

REPRESENTATIVE TOWN MEETING  
MEETING MINUTES

December 13, 2017

RECEIVED

2017 DEC 20 P 3: 20

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE  
BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT  
CLERK  
Adam Hansen

MODERATOR  
Dennis Flanigan



MAJORITY LEADER  
Ray Ingraham

MINORITY LEADER  
Chris Sullivan

DISTRICT 1

Jessica Buchanan  
Harry DiAdamo Jr.  
Claire Torelli  
Frank Twohill  
George Wells III  
Jennifer Zambrano

DISTRICT 2

Raymond Dunbar  
Peter Hentschel  
C. James Walker

DISTRICT 3

Peter Black  
Robin Comey  
Peter Jackson

DISTRICT 4

Dan Adelman  
Dorothy A. Docknevich  
Adam Hansen  
Sean Kelly  
Darren "Howie" Lawler  
James Stepanek

DISTRICT 5

Donald Conklin  
Dennis Flanigan  
Maryanne Hall  
Raymond Ingraham  
John Leonard

DISTRICT 6

Anthony Alfone  
Edward Prete  
Marc Riccio  
Chris Sullivan

DISTRICT 7

Tricia Anderson  
Tom Brockett  
Robin Sandler

The Meeting was called to order by: Moderator Flanigan at 8:04p.m. Motion by Rep. Sullivan, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rep. Riccio to appoint Robin Comey as clerk pro tempore and motion passed. Town Clerk Lisa Arpin swore in Rep. Harry DiAdamo Jr. Rep. DiAdamo will be on Admin Services committee and Rep. Wells is no longer on the Admin. Services committee. The Moderator led the Body in the Pledge of Allegiance. The Meeting was held at Branford Fire Headquarters, 45 North Main St.

1. Roll Call

Members Present: Rep. Adelman, Rep. Alfone, Rep. Anderson, Rep. Black, Rep. Buchanan, Rep. Comey, Rep. Conklin, Rep. DiAdamo, Rep. Docknevich, Rep. Dunbar, Rep. Flanigan, Rep. Hentschel, Rep. Jackson, Rep. Lawlor, Rep. Leonard, Rep. Prete, Rep. Riccio, Rep. Sandler, Rep. Stepanek, Rep. Sullivan, Rep. Torelli, Rep. Twohill, Rep. Wells, Rep. Zambrano

Members Absent: Rep. Hall, Rep. Hansen, Rep. Ingraham, Rep. Kelly, Rep. Walker

Ex Officio's Present: Selectmen: Cosgrove, Ahern. Town Clerk: Arpin.

Ex Officio's Not Present: Selectmen: Higgins, Town Treasurer: Nardella. Town Attorney: Aniskovich.

(See Attachment)

2. Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting

Motion made by Rep. Torelli, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rep. Jackson to approve the minutes of the October and November Special meeting, motion passed without exception.

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

- A. The Moderator read a letter from Chairman, Board of Finance, Joseph Mooney regarding the adoption by the Board of Finance at the October 30, 2017 meeting, of the following:

**"RESOLUTION AMENDING THE \$150,000 STONY CREEK BOND RESOLUTION AND REALLOCATING UNEXPENDED STONY CREEK PROJECT BOND PROCEEDS TO THE RESTROOM TRAILER PROJECT"**

(See Attachment) Item is recommended for adoption by the RTM.

- B. The Moderator read a letter from Rep. Ingraham to request the following item to be referred to the Rules & Ordinances committee:

**"TO CONSIDER AND IF APPROPRIATE CREATE ORDINANCE THAT ENABLES TAX EXEMPTIONS FOR GOLD STAR PARENTS AND SPOUSES, PUT INTO CONNECTICUT LAW ON OCTOBER 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2017, UNDER PA 17-65"**

(See Attachments) The Moderator referred to Rules & Ordinances committee.

4. To consider and if appropriate, approve a contract between the Town of Branford and the Branford Education Association (BEA) contract July 1, 2018-June 30, 2021.

Motion by Rep. Twohill, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rep. Alfone to move item #8 to #4 on the agenda as next order of business. Motion unanimously approved. Rep. Sullivan recused himself from the vote, stating that his wife was part of the bargaining unit and was dismissed by the Moderator. Motion made by Rep. Twohill, seconded by Rep. Jackson to approve the contract. Roll Call Vote to approve the contract between the Town of Branford and the BEA as stated in item #4 of the agenda was recorded as 23 (YES) 0 (NO) 1 (ABS) motion passed.

