

1 **Town of Richmond**  
2 **Selectboard Meeting**  
3 **Minutes of August 7, 2023**  
4

5 **Members Present:** Bard Hill, David Sander, Jay Furr, Jeff Forward, Lisa Miller  
6

7 **Absent:** None  
8

9 **Staff Present:** Josh Arneson, Town Manager; Duncan Wardwell, Assistant to the Town  
10 Manager; Anthony Cambridge, Hinesburg Police Chief  
11

12 **Others Present:** Meeting was recorded by MMCTV, Andrew Bessette, Angela Cote,  
13 Bonny Steuer, Caitlin Littlfield, Cathleen Gent, Celcia Danks, Connie Van Eeghen, Chris  
14 Granda, Gretchen Paulsen, Ian Stokes, Jeanann Haskin, Jenette Malone, Jessie Heiser,  
15 Jon Kart, Karen Yaggy, Kit, Kyle Montgomery, Martha Nye, Melissa Wolaver, Nancy  
16 Zimmy, Pennie Rand, Rachel's iPad, Robert Lowe, Sam Kneely, Susanne Parent  
17

18 **MMCTV Video:** <https://archive.org/details/RichmondSelectbd08072023>  
19

20 **Call to Order:** 7:00 pm  
21

22 **Welcome by:** Furr  
23

24 **Public Comment:**  
25

26 Furr: I have a public statement I'd like to make and then the floor will be open for  
27 anyone else who has one. The voters of the Town of Richmond have a right to expect  
28 decorum and decent conduct on the part of their elected officials. Two meetings back, I  
29 lost my temper with somebody who was presenting before the board. I'm ashamed of  
30 that. I can make excuses and say I've been very tired, I've been working very hard, I was  
31 cranky. That's irrelevant. We expect that our elected officials and people should not be  
32 losing their temper, I can only be responsible for myself. My promise is to be much more  
33 careful. I've had the habit of volunteering for everything I could find. I need to scale  
34 back so that I have an easier time keeping my cool. I want to apologize to Mr. Paul Hauf,  
35 for my rude behavior toward him. I also would like to apologize to Caitlin and Nick of  
36 the Andrews Community Forest for a short-tempered email. I should have thought better.  
37 My apologies not just to Caitlin and Nick and Paul, but to the Town as a whole. You  
38 should and have a right to expect better.  
39

40 Miller: You proved you are human.  
41

42 Hill: It's been apparent that you have volunteered for a lot of things and volunteered to  
43 the degree that the rest of the Selectboard can support you in a scale that makes sense.  
44 The things that you have been involved with are unprecedented in my experience of 10-  
45 ish years on the Selectboard. We can help you get to a more humane scale. I think we all  
46 stand willing and able.  
47

48 Furr: One of the things that we've said not just about ourselves, but also for our Town  
49 Manager and to our public is it does a disservice to people who want to be part of a  
50 democratic process to have Selectboard meetings to go until 11 o'clock. That's very anti-

51 democratic. No one should have to choose between being aware of what's going on in  
52 their government and getting a decent night's sleep. Josh and I and the Selectboard have  
53 discussed trying to make a leaner and meaner schedule. The schedule that we have  
54 tonight has 15 items, total of 100 minutes projected time. We should be able to have that  
55 portion of the meeting done by nine o'clock. We do have scheduled at the end an  
56 Executive Session for an employee evaluation. That needs to be the role going forward.  
57 Does this need to be discussed tonight? Could it be discussed later? Could it be  
58 delegated? Because there's just no reason to make these an endurance trial.

59

60 Forward: It's rare in our country or anywhere that you hear an elected official apologize.  
61 I accept your apology. And I really appreciate and respect that you came forward to give  
62 it. I know it must have been difficult.

63

64 Furr: The difficult part was looking back at myself and going exactly why did I get so  
65 cranky about this? I know there's a lot of tension on both sides or all seven or eight sides  
66 of the Andrews Community Forest issue. Some detachment is clearly called for if we're  
67 going to do our jobs. That's my goal.

