

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF
THE GENERAL AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF FRANKLIN

January 13, 2026

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Members in Attendance:

John Eckel
Fred Leyda
Caleb Williams
Chad Ellis
Tracy Jamieson
Peter O'Polka

Excused: None

Absent: Jody Freni

Others in Attendance:

Kurt McFadden, City of Franklin
Devin Hines, Water Treatment Plant
Clint Hoffman, Water Network
Kyle Fritz, The EADS Group
Josh Kalp, The EADS Group
Brian Ricella, The EADS Group
James Wetzel, City of Franklin
Harmony Motter, Deputy Manager
Michael Gorman, Tech Resources Assistant
Nathan Bell, Waste Water Treatment Plant
Mike Moore, Waste Water Network
Brian Spaid, Dale Woodard Gent McFate
Alex Spaid, Dale Woodard Gent McFate
T.J. Parks, Recording Secretary

3. Adoption of Agenda

Resolution No. 1 – Motion by Mr. O’Polka and seconded by Mr. Leyda to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Election of Officers

Resolution No. 2 – Motion by Mrs. Jamieson and seconded by Mr. Ellis to nominate Mr. Eckel to serve as Chairperson. There being no further nominations, the motion passed unanimously to appoint Mr. Eckel as Chairperson.

Resolution No. 3 – Motion by Mr. Ellis and seconded by Mr. O’Polka to nominate Mrs. Jamieson to serve as Vice Chairperson. There being no further nominations, the motion passed unanimously to appoint Mrs. Jamieson as Vice Chairperson.

Resolution No. 4 – Motion by Mr. Ellis and seconded by Mrs. Jamieson to nominate Mr. O’Polka to serve as Treasurer. There being no further nominations, the motion passed unanimously to appoint Mr. O’Polka to serve as Treasurer.

Resolution No. 5 – Motion by Mr. Ellis and Mrs. Jamieson seconded to nominate Mr. Williams to serve as Secretary. There being no further nominations, the motion passed unanimously to appoint Mr. Williams as Secretary.

Resolution No. 6 – Motion by Mr. Ellis to nominate Mr. Leyda to serve as Assistant Secretary. Mr. Leyda declined the nomination; therefore, the motion to nominate Mr. Leyda to serve as Assistant Secretary failed.

Resolution No. 7 – Motion by Mrs. Jamieson and seconded by Mr. Williams to nominate Mr. Ellis to serve as Assistant Secretary. There being no further nominations, the motion passed unanimously to appoint Mr. Ellis as Assistant Secretary.

5. Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Jamieson noted a discrepancy in the change order amount described on page 2 under the “Front Street Waterline and Allegheny Boulevard Waterline” discussion. The amount of \$47,471 described in the resolution is correct; however, the amount of \$47,401 is incorrect.

Resolution No. 8 – Motion by Mr. Ellis and seconded by Mr. Williams to approve the minutes of December 9, 2025 as corrected. Motion passed unanimously.

6. Citizens’ Inquiries – Mr. Wetzel presented a letter from Thomas Kingdom, owner of T and K Franklin Rentals, LLC regarding his property at 1237 Liberty Street. The letter stated that a toilet in one of the apartments had been running for three (3) months due to a faulty hose in the tank. Mr. Kingdom requested a reduction in his fourth (4th) quarter water and sewer bill.

Resolution No. 9 – Motion by Mrs. Jamieson and second by Mr. Leyda to deny the request from Mr. Kingdom, owner of T and K Franklin Rentals, LLC, for a reduction in the 4th Quarter water and sewer bill. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Water

7.A. Operations/Project Reports

1. Staff Updates

Mr. Hines

- Chapter 110 report completed and submitted to DEP
- Received notice regarding the required Source Water Protection updates
- Service pump #4 at 9th Street suffered minor damage due to high winds. Parts being ordered and should be a simple fix

Mr. Hoffman

- Backhoe is being fixed and expected to be back by next week
- Had to re-route 755 feet of waterline and a new hydrant on Pacific Street in connection with the A-108 project
- Planning to start the Maple Street project this April, weather permitting

2. EADS Group

Front Street Waterline and Allegheny Boulevard Waterline

Mr. Kalp received the as-built drawing from Wilson Excavating and all punch list items are complete. A warranty walkthrough will be conducted in August, before the expiration of the Performance Bond, to address any outstanding issues that may arise. Mr. Kalp presented the final PEENVEST Payment Application in the amount of \$33,704.30, which includes Wilson Excavating's final payment application in the amount of \$30,000, and engineering services by The EADS Group in the amount of \$3,704.30.

Resolution No. 10 – Motion by Mr. Ellis and seconded by Mr. Williams to accept Payment Requisition No. 10 in the amount of \$33,704.30 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Dam Removal

Mr. Kalp presented a proposal from Beran Environmental Services for engineering services to remediate the dam. The \$76,249 proposal includes preliminary and final design, coordination of the public bidding process, supervising the work, permitting, and correspondence and reporting with various government agencies. Mrs.

