

**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**  
**A u g u s t   4 ,   2 0 1 4   M I N U T E S**

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Members Present: Taylor Yeates; Chris Granda; Bard Hill; Ashley Lucht; David Sander  
Absent: None  
Others Present: Geoffrey Urbanik, Town Manager; Mary Houle; Maureen Kangley; and Ruth Miller was present to videotape the meeting for MMCTV Channel 15.

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Taylor Yeates called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

**1. Welcome and Public Comment**

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

**2. Other Business**

Cell Tower Update

The Manager provided an update on the SBA/VTel project and said that final briefs were filed and we were to wait for a decision. There was no movement on either the Jericho Road project or the Cochran Road project. The town has supported definitions of “Substantial Deference” and “Good Cause” developed by VLCT and the Manager hoped that other towns would get on board with supporting these as well.

Recreation Committee

The Manager explained that Jan Spence of Browns Court had submitted a letter of interest to be appointed to the Recreation Committee. The Manager said that no other interest had been received for the two vacant positions since earlier in the year and it was likely that the discussion of the tennis courts were a motivating factor for Ms. Spence. The Manager listed off Ms. Spence’s qualifications as she provided in her letter.

Ms. Lucht offered a motion to appoint Ms. Spence to a vacancy on the Recreation Commission expiring in 2015 and was seconded by Mr. Granda and the motion carried 5-0.

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Updates

The Manager explained that Cara LaBounty had worked hard to complete over 30 applications for the elevation program for both Bolton and Richmond. Today Richmond submitted their applications to the State. This was an important program because elevating a house that is in the Special Flood Hazard Area to above the base flood elevation would cause it to have lower flood insurance rates. Many of the homes that were interested in this program had flooding during Irene.

Mr. Granda asked how the new maps would affect these properties. The Manager said that the new maps had a higher base flood elevation than what we saw in Irene. Elevating these homes above the new BFE would be above the Irene flood level. Some other homes that weren’t flooded in Irene would now be in the Special Flood Hazard Area, which was just a statistical probability line.

1  
2 The Manager noted that the demolition bid for the buyout property was now open.

3  
4 Mary Houle spoke of the Biggert Waters Act of 2012 which would increase flood insurance rates.

5  
6 Chittenden Unit on Special Investigations (CUSI) Contract

7  
8 The Manager explained that the town was a participant in this regional special investigations task force  
9 that dealt mainly with sex crimes and crimes against children. Some towns provided staffing and  
10 others, like Richmond, provided funding.

11  
12 Ms. Lucht noted that the copy of the contract provided was only copied on every other page. She also  
13 noted there was a three-year proposal but no annual budget requests were included.

14  
15 Mr. Yeates said that we would agree to participate but the annual cost request couldn't be predicted for  
16 all three years.

17  
18 There was some discussion. The Selectboard requested an annual report or successful prosecution  
19 statistics for the next meeting.

20  
21 Baker Street Block Party

22  
23 The Manager noted there was a request to close Baker Street for a block party. This had been done  
24 last year as well.

25  
26 Mr. Yeates noted the dates were September 20<sup>th</sup> with a rain date of September 27<sup>th</sup> from 2:30 to 8:30  
27 pm.

28  
29 Ms. Lucht offered a motion to approve the street closure request for a block party on Baker Street for  
30 September 20<sup>th</sup> or September 27<sup>th</sup> from 2:30 pm to 8:30 pm and was seconded by Mr. Sander and the  
31 motion carried 4-0-1 with Mr. Hill abstaining.

32  
33 Reports from Selectboard and Town Manager

34  
35 Economic Development

36  
37 The Manager said that he, Mr. Hill and Mr. Granda had met with Bruce Seifer, the former Economic  
38 Development Coordinator for the City of Burlington. They discussed strategies and ideas for moving  
39 things forward with the Creamery. One of the suggestions was to engage directly with the landowner.  
40 Mr. Hill said that it was important to link health and safety issues together and have strategies to deal  
41 with vacant buildings moving forward. Mr. Granda noted that railroad ties along the tracks also  
42 needed to get cleaned up since they were an environmental hazard. There was discussion.

43  
44 Mary Houle suggested the police regularly patrol the creamery.

45  
46 Mr. Hill said that one advantage Burlington had that we did not was code enforcement personnel. Mr.  
47 Sander suggested the State Fire Marshal could get involved.

48  
49 Ms. Lucht said that if we had an ordinance we would need to identify someone who can make those  
50 judgments otherwise everyone would have different opinions on what is safe and secure.

1  
2 It was agreed that the State Fire Marshal would be consulted for advice on this, and the creamery in  
3 particular.

4  
5 The Manager noted the Police report and said that the end of year financials for Richmond Rescue  
6 were unavailable due to revisions.

