

MAYOR
JEFFREY A. MACMILLEN

DEPUTY MAYOR
THOMAS ZAMPANO

TOWN MANAGER
MICHAEL P. DOWNES



COUNCIL MEMBERS
BRUCE ABELSON
ROSE MARIE ANGELONI
MARIE E. DIAMOND
WALTER GOAD
VINCENT J. MASE, SR.
NICHOLAS PALLADINO
RONALD PELLICCIA, JR.

TOWN OF NORTH BRANFORD

TOWN HALL, 909 FOXON ROAD, NORTH BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT 06471
TOWN MANAGER (203) 484-6000 TOWN HALL FAX (203) 484-6025

AGENDA SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, July 18, 2023

**Town Council Chambers
7:00 p.m.**

Mayor Macmillen called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Salute to the Flag

1. Roll Call

Present: Mayor Macmillen, Deputy Mayor Zampano, Councilor Abelson, Councilor Angeloni, Councilor Diamond, Councilor Mase and Councilor Pelliccia.

Also Present: Town Manager Downes, Assistant Town Manager Burke, Town Treasurer/ Finance Director Esposito, Public Works Director Merola, Town Attorney LeClerc, Don Cappelli from Totoket Land Holdings, Inc., Town Engineer Benni via zoom, Deputy Police Chief Lovelace, Michelle Knockwood, Hank Petroskey, Bill Savastano, Helen Glassen, and Matt Canelli.

2. Community Events and Presentations:

a. Presentation of retiree plaques

Mayor Macmillen shared there are folks who have been part of the town for a long time and wanted to recognize the milestone of retirement. He thanked those who have chosen to serve our town with such longevity. The following individuals were honored:

Helen Glassen- Atwater Librarian-service dates: Feb.1, 1998- Feb. 2, 2018 (30 years)

Diane Ramsey- Dispatcher-service dates: Oct.20, 1992-Feb. 2, 2020 (28 years)

Matt Canelli- Chief of Police -service dates: Sept. 30, 1970- June 30, 2018 (48 years)

Michelle Knockwood- Purchasing Assistant- service dates: March 20, 2006- Aug. 5, 2022 (16 years)

Debbie Verrillo- Edward Smith Librarian- service dates: Aug. 29, 1988- Dec. 3 2022 (34 years)

Ron Ferrucci- Police Officer- service dates: Aug. 29,2001-Dec. 16, 2021 (20 years)

Kurt Weiss- Town Engineer- service dates: May 6, 1987- June 30, 2021 (34 years)

Bob Hull- Library Director- service dates: Sept. 1,1976- Sept. 1, 2017 (41 years)

Bob Grimm- Public Works- service dates: Nov. 28, 1988- Jan. 4, 2019 (31 years)

Barbara Fucci- Tax Collector- service dates: Sept. 7, 1990- April 5, 2019 (29 years)

Cort Sperry- Police Lieutenant- service dates: July 5, 1994- June 27, 2020 (26 years)

Dave Madoule- Police Officer- service dates: July 28, 1995- Oct. 3, 2020 (25 years)

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting:

a. June 20, 2023 –Town Council Meeting

Motion: To approve the June 20, 2023 Town Council Meeting Minutes.

MOVED: Councilor Angeloni

SECOND: Deputy Mayor Zampano

Discussion: Councilor Angeloni shared the following corrections: Under section 4 e. Committee reports Planning and Zoning it says Councilor Angeloni and should read Deputy Mayor Zampano; f. Finance Committee- language to be changed for safety commission this verbiage was from Councilor Diamond. under 8 a. The motion that was mentioned was to amend the agenda and not part of the for-discussion creation of 1831 and was listed twice, so that first part should be eliminated; 9b. on page 6 Mayor Macmillis and should say Mayor Macmillen; 8 c. page 7 top of the page it says their designer- should read designee.

With all in favor, motion is passed.

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY AGENDA

4. Correspondence/Citizens' Statements and Petitions:

5. Unfinished Business:

a. Discussion and action: 224 Foxon Road (Map 22, Lot 1) – Request to Connect Mobile Homes & Recreational Vehicle Park Sites and Laundry Facility to Sanitary Sewers in Totoket Road

Town Engineer Benni shared at the regularly scheduled meeting on June 6, 2023, the North Branford WPCA requested clarification as to the remaining capacity available to the Town's sanitary sewer system discharging to the Greater New Haven WPCA. He reached out to the GNHWPCA via email on June 12, 2023, regarding this. On June 13, 202 the GNHWPCA provided a response sharing the consensus that there is available capacity built into the Town's Agreement with the GNHWPCA for the proposed connections. The North Branford Engineering Department is requesting that the Special Connection fee be paid to the Town at a per unit basis, prior to issuance of a sewer connection permit for each of the individual units, in accordance with the Town of North Branford Regulations for Layout and Assessment of Sanitary Sewers. The per unit payment plan will simplify the tracking process for the Engineering Department and avoid discrepancies between the differing rates for the RV and Mobile Home units.

