

**FRANKLIN TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING
September 19, 2012**

A meeting of the Town Council was held on Wednesday, September 19, 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. Administrative personnel in attendance: Jeffrey Nutting; Town Administrator, Mark Cerel; Town Attorney and Maxine Kinhart; Assistant to the Town Administrator. Other officials present: Board of Health Director David McKearney.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: *August 8, 2012 Regular Session* **MOTION** by Councilor Powderly to approve the August 8, 2012 Minutes **SECONDED** by Councilor Mercer. **VOTE to Approve: Yes-9, No-0, Absent-0.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Chairman Vallee announced Comcast, Verizon and Franklin Matters record the Town Council meeting.

PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS: Chairman Vallee read the proclamation in honor of Vincent Joseph DeBaggis Sr. who served the Town for almost 59 years as a volunteer on several boards including the Town Council, Building Committees, School Committee and the Board of Assessors. The award was presented to Mr. DeBaggis' daughter, Roberta Trahan who thanked the Town on behalf of Mr. DeBaggis for the opportunity to serve the citizens of Franklin.

CITIZEN COMMENTS: NONE.

APPOINTMENTS: *Constable* – Councilor Pfeffer read the description of the position and clarified the appointment will be in effect until the next general election. There were five candidates for the position. The Town Council nominated Rancourt J. LaRosa. **MOTION** by Councilor Pfeffer to ratify the appointment of Rancourt J. LaRosa as Constable **SECONDED** by Councilor Powderly. **Vote to Approve: Yes-9, No-0, Absent-0.**

HEARINGS: NONE

LICENSE TRANSACTIONS: *NDO Enterprises LLC d/b/a Pour Richard's*

Wine and Spirits – transfer of the all alcoholic beverages package store license:

MOTION by Councilor Pfeffer to approve the request of transfer of the all alcoholic beverages package store license currently owned by Franklin Wine & Spirits, Inc. located at 470 King Street to NDO Enterprises LLC d/b/a Pour Richard's Wine and Spirits with the manager to be Beverly Ann Williams

SECONDED by Councilor Powderly. **DISCUSSION:** Mr. Nutting said everything was in order. **Vote to Approve: Yes-9, No-0, Absent-0.**

PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSIONS: *Dean College* – Paula Rooney, Ed. D.

President of Dean College presented a brief history of Dean College and detailed the college's current enrollment statistics. Dean College is expected to open a new dorm this December. Dean College offers free courses to Town employees and Senior Citizens, as well as offers scholarships to Franklin residents. Dr. Rooney illustrated several ways the school partners with the Town and invited the community to attend sporting and cultural events, as well as eat in the school's cafeteria. All of the Town Councilors applauded Dr. Rooney's efforts to improve Dean College and for the positive relationship the Town and Dean College have enjoyed. Councilor Pfeffer expressed traffic concerns when the new dorm opens in December. Dr. Rooney assured the Council the dorm has been designed with traffic concerns in mind. Councilor Pfeffer also pointed out the Main Street Dean College crosswalk traffic light is sometimes obscured by tree branches. Dr. Rooney agreed to take a look at the cross walk with Mr. Nutting to determine if tree branches need to be removed.

Board of Health – Health Director David McKearney provided a brief overview of Board of Health responsibilities. Mr. McKearney stated the Board of Health is responsible for inspecting the Town's 105 full service restaurants and 33 retail food establishments and any vendors that operate in Franklin. The Board of Health also oversees Title 5 Septic inspections, enforcement of Environmental Protection Agency statutes, enforcement of the State Sanitary Code, smoking ban enforcement, inspections on the 27 semi-private pools and spas located in Franklin and issuing Beaver Permits. The Board of Health is staffed with Mr. McKearney, one health agent and a part-time administrative assistant. Mr. McKearney spoke of the challenges the Department of Health face, with limited resources. Mr. Nutting said Franklin's Department of Health operates with half the staff of towns that are of similar size to Franklin. Councilors Powderly, Roy and Dellorco thanked Mr. McKearney and the Department of Health for the department's work during the 2006 salmonella outbreak at the Jefferson School and during the 2009 H1N1 pandemic. Mr. McKearney thanked Mr. Nutting for his tremendous support and

understanding of the challenges the Department of Health faces. Chairman Vallee thanked Mr. McKearney and the Department of Health staff for their efforts.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS: *Senior Outreach Committee* – Councilor Powderly said the Committee had met earlier in the evening and would bring resolutions to the Council within the next month or so. Councilor Powderly said the Committee was working on opportunities for people that may be in need.

