



**City Council Special Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, January 25, 2021 – 6:00 p.m.**  
**Webmeeting via Zoom**

**City Council attendance:**

	<b>Location/others present</b>
Councilor Jo Brown	Home/Alone
Councilor Scott Clarenbach	Home/no others present in the room
Councilor Bob Desrochers	Home/no others present in the room
Councilor Jay Chandler	Home/Alone
Councilor April Bunker	Home/no others present in the room
Councilor Ted Starkweather	Home/Alone
Councilor Olivia Zink	Home/no others present in the room
Councilor Paul Trudel	Home/no others present in the room
Councilor Karen Testerman	Home/no others present in the room

Others attending remotely: City Manager Judie Milner, City Department Heads, and members of the public.

The City Council Special meeting opened at 6:05 p.m. via zoom.

Due to the resignation of Mayor Giunta on January 15, 2021, the City appointed a meeting Chairperson to kick off tonight's meeting.

**Councilor Testerman nominated Councilor Jo Brown as Chairperson. Seconded by Councilor Paul Trudel.**

**There was no discussion.**

**Roll call:**

Councilor Brown	Yes	Councilor Chandler	Yes	Councilor Zink	Yes
Councilor Clarenbach	Yes	Councilor Bunker	Yes	Councilor Testerman	Yes
Councilor Desrochers	Connectivity issues	Councilor Starkweather	Yes	Councilor Trudel	Yes

**All in favor. Motion PASSED**

Councilor Brown read the Compliant Right to Know Statement.

Salute to the Flag was led by Councilor Brown.

**Motion – Councilor Trudel moved to adjust the agenda and appoint the Interim Mayor prior to discussing the first agenda item. Seconded by Councilor Chandler.**

There was no discussion on the motion.

**Roll call:**

Councilor Brown	Yes	Councilor Chandler	Yes	Councilor Zink	Yes
Councilor Clarenbach	Yes	Councilor Bunker	Yes	Councilor Testerman	Yes
Councilor Desrochers	Yes	Councilor Starkweather	Yes	Councilor Trudel	Yes

**All in Favor. Motion PASSED.**

Councilor Brown and Councilor Zink both stated that they were interested in the Interim Mayor seat.

Both Councilors opened the floor to questions and the Council requested that Brown and Zink share information about themselves and how their experiences could support this position.

Councilor Zink stated that she holds a Master's Degree in Community Economic Development and serves as the Executive Director of the non-profit Open Democracy, which focusses more on community democracy. Zink stated she would like to see our community flourish through Block Grants and investments in Stevens Mill. Zink shared that she is a graduate of Franklin High School and served as a School Board member when she was only 18 years of age and then again, a few years later. She stated that she wants to do everything she can to support the Franklin School system and having a strong school system can be a pipeline to local businesses.

Councilor Brown stated that she has a Master's Degree in Public Administration. She is retired from the U.S. Air Force and Corporate America. Brown volunteered her time as the Choose Franklin secretary then moved on as the chairperson. She also volunteered for other community fundraisers and committees such as the Franklin for a Lifetime Committee, UNH Extension, and is the owner of Franklin Studios in downtown Franklin. Brown continued to share her strong support of revitalizing Franklin's Downtown. Brown also stated her strong business relationships with Chinberg, Marty Parichand, and Superintendent Dan LeGallo. Brown worked with Director Dick Lewis to produce a "How To" guide for Entrepreneurs; which is on the City website. Brown persistently helped kick start and remains an active member of the Council LEAN Workshops which uncovered a desire to spearhead Designing Franklin's Education for the future. This joint City and School effort was pivotal in bringing the Manufacturing program back into the Franklin High School. Brown continues to strengthen the Manufacturing program by combining it with a more rigorous program with the guidance of the German American Chamber of Commerce.

Brown shared a story of when she had the honor of attending an event that her sister had organized at Pease Airforce Base where she met the Hero Pups Teams. At the event, they announced New Hampshire's first Comfort Dog, Liberty. Recognizing that Franklin's First Responders and the entire City would greatly benefit from a comfort dog, Brown was dedicated to helping Franklin secure New Hampshire's second ever Comfort Dog, Miller.

Brown stated that she is in favor of the tax cap due to the demographics of the City. For businesses and residents alike, predicting and counting on the tax cap is important.

