

Town of Raymond
First Session of Annual Town Meeting
Deliberative Session Minutes
February 6, 2021

To the inhabitants of the Town of Raymond, in the County of Rockingham, in the State of New Hampshire, qualified to vote in Town affairs: You are hereby notified to meet in the Raymond High School Cafeteria on **Saturday, February 6, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.** to participate in the first session of the 2021 Annual Town Meeting.

The Town of Raymond First Session (Deliberative Session) was called to order at 10:00 a.m. in the Raymond High School Gymnasium by Moderator Wayne Welch who led the session with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Moderator Welch announced that a purple letter F voting card would be used for this session. He thanked everyone for attending and introduced himself. Moderator Welch also explained that due to COVID-19 there would be some modification to the annual Town Meeting. There would be three distinct areas, all with video and audio capability linked together. Each room would also have their own assistant moderators and Ballot Clerks to assist in the voters needs. The Gymnasium (red zone) was for the high risk individuals. This room would be social distanced and masks would be required. The Cafeteria (orange zone) would be for the general public. This room would also be social distanced for those wearing masks. The Media center (green zone) would be for those identifying as mask exempt, also with social distancing. Moderator Welch thanked all the school and town staff and department heads for all of their hard work in putting this together. Moderator Welch announced the Assistant Moderators, the Supervisors of the Checklist, and the Ballot Clerks for that day. Assistant Moderators; Ed French, Colleen West Coates, Jonathan Woods. Bob Gagnon would be helper in the Gymnasium. Supervisors of the Checklist; Kathy McDonald, Lisa Morrill. Ballot Clerks; Jennifer Ferrante, Kathy Stockley, Rita Huston, Tracey Stickney, Kim Tyndall, Dana Zulager, Christine Vogel, and Doug Vogel. Scott Campbell Board of Selectmen Chair introduced his members; Vice Chair Kathleen Hoelzel, George Plante, Jack Barnes, Jr., and Christopher Long. Town Manager Joe Ilsley introduced the department heads; Town council Keriann Roman, finance director Julie Jenks, tax collector Christina MCarthy, Exec. Assistant Deb Intonti, director of public works Steve Brewer, Chief Labell chief of PD, Kirsten Corbett Library director, Michelle Weaver director of recreation, police Lt. Chad Shevlin, Denise O'grady Welfare director, and Chief of fire Paul Hammond. Christine Harris Chair of the Budget Committee introduced her members; Rani Merryman, Carol Watjus, Michael DiTommaso, and Rich Mulryan. Moderator Welch announced his rules for the Deliberative Session.

Selectman Campbell made a motion, seconded by Selectman Plante to move the Zoning Articles to the back of the meeting and go through the Town Warrant Articles first. Jonathan Wood Planning Board Chair, representing The Planning Board stated that he would be brief in presenting the Zoning Articles. Moderator Welch stated that this would need to be voted on.

Voted in the NEGATIVE to move Zoning Articles to the end of the meeting.

Moderator Welch called upon Town Clerk Alyssa Richard to present Article 1.

Article 01 Elected Officials:

To Select by Non-Partisan Ballot

Two (2) Budget Committee Members for 3-year terms

Two (2) Planning Board Members for 3-year terms

Two (2) Ethics Committee Members for 3-year terms

One (1) Trustee of Trust Funds for a 3-year term

One (1) Library Trustee for a 3-year term

One (1) Board of Selectman for a 3-year term

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 1 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town zoning ordinance as follows: To amend the language of Wetlands - 2.9.1 to include language that describes the benefits of wetland function as it relates to drinking water.

Recommended by the Planning Board

Jonathan Wood made a motion, seconded by Joe Saulnier to move Article 2 to the floor. Moderator Welch called upon Jonathan Wood to present Article 2. Patricia Bridgeo inquired about how after attending meetings and asking question that were never answered, that the zoning articles made it to the deliberative session where no changes could be made.

Article 03

Zoning Amendment:

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 2 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town zoning ordinance as follows: To amend the purposes of the Conservation District to include maintaining the health and water storage function of wetlands.

Recommended by the Planning Board

Jonathan Wood made a motion, seconded by Joe Saulnier to move Article 3 to the floor. Moderator Welch called upon Jonathan Wood to present Article 3. Patricia Bridgeo expressed her concerns. Jonathan Wood explained that they had held several public hearing and discussion with the public as well as the Conservation Commission and that this is what they came up with for recommendations and that the board fully supported them. Patricia Bridgeo questioned where the citizens side comes into play. With no further discussion, Moderator Welch stated that Article 3 would be moved to the official ballot.

Article 04

Zoning Amendment:

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 3 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town zoning ordinance as follows: To amend the boundaries of the Shoreland Protection Area to include any area within 100 feet of any priority wetland.

Recommended by the Planning Board

Jonathan Wood made a motion, seconded by Michael DiTommaso to move Article 4 to the floor. Moderator Welch called upon Jonathan Wood to present Article 4. Patricia Bridgeo voiced her concerns on the broad language used. Dennis Garnham stated he is in support of the amendment. Kira Clemens stated that she does not support this. Keith Smith stated that he does not support this. Kathy McDonald stated that she supports the Zoning Amendment Articles. Town Council Keriann Roman explained that though this Article would need a 2/3 vote to pass, RSA 675:5 is very specific on how to handle Zoning Amendment Protest Petitions. The 2/3 majority vote required must be announced at the Deliberative and posted at the polling place but is not required to be printed on the ballot.

