

November 6, 2006

The regular meeting of the Town of Franklin Board of Aldermen was held on Monday, November 6, 2006 at 7:00 P.M. in the Town Hall Board Room. Mayor Joe Collins presided. Aldermen Verlin Curtis, Jerry Evans, Billy Mashburn, Carolyn Pattillo, Charles Roper and Bob Scott were present.

Approval of the minutes

Motion was made by Scott, seconded by Evans to approve the minutes for the October 2, 2006 meeting as presented. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Persons to be heard

Kay Coriell said I live at 358 Saunders Road. She said there is sewer coming up through the manhole at the Greenway. She said it is not safe and it needs to be fixed. Mayor Collins said this is a serious problem. Alderman Evans said the Water/Sewer Committee discussed this problem last week with our engineers and we will be working on fixing this problem.

Keith Corbeil said I am in favor of applying for the bicycling grant. He said cycling brings families together. He said this is a good opportunity for Franklin. He said thank you for cleaning up Hillcrest Avenue.

Departmental reports

Fire Chief Pete Haithcock gave the fire department report. A copy of the report is attached. He said two firemen attended training at the Wilkes County Fire School. He said two firemen will be attending the fire school in Cleveland County. Chief Haithcock said we have advertised for bids on the new truck in the Franklin Press. He said we have broken a rescue tool pump and the replacement cost will be \$8,000.00. Daniel Parlier has moved out of the state and we need to stop his payment. **Motion was made by Curtis, seconded by Roper to stop the monthly payment of \$100.00 to Daniel Parlier. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.**

Public Works Director Jay Gibson said the water and sewer has been replaced on Tennessee View Street. He said we should be able to do the paving in the spring. He said the work on Maple Street should be finished by the end of the month.

Police Chief Terry Bradley gave the police department report. A copy of the report is attached. He said during the recent event on Halloween at the Macon County Community Building the police department assisted in helping persons cross the road. He said you need to consider getting more lighting in this area.

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Michael Grubermann said I have been working for one week on a part time basis. He said I have (1) reviewed the sign permits issued in 2006, (2) reviewed an outstanding complaint regarding a possible encroachment, (3) reviewed the Zoning Compliance folders and have been inspecting the open permits and (4) am reviewing an annexation request. A copy of the report is attached.

Bicycle path planning grant – Alderman Scott

Scott Bay said we are asking permission to apply for a bicycle path planning grant. He said the North Carolina Department of Transportation provides eighty percent of the cost. He said this would attract cyclists to Franklin. Alderman Scott said only municipalities can apply. He said this plan would go along with our proposed Principles of Growth. He said we need Board approval to do a match of approximately \$5,000.00. Alderman Pattillo said I think this is a good thing and goes along with the Principles of Growth. Alderman Evans said our attorney needs to look at the application for the grant. **Motion was made by Curtis, seconded by Pattillo to approve applying for the bicycle path planning grant with the understanding that the Town will allocate up to \$5,000.00 for this study. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.**

Recess

Mayor Collins recessed the meeting at 7:30 P.M.

Mayor Collins reconvened the meeting at 7:32 P.M.

REACH – Ann Van Harlingen

Ann Van Harlingen said the county has agreed tonight to create a safe room in the courthouse. She said I would like to work with Mike Decker this month concerning our security needs. She said the Governor's Crime Commission will match up to twenty-five percent of our needs with local matches. Ms. Van Harlingen said seventeen percent of our clients are residents of Town. She said I will bring a proposal of our needs to the December meeting.

Preliminary subdivision discussion for Laurel Falls Development Co. LLC – Betsy Whitlock

Betsy Whitlock said I work for Four Seasons Realty. She said the property at the intersection of Lake Emory Road and Lakeside Drive is the site for the proposed subdivision. She said the plans are to do seven parcels in the 7.76-acre parcel. A copy of the sketch is attached. She said I will have a survey drawing at the December meeting. She said the property is zoned Business.

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Annexation request – Phil Smith

Phil Smith said I work for Preferred Properties. He said Long Power Equipment is requesting their property behind Wal-Mart be annexed. He said water and sewer are already there on the property.

Update of Timberleaf project – Bud Haley

Bud Haley said the Timberleaf project with one hundred twenty units has already been approved. He said at that time you indicated that I was doing too many buildings and needed to have more green space. He said I have redesigned the project with over one third of the property now being common space.

