

Selectboard Minutes 4-15-19- DRAFT

Called to Order 7pm

Present: Bard Hill, David Sander, Roger Brown, Katie Mather, Josh Arneson, Jessica Draper, Mary Houle, Fran Thomas, Jennifer Snow, Rick Greenough, Larry Muldoon, Pete Gosselin, Steve Bower, Lisa Curtis, Stephanie Choate, Judy Rosovsky

Public Comment: Mary Houle stated that she would be taking over planting at the town center, because she did not approve of the landscaping that had been done last year. The selectboard thanked her for her offer and asked her to coordinate with Josh about that.

Richmond Historical Society Bench: Fran Thomas asked the selectboard to approve the installation and location of a memorial bench at the Round Church in memory of Tim Whiteford. Roger Brown moved to approve the request. Seconded by Bard Hill. All were in favor, so moved.

Highway Summer Work Plan: Pete Gosselin presented his Spring through Fall work plan for 2019. He explained that after some incidences last year, certain highway work was delayed until this upcoming season. He also requested approval for the Class 2 Roadways Grant and the Highway Structures Grant. The selectboard also had before them an access permit for approval. Roger Brown moved to approve the access permit Seconded by Bard Hill. All were in favor, so moved. Mary Houle asked about the discrepancy between owner versus applicant. Pete and Jessica explained that it is common for a contractor or land tenant to apply for a permit and require a separate landowner signature. Roger Brown moved to approve both grants and make Pete Gosselin the grant manager for both. Seconded by Bard Hill. All were in favor, so moved.

EVSE Grant: Steve Bower asked if there were any final questions regarding the grant application. There were no further questions and the selectboard thanked Steve for his effort. Bard Hill moved to approve the municipal resolution. Seconded by Roger Brown. All were in favor, so moved. Roger Brown moved to approve the grant application and make Josh Arneson the grant manager. Seconded by Bard Hill. All were in favor, so moved.

Police Communications: Chief Muldoon asked for input regarding the dissemination of police activity and statistics. After a brief discussion of our existing methods of communication, town website, facebook, and front porch forum, it was determined that all three would be used as a means of communicating statistics as well as public relations information.

Park Ordinance: Stephanie Choate was present to request another year of amendment to the ordinance to allow two alcohol vendors at the Farmers Market. Discussion ensued about what vendors they accept at the market, and issues surrounding alcohol and consumption. Stephanie clarified that the samples are state regulated and the containers that are sold are not allowed to be consumed on the premises. There was disagreement among members of the audience

about whether the amendment to the ordinance should sunset after one year or be permanent. Roger Brown moved to amend the ordinance to allow for up to two alcohol vendors at the farmers market to provide samples and sell closed containers. Seconded by Bard Hill. All were in favor, so moved. Josh explained that he would work on starting the public hearing process for the proposed change.

Outdoor Consumption Permit Amendment: Gabe Firman explained that he was intending to expand his outdoor consumption permit to include the space in front of Sweet Simone's and possible David Sunshine's as well as Hatchet. It was noted that the Town Clerk was able to approve the request, but Gabe wanted to inform the selectboard of his intentions. Josh explained that the zoning portion of the outdoor seating was being handled with the Zoning Administrator.

Banners: Lisa Curtis from the WSBA presented a proposal for hanging banners on Bridge Street similarly to how the flags are hung every year. She explained that Radiate Art's team designed the banners, and Green Mountain Power approved the installation. It was noted that the banners are about 1 foot by 3 feet and there would be about a dozen of them. Roger Brown moved to approve the proposal. Seconded by Katie Mather. All were in favor, so moved.

Conservation Fund for Rip Rap: Discussion on this topic was moved to the next meeting agenda.

LEMP Approval: Bard Hill moved to approve the Local Emergency Operations Plan as presented. Seconded by Roger Brown. All were in favor, so moved.

Road Name: Bard Hill moved to approve the road name request for LaBounty Lane at 2900 East Main Street. Seconded by Katie Mather. All were in favor, so moved.

Liaisons: The board discussed the pros and cons of having liaisons. Roger Brown wanted to make sure any policy implemented did not preclude selectmen from being able to learn about each department. David Sander said that given our recent history of town manager vacancies for whatever reasons it was a good idea to have back up in those instances. The board agreed to allow staff to draft a policy governing the purpose and practice of liaisons.

Municipal Calendar: The board requested that each draft of the calendar have a version date. Mary Houle stated that there needs to be a plan for increasing our tax base if wages are going to continue to increase as well as overall budgets. She suggested reviving the Economic Development Committee.

Town Center Building: Katie Mather explained that she was working on a Front Porch Forum post to request for members of the committee.

Appointment Process: Josh reminded everyone that letters of interest are due by April 26th for open seats.

Ordinances and Policies: Josh announced that his assistant Kelley had left the Town of Richmond, and that until a new administrative assistant is hired there will be a lull in the posting of policies and ordinances online.

Rescue Statistics: No comment

Traffic Light: Josh explained that the state and CCRPC had come back to him saying they weren't willing to entertain any changes to the traffic signal at this time. There was brief discussion of police intervention and other mechanisms of traffic management in the meantime.

Kids to Parks Day: Bard Hill moved to declare May 18th 2019 Kids to Parks Day in Richmond. Seconded by Katie Mather. All were in favor, so moved.

Minutes: Roger Brown moved to approve the minutes of 4/1/19. Seconded by Bard Hill. All were in favor, so moved.

Warrants and POs: Bard Hill moved to approve Purchase Order 3712 for Green Mountain Engineering for \$15,000. Seconded by Roger Brown. All were in favor, so moved.

Bard Hill moved to approve Purchase Order 3710 for Richmond Rescue for the Quarter 4 appropriation for \$18,200. Seconded by Roger Brown. All were in favor, so moved.

The board members and public commented on the tragic loss of Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris that evening.

Executive Session:

Bard Hill moved to find that premature public knowledge about the appointment or employment or evaluation of a public officer or employee would cause the Town or person to suffer a substantial disadvantage. Seconded by Katie Mather. All were in favor. So moved.

Bard Hill moved that they enter into executive session to discuss the appointment or employment or evaluation of a public officer or employee under the provisions of 1 VSA 313(a)(3) of the Vermont State Statutes and to invite the town manager Josh Arneson into the executive session. Seconded by Roger Brown. All were in favor. So moved.

The selectboard entered executive session at 8:45pm. Roger Brown moved to exit executive session at 9:30pm. Seconded by Bard Hill. All were in favor, so moved.

Roger Brown moved to adjourn. Seconded by Bard Hill. All were in favor. Adjourned 9:31pm.