

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Monday, August 31, 2026 – 6:00 p.m.
Franklin Elks Lodge

ATTENDANCE

Present: Councilor Al Warner, Councilor Ben Forge, Councilor Ed Prive, Mayor Glenn Morrill, Councilor Sam Jacobson (participating remotely via Zoom), Councilor Tim Johnston, Councilor Tom Boyce, Councilor Delaney Carrier, and Councilor Susan Hallett-Cook (arrived at 6:17 p.m.).

Absent: Councilor Justine Hoppe.

Others Present: City Manager Mitch Kloewer, Fire Chief Mike Foss, School Superintendent Dan LeGallo, School Board Chair Liz Cote, and members of the public.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Morrill called the City Council meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Roll Call to Permit Remote Participation

Mayor Morrill asked the Council to vote, by roll call, on whether to allow Councilor Jacobson, participating remotely, to join the meeting. Asked to state the reason for remote participation, Councilor Jacobson stated that he was once again on a work assignment outside of the state, unable to attend in person, and that he was alone.

Motion: Councilor Warner moved: "I move to allow Councilor Jacobson to participate remotely." Seconded by Councilor Carrier.

Discussion: None.

Vote: Roll call vote.

Councilor	Vote
Boyce	Yea
Carrier	Yea
Forge	Yea
Hallett-Cook	Absent
Hoppe	Absent
Jacobson	Not yet permitted to join
Johnston	Yea
Prive	Yea
Warner	Yea

Motion Result: Motion carried, 6–0. Councilor Jacobson was permitted to participate remotely.

SALUTE TO FLAG

Led by Mayor Morrill.

MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR VETERANS

Councilor Prive reported no known deaths of Franklin veterans in the past month and asked those present to remove their hats for a moment of silence in honor of veterans currently serving.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

School Board Clarification (§§ C-13, C-14): Opened at 6:05 p.m. No public comment was offered. Closed at 6:05 p.m.

Neutralizing Gender Bias (§§ C-3, C-8, C-9, C-10, C-11, C-13, C-15, C-20, C-21, C-23, C-24, C-25, C-28, C-46, C-51, C-53): Opened at 6:06 p.m. No public comment was offered. Closed at 6:06 p.m.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

No representatives of the state legislature were present.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Public comment opened at 6:07 p.m. Persons wishing to address the Council were reminded they could speak for a maximum of three minutes, and that no more than thirty minutes would be devoted to public comment.

Name	Ward	Comments
Judith Ackerson	3	Acknowledged and thanked Councilor Jacobson for his Franklin Forward blog and his committee presentations ahead of Council meetings.
Karen Darling	3	Invited the Council to the Choose Franklin candidate forum on Sunday, September 27 at 6:00 p.m. at the Elks Lodge, and noted questions for candidates could be submitted through September 5.
Jim Jones	2	Spoke in support of the Memorandum of Understanding with the Franklin Outing Club and urged the Council to approve it.
Bob Lucas	1	Spoke in favor of retaining the volunteer-placed kayak planters in the road medians.
Andrew Dugay	2	Spoke in support of approving the Franklin Outing Club MOU, describing his family's use of the Veterans Memorial Ski Area.

Name	Ward	Comments
Myla Everett	1	Invited the Council to the Franklin Renaissance Faire on September 12 and 13 at Odell Park, and to the Firemen's Muster following it.
Leigh Webb	3	Asked about the purpose of moving fee schedules out of the city code and expanding the definition of park assets; urged that any language adopted be vetted by legal counsel and the NHMA; and encouraged broad public participation regarding the Winnepesaukee River Basin Program transition.
Leanne Fifield	2	Spoke in support of the Franklin Outing Club MOU and the proposed electronic device use policy; urged the Council to adopt a social media policy; and spoke in favor of the kayak planters.
Kathy Rago	3	Spoke about data centers and asked the Council to consider forming a citizen committee to research the potential costs and benefits of a data center in Franklin.
Dean Laughy	3	Spoke in support of exploring data-center development in Franklin as a way to address the City's recurring revenue shortfall.

