

1. 6:30 P.M. Committee Of Ways & Means

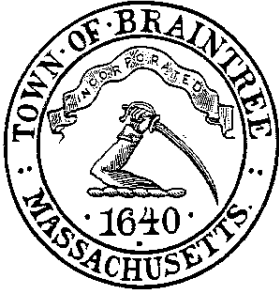
Documents:

[24 JANUARY 16 WM AGENDA.PDF](#)

2. 6:30 P.M. Committee Of Ways & Means

Documents:

[24 JAN 16 WM MTG.PDF](#)



Braintree Town Council

Committee of Ways & Means

One JFK Memorial Drive
Braintree, Massachusetts 02184

MEMBERS

Meredith Boericke, Chairwoman
Peter Morin, Vice-Chairman
Julia Flaherty
Elizabeth Maglio
Joseph Reynolds

AGENDA

Tuesday, January 16, 2024

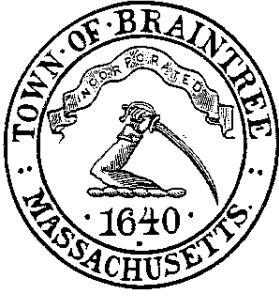
Starting Time – 6:30p.m.

Johnson Chambers

Please note due to this committee consisting of 5 members of the Town Council a full Council meeting notice posting is required as well as the committee meeting notice posting.

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Minutes
 - July 18, 2023
 - August 1, 2023
 - August 22, 2023
 - September 19, 2023
 - October 2, 2023
 - November 8, 2023
4. Old Business
 - None
5. New Business
 - 23 080 Mayor: CPC Appropriation – Request for Appropriation - Fire Station Historic Restoration or take up any action relative thereto (*Table to February 6, 2024*)
 - 23 086 Mayor: Transfer Funds from the Salary Reserves or take up any action relative thereto (*Table to February 6, 2024*)

 - 23 085 Mayor: Borrowing Authorization for Animal Control Vehicle or take up any action relative thereto (*Public Hearing at full Council*)
6. Adjournment



Braintree Town Council
Committee of Ways & Means
One JFK Memorial Drive
Braintree, Massachusetts 02184

MEMBERS

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6. Adjournment



Office of the Mayor

One JFK Memorial Drive
Braintree, Massachusetts 02184

Charles C. Kokoros
Mayor

781-794-8100

To: Meredith Boericke, President of the Council
Susan Cimino, Clerk of the Council
James Casey, Town Clerk

From: Mayor Charles C. Kokoros *ck*

CC: Margaret Laforest, Chief of Staff and Director of Operations
Ed Spellman, Director, Municipal Finance
Timothy Cohoon, Chief, Braintree Police

Date: November 30, 2023

Re: Police Department – Borrowing Authorization for Animal Control Vehicle

President Boericke, Clerk Cimino, Clerk Casey,

The Braintree Police Department Animal Control Vehicle was determined to be a total loss upon examination by the insurance adjuster, MIAA. Insurance proceeds of \$11,574.00 have already been paid to the Town of Braintree. ACO ideally needs a 4-door pick-up truck to safely handle and transport animals away from the officer while he is driving. The bed of a pickup truck is also preferential for the removal and transporting of dead animals (deer, skunks, racoons etc.) The vehicle will be purchased off the state contract. Current inventory available is low. For reference, a 2023 Ford F-150 pickup has an invoice price of \$55,881.10. Additionally, the vehicle will need to be equipped with emergency lights, siren and graphics would be approximately \$5,000. A police radio for the truck would cost approximately \$2,805 for a total of \$63,686.10. Factoring in the insurance proceeds of \$11,574.00, the total balance needed would be \$52,112.20. The actual cost will depend on the state contract inventory following council approval.

The Town is seeking to purchase the animal control vehicle and borrow the funding. A memo from Deputy Chief Moschella is attached.

Accordingly, your review and approval of the following motion is requested:

Motion: That the Town of Braintree appropriates the sum of Sixty Eight Thousand Dollars (\$68,000) to pay costs of purchasing a police animal control vehicle, less projected insurance recovery of \$11,000, for the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Mayor, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to G.L. c. 44, §7(1), or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor.

Note: As this request involves a loan authorization, advertising and a public hearing is required under Sections 2-9 and 6-7 of the Town Charter. The entire text of the order should be included in the advertisement.



Braintree Police Department

282 Union Street • Braintree, Massachusetts 02184
Main 781-794-8633 • Fax 781-794-8671



Tim Cohoon
Chief of Police

Michael Moschella
Deputy Chief

To: Margaret Laforest, Chief of Staff

From: Deputy Chief Michael R. Moschella

Subject: Animal Control Vehicle

Date: December 4th, 2023

Dear Margaret:

On August 19th, 2023, Animal Control Officer David Littlewood was involved in a motor vehicle crash @ the Union Street Rotary. ACO Littlewood was operating his assigned work vehicle, a 2008 Chevrolet pickup truck with 180,000 miles. The pickup sustained significant front-end damage and was determined to be a total loss upon examination by the insurance adjuster, MIAA. Insurance proceeds of \$11,574.00 have already been paid to the Town of Braintree.

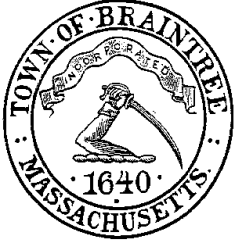
ACO Littlewood ideally needs a 4-door pick-up truck to safely handle and transport animals away from him while he is driving. The bed of a pickup truck is also preferential for the removal and transporting of dead animals (deer, skunks, racoons etc.)

