

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Supervisor Dorothy Brown, Council Member Richard Brandt, Council Member Anne Marie Nightingale-Duprey, Council Member Leo Demong

Others Present: Amy McCormick—Town Clerk, Joe Shoemaker – County Legislator; Joel Peller – Attorney for the Town; George Stowers, resident; L. Scott Muller, resident; Paul Capone, resident.

Excused: Jacques DeMars—Highway Superintendent

CALL TO ORDER
Supervisor Brown called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and Town Clerk noted a quorum present.

REVIEW/APPROVAL OF APRIL 14, 2026 MINUTES- Approved as presented (Council Member Brandt, Seconded by Supervisor Brown m/s/p) All Aye

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS
The board audited and approved the following claims:

General Fund	Abstract 5	Claims 86- 106	\$257,658.18
Highway Fund	Abstract 5	Claims 49 - 54	\$15,385.30
General Fund Prepay	Abstract 5	Claims 23 -25	\$1,437.97

Note that voucher # 84, Abstract #4 for the General Fund and reissued as Voucher # 103 on Abstract 5 to North Country Door Systems, check #8501 was voided.

(Council Member Demong, Council Member Nightingale-Duprey m/s/p) All Aye.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT
Balances on hand as of April 30, 2026

General Fund

Checking	\$130,045.16
Savings	\$25,202.18
Historian	\$3,054.97
Kate Mt. SRF	\$2,122.79
Cemetery RF	\$5,799.84
CLASS	\$172,197.58
Kate Mt. CLASS	\$103,141.18

Highway Fund

Checking	\$712,437.87
Savings	\$58,713.51
Cap Project HW	\$4,907.61
CLASS	\$339,600.34

Landfill Closure Capital Reserve

Checking	\$1,522.76
CLASS	\$64.84

Fire Protection

Checking	\$2,479.96
CLASS	\$1,791.94

Capital Project Building

CLASS	\$339,600.34
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**RF indicates Reserve Fund, SRF indicates Special Reserve Fund
(Council Member Alexander, Council Member Brandt m/s/p) All Aye

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT
Sand/Salt Shed walls were treated by Eagle and Associates
Cleaned new salt/sand shed out of debris that was left and brought to transfer station
Sweeping of roads/sand has started and is ongoing
Many trees have been cut out of roadway on many roads, especially on Mud Pond seasonal use section

Patched all potholes on all roads (that were found)

Posted signs on roads were taken down (seasonal weight restrictions)

Grader was used on most dirt roads, adding millings to many of them

Truck 2 was brought to RR Charlebois for warranty work. Town of Malone transported it on their lowboy and 73.5 gallons of fuel were given to Town of Malone to replace fuel burned.

A new driveway culvert was installed for a taxpayer/landowner. Paperwork and check for reimbursement were turned over to Town Clerk

Received 1st WQIP grant reimbursement for sand/salt shed in the amount of \$444,902.65

Hired 1 (MEO) employee to fill one of two positions

Fuel and gas sheets were given to the Town clerk

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

2 cemetery plots

2 spayed/neutered/1 unaltered dog licenses issued

6 building permits

1 genealogical search

1 park rental deposits received and held in Town Clerk's checking account until after events

NEW BUSINESS

A. BESS/ZONING

Supervisor Brown discussed recent proposals in neighboring Towns for Battery Energy Storage Systems and various concerns regarding safety and potential environmental impacts, among other concerns. Council Member Brandt advised these systems help our electrical grids to balance the load and it may be the case that the Town of Franklin may not be approached as a location.

Motion by Council Member Brandt, seconded by Council Member Demong to forgo the reading of each proposed law in their entirety. (m/s/p all Aye).

RESOLUTION #9 of 2026 - RESOLUTION INTRODUCING PROPOSED LOCAL LAW NUMBER 1 FOR THE YEAR 2026 ENTITLED "A LOCAL LAW ESTABLISHING A TWELVE-MONTH MORATORIUM PROHIBITING THE REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF APPLICATIONS AND PERMITS FOR 'BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS (BESS)' IN THE TOWN OF FRANKLIN"

On a motion brought by Council Member Demong, seconded by Council Member Alexander, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Franklin Town Board hereby introduces proposed Local Law No. 1 of 2026 entitled "Local Law Establishing a Twelve-Month Moratorium Prohibiting the Review and Approval of Applications and Permits for 'Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS)' in the Town of Franklin" reading and provided as follows:

TOWN OF FRANKLIN LOCAL LAW NO. 1 OF 2026 LOCAL LAW ESTABLISHING A TWELVE-MONTH MORATORIUM PROHIBITING THE REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF APPLICATIONS AND PERMITS FOR 'BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS (BESS)' IN THE TOWN OF FRANKLIN

Section 1. Purpose

The purpose of this local law is to protect the public health, safety and welfare of the residents of the Town of Franklin and to maintain the status quo by temporarily suspending the processing of land use approvals as provided herein and to further suspend the rights of land owners and their designees to obtain development approvals as identified below for a period of twelve months from the adoption of this local law while the Town Board studies, analyzes and determines potential appropriate planning/site plan review and adoption of zoning laws regarding the propriety of Battery Energy Storage Systems (as defined below).

Section 2. Legislative Findings

One specific area of concern and inquiry is Battery Energy Storage Systems within the Town of Franklin. The Town of Franklin has significant safety concerns, especially following fire incidents at facilities across the state. The Town of Franklin intends to study the safety and security of these energy storage systems. including thermal runaway, off gassing and toxicity, stranded energy, ways to prevent fires, prevent by-product contamination, and ensure emergency responders have the necessary training and information to prepare and deploy resources in the event of a fire. Relatedly, the Town of Franklin intends to study which areas in the Town may be appropriate for such systems.

The Town of Franklin understands that in the Summer 2023 fires occurred at three energy storage facilities and a fire at a solar farm that is believed to have sent potentially toxic smoke across the Albany area. These events prompted the Governor to establish an Inter-Agency Fire Safety Working Group (FSWG), which recently made recommendations for changes to the New York 1 State Fire Prevention and Building Code Council. New York State adopted updated energy storage safety codes based on the FSWG's

recommendations. The updated NYS Fire Code provisions took effect on or about January 1, 2026. Thus, utility-scale Battery Energy Storage Systems may have adverse impacts on the community including safety and fire risk, and may have a detrimental effect on the value of properties and may impair important agricultural resources within the Town of Franklin. The New York State Energy Research and Development Authority has developed guidance, including a model law, for regulating Battery Energy Storage Systems to mitigate and address potential adverse impacts on the municipality. The Town of Franklin is very concerned with detrimental effects of Battery Energy Storage Systems on the health, safety, welfare and quality of life of the residents and citizens of the Town of Franklin. The Town Board has decided to consider potential solutions thereto to address these concerns. To allow the Town Board of Franklin time to complete its review, draft proposed new legislation and enact any such legislation, the Town Board deems it in the best interest of the general health, safety and welfare of the residents of the Town of Franklin to impose a moratorium prohibiting the review and approval of applications and permits for Battery Energy Storage Systems in the Town of Franklin.

Section 3. Definitions

Battery Energy Storage System (BESS): One or more devices, assembled together, capable of storing energy in order to supply electrical energy at a future time, typically using lithium-ion or similar batteries, including all equipment and controls, not to include standalone 12v car batteries, electric motor vehicles or any battery energy storage unit used on a residential property for the benefit of such property only. Nothing herein shall prohibit a licensed load saving entity from conducting its regular and usual business of providing electrical distribution within its service territory as defined by its tariff by the New York State Department of Public Service.

Section 4. Moratorium Imposed

For a period of one (1) year following the effective date of this Local Law, no board, officer, or agency of the Town shall accept, process, or approve any application for the construction or operation of any Battery Energy Storage System (BESS). This moratorium may be extended by one (1) additional period up to one (1) year by Resolution of the Town Board upon a finding of necessity for such extension.

Section 5. Study and Review

During this moratorium, the Town Board shall review safety, environmental, and zoning issues, and prepare planning and zoning ordinances while reviewing a potential Comprehensive Plan pursuant to Town Law §272-a which will address BESS concerns.

Section 6. Hardship Exemption

Owing to the limited scope and duration of this moratorium, there is no provision being made in this Local Law for any waivers to its applicability. However, the Town Board may, but is not obligated to promulgate regulations by Resolution of the Board authorizing a hardship waiver process to this moratorium.

Section 7. Extension or Early Termination

The Town Board may, by Resolution, extend or terminate the moratorium as necessary.

