

June 6, 2005

The regular meeting of the Town of Franklin Board of Aldermen was held on Monday, June 6, 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 Williamson, seconded by Curtis to approve the minutes for the May 2, 2005 meeting and the June 1, 2005 meeting as presented. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Public hearing on the David Sanders petition for rezoning

Mayor Collins opened the public hearing on the David Sanders petition for rezoning at 7:01 P.M. Rebecca Crawford related the staff recommendations on this rezoning request. She said this request contributes to the public good and recommends approval. A copy is attached. Mrs. Crawford said the Planning Board met on May 17, 2005 and their recommendation is to rezone the property from residential to industrial as was requested. She said there has been no response from the adjoining property owners. David Sanders said we may put a warehouse on the property. No other persons were present to speak on the petition. Mayor Collins closed the public hearing at 7:04 P.M.

Motion was made by Scott, seconded by Williamson to come into open session. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Consideration of Sanders rezoning

Motion was made by Williamson, seconded by Hall to accept the Planning Board's recommendation and rezone the David Sanders property from residential to industrial. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0. A copy of the petition is attached.

Persons to be heard

Nancy Taro with the Franklin Garden Club said there has been no negative comments about the clock tower project. She said since the Board voted to increase the footage and expand the size of the project the Town should pay for the extra cost. Alderman Scott said I am not sure it cost more. He said the additional work to take up the curb was done by the town crew. Mayor Collins said is it the consensus of the Board any additional cost would be our expense? Alderman Curtis said we need to know what cost more from Richard Clark. Alderman Mashburn said I am not willing to agree to a blanket amount. He said we need to know the figure. Mrs. Taro said I will ask Richard Clark to send the Town a statement.

June 6, 2005 meeting continued,

Hal Chapman said it is time for the Taste of Scotland. He said it will be held on June 17th – 19th, 2005. He said I have a few requests. He said I am asking that on Friday, June 17th that Iotla Street be blocked off in front of the gazebo from Main Street to First Citizens Bank and remain closed through Pickin' on the Square on Saturday. He said will need assistance on Saturday during the parade. Mr. Chapman said we need the town crew to assist in tent setup and picking up the tables and chairs from the National Guard Armory.

David Taylor said I would like to put a mobile home community on property near the Village Trader. Mike Decker said if the property is in the ETJ rezoning of the property would be the first step. Mayor Collins said come in during regular business hours and talk to the staff about this matter.

Departmental reports

Town Planner Rebecca Crawford gave her report. A copy of the report is attached. She said I had one hundred eighteen walk-in visits or phone calls. She said I have done eighteen site visits. She said I would like to have a design/planning meeting with the Board of Aldermen and the Planning Board. She said I will set a date for a meeting. Mrs. Crawford said there has been some public interest in doing a public plaque at the clock tower. She said I have been working with the Citizen Sidewalk Committee. Alderman Williamson said please look at doing some type of ordinance regulating junked and abandoned cars.

Fire Chief Pete Haithcock gave the fire department report. A copy of the report is attached. He said we are waiting for the asbestos inspection of the daycare house on Riverview Street before we do the live burn. He said we will be doing a pump test at Town Mountain on June 18th.

Public Works Director Jay Gibson reported that Panorama Drive has been paved. Alderman Scott said the sidewalk in front of the Historical Society needs to be repaired. Alderman Curtis said Mr. Gibson has been asked to serve on the North Carolina Rural Water Association Board of Directors. **Motion was made by Curtis, seconded by Mashburn to allow Jay Gibson to serve on the North Carolina Rural Water Association Board of Directors. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.**

Police Chief Terry Bradley gave the police department report. A copy is attached. He said the 150th Celebration went well over Memorial Day Weekend.

June 6, 2005 meeting continued,

Crawford Branch watershed issues – Alderman Scott

Alderman Scott said in 1998 the Little Tennessee Non-Point Source Team was organized to address the water quality problems in the Little Tennessee River Watershed. He said \$23,000.00 was allocated to develop a watershed management plan to improve the water quality in Crawford Branch. He said in 1999 the project began and a plan was developed. He said I move that this plan now be adopted and that all local, state and federal agencies tasked with permitting development of waterways within the town limits be notified that the Town of Franklin requests that they coordinate all permits and requests for permits with the Town. Alderman Mashburn said we need to look at a copy of the plan before acting. Alderman Scott asked Rebecca Crawford to get copies to all the board members.

