

R I C H M O N D S E L E C T B O A R D
S P E C I A L M E E T I N G
J a n u a r y 1 7 , 2 0 1 3 M I N U T E S

Members Present: June Heston, Vice-Chair; Amy Lord; Ashley Lucht
Absent: Chris Granda; Neil Boyden
Others Present: Clint Buxton, Moderator; Geoffrey Urbanik, Town Manager; Linda Parent, Town Clerk; George Gifford; Rod West; Marvin Carpenter; Heidi Bormann; Denise Barnard; Lisa Eriksson; Jon Eriksson; Eric Muttaliman; Margo Austin; Robert Gagliardi; Jackie Washburn; Laura Andrews; Debbie Volk; Jon Kart and Ruth Miller was present to videotape the meeting for MMCTV Channel 15.

Clint Buxton called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

1. Depot Street Funding

Mr. Buxton explained that tonight's meeting was strictly to determine whether or not these articles would be voted on by Australian Ballot at Town Meeting and not to discuss the issues behind the questions.

Mr. Buxton then read the warning for the meeting.

Mr. Buxton read the following question, "Shall the voters approve of funding for the Depot Street parking lot with a \$20,000 appropriation in the Town budget in each of the next five years?" and added "by Australian Ballot" to the end of the question. Mr. Buxton then explained what Australian Ballot is.

A motion to bring this question to the floor was made by Denise Barnard and seconded by Marvin Carpenter.

Rod West said he did not support this, and he felt that Town Meeting was reserved for issues of the town where they could be discussed. This wasn't a million dollar bond and there was a trend of moving many items to Australian Ballot and this minimizes democracy. The Selectboard has an information meeting but it would be more useful to schedule a vote after Town Meeting.

Marvin Carpenter agreed that in the past Town Meeting was where these things were discussed but lately attendance has been lower and lower. He supported the Australian Ballot.

Jackie Washburn supported the idea of putting this on Australian Ballot. Most people can't come and the question isn't fair to everyone if it is just from the floor.

George Gifford said that the question should say that this is a \$100,000 item.

Denise Barnard asked if this would be approved as it appears.

The Manager said that we could not change the wording tonight.

Denise Barnard asked if we were doing federal funds for this project also.

Mr. Buxton said that these questions weren't germane to the issue.

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2 Ashley Lucht said that in her experience, if federal or state monies were used the community would
3 need to agree to fund the project with them.
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5 Heidi Bormann said she was in favor of Australian Ballot since most do not participate in Town
6 Meeting.
7

8 Jackie Washburn agreed that the language of the article should say \$100,000 apportioned over five
9 years.
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11 The Manager suggested that we could use an explanatory statement on the ballot.
12

13 Hearing no more comments, Mr. Buxton reread and called the question. Mr. Buxton declared that the
14 ayes appeared to carry the vote and the motion was passed.
15

16 **2. Recreation Director**

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18 Mr. Buxton read the following question, "Shall the voters of Richmond approve an additional
19 expenditure of \$10,000 to the FY2014 Budget to fund a part-time Recreation Director?" and added
20 "by Australian Ballot" to the end.
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22 A motion to bring this question to the floor was made by Margo Austin and seconded by Lisa
23 Eriksson.
24

25 Mr. Kart suggested that the comments from the last discussion be echoed for this one. He said there
26 was overriding support for the Australian Ballot.
27

28 Bob Gagliardi agreed with Mr. Kart.
29

30 Hearing no more comments, Mr. Buxton reread and called the question. Mr. Buxton declared that the
31 ayes appeared to carry the vote and the motion was passed.
32

33 **3. Adjourn**

34 Motion by Ms. Heston to adjourn the meeting at 7:21 p.m. Seconded by Ms. Lucht. So voted.