Councilor Angeloni had a question for Don Cappelli, Totoket Land Holdings. This is a phase in over a number of years. Don would like to pay at the time of permit issuance over a course of 5 years.

Motion: WHEREAS, the current owner(s) of property known as 224 Foxon Road, (Map 22, Lot 1), proposes to connect thirty (30) designated transient recreational vehicle parking spaces, thirty-two (32) age restricted mobile home units, and a laundry building to be located on said property, to municipal sanitary sewers as shown on plans titled, "Properties Located at 240 & 244 Foxon Road,

North Branford, Connecticut, prepared for Don Cappelli, Jr., Drawing Title: Proposed Water & Sewer Plan, Drawing No.: 1 of 2, and Drawing Title: Site Details, Drawing No.: 2 of 2, Date: 5/25/2023", as prepared by Criscuolo Engineering, LLC; and

WHEREAS the proposed sanitary sewer connection will benefit the property by allowing the thirty (30) designated transient recreational vehicle parking spaces, thirty-two (32) age restricted mobile home units, and laundry building to be served by municipal sanitary sewers;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the North Branford Water Pollution Control Authority approves the proposal to connect said thirty (30) designated transient recreational vehicle parking spaces, thirty-two (32) age restricted mobile home units, and laundry building to municipal sanitary sewers subject to the following conditions:

1. That the installation be in accordance with the Rules and Regulations Governing the Installation of Sanitary Sewers in Developments and in conformance with the Town of North Branford Sanitary Sewer Details; and

2. The North Branford Water Pollution Control Authority shall require the developer to pay a total Special Connection Fee in the amount of \$201,000.00, computed at a rate of 1/3 unit for each of the thirty (30) designated transient recreational vehicle parking spaces; \$4,000 per age restricted residential unit for the first five (5) units, and \$2,000 per unit for each additional unit in excess of five (5) units for each of the thirty-two (32) age restricted mobile home units; and \$4,000 per non-residential unit for the laundry building. The Special Connection Fee will be paid to the Town at a per unit basis, prior to issuance of a sewer connection permit for each of the individual units, in accordance with the

Town of North Branford Regulations for Layout and Assessment of Sanitary Sewers; and

3. The owner / applicant shall also provide final calculations of the pump station and force main design details and sanitary sewer system details (including the sewer connection for each site) to the Town Engineer for his review and approval prior to issuance of a sewer connection permit; and

4. That the owner shall provide an as-built drawing of the sanitary sewer connection of the thirty (30) designated transient recreational vehicle parking spaces, thirty-two (32) age restricted mobile home units, and a laundry building upon completion; and

5. That connection of any other facilities located on said property will be prohibited unless expressly approved by subsequent action of the North Branford WPCA; and

6. That the owner(s) enter into an agreement with the Town authorizing the connection of the proposed thirty (30) designated transient recreational vehicle parking spaces, thirty-two (32) age restricted mobile home units, and a laundry building to the 3-inch sanitary sewer force main in Totoket Road in general conformance with the above referenced conditions, and that the Town Manager be hereby authorized to enter into said agreement on behalf of the Water Pollution Control Authority subject to approval of the agreement by the Town Attorney. Said agreement shall be executed by both parties and filed with the Town Clerk prior to commencing any work on this project.

MOVED: Councilor Angeloni

SECOND: Deputy Mayor Zampano

Discussion: None

With all in favor, the motion is passed.

6. **New Business: None**

REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

7. Reports of Committees, Boards and Commissions:**a. Economic Development Commission**

Councillor Palladino stated there was a meeting 7-10-23 and could present an update at the next meeting.

b. Park & Recreation

Councilor Angeloni shared there is a meeting next week. The POCO fest is in two and a half weeks away and is in the final stages and finalizing things. It wouldn't be a meeting if she did not ask for volunteers. It is a 3-day event, and a lot of new and exciting things are happening this year. Some of the highlights are the Beer & Wine Garden which will be set up next to the stage. There will also be ax throwing, and helicopter rides and will be in the youth football field. The helicopter rides will go over Lake Galliard, Totoket Mountain, Downtown New Haven, Thimble Islands and then back to the field. Councilor Mase had asked if the helicopters were small foldable helicopters that can go on a truck. Councilor Angeloni also shared the kids' section has been expanded, and piglet racing. There will be two entrances by the Augur House for pickups and drop offs. The Car Show has been moved to Sunday morning and Floyd's 5k race was moved to Saturday morning. The new road by Public Works will not be open for vehicles.

c. Police Commission

Councilor Diamond stated there was no meeting.

d. Fire Commission

Councilor Pelliccia stated there was no meeting.

e. Planning & Zoning Commission

Deputy Mayor Zampano shared that the Planning & Zoning Commission met on Thursday 7/13/23. There is a new vet opening in North Branford on Rt 139 where Marcus Law firm used to be. Tilcon renewed their special permit to store strip soil from their blasting areas, behind Grant Dr. It's not a commercial or industrial zone so they have to continue renewing their permit. they cleaned up their by-laws due to misspellings. There was also talk about a multifamily housing project.

