

CITY COUNCIL MEETING JULY 2, 2007

Call to Order

Mayor Palfrey called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, Franklin City Hall. Salute to the Flag was said.

In Attendance

Councilor Boyd, Councilor Starkweather, Councilor Feener, Councilor Gasset, Councilor LaFever, Councilor Merrifield, Councilor Bowers, Councilor Andreozzi, Mayor Palfrey and City Manager Doyon.

Absent

Councilor Rabinowitz

Public Hearing

Ordinance #11-07 – an ordinance to establish a \$20.00 fee for disposal/recycling of microwave ovens.

Mayor Palfrey opened the public hearing, no one came forth to speak, the hearing was closed.

Comments from the Public

Mr. Steve Foley, Director of the Opera House advised that they have received the Cultural Conservation Grant in the amount of \$20,000 which will be used towards the restoration of the iron front steps. He also advised that they have received a 2-year operating grant from the State Arts for \$6,500 each year. He stated they received a higher amount of funding than any of the other applicants. Mayor Palfrey asked if the \$20,000 covers the entire cost of doing the front steps. Director Foley advised no, the removal of the granite and the resetting of the foundation was around \$20,000 to \$28,000 and the restoration of the iron and replacing the little glass bullets was around \$20,000.

Mr. Greg Bartlett, resident on Pleasant Street asked questions concerning the water structure and with the rate increases that have taken effect and how many people on the system are paying the current rates with the upgrades from last year. He stated he knows of people that are not being billed near their consumption that he is. He stated he learned that his bill was being estimated and was told that his meter had been broken for a long time and he was always billed for 1,000 cf. He stated his bill never indicated it was an estimate. He also advised that he has a pool that he built and filled it and added all the chemicals and can't even use the pool because the water is still brown. Manager Doyon advised Mr. Bartlett that he should leave his phone number and they would get together

with him and try to iron out some of these issues. He advised that the City Council is considering a host of activity with regard to the water. He advised that the Council will decide whether a water study will be done to determine the best course to correct the iron and manganese content in the water that is coming from the well.

Council Acknowledgement

Councilor Andreozzi advised that John Gile, 40 Gile Road will be having an outing at his place on July 4th and the Mayor, Council and department heads are invited.

Mayor's Update

Mrs. Marcia Feener, resident in Franklin introduced Mr. Ron Garnett, Director of Good Shepherd and involved with the CATCH A Rising Star wherein they sponsor youngsters from all over the Lake Region Area to attend different camps. Mr. Garnett addressed the Mayor and Council giving a brief presentation of the program as well as a printed program on how their CATCH Program works. Their goal for 2008 is to send 100 children to camp that would otherwise not be able to attend a camp.

After serving two consecutive terms, Mayor Palfrey announced that he will not seek re-election for Mayor.

Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Councilor Feener that the Franklin City Council approve the minutes of the May 30, 2007 City Council Workshop Meeting and the June 4, 2007 City Council Meeting. Motion seconded by Councilor LaFever.

Councilor Andreozzi advised that on Page 11 of the June 4, 2007 Minutes, the 5th sentence down should read screens and not screws.

All in favor, minutes approved as corrected.

School Board Report

Mrs. Kathy Fuller advised that the school celebrated two championship teams, the girls won their Class M soft ball championship and the boys were runner ups. Bessie Rowell School and Paul Smith School received a reading first grant award in the amount of \$223,000 for next year. The summer programs have 28 preschool students enrolled; the kindergarten through 4th almost 100 students; grades 5 through 8 special education 16 students are enrolled, high school credit, 6 classes will be offered. The school district was awarded by the NH Department of Education 21st Century Community Learning

Center Grant in the amount of \$80,000 for a 6 month period from January, 2008 through June, and \$161,850 annually for the 4 years thereafter.

Sanbornton Well Field, Annual Well Development and Replacement Project

Motion made by Councilor Bowers that the Franklin City Council, in accordance with the Franklin City Code Article III, Section 4-15B(3), grant pre-award authorization to the Municipal Services Director for the use of Barrie Miller's Well and Pump Service for the "Sanbornton Well Field, Annual Well Development and Replacement Project" and Water Department Emergency Pump repair. Motion seconded by Councilor Starkweather. All in favor, motion passes.

Purchase of Water Meters for Fiscal Year 2008

Motion made by Councilor Merrifield that the Franklin City Council, pursuant to Franklin City Code, Article III, Section 4-15 B(3), grant pre-award authorization to the Municipal Services Director for the purchase of water meters and related equipment from E. J. Prescott Company at a cost not to exceed \$40,000. Motion seconded by Councilor Starkweather. All in favor, motion passes.

