

# REPRESENTATIVE TOWN MEETING MEETING MINUTES

April 10th, 2019

RECEIVED

2019 APR 24 A 8:46

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE  
BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT

**MODERATOR**  
Dennis Flanigan



**CLERK**  
Jessica Everlith

**MAJORITY LEADER**  
Ray Ingraham

**MINORITY LEADER**  
Chris Sullivan

The meeting was called to order by: Moderator Flanigan at 8:01p.m. The Moderator led the body in the Pledge of Allegiance. The Meeting was held at Branford Fire Headquarters, 45 North Main Street.

Town Clerk Arpin swore in one (1) new member of the RTM, Lindsay Greenberg (R) for District 1 to fill the vacancy left by Harry Diadamo.

## 1. Roll Call

**Members Present:** Rep. Alfone, Rep. Anderson, Rep. Black, Rep. Brockett, Rep. Conklin, Rep. Dunbar, Rep. Everlith, Rep. Flanigan, Rep. Gordon, Rep. Greenberg, Rep. Healy, Rep. Hentschel, Rep. Ingraham, Rep. Jackson, Rep. Lawler, Rep. Leonard, Rep. Lombardi, Rep. Prete, Rep. Riccio, Rep. Soomro, Rep. Traugh, Rep. Twohill, Rep. Walker Rep. Wells

**Members Absent:** Rep. Adelman, Rep. Erlanger, Rep. Sullivan, Rep. Torelli

**1 vacancy:** District 4

**Ex Officios Present: Selectman:** Cosgrove, **Town Clerk:** Arpin

**Ex Officios Not Present: Selectman:** Higgins, Ahern

**Treasurer:** Nardella,

**Town Attorney:** Aniskovich

(See Attachment)

2. **Approval of the previous meeting.** Rep. Ingraham made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 13, 2019 meeting. 2<sup>nd</sup> Rep. Brockett. Approved unanimously.

## 3. Reception of communications, reports of committees and citizen petitions:

James Finch sent a letter regarding the Neighborhood Assistance Act Tax Credit Program. Moderator sent this item to the Administrative Services Committee.

The Moderator sent the two(2)-part Police Pension and Contract to the Public Services and Ways and Means Committees.

Rep. Black said there will be a tentative special joint meeting of the Public Services and Ways and Means Committees on April 22 to discuss and vote on the items.

The Moderator read a letter sent to Rep. Walker in support of the forthcoming plastic bag ban from high school student Maya Kyridkides

4. Rep. Leonard made a motion to re-refer the item to consider, and if appropriate, adopt a uniform procedure for ordinance enforcement pursuant to Town Meeting Rules (A236-4.1) (d). Motion approved unanimously.
5. Rep. Leonard made a motion to re-refer an item to review Branford's Town dock ordinance and, if appropriate revise the time limits and rights of appeal. Motion approved unanimously.
6. Rep. Leonard made a motion to approve the item to consider, and if appropriate, approve changes to Chapter 161 of the Floodplain Management Ordinance. Motion approved unanimously.
7. Rep. Leonard made a motion to re-refer the item to consider, and if appropriate, create an ordinance restricting the use of plastic bags. Motion approved unanimously.
8. Rep. Alfone made a motion to approve the item to approve an extended tax abatement of real property taxes on properties located at 13-29 Rogers Street and 142-190 Ivy Street for an additional ten years effective the October 1, 2019 Grand List as permitted by section 169-2(4) of Code of Branford. (Housing Development Corp. and the Branford Interfaith Housing Corp). Rep. Alfone clarified that Town Attorney said current code was sufficient to vote and approve as currently read. Rep. Dunbar disagreed and asked that the RTM consider re-referring the item until Rules and Ordinances Committee clarified the code language.

Rep. Leonard made an amendment to re-refer the item 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rep. Ingraham by The amendment to re-refer was approved unanimously.

The Moderator also sent the item to Rules and Ordinance committee to review any necessary code changes.

9. Rep. Conklin made a motion to approve a request from Public Works for the following budget transfer. The motion was approved unanimously.

