

**FRANKLIN TOWN COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
January 4, 2023**

A meeting of the Town Council was held on Wednesday, January 4, 2023, at the Municipal Building, 2nd Floor, Council Chambers, 355 East Central Street, Franklin, MA. Councilors present: Brian Chandler, Theodore Cormier-Leger, Robert Dellorco, Cobi Frongillo, Melanie Hamblen, Glenn Jones, Thomas Mercer, Deborah Pellegrini, Patrick Sheridan. Councilors absent: None. Administrative personnel in attendance: Jamie Hellen, Town Administrator; Mark Cerel, Town Attorney.

**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 welcome to attend public board and committee meetings in person. Meetings are live-streamed by Franklin TV and shown on Comcast Channel 11 and Verizon Channel 29. In an effort to maximize citizen engagement opportunities, citizens will be able to continue to participate remotely via phone or Zoom. He announced that this meeting is being recorded by Franklin TV; this meeting may be recorded by others.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS:** ► Ms. Rachel Plukus, 37 Anchorage Road, stated that she serves as the Democratic Town Committee Chair. She stated that she was speaking as an individual and she wanted to thank the Town Council for being a responsive group and for their hard work in the last year.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** ► *November 30, 2022 and December 14, 2022.* ► **MOTION to Approve** the November 30, 2022 meeting minutes by **Dellorco**. **SECOND** by **Hamblen**. **No discussion.** ► **VOTE: Yes-9, No-0, Absent-0.**

► **MOTION to Approve** the December 14, 2022 meeting minutes by **Dellorco**. **SECOND** by **Jones**. **No discussion.** ► **VOTE: Yes-9, No-0, Absent-0.**

**PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS:** ► *Proclamation: Franklin Chargers 4th Grade Football Team.* ► Councilor Cormier-Leger read aloud the proclamation to recognize the 2022 Franklin Chargers 4th Grade Football Team on winning the 2022 Eastern Massachusetts Superbowl and Massachusetts State Championship.

*Chair Mercer called a two-minute recess.*

**APPOINTMENTS: None.**

**HEARINGS: None.**

**LICENSE TRANSACTIONS: None.**

**HEARINGS: None.**

**PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSIONS:** ► *National Register Historic Districts in Franklin - Vicki Earls, Franklin Public Library.* ► Mr. Hellen stated that Ms. Vicki Earls was not able to attend tonight's meeting. He stated that the way the presentation was taped by Franklin TV, it was at a softer volume, so they will not be playing the presentation. He stated that the link to the presentation is on the meeting agenda. He stated that Library Director Felicia Oti would discuss impacts that the presentation has already

had. He pointed out that this was a Town Council goal because Ms. Earls had unearthed some incredible information about Franklin's history. He discussed that there are two nationally registered historical districts in Franklin. He stated that the districts are large and encompass many buildings. He stated that he hopes that everyone will take the 20 minutes to watch the video to become educated about the town's rich history. He stated that there are no real visible markers regarding locations being on the historic registry; he would like to look at what can be done regarding markers/signage. ► Ms. Oti stated that Mr. Hellen summarized it very well. She discussed the importance of the two historic districts and stated that she would like to see how we can better promote and attain grants to maintain these treasures. She asked that the Town Council take the time to watch the video presentation. She stated that they are already getting good feedback from the community about the presentation that Ms. Earls put together. ► Town Council members asked questions, made comments, and thanked Ms. Earls for putting the video together. ► In response to questions and comments, Ms. Oti stated that she hopes to get a group together to move forward with the suggestions. ► Mr. Cerel stated that with the National Register there may be tax benefits to individual property owners; there is a status involved, but there are no restrictions. He explained that Massachusetts has a law setting up individual historic districts which are governed by the Historic District Commission and these can be as restrictive as the community wants to make the bylaw. ► Mr. Hellen explained the homes and buildings that are listed on the National Register. ► Mr. Cerel stated that for the Historic District there are no restrictions, say if you put your own house on the register, then you are restricted to exterior work to complying with the rules of the Secretary of the Interior. He stated that there is a totally separate state process that allows you to set up districts of whatever size you want that is very restrictive such as you cannot alter the outside appearance; that is the state statute versus the federal process. ► Mr. Hellen confirmed that the museum on Washington Street is not on the Historic Register. He explained the process for a building to get on the Historic Register once a building is deemed historical. ► Mr. Cerel reviewed the process for determination by the Historical Commission at the local level. He stated that in the Historic District there are rights to preserve the exterior of the home; that is a stronger set of legal tools available. ► Chair Mercer thanked Ms. Earls for putting this information together.

