



Approved as amended by the City Council on January 7, 2019

**City Council Meeting Minutes
6:00PM - Council Chambers
December 3, 2018**

Call to Order

Mayor Giunta called the meeting to order in Council Chambers, Franklin City Hall at 6:03PM.

Council members in attendance:

Mayor Giunta, Councilor Brown, Councilor Clarenbach, Councilor Desrochers, Councilor Dzujna, Councilor Moquin, Councilor Ribas, Councilor Trudel, Councilor Zink

Absent: Councilor Barton

Others in attendance:

City Manager Judie Milner

The salute to the flag was led by Councilor Ribas.

Mayor Giunta recognized Captain Robert J. Brown, a member of the Franklin Fire Department who has passed away. A moment of silence commenced in honor of Captain Brown who provided dedicated service to our community.

Councilor Desrochers asked the City for a moment of silence in honor of President George Hershel Walker Bush who also fought as a combat pilot in WWII.

Public Hearing

Opened at 6:06PM

Resolution #07-19, A Resolution to establish a Trust Fund for donations toward the Franklin School District's Operating Budget with the City's Trustees of the Trust Funds.

Mayor Giunta asked if anyone would like to speak. There were no comments from the public.

Public Hearing closed at 6:06PM

Comments from the public

Bob Lucas, Ward 1 and Chair of the Franklin Drug Task Force introduced new coordinator, Kandyce Tucker to the team. Mr. Lucas urged everyone to view the Drug Task Force website and read about what they do. There are many opportunities for anyone to get involved. Mr. Lucas also explained that VITEX, a local business, contacted City Manager Milner to offer assistance by way of recognizing addiction and

how to address it. Our community businesses are faced with hiring people who end up failing a drug or alcohol test and employers struggle with how to address it. The Mayor's Drug Task Force would like to try to bring together other local business to support each other and work toward finding helpful solutions with these issues.

Kandyce Tucker introduced herself as the new Mayor's Drug Task Force coordinator. She is a local resident and prior student of Franklin High School. The Task Force is directing some energy to sustainability and getting businesses involved which will strengthen our community and allow this team to continue to do great things for Franklin.

There were no questions for Kandyce. Mayor Giunta thanked her and directed a comment to the Fire Chief Lachapelle that it will take partnerships with private and public sectors to achieve the community's goals.

Kaitlin Nash, Chair of Choose Franklin informed the Council and the public that the group is running Christmas tree sales for the second year. They are hoping to see a profit this year to then give back to the community. The destination for the funds hasn't been decided on just yet but will tie into Choose Franklin's Mission. Kaitlin also mentioned that the First Day event is approaching and will be a bigger event this year. The Choose Franklin Calendar has launched. She also communicated that their public meeting location has changed from the 1st Thursday of each month at the Library and will now be held at City Hall. Lastly, she stated that this Friday 12/7 at 6:15PM will be the Christmas tree lighting at Marceau Park.

Representative Werner Horn, Ward 2 resident announced that he was recently re-elected as our State Representative. He stated that Mr. David Testerman was re-elected as well. Joyce Fulweiler from the Tilton School Board was elected for Merrimack 3, Greg Hill was re-elected for Merrimack 3, Howard Pearl was also re-elected to Merrimack 26, and our remaining Senator Harold French in Senate District 7. Andru Volinsky remained on as Executive Council.

Representative Horn provided an overview of the legislation that he has sponsored. Mr. Horn stated that there was a number of Executive Branch Employees not filling out financial disclosures. One of the Bills that Mr. Horn has put in a Bill to have someone manually responsible to review the list of those who are not following the rules and prosecute them adding a \$5,000 civil penalty as well. The taxpayers should not be paying for this. Mr. Horn has also placed a Bill to put in an additional licensed Marijuana dispensary for Merrimack County. He also put in a Bill to assist homeowners with the eviction process which will force the renter to put their rent in escrow until an issue is resolved so the homeowner receives their rent, as long as he complies as well to fixing something, and the evicted party isn't allowed to live there for free during the legal process which can take months. If the person being evicted doesn't comply to escrow their rent, they have no standing to argue whatever the issue is and the eviction is done immediately. This is currently part of legislation and enforced in Florida. The last Bill Mr. Horn discussed was regarding squatters. They must have written permission from the land owner to be on the property, similar to what hunters have to provide.

