

## FRANKLIN TOWN COUNCIL

### Agenda & Meeting Packet

October 6, 2021

Meeting will be held at the **Municipal Building**  
2nd floor, Council Chambers  
355 East Central Street  
**7:00 PM**

**A NOTE TO RESIDENTS:** All citizens are now welcome to attend public board and committee meetings in person. Additionally, in an effort to maximize citizen engagement opportunities, citizens will be able to continue to participate remotely via phone OR Zoom. The meetings will also be [live-streamed by Franklin TV](#) and shown on Comcast Channel 11 and Verizon Channel 29.

- **Link to access meeting:** October 6, 2021 Town Council Meeting Link [HERE](#) -- Then click "Open Zoom"
  - Or copy and paste this URL into your browser: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87840435009>
  - **Call-In Phone Number:** Call 1-929-205-6099 and enter Meeting ID # 878 4043 5009 --Then press #

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#### 1. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR

- a. This meeting is being recorded by Franklin TV and shown on Comcast channel 11 and Verizon Channel 29. This meeting may be recorded by others.
- b. Chair to Identify members participating remotely.

#### 2. CITIZEN COMMENTS

- a. Citizens are welcome to express their views for up to five minutes on a matter that is not on the agenda. The Council will not engage in a dialogue or comment on a matter raised during Citizen Comments. The Town Council will give remarks appropriate consideration and may ask the Town Administrator to review the matter.

#### 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. [September 1, 2021](#)
- b. [September 15, 2021](#)

#### 4. PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS

- a. Franklin Cultural Council - 2021 Cultural Fest

#### 5. APPOINTMENTS

- a. [Susan Younis - Municipal Affordable Housing Trust](#)
- b. [Candice Narsasian - Cultural District Committee](#)
- c. [Anne Bergen - Franklin TV Board of Directors](#)
- d. [Ken Norman - Franklin TV Board of Directors](#)

#### 6. HEARINGS - 7:10pm - None Scheduled

#### 7. LICENSE TRANSACTIONS - None scheduled

#### 8. PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSIONS

- a. [Franklin School Department Update to Town Council](#): Dr. Sara Ahern, Superintendent of Schools

## **9. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

- a. Capital Budget Subcommittee
- b. Budget Subcommittee
- c. Economic Development Subcommittee

## **10. LEGISLATION FOR ACTION**

- a. [Resolution 21-54: A Resolution Adopting the Town of Franklin 2021 Housing Production Plan \(Motion to Approve Resolution 21-54 - Majority Vote\)](#)
- b. [Resolution 21-55: Gift Acceptance - Veterans Department, \\$1000 \(Motion to Approve Resolution 21-55 - Majority Vote\)](#)
- c. [Resolution 21-56: Gift Acceptance - Conservation Commission, \\$1000 \(Motion to Approve Resolution 21-56 - Majority Vote\)](#)
- d. [Resolution 21-57: Gift Acceptance - Town of Franklin, Dog Park Gazebo \(Motion to Approve Resolution 21-57 - Majority Vote\)](#)
- e. [Resolution 21-58: Cable Funds in Support of PEG Service and Programming per MGL Ch. 44, §53F3/4 \(Motion to Approve Resolution 21-58 - Majority Vote\)](#)

## **11. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

## **12. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

## **13. COUNCIL COMMENTS**

## **14. EXECUTIVE SESSION - *None Scheduled***

## **15. ADJOURN**

*Note:*

*Two-Thirds Vote: requires 6 votes*

*Majority Vote: requires majority of members present and voting*

**FRANKLIN TOWN COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**September 1, 2021**

A meeting of the Town Council was held on Wednesday, September 1, 2021, at the Municipal Building, 2nd Floor, Council Chambers, 355 East Central Street, Franklin, MA. Councilors present: Andrew Bissanti, Brian Chandler, Robert Dellorco, Cobi Frongillo, Melanie Hamblen, Glenn Jones, Thomas Mercer, Deborah Pellegrini. Councilors absent: None. Administrative personnel in attendance: Jamie Hellen, Town Administrator; Mark Cerel, Town Attorney; Alecia Alleyne, Assistant to the Town Administrator.

**CALL TO ORDER:** ► Chair Mercer called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Chair Mercer called for a moment of silence; all recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** ► Chair Mercer explained that there was a power outage near the Franklin TV station. The Zoom platform is working. Chair Mercer reviewed the following as posted on the agenda. A Note to Residents: All citizens are now welcome to attend public board and committee meetings in person. Additionally, in an effort to maximize citizen engagement opportunities and comply with open meeting law regulations, citizens will be able to continue to participate remotely via phone or Zoom. The meetings will also be live-streamed by Franklin TV and shown on Comcast Channel 11 and Verizon Channel 29. He stated that this meeting is being recorded by Franklin TV and may also be recorded by others.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS:** ► Ms. Nancy Danello, Acting Town Clerk, discussed the upcoming November 2<sup>nd</sup> election to be held from 6 AM to 8 PM. She stated that nomination papers will be accepted through September 10<sup>th</sup>, papers are due to her office for certification by September 14<sup>th</sup>, the last day to withdraw nomination papers is September 30<sup>th</sup>, and ballots will be ordered on October 1<sup>st</sup>. She explained the vote by mail procedure, the last day to register to vote, and early voting times. ► Ms. Jane Callaway-Tripp, 607 Maple Street, discussed the recent trash fee increase. She stated that at the last Town Council meeting this item was on the agenda, but the item was never allowed to be open for the public to discuss. She stated that although \$8 is not a large increase, in the last year the Town Council has raised property taxes, water, sewer, CPA taxes, and trash fees, and she noted stormwater fees that the Town Council wants to put in effect. She stated that the taxpayers are also making up money that was not recuperated from the \$.5 million that was lost through a scam. She noted how people on fixed incomes and families with only one income are struggling and not everyone can afford these increases. She stated that although the Town Council members say they understand and hear the public, they keep voting for the increases. She stated that the townspeople vote the Town Council members to represent the citizens; however, not everyone is being represented. Some citizens have been forgotten. ► Ms. Jacqueline Maciel, 95 Elm Street, thanked the Town Council for posting the meeting minutes. She stated that she contacted two members of the Town Council about this issue. She discussed omissions from the meeting minutes regarding numbers she cited regarding the liquor license for Dean during comments she made at previous Town Council meetings. She said that she knows when they have court reporters, they have to accurately transcribe things; she thought that is what went on when they did minutes of the Town Council meetings.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** ► *July 21, 2021*. ► **MOTION to Approve** the July 21, 2021 meeting minutes by **Dellorco**. **SECOND** by **Hamblen**. **Discussion:** ► Councilor Chandler stated that he thought the meeting minutes of the Dean College discussion were perfect. He noted it was a long discussion and a very good job was done. ► Mr. Hellen stated that the recording secretary does an amazing job for this

board as well as for other boards and committees. He reminded the public that there is an archive of live-streamed videos of the meetings; as well, Franklin TV replays all the videos. All meeting minutes are located in the Town Clerk's office. He explained that if the public is looking for something like a recorded court situation, the Town is not required by statute to do a stenographer's job. ► Councilor Bissanti noted that he spoke to Ms. Maciel and explained that she should not expect the meeting minutes to be verbatim. ► Town Attorney Mark Cerel stated that the meeting minutes provided are at a much greater level of detail than required by statute. They are supposed to be a notation of who is present, motions, votes, and a fair summary of discussion that would allow someone who was not present to understand what went on; however, it is not supposed to be a verbatim transcript. ► **VOTE: Yes-8, No-0, Absent-0.**

**PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS: Police Department.** ► **Nick Palmieri, Promotion to Sergeant.** ► Police Chief Thomas Lynch stated that tonight they will be recognizing some promotions and new hires. He introduced Nick Palmieri and reviewed his background and education. ► Sergeant Palmieri's family was present and performed the pinning. ► Acting Town Clerk Nancy Danello performed the swearing in. ► **Jack Flynn, Promotion to Detective.** ► Chief Lynch introduced Jack Flynn and reviewed his background and education. ► Detective Flynn's wife was present and performed the pinning. ► Acting Town Clerk Nancy Danello performed the swearing in. ► **Patrick MacDonald, New Hire Introduction & Ceremonial Swearing in.** ► Chief Lynch introduced Patrick MacDonald and reviewed his background and education. ► Mr. MacDonald's wife was present and performed the pinning. ► Acting Town Clerk Nancy Danello performed the swearing in. ► **Victoria McVicar, New Hire Introduction & Ceremonial Swearing in.** ► Chief Lynch introduced Victoria McVicar and reviewed her background and education. ► Ms. McVicar's mother was present and performed the pinning. ► Acting Town Clerk Nancy Danello performed the swearing in.

*Chair Mercer called a two-minute recess.*

**APPOINTMENTS:** ► **Richard C. Johnson, Conservation Commission.** ► Mr. Jones read the appointment. ► **MOTION to Ratify** the appointment by the Town Administrator of Richard Johnson to serve as a member of the Franklin Conservation Commission with a term to expire on June 30, 2024, by **Jones. SECOND by Hamblen. Discussion:** ► Ms. Hamblen noted that Mr. Johnson's middle initial is *W* not *C*. ► Ms. Pellegri asked for Mr. Johnson's background and experience. ► Mr. Hellen reviewed Mr. Johnson's information. ► **VOTE: Yes-8, No-0, Absent-0.**

**HEARINGS: 7:10 PM.** ► **Zoning Bylaw Amendment 21-874: Amendment to Ch.185 Section 21 Parking, Loading, and Driveway Requirements proposed change to minimum parking requirements in Downtown Commercial and Commercial I zoning districts.** ► Chair Mercer stated that this is a continued hearing from the last Town Council meeting. **He declared the public hearing open.** He stated that he would go to the public first for questions and comments. ► Ms. Jane Callaway-Tripp, 607 Maple Street, stated that Town Council members should not be smirking when citizens are speaking during Citizens Comments. She discussed the reason that was given to reduce the parking from 1.5 spaces to .5 spaces was to revitalize the Town to bring more foot traffic and people to the shops downtown. She understands the concept, but where are they? She stated that the Town has been doing this for 20 years. She reviewed previous Town revitalization efforts such as when the theater was taken down and replaced with a building and when the traffic was rerouted. She stated that revitalize does not mean to take apart and rebuild which is what we keep doing, and it is costing taxpayers millions of dollars. She stated they should get something in the downtown that people want to see or shop at. She stated that the Town should stop saying that we need .5 car spaces to revitalize; what we need is shops to shop at. She stated that she has done her research. In town's where they have lowered parking, they have fleets of taxis, parking lots,

and parking garages, all of which Franklin does not have. She discussed how the historic district abuts this downtown district. She asked who came up with this idea for Franklin's center. She stated the residents are tired of spending money. She asked who will be responsible for the next mess that the .5 car spaces will not fix. This will be the ending of Franklin as we know it. She stated that items like this require public participation. She asked when those meetings and discussions were made public for people to attend. She reviewed parking requirements in surrounding towns: Wrentham-2 spaces per unit; Medway-1.5 spaces per unit; Bellingham-2 spaces per unit; Walpole-2 spaces per unit plus one space per every 4 units for guest parking. She reviewed a 2010 MBTA study. She noted a 22-page report outlining recommendations to increase the downtown parking long-term. She reviewed the millions of dollars Franklin has spent on roadway and streetscape improvements which has not improved the downtown and made it flourish. She discussed the original parking requirement of 2 parking spaces per unit; then it was voted to reduce it to .5 for residential and 1 per 500 sq. ft. space in commercial. Now three years later, the Town Council is looking to reduce the parking requirements further to .5 spaces. She stated that reducing the parking before did not solve the issues or revitalize the downtown area. She noted that she pointed out at the Planning Board meeting that the Planning Board can always use Special Permits to reduce the required parking on an individual basis for a particular development. However, once the spacing is reduced overall, it cannot go back. She stated that she is asking the Town Council to vote no of the .5 spaces just as she asked the Planning Board. She stated let's focus on bringing 30,000 plus residents to the downtown area and that will require parking. Let's stop spending the taxpayers' dollars. ► Councilor Bissanti stated shame on the Town Council for ever losing their grip of the C1 zoning that they had in downtown which was zero parking. He asked where was the Downtown Partnership, where were the merchants, to discuss this. He is not sure that EDC should be discussing zoning issues. He thinks they need an inclusionary panel, with residents also, to discuss this. He stated that Ms. Callaway-Tripp made some excellent points, and she swayed the whole Planning Board. He stated shame on the Town Council, EDC, and the Downtown Partnership; they should have stepped up if they really wanted this. ► Councilor Hamblen stated that they did speak about this at EDC meetings; it was talked about a lot. She stated that it came out of some of our business listening sessions, that were open to the public, that people thought it would be better to have less parking as it would give the developers more freedom to do things. She stated that how to make more affordable housing was talked about and that is done by making it less expensive for developers to develop. She stated that the MAPC is going to do a zoning study and will suggest how and if the zoning should be changed. She stated that it would be important as a Council and a Town to listen to what these recommendations are. She recommended that the Town Council wait for the zoning study. ► Chair Mercer stated that the Town Council authorized in June to go out to get a comprehensive zoning diagnostic analysis of downtown zoning and C1. He stated that he thinks it would be remiss of the Town Council, since the last analysis was done in 2003, to vote on this until the Town Council sees the results of the analysis that MAPC has been hired to do. He stated that because of that he removed the Legislation for Action item from the agenda. He stated that a good analysis will be obtained and then they will be able to make an informed decision on how to move forward. ► Councilor Bissanti stated that in defense of the EDC, they spoke about this parking a lot, and he feels a little jilted because they worked so hard on this. He stated that they got torpedoed because the public does not understand the complexities of zoning; they need to include the public more in decision making when it comes to zoning. He discussed how they obtained the parking ratio at .5; it was a formula for developers. He stated that banks will not finance a development without parking. He stated that the public needs to be included in discussions, and the public needs to be educated on zoning as it is very complex. ► Councilor Frongillo stated that he thinks it is wise to wait for the zoning study. Regarding the idea of being torpedoed by the Planning Board, he stated that the Town Council should keep in mind that they do not require the Planning Board's consent for passing this. He stated that unfortunately the Planning Board has shown at a few points that they are perhaps behind the times where downtown revitalization is going. He stated that this is perhaps

another example of that. He stated that he feels confident that MAPC will point us in the right direction. ► Councilor Jones clarified that previous Town revitalization projects were both federally and state funded; they were not Town funded projects. He noted that changing the route from one-way to two-way to improve traffic flow was also done to improve the fire department's 90-second response to get to other sections of Town. He discussed that Covid has had a large impact on businesses. He discussed that one of the biggest things that have held us down in fixing up the downtown has been our property owners. The Town Council has zero control over what the property owners in downtown do; our responsibilities stop at the sidewalk. He hopes the property owners will come to some realization and work with the Town to come up with a viable plan to make the improvements that we as a community feel will revitalize the downtown. ► **MOTION to Close the public hearing by Jones. SECOND by Dellorco. No discussion. VOTE: Yes-8, No-0, Absent-0.**

