

**RICHMOND SELECTBOARD
REGULAR MEETING
February 29, 2016 MINUTES**

Members Present: David Sander; Ellen Kane (arrived 6:10); Bard Hill; Taylor Yeates;
Lincoln Bressor

Absent: None

Others Present: Geoffrey Urbanik, Town Manager; members of the audience; and Ruth Miller was present to videotape the meeting for MMCTV Channel 15.

David Sander called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. This was the annual pre-town meeting and East Main Information session, held at Camels Hump Middle School.

1. Welcome and Public Comment

Mr. Sander asked if there were any comments from the public, but there were none.

2. Executive Session

Mr. Sander explained that we required an executive session to discuss an interim town manager. Mr. Hill offered a motion to enter an executive session at 6:00 PM and was seconded by Mr. Bressor and the motion carried 4-0.

At 6:40 PM, Mr. Hill offered a motion to adjourn the executive session and reconvene the regular session, and was seconded by Mr. Bressor. The motion carried 5-0.

3. Fy2017 Budget Presentation and Information Session for East Main Street Bond

The Manager provided an overview of the proposed FY2017 budget and an information session on East Main Street. The Manager noted that this presentation was also on the town's website for people to view outside of the meeting and in the town's Annual Report.

Budget highlights:

	Dollars (\$)	Percent %	Est. Tax Impact
Administration Operations	\$ 14,779	2.71%	0.0033
Lister Operations	\$ (1,400)	-5.01%	(0.0003)
Planning/Zoning Operations	\$ (14,340)	-12.39%	(0.0032)
Police Operations	\$ 56,836	13.00%	0.0127
Library Operations	\$ 11,239	6.41%	0.0025
Fire Operations	\$ 13,650	24.50%	0.0030
Appropriations	\$ 600	0.63%	0.0001
Highway Operations	\$ 17,836	1.63%	0.0040
Recreation Operations	\$ (200)	-0.26%	(0.0000)
	Dollars (\$)	Percent %	Est. Tax Impact
Administration Capital & Debt	\$ -	0.00%	0.0000

Police Capital & Debt	\$ (1,959)	0.00%	(0.0004)
Fire Capital & Debt	\$ 6,087	5.87%	0.0014
Recreation Capital & Debt	\$ -	0.00%	0.0000
Library Capital & Debt	\$ -	0.00%	0.0000
Highway Capital & Debt	\$ 11,062	4.31%	0.0025
Non-tax Revenues	\$ 37,480	9.62%	(0.0084)
Grand List adjustment	\$ 7,418		(0.0017)
		Cents=	0.0154

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2 General Fund Spending = \$1,856,458; up \$85,291 or 4.82%
3 Highway Fund Spending = \$1,602,633; up \$28,898 or 1.84%

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5 Taxation = \$3,011,092; up \$76,079 or 2.44%

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7 East Main Street

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9 • **In 1998 the town began a design plan for walkability and streetscape improvements that**
10 **included sidewalks, parking and a “green belt” between them**
11 • **Ten years later, in 2008, a Pedestrian Feasibility Report again called for a five-foot**
12 **sidewalk, a 6 foot greenbelt, granite curbing and parking on East Main Street**
13 • **The 2008 study was also the basis for the sidewalks and curbs on Jericho Road**
14 • **Our East Main Street proposal is to replace worn out asphalt sidewalks with new**
15 **concrete sidewalks and granite curbing**
16 • **We will also improve storm water crossings beneath the road, and add some catch basins**
17 • **The total cost for this proposal, including construction management, is \$650,000**
18 • **Over 20 years with an estimated 5% interest rate, the annual payment would be around**
19 **\$53,000 per year**
20 • **For comparison, Jericho Road’s street improvements cost \$900,000 but included ledge**
21 **removal and paving**
22 • **Following the East Main water line replacement, the existing walkways will be destroyed**
23 **and an unsafe condition will exist**
24 • **At \$650,000 we will get a safer, walkable East Main Street with better storm water**
25 **management**
26 • **We will get some additional parking near the business district**

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28 There were some questions and answers about certain lines. The focus of the town’s tax increase was
29 personnel related, primarily salary changes in Police and Highway. There was some light discussion,
30 and Mr. Sander said that the information session and budget presentation were concluded and the
31 Selectboard moved on to the next item.

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33 **4. Other Business**

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35 Town Center Meeting Room Policy

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37 The Manager explained that the current policy for use of the Town Center Meeting Room was flawed,
38 restrictive, and not being used. It currently prohibited any groups other than town committees and the
39 occasional regional group. He had amended the policy to allow for a variety of groups to use it, giving
40 priority and bumping rights to town committees.

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42 Mr. Yeates offered a motion to approve the amendments to the Town Center Meeting Room policy
43 and was seconded by Mr. Bressor. The motion carried 5-0.

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Use of Town Center Rental Space

The Manager explained that the Chittenden East Supervisory Union offices were planning on moving out of the Town Center building in August. They were a good tenant, paying about \$37,000 annually into the Town Center fund. The Selectboard should have a discussion on how to use the space and whether or not to renovate it. He noted that some non-rent tenants may be interested.

The Selectboard discussed the issue but decided that a discussion at Town Meeting was not in order, and they would take this topic up during regular Selectboard meetings.

Reports from Selectboard and Town Manager

There were no significant reports.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Hill offered a motion to approve the minutes of February 16, 2016 and was seconded by Mr. Bressor, and the motion carried 5-0.

Award of Police Cruiser Bid

The Manager explained that on February 9th he posted the ad for sale of our police cruiser (2012 Chevrolet Caprice) on VLCT and the Richmond website (both free). By 4:00 PM on February 25th, he received three bids:

Richmond Rescue = \$10.00
Mann & Machine = \$659.00
Yousef Dabbagh = \$3,868.00

He recommended we award the bid to Yousef Dabbagh for \$3,868.

Mr. Bressor offered a motion to award the bid to Yousef Dabbagh for \$3,868 and was seconded by Mr. Hill, and the motion carried 5-0.

There was some discussion about upcoming agendas.

5. Adjourn

Motion by Mr. Hill to adjourn the meeting at 7:17 p.m. Seconded by Mr. Bressor. So voted.