

**FIFTY-SECOND ANNUAL  
REPORTS OF THE MUNICIPAL  
GOVERNMENT OF THE CITY OF  
FRANKLIN FOR THE FINANCIAL  
YEAR 1946**

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**VARIOUS**

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REPORTS OF THE MUNICIPAL  
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FINANCIAL YEAR 1946**





Front Row: Henry Chamberlain, Lawrence J. Gauthier, Mayor Henry J. Proulx, Albert Perreault, Scott Coen.  
Back Row: Wiggih S. Gilman, H. Asa Bennett, Allen Atwood, Frank O. Sargent, Earl S. Sargent.

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of the  
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# Organization

of the

## City Government for the Year 1946

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The city government for 1946 was organized Monday evening, January 7, 1946, 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, Members of the City Council and my fellow citizens:

Few if any have been privileged to assume this signal honor that I hold so proudly tonight of being inaugurated for the seventh time Mayor of your city, one of the finest communities in the State of New Hampshire. For this distinction I am deeply grateful and am fully aware of its meaning and the responsibilities involved. As in the past inaugurals I accept them and pledge you my continued efforts, dedicated to Good Government, a platform sustained since 1940, a pledge fulfilled in the interest of a people who recognize that their confidence while delegated to a public official is a mandate for their social and economic advancement and which should never be secondary to persons, groups or privileges. I am confident that this pledge for good government will be vigorously supported by my colleagues and associates in this 1946 Council who hold their seats of honor by virtue of an integrity, recognized by those electing them. I am also equally confident that even the "Closed Doors" sessions so mysteriously referred to by the opposition in the last campaign that usually precedes the regular monthly meeting to which they will be invited to attend, will not, in any way, have any effect on the freedom of their minds, not any more at least than the procedure had on the minds of the members of the Republican Party who created the precedent from 1895 to 1940, which does not call for any criticism I am sure, but simply to remind us that the charter and the provisions governing our city government estab-

lished a two party system of government, and assumes this obvious behavior. However, I challenge any presumption by the chairman of the Republican city committee in his publication of the "yellow sheet", with its falsehoods, to infer that "closed door sessions" are veiled mediums of legislation intended to escape the observation of the public or press; the record of the city council for the past six years now a public document subscribes to refute any allegation, and its record achieved in legislation and progress, acclaimed by State and County organizations in New Hampshire, has been accomplished almost without the exception of a dissenting voice, even by members of this body representing the minority party.

The day has passed when a public can be stampeded in the last minutes of a campaign by desperation or its dispositions, public trust today does intend to reward its justification but is quick to censor personal advancement unless a reliance is qualified and unless it has at least a promise that can be translated into action, that seeks to promote posterity for the advancement of all the people.

The news released in the past year with its promise of peace, came to our nation and world with the surrender of Japan and brought a response of joy that was unbounded and deserved after four years of an anxious vigil, and for the first time in this long period brought to us the hope of peace and the return of our loved ones. The cost of lives in this recent struggle, which spared no community in this entire nation, has tempered the limitations of our rejoicing notwithstanding the steady return to our midst of boys that left this community on a mission that at all times made their safety one of doubt and question. As we greet them on returning we sense with pride the privilege of calling them our own and admire their composure and manner in which they refer to the contribution they have made, and which, in success, is so modestly attributed to their comrades at arms who by the sacrifices of their lives, have first honor, first glory and perpetuation. They quietly remind us that this reunion could not be possible without the sacrifice of their colleagues and to them they owe their existence. This is the American, to us hardly old enough to assume such a responsibility, who has always been our next door neighbor, who left in his school age and although he has covered himself with glory, isn't moved by his achievements in his duty for his country, big enough for any contingency, one worthy of carrying on and contributing to the destiny and tradition of his country for which he and his associates so valiantly fought and died, one who fully realizes the meaning of democracy