



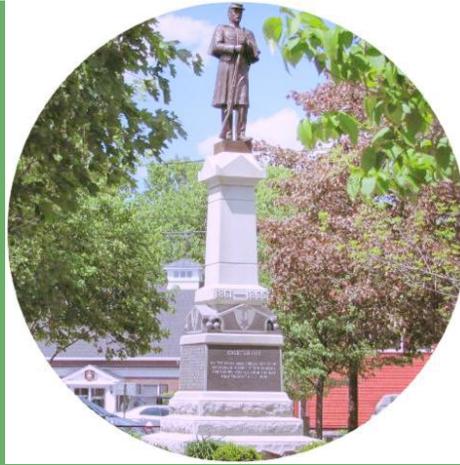
Town of Raymond, New Hampshire

www.raymondnh.gov

Presented by Town Manager, Craig Wheeler & Town Staff

Talk of the Town

July, 2017



To All Residents of Raymond

From the Town Manager and Town Staff

Town Manager Comments



I am pleased to present the "Talk of the Town Newsletter". The purpose of this correspondence is to provide residents with a monthly summary and schedule of meetings and events focused on local government. It is an opportunity to continue to communicate information and data on the ongoing issues and challenges that face our community. We have tried to provide a short history/summary of the matters before each one of the corresponding departments. Along with a monthly (July) calendar that lists the scheduled meeting before each one of the Boards or Commissions.

The specifics agenda(s) for the Boards will be contained on our Web site and Channel 22 as the date approaches. This newsletter will be featured on our website and will be forwarded to Raymond Area News for additional distribution. If you would like it sent directly to you via email, sign up with the corresponding link www.raymondnh.gov on our website for distribution. Additionally, paper hard copies will be made available at the Town Offices, Library, and various other location around town as we move forward.

Respectively Submitted,
Craig Wheeler
Town Manager

Raymond Police & Dispatch Department

Chief David Salois, Captain Michael Labell & William Wyner



An increasing number of phone scams are being reported in our area. Scammers are using different tactics to coerce people to give them their credit card information, leave checks, or gift cards. One of the most common scams occurs when the scammer sends someone a money order or check for something the victim is selling or for agreed services. The scammer will then ask the victim to send them a check for part of the money back. Meanwhile, when the victim goes to deposit the check, the scammer sent them they discover it's a forgery. Be safe, don't conduct any business with your money over the phone unless you are 100% sure it is legitimate, and you are the initiating party. If ever in question, contact an officer before giving money.

Officers have been conducting directed patrol based on resident complaints in the following areas:

- Prescott Road (Speeding)
- Route 107 / Route 102 Split (Stop Sign violations)
- Lane Road (Speeding)
- Long Hill Road (Speeding)

We remind drivers the speed limits are enacted to be the speed at which drivers should travel, not the minimum speed. We are also deploying the Radar Trailer in hopes of reducing speeds. If you would like to see the trailer in your neighborhood, please email us at radar@raymondnh.gov.

Residents may notice and increase in officer presence in their neighborhoods running radar or monitoring traffic. Last year we applied for and received three highway safety grants from the New Hampshire Highway Safety Agency. As a result, officers have been assigned to sustained traffic enforcement grant to reduce motor vehicle accidents by addressing infractions. Officers are also assigned to DWI patrols and shortly, a Sobriety Checkpoint.

For those following the opioid crisis locally know Raymond has been effected. The below charts illustrate overdose fatalities in Raymond by month:

Totals: 2016 = 9 / 2017 = 3

Our continued effort to provide for a drug-free community, officers and detectives have been working diligently in investigating, and arresting alleged dealers in our community.

Addiction help:

Statewide Addiction Crisis Line has trained staff to provide screening, evaluation and referral to treatment. <https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dcbcs/bdas/crisis-line.htm>

A comprehensive site for up to date information:

<https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dcbcs/bdas/guide.htm>

<https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dcbcs/bdas/documents/resource-guide-treatment.pdf>

Raymond Coalition for Youth resource page:

<http://www.rcfy.org/resources/heroin>

Currently, two officers are attending the New Hampshire Police Academy for training. The Academy is a 16-week residential academy where the recruits study all aspects of police work. Also, recruits receive hands-on training in driving, firearms, defensive tactics, first aid, etc. The cost of the academy to the local agency free, except for the officer's salary which is paid for by the agency sending the recruit.

Due to relatively low salaries in comparison, Raymond has experienced officers leaving between three and five years to towns nearby with higher salaries. This is an area where over time we save money in training and hiring by spending more in salaries to retain officers and employees. Currently, our starting salary for an officer is \$38,500 annually.

expansion for Ferguson Warehouse at 1 Chester Road was approved. A site plan application for the expansion of the Raymond Baptist Church Parking Lot, located at the intersection of Long Hill Road and Route 27, was approved in June.

Zoning Board of Adjustment Notes

The Zoning Board of Adjustment's (ZBA) responsibility is to hear and decide requests for variances from the Town of Raymond Zoning Ordinance, equitable waivers from dimensional requirements, special exceptions and hearing appeals from the decisions made by administrative officials. The ZBA typically meets on the fourth Wednesday of every month in Room 109 at Raymond High School. The ZBA also schedules special meetings from time to time, as needed.

