



**Minutes of The Board of Commissioners Meeting- November 8, 2021 @7:30 pm
Held at 163 West Main Street, Franklinville Town Hall**

Attending:

Mayor Perry Conner, Mayor Pro Tem Priscilla Dunn, Commissioner A.C. Hurley, Commissioner Richard Goodwin, Commissioner Brandon Hurley, Commissioner Mac Whatley
Town Clerk /Finance Officer Beverly O'Brien
Utility Clerk-Christie Gunter
Public Works Director-Arnold Allred
Guests: Billy Farias, Laurie Cone, Harvey Harman, Mary Joan Pugh, Jill Wood

22-34 7:30 pm: MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of Silence/ Prayer

Mayor Conner congratulated the newly elected members of the Board and wished them well.

22-35 CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Conner discussed the consent agenda. **Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Dunn, seconded by Commissioner Whatley to accept the Consent Agenda. Motion adopted, unanimously.**

22-36 OLD BUSINESS

General discussion reference the Asset Inventory Assessment Grant application recently filed with the State Department of Water Quality by the Engineering firm of LKC on behalf of the Town. The awards will probably not be announced before January or February. The Board discussed filing grant applications and loan applications for the library project as well as all the Hwy 64 water projects including the extended plans for Cedar Falls and the replacement of the river line near the Ogles Creek pump station. **Motion by Commissioner Whatley, seconded by Commissioner Goodwin to ask the Engineering firm LKC, to submit the prepared applications for the Town to USDA. Motion adopted, unanimously.**

General discussion reference the Town not being committed to a loan if the ARP funds from the County are approved for the projects. Agreement to accept grant funding first from either source. Director Allred will call Bill Lester with the engineering firm to tell him of the Board's decision. Commissioner Goodwin discussed a recent ballpark price he had received from a local contractor to finish remodeling the old bank building. The rough estimate was \$180,000.00 and included

electrical heat and air conditioning. General discussion reference the office staff developing a list of needs for the space. Mayor Conner discussed the building and a spec list several contractors could bid on so all the bids would be based on the same finishes.

Commissioner Whatley discussed the revised deed for the Poole Building. At the request of the Board, he had added the stipulation for the buyer to offer the property back to the Town if they decide to sell. Commissioner A. C. Hurley discussed the up-coming preplanning of the properties he will be doing for the Fire Department. **Motion by Commissioner Goodwin, seconded by Commissioner A.C. Hurley to approve the deed and allow the Mayor to sign. Motion adopted, unanimously.**

22-37 ADMINISTRATION REPORT

Finance Officer O'Brien discussed the positive financial report for the past month. She thanked the Board for their concern during her recent illness and stated how well Christie Gunter had kept the office running smoothly. All the plans and improvements the office staff had been working on the past few years, to allow the Town to keep services going without a hitch, worked.

22-38 PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Jill Wood, Planning Consultant, discussed the Senate Bill 300 changes mandated by the General Assembly. The ordinances must comply with the changes by December 1st. Criminal penalties are removed, and civil penalties are instituted. The Board will hold a public hearing before the next meeting and must vote at the next meeting to approve the changes. Commissioner Whatley discussed the annexation request presented to the Board and discussed adding the annexation request to the hearing before the next meeting. The Planning Board will take up the petition at the next Planning Board meeting on November 18th. Mary Joan Pugh, the Randolph Trail Coordinator has worked with Mayor Conner and Commissioner Whatley on the Franklinville Trail since 2007. The County had allocated \$75,000.00 for preliminary engineering studies for the bridges necessary to connect the trail with Ramseur. The role of the County organization is to prepare and apply for the State grants. Franklinville and Ramseur must maintain their portions when they are built. Mary Joan thanked the Board for their past support for the projects. Bill Lee has sold the property needed for the Franklinville to Cedar Falls leg of the project to the State Trails Organization. The Town of Franklinville must request a lease and write a letter to the State Trails Organization assuring of the continued maintenance of the property. The County's role is as an administrator. The State has paid \$87,000.00 for the approximately 26 acres. **Motion by Commissioner Whatley to send a letter that we agree to a nominal lease for the former Bill Lee property from the State. Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Dunn. Motion adopted, unanimously.**

Living Well Community resident, Harvey Harman requested a copy of the preliminary engineering report.

22-39 PUBLIC SAFETY

Commissioner A.C. Hurley discussed the need to up-date the Town's emergency contacts. Billy Farias mentioned a transient seen in the park and camping under the Sandy Creek bridge near his home. Harvey Harman discussed some recent graffiti on the rail trail walls.

22-40 PUBLIC SERVICES

Commissioner Whatley discussed the Library project submitted to the County for possible ARPA funding and lack of decision yet from the County. It is expected to be January or February before a decision is announced.

22-41 PUBLIC UTILITIES

Director Allred presented a utilities report: see attached. Director Allred discussed progress on the Otis Thomas Ballfield development. The games are over for the Fall and there is one light needed for the ballfield, that can be done later. Director Allred wished to recognize the members of his department who had worked so hard to keep the department functioning well during his recent hospitalization.

22-45 TRANSPORTATION

There were no discussions or issues with transportation.

22-46 NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Conner read a proclamation from the Randolph Partnership for Children in support of Universal Children's Day, see attached. **Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Dunn to direct Mayor Conner to sign the proclamation. Seconded by Commissioner Goodwin. Motion adopted, unanimously.**

Commissioner Brandon Hurley discussed the successful Halloween event in the park and asked if the Board could thank Kelly Wicker for supplying the tractor and trailer for the hayrides in the park and reimburse him for the fuel. General discussion reference the good turnout and the fun had by the participants and volunteers. **Mayor Pro Tem Dunn motion to send \$100.00 for fuel and a letter of appreciation to Mr. Kelly Wicker. Seconded by Commissioner A.C. Hurley. Motion adopted, unanimously.**

Director Arnold Allred asked for a closed session to discuss a personnel issue.

Motion by Commissioner A.C. Hurley, seconded by Commissioner Whatley to adjourn the open session. Motion adopted, unanimously.

Adjourned 8:15 pm

Executive Session

Board Meeting Resumed 8:49pm

Motion by Commissioner Whatley for Public Works Director Arnold Allred to hire Billie McNeely for the position in Public Works. Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Dunn. Motion adopted, unanimously.

Motion by Commissioner Brandon Hurley to give the town employees a \$2,000.00 bonus from the ARP funds for their work during the Covid Pandemic instead of the 3% bonus this year. Part-time office assistant Rosario would receive a \$1,000.00 bonus. The Mayor will write a letter of appreciation to the employees signed by the full Board. Seconded by Commissioner Whatley. Motion adopted, unanimously.

Motion by Commissioner Whatley to keep Public Works employee, Billy Smith at full-time and give Utility Clerk Christie Gunter a raise as suggested by Finance Officer O'Brien to \$18.00 per hour. Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Dunn. Motion adopted, unanimously.

Commissioner A.C. Hurley, motion to Adjourn.

Seconded by Commissioner Whatley.

Adjourned 9:18 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Perry L. Conner, Mayor

(Seal)

Attest: _____

Beverly O'Brien, Finance Officer/Town Clerk