

August 4, 2008

The regular meeting of the Town of Franklin Board of Aldermen was held on Monday, August 4, 2008 at 7:00 P.M. in the Town Hall Board Room. Mayor Joe Collins presided. Aldermen Verlin Curtis, Jerry Evans, Joyce Handley, Billy Mashburn, Carolyn Pattillo and Bob Scott were present.

Approval of the minutes

Motion was made by Curtis, seconded by Evans to approve the minutes for the July 7, 2008 and July 17, 2008 meetings as presented. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Public Session

Dan Williams said I sold land at a profit and gave money to the church for the graveyard. He said this is a good cause. He said I have been sending money to the Town. He said you will give me no answers to my questions. Mayor Collins said what are your questions. Mr. Williams said I do not have any questions.

Avis Davis, Franklin Postmaster, said I want to talk to somebody about the water bills. She said I need a name. Sam Greenwood said we have your letter. He said we will be doing changes to our billing in the future. Ms. Davis said the post cards are getting damaged and the customers complain. Mr. Greenwood said the only complaints we are getting is about the post office.

Request from Kristina Robbins

Kristina Robbins said Jim Zilbauer is my uncle. She said I am a contestant in the Miss North Carolina USA pageant. She said the date of the pageant is November 14th and 15th. She said I am asking for sponsorship. A copy of the request is attached. Mayor Collins said we will try to get you some sponsorship.

Discussion with NCDOT officials regarding traffic flow issues

Reuben Moore said I am an engineer with the North Carolina Department of Transportation. He said on all way stops we have to abide by our manual. He said when putting in a traffic signal we need to look at the crash history. He said you may want to consider speed humps. Alderman Scott said roundabouts work well. Mr. Moore said I like roundabouts. He said, however, they take a lot of land. He said the widening of Wayah Street could be put on the TIP. Sam Greenwood said what are your thoughts on establishing truck routes to the north and one on Wells Grove? Mr. Moore said I did not receive this information. He said I will be glad to receive these requests. Alderman Evans said when is the state going to repave Palmer Street? Mr. Moore said I will check.

August 4, 2008 meeting continued,

Confirm commitment for Rural Center grant award

Sam Greenwood said we have five items we will have to do to commit to the North Carolina Rural Center Grant. Information copies are attached. He said we should be able to do all five items. **Motion was made by Scott, seconded by Evans to confirm the Town's commitment to accept the conditions for the Rural Center grant award. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.**

Planning Board recommendation

Motion was made by Evans, seconded by Curtis to schedule the public hearing on the rezoning request from Margaret Hawks on the property at 80 Mashburn White Road for September 2, 2008 at 7:00 P.M. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0. Information copies are attached.

Establish date(s) for public information sessions on National Flood Insurance Program

Sam Greenwood said I suggest we allow Angela Moore to schedule some public information sessions on the National Flood Insurance Program. Information copies are attached. **Motion was made by Pattillo, seconded by Handley to allow Angela Moore to schedule some public information sessions on the National Flood Insurance Program. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.**

Criteria for applications for non-profit funding "pool"

Sam Greenwood said please review the non-profit funding criteria as proposed. He said we can discuss it further on August 11, 2008. Information copies are attached. Alderman Scott said why not give to day-to-day operations? He said we need a definition of day-to-day operations and a public purpose definition. Mr. Greenwood said the goal is for the groups to develop additional funding sources. He said we can use the definition of public purpose that is found in the statutes.

Finance Department

Motion was made by Evans, seconded by Curtis to approve the Capital Project Ordinance for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0. A copy of the ordinance is attached.

The Board postponed the Capital Project Ordinance on the Burrell Building Improvements until after the bids are opened on August 8, 2008.

Motion was made by Handley, seconded by Pattillo to give authority to Janet A. Anderson as finance officer to act on behalf of the Town of Franklin to request and receive any necessary credit cards. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

August 4, 2008 meeting continued,

Appropriations

Bob Litten said I want to thank you for your last contribution to the Veterans Memorial of \$12,500.00.

Sam Greenwood said the second \$12,500.00 for the Veterans Memorial and \$20,000.00 to the Main Street Program was not included in this year's budget.

Motion was made by Curtis, seconded by Handley to appropriate the \$12,500.00 for the Veterans Memorial from fund balance. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Motion was made by Curtis, seconded by Pattillo to appropriate the \$20,000.00 for the Main Street Program from the fund balance. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Aldermen's discussion time

Alderman Scott said I would like for the agenda to be emailed to the members. Alderman Mashburn said I agree that time sensitive material should be emailed.

Alderman Handley said we need a leash law. She said we can use the county's ordinance. Mayor Collins said we will have to pay money to buy in. Alderman Scott said I disagree since I am a county taxpayer also.

Alderman Pattillo said what is the status of the personnel policy? Sam Greenwood said we are about one month and half behind. Alderman Pattillo said what is the status on the infrastructure issues? Mr. Greenwood said we are evaluating three sites for public works.

Alderman Mashburn said are we putting an elevator in the Burrell Building? Sam Greenwood said yes. Alderman Mashburn said Karl Gillespie has concerns about the bidding on the telephone system at the Burrell Building. He said we need numbers on a stand alone system and the system with the county. Mr. Greenwood said there will be a lot of savings if we go with the county. Alderman Handley said we want to see the cost of both systems. Alderman Curtis said we may be able to use the police infrastructure already in place. Alderman Evans said the county has not done us any favors in the past. Mayor Collins said we need a stand alone bid so we can compare the bids. Mr. Greenwood said we can add an alternative bid to the bid package.

Alderman Mashburn said we need to check on the dogwood trees along Main Street.

Department reports are attached.

