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2021 JUL 23 P 12: 24

*Donna Laich*  
BRANFORD TOWN CLERK



## Representative Town Meeting

### Meeting Minutes

July 21, 2020 8:00 p.m.

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

The RTM held an in-person special meeting on Wednesday, July 21, 2021 at 8:00 p.m. at Fire Headquarters, 45 North Main Street, Branford, CT. Some RTM members were available through zoom pursuant to the Governor's modified executive order. Meeting materials are posted on the Town's website (Branford-ct.gov) and were available for viewing during and after the meeting. The meeting is available for remote public viewing via BCTV (Comcast Channel 20) and Facebook Live.

#### 1. Roll Call

**Representatives Present:** Adelman, Aitro (zoom), Alfone, Anderson, Black, Brockett, Conklin, Erlanger, Everson, Flanigan, Greenberg (zoom), Hakun (zoom), Healy, Hentschel (zoom), Hynes, Ingraham, Jackson, Laich, Prete, Riccio, Sember (zoom), Shrestha, Sires, Soomro, Stepanek, Sullivan (zoom), Twohill, Verderame.

**Representatives Absent:** Torelli, Wells

**Ex Officiis Present;** 1<sup>st</sup> Selectman Cosgrove, Selectman Dunbar (zoom), Town Clerk Arpin.

Moderator Flanigan read a letter from the Board of Finance pertaining to items 3&4 on tonight's agenda (see attached).

The Moderator also read a letter from resident Wayne Cooke (see attached)

#### 2. To consider, and if appropriate, approve a transfer request from the Board of Police Commissioners for the following FY2021 transfer:

Rep. Conklin stated Public Services heard this item in committee. He reported it is a straight forward set of transfers, some of which are contractually mandated. This item was approved 5-0 in committee and was put forward for a vote. The item was unanimously approved.

From:		
10142010-517000	Regular Wages & Salaries	\$137,546.31
10142010-518010	Overtime – Public Events	\$45,000.00
10142010-518250	Seasonal and Part-Time Staff	\$28,000.00
	Total	\$210,546.31

To:		
10150000-599110	Transfer to Capital Fund	\$114,000.00
10142010-519030	Accumulated Sick Pay	\$96,546.31
	Total	\$210,546.31
	Transfer In	\$114,000.00
70090000-490010		
Increase:		
70042010-579350-21221	Vehicles	\$72,000.00
70042010-579250-21239	PD Vehicle Equipment	\$42,000.00
	Total	\$114,000.00

**3. To consider, and if appropriate, approve the following transfer requests and resolutions regarding the Dan Cosgrove Animal Shelter facility expansion appropriation:**

Rep. Conklin reported, in joint session with Ways and Means, Public Services heard this item. Rep. Conklin made a motion to waive the full reading of the resolution, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rep. Brockett and unanimously approved. Rep. Conklin reported Ways and Means voted 5-0 to approve this item and Public Services approved this item 4-1. Rep. Black commented that they met with the construction managers concerning the increased costs of the project.

Rep. Stepanek gave a minority report stating he supports the project but needed additional information regarding costs and energy efficiency.

Other RTM members commented on the project  
This item passed unanimously in a roll call vote (see attached).

**Resolved:** That the RTM approves an appropriation from increased undesignated fund balance in the amount of \$650,000. This transfer will increase the Fiscal year 2021 General Fund budget from \$118,867,730 to \$119,517,730 and will be used to partially fund the animal shelter renovation. In addition, the RTM should consider, and if appropriate, approve the following transfer to reflect the impact on the general fund and capital fund.

General Fund Transfer

Increase:		
10190000 480296	Fund Balance Appropriation	\$650,000
Increase:		
10150000 599121	Transfer to Municipal Facilities Fund 720	650,000

Fund 720 Appropriation Adjustments

Increase:		
72042060 480290 18500	Donations & Contributions	585,500
72042060 490010 18500	Transfer In – General Fund	650,000

72090000 490040 18500	Bond Proceeds	464,500
		TOTAL \$1,700,000
Increase:		
72042060 xxxxx 18500	Various Expense Accounts	\$1,700,000

**4. To receive communications with respect to and consider and act upon a resolution entitled:**

“RESOLUTION AMENDING A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING \$2,895,000 FOR THE RENOVATION AND EXPANSION OF THE BRANFORD ANIMAL SHELTER AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUE OF \$2,895,000 BONDS OF THE TOWN TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION AND PENDING THE ISSUANCE THEREOF THE MAKING OF TEMPORARY BORROWINGS FOR SUCH PURPOSE.”

(The purpose of the amendment is to increase the appropriation and bond authorization from \$2,895,000 to \$4,595,000, and ratify, confirm and adopt all prior authorizations and resolutions in connection therewith).

The full text of the Resolution is on file, open to public inspection in the office of the Town Clerk and on the Town website.