Sergeant Chambers (CPA) and Sergeant Curtin coordinate police department vehicle purchases. They reported that the stock of available pick-up trucks through the state contract bid list is low. The best available option they were able to locate was a 2023 Ford F-150 pickup at Colonial Ford in Plymouth with an invoice price of \$55,881.10. Prices found for used pickup trucks were not significantly better.

Additional costs to outfit the truck with emergency lights, siren and graphics would be approximately \$5,000. A police radio for the truck would cost approximately \$2,805. Factoring in the insurance proceeds of \$11,574.00, the total balance needed would be \$52,112.20.

Respectfully submitted,

Deputy Chief Michael R. Moschella



Braintree Town Council
Committee of Ways & Means
One JFK Memorial Drive
Braintree, Massachusetts 02184

MEMBERS

Joseph Reynolds, Chairman
Julia Flaherty, Vice-Chairwoman
Elizabeth Maglio, Member

MINUTES
Tuesday, July 18, 2023

A meeting of the Committee of Ways & Means was held in Johnson Chambers on Tuesday, July 18, 2023 at 6:43pm.

Councilor Flaherty was in the Chair.
Clerk of the Council, Susan Cimino conducted the roll call.

Present: Julia Flaherty, Vice-Chairwoman
Elizabeth Maglio, Member

Not Present: Joseph Reynolds, Chairman

Also Present: Margaret Laforest, Chief of Staff
Vincent Fountaine, Veteran's Agent
Cindy DePina, Director of Human Resources

Approval of Minutes

- March 7, 2023

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to approve the minutes of March 7, 2023.

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to approve the minutes of March 7, 2023.

Second: by Councilor Flaherty

Vote: For (2–Flaherty, Maglio), Against (0), Absent (1 - Reynolds), Abstain (0)

- March 21, 2023

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to approve the minutes of March 21, 2023.

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to approve the minutes of March 21, 2023.

Second: by Councilor Flaherty

Vote: For (2–Flaherty, Maglio), Against (0), Absent (1 - Reynolds), Abstain (0)

Old Business

- None

New Business

- **23 046 Mayor: Inter-Municipal Veterans' Services Agreement or take up any action relative thereto**

Vice-Chairwoman Flaherty asked if anyone would like to speak on Order 23 046.

Vincent Fontaine said this agreement is with the Town of Holbrook and the Town of Avon. It is really to help them out. They are small communities.

As the Veterans' Services Officers for the Towns of Avon and Holbrook are retiring, we were approached with an opportunity to regionalize services with our neighboring communities. The Intermunicipal agreement will designate the Town of Braintree to provide services to veterans in Avon and Holbrook. The funding will allow Veterans' Services to fund additional hours for staff. Each town will pay Braintree a pro-rata share.

Councilor Maglio asked what are the 2 groups you will be assisting?

Vincent Fontaine said there is Chapter 115 assisting widows and children with financial assistance by paying and getting reimbursement from the state.

Director DePina stated this is a 3-year agreement. It will have to be renewed.

Councilor Maglio asked will the other towns pay their share?

Vincent Fontaine said yes, the reimbursement will go through their Treasury's office(s).

Vice-Chairwoman Flaherty asked if there is a Motion for Order 23 046.

Motion read by Councilor Maglio for favorable recommendation to the full Council.

Motion: Authorizing Mayor Charles C. Kokoros to submit a letter to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Veterans' Services for consideration of an Intermunicipal Agreement for Veterans Services.

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to approve Order 23 046

Second: by Councilor Flaherty

Vote: For (2–Flaherty, Maglio), Against (0), Absent (1 - Reynolds), Abstain (0)

- **23 047 Mayor: FY23 Supplemental Appropriation #3 or take up any action relative thereto (WITHDRAWN)**

This measure has been withdrawn by the Mayor's office. No further action required.

It was unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 6:54p.m. by Roll Call Vote.

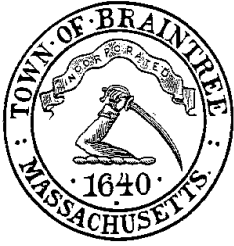
Respectfully submitted,

Susan M. Cimino

Clerk of the Council

Documents provided for Meeting

- 23 046 Mayor: Inter-Municipal Veterans' Services Agreement or take up any action relative thereto



Braintree Town Council
Committee of Ways & Means
One JFK Memorial Drive
Braintree, Massachusetts 02184

MEMBERS
Joseph Reynolds, Chairman
Julia Flaherty, Vice-Chairwoman
Elizabeth Maglio, Member

MINUTES
Tuesday, August 1, 2023

A meeting of the Committee of Ways & Means was held in Johnson Chambers on Tuesday, August 1, 2023 at 6:30pm.

Councilor Reynolds was in the Chair.
Clerk of the Council, Susan Cimino conducted the roll call.

Present: Joseph Reynolds, Chairman
Julia Flaherty, Vice-Chairwoman
Elizabeth Maglio, Member arrived at 6:35pm

Also Present: Margaret Laforest, Chief of Staff
Melissa SantucciRozzi, Director of Planning & Community Development
Frank Collins, Pond Meadow Pond
Brion Keefe, Pond Meadow Pond

Approval of Minutes

- March 21, 2023

Motion: by Councilor Flaherty to approve the minutes of March 21, 2023.

Motion: by Councilor Flaherty to approve the minutes of March 21, 2023.

