



**Minutes of The Board of Commissioners Meeting
October 9, 2023
Held at 163 West Main Street, Franklinville Town Hall**

Attending:

Mayor A.C. Hurley, Mayor Pro Tem Priscilla Dunn, Commissioner Billy Farias, Commissioner Richard Goodwin, Commissioner Brandon Hurley, Commissioner Mac Whatley
Town Clerk /Finance Officer Beverly O'Brien
Public Works Director-Arnold Allred
Utility Clerk – Christie Gunter
Guests: Laurie Cone, Shellie Siskin

24-31 7:30 pm COMMISSIONER'S MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Pledge of Allegiance
Moment of Silence/ Prayer

24-32 CONSENT AGENDA

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

24-33 NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Billy Farias discussed the need for steps from the shelter area at the east end of the park to Main Street. General discussion reference the need for an easier way to enter the park from the sidewalk. A set of steps was budgeted several years ago, but the issue of a springhead and standing water has stalled the installation. Public Works Director Allred stated that he intends to install a French drain in the area near the shelter and the slope.

24-34 ADMINISTRATION

Finance Officer O'Brien asked for questions about the Administrative Report, or the Financial Reports provided.

She discussed the Budget Amendments submitted to the Board for approval. **Commissioner Farias, motion to accept the budget amendments as proposed. Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Dunn. Motion adopted, unanimously.** Finance Officer O'Brien thanked the Board.

24-35 PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Commissioner Whatley and Mayor Hurley discussed the need to find additional parking areas for the east end of the park. The night of the Elected Officials Picnic, and the past events in the park, have seen difficulty

parking. Commissioner Whatley suggested using an AT&T University class to map and design new parking for the park as a project.

24-36 PUBLIC SAFETY

Commissioner Farias discussed the schedules of the part time deputies, as well as the schedule of a deputy on the night of the Halloween Trunk or Treat event at the park. Arrangements were discussed for the vendors and the participating churches.

24-37 PUBLIC SERVICES

Commissioner Whatley discussed the possibility of State aid for the library project. Recent state regulations have been lifted concerning the grants for building rural libraries with state and county funding. The former architect for the project is deceased and Commissioner Whatley suggested contacting The Hobbs Architectural Firm for up-dated pricing and specs for the project. **Commissioner Whatley, motion to allow him to collaborate with the architect and ask for up-dated information for a grant proposal. Seconded by Commissioner Goodwin. Motion adopted, unanimously.**

24-38 TRANSPORTATION

No report was needed for transportation.

24-39 PUBLIC UTILITIES

Public Works Director, Arnold Allred, gave the report. See attached. He reported that the Engineering firm of LKC has been working on inventorying the sewer plant and the mapping and inventory should be completed soon. His department has been doing hydrant testing and there was general discussion of the hydrant replacement program started with the ARPA funding. Director Allred produced a form with the pricing and the information for the formal application to the Local Government Commission for the Ditch Witch pumping system the department has been renting and wishes to purchase. Director Allred discussed the progress on the bridge at Sandy Creek and the contract meeting with the County and the Trail Association he recently attended.

24-40 NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Farias discussed the clarification need for the vacation days for the employees. New hires have negotiated more days for the first year than were previously granted by the Town policy and he stated that a revision might be in order to be in parity with other cities and towns. He asked that other local municipalities be questioned on their vacation day policies. He asked the Clerk to poll other municipalities and report back to the Board. Commissioner Farias also discussed the Jake Brake ordinance for large trucks within the Town limits, see attached. Ramseur has recently passed an ordinance and Franklinville has the same issue with the noise, particularly along the residential areas. **Commissioner Goodwin, motion to adopt the Jake Brake ordinance. Seconded by Commissioner Farias. Motion adopted, unanimously.**

Commissioner Farias mentioned an email received from Erich Luckenbach of Deep River Fabricators, in reference to park users blocking the drive to his plant. The road is Island Ford Road and belongs to the Town but there are no parking signs at the side near the park because parking there blocks the semi's that use it for the company. Mayor Hurley said he had since spoken to Mr. Luckenbach, and he said it was not a serious issue.

Commissioner Farias has researched the needs for a pickleball court for the Town and Commissioner Brandon Hurley agreed to the growing interest in the sport for municipalities. General discussion reference the costs of concrete versus asphalt surfaces and the need and cost of fencing.

Town Clerk O'Brien discussed a request/complaint by a local citizen of the condition of Town property on Holly Street. A large, dead oak tree was recently cut down by the Public Works Department and the debris, stumps, and limbs were left, or pushed into the wooded area. Director Allred said this was done because ATVs were making trails in that area. The citizen will be putting her home on the market and considers this area an eyesore. Director Allred said he intended for a local resident to get the wood. The Clerk agreed to let the complainant know this the next day.

Motion by Commissioner Whatley to adjourn.

Seconded by Commissioner Goodwin

Meeting Adjourned 8:35 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

A.C. Hurley, Mayor

Attest: _____

Beverly O'Brien, Finance Officer/Town Clerk