

October 3, 2005

The regular meeting of the Town of Franklin Board of Aldermen was held on Monday, October 3, 2005 at 7:00 P.M. in the Town Hall Board Room. Mayor Joe Collins presided. Aldermen Verlin Curtis, Edwin Hall, Billy Mashburn, Charles Roper, Bob Scott and Jim Williamson were present.

Approval of the minutes

Motion was made by Curtis, seconded by Hall to approve the minutes for the September 6, 2005 meeting as presented. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Public hearing on zoning text amendment

Mayor Collins opened the public hearing on the zoning text amendment at 7:02 P.M. Vanessa Bailey with CareNet said I want to thank you for your time. **Motion was made by Curtis, seconded by Scott to close the public hearing at 7:04 P.M. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.**

Consideration of zoning text amendment

Motion was made by Williamson, seconded by Scott to adopt the following zoning text amendment to Section 153.20 (Residence District Regulations) as (A) (18) – Administrative offices of charitable, non-profit organizations as defined by the Internal Revenue Service tax code. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Public hearing on proposed assignment of cable PEG access channel

Mayor Collins opened the public hearing on the proposed assignment of the cable PEG access channel at 7:05 P.M. No persons were present to speak at the hearing. **Motion was made by Scott, seconded by Mashburn to close the public hearing at 7:05 P.M. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0..**

Consideration of cable channel assignment

Mike Decker said you can assign the cable channel to David Huskins after working out the details of the contract. Alderman Mashburn said we need to get some film to review of his work and also it would be prudent of the Town to have a financial background check done on Mr. Huskins. **Motion was made by Scott, seconded by Curtis to work on negotiating a contractual agreement with David Huskins for the cable channel assignment. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.**

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Public hearing on Jacqueline A. Brown voluntary annexation request

Mayor Collins opened the public hearing on Jacqueline A. Brown's voluntary annexation request at 7:10 P.M. No persons were present to speak at the hearing. **Motion was made by Mashburn, seconded by Scott to close the public hearing at 7:11 P.M. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.**

Public hearing on Thelma M. Jackson voluntary annexation request

Mayor Collins opened the public hearing on Thelma M. Jackson's voluntary annexation request at 7:12 P.M. No persons were present to speak at the hearing. **Motion was made by Mashburn, seconded by Scott to close the public hearing at 7:13 P.M. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.**

Consideration of Brown and Jackson annexations

Motion was made by Mashburn, seconded by Williamson to adopt the annexation requests from Jacqueline A. Brown and Thelma M. Jackson. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0. Copies are attached.

Public hearing on Louise B. Hamilton petition for rezoning

Mayor Collin opened the public hearing on Louise B. Hamilton's petition for rezoning at 7:15 P.M. No persons were present to speak at the hearing. **Motion was made by Curtis, seconded by Scott to close the public hearing at 7:16 P.M. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.**

Consideration of Hamilton rezoning

Mike Decker said the Planning Board recommendation was to rezone the property from residential to business. He said the staff report also recommended rezoning the property. A copy of the staff report is attached. **Motion was made by Scott, seconded by Mashburn to rezone the Louise B. Hamilton property from residential to business as was recommended. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0. Rezoning petition is attached.**

Persons to be heard

Kathleen Costa said I hope the Town will reconsider allowing me to do my dog grooming business on White Oak Street. She said I want to go back to work. She said I have no income. She said I was there for three years. Mayor Collins said this is not one of the steps allowed. She said since I was issued a privilege license I think I should be grandfathered in. Alderman Scott said we have a duty to watch out for our taxpayers. He said the Town was in error in granting a privilege license for three years. He said that whole area is business. He said she is exactly

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right. Mayor Collins said we need to determine the proper procedure and the authority of the Board. He said we need to verify the timeline of the events. Mike Decker said Mrs. Costa was first located in a business location and then moved to the house at 176 White Oak Street. Dan Williams said I have been taking my dog to Mrs. Costa for seven years. He said she runs a first class shop. He said I feel bad for her. He said why is she the problem? Grace Phillips said I am speaking for Tom Quogliato. She said he has been under a lot of stress. She said Mr. Quogliato is half owner of the property in question. She said Mrs. Costa is trying to block the sale of the property. Mrs. Phillips said Mr. Quogliato does not want a dog grooming business back at the White Oak Street location. Mayor Collins said we are getting into an issue of ownership. Alderman Curtis said when another dog grooming person was denied permission to operate her business in a residential area a complaint was brought against Mrs. Costa at that time. Mayor Collins said we will take this matter under advisement.

Departmental reports

Fire Chief Pete Haithcock gave the fire department report. A copy of the report is attached. He said FEMA has paid the Town for Ivan. He said I am asking for my overtime and Tim Chavis overtime during the storm.

Motion was made by Roper, seconded by Scott to pay the exempt employees for their extra hours during Ivan at the rates reimbursed to the Town by FEMA. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Public Works Director Jay Gibson said the West Main Street water line has been progressing well. He said the contractor will be doing the patching soon.

Police Chief Terry Bradley gave the police department report. A copy of the report is attached. He said we had an incident with a stolen vehicle where two shots were fired. He said the suspect led the officers on a high speed chase. He said the suspect was arrested on Sunday evening in Clayton. He said our officers are fine and the shooting investigation has been done.

