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BRANFORD TOWN CLERK

**Representative Town Meeting**

**Meeting Minutes ~ 6-10-2020**

Moderator: Dennis T. Flanigan	Clerk: Donna Laich
Majority Leader: Ray Ingraham	Minority Leader: Tom Brockett

**A remote meeting of the RTM was convened on Wednesday June 10, 2020 at 8:00 p.m. to consider and act on the following matters:**

Prior to Roll Call there was the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence for Selectman Higgins and for George Floyd.

**1. Roll Call:**

**Members Present:** Rep. Adelman, Rep. Alfone, Rep. Anderson, Rep. Austin, Rep. Black, Rep. Brockett, Rep. Conklin, Rep. Everson, Rep. Erlanger, Rep. Flanigan, Rep. Greenberg, Rep. Hakun, Rep. Healy, Rep. Hentschel, Rep. Hynes, Rep. Ingraham, Rep. Jackson, Rep. Kelly, Rep. Laich, Rep. Lombardi, Rep. Prete, Rep. Riccio, Rep. Sember, Rep. Sires, Rep. Soomro, Rep. Stepank (joined 8:15), Rep. Sullivan, Rep. Torelli, Rep. Twohill, Rep. Wells

**2. Approval of minutes of previous meetings:**

- a. Rep. Laich (RTM Clerk) motioned to amend the 5/19/20 minutes to correct the date and to correct the roll call vote on item # 5 to reflect Rep. Healy’s No vote on that item. The motion was seconded by Rep. Sullivan and the amended minutes of the 5/19/20 RTM meeting were approved, unanimously.

**3. Reception of communications, reports of committees, and citizen petitions.**

- a. Moderator Flannigan read 6 letters submitted by resident Wayne Cooke. Moderator Flanigan referred each item to the following committees (subjects of letters compressed in the following numbered items):
  - i. “Special Funds” to the Leadership group
  - ii. “45 million dollar surplus” to Ways and Means
  - iii. “Code of Ethics” to Rules and Ordinances
  - iv. “Superzone” to Rules and Ordinances
  - v. “CT General Statute 8-30g” to Rules and Ordinances
  - vi. “Sign removal” to Public Services
- b. Clerk Arpin reminded everyone that June is dog licensing month, which can be completed in person or by mail.

**4. To consider, and if appropriate, adopt a uniform procedure for Ordinance enforcement pursuant to Town Meeting rules (A236-4.19d)**

- a. Rep. Black noted that this item was approved in committee with one exception. Rep. Brockett suggested corrected terminology in the document from “Citation Officer” to “Enforcement Officer”. After the correction, this item was approved 6-0 in committee. After a brief discussion with several RTM representatives speaking in support of this item, it was unanimously approved (see attached).

**5. To consider, and if appropriate, create a Blight Ordinance for the Town of Branford.**

- a. Rep. Black reported that the committee did not meet on this because they would like to wait until a future, in person, meeting. Rep. Black made a motion to re-refer this item, it was seconded by Rep. Anderson and unanimously approved (see attached).

**6. To consider, and if appropriate, approve an appropriation in the Coastal Resiliency Fund for the purchase of a property and structure located at 17 Creek Court and act on the resolution:**

<b>Increase:</b>	<b>740-90000-480296-xxxx</b>	<b>Fund Balance Transfer</b>	<b>\$125,000</b>
<b>Increase:</b>	<b>740-41020-579610-xxxx</b>	<b>Land Acquisition</b>	<b>125,000</b>

**RESOLVED: That the RTM approves an appropriation of \$125,000 in the Coastal Resiliency Fund. This appropriation will be funded through an appropriation from fund balance.**

- a. This item was heard at the Administrative Services Committee. After discussion they voted 7-0 to re-refer this item.
- b. This item was also heard at the Ways and Means Committee meeting where the committee voted 5-0 to not approve the transfer of funds.
- c. Rep. Brockett spoke to the complication of this item. He recommended to reject the re-referral by the Administrative Services Committee. After a brief discussion Rep. Alfone made a motion to re-refer this item, the re-referral was rejected 28 - 1 in a roll call vote (see attached - item 6).
- d. Rep. Brockett made a motion to reject the transfer of funds and the purchase of the property located at 17 Creek Court. The motion was seconded by Rep. Erlanger. This was followed by a lengthy discussion with comments from many RTM representatives, the First Selectman, and Resident Wayne Cooke.
- e. The motion passed 28 - 1 in a roll call vote (see attached - item 6a).

**7. To consider, and if appropriate, approve participation in the Haz Waste Central program for July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2023 as recommended by the Solid Waste Management Commission.**

- a. Rep. Conklin reported that this proposal came before the Public Services Committee and passed 7-0. He put the item forward in the form of a motion.

Several representatives spoke in favor of this program. After a brief discussion, the item was approved unanimously (see attached).

**8. To consider, and if appropriate, create an Ordinance pertaining to Unused Capital Funds.**

- a. Rep. Black made a motion to re-refer this item, seconded by Rep. Ingraham. The item was unanimously re-referred (see attached).

**9. To consider, and if appropriate, approve participating in the Neighborhood Assistance Tax Credit Program.**

Rep. Alfone briefly described this program and made a motion to waive 4-4-I since the items were not heard in committee. The motion to waive 4-4-I was seconded by Rep. Brockett and was approved unanimously (see attached). Separate votes were taken on each item as listed below.