The ZBA has met five times as of the writing of this article and has granted six variances. One was to allow a subdivision of a one parcel into two at 61 Langford Road, each slightly beneath the 2-acre minimum lot size requirement. One was to allow a lot line adjustment between two pre-existing non-conforming lots located at 16 Governors Drive and 2 Maple Lane. One was to allow a non-commercial agricultural use involving poultry and livestock on a lot that was not larger than two acres at 114 Fremont Road. Finally, two variances were granted to allow a wireless telecommunications facility to (1) be closer to abutting residential property lines than the Zoning Ordinance requires and (2) to exceed the maximum tower height. The ZBA is scheduled to meet on June 28th to grant a re-hearing for a special exception request for a proposed wireless telecommunications facility for 181 Route 27.

Economic Development

It has been interesting with regard to economic development. We have met with developers engaging in due diligence for potential commercial projects at both Exits 4 and 5. We are working with another potential business, high technology research and development concern, to find a location in Raymond that meets its specifications. We are hoping to have the principals of the business introduce themselves at a Board of Selectmen meeting in the near future. Once any of these endeavors are more solidified, I will provide additional details.

Granite Meadows at Exit 4 has been re branded and is now marketed on the [New England Commercial Property Exchange as Granite Meadows Business Park](#), as a "modern eCommerce High-bay Distribution Center just one exit west of Walmart's Northeast Distribution Center. Granite Meadows Business Park is a prime location to establish a Regional Distribution HUB for your company." We hope to see more activity generated because of the improved economy and this new marketing direction.

Respectfully Submitted;
Ernest Cartier-Creveling
Community Development Director
ecreveling@raymondnh.gov

Raymond Recreation/ Friends of Raymond Recreation

Michelle Weaver Recreation Director, Tammy Reardon, Asst. Recreation Director, Kelly Giberson, Secretary

<http://www.friendsofraymondrecreation.org/>



*Summer Concert Series
Raymond Town Common
Thursdays 6:00 – 7:30 pm*

June 29 – Conway Music
Performing music from the 50's to today- rock/Pop/country

July 13 – Dan the Singing Trooper

Show will feature music from Broadway, Patriotic, Elvis, Gospel, Irish, Italian and Broadway

July 20 – By Request

From Journey to Foo Fighters and Linda Ronstadt to Taylor Swift; Classic-rock, current pop

July 27 – B-Sides

Perform classic rock, southern rock, blues, funk, R&B, Americana, and more

August 3 – October Revival

Powerful classic rock from the 70's and 80's, covering groups like Styx, .38 Special, Foreigner

August 10 – Blue Heartache

Country influenced music; old, new, and in between

August 17 – Two Tined Fork

Ukulele and guitar skills, that always bring quite the flair to their flavor of folk

August 24 – Knock on Wood

Performs covers and funny original music

Come and join us this summer for our community wide SUMMER CONCERT SERIES. Raymond Recreation and the Friends of Recreation will be hosting concerts every Thursday from June 29th through August 24th from 6:00 – 7:30 pm on the Town Common.

What a fabulous way to bring our community together. See our amazing schedule filled with local talent, artists and some great bands. Concessions will be for sale by Raymond Boy Scouts & Cub Scouts. Bring your dancing shoes, a lawn chair or blanket, some bug spray and plan on a great evening!! The Summer Concert Series is free to the community. Donations are welcome!

Respectively Submitted,

Michelle Weaver

Raymond Recreation Director

Raymond Public Works & Water Department

Steve Brewer, Craig Sykes, Scott Keddy, Denise O'Grady

[Trash Bag Increase](#)

As has been discussed in recent Board of Selectmen meetings, the cost of the Town of Raymond green trash bags has been increased by 35 cents for a large bag and by 30 cents for a small bag. A postcard notifying residents of this change has been sent to every home in Raymond. The new pricing becomes effective on July 1, 2017.

[Onway Lake Road Culvert Replacement Project Update](#)

This bridge construction has been delayed by unstable soils in the area where the initial abutment construction is to commence. The engineers have redesigned the abutment foundations to raise them up out of the troubled soils and to place a set of five steel piles directly to bedrock. Upon implementation, this redesign will allow construction to proceed. The Town and Contractor are committed to move this effort along.

[Road Paving](#)

The paving bids will be opened by the Board of Selectmen at their meeting for July 10, 2017.



- The bid documents call for the final surface layer of pavement to be placed on Old Bye Road and on Richard Court. These roads were reclaimed in 2015.
- The bid package also requests pricing on the reconstruction of Industrial Drive and the upper section of Green Road beyond Castle Rock Drive.
- The ability to implement these activities will be tied to available funding. The final surfacing of Old Bye Road and Richard Court will be the highest priority followed by Industrial Drive, then Green Road. If we can afford to undertake the Green Road work, the Highway Division will coordinate the replacement of the cross culverts with the paving contractor.