► ***Town Council Goals Update - Jamie Hellen, Town Administrator.*** ► Mr. Hellen reviewed the updated list of the collective goals between the Town Council and Town Administrator to reflect progress and information updates. The 2022-2023 Town Council and Town Administration Goals document was provided in the Town Council's meeting packet. He stated that between the Town Council's support, the staff, his office, the school district, and ARPA, they are in pretty good shape. ► Town Council members asked questions and made comments. ► Councilor Hamblen asked if a presentation by Facilities Director Michael D'Angelo could be added about the food recycling program that is in one of the schools. ► Councilor Frongillo discussed a net-zero plan. ► In response to questions, Mr. Hellen noted the current positions open in the Facilities Department. He stated that he would be interested to read Mr. Frongillo's paper about how Natick is getting citizens into electric vehicles or no vehicles. He stated that he would send the goals PDF file to the Town Council members tomorrow. He discussed that he receives bi-weekly Covid reports, so they are keeping on track of it. He stated that he cannot speak for the Schools, but in terms of the rest of the community, there is no guidance from the Department of Public Health or from Franklin's epidemiologist, nurse, or Board of Health suggesting any additional requirements, policies, or mandates. He stated that he thinks the Covid numbers are ticking up, but they are a fraction of what they were a couple of years ago. ► Councilor Jones asked for a discussion about the potential uses of Schmidt's Farm. ► Mr. Hellen stated that he believes there will be a presentation in late April. ► Chair Mercer stated that the branding and marketing analysis is something they are looking forward to. He asked if they can move forward immediately upon receipt of the funds and if there is anything they can already be doing before the funds are received. ► Mr. Hellen stated that the EDC must start those discussions. He discussed the decommission process on Spring Street as part of the Franklin State Forest and SNETT improvements for 2023.

# LEGISLATION FOR ACTION:

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

- a. **Bylaw Amendment 22-888: Chapter 170, Vehicles and Traffic, Section 170-22, Subsection A, Location of Stop Signs - Second Reading (Motion to Approve Bylaw Amendment 22-888 - Majority Roll Call Vote).** ► Councilor Jones read the bylaw amendment. ► **MOTION to Approve** Bylaw Amendment 22-888: Chapter 170, Vehicles and Traffic, Section 170-22, Subsection A, Location of Stop Signs by **Dellorco. SECOND** by **Hamblen. Discussion:** ► Mr. Hellen stated that this is the second and final reading of the bylaw that was approved in December. ► **ROLL CALL VOTE: Chandler-YES; Cormier-Leger-YES; Dellorco-YES; Frongillo-YES; Hamblen-YES; Jones-YES; Mercer-YES; Pellegrini-YES; Sheridan-YES.** ► **VOTE: Yes-9, No-0, Absent-0.**
  
- b. **Resolution 23-01: Authorization for Inter-Municipal Agreement with Tri-County Regional Vocational Technical High School for Franklin to provide it with a School Resource Officer (Motion to Approve Resolution 23-01 - Majority Vote).** ► Councilor Jones read the resolution. ► **MOTION to Approve** Resolution 23-01: Authorization for Inter-Municipal Agreement with Tri-County Regional Vocational Technical High School for Franklin to provide it with a School Resource Officer by **Dellorco. SECOND** by **Hamblen. Discussion:** ► Mr. Hellen stated that this is reauthorizing a three-year agreement between the Town and Tri-County School to provide them with a student resource officer. He stated that he thinks the program has worked out great for both Franklin and Tri-County. ► Town Council members asked questions and made comments. ► In response to questions, Mr. Hellen confirmed that this is a shared resource officer to provide services to Franklin High School and Tri-County at a 50/50 split. ► Chief of Police Thomas Lynch stated that the time allotted has worked out well; they have had this for three years. He explained that before this agreement there was not a school resource officer. ► **VOTE: Yes-9, No-0, Absent-0.**
  
- c. **Resolution 23-02: Ratification of the Memorandum of Agreement between the Franklin Police Association employees and the Town of Franklin (Motion to Approve Resolution 23-02 - Majority Vote).** ► Councilor Jones read the resolution. ► **MOTION to Move** Resolution 23-02: Ratification of the Memorandum of Agreement between the Franklin Police Association employees and the Town of Franklin by **Dellorco. SECOND** by **Hamblen. Discussion:** ► Mr. Hellen reviewed that this would be the final vote which will ratify the provisions of the Franklin Police Association Collective Bargaining Agreement as ratified by the Franklin Police Association employees. The provisions of the agreements will be in effect from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2025, as outlined in executive session on December 14, 2022. ► **VOTE: Yes-9, No-0, Absent-0.**
  
