
**RICHMOND SELECTBOARD
SELECTBOARD MEETING
OCTOBER 15, 2018 MINUTES**

Members Present: Bard Hill; David Sander; Stephen Ackerman; Roger Brown; Christy Witters

Absent: None

Others Present: Paul Bohne, Town Manager; Mary Houle, Doug St Amour, Jean Bressor and Gary Bressor

Bard Hill called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

1. Welcome

Mr. Hill welcomed those in attendance.

2. Public Comment

Mr. St Amour spoke about the Town Forest Plan and the use of the Forest by hunters. He was assured that there was time for additional input and to keep track of the timeline for approval of the plan. It was pointed out that the Plan would have to go to the Conservation Commission prior to adoption by the Selectboard.

3. Items for Presentation or Discussion with Those Present

a. Presentation of the New Town Manager

Mr. Hill introduced the new Town Manager, Josh Arneson. He stated that Mr. Arneson would start on November 5 and invited to join the Board at the front of the room. Mr. Arneson joined the interim Town Manager at the table.

b. Presentation and Discussion of the Status of the 2019 General Fund Budget.

Mr. Bohne stated that with the FY '19 Budget at the end of the first quarter, there were no issues and the revenue and expenses were in line with where they should be.

c. Update and Discussion of the Future of the Richmond Reuse Zone

Mr. Hill spoke of his efforts to have the issue placed on a future CSWD Board agenda without success. The next tact will be to solicit a member Town that voted to close the Reuse Zones and ask them to move for reconsideration. He will report back at the next meeting.

d. Consider waivers for Gary Bressor regarding Curbing and a Cul-de-sac at his Development on Peaceable Street.

Mr. Bressor explained his request to the Board. After some discussion regarding sheet flow drainage and a question of protocol to grant such waivers, there was a

MOTION by Mr. Sander, seconded by Mr. Ackerman, to approve the waivers for the n curbing, storm drain and a hammer head turn around instead of the cul-de-sac provided that there was prior written approval from the Fire Department, the Rescue Squad and the Highway Department.

VOTE: 5-0; the motion passed

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- e. Discussion of a Plan and Schedule for Addressing the FY 2020 General Fund and Water Resources Budget.

After discussion the Board directed the Interim Manager to plan on asking Department heads to appear at regular Selectboard meeting to present and discuss their budgets. The Board agreed to have this as an agenda item near the beginning of the meeting. No budget target was agreed to but will be a topic at a later meeting.

- f. Discussion Regarding the Development of a Plan for Management of Building Assets.

Mr. Bohne stated that after looking at the Facilities Study done by Bread Loaf, it raised questions as to how the Town would approach dealing with the deficiencies contained in the report. After some discussion, the Board appeared to favor looking at medium to long term deficiencies and developing an approach to making decisions. The question was raised as to what the Town wanted to do with the Town Office building in the long term. An answer to that question could determine how management of the building would be accomplished.

- g. Discussion of the Role of Selectboard members as Liaisons to Departments.

Mr. Bohne stated that he had not seen the liaison positions in other municipalities and wondered whether they were a hold over from the time when the Town had a Town Administrator or before. He stated a concern that the position could be used to circumvent the Town Manager if there was an issue that an employee did not like. He questioned their need now that the Town had adopted a Town Manager form of government.

The Board discussed the issue and did not believe that the liaison had circumvented the Manager. The Board agreed to discuss the issue at reorganization after the 2020 Town elections.