

Town of Richmond
Special Selectboard Meeting
Minutes of June 20, 2023

Members Present: Bard Hill, David Sander, Jay Furr, Jeff Forward, Lisa Miller

Absent: None

Staff Present: Josh Arneson, Town Manager; Duncan Wardwell, Assistant to the Town Manager; Linda Parent, Town Clerk; Keith Osborne, Town Planner; Dillon LaForce, Highway; Lisa Truchon, Lister

Others Present: Meeting was recorded by MMCTV, Andrew French, Bruce LaBounty, Cara LaBounty, Cathleen Gent, Denise Barnard, Frito, Fritz Martin, Ian, Jon Kart, Lou Borie, Marshall Paulsen, Martha Nye, Melissa Wolaver, Paul Hauf, Pennie Rand, Rich, Robert Lowe, Stefani Hartsfield, Stephanie Barrett, Steven Brownlee, Susan Wells, Virginia Clarke, Wafic Faour

Call to Order: 7:00pm

Welcome by: Furr

Public Comment:

Forward: I'd like to give a shout out to Pete Gosselin and the road crew. The Bridge Street project with the curbs, the sidewalks and the paving are just outstanding. They did a fabulous job.

Ian: I had a couple of questions about Dugway Rd. There was some No Parking signs that were going up. I was wondering if you knew the status?

Arneson: I don't, but I'll follow up with Pete.

Barnard: I had asked when the Memorial for the family of the bridge in Jonesville was going to be put back up. I am just wondering what the delay is.

Arneson: I will follow up with Pete.

Sander: I'd like to read a memo I received from our Town Highway foreman, Pete Gosselin. "The recently completed Bridge Street project could not have been possible without the help of the Water and Sewer Department staff. I really appreciate the timeliness and the efforts made by Steve, Brad and Allen."

Ian: Is there a defined plan for who will be patrolling Dugway Rd?

Arneson: At this point, it'll be Hinesburg PD doing parking enforcement. We haven't established an exact schedule with them. You would call the police if somebody is blocking the road or driveway. I will let Hinesburg know we should patrol there now.

Barnard: Could the Selectboard authorize a specific towing company that knows the parameters of when a car gets towed.

Furr: I think legally we have to have a police officer issued the order, but we'll check.

Additions or Deletions to Agenda:

Furr: We re-ordered the agenda a little bit for the people here for certain topics. Those items are H, L, and M on your agenda. Does anybody have any objection to moving those up higher in the agenda?

Hill: Perhaps we should frame this as Additions, Deletions or Modifications to the agenda in future.

Items for Presentation or Discussion with those present

Update on reappraisal process

Truchon: We sent out all the notices. We had weeklong informal meetings with people and we saw 200 Richmond residents in that to that one week period. We then sent them change notices saying after this meeting, here's your value now. Then we spent a week doing grievance hearings Monday through Thursday and we had 67 grievance hearings. Of the 67 notices sent out, those people are eligible to go before the Board of Civil Authority about the reappraisal change notices and assessment. We had 3 go to the BCA. Our Grand List was \$4,830,053.62 and now is \$7,812,184.64 or increased 61.74% over the 15 years which seems very reasonable. What's going to happen now is our education taxes. The State calculates a reappraisal CLA (Common Level of Appraisal) for the purpose of setting the education tax rate. They take what your education tax would be with no CLA, and they divide it by that number.

Hill: If my property goes up 60%, and everybody else's goes up 70%, my taxes might actually drop. Is there an average actual property tax increase that people could use to judge their own future property taxes?

Truchon: Commercial didn't increase as much as residential. There's all kinds of variables in that. What we explain to people is if your spending stayed level in your town, and your Grand List increased, ergo proportionately, your tax rate would decrease.

Arneson: If your Grand List also went up 61% your taxes would be about the same. If it went up 50%, you'd be paying less. If it went up 70%, you'd be paying more.