Presentation on GIS sign inventory – Justin Setser

Justin Setser did a Power Point Presentation on the signs he had put into an inventory for the Town. He said this was his class project. He said it was a joint project with Macon County and the Town. He said by clicking on a sign you get information about the sign; for example, the location, the type, etc.

Presentation of preliminary subdivision approval – Sean Callahan

Sean Callahan said I want to do a subdivision off of Ulco Drive. He said there would be ten structures. He said I need preliminary approval of the subdivision plans. Alderman Mashburn said I need to excuse myself since I am representing the Clarks. Alderman Scott said that is heavy density of the property. Mr. Callahan said the average size of the lot would be 0.38 acre. He said the streets would be sixteen feet wide. He said the homes will be 1,890 square feet with three bedrooms and 2 ½ baths. It was the consensus of the Board to give preliminary approval of the plans.

Recess

Mayor Collins recessed the meeting at 8:00 P.M.

Mayor Collins called the meeting back to order at 8:15 P.M.

Consideration of support for Angel Hospice Foundation's petition for an in-patient hospice house

Mike Decker said Angel Hospice Foundation is trying to build an in-patient hospice house in Macon County. **Motion was made by Scott, seconded by Roper to do a letter of support for this project. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.**

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Presentation of offer regarding proposed purchase of the Burrell Building – Alderman Curtis

Alderman Curtis said the proceeds from the sale of the Burrell Building would be a good start for funding for the new complex on the Whitmire property. He said Holland Investments has offered \$750,000.00 for the property. He said I am not in favor in accepting this offer since it is lower than the \$1.32 million value of the property. He said I am in favor of selling the property. Mayor Collins said we need to have a meeting to talk about the Whitmire property. Alderman Scott said we cannot accept an amount under the value of the property. Alderman Mashburn said we need to set up a meeting. Alderman Williamson said we need to wait until July. Alderman Curtis said we need to explore every possibility. Mayor Collins said there is a pressing need to have a convention or civic center. He said it would involve a lot of different players. Mayor Collins said it would be of much benefit and use in the future.

Discussion of proposed FY 2005-06 budget

Mike Decker said Macon Area Transit has asked the Town for \$100,000.00 and Macon County for \$250,000.00. He said the \$250,000.00 is not in the county's budget but has been put in reserve until there is a commitment from the state and town. He said the public hearing on the budget will be on June 13, 2005 at 7:00 P.M. Alderman Scott said I again want to propose a flat raise of \$1,261.00 per employee. He said thirty employees would make out better and eighteen employees would do less well.

Planning board recommendation – Rebecca Crawford

Rebecca Crawford said the Planning Board meet on May 31, 2005 and recommended denying the following petitions on Siler Road: Earnest T. and Nellie Cowart, Pamela S. Mills and Robert H. Mills. She said the staff recommendation is to deny these petitions also. Bobby Key said they may want to withdraw their petitions at this time. **Motion was made by Curtis, seconded by Scott to table a decision of these petitions. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.**

Additional departmental and committee reports

Alderman Williamson said by the July meeting the Street Committee will have a proposed list of streets for repaving.

Motion was made by Roper, seconded by Williamson that the whole Board be on the New Complex Building Committee. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Alderman Roper said Justin Clay is working on the handrails on Main Street.

Alderman Scott said we need to make a fire lane in front of the Drake Building on Stewart Street and make it one way going west. He asked the Board members to look at the area.

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Mike Breedlove said the rain was causing flooding at Bill Nicholson's house. He said we wanted to make you aware of the problem. Tommy Nicholson said the American Legion has done nothing about correcting the problem with the tile in Crawford Branch. Alderman Scott said I don't know if the Corps of Engineers have even look at this site. Mr. Nicholson said they received a violation on the installation of the pipe. Mayor Collins said they have promised to fix the problem. Mayor Collins asked Mike Decker to talk to Kevin Barnett with the state about this problem.

Water adjustments and payment of the bills

Water adjustments for May and payment of the bills were approved on motion made by Williamson, seconded by Scott. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Other business

Alderman Mashburn asked that the Street Committee look at the crosswalk on Main Street because of the changes to the clock tower square.

Bobby Key said I just spoke to Mayor Collins about relieving me of the duty of advising the police. He said my firm wants to take on criminal cases in the future. Also, he said I am asking you to find somebody to replace me. He said I will stay until you can find somebody.

Adjournment

Mayor Collins adjourned the meeting at 9:02 P.M.

Joe Collins, Mayor

Janet A. Anderson, Town Clerk