

Approved by City Council on April 4, 2016

City Council Meeting March 7, 2016

Call to Order

Mayor Merrifield called the meeting to order in the Council Chambers, Franklin City Hall at 6:00 p.m.

In Attendance

Councilor Clarenbach, Councilor Starkweather, Councilor Barton, Councilor Giunta, Councilor Desrochers, Councilor Wells, Councilor Zink, Councilor Dzujna, City Manager Dragon and Mayor Merrifield.

Absent

Councilor Boyd.

Salute to the Flag was led by Councilor Zink.

Public Hearings

Resolution #08-16: A Resolution Requesting Guidance from the Franklin City Council Relative to the Appropriation of Funds Necessary to Perform Roadway Rehabilitation to Prospect Street in Franklin, New Hampshire.

Mr. Webb explained that there is a bond expiring and highway funds available that would go to pay for this reconstruction. The only true impact to the taxpayers is that with the bond expiring it frees up that money which could go for anything and as we all know we have priorities. He is glad the City Council is on board and that Prospect St. is a priority and he is in favor of this action.

Mr. Feener wanted to say that he is glad this project is going forward. He is in favor of this and commends the Finance Director on getting a great rate for the loan. He hopes everyone supports Agenda Item V which has to do with the completion of this project.

Ms. Andrezzi wanted to state that the front half of Prospect St. is not as bad as other sections but is certainly much more of a fatality because of the where it intersects with Central St. When it is not cleared properly you can slide right out into Central St. It needs to be leveled, better drainage and a place to put the snow. It is a high vehicle volume which includes large trucks which turn off long before they get to the end of Prospect St. If this is not going to include doing any of that then she doesn't support this as it would behoove us as more vehicles cover this area and it is more dangerous.

City Manager Dragon stated that at the Workshop Meeting in February the Council discussed Prospect St. and several other roads. Originally the proposal was to do the worst section which was

1.55 mile from the Northfield line and that we rounded the figure to \$505,000. Additionally, there is a resolution for later this evening to schedule a hearing for additional funds for \$159,162 for additional work on Prospect St. from house #381 to Central St. There is an amendment to the resolution to change the wording that we hope the Council will pass as we feel we will get better numbers for the reconstruction if we pass this amendment and the \$505,000 will go much further and that we can do most if not all of Prospect St. with this. She also wanted to clarify the \$159,000 is being proposed by the MTIF is the \$5.00 motor vehicle fee that people pay when they register and that accumulates \$45,000 annually and we now have the funds available to do those roads that are being proposed.

Scott Nelson missed the February Workshop meeting so he is confused as the last he heard it was going to be a 1.2 million dollar project and would be reduced to \$700,000 if it was to be turned into a dirt road. Mayor Merrifield stated that was not correct.

City Manager Dragon clarified that originally it was going to be a million dollar project if the city did the entire road but since then they looked into a different approach and that is why the numbers had changed. At the February workshop meeting there was discussion to concentrate on the area that needed the work the most and then doing the lower section of Prospect St. but of a lesser degree. We have then gotten preliminary quotes and it does appear bidding is favorable and we will be doing more work for the \$505,000.

Ron, a Franklin resident, asked what does this 505,000 cover, what kind of work? City Manager Dragon explained drainage and reclamation of Prospect St. Putting on a 2 inch binder and a 1 ½ top course and pavement. The plan is to bring that as far down Prospect St. as we can. Ron then states that all the drainage is going to be fixed so that it is not going to be sunken down. City Manager stated that is correct.

Mr. Wheeler from 515 Prospect St. stated he doesn't know all the particulars as he travels a lot. In his section is probably one of the worst areas of Prospect St. as they are always working on it. It is probably not the best to be putting gravel on top of the hardtop as the dust gets into our pool, driveway and on cars. The grader catches on his newly paved driveway when it goes to grade the gravel over the hardtop. His concern is that borrowing on a bond and not doing it properly as it is an old road. Drainage is a huge issue there and he wants to make sure they get it done right so that they don't have to borrow another \$700,000 to do it again. He does support the measure as long as it is done properly.

