

## **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, 202. 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.