

Town of Randolph
Regular Meeting Minutes – Selectboard (DRAFT)
June 10, 2021

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2 ***This meeting was held remotely, via Zoom.**

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4 **Selectboard:** Trini Brassard, Perry Armstrong, Patrick French, Tom Ayres, and Larry Satcowitz.

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6 **Municipal Staff:** Trevor Lashua, Joshua Jerome, and Haidi Arias.

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8 **Public Attendees:** A number of people attended via Zoom, including but not limited to Jenny Carter,
9 Sally Penrod, Neil Richardson, Valeria Schoolcraft, Brendan Malley (Norwich Solar Technologies),
10 Michael Binder, Joan Binder, and others.

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12 **Media:** ORCA Media

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14 1. Trini called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

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16 2. Public Comment

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18 Sally Penrod provided an update on the library, noting that re-opening is scheduled for July
19 1st.

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21 3. Approval of Agenda

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23 *Pat moved to amend the agenda to add 5.i.3, a public assembly permit application by the*
24 *Randolph Village Fire Department for July 3rd fireworks, and approve the agenda as*
25 *amended. Tom seconded. The motion passed 5-0.*

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27 4. Consent Calendar

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29 *Perry moved to approve the consent calendar as presented. Tom seconded. The motion passed*
30 *5-0.*

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32 5. New Business

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34 a. Consider Adopting Declaration of Inclusion. –

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36 *Tom moved to adopt the Declaration of Inclusion as amended, adding, “or*
37 *socioeconomic class” to the first sentence. Pat seconded. The motion passed 5-0.*

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39 b. Consider Proposed Amendments to the Land Use Regulations. – Joshua Jerome and
40 Perry both spoke of the proposed changes, and how they connect to the planned
41 pursuit of neighborhood designation status from the State. The next step is to warn a
42 public hearing.

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44 *Larry moved to warn a public hearing on the proposed changes to the land use*
45 *regulations on Thursday, July 8th, at 5:30 p.m. Perry seconded. The motion passed 5-*
46 *0.*

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- c. Norwich Solar Technologies Preferred Siting Request – Trini recused herself as chair, and Larry assumed those duties.

Norwich Solar Technologies was seeking preferred siting approval from the Selectboard for an array to be located on 0 Davis Road. The Planning Commission had reviewed the proposal, and signed a letter regarding the preferred siting request.

Neighbors asked questions about notice, fencing, impact on wildlife, vegetation management and use of herbicides, and general maintenance activities.

The Board discussed its role, and whether or not a checklist or other criteria for review was needed in addition to the Planning Commission’s review of applicable criteria. There was also discussion of the approval process, including local and State roles.

Additional conversation focused on notice to abutters, with there being no formal requirement for that.

Perry moved to concur with the Planning Commission’s decision and sign the letter designating the site as preferred. Tom seconded. The motion passed 4-0-1 (Trini recused).

****NOTE: At some point during this topic, the Zoom feed cut out entirely. When the meeting was restarted, not all participants automatically returned to the call. Nothing was discussed during the outage (there wasn’t any ability to).**

- d. Consider Renaming the Elm Street Park as Rosalind Park – To honor Roz Burgess, whose volunteer efforts resulted in the significant improvement and continued beautification of the park space on Elm Street, a request was made to rename the park in her honor.

Tom moved to rename the Elm Street park property as, “Rosalind Park,” in honor of Roz Burgess. Perry seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

- e. Discussion of Municipal Property Tax Capacity – Larry introduced the conversation, focusing on the ways to balance the community’s various needs, especially infrastructure ones like paving. There was general discussion of capacity, how to engage the public in the process, what the role of technology could be in that engagement effort, and how debt service retiring may help with capital investment.

There was also discussion about whether or not the Town is fully ready to take advantage of State and Federal infrastructure funding, with a general sense that the Town does not have capital projects sufficiently scoped. There was also discussion of the need to invest in upfront work, particularly with paving, such as an assessment, identification of work, and cost estimating.

93 f. Consider Authorizing a Tax Anticipation Note –
94 *Tom moved to authorize staff to send out an RFP for tax anticipation notes, and to*
95 *return to the Board with a recommendation. Perry seconded. The motion passed 5-0.*
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97 g. Consider Water Shut-Off Resumption Plan – Trevor briefly described the process of
98 resuming water shut-offs, with the expected expiration of COVID-related moratoriums
99 on doing so. There is notice at multiple points prior to shut-off.

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101 *Tom moved to approve the plan recommended by staff in the action item sheet. Pat*
102 *seconded. The motion passed 5-0.*
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104 h. Consider Continuation of Temporary Payment Process for Firefighters – Trini
105 provided a brief update of the work of the advisory committee working through fire-
106 related issues. The Board suspended the direct deposit requirement in December; only
107 the Village firefighters are paid in December and June. Two firefighters would be
108 receiving checks as a result.

109
110 *Tom moved to continue the Board’s decision to issue checks to those firefighters*
111 *choosing not to receive payment by direct deposit, limited to those firefighters also*
112 *receiving checks in 2020, notwithstanding the personnel policy. Pat seconded. The*
113 *motion passed 5-0.*
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115 i. Public Assembly Permit Applications. –
116 *Payt moved to approve all three applications – 4th of July Parade, 3rd of July*
117 *fireworks, and the June 21st Make Music Day event. Tom seconded. The motion passed*
118 *5-0.*
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120 j. Consider Draft Facility Use and Rental Policy – Haidi introduced the policy, and
121 discussed briefly what it included. There was some discussion of starting with
122 recreation facilities, and revisiting the policy to add other municipal buildings or
123 facilities.

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125 *Larry moved to accept and approve the proposed facility use and rental policy. Pat*
126 *seconded. The motion passed 5-0.*
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128 6. Grants

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130 a. Summer Matter Grant Application Acceptance – The Town received the grant. The
131 total grant request of \$22,730 would be funded with ARPA funds, and focus on
132 programs for kids, tweens, and teens.

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134 *Tom moved to accept the grant, as awarded. Larry seconded. The motion passed 5-0.*
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136 7. Old Business

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138 a. None.

- 139 8. Other Business
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141 a. None.
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- 143 9. Manager's Report.
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145 The Town Manager's report covered the Beanville Road culvert, ARPA funding, re-opening
146 the Town Offices, and so on.
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- 148 10. Executive Session.
149 *Pat moved to enter executive session pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 313 (a) (1) (B) to discuss labor*
150 *relations and agreements. Larry seconded. The motion passed 5-0.*
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152 The Board entered executive session at 7:4 p.m.
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154 *Perry moved to exit executive session at 8:03 p.m. Tom seconded. The motion passed 5-0.*
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- 157 11. Adjourn
158 *Larry moved to adjourn at 8:03 p.m. Tom seconded. The motion passed 5-0.*
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