Mayor Morrill then asked whether any councilor had a letter to read into the record. Councilor Warner noted that a citywide email disruption beginning at approximately 12:30 p.m. that day might have prevented some letters from being received.

Councilor Jacobson read into the record a letter from Vince Rivas, Ward 2, in support of retaining the kayak planters at the intersection of Central and Main Streets.

Public comment closed at 6:30 p.m.

CITY COUNCIL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Councilor Warner thanked City staff, and in particular Executive Assistant Brenda Demers, for their work on the new city website. Councilor Johnston seconded Councilor Warner's remarks and also thanked the City Manager and the Municipal Services Department for progress on paving several city roads.

MAYOR'S UPDATE

Mayor Morrill invited Myla Everett forward and read a proclamation declaring Saturday, September 12 and Sunday, September 13, 2026, as Renaissance Faire Weekend in the City of Franklin.

A Mayoral Proclamation in Honor of: Renaissance Faire Weekend

In the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Six,

A Proclamation relating to Renaissance Faire Weekend, in Franklin, New Hampshire and in keeping with our city's efforts to encourage opportunities for culture, arts, and activities, we celebrate the European Renaissance period while fostering community among our residents.

WHEREAS Renaissance Faire Weekend began in 2016 in Franklin, first held at Elks Field, and has continued each year on the weekend following Labor Day; and

WHEREAS the Renaissance Faire serves as an immersive educational experience, combining historical period elements of victuals and spirits with traditional garb and artisan wares for sale; and

WHEREAS the Renaissance Faire is a family-friendly event that brings our community together in the spirit of celebration; and

WHEREAS the festivities shall be held in accordance with tradition at Odell Park for the two-day weekend, in the spirit of celebration and community;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Glenn Morrill, Mayor of the City of Franklin, New Hampshire, do hereby proclaim Saturday, September 12, and Sunday, September 13, 2026 as:

Renaissance Faire Weekend

in the City of Franklin, and urge all citizens to join with family and friends in celebrating this event by attending the festivities and partaking in the merriment, traditional costumes, food, and activities.

After the proclamation was read, Mayor Morrill then reported that he had attended the Phase Two groundbreaking ceremony at the Easter Seals New Hampshire Military Veterans Campus, which will add an equine and recreation center and an empowerment and personal-growth center to the campus, and noted the event was well attended by city and state officials.

CITY MANAGER'S UPDATE

City Manager Kloewer reported that relocating the kayak planters from the medians to the sides of the road had not been an easy decision, but was made because of a legal and safety ambiguity around placing planters in road medians, and because no one he consulted, including the New Hampshire Department of Transportation and several road agents, could confirm the City faced no increased liability given that the placement is contrary to engineering clear-space guidance. He stated there had been no proposal to remove the planters altogether, and that he would welcome engineering documentation from area nonprofits addressing the guidance issue so the planters could potentially be returned to the medians in the spring.

He reported that a Microsoft email service issue had prevented delivery of emails sent to or from city officials after approximately 12:30 p.m. that day, and that the issue was expected to be resolved by Microsoft the following morning.

He reported having received road paving cost estimates that afternoon, too late to add as a late item given the size of the evening's agenda, and stated the matter may be brought to a future council workshop.

On the Whitewater project, he reported the City has spent just over \$2 million and been reimbursed for all but approximately \$300,000 of that amount, and that he would meet with the project manager on Thursday to ensure all outstanding invoices are properly categorized and submitted for reimbursement.

On Soldiers' Memorial Hall, he reported the project remains on schedule to reopen in December 2027; that he had met with Arco engineers, who identified engineering issues that will require reducing the balcony seating layout from what had previously been presented to the Council; that a construction-management RFP will be issued shortly to solicit multiple bids, with a recommended construction-management contract expected to come before the Council for consideration next month; and that he intends to arrange a public walkthrough of the building before construction begins, and another before the Council moves back in ahead of the December 2027 reopening.

