

Approved by City Council on April 3, 2017



## **City Council Meeting March 6, 2017**

### **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 Ribas, Councilor Moquin, Councilor Barton, Councilor Giunta, Councilor Wells, Councilor Zink, Councilor Dzujna, City Manager Dragon and Mayor Merrifield.

### **Absent**

Councilor Desrochers.

Salute to the Flag was led by Councilor Wells.

Mayor Merrifield asked for a moment of silence to remember Chuck Farmer.

### **Public Hearings**

**Resolution #08-17** – No public comment.

**Resolution #09-17** – No public comment.

**Mountain Ridge Center Resident Council Scholarship** – State Rep. Horn asked what the parameters are for the scholarship. City Manager Dragon stated they are for a graduating Franklin High School senior who is enrolled in nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy or other medical profession post-secondary education.

### **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.**

Betty Powell thanked the Mayor and City Council for all the improvements in Franklin and is excited to see future plans of downtown and Mill Park. She requested for the City to look into purchasing a covered bridge sign. She has traveled and photographed 53 bridges in NH and Franklin has a treasure with the Sulphite Bridge and the only railroad truss bridge left in the world. Franklin is the only town that does not have a covered bridge sign and by having a sign would help bring in bridge tourism. Franklin's covered bridge number is 62. Franklin would need to contact Alan Burgess at the State Prison as they make the signs. It is \$113.34 for two signs and then \$24 for the post. Mayor Merrifield stated that City Manager Dragon will look into this.

Jo Brown gave an update on Choose Franklin. Dan Darling gave a wonderful presentation last month for the Arts Alliance and the programs they are looking to do this spring and summer. Last week they had a meeting with SCORE and what they can do to help small business like the Franklin Studio. Next month the meeting will be about Veterans. Jo Brown is working with Leo to talk about what opportunities are available for services in regard to health, housing or assistance.

Jo Brown recognized Marty Parichand of Outdoor New England for the boat bash snow crash event held at the ski area this past weekend. He worked with Tim Morrill who facilitated, managed and organized every part of the event. She thanked the following, on behalf of Marty Parichand, SKR Site Work for bringing a bulldozer and excavator and donated time to move the snow around, Beck & Bellucci donated compressors, generators lights and helped construct the equipment to help with snow making, Stanley Electric made sure the lights worked and did site work for snow making, Rowell services donated the outhouses, NE Progreen and Turf donated prizes, Jay Garneau & Co. donated their sign and prize money, Franklin Studio and Grevior Furniture donated all meals for the workers and volunteers, Black Flag Canoe for the donation of prizes and the use of the boats by participants. All New England states were represented at this event with upwards of 100 people at some points. It was a fantastic event for the City of Franklin. This was also the first and only one of its kind event east of Colorado ever.

Leigh Webb stated that the Historical Society will pay for the covered bridge sign and will talk to Municipal Services Department for where it will go and it will be at no cost to the city.

A women got up and spoke about how frustrated she is that \$1.5M will be cut from the school's budget this year. We are a good city but are having people move out because the schools are awful and we are continuously losing money and can't support the kids. She knows of three (3) families that have moved out this past year due to the schools. She stated she is frustrated that money is spent on prettying up the city and investors will come in when the schools are good and when people can move into the city. All these events that are taking place are nice but they don't help in taking care of the schools or Franklin's future generation. What is being done is not fair to the children or school board and maybe Franklin High School should be shut down and the kids taken elsewhere. She stated she pays her taxes faithfully and wanted to know why her kids don't matter. She stated her name is Jen Goulet.

Rep. Horn stated he graduated from Franklin High School in 1994 and preserving the high school is important. There are a few months left before the budgets. He strongly urges the City Council to bring in additional revenue. In the past the city council has been fortunate in making cuts at the school level for the community didn't notice. The situation the city is in is to attract any business it can and it doesn't have the luxury to pick and choose which businesses come in as it is a way to increase revenue. He stated he shudders to think what Franklin would look like sending their kids to Winnisquam because the leaders didn't do what they were supposed to do to preserve the high school.

