
**MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION
BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN
FRANKLIN, TENNESSEE
CITY HALL BOARDROOM
TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 2009 – 5:00 P.M.**

Board Members

| | | | |
|--------------------------|----------|--------------------------|----------|
| Mayor John Schroer | P | Alderman Dana McLendon | A |
| Alderman Clyde Barnhill | A | Alderman Ken Moore | P |
| Alderman Pearl Bransford | P | Alderman Ann Petersen | P |
| Alderman Beverly Burger | P | Alderman Michael Skinner | P |
| Alderman Dan Klatt | P | | |

Department Directors/Staff

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|--|---|---|---|
| Eric Stuckey, City Administrator | P | Eric Gardner, Engineering Director | P |
| Vernon Gerth, ACA Community & Economic Development | | Shirley Harmon, HR Director | P |
| Russell Truell, ACA Finance & Administration | P | Mark Hilty, Water/Wastewater Director | P |
| David Parker, City Engineer | P | Gary Luffman, Interim Planning Director | P |
| Shauna Billingsley, Interim City Attorney | P | Tom Marsh, Interim Codes Director | P |
| Rocky Garzarek, Fire Chief | P | Joe York, Streets Director | P |
| Deputy Chief David Rahinsky for Jackie Moore, Police Chief | P | Brad Wilson, Facilities Project Manager | P |
| Fred Banner, MIT Director | P | Lanaii Benne, Assistant City Recorder | P |
| Becky Caldwell, Solid Waste Director | | Linda Fulwider, Board Recording Secretary | P |
| Lisa Clayton, Parks Director | | | |

1. Call to Order

Mayor John Schroer called the BOMA Work Session to order on Tuesday, March 24, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. in the City Hall Boardroom.

2. Citizen Comments

None

WORK SESSION DISCUSSION ITEMS

3. Presentation of Alternative Fuel and Energy Task Force Action Plan for City Facilities and Operations Task Force

Joann Willhite, Police, and Joe York, Streets, presented the Action Plan on behalf of the Alternative Energy & Fuel Task Force. Other members of the Task Force are Lisa Clayton, Parks, Glenn Johnson, Fire, Owen Venable, Streets, David Barker, Fleet Maintenance, Brian Wilcox, Purchasing, and Tom Marsh, Codes. Task Force Goal: Research and develop an approach for incorporating advanced energy and alternative fuel techniques for the City of Franklin that includes short and long-term implementation strategies to move the City towards coordinated, accessible, and efficient energy and transportation services.

Eight sustainable theme areas identified as attainable goals:

Energy

- Increase the use of renewable energy to meet 10% of the City's peak electrical load within seven years.

Office Recycling/Waste Reduction

- Decrease waste to landfills
- Implement "user friendly" recycling and composting program

Education

- Institute activities with the greatest economic, environmental, community impact and demonstrate successes

Transportation/Planning

- Develop a community transportation system that provides alternatives to automobile travel. Providing greenway links, transit service and biking lanes for travel within and outside the community for most residents. It is anticipated that the importance of this type of diversified system will increase in coming years since transportation accounts for a large portion of the community's greenhouse gas emissions

Water

- Develop policies for implementation of aggressive conservation efforts (Irrigation, Replacement Program, Effluent Water, Green Building Water Efficiency)

Air Quality

- Every year identify one product, chemical or compound that is used within the City that represents the greatest risk to human health and reduce or eliminate its use within each department

Open Space & Natural Habitats

- Ensure that there is an accessible public park or recreational open space to all residents of Franklin
- Conduct a Tree Inventory and implement best practices for trees Citywide
- Protect the ecological integrity of the City's primary drinking water resources such as the Harpeth River, tributaries, wetlands and associated ecosystems

Economic Development

- Ensure that the City of Franklin focuses on balancing economic goals with environmental limits and social equity concerns

Mr. York noted there was an attempt to obtain fatty oils from restaurants and hotels for conversion to fuel; however, the attempt was thwarted due to the huge market already getting the oils from those sources. All traffic signals have LED lights and streetlights are being converted to LED. LED lights shine down rather than up and are more expensive; however, the lights provide several years of service compared to regular bulbs that must be replaced within months. The City is looking into procuring more fuel-efficient vehicles with consideration given to electric powered and Segways. Joe York and his department have started composting with all the leaves collected throughout the City. Solid Waste is grinding mulch at their facility.

Alderman Moore commented that some of goals set forth by this Task Force are the consistent with the goals of the Sustainability Task Force.

Joe York said the immediate goal is street light conversion. There will be a fairly large cost up-front for the LED lights, but the savings realized in time will outweigh the cost. Because of the costs involved, it would be feasible to replace them by quadrants. Alderman Petersen commented if the LED lights were replaced every few years instead of every few months with regular lights, savings would be realized in labor as well.

Eric Stuckey stated that attainable sustainability goals would be identified by Directors as part of their work plans and performance evaluations.

Mayor Schroer conveyed baselines are needed to start monitoring green projects as well as financial baselines.

Alderman Moore reported he was approached by a citizen wanting to do a streetlight pilot project in Sullivan Farms. Each task force has established goals and opportunities for cost and environmental savings that will be realized in the end.

4. Status of Stimulus Package

Eric Stuckey, City Administrator

The MPO Executive Committee approved \$1 million for the Royal Oaks/Highway 96 intersection improvement project and approximately \$544,000 to the ITS project. There is potential for that project to grow to \$1 million should other local governments with projects ahead of this decide not to accept the money. There is a one million dollar cap per project. Projects are still being ranked and listed in the water/wastewater component; therefore, dollar amounts are unknown.

Mark Hilty related City water/wastewater projects ranked fairly well so there is potential to receive funding for some projects. The State held a public meeting last week and presented their draft priority-ranking list. The list has since been changed by TDEC. Projects are to be underway June 17, 2009 or have a signed contract by that date.