Representative Horn also shared that he will be co-signing a Bill to put legislation in place regarding the Stabilization cuts during the budget process. The funding based on the previous FY adequacy formula still lags a year. A Stabilization freeze will make sure there are no additional cuts. He requested Finance 2 as a committee because they deal with education so therefore if the Speaker of the House thinks it's appropriate, he'll land on Finance 2 and influence the proper and adequate funding is in place. There are currently two Bills in place that affect the adequacy formula; he is trying to co-sponsor either one of them.

Desiree McLaughlin, Ward 2 Resident stated that she sent a few emails to the Mayor and Police Chief Goldstein due to her being contacted by reporters and other people due to her being in contact with the homeless population in Franklin. She wants to stay out of the spotlight and doesn't want to shine a negative light on Franklin. There seems to be many disconnected articles written about Franklin. Many people are split on their opinions of Franklin. Since she is being pulled into these issues, she wants to better explain what is being done so she can pass on the right information. She didn't know who to speak to when facts are needed. Mayor Giunta responded letting her know that she can direct any media to our City Manager Judie Milner who would be happy to meet and discuss anything that comes up here in our City.

Annette Andreozzi, Ward 3 resident, curator of the Franklin Historical Society, member of the New Hampshire Historical Society, and volunteer with the NH Preservation Alliance. She shared her concerns over the possibility of the City losing the building that resides at 42 Canal Street. She provided the Council with a letter from Mr. Cushing of the NH Preservation Alliance that was emailed to the Council along with a map that explained the history of 42 Canal Street. Annette researched and explained the significant history of the property, surrounding streets, and how it is important to Franklin's History. She concluded stating that the building at 42 Canal Street sits on its original foundation on its original site and is the oldest wood framed Mill Housing building in the historic district. Careful consideration of its historical importance must be made before thoughts of removing it are discussed. She thanked the Council for her time to speak.

Leigh Webb, Ward 3 reminded all that this week is the Annual Children's Auction Week starting tonight through Saturday. Mr. Webb has volunteered as a cameraman for years. Michael Seymour, Christopher Boothby, and Sandy Marshall should be familiar names and are involved with the event. It is broadcast on the radio, Channel 25, and Lakes Region Public Access. Mr. Webb also reminded all that the Franklin Opera House is kicking off the Festival of Trees this weekend. Trees will be raffled off with all decorations and everything underneath goes with it as well. A sheet of 25 tickets cost only \$5.00. This is also opening weekend for Miracle on 34th Street at the Opera House as well. Lastly, on a personal note, Mr. Webb thanked Chief Lachapelle for his service to the City of Franklin. The Audience directed applause toward Kevin.

Mayor Giunta asked if there was anyone else who would like to provide comments or questions. There was none.

Comments from the Public session closed at 6:38PM

City Council Acknowledgments

Councilor Dzujna asked the public and City if folks who can physically shovel out their fire hydrants in honor of Captain Brown who passed away. Captain Brown went through the City flushing out the fire hydrants. Please honor him and shovel out your fire hydrants.

Agenda Item I

City Council to consider the minutes of the May 14th Budget Workshop, the minutes of the May 30th Budget Workshop, the minutes of the October 16th LEAN Workshop, the minutes of the October 29th LEAN Workshop, the minutes of the November 13th LEAN Workshop, and the minutes of the November 5th City Council Meeting.

**Motion – Councilor Dzujna moved that the Franklin City Council consider the minutes of the May 14th Budget Workshop, the minutes of the May 30th Budget Workshop, the minutes of the October 16th LEAN Workshop, the minutes of the October 29th LEAN Workshop, the minutes of the November 13th LEAN Workshop, and the minutes of the November 5th City Council Meeting.
Seconded by Councilor Desrochers.**

Councilor Ribas requested to include the corrections in the minutes that he provided.

All in Favor. Motion PASSED.

Agenda Item II

School Board update was provided by Superintendent Dan LeGallo. Mr. LeGallo recognized and thanked Chief Lachapelle for his dedication to the City. He enjoyed working with him over the past 4 years. Mr. LeGallo also mentioned that they both attended safety training in Maryland and stated that Chief Lachapelle has been an amazing resource. He will be greatly missed.

Mr. LeGallo updated the Council stating that there is a tentative agreement on the table for the teacher contract negotiations. It will go before the School Board this month for approval then proceed to the City Council for approval.

The Energy Project continues without issue. Teachers and other staff are happy to have heat where there was none before. The Project isn't complete at this time however due diligence is underway to make sure everything is working properly.

Mr. LeGallo asked City Manager Milner if the letter to the Governor is complete and ready for the Superintendent to sign. Milner responded that the letter is ready for signatures and LeGallo thanked her for taking the lead on this.

