

**RICHMOND WATER AND SEWER
COMMISSION MEETING
October 5, 2015 MINUTES**

Members Present: David Sander, Vice Chair; Lincoln Bressor (arrived 5:40); Bruce Bailey; Robert Fischer

Members Absent: Bard Hill

Others Present: Geoffrey Urbanik, Town Manager; Kendall Chamberlin, Water Resources; Alan Huizenga, Green Mountain Engineering; Chris Fischer; Sheila Bailey; Cara LaBounty; Bruce LaBounty; and Ruth Miller was present from MMCTV to tape the meeting.

Mr. Sander called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

Welcome and Public Comment

Mr. Sander asked if there was any public comment, but there was none.

Water Storage Tank Update

The Manager asked Mr. Huizenga to report. Mr. Huizenga said that the final corner was poured today, leaving just the front section and the roof to complete. Last week the contractor had a form fail, leading to collapse of the pour. This was corrected by the contractor and Green Mountain Engineering was verifying their repair. The concrete on the inside had been removed and it appears that the wall bonded correctly. A progress meeting was scheduled for this Wednesday morning. There was some discussion by the board on the failed form.

East Main Street

The Manager had no significant news to report on this project.

West Main Street

The Manager reported that beyond the survey, there was no news. He had spoken to Mr. Clark about the survey, who reported only a few more surveys had been returned. The Manager said that the park owner was sending a clarifying letter out to residents to try and lay to rest some of the rumors about the project. Cara LaBounty had provided a copy of that letter for the board.

Mr. Bressor said that this survey had gone on too long, and asked when would be call it the end? Mr. Sander said that the system has invested too much money to just call it quits now, until the owner's letter was distributed. Mr. Bressor wanted to know why it had taken so long to get this letter out, and it should have been done in the beginning.

Mr. Bailey said he didn't want to invest any more into this project before the survey results were known. The Manager said that we hadn't spent money on this in several months, but contracts were in place that committed the town to additional funds should the project move forward. Mr. Huizenga acknowledged this and said that he knew the commission didn't want additional work done unless the project was clear to move forward.

The board discussed and agreed to a new deadline for survey results of November 2nd. Mr. Bressor wanted to know how long was the survey valid for and when would it become necessary to start over.

1 Mr. Chamberlin asked if any negotiations were considered with other customers besides the mobile
2 home park. There was some discussion on this, but nothing formal had been initiated.

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4 Superintendent's Report

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6 Mr. Chamberlin reported that the letter on pressure valves had gone out, and he and his staff have
7 fielded a number of calls and investigations on whether people had these installed or not. He said
8 most people should have them installed before the tank came on line but for most people the
9 pressure may not be an issue.

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11 Mr. Chamberlin also reported that there were a number of old service lines made of galvanized steel
12 that were failing, and folks should replace them. There were some on East Main, and those should
13 be replaced by homeowners when that project is completed. He would make an awareness push this
14 Winter.

15
16 Mr. Chamberlin reported that septage intake was good, and that the brewery had one month of
17 testing submitted, which would be discussed later on the agenda.

18
19 Mr. Chamberlin said that the private septic on Browns Court had not complied with orders to abate,
20 and he felt that the State wastewater division should be notified. He felt that the town might be
21 pressured by the State as well to take action to enforce its ordinances.

22
23 There was some discussion about fines and collection. Mr. Chamberlin thought the State might also
24 have separate fines. Additional discussion on how this might be abated without connecting, such as
25 discontinuing or disconnecting the bathroom was discussed. It was agreed that correspondence
26 should go out to the homeowner.

27
28 Stone Corral Loading

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30 Mr. Chamberlin said that the first quarter of Stone Corral's effluent had been measured. He had
31 prepared a sample of how he felt that the billing should be handled, and presented it to the board. He
32 had modeled this after Middlebury's wastewater billing – they have Otter Creek brewing and
33 Woodchuck Cider and dealt with this same issue.

34
35 Mr. Bressor asked how much extra work would this generate for the office to prepare. Mr.
36 Chamberlin said this was the same as a normal septage bill. These are issued monthly by the
37 department and the finance office. The water bill would be the same as it is now.

38
39 There was quite a bit of discussion on the style and format of the bill, as well as the theory on how it
40 was calculated. Mr. Chamberlin asked for board approval of the format of the bill, but not the content
41 or calculation.

42
43 Mr. Bressor offered a motion to approve the billing format for Stone Corral's wastewater, and was
44 seconded by Mr. Bailey. After a short discussion, Mr. Bressor withdrew his motion since the bill was
45 not set and Mr. Chamberlin intended to discuss this with Mr. Hamilton, owner of Stone Corral. The
46 commissioners generally consented to the format as presented.

47
48 Next Agenda

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50 The board agreed that the next agenda should include reports on the three large projects: Water
51 Storage Tank, East Main and West Main; an update on the income survey; the allocation ordinance;
52 and an update on the Saks sewer connection in addition to the Superintendent's report along with
53 minutes and warrants.

54

1 **Adjourn**

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3 Mr. Bressor offered a motion to adjourn at 6:25 pm and was seconded by Mr. Fischer. So voted.

DRAFT