

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
TOWN OF RAYNHAM
THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**

May 15, 2023, 7:00 PM

BRISTOL, ss

To either of the Constables of the Town of Raynham in the County of Bristol, **GREETING.**

IN THE NAME OF THE Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town, qualified to vote in elections and in Town affairs, to meet at the **RAYNHAM MIDDLE SCHOOL** in said Raynham on **Monday, the 15th day of May, Two Thousand and Twenty-Three at seven o'clock in the evening**, then and there to act on the following Articles:

ARTICLE 1. To choose by nomination all minor Town Officers - fence viewers and field drivers, surveyor of lumber and measurer of wood; or take any action relative thereto.

(Submitted by the Board of Selectmen)

ARTICLE 2. To see if the Town will vote to accept the report of the Town Officers; or take any action relative thereto.

(Submitted by the Board of Selectmen)

ARTICLE 3. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to sign contracts on behalf of the Town of Raynham upon such terms and conditions as they deem appropriate for any matter which requires a signed contract by the Board of Selectmen; or take any action relative thereto.

(Submitted by the Board of Selectmen)

ARTICLE 4. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept and enter contracts for the expenditure of any funds allotted or to be allotted by the Commonwealth and/or County for construction, reconstruction, and improvements of the Town infrastructure, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to borrow in anticipation of reimbursements of funds; or take any action relative thereto.

(Submitted by the Board of Selectmen)

ARTICLE 5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$48,172,381 from various funding sources to defray department expenses and other charges of the Town, including salary and compensation of appointed and elected officers of the Town and payment of debt and interest, for the ensuing 2024 fiscal year:

(Note: See FY 2024 General Fund Operating Budget at the end of this packet.)

Or take any action relative thereto.

(Submitted by Multiple Town Departments)

ARTICLE 6. To see if the Town will vote to approve \$3,011,455 pursuant to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53F½, with an appropriation of \$2,903,519 for the purpose of funding direct operating costs (debt excluded) of the Sewer Department for FY 2024, and, in order to fund indirect operating costs, an additional \$107,936 has already been appropriated in the General Fund Operating Budget and allocated to the Sewer Enterprise Fund for funding, with all costs paid for with Sewer Enterprise revenues, all as shown in detail below:

FY 2023 Budget	Sewer Enterprise Fund	FY 2024 Recommend
\$666,513	Salaries and Wages	\$684,281
\$1,948,600	Expenses	\$1,959,700
\$138,780	Health Insurance	\$140,168
\$113,925	Retirement	\$119,370
\$2,867,818	Subtotal Direct Operating Costs	\$2,903,519
\$104,792	Town Overhead	\$107,936
\$104,792	Subtotal Indirect Operating Costs	\$107,936
\$2,972,610	TOTAL	\$3,011,455

Or take any other action relative thereto.

(Submitted by the Sewer Commission)

ARTICLE 7. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer \$478,244 from the Sewer Betterment Reserve Fund within the Sewer Enterprise Fund for the purpose of paying sewer construction debt; an additional \$1,434,731 has already been appropriated in the General Fund Operating Budget to cover the 75% of the sewer construction debt paid for with General Fund revenues; or take any action relative thereto.

(Submitted by the Sewer Commission)

ARTICLE 8. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$60,000 for the Sewer Betterment Reserve Fund within the Sewer Enterprise Fund; said amount is part of a twelve-year agreement, the last payment which will occur in FY 2025, to reimburse the Sewer Enterprise Fund for sewer betterment revenue that had been deposited into the General Fund; or take any action relative thereto.

(Submitted by the Board of Selectmen)

ARTICLE 9. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$37,000 to pay a contractor to perform State-mandated re-certification or interim adjustments of all FY 2025 real and personal property valuations as well as other maintenance services; or take any action relative thereto.

(Submitted by the Board of Assessors)

ARTICLE 10. To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 56 which would allow the Board of Assessors to grant real and personal property tax abatement up to 100% of the total tax assessed to members of the Massachusetts National Guard and to reservists on active duty in foreign countries for the fiscal year they performed such service subject to eligibility criteria to be established by the Board of Assessors; or take any action relative thereto.

(Submitted by the Board of Assessors)

ARTICLE 11. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$400 for quarters for the American Legion, Post #405; or take any action relative thereto.

