



City Council Meeting Minutes
June 1, 2020
Webmeeting via zoom

Council in attendance remotely:

	Location/others in attendance
Mayor Tony Giunta	Dialing in from home/no others present
Councilor Jo Brown	Dialing in from home/no others present
Councilor Scott Clarenbach	Dialing in from home/no others present
Councilor Bob Desrochers	Dialing in from home/ no others present
Councilor George Dzujna	Dialing in from home/ wife Christine is present
Councilor April Bunker	Dialing in from home/ no others present
Councilor Ted Starkweather	Dialing in from home/no others present
Councilor Olivia Zink	Dialing in from home/no others present
Councilor Karen Testerman	Dialing in from home/no others present
Councilor Paul Trudel	Dialing in from home/no others present

Others attending remotely: City Manager Judie Milner, Police Chief David Goldstein, Fire Chief Mike Foss, Planning and Zoning Director Dick Lewis and members of the public.

Mayor Giunta opened the meeting at 6:10 p.m. using remote meeting software through Zoom. He welcomed the Council and informed the Council that he has been to many GoTo Webmeetings and Zoom meetings and he believes our is run the best.

Mayor Giunta Read the Compliant Statement Right to Know Law During the State of Emergency.

Salute to the Flag was led by Councilor Zink.

Public Hearing

Resolution #17-20 – a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to file two grants totaling \$105,000 from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services to be used towards the City's Water and Sewer Infrastructure Project.

Public Hearing opened at 6:17 p.m.

Councilor Desrochers requested a moment of silence however Mayor Giunta respectfully asked that he request this again momentarily after the Public Hearing which just opened.

Mayor Giunta asked if there was anyone from the public that would like to provide comments regarding Resolution #17-20. There were none.

The Public Hearing for Resolution closed at 6:19 p.m.

Mayor Giunta invited Councilor Desrochers to restate his earlier request.

Councilor Desrochers stated that with this past Memorial Day weekend in remembrance of our deceased service members and also for the first responders that were lost due to this current pandemic. Desrochers also asked to remember Councilor Steve Barton who passed away this past month. Mayor Giunta requested a moment of silence for everyone mentioned.

Comments from the Public

Resident Mrs. Janet Desrochers, Ward 2 stated that she wanted to speak to item number seven within the City Manager's update regarding elections. Mrs. Desrochers stated that she was disappointed that none of the Moderators or the Ward Clerks were updated or polled for input. She continued to state that no-one from Ward 2 had been asked to provide input on a poll location change. Mrs. Desrochers stated that it is sad when the people who volunteer to work the elections are not given the opportunity to give their input. She heard that one of the polling locations to be considered is the High School. The school has spent time sanitizing the building and if this location is chosen, she asked if the City would reimburse the School because re-sanitizing will need to be done. She is in support of a change in current location because it is too small to practice social distancing.

Mayor Giunta thanked Mrs. Desrochers and stated that there is a lot of information to discuss on this topic and he thanked her for voicing her concern. There will be more to come on this.

Mrs. Christine Dzujna Ward 1 resident stated that the Franklin Public Library is now offering curbside pick-up with a request to remain in your vehicle until the employee returns to the building. Hours of operation will be 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. There is also storytelling time broadcast by Kristy Leighton. She reads some of her favorite books and posts it on the Library's Facebook page.

The Library is offering a free 14 day account to read books on kindle or the Library's electronic books, magazines, or audio from Overdrive.

Mrs. Dzujna then provided an update on the Animal Shelter. They are operating by appointment only until further notice. A portion of Mrs. Dzujna's audio was breaking up regarding the 5K walk/run fundraiser she was providing information on.

Leigh Webb, Ward 3 resident stated that he has not been receiving email notifications of any budget hearings and asked if there are meetings going on. Mayor Giunta replied stating that the budget meetings have been held off as a suggestion from the Governor due to the changes going on in Washington. Governor Sununu is trying to get a better definition of how to use the \$1.25B that have come from the Federal Government to offset some costs due to COVID.

Mr. Webb then asked if there is a timeline for the opening of City Hall so he can pay his property taxes in person. City Manager Milner replied that the Emergency Operations Center group is meeting every other week. A subcommittee has formed which will address the reopening of all City buildings. A report on their recommendations will be provided to Milner next week.

