

Town of Randolph
Regular Meeting Minutes – Selectboard (DRAFT)
May 19, 2022



1
2 ***This meeting was hybrid, with remote access provided via Zoom.**

3 ****This draft is intended for open meeting law compliance; a more detailed version may**
4 **replace the draft.**

5
6 **Selectboard:** Trini Brassard (via Zoom), Patrick French, Larry Satcowitz, and Tom Ayres (all in
7 person).

8
9 **Municipal Staff:** Trevor Lashua, Town Manager; Kimberly Grout.

10
11 **Public Attendees:** Linda Grimes, Heather Lawler (OSSD), Stephanie Tyler (RACDC), Peter
12 Reed (RACDC via Zoom), Sonny Holt (via Zoom), and additional individuals attended via
13 Zoom.

14
15 **Media:** ORCA

16
17 **Regular Selectboard Meeting**

18
19 Trini called the meeting to order at 5:32.

20
21 **2. Public Comment**

22
23 Linda Grimes from Chandler updated the board on the new employee additions at Chandler. She
24 also mentioned this year's New World Festival will be its 30th year.

25
26 **3. Approval of Agenda**

27 *Pat moved to approve the agenda. Tom seconded. The motion passed 4-0.*

28
29 **4. Consent Calendar (meetings minutes, warrants).**

30
31 Pat said the April 14 minutes needed to be amended. Line 64, "Jon Kaplan stated that he supports
32 *the* narrower two-way traffic option with a sidewalk", should read, "Jon Kaplan stated that he
33 supports *a* narrower two-way traffic option with a sidewalk." Also, line 191, "Tom moved to *adjourn*
34 the regular Selectboard meeting," should read, "Tom moved to *recess* the regular Selectboard
35 meeting."

36
37 *Pat moved to approve the consent calendar, with the April 14 minutes amended as noted. Tom*
38 *seconded. The motion passed 4-0.*

39
40 **Business (#5)**

41
42 **5.a. – Consider Adopting Validation Resolution (2018 Bond Vote).**

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44 Voters approved a \$1.5 million loan for the North wells and reservoir project in 2018, but the
45 Town did not apply for the funds until this spring. A possible process issue with the warning of
46 the bond vote was highlighted. The quickest, cleanest remedy is adoption of a validation
47 resolution.

48

49 *Pat moved to adopt the validation resolution as presented, and for a copy of the resolution text to*
50 *be included in the meeting minutes. Larry seconded. The motion passed 4-0.*

51

52

VALIDATION RESOLUTION

53 WHEREAS, notice of the March 6, 2018, annual meeting of the Town of Randolph (the
54 “Town”) was given in part by posting the Warning thereof on January 30, 2018, in four public
55 places; and

56 WHEREAS, notice of said annual meeting was given in part by publishing the Warning thereof
57 in the Herald on February 15, 2018, February 22, 2018, and March 1, 2018;

58 WHEREAS, as provided in 24 V.S.A. §1756, notice of said Town meeting was “to be published
59 in a newspaper of known circulation in such municipality once a week for three consecutive
60 weeks on the same day of the week, the last publication to be not less than five nor more than ten
61 days before such meeting” and “posted in five public places . . . for two weeks immediately
62 preceding the meeting.”;

63 WHEREAS, the requisites of the statute relating to the posting of the Town annual meeting
64 Warning containing an article of business relating to the incurrence of bonded indebtedness not
65 having been complied with because of oversight, inadvertence or mistake of law or fact, the
66 Selectboard desire to avail themselves of the validation provisions of 17 V.S.A. § 2662 and 24
67 V.S.A. § 1757; and

68 WHEREAS, at the March 6, 2018, Town annual meeting the proposition of incurring bonded
69 indebtedness for the purpose of drinking water improvements (Article 9) was approved, those
70 voting in Favor being 587 and those voting Opposed being 297.

