



Joint Meeting of the Town Council and the School Committee

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 27, 2022 7:00 p.m. via Zoom

The public is invited to attend this meeting remotely only, via phone or computer. In order to maintain safe social distancing guidelines, no physical presence will be allowed at this time. The Town website will be updated on the day of the meeting with the phone and computer access instructions.

Call to Order – Roll Call – Pledge of Allegiance: Council President W. Alexopoulos called the meeting to order.

Roll Call – Council Members Present: Christos Alexopoulos, William Alexopoulos, James Burgess, Richard Brewer, Natacha Clerger, Kenrick Clifton, Ryan Egan, Jesse Gordon and Katrina Huff-Larmond

Roll Call – School Committee Members Present: Jaime Ackles, Cheryl Frazier, Ida Gordon, Lisa Millwood, Andrea Nixon, and Allaphia Sackeena Richards

Council President W. Alexopoulos explained that the purpose of the meeting is to fill the vacancy on the Blue Hills Regional School Committee, due to the resignation of Ms. Jeanty. Two letters of intent were submitted by Yahaira Lopez and Michael Rossini, expressing their interest in filling the vacancy. Each Candidate was given 5 minutes to address the Council and School Committee.

Christine Griffin, the Town's attorney, stated that she and the Town Clerk reviewed the governing agreement between all of the communities and Blue Hills, which addresses filling a vacancy if someone steps down during their term. The Agreement states that the Local Town Council (or Board of Selectmen) shall meet with the School Committee to appoint a member to serve. That person shall serve until the next district-wide at-large election, at which election, a successor shall be elected for the balance of the unexpired term. Therefore, the person appointed tonight will serve until the election in November. The person elected in November will serve the balance of the term vacated by Ms. Jeanty.

Ms. Yahaira Lopez addressed the Council and School Committee. She introduced herself as a mother of two boys and the founder of "Autism Sprinter." In addition, she serves on the Randolph Foundation for Education, she is the Affirmative Officer for the Randolph Dems, and supports special education. One of her children is on the Autism Spectrum, so she is constantly advocating for those that are vulnerable and unique learners. She is interested in the Blue Hills' position because most of the students at Blue Hills are from Randolph. She would like to learn why students are transitioning from the Middle School to Blue Hills, and would like to stabilize Randolph's school district while working in partnership with Blue Hills. She stated that, according to DESE, 917 students are enrolled at Blue Hills, and roughly 250 of those 917 students are from Randolph. She stated that 65 of the students who graduated from Blue Hills last year were from Randolph; and 10 of those students graduated as members of the National Honor Society. In addition, she stated that 53-56 students who are at Blue Hills graduated with IEPs. She wants to represent Randolph to make sure that there is conversation between the two districts to see what can be done to advance our school district forward.

Mr. Rossini addressed the Council and School Committee:

He stated that his mission is multi-faceted. As Ms. Lopez stated, about 32% of our eligible high school students attend Blue Hills vs. staying in district and attending Randolph High School. He believes this is due to by curriculum offerings and learning trades. There are things at Blue Hills that may be dovetailed with the Randolph Public Schools, like the “build” program. He stated that he has 2 kids at Blue Hills. One is in Electrical and one in Health, and a nephew in the Construction Department. He has a vested interest in the school and its curriculum. During the last couple of years, he has worked with the Electrical Department at Blue Hills in developing 21st century software instruction. Being in the construction field as an Engineer, he sees curriculum lacking at both the Randolph High School and Blue Hills. He does not believe it’s due to funding, but vision - having folks come in who know what and where the kids should be with respect to skill sets that will land them opportunities upon graduation. He believes there is a communication gap from previous members who have served, and he is looking to bridge that gap. As a Blue Hills School Committee Member representing Randolph, he sees the Randolph representative of the Blue Hills School Committee as an extension of Randolph’s School Committee.

Ms. Nixon asked Ms. Caradonna to read an email into the record from Ms. Cheryl Frazier, (dated January 18, 2022), expressing her support for Ms. Lopez to serve as the Randolph Blue Hills School Committee Representative.

Roll Call Vote to Nominate Randolph Regional School Committee Representative for the Blue Hills Regional Technical School District:

School Committee Members:

Ms. Millwood – Mr. Rossini
Ms. Frazier – Ms. Lopez
Ms. Gordon – Ms. Lopez
Mr. Ackles – Ms. Lopez
Ms. Richards – Ms. Lopez
Ms. Nixon – Mr. Rossini

Town Councillors:

Councillor Brewer – Mr. Rossini
Councillor W. Alexopoulos – Mr. Rossini
Councillor Gordon – Ms. Lopez
Councillor Clifton – Ms. Lopez
Councillor Huff-Lamond – Ms. Lopez
Councillor Burgess – Mr. Rossini
Councillor Clerger – Ms. Lopez
Councillor Eagan – Mr. Rossini
Councillor C. Alexopoulos – Mr. Rossini

Vote: Mr. Rossini (7) and Ms. Lopez (8)

Council President W. Alexopoulos, congratulated Ms. Lopez and reminded her to see the Town Clerk to be sworn in. Councillor W. Alexopoulos also thanked Mr. Rossini for his interest to serve.