Finally, he reminded the public that the new city website is live and asked residents who had previously subscribed to city email alerts to renew their subscriptions through the two-step sign-up process on the new site.

In response to a question from Councilor Boyce, City Manager Kloewer explained that City Clerk's Office hours had been adjusted because the office's prior schedule required more staff time than had been funded and had resulted in clerks working unpaid overtime. In response to a question from Councilor Jacobson, City Manager Kloewer confirmed that the newly identified Soldiers' Memorial Hall seating reduction is part of the same plan he had presented to the Council earlier in the year.

SCHOOL BOARD UPDATE

School Superintendent Dan LeGallo reported that staff returned from summer break on Wednesday, August 26, and thanked Mayor Morrill and Fire Chief Foss for speaking at the district's opening-day breakfast; that classes began that day at all three schools; and that family and consumer science teacher Judy Tibbetts began her 57th year of teaching, which WMUR planned to feature the following day. He reported the district is closing its books for fiscal year 2026 and expects final fund-balance information within the next couple of months, noting the district had budgeted to use fund-balance revenue.

School Board Chair Liz Cote reported that a public hearing on Policy JICK, "Bullying Prevention, Pupil Safety, and Violence Prevention," prompted by a recently enacted House Bill affecting the underlying RSA, will be held Tuesday, September 22 at 6:00 p.m. at the district office, with the goal of gathering feedback from students, parents,

administrators, staff, volunteers, community representatives, and law enforcement to inform policy amendments to be adopted by January.

She also summarized two other pieces of state legislation of note to Franklin: House Bill 1817, which requires school districts to allow students using Education Freedom Account (EFA)/voucher funds to participate in district curricular and co-curricular programs at no charge, eliminating a fee the district had previously been able to charge such students; and House Bill 1300, which requires a school-district tax-cap ballot question to appear on the November 2026 and 2028 general-election ballots, includes a sunset provision ending the tax-cap regulations on January 1, 2032, and grants the Department of Revenue Administration rulemaking authority, with technical guidance still pending from the state.

In response to a question from Councilor Prive, Superintendent LeGallo explained that a student returning to take a class such as drama at the high school using EFA funds may now do so without the district recouping any fee. In response to a question from City Manager Kloewer about ballot-preparation timing for House Bill 1300, School Board Chair Cote stated the district had not yet received guidance from the state. Councilor Warner and Superintendent LeGallo confirmed that a joint finance committee meeting would proceed as scheduled on September 16 at 6:00 p.m.

AGENDA ITEMS

Agenda Item I. Approve Minutes of August 3, August 11, and August 14, 2026

Motion: Councilor Carrier moved: "I move to approve the minutes from the August 3, August 11, and August 14, 2026 meetings." Seconded by Councilor Boyce.

Discussion: Councilor Prive asked that a printed copy of the minutes be provided to him, as they were only linked to their document location on the website.

Vote: Roll call vote.

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

Motion Result: Motion carried, 8–0. Motion: Minutes were approved from the August 3, August 11, and August 14, 2026 meetings.

Agenda Item II. Memorandum of Understanding with Franklin Outing Club, Inc. – Veterans Memorial Recreation Area

Motion: Councilor Carrier moved: "I move that the City Council approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Franklin and the Franklin Outing Club, Inc. for operation of the Veterans Memorial Recreation Area and authorize the City Manager to execute the Agreement." Seconded by Councilor Forge.

