BRANFORD REPRESENTATIVE TOWN MEETING

November 13, 2024

Meeting Minutes

Moderator: Maryann Amore	Clerk: Frank Twohill
Majority Leader: Tracy Everson	Minority Leader: Victoria Verderame

The RTM convened on Wednesday, November 13, 2024, at 8:00 pm, solely by Zoom, to consider and act upon the following matters:

1. **Call to Order**

   Moderator Amore called the meeting to order at 8:01 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 RTM Roll:

Representatives Present: Adelman, Amore, Anderson, Black, Bonenberger, Brooks, Dahill, Everson, Greenberg, Hartwell, Hentschel, Hynes, Ingraham, Keefe, Laich, Larsson, Loffredo, Maresca, McCall, McCormack, Neupane, Popolizio, Sharkey, Shrestha, Twohill, Verderame, Waterman.

Representatives Absent: Adams, Alfone, Soomro.

Ex-Officios Present: Selectman Higgins, Town Clerk Arpin.

4. **Approval of Minutes of the September 11 and October 23, 2024 Meetings of the RTM:**

   A) Motion made by Rep. Verderame, 2nd by Rep. Everson, to approve the September 11, 2024, RTM minutes. The minutes were approved unanimously in a voice vote.

   B) Motion made by Rep. McCormack, 2nd by Rep. Popolizio, to approve the October 23, 2024, RTM minutes. The minutes were approved unanimously in a voice vote.

5. **Receipt of Communications, Reports of Committees, and Citizen Petitions:**

   None.

(Rep. Lofffredo left the meeting at 8:15 p.m.)

Moderator Amore recommended adding the newly ratified Police Union contract to the RTM Call as new Item #7. Rep. Everson moved, 2nd by Rep. Hentschel. The motion was approved unanimously by the full RTM in a voice vote.

6. **To consider, and if appropriate, approve a contract between the Branford Board of Education and the Branford Administrators Organization, effective July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2028:**

Rep. Keefe stated that the Education Committee heard this matter. The Committee vote was unanimous in favor, and he put the item forward to the full RTM in the form of a motion. The full RTM voted unanimously in favor of the contract in a roll call vote.

7. **To consider, and if appropriate, approve a contract between the Town of Branford and the Police Union, UPSEU/COPS local #459, effective July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2027:**

Rep. Bonenberger reported the Public Services Committee heard this contract and voted unanimously to approve it. He put the item forward to the full RTM in the form of a motion. The full RTM voted unanimously in favor of the contract in a roll call vote.

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

Rep. Hentschel reported the Rules & Ordinances Committee has not met since the October 23 RTM meeting and he asked it be rereferred. Rep. Hentschel moved, 2nd by Rep. Black, to rerefer the matter. The full RTM passed the rereferral unanimously 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 & Ordinances Committee has not met since the October 23 RTM meeting and he asked for a rereferral. Rep. Hentschel moved, 2nd by Rep. Black, for the rereferral. The 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 & Ordinances Committee has not met since the October 23 RTM meeting and he asked for a rereferral back to the Committee. Rep. Hentschel moved, 2nd by Rep. Popolizio and the full RTM passed the motion unanimously in a voice vote.

11. **Any other business to come before the RTM:**
    a) Rep. Twohill requested a moment of silence in memory of former RTM Rep. Peter Banca. Peter also served Branford as the first Permanent Building Committee Chairman, 2013-2024 and oversaw the Town building projects these last 11 years.

    b) Rep. Brooks stated to attract the best personnel to work in Branford, we need to be paying Town employees not just the normal range but above normal in their salaries and offer them appropriate contracts.

    c) Rep. Keefe moved that the appropriate RTM Committee make a time frame and outline for future union contract renewals. Upon the Moderator's advice, he withdrew his motion and submitted it as correspondence. The Moderator will take this up to see which Committee is best suited for this.

12. **Adjournment at 8:56 p.m.**
    Rep. Popolizio made a motion, 2nd. by Rep. Laich, to adjourn.

See the BCTV recording of this meeting for details of the conversation.

Frank Twohill, RTM Clerk,
Dated this 14th day of November, 2024.

RTM ROLL CALL, NOVEMBER 13, 2024

	NAME	ATTENDANCE	#6, Adm. Contract	#7 Police Contract		
1	ADAMS	Absent				
2	ADELMAN	Present	Yes	Yes		
3	ALFONE	Absent				
4	AMORE	Present	--	--		
5	ANDERSON	Present	Yes	Yes		
6	BLACK	Present	Yes	Yes		
7	BONENBERGER	Present	Yes	Yes		
8	BROOKS	Present	Yes	Yes		
9	DAHILL	Present	Yes	Yes		
10	EVERSON	Present	Yes	Yes		
11	GREENBERG	Present	Yes	Yes		
12	HARTWELL	Present	Yes	Yes		
13	HENTSCHEL	Present	Yes	Yes		
14	HYNES	Present	Yes	Yes		
15	INGRAHAM	Present	Yes	Yes		
16	KEEFE	Present	Yes	Yes		
17	LAICH	Present	Yes	Yes		
18	LARSSON	Present	Yes	Yes		
19	LOFFREDO	Present	--	--		
20	MARESCA	Present	Yes	Yes		
21	MCCALL	Present	Yes	Yes		
22	MCCORMACK	Present	Yes	Yes		
23	NEUPANE	Present	Yes	Yes		
24	POPOLIZIO	Present	Yes	Yes		
25	SHARKEY	Present	Yes	Yes		
26	SHRESTHA	Present	Yes	Yes		
27	SOOMRO	Absent				
28	TWOHILL	Present	Yes	Yes		
29	VERDERAME	Present	Yes	Yes		
30	WATERMAN	Present	Yes	Yes		
	Total	27	25 yes, 0 no	25 yes, 0 no		
	Ex Officios					
	1st Selectman Cosgrove					
	Selectman Dunbar					
	Selectman Higgins	Present				
	Town Clerk Arpin	Present				
	Treasurer Schwanfelder					
	Attorney Aniskovich					