Roxanne Mazur from 452 Prospect St. which starts where the culvert goes down and the hard pack starts at her house. She hears cars driving that don't know the culvert is that bad. She is in favor of fixing it as for the people who don't know it is that bad and what it does to their vehicles.

Leanne Fifield, who lives almost at the Northfield town line, she states she is on the fence on this. 15 years ago the city redid Gile Road and since then it has never been maintained, sealed or anyone

taking care of that road unless there is a real problem. If the city is going to redo the road and maintain the road then they support it. If the city is going to do the road and walk away from it unless there is an issue they don't support it like with Pleasant St. If you are not going to maintain the road then she suggests taking the funds and redoing the culverts and patching it until you have the funds to really do it right then they will support it.

John Beaver from 506 Prospect St. stated he too is in support of this project provided it is done correctly. He has read the City Council packet and knows what it states on paper and certainly hopes what that says gets done. He also asked if we had a subcontractor bid list yet and is that public information yet?

Director Sullivan stated based on the decision of the City Council tonight a complete bid packet will be put together and one of the main requirements will be that the contractor will be prequalified with the State of New Hampshire Department of Transportation and that is basically a bid list as we are looking for companies that are qualified with the proper equipment. That is the basis of the bid that will go out and who submits will be required to comply with those requirements that are set forth in the bid documents. With respect to the culvert work, the city work crews will be doing most of the drainage and ditching and replacing the driveway culverts and cross pipes. The idea is to get the water off the road with a 2 inch crown. The reason we are putting gravel down now is because there is nothing left underneath so we are doing what we can to keep it rideable.

Mr. Beaver travels 2 miles in and 2 miles out and is fully in favor of this project.

Mr. Nelson asked about doing culverts by Charlie's place as it is so deteriorated. Are you going to replace it like the culvert on Rte 3? Director Sullivan stated we are not going to that extent at all. We will evaluate that as it is not a large culvert. We just did a culvert up at Beck and Belucci's and that would be similar to what we would do up at Cournoyer's. We would maintain and don't have a flow issue and fully evaluate as some of the driveway culverts are undersized. This will be a multi-year project done in phases as we also have to evaluate the sewer as well.

Barbara Hebert from 450 Prospect St. wanted to say thank you for doing this as she is tired of replacing car parts.

Alexis from 449 Prospect St. her house is where the grading starts and the grader passes by her driveway so much that she can no longer get her car into that part of her driveway. She does have a horseshoe driveway so she is still able to get in the other side. Flooding is an issue and plowing is also an issue. Since this is the long process she wanted this to be graded more often so it is safer and not so pitted.

Director Sullivan replied the first time they sent the grader up to that section was last year as there was no asphalt left so they had to send up the grader. When it rains and freezes you can't grade it.

They want to start at the Northfield line to Kidder's house would be phase I and then do other phases from there.

Comments from the Public

Persons wishing to address the Council may speak for a maximum of three minutes. No more than thirty minutes will be devoted to public commentary.

Mr. Beaver stated that he and his wife have been residents of Prospect St. for over 16 years and over the past 2 to 3 years there has been a nagging problem that has made it unlivable at his home. That is constant gun fire, gun fire from a shooting range that the Council approved of that the Beavers were unaware of. That range was reapproved about 3 years ago with a continued lease agreement made with the city. They have constant loud gun fire that has disrupted their lives and their quality of life at their house stinks morning, noon, evenings, holidays it never stops. Mr. Mayor we have made you aware of this and we need your help. We don't think it is fair that we are subject to that kind of noise on a repetitive basis.