Second: by Councilor Reynolds

Vote: For (2–Flaherty, Reynolds), Against (0), Absent (1 - Maglio), Abstain (0)

- March 30, 2023 – 9:30am

Motion: by Councilor Flaherty to approve the minutes of March 30, 2023 at 9:30am.

Motion: by Councilor Flaherty to approve the minutes of March 30, 2023 at 9:30am.

Second: by Councilor Reynolds

Vote: For (2–Flaherty, Reynolds), Against (0), Absent (1 - Maglio), Abstain (0)

Old Business

- None

New Business

- **23 049 Mayor: CPC Appropriation - Smelt Brook Restoration Study, 2023 Addendum, FY23 CPA Application or take up any action relative thereto**

Chairman Reynolds asked if anyone would like to speak on Order 23 049.

Director SantucciRozzi explained at their June 12, 2023 meeting, the Community Preservation Committee voted to RECOMMEND the Town Council appropriate CPA funding in the amount of \$12,500.00 for the "Smelt Brook Restoration Study- 2023 Addendum" project from the Open Space Fund.

The Smelt Brook Local Protection Project (LPP), which includes a small dam (Pond Meadow Park Dam), perched culvert and drop conduit within lower reaches of Smelt Brook has negatively affected fish passage within the Fore River watershed. The Smelt Brook LPP created physical barriers to migratory fish; in particular, rainbow smelt (*Osmerus mordax*). Rainbow smelt are a federally listed Species of Concern due to their declining population, and the Fore River Watershed is part of a Federal/State collaborative effort to restore rainbow smelt spawning habitat within New England region.

The original project "Smelt Brook Restoration Study" was approved under Town Council Order 18-056 on October 2, 2018 and totaled \$65,500. At that time, the Town of Weymouth also provided a cost share of \$65,500 for the project, matching \$131,000 in federal funding for a project total of \$262,000. In 2022, an additional \$15,000 in design funding was approved under Town Council Order 22-038, also matched by Town of Weymouth and federal funds bringing the total project budget to \$322,000.

This 2023 Addendum was necessitated by streamflow volumes that were higher than previously known requiring additional study and design. Specifically, the proposed fish ladder increases the potential for flooding and three feet of additional height are needed on the wing walls of the existing stilling basin. The additional Community Preservation Act funding will allow the WBRRCD, in concert with the ACOE, to complete the environmental review, detailed project report and environmental assessment for the preferred alternative, a required precursor to any additional federal funding for final design and construction.

Chairman Reynolds asked if there is a Motion for Order 23 049.

Motion read by Councilor Flaherty for favorable recommendation to the full Council.

Motion: In accordance with the provisions of MGL c.448, and with the recommendation of the Community Preservation Committee, the amount of \$12,500.00 to be expended from the Open Space Fund for the Smelt Brook Restoration Study - 2023 Addendum (Assessors Map 3005, Plot 25); said funding to be supervised and expended under the direction of the Community Preservation Committee/Director of Planning and Community Development.

Motion: by Councilor Flaherty to approve Order 23 049

Second: by Councilor Maglio

Vote: For (3—Flaherty, Maglio, Reynolds), Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

- **23 050 Council President: Re-appointment Outside Auditor or take up any action relative thereto**

Chairman Reynolds asked for an update from the Clerk of the Council.

Clerk of the Council reached out to Mike Nelligan, Powers & Sullivan. He is on vacation and will forward a new proposal forthcoming.

Chairman Reynolds stated their duties are different from CLA correct?

Clerk of the Council stated per Charter this auditor reviews the entire town.

Chairman Reynolds asked if anyone would like to speak on Order 23 050.

Councilor Flaherty stated I would like more pros/cons on what to do and to see their rate structure. It is good to have someone with institutional knowledge.

Councilor Maglio asked who they primarily work with?

Clerk of the Council stated they work with the Municipal Finance Team.

Chairman Reynolds stated they look at our best practices and make sure we are meeting compliance etc.

Chairman Reynolds asked if there is a Motion to Table Order 23 050.

Motion read by Councilor Flaherty to Table Order 23 050.

Motion: to Table Order 23 050 to a future Ways & Means meeting.

Motion: by Councilor Flaherty to Table Order 23 050 to a future Ways & Means meeting.

Second: by Councilor Maglio

Vote: For (3—Flaherty, Maglio, Reynolds), Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

It was unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:03p.m. by Roll Call Vote.

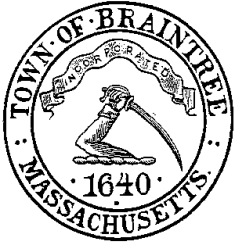
Respectfully submitted,

Susan M. Cimino

Clerk of the Council

Documents provided for Meeting

- 23 049 Mayor: CPC Appropriation - Smelt Brook Restoration Study, 2023 Addendum, FY23 CPA Application or take up any action relative thereto
- 23 050 Council President: Re-appointment Outside Auditor or take up any action relative thereto



Braintree Town Council
Committee of Ways & Means
One JFK Memorial Drive
Braintree, Massachusetts 02184

MEMBERS
Joseph Reynolds, Chairman
Julia Flaherty, Vice-Chairwoman
Elizabeth Maglio, Member

MINUTES
Tuesday, August 22, 2023

A meeting of the Committee of Ways & Means was held in Johnson Chambers on Tuesday, August 22, 2023 at 6:36pm.

Councilor Reynolds was in the Chair.
Clerk of the Council, Susan Cimino conducted the roll call.

