

May 2, 2016 meeting,

The regular meeting of the Town of Franklin Board of Aldermen was held on Monday May 2, 2016 at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall Board Room. Mayor Robert S. Scott presided. Vice-Mayor Patti Abel, Aldermen Joe Collins, Adam Kimsey, Billy Mashburn, Brandon McMahan and Barbara McRae were present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was done.

Adoption of the May 2, 2016 Town Board Agenda:

Motion was made by Abel, seconded by Kimsey to adopt the May 2, 2016 meeting agenda. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Approval of the April 4 and April 18, 2016 Town Board minutes:

Motion was made by McRae, seconded by McMahan to approve the April 4 and April 18, 2016 Town Board minutes. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Public Session:

David Hubbs – 70 Perry Street – On Monday Aug. 21, 2017 the moon will pass between the earth and the sun, and the moon will obscure the sun. We will have a total solar eclipse for over two minutes. I think the Town should take advantage of this event, and have an event. I wanted to make you aware of this. I handed you information on this event. Please look this over. It's not too early to promote Franklin as a viewing destination, and I think we could fill every hotel and restaurant for two to four days in advance of this event. Retailers could capitalize on this as well.

Gary Vanhook – 242 Fox Ridge Circle – Thank you to all of the Board. Unfortunately some of you know me because of this issue. On Christmas Eve the culvert going under both sides of Fox Ridge Road washed out. I have distributed a hand out to all of you. Around thirty homes are impacted by this. We are down to one lane, which is a liability issue. I didn't see anything in the minutes about this being addressed, and we have not seen anything done yet in four months. I want to go on the record. It is somewhat trying on our patience. I know it is expensive and rights-of-way need to be acquired or changed. I emailed all Board members, staff and Seth Adams with the county, and I did hear back from two or three, and I appreciate the communication between the Town Manager and the Mayor. Again, the road gets a lot of traffic. The ball season has begun and traffic will continue to increase. There is no pedestrian access and no shoulder. I appreciate your efforts and I know what you're up against and I feel like our needs are justified. I did include all the names of our residents and the taxes we pay because we haven't used a lot out of it over the years. We haven't had any road damage in the past, or water issues. We don't have city sewer. We appreciate the expedition of these services. One of my suggestions is to talk to the county about going further downstream and tie into the county property from the Greenway entrance, and go directly into the recreation part to route traffic. Maybe Fox Ridge should be a side street into that new road, and the old road would be used as a temporary egress. Again, I appreciate your time and I will stay in touch.

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Angela Moore – I wanted to make a request in regards to public input to the budget this year. Typically the budget is presented at the May meeting, and there is a budget work session with no public comment. The reality is by June most of the debate regarding the budget is complete. It would be very beneficial to give the public a chance to speak during the budget work session before you take all that time to balance and debate it. Please find a way to allow the public to speak.

Mayor Scott – If you wait until Item J on the Agenda all of your items will be addressed.

Public Hearing 7:05 p.m. on Proposed Flood Ordinance:

Mayor Scott opened the public hearing at 7:05 p.m.

Justin Setser – Land Use Administrator – You should see a copy of the ordinance in your packets. This is an updated draft, and the planning board looked this over and made some minor corrections and revisions. They voted to recommend this ordinance to pass. You will see where they made their changes, and there is a note for a potential fee for a permit. You'll see a sample permit document included in your packets as well. FEMA provides a model ordinance for organizations to adopt, and this is the least restrictive ordinance we could pass.

John Henning Jr. – Town Attorney – Very briefly on page two (2) there is a reference to areas of shallow flooding. Our map does not contain any and we have been told by the State that we can eliminate that. On page three (3) we added a definition to existing RV parks and subdivisions, and on page nineteen (19) there is a fairly lengthy treatment of RV parks to provide safety to those if they are located in a flood area. This was adapted from the county ordinance. On page thirty-seven (37) we need board input on a time limit for changes to the map are going to be adopted to the ordinance, and I'm going to suggest six months if there is no objections. On the next page, eight (8), the planning board recommended a \$50.00 permit fee. And that's basically it as far as the changes.