68

69 Sander: Thank you for what you said. I can appreciate how difficult it was to realize  
70 where you were and make that statement. We all make mistakes. Some people make  
71 mistakes, understand they make mistakes, acknowledge they make mistakes, take  
72 responsibility for those mistakes and move on. I appreciate that. I sat in your chair and  
73 once lost my temper during a Selectboard meeting and said something I'm not very proud  
74 of to somebody. I can appreciate how painful that was to go through. And thank you.

75

76 Furr: My apologies to our citizens for not doing the best job I could.

77

78 Rand: I appreciate your open apology. We're all human. I sometimes step in it  
79 sometimes with no intention of doing the wrong thing, but good intentions. I'm here to  
80 speak to a bigger piece of what has just taken place here in the last month. I wanted to  
81 just observe and share my concern that it's important that we have people who want to do  
82 the roles that you're doing, and who want to serve on committees. It seems to me that  
83 there was time at some point for it to not get this far. I feel like it's a real deterrent for  
84 people to step up. We cannot please everyone all the time. At some point, some decision  
85 needs to be made on things and then you go forth for a bit and see how it is. Other things  
86 have taken so long that I feel is unnecessary and it doesn't help us move in the direction  
87 that we want to. It doesn't help us encourage other people to step up and be involved.  
88 I'm concerned about only having people step up when there is a personal agenda versus  
89 stepping up on behalf of the Town. That for me is the direction it's headed. It doesn't  
90 feel good to me, so I'm just here to voice that.

91

92 Furr: We want people to volunteer because they have the time because they feel like  
93 helping the entire Town. They think they have something to offer versus I have an axe to  
94 grind. I think we should all try to remember that, especially me.

95

96 Rand: I don't know who takes that action. I think it's you guys and Josh. It does take  
97 being that person who must stick their neck out. We've elected you because you're  
98 awesome and we want you to continue to be awesome. I think it is accountability and  
99 moving things along and trying things out and if it's not working, we'll change it.

100

101 Kart: I am a resident of Richmond and my day job, I'm a wildlife biologist and a planner  
102 for the State. I've worked on a number of Statewide plans that involve multiple parties of  
103 varying types in varying willingness to agree. I just want to thank you, Mr. Chairman,  
104 and the rest of the Selectboard for keeping an eye on the deliberations at the Andrews  
105 Forest Committee to ensure that due diligence is being practiced. I'm sorry that your  
106 motives have been called into question. Your exasperation has been pointed out while  
107 really ignoring the underlying problem emanating from the committee itself. There's not  
108 been a substantive engagement plan that brings people through the various questions that  
109 have been argued to some answers. We just keep churning and churning and churning of  
110 the same debate and then people get exhausted.

111

112 I got involved in this about two and a half years ago, when I heard the committee was  
113 foundering a bit. I hoped I could help sort of bridge a gap between different perspectives.  
114 After two years of being told, we'll get to your questions later, you'll get a chance to talk  
115 to the experts later, I was then told it's too late, we have to move forward with this plan. I  
116 was pushed into a corner and from my experience as a planner, that was totally  
117 predictable and predicted. I encouraged the committee to bring in the Town Planner to  
118 develop a real comprehensive engagement plan that identified key questions, identified  
119 decision points and got things out in the open so that can be discussed. I know they were  
120 exhausted as people have been on the committee for years and they wanted to move  
121 forward. Rushing is not the fastest way. I'd like to encourage the Selectboard to offer the  
122 Andrews Forest Committee the help of the Town Planner and to expect a substantive  
123 engagement plan that will let people know how this is going to proceed with some clarity  
124 and make sure that they'll be heard. You don't deserve to be put in the position of having  
125 to approve another vague contract for work that was done after the fact. You don't  
126 deserve to be put in a spot of having to moderate how other groups work. We have the  
127 Planning Commission which has brought numerous very difficult questions to the public  
128 and generally been able to bring them through with heated debate but consensus.

129

130 There's no rush on this. People are using the Andrews Forest right now. I think it's time  
131 to bring the temperature down, to develop a plan to move forward, and to recognize that  
132 the Andrews Forest is owned by everyone in Town. There are people that want to  
133 recreate, bike, hike, birdwatch and hunt there, but also the bigger majority of the people  
134 in Town never intend to go there. You need a plan that has all those people in mind and  
135 makes sure it is managed for them today and tomorrow.

