



TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, April 28, 2025 at 6:00 PM

Town Hall - Chapin Hall - 41 South Main Street Randolph, MA
02368

AGENDA

This is a hybrid meeting. The public is invited to attend this meeting in person or remotely, by telephone or computer access. This meeting is being posted pursuant to the state statute authorizing temporary remote participation as described here:

<https://www.randolphma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/1864/remotemeetings23>

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Please note that this Town Council Meeting will be video and audio recorded and will be broadcast, including over local cable and the internet. Any person, upon entering a council meeting or hearing for any purpose, including the purpose of participating, viewing, listening or testifying, grants permission to the Town Council to record and televise or otherwise publish their presence and testimony. Public comments shall only be provided in person and shall not be provided remotely.

A. Call to Order - Roll Call - Pledge of Allegiance

B. Moment of Silent Prayer

C. Approval of Minutes

- [1.](#) Approval of Meeting Minutes for Town Council Meeting March 24, 2025

D. Announcements from the President

E. Presentations

F. Public Hearings

- [1.](#) 6:15 PM: Council Order 2025-006: Request for the Town Council to Initiate an Amendment to the Randolph Zoning Ordinance - Chapter 200 of the General Code of the Town of Randolph Concerning Watershed and Wetland Protection Overlay Districts Pursuant to the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968
- [2.](#) Council Order 2025-016: Local Acceptance of M.G.L. Ch. 60, Section 2 Regarding the Abatement of *de minimus* Tax Balances

G. Public Comments/Discussions

Public comments shall only be provided in person and shall not be provided remotely.

H. Proclamations

1. Proclamation Recognizing May as Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month

I. Appointments

J. Motions, Orders, and Resolutions

K. Town Manager's Report

L. Old/Unfinished Business

M. New Business

- [1.](#) Council Order 2025-021: Transfer of General Fund Free Cash for Real Estate Interim Update of Values

N. Correspondence

O. Committee Reports

P. Open Council Comments

Q. Adjournment

Notification of Upcoming Meeting Dates

May 5 and 19

June 9 and 23

July 14 and 28

August 11 and 25

September 8 and 22

October 20

November 3 and 24

December 8



Randolph Town Council

DRAFT Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: Monday, March 24, 2025, 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 President Alexopoulos called the meeting to order.

Roll Call – Council Members Present: Christos Alexopoulos (In-Person), Richard Brewer (In-Person), Natacha Clerger (Via Zoom), Jesse Gordon (Via Zoom), Kevin O’Connell (Via Zoom), Katrina Huff-Larmond (Via Zoom), Brandon Thompson (In-Person).

Pledge of Allegiance: Pledge of Allegiance led by Councillor Brewer.

Moment of Silent Prayer: Moment of Silent Prayer held in remembrance of Randolph Police Officer, Sergeant Scott Sherman, who passed away on March 16, 2025. Scott joined the department in 2002 and served in many roles for the agency. He was a well-respected member of the Police Department, and our condolences go out to his family.

Announcements from the President

1. Thank you to members of the Randolph Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Coalition, Randolph Democratic Town Committee, and Public Safety Subcommittee for submitting a Welcoming Resolution. It was voted at the last meeting to add it to the next Town Council agenda. Thank you all for participating in this process of helping us navigate those waters.
2. State Representative Richard Wells was in Town today, and I know some residents had an opportunity to speak to him. Thank you for coming to visit Randolph.

New Business

1. **Council Order 2025-011: Amendment of Chapter 300 and Chapter 301 of the General Ordinances of the Town of Randolph Concerning the Charts of Fines and Fees**

Town Manager Howard introduced Council Order 2025-011 and was accompanied by Assistant Town Manager Monica Lamboy to provide additional information regarding the purpose of this Council Order.

Council Order 2025-011 will come back to the Council at a future meeting for a vote.

Town Manager’s Report:

1. If you have an uncashed check from the Town of Randolph, go to our website and click on the link for a list of names and the form to return to the Treasurer/Collector's Office. Eventually, those funds will go to the State.
2. Randolph Public Health, Randolph Women's Club, and Harvard Medical are having a kidney-focused health screening on Saturday, March 29, 2025, from 1 PM to 4 PM at the Randolph Intergenerational Community Center.
3. Motor Vehicle Excise Taxes are due by April 2, 2025. If you have any questions, please contact the Town Manager's office.
4. Rabies vaccine clinic is taking place on April 12, 2025, at 9 AM here at Town Hall, in the parking lot. The Town Clerk's office will also be present so you will have an opportunity to register your dog.

Councillor Gordon entered the meeting, in person, at 6:15 PM.

Public Hearings:

1. 6:15 PM - Council Order 2025-001: Request for the Town Council to Initiate an Amendment to the Randolph Zoning Ordinance - Chapter 200 of the General Code of the Town of Randolph Concerning Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

Council Order 2025-001 was introduced at the Town Council meeting on January 27, 2025. The legal advertisements were published in the Boston Herald on March 8 and March 15, 2025. Council President Alexopoulos opened the public hearing on this matter. Town Planner Michelle Tyler provided additional information regarding this Zoning Ordinance.

1. Joe Burke, 54 Hills Street: Do we get any revenue? Town Planner Michelle Tyler: Revenue would only come to the Town if there were an electric vehicle charging station on municipal property. Mr. Burke asked for additional information on the electric vehicle charging stations that currently exist in the Town.
2. Sandy Cohen, 63 Bittersweet Lane: Who owns the charging stations? Do any of the existing electric vehicle charging stations have to be moved for fire safety? Town Planner Michelle Tyler: No, you cannot retroactively enforce the zoning amendment. Any EV stations being installed in the future can be held to the standard

There were no more public comments. Council President Alexopoulos closed the public comments portion of the public hearing.

Councillor Gordon: Are there any particular risks for charging stations? Town Planner Michelle Tyler provided additional information.

Councillor Thompson: Would this impact an apartment complex? Town Planner Michelle Tyler: Yes. There is no parcel in Randolph exempt from this, except for single-family homes.

Councillor Brewer: Regulations are great. My concern is the battery exchange station.

Councillor O'Connell: Do we have any current concerns about the charging stations we already have?

Councillor Clerger: Did I hear you say there is no financial interest for the town? Town Planner Michelle Tyler: If there are charging stations on municipal property and we choose to charge for the use, then yes the revenues would come to the Town.

Motion to approve Council Order 2025-001 as presented made by Councillor Brewer, seconded by Councillor O'Connell.

Roll Call Vote: 7-0-0 (Absent: Burgess and Egan)

Motion passes.

2. **6:15 PM - Council Order 2024-018: Acceptance, Via Gift, of George M. Lovering Circle As A Municipal Public Way in the Town of Randolph**
3. **6:15 PM - Council Order 2024-019: Acceptance, Via Gift, of McEnelly Circle As A Municipal Public Way in the Town of Randolph**

The applicants for the street acceptance requests need additional time to gather the necessary documents to complete the street acceptance application. They have requested a continuance of the public hearings to May 19, 2025, at 6:15 PM.

Motion to continue the public hearing for Council Order 2024-018 and Council Order 2025-019 to May 19, 2025, at 6:15 PM made by Councillor Brewer, seconded by Councillor Clerger.

Roll call vote: 7-0-0 (Absent: Burgess and Egan)

Motion passes.

Public Comments:

1. Sandy Slavet, 42 Brooke Street: Thank you for agreeing to move the Resolution forward. I volunteer at the Randolph Food Pantry and for the DEI's ESOL classes, and participants from both programs have diminished considerably since the current administration has declared themselves enemies of the people. My grandparents fled Russia under the Tsar, and if we learned anything from history is that if we say nothing, we do nothing, and our fears will be realized.
2. Kevin Coleman Joyce: 8 Dartmouth Street, Randolph, MA: I second all that Sandy just said.
3. Sandy Cohen, 63 Bittersweet Lane: I apologize for misspeaking at the last Council meeting when I said the late Mr. Alexopoulos would not allow it on the agenda, it was brought to my attention he was not the president at the time so I stand corrected. I would like to third what Sandy said. My parents and grandparents came from Eastern Europe so I hope this goes on an agenda and is approved.
4. Paula St. James, 8 Clairmont Road: Thank you for putting this resolution on the agenda at the next Council meeting. My parents came to Randolph as immigrants and were welcomed into this community. I thought to myself, what is controversial about this resolution? We need to codify this resolution so that all know they are safe and welcome.
5. Alan, 4 Morse Avenue: As a child of an immigrant parent, I can assure you that many of the folks who are here are not criminals. Most of the individuals who come here come to make a better life for their families, and they work hard in the community. When this does come up, I hope that it will have positive feedback.