- d. **Resolution 23-03: Ratification of the Memorandum of Agreement between the Franklin Police Sergeants Union employees and the Town of Franklin (Motion to Approve Resolution 23-03 - Majority Vote).** ► Councilor Jones read the resolution. ► **MOTION to Approve** Resolution 23-03: Ratification of the Memorandum of Agreement between the Franklin Police Sergeants Union employees and the Town of Franklin by **Dellorco. SECOND** by **Hamblen. Discussion:** ► Mr. Hellen reviewed that this will ratify the Memorandum of Agreement between the Town of Franklin and the Franklin Police Sergeants Union. This agreement will be in effect from January 1, 2023 to June 30, 2025, as outlined in executive session on December 14, 2022. He noted that the ratification of the Police Sergeants contract occurred in July of 2022. This agreement contains language to bring the contract in line with the patrol contract on provisions outlined in executive session last month. ► Mr. Cerel stated that he would like to note that it is effective January 1, 2023; the Clerk had read aloud July. ► **VOTE: Yes-9, No-0, Absent-0.**

- e. **Resolution 23-04: Ratification of the Memorandum of Agreement Between the Professional Firefighters of Franklin and the Town of Franklin (Motion to approve Resolution 23-04 - Majority Vote).** ► Councilor Jones read the resolution. ► **MOTION to Approve Resolution 23-04:** Ratification of the Memorandum of Agreement Between the Professional Firefighters of Franklin and the Town of Franklin by **Dellorco. SECOND by Hamblen. Discussion:** ► Mr. Hellen reviewed that this will ratify the provisions of the Professional Franklin Firefighters Collective Bargaining Agreement as ratified by the employees. The provisions of the agreements will be in effect from January 1, 2023 to June 30, 2025, as outlined in executive session. The only issue being ratified this evening is relative to the scoring on promotional exams that are unilaterally written in the contract. The Professional Firefighters Contract was ratified in full this past July 2022. ► **VOTE: Yes-9, No-0, Absent-0.**
- f. **Resolution 23-05: Police Station Building Committee Charge (Motion to Approve Resolution 23-05 - Majority Vote).** ► **MOTION to Approve Resolution 23-05:** Police Station Building Committee Charge by **Dellorco. SECOND by Hamblen. Discussion:** ► Mr. Hellen stated that included in the Town Council's meeting packet are the last two building committee resolutions: Library and Senior Center. He stated that it has been a while since they have had a building committee. He reviewed that the Town Council appropriated \$150,000 two years ago to invest in a committee, consultant, and evaluation of potential sites, remodels, expansions. He explained that it is expected for this process to take at least a couple of years. The resolution allows for an eleven-person committee which is proposed to include: 3 Town Council members who will serve as Chair, Vice-Chair and Clerk of the Committee; Chief of Police, or their designee; Town Administrator, or their designee; Director of Public Facilities, or their designee; 1 representative from the MECC regional dispatch; 2 members of the department staff of which 1 member of the department staff that is male and 1 member of the department staff that is female; and 2 citizens of which 1 is engineer and 1 is construction. ► Town Council members asked questions and made comments. ► In response to questions, Mr. Hellen explained the process for if a Town Council member is on the committee, but does not get re-elected at the next Town Council election. He explained the legal term of substantial completion of the project. ► **VOTE: Yes-9, No-0, Absent-0.**
- g. **Resolution 23-06: Subcommittee for Arts and Cultural Initiatives (Motion to Approve Resolution 23-06 - Majority Vote).** ► Councilor Jones read the resolution. ► **MOTION to Approve Resolution 23-06:** Subcommittee for Arts and Cultural Initiatives by **Dellorco. SECOND by Hamblen. Discussion:** ► Mr. Hellen reviewed that similar to the Committee on Stormwater, the purpose of this subcommittee is to do a short listening tour through the winter and spring. The meetings will be monthly coffees to listen to stakeholders in the community on their vision for arts and cultural development opportunities, as well as helping educate them on the Master Plan opportunity and subcommittee process. This is also an opportunity for any stakeholder in the community to ask questions. He reviewed that a subcommittee for the Arts and Culture will be established as part of the process to develop a ten-year long Master Plan. ► **VOTE: Yes-9, No-0, Absent-0.**
- h. **Resolution 23-07: Master Plan Update Committee (Motion to Approve Resolution 23-07 - Majority Vote).** ► **MOTION to Approve Resolution 23-07:** Master Plan Update Committee by **Dellorco. SECOND by Hamblen. Discussion:** ► Mr. Hellen reviewed that with the Town-wide Master Plan expiring in 2023, it is time to establish the next Master Plan Committee. As with most Master Plan processes, it can take up to 18 months to complete. A consultant will be hired to assist, alongside the work of the Planning Department. Funds have already been set aside for this project. The resolution speaks to appoint 13 people to the committee from various permitting boards. In addition, the proposal has six (6) at-large members. A posting to the community will be made soon. He noted that residents wishing to be on the committee should have a lot of time to contribute to the committee; it is a complicated and time-consuming process. The following was provided in the Town Administrator's