Jeffrey Savary stated that HB525 results had a forum and had great ideas. One of the suggestions was to avoid litigation and propose legislation so that would avoid a fight with the State. It was one

of the modest pieces of legislation proposed but since the State rejected this modest proposal we need to litigate and see if the State is providing adequate education funding. We have tremendous teachers and administration and we have been running into funding issues for several years.

Leigh Webb spoke that when he was at the state house adequate education had turned into a definition of baseline which is the lowest possible standard for education. He would love to see a superior education as the goal rather than the lowest education. There has to be political will to put education first amongst all of our elected officials and that is not the case. There seems to be more of a political will to reduce expenses and revenues which results in providing only a base education for the children of New Hampshire and it is not an acceptable level.

**Choose Franklin** – see Jo Brown’s comments under public comment.

### **Legislative Comments**

Rep. Horn stated that there are long days ahead as there are 300 bills to work through and the state house is distracted. He stated that he echo’s Leigh Webb’s comments on education. He has run into people who are more worried about being reelected than anything else. He fears that they will continue to fund UNH and not secondary education. He has stated previously that if the state can’t fund secondary education for its students what is the point of having a great university to educate other states students. UNH’s buildings have granite inlay and their campus is immaculate and you won’t hear politicians recognizing this. He stated that education needs to be NHs first priority and Governor Sununu’s budget doesn’t go far enough.

Councilor Dzujna asked what can be done to make that political will happen. Rep. Horn stated that he is only in charge of his own political will. Councilor Dzujna asked if politicians talk about education amongst themselves. Rep. Horn stated no the majority of conversation is around healthcare programs like mental health and Medicare expansion.

### **City Council Acknowledgements**

Councilor Dzujna stated he wanted to elaborate on what Jo Brown said earlier that the boat bash was a huge accomplishment for Mill City and the Franklin Outing Club and the tremendous work they put in for the event as cars came from all over. If this is any indication as to what can happen for a waterpark it will be great.

**Mayor’s Update** – No update.

### **Agenda Item I.**

**City Council to consider the minutes of the January 23, 2017 City Council Special Workshop Meeting and the February 6, 2017 City Council Meeting.**

**Motion:** *Councilor Dzujna moved that the Franklin City Council consider the minutes of the January 23, 2017 City Council Workshop Meeting and February 6, 2017 City Council Meeting. Motion seconded by Councilor Clarenbach.*

*All in favor as corrected; motion passes.*

### Agenda Item II.

**School Board Report** – Superintendent LeGallo passed out a handout. At the end of October, the DOE sent a team to Paul Smith School to do an onsite evaluation that is required every ten (10) years. This is for them to see if an adequate education is being served. The day consisted of the two (2) DOE representatives meeting with parents, staff and school board members. He received a letter from the commissioner and it was great to see they passed. NEASC came and met with the school district and the good news is they are still accredited. They will be keeping an eye on Franklin to see how the budget goes this year and they will be doing a site visit at the high school next year. He stated that he has received the official withdrawal letter from the DOE to a single SAU as of July 1, 2017.

Superintendent LeGallo gave an update as the budget proposed to him was \$16.2M which is 4.5% more than last year's budget. He has cut 2.5% off that number and they are 1.7% away from a flat line budget which is the school boards goal. They will be holding two (2) budget workshop sessions on March 7 at 6 pm and on March 14 at 6:30 pm at the middle school. The hope is the budget will be approved by the board on March 20 and then Superintendent LeGallo will be coming to the April City Council Meeting to state where they stand.

He wanted to thank Councilor Giunta for arranging the DOE Commissioner to come to the district for most of the day. They will do a tour, discuss the budgeting issues and grant flexibility. Mayor Merrifield stated that he has spoken to the Commissioner about the issues so he is very aware. Mayor Merrifield stated he has spoken with Rep. Annie Kuster's office about grant flexibility.