Councillor Burgess entered the meeting, in person, at 6:40 PM.

Subcommittee Reports:

1. Councillor Brewer reported on the Ordinance Subcommittee: We met on the wetland zoning ordinance and voted to move that forward.
2. Councillor Clerger reported on the Public Safety Subcommittee: As Vice-Chair of the Public Safety Subcommittee, we worked on the Welcoming Resolution, and they are willing to work with the Council on any changes that need to be made. I hope that all of us will support it and make the voters of this Town happy.

Council Comments:

1. Councillor O'Connell: Apologies for not being here in person. 1. The School Committee met on Thursday, and we took a look at the cellphone pouches being given to students to lock up their phones while in class. 2. The St Patrick's Day event with many of you at Stetson Hall. We had good food and good company, and it was great being in that environment with everyone. I hope to see more events like that.
2. Councillor Clerger: 1. I would like to invite the community to a Greek parade on April 27 at 1 PM, 2. Haitian Flag Day plans will be different due to current circumstances. We will do a prayer service.
3. Councillor Gordon: 1. I want to thank the speakers who came to speak on the welcoming resolution. 2. Randolph Community Band Concert is on March 29, 2025, in Quincy. Buy your tickets online!
4. Councillor Burgess: I am saddened by the loss of Sergeant Sherman. He was a great hire, and a great man. He will be missed.
5. Councillor Thompson: 1. It was great to see everyone at the St. Patrick's Day event. 2. I was also at the Community center the next day to see Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley. She got to talk to a lot of members of the community. I also saw her at her Town Hall in Roxbury, and she was interested to hear what the community had to say. 3. I previously brought up the Columbia University Student, Mahmoud Khalil. He is still being held by the federal government without specific charges that they're holding him with. I want to make sure people are aware of that and are following that situation.
6. Councillor Brewer: I am also saddened by the loss of Sergeant Sherman. I will keep his family and the Randolph Police Department in my thoughts and prayers.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn made by Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Thompson.

Roll Call Vote: 7-0-0 (Absent: Huff-Larmond and Egan)

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM.

Request for the Town Council to Initiate
An Amendment to the Randolph Zoning Ordinance –
Chapter 200 of the General Code of the Town of Randolph –
Concerning Watershed and Wetland Protection Overlay Districts

§ 200-16. Watershed and Wetland Protection Overlay Districts. [Added 5-22-2006 ATM by Art. 50, approved 10-17-2006]

- A. The purpose of this district is to:
- (1) Protect, preserve and maintain the water table and water recharge areas within the Town of Randolph so as to preserve the present and potential water supplies for the public health and safety of the inhabitants of the Town of Randolph.
 - (2) Assure the continuation of the natural flow pattern of the watercourses' capacity to protect persons and provide against the hazards of floodwater within the Town in order to provide adequate and safe floodwater storage inundation.
 - (3) Provide that the lands in the Town of Randolph subject to seasonal and/or periodic flooding shall not be used for residential or other purposes in such a manner as to endanger the health and safety of the inhabitants thereof.
- B. In a Watershed and Wetlands Protection Overlay District, permitted uses shall be in accordance with the underlying zoning, subject to affirmative finding and approval of the Randolph Board of Appeals and the following restrictions:
- (1) Each Watershed and Wetlands Protection Overlay District shall be subdivided into areas as follows:
 - (a) Area 1: all district land lying within the defined water and swampland area shown on the hereinbefore referenced topographic maps of the Town of Randolph and designated on said maps as "Area 1."
 - (b) Area 2: all district land lying outside the defined water and swampland area shown on the hereinbefore referenced topographic maps of the Town of Randolph and designated on said maps as "Area 2."
 - (2) District area restrictions.
 - (a) Area 1: unsuitable for development of any type; not to be built upon, excavated or filled; may be used to satisfy applicable area requirements in accordance with the underlying zoning.
 - (b) Area 2: development allowed in accordance with all the applicable laws and bylaws of the Town of Randolph governing use in accordance with the underlying zoning, with the following restrictions:
 - [1] Any and all structures approved for construction within this area and

required by law to be serviced with sanitary facilities shall be connected to Town sewer systems.

- [2] No structure may be constructed or paving placed within fifty (50) feet of the water and swamp land designated as "Area 1" or within twenty-five (25) feet of the bank of any brook, stream or river within the area.
 - [3] The finished elevation of any basement floor of a structure approved for construction within this area shall be of a minimum of four (4) feet above the elevation of the closest approach to said structure of the water and swampland area delineated on the hereinbefore-referenced topographic maps of the Town of Randolph designated as "Area 1."
 - [4] All drainage must comply with the requirements of the Randolph Planning Board.
- (3) Permitted uses shall be as follows:
- (a) Proper operation of and maintenance of dams and other water-control devices.
 - (b) Temporary alteration of water level for emergency or maintenance, upon written approval of the Town Engineer.
 - (c) Appropriate governmental use, including but not limited to water and sewage works, pumping stations and river and stream clearance, jointly approved by the Town Engineer and Water Department.
 - (d) Dams, excavations, relocation of waterways and creation of ponds and drainage improvements, consistent with the purpose of this chapter, upon written approval of the Town Engineer.
 - (e) The repair, rebuilding, modification or enlargement of all existing residential, commercial and industrial buildings, consistent with the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and in compliance with all other local bylaws, provided that such proposed work does not affect the natural flow pattern of any watercourse or groundwater supply.
 - (f) Driveways and roads where alternative means of access are impractical, consistent with the purpose of this chapter.
- (4) Administration.
- (a) Upon written application, the Building Commissioner shall determine, by any means at the Building Commissioner's disposal, whether the parcel identified in the application and shown on any accompanying plot plan lies within Area 1 and/or Area 2 of a Watershed and Wetlands Protection Overlay District. In order to expedite this determination, the Building Commissioner shall, at the Building Commissioner's request, be provided by the applicant with a complete overall topographic plan of the area proposed for use, prepared by a registered professional engineer or registered land surveyor, showing contour elevations at two-foot intervals, referred to United States Geological Survey datum. **[Amended 4-16-1996 ATM by Art. 11, approved 7-29-1996]**

- (b) This topographic drawing shall show all pertinent information, including existing brooks, streams, rivers and areas of ponding, the extent and depth of proposed excavation and/or filling limits of other proposed construction and/or appurtenant work.
- (c) A determination by the Building Commissioner that the parcel identified in the application lies within Area 1 and/ or Area 2 of a Watershed and Wetlands Protection Overlay District shall require the Building Commissioner's immediate referral to the Randolph Planning Board for recommendation for a finding consistent with the intent of this chapter. The Planning Board will require copies of all information submitted to the Building Commissioner for its consideration of the application. Any owner of land in Area 1 and/or Area 2 who is aggrieved by a decision of the Building Commissioner and/or Planning Board may appeal to the Board of Appeals. **[Amended 4-16-1996 ATM by Art. 11, approved 7-29-1996]**
- (5) Special flood hazard areas.** ~~The Federal Emergency Management Agency has issued revised Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) and Flood Insurance Study Booklet (FIS) for the Town of Randolph, which identifies the special flood hazard areas within the Town. The revision date of the FIRM Maps and FIS Booklet is July 17, 2012 (new date to be added). All proposed new construction, substantial additions/improvements and utilities within the one hundred year floodplain must comply with the revised FIRM Maps, FIS Booklet, and the provisions in Subsection B(6) of this section. [Amended 5-10-2000 ATM by Art. 9, approved 9-27-2000; 6-11-2012 by Ord. No. 2012-017]~~ **The Floodplain District is herein established as an overlay district. The District includes all special flood hazard areas within Randolph designated at Zone A, AE, AH, AO, A99, V or VE on the Norfolk County Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) dated July 8, 2025 issued by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for the administration of the National Flood Insurance Program. The exact boundaries of the District shall be defined by the 1%-chance base flood elevations shown on the FIRM and further defined by the Norfolk County Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report dated July 8, 2025. The FIRM and FIS report are incorporated herein by reference and are on file with the Town Clerk, Planning Board, Building Commissioner, Conservation Commission and Town Engineer.**

(6) Floodplain Overlay District

Special flood hazard areas. Areas are as created by the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) on their most current maps adopted by the Town of Randolph in conjunction with the State Flood Hazard Management Program of the Department of Conservation and Recreation Office of Water Resources, the State Building Code, Wetlands Overlay Protection Act, State Sanitary Code and the Town of Randolph Watershed and Wetlands Protection Overlay District Zoning Code, and any other applicable zoning codes and/or bylaws. **[Added 4-24-2001 ATM by Art. 21, approved 12-21-2001; 6-11-2012 by Ord. No. 2012-017]**

A. Statement of floodplain area purposes:

- (1) Ensure public safety through reducing the threats to life and personal injury.