Dennis Johnson, current President of the Franklin Targeteers shooting club that has a range down on River Road. The club has been there for 31 years and provided shooting for residents surrounding towns. We also open the range for local Police Departments for training and certifications and some of that happens at night. In the 31 years, we have never had a problem and try to act responsibly. Last week we spoke with Chief Goldstein to see if there was anything to this complaint that was received. Later that day after meeting with the Chief, Councilor Desrochers and Mr. Johnson went up Prospect St. and it was very quiet. While there they ran into another resident who lives a couple hundred feet down from Mr. Beaver and they told them the shooting wasn't objectionable even though the shooting has gotten louder. They also found out that there are other people shooting down on River Road and they are not using the club facilities and they are not club members. They are shooting before the Waste Treatment Plant and they are very loud down there. There are also some people shooting in their back yards on the downhill side of Prospect St. For the Targeteers, we have been pretty responsible for our neighbors and are being singled out because we are a gun club. No one is actually looking into who is creating this problem for the resident. We would like to work with the resident and wished they had come to one of our meetings and we could have worked this out. If there is anything we can do as the members do look out for the facility. Mr. Johnson is down there Monday and Tuesday Mornings until midafternoon and normally it is only fish and game and local police departments and there is no mass shootings going on all times of the day. The club's official hours are 9:00 am until dusk and dusk generally means ½ hour after sunset. There are no automatic weapons down there as they have been banned since 2000. If they are down there then there is another source for them as it is not them.

Rick Hoover lives 3 houses off Prospect St. stated in defense of the range he would hate to see police officers who work proficient in the use of firearms, just a comment.

Jim McCarthy would like thank everyone on the Council for allowing them to respond to this complaint. He has been a member of the Targeteers since 1982. This is the 1st time he has ever heard about a complaint about activities at the range as everyone who uses the range is extremely responsible. He spent time at the top of the Prospect St. and he heard gun fire and determined that it was not coming from the area of the range, as he did a lot of looking at MapQuest. He also didn't find the sound oppressive. The range is at least ¾ of a mile away from the area of the Mojolaki Golf Course. As far as the noise, per NH State Law 159 B1 and RSA 644:23A they pretty much protect shooting clubs who live by the rules and they are protected against these complaints, civil nuisance complaints or against noise pollution complaints. Many times he's at the range and he is the only one there or there are one or two other people there. He also supports the Club President's invitation to have the gentlemen come to one of their meetings on the first Tuesday of the month at the Library and would discuss anything to give them piece of mind to this matter and open to discussion about other things like a discussion of changing their shooting hours.

Mr. Wheeler of Prospect St. stated that he supports the gun club and people need a safe place to practice firearms as New Hampshire has a large hunting community. He does hear gun fire but it is not a nuisance to him and does not feel it is excessive.

An older gentlemen got up and stated that the gun club has never been a problem so why now as there is a high hill in between that acts as a buffer.

Helen Beaver from 506 Prospect St. stated that there was a Facebook page that went up in August and was taken down when they sent a message to the Mayor. It had someone stating they love to shoot things, a picture of automatic rifles, and pistols. She had taped the offensive noise that happen over the holiday and Easter is coming up. What about quality of life? There is a new sub division that is to be built and there are to be nice homes. The noise wasn't bad until a new lease was signed with the Targeteers in April 1, 2013 for 5 years and for a buck. We have spent thousands for our homes that we would like to enjoy and you can't sit outside and have a barbeque without this crap going on. It has gotten extremely bad in the last couple of years. We are not against guns but you are invading our peace and quiet and we have been good neighbors and we don't bother anybody. We have even lived with it for 3 years before we have said anything. The Facebook page had a picture pointing to the rules laughing that said to stop ½ hour before sunset and it was going on after that. With daylight savings time coming they are going to be deliberate. You work all week come home and want to sit down and this is what you hear.

A lady come up and stated she lives on Prospect St. a few houses before the Beavers for 7 years now and she does open her windows in the summer and she doesn't find the noise oppressive. They did cut down some trees in the development and the noise did get louder but not that loud. I am not sure what she is hearing as we use our yard, my daughter uses her yard and I don't work and am home 24/7. I am not against guns and don't go to the range myself.

