



City Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, September 13, 2021 - 6:00 p.m.
Council Chambers, City Hall

Council in attendance: Interim Mayor Olivia Zink, Councilor Jo Brown, Councilor Scott Clarenbach, Councilor Bob Desrochers, Councilor Jay Chandler, Councilor Paul Trudel, Councilor Ted Starkweather, Councilor Testerman.

Absent: Councilor April Bunker.

Others in attendance: City Manager Judie Milner, and members of the public.

Interim Mayor Zink called the meeting to order in Council Chambers at 6:04 p.m.

Salute to the Flag was led by Councilor Brown.

MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR OUR VETERANS

Councilor Desrochers requested a moment of silence to honor Joseph Belliveau who graduated from Franklin High School then went on to serve with the United States Coast Guard from 1952-1956.

A moment of silence was also requested for Richard Gosselin who graduated from Franklin High School and worked for PCC for 43 years. Gosselin also served as a City Councilman and was a member of the New Hampshire National Guard 197th Artillery Battalion.

A moment of silence commenced in their honor.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Resolution #03-22, to accept \$62,500 from the National Recreation and Park Association to implement youth mentoring services.

The public hearing opened at 6:05 p.m.

Interim Mayor Zink asked if anyone had any comments. There was none.

The public hearing on Resolution #03-22 closed at 6:06 p.m.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Representative Dave Testerman stated that Legislation is open and Redistricting is underway.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Ward 3 resident Leigh Webb stated that veteran Neil Martin had recently passed away at 100 years old. The Franklin High School Foot Ball field was named after Mr. Martin's brother, Roger S. Martin. The Martin family is in the process of creating a memorial for their family at the Franklin Historical Society Museum.

Mayor's Drug Task Force Coordinator provided the Council with information on the upcoming Franklin Fall Fest on October 23rd.

CITY COUNCIL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Councilor Brown stated that the Manufacturing Program has been moving along at the High School and it is very exciting to see and be a part of it.

Councilor Trudel thanked Jack Benson for organizing the Information Session for the public at the Elks recently. Trudel suggested holding these sessions at least once a year.

MAYOR'S UPDATE

Interim Mayor Zink provided an update on ARPA Funds and that she will be attending a meeting in Concord to understand and share ideas on how the County should spend the ARPA Funds.

Zink also informed the Council that she attended the Mayoral Meeting to hear from the other Mayors about the Legislative sessions and what is most important to them which were the Downshifting of retirement costs, Education funding, and affordable housing.

Agenda Item I.

Council to consider the approval of Resolution #03-22 to accept and appropriate \$62,500 from the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) to implement youth mentoring impacted by the opioid crisis.

Motion – Councilor Clarenbach moved that the Franklin City Council accepts \$62,500 from the National Recreation and Park Association to implement a program to provide mentoring services for youth in rural New England impacted by the opioid crisis, authorize the City Manager to sign the memorandum of Understanding, and adopt Resolution #03-22 by a roll call vote.

Seconded by Councilor Starkweather.

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

All in favor. Motion PASSED.

Agenda Item II.

Council to consider the minutes of the July 26, 2021 City Council Special Meeting, the minutes of the July 26, 2021 City Council Special Meeting Nonpublic Sessions (I, II, III), and the minutes of the August 2, 2021 City Council Meeting.

Motion - Councilor Brown moved that the Franklin City Council approve the minutes of the July 26, 2021 City Council Special Meeting, the minutes of the July 26, 2021 City Council Special Meeting Nonpublic Sessions (I, II, III), and the minutes of the August 2, 2021 City Council Meeting. Seconded by Councilor Trudel.

Councilor Starkweather requested the name of the veteran, Larry Hennessey, be added to his comments on page 2 of 9 of the August 2, 2021 City Council meeting.

There was no further discussion.

All in favor. Motion PASSED.

Agenda Item III.

School Board Update.

Superintendent Dan LeGallo provided information that is required to obtain ESSER Grant funds. He stated that students were doing very well adjusting to returning back into classroom. LeGallo shared the Portrait of a Graduate Program action plan with the Council. A grant will be used to roll the program out.

LeGallo informed the Council that the Manufacturing program was going well and there is an event tomorrow night for the students, parents and manufacturers. The Town of Andover is looking at other districts to send their students to and Franklin is one of several they are considering.

Council members thanked LeGallo for his continued forward movement with the Manufacturing Program and also for getting the students back in the classroom.

Agenda Item IV.

Peabody Home Progress Update presented by Chris Seufert and Howie Chandler.

Chris Seufert, President of the Board of Managers for Peabody Place stated that the Peabody Home name has changed to Peabody Place. He offered the Council a tour of the facility. Seufert requested the Council's opinions on how best to operate as a non-profit and would like

to meet every month or every other month to share ideas. He further explained the additional uses of this new facility.

Howie Chandler, Peabody Place Executive Director stated that there is no entrance fee as the goal is to keep it affordable. Chandler explained that another money saver is by forgoing the facilities nursing home license which brings a high expense of keeping nurses on staff. The new “advanced assisted living model” will offer memory support, assisted living, and independent living.

John Benham, Peabody Place Board Member and family member resident thanked the Council and the City for their continued partnership and looks forward to their continued future together.

Agenda Item V. – this agenda item was postponed to the October 4, 2021 City Council meeting.

Council to consider approval of language in the developer’s agreement with Chinburg Properties.

Agenda Item VI.

Council to consider a date to Canvass the Votes

Motion – Councilor Trudel moved that the Franklin City Council set the date to Canvas the Votes from the City Election on 10/12/2021 at 6 p.m. Seconded by Councilor Starkweather.

