

**FRANKLIN TOWN COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
February 1, 2012**

A meeting of the Town Council was held on Wednesday, February 1, 2012 at the Franklin Municipal Building, 355 East Central Street, Franklin, Massachusetts. Councilors present; Andrew Bissanti, Robert Dellorco, Glenn Jones, Matt Kelly, Thomas Mercer, Judith Pfeffer, Tina Powderly, Jeff Roy. Robert Vallee was absent. Administrative personnel in attendance: Jeffrey Nutting; Town Administrator, Mark Cerel; Town Attorney and Maxine Kinhart; Assistant to the Town Administrator. Other officials present: James P. Dacey; Treasurer-Collector.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Councilor Powderly called the meeting to order at 7:00PM with a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** NONE

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Councilor Powderly announced that the Town Council meeting is being recorded by Comcast, Verizon and Franklin Matters. Councilor Powderly acknowledged that Helen Boghosian who was 108 years old and holder of the Boston Post Cane for the past five years, died on January 25, 2012.

**PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS:** NONE **CITIZEN COMMENTS:** NONE.

**APPOINTMENTS:** *Master Plan Committee Commission* – **MOTION** by Councilor Pfeffer to ratify the appointment of Christopher Vericker of 63 Dean Ave. and Jay Duncan 35 Gallison St. as individuals to serve as members of the Master Plan Committee **SECONDED** by Councilor Jones. **VOTE to Approve: Yes-8, No-0, Absent-1.**

*Franklin Community Garden Committee* – **MOTION** by Councilor Pfeffer to ratify the appointment of Richard Clauser of 64 Bayberry Common to serve as a member of the Franklin Community Garden Committee **SECONDED** by Councilor Jones. **Vote to Approve: Yes-8, No-0, Absent-1.**

**HEARINGS:** NONE

**LICENSE TRANSACTIONS:** *99 Restaurant & Pub – Change of Manager:* **MOTION** by Councilor Pfeffer to approve the request by 99 Restaurant of Boston LLC for a Change of Manager to David Camilleri **SECONDED** by Councilor Kelly. **Vote to Approve: Yes-8, No-0, Absent-1.**

*Guru – Transfer of License:* **MOTION** by Councilor Pfeffer to approve the request by Gill N. Sidhu, LLC d/b/a Guru for the transfer of an all alcoholic beverages restaurant license currently owned by Diavolo, Inc. d/b/a Bellino's Grill & Pub located at 30 Main Street. The manager of the new restaurant, Guru will be Jagtar Singh Gill **SECONDED** by Councilor Jones. **Vote to Approve: Yes-8, No-0, Absent-1.**

**PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSIONS: *High School Building Committee – Chairman:*** High School Building Committee Chairman Tom Mercer, with the assistance of Jim Jordan; Architect – Ai3 and Sean Fennel; Project Manager – Daedalus Projects presented information regarding the New Franklin High School Project. The presentation included chronological background on the project that began in 2005. The presentation reviewed the cost of the project; \$104,649,876 and the state reimbursement rate of 59.52% leaving the town to finance the remaining \$47,000,000. Mr. Mercer explained the necessity to replace the existing facility. The reasons ranged from the existing facility being placed on Warning Status by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) back in 2005, to inadequate Science Labs, non-compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, heating, electrical and sprinkler system issues. The Architect, Jim Jordan reviewed the design of the proposed new facility. Components from the Ray Memorial Library are included in the exterior design of the proposed facility. Mr. Mercer highlighted several components of the new high school. The new high school will have a three-story wing, 20% more classroom space than the existing facility, a 138-seat auditorium and a gymnasium that is roughly the same size of usable space as the existing field house. Each of the Councilors explained the factors that led to their decisions to support the project. The councilors cited the necessity to update the high school to meet the technology needs of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, the state reimbursement rate and the future of Franklin. Councilor Jones asked for clarification regarding the project time frames. Mr. Mercer said if the project is approved, construction would begin in October 2012 with a completion date of Fall 2014. Paula Mullen; School Committee Chair, Jim Roche; Finance Committee Chair and Doug Hardesty; Long Range Finance Committee Chair all spoke of their respective committee's unanimous support of the New High School Project. Craig Haba of 23 High Ridge Circle spoke as a representative of the organization Citizens For A New Franklin High School. Mr. Haba explained how this organization has supported, and continues to support the project and asked for citizens who are interested in joining the organization, to visit the organization's website at newfhs.com.

