



**City Council
Inaugural/Meeting Minutes
Monday, January 9, 2023 - 6:00 p.m.
Council Chambers, City Hall**

Council in attendance: Mayor Jo Brown, Councilor Jay Chandler, Councilor April Bunker, Councilor Bob Desrochers, Councilor George Dzujna, Councilor Ted Starkweather, Councilor Valerie Blake, Councilor Paul Trudel, Councilor Vince Ribas and Councilor Olivia Zink

Absent: None

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

Mayor Brown called the meeting to order in Council Chambers at 6:01 p.m. and invited the audience to be the choir and sing God Bless America.

The Franklin Fire Department Color Guard presented the colors and the salute to the Flag was led by Franklin VFW Member, Chris Pierce.

National Anthem was sung by Emma Vargas.

Councilor Desrochers stated that there were no lost veterans in the past month, but led a moment of silence in honor of all fallen veterans this past year.

Mayor Brown invited Leah Cote up to read her essay on why people should choose Franklin. This essay can be found attached at the end of the minutes.

Mike Lombardo presented Leah Cote with an award from Choose Franklin for her submitted essay.

Mayor Brown presented a Citizen of the Year Award to the Grevior family. Mayor Brown's recognition of this Citizen of the Year Award can be found attached at the end of the minutes.

Jason Grevior was in attendance and accepted the award. He thanked Mayor Brown and spoke about his furniture business that will be 100 years old in a few more years. The business will be taken over by one of his sons, who will continue to provide the same great service as always. He stated that Franklin has been very good to him and his family.

City Council 2022 Business:

Public Hearings:

Resolution 07-23 to appropriate \$100,268.84 of the state portion of funding to the New Hampshire Retirement System and EFA Phase Out grant to the Franklin School District for Fiscal Year 2023.

The public hearing opened at 6:22 p.m.

There was no discussion on this hearing.

The public hearing on Resolution 07-23 closed at 6:22 p.m.

Resolution 08-23 authorizing the City to accept grant funds and borrow loan funds under the State of NH Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (\$1,440,000 grant, \$2,160,000 loan) for water improvements and Clean Water State Revolving Fund (\$1,500,00 grant, \$3,500,000 loan) for sewer replacement program on East/West Bow Streets.

The public hearing opened at 6:23 p.m.

There was no discussion on this hearing.

The public hearing on Resolution 08-23 closed at 6:23 p.m.

Agenda Item I.

Approval of Minutes:

Council to consider the minutes of the November 14, 2022 City Council meeting and the December 5, 2022 city Council meeting.

Motion - Councilor Ribas moved that the Franklin City Council approve the minutes of the November 14, 2022 City Council meeting and the December 5, 2022 City Council meeting as amended with corrections that were sent to the secretary. Seconded by Councilor Dzujna.

Councilor Trudel abstained from the November 14, 2022 meeting minutes.

Councilor Starkweather abstained from the December 5, 2022 meeting minutes.

There were no other comments on the minutes.

All in favor. Motion PASSED.

Agenda Item II.

Council to adopt Resolution 07-23 to appropriate \$100,268.84 of the state portion of funding to the New Hampshire Retirement System and EFA Phase Out grant to the Franklin School District for Fiscal Year 2023:

Motion - Councilor Ribas moved that the Franklin City Council adopt Resolution 07-23 appropriating \$100,268.84 to the Franklin School District fiscal year 2023 budget. Seconded by Councilor Trudel.

Mayor Brown asked if there was any discussion on this motion. There was none.

RESOLUTION # 07-23

A Resolution Granting Authority to Accept and Appropriate \$100,268.84 of the state portion of funding to the New Hampshire Retirement System and EFA Phase Out grant to the Franklin School District for Fiscal Year 2023.

In the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Three,

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Franklin, New Hampshire recognizes that the school district will receive a refund of 7.5% (or \$92,215) of its FY22 contribution for teachers to the state retirement system; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Franklin, New Hampshire recognizes that the school district will receive from the EFA (Education Funding Account) Phase Out Grant of \$8,053.84: and,

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Franklin would like to appropriate an additional \$100,268.84 to preserve potential fund balance from the 2023 year to be carried over to the 2024 fiscal year. Due to the challenges and uncertainties funding regarding the adequacy funding formula these funds could help support the next budget cycle; **Now**,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, *that at a regularly scheduled meeting of the City Council on January 9, 2023, the City Council of Franklin New Hampshire does hereby vote to adopt resolution #07-23 to formally accept and appropriate \$100,268.84 of additional revenues for the Franklin School District as follows:*

An Increase in Revenues:

New Hampshire Retirement System Ninety-Two Thousand, Two Hundred Fifteen Dollars (\$92,215)

EFA Phase Out Grant – Eight Thousand, Fifty-Three Dollars and Eighty-Four Cents (\$8,053.84)

An Increase in Expenditures:

School District Expenditures – One Hundred Thousand, Two Hundred Sixty-Eight and Eighty-Four Cents (\$100,268.84)

By a roll call vote.