**LICENSE TRANSACTIONS: None.**

**PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSIONS:** ► *Karen Maguire - Superintendent of Schools, Tri-County Regional Vocational Technical School.* ► Mr. Hellen stated that the previous superintendent retired. He invited the new superintendent to the Town Council meeting for an introduction. He is very excited to work with Superintendent Maguire and her team. ► Superintendent Maguire thanked Mr. Peter Wiernicki for accompanying her to this meeting. She thanked Mr. Hellen for the opportunity to speak tonight. She stated that she began in July. She extended her commitment to work with the Town. She reviewed the educational programming at the school. She stated that she will dedicate her time to collect and synthesize information from stakeholders in the community. She will focus on identifying the strengths of the district, systems, and traditions that are in place, as well as the challenges. She noted the challenges of the past year. She stated that she would like to address long and short-term impacts of Covid on the students. She stated that she looks forward to developing the partnership with Tri-County and Franklin over the years to come. ► Town Council members asked questions. ► Councilor Chandler noted that Tri-County School helps the Town pay for .5 police officer; that is good teamwork. He noted that Tri-County locks their gates at 5 PM and on weekends, and residents cannot use the track area. ► Superintendent Maguire stated that the track is not usable at this time; it is cracked. As they move forward with improvements, she feels that Tri-County needs to be the center of this area. ► Councilor Hamblen asked about the programs, and if Superintendent Maguire is thinking about adding programs or making changes. ► Superintendent Maguire said that she is looking at that currently to see what areas need to be focused on for students and adult education. ► Councilor Jones summarized that Tri-County is an excellent vocational school. ► Superintendent Maguire stated that they are moving forward with a feasibility study on the building to see what the need is. ► Councilor Dellorco stated that unions are looking for workers. Does she have contact with the unions to help the students get jobs? ► Superintendent Maguire reviewed her past experience and stated that she has connections with several boards/unions. ► Councilor Pellegrini wished her the best of luck. She noted that many students at the vocational school do go on to college. ► Chair Mercer thanked Superintendent Maguire for attending tonight's meeting.

Chair Mercer noted that the call-in telephone number has been restored to the screen.

**SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- a. **Capital Budget Subcommittee.** ► None.
- b. **Budget Subcommittee.** ► None.
- c. **Economic Development Subcommittee.** ► Ms. Hamblen stated that they will meet before the next Town Council meeting. On the agenda is to discuss the way-finding signs.

## LEGISLATION FOR ACTION:

**Note:** Two-Thirds Vote requires six votes; Majority Vote requires majority of members present and voting.

- a. Resolution 21-50: Gift Acceptance - Veterans' Services, \$400 (Motion to Approve Resolution 21-50 - Majority Vote).** ► Councilor Jones read the resolution. ► **MOTION to Approve** Resolution 21-50: Gift Acceptance - Veterans' Services, \$400 by **Dellorco. SECOND** by **Hamblen. Discussion:** ► Mr. Hellen thanked the four donators for their generous contributions. ► Councilor Jones thanked the donators for supporting the veterans. ► **VOTE: Yes-8, No-0, Absent-0.**
- b. Resolution 21-51: Cable Funds in Support of PEG Service and Programming per MGL Ch. 44, §53F3/4 (Motion to Approve Resolution 21-51 – Majority Vote).** ► Councilor Jones read the resolution. ► **MOTION to Approve** Resolution 21-51: Cable Funds in Support of PEG Service and Programming per MGL Ch. 44, §53F3/4 by **Dellorco. SECOND** by **Hamblen. Discussion:** ► Mr. Hellen stated that this is the required quarterly vote; it is a State statutory requirement. ► Councilor Pellegri asked if there is anything that can be done to get money back to the residents. ► Mr. Hellen stated that the only mechanism is to negotiate during the license process to reduce the fee that goes to Franklin TV; however, all that would be doing is reducing the amount of money Franklin TV has to do their work. There is no legal ability for the Town to divert any of these funds back to residents. ► Councilor Bissanti asked if the Town Council can talk to Verizon. ► Mr. Hellen stated that it is a consumer's decision whether they want to spend money on cable or not. He noted that Franklin has contracts with both Comcast and Verizon; therefore, consumers have a choice. ► Discussion commenced on cable bill prices, which cable company offers better prices, and the importance of the PEG funding/money going to support the Town's communication network. ► **VOTE: Yes-8, No-0, Absent-0.**
- c. Resolution 21-52: Budget Stabilization Policy (Motion to Approve Resolution 21-52 – Majority Vote).** ► Councilor Jones read the resolution. ► **MOTION to Approve** Resolution 21-52: Budget Stabilization Policy by **Dellorco. SECOND** by **Hamblen. Discussion:** ► Mr. Hellen reviewed that this policy originated by the Town's Finance Committee earlier this spring, and they unanimously approved a policy on June 16, 2021. He noted that the Town Council appropriated \$850,000 to this fund a few years ago. He stated that this is a policy regarding how to use the money and how much money should be in the fund. He stated that this is fiscal policy #19 which is the Budget Stabilization Policy. He reviewed the proposed Budget Stabilization Policy: to set a target fund balance equal to 2 percent of prior fiscal year general fund operating revenue (which equates to \$2.0 to \$2.5 million and would change every year), the stabilization fund is a one-time revenue source for general fund operating budget shortfalls, and no more than 50 percent of the fund balance can be spent in any fiscal year to balance the operating budget. He noted that the financial policies in totality were last reviewed in 2019; he expects a review of all financial policies will be one of the goals of the incoming Town Council. ► Town Council members asked questions and gave comments. ► Councilor Hamblen asked how money is put into the fund and if there is a minimum amount of free cash that must be put in. ► Mr. Hellen discussed how OPEB funding operates. He discussed the ups and downs of free cash. He stated that the idea of putting in a percentage was resisted as there are already other accounts with such requirements. He noted that free cash may not need to be used for some items because of the federal stimulus money. ► Councilor Chandler asked about money to pay for snow and ice expenses. ► Mr. Hellen stated that Budget Stabilization Fund money could be used for snow and ice as it is considered public emergency. ► **VOTE: Yes-8, No-0, Absent-0.**

**TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:** ► *2020-2021 Town Council Goals Update.* ► Mr. Hellen reviewed the Town Council Meeting 2020 and 2021 Goals, Town Council Workshop, January 8, 2020, document which was updated on August 25, 2021, and provided in the Town Council meeting packet. As stated on the document, the black text refers to the approved goals for the two-year session; the red reflects the update. He explained that everything on the list was accomplished. He reviewed some of the zoning items that had garnered much discussion. ► Mr. Hellen stated that as of August 26, 2021, there were 23 confirmed cases of Covid in Franklin; the Town had 31 Covid cases the prior week. The Town had its 49<sup>th</sup> passing of a resident due to Covid. ► Councilor Frongillo stated that they should not equate a single year of equal budget with long-term fiscal solvency. He stated that they are still behind on their road maintenance and stormwater, and there are some longer-term funds that are going to be needed to bring in more revenue. He stated that the single best way for the Town to bring in more revenue is to change land uses to make them more productive places for the Town. He stated that he is excited to move forward on the housing production plan.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:** ► Councilor Hamblen stated that the Agricultural Commission had a booth at the Farmers' Market and some suggestions were put in their suggestion box. One suggestion requested a presentation on a plan for Maple Hill to answer questions such as will there be bikes paths and places to park. She suggested an open hearing on this item. ► Councilor Jones requested the local tax exemption for veterans be put on a future agenda; he explained the allowable exemption. He also requested to revisit the policy on lowering flags to half-mast for certain holidays, occasions, and events. ► Councilor Dellorco agreed with Councilor Jones regarding the veterans' exemption.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS:** ► Councilor Chandler noted that Lincoln Street is done. He discussed that last year many were involved in putting together a policy for the flags on September 11<sup>th</sup>. ► Mr. Hellen stated that he has noted this to the DPW Director. ► Councilor Hamblen stated that on September 10<sup>th</sup> at the Farmers' Market zucchini races will be held. She noted that the Agricultural Commission is looking for volunteers for this. She stated the September 11<sup>th</sup> ceremony is at the fire department headquarters at 10 AM on September 11<sup>th</sup>. ► Councilor Pellegrini thanked Representative Jeff Roy for coming out and having Senator Warren here for two visits. She stated that she was very embarrassed that people came forward and acted as they did on this day. She stated that the protestors who showed up on the Town Common were loud, ignorant, and very, very rude. She stated that these people do not like Senator Warren and that is fine; they have the right to feel that way. However, she stated that you do not have to come to ruin an event for all of us who wanted to be there. She stated that group should have stayed home. Instead, this group, including candidates for Town Council and those for reelection stood with them. She stated that she found this terrible. She stated that she thought the protest was a hateful, hateful protest. She stated that she is speaking for herself and not for everyone on the Town Council. She said that if she had her way, they would have been escorted out by the police. She stated that this handful of protestors are on Facebook and criticizing the Town constantly. She stated she thinks that is a terrible thing to do. She stated that we need people who are caring, honest, and not full of hate to serve our residents of Franklin. ► Councilor Frongillo stated that the Planning Board moved forward on the Housing Production Plan. He stated that this document allows Town Council to move forward. He noted the Cultural Festival on September 14<sup>th</sup>. He stated that he looks forward to moving forward on complete streets. ► Councilor Bissanti stated that he is all for housing and wants to see affordable housing. He stated that believe it or not, there are people who speak against it; he will push for it. He gave condolences to the Travis family for the loss of their daughter. ► Councilor Jones thanked everyone who attended the swearing in ceremonies for the police officers. He noted the SAFE Coalition's event last night; he stated that there were 2,104 people who lost their lives to overdoses in Massachusetts in 2020. He stated that everybody has the right to their opinion; he loves the First Amendment. He stated that the Town Council's decisions



are for the betterment of the Franklin community as a whole. ► Councilor Dellorco gave his condolences to the Constantino family for the passing of David Constantino. He thanked Town Council members for attending the SAFE Coalition event. He stated that he thinks there may be even more deaths from overdoses in 2021. He asked people to reach out as there are a lot of resources available. ► Chair Mercer gave his condolences to the Travis and Constantino families for their losses. He thanked those who attended the SAFE Coalition event and those who are on the SAFE Coalition for all they do.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** ► *Considering the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property, because an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the Board.*

► Chair Mercer so declared that the Town Council needs to meet in executive session for the purpose of considering the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property, because an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the Board.

► **MOTION to Enter** executive session for the purpose of considering the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property, because an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the Board and the open meeting will reconvene at the conclusion of the executive session by **Jones. SECOND by Hamblen. No Discussion.** ► **ROLL CALL VOTE: Bissanti-YES; Chandler-YES; Dellorco-YES; Frongillo-YES; Hamblen-YES; Jones-YES; Mercer-YES; Pellegrini-YES.** ► **VOTE: Yes-8, No-0, Absent-0.**

*Open Session ended at 9:15 PM.*

*Open Session reconvened 10:11 PM.*

**RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION** ► *Discussion of possible land acquisition depending on the outcome of the Executive Session.* ► Chair Mercer stated that from executive session, the Town is in receipt of a statement of intent to convert pursuant to Mass General Laws, Ch. 61A, property at 215 Prospect Street, Franklin, MA. He stated that by the Town being in receipt of this letter, a very long process starts. He stated that the first stage of that process is for the Town to contract with a licensed real estate appraiser to get an appraisal of the property. He stated that is all the information the Town Council has. He stated that the Town Council will continue to update the public as the process proceeds.

**ADJOURN:** ► **MOTION to Adjourn** by Dellorco. **SECOND** by Jones. **No Discussion.** ► **VOTE: Yes-8, No-0, Absent-0.**

**Meeting adjourned at 10:14 PM.**

Respectfully submitted,

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Judith Lizardi  
Recording Secretary

**FRANKLIN TOWN COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
September 15, 2021**

A meeting of the Town Council was held on Wednesday, September 15, 2021, at the Municipal Building, 2nd Floor, Council Chambers, 355 East Central Street, Franklin, MA. Councilors present: Andrew Bissanti, Brian Chandler, Robert Dellorco, Cobi Frongillo, Melanie Hamblen, Glenn Jones, Thomas Mercer, Deborah Pellegri. Councilors absent: None. Administrative personnel in attendance: Jamie Hellen, Town Administrator; Alecia Alleyne, Assistant to the Town Administrator.

