

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT



JAMES B. COSGROVE
First Selectman

RAYMOND E. DUNBAR, JR.
ANGELA M. HIGGINS

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Minutes of Selectmen's Meeting
Video/teleconference meeting
August 19, 2020
Fire Headquarters – 6:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m. Present were First Selectman James B. Cosgrove, Second Selectman Raymond Dunbar and Third Selectman Angela M. Higgins. Also present were: Brian Devlin, Superintendent, WPCF; Diana McCarthy-Bercury, Sustainability and Compliance Manager; Jon Mulhern, Police Chief; Thomas Mahoney, Fire Chief; John Hoefflerle, Town Engineer; Gary Zielinski, Supervisor, Department of Public Works; Margaret Luberta, Human Resources Director; RTM Members: Ray Ingraham, Dee Dee Hakun, Linda Erlanger, and Carolyn Sires; Shirley McCarthy, Greg Ames, Elena Cahill, Marshall Cox, Sharon Huttner and Bill Horne; and Mark Zaretsky, Reporter, New Haven Register.

Motion made by Selectman Higgins to amend the agenda – to change item #8 to award the contract to JTTS Tire in the amount of \$16,800. Seconded by Selectman Dunbar. Vote unanimous.

Motion made by Selectman Dunbar to approve the minutes from July 1, 2020, July 8, 2020 (special meeting), July 22, 2020 (special meeting). Seconded by Selectman Higgins. Vote unanimous.

Motion made by Selectman Dunbar to approve an amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement for Animal Control Services dated February 9 2005 between the Town of Branford and the Town of North Branford. Seconded by Selectman Higgins. Vote unanimous.

Motion made by Selectman Dunbar to approve a request from Police Chief Jon Mulhern to donate the Watchguard body cameras to the East Windsor Police Department. Seconded by Selectman Higgins. Vote unanimous.

Motion made by Selectman Dunbar to approve the following resolution:
RESOLVED, that the Board of Selectmen may enter into with and deliver to the State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security and all documents which it deems to be necessary or appropriate; and,

FURTHER RESOLVED, that James B. Cosgrove, as First Selectman of the Town of Branford, is authorized and directed to execute and deliver any and all documents on behalf of the Town of Branford and to do and perform all acts and things which he deems to be necessary or appropriate to carry out the terms of such documents, including, but not limited to, executing and delivering all agreements and documents contemplated by such documents.

Seconded by Selectman Higgins. Vote unanimous.

Motion made by Selectman Dunbar to approve a request from Fire Chief Thomas Mahoney to permit the trade in of two 2009 Lifepak 15 Cardiac Monitors serial numbers: 38166609 and 38166634 towards the purchase of two replacement cardiac monitors approved as part of the FD Capital Budget. Seconded by Selectman Higgins. Vote unanimous.

Motion made by Selectman Dunbar to approve a request from Brian Devlin, Superintendent, WPCF to waive the bid for on call piping services. To clarify there will be three vendors on the on call list.

Seconded by Selectman Higgins.

Motion made by Selectman Higgins to approve a request from Gary Zielinski, Supervisor, Department of Public Works to waive the bid for catch basin cleaning services and award the contract to Shaw Vac Services in the amount of \$43,000. Seconded by Selectman Dunbar. Vote unanimous.

Motion made by Selectman Dunbar to approve a request from Gary Zielinski, Supervisor, Department of Public Works to waive the bid for the purchase of 4 tires including scrap, road services and labor for the John Deere 544J Loader and award the contract to JTTS Tire in the amount of \$16,800. Seconded by Selectman Higgins. Vote unanimous.

Greg Ames of the Clean Energy Ad Hoc Committee presented the proposed 2020 Branford Energy Plan. A lengthy discussion took place concerning the proposed plan. RTM members Erlanger, Sires and Ingraham addressed the Board. Wayne Cooke addressed the Board opposing the Board's acceptance of the proposed plan. First Selectman Cosgrove stated that this plan is the framework for moving forward with an energy plan. It will be a living document. It was stated for the record that this plan will be put out to the community to open discussions concerning clean energy options. The Board is voting on the plan to move it forward and engage the public for input and engagement. Shirley McCarthy stated for the record that the Clean Energy Ad Hoc Committee plans on holding meetings and using social media etc. to get the public's input. Motion made by First Selectman Cosgrove to continue to develop a Branford Energy Plan. Seconded by Selectman Higgins. Vote unanimous.

Reappointments:

Economic Development Commission

Richard Squeglia and Albert Canosa terms to expire July 31, 2023. Motion made by Higgins to approve the reappointments. Seconded by Selectman Dunbar. Vote unanimous.

Conservation/Environmental Commission

Dan Fitzgerald term to expire July 31, 2023

Karyl Lee Hall term to expire July 31, 2024

Adrian Bonenberger term to expire July 31, 2024

Motion made by Selectman Dunbar to approve the reappointments. Seconded by Selectman Higgins. Vote unanimous.

Appointments:

Conservation / Environmental Commission

Peter Yates to fill a vacancy left by Eleanor Saulys term to expire July 31, 2024. Motion made by Selectman Higgins to approve the appointment. Seconded by Selectman Dunbar. Vote unanimous.

Planning and Zoning – Alternate

Massimo Liquori to fill a vacancy left by David Dyer term to expire October 31, 2025. Motion made by Selectman Higgins to approve the appointment. Seconded by Selectman Dunbar. Vote unanimous.

Motion made by Selectman Higgins to approve the following proclamation:

**Centennial Proclamation Declaring August 2020
as “National Women’s Suffrage Month”
in Celebration, Recognition and Honor
of the 100th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment
to the United States Constitution**

Whereas, the bold, courageous and powerful women who fought for the ratification of the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution on August 26, 1920, deserve special celebration, especially on the 100th anniversary of its ratification in 2020; and,

Whereas, the right to vote is the cornerstone of our democracy and the fundamental right upon which all our civil liberties rest; and,

Whereas, the 19th Amendment did not guarantee suffrage for all women, including Native Americans who did not gain the right to vote until 1924. For Asian Pacific Islander Americans it was 1952. African-American and Latin Americans suffered voter suppression until passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and 1975; and,

Whereas, the fact that today women are active in local, state and national government and are running for office in unprecedented numbers reminds us that we all follow in the footsteps of these resolute American suffragists: and,

Whereas the 19th amendment to the United States Constitution has played an important role in advancing the rights of all women;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Branford hereby recommend that all citizens and civic institutions:

- honor the role of the ratification of the 19th Amendment in further promoting the core values of our democracy as promised by the Constitution of the United States;
- reaffirm the opportunity for students and adults in the Town of Branford to learn about and commemorate the efforts of the women’s suffrage movement and the role of women in our democracy; and
- reaffirm our desire to continue to strengthen democratic participation and to inspire future generations to cherish and preserve the historic precedent established under the 19th Amendment.

Seconded by Selectman Dunbar. Vote unanimous.

Board of Selectmen
Minutes of Meeting – August 19, 2020
Page Four

First Selectman Cosgrove mentioned that there will be a ceremony on the Town Hall steps on Wednesday, August 26, 2020 at noon.

Motion made by Selectman Higgins to adjourn the meeting at 7:59 p.m. Seconded by Selectman Dunbar. Vote unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Trista Milici
Clerk