

**MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF FRANKLIN TOWN COUNCIL SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
REGULAR MEETING
JUNE 15, 2023**

THE FRANKLIN TOWN COUNCIL held a special called meeting on Thursday, June 15, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Board Room located at 95 East Main Street Franklin, NC.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Jack Horton called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. with the following members present:

Vice Mayor Joe Collins, Council Members, David Culpepper, Stacy Guffey, Mike Lewis, Adam Kimsey and Rita Salain.

Mayor Horton thanked the Town Manager, Finance Director and staff for all the work and time they put into developing a reasonable operating budget for the next fiscal year.

2. BUDGET APPROVAL

A.) Request approval of the Fiscal Year 2023/2024 Budget- Amie Owens, Town Manager

Town Manager Owens pointed out that everyone had a copy of the budget ordinance and the ordinance is what is required for Council to pass. The published revenue neutral tax rate is \$0.29, but due to cost that are beyond the Town's control the Town could not efficiently operate on that rate. The proposed tax rate has been dropped from \$0.35 to \$0.33. The Franklin Fire District tax rate, set by the Board of County Commissioners, is \$0.0524.

Council Member Guffey thanked everyone who worked hard on the budget and stated it was the complete package. The budget includes everything the Council had asked for and the best part is reinvesting tax dollars in its greatest resource, which is the Town staff.

Council Member Salain asked about the Fire Department tax rate/increased revenue. Town Manager Owens stated that the adjustment is based on Macon County's tax collection rate of 98.11%.

Council Member Mike Lewis stated he was delighted to make the motion this year to approve the decreased tax rate since he voted against the increase last year and is delighted to give the employees the compensation they deserve.

Council Member Mike Lewis made a motion, seconded by Council Member Stacy Guffey to approve the Budget Ordinance for FY 2023/2024 as presented. The motion carried unanimously. Vote: 6 to 0.

3. ADJOURN

Vice Mayor Joe Collins made a motion, seconded by Council Member Rita Salain to adjourn the meeting at 6:09 p.m. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

C. Jack Horton, Mayor

Nicole Bradley, Town Clerk