

**FRANKLIN CITY COUNCIL BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING
THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 2015**

Call to Order

Mayor Merrifield called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, Franklin City Hall.

In Attendance

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

Absent

Councilor Clarenbach, Councilor Boyd and Councilor Giunta.

Salute to the Flag was led by Councilor Starkweather.

Section 5 Page 3

City Clerk/Tax Collector

City Clerk/Tax Collector Katie Gargano advised the bottom line on Page 3 is down 1%.

Page 4

Elections

Down 5% and Mrs. Gargano explained that this budget there is only two elections, the City and the Presidential primary which reduced costs. She also advised that they now have a drop box on the outside of the front door where people can drop off payments for water/sewer, tax bills after hours. She also advised that registration or payments can be done on line.

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Finance

Total for Administration is up 2%. Finance Director Milner commented that New Hampshire Retirement increased, worker's compensation increased, and the contract with the auditors increased a small amount.

Section 6, Library

Director Rob Sargent introduced Mrs. Christine Dzujna and Mr. Michael Gula, Trustees of the Trust Funds for the Library and advised they would be representing the Library and can answer any questions the Mayor or Council may have concerning the revenues and appropriations for the Library.

Revenues were up 1% as were total expenditures. Mr. Gula advised that shortly books will be available on line. Councilor Feener inquired about what kind of traffic the Library is experiencing since the closing of the Library on Mondays and not opening until 11 am on Tuesday although open until 8 pm and Wednesday through Saturday the hours are 8 am to 5 pm. Director Sargent stated they haven't notice much change in the traffic. Most residents are aware the Library is closed on Mondays. Saturdays are always busy and we see a lot of people coming in on Tuesday after they get off work.

Section 5, Page 33 **Welfare**

Director Tracy stated that the Welfare Administration is up 2% primarily due to Wages, Health, Social Security, Medicare and Worker's Compensation.

Page 34

Total Welfare down by 19%. Director Tracy commented that assistance for food has been reduced by 20%, rents by 38% for a total reduction in Direct Assistance of 28%. Welfare Burials were up 33% and Director Tracy commented that there have been several this budget season.

Councilor Feener inquired if the school's medical insurance is a lot better than what the City offers. Director Milner commented that they have several plans they offer and yes some are a bit better coverage; however, they pay a portion of the premium.

Section 5, Page 6
Assessing

Manager Dragon stated the Assessing Contract and related items are all level funded. Wages, Social Security and Medicare went up 2% and there was an increase of 6% in the NH Retirement.

Page 7
Data Processing

Down 18%. Bottom line for Financial Administration is level funded.

General Government – Legal Expenses
Legal

Level funded.

Section 5, Page 10
General Government – Insurance

Manager Dragon advised General Liability Insurance is up 11%. The insurance was changed to Travelers at a savings of \$12,000 over renewing with PLT.

Equipment and Supplies

Level Funded

Page 39
Debt Service

Manager Dragon advised total long term interest is down 35% and total debt service is down 39%. The 1994 Daniel Webster Bridge bond retired in August, 2015. Manager Dragon advised that \$50, 000 has been moved to Capital Reserve. Manager Dragon advised that in the FY16 Proposed Budget there are no steps or COLA.

Other Business

Motion made by Councilor Dzujna that the Franklin City Council schedules a public hearing at 6:05 p.m. in the Council Chambers, Franklin City Hall regarding three consecutive public hearings concerning a \$500,000 Community Development Block Grant for public facility and housing projects of which \$475,000 will go to CATCH for the Riverbend Mill Project; motion seconded by Councilor Feener. All in favor; motion passes.

Motion made by Councilor Feener that the Franklin City Council approve Resolution #14-15 relating to authorization for the City of Franklin to participate as a member in the HealthTrust Pool Risk Management program in accordance with NH RSA 5-B and authorize the Mayor to sign said document. Motion seconded by Councilor Desrochers. All in favor; motion approved.

Mayor Merrifield read Resolution #14-15 into the record:

RESOLUTION #14-15

A Resolution Relating to the authorization for the City of Franklin to participate as a member in the HealthTrust pooled risk management program in accordance with NH RSA 5-B.

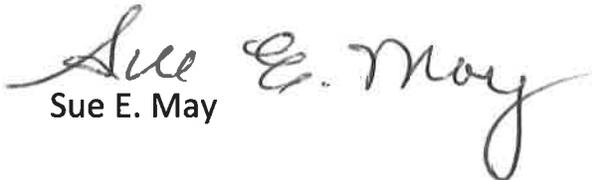
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that at the scheduled meeting of the City Council on Thursday, June 4, 2015, the City Council of the City of Franklin, New Hampshire does hereby adopt resolution 14-15:

RESOLVED: That the City of Franklin shall participate as a Member in the HealthTrust pooled risk management program for the provision of group medical and/or other benefit plan in accordance with the "Application and Member Agreement" and NH RSA 5-B.

RESOLVED: That Kenneth Merrifield, Mayor, City of Franklin , is hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver to HealthTrust, on behalf of the City of Franklin, the "Application and Membership Agreement" in substantially the form presented to this meeting.

Motion to adjourn made by Councilor Dzujna, seconded by Councilor Feener. All in favor, meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Sue E. May