

**Special Meeting Minutes of the Town of Highlands Board of Commissioners Meeting with Town of Franklin & Macon County of July 30, 2018, at the Franklin Fire Department, 49 Maple Street, Franklin, North Carolina**

Town Board Present: Commissioner Amy Patterson, Commissioner Donnie Calloway, Commissioner Eric Pierson and Mayor Pat Taylor

Town Board Absent: Commissioner John Dotson and Mayor Pro Tempore Brian Stiehler

Also Present: Town Manager Josh Ward, Summer Intern Olivia Stewman and Town Clerk Gibby Shaheen

Franklin Town Council Present: Mayor Bob Scott, Council Member Joe Collins, Council Member Barbara McRae, Council Member Dinah Mashburn, Council Member Adam Kimsey and Council Member Brandon McMahan.

Town Council Absent: Council Member David Culpepper

Also Present: Town Manager Summer Woodard, Town Clerk Travis Tallent, Fire Chief Matt Breedlove and firefighters Killian Carpenter and Bo Garrison

Macon County Board of Commissioners Present: County Commissioner James Tate, County Commissioner Ronnie Beale, County Commissioner Carl Gillespie, County Commissioner Paul Higdon

Macon County Board of Commissioners Absent: County Commissioner Gary Shields

Also Present: County Manager and Ex Officio Clerk Derek Roland, Finance Director Lori Hall and County Attorney Chester Jones.

**1. Called to Order & Welcome – Mayor Bob Scott**

The meeting was called to order at 6:15pm, Franklin Mayor Bob Scott welcomed everyone and introduced Fire Chief Matt Breedlove for a welcome and invocation.

**2. Dinner provided by Franklin Fire Department and Martha's Kitchen**

**3. Update and Introductions from the Town of Franklin – Mayor Bob Scott**

Franklin Mayor Bob Scott gave an overview of the progress on parallel parking on Main Street, Water Treatment Plant Construction, HCA building a new hospital below Entegra corporate center, several Festivals throughout the year and the NC DOT has constructed 4 new roundabouts.

**4. Update and Introductions from Macon County – Jim Tate**

County Commissioner Chairman Jim Tate thanked Fire Chief Breedlove for their team and housing the joint meeting.

Updates beginning with Highlands: The Performing Arts Center is building a major building and has requested a presentation to the county, discussions of garbage issues and the need for a Recycling Center and Broadband to be discussed at the September meeting.

Updates for Franklin: Macon Middle School will be updated and an RFQ for Architecture services has gone for bids, County Manager Derek Roland stated the side assessment for planning purposes was \$14 million. Tate continued that our county had been awarded \$11 million in the state budget, but the governor had vetoed the bill so waiting for approval. Greenway Connector will have possible financial help from the state, in the proposal they will give more to the municipality than the county so we will be looking at that closer with the town. Supreme Court Judge requires the courthouse to have x-ray machines and metal detectors and the county is in the process of ordering equipment and hiring new deputies. 2020 Census will be discussed in the August meeting in an effort to complete the committee and to insure our numbers are accurate.

**5. Update and Introductions from the Town of Highlands – Mayor Patrick Taylor**

Mayor Pat Taylor gave his appreciation to Franklin and the Fire Department for hosting the meeting.

Taylor gave an overview of what was happening in Highlands. Broadband has a signed contract, every home will have access to fiber and it will take 300 days to complete once the fiber is received in November. Bear Wise community prompting Bear Resistant garbage cans and toters in the commercial area. New water tank constructed, old one was leaking and it will double the capacity. Recycling center needed and hopefully able to partner with the county to make it happen. New Fire Department in the works, old one not as large, no exhaust system so there is a need and appreciate the county allowing the increase in the fire tax. Trucks on Gorge Road may decrease with the NCDOT appropriating funds to install a radar activated system within the next month or so and possible cameras to help in the enforcement of the laws.

**6. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:43pm.

---

Patrick Taylor  
Mayor

---

Gilberta B. Shaheen  
Town Clerk