

R I C H M O N D S E L E C T B O A R D
R E G U L A R M E E T I N G
M a y 1 , 2 0 1 7 M I N U T E S

Members Present: Lincoln Bressor; Bard Hill; Stephen Ackerman; Steve May; David Sander

Absent: None

Others Present: Geoffrey Urbanik, Town Manager; Clare Rock, Town Planner; Mary Houle; Maureen Kangle; Christy Witters; Lars Whitman; Amy Gifford; Judy Rosovsky; Roger Donegan; Cathleen Gent; Erin McGuire; Sara Reeves (CSWD); Dennis Gile, Fire Chief; Jerry Levesque, Assistant Fire Chief; Francine Pomerantz; Hannah Kasper; Keith Kasper; Pat Suozi (LIA); Elizabeth Deutsch; Chris Conant; Meg Handler; Cara & Kevin Tolan; Karin P. Ward; Alison Anand; and Ruth Miller was present to videotape the meeting for MMCTV Channel 15.

Lincoln Bressor called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

1. Welcome and Public Comment

Mr. Bressor asked if there were any comments from the public.

Christy Witters noted an incident recently where visitors were issued parking tickets for parking on the side of the road on Tilden Avenue. She asked what the problem was that required ticketing and that the Selectboard should discuss the parking there and let residents know what is going on. Ms. Witters said that the board just agree to increase density in the village, there are few driveways and they are small, and the winter parking bans make it difficult also.

Mr. Hill said he also lives on Tilden Avenue and is aware of complaints about parking on the corner of Tilden and Baker, making it difficult to navigate. He agreed that this should be the subject on a future agenda with the Police Chief.

2. Items for Discussion with those Present

Chittenden Solid Waste District Budget Presentation

Sara Reeves, the new General Manager for Chittenden Solid Waste District, presented the proposed FY2018 District budget, which was to go up by 9%. Ms. Reeves explained the plans the district has and provided an overview of operations. Hinesburg was going to utilize the area in their town for a garage, meaning that for a period of time Hinesburg residents were likely to use the Richmond drop-off center. There was some discussion on this and other issues.

Mr. Hill offered a motion to approve the FY2018 CSWD Budget as presented and was seconded by Mr. Ackerman. The motion carried 5-0.

Richmond Community Kitchen LLC – Application #17-018 for Conditional Use and Site Plan Review for adding retail, food processing/light industry, personal service, and fast food/take-out uses to the existing restaurant use and add an 10’x20’ accessory structure (walk-in cooler) at the rear of the

1 building located at 13 Jolina Court, Richmond. Property Owner Abae & Hundsdoerfer, Parcel ID #JC
2 0013, located within the Jolina Court Interim Zoning District

3
4 Mr. Hill offered a motion to re-open the public hearing on this application, which was carried forward
5 from April 17th. Mr. Ackerman seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0.

6
7 Amy Gifford and Lars Whitman were present to explain the final part of their application. They noted
8 that the maximum decibel level for the compressor with the sound attenuation on their outdoor cooler
9 was less than 50 decibels. It was a 3 horsepower motor.

10
11 Mr. Bressor said he did not favor additional sound conditions if the equipment met the sound
12 requirements in the zoning regulations. Mr. Bressor asked if there was further public comment, and
13 there being none, Mr. Bressor asked the Town Planner to review the proposed conditions of approval:

- 14
15 1. The applicant is responsible for ensuring the Final Decision issued by the Selectboard is recorded
16 within the land records within 30 days of Final Approval (cost \$10/page)
17 2. The applicant shall submit a zoning permit to the zoning administrator to permit the uses approved
18 by the Selectboard and to permit the accessory structure and any changes to the business sign.
19 3. The project shall be developed in conformance with the above referenced survey plat, plans, and
20 submittal documents.
21 4. Any other applicable zoning regulations not expressly waived in this decision must be complied
22 with.
23 5. This decision shall not relieve the applicant from any obligation to obtain all other applicable
24 required federal, state and local permits.
25 6. If events require more than 20 parking spaces, applicants are required to direct attendees to
26 available public parking.

27
28 There being no further comment, Mr. Sander offered a motion to close the public hearing for the
29 application and was seconded by Mr. Ackerman and the motion carried 5-0.