Section 8. Supersession Clause

This Local Law is enacted pursuant to the New York State Constitution and Municipal Home Rule Law §10, and shall supersede any provision of the Town Law or any other local law, ordinance, or regulation of the Town of Franklin to the extent necessary to give full effect to the provisions of this Local Law. Without limitation, this Local Law shall supersede the procedural and decision deadlines contained in Town Law §§ 267, 267-a, 274-a, 276, and 277, and any inconsistent provisions established by the Town of Franklin, for the duration of the moratorium established herein.

Section 9. SEQRA Classification

This Local Law is a Type II action under the State Environmental Quality Review Act {SEQRA} pursuant to 6 NYCRR §617.5(c){30}, as it involves the adoption of a moratorium enacted for planning purposes that does not authorize physical alteration of the environment. As a Type II action, this Local Law is not subject to further review under SEQRA.

Section 10. Severability

If any clause, sentence, paragraph, section or part of this Local Law shall be adjudged by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such judgment shall be confined in its operation to the clause, paragraph, section or part thereof directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment shall have been rendered, and the remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 11. Penalties for Offenses

Any person or entity that violates the terms of this local law shall be guilty of a violation and subjected to a fine of not less than \$250.00 per day and for imprisonment of 15 days. Each day that the violation continues shall be deemed a separate offense. In addition, the Town may enforce this local law by seeking an injunction or any other legal remedy it deems appropriate.

Section 12.

Conflicts In the event that any provision or regulation of the Town of Franklin is in conflict with the provisions of this Local Law such provision is hereby superseded by the requirements of this Local Law during the moratorium set forth above. It is the intention of the Town Board to supersede any inconsistent provisions in the following 3 sections of New York State Town Law §265, §267, §267-a, §267-b, §274-a, §274-b, §276, and §277 pursuant to Municipal Home Rule Law Section 10.

Section 13. Authority

This Local Law is adopted pursuant to Article IX of the New York State Constitution, Municipal Home Rule Law §§ 10 and 22, and the Town Law of the State of New York.

Section 14. Referral to County Planning Board

This Local Law is hereby referred to the Franklin County Planning Board pursuant to New York State General Municipal Law § 239-M.

Section 15. Effective Date

This Local Law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State of the State of New York in accordance with New York Municipal Home Rule Law. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Franklin shall hold and conduct a public hearing on the foregoing proposed local law on the 10th day of June, 2026, at 5:00 PM, to hear any and all persons concerning the same.

Those Voting Aye: Supervisor Brown
Council Member Alexander
Council Member Brandt
Council Member Demong
Council Member Nightingale-Duprey

Those Voting No: None

Attorney for the Town Joel Peller presented information regarding the establishment of a Comprehensive Plan for the Town of Franklin which would entail several proposed laws serving to protect the integrity and character of the Town and the welfare of its residents as a prerequisite for the enactment of a formal zoning and planning code. Supervisor Brown advised FEMA provided preliminary updates to flood maps and will be setting a meeting date with the Town to discuss these changes. (available in the office of the Town Clerk for review upon request). This need for a long-term plan for the Town in conjunction with new developments such as the possibility of a BESS facility and flood plain adjustments, the Attorney for the Town and Supervisor Brown see the need to revisit development within the Town. The first step would be to place a moratorium on new construction through the use of a task force of three to five members whose purpose would not be to prohibit construction but rather to reduce environmental impacts on the Town and residents.

RESOLUTION #10 OF 2026 - INTRODUCING PROPOSED LOCAL LAW NUMBER 2 FOR THE YEAR 2026 ENTITLED “LOCAL LAW ESTABLISHING A TWELVE-MONTH MORATORIUM PROHIBITING APPLICATIONS, APPROVALS AND CONSTRUCTION FOR CERTAIN LAND DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN THE TOWN OF FRANKLIN”

On a motion brought by Council Member Demong, Seconded by Council Member Alexander, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Franklin Town Board hereby introduces proposed Local Law No. 2 of 2026 entitled “Local Law Establishing a Twelve-Month Moratorium Prohibiting the Applications, Approvals and Construction for Certain Land Development Projects in the Town of Franklin” reading and providing as follows:

TOWN OF FRANKLIN LOCAL LAW NO. 2 OF 2026 LOCAL LAW ESTABLISHING A TWELVE-MONTH MORATORIUM PROHIBITING APPLICATIONS, APPROVALS AND CONSTRUCTION FOR CERTAIN LAND DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN THE TOWN OF FRANKLIN