Article 05

Zoning Amendment:

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 4 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town zoning ordinance as follows: To increase the setback from wetlands in the Conservation District from 25 to 75 feet for regular wetlands and to 100 feet for Priority Wetlands, and to relocate this requirement from Section 15.3.2 (which will be deleted) to a new section 15.1.4.

Recommended by the Planning Board

Jonathan Wood made a motion, seconded by Dennis Garnham to move Article 5 to the floor. Moderator Welch called upon Jonathan Wood to present Article 5. Jonathan Wood went on to add that the reason for the distance from the wetlands is to provide additional filtration from other pollutants such as herbicides, pesticides, and other fertilizers. Moderator Welch read the petition. Town Council Keriann Roman made a correction on record. Keriann stated that the zoning amendments are numbered differently than the article numbers. She stated that to be clear, there are two protest petitions, one for Article 4 which is Zoning Amendment 3 and another protest petition for Article 5 which is Zoning Amendment 4. Both require a 2/3 majority vote to pass. Phil Merrill inquires about what the proceedings would be to get a building permit if the amendment were to be adopted. To his inquiry, Jonathan Wood replied that more significantly this is aimed towards future development, however it also includes current ownership of land. Tracey Merrill stated that the question asked had still not been answered. Kira Clemens asked to make a motion to add 2/3 majority vote to the Ballot and went on to ask that if it were not a requirement is it still an option. Moderator Welch replied to her inquiry and suggested that she ask the Town Council to address that. Town Council Keriann Roman stated that the State law prohibits any change to the language at the Deliberative session and the only time the language can be changed is at the Planning Board. Philip Merrill stated that he still had not gotten an answer in terms of what the procedure would be to have work done on their home. Steve Brewer spoke to his concerns, stating that he did not believe that the procedure for getting a building permit would change as a result in a change of the wetland buffer. Moderator Welch suggested to Phil Merrill to further his research and quest to find answers. Town manager Joe Ilsley stated that to be fair to the residents that spoke, we do not have a clear definition to how this would be applied. Keith Smith expressed his concerns on how this would affect the homeowner's property value. With no further discussion, Moderator Welch stated that Article 5 would be moved to the Official Ballot.

Article 06

Zoning Amendment:

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 5 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town zoning ordinance as follows: To remove the Sewer Overlay District.

Recommended by the Planning Board

Jonathan Wood made a motion, seconded by Paul Hammond to move Article 6 to the floor. Moderator Welch called upon Jonathan Wood to present Article 6. With no discussion or questions, Moderator Welch stated that Article 6 would be moved to the Official Ballot.

Article 07

Zoning Amendment:

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 6 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town zoning ordinance as follows: To add section 6.10.5.7 to state that ADU's require the same level of inspections as a Certificate of Occupancy.

Recommended by the Planning Board

Jonathan Wood made a motion, seconded by Dennis Garnham to move Article 7 to the floor. Moderator Welch called upon Jonathan Wood to present Article 7. With no discussion or questions, Moderator Welch stated that Article 7 would be moved to the official ballot.

Article 08

Zoning Amendment:

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 7 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town zoning ordinance as follows: Add a new section 2.15 to the General Provisions requiring that all agriculture and farming activities be conducted in accordance with the NH Department of Agriculture "Manual of Best Management Practices;" and to require that the keeping of livestock conform to the UNH Cooperative Extension "Housing and Space Guidelines for Livestock."

Recommended by the Planning Board

Jonathan Wood made a motion, seconded by Paul Hammond to move Article 8 to the floor. Moderator Welch called upon Jonathan Wood to present Article 8. Patricia Bridgeo stated that the residents of Raymond are fully capable of making decisions on how to care for their own livestock and that she would prefer that anyone who wanted to get into raising livestock be educated rather than regulated. With no further discussion, Moderator Welch stated that Article 8 would be moved to the official ballot.

Article 09

Zoning Amendment:

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 8 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town zoning ordinance as follows: Add a new definition of Agriculture to define the term as set forth in state law; and to amend the definition of Non-Commercial Agriculture to include the agricultural use of land accessory to a residential use regardless of size.

Recommended by the Planning Board

Jonathan Wood made a motion, seconded by Paul Hammond to move Article 9 to the floor. Moderator Welch called upon Jonathan Wood to present Article 9. With no discussion or questions, Moderator Welch stated that Article 9 would be moved to the official ballot.

Article 10

Zoning Amendment:

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 9 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town zoning ordinance as follows: To add definitions of Private Nuisance and Public Nuisance.

Recommended by the Planning Board

Jonathan Wood made a motion, seconded by Paul Hammond to move Article 10 to the floor. Moderator Welch called upon Jonathan Wood to present article 10. With no

discussion or questions, Moderator Welch stated that Article 10 would be moved to the official ballot.

Article 11

Zoning Amendment:

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 10 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town zoning ordinance as follows: To add a definition of Workforce Housing to define that term as set forth in state law.

Recommended by the Planning Board

Jonathan Wood made a motion seconded by Kathy McDonald to move Article 11 to the floor. Moderator Welch called upon Jonathan Wood to present Article 11. With no discussion or questions, Moderator Welch stated that Article 11 would be moved to the official ballot. Jonathan Wood thanked everyone for their discussions of the Zoning Amendments also adding that for anyone that would like their voice to be heard, they are encouraged to join as one of the Planning Boards alternate members. Moderator Welch announced the conclusion of the Zoning Articles.

