

**FRANKLIN TOWN COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
March 4, 2015**

A meeting of the Town Council was held on Wednesday, March 4, 2015 at the Franklin Municipal Building, 355 East Central Street, Franklin, Massachusetts. Councilors present: Andrew Bissanti, Robert Dellorco, Brett Feldman, Matt Kelly, Peter Padula, Judith Pond Pfeffer, Robert Vallee, Steve Williams. 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.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** *January 7, 2015; February 11, 2015; April 2, 2014; April 16, 2014; May 7, 2014.* **MOTION** to **Approve** by Kelly. **SECOND** by Bissanti. **VOTE: Yes- 8, No-0, Absent-0.**

**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:** None.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS:** None.

**APPOINTMENTS:** ► *Cultural Council.* **MOTION** by Padula to **Ratify** the appointments of Madison Weber and Teresa Burr by the Town Administrator to serve as members of the Cultural Council. **SECOND** by Kelly. **VOTE to Approve:** Yes-8, No-0, Absent-0.

► *Board of Assessors: Joint appointment by the Town Council and the remaining members of the Board of Assessors of a new member to complete the remainder of the term.* **MOTION** by Pfeffer to **Appoint** Donna Greenwood to the Board of Assessors. **SECOND** by Kelly. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Bissanti-YES; Dellorco-YES; Feldman-YES; Kelly-YES; Padula-YES; Pfeffer-YES; Vallee-YES; Williams-YES; Chris Feeley, Board of Assessors-YES; Ken Norman, Board of Assessors-YES. **YES-10, NO-0. Passes.**

**HEARINGS:** None.

**LICENSE TRANSACTIONS:** *Acapulco's – Change of Officers/Directors and Change of Manager.* ► **MOTION** by Pfeffer to **Approve** the application by Avocado Inc. dba Acapulco's for approval of new Officers/Directors being Jorge Moreno, Jesus Ruelas, and Yadira Gutierrez. **SECOND** by Kelly. **VOTE to Approve: Yes-8, No-0, Absent-0.**

**Discussion:** Mr. Kelly stated that Acapulco's is a great restaurant within the community. As well, thanked Acapulco's for their participation in the yearly Fourth of July celebration, for being a great member of the community and for giving back to the community. Mr. Bissanti stated that the restaurant has done a lot for the community, is a backbone to the Franklin Center businesses and would like to see them continue to succeed.

► **MOTION** by Pfeffer to **Approve** the application by Avocado Inc. dba Acapulco's for approval of the new Manager, Hilda Gutierrez. **SECOND** by Bissanti. **VOTE to Approve: Yes-0, No-0, Absent-0.**

**PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSIONS: None.**

**SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:** ► Mr. Bissanti noted that people are waiting for information on the RFPs. Waiting for traffic study on the Pond Street area, and entire Town, and then will set up EDC meeting. Most of the input from the public has been positive and Council is listening.

**LEGISLATION FOR ACTION: None.**

**TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:** ► Mr. Nutting sent each Councilor a report from the MBTA regarding costs to make repairs to parking lot and area around Dean Station with estimated cost of \$350,000. They have no funding and would need an Architecture Board access waiver. Jeff Roy's office is also working on this. Town will hopefully receive some funding at some point to get this resolved. ► Refinanced about \$700 million in bonds last week saving Town about \$600,000. Thanks go to Jim Dacey who keeps Town aware of such items. The net bond was 1.9% which is a low interest rate. ► DPW was awarded \$119,000 grant for storm water mitigation. The DPW keeps applying and getting such grants. At this time work is mostly on rain gardens, such as at the corner of Green Street and Miller Street. DPW does a great job. ► Fire department will be making a presentation for the public at the Public Library on Wednesday, March 11, at 7:00PM in the Community Room, regarding the SAFE program. It is free and a good way for citizens to find out about public safety. ► Police officers recently took class regarding responding to persons with mental illnesses. Their professional development is always appreciated. They do a great job. ► Snow and ice budget was approximately \$950,000. It has been exceeded by \$350,000 and winter is not over. Town does have free cash available to pay for this, but it will cut into other capital items. ► Thanks go to the DPW for doing an excellent job this winter. ► Would like to recognize the passing of Attorney Roche, a long-time citizen of Franklin. He has served the community well and will be greatly missed. Thoughts and prayers are with the family. ► Executive Session needed for discussion of Real Property.

**OLD BUSINESS: None.**

**NEW BUSINESS: None.**

**COUNCIL COMMENTS: None.**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION: *To Consider Purchase of Real Property (unimproved land).***

**Motion** by Pfeffer that Town Council enters executive session for discussion to consider purchase of real property (unimproved land). **SECOND** by Kelly. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Bissanti-YES; Dellorco-YES; Feldman-YES; Kelly-YES; Padula-YES; Pfeffer-YES; Vallee-YES; Williams-YES. **YES-8, NO-0. Passes.**

Town Council Meeting Public Session ended at 7:16PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Lizardi  
Recording Secretary