<b>From:</b>	10143010-517000	Regular Wages & Salaries	(\$21,200)
<b>To:</b>	10143010-533900	Other Purchased Services	21,000

	10143010-544340	Radio Communication	200
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10. Rep. Conklin made a motion to approve a request from the Board of Police Commissioners for the following budget transfers. The motion was approved unanimously.

<b>From:</b>	700420140-579250-007311	UPS	(\$1,289)
	700420140-579410-08321	Electrical Upgrades	(971)
	700420140-579250-13222	MDT	(680)
	700420140-579250-15309	LPR	(1,625)
	700420140-579250-17321	Video Recording	(64)
	700420140-579250-19223	Laser Speed Units	(841)
		Total	(\$5,470)
<b>To:</b>	700420140-579250-15310	Furniture Replacement	\$5,470

11. Rep. Black made a motion to approve a request from the Finance Director for the following budget transfer and resolution. The motion was approved unanimously.

**General Fund**

<b>From:</b>	10190000-480080	Miscellaneous Income	(\$89,102)
<b>To:</b>	10150000-599127	Transfer Out – Lease Fund	89,102

**RESOLVED:** That the RTM recommends an increase in appropriations for the Fiscal Year 2019 General Fund Budget from \$113,080,371 to \$113,169,473. This increase of \$89,102 will be funded with increased revenue derived from lapsed balances in the WIS Shower/Locker Repairs and the BOE Severance Fund which will be closed following the approval of the RTM.

12. Rep Black made a motion to approve a request from the Finance Director for the following transfers and resolution. The motion was approved unanimously.

**A). General Fund (Engineering)**

From		
10190000-480296	Fund Balance	325,000
To:		
10150000-599132	Operating Transfers Out Fund 730	325,000

**B). Fund 730 Infrastructure Enhancement Fund**

73090000-490010-xxxx	Transfer In	325,000
73043050-533960-xxxx	Engineering/Design Meadow Street	200,000
73043050-533950-xxxx	Construction Howard Street Revetment	125,000

**Appropriations to reduce future liabilities**

**C). Pensions**

From		
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10190000-480296	Fund Balance	\$475,000
To:		
10149010-523120	Retirement Police	475,000

### **Transfer and Resolution from Fund Balance**

**RESOLVED:** That the RTM recommends an increase in appropriations for the Fiscal Year 2019 General Fund Budget from \$113,169,473 to \$113,969,473. This increase will be funded through an appropriation from fund balance and will be used to increase the pension contributions and proposed capital improvements.

13. Rep. Riccio made a motion to approve a resolution opposing tolls as proposed by the state. Rep. Prete 2<sup>nd</sup> motion.

DISCUSSION: Rep. Riccio made several comments about tolls in CT and requested a role call vote. Clerk Everlith summarized a letter from Rep. Sullivan who was absent. Rep. Riccio requested Rep. Everlith to read the entire letter. (attached)

Rep. Ingraham feels it is the job of the RTM to present issues to the state and referenced other previous legislation.

Rep. Jackson made a point that Branford does not have control over the implementation of tolls at the state level.

Rep. Twohill summarized the resolution and spoke to previous tolls in the state and emphasized that it was a state issue.

Rep. Wells spoke to his personal occupation and how tolls affect his life.

Rep. Riccio said there's a lot of traffic in his neighborhood sometimes and "Snake Hill Road" often has tractor trailers stuck. He believes if tolls are implemented, traffic will be rerouted from Rte. 80 to Rte. 1.

Rep. Dunbar said that he will vote no because he hasn't seen enough information on the topic and expressed a desire to hear more from our state legislators on the matter.

The motion was approved by roll call vote (see attachment), with Sixteen (16) YES votes and Eight (8) NO votes.

### **14. Other Business**

Rep. Twohill requested a moment of silence for the late former-RTM Clerk Ann Devlin, who recently passed away. The moment of silence was observed.

Rep. Walker offered a thank you to Former Chief Halloran for his service and welcomed the new Police Chief.

Rep. Lawler offered congratulations to the Branford Boys Hockey team on the State Championship. He also recommended for consideration that the new Community House Recreation Building to be named after Joe Trappasso.

