

Peter Morin
President
District 6

David M. Ringius, J
At Large

Julia C. Flaherty
At Large

Ryan Sterling
At Large



Elizabeth Maglio
Vice President
District 3

James Daiute
District 1

Joseph Reynolds
District 2

Annmary Quilty
District 4

Meredith Boericke
District 5

OFFICE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

Tuesday, April 7, 2026

MINUTES

A meeting of the Town Council was held in the Cahill Auditorium, Braintree Town Hall, on Tuesday, April 7, 2026 beginning at 7:30p.m.

Council President Morin was in the chair.

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

Present: Peter Morin, President
Elizabeth Maglio, Vice President
David M. Ringius, Jr.
Julia Flaherty
Ryan Sterling (Remote Participation)
James Daiute
Joseph Reynolds
Ann Quilty
Meredith Boericke

Also Present: Erin V. Joyce, Mayor
Michael Esmond, Finance Director
Freddie Viola, Fire Chief
Matt Jacques, DPW Director
John Thompson, Asst DPW Director/Town Engineer
Ryan Matheson, Engineering Manager
Ben Hulke, Asst DPW Director
Aaron Yoke, DPW Financial Coordinator
Justin Zahn, Facilities Supervisor
Tim MacDonald, School Superintendent
Sara Kauffman, Director of Finance & Operations for Schools
Debra Starr, Assistant Town Clerk
Justin Rollo, Chair School Committee
School Committee members
Derek Manning, Historical Society
Peter Matchak, Director Planning & Community Development

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 016 26 Council President: Recognitions – Braintree Youth Hockey Teams

Massachusetts Hockey State Champions - 2025-2026 12U Tier IV Large

Braintree 12U B Blue

Coaches: Pat O'Sullivan/Adam Parker/Mike Scully

Massachusetts Hockey State Champions - of the 12 U Tier 3 Large Division

Braintree U12A Team

Head Coach: Nick Bickerton

Asst Coaches: John O'Toole/Mike Larkin/Teddy Doolin

East Braintree Community Action Coalition – 3rd Thursday of the month at the Braintree Yacht Club at 6:30pm. Everyone is always welcome.

OLD BUSINESS

- **014 26** Council President: Appointment - Interim Town Clerk or take up any action relative thereto

Council President Morin asked for a recommendation from Councilor Flaherty, Chairwoman of the Committee on Personnel Issues.

Chairwoman Flaherty stated the Committee on Personnel Issues met on March 31 and voted for a unanimous favorable recommendation to the full Council on item 014 26. The Town Clerk is due to retire on May 1st and is currently out of the office for personal reasons. The Committee on Personnel Issues recommends the salary for the interim Town Clerk to be established at M21E which is the current Town Clerk salary.

Council President Morin asked if anyone would like to speak on this.

Councilor Ringius stated congratulations to Debra Starr who will be the interim Town Clerk. Deb has served dutifully and dedicatedly to our Office of the Town Clerk. I want to thank her for stepping into this role.

Council President Morin asked is there a Motion?

Motion read by Councilor Maglio:

MOTION: UPON THE REQUEST OF THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT, THE TOWN OF BRAINTREE, THROUGH THE BRAINTREE TOWN COUNCIL, IT IS SO ORDERED:

Pursuant to Section 2-8 (b) and 2-8 (d) of the Charter of the Town of Braintree the Town Council approves Debra J. Starr as Interim Town Clerk effective April 1, 2026 and will serve until a successor is chosen and qualified. The Interim Town Clerk Salary shall be established at M-21E.

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to approve Item 014 26

Second: by Councilor Ringius

Roll Call Vote: For (9 – Boericke, Daiute, Flaherty, Maglio, Morin, Quilty, Reynolds, Ringius, Sterling),
Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

- **26 019** Superintendent of Schools: MSBA Statement of Interest Core Project Braintree High School or take up any action relative thereto

Council President Morin asked for a recommendation from Councilor Boericke, Chairwoman of the Committee of Ways & Means.

Chairwoman Boericke stated the Committee of Ways & Means met earlier this evening and we had a split vote 2 in favor and 2 opposed for moving this forward to the full Council this evening.

Council President Morin stated what I have heard from the Council is regarding whether this meeting will provide enough of a forum for a full discussion of this matter this evening. What I am asking is a Special Town Council meeting next Wednesday, April 15, 2026 for a full discussion solely dedicated to this subject. If there is no objection, I would ask for a Motion to Table Order 26 019.

MOTION: To Table Order 26 019 to Wednesday, April 15, 2026 – Special Town Council Meeting

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to Table Order 26 019

Second: by Councilor Reynolds

Roll Call Vote: For (5 – Daiute, Maglio, Morin, Reynolds, Sterling),
Against (4 – Boericke, Flaherty, Quilty, Ringius), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

- **26 011** Mayor: Request for Appropriation - French House Gutter Replacement and Grounds Restoration – CPA Application or take up any action relative thereto (Public Hearing)

Council President Morin asked for a Motion to OPEN the Public Hearing on Order 26 011

Motion read by Councilor Maglio to OPEN the Public Hearing on Order 26 011

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to OPEN the Public Hearing on Order 26 011

Second: by Councilor Ringius

Roll Call Vote: For (9 – Boericke, Daiute, Flaherty, Maglio, Morin, Quilty, Reynolds, Ringius, Sterling),
Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

