



MINUTES OF FRANKLINVILLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONER'S MEETING

March 9, 2026

ATTENDEES: Mayor Ben Harman, Commissioner Priscilla Dunn, Commissioner Richard Goodwin, Commissioner Sara Nieblas, Commissioner Mac Whatley, Finance Officer/Town Clerk-Beverly O'Brien, Public Works Director-Arnold Allred
GUESTS: Laurie Cone, Adam Deathe, Harriet Moulder, Robert Osborne, Shelly Siskin, Brooke Thomas, Heart of NC

26-80 7:00 pm: MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Pledge of Allegiance
Moment of Silence/Prayer

26-81 CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Harman opened the consent agenda. Town Clerk O'Brien asked the Board to amend the minutes of the January meeting to reflect the correction of an incorrect house address in the vote to allow the Code Enforcement company to pursue the citations against certain addresses. The incorrect address was 149 Depot Street and should have read 209 Depot Street. **Commissioner Whatley, motion to amend the January minutes. Seconded by Commissioner Goodwin, motion to amend and accept the consent agenda. adopted, unanimously.**

26-82 PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

26-83 OLD BUSINESS

Finance Officer O'Brien asks for agreement of future dates for the budget meetings and the first meeting will be March 19th at 6:00pm at the Town Hall for the 26-27 Fiscal Year. General discussion reference possible dates and timelines for the Budget process. A date of April 14th was agreed upon for the next Budget meeting at the Board room at 6:00pm. Commissioner Whatley discussed the money received believed to be from the State for the trail head development. He had discussed with Mary Joan Pugh the trail director, about the Funds we have received and the way we will need to proceed. The funds were unexpected at this time and Beverly will follow up with Mary Joan about the best way to set up the Fund or if it needed to be forwarded to the County for their use for contracting. General discussion reference the recording of a video for visitors to the trails.

Commissioner Whatley discussed his submission of a grant from the Tourism Development Association for \$5,000.00 for signage for the historical parts of town and the park and greenway. General discussion reference the options for parking for events and trail access. General consensus, the parking situation for both the West entrance to the park, the new trail head and the main lot at the East end of the park will need

reconfiguration. Commissioner Goodwin ask if the new budget could consider a higher budget for the off-duty police officers. Commissioner Dunn referenced people walking the streets late at night. Commissioner Whatley asked if the budget considerations so far had considered the Library Budget. He presented photos of a Morton Building with a brick façade for a possible library building. He suggested the Board look at the Morton Building website. General discussion reference affordable building options. Commissioner Nieblas discussed a two story, more community type building for the library.

26-84 ADMINISTRATION REPORT

Finance Officer O'Brien gave the finance report, see attached. She discussed the schedule of meetings and public hearing needed for the Budget passage each year. She also discussed the expectations of the Local Government Commission and the methods used for the revenue and expense projections. O'Brien also discussed the grants and or loans needed to complete the Highway 64 project and the timeline for the LGC agenda and NCDWQ information needed to apply for financing.

26-85 PLANNING and ZONING

Commissioner Whatley discussed the recent questions and requests for information received by the Board. Most were from realtors or citizens gathering information for subdividing property or additions to homes.

26-86 PUBLIC HEALTH and SAFETY

Commissioner Farias is out of Town but has communicated with the Board on recent local arrests and people near Franklinville to be aware of.

26-87 LIBRARY and COMMUNITY SERVICES

The Commissioners received the reports contained in their packets for the Library and the Parents as Teachers Program. See attached. He discussed the Morton buildings and options for the Library.

26-88 PUBLIC UTILITIES

Public Director Allred discussed his meeting with the LKC Engineering team and Bill Lester. He discussed the up dated timeline for the AIA studies with the Sewer AIA expected to be finished in about 30 days and the Water AIA grant soon after. He also discussed the Ogles Creek Pump Station is now in operation and the repairs to the Sewer Treatment Plant. The aerator is now back in use and Michael Roe has helped fabricate metal for the plant. The power company has installed new power poles and wiring. He discussed water lines to the new Vault installation, which will be at the cost of the Town and should be included in any grant proposal or loan amount. Director Allred also discussed the contract for water provision to the vault. He will discuss options with Randolph County, Asheboro, and the Board. Public Works have been busy redoing the ballfield fencing, including installation of the yellow buffer along the top of the fences. Director Allred discussed his meter reports and his public works report for the past month. See attached.

26-89 NEW BUSINESS

Joe Walsh, Liberty Public Works Director, discussed the need for better lighting near the Dollar General at Highway 64 West, near Loflin Pond Road. The area is very dark and there have been several accidents there. That area was annexed by the Town of Franklinville several years ago and street lighting would involve the Town. Any parking area lighting would involve Dollar General. General discussion reference the Service Station planned for installation in that area. The owner has the project currently on hold.

26-90 MAYORS COMMENTS

The Mayor discussed the October 10th, 250-year celebration, and any plans for the event for the Town. Commissioner Whatley discussed Preservation NC, based out of High Point and their trip here to look at local historic properties. They will be hosting events in the area and **Commissioner Goodwin, motion to contribute at the \$600.00 level for Preservation NC. Seconded by Commissioner Whatley. Motions adopted, unanimously.**

Mayor Harman discussed the Litter Sweep April 18th at 8:00am. Bags will be provided. General discussion reference a trail head grant and the new parking lot for the trailhead. Commissioner Nieblas discussed the Car Show to be held on April 25th with a rain date of May 2nd. Commissioner Farias discussed the sales/swap meet to be held at the park on the same date. Mayor Harman discussed the Chamber of Commerce Awards night to be held on March 20th at Pinewood Country Club and asked if any Commissioner interested to please register right away.

**Commissioner Whatley, motion to adjourn.
Seconded by Commissioner Goodwin.
8:25 pm Adjourned.**

Respectfully Submitted,

_____ Mayor Ben Harman

(seal)

_____ Beverly O'Brien. Town Clerk