Mr. Webb stated that he noticed the City is considering privatizing trash pick-up and he wondered if Northfield was polled for feedback. Milner replied that the City polled several other communities including Northfield, Tilton, Belmont, and outside of that area as well.

Per the request of the Ward 2 Elections Moderator Tamara Feener, she asked that the following be read because she was unable to attend this evening. Executive Secretary Audrey Lanzillo read the email statement sent in by her.

Per our discussion on upcoming 2020 elections for Ward 2.

1. We are very disappointed this is last minute and the Moderator, Ward Clerk, Assistant Moderator, and election workers were not pulled into the discussions.
2. We haven't even received any real guidance/protocols from the State on voting during COVID-19. How can you make a logical decision without all the facts?
3. Concerned about voter notification of the change.
4. This will be the 4th time Ward 2 voting location has changed.
5. That this is ONLY a temporary change for the 3 upcoming elections.
6. Moderator, Ward Clerk, and Assistant Moderator involved with the set-up of the polling place.
7. We would be agreeable to Bessie Rowell as a temporary polling place for Ward 2.
8. All three Councilors from each ward must be in attendance for the entire day for both State Primary and General/Presidential elections. No excuses...they need to clear their calendars – all hands on deck.
9. We'll need assistance with election material being picked up/returned to City Hall.

Thank you,

Tamara Feener, Moderator of Ward 2

Councilor Dzujna stated that he also received an email from Tamara Feener and he read the following:

1. The removal of Tennis Courts on Evergreen Ave./Cedar Ct. plans to put in a playground. I have a problem with that idea because we aren't really taking care of the playgrounds we have now. Why add another.
2. Street and sidewalk potholes need to be taken care of throughout the City.
3. The Gazebo at Odell Park railings need to be fixed/replaced. I see it as a liability to the City.
4. The fencing around Odell Park needs to be replaced/fixed and new parts being added. Again, it's a liability to the City.

Thank you,

Tamara Feener

Mayor Giunta thanked Councilor Dzujna and stated that the people that need to hear them are in the meeting listening this evening.

There were no further comments from the public.

Public Comment ended at 6:38 p.m.

City Council Acknowledgement

Councilor Bunker gave a shout out to Director Lewis. Bunker received a phone call from a very unhappy Ward 3 resident regarding trucks that were using Duffy Road to work on the solar project. Bunker called Director Lewis early Friday morning and he had it resolved by 9 a.m. the same morning.

Councilor Dzujna stated that flowering plants will be delivered to our Downtown on June 3rd. Dzujna thanked Choose Franklin and the Community Day Committee because they are taking over the payment of the flowers and cost for watering the flowers. This gives FBIDC a break this year on that so they can put more money toward Downtown revitalization efforts this year.

Mayor Giunta also thanked both organizations as it is one of his favorite things to see as he drives into Downtown.

Councilor Brown recognized Superintendent LeGallo and the School Board for their efforts during the last couple of months delivering food to students and making the graduates have a special graduation day under the circumstances. Teachers, Fire Department staff, and Police Department staff have been involved in the parades for the students. Brown continued stating they have gone above and beyond thinking of the students and their families during this very difficult time.

Councilor Bunker echoed Councilor Brown's comments and also thanked Officer Tracy and comfort dog Miller for going out too and presenting 58 scholarships to the recipients. The students missed out on dressing up and having the special graduation dinner this year so Tracy and Miller made it very special for the students by delivering the scholarships to their homes. She also thanked the Science Teacher Mr. Lomabard and Guidance Counselor Desiree Smith also went along to help deliver the scholarships.

Mayor Giunta stated that he is happy to hear this good news. There is a lot of bad things on the news all around the country and he thanks God every day that he lives where he does. Sometimes it is taken for granted but not this evening. He thanked Councilor Bunker for bringing forward these recognitions.

Mayor's Update

Mayor Giunta stated that the Governor has been holding a weekly meeting with all of the Mayors across the state. This past Thursday was the first time he heard the Governor provide some insight as to when he thinks things will go back to normal where he would end his Executive Orders and State of Emergency which is looking like fall. It looks like it will continue through the summer and when the kids get back to school, we might see some sort of back to normal.