Hill: What happens to my State education taxes? Am I paying or is our Town paying more or less in State education taxes?

Truchon: I understand what you're asking, and it's not a simple answer. There are so many variables that go into what your State education tax rate is. It's got to do with what's your pupil population increase or decrease. If everything was equal, I would expect the education tax rate to go up. Not the tax rate, but the tax liability from the taxes to go up slightly, but not 67%.

Forward: I don't know if anybody understands how they calculate the education tax. I know it was extremely difficult on the School Board to try to figure out what that was going to be. Things are different now that we have a Statewide property tax, particularly with commercial property.

LaBounty, C: Is the 1.1498 anything to do with the CLA?

Truchon: It is the one-time reappraisal CLA that the State calculates to equalize the Grand List for education taxes only. We don't have that official CLA number from the State yet because they haven't set it up. The CLA that you're going to live by we will get in December of 2023. We will get a three-year sale equalized CLA next December. I suspect that a CLA will probably land somewhere between 95 and 105.

Furr: We do have three hearings for the Board of Civil Authority. The initial hearing will be in July. Then after we hear from the property owners and from Lisa, we will then conduct site visits and we have scheduled on July 31 the follow up. So, July 12 and July 31 if you're updating your calendar.

LaBounty, C: What has the Town for the plans for the unpermitted changes in properties, and the enforcement of such. Your Zoning Administrator and your Town Planner could possibly start to weed through that information.

Arneson: We will have an email once it is finalized.

Truchon: I will export all the data into a spreadsheet, you can slice and dice it at will. I also have the same data from 2008, so you can make that comparison. We expected to get 5-10% to come to the informal hearings, which we did a little bit more than that. We expect to get another 10-20% of those, so we were just slightly higher again.

Forward: I think it's a really good process

Consideration of approving a vendor for assessor services

Furr: Richmond has contracted for assessing services with NEMRC for about 9 years. NEMRC has been recently charging an annual fee of \$24,000. Following 2022, NEMRC notified us that they would be changing their billing structure to hourly. Based on their calculations, we would probably be spending about \$30,000. The FY24 budget was increased to \$31,000 to accommodate this. We would want to go out to bid and see if somebody else could beat that rate. We posted the RFP. We sent it directly to 6 firms, we got no bids. We did get an email from NEMRC basically repeating a \$30,000 estimate. The recommendation from our Town Manager is to enter into an agreement with NEMRC for assessor services for FY24 at an amount not to exceed \$30,000.

Arneson: Since we changed from Listers to assessors, we've been with NEMRC for the last 10 plus years.

Forward moved to approve entering into an agreement with NEMRC for assessor services for FY24 at an amount not to exceed \$30,000 for the fiscal year. Sander seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Forward, Furr, Hill, Miller, Sander in favor. Motion approved.

Presentation of Richmond Walkability Audit Report

Kart: The Transportation Committee is relatively new on the scene, the Selectboard created it in 2019. Our goal has been to work to improve sidewalks, paths, public transit options, and services for everybody here in Town. We follow the Town Plan, regional plans, and collaborating with the Selectboard, other committees, the Highway Department, Regional Planning Commission, VTrans. We develop grants, project designs and working projects that include public engagement. If you want Federal funding or State funding or regional funds, you have to follow a rather tightly choreographed cycle to get projects rolling from planning to scoping and design to engineering before you could ever go to construction.

A big goal is getting people out of their cars, walking and biking is good for public health and safety. We work as a group to assess the quality of sidewalks and how people walk and pedal through Town. We use a tool developed by AARP with the help of 20 volunteers. We started collecting data a year ago, and we've been organizing and cross-walking issues and problems developing recommendations. A major example is the new sidewalks on Bridge Street. A big thanks to the Highway Department for reorganizing themselves in such a way that they could work on this.