Article 12

Operating Budget/Default Budget:

Shall the Town of Raymond vote to raise and appropriate as an Operating Budget, not including appropriations by Special Warrant Articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant, or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling Eight Million, Four Hundred Eighty-Seven Thousand, Six Hundred and Seventy-Seven Dollars (\$8,487,677)

Components of the budget include:

\$ 7,637,631 Town Operating Budget

\$ 850,046 Water Department Operating Budget

\$ 8,487,677 Total

Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be Eight Million, Six Hundred Thousand, Four Hundred Sixty-Eight Dollars (\$8,600,468) which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Raymond or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only.

Components of the budget include:

\$ 7,700,373 Town Operating Budget

\$ 900,095 Water Department Operating Budget

\$ 8,600,468 Total

Note: This operating budget Warrant Article does not include appropriations contained in any other Warrant Article.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Recommended by the Budget Committee

Estimated 2021 Tax Impact: Town Proposed Operating Budget \$5.198

Estimated 2021 Tax Impact: Town Proposed Default Budget \$5.315

Bob Gagnon Made a motion, seconded by Steve brewer to move Article 12 to the floor. Moderator Welch called upon Selectman Hoelzel to present Article 12. With no discussion or questions, Moderator Welch stated that Article 12 would be moved to the official ballot. Moderator Welch called upon Selectman Campbell to present the Total Appropriation Package. Town Manager Joe Ilsley made a correction. He stated that there was an administrative error in what was presented and what was on the Warrant Article. With no further discussion, Moderator Welch stated that Article 12 would be placed on the official ballot.

Article 13

Capital Improvements:

Shall the Town of Raymond vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Hundred Fifty-Five Thousand, Three Hundred and Fifty Dollars (\$355,350) to be deposited into previously established Capital Reserve Funds (listed below) and to apportion this sum

among the several funds as listed below, naming the Board of Selectmen as agents thereof? (Majority Vote Required)

General Government Buildings Maintenance & Improvements	\$ 115,000
Highway Department Vehicle Repair & Replacement	\$ 40,000
Highway Department Heavy Equipment	\$ 45,000
Bridge & Culvert	\$ 34,500
Sidewalks	\$ 0
Master Plan Updates	\$ 0
New Town Facilities	\$ 0
Library	\$ 0
Police Department & Dispatch Equipment, Vehicle, & Facilities	\$ 10,350
Fire Department Equipment and Vehicle	\$ 100,000
Recreation Department Equipment, Vehicles & Facilities	\$ 0
Parks Equipment & Facilities	\$ 10,500
TOTALS TO CAPITAL RESERVE FUND	\$ 355,350

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen
 Recommended by the Budget Committee
 Estimated 2021 Tax Impact: \$0.368

Selectman Barnes made a motion, seconded by Kathy McDonald to move Article 13 to the floor. Moderator Welch called upon Selectman Campbell to present Article 13. With no discussion or questions, Moderator Welch stated that Warrant Article 13 would be moved to the official ballot.

Article 14

Capital Reserve Funds (Water Revenues):

Shall the Town of Raymond vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000) to be deposited into previously established Capital Reserve Funds (listed below) and to apportion this sum among the several funds as listed below? These funds shall be paid by Water Revenues. (Majority Vote Required)

Construct, Repair & Maintain Town Water Treatment Facility	\$ 50,000
Water System Infrastructure	\$ 45,000
Water Storage Facilities	\$ 100,000
Water Department Utility Replace Vehicle	\$ 3,000
New Well Site Acquisitions	\$ 2,000
TOTAL	\$ 200,000

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen
 Recommended by the Budget Committee
 Estimated 2021 Tax Impact: \$0.000

Selectman Plante made a motion, seconded by bob Gagnon to move Article 14 to the floor. Moderator Welch called upon Selectman Plante to present Article 14. With no discussion, Moderator Welch stated that Article 14 would be moved to the official ballot.

Article 15**Mosquito Control:**

Shall the Town of Raymond vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000) for the purpose of controlling the adult mosquito population in the Town of Raymond? Methods to include, but may not be limited to, spraying bacterial insecticide into stagnant water for mosquito larvae control, and other reasonable steps to achieve adequate control. (Majority Vote Required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen
Recommended by the Budget Committee
Estimated 2021 Tax Impact: \$0.041

Bob Gagnon made a motion seconded by Joe Saulnier to move Article 15 to the floor. Moderator Welch opened the floor for discussion. Tracey Merrill questioned how the use of mosquito control impacts water quality. Town Manager Joe Ilsley Spoke to her concern and stated that mosquito control is heavily regulated by the state of New Hampshire. Jonathan Wood went on to explain where to find the information of what chemicals are used for mosquito control. With no further discussion, Moderator Welch stated that Article 15 would be moved to the official ballot.

Article 16**Town of Raymond Scholarship Fund:**

Shall the Town of Raymond vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000) to be placed in the Town of Raymond Scholarship Fund for Raymond High School Senior Graduates and any Raymond resident attending their first year of college (established pursuant to Warrant Article 23 at the 2000 Town Meeting)? Said funds are to be administered by the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend. (Majority Vote Required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen
Recommended by the Budget Committee
Estimated 2021 Tax Impact: \$0.003

Selectman Barnes made a motion, seconded by Kathy McDonald to move Article 16 to the floor. Moderator Welch called upon Selectman Barnes to present Article 16. Rich Mulryan spoke to this article and stated that he supports the Scholarship Fund but goes on to question the \$7000.00 balance. Selectman Barnes explained that the balance was there to expand the Scholarship to more students if needed. With no further discussion, Moderator Welch stated that Warrant Article 16 would be moved to the official ballot.