August 4, 2008 meeting continued,

Consideration of tax release and discovery

Motion was made by Mashburn, seconded by Curtis to approve the tax release and tax discovery. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0. Copies are attached.

Continuation of meeting

At 8:52 P.M. the Board voted to continue the regular meeting until Monday, August 11, 2008 at 7:00 P.M., on motion made by Evans, seconded by Curtis. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Call to order

The regular August 4, 2008 meeting of the Town of Franklin Board of Aldermen was continued at 7:00 P.M., Monday, August 11, 2008 in the Town Hall Board Room. Mayor Joe Collins presided. Aldermen Verlin Curtis, Jerry Evans, Joyce Handley, Carolyn Pattillo and Bob Scott were present. Alderman Billy Mashburn was absent.

Consideration of award of bid for renovations to new town hall – Tom Ritter, Ritter Architecture

Tom Ritter explained the different bids received. He said the Base Bid - 120 days; Alternate #1 – 150 days; Alternate #2 – 180 days and Alternate #3 – Tegular Tile. Alderman Scott said does this include the furnishings? Sam Greenwood said no. Alderman Curtis said I predicted that this move would cost one million dollars. Alderman Evans said how are we going to pay for this work? Mr. Greenwood said we have passed a reimbursement resolution and we are planning to use financing. Mayor Collins said what is the cost of the elevator? Mr. Ritter said the cost is only \$50,000.00 since the building has already been prepared for an elevator. Alderman Evans said does this include the vault? Mr. Ritter said yes. Alderman Scott said I am on record that I am in favor of moving town hall to the Burrell Building. He said, however, I want to spend money only for structural needs and not cosmetics. He said the cosmetics can wait. **Motion was made by Pattillo, seconded by Handley to award to Dalton Construction Alternate #1 Bid in the amount of \$589,410.00. Motion carried. Vote: 3 to 2. Voting yes: Handley, Pattillo and Scott. Voting no: Curtis and Evans. A copy of the bid tabulation is attached.**

Consideration of Capital Project Ordinance for Burrell Building improvements

Sam Greenwood said the Capital Project Ordinance only includes the cost for the architect and the construction. He said we will have to amend the ordinance when we get the amounts for the furnishings. **Motion was made by Pattillo, seconded by Handley to adopt the Capital Project Ordinance for the Burrell Building Improvements. Motion carried. Vote: 4 to 1. Voting yes: Curtis, Handley, Pattillo and Scott. Voting no: Evans. A copy of the ordinance is attached.**

August 4, 2008 meeting continued,

Consideration of establishment of criteria for non-profit funding pool

Sam Greenwood said we are open for discussion of the criteria for the non-profit funding pool. Alderman Scott said I would like to see higher caps instead of the \$5,000.00 cap. Mayor Collins said we may want to consider a certain percentage instead of a set amount. He said do we need a cap? Mr. Greenwood said it would serve as a basis for the Board. He said it would be your policy. He said it would put restraint on the Board. Alderman Scott said I would like to see the statutes on the public purpose criteria. John Henning, Jr. said I will get you a copy. Alderman Evans said we need to be careful that the town taxpayers are not paying twice. Alderman Pattillo said I have a problem with the \$25,000.00 limit. Alderman Handley said \$25,000 is not enough. Mayor Collins said we could set it at one cent of the tax base. Mr. Greenwood said if you have standards set up you can be more conservative. He said you should not be supporting county or state agencies. Alderman Scott said we need to extend our town limits to get more revenues. Mayor Collins said I think the \$25,000.00 is too tight. Alderman Pattillo said we can look at the millage rate. Alderman Scott said I would suggest that we table a decision until the September meeting so we can look at the public purpose definition. The rest of the Board agreed.

Application for Parks and Recreation Trust Fund (PARTF) grant

Sam Greenwood said there are funds available from the Parks and Recreation Trust Fund. Information copies are attached. Mr. Greenwood said this is an opportunity for us to apply for funds for the amphitheater in Frogtown. He said we could use the county property where the old drive in theater was located to match the \$500,000.00. Alderman Handley said I like the idea. Alderman Pattillo said we need to pursue the idea. **Motion was made by Evans, seconded by Curtis to authorize Town Manager Sam Greenwood to proceed with the project. Motion carried. Vote: 5 to 0.**

Update on site selection process for new public works facility

Sam Greenwood explained the three options: (1) old county garage, (2) co-op property and (3) 12-acre site. Information copies are attached. Mr. Greenwood said we need to get a design team to do a plan for the facility. **Motion was made by Handley, seconded by Evans to proceed with getting a plan for the public works facility. Motion carried. Vote: 5 to 0.**

August 4, 2008 meeting continued,

Other business

Alderman Handley said I am not sure we should join in with the county for our IT needs. Alderman Pattillo said I feel strongly that the parties involved should come to the Board and explain what they can do. Mayor Collins said we have not been asked by the county yet. Alderman Pattillo said they need to come and tell us what they can do. She said it would all be on the table and be fair. Alderman Evans said the county would put us on a back burner. He said we need to stay separate if we can. Alderman Curtis said we already have links with the county. Alderman Scott said we do not want to be responsible for dispatch. Sam Greenwood said it would only be telephone, security and computer. Alderman Handley said everybody needs to have a chance to bid. Mr. Greenwood said one of your goals was to get a closer working relationship with the county. He said the county is considering our request. He said the county has a proprietary agreement with Smoky Mountain Systems. He said the county runs its own IT system. He said we have time to look at it. He said we could hire a consultant that is independent from all parties involved. The Board asked Mr. Greenwood to try to get the cost of a consultant by the September meeting.

Adjournment

Mayor Collins adjourned the meeting at 8:55 P.M.

Joe Collins, Mayor

Janet A. Anderson, Town Clerk