



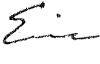
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ITEM #6
WRKS 04/26/2011

MEMORANDUM

April 18, 2011

TO: Board of Mayor and Aldermen

FROM: Eric S. Stuckey, City Administrator 
Eric J. Gardner, Director of Engineering
Crystal Bishop, Stormwater Coordinator

SUBJECT: Consideration of Stream Name Revisions and overview of the United States Geological Survey (USGS) Renaming Process

Purpose

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide the Board of Mayor and Aldermen (BOMA) with information to consider the submission of an application to the U.S. Board on Geographic Names (BGN) to formally name certain streams within the corporate limits of Franklin in order to clarify the nomenclature of local streams and remove inconsistencies among various stream name databases. Unnamed streams will also be named through this process.

Background

Currently, City staff rely 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. Staff suggests correcting this issue by filing a Proposed Stream Name Application with the U.S. Board on Geographic Names (BGN). Prior to the application process, Staff recommends hosting a Public Meeting to obtain citizen input.

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.

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.

Financial Impact

None

Options

1. Obtain public input through a Public Meeting then adopt a Resolution to change names or formally name identified stream names.
2. Keep current stream nomenclature.

Recommendation

Staff recommends Option 1. If option 1 is chosen, the Public Meeting will likely be held in May and the resolution will be brought before the Board later this summer.