Superintendent LeGallo wanted to address the rumor of administrator's salaries. In August a 1.5% raise which equaled about \$5,900 went to four (4) administrators. In October it was looked at giving them another 1.5% but it was voted not to do that. Superintendent LeGallo and Business Administrator Bergquist have agreed to no raises for this coming year.

Superintendent LeGallo stated that they have received the quote from Melanson for the middle school roof and it is just under \$500K and he believes there is \$216K put aside for this. One of the hopes is there is a fund balance to do the whole job at once.

The 21<sup>st</sup> century after school grant will be submitted within the next week or so and it is a five (5) year grant to help with after school programming so we will keep our hopes up.

He wanted the council to know that the school board will be hosting a public forum sometime in April or beginning of May for the public on the budget process and how they get their numbers and the process for funds that are released.

City Manager Dragon asked Superintendent LeGallo to clarify on the roof what they were thinking for funding. Superintendent LeGallo stated they were thinking the balance can come from the school district fund balance. City Manager Dragon asked if they were thinking of the funds left over at the end of the fiscal year and Superintendent LeGallo stated yes. City Manager Dragon clarified that at the end of the year any money left over goes into the city's fund balance and then the council authorizes any expenditure after that.

Councilor Dzujna stated that the DOE letter is great and asked if that will help with NEASC. Superintendent LeGallo stated NEASC only looks at the high school not the elementary or middle school. Councilor Dzujna asked if there is any information or update on the custodial/staff contracts. Superintendent LeGallo stated they have been asking them to go back to the table to get that done but they have had a change in representation. They did review RSA 273 A:3 to see what they can do as it seems mistakes were made on both sides.

#### **Agenda Item VI.**

##### **School CBA for Teacher contracts**

Superintendent LeGallo stated it was a difficult negotiating year with the teachers and it was great that they could get a one year agreement with no steps or raises for the teachers as that was their concession. There was a change in insurance with a savings of \$89,612.21 and they increased the health insurance buyout from \$2,000 to \$3,000 which is an expense of \$24,000 for a total savings of \$65,612.21. Mayor Merrifield asked if the savings is against what would have been paid absent the contract and it will be more money than last year and Superintendent stated yes.

**Motion:**        ***Councilor Clarenbach moved that the Franklin City Council approve the agreement between Franklin Board of Education and Franklin Education Association of a one year contract for 2017-2018. Motion seconded by Councilor Dzujna.***

Mayor Merrifield thanked them for doing a wonderful job and the teacher's sacrifices during these difficult financial times.

***All in favor; motion passes.***

Councilor Giunta remarked that we are going into budget season and emotions will run high and there will be several residents speaking to the council during public comment. Tonight a comment was made that the school system is terrible and the schools are awful. He stated he disagrees with that comment as Franklin has a great school system and great teachers who do a great job. Franklin does better with less than any other community in the State of NH. The school and council have been meeting monthly together since August and we have been working hard to work together ever since. He is not going to sit by when terrible comments like that are made about the school system and they all should be commended. Superintendent LeGallo mentioned he appreciated the statement.

School Board Chair Dow thanked the council for approving the teachers' contract. He did some research on teachers and their dedication for the school district and its students. Negotiations will begin in September for another teacher contract and salaries will need to be upped. The teachers have only taken a 1% pay raise for the last two (2) years. The average state teacher salary is \$56,616 per the DOE website and in Franklin it is \$43,614. He looked at Gilford, Hampton, Hooksett, Hollis/Brookline, Interlakes and Winnisquam as they have the same teacher ratio. Winnisquam is at \$48,167, Interlakes is at \$69,918, Hollis/Brookline is at \$58,134, Hooksett is at \$53,163, Hampton is at \$65,414 and Gilford is at \$61,424. Franklin's teachers are drastically underpaid based on state average. The minimum starting salary for Bachelor's Degree is \$36,149 and in Franklin it is \$32,457 and Franklin is ranked 133<sup>rd</sup> out of 159 schools in the state. He wanted the council to know this as when they go back to the negotiating table he will need to bring them where they should be at and what they deserve knowing where the budget constraints are. School Board Chair Dow stated he doesn't want to lose the quality of teachers they have.

