



**RECEIVED**

JUN 14 2024

BRANFORD TOWN CLERK

**Representative Town Meeting**

**June 12, 2024**

**Meeting Minutes**

<b>Moderator: Maryann Amore</b>	<b>Clerk: Frank Twohill</b>
<b>Majority Leader: Tracy Everson</b>	<b>Minority Leader: Victoria Verderame</b>

The RTM convened on Wednesday, June 12, 2024, at 8:01 p.m., at Branford Fire Headquarters, 45 North Main Street, to consider and act upon the following matters:

**1. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance**

Moderator Amore led the Body in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. Call of the Roll:**

**Representatives Present:** Adams, Adelman, Alfone, Amore, Black, Bonenberger, Brooks, Dahill, Everson, Greenburg, Hartwell, Hentschel, Hynes, Ingraham, Keefe, Laich, Larsson, Maresca, McCall, McCormack, Popolizio, Sharkey, Twohill, Verderame, Waterman

**Representatives Absent:** Anderson, Loffredo, Neupane, Shresta, Soomro

**Ex-Officios Present:** First Selectman Cosgrove

**3. Approval of Minutes of May 14, 2024 Meeting**

Motion to approve made by Rep. Laich, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rep. Verderame. The minutes were approved unanimously in a voice vote.

**4. Receipt of Communications, Reports of Committees, and Citizen Petitions**

Moderator Amore read correspondence from:

- A. Gregg Jerolman, requesting the legality of the May 14<sup>th</sup> RTM meeting be reviewed by Town Counsel and the RTM Parliamentarian. Moderator Amore referred this matter to the Rules & Ordinances Committee.
- B. Rep. Hynes, expressed his concerns that the public was not informed that Rep. Hartwell presented some incorrect figures on May 14 to the RTM. Moderator Amore stated that the corrected amounts would be included in the minutes and will be appended to the May 14<sup>th</sup> minutes as necessary.

Moderator Amore requested an item concerning the Neighborhood Assistance Tax Act, (NAA,) be added to the RTM Agenda as Item 5. Motion to add made by Rep. Adelman, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rep. Hartwell. The RTM voted unanimously to add the NAA item to the agenda.

**5. To consider and review the Town of Branford's 2024 applications for submission to the State of Connecticut under the Neighborhood Assistance Tax Act. The 2024 NAA applications are:**

Feed Branford Kids, \$10,000, Branford Land Trust, \$100,000, Connecticut Hospice, \$100,000, Connecticut Hospice, \$50,000, Branford Electric Railway, \$64,850, First Congregational Church, \$35,000, We Are One, \$24,000, Tail to Paw, \$75,000.

Rep. Adelman stated that the Administrative Services Committee reviewed the NAA applications. Rep. Adelman recused himself from voting on the We Are One application. The Committee approved all applications unanimously and he put the matter forward to the full RTM as a motion. A corrected motion was made by Rep. Adelman, seconded by Rep. McCormack, to hold two RTM votes on the NAA applications. The 1<sup>st</sup> RTM vote is on a group of 7 NAA applications: Feed Branford Kids, Branford Land Trust, Connecticut Hospice, Connecticut Hospice, Branford Electric Railway, First Congregational Church, Tail to Paw. The 2<sup>nd</sup> RTM vote is only on the We Are One NAA application. This motion passed the RTM unanimously in a voice vote.

For the 1<sup>st</sup> vote, the RTM voted unanimously to approve the group of 7 NAA applications. Rep. Adelman then recused himself and left the room. We Are One's Ashley Phan spoke. For the 2<sup>nd</sup> RTM vote, the RTM voted unanimously to approve the NAA We Are One application. Rep. Adelman returned to the room.

**6. To consider and if appropriate, approve the following transfer request from the Registrar of Voters for FY2024:**

<b>From:</b>		
IO141 120-517630	Election Workers	(\$ 7,000)
10141120-544420	Equipment Rental	(3,000)
10141120-518250	Seasonal & Part-Time Help	(220)
10141120-519025	Educational Incentive	(900)
IO141120-533590	Moving & Storage	(1,312)
10141120-544410	Building Rental	(100)
IO141 120-588200	Memberships & Meetings	(491)
IO141 120-566920	Meal Supplies	<u>(1,603)</u>
	Total	(\$14,626)
 <b>To:</b>		
IO 141 120-5 17705	Deputy Registrars	\$ 10,000
IO 141120-518000	Overtime	10
IO 141120-533300	Professional Development	1,000
IO 141 120-566900	Other Supplies (Ballots)	3,216
IO 141 120-588090	Travel	<u>400</u>
	Total	\$14,626

Rep. Adelman stated the Administrative Services Committee heard this matter. It was approved unanimously, and he put it forward to the full RTM in the form of a motion. In a voice vote the RTM approved these transfers unanimously.

