



**City Council Meeting Minutes
September 14, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.
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 in the room
Councilor Bob Desrochers	Dialing in from home/ no others present in the room
Councilor George Dzujna	Dialing in from home/ no others present in the room
Councilor April Bunker	Dialing in from her office/ daughter Mary Grace is present in the room
Councilor Ted Starkweather	Dialing in from home/no others present
Councilor Olivia Zink	Dialing in from home/no others present in the room
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 6:03 p.m. using remote meeting software through Zoom.

Mayor Giunta welcomed everyone and hoped that the Labor Day was enjoyed by all. He then Read the Compliant Statement Right to Know Law During the State of Emergency.

Councilor Desrochers honored Kenneth Bonenfant, Franklin High School graduate of 1963, who went on to accomplish many things including fighting in Vietnam from 1964-1968 earning a Bronze Star and a Purple Heart. He also served on the Franklin City Council. Sadly, he passed away on July 20th.

Also honored was Veteran Richard Shaw who passed away on August 5th. He was a longtime resident of Franklin and served in the U.S. Air Force.

Also passed, U.S. Marine William Smith originally from Dracut Massachusetts, served in the Korean War and eventually made Franklin NH his home.

Mayor Giunta then honored former Governor Steve Merrill stating that Steve had an electric personality and left us too soon.

A moment of silence was observed for our veterans and former Governor Merrill.

Salute to the Flag was led by Councilor Zink.

Public Hearings

Opened at 6:11 p.m.

Resolution #03-21, a resolution to accept and appropriate \$539,150.57 of CARES Act Funding for the Franklin School District.

Mayor Giunta asked if there were any questions or comments.

Kathy Fuller, Ward 3 resident urged the Council to accept and appropriate the CARES Act Funding for the Franklin School District.

There were no further comments.

The public hearing for Resolution #03-21 closed at 6:12 p.m.

Resolution #05-21, a resolution to accept and appropriate \$93,000 from the New Hampshire Department of Education and \$49,600 from the Child Care Recovery and Stabilization Program through the CARES Act to fund COVID-19 costs for the Parks and Recreation Summer Program.

Public hearing for Resolution #05-21 opened at 6:12 p.m.

Mayor Giunta asked if there were any questions or comments. There were none.

The public hearing for Resolution #05-21 closed at 6:13 p.m.

Resolution #06-21, a resolution to accept and appropriate \$15,757 from the New Hampshire Secretary of State's Office through the CARES Act to fund COVID-19 costs for elections.

The public hearing for Resolution #06-21 opened at 6:13 p.m.

Mayor Giunta asked if there were any questions or comments. There were none.

The public hearing for Resolution #06-21 closed at 6:14 p.m.

Comments from the Public

Kathy Fuller, Ward 3 resident raised a safety concern on Stone Ave. In the area of Stone Street Park, children play in the playground there but drift into the street. She spoke to several City Councilors on the issue. She stated that recently an officer spoke to a few of the children and their parents in the area of View Street and asked them to stay inside the park when playing there.

Fuller also stated that she has lived in Franklin for many years and there have been issues in the past with cars driving fast on View Street. The previous Police Chief allowed the residents in that area to put caution signs out when their children were playing in that general area but now the children were asked to simply alert each other when a car was coming.

Mayor Giunta asked City Manager Milner to schedule a meeting with Chief Goldstein and look in to the issue at Stone Park.

Councilor Testerman thanked Fuller for bringing up the issue. Testerman added that there is a particular gray truck that drives down Stone Ave to View Street over to Poplar Street and leaves skid marks. By the time you call a police officer, they are gone. She believes these people live in Franklin and may be the ones leaving marks in other areas around the City. Testerman agreed with Fuller that they also then go speeding down Stone Ave., which is only a block long.

Fuller stated that many years ago, Chief Boyd parked a cruiser in Fuller's yard and wrote out some tickets. That seemed to do the trick.

Mayor Giunta asked Chief Goldstein if he believed this is happening as a result of COVID-19. He heard that this is called street art and it is happening on Lake Shore Drive and other areas around Franklin.

Police Chief David Goldstein stated that these types of occurrences are “in your face” offenses and nothing new or related to COVID-19.

Mayor's Drug Task Force Kandyce Tucker updated the Council and public stated that the fundraiser 5K run/walk is scheduled for October 17th. This race event will be offered both virtually and in person.

Drug Take Back Day will be happening in the CVS parking lot at 10 a.m.

Councilor Desrochers stated that a quick solution to the speeding on Stone Ave. would be to put rumble strips down either end of the road.

City Clerk Katie Gargano stated that the recent election was successful and she thanked all the Election workers and the Council. There was a different layout and flow which worked out very well. Gargano stated that extra hands will be needed for the November election and urged anyone who is interested, to please give her a call.

Mayor Giunta asked Gargano what the earliest day is to requests an absentee ballot. Gargano replied that people have been requesting them for a few months and she can mail out the ballots within a day or two.

Director Krystal Alpers stated that although the election was successful at Bessie Rowell Community Center, she received many complaints from parents and other organizations at BRCC. There is concern for safety and questions as to why BRCC is allowed to open for elections but the schools are not allowed to open. Alpers also stated that if she needs to close the programming during elections, then it becomes an incredible inconvenience for working parents.