**CALL TO ORDER:** ► Chair Mercer called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Chair Mercer called for a moment of silence; all recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** ► Chair Mercer reviewed the following as posted on the agenda. A Note to Residents: All citizens are now welcome to attend public board and committee meetings in person. Additionally, in an effort to maximize citizen engagement opportunities and comply with open meeting law regulations, citizens will be able to continue to participate remotely via phone or Zoom. The meetings will also be live-streamed by Franklin TV and shown on Comcast Channel 11 and Verizon Channel 29. He stated that this meeting is being recorded by Franklin TV and may also be recorded by others. ► Mr. Hellen introduced Ms. Shannon Nisbett, the new Veterans' Services Officer; he reviewed her education and background. He introduced Ms. Debra Martin, Veterans' Services Assistant, and noted that she is now an employee of Franklin. ► Ms. Nisbett stated that she is honored to serve veterans and their families, and she thanked those in Franklin for their warm welcome.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS:** ► Acting Town Clerk Nancy Danello provided an update on the Town's upcoming election. She reviewed the number of people running for open seats on boards/committees. She noted that all nomination papers have been certified. She reviewed the following important dates: the last day to withdraw candidacy is September 30<sup>th</sup> by 5 PM, ballots will be ordered on October 1<sup>st</sup>, last day to register to vote is October 13<sup>th</sup>, candidate's night will take place on October 14<sup>th</sup>, machines will be tested in the Council Chambers on October 20<sup>th</sup>, her office will be open for early in-person voting when ballots arrive, vote by mail requests will be mailed out, and Town Hall will be open for early voting on October 23<sup>rd</sup> and October 24<sup>th</sup>. She commended the Cultural Council for a fabulous job this past weekend on the Cultural Festival.

► Ms. Jane Callaway-Tripp, 607 Maple Street, addressed comments made by Councilor Pellegri at the September 1, 2021, Town Council meeting. She stated that when Councilor Pellegri chose to use the Councilor Comments agenda item to reprimand residents of Franklin in regard to the stand out on the Town Common, it was a violation of several items. Councilor Pellegri stated that these people were an embarrassment to the Town and she would have had them removed. Councilor Pellegri stated that someone contacted her and compared these people to the insurrection on January 6, 2021. Ms. Callaway-Tripp stated that not only is that slander, but Councilor Pellegri violated Resolution 20-14, the very resolution that she voted to put in place. Councilor Pellegri also violated Robert's Rules of Order regarding personal privilege. Closing councilor comments are not to be used for personal opinions, viewpoints, and definitely not for bashing the residents of this Town. Councilor Pellegri also chose to call out a sitting councilor member running for reelection and new candidates running for election, and she stated that she found it appalling that they would take part in such a standout. Those words turned what was supposed to be a non-partisan election into a partisan election. Ms. Callaway-Tripp reminded Councilor Pellegri that she is a sworn Town Council member and sworn to represent every resident in this town; however, with her comments, Councilor Pellegri violated her oath as she is clearly representing only the people in Town who are supporting her political

viewpoints. Ms. Callaway-Tripp stated that in the past she has seen other Town Council members stand in the Town Common participating in stand outs and protests and nothing was ever said because they aligned with what Councilor Pellegri agrees with. The Town Common does not belong to Councilor Pellegri; it belongs to every resident in this Town. It is within people's Constitutional rights to do a stand out or protest. Ms. Callaway-Tripp stated that she may not agree with what others chose to protest about or stand out for or against, but she will stand up for her right to do such. Ms. Callaway-Tripp stated that Councilor Pellegri proves the point that Ms. Callaway-Tripp has been making for the past few months that the residents have stopped getting involved because they feel as if their opinions do not matter and their voices are being ignored; the residents do not matter as they are simply income to the Town in the way of taxes. Ms. Callaway-Tripp stated that Councilor Pellegri should be giving a public apology to all the residents in this Town and accountability needs to be brought to the table. She stated that she wants the violations of Resolution 20-14, the Robert's Rules of Order on personal privilege, and her sworn duty to represent all residents be put on the record. Ms. Callaway-Tripp requested that the present Town Council hold Councilor Pellegri accountable. Ms. Callaway-Tripp noted that she was present at the stand out and supported the police and military. She stated that it is everyone's Constitutional right to stand out or protest. For Councilor Pellegri to use her position as a Town Council member to reprimand the residents in this Town is unacceptable. ► Mr. Colin Cass, 146 Longhill Road, stated that he commended Councilor Pellegri for her comments as she found the heckling of a U.S. senator disgusting and so did he. There is no question that the hecklers had the right to behave as they did. They brought a huge sign reminding everyone of their First Amendment rights. It seems that when a U.S. senator requests a moment of silence to honor a marine that died in the line of duty, it is common decency governing behavior; that is the time to shut up and be quiet for one minute. However, the heckling continued which is the part that he found particularly outrageous. It showed that common decency was a bridge too far for most of those people. ► Ms. Jacqueline Maciel, 95 Elm Street, stated discuss an item from the last Town Council meeting regarding the discussion of the parking and zoning, and redistricting downtown. She stated that she reviewed the agenda for the September 1<sup>st</sup> meeting. She noted that there are links associated with the agenda items to find all the information. She stated that one link had a letter dated August 27<sup>th</sup> from Mr. Hellen in where he had provided history of the zoning bylaw which said that the bylaw was unanimously endorsed by the EDC in June and then referred to the Planning Board on June 23<sup>rd</sup> by the full Town Council. She stated that she recalled Chair Mercer talking at the September 1<sup>st</sup> meeting that the Town Council had approved a comprehensive analysis of the downtown zoning and hired MAPC to do the study. She stated that she reviewed the Town Council June 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting minutes and found two Legislation for Action items: Resolution 21-34 and Zoning Bylaw 21-874. She reviewed the details of each Legislation for Action item. She stated that the townspeople would like to know the cost of the study indicated in Resolution 21-34 and the qualifications of those on the MAPC to do this. She discussed that Zoning Bylaw 21-874 was about downtown parking and parking spots; it was unanimously passed by the Town Council. It was the deal to reduce the downtown parking spots from 1.5 to .5 spots. She asked why the Town Council is doing this when it was just previously voted to have a study. She pointed out that Mr. Hellen stated that there would need to be some auxiliary parking place for cars. Ms. Maciel said that Mr. Hellen stated that part of the argument is that the downtown is supposed to be a transit-oriented world where there are no cars. The residents would be commuters and take public transportation. As such, most of the units would not have a car or parking spots. Ms. Maciel stated that due to COVID, more people are working from home and not taking public transportation. She stated that Mr. Hellen is employed by Franklin, not the North End of Boston or Somerville. She stated that we do not want to live in those places. She stated that the Town Council just approved the money for the study, so why did they just refer the item to the Planning Board. She requested that when the Comprehensive Downtown Zoning Analysis study is complete, make the public aware of it, post the complete report for all to read, and possibly have an informal meeting for the public to ask questions. She stated that it should not be assumed that everyone reads the Milford Daily News. She discussed her ideas for more parking in downtown: divide the Davis Thayer School into two parcels. Make one parcel into housing and one into a parking garage where the

Town gets a percentage of the parking fees. ► Ms. Diana Bardsley, 31 Alpine Place, stated that she is sad that there are blurred lines between personal opinions and professional public opinions. She stated that she thinks that is what has happened here. She stated that all voices should be honored and heard. She is very happy that people go to the Town Common for all kinds of things. But, when the lines are blurred between the public and personal opinions by Town officials, it is a concern. She stated that she supports what Ms. Jane Callaway-Tripp said.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** ► *August 18, 2021.* ► **MOTION** to Approve the August 18, 2021 meeting minutes by **Dellorco**. **SECOND** by **Bissanti**. **No discussion.** ► **VOTE: Yes-8, No-0, Absent-0.**

**PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS: Police Department.** ► **Sergeant Lee Drake - Retirement.**

► Police Chief Thomas Lynch reviewed Sergeant Lee Drake's background and career. He wished Sergeant Drake the best in his retirement. He gave Sergeant Drake a plaque of appreciation and a flag box with an inscription of thanks. ► Representative Jeff Roy read aloud a resolution from the House of Representatives and a proclamation from the Massachusetts Senate commending Sergeant Drake. He also read aloud citations from the Senate offering congratulations and recognition of Sergeant Drake's 25 years of dedicated service. He congratulated and thanked Sergeant Drake for his years of service. ► Chair Mercer read aloud a proclamation from the Town Council honoring and commending Sergeant Drake on the occasion of his retirement. ► Sergeant Drake thanked everyone for their kind words. He stated that it was a great 25 years. He stated that the Franklin Police Department was great to work with. He thanked his wife and family for their support.

► **Sergeant Louis Marguerite - Promotion.** ► Chief Lynch introduced Sergeant Louis Marguerite and reviewed his background and education. ► Acting Town Clerk Nancy Danello performed the swearing in. ► Sergeant Marguerite's father performed the pinning; his mother, wife, and son were present for the ceremony.

*Chair Mercer declared a two-minute recess.*

**APPOINTMENTS:** ► **Janice Prentice - Associate member, Historical Commission.** ► Councilor Jones read the appointment. ► **MOTION** to Ratify the appointment by the Town Administrator of Janice K. Prentice to serve as an Associate Member of the Historical Commission, with a term to expire on June 30, 2022, by **Jones**. **SECOND** by **Dellorco**. **Discussion:** ► Mr. Hellen stated that Ms. Prentice is excited to continue to volunteer as she has done for many years. ► **VOTE: Yes-8, No-0, Absent-0.** ► **Chuna Keophannga - Finance Committee.** ► Councilor Jones read the appointment. ► **MOTION** to Ratify the appointment by the Town Administrator of Chuna Keophannga to serve as a member of the Finance Committee, with a term to expire on June 30, 2024, by **Jones**. **SECOND** by **Dellorco**. **Discussion:** ► Mr. Hellen stated that the final two appointments on tonight's agenda are for the Finance Committee. He stated that both candidates were reviewed by the chair, vice chair, and former member Susan Dewsnap. These appointments have been approved by the Finance Committee. He reviewed Ms. Keophannga's background. ► Councilor Frongillo requested the appointees provide information on their interest in joining the committee. ► Ms. Keophannga discussed her interest in the Finance Committee, noted her interest in public finance, and noted roles she has held during her career. ► **VOTE: Yes-8, No-0, Absent-0.** ► **Tyrel Hansen - Finance Committee.** ► Councilor Jones read the appointment. ► **MOTION** to Ratify the appointment by the Town Administrator of Tyrel Hansen to serve as a member of the Finance Committee, with a term to expire on June 30, 2023, by **Jones**. **SECOND** by **Hamblen**. **Discussion:** ► Mr. Hellen stated that Mr. Hansen was unable to attend tonight's meeting due to a family issue. He reviewed Mr. Hansen's background and education. In response to a request by Councilor Frongillo, Mr. Hellen reviewed the process for making the committee member selections. ► **VOTE: Yes-8, No-0, Absent-0.**

**HEARINGS: None.**

**LICENSE TRANSACTIONS:** ► *Franklin Shed, LLC d/b/a Franklin Shed, New Section 12 Restaurant, All Alcoholic Beverages, and approval of manager, located at 340 East Central Street, Franklin, MA.*

► Councilor Jones read the license transaction. ► **MOTION to Approve** the request by Franklin Shed, LLC d/b/a Franklin Shed, for a New Section 12 Restaurant All Alcoholic Beverages License and to approve Gregory A. Barker as the manager by **Jones. SECOND** by **Hamblen. Discussion:** ► Mr. Hellen noted that this is one of the new restaurants that will be located across from the municipal building. A Mediterranean restaurant will be coming before the Town Council in the future for the same area. He noted that a Starbucks and hair, beauty, and nail salon business also will be going in across the street. He noted that although it states that the Fire Department has not signed off on this application, there is no reason it would not get approved. He thanked all those involved in this development. ► Mr. Richard Cornetta, attorney representing the applicant, introduced the members of Franklin Shed: Greg Barker, Mike Barker, and Mark Griffin. He noted that they are also seeking approval from the Town Council to pledge the license to Dean Cooperative Bank who is the anticipated lender; this information is all contained in the provided materials. ► Mr. Hellen stated that there should be two separate roll call votes for this item; the pledge is technically a different application. ► Mr. Dellorco noted that the applicants are local citizens. ► Ms. Hamblen asked about the menu and if they would have outdoor space. ► Applicant stated that there would be outdoor space, and it would be an upscale pub style. ► Councilor Chandler stated that he is glad they are local. ► Councilor Bissanti confirmed all employees serving alcohol will be TIPS certified. ► Councilor Jones stated that he looks forward to the opening. ► **ROLL CALL VOTE (on the pledge and the license): Bissanti-YES; Chandler-YES; Dellorco-YES; Frongillo-YES; Hamblen-YES; Jones-YES; Mercer-YES; Pellegrini-YES.** ► **VOTE: Yes-8, No-0, Absent-0.** ► **ROLL CALL VOTE (on the license transaction): Bissanti-YES; Chandler-YES; Dellorco-YES; Frongillo-YES; Hamblen-YES; Jones-YES; Mercer-YES; Pellegrini-YES.** ► **VOTE: Yes-8, No-0, Absent-0.**

**PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSIONS:** ► *SAFE Coalition, Jennifer Knight-Levine, Executive Director.*

► Ms. Knight-Levine narrated a slideshow presentation on the SAFE Coalition and discussed how the Town of Franklin has been a partner. She stated that the SAFE Coalition was established in 2015. She noted their logo has changed. She discussed that SAFE is a judgment-free community organization relentlessly committed to educating and supporting those affected by substance use disorder across southeastern Massachusetts. She reviewed SAFE's values, vision, and mission. She discussed their milestones including their first community-wide meeting in 2015, formation as a 501(c) 3 non-profit organization in 2016, office space obtained in 2019, and current staffing in 2021. She discussed team members and noted co-founder James Derick. She discussed programs including adolescent wellness, family recovery, and collaborative care. She discussed their process which includes initial interaction, connection, and follow up. She reviewed SAFE's partnerships and professional relationships. She discussed FY20-21 Town of Franklin funding and how those funds were utilized including grief support, peer-to-peer support, grandparents raising children, and vaping cessation. She highlighted SAFE'S partnerships with Franklin's Police Department and Fire Department. She discussed that the police chief has been a great partner in recognizing the importance of mental health and substance abuse concerns. She discussed that at the end of the last school year, there were many students who were possibly going to be suspended. They went through the vaping program. The consistent message heard was adolescents were buying substances through dealers in the community. She discussed the missing child information packet provided to the Town Council members. Each adolescent that comes through their program is asked to fill out the packet. SAFE wants to provide as much education as possible to adolescents. She discussed how much more potent and powerful today's vaping cartridges are than marijuana joints used in the 1990s. She stated that conversations about risk and safety need to be had with adolescents as they are being addicted to these substances. She thanked the Town Council for their

provided funding. ► Town Council members provided comments and thanked Ms. Knight-Levine for her presentation and the work the SAFE Coalition does. ► Councilor Chandler noted that Franklin has approved three marijuana grow facilities and a store coming shortly. He asked how much tax money is the Town getting from those facilities and how much is approved to go to the SAFE Coalition. ► Mr. Hellen stated that currently there is \$300,000 that comes to the Town in the form of host community agreement money: \$25,000 goes to the SAFE Coalition, and \$275,000 goes to the Grove Street repair project/traffic light. He stated that he has spoken to Representative Jeff Roy and Ms. Knight-Levine. He stated that his guess is that as future monies come in, there will be future appropriations going to SAFE. He noted that there are limitations as to what can be done with host community agreement money. ► Councilor Dellorco thanked all Town Council members for being in support of the SAFE Coalition and all those who work with and provide support to the SAFE Coalition including Wrentham District Court and the police and fire departments.

