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RULES AND ORDINANCES COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING – TUESDAY, January 15, 2019 @ 7:00 PM

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT

At approximately 7:00 PM, Chairman Leonard opened the meeting and took attendance. Present were Representatives Anderson, Everlith, Hentschel, Ingraham, Sullivan & Walker. Present also were RTM Representatives Riccio and Twohill.

1. To consider and, if appropriate, create an ordinance enabling tax exemptions for handicap equipped vehicles. After discussion and review of text approved by Town counsel, the committee voted to recommend passage by the RTM.

Motion to approve the proposed Ordinance passed unanimously.

2. To review Branford's Town Dock ordinance and, if appropriate, revise relative to time limits and rights of appeal. After discussion the committee voted to re-refer for continued consideration.

Motion to re-refer the Review passed unanimously.

3. To consider and, if appropriate, create an ordinance restricting the use of plastic bags for retail checkout. After discussion, the committee will continue to seek additional input and define terms in the proposed ordinance.

Motion to re-refer the proposed Ordinance passed unanimously.

4. To consider and, if appropriate, draft and approve an ordinance banning the purchase, sale, and distribution of plastic helium balloons in Branford. After discussion of an applicable State statute, the committee voted to take no action.

Motion to "take no action" on the proposed Ordinance passed unanimously.

Motion to change agenda order passed – one opposed.

5. To review Branford's noise ordinance and how it pertains to excessive dog barking in residential neighborhoods. After discussion, the committee agreed to ask, by letter, the Animal Control Commission to review its guidelines on nuisance complaints.

Motion to "take no action" on the proposed Ordinance passed unanimously.

R&O's next regularly scheduled meeting: **Tuesday, February 19, 2019.**

Upon motion made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.

Dated this 18th day of January, 2019.

John F. Leonard
Chairman, R & O Committee

Handicapped Vehicle Tax Exemption Ordinance Pursuant to C.G.S. 12-81c

Dated: 1-15-19

§ **Exemption for Ambulance Type Motor Vehicles.** There is hereby created, pursuant to Section 12-81c of the Connecticut General Statutes, an exemption from personal property taxation for (1) any ambulance-type motor vehicle which is used exclusively for the purpose of transporting any medically incapacitated individual, except any such vehicle used to transport any such individual for profit, (2) any property owned by a nonprofit ambulance company, and (3) any motor vehicle owned by a person with disabilities, or owned by the parent or guardian of such person, which vehicle is equipped for the purposes of adapting its use to the disability of such person.

§ **Definitions:**

As used in this article, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

AMBULANCE-TYPE VEHICLE

Any motor vehicle specially equipped or modified in a significant way for the purpose of transporting any medically incapacitated individual. Such special equipment or modification includes but is not limited to the installing of lifts, equipping with stretchers, beds or other special seating or any significant modifications to accommodate medical or emergency equipment.

MEDICALLY INCAPACITATED INDIVIDUAL

Any person for whose benefit certain special equipment or modifications referenced in the definition of "ambulance-type vehicle" is necessary.

TRANSPORTING

The provision of vehicular transportation for such medically incapacitated individuals by themselves or another person.

USED EXCLUSIVELY

The vehicle is used for and devoted solely to the purpose of transporting one or more medically incapacitated individuals, and does not mean vehicles used partly for transporting medically incapacitated individuals and partly for other purposes.

§ **Application for exemption** Applications for the exemption permitted by this article shall be filed annually with the Assessor of the Town of Branford, in such manner and including such information as required by the Assessor, not later than October 1st which is the assessment date with respect to which such exemption is claimed. In the case of vehicles purchased on or after October 2nd and on or before July 31st of the assessment year for which such exemption is requested, not later than 30 days after such purchase. Applications for exemption relative to the assessment year which commenced on October 1st, 2019, shall be made on or before 30 days of the effective date of this article or for vehicles purchased after said effective date but on or before July 31st, 2020 not later than 30 days after such purchase.

§ **Medical documentation; expiration of exemption.**

- A. The Assessor may require medical documentation verifying that the modifications to the vehicle are directly related to the medical incapacity or the physical disability of the individual seeking such exemption.
- B. Any such exemption shall expire when the applicable vehicle is sold.

§ **Applicability**

This article shall be applicable with respect to the assessment year that commences October 1, 2019.

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