136

### 137 **Additions or Deletions to Agenda:**

138 Timestamp: 0:15

139 People who participated in discussion: Furr, Hill

140

141 Hill proposed moving the Andrews Community Forest topic to the top. Furr noted there  
142 were a lot of people who were also here for the Police discussions.

143

### 144 **Update on Police Chief hiring process and status of agreement for policing with 145 Hinesburg**

146 Timestamp: 0:15

147

148 People who participated in discussion: Furr, Arneson, Hill, Forward, Miller, Rand,  
149 Granda

150

151 Arneson stated that he met with Furr, Hill, the Hinesburg Town Manager, Todd Odit, and  
152 Hinesburg Police Chief Anthony Cambridge to extend the current agreement for police  
153 services. This will run through the end of June and cover general policing, speed patrol,  
154 parking enforcement, and chief administrative support. A meeting is set up on August 8<sup>th</sup>  
155 for a live edit to create a draft agreement for the next Selectboard meeting. Arneson  
156 confirmed that a previous chief candidate is interested in engaging in an interview  
157 process. If it is a good candidate, then it would proceed to interviews with First  
158 Responders and a Public Forum.

159  
160 Furr stated the chief candidate would help represent our best interests as we coordinate  
161 with Hinesburg. Arneson confirmed the discussion with Hinesburg was about giving  
162 them some assurances about funding for additional officers. Forward expressed concern  
163 about how Hinesburg feels about it and if it complicates the issue. Forward stated that  
164 there will potentially be a lot of issues that come up in the next year, but we cannot  
165 anticipate it until we do it. Forward worried about the dynamic of adding another person  
166 who is not from around here. Furr stated that the candidate has relatives from Jericho and  
167 is familiar with the area. Hill stated we are still at a yellow light and have a lot of details  
168 to still figure out. Hill expressed an interest in having a Chief represent Richmond as we  
169 figure out services with Hinesburg. Miller asked how a Richmond Chief would interact  
170 with Hinesburg when there is a call. Arneson stated it would require a schedule for  
171 where and when we would need police services from Hinesburg. Furr confirmed that  
172 was the intent of the August 8<sup>th</sup> meeting with Hinesburg.

173  
174 Forward stated that he was not questioning the process of the hiring committee, but it is  
175 important to have these types of discussions in open meetings. Arneson confirmed that is  
176 the specific role of the Public Forum. Rand asked if the public has an opportunity to see  
177 what type of person we are looking for. Arneson stated that was outlined in the job  
178 description. Arneson illustrated that the hiring committee was a fairly diverse group and  
179 the public has the opportunity for an open question session at the Public Forum. Hill  
180 confirmed there will be future updates on this topic. Granda asked to clarify policy  
181 direction of the Selectboard. Hill stated that he was following the approved budget  
182 specific to chief and officer positions as well as the collective bargaining agreement with  
183 NEPBA (New England Police Benevolent Association). Furr noted that there is still a lot  
184 we do not know about this. This will not be the only meeting we will be discussing this  
185 topic.

186  
187 **Update on status of sale of two police cruisers**  
188 Timestamp: 0:36  
189 PoliceCruiserInventory06-29-2023.pdf  
190 [https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/08/3b\\_PoliceCruiserInventory06-29-2023.pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/08/3b_PoliceCruiserInventory06-29-2023.pdf)

191  
192  
193 People who participated in discussion: Furr, Arneson, Miller  
194

195 Furr reviewed the plan to sell the oldest 2017 Ford Explorers. Furr stated that a  
196 contractor in North Ferrisburgh would be able to strip the cruisers and then there would  
197 be a sealed bid process for those cruisers. Arneson confirmed this is the same process  
198 that Hinesburg Chief Cambridge uses to sell police cars. Miller asked about the value of  
199 the stripped equipment. Arneson stated that some of it can be used again but it is not a

200 good idea to sell a fully equipped police car to the public and a better re-sale value is  
201 obtained with a stripped car.