Another lady came up who stated she lives on Prospect St. and was one of the houses the Gun Club President and someone else visited. They hear gun fire occasionally and it is not that loud. During the winter it is louder as there are no leaves on the trees but it is not constant and they don't find it offensive.

Tom Podowitz is the secretary and treasurer of the Targeteers. One thing that he needs to be cleared up is the Facebook page was an unauthorized Facebook page. Once the members found out about it, it was taken down. There is a big difference between an automatic weapon and a semiautomatic weapon and physically they look the same. To own an automatic weapon you need a class 3 license that costs \$200 but an intensive background check by ATF. When you have that license you are allowing the ATF to inspect your home at any time day or night and one reason people don't have them. NH allows for silencers and you need a class 3 license for that as well. Automatic weapons are not allowed at the gun range and members know that. He asked if she filed police reports for the sound and if not suggested that if this continues to happen to call the PD to see if its them or if it is someone else. He would like the Beavers to come to their meeting to discuss and do some testing.

Mr. Webb is really gratified that there is a full house tonight and it is only when there is an issue that affects them directly. Every Council meeting decisions are made that does affect them directly so hopefully the will come to more of them. He lives on Prospect St. and golfs at Mojolaki and knows that the range is there. He would like to know that when people are discharging their firearm they are doing so in a place that is a safe and in a regulated controlled environment so when he hears gun shots he doesn't have to duck and cover. On another note for those who don't know Brian Sullivan personally, he hopes they understand he is such a dedicated salaried employee that he works nights, weekends and even on vacations. He does his homework and if he recommends something that it is absolutely needed and it will be done right.

A gentleman who has been a range member for 5 years got up and spoke. He explained what it takes to become a member, which is you need to be sponsored by another member, they explain the rules and it is really clear that if you break the rules you are no longer a member. The people there are very respectful and many times when I have been down there are not many people there or I am the only one there. Fall and spring can be a heavy time sighting in their weapons. I haven't seen in what is called ammo dumping at the range.

Joel Winer, a member of the gun club, stated that he was at the club on one of the days there was an accusation made. He was with a State Representative at the range. He stated he shot 100 rounds with his gun and 80 rounds through her hand gun and a total of 150 rounds through both of their rifles. They were there for 4 ½ hours and only 4 times, for maybe a minute to 2 minute intervals, did they discharge their firearms when a complaint was made of nonstop firing. During that 4 ½ hours maybe a total of 20 minutes of that time was used for firing their firearms. Machine guns are unlawful activity at the club and no one will perform that activity there. The police chief stated he would check with other police departments to see if they were doing night shooting it gets

dark at 4:00 pm in the afternoon at Christmas time so no one is out here shooting. There was one neighbor who did state they were shooting off fireworks on Christmas Eve. Mr. Winer stated that there are also people on Pleasant St. who have large parcels of property who do shooting on their property and some of the noise maybe coming from them. There are people shooting down on River St. past the gun club shooting unlawfully and some of the noises maybe come from them. He has instructed members to report any activity they see to the PD.

Council Desrochers made a comment that the Targeteers have saved the City of Franklin \$10,000 in range work, range repairs, and that doesn't take into account plowing and labor the City doesn't get charged for. That club supports 4 police departments and not just Franklin and it is a big service to the community and surrounding towns. The City of Franklin cannot support a gun range on the budget they have.

Steve Nelson owns 60 acres in Franklin but does not live in Franklin but spends a lot of time there. The gun thing has nothing to do with the range. If you go down to River Rd. it is either a race track or a shooting range outside the range. The trash that is all over that has nothing to do with the club. The fireworks, he stated he wished he had the money that people have for fireworks which makes just as much noise as a gun does. He feels that maybe they are mixed up on the noise.

Andrew Divers lives at the end of Sky Meadow Lane and is about as close to the range as anybody. He can guarantee that on Christmas Eve that the noise was fireworks and not gun fire. He hears gun fire and doesn't mind it and is not a member of the range.