The criteria we used for the project look at street and sidewalk condition, the locations of crosswalks/signals, as well as road design driver and pedestrian habits and behaviors. We focused on 3 areas, Richmond Village, Round Church Neighborhood, and Jonesville. These were the places we had that capacity to get started on. In a number of cases, we found that crossings and intersections were confusing or unsafe. There's a lack of infrastructure in places: sidewalks or crosswalks, signage, buffers for pedestrians and cyclists. If you're somewhat less than mobile, sometimes things encroach on sidewalks that can make it difficult for people to walk. There are a number of spots as well as longer stretches of sidewalk that could use some additional attention. There's not great consistent connectivity at that scale. Motorist behavior could be improved with better signage. The intersection of Bridge Street, Huntington Road, Thompson Road, and Cochran Rd is the poster child for these problems. We're working with the Regional Planning Commission on a new design. Soon after that we will come to you with some recommendations and some options that are hopefully a little more affordable.

Another common problem is the Village sidewalks have become parking areas. We recognize that no one wants to park their car in a place where it's going to get hit by another passing car. The poster child for this is the sidewalk along Cumberland Farms. The sidewalk is the parking area and it pushes pedestrians out onto the road. Our Town Planner, Keith Osborne, is working on doing some research on a few more details.

The report includes detailed recommendations, short term and long-term, for each neighborhood and each issue. In general, better signage and striping would help a great deal. Putting crossings in safer locations would help. We think speed tables with signage would connect trails. There's a lot being asked of Cochran Rd. Improved

crosswalks and improved signage would certainly help in a number of places where the report goes into detail. We're actively working on a number of projects now. We've got a grant proposal out for funding the sidewalk on the East side of Bridge St. We're doing some other work on Cochran Rd, Jericho Rd and Main St. Our commitment is to continue working with you, other committees, Highway Department and engaging the public.

Hill: The Town has not generously funded either construction of new sidewalks nor maintenance of existing sidewalks.

Kart: Recently, the Selectboard has been putting some money into a sidewalk fund which we have been able to leverage for other grant funds.

Forward: A big value is the work you do to evaluate and prioritize and bring it to us.

Gent: We're doing a feasibility study for all of Cochran Rd but we're doing a scoping study for the two ends.

Kart: Pete reorganizing the Highway Department really has been a great help.

Barnard: I've asked for this before but a little orange stick in the middle of the road would help identify it's a crosswalk.

LaBounty, C: This is a safety thing and for accessibility for all. I don't think there's a white line painted on the stop sign area on Cochran Rd. The next one is a pedestrian stop sign coming down the bike trail hill on Cochran Rd. In Jonesville, have you looked at any sidewalks in that area?

Rand: I feel like in the time that I've been here, the sidewalks have been prioritized. The ones that really needed it was basically from the school all the way down to the park as well as those on East/West Main St. It's hard to know how to prioritize. By the cemetery, as you start out on Cochrane Rd, that is the old road. Has that ever been thought about as being a potential pedestrian way? It seems like that would be a really easy fix to just mow that section. There are more signs than I've ever seen in my life. Too many signs, you don't see any of them.

Hill: There is a history of the ancient or abandoned roads in the State, effectively a lot of the unused roads reverted to the landowners.

Kart: The Cochran Rd, Bridge St, Huntington Rd intersection, we hope to be coming back relatively soon with a proposal for that. The sidewalk on the east side of Bridge St we're working on soon. The route from the Village to the Park & Ride to Riverview Commons, we're working on some options for that.

Hill moved to accept the Richmond Walkability Audit Report as presented. Miller seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Forward, Furr, Hill, Miller, Sander in favor. Motion approved.

Consideration of setting a cost-of-living increase for the wage grid

Furr: Each year, each employee gets a step increase on their wage scale, plus a cost of living increase. Last year inflation was pretty steep, like an 8% CPI. From May 2022 to May 2023, the New England CPI increased by 2.4%. We budgeted for a 5% increase to the pay grid. Duncan did reach out to some surrounding towns. We only heard back from 5 towns. The Water and Sewer Commissions went with 6%.

