

March 5, 2012

The regular meeting of the Town of Franklin Board of Aldermen was held on Monday, March 5, 2012 at 7:00 P.M. in the Town Hall Board Room. Mayor Joe Collins presided. Aldermen Verlin Curtis, Joyce Handley, Farrell Jamison, Billy Mashburn, Carolyn Pattillo and Bob Scott were present.

Approval of the minutes

Motion was made by Curtis, seconded by Handley to approve the minutes for the February 6, 2012 meeting as presented. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Addition to agenda

Motion was made by Jamison, seconded by Pattillo to add the following item to the agenda: Kidney Dialysis Center in Macon County. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Macon County Dialysis Center

Motion was made by Scott, seconded by Jamison to approve Mayor Collins signing a letter of support of the establishment of a Kidney Dialysis Center in Macon County. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0. A copy of the letter is attached.

Public Session

Ronnie Smith – I went to the recent TDA meeting. It was embarrassing on their part. I have ten to twelve witnesses. The TDA is out of control. I have eighty signatures on a petition. The Ruby Bash Rally has a lot of support. I have been doing it for four years. I want some assistance on this matter. I am asking for a full investigation.

Public hearing for Creswell rezoning request

Motion was made by Mashburn, seconded by Curtis to set a public hearing on the Creswell rezoning request for April 2, 2012 at 7:05 P.M. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Public hearing for Ferrell gas special use application

Motion was made by Pattillo, seconded by Handley to set a public hearing on the Ferrell Gas special use application for April 2, 2012 at 7:10 P.M. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

March 5, 2012 meeting continued,

Rezoning request for Garrett holdings and RJW

Motion was made by Pattillo, seconded by Mashburn to forward the rezoning request for Garrett holdings and RJW on Depot Street to the Planning Board for a recommendation. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Special use permit application for Westgate Terrace Apartments

Motion was made by Mashburn, seconded by Jamison to forward the special use application for Westgate Terrace Apartments to the Planning Board for a recommendation. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Proclamation for National Kids to Parks Day

Motion was made by Mashburn, seconded by Curtis to proclaim May 19, 2012 in Franklin as National Kids to Parks Day. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0. A copy of the proclamation is attached.

Whitmire property

Alderman Scott said the Whitmire property could be used for a bicycle park. Mayor Collins said the house needs to be burned down. Alderman Jamison said I will check into if asbestos removal will be necessary before burning the house.

Consider changes in fee structure for sweepstakes machines

Sam Greenwood said the state tried to ban the sweepstake machines. He said they are waiting on court cases. He said it is my recommendation that the privilege license be changed to charge \$2,600.00 base fee per establishment and \$1,000.00 per machine. Information copies are attached.

Motion was made by Scott, seconded by Curtis to charge the following privilege license: \$2,600.00 base fee per sweepstakes establishment and \$1,000.00 per sweepstake machine with an effective date of March 5, 2012. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Authorization to pursue re-financing with BB&T capital loan

Sam Greenwood said it should be a good time to renegotiable the BB&T loan. He said I would be consulting with Bob High.

Motion was made by Handley, seconded by Jamison to authorize Sam Greenwood to pursue refinancing the BB&T loan. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

March 5, 2012 meeting continued,

Briefing of Fire Department issues

Fire Chief Warren Cabe gave the following report – I have been with the Town for six months. We now have standard operating guidelines in place. The guidelines are continually changing. We have new criteria in place for membership in the fire department. We take applications and then do interviews. The new members are put on one year probation. After six months we do an evaluation. We are paying the members a stipend. After the paperwork is completed, quarterly checks are issued to the members. The new aerial truck has been received. Nineteen members now have their CDL licenses. The 100 year celebration will be held in conjunction with the Folk Festival. We had 1,320 calls in calendar year 2011. Highlands recently went from a Class 6 to a Class 4 and from a Class 9 to a Class 5. We should be able to do the same in October. The full time employees are getting 240 hours of training per year. The ratio for a volunteer to full time is three volunteers. We want the volunteers to get 80 hours of training per year. The second truck should be delivered in April, 2012.

Other business

Sam Greenwood said the annual retreat will be held on Saturday, March 24, 2012 at 8:00 A.M. in the board room.

Sam Greenwood said we have received the paperwork on the DENR loan for the WWTP renovation.

Departmental reports are attached.

Closed session

The Board went into closed session at 7:55 P.M., on motion made by Handley, seconded by Curtis for N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(5): to establish, or to instruct the public body's staff or negotiating agents concerning the position to be taken by or on behalf of the public body in negotiating (i) the price and other material terms of a contract or proposed contract for acquisition of real property by purchase, option, exchange, or lease; or (ii) the amount of compensation and other material terms of an employment contract or proposed employment contract and N.C.G.S. 142-318.11(a)(6): to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment, or conditions of initial employment of an individual public officer or employee or prospective public officer or employee; or to hear or investigate a complaint, charge, or grievance by or against an individual public officer or employee. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

The Board came out of closed session at 8:55 P.M., on motion made by Scott, seconded by Pattillo. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

March 5, 2012 meeting continued,

Open session

The Board took no further action and no other matters came before the Board.

Adjournment

**Motion was made by Curtis, seconded by Jamison to adjourn the meeting at 9:56 P.M.
Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.**

Joe Collins, Mayor

Janet A. Anderson, Town Clerk