



City Council Meeting Minutes Monday, March 7, 2022 - 6:00 p.m. Council Chambers, City Hall

Council in attendance: Mayor Jo Brown, Councilor Jay Chandler, Councilor Bob Desrochers (Call-In), Councilor George Dzujna, Councilor Ted Starkweather, Councilor Vincent Ribas, Councilor April Bunker, Councilor Valerie Blake, Councilor Paul Trudel and Councilor Olivia Zink.

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

Mayor Brown called the meeting to order in Council Chambers at 6:02 p.m.

Salute to the Flag was led by Councilor Starkweather, followed by a moment of silence for the people in Ukraine led by Mayor Brown.

The public hearing opened at 6:09 p.m.

Public Hearing:

Mayor Brown started by reading through each Resolution that the City Council will be voting on at this meeting and opened each up to the public for comments:

Resolution 09-22 authorizing the City Manager to accept and appropriate up to \$6,414.59 from SAU 18 to support student services in the After School Program.
No public comments; closed.

Resolution 10-22 authorizing the City Manager to accept and appropriate \$117,938 from the Federal Child Care Achieving Stabilization Program to fund costs associated with COVID-19 pandemic in the Before and After School Programs.
No public comments; closed.

Resolution 11-22 authorizing the City Manager to accept and appropriate up to \$20,958 from the Raymond & Betty Turcotte Expendable Trust Fund for the purchase of a Fire Department rescue boat.
No public comments; closed.

Resolution 12-22 granting the City Manager authority to file an application with the Community Development Finance Authority Tax Credit Program to support the whitewater park.

A resident asked for clarification on this Resolution and City Manager Milner explained that this is a grant type funding from the State of NH that has to go towards tourism and outdoor recreation.

No other public comments; closed.

Resolution 13-22 authorizing the City Manager to accept and appropriate \$10,000 in grant

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funding for the NH Forward Program.

No public comments; closed.

Resolution 14-22 authorizing the City Manager to accept and appropriate \$30,000 grant funding from NH Department of Environmental Services for wastewater asset management.

No public comments; closed.

Legislative Update:

Mayor Brown stated that she did not see anyone there to give the Legislative update.

Comments from the Public:

Mayor Brown opened up the floor for any other public comments.

Resident Steve Rayno, Ward II, approached the City Council to discuss the state of Cheney Hill on Victory Drive that he has been asking the city to fix for the past 20 years. He mentioned that he had many conversations with former Municipal Service Director, Brian Sullivan, before his retirement and he agreed with him that something needed to be done. The retaining rock wall at Cheney Hill Road and his roadway needs to be rebuilt. He added that it is a very dangerous roadway.

Resident Alan Schneider, Ward II, approached the City Council about Victory Drive. He mentioned that he also drives up the same road from Central Street to Babbitt Road and asked if something was going to be done about West Bow Street, Cheney Hill Road and Victory Drive and if so, when. He believes these roads need to be completely rebuilt.

Resident Marie MacMartin, Ward II, approached the City Council to discuss the amount of noise that the commercial trucks make on Rte 127 (Victory Drive). Her house is on the corner of Glory Ave. and Patriot Ave. so the back of her house faces 127 and because of a dip in that road it causes a certain noise every time a truck goes over it and she is listening to that all day and evening. She wondered if something could be done about it.

Resident Leigh Webb, Ward III, approached the City Council to comment on the success of the Boat Bash that occurred over the weekend and was thankful for all of the volunteers. He mentioned that he didn't hear any complaints and he felt everyone there had a lot of fun.

Mayor Brown closed public comment at 6:19 p.m.

Mayor Brown stated that they are looking at some ARPA funding that will give them a little more flexibility as far as being able to fund the repair of some of the roads in Franklin. Some of the City Council members have already discussed ways to be able to put some funding towards roads.

City Council Acknowledgement:

Mayor Brown asked if there were any City Council acknowledgements.

Councilor Djuzna stated that the Boat Bash was great and especially wanted to thank Krystal Alpers of Parks & Recreation, as there isn't an event in Franklin that happens without her help or her leadership.

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Councilor Zink thanked the Chief of Police Goldstein for volunteering on Saturday to judge the NH Debate Competition and his quote in the paper was terrific as well.