f. Finance Subcommittee

Councilor Angeloni shared there was a special meeting last week in regard to discussing security issues for the new PD and no bid consideration for one of the vendors. This will be discussed in further detail during the executive session.

g. Public Safety Communications Sub-Committee

Councilor Diamond shared that there was a meeting on June 28th, Ray Rigati the rep for homeland security said there is still an issue with getting a permit for M + T Bank. Attorney Leclerc did confirm that the ball is in their court. Also, there is an issue in obtaining an 800-amp circuit breaker which is needed for the tower until mid-September. The plan in the interim is to install two 400-amp circuit breakers temporarily. This is for the one in Northford Village Tower. Additional information from the town is needed for a notice to proceed, COI, an amount analysis and commercial lease agreement. Paul Zito is working with Town. Tilcon tower is waiting for notice to proceed and COI but agreed to dig trenches for the NB radio cabinet. Motorola will be installing all the car radios in the fire apparatus by the end of Sept. Deputy Police Chief Lovelace stated that it needs to have 2 of the 400 amps or the tower will be off service. It needs to be 800 amps to run. Town Manager Downes said that Homeland Towers has stated the need for many things from the town, but the town has not received.

h. CIWWA

Councilor Diamond shared there was a meeting on June 28th. The commission approved an application for construction on Forrest Rd. for a freestanding standing and new parking within 200 ft of Farm River. They have conditions with it but did approve it.

8. Town Manager's Report:

a. General Updates

Town Manager Downes wanted to share a quick update. In regards to the Northford and Tilcon Tower, there's delays as you know getting off the ground there too so we've got an agreement going with goose town which is the provider for the public safety radios to continue at the same price we've been paying there for the four months.

POCO Festival the Parks & Rec team and POCO coordinators have been hard at work putting together a first-rate event. If you would like to volunteer, please see Councilor Angeloni.

Public Works commenced with their Phase 1 Paving program which is a cold in place recycling pavement process to see a road lower Beech Road partial upper Beech Road, partial Sea Hill Road and Greystone. Phase 2 will be in the coming weeks with a coat of asphalt and curbing should be followed up with back-filling curbing, planting grass and replacing signage as needed.

After some rough starts our Munis payroll functionality is up and running and wanted to publicly acknowledge the Finance Department Terri Nuzzo, and Anita Mancini and Anthony Esposito's crew who put in many hours to get this up and running.

On July 8th and 9th, the North Branford Pickleball tournament was held at our new pickleball facility at Stanley T Williams. The event had over 200 registrants, including nationally rated competitors and the event was held as a fundraiser to support additional amenities at Northford's excellent new facility. Pickleball tournament director Toby Neubig presented a \$10,000 check from tournament Councilor Angeloni mentioning this was also a doubles tournament and there will be a singles tournament to come in September.

Councilor Abelson asked if this attracts people from all over Connecticut. Are we the only ones in the area who have it? Councilor Angeloni responded that we have the most pickleball courts in the area and they are all lit.

The Town of North Branford and Economic Development Commission are partnering with the Shoreline Chamber of Commerce for a business under the Big Tent Reimagined Event the Business-to-Business Community engagement event will take place Thursday, August 3rd from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Guilford Savings Bank on Middletown Avenue in Northford. Featured speakers will include Rob Holding, Deputy Commissioner of Connecticut DECD, and Charlie Rosabianca from Rosabianca Vineyards. On Wednesday July 12th from 10 to 12:00 pm, our staff and the Tax Collector in Tax Assessor's office paid a visit to Stanley T. Williams to assist seniors in paying their taxes and to answer any questions they had and made them aware of more programs available in town for senior residents. The Hazardous Waste and Recycling Committee conducted a successful electronics collection on July 8th collecting a large quantity of unwanted TVs, media devices, monitors, printers Etc., at the Public Works facility. Thanks to the committee, its volunteers and the Public Works support team for their assistance in making this a successful event.

On July 5th kids attending North Branford Parks & Rec camp had a visit Corporal Pacelli and Corporal Kasenza and their partner Chance came to do demonstrations inside and SWAT equipment.

Congrats to Lisa Valenti, Town Clerk on her successful application for a \$6,000 State Historical grant from the Connecticut State Library for indexing and scanning historical land records. The current online database goes back to Sept. 1, 1977. The goal is to continue adding land records from 1977 backwards and complete as many volumes as the 240 hours from the \$6,000 grant will allow. The project will also redact social security numbers from viewable documents online.

