



**Representative Town Meeting  
October 23, 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 in Special Session on Wednesday, October 23, 2024 at 8:00 p.m., at Branford Fire Headquarters, 45 North Main Street, to consider and act upon the following matters:**

**1. Call to Order**

Moderator Amore called the meeting to order at 8:04 p. m.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

Moderator Amore led the Body in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. Call of the Roll**

Clerk Twohill called the Roll.

Moderator Amore asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of Victor Cassella who passed away. He served the Town as a long time Board of Finance Member and was a dedicated community leader.

Moderator Amore also reminded the Body that starting in November, the RTM meetings will be held at the Joe Trapasso Community House while the Police Headquarters is being renovated.

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

None

**5. To discuss ARPA and Contingency appropriations, and, if appropriate, consider the following transfers and resolutions:**

**ARPA Fund FY2025 Resolution and Transfer**

**Resolved: That the RTM considers, and if appropriate, approve an increase in the ARPA fund budget from \$7,710,500 to \$8,185,500. This appropriation will be used to fund a grant to the Corcoran Sundquist Post 83 of the American Legion.**

**This transfer appropriates the grants while also transferring funds to the fueling station project.**

**Increase:**

260-90000-480296	Fund Balance Transfer	\$475,000
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**Increase:**

260-41020-588xxx	American Legion Post 83	50,000
260-50000-599121	Transfer Out Municipal Facilities Fund	<u>425,000</u>
	Total	\$475,000

**General Fund FY2024 Transfer**

**This transfer moves contingency dollars into the fueling station project.**

**From:**

10149040-588802	Contingency	\$275,000
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**To:**

10150000-599212	Transfer Out-Municipal Facilities Fund	\$275,000
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**Municipal Facilities Fund FY2024 Transfer**

**This transfer reflects the changes in the fueling station project's revenue sources by reducing the bond authorization and replacing it with the funds that are transferred in pursuant to the previous transfers.**

**From:**

70242040-490040-24314	Bond Proceeds	\$700,000
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**To:**

72090000-490010-24314	Transfer In	\$700,000
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Rep. Hartwell stated the Ways and Means Committee heard these proposed transfers. The Committee voted unanimously in favor of the transfers. He put that forward to the full RTM in the form of a motion. The full RTM approved the transfers in a unanimous voice vote.

**6. To consider and, if appropriate, approve the following transfer requests from the Fire Department:**

**Transfer to hire additional EMT's (FY2025):**

**From:**

10142040-588802	Contingency Fire	\$517,623
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**To:**

10149010-522000	Social Security	19,147
10149010-523110	Retirement Municipal Employees	220,773
10149030-599107	Transfer Out Workers Compensation	57,383
10149020-528100	Health Insurance	<u>220,320</u>
	Total	\$517,623

**Additional funding to offset budget cuts to the fire apparatus fund (FY2024):**

<b>From:</b>		
10149040-588802	Contingency	\$500,000
<b>To:</b>		
10150000-599111	Transfer Out - Fire Apparatus Fund	\$500,000

**Additional funding to offset a shortfall in the ambulance replacement fund (FY2024):**

<b>From:</b>		
10149040-588802	Contingency	\$ 15,000
<b>To:</b>		
10150000-599113	Transfer Out - Ambulance Fund	\$ 15,000

Rep. Bonenberger stated the Public Services Committee heard these proposed transfers. The Committee voted unanimously in favor of making the transfers and he put that forward to the full RTM in the form of a motion. The full RTM voted in a voice vote unanimously in favor.

**7. To consider, and if appropriate approve a request from the Board of Fire Commissioners for the following FY2025 transfer:**

<b>From:</b>		
10142040-588802	Contingency	(\$1,320,481)
<b>To:</b>		
10142040-517000	Regular Wages & Salaries	\$ 959,009
10142040-518000	Overtime	96,000
10142040-518050	Vacation	96,768
10142040-518150	Holiday Pay	91,392
10142040-518200	Replace Sick	64,512
10142040-526100	Uniform/Clothing Allowance	12,800
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,320,481</b>

Rep. Bonenberger stated the Public Services Committee heard these proposed transfers and voted unanimously in favor of them. He put this item forward to the full RTM in the form of a motion. The full RTM voted unanimously in favor in a voice vote.