Roll Call:

Councilor Blake yes Councilor Dzujna yes Councilor Zink yes

Councilor Ribas yes Councilor Bunker yes Councilor Chandler yes

Councilor Desrochers yes Councilor Starkweather yes Councilor Trudel yes

All in favor. Motion PASSED.

Agenda Item III.

Council to consider adoption of Resolution 08-23 authorizing the City to accept grant funds and borrow loan funds under the State of New Hampshire Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) for water improvements and Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) for sewer replacement program on East/West Bow Streets and to raise, appropriate and expend grant and loan funds for said project.

Motion - Councilor Bunker moved that the Franklin City Council adopt Resolution 08-23 authorizing the City to accept grant funds and borrow loan funds under the State of New Hampshire Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (\$1,440,000 grant, \$2,160,000 loan) for water improvements and Clean Water State Revolving Fund (\$1,500,000 grant, \$3,500,000 loan) for sewer replacement program on East/West Bow Streets. Seconded by Councilor Blake.

Mayor Brown asked if there was any discussion.
No discussion ensued.

RESOLUTION 08-23

A Resolution authorizing the City to accept grant funds and borrow loan funds under the State of New Hampshire Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) for water improvements and Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) for sewer replacement program on East/West Bow Streets and to raise, appropriate and expend grant and loan funds for said project.

WHEREAS, the City of Franklin, New Hampshire after thorough consideration of the nature of its water and sewer system needs, hereby determines that the undertaking of certain works, generally described as Water Main Improvements and Sewer Replacement Program for water and sewer main upgrades along East and West Bow Street is desirable and in the public interest, and to that end it is necessary to apply for assistance from the State of New Hampshire Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) and Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF); and

WHEREAS, the City of Franklin has examined and duly considered the provisions of RSA 486:14 and the New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules Chapter Env-Dw 1100, which relate to loans from the State of New Hampshire and deems it to be in the public interest to file a loan application and to authorize other actions in connection therewith; and

WHEREAS, the City of Franklin estimates the total project cost is \$3,600,000 (\$1,440,000 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grant & \$2,160,000 loan) under the DWSRF program and \$5,000,000 (\$1,500,000 ARPA grant & \$3,500,000 loan under the CWSRF program; and

WHEREAS, the Franklin City Council adopted Resolution 01-23 on July 11, 2022 appropriating the estimated loan payments and adjusting the rates in both the water and sewer enterprise funds;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY the City Council, the governing body of the City of Franklin, New Hampshire, as follows:

1. That the City of Franklin accepts and appropriates to expend \$2,940,000 (\$1,440,000 water project & \$1,500,000 sewer project) in grant funding under the American Rescue Plan Act.
2. That the City of Franklin accepts and appropriates to expend \$5,660,000 (\$2,160,000 Drinking Water State Revolving Fund and \$3,500,000 Clean Water State Revolving Fund) loan proceeds.
3. That the person holding the title of City Manager currently held by Judie Milner is hereby designated as the authorized representative of the City of Franklin for the purpose of filing applications for the loans in accordance with New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules noted above, furnishing such information, data, documents and disbursements pertaining to the applicant for the loans as may be required; and otherwise to act as the authorized representative of the City in connection with the loan applications.
4. That the City of Franklin, New Hampshire agrees to repay the loans as stipulated in the loan agreements.
5. That certified copies of this resolution be included as part of the application to be submitted for such loans.
6. That person holding the position of City Manager at the time of the loan execution is authorized to sign the loan agreements binding the City of Franklin to the terms and conditions of the loans.
7. That the City of Franklin, New Hampshire agrees to make provisions for assuming proper and efficient operation and maintenance of the facilities after completion of the construction thereof.

By a roll call vote.

Roll Call:

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

All in favor. Motion PASSED.

Agenda Item IV.

Council to consider deeding back map/lot #078-006-002, 6 Ring Street, to Gary Goodwin.

Motion - Councilor Ribas moved that the Franklin City Council deed 6 Ring Street Map/Lot #078-006-002 back to Gary Goodwin. Seconded by Councilor Dzunja.

Mayor Brown asked if there was any discussion on this motion. There was none.

All in favor. Motion PASSED.

Motion to adjourn was made by Councilor Bunker and seconded by Councilor Trudel.

All in favor. Motion PASSED.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Mayor Brown recognized Councilor April Bunker for her term of service from 2020-2023 on the City Council and presented her with an award.

Mayor Brown concluded the 2022 City Council meeting.

City Council 2023 Inaugural Program:

Mayor Brown invited Pastor Kate Harmon Siberine to do the Invocation. Pastor Kate thanked the Mayor, Council, School Board and Franklin residents. She asked all to join in as she led the prayer, meditation and reflection.

Councilor Leigh Webb, Councilor Ted Starkweather and Councilor Olivia Zink pledged their oaths as they were sworn in by City Attorney Paul Fitzgerald. They each took their respective seats at the Council table.

