

**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
J u n e 1 6 , 2 0 1 4 M I N U T E S**

Members Present: Taylor Yeates (arrived 7:30 pm); Bard Hill; Ashley Lucht; David Sander
Absent: Chris Granda
Others Present: Geoffrey Urbanik, Town Manager; Mary Houle; Jackie Washburn; and
Ruth Miller was present to videotape the meeting for MMCTV Channel 15.

Ashley Lucht called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

1. Welcome and Public Comment

Ms. Lucht asked if there was any comment from the public for items not on the agenda.

Mary Houle asked if Ms. Lucht was the chair since Mr. Yeates and Mr. Granda were absent, and Ms. Lucht said yes.

2. Other Business

VYCC Cleanup Grant

The Manager explained that each year the town gets an allotment of funding from the Chittenden Solid Waste District for community cleanups, to be used at the discretion of the Selectboard. This year, the VYCC had requested one dumpster to clean out part of the area where the east Monitor Barn was. The Manager estimated that this one dumpster would cost around \$700. The town had granted a similar request from VYCC two years ago.

Mr. Hill asked what other precedents there were, and the Manager said that they had used this for some other cleanups such as the Bordeaux Lane cleanup and others.

Maureen Kangley spoke about VYCC’s request to not pay taxes and a refund of previously paid taxes, and said VYCC was not a good neighbor.

Ms. Lucht asked if this was not our money, but CWSD money? Mr. Hill said this was our revenue from CSWD.

Jackie Washburn said that VYCC was requesting help from us, but they don’t pay taxes. If we do not use this, does it lie idle? The Town Manager said yes.

Mr. Sander said he would support this if it was waste from the agricultural operation before they bought the property.

Mary Houle asked if their commitment to trails maintenance in town was active. There was additional discussion.

Mr. Sander offered a motion to approve the grant request from VYCC provided that VYCC agrees to continue trail maintenance in an exchange of services and was seconded by Mr. Hill.

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2 Mr. Hill said that even though they weren't paying into the town's taxes, they should offer services
3 and this is a nice gift in exchange.
4

5 The motion failed 2-0-1 with Mr. Hill abstaining. The Selectboard's adopted rules of procedure
6 required at least 3 affirmative votes to carry. It was agreed that this would be reagendaized on the July
7 7th agenda.
8

9 SSTA Trip Policy

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11 The Manager explained that last year we saw heavy usage of this program for medical trips, which
12 drained the funding. The Special Services Transportation Authority provided reduced fare trips for
13 elderly and disabled, income-qualified residents. In October, the Selectboard limited trips to medical
14 only, eliminating work and social trips. So far, at the end of May, the funding was 92% spent, so it
15 was the right decision to make. The Manager suggested that for the beginning of the new fiscal year,
16 the policy on trips should restore work and social trips until funding became scarce once again.
17

18 Mr. Hill said it was rational at the time and it is now rational to expand the program now that the
19 medical trips have subsided.
20

21 Mr. Sander agreed and said we would watch to reduce needs if finances warrant.
22

23 Ms. Lucht wants the policy to stay the same, because if we have three more medical trips then we run
24 the risk of going into a financial crisis in September.
25

26 Mr. Hill offered a motion to amend the SSTA trip policy to include work and social trips, as well as
27 medical trips, with monitoring and was seconded by Mr. Sander. The motion failed 2-1 with Ms.
28 Lucht voting against. There was additional discussion about the Selectboard policy on 3 affirmative
29 votes. The consensus was to re-vote the motion.
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31 Mr. Hill again offered a motion to amend the SSTA trip policy to include work and social trips, as well
32 as medical trips, with monitoring and was seconded by Mr. Sander. The motion carried 3-0.
33

34 Zoning Update

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36 The Manager noted that with the Mobbs case, the cabinet removal had effectively solved the violation
37 and was confirmed by the zoning officer. However, the outstanding issue of collecting fines remained.
38 The Selectboard deliberated on this.
39

40 Ms. Lucht explained that the town should collect fines, otherwise, zoning was unenforceable. The
41 consensus of the board was that this was in fact the correct conclusion.
42

43 Mr. Hill said we still should be sensitive to not be unduly punitive.
44

45 Mary Houle said that this would be the first time that the Selectboard has made any effort to collect
46 fines on zoning violations.
47

48 The Manager then reported on the Harrington property at Wolf Lane. He noted that this still remained
49 unresolved. The Selectboard agreed to press forward as they did in the Mobbs case, to obtain
50 compliance with zoning regulations and enforce fines if necessary, through the environmental court.

