

BOARD OF SELECTMEN Minutes

May 12, 2015

Broadcast Studio

423 Webbs Mills Road

Resolution: We, the Raymond Board of Selectmen, recognize our individual and collective responsibilities as leaders and representatives of our community. To this end, we pledge to conduct ourselves in a manner befitting these roles and duties. We pledge and encourage others to "Be the Influence" and to recognize that decisions matter.

<u>Selectmen in attendance</u>: Mike Reynolds (chair), Lawrence Taylor, Joe Bruno, Teresa Sadak, and Samuel Gifford

Selectmen absent: none

<u>Town Staff in attendance</u>: Don Willard – Town Manager Nathan White – Public Works Director Chris Hanson – Codes Enforcement Officer Bruce Tupper – Fire Chief Cathy Gosselin – Deputy Fire Chief Danielle Loring – Executive Assistant Dominic Dymond – Station Manager Sue Look – Town Clerk

1) **Called to order** at 7:30pm by Chairman Reynolds (due to a General Assistance hearing taking longer than expected).

Permission granted to allow non-residents by consensus.

2) **Approval of minutes** of previous meetings dated: <u>April 1, 2015</u>

<u>Motion</u> to approve the minutes as presented by Selectman Bruno. Second by Selectman Sadak. Unanimously approved.

- 3) New Business.
 - a) Reconsideration of Community Dock at Veterans Park Ingo Hartig

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Local business owner and Revitalization Committee member Ingo Hartig is requesting that the community dock discussion be reconsidered. The proposed dock is 4' W x 14' L with a 6' W x 14' L float at the end of it and would be placed at the northwest end of the Veterans Memorial Park rest area from Memorial Day weekend to Columbus Day weekend. The dock would be maintained by the local businesses donating it and would serve as an emergency access point for the Public Safety Department's boat. The purpose of this dock is to serve as a safe access point for boaters to patronize the businesses along Raymond's commercial corridor. Currently, boaters do use this public location as an access point but are causing bank erosion.

Mr Hartig – represented the Raymond Revitalization Committee and the local businesses – this is to allow boaters easy access to local businesses. Local merchants will pay for and maintain the dock. The dock will be like the one on Indian Point. The float portion is 6' wide and not attached to the river bed. There will need to be signage pertaining to how long they can dock, how many boats at a time, use at your own risk, etc.

Chairman Reynolds – I asked about this last year and for various reasons it did not come to a vote. There is erosion from boats landing at Veteran's Park with no dock. This is town owned land and the town would need to request a permit to add a dock.

Selectman Bruno – "Use at your own risk"? Won't there be someone who would need to be liable?

Town Manager Willard – The liability would be with the town and the cost of adding this to our policy would be negligible.

Selectman Bruno – As I remember the major issue was milfoil being spread. Has this been addressed?

Mr Hartig – There is a grant that will pay for 2 dives to remove milfoil.

Selectman Sadak – Are there any restrictions for the surrounding private docks pertaining to boats coming to their dock? Do they need mitigation plans?

Chairman Reynolds – No there are not.

CEO Hanson – The town would need to grant a letter of approval for the group to apply for a permit to add a dock. There will need to be some shoreline stabilization done prior to launching the dock. Permits for docks are a 1 time permit at \$.10 per square foot (waived if for the town).

Chairman Reynolds – I tested the crosswalk and traffic did stop.

Public Works Director White – We looked at the erosion a couple of years ago. Putting a dock in will eliminate further erosion. If the dock is not installed we will be doing erosion control.

Chief Tupper – It is a great location for dropping off or picking up anyone in an emergency situation. It has parking.

Peggy Jensen – Member of Board of Directors for Raymond Waterways – our concern is for milfoil and I am pleased that milfoil mitigation is being considered. I am disappointed that there seems to be an independent operation planned that has not been shared with RWPA. The milfoil has to be pulled by the roots and then sucked into the hose. We survey all known sites and use a scale to grade each site. In June of 2014 there was no visible milfoil at the proposed dock site, but there is a great amount of

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milfoil in the channel. The issue is that the boats will cut up the milfoil and each piece can take root and spread the infestation, so inviting more boats to this area would not be good.

Philip Michaud – Panther Run Marina – we will be working on the milfoil in the river this summer. The frost from last year helped and we have been harvesting milfoil there for 5 years. The outer end of Indian Point is the worst area. We are doing from the bridge to the markers. There are other plants in the river that are native and we are trying to only remove the invasive milfoil.

Ms Jensen – There are many plants that look like milfoil. I would like to coordinate with you on milfoil mitigation efforts.

Mr Michaud – We took it upon ourselves to go after our area with milfoil. We appreciate what RWPA has done. We are spending \$15,500 this year. A firm from NH is doing the work.

Dave MacIntire – Veteran's Park Committee – my concern is that there is a difference between a park and a rest area. It has been said that the Rotary Club will keep the park clean.

