

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

AGENDA ITEM V



CITY OF FRANKLIN
COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

City Council Meetings of August 24, 2015 & September 8, 2015

From: Richard Lewis, Director of Planning and Zoning

Subject: Setting of Public Hearing to consider Resolution 03-16 for the Acceptance, the appropriation, and the expenditure of grant funds from the USDA's Rural Development office.

Approval of Resolution 03-16 at the September 8, 2015 Meeting

Recommended Motion for the August 24, 2015 Meeting:

"I move that the Franklin City Council set a public hearing to be held on Tuesday, September 8, 2015 at 6:06 PM for Resolution 03-16 for the acceptance of Rural Development grant funds and the appropriation and expenditures of these funds starting in Fiscal Year 2016. The funds are for the hiring of a Downtown Business Coordinator to assist in the redevelopment and revitalization efforts in the downtown business district."

Recommended Motion for the September 8, 2015 Meeting:

"I move that the Franklin City Council vote to approve Resolution 03-16, which accepts the grant funds from the USDA Rural Development office, and approves these new revenues and the expenditures of these funds for downtown economic redevelopment efforts. I further move that the City Council authorize the City Manager to sign and take action on all relevant documents pertaining to the administration of this grant."

Discussion:

As an outcome from the Franklin for a Lifetime project of last spring, the City submitted an application to the USDA's Rural Development office for a Rural Business Development Grant. Based on suggestions and input from representatives of the Rural Development office, the grant application proposed the establishment of a 1-year position of a Downtown Business Coordinator. The selected individual or firm will focus on bringing new ideas and improved communication to several key tasks including marketing assistance for the downtown businesses, helping new or emerging businesses gain the proper foundation to grow and prosper, seeking other grant or loans that might assist businesses or property owners, and working with all businesses to bring increased vitality to the downtown area.

The City learned on Monday, August 10th that we were selected for funding. The grant award is for \$50,000, with approximately \$2,000 for travel, printing and marketing materials, and other small items; the remainder will be for personnel/contracture expenses. The grant funds must be expended no later than August 10, 2016.

Work has begun on the development of the Request for Qualifications; proposals will be solicited and the top candidates will be interviewed. Since we are working on a tight timeline for the grant, we want to get the RFQ on the street soon so that we can get the selection process completed and the job can start by late September. The RFQ may be issued before the 9/8/15 meeting, but it will contain a standard "subject to the approval of funding" clause.

Concurrences:

As mentioned, this project arose from the Franklin for a Lifetime project, which was a very successful, and well attended, 3-day forum on housing and economic development. The City Council has been apprised of the submission of the grant application.

Fiscal Impact:

There are no matching funds required for this grant program and no direct expenditures by the City.

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 funds would be lost.

Attachments/Exhibits: Copy of Resolution 03-16

RESOLUTION # 03-16

A Resolution Relating to a Supplemental Appropriation for Fiscal Year 2016.

In the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Fifteen,

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Franklin has adopted a budget for Fiscal Year 2016 which began July 1, 2015; and

WHEREAS, the City has been awarded a grant from the Rural Development Office of the US Department of Agriculture in the amount of \$50,000, with the funds to be used for the hiring of a Downtown Business Coordinator to assist the redevelopment and revitalization of the downtown area; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes the recent efforts to improve the economic and residential viability of the downtown and the need to continue with additional progress; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes that these grant funds will provide the City a unique opportunity to assist in the redevelopment efforts which will benefit all downtown property owners and business owners;

Now, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that at the scheduled meeting of the City Council on Tuesday, September 8, 2015, the City Council of the City of Franklin, New Hampshire does hereby vote to accept the grant funds from the USDA, Rural Development office, does hereby authorize the City Manager to execute all grant documents and does hereby authorize the following non lapsing appropriations,

An increase in revenues:

Acct# 01-1-000-33111-435 Federal Grant – USDA Rural Technical Assistance – Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00),

And an increase in expenditures for the following accounts:

01-1-302-40110-435 Wages – USDA Rural Technical Assistance \$48,000

01-1-991-40299-435 Travel - USDA Rural Technical Assistance \$200

01-1-991-40610-435 Supplies - USDA Rural Technical Assistance \$1,500

01-1-302-40290-435 Professional Development - USDA Rural Technical Assistance \$300

By a roll call vote,

Resolution #03-16

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Roll Call:

Councilor Barton	_____	Councilor Feener	_____
Councilor Boyd	_____	Councilor Giunta	_____
Councilor Clarenbach	_____	Councilor Starkweather	_____
Councilor Desrochers	_____	Councilor Wells	_____
Councilor Dzujna	_____		

Approved: _____
Mayor

Passed: _____

I certify that said vote has not been amended or repealed and remains in full force and effect as of the date of this Certification and that Katie A. Gargano is the City Clerk for the City of Franklin, Franklin, New Hampshire.

A true copy, attested: _____
City Clerk

Date: _____



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CITY OF FRANKLIN
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND MEETING

In accordance with the provision of Chapter 31, Division 2 of the Franklin Municipal Code, notice is hereby given that the Franklin City Council will hold a Public Hearing, on Tuesday, September 8, 2015 at 6:06 PM in the Council Chambers, Franklin City Hall, on Resolution 03-16 which deals with the appropriation and expenditure of grant funds for the hiring of a Downtown Business Coordinator to assist the City and Business owners in downtown revitalization efforts.