► ***DelCarte Conservation Area Weed Remediation, Jennifer Delmore, Conservation Agent.*** ► Mr. Hellen noted that he has not received any complaints regarding the Conservation Department since Ms. Delmore was hired. He noted Conservation Commission members speak highly of Ms. Delmore. ► Ms. Delmore narrated a slideshow a presentation, which was provide in the meeting packet, on the DelCarte property invasive species removal update. She provided background on the project. She discussed that in 2015 the Town contracted with ESS Group to develop an ecological and management study of the DelCarte ponds. The study contained several recommendations including ways to control two invasive species in the ponds which are water chestnut and variable milfoil. She stated that Solitude Lake Management has been doing the chemical treatments with the goal of eradicating the two invasive species. They are currently on the fifth year of treatments. She explained what the contract for these services includes. She discussed the reasons why these treatments are important to control the invasive species including that the invasives limit oxygen levels in the ponds leading to fish kills, limit native vegetation growth, and impair boating and swimming. Clearcast chemical along with Flumioxazin have been used for water chestnut treatment, and Diquat has been used for variable milfoil. She reviewed photographs of the water chestnut comparison from June 2018 and June 2019. She discussed that the average annual cost for treatments for the five years is \$26,930 with a total cost to date of \$134,650. She highlighted excerpts from the 2020 year-end report prepared by ESS Group including that water chestnut cover in DelCarte ponds decreased from 21.4 acres in September 2017 to 15.5 acres in September 2020. She stated that according to discussions with Solitude Lake Management, milfoil treatments have been successful, and the plant was not observed growing in DelCarte ponds in 2020. She stated that she thinks to stop treatment now would not be a good idea. ► Town Council members thanked Ms. Delmore for her presentation. ► Ms. Hamblen asked about how to make sure the invasive species do not get reintroduced to the pond once they are eliminated. ► Ms. Delmore stated that it is important to stay on top of it; if it were to be seen coming back, someone should be hired to possibly hand pull it out before it becomes a bigger problem. She suggested that signage be installed indicating that boats should be properly washed before being put in the pond to reduce spreading of the invasive species. Possible education signage on the two invasive species should be installed. ► Councilor Jones asked about swimming in DelCarte ponds. ► Ms. Delmore stated that she would have to confirm with Solitude Lake Management about the chemicals/toxicity levels and swimming in DelCarte ponds. ► Councilor Bissanti asked about the invasive species. He questioned that there is no fishing in DelCarte. He asked about carp in the ponds. ► Ms. Delmore stated that the invasive species were non-native. She stated that dissolved oxygen is monitored each year; it has not dropped so low as to create a fish kill. There is long-term plan to add fish to the pond when the invasive species will allow their survival. She noted that she does not have information to respond to the carp question. ► Mr. Hellen stated that there are invasive fish in the ponds. He stated that the project was to get rid of the invasive weed species, maintain it for a while, determine if the community wants to go through a program to get rid of the invasive carp fish, and then bring DelCarte recreation back to a pure state as it was before the invasive species came along. ► In response to questions, Ms. Delmore noted a beaver problem

downstream. She discussed that the only non-chemical way to remove the invasives is to dredge the pond or hand pull; she is not sure of the costs for these methods.

#### **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- a. **Capital Budget Subcommittee.** ► None.
- b. **Budget Subcommittee.** ► None.
- c. **Economic Development Subcommittee.** ► Ms. Hamblen stated that they met tonight and had a conversation about Town branding and way-finding signs. The next meeting is October 20<sup>th</sup> prior to the Town Council meeting to talk more in depth about Town branding.

#### **LEGISLATION FOR ACTION:**

**Note:** Two-Thirds Vote requires six votes; Majority Vote requires majority of members present and voting.

- a. **Resolution 21-53: Gift Acceptance, Franklin Public Library \$5,890, Veterans' Service Department \$300, Fire Department \$200 (Motion to Approve Resolution 21-53 - Majority Vote).** ► Councilor Jones read the resolution. ► **MOTION to Approve** Resolution 21-53: Gift Acceptance, Franklin Public Library \$5,890, Veterans' Service Department \$300, Fire Department \$200 by **Dellorco. SECOND** by **Hamblen. Discussion:** ► Mr. Hellen thanked the donators for their generosity. ► **VOTE: Yes-8, No-0, Absent-0.**
  
- b. **Bylaw Amendment 21-875: Chapter 82, Trash and Recycling Fee Increase - Second Reading (Motion to Adopt Bylaw Amendment 21-875 - Majority Roll Call Vote).** ► Councilor Jones read the bylaw amendment. ► **MOTION to Adopt** Bylaw Amendment 21-875: Chapter 82, Trash and Recycling Fee Increase by **Dellorco. SECOND** by **Hamblen. Discussion:** ► Mr. Hellen reviewed that this is the second reading for the fee increase. This will increase the fee \$2 additional per quarter. He noted that in looking at the curbside trash fee history, it cost \$300 in 2005. He stated that the staff has done a great job with the program. ► Ms. Pellegrini confirmed the fee using 35-gallon trash and recycling carts will remain the same at \$212. ► Mr. Bissanti stated that he did not have an issue with the \$8; however, he does have an issue with what has been trending in Franklin with the increase in taxes, fees, and stormwater. Nothing is going down; it keeps going up. He noted the arrogance with some people who say they do not care about taxes; they just want Franklin to be the best it can be. He stated that he wants Franklin to be the best it can be, but there are people struggling out there. ► Councilor Chandler discussed the number of superintendents and assistant superintendents in the DPW; he stated the memo on the FY21 solid waste costs came from the Environmental Affairs Superintendent. He asked where this person came from as he could not find it in the budget. ► Mr. Hellen stated that it is in the budget in the stormwater division that they created. He noted that there is no stormwater fee in the Town at this time. ► Ms. Theresa Shea, resident, addressed a comment made by Mr. Hellen about the trash fee. She stated that she agrees with everyone that it is only \$8 more for the trash fee. She stated that she went to Mr. Hellen's office 1.5 years ago, and she told him that she knew the trash fee was going to be increased and water and sewer bills were going to be going up. She explained that she was the person who went before the Town Council years ago to request they look into this fee. At that time, the trash fee was over \$300. She stated that it is not an accurate picture when Mr. Hellen referenced that in 2005 the trash fee was \$300 and therefore, they have done a great job of keeping the fees down. The accurate picture was that the residents were paying \$300 and the staff did their job, investigated, and found out that the Town did not have a designated trash account. The money going into the account was being used for other things besides trash. So, they got the Town to create a designated account just for trash which is why the rate came down. She stated that as well, Mr. Hellen did not indicate that Ms. Shea went to his office 1.5 years ago regarding the upcoming trash fee increase as she wanted to help residents not have to deal with the fee increase. She stated that Mr. Hellen told her that she may want to help the people in the Town, but it is

not her Town, it is his Town. She stated that the residents now have to pay the \$8 increase because the Town Administrator did not want her help to help the residents. She stated that \$8 is a lot for some residents; however, Mr. Hellen could not have cared less. ► **ROLL CALL VOTE: Bissanti-YES; Chandler-YES; Dellorco-YES; Frongillo-YES; Hamblen-YES; Jones-YES; Mercer-YES; Pellegrini-YES. ► VOTE: Yes-8, No-0, Absent-0.**

**TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:** ► None.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:** ► Councilor Pellegrini asked about the Davis Thayer School and if there will be an open house. ► Mr. Hellen stated that it is anticipated that at the October 6<sup>th</sup> Town Council meeting the School Committee will be present to go through a few presentations and the Davis Thayer School be one of the topics. He stated that there will be an open house. ► Councilor Jones stated that during the Cultural Festival people asked him about adding bike racks to the Town Common. ► Chair Mercer stated that could be put on a future agenda.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS:** ► Councilor Chandler thanked all the people watching at home and all those who participated in the meeting. He discussed that there were people at the post office handing out literature; they have the right to do that. ► Councilor Hamblen thanked tonight's presenters, all those who attended the zucchini races, and the Franklin Cultural Council for the wonderful festival. She noted that the Harvest Festival is scheduled for October 2<sup>nd</sup> from 12 to 5 PM. ► Councilor Frongillo noted that bike racks on the Town Common is already on a future agenda; a complete streets policy has already been passed. The next step is to put together a list of priority projects. He stated that there will be a meeting on September 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6 PM at the Council chambers on complete streets. He stated that he will be at the Farmers' Market to talk with citizens. He stated that the Cultural Festival was fantastic. He requested Mr. Hellen provide the cost of the downtown zoning study and explain what is MAPC. ► Mr. Hellen stated that the study was something discussed at past Town Council meetings. There was an appropriation in June for \$95,000. This is the first time the Town has done a comprehensive zoning analysis for downtown in 20 years; it was last done in 2003. MAPC is a quasi-state agency; it is a group that does a great job and has highly educated people. They are a credible organization. He stated that MAPC will have a booth at the Harvest Festival. He stated that he thinks the study will provide some good recommendations for the downtown revitalization effort. ► Councilor Bissanti noted the pancake breakfast at the Rod & Gun Club. He stated that some of the proceeds went to Mission 22, a group dedicated the healing American's veterans and recognizes veteran suicide. ► Councilor Jones welcomed Ms. Nisbett as the new Veterans' Services Officer. He discussed that people are interested in what will be done with the Davis Thayer School; it is not known at this time. He stated that the Cultural Festival had a great turnout. ► Councilor Dellorco agreed that the Cultural Festival was great. He stated that the Historical Museum had a great presentation on 9/11; he recommended people watch it on cable TV. ► Chair Mercer stated that he is happy the police and fire chiefs come in to Town Council meetings to recognize promotions and retirements. He welcomed the new board/committee appointees and the new veterans' services officer. He thanked tonight's presenters for their presentations.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** None.

**ADJOURN:** ► **MOTION to Adjourn by Dellorco. SECOND by Jones. No Discussion. ► VOTE: Yes-8, No-0, Absent-0.**

**Meeting adjourned at 9:45 PM.**

Respectfully submitted,



# Town of Franklin

355 East Central Street  
Franklin, Massachusetts 02038-1352



Phone: (508) 520-4949  
[www.franklinma.gov](http://www.franklinma.gov)

OFFICE OF THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

October 1, 2021

**To:** Town Council  
**From:** Jamie Hellen, Town Administrator  
Alecia Alleyne, Assistant to the Town Administrator

**RE: Appointments**

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We are recommending the appointment of the following individuals to their respective board/committee:

- Susan Younis as a Member of the Municipal Affordable Housing Trust with a term to expire on June 30, 2022.
- Candice Narsasian as a Member of the Cultural District Committee with a three year term to expire on June 30, 2024.

We have included their respective volunteer forms attached with separate resolutions for each appointment.

Please let us know if you have any questions.



## Town of Franklin MA

355 East Central Street

Franklin, MA 02038

Phone: 508-520-4949

### Volunteer Form

*Good Government Starts with You!*

**Date Submitted:** January 11, 2021

**Name:** Susan L Younis

**Home Address:** 47 Stone Ridge Road  
Franklin

**Mailing Address:** 47 Stone Ridge Road  
Franklin

**Phone Number(s):** [REDACTED]

**Email Address:** [REDACTED]

**Current Occupation/Employer:** AVP/MPF Asst. Program Manager

**Narrative:** I have spent the last 9 years working at an organization that by charter is required to fund, participate, and support affordable housing initiatives through community partnerships. This requires economic development strategies, health and wellness programs, family support initiatives, preservation of properties and community outreach and education. I believe this experience, coupled with over 30 years of mortgage lending would be an asset to this committee. I have been a Franklin resident 20+ years and most notably, a long time employee of the former Benjamin Franklin Bank.

**Board(s) / Committee(s):** \_\_\_ COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE



# APPOINTMENTS

## Municipal Affordable Housing Trust (MAHT)

**Susan L. Younis**  
47 Stone Ridge Road  
Franklin, MA 02038

The Municipal Affordable Housing Trust has recommended the appointment of Susan L. Younis to serve as a Member of the Municipal Affordable Housing Trust with a term to expire on June 30, 2022.

**MOTION** to ratify the appointment by the Town Administrator of Susan L. Younis to serve as a Member of the Municipal Affordable Housing Trust.