**7. To consider, and if appropriate, approve the following transfer request from the Finance Director for FY2024:**

<b>Increase:</b>		
260-90000-480296	Fund Balance Transfer	(\$ 20,000) •
<b>Increase:</b>		
260-44040-588685	East Shore Health District (Water Study)	\$20,000

Moderator Amore read a proposed resolution to clarify Item 7: **The RTM authorizes an increase in the cumulative ARPA fund appropriations from \$7,690,500 to \$7,710,500. This appropriation will provide a grant to the East Shore Health District to conduct a water study in the Short Beach section of Branford.** A motion to add the resolution to Item 7 was made by Rep. Hentschel, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rep. Laich. Approved unanimously by the full RTM in a voice vote. Rep. Adelman stated that this item was heard by the Administrative Services Committee. The proposed transfer was approved unanimously. He put the matter in the form of a motion to the full RTM. Several Representatives spoke in support of the transfer. The RTM approved the item unanimously by voice vote.

**8. To consider and, if appropriate, approve a transfer request from the Inland Wetlands Agency for the following transfer for FY 2024:**

**From:**

0 141 160-533300      Professional Development      (\$700)

**To:**

0 141 160-555400      Advertising, Printing and Binding      \$700

Rep. Hentschel stated the Rules and Ordinances Committee did not hear this matter. Rep. McCormack moved, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rep. Hentschel, to waive RTM Rule 4.4.1. The motion was approved unanimously in a voice vote by the full RTM. The transfer is required for legal notices cost. Rep. Hentschel moved, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rep. Verderame, the motion was approved by the full RTM in a voice vote.

**9. To consider and, if appropriate, create an ordinance to establish a harbor management commission, pursuant to CGS 22a-113k.**

Rep. Hentschel stated the Rules and Ordinances Committee has established a subgroup to draft language for this Commission. The Committee voted unanimously to request a rereferral and he put that forward in the form of a motion. The full RTM voted unanimously in favor of the motion in a voice vote.

**10. To consider, and if appropriate, create an ordinance which will encode reasonable restrictions on short-term rentals in Branford.**

Rep. Hentschel reported the Rules and Ordinances Committee has established a subgroup to research this matter. The Committee voted unanimously to ask for a rereferral, and he put that forward to the RTM in the form of a motion. In a voice vote, the full RTM voted unanimously in favor.

**11. To consider, and if appropriate, create an ordinance to change the position of Town Clerk from an elected position to an appointed one.**

Rep. Hentschel stated the Rules and Ordinances Committee has established a subgroup to research this proposal. The Committee voted unanimously to ask the RTM for a rereferral. He put that forward to the RTM in the form of a motion. The full RTM voted unanimously to approve.

**12. Any other business to come before the RTM.**

- A. Rep. Ingraham questioned why Mr. Jerolman's request was sent to the Rules and Ordinances Committee instead of to the RTM Parliamentarian.
- B. Gregg Jerolman raised concerns about lack of procedures at the May 14<sup>th</sup> RTM budget meeting.

**13. Adjournment at 9:05 p.m.**

Rep. McCormack made a motion to adjourn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rep. Popolizio.

**See the BCTV recording of this meeting for details of the conversations.**

**Frank Twohill, RTM Clerk**

**Dated this 13th day of June 2024**

BRANFORD RTM RECORDED VOTES

RTM ROLL CALL, JUNE 12, 2024						
	NAME	ATTENDANCE				
1	ADAMS	Present				
2	ADELMAN	Present				
3	ALFONE	Present				
4	AMORE	Present				
5	ANDERSON	Absent				
6	BLACK	Present				
7	BONENBERGER	Present				
8	BROOKS	Present				
9	DAHILL	Present				
10	EVERSON	Present				
11	GREENBERG	Present				
12	HARTWELL	Present				
13	HENTSCHEL	Present				
14	HYNES	Present				
15	INGRAHAM	Present				
16	KEEFE	Present				
17	LAICH	Present				
18	LARSSON	Present				
19	LOFFREDO	Absent				
20	MARESCA	Present				
21	MCCALL	Present				
22	MCCORMACK	Present				
23	NEUPANE	Absent				
24	POPOLIZIO	Present				
25	SHARKEY	Present				
26	SHRESTHA	Absent				
27	SOOMRO	Absent				
28	TWOHILL	Present				
29	VERDERAME	Present				
30	WATERMAN	Present				
	<b>Total</b>	<b>25</b>				
	Ex Officios					
	1st Selectman Cosgrove	Present				
	Selectman Dunbar					
	Selectman Higgins					
	Town Clerk Arpin					
	Treasurer Schwanfelder					
	Attorney Aniskovich					

**RECEIVED**

JUN 14 2024

BRANFORD TOWN CLERK