

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
F e b r u a r y 1 , 2 0 1 6 M I N U T E S

Members Present: David Sander; Ellen Kane; Bard Hill; Taylor Yeates (arrived 8:15 pm)

Absent: Lincoln Bressor

Others Present: Geoffrey Urbanik, Town Manager; Mary Houle; Steve May; Bruce Bailey, Sheila Bailey; and Ruth Miller was present to videotape the meeting for MMCTV Channel 15.

David Sander called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

1. Welcome and Public Comment

Mr. Sander asked to add an access permit for Moultroup to section III of the agenda, and the Selectboard agreed.

Mr. Sander asked if there were any comments from the public.

Mary Houle asked if the road foreman, and any other employees, get a 1099 form from the town for personal use of the vehicle.

The Manager said that the Highway Foreman, Police Chief and Water Resources Superintendent all had personal use of vehicles, but the town did not collect an imputed income tax for personal use. It was his understanding that if the vehicles for substantially for work related use and they were expected to use the vehicles to respond to emergencies then imputed income tax was not due.

2. Discussion of Items with Those Present

Parking at Volunteers Green

Jack Linn, owner of the building housing the restaurant beside Volunteers Green (formerly the bakery) and Harland Stockwell, the longtime chair of the Recreation Commission, were present to discuss parking issues at Volunteers Green.

The Manager began by explaining that Volunteers Green is heavily utilized, with various recreation, youth sports and the Farmers Market and at times parking is overfull. The parking lot is partially private, but operates as a shared lot between the restaurant building and the park. The Manager estimated it was about a 60% public, 40% private lot with about 40 spaces total. Parking was also available at the soccer fields at the back of the park, but that lot too was full at certain times. The restaurant has trouble when the lots are full because customers have no place to park.

Jack Linn said that he wanted to be able to share the parking but didn't want park use to dominate it. He felt that parking should be allowed along the access road to the back, and that the Farmers Market should be located at the back of the park also. He pointed out that many people come into the restaurant to use the bathroom without buying anything. He said that the business pays \$15,000 to the town in taxes and water costs and that the town should try some "non-aggressive" signage to help people understand there is a business there.

1 Harland Stockwell said that he wasn't prepared to talk about the Farmers Market, and no one from the
2 market was there to speak on it. He agreed that the access road needs to be wider, and that the posts
3 could be removed or relocated so that parking could be done along the road, on the fields side and not
4 the house side.

5
6 Mary Houle said that the Farmers Market should be relocated to the back of the park, and there should
7 be designated parking up front for the business.

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9 There was some discussion about parking at the far end of the park, and how that might be improved.
10 The Selectboard agreed that allowing parallel parking along the access road would be a good place to
11 start to address the parking at the front. Mr. Sander said that the Selectboard wanted to develop a
12 "preferred parking" signage for the restaurant along the parking lot adjacent to the building; allow
13 parking on the fields side of the access road by removing the posts, and also rearranging some of the
14 stone boundaries on the soccer field lot to increase capacity in that location.

15
16 Ms. Kane suggested also having a sign pointing to the Depot Street lot and Town Center for additional
17 parking.

18
19 Mr. Linn wanted signage for bathrooms also.

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21 The Selectboard thanked Mr. Linn and Mr. Stockwell for their help.

22 23 **3. Other Business**

24 25 Renewable Energy resolution

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27 The Manager explained that this was a resolution from Rutland, which was being circulated by a
28 variety of other towns, which was essentially a petition to the legislature to amend the regulations
29 concerning Certificate of Public Good for renewable energy project, to allow for more local input into
30 decisions. It was well known that these projects were approved by the Public Service Board, with
31 little to no consideration of a town's zoning. This was true for cell towers and energy projects, and
32 some towns wanted State law to change, to allow more local weight in the decisions.

33
34 Mr. Hill said that he understood the fundamental questions of local control and zoning, however, this
35 resolution appeared to be too general and not represent well what its intentions were.

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37 There was some additional discussion along that train of thought. Ms. Kane felt this should lead to a
38 larger conversation but the resolution in front of them didn't seem to lead to that.

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40 After additional discussion on the merits of the resolution, and whether or not to develop a position
41 statement of their own, Mr. Hill offered a motion to approve the resolution as presented and was
42 seconded by Ms. Kane. The motion failed 0-0-3.

43 44 45 East Main Street Loan Modification

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47 The Manager explained that in 2009 the town obtained a planning loan from the State for certain water
48 project pre-engineering and design. This loan, known as WPL-170, was to be paid off in five years or
49 wrapped into future capital projects. It was being wrapped into the East Main water line project, as a

1 new loan – RF3-335, but this was the first amendment. The final amendment for construction would
2 be coming at a later time.

3
4 Mr. Hill offered a motion to approve the new loan, RF3-335, to roll \$200,260 from WPL-170 into the
5 new loan. Ms. Kane seconded the motion and the motion carried 3-0.

6 7 Town Meeting Preview

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9 The Manager reported that since the schools were merged into the new Mount Mansfield Modified
10 Union school district, they would have their own meeting and not be present at Richmond's Town
11 Meeting on March 1st. The only articles therefore to discuss were the municipal budget and the East
12 Main Street funding question.

13
14 There was some discussion on this, but it was agreed that beyond the presentation of these two items
15 there wasn't much to discuss at this time.

16 17 Reports from Selectboard and Town Manager

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19 Ms. Kane reported that the Economic Development Committee met and recapped the town visioning
20 process. They were working to answer the question of how can the town be more business friendly?
21 They were also considering a business welcome book or information pamphlet. Ms. Kane mentioned
22 that the Buttermilk LLC project application for community development grants was having a hearing
23 in Montpelier on the 11th.

24
25 The Manager mentioned the police report and the works in progress, and provided a construction
26 update including that Greystone Drive was mostly complete, and the new date for activation of the
27 water storage tank is Monday, February 8th.

28 29 Approval of Warrants

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31 The warrants were reviewed and approved.

32 33 Approval of Minutes

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35 Ms. Kane offered a motion to approve the minutes of January 19, 2016 and was seconded by Mr. Hill
36 and the motion carried 3-0.

37 38 Bridge and Road Standards Certificate

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40 The Manager explained that the town had adopted the State's minimum Road and Bridge Standards
41 some years ago, but is required to certify this annually.

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43 Mr. Hill offered a motion to approve the Bridge and Road Standards Certificate and was seconded by
44 Ms. Kane, and the motion carried 3-0.

45 46 Amendment to Fire and Highway Truck Note

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48 The Manager explained that the previous bank note did not include the body package in the amount, so
49 was being amended at the same rate for the higher amount.

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1 Mr. Hill offered a motion to approve a revised bank note amount of \$358,005 with TD Bank for five
2 years for the new Fire Truck and Highway Truck with body. Ms. Kane seconded the motion, and the
3 motion carried 3-0.

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5 Approval of Access Permit

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7 Mr. Hill offered a motion to approve access permit 16-006 for H. Moultroup on Huntington Road and
8 was seconded by Ms. Kane and the motion carried 3-0.

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10 Next Agenda

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12 Mr. Hill requested a budget status for the next agenda, as well as some information on Town Meeting.

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14 **4. Adjourn**

15 Motion by Mr. Hill to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m. Seconded by Ms. Kane. So voted.