Adoption of Tax Deed for Map 97, Lot 107

Motion made by Councilor Feener that the Franklin City Council accept the tax deed for Map 97, Lot 107-00, motion seconded by Councilor LaFever.

Councilor Andreozzi stated the report shows there are people currently using this property as a driveway and there is a swing set located there and some parking. If the City accepts this property, will anything be done about this situation. Manager Doyon stated that will have to be looked into, that obviously this is city property and those things shouldn't be there. He also stated he is still exploring whether the property is a required easement for drainage.

All in favor, motion passes.

Fee for Disposal/Recycling of Microwave Ovens – Ordinance #11-07

Motion made by Councilor Bowers that the Franklin City Council waive the second reading and adopt Ordinance #11-07 by a roll call vote. Motion seconded by Councilor Andreozzi.

Councilor Merrifield asked when this become effective, immediately.

Roll Call Vote:

***Councilor Boyd – Yes
Councilor Starkweather – Yes
Councilor Andreozzi – Yes
Councilor Gassett – Yes***

***Councilor LaFever – Yes
Councilor Bowers – Yes
Councilor Merrifield – Yes
Councilor Feener – Yes***

All in favor, Ordinance #11-07 passes by a unanimous vote.

Sale of Hydraulic Tool

Motion made by Councilor Bowers that the Franklin City Council allow the sale of a surplus 1980 Hurst hydraulic tool system to the Hill Firefighter's Association for the sum of \$700.00 and those monies to be deposited into the Franklin Rescue Squad Memorial Fund. Motion seconded by Councilor Starkweather. All in favor, motion passes.

Relief of Code of City of Franklin Chapter 347-26 Physical Readiness

Motion made by Councilor Feener that the Franklin City Council waives Chapter 347-26 Physical Readiness of Police Officers for Jim Curran, the City's part-time Code Enforcement Officer. Motion seconded by Councilor Starkweather. All in favor, motion passes.

Other Business

Doyon

Committee Reports

Councilor Bowers announced there will be no CIP meeting in July or August. Councilor Merrifield announced there will be a Finance Committee Meeting July 12, 2007 at 6:00 p.m. Mayor Palfrey suggested that perhaps the School's Finance Committee could meet with the City's Finance Committee prior to a joint meeting of the School and the Council concerning accounting procedures, etc. Councilor Merrifield invited the School Finance Committee to join in the July 12, 2007 committee meeting.

City Manager's Update

Manager Doyon advised that from the sale of 2003 Crow Vic at auction raised \$1,600, the 1996 for \$500 and the Water Department items totaled \$617.40.

Manager Doyon advised there has been some inquiries concerning properties taken by the City that have gone over the 3-year limit and one in particular is 34 Central Street.

Manager Doyon advised that a list of properties for auction is being prepared for the Council to consider.

Manager Doyon gave the Council a copy of a draft letter to the Selectmen in Tilton concerning the assignment of emergency numbers to properties on Calef Hill Road. There are two Calef Hill Roads, one in Tilton and one in Franklin. A subdivision that was approved by the Town of Tilton abuts Calef Hill Road in Franklin. Franklin had signed a memo of understanding stating Franklin would act as a first responder to those residents with a stipulation that Tilton would waive liability and that stipulation caused some problems and they did not sign the memo of understanding and stated that Franklin is part of a mutual aid agreement and that would suffice. Manager Doyon advised that unless he hears any concerns from the Council, he will be sending the letter to the Selectmen in Tilton in the next couple of days. Councilor Feener stated it is Tilton's problem and they need to resolve it. He further stated do ahead and send the letter.

Manager Doyon advised the Council that he has given them a copy of legal correspondence concerning A Street and stated he agrees with the City Attorney on this issue.

Ballot Counting Machines

Motion made by Councilor Feener that pursuant to Franklin City Code Chapter 4-15 (3), I move that the Franklin City Council approves pre-award authorization to LHS Associates for ballot counting machines to waive the bid process. Motion seconded by Councilor Bowers. All in favor, motion passes.

FY 2008 Wage and Classification Schedule

Motion made by Councilor Feener that pursuant to Franklin City Administrative Code Chapter 347-16, I move that the Franklin City Council adopts the attached FY2008 Wage and Classification Plan. Motion seconded by Councilor LaFever. All in favor, motion passes.

Hiring of Substitute Welfare Director

Manager Doyon advised that the substitute director will be 10 hours on-call during the week and there will be a posting on the door of the Welfare office and there will be a number for the person to call. The cost will be approximately \$200.

Motion made by Councilor Feener that the Franklin City Council authorize the City Manager to appoint a substitute Welfare Director during extended Welfare Director absences. Motion seconded by Councilor Andreozzi. All in favor, motion passes.

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Motion to adjourn made by Councilor Bowers, seconded by Councilor Feener. All in favor, meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue E. May