Dean Train Station – Councilor Dellorco updated the Council on upgrades to the Dean Train Station. Councilor Dellorco said he discussed repairing the train station's roof with the general manager of the Mass Bay Commuter Rail Company. Councilor Dellorco expects to hear back from Mass Bay Commuter Rail Company regarding the repairs. Chairman Vallee stated the train station parking lot needs to be repaired as well.

LEGISLATION FOR ACTION:

Resolution 12-64: Order of Betterment Assessment – Summer Street Sewer Improvement: **MOTION** by Councilor Powderly to waive the reading **SECONDED** by Councilor Jones. **Vote to Approve: Yes-9, No-0, Absent-0.** **MOTION** by Councilor Powderly to move Resolution 12-64 **SECONDED** by Councilor Mercer. **DISCUSSION:** Mr. Nutting explained this is the completion of the legal process to add the extension of the sewer system to those who benefit. The Town Council approved this arrangement 5 or 6 years ago. Those who benefit would pay for the cost of the sewer system hook-up. Chairman Vallee asked about the terms of the payment. Mr. Nutting said the people affected by this can pay over a 20-year period. **Vote to Approve: Yes-9, No-0, Absent-0.**

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: ► Mr. Nutting thanked the Fire Department for their efforts to extinguish a house fire located near Walgreens. ► Mr. Nutting announced the Harvest Festival will take place on Sunday, September 30, 2012. ► Mr. Nutting said the design for the downtown was delivered to the State and hopes the project will go out to bid by year's end with the project completed by next summer. ► Mr. Nutting was pleased to announce the hiring of a part-time traffic control officer who will patrol the downtown area to ensure public parking spaces are being properly utilized.

OLD BUSINESS: ► Councilor Roy discussed a recent meeting between himself, Mr. Nutting and representatives from the power company National Grid. The meeting's outcome was National Grid will gather additional data to determine if recent power outages are being caused by storms or are being caused by an aging

infrastructure. ► Councilor Bissanti asked for an update on property located on Wachusett Street adjacent to the Fletcher Field parking lot. Mr. Nutting said there was no response to two telephone calls made, and a follow-up letter will be sent out.

NEW BUSINESS: ► Councilor Mercer stated he had received complaints from several people regarding a construction project on East and West Streets. Mr. Nutting said he will have to investigate, and have DPW follow-up on this issue.

► Councilor Dellorco inquired about why the Town's big ladder fire truck was not utilized during a recent house fire. Mr. Nutting explained the big ladder fire truck was out on another call at the time of the house fire call. The staffing levels at the Fire Department as well as staffing levels from every Town department are being stretched Mr. Nutting said. ► Councilor Powderly inquired about a newspaper article which referred to a Franklin company fined for discharging chemicals into a body of water. Mr. Nutting said the Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Environmental Protection are working with the Franklin company.

COUNCILOR COMMENTS: ► Councilor Jones thanked the Town Clerks Office and the election staff for their work during the recent primary election. ► Councilor Pfeffer announced the upcoming Senior Expo will take place on Friday September 28, 2012 at the Senior Center. Councilor Pfeffer also commended the Milford News for being present at the evenings Council Meeting. ► Chairman Vallee congratulated Councilor Roy on his victory at the recent primary. Chairman Vallee also commented that health and safety should come before education. Mr. Nutting responded that there are always tradeoffs when resources are so tight. ► Councilor Dellorco also congratulated Councilor Roy on his primary win. ► Councilor Mercer announced the general contractor bids for the New High School Project will take place on Tuesday, September 25th at 2:00PM in Council Chambers.

ADJOURN: MOTION by Chairman Vallee to adjourn **SECONDED** by Councilor Powderly. **VOTE to Approve: Yes-9, No-0, Absent-0.** Meeting adjourned at 8:45PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jan Brecht, Recording Secretary