School Board Members Jack Finley, Desiree McLaughlin, Liz Cote, Laurie Cass and Tim Dow pledged their oath as they were sworn in by City Attorney Paul Fitzgerald.

Mayor Brown proclaimed her State of the City Address which can be found attached at the end of these minutes.

Mayor Brown invited the public to be the choir and close out the Inaugural Program by singing the Battle Hymn of the Republic. A reception with refreshments followed.

City Council 2023 Business:

Council in attendance: Mayor Jo Brown, Councilor Valerie Blake, Councilor Jay Chandler, Councilor Bob Desrochers, Councilor George Dzujna, Councilor Vince Ribas, Councilor Ted Starkweather, Councilor Paul Trudel, Councilor Olivia Zink and Councilor Leigh Webb.

Absent: None

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 7:06 p.m. and stated that public comments would be welcome at this time.

Comments from the Public

Public comments opened at 7:07 p.m.

The UMLAC Franklin representative, Wayne St. Ives, announced that he is looking for more members to join this committee to represent Franklin. They meet once a month on the second Monday of the month. He stated that he will give the information to Executive Secretary Jones so that she can post the information on the website and/or distribute to anyone interested who comes into City Hall.

Partners in Prevention Program Director, Stephanie Wolff, gave some updates to the council:

- The Franklin Youth Initiative is excited to be writing and rehearsing Public Service Announcements to be aired on local radio station 94.1FM. Recording has been scheduled for January 26th and airing will occur in early February.
- At the end of January, she will be traveling to Washington D.C. to attend the National Leadership Forum hosted by the Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America. This event will provide attendees with training, networking and the opportunity to share both our community successes and struggles to our Representatives. She is looking forward to reporting back on this experience.
- The Task Force will be sponsoring a Community Free Ski Day this year. The date is tentatively set for Sunday, March 5th, pending weather conditions so she is hoping for snow.
- The Franklin High School Prom date has been set for May 20th. Stephanie stated that she has been meeting with the school's principal and counselors on planning this year's Chem Free After Prom Party. She asked the council and the public to reach out to her if they know of anyone interested in volunteering to chaperone or donate to this event.

Mayor Brown closed public comment at 7:12 p.m.

City Council Acknowledgements

Councilor Dzujna thanked everyone from Choose Franklin, Mill City Park and every citizen in Franklin that made 1st Day a success this year.

Councilor Webb also agreed with Councilor Dzujna and wanted to publicly thank Dan Darling and all of the volunteers that helped with the tent on 1st day as well. He stated that it was a great event.

Legislative Comments

There were no legislative comments at this time.

Agenda Item I.

Monthly School Board update to the City Council:

Superintendent LeGallo went over the following updates:

- LeGallo passed out an invite for their Safety Forum, which is this Thursday at 6 p.m. in

the Middle School cafeteria.

- Every three years Homeland Security comes down and does a walking visit of the schools. This was done in December of 2022 and they are expecting a report on each school to come back with accommodations and recommendations very soon.
- Portrait of a Graduate committee will be on January 18th, 2023 in the Opera House. They will be talking about the visits that have been made with staff, teachers, school board members and parents.
- LeGallo stated that they did receive the \$24,000 grant to take 12 stakeholders to California. Councilor Zink has agreed to attend as a representative of the city council on that trip in March.
- The middle school did have to close for a day last week due to a water pipe leak repair.
- The school district's budget development has begun and they hope to present to the city council in the first week of May.

Agenda Item II.

Council to consider setting a public hearing for Resolution 09-23 to accept and appropriate \$1,407.50 in 2023 volunteer fire assistance grant funds from the State of New Hampshire.

Motion – Councilor Ribas moved that the Franklin City Council set a public hearing for 6:00 p.m. on February 6, 2023 for Resolution #09-23, authorizing the City Manager to accept a grant totaling \$2,915 2023 Volunteer Fire Assistance funds and appropriate grant reimbursement funds in the amount of \$1,457.50 to the FY2023 budget, in title only. Seconded by Councilor Trudel.

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

There were a couple of clarifications made regarding this resolution about the match being included and that this is a federal grant that is passed through the State of New Hampshire.

All in favor. Motion PASSED.

Agenda Item III.

Council to consider setting a public hearing for Ordinance 05-23 readopting the optional veteran's credit.

Motion – Councilor Dzujna moved that the Franklin City Council set a public hearing for Monday, February 6, 2023 at 6pm regarding Ordinance 05-23 re-adopting the Optional Veteran's Credit Chapter 272-4 Adoption of Provision; Designated Amount of the Franklin Municipal Code. Seconded by Councilor Chandler.

Mayor Brown asked if there was any discussion on this motion. There was none.

All in favor. Motion PASSED.