30
31 Mr. May offered a motion to approve application #17-018 for Conditional Use and Site Plan Review
32 for adding retail, food processing/light industry, personal service, and fast food/take-out uses to the
33 existing restaurant use and add an 10'x20' accessory structure (walk-in cooler) at the rear of the
34 building located at 13 Jolina Court, Richmond. Property Owner Abae & Hundsdoerfer, Parcel ID #JC
35 0013, located within the Jolina Court Interim Zoning District with the aforementioned six conditions.
36 Mr. Sander seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0.

37 38 Appointment of Volunteer Board Members and Other Positions

39
40 There was some discussion about the Conservation Commission appointments and the Selectboard
41 agreed to hold those appointments until the May 15th meeting. Mr. Bressor went through the list
42 remaining appointments:

43 44 **Planning Commission - seven members - four year terms**

45 2 meetings per month - Work includes the completion of a major rewrite of the town plan and zoning and
46 subdivision bylaws.

47 48 **One 4-year term and one open position expiring in 2019**

49
50 Alex Brosam is seeking reappointment

1 After discussion about possible vacancies on the Development Review Board or Conservation Commission,
2 Alison Anand agreed to take the open Planning Commission seat.

3
4 Mr. Hill offered a motion to approve these appointments and was seconded by Mr. May and the motion carried
5 5-0.

6
7 **Development Review Board - five members - three year terms**

8 1 or 2 meetings per month - Conduct public hearings regarding most major land development and commercial
9 projects and permit appeals.

10
11 **Two 3-year terms and two one year alternate positions**

12
13 David Sunshine is seeking reappointment

14 Matthew Dyer is seeking reappointment

15 Alison Anand, who is a current alternate, is seeking reappointment

16 Open one year alternate position

17
18 Mr. Ackerman offered a motion to approve these appointments and was seconded by Mr. May and the motion
19 carried 5-0.

20
21 **Recreation Committee – five members – three year terms**

22 Meetings per month TBD – Develop and manage recreation programs and enhance the use of Volunteers Green
23 and Browns Court.

24
25 **Two 3-year term and one open position expiring in 2018**

26
27 Harland Stockwell is seeking reappointment

28 Robin Rabideau is seeking reappointment

29 Open position expiring in 2018

30
31 Mr. Hill offered a motion to approve these appointments and was seconded by Mr. Sander. The motion carried
32 5-0.

33
34 **Richmond Trails Committee - ten members - three year terms**

35
36 1 meeting per month - Develop and manage the trail and path network in Richmond, including making
37 connections to neighborhoods.

38
39 **Three 3-year terms**

40
41 Tyler Merritt is seeking reappointment

42 Willie Lee is seeking reappointment

43 New Applicant: Ed Wells

44 New Applicant: Mike Donohue

45
46 There was some discussion about the size of the Trails Committee, and it was agreed to expand the membership
47 to accommodate all four applicants, with three-year terms. Mr. Ackerman offered a motion to approve these
48 appointments and was seconded by Mr. Sander. The motion carried 5-0.

49
50 All other boards and positions were approved as follows. Mr. Ackerman offered a motion to approve the
51 following appointments and was seconded by Mr. Sander and the motion carried 5-0.

52
53 **Economic Development Committee - eleven members; 1 year terms**

54
55 1 meeting per month - Assist the Selectboard in enhancing the business climate in Richmond.

- 1
2 Eleven 1-year terms
3
4 Paul Hauf is seeking reappointment
5 Joy Reap is seeking reappointment
6 Morgan Wolaver is seeking reappointment
7 Denise Barnard is not seeking reappointment
8 Lauck Parke is not seeking reappointment
9 8 Open positions
10

11 **Richmond Rescue Board of Directors Liaison and Representative**

12
13 Board members oversee operations and guide policy for Richmond Rescue. This Board member should be
14 willing to help Rescue improve as an asset to the Town.
15

16 One open position
17
18

19
20
21 **2017 Miscellaneous Appointments**
22
23

24 **Parade and Fireworks Committee - eleven members - one year terms**
25

26 The following **are all** seeking reappointment:
27

- 28 - Sue Glennon - Barb LaPlant
29 - Ken Nussbaum - Reggie Mobbs
30 - Linda Parent - John Durant
31 - Justin Spence - Rick Niquette
32 - Donna Niquette - Norman Perkins
33 - Eric Andrews
34

