Blankenship assigned this task to Mr. Littleton.

**Engineering – Mr. Mike Buening** – Mr. Buening reviewed his Board of Works Status Report dated May 27, 2003. Reported on the following matters:

1. 2003 Paving Project – Grady Brothers have started full depth repair of deteriorated sections of Franklin Lakes Boulevard and have milled overlay areas of Lynhurst Street and Adams Street. Pavement should be placed in the next week or so.
2. Branigin Boulevard - Milestone is continuing with phase 1 and has removed pavement at closed roads. Progress is beginning now with Franklin College on summer break. Street lighting discussion is continuing.
3. Jim Black Road – Redevelopment Commission is meeting Friday to discuss funding this road project.

**City Attorney** – Robert H. Schafstall, Esq. reported on the following matters

1. **Branigin Boulevard Right-of-Way:**
  - a. **Mr. and Mrs. Michael Barnhizer:** Requesting that the Board authorize the Clerk-Treasurer to cut a check to the Barnhizers in the amount of \$4,000.00 to be given to them at closing that he will exchange with the Barnhizers when they close. The Board authorized the Clerk Treasurer to cut a check for \$4,000 upon request of the City Attorney.
2. **Eastside Sewer Interceptor**
  - a. **Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Braden:** Reported that the appraisal for this property placed the value at half of what the property owners requested. The Board authorized the City Attorney to negotiate a reduction in their counter-offer.
  - b. **Hougham Family Trust:** Stated that he had obtained an appraisal for each of the two (2) sewer easements needed from the Hougham Family Trust and asked the Board for direction as to an offer to purchase. The Board authorized the City Attorney to negotiate a price with the property owners.
3. **North side Fire Station - Spencer Tarr Property:** Reported that Mr. Tarr has offered to lease five acres on the north side of Franklin, west side of U.S. 31 to

the City for a north-side fire station location on the basis of a long-term lease, and he has suggested a monthly lease \$1,500 per acre for 2 or 2.5 acres. The appraised purchase value of this lot was estimated at \$61,000.00 per acre. The appraisal set the annual lease value \$5,500.00 per acre. Ideally the lease would be a lifetime arrangement. The City Attorney asked the Board to authorize him to continue negotiation discussions with Mr. Tarr.

4. **Payment for services.** He requested approval and payment of \$500.00 fee for appraiser Kurt Walden. Approved.
5. **Tort Claims:** The City does not have a formal response to tort claims that are received. The attorney recommends that the City adopt the following procedure for all future tort claims: The City Attorney will respond with a form letter response. Report the claim to the Board of Works at its next meeting; and forward the claim to John Auld, Franklin Insurance Agency. The Board approved the procedure as outlined by the City Attorney.

#### **Mayor Norman Blankenship**

The Mayor discouraged Department Heads from opening new vendor accounts and requested that they make a recommendation to him to increase the credit limit on the department Visa Cards for purchasing. The Clerk Treasurer will investigate procurement cards through banks. The Mayor also stated that due to regulations imposed by the State the Clerk Treasurer will be asking Departments to re-consider the use of the 400 series budget line items. The Clerk Treasurer will coordinate a meeting with Department Heads and the Mayor's Office in the next two weeks to discuss this change.

#### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m. The next regular meeting will be held June 10, 2003 at 6:00 p.m. in City Hall.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Janet P. Alexander, Clerk Treasurer

Approved by the Board of Works: \_\_\_\_\_

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Norman P. Blankenship, Mayor