Alpers stated that she has some concerns of her own and would like the opportunity to have further conversations with the Council if this location is going to be considered for the long term.

Executive Director of PermaCityLife Todd Workman stated to the Council that although there are a lot of good things happening in Franklin, he has been witnessing an increase in homelessness, addiction issues, and criminal activity in the Downtown area and he is very concerned that this may drive existing businesses, potential new businesses, and investors away.

Workman shared two letters from local business owners with the Council. One was written from the local Hair & Company business, who is seeing people sleeping on door steps waiting for the addiction counselling office to open (which makes early morning clients of hers very uncomfortable), there is loitering in the evening hours, drug deals in broad daylight, and break-ins of other neighboring businesses. Although Hair & Company loves being in the Downtown area, these things mentioned are causing them to consider non-renewal of their lease.

Workman shared the second letter from Ryan Lemay, a business owner in Downtown Franklin, who wrote that he has had several issues with break-in attempts and one break-in caught in the act. Lemay also wrote about the concerning activity in the alley next to his building. He is seeing drug paraphernalia and trash lying on the stairwell to the building which is out of sight from the main street. Lemay also mentioned that stolen bicycles have been tossed over the embankment next to the building. Lemay further added that he understands how busy the police department is but they could do a quick sweep either on bicycles or drive through the area on occasion which would deter some crimes.

Workman further stated that he has managed several of the buildings over the years in Franklin's Downtown and every building that he has managed has been broken into and or vandalized on multiple occasions. He mentioned that contractors can't park their tool trucks without items being stolen and even while they are inside working in a building on a particular floor, thieves are stealing their tools that are on a different floor. These types of activities are much worse than in past years. Workman also stated that a few years ago, a police officer road around many different areas on a mountain bike and there were hardly any issues; it worked beautifully. If there is anyway to find funding or whatever is needed to have some sort of regular presence even for a short time, will drive these problems out.

Councilor Desrochers read comments that he received from a constituent who lives in the area of Elkins Street and they would like to know if the City owns the property on the corner of Winnepesauke Street and Elkins Street. If the City does own it, the City should cut the grass and shrubbery to maintain the appearance of the parcel. There were also questions regarding the old CAP building and the parking lot that are in bad condition and in violation of City codes. The last comment from this unknown constituent was in reference to the cleanliness and geese droppings overwhelmingly at Griffin Beach.

City Manager Milner replied that the old CAP building was supposed to be taken down by them however do to an unexpected increase in the cost, CAP was unable to proceed with the tear down. Therefore, the City secured Always Wrecking to take the building down sometime this week. Once the building is down, Municipal Services will clean up the lot. The City will also maintain the lot at the corner of Winnepesauke and Elkins.

Milner was aware of the geese issue and stated that Parks and Rec Director Krystal Alpers may have a few comments relating to this. Alpers responded stating that the geese seem to be a

growing problem this year. She has been trying to remedy the problem by placing faux coyotes on the beach which helped until they were either stolen or thrown in the water. Signs were placed next to them saying do not remove trying to scare away geese. There is also a noise maker that helps a little. Alpers continued to state that her employees are there twice a week and volunteer resident Jeff Perkins helps on the other days. They are trying their best to stay on top of the problem but the minute they are finished cleaning up the geese droppings, the geese come right back and do it again.

Councilor Testerman commented on Todd Workman's statements earlier in this meeting and stated that there was a Police Committee Meeting last week where a few of these issues were discussed. She stated that the Police Department is stretched as far as they can be. They do a great job however funding is low and the desire to become a police officer is dwindling due to various stressors related to the type of work itself. Testerman further stated that we have become a society where we rely on expecting someone else to do a good job and less finding ways where we can help ourselves in certain areas.

Councilor Brown stated that she has seen a rise in the number of geese on the lake this year and can attest to the difficulty in keeping them from infiltrating other resident's yards around the lake. Some have been placing inflatable swans on the lake.

Brown commented on Testerman's statements further adding that at some point, everyone must be that someone who volunteers to help. It should not always be someone else's problem to fix. As a community, we all need to encourage people to come together in a positive way to help fix an issue.

Chief Operations Officer of Franklin Savings Bank and Franklin resident Ron Magoon acknowledged the strain on the Police Department and is a big supporter of them. The City is at an important stage of its redevelopment in creating a place that is really special. Franklin Savings Bank has done some great things in support of Franklin's economic development. The bank purchased three buildings on Central Street in an effort to be part of the solution of Franklin positioning itself for success.

Magoon stated that he is incredibly concerned about what he is seeing happening in the Downtown area. He mirrored many of the things that Todd Workman mentioned a few minutes ago. A new resident moved from Florida into Buell Block and was very excited to be part of the changes coming for Franklin however, she walks her dogs at night and does not feel safe.

Magoon further added that there is so much tension going on in the world between the virus and the racism and it will take a lot more effort to reinvent this City. It will not take much for someone to change their mind about where they want to invest their time and money. He is concerned that if we can't get the Downtown to a point where residents and workers feel safe here, investors may find better places to be. He is also at a point where he isn't sure if the bank will make more investments unless he feels certain they will be good investments. Visitors, residents, workers, and investors must feel safe here or this big vision that is at hand probably won't happen.