Council President Morin asked for a Motion to CONTINUE the Public Hearing on Order 26 011 to April 29, 2026 at 7:30pm

Motion by Councilor Maglio to CONTINUE the Public Hearing on Order 26 011 to April 29, 2026 at 7:30pm

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to CONTINUE the Public Hearing on Order 26 011 to April 29, 2026 at 7:30pm

Second: by Councilor Ringius

Roll Call Vote: For (9 – Boericke, Daiute, Flaherty, Maglio, Morin, Quilty, Reynolds, Ringius, Sterling),
Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

- **26 012** Mayor: Request for Appropriation - Thayer House Conditions Assessment and Rehabilitation Plan – CPA Application or take up any action relative thereto (*Public Hearing*)

Council President Morin asked for a Motion to OPEN the Public Hearing on Order 26 012

Motion read by Councilor Maglio to OPEN the Public Hearing on Order 26 012

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to OPEN the Public Hearing on Order 26 012

Second: by Councilor Ringius

Roll Call Vote: For (9 – Boericke, Daiute, Flaherty, Maglio, Morin, Quilty, Reynolds, Ringius, Sterling),
Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

Council President Morin asked for a Motion to CONTINUE the Public Hearing on Order 26 012

to April 29, 2026 at 7:30pm

Motion by Councilor Maglio to CONTINUE the Public Hearing on Order 26 012 to April 29, 2026 at 7:30pm

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to CONTINUE the Public Hearing on Order 26 012 to April 29, 2026
at 7:30pm

Second: by Councilor Ringius

Roll Call Vote: For (9 – Boericke, Daiute, Flaherty, Maglio, Morin, Quilty, Reynolds, Ringius, Sterling),
Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

- **26 013** Mayor: 2026 Capital Improvement Program or take up any action relative thereto (*Public Hearing*)

Council President Morin asked for a Motion to Open the Public Hearing on Order 26 013

Motion by Councilor Maglio to Open Public Hearing for Order 26 013

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to Open the Public Hearing for Order 26 013

Second: by Councilor Ringius

Roll Call Vote: For (9 – Boericke, Daiute, Flaherty, Maglio, Morin, Quilty, Reynolds, Ringius, Sterling),
Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

Council President Morin asked for a recommendation from Councilor Boericke, Chairwoman of the Committee of Ways & Means.

Chairwoman Boericke stated the Committee of Ways & Means met two evenings for an extensive period of time with the mayor's staff and after much discussion and debate voted for a unanimous favorable recommendation to the full Council on Order 26 013.

President Morin asked if anyone from the mayors staff would like to speak.

Finance Director Esmond stated this Capital Plan is roughly \$96 million dollars in proposed investments over the 5-year period and roughly 80 projects were identified for the 5-year period. That encompasses something as small as a piece of equipment as a stand-alone one-time purchase all the way through to a multi-year projects encompassing substantial improvements across the town. This represents a prioritization of the town's critical infrastructure. Roughly 60% is roadway infrastructure and water and sewer infrastructure. With this plan we make investments in our parks, fields and in our recreational facilities. We are continuing our planning and improvements in the Fire House on Union Street and contemplate HVAC replacement at the Police Department building. Replacing DPW equipment and Fire apparatus as well as fleet replacement at the Police Department. We continue to try to invest in

technology with about \$500,000 in critical technology upgrades at our Schools. We continue to evolve and improve this Capital Plan document over the last couple of years. It is important our capital investments do not outstretch what we believe we can afford given our projected resources and revenues that are available to the town.

Councilor Boericke stated the Capital Plan is on the town's website and very readable. Most of the funding is coming from grants and loans. Loans we have to pay back over a long period of time. Grants come from state and other funding sources that do not need to be paid back. The Capital Plan pays for things we cannot pay for with other funding sources like a Fire Truck or HVAC.

President Morin asked for an update on where we are on the Central Fire Station.

Director Esmond stated this proposal tracks the two components of that. We will replace the fire house roof first and foremost. We will come to Council in the next months to request further authorization for that project to move forward. We want to make sure any subsequent improvements will be done under a replaced and fully brand-new roof. This plan does propose roughly \$4 million of additional investments that will be made. We have been working with the architect team to identify a phasing and move forward with some of the known deficiencies. We also want to have a broader conversation about what the total price tag is for those investments.

President Morin asked about Roadway Improvements and Street and Road Safety Improvements Design and Planning. What is on that list and how does a resident or councilor find out if their street is on it.

Director Esmond stated this list is on the website.

Ryan Matheson stated it is under Departments/DPW/Engineering page there are Project Updates and Roadway Construction Updates.

Councilor Flaherty stated there are great things about this and one being it is a true plan. We know where we are this year and we are looking to build towards future years. It gives us an appreciation of where we are and where we are going and it is in plain language. There are great things in this plan like a new fire truck, body cameras for our police force and looking to purchase a new reading curriculum for our elementary school students. These are important things. This is a lean capital plan. It includes key essential things.

President Morin asked if any Councilor would like to speak.

President Morin asked if anyone from the General Public would like to speak on Order 26 013.

