

1 **Town of Richmond**
2 **Selectboard Meeting**
3 **Minutes of January 2, 2024**
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
11

12 **Others Present:** Meeting was recorded by MMCTV, Alan J, Angela Cote, Brad Elliott,
13 Bradley Holt, Cara LaBounty, Connie van Eeghen, Daniel Schmidt, Dave Thomas,
14 Denise Barnard, Fran Thomas, Ian Bender, Ian Stokes, Janet, JanetMo Vermont, Jason
15 Pelletier, John Linn, Kendra Ziskie, Mark Fausel, Martha, Mary Claire Carroll, Mary
16 Houle, Michael Storrs, Patty Brushett, Robert Low, Sam Pratt, Tess Storrs, Virginia
17 Clarke, Wright Preston
18

19 **MMCTV Video:**

20 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lOkq7b6YFuk&list=PLm9TgJr7n7xfcKxRghWWSdATHBzGOTgkK&index=2>
21

22 **Call to Order:** 7:00 pm
23

24 **Welcome by:** Furr
25

26 **Public Comment:**
27

28 Houle reviewed the damage to the Volunteers Green planters and stated that this
29 emphasized the importance to preserve Browns Court as a play area. Houle stated that
30 once we lose Browns Court, we will never get it back again for recreation.
31

32 Furr recognized Wyatt Patrick Thomas Murray as the first Vermont baby born in 2024.
33

34 Hill suggested an overview of who is responsible for gravel and flood damage that has
35 landed on somebody's property. Furr stated it would be a good item for the next meeting.
36

37 **Additions or Deletions to Agenda:**
38

39 LaBounty requested moving (h) and (i) to the beginning of the meeting. Furr stated he
40 would prefer not to move them up as other involved parties may not be here until later.
41 Forward stated that the agenda helps people online know when they are discussing
42 certain issues.
43

44 **Items for Presentation or Discussion with those present.**
45

46 **Update on Narcan availability at the Town Center**

47 Timestamp: 0:08
48

49 People who participated in discussion: Furr, Forward, Hill, Houle
50

51 Furr reviewed the Narcan availability at the Town Center as Richmond Rescue might not
52 be available so the Town staff, Town Clerk, Assistant Town Clerk, Town Finance
53 Director, Town Manager and Assistant to the Town Manager and a few others got trained
54 on how to administer Narcan. Furr detailed the 25 bags with each bag containing 2
55 Narcan nasal sprays, 2 face masks, 6 moist towelettes, 9 fentanyl drug test strips, 9
56 xylazine test strips and 1 device for use during mouth to mouth and Vermont Cares is
57 prepared to give more if needed. Houle suggested making sure the kit includes gloves.

58

59 **Consideration of entering an appearance in the appeals of the Development Review**
60 **Board's approval of the Hillview Heights final subdivision application, possible**
61 **executive session**

62 Timestamp: 0:13

63 [https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3b1_DRB_1](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3b1_DRB_1-15-23_decision_1.pdf)
64 [1-15-23_decision_1.pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3b1_DRB_1-15-23_decision_1.pdf)

65

66 [https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3b2_23-12-](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3b2_23-12-07_Notice_of_Appeal_of_DRB_Decision_-_Final_Subdivision_Approval.pdf)
67 [07_Notice_of_Appeal_of_DRB_Decision_-_Final_Subdivision_Approval.pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3b2_23-12-07_Notice_of_Appeal_of_DRB_Decision_-_Final_Subdivision_Approval.pdf)

68

69 [https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3b3_23-12-](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3b3_23-12-11_Notice_of_Appeal.pdf)
70 [11_Notice_of_Appeal.pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3b3_23-12-11_Notice_of_Appeal.pdf)

71

72 People who participated in discussion: Furr, Arneson, Forward, Sander, Miller, Hill

73

74 *Forward moved to authorize the Town's attorneys at Stitzel, Page & Fletcher to enter an*
75 *appearance on the Town's behalf in the appeals of the Development Review Board's*
76 *approval of the Hillview Heights final subdivision application. Sander seconded.*

