

**RICHMOND WATER AND SEWER
COMMISSION MEETING
December 21, 2015 MINUTES**

Members Present: Bard Hill, Chair; David Sander, Vice Chair; Lincoln Bressor; Bruce Bailey

Members Absent: Robert Fischer

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

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

Welcome and Public Comment

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

Water Storage Tank Update

Alan Huizenga of GME reported that the contractor is about two weeks behind schedule due to the difficulty of the concrete pours, especially with the roof. However, remaining work is progressing nicely and they expect to begin filling and testing the tank next week. There are no weather concerns for the next two weeks and the structural engineer will be on sight to review a hairline crack in the roof. The tank is expected to come online in January.

Mr. Huizenga said the color might be applied soon and asked if the color selection was still Yosemite Brown. There was some discussion. Mr. Chamberlin urged a gray color. The board conferred and agreed that the gray would look better with the wall that was being installed at the road.

There was some discussion about pressure reducing valves. Mr. Chamberlin said we did two direct mailings, front porch forum notices and MMCTV reported it as well – in addition to our public discussions. He felt that people have had adequate notice to prepare.

East Main Street

The Manager noted that the permit to construct had been submitted to the state, and the payment for the application was pending on tonight’s warrant. The streetscape numbers were being finalized by Green Mountain Engineering for possible warning as an item for Town Meeting.

Mr. Chamberlin said that we needed to do both the surface work and subsurface work at the same time to avoid duplicate surface restoration costs. Some of the surface work under the streetscape could be covered under the negative interest loan if done at the same time.

West Main Street

The Manager reported that he had received information from Tom Clark that he now needed 17 more surveys, however, he did provide a list of names that had not yet responded. This would make a targeted survey campaign possible.

Mr. Hill said we need a rescue plan for this survey. The Manager said he and Cara LaBounty could go door to door, now that a list was in hand.

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2 Mr. Bressor said at the meeting held at the park, a lot of vitriol was heard about the owner and maybe
3 some residents didn't want to help.
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5 Mr. Hill said we can't reasonably conclude the survey now and we need to knock on doors.
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7 There was discussion on the length of time this survey was taking, the obstacles faced and the work
8 level involved.
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10 Mr. Bressor wanted to know the survey results before we proceeded. The Manager said that we'd
11 know before we submitted an application what the results were and what we'd qualify for. There was
12 some additional discussion on this before the board moved on to the next item.
13

14 15 FY2017 Budget – First draft 16

17 The Manager explained that the budget had been modified in response to Mr. Chamberlin's concerns
18 about capital and reserve funding. Mr. Chamberlin had also provided a list of capital goals and how
19 these would be funded by modest rate increases over time. His reserve goals were \$300,000 for
20 water and \$1,000,000 for sewer – these had been discussed in 2006. These were based on asset
21 replacements but if we don't adjust rates year after year, we won't meet these goals and we'll be
22 forced at some point to dramatically adjust.
23

24 Mr. Hill said we'd like to see a near-term improvement plan. There was discussion on this, and a
25 three-year funding plan for the treatment plant. Mr. Chamberlin had already laid the basis in his other
26 documents to the board.
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28 Further development of these ideas would take place at the next meeting.
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30 Approval of Warrants 31

32 The warrant was reviewed and approved.
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34 Approval of Minutes 35

36 Mr. Bailey offered a motion to approve the minutes of November 23, 2015 and was seconded by Mr.
37 Bressor and the motion carried 4-0.
38

39 Mr. Sander offered a motion to approve the minutes of December 7, 2015 and was seconded by Mr.
40 Bailey and the motion carried 4-0.
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42 Next Agenda 43

44 Mr. Hill said we'd again talk about the three projects, but spend more time on the budget and the
45 Saks sewer issue.
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47 Adjourn 48

49 Mr. Bailey offered a motion to adjourn at 6:55 pm and was seconded by Mr. Bressor. So voted.