Mayor Brown read the following ordinance:

ORDINANCE #05-23

AN AMENDMENT TO THE FRANKLIN MUNICIPAL CODE:

In the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Three;

Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Franklin that the Franklin Municipal Code, Chapter 272, Taxation, Article IV Optional Veterans' Tax Credit, 272-4 Adoption of provisions; designated amount be changed as follows (**red additional language**, strikethrough for deleted language):

The City of Franklin does hereby adopt the provisions of RSA 72:28, **IV and V** ~~and VI~~, for an optional veterans' tax credit and an expanded qualifying war service period for veterans seeking the tax credit. The optional veterans' tax credit is **\$300** ~~\$250~~.

Agenda Item IV.

Council to consider setting a public hearing for Ordinance 06-23 adjusting optional elderly exemptions.

Motion – Councilor Ribas moved that the Franklin City Council set a public hearing for Monday, February 6, 2023 at 6pm regarding Ordinance 06-23 an amendment to the Franklin Municipal Code, Chapter 272, Taxation, Article III Optional Adjusted Elderly Exemptions, 272-3 Designated Amounts; Qualifications with regard to the elderly assessment exemptions amounts and qualifying income thresholds. Seconded by Councilor Blake.

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

Councilor Zink asked if someone could define significant increases. Milner stated that it could be up to a 50% increase in value of the property assessed.

All in favor. Motion PASSED.

Mayor Brown read the following ordinance:

ORDINANCE #06-23

AN AMENDMENT TO THE FRANKLIN MUNICIPAL CODE:

In the Year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Three;

Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Franklin that the Franklin Municipal Code, Chapter 272, Taxation, Article III Optional Adjusted Elderly Exemptions, 272-3 Designated Amounts; Qualifications with regard to the elderly assessment exemptions amounts and qualifying income thresholds be changed as follows (**red additional language**, strikethrough for deleted language):

The optional adjusted elderly exemptions shall be, for a person 65 years of age up to 75 years, ~~\$46,000~~ 76,600; for a person 75 years of age up to 80 years, ~~\$69,700~~ 116,100; for a person 80 years of age or older ~~\$160,300~~ 267,000 of assessed value. To qualify the person must have been a New Hampshire resident for at least five years, own the real estate individually or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by such person's spouse, they must have been married for at least five years. In addition, the taxpayer must have a net income of not more than ~~\$30,250~~ 35,800 or, if married, a combined net income of less than ~~\$37,750~~ 44,700, and own net assets not in excess of \$74,300 excluding the value of the person's residence. Under no circumstances shall the amounts of the exemption for any age category be less than \$5,000.

Change to be effective April 1, 2023 by a roll call vote.

Agenda Item V.

Other Business:

1. Mayor/Council: Committee Resignations & Appointments

Mayor Brown accepted the resignation of John Neff from the Mayor's Drug Task Force Leadership Committee.

Mayor Brown appointed Lori Seog to the Mayor's Drug Task Force Leadership, term of service, January 2025.

Councilor Ribas moved that the Franklin City Council re-appoint Robin Roper to the Library Board of Trustees, seat LT5, term of service, January 2026. Seconded by Councilor Zink.

All in Favor. Motion PASSED.

2. Committee Reports:

Councilor Blake gave a report on the Parks & Rec Committee meeting that met on December 22nd. There are currently 141 students enrolled in the basketball program and 152 students enrolled in the after-school program. There are still some ongoing issues happening and the delinquent parents are continuing to receive warning notices. Director Alpers is looking into other ways to collect fees via credit card.

Councilor Dzujna stated that on December 19th there was an MSD Committee meeting with the full council in attendance. They discussed ordinance 03-23 and how to handle non-profit businesses, roads that trash vehicles cannot reach, corrected reference numbers, received legal advice on section 257-48 and will be adding a special exemption clause. The committee also discussed how illegal dumping on private properties will be handled.

Councilor Chandler gave a report on the Police Committee that met with Chief Goldstein on December 15th. He also gave a handout to the council that is attached to the end of

the minutes. The police chief walked the committee through a day in the life of a police officer and it was a great presentation that was very eye opening. Councilor Chandler thanked the police department for all that they do.

Councilor Ribas stated that he had two Finance Committee reports, one for the Joint Finance with the school and one for the City Finance. At the Joint Finance Committee on October 27th both agencies presented their budgets and the meeting focused on better forecasting of future revenues for both so that they could plan better for long term. They did decide that meeting twice a year is not enough and will now meet quarterly. The next Joint Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for February 9th.

The City Finance Committee met on November 21st and the Pay & Class study was reported in full. This will be presented to the entire council during a March workshop meeting. The next Finance Committee meeting will be held on January 26th.