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2 Mr. Yeates arrived at 7:30 pm.

3
4 Cell Tower Update

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6 The Manager first updated the Selectboard on the Jericho Road proposal from AT&T. There was still
7 no word on if a significant issue had been raised, however, the Department of Public Service had
8 concurred with the town that their zoning was in fact a significant issue that would warrant a
9 proceeding. There was one response to an AT&T briefing that was being prepared by AT&T.

10
11 The Manager then said that what was apparently a pre-filing notice for the Cochran Road tower was
12 received. This would be reviewed for compliance, and recommendation given to the Selectboard for
13 the next meeting.

14
15 Regional Planning Commission Policy Advisory Committee

16
17 The Manager explained that the Regional Planning Commission had asked our new Town Planner to
18 be on the Policy Advisory Committee. They had asked our former Town Planner also, but some
19 questions arose about compensation for this and the planner withdrew her request. The Manager noted
20 that for the past year, there has been almost no participation from Richmond on the Regional Planning
21 Commission and it would be nice to have at least one representative from town involved.

22
23 Mary Houle said she had been the town's representative to the Regional Planning Commission as a
24 volunteer position with no compensation or mileage paid. This wasn't a direction relationship with the
25 Town Planner's position or her office, but is a representative from the town. Ms. Houle volunteered
26 for this position.

27
28 Mr. Yeates said there was a difference between the town's primary board representative and this PAC
29 position, which met quarterly.

30
31 Ms. Lucht asked why didn't we make this part of the job description? The Manager said that was
32 unnecessary and Ms. Rock was willing to participate. It was just a Selectboard appointment.

33
34 Mr. Hill said that if this met quarterly then he did not see it as demanding of town resources.

35
36 Mr. Hill offered a motion to approve the appointment of Clare Rock to the Regional Planning
37 Commission's Policy Advisory Committee and was seconded by Mr. Sander. The motion carried 4-0.

38
39 Reports from Selectboard and Town Manager

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41 The Manager noted the department and financial reports. The Manager reported on the 4th of July
42 festivities and the need for additional volunteers. It was mentioned that perhaps any high school
43 students that needed community service hours could help.

44
45 The Manager noted that Route 2 paving was happening today and the Park and Ride was wrapping up
46 as well. Traffic would be difficult this week, but much better when the work was done. The Manager
47 said that he had shared the online link to the final Route 2 Bike and Pedestrian study with the
48 Selectboard, and a full presentation would be provided on July 7th by Broadreach Consulting.

49
50 Approval of Minutes

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2 Mr. Yeates offered a motion to approve the minutes of May 19, 2014 and June 2, 2014 and was
3 seconded by Mr. Hill. The motion carried 4-0.

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5 Warrants

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7 Mr. Hill noted that there seemed to be a significant amount of supplies being spent by the Police
8 Department. The warrants were otherwise approved and signed.

9
10 Consent Agenda

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12 Mr. Sander offered motion to approve the Consent Agenda and was seconded by Mr. Yeates.

13
14 The Manager explained that the Computer Aided Mass Appraisal (CAMA) system was leased from
15 the State of Vermont, using the Marshal Swift Cost Tables. This was done every year and an industry
16 standard.

17
18 The Manager also explained that 190 Durand Road had a new access. The owner of 190 Durand Road
19 was also present to answer questions.

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21 The motion carried 4-0.

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23 Mr. Hill said he had heard a complaint about the Tax Appeal process from a resident and wanted this
24 addressed. There was discussion as to whether or not this was Executive Session material. The
25 Manager said that he was aware of this complaint and offered to investigate and report back, and it
26 could be further discussed at the next meeting.

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28 Mary Houle said that the grievances themselves were not private, and members of the public could sit
29 in and listen.

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31 Mr. Yeates noted that this was not personnel or contraction negotiation materials and said the Manager
32 should investigate and report.

33
34 **3. Adjourn**

35 Motion by Mr. Sander to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. Seconded by Mr. Hill. So voted.