



## **Randolph Special Town Council Meeting**

### **DRAFT Meeting Minutes**

**Meeting Date: Wednesday, November 12, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.**

**Randolph Town Hall-Chapin Hall 2nd Floor**

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

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

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

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

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

#### **Announcements from the President**

1. Thank you to all involved with the Veteran's Day events at both the Library and the Elks. Was a wonderful tribute.
2. Randolph Police Department holiday food drive will be held on Saturday November 22nd from 9AM to 12PM. Requests are for holiday food items such as stuffing, cranberry sauce, pie crusts etc.

#### **Appointments:**

1. Town Manager Brian Howard recommended the following appointees to fill two vacant seats on Town Boards:
  - a. Keith Asack- Conservation Committee
  - b. Aaron Christian - Licensing Board Alternate

**Motion: Motioned** by Burgess and seconded by Vice President Brewer, to move the recommendations from the Town Manager.

Roll Call Vote: 9-0-0

**Motion passes.**

#### **Public Hearings:**

##### **1. 6:15 PM Council Order 2025-078: Tax Classification**

- a. Town Assessor Janet Teal gave two presentations; first on understanding the residential exemption, which was asked of her by the Councilors at the previous meeting; secondly she reviewed the 2026 tax classification presentation, which was shown at the last Council meeting.

This presentation included a slide showing the 4 votes the Council must take, under state law, in order to establish any shifts in the tax rate, which will then permit the final setting of the tax rate. The presentation also showed previous tax rates and estimated increases.

Council President Alexopoulos opened the public comments portion of the public hearing.

1. Joe Burke, 54 Hills Street: asked about the difference between duplex and a two family in terms of the tax rate. Town Assessor Teal stated they look at properties in terms of a parcel. Joe suggested that the council vote a shift of 1.74.
2. Amanda Geroe, 32 Bessey Rd: suggested that the town use copies of occupancy permits to help track which properties are being rented and which are owner occupied.

There were no more public comments. The public comments portion of the public hearing was closed. The Councillors were invited to comment or ask questions on the Tax Classification presentation and proposals.

Councilor Thompson thanked Town Assessor Teal for all her hard work on creating a presentation that answered all the questions of the Councilors during the last meeting. Councilor Thompson did ask why we are unable to estimate the amount of owner occupied single family Homes? Town Assessor Teal responded that owners do not need to make it known to the Town when they are renting out their house. The Town is not required to have this information and does not collect it.

Councilor Huff-Larmond thanked Town Assessor Teal for the efforts put into this report which helped the Councilors and residents gain a better understanding of the residential exemption. Councilor Huff-Larmond said last year we voted a 1.73 shift and that she would like to give the residents a break by voting a shift of 1.75.

Councilor Egan thanked the Town Assessor for the presentation. He voiced his opinion on voting no for adopting a residential exemption, saying that this is for communities such as the Cape and Boston which are different from Randolph.

Councilor Gordon thanked the Town Assessor for the presentation which gave clear and concrete information as to how the taxes would change.

Councilor Clerger clarified that the higher the shift means less taxes for business owners and vice versa.

Councilor O'Connell would like to meet in the middle at 1.74.

Councilor Egan made it clear that he would not be in favor of 1.74 or 1.75 given the increase to businesses in town.

Councilor Huff-Larmond wants to vote to give the residents a break given the town's demographic and would be open to 1.74. She believes any money, even a few cents, will be helpful for our residents.

Councilors Burgess and Egan did not agree with that statement from Councilor Huff-Larmond. Councilor Burgess also stated that most of our small businesses are immigrant owned. We need to balance socio-economic development. Councilor Burgess also stated that if we want to reduce the tax rate then we need to spend less.

Council President Alexopoulos said we want to help cultivate small businesses.

**Motion:** Moved by Egan and seconded by Vice President Brewer, to adopt a tax shift of 1.73.

**Motion:** Motion to amend Councilor Egan's motion to adopt a tax shift of 1.74 made by Councilor O'Connell and seconded by Councilor Thompson.

Roll Call Vote: 4-5-0 (Nays: Alexopoulos, Brewer, Burgess, Egan, Huff-Larmond)

**Motion fails.**

**Motion:** Motion to amend Councilor Egan's motion to adopt a tax shift of 1.75 made by Councilor Gordon and seconded by Councilor Huff-Larmond.

Roll Call Vote: 3-6-0 (Nays: Alexopoulos, Brewer, Burgess, Egan, O'Connell, Thompson)

**Motion fails.**

**Motion:** The Main Motion was then addressed. That Motion was: Moved by Egan and seconded by Vice President Brewer, to adopt a tax shift of 1.73.

Roll Call Vote: 6-3-0 (Yays: Alexopoulos, Brewer, Burgess, Egan, O'Connell, Thompson; Nays: Clerger, Gordon, Huff-Larmond)

**Motion passes.**

Before further motions were made, Councilor Gordon asked if historically the town has voted not to adopt an open space and small commercial exemption. That is correct. The Town has voted not to adopt those exemptions in the past.

**Motion:** Moved by Egan and seconded by Vice President Brewer, not to adopt an open space discount.

Roll Call Vote: 5-4-0 (Nays: Burgess, Egan, Thompson, Huff-Larmond)

**Motion passes.**

**Motion:** Moved by Egan and seconded by Vice President Brewer, not to adopt a residential exemption.

Roll Call Vote: 9-0-0

**Motion passes.**

**Motion:** Moved by Egan and seconded by Vice President Brewer, not to adopt a commercial exemption.

Roll Call Vote: 7-1-0 (Nays: Gordon; Absent at Vote: Huff-Larmond)

**Motion passes.**

**Adjournment:**

**Motion:** Motion to adjourn made by Councilor Egan and seconded by Councilor O'Connell.

Roll Call Vote: 9-0-0

**Motion passes.**

The meeting adjourned at 7:13PM.

Notification of Upcoming Meeting Dates

November 24

December 8