Rebecca Crawford said in September I had a total of seventy-two walk-in visits or phone calls. She said we have been receiving numerous complaints regarding the condition of the house and the property at 76 Hillcrest Avenue. I did a site visit with Jane Morgan with the Macon County Health Department. She said the property is a public health nuisance. She said I am not sure the property owner can pay to have the property cleaned up. She said the Town may need to help her clean it up. Mayor Collins said if it is a health hazard we need to go ahead and try to get something done. A copy of the site visit report is attached. Mrs. Crawford said I have the subdivision plans for Dale Drive. She said I have concerns about the width of the streets and I need to get the Street Committee input. A copy of the department report is attached.

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Persons to be heard

Otis Welch said I have some questions about water service. He said it states in your brochure that the meter will be set at the property line. Jay Gibson said we set the meter as close to the street as possible. Mr. Welch said why should I have to pay \$190.00 for crossing the street when it is about a ten-minute job. Jay Gibson said that is what is listed in our tap fee schedule. Mayor Collins said the fee schedule is in place and has been in place for a while. Mr. Welch said I know some persons who have not been charged any fees. He said I cannot call their names now. Alderman Williamson said earlier when Mr. Welch talked to me he would not expose any names; therefore, I could not check to see if they had paid or not.

Update on sesquicentennial events – Janet Greene

Janet Greene said we are delighted with the events of the 150th Anniversary Celebration. She said the Memorial Day weekend was a wonderful weekend for the merchants. She said we are planning to have a Veterans parade on Veterans Day, November 11th, 2005. She said we would like to have a reception for the veterans after the parade. She said we are asking for \$1,000.00 for the reception. Mrs. Greene said we are going to dress in period clothing at the Window Wonderland. She said the time capsule will be buried on February 10th, 2006 next to the Macon Historical building. She said Richard Jones has donated a piece of granite from the old courthouse for this event. **Motion was made by Curtis, seconded by Williamson to give \$1,000.00 for the reception for the veterans. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.**

Update on Pumpkinfest – Hal Chapman

Hal Chapman said I want to thank Jay Gibson and his crew for their work during the Taste of Scotland event. He said I also want to thank Chief Bradley and the police department. He said thank you Mayor Collins for wearing a kilt. Mr. Chapman said Pumpkinfest will be on October 22nd, 2005 from 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. He said we will have two bluegrass bands, an art show, food, a costume parade, free games and up to thirty five vendors. He said I am asking that Iotla Street be closed on Friday, October 21st, 2005 after 6:00 P.M. He said on Saturday morning Phillips Street will need to be closed. He said we will also need help during the parade at noon. He said on Monday morning we will need help collecting the pumpkins left after the pumpkin roll. Mr. Chapman said we need to have one Town employee on Saturday to help us. The Board agreed to these requests.

Recess

Mayor Collins recessed the meeting at 8:31 P.M.

Mayor Collins called the meeting back to order at 8:45 P.M.

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Proclamation – “Lights On Afterschool Day”

Mayor Collins proclaimed October 7, 2005 as *LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL DAY* in Franklin. A copy of the proclamation is attached.

Report from the “Junk Car” committee

Rebecca Crawford said you have a draft of the committee proposal in your package. She said we are going to do a service to the citizens. She said we plan to try this voluntary program for one year. She said we will be getting out the word to the public. Alderman Curtis said most of the salvage companies will pick up the vehicles at no cost to the owner or to the Town. A copy of the report is attached. **Motion was made by Curtis, seconded by Williamson to start the program. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.**

Planning board recommendation

Mike Decker said the Planning Board has met and their recommendation is to rezone the Terry and Wendy Dalton property on West Main Street from residential to business. **Motion was made by Williamson, seconded by Curtis to set the public hearing on the Terry and Wendy Dalton rezoning petition for November 7th, 2005 at 7:00 P.M. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.**

Consideration of resolution expressing support for the Main Street program

Motion was made by Mashburn, seconded by Scott to adopt the resolution of support for the North Carolina Main Street Program. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0. A copy of the resolution is attached.

Designation of voting delegates for NCLM conference business meeting

After some discussion, Alderman Scott was chosen as the voting delegate with Alderman Curtis being chosen as the alternate voting delegate for the business meeting at the annual North Carolina League of Municipalities Conference in Hickory.

Additional departmental and committee reports

Alderman Curtis said I wanted to make you aware that Bud Haley does not own the water line in Rolling Acres.

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Mike Decker said the Macon County Board of Elections will hold this year's election at the Burrell Building. He said according to Kim Bishop there are 2,764 registered voters. He said Ms. Bishop asked that the Town enter into a new agreement for the county to conduct our elections, but Janet Anderson found a resolution from April 27, 1995 requesting the county conduct any municipal elections after that date and Ms. Bishop has indicated that this resolution will continue to meet their needs.

Mike Decker said Jones Brothers Utilities started the sewer improvements on Siler Road on September 27th, 2005. He said the work is expected to be completed in sixty days.

Mike Decker said it is time again to work with Macon County on the Solid Waste Management Plan which is due by July 1, 2006.

Mike Decker said we have received ten applications for the custodial work position. Alderman Hall, Alderman Scott, Mike Decker and Janet Anderson agreed to serve on a committee to select a candidate for the Board's consideration.

Water adjustments and payment of the bills

Water adjustments for September, tax discoveries and releases and payment of the bills were approved on motion made by Williamson, seconded by Roper. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Adjournment

Mayor Collins adjourned the meeting at 9:15 P.M.

Joe Collins, Mayor

Janet A. Anderson, Town Clerk