Public Works Director White – We have 2 staff members who go each morning and pick up the area. I think the signage needs to be clear that it will be carry-in-carry-out.

Mr MacIntire – The Veteran's Park is meant to be a memorial and it is a special area and should be kept up. We would want signage to inform people that the site should be treated with respect.

Kevin Fay – Milfoil has been the ongoing concern. Sharing the information that the work is ongoing is what is needed. I think it is a great idea.

Robert French (165 Ai Rd) – What type of precedent is being set by the town? Putting a dock in a milfoil area? Removing milfoil is not decreasing in importance. Are we opening up a situation where other people will ask for a similar dock?

Town Manager Willard – The presence of milfoil is not considered with granting a permit for a dock.

Cary Colby – Chair of Raymond Revitalization Committee – We support this project. The park is already being used and the dock would stop the erosion. Frye Island would be able to dock instead of taking the ferry. We are trying to promote business in Raymond.

Selectman Bruno – If we grant this dock can you stop the erosion before it goes in?

Public Works Director White – No. The erosion is happening from people pulling boats up there.

<u>Motion</u> to allow the dock to be added as proposed by Selectman Sadak. Second by Selectman Gifford.

Chairman Reynolds – we could make the dock contingent on Public Works and Codes be comfortable with the erosion control.

Unanimously approved.

b) Raymond Village Library 2015 Garden Tour and Program Announcements – Elissa

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Gifford, RVL Trustee

Raymond Village Library Trustee Elissa Gifford will announce details for the 2015 Raymond Garden Tour on Saturday, June 27th, which is a fund-raising benefit for the RVL. She will also announce other activities and programs that are scheduled in the coming weeks.

Mrs Gifford – We thank you for the space in your busy agenda.

- June 6th Annual Plant sale, donated by town's folks on June 5th
- June 7th Lane Weatherall will be discussing wine
- June 11th In the Public Safety Building will be teaching painting a sunflower
- June 17th Genevieve Coombs will be speaking about perennials
- June 27th Annual Raymond Garden Tour 7 gardens in the community and 2 from Kings Grant and the barn will be open. These gardens are different than the gardens on last year's tour. The artwork on the brochure is by Donna Cantor and the original will be raffled.
- June 27th Hawthorne Strawberry Festival

Thanks to all the businesses and citizens who have donated to make these possible. Also, thanks to the garden owners for opening their gardens.

c) Project Update: Economic Development Strategy for 2025 – Danielle Loring and Milan Nevajda, Planning Decisions

Milan Nevajda, Planning Decisions, and Danielle Loring, Director of Development, will be presenting an ongoing project to develop a ten year economic development strategy for the Town of Raymond. This will include hosting focus groups to gather information about Raymond's commercial strength and weaknesses. This project is following the release of the report containing information gathered by the Economic Development Task Force in 2014. They will be looking for guidance regarding topics that the Selectmen would like to see represented in the focus groups meeting.

Mr Nevajda – I was involved in the incubator study. We are a planning firm and have worked all over the state. We will be using the survey to begin the focus groups. We want to ask businesses about what they think they need or is hindering them in growth. We want to understand the opportunities and barriers to growth. What are the Selectmen's priorities for this? We are targeting mid-June (16th to 18^{th}).

Selectman Gifford – I think we need a bit more time to digest the information presented.

Selectman Bruno – Are we focusing on retail businesses?

Mr Nevajda – We got a list of who we should include in the focus groups. We are asking a diverse group of businesses and we are asking who is willing to participate. This is not a retail growth process, it is an economic development effort.

Town Manager Willard – This is an exciting project and I am hopeful and optimistic that this will be beneficial. We were not successful in changing the scope of the grant. We have budgeted monies.

d) Innovative Readiness Training Program and Town Project Update – Danielle Loring, Project Manager

IRT – trucks are going through town. They are staged at Camp Hinds residentially. They are working on Valley Road. The 2017 application has been submitted for the Patricia Avenue project. The abutting

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property has vernal pools, but our property does not. The next step is the traffic study during June or July. Thank you to Public Works & P&K for roughing in the road for the IRT. They are now smoothing out the property to get ready for forms. Also working with Public Safety. They will not be there for the next 2 weeks. Everything is on schedule now. By August we should see a tower.

Town Manager Willard – We attended the ground breaking for the Dining Hall at Camp Hinds. A very significant building. There will be a ball field as well. Camp Hinds will be making their facility available to town's people.

e) ** Discussion and Consideration of Transfer of School property to RSU#14 – Board of Selectmen

At the February 10, 2015 meeting, Assistant Superintendent Donn Davis requested that the Selectmen release lands that were to be included for transfer at the time that Raymond entered into RSU#14 and outlined potential issues that this issue may cause if not completed. At the meeting, the Selectmen requested additional information regarding the transfer. The Selectmen have been given materials from Town Attorney Shana Cook Mueller addressing the concerns raised.