Section 1. Purpose

The purpose of this local law is to temporarily prohibit applications for and approvals of residential developments and the issuance of building permits for the construction of residences and residential buildings to protect the public health, safety and welfare of the residents of the Town of Franklin. The Town Board wishes to maintain the status quo by temporarily suspending the processing of land use approvals as provided herein and to further suspend the rights of land owners and their designees to obtain development approvals as identified below for a period of twelve months from the adoption of this local law while the Town Board studies, analyzes and determines potential and appropriate planning/site plan review processes for the adoption of a Comprehensive Plan, pursuant to New York State Town Law §272-a[2], as a preliminary step toward the process of adoption of a local zoning law regarding land use and development. This local law prevents a “race of diligence” by those seeking to obtain approvals before the regulations are in place and is intended to protect the public interest and welfare until adequate planning regulations and zoning legislation is finally adopted.

Section 2. Legislative Findings

Town of Franklin is home to several lakes and ponds, including Loon Lake, Lake Kushaqua, Rainbow Lake, Buck Pond and Mountain Pond as well as several rivers and streams including, the Saranac River and Alder Brook. The Town has recently seen an interest in dense residential development in areas which would affect such bodies of water by increased erosion or lack of a plan for minimization of future environmental vulnerability. Considerable acreage of these important natural resources could be lost or impaired by the effects of such building without proper regulation, including, but not limited to draining, dredging, filling, excavating, polluting and other acts inconsistent with the natural uses of such areas. The Town's lakes, ponds and streams are in jeopardy of being despoiled or impaired, contrary to the public safety and welfare.

In addition, the Town Board recognizes a need to complete and approve a Comprehensive Plan as a precursor to the adoption of townwide land use regulations, in the form of a zoning code, in order to identify the goals, objectives, principals, guidelines, policies, standards, devises, instruments and potential mitigation plans for immediate and long range development in the Town of Franklin. As such there exists an immediate need for zoning, subdivision, special use permitting, site plan regulation or other regulations which prescribes the appropriate use of property or the scale, location and intensity of development. The Comprehensive Plan shall include, but not be limited to (a) a general statement of goals, objectives and standards upon which proposals for the immediate and long range growth and development of the Town of Franklin (b) considerations of regional needs and review of other governmental authorities within the Adirondack Park (c) existing and proposed location and intensity of land uses (d) consideration of agricultural uses, historic and cultural resources, shoreline, wetlands, natural resources and sensitive environmental areas (e) consideration of population, demographics and socio-economic trends and future projections (f) existing and proposed location of public and private utilities and infrastructure (g) existing housing and future housing needs, including affordable housing (h) existing and proposed recreational facilities, greenspace and parkland (i) present and future locations of commercial and industrial facilities (j) specific policies and strategies for improving local economy, and (k) any and all additional and other items which are consistent with the orderly growth and development of the Town of Franklin. The Town Board remains very concerned with detrimental effects of unregulated immediate and future development on the health, safety, welfare and quality of life of the residents and citizens of the Town of Franklin. Therefore, the Town Board has decided to consider potential solutions thereto to address these concerns. The Moratorium is intended to provide a temporary zoning stop-gap that will halt proposed and future development applications (defined below) in the Town of Franklin while the Town Board completes and approves a Comprehensive Plan, considers the adoption of a local zoning code and land subdivision regulations to implement the recommendations in the Comprehensive Plan and its related planning studies. To allow the Town Board of Franklin time to complete its review, draft proposed new legislation and enact any such legislation, the Town Board deems it in the best interest of the general health, safety and welfare of the residents of the Town of Franklin to impose a moratorium prohibiting the review and approval of applications, permits and construction for certain development projects in the Town of Franklin.

Section 3. Definitions

Unless specified in this Local Law, terms used herein shall have the same meaning as defined in Article 16 of the New York State Town Law or shall be construed to have their common meaning.

Section 4. Moratorium Scope

Except as noted in Section 7, no board, commission, agency, department, officer, employee, consultant, or agent of the Town of Franklin shall accept for review, continue to renew, hold a hearing or meeting, or make any decision upon any application and/or appeal for a site plan, special permit, area variance, use variance, subdivision, demolition permit, grading permit, stormwater permit, or building permit, defined herein as "development applications," during the time period for which this Moratorium is in effect, whether or not such development applications were submitted prior to or after the effective date of this Moratorium. The New York State statutory and any locally-enacted time periods for processing and making decisions on all such development applications are suspended and stayed while this Moratorium is in effect pursuant to the powers granted to the Town by the New York State Municipal Home Rule Law.

