



## **Randolph Town Council**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**Meeting Date: Monday, April 27, 2026, at 6:05 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 (Via Zoom), James F. Burgess Jr. (In-Person), Natacha Clerger (Via Zoom), Ryan Egan (In-Person), Jesse Gordon (In-Person), Katrina Huff-Larmond (In-Person), Brandon Thompson (Via Zoom). Katrina Huff-Larmond arrived after roll call.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilor Gordon.

**Moment of Silent Prayer:** Moment of Silent Prayer held.

#### **Approval of Meeting Minutes:**

**Motion:** Motion to approve the minutes of the Town Council meeting minutes of April 13, 2026 made by Councilor Alexopoulos, seconded by Vice Councilor Brewer.

Roll Call Vote: 7-0-0 (Absent at Vote: Huff-Larmond and O'Connell)

**Motion passes.**

**Announcements from the President: None**

**Presentations: None**

**Public Hearings: None**

**Public Comments: None**

*Councilor Huff-Larmond arrived in person at 6:09PM*

#### **Proclamations:**

1. RHS Color Guard
  - a. This proclamation is for their second win at NESBA.

**Motion:** Motion to approve the proclamation to the Randolph High School Color Guard made by Councilor Burgess, seconded by Councilor Alexopoulos.

Roll Call Vote: 7-0-1 (Abstention: Huff-Larmond; Absent: O'Connell)

**Motion passes.**

**Appointments:**

1. Review of Randolph Republican Town Committee (RDTC) Submission of Members for Consideration to Serve on the Board of Registrars and Appointment of Registrars
  - a. The Board of Registrars meet, they supplied the nominations for the Republican registrar for Town Council to review.

**Motion:** Councilor Burgess motioned to appoint James Buiel as the Republican Registrar. This motion was seconded by Councilor Alexopoulos.

Roll Call Vote: 8-0-0 (Absent: O'Connell)

**Motion passes.**

2. Appointment of Nina Smith to the Disability Commission
  - a. The appointment of Nina Smith has been recommended by the Town Manager. Mrs. Smith's resume was attached to the packet for the Council to review.

**Motion:** Councilor Burgess motioned to appoint Nina Smith to the Disability Commission. This motion was seconded by Councilor Alexopoulos.

Roll Call Vote: 8-0-0 ( Absent: O'Connell)

**Motion passes.**

**Motions, Orders, and Resolutions:**

1. Resolution 2026-003: Budget Resolution on the Will of the Council on the DPW Budget (Referred back from Resolutions and Proclamations Subcommittee on April 22, 2026
  - a. President Egan gave the floor to the Sponsor of the Resolutions which is Councilor Gordon.
  - b. Councilor Gordon spoke on this resolution which is to increase the DPW staff for the purpose of town park/ trails clean up and maintenance. Councilor Gordon stated that the Resolutions and Proclamations subcommittee met and voted to bring this back to the Council for discussion.
  - c. Councilor Huff-Larmond asked for the Town Managers input. Town Manager Howard would use caution adding to the budget since we have been using free cash to cover the budget. Councilor Huff-Larmond stated the position would be helpful but could we maintain it?
  - d. Councilor Clerger reiterated what the Town Manager Howard stated with the budget concerns.
  - e. Councilor Thompson asked about the total cost of a full time employee besides the salary. Town Manager Howard added that the town has a generous benefits package and the cost is much more than just a salary.
  - f. Councilor Gordon rebutted that Council Order 2026-027 (voted last meeting) used funds from free cash to fund overtime expenses for park cleanup. This position would be used for the same tasks. Town Manager Howard clarified that those funds were not just used for park maintenance and cleanup but also to clean up after the hard winter we had.
  - g. Councilor Burgess defined a resolution. Also stated that these resolutions do not dictate what is in the budget. Councilor Burgess does not want this to be precedent setting and believes we need to be fiscally responsible.
  - h. Councilor Gordon says the goal of these resolutions is to prioritize budget items.

- i. Councilor Alexopoulos asked if Councilor Gordon has spoken with the Town Manager on his budget requests.