- (2) Eliminate new hazards to emergency response officials.
- (3) Prevent the occurrence of public emergencies resulting from water quality contamination and pollution due to flooding.
- (4) Avoid the loss of utility services which, if damaged by flooding, would disrupt or shut down the utility network and impact regions of the community beyond the site of flooding.
- (5) Eliminate costs associated with the response and cleanup of flooding conditions.
- (6) Reduce damage to public and private property resulting from flooding waters.

B. Definitions. As used in this subsection, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

AREA OF SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD — Land in the floodplain within a community subject to a one-percent or greater chance of flooding in any given year. The area may be designated as Zone A, AO, AH, A1-30, AE, A99, V1-30, VE, or V.

BASE FLOOD — The flood having a one-percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year.

DEVELOPMENT — Any man-made change to improved or unimproved real estate, including but not limited to buildings or other structures, mining, dredging, filling, grading, paving, excavation or drilling operations.

DISTRICT — Floodplain district.

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

(FEMA) — Administers the National Flood Insurance Program. FEMA provides a nationwide flood hazard area mapping study program for communities as well as regulatory standards for development in the flood hazard areas.

FLOOD BOUNDARY AND FLOODWAY MAP — An official map of a community issued by FEMA that depicts, based on detailed analyses, the boundaries of the one-hundred- year and five-hundred-year floods and the one-hundred- year floodway. (For maps done in 1987 and later, the floodway designation is included on the FIRM.)

FLOOD HAZARD BOUNDARY MAP (FHBM) — An official map of a community issued by FEMA where the boundaries of the flood and related erosion areas having special hazards have been designated as Zone A or E.

FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP (FIRM) — An official map of a community on which FEMA has delineated both the areas of special flood hazard and the risk premium zones applicable to the community.

FLOOD INSURANCE STUDY — An examination, evaluation, and determination of flood hazards, and, if appropriate, corresponding water surface elevations, or an examination, evaluation and determination of flood- related erosion hazards.

FLOODWAY — The channel of a river or other watercourse and the adjacent land areas that must be reserved in order to discharge the base flood without cumulatively increasing the water surface elevation.

FUNCTIONALLY DEPENDENT USE -- A use which cannot perform its intended purpose located or carried out in close proximity to water. The term includes only docking facilities, port facilities that are necessary for the loading and unloading of cargo or passengers, and ship building and ship repair facilities, but does not include long-term storage or related manufacturing facilities. [US Code of Federal Regulations, Title 44, Part 59] Also [Referenced Standard ASCE 24-14]

HIGHEST ADJACENT GRADE – The highest natural elevation of the ground surface prior to construction next to the proposed walls of a structure. [US Code of Federal Regulations, Title 44, Part 59]

HISTORIC STRUCTURE means any structure that is:

- (a) Listed individually in the National Register of Historic Places (a listing maintained by the Department of Interior) or preliminarily determined by the Secretary of the Interior as meeting the requirements for individual listing on the National Register;
- (b) Certified or preliminarily determined by the Secretary of the Interior as contributing to the historical significance of a registered historic district or a district preliminarily determined by the Secretary to qualify as a registered historic district;
- (c) Individually listed on a state inventory of historic places in states with historic preservation programs which have been approved by the Secretary of the Interior; or
- (d) Individually listed on a local inventory of historic places in communities with historic preservation programs that have been certified either:
 - (1) By an approved state program as determined by the Secretary of the Interior or
 - (2) Directly by the Secretary of the Interior in states without approved programs.

[US Code of Federal Regulations, Title 44, Part 59]

LOWEST FLOOR — The lowest floor of the lowest enclosed area (including basement or cellar). An unfinished or flood-resistant enclosure, usable solely for parking of vehicles, building access or storage in an area other than a basement area, is not considered a building's lowest floor, provided that such enclosure is not built so as to render the structure in violation of the applicable non-elevation design requirements of NFIP Regulations 60.3.

MANUFACTURED HOME — A structure, transportable in one (1) or more sections, which is built on a permanent chassis and is designed for use with or without a permanent foundation when connected to the required utilities. For floodplain management purposes, the term "manufactured home" also includes park trailers, travel trailers, and other similar vehicles placed on a site for greater than one hundred eighty (180) consecutive days. For insurance purposes, the term "manufactured home" does not include park trailers, travel trailers, and other similar vehicles.

NEW CONSTRUCTION — For floodplain management purposes, structures for which the "start of construction" commenced on or after the effective date of a floodplain management regulation adopted by a community. For the purpose of determining insurance rates, "new construction" means structures for which the "start of construction"

commenced on or after the effective date of an initial FIRM or after December 31, 1991, whichever is later.

ONE-HUNDRED-YEAR FLOOD — See "base flood."

RECREATIONAL VEHICLE means a vehicle which is:

- (a) Built on a single chassis;
- (b) 400 square feet or less when measured at the largest horizontal projection;
- (c) Designed to be self-propelled or permanently towable by a light duty truck; and
- (d) Designed primarily not for use as a permanent dwelling but as temporary living quarters for recreational, camping, travel, or seasonal use.

[US Code of Federal Regulations, Title 44, Part 59]

REGULATORY FLOODWAY — See "floodway."

SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREA — An area having special flood and/or flood-related erosion hazards, and shown on an FHBM or FIRM as Zone A, AO, A1-30, AE, A99, AH, V, V1-30, or VE.

START OF CONSTRUCTION. The date of issuance for new construction and substantial improvements to existing structures, provided the actual start of construction, repair, reconstruction, rehabilitation, addition, placement or other improvement is within 180 days after the date of issuance. The actual start of construction means the first placement of permanent construction of a building (including a manufactured home) on a site, such as the pouring of a slab or footings, installation of pilings or construction of columns.

Permanent construction does not include land preparation (such as clearing, excavation, grading or filling), the installation of streets or walkways, excavation for a basement, footings, piers or foundations, the erection of temporary forms or the installation of accessory buildings such as garages or sheds not occupied as dwelling units or not part of the main building. For a substantial improvement, the actual "start of construction" means the first alteration of any wall, ceiling, floor or other structural part of a building, whether or not that alteration affects the external dimensions of the building. [Base Code, Chapter 2, Section 202]

STRUCTURE — For floodplain management purposes, a walled and roofed building, including a gas or liquid storage tank, that is principally above ground, as well as a manufactured home. "Structure," for insurance coverage purposes, means a walled and roofed building, other than a gas or liquid storage tank, that is principally above ground and affixed to a permanent site, as well as a

manufactured home on foundation. For the latter purpose, the term includes a building while in the course of construction, alteration, or repair, but does not include building materials or supplies intended for use in such construction, alteration, or repair, unless such materials or supplies are within an enclosed building on the premises.

SUBSTANTIAL DAMAGE — Damage of any origin sustained by a structure whereby the cost of restoring the structure to its before-damaged condition would equal or exceed fifty percent (50%) of the market value of the structure before the damage occurred.

SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENT — Any repair, reconstruction, or improvement of a structure, the cost of which equals or exceeds fifty percent (50%) of the market value of the structure either (a) before the improvement or repair is started, or (b) if the structure has been damaged and is being restored, before the damage occurred. For the purposes of this definition, "substantial improvement" is considered to occur when the first alteration of any wall, ceiling, floor, or other structural part of the building commences, whether or not that alteration affects the external dimensions of the structure.

SUBSTANTIAL REPAIR OF A FOUNDATION. When work to repair or replace a foundation results in the repair or replacement of a portion of the foundation with a perimeter along the base of the foundation that equals or exceeds 50% of the perimeter of the base of the foundation measured in linear feet, or repair or replacement of 50% of the piles, columns or piers of a pile, column or pier supported foundation, the building official shall determine it to be substantial repair of a foundation. Applications determined by the building official to constitute substantial repair of a foundation shall require all existing portions of the entire building or structure to meet the requirements of 780 CMR. [As amended by MA in 9th Edition BC]

VARIANCE means a grant of relief by a community from the terms of a flood plain management regulation. [US Code of Federal Regulations, Title 44, Part 59]

VIOLATION means the failure of a structure or other development to be fully compliant with the community's flood plain management regulations. A structure or other development without the elevation certificate, other certifications, or other evidence of compliance required in §60.3(b)(5), (c)(4), (c)(10), (d)(3), (e)(2), (e)(4), or (e)(5) is presumed to be in violation until such time as that documentation is provided. [US Code of Federal Regulations, Title 44, Part 59]

ZONE A — The one-hundred-year floodplain area where the base flood elevation (BFE) has not been determined. To determine the BFE, use the best available federal, state, local, or other data.

