

Town of Franklin

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Franklin Appoints Acting Fire Chief

After 20 years of dedicated service to the Town of Franklin, Fire Chief Gary McCarraher is retiring on Friday, March 1, 2019. The Franklin Town Administration is formally appointing James P. Klich as the Acting Fire Chief, until a comprehensive assessment center process has been completed to appoint a permanent Fire Chief.

“On behalf of the Town of Franklin and the entire staff, we thank Chief McCarraher for his dedicated service to the Town and wish him well in retirement and on his future endeavors” said Deputy Town Administrator Jamie Hellen. “The Fire Department and its emergency services are a hallmark of the great public services offered in Franklin and Gary’s leadership has improved the department during his tenure.”

Mr. Klich has been with the Franklin Fire Department since 1996 when he was hired as a Firefighter and Paramedic. Rising through the ranks, Mr. Klich was first promoted to Lieutenant and then to Captain in 2001. He was promoted to the Deputy Chief for Emergency Services in January of 2019.

He has also served as a Coordinator at the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy in Stow Massachusetts since 2007 in various capacities. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Fire Sciences and a Masters Degree in Public Administration, with a concentration in Fire Services and Emergency Services, from Anna Maria College. He holds numerous certificates and certifications in specialized training in the fire and emergency services fields.

“Deputy Chief Klich is no stranger to the Franklin community with his 22-plus years of experience in the Franklin Fire Department” said Mr. Hellen. “We look forward to working with Mr. Klich and Deputy Chief Joe Barbieri over the next several months to develop a vision for the future challenges of emergency services in Town. Franklin is very fortunate to have a department of very talented and dedicated emergency services personnel and we expect our team to expand upon the successful legacy of Mr. McCarraher.”

A formal job posting for the Fire Chief position will be posted on Monday, March 4th.

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