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BRANFORD TOWN CLERK

**Representative Town Meeting
May 17, 2023
Meeting Minutes**

Moderator: Dennis Flanigan	Clerk: Donna Laich
Majority Leader: Ray Ingraham	Minority Leader: Tracy Everson

The RTM convened on Wednesday, May 17, 2023, at 8:00 p.m. in virtual format to consider and act upon the following matters:

1. Roll Call:

Representatives present: Alfone, Anderson, Barron, Black, Bonenberger, Conklin, Erlanger, Everson, Flanigan, Healy, Hesse, Hynes, Ingraham, Laich, Sires, Riccio, Verderame.

Representatives absent: Amore, Brooks, Greenberg, Hentschel, Maresca, Prete, Shrestha, Stepanek, Sullivan, Torelli, Twohill, Wells, Witkowski.

2. To consider and, if appropriate, approve the recommendation of the Board of Finance of an appropriation of \$2,115,000 to the ARPA Fund Budget for the fiscal year 2023-2024:

Rep. Ingraham made a motion to approve this recommendation, citing it was previously heard in committee by Administrative Services and Public Services. The motion was 2nd by Rep. Black and approved in a roll call vote 15 yes, 1 abstain (see attached roll call).

3. Adjournment: 8:10

Rep Black made a motion to adjourn, 2nd by Rep. Laich and unanimously approved in a voice vote.

Donna Laich, RTM Clerk

Dated this 18th day of May 2023

BRANFORD RTM RECORDED VOTES

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BRANFORD TOWN CLERK

RTM Roll Call List ~ Date: 5/17/2023			
	NAME	ATTENDANCE	BOF recommendation to ARPA
1	ALFONE	Present	Yes
2	AMORE	A	
3	ANDERSON	Present	Yes
4	BARRON	Present	Yes
5	BLACK	Present	Yes
6	BONENBERGER	Present	Yes
7	BROOKS	A	
8	CONKLIN	Present	Yes
9	ERLANGER	Present	Yes
10	EVERSON	Present	Abstain
11	FLANIGAN	Present	
12	GREENBERG	A	
13	HEALY	Present	Yes
14	HENTSCHEL	A	
15	HESSE	Present	Yes
16	HYNES	Present	Yes
17	INGRAHAM	Present	Yes
18	LAICH	Present	Yes
19	MARESCA	A	
20	PRETE	A	
21	RICCIO	Present	Yes
22	SHRESTHA	A	
23	SIRES	Present	Yes
24	STEPANEK	A	
25	SULLIVAN	A	
26	TORELLI	A	
27	TWOHILL	A	
28	VERDERAME	Present	Yes
29	WITKOWSKI	A	
30	WELLS	A	
	Total	17 P - 13 A	15 Yes - 1 abstain
	Ex Officios		
	1st Selectman Cosgrove		
	Selectman Higgins		
	Selectman Dunbar		
	Town Clerk Arpin		
	Treasurer Conklin		
	Attorney Aniskovich		

BRANFORD REPRESENTATIVE TOWN MEETING

**LEGAL NOTICE AND CALL
SPECIAL MEETING**

Wednesday , May 17, 2023 at 8:00 p.m.

The RTM will be convened on Wednesday, May 17, 2023 at 8:00 p.m. in virtual format. to consider and act upon the following matters.

Virtual meeting information:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87505553661>

Meeting ID: 875 0555 3661

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,87505553661# US (Chicago)

+16469313860,,87505553661# US

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2023 MAY 11 P 3:04
M. J. Flanigan
BRANFORD TOWN CLERK

1. Roll Call.
2. To consider and, if appropriate, approve the recommendation of the Board of Finance of an appropriation of \$2,115,000 to the ARPA Fund Budget for the fiscal year 2023-2024.
3. Adjournment.