ZONE A1-30 and ZONE AE — For new and revised maps, the one-hundred-year floodplain where the base flood elevation has been determined.

ZONE AH and ZONE AO — The one-hundred-year floodplain with flood depths of one (1) foot to three (3) feet, where a clearly defined channel does not exist, where the path of flooding is unpredictable, and where velocity flow may be evident. Such flooding is characterized by ponding or sheet flow.

ZONE A99 — Areas to be protected from the one-hundred-year flood by federal flood protection systems under construction. Base flood elevations have not been determined.

ZONES B, C, AND X — Areas identified in the community Flood Insurance Study as areas of moderate or minimal flood hazard. Zone X replaces Zones B and C on new and revised maps.

C. Designation of Flood Plain Administrator. The Town of Randolph hereby designates the

position of Building Commissioner to be the official floodplain administrator for the Town of Randolph.

- D. **Permits required for all development in the Floodplain Overlay District.** The Town of Randolph requires a permit for all proposed construction or other development in the floodplain overlay district, including new construction or changes to existing buildings, placement of manufactured homes, placement of agricultural facilities, fences, sheds, storage facilities or drilling, mining, paving and any other development that might increase flooding or adversely impact flood risks to other properties.

The permit review process includes the use of a checklist of all local, state and federal permits that will be necessary in order to carry out the proposed development in the floodplain overlay district. The proponent must acquire all necessary permits and must submit the completed checklist demonstrating that all necessary permits have been acquired.

- ~~E. **Floodplain area boundaries.** The floodplain area is herein established as an overlay district. The district includes all special flood hazard areas within the Town of Randolph designated on the Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) issued by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for the administration of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The FIRM maps indicate the one hundred year regulatory floodplain. The exact boundaries of the areas may be defined by the one hundred year base flood elevations shown on the FIRM and further defined by the most current Flood Insurance Study Booklet. The FIRM and Flood Insurance Study Booklet are incorporated into this Subsection B(6) and are on file with the Planning Board and the Department of Public Works, Engineering Division.~~

F. **Base flood elevation and floodway data.**

- (1) Floodway data. In Zones A, A1-30 and AE, along watercourses that have not had a regulatory floodway designated, the best available federal, state, local, or other floodway data shall be used to prohibit encroachments in the floodway which would result in any increase in flood levels within the community during the occurrence of the base flood discharge.
- (2) Base flood elevation data. Base flood elevation data are required for subdivision proposals or other developments greater than fifty (50) lots or five (5) acres, whichever is less, within unnumbered A Zones.

- G. **Notification of watercourse alteration.** In a riverine situation, the Floodplain ~~Manager~~ **Administrator** for the Town of Randolph shall notify the following of any alteration or relocation of a watercourse:

- (1) Adjacent communities.
- (2) NFIP State Coordinator, Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation.
- (3) NFIP Program Specialist, FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) Region 1.

H. **Use regulations.**

- (1) The Floodplain Area is established as an overlay area to all zoning districts. All development in the area, including structural and nonstructural activities, whether permitted by right or by special permit, must be in compliance with MGL c. 131, § 40, as amended, and with the

following:

- (a) Sections of the Massachusetts State Building Code (780 CMR) which address floodplain areas and coastal high-hazard areas.
 - (b) Wetlands Protection Regulations, Department of Environmental Protection.
 - (c) Inland Wetlands Restrictions, Department of Environmental Protection (310 CMR 13.00).
 - (d) Minimum Requirement for the Subsurface Disposal of Sanitary Sewage, Department of Environmental Protection (310 CMR 15, Title 5).
- (2) Any variances from the provisions and requirements of the above-referenced state regulations may only be granted in accordance with the required variance procedures of those state regulations.
 - (3) No variance to the floodplain areas may be granted by the Town of Randolph Zoning Board of Appeals.

I. Other use regulations.

- (1) Within Zones AH and AO on the FIRM, adequate drainage paths are required around structures on slopes, to guide floodwaters around and away from proposed structures are required.
- (2) In Zones A1-30 and AE, along watercourses that have a regulatory floodway designated on the ~~Town of Randolph FIRM or Flood Boundary and Floodway Map~~, encroachments are prohibited in the regulatory floodway **unless it has been demonstrated through hydrologic and hydraulic analyses performed in accordance with standard engineering practice that the proposed encroachment would not result in any increase in flood levels within the community during the occurrence of the base flood discharge.** ~~which would result in any increase in flood levels within the community during the occurrence of base flood discharge.~~
- (3) **Unnumbered A Zones. In A Zones, in the absence of FEMA BFE data and floodway data, obtain, review and reasonably utilize base flood elevation and floodway data available from a Federal, State, or other source as criteria for requiring new construction, substantial improvements, or other development in Zone A as the basis for elevating residential structures to or above base flood level, for floodproofing or elevating non-residential structures to or above base flood level, and for prohibiting encroachments in floodways [44CFR 60.3(b)(4)]**
- (4) All subdivision proposals must assure that:
 - (a) Such proposals minimize flood damage.
 - (b) All public utilities and facilities are located and constructed to minimize or eliminate flood damage.
 - (c) Adequate drainage is provided to reduce exposure to flood hazards.
 - (d) Existing contour intervals of site and elevations of existing structures must be included on plan proposal.
- ~~(5) When proposing subdivisions or other developments greater than 50 lots or 5 acres (whichever~~

is less), the proponent must provide technical data to determine base flood elevation developable parcel shown on the design plans.

- (6) (5) **Recreational Vehicles.** In A and AE zones, all recreational vehicles to be placed on a site must be elevated and anchored in accordance with the zone's regulations for foundation and elevation requirements or be on the site for less than 180 consecutive days or be fully licensed and highway ready.
- (7) (6) For development within the Special Flood Hazard Areas, a copy of the development or site plan shall be transmitted to the Conservation Commission, Planning Board, Board of Health, Town Engineer and Building Commissioner for comments prior to issuing applicable permits or approvals.

J. **Permitted uses.** The following uses of low flood damage potential and causing no obstructions to flood flows are encouraged, provided they are permitted in the underlying district and they do not require structures, fill, or storage of materials or equipment:

- (1) Agricultural uses such as farming, grazing, truck farming, horticulture, etc.
- (2) Forestry and nursery uses.
- (3) Outdoor recreational uses, including fishing, boating, play area, etc.
- (4) Conservation of water, plants and wildlife.
- (5) Wildlife management areas; foot, bicycle, and/or horse paths.
- (6) Temporary nonresidential structures used in connection with fishing, growing, harvesting, storage or sale of crops raised on the premises.
- (7) Buildings lawfully existing prior to the adoption of these provisions.

J. **Public health.** The Board of Health and Department of Public Works, in reviewing all proposed water and sewer facilities to be located in the floodplain areas, shall require that:

- (1) New and replacement water supply systems be designed to minimize or eliminate infiltration of floodwaters into the systems.
- (2) New and replacement sanitary sewage systems be designed to minimize or eliminate infiltration of floodwaters into the systems and discharges from the systems into floodwaters and on-site waste disposal systems to be located to avoid impairment to them or contamination from them during flooding.

K. **Institutional Open Space Districts.** The following uses are permitted in an Institutional Open Space District: houses of worship, schools, parish houses, convents, cemeteries, rectories and accessory uses on the same lot with and customarily incidental to any of the above permitted uses.

L. **Abrogation and Greater Restriction.** The floodplain management regulations found in this Floodplain Overlay District section shall take precedence over any less restrictive conflicting local laws, ordinances or codes.

M. **Disclaimer of Liability.** The degree of flood protection required by this ordinance is considered

reasonable but does not imply total flood protection.