**8. To consider, and if appropriate approve the following funding request pursuant to the Recreation Department's required repairs at Veteran's Memorial Park and Foote Memorial Park repairs:**

**General Fund (FY2024):**

<b>From:</b>		
10149040-588802	Contingency	\$ 70,000
<b>To:</b>		
10150000-599110	Transfer Out - Capital Projects	\$ 70,000

**Fund 700 (FY2024):**

**Increase:**

70090000-490010-24xxx      Transfer In      \$ 70,000

**Increase:**

70045010-579400-24xxx      Capital Outlay Improvements      \$ 70,000

**Closeout Project 18503 Energy Performance Contract (FY2025):**

The RTM will consider, and if appropriate, approve the following resolution:

**Resolved: That the Project 18503 Energy Conservation be closed out and all surplus funds remaining in the project be returned to the General Fund.**

Rep. Hartwell reported the Ways and Means Committee heard these proposed transfers. The Committee members voted unanimously in favor, and he put that to the full RTM in the form of a motion. The full RTM unanimously approved the transfers in a voice vote.

9. **To consider, and if appropriate, approve the following transfer from the Finance Director as follows:**

**Fiscal Services (FY2024):**

**From:**

10149040-588802      Contingency      (\$ 5,984)

**To:**

10141040-518000      Overtime      \$ 5,984

Rep. Hartwell stated the Ways and Means Committee heard the transfer and the members voted unanimously in favor. He put the matter forward to the full RTM in the form of a motion. The full RTM voted unanimously to approve the transfer in a voice vote.

10. **To consider, and if appropriate, approve a transfer from the Town Clerk for the FY 2024 Legislative budget:**

**From:**

10141010-558150      Legislative-Update Law Ordinances      (\$ 600)

10141080-555400      Town Clerk-Advertising, Printing      (\$ 570)

Total      (\$ 1,170)

**To:**

10141080-555400      Legislative-Advertising      \$ 1,170

Rep. Adelman stated that Administrative Services Committee did not meet. Rep. Hartwell, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rep. Popolizio, made a motion, to waive RTM Rule 4.4.1. The motion passed unanimously in a voice vote. Rep. Adelman moved, Rep. Twohill 2<sup>nd</sup>, to approve the proposed transfers for additional advertising costs. The motion passed unanimously by the full RTM in a voice vote.

11. **To consider, and if appropriate, create an ordinance protecting licensed home daycare providers from restrictive HOA bylaws.**

Rep. Hentschel stated the Rules & Ordinances Committee met twice, on 9/17 and 10/15, between RTM meetings. The Committee members voted unanimously to request a rereferral. The Committee has worked on this proposal but needs more time. He put that forward to the full RTM in the form of a motion. The motion to rerefer passed in a unanimous voice vote.

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

Rep. Hentschel stated the Rules & Ordinances Committee held their first public hearing concerning this proposed ordinance on 10/15. It was well attended by stakeholders. The Committee voted unanimously to request rereferral for this matter and he put that request forward to the full RTM in the form of a motion. The full RTM voted unanimously in favor to rerefer.

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

Rep. Hentschel stated the Rules & Ordinances put out a community survey on this subject and received 500 replies. (See the 10/15 Ways & Means Committee minutes for the results.) This matter was heard at both Rules & Ordinances Committee meetings on 9/17 and 10/15. The Committee members voted unanimously to request a referral on this subject. He put that forward to the full RTM in the form of a motion. The full RTM voted unanimously in favor of rereferring this matter.

**14. Adjournment at 8:34 p.m.**

Rep. Everson made a motion, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rep. Verderame, to adjourn.

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

**Dated this 24<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2024.**

**Frank Twohill, RTM Clerk**

