

June 6, 2016 meeting,

The regular meeting of the Town of Franklin Board of Aldermen was held on Monday June 6, 2016 at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall Board Room. Mayor Robert S. Scott presided. Vice-Mayor Patti Abel and Aldermen Joe Collins, Adam Kimsey, Billy Mashburn, Brandon McMahan and Barbara McRae were present.

Staff persons present were Town Manager Summer Woodard, Finance Officer Kyra Doster, Town Clerk Chad Simons, Fire Chief Kevin Rohrer, Police Chief David Adams and Town Attorney John Henning Jr.

The Pledge of Allegiance was done.

Adoption of the June 6, 2016 Town Board Agenda:

Motion was made by McMahan, seconded by McRae to adopt the June 6, 2016 agenda as presented. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Approval of the May 2, 2016 and May 16, 2016 Town Board minutes:

Motion was made by McRae, seconded by Abel to approve the May 2, and May 16, 2016 meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0. A copy of the minutes are attached.

Public Session

Heather Bell presented a Power Point presentation on a proposal for the Whitmire Property. A copy of the presentation is attached.

Public Hearing 7:05 p.m. for proposed fiscal year 2016-2017 Town of Franklin Budget

Mayor Scott opened the hearing at 7:10 p.m.

Angela Moore – Good evening. First, I would like to thank the Board Members for speaking out against a two (2) point tax increase during a budget work session. I know the main objection there was that those monies were not designated. There is a bigger reason. Had that gone through it would have represented a twenty percent increase in property taxes within the last three years. Two years ago there was a two point increase, and last year there was a one point increase. It went from .25 to .28. That is a big increase, and the revaluation only represented a couple of percentage points. Please keep that in mind as you look toward the budget for next year. We have raised them about twelve (12) percent within the last two years. I think we can do better. There a lot of ways we can cut down on our budget, and give some of the money back to local businesses and people, and improve the economy by not taking any money out of it. Currently the Town funds a lot of tourism related activities, mainly the festivals and Pickin' on the Square, and the Chamber of Commerce. This accounts for over \$100,000. Those are great things that a lot of people enjoy, but the burden should not be on the Town. I would love to see the Board transition some of those expenses over toward the Tourism development Authority, where it belongs.

Mayor Scott closed the public hearing at 7:13 p.m.

June 6, 2016 meeting continued,

New Business: Board Action on Proposed Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Town of Franklin Budget

Alderman McRae – I just would like to say again on what a good job the staff did, making the budget easy to understand and transparent.

Motion was made by McRae, seconded by Abel to approve the 2016-2017 Town of Franklin Budget as presented. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0. A copy of the budget is attached.

New Business: Street Closing Request for 80's Flashback 8k Race

Summer Woodard – Town Manager – This is a street closing request for the race mentioned. Mr. Dave Linn is here tonight and he has spoken to the business owners on Stewart Street, and they are in favor of this request.

Motion was made by Kimsey, seconded by McRae to close Stewart Street on Saturday August 6, 2016 from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

New Business: Street Closing Request for Folkmoot

Summer Woodard – Town Manager – This will be held Thursday July 28 at 4 p.m. This would allow our police department to hold traffic for them to have a parade from the Town Hall parking lot to the Gazebo, and last for about fifteen to twenty minutes.

Mayor Scott – We have about 275 performers from around the world coming, and some acts will be at the Gazebo and then they are going to the Smoky Mountain Center for the Performing Arts.

Motion was made by Collins, seconded by McRae to allow the Franklin Police Department to close Main Street for Folkmoot parade Thursday July 28, 2016 at 4 p.m. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

New Business: Set Public Hearing for Special Use Permit Application for Indoor Gun Range

Summer Woodard – Town Manager – This is part of the process. This would set a public hearing for next month.

John Henning Jr. – Town Attorney – Remember this is a quasi-judicial hearing, and you can't investigate this on your own, and you can't discuss it with anyone. Your decision must be based solely on the hearing we have next month.