There are certain things the public shouldn't be involved in when we are thinking residents can do more to help with the problem we are seeing here. Breaking up a drug deal is not something the police would likely want a resident do. Magoon concluded stating that if we could come

together and figure out a way where this doesn't have to be a homelessness or addiction problem like everywhere else, then he encouraged everyone to roll up their sleeves and figure this out. We have to make this an environment where investors and businesses can be successful.

Mayor Giunta thanked Ron Magoon for his input and for supporting Franklin all of these years especially during this long climb toward the goal of revitalization in Franklin. Giunta added that Chief Goldstein and City Manager Milner work wonderfully as a team and are listening tonight.

Councilor Dzujna thanked Ron Magoon for coming forward and talking about this with the Council. Dzujna stated that Ron sat on his porch talking with him about this.

Mayor Giunta stated that so many are passionate about this because they can see that we're almost there and they don't want to lose it this time.

City Manager Milner invited Police Chief David Goldstein, Ron Magoon, and Todd Workman to meet at the police station at 11 a.m. tomorrow to discuss these issues.

Mayor Giunta thanked everyone for their valuable input during public comment time.

City Council Acknowledgements

Councilor Bunker thanked the public of Ward 3 for their understanding of the changes at the voting polls brought on by the pandemic. They used all the options available to them with little to no complaints of any of the changes in place.

Councilor Dzujna acknowledged the School Board and the Administration for their diligence in working toward a solution for the students returning to the classrooms.

Councilor Testerman gave commendation to the City Road Maintenance crew for working nonstop to make sure the street drains were clear, for removing dangerous trees, and filling road erosion.

Councilor Brown echoed Councilor Bunker stating that ward one voting residents did very well with the changes at the polling locations due to the pandemic.

Brown also recognized Karen Darling's Youth Group who painted over graffiti at the gazebo. These young volunteers are doing something to make their City a better place for everyone.

Mayor Giunta thanked the Municipal Services and Solid Waste crew. Giunta was at the Transfer Station this past weekend and noted that there was a beehive of activity. Heavy machinery moving and City workers showing people where to place different items. He was impressed with all the activity and stated that they do an incredible job there. Giunta asked Director Sullivan to let them know that they are very appreciated.

There were no further acknowledgements from City Council.

Mayor's Update

Mayor Giunta spoke about a question that came up earlier in the day regarding when Council meetings can resume face to face again. Giunta asked the Council if they remember the name James (Jim) Stockdale; Vietnam Prisoner of War, Vice Admiral and Vice-Presidential running mate with Ross Perot. Stockdale was asked how he was able to survive through his POW ordeal. He replied that he survived because he held onto a positive attitude telling himself that this will eventually be over and he would be home again. When asked why he thought the other men did not survive, Stockdale replied that most of them kept looking at a date or holiday when it would be over and when those dates came and went but the war hadn't ended, they lost hope.

With respect to our current situation, we hoped it would end in a couple of months and that we would have a vaccine by now. Hope is on the horizon so we have to stay positive that it will end. We just don't know exactly when.

Agenda Item I.

Council is to consider the minutes of the June 22nd, 2020 City Council Special Meeting, the July 6th, 2020 City Council Meeting, the July 20th, 2020 City Council Special Meeting, the July 20th, 2020 Non-public City Council Meeting, and the August 3rd, 2020 City Council Meeting.

Motion – Councilor Desrochers moved that the Franklin City Council approve the minutes of the June 22nd, 2020 City Council Special Meeting, the minutes of the July 6th, 2020 City Council Meeting, the minutes of the July 20th, 2020 City Council Special Meeting, the minutes of the July 20th, 2020 Non-public City Council Meeting, and the minutes of the August 3rd, 2020 City Council Meeting.

Seconded by Councilor Dzujna.

Councilor Zink requested an update on the July 6th meeting to correct the name of Michelle Iller on page 3 and page 5.

Mayor Giunta asked if there were any further corrections or comments. There were none.

Roll call to approve the minutes as amended:

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 II.

The School Board update was provided by Superintendent Dan LeGallo.

Due to technical difficulties, Mayor Giunta moved on to Agenda Item III and stated that he'd return Agenda Item II.

Agenda Item III.

Council to consider approval of Resolution #03-21, a resolution to accept and appropriate \$539,150.57 of CARES Act Funding for the Franklin School District.

Motion - Councilor Desrochers moved that the Franklin City Council adopt Resolution #03-21, to accept and appropriate \$539,150.57 in Federal CARES Act funding titled ESSER (Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief) grant, for the purpose of funding costs associated with COVID 19 pandemic for the Franklin School District. Seconded by Councilor Starkweather.

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

RESOLUTION # 03-21

A Resolution Granting Authority to Accept and Appropriate \$539,150.57 of CARES Act funding under the ESSER (Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief) Fund for the Franklin School District.