#### **LEGISLATION FOR ACTION:**

***Resolution 12-05: Appropriation Franklin High School*** -Councilor Pfeffer read the resolution to appropriate the sum of one hundred four million, six hundred forty-nine thousand, eight hundred seventy-six dollars (\$104,649,876) for the construction of a new Franklin High School to be located at 218 Oak Street. **MOTION** by Councilor Dellorco to move Resolution 12-05 **SECONDED** by Councilor Roy. **ROLL CALL:** Bissanti-yes, Dellorco-yes, Jones-yes, Kelly-yes, Mercer-yes, Pfeffer-yes, Powderly-yes, Roy-yes. **Vote to Approve: Yes-8, No-0, Absent-1.**

***Resolution 12-06: Setting Date of Debt Exclusion Ballot*** - Councilor Pfeffer read the resolution for the Town of Franklin to hold a special election on Tuesday, March 27, 2012 for the purpose of presenting to the voters a debt exclusion ballot question for a new Franklin High School. **MOTION** by Councilor Dellorco to move Resolution 12-06 **SECONDED** by Councilor Roy. **ROLL CALL:** Bissanti-yes, Dellorco-yes, Jones-yes, Kelly-yes, Mercer-yes, Pfeffer-yes, Powderly-yes, Roy-yes. **Vote to Approve: Yes-8, No-0, Absent-1.**

**Resolution 12-07: Ballot Question** - Councilor Pfeffer read the resolution for the Town Council to place a ballot question regarding exemption from the provisions of Proposition two-and-one-half to be decided by the voters of Franklin. **MOTION** by Councilor Dellorco to move Resolution 12-07 **SECONDED** by Councilor Roy. **ROLL CALL:** Bissanti-yes, Dellorco-yes, Jones-yes, Kelly-yes, Mercer-yes, Pfeffer-yes, Powderly-yes, Roy-yes. **Vote to Approve: Yes-8, No-0, Absent-1.**

**RECESS:** Chairwoman Powderly called for a 5 minute recess at 8:47PM.

**Resolution 12-08: Refunding Bond Order** – Councilor Pfeffer read the resolution to approve the Treasurer-Collector authorization to issue refunding bonds. **MOTION** by Councilor Kelly to approve Resolution 12-08 **SECONDED** by Councilor Dellorco. **DISCUSSION:** Mr. Nutting explained approval of this resolution would save the town over a million dollars. James Dacey, Treasurer-Collector reviewed the bond history and the necessity to refund the bonds as interest rates are so low. **ROLL CALL:** Bissanti-yes, Dellorco-yes, Jones-yes, Kelly-yes, Mercer-yes, Pfeffer-yes, Powderly-yes, Roy-yes. **Vote to Approve: Yes-8, No-0, Absent-1.**

**Resolution 12-09: Debt-Principal - Municipal Offices/Horace Mann** – Councilor Pfeffer read the resolution to appropriate from the Municipal Offices Interest (\$5,000) and Horace Mann Exempt Interest (\$5,000) for a total of \$10,000 to the Municipal Offices/Horace Mann Debt – Principal Account. **MOTION** by Councilor Kelly **SECONDED** by Councilor Dellorco. **Vote to Approve: Yes-8, No-0, Absent-1.**

**Bylaw Amendment 12-673: Amendment to Sewer System Map** – Councilor Pfeffer read the bylaw amendment to add 44 Daniels Street as an eligible location. **MOTION** by Councilor Jones to approve Bylaw Amendment 12-673 to a second reading **SECONDED** by Councilor Mercer. **DISCUSSION:** Bill Yadisernia explained the home's septic system had failed due to poor soil drainage and the sewer connection will not cost the town any money. **Vote to Approve: Yes-8, No-0, Absent-1.**

**TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:** Mr. Nutting had the following announcements: ► He reported that the Capital Budget Subcommittee has met several times regarding capital improvements. ► Mr. Nutting intends to bring draft bylaw revisions forward as first readings as part of the review process of existing bylaws.

**OLD BUSINESS:** NONE

**NEW BUSINESS:** ► Councilor Dellorco thanked Beth Capecci, a Franklin High School Custodian for doing a wonderful job singing the National Anthem each night at basketball games. ► Councilor Kelly stated that he would like to have the appointment of a Treasurer added to the Agenda of a future Council Meeting.

**COUNCILOR COMMENTS:** ► Councilor Bissanti said he was happy with the level of involvement of this council and the community with regard to the New Franklin High School Project and urged everyone to vote. ► Councilor Jones was also very proud of the volunteer work that has gone into the New Franklin High School Project and also

reminded everyone to vote. ► Councilor Mercer reminded everyone that on March 8, 2012 at 6:00PM public tours will be available of the existing High School and at 7:00PM a presentation will take place in the Franklin High School Lecture Hall. ► Councilor Dellorco invited anyone who is interested to take the high school tour so that they can see why it is necessary to replace the existing high school. ► Councilor Kelly thanked Councilor Mercer for the evening's presentation and everyone for attending the meeting. ► Councilor Pfeffer voiced her support for the New Franklin High School Project.

**ADJOURN: MOTION** by Councilor Mercer to adjourn **SECONDED** by Councilor Powderly. **Vote to Approve: Yes-8, No-0, Absent-1.** Meeting adjourned at 9:08PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jan Brecht  
Recording Secretary