Hill: The step level increase is 2.25%. On top of the 2.25% step level increase, what should be an inflationary increase?

Furr: It's generally been our practice to do it annually. We did the big wage and compensation study a year or so ago. If we miss the mark by a lot, I think it'd be reasonable to come back.

Hill: It's the combination of inflation and also competition of keeping up with the Jones.

Arneson: Our wages last year were benchmarked to the seventieth percentile. The advice from the compensation study consultant was look at CPI and as much information from comparable towns. The budget is built on the whole grid going up 5% and everybody going up a step.

LaBounty, C: You just had a 30-33% compensation increase to your staffers. That's a lot to tell the taxpayers. All these other towns might not have just given a pay increase to all of their staff.

Forward: I don't recall the compensation study end result was a 30% increase in wages. It certainly wasn't a 30% increase in our budget. I feel a little uncomfortable about having Town staff be different than the Water and Sewer.

Sander: We anticipated 5% and figured that it was close to 8% and it would be coming down. The Water and Sewer staff had opportunities to leave and would have made more money. They decided to stay so we wanted to validate and recognize that. The training of new staff is more expensive than maintaining staff.

Arneson: I think the other consideration was trying to also attract a Water and Sewer superintendent and making sure that we stayed competitive for that.

LaBounty, B: We still do employee evaluations. Can people get raises through that? It's really hard to swallow that people have got these raises just for showing up. Can we start on a regular 2% raise for everybody and if you do a good job, we're going to give you a little bit more?

Furr: I can think of a situation where an employee's unbelievably good performance did result in a raise.

Hill: The step level and COLA are embedded in the personnel policies. It's a reasonable question about how we deal with performance.

Miller: Any organization would encourage people to do their best. If there is a golden ring out there, people can aspire to it but not everybody's going to get it.

Furr: The employees are now chipping in 10% of their health insurance, I think that should be taken into account.

Forward: The increase was to be competitive with other towns, to look for staff. We chose to go to the seventieth percentile for retention and recruitment. We acknowledged that inflation is going to be much more than it has been in the past, and we chose the number 5%. If we stay with 5%, we would be within our budget.

*Forward moved to increase the pay grid by 5%. Hill seconded.
Roll Call Vote follows discussion.*

LaBounty, C: Thank you for staying within your budget.

Roll Call Vote: Forward, Furr, Hill, Miller, Sander in favor. Motion approved.

Discussion of using the Police Tesla for volunteer driven intermittent public transportation

Hill: It addresses one of our other policy concerns, especially for people who don't have cars, and the inaccessibility of public transportation. Given our circumstances, we have vehicles not being used at the same time we know we have citizens that cannot get from point A to point B. I haven't heard any merit or not, but it was an idea.

Furr: We would have to remove some equipment, and at that point we're giving up on it ever being a police car.

Hill: To get volunteer drivers, that's a project because you have to screen people, schedule people. The United Way has a process for doing that. Elderly and disabled transportation funding is inadequate, and we run out of those funds sometimes. Some people are not eligible for it. I don't want to become SSTA, it was just the idea that if you have people who need rides and you have a vehicle that's not being used, is there a way to put those together in any way that's credible and manageable.

Forward: I'm not sure the Tesla is the optimum idea. All our police cars are fully equipped to be police cars.

Arneson: Chief Cambridge said yesterday they could drive our cars at times. I am going to follow up with VLCT. What legalities do we need to let another employee drive our cars.

Hill: We probably should not expect more from the publicly funded transportation agency.

LaBounty, C: We could sell some cruisers and use those funds to purchase a van to transport people.

Rand: I'm a little offended by the slap sticky talk about the police cars. That is no small problem. The Selectboard approved the purchase by the police department to buy those and it's a lot of money sitting there.

Miller: I don't like to see them sitting there, either. It represents a failure for us to have a police force, and that's a big problem.

Sander: This board suspended the purchase of new cruisers, all cruisers were purchased when we had a fully active police force.