We also completed our ratings call with SP Global, and also our bond sales. Finance Director/ Town Treasurer Esposito will provide a quick update. The last two pages of the document are the results of the bond and notes sale. We are subject to the market and the rates were significantly different then we had in prior years. The first few pages are the S&P rating, and they affirmed our rating of AA+ which is a positive. Our outlook remains stable which is also a positive. You may recall a few years back when the state was having financial woes, most of the towns had a negative outlook assigned to them. The report highlights some key factors including, grand list growth, conservative management, steady financial profile, and manageable debt and pension are all pretty favorable. The last two pages, a little bit of anomaly this year, if you look at the fact that we have an inverted yield curve and the \$24,805,000 of one year bond anticipation vote, we got to rate the lowest rate was 3.53 and change you go to the page immediately after that the 20-year bonds the lowest rate is 3.39. So typically, the short-term rate historically when the yield curve is functioning normally the short-term rates are lower than the long-term rates is more uncertain the farther you go out in this period. We're in economic times now. We have an inverted yield curve and so the short-term rates the one-year rate is actually higher than the 20 year rating. This is just a function of the market we obviously have no control over that but the things we have control over the ratings and such and the financial management got a pain report card from the focus S & P again this process starts out with the official statement that we go through and update with the help of our financial advisor talks about the financial strengths and weaknesses of the Town, it shows some trending, talks about demographics, talks about the budget plus about the management things like that. Then that gets put out to all the bidders and based on what they see they like, or I don't like they submit their bids on the financial strength of the town. So, it was favorable again 14 bids came in for the bonds which is the greatest number that both are financial advisor and bond Council had seen in recent sales which talks about the desirability of our paper the town's paper on the market and more people that did on it. It's a good sign.

b. Permanent Project Building Committee

For Stanley T. Williams Community Center, the roof has been completed in a walk-through conducted on July 6th. Punch list items are being reviewed and completed.

For the Police Department & EOC, site work is continuing there, the water tank has been installed and the slab poured steel is expected the week of July 24th.

For North Branford High School, the punch list work is continuing. There is a summer punch list of items needed to be completed before school opens. It's been established that the standing portion of the old school has been taken down and the demolition associated with Phase 2 is in process.

For North Branford Intermediate School, the contract was awarded to Barrett incorporated as you know they are now on site. The exterior is being pressure washed and the sign is going to be removed before school starts and stored at the New Haven sign store for the future.

9. Citizens' Statements and Petitions and Correspondence:

Mr. Potter, Northford wanted to thank the council as his tax bill was affordable and thankful for the town and council running a tight ship. He also wanted to share his concern about the council looking at spending money on the dog pound. He went on the CT insider and is distressed to find out that Dan Cosgrove is overwhelmed with abandoned pets. They've outgrown the new addition and why would we get involved with an overactive group that is already overgrown. East Haven was more stable, and we need to look into where they are going and why they have outgrown the new facility that the town has helped pay for. The addition is now overwhelmed by abandoned pets, and more expenses. they never listened and there was no representation for us.

Mr. Potter read a letter that was submitted to Parks & Recreation on Dec. 22, 2022 The step down from all commitments we were involved with at the potato Fest we were both part of the beginning events. It's our turn now to get part of our summer back we are both in our 70s and I'm leaning more towards the high 70s and we need more of August to ourselves because our grandchildren is wrong I will still do three tractor pulls which will leave me into my last statement Christmas hayrides and Town Hall decorations this is not any easy decision I made but it's a non-reversible right decision and the reason. Tractor pulls he is still going to do. Full size tractor is to represent the farm tractors, to promote farming in town.

10. Resignations and Appointments:

a. Appointment of Kathleen Daly as Town Council Clerk (expires 11/14/2023)

Motion: That the North Branford Town Council hereby accepts and appoints Kathleen Daly as Clerk of the North Branford Town Council filling the vacancy of Michele Pollock, for a term to expire November 14, 2023.

MOVED: Councilor Angeloni

SECOND: Councilor Diamond

Discussion: None

With all in favor, the motion is passed.

b. Appointment of Elizabeth Siena to the Pension Committee (expires 12/01/2023)

Motion: That The North Branford Town Council hereby appoints Elisabeth Siena as the Board of Education's representative on the Pension Committee, replacing Zac Canada effective this date July 18, 2023 to a term expiring on December 1, 2023.

MOVED: Councilor Angeloni

SECOND: Councilor Abelson

Discussion: None

With all in favor, the motion is passed.

c. Appointment of Victoria Lanza as Alternate to the Pension Committee (expires 12/1/2023)

Motion: That the North Branford Town Council hereby appoints Victoria Lanza as the Board of Education's alternate on the Pension Committee, replacing Elisabeth Siena effective this date July 18, 2023, to a term expiring December 1, 2023.