71 NOW THEREFORE, the Selectboard hereby finds that, notwithstanding the failure to comply
72 with all of the statutory requirements incident to the call, notice and warning of said Town
73 annual meeting, the required length notice of the purpose of said meeting has been had;
74 accordingly,

75 BE IT RESOLVED that, to the fullest extent permitted by law, the Selectboard hereby ratifies,
76 confirms and validates all action taken by the Town at the annual meeting thereof held on March
77 6, 2018.

78 I hereby certify that the foregoing was approved and adopted by an affirmative vote of at least
79 two-thirds of the members of the Selectboard of the Town of Randolph at a meeting thereof held
80 on May 19, 2022.

81

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82 5.b – Update on the North Wells and Reservoir Project.

83
84 The Town received only a single bid for the project, and may qualify for a disadvantage subsidy.
85 At a minimum, the construction originally planned for the summer of 2022 is delayed until later
86 in the year – or, more likely, the spring of 2023. Staff is working to connect with other funding
87 partners. The funding sources include additional grants, a Congressional earmark, and/or other
88 sources.

89
90 5.c – Consider Approving Tandem Dump Truck Order for FY23.

91 The Town's capital improvement program (CIP) calls for the replacement of a 2013 Freightliner
92 tandem dump truck. Trucks are purchased, essentially, as two pieces – the truck (chassis, motor,
93 etc.) and the body. The recommended truck comes with a seven-year warranty that covers the
94 electrical and mechanical components.

95
96 *Larry moved to authorize the order for a truck from ATG and a body from Viking for the*
97 *amounts listed in the table, with the purchase to occur in FY23 and paid from the highway*
98 *equipment reserve. Tom seconded. The motion passed 4-0.*

99
100 5.d – Consider Award of Mowing Bids.

101 Two cemeteries in Randolph were combined for a single request for proposals (RFP). The RFP
102 was published on the Town's website for one week, and an attempt was made to ensure at least
103 two bidders were contacted. The cemetery mowing contract is, at this point, envisioned as a one-
104 year-only endeavor necessary to plug holes created by staff shortages. The contract cost will be
105 covered by vacancy savings created by one employee unable to return to work.

106
107 There was only one bidder for the Randolph Center and East Randolph cemetery mowing: Seth
108 Fernandes of East Randolph.

109
110 *Tom moved to review, and consider award of the mowing bid as outlined. Pat seconded. The*
111 *motion passed 4-0.*

112
113 5.e – Consider Appointments to the Planning Commission.

114 Sheila Jacobs and Eileen London were seeking appointment to the Planning Commission; there
115 are two seats available on the seven-member body. Appointments would be for the remainders of
116 the four-year terms; the terms expire in 2025 and 2026, respectively.

117
118 Sonny Holt commented that these are two outstanding candidates.

119
120 *Pat moved to appoint Sheila Jacobs and Eileen London to the 2 four-year Planning Commission*
121 *seats. Sheila to the term expiring in 2025 and Eileen London to the term expiring in 2026. Tom*
122 *seconded. The motion passed 4-0.*

123
124 5.f – Discussion of East Randolph Fire Tanker Replacement.

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125 The 1988 truck in service at the East Randolph Fire Department is slated for replacement. More
126 than half of the fire vehicle fleet has been in service for more than 20 years, exceeding
127 recommended replacement cycles.

128
129 Trini restated that the East Randolph fleet is all outdated (over 20 years old). Trevor mentioned
130 that using a fire truck from 1988 presented more than a few challenges with regards to safety and
131 reliability. There was a discussion about the necessity of a new truck, and the larger conversation
132 about fire equipment. This type of truck is likely to be needed in East Randolph regardless, as the
133 capability to haul water is essential. Prior to exploring replacement further, the East Randolph
134 Fire Department was looking to ensure it had support for the eventual replacement if possible.

135
136 *Tom moved to authorize the exploration of a tanker truck. Larry seconded. The motion passed 4-*
137 *0.*

138
139 5.g – Consider Letter of Support for Orange Southwest School District Grant Application.

140 Heather Lawler, the principal at Braintree Elementary School, made a request for the Selectboard
141 to consider providing a letter of support for the Orange Southwest School District’s (OSSD)
142 application for an Equitable and Inclusive Community grant from the Vermont Community
143 Foundation.

