

Minutes

Franklin County Budget Advisory Committee Meeting

The meeting was held via: Zoom

May 7, 2026

PRESENT: Rupert Pratt, Richard Morton, Tiffany Maiuri, Scott Landry, Dennis O’Neil, Janet White, LeeAnn Dalessandro, Austin Foss, Tom Goding, Morgan Dunham, and Jay Reynolds.

AUDIENCE: Mt. Blue T.V, Jake Nichols, Commissioner Carlton, Commissioner Skolfield, Commissioner Saviello, Commissioner Gilbert, Commissioner Fowler, Nathan Hiltz, Pam Prodan, Tara Marble, Renee Whitley, Craig Zohurst, Sara Caton, Scott Nichols, Lorna Nichols, Hart Daley, Ryan Close, Steven Lowell, Shelly Lowell, David St. Laurent, Susan Black, Heidi Jordan, Amanda Simoneau, Janis Walker, Amy Bernard, Karen Rea, and Jamie Sullivan.

ZOOM: N/A

The meeting was called to order by Rupert Pratt at 3:00 p.m.

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Opening Comments from the Chair
3. Acceptance of the meeting Minutes of April 30, 2026 – **Motion to Approve the Minutes: Janet White/Scott Landry (11/0).**
4. FY2027 Budget – Vote
 - A. 10 – EMA – **Motion to approve funding in the amount of \$342,520: Morgan Dunham/Jay Reynolds.** A discussion was held regarding line 10-7224, Consulting Services being funded by using ARPA interest, Commissioner Saviello indicated that the ARPA funds would be used in case the consulting fees were more than \$30,000, ARPA interest would be available to use. The overtime line (10-7029) was also discussed. It was indicated that year-to-date spending did not support the requested amount. Amy indicated that EMA’s overtime was associated specifically for when emergencies occur. A discussion was also held concerning unused funds. Amy indicated that the unused funds go to the undesignated fund balance, unless the Commissioners set portions of the undesignated funds to a reserve account. The Commissioners could also use those funds to offset the taxes. A conversation was held regarding contingency funds, what constitutes as an emergency, and what occurs when funds are in the red. **Amend pending motion to \$312,520, by removing \$30,000 from line 10-7224, Consulting Services and use ARPA interest to cover the consulting services: Richard Morton/Tiffany Maiuri (7/4) Jay Reynolds, Rupert Pratt, Morgan Dunham and Janet White opposed. Amendment Passes. Vote on original motion as amended, by removing \$30,000 from line 10-7224, Consulting Services, approve funding in the amount of \$312,520: (7/4) Jay Reynolds, Rupert Pratt, Morgan Dunham and Janet White opposed.**
 - B. 15 - District Attorney – **Motion to approve funding in the amount of \$380,250: Scott Landry/LeeAnn Dalessandro (11/0).**

