

CITY COUNCIL BUDGET WORKSHOP

Friday, August 14, 2026 – 6:00 PM

Franklin Public Library

ATTENDANCE

Present: Councilors Susan Hallett-Cook, Al Warner, Ed Prive, Ben Forge, Sam Jacobson, Tim Johnston, Justine Hoppe, Tom Boyce, Delaney Carrier (arrived at 6:02 p.m.), and Mayor Glenn Morrill.

Absent: None.

Others Present: City Manager Mitch Kloewer, Finance Director Pessy Cote, and members of the public.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Morrill called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Led by Councilor Prive.

REMOTE PARTICIPATION

Mayor Morrill asked Councilor Jacobson to state the reason for participating remotely. Councilor Jacobson stated he was traveling for a work assignment and participating alone.

Motion: Councilor Johnston moved to allow Councilor Jacobson to participate remotely via telephone. Seconded by Councilor Prive.

Vote: Roll Call

Councilor	Vote
Jacobson	Remote Participant Not Yet Admitted
Hallett-Cook	Yea
Warner	Yea
Forge	Yea
Prive	Yea
Johnston	Yea
Hoppe	Yea
Boyce	Yea
Carrier	Yea

Result: 8 Yeas, 0 Nays. Motion carried. Councilor Jacobson was permitted to participate remotely.

FY2027 BUDGET WORKSHOP

Agenda Item I. Council to Consider Adoption of FY2027 Budget Resolution #04-27

Motion: Councilor Warner moved: "I move the Franklin City Council adopt Resolution #04-27, relating to Appropriations and Estimated Revenues for Fiscal Year 2027." Seconded by Councilor Johnston.

Discussion:

Councilor Warner stated he believed another public hearing should be held because the budget resolution under consideration differed from the version previously presented at public hearing. Council discussed legal requirements for public hearings, several formatting errors found in the printed budget documents, and whether any material budget changes had occurred since the prior hearing. Questions were raised regarding the missing Merrimack County tax amount, the transfer to the School District, and the legality of adopting the budget without conducting an additional public hearing. City staff explained the identified issues were formatting and conversion errors and that the underlying budget figures had not materially changed. Finance Director Cote advised that the only change involved the transfer of \$52,300 to the School District and that overall budget totals remained unchanged.

Motion to Call the Question

Motion: Councilor Carrier moved to call the question. Seconded by Councilor Forge.

Vote: Roll Call

Councilor	Vote
Jacobson	Yea
Hallett-Cook	Nay
Warner	Nay
Forge	Yea
Prive	Yea
Johnston	Nay
Hoppe	Nay
Boyce	Nay
Carrier	Yea

Result: 4 Yeas, 5 Nays. Motion failed. Discussion continued on Resolution #04-27.

Motion to Postpone Budget Vote

Motion: Councilor Johnston moved to postpone the vote until the following Friday and hold a public hearing prior to voting. Seconded by Councilor Warner.

Discussion:

Council continued discussion regarding whether another public hearing was legally required and what impact a delay would have on budget adoption. Following additional clarification provided by Finance Director Cote regarding changes since the previous public hearing, Councilor Johnston withdrew his motion and Councilor Warner withdrew his second.

Result: Motion withdrawn; no vote taken.

Motion to Call the Question

Motion: Councilor Boyce moved to call the question. Seconded by Councilor Carrier.

Vote: Roll Call

Councilor	Vote
Jacobson	Yea
Hallett-Cook	Yea
Warner	Yea
Forge	Yea
Prive	Yea
Johnston	Yea
Hoppe	Yea
Boyce	Yea
Carrier	Yea

Result: 9 Yeas, 0 Nays. Motion carried. Discussion ended and Resolution #04-27 was brought to a vote.

Resolution #04-27 FY2027 Budget

Councilor Johnston read Resolution #04-27 into the record. During the reading, Council identified formatting errors including the omission of the \$52,300 school transfer entry and the Merrimack County estimated tax amount of \$2,425,622 . City Manager committed to issuing corrected budget documents.

Vote: Roll Call Vote on Resolution #04-27

Councilor	Vote
Jacobson	Nay
Hallett-Cook	Nay
Warner	Yea
Forge	Yea
Prive	Yea
Johnston	Yea
Hoppe	Yea
Boyce	Yea
Carrier	Nay

Result: 6 Yeas, 3 Nays. Motion carried. Resolution #04-27 relating to Appropriations and Estimated Revenues for Fiscal Year 2027 was adopted.

Following the vote, Councilor Boyce requested an updated budget summary without the formatting errors. City Manager Kloewer stated corrected documents would be distributed the following morning.

Agenda Item II.

Council to Consider Rescheduling Public Hearings for Proposed Charter Changes

Motion: Councilor Jacobson moved: "I move the Franklin City Council set two public hearings on August 31st to discuss the proposed changes to the City Charter. One amendment to change Board of Education to School Board and one amendment neutralizing gender bias throughout the City Charter and for the City Manager to properly post and notice the proposed amendment and hearing information per RSA 49B." Seconded by Councilor Carrier.