15. Motion by Rep. Dunbar to adjourn the meeting. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rep. Hentschel, motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 08:59.

Dated this 22 Day of April, 2019

Respected Submitted,

Jessica L. Everlith  
Clerk- Branford RTM

OFFICE OF THE TREASURER  
BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT

1019 MAIN STREET  
POST OFFICE BOX 150



(203) 315-0663  
Fax: (203) 315-3736  
[www.branford-ct.gov](http://www.branford-ct.gov)

April 2, 2019

Honorable Dennis Flanigan  
RTM Moderator

Dear Mr. Flanigan:

Please be advised that the Town will be participating in the Neighborhood Assistance Tax Credit Program. In order for programs to be eligible they must be approved by the RTM and forwarded to the State by June 30. In an effort to comply with this timetable I respectfully request that this item be referred to the appropriate RTM committee to facilitate the required approvals before the filing deadline.

Sincerely,

James P. Finch Jr.  
Finance Director

CC: J. Cosgrove  
RTM

RECEIVED  
2019 APR -2 P 3:41  
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE  
BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT

# BRANFORD RTM

RTM Meeting of: 4/10/2019

RECEIVED

2019 APR 24 A 8:47

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE  
BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT

[illegible]



# Town of Branford

RECEIVED

2019 APR -2 P 3:41

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE  
BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT



## 2019 Neighborhood Assistance Act Application



# OFFICE OF THE TREASURER

BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT



1019 MAIN STREET  
POST OFFICE BOX 150  
BRANFORD, CT 06405

TEL: (203) 488-8394  
FAX: (203) 315-3736  
[www.branford-ct.gov](http://www.branford-ct.gov)

To: All Parties Interested in 2019 Neighborhood  
Assistance Act Tax Credit Program

From: James P. Finch Jr. Finance Director/Municipal Liaison

Date: March 28, 2019

Re: 2019 Applications

I am writing to inform you that Town of Branford will be participating in the Neighborhood Assistance Act for 2019. Please find attached application forms or if you prefer you can access these forms at the Department of Revenue Services website.

Enclosed you will find application materials for the 2019 Neighborhood Assistance Act Tax Credit Program. If your organization is interested in participating in the program, please complete the application and return it to me no later than **May 31, 2019.**

I would ask that you carefully read the Instructions for completing the application. Please note that I have completed most of Part IV Municipal Information. However, you should determine if a Post Project Audit is required and fill in that section on the bottom of page 4.

**Incomplete applications and applications received after the due date of May 31, 2019 will not be included in Branford's submission** to the Department of Revenue Services.

Should you have any questions or comments with regard to the application or timetable, please feel free to contact me at 203-315-0663.

## 2019 Connecticut Neighborhood Assistance Act (NAA) Program Proposal Instructions

Complete all items on **Form NAA-01, 2019 Connecticut Neighborhood Assistance Act (NAA) Program Proposal**. Incomplete applications will **not** be accepted. Direct inquiries to Department of Revenue Services (DRS), Neighborhood Assistance Act Program, Attn: Research Unit, 450 Columbus Blvd Ste 1, Hartford CT 06103-1837, or call **860-297-5687**.



### Part I General Information

Enter the name of the tax exempt organization or municipal agency, address, Federal Employer Identification Number, and email address.

**Program Title:** Assign a unique program title to each program for which your organization is making an application.

**Federal Form 990:** Attach a copy of the first page of your organization's most recent federal Form 990 or Form 990EZ. If your organization is not required to file either Form 990 or Form 990EZ, attach a copy of the determination letter from the Internal Revenue Service.

### Part II Program Information

**Description of Program:** Describe the program, including information about how the program will operate, its benefit to the community, how recipients will be selected, and any measures used to determine the program's impact on the community.

**Need for Program:** Demonstrate a need for this program. For example, provide relevant statistics.

**Neighborhood Area to Be Served:** Describe the neighborhood or municipality this program will serve.

**Plan to implement the program:** Describe how the program will operate. Identify other persons or organizations involved in the administration of the program.