Section 5. Moratorium Imposed

For a period of one (1) year following the effective date of this Local Law, no board, officer, or agency of the Town shall accept, process, or approve any application, permit or construction for certain development projects in the Town of Franklin. This moratorium may be extended by one (1) additional period up to one (1) year by Resolution of the Town Board upon a finding of necessity for such extension.

Section 6. Study and Review

During this moratorium, the Town Board shall review safety, environmental, zoning and planning issues in order to complete a Comprehensive Plan addressing immediate and future development concerns.

Section 7. Exemption

This Local Law and Moratorium shall not apply to the following situations: 1) Agricultural/Farm use as a principal use of land but which does not include the sale of products to the public at the property; 2) Animal Husbandry as a principal use of land but which does not include the sale of products to the public at the property; 3) Accessory uses and non-habitable structures which are detached from, incidental to and subordinate to the principal building or use on the same parcel of land, such as detached garages, car ports,

sheds, barns, greenhouses, swimming pools, composting of manure and vegetive waste, storage of farm machinery or vehicles associated with agricultural uses and home occupations; 4) An existing valid building permit in which substantial construction has been completed in reliance upon such valid permit; 5) Any applications relating only to ordinary repairs, maintenance, and/or interior renovations and rehabilitation of an existing structure; 6) Issuance of a certificate of occupancy in connection with the completion of a structure to which this Moratorium would apply, but for which a valid building permit has been issued and for which substantial construction has been completed in reliance upon such valid permit as of the effective date of this Moratorium

Section 8. Appeal Procedure:

- A. The Town Board shall have the authority to vary or waive the application of any provision of this Local Law, in its legislative discretion, upon the determination that such variance or waiver is required to alleviate an unnecessary and/or unique hardship affecting a lot. In reviewing such a request, the Town Board may consider:
- i) Whether the variance or waiver will adversely affect the purpose of the Moratorium, the health, safety or welfare of the Town or will substantially undermine the land-use planning and potential process under review for the drafting of the Comprehensive Plan.
 - ii) The Town Board may take into account the existing land use in the immediate vicinity of the property, whether the lot is vacant or developed, the impact of the variance or waiver on infrastructure, neighborhood and community character, community planning goals and objectives, natural resources, governmental services, and other environmental issues.
 - iii) Whether the Moratorium would leave the property owner or applicant completely unable, after a thorough review of alternative solutions, to have a reasonable alternative use of the property.
- B. Any application for a variance or waiver shall be filed with the Town of Franklin Town Clerk. An application for a variance or waiver shall contain the complete details of the proposed project. To the extent that that Town Board requires a consultant to assist in reviewing such application, it may also require the applicant to pay the reasonable costs of such consultant. Any consultant shall be selected in the sole discretion of the Town Board.
- C. In the sole discretion of the Town Board, the Board may refer any application for a variance or waiver of this Local Law to any official, department and/or a land use committee/board/task force for a recommendation. The Town Board shall not be bound by any recommendation and may conduct a public hearing and make a final decision on the application, with or without conditions. The Town Board shall render a decision on an application for a variance or waiver of the Moratorium within sixty (60) calendar days of the Town Clerk's receipt of a complete application.
- D. The Town Board shall notify the applicant of the Board's decision to approve, approve with conditions or deny any application to vary or waive the application of any provision of the Moratorium.

Section 9. Extension or Early Termination

The Town Board may, by Resolution, extend or terminate the moratorium as necessary.

Section 10. Supersession Clause

This Local Law is enacted pursuant to the New York State Constitution and Municipal Home Rule Law §10, and shall supersede any provision of the Town Law or any other local law, ordinance, or regulation of the Town of Franklin to the extent necessary to give full effect to the provisions of this Local Law. Without limitation, this Local Law shall supersede the procedural and decision deadlines contained in Town Law §§ 267, 267-a, 274-a, 276, and 277, and any inconsistent provisions established by the Town of Franklin, for the duration of the moratorium established herein.