Discussion: Councilors discussed and refined several provisions of the draft MOU, including: entering specific dates that had been left blank; more explicit annual financial-reporting language, which the Council settled on tying to RSA 72 generally rather than a narrower citation; an insurance-cost split of 50/50 between the City and the Club; the process for approval of "reasonable charges," which the Council agreed should require City Council approval in addition to the City Manager's; a requirement that the Club submit its annual operating plan by June 1 of each year, consistent with the Club's fiscal-year start, with amendments requiring the Club's approval before adoption; a requirement that any new or changed fees the Club charges be approved by the City Council and be fixed on an annual basis rather than varying by event; and the Club's obligation to retain funds generated under the agreement for its own operations, equipment, and upgrades, consistent with RSA 72 and applicable state law. Franklin Outing Club president Tim Morrill came forward and confirmed the Club could meet the June 1 annual operating-plan deadline.

Councilor Carrier then moved to call the question. Seconded by Councilor Forge.

Vote: Roll call vote to call the question.

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

Motion Result: Motion carried, 8–0. Question called.

Vote: Roll call vote on the original motion.

Councilor	Vote
Boyce	Yea
Carrier	Yea
Forge	Yea
Hallett-Cook	Yea

Councilor	Vote
Hoppe	Absent
Jacobson	Yea
Johnston	Abstain
Prive	Yea
Warner	Yea

Motion Result: Motion carried, 7 yeas, 1 abstention. The City Council approved the Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Franklin and the Franklin Outing Club, Inc. for operation of the Veterans Memorial Recreation Area and authorized the City Manager to execute the Agreement.

Agenda Item III. Appropriation of Fire Equipment Sale Funds (Resolution #05-27)

Motion: Councilor Hallett-Cook moved: "I move that the Franklin City Council set a public hearing date for 6:00pm, at the September 28th, 2026 meeting of the City Council to adopt Resolution #05-27. Adoption of Resolution #05-27 would allow for the appropriation of \$10,582 received from the sale of surplus fire, rescue, and EMS-related equipment toward the purchase of a replacement fire engine." Seconded by Councilor Prive.

Discussion: In response to a question from Councilor Boyce, Fire Chief Foss confirmed that the majority of the surplus equipment has been sold. Asked about a burn planned at the old camp ground, Chief Foss reported the request had been declined and that the building will instead be demolished by the department.

Vote: Roll call vote.

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

Motion Result: Motion carried, 8–0. A public hearing on Resolution #05-27 was set for September 28, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. Following the vote, Councilor Forge read Resolution #05-27 into the record.

Agenda Item IV. Adoption of the LEOP and COOP Emergency Plans

Motion: Councilor Hallett-Cook moved: "I move that the Franklin City Council formally adopt the proposed Local Emergency Operations and Continuity of Operation Plans as prepared by Hubbard Consulting LLC." Seconded by Councilor Johnston.

Discussion: Councilor Jacobson asked whether any outside feedback had been integrated into the plan. City Manager Kloewer stated there had been no input received.

Vote: Roll call vote.

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

Motion Result: Motion carried, 8–0. The Franklin City Council formally adopted the proposed Local Emergency Operations and Continuity of Operation Plans as prepared by Hubbard Consulting LLC.

Agenda Item V. FEMA-Mandated Floodplain Ordinance Amendment (Chapter 170)

Motion: Councilor Johnston moved: "I make a motion to approve the recommended amendments to Chapter 170 Floodplain Management of the Franklin City Ordinance." Seconded by Councilor Hallett-Cook.

Discussion: Councilor Jacobson asked about a redline strike referencing a future date. City Manager Kloewer explained the amendment was required by FEMA.

Vote: Roll call vote.

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

Motion Result: Motion carried, 8–0. The recommended amendments to Chapter 170 Floodplain Management of the Franklin City Ordinance were approved.

Agenda Item VI. Moving the Parks & Recreation Fee Schedule Out of City Code

Motion: Councilor Hallett-Cook moved: "I move the Franklin City Council of the City of Franklin remove Chapter 309 section 15C of the City code and replace it with "Fees for use will be published annually as part of the budgeting process," and that the fee schedule for the Parks and Recreation Department and Parks and Recreation Department services published as Chapter 160-1 be removed and replaced with "See the Schedule of Fees published by the Parks & Recreation Department annually."" Seconded by Councilor Carrier.