Motion was made by McMahan, seconded by Collins to set a public hearing for Special Use Permit Application for an Indoor Gun Range at 261 Carolina Mountain Drive for Tuesday July 5, 2016 at 7:05 p.m. in the Town Hall Board Room. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

June 6, 2016 meeting continued,

New Business: Set Public Hearing for ETJ Boundary Addition

Motion was made by Kimsey, seconded by Abel to set a public hearing for Tuesday July 5, 2016 at 7:10 p.m. in the Town Hall Board room for ETJ Boundary Addition at 198 Wide Horizon Drive. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

New Business: Budget Amendment

Kyra Doster – Finance Officer – This is an insurance settlement check we got for the Fire Department rescue truck. This will appropriate the money back into our vehicle maintenance line item.

Motion was made by Collins, seconded by Abel to appropriate \$8,214.00 insurance settlement check back into Fire Vehicle Maintenance line item. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

New Business: Proposed Improvements to Memorial Park

Summer Woodard – Town Manager – We have been working on this, and there is a lot of improvement being made. We want to move forward with a couple of options. One option is to look at Cyprus Mulch. We checked with our insurance company to see what options are available. We are allowed to do this or the rubberized matting. We do have the funds in this year's budget to put mulch around the playground equipment.

Alderman Collins – We are getting hit on our rates because of this, and Cyprus mulch is approved. We haven't yet decided if we can do this in-house or bid out, because we don't have bids to compare. We aren't keen on the rubberized stuff. I think that's the consensus. We are getting a bid from a contractor, but we will see what the best use of our dollar will be.

Vice Mayor Abel – I'm fine with the Cyprus Mulch, as long as we don't forget about it. I've seen how it can overtime get moldy and musty, and the kids are out there playing in it and get respiratory issues. We need to look at replacing that mulch every year. Plus we don't know what gets dropped in there.

Summer Woodard – Town Manager – We can certainly look at budgeting for that annually to address those concerns. Also what we have before the board are a couple of options on paving. Remember, we owe the Macon County Soil and Water Conservation because of the rain garden they donated to the Town. This quote has that broken down. That total would be \$20,226.00. Now, the contractor also went ahead and showed us what it would cost to build up the parking lot, to have no run off going into the stream. It's really high at \$27,000.00 Administration and Recreation would not recommend that. It would be behoove of the Board to look at doing the other option to fulfill our obligation.

Alderman Collins – If there is money in the budget it would make sense to do this now.

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Motion was made by Abel, seconded by Mashburn to authorize Town Manager Summer Woodard to pursue the Cyprus Mulch option and the guttering and paving option as long as the paving option does not exceed \$20,226.00, and subject that they meet contract approval from Town Attorney. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

New Business: NCDOT Bridge Project B-5125 Aesthetic Design

Summer Woodard – Town Manager – The Department of Transportation has given us three designs on the Town Bridge. They sent administration an email requesting that the Board recommend an aesthetic design option for the proposed Town Bridge construction for August 2016.

The consensus of the Board was to use option number two. A copy of the photo is attached.

New Business: Appointment to the Alcohol Beverage Control Board

Summer Woodard – Town Manager – This would appoint Mrs. Sissy Pattillo to the Alcohol Beverage Control Board from June 6, 2016 through August 6, 2018. The ABC Board recommended this appointment.

Motion was made by McRae, seconded by Mashburn to appoint Carolyn “Sissy” Pattillo to the Alcohol Beverage Control Board beginning June 6, 2016 through August 6, 2018. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

New Business: Update on Great American Solar Eclipse

Summer Woodard – Town Manager – I thought this was something Mr. David Hubbs brought to our attention, and really deserves a closer look from the Town. I think this is a great opportunity to look at some partnerships and working with our festivals and events consultant to do an event in fiscal year 2017-2018. I really want to commend Mr. Hubbs for bringing this to our attention last month.

Adjourn:

Motion was made by Kimsey, seconded by McRae to adjourn the meeting at 7:29 p.m. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Robert S. Scott, Mayor

Chad B. Simons, Town Clerk

