

May 5, 2008

The regular meeting of the Town of Franklin Board of Aldermen was held on Monday, May 5, 2008 at 7:00 P.M. in the Town Hall Board Room. Mayor Joe Collins presided. Aldermen Verlin Curtis, Jerry Evans, Billy Mashburn, Carolyn Pattillo and Bob Scott were present. Alderman Joyce Handley was absent.

Approval of the minutes

Motion was made by Pattillo, seconded by Evans to approve the minutes for the April 5, 2008 and the April 7, 2008 meetings with the following correction to the April 7, 2008 meeting: the Macon County Historical Society received a \$20,000.00 grant from the Cherokee Foundation. Motion carried. Vote: 5 to 0.

Public Session

Suzy Chandler said I live at 661 Harrison Avenue. She said I own the Blaine House Bed and Breakfast. She said our zoning was not changed when the new zoning ordinance was passed. Karin Gorboff said on the new zoning map our zoning was not changed. She said our question is why our property was not changed to Neighborhood Mixed Use. She said some people were handed this designation. She said we feel that we have been singled out. She said it is unfair. Mike Decker said the consultants made recommendations on how the property should be zoned. He said we had public hearings on the maps and ordinances. John Henning, Jr. said you were not singled out. He said there were several public hearings. Sam Greenwood said we cannot correct the ordinance after it is passed. He said you need to get with Michael Grubermann and the town attorney to see what your legal options are at this time. Mayor Collins said it was not personal.

Dan Williams said I want to speak. Mayor Collins said it needs to be something new. Mr. Williams said you do not want to deal with a problem. He said you have a million dollar contract. He said it would have taken \$250.00 to fix the problem. He said I have come into the office over one hundred times. Mr. Williams said the Town sued me over this matter. He said you are not looking out for me. Mayor Collins said this matter has resolved. Mayor Collins said this case was presented in court and the case was settled.

Consideration of town manager employment agreement

Alderman Scott said the last paragraph is incorrect in that it refers to the school system. John Henning, Jr. said I will correct that paragraph. **Motion was made by Scott, seconded by Curtis to approve the town manager employment agreement with Sam Greenwood with the necessary corrections in the last paragraph and to change the term of the agreement to two years instead of one year. Motion carried. Vote: 5 to 0. A copy of the contract is attached.**

May 5, 2008 meeting continued,

Appointment to the Franklin Tourism Development Authority

Sam Greenwood said Candy Arvey is willing to serve on the Town's Tourism Development Authority. He said she understands she will need to step down off the chamber's committee. Mr. Greenwood said she would be representing the Hampton Inn. **Motion was made by Evans, seconded by Curtis to appoint Candy Arvey to the Franklin Tourism Development Authority for a one year term. Motion carried. Vote: 5 to 0.**

Consideration of interior designer for new town hall

Alderman Pattillo said there were six people on the interview committee. She said there were three staff people and three board members. She said we had four proposals. She said we are recommending Martha Chapman with McMillan Smith and Partners. Alderman Scott said this is the high bidder. He said some of the local persons did not have an opportunity to bid on this work. He said the employees can choose the art work for their offices. Alderman Scott said I was not there for all the interviews but I read the written proposals. Alderman Pattillo said all the firms are good. She said we rated each one. Alderman Scott said Mrs. Kelly has done government buildings in Clay County. **Motion was made by Pattillo, seconded by Mashburn to go with the committee recommendation and hire Martha Chapman with McMillan Smith and Partners at a cost of \$14,000.00. Motion carried. Vote: 3 to 2. Voting yes: Curtis, Mashburn and Pattillo. Voting no: Evans and Scott. Information copies are attached.**

Board authorization to lease new police department location with option to purchase

Sam Greenwood said we need authority to rent the Ron Franklin building on Palmer Street for the police department during the Burrell Building renovations. He said if this location proves to be suitable we need the option to purchase the building. **Motion was made by Mashburn, seconded by Pattillo to authorize John Henning, Jr. (town attorney) to draw up a lease with an option to purchase and authorize Sam Greenwood (town manager) and town attorney to negotiate the terms of the contract with an appraisal of the property. Motion carried. Vote: 5 to 0.**

Special Use Application – Macon County Sheriff's Office

Sam Greenwood said Macon County is asking for a Special Use Application in the ETJ for a firing range. He said on Friday, May 2, 2008 there was a successful neighborhood compatibility meeting. He said there were no objections. Mr. Greenwood said it is Land Use Administrator Michael Grubermann's recommendation to forward the application to the Planning Board for a recommendation. Copies are attached. **Motion was made by Scott, seconded by Evans to pass this application to the Planning Board for a recommendation. Motion carried. Vote: 5 to 0.**

May 5, 2008 meeting continued,

Annexation Moratorium

Mayor Collins said the general assembly is trying to pass a law to put a moratorium on all annexation including voluntary annexations. **Motion was made by Curtis, seconded by Scott to pass a resolution in support of municipal annexation statutes. Motion carried. Vote: 5 to 0. A copy of the resolution is attached.**

Authorization for audit contract

Motion was made by Mashburn, seconded by Evans to approve the audit contract with Dixon Hughes PLLC for fiscal year 2007-2008 in the amount of \$30,300.00. Motion carried. Vote: 5 to 0. A copy is attached.

Other reports

Mayor Collins said we will be meeting with Macon County on Thursday, May 15, 2008 at 6 P.M.

Mayor Collins June 4, 2008 is Town Hall Day in Raleigh. He said we need to go. Alderman Scott said I will be able to go.

John Henning, Jr. said the court date on the Duke Energy relicensing is scheduled for the week of July 14 – 18, 2008. He said they are trying to get Franklin dismissed from the case.

Alderman Pattillo said we made the first cut in the North Carolina Step Grant.

Alderman Scott said I understand the letter to the Corps of Engineers has not been mailed. John Henning, Jr. said I put Dr. Gossett in touch with the proper persons. He said I have not written the letter yet.

Alderman Scott said I want to thank Alderman Handley for her hard work at the Jaycee Building.

Sam Greenwood said we need the Board to start attending Macon County's Board meeting each month. He said they meet the second Monday at 6 P.M. He said we can divide you into three committees. The committees are as follows: (1) Mayor Collins, Alderman Curtis, Alderman Scott; (2) Alderman Evans, Alderman Mashburn and (3) Alderman Handley and Alderman Pattillo.

Departmental reports are attached.

May 5, 2008 meeting continued,

Adjournment

Mayor Collins adjourned the meeting at 8:25 P.M.

Joe Collins, Mayor

Janet A. Anderson, Town Clerk