202

### 203 **Update on police data**

204 Timestamp: 0:39

205

206 People who participated in discussion: Furr, Arneson, Rand, Cambridge, Haskin,  
207 Forward

208

209 Furr stated that Richmond voters are interested in two types of data, incident arrest and  
210 traffic stops. The data is coded as a Richmond incident even if a Hinesburg officer is  
211 involved. Furr reviewed that the data is tedious to extract and display into a dashboard.

212

213 Furr reviewed the locations of the radar speed signs. The one on the east end of Cochran  
214 Rd before Dugway Rd is not functioning and might need to be sent in to be repaired or  
215 replaced. Furr stated that it takes about 8 hours to download two months of data from  
216 those signs. The Round Church radar sign records about a month and a half of data  
217 before it is full. Furr discussed with Arneson about finding a vendor who can download  
218 and display the data as Burlington has someone full-time for that.

219

220 Furr displayed a mock-up of what the data would like for Richmond from early 2021  
221 until mid-May 2023. Rand asked why we collect information on race. Furr stated that  
222 studies show that persons of color are stopped at a higher rate proportional to numbers of  
223 white people. Furr stated this was just one example of the different types of data that can  
224 be displayed like incidents of domestic violence. Cambridge confirmed that they are  
225 required by law to take this data for each traffic stop. Furr stated that the Burlington  
226 Police dashboard is the example we are trying to achieve.

227

228 Haskin observed that the Williston Observer contains a nice report of what was done over  
229 the course of a week which lists incidents to describe what happened. Haskin asked for  
230 this for many years. Furr confirmed some people would prefer the police blotter to the  
231 data dashboard. Rand stated that the blotter provides useful geographical information  
232 about what is happening and where. Furr stated that the weekly stuff should be where  
233 people can see it. Forward observed we haven't had a full department and there might be  
234 small numbers which might not be representative. Haskin requested that we see some  
235 statistics of what's been happening in our Town since we've had Hinesburg coverage.  
236 Cambridge stated that he communicates via Facebook and Front Porch Forum to get that  
237 information out to the public. Cambridge stated he could help get that information out  
238 there for Richmond.

239

240 Cambridge explained that the data for traffic stops would be used to see changes over  
241 time, especially when hiring new officers. Furr agreed that is an excellent point. Furr  
242 stated Richmond would be interested in getting a police blotter posted to Front Porch  
243 Forum and Facebook as early a date as we can work out in an arrangement with  
244 Hinesburg. Furr confirmed we want these two types of data.

245

### 246 **Consideration of placement of temporary speed humps on Cochran Rd.**

247 Timestamp: 0:58

248 Temporary Speed Hump Locations - Cochran Rd.pdf

249 [https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/08/3d Temporary](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/08/3d_Temporary_Speed_Hump_Locations_-_Cochran_Rd..pdf)  
250 [Speed Hump Locations - Cochran Rd..pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/08/3d_Temporary_Speed_Hump_Locations_-_Cochran_Rd..pdf)

251

252 People who participated in discussion: Furr, Miller, Haskin, Montgomery, Gent, Granda,  
253 Littlefield, Forward, Hill, Cambridge

254

255 Furr stated that the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission is ultimately the  
256 arbiter of where any Town in the County can put a speed table. Furr confirmed that  
257 we've waited quite some time to get to those official locations. Furr stated that we will  
258 be putting in two temporary speed humps, ones that are bolted to the road that can be  
259 removed in the winter. The speed humps would be placed at either end of the current 25  
260 mile per hour zone at the Round Church end of Cochran Rd.

261

262 Haskin asked for someone to look at the distance between the actual speed sign and the  
263 warning sign so you can coast down from 45 mph to 25 mph without using brakes.  
264 Montgomery agreed and pointed out that a trail crossing sign would also serve as a  
265 warning to slow down. Gent asked about speed bumps on the eastern end of Cochran Rd.  
266 Furr confirmed we do not have permission to put them in yet. Gent stated that the Town  
267 received a grant for a Scoping Study for the entirety of Cochran Rd that will begin  
268 probably in the next month and there will be an analysis and final recommendations by  
269 the end of the grant. Granda suggested looking at another vendor for speed signs that  
270 have the ability to download data wirelessly. Furr confirmed he would like to see more  
271 speed controls in that area, and we requested that Hinesburg police increase monitoring  
272 of Cochran and Hinesburg Rds.