The Federal Audit was completed during the first week of November. They were at the SAU for approximately 6 hours. Mr. LeGallo hasn't received the finding from that audit just yet and will report back to the Council as soon as he hears from them.

Mr. LeGallo recognized Councilor Brown for organizing the Education Forum that was held on November 29th. He was impressed with the passion the Hinsdale Students brought to the meeting.

In his conclusion, Mr. LeGallo pointed out that the next item on the agenda will review in detail the new information regarding Fund Balance. SAU Business Administrator Jefferson Braman will assist with that discussion.

Councilor Ribas mentioned that Mr. LeGallo was to provide an update on EEI and that the Council should be invited to the next meeting with EEI. Mr. LeGallo stated that the SAU is meeting with EEI next Monday and he will forward the invitation.

Councilor Brown thanked Mr. LeGallo for stating his appreciation of her organizing the forum however she expressed disappointment of the low attendance from the school board and SAU staff. Councilor Brown asked Mr. LeGallo if he encouraged his staff to attend but unfortunately due to it being a school/work day, he didn't think to ask his staff to attend. He offered to do it next time around. Councilor Brown stated that there was a hands-on portion of the forum for a few Franklin Students but that was kiboshed. She asked Mr. LeGallo why weren't they allowed to participate and he replied that due to it being a school day and not knowing any details, he wanted the students to remain in class.

Councilor Brown asked Mr. LeGallo for a status on Colby-Sawyer and he responded that Principal Carrie Charette met with them, the process is moving forward. Brown also expressed concern, being that the teachers contracts are under negotiations, she dislikes that teachers are first on the chopping block when budget cuts come up. Our teachers are part of our most valuable assets. The ELO opportunities won't happen if we can't keep trained teachers. She is deeply concerned about these issues.

Councilor Desrochers asked Superintendent LeGallo if he caught the news the other night regarding the Berlin School District and another School District suing the State of New Hampshire for a Claremont III. Mr. LeGallo stated that he had been in contact with Berlin's Superintendent before this came about. LeGallo is attending the Superintendent Meeting next week where he will see Berlin's superintendent and will catch up on this issue, there. Councilor Desrochers expressed urgency for our Schools to get moving on this because it will still be a couple of years out before it even gets addressed. We are behind the eight ball on this.

Mayor Giunta made reference to the joint letter that will be sent to the Governor and stated that it's very simplistic, clear, and will make an impact. Mr. LeGallo would like the letter to be available to the Public. Mayor Giunta agreed.

Mayor Giunta switched around the next two agenda items.

Agenda Item IV.

Hometown Heroes Banner Presentation by Matthew Wieczhalek-Seiler.

Mr. Seiler lives in Concord NH and started this program there earlier this year. His motivation was due to his late brother who served as a Patriot Launch Commander in the United States Army. While in Attica, NY, he noticed banners being hung on the lampposts. This inspired him to honor his brother and expressed great joy to witness it as it was raised on a lamppost in Attica NY. He is working with other communities helping them either start their own program or sponsoring the banners himself. Those honored are generally sponsored by family members or friends and can either be actively serving, a veteran, or deceased. They would also have some sort of residency in Franklin by means of currently or previously living in Franklin or had attended Franklin Schools. Mr. Seiler asked the City Council if this type of program could find a place in our City. There is no cost to the City unless the City would like to use its own employees to hang the banners. The time it takes the employee to hang would be the only investment from the City. Businesses or Corporations are not allowed to sponsor the banners. There is no advertising done on the banners. Donations are welcome from them and that will be recognized in a different way.

Mr. Seiler stated that the general rule is that the banners are hung right before Memorial Day and remain until after Veterans Day. He cleans and stores the banners. They generally can last 3-5 years depending on where they are placed.

Volunteers are welcome. Please contact Matt if anyone is interested in helping him with this effort.

Mr. Seiler provided pamphlets and information. He also has a Facebook page under "Concord for Hometown Heroes".

Councilor Dzujna asked Mr. Seiler what the cost per banner is. Mr. Seiler responded that it costs \$200.00 and this does not include the hanging hardware needed. That is an additional \$40.00 and he is willing to pay for that himself.

Councilor Moquin asked Mr. Seiler where Concord chose to hang their banners. He responded that they hang them on the Main Street Lampposts.

The owner of Once and Again Consignment Shop expressed his support of this program as he has family members who served and currently serve and it is of great honor to see their banner displayed.

Next steps: Mayor Giunta asked that this be discussed with MSD so any questions or issues posed can be addressed and worked through. Mr. Seiler thanked Mayor Giunta and the City Council.

