

**FRANKLIN TOWN COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
October 1, 2014**

A meeting of the Town Council was held on Wednesday July 9, 2014 at the Franklin Municipal Building, 355 East Central Street, Franklin, Massachusetts. Councilors present; Andrew Bissanti, Brett Feldman, Glenn Jones, Matt Kelly, Judith Pond Pfeffer, Robert Vallee, Steve Williams, Peter Padula. Administrative personnel in attendance: Jeffrey Nutting, Town Administrator; Maxine Kinhart, Assistant to the Town Administrator; Mark Cerel, Town Attorney.

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

**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 be available on Franklin Matters.

**PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS:** Chairman read a proclamation celebrating the Franklin Garden Club and presented them with a Glass Statuette commending the club for all that they do.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS:** Michael LeBlanc 18 High Ridge Circle. Would like to ask the Council to have a public discussion with the Town Administration at a Council meeting in the near future about what he and his neighbors consider and many residents call the debacle on Lincoln St. Lincoln St and Daniels Street. Did not take advantage of several weeks of good weather before school started so was in a hurried pace prior to school starting therefore traffic calming was installed incorrectly and was a debacle and had to be redone. Grading is not correct near Winterberry there is a large dip in the road. There are days where nothing is going on in the road. Days where no details are present. Someone in town should be held responsible for the over site of this project. This contractor should not be doing the down town project.

**APPOINTMENTS: MOTION** by Kelly to ratify the appointment of Ian C. Kabat and Karen Wellerson Juhl by the Town Administrator to serve as members of the Cultural Council. **SECOND** by Mercer. **VOTE to Approve: YES – 9, NO – 0, Absent – 0**

**HEARINGS:** NONE

**LICENSE TRANSACTIONS:** NONE

**PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSIONS:** Gary McCarraher, Fire Chief. Fire Dept. Mission To have a positive impact in the lives of citizens and visitors of Franklin in their time of crisis by providing compassionate, contemporary, community driven services...61 employees up 4 paramedics, but 4 out on medical. Headquarters – Fire Engine, Ambulance, Tower Ladder, Brush. Fire Station 2 Ambulance, Fire Engine, brush vehicle. Challenges sustaining minimum shift staffing. Emergency Response – simultaneous Calls 54% of total call volume. Growing trend of 3+ simultaneous calls. Emergency Management – information during an event. Addition

of Neighbor brigade, Food Pantry, Senior Center, Interfaith Council. Join Ping4Alerts, Connect CTY to get information during a weather or emergency event.

**SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS: NONE**

**LEGISLATION FOR ACTION:**

***Resolution 14-59: Dedication of Town-Owned Land Known as Fletcher Field Located on Peck Street for Use as a Public Playground or Recreation Centre, As Provided in G.L. Chapter 45, Section 14 and Authorization for Town Administrator to Execute Grant Agreement with Commonwealth of Massachusetts and to Take Other Action to Enable Town to Construct Playground.*** MOTION by Councilor Kelly to **WAIVE** the reading. **SECOND** by Councilor Mercer **VOTE to Approve: YES – 9, NO – 0, Absent – 0.** **Discussion.** This is a routine matter by the state; they wanted to know that this was really a dedicated playground and that the Town Administrator has the authorization to sign the contract. MOTION by Councilor Kelly to **Move** Resolution. **SECOND** by Councilor Mercer. **VOTE to Approve: YES – 9, NO – 0, Absent – 0**

***By-law Amendment 14-741: Amendment to Chapter 741, Chapter 65, Collection Containers: 2nd Reading*** MOTION by Councilor Mercer to **WAIVE** the Reading. **SECOND** by Councilor Kelly. **VOTE to Approve: YES – 9, NO - 0, Abstain – 0, Absent – 0.** MOTION by Councilor Kelly to **MOVE** Bylaw 14-741. **SECOND** by Councilor Padula. **DISCUSSION.** This Bylaw is to help constrain the expansion of collection containers throughout Franklin and would still allow Religious and not for profit, like a food pantry or charitable organizations, but limit ones in commercial areas, shopping malls to a specific zoning area west of Rt. 495. A lot of boxes pay to be there. Get out of hand stuff all over the place. Building Commissioner, Police Department and Health Department have submitted letters in support of this. Have focused on activity, not on non-profit. **MOVE** by Councilor Padula to **AMEND MOTION** to have the permit granting authority under 65.6 given to the Building Commissioner. **SECOND** by Councilor Mercer. **VOTE to Approve: YES – 9, NO - 0, Abstain – 0, Absent – 0.** **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Bissanti: Yes, Feldman: Yes, Jones: Yes Kelly: Yes, Mercer: Yes, Pfeffer: Yes, Vallee: Yes, Williams: Yes **YES – 9, NO - 0, Abstain – 0, Absent – 0. Passes**

**TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:** ► In response to concern will have DPW Director come forth next Agenda He is equally frustrated he has been on the phone numerous times trying to get Contractor to come to work. ► Harvest Festival is this Sunday. ► Update everybody on the downtown project. Putting utility poles up, do some drainage work School St. to Emmons St., Paving from Moore Ave down to Pleasant St., sidewalks and base coat and come back in the spring. ► Marketing for Pond and Emmons trying to get the information out. Doing everything possible. 110 Companies and Individuals on Pond Street and 3 dozen on Emmons. Deadlines in Nov and Dec. ► \$4,200 grant for recycling thanks to Chris White. ► Got a \$120,000 grant to do Storm Water **Best Management Practices.** ► DPW Director and Town Administrator did a 25 minute Cable Show on Question 5 Dedicated Override question.

**OLD BUSINESS:** ► In response to question, Town Administrator stated that we have 229 miles of road we get \$900,000 in chapter 90 funds, we use \$700,000 from the water account if we are

replacing or installing water mains and we appropriate \$500,000. Dedicated Override for roads can only be spent on roads. ► What is the status of technology, Twitter, Facebook, etc. After the Tech Department is done at the High School they will have more time to assist us.

**NEW BUSINESS:** ► Lincoln Street – should have time frame penalty clause. Town Administrator stated that we have had on other jobs and we have collected on them. At this point the contractor is not in violation of the contract. We held a public hearing on Lincoln Street and no one expressed concern about the island which has been taken care of. As far as working without detail, it is very difficult sometimes to find people to work detail. ► Delcarte pond have you looked at stocking? Jay Mello, DPW, looking at weed control, hawks, water chestnuts to go to Conservation with a plan.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS:** ► Glenn Jones announced that, due to an Ethics Commission decision that he has a conflict of Interest he would be resigning his role as Town Councilor effective Oct 2, 2014. ► Councilor Pfeffer recognized Bob Gagnon’s passing. He volunteered on Council on Aging, Housing Partnership, Housing Trust, Meals on Wheels, Senior Center, Food Pantry, and Senior Bus for Groceries, Tri-Valley Services, and Commission on Persons With Disabilities and served on the Building Committee for the Iraq and Afghanistan Monument. He was a dear and loving man.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** NONE

**ADJOURN: MOTION** by Councilor Kelly to adjourn **SECOND** by Councilor Jones. **VOTE to Approve: YES – 9, NO – 0, Absent – 0.** Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maxine Kinhart