

TOWN OF BRANFORD REPRESENTATIVE TOWN MEETING  
RULES & ORDINANCES COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING.

TUESDAY, APRIL 18TH 7:30PM

The Rules and Ordinances Committee of the Representative Town Meeting of Branford held a regular meeting on Tuesday, April 18, 2023 at half-past seven o'clock p.m. at the Branford Community House, 46 Church Street, Branford. The following items were discussed:

Meeting started at 7:31pm

Peter Black, Chair

Committee attendance: Peter Hentschel, Josh Brooks, David Wells, Tricia Anderson. Absent Adrian Bonenberger

Also in attendance RTM members Carolyn Sires, Frank Twohill, Ray Ingraham. Town attorney Bill Aniskovich with commentary.

1. To review comments by Town attorney on virtual meetings rule draft. After legal review of wording for virtual meeting qualifications and discussion, a motion to approve Town attorney's version with original section D being struck and E becoming D was made, and "future" inserted in before "meeting" by Peter Hentschel and second by Josh Brooks. Motion passed unanimously
2. The committee reviewed fiscal year 2023/2024 budgets over which Rules and Ordinances has cognizance:

Building Inspection and Enforcement  
Conservation and Environment\*  
Economic Development\*  
Inland Wetlands and Natural Resources

Wesley Sires  
BRANFORD TOWN CLERK

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Planning & Zoning\*  
Zoning Board of Appeals\*  
Water Pollution Control Authority\*  
Shellfish Commission

The R&O Committee heard from several departments regarding their budgets has reviewed by the Board of Finance as noted with an asterisk. Vote will be taken at meeting next week in order for members to have time to gather any new information they want before voting.

Motion to Adjourn 9:12pm by Josh Brooks second by Peter Hentschel

Peter Black, Chair

#### Rule 8.6 Virtual Meeting Rules of the RTM

(1) A "virtual meeting" shall be any public "meeting," as defined in C.G.S. 1-200, that is accessible by means of "electronic equipment" as that term is defined in C.G.S. 1-200(12).

(2) Branford RTM virtual meetings will conform in all respects with the requirements of the Connecticut General Statutes applicable to such meetings, as amended and until repealed.

#### (3) Virtual Meeting Selection.

- a. The determination of whether to hold a virtual meeting within the discretion of the RTM Moderator (with respect to regular or special meetings of the RTM) and the Chair (with respect to RTM committee meetings); provided the meeting is noticed in accordance with the applicable general statutes, and subject to Rule 3(b) below,
- b. The RTM (and/or an RTM Committee, as applicable) may by simple majority vote establish that a future meeting or meetings be held in-person, in whole or in part.
- c. All meeting agendas and notices will comply with the requirements of the applicable Connecticut General Statutes for public meetings.

#### (4) Virtual Meeting Practices

- a. A "Virtual Host" is the person, designated by the Moderator or Chair of a meeting who controls the virtual meeting platform (admitting attendees, watching the chat for questions, removing disturbances, etc.).
- b. The Virtual Host of any virtual meeting must be a member (including ex-officio members) of the body conducting the meeting.
- c. The Virtual Host of the meeting will be clearly identified at the start of any virtual meeting by the Moderator or Chair.
- d. The Virtual Host of any virtual meeting can remove an attendee that is being disruptive only at the spoken direction of the Moderator or Chair of that meeting, in accordance with Section 7-8 of Chapter 90 of the Connecticut General Statutes.