

March 2, 2009

The regular meeting of the Town of Franklin Board of Aldermen was held on Monday, March 2, 2009 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 Scott to approve the minutes for the February 2, 2009, February 21, 2009, February 23, 2009 and February 25, 2009 meetings as presented. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Public hearing on the petition for voluntary annexation by Gary and Edith Holland

Mayor Collins opened the public hearing on the petition for voluntary annexation by Gary and Edith Holland at 7:01 P.M. He said the petition on the voluntary annexation is adequate. He said we will hear no comments on the proposed development of the property.

The following persons spoke at the public hearing:

Orville Coward, Jr. – I am the attorney representing the TCG Development Services. Part of the twelve acres is inside town and the remaining part is outside. The owners want all of their property inside. This project is not a low income project. Federal income tax credits will be given by the state.

Mayor Collins – I asked that no comments be made about the development.

Mr. Coward, Jr. – Thank you. The owners want their property annexed.

No other persons spoke at the public hearing.

Mayor Collins closed the public hearing at 7:07 P.M.

Consideration of voluntary annexation petition

Alderman Handley said all of the property would be inside town. Alderman Pattillo said since some is inside we need to put the other part inside. Alderman Curtis said this property is in the ETJ now and the same ordinances would apply. Alderman Scott said what would be the harm of annexing the property. Alderman Mashburn said the utilities are already there.

Motion was made by Handley, seconded by Pattillo to annex the Gary and Edith Holland property off Pauline Avenue as was petitioned. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0. Copies are attached.

March 2, 2009 meeting continued,

Schedule public hearing on special use application

Motion was made by Evans, seconded by Curtis to schedule the public hearing on the special use application for Macon Landing Apartment Complex for April 6, 2009 at 7:00 P.M. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Public session

Howell Derrick said a tractor trailer turned into Ulco Drive and damaged the bank. He said these trucks should use Dowdle Mountain Road instead. He said you need to put up signs. Sam Greenwood said the state has to designate a truck route before we can put up signs. Mr. Derrick said speeding is a problem on Wayah Street.

Fred Alexander said Duke Energy is doing solar collectors. He said we have kits that help save energy.

Jenny Sanders said I have a FEMA fact sheet for your information. A copy is attached.

Richard Brady said I have a question for the town attorney. He said will the public hearing on the special use application for Macon Landing Apartment Complex be quasi-judicial? John Henning, Jr. said yes.

Discussion regarding Rabun County, Georgia's permit application to operate the former Fruit of the Loom plant as a municipal water/wastewater facility

Jenny Sanders said I am representing the Little Tennessee Watershed Association. She said Rabun County is applying for a permit to operate the former Fruit of the Loom plant as a municipal water/wastewater facility. She said the application is in review now. She said there will be public comment for thirty days. Ms. Sanders said as you know Atlanta needs water. Information copies are attached. Alderman Scott said we need to made comments during the thirty days.

Consideration of non-profit funding pool request from NAMI Appalachian South

Debbie Roberts said we are asking for funds. She said local law enforcement use this training. Alderman Scott said the police department has participated in this training. He said this training is to prepare the officers to deal with persons properly during a crisis situation. Information copies are attached.

Motion was made by Scott, seconded by Curtis to give \$767.00 from the non-profit funding pool to NAMI Appalachian South for training purposes. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

March 2, 2009 meeting continued,

Consideration of non-profit funding pool request from Folk Heritage Association of Macon County

Motion was made by Pattillo, seconded by Handley to give \$5,000.00 from the non-profit funding pool to the Folk Heritage Association of Macon County. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0. Information copies are attached.

Consideration of non-profit funding pool request from the Macon County Humane Society

Hazel Davis said I am the treasurer of the Macon County Humane Society. She said we are asking for \$5,000.00. Kay Graham said I am the Director and the money will be used in our spray and neuter program. Alderman Evans said don't you charge the owner? Ms. Graham said yes. She said we are making a profit of \$10.00 per animal.

Motion was made by Pattillo, seconded by Mashburn to give \$5,000.00 from the non-profit funding pool to the Macon County Humane Society. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0. Information copies are attached.

Request to plant trees along Highlands Road

Chris Brouwer said I am representing the Highlands Road Merchants Association. He said we need the Town's approval so that we can plant trees along the Highlands Road. He said we will need approval so we can get the necessary permits from the North Carolina Department of Transportation. He said the association has the money for this project.

Motion was made by Handley, seconded by Scott to give approval to the Highlands Road Merchants Association to plant trees along the Highlands Road. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Consideration of resolution "Urging the Reallocation of Certain State Funds Currently Budgeted for the Removal of the Dillsboro Dam"

Sam Greenwood said the state has withdrawn the funds for the removal of the Dillsboro Dam.

Motion was made by Curtis, seconded by Scott to table the resolution "Urging the Reallocation of Certain State Funds Currently Budgeted for the Removal of the Dillsboro Dam." Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Recess

Mayor Collins recessed the meeting at 7:55 P.M.

Mayor Collins reconvened the meeting at 8:07 P.M.

March 2, 2009 meeting continued,

Consideration of authorization for Local Government Commission (LGC) application for Series 2009 Installment Purchase Contract

Motion was made by Evans, seconded by Handley to authorize the Local Government Commission application for Series 2009 Installment Purchase Contract. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Set date for public hearing

Motion was made by Evans, seconded by Handley to set the public hearing on the Series 2009 Installment Purchase Contract for April 6, 2009 at 7:30 P.M. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Renewal of Blue Cross Blue Shield employee health insurance

Janet Anderson reported to the Board that the coverage cost, co-pays and deductibles would all remain the same. Information copies are attached.