(Submitted by the Board of Selectmen)

ARTICLE 12. To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53E½, to authorize maximum spending limits in FY 2024 for the following revolving funds of town departments, boards, committees, agencies, or officers:

Name of Revolving Fund	Maximum Spending Limit
Hazardous Materials	\$100,000
Fire Alarm	\$60,000
Council on Aging Activities	\$20,000
Before and After School Day Care Program	\$350,000

Or take any action relative thereto.

(Submitted by the Finance Director/Town Accountant)

ARTICLE 13. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer \$28,250 from the Borden Colony Receipts Reserved for Appropriation account to be spent on Borden Colony expenses for FY 2024; any unused funds at the end of FY 2024 to be returned to the Borden Colony Receipts Reserved for Appropriation account; or take any action relative thereto.

(Submitted by the Park & Recreation Commission)

ARTICLE 14. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer \$534,766 as detailed below from the Ambulance Receipts Reserved for Appropriation account to operate the ambulance service for the 1st half of FY 2024; any unused funds at the end of FY 2024 to be returned to the Ambulance Receipts Reserved for Appropriation account.

Personnel Expenses	\$358,684
Expenses	\$176,082
Total	\$534,766

Or take any action relative thereto.

(Submitted by the Fire Department)

ARTICLE 15. To see if the Town will rescind the appropriation of \$12,000 from the Fire Alarm Revolving Fund for securing non-authorized areas of the Fire Station as voted in Article 12 of the Special Town Meeting of May 17, 2021 and to return the unused monies to the Fire Alarm Revolving Fund; or take any action relative thereto.

(Submitted by the Fire Department)

ARTICLE 16. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer the sum of \$8,636 from bond premiums for payment of FY 2024 debt service; said bond premiums resulted from the Phase 6 sewer project borrowing which was financed through a Proposition 2½ debt exclusion in 2014; these bonds premiums, of which \$39,938 is currently available, are being amortized over the life of the sewer project borrowing, thereby reducing the cost to taxpayers and sewer ratepayers.

General Fund	75%	\$6,477
Sewer Fund	25%	\$2,159

Or take any action relative thereto.

(Submitted by the Finance Director/Town Accountant)

ARTICLE 17. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$177,069 for the purchase of two (2) police patrol vehicles, including equipment, consistent with the Police Department's vehicle replacement cycle, or take any action relative thereto.

(Submitted by the Police Department)

ARTICLE 18. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$715,274 and appropriate and transfer \$100,000 from Overlay Surplus for a sum total of \$815,274 for the purpose of purchasing capital items and repair and renovation projects at the LaLiberte Elementary School, Merrill Elementary School, and Raynham Middle School as well as the town share of district-wide capital items and repair and maintenance projects at the Bridgewater-Raynham Regional High School, all as follows:

Document Cameras - LaLiberte Elementary School	\$3,600
LED Lighting Upgrades - LaLiberte Elementary School	\$40,000
Pavement Repairs - LaLiberte Elementary School	\$70,000
LED Lighting Upgrades - Merrill Elementary School	\$50,000
Pavement Repairs - Merrill Elementary School	\$75,000
Camera System Upgrades - Merrill Elementary School	\$35,000
Camera System Upgrades - Raynham Middle School	\$100,000
Pavement Repairs - Raynham Middle School	\$170,000
Secure Entrance - Raynham Middle School	\$15,000
Total Raynham Schools	\$558,600
District Computer Firewall Replacement (Raynham's share = 38.89%)	\$38,890
Interactive Video Panels - High School (Raynham's share = 38.89%)	\$116,670
Auditorium Projector Replacement - High School (Raynham's share = 38.89%)	\$9,722
Field LED Lighting Upgrades - High School (Raynham's share = 38.89%)	\$31,112
District 4 x 4 Plow Truck Replacement (Raynham's share = 38.89%)	\$29,168
District 4 x 4 Dump Truck Replacement (Raynham's share = 38.89%)	\$31,112
Total District Wide	\$256,674
Sum Total	\$815,274

Or take any action relative thereto.

(Submitted by the Bridgewater-Raynham Regional School District)

ARTICLE 19. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$60,000 for the purpose of completing the renovation of the Gymkhana Building as a shared-use facility for the Raynham Animal Control Office (including headquarters and animal control shelter) and Park & Recreation Department, with \$199,960 already spent on this facility using monies previously appropriated for the public safety building, the plans of which included an animal control shelter component, and monies from a State earmark; or take any action relative thereto.

