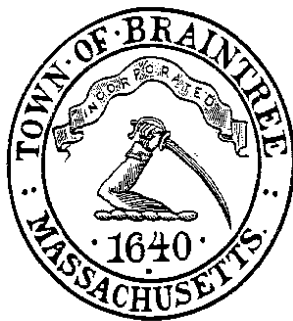


Meredith Boericke
President
District 5



Shannon L. Hume
At Large

David M. Ringius, Jr
At Large

Julia C. Flaherty
District 1

Charles B. Ryan
Vice President
At Large

Joseph Reynolds
District 2

Elizabeth Maglio
District 3

Stephen C. O'Brien
District 4

Lawrence C. Mackin, Jr.
District 6

OFFICE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

Tuesday, JANUARY 17, 2023

MINUTES

A meeting of the Town Council, was held in the Cahill Auditorium, Braintree Town Hall, on Tuesday, January 17, 2023, beginning at 7:30p.m.

Council President Boericke was in the chair.

President Boericke asked for a moment of silence for our first responders and all those serving our military home and abroad.

Clerk of the Council, Susan M. Cimino conducted the roll call.

Present: Meredith Boericke, President
Charles Ryan, Vice President
Shannon Hume
Lawrence C. Mackin, Jr. (Remote)
Elizabeth Maglio
Stephen C. O'Brien (Remote)
Joseph Reynolds

Not Present: Julia Flaherty
David M. Ringius, Jr.

Others: Nicole Taub, Chief of Staff
Ed Spellman, Finance Director
James Arsenault, DPW Director
Cindy DePina, HR Director

ANNOUNCEMENTS

• 001 23 Council President: Charter Review Committee Update (*Public Comment Dates*)

Councilor Hume stated the Charter Review Committee meetings have reconvened. We met prior to COVID and we were ready to hold public meetings for input but basically started over now with the committee members. Councilor Ringius and I are the Town Council appointees. Peter Morin is the Chairman of the Committee. All meetings are open to the public. We are also bringing in department heads to get their input on the Charter. The last meeting we had our Town Clerk, Jim Casey to give information on Elections and how they relate to the Charter.

Public Comment Meetings are scheduled in Cahill for:

- Saturday, January 21 at 10am
- Thursday, February 2 at 7pm
- Saturday, March 4 at 1pm

President Boericke stated the Citizen of the Year Award was given out to Kerry Doherty last week. Congratulations to Kerry and thank you for your service.

Councilor Hume added Kerry is well deserving of this award as she owns two businesses and donates food. She recently started a holiday drive for the elderly who can be forgotten at that time of year. She is very involved in this community and with the special needs.

President Boericke stated Sunday was the town's first Lunar New Year Celebration. It was an awesome turnout and an incredible array of events and information.

President Boericke stated yesterday we had a bagged lunch drive thanks to Councilor Flaherty, Councilor Maglio and Mayor Kokoros, Senator Timilty along with resident volunteers. We were able to bag 150 lunches for Father Bills.

Councilor Maglio reminded residents of a zoom meeting on January 23rd of a Conservation Committee meeting of a plan that will be presented on improvements and process.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

• November 15, 2022

Motion: by Councilor Ryan to Approve Minutes of November 15, 2022

Second: by Councilor Hume

Vote: For (7 – Boericke, Hume, Mackin, Maglio, O'Brien, Reynolds, Ryan),
Against (0), Absent (2 – Flaherty, Ringius), Abstain (0)

OLD BUSINESS

- **23 001 Mayor: Authorization of Four-Year Lease Agreement – 2015 Washington Street or take up any action relative thereto (Public Hearing)**

Council President Boericke asked for a Motion to Open the Public Hearing on Order 23 001.