3. City Manager's Update:

- a. City Hall and City buildings will be closed on January 16th in observance of Martin Luther King Holiday/Civil Rights Day.
- b. The non-public minute reviews – The new RSA on non-public minutes went into effect in 2022, where we keep a list of meetings that were non-public on the website available and once a year the council reviews to see if any can be unsealed. This will be put on the February agenda.
- c. Contingent Grant Line Activity – \$50 donation for the fire department and \$471.74 from the sex offender grant.
- d. Trust fund for school funding – \$271.21
- e. Citizens Petition Results – On the Solid Waste Ordinance petition, of the 119 names listed only 51 (43%) were registered voters as required, which represents 1.12% of registered voters according to the 2020 census.
- f. Congratulations:
 - a. Officer Francis – promoted to Sergeant
 - b. Detective Poirier – Received the Everyday Hero Award through Hands of Hope (Granite State Children's Alliance)
 - c. Sean Riberdy, Matt Mercier and Rick Morton – receiving their weighmaster's license
 - d. Rick Morton – CDL-B endorsement
 - e. Judy Bibbins in Planning & Zoning and Sandra Martin in the Assessing department for assisting with the project of getting letters out to abutters for tax deeded properties that we needed to get rid of and get back on the tax roll.
- g. Committee meetings – January:
 - a. Fire – January 26th
 - b. Finance – January 26th

- Milner will re-schedule the Finance Committee meeting so that it isn't conflicting with the Fire Committee.
- h. Welcome:
 - a. Keith McNulty – Firefighter/EMT w/ 10 years of experience
- i. Random Acts of Community – Franklin Falls Business Group, who put together an amazing Holiday Stroll program
- j. Media contacts - Laconia Sun, Union Leader, ENR New England (big spot on White Water Park), also Marty Parichand is one of the finalists for 2022 top news maker for ENR magazine.
- k. Reminder – Residential Solar Exemption expiring on March 31, 2023
- l. January Workshop – This will be on January 30th, 2023 at 6pm in Council Chambers to discuss the City Hall building.
- m. Economic Development Community Forum – March 8th at 6pm with a TBD location
 - a. Trestle Bridge will be discussed – recommends holding off on next decisions for TAP grant until after forum
- n. Milner passed out the meeting dates and closing dates for 2023 to the council. Those are attached at the end of the minutes.
- o. Heads up – The retention bonus is going to be coming to the council as a recommendation. This was discussed at the last Finance Committee meeting. It's a one-time retention bonus payout to get over the hump before the Pay & Class is implemented and also to be able to recruit in areas that they have been unable to.

4. Late Items:

To allow the Franklin School District to appropriate additional funding from the SAFE grant funding awarded to the Paul Smith Elementary School and Portrait of a Graduate Funding for a professional development activity. The total amount of additional funding is \$78,925.

Motion – Councilor Dzujna moved that the Franklin City Council set a public hearing at 6:00pm on February 6th, 2023 for Resolution 11-23 appropriating \$78,925 to the Franklin School District fiscal year 2023 budget. Seconded by Councilor Ribas.

Mayor Brown asked if there was any discussion on this motion. There was none.

All in favor. Motion PASSED.

Mayor Brown read Resolution 11-23 publicly.

RESOLUTION # 11-23

A Resolution Granting Authority to Accept and Appropriate \$78,925 of the SAFE grants awarded by the New Hampshire Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM) and the New Hampshire Department of Education (NHED) and the Barr Foundation and NGLC (Next Generation Learning Challenges.

In the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Three,

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Franklin, New Hampshire recognizes that the school district will receive \$54,925 for the SAFE grant funding from HSEM and NHED.

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Franklin, New Hampshire recognizes that the school district will receive from the Barr Foundation and NGLC of \$24,000: and,

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Franklin would like to appropriate an additional \$78,925 to fund the upgrading of the door access controls systems at the Paul Smith School and to participate in the Portrait of a Graduate onsite visit to schools in Vista, California.; **Now,**

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, *that at a regularly scheduled meeting of the City Council on February 6, 2023, the City Council of Franklin New Hampshire does hereby vote to adopt resolution #11-23 to formally accept and appropriate \$78,925 of additional revenues for the Franklin School District as follows:*

An Increase in Revenues:

New Hampshire Homeland Security and Emergency Management Fifty-Four Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty-Five Dollars (\$54,925)

Barr Foundation and NGLC – Twenty-Four Thousand Dollars (\$24,000)

An Increase in Expenditures:

School District Expenditures – Seventy-Eight Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty-Five Dollars (\$78,925).

Mayor Brown asked if there was any other business.

Councilor Ribas stated that the councilors all received a letter from a resident stating that she had made a 91-A request in November and did not receive any information pursuant to the NH RSA 91-A request.

Motion – Councilor Ribas moved that the City Manager’s office furnish all documentation requested by that requester by the end of day tomorrow, January 10th, 2023. Seconded by Councilor Starkweather.

Mayor Brown clarified that this was in reference to the City Hall group information and she asked City Manager Milner if she provided all of the information to the requester.

Milner explained that she had furnished all of the public information that was requested on this

matter. The City Hall group did not have public meetings, just like department head meetings and work groups are not public groups either. The requester was provided with all of the city council meetings on City Hall discussions and the predevelopment loan, along with the engineer estimates.

Milner believes that she furnished everything requested and she will respond to the requester with the information again by the end of the day tomorrow.