5. To consider and if appropriate, approve an OPEB Funding Policy.

Rep. Black made the motion to approve the policy as stated in item #5 of the agenda. Approval was unanimous.

6. To consider and if appropriate, approve changes to RTM Rule A236-4.6

Rep. Leonard reported that the Rules and Ordinances committee has not met yet and made a motion that it be re-referred to committee. Rep. Prete seconded and approval to re-refer was unanimous.

7. To consider and if appropriate, approve the following land transactions for the Town of Branford:

1. Acceptance of easements for Harbor Street Bridge project for the following locations:  
Sabine, 158 Harbor Street  
Smith, 167 Harbor Street  
Haug and Mahler, 202 Harbor Street  
Storandt and Forsth, 211 Harbor Street
2. Acceptance of a sanitary sewer easement for Twiss Realty Co. LLC, 325-325 East Main Street for existing sewer mains, force main and pump station.
3. Acceptance of an access easement to the Town of Branford over Land Trust land at the end of Red Hill Road for existing emergency access road.
4. Acceptance of the following subdivision roads as official Town roads:  
Gilbert Lane (Jacob Lane to Donna Lane), Jacob Lane, Pond View Terrace, Apple Tree Lane, Ashman Court, Beechwood Road north of Acorn Drive, Christopher Road, Deer Path Road, Devon Court, East Industrial Road (from Pin Oak to end), Indian Woods Road, Katie-Joe Lane, Pin Oak Drive, Ramona Way, Sunny Meadow Road, Sycamore Way and Thistle Meadow Road.

Rep. Alfone reported that Admin Services met on December 5<sup>th</sup> and unanimously approved each item of the land transitions, with a 5-0-0 vote. Rep. Alfone made a motion to approve and passed unanimously.

8. To consider and act on the following proposed resolution:

**"RESOLUTION AMENDING THE \$150,000 STONY CREEK BOND RESOLUTION AND REALLOCATING UNEXPENDED STONY CREEK PROJECT BOND PROCEEDS TO THE RESTROOM TRAILER PROJECT"**

(The purpose of the amendment is to decrease the Stony Creek bond authorization from \$150,000 to \$15,000; reallocate previous Stony Creek bonds and proceeds to, and decrease the authorized and unissued bond amount for the Restroom Trailer Project; and ratify, confirm and adopt all prior authorizations and resolutions in connection with both Projects.)

Rep. Black moved, Rep. Riccio 2<sup>nd</sup> to waive the reading of the resolution and motion carried. Rep. Black made a motion that the Ways and Means committee recommends approval. Roll Call Vote to approve the resolution as stated in item #8 of the agenda was recorded as 24 (YES) 0 (NO) 0 (ABS), motion passed unanimously.

9. To approve RTM Meeting Schedule for 2018

Motion was made by Rep. Torelli and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rep. Zambrano to approve meeting schedule for 2018. In discussion Rep. Sullivan raised the issue that the Jan. 10<sup>th</sup> meeting would not allow for 30-day notice, as required. Motion passed with Jan. 10<sup>th</sup> being a Special meeting.

10. Any other business to come before the RTM.

Rep. Hentschel urged Reps to encourage constituency involvement and participation in the POCD plan as well as the Hazard Mitigation Survey by the South Central Regional Council of Governments. First Selectman Cosgrove reported that the Town now has a Facebook Page and the link can be found there and social media will also be used to tell the public about meetings.

**11. Adjournment**

**Motion by Rep. Torelli, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rep. Dunbar to adjourn, motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned @ 8:50 p.m.**