Councilor Chandler also thanked Chief of Police Goldstein for holding a self-defense class for the ladies at his church that also took place on Saturday. The women had a lot of good things to say about it.

Councilor Bunker wanted to let the public know that the City Council appreciates any feedback they give them since it is so helpful to them to know what the public's thoughts are on issues as well.

Mayor's Update:

Mayor Brown stated that very soon they would be hearing from the department heads about the next fiscal year budgets. The department heads work many hours with each other, the Financial Director and the City Manager to make sure that the proposed spending is in line with the city priorities and what the city can afford.

Last year the City Councilors had a lot of questions for the department heads about their budgets. The line of questioning resulted in some verbal exchanges that were unprofessional. Going forward, Mayor Brown requests from the Councilors that if any injustices have been done or suspect that an inappropriate action has been made by the City Manager or a Department Head that a discussion is respectfully held beforehand and offline.

This is not intended to stifle any conversations, but keep the line of communication as professional as possible.

Let's all move forward as a true team and work together to provide the best service possible to the city of Franklin.

Mayor Brown then mentioned that the City Council and herself have signed three letters that will be sent out this week to the State House pertaining to a few bills. One is in opposition to HB 1268 limiting the authority for City Council bylaws and ordinances, the second is in opposition to SB 249 prohibiting planning and zoning ordinances that prohibit short-term rentals and lastly is their support for HB 1417 relative to payment by the state of a portion of retirement system contributions.

She thanked City Manager Milner, Councilor Zink and Councilor Ribas for putting the letters together.

Agenda Item I.

Council to consider the minutes of the January 24, 2022 Special City Council Meeting and the February 7, 2022 City Council Meeting.

Motion - Councilor Bunker moved that the Franklin City Council approve the minutes of the January 24, 2022 Special City Council Meeting. Seconded by Councilor Zink.

City Manager Milner mentioned a few corrections that needed to be amended on both meeting minutes.

Mayor Brown stated that because Councilor Desrochers is present via speaker phone that all votes will need to be done as roll call votes tonight.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilor Starkweather	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Dzujna	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Ribas	<u>yes</u>
Councilor Blake	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Bunker	<u>abstained</u>	Councilor Trudel	<u>abstained</u>
Councilor Desrochers	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Chandler	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Zink	<u>yes</u>

2 abstained. All others in favor; motion passes.

Motion - Councilor Bunker moved that the Franklin City Council approve the minutes of the February 7, 2022 City Council Meeting. Seconded by Councilor Zink.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilor Starkweather	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Dzujna	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Ribas	<u>yes</u>
Councilor Blake	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Bunker	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Trudel	<u>abstained</u>
Councilor Desrochers	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Chandler	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Zink	<u>yes</u>

1 abstained. All others in favor; motion passes.

Agenda Item II.

School Board Update.

Superintendent Dan LeGallo approached the City Council to provide a monthly update.

Mr. LeGallo stated that he had good news tonight. The Robotics grant was a success so \$7,000 went to the Middle School Robotics team, which is up and running and \$13,500 went to the High School Robotics team.

Their partnership with Makerspace is going very well. There is a culinary workshop going on in the Middle School and a second set of students will be starting up in April. These are after school programs.

Mr. LeGallo mentioned that there have been two retirements, the Principal at the Elementary School and the Middle School, who will retire at the end of the year. He will be announcing the candidate for Principal at the Middle School tomorrow night and they will start searching for a new Elementary School Principal this week.

The budget process is moving along nicely. There is a school board budget workshop scheduled for tomorrow night at 6 p.m. in the High School Cafeteria, if anyone would like to attend. For the manufacturing update, Mr. LeGallo stated that they now have four functioning college credit bearing classes with their manufacturing program. These are through their partnerships

with LRCC and NH Forward. The next phases with NH Forward look very promising.

Mr. LeGallo mentioned that 'School of Rock' is the next performance for the school district and tickets are available for that.

Bill 1671 is proposing that there will only be funding for math, science, social studies and English classes. This would provide no funding for any other classes. The school board wrote letters opposing this bill that he signed and they will be going out to the House and the Governor tomorrow.