Jamieson asked if they would be available to start immediately to meet the LSA grant deadline; Mr. Kalp could not provide an exact date, but stated they would be able to start relatively quickly. Mr. Spaid suggested speaking with Mr. Baren prior to accepting the proposal.

Barrett Flats Water Treatment Plant

Mr. Kalp informed that the environmental permits have been submitted and EADS is currently working on the subdivision mapping. After speaking with PENNVEST, it was recommended that the Authority strive to submit a funding request by the April 2026 deadline rather than the July 2026 deadline, as PENNVEST expects to receive funding requests for very high-cost projects in July.

Mr. Wetzel asked if this funding request could include the repairs for the Wendy Way water tank. Mr. Kalp said that would be doable but would push the PENNVEST funding request for the combined projects into 2027 due to the length of time it takes to obtain the environmental permits for Wendy Way, which is required to be submitted with the PENNVEST application.

Resolution No. 11 – Motion by Mrs. Jamieson and seconded by Mr. Ellis to proceed with submitting a PENNVEST funding request only for the Barretts Flats Water Treatment Plant project in April of 2026. The motion passed unanimously.

Washington Crossing Control Valve

No updates to report.

Grant Street Waterline Replacement

Mr. Fritz stated that the project is slated to begin in the spring/summer of 2026. He will request a written statement from Bison Construction saying that they are willing to hold their previously quoted pricing.

Wendy Way Tank

Mr. Kalp announced that the LSA grant application submitted in 2024 was denied.

Miscellaneous

- **City Pressure District Control Valve** – PA Small Water and Sewer grant awards have not yet been announced.
- **Lead and Copper Service Line Inventory** - Coordinating with DEP to submit the information.

7. B. Water Financial Report

Total Unrestricted Water Funds Balance is \$160,254.

Resolution No. 12 – Motion by Mr. Williams and seconded by Mrs. Jamieson to accept the financial report for January. Motion passed unanimously.

Resolution No. 13 – Motion by Mr. O’Polka and seconded by Mrs. Jamieson to pay the following bills. Motion passed unanimously.

City of Franklin General Services Fee for January	\$ 18,166.67
Dale Woodard Gent Law Firm for Water General Matters	\$ 175.00
Dale Woodard Gent Law Firm for Water Tower Leases	\$ 12.50
Dale Woodard Gent Law Firm for Third Street Reservoir Mitigation Project	\$ 25.00
Dale Woodard Gent Law Firm for PFAS	\$ 25.00
The EADS Group for 2025 Engineering – Betterment Project	\$ 1,142.40
The EADS Group for 2025 Engineering – for Dam Removal and GIS for Lead Services	\$ 1,358.13
Anthony Parks for December Meeting	\$ 50.00
Svetz Energy Services for Electric Power Procurement Services for 2026	\$ 2,563.75
The EADS Group for GACF Barrett Flats WTP	\$ 2,108.80
Wilson Excavating and Construction for GACF Allegheny Blvd. Waterline	\$ 30,000.00
The EADS Group for Washington Crossing Control Valve	\$ 1,666.87
The EADS Group for GACF Allegheny Blvd. Waterline	\$ 3,704.30

Project	
Water Fund Monthly Invoices for Approval	\$ 37,643.15
Totals:	\$ 98,641.57

Additional items to be reviewed:

Pre-approved invoice and payroll reimbursements to General Fund

Pre-approved payroll for 12/12/25 & 12/26/25

12/31/25 YTD draft budget including a detail of invoices paid and revenue received.

8. Sewer

8.A. Operations/Project Reports

1. Staff

Mr. Bell

- Permit renewal testing submitted and went well
- Summit started the blower SCADA upgrades yesterday
- Set up a yearly maintenance agreement with Heritage Environmental to annually inspect the C12 system
- Concrete pad for the emergency generator was poured on January 8
- Survey being conducted for the parking lot and right-of-way to the generator
- Order placed for the F-150 truck
- Order placed in December for the bobcat loader. Expects 8-10 weeks before it is ready to be picked up
- Chapter 94 report was submitted to EADS

Mr. Moore

- Sewer lateral was struck on Poplar Street and filled the adjoining property owner's pipes with drilling mud. Locating laterals in that area is proving to be difficult

2. EADS Group

WWTP – Emergency Generator

Mr. Kalp confirmed that the delivery of the generator is still scheduled for January 2026.

A-108 Phase I Sewer Replacement & CSO Elimination Project

Mr. Ricella presented Change Order No. 2 from Bison Construction in the amount of \$83,050 for approval. The change order includes the rerouting of 755 linear feet of eight (8) inch waterline used for replacing the waterline on Pacific Street between Orchard and Center Streets. He added that the change order is not PENNVEST eligible. The additional work will be paid for out of the Line Replacement Reserves.

