

Board of Public Works and Safety
Regular Meeting Minutes
January 22, 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 members Ken Austin and Tina Gross answered roll call.

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, Assistant City Engineer Matt McElroy, Street Department Director of Operations Jason Wilson, Clerk Treasurer Jan Jones, City Attorney Lynnette Gray were also in attendance. City Engineer Mark Richards and Street Commissioner/Fleet Manager Brett Jones were absent.

Mayor Barnett led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Announcements & Public Comments

Ted Bishop, one of the owners/operators of The Legends Golf Club, stated that over the past weeks they have experienced a severe problem with geese. As the snow melts on the course, the geese roost in these areas and cause significant damage to the turf. Mr. Bishop spoke with DNR representative, Jennifer Merkle, who helped him secure a license to eradicate five geese per day as allowed during Goose Season. Mr. Bishop also spoke with Police Chief Kirby Cochran regarding concerns and requested the Board's approval. However, before using the firearm, Mr. Bishop will try a specific laser that deters the geese. Mayor Barnett requested that Mr. Bishop communicate with Chief Cochran to coordinate this for community safety and alert nearby HOAs. City Attorney Lynn Gray explained that in this limited circumstance, the vote will be a waiver of the Noise Ordinance and Illegal Discharge of Firearms Within City Limits Ordinance. Mayor Barnett made a motion to approve the request by Mr. Bishop with the knowledge that the Board is not setting precedence, seconded by Mr. Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Consent Agenda

Mayor Barnett presented the consent agenda for approval.

1. Approval of Minutes from meeting held January 6, 2025
2. Board of Works Claims.
 - Gross Payroll in the amount of \$521,315.17
 - #011025 Clothing Allowance in the amount of \$46,500.00
 - #010625 BOW Contracts/Utilities in the amount of \$456,094.16
 - #010725 Sewer Contracts/Utilities in the amount of \$34,543.07
 - #010925 RDC-TIF Contracts in the amount of \$789,172.27
 - #011425 Sewer Contracts/Utilities in the amount of \$191,799.03

- #011325 BOW Contracts/Utilities in the amount of \$132,156.75
- #011825 Sewer General Obligations in the amount of \$28,568.44
- #011925 BOW General Obligations in the amount of \$34,167.18
- Pension Payroll in the amount of \$50,637.75

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

Old Business

There was no Old Business.

New Business

Approval and acceptance of Public Right-of-way for Monaco Drive - Senior Planner Joanna Tennell informed that Monaco Drive is a private street (a north-south dead-end road) located in Carriage Estates. It is in an area that was supposed to be managed by the HOA; however, that HOA is now defunct and the road has not been maintained. It was going to tax sale. The Community Development Department worked with Johnson County to get a tax deed to transfer it to the City. Ms. Gross motioned to approve and accept the Public Right-of-Way for Monaco Drive, seconded by Mr. Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Request approval of Change Orders 09, 10 & 12 for the Yandes Street Project - Assistant City Engineer Matt McElroy stated Change Order 09 for storm sewers is a \$50,218.71 increase, a 1.251% change in the contract amount. Change Order 10 for removing gas and water lines is a \$7,008.30 increase, a .175% change. There is no Change Order 11; it was eliminated. Change Order 12 for added concrete curbs is a \$49,350.00 increase, a 1.229% change. The total percentage change is 12.913%, below the 20% maximum allowed by INDOT. Mayor Barnett said he agrees with these Change Orders but questions how Change Order 10 was overlooked in the original bid; however, we really have no choice as all this is necessary. Mr. McElroy said they are anticipating a final Change Order 13, a quantity balancing change order, which will result in the City receiving back funds at a later date. Mr. Austin motioned to approve Change Orders 09, 10, & 12 for the Yandes Street Project, seconded by Ms. Gross. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Request the following Subdivision Performance Bonds & Subdivision Surety Agreements be accepted for The Bluffs at Youngs Creek, Section 5A and Request the following Subdivision Maintenance Bonds & Subdivision Surety Agreements be accepted for the Bluffs at Youngs Creek, Section 5A - Assistant City Engineer Matt McElroy presented the following information:

Performance:

263322: Streets - \$354,264.00

263323: Sidewalks - \$547.20

263324: Survey Monuments - \$8,280.00

Maintenance:

263325: Street Signs - \$938.75

47SUR300214011128: Erosion Control - \$23,014.95

47SUR300214011129: Earthwork - \$14,734.55

47SUR300214011130: Storm, Swales, Underdrains - \$28,847.40

47SUR300214011131: Sanitary Sewer - \$25,379.38

Ms. Gross motioned to accept the Subdivision Performance Bonds & Subdivision Surety Agreements for The Bluffs at Youngs Creek, Section 5A and accept the Subdivision Maintenance Bonds & Subdivision Surety Agreements for the Bluffs at Youngs Creek, Section 5A, seconded by Mr. Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Approval and acceptance of Secondary Plat for The Bluffs at Youngs Creek, Sec. 5A - Senior Planner Joanna Tennell stated this plat is ready for the Board's consideration and action. Ms. Gross motioned to approve and accept the Secondary Plat for The Bluffs at Youngs Creek, Sec. 5A, seconded by Mr. Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried. Ms. Tennell shared that The Bluffs at Youngs Creek, Sec. 5A and Winterfield, Sec. 1, would be ready for building permits to be issued pending the installation of their respective electrical backbone systems.

Other Business

2024 Completed Projects and Anticipated Projects for 2025 - Mayor Barnett presented the list of completed 2024 projects and upcoming 2025 projects. (Attachment available in online agenda.) Mayor Barnett asked Assistant Engineer Matt McElroy to give a brief update on the INDOT US 31 project, which was opened for bids and all exceeded the engineers' estimate. If adjustments need to be made, Mayor Barnett stated the City does not favor cutting out anything related to our planned pedestrian amenities. Mayor Barnett elaborated on several of the upcoming projects and outlined grants and financial plans for them. Ms. Gross questioned the Fire Station 21 remodel cost difference between the \$1.5 million estimate and the \$2.4 million final cost, more than a 20% difference. Mayor Barnett said this was the original estimate from several years ago when the conversation to remodel the fire started.

Department Reports / Staff Reports

Parks Department Superintendent Chip Orner said they are accepting seasonal job applications, Kickapoo registrations, and amphitheater sponsorships for the Summer Concert Series. The progress on the Active Adult Center is going well.

Police Chief Kirby Cochran said they had two lateral hires, which will be presented to the Council at the Feb. 3rd meeting. Another potential hire is finishing testing, and one officer is currently at the academy.

Community Development Director Krista Linke shared updates from the RDC meeting. The additional funds for Iozzo's fire suppression system were approved, and it is nearing completion. There's a lot of progress at 650 Overstreet: floors, subfloors, and framing. Community Development Specialist Dana Monson is working on Veterans Alley and Artcraft Alley updates. There is also an Owner Occupied Rehab Grant (income limit qualifications) through OCRA, and they are applying for that. This is for properties outside the TIF district and can help with roofing, plumbing, electrical, HVAC, ramps, or other larger projects.

Street Department Director of Operations Jason Wilson said a full-time position is open in the Street Department. Mayor Barnett shared his appreciation for the Street Department and all they do to help during the snow storms.

Assistant City Engineer Matt McElroy shared that in addition to the US 31 project mentioned earlier, the second round of the 2024 CCMG is going to bid on Monday, and we're planning to use this money for additional street paving.

DPW Superintendent Sally Brown introduced Ray Rooks, who has been hired as the new DPW Assistant Superintendent.

Board Member Ken Austin gave kudos to the Street Department for their efforts during the snow removal.

Adjournment

As there was no further business to come before the Board of Works, a motion and a second were made to adjourn at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Jones, Clerk-Treasurer
Enrolled: 01/27/25

Steve Barnett, Mayor

Attest:

Jan Jones, Clerk-Treasurer