---

**DATED:** \_\_\_\_\_, 2021

**VOTED:**

**UNANIMOUS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**YES:** \_\_\_\_\_ **NO:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ABSTAIN:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ABSENT:** \_\_\_\_\_

**A True Record Attest:**

**Nancy Danello, CMC**  
**Temporary Town Clerk**

---

**Glenn Jones, Clerk**  
**Franklin Town Council**



## Town of Franklin MA

355 East Central Street

Franklin, MA 02038

Phone: 508-520-4949

### Volunteer Form

*Good Government Starts with You!*

**Date Submitted:** September 2, 2021

**Name:** Candice Narsasian

**Home Address:** 7 Wampanoag Dr.  
FRANKLIN, MA 02038

**Mailing Address:** 7 Wampanoag Dr.  
FRANKLIN, MA 02038

**Phone Number(s):** [REDACTED]

**Email Address:** [REDACTED]

**Current Occupation/Employer:** Cardinal Health

**Narrative:** - Available after 6:30pm M-F

- Experienced in managing projects, creating timelines and facilitating meetings.

- Experienced in food and beverage industry (this could be valuable to local businesses that are launching their own labeled foods).

**Board(s) / Committee(s):** \_\_\_ CULTURAL DISTRICT COMMITTEE



# APPOINTMENTS

## Municipal Affordable Housing Trust

**Candice Narsasian**

7 Wampanoag Drive

Franklin, MA 02038

The Cultural District Committee has recommended the appointment of Candice Narsasian to serve as a Member of the Cultural District Committee with a three year term to expire on June 30, 2024.

**MOTION** to ratify the appointment by the Town Administrator of Candice Narsasian to serve as a Member of the Cultural District Committee.

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**DATED:** \_\_\_\_\_, 2021

**VOTED:**

**UNANIMOUS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**YES:** \_\_\_\_\_ **NO:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ABSTAIN:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ABSENT:** \_\_\_\_\_

**A True Record Attest:**

**Nancy Danello, CMC**  
**Temporary Town Clerk**

---

**Glenn Jones, Clerk**  
**Franklin Town Council**

# Town of Franklin

355 East Central Street  
Franklin, Massachusetts 02038-1352



Phone: (508) 520-4949  
[www.franklinma.gov](http://www.franklinma.gov)

OFFICE OF THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

October 1, 2021

**To:** Town Council  
**From:** Jamie Hellen, Town Administrator  
Alecia Alleyne, Assistant to the Town Administrator  
**RE: Appointments - Franklin TV Board of Directors**

---

William K. Norman and Anne Bergen were both recommended by Franklin TV to continue their service on the Franklin TV Board of Directors. Mr. Norman and Ms. Bergen have been dedicated members of the Franklin TV Board and community for many years and wish to continue. The vote before the Council tonight would be to appoint Mr. Norman and Ms. Bergen.

- According to the Franklin TV Charter their Board of Directors should have a minimum of seven (7) members and cannot have greater than seven (7) members without amending their access agreement. After the selection of the initial directors by the incorporators, subsequent directors shall also include directors selected as follows:
  - Two (2) Directors shall be appointed by the Town Administrator, subject to confirmation by the Town Council
  - One (1) Director shall be selected by the Franklin School Committee.
- The current makeup of the Franklin TV Board of Directors is as follows:
  - William K. Norman - President (appointed)
  - Jay Horrigan - Vice President
  - Wes Rea - Treasurer
  - John Milot - Secretary/Clerk
  - Anne Bergen - Member (appointed)
  - Rose Turco - Member (appointed by School Committee)
  - Pandora Carlucci - Member
- Terms are for 3 years on a staggered schedule. Board members not appointed are elected by the public at an annual open board meeting. There is then a follow-up meeting to validate the Officers.

Attached are separate resolutions for each appointment.

Please let us know if you have any questions.



# APPOINTMENTS

## Franklin TV Board of Directors

**Anne Bergen**  
16 Peters Lane  
Franklin, MA 02038

The Franklin TV Board of Directors has recommended the appointment of Anne Bergen to serve as a Member of the Franklin TV Board of Directors with a three year term to expire on June 30, 2024.

**MOTION** to ratify the appointment by the Town Administrator of Anne Bergen to serve as a Member of the Franklin TV Board of Directors.

---

**DATED:** \_\_\_\_\_, 2021

**VOTED:**

**UNANIMOUS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**YES:** \_\_\_\_\_ **NO:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ABSTAIN:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ABSENT:** \_\_\_\_\_

**A True Record Attest:**

**Nancy Danello, CMC**  
**Temporary Town Clerk**

---

**Glenn Jones, Clerk**  
**Franklin Town Council**



# APPOINTMENTS

## Franklin TV Board of Directors

**William K. Norman**

18 Daniels Street

Franklin, MA 02038

The Franklin TV Board of Directors has recommended the appointment of William K. Norman to serve as a Member of the Franklin TV Board of Directors with a three year term to expire on June 30, 2024.

**MOTION** to ratify the appointment by the Town Administrator of William K. Norman to serve as a Member of the Franklin TV Board of Directors.

---

**DATED:** \_\_\_\_\_, 2021

**VOTED:**

**UNANIMOUS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**YES:** \_\_\_\_\_ **NO:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ABSTAIN:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ABSENT:** \_\_\_\_\_

**A True Record Attest:**

**Nancy Danello, CMC**  
**Temporary Town Clerk**

---

**Glenn Jones, Clerk**  
**Franklin Town Council**





# Franklin Public Schools

## Update to Franklin Town Council

October 6, 2021



# Agenda for Tonight

- Enrollment/Staffing update
  - Pandemic Recovery
- Financial update
  - Ch 70/Net School Spending
  - Franklin Per Pupil Spending
  - COVID Relief funding
- School Facility Planning
  - Davis Thayer Closure
  - Master Facilities Plan







# Strategy for District Improvement 2018-2021

## **#1 Social-Emotional Well-being of Students and Staff**

To help students develop connections to school, support positive behaviors, and increase academic achievement, the Franklin Public Schools will enhance programs and practices, while promoting the well-being of staff, to enable each student to acquire the knowledge, attitudes, and skills associated with the core competencies for social-emotional learning.

## **#2 Engaging and Rigorous Curriculum**

To ensure that students are provided with rigorous learning opportunities that foster the development of the knowledge, skills, and dispositions they will need in their future college, career, and civic endeavors, the Franklin Public Schools will offer an engaging and rigorous curriculum that focuses on preparing students for a rapidly changing, technologically advanced, globally interdependent future.

## **#3 High-Quality Instruction to Meet the Academic and SEL Needs of Each Learner**

To ensure that each student is supported and challenged to reach their full potential, the Franklin Public Schools will align curriculum, instructional practices, and varied assessment opportunities to personalize learning and meet individual needs.

## **#4 Effective Two-Way Communication to Support Student Learning**

To ensure that all stakeholders are engaged with the school community in support of student achievement, the Franklin Public Schools will enhance opportunities for two-way communication between and among all students, families, staff, administrators, and the community.



# Enrollment and Staffing



# 2021 Enrollment - Preliminary Information

School	2020-2021 Enrollment (10/1)	September 2021 Enrollment	McKibben Projection 2021-2022
Jefferson Elementary	329	333	315
Keller Elementary	540	545	537
Kennedy Elementary	330	340	309
Oak St. Elementary	367	371	382
Parmenter Elementary	310	301	352
Total Elementary	1876	1890	1895



# 2021 Enrollment - Preliminary Information

School	2020-2021 Enrollment (10/1)	September 2021 Enrollment	McKibben Projection 2021-2022
Annie Sullivan MS	349	329	338
Horace Mann MS	415	363	366
Remington MS	380	378	383
Total Middle School	1144	1070	1087



# 2021 Enrollment - Preliminary Information

School	2020-2021 Enrollment (10/1)	September 2021 Enrollment	McKibben Projection 2021-2022
ECDC	79	129	111*
Franklin High School	1739	1682	1682

\*placeholder based on historic trends and building capacity;  
difficult to project accurately



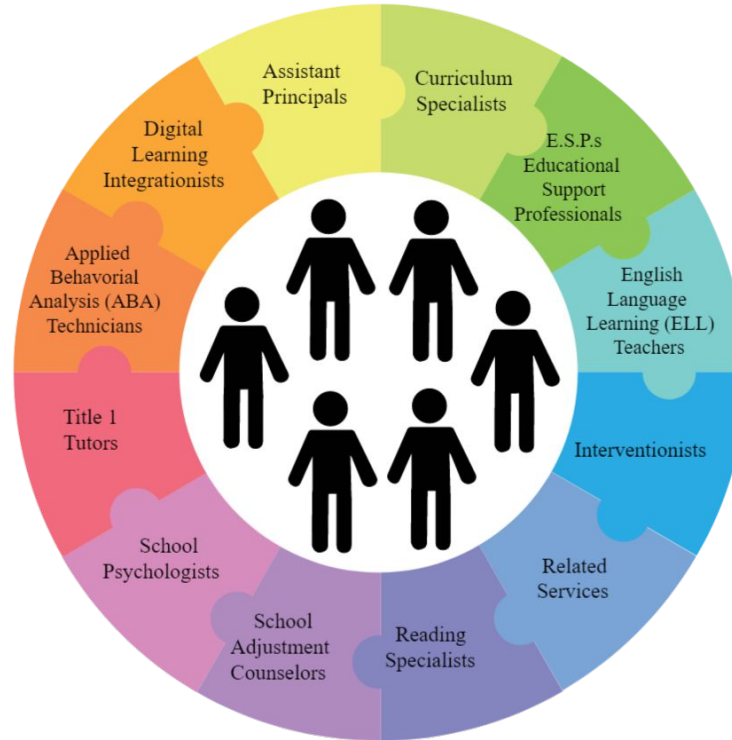


# 2021 Enrollment - Preliminary Information

School	2020-2021 Enrollment (10/1)	September 2021 Enrollment	McKibben Projection 2021-2022
Franklin Public Schools	4848	4771	4783



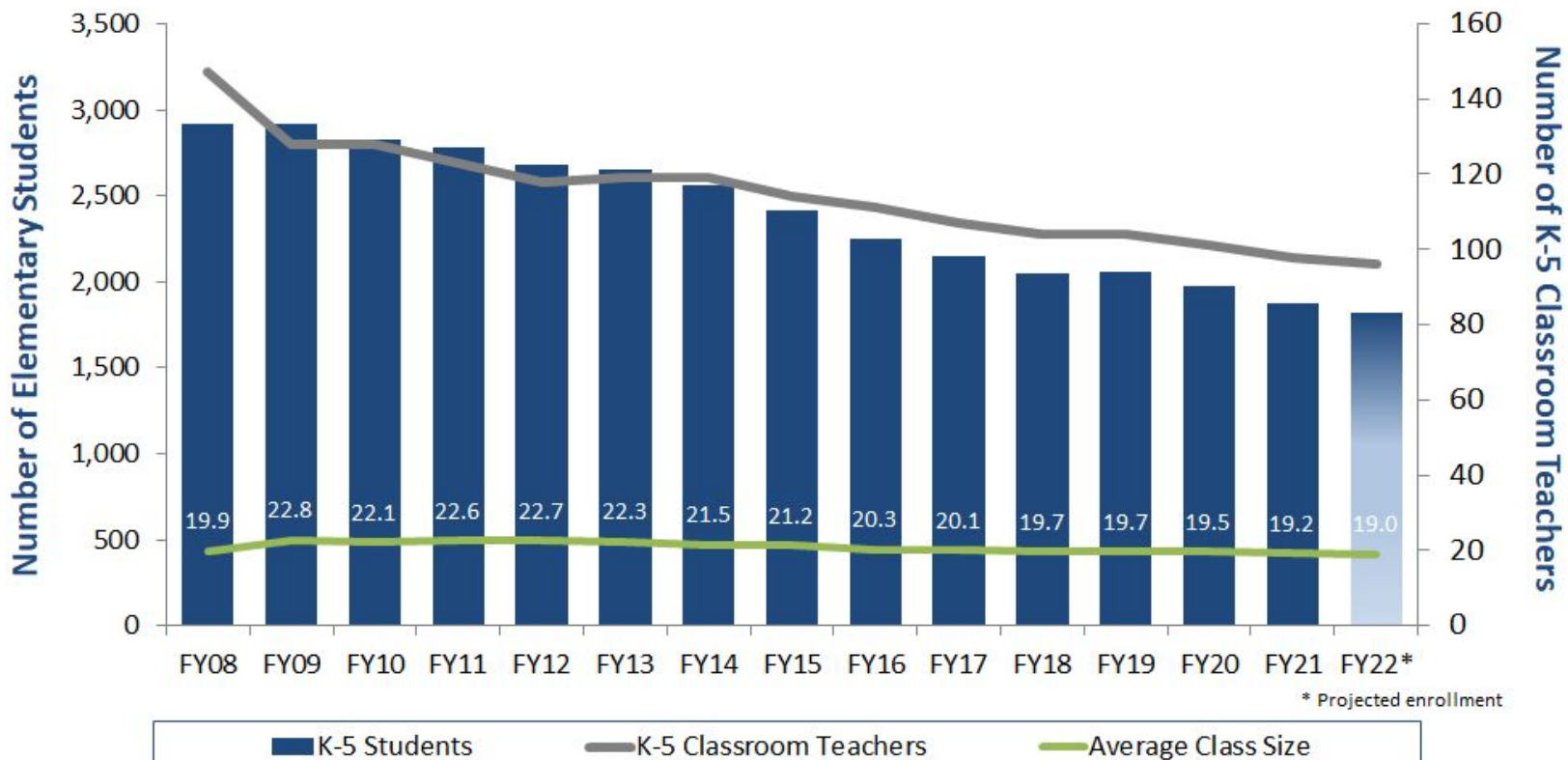
# Expanding Roles in Education



Staff headcount relatively stable in past several years as roles have evolved to accommodate expanded student needs.



