

**Raynham Board of Selectmen**

**Raynham, Massachusetts**

**Regular Meeting**

**September 5, 2023 @ 7:00 p.m.**

**Donald L McKinnon Meeting Room**

**Members Present: Town Administrator:**

Ms. Patricia Riley–Chair Mr. Gregory Barnes

Mr. Joseph Pacheco – Vice-Chair **Staff:**

Mr. Kenneth Collins - Clerk Ms. Dawn Caradonna, Recording Secretary

**Called to Order:**

Ms. Riley called the Board of Selectmen’s meeting to order and announced that the meeting is open to the public and is being broadcasted live through the Raynham Channel on both Comcast Channel 98 and Verizon Channel 34. It is also being recorded by RayCAM for replay on the Raynham Channel and later on YouTube.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Ms. Riley led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Acceptance of Minutes – August 22, 2023**

**Motion:** Moved by Mr. Pacheco and seconded by Mr. Collins to accept the Board of Selectmen’s meeting minutes of August 22, 2023, as printed. Discussion: None. Vote: 3-0-0

**Department Head Reports**

*Bob Iafrate, Building Commissioner, quarterly report*

Building Department permits issued to date include: 172 Electrical Permits, 232 Plumbing Permits, 318 Building Permits, 25 Sheet Metal Permits and 26 Trench Permits for total receipts in the amount of $206,462.40.

Projects throughout the Town involve a renovation at Barrels & Boards, new construction for Hannoush Jewelers, and the ongoing project for the Sportsbook location at the Carney property on Rte 138. Johnson & Johnson has an ongoing renovation project, and a nine-lot subdivision off Locust Street called Wildwood Path is about to begin the construction of single-family homes.

Planning Board

The Board will be reviewing a new submission from Popeye’s for a drive-through location in the Shaw’s Plaza on Rte. 44, a subdivision entitled Layla Estates on Pine Street, an addition for WalMart on Rte. 138, and an expansion for the Rte. 44 Mini Storage location.

The Board is also looking at several roads to be presented for acceptance at the Fall Town Meeting.

The Building Department also handles, in a timely manner, all incoming calls or complaints.

Mr. Pacheco questioned the plans for Popeye’s and the signalization for traffic.

Mr. Iafrate informed that the movement will be coming in from Rte 44 only and exiting out through the rear of the business. The owners of the plaza are in control of the property, and they are going to allow traffic leaving Popeye’s through the rear of the business to navigate through the parking lot to find the existing signalization. The state is also weighing in on the traffic pattern.

Mr. Pacheco wanted to make sure drivers were not allowed to turn left out of the Popeye’s parking lot, especially with the current traffic and McDonald’s across the street.

Mr. Barnes asked if Mr. Iafrate could speak on the agenda item for a temporary T-Mobile trailer.

**New Business**

1. **Discussion and approval of temporary T-Mobile trailer at 270 New State Highway**

T-Mobile will be undertaking a renovation project of their leased space at 270 New State Highway. They would like to maintain their customer service; therefore, they have requested a temporary trailer to be set up. Mr. Iafrate suggested a 60-day temporary permit for the use of the temporary trailer by T-Mobile.

Mr. Pacheco asked if the generator for the trailer will be in the front or rear of the store. He also asked if there will be any concerns with the noise of the generator for residents if it is located in the rear.

Mr. Iafrate replied that the generator will be in the rear along with other generators. He was not sure if the noise would be an issue for residents because there are not a lot of homes in that vicinity, but he will look into it and get back to the Board if there are issues.

**Motion:** Moved by Mr. Pacheco and seconded by Mr. Collins to approve the request for a temporary

T-Mobile trailer at 270 New State Highway as recommended by the Building Commissioner for a 60-day permit. Discussion: None. Vote: 3-0-0

**Town Administrator’s Report**

Mr. Barnes noted that the Board had instructed him to look into the Broadway Crossing 40B project specifically for the Subsidized Housing Inventory (SHI) from the state to see if the number of units from the project would bring Raynham over the requirement of 10%. Based on the numbers from the state, as of June 2023, Raynham is at 8.5%. If the Broadway Crossing project was to be approved, Raynham’s SHI would be 12.18%. Therefore, the Town would be over the requirement. It would then be at the discretion of the Town to allow any other 40B project to go through the comprehensive permit process, but it would no longer be mandatory. With the help of SRPEDD, Mr. Barnes is waiting to receive the state’s break-out of the SHI numbers. If the Riverwalk project is not already included, those units will only increase the Town’s percentage.