Motion by Councilor Ryan to Open Public Hearing for Order 23 001

Motion: by Councilor Ryan to Open the Public Hearing for Order 23 001

Second: by Councilor Hume

Roll Call Vote: For (7 – Boericke, Hume, Mackin, Maglio, O’Brien, Reynolds, Ryan),
Against (0), Absent (2 – Flaherty, Ringius), Abstain (0)

Council President Boericke referred to Councilor Reynolds, Chairman of the Committee of Ways & Means for a recommendation on Order 23 001.

Councilor Reynolds stated the Committee of Ways & Means met this evening and voted unanimously (2 in favor/1 absent) for a favorable recommendation to the full Council on Order 23 001.

Council President Boericke asked if any member of the Council or General Public want to speak on Order 23 001?

Nicole Taub explained the Town entered into a lease in May 2012 with the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance on behalf of the Norfolk County Sheriff's Office for use of the property located at 2015 Washington Street. The property consists of 16,300 usable square feet of space contained within five (5) buildings. The original term commenced on June 1, 2012 with an annual rent of \$75,000 for a five (5) year term. In October 2016, the lease was extended for an additional four (4) year term with an annual rent of \$75,000 for 2017 and \$77,250 per year for 2018 through 2021. In 2022 the Town and the Commonwealth entered into a short-term tenancy to allow the parties to renegotiate the terms of the lease while allowing the Sheriff's Office to continue using the property. The Town is now seeking to enter into a four (4) year lease extension with the Commonwealth to allow the Sheriff's Office continued use of the property at an annual rental rate of \$113,789.30, payable in monthly installments of \$9,482.44. This amount reflects an increase of \$36,539.30 over the prior lease value and will remain in effect until December 31, 2026. We strongly value the Town's relationship with the Sheriff's Office and the benefit their use of the property provides for the community including, notably, the Youth Leadership Academy held on the property each summer and includes a low and high ropes challenge course. This camp also provides residents the opportunity to serve as camp counselors. Additionally, they are responsible for maintenance of the site including the buildings and the areas around the buildings.

Councilors support this stating Sheriff's Camp is something many children have attended and enjoy. President Boericke stated our partnership with the Sheriff's office is invaluable. This is a phenomenal deal for the community.

Council President Boericke asked if any member of the General Public wants to speak on Order 23 001? Hearing none.

Council President asked if there is Motion to Close the Public Hearing for Order 23 001.

Motion by Councilor Ryan to Close Public Hearing for Order 23 001

Motion: by Councilor Ryan to Close the Public Hearing for Order 23 001

Second: by Councilor Hume

Roll Call Vote: For (7 – Boericke, Hume, Mackin, Maglio, O’Brien, Reynolds, Ryan),
Against (0), Absent (2 – Flaherty, Ringius), Abstain (0)

Council President asked if there is Motion for Order 23 001.

Councilor Ryan read the following Motion:

MOTION: That the Town, acting through the Mayor, be authorized to enter into a four year lease extension with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts by and through the Commissioner of its Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance for use of the property at 2015 Washington Street, Braintree, MA 02184 by the Norfolk County Sheriff’s Office.

Motion: by Councilor Ryan to Approve Order 23 001

Second: by Councilor Hume

Roll Call Vote: For (7 – Boericke, Hume, Mackin, Maglio, O’Brien, Reynolds, Ryan),
Against (0), Absent (2 – Flaherty, Ringius), Abstain (0)

- **23 002 Mayor: Transfer Funds from the Human Resources Salary Reserve or take up any action relative thereto (Public Hearing)**

Council President Boericke asked for a Motion to Open the Public Hearing on Order 23 002

Motion by Councilor Ryan to Open Public Hearing for Order 23 002.

Motion: by Councilor Hume to Open the Public Hearing for Order 23 002.

Second: by Councilor Flaherty

Roll Call Vote: For (7 – Boericke, Hume, Mackin, Maglio, O’Brien, Reynolds, Ryan),
Against (0), Absent (2 – Flaherty, Ringius), Abstain (0)

Council President Boericke referred to Councilor Reynolds, Chairman of the Committee of Ways & Means for a recommendation on Order 23 002.