In the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty,

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Franklin, New Hampshire recognizes that the school district will receive \$539,150.57 in CARES Act funding through the New Hampshire Department of Education titled the ESSER Fund;

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Franklin would like to appropriate \$539,150.57 of the above-mentioned funds in order to expend for costs associated with the COVID-19 pandemic for such things as technology costs for remote learning (chromebooks, computers, software), compensatory special education services, personal protection equipment, food service distributions costs, sanitizing equipment, continued contract costs, personnel costs, other instructional tools, etc., **Now,**

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, *that at a regularly scheduled meeting of the City Council on September 14, 2020, the City Council of Franklin New Hampshire does hereby vote to adopt resolution #03-21 to formally accept and appropriate \$539,150.57 of federal funding from the passage of the CARES Act by the federal government in response to the COVID-19 pandemic through the New Hampshire Department of Education under the ESSER Fund for the Franklin School District.*

An Increase in Revenues:

ESSER Fund (CARES Act) – Five Hundred Thirty-Nine Thousand, One Hundred Fifty Dollars and Fifty-Seven Cents (539,150.57)

By a roll call vote.

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.

Agenda Item II.

Superintendent LeGallo was able to reconnect to the meeting audio and provide the School Board update at this time. School Board Chair Tim Dow was present with him in the location they were dialing in from.

LeGallo stated that School has started with a hybrid approach with 3 days in class and 2 days remote. 24% of students across all three schools have decided to continue their classes in a fully remote manner. Group A attends class on Tuesday and Wednesday and Group B attends on Thursday and Friday. The hybrid student receives class assignments in the same manner that the fully remote student receives them. LeGallo added that there were a few technical issues at the beginning that have been corrected so it has been going well so far. The students are happy to be back after these past 6 months of non-classroom learning.

LeGallo thanked the school staff, administrators, School Board, City Council, and everyone who helped make this enormous undertaking happen.

LeGallo stated that the USDA provided the School with a food waiver up through December. This will allow the School system to serve breakfast and lunch to everyone, even children that are not in this district, 18 years old and under. School busses are running 5 days a week or parents can go to the Middle School and pick up the meals there. Almost 1,000 meals are served daily.

The manufacturing initiative is continuing to move forward with the help of Councilor Brown and the German Chamber of Commerce. LeGallo stated that manufacturing skills will begin to be incorporated with math classes. He is hoping that Lakes Region can teach a manufacturing math course at the High School or Lakes Region. Unfortunately the tours with teachers and students had been put on hold due to COVID however at least the curriculum piece of it is being worked in. LeGallo will keep the Council updated on progress.

Some parents were able to help out with transporting their child to school along with utilizing the school busses for those that couldn't. This is working out well at the current time.

LeGallo concluded informing the Council that the Fall extracurricular and Fall Athletics Programs have started. They are taking extra precautions during this time.

Mayor Giunta thanked LeGallo for the great update tonight.

Councilor Brown is excited that the manufacturing is moving forward. She then asked LeGallo if there is a certain indicator where the School would have to move strictly back to remote only and what would that indicator be. LeGallo replied that the Department of Human Health Services would step in immediately and do the trace testing. If anyone on his staff tested positive, he would automatically go remote for a day to begin the appropriate communications. He further explained that the Department of Education sent specific metrics on how to handle the situation. The goal is to keep the schools open and as safe as possible. It is the ultimate decision of the

School Board on keeping the schools open if there were a positive case.

Councilor Testerman asked LeGallo if he could provide a full breakdown of class size per grade. Testerman also asked what fund the 1,000 meals per day is coming from. LeGallo replied that they are getting reimbursed from a USDA Waiver through the Federal Government. LeGallo also replied to Testerman's first question on class breakdown and stated that he will work on that report as it is also due to the Department of Education by October 1st therefore, he can report back to the Council on this at the October 5th City Council Meeting.

Councilor Dzujna informed LeGallo that he received a call from a concerned parent regarding their child's first day of school at Paul Smith. Dzujna asked LeGallo if that had been worked out. LeGallo replied that the concerns were addressed and the problem resolved immediately. The parent is happy with the improvements in place now.

Mayor Giunta thanked Superintendent LeGallo and School Board Chair Tim Dow for pushing the manufacturing initiative forward. The general manager of Watts called Giunta a week or so ago who stated that they are desperate need of employees. They currently have ten to fifteen job openings.

Agenda Item IV.

Council is to consider approval of Resolution #05-21, a resolution to accept and appropriate \$93,000 from the New Hampshire Department of Education and \$49,600 from the Child Care Recovery and Stabilization Program through the CARES Act to fund COVID-19 costs for the Parks and Recreation Summer Program.

Motion - Councilor Desrochers moved that the Franklin City Council adopts Resolution #05-21 to accept and appropriate \$93,000 from New Hampshire Department of Education and \$49,600 from the Child Care Recovery and Stabilization Program (CCRSP) through the CARES Act for the purpose of funding costs associated with COVID 19 pandemic for the Parks and Recreation Summer Program.

Seconded by Councilor Dzujna.

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

RESOLUTION #05-21

A Resolution Relating to a supplemental appropriation for Fiscal Year 2021.