**Motion:** Councilor Alexopoulos motioned to call the question, seconded by Councilor Burgess.

Roll Call Vote: 4-3-1 (Yays: Alexopoulos, Brewer, Burgess, Thompson; Nays: Clerger, Gordon, Huff-Larmond; Abstention: Egan, Absent: O'Connell)

**Motion passes.**

**Motion:** Councilor Burgess motioned to table Resolution 2026-003, seconded by Councilor Alexopoulos.

Roll Call Vote: 5-2-1 (Yays: Alexopoulos, Brewer, Burgess, Egan, Thompson; Nays: Gordon, Huff-Larmond; Abstention: Clerger; Absent: O'Connell)

**Motion passes.**

2. Resolution 2026-004: Budget Resolution on the Will of the Council on the RICC Budget (Referred back from Resolutions and Proclamations Subcommittee on April 22, 2026)
  - a. President Egan gave the floor to the sponsor for introduction on the Resolution.
  - b. Councilor Gordon would like to have the hours extended at the Randolph Intergenerational Community Center. Stating that many nights at 8 p.m. there are still kids there using the center.
  - c. Councilor Huff-Larmond recommended that the RICC programming be discussed at the Appointments, Operations and Oversight first for discussion on how the money will be spent.
  - d. Councilor Thompson reiterated that his recollection of the subcommittee meeting was to discuss RICC happenings/programs with the new Director of Community Programs.
  - e. Councilor Clerger replied to Councilor Gordon saying that 8 p.m. is late and kids should be home. Councilor Clerger reminded that the RICC is not producing any money so to add for funding for the RICC will stretch the tax payers money.
  - f. Councilor Brewer does not believe that we can take on any additional hours unless we start charging membership fees.

**Motion:** Councilor Gordon motioned to approve Resolution 2026-004. This motion was seconded by Councilor Huff-Larmond. Under Roberts Rules a motion to table takes precedence over a motion to approve.

**Motion:** Councilor Burgess motioned to table Resolution 2026-004. This motion was seconded by Councilor Alexopoulos.

Roll Call Vote: 6-2-0 (Yays: Alexopoulos, Brewer, Burgess, Clever, Egan, Thompson; Nays: Gordon and Huff-Larmond; Absent: O'Connell)

**Motion passes.**

#### **Old/Unfinished Business:**

1. Council Order 2026-017: Amendment To Town Council Rules Section 27 Pertaining to Public Comments/Discussion and Public Hearings (Refer back from Zoning and Ordinance Committee on March 24, 2026)
  - a. Town Attorney Griffin added before discussion that attached to Council Order 2026-017 is 2026-017A which has a correction of "Section 13" to "Section 27".
  - b. Councilor Gordon would like to create a method for residents to ask the Council questions during the meetings. Some of the concepts in the order such as a sign in sheet at the podium have been implemented and this would codify that.
  - c. Councilor Burgess stated that Zoning and Ordinance met and has amended the order by changing the text in its entirety. Councilor Burgess read the recommended amendment into the record.

**Motion:** Councilor Burgess moved to amend the Town Council Rules on Public Comments, Discussions and Public Hearings by striking in its entirety Section 27 and replacing it with the following:

“SECTION 27: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN COUNCIL MEETINGS AND DELIBERATIONS The purpose of the section is to provide rules of public participation at town council meetings that allow for the council to conduct the business of the town in an orderly and efficient manner while protecting the vital tradition of commentary and feedback by the public The Open Meeting Law grants the public the right to attend any meeting of a public body except an executive session. An individual in attendance may not address the public body without the permission of the Chair. Section 1: Public Comments During the portion of the meeting that calls for public comment the public May comment on any topic or ask a question of the council or its government Section 2: Agenda Items During the meeting, the public at the discretion of the president may ask a question or comment on the topic being currently debated Section 3: Public Hearings During a public hearing the public may make comments or ask a question on the matter that the public hearing addresses. Section 4: Participation The public shall sign in the book named “Resident Inquiries” at the podium with their name, address and question or topic. This should be done prior to or during that section of the meeting they wish to participate in. The person shall sign and write their name, address, and questions even if they do not wish to speak at the meeting. Section 5: The President In all circumstances, the public has a right to expect an answer, if one is available from their government. To that end, the President may answer the speaker or may choose to recognize a district councilor and/or councilors to respond or may choose to have the question answered at a later date by staff. Section 6: Attendance The public in the case of agenda items and public comment shall be in person at the meeting. Public hearings may be done in person or remotely. Any person upon entering the council meeting by physical attendance or virtually, 27 Section K, Item 1. grants permission to the town council to record and disseminate their presence and testimony at the meeting. The Chair may, in the Chair’s discretion and upon request, allow a group representative more time to speak in order to avoid repetitive comments from multiple speakers and aid in the efficient conduct of the meeting. Nothing in this Section shall prevent the Town Council from inviting individuals to speak to the Council on a particular topic of interest to the Council or for the length of time. Anyone who reads from a document, displays an exhibit shall file a copy with the Town Council Clerk. All remarks and questions shall be addressed to the Council as a whole through the President and not to any member thereof. No person other than members of the Council and the person having the floor shall enter into discussion either directly or through a member of the Council without permission of the presiding officer. No one shall use the council meetings for the purpose of: 1. To promote or oppose any candidate running for office 2. For the purposes relating to an election 3. To advertise for private commercial purposes or private monetary gain 4. to engage in illegal conduct 5. To use threatening language or to engage in the use of fighting words, threats of violence or other speech At the meeting anyone making out of order comments or acting in an unruly manner shall be subjected to removal from the meeting at the call of the President. No signs or banners of any kind shall be displayed in the council chamber. No demonstration of approval or disapproval from members of the public will be permitted (including, but not limited to cheering, clapping, booing, etc.), and if such demonstrations are made the gallery may be cleared upon instruction of the Council President. Public comments may also be provided to the council by providing them in writing to the council clerk by hand or by mail or email. Members of the public seeking reasonable accommodation to gain access to the meeting; contact the Council Clerk at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting”.

- d. Councilor Clerger asked if this motion allows for back and forth with the residents. Councilor Gordon says that this would just allow for the Council to provide an answer. Councilor Clerger is concerned that this will increase the meeting lengths. Councilor Clerger mentions that we can be reached via email and phone by residents to answer questions.

- e. Councilor Burgess reminded the Council that conversations that happen out of the meeting can not be documented or filed as a public record. Councilor Clerger is hesitant to allow this considering not every resident will get an answer only some.
- f. Councilor Alexopoulos is concerned with potential issues this amendment can cause. He believes the staff is handling inquiries from residents.

**Motion:** Councilor Alexopoulos motioned to table Council Order 2026-017. This motion was seconded by Councilor Huff-Larmond.

Roll Call Vote: 4-3-1 (Yays: Alexopoulos, Brewer, Egan, Huff-Larmond; Nays: Gordon, Burgess, Thompson; Abstention: Clerger; Absent: O'Connell)

**Motion passes.**

**New Business:**

1. Council Order 2026-030: Authorization and Approval for New Successor Collective Bargaining Agreement Between The Town of Randolph, Massachusetts and New England Police Benevolent Association, Inc., Local 18 (Patrol Officers) ("Union")
  - a. The Town Manager presented a three contract to the Town Council to vote on, he stated both Patrol and Superior contracts were similar. The COLA is 0%, 2.5%, 2.5% for each of the three years. A drug and alcohol policy was added and the sick leave policy was updated. Thanked the Union for having great conversation during negotiations. As well as gave thanks to the labor counsel and the Chief.
  - b. Town Manager Howard mentioned that the promotion process was adjusted as well- which allows for a more robust process with promotions.
  - c. Councilor Burgess asked about the POST percentage and the administration fee with the detail rate. Town Manager Howard stated that as the detail rate goes up so does the percentage that is paid to the town.
  - d. Councilor Huff-Larmond asked about lateral transfers. Town Manager Howard stated that it is rare to see high level lateral transfers. Police Chief Marag stated that this new hybrid program is only for entry level officers starting with the Town of Randolph.

**Motion:** Councilor Alexopoulos moved to approve Council Order 2026-032, seconded by Councilor Huff-Larmond.

Roll Call Vote: 8-0-0 (Absent: O'Connell)

**Motion passes.**

2. Council Order 2026-031: Authorization and Approval For New Successor Collective Bargaining Agreement By and Between The Town of Randolph, Massachusetts and New England Police Benevolent Association, Inc., Local 34 ("Superior Officers' Union")
  - a. The Town Manager went over both contracts at the same time. The superior contract has a senior officer and education component to the contracts.

