

September 7, 2004 meeting,

The regular meeting of the Town of Franklin Board of Aldermen was held on Tuesday, September 7, 2004 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 Williamson to approve the minutes for the August 2, 2004 and the August 23, 2004 meetings as presented. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Proclamation – Shriners Hospital Day

Motion was made by Williamson, seconded by Scott to proclaim September 11, 2004 as *Shriners Hospital Day* in Franklin. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0. A copy of the proclamation is attached.

Persons to be heard

Etta Bennett said I want to use the gazebo on September 25, 2004 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm for a health fair sponsored by the Latino Outreach of Macon County. She said some of the other agencies involved in the fair include: the Macon County Health Department, REACH, Angel Community Hospital and Macon Program for Progress. Mike Decker said she is asking a portion of Iotla Street be blocked off during the event. **Motion was made by Scott, seconded by Curtis to grant Ms. Bennett permission to block off a portion of Iotla Street from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm on September 25, 2004 during the health fair. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.**

Michael Ramey said I would like permission to hold a loud car stereo contest on September 11, 2004 from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm at Curtis TV. He said it will be professionally done and the sound is enclosed inside the vehicle. Mayor Collins said we have been advised about the event and accept your report.

Bob Apsey said I am representing the Highlands Road merchants. He said we are planning to have a Fall Festival. He said we need some funding to do this event. He said we spent \$1,000.00 last year to do the decorations. Alderman Scott said we could give a prorated share since we give to the Main Street Association. Alderman Roper said I go along with that suggestion. **Motion was made by Scott, seconded by Curtis to give \$1,000.00 to the Highlands Road merchants. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.**

September 7, 2004 meeting continued,

Departmental reports

Police Chief Terry Bradley gave the police department report. A copy of the report is attached. He said since Bidwell Street was repaved there has been a lot of speeding on this street. He said I would recommend that we put a three way stop sign at the intersection of Bidwell Street and Lyle Street to help break the speed. **Motion was made by Williamson, seconded by Hall to put a three way stop sign at the intersection of Bidwell Street and Lyle Street. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.**

Public Works Director Jay Gibson reported the following: (1) the Macon Middle School water line will be finished by September 18, 2004, (2) the Baird Cove sewer line is about one half complete and (3) the Town Mountain sewer line is about one half complete. Alderman Curtis said the contractor is doing a very good job on the Baird Cove sewer line project.

Presentation by McGill Associates – raw water intake improvements/water treatment plant expansion

Jeff Bishop with McGill Associates did a power point presentation. A copy of the presentation is attached. He said the three alternatives for the raw water intake upgrade are: (1) submerged passive intake screens, (2) intake canal and bar screen and (3) relocation of intake. He said a new requirement for upgrading the water treatment plant is either doing off-stream storage or mechanical pretreatment. He then presented the advantages and disadvantages of each method. He said their recommendation was to do the submerged passive intake screens and do the mechanical pretreatment (Actiflo). Joel Storrow said the state revolving loan fund would be a good choice for doing this expansion. He said the deadline for applying for a loan is September 30, 2004. He said we would find out next spring if the Town got the loan. **Motion was made by Curtis, seconded by Williamson to do a state revolving loan application for the cost of the entire expansion of the water treatment plant. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.**

Presentation by McGill Associates regarding proposed new water tank

Jeff Bishop with McGill Associates told the Board three borings had been done on the property behind the current water tank on Wilkie Street. He said the site is suitable for a new water tank. He said you need to stay twenty feet off the top of the ravine with the water tank so you would need one and half acres of the property. **Motion was made by Curtis, seconded by Scott to get an appraisal of the one and half acres of the property. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.** Joel Storrow said you need to consider doing the Wilkie Street water tank and West Main Street water line as one project. He said you should be able to get better prices from the contractors. Mayor Collins said the water tanks in East Franklin are overflowing on occasion. Jay Gibson said we have timers on the water tanks. The Board asked Mr. Storrow to look into putting a remote terminal unit on the water tanks.

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Departmental reported continued

Fire Chief Pete Haithcock gave the fire department report. A copy of the report is attached. He said we have four new members who are on one-year probation. He said Gary Setser and Charles Nichols have retired.

Presentation regarding Amendment One campaign

Mike Decker gave a power point presentation on Amendment One. A copy is attached. He related the following: (1) Amendment One would authorize local governments to use self-financing bonds, (2) the bonds can be used to pay for public improvements associated with private development, (3) property values rise accordingly, (4) the additional tax revenue is used to pay off the bonds, (5) property tax rates within the district are not increased, (6) prohibits pledging the taxing power of the local government to repay the bonds without a referendum and (7) approval of self-funding bond projects does not require a vote.

Request for zoning variance – Mountain View Chiropractic and Wellness Center

Mike Decker said the Mountain View Chiropractic and Wellness Center has requested a variance on the following items: (1) setbacks and fences and (2) off street parking spaces. He said the zoning ordinance states that any variance requests are passed on to the Franklin Board of Adjustment for a decision. A copy of the letter is attached.