letter to the Town Council dated December 29, 2022: The proposal is to have appointments be made in the same procedure as all appointments are currently made. The Town Administrator nominates, unless they are chosen from another committee, whereby the committee will nominate those individuals (EG Planning Board, ZBA, Conservation Commission, Housing Authority). All nominations, including those from other standing committees, are subject to the final ratification of the full Town Council. Under the proposal, the Chair of the Town Council will select the leadership team of the Chair, Vice-Chair, and Clerk for the Master Plan Update Committee. The Master Plan Committee will establish subcommittees on many key areas, such as Facilities, Arts and Cultural Development, Sustainability, Equity, Natural Resource protection, housing and many more. Much of this work has already recently been completed through the Housing Production Plan, the Open Space and Recreation Plan, as well as the School Department's 2020 Facilities Assessment and current Redistricting analysis that is due toward the end of this fiscal year. The 1997 and 2013 Master Plan is available as well as the 2020 Master Plan update. As written in the resolution: Now Therefore, the Franklin Town Council hereby establishes A Master Plan Update Committee as follows: 1. The Town Council has determined to appoint no more than thirteen (13) members to the Master Plan Committee, including the following representation and nomination selection criteria: a. Three (3) members of the Franklin Town Council; b. Two (2) members of the Franklin Planning Board; c. One (1) member of the Zoning Board of Appeals; d. One (1) member of the Franklin Conservation Commission; e. Six (6) members At-Large. 2. The Town Administrator shall nominate all thirteen members of the committee membership, to be ratified by the Town Council. The Chair of the Town Council shall select the Chair, Vice-Chair and Clerk. Terms of the committee shall be until the delivery of a final report to the Planning Board for their consideration. ► Councilor Frongillo stated concern about having both the ZBA and Planning Board members and proposed a motion to amend it to a member of the School Committee. He stated that he would also accept a friendly amendment to housing authority, seniors, agriculture and stated that he thinks there are a few pieces that will come through the citizens pieces but feels unnecessary to have both ZBA and Planning Board. ► **MOTION to Amend Resolution 23-07: Master Plan Update Committee, from one ZBA member to a member of the School Committee, by Frongillo. SECOND by Hamblen. Discussion:** ► Mr. Hellen stated that this is within the purview of the Town Council. He discussed that for those who have not been through a Master Plan process, most of the stakeholders Councilor Frongillo mentioned are invited before the committee to share their expertise on things. He stated that he would be cautious and would get an opinion of the School Committee to see if any of their members would want to or have the time to serve. He stated that the redistricting from the last update that he saw from the superintendent is intended to be completed in April or May of this year; he thinks that like the open space plan and other plans, they will all be components of the Master Plan process. He discussed that the Master Plan Committee is like a board of directors; they are like facilitators who invite in all other community stakeholders. He stated that the seven listed are the main permitting agencies of the Town. ► Councilor Cormier-Leger stated his support for the amendment as optics are very important and inclusion is very important regarding a member of the School Committee. ► Councilor Chandler stated that he did not think it was necessary to bring in the School Committee; they have plenty to do right now. He stated that there are no optics; there is no need to do this. ► Councilor Pellegri stated agreement with Councilor Chandler. She stated that all committees will be invited before this Master Plan Committee. ► Councilor Frongillo stated that he would also be comfortable making it a ZBA member or another Planning Board member; he stated that he feels it strangely restrictive for ZBA to be one of three. ► **Friendly amendment to the amendment was discussed by Frongillo and seconded by Chandler (it was not motioned, just seconded)** to be either a ZBA member or another Planning Board member. **Discussion:** ► Chair Mercer explained that Schools are out. This friendly amendment is accepted. He stated that the vote will come on the amendment to change the ZBA member to either a ZBA member or another Planning Board member. ► Councilor Frongillo stated that he is okay with three Planning heads being on it. ► Mr. Hellen stated that basically what has to happen is the ZBA and Planning Board would have to get together to decide who they would appoint.