- N. **Severability.** If any section, provision or portion of this ordinance is deemed to be unconstitutional or invalid by a court, the remainder of the ordinance shall be effective.
- O. **Requirement to Submit New Technical Data.** If the Town acquires data that changes the base flood elevation in the FEMA mapped Special Flood Hazard Areas, the Town will, within six (6) months, notify FEMA of these changes by submitting the technical or scientific data that supports the change(s). Notification shall be submitted to:

NFIP Program Specialist
 FEMA Region I ~~Risk Analysis Branch Chief~~
~~99 High Street, 6th Floor, Boston, MA 02110~~

~~And a copy of the notification to:~~

Massachusetts NFIP State Coordinator
 MA Dept of Conservation & Recreation
~~251 Causeway Street, Boston, MA 02114~~

P. **Variances to Building Code Floodplain Standards.**

- (1) The Town of Randolph will request from the State Building Code Appeals Board a written and/or audible copy of the portion of the hearing related to the variance, and will maintain this record in the community's files.
- (2) The Town shall also issue a letter to the property owner regarding potential impacts to the annual premiums for the flood insurance policy covering that property, in writing over the signature of a community official that:
 - (a) The issuance of a variance to construct a structure below the base flood level will result in increased premium rates for flood insurance up to amounts as high as \$25 for \$100 of insurance coverage and
 - (b) Such construction below the base flood level increases risks to life and property.

Such notification shall be maintained with the record of all variance actions for the referenced development in the floodplain overlay district.

Q. **Variances to local Zoning Ordinances related to community compliance with the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).** A variance from these floodplain ordinances must meet the requirements set out by State law, and may only be granted if:

- (1) Good and sufficient cause and exceptional non-financial hardship exist;
- (2) The variance will not result in additional threats to public safety, extraordinary public expense, or fraud or victimization of the public; and
- (3) The variance is the minimum action necessary to afford relief.

**PETITION FOR ZONING AMENDMENT**

~Clerk's Use~

Date referred to Planning ____/____/____

Order # _____

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED TO TOWN COUNCIL BY (check one)☒ TOWN COUNCIL ☐ BOARD OF APPEALS ☒ PLANNING BOARD☐ SUBJECT LAND OWNER(S)*PETITIONER'S NAME Randolph Planning BoardAGENT/REPRESENTATIVE/CONTACT (if any) Michelle Tyler

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

REASON FOR PROPOSED AMENDMENT (attach additional justification as warranted) _____

Amendments to the Watershed & Wetland Protection overlay districts are required under section 1361 of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (as amended) no later than July 8, 2025 as a result of the final flood hazard determination for Norfolk County

PETITIONER'S SIGNATURE Michelle Tyler
**all parties must sign*

Digitally signed by Michelle Tyler
DN: cn=Michelle Tyler, o=Town of Randolph, ou=Planning,
email=mt Tyler@randolph-ma.gov, c=US
Date: 2025.02.12 13:20:30 -05'00'

DATE February 12, 2025**ZONING TEXT AMENDMENT (if applicable)**ARTICLE(S)/SECTION(S) 200-16

☒ **REQUIRED:** attach proposed ordinance TEXT using exact wording. Use strikethrough to show text to be deleted and bold to indicate text to be added

ZONING MAP AMENDMENT (if applicable)

PROPERTY LOCATION/STREET ADDRESS _____

CURRENT ZONING _____ TOTAL ACREAGE TO BE REZONED _____

PROPOSED ZONING _____

ASSESSOR'S MAP(S) & PARCEL(S) _____

CURRENT USE(S) _____

ANTICIPATED USE (if known) _____

DESCRIPTION OF EXISTING LAND USES OF SURROUNDING AREA _____

☐ **REQUIRED:** attach MAPS clearly showing existing & proposed zoning districts, including parcel lot lines (8.5 x 11" preferred size)

INSTRUCTIONS / PROCESS

- Prior to filing, the Petitioner should meet with the Town Planner to discuss proper formatting for any amendment to a Zoning Bylaw and intent.
- Two copies of the application, all related attachments and filing fee (if applicable) are to be filed with Town Council Clerk.
- Town Council takes action on the petition referring to Planning Board and a subcommittee.
- Planning Board and Town Council (or a subcommittee) will both hold public hearings, or a joint hearing within 65 days.
- The Petitioner may be accountable for placing hearing notices (prepared by the Planning Department) and abutter notifications, if applicable. All fees related to notification are the responsibility of the Petitioner.
- The Petitioner should attend the public hearings to present the proposal and answer questions. The Petitioner may also attend any committee meeting where the petition will be discussed, but no new information should be presented outside of the formal public hearing.
- Amendments may be presented at public hearings but must be within the scope of the original petition and cannot introduce a new concept or idea not already contained in the petition.
- The Planning Board forwards its recommendation to Town Council within 21 days following a vote.
- Town Council takes final action (second reading) on the petition within 120 days after receipt of a Planning Board recommendation. Adoption requires a 2/3 vote.
- Should Town Council not act within 120 days, the petition will expire and the entire process must be repeated.
- A proposed amendment which receives a failing vote cannot be reconsidered within 2 years of such vote (unless the Planning Board has recommended adoption).



PLANNING BOARD Report to Town Council

Order: 2025-006

Petitioner: Planning Board

Date referred: February 24, 2025

Date hearing opened: April 8, 2025

Date hearing closed: April 8, 2025

Date of report: April 9, 2025

PETITION

Amend Chapter 200 of the General Code of the Town of Randolph concerning the Watershed and Wetland Protection Overlay Districts Pursuant to the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968

BACKGROUND

The final flood hazard determination for Norfolk County, in compliance with Title 44, Chapter I, Part 67, section 67.11, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) was provided to the Town January 8, 2025. Because the Flood Insurance Study (FIS) has been completed, the Town must meet additional requirements, standards and regulations, which include amendments to zoning ordinances, prior to July 8, 2025.

AMENDMENTS TO ZONING ORDINANCE(S)

This petition amends the existing zoning ordinance 200-16 Watershed and Wetland Protection Overlay Districts to comply with FEMA requirements.

RECOMMENDATION

The Planning Board voted 4-0-0 to **RECOMMEND ADOPTION** of the proposed amendment(s) with corrections to scrivener errors (section numbering/lettering)

DISCUSSION

- The proposed zoning amendment was submitted to the Building Commissioner, DPW Superintendent, Town Engineer and Conservation Commission for review and comments prior to the public hearing.
- The Conservation Commission provided recommended edits which have been incorporated in the attached ordinance language.
- The proposed zoning amendment has been reviewed by the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) Flood Hazard Management Coordinator and deemed satisfactory.

§ 200-16. Watershed and Wetland Protection Overlay Districts.
[Added 5-22-2006 ATM by Art. 50, approved 10-17-2006]

A. The purpose of this district is to:

- (1) Protect, preserve and maintain the water table and water recharge areas within the Town of Randolph so as to preserve the present and potential water supplies for the public health and safety of the inhabitants of the Town of Randolph.
- (2) Assure the continuation of the natural flow pattern of the watercourses' capacity to protect persons and provide against the hazards of floodwater within the Town in order to provide adequate and safe floodwater storage inundation.
- (3) Provide that the lands in the Town of Randolph subject to seasonal and/or periodic flooding shall not be used for residential or other purposes in such a manner as to endanger the health and safety of the inhabitants thereof.

B. In a Watershed and Wetlands Protection Overlay District, permitted uses shall be in accordance with the underlying zoning, subject to affirmative finding and approval of the Randolph Board of Appeals and the following restrictions:

- (1) Each Watershed and Wetlands Protection Overlay District **as specified in the Town of Randolph Wetlands ordinance Chapter 196** shall be subdivided into areas as follows:
 - (a) Area 1: all district land lying within the defined water and swampland area shown on the hereinbefore referenced topographic maps of the Town of Randolph and designated on said maps as "Area 1."
 - (b) Area 2: all district land lying outside the defined water and swampland area shown on the hereinbefore referenced topographic maps of the Town of Randolph and designated on said maps as "Area 2."
- (2) District area restrictions.
 - (a) Area 1: unsuitable for development of any type; not to be built upon, excavated or filled; may be used to satisfy applicable area requirements in accordance with the underlying zoning.
 - (b) Area 2: development allowed in accordance with all the applicable laws and bylaws of the Town of Randolph governing use in accordance with the underlying zoning, with the following restrictions:
 - [1] Any and all structures approved for construction within this area and required by law to be serviced with sanitary facilities shall be connected to the Town sewer systems.
 - [2] No structure may be constructed or paving placed within fifty (50) feet of the water and swamp land designated as "Area 1" or within twenty-five (25) feet of the bank of any brook, stream or river

within the area.

