

**WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY &
TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS OF NORTH BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT**

Tuesday, January 17, 2006

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

1. ROLL CALL: Present were Mayor Andrew Esposito, Deputy Mayor Joanne Wentworth, Council Members Mary Bigelow, Andrew Bozzuto, Vincent Candelora, Michael Doody, Donald Fucci, Arthur Hausman and Ashley Joiner. Also present were Town Manager Karl Kilduff and Town Attorney John Gesmonde.

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:
a. December 13 – Regular WPCA & Town Council Meeting

MOTION: Councilor Candelora moved, seconded by Councilor Bigelow, to accept the minutes of the December 13, 2005 Regular Water Pollution Control Authority and Town Council Meeting as presented.

VOTE: Passed 9 to 0 in a roll call vote.

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY AGENDA

3. CORRESPONDENCE/CITIZENS' STATEMENTS

There were no correspondence or citizens' statements at this time.

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

5. NEW BUSINESS: None.

6. CORRESPONDENCE/CITIZENS' STATEMENTS

There were no correspondence or citizens' statements at this time.

REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL AGENDA**7. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:**
a. Finance Committee

Councilor Candelora reported on the January 11th meeting of the Finance Committee at which the 2004-2005 Financial Audit was reviewed. He indicated that they met with administrators and discussed their wage and benefits issues for 2006-2007.

b. Regional Growth Partnership

Town Manager Kilduff reported on the RGP meeting in January at which transportation issues were discussed. There was a review of projects in the Transportation Improvement Plan for the region and an overview of the I95 improvements project and proposed schedule given by a representative of the Department of Transportation. There was also discussion on an upcoming summit with the Regional Leadership Council to discuss economic competitiveness and education issues. The RGP continues to move forward with specialized committees working on strategic issues, particularly with respect to the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for the region.

c. Economic Development Commission

Town Manager Kilduff reported that there has not been a quorum for the last two Economic Development Commission meetings. He noted that there is a vacancy which needs to be filled.

Deputy Mayor Wentworth requested a report on the attendance of the members of the Economic Development Commission over the past year.

d. Hazardous Waste/Recycling Committee

Councilor Bigelow reported that the Committee reviewed the report which went to Connecticut Waste Management and the DEP. They discussed the cost estimate for the 2007 satellite collection, the welcome kits that will be distributed in March, and the 2006/07 budget. She indicated that they continue to collect data for the MS4 report. She also noted that the new green cards are out and available to residents.

8. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Town Manager Kilduff presented and reviewed with the Council his Memorandum dated January 12, 2006 (Attachment 1).

The Town Manager noted that the Council is in receipt of the Board of Education Financial Report for December 2005 which was submitted after the Agenda package was distributed to Council members.

Town Manager Kilduff discussed previous goal setting done by former Town Councils. He indicated that a workshop could be scheduled to set common goals for this Council.

The Town Manager requested that if Council members had specific questions on procurement or policy with respect to departments within the Town that these be directed to the Town Manager and not directly to the department employees, in keeping with the spirit of the Charter.

Councilor Bigelow questioned the Route 22 study and public hearing and whether there was any specific information available on this.

Town Manager Kilduff reviewed the process for this study and public hearing, indicating that there was no specific information available. The public hearing is being scheduled to obtain information from residents.

9. COMMUNITY EVENTS AND PRESENTATIONS:

- a. Presentation of the FY2004-05 Audited Statements

Treasurer/Finance Director Anthony Esposito introduced Joseph Centofanti and Kristen Brown from Kostin, Ruffkess & Companies, who reviewed the audit with the Council.

Mr. Centofanti reviewed the Opinion of Financial Statements and the Management Discussion and Analysis. He next reviewed the General Fund Fund Balance and a chart showing a three year look at the Fund Balance. Mr. Centofanti also reviewed the General Fund Operations on the GAAP Basis and on a Budgetary Basis as well as a chart showing reserved, designated and undesignated fund balance over the past five years.

Mr. Centofanti highlighted reports on federal and state compliance and indicated that there were no findings or compliance issues found.

Upon questioning, Treasurer/Finance Director Anthony Esposito indicated that the latest draft of recommendations is being finalized and will be presented to the Council.

10. CITIZENS' STATEMENTS AND PETITIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE

Mayor Esposito opened the meeting to citizens' statements.

Mark Amatrudo
1163 Foxon Road

Re: Read a portion of a letter regarding appeal of the recent court decision with respect to the Fire Chief appointment. He distributed copies of this letter to all Council members.

11. RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Wentworth moved, seconded by Councilor Fucci, that the North Branford Town Council hereby appoints Richard Bigelow to the Ethics Commission for a term to expire December 31, 2006.