**Timetable:** Indicate the starting and completion dates of the program. The program completion date must not be more than two years from the program start date.

### Part III Financial Information

Each program proposal must include a program budget that includes all sources of funding and all anticipated expenditures. The information provided in the budget may be used during a post-project audit.

**Sources of Revenue:** The budget must include the requested NAA funding and any other anticipated revenue sources.

**NAA Funding Requested:** Indicate the total amount your organization is requesting for its program. This amount may not exceed the total proposed expenditures. Please note that the minimum NAA funding is \$250, with a maximum funding of \$150,000 per organization or agency per year.

**Other Funding Sources:** Provide a detailed description(s) and the amount(s) of all funding sources.

**Proposed Program Expenditures:** The budget must include a detailed description and the amount of all direct operating and administrative expenditures. **Expenditures must equal or exceed total funding.**

**Direct Operating Expenses:** Expenses include materials, equipment, wages, salaries, tuition fees, sub-contracting services, and any other expenses needed to administer the program.

### Part IV Municipal Information

This part is to be completed by the municipal agency overseeing implementation of the program.

**Municipal Liaison:** The municipality must designate an individual to serve as a liaison with DRS for all NAA matters.

**Post-Project Review:** Any program receiving \$25,000 or more in NAA funding is required to provide a post-project review, prepared by a certified public accounting firm, to the municipality overseeing the program. This review must be submitted to the municipality no later than three months after the program completion date.



Municipality: Branford

## Form NAA-01

### 2019 Connecticut Neighborhood Assistance Act (NAA) Program Proposal

This form **must** be completed and submitted to your municipality for approval. All items **must** be completed with as much detail as possible. If additional space is needed, attach additional sheets. Please type or print clearly. See attached instructions before completing. **Do not submit this form directly to the Department of Revenue Services.**

#### Part I — General Information

Name of tax exempt organization/municipal agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Federal Employer Identification Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Program title: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of contact person: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Total NAA funding requested (\$250 minimum, \$150,000 maximum): \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Is your organization required to file federal Form 990 or 990EZ, Return of Organization Exempt from Income Tax?

☐

Yes

☐

No

If **Yes**, attach a copy of the **first page** of your most recent return.

If **No**, attach a copy of your determination letter from the U.S. Treasury Department, Internal Revenue Service.

## Part II — Program Information

Check the appropriate description of your program:

### 100% credit percentage

- ☐ Energy conservation; or  
☐ Comprehensive college access loan forgiveness (see Conn. Gen Stat. § 12-635(3)).

### 60% credit percentage

- ☐ Job training/education for unemployed persons aged 50 or over;  
☐ Job training/education for persons with physical disabilities;  
☐ Program serving low-income persons;  
☐ Child care services;  
☐ Establishment of a child day care facility;  
☐ Open space acquisition fund; or  
☐ Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

Description of program: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Need for program: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Neighborhood area to be served: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Plan to implement the program: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Timetable:**

Program start date: \_\_\_\_\_

Program completion date: \_\_\_\_\_

The program completion date must not be more than two years from the program start date. A certified post-project review is due to the municipality overseeing implementation no later than three months after program completion date for all projects receiving \$25,000 or more in NAA funding.



**Part III — Financial Information**

**Program Budget:**

Complete in full. Expenditures must equal or exceed total funding.

**Sources of Revenue:**

NAA funds requested \_\_\_\_\_

Other funding sources - itemized sources:

- a) \_\_\_\_\_
- b) \_\_\_\_\_
- c) \_\_\_\_\_
- d) \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Funding:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Proposed Program Expenditures:**

Direct operating expenses - itemized description:

- a) \_\_\_\_\_
- b) \_\_\_\_\_
- c) \_\_\_\_\_
- d) \_\_\_\_\_

Administrative expenses - itemized description:

- a) \_\_\_\_\_
- b) \_\_\_\_\_
- c) \_\_\_\_\_
- d) \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Proposed Expenditures:** \_\_\_\_\_