HB1033 is a lobbying bill proposing that tax dollars cannot go towards any kind of lobbying and he believes further discussion will be necessary on that.

Business Administrator Jefferson Braman approached the City Council to speak about his conversation with the auditor a few months ago. They were working on cleaning up past due audits and the auditor informed him that because they have had consecutive years of clean audits with no question costs or findings that they are now considered a low-risk auditee. This means requirements for audits will be less strenuous going forward. Mr. Braman thanked his business office and staff for all of their work on this.

City Manager Milner wanted to know when their next meeting is so that she can oppose the House Bill 1671. Mr. Braman stated that anyone can go on the NHSBA website (www.nhsba.org) and they have calendars with times of meetings listed.

Mayor Brown congratulated them on their news.

Agenda Item III.

Motion – Councilor Blake moved to adopt Resolution #09-22, to accept and appropriate up to \$6,414.59 from SAU 18 to support student services in the After School Program. Seconded by Councilor Bunker.

Councilor Trudel wanted an explanation on the need for this Resolution.

City Manager Milner stated that the budget adjustment for the \$6,000 is appropriated differently than 10-22.

Superintendent LeGallo added that these funds are to support one on one assistance for a special needs student in the after-school program, who receives and needs this same assistance during the school day.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilor Starkweather	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Dzujna	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Ribas	<u>yes</u>
Councilor Blake	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Bunker	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Trudel	<u>yes</u>
Councilor Desrochers	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Chandler	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Zink	<u>yes</u>

All in favor; motion passes.

Agenda Item IV.

Motion – Councilor Dzujna moved to have the Franklin City Council vote to adopt Resolution #10-22 to accept and appropriate \$117,938 from the Federal CCASP (Child Care Achieving Stabilization Program) for the purpose of funding costs associated with the COVID 19 pandemic for the Parks and Recreation Before and After School Program. Seconded by Councilor Trudel.

Mayor Brown asked if there was any discussion on this motion.
No discussion ensued.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilor Starkweather	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Dzujna	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Ribas	<u>yes</u>
Councilor Blake	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Bunker	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Trudel	<u>yes</u>
Councilor Desrochers	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Chandler	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Zink	<u>yes</u>

All in favor; motion passes.

Agenda Item V.

Motion – Councilor Trudel moved to have Franklin City Council adopt Resolution #11-22, approving an expenditure of up to \$20,958 from the Raymond and Betty Turcotte Expendable Trust Fund, for the purchase of a new Fire Department Rescue Boat. Seconded by Councilor Starkweather.

Mayor Brown asked if there was any discussion on this motion.
No discussion ensued.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilor Starkweather	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Dzujna	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Ribas	<u>yes</u>
Councilor Blake	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Bunker	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Trudel	<u>yes</u>
Councilor Desrochers	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Chandler	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Zink	<u>yes</u>

All in favor; motion passes.

Agenda Item VI.

Motion – Councilor Trudel moved that the Franklin City Council adopt Resolution #12-22, hereby authorizing Judie Milner, City Manager, to file an application not to exceed \$482,500 with the Community Development Finance Authority Tax Credit Program and to sign all the necessary paperwork thereof. Seconded by Councilor Starkweather.

Mayor Brown asked if there was any discussion on this motion.

City Manager Milner explained that the Economic Development Administration is working on both the land portion and the water portion of Mill City Park. Feature 3 is already installed. This feature is for a surfing spot further up the river. There is a \$1.5 million dollar EDA grant in the works for the park to attract tourism.

She stated that this application is for a state program, not federal funds. It is also a tax credit. This application would go towards those matching funds.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilor Starkweather	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Dzujna	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Ribas	<u>yes</u>
Councilor Blake	<u>abstained</u>	Councilor Bunker	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Trudel	<u>yes</u>
Councilor Desrochers	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Chandler	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Zink	<u>yes</u>

1 abstained. All others in favor; motion passes.

Agenda Item VII.

Motion – Councilor Bunker moved that the Franklin City Council adopt Resolution #13-22 to authorize the city to act as fiscal agent for the New Hampshire Forward Industry Educational Partnership and to accept and appropriate \$10,000 of grant/donation funding money for the program. Seconded by Councilor Ribas.