Present: Joseph Reynolds, Chairman
Julia Flaherty, Vice-Chairwoman
Elizabeth Maglio, Member

Also Present: Margaret Laforest, Chief of Staff
Cindy DePina, Director of Human Resources
Timothy Cohoon, Braintree Police Chief
Crystal Huff, Town Solicitor
residents

Approval of Minutes

- None

Old Business

- None

New Business

- **23 052 Mayor: Appointment – Timothy Cohoon, Braintree Police Chief or take up any action relative thereto**

Chairman Reynolds asked if anyone would like to speak on Order 23 052.

Margaret Laforest stated it is an honor to be here for the appointment of Timothy Cohoon for the Braintree Police Chief; born and raised here in Braintree and has quite a career with our Police Department.

Councilor Flaherty asked what you would like to keep the same and what changes you would like to see. Chief Cohoon stated Chief Dubois put us in a great position for this Police Department to move into the future and make this Police Department even better than it was. In order to improve we need to pay attention to the little things. We need to make sure we have accountability measures in place for our officers and set the expectations so those measures are fair. Our mission is for the officers to be out there and they know what they are to be doing and know their boundaries. We have to make sure we are meeting the communities needs. Decisions need to be neutral and transparent. There are 5 keys to success: people, policy, training, supervision and discipline.

Councilor Maglio stated one key thing about accountability is transparency of our policies and procedures. It is about the people in the community and those we look to to protect us.

Chief Cohoon stated as far as transparency, all our policies are on-line and we update them frequently. In the future what I would like to do is tell our story a little bit better. We are not good at that. Cops like to see themselves as the quiet professional. People don't hear all the good stories. We also need to deal with people with empathy and make adjustments as we move forward.

Councilor Maglio stated as far as a communications piece, I would like to have a further conversation on a need to know for Councilors.

Chairman Reynolds asked if there is a Motion for Order 23 052.

Motion read by Councilor Flaherty for favorable recommendation to the full Council.

Motion: UPON THE REQUEST OF HIS HONOR, THE MAYOR, THE TOWN OF BRAINTREE, THROUGH THE BRAINTREE TOWN COUNCIL, AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTIONS 2-10 AND 3-3 OF THE CHARTER, APPROVES THE APPOINTMENT OF TIMOTHY COHOON AS CHIEF OF POLICE OF THE BRAINTREE POLICE DEPARTMENT.

Motion: by Councilor Flaherty to approve Order 23 052

Second: by Councilor Maglio

Vote: For (3–Flaherty, Maglio, Reynolds), Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

It was unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 6:55p.m. by Roll Call Vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan M. Cimino

Clerk of the Council

Documents provided for Meeting

- 23 052 Mayor: Appointment – Timothy Cohoon, Braintree Police Chief or take up any action relative thereto



Braintree Town Council
Committee of Ways & Means
One JFK Memorial Drive
Braintree, Massachusetts 02184

MEMBERS

Joseph Reynolds, Chairman
Julia Flaherty, Vice-Chairwoman
Elizabeth Maglio, Member

MINUTES
Tuesday, September 19, 2023

A meeting of the Committee of Ways & Means was held in Johnson Chambers on Tuesday, September 19, 2023 at 6:30pm.

Councilor Reynolds was in the Chair.
Clerk of the Council, Susan Cimino conducted the roll call.

Present: Joseph Reynolds, Chairman
Julia Flaherty, Vice-Chairwoman
Elizabeth Maglio, Member

Also Present: Ed Spellman, Finance Director

Approval of Minutes

- March 30, 2023 – 2pm

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to approve the minutes of March 30, 2023 – 2pm.

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to approve the minutes of March 30, 2023 – 2pm.

Second: by Councilor Flaherty

Vote: For (2–Flaherty, Maglio), Against (0), Absent (1 - Reynolds), Abstain (0)

- April 5, 2023

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to approve the minutes of April 5, 2023.

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to approve the minutes of April 5, 2023.

Second: by Councilor Flaherty

Vote: For (2–Flaherty, Maglio), Against (0), Absent (1 - Reynolds), Abstain (0)

- April 6, 2023

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to approve the minutes of April 6, 2023.

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to approve the minutes of April 6, 2023.

Second: by Councilor Flaherty

Vote: For (2–Flaherty, Maglio), Against (0), Absent (1 - Reynolds), Abstain (0)

Old Business

- **23 050 Council President: Re-appointment Outside Auditor or take up any action relative thereto**

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to take off the table Order 23 050.

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to take off the table Order 23 050.

Second: by Councilor Flaherty

Vote: For (2–Flaherty, Maglio), Against (0), Absent (1 - Reynolds), Abstain (0)

Clerk of the Council has requested a new proposal from Powers & Sullivan. It is in your packet. Pricing has remained the same which is what the Town Council has budgeted for at \$57,000.

They are Currently beginning FY23 Audit to complete about March/April 2023. We can request earlier dates (prior to budget) for them to come to a Council meeting.

The previous 3-year appointment was voted October 2020 for FY21,22,23.

This will be for Audits FY24, 25, 26 which Powers & Sullivan would begin in May/June 2024 and bring to Council March/April 2025.

We need to decide to re-appoint or put out an RFP and possibly get another auditing firm.

Councilor Flaherty stated in the proposal from Powers & Sullivan there was a list of people to call for references. I called all of those people. There were no unfavorable comments. The packet lists on page 19 the communities they work with and the size of the budget they work with. Braintree is #14 on the list.