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

78

79 **Consideration of making an appointment to the Andrews Community Forest**
80 **Committee**

81 Timestamp: 0:17

82 [https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3c1_ACFC -](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3c1_ACFC_-_Wright_Preston.pdf)
83 [_Wright_Preston.pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3c1_ACFC_-_Wright_Preston.pdf)

84

85 [https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3c2_ACFC](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3c2_ACFC_Minutes_Discussing_Wright_Preston.pdf)
86 [Minutes_Discussing_Wright_Preston.pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3c2_ACFC_Minutes_Discussing_Wright_Preston.pdf)

87

88 [https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3c3_Email_fr](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3c3_Email_from_ACFC.pdf)
89 [om_ACFC.pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3c3_Email_from_ACFC.pdf)

90

91 [https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3c4_RCC_mi](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3c4_RCC_minutes_discussing_Wright_Preston.pdf)
92 [nutes_discussing_Wright_Preston.pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3c4_RCC_minutes_discussing_Wright_Preston.pdf)

93

94 [https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3c5_RTC_mi](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3c5_RTC_minutes_discussing_Wright_Preston.pdf)
95 [nutes_discussing_Wright_Preston.pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3c5_RTC_minutes_discussing_Wright_Preston.pdf)

96

97 People who participated in discussion: Furr, Miller, Hill, Preston, Forward, Miller

98

99 Furr reviewed the current history of the Andrews Community Forest Committee
100 appointment process. Preston reviewed his experiences with the Trails Committee and

101 the Andrews Community Forest Committee. Preston stated that it isn't a conflict, but he
102 is an abutting landowner on the northeast section of the forest. Preston reviewed his
103 interests in serving administrative and bureaucratic functions for the Andrews
104 Community Forest Committee. Preston expressed an interest to march forward with
105 solutions and get a timeline for the revised trail management plan. Preston reviewed his
106 experiences with Town government.

107

108 *Forward moved to appoint Wright Preston to the at-large seat on the Andrews*
109 *Community Forest Committee with a term expiring in 2024. Sander seconded.*
110 *Roll Call Vote: Forward, Furr, Hill, Miller, Sander in favor. Motion approved.*

111

112 **Consideration of making an appointment to the Planning Commission**

113 Timestamp: 0:32

114 https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3d_Planning
115 [Commission - Ian Bender.pdf](#)

116

117 People who participated in discussion: Furr, Bender, Miller, Forward, Sander

118

119 Bender reviewed his experience with the Development Review Board, the reconstruction
120 of the Town Plan. Bender presented his prepared statement for his appointment.

121 Forward stated that he respects Bender's arguments and intelligence as a useful member
122 of the community.

123

124 *Forward moved to appoint Ian Bender to the Planning Commission to fill a vacancy with*
125 *a term expiring in 2026. Miller seconded.*

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

127

128 **Consideration of approval of engineer for northern portion of sidewalk on the** 129 **eastern side of Bridge St. and approval of use of ARPA funds for final design of the** 130 **project**

131 Timestamp: 0:35

132 https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3e1_Richmo
133 [nd_Bridge_Street_Sidewalk_North_VHB_Proposal_Revised_12-22-2023.pdf](#)

134

135 https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3e2_Cost_Sh
136 [heet for Bridge St. North sidewalk.pdf](#)

137

138 https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3e3_Revised
139 [_Preliminary_Estimate_12-22-2023_Bridge_St_Only.pdf](#)

140

141 https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3e4_ARPA
142 [Project_List.pdf](#)

143

144 People who participated in discussion: Furr, Miller, Forward, Cote, Arneson, Hill,
145 LaBounty

146

147 Furr reviewed the use of some funds for the sidewalk and other ARPA projects. Furr
148 stated that the \$450,000 for Recreation Committee miscellaneous projects might include
149 some money in paying for the final design portion of this Bridge St project. Furr

150 summarized the request to spend \$49,493 of the remaining \$256,000 on the sidewalk
151 project.