Mayor Brown asked if there was any discussion on this motion.
No discussion ensued.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilor Starkweather	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Dzujna	<u>abstained</u>	Councilor Ribas	<u>yes</u>
Councilor Blake	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Bunker	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Trudel	<u>yes</u>
Councilor Desrochers	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Chandler	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Zink	<u>yes</u>

1 abstained. All others in favor; motion passes.

Agenda Item VIII.

Motion – Councilor Trudel moved that the Franklin City Council adopt Resolution #14-22 to accept and appropriate \$30,000 of American Rescue Plan Act grant funds through the NH Department of Environmental Services for the sanitary sewer asset management and authorize the City Manager to execute all documents pertaining to the grant. Seconded by Councilor Starkweather.

Mayor Brown asked if there was any discussion on this motion.

No discussion ensued.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilor Starkweather	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Dzujna	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Ribas	<u>yes</u>
Councilor Blake	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Bunker	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Trudel	<u>yes</u>
Councilor Desrochers	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Chandler	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Zink	<u>yes</u>

All in favor; motion passes.

Agenda Item IX.

Motion – Councilor Ribas moved that the Franklin City Council set a public hearing date for 6:00 pm, at the April 4th, 2022 meeting of the City Council, for Ordinance #04-22. Adoption of Ordinance #04-22 will result in the update to the City Municipal Code Chapter 21, Article I ‘Fire Hydrants’, Sections 21-1 and 21-2. Seconded by Councilor Trudel.

Councilor Ribas read Ordinance 04-22 in its entirety:

‘Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Franklin that the Franklin Municipal Code, Chapter 21, Article I ‘Fire Hydrants’, Sections 21-1 and 21-2 be changed as follows:

Article I

Fire Hydrants

[Adopted 5-5-1986 as Title Four, Ch. VII of the 1986 Code]

§ 21-1

Testing and flushing. [1]

A.

It shall be the duty of the Municipal Services Department, in cooperation with the Fire Department, to test all public fire hydrants. The City shall ensure that all Private hydrants are maintained in accordance with this ordinance. The City shall ensure that all hydrants are in proper working condition at least once annually. Fire hydrants will also be flushed at least once annually during this time.

B.

Such tests shall be completed by an employee of the Municipal Services Department.

[1]

Editor's Note: Amended at time of adoption of Code (see Ch. 1, General Provisions, Art. I).

Public Hydrants are hydrants that are adjacent to a public way, Planning Board approved subdivisions and the City's public hydrant inventory list. Public hydrants may be located on a city right of way or easement. Public hydrants are connected to the City of Franklin's pressurized water system.

Private Hydrants are hydrants that are located on private property, and intended for fire protection for the property and buildings. Private hydrants are connected to the City of Franklin's pressurized water system.

The testing, maintenance and repair of public hydrants will be the responsibility of the Municipal Services Department.

It will be the responsibility of the property owner of the private hydrants to test, maintain and repair if necessary. This will be in accordance with *Table 7.2.2.5 "Wet Barrel Hydrants" of the NFPA 25 2014 Edition (Standard for the Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance of Water-Based Fire Protection Systems)*. Testing is to be completed in conjunction with the *Hydrant Compliance Confirmation* form, provided by the Municipal Services Department.

§ 21-2

Improperly operating hydrants.

All privately owned hydrants found to be operating improperly shall be repaired and placed in proper working condition as soon as possible. Public hydrant repairs will be the responsibility of the City of Franklin. Private hydrant repairs will be the responsibility of the property owner.

Record Keeping, Fees and Reporting

21-3

1. The private hydrant owner will provide the annual records of testing, maintenance and repair (if needed) to the Municipal Services Director. Testing, maintenance and repair must be conducted by a qualified professional.
- or
2. The private hydrant owner will pay the associated fee found in Chapter 160 of the General Legislation labeled under "Fire Hydrant" to the City of Franklin. This fee will ensure the required testing is conducted annually in conjunction with public hydrants as performed by the Municipal Services Department. It will be the responsibility of the private hydrant owner to repair any worn or broken components of the hydrant. Fees will be assessed for each hydrant located on a property.'

