

**FRANKLIN TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING
May 8, 2013**

A meeting of the Town Council was held on Wednesday, May 8, 2013 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.

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: NONE.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Chairman Vallee announced the meeting would be recorded by Franklin TV and available for viewing on Comcast Channel 11 and Verizon Channel 29. The meeting may also have been recorded by Franklin Matters.

PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS: NONE.

CITIZEN COMMENTS: NONE.

APPOINTMENTS: NONE.

Note: The Hearing and Resolutions were taken out of order to allow the public Hearing to take place prior to the affected Resolutions.

LEGISLATION FOR ACTION:

Resolution 13-30: Town Council Proposal of Charter Amendment to Voters: Treasurer-Collector to be Changed from Elected to Appointed Position: Councilor Pfeffer read the resolution from the Franklin Town Council which proposes to the voters that the Town of Franklin Home Rule Charter be amended to indicate the Town Administrator may appoint a Treasurer-Collector on the basis of merit and fitness alone subject to a prescribed process. **MOTION** by Councilor Jones to move Resolution 13-30 **SECONDED** by Councilor Kelly. **ROLL CALL: Bissanti-Yes, Dellorco-No, Jones-Yes, Kelly-Yes, Mercer-Yes, Pfeffer-Yes, Powderly-Yes, Roy-Yes, Vallee-Yes. VOTE to Approve: 8 – 1 – 0.**

Bylaw Amendment 13-713: Chapter 25, Personnel Regulations, Appendix A – Classification Plan and Appendix B – Pay Schedules – 1st Reading: Councilor Pfeffer read the bylaw to amend Personnel Classification Plan, Compensation Plan Pay Schedules and Nonunion Employees as indicated. **MOTION** by Councilor Jones to move Bylaw Amendment 13-713 to a 2nd Reading **SECONDED** by Councilor Mercer. **DISCUSSION:** Mr. Nutting explained the bylaw amendment is an annual adjustment of 2% to the wage schedule. **VOTE to Approve: Yes-9, No-0, Absent-0.**

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT: ► Mr. Nutting reminded everyone the Budget Hearing would take place next Wednesday and Thursday. The hearing would consist of a presentation and all department heads would be present. ► Mr. Nutting thanked all those

who helped out on Earth Day and reminded folks of another opportunity to improve Franklin by volunteering to plant flowers on the bridge this Saturday.

OLD BUSINESS: NONE.

NEW BUSINESS: ► **MOTION** by Chairman Vallee to add a non-binding ballot question to the November election asking the voters if Franklin is ready for a mayor **SECONDED** by Councilor Jones. **DISCUSSION:** Councilor Roy said he supported getting the public's feeling on the issue. Councilor Dellorco asked for a time frame if the vote is in support a mayor. Chairman Vallee said the process to change the Town's form of government would be long, 3-5 years. **VOTE to Approve: Yes-9, No-0, Absent-0.** ► Councilor Roy requested the Council add a presentation by the Master Plan Committee to the July 17, 2013 Meeting Agenda. Councilor Roy said the Committee is ready to give a final report. A Public Hearing would be scheduled at a later date with the Master Plan Committee's findings.

COUNCILOR COMMENTS: ► Councilor Pfeffer said she had attended a wine and cheese event at the Town's newest liquor store. The event was sponsored by the Downtown Partnership and said the wine choices were excellent. Councilor Pfeffer also commented the Franklin Cable Commission has improved the tone and music choice on the Verizon show. ► Councilor Jones complimented the DPW on their work improving the appearance of the Transfer Station. ► Councilor Bissanti said he was disappointed DB Mart withdrew its application for a liquor license as he felt the issues raised at the last Council Meeting were Site Plan issues, not Council issues. ► Councilor Roy said he was honored to represent the Council in presenting four Eagle Scouts from Troop 29 recognition of their achievements. The four Eagle Scouts were: Justin Chander, Evan Dean, Patrick McLaughlin and Adam Shanahan.

HEARINGS:

To Determine Whether it is in the Public Interest to Accept Tanglewood Dr., Sierra Dr., Dutchess Rd., Summer Heights Dr., Autumn Ln., Fall Ln., Mary Jane Rd., and Anna Rd. – 7:15PM. **MOTION** by Councilor Jones to open the Hearing **SECONDED** by Councilor Powderly. **VOTE to Approve: Yes-9, No-0, Absent-0.** Mr. Nutting answered a woman attending the meeting's question regarding what the Town's intent was with regard to Anna Road being public or private. Mr. Nutting said the above listed roads are currently private and the Town is therefore not responsible for the maintenance and upkeep for the streets. The Town has a backlog of roads that have to be approved, which is why there are several roads listed at one time. If the roads are approved, the roads would then be designated "public" with the Town owning them and the Town would be responsible for all maintenance and repairs to these roads. **MOTION** by Councilor Powderly to close the Hearing **SECONDED** by Councilor Jones. **VOTE to Approve: Yes-9, No-0, Absent-0.**

PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSIONS: NONE.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS: NONE.

LEGISLATION FOR ACTION:

Resolution 13-25: Order of Acceptance of Tanglewood Drive and Sierra Drive as Public Ways – Postponed from May 1, 2013: 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 13-25 **SECONDED** by Councilor Mercer. **VOTE to Approve: Yes-9, No-0, Absent-0.**

Resolution 13-26: Order of Acceptance of Mary Jane Road and Anna Road as Public Ways – Postponed from May 1, 2013: MOTION by Councilor Powderly to waive the reading **SECONDED** by Councilor Kelly. **VOTE to Approve: Yes-9, No-0, Absent-0.** **MOTION** by Councilor Powderly to move Resolution 13-26 **SECONDED** by Councilor Mercer. **VOTE to Approve: Yes-9, No-0, Absent-0.**

Resolution 13-27: Order of Acceptance of Summer Heights Drive, Autumn Lane and Fall Lane as Public Ways – Postponed from May 1, 2013: 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 13-27 **SECONDED** by Councilor Mercer. **VOTE to Approve: Yes-9, No-0, Absent-0.**

Resolution 13-28: Order of Acceptance of Dutchess Road as Public Way – Postponed from May 1, 2013: MOTION by Councilor Powderly to waive the reading **SECONDED** by Councilor Roy. **VOTE to Approve: Yes-9, No-0, Absent-0.** **MOTION** by Councilor Jones to move Resolution 13-28 **SECONDED** Councilor Mercer. **VOTE to Approve: Yes-9, No-0, Absent-0.**

LICENSE TRANSACTIONS: MOTION by Councilor Jones to open the Hearing **SECONDED** by Councilor Mercer. **VOTE to Approve: Yes-9, No-0, Absent-0.** Chairman Vallee read a note from the Council which accepts the letter from the Angela-Hayat Corporation attorneys Finan & Grouke withdrawing the application for a Wine and Malt Package Store License. **MOTION** by Chairman Vallee to accept the application withdrawal **SECONDED** by Councilor Powderly. **VOTE to Approve: Yes-9, No-0, Absent-0.** **MOTION** by Councilor Jones to close the Hearing **SECONDED** by Councilor Mercer. **VOTE to Approve: Yes-9, No-0, Absent-0.**

ADJOURN: MOTION by Councilor Mercer to adjourn **SECONDED** by Councilor Jones. **VOTE to Approve: Yes-9, No-0, Absent-0.** Meeting adjourned at 7:18PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jan Brecht, Recording Secretary