John Cass, resident, asked about the firehouse headquarters and what was done in the past years and what has changed and been updated. I asked because about a year ago, I had the opportunity to go to the firehouse and look at it, and I was shocked and horrified by the state of the firehouse headquarters. It was disgusting. There were holes in the ceiling. You could see asbestos. There was a room taped off because there was mold in it. The tower was tumbling with bricks falling off it. There were no doors on the bathroom. I looked at photographs from 2018 and nothing had changed. We don't have money but we could raise taxes. We could have an override. Residents want to maintain the town and maintain the buildings. I ask you all to rethink this and find a way to raise money. What has changed? What is the state of that building. I heard there is a federal grant to pay for the roof. You should reach out and start an endowment. I plead you to raise revenue somehow.

Chief Viola stated what changed is on May 6, 2024 I became the acting Fire Chief and 1 year later the Fire Chief. In that time we analyzed the documents that we had. We took a different approach. The roof in my eyes was the first step in the project phase. Step two is we have by-weekly meetings with the architects

and the OPM and we are building a case to do the rest of the building. All this stuff takes time, money, procurement. That is where we are at. Mayor Joyce made it very clear that is a priority for her. Facilities has replaced a door and patched some holes for us. We're in the process of trying to make it better and that takes time and money.

President Morin stated I just want to make sure the needs of that department and the issues with that facility need to be addressed and a way forward has to be identified one way or other whether in that location or somewhere else. We've got to make some progress and a commitment to move forward together on it. There is support for it. We've got to figure out what's the best way to do it but somethings got to be done and we can't push it off any longer.

Council President Morin asked for a Motion to CLOSE the Public Hearing for Order 26 013

Motion by Councilor Maglio to CLOSE the Public Hearing for Order 26 013

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to CLOSE the Public Hearing for Order 26 013

Second: by Councilor Ringius

Roll Call Vote: For (9 – Boericke, Daiute, Flaherty, Maglio, Morin, Quilty, Reynolds, Ringius, Sterling),
Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

President Morin asked is there a Motion for Order 26 013.

Councilor Maglio read the Motion:

MOTION: To approve the FY2026 Capital Improvement Program as submitted.

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to approve Order 26 013

Second: by Councilor Ringius

Roll Call Vote: For (9 – Boericke, Daiute, Flaherty, Maglio, Morin, Quilty, Reynolds, Ringius, Sterling),
Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

- **26 014** Mayor: Request for Appropriations - 2026 Capital Projects (General Fund Bonding) or take up any action relative thereto (*Public Hearing*)

Council President Morin asked for a Motion to Open the Public Hearing on Order 26 014

Motion by Councilor Maglio to Open Public Hearing for Order 26 014

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to Open the Public Hearing for Order 26 014

Second: by Councilor Ringius

Roll Call Vote: For (9 – Boericke, Daiute, Flaherty, Maglio, Morin, Quilty, Reynolds, Ringius, Sterling),
Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

Council President Morin asked for a recommendation from Councilor Boericke, Chairwoman of the Committee of Ways & Means.

Chairwoman Boericke stated the Committee of Ways & Means met and is sending this to the full Council with a unanimous favorable recommendation on Order 26 014.

President Morin asked if anyone from the mayor's staff would like to speak.

Finance Director Michael Esmond stated this is the second of six Motions associated with the Capital Improvement Program. This would authorize \$2.49 million for three separate authorizations.

President Morin asked if any Councilor would like to speak.

President Morin asked if anyone from the General Public would like to speak on Order 26 014.

John Cass, resident, stated what concerns me is the School Maintenance Program. This shifted from School Committee to the Town Council. Two years ago the spend was \$6 million on school maintenance. This year that number is \$2 million. That is a \$4 million reduction when we're already under spending. We also heard most maintenance staff are tied up with reactive works. I ask the Council to use your oversight authority and ask hard questions. Require transparency. Put legislation and policies in place so all school buildings are maintained responsibly.

Director Esmond responded with the upcoming FY2027 Budget filing it will show there has not been any reduction of \$4 million to the operating budget in the school facilities, utility and custodial budgets. The amount of costs the Facilities team has to keep up with is a very substantial challenge.

Councilor Boericke explained a substantial amount of questions happen during our committee meetings. We met with staff over about 6 plus hours on the Capital Plan and asked hard questions to make sure we are understanding exactly what we are voting on.

Council President Morin asked for a Motion to CLOSE the Public Hearing for Order 26 014

Motion by Councilor Maglio to CLOSE the Public Hearing for Order 26 014

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to CLOSE the Public Hearing for Order 26 014

Second: by Councilor Ringius

Roll Call Vote: For (9 – Boericke, Daiute, Flaherty, Maglio, Morin, Quilty, Reynolds, Ringius, Sterling),
Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

President Morin asked is there a Motion for Order 26 014.

Councilor Maglio read the Motion:

MOTION: TOWN OF BRAINTREE, MASSACHUSETTS IN TOWN COUNCIL ORDERED:

That the Town of Braintree appropriates the sum of Two Million Four Hundred Ninety Thousand Dollars **(\$2,490,000)** to pay costs of the following capital projects:

Source	Title	Amount	Authorizing Statute
General Fund Debt	DPW Equipment	\$ 1,500,000	Chp. 44, s 7(1)
General Fund Debt	Police Equipment	\$ 940,000	Chp. 44, s 7(1)
General Fund Debt	Phone System Upgrade	\$ 50,000	Chp. 44, s 7(1)

and for the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto; that the amounts indicated above for each project are estimates and that the Mayor may allocate more funds to any one or more of such projects, and less to others, so long as, in the judgment of the Mayor, each of the projects described above can be completed within the total appropriation made by this Order; that to meet the appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Mayor, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to the authorizing statutes described above, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor; and that the Mayor is authorized to take any other action necessary to carry out these projects.