Mr. Iafrate agreed with the numbers given by Mr. Barnes. He said the Town receives credit for the units once they are approved and permitted. The application for Broadway Crossing is coming in for Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) review.

Mr. Pacheco confirmed that once the units from the Broadway Crossing project are approved, Raynham will be able to include them in the SHI requirement for the state.

With the large apartment developments before the Town, Ms. Riley asked if it was possible for the Planning Board, ZBA or Town to request developers allocate funds into an account to help offset the cost of the extra services the town will be required to provide. She explained that developers talk about the extra funds that will be generated through property taxes, but the extra services required through schools and public safety will cost the Town money.

Mr. Iafrate replied that once the Town reaches the 10% SHI, the Town may have more leverage when requesting funds. He explained, “Most developers will give some funding, depending on their budget. It is the ZBA who approves these projects. The Planning Board typically asks for funds for engineering studies and so forth. Sometimes the ZBA’s hands are tied by state regulations, but it never hurts to ask.”

**Appointments**

No appointments were scheduled.

**Public Hearings**

No Public Hearings were scheduled.

**Completion Old/Continuing Business**

1. **Raynham Recognition Award**

Ms. Riley explained that she was proposing the award as a pilot program and that it was basically formalizing, naming, and expanding upon the certificates of appreciation that the Boad traditionally has given out from time to time. The Recognition Award would be awarded periodically to any Town resident or residents, Town Group or organization, Town employee or Town official deserving of special recognition. It would be in addition to the annual awards bestowed by the Board of Selectmen or any other awards presented by any other Town Board, Commission or Committee, and it is not intended to conflict with or diminish from, any of those prestigious awards. Unlike the annual awards that the Board bestows, anyone may fill out the nomination form, available through the Selectmen’s office, to recognize a worthy recipient. At the end of the month, any nominaton forms that have been submitted will be collected and presented to the Selectmen for consideration. Once approved, a certificate will be prepared for presentation at a Board meeting.

Mr. Pacheco suggested excluding current elected officials, especially the current Board of Selectmen. Given that the Recognition Award is a pilot program and new, he asked if it would make sense to do the recognition on a quarterly basis rather than monthly. He said, “It may take time for people to get used to the program, and if there are no recognitions, it could give an unfair bias that it is not working.”

Ms. Riley replied that she would agree with excluding currently-serving elected officials, but she feels that the program could be done monthly. She said, “If no nominations are received by the end of the month, we can just go on to the next month.”

Mr. Collins agreed with Mr. Pacheco in eliminating current elected officials, but he likes the idea of a monthly recognition. He said, “If it doesn’t work out, we can always make adjustments.”

**Motion:** Moved by Mr. Pacheco, seconded by Mr. Collins, to approve the Raynham Recognition Award program with the amendment to exclude currently-serving elected officials. Discussion: None. Vote: 3-0-0

**New Business** (continued)

1. **Discussion and Action on filling 10 positions for Raynham Police Reserve List**

The request is to fill ten (10) positions on Raynham’s Police Reserve List from the current Civil Service Open Competitive.

**Motion:** Moved by Mr. Pacheco and seconded by Mr. Collins to approve the request to fill ten (10) positions on Raynham’s Police Reserve List from the current Civil Service Open Competitive. Discussion: None. Vote: 3-0-0

1. **Discussion and Action on filling two full-time Patrolman positions**

The request is to fill two (2) full-time positions of Patrolman due to the retirement of Patrolman John Henrique and Police Chief James W. Donovan.

Mr. Pacheco suggested taking the request under advisement until the next meeting as the Board is awaiting additional information from Police Chief David LaPlante.

**Motion:** Moved by Mr. Pacheco and seconded by Mr. Collins to take under advisement the request to fill two (2) full-time Patrolman’s positions until the next meeting. Discussion: None. Vote: 3-0-0

**Town Administrator’s Report (continued)**

*Mr. Gregory Barnes*

Mr. Barnes reminded everyone that the Board is back to meeting regularly every Tuesday night.