All in favor. Motion PASSED.

Motion to adjourn was made by Councilor Ribas and seconded by Councilor Zink.

All in favor. Motion PASSED.

The meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa A. Jones
Executive Secretary

Leah Cote

Choose Franklin Essay

23 November 2022

I Choose Franklin

Franklin is a misunderstood beauty of New Hampshire. As an outsider, you may hear rumors about this city - it's full of drugs, it's abandoned, the sports teams are bad, and more. What is Franklin, truly? From one of its residents: it is small but mighty, it is a gorgeous community, it is filled with hidden gems, and there is nowhere else I'd rather live. From the beautiful hilly outskirts to the more dense city center, it is filled with people who care about each other and families who have stayed here for centuries. This is a city of rivers, mills are in our history, and our lives are intertwined.

One staple of this place is the Franklin Opera House: my pride and joy; my second home. The theater community is one of the most loving and welcoming that you will ever come across. It's a great environment for kids to make friends and learn social skills. I have been working with the same people there since I was a little kid; putting together shows and rehearsing after school, dancing in the middle of the Franklin High School hallways and rushing with adrenaline on every opening night. I have been in over 16 shows, and that number will only continue to grow. Everyone knows each other in Franklin Footlight. From the techies to the performers, and from the audience to the directors, we all have come to know and support each other through thick and thin. Whether it's your first time or your 20th time being a part of a show, the magic never runs dry, and the welcome is never overstayed.

Another place I love is the Franklin Falls Dam. My memories of this beautiful marvel of nature include walking with my family during the summer, taking side trails with my dad, and

rolling down the grassy hills with my friends. My parents got married at the Franklin Falls Dam. My grandfather worked there, landscaping, as a young adult. I plan to get married there if I ever get engaged. It's a beautiful and nostalgic place for many.

We also have some great restaurants here. My personal favorites are Asian Delight, Brothers Donuts, and Downtown Crepes. My family and I order dinner from Asian Delight usually as often as once a week. Their food is delicious and the portions are huge, great for a family dinner. Brothers Donuts is everyone's favorite breakfast spot in Franklin. And, Downtown Crepes is a more recent addition, but I've already been there three times with my friends. We go during tech days or after rehearsal at the Franklin Opera House. There's a lot of these great little spots in Franklin that you can seek out.

I've been over the physical parts of Franklin that I really enjoy, but honestly the strongest part of this city is its close-knit and lovely community. From the sports teams to each classroom in Franklin High School, and from each resident to all the businesses and shops, the people of Franklin really treasure each other. That's why I choose Franklin, and most people I know choose it, too.



CITY OF FRANKLIN, NEW HAMPSHIRE

"The Three Rivers City"

316 Central Street
Franklin, NH 03235

(603) 934-3900
fax: (603) 934-7413

Citizen of the Year Award 2022 **The Grevior Family**

It says a lot about a family furniture business that starts in the basement of the old Baptist church on the corner of Church and Franklin Streets. It says that its founder so believed in his vision of providing no-pressure sales, a quality product, and a commitment to support the local community that if the only place to set up shop was in the basement of a church, then so be it. And so, Nate Grevior did, in 1932, and the family has never looked back.

His commitment to top notch service to customers, and a wide variety of furniture items continues to this day through his son and wife, Bob and Andrea and grandson, Jason, and family. And yes, they are no longer in the basement having moved to Central St where they offer over 30,000 square feet of bedroom, living and dining room and occasional home furnishings.

However, many people run furniture stores, so how is this one different? As already mentioned, service for one. I can remember that my dad would call up Bob Grevior and announce that he needed a new recliner, and Bob would have the chair delivered and the old one picked up in very short order. When my own family moved back in 2011 – it was Jason who worked with my daughter to pick out her first “adult” bedroom suite, and his patience was outstanding. But there is much more to this family than furniture. Hopefully most of you know that the family donated the land on which Trestle View Park is located and is also a major sponsor of the Winni Trail, which runs from Franklin to Tilton via the upside-down bridge. Jason and his wife, Robin, have for years been the force, and cooks behind the annual Ring in the Holidays celebration held at the Veteran’s Memorial Ski area as a fundraiser for the ski area and local snowmobile club. This year there was a waiting list and over \$15K was raised, assisted by a live and silent auction. Jason himself was directly involved with Franklin High School, serving as their Football Coach. In an interview he stated that while he was the coach, he would make breakfast sandwiches for his team of over 60 students to make sure that all of his players had something to eat before going onto the field.

The family has always been involved in helping make Franklin a better Community.

As a member of the Franklin Falls Business Group, Jason is always ready to help out with whatever project we are proposing, always finding the quickest way to a “yes” to make things happen. I recall this summer, as the first White Water feature was being

constructed, Bob would stand outside and watch the progress. We stood together one day and talked about it and how excited he was to see such progress in Franklin. He mentioned to me that his father once told him that if you are going to do things for your community, do them while you are still living. And so, the family has, and will continue to do so through the next generation.