Agenda Item III

Council to consider setting a Public Hearing for Resolution #06-19, allowing the Franklin School District to appropriate \$350,156 of unassigned FY2018 Fund Balance to support the FY2019 School District Budget.

Franklin School District Business Administrator Jefferson Braman provided supporting information for this resolution starting with a hand-out to the City Council which explained the current Fund Balance and where the school would like to utilize the funds. He walked through the Budget to Actuals for Revenues. The Fund Balance is from FY16/17 and FY17/18 showing \$719,084. \$260K was budgeted for Fund Balance. \$100K was reserved for Contingencies. Considerable adjustments were made under the Adequacy Education Grant line. In October, that amount shows \$177K less than what was budgeted. He continued with explaining Special Education Aid (CAT Aid) which is based off of the prior year out of district costs. The DRA gave the school system \$54K which is a lot less than the \$175K budgeted.

Business Administrator Braman reviewed the Resolution brought before the Council this evening. These revenue shortages can be addressed by utilizing \$350,156 of this Fund Balance of FY18/19. This would leave a remaining balance of \$108,929.

Mayor Giunta asked the Council if they had questions for Jefferson.

Councilor Dzujna asked Business Administrator Braman to clarify amounts because there were a few different numbers in the memo. Braman replied that there may have been a few adjustments since that memo however; the amount requested is still the \$350,156.

Councilor Brown asked Business Administrator and Superintendent LeGallo how the Fund Balance was discovered. Braman responded that there were a couple of previous years that needed to be reconciled. He worked with the auditors to reconcile FY17 and FY18. He also stated that many Federal Grants were behind with claiming. Those were caught up. Also when the Hill School District relationship terminated, any existing Fund Balance got added to Franklin School District. Once reconciliations were complete the savings could be identified in areas such as Special Education where there was \$395K savings related to less out of district costs. Councilor Brown commended Business Administrator Braman for finding this but she expressed considerate frustration due to hearing about this now since she had reviewed this budget with Superintendent LeGallo last year and she came up with very similar numbers at that time. She continued to explain that the City endured two marches against the Council, very contentious budget meetings, and the firing of teachers. She requested an explanation of why this wasn't brought forward in last year's budget cycle.

Superintendent LeGallo stated that the Fund Balance relates to improvements in Special Education Budget. Cuts were made because the allocation over the last two years wasn't needed. When he joined

the SAU as Superintendent, they were already 5 audits behind at that point. With Jefferson part of the team now, the budgets and financial information will be tighter. LeGallo also stressed that this money was for Special Education and personnel relating to Special Education. He added that the school system was in need of special ed teachers and bus drivers but were unable to fill those positions last year.

Mayor Giunta thanked Jefferson for finding these funds and stressing how important audits are. Mayor Giunta agreed with Councilor Brown on how the marches, confrontational meetings, and WMUR TV reports could have all been avoided. Year after year the City located funds to support the school system. Mayor Giunta stated that he spends most of his weekends answering emails from residents saying that their taxes are too high and many of these same people came before the Council during this contentious budget season and begged the Council to raise their taxes so the school can be fully funded. He is tired of people saying bad things about our City and comparing it to struggling cities in Massachusetts. We are a far cry from those cities. We are a great City and everyone part of this community needs to emulate that. Mayor Giunta stated that his frustration is not directed toward Business Administrator Braman at all. He stressed that it is directed at the years of bad budgets and mismanagement. Business Administrator Braman responded by stating the process will be much tighter going forward. There will be better revenue projections.

Mayor Giunta stated that \$412K was needed to fill the gap last year and the City came up with \$424K which was painful as it came from the City's Fund Balance and needed for unplanned urgent projects. Mayor Giunta requested Business Administrator Braman to reconcile and look at the numbers because he would like to see that money be returned to the City's Fund Balance.

Business Administrator Jefferson understands Mayor Giunta's request but wanted to also mention that although the current Fund Balance is one time surplus and with the current projections with the adequacy funding, this will affect what is remaining.

Councilor Desrochers referenced the new teacher's contracts and assumed there will be raises in their salary. He asked Business Administrator Braman and Superintendent LeGallo what happens in another 6 months when the next budget season begins again. If the City allows this \$350K transfer to go through, will the school be short again?

Superintendent LeGallo replied letting the Council know that the surplus was because they were good stewards of their money by not spending it where it wasn't needed but also planning for the future and revenue projections in the past were also off. Projections will get better going forward. Councilor Desrochers was impressed with what was found and how it was presented here tonight. He is simply concerned about the future and wants better budgeting done.