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to approve Order 26 014

Second: by Councilor Ringius

Roll Call Vote: For (9 – Boericke, Daiute, Flaherty, Maglio, Morin, Quilty, Reynolds, Ringius, Sterling),
Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

- **26 015 Mayor:** Request for Appropriations - 2026 Capital Projects (Enterprise Fund Bonding) or take up any action relative thereto (*Public Hearing*)

Council President Morin asked for a Motion to Open the Public Hearing on Order 26 015

Motion by Councilor Maglio to Open Public Hearing for Order 26 015

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to Open the Public Hearing for Order 26 015

Second: by Councilor Ringius

Roll Call Vote: For (9 – Boericke, Daiute, Flaherty, Maglio, Morin, Quilty, Reynolds, Ringius, Sterling),
Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

Council President Morin asked for a recommendation from Councilor Boericke, Chairwoman of the Committee of Ways & Means.

Chairwoman Boericke stated the Committee of Ways & Means met over two evenings and voted for a unanimous favorable recommendation to the full Council on Order 26 015.

President Morin asked if anyone from the mayors staff would like to speak.

Director Esmond explained this is to authorize \$12.5 million for four identified projects. It is the intention the enterprise funds will be the funding sources for repayment.

President Morin asked if any Councilor would like to speak.

President Morin asked if anyone from the General Public would like to speak on Order 26 015.

John Cass, resident asked about his numbers previously stated. I would like to get the correct numbers.

Council President Morin asked for a Motion to CLOSE the Public Hearing for Order 26 015

Motion by Councilor Maglio to CLOSE the Public Hearing for Order 26 015

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to CLOSE the Public Hearing for Order 26 015

Second: by Councilor Ringius

Roll Call Vote: For (9 – Boericke, Daiute, Flaherty, Maglio, Morin, Quilty, Reynolds, Ringius, Sterling),
Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

President Morin asked is there a Motion for Order 26 015.

Councilor Maglio read the Motion:

MOTION: TOWN OF BRAINTREE, MASSACHUSETTS IN TOWN COUNCIL ORDERED:

That the Town of Braintree appropriates the sum of Twelve Million Five Hundred Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$12,515,000) to pay the costs of the following capital projects:

Source	Title	Amount	Authorizing Statute
Water / Sewer Fund Debt	Water System Improvements	\$ 12,000,000	Chp. 44, s 8
Golf Fund Debt	Irrigation System Controllers	\$ 65,000	Chp. 44, s 7(1)
Golf Fund Debt	8th Green Reconstruction	\$ 150,000	Chp. 44, s 7(1)
Stormwater Fund Debt	Middle Street Drainage Repair	\$ 300,000	Chp. 44, s 7(1)

and for the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto; and, that to meet the appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Mayor, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to the authorizing statutes described above, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor; and that the Mayor is authorized to take any other action necessary to carry out these projects. Any borrowing pursuant to this order shall constitute a general obligation of

the Town, but it is the intention of this Council that any such borrowing shall be repaid, in the first instance, from the corresponding listed enterprise fund.

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to approve Order 26 015

Second: by Councilor Ringius

Roll Call Vote: For (9 – Boericke, Daiute, Flaherty, Maglio, Morin, Quilty, Reynolds, Ringius, Sterling),
Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

- **26 016 Mayor:** Request for Appropriations - 2026 Capital Projects (Other Funds) or take up any action relative thereto (*Public Hearing*)

Council President Morin asked for a Motion to Open the Public Hearing on Order 26 016

Motion by Councilor Maglio to Open Public Hearing for Order 26 016

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to Open the Public Hearing for Order 26 016

Second: by Councilor Ringius

Roll Call Vote: For (9 – Boericke, Daiute, Flaherty, Maglio, Morin, Quilty, Reynolds, Ringius, Sterling),
Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

Council President Morin asked for a recommendation from Councilor Boericke, Chairwoman of the Committee of Ways & Means.

Chairwoman Boericke stated the Committee of Ways & Means and voted for a unanimous favorable recommendation to the full Council on Order 26 016.

President Morin asked if anyone from the mayors staff would like to speak.

Director Esmond explained these are funded from the retained earnings from each of the corresponding funds.

President Morin asked if any Councilor would like to speak.

President Morin asked if anyone from the General Public would like to speak on Order 26 016.

Seeing None.

Council President Morin asked for a Motion to CLOSE the Public Hearing for Order 26 016

Motion by Councilor Maglio to CLOSE the Public Hearing for Order 26 016

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to CLOSE the Public Hearing for Order 26 016

Second: by Councilor Ringius

Roll Call Vote: For (9 – Boericke, Daiute, Flaherty, Maglio, Morin, Quilty, Reynolds, Ringius, Sterling),
Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

President Morin asked is there a Motion for Order 26 016 item E1 through E7.
Councilor Maglio read the Motions:

MOTIONS:

TOWN OF BRAINTREE, MASSACHUSETTS IN TOWN COUNCIL ORDERED:

E1) Stormwater Enterprise Fund

Motion: That the sum of \$261,000 be transferred from Fiscal Year 2025 Certified Storm Water Fund Retained Earnings for the purpose of Catchment Investigations.

