Click here for Town Board Meeting Minutes

Contact information for your Town Departments

■ August 2025 Town Board Events
Town of Franklinville

■ All events are held at the Town Hall
Everyone is welcome — stay informed and get involved!

■■ August 12 @ 7:00 PM – Town Board Meeting
Join us for updates, discussions, and decision-making that affect our community.

■■ August 13 @ 1:00 – 4:00 PM – Assessor Office Hours
Stop by with questions about property assessments, STAR exemptions, and more.

■■ August 25 @ 5:00 – 7:00 PM – Law Review Workshop
An opportunity to learn about proposed local laws and share your feedback.

■■ Every Saturday, 8:00 – 10:00 AM – Code Enforcement Office Hours
Have questions or concerns about permits, violations, or property maintenance? Stop in!

Monthly News & Updates

August 2025

Dog Licensing Renewals

We wanted to remind our residents that renewal notices will soon be sent out! If there have been any changes in your pet ownership, we kindly ask that you inform the Town Clerk so she can update our records accordingly. Keeping accurate records is essential for our community governance and helps us serve you better.

Additionally, licensing your dogs plays a vital role in ensuring community safety. In the Town and Village of Franklinville, it is essential that all dogs over four months of age, as well as those being harbored for more than 30 days, are properly licensed. This process not only ensures compliance with local regulations but also enhances the safety and well-being of our community. *To obtain a dog license, residents must provide proof of current rabies vaccination, proof of spay/neuter if applicable, and pay the associated fees:*

- *$20.00 for non-spayed/neutered dogs*
- *$10.00 for spayed/neutered dogs.*

Dog licenses can be conveniently purchased and renewed either in person or through mail. If opting for mail-in licensing, residents are kindly requested to include the necessary documentation along with a contact phone number for any potential inquiries.
For further assistance or questions regarding the licensing process, please do not hesitate to reach out to the Town Clerk.

Cemetery

Decorations and Novelties

We kindly ask that you take a moment to review the list of permitted and not permitted items for decorating our cherished cemetery. Thoughtful decoration not only enhances the beauty of this sacred space but also reflects the respect we hold for our loved ones resting here. We encourage you to be mindful of the placement of your decorations, as items placed in front or behind gravestones can hinder the maintenance efforts that keep our cemetery looking its best.

Permitted:

1. Shepherd hooks, aligned tight to the side of gravestone.
2. Concrete urn, please attempt to avoid the use of plastic.
3. Wreaths must be attached to headstones.
4. Artificial flowers must be in flower urns at side of headstone not in front or secured in hanging basket on shepherd hook;
5. Flowers may be planted on side of headstone;
6. Planting of memorial trees is permitted with approval by Cemetery Sexton and Town Board. With approval the tree will be planted where root system or future growth would not hinder another lot owner;
7. American (USA) flags up to 12x18 inches may be placed by the headstone. Flags should be properly secured to avoid falling to the ground and blowing away. Optional flag holders are available for a fee from Veteran organizations and are allowed by the headstone;
8. The following are not prohibited but must be used sparingly: Pinwheels, toys, flags, banners, figurines, lighting devices, solar lights; these items pose a safety risk to cemetery personnel and equipment. PLEASE NOTE: these novelties will be removed without notice by cemetery personnel if deemed a hazard.

Not Permitted:

1. Bushes, shrubs, rose bushes, trees, or other plantings not listed above;
2. Fence, stone, plastic edging, gravel, chuck type mulch;
3. Glass; glass or plastic blocks, glass vases;
4. Artificial flowers placed in/on/around soil; planting of flowers in front of or behind monuments.

Town Budget

As we embark on this vital time of year, we want to highlight the importance of the budget process in promoting community engagement and transparency here in Franklinville. The Town Supervisor, also serving as the Budget Officer, plays a crucial role by gathering estimated expenses from Department Heads and incorporating anticipated revenues and expenditures reflective of potential projects and changes for the upcoming year. Once the budget is meticulously crafted, it is filed with the Town Clerk, who will distribute it to the Town Board for a thorough review during a special meeting. This collaborative effort allows for necessary adjustments before it is approved as a preliminary budget. A public hearing will be scheduled in November, providing an opportunity for residents to engage in this important process.

In the Town of Franklinville, New York State has established a clear structure for town-wide charges that impact all residents, including those within the Village. These charges, which are essential for the smooth operation of our community, encompass various important services and functions.

