



**SELECT BOARD
Minutes**

March 12, 2024

5:30pm – Regular Meeting

At Broadcast Studio &
Via Zoom & on YouTube

Resolution: We, the Raymond Select Board, 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.

Select Board members in attendance: Joe Bruno – Chair, Rolf Olsen – Vice Chair, Teresa Sadak, Samuel Gifford, Derek Ray

Town Staff in attendance:

Bruce Tupper – Fire Chief
Sue Look – Town Manager & Town Clerk

1) **Call regular meeting to order** at 5:30pm by Chair Bruno with a quorum

2) **Minutes of previous meetings**

a) February 13, 2024

Motion to approve as presented by Select Olsen. Seconded by Select Gifford.

Unanimously approved

***** NOTE: New Business was moved before Old Business due to availability of Town Attorney for added Executive Session *****

3) ***** New Business**

a) Consideration of Changes to the Business License Ordinance – Sue Look, Town Manager

Go back to being a one-time license with no renewal

Motion to approve as presented by Select Gifford. Seconded by Select Ray.

Unanimously approved

b) Consideration of Accepting the LTC Accessible Communities Grant – Richard Dowe, Librarian

Great job getting the grant! The grant will pay for an ADA accessible ramp.

Motion to accept the grant by Select Olsen. Seconded by Select Gifford.

Unanimously approved

4) *** Executive Session

- a) Code Enforcement Land Use Matter with Attorney – pursuant to 1 MRSA §405 (6) (E)

Motion to enter executive session as listed above at 5:35pm by Select Sadak. Seconded by Select Olsen.

Unanimously approved

Motion to leave executive session at 6:27pm by Select Sadak. Seconded by Select Olsen.

Unanimously approved

Select Chair Bruno – We had a meeting with our attorney out back with Alex our CEO and Bob O’Neill who is the chair of the Planning Board. Our advice to you right now is to seek a peer review on the wetlands that are there. Meaning, all we have right now is the plan from the solar people, but we are suggesting that you seek a peer review from someone like Cumberland County Soil and Water and have them come walk the property and give their opinions of wetlands and runoff. We don’t think DEP is going to help you at all. So, we are suggesting that to the Planning Board. Bob O’Neal is aware of it. Their meeting is next week, we suggest you go the meeting and say to them, we would like a peer review of the wetlands on this project.

Select Sadak –It’s a completely different opinion of the wetlands.

Select Chair Bruno – So that’s what we are suggesting. We got some legal advice, we know what you folks are here for, it’s probably not there yet. If you get the peer review on the wetlands, we think it could be a significant impact on this project. What we are suggesting is Cumberland County Soil and Water.

5) Old Business

- a) Discussion of Proposed Solar Array and Citizen’s Request for a Moratorium – Alex Sirois, CEO

At least 20 residents, as well as an attorney retained by some of the residents, some of whom live on Pulpit Rock Road and many who live on or around or near Thomas Pond attended and attended and many spoke regarding the proposed project and how it would be detrimental to the lake, the wildlife, vernal pools, and the residents. They also expressed frustration with the process thus far. They collected over 260 signatures of residents asking for a retroactive moratorium to allow time for the ordinance to be changed.

David Fowler who is the applicant to build the solar farm also spoke about his company’s philosophy of environmental conservation.

Motion to table the remaining items of the agenda until the next regular meeting by Select Olsen. Seconded by Select Sadak.

Unanimously approved

- ~~b) Consideration of Changes to the Fire Protection Ordinance — Bruce Tupper, Fire Chief
Proposed changes to allow 2-hour fire rated separation walls to delineate area calculations for whether a building requires sprinklers.~~

~~6) **Public Comment**~~

~~7) **Selectman Comment**~~

~~8) **Town Manager's Report and Communications**~~

~~a) Confirm Dates for Upcoming Regular Meetings~~

- ~~● April 4, 2024~~
- ~~● May 14, 2024~~

~~b) Upcoming Budget Meetings~~

- ~~● March 12 — directly after this meeting — Budget Finance Committee with Select Board Workshop~~
- ~~● March 25 — 5:30pm — Select Board Warrant Article Review & Recommendations~~
- ~~● April 2 — 6:30pm — Budget Finance Committee Budget Article Review & Recommendations~~
- ~~● April 4 — 5:30pm — Select Board Final Warrant Approval~~
- ~~● June 11 — 7am-8pm — Secret Ballot Referendum Vote at JSMS~~

9) Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 7:55pm by Select Ray. Seconded by Select Gifford.

Unanimously approved

*Respectfully submitted,
Melissa McConkey, TM Admin*