

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

November 13, 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 13th day of November, Two Thousand and Twenty-Three at seven o'clock in the evening**, then and there to act on the following Articles:

ARTICLE 1. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer the sum of \$410 from Free Cash for the purpose of paying unpaid bills of prior fiscal years:

Vendor	Department	Amount	Fiscal Year
New England Animal Medical Center	Animal Control	\$225	2023
New England Animal Medical Center	Animal Control	\$185	2023
Total		\$410	

Or take any action relative thereto.

(Submitted by the Board of Selectmen)

ARTICLE 2. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer the sum of \$534,766 as detailed below from the Ambulance Receipts Reserved for Appropriation account to operate the ambulance service for the 2nd 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 3. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer the sum of \$17,770 from Free Cash for the purpose of funding sick leave buyback for a retiring employee in accordance with the collective bargaining agreement for the Office and Professional Employees International Union, Local 6, AFL-CIO; or take any action relative thereto.

(Submitted by the Cemetery Commission)

ARTICLE 4. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer the sum of \$32,711 from Free Cash for the purpose of funding an opioid education, prevention and recovery program; this amount is equivalent to what the Town received in funding from statewide opioid settlements between the Massachusetts Attorney General and opioid industry participants in FY 2023 and for which the Town is obligated to spend for opioid-related purposes in accordance with the Massachusetts State - Subdivision Agreement for Statewide Opioid Settlement Funds; or take any action relative thereto.

(Submitted by the Board of Selectmen)

ARTICLE 5. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer the sum of \$228,000 from Free Cash for the purchase and replacement of personal protective equipment used to protect firefighters from fire and other hazards; or take any action relative thereto.

(Submitted by the Fire Department)

ARTICLE 6. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer the sum of \$100,000 from the Ambulance Receipts Reserved for Appropriation account for the purchase and replacement of one (1) cardiac monitor and two (2) CPR LUCAS machines which assist the paramedics/EMTs in providing emergency cardiac care; any unused funds not needed for these purposes to be returned to the Ambulance Receipts Reserved for Appropriation account; or take any action relative thereto.

(Submitted by the Fire Department)

ARTICLE 7. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer the sum of \$57,000 from Free Cash to upgrade the phone systems for the Police and Fire Departments; or take any action relative thereto.

(Submitted by the Police Department and Fire Department)

ARTICLE 8. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer the sum of \$448,000 from Free Cash for the purpose of supplementing Chapter 90 funds for the repair and maintenance or reconstruction of various infrastructure projects including roadway resurfacing and reconstruction, sidewalk construction, ADA compliance, and improvements to bridges, culverts, drainage, intersections, signage, traffic signals and guardrails; or take any action relative thereto.

(Submitted by the Highway Department)

ARTICLE 9. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer the sum of \$25,000 from Free Cash for the purpose of Highway Facility improvements including painting; or take any action relative thereto.

(Submitted by the Highway Department)

ARTICLE 10. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer the sum of \$48,000 from Free Cash so as to provide sufficient monies for snow, mower, and related attachments for a recently-purchased Trackless MT 7 multi-purpose tractor; or take any action relative thereto.

(Submitted by the Highway Department)

ARTICLE 11. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer the sum of \$12,000 from Free Cash for the purchase and replacement of an equipment trailer for park and ground purposes; or take any action relative thereto.

(Submitted by the Highway Department)

ARTICLE 12. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer the sum of \$12,000 from Free Cash for the purchase and replacement of a solid waste container for transfer station use; or take any action relative thereto.

(Submitted by the Highway Department)

ARTICLE 13. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer the sum of \$20,000 from Free Cash to provide matching funds to supplement a grant of \$90,000 from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Housing and Living Communities for a community planning grant for comprehensive zoning review and revision, including significant public engagement, in the Route 138 corridor within Raynham; or take any action relative thereto.

(Submitted by the Board of Selectmen)

ARTICLE 14. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer the sum of \$77,787 from the PEG Access and Cable-Related Fund for the purposes of funding the public access station, Raynham Community Access Media, Inc. (RayCAM), which provides public, educational, and government access television to citizens of Raynham; said funds are paid by Comcast and Verizon to the Town for local programming operations pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53F¾; or take any action relative thereto.

(Submitted by the Board of Selectmen)

ARTICLE 15. To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 82, Section 23, to accept as a public way Campbell Court, as laid out by a vote of the Board of Selectmen on October 10, 2023 and shown on a plan entitled "Final Roadway As-Built Plan Campbell Court, Raynham, MA", dated 09-05-2023, recorded at Plan Book 542, Page 40 at the Bristol County Northern District Registry of Deeds and filed with the Town Clerk; further, to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept by conveyance in fee by owner of said way, at no cost to the Town; said public way to be used for all purposes for which public ways are used in the Town; or take any action relative thereto.