**Motion:** Councilor Alexopoulos moved to approve Council Order 2026-032, seconded by Councilor Egan.

Roll Call Vote: 8-0-0 (Absent: O'Connell)

**Motion passes.**

3. Council Order 2026-032: Transfer of General Fund Free Cash for Emergency Mechanical Repairs at Stetson Hall

- a. Town Manager Howard started the introduction of the Council Order and then had Interim Assistant Town Manager Kevin Dumas go into detail.
- b. Stetson Hall's boiler and chilled had failed and are in need of repairs.
- c. Assistant Town Manager Dumas stated that the Town recently entered into a maintenance agreement with MTech to help with building preventative maintenance.
- d. Councilor Burgess asked about the possible cause of the failure.
- e. Councilor Clerger thanked Interim Assistant Town Manager Dumas for his work that he is doing around town.
- f. Councilor Thompson asked for a maintenance plan for our municipal buildings.

**Motion:** Councilor Burgess moved to approve Council Order 2026-032, seconded by Councilor Alexopoulos.  
Roll Call Vote: 8-0-0 (Absent: O'Connell)

**Motion passes.**

4. Council Order 2026-033: Transfer of General Fund Free Cash to Fund Financial Consultants (CLA)
  - a. Town Manager Howard introduced the Council Order which is to pay invoices to cover the cost of the financial firm the town is using. The Town is currently without a Town Accountant.
  - b. Councilor Burgess asked Town Manager Howard if he will need an extension on the Budget. Town Manager Howard planned to ask for an extension during his Town Managers report.

**Motion:** Councilor Alexopoulos moved to approve Council Order 2026-033 and also to approve an extension of two weeks for the Town Manager to meet the budget section of the Charter for the Town Manager to submit a budget to the Town Council. Extension is until May 15, 2026. Seconded by Councilor Burgess.

Roll Call Vote: 8-0-0 (Absent: O'Connell)

**Motion passes.**

#### **Town Manager's Report:**

1. Had the opportunity to attend Hartley's Grand Opening. It was a great turnout and the owners have done a wonderful job renovating the facility. We wish them great success in Randolph.
2. The Sickie Cell Event was great, given the heat issue at Stetson Hall. This symposium consisted of many healthcare officials and members of the Red Cross. This event was recorded and can be watched on RCTV (Randolph Community Television).
3. Councilor Huff-Larmond thanked Town Manager Howard for getting some pot holes filled.

**Correspondence: None**

#### **Subcommittee Reports:**

**Motion:** Councilor Burgess motioned to take Council Order 2026-017 off the table. This motion was seconded by Councilor Gordon.

Roll Call Vote: 4-3-1 (Yays: Thompson, Huff-Larmond, Gordon, Burgess; Nays: Alexopoulos, Brewer, Egan; Abstention: Clerger)

**Motion passes.**

This order will be placed on the next Town Council Agenda.

#### **Council Comments:**

1. Councilor Huff-Larmond thanked all involved and attendees of the Sickle Cell Symposium. It was a great event even though there were heat issues at Stetson Hall. A mental health summit will take place at the RICC on May 2nd at 1 pm. The DEI is working on increasing community engagement as well as a Pride Event. Councilor Huff-Larmond has started working on the summer internship program and will provide more information soon.
2. Councilor Thompson: Red Sox v Yankees trip through the RICC was a success even though they lost. Councilor Thompson stated that the weather is warming up and he is seeing more residents out and about. He looks forward to speaking with residents.
3. Councilor Alexopoulos congratulated Hartley's on their grand opening. There is a mini Greek Festival this weekend at 547 Oak Street in Brockton.
4. Councilor Burgess mentioned there is a new traffic calming measure in town.
5. Councilor Gordon plans to take his resolutions off the table at the next meeting. Randolph Democrats are meeting May 7th in the Lincoln room in Town Hall. May 14th at 6:30, the Randolph Foundation for Education is meeting. The fundraiser for the Randolph band last weekend was a success.
6. Councilor Clerger mentioned that Ayanna Pressley supported the extension of the TPS for Haitians. May 18th is Haitian Flag day, the flag will be risen at 10 am; at Town Hall. Councilor Clerger welcomes Hartley's to town. May 16th there will be a mental health event, more information to follow.

**Adjournment:**

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

Roll Call Vote: 8-0-0

**Meeting adjourned.**

*The Town Council Meeting adjourned at 8:01 pm.*

Notification of Upcoming Council Meetings:

May 4 and 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