



MEMORANDUM

March 27, 2012

TO: Board of Mayor and Aldermen

FROM: Eric Stuckey, City Administrator
David Parker, City Engineer/CIP Executive
Paul Holzen, Interim Director of Engineering
Crystal Bishop, Stormwater Coordinator

SUBJECT: Status Update on Stream Name revisions

Purpose

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide the Franklin Board of Mayor and Aldermen (BOMA) with an update regarding the City's review of stream name revisions.

Background

Currently, City staff relies on GIS information from the USGS, the State of Tennessee, and Williamson County to determine the name of a stream. However, many inconsistencies lie between the three entities, which hinder communication between staff, citizens, and the development community. To correct this issue, staff is in the process of filing a Proposed Stream Name Application with the U.S. Board on Geographic Names (BGN).

The procedure for changing geographical names is fairly simple as any individual or entity may apply for a name change and the application can be completed on the USGS website. The following steps outline this procedure:

1. Submit an application for change to the Executive Secretary of BGN, including supporting documents such as a City Resolution.
2. The BGN consults with State and Local (if applicant is not a Municipality) organizations on any conflicts or duplicates.
3. The BGN makes a decision in about 3 to 6 months, with the change appearing on the next federally published map. An approval letter is mailed to the applicant.

Over the past few months, staff has been field verifying if unnamed water bodies are streams or wet-weather conveyances. A total of 97 Hydrologic Determinations were performed; of which 54 were determined to be streams. City Staff has listed potential names for the 54 streams, using topographic maps, deed records and registered landmarks as references. The next step is to host a Public Meeting for the citizens to provide input on the suggested names. Staff is currently planning this Public Meeting for May 10, 2012, at 6 PM, following the regularly scheduled Capital Investment Committee (CIC) Meeting. It is anticipated that a formal Resolution to rename the streams will be presented at the June 14, 2012, CIC Meeting, and to the BOMA on June 26, 2012.

Financial Impact

None