Councilor Maglio stated my concern is with the long delay it took to get the information this year. It was presented in September. Some of the information is due in December (to the stated). It sounded like we were not asking for it.

Clerk of the Council stated the other two reports were ready except the Management Letter so I was told we do all 3 reports together. We could have gotten the financial reports sooner and we can make sure we get them the next time.

Councilor Flaherty stated I would like to understand more about the timing of the reports.

Clerk of the Council stated we can ask them to commit to a date in February 2024 to give an update to Council on their reports.

Councilor Maglio stated the Management Letter gives me pause. Why does it have to go back and forth on this. What did the Management Letter say the first time?

Councilor Flaherty asked why the long delay this year and what is the process?

Ed Spellman joined the meeting and stated there are 3 reports they issue: ACFR which we try to meet the deadline to file with GFOA by December 31st to apply for their certificate of achievement. We had a one month extension this year and got it in by January 2023. The second one is the SEFA – a list of all our federal grants. We received over \$750,000 so we need to do an additional report. The third report if the Management Letter. We had the first two but not the Management Letter. What I have always done

over the past 15 years is wait until I have all 3 to send to the Clerk of the Council which then a meeting is scheduled with Powers & Sullivan. In previous years it is around March/April. It was June 2022.

Councilor Flaherty asked is it normal business to not have the AFCR submitted on time?

Ed Spellman stated no we normally have it submitted on time by the December 31st deadline.

Councilor Flaherty asked what was different this time around?

Ed Spellman stated it was dealing with Munis conversions and the Management Letter was a delay in getting a draft to us and getting it back again to Mike Nelligan and the firm. I had said it wasn't a priority because there were meetings that were fully booked and it just slid further from there. It is on me that I did not push for the Management Letter. They will work with the Council President to get the reports available by a certain date. They have kept their price the same for years.

Councilor Flaherty asked if we have resolved the Munis issues?

Ed Spellman stated we are getting there but we are not where we want to be. We got in-person training for two months but in March 2020 we were doing on-line and not the same.

Councilors decided to vote but make sure reports are presented early spring.

Motion read by Councilor Maglio for favorable recommendation to the full Council.

Motion: Pursuant to Section 6-11 of the Town Charter, through the Braintree Town Council approve a three-year contract for FY2024, FY2025 and FY2026 for Powers and Sullivan CPA as Independent Certified Public Accountants.

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to approve Order 23 050.

Second: by Councilor Flaherty

Vote: For (2–Flaherty, Maglio), Against (0), Absent (1 - Reynolds), Abstain (0)

New Business

- **None**

It was unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:12p.m.

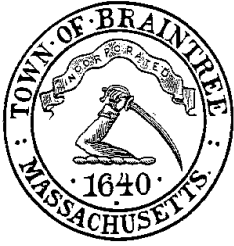
Respectfully submitted,

Susan M. Cimino

Clerk of the Council

Documents provided for Meeting

- 23 050 Council President: Re-appointment Outside Auditor or take up any action relative thereto



Braintree Town Council
Committee of Ways & Means
One JFK Memorial Drive
Braintree, Massachusetts 02184

MEMBERS

Joseph Reynolds, Chairman
Julia Flaherty, Vice-Chairwoman
Elizabeth Maglio, Member

MINUTES
Tuesday, October 2, 2023

A meeting of the Committee of Ways & Means was held remote via Zoom on Monday, October 2, 2023 at 6:30pm.

Councilor Reynolds was in the Chair.
Clerk of the Council, Susan Cimino conducted the roll call.

Present: Joseph Reynolds, Chairman
Julia Flaherty, Vice-Chairwoman
Elizabeth Maglio, Member arrived @6:43pm
Meredith Boericke, President (ex-officio)

Also Present: Margaret Laforest, Chief of Staff
James Arsenault, DPW Director
Ed Spellman, Finance Director
Rob Millette, BEMA
Ben Hulke, Asst. DPW Director
Carl Johnson, Historical Commission
Will Shreefer, Conservation Commission

Approval of Minutes

- April 10, 2023

Motion: by Councilor Flaherty to approve the minutes of April 10, 2023.

Motion: by Councilor Flaherty to approve the minutes of April 10, 2023.

Second: by Councilor Reynolds

Vote: For (2–Flaherty, Reynolds), Against (0), Absent (1 - Maglio), Abstain (0)

- April 11, 2023

Motion: by Councilor Flaherty to approve the minutes of April 11, 2023.

Motion: by Councilor Flaherty to approve the minutes of April 10, 2023.

Second: by Councilor Reynolds

Vote: For (2–Flaherty, Reynolds), Against (0), Absent (1 - Maglio), Abstain (0)

Old Business

- None

New Business

- **23 059 Mayor: Transportation Infrastructure Enhancement Trust Fund or take up any action relative thereto** (*Public Hearing 10/3 at full Council*)

Chairman Reynolds asked if anyone would like to speak on Order 23 059.

Director Arsenault explained for the sixth year in a row, the Town has received money from the Commonwealth's Transportation Infrastructure Enhancement Trust Fund (Fund) "to address the impact of transportation network services on municipal roads, bridges and other transportation infrastructure or any other public purpose substantially related to the operation of transportation network services in the city or town including, but not limited to, the complete streets program... and other programs that support alternative modes of transportation." The Fund was established in 2016 and is funded through a statutory per ride assessment on trips conducted by Transportation Network Companies (TNCs) in Massachusetts. In 2022, rideshare companies provided about 60.6 million rides that started in Massachusetts, which is 52.45% increase more than in 2021. Between 2020 and 2021, there was only a 12.5% increase. The total number of rides that initiated in Braintree in 2022 was 380,245, an increase of 29.14% from 2021. Of those rides, 89,878, or 24%, were local rides-or rides that started and ended in Braintree. Based on this data, the total revenue from the Fund that has been allocated to Braintree is \$38,024.50.