Hill: I don't think you fully appreciate the amount of time and effort that we have spent on police chief, police officer, the contract, the vehicles.

Furr: I value everybody's opinion. I would not want be in a town where people couldn't share their ideas, but we have other items from the agenda.

Update on town owned equipment to be sold or traded in

Arneson: We discontinued mowing services from the Town, I talked with Pete about what he was looking to trade in or sell. He wants to get rid of a Hustler zero-turn mower, but he wants to keep the Kabota tractor as they do spring cleanup and it doubles as a backup for sidewalk maintenance. They have one extra weed whacker they'd get rid of also. We should trade all equipment in, except for the Kobota, towards a new subcontract tractor. He's got an idea of equipment and plans for it in the future.

Furr: The Town does own the fry wagon from the July Fourth Committee. We have to go out for public bid. The Committee is going to be putting together the information that Duncan would need to list it. There's no town policy that says exactly where or how many places we have to list. Keep the bids open for 3 weeks, publish that we will open bids on such a date and time and see what we get. We have an offer for \$2,500. There's no guarantee that we wouldn't get much higher bids or lower bid. You don't just give the first person that comes along with a deal. We would set a minimum.

Forward: I think the idea of inventory of equipment by department is not a bad idea. We have it to a certain degree for big items in our capital plan.

Furr: You've got to include your depreciation schedule and your replacement schedule. You can't just put things on the shelf and say they're good until we use them.

LaBounty, C: Please put on your agenda to look at selling some of the cruisers.

Furr: We have 5 other cars sitting out there. We're not buying anymore for the time being. Maybe there is some benefit to selling 1 or 2.

Consideration of appointing members to Town committees, commissions, and delegate positions

Forward moved to appoint Andrew French to a two-year term as the Chittenden Solid Waste District Board Delegate from Richmond and thanks to Logan Hegg for his service. Hill seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Forward, Furr, Hill, Miller, Sander in favor. Motion approved.

Sander moved to appoint Morgan Wolaver and Erin Farr to one-year terms on the Water and Sewer commission to fill seats reserved for customers of the system. Hill seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Forward, Furr, Hill, Miller, Sander in favor. Motion approved.

Forward moved to appoint Bard Hill, Jay Furr, David Sander to one-year terms on the Water and Sewer Commission to fill seats reserved for Selectboard members. Miller seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Forward, Furr, Hill, Miller, Sander in favor. Motion approved.

Forward moved to appoint Matt Buckley to a three-year term on the Parking Advisory Committee. Miller seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Forward, Furr, Hill, Miller, Sander in favor. Motion approved.

Hill moved to appoint Allison Anand to a four-year term on the Planning Commission. Sander seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Forward, Furr, Hill, Miller, Sander in favor. Motion approved.

Consideration of reducing the size of the Planning Commission to seven members

Hill moved to approve reducing the size of the Planning Commission to seven members. Sander seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Forward, Furr, Hill, Miller, Sander in favor. Motion approved.

Consideration of approving Conservation Reserve Fund request from Richmond Land Trust for the Gillett Pond Dam project

Furr: The Richmond Land Trust already received \$150,000 from the Conservation Reserve Fund for the project. They came back for \$50,000 more.

Martin: I'm from the Richmond Land Trust and I'm the chair of the Gillett Pond Fundraising Committee.

Forward moved to approve the use of \$50,000 from the Conservation Reserve Fund for the Gillett Dam Project being managed by the Richmond Land Trust. Hill seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Forward, Furr, Hill, Miller, Sander in favor. Motion approved.

Consideration of approving a project for Community Well Being

Hartsfield: We have stipends for youth to work on mental health and well-being with youth ages 12 to 18. Most of the kids were from Richmond or Bolton. They've built a website which is up and running. They did a survey and we sent you the results. This is the request to use \$2,500 to pay youth interns. We hope to get more grant funding soon.