152
153 *Forward moved to enter into an agreement with VHB for final design for the northern*
154 *portion of sidewalk on the eastern side of Bridge St. and to approve the use of \$49,493 in*
155 *ARPA funds to pay for this work. Miller seconded.*

156
157 *Roll Call Vote follows discussion.*

158
159 Arneson summarized that the \$49,000 for the complete project design is in addition to the
160 initial \$254,000 that was allocated by the Selectboard last spring. Hill stated that
161 Selectboard members and taxpayers should remember that as we build stuff, there has to
162 be repair and maintenance. LaBounty stated that we hold those overseeing the project
163 accountable if there are issues. LaBounty suggested moving those funds already
164 budgeted into the maintenance sidewalk account rather than a new sidewalk account.

165
166 *Roll Call Vote: Forward, Furr, Hill, Miller, Sander in favor. Motion approved.*

167
168 **Review of response from Emergency Watershed Protection Program**

169 Timestamp: 0:55

170 https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3f_Richmond
171 [EWP 5041 Eligibility Letter 2023-12-09.pdf](#)

172
173 People who participated in discussion: Furr, Arneson, Forward, Miller

174
175 Arneson stated that the Emergency Water Protection Program might be able to help with
176 a swale that was forming between Esplanade/Church St, runoff behind Tilden Ave,
177 multiple sections of Cochran Rd and Dugway Rd. Arneson stated that he visited all
178 seven sites with the representative and none of them qualify as he explained it is more
179 about protecting structures from bank erosion threat of a river or a stream.

180
181 **Follow up on repairs of damage from December 18-19, 2023 flooding**

182 Timestamp: 0:58

183
184 People who participated in discussion: Furr, Hill, Forward, Miller, Arneson

185
186 Furr stated that the damage from this flood did not reach the epic proportions of July but
187 in order to qualify for FEMA reimbursement, things have to cost a certain amount. Furr
188 stated that it does not appear that Chittenden County is going to have enough damage to
189 qualify for FEMA declaration. Furr reviewed the roadway flooding as a small mudslide
190 on Kenyon Road, two driveway culverts on Stage Rd, and small erosion to the sides of
191 roads that was repaired within days.

192
193 Furr reviewed Volunteers Green flooding as the flagpole/monument were tipped over and
194 formed a large crater, a small amount of pavement in the parking lot that was torn up.
195 Furr stated that the Highway staff has reset the flagpole and monument, smoothed the
196 area, ordered new mulch, and found a replacement slide. Furr stated that the park road
197 has a large area of silt deposits stretching from behind the Bandstand to the second
198 baseball field. Furr reviewed that the Highway staff remove as much of it as possible
199 without damaging the grass and reset the dugout poles. Furr reviewed that the concession

200 stand and restrooms received a lot of silt and will need to be disinfected and drywall
201 replaced perhaps with pressure treated plywood instead.
202
203 Furr stated that there was water in the crawlspace under the Post Office and a sump pump
204 was able to get most of the water out and we will be hiring 4SmartProLLC to clean up the
205 remaining water.

206
207 Furr stated that the biggest damage from the flood was the tree that caught on the Bridge
208 Street bridge damaged the sewer line as it is bent, not leaking but lost a lot of insulation.
209 Furr stated that it's going to cost at least \$24,000 to replace that due to the scaffolding to
210 access the pipe. Furr stated that the water pump house had some water in the clear well,
211 but the pump was turned off prior to the flood, the clear wells were cleaned and tested
212 and back online. Furr stated that the wastewater treatment facility typically processes
213 about 60 to 70,000 gallons of wastewater per day but during the flood it processed
214 1,173,000 gallons as of 3pm. Furr stated that there was a 20-minute period where the
215 water was not fully treated, and this was quickly corrected. Furr reviewed that a lot of
216 repairs to the plant are part of the 20-year engineering study. Hill reviewed that most of
217 this is within the purview of the Water Sewer Commission and paid for by customers.
218

219 **Consideration of waiving permit fees for construction related to the recent flooding**
220 **on buildings located in the floodplain**