Discussion: Councilors Warner and Johnston asked when this change had been vetted, noting they did not recall it. Councilor Jacobson and Councilor Hallett-Cook clarified the item originated with the Parks and Recreation Committee rather than the Legislative Committee, and that fees currently in the charter can only be updated by ordinance amendment, whereas fees published outside the charter can be updated annually. City Manager Kloewer confirmed the intent is to move all such fees outside Ordinance 160-1 so that updated fees are clean and consistent with the approved fiscal-year budget.

Vote: Roll call vote.

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

Motion Result: Motion carried, 8–0. The Parks and Recreation fee schedule was moved outside the City Code.

Agenda Item VII. Electronic Use Policy

Motion: Councilor Jacobson moved: "I move the Franklin City Council adopt the attached electronic device use at council and subcommittee meeting policy." Seconded by Councilor Forge.

Discussion: Councilor Carrier explained the policy would permit device use in addition to prior acknowledgment by the board or chair, and would prohibit communication with members of the public outside of meeting participants. Councilor Warner asked whether this was already addressed under RSA 91-A. Councilor Carrier responded that the

purpose was to build public trust and to clarify the rules for councilors before they sit at the table. Councilor Prive asked how the policy would be enforced. Councilor Jacobson and City Manager Kloewer stated that enforcement is not something the Council itself can carry out and would rest with the public under RSA 91-A. Councilor Johnston noted the Legislative Committee had discussed that the policy cannot be formally enforced.

Vote: Roll call vote.

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

Motion Result: Motion carried, 5–4, with Mayor Morrill casting the tie-breaking vote in favor. Motion: "I move the Franklin City Council adopt the attached electronic device use at council and subcommittee meeting policy."

Agenda Item VIII. Expanding the Definition of Park Assets in City Code (Chapter 309)

Motion: Councilor Jacobson moved: "I move the Franklin City Council of the City of Franklin remove references to community center in Chapter 309 of the city policy and replace it with parks and recreation asset." Seconded by Councilor Hallett-Cook.

Discussion: Councilor Jacobson noted this item originated with the Parks and Recreation Committee. City Manager Kloewer explained the change is intended to standardize terminology, since "community center" can refer to more than one location within the code. Councilor Carrier asked whether the chapter title should also be updated; Councilor Hallett-Cook agreed that made sense, and Councilor Carrier offered it as a friendly amendment, which Councilor Jacobson accepted. Councilor Johnston did not believe the title needed to change.

Vote: Roll call vote.

Councilor	Vote
Boyce	Yea
Carrier	Yea
Forge	Yea
Hallett-Cook	Yea
Hoppe	Absent
Jacobson	Yea

Councilor	Vote
Johnston	Yea
Prive	Yea
Warner	Yea

Motion Result: Motion carried, 8–0. The Chapter 309 language was changed as amended.

Agenda Item IX. Public Hearings Revisions (Chapter 31)

Motion: Councilor Warner moved: "I move to accept the revisions to Chapter 31 of the City Code as described in the attachment to this report." Seconded by Councilor Carrier.

Discussion: Councilor Warner raised concerns about removing the requirement to publish public-hearing notices in the newspaper. Councilors Carrier and Jacobson noted that newspaper posting is less effective than it once was and requires readers to find the right paper on the right day. Councilor Hallett-Cook asked whether the City had continued posting in the paper; City Manager Kloewer said it had, when required by state law. City Manager Kloewer reported that newspaper notices cost approximately \$80–\$100 each (about \$600 for two recent hearings), and that he would look into the cost of the City's electronic message boards as an alternative, in response to a question from Councilor Prive. Several councilors expressed concern about dropping newspaper notice entirely without a clear alternative in place, and Councilor Carrier suggested the item be sent back to the Legislative Committee rather than voted on that evening. Councilor Forge moved to refer the matter back to the Legislative Committee, as the Council was not ready to vote. Seconded by Councilor Prive.