To Bob, Andy, Jason, Robin, Ryan, Nicholas, Nathan and Lex, thank you for being such a big part of Franklin's history and present. It is for this, that we recognize the Grevior Family as our Citizen of the Year for 2022.

Jo Brown, Mayor – City of Franklin

City of Franklin 2023 - Mayor's Inaugural Address

Good evening and welcome to our 2023 Inaugural City Council meeting. We will be installing a new Councilor from Ward 3, Leigh Webb and saying goodbye to April Bunker. And we welcome back Councilors Ted Starkweather from Ward 1 and Councilor Olivia Zink from Ward 2.

We will also be welcoming several School Board members, so we will be off to a good start. So, how did last year go and what are we looking at for the future?

In truth it was a mixed year, some great accomplishments but also some troubling times. But let's start with some good news. Finally, after 2 plus years securing 12 permits and rain delays, etc., our first Water Feature for our White Waterpark is in and fully functional. We had a dedication ceremony in June that was very well attended and a very successful Winni River Days. Our first in the region White Water Park is on its way. We also saw the completion of the renovation of the old IOOF building into luxury condominiums, and finally substantial work on the Steven's Mill building with the opening of a second Kettlehead location late last year. The 150+ apts are also moving along - drywalling has started. And finally, The Waterhorse Pub has opened in the old Toad Hall - it is a beautiful space and, in case you are wondering has been twice blessed by the US Presiding Episcopal Bishop and the local Catholic priest.

But what has not opened is Cumberland Farms. We had hoped for an April 2022 start but that was delayed. Numerous conversations with the staff have not produced much momentum. And Cumberland Farms was sold this summer to a European Conglomerate, EG Group which owns a slew of chain restaurants, gas stations, etc., around the world. As recently as last week Director Creighton was working with their staff - we do expect this to happen but timing is unclear at this point.

And the City has been the target of white supremacy hate mail. One business was targeted and when the city was notified, we convened a special City Council Meeting in August, heard from the public, drafted and passed a proclamation against Hate and Intolerance and established a Citizen's Task Force Against Hate which has already met a few times. Unfortunately, last Fall the city was also targeted by hate graffiti on a wall behind the armory and the police are working both issues with the State Attorney General's Office. So even our small city has big city problems and we appreciate the efforts of the task force and our businesses in general for putting forward a welcoming face. We will continue to work both incidents with the appropriate authorities to address these issues.

We have also been stalled on our recycling efforts- largely by a market that keeps fluxuating. We are looking to Belmont who recently received a grant to determine if we can benefit from their efforts, but just last week we learned of an EPA grant for which we have become eligible for - a grant for Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling Program that ranges from \$600k - \$4M. Director Hanscom is already working to see how we can make it work for our transfer station in Franklin. Councilors Zink and Ribas have reached out to our High School Honor Society about a successful plastic recycling initiative in Laconia that we may be able to copy here in Franklin. The FHS Honor Society is working on getting out some educational flyers on the glass and metal that we do already recycle at the Franklin Transfer Station.

But there is more good news. The council and the economic task force, led by City Manager Milner have continued to secure needed funding for several major projects. Over the past 5 years the team has spurred over \$75 m in new investment and brought in over \$3.5 M in grants and donations. Asset acquisition from the last 5 years, July

2017 - June of last year is over \$13M in capital assets acquired. In the industrial park Vitex has expanded, Black Fly Canoe will soon be building and Ryan Dillon Cabinetry has begun operations. The city applied for and received over \$4M in ARPA funds with about \$2.5M received to date. Also, we have a very strong city leadership team across our departments that has worked together to make sure we are doing the best we can within our tax cap budget. All Directors have worked closely with the City Manager and our Finance Director to stretch the dollars as best we can, but it is never enough to meet all our needs. The Council will continue to work these issues in the upcoming budget cycle.

Another exciting project that is coming to Franklin is the development of Webster Place into a Veterans Campus. The plan, funded by 22M in ARPA funding and managed by Easter Seals, is to provide permanent and temporary housing for veterans and a whole range of social and therapy services. City Manager Milner and I toured the campus in June with Easter Seals and Councilor Webb and I met with the CEO of Easter Seals this fall to walk through again. This will be a first in NH and will provide much needed resources to these warriors.

The SAU has been successful in acquiring ARPA funding to help them overcome the effects of Covid. They have also continued with their successful Portrait of a Graduate program that is helping to redefine what the present day High School should be focusing on. Their FIRST Robotics team continues to do very well, and was recognized for their mental health packets they developed and handed out at a FIRST event this fall.

So a mixed year indeed and we will continue to face budget challenges, but we also need to be mindful of how we treat each other; our fellow councilors, leadership and the public in general. Nothing is gained by

assuming that all negative comments are correct - even if they are on Facebook or Franklin Talking. I would ask that all of us consider that most of us operate under a "do no harm" philosophy and that everyone is looking out for the greater good of our city and fellow citizens, not just ourselves.