In the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty,

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Franklin, New Hampshire adopted a budget for Fiscal Year 2021 beginning July 1, 2020, **and**;

WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes the State of Emergency due to Covid-19 pandemic and,

WHEREAS, the City of Franklin Recreation department has been awarded at total of \$142,600 Federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act: \$93,000 through the NH Department of

Education (DOE) and \$49,600 through the Child Care Recovery and Stabilization Program (CCRSP) to provide temporary wage adjustments to day care workers and,

WHEREAS, the City Council acknowledges the recreation department is a licensed day care and appreciates the Recreation workers' continuing efforts to provide an essential service to the working parents of this community during this COVID public health crisis now,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that at their regularly scheduled meeting of the City Council on Monday, September 14, 2020, the City Council of Franklin, New Hampshire does hereby adopt resolution #05-21 to authorize the City Manager to accept and appropriate the grant funds of \$142,600 (One Hundred Forty-two Thousand Six Hundred dollars)

An Increase in Revenue:

Federal Grants Operating- DOE Acct. No. 01-5-211-33111-125 and

Federal Grants Operating- CCRSP Acct. No. 01-5-211-33111-126

An Increase in Expenditures:

Recreation Admin Summer Wages - DOE Acct. No. 01-5-211-40121-125

Recreation Admin Summer Wages - CCRSP Acct. No. 01-5-211-40121-126

By a roll call vote.

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.

Council to consider approval of Resolution #06-21, a resolution to accept and appropriate \$15,757 from the New Hampshire Secretary of State's Office through the CARES Act to fund COVID-19 costs for the elections.

Motion – Councilor Dzujna moved that the Franklin City Council adopt resolution #06-21 authorizing the City Manager to accept and appropriate federal grant money to offset election related expenditures due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Seconded by Councilor Zink.

Councilor Zink asked if this money is distributed evenly for each of the Wards. City Manager Milner replied that the distribution will be based on a direct rate derived from the Secretary of State's Office by looking at 5 different communities. This rate will be applied to all the communities against the number of absentee ballots that we have over our 2016 absentee ballots. Milner explained that it will be math formula of our absentee ballots multiplied by this direct rate.

Councilor Dzujna asked if the \$15, 757 is going to cover all three elections. Milner replied that it is to cover all three elections.

Councilor Zink stated that she believes this money does not apply to municipal elections and that it only applies to the State Primary and the State General elections. Milner replied that she did not read the grant that way however if that happens to be the case, she is confident that the number of absentee ballots will be over the 2016 numbers for just the Primary Election and the City will be able to expend the grant for just those two elections should that be the case.

Councilor Testerman asked City Manager Miler how many absentee ballots were requested in Franklin. Milner replied that we are still receiving requests for absentee ballots for two upcoming elections. Milner explained that approximately 360 ballots were processed for the Primary Election. In 2016, we processed 44 absentee ballots for this same election.

Councilor Clarenbach asked for clarification on the \$15,757 since we have not received all the absentee ballots for the General Election. He asked if this number represents a cap. Milner replied that the Secretary of State's office it does represent a cap amount. Clarenbach then asked if this should state that the City is to accept and appropriate up to \$15,757 until we can verify that the City received enough absentee ballots above and beyond the 2016 number.

Motion – Councilor Clarenbach moved to amend the motion to state the City is to accept and appropriate up to \$15,757 with the actual number to be figured out when all the absentee ballots are in.

Seconded by Councilor Bunker.

Councilor Desrochers informed the Council that the original motion read fine and does not state an amount. Zink, Desrochers and Clarenbach all agreed that the third WHEREAS in the actual Resolution needed to be updated because it is currently written to suggest we have already been awarded the \$15,757 which we have not.

Councilor Clarenbach withdrew his motion to amendment and Councilor Bunker withdrew her second.

Motion – Councilor Clarenbach moved to amend the motion to Resolution #06-21 to state that a change to the wording in the third WHEREAS paragraph, that the City of Franklin will be awarded up to \$15,757. In the Paragraph, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, at the end of that sentence, Authorize the City Manager to accept and appropriate the grant funds without an amount. In place of the dollar amount in the parenthesis for An Increase in Revenue: Amount received from the Federal Coronavirus, Aid, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. In place of the dollar amount in the parenthesis for An Increase in Expenditures: Amount received for City Clerk wages.

Seconded by Councilor Bunker.

Mayor Giunta asked if there was any further questions or comments. There were none.

Roll Call to the amendment:

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 asked if there was any discussion to the original motion. There was none.

RESOLUTION #06-21

A Resolution Relating to a supplemental appropriation for Fiscal Year 2021.

In the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty,

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Franklin, New Hampshire adopted a budget for Fiscal Year 2021 beginning July 1, 2020, and;

WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes the State of Emergency due to Covid-19 pandemic, and;

WHEREAS, the City of Franklin will be awarded up to \$15,757 Federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act through the NH Secretary of State's office to assist with additional expenditures of processing absentee ballots due to the pandemic, and;

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to appropriate the CARES Act funding for elections, now,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, *that at their regularly scheduled meeting of the City Council on Monday, September 14, 2020, the City Council of Franklin, New Hampshire does hereby adopt resolution #06-21 to authorize the City Manager to accept and appropriate the grant funds of \$15,757 (Fifteen Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty-Seven dollars)*

An Increase in Revenue:

Federal Grants Operating- SOS Acct. No. 01-5-211-33111-127, (amount received from the Federal CARES Act).