273

#### 274 **Consideration of membership on the Andrews Community Forest Committee**

275 Timestamp: 1:07

276 ACFC - Hauf Appointment Letter.pdf

277 [https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/08/3e ACFC -](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/08/3e_ACFC_-_Hauf_Appointment_Letter.pdf)  
278 [Hauf Appointment Letter.pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/08/3e_ACFC_-_Hauf_Appointment_Letter.pdf)

279

280 People who participated in discussion: Furr, Forward, Danks, Stokes, Gent, Montgomery  
281

282 Furr repeated his apology to Paul Hauf and confirmed that Hauf has withdrawn his  
283 nomination. Furr suggested that the Selectboard have a face-to-face meeting with the  
284 Andrews Community Forest Committee. Furr confirmed that 4 out of 6 ACFC members  
285 are able to meet with the Selectboard a week from tonight for a warned public meeting.  
286 Furr stated that currently the ACFC is without a Chair, so we need an interim Chair to be  
287 able to call meetings. Furr stated that Cecilia Danks would be willing to do it, but she  
288 would like a detail-oriented Co-Chair and recommended Ian Stokes.

289

290 Danks confirmed interest if Stokes serves as Co-Chair. Danks stated they would serve  
291 until the committee got up to full strength when they could then elect a Chair. Danks  
292 suggested looking at the by-laws to make sure it's clear how we solicit nominations.  
293 Danks confirmed that at the last ACFC meeting, a stewardship plan was put together to  
294 go with the trail plans. Danks thinks this needs more public airing so that people  
295 understand that the ACFC is listening to all the concerns and are trying to incorporate  
296 them into how the forest is managed. Stokes stated this arrangement can work on an  
297 interim basis. Stokes confirmed that the current membership can keep things moving  
298 forward with a quorum but looks forward to having the full nine members of the

299 committee. Forward asked about the appointees from the Conservation Commission and  
300 the Trails Committee. Furr confirmed that is based on the charter that was worked out  
301 with the Vermont Land Trust back in the beginning. This was based on balancing the  
302 needs of the people focused on forest ecology with people focused on recreation. The  
303 Selectboard does not directly appoint them but votes yea or nay. Furr stated that in order  
304 to change the method of appointing, the by-laws of the ACFC would need to be amended  
305 and the Vermont Land Trust would have to legally sign off on them. Danks confirmed  
306 that those bylaws get approval from the Vermont Land Trust because the bylaws are an  
307 appendix to the forest management plan.

308  
309 Furr confirmed that the ACFC meetings have not been regularly recorded but that  
310 MMCTV is interested.

311  
312 *Forward moved to appoint Cecilia Danks and Ian Stokes as Co-Chairs for the Andrews*  
313 *Community Forest Committee. Sander seconded.*

314  
315 *Forward amended motion to appoint Cecilia Danks and Ian Stokes as interim Co-Chairs*  
316 *until and for the duration of the next Andrews Community Forest Committee meeting or*  
317 *until a permanent Chair is elected. Sander seconded.*

318 *Roll call vote follows discussion.*

319  
320 Montgomery disagreed with the nominations based on how quickly Paul Hauf was turned  
321 down and not given a chance to speak.

322  
323 *Roll Call Vote: Forward, Furr, Hill, Miller, Sander in favor. Motion approved.*

324  
325 **Consideration of taking next steps to consider an easement request from Vermont**  
326 **Electric Power Company (VELCO) located in the Andrews Community Forest**

327 Timestamp: 1:25

328 Details regarding request for Permanent Access Easement from VELCO.pdf  
329 [https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/08/3f1\\_Details\\_r](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/08/3f1_Details_regarding_request_for_Permanent_Access_Easement_from VELCO.pdf)  
330 [egarding request for Permanent Access Easement from VELCO.pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/08/3f1_Details_regarding_request_for_Permanent_Access_Easement_from VELCO.pdf)

331 ACF Perm Access measurement.pdf

332 [https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/08/3f2\\_ACF\\_Pe](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/08/3f2_ACF_Perm_Access_measurement.pdf)  
333 [rm\\_Access\\_measurement.pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/08/3f2_ACF_Perm_Access_measurement.pdf)