Councilor Reynolds stated the Committee of Ways & Means met this evening and voted unanimously (2 in favor/1 absent) for a favorable recommendation to the full Council on Order 23 002.

Council President Boericke asked if any member of the Council or General Public want to speak on Order 23 002?

Nicole Taub stated the Town continues to negotiate successor collective bargaining agreements with our unions. All our contracts were up in June 2022. This is to initiate the process to provide the corresponding wage increase to our non-union employees. Consistent with the agreement reached with the Utility'

Workers Union of America, AFL-CIO, Local No. 466 (UWUA) this request is the transfer of funds to support a one percent (1%) wage increase for the current fiscal year. This is a fair and affordable agreement that stays within the fiscal parameters that were originally requested and approved in the 2023 budget. As a result, funds for these contractual increases are to be transferred from the Town's salary reserve account in the current Human Resources budget. This is not a request for any new fiscal appropriations.

Councilor Ryan asked how many employees does this cover.

Nicole Taub stated 30 non-union/management positions.

Councilor Ryan stated it is appropriate for these positions to receive the same cost of living increase adjustments as union employees. The cost of everything has been going up.

Council President Boericke asked if any member of the General Public wants to speak on Order 23 002?
Hearing none.

Council President asked if there is Motion to Close the Public Hearing for Order 23 002.

Motion by Councilor Ryan to Close Public Hearing for Order 23 002

Motion: by Councilor Ryan to Close the Public Hearing for Order 23 002

Second: by Councilor Hume

Roll Call Vote: For (7 – Boericke, Hume, Mackin, Maglio, O’Brien, Reynolds, Ryan),
Against (0), Absent (2 – Flaherty, Ringius), Abstain (0)

Council President asked if there is Motion for Order 23 002.

Councilor Ryan read the following Motion:

MOTION: That the Town vote to amend the wage and salary classification schedules, as most recently amended by appropriating the sum of \$31,880.99 for the purpose of funding a wage increase for the non-union employees effective July 1, 2022, and for this purpose the sum of \$31,880.99 be transferred from the Human Resources-Employee Benefits Program-Reserve Line (0115204 578050) and further, that the Director of Municipal Finance is authorized to allocate said sums to and among the various accounts affected thereby in such amounts as are proper and required. In anticipation of approval of these agreements, funds were appropriated to the reserve account in the originally approved Fiscal Year 2023 budget.

Motion: by Councilor Ryan to Approve Order 23 002

Second: by Councilor Hume

Roll Call Vote: For (7 – Boericke, Hume, Mackin, Maglio, O’Brien, Reynolds, Ryan),
Against (0), Absent (2 – Flaherty, Ringius), Abstain (0)

- **23 003 Mayor: Transfer Funds from the Water Sewer Reserve Fund or take up any action relative thereto** (*Public Hearing*)

Council President Boericke asked for a Motion to Open the Public Hearing on Order 23 003.

Motion by Councilor Ryan to Open Public Hearing for Order 23 003

Motion: by Councilor Hume to Open the Public Hearing for Order 23 003

Second: by Councilor Flaherty

Roll Call Vote: For (7 – Boericke, Hume, Mackin, Maglio, O’Brien, Reynolds, Ryan),
Against (0), Absent (2 – Flaherty, Ringius), Abstain (0)

Council President Boericke referred to Councilor Reynolds, Chairman of the Committee of Ways & Means for a recommendation on Order 23 003.

Councilor Reynolds stated the Committee of Ways & Means met this evening and voted unanimously (2 in favor/1 absent) for a favorable recommendation to the full Council on Order 23 003.

Council President Boericke asked if any member of the Council or General Public want to speak on Order 23 003?