Karl Gillespie – 100 Porter Street – I have some concerns about the maps. In June of 1944 my great-great grandmother purchased the property at 100 Porter Street. I have come before the Board before and had some concerns about the flood elevations relative to where it might flood. Where the building is currently sitting is well within the flood plain, and there has never been water get up there. Just a point of interest. We looked at purchasing Palmer Street shopping center, and when we started looking at that property we learned some things. We reached out to Mr. Setser who was very helpful in giving us information about how the FEMA would impact that property. The limitations as far as the insurance is concerned is something to consider. We had to get an estimate value on that property, and when we looked at FEMA coverage it only covers up to \$500,000; and those buildings are a lot more than that. When we looked at additional insurance we were not able to get anyone to quote us for that coverage insurance. If there was no flood ordinance we could have went to a commercial bank and it would have been easy. I got some number on the FEMA side, and it ends up being a \$1 per square foot, so it ends up being an increase in the overall rental. I wanted you to be aware of this, how this flood ordinance has impacted a transaction in the town limits.

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Angela Moore – I did mention an alternative before. There are minimal number of properties that are impacted by this ordinance. We could petition the NC Legislature to de-annex properties who want subsidized flood insurance, and their water and sewer bills would double. So it may even be financially beneficial, even though our borders would be a bit sloppier. And it would allow people who don't want to be a part of this ordinance an option to consider.

Mayor Scott closed the public hearing closed at 7:21 p.m.

New Business: Board Action on Proposed Flood Ordinance:

Motion was made by McRae, seconded by Abel to adopt the Flood Ordinance as presented. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0. A copy of the ordinance is attached.

New Business: Road name request for Harrison Oaks Drive

Justin Setser – Land Use Administrator – This is a naming request for an existing road. It's off Harrison Avenue by Kids Care. The sole owner, Mr. Reggie Holland, is requesting to have the name changed to Harrison Oaks Drive.

Mayor Scott – Just one person owns it?

Justin Setser – Land Use Administrator – Yes. If there were fifteen owners all fifteen would have needed to approve the road name request.

Motion was made by McMahan, seconded by Kimsey to approve the road name request for Harrison Oaks Drive. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

New Business: Forward ETJ request to Town Planning Board

Justin Setser – Land Use Administrator – We have a request by a property owner that borders our ETJ off Wide Horizon Drive, asking to have his property be included in the ETJ. John Henning Jr and I have had a lot of discussion about this, and we reached out to the UNC School of Government. We are going to approach this as a rezoning. It will be an actual boundary change, so they will have to do a little more work.

Motion was made by McMahan, seconded by Collins to forward ETJ request to the Town Planning Board. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

New Business: Budget Amendment:

Kyra Doster – Finance Officer – We have additional funds we received from the 2015 Pumpkinfest event, and we need to appropriate those.

Motion was made by Collins, seconded by Abel to appropriate \$10,744 of additional funds received from Pumpkinfest. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0. A copy of the amendment is attached.

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New Business: Street closing request for Freedom Rocks the Square

Motion was made by Kimsey, seconded by Abel to close lotla Street from 6 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. on Friday May 27, 2016. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

New Business: Appointment of Wayne Swank as Chairman of the Alcohol Beverage Control Board

Mayor Scott – The ABC Board has made this decision. Any objections?

Motion was made by Mashburn, seconded by Kimsey to appoint Wayne Swank as Chairman of the Alcohol Beverage Control Board beginning May 2, 2016 through Dec. 4, 2017. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

New Business: Proposed improvements to Memorial Park

Summer Woodard – Town Manager – Alderman Collins and I have looked at a couple of proposals, in front of you. We met with Mr. Randall Hall of Commerce, Georgia. The proposal would address the basketball court, and Mr. Hall does not believe a fresh coat of asphalt is necessary. He wants to repair some of the existing cracks and pressure wash the court. He wants to put down a different type of material that is less likely to fade, and the average life expectancy for that product is five to eight years. And it can withstand flooding as well. The project cost for this proposal is \$14,825 and does include the option of adding two additional basketball lanes.