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to approve Order 26 016 (1)

Second: by Councilor Ringius

Roll Call Vote: For (9 – Boericke, Daiute, Flaherty, Maglio, Morin, Quilty, Reynolds, Ringius, Sterling),
Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

E2) Stormwater Enterprise Fund

Motion: That the sum of \$25,000 be transferred from Fiscal Year 2025 Certified Storm Water Fund Retained Earnings for the purpose of Stetson Street Culvert Design and Permitting.

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to approve Order 26 016 (2)

Second: by Councilor Ringius

Roll Call Vote: For (9 – Boericke, Daiute, Flaherty, Maglio, Morin, Quilty, Reynolds, Ringius, Sterling),
Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

E3) Stormwater Enterprise Fund

Motion: That the sum of \$50,000 be transferred from Fiscal Year 2025 Certified Storm Water Fund Retained Earnings for the purpose of Stormwater Investigation and Rehab.

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to approve Order 26 016 (3)

Second: by Councilor Ringius

Roll Call Vote: For (9 – Boericke, Daiute, Flaherty, Maglio, Morin, Quilty, Reynolds, Ringius, Sterling),
Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

E4) Water Sewer Enterprise Fund

Motion: That the sum of \$500,000 be transferred from Fiscal Year 2025 Certified Water Sewer Fund Retained Earnings for the purpose of Water & Sewer Capital Equipment Replacement.

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to approve Order 26 016 (4)

Second: by Councilor Ringius

Roll Call Vote: For (9 – Boericke, Daiute, Flaherty, Maglio, Morin, Quilty, Reynolds, Ringius, Sterling),
Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

E5) Golf Enterprise Fund

Motion: That the sum of \$60,000 be transferred from Fiscal Year 2025 Certified Golf Fund Retained Earnings for the purpose of the purchase of a Irrigation System Controllers and Software Upgrade.

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to approve Order 26 016 (5)

Second: by Councilor Ringius

Roll Call Vote: For (9 – Boericke, Daiute, Flaherty, Maglio, Morin, Quilty, Reynolds, Ringius, Sterling),
Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

E6) Golf Enterprise Fund

Motion: That the sum of \$8,000 be transferred from Fiscal Year 2025 Certified Golf Fund Retained Earnings for the purpose of the purchase of a Large Area Fertilizer Spreader.

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to approve Order 26 016 (6)

Second: by Councilor Ringius

Roll Call Vote: For (9 – Boericke, Daiute, Flaherty, Maglio, Morin, Quilty, Reynolds, Ringius, Sterling),
Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

E7) Golf Enterprise Fund

Motion: That the sum of \$20,000 be transferred from Fiscal Year 2025 Certified Golf Fund Retained Earnings for the purpose of the purchase of a Top Dresser Attachment.

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to approve Order 26 016 (7)

Second: by Councilor Ringius

Roll Call Vote: For (9 – Boericke, Daiute, Flaherty, Maglio, Morin, Quilty, Reynolds, Ringius, Sterling),
Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

- **26 017** Mayor: Request for Appropriations - Bond Authorization for MWRA I&I Funds Phase 15 or take up any action relative thereto (*Public Hearing*)

Council President Morin asked for a Motion to Open the Public Hearing on Order 26 017

Motion by Councilor Maglio to Open Public Hearing for Order 26 017

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to Open the Public Hearing for Order 26 017

Second: by Councilor Ringius

Roll Call Vote: For (9 – Boericke, Daiute, Flaherty, Maglio, Morin, Quilty, Reynolds, Ringius, Sterling),
Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

Council President Morin asked for a recommendation from Councilor Boericke, Chairwoman of the Committee of Ways & Means.

Chairwoman Boericke stated the Committee of Ways & Means met two evenings and voted for a unanimous favorable recommendation to the full Council on Order 26 017.

President Morin asked if anyone from the mayors staff would like to speak.

President Morin asked if any Councilor would like to speak.

President Morin asked if anyone from the General Public would like to speak on Order 26 017. Seeing None.

Director Esmond explained this Motion is Two Million Fourteen Thousand Dollars (\$2,014,000) to pay the costs of wastewater rehabilitation projects phase 15.

Council President Morin asked for a Motion to CLOSE the Public Hearing for Order 26 017

Motion by Councilor Maglio to CLOSE the Public Hearing for Order 26 017

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to CLOSE the Public Hearing for Order 26 017

Second: by Councilor Ringius

Roll Call Vote: For (9 – Boericke, Daiute, Flaherty, Maglio, Morin, Quilty, Reynolds, Ringius, Sterling),
Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

President Morin asked is there a Motion for Order 26 017.

Councilor Maglio read the Motion:

MOTION:

TOWN OF BRAINTREE, MASSACHUSETTS IN TOWN COUNCIL ORDERED:

That the Town of Braintree appropriates the sum of Two Million Fourteen Thousand Dollars (\$2,014,000) to pay the costs of wastewater rehabilitation projects phase 15 and 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 Chapter 44, Section 7(1) of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor; and that all or a portion of this amount may be borrowed through the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority, and the Mayor, the Treasurer, and any other appropriate officials of the Town are authorized to execute and deliver any agreements or other documents in connection therewith; and that the Mayor is authorized to take any other action necessary to carry out this project. Any borrowing pursuant to this order shall constitute a general obligation of the Town, but it is the intention of this Council that any such borrowing shall be repaid, in the first instance, from the Water and Sewer Enterprise Fund.