[3] The finished elevation of any basement floor of a structure approved for construction within this area shall be of a minimum of four (4) feet above the elevation of the closest approach to said structure of the water and swampland area delineated on the hereinbefore-referenced topographic maps of the Town of Randolph designated as "Area 1."

[4] All drainage must comply with the requirements of the Randolph Planning Board and **Randolph Stormwater Authority**.

(3) Permitted uses shall be as follows:

(a) Proper operation of and maintenance of dams and other water-control devices.

(b) Temporary alteration of water level for emergency or maintenance, upon written approval of the Town Engineer **as provided by the Randolph Department of Public Works Routine Operations and Maintenance Plan DEP file #268-0401.**

(c) Appropriate governmental use, including but not limited to water and sewage works, pumping stations and river and stream clearance, jointly approved by the Town Engineer and Water Department.

(d) Dams, excavations, relocation of waterways and creation of ponds and drainage improvements, consistent with the purpose of this chapter, upon written approval of the Town Engineer **and Conservation Commission**.

(e) The repair, rebuilding, modification or enlargement of all existing residential, commercial and industrial buildings, consistent with the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and in compliance with all other local bylaws, provided that such proposed work does not affect the natural flow pattern of any watercourse or groundwater supply.

(f) Driveways and roads where alternative means of access are impractical, consistent with the purpose of this chapter.

(4) Administration.

(a) Upon written application, the Building Commissioner shall, **with the consultation of a certified wetland scientist**, determine, ~~by any means at the Building Commissioner's disposal~~, whether the parcel identified in the application and shown on any accompanying plot plan lies within Area 1 and/or Area 2 of a Watershed and Wetlands Protection Overlay District. In order to expedite this determination, **the applicant shall provide the Building Commissioner** ~~shall, at the Building Commissioner's request, be provided by the applicant~~ with a complete overall topographic plan of the area proposed for use, prepared by a registered professional engineer

or registered land surveyor, showing contour elevations at two-foot intervals, referred to United States Geological Survey datum. [Amended 4-16-1996 ATM by Art. 11, approved 7-29-1996]

- (b) This topographic drawing shall show all pertinent information, including existing brooks, streams, rivers and areas of ponding, the extent and depth of proposed excavation and/or filling limits of other proposed construction and/or appurtenant work.
- (c) A determination by the Building Commissioner that the parcel identified in the application lies within Area 1 and/ or Area 2 of a Watershed and Wetlands Protection Overlay District shall require the Building Commissioner's immediate referral to the Randolph Planning Board for recommendation for a finding consistent with the intent of this chapter. The Planning Board will require copies of all information submitted to the Building Commissioner for its consideration of the application. Any owner of land in Area 1 and/or Area 2 who is aggrieved by a decision of the Building Commissioner and/or Planning Board may appeal to the Board of Appeals. [Amended 4-16-1996 ATM by Art. 11, approved 7-29-1996]

(5) ~~Special flood hazard areas. The Federal Emergency Management Agency has issued revised Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) and Flood Insurance Study Booklet (FIS) for the Town of Randolph, which identifies the special flood hazard areas within the Town. The revision date of the FIRM Maps and FIS Booklet is July 17, 2012 (new date to be added). All proposed new construction, substantial additions/improvements and utilities within the one hundred year floodplain must comply with the revised FIRM Maps, FIS Booklet, and the provisions in Subsection B(6) of this section. [Amended 5-10-2000 ATM by Art. 9, approved 9-27-2000; 6-11-2012 by Ord.No. 2012-017]~~ The Floodplain District is herein established as an overlay district. The District includes all special flood hazard areas within Randolph designated at Zone A, AE, AH, AO, A99, V or VE on the Norfolk County Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) dated July 8, 2025 issued by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for the administration of the National Flood Insurance Program. The exact boundaries of the District shall be defined by the 1%-chance base flood elevations shown on the FIRM and further defined by the Norfolk County Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report dated July 8, 2025. The FIRM and FIS report are incorporated herein by reference and are on file with the Town Clerk, Planning Board, Building Commissioner, Conservation Commission and Town Engineer.

(6) Floodplain Overlay District

Special flood hazard areas. Areas are as created by the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) on their most current maps adopted by the Town of Randolph in conjunction with the State Flood Hazard Management Program of the Department of Conservation and Recreation Office of Water Resources, the State Building Code, Wetlands Overlay Protection Act, State Sanitary Code and the Town of Randolph Watershed and Wetlands Protection Overlay District Zoning Code, and any other applicable zoning codes and/or bylaws.

(a) **Statement of floodplain area purposes:**

- (1) Ensure public safety through reducing the threats to life and personal injury.
- (2) Eliminate new hazards to emergency response officials.
- (3) Prevent the occurrence of public emergencies resulting from water quality contamination and pollution due to flooding.
- (4) Avoid the loss of utility services which, if damaged by flooding, would disrupt or shut down the utility network and impact regions of the community beyond the site of flooding.
- (5) Eliminate costs associated with the response and cleanup of flooding conditions.
- (6) Reduce damage to public and private property resulting from flooding waters.

(b) **Definitions.** As used in this subsection, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

AREA OF SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD — Land in the floodplain within a community subject to a one-percent or greater chance of flooding in any given year. The area may be designated as Zone A, AO, AH, A1-30, AE, A99, V1-30, VE, or V.

BASE FLOOD — The flood having a one-percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year.

DEVELOPMENT — Any man-made change to improved or unimproved real estate, including but not limited to buildings or other structures, mining, dredging, filling, grading, paving, excavation or drilling operations.

DISTRICT — Floodplain district.

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

(FEMA) — Administers the National Flood Insurance Program. FEMA provides a nationwide flood hazard area mapping study program for communities as well as regulatory standards for development in the flood hazard areas.

FLOOD BOUNDARY AND FLOODWAY MAP — An official map of a community issued by FEMA that depicts, based on detailed analyses, the boundaries of the one-hundred-year and five-hundred-year floods and the one-hundred-year floodway. (For maps done in 1987 and later, the floodway designation is included on the FIRM.)

FLOOD HAZARD BOUNDARY MAP (FHBM) — An official map of a community issued by FEMA where the boundaries of the flood and related erosion areas having special hazards have been designated as Zone A or E.

FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP (FIRM) — An official map of a community on which FEMA has delineated both the areas of special flood hazard and the risk premium zones applicable to the community.

FLOOD INSURANCE STUDY — An examination, evaluation, and determination of flood hazards, and, if appropriate, corresponding water surface elevations, or an examination, evaluation and determination of flood-related erosion hazards.

FLOODWAY — The channel of a river or other watercourse and the adjacent land areas that must be reserved in order to discharge the base flood without cumulatively increasing the water surface elevation.

FUNCTIONALLY DEPENDENT USE -- A use which cannot perform its intended purpose unless it is located or carried out in close proximity to water. The term includes only docking facilities, port facilities that are necessary for the loading and unloading of cargo or passengers, and ship building and ship repair facilities, but does not include long-term storage or related manufacturing facilities. [US Code of Federal Regulations, Title 44, Part 59] Also [Referenced Standard ASCE 24-14]

HIGHEST ADJACENT GRADE – The highest natural elevation of the ground surface prior to construction next to the proposed walls of a structure. [US Code of Federal Regulations, Title 44, Part 59]

HISTORIC STRUCTURE means any structure that is:

- Listed individually in the National Register of Historic Places (a listing maintained by the Department of Interior) or preliminarily determined by the Secretary of the Interior as meeting the requirements for individual listing on the National Register;
- Certified or preliminarily determined by the Secretary of the Interior as contributing to the historical significance of a registered historic district or a district preliminarily determined by the Secretary to qualify as a registered historic district;
- Individually listed on a state inventory of historic places in states with historic preservation programs which have been approved by the Secretary of the Interior; or
- Individually listed on a local inventory of historic places in communities with historic preservation programs that have been certified either:
 - By an approved state program as determined by the Secretary of the Interior or
 - Directly by the Secretary of the Interior in states without approved programs.

[US Code of Federal Regulations, Title 44, Part 59]

LOWEST FLOOR — The lowest floor of the lowest enclosed area (including

basement or cellar). An unfinished or flood-resistant enclosure, usable solely for parking of vehicles, building access or storage in an area other than a basement area, is not considered a building's lowest floor, provided that such enclosure is not built so as to render the structure in violation of the applicable non-elevation design requirements of NFIP Regulations 60.3.