So as we move into a new year, let us..... think before we accuse,..... let facts be the basis of our decisions.....and the common good of all..... be our focus.

Thank you all and have a great New Year.

Jo Brown

Mayor - City of Franklin

January 9, 2023

City of Franklin
Radio System Upgrade
Task List – 11/28/2022

Statement of Work

Complete and submitted to City of Franklin on 4/1/22 for approval – **received 4/11/22**

Customer Deposits

Deposit invoice submitted w/SOW on 4/1/22 – **received 4/12/22**

Motorola PO total and PO checklist submitted on 4/1/22 – **received 5/6/22**

Site Visits

Complete – Recommendations for site improvements were made and tree cutting at Flag Hole site has been scheduled by the City of Franklin

Microwave Path Studies

Complete

Antenna Configurations

Complete

Site Approvals

Complete

Hemp Hill – **Approved** 4/7/22 (per Lt. Bean @ Bristol PD)

Ragged Mountain – **Approved** 6/17/22 (per John Morris, Mountain Manager)

Licensing

Licensing modification parameters submitted. Coordinator responded with request of ASR (Antenna Site Registration) # for the Hemp Hill site. Town of Bristol is working on obtaining this.

4/11/22 – Doug Aiken was contracted to file ASR

10/24/22 – ASR was re-filed and is currently (11/22/22) under review at the FAA

Microwave Configuration & Licensing Parameters

Complete

Consolidated Quotes for eLines

Complete

Contracts submitted to Consolidated – awaiting scheduling

Equipment Orders

In Process

Motorola – Equipment **Ordered** and Partial Equipment Received – awaiting updated ship date for remaining equipment

Dispatch Console – Equipment **Ordered** – awaiting updated ship date

Microwave – Equipment **Ordered** – awaiting updated ship date

GPS Timing – Equipment **Received**

Site Equipment – Equipment **Received**

Civil Work at Sites

In Process

Dispatch – **COMPLETE** - none required

Water Tower – **COMPLETE** - none required (removal of benches will occur at time of install)

Flag Hole – tree removal **COMPLETE**

Hemp Hill – **APPROVAL** received

Ragged Mountain – **APPROVAL** received for platform and new cabinet, electrical work, and tree removal

Equipment Staging at OME

To be scheduled upon receipt of all equipment

FNE Install

To be scheduled

Console Install

To be scheduled

System Cutover

To be scheduled

Training & Testing

To be scheduled

Subscriber Programming

To be scheduled

System Acceptance



CITY OF FRANKLIN, NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

316 Central Street
Franklin, NH 03235
Telephone (603) 934-3900
Fax (603) 934-7413

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE &
CLOSING DATES FOR 2023**

Council Meeting Date	Manager & Mayor Review Closing Date	Agenda and Supporting Documents Delivered to Councilors By
February 6, 2023	Noon – Friday, January 27, 2023	COB Wednesday, February 1, 2023
March 6, 2023	Noon – Friday, February 24, 2023	COB Wednesday, March 1, 2023
April 3, 2023	Noon – Friday, March 24, 2023	COB Wednesday, March 29, 2023
May 1, 2023	Noon – Friday, April 21, 2023	COB Wednesday, April 26, 2023
June 5, 2023	Noon – Friday, May 26, 2023	COB Wednesday, May 31, 2023
*July 3, 2023	Noon – Friday, June 23, 2023	COB Wednesday, June 28, 2023
August 7, 2023	Noon – Friday, July 28, 2023	COB Wednesday, August 2, 2023
*September 4, 2023	Noon – Friday, August 25, 2023	COB Wednesday, August 30, 2023
October 2, 2023	Noon – Friday, September 22, 2023	COB Wednesday, September 27, 2023
November 6, 2023	Noon – Friday, October 27, 2023	COB Wednesday, November 1, 2023
December 4, 2023	Noon – Wednesday, November 22, 2023	COB Wednesday, November 29, 2023
*January 1, 2024	Noon – Friday, December 22, 2023	COB Wednesday, December 27, 2023

*Council meeting date speculative due to holiday observances – changes are subject to Council approval.

Items for consideration by the Franklin City Council must be submitted to the City Manager's office by noon on the Manager & Mayor Review Closing Date.

Late items may be allowed for Council consideration with the concurrence of the Manager and the Mayor, but will be discussed only under the agenda heading "Late Submissions" at the end of the Council meeting.

Late material submitted for Council consideration will be clearly marked as such, and may be distributed by any reasonable means, but late submissions will in no instance delay the delivery of meeting packets to the Franklin City Council.

The Mayor or Manager may agree to make adjustments to the schedule as required by Council-approved holiday observances or similar circumstances. A new annual schedule will be prepared by the Manager in December of each year.

This policy was adopted by the Franklin City Council on May 5, 2008. Motion by Councilor Sharon, 2nd by Councilor Rabinowitz. All in Favor.