

Department of Planning & Community Development



A meeting of the Franklin County Planning Commission was held on June 9, 2020 in the Board of Supervisors meeting room located in the Franklin County Government Center.

THOSE PRESENT:

Earl Webb- Blackwater District
Jim Colby- Gills Creek District (on phone)
Angie McGhee- Boone District (on phone)
Debbie Crawford- Union Hall District
David Clements- Rocky Mount District
C.W. Doss, Jr.- Blue Ridge District
Sherrie Mitchell- Snow Creek District (on phone)

OTHERS PRESENT:

Terry Harrington- Senior Planner
Lisa Cooper- Principal Planner
Tina Franklin- Clerk

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Webb at 6:00 p.m. The first order of business was the roll call. The next order of business was the approval of the minutes from the May 12, 2020 meeting. Chairman Webb asked of the Planning Commission if there were any comments or corrections to the minutes as written; there were none. Chairman Webb announced the minutes would stand as written.

Chairman Webb introduced the first item on the agenda and asked for the staff report.

AMENDMENT TO FRANKLIN COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN- Application of Franklin County, requesting a comprehensive plan amendment of the Franklin County Facilities Map, identified as Map # 21, in the 2007 Franklin County 2025 Comprehensive Plan adopted by the Board of Supervisors in May 2007. The purpose of requesting the review is to update the existing Franklin County Facilities Map by adding existing and proposed public safety facilities, to add existing or proposed government office and facilities, and to update all existing elementary schools. The Franklin County Facilities Map is located in the Appendix 2 of the Comprehensive Plan.

Lisa Cooper began by explaining that staff is requesting a comprehensive plan amendment of the Franklin County Facilities Map, identified as Map # 21, in the 2007 Franklin County 2025 Comprehensive Plan. The purpose is to update the existing Franklin County Facilities Map by adding existing and proposed public safety facilities, to add existing or proposed government office and facilities, and to update all existing elementary schools.

Mrs. Cooper concluded that staff recommends that the Planning Commission adopt "Franklin County Facilities Map" dated May 26, 2020 and incorporate this new Facilities Map as part of the County's Comprehensive Plan.

Mrs. Cooper offered to answer any questions.

Mr. Webb asked if there was currently an updated map that showed where all cell towers are located.

Mrs. Cooper answered that there was not a map of cell towers but that it could be done.

Mr. Webb then opened the public hearing and asked if there was anyone present that would like to speak; there was not. Chairman Webb then closed the public hearing and the members had discussion among themselves.

Mrs. Crawford made a motion to approve, stating that she found that pursuant to the requirements of Section 15.2-2232 (A) of the Code of Virginia, I find that the Franklin County Facilities Map identified as Map #21 dated May 26, 2020 be amended, adopted and incorporated into the County's Comprehensive Plan as an amendment.

Mr. Colby seconded the motion.

The motion to approve was approved. Voting on the motion was as follows:

AYES: Doss, Crawford, McGhee, Clements, Mitchell, Colby, Webb
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

Chairman Webb introduced the next item on the agenda and asked for the staff report.

APPLICATION for SPECIAL USE PERMIT- Application of Franklin County Public Safety, and County of Franklin, Owners, requesting a special use permit, with possible conditions, to allow for the construction of an emergency services facility for the Glade Hill Fire/EMS Station. The property is approximately 5.43 acres, currently zoned A-1, Agricultural, and located at 9825 Old Franklin Turnpike in the Union Hall District of Franklin County and further identified by Franklin County Real Estate Records as Tax Map/Parcel # 0660004201. The property has a future land use designation of Low Density Residential. Emergency service facilities are a permitted use by issuance of a special use permit in A-1 zoning districts.

Mr. Harrington began by explaining that Franklin County proposes to construct an 11,597 square foot combined fire station and EMS facility on a 5.43 acre parcel of land owned by the County, and located at 9825 Old Franklin Turnpike (Route 40). The property is zoned A-1, Agricultural, and is located at the intersection of Route 40 and Turtle Hill Road (SR 869). Emergency Services facilities are permitted by special use permit in A-1 zoning districts. The proposed station will include areas devoted to fire and EMS vehicles, bunk rooms, training/community room, day room and kitchen and dining area. Office space will be devoted to career and volunteer personnel.

Mr. Harrington said that traffic in the community will increase as a result of emergency response vehicles and fire and EMS personnel using the site as a base of operations. Lighting will likely be installed on site. Intensity of installed lighting will be controlled by zoning standards and will not exceed .5 foot candles at any property line. These impacts will likely be minor yet be greatest on the three single family properties that are located on Turtle Hill across from the proposed facility.

Mr. Harrington concluded that staff believes the proposal is in conformance with the amended community facilities map in the comprehensive plan and recommends approval of this special use permit request with the following condition:

- 1) The property shall be developed in general conformity with the schematic site plan entitled "Franklin County Fire/EMS Station at Turtle Hill; prepared by Thompson & Litton and dated June 2019.

Mr. Harrington offered to answer any questions.

Chairman Webb then opened the public hearing and asked if there was anyone present that would like to speak; there was not. Chairman Webb then closed the public hearing and the discussion between the members ensued.

Mrs. Crawford made a motion to approve, stating that she found that (1) the approval of the special use permit for the Glade Hill Fire/EMS Station will not result in substantial detriment to adjacent property (2) that the character of the zoning district will not be changed, and (3) that the proposed fire and EMS station will be in harmony with the purpose and intent of the Franklin County Zoning Ordinance consistent with the purpose and intent of the Comprehensive Plan and good zoning practice and will not be of substantial detriment to the community. I therefore recommend approval of the request with the following condition:

- 1) The property shall be developed in general conformity with the schematic site plan entitled Franklin County Fire/EMS Station at Turtle Hill, prepared by Thompson & Litton and dated June 2019.

Mr. Doss seconded the motion.

The motion to approve was approved. Voting on the motion was as follows:

AYES: Clements, Doss, Mitchell, McGhee, Crawford, Colby, Webb
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

Chairman Webb announced the next item as citizen comment and asked if there was anyone present that would like to speak on any topic; there was not.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Hannah L. Powell, Clerk
Franklin County Planning Commission

Date 06/31/20