Mayor Schroer said he has to sign certification that any money received is not supplanting already budgeted money. State and federal auditors will assure everything is copacetic. If these projects are already budgeted on this year's budget process we can use the money, but then have to use the budgeted money to do something else. That is the whole purpose. Mayor Schroer explained the Royal Oaks/Highway 96 project must be rebid to be eligible for the list and receipt of funds.

5. Updated COBRA Policy and Practices

Shirley Harmon, Human Resources Director

There have been several changes to COBRA. HR has always administered these plans; however, given the growth in the number of employees, it takes an inordinate amount of time to keep up with it. HR offered two proposals, 1) Blue Cross/Blue Shield could administer all COBRA, including dental, for 85¢ for each contract per month, or just medical for 65¢ each contract per month. There are 598 health contracts and 600+ dental contracts. 2) Continue to administer in-house per updated policy and practices. Blue Cross/Blue Shield would follow City policies, send out notices and billing information, and collect the money for all the contracts.

One change to COBRA coverage is if termination is on January 20, for instance, and the employee elects COBRA coverage, cost would be prorated to allow uniformity in billing for all participants to be billed the first of each month instead of the termination date. In terms of City man-hours and liability, it is preferable BC/BS take over administration of COBRA medical and dental.

6.* Consideration of an Agreement with Harpeth Valley Utility District Regarding Reimbursement for Improvements to be Performed on the Sneed Road Vault [CIC 3/12/09]

Mark Hilty, Water/Wastewater Director

The first draft of an agreement with Harpeth Valley Utilities District distributed by David Parker. Staff recommends the City enter into an agreement to allow HVUD to authorize this work with the understanding the City of Franklin will reimburse them for the work performed. The agreement is for improvements to the Sneed Road Meter Vault to get more water into the City from HVUD. The HVUD board has approved the agreement. Final cost unknown as HVUD prefers to wait to hear from TDEC. To keep the project going forward Mr. Parker requested approval on the condition the project will not exceed \$230,000. Item #31 on the Board agenda will be pulled to allow an amendment. The construction timetable is short but it will take 2-3 weeks to get the material. A letter of authorization is needed to order the materials. The project will take approximately 16 weeks. The project is in the CIP.

7. Consideration of Request to Exercise the Option of Extending the Professional Services Agreement for One Year with Monitoring and Management Services, LLC to Provide Inspection and Consulting Services for the City's FOG Program in an Amount Not to Exceed \$25,140

Mark Hilty, Water/Wastewater Director

Mark Hilty explained the City has been working with this contractor for two years with great success. The Water Management Department would like to exercise the option of extending the contract for one year. (There are provisions to extend the contract for two, one year terms) This was an anticipated budget item in operations.

8. Consideration of Event Permit Application from Franklin Noon Rotary for Rodeo Parade in Downtown Franklin on May 9, 2009

Jackie Moore, Police Chief

Deputy Chief David Rahinsky related they recommend approval with a slightly tweaked route and 10 extra-duty officers.

9. Consideration of Event Permit Application for Event on McEwen Drive between Merylinger Court and Jordan Road on May 16, 2009

Jackie Moore, Police Chief

Chief Rahinsky advised if McEwen Drive is still under construction staff does not recommend approval. They do not recommend closure of two lanes on McEwen Drive even if construction is complete. An option would be the closure of the northwest outer lane between Merylinger Court and Jordan Road if construction is complete. The hiring of two extra-duty officers required.

Discussion points:

- When completed the road is a major arterial with more traffic.
- The traffic unit thought it could be done with the outer lane closed.
- The contractor is pushing to get the road completed next month.
- It would probably not be a problem this time, but not as McEwen develops
- Jordan Road access should not be blocked
- Applicant, Dr. Paula Schuerer, said the contractors said the road would be finished by May 16. She clarified the activities will be 12:00-3:00 p.m. Additional hours are for set up and clean up.

10. Authorization to Allow Staff to Enter into Negotiations with the Owners of Thoroughbred Square VI Shopping Center to Sell Approximately 3.900 Square Feet of Parkland, being Part of the Eastern Boundary of the Park and Lying within the Franklin Floodway Fringe District

Gary Luffman, Interim Planning Director

Gary Luffman explained the developer seeks to purchase this land to meet code standards for landscaping/green space and 30 additional parking spaces. In 2004, the developer donated five acres of land in the floodplain, built a unique vehicular bridge, and provided additional parking for the park expansion. Staff recommendation is to enter into negotiations on possible sale of the land. Alderman Klatt asked to meet with staff to voice concerns before the item goes to BOMA.

11. Consideration of the Request for Sanitary Sewer Availability for the CHS Data Center Located at 7100 Commerce Way, Brentwood, TN

Eric Gardner, Engineering Director

The property is located in an area that was a part of the old Moore's Lane Sewerage Company service area although it is in the City of Brentwood. The project would be served through Franklin's Spencer Creek Interceptor Sewer. Staff recommends approval with certain provisions.

12. Status Updates on Various City of Franklin Projects

Brad Wilson, Facility Projects Manager

Liberty Park: coming to a close on the facilities building; builder to do some repairs. Will sign off yet this month. Fire Station #6: apparatus slab to be redone. Harlinsdale: putting stone down and will tar and chip next week. Compression problems in pump areas being addressed. Bathrooms to be done later. Park should be open in June. Police Headquarters: Underground tanks to be removed next week. Ninth Avenue will be partially closed.

ADJOURN

Work Session adjourned 6:09 p.m.

Mayor John C. Schroer

Minutes prepared by: Linda Fulwider, Board Recording Secretary, City Administrator's Office – 4/15/2009 10:06 AM