**5. Adjournment: 8:33**

Motion to adjourn by Rep. Adelman; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rep. Brockett

Dated this 23rd day of July 2021

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Laich, RTM Clerk

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## RTM Roll Call List ~ Date: 7-21-2021

	NAME	ATTENDANCE	Item #3 animal shelter expansion		
1	ADELMAN	present	Y		
2	AITRO	present-zoom	Y		
3	ALFONE	present	Y		
4	ANDERSON	present	Y		
5	BLACK	present	Y		
6	BROCKETT	present	Y		
7	CONKLIN	present	Y		
8	EVERSON	present	Y		
9	ERLANGER	present	Y		
10	FLANIGAN	present			
11	GREENBERG	present-zoom	Y		
12	HAKUN	present-zoom	Y		
13	HEALY	present	Y		
14	HENTSCHEL	present-zoom	Y		
15	HYNES	present	Y		
16	INGRAHAM	present	Y		
17	JACKSON	present	Y		
18	LAICH	present	Y		
19	PRETE	present	Y		
20	RICCIO	present	Y		
21	SEMBER	present-zoom	Y		
22	SHRESTHA	present	Y		
23	SIRES	present	Y		
24	SOOMRO	present-zoom	Y		
25	STEPANEK	present	Y		
26	SULLIVAN	present-zoom	Y		
27	TORELLI	absent			
28	TWOHILL	present	Y		
29	VERDERAME	present	Y		
30	WELLS	absent			
	<b>Total</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>27</b>		
	Ex Officios				
	1st Selectman Cosgrove	present			
	Selectman Dunbar	present-zoom			
	Town Clerk Arpin	present			
	Treasurer Schwanfelder				
	Town Attorney Aniskovich				
	Selectwoman Higgins	present			

*Ma. Arpin*  
BRANFORD TOWN CLERK

**BOARD OF FINANCE**

TOWN OF BRANFORD

1019 MAIN STREET, P.O. BOX 150, BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT 06405

JOSEPH W. MOONEY, CHAIRMAN  
HARRY DiADAMO, JR.  
VICTOR J. CASSELLA  
ROBERT IMPERATO  
CHARLES F. SHELTON, JR.  
JEFFREY E. VAILETTE



EX-OFFICIO  
JAMES B. COSGROVE, First Selectman

CLERK  
LISA E. ARPIN, Town Clerk, CCTC CMC

June 29, 2021

To the Representative Town Meeting of  
The Town of Branford

Attention: Dennis Flanigan, Moderator

At a regular meeting of the Board of Finance held June 28, 2021, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED: That the resolution entitled: "RESOLUTION AMENDING A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING \$2,895,000 FOR THE RENOVATION AND EXPANSION OF THE BRANFORD ANIMAL SHELTER AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUE OF \$2,895,000 BONDS OF THE TOWN TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION AND PENDING THE ISSUANCE THEREOF THE MAKING OF TEMPORARY BORROWINGS FOR SUCH PURPOSE" is hereby adopted and recommended for approval by the Representative Town Meeting.

(The purpose of the amendment is to increase the appropriation and bond authorization from \$2,895,000 to \$4,595,000, and ratify, confirm and adopt all prior authorizations and resolutions in connection therewith).

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Joseph W. Mooney", is written over a vertical line that serves as a placeholder for a name. The signature is fluid and extends to the right.

Chairman, Board of Finance

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*Neil E. Argin*  
BRANFORD TOWN CLERK

RESOLUTION AMENDING A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING \$2,895,000 FOR THE RENOVATION AND EXPANSION OF THE BRANFORD ANIMAL SHELTER AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUE OF \$2,895,000 BONDS OF THE TOWN TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION AND PENDING THE ISSUANCE THEREOF THE MAKING OF TEMPORARY BORROWINGS FOR SUCH PURPOSE

Section 1. The Resolution adopted September 9, 2020, entitled "RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING \$2,895,000 FOR THE RENOVATION AND EXPANSION OF THE BRANFORD ANIMAL SHELTER AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUE OF \$2,895,000 BONDS OF THE TOWN TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION AND PENDING THE ISSUANCE THEREOF THE MAKING OF TEMPORARY BORROWINGS FOR SUCH PURPOSE", which is hereby ratified, confirmed and adopted, is amended by increasing the appropriation and bond authorization by \$1,700,000 to a total of \$4,595,000 as follows:

Section 2. The title of the Resolution is amended to read as follows:

RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING \$4,595,000 FOR THE RENOVATION AND EXPANSION OF THE BRANFORD ANIMAL SHELTER AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUE OF \$4,595,000 BONDS OF THE TOWN TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION AND PENDING THE ISSUANCE THEREOF THE MAKING OF TEMPORARY BORROWINGS FOR SUCH PURPOSE

Section 3. Section 2 of the Resolution is amended by substituting the following:

The total estimated cost of the project is \$4,595,000 and is expected to be paid from an estimated \$1,315,500 to be raised for the project pursuant to a capital campaign of public contributions, energy rebates, fund balance from the Town of Branford, contributions from the Town of North Branford, and the balance from the bonds authorized herein.

Section 4. The first sentence of section 3 of the Resolution is amended to read as follows:

"To meet said appropriation, \$4,595,000 bonds of the Town or so much thereof as shall be necessary for such purpose, shall be issued, maturing not later than the twentieth year after their date."

Section 5. The Resolution is further amended by substituting the amount of \$4,595,000 for \$2,895,000, wherever it appears in the Resolution.

Letter from Wayne Cooke sent in an email dated Wed, Jul 21, 11:29 AM

While i understand "correspondence" is not allowed at special meetings, I ask that an RTM representative or member of the public read the following short statement during the animal shelter agenda item. Unfortunately, my illness and the increasing effects of chemo prevent me from attending tonight's meeting,

**"Although I take strong exception to a number of actions taken by public officials during the animal shelter planning process--some I regard as underhanded, non-transparent, and, quite frankly, dishonest--I nevertheless encourage the RTM to approve the appropriation of the additional \$1.7M for the shelter construction.**

**Given that, in my experience, the RTM never devotes the time or effort to study a matter adequately, any additional time devoted to the decision would simply be a waste of time. In addition, in my nearly 14 years of being actively involved in local politics, I have seen amounts in excess of \$1.7 M spent far more foolishly than towards a much-needed and beautiful building dedicated to one of Branford's greatest citizens."**

*Wayne Cooke*  
BRANFORD TOWN CLERK

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