Agenda Item I.

Council is to consider the minutes of the January 16th City Council Special Meeting Fire Department SWOT Analysis.

Councilor Bunker stated that she was not in attendance at this meeting therefore will abstain from the vote to accept the minutes.

Motion – Councilor Brown moved that the Franklin City Council approve the minutes of the January 16th, 2020 City Council Special Meeting Fire Department SWOT Analysis.

Seconded by Councilor Desrochers.

Councilor Testerman stated that she worked with Chief Foss to combine the audio with the slide presentation and believes there was discussion on making available on the City website. She stated that it was a great presentation that informs the public about what is going on.

City Manager stated that she remembers the conversation about putting it on the website and will look into a status.

Councilor Starkweather stated that a change is needed on page 2 of 8, fourth paragraph where there is discussion on a ladder truck. It should say **staffed** Ladder truck meaning that it is manned and ready to respond.

Councilor Zink stated that on page 6, 2nd paragraph where there is discussion on regionalization. She believed the discussion to be regarding cooperative training between Tilton, Northfield, and Sanbornton. This was more about the cooperative training and not regionalization. She requested changing the word regionalization to Cooperation between communities.

Roll call to approve the minutes as amended:

Councilor Brown	Yes	Councilor Dzujna	Yes	Councilor Testerman	Abstain
Councilor Clarenbach	Abstain	Councilor Starkweather	Yes	Councilor Bunker	Abstain
Councilor Desrochers	Yes	Councilor Zink	Yes	Councilor Trudel	Yes

Motion PASSED.

Agenda Item II.

City Council is to consider Resolution #17-20, a resolution authorizing the City Manager to file two grants totaling \$105,000 from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services, Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) to be used towards the City's Water and Sewer Infrastructure Improvement Project.

Motion – Councilor Dzujna moved that the Franklin City Council approve Resolution #17-20, a resolution authorizing the City Manager to file two grant applications under the State of New Hampshire Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Program and designate the City Manager as our authorized representative [Dzujna lost audio momentarily] [Clarenbach finished the motion] to sign and execute the grant/loan binding documents.

Seconded by Councilor Brown.

Councilor Bunker asked why in several places it references loans and in others places it references grants.

Director Brian Sullivan responded to Bunker stating that this is an unusual grant/loan program. The drinking water side normally just grants money up front. In this case, the City would borrow \$105,000 and once the project is complete, the project gets reimbursed for the full amount of the loan. Sullivan stated that he could change the wording instead to loan/grant program.

RESOLUTION # 17-20

A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to file two final grant application(s) under the State of New Hampshire Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Program and designating the City Manager as the authorized representative.

WHEREAS, the City of Franklin, New Hampshire after thorough consideration of the nature of its wastewater system needs, hereby determines that the undertaking of certain works, generally described as the Franklin Wastewater System, “Asset Management and Planning Grant(s) Project”, is desirable and in the public’s interest, and to that end, it is necessary to apply for assistance from the State of New Hampshire Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF); and

WHEREAS, the City of Franklin, New Hampshire has examined and duly considered the provisions of RSA 486:14 and the New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules Chapter Env-Wq 500, which relate to loans from the Clean Water State Revolving Fund and deems it to be in the public’s interest to file two loan applications and to authorize other actions in connection therewith;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY:

THE FRANKLIN CITY COUNCIL, FRANKLIN, NEW HAMPSHIRE, GOVERNING BODY OF SAID CITY AS FOLLOWS:

1. That Judie Milner, City Manager for the City of Franklin, New Hampshire is hereby designated as the Authorized Representative for the purpose of filing final applications for two loan’s in accordance with New Hampshire Code of Administration Rules Chapter Env Wq 500, furnishing such information, data and documents pertaining to the applicant for loan’s as may be required;
2. That if such loans be made, Judie Milner, Franklin City Manager is the Authorized Representative of the applicant for the purpose of signing any documents pertaining to the disbursement of funds to the loan recipient and granting her the “Authority to Borrow.”
3. That if such loans be made the applicant agrees to repay the loans as stipulated in the loan agreements.
4. That a certified of this resolution be included as part of the final application’s to be submitted for each loan.
5. That Judie Milner, City Manager, at the time the loan is made, is authorized to sign the loan agreements binding the City to the terms and conditions of each loan.
6. That if such loans be made, the City agrees to make provisions for assuming proper and efficient operation and maintenance of the facilities after completion of the construction thereof.