MOVED: Councilor Diamond

SECOND: Councilor Angeloni**Discussion: None****With all in favor, the motion is passed.****d. Appointments to the Blueprint Committee****Motion:** To appoint members to the Blueprint Committee that the Town Commissions have decided on: Steve Torino from Parks & Recreation, Dan Armin from the Economic Development Committee, and Robert Noak from Planning & Zoning.**MOVED: Councilor Pelliccia****SECOND: Councilor Palladino****With all in favor, motion is passed.****11. Unfinished Business: Discussion and Action:****a. Creation of an 1831 Committee**

Mayor Macmillen shared that work to begin building the committee will begin this fall.

b. Intermunicipal Animal Control Agreement

Mayor Macmillen said we have had conversations amongst the councilors who heard both East Haven and Branford's Dan Cosgrove. There was a comparison of the two services. Questions amongst the differentiation. We could choose to take action tonight or take a few weeks and make a decision in the August 1st meeting.

Councilor Diamond would like more time to review and make an informed decision.

Councilor Goad feels it should be voted on tonight.

Councilor Mase said the site visits were nice and the problem is the price. One wants \$157,000 and the other \$135,000. More money for a more updated facility, or less for a less updated facility. Mayor Macmillen visited both facilities and worked on this project and process for about 2 years and was not happy with the initial contract that was in place. the desire to pay for upgrades and updates and capital improvements but no ownership. Regardless of the direction the town chooses there is still a savings to the town. Leaning towards East Haven but then visiting Branford did see there were more services that were provided to our town. There were different types of calls that came into North Branford.

Deputy Mayor Zampano said his take on this is that he can't justify spending more tax dollars from the town that can provide it to us. Last year the town paid \$157,608 annually.

Councilor Mase said even though there were specified times for the Town Council to visit each facility, he went on his own in the middle of the day and was impressed with Branford. Well-staffed and gave a great tour of the facility and there were a lot of people working. Went to East Haven and the doors were locked, he hung around and no one showed up. That was very impressionable to him. The location, staffing and real estate. He would prefer going with Branford as it's a nicer facility and more of a community relationship with North Branford.

Councilor Diamond stated Branford does a lot for our farmers and a lot of senior citizens who volunteer in Branford and kids' opportunities and all the services they offer. We should also realize that people like what happens in Branford. The East Haven facility was worried about their capability to work with farm animals. There is a difference in cost, but you have to look at all the pieces.

Councilor Pelliccia stated that when he visited both facilities, he took the capacity of the facilities into consideration and East Haven doesn't seem to have the capacity to support North Branford. There is also a community connection with North Branford.

Councilor Angeloni stated she agreed with Councilor Goad, Councilor Palladino, and Deputy Mayor Zampano. There is a problem with how Branford was charging and how much. The number is \$175,000 and that's what we passed in the budget as we hadn't decided at the time. Then suddenly Branford said they would hold their price and changed so we didn't have to pay for the building. We had tried to negotiate with them and when East Haven was interested they changed their tune. Service wise we are paying for a service. The buildings are very different. Does it give us anything more than what was asked? No. She does not like the financial aspect of it.

Councilor Abelson did the same as Mase and went on his own at both facilities. East Haven was the first stop and they were open and he spoke with the person there. She was doing an adoption of a cat and let him tour the facility, it is an older facility. He asked the person there if they could take care of farm animals. The person responded saying yes they can. He did not feel they were equipped to take care of farm animals but could handle it. Next was on to Branford. The staff gave a complete tour and there was a goat there. He agrees with Councilor Pelliccia that there needs to be more accountability with Branford if we choose them, as it got out of hand. Branford has been with us for a very long time and many people do volunteer work with them. The new facility is awesome and I don't want to pay for the upgrades. He has concerns that if we choose them, they will request something from us.

Councilor Palladino stated he agrees with the Deputy Mayor with the service contract and we can do it for less, with that being said when he had asked for the numbers for Branford for calls of service and they provided the last 6 months. The numbers don't match up. As a police officer they get logged with dispatch, every call even when the ACO does not take possession of the animal. There should be a case number. Maybe East Haven doesn't have the nicest facility, but he knows how they operate. He has ties to that ACO and works there part time. Branford has a beautiful facility.

Councilor Goad stated that both facilities can do the same job. Branford has a bigger facility, and he is unhappy with them because they wanted us to pay for their building but didn't change their tune until East Haven came to the table. When Branford came in and presented, they had a log showing all of their calls and the facts don't match up with the numbers. There are many people in town that still volunteer in Branford. He feels East Haven needs a chance.

Motion: That the North Branford Town Council hereby authorizes Town Manager Michael P. Downes to enter into agreement for Animal Control Services with the Town of East Haven under the terms outlined in their draft agreement in such form as acceptable to the Town Attorney.

MOVED: Councilor Angeloni

SECOND: Councilor Abelson

Discussion: Councilor Mase wanted to speak against the motion. He feels Branford would cost more money; he understands issues from years ago. We should take into account the present and if previous Town Council members allowed Branford to get away with it then that's on them. Branford is a better facility and more well-staffed and its closer proximity. Mayor Macmillen said they are both fantastic facilities and we will be saving money with either facility. Deputy Mayor Zampano, for years we were trying to negotiate with Branford and today it is to look towards the future.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilor Mase- No.