Section 11. SEQRA Classification

This Local Law is a Type II action under the State Environmental Quality Review Act {SEQRA} pursuant to 6 NYCRR §617.5(c){30}, as it involves the adoption of a moratorium enacted for planning purposes that does not authorize physical alteration of the environment. As a Type II action, this Local Law is not subject to further review under SEQRA.

Section 12. Severability

If any clause, sentence, paragraph, section or part of this Local Law shall be adjudged by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such judgment shall be confined in its operation to the clause, paragraph, section or part thereof directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment shall have been rendered, and the remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 13. Penalties for

Offenses Any person or entity that violates the terms of this local law shall be guilty of a violation and subjected to a fine of not less than \$250.00 per day and for imprisonment of 15 days. Each day that the violation continues shall be deemed a separate offense. In addition, the Town may enforce this local law by seeking an injunction or any other legal remedy it deems appropriate.

Section 14. Conflicts

It is the intention of the Town Board to supersede any inconsistent provisions in the following sections of New York State Town Law §265, §267, §267-a, §267-b, §274-a, §274-b, §276, and §277 pursuant to Municipal Home Rule Law Section 10.

Section 15. Authority

This Local Law is adopted pursuant to Article IX of the New York State Constitution, Municipal Home Rule Law §§ 10 and 22, and the Town Law of the State of New York.

Section 16. Referral to County Planning Board

This Local Law is hereby referred to the Franklin County Planning Board pursuant to New York State General Municipal Law §239-M.

Section 17. Effective Date

This Local Law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State of the State of New York in accordance with New York Municipal Home Rule Law. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Franklin shall hold and conduct a public hearing on the foregoing proposed local law on the 10th day of June, 2026, at 5:30 PM, to hear any and all persons concerning the same.

Those Voting Aye: Supervisor Brown
Council Member Alexander
Council Member Brandt
Council Member Demong
Council Member Nightingale-Duprey
Those Voting No: None

E. CANNABIS SHOWCASE EVENT

New York State's Cannabis Showcase Event (CSE) program allows licensed adult-use retailers to temporarily sell regulated cannabis products at approved off-site locations such as farmers' markets, pop-up events, and community festivals (permit required). Town Clerk McCormick and Attorney for the Town Peller to work together on permitting process (Supervisor Brown, Council Member Brandt m/s/p All Aye).

F. CONTRACTS FOR CLEANING AND MOWING

Joel Peller, Attorney for the Town, has updated the independent contractor agreements which will be re-implemented moving forward. John Duprey who was selected to perform groundskeeping services for the 2026 season has signed and the contract has been filed in the Town Clerk’s office.

G. BAR APPOINTMENT

On a motion brought by Supervisor Brown, seconded by Council Member Demong, in response to a public announcement seeking applicants to fill a vacancy on the Board of Assessment Review from a term ending September 2026, one application was received from Timothy Santos. Grievance Day will be held June 2nd from 5 to 9 pm at the Town of Franklin Town Hall.

RESOLUTION #11 OF 2026 – RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEMBER TO THE BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW

WHEREAS, the Town of Franklin ("Municipality") is required to maintain a Board of Assessment Review (BAR) to perform functions set forth in the New York State Real Property Tax Law, Article 5, Title 1-A; and
WHEREAS, NYS Real Property Tax Law §523 requires that members of the BAR be appointed by the legislative body for terms of five years; and
WHEREAS, a vacancy has occurred due to the expiration of the term of Jill Lintner.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Franklin hereby appoints Timothy Santos, **residing at Loon Lake, NY**, to the Board of Assessment Review for the remainder of this five year term.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this term shall commence on May 13, 2026 and expire on September 30, 2030.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this appointment is contingent upon the appointee filing their oath of office as required by Public Officers Law and compliance with training requirements per NYS Tax Law.

Those Voting Aye: Supervisor Dorothy Brown
Council Member Richard Brandt
Council Member Leo Demong
Council Member Susan Alexander
Council Member Anne Marie Nightingale-Duprey
Those Voting No: None

H. TLHS DONATIONS

Minutes as approved by the Town Board at their Regular Meeting June 10, 2026

Per an update to NYS Law effective December 2025, the Town’s dog license renewal notices must include a line allowing for residents to make a charitable donation of an amount of their choice to a designated organization.