Nicole Taub explained the Town has concluded negotiations with the Utility Workers Union of America, AFL-CIO, Local No. 466 (UWUA) and a collective bargaining agreement for the July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2025 term has been reached. The following item is to fund this union contract. The agreement with the UWUA includes a one percent (1%) wage increase for the current fiscal year, a two percent (2%) increase in year two and a three percent (3%) increase in year three. The agreement also includes a three percent (3%) hazardous materials/conditions stipend to take effect in the current fiscal year. This is 3% of each individuals base pay. I had the opportunity to witness what these individuals actually do. It is serious and often dangerous work these people do. They are called to go 12 feet or deeper into the ground to look and work on pipes often in narrow spaces and gross conditions. We also have employees who get called out in the middle of the night. We also have folks at the Treatment Plant which is a 24/7 operation. We felt it important to recognize these with a hazardous condition stipend.

This is a fair and affordable agreement that will be funded through the Water and Sewer Reserve Fund, which has sufficient funding available to support these terms. As a result, funds for these contractual increases are to be transferred from the Town's Water and Sewer Reserve Fund, found in the Water and Sewer-Administration Budget approved during the FY23 budget process. This is not a request for an y new fiscal appropriations.

The total amount to be transferred is \$45,997.79 and will be funded entirely through the Water and Sewer Enterprise Fund Reserve Line (7043801 578050). The current balance of the line, as approved in the original FY23 Budget, is \$125,000.00. A detailed breakdown of the transfers, including the position, the FY23 budgeted salary amount, the value of the contractual increase and the total transfer amount per position, is attached for your reference

Council President Boericke asked if any member of the General Public wants to speak on Order 23 003? Hearing none.

Council President asked if there is Motion to Close the Public Hearing for Order 23 003.

Motion by Councilor Ryan to Close Public Hearing for Order 23 003

Motion: by Councilor Ryan to Close the Public Hearing for Order 23 003

Second: by Councilor Hume

Roll Call Vote: For (7 – Boericke, Hume, Mackin, Maglio, O’Brien, Reynolds, Ryan),
Against (0), Absent (2 – Flaherty, Ringius), Abstain (0)

Council President asked if there is Motion for Order 23 003.

Councilor Ryan read the following Motion:

MOTION: That the Town vote to amend the wage and salary classification schedules, as most recently amended by appropriating the sum of \$45,997.79 for the purpose of funding a wage increase and other items as detailed in the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for the Utility Workers Union of America, AFL-CIO, Local No. 466 (UWUA), effective July 1, 2022, and for this purpose the sum of \$45,997.79 be transferred from the Water/Sewer Enterprise Fund Water- Administration Program 01-Reserve Line (7043801 578050) and further, that the Director of Municipal Finance is authorized to allocate said sums to and among the various accounts affected thereby in such amounts as are proper and required. In anticipation of approval of these agreements, funds were appropriated to the reserve account in the originally approved Fiscal Year 2023 budget.

Motion: by Councilor Ryan to Approve Order 23 003

Second: by Councilor Hume

Roll Call Vote: For (7 – Boericke, Hume, Mackin, Maglio, O’Brien, Reynolds, Ryan),
Against (0), Absent (2 – Flaherty, Ringius), Abstain (0)

NEW BUSINESS

- None

Councilor Ryan read the following referrals to Committees:

Refer to the Committee of Ways & Means

- 23 005 Mayor: Acceptance of Donations or take up any action relative thereto

Motion: by Councilor Ryan to refer Order 23 005 to the Committee of Ways & Means

Second: by Councilor Hume

Roll Call Vote: For (7 – Boericke, Hume, Mackin, Maglio, O’Brien, Reynolds, Ryan),
Against (0), Absent (2 – Flaherty, Ringius), Abstain (0)

Topics the Chair does not reasonably anticipate will be discussed

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Next Council Meeting is scheduled on: [Tuesday, February 7, 2023@7:30PM](#)

ADJOURNMENT

It was unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:17p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan M. Cimino
Clerk of the Council

Recording of meeting found at: <https://www.youtube.com/bcamtv>