An Increase in Expenditure:

City Clerk Wages – SOS Acct. No. 01-1-401-40110-127, (amount received from the Federal CARES Act).

By a roll call vote.

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 VI.

Council to consider the disposition of Municipal Services Surplus Equipment.

Motion – Councilor Desrochers moved that the Franklin City Council authorize the Municipal Services Director to sell, for the best possible price, vehicles and equipment as itemized on the proposed “Fall 2020, Municipal Services Department, Surplus Equipment

Disposition List.”

Seconded by Councilor Starkweather.

Councilor Clarenbach asked City Manager Milner when the State Auction is taking place in reference to the new garbage trucks being delivered by Pinard. Milner replied that the new trucks are expected to be delivered to Pinard within the next two weeks and if the City goes the State Auction route, it will be in late October.

Mayor Giunta asked if there were any further comments or questions. There were none.

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.

Agenda Item VII.

Council to consider the adoption of tax deeded property.

Motion – Councilor Zink moved that the Franklin City Council accept the tax deeds on the following parcels. Map/Lot: 070/002/000, Map/Lot: 117/246/000, Map/Lot: 096/412/005, Map/Lot: 117/199/000.

Seconded by Councilor Clarenbach.

Councilor Clarenbach asked about the building only (trailer) and stated that it is rare that the City would take a trailer in a park where the City would have to begin paying rent especially when the City doesn't have a potential buyer. Clarenbach asked if someone from administration has spoken to the trailer park owner. Reading the report, this trailer is about to fall down on its own anyway.

City Manager Milner stated that the City has taken a trailer on the land of another in this case a park. The owner of the park is happy that are taking it and going to get rid of it. The City has had positive experiences with the park owner and they do not charge the City rent when we have to take a trailer.

City Clerk Katie Gargano stated that the owner of the trailer came in on deeding day, August 24th stating that he would pay the money owed to the City by today. Gargano confirmed with the City Manager's secretary Audrey Lanzillo that he did not. He may come in and ask to buy it back from the City.

Councilor Desrochers asked the cost of demolition of the trailer. City Manager Milner replied that she is not sure what the cost would be but will try to work out an agreement with the property owner and possibly ask them to dispose of the trailer because they are not receiving any rent for it anyway. Milner added that the City will try to keep the cost as low as possible with

the goal to get it back on the tax role.

Mayor Giunta asked if there were any further questions or comments. There were none.

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.

Agenda Item VIII.

Council to consider getting a public hearing on the Stevens Mill 79-E Application.

Motion – Councilor Desrochers moved that the Franklin City Council set a public hearing on Monday, October 5th, regarding Stevens Mill LLC’s application of tax relief under the provisions of RSA 79-E which were adopted by the City Council February 4th, 2013. Seconded by Councilor Trudel.

Councilor Clarenbach stated that he didn’t see the wording in the agreement that they would make the payment for the loan whole. He asked for the written document in the October Council Meeting Packet.

City Manager Milner replied that the normal process is that it would be on the covenant in the 79-E. City Attorney Paul Fitzgerald is working on this part and cannot guarantee that it will be part of the October City Council Packet.

Mayor Giunta asked if there were any further questions or comments. There were none.

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.

Agenda Item IX.

Council to consider appointing the City Manager as a voting Delegate for the 2021-2022 New Hampshire Municipal Association (NHMA) Legislative Policy Conference.

Motion - Councilor Dzujna moved that the Franklin City Council support the 2021-2022 New Hampshire Municipal Association Legislative Principles and Legislative Policies. Seconded by Councilor Desrochers.

Councilor Zink asked for clarification on the agenda item and the motion. She asked if the Council is voting to appoint the City Manager as a voting delegate or accepting the whole slate accepting her to vote for these policies.

City Manager Milner replied that the wording on the agenda item was misstated. Milner stated that the City of Franklin has always sent the City Manager. She confirmed that the motion is correct.

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.

Councilor Desrochers addressed the Council with a few items that he wanted to discuss. He stated that there is \$250K in the budget set aside for parking lots. He would like to see half of that to go toward street work and sees that the streets and sidewalks are crumbling. He suggested spending the money on one parking lot now and do another one later on.

Councilor Brown stated that Councilor Clarenbach would be setting up an MSD Committee meeting to discuss this. Audrey Lanzillo will send out a poll to gather the group's availability. Clarenbach agreed with Desrochers on the roads needing to be repaired.

Desrochers stated that there are two burned out homes on Pleasant Street and a third one from just over the weekend. These left this way become safety issues and homeless issues. Milner replied that the City has the authority to take down 26 Pleasant Street address and will be coming down over the next month. The owner of the second burned home on Pleasant Street had been working with Code Enforcement up until a month ago then silence so the City has given it to City Attorney Paul Fitzgerald to process legal next steps. The third property already has their notice.

Desrochers also requested a list of all the City Owned vehicles, where it is being used, what it is being used for, and the annual mileage driven. He would like to see more control on what the City has. Desrochers stated that part of the LEAN process is trying to find ways to work better and more efficient.