Roll Call:

Councilor Brown	<u>Yes</u>	Councilor Dzujna	<u>Yes</u>	Councilor Zink	<u>Yes</u>
Councilor Clarenbach	<u>Yes</u>	Councilor Bunker	<u>Yes</u>	Councilor Testerman	<u>Yes</u>
Councilor Desrochers	<u>Yes</u>	Councilor Starkweather	<u>Yes</u>	Councilor Trudel	<u>Yes</u>

Agenda Item III.

Council is to consider the option of outsourcing the City of Franklin's solid waste collection services.

Mayor Giunta stated that Councilor Clarenbach and the MSD Committee has been talking about this for a long time and dedicated a lot of time on this subject.

City Manager Milner provided some background and stated that this has been a subject discussed among the MSD Committee for a long time so a lot of work has gone into bringing this to the Council tonight. In November 2019, the City held a Special City Council Meeting SWOT Analysis on trash. Director Sullivan presented details and costs on the City's issues with trash pick-up. Primarily focusing on our two trash trucks that are in constant repair costing the City \$180K this fiscal year and both are old and need to be replaced.

On December 27th, 2020, the MSD Committee met and discussed the options and then presented to the City Council during the January Inaugural City Council Meeting. Input from other communities and professional staff led to presenting the viable options again to the Council during another Special City Council Meeting a couple of weeks ago.

Milner shared a slide with the viable options next to status quo for comparison.

Mayor Giunta stated that typically only three Councilors get involved in subcommittees, however the MSD Committee Meetings brought the attendance of at least seven of the Councilors who provided knowledgeable input and feedback on this curbside topic.

Motion – Councilor Bunker moved that the Franklin City Council support outsourcing of the City's solid waste collection services and authorize professional staff to move forward with implementation of the program for FY2021.

Seconded by Councilor Clarenbach.

Councilor Desrochers stated that he did some calculations on the different scenarios and explained that the City will save approximately \$79K by outsourcing however the scale at the Transfer Station is going to cost approximately \$60K to replace. He suggested using the money that the City will be saving to put towards the replacement of that scale otherwise the savings will be lost if we continue to repair and not replace the scale.

Councilor Clarenbach, who is also the MSD Committee Chair, stated that this motion allows the professional staff to move forward with outsourcing curbside collection. This is the best financial option for the City.

The other important item discussed at the committee level was to review all ordinances, rules, or regulations that involve trash, within the next 6-8 months, looking at where improvements can begin. At this point, everyone who currently has curbside collection will continue to receive it. The MSD Committee will look at different efficiency opportunities, one being curbside pick-up for housing units and how the City can save money there.

Councilor Dzujna agreed with Councilor Clarenbach and added that there are savings that can be found by looking closely at existing ordinances and current processes. With the savings that will be realized, if outsourcing doesn't work out, the City should be able to revert back and purchase our own trucks.

Roll call to approve the motion in support of outsourcing curbside collection:

Councilor Brown	Yes	Councilor Dzujna	Yes	Councilor Testerman	Yes
Councilor Clarenbach	Yes	Councilor Starkweather	Yes	Councilor Bunker	Yes
Councilor Desrochers	Yes	Councilor Zink	Yes	Councilor Trudel	Yes

All in favor. Motion PASSED.

Director Sullivan thanked City Manager Milner, the MSD Committee, and the Council. He added that the last three years have been very trying times keeping curbside collection afloat. There have been numerous challenges and gave thanks to the crew who kept the trucks running. Sullivan stated the committee researched this in depth and he is confident that this is the best money saving option for the City.

Mayor Giunta thanked all of the Councilors, Director Sullivan, and City Manager Milner for working hard to find the best option for the City.

Agenda item IV.

Council is to consider the renewal of the Amateur Radio Lease for FY2021.

