

February 6, 2012

The regular meeting of the Town of Franklin Board of Aldermen was held on Monday, February 6, 2012 at 7:00 P.M. in the Town Hall Board Room. Mayor Joe Collins presided. Aldermen Verlin Curtis, Joyce Handley, Farrell Jamison, Billy Mashburn, Carolyn Pattillo and Bob Scott were present.

Approval of the minutes

Motion was made by Pattillo, seconded by Mashburn to approve the minutes for the January 3, 2012 meeting as presented. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Street closing request for the Annual Franklin Folk Festival

Theresa Ramsey – We are asking to close Iotla Street and Phillips Street on Friday, July 20, 2012 from 5:00 p.m. until Saturday, July 21, 2012 at 5:00 p.m. for the Franklin Folk Festival. Also, we are asking to close Main Street on Saturday, July 21, 2012 from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Informational copies are attached.

Motion was made by Scott, seconded by Pattillo to close Iotla Street and Phillips Street on Friday, July 20, 2012 from 5:00 p.m. until Saturday, July 21, 2012 at 5:00 p.m. and; to close Main Street on Saturday, July 21, 2012 from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. for the Franklin Folk Festival. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Public hearing for William Knief rezoning request

Mayor Collins opened the public hearing for the William Knief rezoning request at 7:05 P.M. No persons were present to speak at the public hearing. Mayor Collins closed the public hearing at 7:06 P.M.

Board consideration on the William Knief rezoning request

Motion was made by Handley, seconded by Curtis to approve the rezoning of the William Knief property located at the northwest corner of Harrison Avenue and Lyle Street from R-1 (Residential) to C-1 (Central Commercial). Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0. A copy of the rezoning request is attached.

Ferrell Gas special use application

Motion was made by Scott, seconded by Jamison to forward the Ferrell Gas special use application to the Planning Board for a recommendation. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

February 6, 2012 meeting continued,

Collins Lane group rezoning request

Motion was made by Mashburn, seconded by Pattillo to forward the Collins Lane group rezoning request to the Planning Board for a recommendation. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Public hearing for amendments to the Unified Development Ordinance and the Wireless Telecommunications Facility Ordinance

Mayor Collins opened the public hearing for amendments to the Unified Development Ordinance and the Wireless Telecommunications Facility Ordinance at 7:10 P.M.

Michael Grubermann – Land Use Administrator – The proposed amendments to the Unified Development Ordinance allows the Land Use Administrator to determine that the incompleteness of the application renders it out of compliance with the requirements of the UDO and will receive no further consideration by the Town. Also, the Land Use Administrator can determine the incompleteness of special use applications in the Wireless Telecommunications Facility Ordinance.

Mayor Collins closed the public hearing at 7:11 P.M.

Amendments to the Unified Development Ordinance and the Wireless Telecommunications Facility Ordinance

Motion was made by Curtis, seconded by Jamison to approve the amendments as proposed to the Unified Development Ordinance and the Wireless Telecommunications Facility Ordinance. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0. Copies of the ordinances are attached.

Public session

Lloyd Cox – Ambassador Automotive – I am speaking tonight at the request of the majority of towing companies in Franklin. We have concerns about how the towing companies are dispatched when there is an accident inside town. Over the last two years the majority of us have experienced a huge drop in the amount of tow calls we have received from 911 inside town. Nathan's Paint and Body is receiving the majority of the calls. The tow cost is \$150.00 per call. However, the body and repair shops are losing the opportunity to repair the vehicles. We believe that Nathan is getting more calls because he is a volunteer fire fighter and comes to the accident in his tow truck. We are asking that the Town adopt an ordinance like the one used by the North Carolina Highway Patrol. Informational copies are attached.

February 6, 2012 meeting continued,

Walter Hunter – Franklin Body Shop – I am here tonight because there is a problem with the rotation assignment of towing calls in Franklin. I believe that I am losing business because of the actions of Nathan Hursey, owner of Nathan's Paint and Body Shop and Towing Service, while he serves in the capacity of a volunteer fireman and tow truck operator. I believe that Nathan as a volunteer fireman has allowed him to solicit business. Each towing call is worth a minimum of \$150.00 up to a maximum of several thousand dollars. The only solution is to use the rotation method strictly and fairly. A copy of the letter is attached.

Robbie Holland – Sheriff – Macon County - This was brought to my attention last Friday through the rumor mill of a possible problem with the towing rotation. I will meet with you at any time about this matter.

Information copies attached:

Davis Towing letter
Drake's Towing letter
Towing dispatch records

The Board took no action.

Recess

Mayor Collins recessed the meeting at 7:40 P.M.

Mayor Collins reconvened the meeting at 7:45 P.M.

Public session continued

Howell Derrick – Can a golf cart be licensed to drive on the public streets?

Stephen Apel – Policeman - It would require special paperwork from the state.

Resolution to repeal the schedule of tax discounts

Motion was made by Curtis, seconded by Mashburn that the schedule of tax discounts heretofore adopted for the collection of taxes by the Town of Franklin is hereby repealed. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0. A copy of the resolution is attached.

Reappointment of Candy Presley as Chairman to the TDA board

Motion was made by Handley, seconded by Pattillo to reappoint Candy Presley as Chairman to the TDA board for a three year term. Motion carried. Vote: 5 to 1. Voting yes: Curtis, Handley, Jamison, Mashburn and Pattillo. Voting no: Scott.

February 6, 2012 meeting continued,

Funds from the sale of surplus property

Sam Greenwood, Town Manager, said we have received \$35,000.00 from the sale of surplus property. I am recommending that \$3,500.00 of these funds be appropriated for computers for the police department.

Motion was made by Curtis, seconded by Scott to appropriate \$3,500.00 from the revenues received from the sale of surplus property and amend the police department supplies budget in the same amount. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Consider awarding the bid on the sewer plant renovation

Sam Greenwood, Town Manager, said we should be approved for an additional \$1,000,000.00 loan from the Rural Center for the sewer plant renovation. He said we already have a loan from DENR in the amount of \$5,350,300.00 and will be using local funds in the amount of \$107,006.00. He said contingent on Local Government approval I ask that you award the bid on the sewer plant renovation to Hickory Construction Company.

Motion was made by Curtis, seconded by Handley to award the bid for the sewer plant renovation to Hickory Construction Company in the amount of \$6,457,306.00. This motion is contingent on receiving Local Government Commission approval of the \$1,000,000.00 loan from the Rural Center. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Audit contract

Motion was made by Handley, seconded by Jamison to approve the 2011-2012 audit contract with Martin Starnes & Associates in the amount of \$31,500.00. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Other business

Sam Greenwood, Town Manager, said David Adams has been hired as new police chief. He said Mr. Adams will be starting on March 5, 2012.

Alderman Handley said citizens have requested that Bidwell Street be changed from one way to two way traffic.

February 6, 2012 meeting continued,

Adjournment

**Motion was made by Curtis, seconded by Pattillo to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 P.M.
Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.**

Joe Collins, Mayor

Janet A. Anderson, Town Clerk