He stated that he thinks that it should be defined; if there is conflict, then we are stuck which is why the clarity is important. ► Mr. Cerel stated that he wanted to add his perspective of what the ZBA member brings to the table; the ZBA does literally by their title is evaluate the zoning and its application to a particular activity, business, individual, and determines if it is working or not and grants relief as necessary. They bring a practical background to a committee such as this. He confirmed that with three Planning Board members there would be an issue of quorum. ► Councilor Cormier-Leger asked if they could change the language in Item B to one member of the Planning Board and one member of the ZBA and then add School Committee to Item C. ► Councilor Frongillo stated that we either make it at-large or we vote down the amendment. ► Mr. Hellen stated that the School Committee Chair is on Zoom. ► School Committee Chair Denise Spencer (via Zoom) stated that she thinks they could have a School Committee member represented on the committee if the Town Council decides to vote that way. ► Chair Mercer stated that the motion that is on the floor is an amendment to name either a ZBA member or Planning Board member in that position. He confirmed that Councilor Chandler offered the friendly amendment. ► Councilor Chandler stated that he did not want to withdraw his friendly amendment because he does not want the School Committee. ► **VOTE (on the friendly amendment ((for it to be a ZBA member or another Planning Board member)) to the proposed amendment): Yes-0, No-9, Absent-0.** ► Chair Mercer stated that the amendment is now off the floor as it failed and they are back to the original motion which is a ZBA member and two Planning Board members just as originally proposed because the friendly amendment took away the other amendment. ► **MOTION to Amend Resolution 23-07: Master Plan Update Committee, to change the language in Item B to one member of the Planning Board or one member of the ZBA and then add School Committee to Item C, by Cormier-Leger. NO SECOND.** ► Chair Mercer stated that as there was no Second, that amendment failed. He stated that they are back to the original Motion which is two Planning Board members and one ZBA member. ► **MOTION to Amend Resolution 23-07: Master Plan Update Committee, to have it be a seventh member at-large, by Frongillo. NO SECOND.** ► Chair Mercer stated that as there was no Second, they are now back to the original motion which is two Planning Board members and one ZBA member, and everything else is the same as presented in the Town Council's meeting packet. ► **VOTE: Yes-8, No-1, Absent-0.** (Councilor Cormier-Leger voted No.)

- i. **Resolution 23-08: Davis-Thayer Building Reuse Advisory Committee Charge (Motion to Approve Resolution 23-08 - Majority Vote).** ► Councilor Jones read the resolution. ► **MOTION to Approve Resolution 23-08: Davis-Thayer Building Reuse Advisory Committee Charge by Dellorco. SECOND by Hamblen. Discussion:** ► Mr. Hellen stated that just like the other committee charges, this resolution lays it all out. He stated that some funding has already been put aside to do the analysis. He said that there is still a lot of work to be done in the inside. He noted that he hopes to have a capital expenditure approved to assist in the clean out and organization. As written in the resolution: Now Therefore, the Franklin Town Council hereby establishes the Davis-Thayer Building Reuse Advisory Committee as follows: 1. The Town Council has determined to appoint no more than nine (9) members to the Davis-Thayer Building Reuse Advisory Committee, including the following representation and nomination selection criteria: a. Three (3) members of the Franklin Town Council; b. One (1) member of the Franklin Planning Board; and c. Five (5) members At-Large. 2. The Town Administrator shall nominate all nine members of the committee membership to be ratified by the Town Council. The Chair of the Town Council shall select the Chair, Vice-Chair and Clerk. Terms of the committee shall end on December 31, 2023. ► Town Council members asked questions and made comments. ► Councilor Jones stated that it would be nice to see the building put to use, but he does acknowledge the age of the building. ► Councilor Pellegri asked if a ZBA member should be put on this committee. ► Mr. Hellen stated that he did not see that the ZBA would have any roll. ► **VOTE: Yes-9, No-0, Absent-0.**