The Town is required to submit a report to the Division no later than December 31, 2023, detailing the projects and the amount used or planned to be used for transportation-related projects, as described above. The intended use of the funds in FY24 is to support the renovation of roadways and education, enforcement and engineering of traffic calming measures.

Chairman Reynolds asked if there is a Motion for Order 23 059.

Motion read by Councilor Flaherty for favorable recommendation to the full Council.

Motion: That the sum of \$38,024.50 received from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Transportation Infrastructure Enhancement Trust Fund be appropriated to Department of Public Works to be spent in accordance with St. 2016, c. 187, s. 8(c)(i).

Motion: by Councilor Flaherty to approve Order 23 059

Second: by Councilor Maglio

Roll Call Vote: For (3–Flaherty, Maglio, Reynolds), Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

- **23 060 Mayor: Opioid Settlement Funds or take up any action relative thereto**

Chairman Reynolds asked if anyone would like to speak on Order 23 060.

Ed Spellman, Finance Director explained as you may recall, in May of 2018, the Town of Braintree initiated the process to take legal action against opioid manufacturers and distributors to hold them accountable for their alleged role in driving the opioid epidemic. The lawsuit, filed in the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts, includes allegations that the defendants falsely trivialized, mischaracterized and failed to disclose the known, serious risks of addiction while promoting the use of opioids in increasingly higher doses without disclosing their greater risks.

In 2022, the Attorney General announced that municipalities that sign onto statewide opioid settlements with opioid distributors AmerisourceBergen, Cardinal Health and McKesson, opioid-maker Johnson & Johnson, and future statewide opioid settlements, would receive 40% of the abatement funds the state recovers, up from the 15% default allocation provided by the settlements. Thereafter, the settlement administrator for the Johnson & Johnson settlement established a portal for management of funds, including disbursement of payments to involved municipalities. According to the formula negotiated by the parties, the Town is eligible to receive a total of \$117,3967.92 in FY24.

Municipal abatement funds are subject to strict spending requirements and must be used to address the opioid crisis in a manner that reflects the input of residents of the municipalities, of people who have personal experience with the opioid crisis, of experts in treatment and prevention, and of staff and organizations that are carrying out the abatement work; addresses disparities in existing services and outcomes and improves equity and the health of individuals and communities disadvantaged by race, wealth, and stigma; addresses mental health conditions, substance use disorders, and other behavior health needs that occur together with opioid use disorder; and encourages innovation, fills gaps and fixes shortcomings of existing approaches; includes evidence-based, evidence-informed, and promising programs; and takes advantage of the flexibility that is allowed for these funds.

In 2022, under the direction of Lyn Frano, the mayor established an Opioid Settlement Task Force comprised of community stakeholders that will assist with the identification and implementation of appropriate strategies for expenditures from the funds received as a result of the settlements.

Chairman Reynolds asked if there is a Motion for Order 23 060.

Motion read by Councilor Flaherty for favorable recommendation to the full Council.

Motion: That the Town vote to appropriate \$117,397.92 from the Massachusetts State- Subdivision for Statewide Opioid Settlement Funds to be expended in accordance with the policies set forth therein or take up any action relative thereto.

Motion: by Councilor Flaherty to approve Order 23 060

Second: by Councilor Maglio

Roll Call Vote: For (3–Flaherty, Maglio, Reynolds), Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

- **23 064 Mayor: Appointment of Carl Johnson to the Braintree Historical Commission or take up any action relative thereto**

Chairman Reynolds asked if anyone would like to speak on Order 23 064.

Carl Johnson, stated I was asked to be on the Historic Commission. I am very familiar with all the procedures in Chapter 40 that controls district commissions which is now part of the historic commission.

Councilors thanked Mr. Johnson for serving in this position and offering your time and service.

Chairman Reynolds asked if there is a Motion for Order 23 064.

Motion read by Councilor Flaherty for favorable recommendation to the full Council.

Motion: Upon the request of his honor, the Mayor, the Town of Braintree, through the Braintree Town Council, and in accordance with sections 3-3 of the Charter of the Town of Braintree to approve the appointment of Carl Johnson to the Braintree Historical Commission.

Motion: by Councilor Flaherty to approve Order 23 064

Second: by Councilor Maglio

Vote: For (3–Flaherty, Maglio, Reynolds), Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

- **23 065 Mayor: Appointment of Christopher Griffin to the Massachusetts Port Authority Community Advisory Committee or take up any action relative thereto**

Chairman Reynolds asked if anyone would like to speak on Order 23 065.

Margaret Laforest stated Chris Griffin is unable to join us this evening. He is on vacation after a very busy summer of events. This came about from the recommendation of Sandra Kunz who served since 2014. Chris also expressed interest to the Mayor.

Councilors thanked Mr. Griffin for serving in this new and different role he is willing to take on.

Chairman Reynolds also wanted to thank Sandra Kunz in her representation of our town.

Chairman Reynolds asked if there is a Motion for Order 23 065.

Motion read by Councilor Flaherty for favorable recommendation to the full Council.