(Submitted by the Board of Selectmen)

ARTICLE 20. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer a total of \$1,750,000 for the design, construction, and replacement of Kings Pond Dam and Bridge (Gardiner Street) and for the payment of all other related roadway and sidewalk improvements, and all other costs incidental and related thereto from the following sources: \$1,165,866 from the General Stabilization Fund, \$322,113 from the Solid Waste Facilities Stabilization Fund, and \$262,021 from the Stormwater Infrastructure Stabilization Fund; this appropriation shall supplement \$768,000 in various grant monies previously made available for design and construction of this project and at least \$750,000 of Chapter 90 funds are expected to also be allocated towards this project; or take any action relative thereto.

(Submitted by the Board of Selectmen)

ARTICLE 21. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer the sum of \$175,000 from Sewer Enterprise retained earnings for the replacement and upgrade of the existing diesel fuel tank at the Route 44 pumping station used to supply fuel to the emergency power generator to allow the pump station to operate during a power failure; or take any action relative thereto.

(Submitted by the Sewer Commission)

ARTICLE 22. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer the sum of \$23,000 from the Sewer Enterprise retained earnings for the purchase and replacement of a Muffin Monster Grinder, which is used to help prevent the clogging of the sewerage pumps at the Route 44 pumping station by grinding debris such as rags and baby wipes that are deposited into the sewer system; or take any action relative thereto.

(Submitted by the Sewer Commission)

ARTICLE 23. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer the sum of \$85,000 from the Sewer Enterprise retained earnings for the purchase and replacement of a utility body service truck with snow plow and associated equipment; or take any action relative thereto.

(Submitted by the Sewer Commission)

ARTICLE 24. To see if the Town will vote to accept Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44, Section 53F¾ which establishes a special revenue fund known as a PEG Access and Cable-Related Fund to reserve cable franchise fees and cable-related capital payments for the purpose of funding the public access station, Raynham Community Access Media, Inc. (RayCAM), 305 South Street East, Raynham, MA 02767, providing public, educational, and government access television to citizens of Raynham. Said funds are paid by Comcast and Verizon to the Town for, and restricted to, use for local programming operations pursuant to Massachusetts Chapter 44 Section 53F¾ and are subject to appropriation by Town Meeting; or take any action relative thereto.

(Submitted by the Board of Selectmen)

ARTICLE 25. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to file a Home Rule petition with the General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, on behalf of the Town of Raynham, for a special act as set forth below; and further, to authorize the General Court to make clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the Board of Selectmen approves amendments to the bill before enactment by the General Court, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to approve amendments which shall be within the scope of the general public objectives of this petition;

AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF RAYNHAM TO GRANT ADDITIONAL LICENSES FOR THE SALE OF ALL ALCOHOL BEVERAGES, NOT TO BE DRUNK ON THE PREMISES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

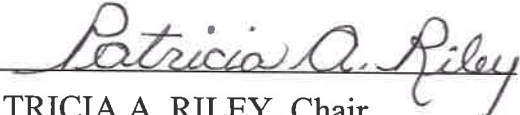
SECTION 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 17 of chapter 138 of the General Laws or any other general or special law to the contrary, the licensing authority of the Town of Raynham may grant one (1) license for the sale of all alcohol beverages not to be drunk on the premises under the provisions of section 15 of said chapter 138. The license shall be located at **2 New State Highway, US-44**. Such license shall be subject to all of the provisions of said chapter 138 except section 17; provided, however, that said licensing authority shall not approve the transfer of said license within one year after the date of issuance of such license by said licensing authority; and provided further, that such use is allowed by right or by special permit in such applicable zoning district.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Submitted by the Citizens' Petition; please note a citizens' petition article per State law is presented exactly as submitted on the petition, with no revisions as to format or grammar)

And you are directed to serve this Warrant, by posting up attested copies thereof at the six (6) places directed by vote of the Town, in said Town, seven (7) days before the time of holding said meeting.

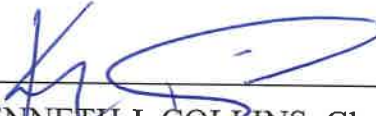
Given under our hands this 25th day of April in the year of our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-Three.



PATRICIA A. RILEY, Chair



JOSEPH R. PACHECO, Vice Chair



KENNETH J. COLLINS, Clerk
SELECTMEN OF RAYNHAM

A true copy. Attest:

Constable

Date: _____

Bristol, ss

PURSUANT TO THE WITHIN WARRANT, I have notified and warned the inhabitants of the Town of Raynham by posting up attested copies of the same at six (6) places directed by vote of the Town, seven days before the date of the meeting, as within directed.

Constable