

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
AGENDA ITEM X



CITY OF FRANKLIN
COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT
City Council Meeting December 2015

Date: December 2, 2015
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:

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| VFW & Franklin Lodge for the Book Club | \$400 |
| Lights on Nap Sack Grant | \$253.83 |
| Comedy Show Proceeds – Drug Task Force | \$1747.00 |
| DWI Patrol grant | \$6864.00 |

Online newsletter: As result of the marketing/champions of Franklin subcommittee created from the Franklin for a life time workshop the city now has an online monthly newsletter. Huge thanks to Elaine Romano from Franklin who is volunteering her time each month to create the newsletter. If you are interested in receiving these newsletters please go to the city's website and click subscribe to newsletter under "subscribe to e-alerts". <http://www.franklinnh.org/Subscriber>

Downtown Coordinator Position: Another result of the Franklin for a Lifetime workshop is the \$50,000 grant the city received to hire a downtown coordinator for one year. Director Lewis has been working hard to ensure we get the most from this position which has resulted in a second round of Requests for Proposals and some revisions to the job description. We are working to tie the efforts of this position into the efforts of other downtown economic development work of FBIDC, Perma City Life, and Catch Housing.

NHMA Panel at annual conference:

I worked with our Coalition Coordinator, Angela Lynch, to organize a panel session on substance misuse at this year's NHMA conference. This conference brings in professionals from municipalities all over the state of New Hampshire. And for the second year in a row, the Franklin Mayor's Drug Task Force has organized a panel session to educate those working in municipalities on substance misuse issues; detailing how the municipalities play a very important role in helping reduce and prevent substance misuse issues as well as how municipalities can actively help.

We are happy to report that this session was very well attended! Seats were filled and about 6 people stood behind the filled seats. A final head count totaled at 49 attendees, not counting the panelists or moderator. Feedback was also overwhelmingly positive. A number of those who attended noted that this session was the most important session at this year's NIIMA conference.

Our coalition, serving the community of Franklin and Hill, is quite unique in that we have such active participation from our municipality. This is often described as a "missing link" in other communities, especially among other substance misuse prevention coalitions. Spreading awareness and educating those who work in a municipality in other communities is very important to us, as we want all coalitions to be able to bridge this gap to help their efforts be more effective.

SESSION INFORMATION:

TITLE: *Community is Greater Than Heroin - Examples from Across the State of How Municipalities are Addressing Substance Misuse, Addiction and Recovery*

DESCRIPTION: *Alcohol and drug addiction is taking a deadly toll on our communities. It is time to talk about solutions to this public health crisis. Join leaders from communities across our state, to discuss innovative approaches to prevention, early intervention, access to treatment and recovery supports.*

SPEAKERS:

- *Ken Merrifield - Mayor - City of Franklin, Franklin Mayor's Drug Task Force*
- *David Goldstein - Chief of Police - City of Franklin, Franklin Mayor's Drug Task Force*
- *Eric Adams - Prevention, Enforcement & Treatment Coordinator - PET Program - City of Laconia Police Department*
- *Vicki Hebert - Coalition Coordinator - Youth2Youth, City of Dover*
- *Seth Tondreault - Officer - City of Portsmouth*
- *Nick Willard - Chief of Police - City of Manchester*
- *Moderator: Traci R. Fowler - Assistant Director-Substance Use Disorder Systems Integration - Lakes Region Partnership for Public Health*

Legislative update:

A continued follow up to the Curfew ordinance challenge- I reported last month that I had reached out to Franklin's legislative delegation. I heard back from our representatives and our Senator in support of a bill to address the matter. Senator Hosmer sought out a solution in the form of a law change that would address the constitutional challenge by the ACLU. He spoke with attorneys who reviewed the applicable RSA and they all agreed that it was broadly written and gave municipalities considerable discretion to craft a local ordinance. As you know, the issue becomes the constitutionality of the RSA. Unfortunately, he was not able to come up with a statutory revision that could pass constitutional muster. He stated that he is not saying it can't be accomplished but in the short time frame to file he could not come up with a solution. Senator Hosmer stated that he is willing to file a late bill early January if we had any suggestions. I sent along the information to Attorney Fitzgerald to see if he had any suggestions.

Congratulations to Jim Curran on his upcoming retirement! Jim has been with the City of Franklin for almost ten years actively pursuing code enforcement violations on our behalf. Jim's last week is the week of December 17th. Thank you Jim for all your hard work!

Franklin Municipal Services
2015 Construction Season Summary

Councilor Desrochers suggested I summarize some of the more significant projects performed by the seven divisions of the department during the 2015 construction season. I cleared his request with the City Manger who agreed that if I had the time to pull it together by the December 14, 2015 City Council meeting she would be ok with this. The projects listed below are by no means all that we have done, meaning, there are numerous ongoing and unanticipated maintenance projects that have been undertaken.

Water and Sewer: The winter and depth of frost caused significant damage to curb stops, gate valves, service connections and water mains. The department also identified numerous gate valves and curb stops in need of replacement which have subsequently been undertaken.