Motion: Upon the request of his honor, the Mayor, the Town of Braintree, through the Braintree Town Council, and in accordance with sections 3-3 of the Charter of the Town of Braintree to approve the appointment of Christopher Griffin to the Massachusetts Port Authority Community Advisory Committee.

Motion: by Councilor Flaherty to approve Order 23 065

Second: by Councilor Maglio

Vote: For (3–Flaherty, Maglio, Reynolds), Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

- **23 066 Mayor: Appointment of Will Schreefer to the Conservation Commission or take up any action relative thereto**

Chairman Reynolds asked if anyone would like to speak on Order 23 066.

Margaret Laforest stated as you can see from Mr. Schreefer’s resume he will bring a wealth of knowledge to this position.

Councilors thanked Mr. Schreefer to be willing to do this job. You are highly qualified to do it. Councilors were impressed with his skills and talents.

Mr. Schreefer thanked members for the opportunity. Site development is something I have been doing my entire career so it’s a natural fit.

Chairman Reynolds asked if there is a Motion for Order 23 066.

Motion read by Councilor Flaherty for favorable recommendation to the full Council.

Motion: Upon the request of his honor, the Mayor, the Town of Braintree, through the Braintree Town Council, and in accordance with sections 3-3 of the Charter of the Town of Braintree to approve the appointment of Will Schreefer to the Conservation Commission.

Motion: by Councilor Flaherty to approve Order 23 066

Second: by Councilor Maglio

Vote: For (3–Flaherty, Maglio, Reynolds), Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

- **23 067 Mayor: Appointment of Dave Storlazzi to the Planning Board or take up any action relative thereto**

Chairman Reynolds asked if anyone would like to speak on Order 23 067.

Margaret Laforest stated Dave Storlazzi is unable to attend this evening. Dave is a lifelong resident of Braintree. He has owned and operated his family business in the community for over 25 years. The Planning Board is a deep commitment and probably one of the most important boards in our community. Dave has met with the Mayor and has accepted the willingness to serve.

Chairman Reynolds stated his disappointment in not receiving a resume with the appointment until this evening. Will Mr. Storlazzi be the alternate or sitting member?

Margaret Laforest stated Dave Storlazzi will be a 3 year term as a primary member it does not specify as the alternate.

Councilor Flaherty stated we have somebody who has been an alternate for 2 years who has a great deal of technical experience and in her career and is on the board listening and asking relevant questions. It is

not a good look to take someone with so little experience and have that person leapfrog a woman more experienced. I could support Mr. Storlazzi as an alternate on this board.

Councilor Maglio thanked Mr. Storlazzi for stepping up but not for this board possibly another committee in town.

Chairman Reynolds stated I sat on the Planning Board, first elected to that committee in 1993. Right now we have zoning issues in this community that some would say are chaotic. It requires a measured, deliberate kind of approach. There is an opportunity for a person to learn and I applaud Mr. Storlazzi's willingness to serve the town but I don't believe that his experiences at this point in time qualifies him to be a voting member of the planning board. As an alternate candidate I would not have an issue. I would ask the administration pull this appointment and change it to an alternate.

Chairman Reynolds stated I would like to make this vote on how the Motion currently stands and give the Mayor's office the opportunity to discuss the possible alternate position and have legal weigh in.

Margaret Laforest stated this committee can report back that no vote was taken with a request of an update from the administration tomorrow.

Councilor Flaherty wanted to add "as an alternate member" to the Motion to vote this evening.

Chairman Reynolds asked if there is a Motion for Order 23 067.

Motion read by Councilor Flaherty for favorable recommendation to the full Council.

Motion:

Upon the request of his honor, the Mayor, the Town of Braintree, through the Braintree Town Council, and in accordance with sections 3-3 of the Charter of the Town of Braintree to approve the appointment of Dave Storlazzi to the Planning Board as an alternate member.

Motion: by Councilor Flaherty to approve Order 23 067

Second: by Councilor Maglio

Vote: For (1–Flaherty), Against (2 - Maglio, Reynolds), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

- **23 068 Mayor: Acceptance of Donations or take up any action relative thereto**

Chairman Reynolds asked if anyone would like to speak on Order 23 068.

Councilor Maglio stated thankyou for all your help each week at the Farmer’s Market to Rob and Archie. Rob Millette, BEMA was in attendance and was thankful.

Chairman Reynolds asked if there is a Motion for Order 23 068.

Motion read by Councilor Flaherty for favorable recommendation to the full Council.

Motion: That the Town of Braintree be and hereby is authorized, in accordance with Section 53A of Chapter 44 of the Massachusetts General Laws to accept the following gift upon the conditions attached and herein set forth:

DONOR	GIFT	PURPOSE
Braintree Farmers Market	\$500	Braintree Emergency Management Agency

Motion: by Councilor Flaherty to approve Order 23 068

Second: by Councilor Maglio

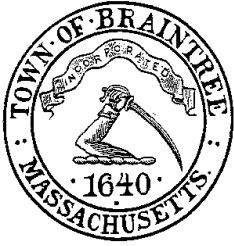
Vote: For (3–Flaherty, Maglio, Reynolds), Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

It was unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:00p.m. by Roll Call Vote.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan M. Cimino
Clerk of the Council

