

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

AGENDA ITEM VI



CITY OF FRANKLIN
COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT
City Council Meeting of May 7, 2012

From: Richard Lewis, Planning and Zoning Administrator

Subject: City Council to consider the passing of Resolution 15-12 for the appropriation and expenditures of Municipal Transportation Funds

Recommended Motion:

"I move that the Franklin City Council approves Resolution 15-12 which outlines the proposed appropriations and expenditures of Municipal Transportation Improvement Funds to be associated with ongoing transportation improvement project in the downtown area by a roll call vote."

Mayor calls for a second, discussion and the vote.

Discussion:

As you are aware, the City was awarded federal funds several years ago for the design and construction of transportation improvements in the downtown area. The engineering and design work was completed approximately a year ago and the project went out to bid in late May of 2011. The construction firm John H. Lyman and Sons was awarded the contract and work began in late summer. A substantial amount of the work was completed last year but some remaining work will be completed this spring and early summer.

Due to a combination of a positive bidding climate, savings from some anticipated work items not being required, and some general savings in the quantities of the construction materials we have some excess funds. These funds can be used to complete some additional improvements that were part of the overall planning and permitting procedures but could not be included in the bid plans due to anticipated project costs.

My office has been working with the engineers, McFarland Johnson, and the project manager from NH DOT to address all of the steps needed to utilize these excess funds. After multiple communications and a meeting at DOT on 3/22/12, the issues have been resolved and an approval will soon be issued to the engineers to allow them to proceed with the necessary change orders.

After consulting with the project engineers and taking input from the public safety officials, we conclude that the following tasks should be completed with these excess funds:

- ✓ Install a new traffic signal control loop on Central Street;
- ✓ Modify the Timing and Phasing of the traffic signals, taking into account the improvements from the two tasks above;
- ✓ Install a new Fire Pre-emption receiver and signal device on Central; and,
- ✓ Replace the older and deteriorated sidewalks on the north side of Central Street between Memorial Street and Smith Street.

The first three items listed will help ensure that the Fire Department can move safely through the intersections along Central Street, and to help ensure that the traffic signals work as effectively as possible to best manage and control traffic flows through these same intersections.

On multiple occasions, the engineers from McFarland Johnson have indicated that the best way to make sure the City gets it full value of the federal funds is to go slightly over the federal earmark budget. Otherwise we may find ourselves with some level of funds [for example \$1000 or \$2000] left on the table and unavailable because there is not enough left over to accomplish a certain task. The proposal being put before the Council is to give ourselves the appropriate flexibility by utilizing the Municipal Transportation Fund, which was established by the City Council in 2009. Per RSA 261:153, these funds can be used for transportation improvement projects such as the one now funded solely by the federal dollars.

The attached resolution, subject to a public hearing proposed for the May meeting, would allow the City to spend up to Five Thousand dollars [\$5,000.00] from the Municipal Transportation Fund, which currently has a balance of \$106,570.00. Depending on how the construction work goes this spring and summer we may not need to spend any of these Fund dollars, but having the flexibility to spend up to the proposed \$5,000 limit may result in the best utilization of the federal funds.

Fiscal Impact:

The only fiscal impact to the City is the possible expenditure of funds that are already restricted for the use of transportation improvement projects. No general fund money will be expended.

Alternatives:

The Council can either set the public hearing and approve the appropriations and the expenditures, or in the alternative vote to not hold the hearing and thereby the possibility is that some of the federal earmarks may be left unexpended.

Attachment: **Copy of Resolution #15-12**
Public Hearing Notice



CITY OF FRANKLIN, NEW HAMPSHIRE

"The Three Rivers City"

316 Central Street
Franklin, NH 03235

(603) 934-3900
fax (603) 934-7413
cityhall@franklinnh.org

CITY OF FRANKLIN NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING & MEETING

In accordance with the provision of Chapter 31, Division 2 of the Franklin Municipal Code, notice is hereby given that the City of Franklin will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, May 7, 2012 at 7:05 p.m. in the Council Chambers, Franklin City Hall concerning Resolution #15-12 concerning appropriation and expenditures of the Municipal Transportation Funds.



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RESOLUTION #15-12

A Resolution Relating to a Supplemental Appropriation for Fiscal Year 2012.

In the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twelve,

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Franklin has adopted a budget for Fiscal Year 2012 which began July 1, 2011, and;

WHEREAS, the City of Franklin was awarded \$784,000 in federal funds for the construction of transportation improvements in the downtown area, and;

WHEREAS, the construction work on these improvements began in the summer of 2011 and work will continue into 2012, and;

WHEREAS, the City has been advised by the consulting engineer for the project that the best way to ensure that all, or as much as possible, of the federal funds are expended is to slightly go over budget for the project, and;

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to ensure that that the City gets the best value out of the federal funds, and;

WHEREAS, the City of Franklin has approximately \$106,570 in the Municipal Transportation Funds account authorized, in accordance with RSA 261:153, by the City Council on July 6, 2009 and the funds in this account can be used for the construction of transportation improvements consistent with the work being carried out under the federal funding, Now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that at the scheduled meeting of the City Council on Monday, May 7, 2012, the City Council of the City of Franklin, New Hampshire does hereby authorize the following appropriations,

An increase in revenues:

Transfer from Capital Reserve Fund -Municipal Transportation Improvement , Acct# 04-0-000-39150-401 – an amount not to exceed Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00),

And an increase in expenditures:

Downtown Transportation Project, Account # 04-0-000-40719-401, an amount not to exceed Five Thousand (\$5,000.00),

By a roll call vote.

Resolution #15-12
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Roll Call:

Councilor Clarenbach	_____	Councilor Dzujna	_____
Councilor Sharon	_____	Councilor Cournoyer	_____
Councilor Boyd	_____	Councilor Feener	_____
Councilor Desrochers	_____	Councilor Trudel	_____
Councilor Starkweather	_____		

A True Copy Attested: _____
City Clerk

Passed: _____

Approved: _____
Mayor