

**Town of Franklin
Office of the First Selectman
Franklin Town Hall
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**THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE FRANKLIN BOARD OF SELECTMEN HELD AT THE
TOWN HALL AT 7:00 P.M.
WEDNESDAY, THE 18TH DAY OF APRIL, 2018**

CALL TO ORDER: First Selectman Charles Grant called the meeting to order at 7:55 p.m.

PRESENT: Selectman Russell Beisiegel and Selectman Thomas Craney.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS: None

CORRESPONDENCE:

- a. **NONE**

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: Selectman Thomas Craney made a request to add the following under Old business:

- b. **Discussion on Police Activity in town:**

MOTION #1: First Selectman Charles Grant made a motion to approve the additions to the agenda as presented. Selectman Russell Beisiegel seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- a. April 4, 2018

MOTION #2: First Selectman Charles Grant made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of April 4, 2018 as presented with a minor change of the word "Pre-op" to "Pre-app". Selectman Thomas Craney seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

REVIEW OF REPORTS:

a. Department of Public Works:

First Selectman Charles Grant gave an update on the Department of Public Works. The public works crew has taken off the plows off the trucks, that's it for the winter season. The town's crew is tuning up the mowers. The town's public crew did borrowed the road side mower from Sprague and mowed on plains hill and under the mountain rd. First Selectman Charles Grant stated that a town resident called regarding the rain storm, water started to creep up at the old gravel bank at plains road. Thomas Curran stated that beavers had built a dam at one of the culvert pipes, the public works crew were able to take it down with no problems. There were many washouts on many roads due to the storms. The town will be opening up Bulky waste up for two weekends for three months allowing residents to do spring cleanup. First Selectman Charles Grant will be informing the residents about the new bulky waste schedule.

b. Financial Report:

First Selectman Charles Grant gave an update on the financial reports and went through a few budget line items. First Selectman Charles Grant updated the Board of Selectman that the Board of Finance has released the spending freeze for the town of Franklin. Selectman Russel Beisiegel stated he would like to see the back up on the payroll such as times cards and reports for the town hall. First Selectman Charles Grant will talk to Patricia Osten regarding the payroll time cards. First Selectman Charles Grant went over the tax collectors delinquent report with the Board of Selectman. First Selectman Charles Grant also stated that the town of Franklin has hit a new high for back taxes recovery. The town is still dangerously low on state municipal reports, the state is still holding back. First Selectman Charles Grant stated that there were a couple of areas he came along the budget that needs to be updated and relooked at. First Selectman Charles Grant went over a few line items that have not been updated on QuickBooks yet. First Selectman Charles Grant explained that he will now have access to QuickBooks to help give the Board of Selectman a better update on the town's budget.

OLD BUSINESS:

a. Discussion on 2018/2019 Budget:

First Selectman Charles Grant gave an update on the 2018/2019 towns budget. First Selectman Charles Grant went over the budget by each line item. First Selectman Charles Grant stated that some line items will have an increase and some will have a decrease due to the demand of the town. Some of the line items are budgeted for a certain amount, but that amount was never actually used, such as Bulky Waste fees. Selectman Beisiegel stated that it would be beneficial to have the actual budget from previous years to help with the town's budget. Selectman Thomas Craney asked if there's going to be any activity in the near future regarding the property at Tyler drive. First Selectman Charles Grant stated that he would like to post the Tyler drive property on Craigslist to get that office rented. If the town of Franklin rents this property, that would be another income that will be helping the town out. First Selectman Charles Grant asked Selectman Russel Beisiegel a question regarding the grand list and taxes for the budget. First Selectman Charles Grant is starting to figure out what the taxes are going to be for the town of Franklin. The Board of Selectman thoroughly went over the town's budget to make changes and corrections. First Selectman Charles Grant updated the Board of

Selectman that Thomas Tangonali (the towns IT expert) was able to create a confidential network that the First Selectman and the first selectman towns assistant can access to update the budget. This will make creating and updating the budget easier and efficient for the town. First Selectman Charles Grant also went over the towns employee salaries, he stated that the Board of Selectman decided to go with the same salary rate increase as the public works crew which will be a 2.8% increase. First Selectman Charles Grant will update the budget with the new salary figures for the next meeting. First Selectman Charles Grant is still waiting for CIRMA to give him exact figures for medical insurance. There will be a 3% increase on medical insurance cost, once First Selectman Charles Grant receives the correct figures it will be update on the budget. The Board of Selectman went over the line items for highway materials and road repairs for the town of Franklin. Patricia Osten and the First Selectman Charles Grant will go over the financial obligation and figure out what principal and interest payments the town owes for next year. First Selectman Charles Grant also informed the Board of Selectman that Willimantic Waste stop by the town hall and stated that they will being going up 7% for next year's waste disposal cost. First Selectman Charles Grant will update the budget with new figures and bring it to the next meeting for the Board of Selectman to go over.

- b. Discussion on Police Activity in Town:** Selectman Thomas Craney expressed his concerned regarding the illegal parking on route 32. Selectman Thomas Craney stated that cars have been parking on route 32 on the side of the road which is dangerous for everyone. Selectman Thomas Craney almost saw two cars get hit due to illegal parking on route 32. The town needs to get the state police involved and write these drivers up. First Selectman Charles Grant stated that he has made this complaint to the state police before and that he will mention it again to bring awareness.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Approval of Tax Refunds:** First Selectman Charles Grant read a list of tax refunds to the Board of Selectman.

Steven Lain for \$172.91
Jon Arruda for \$12.61
Jeff Linqvist for \$516.76
Victoria Porter for \$54.79
Russell Palazzo for \$18.64

MOTION # 3: Selectman Thomas Craney made a motion to approve all the tax refunds as presented. Selectman Russell Beisiegel seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

- b. Discussion on School Rental to Natchaug:** First Selectman Charles Grant had a discussion regarding the school rental to Natchaug. First Selectman Charles Grant stated that he signed a lease agreement because he questioned whether the school has the authority to rent out a town building. First Selectman Charles Grant stated it's one thing to rent out the gym for birthday parties or basketball. However, the rental to Natchaug can be up to 5 years. First Selectman Charles Grant informed the Board of Selectman that he has a concerned about the

Board of Education and school maintaining the building. First Selectman Charles Grant stated that the school lost a well pump in the fall of last year which was replaced. Recently a fuse blew out on the poles down below and no one realized it, which led to the school to lose the controls to the pump. I don't believe the maintenance at the school is being maintained properly. First Selectman Charles Grant stated that he is planning in increasing maintenances in all of the town facilities.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, April 25, 2018.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: None

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION # 4: First Selectman Charles Grant made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Selectman Thomas Craney seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at **9:39 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted
Cindy Machi- Rodriguez
First Selectmen Administrative Assistant