

Phone: 669-224-3318

Access Code: 220-595-605

6:15 Executive Session

Chairman Joseph Pacheco called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m. in the Donald McKinnon Meeting Room at Veterans Memorial Town Hall, located at 558 South Main Street. In addition to Chairman Pacheco, Selectmen Richard Schiavo and Patricia Riley were in attendance, along with Town Administrator Graham Waters and Human Resources Coordinator Kelly Usher. Selectman Riley made a motion, seconded by Selectman Schiavo, to enter into Executive Session in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 30A, Section 21a, to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel and also to consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property if the chair so declares that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body. On a roll call vote, Mr. Pacheco, Mr. Schiavo, and Ms. Riley each voted "I" to go into Executive Session.

7:00 p.m. - Regular Meeting – with Remote Public Access

Chairman Joseph Pacheco called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Donald McKinnon Meeting Room at Veterans Memorial Town Hall. In addition to Chairman Pacheco, those in attendance included, among others, the following Town officials: Selectmen Richard Schiavo and Patricia Riley, Town Administrator Graham Waters, Health Agent Matt Tanis, Animal Control Officer Linda Brackett, Housing Authority Members Ginny Jacques and Charles Carey, and Recording Secretary Janet Murphy. Chairman Pacheco said, "We are returning from Executive Session with nothing to report out. We are continuing to meet at Town Hall. We are open to the public and this meeting is being recorded by RayCAM." Mr. Pacheco made reference to the agenda announcement regarding Governor Baker's June 16, 2021 Act Extending Certain COVID-19 Measures Adopted During the State of Emergency. allowing an extension until April 1, 2022, of the remote meeting provisions of his March 12, 2020 Executive Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, whereby every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings as provided for in the Order. Accordingly, for real time access, residents can utilize the call-in information provided on the agenda..

Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Pacheco led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Acceptance of the Minutes

Mr. Pacheco asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the Selectmen's meeting held on July 13, 2021. Mr. Schiavo made a motion to approve, Ms. Riley seconded, and Mr. Pacheco made it unanimous.

Department Heads

a. Matt Tanis, Health Agent – Monthly Report

Mr. Tanis announced, "COVID cases have been increasing and there have been 12 cases reported just today, so this is extremely concerning. The Delta variant is much more transmissible and even those who are vaccinated can carry and transmit the virus. Getting vaccinated is the single most protection you can get, and the efficiency rate is greater than 93%. The goal is to keep you out of the hospital and from dying. The CDC has made the recommendation today that fully vaccinated people begin wearing

masks indoors where there are high transmission rates. The State's assistance in contact tracing will be ending in about a month and that will be problematic. It will fall back on us as a department." On another matter, Mr. Tamis reported, "The inspections have been on tract and there are several food establishments that we have had difficulty getting to full regulatory compliance. We are trying to get everyone back on track. We will be getting our applications soon and will see that they will be comprehensive and current. I will begin inspections for solid waste haulers. There are regulations that go along with the permit. There have been a number of complaints against the private waste haulers, that we permit, for the lack of responsiveness in picking up trash. Unfortunately, we have no regulation to enforce them and hold them accountable short of the DEP nuisance regulations. As they come forward, I will bring them before the Board for review. Tick-borne illnesses have increased. So far, there have been no positive EEE or West Nile Virus cases reported in Raynham or the surrounding communities although there are more mosquitoes due to all the rain." Mr. Tanis added, "I continue to work with Animal Control with Linda (Brackett) and Riley (Morgan), and we are making some progress." Mr. Schiavo said, "You have COVID, contact tracing and now we're going to be changing over to paper bags, and now you have Animal Control. How are things going?" Mr. Tanis replied, "We are at our max and all of are regular wok is ongoing on top of COVID now coming back. We're very busy." Mr. Schiavo said, "If you are at the point where you are past max, we would encourage you to approach the Board." Mr. Pacheco asked, "In terms of contact tracing, is that something that a SAVE volunteer could do?" Mr. Tanis replied, "I can check with the state to see the requirements that are needed. Last year the school nurses stepped in and did it. Without them, I don't know what I would have done."

a. Linda Brackett, Animal Control Officer – Monthly Report

Ms. Brackett said she has received 132 calls for the month. She had 14 loose dog calls and 14 cats have been spayed / neutered through the grant funding that she received. During the month, she also took in several mother cats and 27 kittens that have required extensive medical care.