Motion was made by Evans, seconded by Pattillo to renew the Blue Cross Blue Shield employee health insurance for the upcoming year. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Forward petition for rezoning from Melba Huggins to the town Planning Board for a recommendation

Motion was made by Mashburn, seconded by Curtis to forward the petition for rezoning from Melba Huggins to the town Planning Board for a recommendation. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Discussion of 2007 Flood Insurance Study Review regarding Crawford Branch

Sam Greenwood said our engineers have completed a report on the 2007 Flood Insurance Study Review. A copy is attached. He said the conclusion of the report on page ten indicates that the culvert measurements are flawed in the state report. Alderman Scott said the small business owners will be hurt. Alderman Evans said there are problems with the drains. Alderman Scott said in the past TVA opened the flood gates when necessary.

Motion was made by Mashburn, seconded by Scott to request the state to extend the deadline on approving the FEMA Flood Insurance. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Motion was made by Mashburn, seconded by Evans to submit the engineering report to the state so that their study review regarding Crawford Branch can be changed. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

March 2, 2009 meeting continued,

Other discussion

Sam Greenwood we need to appoint an alderman to the committee to be established to deal with the purposed water/wastewater treatment plant at the old Fruit of the Loom building. He said also you need to authorize staff to attend meetings.

Motion was made by Handley, seconded by Evans to give authority to Mayor Collins to appoint Alderman Scott to the committee dealing with the proposed water/wastewater treatment plant at the old Fruit of Loom building and to authorize staff to attend meetings. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Alderman Scott said has the Town put money into the agreement with Macon County for an EDC consultant? He said I am not willing to pay \$3,300.00 per month for a consultant. Mayor Collins said we need to wait and have discussion of this agreement later.

Department reports are attached.

Continuation of meeting

At 8:30 P.M., Mayor Collins continued the meeting until Monday, March 16, 2009 at 5:15 P.M.

Call to order

The regular March 2, 2009 meeting of the Town of Franklin Board of Aldermen was continued at 5:15 P.M., Monday, March 16, 2009 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.

Holland/TCG Development Services, LLC

Michael Grubermann said the apartment development on Pauline Avenue will not proceed at this time. He said the project is part of the special use permit. A copy of the letter is attached.

Final approval of involuntary annexation

Motion was made by Curtis, seconded by Pattillo to adopt the involuntary annexation ordinance and to accept the findings in the ordinance. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0. Copies are attached.

March 2, 2009 meeting continued,

Consideration of resolutions for wastewater projects seeking federal stimulus funding

Motion was made by Handley, seconded by Evans to adopt the Resolution supporting Phase I Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements and to request a loan or grant for the project. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0. A copy is attached.

Motion was made by Handley, seconded by Evans to adopt the Resolution supporting the Crawford Branch Sewer System Improvements and to request a loan or grant for the project. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0. A copy is attached.

Consideration of ordinance adopting capital project fund for the purchase and installment of water meters

Motion was made by Evans, seconded by Curtis to adopt an Ordinance Adopting a Capital Project Fund for the Purchase and Installment of Water Meters in the amount of \$500,000.00. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0. A copy is attached.

Motion was made by Evans, seconded by Curtis to adopt the Resolution Designating the Town Clerk and Finance Officer of the Town of Franklin to Declare the Official Intent on Behalf of the Town of Franklin to Reimburse Expenditures Under United States Department of Treasury Regulations. Motion carried. Vote 6 to 0. A copy is attached.

Consideration of applications for non-profit funding

Motion was made by Scott, seconded by Handley to give REACH of Macon County \$5,000.00 out of the non-profit funding. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0. Information copies are attached.

Motion was made by Scott, seconded by Handley to give Angel Medical Center \$5,000.00 out of the non-profit funding. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0. Information copies are attached.

Discussion/consideration of consulting agreement regarding Macon County Economic Development Commission

Mayor Collins said Macon County wants to do a contract for one year. He said the applicant is very qualified. He said we need economic development. He said Macon County will be paying two-thirds of the \$42,000.00 with Franklin and Highlands paying one half each of the remaining one third. He said our share would be \$7,000.00. Alderman Scott said the Board has not been in the loop on this matter. He said we need to hire a full time developer. Alderman Evans said I thought it was a full time position. Mayor Collins said the consultant would be part time.

March 2, 2009 meeting continued,

Motion was made by Curtis, seconded by Pattillo to fund the \$7,000.00 for the EDC consultant. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0. A copy of the contract is attached.

Report on town/county meeting regarding Riverbend water system extension and discussion of project support

Sam Greenwood said we had a meeting on Friday, March 13, 2009 with Macon County and McGill Associates about the stimulus funds. He said Macon County applied for money to fund water service to Swiss Colony and to the Riverbend area. He said the county included the Wilkie Street water tank in this project. Mr. Greenwood said it is our understanding that the county has received a very high ranking. He said the county will serve as the lead agency. He said there will be a cost of \$20,000.00 to McGill Associates to finish the application by the March 23, 2009 deadline. He said I suggest that we pay \$10,000.00 of this cost.

Motion was made by Handley, seconded by Mashburn to pay \$10,000.00 of the cost of the application to McGill Associates. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Closed session

The Board went into closed session at 6:06 P.M., on motion made by Evans, seconded by Curtis to discuss a possible land purchase. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

The Board came out of closed session at 6:35 P.M., on motion made by Curtis, seconded by Evans. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Adjournment

Mayor Collins adjourned the meeting at 6:36 P.M.

Joe Collins, Mayor

Janet A. Anderson, Town Clerk