VOTE: Passed 8 to 0 with 1 abstention in a roll call vote.

FOR: Mayor Esposito, Deputy Mayor Wentworth, Councilors Andrew Bozzuto, Vincent Candelora, Michael Doody, Donald Fucci, Arthur Hausman and Ashley Joiner

ABSTAIN: Councilor Mary Bigelow

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Wentworth moved, seconded by Councilor Hausman, that the North Branford Town Council hereby reappoints Dan Troiano to the Police Commission for a term to expire December 31, 2008.

VOTE: Failed 4 to 4 with 1 abstention in a roll call vote.

FOR: Deputy Mayor Wentworth, Councilors Vincent Candelora, Donald Fucci, and Arthur

Hausman

OPPOSED: Mayor Esposito, Councilors Mary Bigelow, Andrew Bozzuto, and Ashley Joiner

ABSTAIN: Councilor Michael Doody

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Wentworth moved, seconded by Councilor Candelora, that the North Branford Town Council hereby appoints Frank Mentone to the Ethics Commission for a term to expire December 31, 2007.

VOTE: Passed 7 to 2 in a roll call vote.

FOR: Mayor Esposito, Deputy Mayor Wentworth, Councilors Mary Bigelow, Vincent Candelora, Michael Doody, Donald Fucci, and Arthur Hausman

OPPOSED: Councilors Andrew Bozzuto and Ashley Joiner

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Wentworth moved, seconded by Councilor Hausman, that the North Branford Town Council hereby reappoints Ken Neubig to the Building Code Board of Appeals for a term to expire July 31, 2008.

VOTE: Passed 9 to 0 in a roll call vote.

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Wentworth moved, seconded by Councilor Hausman, that the North Branford Town Council hereby reappoints Steve Scavo to the Conservation and Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency for a term to expire May 31, 2006.

VOTE: Passed 9 to 0 in a roll call vote.

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Wentworth moved, seconded by Councilor Hausman, that the North Branford Town Council hereby reappoints Dennis Hrabchak as an alternate to the Planning and Zoning Commission for a term to expire May 31, 2007.

VOTE: Passed 9 to 0 in a roll call vote.

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Wentworth moved, seconded by Councilor Hausman, that the North Branford Town Council hereby reappoints John Landolfi to the Planning and Zoning Commission for a term to expire May 31, 2008.

VOTE: Passed 9 to 0 in a roll call vote.

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Wentworth moved, seconded by Councilor Hausman, that the North Branford Town Council hereby reappoints Charles Gunn to the Planning and Zoning Commission for a term to expire May 31, 2008.

VOTE: Passed 9 to 0 in a roll call vote.

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Wentworth moved, seconded by Councilor Hausman, that the North Branford Town Council hereby reappoints Harry Dulak to the Planning and Zoning Commission for a term to expire May 31, 2008.

VOTE: Passed 9 to 0 in a roll call vote.

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Wentworth moved, seconded by Councilor Hausman, that the North Branford Town Council hereby reappoints Steve Scavo as an alternate to the Planning and Zoning Commission for a term to expire May 31, 2008.

VOTE: Passed 9 to 0 in a roll call vote.

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Wentworth moved, seconded by Councilor Hausman, that the North Branford Town Council hereby reappoints Luigi Masella as an alternate to the Conservation and Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency for a term to expire December 31, 2007.

VOTE: Passed 9 to 0 in a roll call vote.

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Wentworth moved, seconded by Councilor Hausman, that the North Branford Town Council hereby appoints Marie Diamond to the Park and Recreation Commission for a term to expire December 31, 2008.

VOTE: Passed 9 to 0 in a roll call vote.

MOTION: Councilor Bozzuto moved, seconded by Councilor Bigelow, that the North Branford Town Council hereby appoints Vincent Caprio to the Economic Development Commission for a term to expire December 31, 2008.

VOTE: Failed 4 to 0 with 5 abstentions in a roll call vote.

FOR: Mayor Esposito, Councilors Mary Bigelow, Andrew Bozzuto, and Ashley Joiner

ABSTAIN: Deputy Mayor Wentworth, Councilors Vincent Candelora, Michael Doody, Donald Fucci and Arthur Hausman

MOTION: Councilor Bozzuto moved, seconded by Councilor Bigelow, that the North Branford Town Council hereby reappoints Penny Sharp to the Conservation and Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency for a term to expire December 31, 2007.