Update on traffic issues/NCDOT response

Mike Decker said the DOT has indicated the following actions: (1) that Division 14 has already been instructed to add a protected phase for traffic northbound on Depot Street to turn left onto East Main Street, (2) that they would do another traffic count at the intersection of Wayah and Porter Streets to determine if a protected left turn is warranted and (3) that they will study the possibility of installing traffic lights along 441 South from Siler Road to the Cartoogechaye Creek bridge to help the congestion in this area. Copies of the letters are attached. Alderman Scott said we need to start to look at doing a traffic circle. Alderman Mashburn said I thought we asked DOT about three years ago to do a study on 441 South. He said I thought they were going to do it then. **Motion was made by Mashburn, seconded by Williamson for Mike Decker to write a letter asking the DOT to do the study on 441 South, to do another traffic count at the Chamber of Commerce and do a traffic count at the intersection of Wayah Street and Depot Street. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.**

Rural Center Capacity Building Grant award

Mike Decker said we have been awarded a \$40,000.00 Capacity Building Grant from the North Carolina Rural Center to do an Infiltration/Inflow Study. A copy of the letter is attached.

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Update on Charles Frazier Day Celebration

Mike Decker said a have a report from Rose West about the Charles Frazier Day Celebration. He said the date for the celebration is September 18, 2004. Mr. Decker said we need a public works person to set up the gazebo and break it down on this day. Also, he said Donnie Clay has asked for \$200.00 to do the sound system. He said this \$200.00 is not included in the committee budget. A copy of the report is attached. **Motion was made by Mashburn, seconded by Williamson to pay Donnie Clay \$200.00 to do the sound system during the celebration. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.**

Planning Board recommendation and upcoming meeting

Mike Decker said the Planning Board met on Tuesday, August 31, 2004 and recommended that Teresa Seay's property be rezoned from residential to business. **Motion was made by Curtis, seconded by Hall to have the public hearing on this rezoning request at the regular meeting on October 4, 2004 at 7:00 P.M. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.** Mike Decker said I have scheduled a meeting of the Planning Board with Mayor Collins, Alderman Williamson, Alderman Hall and Jeff Fischbach with the Division of Community Assistance for September 14, 2004 to discuss the proposed neighborhood commercial zoning district.

Petition for rezoning – Michael Vale

Mike Decker said we have received a rezoning petition from Michael Vale for his property at the intersection of Wayah and Depot Streets. **Motion was made by Scott, seconded by Mashburn to refer this rezoning request to the Planning Board for a recommendation. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.**

NCLM annual conference

Mike Decker said at this time, Alderman Scott, Janet Anderson and I am planning on attending the annual conference. He said if anybody else is planning to attend please let me know.

Additional departmental and committee reports

Janet Anderson gave an update on the water/sewer allocations given by the Board. A copy of the report is attached. Alderman Mashburn said we need to write to Vanderwoude about his allocations.

Alderman Scott said there is an event planned for September 17, 2004 at the Big Bear shelter on the Greenway. He said about six hundred persons will be attending this event.

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Alderman Williamson said we will look at the sidewalks on Bidwell Street and Harrison Avenue. He said residents in Hidden Valley and on Childers Road are requesting street lights. He said we will bring a recommendation back to the Board.

Alderman Mashburn said Joe Farara with Region A Mental Health is leasing New Horizons from the county. He said they received a water bill for \$4,600.00 because somebody flushed a commode and the water kept running. He said they have asked for an adjustment. He said I do not recommend we adjust the bill since it is the Town's policy if the water goes through the meter and has been treated and goes into the sewer system they need to pay the bill.

Alderman Williamson said we need to get a quote on paving Clover Lane. **Motion was made by Mashburn, seconded by Roper to get a quote on paving Clover Lane. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.**

Mike Decker said Ronnie Beale has given us a quote of \$11,125.50 on repairing the Burrell Building. A copy is attached.

Mike Decker said the cost of updating our water supply plan will be from \$1,200.00 to \$1,500.00 with McGill Associates doing the work.

Mike Decker said we have a signed contract with the North Carolina Rural Center for the LEG-UP Project. He said we will be buying the equipment and software later in the month.

Mike Decker said I will be processing a portion of the bills each week instead of doing all of the bills once a month.

Mike Decker said the town's estimated population as of July 1, 2003 is 3,629.

Adoption of Amendment One Resolution

Motion was made by Curtis, seconded by Williamson to adopt a Resolution in Support of Amendment One: Self-Financing Bonds. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0. A copy of the resolution is attached.

Water adjustments, tax releases, tax discoveries and payment of the bills

Water adjustments for August, tax discoveries, tax releases and payment of the bills were approved on motion made by Curtis, seconded by Hall. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0. Copies are attached.

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Declaring a state of emergency

Fire Chief Pete Haithcock said the governor has called a state of emergency in all one hundred counties due to Hurricane Frances. Mayor Collins declared a state of emergency in Franklin due to the potential of flooding.

Adjournment

Mayor Collins adjourned the meeting at 9:30 P.M.

Joe Collins, Mayor

Janet A. Anderson, Town Clerk