221 Timestamp: 1:10

222

223 People who participated in discussion: Furr, Miller, Forward, LaBounty

224

225 *Per the power granted to the Selectboard in the Development Permit Fees schedule,*
226 *Footnote 7, Miller moved that the Town of Richmond Selectboard waive any*
227 *Development Permitting Fees associated with the recent flooding event of December 18-*
228 *19, 2023. The requirement for permits in the Special Flood Hazard Overlay District and*
229 *all other districts shall still apply, only the fees are waived. Forward seconded.*
230 *Roll Call Vote: Forward, Furr, Hill, Miller, Sander in favor. Motion approved.*

231

232 **Discussion of use of Browns Ct. for recreation and housing; and discussion of**
233 **potential housing summit**

234 Timestamp: 1:13

235

236 People who participated in discussion: Furr, Hill, Carroll, Forward, Barnard, Miller,
237 Thomas, van Eeghen, Clarke, LaBounty, Storrs, Thomas, Ziskie, Sander

238

239 Furr summarized the discussion of the use of Browns Court for recreation and housing
240 and a potential housing summit. Furr identified the recreational constituency of our
241 Town where people need recreational opportunities and the housing constituency and a
242 potential housing summit that includes how much of it is affordable and at what level.
243 Hill summarized the opportunity with ARPA funds to improve recreation along with the
244 housing crisis. Hill asked if it is possible or desirable to do multiple things at Browns
245 Court. Hill asked if the Town has a role in addressing housing. Furr reviewed the ARPA
246 survey summary of recreation categories, descriptions, and number of items suggested:
247 [https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/ARPA_Committee/General/Summary_of_A](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/ARPA_Committee/General/Summary_of_ARPA_suggestions_as_of_12-14-22.pdf)
248 [RPA_suggestions_as_of_12-14-22.pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/ARPA_Committee/General/Summary_of_ARPA_suggestions_as_of_12-14-22.pdf)

249

250 Carroll asked about progress on the surveying of the land on Browns Court. Carroll
251 thought a housing summit would be helpful in determining housing needs. Forward
252 agreed with Carroll and thought a survey might be an action item. Barnard stated that
253 Tuesday December 19, the Town of Richmond hired Chris Haggerty to do the survey
254 done by the second week of January.

255
256 Miller asked what other specific spots in the Town will there be in the future for housing,
257 and recreation together. Miller stated that if it's a popular spot for recreation good, but
258 it's going to increase traffic and there's going to be a problem at that intersection on the
259 road. Miller suggested a map of what our land use might be in 20 years. Forward stated
260 that one value of a summit is to invite people who build affordable housing and discuss
261 what is affordable housing. Thomas stated that there was a study from not long ago that
262 shows places that could have housing. Clarke stated that the Planning Commission is
263 talking with Jolina Ct about more units. Clarke confirmed that both the Housing
264 Committee and Planning Commission have struggled with the affordable part of housing
265 for a long time and have pivoted to more housing. LaBounty stated that our community
266 needs housing in general and homes at a starter home value. LaBounty agreed with
267 Forward that a summit would define affordable housing outside of HUD, determine who
268 can build it, identify if the Town buys property, use current resources, and detail the
269 history of existing affordable housing projects in Richmond. LaBounty expressed
270 concern as an ARPA committee member about a summit and the postponed use of the
271 recreational money. LaBounty stated that Browns Court is the only land that the Town
272 owns that is not in the floodplain. LaBounty reviewed that the Richmond Land Trust
273 bought the Bombardier Meadow in Jonesville as a community recreational resource.
274 LaBounty confirmed that she is not opposed to the summit, but it should not hold up the
275 Parks committee's recommendation to the Selectboard. Furr stated that the ARPA
276 committee does have to make allocations this calendar year so there is not time to do all
277 this research. Hill stated that it's appropriate to move forward with both with more
278 nuanced conversation about space and use and desirability. Hill stated that there's a lot of
279 evidence that the free market has not solved the housing crisis in Vermont. Hill asked
280 what we can learn from our neighboring towns. Miller stated that for affordable housing,
281 Brown Ct does not look like the best use of that property, but we do need workforce
282 housing. Miller asked if we grew our population by another 1000 people, how could
283 subsidize our waste treatment plant and subsidize our tax base. Furr suggested they
284 compile their thoughts, bring in the survey, find funding available from the State and
285 Federal government. Van Eeghen reviewed the upcoming meeting of the Housing
286 Committee on January 24, 2024:

287 <https://www.richmondvt.gov/calendar/meeting/housing-1-24-24>

288
289 Barnard reviewed the three parks the Town of Richmond can use for recreation, a very
290 small green at the Old Round Church without the parking lot and sledding hill, the
291 Volunteers Green which is ~22 acres, and Browns Court which is 3.06 acres. Barnard
292 asked the Selectboard to make a motion to not use Browns Court as housing. Barnard
293 requested the Selectboard extend the deadline if indeed they want to hold the housing
294 summit. Storrs reviewed the current estimates and options for pickleball, tennis, and
295 multi-functional courts. Thomas reviewed work on a path around Volunteers Green.
296 Thomas reviewed the frustration and difficulties of dealing with the playground,
297 bandshell, and trails with concerns about future flooding and environmental concerns.
298 Ziskie reviewed the three meetings scheduled for January with the second one all about
299 playgrounds:

300 [https://www.richmondvt.gov/boards-meetings/volunteers-green-and-browns-court-](https://www.richmondvt.gov/boards-meetings/volunteers-green-and-browns-court-project-committee)
301 [project-committee](https://www.richmondvt.gov/boards-meetings/volunteers-green-and-browns-court-project-committee)

302

303

304 Furr asked the other Selectboard members their thoughts about a motion. Sander stated it
305 was not competing needs but parallel work. Miller stated no opposition to recreational
306 facilities but didn't want to give up the window for housing. Furr reviewed his concerns
307 about parking for tenants and arrangements where you enforce 6 people showing up to
308 play tennis. Hill stated concern about the space question for a building footprint with
309 pickleball and softball field and not also fit a tennis court, a tennis court without that
310 footprint of housing. Forward stated that he was not convinced that they're mutually
311 exclusive. Forward stated that there was not a full proposal for anything yet and he feels
312 responsible for meeting the multiple needs we have in the Town. LaBounty stated that
313 putting in a path has the same environmental impact as putting sidewalks in the
314 floodplain. LaBounty stated that the accessibility for the Bandshell by the federal
315 government trumps anything including our regulations in the floodplain, because they
316 cannot deny access. Clarke encouraged people to think about Browns Court to allow for
317 a playground structure as floods take out the current playground structure.

318

319 **Discussion of rules and procedures related to conducting the business of the**

320 **Andrews Community Forest Committee**

321 Timestamp: 2:46

322

323 People who participated in discussion: Furr, Schmidt, Hill, Arneson, Forward, Miller,
324 Stokes, Preston

325

326 Furr reviewed the discussion about the best way for the ACFC to work within the Town
327 structure. Furr reviewed that Open Meeting Laws require that discussions with more than
328 a quorum of members take place in public session where everybody can listen. Furr
329 reviewed that the ACFC cannot retroactively authorize money that they've spent and
330 trails that have been constructed but not officially authorized.

331

332 Schmidt reviewed his role as co-chair on the ACFC. Schmidt summarized the ways that
333 the ACFC is setting a precedent of moving forward in productive ways in compliance
334 with all the rules and bylaws. Hill asked if subcommittees unto themselves have quorums
335 and have to be warned with minutes. Arneson stated that he would seek more advice
336 from the attorney. Forward read from the VLCT's Vermont's Open Meeting Law
337 (<https://www.vlct.org/topics/vermonts-open-meeting-law>) "The Law applies when there
338 is (1) a quorum of a public body; (2) involved in a discussion or taking action; and (3) the
339 subject matter of the discussion is one over which the body has authority or
340 responsibility." Arneson reviewed that typically a subcommittee of this board or others,
341 it's less than a quorum. Forward reviewed the bureaucratic reasons as a public purpose to
342 be transparent. Schmidt asked for guidance on if two people are going to get together to
343 make a map then is that a sub-committee. Furr summarized how the proposals from the
344 ACFC regarding construction of trails comply with Town zoning standards. Schmidt
345 confirmed that the committee has every intention of following every zoning and
346 administration suggestion. Stokes reviewed the helpful interactions with many levels of
347 Town governance. Preston reviewed how the committee is regulated by a whole bunch
348 of different groups.