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to approve Order 26 017

Second: by Councilor Ringius

Roll Call Vote: For (9 – Boericke, Daiute, Flaherty, Maglio, Morin, Quilty, Reynolds, Ringius, Sterling),
Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

- **26 018 Mayor:** Request for Appropriations - Bond Authorization for MWRA I&I Funds Phase 16 or take up any action relative thereto (*Public Hearing*)

Council President Morin asked for a Motion to Open the Public Hearing on Order 26 018

Motion by Councilor Maglio to Open Public Hearing for Order 26 018

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to Open the Public Hearing for Order 26 018

Second: by Councilor Ringius

Roll Call Vote: For (9 – Boericke, Daiute, Flaherty, Maglio, Morin, Quilty, Reynolds, Ringius, Sterling),
Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

Council President Morin asked for a recommendation from Councilor Boericke, Chairwoman of the Committee of Ways & Means.

Chairwoman Boericke stated the Committee of Ways & Means met over two evenings and voted for a unanimous favorable recommendation to the full Council on Order 26 018.

President Morin asked if anyone from the mayors staff would like to speak.

President Morin asked if any Councilor would like to speak.

President Morin asked if anyone from the General Public would like to speak on Order 26 018. Seeing None.

Council President Morin asked for a Motion to CLOSE the Public Hearing for Order 26 018

Motion by Councilor Maglio to CLOSE the Public Hearing for Order 26 018

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to CLOSE the Public Hearing for Order 26 018

Second: by Councilor Ringius

Roll Call Vote: For (9 – Boericke, Daiute, Flaherty, Maglio, Morin, Quilty, Reynolds, Ringius, Sterling),
Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

President Morin asked is there a Motion for Order 26 018.

Councilor Maglio read the Motion:

MOTION:

TOWN OF BRAINTREE, MASSACHUSETTS IN TOWN COUNCIL ORDERED:

That the Town of Braintree appropriates the sum of Two Million Four Hundred Thirty Eight Thousand Dollars (\$2,438,000) to pay the costs of wastewater rehabilitation projects phase 16 and 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 Chapter 44, Section 7(1) of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor; and that all or a portion of this amount may be borrowed through the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority, and the Mayor, the Treasurer, and any other appropriate officials of the Town are authorized to execute and deliver any agreements or other documents in connection therewith; and that the Mayor is authorized to take any other action necessary to carry out this project. Any borrowing pursuant to this order shall constitute a general obligation of the Town, but it is the intention of this Council that any such borrowing shall be repaid, in the first instance, from the Water and Sewer Enterprise Fund.

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to approve Order 26 018

Second: by Councilor Ringius

Roll Call Vote: For (9 – Boericke, Daiute, Flaherty, Maglio, Morin, Quilty, Reynolds, Ringius, Sterling),
Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

- **26 023** Mayor: School Trust Fund Committee (Ordinance) or take up any action relative thereto (*Public Hearing*)

Council President Morin asked for a Motion to Open the Public Hearing on Order 26 023

Motion by Councilor Maglio to Open Public Hearing for Order 26 023

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to Open the Public Hearing for Order 26 023

Second: by Councilor Ringius

Roll Call Vote: For (9 – Boericke, Daiute, Flaherty, Maglio, Morin, Quilty, Reynolds, Ringius, Sterling),
Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

Council President Morin asked for a recommendation from Councilor Ringius, Chairman of the Committee on Ordinance & Rules.

Chairman Ringius stated the Committee on Ordinance & Rules met earlier this evening and voted for a unanimous favorable recommendation to the full Council on Order 26 023.

President Morin asked if anyone from the mayors staff would like to speak.

Mayor Joyce explained this Ordinance is to create the School Fund Committee, in accordance with the will of Nathaniel Thayer, who devised certain real estate to the Town of Braintree. Mr. Thayer's will, probated on or about September 1, 1829, provides in relevant part as follows: "I give and devise said real estate [in the Town of Braintree] to the Town of Braintree aforesaid for the purpose or purposes hereinafter mentioned and no other. And it's my will that neither said real estate or any part thereof shall ever be sold, aliened or conveyed; nor leased or let for a longer term than twenty one years, and it is also my will that the yearly income thereof (deducting for necessary repairs, taxes and care of said estate) under the direction of the "School Fund Committee" in the Town of Braintree shall be forever appropriated for the support of the public schools thereof and "for the promotion of learning" in them." The passage of this ordinance will establish the School Fund Committee following the Town's preceding School Fund Committee in operation prior to the enactment of the Town's current Charter. The enactment of the current Charter, under Chapter 189 of the Acts of 2005, caused the dissolution of the prior School Fund Committee and all other multi-member bodies that were not subject to legislation continuing their existence after the Charter's enactment. The accompanying ordinance sets three committee members - the Mayor of Braintree, plus two Town residents who are 18 years of age or older and registered to vote in the Town. In a nutshell, the Committee will analyze the income generated by the real estate bequeathed to the Town by Nathaniel Thayer; strategize on ways to increase such income; and recommend to the Council the disposition of the income annually for the benefit of the School District. Two resident members will serve as advisors to the mayor. This provides access to \$2.7 million and a formal way to discuss the stewardship of that money.