**Selectmen’s Report**

*Mr. Pacheco*

With students returning to school today, Mr. Pacheco trusts that all students had a great first day, safe, enjoyable, and they are off to a good start. He appreciates the work the School District is doing to make sure kids and parents are ready for the start of the new school year.

*Mr. Collins*

Mr. Collins has nothing to add at this time.

*Ms. Riley*

Ms. Riley congratulated Mr. Barnes on completing his first year with the Town. The Board will need to schedule his one-year evaluation, and Ms. Riley asked Mr. Barnes if he would recommend using the form used for his six-month evaluation. She asked for the evaluation form to be forwarded to the Board members sooner rather than later with the presentation of the summary evaluation tentatively scheduled for the Board’s first meeting in October.

Ms. Riley hopes that students, parents and educators all had a good start on the first day of school and that they have a successful year.

Both the Raynham Public Library and Senior Center have their new event calendars for September out and available online and residents are encouraged to check out all the great offerings.

Last Wednesday, Ms. Riley attended the Senior Center Breakfast to talk about the upcoming Raynham Community Day Celebration. She noted that the monthly senior breakfast is held on the last Wednesday of each month, and, not only is the breakfast delicious, but at a cost of only $3 per senior, it is a great deal.

Raynham Community Day is scheduled for Sunday, September 17, 2023, from noon to 4:00 p.m.

Becky George, RAVE Coordinator, and her Community Day Committee are doing a great job with all the planning. The event will feature a full agenda of entertainment and activities, and many Raynham businesses and organizations are scheduled to have tables and exhibits. The Senior Center will also have open house and that is where the Second Annual Pie-Baking Contest will take place. The last planning meeting for Community Day will be held on Monday in the Town Hall meeting room beginning at 7:00 p.m.

**Correspondence**

**Tag Day Request – Evolution Dance Company, Sherri Daye**

**Motion:** Moved by Mr. Pacheco and seconded by Mr. Collins to approve the Tag Day request from Evolution Dance Company, submitted by Sherri Daye, for October 21 & 22, 2023. Discussion: None. Vote: 3-0-0

**Press Time**

There was no discussion.

**Citizen & Community Input**

No input was offered.

***Performance of Administrative Duties***

Approval of Town of Raynham Invoice and Payroll Warrants

Ms. Riley asked for a motion to approve the Town of Raynham Invoice and Payroll Warrants.

**Motion:** Moved by Mr. Pacheco and seconded by Mr. Collins to approve the Town of Raynham Invoice and Payroll Warrants dated August 29 & September 5, 2023. Discussion: None. Vote: 3-0-0

Approval of Town of Raynham Police Invoice and Payroll Warrants

Ms. Riley asked for a motion to approve the Town of Raynham Police Invoice and Payroll Warrants.

**Motion:** Moved by Mr. Collins and seconded by Ms. Riley to approve the Town of Raynham Police Invoice and Payroll Warrants dated August 29 & September 5, 2023. Discussion: None.

**On a Roll Call Vote:** Mr. Collins – Aye; Mr. Pacheco – Abstain; and Ms. Riley – Aye. Vote: 2-0-1

Ms. Riley asked for a motion to adjourn.

**Motion:** Moved by Mr. Pacheco and seconded by Mr. Collins to adjourn the Board of Selectmen’s regular meeting of September 5, 2023, at 7:25 p.m. with no additional business to be conducted. Vote: 3-0-0

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Dawn Caradonna*

*Recording Secretary*

List of Meeting Documents:

* Minutes – August 22, 2023
* Bob Iafrate, Building Commissioner, monthly report (verbal)
* Request for Temporary Store Set-Up for T-Mobile at 270 New State Highway
* Raynham Recognition Award program proposal
* Letter from Police Chief requesting approval to fill ten positions on the Raynham Police Reserve List
* Letter from Police Chief requesting approval to fill two full-time Patrolman’s positions
* Tag Day Request for the Evolution Dance Company on October 21 and 22, 2023
* August 29 & September 5, 2023, Town of Raynham Invoice and Payroll Warrants
* August 29 & September 5, 2023, Town of Raynham Police Invoice and Payroll Warrants