Councilor Goad- Yes

Councilor Abelson: Yes

Councilor Palladino- Yes

Councilor Angeloni- Yes

Councilor Diamond- No

Councilor Pelliccia- No

Deputy Mayor Zampano- Yes

Mayor Macmillen- No

The Motion is passed.

12. New Business: Discussion and Action:

a. Communications License Agreement with Homeland Towers, LLC

Town Manager Downes shared the Tower Agreement for the Northford Tower. It has been reviewed by our Town Attorney available and has also been reviewed by our real consultants as well. Councilor Diamond said we know it's our responsibility to have generators, but Homeland has been telling us all along that we will be able to hook onto their Verizon generator when they come in and if we sign this contract I hope they will still work with us. We should not have to purchase a generator as they had told us from the beginning that we would be able to hook on to the tower with our Verizon generator when it comes in. Councilor Abelson for every provider, each provider has to provide their own generator. Councilor Goad and Councilor Pelliccia both said it may not be easy to come by as it would have to come from Verizon, it would need to be in writing from Verizon. Finance Director/ Town Treasurer Esposito said we have agreements with the holders to share their generators. Deputy Police Chief Lovelace said it is actually common practice when there are emergency responders on the towers. Councilor Pelliccia asked if this agreement should be read that way then?

Attorney Leclerc shared that he received a generator use agreement allowing the town to use their generator for North Branford and North Branford 2 sites; it has been reviewed by the attorney and approved by him.

Motion: To authorize Town Manager Michael P. Downes to execute the communications license agreement between the Town of North Branford and Homeland Towers, LLC.

MOVED: Councilor Diamond

SECOND: Deputy Mayor Zampano

Discussion: Councilor Abelson asked if this is holding them up for getting a license from the town. Town Manager Downes said this is not part of the delay.

With all in favor, the motion is passed.

b. Set Public Hearing for Tuesday, August 1, 2023 at 7:30 PM Regarding Designating the Town of North Branford as a Rehabilitation Area and Establishing Criteria for

the Eligibility of Real Property for Assessment Deferral and Administrative Procedures

Assistant Town Manager Rory Burke shared it recently came to our attention that the Town's assessment deferral program contained an automatic sunset provision. The enabling statute, 512-65d, requires a resolution be adopted to authorize the program. However, before the resolution is passed, the statute requires a public hearing be held. Subsequently, the Planning & Zoning Commissions must conduct a 58-24 referral.

Accordingly, tonight we ask you to set that public hearing at your August 1st meeting in anticipation of potentially acting upon a resolution at your September 5th meeting once Planning & Zoning has conducted a 58-24 analysis.

Motion: That the Town Council set a public hearing for Tuesday, August 1st at 7:30 PM regarding designating the Town of North Branford as a rehabilitation area and establishing criteria for the eligibility of real property for assessment deferral and administrative procedures.

MOVED: Councilor Angeloni

SECOND: Councilor Palladino

Discussion: None

With all in favor, motion is passed.

c. Proposed Signage for North Branford Police Department/Emergency Operations Center Project

Town Manager Downes shared that at their regularly scheduled meeting on July 10, 2023, the Permanent Project Building Committee voted to recommend to you for your approval the attached sign design to be placed at the Police Department/EOC construction site. The sign will be a standard 4'x8".

Deputy Mayor Zampano asked about the significance of having the sign. Councilor Angeloni said that because it has State and Federal grant money, it has to have a sign. Deputy Mayor Zampano responds saying that the Thank You Taxpayers is only a portion of the project. It's the Police Department/ EOC project, so are we just putting a sign up to recognize the emergency part of it or is it to recognize the whole project? Councilor Angeloni said this sign is for the whole project. The Deputy Mayor Zampano questioned if more people needed to be recognized on the sign. Councilor Angeloni said this is a sign that goes outside during the construction phase. This is similar to when we were working on the roof for STWCC, and NBHS. Mayor Macmillen said typically the town council members should also be listed on it. Town Manager Downes said they are usually pretty bland and this enhances it with a rendering and it was drafted by representative Candelora's office.

Motion: That the proposed sign design as depicted for the North Branford Police Department and EOC project be adopted.

MOVED: Councilor Angeloni

SECOND: Councilor Diamond

Discussion: None

With all in favor, motion is passed.

d. Requests from the Hazardous Waste and Recycling Committee

Town Manager Downes shared some information on the requests. The Hazardous Waste and Recycling Committee has voted to send the following requests to the Town Council for their consideration of funding through the nip fund allocated by the state:

1. A part-time trash picker for municipal properties with the aim of clearing roadsides and public areas that accumulate litter. Main roads accumulate clutter, and it is difficult for our lawn cutting crews to manage it. Awaiting State crews generally tends to be futile. DPW has estimated one person hired in this capacity part-time at 19 hours a week for 36 weeks per year from March 15th-November 15th at 17.00 per hour would cost \$11,628 annually.

2. 2 A-frame signs that have changeable letters for them get information shared across the town-an expected \$400 cost.