Motion – Councilor Clarenbach moved that the Franklin City Council approves the non-exclusive Radio Repeater Site Lease for a one-year period beginning July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2021 with Central New Hampshire Amateur Radio Club and authorize the City Manager to execute said lease. Seconded by Councilor Desrochers.

Mayor Giunta asked if there was any discussion. There was none.

Roll call to approve the Amateur Radio Lease:

Councilor Brown	Yes	Councilor Dzujna	Yes	Councilor Testerman	Yes
Councilor Clarenbach	Yes	Councilor Starkweather	Yes	Councilor Bunker	Yes
Councilor Desrochers	Yes	Councilor Zink	Yes	Councilor Trudel	Yes

All in favor. Motion PASSED.

Agenda Item V.

Other Business:

1. City Council Appointments-
 - a. **Motion – Councilor Clarenbach moved that the Franklin City Council acknowledge the resignation of Steve Foley, Ward 1 Moderator. Resignation filed with the City Clerk's Office on March 1, 2020. Seconded by Councilor Dzujna.**

Mayor Giunta asked if there was any discussion. There was none.

Roll call to accept resignation:

Councilor Brown	Yes	Councilor Dzujna	Yes	Councilor Testerman	Yes
Councilor Clarenbach	Yes	Councilor Starkweather	Yes	Councilor Bunker	Yes
Councilor Desrochers	Yes	Councilor Zink	Yes	Councilor Trudel	Yes

All in favor. Motion PASSED.

Motion – Councilor Clarenbach moved that the Franklin City Council acknowledge the resignation of Jeremy Denlea, Ward 1, Ward Clerk. Resignation filed with the City Clerk’s Office on February 12, 2020.

Seconded by Councilor Desrochers.

Mayor Giunta asked if there was any discussion. There was none.

Councilor Brown	Yes	Councilor Dzujna	Yes	Councilor Testerman	Yes
Councilor Clarenbach	Yes	Councilor Starkweather	Yes	Councilor Bunker	Yes
Councilor Desrochers	Yes	Councilor Zink	Yes	Councilor Trudel	Yes

Motion- Councilor Clarenbach moved that the Franklin City Council appoint Glen Carter as Ward 2 Supervisor of the Checklist (seat SCW22). Term of service is to current seat expiration of October 31, 2020.

Seconded by Councilor Desrochers.

Councilor Zink asked why the term of service goes until the end the month in October instead of the day after the elections.

City Clerk Katie Gargano replied that this has how it has always been done. Election training needs to be done and if a newly elected person took the seat immediately, they wouldn’t be very useful.

There was further discussion, questions, and suggestions from the Council and City Clerk Katie Gargano. Review of the State Statute or the City Charter was recommended before changing anything.

City Clerk Gargano stated that this scenario will happen again with the Ward 1 Ward Clerk and Ward 1 Moderator as both expire on October 31, 2020.

Amendment to the Motion – Councilor Clarenbach stated that following be added to his original motion: The term of service is to such time when a duly elected official is sworn into the office of the Supervisor of the Checklist.

Seconded by Councilor Starkweather.

Councilor Testerman stated that when anyone is elected to Office, there is a delay before they

take their seat and that it makes sense to keep the person on who is knowledgeable to complete any remaining work. She stated that when the Legislators are elected in November, they don't take office until January. This allows them time for them to learn the work. She is in support on of Clarenbach's motion.

Gargano added that it works different with election workers than state officials, where they don't wait until January to take their new position.

Councilor Desrochers asked if Mr. Carter is thinking of running in the October election. Councilor Dzujna stated that he spoke with him and thanked him for stepping up to fill this opening. He got the impression from Mr. Carter that he is in it for the long haul.

Roll call for the amendment to the motion:

Councilor Brown	Yes	Councilor Dzujna	Yes	Councilor Testerman	Yes
Councilor Clarenbach	Yes	Councilor Starkweather	Yes	Councilor Bunker	Yes
Councilor Desrochers	Yes	Councilor Zink	Yes	Councilor Trudel	Yes

All in favor. Motion PASSED.

Mayor Giunta referred to the original motion and asked if there was any discussion to the original motion. There was none.

