

Town of Franklin Board of Aldermen

Agenda

January 3, 2012

7 p.m.

1. Call to order -Mayor Collins
2. Approval of the December 5, 2011 meeting minutes
3. Public Session
4. Presentation on tablets- Kevin McGonigal
5. Street closing request for 2012- Linda Schlott
6. Set public hearing for re-zoning request for William Knief property
7. Re-appointment of Wayne Swank to the Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Board
8. Riverbend Estates contract- John Henning Jr.
9. Discussion on annual Town Board retreat
10. Continue meeting to January 23, 2012

January 3, 2012

The regular meeting of the Town of Franklin Board of Aldermen was held on Tuesday, January 3, 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 Mashburn, seconded by Curtis to approve the minutes for the December 5, 2011 and December 12, 2011 meetings as presented. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Public Session

Harry Bowen – At the end of Wilkie Street there is a sight distance problem. Vehicles park there. You cannot see. There have been several accidents.

Alderman Curtis – The Town has no right of way on those streets or easements.

Sam Greenwood – Town Manager - The police have talked to the property owners about this hazard. The owners have not gotten back with the police. These are state roads.

Presentation on tablets

Kevin McGonigal – IT Administrator –

Samsung Galaxy Tab with Android: (1) 10.1 inch HD widescreen display offers high resolution, (2) 1.25 pounds and 0.34 inches thick for maximum portability, (3) Adobe Flash compatible for unrestricted web browsing, (4) Android 3.1 OS with open access to over 200,000 apps for full customization, (5) dual-core processor and 1 GB of RAM provide power and speed, (6) 3-megapixel camera and camcorder; front-facing video chat camera, (7) compatible with a wide spectrum of Google services, media and document files.

Apple's iPad 2: (1) the newest generation of iPads, (2) 9.7 inch (diagonal) LED-backlit glossy widescreen Multi-Touch display with IPS technology, (3) 1 GHz dual-core Apple A5 custom-designed processor, (4) forward facing and rear facing camera (.3 and .7 Mp), (5) Apple's iOS 4 and success to Apple's app store, (6) no dedicated USB support, (7) no HDMI output, (8) no flash support and (9) 3G only, on 4G.

My recommendation is to go with the Samsung Galaxy Tab. I will be able to support this tablet. There will be savings on paper copies and labor with both tablets. Information copies are attached.

January 3, 2012 meeting continued,

Sam Greenwood – Town Manager - Is everything on the tablet a public record?

John Henning, Jr. – Attorney – To be safe you should treat it as if it is a public record.

Motion was made by Scott, seconded by Handley to purchase twelve Samsung Galaxy Tab with Android with WiFi capacity for use by the Mayor and board members and support staff at an estimated cost of \$600.00 per unit and to transfer money from contingency for the budget amendment. Motion carried. Vote: 5 to 1. Voting yes: Curtis, Handley, Jamison, Pattillo and Scott. Voting no: Mashburn.

Street closing request for 2012

Linda Schlott – Main Street Corridor – The street closings for 2012 are the same as last year's events. Informational copy is attached.

Motion was made by Handley, seconded by Pattillo to approve the list of street closing as requested for 2012 Town sponsored events. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Set Public hearing

Motion was made by Mashburn, seconded by Jamison to set the public hearing for the rezoning request for the William Knief property on February 6, 2012 at 7:05 P.M. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Re-appointment of Wayne Swank to the ABC Board

Motion was made by Mashburn, seconded by Jamison to re-appoint of Wayne Swank for a three year term on the ABC Board. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Riverbend Estates contract

John Henning, Jr. said Riverbend Estates wants to contract with the Town to purchase water. He said the contract will be with a public regulated utility.

Motion was made by Pattillo, seconded by Curtis to adopt the contract with Riverbend Estates as presented. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0. Copy of contract is attached.

Discussion on annual Town Board retreat

Alderman Pattillo said I want to wait until March so we can discuss the budget. Alderman Scott said I do not think we need a facilitator. The Board did not set a date for the retreat.

January 3, 2012 meeting continued,

Other business

John Henning, Jr. said you have proposed amendments to the Wireless Telecommunications Facilities Ordinance and to the Unified Development Ordinance. Copies of the proposed amendments are attached. He said the next step would be to have a public hearing.

Motion was made by Pattillo, seconded by Curtis to set a public hearing on the proposed amendments to the Wireless Telecommunications Facilities Ordinance and to the Unified Development Ordinance on February 6, 2012 at 7:10 P.M. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Alderman Curtis said the City of Durham has requested we do a letter of support for their positions in the Duke Energy Rate Docket. Informational copies are attached.

Motion was made by Curtis, seconded by Handley to do a letter of support for the positions advocated by the City of Durham in the Duke Energy Rate Docket. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0. A copy of the letter is attached.

Departmental reports are attached.

Continuation of meeting

At 7:45 P.M., motion was made by Curtis, seconded by Jamison to continue the January 3, 2012 meeting to Monday, January 23, 2012 at 5:30 P.M. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Call to order

The regular January 3, 2012 meeting of the Town of Franklin Board of Aldermen was continued at 4:30 P.M., Monday, January 23, 2012 in the Town Hall Board Room. The time of the meeting was changed from 5:30 P.M. to 4:30 P.M. Proper notice of the change was given. Mayor Joe Collins presided. Alderman Verlin Curtis, Joyce Handley, Farrell Jamison, Billy Mashburn, Carolyn Pattillo and Bob Scott were present.

Introduction

Mayor Collins said Travis Tallent would be doing an internship with the Town as a requirement for his classes at Western Carolina University.

