

**FIFTY-FIRST ANNUAL REPORT OF  
THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT  
OF THE CITY OF FRANKLIN FOR  
THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1945**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649387151

Fifty-first annual report of the municipal government of the city of Franklin for the financial year 1945 by Various

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**VARIOUS**

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OF THE CITY OF FRANKLIN FOR  
THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1945**





Front row: Henry Chamberlain, Colin S. Jones, Mayor Henry J. Proulx, George Lacroix, Scott Coeth,  
Michael E. Burke, Allen Atwood, Frank O. Sargent, Earl S. Sargent.

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PRINTED BY TOWNE & BOSKE  
FRANKLIN, N. H.  
1946

352.01  
F83  
1945

## INDEX

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|  | PAGE         |
|--|--------------|
| Appropriations .....                             | 20           |
| Auditors' Report .....                           | 85-124       |
| Auditors' Report Index .....                     | 85           |
| Letter of Transmittal .....                      | 87           |
| Balance Sheet .....                              | 88, 89       |
| Details of Municipal Indebtedness .....          | 90, 91       |
| Statement of Revenue .....                       | 92           |
| Statement of Budget Accounts .....               | 93-95        |
| Statement of Treasurer's Cash Receipts .....     | 96-98        |
| Blanket Insurance .....                          | 98           |
| Statement of Treasurer's Cash Disbursements .... | 99-103       |
| Highway Department .....                         | 101          |
| Statement of Tax Collector's Department .....    | 104, 105     |
| Summary of Trust Funds .....                     | 106-113      |
| School District .....                            | 114, 115     |
| Franklin Public Library .....                    | 116          |
| Water Department .....                           | 117-119      |
| Municipal Court .....                            | 120          |
| Franklin Park Commission .....                   | 121          |
| Overseer of the Poor .....                       | 122, 123     |
| Salaries and Surety Bonds of City Officers ..... | 124          |
| Balance Sheet .....                              | 88, 89       |
| Board of Education .....                         | 19, 148, 166 |
| F. H. S. Activities Association .....            | 162-165      |
| High School Commencement Program .....           | 170-172      |
| High School Report .....                         | 153          |
| Junior High School Report .....                  | 156          |
| Registration and Attendance .....                | 169          |
| Scholarship Funds .....                          | 173          |
| School Directory .....                           | 166          |
| School Nurse's Report .....                      | 158          |
| Superintendent's Report .....                    | 148          |

|  | PAGE         |
|--|--------------|
| Board of Health .....                        | 17           |
| Cemetery Trust Funds .....                   | 108          |
| Charity Trust Funds .....                    | 109          |
| City Council .....                           | 13           |
| City Government .....                        | 13           |
| Daniel Webster Memorial Committee Fund ..... | 113          |
| Elections and Registration .....             | 99           |
| Financial Report .....                       | 21           |
| Appropriations .....                         | 20           |
| Balance Sheet .....                          | 88, 89       |
| Bonded Debt .....                            | 89           |
| Valuation .....                              | 21           |
| Fire Department .....                        | 16, 100, 125 |
| Apparatus Report .....                       | 127, 128     |
| Engineers' Report .....                      | 129, 130     |
| Financial Statement .....                    | 100          |
| Fire Alarm .....                             | 100          |
| Recommendations .....                        | 130          |
| Health Department .....                      | 100          |
| Heating Plant .....                          | 99           |
| Highway Department .....                     | 98, 101      |
| Incidentals .....                            | 103          |
| Inventory .....                              | 24-64        |
| Janitor .....                                | 99           |
| Mayors .....                                 | 19           |