MANUFACTURED HOME — A structure, transportable in one (1) or more sections, which is built on a permanent chassis and is designed for use with or without a permanent foundation when connected to the required utilities. For floodplain management purposes, the term "manufactured home" also includes park trailers, travel trailers, and other similar vehicles placed on a site for greater than one hundred eighty (180) consecutive days. For insurance purposes, the term "manufactured home" does not include park trailers, travel trailers, and other similar vehicles.

NEW CONSTRUCTION — For floodplain management purposes, structures for which the "start of construction" commenced on or after the effective date of a floodplain management regulation adopted by a community. For the purpose of determining insurance rates, "new construction" means structures for which the "start of construction" commenced on or after the effective date of an initial FIRM or after December 31, 1974, whichever is later.

ONE-HUNDRED-YEAR FLOOD — See "base flood."

RECREATIONAL VEHICLE means a vehicle which is:

- Built on a single chassis;
- 400 square feet or less when measured at the largest horizontal projection;
- Designed to be self-propelled or permanently towable by a light duty truck; and
- Designed primarily not for use as a permanent dwelling but as temporary living quarters for recreational, camping, travel, or seasonal use.

[US Code of Federal Regulations, Title 44, Part 59]

REGULATORY FLOODWAY — See "floodway."

SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREA — An area having special flood and/or flood-related erosion hazards, and shown on an FHBM or FIRM as Zone A, AO, A1-30, AE, A99, AH, V, V1-30, or VE.

START OF CONSTRUCTION. The date of issuance for new construction and substantial improvements to existing structures, provided the actual start of construction, repair, reconstruction, rehabilitation, addition, placement or other improvement is within 180 days after the date of issuance. The actual start of construction means the first placement of permanent

construction of a building (including a manufactured home) on a site, as the pouring of a slab or footings, installation of pilings or construction of columns.

Permanent construction does not include land preparation (such as clearing, excavation, grading or filling), the installation of streets or walkways, excavation for a basement, footings, piers or foundations, the erection of temporary forms or the installation of accessory buildings such as garages or sheds not occupied as dwelling units or not part of the main building. For a substantial improvement, the actual "start of construction" means the first alteration of any wall, ceiling, floor or other structural part of a building, whether or not that alteration affects the external dimensions of the building. [Base Code, Chapter 2, Section 202]

STRUCTURE — For floodplain management purposes, a walled and roofed building, including a gas or liquid storage tank, that is principally above ground, as well as a manufactured home. "Structure," for insurance coverage purposes, means a walled and roofed building, other than a gas or liquid storage tank, that is principally above ground and affixed to a permanent site, as well as a

manufactured home on foundation. For the latter purpose, the term includes a building while in the course of construction, alteration, or repair, but does not include building materials or supplies intended for use in such construction, alteration, or repair, unless such materials or supplies are within an enclosed building on the premises.

SUBSTANTIAL DAMAGE — Damage of any origin sustained by a structure whereby the cost of restoring the structure to its before-damaged condition would equal or exceed fifty percent (50%) of the market value of the structure before the damage occurred.

SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENT — Any repair, reconstruction, or improvement of a structure, the cost of which equals or exceeds fifty percent (50%) of the market value of the structure either (a) before the improvement or repair is started, or (b) if the structure has been damaged and is being restored, before the damage occurred. For the purposes of this definition, "substantial improvement" is considered to occur when the first alteration of any wall, ceiling, floor, or other structural part of the building commences, whether or not that alteration affects the external dimensions of the structure.

SUBSTANTIAL REPAIR OF A FOUNDATION. When work to repair or replace a foundation results in the repair or replacement of a portion of the foundation with a perimeter along the base of the foundation that equals or exceeds 50% of the perimeter of the base of the foundation measured in linear feet, or repair or replacement of 50% of the piles, columns or piers of a pile, column or pier supported foundation, the building official shall determine it to be substantial repair of a foundation. Applications determined by the building

official to constitute substantial repair of a foundation shall require all portions of the entire building or structure to meet the requirements of 780 CMR. [As amended by MA in 9th Edition BC]

VARIANCE means a grant of relief by a community from the terms of a flood plain management regulation. [US Code of Federal Regulations, Title 44, Part 59]

VIOLATION means the failure of a structure or other development to be fully compliant with the community's flood plain management regulations. A structure or other development without the elevation certificate, other certifications, or other evidence of compliance required in §60.3(b)(5), (c)(4), (c)(10), (d)(3), (e)(2), (e)(4), or (e)(5) is presumed to be in violation until such time as that documentation is provided. [US Code of Federal Regulations, Title 44, Part 59]

ZONE A — The one-hundred-year floodplain area where the base flood elevation (BFE) has not been determined. To determine the BFE, use the best available federal, state, local, or other data.

ZONE A1-30 and ZONE AE — For new and revised maps, the one-hundred-year floodplain where the base flood elevation has been determined.

ZONE AH and ZONE AO — The one-hundred-year floodplain with flood depths of one (1) foot to three (3) feet, where a clearly defined channel does not exist, where the path of flooding is unpredictable, and where velocity flow may be evident. Such flooding is characterized by ponding or sheet flow.

ZONE A99 — Areas to be protected from the one-hundred-year flood by federal flood protection systems under construction. Base flood elevations have not been determined.

ZONES B, C, AND X — Areas identified in the community Flood Insurance Study as areas of moderate or minimal flood hazard. Zone X replaces Zones B and C on new and revised maps.

(c) Designation of Flood Plain Administrator. The Town of Randolph hereby designates the position of Building Commissioner to be the official floodplain administrator for the Town.

(d) Permits required for all development in the Floodplain Overlay District. The Town of Randolph requires a permit for all proposed construction or other development in the floodplain overlay district, including new construction or changes to existing buildings, placement of manufactured homes, placement of agricultural facilities, fences, sheds, storage facilities or drilling, mining, paving and any other development that might increase flooding or adversely impact flood risks to other properties.

The permit review process includes the use of a checklist of all local, state and federal permits that will be necessary in order to carry out the proposed development in the floodplain overlay district. The proponent must acquire all

necessary permits and must submit the completed checklist demonstrating that all necessary permits have been acquired.

~~(e) **Floodplain area boundaries.** The floodplain area is herein established as an overlay district. The district includes all special flood hazard areas within the Town of Randolph designated on the Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) issued by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for the administration of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The FIRM maps indicate the one-hundred-year regulatory floodplain. The exact boundaries of the areas may be defined by the one-hundred-year base flood elevations shown on the FIRM and further defined by the most current Flood Insurance Study Booklet. The FIRM and Flood Insurance Study Booklet are incorporated into this Subsection B(6) and are on file with the Planning Board and the Department of Public Works, Engineering Division.~~

(e) Base flood elevation and floodway data.

- (1) Floodway data. In Zones A, A1-30 and AE, along watercourses that have not had a regulatory floodway designated, the best available federal, state, local, or other floodway data shall be used to prohibit encroachments in the floodway which would result in any increase in flood levels within the community during the occurrence of the base flood discharge.
- (2) Base flood elevation data. Base flood elevation data are required for subdivision proposals or other developments greater than fifty (50) lots or five (5) acres, whichever is less, within unnumbered A Zones.

(f) Notification of watercourse alteration. In a riverine situation, the Floodplain ~~Manager~~ **Administrator** for the Town of Randolph shall notify the following of any alteration or relocation of a watercourse:

- (1) Adjacent communities.
- (2) NFIP State Coordinator, Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation.
- (3) NFIP Program Specialist, FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) Region 1.

(g) Use regulations.

- (1) The Floodplain Area is established as an overlay area to all zoning districts. All development in the area, including structural and nonstructural activities, whether permitted by right or by special permit, must be in compliance with MGL c. 131, § 40, as amended, and with the following:
 - (a) Sections of the Massachusetts State Building Code (780 CMR) which address floodplain areas and coastal high-hazard areas.
 - (b) Wetlands Protection Regulations, Department of Environmental Protection.

(c) Inland Wetlands Restrictions, Department of Environmental Protection (310 CMR 13.00).

(d) Minimum Requirement for the Subsurface Disposal of Sanitary Sewage, Department of Environmental Protection (310 CMR 15, Title 5).

- (2) Any variances from the provisions and requirements of the above-referenced state regulations may only be granted in accordance with the required variance procedures of those state regulations.
- (3) No variance to the floodplain areas may be granted by the Town of Randolph Zoning Board of Appeals.

(h) Other use regulations.

