



## **Randolph Town Council**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**Meeting Date: Monday, October 7, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.**

**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 Vice-President Brewer called the meeting to order.

**Roll Call – Council Members Present:** C. Alexopoulos (In-Person), Richard Brewer (In-Person), James Burgess (In-Person), Jesse Gordon (In-Person), Kevin O’Connell (In-Person), Katrina Huff-Larmond (In-Person), Brandon Thompson (In-Person).

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Pledge of Allegiance led by Councillor C. Alexopoulos.

**Moment of Silent Prayer:** Moment of Silent Prayer held in remembrance of Robert “Bob” Shiavone who passed away on September 30, 2024. He was the beloved husband of Catherine Shiavone. Loving father of William Patten of Whitman, Jennifer Austrino and her husband Michael of Avon, Nichole Hayes and her husband Christopher of Randolph, and Robery Shiavone, Jr. and his wife Wendy of Randolph. Our condolences go to family and friends.

### **Public Comments/Discussions**

1. Ira Greene, 63 Fowler Street: I’ve been noticing a lot of the same people coming up here every week. There used to be a book where people participating in public comments signed in with their names and described what they wanted to talk about. Some people coming here to speak don’t have all the facts together and waste the Council’s time. People also come up here and expect you to give answers and this is not supposed to be a question-and-answer session.
2. Paul Foose, West Elm Street Brockton, MA: I’m here to follow up on my comments from last week regarding the shuttle bus petition. I think they’re fending off something very popular in a very half-hearted way. I think the Town should make its statement about whether or not this will be supported.

### **Motions, Orders, and Resolutions**

#### **1. Resolution 2024-001: Resolution in support of Haiti and Haitian Americans**

Councillor Huff-Larmond, Councillor C. Alexopoulos, and Councillor Gordon expressed their sentiments behind the purpose of this Resolution.

Motion to approve Resolution 2024-001 with the amendments made by Councillor Burgess to remove the following portions of the Resolution: “The Randolph Town Council supports statewide and national initiatives such as Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for those from nations experiencing conditions that temporarily prevent the country's nationals from returning safely, or where the country is unable to handle the return of its nationals adequately, as Haiti is at this time” and replace it with “The Randolph Town

Council supports the National Policy known as Temporary Protected Status (TPS) as applied to migrants from Haiti,” seconded by Councillor Huff-Larmond.

Roll Call Vote: 7-0-0 (Absent: W. Alexopoulos, and Egan)

Motion Passes.

## **Public Hearings**

### **1. 6:15 PM - Council Order 2024-050: Amendment of Section 18-3 of the General Ordinances of the Town of Randolph Concerning Department Revolving Funds**

Council Order 2024-050 was introduced at the Town Council meeting on September 30, 2024, by Town Manager Howard. The Town Council Clerk referenced the legal advertisement published in the Boston Herald on October 2, 2024.

Town Manager Howard introduced an amended version of this Council Order entitled “ Council Order 2024-050A Amendment of Section 18-3 of the General Ordinances of the Town of Randolph Concerning Department Revolving Funds” and provided additional information regarding the purpose of the Council Order and the reason for amendments. State law for revolving accounts with the schools have very specific categories and there were other methods that would help them manage tech fees and manage certain parts of the music program. We’ve had a number of conversations with our partners on the School Department side and this is the language that has been agreed upon.

Council Vice-President Brewer opened the public comments portion of the public hearing. There were no public comments. The public comments portion of the public hearing was then closed.

Councillor O’Connell: Will this help reduce fees? Councillor Burgess: No. This allows the school to take in fees and expend those fees appropriately.

Motion to approve Council Order 2024-050A as presented made by Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Huff-Larmond.

Roll Call Vote: 7-0-0 (Absent: W. Alexopoulos and Egan)

Motion passes.

## **New Business:**

### **1. Council Order 2024-051: FY2025 Revolving Fund Spending Authorization**

Town Manager Howard introduced Council Order 2024-051 and provided additional information regarding the purpose of this Council Order.

Motion to approve Council Order 2024-051 as presented made by Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor C. Alexopoulos.

Roll Call Vote: 7-0-0 (W. Alexopoulos and Egan)

Motion passes.

## **Town Manager’s Report:**

1. The clerk’s office has received ballots and is going through the process of taking those 5,000 requests and getting ballots mailed out. This year the ballot is two pages to accommodate the Vietnamese language. Voters must return both pages of the ballot for it to count. If you can drive or have access to a vehicle, we have a drop box outside of Town Hall for ballot drop off or you can leave it with the Clerk’s

office. If you are a campus student, do not place it in a campus mailbox. Step outside of campus and place it in another mailbox.