- j. Resolution 23-09: Town Administrator Evaluation Subcommittee (Motion to Approve Resolution 23-09 - Majority Vote).** ► Councilor Jones read the resolution. ► **MOTION to Approve Resolution 23-09: Town Administrator Evaluation Subcommittee by Dellorco. SECOND by Hamblen.** **Discussion:** ► Mr. Hellen reviewed that this is a contract obligation. ► **VOTE: Yes-9, No-0, Absent-0.**
- k. Resolution 23-10: Gift Acceptance - Police Dept. (\$5,050), Veterans' Services Dept. (\$2,600) (Motion to Approve Resolution 23-10- Majority Vote).** ► Councilor Jones read the resolution. ► **MOTION to Approve Resolution 23-10: Gift Acceptance - Police Dept. (\$5,050), Veterans' Services Dept. (\$2,600) by Dellorco. SECOND by Hamblen. Discussion:** ► Mr. Hellen thanked the donors for their generous donations. ► **VOTE: Yes-9, No-0, Absent-0.**

**TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:** ► Mr. Hellen said happy New Year to everyone.

#### **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- a. Capital Budget Subcommittee.** ► None.
- b. Budget Subcommittee.** ► None.
- c. Economic Development Subcommittee.** ► Councilor Hamblen stated that the EDC and the EDC+ met tonight; they are moving a lot line cleanup to the Town Council. She stated that the EDC+ met after that and they did not want to feel rushed, so they are going to try to plan a longer meeting, hopefully on January 25, 2023. They will let everyone know when they determine the time.
- d. GATRA Advisory Board.** ► Councilor Frongillo stated that GATRA previously had three different operators across the area, and they moved to one; they just chose Nation Express.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:** None.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS:** ► Councilor Sheridan said happy New Year. ► Councilor Frongillo said if anyone wants to talk to him, he will be at Intermission Café from 8 to 10 next Monday. ► Councilor Hamblen said the next indoor Farmers Market will be on January 14, 2023, from 10 AM to 2 PM at Fairmount Fruit Farm. ► Councilor Pellegri asked if the archivist from the museum could come in to be introduced as well as the marketing person to see what she has been doing. She asked if Mr. Hellen is looking for a group to get together for a new group for the Friends of the Library. She stated that she hates losing all that money for the library. She stated that she would like to encourage that group to get reestablished. ► Mr. Hellen stated that it was the Franklin Library Association (FLA) that dissolved. He stated that he does not think the Town government should be sponsoring non-profits. ► Councilor Pellegri stated that the oldest resident in Franklin will be brought forward and a proclamation read for the resident. ► Councilor Chandler said happy New Year. He noted how great it was that the 4<sup>th</sup> graders came in tonight. ► Councilor Cormier-Leger stated that it was great to have the children and parents here tonight. He commented that during the Town Council hours at the Senior Center in December, the Senior Center staff brought to their attention that four individuals and one family are seeking services from the Senior Center that are homeless. He gave kudos to the Senior Center staff and others who are pitching in with showers, food, clothing, and services. He stated it was humbling to hear that we have residents in our town that are living in tents and that are sleeping in their cars. He stated that I think we take for granted how much we have and we need to be cognizant that there are some in our community that are struggling. He thanked all of the staff and volunteers who are coming to those people's aid. ► Councilor Jones said happy New Year. ► Councilor Dellorco said he was piggybacking on Councilor Chandler and Councilor Cormier-Leger. He stated that a long time ago he was a coach for the younger children. He stated that you developed friendships for the rest of your life. He stated that regarding the homeless issue, we have someone who passed away last week who was homeless. He stated that he commended the Senior Center and everything they do. He stated that he received a phone call from people on 101/103 Pine Ridge; they want to know if the road is finished. He stated that when it rains, dirt runs into their driveways. He asked

if Town Engineer Michael Maglio could go up there. He asked for clarification on it. ► Chair Mercer thanked Councilor Cormier-Leger for arranging for the 4<sup>th</sup> graders to come in to be recognized. He stated that those are the fun things that the Town Council gets to do. He thanked the parents and the kids and the organization for giving the Town Council the opportunity to congratulate them. He stated that tonight they made a very good start to 2023 by the formulation of the committees that were voted on to move forward tonight. He noted it was good to see how much has been done to get us to this point on the goals. He said happy New Year.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION: None.**

**ADJOURN: ► MOTION to Adjourn by Dellorco. SECOND by Jones. No Discussion. ► VOTE: Yes-9, No-0, Absent-0.**

**Meeting adjourned at 9:03 PM.**

Respectfully submitted,

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Judith Lizardi  
Recording Secretary