Business Administrator Braman stated that it is already known based on the lack of adequacy funding from the state; the school is losing \$315K from this year to next year. This needs to be considered and factored into the budget process. It will be nice to see if the Stabilization freeze is put in place to help. The rest relies on the average daily student membership.

Councilor Dzujna's biggest concern from last budget season when finding this money to fund the school shortfall came from pick-ups that the City didn't really have yet and also taken from the City's Fund Balance. It would be great to make that whole again. He added that as we go through the LEAN Process together, it has to be embraced. He referred back to when the marches took place during the budget season and stated that the Councilors had endured a lot of difficult situations that didn't have to happen and it actually cost the city money when those marches were held. Police and Fire had to be brought in for various reasons not knowing what to expect and regardless, they had to be paid. People don't realize that. We can't afford to throw money away like that.

Councilor Brown asked Business Administrator if he had a sense on budget projects for this coming year. She asked if we might be looking at another shortfall. She added that the School has an \$18M budget and hopes that when May rolls around; there aren't discussions of cutting teachers.

Business Administrator Braman stated that it is too soon to know but over the next few months, the school will have a better idea. He added that out of the 18M budget, 2M out of that is a revenue neutral item related to the Construction and Energy Project. Also, 1.697M is also Federal Funds which is revenue expenditure equal as well. After you remove these particular two items, you have truer look at the General Fund budget.

Councilor Brown asked Business Administrator Braman if the financial will be more transparent this year and Braman replied that it absolutely will be.

Councilor Clarenbach thanked the Superintendent LeGallo and Business Administrator Braman for bringing this forward and commented on the revenue vs. expenditure stating that he's not a fan of spending one-time money. When that money fills a recurring gap, then the following year the same issues come back. He is in agreement to put some of this money back toward the school and would like to figure out something toward replacing City's Fund Balance. His concern is spending it all on the FY19/20 budget; we are setting ourselves up for filling a larger gap the year after.

Mayor Giunta asked Business Administrator Braman to meet with City Manager Milner and come back to City Council next month to look at the numbers more closely.

**Motion – Councilor Clarenbach moved that the Franklin City Council set a public hearing for Monday, January 7, 2019 at 6pm regarding Resolution 06-19 allowing the Franklin School District to appropriate \$350,156 of the unassigned FY2018 fund balance to support the FY2019 School District Budget.
Seconded by Councilor Desrochers.**

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

All in Favor of setting a Public Hearing for Resolution #06-19. Motion PASSED.

Mayor Giunta read aloud Resolution #06-19

RESOLUTION #06-19

A Resolution Relating to a Supplemental Appropriation for Fiscal Year 2019.

In the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Nineteen,

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Franklin has adopted a budget for Fiscal Year 2019 which began July 1, 2018, and;

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Franklin, New Hampshire recognizes that the school district estimates approximately \$719,085 in additional unassigned fund balance at June 30, 2018, and;

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Franklin, New Hampshire has already appropriated \$260,000 of the prior year fund balance during the FY2019 budget process, and:

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Franklin would like to appropriate an additional \$350,156 of the prior year unassigned fund balance in order to offset a \$350,156 reduction in estimated revenues, **Now**,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that at the scheduled meeting of the City Council on January 7, 2019, the City Council of the City of Franklin, New Hampshire does hereby adopt resolution 06-19 and authorize an increase in FY2019 revenues:

Appropriated Fund Balance – Three Hundred Fifty Thousand, One Hundred Fifty-Six dollars (\$350,156),

And a decrease in FY2019 adequacy revenue,

School District expenditures in the total amount of Three Hundred Fifty Thousand, One Hundred Fifty-Six dollars (\$350,156),

By a roll call vote.

Roll Call:

Councilor Barton	_____	Councilor Desrochers	_____	Councilor Ribas	_____
Councilor Brown	_____	Councilor Dzujna	_____	Councilor Trudel	_____
Councilor Clarenbach	_____	Councilor Moquin	_____	Councilor Zink	_____

Agenda Item V

City Council to consider approval of Resolution #07-19, authorizing the City of Franklin to establish an expendable Trust Fund for donations toward the School District's Operating Budget.

Motion – Councilor Desrochers moved that the City of Franklin city Council adopt Resolution # 07-19 establishing a trust fund in the custody of the City’s Trustees of the Trusts Funds for donations to the Franklin School Districts Operating Budget. Seconded by Councilor Brown.

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

RESOLUTION #07-19

A Resolution Relating to the authorization for the City of Franklin to establish an expendable trust fund for donations toward the school district’s operating budget.