Article 17**4th of July 2021 Community Event:**

Shall the Town of Raymond vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000) to help offset the expenses incurred associated with the 4th of July 2021 community event? (Majority Vote Required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen
Recommended by the Budget Committee
Estimated 2021 Tax Impact: \$0.003

Joe Saulnier made a motion, seconded by Bob Gagnon to move Article 17 to the floor. Moderator Welch called upon Selectman Long to present Article 17. With no discussion or questions, Moderator Welch stated that Article 17 would be moved to the official ballot.

Article 18

Social Services Agencies:

Shall the Town of Raymond vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000) in support of the following? (Majority Vote Required)

Social Service Agencies	
HAVEN	\$ 4,000
Richie McFarland Children Center	\$ 5,000
Court Appointed Service Advocates	\$ 1,500
Child Advocacy Center of Rockingham County	\$ 2,000
Waypoint/ Formally Child and Family Services	\$ 6,000
American Red Cross	\$ 1,000
Retired Senior Volunteer Program	\$ 500
Raymond Coalition for Youth	\$ 7,000
Southern NH Services/Rockingham Community Action	\$ 4,000
Chamber Children's Fund	\$ 2,000
Rockingham County Nutrition Program	\$ 6,000
Home Health & Hospice Care	\$ 1,000
Total	\$ 40,000

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen
Recommended by the Budget Committee
Estimated 2021 Tax Impact: \$0.041

Joe Saulnier made a motion, seconded by Bob Gagnon to move Article 18 to the floor. Moderator Welch called upon Selectman Hoelzel to present Article 18. Rani Merryman proposed an amendment to change the amounts to each agency to \$100.00 for a total of \$1200.00. The motion was seconded by Tim Cahill. Selectman Hoelzel gave some data points on Article 18. Selectman Plante asked Town Manager Joe Ilsley what the affect would be on the Town's own welfare department if the amounts to each agency were reduced. Town Manager Joe Ilsley replied by saying that he did not know the answer, because he did not know the scope of impact that it would have on each individual agency. Coleen West Coates Thanked the Town Manager for pointing out how much the Town gets from these Social Services and how the lack of funding would affect our current departments. Rich Mulryan stated that he did not support the proposed amendment. He went on to say that if the amendment were to be passed, it may save a couple of bucks now but that the negative impact down the road would be far more devastating to those families that use the services and eventually become more expensive for the community. Joe Saulnier stated that he did not agree with the amendment and that he would like to see an increase to these agencies sometime in the future.

A vote was held for the proposed amendment.

Vote to amend Article 18 fails 35-6

Rich Mulryan made a motion, seconded by Joe Saulnier to restrict Articles 12-18 for reconsideration.

Vote to restrict Articles 12-18 for reconsideration passed.

Moderator Welch announced at 12:05 P.M. that the meeting will be breaking for lunch and will resume at 12:30.

Moderator Welch called the meeting back to order at 12:30 P.M.

Article 19

Waste Disposal Special Revenue Fund (Fund 18):

Shall the Town of Raymond vote to raise and appropriate the sum not to exceed Eight Hundred Forty-Nine Thousand Dollars (\$849,000) for the purpose of administering the Pay as You Throw Program with said funds to come from the Waste Disposal Special Revenue Fund also referred to as Fund 18? Should this Warrant Article be defeated, the Town would not be able to continue with the Pay as You Throw Program due to the absence of legislative authority to legally access the funds. (Majority Vote Required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen
Recommended by the Budget Committee
Estimated 2021 Tax Impact: \$0.000

Steve Brewer made a motion seconded by Joe Saulnier to move Article 19 to the floor. Moderator Welch called upon Selectman Campbell to present Article 19. Selectman Plante asked Town manager Joe Ilsley to elaborate on the importance of Article 19. Town Manager Joe Ilsley explained that if this Article were to fail, the funds would have to come out of the operational budget and roughly 10% of the operational budget would have to be held back. With no further discussion, Moderator Welch stated that Article 19 would be moved to the official ballot.

Article 20

Shim and Overlay Special Revenue Fund:

Shall the Town of Raymond vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Forty-One Thousand, One Hundred, Twenty-Six Dollars (\$241,126) for road reconstruction and to authorize the withdrawal of \$241,126 from the Shim and Overlay Special Revenue Fund created for this purpose. No amount to be raised by taxation. This is a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the Shim and Overlay work is complete or until December 31, 2023, whichever comes first. (Majority Vote Required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen
Recommended by the Budget Committee
Estimated 2021 Tax Impact: \$0.000

Bob Gagnon made a motion, seconded by Steve Brewer to move Article 20 to the floor. Moderator Welch called upon Selectman Barnes to present Article 20. With no discussion or questions, Moderator Welch stated that Article 20 would be moved to the official ballot.

Article 21

Road Reconstruction Projects:

Shall the Town of Raymond vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Hundred Sixty Thousand, Five Hundred Dollars (\$360,500.00) for road reconstruction projects? This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the road reconstruction work has been completed or by December 31, 2023, whichever comes first. (Majority Vote Required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen
Recommended by the Budget Committee
Estimated 2021 Tax Impact: \$0.373

Bob Gagnon made a motion, seconded by Steve Brewer to move Article 21 to the floor. Moderator Welch called upon Selectman Barnes to present Article 21. With no discussion or questions, Moderator Welch stated that Article 21 would be moved to the official ballot.