Hill moved to approve the use of \$2,500 from the Community Well Being line in the FY23 budget for the All Together Now project. Miller seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Forward, Furr, Hill, Miller, Sander in favor. Motion approved.

Consideration of request by Post Office to fly the POW flag

Furr: We are currently flying the Black Lives Matter flag and the American flag. We aren't legally required to give everybody access to the flag. The Post Office are looking to comply with their guidelines, however there is not a flagpole on the Post Office. It's the property of the Town and not of the Post Office, we don't have a legal obligation to fly it. Could we allow the flag to be flown in one of the flag holders that's on the

overhang in front of the entrance to the Town Center Post Office? There's not a motion in the memo because we should get legal advice.

Miller: I think it's important to remind people there are still prisoners of war.

Hill: I would recommend some legal advice.

Consideration of closing Esplanade St., Bridge St., Jericho Rd. and portions of East and West Main St. on July 4, 2023

Furr: We have a memo in regards Esplanade St. They do not want people parking on their front lawns. The motor vehicle ordinance prohibits parking within 250 feet of the wastewater treatment facility which basically takes in the entire area that people have been parking in the past. We've never officially taken the step to legally close that road to all the rest of parking.

Forward moved to close the following roads for the following times on July 4, 2023.

**Jericho Rd from the traffic light to School St. from 10:15am – 10:45am.*

**East and West Main St in the immediate vicinity of the intersection with Bridge St from 10:15am to Noon.*

**Bridge St from the intersection with East and West Main St to Volunteers Green from 10:15 am to Noon.*

**Esplanade St from 8am to 10pm, with exception of vehicles belonging to residents on the street and Water and Wastewater staff.*

Sander seconded.

Roll Call Vote follows discussion.

Furr amended motion to

**East Main St from Lemroy Ct to Bridge St and West Main St in the immediate vicinity of the intersection with Bridge St from 10:15am to Noon.*

Forward accepted amendment.

Roll Call Vote: Forward, Furr, Hill, Miller, Sander in favor. Motion approved.

Update on Police Chief hiring process

Arneson: We offered interviews and they declined at first but might want some time to talk with their families to see if there's a right call for them. One is an in State and another one State over. I think we might have to go back to the drawing board.

Hill: If neither one of these works out, then we're back to ground zero.

Furr: Square one and not ground zero.

Forward: I would like to be a part of that process in some fashion. We are elected officials. We represent the public.

Furr: We had 2 Selectboard members when June was on the Selectboard. The decision was made when June rotated off the Selectboard to let her continue being on there. It's ultimately the Town Managers decision. I have enough fish to fry so if we do start over, that would be a suggestion

Hill: Arguably, you can have a meeting with First Responders and the Selectboard.

Miller: Anything that goes wrong here or anywhere is known everywhere pretty quickly. Candidates that are worth their salt are plugged into that network. I think there's a management issue in Richmond that has pervaded the departures. The ultimate management of this town is the Selectboard.

Furr: I'm trying to keep it informational, not argumentative. I've been contemplating whether it would be worthwhile to look through our personal records since 2000. Hinesburg talked to us about having a joint district. Hinesburg wanted to go back and have their own study, for where they wanted their policing to go. I don't think it's much of a failed process. It is the absolute worst time to recruit police officers. We have raised the base wage to match what Williston has. We've heard consistently for decades that we want community policing. We want a police department that values diversity, equity, inclusion and understands fair and impartial policing. We want somebody who is prepared to come here and engage in strategic planning.

Hill: Twenty to thirty years ago people routinely said that the Richmond police department was a training ground for other departments. That's the deal you only have a handful of officer positions, I think for the wages and benefits, and sometimes for the opportunity to move up a larger pyramid or wage scale. I think it's reasonable for people to ask why people keep leaving. We had overt conversations about a chief executive of that department leading strategic planning and also as a partner in the conversation with Hinesburg. This is a modestly sized department. Some folks might be looking for larger departments. It is over 30 years that people in Chittenden County have been talking about shared dispatch. The State police are not interested in providing contracted services. If we contract with Hinesburg, we lose control.