In the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Eighteen,

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Franklin acknowledges the desire of several residents to donate funding for the use of the Franklin school district, and;

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Franklin wishes to establish a trust fund to be under the custody of the Trustees of Trust Funds in accordance with New Hampshire RSA chapter 31 for the purpose of maintaining the donations for the school district for appropriation in the annual budget process or supplemental appropriation thereof, and;

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes this trust fund to be known as “Franklin School District Operating Fund”, **Now**

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that at the scheduled meeting of the Franklin City Council on Monday, December 3, 2018, the City Council of the City of Franklin, New Hampshire does hereby adopt resolution 07-19 authorizing the City of Franklin Trustee of Trusts Funds to establish a new trust fund titled Franklin School District Operating Fund for the purpose of appropriating revenue derived from such fund to support the operations of the Franklin School District

By a roll call vote.

Roll Call:

Councilor Barton	<u>Absent</u>	Councilor Desrochers	<u>Yes</u>	Councilor Ribas	<u>Yes</u>
Councilor Brown	<u>Yes</u>	Councilor Dzujna	<u>Yes</u>	Councilor Trudel	<u>Yes</u>
Councilor Clarenbach	<u>Yes</u>	Councilor Moquin	<u>Yes</u>	Councilor Zink	<u>Yes</u>

All in Favor. Motion PASSED.

Agenda Item VI

Council to consider the disposition of surplus Fire Department Equipment.

**Motion – Councilor Dzujna moved that the Franklin City Council authorize the Fire Department Administration to sell and/or scrap the accumulated surplus fire equipment. The proceeds from this sale will be used toward the replacement of the station generator at the Fire Department.
Seconded by Councilor Desrochers.**

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

All in Favor. Motion PASSED.

Agenda Item VII

Council to consider setting a public hearing for Resolution #08-19, accepting Grant Funds from the New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources and required matching funds to support the establishment of the Mill City Park at Franklin Falls, which is associated with the White-Water Park.

**Motion - Councilor Desrochers moved that the Franklin City Council set a public hearing to be held at 6pm on January 7, 2019 meeting of the City Council for Resolution #08-19 and the acceptance of grant funds from the New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, through the National Park Service, and the required matching funds, and the non-lapsing appropriation and expenditures of these funds starting in Fiscal Year 2019. The funds will support the establishment of the Mill City Park at Franklin Falls, which is associated with the White-Water Park.
Seconded by Councilor Brown.**

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

All in Favor. Motion PASSED.

Mayor Giunta read Resolution #08-19

RESOLUTION #08-19

A Resolution Relating to a supplemental appropriation for Fiscal Year 2018.

In the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Eighteen,

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Franklin, New Hampshire adopted a budget for Fiscal Year 2019 beginning July 1, 2018, **and**;

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Franklin recognizes that a Memorandum of Agreement was signed between the City of Franklin and the nonprofit Mill City Park at Franklin Falls, **and**;

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Franklin recognizes the recent efforts to improve the economic and residential viability of the downtown and the need to continue with additional progress, **and**;

WHEREAS, the City has been awarded a grant of \$200,000 from the New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, through the National Park Service to support the establishment of the Mill City Park at Franklin Falls, which is associated with the White-Water Park, **and**;

WHEREAS, matching funds, in the form of donated funds and services, in the amount of \$200,000 will be directed towards this project for a total project funding of \$400,000, **now**;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that at their regularly scheduled meeting of the City Council on Monday, January 7, 2019, the City Council of Franklin New Hampshire does hereby vote to adopt resolution 08-19, accepting grant funds from the New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, through the National Park Service, and the required matching funds non lapsing appropriated this grant and matching funds and services authorize the City Manager to sign and take action on all relevant documents pertaining to the administration of this grant.

An Increase in Revenues:

Federal Grant Revenue – White Water Park Acct. No. 01-9-014-33110-437 – Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000),

Donations – White Water Park Acct. No. 01-0-000-35085-437 – Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000),

An Increase in Expenditures:

Economic Development – White Water Park Acct. No. 01-6-511-40335-437 – Four Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$400,000),

By a roll call vote.

Roll Call:

Councilor Barton	_____	Councilor Desrochers	_____	Councilor Ribas	_____
Councilor Brown	_____	Councilor Dzujna	_____	Councilor Trudel	_____
Councilor Clarenbach	_____	Councilor Moquin	_____	Councilor Zink	_____

Agenda Item VIII

Council to consider setting a public hearing for Resolution #09-19, accepting \$18,082.92 from the Franklin Rotary Club for the purpose of starting a Franklin Scholarship Fund called "Franklin Rotary Club Scholarships" placing the monies with the City's Trustees of the Trust Funds.

