

E-Brief 2023



Excellence.....

Innovation.....

Teamwork

Integrity

.....Action-Oriented

Friday, May 12, 2023



Here are a few bullet points to share in regard to **using technology and communications via email for everyone to be mindful of**. Tips to remember:

- Use complex passwords, something not easy. (example of what not to use: Password123, Login1, Birthday, etc.)
- Please do not save passwords in an unprotected document or share with colleagues, these are your passwords and

yours only. IT can always reset or change in the event there is a business need for operations.

- Use caution when opening emails from unknown senders when they sound weird, or not exactly on point.
- Use extreme caution when opening an email link that is asking for credentials that looks fishy.
- Never under any circumstance share your passwords via email.
- If you have the option to use MFA, multi-factor authentication, professionally and in your personal life please do. IT is currently working to get this security layer deployed across the enterprise for all users.

If there are ever any questions about the authenticity of an email, link, attachment, or technology related items please do not hesitate to reach out to our IT team. We absolutely will be glad to discuss and offer guidance.



Earlier this week we released the **2023-24 Proposed Budget**. Each year, the budget process provides the opportunity to consider where we are as a community and the opportunities that lie ahead. Franklin remains one of the most desirable places to live in America. Publications such as *Money*, *Southern Living*, *USA Today*, and *Livability* consistently recognize Franklin among the best places to live in America. Investment and job growth also reflect Franklin's remarkable economic vitality and competitive position. During calendar year 2022, private investment reached the highest level in Franklin's history with \$874 million in direct construction investment. The 2023-24 (FY24) General Fund budget is \$102,534,136, which represents an increase of 3.4 percent compared to the current budget for 2022-23 (FY23). The FY24 budget for all funds is \$218,138,422, which represents an increase of .05 percent compared to FY23. **A big thank you to all throughout our City team that worked countless hours towards the production of the recommended budget. A special thank you to Michael Walters Young, Norma Lockney, and Chris Franklin for their work to produce the budget document and for their support of every department throughout this budget process.**

Highlights are below, see the entire budget at <https://www.franklintn.gov/government/departments-a-j/finance-administration>.

Highlights of the 2023-24 Budget

- The budget is balanced.
- The budget fully complies with the City's debt and fund reserve policies.
- Essential service levels are maintained.
- The City property tax rate remains unchanged at \$0.3261 per \$100 of assessed valuation. The Invest Franklin dedicated funding for infrastructure/transportation investment and support of City operations remains in place. The City of Franklin has the lowest property tax rate of any city in Tennessee with a population over 50,000, and its rate is among the lowest of comparable cities nationally.
- A pay increase for City team members will be effective the first pay period of July 2023. The approved budget includes a general pay increase of 3% plus an additional performance-based pay increase of up to 2.5%.
- The budget includes three new positions in the General Fund. The new positions are three new firefighters, one per shift. Several position reclassifications are included in the areas of Communications, Engineering, Streets, Police, and Fire. There is one additional position in the City's Water Management utility, although the total number of funded positions remains the same.

- Health insurance premiums for City team members are projected to remain unchanged for FY24.
- The FY24 budget includes a \$1 per month increase for residential trash and recycling collection (from \$22/month to \$23/month). Consistent with our five-year utility rate plan, water rate increases of 3% for both calendar year 2024 and 2025 are expected. Sewer rates are expected to increase 2.5% in 2024 and 2% in 2025.
- The budget incorporates performance measures and sustainability initiatives for every department. The connection to our Strategic Plan, **FranklinForward**, is clearly linked to performance measures and objectives throughout the budget.

Public Service Recognition Week was a whole lot of YUM! We hope everyone enjoyed the food trucks and the opportunity to mix and mingle with other employees. We are thankful for the great weather we had and the wonderful turnout. See a video of all the food truck locations <https://youtu.be/xm3Fxf-ID0>

Thank you to our Human Resources Department for their hard work in putting this all together & a big Thank You to our City team for your impactful work and dedication to public service!



Building and Neighborhood Services employees, **Director Tom Marsh, Asst. Director Rodney Prince, and Inspection Supervisor Roger Laymen** accepted Mayor Dr. Ken Moore's proclamation for **Building Safety Month!** Building Safety Month is an international campaign celebrated in May to raise awareness about building safety. This campaign reinforces the need for the adoption of modern, regularly-updated building codes, and helps individuals, families and businesses understand what it takes to create safe and sustainable structures. All communities need building codes to protect their citizens

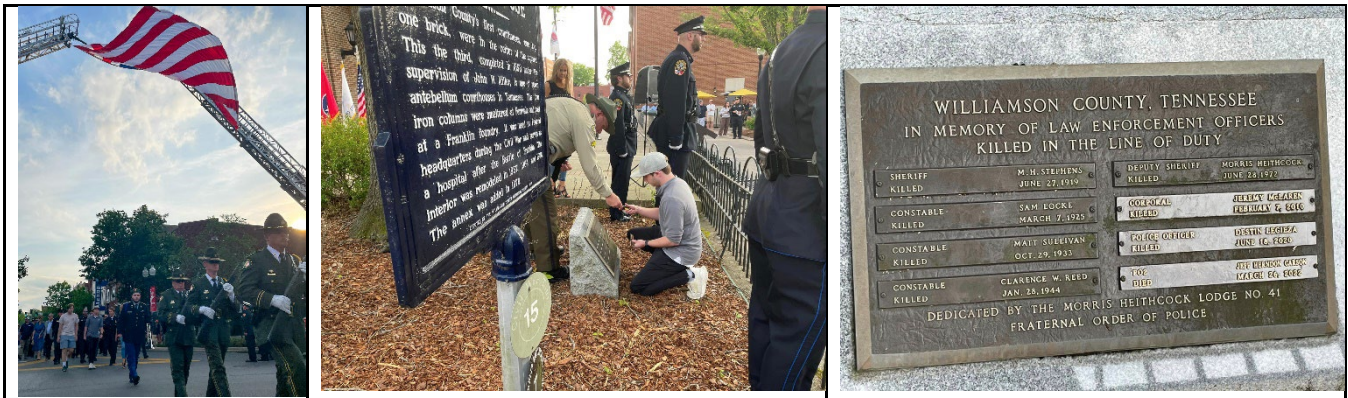
from disasters like fires, weather-related events, and structural collapse. Building codes are society's best way of protecting homes, offices, schools, manufacturing facilities, stores, and entertainment venues. Code officials workday in and day out to keep the public safe. **A big thank you to all our BNS team who make our community the best it can be and safe for all!**

Welcome to the following employee!



We would like to Welcome Back **Alex Gardner!** Alex is returning to the city as the **Lead Senior Fleet Technician.** He currently lives in Columbia and is married and has an 18-month-old son. Alex has an Associate degree from Northwest Mississippi Community College.

Earlier this week many gathered to honor and remember the lives of the **Williamson County Law Enforcement Officers** who died in the line of duty. It is with a heavy heart and great sadness that the name of our friend and **Franklin Police Officer II Jeff Carson** was added to the memorial plaque that sits near the steps of the Historic Williamson County Courthouse on the Square. Jeff will also be honored during the National Peace Officers' Memorial Service taking place in Washington, D.C. on Monday, May 15th.



That's it for this week. Thanks to our staff working the **Rodeo Parade!** Have a great weekend and thanks for *all* you do!

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