35 **Town Fence Viewers - three appointments; 1 year terms**
36

37 Jared Katz is seeking reappointment
38 Carole Furr is seeking reappointment
39 Open position
40

41 **Emergency Management Coordinator - 1 year term**
42

43 Geoffrey Urbanik is currently in position
44

45 **Energy Coordinator - one appointment - 1 year term**
46

47 Jeff Forward
48

49 **Weigher of Coal - one appointment - 1 year term**
50

51 Jay Furr is seeking reappointment
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53 **Inspector of Lumber, Shingles and Wood - one appointment; 1 year term**
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55 Jon Kart

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Tree Warden - one appointment - 1 year term

Matt Leonetti is seeking reappointment

Civil Defense Director - one appointment - 1 year term

Steve May is seeking reappointment

E-911 Coordinator – 1 year term

Typically the Zoning Administrator is appointed to this position

Lake Iroquois – 2 year term

Steve May is not seeking reappointment

Alternate - Open

Chittenden Solid Waste District – 2 year term

Adam Sherman until replacement found

Alternate – Open

CCRPC Representative - 2 year term

Bard Hill is currently in position

Alternate – David Sander

Fire Warden – 5 year term

Harland Stockwell is seeking reappointment

Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) – 2 year term

Geoffrey Urbanik is currently in position

Alternate – Pete Gosselin is currently in position

Update on Fire Engine #3

Fire Chief Dennis Gile and Assistant Chief Jerry Levesque were present to explain the ongoing issues with Engine #3. Fire Engine #3 was delivered in August of 2001 and is an “E One” make. Late last year, during its annual inspection, the level of rust on the frame cause some concern and the town’s employee responsible for inspections would not provide a passing sticker. Experts from the State Division of Motor Vehicles were brought in, and after extensive inspection, passed although the rust was a significant concern but the frame itself was not broken. The truck was taken to a local body shop that reinforced the frame by “griping” which stabilized the frame but there is no guarantee on how long that will work. The department has recently been discussing whether to replace it, and how, and now the engine apparently has a cracked cylinder head. It was noted that Bolton also has a nearly identical truck, one year older, which has a cracked frame and they need to replace it.

The engine is out of service, and will probably cost \$4,000 or more to repair the engine. The frame repair was \$2,400. The discussion turned to what was necessary for a new fire apparatus and what the department recommended.

1 Chief Gile noted that a new apparatus was being priced at \$350,000 to \$400,000 and he was talking to
2 several manufacturers for estimates. A repair of the engine was possible, but annual inspections were
3 not guaranteed because of the frame rust issue. It would be out of service until repaired, and out of
4 service if it failed annual inspection. He asked if he could proceed with the internal replacement
5 committee, and the Selectboard agreed to this, and also agreed to repair the engine. If possible, come
6 back in two to four weeks with price estimates on replacement.

7
8 Lake Iroquois Association – Discussion on Permit to Treat Lake with Herbicide to control Milfoil

9
10 Pat Suozi of the Lake Iroquois Association was present, as were several people opposed to the use of
11 herbicide. Ms. Suozi began by explaining the milfoil issue in the lake, and that it was first spotted in
12 1990. Since then it has increased and taken over the littoral areas and attempts at mitigation included
13 divers, weevils and suction harvesting. Ms. Suozi went over the costs and results, and said that most
14 lakefront homeowners (LIA members) were now in favor of an herbicide. They had developed a
15 multi-year plan that included multiple uses of the herbicide as well as some other non-chemical follow
16 up to control the plants. The two herbicides that were possible for milfoil were named “Renovate” and
17 “Sonar.” The Sonar, fluridone, was chosen for the lake and had been permitted by the State in other
18 lakes in recent years.

19
20 Mr. Hill asked some questions about the LIA board and membership. Ms. Suozi explained that the
21 board had visited all the lakefront property owners to talk about the problem. There were about 77
22 members and more than half supported the herbicide treatment. There were about 90 camps on the
23 lake, and perhaps 10 Richmond residents.

24
25 Mr. Sander asked if this was being used for eradication or control. Ms. Suozi said control of the
26 milfoil. Ms. Suozi also discussed treatment times, concentrations and other details, which were listed
27 on their website. The public hearing on the permit to apply the herbicide was going to be held in
28 Hinesburg on May 4th.

29
30 Alison Anand asked if the pH was off, what the atmosphere in the lake was, and other questions. It
31 was agreed that Lake Iroquois had a high nutrient level, and milfoil was thriving.