Councilor Boericke asked what is the land?

Mayor Joyce stated the land originally was the land the high school was constructed on. At that time they shifted the land that this applied to to across the street from the high school. This is the infamous land behind Burlington Coat Factory.

President Morin asked if any Councilor would like to speak.

Councilor Ringius stated we learned in the Committee on Ordinance & Rules that there will be at least four meetings per year for this committee. So there will be ongoing meetings as to these monies and it will be governed by the open meeting laws.

President Morin asked if anyone from the General Public would like to speak on Order 26 023.

Robert Toma, resident stated I brought up if there is a way to work with Thayer and get them involved in the town and this looks like there's a way to do it. We have these historical buildings and I think we could probably get some more income out of it with Thayer's help.

You have all been very transparent about everything you are doing. I know you are because when I started I was very skeptical. Every step of the way I've seen everything you've done. You're doing a good job. Keep it up.

Council President Morin asked for a Motion to CLOSE the Public Hearing for Order 26 023

Motion by Councilor Maglio to CLOSE the Public Hearing for Order 26 023

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to CLOSE the Public Hearing for Order 26 023

Second: by Councilor Ringius

Roll Call Vote: For (9 – Boericke, Daiute, Flaherty, Maglio, Morin, Quilty, Reynolds, Ringius, Sterling),
Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

President Morin asked is there a Motion for Order 26 023.

Councilor Maglio read the Motion:

MOTION: To adopt the Ordinance to Create a School Trust Fund Committee as submitted.

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to approve Order 26 023

Second: by Councilor Ringius

Roll Call Vote: For (9 – Boericke, Daiute, Flaherty, Maglio, Morin, Quilty, Reynolds, Ringius, Sterling),
Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

• **26 024** Council President: Reclassification - Town Clerk or take up any action relative thereto

Council President Morin asked for a recommendation from Councilor Flaherty, Chairwoman of the Committee on Personnel Issues.

Chairwoman Flaherty stated the Committee on Personnel Issues met on this and the committee voted for a unanimous favorable recommendation to the full Council on Order 26 024. The Committee on Personnel Issues recommends the salary for the Town Clerk to be reclassified and established at M23. It is currently M21.

Councilor Boericke stated we looked at responsibilities and area median income for Norfolk County.

Council President Morin asked if anyone would like to speak on this.

Council President Morin asked is there a Motion?

Motion read by Councilor Maglio:

MOTION: Upon request of the Council President and Pursuant to Section 2-8 (b) and 2-8 (d) of the Town Charter, the Town of Braintree, through the Braintree Town Council, approve the reclassification of the Town Clerk position. The reclassified grade will be M23 to take effect on July 1, 2026 or when a successor is chosen and qualified.

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to approve Order 26 024

Second: by Councilor Ringius

Roll Call Vote: For (9 – Boericke, Daiute, Flaherty, Maglio, Morin, Quilty, Reynolds, Ringius, Sterling),
Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

COMMUNICATIONS

• 015 26 Council President: School Master Plan Update

Tim MacDonald, Superintendent of Schools explained in 2024 in the leadership of my predecessor, Superintendent Lee, the school department engaged with a consultant named Sanborn to create and analyze options to downsize our elementary school footprint and redistrict our students to increase efficiency and realize some potential short-term financial flexibility. While this engagement resulted in a number of potentially viable options, in March of 2025 the mayor stated that there was a need for a long-term vision and plan for all our school buildings, not just the elementary schools before making any decision that would result in any school closures. In October 2025 the mayor's office under the leadership of Mayor Joyce and Finance Director Esmond engaged with ERS and Perkins Eastman to complete a school building master plan encompassing all the district schools. The effort was completed with a presentation that included four potential scenarios for Braintree schools going forward. Since the initial presentation from ERS, the school committee has voted to eliminate two of the four options, focusing on a short-term option which reduces our elementary school footprint to five total sites in the short term and a long term plan which will rely on MSBA participation and selection and a debt exclusion. In the event of a partnership with the MSBA, we'd possibly aim to create a shared junior and senior high school campus serving students in grade 7 through 12 at the current high school location, reconfiguring middle schools serving 3 through 6th grade and a reduction to three or four elementary schools serving pre-K to two. Or by working with the MSBA, we might choose to remain in our current model of pre-K at a hopefully renovated or new high school, a elementary kindergarten through fourth grade in elementary schools, middle schools remaining 5 through 8, and a high school 9 through 12. Last night the school committee voted 6 to 1 to begin this process in the 2026-2027 school year by relocating Highlands Elementary School to Old South in September of 2026.

Mayor Joyce stated this was an effort on the town's side in collaboration with the schools and was funded through the mayor's reserve. So we had set up a fund, outside our typical capital funding to tackle projects that were big picture, trying to show direction and we had talked about a redistricting effort last budget season in the effort to ultimately gain some efficiencies and potentially save on operational costs at the elementary school level. There were a lot of questions of what comes next. We need to hone in on being able to afford the schools that we want to have with the resources we predict to have. Those are still competing with each other. Throughout this whole master plan we always held true we want to build a High School but do not want to lose sight of the fact that we have to plan for maintenance and capital investments. We want to understand what could we fit into the buildings that we have. What are the options for consolidation. We started to explore the potential for grade span. There are benefits and trade-offs. Watch School Committee meetings. They are recorded. We keep plugging away at this.

