

**RICHMOND WATER AND SEWER
COMMISSION MEETING
AUGUST 7, 2017 MINUTES**

Members Present: Fran Huntoon; Bard Hill; David Sander; Lincoln Bressor

Members Absent: Bob Reap

Others Present: Geoffrey Urbanik, Town Manager; Kendall Chamberlin, Water Resources; Rod West; and Ruth Miller was present from MMCTV to tape the meeting.

Ms. Huntoon called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Welcome and Public Comment

Ms. Huntoon asked for any public comment but there was none.

Bridge Street/Jolina Court/Railroad Street utility work

Mr. Chamberlin explained the nature of the work, and that the system intended to use Buttermilk’s contractor, Salvas, to do the work. To that end, Mr. Chamberlin presented a purchase order for that work. This would be \$17,000 in materials, and \$22,000 in labor. Mr. Bressor offered a motion to approve purchase order #3361 to Salvas for the water and sewer utility work in the Right of Way in the amount of \$44,000. Mr. Hill seconded the motion, and the motion carried 4-0.

There was discussion about how to communicate this work to the public, and utilizing Front Porch Forum was agreed upon.

West Main Street Update

The Manager explained that there had been no further negotiations in several months. Following the award of federal loans at 1.875% in December, the last direction forward on this was to gauge interest from the Gateway on how to move forward. The efforts weren’t fully responsive and the project had not proceeded. There planning on the Public Safety Building Committee to site that project on the Reap’s land, known as Phase 1 of the West Main project. That project would help subsidize Phase 1, making it easier for Phase 2. However, that proposal was recently changed and the building was reduced, and although some of the Reap’s property is still available, most was now taken for other projects prepared to move forward with onsite well and septic. This meant that Phase 1 was more difficult, as well as Phase 2.

In the beginning, the Commission was excited about the possibility of a USDA program that could provide a 45% grant on this project, making it easily affordable in the areas it would serve. After going through three years of process, and only receiving a subsidized interest rate, the project was much more difficult to accomplish.

Mr. Hill asked if the mobile home park owner would be willing to put up enough money to make Phase 3 viable.

Mr. Chamberlin suggested a more traditional approach of having the residents vote on whether they would want this extension or not. There was discussion on this idea, focused on what a vote would

1 look like, and reaching out to the mobile home park. This discussion would again be agendized for the
2 next meeting.

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4 Rod West said he wasn't sure where the Reaps were in their interest in this, but he felt over 30,000
5 square feet of development would be passed by if the utility extension wasn't done.

6 7 Water Storage Tank Report

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9 The Manager updated the Water Commission on the tank, which was added to by Mr. Chamberlin.
10 SD Ireland was planning to come in soon for more epoxy injections on the front, and the cracks
11 continued to self-seal. The water loss appeared negligible, although concern for new cracks was
12 ongoing and the subject of monitoring. The board wanted continued updates on this item.

13 14 Budget Status

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16 The Manager reviewed the prior year budget, noting that the major issue was a \$40,000 shortfall in
17 septage revenue. Mr. Chamberlin noted that most of that was mitigated by a reduction in septage
18 treatment and disposal expenses. A current year report would be forthcoming at the next meeting.

19 20 Superintendent's Report

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22 Mr. Chamberlin thanked Molly Hastings for donating a computer for his asset management software.

23
24 Mr. Chamberlin noted that the mixers were repaired, but seeing how the motors take 3-6 months for
25 delivery, he'd like to have a spare motor in stock, which was about \$6,000. The board agreed he
26 should purchase this.

27
28 Mr. Chamberlin explained that there would be a new operating permit in 2018. Mr. Chamberlin added
29 that he recently discovered that the water line beneath the railroad track is iron and not asbestos-
30 concrete, making it more of a concern. He felt that we might be able to piggy back this project with
31 Bridge Street work. He felt that this might be \$5,000.

32
33 Mr. Chamberlin also wanted permission to replace a failed hydrant at the water house, not to exceed
34 \$7,000. This would be part of an important interconnection should the bridge line fail. Mr. Hill
35 offered a motion to grant Mr. Chamberlin approval to replace this hydrant at a cost not to exceed
36 \$7,000, including valve work, and was seconded by Mr. Bressor. The motion carried 4-0.

37 38 39 Approval of Warrants

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41 The warrant was approved.

42 43 Items for discussion at the next meeting:

44 Budget Status

45 West Main Utility Extension

46 Upcoming Projects

47 Capital Plan

48 Water Tank Update

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1 **Adjourn**

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3 Mr. Hill offered a motion to adjourn at 7:03 pm and was seconded by Mr. Bressor. So voted.

DRAFT