Mayor Brown asked if there was any discussion on this motion.
No discussion ensued.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilor Starkweather	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Dzujna	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Ribas	<u>yes</u>
Councilor Blake	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Bunker	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Trudel	<u>yes</u>
Councilor Desrochers	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Chandler	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Zink	<u>yes</u>

All in favor; motion passes.

Agenda Item X.

Motion – Councilor Trudel moved that the Franklin City Council approve a regrade of one buildings & grounds custodian (grade 7001) to heavy Equipment Operator I (grade 7003) in the buildings & grounds division of municipal services. Seconded by Councilor Starkweather.

Mayor Brown asked if there was any discussion on this motion.

Councilor Zink asked for clarification on why the amount was smaller than the \$5,900 for the year and wanted to know if this was because they were at the end of the fiscal year.

City Manager Milner answered that she was correct. Since we are three quarters of the way through the FY22 budget, the \$1,490 is the last order of the year.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilor Starkweather	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Dzujna	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Ribas	<u>yes</u>
Councilor Blake	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Bunker	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Trudel	<u>yes</u>
Councilor Desrochers	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Chandler	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Zink	<u>yes</u>

All in favor; motion passes.

Agenda Item XI.

Council to discuss ward line changes as a result of the decennial census data.

Mayor brown turned this over to Councilor Zink to speak about.

Councilor Zink explained that a charter change needs to be done in order to comply with redistricting laws and rules. There are three options that need to be discussed and decided on for Franklin now and moving forward.

This was also discussed at the Legislative Committee meeting. Other cities in NH have already

adopted this charter change for this election.

She added that we are about 600 people over on our highest and lowest ward, which puts us over the 10% deviation.

Councilor Zink stated that there are two steps to this decision making. Step 1 needs to be decided on first, which is deciding between the three options. Step 2 would be deciding where to move people in the wards based on the option selected in Step 1.

For Step 1 the options are as follows:

Option #1: Keep the lines in the city charter and recommend a charter change to adjust those lines within a 10% variation. This is the status quo and will require a charter change going forward on ward line changes as a result of the Census every 10 years.

Option #2: Recommend a charter change to move the ward lines outside of the charter and into the city code. This will eliminate the need for a charter change for ward line changes; rather, the city council would adjust ward lines through an ordinance (with a public hearing).

Option #3: Recommend a charter change to eliminate wards and would make all city councilors to be elected at large.

A discussion ensued with the majority of the councilors wanting to keep the ward lines as is, as opposed to changing to one ward. This would take option #3 off of the table. Everyone agreed that keeping the wards as is, would be less disruptive and less confusing for voters.

Councilor Zink stated that based on the 2020 Census, Franklin's population per ward is as follows:

Ward 1 – 3,001

Ward 2 – 2,607

Ward 3 – 3,133

This does need to be based on the 2020 census and cannot be based on anticipated population.

Mayor Brown stated that it doesn't seem like going large is what is preferred and that the councilors would prefer to keep wards the same. She asked if it would be best to set a public hearing to discuss further or to come to a consensus on Step 1 now.

Councilor Desrochers stated that he thinks the priority would be to get the charter change on the ballot now.

Councilor Zink did state that she thinks they need to make a decision on the charter change this year, but that the effective date should not be immediate. She thinks it should be effective for after the November election so that we aren't changing ward lines a month before elections. It could be set for January 1st of 2023. That would give the city clerk time to let people know that their ward has changed.

City Manager Milner asked about scheduling a special workshop meeting to discuss more and make a decision on the options. The drop date to decide would be the June 6th City Council meeting to follow the rules and get it on the ballot by October.

Mayor Brown stated that they could set up a forum at a special workshop meeting to decide on options #1 and #2 (option #3 eliminated) and to be able let the public take a look at the maps as well, since that will be the next step to discuss.

A public hearing on the charter change decision was scheduled for April 11, 2022 at 6:00pm in Council Chambers.

Agenda Item XII.

Other Business:

1. Mayor & Council Appointments

Mayor Brown re-appointed Glen Feener to the Heritage Commission, seat HC3, term of service through January 2025.

Mayor Brown re-appointed Robert Lucas to the Heritage Commission, seat HC4, term of service through January 2025.

Mayor Brown re-appointed James DeBernardo as an alternate to the Planning Board, seat PB10, term of service through January 2025.

