

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
October 7, 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: John Hoefflerle, Town Engineer; Gary Zielinski, Supervisor, Public Works Department; Brian Devlin, Superintendent, WPCA; Laura Burbank, Director, Daniel Cosgrove Animal Shelter; Thomas Mahoney, Fire Chief; Tom Brockett, RTM Member; Tracy Everson, RTM Member; Shirley McCarthy, Clean Energy Ad Hoc Committee; Joseph Sepot, Joseph Sepot Architects; Gaile Ramey, Branford Land Trust; Wayne Cooke and several citizens.

Executive Session – To discuss strategies and negotiations in the matter of Cooke v. Shapiro. This item was removed from the agenda.

Motion made by Selectman Dunbar to approve a request from the Town Engineer to waive bid for the purchase of an Advanced Warning High Water Level System for the Stony Creek Bridge underpass and award the contract to Glenco Supply in the amount of \$17,526. Seconded by Selectwoman Higgins. Vote unanimous.

Motion made by Selectwoman Higgins to approve a request from the Town Engineer to release sanitary sewer easements over properties located at 18-19 Etzel Road and 15 Etzel Road. Seconded by Selectman Dunbar. Vote unanimous.

Motion made by Selectwoman Higgins to approve a request from Gary Zielinski, Supervisor, DPW to waive the bid for the purchase of a Quickview airHD Camera Inspection System and award the contract to JF McDermott Corp. in the amount of \$16,750.00. Seconded by Selectman Dunbar. Vote unanimous.

Motion made by Selectwoman Higgins to approve a request from Fire Chief Tom Mahoney to trade in the 2009 Legacy Lucas Chest Compression System Serial number 19090625 towards the purchase of two new Lucas devices. Seconded by Selectman Dunbar. Vote unanimous.

Motion made by Selectman Dunbar to approve a request from Fire Chief Tom Mahoney to transfer ownership of the 2010 Ford F350 Ambulance VIN # 1FDWF3GRXAEA72225 to East Shore Health District. Seconded by Selectwoman Higgins. Vote unanimous.

Motion made by Selectwoman Higgins to approve a request from Brian Devlin, Superintendent, WPCA, to waive the bid for the rebuilding of the BDP gravity thickener that is presently in use at the Wastewater facility and award the contract to BDP company in the amount of \$133,000. Seconded by Selectman Dunbar. Vote unanimous.

Discussion took place concerning the request to approve a recommendation from the Public Building Commission and the Daniel Cosgrove Animal Shelter Commission to waive the bid for Architectural and Design services for the Daniel Cosgrove Animal Shelter Renovation and Expansion project and award the contract to Joseph Sepot Architects in the amount of \$90,000. Selectman Dunbar stated he would like additional time to review this item he still has some questions and would like to wait and consider this at a future meeting. There was no action taken on this item.

Motion made by Selectwoman Higgins to approve the request to abate the taxes on property owned by Hospice located at 191 Short Beach Road list # 9870. Seconded by Selectman Dunbar. Vote unanimous.

Reappointments:

Academy on the Green

Jane Bouley term to expire January 30, 2023 and Leonard Bucher term to expire January 30, 2024. Motion made by Selectwoman Higgins to approve the reappointments. Seconded by Selectman Dunbar. Vote unanimous.

Daniel Cosgrove Animal Shelter

Laurie Van Wilgen and Stephanie Malkin terms to expire September 30, 2024. Motion made by Selectwoman Higgins to approve the reappointments. Seconded by Selectman Dunbar. Vote unanimous.

Flood and Erosion Control Board

Richard Coyle term to expire April 30, 2023 and Daniel Rabin term to expire April 30, 2024. Motion made by Selectwoman Higgins to approve the reappointments. Seconded by Selectman Dunbar. Vote unanimous.

Parks and Open Space Authority

John Tolbert and Ainsley Highman terms to expire June 30, 2023. Motion made by Selectwoman Higgins to approve the reappointments. Seconded by Selectman Dunbar. Vote unanimous.

Planning and Zoning

Marcia Palluzzi term to expire October 31, 2025. Motion made by Selectwoman Higgins to approve the reappointment. Seconded by Selectman Dunbar. Vote unanimous.

Board of Recreation

Jeanne Crowley term to expire October 14, 2024 and Deb Conklin term to expire October 13, 2025. Motion made by Selectwoman Higgins to approve the reappointments. Seconded by Selectman Dunbar. Vote unanimous.

Shellfish Commission

David Steinhardt and Peter Graves terms to expire August 31, 2024. Motion made by Selectwoman Higgins to approve the reappointments. Seconded by Selectman Dunbar. Vote unanimous.

Veteran's Advisory Committee

Richard Dunn and Dennis Flanigan terms to expire January 31, 2021. Motion made by Selectwoman Higgins to approve the reappointments. Seconded by Selectman Dunbar. Vote unanimous.

Young's Pond Commission

Paul Blackstone term to expire April 30, 2024. Motion made by Selectwoman Higgins to approve the reappointment. Seconded by Selectman Dunbar. Vote unanimous.

Cable Advisory

John Hartwell and Matt Kelsey terms to expire June 30, 2022. Motion made by Selectwoman Higgins to approve the appointments. Seconded by Selectman Dunbar. Vote unanimous.

Flood and Erosion Control

Cinda Cash to fill a vacancy left by Donald Ballou term to expire April 30, 2023. Motion made by Selectwoman Higgins to approve the appointment. Seconded by Selectman Dunbar. Vote unanimous.

Veterans Advisory Committee

Adrian Bonenberger to fill a vacancy left by Richard Hansen term to expire January 31, 2023. Motion made by Selectwoman Higgins to approve the appointment. Seconded by Selectman Dunbar. Vote unanimous.

Motion made by Selectwoman Higgins to approve the following proclamation:

Arbor Day
April 24, 2020

Whereas, In 1872, J. Sterling Morton proposed to the Nebraska Board of Agriculture that a special day be set aside for the planting of trees, and;

Whereas, this holiday, called Arbor Day, was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska, and;

Whereas, Arbor Day is now observed throughout the nations and the world, and

Whereas, trees can reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cut heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce life-giving oxygen, and provide habitat for wildlife, and;

Whereas, trees are a renewable resource giving us paper, wood for our homes, fuel for our fires and countless other wood products, and;

Whereas, trees in our city increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and beautify our community, and;

Whereas, trees, wherever they are planted, are a source of joy and spiritual renewal.

Now, therefore, We, the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Branford, do hereby proclaim April 24, 2020 as Arbor Day in the Town of Branford and urge all citizens to plant trees to gladden the heart and promote the well-being of this and future generations.

Seconded by Selectman Dunbar. Vote unanimous.

Correspondence – First Selectman Cosgrove Wayne Cooke re: zoom meetings.

Other – Wayne Cooke shared a powerpoint presentation.

Motion made by Selectwoman Higgins to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Seconded by Selectman Dunbar. Vote unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Trista Milici, Clerk