Those town-wide charges we see on our bills play a crucial role in keeping Franklinville running smoothly! These charges are vital as they fund essential local services that directly contribute to the well-being and quality of life in our community. They support the operations of our Town Court, the Town Board, the Assessor’s office, and even the maintenance of our cemeteries. Additionally, they cover important expenses such as Dog Control and the ever-important snow removal, ensuring our roads remain clear and safe for everyone traveling in and out of town. It's important to remember that the Village is nestled within the Town, meaning every Village resident is also a Town resident.

On the other hand, we also implement part-town charges that apply specifically to residents outside the Village boundaries. These charges help cover repairs and improvements of Town Roads, as well as the expenses associated with our Code Enforcement/Building Inspector/Zoning Officer, and other planning and zoning activities and more.

We believe in maintaining transparency regarding these charges, and we encourage residents to reach out with any questions or concerns. Together, these contributions play a vital role in ensuring the safety and well-being of all Franklinville residents.

Justice Court

Understanding the Fiscal Impact of the Village’s Plan to Establish a Separate Court

As we navigate upcoming budget discussions, it is important for all residents to understand the potential implications of the Village of Franklinville’s decision to separate from the Town Court. This change will directly affect the Townwide tax levy, which includes taxes paid by Village residents.

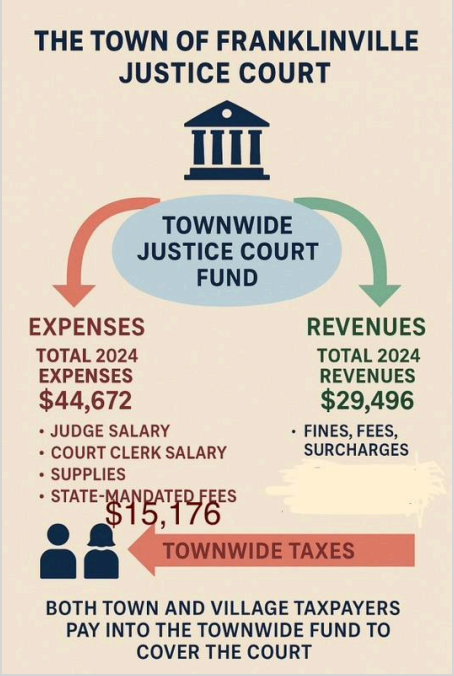
Under New York State law, every Town is required to maintain a Justice Court. The Village is required to contribute to the Town Court because the Village is in the Town. In contrast, the Village’s participation in a Justice Court is optional. Currently, the consolidated court system serves both municipalities, with revenues primarily through fines generated from tickets issued by the Village Police, the Cattaraugus County Sheriff’s Office, and the New York State Police. These revenues help offset the operational costs of the court.

When fine revenue does not cover the full cost of operating the court, the remaining expenses must be funded by town wide taxpayers. Conversely, if revenues exceed

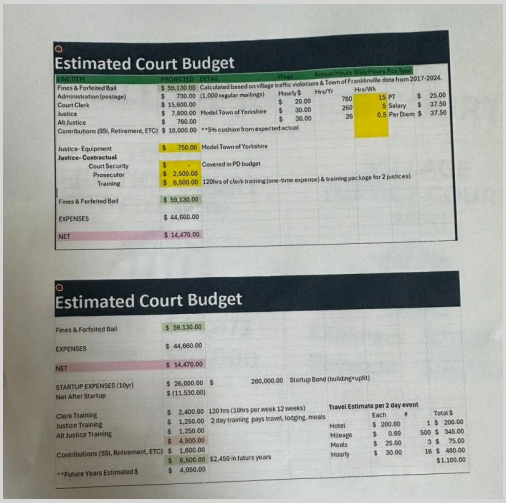
expenses, there is no cost to the taxpayers.

For context, the 2024 the consolidated court had a deficit of approximately $15,176—an amount shared across all town wide taxpayers, including those in the Village. This structural deficit has persisted since the COVID-19 pandemic and there have also been recent changes in NYS policies regarding the enforcement and collection of fines.

As the Village moves forward with creating its own court, it is essential for both Town and Village residents to understand the broader financial impact. The Town Court's operational costs will largely remain fixed due to legal requirements, including the fact that a sitting justice cannot be removed mid-term. The Town anticipates a significant drop in revenue, as fines from the Village Police will no longer be directed to the Town Court. This will increase the shortfall in the town wide court budget.



Below you will see that based on the towns estimates for 2026, the town wide deficit to fund the town court—shared by all Town and Village taxpayers—is expected to increase to approximately $24,672.
Meanwhile, using the projections presented by the Village, as shown below, indicate their new court will run a deficit of about $11,530 (for the next 10 years), which will be funded solely by Village taxpayers.



Click here for the Village Power point Presentation

Town of Franklinville | 11 Park Square | Franklinville, NY 14737 US

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