Roll call to approve the original motion:

Councilor Brown	Yes	Councilor Dzujna	Yes	Councilor Testerman	Yes
Councilor Clarenbach	Yes	Councilor Starkweather	Yes	Councilor Bunker	Yes
Councilor Desrochers	Yes	Councilor Zink	Yes	Councilor Trudel	Yes

All in favor. Motion PASSED.

2. Committee Reports – Councilor Dzujna provided an update on the Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting. Director Krystal Alpers organized the Before and After School Program during the beginning of the COVID-19 Pandemic. Activity bags were created and delivered by the Parks and Rec Staff to the children on a bi-weekly basis. Music lessons and exercise classes were posted on Facebook for the children to follow. Re-opening the summer program will be a little different where it will open to First Responders initially. Temperature checks will be done at the door and sent home if ill.

The Beaches will be opening but it was suggested to keep the restrooms closed. This is causing a problem because people are going to the bathroom behind the building. Signs are posted on the bathroom to use at own risk. Cleaning can only be done once a day. Playgrounds remain closed until the Governor wants to open them. The Farmers Market will be opening up again as it is outdoors and room to social distance.

There are budget concerns for the Parks and Rec department as the Century 21 Grant will be running out in two more years with a tapering amount.

Councilor Testerman wanted to inform the Council that Legislation Session will resume in June.

3. City Manager's Update –

- a. Milner stated that the audio from the Fire Department SWOT Analysis is ready and approve to be posted to the City Website.
- b. Welcome back Finance Director Gaudette. Today is her first day back with a budget ready for everyone. Any numbers can be drilled down. If anyone has questions, please contact Pessy Gaudette. Mayor Giunta stated that it's wonderful to have her back.
- c. Congratulations Sergeant Guerriero and Officer Falco for locating an elderly man with dementia who walked away from his home in Bristol at 1 a.m. They are a great team!
- d. The Contingent Grant Line activity is \$160 from the Falco Patch Fundraiser, \$129.87 from the NH Drive Sober Grant, and from K-9 Miller T-shirts.
- e. The Trust Fund for school funding is at \$138.52.
- f. Milner gave a shout out to the volunteers who cleaned up the Winni River Trail. A group of volunteers took it upon themselves to clean up several homeless camps along the Winni Trail. They took over 3K pounds of trash to the Transfer Station. Milner gave a shout out to Vinny Toutain, Tina Couch, Sharon Perkins, Jeff Goulet, Judith Goulet, and Jen Dagle.
- g. Milner gave another shout out to the Morrill family for weeding the garden in front of the Police Department. It's looking great over there.
- h. The EOC for COVID-19 is in partial activation. The committee meets every other week. There is a Re-opening Committee (subcommittee of the EOC) that will visit each City building to assess what is needed in order to safely re-open. They will also generate a report out on their recommendations.
- i. Milner gave kudos to all the City employees. They work very hard and accomplish a lot with very little. Their workloads were full already and COVID-19 added more work and more protocols that make things more challenging. They have still come to work every day and did whatever was needed to be done. Seconded by Mayor Giunta.
- j. CADCA training will be on-line for three weeks. This is required training that is mandatory in order for the City to receive the Drug Free Grant. It was previously held in Alexandria Virginia and cancelled this year's location due to the pandemic. This training will provide information on attending remote meetings and addressing the new drugs in the City.
- k. The Governor's Office and the Secretary of State's Office put together a task force on what the upcoming elections should look like. They will also make sure the playing field is even with regards to how the Federal money should be distributed. Everyone should have the same access to PPE. As guidance comes forward, it will be shared the City Clerk's Office and Council.
- l. Milner has been asked to sit on the NHMA Board as a representative of the communities. As more information is given, she will share it with everyone. Consensus from the Council was that she should participate in it and that it is an honor. There were no objections from the Council for Milner to accept their request.