Alderman Collins – It's not big enough for regulation tennis, and we have two goals. He came well recommended. He is suggesting that the two goals get refurbished to look new, and then have two goals placed there, eight foot goals. The kids play on those. And then he has a menu of items between four square, shuffle board that he could put in the dead zones of the court. We're not sold on the rubberized expensive padding for the swings. Summer believes we need it for insurance coverage. I think we would end up with something fairly economical, and a co-op with the soil and water conservation folks. We will have to do something to curb it off and redirect some of the water. I am suggestive of going with this contractor, for a relative small amount of money. It will give a fresh look to the only park we have.

Summer Woodard – Town Manager – On the parking lot we do owe an obligation to Macon County because when we went in with the rain garden, part of the issue with stream rum off was to resurface that parking lot. I would encourage the Board to allow us to do that. This would cost \$10,625.00.

Alderman Collins – I am not of the idea that we would get a good bang for our buck if we resurfaced that. Maybe concentrating on guttering and curbing.

Summer Woodard – Town Manager – Right. We just need to uphold our obligation.

Motion was made by McRae, seconded by Kimsey to allow the Town Manager to proceed with this project. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

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New Business: Official Notification and Acceptance of State Revolving Loan for \$3,578,750

Summer Woodard – Town Manager – This is the official offer and acceptance for the water plant upgrade and expansion.

John Henning Jr. –Town Attorney – We have used these revolving loan funds on several occasions in years past. It's a great deal and I have reviewed this and I recommend approval.

Motion was made by Mashburn, seconded by Kimsey to accept the official notification and acceptance of State Revolving Loan funds for \$3,578,750.00 for the water treatment plant expansion and upgrade. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

New Business: Budget Amendment for Water Plant Upgrade and Expansion Project

Kyra Doster – Finance Officer – In May of 2015 the Board adopted the Capital Project Ordinance for the project. The amount was \$3,500,000. Upon receiving this we actually got approved for \$3,578,750.00. This appropriates the additional loan proceeds for this project.

Motion was made by Collins, seconded by Kimsey to appropriate \$78,750 to Water Treatment Plant Upgrade and Expansion Capital Improvement Project #WIF1874. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

New Business: Proposed 2016-2017 Town Budget

Town Manager Summer Woodard distributed the proposed fiscal year 2016-2017 to the Mayor and Town Board of Aldermen.

Mayor Scott – A lot of work has gone into this. Let me just say that at 8 a.m. in the morning this will be available to the public at Town Hall. We have a budget work session set for Saturday May 14, 2016. That's a Saturday morning. Is there any interest to changing that to a weeknight? I'll also entertain a motion to acknowledge receipt of this budget.

Alderman McMahan – That would be my preference.

Alderman Collins – I would like that.

Mayor Scott – What about Monday May 16, 2016 at 5:30 p.m.?

Motion was made by Kimsey, seconded by McRae to change the budget work session date from Saturday May 14, 2016 to Monday May 16, 2016 at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall Board Room and to acknowledge receipt of the proposed fiscal year 2016-2017 Town of Franklin budget. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Motion was made by Collins, seconded by Kimsey to set public hearing on the budget at Monday, June 6, 2016 at 7:05 p.m. in the Town Hall Board Room. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

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Announcements:

Meet and Greet with Fire Chief Kevin Rohrer Wednesday May 11, 2016 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Town Hall offices will be closed Monday May 30, 2016 in observance of Memorial Day.

Motion was made by McMahan, seconded by Collins to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 p.m. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Robert S. Scott, Mayor

Chad B. Simons, Town Clerk