334 Standard Access Easement for Access Only revised 6.12.18 1 .pdf

335 [https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/08/3f3\\_Standard](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/08/3f3_Standard_Access_Easement_for_Access_Only_revised_6.12.18_1.pdf)  
336 [\\_Access Easement for Access Only revised 6.12.18 1 .pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/08/3f3_Standard_Access_Easement_for_Access_Only_revised_6.12.18_1.pdf)

337

338 People who participated in discussion: Furr, Littlefield, Danks, Miller, Forward

339

340 Littlefield stated even though she is no longer part of the ACFC she is happy to support  
341 this transition. Littlefield stated that VELCO approached the ACFC several months ago  
342 about paying for permanent access easement that would just guarantee them access and  
343 no obstructions along the access road that they already use. Littlefield stated that in  
344 exchange for a formalized access easement, VELCO will pay \$3.50 per linear foot, that  
345 would be about \$8,000 from VELCO to go to the Town. Littlefield confirmed we  
346 wouldn't see any kind of change in terms of what's going on in the landscape. Danks  
347 asked if they were going to extend the gravel road that they have and that's what was sort  
348 of precipitating a permanent easement. Littlefield stated that pre-dated her involvement

349 but believed that was correct as they are doing repairs on some of the towers in the  
350 image. Towers number 105 & 106 are going to be repaired and the road hardened.  
351 Miller asked if the easement restricts anybody's access from using it. Littlefield thought  
352 that the easement would keep any buildings, dams, or other structures on it and keep it  
353 from being sold to anyone else. Miller asked if the easement is perpetual. Littlefield  
354 confirmed yes. Forward stated that people would still be able to use the trail if nothing  
355 else. Forward expressed surprise as the power line precedes the Town Forest. Miller  
356 asked about herbicide use in the easement for brush clearing. Littlefield confirmed that  
357 the easement doesn't specify herbicide use, but they do use select herbicide applications  
358 in clearing the power lines, no aerial spraying but more targeted on foot with pesticide  
359 facts.

360

361 *Forward moved to allow VELCO to proceed with drafting an easement located in the*  
362 *Andrews Community Forest to be presented to the Selectboard for consideration of*  
363 *approval at a future meeting. Sander seconded.*

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

365

366 **Consideration of approval of lease for office space in the Town Center with Our**  
367 **Community Cares Camp**

368 Timestamp: 1:32

369 RID21-004 Town Ctr 3rd Flr Lease with OCCC 2023 - 2025 DRAFT 8-3-23 with  
370 floorplan.pdf

371 [https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/08/3g\\_RID21-](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/08/3g_RID21-)

372 [004\\_Town\\_Ctr\\_3rd\\_Flr\\_Lease\\_with\\_OCCC\\_2023\\_-\\_2025\\_DRAFT\\_8-3-](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/08/3g_RID21-004_Town_Ctr_3rd_Flr_Lease_with_OCCC_2023_-_2025_DRAFT_8-3-23_with_floorplan.pdf)

373 [23\\_with\\_floorplan.pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/08/3g_RID21-004_Town_Ctr_3rd_Flr_Lease_with_OCCC_2023_-_2025_DRAFT_8-3-23_with_floorplan.pdf)

374

375 People who participated in discussion: Furr, Parent, Sander, Miller

376

377 Furr reviewed that Our Community Cares Camp had been sharing space with Radiate Art  
378 Space. Radiate has changed their staffing arrangements and needed all the space that  
379 they've currently got downstairs. OCC asked if we might have some space in the former  
380 classrooms upstairs. Furr stated that there is a lease in the packet similar to the Senior  
381 Center and Historical Society for \$1 per year.

382

383 *Sander moved to enter into a lease with Our Community Cares Camp for office space in*  
384 *the Town Center for a two-year term with a rental fee of \$1 per year. Miller seconded.*

385 *Roll call vote follows discussion.*

386

387 Forward confirmed that this space was the Superintendent's Office. Forward confirmed  
388 that within this period, we might have some construction and it is stated in the lease that  
389 the Town has the ability to ask them to relocate. Furr expressed gratitude for the Our  
390 Community Cares Camp which is indispensable and vital to our Town.