Update on proposed Principles of Growth

Mike Decker said everybody has a copy of the Principles of Growth in their agenda package. He said we are planning to have a formal presentation at a meeting later in the month. A copy is attached.

Consideration of called meeting on November 16

The Board agreed to have a called meeting on November 16, 2006 at 7:00 P.M. to discuss the proposed Principles of Growth. The Board also agreed to have a called meeting on November 20, 2006 at 12:00 noon to meet with representatives from the North Carolina Department of Transportation.

Recommendation from the Planning Board regarding Traditional Neighborhood Development overlay regulations

Mike Decker said the Planning Board met on October 26, 2006 and their recommendation is for the Town Board to move forward with the Traditional Neighborhood Development overlay regulations. **Motion was made by Curtis, seconded by Pattillo to set the public hearing about this matter for December 4, 2006 at 7:00 P.M. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.**

Update on Capital Improvement Plan for wastewater collection system

Mike Decker said McGill Associates has drafted an initial list of projects to be included in our Capital Improvement Plan. Copies are attached. He said McGill will have a more complete document for our December meeting.

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Sewer Use Ordinance update

Mike Decker said the Sewer Use Ordinance was revised not long ago. He said we need to do some text changes at this time. A copy is attached. **Motion was made by Scott, seconded by Evans to set a public hearing on the update of the Sewer Use Ordinance for December 4, 2006 at 7:00 P.M. Motion carried.**

North Carolina League of Municipalities Strategic Directions Initiative

Mike Decker said the League is trying to get member input about a mission statement and core values. He said the deadline to do a resolution of support is December 15, 2006. **Motion was made by Scott, seconded by Evans to adopt a resolution of support. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0. A copy is attached.**

Additional departmental and committee reports

Alderman Evans said there was a bad letter about the condition of the Jaycee Building in the paper. He said I would like to work on doing some improvements at the building. The Board agreed to this request.

Alderman Evans said we need to look at doing a permanent building at the gazebo instead of a tent. He said we could get the Job Corps to do the work with the Town paying for the materials. The Board agreed to allow Alderman Evans to look into the costs of doing this project.

Alderman Evans said Mediacom may lose Channel 13 on December 1, 2006. He said can we do anything through our franchise agreement? John Henning said it is unlikely that somebody else would operate. He said the agreement requires Mediacom to offer a minimum of fifty-six channels. Alderman Scott said Sinclair Broadcast Company is attempting to hold up the cable companies. Alderman Evans said we need to voice our opinion to the cable company. Alderman Curtis said we could do a resolution from the Board asking the delay of the removal of Channel 13 until January 17, 2007. A copy of the letter is attached. **Motion was made by Curtis, seconded by Mashburn to ask Mediacom to keep negotiating with Channel 13. Motion carried. Vote: 5 to 1. Voting yes: Curtis, Evans, Mashburn, Pattillo and Roper. Voting no: Scott.**

Mike Decker said the North Carolina Department of Transportation will hold a State Transportation Improvement Program public meeting in Waynesville on Friday, November 17, 2006 from 2:00 – 4:00 P.M at the Regional High Tech Center.

Mike Decker said we will be working with the county in a joint effort to pick up any remaining campaign signs.

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Mike Decker said Western Carolina University's Public Policy Institute will be hosting a summit on resolving the energy crisis in Cullowhee on November 15, 2006.

Mike Decker said I received a complaint from a woman today about the stop sign below the office being hidden from view. The Board told Mr. Decker to talk to the North Carolina Department of Transportation about this sign.

Water adjustments – pay bills

Water adjustments for November and payment of the bills were approved on motion by Curtis, seconded by Evans. Motion carried. Copy is attached.

Closed session

The Board went into closed session at 8:40 P.M., on a motion made by Evans, seconded by Curtis to discuss pending litigation with the town's attorney. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

The Board came out of closed session at 9:15 P.M., on motion by Evans, seconded by Curtis. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Mike Decker told the press that the Board discussed two matters with the town attorney, instructed him on the settlement of the claims and when the claims are settled the details will be made public.

Adjournment

Mayor Collins adjourned the meeting at 9:17 P.M.

Joe Collins, Mayor

Janet A. Anderson, Town Clerk