Article 22

Establish Contingency Fund:

To see if the Town of Raymond will vote to establish a contingency fund pursuant to RSA 31:98-a for the current year for unanticipated expenses that may arise and further to raise and appropriate the sum of Seventy-Nine Thousand, One Hundred Seventeen Dollars (\$79,117) from the unassigned fund balance to be placed in this contingency fund. Such fund shall not exceed one percent (1%) of the amount appropriated by the town for town purposes during the preceding year excluding capital expenditures and the amortization of debt. Any appropriation left remaining in the fund at the end of the year will lapse to the general fund. A detailed report of all expenditures from the contingency fund shall be prepared annually by the Board of Selectmen and published with their report. (Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen
Recommended by the Budget Committee
Estimated 2021 Tax Impact: \$0.00

Steve Brewer made a motion seconded by Michael DiTommaso to move Article 22 to the floor. Moderator Welch called upon Selectman Campbell to present Article 22. With no discussion or questions, Moderator Welch stated that Article 22 would be moved to the official ballot.

Article 23

Sick and Vacation Non-Union Expendable Trust Fund:

Shall the Town of Raymond vote to raise and appropriate the sum not to exceed Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000) to be added to the Sick and Vacation Leave Non-Union Expendable Trust Fund (established pursuant to Warrant Article #25 of the 2004 Town Meeting) for the purpose of paying out accrued time upon leave of employment as indicated in the Town of Raymond Personnel Policy for employees? And further that said set amount to come from unassigned fund balance and no amount is to be raised from taxation. (Majority Vote Required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen
Recommended by the Budget Committee
Estimated 2021 Tax Impact: \$0.000

Colleen West Coates made a motion, seconded by Steve Brewer to move Article 23 to the floor. Moderator Welch called upon Selectman Plante to present Article 23. Rani Merryman questioned which had the larger liability, the Sick and Vacation Non-Union Expendable Trust Fund or the Sick and Vacation Union Expendable Trust Fund. Town Manager Joe Ilsley replied to Rani's inquiry, stating that the Sick and Vacation Non-Union Expendable Trust Fund has the larger liability. Rani Merryman proposed an amendment to Article 23 to change to amount to \$35,000.00. Doug Vogel seconded the amendment. Selectman Hoelzel inquired if the amendment was to also adjust Article 24. Rani gave confirmation to Selectman Hoelzel's inquiry.

A vote was held to amend Article 23.

Vote to amend Article 23 passed 23 – 6

Amended Warrant Article 23 was moved to the official ballot.

Amended Warrant Article 23 (Deliberative Session – February 6, 2021)

Sick and Vacation Non-Union Expendable Trust Fund:

Shall the Town of Raymond vote to raise and appropriate the sum not to exceed Thirty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$35,000) to be added to the Sick and Vacation Leave Non-Union Expendable Trust Fund (established pursuant to Warrant Article #25 of the 2004 Town Meeting) for the purpose of paying out accrued time upon leave of employment as indicated in the Town of Raymond Personnel Policy for employees? And further that said set amount to come from unassigned fund balance and no amount is to be raised from taxation. (Majority Vote Required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen
Recommended by the Budget Committee
Estimated 2021 Tax Impact: \$0.000

Article 24

Sick and Vacation Union Expendable Trust Fund:

Shall the Town of Raymond vote to raise and appropriate the sum not to exceed Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000) to be added to the Sick and Vacation Leave Union Expendable Trust Fund (established pursuant to Warrant Article #14 of the 2002 Town Meeting) for the purpose of paying out accrued time upon leave of employment as indicated in the Town of Raymond Personnel Policy? And further that said set amount to come from unassigned fund balance and no amount is to be raised from taxation. (Majority Vote Required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Recommended by the Budget Committee
Estimated 2021 Tax Impact: \$0.000

Michael DiTommaso made a motion, seconded by Steve Brewer to move Article 24 to the floor. Moderator Welch called upon Selectman Plante to present Article 24. Bob Gagnon questioned the expected payout for next year. Town Manager Joe Ilsley spoke to Bob Gagnon's inquiry, stating that the expected payout for the Sick and Vacation Non-Union Expendable Trust Fund is 40-50k. Rani Merryman proposed an amendment to amend the amount of Article 24 to \$5,000.00. Tina Thomas seconded the amendment.

A vote was held to amend Article 24.

Vote to amend Article 24 passed 22 – 8

Amended Article 24 was moved to the official ballot.

Amended Warrant Article 24 (Deliberative Session – February 6, 2021)

Sick and Vacation Union Expendable Trust Fund:

Shall the Town of Raymond vote to raise and appropriate the sum not to exceed Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) to be added to the Sick and Vacation Leave Union Expendable Trust Fund (established pursuant to Warrant Article #14 of the 2002 Town Meeting) for the purpose of paying out accrued time upon leave of employment as indicated in the Town of Raymond Personnel Policy? And further that said set amount to come from unassigned fund balance and no amount is to be raised from taxation. (Majority Vote Required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen
Recommended by the Budget Committee
Estimated 2021 Tax Impact: \$0.000

Article 25

Elderly Exemption Increase and Reevaluation Adjustment:

Shall the Town of Raymond modify the provisions of RSA 72:39-a for Elderly Exemption from property tax, based on assessed value, for qualified taxpayers, to be as follows: for a person 65 years of age up to 75 years, \$125,000; for a person 75 years of age up to 80

years, \$137,500; for a person 80 years of age or older \$162,500. To qualify, the person must have been a New Hampshire resident for at least 3 consecutive years, own the real estate individually or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by such person's spouse, they must have been married to each other for at least 5 consecutive years. In addition, the taxpayer must have a net income of not more than \$31,853 or, if married, a combined net income of less than \$43,190; and own net assets not in excess of \$73,469 excluding the value of the person's residence. (Majority Vote Required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen
Recommended by the Budget Committee
Estimated 2021 Tax Impact: \$0.020

Michael DiTommaso made a motion, seconded by Steve Brewer to move Article 25 to the floor. Moderator Welch called upon Selectman Campbell to present Article 25. With no discussion or questions, Moderator Welch stated that Article 25 would be moved to the official ballot.

Article 26

Blind Exemption Reevaluation Adjustment:

Shall the Town of Raymond modify the provisions of RSA 72:37, Exemption for the Blind, to allow an inhabitant who is legally blind as determined by the blind services program, to be exempt each year on the assessed value, for property tax purposes, of his or her residential real estate to the value of \$62,500 as determined by legislative body. (Majority Vote Required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen
Recommended by the Budget Committee
Estimated 2021 Tax Impact: \$0.000

Colleen West Coates made a motion, seconded by Michael DiTommaso to move Article 26 to the floor. Moderator Welch called upon Selectman Hoelzel to present Article 26. With no discussion or questions, Moderator Welch stated that Article 26 would be moved to the official ballot.

Article 27

Disabled Exemption Reevaluation Adjustment:

Shall the Town of Raymond modify the provisions of RSA 72:37-b, Exemption for the Disabled from property tax, based on assessed value for qualified taxpayers to be \$125,000. To qualify, the person must have been a New Hampshire resident for at least 5 years, own the real estate individually or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by such person's spouse, they must have been married for at least 5 consecutive years. In addition, the taxpayer must have a net income of not more than \$27,000 or if married, a combined net income of not more than \$37,000, and own net assets not in excess of \$70,000 excluding the value of the person's residence. (Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen
Recommended by the Budget Committee
Estimated 2021 Tax Impact: \$0.000

Colleen West Coates made a motion, seconded by Michael DiTommaso to move Article 27 to the floor. Moderator Welch called upon Selectman Hoelzel to present Article 27. With no Discussion or questions, Moderator Welch stated that Article 27 would be moved to the official ballot.

Article 28

Disabled Veterans Credit Increase:

To see if the Town of Raymond will increase the optional residential property tax credit for One Hundred Percent (100%) Permanently and Totally Disabled Veterans as determined by the Department of Veteran Affairs and their surviving spouse, from Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500) to Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000). (Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen
Recommended by the Budget Committee
Estimated 2021 Tax Impact: \$0.010

Michael DiTommaso made a motion, seconded by Bob Gagnon to move Article 28 to the floor. Moderator Welch called upon Selectman Campbell to present Article 28. With no discussion or questions, Moderator Welch stated that Article 28 would be moved to the official ballot.

Article 29

One-Time or Cyclic Procurement Capital Reserve Fund:

To see if the Town of Raymond will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One-Hundred Sixty-One Thousand, Five Hundred Dollars (\$161,500) to be placed in the One-Time or Cyclic Procurement Capital Reserve Fund for the purposes set forth below and to authorize the expenditure of funds previously raised and appropriated for this CRF for their designated purposes authorized by 2020 Town Vote. This Capital Reserve Fund was established in 2020 for purpose of stabilizing the Town's Operational Budget and offset the tax impact of one-time or cyclic operational budget purchase needs. This sum is to come from the unassigned fund balance and no amount will be raised through future taxation. (Majority Vote Required)

Covid-19 Associated Expenses
\$20,000
Town Re-Evaluation Expenses
\$6,500
Legal Expenses and Settlements
\$40,000
Police Department Technologies (Body Cameras and Electronic Finger Printing)
\$95,000
TOTALS TO CAPITAL RESERVE FUND
\$161,500

Recommended by the Board of Selectman

Recommended by the Budget Committee
Estimated 2021 Tax Impact: \$0.000

Colleen West Coates made a motion, seconded by Steve Brewer to move Article 29 to the floor. Moderator Welch called upon Selectman Barnes to present Article 29. With no discussion or questions, Moderator Welch stated that Article 29 would be moved to the official ballot.

Article 30 Road Revitalization Capital Reserve Fund:

To see if the Town of Raymond will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000) to be placed in the Road Revitalization Capital Reserve Fund. In 2020 the Town voted to establish a Road Revitalization Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for purpose of supporting the Town's five-year strategic initiative to upgrade and render safe the Town's road infrastructure systems. These funds are to be used in conjunction with the funds received from the Road Reconstruction Fund to address sustained underfunding of municipal capital investment for town roads, culverts and bridges and return the town Roads to a maintainable condition. This sum is to come from the unassigned fund balance and no amount will be raised through future taxation. (Majority Vote Required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen
Recommended by the Budget Committee
Estimated 2021 Tax Impact: \$0.000

Colleen West Coates made a motion, seconded by Steve Brewer to move Article 30 to the floor. Moderator Welch called upon Selectman Campbell to present Article 30. With no discussion or questions, Moderator Welch stated that Article 30 would be moved to the official Ballot.