- VOTE: Failed 4 to 5 in a roll call vote.
FOR: Mayor Esposito, Councilors Mary Bigelow, Andrew Bozzuto, and Ashley Joiner
OPPOSED: Deputy Mayor Wentworth, Councilors Vincent Candelora, Michael Doody, Donald Fucci and Arthur Hausman
- MOTION: Councilor Bozzuto moved, seconded by Councilor Bigelow, that the North Branford Town Council hereby appoints William Galdenzi to the Planning and Zoning Commission for a term to expire May 31, 2007.
- VOTE: Failed 4 to 0 with 5 abstentions in a roll call vote.
FOR: Mayor Esposito, Councilors Mary Bigelow, Andrew Bozzuto, and Ashley Joiner
ABSTAIN: Deputy Mayor Wentworth, Councilors Vincent Candelora, Michael Doody, Donald Fucci and Arthur Hausman
- MOTION: Councilor Bozzuto moved, seconded by Councilor Bigelow, that the North Branford Town Council hereby reappoints Scott Small to the Building Code Board of Appeals for a term to expire July 31, 2010.
- VOTE: Failed 4 to 0 with 5 abstentions in a roll call vote.
FOR: Mayor Esposito, Councilors Mary Bigelow, Andrew Bozzuto, and Ashley Joiner
ABSTAIN: Deputy Mayor Wentworth, Councilors Vincent Candelora, Michael Doody, Donald Fucci and Arthur Hausman
- MOTION: Councilor Bozzuto moved, seconded by Councilor Bigelow, that the North Branford Town Council hereby appoints Steve DeFrank as an alternate to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a term to expire December 31, 2008.
- VOTE: Failed 4 to 1 with 4 abstentions in a roll call vote.
FOR: Mayor Esposito, Councilors Mary Bigelow, Andrew Bozzuto, and Ashley Joiner
OPPOSED: Councilor Michael Doody
ABSTAIN: Deputy Mayor Wentworth, Councilors Vincent Candelora, Donald Fucci and Arthur Hausman
- MOTION: Councilor Bozzuto moved, seconded by Councilor Bigelow, that the North Branford Town Council hereby reappoints David Stannard to the Board of Assessment Appeals for a term to expire December 31, 2008.
- VOTE: Failed 4 to 2 with 3 abstentions in a roll call vote.
FOR: Mayor Esposito, Councilors Mary Bigelow, Andrew Bozzuto, and Ashley Joiner
OPPOSED: Councilors Michael Doody and Arthur Hausman
ABSTAIN: Deputy Mayor Wentworth, Councilors Vincent Candelora and Donald Fucci

MOTION: Councilor Bozzuto moved, seconded by Councilor Joiner, that the North Branford Town Council hereby reappoints Lorane Black, Mary Bigelow, and David Bowen to the Hazardous Waste/Recycling Committee for terms to expire December 31, 2007.

VOTE: Failed 2 to 0 with 7 abstentions in a roll call vote.

FOR: Mayor Esposito, Councilor Ashley Joiner

ABSTAIN: Deputy Mayor Wentworth, Councilors Mary Bigelow, Andrew Bozzuto, Vincent Candelora, Michael Doody, Donald Fucci and Arthur Hausman

MOTION: Councilor Hausman moved, seconded by Councilor Candelora, to amend the Town Council Agenda to include an Executive Session for Pending Litigation.

VOTE: Passed 9 to 0 in a roll call vote.

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Wentworth moved, seconded by Councilor Hausman, to place on the Town Council Agenda as item 14.a. Executive Session regarding Pending Litigation.

VOTE: Passed 9 to 0 in a roll call vote.

a. Ratification of Board of Education Appointments to the Pension Committee

MOTION: Councilor Candelora moved, seconded by Deputy Mayor Wentworth, that the North Branford Town Council hereby appoints Elisabeth Caplan as the Board of Education representative to the Pension Committee.

VOTE: Passed 9 to 0 in a roll call vote.

MOTION: Councilor Candelora moved, seconded by Deputy Mayor Wentworth, that the North Branford Town Council hereby appoints Ron Haskins as the alternate Board of Education representative to the Pension Committee.

VOTE: Passed 9 to 0 in a roll call vote.

b. Ratification of Board of Education Appointments to the Permanent Project Building Committee

MOTION: Councilor Candelora moved, seconded by Councilor Hausman, that the North Branford Town Council hereby requests that the Board of Education recommend one Republican and one Democrat representative for the Permanent Project Building Committee.

Councilor Candelora noted that historically for special projects the Permanent Project Building Committee would have a representative from each party, and he felt that this tradition should be continued.

VOTE: Passed 5 to 4 in a roll call vote.

FOR: Deputy Mayor Wentworth, Councilors Vincent Candelora, Michael Doody, Donald Fucci and Arthur Hausman

OPPOSED: Mayor Esposito, Councilors Mary Bigelow, Andrew Bozzuto and Ashley Joiner

The Council requested that the Town Manager send a letter to the Board of Education with respect to this.

c. Resignation from Park and Recreation Commission

The Council was in receipt of a letter of resignation dated January 5, 2006 from Mary Caruso resigning from the Park and Recreation Commission effective immediately.