**Agenda Item III.**

**City Council to consider adopting Resolution #08-17, appropriation of funds from the sale of items from Macosko Foundry on Chance Pond Road.**

***Motion: Councilor Barton moved that the Franklin City Council adopt Resolution #08-17 for the appropriation of \$2,600 to the Nuisance Abatement Account, said funds originating from the sale of the tools and equipment from the Macosko Foundry. Motion seconded by Councilor Giunta.***

**Roll Call:**

<b>Councilor Barton</b>	<b><u>yes</u></b>	<b>Councilor Dzujna</b>	<b><u>yes</u></b>	<b>Councilor Ribas</b>	<b><u>yes</u></b>
<b>Councilor Clarenbach</b>	<b><u>yes</u></b>	<b>Councilor Giunta</b>	<b><u>yes</u></b>	<b>Councilor Wells</b>	<b><u>yes</u></b>
<b>Councilor Desrochers</b>	<b><u>absent</u></b>	<b>Councilor Moquin</b>	<b><u>yes</u></b>	<b>Councilor Zink</b>	<b><u>yes</u></b>

***All in favor; motion passes.***

**Agenda Item IV.**

**City Council to consider adopting Resolution #09-17, transferring revenue amount of \$5,600 to the Vehicle Maintenance Account (general fund) from the Police Outside Detail Fund for the replacement of the engine in the dedicated K9 cruiser.**

***Motion: Councilor Zink moved that the Franklin City Council adopt Resolution #09-17, appropriating the transfer of \$5,600 from the Police Outside Detail Fund to the Vehicle Maintenance Account (general fund). Motion seconded by Councilor Giunta.***

Councilor Barton asked if there was another regular vehicle that could be converted to a K9 vehicle as we could save money. Police Chief Goldstein stated that to convert a car to a K9 car costs thousands of dollars as the equipment is specialized for the dog. Councilor Barton asked could we do that or are we low on cars. Police Chief Goldstein stated that they do not have any extra vehicles as they are normally used when other vehicles are down for maintenance as these vehicles are used 24/7 and rotated to avoid any issues with being down a vehicle. Mayor Merrifield stated that you would lose a vehicle and save some money but then be down a vehicle.

**Roll Call:**

Councilor Barton	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Dzujna	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Ribas	<u>yes</u>
Councilor Clarenbach	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Giunta	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Wells	<u>yes</u>
Councilor Desrochers	<u>absent</u>	Councilor Moquin	<u>yes</u>	Councilor Zink	<u>yes</u>

***All in favor; motion passes.***

**Agenda Item V.**

City Council to accept approximately \$250 in donations for the purpose of starting a scholarship called "Mountain Ridge Center Resident Council" placing the monies in an expendable scholarship fund with the City's Trustees of Trust Funds.

***Motion: Councilor Dzujna moved that the Franklin City Council accept approximately \$250 in donations for the purpose of starting a scholarship called "Mountain Ridge Center Resident Council" placing monies in an expendable scholarship fund with the City's Trustees of Trust Funds. Motion seconded by Councilor Clarenbach.***

Councilor Barton asked why this wouldn't be accepted by Mountain Ridge Center rather than by the city instead. City Manager Dragon explained that the scholarship account is for organizations donated money that goes to the city and those funds are turned over to the trustees and held with them. The school then has a process to award those funds.

***All in favor; motion passes.***

**Agenda Item VII.**

City Council to consider a 3 yr assessing contract with Avitar Associates (which includes update to create "values anew", data conversion and software support for Avitar software).

***Motion: Councilor Ribas moved that the Franklin City Council authorize City Manager to execute the three year assessing services agreement between the City of Franklin***

***and Avitar Associates of N.E. Inc. not to exceed the \$85,686 per year. Motion seconded by Councilor Dzujna.***

Councilor Clarenbach stated that on page 2 of 9 the 3<sup>rd</sup> line he figures is just boiler plate language but it should state that it goes to the City Manager. City Manager Dragon stated it is boiler plate language but will have them change that.

