

THE RANDOLPH REVIEW

April 2018

Town of Randolph, Maine
121 Kinderhook Street 04346
207/582-5808

e-mail: townofrandolph@roadrunner.com

www.randolphmaine.org

Selectmen:

Mark Roberts
Bob Henderson
Matthew Drost

Editor:

Peter M. Coughlan

Vote on Tuesday, May 15

In a special vote sponsored by MSAD #11, the citizens of Randolph (only) will be voting on a single issue ----- the closing of TC Hamlin school. The polls at the Town Office will be open from 8 AM to 8 PM.

After a couple public meetings and a vote by the School Board on March 15 to support the recommendation to close the school, the next step, per state law, is to have Randolph citizens make the final determination.

"Do you favor authorizing the School Board of MSAD #11 to close TC Hamlin school?"

A "YES" vote will close the school.

A "NO" vote will keep it open with some significant cost increases to Randolph taxpayers.

If it remains open, then taxes will increase significantly because the projected "savings" of \$452,497 from closing the school will be assessed to Randolph only in addition to the annual portion of the entire school budget. This represents about a 50% increase to the amount that Randolph pays now to MSAD #11 and a 22% increase in the entire Town budget.

Even if you are an apartment dweller and do not own property in Randolph, it's highly likely that rental rates will increase to cover the higher taxes to keep the school open. Please come and vote.

Current "mil rate" for this budget year is 18.4. For a house that is valued at \$100,000, taxes are \$1,840.

If the school stays open, the "mil rate" for next year would be about 23.3. That same house for \$100,000 would then pay \$2,330 for taxes next year. That's almost \$500 more per year or 26.6% higher.

Public meeting on Monday, May 7

The School Board will conduct a public hearing on May 7 at 6:00 PM at the District's Central Office on Highland Ave in Gardiner. The purpose will be to explain the referendum as noted above and not to review the past several months of meetings and discussions on this issue (which is found on the town's website in great detail). Because of the narrow focus of the referendum, this meeting should not take too long. Because Randolph residents really want to know the financial impact of the vote, this meeting will be immediately followed by an explanation by the Selectmen at roughly 6:30 PM. They will explain the tax implications of a YES vote and a NO vote.

With a YES vote to close the school ---- at this time, we know there will likely be little impact on our tax rate. In this budget year, Randolph paid about \$995K to the District which had a total budget of \$24M this year. That equates to Randolph contributing 4.1% of the entire District budget. The expected cost savings of \$452,497 of closing the school is 1.9% of the entire District budget. Therefore, with the annual fluctuations of any large budget, any substantive tax bill reductions will likely be negligible. In other words, taxpayers in any of the 4 towns in the District will see little impact in their tax bills by closing TC Hamlin.

With a NO vote to keep the school open - Randolph taxpayers will see a significant tax increase while taxpayers in the other 3 towns will see no impact. That's because Randolph will have to pay the estimated savings of \$452, 497 in its tax bills IN ADDITION TO its normal allocation.

YES = close TC Hamlin
NO = keep TC Hamlin open



Randolph Town wide Spring Cleanup week

The week of May 21-25 will be the annual town cleanup. Permits will be available April 30 and details will be on the website shortly. If you have junk, brush, old tires, old furniture, and any other "stuff" that needs to be thrown out, this is your chance to get rid of it.

For household hazardous waste..... see special event on next page.

May 19

9-12 --Household hazardous waste—Augusta Public works

9-3 -- Electronic waste - Augusta Civic Center



Do you have unused or unwanted pesticides, cleaners, hobby supplies or other chemicals in your home that you don't know what to do with?

How about unused, unwanted, outdated medication (pills, liquid, etc)/sharps?

Unwanted documents? We have shredding again this year!

If you answered yes, then this program will benefit you!

Date & Time:

Saturday, May 19, 2018 from 9 AM - 12 PM

Drop-off Location:

Augusta Public Works, 55 North Street

Who?

Residents of Augusta, Belgrade, Chelsea, Farmingdale, Fayette, Gardiner, Hallowell, Randolph, Readfield, Sidney, Wayne and Whitefield.

Given the popularity of this event, please be prepared to wait in line during the busy times.

We can now recycle all architectural paint—both latex & oil-based. Cans **MUST** be legibly labeled and securely sealed in containers under 5 gallons.



TAKE E-WASTE TO AUGUSTA CIVIC CENTER



Bring all e-waste, such as TVs and computers, to the Augusta Civic Center, also on Saturday, May 19, from 9-3 pm. Donations will be accepted to support the Augusta Warming Center this coming winter.

For program details, please contact your Town Office, Public Works Department or visit AugustaMaine.gov.

PROGRAM BROUGHT TO YOU BY:



SUPPORTED BY PARTICIPATING LOCAL COMMUNITIES:

Augusta	Fayette	Readfield
Belgrade	Gardiner	Sidney
Chelsea	Hallowell	Wayne
Farmingdale	Randolph	Whitefield

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**SPECIAL
EDITION**

PLEASE VOTE ON May 15