Vote: Roll call vote on the motion to refer the matter back to the Legislative Committee.

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

Motion Result: Motion carried, 8–0. The proposed Chapter 31 revisions were referred back to the Legislative Committee; the original motion to accept the revisions was superseded and not voted upon directly.

Agenda Item X. Ordinance Revision Procedure (Chapter 68)

Motion: Councilor Jacobson moved: "I move to accept the revisions to Chapter 68 of the City Code as described in the attachment to this report." Seconded by Councilor Forge.

Discussion: City Manager Kloewer discussed the proposed changes to the ordinance-amendment procedure, which will require public hearings for land-use, zoning, and historic-district changes.

Vote: Roll call vote.

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

Motion Result: Motion carried, 7–1. Motion: "I move to accept the revisions to Chapter 68 of the City Code as described in the attachment to this report."

Agenda Item XI. Winnepesaukee River Basin Program Transition

Motion: Councilor Johnston moved: "I move that the Franklin City Council support the efforts to transition the Winnepesaukee River Basin Program from the NH Department of Environmental Services to a regional wastewater authority owned and managed by the member communities. Such support will include City Council authorizing Councilmembers, the City Manager and City Staff, support the transition with any of the Franklin State Representatives and Senators, and when it is under consideration by the Study Commission, the Legislature and the Governor." Seconded by Councilor Forge.

Discussion: City Manager Kloewer noted that only one meeting on the proposed transition had occurred to date and explained the reasoning behind the motion. Councilor Hallett-Cook raised concerns about the financial implications for the City. Councilor Warner raised concerns about ensuring Franklin has a voice in the process. The motion does not commit the City to any specific structure, but expresses interest in having input into future decisions about the regional program. Councilor Johnston moved to call the question. Seconded by Councilor Warner.

Vote: Roll call vote to call the question.

Councilor	Vote
Boyce	Yea
Carrier	Yea
Forge	Yea

Councilor	Vote
Hallett-Cook	Yea
Hoppe	Absent
Jacobson	Nay
Johnston	Yea
Prive	Yea
Warner	Yea

Motion Result: Motion carried, 7–1. Question called.

Vote: Roll call vote on the original motion.

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

Motion Result: Motion carried, 8–0. Motion: "I move that the Franklin City Council support the efforts to transition the Winnepesaukee River Basin Program from the NH Department of Environmental Services to a regional wastewater authority owned and managed by the member communities. Such support will include City Council authorizing Councilmembers, the City Manager and City Staff, support the transition with any of the Franklin State Representatives and Senators, and when it is under consideration by the Study Commission, the Legislature and the Governor."

Agenda Item XII. Scheduling a September Council Workshop

Motion: Councilor Warner moved: "I move the Franklin City Council set 14 September as a City council Workshop to discuss Roberts rules and council meetings." Seconded by Councilor Carrier.

Discussion: Councilor Carrier suggested moving the workshop to after the October 6 municipal elections so that newly elected councilors could take part. City Manager Kloewer noted a plan to hold both a September workshop and a longer January workshop as part of an ongoing councilor-training program. Councilor Warner expressed a preference for holding it in January or February. Councilor Forge asked about offering a shorter version in September and a longer version in January. Councilor Jacobson proposed moving the date to October 12, which was noted to conflict with Columbus Day. Councilor Carrier then proposed October 19 as an alternative date, seconded by Councilor Jacobson. Councilors Warner, Prive, and

Johnston favored keeping the workshop on September 14, with Councilor Prive noting that residents running for council could attend a meeting on that date. Councilor Carrier noted that an October date would allow newly elected councilors to participate; City Manager Kloewer noted that in any case, a newly elected councilor recognized by the Mayor could still take part in the discussion.

Vote: Roll call vote on the proposed amendment to move the workshop date to October 19.

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

Motion Result: Amendment failed, 2–6. The workshop was not moved to October 19.

Vote: Roll call vote on the original (unamended) motion.