**Dated this 20th day of December, 2017**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Robin E. Comey**

**Clerk Pro Tempore-Branford RTM**

**BRANFORD RTM  
RECORDED VOTES**

12-13-2017 RTM

NAME	ATTENDANCE	ITEM #4	ITEM #8	ITEM #	ITEM #	ITEM #	ITEM #	ITEM #	ITEM #	ITEM #	ITEM #
ADELMAN	PRESENT	YES	YES								
ALFONE	PRESENT	YES	YES								
ANDERSON	PRESENT	YES	YES								
BLACK	PRESENT	YES	YES								
BROCKETT	PRESENT	YES	YES								
BUCHANAN	PRESENT	YES	YES								
COMNEY	PRESENT	YES	YES								
CONKLIN	PRESENT	YES	YES								
DIADAMO	PRESENT	YES	YES								
DOCKENVICH	PRESENT	YES	YES								
DUNBAR	PRESENT	YES	YES								
FLANIGAN	PRESENT										
HALL											
HANSEN											
HENTSCHEL	PRESENT	YES	YES								
INGRAHAM											
JACKSON	PRESENT	YES	YES								
KELLY											
LAWLOR	PRESENT	YES	YES								
LEONARD	PRESENT	YES	YES								
PRETE	PRESENT	YES	YES								
RICCIO	PRESENT	YES	YES								
SANDLER	PRESENT	YES	YES								
STEPANEK	PRESENT	YES	YES								
SULLIVAN	PRESENT	ABSTAIN	YES								
TORELLI	PRESENT	YES	YES								
TWOHILL	PRESENT	YES	YES								
WALKER											
WELLS	PRESENT	YES	YES								
ZAMBRANO	PRESENT	YES	YES								
Ex-Officio's	Selectmen Town Attorney	Cosgrove Ahearn		Town	Clerk	Arpin	Treasurer				

# BOARD OF FINANCE

TOWN OF BRANFORD

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

JOSEPH W. MOONEY, CHAIRMAN  
VICTOR J. CASSELLA  
ROBERT IMPERATO  
CHARLES F. SHELTON, JR.  
JEFFREY E. VAILETTE  
LORRAINE K. YOUNG



EX-OFFICIO  
JAMES B. COSGROVE  
First Selectman

CLERK  
LISA E. ARPIN, CCTC  
Town Clerk

November 27, 2017

To the Representative Town Meeting of  
The Town of Branford

Attention: Dennis Flanigan, Moderator

At a meeting of the Board of Finance held October 30, 2017, the following  
resolution was adopted:

**RESOLVED:** That the resolution entitled: "RESOLUTION AMENDING  
THE \$150,000 STONY CREEK BOND RESOLUTION AND  
REALLOCATING UNEXPENDED STONY CREEK PROJECT BOND  
PROCEEDS TO THE RESTROOM TRAILER PROJECT" is hereby  
adopted and recommended for adoption by the Representative Town  
Meeting.

Very truly yours,

  
Joseph W. Mooney  
Chairman, Board of Finance



Dennis Flanigan <dennisflanigan9245@gmail.com>

---

**Branford RTM - Request item be sent to committee**

1 message

---

**Ray Ingraham** <ingradad@gmail.com>

Thu, Dec 7, 2017 at 1:31 PM

To: Dennis Flanigan <dennisflanigan9245@gmail.com>

Cc: Lisa Arpin <larpin@branford-ct.gov>, Chris Sullivan <sulldaddy@yahoo.com>, Adam Hansen <ajhansen82@aol.com>

To: Dennis Flanigan  
Branford RTM Moderator

Please send this item to committee for consideration:


To consider and if appropriate create ordinance that enables tax exemptions for Gold Star Parents and Spouses.

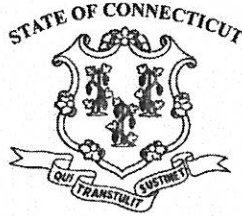
These exemptions were put into Connecticut law on October 1st, 2017 under PA 17-65.

Attached: PA 17-65

Respectfully submitted,  
Representative Ray Ingraham - Majority Leader

---

 2017PA-00065-R00SB-00918-PA (1).pdf  
104K



**Substitute Senate Bill No. 918**

**Public Act No. 17-65**

**AN ACT CONCERNING A MUNICIPAL OPTION PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION FOR GOLD STAR PARENTS AND SPOUSES.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2017, and applicable to assessment years commencing on or after October 1, 2017*) (a) (1) Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, any municipality, upon approval by its legislative body, may provide that any parent whose child was killed in action, or the surviving spouse of a person who was killed in action, while performing active military duty with the armed forces, as defined in subsection (a) of section 27-103 of the general statutes, which parent or surviving spouse is a resident of such municipality, shall be entitled to an exemption from property tax, provided such parent's or surviving spouse's qualifying income does not exceed (A) the maximum amount applicable to an unmarried person as provided under section 12-811 of the general statutes, or (B) an amount established by the municipality, not exceeding the maximum amount under section 12-811 of the general statutes by more than twenty-five thousand dollars. The exemption provided for under this section shall be applied to the assessed value of an eligible parent's or surviving spouse's property and, at the municipality's option, may be in an amount up to twenty thousand dollars or in an amount up to ten per cent of such assessed value.