Article 31 Facility Revitalization Capital Reserve Fund:

To see if the Town of Raymond will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seven Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$700,000) to be placed in the Facility Revitalization Capital Reserve Fund. In 2020, the Town voted to establish a Facility Revitalization Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of supporting the town's five-year strategic initiative to address sustained underfunding of municipal capital investment for town facilities. In addition, portions of these funds may be utilized to cover the cost of relocation and storage of equipment to support facility upgrade efforts. This sum is to come from the unassigned fund balance and no amount will be raised through future taxation. (Majority Vote Required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen
Recommended by the Budget Committee
Estimated 2021 Tax Impact: \$0.000

Steve Brewer made a motion, seconded by Rich Mulryan to move Article 31 to the floor. Moderator Welch called upon Selectman Plante to present Article 31. Colleen West Coates expressed her concerns about funding. Town manager Joe Ilesley spoke to her concerns. With no further discussion or questions, Moderator Welch stated that Article 31 would be moved to the official Ballot.

Article 32 Establish a Town Vehicle and Equipment Revitalization Capital Reserve Fund:

To see if the Town of Raymond will vote to establish a Vehicle and Equipment Revitalization Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of supporting the town's forty-year strategic capital investment initiative to fund town-wide vehicle and equipment funding needs identified in the 2020 Capital Investment Analysis and to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Fifty-Seven Thousand, Five Hundred Dollars (\$257,500) to be placed in this fund. These funds are to be used in conjunction with the funds received from other municipal vehicle and equipment funds to address sustained underfunding of municipal capital investment for town vehicles and equipment. This sum is to come from the unassigned fund balance and no amount will be raised through future taxation. Further, to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund. (Majority Vote Required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen
Recommended by the Budget Committee
Estimated 2021 Tax Impact: \$0.000

Kathy McDonald made a motion, seconded by Bob Gagnon to move Article 32 to the floor. Moderator Welch called upon Selectman Plante to present Article 32. With no discussion or questions, Moderator Welch stated that Article 32 would be moved to the official ballot.

Article 33

Establish an Emergency Management Revitalization Capital Reserve Fund:

To see if the Town of Raymond will vote to establish an Emergency Management Revitalization Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1-c for the purpose of funding shortfalls in the town's Emergency Management capabilities and provide funding to enhance the town's capabilities to achieve National Incident Management Command and Control capabilities and support the effectiveness of the town's Emergency Response and to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Hundred Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$320,000) to be placed in this fund. This sum is to come from the unassigned fund balance and no amount will be raised through future taxation. Further, to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund. (Majority Vote Required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen
Recommended by the Budget Committee
Estimated 2021 Tax Impact: \$0.000

Steve Brewer made a motion, seconded by Joe Saulnier to move Article 33 to the floor. Moderator Welch called upon Selectman Hoelzel to present Article 33. With no discussion, Moderator Welch stated that Article 33 would be moved to the official ballot.

Article 34

Establish a CRF Fund for the Purchase of 10 Old Fremont Road (The Bean Tavern):

To see if the Town of Raymond will vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1-c for the purpose of purchasing 10 Old Fremont Road (The Bean Tavern) to ensure the landmark's preservation and to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$260,000) to be placed in this fund. This sum is to come from the unassigned fund balance and no amount will be raised through future

taxation. Further, to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund. (Majority Vote Required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen
Recommended by the Budget Committee
Estimated 2021 Tax Impact: \$0.000

Joe Saulnier made a motion, seconded by Michael DiTommaso to move Article 34 to the floor. Moderator Welch called upon Selectman Campbell to present Article 34. Town Manager Joe Ilsley explained that The Town of Raymond is currently under a purchase and sales agreement and that the passing of Article 34 would secure the purchase of 10 Old Fremont Road. (Bean Tavern). Moderator Welch suggested that the Board of Selectman and Town staff give the taxpayers a little more information about their plans with this. Town Manager Joe Ilsley explained that they were looking at a few different options of what to do with the property after the purchase. Phil Merrill inquired about who would be responsible for the repairs to the building. To Phil Merrill's inquiry, Moderator Welch stated that a citizens committee would be established to investigate what should be done after the purchase of the (Bean Tavern) and how to go about doing it. With no further discussion or questions, Moderator Welch stated that Article 34 would be moved to the official ballot.

Article 35

Cemetery Plot Fees Maintenance Fund:

To see if the Town of Raymond will authorize the Trustees of the Trust Funds to close the following expendable trust funds: Cemetery Sale of Trees, Cemetery Sales of Lots and Cemetery/Sale of Lumber. And to move the balances into the previously established Cemetery Plot Fees Maintenance Fund. (Majority Vote Required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen
Recommended by the Budget Committee
Estimated 2021 Tax Impact: \$0.000

Steve Brewer made a motion, seconded by Joe Saulnier to move Article 35 to the floor. Moderator Welch called upon Selectman Campbell to present Article 35. Rani Merryman questioned how much money was in each fund, and where the money would be going. Kevin Woods replied to Rani's inquiry and stated that the sale of trees fund balance is \$37,680.58, Cemetery sale of lots fund balance is \$106,715.01, and sale of lumber fund balance is \$21,540.28 with all three accounts totaling \$165,935.87. Rani Merryman went on to question if there were currently funds going into the funds that are proposed to be closed. Kevin Woods responded to Rani's inquiry and answered no, there are no funds going into any of the accounts proposed to be closed.