Council President explained if there is no objection we will have a full night to discuss issues with the master plan and questions we have about the Statement of Interest next Wednesday, April 15, 2026.

RESOLUTIONS

- **013 26** Councilor Maglio: Resolution on Keeping Braintree Welcoming and Safe for All or take up any action relative thereto

PROCLAMATION OF THE BRAINTREE TOWN COUNCIL AND MAYOR

Whereas the Town of Braintree is home to nearly 7,500 foreign-born residents who are woven into the fabric of our community as teachers, healthcare workers, small business owners, neighbors, and friends; and

Whereas immigrant residents contribute to our local economy while demonstrating daily the values of hard work, resilience, and civic participation that define the American spirit; and

Whereas the safety and strength of Braintree depends upon trust between all residents and their government, such that every person—regardless of immigration status—can report crimes, seek help in emergencies, and participate in civic life without fear;

BE IT PROCLAIMED that the Town of Braintree does:

WELCOME all immigrants while recognizing their immeasurable contributions to Braintree;

CONDEMN immigration enforcement tactics that violate constitutional protections;

ENCOURAGE residents who observe any concerning activity to contact the Braintree Police Department and follow the guidance provided by the Attorney General’s Office relating to immigration and customs enforcement;

OPPOSE any federal immigration enforcement in Braintree conducted without full respect for constitutional rights;

UPHOLD our commitment that Braintree shall remain a community where human rights are protected and where neighbors stand with neighbors; and

TRUST that all residents can live with dignity and without fear.

Proclaimed this ____ day of _____, 2026.

Signed by the Braintree Town Council and Mayor Joyce

Councilor Maglio explained there’s a number of reasons why this came about and everyone’s aware of what has been on the news. We are seeing people really fearing leaving their home or going to places of business where there are rumors, where there are places that seem to be unsafe or unwelcoming. There have been a number of incidents where ICE has been spotted in Braintree and I have been contacted directly by residents of East Braintree who saw a concerning van full of people with weapons. The fact people are calling me when there is very little I can do in the moment was a real concern for me that people are so afraid that they are afraid to reach out to the very people who are supposed to be protecting them and keeping them safe. I thought it helpful to reaffirm everyone is welcome here in Braintree.

Motion: by Councilor Maglio on item 013 26 to accept Resolution on Keeping Braintree Welcoming and Safe for All

Second: by Councilor Ringius

Roll Call Vote: For (9 – Boericke, Daiute, Flaherty, Maglio, Morin, Quilty, Reynolds, Ringius, Sterling),
Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

NEW BUSINESS

President Morin asked is there a Motion to move all remaining items under new business to their respective committee(s)?

Councilor Maglio made a **MOTION**: to refer all new business to their respective committee(s):

Refer to the Committee of Ways & Means

- **26 027** Mayor: Appointment to the Braintree Cultural Council - Abigail Young or take up any action relative thereto

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to refer to the Committee of Ways & Means Order 26 027

Second: by Councilor Ringius

Roll Call Vote: For (9 – Boericke, Daiute, Flaherty, Maglio, Morin, Quilty, Reynolds, Ringius, Sterling),
Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

- **26 028** Mayor: Appointment to the Braintree Cultural Council - Donna Wise or take up any action relative thereto

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to refer to the Committee of Ways & Means Order 26 028

Second: by Councilor Ringius

Roll Call Vote: For (9 – Boericke, Daiute, Flaherty, Maglio, Morin, Quilty, Reynolds, Ringius, Sterling),
Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

- **26 029** Mayor: Appointment to the Braintree Cultural Council - Sarah Chapple - Sokol or take up any action relative thereto

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to refer to the Committee of Ways & Means Order 26 029

Second: by Councilor Ringius

Roll Call Vote: For (9 – Boericke, Daiute, Flaherty, Maglio, Morin, Quilty, Reynolds, Ringius, Sterling),
Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

- **26 030** Mayor: Appointment to the Braintree Cultural Council - Amie Lytle or take up any action relative thereto

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to refer to the Committee of Ways & Means Order 26 030

Second: by Councilor Ringius

Roll Call Vote: For (9 – Boericke, Daiute, Flaherty, Maglio, Morin, Quilty, Reynolds, Ringius, Sterling),
Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

Refer to the Committee on the Department of Public Works

- **26 025** ZMA Development LP: Easement Petition – 250 Granite Street or take up any action relative thereto

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to refer to the Committee on the Department of Public Works Order 26 025

Second: by Councilor Ringius

Roll Call Vote: For (9 – Boericke, Daiute, Flaherty, Maglio, Morin, Quilty, Reynolds, Ringius, Sterling),
Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

Refer to the Committee on Ordinance & Rules

- **26 026** Councilor Boericke: Demolition Delay Ordinance Amendment or take up any action relative thereto
 - Motion:** by Councilor Maglio to refer to the Committee on Ordinance & Rules Order 26 026
 - Second:** by Councilor Ringius
- Roll Call Vote:** For (9 – Boericke, Daiute, Flaherty, Maglio, Morin, Quilty, Reynolds, Ringius, Sterling),
Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

Next Council Meeting is scheduled for: Tuesday, April 15, 2026 @ 7:30pm

ADJOURNMENT

It was unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:45p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan M. Cimino, Clerk of the Council