



## **Randolph Town Council**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**Meeting Date: Monday, May 4, 2026, at 6:06 p.m.**

**Randolph Town Hall-Chapin Hall 2nd Floor**

This is a hybrid meeting. The Public is invited to attend this meeting in person or remotely, by telephone or computer access.

**Call to Order:** Council President Ryan Egan called the meeting to order.

**Roll Call – Council Members Present:** Christos Alexopoulos (In-Person), Richard Brewer (In-Person), James F. Burgess Jr. (Via Zoom), Ryan Egan (In-Person), Jesse Gordon (In-Person), Katrina Huff-Larmond (In-Person), Kevin O’Connell (In-Person), Brandon Thompson (Via Zoom). Natacha Clerger arrived after roll call.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Pledge of Allegiance led by Boy Scout Troop 47.

**Moment of Silent Prayer:** Moment of Silent Prayer was not held at this meeting.

### **Approval of Meeting Minutes**

**Motion:** Motion to approve the minutes of the Town Council meeting minutes of April 27, 2026 made by Councilor Alexopoulos, seconded by Councilor Huff-Larmond.

Roll Call Vote: 7-0-1 (Abstentions: O’Connell; Absent at Vote: Clerger)

**Motion passes.**

### **Announcements from the President:**

1. The May 11th joint meeting with the Town Council and School Committee will be cancelled and rescheduled at a later date.

### **Presentations:**

1. The Randolph High School Color Guard team was invited to the Council Meeting for the presentation of a proclamation for their second consecutive year win at NESBA.
2. Fernando Zevallos is the Color Guard director at the High School. States this program started with two members in 2023 and now has 21 members. Grateful for this team and the support of the community.
3. Ester, a RSH senior, is thankful for the team and proud of the growth of the team. Hopes the RHS Color Guard
4. Laka, RHS senior, proud of the program and this team is her second family. Appreciates that coach, team and parents for their support. These are memories that she will carry with her beyond the program.

5. Councilor O'Connell is very proud of the team. Councilor O'Connell stated that he understands how hard the performance is. RHS Color Guard made Randolph proud.
6. Councilor Burgess mentions being a Color Guard requires hard work and great bonds. Saying that most people do not understand the pressures you all face during the performance. Randolph is proud of you all.
7. Councilor Huff-Larmond congratulated the team, saying that they are putting Randolph on the Map. She states she can see the passion within the team. Councilor Huff-Larmond mentioned that there is an internship through the Town of Randolph which more information will be available soon. She encouraged these students to apply.
8. Councilor Gordon reminds everyone that this team will be going to Washington D.C. during Memorial Day weekend to represent the Commonwealth.
9. President Egan asked the Council Clerk to read the Proclamation into the record. After that the Council and the RHS Color Guard gathered for a picture.
10. The High School Principal thanked Mr. Z for his dedication to the team. Keep up the great work!

**Public Hearings: None**

**Public Comments**

Council President Egan opened the public comments portion of the public hearing.

1. Sandy Cohen, 63 Bittersweet Lane: sent her comments to Town Attorney Griffin since she missed Public Comments at the last meeting. She started with informing the Council with how much money was raised to the Randolph Foundation of Education. Gave thanks to Town Manager Howard and DPW Superintendent Neil McCole for patching a hole in the road. She asked for an update on speed bumps since the nicer weather has increased speeding in her neighborhood. Ms. Cohen adds that there is a "no right on red" at Memorial Parkway and she witnessed a few cars turn right on red. She is requesting a flashing sign to alert drivers.

There were no more public comments. The public comments portion of the public hearing was closed. The Councilors were invited to comment or ask questions on the special permit application.

**Proclamations: None**

**Appointments: None**

**Motions, Orders, and Resolutions:**

**Motion:** Councilor Gordon motioned to take Resolution 2026-003 off the table. This motion failed for a lack of a second.

**Motion:** Councilor Gordon motioned to take Resolution 2026-004 off the table. This motion failed for a lack of a second.

**Old/Unfinished Business:**

1. Council Order 2026-017: Amendment To Town Council Rules Section 27 Pertaining to Public Comments/Discussion and Public Hearings

- a. President Egan called on the Councilor who sponsored the order which was Councilor Gordon. Since this order went to the Zoning and Ordinance Subcommittee, Councilor Gordon asked Councilor Burgess to provide an update.
- b. Councilor Burgess stated that the Zoning and Ordinance Subcommittee met and discussed this order. Councilor Burgess stated that this does not allow back and forth but allows for the President to give an answer if one is available.
- c. Councilor Gordon mentions the real importance of this order is to be able to give answers to the public instead of getting back to them at a later date.
- d. Councilor Huff-Larmond asked for clarification on who would answer the question and if multiple councilors could answer. Councilor Gordon says that would be up to the President.
- e. Vice President Brewer was originally in favor of allowing the President to choose to respond. Since he thought on this topic more he is no longer in support with concerns over liability issues.
- f. President Egan is not in support of back and forth. He sees this as a business meeting and this could open the town up to liability. President Egan states that the Council can be reached via email and by contacting the Council Clerk.
- g. Councilor Thompson asked the Town Attorney to share on this topic. She went over the limitations that the town can control in regard to Public Comments. Most cities and towns have public comments or no public comments due to the risk of a person questioning their civil rights while speaking to their government.

**Motion:** President Egan moved to deny Council Order 2026-017 and any subsequent presented and not presented amendments including but not limited to 2026-017A. This motion was seconded by Councilor Alexopoulos. (Vote taken after further discussion)

- h. Councilor Burgess believes that residents have the right to question their government. Councilor Burgess states there are no back and forth in the language of this proposed amendment. He questioned why we have public comments if we have concerns over liabilities.