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Wentworth moved, seconded by Councilor Joiner, that the North Branford Town Council accepts the resignation of Mary Caruso, with regret, from the Park and Recreation Commission effective January 5, 2006 and requests that the Town Manager send a letter thanking her for her service.

VOTE: Passed 9 to 0 in a roll call vote.

12. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- a. Discussion and Action Re: Report from Planning & Zoning Commission on Possible Sale of Assessors Map 62, Lot 29A

The Council was in receipt of a Memorandum dated January 10, 2006 from Town Planner Carol Zebb regarding PZC Recommendation Report.

Town Manager Kilduff reviewed with the Council the referral to the Planning and Zoning Commission with respect to a parcel of Town-owned property presently designated as open space. He indicated that the Regional Water Authority had approached the Town to purchase this parcel. However, the Planning and Zoning Commission has recommended against the sale of this parcel, and the Town Manager will advise the Regional Water Authority of this.

There was some discussion on this issue between Council members and the Town Manager.

13. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Discussion and Action Re: Approval of Job Description for Zoning Enforcement Officer/Field Inspector

MOTION: Councilor Candelora moved, seconded by Deputy Mayor Wentworth, that in

accordance with Section C9-2 of the North Branford Town Charter, the Town Council of the Town of North Branford hereby adopts the job description for the position of Zoning Enforcement Officer/Field Inspector, as recommended by the Town Manager (Attachment 2).

VOTE: Passed 9 to 0 in a roll call vote.

- b. Discussion and Action Re: Resolution Authorizing and Directing the Town Manager to Complete a Financial Assistance Proposal with the State of Connecticut for \$500,000 in Grant Funds

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Wentworth moved, seconded by Councilor Joiner, that the North Branford Town Council hereby approves the attached Resolution Authorizing and Directing the Town Manager to Complete a Financial Assistance Proposal with the State of Connecticut for \$500,000 in Grant Funds (Attachment 3).

VOTE: Passed 9 to 0 in a roll call vote.

- c. Discussion and Action Re: Financial Report - December 2005

Treasurer/Finance Director Anthony Esposito reviewed with the Council the Financial Report for December 2005. He noted that the revenues and expenditures are at approximately 50% which is the halfway point of the fiscal year.

- d. Discussion and Action Re: Appropriation Transfer

MOTION: Councilor Joiner moved, seconded by Councilor Bigelow, that the North Branford Town Council hereby approves the attached appropriation transfer, as recommended by the Town Manager and the Treasurer/Finance Director (Attachment 4).

VOTE: Passed 9 to 0 in a roll call vote.

- e. Discussion and Action Re: Appropriation from Contingency

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Wentworth moved, seconded by Councilor Fucci, that the Town Manager is hereby authorized to appropriate from reserve for contingency, Account #4703-760-0000, and transfer into the appropriate accounts, as soon as possible, for the attached purposes (Attachment 5).

VOTE: Passed 9 to 0 in a roll call vote.

- f. Discussion and Action Re: Approval of Tax Refunds

MOTION: Councilor Bigelow moved, seconded by Councilor Fucci, that the North Branford Town Council hereby approves the attached property tax refunds (Attachment 6).

VOTE: Passed 9 to 0 in a roll call vote.

14. CITIZENS' STATEMENTS AND PETITIONS

Mayor Esposito opened the meeting to citizens' statements and petitions. There were no citizens' statements or petitions at this time.

- a. Adjourn to Executive Session regard Pending Litigation Pursuant to Section CGS 1-200(6)(B)

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Wentworth moved, seconded by Councilor Fucci, that the North Branford Town Council hereby adjourns to Executive Session at 7:50 p.m. to discuss Pending Litigation, pursuant to CGS Section 1-200(6)(B); and that attendance at said Executive Session be hereby limited to Town Council members, the Town Manager and the Town Attorney.

VOTE: Passed 9 to 0 in a roll call vote.

Councilor Vincent Candelora departed the meeting at 8:07 p.m.

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Wentworth moved, seconded by Councilor Joiner, to return to open session at 8:09 p.m.

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

Town Attorney Gesmonde rendered opinion 011-2005-NB in response to a prior inquiry from Councilor Bigelow, which he distributed to Council members for review.

There was discussion on this opinion between Council members and the Town Attorney.

15. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Councilor Joiner moved, seconded by Councilor Fucci, to adjourn the meeting at 8:13 p.m.

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosanne Krajewski,

Clerk to the Council