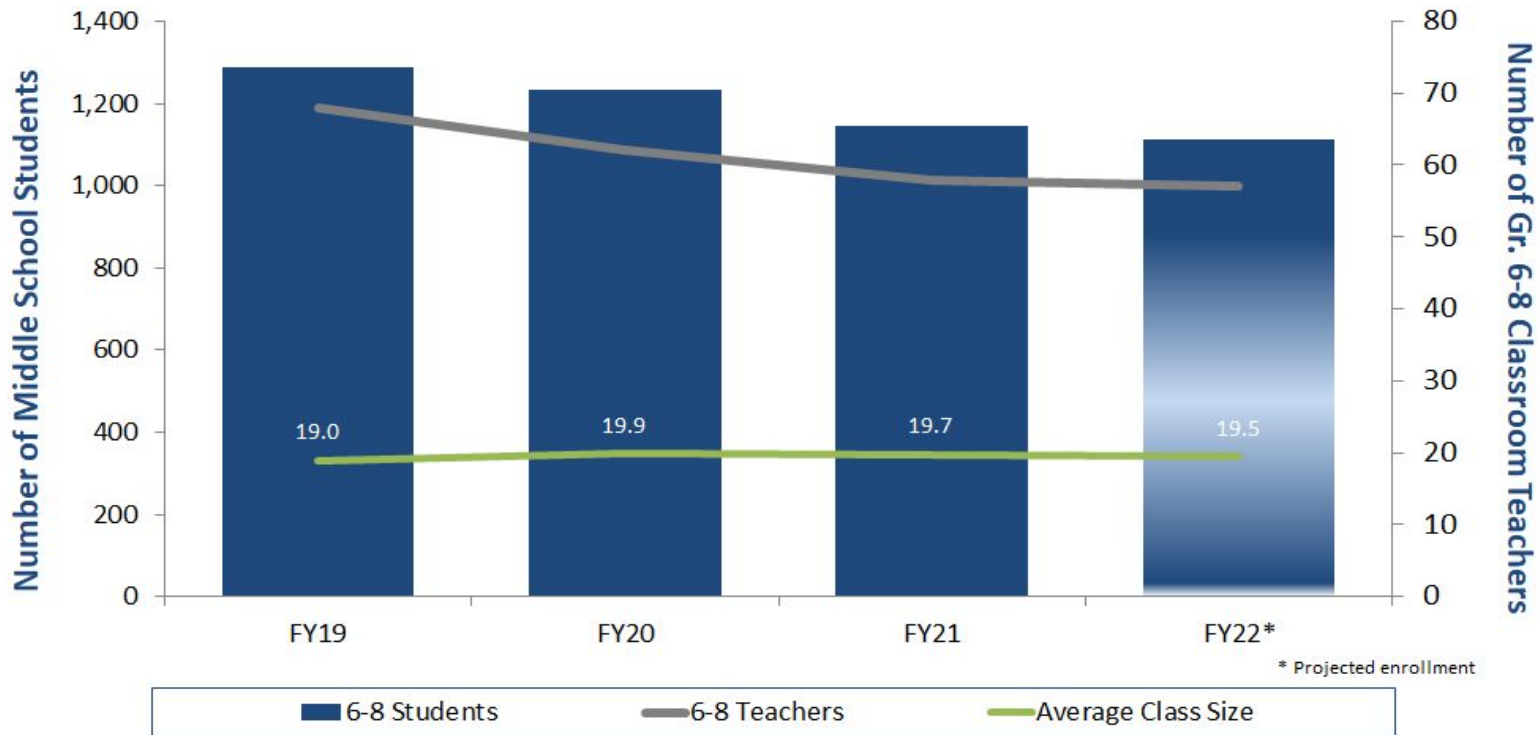
## Elementary Enrollment vs. Number of Elementary Classroom Teachers 2008-2022



\* Projected enrollment

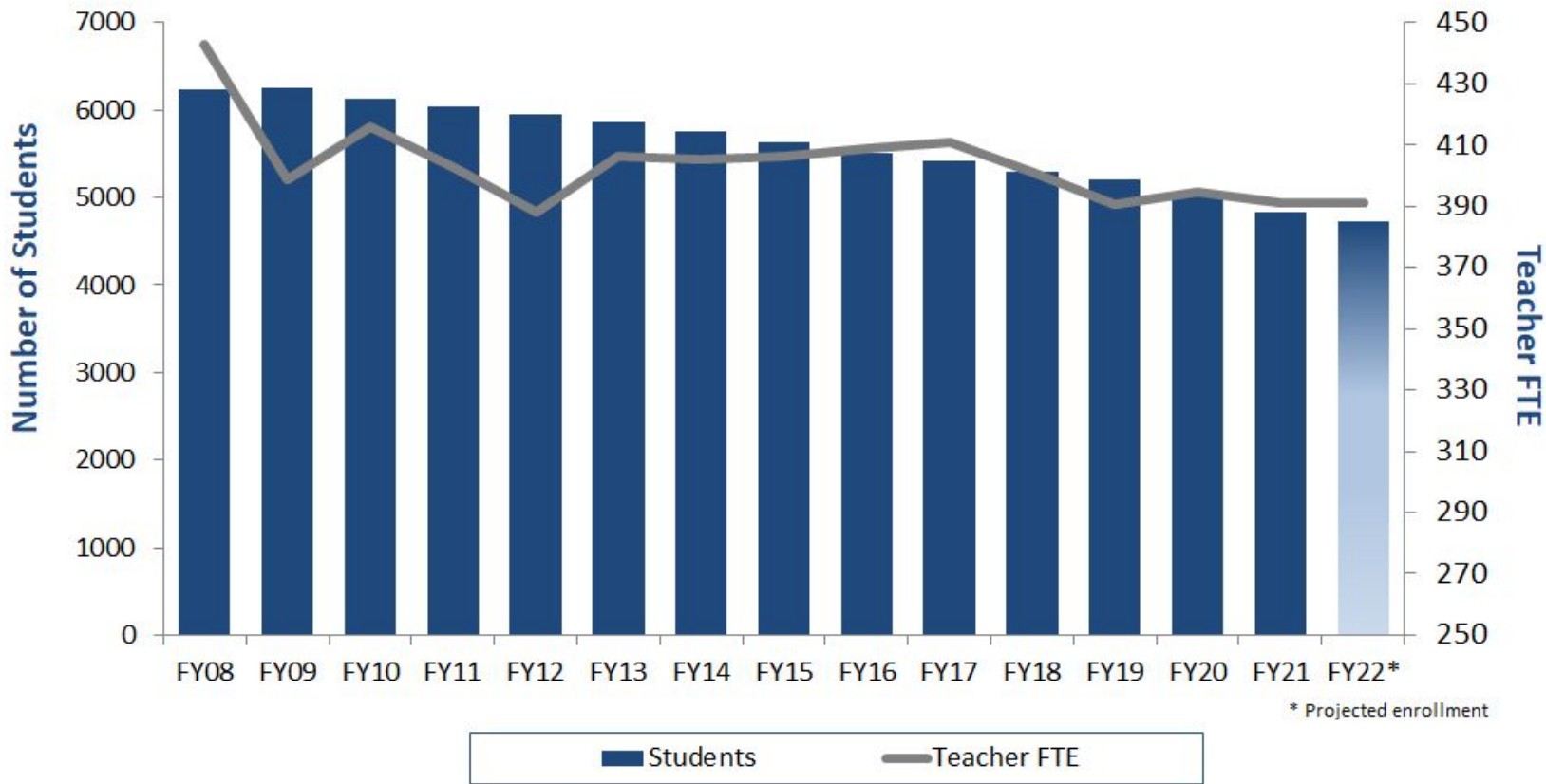


## Middle School Enrollment vs. Number of Gr. 6-8 Classroom Teachers 2019-2022





## Districtwide Enrollment vs. Teacher FTE 2004-2022





# Financial Update



# Chapter 70 Funding

A district's Chapter 70 aid is determined in three basic steps:

1. It defines and calculates a **foundation budget**, an adequate funding level for each district, given the specific grades, programs, and demographic characteristics of its students.
  - a. FY2022 foundation budget reflects **Student Opportunity Act**
2. It then determines an equitable **local contribution**, how much of that "foundation budget" should be paid for by each city and town's property tax, based upon the relative wealth of the community.
3. The remainder is funded by Chapter 70 **state aid**.



## Step 1 : Foundation Budget

The spending target imposed by the Education Reform Act of 1993 for each school district as the **minimum level necessary to provide an adequate education for all students**

### Key Factors

- Enrollment
- Wage Adjustment Factor
- Inflation

Reflects the **Student Opportunity Act** based on the recommendations of the Foundation Budget Review Committee

**Franklin FY22 per student      \$11,294**





## Step 2 : Local Required Contribution

**How much can Franklin afford** to pay towards the foundation budget?

### Key Factors

- Local effort from property wealth
- Local effort from income
- Municipal revenue growth factor



## Step 3 : Backfill with Chapter 70 Aid

### Foundation Aid Districts

Student Opportunity Act will provide additional funding for districts receiving foundation aid because base rates have increased

### Franklin is a Minimum Aid District

Student Opportunity Act impact to Franklin:

- Additional Circuit Breaker reimbursement for transportation
- Charter School reimbursement
- Increase to local required contribution

\$11.2 Million in Excess Base Aid (hold harmless)

- Franklin is second to Boston \$29M
- Some other districts with excess base aid: Weymouth \$10.8M - Billerica \$10.2M - Mansfield \$7.2M - Pentucket \$7.2M - Tewksbury \$7M

**Franklin will only receive minimum aid (\$30 per pupil) until the excess base is reduced**



# Franklin's Foundation Budget FY21 and FY22



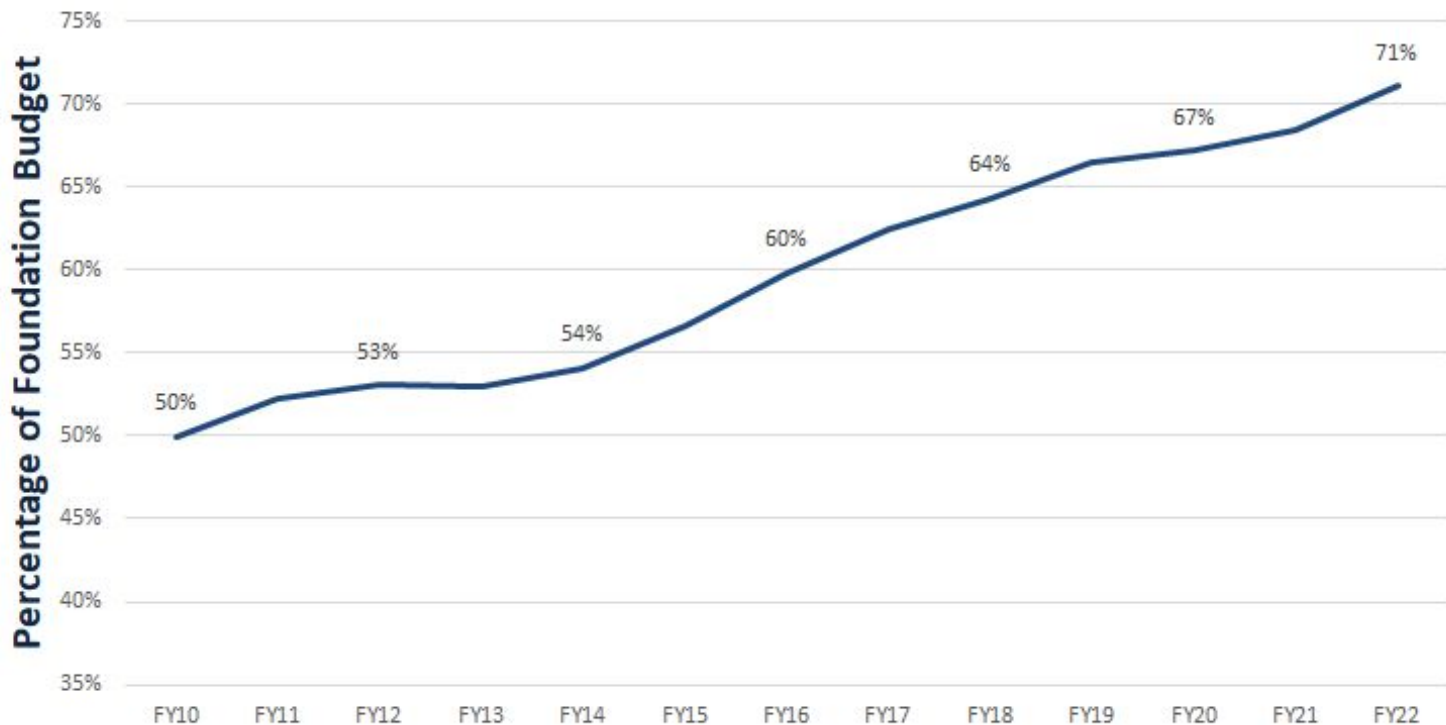
## Comparison to FY21

	FY21	FY22	Change	Pct Chg
Enrollment	5,511	5,292	-219	-3.97%
Foundation budget	60,169,866	59,769,256	-400,610	-0.67%
→ Required district contribution	41,152,523	42,443,297	1,290,774	3.14%
Chapter 70 aid	28,416,161	28,574,921	158,760	0.56%
Required net school spending (NSS)	69,568,684	71,018,218	1,449,534	2.08%