Councilor Ribas asked about the \$3K for bonding as the language goes back and forth and he is curious what that is. City Manager Dragon stated that bonding is for the reval portion of work they do not do bonding for is the assessing portion and it is not something they have required in the past for revaluation work. Councilor Ribas stated that there is also a lot of talk about utilities and there is a section that talks about that and does this include the Northern Pass property. City Manager Dragon stated that yes it includes utilities and they will provide a number but it would be worth our while to have a discussion with other utility assessors and determine if it is cost effective to do another study. Councilor Ribas stated there seems to be a number for some properties with utilities and for properties without utilities, does this take into account of the Northern Pass property and was included in that number for utilities. City Manager Dragon stated she doesn't believe they added it as that is the city's current number. Councilor Ribas stated that they charge more money for those properties so it would be \$2-3K more as it is not included in the contract. City Manager Dragon stated she believes it would be an expenditure the city will have and Mayor Merrifield agreed.

Councilor Zink stated that page 34 of the city's budget states there is \$80K for other professional services and this is in excess of what was budgeted for. On page 9 of the assessing contract it has a different number and she didn't know exactly what is what. City Manager Dragon stated that the \$80K line for general assessing duties and doesn't include any reval work or software costs. The software line is in a different line and in the council action report on the 2<sup>nd</sup> page 4<sup>th</sup> paragraph it refers to that. Councilor Zink asked if that is a savings of \$822. City Manager Dragon stated yes and values anew would have costed a whole year's budget where it is included in the Avitar contract and that would be about \$28K less. Councilor Zink stated on page 8 there are two (2) different numbers for the yearly cost. City Manager Dragon stated that if you look down the page it has the total number divided by three (3) years and the \$85,686 is the annual cost for each year for the total conversion which funds the software, the new update and the new values for the cost of what we have now for just general assessing duties.

***All in favor; motion passes.***

**Agenda Item VIII.**

**City Council to consider approval of Northern Pass construction agreement.**

City Manager Dragon stated that in the CAR there are a few minor recommendations from Dept. Heads and those revisions have been incorporated. P & Z Director Lewis recommended a change to section 2.9 as it talks about an idling time from 5:30-7:30 am and that is a long time very early in the morning so she is looking for a revision to that. Another change she has asked for is in larger projects



is a preconstruction meeting and periodical construction meetings where issues are worked out and the document doesn't state for those so she has asked for that to be put in. City Manager Dragon also asked if every community along the route was getting this contract and they stated yes.

Councilor Zink stated she feels this is for the planning and zoning board and she was unsure if the council would entertain a joint meeting with them to discuss all the items in here and what is different or the same as city code. City Manager Dragon stated that P & Z Director Lewis has made a few minor revisions but these types of contracts are done normally at MSD and staff level not at planning board level as they are operational agreements. You wouldn't normally see this type of agreement at the council level but they are asking for the governing body approval. Councilor Zink stated it is talking about a bunch of different plans and permits. City Manager Dragon stated that both chiefs have already met with them and MSD Director Sullivan reviews driveway permits. P & Z Director Lewis stated NH DOT would do the driveway permit as it is a state road. Councilor Zink stated there is no site plan or assessing fee. City Manager Dragon stated this is for the actual construction and later there will be permits from the city.

Chief LaChapelle stated they have been meeting with Northern Pass people for the past eight (8) months and have approved preliminary driveway designs for emergency vehicle purposes not from the state roadway. There are separate meetings that are being done and piggy back onto this contract as it is a performance based design. They are working in conjunction with the State Fire Marshal's office and are meeting once a month until the project is complete. Due to it being a performance based design everyone has to agree to the design of the building. A building application for a permit will be done once the performance based design criteria is outlined. P & Z Director Lewis stated that they will be coming to the city for the building permit. The site evaluation is being done by the SEC.