391

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

393

394 **Update on closure of Borden St. for a block party on August 20, 2023**

395 Timestamp: 1:35

396

397 People who participated in discussion: Furr

398

399 Furr stated that the residents on Borden St have requested that the road be closed on  
400 August 20th from 4 - 9pm. Furr reviewed that it's a private road, the Selectboard has no  
401 authority to close it. The residents are checking with the Champlain Housing Trust on  
402 the proper procedure. Arneson instructed Borden St needs to ensure access for  
403 emergency vehicles. Furr stated this is an update with no action to be taken.  
404

405 **Consideration of request to close Baker St. for a block party on September 9, 2023**

406 Timestamp: 1:36

407 Baker Street block party 2023.pdf

408 [https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/08/3i Baker Str](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/08/3i_Baker_Street_block_party_2023.pdf)  
409 [et\\_block\\_party\\_2023.pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/08/3i_Baker_Street_block_party_2023.pdf)

410

411 People who participated in discussion: Furr, Sander, Forward

412

413 *Forward moved to approve the closure of Baker St. on September 9, 2023, from 3:30 –*  
414 *8:00pm for a block party with a rain date of September 16, 2023. Sander seconded.*

415 *Roll Call Vote: Forward, Furr, Hill, Miller, Sander in favor. Motion approved.*  
416

417 **Consideration of acceptance of FY24 Grant in Aid funding**

418 Timestamp: 1:38

419 RichmondTownMGAGA0633.PDF

420 [https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/08/3j Richmond](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/08/3j_RichmondTownMGAGA0633.PDF)  
421 [TownMGAGA0633.PDF](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/08/3j_RichmondTownMGAGA0633.PDF)

422

423 People who participated in discussion: Furr, Sander, Forward

424

425 Furr stated that every year the State of Vermont has Grant in Aid funding designed to go  
426 toward improving stormwater quality on municipal roads. This is required work and the  
427 money helps pay for the cost.

428

429 *Sander moved to accept the FY24 Grant in Aid funding of \$24,000. Forward seconded.*

430 *Roll Call Vote: Forward, Furr, Hill, Miller, Sander in favor. Motion approved.*  
431

432 **Update on response to flooding**

433 Timestamp: 1:39

434

435 People who participated in discussion: Furr, Arneson, Forward

436

437 Arneson stated that Pete Gosselin had Dirt Tech and John Scott Excavating for ~2 weeks  
438 to help Highway put the roads back together. Those two contractors plus the six-person  
439 crew were working for a few weeks. Arneson summarized that as of July 29 all roads  
440 were restored to two-way traffic. Arneson described that the Highway Department is  
441 working on the play structure of Volunteers Green. Arneson stated that Highway is  
442 cleaning out a lot of the silt at Volunteers Green and repairing the road. Arneson stated  
443 that contractors are contacted to clean up the concession stand and the restrooms as they  
444 had water up close to the ceiling. Arneson stated that bids for cleaning out the Town  
445 Center basement are getting done as well. Arneson reviewed the FEMA briefing of  
446 Monday, July 31. Arneson stated that the Zoning Administrative Officer, Tyler Machia,  
447 collected resources for private homeowners. Forward stated this work would be eligible  
448 for FEMA reimbursement, including overtime work. Forward stated a buyout has to be

449 initiated by the property owner. Forward reviewed that the process is different from  
450 previous years, there is money at the State level to do higher reimbursement than  
451 previously. Forward stated that a buyout would mean the Town would own those  
452 properties just like Cochran Rd after Irene. Arneson added that there is a program for  
453 home elevation. Arneson summarized how Highway Foreman, Pete Gosselin, provides  
454 essential organization skills in these emergency situations.

455

#### 456 **Update from the Town Center and Library Building Committee**

457 Timestamp: 1:45

458

459 People who participated in discussion: Furr, Arneson, Forward

460

461 Forward stated that an architect is involved with a conceptual design to have a  
462 construction estimator give a number. Forward stated that in early September both  
463 designs and a number will be presented to the Selectboard. Forward summarized it  
464 would probably take two meetings to approve details for a bond vote in November.