Mr. Feener got up and stated that he hears gun shots closer to Evergreen Ave and believes it is not the Targeteers.

Wanda Jackson asked if there are cameras down there. Chief LaChapelle stated there are remote cameras that are there not affixed that are used around the City.

Choose Franklin – Jo Brown stated they meet the first Thursday of the month. The last presentation was from the new superintendent Dan LeGallo. On April 7, a presentation from the Mayor's Drug task Force and they will be talking about the important work that they will be doing, common concerns for Franklin and what other cities are facing, drug and alcohol free programs for our youth and families, talking with LRGH health professionals both positive and negative. On Monday, April 18 at 7:00pm in the Library, the Colby Sawyer students in an environment learning project and what they are doing is kind of using Franklin as a training ground for the programs they are running.

Legislative Comments - None

City Council Acknowledgements - None

Mayor's Update - None

Agenda Item I.

City Council to consider the minutes of the February 1st, 2016 City Council Meeting and the February 16th, 2016 Road Workshop Meeting.

Motion: Councilor Dzujna moved that the Franklin City Council consider the minutes of the February 1, 2016 City Council Meeting and the February 16, 2016 Workshop Meeting. Motion seconded by Councilor Desrochers.

All in favor; motion passes.

Agenda Item II.

School Board Report - None

Agenda Item III.

Joe Kildune got up to speak to the Council about a proposal. He would like to have an exhibit in the park across from Toad Hall, Marsol Park. Letting the sculpture go to the park is not out of choice as it is a necessity as he is not keeping good hours at Toad Hall as he is very busy. He likes to make art and likes to make it so the people of Franklin and the people traveling through Franklin can enjoy it. He spoke to his Autoserv family and they would like to sponsor this and pick up whatever. Mr. Kildune would take out 1 year insurance liability should anything happen. He does ask for 6 months exclusivity and then open it up to anybody. He does realize events happen there and would do what he can to move the sculptures for that. He was thinking about lighting for the park as a trade for both him and the City. He wants this to stay in Franklin but he does have other options but does want to keep it here in Franklin.

Councilor Desrochers asked if it is a changeable exhibit or standard. Mr. Kildune stated that yes he would change it up. Councilor Wells asked about maintenance. Mr. Kildune stated that would be shared as well as he would do around the sculptures with Mr. Morrill. Mr. Barton asked how much of the park would the sculptures would they take up. He has 30 – 40 pieces that are quite large and it would be done tastefully as he would not crowd it but not have it look sparse. Councilor Giunta asked Director Lewis if there would be a planning and zoning issue. Director Lewis stated there is nothing in the ordinance so it would be up to the Mayor or the Council. Councilor Dzujna asked about vandalism of the sculptures. Mr. Kildune stated that these have already been in an auto accident and he would be responsible as the insurance covers that. Councilor Dzujna was thinking more if people tagged them who would pay. Mr. Kildune stated he would be completely responsible. Mayor Merrifield asked if Mr. Kildune to meet with the City Manager and appropriate people to work out detail and to bring back a formal proposal next month and if the Council had any objection to this.

Councilor Dzjuna wanted to know if there was a time limit as there are others like Todd Workman has something in mind and the tree lighting is there in the winter time. There was talk of doing a farmers market there, is that something that can be there with the art work there. Mayor Merrifield stated we are not going to think of everything that is why having a formulated proposal for the Council approve or disapprove in a month's time. Councilor Giunta wanted to say he thinks it is a wonderful idea as they are trying to create a certain buzz about downtown and this would do it. He remembered a time when there was a certain robot and never saw some much attention that it got. He feels that this park and once news spreads would get that same attention and bring people downtown. He suggests working out the logistics and making this happen. Mr. Kildune stated that this was a very humbling experience.

Agenda Item IV.

City Council to consider the approval of Resolution #08-16, Resolution Requesting Guidance from the Franklin City Council Relative to the Appropriation of Funds Necessary to Perform Roadway Rehabilitation to Prospect Street in Franklin, New Hampshire.