Dated this 11th day of May, 2023

Dennis T. Flanigan, RTM Moderator

Lisa Arpin

From: James Finch
Sent: Wednesday, May 10, 2023 11:43 AM
To: RTM - All
Cc: DEPARTMENT - Executive and Designee; Kathryn LaBanca
Subject: ARPA Fund Budget
Attachments: ARPA Budget FY 2024.pdf

All:

At last night's meeting the RTM concluded that the ARPA requests were not consistently reviewed during the committee process. After a friendly discussion regarding potential remedies including the use of waiving rule 4.4 (1) the body ultimately voted to refer the ARPA items back to the Ways and Means Committee. As you may recall, the ARPA appropriation process was designed to mirror the budget approval/amendment process since it was familiar to the appropriating bodies and offered a mechanism for public discussions and input. I have attached a summary list of all of the ARPA projects/items since inception.

These projects span a variety of governmental functions: general government, public safety, public works/engineering, and human services. As a review it is important to consider the following:

- All of the projects were previously presented to the Board of Finance and transmitted to the RTM.
- Some recommendations reflect an increase over the amount requested allowing the town to enhance its service efforts without dramatically increasing the tax requirements or additional debt
- Some recommendations are linked to recommended reductions in the FY 23-24 budget approved by the RTM.
- For those projects which reflect enhanced funding and for which the town is seeking to continue beyond the ARPA funding process, the town's strategy is to provide a glide path so that the general fund increases in future years remain logical and budget sensitive.

While I don't want to be presumptuous with regard to the final ARPA outcome it is worth noting that the RTM validated the recommendations of the Board of Finance by passing the budget as presented with the exception of a recommended pension adjustment pursuant to anticipated changes in the CMERS program. My sense is that since all of the requests were previously transmitted to the RTM that this effort is designed to ensure procedural consistency and as a result the impact on the departments with ARPA projects may be minimal.

Jim

**TOWN OF BRANFORD
ARPA FUND
FISCAL YEARS 2022-2024**

Department	RTM Approved 2022	RTM Approved 2023	2024 Recommendations	BOF Recommended FY 2024	RTM Approved FY 2024
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GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Desktop Computers						
Cybersecurity				30,000		0
SAN Storage Device		25,000				
Shoreline Chamber of Commerce	160,000		0			0
BACA (Arts)		25,000				
Athletic Field Study		70,000				
Reserve for Non-Profits		400,000				
		425,000				
Total General Government Services	160,000	945,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	0

PUBLIC SAFETY

Lucas CPR Device						
Gear Extractor Dryer		32,000	0			0
Ambulance Equipment		30,000				0
Ambulance Purchase		75,000	0			0
		220,000	0			0
Total Public Safety Services		357,000	0	0	0	0

ENGINEERING/PUBLIC WORKS/SEWERS/SOLID WASTE

Paving						
Street Lining		1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	0
Dock Replacement Marine 5		125,000	125,000	125,000	125,000	0
Branford Wharf Replacement			85,000	85,000	85,000	
Vets Park ADA and Stormwater Upgrades			400,000	400,000	400,000	
Meadow Street Boardwalk - Engineering Services			200,000	200,000	200,000	
Sidewalks		75,000	0	0	0	0
Curbside Recycling Program		550,000	225,000	225,000	225,000	0
		925,000				
Total Public Works & Highway Services		2,675,000	2,035,000	2,035,000	2,035,000	0

**TOWN OF BRANFORD
ARPA FUND
FISCAL YEARS 2022-2024**

Department	RTM Approved 2022	RTM Approved 2023	2024 Recommendations	BOF Recommended FY 2024	RTM Approved FY 2024
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HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Basic Needs					
		100,000	50,000	50,000	0
		100,000	50,000	50,000	0
Total Health & Human Services					

RECREATION & LIBRARIES

Showmobile		220,000			0
		220,000	0	0	0
Total Recreation & Library Services					

TOTAL ARPA FUNDING REQUEST

		380,000	4,077,000	2,115,000	2,115,000	0
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RECONCILIATION OF ARPA FUNDING

Opening ARPA Fund Balance	8,257,021
FY 2022 Approved Appropriations	380,000
FY 2023 Approved Appropriations	4,077,000
FY 2024 Allocations	2,115,000
Closing Balance	1,685,021
Percent Remaining	20.4%