3. \$600 per year to the Totoket Times for ads for recycling. Currently the Totoket Times does not charge for ads. They want to send this money to the Totoket Times as support for its operation. The NIP fund for North Branford currently has \$23,000 available in it. Guidelines for expenditures of this fund are found in Public Act 21-58. A summary of this Act is in support of this memorandum for your review, as is a listing from Amazon provided by SHWRC indicating the type of A-frame signs they wish to obtain. I would also note that the Committee desires to find a solution on mattresses placed roadside. They had suggested that Public Works have someone collect them on overtime, but this is a costly proposition. It has been alternatively suggested that the individual hired as trash picker could additionally collect the mattresses.

Mr. Bill Savastano shared that in October 2021, the legislature approved a nickel to be added to every liquor nip and have the money come back to the state. The SHWRC got together to decide what to do with the money they are allowed to spend. They have created a list and voted on the top 4 items.

Councilor Pelliccia questioned the travel reimbursement and how it would fall in with the policy for use of the Nip funds. Mr. Bill Savastano responded that he and Hank are the ones who are collecting the plastic recycling film. They have been keeping a spreadsheet of their mileage, and the average is between 50-70 miles per week. Councilor Pelliccia asked for the Town Attorney to provide clarification before the council makes a decision.

The Town Attorney said he could review it and action can come at the August meeting.

Mr. Savastano continues with the last item requested, this is in reference to mattresses that came during the bulky waste lines up with E- Waste in the Fall and Spring. When the bulky Waste was the week after the E-Waste events there were still 4 dozen mattresses laying around town. The idea would be to use a Public Works employee to go and pick those up. It would only be on those two weekends.

Councilor Abelson asked Mr. Bill Savastano to clarify that mileage 50-70 miles per week totaling 100 miles weekly for both Mr. Bill Savastano and Mr. Hank Petroskey.

Town Attorney read the town statues: All payment received by any municipality pursuant to this section shall be expended by such municipality on environmental measures intended to reduce the generation of solid waste in such municipality or reduce the impact of litter caused by such solid waste, including but not limited to: The hiring of a recycling coordinator, the installation of storm drain filters, the purchase mechanical street sweeper, vacuum or broom. So as long as the expenditure is part of an environmental measure that is intended to reduce solid waste. As long as the mileage is for one of those two measures.

Deputy Mayor Zampano stated there should be a very specific log of the locations and mileage to and from each location, etc. Mayor Macmillen shared that there is a program that can be used online to track mileage. Mayor Macmillen requested that Bill and Hank return to the August

meeting with their monthly mileage on a report using the current rate of .65 per mile. to standardize it. Councilor Pelliccia asked that they also include documentation of their routes. Michelle Knockwood stated that part of her job was when there were trash issues, going out during the day to investigate. Having a part time person would cut down on time away from the office when things are being put curbside, taking photos, and Gina would send letters to homeowners. Councilor Goad asked, if there is any liability to the town with Bill doing part of that already? Michelle Knockwood responded that volunteers are not included under the town’s policy.

e. Award of RFP# 923002 – Ambulance – Nbfd – Company 4- Tabled

f. 2023-24 Lease Purchase Agreement

Treasurer/ Finance Director Esposito shared that during 2023-24, the Board of Education will acquire new technology that will be funded via a lease purchase agreement. The agreement will encompass four (4) equal annual payments of \$70,000. In addition, our Public Works Department is acquiring a new Mack dump truck through a 3-year lease purchase with an estimated value of \$300,000. Lastly, the Fire Department is acquiring a new ambulance at a total cost of \$300,000. I provided that information to various lenders and have received the proposals that I have summarized below.

Item A. BOE Technology — 4-year lease

Financial Institutions	Interest Rate	Buying Power
Fleetwood Finance	7.990%	\$250 429.34
First American RBC	5.974%	\$257,000.00
Municipal Leasing Consultants	5.470%	\$258 960.88
TD Equipment Finance Inc.	4.720%	\$261,631.94

Item B. Public Works — Mack Truck — 3-year lease

Financial Institutions	Interest Rates
Fleetwood Finance	7.990%
First American RBC	6.484%
Municipal Leasing Consultants	4.690%
TD Equipment Finance Inc.	4.910%

Item C. Ambulance — 4-year lease

Financial Institutions	Interest Rate
Fleetwood Finance	7.990%
First American RBC	5.974%
Municipal Leasing Consultants	4.630%

TD Equipment Finance Inc.	4.720%
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This year one respondent wasn't the "winner" in all aspects of the package. MLC came in with better rates for Items B & C, which would have resulted in \$1,036.99 lower total payments. However, the TD proposal illustrated an additional \$2,671.06 of technology buying power, so when netted out, the TD proposal was better for the Town by \$1,634.07.

