



**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Emergency Meeting Agenda**

March 23, 2017

6:30pm

Broadcast Studio
423 Webbs Mills Road

Resolution: We, the Raymond Board of Selectmen, recognize our individual and collective responsibilities as leaders and representatives of our community. To this end, we pledge to conduct ourselves in a manner befitting these roles and duties. We pledge and encourage others to "Be the Influence" and to recognize that decisions matter.

Selectmen in attendance: Joe Bruno, Teresa Sadak, Samuel Gifford, Lawrence Taylor, and Rolf Olsen

Selectmen absent: none

Legislative Delegation:

Senator Bill Diamond
Representative Susan Austin
Representative Jessica Fay

Town Staff in attendance:

Don Willard – Town Manager
Sue Look – Town Clerk

1) Called to order at 6:30pm by Chairman Bruno

Chairman Bruno – Welcome to the emergency meeting we are having on March 23rd. This is really a workshop session, so we will not be taking any public comment. This is a session for the Board to discuss the Gray secession movement that's going on. I am going to go first to number three on the agenda. If I could have a motion.

2) New Business

a) Gray Secession Committee – Jennifer White, Chairperson

The Gray Secession Committee Chair, Jennifer White has asked the following, "After consulting with Attorney Ann Robinson from Pierce Atwood on the upcoming state hearing, she has highly recommended that we should ask for a letter from Raymond Town Officials stating that the Town of Raymond is interested in having us be annexed to them and possibly mentioning that geographically it makes sense and even mentioning that Raymond has provided fire and rescue services to our area for 50+ years would be helpful. The letter would be included in a packet of information given to each legislator of the State and Local Government Committee that is holding our hearing."

* Taken out of order.

Following are the steps the committee has taken thus far and the steps that complete the process. Those with a number are the steps from MRSA 30-A, Chapter 113, Part 2, Subchapter 2 – Secession Process.

STEP	DATE	DESCRIPTION
	1/27/2016	Presented the Gray Town Manager with a signed Secession Proclamation: <i>Establishment of an Exploratory Committee.</i>
	1/2016 to 1/2017	After establishing the committee and creating a map delineating the physical boundaries, they circulated a petition for registered voters in the territory to sign if they were in favor of secession.
1	1/26/2017	The petition signatures were certified and verified and it was found that over 51% of the registered voters in our area signed in favor.
2	3/21/2017	The Gray Secession Committee will be presenting to the Gray Town Council in a public hearing (presentation included in ePacket).
3	3/27/2017	At 1:00pm the Committee on State and Local Government will hold a hearing in Room 214 of the Cross Building for LD 619 – Resolve, Authorizing the Area of the West Side of Little Sebago Lake of the Town of Gray To Proceed with the Secession Process (concept bill only, included in ePacket).
4		Advisory Referendum – As long as the Legislature has authorized the secession process to proceed, the municipality shall conduct an advisory referendum within the secession territory at the next regularly scheduled election. The question must be: <i>“Do you favor secession of the territory described below from the municipality of Gray?”</i>
5		Vote of Municipal Officers <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. If the Municipal Officers vote in favor of the request for secession, then the request may be submitted to the Legislature for consideration. 2. If the Municipal Officers do not vote in favor of the request for secession, then a mediator is engaged. 3. If the mediation is not successful in resolving the differences, then the dispute may be submitted to the Legislature

* Taken out of order.

3) * Executive Session

- a) Consideration of request for approval of secession efforts (Pursuant to MRSA 1 §405 (6)(C))

Motion to enter executive session pursuant to MRSA 1 §405 (6)(C) at 6:30pm by Selectman Sadak. Seconded by Selectman Gifford.

Unanimously approved.

Chairman Bruno – We are going to invite the delegation to join us in the back room.

Motion to leave executive session at 6:49pm by Selectman Sadak. Seconded by Selectman Taylor.

Unanimously approved.

Chairman Bruno – I'm going to address the situation on behalf of the Town of Raymond and the Town of Raymond Select Board. We view this as a process. The process needs to continue. It's too early for the Town of Raymond to make any determination on this right now. We think this is an internal dispute between the citizens of Gray and their Town Council, and there are remedies for everything you want to do. If the Gore Road is an issue, you need to negotiate a fix. If the school is an issue, you need to bring your superintendent in from SAD 15 to speak to the RSU 14 and work a compromise and a memo of understanding between those two superintendents to accept each other's students. That's already in statute and available to you. If you need to fix a culvert, fix a culvert, but this is not a Town of Raymond issue right now. If you get through the legislative process and you get it to a point that you need to come back to the Town of Raymond, we'd be more than happy to have a discussion at that point, but I think until you get through that legislative process it is not a Raymond issue yet. So, that's what I have to say.

Now I am going to address that public meeting you had the other night. I watched it on video today. It is awfully discouraging to me when a fellow Council in another town disparages the Town of Raymond. We have had a very good working relationship, both from a Public Works perspective and a Public Safety perspective. The idea that Raymond does nothing for its citizens is so far off the mark. We react to our citizens and what they want, and we provide it for them. If Gray wants to go above and beyond that, great. We're not going to tell you not to do that, but we have been disparaged multiple times by the Gray Town Council and I can tell you that every time I hear it I am sick and tired of it. Two years ago we were called Nazis. That is so far out in left field and it is disgusting to be honest with you. I have nothing but respect for the Town of Gray. I was a pharmacist in the Town of Gray for 15 years. I see Jason sitting back there. He was in high school, I used to play basketball with Jason in high school. You need to respect us and what our Town stands for, and how we treat our citizens. We don't come to the Gray Town Council and disparage you. Respect us. I heard about that we charged you for Public Safety. Yeah, but then we negotiated a deal and now we all benefit from it. It is not mutual aid to West Gray, Raymond provides that service. No matter what you want to call it, Raymond provides that service, and you provide service on North Raymond Road because it is quicker and better for the citizens of both towns.

So, let's have a little respect here. We respect the process you are going through. Go through that process. We are not going to step into the middle of it. That is your concern with your citizens and the Town Council needs to address that, but don't

* Taken out of order.

disparage the Town of Raymond and what we do for our citizens because our citizens... I haven't heard any gripes and I have been doing this for a long, long time.

On that note, I want to thank our delegation from coming here tonight and hearing us out, where we stand. I am sorry we are not going to allow public discussion, but we are not to the point where we need to hear public discussion yet. Good luck with your process with the Legislature on Monday. I don't know how it is going to go for you, but I wish you the best of luck.

Can I have a motion to adjourn?

4) Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 6:54pm by Selectman Gifford. Seconded by Selectman Sadak.
Unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan L Look
Town Clerk

* Taken out of order.