32
33 Several residents spoke, led by Francine Pomerantz and Elizabeth Deutsch. They expressed much
34 concern over the use of herbicide in the lake, raising points such as unknown side effects, possibility
35 of contaminating wells in the area and the exposure time and how that effects people using the lake.
36 They raised environmental concerns, and there was some dialogue between audience members
37 regarding the risks versus benefits of the herbicide.

38
39 Judy Rosovsky, Conservation Commission chair, spoke about her background in environmental
40 science work. She was familiar with the Sonar chemical and was not an advocate of herbicides,
41 however, the loss of native species in the lake attributed to milfoil was a concern. Mr. Bressor asked if
42 the Conservation Commission was going to recommend the LIA application for use of Conservation
43 Reserve Funds to do the pre-treatment surveys, and Ms. Rosovsky said yes.

44
45 The Selectboard discussed the issue. Mr. May said that this was timely because the hearing was this
46 week and the Town of Richmond needed to preserve their right to intervene and have the opportunity
47 to be heard. Mr. Hill said the board needs to determine if they are in favor of the treatment or not. Mr.
48 May said he opposed the herbicide and the board should decide what its opposition should look like.
49

1 Mr. Bressor asked if there was any dissent on the board. Mr. Hill said that the Conservation
2 Commission supported this move. Mr. Sander asked Ms. Rosovsky that since this was a drastic step,
3 could she objectively weight the pros and cons? Ms. Rosovsky attempted to do so, but added that
4 while the herbicide may do what you expect there are always unintended consequences and those were
5 hard to identify.

6
7 Mr. May said he didn't want this done this year, and the stakes were far too big to screw this up. He
8 wanted the board to ask the Agency of Natural Resources to slow down, and we have questions with
9 no answers. We could potentially file to halt any actions pending Richmond's own study.

10
11 Mr. Ackerman said that the Conservation Commission put in work to understand the issue and he
12 would respect that. There were valid concerns with the herbicide but the work already done to
13 understand it should be respected.

14
15 Mr. Sander said he wasn't comfortable going outside of his expertise to weigh in over the opinion of
16 the Conservation Commission.

17
18 Mr. Hill said he would abstain from expressing his opinion. Being an employee of the State of
19 Vermont, he knew that there were procedures to be followed and he expected the system to be
20 successful. He would defer to the other towns involved and their residents' opinions.

21
22 Mr. Bressor said that the concerns were appropriate, but the board will move on without taking a
23 position on the permit.

24
25 Mary Houle said that the funding of the plant inventory should be undertaken.

26
27 The Selectboard thanked everyone for their participation.

28 29 Round Church Road closure

30
31 The Manager explained that this was the third year that the Western Slopes Business Association was
32 planning an art festival and requested that Round Church Road be closed to the public – but available
33 for the two residents there, on June 24th. Mr. Sander offered a motion to close Round Church Road on
34 June 24, 2017 from 10am to 6pm for the WSBA art festival. Mr. May seconded the motion and the
35 motion carried 5-0.

36 37 **3. Other Business**

38 39 Affordable Housing Discussion

40
41 The Selectboard tabled this discussion until the June 5th agenda.

42 43 Town Center Roof Bids

44
45 The Manager explained that he had put the roof replacement for the Town Center building out to bid,
46 and received two bids: Bannister Custom Exteriors for \$86,600 and VTroofs.com (Ron Bryan Jr.) for
47 \$74,000. He was still reviewing and comparing warranties and references but wasn't in a position to
48 recommend yet. Due to time considerations, the board agreed to review this again on May 15th.

49 50 Approval of Minutes

1 Mr. Ackerman offered a motion to approve the minutes of April 17, 2017 and was seconded by Mr.
2 Sander. The motion carried 4-0-1 with Mr. May abstaining.

3
4 GMBC Time Trial

5
6 The Green Mountain Bicycle club had notified the Selectboard of their intent to hold a time trial on
7 Cochran Road on May 11th, as they have done for many years. No road closure was requested and
8 they would make traffic considerations during the event. The Selectboard had no objections to the
9 time trial.

10
11 Approval of Warrants

12
13 Warrants were reviewed and approved.

14
15 Next agenda items were reviewed, including the roof bids and fire engine recommendations.

16
17 **4. Adjourn**

18 Motion by Mr. Sander to adjourn the meeting at 9:35 p.m. Seconded by Mr. Hill. So voted.