RESOLUTION NO. 45

A Resolution Supporting Municipal Police Use of Radar

Whereas, providing for the general safety and welfare of the public is a primary reason that municipalities are established and exist; and

Whereas, municipal police officers are statutorily authorized to protect the public through the enforcement of the Pennsylvania Motor Vehicle Code; and

Whereas, all available law enforcement tools are authorized for use by municipal police officers, with one notable exception, that being the use of radar for speed enforcement; and

Whereas, the effective use of radar for speed enforcement has been demonstrated by state and local police officers across the United States and in Pennsylvania by the Pennsylvania State Police; and

Whereas, the current speed timing devices authorized for municipal police to use are frequently cumbersome or require multiple officers for operation which often results in little or no speed enforcement at the local level because of a lack of manpower; and

Whereas, speeding is a frequent complaint in virtually every neighborhood in our communities and we believe that contributes to the fact that Pennsylvania has the distinction of being the state with the 3rd highest number of speed-related fatalities in the country.

Now therefore be it resolved, that the Council of the City of Franklin calls upon the Members of the Senate and House of Representatives of the General Assembly of Pennsylvania, and specifically, Senator Scott E. Hutchinson and Representative R. Lee James to support Senate Bill 535 and House Bill 71 which would authorize all police officers in the commonwealth Pennsylvania to use the same motor vehicle speed-timing equipment.

Done this 7th day of March 2016

Douglas A. Baker, Mayor