|  | PAGE        |
|--|-------------|
| Mayor Proulx's Inaugural .....                           | 5           |
| Memorial Day .....                                       | 102         |
| Memorial Hall .....                                      | 99          |
| Odell Memorial Arch Fund .....                           | 110         |
| Odell Park Cottage Fund .....                            | 110         |
| Odell Park Trust Fund .....                              | 110         |
| Ordinance .....  | 188         |
| Overseer of the Poor, Report .....                       | 122, 123    |
| City Relief Cases .....                                  | 143, 144    |
| County Relief Cases .....                                | 145         |
| Park Commission .....                                    | 121         |
| Parks and Playgrounds .....                              | 102         |
| Police Department .....                                  | 15, 131     |
| Chief of Police, Report of .....                         | 131         |
| Financial .....  | 100         |
| Municipal Court .....                                    | 15, 16, 133 |
| Polls, Valuation and Taxes Assessed .....                | 22          |
| Public Library .....                                     | 134         |
| Appropriation .....                                      | 101         |
| Library Trust Funds .....                                | 110         |
| Librarian's Report .....                                 | 134         |
| Treasurer's Report .....                                 | 141         |
| Resolutions .....  | 177         |
| Salaries .....   | 99          |
| Salaries and Surety Bonds of City Officers .....         | 124         |
| Scholarship Funds .....                                  | 173         |
| Daniell Scholarship .....                                | 175         |
| Franklin Student Aid Fund, Est. by Walter F. Duffy ..... | 174         |
| Sanger Scholarship .....                                 | 173         |
| Tax Collector's Department .....                         | 104, 105    |
| Treasurer's Report .....                                 | 96          |
| Trust Funds .....  | 106, 107    |
| Vital Statistics .....                                   | 189         |
| Visiting Nurse Association .....                         | 146         |
| Treasurer's Report .....                                 | 147         |
| Ward Officers .....                                      | 18          |
| Water Commissioners .....                                | 17          |
| Balance Sheet .....                                      | 117         |
| Superintendent's Report .....                            | 142         |
| Statement of Operations .....                            | 119         |
| Water Works Grant .....                                  | 102         |

## **Organization**

of the

# **City Government for the Year 1945**

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The city government for 1945 was organized Wednesday evening, January 3, at a meeting held in the main hall of the Opera House and Mayor Henry J. Proulx delivered the following inaugural address:

### **Mayor Proulx's Inaugural**

Reverend Father Hennon, Members of the City Council, distinguished and invited guests, my fellow citizens:

When the last chapter of history of this Second World War is finally written and the din will have faded away, indelibly inscribed on the tablets of memory, in a niche dedicated for this purpose, will be the achievement of the American soldier, sailor and marine immortalized, to whom all glory will be due; sharing with him will be the nation that has borne its responsibilities of war with a bravery and poise that has never been surpassed; yes, every city, town or hamlet will share this glory by its conduct during such a trial, upon whom the burden and sacrifice has exacted so much to those both so near and dear to each other.

We have always been a peaceful nation to which conquest and territory have never appealed and have been happy being self-contained in our views, ambitions, so well illustrated by our ability to understand one another in a country sprinkled with races, creeds and colors where the melting pot might have a hot heat, but never a fever heat in the understanding of a union of men.

Compensating for our unwarlike disposition however, is an attribute which finds us united in purpose when aroused and when our security is being threatened, this is a heritage of men to whom a tradition has been delegated by ancestors who first were on the right side, who had faith and dealt with it as a sacred trust against which there would be no prevail. Stunned with the

declaration of war and the unwarranted attack by an imperialist government in 1941, we gained our composure and feverishly prepared to meet the test such as no nation ever confronted, and without complaint, yes, for three years we faced our disappointments and our successes with sobriety, never losing confidence in our leaders never faltering in encouragement to create an effect where it would be needed most, and I mean with those boys and girls representing us on all fronts and action areas on this globe. Stories, studded with heroic action are reported, showing hardship and sacrifice encountered, and trying as they might be at home they have served to temper the determination of a people, bidding for high stakes in a world of tomorrow.

Morale could never reach such supreme heights, without faith in purpose that is found in our way of living and interpreted by great men who have translated its meaning, in the Constitution of the United States, to then a youthful nation and dedicated to the highest purpose of peace and understanding.

During the past year Franklin has received its share of War Department telegrams, and to the nearest of kin to whom the pangs of war have been so realistically felt, our community joins the people of this nation and those of broken and invaded countries to say "never has a sacrifice been more worthy for whom generations will be more indebted". Your Gold Star Homes will be a shrine in the depths of our gratitude which will be revered and there kindle for supreme contribution offered by a worthy son, deserving of a brave mother, whose union with others who have given most in time of this war will provide a claim of doing most for a world of peace.

To those whose vigil is ceaseless who have overcome the stage of anxiety about our country's preparedness, whose boys and girls are confidently meeting the test in carrying the war on to a successful and victorious conclusion, may God provide for you the strength that will be needed to continue to the end, a test that will try every fibre to face squarely our fiendish foes, a test that will exert us to the limit in view of its responsibility; let us again resolve to look hopeful to tomorrow and express this in our actions, words and deeds that our deportment will measure up to the courage and determination of those worthy of us and our names, fighting the fight, of human mankind and a just peace.

With an Honor Roll of nearly a thousand, I would like to caution those at home that they too have a responsibility and a part to play in this team work if the day of victory is to be hastened;