#### Part IV — Municipal Information

To be completed by the municipal agency overseeing implementation of the program

Name of municipal agency overseeing implementation of the program: _____ Town of Branford
Mailing address: _____ PO Box 150, 1019 Main Street, Branford, CT 06405
Name of municipal liaison: James P. Finch Jr.
Telephone number: 203-315-0663
Fax number: _____
Email address: jfinch@branford-ct.gov

<p align="center"><b>Post-Project Review</b></p> <p align="center">Is a post-project review required for this proposal?</p> <p align="center"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes                      <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p align="center">If Yes, date post-project review due:</p> <p align="center">_____</p> <p align="center">Date</p>
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## **A Resolution from Branford Representative Town Meeting (RTM) in Opposition to Installation of Tolls on Local and State Roads**

Whereas, the Branford Representative Town (RTM) meeting believes that the implementation of tolls on Connecticut highways would result in increased traffic on secondary roads in the Town of Branford with motorists attempting to bypass the tolls; and

Whereas, the RTM further believes the increased traffic on secondary roads would affect the quality of life of Branford residents in numerous ways including:

- a. a dramatic increase of heavy-duty commercial vehicles and tractor trailer truck presence encroaching on our scenic New England community, negatively impacting the Town's character and atmosphere;
- b. a dramatic increase in traffic by heavy-duty commercial vehicles and tractor trailers subjecting streets to increased damage, maintenance and repair costs resulting in an increased tax burden;  
crowding of secondary roads, an increase in traffic accidents, and disruption of the pedestrian enjoyment in and around the roads affected;
- c. traffic congestion from increased vehicles and accidents delaying response time for emergency personnel, causing significant safety concerns and compromising the standard of safety care and increasing the cost of public safety to the taxpayers of the Town of Branford;
- d. discouraging retail establishments and shopping, putting our valued local businesses at a competitive disadvantage and increasing costs and convenience to residents.

NOW THEREFOR BE IT ESOLVED, that the Branford RTM does hereby declare its opposition to the implementation of tolls on state highways within the Town of Branford's jurisdiction; and

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED*, that the Branford RTM does hereby submit this resolution to the Governor of the State of Connecticut and the Connecticut State Legislature, this 10th\* day of April 2019.



RTM - 6th District  
34 Valley Brook Road South  
Branford, CT 06405



April 8, 2019

Dear Moderator Flanigan and Clerk Everlith,

I am submitting this letter to be considered as correspondence as I am unlikely to make it to the RTM meeting due to a previously scheduled out of state training for work. I want to clearly state that I am opposed to the resolution by Rep Riccio and find it to be an act of irresponsible governance. I do not believe that the implementation of tolls will generate more traffic on secondary highways in Branford and so cannot support this resolution. Is there a traffic study that shows projected increases to local traffic or is the resolution based only on speculation?

Study after study and report after report shows that our roads, bridges and rails need significant investment to bring their quality up to suitable levels. The Connecticut Society of Civil Engineers rates our roads at a D+. We can and we must do better with our infrastructure. Projected costs to repair and enhance Connecticut's infrastructure is roughly \$800 million dollars. Implementing tolls is the only logical way to bridge this gap.

A study by CDM Smith shows that roughly 40% of toll dollars collected will come from out of state drivers. Without tolls the only option is to pay for infrastructure through bonding, adding to our debt and paying more over time due to interest. All bonded costs will be paid by 100% Connecticut residents ONLY, putting the costs solely on our shoulders instead of sharing with out-of-state drivers. By being anti-tolls, is bonding the solution proposed by Rep Riccio?

Both the Council for Connecticut Municipalities (CCM) and the Council of Small Towns (COST) are in favor of toll implementation. Branford is a paying member of CCM, why would we take actions in contradiction to an organization we pay to represent us as a town?

Every other State on the Atlantic seaboard utilizes tolls to pay for valuable infrastructure upgrades and maintenance. It is time that Connecticut takes the logical step and joins all of our neighboring states to be able to invest in our roads, bridges and travel needs.

I ask that my colleagues on the RTM vote no on this resolution.

Thank you.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Sullivan", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Chris Sullivan  
Minority Leader