Brown informed the Council that she believes a Mayor should be more accessible and that she will be working part-time in her store but also considering hiring a second part-time person so she can be available as needed to the City of Franklin.

Councilor Zink stated that she understands the purpose of the tax cap and that she was a product of the new Middle School that came forth due to the tax cap. Over the years, however, the spending cap has made it very difficult to tend to the needs of the City's critical infrastructure. Zink stated that she supports a review of the tax cap and possible changes to the CIP.

Zink also stated that she works from home and can have a flexible schedule if needed.

There were no further questions.

**Roll call to vote on either Councilor Brown or Councilor Zink for Interim Mayor:**

Councilor Brown	Brown	Councilor Chandler	Brown	Councilor Zink	Zink
Councilor Clarenbach	Zink	Councilor Bunker	Zink	Councilor Testerman	Brown
Councilor Desrochers	Zink	Councilor Starkweather	Zink	Councilor Trudel	Brown

**4 votes for Councilor Brown**

**5 votes for Councilor Zink**

**Councilor Zink will preside as the City of Franklin's Interim Mayor.**

**Motion – Councilor Brown moved that Councilor Zink take over as acting chair for this meeting.  
Seconded by Councilor Testerman.**

There was no discussion.

**Roll call :**

Councilor Brown	Yes	Councilor Chandler	Yes	Councilor Zink	Yes
Councilor Clarenbach	Yes	Councilor Bunker	Yes	Councilor Testerman	Yes
Councilor Desrochers	Yes	Councilor Starkweather	Yes	Councilor Trudel	Yes

**All in favor. Motion PASSED.**

Councilor Bunker thanked both Brown and Zink for stepping up and offering their willingness to serve as Interim Mayor.

**Agenda Item I.**

The Council discussed the Solid Waste Policy.

City Manager Milner stated that since the City now outsources trash pick-up, there are certain areas within the City Ordinance on solid waste that need to be reviewed and updated. She shared a bullet list of key areas and the Council provided their input.

Consistency within the City Code was a focal point. The Council requested the code be cleaned up of references to recycling and be consistent overall to avoid any confusion.

There was consensus on the following direction regarding the Solid Waste Policy:

- The City is to follow in step with State definitions and statute regarding multifamily units.
- The Charter School would be included as part of the City's Dependent School District for trash pick-up. Further discussion to clarify if the City will pick up trash with a City owned vehicle or which type of hybrid cost commercial pick-up will be best for the taxpayers.
- Residential and Commercial trash must be bagged and mandatory containerized with weekly pick-up. Overflow of bags not in containers and next to containers will not be picked up. Certain bulk items such as cardboard and hazardous or construction materials will need to be taken to the transfer station by the residents.
- Base Level service will be as follows:
  - Up to 2, 96-gallon containers/up to 192 gallons would be picked up per week.
  - Any property who exceeds the above will use a yellow lid container and pay an extra fee for collection.
  - Adjust the fee schedule for large items such as couches and mattresses (Bulky Items) that require special handling which take up more space in the trash trailers.
  - Allow residential non-commercial properties to drop off bagged trash to the transfer station at no cost however large items such as furniture or loose items will need an agreed fee structure.
- Downtown light commercial/residential commercial/industrial properties are suggested to pay for their own commercial pick-up and must provide fencing or screening around their dumpster.
- Homeowners and commercial properties would pay for any replacement approved cans through the City. Current cans already in use would not impose a fee to the homeowner unless it needed to be replaced. Minor repairs can be made by the City if a can loses a wheel or cover.

Councilor Chandler inquired on the Mayor Committee Assignments and asked if he would assume, that he is replacing Councilor Dzujna on the committees he was on. Zink replied that she will work on the official committee assignment list first thing tomorrow and send it out as quickly as possible. She asked that if anyone has any committee preferences to send her an email tonight.

There was no further discussion.

**Motion to adjourn was made by Councilor Trudel. Seconded by Councilor Bunker.**

Roll call:

Councilor Brown	Yes	Councilor Chandler	Yes	Councilor Zink	Yes
Councilor Clarenbach	Yes	Councilor Bunker	Yes	Councilor Testerman	Yes
Councilor Desrochers	Mic issue	Councilor Starkweather	Yes	Councilor Trudel	Yes

All in favor. Motion PASSED.

**The meeting adjourned at 8:39 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Audrey Lanzillo