

January 14, 2006 meeting,

The Town of Franklin Board of Aldermen had a special meeting on Saturday, January 14, 2006 at 9:00 A.M. at the Mill Creek Country Club. The purpose of the meeting was to have a Board Retreat. The following items were discussed: (1) water/sewer issues, (a) changes to extension policy, (b) secondary water source/treatment plant, (c) project priorities for 2006, (d) personnel; (2) zoning/planning issues, (a) zoning influence outside town limits, (b) zoning code rewrite, (c) management of nuisance issues; (3) pros and cons of Whitmire property and Burrell Building as town hall location and (4) room tax/animal control/downtown parking/ other issues.

Present at the retreat were the following: Mayor Joe Collins, Aldermen Verlin Curtis, Jerry Evans, Billy Mashburn, Carolyn Pattillo, Charles Roper and Bob Scott.

Also present were the following persons:

Bill Gibson – Facilitator – Region A
Vicki Greene – Facilitator – Region A
Janet A. Anderson, Town Clerk
Rebecca Crawford, Town Planner
Mike Decker, Town Administrator
Jay Gibson, Public Works Director
John Henning, Jr. – Town Attorney
Beth Seay – Reporter with *Macon County News*
Merritt Shaw – Reporter with *The Franklin Press*

Remarks by facilitators

Vicki Greene gave out handouts stating the ground rules for the retreat and testing for consensus in a group. Copies are attached.

Water/sewer issues

Changes to extension policy

The following items were discussed: (1) increasing the minimum line size in the line extension policy to eight inch, (2) changing the availability fees for town residents and (3) trying to control growth outside the town limits when allocations are given.

Secondary water source/treatment plant

The Board agreed that looking for a secondary water source should be started soon since the process takes several years before approval by the state.

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Project priorities for 2006

The Board agreed to look at replacing water lines in East Franklin in the next budget year and to prioritize the projects by need.

Zoning/planning issues

Zoning influence outside town limits

The Board agreed that some standards need to be put in place when a developer comes and asks for allocations outside town.

Zoning code rewrite

It was the consensus of the Board to do a rewrite of the Zoning Code by using consultants and to also look at updating the remaining ordinances.

Management of nuisance issues

The Board discussed what would be the best way to enforce the ordinances in the future. There was discussion on hiring a code enforcement officer or using a subcontractor.

Pros and cons of Whitmire property and Burrell Building as town hall location

The Board discussed in length their thoughts on moving town hall to the Burrell Building. Several members had concerns about the condition of the Burrell Building. Several members indicated that they wanted to look at the cost of building on the Whitmire property. There was discussion that town hall needs to remain in “downtown”. There was discussion on whether the town needs to consolidate its services. Vicki Greene suggested that the Board do a Space and Facilities Study and do a cost analysis.

Room tax/animal control/downtown parking/other issues

After some discussion, the Board decided to wait on enacting any room tax until Macon County resolves their issues with the collection of their room tax.

The Board discussed working with Macon County on animal control.

The Board discussed that parking was not an issue at this time. Also, there was a consensus of the Board that the merchants need to police their own employees.

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Adjournment

Mayor Collins adjourned the meeting at 2:00 P.M.

Joe Collins, Mayor

Janet A. Anderson, Town Clerk