Mayor Brown appointed April Bunker to the Mayor's Drug & Alcohol Task Force term of service to January 2023 term of office.

Mayor Brown stated that there is also a Council appointment.

Motion – Councilor Ribas moved that the Franklin City Council re-appoint Kathlene Fleckenstein to Zoning Board of Adjustment, seat ZBA4, term of service to January 2025. Seconded by Councilor Dzujna.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilor Starkweather	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Dzujna	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Ribas	<u>yes</u>
Councilor Blake	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Bunker	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Trudel	<u>yes</u>
Councilor Desrochers	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Chandler	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Zink	<u>yes</u>

All in favor; motion passes.

2. Committee Reports

Mayor Brown turned Committee Reports over to Councilor Trudel.

Councilor Trudel stated that he would like to propose two items that had been tabled in previous City Council meetings. This is in two parts; the first would be to take Ordinance 03-22 off of the table and the other is for revising the City Manager or Committees to continue moving forward with these.

Motion – Councilor Trudel moved to have the Franklin City Council take from the table Ordinance 03-22, which pertains to changes and noise ordinance for fireworks under the violations and penalties section of the municipal code. Seconded by Councilor Zink.

Mayor Brown mentioned that since this would be taken off of the table there would be no need for discussion on this motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilor Starkweather	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Dzujna	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Ribas	<u>yes</u>
Councilor Blake	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Bunker	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Trudel	<u>yes</u>
Councilor Desrochers	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Chandler	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Zink	<u>yes</u>

All in favor; motion passes.

Motion – Councilor Trudel moved that City Manager Milner revise Ordinance 03-22 per the discussion at the February 22, 2022 Legislative Committee meeting and place on the April 4, 2022 City Council agenda for Council consideration of a public hearing on May 2, 2022 City Council meeting. Seconded by Councilor Bunker.

Mayor Brown asked if there was any discussion on this motion.
No discussion ensued.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilor Starkweather	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Dzujna	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Ribas	<u>yes</u>
Councilor Blake	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Bunker	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Trudel	<u>yes</u>
Councilor Desrochers	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Chandler	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Zink	<u>yes</u>

All in favor; motion passes.

Motion – Councilor Trudel moved to have the Franklin City Council take from the table

Ordinance 09-20, adding new municipal code pertaining to election ties and the recount process. Seconded by Councilor Zink.

Mayor Brown mentioned that since this would be taken off of the table there would be no need for discussion on this motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilor Starkweather	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Dzujna	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Ribas	<u>yes</u>
Councilor Blake	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Bunker	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Trudel	<u>yes</u>
Councilor Desrochers	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Chandler	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Zink	<u>yes</u>

All in favor; motion passes.

Motion – Councilor Trudel moved that City Clerk Stanyan and City Manager Milner revise Ordinance 09-20 per the discussion at the February 22, 2022 Legislative Committee meeting and be placed on the first City Council meeting agenda, following City Solicitor Fitzgerald and the Secretary of State approval of the language for Council consideration of setting up a public hearing for the following City Council meeting. Seconded by Councilor Ribas.

Mayor Brown asked if there was any discussion on this motion.
No discussion ensued.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilor Starkweather	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Dzujna	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Ribas	<u>yes</u>
Councilor Blake	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Bunker	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Trudel	<u>yes</u>
Councilor Desrochers	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Chandler	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Zink	<u>yes</u>

All in favor; motion passes.

Councilor Zink stated that the Legislative Committee meeting on February 22, 2022 was a very busy meeting. They approved the minutes and discussed ordinances that had been previously laid on the table. Some were taken off of the table and there are a few more so those will come up after more meetings. The elected officials code of conduct and a revised personnel policy will be the next discussion they have.

Councilor Dzujna stated that at the last MSD meeting they discussed trash and recycling and that

there is a City Council workshop meeting on March 28, 2022 to discuss all of this in more detail. He stated that as many councilors and the public should attend since it will be a very important meeting about our trash.

He also mentioned that he and Mayor Brown made a visit to the Gilford transfer station to see how they take care of recycling and they said their biggest challenge was the tipping fees continuously going up.

3. City Manager's Updates

Mayor Brown turned this over to City Manager Milner.

