

**City Council Meeting
November 2, 2015**

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

Absent

Councilor Giunta and Councilor Boyd.

Salute to the Flag was led by Councilor Wells.

Comments from the Public

Director of Municipal Services Brian Sullivan advised that a structural engineer had been hired to work on the problem of motion with the stage. When the Opera House would put on a performance there would be motion on the stage. Some progress is being made on solving the problem and Director Sullivan advised they will once again meet with the engineer tomorrow.

Chief Goldstein commented on some of the concerns he has been following in Concord at the legislature. He stated that he is the chair of the legislative committee for the chiefs association and been particularly concerned recently about three bills. One bill has to with the drug forfeiture account. These funds are used in local communities to fund drug investigations and the state is proposing instead diverting those funds to the state general fund. Second there is a bill that would erode away at local official's immunity and this would impact every department. Third there is a bill to allow non police flaggers at the discretion of the governing board instead of requiring it be a safety decision City

usually determined by the local police chief. The chief indicated at some point he may need to come back to the council and ask for support. Resident Leigh Webb thanked Director Sullivan, Mayor Merrifield and City Manager Dragon for your cooperation in helping to determine the problem with the stage in the opera and work quickly towards a solution.

Choose Franklin

Mrs. Jo Brown, Co-Chair announced that First Night will be held during the first week of January, 2016. She also stated that this Thursday at 8am at the library Choose Franklin will be hosting downtown businesses and a speaker on economic development. In December, Choose Franklin will be hosting Non-profit organizations in the community.

Legislative Comments - None

City Council Acknowledgements

Councilor Dzujna thanked Director Alpers, Ms. Jen Creasey, Ms. Amanda Barton, Kathy Hawkins, Dan Case, and foot light theater for their work on Odell After Dark.

Councilor Barton thanked everyone involved in the Lights on after school event at Bessie Rowell.

Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Councilor Feener that the Franklin City Council consider the minutes of the October 13, 2015 City Council Meeting to Canvas the Votes and the October 26, 2015 City Council Special Meeting. Motion seconded by Councilor Dzujna. All in favor; motion passes.

School Board Report

School Board report given by Chair Tam Feener. Copy is attached.

Town of Bristol Police Department to present an award to the Franklin Police Department

Bristol Police Chief expressed appreciation to Officers Gotthardt, Officer Ciavola and Dispatcher Ballin for their assistance in the arrest of two wanted individuals without any harm to the officers. Their assistance is greatly appreciated by the Bristol Police Department.

National Guard Radio Tower Co-Location – Pleasant Street Tower

City Manager gave update. The National Guard is continuing to meet with department heads and Lakes Region dispatch. They do not plan to do construction until spring and so there is time to carefully consider the proposal.

Scheduling of a Public Hearing concerning the withdrawal of no more than \$11,000 from the Raymond and Betty Turcotte Rescue Squad Trust Fund to fund a Rescue Trailer Storage Barn at the Fire Station

Motion made Councilor Desrochers that the Franklin City Council schedules a public hearing for December 14th, 2015 at 6:05 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, regarding authorizing the withdrawal of no more than eleven thousand dollars (\$11,000) from the Raymond and Betty Turcotte Rescue Trust Fund to be used as contribution in funding the construction of a Rescue Trailer Storage Barn located at the Fire Station. Motion seconded by Councilor Dzujna; all in favor; motion to schedule public hearing passes.

Mayor Merrifield read resolution #06-16 for the benefit of the public.

Other Business

Committee Report – None

City Manager's Update

Manager Dragon advised that the City received the following contingent grant line amount: \$300 Book Club; \$2,947.82 State of NH Fire Training; and \$1,986.14 Crimeline for K9 Officer.

Manager Dragon provided an update regarding the work happening at the Macosko Foundry. Director Lewis has been working with various agencies to deal with Brownsfield issues at the foundry. She provided a copy of the most recent update from the US Environmental Protection Agency. EPA is spending about \$150,000 on this clean up which certainly saves the city money and the time/effort to submit and wait for an EPA clean up grant.

Manager Dragon met with Senator Hosmer concerning three bills. 1. A follow-up to the public statement made by the City Council regarding the Curfew Ordinance. 2. An LSR to allow the expenditure of WRBP funds for studies related to the evaluation of the most cost effective operation of the system. 3. With regard to WRBP, an LSR to make amendments to the role of the Advisory Board.

Zoning Board Appointments

The following were appointed by the City Council to the Zoning Board:

Councilor Feener moved and Councilor Clarenbach seconded the appointment of Mr. David Testerman from alternate member to a regular voting member on the zoning board; term of service to 2018. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Councilor Feener moved and Councilor Dzujna seconded the appointment of Mr. Jeffrey Dickinson as a regular voting member on the zoning board; term of service to 2017. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Councilor Feener moved and Councilor Dzijuna seconded the motion to appoint Ms. Debbie Davis as an alternate on the Zoning Board; term of service to 2018. All were in favor and the motion passed.

City Council to enter into non-public session under RSA 91-a, II a, the Dismissal, promotion or compensation of any public employee.

MOTION: Councilor Feener moved and Councilor Desrochers seconded that the Franklin City Council enter into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3, II a, The Dismissal, promotion or compensation of any public employee, by a roll call vote.

Roll Call:

<i>Councilor Wells</i>	<i>– Yes</i>	<i>Councilor Desrochers</i>	<i>– Yes</i>
<i>Councilor Barton</i>	<i>– Yes</i>	<i>Councilor Dzijuna</i>	<i>– Yes</i>
<i>Councilor Feener</i>	<i>– Yes</i>	<i>Councilor Clarenbach</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Councilor Starkweather</i>	<i>– Yes</i>	<i>Councilor Boyd</i>	<i>– Absent</i>
<i>Councilor Giunta</i>	<i>– Absent</i>		

All were in favor; motion passed.

MOTION: Councilor Feener moved and Councilor Clarenbach seconded to come out of the non-public session. All were in favor and the motion passed.

MOTION: Councilor Feener moved and Councilor Desrochers seconded to seal the minutes of the non-public session because releasing them would make the action taken ineffectual, by a roll call vote.

Roll Call:

<i>Councilor Dzijuna</i>	<i>– Yes</i>	<i>Councilor Wells</i>	<i>– Yes</i>
<i>Councilor Desrochers</i>	<i>– Yes</i>	<i>Councilor Boyd</i>	<i>– Absent</i>

Councilor Barton	– Yes	Councilor Feener	– Yes
Councilor Giunta	– Absent	Councilor Clarenbach	-Yes
Councilor Starkweather	– Yes		

All were in favor; motion passed.

Councilor Feener moved and Councilor Clarenbach seconded to approve an additional four year extension to the existing employment contract for the City Manager to be effective beginning on June 23, 2016 and to authorize the Mayor to sign the new agreement. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Councilor Feener moved and Councilor Clarenbach seconded a motion to approve a 2 ½ percent raise for the City Manager retroactive to her anniversary date of June 23, 2015. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Councilor Clarenbach and seconded by Councilor Feener. All in favor; meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth A. Dragon
City Manager