

**RICHMOND WATER AND SEWER
COMMISSION MEETING
September 6, 2016 MINUTES**

Members Present: Bard Hill, Chair; David Sander; Lincoln Bressor; Fran Huntoon; Bob Reap

Members Absent: None

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

Mr. Hill called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Welcome and Public Comment

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

East Main Street Update

Mr. Huizenga explained that the work last week resulted in a water break in the main intersection at Route 2 and Jericho Road. Apparently, an old line with a “tee” on it had been capped loosely and excavations near the pipe loosened the soil and allowed the cap to come off, filling the trench with water in just a few seconds. Water was out on the Bridge Street business block for about 6 hours while repairs were made, but all other areas continued to have water service.

On the lines already installed, the north side was connected and the south side is pending bacteria tests, which had not been successful. That meant a flush and chlorinate, and retest program. There were several more days yet for the intersection work to be complete.

Some discussion on the Pleasant Street project was had, although a meeting the next day with the contractor and State would provide more guidance on how well the town was able to complete this project.

West Main Street

The Manager drafted an example commitment letter, with an introduction. The introduction is key and the Manager want to avoid being wordy but it has been 1.5 years since the study was done and people may have a cloudy memory about certain details. The Manager felt there needed to be a full schedule – should we include everyone’s proposed connection fee, or just stick to the subject property? Other towns have either had a uniform flat fee or some other calculation available at the time of the letter.

Green Mountain Engineering had updated the bonding costs, but we still needed to refer to the existing study to determine the connection fees, which had been originally estimated as current connection fees for current uses. The rates and connection fees were critical to moving forward with this project.

Mr. Hill said it was important to individualize each letter. Rates beyond current usage rates should be developed. There was discussion on how to gauge interest from the mobile home park owner.

1 Ms. Huntoon asked if the individual mobile home residents would have to pay? The Manager said we
2 wouldn't be metering each home, but the mobile home owner would hold a master account. Mr. Hill
3 said that the interior would be up to the park owner, but he was limited by law in how much he could
4 increase fees and rent. He would not be able to impose a new fee to each resident to cover all of his
5 costs.

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7 The board asked if this letter should be binding at this time? What does USDA require? This was an
8 important issue and the Manager was directed to get these questions answered.

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10 Superintendent Report

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12 Mr. Chamberlin reported that the work on the valves for Pleasant Street was important, and allowed
13 him to keep water to the lower part of town by isolating the break area last week. He advocated for
14 Pleasant Street replacement, since only doing ½ the line was not solving all problems the line had.

15
16 Mr. Chamberlin also reported that they had excavated an old "pump log," which was a wooden water
17 pipe. These were common for many years and this one was in great shape, although not in service
18 at the time it was found. He planned on preserving and displaying the log somehow.

19
20 Mr. Chamberlin also reported there was some issue with the septage pump and anoxic mixer, which
21 would be taken care of.

22
23 Water Allocation – 524 Bridge Street

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25 The Manager explained that the home at 524 Bridge Street had been approved and built (some time
26 ago) as a 3-bedroom home, and had 450 gpd of water allocation. Since then, a 4th bedroom was
27 added without additional allocation, and now the new owners wanted a 5th bedroom. This allocation
28 was for an additional 300 gpd, and they had paid the required fees.

29
30 Mr. Bressor offered a motion to approve the water application for Senick at 524 Bridge Street for an
31 additional 300 gpd of water (750 gpd total) and was seconded by Mr. Sander, and the motion carried
32 5-0.

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34 Warrants

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36 The warrants were reviewed and approved.

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38 Next Agenda: East Main; West Main; rip-rap update.

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40 Adjourn

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