Motion – Councilor Clarenbach moved that the Franklin City Council set a public hearing for 6:00 p.m. on Monday, January 7, 2019, a regularly scheduled meeting of the City Council, for Resolution 09-19, acceptance of \$18,082.92, from the Franklin Rotary Club, for the purpose of starting a Franklin High School Scholarship Fund called "Franklin Rotary Club Scholarships" placing the monies in an expendable scholarship fund with the City's Trustees of the Trust Funds".
Seconded by Councilor Ribas.

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

All in Favor. Motion PASSED.

Mayor Giunta read Resolution 09-19.

RESOLUTION #09-19

A Resolution Relating to the Acceptance of Trust Fund Money.

In the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Eighteen,

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Franklin recognizes the efforts of the Franklin Rotary Club to offer seven annual scholarships to Franklin High School students, **and;**

WHEREAS, the Franklin Rotary Club has been dissolved due to a lack of membership, **and;**

WHEREAS, remaining assets of \$18,082.92 have been allocated to support community organizations, **and;**

WHEREAS, Scholarship recipients will be limited to seven \$500 Scholarships, to be made prior to the start of the first semester, using the award criteria that Franklin High School deems appropriate, **and;**

WHEREAS, acceptance of these funds has no budgetary impact of the Fiscal Year 2019 budget and future budgets, **now;**

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, *that at their regularly scheduled meeting of the City Council on Monday, January 7, 2019, the City Council of Franklin, New Hampshire does hereby vote to accept \$18,082.92, from the Franklin Rotary Club, for the purpose of starting a Franklin High School Scholarship Fund called "Franklin Rotary Club Scholarships" placing the monies in an expendable scholarship fund with the City's Trustees of Trust Funds". Scholarship recipients will be limited to seven \$500 Scholarships, to be made prior to the start of the first semester, using the award criteria that Franklin High School deems appropriate.*

By a roll call vote.

Roll Call:

Councilor Barton	_____	Councilor Desrochers	_____	Councilor Ribas	_____
Councilor Brown	_____	Councilor Dzujna	_____	Councilor Trudel	_____
Councilor Clarenbach	_____	Councilor Moquin	_____	Councilor Zink	_____

Agenda Item IX

City Council to consider setting a public hearing for Resolution #10-19 regarding support for the proposed Railroad Corridor Study for the Weirs to Tilton/Northfield.

**Motion – Councilor Ribas moved that the Franklin City Council set a public hearing on Monday, January 7, 2019 at 6 p.m. regarding resolution 10-19 supporting a study, through the City of Laconia and paid for by the WOW Trail Committee, for the pros and cons of building a recreation trail connecting Weirs to Franklin next to or in place of the railroad tracks.
Seconded by Councilor Brown.**

**Motion – Councilor Ribas moved to read the title only of the Resolution.
Seconded by Councilor Desrochers.**

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

All in Favor. Motion PASSED.

Mayor Giunta read Resolution #10-19 in title only.

RESOLUTION #10-19

A Resolution Relating to the support of the City Council for a study to build a regional recreational trail next to or in place of the railroad tracks connecting Weirs to Franklin.

In the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Eighteen,

Whereas, the state-owned Concord to Lincoln RR corridor was built to bring tourists and spur economic development in the Lakes Region and beyond (circa 1850), and

Whereas, a portion of this 50-mile corridor is now used, under a lease agreement with the state, for certain train operations with a degree of benefit to the surrounding communities, and

Whereas, there is an identified regional trail project from Weirs Beach to Franklin that could have the potential to yield significantly more economic and recreational benefits to the abutting communities, the region and the state of NH by better utilizing this publicly-owned space, and

Whereas, the building of the remaining 10 miles of trail project IN PLACE of rail would substantially reduce cost, alleviate abutter concerns, and provide an enhanced trail for users, and

Whereas, the state-owned corridor would be maintained in perpetuity for NH DOT with the understanding that rail would be reinstalled at a future date if it was determined that rail was a better and higher use.

Now, therefore be it resolved that at the scheduled meeting of the Franklin City Council on Monday, January 7, 2019, the City Council of the City of Franklin, New Hampshire does hereby adopt resolution 10-19 supporting the proposal for the City of Laconia to commission professional research, to be paid for by the WOW Trail committee, to study the pros and cons of continuing to build this regional recreation trail NEXT TO the existing railroad tracks or IN PLACE OF the railroad tracks.

By a roll call vote.