(Submitted by the Board of Selectmen)

ARTICLE 16. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire, by purchase, gift, and/or eminent domain and on such terms as the Board of Selectmen deems appropriate, the fee to and/or easements for dam maintenance, public utility, and compensatory flood mitigation purposes in, on, under and over the portions of properties located off Gardiner Street, Raynham, Massachusetts and known as Raynham Assessor's Maps 8/144 (34 Gardiner Street), 8/155-3 (63 Gardiner Street), and 0/0 (0 Gardiner Street), and shown on plan entitled "PLAN OF EASEMENTS TO BE ACQUIRED BY THE TOWN OF RAYNHAM, GARDINER STREET, PREPARED FOR THE TOWN OF RAYNHAM, RAYNHAM, MASSACHUSETTS, BRISTOL COUNTY, DRAFT 2023-10-03", prepared by Greenman-Pedersen, Inc., on file with the Town Clerk, as said plans may be amended from time to time and/or incorporated into an easement plan for Roadway and Bridge Improvements on a public way including without limitation, for the construction, installation, inspection, maintenance, improvement, repair of dam, utilities, slopes, grading, landscaping, compensatory flood mitigation area, and other structures and/or appurtenances, to enable the Town to undertake Gardiner Street Roadway and Bridge Improvements Project, and for any and all purposes and uses incidental or related thereto; and further authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into all agreements and take any and all actions as may be necessary, and upon such terms and conditions as it deems appropriate to effectuate the foregoing purposes; or take any action relative thereto.

(Submitted by the Board of Selectmen)

ARTICLE 17. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer the sum of \$55,000 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; said amount supplements \$175,000 appropriated at a previous Town Meeting to this project; or take any action relative thereto.

(Submitted by the Sewer Commission)

ARTICLE 18. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer the sum of \$15,500 from Sewer Enterprise retained earnings towards the implementation of a Geological Information System (GIS), a computer mapping system combining a database of infrastructure linked with mapped features, for Raynham Sewer; or take any action relative thereto.

(Submitted by the Sewer Commission)

ARTICLE 19. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer the sum of \$50,000 from Free Cash for the purpose of supplementing the OPEB (Other Post-Employment Benefits) Trust Fund as had been established pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 32B, Section 20 to offset future health insurance costs for retirees; or take any action relative thereto.

(Submitted by the Finance Director)

ARTICLE 20. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer the sum of \$2,616,000 from Free Cash for the purpose of supplementing the General Stabilization Fund pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40, Section 5B; or take any action relative thereto.

(Submitted by the Finance Director)

ARTICLE 21. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer the sum of \$300,000 from Sewer Enterprise retained earnings to the Stabilization Fund for Sewer Department Capital Expenses pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40, Section 5B; or take any action relative thereto.

(Submitted by the Sewer Commission)

ARTICLE 22. To see if the Town will vote to amend the Animal Control section of the General Bylaws by substituting the words “amount not to exceed \$225” with “amount not to exceed \$250” in the section entitled “§ 153-8. Payment to veterinarians.”; said amendment allows the Town to reimburse veterinarians who assist in the care, treatment, and/or disposal of a dog or cat in the Raynham in which the owner is unknown up to the State-allowed maximum of \$250 per animal, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 140, Section 151B; or take any action relative thereto.

(Submitted by the Board of Selectmen)

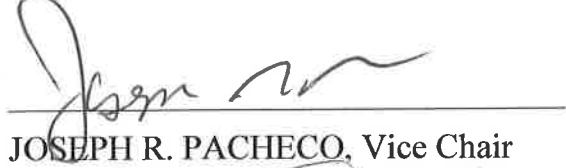
ARTICLE 23. To see if the town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court of Massachusetts under the provisions of the “Home Rule” amendment of the Massachusetts Constitution for the adoption of a special act, which would increase the number of Selectmen from 3 to 5 or take any action relative thereto.

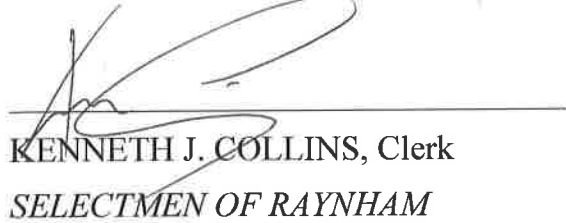
(Submitted by the Citizens’ Petition; please note a citizens’ petition article per State law is presented exactly as submitted on the petition, with no revisions as to format or grammar)

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, fourteen (14) days before the time of holding said meeting.

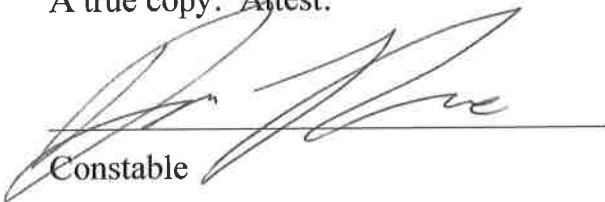
Given under our hands this 24th day of October in the year of our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-Three.


PATRICIA A. RILEY, Chair


JOSEPH R. PACHECO, Vice Chair


KENNETH J. COLLINS, Clerk
SELECTMEN OF RAYNHAM

A true copy. Attest:


Constable

Date: 10/26/2023

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, fourteen days before the date of the meeting, as within directed.