- (1) Within Zones AH and AO on the FIRM, adequate drainage paths are required around structures on slopes, to guide floodwaters around and away from proposed structures are required.
- (2) In Zones A1-30 and AE, along watercourses that have a regulatory floodway designated on the ~~Town of Randolph FIRM or Flood Boundary and Floodway Map~~, encroachments are prohibited in the regulatory floodway **unless it has been demonstrated through hydrologic and hydraulic analyses performed in accordance with standard engineering practice that the proposed encroachment would not result in any increase in flood levels within the community during the occurrence of the base flood discharge.** ~~which would result in any increase in flood levels within the community during the occurrence of base flood discharge.~~
- (3) **Unnumbered A Zones. In A Zones, in the absence of FEMA BFE data and floodway data, obtain, review and reasonably utilize base flood elevation and floodway data available from a Federal, State, or other source as criteria for requiring new construction, substantial improvements, or other development in Zone A as the basis for elevating residential structures to or above base flood level, for floodproofing or elevating non-residential structures to or above base flood level, and for prohibiting encroachments in floodways [44CFR 60.3(b)(4)]**
- (4) All subdivision proposals must assure that:
 - (a) Such proposals minimize flood damage.
 - (b) All public utilities and facilities are located and constructed to minimize or eliminate flood damage.
 - (c) Adequate drainage is provided to reduce exposure to flood hazards.
 - (d) Existing contour intervals of site and elevations of existing structures must be included on plan proposal.
- ~~(5) When proposing subdivisions or other developments greater than 50 lots or 5-~~

~~acres (whichever is less), the proponent must provide technical data to determine base flood elevations for each developable parcel shown on the design plans.~~

(5) Recreational Vehicles. In A and AE zones, all recreational vehicles to be placed on a site must be elevated and anchored in accordance with the zone's regulations for foundation and elevation requirements or be on the site for less than 180 consecutive days or be fully licensed and highway ready.

(6) For development within the Special Flood Hazard Areas, a copy of the development or site plan shall be transmitted to the Conservation Commission, Planning Board, Board of Health, Town Engineer and Building Commissioner for comments prior to issuing applicable permits or approvals.

- (i) **Permitted uses.** The following uses of low flood damage potential and causing no obstructions to flood flows are encouraged, provided they are permitted in the underlying district and they do not require structures, fill, or storage of materials or equipment:
 - (1) Agricultural uses such as farming, grazing, truck farming, horticulture, etc.
 - (2) Forestry and nursery uses.
 - (3) Outdoor recreational uses, including fishing, boating, play area, etc.
 - (4) Conservation of water, plants and wildlife.
 - (5) Wildlife management areas; foot, bicycle, and/or horse paths.
 - (6) Temporary nonresidential structures used in connection with fishing, growing, harvesting, storage or sale of crops raised on the premises.
 - (7) Buildings lawfully existing prior to the adoption of these provisions.
- (j) **Public health.** The Board of Health and Department of Public Works, in reviewing all proposed water and sewer facilities to be located in the floodplain areas, shall require that:
 - (1) New and replacement water supply systems be designed to minimize or eliminate infiltration of floodwaters into the systems.
 - (2) New and replacement sanitary sewage systems be designed to minimize or eliminate infiltration of floodwaters into the systems and discharges from the systems into floodwaters and on-site waste disposal systems to be located to avoid impairment to them or contamination from them during flooding.
- (k) **Institutional Open Space Districts.** The following uses are permitted in an Institutional Open Space District: houses of worship, schools, parish houses, convents, cemeteries, rectories and accessory uses on the same lot with and customarily incidental to any of the above permitted uses.
- (l) **Abrogation and Greater Restriction.** The floodplain management regulations

found in this Floodplain Overlay District section shall take precedence over restrictive conflicting local laws, ordinances or codes.

- (m) **Disclaimer of Liability.** The degree of flood protection required by this ordinance is considered reasonable but does not imply total flood protection.
- (n) **Severability.** If any section, provision or portion of this ordinance is deemed to be unconstitutional or invalid by a court, the remainder of the ordinance shall be effective.
- (o) **Requirement to Submit New Technical Data.** If the Town acquires data that changes the base flood elevation in the FEMA mapped Special Flood Hazard Areas, the Town will, within six (6) months, notify FEMA of these changes by submitting the technical or scientific data that supports the change(s). Notification shall be submitted to:

NFIP Program Specialist

FEMA Region I ~~Risk Analysis Branch Chief~~
~~99 High Street, 6th Floor, Boston, MA 02110~~

~~And a copy of the notification to:~~

Massachusetts NFIP State Coordinator
 MA Dept of Conservation & Recreation
~~251 Causeway Street, Boston, MA 02114~~

- (p) **Variances to Building Code Floodplain Standards.**
 - (1) The Town of Randolph will request from the State Building Code Appeals Board a written and/or audible copy of the portion of the hearing related to the variance, and will maintain this record in the community's files.
 - (2) The Town shall also issue a letter to the property owner regarding potential impacts to the annual premiums for the flood insurance policy covering that property, in writing over the signature of a community official that:
 - (a) The issuance of a variance to construct a structure below the base flood level will result in increased premium rates for flood insurance up to amounts as high as \$25 for \$100 of insurance coverage and
 - (b) Such construction below the base flood level increases risks to life and property.

Such notification shall be maintained with the record of all variance actions for the referenced development in the floodplain overlay district.

- (q) **Variances to local Zoning Ordinances related to community compliance with the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).** A variance from these floodplain ordinances must meet the requirements set out by State law, and may only be granted if:
 - (1) Good and sufficient cause and exceptional non-financial hardship exist;

- (2) The variance will not result in additional threats to public safety, extra public expense, or fraud or victimization of the public; and
- (3) The variance is the minimum action necessary to afford relief.

**ZONING ORDINANCE
LEGAL NOTICE
Public Hearing Notice
Town of Randolph, MA
Council Order 2025-006**

The Randolph Town Council will conduct a public hearing on Monday, April 28 at 6:15 PM, which may be attended in person at Randolph Town Hall, Chapin Hall, 41 South Main Street, Randolph, MA 02368 or by Zoom, on Council Order 2025-006 - Request for the Town Council to Initiate An Amendment to Randolph Zoning Ordinance – Chapter 200 of the General Code of the Town of Randolph- Concerning Watershed and Wetland Protection Overlay Districts.

Additional information on this Council Order including text of the proposed zoning ordinance and any related maps may be viewed on the Town's website and in the Randolph Town Clerk's Office. The link to connect to the meeting/public hearing may be found on the Town of Randolph website on the website meeting calendar.

AD#11164120
PL 4/12, 4/19/2025

Council Order 2025-016:

**Introduced by: Town Manager Howard
April 14, 2025**

Update to Local Acceptance of M.G.L. Ch. 60, Section 2
Regarding the Abatement of *de minimus* Tax Balances

That the Randolph Town Council, with the recommendation of the Town Manager, hereby confirms and approves the adoption by the Town of Randolph of local option statute Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 60, § 2, as it is currently written, and as that statute may be amended from time to time. Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 60, § 2 (*current edition*) states as follows:

Section 2. Every collector of taxes, constable, sheriff or deputy sheriff, receiving a tax list and warrant from the assessors, shall collect the taxes therein set forth, with interest, and pay over said taxes and interest to the city or town treasurer according to the warrant, and shall make written return thereof with his tax list and of his doings thereon at such times as the assessors shall in writing require. He shall also give to the treasurer an account of all charges and fees collected by him. He shall, once in each week or more often, pay over to the treasurer all money received by him for taxes and interest during the preceding week or lesser period together with any interest earned as a result of depositing said taxes and interest received.

In cities and towns that accept this paragraph, if the collector is satisfied that an unpaid tax on land committed to the collector or any of the collector's predecessors in office for collection was assessed on a valuation insufficient to meet the charges or expenses of collection, or if any other committed tax is unpaid and is less than \$25, the collector may notify the assessors in writing, on oath, stating why the tax cannot be collected. Upon receipt of the request, the assessors shall act on the request immediately and, after due inquiry, may abate the tax and shall certify the abatement in writing to the collector. The certificate of abatement shall discharge the collector from further obligation to collect the tax so abated.

Council Order: 2025-021

**Introduced By: Town Manager Brian Howard
April 28, 2025**

Transfer of General Fund Free Cash for Real Estate Interim Update of Values

To see if the Randolph Town Council will vote to approve a transfer of \$3,500 from the certified General Fund free cash for the services related to the real estate interim update of values.

Explanation: In an effort to help the Assessor's office submit values to the Department of Revenue for approval as part of the tax rate setting process, the flexibility of these funds to carry forward from one fiscal year to another will allow the vendor to begin work much sooner than post July 1.