City Manager Milner replied that the City creates a Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Plan every 5 years. It lists all the vehicles in the plan, how much they cost to replace, and what they are used for. Milner added that it can be found on the City Website under the Finance page.

Desrochers also asked the Council's opinion on Council Meetings in person starting up in October and how face masks should be handled.

Mayor Giunta provide his input first and stated that he takes this health crisis very seriously even though it has been nationally criticized. He stated that he is not an expert on this so therefore he listens to the experts. He does not want to catch COVID and has read a lot of information that states if someone contracts this disease, it can have long term effects such as causing diabetes and other health issues. Regardless of the Council's consensus of meeting in person, he will only

join electronically. Giunta also stated that the Governor extended the Executive Order till January and we are coming into flu season.

The Council's general consensus was that they would meet in person and practice proper social distancing. Possibly spread out further if needed.

Councilor Testerman feels it was politicized to some degree and if the Council meets in person, she will not wear a mask because she believes it is not healthy to do so. She also stated that social distancing has caused other issues such as more drug use, lack of medical attention needed, and suicides. We don't hear anything about these things. Testerman stated that we are intelligent enough to make decisions for ourselves.

Councilor Dzujna stated that it is more meaningful to have the meetings face to face so you can see people's expressions.

Councilor Brown stated that the theatre group has been meeting face to face and the School Board so it can be done safely. She and Clarenbach agreed that they had to attend the polling locations on election day as they were required to do therefore, they can do this and properly social distance and wear masks.

Councilor Bunker stated that the City should put in place that if meetings will resume in person, they must wear a facemask.

Mayor Giunta stated that he would look further into this and try to find out if half the Council is allowed to meet in person and if the other half can meet in the Opera House.

Councilor Testerman stated that when Legislators get together at the State House, there is a designated area for people to sit who do not want to wear masks.

Councilor Trudel stated that this isn't just about the Council as they need to consider how the City Manager, Secretary Audrey Lanzillo, and the City Department Heads fit into this equation. Mayor Giunta asked Milner if she could get consensus of them as well and work with the reopening committee to look at a larger location to hold the meetings in.

Other business

1. Mayoral Committee Appointment/Resignation - Mayor Giunta appointed the following:

- Heritage Commission Appointments:
 - James DeBernardo (Alternate Seat #HC6) term of service is to January 2022
 - Sam McLaughlin (Alternate Seat #HC7) term of service is to January 2022
- Planning Board:
 - James DeBernardo (Alternate Seat #PB10) term of service is to January 2022
- Resignation from Mayor's Drug and Alcohol Task Force:
 - Scott Sheppard resigned on July 30th, 2020 due to life changing events.

2. City Council Appointments

Motion – Councilor Dzujna moved to make the following appointment. Seconded by Councilor Desrochers.

- Ward One, Ward Clerk:
-Marty Russo, Ward One Ward Clerk, term of service is to the October 2020 Election.

Councilor Desrochers asked who will be Ward Clerk when this term ends. Councilor Dzujna responded that Marty Russo is interested and will be running for this position.

City Clerk Gargano stated that she swears in all Election Officials quickly and does not wait until January.

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

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

Motion - Councilor Desrochers moved to make the following appointments. Seconded by Councilor Brown.

- The Code Enforcement Appeals Board:
-Brian Barry, Board member (Seat CEAB1) term expires September 1, 2022
-Doug Morin, Board member (Seat CEAB2) term expires September 1, 2022
-Rodney Judkins, Board member (Seat CEAB3) term exp September 1, 2023
-Roger Wickens, Board member (Seat CEAB4) term exp September 1, 2023
-Gary Auger, Alternate member (Seat CEAB5) term exp September 1, 2022

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

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.

Councilor Clarenbach asked Mayor Giunta about his place of residence and mentioned that Zillo.com is showing that it is up for sale. Mayor Giunta confirmed that his home on Lake Shore Drive was up for sale and has been sold and the closing is scheduled for early October. When the sale is finalized, he is going to lease a property and currently interested in moving into Ward 2 but

not positive at the moment.

3. Committee Reports

- Councilor Bunker asked the other Councilors who sit on the School Liaison Committee what their thoughts were on her scheduling a School Liaison Committee which she is the Chairperson of. She stated that she hasn't called a meeting with them yet due to the School Board extremely busy with their own frequent meetings through this pandemic. Councilor Testerman and Councilor Starkweather agreed to move forward and schedule a meeting. The City Manager's secretary Audrey Lanzillo will poll for availability and schedule a meeting.

There were no further committee reports.

4. City Manager's Update

- a) The contingent grant line activity for the month was \$32.88 received from Hannaford for the Mayor's Drug Task Force. In addition, the Farmer's Market also donated \$25 to the Mayor's Drug Task Force.

There was also a \$2,500 grant received from the Concord Regional Crime Line for a Community Policing Project. This will be used to purchase a drone for use by the Police Department, the Fire Department and MSD.