Completion of Old Business

a. Board of Selectmen Goals

Ms. Riley presented five general overall goals for consideration for fiscal year 2022 and noted that she had revised and updated last year's goals. She pointed out that "We have taken many steps in the right direction on many of them, but there is much more to do. They include: improve municipal services, which would include reviewing the findings and recommendations of the Department of Local Services and the Collins Center to consider the possible adoption and implementation of any of them; human resources development; financial sustainability; communication improvements; and long-term planning, which would include supporting the development and completion of the new Master Plan, in addition to other long-term planning efforts including moving forward with the plans to develop the new Public Safety Building and an Animal Shelter for the Town." She suggested taking them under advisement for consideration. Mr. Schiavo suggested prioritizing them to assist in achieving positive results. Ms. Riley made a motion to table, Mr. Schiavo seconded, and Mr. Pacheco made it unanimous.

New Business

a. Joint Meeting with the Housing Authority

Mr. Pacheco called the meeting to order. Present from the Raynham Housing Authority were Ginny Jacques and Charles Carey. Mr. Carey called his meeting to order. Mr. Pacheco explained, "We have one vacancy to fill and it's a resident appointment. We have a letter of interest from Cindy Gowan." Cindy Gowan was present and said, "I'm happy to be here and hopefully chosen to be a tenant representative and I'll try to do the best I can. This is the first time I've tried this endeavor." Mr.

Pacheco said, "Mrs. Gowan is a retired Health Care Provider from Morton Hospital and maybe you could also help Mr. Tanis with the contact tracing." Mr. Pacheco explained that this particular seat has to be held by a resident of the facility. Mr. and Mrs. Gowan are both tenants. Mr. Schiavo made a motion to appoint Mrs. Gowan, Ms. Riley seconded, and Mr. Pacheco called for a roll call vote: Mr. Schiavo said, "I", Ms. Riley said, "I", Mr. Carey said, "I", Ms. Jacques said, "I", and Mr. Pacheco said, "I will vote I, and it is unanimous. The joint meeting is adjourned."

b. Discussion and Action: Recommended Town Hiring Protocols

Mr. Waters said, "In your packets, you have a draft for hiring protocols. This is something that the Human Resources Coordinator and I put together and discussed with the Department Heads. This is just a draft and puts in writing what we do in practice and is just a formality." Ms. Riley said, "I'm fine with it as long as we include the provision that when it comes to hiring department heads, our Town Meeting article requires that either the Town Moderator establish the interview committee or we use a professional recruiting firm." Mr. Pacheco said, "Then I have a motion with that one amendment?" Mr. Schiavo seconded the motion by Ms. Riley and Mr. Pacheco made it unanimous.

c. Discussion and Action: Contacts for Pomroy & Associates, Dore & Whittier

Mr. Pacheco said, "The contracts for Pomroy & Associates and Dore & Whittier for the Public Safety Building on King Philip Street are in order." Mr. Schiavo made a motion to approve, Ms. Riley seconded, and Mr. Pacheco made it unanimous.

d. Request for Transfer of License – Dave Laghetto, Escapades, 77 Broadway

Mr. Pacheco said, "This is a liquor license request and we will need to hold a public hearing and I suggest our next meeting on August 10th." Mr. Schiavo made a motion to set the public hearing on August 10th, Ms. Riley seconded, and Mr. Pacheco made it unanimous.

e. Gravel Removal Permit – A-American Investments, 539A South Street East

Mr. Pacheco said, "We have correspondence from our Building Commissioner for recommended conditions he suggests if we approve this. They include: a 20-foot stone tracking pad must be installed before any work starts, all stumps must be removed from the site, grading must not impact roadway drainage or abutting property, proper dust control measures must be implemented, siltation controls must be in place before work starts, there shall be no activity between 7:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m., there shall be no activity on Sundays, and the roadway shall be cleaned and maintained daily." Mr. Pacheco then asked, "Is there anyone from A-American to speak on this?" No one from A-American was present to speak on the request. Mr. Fred Klausky, an abutter who lives at 525 South Street East, was present to speak. Mr. Klausky said, "The Building Inspector sent a letter to A-American Investments about drainage and dust. He received several complaints from neighbors." Mr. Klausky added that he believes there needs to be a site plan. Mr. Pacheco asked, "For gravel removal?" Mr. Klausky replied, "Yes, he has removed all the trees and has sold all of the loam." Mr. Schiavo said, "I think we need more information." Ms. Riley agreed. Mr. Schiavo said, "We should discuss this with the Building Commissioner and schedule this for the next meeting." Mr. Pacheco asked, "Is that a motion to table?" Mr. Schiavo said, "Yes, it is." Ms. Riley seconded the motion and Mr. Pacheco made it unanimous. Mr. Pacheco added, "We were just informed that there is a site plan, and this will be back on the agenda in two weeks." He advised Mr. Kalusky, "If you want to offer additional input you can, but no action will be taken on this tonight."

