

**Board of Public Works and Safety
Regular Meeting Minutes
May 19, 2025**

The regular meeting of the Board of Public Works and Safety of the City of Franklin, Indiana, was called to order at 5:00 p.m. at City Hall, 70 E. Monroe Street, with Mayor Steve Barnett presiding. Board member Ken Austin answered roll call. Board Member Tina Jobe was absent.

Chief of Police Kirby Cochran, Fire Chief Joshua Snyder, Parks Department Superintendent Chip Orner, Sewer Billing Office Manager Sherry Phillips, DPW Superintendent Sally Brown, IT Director Rick Littleton, Community Development Director Krista Linke, Planning Director Joanna Tennell, Street Commissioner/Fleet Manager Brett Jones, and Clerk Treasurer Jan Jones, were also in attendance. City Attorney Lynnette Gray was absent.

Mayor Barnett led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Announcements & Public Comments

There were no Announcements or Public Comments.

Consent Agenda

Mayor Barnett presented the consent agenda for approval.

1. Approval of Minutes from meeting held May 5, 2025
2. Board of Works Claims.
 - #050525 BOW Contracts/Utilities in the amount of \$40,610.51
 - #050625 Sewer Contracts/Utilities in the amount of \$924.97
 - #050825 RDC-TIF Contracts in the amount of \$610.50
 - #050925 Sewer Bond in the amount of \$750.00
 - Gross Payroll & Monthly in the amount of \$544,944.93
 - #051225 BOW Contracts/Utilities in the amount of \$923,823.73
 - #051325 Sewer Contracts/Utilities in the amount of \$269,558.68
 - #051625 RDC-TIF Contract in the amount of \$46.08

Mr. Austin made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Mayor Barnett. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Old Business

There was no Old Business.

New Business

Request approval of 2025 Discover Downtown Franklin Events, Road Closures, etc. -

Discover Downtown Franklin Executive Director Danny Causey stated these events have already been cleared by Fire, Parks, Police, and Street Departments and are ready for Board approval.

- **Event/ Date/Time:** Strawberries on the Square /May 23rd /11:00 am-9:00 pm
Road closures: W. Court St. plus two parking spaces from 9:00 pm, May 22nd- 11:00 pm, May 23rd (rain date may alter these dates/times)

Mayor Barnett motioned to approve Strawberries on the Square as presented, seconded by Mr. Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

- **Event/ Date/Time:** Ethos Celebration of the Arts/June 28th /10:00 am-4:00 pm
Road closures: N. Main St. between King and Main, W. Madison and E. Madison St. between Jackson and alley from 12:00 am -6:00 pm, June 28th

Mayor Barnett motioned to approve Ethos Celebration of the Arts as presented, seconded by Mr. Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

- **Event/ Date/Time:** Porchtober/ October 4th, 11th, 18th, and 25th/4:00 pm-8:00 pm
Parking spaces adjacent to participating residential locations (map available on online agenda)

Mayor Barnett motioned to approve Porchtober dates as presented, seconded by Mr. Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

- **Event/ Date/Time:** Fall Vintage Fest and Handmade Market/Oct. 4th/10:00 am-5:00 pm
Parking spaces at The Amphitheater and at E. Jefferson St. from 12:00 am-7:00 pm

Mayor Barnett motioned to approve Fall Vintage Fest and Handmade Market as presented, seconded by Mr. Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

- **Event/Date/Time:** Winter Market (with Holiday Lighting)/December 6th/1:00 pm-8:00 pm
Road closures: N. Main St. from Jefferson to King from 7:00 am-11:00 pm

Mayor Barnett motioned to approve Winter Market as presented, seconded by Mr. Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Request approval of Professional Services Agreement with HWC Engineering for the Comprehensive Plan - Planning Director Joanna Tennell stated that this professional services agreement is ready to move forward. Chris Hamm with HWC Engineering was available for questions. Mayor Barnett also introduced Craig Ludeman, former Mayor of Seymour, who now works for HWC. Mayor Barnett motioned to approve the Professional Services Agreement with HWC Engineering for the Comprehensive Plan, seconded by Mr. Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Request approval of Change Orders 14 & 15 for the Active Adult Center Project - Planning Director Joanna Tennell presented Change Order 14 in the amount of \$5,520.00, an increase of .11%. Ms. Tennell presented Change Order 15 in the amount of \$764.74, an increase of 0.015%, with the total remaining under \$5M. Mr. Austin motioned to approve Change Orders 14 & 15 for the Active Adult Center Project and for the Mayor to sign on behalf of the board, seconded by Mayor Barnett. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Request approval of Johnson County Fair Parade street closures - Fire Chief Joshua Snyder said this is the parade route normally used and wanted all participating departments to be aware