RESOLUTION #12 OF 2026: VOLUNTARY SHELTER CONTRIBUTIONS ON DOG LICENSE RENEWALS

On a motion brought by Supervisor Brown, seconded by Council Member Brandt, the Town Board resolves to select Tri-Lakes Humane Society as designated recipient of donated funds via dog license renewals as follows.

Whereas Chapter 59 of the Laws of 2010 as amended where further amended, effective December 2025, to require a line item on dog license renewals giving applicants the option of making a contribution in support of the pound or shelter managed or contracted by the municipality and deposit said funds in a dedicated fund to disperse annually to the applicable pound or shelter; and

Whereas the Town contracts for these services with the Tri-Lakes Humane Society; and Whereas the Town Clerk’s Office has initiated this requirement by listing the option to make donations to the TLHS on all dog licensing renewal processes and establishing the budget line item of A2705 to be added to the monthly reconciliation and payment to the Town Supervisor of monies taken in by the Town Clerk’s Office, now, therefore be it Resolved that the Town Board acknowledges the new legislation and approves the establishment of line item A2705 and the process and procedures made for implementing this law.

Those Voting Aye:	Supervisor Dorothy Brown Council Member Richard Brandt Council Member Leo Demong Council Member Susan Alexander Council Member Anne Marie Nightingale-Duprey
Those Voting No:	None

OLD BUSINESS

A. Veterans Memorial Plaques

Joe Arnold has been contacted to come and install these inside the Town Hall.

B. IT UPDATE – Illuminating Concepts LLC

Peripheral equipment has been purchased and we will be scheduling with Scott Wilson from Illuminating Concepts to have everything set up in hopes of recording/broadcasting June’s meeting. With regards to the Copier, Symquest will be reaching out closer to the end of our maintenance contract on the large printer with an updated quote for replacement equipment around July 2026.

C. KATE MOUNTAIN PARK PAVILION

Nothing new to report.

D. NEWSLETTER

The Spring 2026 edition of the Franklin Flyer has been published and dropped off to local post offices for distribution. A link to the pdf is available on our Town website. Between postage and printing, total cost is approximately \$700. We will begin collecting submissions for a Summer 2026 edition to be published by the end of August at the latest.

E. AUDIT MAY 19TH UNION HIGHWAY PAYROLL

Supervisor Brown advised preparations are in progress for this meeting happening next week to review payroll with Confidential Secretary, Missy Begor, along with Dick Meagher (Budget Officer) and an auditor on behalf of Teamsters Union.

F. SALT SHED – FINAL PAYMENT

Supervisor Brown advised a transfer was made from savings to General funds to cover the final shed payment which is reflected in the balances on the Supervisor’s report. More transfers to be done which will be reflected in June’s report and balances.

G. YOUTH PROGRAM APPLICATION STATUS

An application for Recreation Leader is expected this week and applications for the open counselor positions have been received. Supervisor Brown advised she would like to interview the candidates next week and Council Member Demong volunteered to assist with that process.

Public Comment-

Joe Shoemaker, Legislator, provided an update on the Broadband project. RFP’s have gone out for the actual fiber installation and the fiber has been ordered. Noted that there is ongoing utility pole work happening through Town but that may not all be connected to the Broadband project

Paul Capone referenced Adirondack Daily Enterprise article from April 9, 2026 concerning the reassessment process recently completed by Maren Tichenor in Harrietstown and applauded his handling of the process, noting he hopes the same process will be followed for the Town of Franklin at the completion of our own reassessment.

L. Scott Muller inquired if the Board was aware of the issues with Broadband service through Adk Techs in Loon Lake. Supervisor Brown advised that, to her knowledge, there was an issue with how the fiber was run and that service seems to have been restored to most.

Dick Jarvis advised a planning and zoning board was implemented in around 2009 but was subsequently abolished. On a separate topic, Mr. Jarvis provided information to the Board Members concerning Climate Smart Communities (CSC) Program as the Town is a designated Clean Energy Community through NYSEDA. CSC is a NYS program which supports local governments in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and adapting to effects as a result of climate change. Participation with CSC could mean assistance with securing CSC grants, would require the formation of a task force. Mr. Jarvis proposed that the Town Board form a task force.

MOTION TO ADJOURN REGULAR BOARD MEETING

There being no further business before the board, Supervisor Brown motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:56 PM, seconded by Council Member Brandt. All in favor.

Amy McCormick, Town Clerk