f. Entertainment License Request – Frankie & Dia's Ice Cream

Mr. Pacheco said, "This is a request to have entertainment with a guitar and keyboard." Chris Fernandes was present to address the Board and he explained, "We would like to develop a community spot for

town residents. We were thinking that an outdoor music venue would be helpful.” Mr. Schiavo asked, “Would there be any potential neighbors who would be impacted?” Mr. Pacheco said, “They are on Rt. 44 and it’s fairly remote, but the Jockey Club has received complaints in the past because you have the Orchard and South Street East corridor, which is not too far. My question would be what would your hours be for entertainment?” Mr. Fernandes said, “We close at 9:00 p.m..” Ms. Riley asked what the procedure was for an entertainment license of this type. Mr. Pacheco said, “We can approve it depending on the scope and I will defer to the Board. When liquor is involved, we have required Police details in the past.” Mr. Fernandes said, “We don’t serve alcohol at this point, just ice cream.” Mr. Pacheco said, “We could stipulate what time the permit would go to.” Mr. Schiavo said, “I don’t think there should be a problem.” Ms. Riley said, “Could we approve it with the understanding that if we get any complaints, we can revisit it?” Mr. Pacheco said, “Yes, and we also have the authority to rescind a license.” Mr. Pacheco asked, “Would it be a motion to approve up to 9:00 p.m.?” Mr. Schiavo said, “Yes, and with the stipulation that we want to be sensitive to any feedback we receive.” Ms. Riley seconded the motion and Mr. Pacheco made it unanimous.

Town Administrator’s Report

Mr. Waters reviewed his report.

Municipal Vulnerability Planning (MVP) Grant: Mr. Waters explained, “With the assistance of Bill Napolitano of SRPEDD, I applied for the State’s Municipal Vulnerability Planning Grant. The Town was awarded \$15,000 to complete a community resiliency planning process that will examine the community’s vulnerabilities and strengths and identify priority actions to build resilience as the climate changes.”

Treasurer-Collector: Mr. Waters said, “The application period for the position has closed, and the Collins Center received 5 applications worth reviewing. The Collins Center is conducting initial interviews with the help of the Finance Director, Human Resource Coordinator, and myself.”

Taunton Area Chamber of Commerce: Mr. Waters said, “Yesterday I met with the new President of the Taunton Chamber, Kris Silva, and one of the Board Members, Jon Geggatt, as an introductory meeting. Ms. Silva is new to the Chamber, coming on board with them nine months ago. We discussed ways to collaborate closer. I discussed the Master Plan and having them come before the Board soon.”

SRPEDD ADA Grant Funding for Town Buildings: Mr. Waters explained, “Per Selectman Riley’s recommendation, I inquired with SRPEDD about ADA grant funding for Gilmore Hall, North School, and South School. The availability of funding from the Massachusetts Office on Disability is for the completion of a Town-wide ADA transition plan, whereby all town buildings will be inspected and rated for ADA compliance. I am looking into the Town’s responsibility after a transition plan is conducted, such as does the responsibility become a liability to implement all the findings. Proposed improvements as a result of the plan are funded, but I have not looked into how much or other such requirements. I have received a response from SRPEDD that once the plans are completed, the town must implement the improvements in a timely manner. The office offers a grant each year to complete capital improvements based on the recommendations found in the plans, but there is no guarantee that the town will receive the funding each year for all or any of the recommendations. Most grants are for single projects and they won’t fund everything at once.”

Mr. Waters also reported that the next regularly scheduled Selectmen’s Meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 10, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. in the Don McKinnon Meeting Room of Town Hall at 558 South Main Street, in Raynham. The public will be able to participate via the GoToMeeting meeting platform or by watching the RayCAM channel on Verizon, Comcast, or a recording posted later on YouTube. He also offered a reminder that there will be no Selectmen’s Meetings on the following dates: Aug. 3rd, Aug. 17th, and Aug. 31st.

