



MINUTES OF FRANKLINVILLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONER'S MEETING

March 10, 2025

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

GUESTS: Laurie Cone, Perry Conner, Adam Deathe, Director, Chamber of Commerce, Joseph Dawkins, Harvey Harman, Living Well Development, Harriet Moulder, Amber Skeen, RC Tourism Development Authority, Mickey Seoane, Shelly Siskin

25-79 7:30 pm: MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Pledge of Allegiance
Moment of Silence/Prayer

25-80 CONSENT AGENDA

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

25-81 OLD BUSINESS

Commissioner Farias discussed the code enforcement proposal from Alliance Code Enforcement. Mr. Emery has agreed to come within the Town's budget for the code enforcement budget. He has agreed to \$20,800.00 for the next fiscal year, if the Board so chooses. Commissioner Farias wanted the full Board to be aware of the negotiations before the budget meetings begin on the 24th of March.

25-82 ADMINISTRATION REPORT

Finance Officer O'Brien presented the financial report. Revenues are steady, but with the new budget, the NC League of Municipalities has suggested a conservative approach because of the uncertain financial outlook for the next year or so. Finance Officer O'Brien reminded the Commissioners of the 1st Budget meeting to be held on March 24th at 6:00pm. She asked that any budget requests for the departments or committee chairs to be brought or sent to her very soon so she could have an outlined budget prepared. Ms. O'Brien also asked for a volunteer Commissioner to attend an NCDEQ water/sewer utility management training to be held in Graham on March 26th. As a distressed utility, 2 Board members and the Finance officer and two utility staff are

required to take the training. Commissioner Whatley, Ms. O'Brien, Utility Clerk Christie Gunter, and Director Allred have all completed the training. Assistant Director Todd Lowder will attend, and Commissioner Farias volunteered to attend the training.

25-83 PLANNING and ZONING

Finance Officer O'Brien discussed an offer the Town had received to buy the property of .41 acres on Faith Rock Road near the Park and the land from the Piedmont Land Conservancy. See attached information. The owner, Mr. Caviness, has requested \$30,000.00 for the property as the tax value is \$27,800.00. General discussion from the Board about how much the property is worth and whether the Town could offer that amount. The Board discussed a possible affordable counteroffer.

Motion by Commissioner Whatley to have Town Clerk O'Brien counteroffer \$20,000.00 to buy the property from Mr. Caviness. Seconded by Commissioner Farias. Motion adopted, Unanimous.

25-84 PUBLIC SAFETY

Commissioner Farias discussed the recent issues with trespassers at the park. They are using the lights and the picnic area after park closing. He has alerted the deputies to the problem. But the part-time deputies are currently not assigned because of budget constraints until the next fiscal year. General discussion of illegal burning during no-burn days.

Commissioner Whatley discussed the issue of Mr. Mark Christenson clearing the property next to the Methodist Church and finding where trespassers had been using the overgrowth as a bathroom. Mr. Christenson is willing to clean up the area of undergrowth to the parking lot of the park for a better view, if the Town will assist financially. Approximately \$4-\$5 thousand. Director Allred said his department was willing to do the clean-up as they had the equipment.

Commissioner Whatley and Commissioners Farias and Goodwin requested that most of the trees remain and remove the undergrowth and privet, etc., only.

25-85 PUBLIC SERVICES

Mayor Hurley directed the Commissioners to the reports contained in their packets for the Library and the Parents as Partners Program. See attached.

25-86 PUBLIC UTILITIES

Public Works Director Allred discussed the Ogles Creek Pump Station progress report under construction and showed photos of the site. He discussed his up-coming meeting on the 18th with LKC Engineering, the engineers on the AIA projects, for a progress report on those water and sewer mapping projects. Director Allred also showed photos of the installation his department had completed of two new filter valves at the waste treatment plant and the grading and work done in conjunction with that project. Mr. Allred discussed the Highway 64 water project progress to Ramseur and the Chatham County Wolf Speed plant. Director Allred stated that he had reached out to Waugh paving for a price on paving East Bend Street that was passed by the Board at the last meeting. Because of the lack of underlayment when the street was originally built, Waugh suggests the installation of a gravel /tar base for a period of time before repaving. The total estimated contract price is \$59,850.00. **Motion by Commissioner Whatley to repave East Bend Street in the manner suggested by Waugh Paving. Seconded by Commissioner Farias. Motion adopted, unanimously.**

Joseph Dawkins of 324 Academy Street addressed the Board about a reduction in his Sewer Tap fee. The Board had previously voted to allow Mr. Dawkins to tap on to the sewer line at his own expense, if he provided engineering and the rights-of-way. Mr. Dawkins has made the preparations, but the costs of piping and trenching is prohibitive. He asked the Board, in light of his expenses already in the project, to allow a

reduction of the Tap fee from \$750.00 to whatever they felt was fair. General discussion reference the time and cost of the project. Upon questioning, Mr. Dawkins stated he needs to lay approximately 560 feet of sewer line. **Commissioner Whatley, motion to approve a rate reduction for Mr. Dawkins to \$500.00 for the Sewer Tap Fee. Seconded by Commissioner Goodwin. Motion adopted, 4 Ayes, one dissent by Commissioner Brandon Hurley.**

25-87 VISITORS COMMENTS

Perry Conner asked when the State Litter Sweep would be and if the Town planned to participate. General discussion reference where the volunteers could meet, and the hours needed to complete the clean-up. Mr. Conner replied that it usually only took a couple of hours to sweep the park and greenway. The Board decided to meet at the east side of the park on the morning of April 19th. This is the rain-date for the Easter Egg hunt in the park, but that is in the afternoon, if necessary. The meet up time will be 9:00am. Christie Gunter, the Utility Clerk, handles social media for the Town and will promote it on the website and Facebook.

25-88 MAYORS COMMENTS

Mayor Hurley discussed the issue of apparent sewage leaching down the hill and into the parking lot of the Fire Department. Director Allred asked the Town Clerk to call Randolph County Environmental Health, and the Mayor asked her to draft a letter to the homeowner with the suspected problem. Randolph County Environmental Health responded to the area twice and found no problem with the local family's septic system and suggested it could possibly be from a Town sewer line. Director Allred will smoke the lines for leaks but does not expect to find any leaks. He will meet with the County Environmental Health Representative.

**Commissioner Mac Whatley, Motion to Adjourn.
Seconded By Commissioner Brandon Hurley.**

8:26 pm Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mayor A.C. Hurley

(seal) _____ Beverly O'Brien. Town Clerk