

**CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING  
JANUARY 20, 2015**

**Call to Order**

Mayor Merrifield called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, Franklin City Hall. Salute to the Flag was led by Councilor Starkweather.

**In Attendance**

Councilor Boyd, Councilor Starkweather, Councilor Barton, Councilor Feener, Councilor Desrochers, Councilor Wells, Councilor Giunta, Councilor Dzujna, City Manager Dragon and Mayor Merrifield.

**Absent**

Councilor Clarenbach

**Public Hearings**

**Resolution #05-15** – This resolution concerns the funding of the “Cross Street Water Tank Rehabilitation Project” and the US Route 3/Industrial Park Drive Water Main Relocation Project”.

Mayor Merrifield requested that Municipal Services Director Sullivan offer a short update concerning this resolution and the two projects contained in this resolution.

Director Sullivan advised that the City has two major projects facing the City which are impacting the Water Department. One being the US Route 3/Industrial Park Drive Road Reconstruction Project. Because the City water main is in direct conflict with State NHDOT infrastructure on U.S. Route 3, the City is required to relocate approximately 2,400 feet of 12” water main . The water main on Industrial Park Drive the State will pay at a cost of approximately \$65,000 but the relocation of the water main on Route 3 they will not pay for and this represents a cost of approximately \$250,000. It is anticipated the project would be advertised

in May, 2015, bids would come in during July, 2015 and the work would begin in August, 2015 so that the sub-surface work would be completed prior to winter.

The second very important project is the rehabilitation of the Cross Street Water Tank. This tank was installed in 1964; it is a 500,000 gallon tank. Director Sullivan advised that in 2009 a diver was put down in the tank with a camera and pictures were taken of the inside which showed extensive signs of corrosion and interior deterioration. The tank began leaking last year and in order to stop the leaking the water capacity was lowered by 15 feet. If the tank gets below 350,000 gallons it affects the water pressure. The cost to rehabilitate the Cross Street Water Tank is approximately \$515,000. To replace the tank with a 750,000 gallon tank the cost would be 1.2 to 1.4 million dollars. Director Sullivan recommended rehabilitation of the tank and anticipates the City should get 25 to 30 years of service out of the tank once rehabilitated.

Mayor Merrifield opened the public hearing to the public. Resident Leigh Webb asked how long the repair would take and how is it done. Director Sullivan responded the rehabilitation work could take 60 to 90 days and Director Sullivan explained the tank would be drained and the interior and exterior sandblasted, de leaded as necessary, primed and painted. Temporary water service would be provided to the Tank's service area by pumping water uphill from hydrants on Victory Drive from the 16" water main and up to open hydrants for avoid over pressurizing the system.

Resident Leigh Webb commented he is in favor of the project and that long term the City needs to think about the greater good. He also commented that he had been asked if the tank project would affect the historical significance of the area which he responded it would have no impact as it tis an existing tank.

There was no one else from the public to speak; Mayor Merrifield closed the public hearing.

**Resolution #06-15** – This resolution concerns the actual funding of both the Water Main Relocation Project on Route 3 and the Rehabilitation of the Cross Street Water Tank.

Again Mayor Merrifield requested that Director Sullivan offer information on this resolution. Director Sullivan advised that the City of Franklin has an extensive water system with only 2,300 customers and the financing he is recommending for these projects is the most reasonable way to go. The resolution would provide for a loan from the State of New Hampshire Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) in an amount not to exceed \$765,000. The Mayor and City Manager would need to be authorized to submit the final loan application package and submit related documents. Brian presented numbers on 10, 15 and 20 year loan payments which are shown on the amortization schedule provided in the City Council Packet.

Mayor Merrifield opened the public hearing. Resident Leigh Webb expressed his support for the resolution and the project. No one else came forth to speak; the public hearing was closed.

Councilor Desrochers questioned the amount of money in the Municipal Improvement Transportation Fund (MITF) and the fact that the cost for relocating the water main on Route 3 was not the responsibility of the Water Department as it is a state highway project and questioned the use of the MITF funds as an alternative. Finance Director Milner advised that there is currently \$227,000 in the fund. Director Sullivan explained that this funding needs to be utilized on the Haynes Brook Culvert Replacement Project 25% at a cost of \$125,000 local grant match or on the roadway, wall and sidewalk improvements for Cheney Street the widening of a potential third project on the reconstruction of a section of Industrial Park Drive. Councilor Desrochers also inquired if TIF money could be used?

