



Randolph Town Council

DRAFT Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: Tuesday, July 8, 2025, at 1:00 p.m.

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

Call to Order: Council President Alexopoulos called the meeting to order.

Roll Call – Council Members Present: Christos Alexopoulos (Via Zoom), Richard Brewer (Via Zoom), James Burgess (Via Zoom), Ryan Egan (Via Zoom), Jesse Gordon (Via Zoom), Kevin O’Connell (Via Zoom), Brandon Thompson (Via Zoom), Katrina Huff-Larmond (Joined Via Zoom at 1:10 PM).

Council Members Absent: Natacha Clerger

New Business:

1. Council Order 2025-053: Appropriation From Stabilization Fund To School Department Budget for FY 2025

Town Manager Brian Howard introduced Council Order 2025-053. The Town Manager, Town Accountant/Finance Director Janine Smith and Town Attorney Christine Griffin provided additional information regarding the purpose of this Council Order. The legal advertisement was published in the Boston Herald on Friday, July 4, 2025. (Correction noted after the meeting that the legal advisement was published on Thursday, July 3, 2025).

Town Attorney Griffin: This is an appropriation; therefore, it requires two meetings for it to pass. The first meeting will be held at 1:00 pm (this meeting), and the public hearing will be held at 1:15pm. Town Manager Howard and Finance Director Smith have reviewed the numbers and they are requesting an amendment to the Council Order. As amended, Council Order 2025-053 would read:

Appropriation from Stabilization Fund to provide for certain FY2025 School Invoices

To see if the Randolph Town Council will vote to transfer and appropriate \$600,000 from the general stabilization fund to provide for certain FY2025 school invoices.

Councilor Burgess asked what the difference is from what was advertised.

Town Attorney Griffin explained that it is within the scope of what was advertised. The difference is that the original Order put the funds into the general budget, but this would put the funds into a specific

separate account that only FY2025 bills could be paid out of, and it also reduces the total amount of the appropriation from \$1.5 million to \$600,000.

Kevin O'Connell asked if the \$1.5 million is off the table.

Town Attorney Griffin: There's a lot of background that we can provide during the Public Hearing. But, procedurally, it will be cleaner to have the Council make a motion to amend the order, then have a discussion, if that is ok with the Council.

Motion made by Councilor Egan to accept the amendment, as read by the Town Attorney, seconded by Councilor O'Connell.

Roll Call Vote: 6-1-0 (Nays: Gordon; Absent: Huff-Larmond, Clerger)

Motion passes.

Councilor Burgess asked for a legal opinion about holding both meetings on this Council Order in one day.

Town Attorney Griffin: To vote on an appropriation, we must advertise in the newspaper, present it at one meeting and then vote on it at a second meeting. The Charter does not require any particular space or time between the two meetings. In my opinion, we comply with the Charter by voting on this over the course of two meetings. However, if the Council is uncomfortable with doing this all of this in one day and wishes to reschedule, we could re-advertise and do that. The reason we are acting so quickly is due to a shortened timeline to get end-of-year bills paid.

Councilor Burgess: I do not object and will not hold the meeting up. Vendors need to be paid. We need to be honest about the fact that we are just getting bills from September from the schools. However, I don't believe that this schedule is in the spirit of the law as it was written, or what the public expected when they voted on that section of the Charter.

Councilor Huff-Larmond entered the meeting at 1:10 PM.

Council President Alexopoulos: This is a pressing matter. We need to get vendors paid.

Town Manager Howard agreed with Councilor Burgess that this is not ideal, but feels it is necessary to get vendors paid.

Motion to Adjourn:

Motion to adjourn made by Councilor O'Connell, seconded by Councilor Egan.

Roll Call Vote: 8-0-0

Meeting adjourned at 1:14 PM

Adjournment