City Manager Milner started off saying that the ARPA workshop went very well. You can view this workshop or any workshop meeting by clicking on the link on our website.

For the Contingent Grant Line Activity, we have received \$100 in donations for the Kayak Certification Program.

The trust fund for school funding is at \$147.79.

City Manager Milner wanted to welcome aboard Lisa Jones to the City Manager's Office as the new Executive Secretary.

There is also a new employee at the Police Department, Brendon Merchant. He comes with a lot of qualifications, so welcome aboard, Officer Merchant.

She also wanted to congratulate our own Drug Task Force coordinator, Kandyce Tucker, for receiving the BPW 2022 Young Careerist Award.

Upper Merrimack River Local Advisory Committee and the Northern Rail Trail are looking for volunteers from Franklin to join their boards. If interested, please come in and see Executive Secretary Jones so that you can fill out an appointee profile form.

For the Economic Task Force a grant was submitted to the Economic Development Agency for \$1,544,000. Milner received news that out of 130 applications this grant scored number 1 in the State of NH. There are still some obstacles but ours is very competitive at this point. In addition to that the Council has just authorized an application tonight for the tax credit program to do the match for the EDA grant. The total for that project and total grant funding comes to \$1,930,000.

The next City Council workshop meeting is on March 28, 2022 where they will be talking about trash. There will be an entire trash/solid waste presentation.

The next Committee meetings in March will be Parks & Recreation Committee on March 30, 2022 at 10am located at the Bessie Rowell and the Police Committee meeting on March 28, 2022 at 10am at the Police Department.

City Manager Milner stated as a reminder that Daylight Savings time is this weekend so don't forget to change your clocks forward by one hour on March 13, 2022 at 2:00am.

The Eversource Project that goes from Franklin all the way to Campton is moving along. The weather is causing a few delays so they have asked and received approval to work on Sundays. City Manager Milner stated that they did ask them to limit their hours on Sundays for between 9am – 4pm. You may see some work going on during Sundays, however not all Sundays, throughout the mud season.

City Manager Milner wanted to bring up a collaboration between Mill City Park and Concord Hospital Franklin pertaining to signage that you see out next to the car wash on city property. It currently the Concord Hospital sign. She passed out the rendering of the new signage. She asked both Mill City Park and Concord Hospital Franklin to work together to come up with something to be able to share the signage and they have done that. Along with collaborating together on the signage, Concord Hospital will be picking up the cost for putting up the sign and Mill City Park will pick up the cost of maintaining the flowers, trimming around the sign, mowing and any other maintenance needed on that bottom section.

City Manager Milner added that she attended and volunteered at the Boat Bash this past weekend. Once she has all of the numbers, she will pass that information along since it is a fundraising event.

City Manager Milner mentioned she wanted to talk to the council about the 1033 bill pertaining to lobbying, that Superintendent LeGallo spoke about earlier in the meeting. She believes she had forwarded this to the council this week and it's important that they show that they are in opposition of this House Bill. This bill limits any of us from going down and explaining how any bill effects the City of Franklin, which she believes is their constitutional right and freedom of speech. She stated that if the Council needs her to resend this to them to let her know. She will be signing in opposition to HB1033 and would ask that the Council joins her, as more would be better.

City Manager Milner stated that she received word today that Mojalaki Solar has appealed, so this will be moving forward to the Supreme Court. She will let the City Council know what the time line is on that once she hears back.

Councilor Desrochers asked a question about Solar 1 & 2.

City Manager Milner answered and reminded the Council and the public that City Council has moved forward with a letter to Solar 1 & 2 that they want to get out of the lease and break the lease since they have not been performing. That has already gone out and she is waiting for a reply so that they can move on with another use for the growing season.

4. Late items

Mayor Brown asked if there were any other comments.

Councilor Chandler addressed resident, Steve Rayno, about the road situation in Franklin. He stated that all of the roads are in need of repair and they are all working on coming up with a solution to fix them. He mentioned that the moneys going towards the Mill City Park are not able to go towards roads since grants and federal funding is specific about where funding has to be used once issued, so they are not ignoring his requests.

**Motion to adjourn was made by Councilor Chandler and seconded by Councilor Zink.
All in favor. Motion PASSED.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Jones