There was no discussion.

All in favor. Motion PASSED.

Agenda Item VII.

Council to consider setting a public hearing for Resolution #04-22 to accept and appropriate \$243,446.19 from the 2020 Assistance to Firefighters Grant to be used toward firefighter training.

Motion – Councilor Trudel moved that the Franklin City Council set a public hearing date for 6:00 p.m. on October 4, 2021, for Resolution #04-22, authorization to accept and appropriate grant funds in the amount of \$267,790.81 from the 2020 Assistance to Firefighters Grants. To be read in title only.

Seconded by Councilor Desrochers.

Councilor Testerman stated that the amount shown on the agenda was different than the amount stated in the motion. City Manager Milner replied that there was a change after the

agenda was created and that Councilor Trudel read the motion for the correct amount; \$267,790.81.

There was no further discussion.

All in favor. Motion PASSED.

Agenda Item VIII.

Other Business

1. Appointments/Resignations:

- I. Interim Mayor Zink accepted the resignation of Michael Mullavey Jr. from the Conservation Commission (seat #CC1).
- II. Zink re-appointed Julie Buker to the Trustees of the Trust Funds (seat #TT3), term of service is 3-years to September 2024.
- III. Councilor Desrochers moved that the Franklin City Council accept the resignation of Jeff Dickinson (regular seat #ZBA5) from the Zoning Board of Adjustments effective as of August 4, 2021. Seconded by Councilor Clarenbach.
- IV. Councilor Desrochers moved that the Franklin City Council accept the resignation of Cecile Cormier (alternate seat #ZBA7) from the Zoning Board of Adjustments and move to appoint Cecile to (Regular Seat #ZBA5), term of service is to January 2023. Seconded by Councilor Trudel.
- V. Councilor Desrochers moved that the Franklin City Council appoint Debbie Davis to the Zoning Board of Adjustments (regular seat #ZBA2), term of service is to January 2024. Seconded by Councilor Clarenbach.

Interim Mayor asked if there was any discussion on these appointments and resignations. There was none. **All in favor. Motion PASSED.**

2. Committee Reports:

- I. A Legislative Committee update was provided by Councilor Trudel. Trudel stated that the committee met on August 25th and discussed the Veterans Tax Credit, the Fireworks/Noise Ordinance. The committee's consensus on the Veterans Tax Exemptions was to leave the current tax credits the same and not make any changes so to avoid the use of a sliding scale be misconstrued or compared with their value of service which is invaluable.
Recommended changes to the Fireworks/Noise Ordinance will be proposed at an upcoming Council meeting along with some statistics from the Police Department.

3. City Manager's Update:

- I. Contingent Grant Line Activity – \$250 was received for Recreation Scholarships, \$100 in flower donations, \$50 for the Mayor's Drug Task Force, and \$1,077.37 for the State of NH Sex Offender Compliance Check Grant.
- I. The Trust Fund for School Funding is at \$146.04
- II. Welcome aboard Justin Hanscom, Municipal Services Director!

- III. Retirement – Congratulations & Best Wishes Deb Kulacz Finance Assistant for (over 30+ years with the City) and Congratulations to retired Municipal Services Director Brian Sullivan.
- IV. National Night Out was held on 8/3. Milner gave a shout out to Kandyce Tucker, Interim Mayor Zink, and Chief Goldstein for helping to make this a very successful event.
- V. Thank you Jack Benson for organizing the Economic Task Force meeting for the community on 8/31 at the Elks. A lot of social media was discussed and rumors were addressed.
- VI. Milner also gave a shout out to the Northern Rail Trail for making the Rails to Trails Conservancy 2021 Hall of Fame Finalist (1 of 3).
- VII. The Next City Council Workshop Meeting – there will be no workshop meeting on September 27th in deference to Choose Franklin's Candidate's Forum on September 20th.
- VIII. The City's Media Connections for the month were with WMUR, Laconia Daily Sun, and Union Leader.
- IX. Mill City Park Update – Social Media Buster is that the City didn't run out of money and we didn't find some money in the river.
- X. Downtown Merchants Group is organizing a Franklin Falls Holiday Stroll on 12/3.
- XI. 10 digit dialing will be in effect on October 24th, 2021
- XII. The City Clerk's Office will be closed for the October 5th election.
- XIII. City Manager upcoming vacation days are planned for 9/17, 9/23, and 9/24. Finance Director Gaudette will be the point person.
- XIV. Milner invited the Council to the City's Annual Employee BBQ on September 21st, 2021.
- XV. The Police Committee Meeting will be held on 9/15 and the Parks and Rec Committee will meet on 9/21.

4. Late Items.

Milner stated that the Solar One and Two contracts were currently under review with the City Attorney.

Milner also shared minutes from the October 5th, 2020 meeting regarding the \$125,000 that would be used for streets and sidewalks in the outlining district. She provided suggestions in other areas where these funds could be used.

Councilor Testerman asked City Clerk Gargano if she could update the information on the City Clerk's website regarding elected officials' seats that appear open but are not. Clerk Gargano replied that she would make the updates.

The Council agreed to allow the CIP Committee and the other committees to meet and then come back together to discuss the critical issues of roads and other projects. It makes sense for them to do that and then return with their review and recommendations of the City's priorities. The Council can then provide the City Manager with direction.

Councilor Starkweather requested that new microphones be purchased.

Motion to adjourn was made by Councilor Starkweather and seconded by Councilor Brown.

The meeting adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Audrey Lanzillo