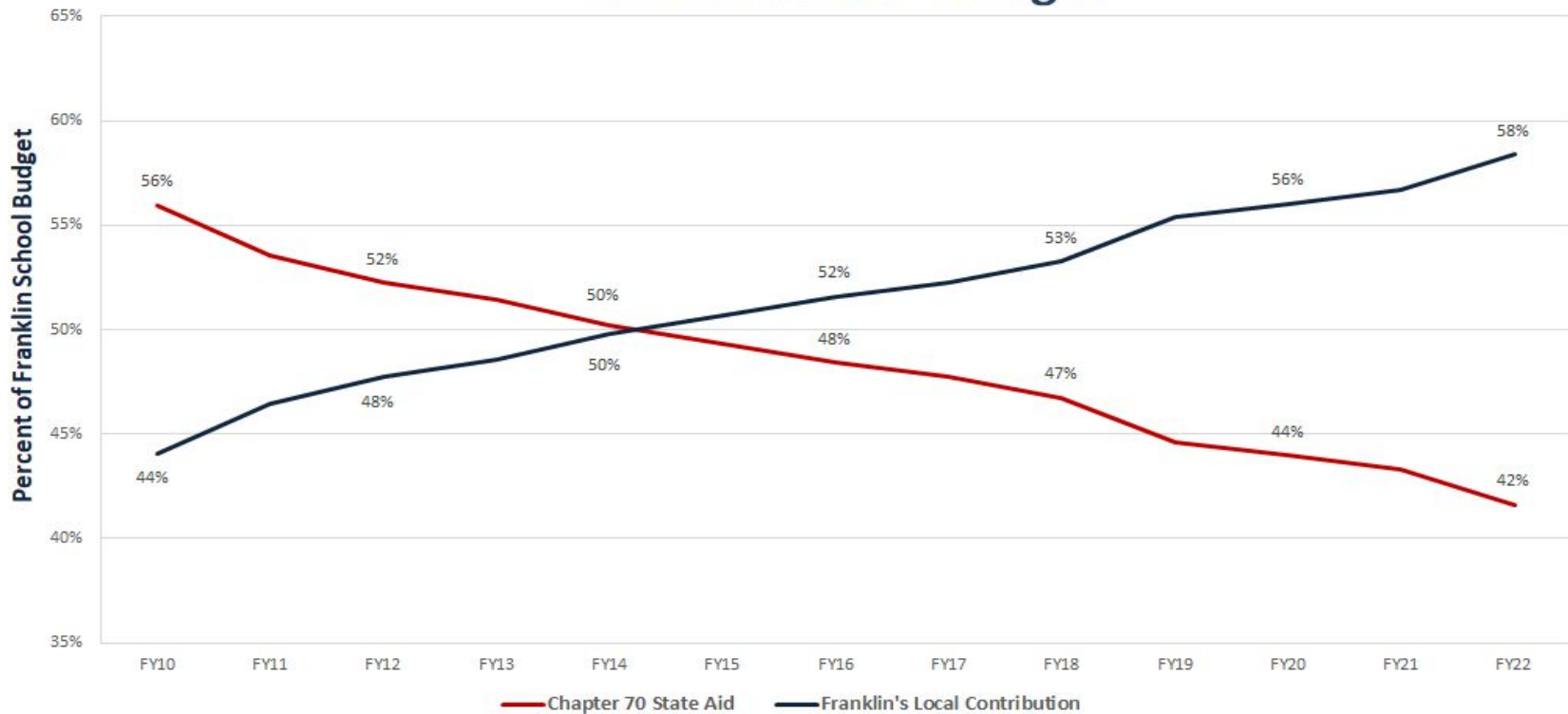


## Required Local Contribution as a Percentage of Foundation Budget





## Chapter 70 vs. Local Contribution as a Percent of Franklin School Budget





# Per Pupil Comparison to State Average

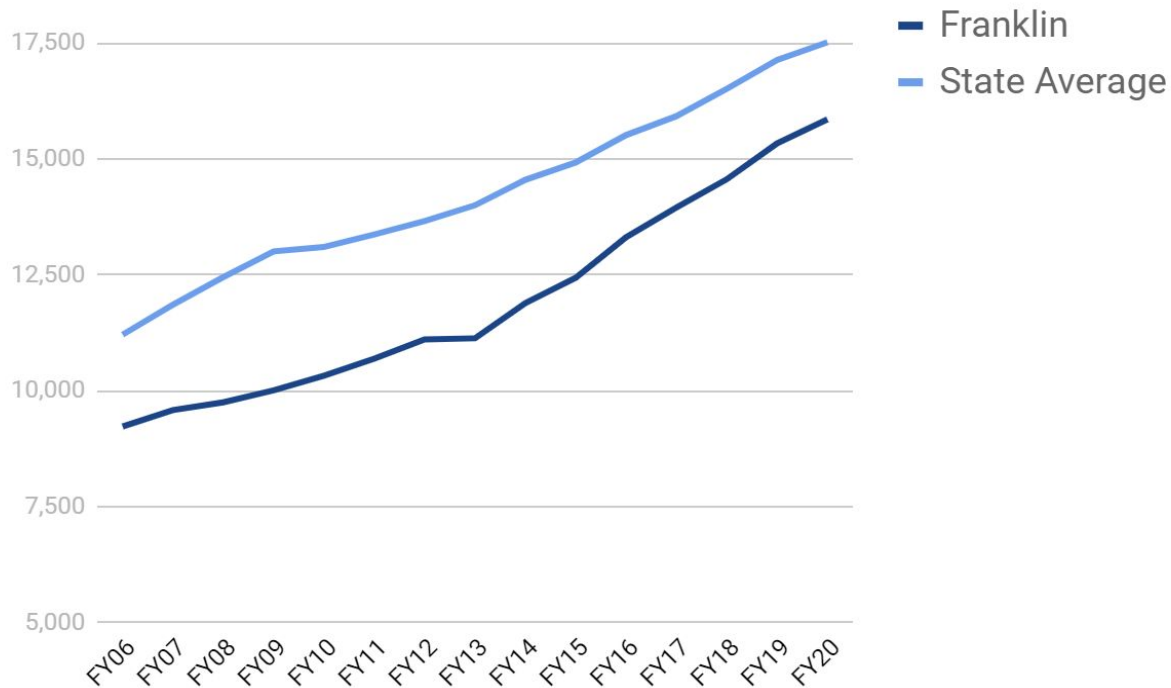
<b>2020</b> (updated June, 2021)	<b>Franklin</b>	<b>State Average</b>	<b>Percentage Differential</b>
In-District Per Pupil Expenditure	\$14,698	\$16,936	-13.22%
Total Per Pupil Expenditure	\$15,850	\$17,548	-9.67%

**Franklin ranks in the 25th percentile in per pupil spending throughout the state.**

75% of districts in Massachusetts spend more, per pupil, than Franklin.



# Per Pupil Comparison to State Average





# State Per-Pupil Spending from Highest to Lowest

Provincetown, Truro, Minuteman Regional Vocational Technical, Wellfleet, Marthas Vineyard, Erving, Rowe, Tisbury, Edgartown, Farmington River, Cape Cod Regional Vocational Technical, Up-Island, Cambridge, Eastham, Bristol County Agricultural, South Middlesex Regional Vocational Technical, Franklin County Regional Vocational Technical, Weston, Southern Berkshire, Orleans, Shawsheen Valley Regional Vocational Technical, Norfolk County Agricultural, Boston, Hancock, Amherst, Northeast Metropolitan Regional Vocational Technical, Florida, Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical, Blue Hills Regional Vocational Technical, Oak Bluffs, Lincoln, Northampton-Smith Vocational Agricultural, Upper Cape Cod Regional Vocational Technical, Nantucket, Berkshire Hills, Amherst-Pelham, Greater Lawrence Regional Vocational Technical, Conway, Old Colony Regional Vocational Technical, Berlin, Northern Berkshire Regional Vocational Technical, Hull, Nashoba Valley Regional Vocational Technical, Waltham, Brewster, South Shore Regional Vocational Technical, Concord-Carlisle, Watertown, Shutesbury, Dover-Sherborn, Whittier Regional Vocational Technical, Carlisle, Lincoln-Sudbury, Greater Lowell Regional Vocational Technical, Southeastern Regional Vocational Technical, Greater New Bedford Regional Vocational Technical, Nauset, Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical, Assabet Valley Regional Vocational Technical, Lenox, Burlington, Concord, New Salem-Wendell, Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical, Tri County Regional Vocational Technical, Leverett, Brookline, Greater Fall River Regional Vocational Technical, Salem, Wellesley, Wareham, Essex North Shore, Southern Worcester County Regional Vocational Technical, Dedham, Rockport, Somerville, Newton, Southborough, Mattapoisett, Pioneer Valley, Monomoy, Harvard, Lee, Chesterfield-Goshen, Boxford, Sherborn, Bristol-Plymouth Regional Vocational Technical, Maynard, Dover, Gill-Montague, Westwood, Wayland, Westhampton, Sandwich, Falmouth, Hampshire, North Adams, Framingham, Nahant, Masconomet, Richmond, Bedford, Mashpee, Manchester Essex, Gateway, Medford, Dennis-Yarmouth, Randolph, Williamstown, Middleton, Northborough, Needham, Plymouth, Hamilton-Wenham, Holyoke, Triton, Southbridge, Andover, Woburn, Ipswich, Foxborough, Lexington, Haverhill, Pelham, Wake, Northboro-Southboro, Monson, Newburyport, Mount Greylock, Barnstable, Nashoba, Plainville, Frontier, Agawam, Whately, Gloucester, Springfield, Westfield, Wrentham, Plympton, Cohasset, Tewksbury, Ludlow, West Boylston, Deerfield, Pittsfield, Amesbury, Worthington, Sunderland, Hawlemont, Billerica, Orange, Hudson, Central Berkshire, Marblehead, Mansfield, Ralph C. Mahar, Swampscott, Marlborough, Bellingham, Sudbury, Danvers, Sharon, Quabbin, Westborough, Topsfield, North Reading, Millis, Millbury, Norfolk, Avon, Norwood, Medfield, Canton, Braintree, Duxbury, Adams-Cheshire, Bourne, Greenfield, Rockland, Palmer, Spencer-E Brookfield, Uxbridge, Norwell, Walpole, Lynnfield, Lawrence, Savoy, Westport, Mendon-Upton, Webster, Seekonk, Ware, Quincy, Pentucket, Weymouth, Wales, Wakefield, Chicopee, Hopedale, Clarksburg, Weymouth, Natick, North Middlesex, Tyngsborough, East Longmeadow, Scituate, Northampton, Stoughton, Longmeadow, Marion, Carver, Fall River, Medway, Orange, Ayer Shirley, Somerset Berkley, Somerset, Westfield, Middleborough, Chelsea, Southwick-Tolland-Granville, Brimfield, Lowell, Milford, Georgetown, Berlin-Boylston, Athol-Royalston, Tantasqua, Malden, South Hadley, Douglas, Littleton, Hopkinton, Northbridge, Norton, King Philip, Sutton, Milton, Chelmsford, Sturbridge, Boylston, Quaboag, New Bedford, North Brookfield, Peabody, Westford, **Franklin**, Winchendon, Pembroke, Fitchburg, Hanover, Dighton-Rehoboth, Hingham, Abington, Winchester, Belchertown, Leominster, Lynn, Holbrook, Oxford, West Springfield, Granby, Rochester, Gardner, Reading, Swansea, Leicester, Everett, Easton, Taunton, Revere, Clinton, Holland, Ashland, Arlington, Easthampton, Marshfield, Attleboro, Beverly, Holliston, Lunenburg, Shrewsbury, Dartmouth, Auburn, North Attleborough, Whitman-Hanson, Winthrop, Narragansett, Belmont, Haverhill, Hatfield, Blackstone-Millville, Freetown-Lakeville, North Andover, Bridgewater-Raynham, Ashburnham-Westminster, Wachusett, Methuen-Dudley-Charlton, Grafton, West Bridgewater Acushnet, Fairhaven Brookfield, East Bridgewater, Kingston, Southampton, Berkley, Melrose, Dracut, Halifax





# Net School Spending (NSS)

**Local Contribution + State Aid =  
Required Net School Spending (NSS)**

**This is the minimum amount that a  
district must spend to comply with  
state law.**

**Net School Spending** must be equal  
to or greater than the **Foundation  
Budget**

In FY2020, Franklin spent **\$ 7.6M MORE**  
than required NSS

This is **11.2% MORE** than required NSS, yet  
still Franklin falls in the **22nd percentile  
statewide**

78% of MA districts spend more than 11%  
over required NSS

In FY2020 Massachusetts districts spent an  
average of **25% more** than required NSS  
overall

Detailed NSS data for all districts can be found at  
<https://www.doe.mass.edu/finance/statistics/>



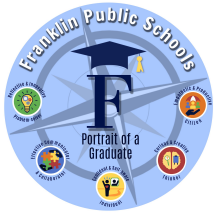
# Impact of Pandemic on Funding and Implications

- Strategic allocation and utilization of funds

“Schools need to use this one-time funding to invest in programs and innovations that will lead to long-term benefits and tackle the longstanding challenges of our current education system.” -- Rennie Center for Education Research and Policy

- Multiple sources of funding recently and over the next few years
  - State and Federal Coronavirus Relief Funds (CvRF and CARES) to school and town
  - ESSER funding to schools through FY 24
  - Operating Budget
  - Capital Budget
  - Town of Franklin ARPA funding
  - State Funding Earmarks
  - DESE sponsored programs
  - Other Grants
  
- AVOID the funding cliff





# Highlights of Strategic Pandemic Related Investments

- Technology
  - Chromebooks, Touchscreen Displays, faculty laptops, 10Gb Internet
  - Digital Learning Integrationists
- Facilities
  - UVGI technology
  - PPE and other health related needs
- Social-Emotional Learning
  - Additional counselors and mental health supports for students
  - Additional nursing staff
- Academics
  - High quality instructional materials (print and online), assessments to gauge skills
  - Interventionists
  
- ESSER III funding survey results will help inform future planning





# Major Takeaways

- Current proposed FY 22 Budget plans for continued support of students in post-pandemic “recovery”, prioritizing class sizes and academic/SEL interventions.
- We anticipate being able to support the FY22 budget with available revenue sources and supplemental state and federal aid to meet pandemic learning needs
  
- Franklin is in the 25th percentile for per pupil expenditure and 22nd percentile for actual net school spending.
- Percentage of local funding towards the FPS budget has increased and **will continue** to increase over time.
  