**Motion:** Councilor Burgess moved to call the question. This motion was seconded by Councilor Alexopoulos. Roll Call Vote: 6-3-0 (Yays: Alexopoulos, Brewer, Clerger, Egan, Huff-Larmond, Thompson; Nays: Burgess, Gordon, O'Connell)

Roll Call Vote: 6-3-0 (Yays: Alexopoulos, Brewer, Clerger, Egan, Huff-Larmond, Thompson; Nays: Gordon, Burgess, O'Connell)

**Motion passes.**

**Motion:** President Egan moved to deny Council Order 2026-017 and any subsequent presented and not presented amendments including but not limited to 2026-017A. This motion was seconded by Councilor Alexopoulos.

Roll Call Vote: 6-1-2 (Yays: Alexopoulos, Brewer, Clerger, Egan, Huff-Larmond, Thompson; Nays: Gordon; Abstentions: O'Connell and Burgess)

**Motion passes.**

**New Business:**

1. Council Order 2026-034: Transfer of General Fund Free Cash to Overlay in the Amount of \$350,000

- a. Town Manager Howard stated the DOR wanted a commitment from the Town to add funds to the overlay after we sent the tax rate last year. The DOR bases this amount off of the size of the town and population.
- b. Councilor Burgess asked how many years of overlay do we have open and what the balance is in that account. Town Manager Howard again states the DOR would like the balance to be increased. Town Manager Howard says that the issue is not residential property but the larger scale ones such as the movie theatre or Amazon warehouse. Councilor Burgess asked what the time period is to be able to file for an abatement. Town Manager Howard believes that it is yearly.
- c. Town Manager Howard asked Town Attorney Griffin if we have any large cases being reviewed by the ATB (Appellate Tax Board). Town Attorney Griffin states that there is one large case being reviewed which is the Amazon building. She added the reasoning for the Amazon case is that the operations are no longer happening at that location.

**Motion:** Vice President Brewer moved to approve Council Order 2026-034. This motion was seconded by Councilor Alexopoulos.

Roll Call Vote: 9-0-0

**Motion passes.**

2. Council Order 2026-035: Transfer of Water/Sewer Retained Earnings for Joint Water Board Operations in the Amount of \$100,000
  - a. Town Manager Howard stated that some of these funds are for multiple purposes such as a two year contract and for Braintree staff members that have been filling in at our plant. Town Manager Howard stated that it has been challenging to find employees to work at a closing plant as well as one that is behind in technology.

**Motion:** Councilor Alexopoulos moved to approve Council Order 2026-035. This motion was seconded by Vice President Brewer.

Roll Call Vote: 9-0-0

**Motion passes.**

3. Council Order 2026-036: Transfer of General Fund Free Cash to Establish and Fund an Energy Resiliency Fund
  - a. Town Manager Howard introduced the order and then called on Assistant Town Manager Dumas to discuss further. Assistant Town Manager Dumas stated that this fund would be used to help with solar credits to complete projects that align with our Green Communities and energy reduction plans.
  - b. Councilor Gordon asked for clarification that this \$50,000 dollar transfer will allow for further investment opportunities. Assistant Town Manager also added that since we are Designated a Green Community we have more grants that we can apply for.
  - c. Councilor O'Connell asked about the site of these solar panels? Assistant Town Manager Dumas stated that one site would be the roof of North Elementary School and any identified repairs would be considered.

**Motion:** Councilor Alexopoulos moved to approve Council Order 2026-036. This motion was seconded by Councilor Gordon.

Roll Call Vote: 9-0-0

**Motion passes.**

- d. Councilor Burgess voted in favor but with the caveat that work at and by the school is signed off on by the Town.

**Town Manager's Report: None**

**Correspondence: None**

**Subcommittee Reports: None**

**Council Comments:**

1. Councilor Alexopoulos: congratulations to the Color Guard Team and thanked the Boy Scouts for being at the meeting tonight.
2. Councilor Thompson: Senior Olympics sign ups have started. There are still some spots left for the RICC summer camp program. Thank you to the Boy Scouts
3. Councilor Huff-Larmond: thanked RCTV for covering the recent Sickle Cell event at Stetson Hall. Congratulations to the RHS Color guard and thank you to the Boy Scouts. May 17th at the Monkey Lounge fundraiser with Randolph Partnership.
4. Councilor O'Connell: Softball showdown May 30th from 11-2 PM. All funds raised will go towards Randolph Athletics. Councilor O'Connell shared a flyer on his social media. Come out and support the event.
5. Councilor Clerger: May 18th is Haitian Flag day. The flag will rise at Town Hall at 10am. Then attendees may go over to Stetson Hall to mingle. Councilor Clerger will share a flyer once it is created. Thursday May 7th at 5 PM there is a subcommittee meeting for Contract Negotiation.
6. President Egan: Congratulations to the RHS Color Guard. Thank you to Troop 47 for being in attendance. President Egan invited the Troop up for a picture after the meeting adjourns.

**Adjournment:**

**Motion:** Motion to adjourn made by Councilor Clerger and seconded by President Egan.

Roll Call Vote: 8-0-0

**Meeting adjourned.**

*The Town Council Meeting adjourned at 7:13 pm.*

Notification of Upcoming Council Meetings:

May 18

June 8 and 22

July 13 and 27

August 10 and 24

September 14 and 28

October 5 and 19

November 2 and 23

December 7