

Town of Franklin

355 East Central Street
Franklin, Massachusetts 02038-1352



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

OFFICE OF THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Memorandum

January 17, 2020

To: Town Council

From: Jamie Hellen, Town Administrator

Re: Resolution 20-08: Town Council 2020-2021 Goals

I am asking the Town Council to consider their 2020 - 2021 biennial goals, which include the suggestions from the Town Council discussion on January 8th, 2020. The goals comprise a list of projects and initiatives that the staff believe are important to undertake over the course of the next two years and the additional items recommended by the Council. I am recommending approval of this list.

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



TOWN OF FRANKLIN

RESOLUTION 20-08

ADOPTION OF TOWN COUNCIL 2020-2021 GOALS

WHEREAS, The Town Council of the Town of Franklin, recognizing the importance of setting goals for projects and initiatives on a biennial basis, wishes to formally adopt the **Town Council 2020-2021 Goals**, dated January 8, 2020; a copy of which is attached hereto as “Exhibit 1”,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Franklin Town Council hereby adopts the Town Council 2020-2021 Goals of the Town of Franklin dated January 8, 2020, a copy of which is attached hereto as “Exhibit 1”; said adoption is effective until revised or revoked by resolution of the Franklin Town Council.

DATED: _____, 2020

VOTED: _____

UNANIMOUS: _____

A TRUE RECORD ATTEST:

YES: _____ **NO:** _____

ABSTAIN: _____ **ABSENT:** _____

RECUSED: _____

Teresa M. Burr, CMC
Town Clerk

Glenn Jones, Clerk
Franklin Town Council

**Town Council Meeting
2020 and 2021 Goals
Town Council Workshop
January 8, 2020**

Fiscal

- Approval of Annual Capital Improvement Plan -- FY20 and FY21
- Approval of a balanced Operating Budget -- FY21 and FY22
 - Closely monitor expected budget shortfalls in both FY21 and FY22
- Establish Ad Hoc Subcommittee to evaluate stormwater fee analysis
 - Present analysis to the full Council
- Determine Water rate increase for FY20/FY21, notably for the water treatment plant and wells loan package
- Determine Sewer rate increase, if needed, for FY20/FY21
- Seek new borrowing capacity for municipal and school building capital improvements and sidewalks
- Discussion on the Community Preservation Act
- Discussion on Trash & Recycling account
- Continue to ask for OPEB solutions with state officials
- Explore new revenue options, generally

Economic Development – To the EDC

- Revise Solar Bylaw in Residential districts
- Continue Lot Line “Clean ups” around town
- Present Economic Profile to the Town Council
 - EDC to evaluate or implement ideas based off of the recommendations in the final report
- Nu-Style (Grove Street) options
- Zoning Changes
 - Master Plan Update before the Council -- Expected June/July 2020
 - Draft and Adopt state Affordable Housing Plan
 - Inclusionary Zoning bylaw proposal to stabilize the Town’s Affordable Housing Inventory with the state to ensure we maintain 10% affordable housing stock and preserving local zoning
 - Residential 5 and C-1 density
 - The Franklin Crossing Neighborhood District rezone
- Ferrara Parking Lot Lease for continued commuter rail and free municipal parking in downtown
- Review and cleanup Marijuana Overlay District
- MBTA parking Lot in Downtown

Facilities

- Approve borrowing authorization for 5-year facilities capital needs
- Future of Old South Meeting House
- Review Police Station space – Look to FY21 Capital Plan to invest in the \$150,000 study and Council discussion
- Transfer/Recycling Center improvements when land transfer complete
- Apply for Cultural Facilities Fund grant to restore Historical Museum cupola and refurbish Museum basement with proper preservation storage

DPW

- Implement StormWater Plan Division -- Establish Utility bylaw, establish Ad Hoc committee and evaluate stormwater fee & credit system
- Prioritize Road Funding annual appropriation in the operating budget
 - Prioritize \$650,000 line item town budget, per Town fiscal Policy
- Continue Implementing the Water Main 5-year plan
- Construct Water Treatment Plant & Wells 3&6. FY20 will require a water rate hike to pay for the loans
- Present future options for Beaver Street interceptor
- Continue sewer system infrastructure improvements
- Fund sidewalk plan for Beaver Street/Washington Streets -- find a funding source
- Consider a long-range sidewalk master plan.

Recreation/Open Space

- Continue to invest free cash into our parks and fields each year.
 - Beaver Street Course and Nason Street Tot lot are priorities for 2020-21
- Purchase Open Space as may be available
- Finalize and begin to implement pedestrian Franklin Greenway Network --
 - Approve Complete Streets Policy, develop and finalize plan
- Take over Concerts on the Common in 2020 and move to Friday nights and add family movie nights on the Common
- Continue to implement 2016 Open space/recreation plan
- Continue supporting SNETT trail development and other trail projects
 - 2020 Prospect Street tunnel will be built by the state
- Continue on Delcarte improvements
 - remediate weed and fish issues, etc
 - complete capital improvements at Delcarte

Community – Generally

- Continue to accept Public Ways
- Implement “Green Community goals” - apply for competitive grants in 2020
- Revise Demolition delay bylaw with Historical Commission and Building Commissioner
- Implement “Master Plan” recommendations at the Historical Museum
- Begin process to decommission Spring Street from 140 to the new solar field on Spring Street through the state park with Town Attorney
- Successful Cable contracts negotiation with Comcast -- expires October 2020
- Finalize 3-year Collective Bargaining cycle - Spring of 2020
- 5G bylaw
- Implement Electric Aggregation, when appropriate -- last bid December 2019

Civic Engagement (NEW)

- Research the potential for a “Citizen’s Academy” course for citizens
- Research the ICMA Citizen Satisfaction Survey through the National Citizen Survey and National Research Council
- Continue to update and reinvent the Town website, social media accounts and consider implementing a TOF podcast (Soundcloud/ Anchor)
- Expand E-Permitting and online payment options

Presentations/Discussions (tentatively/confirmed scheduled dates)

- Community Preservation Act - February 5 (scheduled)
- Housing Authority w/ Lisa Audette - February 12th (confirmed)
- Transitional Assistance - February 12th (confirmed)
- Economic Profile Study -- March/April (pending delivery of final report)
- MECC Regional Dispatch -- May 6th 2020 (confirmed)
- Department Presentations: Land Use & Permitting Departments -- June 2020
- Master Plan midway Update -- June/July 2020
- Charter Review Discussion - Late 2020

Thoughts/questions/ideas from Town Councilors

- Approve Snow Removal bylaw on sidewalks
- Animal Control Presentation (presentations & discussions)
- Evaluate Fire Department substation and training center (Facilities)
- Fisher Street superfund site (community- generally)
- Recycling Center Land Swap at Beaver Street (DPW)
- Review BioTechnology Bylaw (EDC)
- Survey DPW to see if we have new well opportunities (DPW)
- EV Charging Stations (Facilities)

- Revise Over 55 Overlay, including open space requirement (EDC)
- Monitor MBTA Land in Franklin Crossing & rail bed line to SNETT (Open Space)
- No Place for Hate Resolution Pledge (Community)
- Monitor Mixed Innovation Business District (EDC)
- Emergency Management Policy Discussion (Presentations/Discussion)
- Review and Prioritize Historical Commission List of Historic Homes (Community)
- Vehicles & Procurement Presentation & Discussion (Finance)
- Analyze Food requirement and closing hours for restaurants (EDC)