2. Veterans Service is having a field trip where they are going out for a tour of the American Heritage Museum leaving at 8:30. Reach out to Veterans Services Agenda Kevin Cook at 781-961-0930 ext. 4 for more information. This is a great opportunity. \$15 will cover the cost of breakfast, the entrance fee, and transportation.
3. The Harvest Hoopla is coming up on October 19, 2024, from 12-4 PM at Powers Farm.
4. Trunk or Treat is on October 26 from 6-8 PM at the Randolph Intergenerational Community Center (RICC). Donations are being accepted at the RICC and we are still looking for vehicles to participate.
5. The new trash program rolled out this past week. The Board of Health is working with our vendor to ensure everything is going the way it needs to.
6. Councillor Huff-Larmond: Any update on the Assistant Town Manager position? Town Manager Howard: We have put together an interview committee. It consists of Town Planner Michelle Tyler, Town Attorney Christine Griffin, Town Assessor Janet Teal, Recreations Director Liz LaRosee, Police Chief Anthony Marag, and Town Councillor Brandon Thompson. That was the team that reviewed the redacted resumes and then selected which participants would be interviewed. I expect that a final decision will be made before the next Town Council meeting.
7. Councillor Burgess: More than a month ago the question of traffic improvements came up and one of the concerns was that we don't have enough money but where are we in paving and street calming measures? We had appropriated money for phase one and phase two traffic studies and we haven't spent that money yet. I'm hoping we can get an idea of when we're going to put a shovel on the ground on some of these projects. I'm hesitant to appropriate additional capital funds in the future if we haven't spent what we've already appropriated. What was the \$150,000 appropriated for in December 2023 for Facility Management Services? Where is the light switch for Pole #8-7 near Belcher Park?
8. Councillor Gordon: I don't think we ever formalized what the priorities were regarding speed bumps. My understanding was yes, that was the priority and the number of speed humps was six. 2. I want to follow up on the Frequently Asked Questions ("FAQ") page on the website for the public about which streets are on the list for paving for 2024 and 2025 so people can see what's going on and what to expect. 3. In 2022 the Town Council passed a Council Order for a report on streets to be accepted by the Town as low, middle, and high priority streets. The report is due every February and has not been done in two February's.

## **Old/Unfinished Business:**

1. **Council Order 2024-049: Transfer of Care, Custody, Management, and Control of the Former Devine School Properties To The School Department and the Former Lyons School Properties to the Town**

Town Manager Howard introduced Council Order 2024-049 at the Town Council meeting on September 30, 2024, and Rule 21 was invoked by Councillor Burgess.

Town Manager Howard introduced an amended version of Council Order 2024-049, entitled "Council Order 2024-049A Transfer of Care, Custody, Management and Control of the Former Devine School Properties To the School Department and of the Former Lyons School Properties to the Town."

Councillor Burgess made a motion to amend Council Order 2024-049A by removing "The Randolph Town Council hereby transfers the care, custody, management, and control of the Former Lyons School Properties from the School Department to the Town for use for any municipal purpose. More specifically, the Randolph Town Council, having received the "School Committee Notice of Determination Pursuant to M.G.L. c.40, §15A That Land Is No Longer Needed For School Purposes", hereby transfers the care, custody, management and control of certain Town-owned property (sometimes referred to as "60 Vesey Road" and/or as the "Vesey Road School" and/or as "Town-owned property

located off Vesey Road”) described below (the “Property”) from the School Department to the Town for use for any municipal purpose,” and replacing it with **“The Randolph Town Council accept, from the School Committee, as surplus land known as the Lyons School on Vesey Road (sometimes referred to as “60 Vesey Road” and/or as the “Vesey Road School” and/or as “Town-owned property located off Vesey Road”) to be used for municipal purposes,** seconded by Councillor O’Connell.

Roll Call Vote: 7-0-0 (W. Alexopoulos and Egan)

Motion passes.

### **Correspondence:**

1. **2024 Harvest Hoopla:** Stop by Powers Farm on Saturday, October 19, 2024, from 12-4 PM for lots of fall fun! If you are interested in registering to be a vendor, register online at <https://bit.ly/HarvestHooplaVendor24>
2. **2024 Trunk-or-Treat:** Stop by the Randolph Intergenerational Community Center for a fun trunk-or-treat event on Saturday, October 26, 2024, from 6-8 PM.

### **Committee Report:**

Councillor Gordon brought up two issues: the mobility hub shuttle bus petition and the rules on blasting.

### **Council Comments:**

1. Councillor Gordon: I was an immigrant. The Town of Randolph stands with you. I think it would be helpful for the Haitian community to see this.
2. Councillor C. Alexopoulos: Thank you to the Randolph Fire Department for putting together the recent open house. It was fun.
3. Councillor Thompson: Make sure you register to vote by October 26, 2024. The state website has an easy resource to do that. Bring a sample ballot with you if you’re going to vote in person.
4. Councillor O’Connell: The Fire Department Open House was great. My daughter loves the fire trucks. The Turner Free Library was there reading stories to the kids. That was awesome.
5. Councillor Huff-Larmond: Sunday was a beautiful day as a Council. Frederick Richard, an Olympian from the Town of Stoughton, was celebrated for who he was as an individual. The ambition he had since the age of 2 or 3 to see his dreams come to. We provided him with a proclamation and he was very grateful. 2. Randolph Youth Council is hosting a hygiene products drive. There is a drop-off box available at Town Hall and the RICC 3. Randolph Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Coalition had a great meeting last week with the Randolph Police Department. We talked about how we can continue to come together and keep the community safe. 4. Randolph DEI English courses are starting in two weeks at the RICC. classes will be on Thursdays from 4-5 PM. For those who are interested in learning come on by, it’s a free class. 5. Delta Sigma Theta Inc. encourages all to vote. 6. Happy Indigenous People's Day!
6. Councillor Burgess: We received a lot of calls from residents regarding the event at Randolph High School. Rest assured that the event that happened there was not what the Town was told would happen. We heard you and it won’t happen again.

### **Adjournment:**

Motion to adjourn made by Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor C. Alexopoulos.  
Roll Call Vote: 7-0-0 (Absent: W. Alexopoulos and Egan)  
Meeting adjourned at 7:22 PM.