**Substitute Senate Bill No. 918**

(2) (A) If both parents of any such child killed in action while performing active military duty with the armed forces are domiciled together, only one such parent shall be entitled to an exemption from property tax provided for under this section.

(B) The exemption provided for under this section shall be in addition to any exemption to which an eligible parent or surviving spouse may be entitled under section 12-81 of the general statutes. No such eligible parent or surviving spouse entitled to exemption under section 12-81f or 12-81g of the general statutes and this section shall receive more than one such exemption.

(b) (1) Any parent whose child was killed in action, or the surviving spouse of a person who was killed in action, while performing active military duty with the armed forces and who claims an exemption from taxation under this section shall give notice to the town clerk of such municipality that he or she is entitled to such exemption.

(2) Any such parent or surviving spouse submitting a claim for such exemption shall be required to file an application, on a form prepared for such purpose by the assessor, not later than the assessment date with respect to which such exemption is claimed, which application shall include at least two affidavits of disinterested persons showing that the deceased child or person was performing such active military duty, that such deceased child or person was killed in action while performing such active military duty and the relationship of such deceased child to such parent, or such deceased person to such surviving spouse, provided the assessor may further require such parent or surviving spouse to be examined by such assessor under oath concerning such facts. Each such application shall include a copy of such parent's or surviving spouse's federal income tax return, or in the event such a return is not filed such evidence related to income as may be required by the assessor, for the tax year of such parent or surviving spouse ending immediately prior to the assessment date

***Substitute Senate Bill No. 918***

with respect to which such exemption is claimed. Such town clerk shall record each such affidavit in full and shall list the name of such parent or surviving spouse claimant, and such service shall be performed by such town clerk without remuneration. No assessor, board of assessment appeals or other official shall allow any such claim for exemption unless evidence as herein specified has been filed in the office of such town clerk. When any such parent or surviving spouse has filed for such exemption and received approval for the first time, such parent or surviving spouse shall be required to file for such exemption biennially thereafter, subject to the provisions of subsection (c) of this section.

(3) The assessor of such municipality shall annually make a certified list of all such parents or surviving spouses who are found to be entitled to exemption under the provisions of this section, which list shall be filed in the town clerk's office, and shall be prima facie evidence that such parents or surviving spouses whose names appear thereon are entitled to such exemption as long as they continue to reside in such municipality and as long as the legislative body of such municipality continues to provide for such exemption, subject to the provisions of subsection (c) of this section. Such assessor may, at any time, require any such parent or surviving spouse to appear before such assessor for the purpose of furnishing additional evidence, provided, any such parent or surviving spouse who by reason of disability is unable to so appear may furnish such assessor a statement from such parent's or surviving spouse's attending physician or an advanced practice registered nurse certifying that such parent or surviving spouse is totally disabled and is unable to make a personal appearance and such other evidence of total disability as such assessor may deem appropriate.

(4) No such parent or surviving spouse may receive such exemption until such parent or surviving spouse has proven his or her right to

***Substitute Senate Bill No. 918***

such exemption in accordance with the provisions of this section, together with such further proof as may be necessary under said provisions. Exemptions so proven shall take effect on the next succeeding assessment day.

(c) Any such parent or surviving spouse who has submitted an application and been approved in any year for the exemption provided in this section shall, in the year immediately following approval, be presumed to be qualified for such exemption. During the year immediately following such approval, the assessor shall notify, in writing, each parent or surviving spouse presumed to be qualified pursuant to this subsection. If any such parent or surviving spouse has qualifying income in excess of the maximum allowed under subsection (a) of this section, such parent or surviving spouse shall notify the assessor on or before the next filing date for such exemption and shall be denied such exemption for the assessment year immediately following and for any subsequent year until such parent or surviving spouse has reapplied and again qualified for such exemption. Any such parent or surviving spouse who fails to notify the assessor of such disqualification shall make payment to the municipality in the amount of property tax loss related to such exemption improperly taken.

Approved June 27, 2017