Motion: Councilor Starkweather moved that the Franklin City Council approve Resolution #08-16, a Resolution Requesting Guidance from the Franklin City Council Relative to the Appropriation of Funds Necessary to Perform Roadway Rehabilitation to Prospect Street in Franklin, New Hampshire. Motion seconded by Councilor Clarenbach.

Amendment: Councilor Clarenbach would like to make an Amendment to Resolution #08-16 on paragraph 4 to strike "of 1.55 miles"

All in favor; motion passes

Roll Call:

Councilor Clarenbach	<u> X </u>	Councilor Dzujna	<u> X </u>	Councilor Barton	<u> X </u>
Councilor Starkweather	<u> X </u>	Councilor Wells	<u> X </u>	Councilor Boyd	<u> abs </u>
Councilor Desrochers	<u> X </u>	Councilor Giunta	<u> X </u>	Councilor Zink	<u> X </u>

All in favor; motion passes.

Agenda Item V.

City Council to consider setting a public hearing for Monday, April 4, at 6:05 pm on Resolution #09-16. A Resolution authorizing the appropriation of \$159,162 from the Municipal Transportation Improvement Fund (MTIF) for Roadway Reconstruction and Repairs.

Motion: *Councilor Clarenbach moved that the City of Franklin set a public hearing for Monday, April 4, at 6:05 pm on Resolution #09-16. A Resolution authorizing the appropriation of \$159,162 from the Municipal Transportation Improvement Fund (MTIF) for Roadway Reconstruction and Repairs. Motion seconded by Councilor Starkweather.*

Mayor Merrifield read Resolution #09-16:

RESOLUTION #09-16

A Resolution Relating to a Supplemental Appropriation for Fiscal Year 2016.

In the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Sixteen,

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Franklin has adopted a budget for Fiscal Year 2016 which began July 1, 2015, and;

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Franklin, New Hampshire recognizes the need for road improvement throughout the City, and;

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Franklin, New Hampshire understands the Municipal Transportation Improvement Fund (MTIF) established in the City 2009 under State RSA 261:153 is for the purpose of road infrastructure improvement, and;

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Franklin, New Hampshire understands that the MTIF fund has a current unobligated balance of approximately \$171,706, and;

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Franklin wishes to appropriate from the Municipal Transportation Improvement Fund an amount not to exceed \$159,162 for the purpose of roadway repairs in accordance with the FY17 Road Paving Worksheet as distributed by the Municipal Services Director, Now,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that at the scheduled meeting of the City Council on Monday, April 4, 2016 the City Council of the City of Franklin, New Hampshire does hereby adopt resolution #09-16 allowing the withdrawal of One Hundred Fifty Nine Thousand One Hundred Sixty Two Dollars (\$159,162) from the Municipal Transportation Improvement Fund and authorizing an increase in FY16 revenues:

Transfer In – Capital Reserve Funds Acct. No. 01-0-000-39150-000 – One Hundred Fifty Nine Thousand One Hundred Sixty Two Dollars (\$159,162),

And an increase in expenditure account,

MSD Roadway Maintenance, Other Contracted Services Acct. No. 01-3-122-40490-000 – One Hundred Fifty Nine Thousand One Hundred Sixty Two Dollars (\$159,162),

All in favor; motion passes.

Agenda Item VI.

Franklin City Council to consider Community Day vendor permits.

Motion: Councilor Starkweather moved that the Franklin City Council waive the Community Day vendor permits. Motion seconded by Councilor Giunta.

Councilor Dzujna abstained, All others in favor; motion passes.

Agenda Item VII.

