

August 1, 2024

To: Paul Goldstein, RTM Moderator
15 Rope Ferry Rd
Waterford, CT 06385

From: Mary Childs, RTM District 2

Re: Request for referral of issue to Legislation & Administration Committee

Mr. Moderator:

As you may recall, the RTM first learned of the reorganization of the Youth and Family Services Bureau and the Senior Citizens Commission during our May 2022 budget hearings. It came as a surprise to many of us that, several months previously, following the departure of the Senior Citizens Director, a decision was made to have the YFSB Director oversee both agencies so that our senior services would not be left to flounder. In the discussion that followed, we learned that this was not a temporary action, and that details such as whether the two agencies would be combined, what staffing changes were planned, were still being worked out.

We were assured that a full explanation of the new organization would be forthcoming later in 2022. When that did not happen, I requested that the First Selectman schedule a presentation to the RTM, and he graciously assured us that he would do so after the 2023 budget hearings.

As Waterford's legislative body, the RTM is responsible for codifying any changes in the makeup of our town government, which includes departments, agencies, boards and commissions. Ideally, the review, revision, and public hearings on the applicable ordinances takes place before a reorganization is implemented. Failing that, we still must take the appropriate action, even if it is after the fact.

I respectfully request that the issue of the YFSB and Senior Citizens Commission reorganization be referred to the Legislation & Administration Committee for appropriate consideration and ultimate recommendation to the full RTM. I expect this would involve a review of the following ordinances: Chapter 2.96, Youth and Family Services Bureau; Chapter 2.72, Senior Citizens Commission; and Chapter 2.08, Town Officers. There may be other ordinances to check, depending on cross-references, but I trust the committee and the Town Attorney will address them as needed.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Mary Childs, RTM District 2

RECEIVED FOR RECORD
WATERFORD, CT
2024 AUG - 1 A 9:27
ATTEST: *[Signature]*
TOWN CLERK