

- Decals were issued for 7,128 cars, trucks, heavy equipment, motorcycles, boats and trailers.
- The Commissioner of the Revenue issued 617 business licenses and handled 188 real estate transfers.
- Only 54 water leaks were reported in 2008, which was down from 68 in 2007.
- The Wastewater Treatment Plant had a new emergency generator installed, tested and placed into service in February.
- 81 new traffic signs were installed throughout the City, which was a decrease from 118 in 2007.
- 150 repairs were made to signs and sign posts, which was a decrease from 222 in 2007.
- Fire & Rescue answered a total of 2,282 calls for service in 2008. This is an average of over 6 calls per day.
- A total of 16 students from Franklin High School and Southampton High School completed Firefighter I through the dual credit high school program.
- The City created the Office and Institutional Zoning District to assist Economic Development in pursuit of new industries and businesses.
- Construction of the new Farmer's Market structure has begun on Main Street next to the new Visitor's Center.
- The City adopted a Pro Rata Ordinance to assist in the implementation of the Master Water and Sewer Study.
- The City also adopted an Anti-Idling Policy for City vehicles as part of Virginia's Go Green Initiative.
- The IT Department unveiled new websites for the City and Police Department. The sites are more user friendly and offer an online application form, live-chat features and advanced search features.
- 83 tons of hot mix asphalt was placed on streets and 138 cubic yards of concrete were poured.
- 370,241,054 gallons of water was pumped from all four City wells in 2008.
- The Cycle N' Save Program had a cost savings of \$236,863.31.
- Power & Light responded to 550 service calls that included street light repairs/installations, down wires, voltage problems, service updates, power outages due to squirrels, birds, snakes, raccoons, tree limbs and accidents. In addition, Power & Light responded to 109 after hour trouble calls.
- Parks & Recreation sponsored the 12<sup>th</sup> annual Franklin Community Leaders Breakfast & co-sponsored three programs with the Ruth Camp Campbell Memorial Library.
- The Registrar's Office handled a record number of absentee ballots for the November 4, 2008 Presidential election.
- The Airport became home to The Commemorative Air Force-Old Dominion Squadron. Plans for a museum and several flying events are being planned for 2009.
- The Police Department responded to 19,413 calls for service, which is an average of over 53 calls per day.
- Officers continued their participation in the "Eddie Eagle" gun safety program at S.P. Morton Elementary School.
- Power & Light handled 848 Miss Utility Calls.
- Preparation, execution and conclusion of the 2008 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Cops for Kids Christmas Toy Drive assisted 25 families and 100 children. Over \$18,000 was raised for the event.
- Parks and Recreation hosted a Volunteer Dinner in April to recognize all Parks & Recreation Volunteers.
- The Senior Program at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Center hosted the following events: Senior Inspirational Group, a trip to Miami, Florida, a trip to Smithfield for a cook out, a trip to the Suffolk Peanut Festival and attended a Valentine's Dance in Newport News.
- The Airport hosted the 5<sup>th</sup> annual EAA Tri-Chapter Fly-In and 92 children were given airplane rides.
- The Airport was also host to the Region 10 National Intercollegiate Flying Association Competition.
- The Hunterdale Water Tank painting project was completed much earlier than anticipated with little affect on citizens.
- The Wastewater Treatment Plant maintained an accident-free work center for the 11<sup>th</sup> consecutive year. The plant has gone 4037 days as of December 31, 2008 without a lost time accident.
- Fire & Rescue hosted 6 state certification programs and assisted with the Annual Regional Fire School which is held each April.
- The Poplar Springs Cemetery Expansion was completed and plots are available to purchase.
- Community Development secured a \$32,000 grant from VDOT to complete a Master Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan.
- Construction began on the new 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue Bridge.

- The City received an award for coordinating and hosting the First Annual Albemarle-Chowan Watershed and Rivers Day.
- The grand opening of Farm Fresh took place in March 2008.
- Fire & Rescue installed 175 smoke detectors in homes that needed them and installed 102 child safety seats.
- The City garage completed a total of 1,107 services or repairs on City vehicles.
- The Airport received an \$80,000 FAA grant for Runway 27 Environmental Assessment.
- Public Works crews graded 1,200 linear feet of ditches in the City and made 25 repairs to drainage structures.
- The Downtown Franklin Association had a full and successful outdoor Summer Concert series (“We Be Jammin’”) held at Barrett’s Landing.
- Parks & Recreation sponsored some eight or more activities such as Family & Friends Day, Annual Youth Fun Day, African-American Festival, Super Summer Jam Program, Annual Aquatics Program, Jujitsu & Aikido Program, Youth Baseball and Youth Softball.
- The Police Department participated in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual National Night Out and numerous community events involving crime prevention, Project Lifesaver and Ident-A-Kid.
- The Department of Community Development reviewed 606 permits for new construction, renovations and repairs.
- Council held its annual retreat in December and published its 2020 Vision Statement.
- Gloria Wiggins was named Employee of the Year for the City of Franklin.



**Members of City Council**

James Council, III	Mayor
Raystine Johnson	Vice Mayor, Ward 4
Barry Cheatham	Ward 1
Brenton “Benny” Burgess	Ward 2
Rosa Lawrence	Ward 3
Mary Hilliard	Ward 5
Mark Fetherolf	Ward 6

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**ANNUAL REPORT  
 OF CITY ACTIVITIES  
 JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 2008**

For a more detailed look at the City’s proposed and completed Action Plan please go to [www.franklinva.com](http://www.franklinva.com). There you will find some 8 pages of activities that have been completed or are currently on going.

- Atkinson Park held its grand opening on October 29, 2008! The project was made possible with donations from the Camp Foundations and the private sector.
- The Train Depot/Visitor’s Center held its grand opening on September 25, 2008!
- The City received the SOBA award for the design of the Blackwater Boat Landing.
- The office of Smart Beginnings Western Tidewater opened on February 1, 2008 as a joint collaboration between the City of Franklin, Southampton County and Isle of Wight County. The goal of the program is to allow children to be “ready for school, ready for life”.
- The Airport had over 10,000 aircraft operations.
- Public Works collected 5,127.70 tons of garbage and refuse.