Chairman Reynolds – It has been recommended by our attorneys to do this.

<u>Motion</u> to approve authorize and direct Town Manage to ... quit claim deed (get from e-packet) by Selectman Bruno. Second by Selectman Gifford.

Selectman Sadak – I spoke with Rolf Olsen (Budget-Finance Committee Chair), can the RSU sell the school? Is it given back to the town or is it sold back to the town. Does the statute say "free and clear"?

Bill Stockmeyer – Attorney for RSU #14 – it would be offered back free and clear. If the building was constructed by the town, then it goes back to the town along with any associated debt.

Selectman Sadak – Does Raymond have full access to using the sports fields as long as it does not interfere with events scheduled by the school?

Sandy Prince – Superintendent of RSU #14 – Can the public use those fields, absolutely.

Unanimously approved.

f) Consideration and Approval of Election Moderator and Clerks for the June 3, 2015 Town Meeting and June 9, 2015 Election– Sue Look, Town Clerk

<u>Motion</u> to approve by Selectman Gifford. Second by Selectman Taylor. **Unanimously approved.**

g) ** Discussion of Maximum School Tuition Payment – Board of Selectmen

Selectman Bruno – We have always allowed "school choice" - where any student can attend any school and the town will pay the state tuition maximum. It is my concern that we will not pay a premium on sending a student to a private school.

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Chairman Reynolds – If we direct the RSU that we will only pay the state tuition rate and not anything above will you not pay more than that?

Selectman Bruno – I would like to have this discussion and be ready for a motion at the next Selectmen's Meeting on June 16^{th} .

Selectman Sadak – We did intend to do this just before the School Board was dissolved.

h) Consideration of Steve Warshaw for Appointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals – Sue Look, Town Clerk

Steve Warshaw is seeking appointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals, which will have three (3) vacancies out of five (5) positions as of June.

<u>Motion</u> to approve by Selectman Sadak. Second by Selectman Bruno. Unanimously approved.

i) Consideration of Bylaws Change Regarding Criteria for Member Attendance – Board of Selectmen

The Board of Selectmen will be considering an amendment to their Bylaws to allow members to use remote media methods, such as a conference call or Skype, to constitute attendance.

<u>Motion</u> to approve changes to the bylaws as presented by Chairman Reynolds. Second by Selectman Sadak.

Unanimously approved.

j) **** Consideration of Quit Claim Deeds as Submitted by Deputy Tax Collector Sue Carr** All back taxes, interest and lien costs have now been paid in full for this parcel through April 2015.

- Stephen E. & Yolanda Catir (Map 008, Lot 058) 109 Webbs Mills Rd <u>Motion</u> to approve by Selectman Bruno. Second by Selectman Sadak. Unanimously approved.
- Diane Reed, Ernest Callow & Dennis Jacques (Map 042, Lot 019) 40 Lakeside Dr <u>Motion</u> to approve by Selectman Bruno. Second by Selectman Sadak. Unanimously approved.

4) **Public Comment**

5) Selectmen Comment

Selectman Bruno – There was a unanimous vote of the RSU #14 Withdrawal Committee to stop the withdrawal process. There will be a letter sent to every Raymond resident that we are recommending a NO vote on June 9th. We want to send the letter out by the end of this month. There would be a significant raise in property taxes if we take on our schools ourselves.

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Selectman Sadak – A lot of people do not use Facebook or the internet and sending a letter is a good way to get the word out.

6) Town Manager Report and Communications.

- Town Office Renovations are proceeding and we are making great headway
- Candidates' Night June 29th at the Broadcast Studio
- Personnel Policy is being worked on
- Merit Pay project is under way
- Confirm date for next regular meeting June 30, 2015 Approved by consensus.

7) Fiscal Warrants – May 12, 2015

a) Payroll Expense Summary Warrant

<u>Motion</u> to approve Payroll Expense Summary Warrant for a total of \$81,832.89 by Selectman Taylor. Second by Selectman Gifford. **Unanimously approved.**

b) Treasurer's Warrant

<u>Motion</u> to approve Treasurer's Warrant for a total of \$133,007.59 by Selectman Taylor. Second by Selectman Gifford. **Unanimously approved.**

8) Executive Session

a) Executive Session pursuant to 1 MRSA § 405(6)(F): Consideration and Award of 2015 Town Scholarships

<u>Motion</u> to enter Executive Session at 9:15pm by Selectman Taylor. Second by Selectman Sadak.

Unanimously approved.

<u>Motion</u> to leave Executive Session at 9:22pm by Selectman Gifford. Second by Selectman Sadak.

Unanimously approved.

Selectman Taylor – we are pleased to grant 5 scholarships.

9) Adjournment

Adjourned by consensus at 9:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Look Town Clerk

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