Chief Goldstein wanted to give us an update on a number of issues coming up in the legislature. There are a number of issues that the Chiefs feel are important and need to be known. One thing that they see happening is the downshifting to the municipalities from the State level while maintaining control over local issues and this is getting tedious. Two bills that have come up HB1687 and HB1688 are the immunity bills where the legislature is trying to remove all qualified immunity from all city employees, which means that anyone is subject to lawsuit at any time and this bill goes as far as to include playgrounds. These bills went to ITL but these bills may as well appear on the floor of the House for a House vote. We ask that you need to make your opinions known. Chief LaChapelle went and testified about the City of Franklin's ambulance being sued for kidnapping when trying to deal with a patient. The committee people said he hit the nail on the head.

All SAU's are now being required that they enter into an agreement with Police Departments and that the Police Departments supply the School Resource Officers to the schools. City of Franklin has never had a problem with this. This bill has passed and they will deal with it as it goes.

HB636 is basically the State's effort to take the money from drug forfeitures and place them in the general fund. Under Federal Law the money goes directly back to the Police Departments. The philosophy is that drug dealers should not benefit from this money. They use this money on strict guidelines to combat these problems. The bill is divided into two parts and the non-financial part is the criminal and civil forfeiture and New Hampshire only does civil. The second part to this bill is the financial part. Originally it was thought that the house finance committee would take the money and the legislature would dole the money out to the cities and towns as they saw fit. The committee then amended it and said the Attorney General would be responsible for doing this and he is not happy about that as he does not want to become a fiscal agent for the cities and towns.

The legislature is not saying not to take the properties but that they know how to deal with the money better than the cities and towns do.

Finally something even smaller but more blatant is the flaggers bill SB 365. The City of Franklin does not have an ordinance for flagger's vs police officers. The bill states if we don't have an ordinance that we will default to the State of New Hampshire's Department of Transportation guidelines. The State's guidelines while useful are very confusing as to when and where you can use flaggers. The issue of local control comes later in the bill and we will be required to develop a policy. We will have to follow the DOT's guidelines and then according to DOT's rules and regulations if the chief engineer feels that there should be a change to the policy he or she can do so without any legislation. It takes the power away from the public safety officer. Councilor Zink asked if on any of these bills if he knew what their status was in the legislature. Chief Goldstein stated the forfeiture bill was passed with an amendment and the flagger bill they were still waiting to hear.

Agenda Item VIII.

City Council to consider setting a public hearing to make changes to Chapter 368 of the City Code (Welfare Standards).

Motion: Councilor Giunta moved that the City of Franklin set a public hearing for Monday, April 4, at 6:07 pm on Ordinance #08-16, to make changes to Chapter 368 of the City Code (Welfare Standards). Motion seconded by Councilor Desrochers.

Mayor Merrifield read Ordinance #08-16:

ORDINANCE #08-16

An Amendment to the Franklin Municipal Code:

In the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Sixteen:

Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Franklin that Chapter 368.Welfare Standards, 368.5 E Determination of Eligibility section 6a) Medical expenses subsection and Chapter 368.7 Burials will be changed as follows:

Chapter 368 Welfare Standards

368-5 Determination of eligibility

E. Standard of need. A person is eligible for general assistance when need exceeds income plus nonexempt available liquid assets. To determine an applicant's standard of need, a budget

sheet is figured, adding actual or allowable expenses, whichever is less, and subtracting net income. Allowable expenses are as listed.

6. (a) Generally, the Director shall not consider providing for medical, dental or eye services unless the applicant can verify and document that all other potential sources have been investigated and that there is no other source of assistance other than local welfare. When a person applies for medical service, dental service or eye service to the Director, he or she must provide written documentation from a doctor, dentist or person licensed to practice optometry in the area indicating that these services are absolutely necessary and cannot be postponed without running a significant risk that the applicant's well-being will be placed in serious jeopardy. In no case will the amount of assistance exceed those amounts as provided in the Schedule of Benefits, Blue Cross/Blue Shield, Plan B. Prescriptions will be considered if they are life sustaining. Pain prescriptions are not considered life sustaining.