Documents provided for Meeting

- 23 059 Mayor: Transportation Infrastructure Enhancement Trust Fund or take up any action relative thereto (*Public Hearing 10/3*)
- 23 060 Mayor: Opioid Settlement Funds or take up any action relative thereto
- 23 064 Mayor: Appointment of Carl Johnson to the Braintree Historical Commission or take up any action relative thereto
- 23 065 Mayor: Appointment of Christopher Griffin to the Massachusetts Port Authority Community Advisory Committee or take up any action relative thereto
- 23 066 Mayor: Appointment of Will Schreefer to the Conservation Commission or take up any action relative thereto
- 23 067 Mayor: Appointment of Dave Storlazzi to the Planning Board or take up any action relative thereto
- 23 068 Mayor: Acceptance of Donations or take up any action relative thereto



Braintree Town Council
Committee of Ways & Means
One JFK Memorial Drive
Braintree, Massachusetts 02184

MEMBERS
Joseph Reynolds, Chairman
Julia Flaherty, Vice-Chairwoman
Elizabeth Maglio, Member

MINUTES
Wednesday, November 8, 2023

A meeting of the Committee of Ways & Means was held in Johnson Chambers on Wednesday, November 8, 2023 at 6:00pm.

Councilor Reynolds was in the Chair.
Clerk of the Council, Susan Cimino conducted the roll call.

Present: Joseph Reynolds, Chairman
Julia Flaherty, Vice-Chairwoman
Elizabeth Maglio, Member

Also Present: Margaret Laforest, Chief of Staff
Marybeth McGrath, Director of Licensing & Inspections

Approval of Minutes

- May 4, 2023
- May 8, 2023
- May 9, 2023
- May 10, 2023

Motion: by Councilor Flaherty to table all above minutes to the next Committee of Ways & Means meeting.

Motion: by Councilor Flaherty to table above minutes to the next Committee of Ways & Means meeting.

Second: by Councilor Maglio

Vote: For (3–Flaherty, Maglio, Reynolds), Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

Old Business

- None

New Business

- **23 069 Mayor: Acceptance of Donations or take up any action relative thereto**

Chairman Reynolds asked if anyone would like to speak on Order 23 069.

Margaret Laforest, Chief of Staff stated the Town was recently contacted by the Chinese American Association of Braintree (CAAB) to make a donation of \$2,000 of which \$1,000 each to be dedicated to the Department of Elder Affairs and Veterans Services. After hosting a successful inaugural mid-Autumn Festival on French's Common, the CAAB wanted to show their appreciation to the veterans and elders in our community.

Councilors stated this is a generous donation for two departments that are in need.

Chairman Reynolds asked if there is a Motion for Order 23 069.

Motion read by Councilor Flaherty for favorable recommendation to the full Council.

Motion: That the Town of Braintree be and hereby is authorized, in accordance with Section 53A of Chapter 44 of the Massachusetts General Laws to accept the following gift upon the conditions attached and herein set forth:

<u>DONOR</u>	<u>GIFT</u>	<u>PURPOSE</u>
Chinese American Association of Braintree	\$1,000	Department of Elder Affairs
Chinese American Association of Braintree	\$1,000	Veterans Services

Motion: by Councilor Flaherty to approve Order 23 069

Second: by Councilor Maglio

Vote: For (3–Flaherty, Maglio, Reynolds), Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

- **23 071 Mayor: Inter-Municipal Agreement for the Public Health Excellence Grant for Shared Services or take up any action relative thereto**

Chairman Reynolds asked if anyone would like to speak on Order 23 071.

Director McGrath stated this has been a long process getting to this point. This an Inter-Municipal Agreement for the Public Health Excellence Grant for Shared Services. This is a community partnership with 5 communities: Randolph, Braintree, Quincy, Weymouth, Holbrook. Randolph will be the host agency that will oversee the grant. The PHE goal is to have more comprehensive shared services, well-trained staff, and robust data collection. To that end, all five towns are recipients of a Public Health Excellence Grant. It is in the amount of \$270,000 per year for three years, with two more three-year cycles, a total of \$2,430,000. The general concept is that Randolph will hire a Shared Services Coordinator, Food Inspector, Housing Inspector, and Epidemiologist. While the Shared Services Coordinator (SSC) will

be based in the Randolph Public Health Department, they will primarily remain in the office to provide administrative service to each member municipality, respond to grant-related phone calls and emails, coordinate group meetings, meet with representatives of the governments of our towns and fulfill the MDPH reporting requirements. The SSC will equitably dispatch the Health Officers to perform inspections across the shared services territory.

Councilors stated these are things that can be quite beneficial to Braintree.

Director McGrath stated it looks like it will be coordinated by Randolph and we felt it better to have the person in the position for a month at a time.

Chairman Reynolds stated are the next steps the details to be worked out?

Chief of Staff Laforest stated this will be done at the staff level.

Director McGrath stated all towns follow the same state regulations.

Chairman Reynolds asked if there is a Motion for Order 23 071.

Motion read by Councilor Flaherty for favorable recommendation to the full Council.

Motion: Authorizing Mayor Charles C. Kokoros to execute an Intermunicipal Agreement for Public Health Excellence Grant for Shared Services.

Motion: by Councilor Flaherty to approve Order 23 071

Second: by Councilor Maglio

Vote: For (3–Flaherty, Maglio, Reynolds), Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

It was unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 6:46p.m. by Roll Call Vote.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan M. Cimino
Clerk of the Council

Documents provided for Meeting

- 23 069 Mayor: Acceptance of Donations or take up any action relative thereto
- 23 071 Mayor: Inter-Municipal Agreement for the Public Health Excellence Grant for Shared Services or take up any action relative thereto