

**FRANKLIN TOWN COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
July 9, 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; Mark Cerel, Town Attorney and Maxine Kinhart, Assistant to the Town Administrator. Absent; Councilor Thomas Mercer

**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 the blog Franklin Matters. Chairman Vallee announced that there will be a Special Town Council Meeting on Wednesday July 30, 2014 at 7:00 PM.

**PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS:** NONE

**CITIZEN COMMENTS:** NONE

**APPOINTMENTS:** NONE

**HEARINGS:** NONE

**LICENSE TRANSACTIONS:** NONE

**PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSIONS:** *EPA* – Mary Gardener from Mass DEP, Matt Fitzgerald and Megan Cassidy from the US Environmental Protection Agency and other members came to the meeting to solicit the Town Council support and propose a cleanup strategy for the contaminated property located at 300 Fisher Street. The contamination extends outside the property boundaries and includes Mine Brook, it has not gone into Beaver Pond at this time. There are six primary areas for the contamination. This will be a multi-million dollar cleanup and at this time there is no party willing to conduct a full cleanup. A full cleanup of the site is the best option and does qualify under the SuperFund Program. The EPA has legislation to find the people responsible for the pollution, PRP's (potential responsible parties), they try to identify anyone that can contribute or perform cleanup. If they are unsuccessful they are able to use Federal money to pay for the cleanup. There is health risks associated with the contamination, there are physical hazards, having trouble securing the area, and there is detection of lead in Mine Brook that is migrating. At this time it has not been detected in town water. A letter of town support needs to be sent to the Governor in order to get the Superfund listing. **MOTION** by Councilor Jones to draft a letter to the Government with support **SECONDED** by Councilor Pfeffer. **VOTE to Approve: YES – 8, NO – 0, Absent - 1**

**Recycling Center** – Councilor Padula reports that in FY 13 there has been about a 20% decline in residents purchasing stickers to use the Recycling Center. Councilor Padula prepared a

petition with 174 signatures which included 111 signatures of residents that actually use the center. About 70% of residents would like the center open 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM on Sundays. To run the program from August through November it would cost about \$2200.00 and it is believed that the DPW budget is large enough to absorb this and will be able to account for it next year. **MOTION** by Councilor Padula to open the Recycling Center from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM on Sundays to mirror the Tuesday openings mostly April to November **SECONDED** by Councilor Jones. **VOTE to Approve: YES-8, NO-0, Absent-1**

*Franklin Advisory Committee (Citizens' Committee)* - Committee was formed to help and volunteer in any way they can. People just don't understand the amount of work the Town Council does. The Committee is currently made up of people that have experience working in Government. Committee can be from 5 – 9 members who are appointed by the Town Council and they are looking to add a few new members to the committee.

**SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS: NONE**

**LEGISLATION FOR ACTION:**

**Resolution 14-47: Creation of Franklin Advisory Committee from the Citizens' Committee:** Councilor Pfeffer read the resolution to change the name of the Citizen Committee to the Franklin Advisory Committee. **MOTION** by Councilor Kelly to move Resolution 14-47 **SECONDED** by Councilor Padula. **VOTE to Approve: YES - 8, NO – 0, Absent – 1**

**Resolution 14-48: Acceptance of Gift – Town of Franklin:** Councilor Pfeffer read the resolution, Franklin Music Boosters have generously donated a check in the amount of \$10,000 to support the auditorium sound equipment at the Franklin High School. **MOTION** by Councilor Jones to move Resolution 14-48 **SECONDED** by Councilor Padula. **VOTE to Approve: YES – 8, NO – 0, Absent – 1**

**By-law Amendment 14-737: Amendment to Chapter 139-14: Sewer Map – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading 2/3 Vote:** Councilor Pfeffer read the By-Law to amend the Code of the Town of Franklin Chapter 139, entitled Sewers as follows: Chapter 139-14 of the Code of the Town of Franklin entitled Sewer System Map, exhibit A (map) be amended by adding the following extension as an eligible location: Extending from 36 Pinehurst Street approximately 200 feet to existing sewer system located on Pinehurst Street to a proposed new manhole. **MOTION** by Councilor Kelly to move the By-law Amendment 14-737 **SECONDED** by Councilor Padula. **VOTE to Approve: YES – 7, NO - 0, Abstain – 1, Absent – 1**

