

**RICHMOND SELECTBOARD
SPECIAL MEETING
October 6, 2016 MINUTES**

Members Present: Ellen Kane; Bard Hill; Lincoln Bressor; David Sander; Steve May

Absent: None

Others Present: Geoffrey Urbanik, Town Manager; Finance Assistant Connie Bona; Police Chief Alan Buck; Fire Chief Dennis Gile; Assistant Fire Chief Gerald Levesque; Highway Foreman Peter Gosselin; Planner Clare Rock; Library Trustees Kristin Hayden West, Keith Franz; Maureen Kangley; and the meeting was not taped or televised.

Bard Hill called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

1. Welcome and Public Comment

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

2. Budget Discussions

Ms. Kane arrived to chair the meeting. The Manager asked Department Heads to speak about their budget requests with the Selectboard. Highlights include:

No major decisions had been made, including cost-of-living adjustments, staffing changes, health benefits are yet to be determined. The Manager wanted the board to be familiar with the asks, the bottom line isn't as important now as it will be in the coming months. Now we're trying to get familiar with operations and capital requests and decisions can be made in October and November. Revenue figures are still being developed.

Fire

Operations Highlights

- 1) Increased salaries to compensate additional time requirements from both Fire Chief and Assistant Chief
- 2) Increase Public Relations Budget for memberships
- 3) Increase Electricity based on cost history(?)
- 4) Request "Fire Protection" cost, added by Selectboard, be moved to different department or changed to read "Town Water Use"
- 5) Increase station maintenance line for ongoing repairs
- 6) Increase radio repair budget to repair and replace handhelds on a regular basis
- 7) Additional pump & hose testing required
- 8) Place the Richmond Rescue funding under different department

Capital Highlights

- 1) Appropriate additional funds for replacement of turnout, or "bunker" gear (heavy gear worn during firefighting)
- 2) Appropriate additional funds to continue replacement cycle of air packs (SCBA)

Library

Operations Highlights

- 1) Budget not yet provided

1 Capital Highlights

- 2 1) Sign replacement
3 2) Door replacement or reconstruction
4 3) Basement Sealing – this should be discussed as to timeframe
5 4) Ownership and control of building repairs – ongoing issue
6

7 **Police**

8 Operations Highlights

- 9 1) Reduction in hours for SRO with corresponding reduction in revenue
10 2) Police Cruiser line will need to be adjusted

11 Capital Highlights

- 12 1) Mobile Computers for in-car use need to begin to be replaced; possible grant funding
13 2) Police Headquarters – ongoing, but significant issue
14

15 **Highway & Recreation**

16 Operations Highlights

- 17 1) Reduction in diesel fuel planned due to lower fuel costs and reduced consumption from lower
18 highway work plan

19 Capital Highlights

- 20 1) Reduce Gravel line by \$75,000 to reflect work plan
21 2) Increase funding to storm drains and sidewalks to reflect village capital infrastructure needs on
22 Bridge Street
23 3) Sidewalks on East Main planned, to be contracted
24

25 **Clerk & Administration/Planning & Zoning/Assessment**

26 Operations Highlights

- 27 1) Planning – request additional training funds for staff and boards
28 2) Replacement color printer
29 3) Higher match amount through contract services for grants

30 Capital Highlights

- 31 1) Town Center Building repairs - various
32

33 The Selectboard wanted to see how Richmond Rescue was preparing its budget request through a
34 presentation. The board requested how other towns with contracted rescue services showed them in
35 their budgets.

36 There was a discussion about the town continuing to use Waitsfield Telecom, and whether it was
37 worth the cost since less-expensive options may be available. The Manager noted that when he was
38 hired the Selectboard at that time recognized the higher cost of Waitsfield Telecom, but since it was a
39 local company they wanted to give them their business. This was affirmed by comments from
40 Maureen Kangley who said she was a taxpayer and wanted her taxes to pay for local services. Ms.
41 Bona was authorized to prepare additional information on telecommunication costs.

42
43 **3. Adjourn**

44 Motion by Mr. Sander to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 p.m. Seconded by Mr. Bressor. So voted.