- a. Rep. Alfone made a motion to approve the James Blackstone Memorial Library application, seconded by Rep. Ingraham. This item was unanimously approved as item 9A (see attached).
- b. Rep. Alfone made a motion to accept the application made by CT Hospice, seconded by Rep. Brockett. This item passed unanimously as item 9B (see attached).
- c. Rep. Alfone made a motion to approve the application from the Stony Creek Fife and Drum Corp., seconded by Rep. Hentschel. This was approved unanimously as item 9C (see attached).

**10. To consider, and if appropriate, approve a resolution authorizing the First Selectman to enter into the Restated Inter-Community Agreement Regarding the Resource Recovery Facility Operating Committee (“BRRFOC”) that requires approval by the Legislative Body.**

- a. Rep. Alfone briefly described the contents of this item. This passed in the Administrative Services Committee 4-1 (with 2 abstentions) he put this in the form of a motion for approval.
- b. Rep. Everson gave a brief minority report and after receiving and reviewing additional information stated she will support the motion.
- c. After a brief discussion with comments from RTM representatives, resident Cooke, and the executive director of “BRRFOC” the item was unanimously approved (see attached).

**11. To consider, and if appropriate, approve a request from ERACE/Branford Adult Education Program Facilitator for the following FY20 budget transfers:**

**From:           25448100-512000                           Salaries – Non-Certified                           (\$3,055)**

To:	25448100-520000	Employee Benefits	1,250
	25448100-555400	Advertising, Printing	1,800
	25448100-588200	Memberships, Conferences, Meetings	5

- a. Rep. Twohill reported that the Education Committee heard this item and approved it 6-0. After a brief description of the item, Rep. Twohill put this forward for approval in the form of a motion. The item was unanimously approved (see attached).

**12. To consider, and if appropriate, approve a request from the Information Technology Director for the following FY19-20 fund balance transfer:**

From:	70041190-579150-17303	On-body & Car Camera Video Storage for Police Department	(\$53,000)
To:	70041190-579150-17303	On-body Cameras for Police Department	53,000

- a. Rep. Alfone gave a brief description of the item, reporting that it passed the Administrative Services Committee 7-0. He put it forward in the form of a motion; it was unanimously approved (see attached).

**13. To consider, and if appropriate, approve a request from the Board of Police Commissioners for the following FY20 budget transfers:**

From:	10142010-518010	OT Public Events	(\$57,000)
To:	70042010-579350	Vehicles	36,000
	70042010-579250	PD Vehicle Equipment	21,000
From:	10142010-517100	Regular Wages	(\$18,765)
To:	10142010-566650	Safety Supplies	18,765

- a. Rep. Conklin reported on this item stating it was unanimously approved at the Public Services Committee meeting. Rep. Conklin noted that the part of the transfer was for a new police vehicle, including equipment, and part of the transfer was for new tasers. He put the item forward in the form of a motion. After a brief discussion the item was approved 28 - 1 (see attached).

**14. To consider, and if appropriate, approve a request from Human Services Director for the following budget transfers for FY2021: Transfer – General Fund FY2021**

From:	10149040-588802	Contingency	(\$10,556)
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<b>To:</b>	<b>10144010-599130</b>	<b>Transfer Out - Human Services Fund</b>	<b>\$10,556</b>
<b>Corresponding Fund-Human Services Fund Transfer FY2021</b>			
<b>Increase:</b>	<b>21890000-490010</b>	<b>Transfer In from General Fund</b>	<b>(\$10,556)</b>
<b>Increase:</b>	<b>21842010-517000</b>	<b>Wages &amp; Salaries</b>	<b>\$10,556</b>

- a. Rep. Alfone reported that this item passed 7-0 in the Administrative Services Committee. After a brief description he put the item forward in the form of a motion to the full RTM.
- b. Ways and Means also heard this item in committee where it passed 5-0 and Rep. Black put this forward in the form of a motion.
- c. After a brief discussion, with many positive comments from RTM members, the item passed unanimously (see attached).

**15. To consider, and if appropriate, approve a request from the Town Planner for the following FY20 budget transfer for the Planning and Zoning Department:**

<b>From:</b>	<b>10141130-517000</b>	<b>Regular Wages &amp; Salaries</b>	<b>(\$13,000)</b>
<b>To:</b>	<b>10141130-533280</b>	<b>Consulting Services</b>	<b>13,000</b>

- a. Rep. Black reported that Rules and Ordinances voted 6-0 to approve this transfer. After a brief description of the item Rep. Black put the item forward in the form of a motion. After a brief discussion and a question, answered by Rep. Black, the transfer was unanimously approved (see attached).

**16. Any other business to come before the RTM.**

- a. RTM members thanked the Branford Police for their professionalism and spoke to support both the police department and the minorities that are suffering at this time of unrest. A brief discussion ensued with several positive comments regarding our police chief and the department.

**17. Adjournment: 9:53**

Rep. Torelli made a motion to adjourn seconded by Rep. Sember

Dated this 16th day of June 2020  
Respectfully submitted,  
Donna Laich  
Clerk-Branford RTM