**By-law Amendment 14-739: Amendment to Chapter 179-9.1: Water Map – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading** Councilor Pfeffer read the By-Law to amend the Code of the Town of Franklin Chapter 179-9.1. Water System map exhibit A (map) be amended by adding as an eligible location the following: 179-9.1 Water System Map. Exhibit A: Install an 8” cement lined ductile iron water main from Jordan Road to the Wrentham town line to service 55 single family homes. **MOTION** by Councilor Kelly to move the By-Law Amendment 14-739 **SECONDED** by Councilor Jones. **VOTE to Approve: YES – 7, NO – 0, Abstain – 1, Absent – 1**

**By-Law Amendment 14-740: Amendment to Chapter 139-14: Sewer Map – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading**

Councilor Pfeffer read the By-Law to amend the Code of the Town of Franklin Chapter 139, entitled Sewers as follows: Chapter 139-14 of the Code of the Town of Franklin entitled Sewer System Map, exhibit A (map) be amended by adding the following extension as an eligible location. 139-14 Sewer System Map. Exhibit A: Sewer connection to connect to the existing sewer system at the pump station on Red Gate Lane and extend approximately 200 feet across the town property and onto the site to service 55 single family homes. **MOTION** by Councilor Kelly to move the By-Law Amendment 14-740 **SECONDED** by Councilor Williams. **VOTE to Approve: YES – 7, NO – 0, Abstain – 1, Absent - 1**

**TOWN ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT:** Mr. Nutting thanked Norma Collins Chief Procurement Officer for her dedication to the Town of Franklin; she has been instrumental in a number of projects. Wishes her well on her retirement next week. A meeting about the Downtown Street Project will be held on Thursday July 10 from 6:30 – 8:00 at the Peirce Science Center at Dean College, Public is welcomed and you can view the meeting on Cable. Mr. Nutting congratulated the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Committee on another job well done and wants to remind people that the Concerts on the Common will start tonight. Construction on Lincoln Street has started today with the culverts, may want to avoid Lincoln Street. Encourages people to support the Franklin Food Pantry, Executive Director Erin Lynch has done an amazing job. People can obtain passports at the Town Offices and the Town of Franklin has a twitter account and will be using it more to update the public on upcoming construction.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Still waiting for the ATC reports, probably within a few months.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Mr. Nutting told the council that they are changing current lights to LED lights over time in all the school and Municipal buildings. Huge energy savings and LED lights should last 8 years. Received 12,000 florescent bulbs from the state replacing 32 for 28 Watts. Received a 2/3<sup>rd</sup> subsidy to pay for the lights.

Councilor Bissanti is concerned with the blighted buildings and homes around town. Sign of economic times but can we take another look at creating a stronger by-law. Attorney Cerel states that we have as a strong of a by-law that exists in the Commonwealth of MA. Councilor Jones asks if we can bring this in front of the Economic Development Department to look at this. Attorney Cerel said there is a provision to expand the housing courts to cover the entire state, there is no easy solution and irresponsible parties are a problem.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

Councilor Bissanti would like to commend Councilor Padula on the extension of the recycling center hours. Councilor Kelly extends his thanks to both Erin Lynch and Norma Collins. Mr. Nutting said they are advertising for Norma’s replacement but you have to have specific certifications, they are moving quickly in the search. Councilor Kelly thanks his fellow Councilors for walking in the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade, amazing how many familiar faces they see every year. Councilor Pfeffer questioned the length of time it took for a work order to be complete at the Fire Department. Chairman Vallee is getting complaints from residents regarding the condition of Lincoln and Daniels Street. Mr. Nutting explained that sometimes it takes a long time to get a signed contract because people drag their feet. The waterlines were always intended to sit on the streets over the winter and work should have been started in the beginning of June, work should be starting in the next week. Councilor Padula suggests that if the Council

is planning on doing anything at all with a By-Law that we should include the Town Attorney in the discussions.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION: NONE**

**ADJOURN: MOTION** by Councilor Kelly to adjourn **SECONDED** by Councilor Jones.  
**VOTE to Approve: YES – 8, NO – 0, Absent – 1.** Meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carolyn Collins, Recording Secretary