- b) The Trust Fund for School Funding is at \$138.52
- c) Milner congratulated our newest Police Officer Ryan Smith who graduated 2nd in his class at the Police Academy. Welcome aboard!
- d) Drug Task Force Coordinator Kandyce Tucker also received a congratulations from Milner. Tucker received the 2020 Community Service Partner Award from the Partnership of Public Health, who said that Kandyce has done some amazing substance abuse prevention work. Her work resulted in policy changes and protocol revisions within several systems in Franklin, which created a positive and enduring impact for the community's youth.

Milner stated that Tucker provided some social media training to her and Police Chief David Goldstein.

- e) Congratulations was given to Police Chief David Goldstein who won the prestigious Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award, Statewide from the American Legion.
- f) Social Media buster is: The City of Franklin does NOT own a municipal golf course.
- g) CADCA Training was a three week course that was necessary to receive the Grant money and was very well done. Milner and Tucker attended the training via Zoom. The Franklin Drug Task Force Leadership Committee members are planning a retreat where they will review the various substances and target areas which will help in preparation for a new grant.

- h) Milner stated that the City Clerk's office was closed today so they could observe their Labor Day holiday because they were required to work that day due to election work. They will also be closed on October 6th and November 3rd for the Elections.
- i) The Elections went well. Folks who chose not to wear masks were directed to a special voting area which worked out very well. Six City employees had to work the election due to a shortage of election workers.

Bessie Rowell Community Center is planned to open for parents during the October 6th Election. There have been a couple of complaints regarding having a voting location at Bessie Rowell so communications will be made to parents on the protocols in place so they are informed.

- j) The Trash Program changes have been uneventful and moving along without any major issues. The new company, Pinard, is learning the route as they drive around with one of the City's drivers. The two new trucks haven't come in just yet so the City is using one Pinard truck and one old City truck so the City is receiving a discount on our bill from Pinard due to the use of our truck. Pinard will be learning and driving the usual route for about 6 weeks and then they will discuss any suggestions or changes to the City.

Milner asked Clarenbach if he wanted to wait for one big MSD Committee meeting to review Pinard's findings or if he thought there was enough to have two meetings. Clarenbach replied that he thinks two meetings may be needed but to ask MSD Director Brian Sullivan what he thinks. Milner replied that she had spoken to Sullivan and he would like to wait until after the 6 weeks when Pinard has some feedback to provide.

- k) Milner stated that she will be away from September 23rd – 25th celebrating her 25th Wedding Anniversary. She will be available by phone if needed and Finance Director Gaudette will be on point for the City.
- l) Milner thanked the Franklin Police Department especially Police Chief David Goldstein for their amazing coordinated work involving a local drug take down. Milner was invited to witness this drug bust first hand. There were several agencies lined up early in the morning. Milner stated that it reminded her of how dangerous their line of work is. Several guns, money, drugs, and suspects were apprehended. She couldn't thank our Police Department enough for all their hard work.

Councilor Bunker asked Milner about the position movement between the Transfer Station to Pinard and asked if the Transfer Station will be opening up for additional days. Bunker also asked what projects are being worked on where the need for the additional employee is needed. Milner replied that the projects being worked on are catch up work that couldn't be done previously and Code Enforcement type work that was supposed to be worked on but wasn't due to staffing needs. Milner continued to state that these topics will be discussed at the MSD Committee meetings that will be scheduled shortly to discuss some of the plans to make some changes at the Transfer Station. Milner also added that all four employees are working at the Transfer Station right now because two of the drivers are driving alongside the Pinard driver showing them the routes etc.

Councilor Bunker then asked if the public is generally invited to committee meetings and Milner replied that the committee meetings are public and yes, they are invited.

Councilor Starkweather asked Milner if she could provide an update on the famous barn on South Main Street. Milner replied that there is someone in there leasing the barn currently however they have not been paying their rent therefore the City is in the middle of evicting them from that property. There are some ideas of how the barn can be used that will be brought forward to the Council.

Councilor Starkweather asked for an update on Cumberland Farms. Miler replied that Cumberland Farms has the Purchase and Sales Agreement to approve and we are just waiting on them to approve the agreement.

Councilor Testerman thanked City Manager's secretary Audrey Lanzillo for helping post the Fire Department SWOT presentation slides with audio up onto the City Website finally. Anyone can view the slides and see the good things they do, learn about what challenges they face, and what the future plans are looking like for Fire Department.

Councilor Clarenbach asked for a status on the sales of the City owned properties that were approved to sell last year/beginning of this year. Milner stated that she took a step back due to COVID and now that she sees property turning around in Franklin, the properties will be posted for bid very soon. She would like everything sold and on the payroll by April 1st.

Councilor Brown asked what happened with the complaints regarding the Chop Shop at Thompson Park. Milner replied that they closed up and left.

Councilor Zink asked if a LEAN meeting is scheduled. Milner replied that tonight happened to be the night when the LEAN meeting would have been held and she asked the Council if they would like to resume them again. Councilor Brown stated that she would like to start them up again in January. Milner assured the Council that LEAN action items are being worked on even though the Council has not been meeting on them.

Councilor Desrochers asked for a status on the garage on Cheney Street. Milner replied that this is the one she spoke of earlier tonight.

There were no further comments or questions.

Motion – Councilor Desrochers moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Councilor Clarenbach.

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

All in favor. Motion PASSED.

Meeting adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Audrey Lanzillo