Resolution No. 14 – Motion by Mr. Ellis and seconded by Mr. Williams to accept Bison Construction’s Change Order No. 2 in the amount of \$83,050 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Ricella then presented PENNVEST Payment Requisition No. 11, which includes construction costs from Bison Construction in the amount of \$213,786.77 and Mortimer’s Excavating in the amount of \$135,910.80 for a total of \$349,697.57.

Resolution No. 15 – Motion by Mrs. Jamieson and seconded by Mr. Ellis to accept PENNVEST Payment Requisition No. 11 for construction costs in the amount of \$349,697.57 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

He also requested approval for engineering services performed by The EADS Group in the amount of \$43,146.48 as shown on PENNVEST Payment Requisition No. 11.

Resolution No. 16 – Motion by Mr. O’Polka and seconded by Mr. Ellis to accept PENNVEST Payment Requisition No. 11 for engineering costs in the amount of \$43,146.48. The motion passed unanimously.

Material costs to install a grinder pump at Hand-In-Hand counseling would be approximately \$12,000 and about \$8,000 for installation. Hand-In-Hand expressed that they would be interested in having it installed. The pump would be owned and maintained by the Authority and Hand-In-Hand would be responsible for paying for the electricity to operate the pump. Mr. Ricella will confer with Mr. Spaid to prepare the necessary legal documents.

Miscellaneous

- **Liberty Street Betterment Project (URMS)** – Mr. Ricella advised that the Utility Relocation Reimbursement Agreements were sent to PennDOT in December and revised and submitted specifications as requested by PennDOT.
- **CSO Flow Monitoring** – Mr. Fritz announced that pricing for monitoring will remain the same in 2026.

8.B. Sewer Financial Report

Total Unrestricted Sewer Funds Balance of \$(8,670).

Resolution No. 17 – Motion by Mr. Williams and seconded by Mrs. Jamieson to accept the sewer financial report for January. The motion passed unanimously.

Resolution No. 18 – Motion by Mr. Ellis and seconded by Mr. Williams to pay the following bills. The motion passed unanimously.

City of Franklin General Services Fee for January	\$ 18,166.67
Dale Woodard Gent McFate for Sewer General Matters	\$ 175.00
Dale Woodard Gent McFate for Easements for Seventh Street Long Term Control Project	\$ 100.00
The EADS Group for 2025 Engineering – Betterment Project	\$ 1,142.40
The EADS Group for 2025 Engineering – Dam Removal & GIS for Lead Services	\$ 2,383.50
Anthony Parks for December Meeting	\$ 50.00
CSO Flow Monitoring	\$ 3,875.00
Svetz Energy Services for Electric Power Procurement Services for 2026	\$ 2,563.75
The EADS Group for WWTP Emergency Generator	\$ 4,631.73
The EADS Group for A-108 Planning S03-21	\$ 43,146.48
Bison Construction, Inc. for 2023-S-01 CS Elimination Project	\$ 213,786.77
Mortimer’s Excavating for A-108 Planning S03-21	\$ 135,910.80
Sewer Fund Monthly Invoices for Approval	\$ 85,545.76

Totals:	\$ 511,477.86
---------	---------------

Additional items to be reviewed:

Pre-approved invoice and payroll reimbursements to General Fund

Pre-approved payroll for 12/12/25 & 12/26/25

12/31/25 YTD draft budget including a detail of invoices paid and revenue received.

8. Reports

A. Chair's Report:

Mr. Eckel received a letter from DEP for the Public Water Supply Construction permit outlining some deficiencies. The letter was given to EADS to answer the question regarding whether or not the multiparameter chlorine sensor and XL XR meter pump are ANSI certified. Both meet ANSI requirements.

Received correspondence from DCED regarding the grant agreement amendment request for the WWTP generator. Mr. Kalp addressed the questions in the correspondence and has not received any further information from DCED.

B. City Manager's Report

- Insurance company denied the claim that was submitted for damage at 347 Crestview Drive and pushed back onto Continental Construction and Guyer Brothers.
- Sugarcreek Borough had a waterline leak on Rout 8. It was discovered that the meter was set for four (4) digits and wasn't registering properly when it hit the fifth (5th) digit.
- Time in Executive Session to discuss matters of legal advice from the Solicitor.

C. Public Utilities Director's Report:

Working with Rural Water to discuss updating the Risk and Resiliency Plan and Emergency Response Plan. It will be brought to the next committee meeting for discussion.

D. Mapping Update:

CISA cybersecurity audit has been completed. Three (3) medium severity threats were found in the system. Working to address these issues.

E. Solicitor's Report:

Nothing to report.

10. Executive Session

The Authority entered into Executive Session at 7:22 P.M. Executive Session ended at 7:42 P.M. with no additional action.

Meetings

The committee meeting scheduled for January 22, 2026 at 10:00 A.M.
The next regular meeting is February 10, 2026 at 6:00 P.M. at City Hall.

10. Adjournment:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:43 P.M.



Minutes prepared by T.J. Parks