

**Minutes of the Town Council Meeting  
2016 and Beyond  
Town Council Workshop  
January 12, 2016**

The following items comprise the Town Council's approved work plan for the 2016-2017 session. The areas in bold are the status of the item at this point in time. Items may be taken up anytime in the session. Stay tuned to the town website and Town Council Calendar for updates at [www.franklin.ma.us](http://www.franklin.ma.us)

**Fiscal**

- Annual Capital Plan
- Annual Operating Budget
- Review/update Fiscal Policies
  - **The Town Administrator requested the budget subcommittee to review the fiscal policies in the near future.**
- Explore OPEB Options
  - **The Chair and the Town Administrator will request a meeting of our elected representatives to discuss the Town's concerns on potential legislative relief.**
- A letter from the council to our legislators requesting some legislative action
  - **See above.**

**Economic Development**

- Pond Street Land
  - **The Chair announced this topic was on next council agenda for discussion only to seek input for the citizens. There is currently one proposal still on the table for 99 condo's. The council can chose to take no action, accept or send out another RFP.**
- Continue general Economic Development project efforts
- RT 140 Zoning (Beaver to near Hayward)
  - **Town staff will discuss in the next few weeks and make a recommendation to the Town Council.**
- Neighborhood commercial Bylaw
  - **The Chair of the Council and Chair of the Economic Development committee will meet with staff to discuss the matter.**

## Facilities

- Complete Recreation Building project
  - **Front building will open February 1, the remainder of the facility will open over the next 9 months.**
- Complete Senior Center project
  - **Project to begin the first week of February.**
- Complete Library project
  - **Expected start date is April/May.**
- Continue to fund LED Lighting
  - **LED Light implementation will start with the Schools.**
- Future of Red Brick School
  - **The Town Administrator suggested discussing leasing the building when the Charter School relocates.**
- Future use of Old South Meeting House
  - **Future discussion item.**
- Review Police Station space
  - **The Town Administrator suggests we hire an architect next year to review the space issues.**
- Davis Thayer – Discuss with Schools
  - **Request a space needs study/report from the School Department.**

## Public Works

- Access options for additional Road Funding
  - **Town Administrator to discuss with elected representative about possible legislative action.**
- Fund sidewalk plan for Pleasant/Chestnut Streets
  - **Will come before the Council this spring for a vote.**
- Plan for sidewalks on Beaver and Washington Streets –
  - **Town Administrator suggested it should be consider after the Pleasant and Chestnut street sidewalks are complete.**
- Continue Water line replacement plan
- Investigate Water Treatment Plant or new water source –

- **The Town Administrator discussed the need for a treatment plant and or a new water source as a result of changing regulations relating to magnesium. The council requested a presentation by the DPW in the near future.**
- Continue to make improvements to sewer system
- Storm Water Plan
- Transfer/Recycling Center improvements
  - **The Town continues to work on a land swap with DCR so we can expand and improve the recycling center. Outline a potential time line and vision of how it would be laid out.**
- Continue to improve the recycling center. There is some interest in more donations
  - **Future discussion on suggestions to the DPW to explore expanding opportunities, donation boxes, etc for more recycling at the center.**
- Need Bylaw to allow DPW to install water meters in citizens houses that refuse entry

### **Downtown**

- Downtown Construction Project complete to 2016.
- Finalize new parking plan for downtown
  - **Town Administrator will bring draft to Council in next two months.**
- Kiosk / Information Center
  - **The Chair would like to have one in the downtown.**
- Funds for Downtown Lights, Banners, etc
  - **Need to discuss with the downtown partnership about banners, lights, flags etc and put funds in the capital budget.**
- Foster Cultural activities

### **Community**

- Investigate Electric Aggregation
  - **Council already voted at its December 16, 2015 meeting to begin process.**
- Continued work on the recommendations in the Master Plan
  - **Town Administrator to update Council in the next month**
- Investigate the CPA
  - **Find a speaker to make a presentation at future council meeting**

### **Recreation**

- Complete Open Space and Recreation Plan

- **Staff working on update**
- Purchase Open Space as may be available
- Continue supporting SNETT trail development
- Review report on the invasive weeds and fish at Delcarte
  - **Will need to fund recommendation for conservation commission. Report expected this week.**

### Other

- Continue to work with SAFE Coalition
- Continue to accept Public Ways
- Continue Nu-Style project
- Continue working on Regional Dispatch
  - **Should have more information in the next week after the Norfolk vote.**
- Continue to develop communications/PR plan
  - **Deputy Town Administrator developing civic engagement plan.**
- Charter Review Commission
  - **Put on future Council agenda for discussion.**
- Review of the current offerings provided by Dean College. More revenue/pilot and or offerings from Dean.
  - **Discuss on future agenda.**
- Request Fire Chief to present ambulance service report.
- Continue civic recognition program.

### A look beyond: the Next Five Years

- Key Staff Retirements – Developing transition plans
- Consistent revenues with growing expenses
- Demand for increase in services - need to monitor and measure aging population, expanding population and shifting demographics, more folks on fixed income, unknown future school enrollment, continued changes in expectations on communications
- Technology continues to change
- Holistic approaches to problems