> We continue on an aggressive meter replacement and backflow prevention program. To date of the 2,319 meters serving our water customers we are down to about 350 left to be replaced.

> In house, the water Department crew replaced over 52 curb stops and 49 main water line gate valves. This included excavation, removal/replacement and pavement repairs.

> Water main replacements which have been on the Capital Improvements Plan have been replaced on Nelson Street (Taylor to end); Anderson Avenue; Maple Square to Central Street; Carr Street (Range Road to Chance Pond Road) and Chance Pond Road (Carr Street 350 feet easterly) and currently we are replacing the waterline on Mullavey Way.

> Finished Well Rehabilitation and Pump/Motor Repairs: motor replacement and pump rebuild at Babbitt Road Booster Station Pump1. Franklin Falls Well, Pump and Motor Rehabilitation. Rebuilt both Pumps at Sanbornton Pumping Station. Acme #2 Well Rehabilitation (determined it needs replacement as well production continues to decline more frequently). Acme #1 Well Rehabilitation with pump and motor replacement.

> Completed the Cross Street Tank Rehabilitation Project including the remounting of Sprint and US Cellular Antenna Array's and finalized new lease agreements.

> 35 Sewer Manhole Structures were repaired and new manhole covers installed. Those structures that had rings and covers in good condition were reused.

> Work has been initiated by R.D.Edmunds (low bidder) on the "Route 3 Water Main Replacement Project"

Mechanical Garage:

> The State of New Hampshire, Department of Public Safety changed the annual Municipal Motor Vehicle Inspection Schedule from March to September. The shop has two positions and one of our employees resigned in June. Brian Waltos performed over 80 inspections on all municipal vehicles by himself prior to August 30th. We have since hired a new mechanic.

> Six municipal vehicles failed inspections which have since been repaired to the extent that they are functional and roadworthy.

Buildings and Grounds:

- > The Proulx Center, City Hall and Bessie Rowell Community Center all received new boilers and retrofits to the heating systems. Brian Barry and Russ Rivard have worked tirelessly to assist with this major undertaking.
- > A structural Evaluation was performed on the City Hall Opera House space including the floor and stage for condition and load capacity. Brian Barry and volunteer staff from Footlight Theatre and the Opera House performed critical temporary repairs to secure the deficiencies identified were taken care of quickly and a new stage extension is due to be built to code by the tenants this upcoming winter.

Highway Division:

A major focus has been on "Drainage and Vegetation" The City Manager also has a report on "Road Resurfacing Projects" that she will be giving in her Managers update. There is a lot of work to be done with respect to drainage!

- > Completed ditching on the City Drainage Swale which abuts properties behind Franklin Street.
- > On Prospect Street, a 48" drainage culvert collapsed and has been replaced.
- > Pine Colony Road, a 15" drainage culvert has been replaced.
- > Pipe installation and restoration of the drainage easement and old Indian Portage Trail between Thompson Park and Victory Drive is complete.
- > Reshaped and installed a new swale on New Hampton Road in the vicinity of Meadowood Drive.
- > Completed extensive under drain to a section of Industrial Park Drive and Flaghole Road prior to recent resurfacing projects.
- > Completed the replacement of 250 feet of new drainage that had been in failure on School Street between Franklin and View Streets.
- > Performed all site work, assisting the Fire Department with the removal of the old Fuel Depot and preparation for paving and landscaping.
- > Cleaned and flushed 1,032 catch basins and outlet pipes with the assistance from Bellamore Basin Cleaning Company.
- > Removed in excess of 18 Hazardous trees within public ways with the assistance of Top Notch Tree Service. Also working with Eversource on additional tree trimming.
- > The Streetlight Fixture Replacement Project involving the change out existing Cobra Head Light Fixtures to L.E.D. lighting is beginning December 9th and will continue citywide for about 3 to 4 weeks.
- > As of 12/5/15 leaf pickup has been completed on Wednesday and Fridays Curbside Pickup Routes. We are now well underway picking up on Mondays Route which is all of West Franklin. It takes about 32 workdays to complete this task.

Solid Waste:

We are on schedule with processing monthly trash, recycling, electronics, tires, demolition, metal, waste oil and other Solid Waste items. The recycling market has taken a huge hit **Nationwide**, mainly due to the fact that more communities are recycling, poor product delivered, change in packaging materials and the decline in the worldwide market especially the Chinese Market. We will shortly be eliminating glass from the single stream recycling program. The main reason is there is no market for glass and it creating problems at the Material Recovery Facilities.

Municipal Services Department / Administrative Division:

To suggest we are caught up with maintenance and many special projects is not a clear picture of where we are as a department. We continue to be proactive in every division and our major concern is doing the very best we can given our limited budget and staffing levels. I must point out that while this is the situation, the service demand and expectation from the general public continues to increase. Aging equipment and infrastructure also presents a significant challenge placed on staff. To sum it up we continue to be reactive given the many unplanned daily issues that arise. Without our dedicated crew, none of the above would be possible! I greatly appreciate their teamwork along with the assistance from all other City Departments.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brian J. Sullivan and our Municipal Services Department Staff