- C. 16 – Superior Court - – **Motion to approve funding in the amount of \$3,000: Richard Morton/LeeAnn Dalessandro (11/0).**
- D. 20 – Commissioner’s Office – A discussion was held regarding the salaries for the elected officials, the \$600 stipend for the Commissioner Chair, Flex Benefits, the Commissioner’s portion of the Flex Benefit line is \$31,011.33, travel and mileage, and the survey that was provided by the County Administrator regarding the Commissioner’s salaries. **Motion to table: LeeAnn Dalessandro/Dennis O’Neil – LeeAnn Dalessandro rescinded her motion to table (Roberts Rules discussion). Motion to approve funding in the amount of \$461,823: Jay Reynolds/Morgan Dunham.**
Motion to Table: (8/3) Rupert Pratt, Morgan Dunham and Jay Reynolds opposed.
- E. 25 – Treasurer’s Office – **Motion to fund in the amount of \$320,674: Morgan Dunham/Jay Reynolds: 7/3/1, Tom Goding, LeeAnn Dalessandro and Tiffany Maiuri opposed, Janet White was not present for the vote.** Discussions were held regarding several line items of this budget: Training and Development, Travel and Mileage, Meals, Lodging, Auditor, Equipment and Furniture, Computers, Computer Supplies.
- F. 30 – Technical Services – **Motion to fund in the amount of \$689,218: Jay Reynolds/Morgan Dunham (11/0).** Questions were asked based on what was spent versus what was budgeted for when inquiring if an increase or decrease in a line item is needed. Clarification was also provided regarding the CAD software, Central Square expense, as well as the revenue being received from the municipalities.
- G. 40 – Facilities – **Motion to approve funding in the amount of \$452,937: Jay Reynolds/Richard Morton.** Based on the current expenditures out of line 041-7202, Water, it was determined that this line could be reduced to \$1,500. Questions were asked based on what was spent versus what was budgeted for when inquiring if an increase or decrease in a line item is needed. **Amend pending motion to \$451,437, by reducing \$1,500 from line 041-7202, Water: Richard Morton/Tiffany Maiuri (11/0). Amendment Passes.**
Vote on original motion as amended, reducing \$1,500 from line 041-7202, Water, approve funding in the amount of \$451,437: (11/0).
- H. 65 – Registry of Deeds – **Motion to approve funding in the amount of \$273,357: Morgan Dunham/Scott Landry (11/0).**
- I. 70 – Probate Court – **Motion to approve funding in the amount of \$318,194: Morgan Dunham/Scott Landry (11/0).** A discussion was held regarding Legal Notices and a bill that was presented to Legislature regarding posting legal notices on their website. This would result in savings in this line. Heidi requested a change to two of her budget lines: 70-7252, Equipment Repairs and Maintenance, reducing it to \$600 and line 70-7352, Postage and Freight, increasing it by \$1,000 to 3,950. **Motion to move \$1,000 from line 70-7252 to line 70-7352: Scott Landry/Jay Reynolds (11/0).**
- J. 75 – Sheriff’s Office – **Motion to approve funding in the amount of \$3,437,501: Janet White/Richard Morton (11/0).** Clarification was given regarding line 75-7028 and 75-7029. Questions were asked based on what was spent versus what was budgeted for when inquiring if an increase or decrease in a line item is needed.
- K. 80 – Communications – **Motion to approve funding in the amount of \$1,507,381: Jay Reynolds/Scott Landry (11/0).**

- L. 100 – Jail – Motion to approve funding in the amount of \$4,086,418: Jay Reynolds/Scott Landry.** Questions were asked based on what was spent versus what was budgeted for when inquiring if an increase or decrease in a line item is needed. A discussion was held regarding line 100-7228, Board of Prisoners, a new line added this year, due to having to board prisoners at other facilities because our facility is beyond max capacity. Major Daley indicated the facilities average population is 30 inmates. 30 inmates boarded out at \$100 per inmate is \$3,000 per day, multiplied by 30 days is \$90,000 per month. That was the reasoning for the request. **Amend pending motion by reducing line 100-7228, Board of Prisoners by \$20,000 to 75,000: Richard Morton/LeeAnn Dalessandro (3/8), Austin Foss, Scott Landry, Dennis O’Neil, Janet White, Rupert Pratt, Morgan Dunham, Jay Reynolds and Tiffany Maiuri opposed. Amendment fails.**
- Vote on original motion to approve funding in the amount of \$4,086,418: (11/0).**

M. County-Wide

- i. Other Expenditures**
 - ii. Program Grants - Program grants will be discussed at the meeting.**
 - a. Care and Share Food Pantry**
 - b. Franklin County Extension Association**
 - c. Franklin County Soil & Water Conservation**
 - d. Franklin County Children’s Task Force**
 - e. Franklin County Adult and Community Education**
 - f. Western Maine Community Action**
 - g. Seniors Plus**
 - h. SAPARS**
 - i. Andwell Health Partners**
 - j. Greater Franklin Development**
 - k. Western Maine Transportation**
 - l. Safe Voices**
 - m. Franklin County Healthy Community Coalition**
 - iii. Debt Services Principal – Will be discussed at the next meeting.**
 - iv. Debt Services Interest – Will be discussed at the next meeting.**
- 5. Confirm Next Meeting – Meeting Scheduled for May 14, 2026, 2at 3:00 p.m.**
 - 6. Other Business - None**
 - 7. Adjournment – Motion to Adjourn at 6:09 p.m. LeeAnn Dalessandro/Tiffany Maiuri (11/0).**

A recording is available for this meeting.