WHEREAS the governing body of Lessee has determined that a true and very real need exists for the acquisition of the Equipment described in the Lease Purchase Agreement (to be completed once final numbers/configuration is known) and

WHEREAS, the governing body of Lessee has taken the necessary steps, including any legal bidding requirements, under applicable law to arrange for the acquisition of such Equipment.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the North Branford Town Council that the terms of said Lease Purchase Agreement are in the best interests of Lessee for the acquisition of such Equipment, and the governing body of Lessee designates and confines the following persons to execute and deliver, and to witness (or attest), respectively, the Lease Purchase Agreement and any related documents necessary to the consummation of the transactions contemplated by the Lease Purchase Agreement with TD Equipment Finance Inc. to acquire approximately \$261,631.94 of technology for the Board of Education; based on a 4-year advance funding interest rate of 4.720% per annum; and a Mack truck valued at \$300,000, with 3 annual payments of \$ 104,829.70, based on a 3-year advance finding rate of 4.910%; and an ambulance valued at \$300,000 with 4 annual payments of \$80,265.43, based on a 4-year advance funding rate of 4.720%, subject to the review and approval by the Town Attorney's office.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the North Branford Town Council authorizes Michael P. Downes, Town Manager and Anthony P. Esposito Jr., CPFO, Treasurer/Finance Director to sign the necessary paperwork to enter into a Lease Purchase with TD Equipment Finance Inc. to acquire approximately \$261,631.94 of technology for the Board of Education; based on a 4-year advance funding interest rate of 4.720% per annum; and a Mack truck valued at \$300,000, with 3 annual payments of \$ 104,829.70, based on a 3-year advance funding rate of 4.910%; and an ambulance valued at \$300,000, with 4 annual payments of \$80,265.43 - subject to the review and approval by the Town Attorney's office.

MOVED: Councilor Angeloni

SECOND: Councilor Diamond

Discussion: Councilor Angeloni asked that once the lease agreement for the Ambulance is complete will the town then own the vehicle? Town Treasurer/Finance Director Esposito responded that yes once the lease agreement is completed the town will own the vehicle outright.

With all in favor, the motion is passed.

g. Appropriation Transfers

Town Treasurer/ Finance Director Esposito shared the first pass at the year-end transfers as we finalize the years numbers.

There are significant ones on the bottom with the light winter Mr. Merola had there is some surplus in his other construction materials account. Mr. Merola is proposing to move capital reserved to purchase cabin chase, and to start a design process for an addition on the building for office space and this would fund some of the seed money to do that. They are looking to buy new DEF tank, a

compactor, and an additional mower. Town Clerk one is \$1,000 and Social Services is very small. It would be on the August 1 and 15th agendas for transfers.

Councilor Angeloni asked why would we put money in account for the Public Works Office Study when isn't its part of blueprint committee?

Motion: To approve all of the appropriation Transfers except the \$35,000 for Public Works new office design.

MOVED: Councilor Angeloni

SECOND: Councilor Palladino

Discussion: None

With all in favor, motion is passed.

h. Approval of Tax Refunds

Motion: To approve Tax Refunds.

MOVED: Councilor Diamond

SECOND: Councilor Angeloni

Discussion: None

With all in favor, motion is passed.

13. Citizens' statements and petitions

Mr. Potter wanted to ask the council about inviting Christine Cohen and Vincent Candelora to speak. We are not hearing anything about what is happening here, as no one wants to address it. Councilor Pelliccia agrees, and it doesn't affect Town Council business other than to have it be a gripe session.

Town Manager Downes shared there will be proper training of commission members come fall of 2023; Councilor Angeloni brought in documentation presented previously in 2018-2019 and provided it to all the Land use persons for a refresher. There will also be doing a training and onboarding session with the atty basics, etc.

14. Executive Session pursuant to 1-200(6)(C) – Matters Concerning Devices Affecting Public Security

Motion: To move into executive session at 9:13pm. pursuant to 1-200 (6) (C)- Matters concerning Devices Affecting Public Security with the members of the Town Council, Town Attorney Leclerc, Deputy Police Chief Lovelace, Town Manager Downes, and Assistant Town Manager Burke.

MOVED: Councilor Pelliccia

SECOND: Deputy Mayor Zampano

Discussion: None

With all in favor, motion is passed.

Motion: To exit from Executive Session at 9:25 p.m.

MOVED: Councilor Diamond

SECOND: Deputy Mayor Zampano

VOTE: 9-0 in favor

15. Discussion and Action:

- a. **Consideration of SeaCoast Security Associates as No-Bid Provider for Video Surveillance and Card Key Access Equipment Installation**

Motion: To authorize Town Manager Michael P. Downes to enter into a contract with SeaCoast for \$201,784.10 for replacement and rehabilitation of Public Safety. communications technology.

MOVED: Councilor Angeloni

SECOND: Councilor Diamond

Discussion: None

With all in favor, motion is passed.

16. Adjournment

Motion: To Adjourn.

MOVED: Councilor Pelliccia

SECOND: Councilor Angeloni

With all in favor, motion is passed.

Adjourned at 9:26 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by: Kathleen Daly, Clerk

7/21/2023