Selectmen's Report

In her report, Ms. Riley said, "I would like to give a big 'thumbs up' to two of our very special Raynham residents who were recently the focus of feature stories in our local media. First, there is a 13-year-old wonder, Lily Moreira, who made a remarkable recovery from a tragic accident that occurred in May of 2020. Not only did Lily demonstrate courage, incredible strength and perseverance in overcoming her injuries, but she put her experience to good use by creating her own fundraiser, Lily's Operation Joy Drop, to help raise money for Child Life Services at Boston Children's Hospital. All the money raised in this very successful fundraiser will be used to purchase as many items as possible off Boston Children's Hospital's Amazon wish list to help make those difficult hospital days just a little bit easier for the children recuperating there. Lily also took the time to thank our Raynham Firefighter/Paramedics who played such a critical role in her road to recovery. Lily presented them with a plaque that states, in Lily's words, 'Although some of your days may feel harder than others, please always remember that I will always appreciate your efforts. Thank you for giving me a second chance to continue to follow my dreams. You will always be my heroes. Signed Love, Lily.' You've got that right, Lily. We agree with you that our firefighters and our police officers are our everyday heroes and you also are one of our heroes, so thank you, Lily for that."

Ms. Riley continued, "Secondly, I would like to send a big 'thumbs up' to our Raynham School Resource Officer on his recent appointment as head football coach for Bridgewater-Raynham. A star Trojan himself when he attended B-R, Officer Lou Pacheco served as an awesome coach under former football coaches, Dan Buron, Paul Urban, and Frank Almeida and he has done a fantastic job as our School Resource Officer. Whether running his annual Speed Camp or dealing one-on-one with a student in crisis, Lou is a hero to so many of our young people. The District could have searched far and wide and not found a better selection for head football coach, but it's not just the experience, the dedication and commitment, and the passion that he will bring to the role, it's the sense of integrity as well. Congratulations, Coach Lou."

In his report, Chairman Pacheco said, "I'm in receipt of the check for \$70,000 from the Town of Bridgewater for our first installment payment on the buy-out of the old high school. I just want to recognize the good work of Town Counsel who was instrumental in getting this for us."

Correspondence

a. **Bristol County Savings Bank Grant**

Mr. Pacheco said, "As Bristol County Savings Bank celebrates its 175th anniversary, the Town is going to receive a grant in the amount of \$25,000 from Bristol County Savings Bank to go to the Raynham Fire Department to benefit public safety." Mr. Schiavo made a motion to accept the grant, Ms. Riley seconded, and Mr. Pacheco made it unanimous.

b. **Lion's Club – Annual Golf Tournament – One-Day Liquor License**

Mr. Pacheco said that the Raynham Park & Recreation Commission voted unanimously to approve a one-day liquor license for the Lion's Club on August 27th for the Lions Club's Annual Golf Tournament. Mr. Schiavo made a motion to approve, Ms. Riley seconded, and Mr. Pacheco made it unanimous.

c. **Rodman Ride for Kids – Event Request**

Mr. Pacheco said, "We have received a request for the 31st Annual Rodman Ride for Kids to ride on Raynham roads and it will take place on Saturday, September 25th." Mr. Pacheco added, "They will

coordinate with the Police and Fire Chiefs.” Mr. Schiavo made a motion to approve, Ms. Riley seconded, and Mr. Pacheco made it unanimous.

d. MBTA Advisory Board

The MBTA Advisory Board is requesting the Selectmen appoint a designee as they have a vacancy. Mr. Pacheco said, “I believe in the past this has been Ed Buckley, our Highway Superintendent.” Mr. Schiavo made a motion to appoint Mr. Buckley, Ms. Riley seconded, and Mr. Pacheco made it unanimous.

e. Letter of Resignation

Mr. Pacheco said, “We have a letter of resignation from Colin Ferreira, from his position in the Cemetery Department. His last day of employment will be July 30, 2021.” Mr. Schiavo offered his best wishes and made a motion to accept, Ms. Riley seconded, and Mr. Pacheco made it unanimous.

f. Stop Sign Request

Correspondence was received from Captain Pacheco from the Police Department requesting a stop sign be installed at the end of Chace Road where it intersects with Elm Street. Chairman Pacheco explained that Chief Pacheco is recommending that the Board approve the installation of a stop sign at that location. Mr. Schiavo made a motion to approve, Ms. Riley seconded, and Mr. Pacheco made it unanimous.

Performance of Administrative Duties

Mr. Pacheco said, “I will entertain a motion to approve the Town of Raynham Payroll and Invoice Warrants dated July 27, 2021, as submitted, Mr. Schiavo motioned, Ms. Riley seconded, and Mr. Pacheco made it unanimous.

Mr. Schiavo then made a motion to approve the Police Department Payroll and Invoice Warrants dated July 27, 2021, as submitted, Ms. Riley seconded the motion and Mr. Pacheco abstained. Mr. Pacheco asked for a roll call vote: Mr. Schiavo said, “I”, Mr. Pacheco abstained, and Ms. Riley said, “I”. It was so voted.

Adjournment

At 7:36 p.m., the Board voted to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janet Murphy
Recording Secretary