- m. Milner spoke with Jim Spotts from the US Census Bureau, he stated that the City received 10% less response rate from 2010. However we are 15% higher than the rest of the region so everyone's response rate is lower. The City will send out email blasts under News and Announcements to get people to fill out their Census.
- n. Milner asked the Council if they wouldn't mind keeping next Monday's LEAN Update on the schedule due several City projects that are moving quickly and it is possible that a couple of non-public sessions may be needed. Consensus was in favor to keep the LEAN Update for next Monday, June 8th at 6 p.m.
- o. Milner stated that every year, most of the revenues in the budget are estimates. The DRA sends us changes to the rooms and meals tax, gas tax, and other taxes then the City goes back in and makes adjustments. Milner stated that she wants to move forward even though there may be more money coming for other things from the Governor. Since we are a City and not a town, we can appropriate them as they come to us. She would like to provide a budget to the Council for June 15th for FY2021 and schedule a couple of meetings. Milner suggested the school present their budget on June 17th and the City would present their budget on June 22nd. Councilor Bunker asked if the School would be ready to present on the 17th and Milner confirmed that she spoke with them and they would be. Testerman stated that she had a conflict on the 17th and didn't know if she could make it.

Late Item

Milner stated that today is the statutory deadline to change poll locations. The Ward 2 polling location is an issue. To help combat COVID-19, people traffic flow must be one-way in and one way out. City Hall, W2 polling location, can't allow for that due to the placement of our handicap chair lift.

An email blast was sent out yesterday notifying residents of the deadline to change party affiliation and the like. Milner stated that people should register to receive the email blast because it's a great way to stay informed.

Milner stated that City Clerk Gargano created a nice Council Agenda Report which provides some background and recommendations.

City Clerk Gargano stated that there are no specific guidelines as of yet. She stated that Councilor Zink has been able to listen in to meetings occurring at the State House regarding this and so she began evaluating the pros and cons of the current Ward 2 polling location and other possible locations.

She stated that she spoke to the Ward 2 Moderator and explained the social distancing aspects that need to be incorporated. A separate entrance and exit are required as well as keeping 6 ft between each person and the voting booth. Gargano further explained different aspects and dynamics of voting day then provided her recommendation on the location.

Gargano reviewed the list with pros and cons of the locations and mentioned that she would

have like the High School because it is a central location. Since the gym is located on the second floor and walking up all the stairs is a bit much, the High School Cafeteria made the most sense for that location. The Bessie Rowel gym would work out well because it's all flat and has a separate entrance and exit however due to the schools being closed on Election Day, Bessie Rowell would have in influx of children that day.

Gargano stated that the School Board met tonight as well and approved the use of the High School for voting in either the gym or the cafeteria.

The Council asked Gargano questions and provided their suggestions. Consensus of the Council was to use Bessie Rowell due to amount of space to spread out and separate entrance and exit.

Communication on a location change would be posted on the City Website, putting up posters, using the marquee in downtown, using the lit flashing billboard, and sending postcard if necessary.

Councilor Zink stated that another option could be casting an absentee ballot to mail in. Councilor Brown was in support of this and suggested making this highly visible in any communications about the polling location change.

Motion – Councilor Desrochers moved that the polling place move to Bessie Rowell Community Center for the September elections, October elections, and the November General Elections.

Seconded by Councilor Dzujna.

Mayor Giunta added the Governor mentioned that some areas are discussing allowing voting from your car. Councilor Dzujna agreed that this could work as well at Bessie Rowell.

City Manager Milner stated that a ward wasn't mentioned in the motion.

Motion - Councilor Desrochers moved to amend the motion by adding the words Ward 2 to the motion.

Seconded by Councilor Dzujna.

There was no further discussion.

Roll Call:

Councilor Brown	Yes	Councilor Dzujna	Yes	Councilor Testerman	Yes
Councilor Clarenbach	Yes	Councilor Starkweather	Yes	Councilor Bunker	Yes
Councilor Desrochers	Yes	Councilor Zink	Yes	Councilor Trudel	Yes

All in favor. Motion PASSED.

Motion to adjourn was made by Councilor Bunker. Seconded by Councilor Desrochers.

Roll call to adjourn:

Councilor Brown	Yes	Councilor Dzujna	Yes	Councilor Testerman	Yes
Councilor Clarenbach	Yes	Councilor Starkweather	Yes	Councilor Bunker	Yes
Councilor Desrochers	Yes	Councilor Zink	Yes	Councilor Trudel	Yes

Meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Audrey Lanzillo