of the street closures. Mayor Barnett motioned to approve the Johnson County Fair Parade street closures, seconded by Mr. Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Request approval of fireworks for Firecracker Festival on 07/03/25 - Fire Chief Joshua Snyder stated he wanted all participating departments to be aware. Mr. Austin motioned to approve the fireworks for the Firecracker Festival on 07/03/25 as presented, seconded by Mayor Barnett. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Request approval of the following job descriptions: DPW Superintendent, DPW Assistant Superintendent, DPW Plant Foreman and Sewer Maintenance Collection System Foreman - DPW Superintendent Sally Brown shared the updated job descriptions and thanked HR Generalist Donna Trisler for preparing them. Mayor Barnett motioned to approve the job descriptions as presented, seconded by Mr. Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Retiree Service Weapon: Scott Summers - Police Chief Kirby Cochran stated that Deputy Chief Scott Summers is retiring, but will return as a Civilian Deputy Chief. Chief Cochran said that after 20 years of service, an officer may request to receive their service weapon upon retirement. Mr. Austin motioned to approve retiring the service weapon to Scott Summers, seconded by Mayor Barnett. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Request approval to close Jefferson St. from Jackson St. to Water St. from 10:45 am - 12:15 pm on May 26th, 2025, for American Legion Memorial Day Service - Mayor Barnett said he was presenting this information on behalf of the American Legion. Mr. Austin motioned to approve road closure on Jefferson St. from Jackson St. to Water St. from 10:45 am-12:15 pm on May 26th for the American Legion Memorial Day Service as presented, seconded by Mayor Barnett. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Other Business

Request to file liens on unkempt property -

350 Young St. 41-08-14-041-097.000-009

548 E King St. 41-08-14-041-131.000-009

Mayor Barnett motioned to file liens on the unkempt property as presented, seconded by Mr. Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Discover Downtown Franklin Executive Director Danny Causey realized he did not request two parking spaces in front of the Elks Lodge for Dec. 6th Winter Market. Mayor Barnett motioned to approve closing two parking spots in front of the Elk's Lodge on Sat. Dec. 6th, seconded by Mr. Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Department Reports / Staff Reports

Parks Department Superintendent Chip Orner shared Kickapoo starts on Friday with 150 kids arriving at the Recreation Center at 7:00 am. The pool also opens on Friday and getting the pool

ready is a big job that takes a lot of people. Mr. Orner thanked the Street Department, DPW, IT Department, and the Clerk Treasurer's Office (for adding hundreds of people to the payrolls!) The AAC has had some tours; it looks worse than it is, as it's in the final phases and being cleaned.

Police Chief Kirby Cochran stated that tomorrow at 9:00 am, two lateral police candidates will be testing. One of those will fill the last remaining spot for the year.

Community Development Director Krista Linke shared that the 650 Overstreet Open House was a success, and they have a couple of showings already. They have a Redevelopment Commission Meeting tomorrow at 8:00 am. Applications for the Owner-Occupied Grants are still open and available on the website. Mayor Barnett asked how many spots are still open and Ms. Linke said it is still in the eligibility phase so it depends on how many applicants qualify. Friday is Strawberries on Square, and Saturday opens the Farmers Market.

Street Commissioner/Fleet Manager Brett Jones informed everyone that MS4 received an Excellence Award at the Indiana State Conference. Mr. Jones said he is very proud of Ty Urban and Thomas Spandau's work and their collaboration with other departments.

Chief of Staff Tara Payne said she had the opportunity to tour the Active Adult Center, and it is beautiful.

Adjournment

As there was no further business to come before the Board of Works, a motion and a second were made to adjourn at 5:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Jones, Clerk-Treasurer
Enrolled: 05/28/25

Steve Barnett, Mayor

Attest:

Jan Jones, Clerk-Treasurer