Councilor Giunta recommended looking at taking the revenues collected from the two cell tower companies who have antennas located on the water tank from the

General Fund and apply this revenue to the water tank project loan payments. Director Sullivan explained this would be possible but would then leave the general fund revenues short. Councilor Boyd spoke in favor and stated the City needs to proceed with both projects.

Director Sullivan advised if both resolutions pass, consideration in setting a public hearing for February 2, 2015 City Council Meeting is needed. The ordinance for the public hearing would provide a \$10.00 increase per quarter to the quarterly water availability charge.

After further discussion, ***Councilor Feener called the question and it was seconded by Councilor Desrochers. There was one no vote, the majority were in favor, motion passes to call the question.***

***Motion made by Councilor Feener that the Franklin City Council approves Resolution #05-15 by a roll call vote. Motion seconded by Councilor Starkweather.***

***Roll Call Vote on Resolution #05-15:***

***Councilor Giunta – Yes***

***Councilor Boyd – Yes***

***Councilor Desrochers – Yes***

***Councilor Starkweather – Yes***

***Councilor Dzujna – Yes***

***Councilor Wells – Yes***

***Councilor Feener – Yes***

***Councilor Barton – Yes***

***Resolution #05-15 passes by a unanimous vote.***

Director Sullivan advised it would probably be advisable to put in the Resolution #05-15, the last sentence of the 2<sup>nd</sup> large paragraph, the ending sentence where in it states provides sole water storage capacity for the entire “Willow Hill Service Area add at an estimated cost of \$515,000.

***Motion made by Councilor Feener that the Franklin City Council approves Resolution #06-15 by a roll call vote. Motion seconded by Councilor Starkweather.***

***Roll Call Vote on Resolution #06-15:***

***Councilor Giunta – Yes***

***Councilor Boyd – Yes***

***Councilor Desrochers – Yes***

***Councilor Starkweather – Yes***

***Councilor Dzujna – Yes***

***Councilor Wells – Yes***

***Councilor Feener – Yes***

***Councilor Barton – Yes***

***Resolution #06-15 passes by a unanimous vote.***

***Motion made by Councilor Feener that the Franklin City Council sets a public hearing for Monday, February 2, 2015 at 6:06 p.m. regarding the adoption of Ordinance #09-15 a change to the Franklin Municipal Code, Chapter 160-1 Fees increasing the water availability charge by \$10.00 per quarter. Motion seconded by Councilor Desrochers.***

Mayor Merrifield read Ordinance #09-15 into the record:

**ORDINANCE #09-15**

**AN AMENDMENT TO THE FRANKLIN MUNICIPAL CODE:**

**In the Year of our Lord, Two Thousand Fifteen;**

**Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Franklin that the Franklin Municipal Code, Chapter 160, Fees, 160-1 Fees charged for service by the City of Franklin Water Department be changed as follows:**

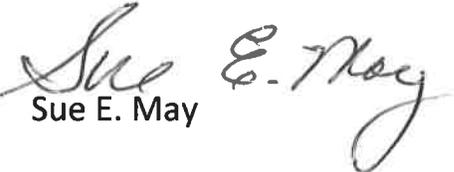
	<u>Current Fee</u>	<u>Change To</u>
<b>Water billing rate (availability charge)</b>	<b>\$ 20.00</b>	<b>\$ 30.00</b>
<b>5/8" Meter</b>	<b>20.00</b>	<b>30.00</b>
<b>1" Meter</b>	<b>45.00</b>	<b>55.00</b>
<b>1 1/2" Meter</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>110.00</b>
<b>2" Meter</b>	<b>200.00</b>	<b>210.00</b>
<b>3" Meter</b>	<b>450.00</b>	<b>460.00</b>
<b>Over 3" Meter</b>	<b>900.00</b>	<b>910.00</b>

**Fee to be effective February 1, 2015.**

**All in favor of the motion to schedule a public hearing on Ordinance #09-15.**

***Motion to adjourn made by Councilor Feener, seconded by Councilor Giunta. All in favor; meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.***

Respectfully submitted,

  
Sue E. May