349

350 **Consideration of approval of Necessity Resolution, Declaration of Official Intent,**
351 **Warning and Ballot item for a vote on a Note to fund renovations to the Town**
352 **Center**

353 Timestamp: 3:13

354 [https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3k1_RID23-](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3k1_RID23-001_Town_Ctr_NecRes_FINAL_DRAFT_V2_23-12-29_bonds.pdf)
355 [001_Town_Ctr_NecRes_FINAL_DRAFT_V2_23-12-29_bonds.pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3k1_RID23-001_Town_Ctr_NecRes_FINAL_DRAFT_V2_23-12-29_bonds.pdf)

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357 [https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3k2_RID23-](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3k2_RID23-004_Town_Ctr_Decl_of_Intent_FINAL_DRAFT_V2_23-12-29_bonds.pdf)
358 [004_Town_Ctr_Decl_of_Intent_FINAL_DRAFT_V2_23-12-29_bonds.pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3k2_RID23-004_Town_Ctr_Decl_of_Intent_FINAL_DRAFT_V2_23-12-29_bonds.pdf)

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360 [https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3k3_RID23-](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3k3_RID23-002_Town_Ctr_Ballot_FINAL_DRAFT_V3_23-12-29_bonds.pdf)
361 [002_Town_Ctr_Ballot_FINAL_DRAFT_V3_23-12-29_bonds.pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3k3_RID23-002_Town_Ctr_Ballot_FINAL_DRAFT_V3_23-12-29_bonds.pdf)

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363 [https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3k4_RID23-](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3k4_RID23-003_Town_Ctr_Warning_FINAL_DRAFT_V3_23-12-29_bonds.pdf)
364 [003_Town_Ctr_Warning_FINAL_DRAFT_V3_23-12-29_bonds.pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3k4_RID23-003_Town_Ctr_Warning_FINAL_DRAFT_V3_23-12-29_bonds.pdf)

365

366 People who participated in discussion: Furr, Arneson, Forward, Miller, Hill

367

368 Arneson reviewed the funding of the Town Center renovation project and the necessary
369 paperwork to put it on to the Town Meeting ballot. Arneson stated that the attorney
370 drafted the language that it could be either so the Town votes on it and then after that the
371 Selectboard can look at interest rates. Forward stated that we won't spend a lot of money
372 soon with final design before it can go out to bid. Furr reviewed the documents in the
373 packet.

374

375 *Sander moved to adopt the Declaration of Intent, the Resolution of Necessity, the form of*
376 *Warning, and official ballot for a vote at Town Meeting Day regarding the funding of the*
377 *Town Center Renovation project. Miller seconded.*

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

379

380 **Consideration of approving slightly amended FY25 Budget to be considered for**
381 **approval by the voters at Town Meeting**

382 Timestamp: 3:23

383 [https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/311_FY25_B](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/311_FY25_Budget_FINAL_12-29-23_PDF.pdf)
384 [udget_FINAL_12-29-23_PDF.pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/311_FY25_Budget_FINAL_12-29-23_PDF.pdf)

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386 [https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/312_FY25_B](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/312_FY25_Budget_FINAL_12-29-23.xls)
387 [udget_FINAL_12-29-23.xls](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/312_FY25_Budget_FINAL_12-29-23.xls)

388

389 People who participated in discussion: Furr, Arneson, Forward, Sander

390

391 Arneson reviewed that the donations for social services need their own individual line
392 item be voted on at Town Meeting. Arneson stated that Community Wellbeing is not a
393 specific request from a specific organization but relates to projects that come up through
394 the year like substance abuse prevention work. Arneson suggested that be put into
395 Admin for the \$5,000 because there isn't a requesting agency and there is the revenue
396 side offset of \$5,000 to come from the opioid settlement. Arneson summarized that this
397 changes the amount of Unassigned funds that they can use to lower the tax rate increase

398 from last year to 5.1%.