144
145 The grant is the result of a combined effort by VCF, the Vermont League of Cities and Towns,
146 and the Vermont Office of Racial Equity.

147
148 Heather gave a quick overview of the ask. She mentioned two different consultants she’s
149 considering using. Tom asked if it was necessary to name which consultant she wanted to use in
150 the ask. She said she suspected they would be more likely to get the grant if a specific consultant
151 was named.

152
153 *Pat moved to provide a letter of support, asking the Town Manager to draft something. Tom*
154 *seconded. The motion passed 4-0.*

155
156 5.h – Assembly Permits – New World Festival and First Fridays. **Re-lettered**

157 There were two assembly permits to consider. The first was the annual application from the
158 Chandler Center for the Arts for the New World Festival; the second was from RACDC for a
159 “First Fridays” event.

160
161 The Board took the New World Festival application first. The event is in its 30th year, and no
162 significant changes to the plan appear to be included.

163
164 *Tom moved to approve the assembly permit for New World Festival. Pat seconded. The motion*
165 *passed 4-0.*

166

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167 Peter Reed from RACDC was there to update the Board regarding the First Fridays permit. The
168 idea is to host a block party of sorts, which would include closing Merchants Row from 4 p.m. to
169 the event's end. Peter spoke about the outreach conducted to date, and the general level of
170 support for the event.

171
172 The operator of the auto parts store had expressed concern and displeasure about the street
173 closure on his business specifically. There would be an hour between the street closure and the
174 close of business on the four or five Fridays included in the application. Alternative parking was
175 arranged by event organizers.

176
177 Trini asked why the event can't start at 5:00 pm instead of 4:00 pm so it has no impact on Fisher
178 Auto. Peter said they will accommodate parking by having folks park on Back Street. He also
179 said they need to start early for set-up and to make it more family-friendly. After discussion, the
180 Board further agreed to a trial run, with approval of the June event. There would be review of
181 additional dates and feedback before deciding whether or not to approve the remainder of the
182 dates.

183
184 *Pat moved to approve the first date of RACDC's First Friday permit. Larry seconded. The*
185 *motion passed 4-0.*

186
187 **Manager's Report (#6)**
188

189 Beyond the written report, the Manager spoke about:

- 190 • An update on staffing. Trevor stressed that appears the Town is in for a long haul for
191 these staffing vacancies, and impacts on level of service are likely. It is getting
192 increasingly harder to hire people for these positions. People are pitching in; Trevor
193 specifically thanked Haidi Arias and Mark White.
- 194 • Paving and storm risers, and what the general plan would be.
- 195 • DEC and TRORC visits to sites on Lower Stock Farm Road and North Randolph Road.
196 Both face significant erosion impact. North Randolph Road will likely skip the scoping
197 study in favor of an action plan preliminarily approved; and emergency stream alteration
198 permit was being issued. Lower Stock Farm Road, where the Third Branch of the White
199 River continues to eat at the bank in an increasing oxbow, is more difficult. Options were
200 to be presented by DEC staff via email.

201
202 **Executive Session (#7)**

203 There are two executive session topics; discussing contracts requires the Board to utilize the two-
204 motion process discussed in April. Recommended motions follow.

205
206 *Tom moved to find that executive session is necessary and prudent and that premature general*
207 *public knowledge would place the Town at a disadvantage. Pat seconded. The motion passed 4-*
208 *0.*

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209
210 *Tom moved to enter executive session pursuant to 1 V.S.A § 313 (a) (1) (A) [Contracts] and 1*
211 *V.S.A § 313 (a) (2) [Real Estate]. Pat seconded. The motion passed 4-0.*

212 *The Board entered executive session at 6:51 pm.*

213 *Tom moved to exit executive session at 7:34 pm. Pat seconded. The motion passed 4-0.*

214 *Larry moved to adjourn 7:34 pm. Pat seconded. The motion passed 4-0.*

215

216 **The Board's next regularly scheduled meeting is Thursday, June 9th, at 5:30 p.m.**

217