

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**AGENDA ITEM VIII**



CITY OF FRANKLIN  
COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

*August 5, 2013 City Council Meeting*

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**Subject: Other Business**

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**A. Committee Reports**

**B. City Manager's Update**

**C. Mayor Appointment to the Planning Board**



**CITY OF FRANKLIN**  
**COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT**  
*City Council Meeting August 2013*

**Date:** July 30, 2013  
**From:** Elizabeth Dragon, City Manager  
**Subject:** Manager's Update

**Contingency Grant Line Activity:** The City received the following in the contingent grant line this month:

\$2,500 from Homeland Security for the Local Emergency Operations Plan update  
\$153.47 from St of NH for Operation Safe Commute  
\$791.71 from St of NH for Fire Training  
\$141.83 from St of NH for DUI checkpoint

**Hope Community Chapel to hold appreciation breakfast for employees-**On Sunday August 25<sup>th</sup> at 8am the Hope Community Chapel is hosting a free breakfast for all city employees.

**LRGH to open new psychiatric unit-** On July 22<sup>nd</sup> I attended a meeting with the Mayor, fire chief, police chief and welfare director at Franklin Regional hospital. We were invited to hear about the new psychiatric unit scheduled to open at Franklin hospital in July. I have attached a fact sheet provided by the hospital at the meeting.

# FACT SHEET

## Franklin Regional Hospital Psychiatric Unit

Franklin Regional Hospital is pleased to announce the planned early fall opening of our new Psychiatric Unit. For the past several months, New Hampshire hospital emergency departments have faced a large influx of patients with critical mental health issues. Due to several circumstances over the past few years, there are fewer and fewer beds available in the State of New Hampshire to treat patients with critical mental health needs. The result is extended patient stays in the Emergency Department until proper placement is found. In these situations, mental health patients are not receiving the treatment they need, and this can often lead to patient and staff safety issues. With the addition of the Psychiatric Unit, we will be able to offer a safe and supportive environment to treat patients from all over the region with dignity, care and compassion.

- The Psychiatric Unit is a ten bed unit comprised of four semi-private and two private rooms.
- This unit provides 24/7 psychiatric care for those individuals who are a danger to themselves or others. Admission to this unit is involuntary. The psychiatric unit will be a locked unit with Security provided 24/7.
- With the proximity of the unit's location in an acute care hospital, this will allow many medical conditions to be treated during the patient's stay. If at any time a patient's medical diagnosis outweighs their psychiatric diagnosis, they may be discharged from the Psychiatric Unit and admitted to Medical/Surgical or the Intensive Care Unit. In these cases, the patient can expect to receive continued psychiatric, therapeutic interventions as well as constant supervision by a trained mental health individual.
- Group Therapy, individual therapy, and activities will be provided. Patient accommodations include a dining area and courtroom.
- During the day, Psychiatrists will be present on the unit. In the evening or at night, Psychiatrists are available 24/7 for consultation or to be present in the event a patient requires more intense intervention.
- Admission to the Psychiatric Unit will be accepted between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Provider to Provider discussion regarding potential admission is required in order for the patient to be accepted onto the unit.
- Upon discharge from the Psychiatric Unit, patients will return to their residence with outpatient programming and support provided in their communities.