399

400 *Forward moved to approve the FY25 budget as amended from the December 18, 2023*

401 *Selectboard meeting to be considered for approval by the voters at Town Meeting.*

402 *Sander seconded.*

403 *Roll Call Vote: Forward, Furr, Hill, Sander in favor. Miller not in favor. Motion*

404 *approved.*

405

406 **Review of Town Meeting Warning**

407 Timestamp: 3:28

408 https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3m1_TOWN

409 [REPORT 2023 WARNING DRAFT 12-29-24.pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3m1_TOWN_REPORT_2023_WARNING_DRAFT_12-29-24.pdf)

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411 [https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3m2_Vermo](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3m2_VermontFamilyNetworkFY25.pdf)

412 [ntFamilyNetworkFY25.pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3m2_VermontFamilyNetworkFY25.pdf)

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414 [https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3m3_AgeWe](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3m3_AgeWellFY25-combined.pdf)

415 [llFY25-combined.pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3m3_AgeWellFY25-combined.pdf)

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417 [https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3m4_VCILF](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3m4_VCILFY25-combined.pdf)

418 [Y25-combined.pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3m4_VCILFY25-combined.pdf)

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420 [https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3m5_COTSF](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3m5_COTSFundingFY25-combined.pdf)

421 [undingFY25-combined.pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3m5_COTSFundingFY25-combined.pdf)

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423 [https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3m6_OCCC](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3m6_OCCC FundingFY25-combined.pdf)

424 [FundingFY25-combined.pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3m6_OCCC FundingFY25-combined.pdf)

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426 [https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3m7_STEPS](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3m7_STEPS AppFY25-combined.pdf)

427 [AppFY25-combined.pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3m7_STEPS AppFY25-combined.pdf)

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429 [https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3m8_TPCCC](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3m8_TPCCCFY25-combined.pdf)

430 [FY25-combined.pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3m8_TPCCCFY25-combined.pdf)

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432 [https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3m9_HOPE](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3m9_HOPE WorksFY25-combined.pdf)

433 [WorksFY25-combined.pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3m9_HOPE WorksFY25-combined.pdf)

434

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

436

437 Furr summarized the approval for charitable expenditures. Furr reviewed that individual

438 articles on the Town Meeting ballot shall ask the Richmond voters to approve X amount

439 to a requesting organization for this specific service. Furr summarized the Town Meeting

440 warning Articles in the packet. Arneson confirmed that there is still time to get feedback

441 approved in two weeks. Forward reviewed that the Articles are all based on specific

442 requests.

443

444 **Review of monthly update from Planning and Zoning**

445 Timestamp: 3:35

446 [https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3n_Planing_a](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3n_Planing_and_Zoning_November-December_2023_monthly_update.pdf)

447 [nd Zoning November-December 2023 monthly update.pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2023/12/3n_Planing_and_Zoning_November-December_2023_monthly_update.pdf)

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People who participated in discussion: Furr, Arneson, Miller

Arneson stated that the summary is available in the packet.

Approval of Minutes, Purchase Orders, Warrants

Timestamp: 3:37

Minutes:

Sander moved to approve the Minutes of 12/18/23. Miller seconded.

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

Purchase Orders: None

Warrants:

Sander moved to approve the general warrants on 1/2/2024 as presented. Miller seconded.

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

Next Meeting Agenda

*Flood damage update

*NARCAN protocol

*MMCTV PSA on approval of charitable appropriations

Adjourn

Sander moved to adjourn. Miller seconded.

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

Meeting adjourned at: 10:40 p.m.

Chat file from Zoom:

00:52:17 Angela Cote: Is the 49k for the complete project design? or it is in addition to other funds allocated for design?

00:53:06 Angela Cote: Thanks

01:05:30 John Linn, AIA: VHB stands for Vanasse Hangen Brustlin. It's an engineering firm out of South Burlington

01:27:23 MMCTV Erin Wagg: Alan J hand raised

01:34:57 Cara: Is the housing summit for only Brown's Court or for all of the town?

01:53:25 Patty Brushett: We also have recreational opportunities at Camels Hump and the Elementary school.

02:49:35 Cara: Great idea V. Clark