Councilor Clarenbach stated he agrees with Councilor Zink and if this is asking the governing body to do what is normally done by the planning board and his concern is that this is the only opportunity and is concerned by what section 7.1 states in the last sentence. Mayor Merrifield stated it is a state law to do those things. You are not losing or gaining anything by signing this. Councilor Clarenbach stated that they are looking for this document to be signed but this document stated that the planning board is never going to see this. City Manager Dragon stated she has asked Attorney Fitzgerald and he stated it doesn't take anything away or give us anything in particular. He stated that there isn't anything in there that takes away control or gives any control from what we currently have. Councilor Clarenbach stated that 7.1 states there is no building permit or occupancy permit other than what the SEC allows. Mayor Merrifield stated that the SEC gives regulations to us. Mayor Merrifield stated that the last sentence is stating a legal fact. Councilor Giunta stated they are not exempting themselves as they are already certified by SEC as being exempted from. This is like a statewide planning board and they are already certified by the SEC and anything they are not certified for will need to go through the local. City Manager Dragon stated we can ask what will be approved by the SEC. Councilor Clarenbach stated he doesn't know the SEC regulations but they are already providing regulation at the fire level. City Manager Dragon stated we can ask but they don't have to agree with us as they will deal with the state.

Councilor Zink asked if there is a timeframe they are looking this back from us. She would like the planning and zoning board to look at this or meet with us to talk about it. City Manager Dragon stated that Northern Pass is anxious about getting this back as they are in the SEC process. She feels that Franklin will set the stage for other communities. P & Z Director Lewis stated that this would be planning board not zoning. Normally projects of this size would have a plan, layout, design and the relationship to the abutters etc before it goes to the planning board for approval but without a plan there is nothing to go with.

Councilor Giunta stated there should have been a motion made prior to discussion.

**Motion:** *Councilor Giunta moved that the Franklin City Council authorizes the City Manager to execute the construction agreement with Northern Pass Transmission LLC once some minor changes have been made to the document as recommended by staff. Motion seconded by Councilor Dzujna.*

Councilor Giunta stated that the council doesn't understand the SEC authority nor does anyone on the planning board. This authorizes City Manager Dragon to work with P & Z Director Lewis and if anything is in question then it comes back to the council but if you both are in agreement then the city manager can authorize it.

Councilor Wells asked if the police have discussed the roads or detours associated with this. Police Chief Goldstein stated not as of yet. Councilor Wells asked if we have the personnel to handle this. Mayor Merrifield stated that Northern Pass has flaggers that will be at their expense. City Manager Dragon stated that in section 2.3 that was something they had agreed too.

Councilor Clarenbach agrees with Councilor Giunta but we need to better understand the SEC regulations based on section 4.1. P & Z Director Lewis stated when they get the plans for pollution control they are normally in line with EPA and consistent with federal and state permits. Terrain permits are DES level permits.

Councilor Ribas stated he is concerned with the last sentence of section 9.2 and if that language could be strengthened.

***All in favor; motion passes.***

#### **Agenda Item IX.**

**City Council to consider repurchase of Tax Deeded property.**

**Motion:** *Councilor Ribas moved that the Franklin City Council deed back 32 Central Street upon receipt of all back taxes, water bills, and interest and penalties (minus the 15% of assessed value penalty) with the following conditions:*

1. *Adams and City shall walk the property, prior to the deeding of the parcel, to acknowledge the property corners and lines. Any lot corner without a formal "pin" or bound shall be clearly identified with appropriate pavement marking paint.*
2. *All parking to the rear of the building shall be set back from the top of the slope towards the abutting river shoreline.*
3. *The driveway along the side of the building shall be kept open at all times for access to the City land behind the building.*
4. *All parking at the front of the building shall be on the parcel re-purchased by Adams.*
5. *No parking on any City property shall be permitted.*
6. *Adams shall present to the City and the Planning Department a site plan showing all of the on-site parking to be established in compliance with above conditions. Once this plan is approved, then Adams shall have the spaces permanently striped, marked or otherwise identified.*

***Motion seconded by Councilor Dzujna.***

Councilor Clarenbach stated that since we have had the check since August there is an issue with the wording back taxes as we can't call it back taxes since we own the property. City Manager Dragon stated we tweaked the language in the motion. Councilor Clarenbach stated that we own the property so he can't owe back taxes so we would need to reword the language to taxes accrued during this transition time.