7  
8 The Manager noted that there was a failing septic issue in Greystone which might require Board of  
9 Health action. The Health Officer, Wright Preston, was in contact with the owner of the septic and  
10 said that repairs would be coming, however, he wanted the Board of Health (Selectboard) to be aware  
11 of the issue, since the leach field was on a neighboring property.

### 12 13 Deborah Mobbs and Well

14  
15 The Manager updated the Selectboard on the Mobbs well at 1961 Kenyon Road. The Manager was  
16 told on July 23<sup>rd</sup> by Dan Mobbs that he was able to remove the well pump and that it was filled with  
17 mud. Mr. Mobbs again said that the casing was collapsed. He was going to ask the Manager to visit  
18 later, but never called back. The Manager said he called on July 24<sup>th</sup> and July 25<sup>th</sup> but left messages  
19 and got no return call. On July 25<sup>th</sup> he and Mr. Sander visited the property but no one was home.  
20 They observed the well and saw some wires but it could not be determined if the well was functioning  
21 or not. The casing observed was steel and there appeared to be no damage above ground. They also  
22 observed that Pete Gosselin had graded the road and put down chloride for dust control but there was  
23 some erosion on the driveway apron that should be corrected. More follow up was needed and the  
24 Manager said that they may have to have someone inspect the casing to determine if it was damaged  
25 or from the road.

26  
27 Mr. Sander agreed and said that the driveway issue was easily fixed. There was some discussion by  
28 the Selectboard. It was agreed that this situation would be monitored.

29  
30 Mr. Yeates said he reviewed the warrants with no changes necessary. Warrants were approved.

### 31 32 Approval of Minutes

33  
34 Mr. Sander offered a motion to approve the minutes of July 21, 2014 and was seconded by Mr. Hill  
35 and the motion carried 5-0.

### 36 37 Purchase Orders

38  
39 The Manager explained that there were several purchase orders. Earlier in the Summer, the  
40 Selectboard had approved PO 2387 to Hinesburg Sand and Gravel for the FY15 gravel plan, but  
41 Highway Foreman Peter Gosselin wanted to modify this and reduce it, to allow for purchase of road  
42 fabric and trucking. This was PO 2394, reducing PO 2387 from \$234,000 to \$208,350. There was  
43 discussion. Mr. Yeates said he objected to the additional gravel funding for this budget and now it  
44 turns out we could still complete this gravel plan without the additional funds? The Selectboard  
45 debated this issue, and requested that Peter Gosselin provide a written explanation for the reduction in  
46 gravel purchase and the need for trucking.

47  
48 Ms. Lucht offered a motion to approve PO 2394, amending PO 2387 to Hinesburg Sand and Gravel  
49 from \$234,000 to \$208,350. Mr. Hill seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0.  
50

1 Mr. Sander offered a motion to approve PO 2393 to Ferguson Water Works for Road Fabric in the  
2 amount of \$15,621.20 and was seconded by Mr. Hill and the motion carried 5-0.

3  
4 Ms. Lucht offered a motion to approve PO 2396 to Newton Construction for trucking in the amount of  
5 \$9,938.52 and PO 2397 to Newton Construction for tri-axle trucking in the amount of \$12,000 and  
6 was seconded by Mr. Granda. The motion carried 5-0.

7  
8 Right of Way Permit 14-097

9  
10 The Manager explained that Green Mountain Power was asked by the State to bury the power lines on  
11 Johnnie Brook Road beneath the Interstate, therefore this permit would allow them to do that. It  
12 should be noted that this was within the Interstate Right of Way also.

13  
14 Ms. Lucht offered a motion to approve ROW Permit 14-097 to Green Mountain Power for work on  
15 Johnnie Brook Road and was seconded by Mr. Sander and the motion carried 5-0.

16  
17 Executive Session

18  
19 Ms. Lucht offered a motion to enter executive session to discuss personnel matters (Town Manager  
20 evaluation) at 8:15 pm and was seconded by Mr. Sander.

21  
22 Maureen Kangley said that the Public Service Board wasn't public and they treat citizens of Vermont  
23 shabbily. She objected to the Gaz Metro deal with Vermont Gas in Addison County.

24  
25 The motion carried 5-0.

26  
27 Mr. Hill offered a motion to adjourn the executive session and reconvene the regular session at 8:55  
28 pm and was seconded by Mr. Sander. The motion carried 5-0.

29  
30 Mr. Granda offered a motion to approve a salary Cost of Living Adjustment for the Town Manager,  
31 retroactive to July 1<sup>st</sup>, at 2.1% according to the CPI-U. Mr. Hill seconded the motion and the motion  
32 carried 5-0.

33  
34 **3. Adjourn**

35 Motion by Ms. Lucht to adjourn the meeting at 8:57 p.m. Seconded by Mr. Granda. So voted.