

## **February 28, 2005 meeting,**

The Town of Franklin Board of Aldermen had a special meeting on Monday, February 28, 2005 at 6:30 P.M. at the Prime Sirloin, 319 Carolina Mountain Drive. The purpose of the meeting was to have a joint dinner meeting with the Macon County Board of Commissioners.

### **Persons present**

Mayor Joe Collins, Alderman Verlin Curtis, Alderman Edwin Hall, Alderman Billy Mashburn, Alderman Charles Roper, Alderman Bob Scott, Alderman Jim Williamson, Town Administrator Mike Decker, Town Clerk Janet Anderson, Commissioner Allen Bryson, Commissioner Jim Davis, Commissioner Charles Leatherman, Commissioner J. D. Shepherd, Commissioner Bob Simpson, County Manager Sam Greenwood, Sarah Crawford – reporter with the *Macon News* and Barbara McRae – reporter with the *Franklin Press*.

### **Items discussed**

Mayor Collins spoke briefly welcoming everybody to the meeting. County Manager Sam Greenwood made the following comments about the Cartoogechaye Sewer Line Project: We are now trying to free this project from DENR. We will be meeting with Phil Haire, Roger West and John Snow and will be asking for their help. We received a letter in 2002 from DENR changing the rules on how sewer lines are permitted. There is now agency review with a combined agency approach. We are having to meet federal fish and wildlife rules. A two hundred foot buffer is required as part of the easement acquisition along the Cartoogechaye Creek. A one hundred foot buffer will be required along the tributary creeks. Macon County will have to have a comprehensive land use plan. There are erosion control studies built in. The money needed to purchase the buffer area would exceed the grant amount awarded. Other options would be to use other sources of funding. We could use the value of the water/sewer system to borrow the money. We could establish a water/sewer authority. The sewer line is needed for continued economic growth. Alderman Bob Scott said this may be the federal government's attempt to undo the damage done in the past fifty years to our streams. Mayor Collins said we may need to go to Plan B at some time. He said we may need to consider an authority to find ways of financing these services. Commissioner Jim Davis said DENR regulations go far beyond the needs and doesn't always protect the environment.

Alderman Verlin Curtis spoke briefly about the intervention on the Duke relicensing application. He said we need to sit down at the table with both boards and determine a set of figures and terms.

Commissioner Allen Bryson said we need to work together on our projects. Commissioner Bob Simpson said communication is our best tool. He said we need to work together with both parties paying for projects. Commissioner Charles Leatherman said we need to look at our local needs and how they are going to be paid for. He said we need to make plans for the future and have a can do attitude. Commissioner J. D. Shepherd said we are starting to meet. Alderman Scott said please consider preserving the Frogtown area for a public park.

**February 28, 2005 meeting continued,**

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 P.M.

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Joe Collins, Mayor

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Janet A. Anderson, Town Clerk