- We need to be planning for the long term learning needs of FPS students

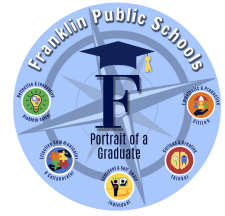


# School Facility Planning



# Facilities Planning Timelines

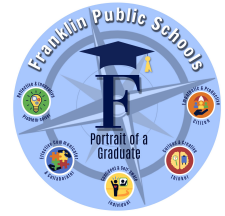
Spring, Summer 2021	Transition of students, faculty/staff, and families from Davis Thayer to Keller Elementary School
Summer 2021	Distribution of useful materials from DT across the District
Fall 2021	Assess classroom items and retrieve additional materials, as needed
Fall 2021	Declare materials as surplus to donate or sell
By end of 2021	School Committee vote on declaring building as surplus and return to Town
Winter, 2021	Master Facilities Plan proposals received/contract award
Spring, 2022	School Committee Discussion of Master Facilities Plan



# Implications of Pandemic on Facilities Planning



- We need to take our time with a Master Facilities Plan
- Prepandemic demographic report and facilities analysis need careful examination
- As a result of the pandemic, we are using our school spaces differently
  - Additional small group spaces for targeted instruction
  - Additional counseling spaces needed
- We are exceeding the assumption (275) for single family home sales in 2021, leaving more variance with the demographic projections (260 as of 9/30) especially at elementary.
- Wonder about future enrollment trends based on future real estate market



Thank you!

Comments and Questions



# Town of Franklin

355 East Central Street  
Franklin, Massachusetts 02038-1352



Phone: (508) 520-4949  
[www.franklinma.gov](http://www.franklinma.gov)

OFFICE OF THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

October 1, 2021

**To:** Town Council  
**From:** Jamie Hellen, Town Administrator  
Alecia Alleyne, Assistant to the Town Administrator  
**RE: Resolution 21-54: Housing Production Plan**

---

The Town Council will consider legislation for approval of the Town's DRAFT [Housing Production Plan \(HPP\)](#). A draft copy of the plan is included in this evening's packet.

Approval of the plan is a goal for the Town Council and Town Administrator for this legislative session, as voted on by the Council in January 2020. The last local and state approved plan was in 2012 and is outdated. A reminder to the community this is only a plan. There are no requirements to implement any of these items, but it's a plan that will very likely receive state approval for checking all of the boxes they require.

The plan received unanimous support from the Town Council's Economic Development Committee (EDC) in June. The Planning Board unanimously approved the Plan at its September 27, 2021 meeting. HPP guidance requires Town Council and Planning Board approval in order for the state to approve the plan.

If you have any additional questions please feel free to let us know.

# Town of Franklin



## Planning Board

September 28, 2021

Nancy Danello, Town Clerk  
Town of Franklin  
355 East Central Street  
Franklin, MA 02038

2021 SEP 29 P 1:39  
RECEIVED  
TOWN OF FRANKLIN  
TOWN CLERK

### CERTIFICATE OF VOTE

**RE:** 2021 Town of Franklin Housing Production Plan

Dear Mrs. Danello,

Please be advised that at its meeting on Monday, September 27, 2021 the Planning Board, upon motion duly made and seconded, voted (5-0-0) to **ENDORSE, as presented**, the Town of Franklin, 2021 Housing Production Plan as prepared by the Department of Planning and Community Development, dated August 2021.

If you should have any questions concerning this matter, please contact me or the planning staff.

Sincerely,

Anthony Padula, Chairman  
Franklin Planning Board



**TOWN OF FRANKLIN  
RESOLUTION 21-54**

**A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE TOWN OF FRANKLIN 2021  
HOUSING PRODUCTION PLAN**

WHEREAS, 760 C.M.R. 56.03 (4) provides a process for a municipality to develop and adopt a Housing Production Plan, as the initial step in a proactive approach to creating local affordable housing units; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Franklin has prepared the Town of Franklin 2021 Housing Production Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Franklin 2021 Housing Production Plan was developed using a substantial public process allowing input from Town of Franklin departments and officials, public agencies, and Town residents, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Franklin 2021 Housing Production Plan contains affordable housing production goals and implementation strategies developed within the public process, and

WHEREAS, a duly noticed Public Hearing was held by the Town of Franklin Planning Board on September 27, 2021 to present the document's findings, goals and strategies to obtain public input, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Franklin Planning Board, after the close of said public hearing, upon motion duly made and seconded, voted (5-0-0) to Endorse the Town of Franklin 2021 Housing Production Plan, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Franklin authorizes responsible departments and/or agencies to execute their responsibilities demonstrated in the plan,

WHEREAS, the Town of Franklin operates as a city form of government, as provided in its Home Rule Charter, and the Town Council has the authority of a city council, as specified therein.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Town Council of the Town of Franklin adopts the Town of Franklin 2021 Housing Production Plan, and authorizes the Town of Franklin's Town Administrator to submit the document to the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development for its approval, and to take any and all other necessary action.

This Resolution shall become effective according to provisions of the Town of Franklin Home Rule Charter.

**DATED:** \_\_\_\_\_, 2021

**A TRUE RECORD ATTEST:**

**VOTED:** \_\_\_\_\_

**UNANIMOUS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**YES:** \_\_\_\_\_ **NO:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ABSTAIN:** \_\_\_\_\_ **ABSENT:** \_\_\_\_\_

**RECUSED:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Nancy Danello, CMC  
Temporary Town Clerk**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Glenn Jones, Clerk  
Franklin Town Council**

# Town of Franklin

355 East Central Street  
Franklin, Massachusetts 02038-1352



Phone: (508) 520-4949  
www.franklinma.gov

OFFICE OF THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

## Memorandum

October 1, 2021

To: Town Council  
From: Jamie Hellen, Town Administrator  
Alecia Alleyne, Assistant to the Town Administrator  
Re: **Resolution 21-55: Gift Acceptance - Veterans Monument Restoration Fund**  
**Resolution 21-56: Gift Acceptance - Conservation Commission**

---

The Franklin Veterans' Monument Restoration Fund and Franklin Conservation Commission (Annual Earth Day Delcarte Cleanup) have each received an exceptionally generous donation totaling \$1,000.00 each from Joe Halligan.

The donation to the Veterans Monument Fund will go toward current efforts to clean, restore and annually maintain the monuments on the Town Common.

The donation to the Conservation Commission will be applied at the Department's discretion towards the clean-up efforts at Delcarte Conservation area for their annual Earth Day cleanup of Delcarte event. Due to the pandemic, the cleanup day is October 16th, 2021 from 9:00 AM to Noon. Refreshments provided by the generosity of Starbucks Coffee. We have also attached a flyer for the event.

### Donation Summary:

1. **VETERANS' SERVICES DEPARTMENT - \$1,000**
  - Joe Halligan
2. **CONSERVATION COMMISSION - \$1,000**
  - Joe Halligan

**DONATION TOTAL \$2,000.00**

If you have any additional questions please feel free to ask.

# **CELEBRATE EARTH DAY IN FRANKLIN**



***Cleanup at Delcarte Recreation & Conservation Area***

***T-SHIRTS FOR EARLY  
VOLUNTEERS!***

***MEETUP AT PLAYGROUND  
PARKING LOT***

***459 PLEASANT STREET***

***THANK YOU TO OUR  
PARTNERS***

***STARBUCKS @ 648 OLD WEST  
CENTRAL ST.  
BIG Y @ 346 EAST CENTRAL ST.  
FRANKLIN DPW  
ADDITIONAL THANKS TO JOE HALLIGAN***

***COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS WILL BE VALIDATED FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS AND  
BOYS/GIRL SCOUTS***



**TOWN OF FRANKLIN  
RESOLUTION 21-55**

**Acceptance of Gift – Veterans’ Monument Restoration Fund**

**WHEREAS,**

The Veterans’ Services Department has received a generous donation totaling \$1,000.00 to be used by the Veterans’ Service Department, Veterans Monument Fund to clean, restore and maintain the monuments located on the Town Common.

**Donation Summary:**

1. Joseph (Joe) Halligan - \$1,000.00

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

The Town Council of the Town of Franklin on behalf of the Veterans’ Services Department, Veterans Monument Fund, gratefully accepts this generous donation to be used by the Veterans’ Service Department for the cleaning, restoration and maintenance of the Veterans Monuments located on the Town Common.

This resolution shall become effective according to the provisions of the Town of Franklin Home Rule Charter.

---

**DATED:** \_\_\_\_\_, 2021

**VOTED:** \_\_\_\_\_

**UNANIMOUS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**A TRUE RECORD ATTEST:**

**YES:** \_\_\_\_\_ **NO:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ABSTAIN:** \_\_\_\_\_ **ABSENT:** \_\_\_\_\_

**RECUSED:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Nancy Danello, CMC  
Temporary Town Clerk**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Glenn Jones, Clerk  
Franklin Town Council**



**TOWN OF FRANKLIN  
RESOLUTION 21-56**

**Acceptance of Gift – Conservation Commission**

**WHEREAS,**

The Conservation Commission has received a generous donation totaling \$1,000.00 to be applied at the Department’s discretion towards the clean-up efforts at Delcarte Conservation area for their annual Earth Day cleanup of Delcarte event.

**Donation Summary:**

1. Joseph (Joe) Halligan - \$1,000.00

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

The Town Council of the Town of Franklin on behalf of the Conservation Commission gratefully accepts this generous donation to be used at the discretion of the Conservation Commission as described above.

This resolution shall become effective according to the provisions of the Town of Franklin Home Rule Charter.

**DATED:** \_\_\_\_\_, 2021

**VOTED:** \_\_\_\_\_

**UNANIMOUS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**A TRUE RECORD ATTEST:**

**YES:** \_\_\_\_\_ **NO:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ABSTAIN:** \_\_\_\_\_ **ABSENT:** \_\_\_\_\_

**RECUSED:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Nancy Danello, CMC  
Temporary Town Clerk**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Glenn Jones, Clerk  
Franklin Town Council**

# Town of Franklin

355 East Central Street  
Franklin, Massachusetts 02038-1352



Phone: (508) 520-4949  
www.franklinma.gov

OFFICE OF THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

## Memorandum

October 1, 2021

To: Town Council  
From: Jamie Hellen, Town Administrator  
Alecia Alleyne, Assistant to the Town Administrator

Re: **Resolution 21-57: Gift Acceptance – Town of Franklin**

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The Town of Franklin has received an exceptionally generous donation of a 13 ft. x 11ft. Brown wood rectangle Gazebo with a steel roof to be installed at the dog park at Dacey Community Field. The donation is in-kind as the Furry Friends of Franklin, Inc. donated the purchased gazebo through a gift to them by the Bissanti family.

### Donation Summary:

- 1. TO THE TOWN OF FRANKLIN - 13 ft. X 11ft. Gazebo**
  - The Furry Friends of Franklin, on behalf of the Bissanti Family.

If you have any additional questions please feel free to ask.





**TOWN OF FRANKLIN  
RESOLUTION 21-57**

**Acceptance of Gift – The Town of Franklin**

**WHEREAS,** The Town of Franklin has received a generous donation of a 13 ft. X 11 ft. brown wood rectangular gazebo with a steel roof to be installed at the Dog Park at Dacey Community Field. This donation was made by the Furry Friends of Franklin, Inc. on behalf of the Bissanti Family.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

The Town Council of the Town of Franklin on behalf of the Town of Franklin, gratefully accepts this generous donation to be installed at the public dog park located at Dacey Community Field.

This resolution shall become effective according to the provisions of the Town of Franklin Home Rule Charter.

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**DATED:** \_\_\_\_\_, 2021

**VOTED:** \_\_\_\_\_

**UNANIMOUS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**A TRUE RECORD ATTEST:**

**YES:** \_\_\_\_\_ **NO:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ABSTAIN:** \_\_\_\_\_ **ABSENT:** \_\_\_\_\_

**RECUSED:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Nancy Danello, CMC  
Temporary Town Clerk**

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**Glenn Jones, Clerk  
Franklin Town Council**

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OFFICE OF THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

## Memorandum

October 1, 2021

To: Town Council  
From: Jamie Hellen, Town Administrator  
Alecia Alleyne, Assistant to the Town Administrator

**Re: Resolution 21-58: Franklin TV - Appropriation**

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The \$36,000 is the amount agreed to in the Comcast Agreement that is for capital improvements in the first five years of the contract. As everyone knows, the Town is required by the state to appropriate these funds by a public authorization.

If you have any questions, please feel free to let us know.



**TOWN OF FRANKLIN**

**RESOLUTION 21-58**

**APPROPRIATION:** Cable Funds in Support of PEG Service and Programming per MGL Ch. 44, §53F3/4

**TOTAL REQUESTED:** \$ 36,000.00

**PURPOSE:** To appropriate \$36,000.00 from the PEG Access and Cable Related Fund created under MGL Ch. 44, §53F3/4, representing the amount received from Comcast Cable, to be paid to Franklin Cable Access Corp. to support capital equipment expenditures.

**MOTION:** Be it Moved and Voted by the Town Council that the sum of \$36,000.00 be appropriated from the PEG Access and Cable Related Fund created under MGL Ch. 44, §53F3/4, to be paid to Franklin Cable Access Corp. to support capital equipment expenditures.

This resolution shall become effective according to the provisions of the Town of Franklin Home Rule Charter.

**DATED:** \_\_\_\_\_, 2021

**VOTED:** \_\_\_\_\_

**UNANIMOUS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**A TRUE RECORD ATTEST:**

**YES:** \_\_\_\_\_ **NO:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ABSTAIN:** \_\_\_\_\_ **ABSENT:** \_\_\_\_\_

**RECUSED:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Nancy Danello, CMC**  
**Temporary Town Clerk**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Glenn Jones, Clerk**  
**Franklin Town Council**