Furr: The Chief or Officers of Hinesburg would not be subject to Josh's supervisory authority.

Miller: We should probably just go ahead and have a consultant do a strategic plan for us.

Furr: I want a strategic brand that's informed by our own chief.

Hill: In any event, I think the world has changed in the last 5 years. You get into a question of what should shift coverage look like. Has anybody seen a chief of police walking around Volunteers Green? Those are just some random thoughts.

Forward: We also have to look at our future because we know what we have done relative to this, the public does not. Hinesburg spent a lot of money, \$75,000 on this study. Some of that residual angst from the Hinesburg Police Department was a part of the miscommunication about how it was going to interact together. I would suggest that instead of us hiring a consultant, we should read theirs. This would be a good additional future agenda item.

Furr: If we feel a need to keep all of the police cars then I think we owe the townspeople a discussion on exactly why.

Hill: Why don't we put 2 of these related topics at the beginning of our next meeting.

Rand: I'm really pleased to hear everything I just heard. The link between what all the Town departments do and the Selectboard and what the community knows has just been vague. A little bit more effort would inform the community about where things are happening.

Review of Planning and Zoning Monthly Update

Furr: Keith Osborne's report is in the packet (https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/06/3n_Planning_and_Zoning_June_2023_update.pdf)

Arneson: This is a report that Keith came up with to communicate back to the Selectboard and public on the various commissions, Planning Commission, Transportation Committee, Housing Committee, DRB, and work with the Zoning Administrator over the last month. He plans to do this once a month. If there are any additional follow-up questions, he's happy to dig in more.

Furr: As Chair, I get a lot of information from the State and Act 250 Review.

Arneson: Keith can provide a link that goes to all open Act 250 permits in Richmond.

Forward: I was really impressed with this report.

Hill: Maybe quarterly updates from the Department Heads on what happened in the last quarter and coming up the next quarter might be useful. It'd be posted on our website.

Forward: It would be helpful for evaluations as well.

Farr: Thanks to Keith.

Approval of Minutes, Warrants and Purchase Orders

Minutes:

Miller moved to approve the Minutes of 6/5/23. Sander seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Forward, Furr, Hill, Miller, Sander in favor. Motion approved.

Purchase Orders:

Sander moved to approve PO# 4619 to Swenson Granite Company for East Main Sidewalks not to exceed \$40,136.00. Miller seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Forward, Furr, Hill, Miller, Sander in favor. Motion approved.

Forward moved to approve PO# 4635 to Mow N Maintain Property Maintenance for Ground Maintenance FY 23 not to exceed \$10,305.00. Sander seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Forward, Furr, Hill, Miller, Sander in favor. Motion approved.

Forward moved to approve PO# 4636 to Hartsfield Health Systems Consulting for fiscal sponsorship for grant not to exceed \$10,000.00. Sander seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Forward, Furr, Hill, Miller, Sander in favor. Motion approved.

Miller moved to approve PO# 4640 to MMCTV for reimbursement for AV equipment for hybrid meeting room not to exceed \$10,166.00. Hill seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Forward, Furr, Hill, Miller, Sander in favor. Motion approved.

Warrants:

Sander moved to approve the general warrants as presented from 6/20/2023. Miller seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Forward, Furr, Hill, Miller, Sander in favor. Motion approved.

Discuss Items for Next Agenda

- *Police Topics
- *Communication Plan/Strategy
- *Cruiser Markings
- *Inventory Long Range Plan
- *Water/Sewer Superintendent Update

Adjourn

Forward moved to adjourn. Sander seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Forward, Furr, Hill, Miller, Sander in favor. Motion approved.

Meeting adjourned at: 10:19 pm

Chat file from Zoom:

01:50:57 Donald Gilbert: Hire police officers? Im sure you have people who have applied