Discussion:

Council discussed rescheduling the public hearings that could not be held on August 10, 2026 due to the lack of a quorum. Councilor Warner questioned whether additional charter amendments discussed at the Legislative Committee level should also be included. Discussion occurred regarding Charter Articles C32 and C34, future CAR submissions, and the appropriate role of the Legislative Committee in advancing proposed charter amendments to the full Council. Councilor Johnston stated the two proposed amendments before the Council were straightforward and could move forward while other charter amendments continued through the legislative process.

Motion to Call the Question

Motion: Councilor Johnston moved to call the question. Seconded by Councilor Carrier.

Vote: Roll Call

Councilor	Vote
Jacobson	Yea
Hallett-Cook	Yea
Warner	Yea
Forge	Yea
Prive	Yea
Johnston	Yea
Hoppe	Yea
Boyce	Yea
Carrier	Yea

Result: 9 Yeas, 0 Nays. Motion carried. Discussion ended and the main motion was brought to a vote.

Main Motion: Schedule Public Hearings on August 31, 2026

Vote: Roll Call

Councilor	Vote
Jacobson	Yea
Hallett-Cook	Yea
Warner	Yea
Forge	Yea
Prive	Yea
Johnston	Yea
Hoppe	Yea
Boyce	Yea
Carrier	Yea

Result: 9 Yeas, 0 Nays. Motion carried. The Council scheduled public hearings for August 31, 2026 concerning amendments to change "Board of Education" to "School Board" and to neutralize gender-specific language throughout the Charter.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Councilor Carrier moved to adjourn. Seconded by Councilor Hoppe.

Vote: Roll Call

Councilor	Vote
Jacobson	Yea
Hallett-Cook	Yea
Warner	Yea
Forge	Yea
Prive	Yea
Johnston	Yea
Hoppe	Yea
Boyce	Yea
Carrier	Yea

Result: 9 Yeas, 0 Nays. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Demers
Executive Secretary

With Assistance of AI



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RESOLUTION #04-27

A resolution relating to Appropriations and Estimated Revenues for Fiscal Year 2027.

In the Year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty Six.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Franklin, New Hampshire, that the following appropriations and revenues be made for Fiscal Year 2027:

MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENTS

APPROPRIATIONS:

General Operations (MS-232):

General Government	\$	2,335,252
Public Safety		8,055,955
Highways & Streets		2,111,837
Sanitation		1,506,304
Health		72,300
Welfare		129,919
Culture & Recreation		1,732,155
Conservation & Development		5,000
Debt Service		686,270
Capital Outlay		466,289
Interfund Operating Transfers Out		761,538
Transfer to School District		52,300
Total General Operations Appropriations		17,915,119

Other Funds:

Parks & Recreation Appropriations		15,500
Outside Police Detail Appropriations		44,200
Water Appropriations		2,270,558
Sewer Appropriations		2,468,068
Capital Projects Appropriations		0
Pass Through Grant Appropriations		0
Total Municipal Appropriations	\$	22,713,445

ESTIMATED REVENUES:

General Operations (MS-434):

City Revenues General Fund	\$	6,276,964
Other Financing Resources		565,711
Interfund Operating Transfers In		82,741
Local Taxation		10,989,704
Total General Operations Estimated Revenues		17,915,119

Other Funds:

Parks & Recreation Estimated Revenues		15,500
Outside Police Detail Estimated Revenues		44,200
Water Estimated Revenues		2,270,558
Sewer Estimated Revenues		2,468,068
Capital Projects Estimated Revenues		0
Pass Through Grant Estimated Revenues		0
Total Municipal Estimated Revenues	\$	22,713,445

Resolution 04-27

SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

APPROPRIATIONS:

General Operations	\$	19,351,084
Food Service		0
Total School Department Appropriations	\$	<u>19,351,084</u>

ESTIMATED REVENUES:

General Operations	\$	11,906,573
Transfer from Municipal		52,300
Use of Fund Balance		150,000
Transfer from Capital Reserve		0
Local & State Taxation		<u>7,242,211</u>
Total School Estimated Revenues	\$	<u>19,351,084</u>

MERRIMACK COUNTY

Estimated Tax to be Raised	\$ 2,425,622
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INDUSTRIAL PARK TAX INCREMENT FINANCING DISTRICT

Estimated Tax to be Raised	\$ -
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FRANKLIN FALLS MIXED USE TAX INCREMENT FINANCING DISTRICT

Estimated Tax to be Raised	\$ 169,109
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VETERAN'S CREDITS

Estimated Tax to be Raised	\$ 140,125
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OVERLAY

Estimated Tax to be Raised	\$ 31,000
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Roll Call:

Councilor Boyce	_____	Councilor Jacobson	_____
Councilor Carrier	_____	Councilor Johnston	_____
Councilor Ben Forge	_____	Councilor Prive	_____
Councilor Hallett-Cook	_____	Councilor Warner	_____
Councilor Hoppe	_____		

Approved: _____
Mayor

Passed: _____

I certify that said vote has not been amended or repealed and remains in full force and effect as of the date of this Certification and that Michelle Stanyan is the City Clerk for the City of Franklin, New Hampshire.

A true copy, attested: _____
City Clerk

Date: _____