465

#### 466 **Discussion of American Rescue Plan Act Committee membership**

467 Timestamp: 1:48

468

469 People who participated in discussion: Furr, Forward

470

471 Furr summarized that the ARPA committee has been meeting for about a year and a half  
472 with a mandate to coordinate, collate and suggest ideas for how to spend the \$1.2 million  
473 of ARPA money. Furr reviewed some money has been allocated with about 45% left.  
474 Furr stated that the recreational options are going to be a lot of work. Furr resigned from  
475 the ARPA Committee. Forward stated he was ready to follow Furr's leadership on  
476 ARPA. Miller expressed an interest in possible ARPA membership as Selectboard  
477 representative.

478

#### 479 **Consideration of moving the date of the first Selectboard meeting in September due 480 to Labor Day**

481 Timestamp: 1:49

482

483 People who participated in discussion: Furr, Sander, Hill

484

485 *Sander moved to change the date of the first Selectboard meeting in September from*  
486 *Monday, September 4 to Tuesday, September 5 due to the Labor Day holiday on Monday.*  
487 *Hill seconded.*

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

489

#### 490 **Review of Richmond Rescue Quarterly Update**

491 Timestamp: 1:51

492 Richmond Rescue Quarterly Report 22-23 Q4.pdf

493 [https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/08/30\\_Richmond  
494 Rescue Quarterly Report 22-23 Q4.pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/08/30_Richmond_Rescue_Quarterly_Report_22-23_Q4.pdf)

495

496 People who participated in discussion: Furr, Miller

497

498 Furr stated that they hired their fourth full time employee Sarah Cooper. Furr

499 summarized vehicle specifications and back-country rescues. Furr stated that this data is  
500 available in the packet and website.

501

502 **Approval of Minutes, Warrants and Purchase Orders**

503 Timestamp: 1:54

504

505 **Minutes:**

506

507 *Sander moved to approve the Minutes of 7/17/23. Hill seconded.*

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

509

510 *Sander moved to approve the Minutes of 7/31/23. Hill seconded.*

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

512

513 **Purchase Orders:**

514

515 *Miller moved to approve PO# 4655 to Richard Cowles for 2023 Flood rock and fill not to  
516 exceed \$11,170.00. Sander seconded.*

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

518

519 *Sander moved to approve PO# 4671 to Richmond Rescue for Annual Contribution not to  
520 exceed \$58,338.00. Hill seconded.*

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

522

523 *Miller moved to approve PO# 4675 to Hinesburg Police Department for Police Coverage  
524 June and July 2023 not to exceed \$22,005.00. Sander seconded.*

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

526

527 *Miller moved to approve PO# 4690 to Reynolds Supplies for air packs and face pieces  
528 not to exceed \$13,760.90. Sander seconded.*

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

530

531 *Forward moved to approve PO# 4693 to Richmond Cemetery Commission for Cemetery  
532 Fence not to exceed \$22,353.25. Hill seconded.*

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

534

535 **Warrants:**

536

537 *Sander moved to approve the general warrants as presented on 8/7/2023. Miller  
538 seconded.*

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

540

541 **Discuss Items for Next Agenda:**

542 Timestamp: 2:05

543

544 \*Employee appreciation event

545 \*Speed sign distances

546 \*Trail signs on Cochran Rd

547 \*Police Data/Blotter  
548 \*Town Center & Library updates  
549 \*Aug 14 ACFC Meeting

550

551 **Executive Session**

552 Timestamp: 2:09

553

554 *Forward moved to find that premature public knowledge about the evaluation of an*  
555 *employee would cause the Town or person to suffer a substantial disadvantage. Sander*  
556 *seconded.*

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

558

559 *Forward moved that we enter into executive session to discuss the evaluation of an*  
560 *employee under the provisions of 1 VSA 313(a)(3) and to invite Town Manager Josh*  
561 *Arneson into the executive session. Sander seconded.*

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

563

564 *Sander moved to exit executive session. Hill seconded. All in favor.*

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

566

567 **Adjourn**

568

569 *Sander moved to adjourn. Miller seconded.*

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

571

572 **Meeting adjourned at:** 10:13 pm

573

574 **Chat file from Zoom:**

575

576 01:27:17 Ian Stokes: The Zoom recording is being made, as long as we have  
577 hybrid format

578