Delete: In no case will the amount of assistance exceed those amounts as provided in the Schedule of Benefits, Blue Cross/Blue Shield, Plan B. Prescriptions will be considered if they are life sustaining. Pain prescriptions are not considered life sustaining.

Replace with: Prescriptions will be considered if they are life sustaining for up to 30 days while alternative benefits are located through other insurance programs or prescription programs that may be available.

368-7 Burials

The Director shall provide for proper burial, at city expense, of assisted persons in the city at time of death. Assistance with burial will only be paid by city welfare when approval is authorized prior to the funeral and burial. Total cost of the funeral and burial must not exceed \$1,285. If it exceeds \$1,285 no welfare payment will be made. Local welfare will contribute a maximum of \$750 for burial.

Add: Except when a town or city assisted person has made arrangements for a prepaid funeral, if the total of his liquid assets at death are less than \$1,000, there shall be an automatic assignment to the funeral director or the person who paid for the funeral and burial or cremation of the deceased to the extent of funeral and burial or cremation expenses up to \$1,000.

Roll Call Vote:

All in favor; motion passes.

Agenda Item IX.

Other Business

1. **Committee Report** – Councilor Dzujna stated that the Heritage Commission had a public hearing and they talked about the Buell Block. Everything went very smoothly even with everyone's opinions and wanted to thank Director Lewis for making it go so smoothly.

Councilor Wells went to the Ash Borer Meeting and Franklin has 2 infestations and to get together with the State and put some bee's in the area to attack them as you can't stop it but you can slow it down so you can save as many trees as you can. Mayor Merrifield asked City Manager Dragon if she could reach out to make that happen.

2. **City Manager's Update**

City Manager Dragon advised that the City received the following contingent grant line amount: \$3500 from LRGHealthcare for Fire Dept storage barn; \$300 Rotary Club for Book Club; \$500 from SAMHSA Hosting of town meeting drug & alcohol and that was used for the event at the high school where they had a mock bedroom for parents to go through.

Franklin will be awarded the Housing Hero award by the CATCH Neighborhood Housing. Director Lewis and City Manager Dragon will be going to Concord to receive the award. Update on the Downtown Coordinator position as Neil Cannon is working for us and submitted a letter of interest through FDIBC (as our economic development organization) for Community Development Finance Authority tax credits in the amount of \$400,000. One of the goals of the coordinator is to investigate, grant, loan and tax credit opportunities. Franklin Savings Bank has agreed to purchase up to \$100,000 of the credits if awarded and offer low interest loans.

The City and School have joined together in an application for fund through the 21st Century Grant to enhance before and after school programming. The proposal is to jointly administer the program with the Park and Recreation Department and offer contracts to provide enrichment opportunities through the Boys and Girls Club.

Haynes Brook Culvert update – our engineering firm was Provan & Lorber who was awarded the project but has since closed down and our lead engineer was Tim Grant who is now working for Northpoint Engineering and we will continue working with them on the project.

Encourage those who haven't seen it that Franklin Newsletter has been out for a few months now and can sign up to get it emailed to them. It is done by a volunteer and then City Manager Dragon and Annette Andreozzi proof read it. Articles are done that you don't normally see in the paper.

Drug Task Force has their annual celebration here at City Hall on Thursday March 10 and begins at 5:00 pm and goes until 7:00 pm. They will be going over their successes over the last 5 years and have been awarded a new grant for another 5 years. Another upcoming opportunity is a training on how to help your teen make healthy choices and motivational

interviewing and everyone can benefit. It is really how to have a conversation with someone and help them understand their decisions without putting them on the defense. This is on Saturday, April 16 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm in the Library upstairs.

Mayor Merrifield mentioned that the Northern Pass Site Evaluation hearing is on Thursday, March 10 at the Grappone Center at 5:00 pm so if you can attend and give comment.

Councilor Dzujna wanted to know for the 21st Century Grant how long it was. City Manager Dragon stated it was for 5 years.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Councilor Clarenbach and seconded by Councilor Giunta. All in favor; meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lauraine G. Paquin