Article 36

Closure of Designated Cemetery Expendable Funds:

To see if the Town of Raymond will authorize the Trustees of the Trust Funds to close the following non-expendable funds:

Cemetery/Common Fund, Cemetery/Common Fund/Single Space and the incorrectly titled Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund (which does not contain any actual perpetual care funds) and move the balances to the previously established Cemetery Plot Fees Maintenance and Cemetery Plot Fees Expansion Funds as follows:

- Perpetual Care Fund – Split 50/50 Cemetery Plot Fees Maintenance & Cemetery Plot

Fees Expansion Fund

- Cemetery Common Fund/Single Space – Cemetery Plot Fees Maintenance Fund
- Cemetery/Common Fund – Split 50/50 Cemetery Maintenance Plot Fees & Cemetery Plot Fees Expansion Fund

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Recommended by the Budget Committee

Estimated 2021 Tax Impact: \$0.000

Steve Brewer made a motion, seconded by Michael DiTommaso to move Article 36 to the floor. Moderator Welch called upon selectman long to present Article 36. Town Council Keriann Roman asked Chair Woods to clarify Article 36 because In the Voter's guide, the perpetual fund was left out but in the Warrant it was not.

Article 37

Citizen Petition(s): To restrict any commercial signs promoting cannabis, or marijuana, drug-related paraphernalia, or products:

Shall the Town of Raymond NH vote to amend zoning ordinance 271:A-7 Prohibited signs, to include: any sign that includes the marijuana plant or its likeness.

This is a citizen petition warrant article.

Town Council Keriann Roman Stated that Articles 37 & 38 are Zoning Amendment Articles. They cannot be changed even by a petitioner on the floor. The language must be as it is written. There may still be discussion and debate. Keriann stated that the one exception that it can't be changed is that RSA 675:4 and 675:3 do require that certain language be included in Zoning Amendment Petition Articles. When it is read for the Warrant, it should say Citizen Petition Zoning amendment for each and for each Article 37 & 38 it does also require the statement of whether the Planning Board did or did not recommend.

Rich Mulryan made a motion, seconded by Michael DiTommaso to move Article 37 to the floor. Moderator Welch called upon any of the Petitioners that would like to present Article 37. Christine Bostaph representing The Raymond Coalition for Youth presented Article 37- Citizen Petition Zoning Amendment.

Amended Warrant Article 37 (Deliberative Session – February 6, 2021)

Citizen Petition Zoning Amendment: To restrict any commercial signs promoting cannabis, or marijuana, drug-related paraphernalia, or products:

Shall the Town of Raymond NH vote to amend zoning ordinance 271:A-7 Prohibited signs, to include: any sign that includes the marijuana plant or its likeness.

This is a citizen petition warrant article.

Recommended by the Planning Board

Article 38 Citizen Petition(s): To restrict the commercialization of marijuana and marijuana-based products:

Shall the Town of Raymond NH vote to amend the Raymond Zoning Ordinance to restrict activities related to marijuana and marijuana-based products? This would include commercial marijuana cultivation, marijuana testing facilities, marijuana product manufacturing, marijuana retailers, on-site marijuana consumption at a business location, and any other marijuana-related activity for commercial purposes by whatever name used. This warrant article is not intended to limit a private citizen's access to medical marijuana-related products in a private, non-commercial, residence.

This is a citizen petition warrant article.

Colleen West Coates made a motion, seconded by Bob Gagnon to move Article 38 to the floor. Moderator Welch called upon Christine Bostaph to present Article 38. Rani Merryman expressed her concerns of the possibility that this could land our town in a jackpot of litigations.

Amended Warrant Article 38 (Deliberative Session – February 6, 2021)

Citizen Petition Zoning Amendment: To restrict the commercialization of marijuana and marijuana-based products:

Shall the Town of Raymond NH vote to amend the Raymond Zoning Ordinance to restrict activities related to marijuana and marijuana-based products? This would include commercial marijuana cultivation, marijuana testing facilities, marijuana product manufacturing, marijuana retailers, on-site marijuana consumption at a business location, and any other marijuana-related activity for commercial purposes by whatever name used. This warrant article is not intended to limit a private citizen's access to medical marijuana-related products in a private, non-commercial, residence.

This is a citizen petition warrant article.

Recommended by the Planning Board

Selectman Plante made a statement in regards to Article 34. He referred to the sign as you come into the Town of Raymond that reads "Preserving our past. Preparing four our future".

Selectman Hoelzel stated that the Board of Selectmen and staff would like to take moment of silence to pay tribute to a friend that was lost this past year. Peter H. Harney who gave over 30 years of service to the Town of Raymond.

Kevin Woods, in regards to Article 19 questioned how it was possible to take funds out of the Operational Budget if Article 19 was voted down. Town Manager Joe IIsley explained that the Town has a legal obligation to pay a contract and the only place to legally access funds to pay that contract is through the Operational Budget.

Bob Gagnon made a motion, seconded by Colleen West Coates to restrict reconsideration of Articles 25-38.

Vote to restrict reconsideration of Articles 25-38 passes.

Moderator Welch called upon Christina Vogel to announce her annual Candidates Night event. Christina Vogel announced that Candidates night would be held on Monday, February 15, 2021 in the High School cafeteria from 7:00 p.m.- 9:00 p.m. Masks would be required and zoom participation would also be available.

Joe Saulnier made a motion, seconded by Steve Brewer to adjourn the meeting.

Moderator Welch declared the meeting adjourned at 2:43 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alyssa Richard
Town Clerk