January 3, 2012 meeting continued,

Report from ABC Committee

Discussion:

Pat Pattillo – Chairman – ABC Board – The ABC Committee consists of me, ABC Store Manager Todd Mason, Alderman Farrell Jamison, Alderman Verlin Curtis and Town Manager Sam Greenwood. We have met three times. The first meeting was on December 20, 2011. We discussed the importance of visibility. One site we are looking at is by the future Super Wal-Mart. This site would allow the ABC Store to be eye level with the future Super Wal-Mart store. Fifteen to twenty years down the road this location will be home to numerous businesses and restaurants. We have discussed the size. The size needs to be at least 6,500 square feet. We will need an architect. We have been working on a development plan with Town Land Use Administrator Michael Grubermann. We have been discussing various lots at this location with Andy and Mark Berry. They are willing to finance. The current ABC Store lease will be ending November 2012. There will be a ten percent (10%) increase if we continue with this lease. At our December 29, 2011 committee meeting we decided to look at other ABC stores in western North Carolina to get ideas for the new store.

Alderman Jamison – We have pictures of several stores we visited. We visited Weaverville, Fletcher and Buncombe County stores. Each store is unique. Weaverville had a good unloading area and the aisles were angled in front. The Buncombe County store had open ceilings and the floors were concrete.

Alderman Handley – Are these stores the same square footage as the one we are looking at building?

Alderman Jamison – Yes.

Pat Pattillo – At the January 13, 2012 meeting, we discussed dimensional size and needed space.

Mayor Collins – We need more than one site to look at. I have not heard a price. We will never get a competitive price if we only look at one site.

Pat Pattillo – We have looked at several other locations. We have looked at the property below Macon Bank, the Colonial Florist building and the piece of property on the Highlands road where the carnival is held each year. We have several problems with those properties. We must consider some properties are too close to churches and schools.

Mayor Collins – Without having numbers and a time frame as to when lots will be available at the future Super Wal-Mart location, I believe we need to have a second choice.

Alderman Handley – What is the current size of the ABC Store now?

January 3, 2012 meeting continued,

Alderman Jamison – Sixty-five hundred square feet.

Alderman Scott – Is the spot connected to the future Super Wal-Mart or adjacent? I am concerned about traffic flow. When school is let out each day how will this effect traffic in an already congested area? Other areas of Town should be looked at. I believe that the ABC Store should continue to pay rent. It is more feasible to pay the increased amount on the lease and not have to worry about costs associated with owning a building.

Alderman Handley – Where ever you put the ABC Store people will come. I believe the ABC Store should own its building instead of renting.

Mayor Collins – I am surprised the landlord is not willing to lower the rent in order to keep the ABC Store at its current location. This is a hard sell to make to the citizens.

Alderman Pattillo – We need to look at everything that ABC Committee has put together.

Alderman Handley – We need to get it narrowed down since the lease runs out in November.

Mayor Collins – I think it is important to note that traffic volume does not sell. I am not going to make assumptions based on a single location.

Alderman Scott – Would the interest on the loan alone not eat up the increased liquor profit?

Alderman Curtis – Seventy to eighty thousand dollars a year is going into rent alone.

Mayor Collins – Is it the will of the Board to buy instead of paying inflated rent?

Alderman Scott – Does the Town want to get into real estate?

Alderman Pattillo – How many towns and counties own their ABC building?

Alderman Jamison – Eighty percent owns their building.

Alderman Pattillo – We need to have three sites and look at the pros and cons of each location.

Mayor Collins – I agree.

Alderman Curtis – We are only exploring at this time.

Mayor Collins – I appreciate all the work. We need more information.

Alderman Pattillo – We need to look at the retail value. I do not believe we need a metal building.

January 3, 2012 meeting continued,

Mayor Collins – I agree we need to consider retail value.

Alderman Jamison – This report tonight was to give an update on the committee's progress.

Request from Macon County Board of Elections

Sam Greenwood – The Macon County Board of Elections is asking to designate Town Hall as the polling location for the North Franklin Precinct for future elections.

Motion was made by Handley, seconded by Pattillo to designate Town Hall as the polling location for the North Franklin Precinct. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Approval of Purchase of Sixteen Tablets and Budget Amendment

Alderman Scott – I made the original motion in favor of the tablets. However, the costs have increased and the amount is more than the Board voted to approve. We were looking at ten tablets and now we are looking at sixteen. I do not think it is a good idea at this time to spend \$8,500.00.

Alderman Handley – It is still a good idea. The tablets will help eliminate loads of paper and it will be a great way for department heads to communicate.

Alderman Pattillo – It is a good idea. We need to think long range.

Alderman Curtis – We have already approved twelve tablets. By adding four more tablets for department heads that would allow for everybody to be on the same page.

Mayor Collins – Is there a rational economic savings involved?

Alderman Jamison – Yes. There will be some savings involved. It is really more of a convenience.

Alderman Scott – Do we not have computers in all Town vehicles?

Sam Greenwood – No.

Motion was made by Curtis, seconded by Handley to approve the purchase of sixteen tablets and to amend the budget in the amount of \$8,540.48 out of contingency. Motion carried. Vote: 4 to 2. Voting yes: Curtis, Handley, Jamison and Pattillo. Voting no: Mashburn and Scott.

January 3, 2012 meeting continued,

Adjournment

**Motion was made by Pattillo, seconded by Curtis to adjourn the meeting at 5:25 P.M.
Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.**

Joe Collins, Mayor

Janet A. Anderson, Town Clerk