Mayor Merrifield asked Councilor Ribas if he was ok to that change in the motion. Councilor Ribas stated he was ok with that amendment. Councilor Dzujna seconded.

Councilor Dzujna asked that when a deed goes back doesn't that automatically trigger back taxes. City Manager Dragon stated that once the city took the property the bills came in the city's name and they were forwarded to him. She stated this is a good change to avoid any technicalities.

***All in favor; motion passes.***

#### **Agenda Item X.**

#### **Other Business**

1. **Committee Reports** – Councilor Dzujna stated there were a couple of committee meetings. There was a Parks & Rec Committee meeting as there are new councilors on this committee. They had good discussion and it brought everyone up to date on what their mission is, there staff, what there program plans are for the year, reviewed their goals, budget update and Krystal brought them up to speed on the teen center as that is not part of Parks & Rec.

Councilor Dzujna stated the Liaison Committee met on February 16 and it was good to hear that everyone is willing to work together and be congenial with one another. They have

stated the audits will be up to date. Consolidation was brought up and some like to call it collaboration and we really need to work together.

2. **City Manager's Update** – City Manager Dragon advised that the city received the following contingent grant line amount: \$1,500 from Elk's Club for AED's in the ladder truck and fire staff car.

City Manager Dragon gave a legislative update that HB145 was voted Inexpedient to Legislate (ITL). HB525 was retained in committee but she is hoping the senator can bring it up. HB413 has passed the house. HB597 was voted ITL (killed in the house).

City Manager Dragon stated that she has a budget schedule attached and has added a presentation from the Capital Committee (CIP) and the date is scheduled for April 24 but waiting on confirmation from chair. There has been no formal update to the plan for a few years so this would be a good time to review. The committee will also present to the council on May 22.

For the consolidation/collaboration discussion Finance Director Milner and City Manager Dragon will be updating the PowerPoint presentation so it will be different and then presented at the next Joint Finance Meeting.

City Manager Dragon is asking for a work session for March 27 at 6:00 pm for MSD Director Sullivan to talk about water and sewer. Mayor Merrifield asked if there were any objections and none were heard.

City Manager Dragon stated that since the CIP Committee hasn't met in a while, we have two (2) vacant positions for residents and their terms expire, one is until Oct 2017 and Oct 2018 and then would be renewed for five (5) years. Mayor Merrifield asked about who actually appoints them and City Manager Dragon stated the CIP Chair makes recommendations to the council to appoint. Councilor Dzujna asked if there was anyone from the public who is here tonight who would like to be on this committee.

3. **Late Items** –

- A. **Acceptance of DES Cleanup Grant for the former Macosko Foundry on Chance Pond Road authorization to endorse grant documents**

***Motion: Councilor Clarenbach authorize the acceptance of the DES grant in the amount of \$59,000 for the cleanup of the remaining contamination on the former Macosko Foundry on Chance Pond Road, and authorize the City Manager to endorse all required documents. Motion seconded by Councilor Ribas.***

***All in favor; motion passes.***

**B. Library Board of Trustees:**

***Motion: Councilor Clarenbach moved that the Franklin City Council appoint Sandra Burney to the Franklin Public Library Board of Trustees (Seat LT1), Term of Service to January 2018. Motion seconded by Councilor Ribas.***

***All in favor; motion passes.***

Councilor Dzujna asked if there is a police meeting tomorrow. City Manager Dragon stated yes tomorrow at 5:30 pm downstairs.

Councilor Zink asked if there was a budget schedule for meetings for the councilors. City Manager Dragon stated that as we get closer dates will be picked and meetings will happen once or twice a week for a few months. City Manager Dragon stated she will have some dates for consideration at the next meeting.

***Motion to adjourn made by Councilor Clarenbach and seconded by Councilor Ribas. All in favor; meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.***

Respectfully Submitted,

Lauraine G. Paquin

