**Town of Franklin**

**Office of the First Selectman**

**Franklin Town Hall**

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**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE**

**FRANKLIN BOARD OF SELECTMAN**

**Held at the Franklin Town Hall at 7:00 p.m.**

**Wednesday, the 13th day of November 2019**

**CALL TO ORDER**: First Selectman Charles Grant called the meeting to order at 8:08 p.m.

**PRESENT**: Selectman Russell Beisiegel and Selectman Thomas Craney

**RECOGNITION OF VISITORS**: Philip Cote

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None

**ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:** None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

1. Minutes of the October 30, 2019 Meeting

**MOTION #1:**  Selectman Thomas Craney made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of October 30, 2019 as presented with one minor correction. The correction to be made is under the Review of Reports, Financial Report, Section B, first sentence – name of rigging company is Industrial Rigging. Selectman Russell Beisiegel seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**REVIEW OF REPORTS**:

1. **Department of Public Works:** First Selectman Charles Grant gave an update on the new Public Works Mason Dump Truck. It arrived without the sander or plow attachment so it was sent back to have the parts mounted to the truck. The frame of the truck was defective so that is also being replaced. The truck should arrive sometime next week. First Selectman Charles Grant also reported that the mowers have been cleaned and winterized. The Public Works Department also got the rail mower back from Sprague so the mowing will be done tomorrow and then they will start doing brush removal. They will keep the rail mower for about a week and then give it back to Sprague. The water in Giddings Park has been shut off and winterized. All the trucks are ready to go for the winter and public works received a new delivery of salt.

First Selectman Charles Grant also reported that there have been complaints about the south shoulder falling apart on Murphy Road due to the increased traffic from the water and sewer project on Route 32. The plan is to cut out 8-9 inches in that section and then add gravel and asphalt to patch it and cut out the culver until milder weather.

First Selectman Charles Grant stated that the Board of Finance met last night but he didn’t have a chance to ask for the $20,000 to start removing hazardous trees. He will bring it up at the next meeting.

1. **Financial Report:** First Selectman Charles Grant reported that the Tax Collector has collected 56.7% of the taxes. He also reviewed the current budget figures and said that he and the Treasurer agreed to move the DEEP grants for the water and sewer project into STIF (short term investment fund) to earn more interest until the funds were needed to pay for project invoices. First Selectman Charles Grant stated that the Board of Finance still hasn’t received the actuarial report from the school; it was requested back in July. The school business manager isn’t experienced in Quick Books so the school’s accounting records have been done in Excel. First Selectman Charles Grant noted that this will probably cause the audit to be delayed and the town will have to file for an extension. He will offer to help the school fix their financial records documentation. The Treasurer is doing a great job.

Selectman Thomas Craney asked about the accounting codes and system currently being used by the Treasurer. The Board of Selectman discussed the accounting system and whether it should be revised. First Selectman Charles Grant explained the process currently being used and said it was working well for everyone. He also noted that years ago the Board of Selectman had come up with a 5- and 10-year plan but the town was never able to meet the benchmarks. First Selectman Charles Grant proposed doing an assessment of all the town’s assets before going to the Board of Finance with any new long-term plan. He said his goal was to put together a list of short- and long-term funding plans by mid-December. The list has grown because of projects that were not done.

**OLD BUSINESS**:

1. **Update on Museum Exterior Painting:** First Selectman Charles Grant reported that the painting on the Woodward Museum was completed and it looks great. As previously reported, the barn will be done in the spring.
2. **Discussion of Town Christmas Party:** First Selectman Charles Grant confirmed that the town Christmas party will be held on Saturday, December 14. He also said that he will look into whether real lights can be used on the tree at the town’s fire station. Additionally, First Selectman Charles Grant noted that the Lions Club’s annual Christmas party at the town’s senior center will be held on Wednesday, December 4. There will also be a special retirement party on December 13 for the Town Clerk.

**NEW BUSINESS**:

1. **Discussion and Approval of Resolution for DEMHS:** First Selectman Charles Grant asked the Board of Selectman for a resolution to sign the agreement with DEMHS – the Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security. All towns are required to sign the agreement.

**MOTION #2:**  Selectman Thomas Craney made a motion to approve signing the agreement with DEMHS. Selectman Russell Beisiegel seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

1. **Appointments:** First Selectman Charles Grant announced that since he was the most senior elected official in our area, he would invite the newly elected First Selectmen of other nearby towns to the next SCCOG meeting on Wednesday, November 20.

**MOTION #3:** First Selectman Charles Grant asked for a motion to approve the appointment of Greg Burdon to the Recreation Commission. Selectman Thomas Craney made a motion to approve the appointment of Greg Burdon to the Recreation Commission. Selectman Russell Beisiegel seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**MOTION #4:** First Selectman Charles Grant asked for a motion to approve the appointment of Marjorie Minor to the Board of Directors of the Janet Carlson Calvert Library. Selectman Thomas Craney made a motion to approve the appointment of Marjorie Minor to the Board of Directors for the Janet Carlson Calvert Library. Selectman Russell Beisiegel seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

First Selectman Charles Grant noted that there are other outstanding appointments – one for the Board of Finance and one for the Board of Education. The Board of Finance will probably find someone themselves to fill the vacancy and the Board of Education will probably nominate someone at their next meeting. The Board of Finance will hold a special meeting in two weeks on December 10 at 7:30 pm in the Franklin Town Hall.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**: None

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING**: The next scheduled meeting of the Franklin Board of Selectman is scheduled for Wednesday, November 27. First Selectman Charles Grant said that since the next regularly scheduled meeting is the day before Thanksgiving, he was recommending that the Board of Selectman cancel the meeting. The selectman agreed to cancel their meeting scheduled for November 27. The next meeting of the Franklin Board of Selectman will be on Wednesday, December 11, 2019.

**ADJOURNMENT**:

**MOTION #5:** First Selectman Charles Grant requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Selectman Thomas Craney made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Selectman Russell Beisiegel seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lee Ann D’Ambrosio

Administrative Assistant to the First Selectman