Roll Call:

Councilor Barton	_____	Councilor Desrochers	_____	Councilor Ribas	_____
Councilor Brown	_____	Councilor Dzujna	_____	Councilor Trudel	_____
Councilor Clarenbach	_____	Councilor Moquin	_____	Councilor Zink	_____

Agenda Item X

Other Business

1. City Council Resignation
 - a. Mayor Giunta regrettfully announced the Resignation of Councilor Steve Barton.
Mayor Giunta stated that Councilor Barton has done a tremendous job serving on the Council and thanked him for his service.
Motion – Councilor Desrochers moved the Franklin City Council accept the resignation of Councilor Steve Barton.
Seconded by Councilor Brown.
Mayor Giunta asked if there was any discussion. There was none.
All in Favor. Motion PASSED.
2. Committee Reports – none
3. City Manager's Update -
 - a. Contingency Grant Line Activity
 - i. \$750 received for the Healthy Eating Active Living (HEAL) funding from Comprehensive Health Management

- ii. \$1,400 Book Club donation from the Rotary
 - iii. \$2,000 received from Thomas Field
- b. City Manager Milner announced a big welcome to Kandyce Tucker as the City's new Mayor's Drug and Alcohol Task Force Coordinator.
- c. The Economic Development Workshop was held on November 26th and went very well. Milner thanked the entire Council for their attendance at the workshop. She publically thanked the Towns of Gilford, Sanbornton, and Tilton/Northfield for covering our Fire Station so that our Fire Fighters could attend the funeral of Captain Brown.
- d. The 2019 Tax Rate has been set. Homeowners should have received their bill by now. The due date is December 27th. City Manager Milner has been receiving many calls on tax bills and if the City is collecting more money over the tax cap. The City is collecting the same amount of taxes. The taxes received is based on property value and based on the rate. City Manager Milner will be happy to explain it to anyone who is confused or who has any questions. Councilor Clarenbach asked how the Utilities' assessments turned out. City Manager Milner replied that the assessed value is pretty close to where we picked it up and is not that much different than what they gave us for inventory. The City is not using under DRA and the Utility understands why we are not using under DRA. Councilor Clarenbach stated that originally Avitar was waiting on the Utility. There was discussion on the actual tax rate and how the City arrived at the \$21.96. Mayor Giunta asked City Manager Milner to send the formula out to the City Council so they have it and understand if folks ask them. City Manager Milner also has a presentation on explaining this as well so if the Council would like to see it now or later, please let us know. March 1st is the Deadline for Abatements. If the Council receives enough requests from residents on explaining this, then a presentation will be scheduled and City Manager Milner can just go through it for everyone.
- e. The CAP office has officially moved into City Hall. They are just outside of the City Clerk's office and things are going well.
- f. Tax Deeded Property Dispositions –
 - i. 139 Thunder Rd. Sold for \$6,200 to a young woman who grew up across the street. She knew the former owner before they passed away and her parents actually still live there across the street as well. Plans are to demolish the existing home and erect a small home in its place.
 - ii. 51 Beech Street finally sold to Marty Parichand for \$70,000.
- g. LEAN Process Update – the December meeting is moving to December 18th @ 5pm at the Bessie Rowell Community Center. If any Councilors haven't met 1:1 with Richard yet and would still like to, please let City Manager Milner know and she will coordinate a meeting.
- h. The City's Christmas Party will be on Monday, December 24th from 12-2 at the Fire Station. The Mayor and the Council are invited.
- i. Tax Cards – will appear and be updated on the City's Website soon. Software updates need to be done to transfer the data over from Avitar and that will be happening throughout the month of December.

- j. Fire Chief Interviews – are scheduled for Friday, December 14th. There will be a five person panel. The City Manager is going to observe. There are five candidates and fairly confident that our next Fire Chief is among this group.
 - k. The Letter to the Governor from the Mayor and the School Board Chair needs to be signed and will be posted on the City's Website and sent directly to the City Council. It is directly related to Adequate Education Funding. This also addresses the measurement date on changing the formula so further changes to the budget are not needed after it is passed.
 - l. The 21st Century Education Forum was a fantastic day. City Manager Milner thanked Councilor Brown for all her hard work and also thanked the committee for helping pull the information together. There was a lot of great information shared. Milner stated that she is looking forward to the presentation to the Council on this.
 - m. City Manager Milner wished everyone Happy Holidays!
4. No late items, non-public, or anything for the Mayor to read.

Motion to adjourn made by Councilor Clarenbach. Seconded by Councilor Ribas.

All in Favor. Motion PASSED.

Meeting adjourned at 8:03PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Audrey Lanzillo