Well Number 4

Bids have been received for the construction of the infrastructure necessary to bring Well 4 on line and make it a functioning part of Raymond's Municipal water system. After seven contractors reviewed the construction drawings and attended the pre-bid meeting, only two decided to bid. Those in the construction industry believe this to be a symptom of a robust construction market place where there is plenty of work. This robust market also leads to higher bids and that is what happened to us. The bids received were about \$350,000 over what the design engineer estimated the project to cost based on their assessment of construction pricing earlier this year. We will be working with the contractor and design engineer to bring the project within budget requirements.

A special note of thank you to the SAU and the School Board for working collaboratively with the Town on this project.

Water Rate Study

The Water Rate Study that was presented to the Board of Selectmen last fall must be reviewed in a public hearing so that the water rate payers have an opportunity to comment on the Rate Study and the recommended changes. The Water Division Rules and Regulations are also being updated. The Regulations were last reviewed and updated in May of 1987. The public hearing will be scheduled in August once we have completed the update of the Regulations and have posted them on the Town website for review by the rate payers.

Respectively Submitted,

Steve Brewer

Director of Public Works Department

Town Clerk Tax Collector

Sharon Walls, Town Clerk Tax Collector; Kathy Cramer, Deputy Town Clerk Tax Collector & Christine Rousseau, Town Clerk Tax Collector Assistant

<http://www.raymondnh.gov/town-clerk-tax-collector>



Property Tax Bills

The 2017 first half installment of property tax bills were mailed out in May to the property owners mailing address on record at the time of mailing. The due date is July 5, 2017. If this tax bill is not paid by July 5, 2017, interest at 12% per annum will begin to accrue on July 6, 2017. If a property owner is unable to pay the entire amount by the due date, it is advantageous to pay as much as possible whenever possible. This will decrease the amount of interest that will accrue.

Dog Licensing

Civil Forfeiture Dog Notices were mailed on June 27, 2017 to those that did not register their dog(s) by June 23, 2017. This notice included a \$25.00 fine and a \$1.00 processing fee that is required to be paid within 15 calendar days of this notice. As of July 12, 2017, Animal Control may issue a summons to court.

Office Update

Due to a new employee in training and vacations, there could be a longer waiting period to complete a transaction. We apologize for any inconvenience.

Questions and concerns should be addressed to the Town Clerk/Tax Collector's Office at 603-895-7024 or 603-895-7025.

Respectively Submitted,

Sharon Walls

Town Clerk Tax Collector

Raymond Fire Department

Chief Paul Hammond, Captain Jason Grant & Firefighter Jackson Crosby

<http://www.raymondnh.gov/fire>

Onway Lake Island

The Island on Onway Lake is a combination of Town & private property. Per motion and vote at the Board of Selectmen's meeting on June 19, 2017, an agreement has resolved several issues regarding safety. Signage will be put in place stating No Camping, No Fires, No Trash. Violators will be prosecuted. NH RSA 127-L, NH RSA 125-N.

Fire Permits

Fire Permits are required for all outside fires per NH Division of Forests & Lands unless the ground is covered by snow. Written Landowner permission as well as a Fire Permit are required to kindle a fire on their property. Permits are available at the Fire Station M-F 8-5, Sat-Sun 4-5.



Finance Department

Annmarie Gilligan, Finance Director, Julie Jenks, Accounts Manager

Introduction of New Staff

We would like to welcome our new Finance Director Annmarie Gilligan who started with us on June 26th. Annmarie comes to us with a extensive and a comprehensive background in governmental accounting and administration. We look forward to working collaboratively with our boards, committees and town staff to ensure a smooth transition as we enter the 2018 budget season.

2016 Town Audit

The 2016 Audit is almost complete and we will be reporting to the Board of Selectmen in late July.

Community Calendar Meetings & Community Events

July 2017 - Town of Raymond Meetings and Community Events						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 Town Offices Open 8:00AM-4:30PM	4 All Town Offices Closed 4 th of July Celebration 10:00AM – 3:00PM	5	6 Planning Board Mtg 7:00PM RHS – Media Ctr	7 Town Fair Begins @ 5:00PM Downtown Area *Town Offices Close @ Noon	8 Town Fair – All Day Downtown Area Raymond Town-Wide Yard Sale 8AM – 3PM
9 Town Fair – All day Closes @ 4:00PM Downtown Area	10 Board of Selectmen Mtg 7:00 PM – RHS Media Ctr.	11 Ethics Committee Mtg. 7:00PM – RHS Rm 109 Budget Committee 7:00PM – RHS-Media Ctr	12 9AM – Highway Safety Mtg. Torrent Hall	13 Summer Concert Series 6:00 PM – Town Common Planning Board Mtg 7:00PM RHS – Media Ctr	14	15
16	17	18	19	20 Summer Concert Series 6:00PM – Town Common	21	22
23	24	25	26 Conservation Commission Mtg – 7:00 p.m. RHS (2 nd & 4 th Wed's)	27 Summer Concert Series 6:00PM – Town Common	28	29

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