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

Motion Result: Motion carried, 8–0. Motion: "I move the Franklin City Council set 14 September as a City council Workshop to discuss Roberts rules and council meetings." The workshop was set for September 14, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. at the Franklin Public Library.

Agenda Item XIII. Charter Amendment #1 – School Board Clarification (§§ C-13, C-14)

Motion: Councilor Carrier moved: "I move that the Franklin City Council approve proposed Charter Amendment #1, School Board Clarification (§§ C-13, C-14), as presented, and direct that it be prepared for submission to Franklin voters at the next

election at which the question may lawfully be placed, in accordance with RSA 49-B." Seconded by Councilor Forge.

Discussion: City Manager Kloewer discussed the steps required to place the amendment on the ballot. Councilor Warner asked whether there is a limit on the number of ballot initiatives that may be placed in a given year; City Manager Kloewer stated he had been told the limit is four. Councilor Warner noted the amendment would appear on the October 2027 ballot alongside Charter Amendment #2 and asked whether the Council was, in effect, using two of its available ballot questions at once. Councilor Hallett-Cook and Councilor Jacobson confirmed the Council was using this item to test the amendment process.

Vote: Roll call vote.

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

Motion Result: Motion carried, 8–0. The Council will proceed with the next steps to place this charter amendment before Franklin voters.

Agenda Item XIV. Charter Amendment #2 – Neutralizing Gender Bias (§§ C-3, C-8, C-9, C-10, C-11, C-13, C-15, C-20, C-21, C-23, C-24, C-25, C-28, C-46, C-51, C-53)

Motion: Councilor Jacobson moved: "I move that the Franklin City Council approve proposed Charter Amendment #2, Neutralizing Gender Bias (§§ C-3, C-8, C-9, C-10, C-11, C-13, C-15, C-20, C-21, C-23, C-24, C-25, C-28, C-46, C-51, C-53), as presented, and direct that it be prepared for submission to Franklin voters at the next election at which the question may lawfully be placed, in accordance with RSA 49-B." Seconded by Councilor Carrier.

Discussion: None.

Vote: Roll call vote.

Councilor	Vote
Boyce	Yea
Carrier	Yea
Forge	Yea
Hallett-Cook	Yea

Councilor	Vote
Hoppe	Absent
Jacobson	Yea
Johnston	Yea
Prive	Yea
Warner	Yea

Motion Result: Motion carried, 8–0. The Council will proceed with the next steps to place this charter amendment before Franklin voters.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Legislative Committee: Councilor Jacobson reported the committee met on August 20 at 6:00 p.m. at the Library and discussed charter amendments, public hearings and ordinance changes, winter parking and related ordinances, the trash ordinance, and the electronic use policy.

Muster Committee: No representative reported. The Council noted it would ask for an update at the September 14 workshop.

City Finance Committee: Councilor Carrier reported on a recent committee meeting; the next meeting is October 20 at 6:00 p.m. at the Public Library.

Parks & Recreation Committee: Councilor Jacobson reported on the items that came before the Council this evening and on a draft park-use policy under development, and noted the committee's next meeting is Wednesday, September 2 at 6:00 p.m. at Bessie Rowell.

NON-PROFIT REPORTS

None.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mayor and Council Appointments

Mayor Morrill reappointed Robert Desrochers Sr. to the Conservation Commission for another three-year term. The Council noted that remaining Conservation Commission vacancies will be posted on the city website.

Motion: Councilor Johnston moved: "I move the Franklin City Council appoint Deborah Burley to the Ward One Moderator seat." Seconded by Councilor Carrier.

Discussion: None.

Vote: Roll call vote.

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

Motion Result: Motion carried, 8–0. Deborah Burley was appointed Ward One Moderator.

Late Items

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Councilor Forge moved: "to adjourn." Seconded by Councilor Prive.

Discussion: None.

Vote: Roll call vote.

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

Motion Result: Motion carried, 8–0. The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Demers
Executive Secretary