1	Town of Richmond
2	Selectboard Meeting
3	Minutes of August 5, 2024
4	Timutes of Fingust 6, 2021
5 6	Members Present: Adam Wood, Bard Hill, David Sander, Jay Furr, Lisa Miller
7 8	Absent: None
9 10	Staff Present: Duncan Wardwell, Assistant to the Town Manager; Linda Parent, Town Clerk; Tyler Machia, Zoning Administrator.
11	Others Present: Meeting was recorded by MMCTV, Cara LaBounty, Suzanne Zereloff,
12	Jeff Forward, Jim Feinson, Shay DiCocco, Cath Burns, MRH, Ernie Buford, Keith
13	Oborne, Julie Welkowitz, Pete O'Neill, Ash Krider, Sylvain Quintal, Eric Berliner,
14	Connie van Eeghen, Ernie Buford, Ian Bender, Rachel's iPad, Elizabeth L (OpReco)
15	MOMOTONIN' D' 1 101 1 10 5 0004 (11)
16	MMCTV Video: Richmond Selectboard 8-5-2024 (youtube.com)
17 18	Call to Order: 7:00 pm
19	Can to Order: 7.00 pm
20	Welcome by: Sander
21	Welcome by. Sander
22	Public Comment:
23	Timestamp: 0:02
24	Forward, Town Energy Coordinator, described: last week they had an energy audit done
25	on this building. That is part of the municipal energy Resilience Program. One piece of
26	that will be a cost benefit analysis of putting solar on this building. The Town Center
27	Committee determined that we could put solar on this building. When TCC looked at it,
28	they estimated \$100,000 for thirty kilowatts. There is a possibility of receiving a check
29	from the Treasury to the town for 30% of what the installation cost would be, as a grant.
30	Suggestion was made by Forward to use ARPA money for a solar upgrade, which was
31	contested by LaBounty, arguing that suggestions about the Town Center should go
32	through the Town Center Committee.
33	
34	Additions or Deletions to Agenda:
35	Timestamp: 0:05
36	
37	People who participated in discussion: Sander, Furr,
38 39	Furr moved to strike item L from the agenda because that was already done previously.
39 40	Miller suggested adding a discussion about the Trails Committee membership size, to shrink it from fifteen down to nine in order to reach a quorum easier.
41	shrink it from mitteen down to fine in order to reach a quorum easier.
42	Items for Presentation or Discussion with those present
43	Tems for Tresentation of Discussion with those present
44	Update on flood recovery and flood related discussions
45	Timestamp: 0:08
46	https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2024/08/3a response
47	from VTrans on Rt. 2.pdf

48

49 People who participated in discussion: Sander, Wardwell. LaBounty, Zereloff, Forward, 50 DiCocco, Burns

51

52 Wardwell stated: Josh has updated the Emergency Watershed Protection Program (EWP) 53 on the Town of Richmond website. There is also interest from property owners in the 54

buyouts and elevation programs. We have three property owners that are interested in the

55 Elevation Program, and 2 in the buyout program. It is not clear how high you have to 56

elevate until you start to investigate on a case-by-case basis. Miller emphasized: You

57 would not be able to do both programs, one or the other. LaBounty: "is the state covering

58 the 25% match for eligible elevation projects, which makes elevations essentially free for

59 the homeowner? Is the state providing admin support for the EWP or buy-out program?

60 Or is it going to be covered by the Town?

Wardwell: "This current flood has not yet been declared a FEMA event, so it is unclear 61

62 who will be covering the 25%, the homeowner or the state. The previous flood was a

FEMA declared event and the 25% will be covered by the state."

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Forward brought up: Concern from citizens regarding beaver dams and damage these dams create when they let loose during any major weather event. Can beaver dams be managed preemptively?

Hill stated that man-made dam safety does not apply to beaver made dams. Hill wondered if beaver dam issues could be added to the EWP program.

70 71

Sander declared by reading an email exchange between Matthew Bogaczyk and Josh

72 Arneson: The elevation of Route 2 has increased about three inches to create crowning on 73 the road for better watershed.

74 DiCocco argued that the grades in the roads at Red Barn Lane and Lily Pond Circle are

75 different from what is stated in that email exchange and that culverts are still getting 76 clogged with debris.

77 Cath Burns concurred, stating that she wondered if the current culvert placement is ideal 78 or if VTrans needs to revisit culvert placements based off the way water pooling from the 79 last flood. Since water ended up in her basement from road runoff.

80 81

Discussion of financing options for flood recovery expenses

Timestamp: 0:31

82 83 84

People who participated in discussion: Sander, Bona, Feinson, Hill, LaBounty, Miller

85

Bona advised regarding the quandary between borrowing from our reserves to pay for the

86 87 most recent flood damage, until we can get reimbursed from FEMA vs. getting a line of 88 credit from a bank. Bona reported that TD Bank and Bond Bank are off the table for lines

89 of credit since this has not yet been declared a FEMA event. Union Bank could offer a \$3 90 million line of credit for a year @ 6.5%. Northfield Savings Bank can offer up to \$4 mill

91 @ 4.75%. We have \$3 million in reserves tied up in CDs. If we use from our reserves, we

92 will need to put that money back piecemeal. Similarly, lines of credit must be repaid in

93 one year. Bona's recommendation is to sit tight and wait until the Bond Bank gets back to

94 us at the end of Oct or the loan rates drop a bit.

95 Hill asked regarding how much money does the Town need for flood repairs this time?

He continued that the State may have loans at the state or federal level in terms of 96

97 financial relief for flood damage. Feinson concurred that no action is needed immediately, but getting approved for a line of credit soon is a good idea. He continued that we do have funds available in the bank right now, \$1.6 million, or so, that we can use imminently.

101 102

This was tabled.

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Consideration of approving an Emergency Order No. 2024-01, which would temporarily eliminate the requirement to obtain a zoning permit or approval from the Development Review Board for certain activities in the Flood Hazard Overlay District including alterations to streams, including bank stabilization, channel management, or drainage swales

109 Timestamp: 0:51

https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2024/08/3c1_RID_J
uly 2024 Flood Relief Emergency Order 2024-01 Final 08-01-24 mis.pdf

112

https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2024/08/3c2_Addend
um 1 to Amended and Restated EO 03-23.pdf

115

People who participated in discussion: Sander, Machia, Oborne, Wodd, Furr, Miller, Zereloff, Welkowitz

118

Machia stated that we are one of the few municipalities that put permits on streams and rivers, which should belong to the state. Oborne emphasized that approving Emergency Order No. 2024-01 was essential and would eliminate the DRB wait time and allow Zoning and Planning to act quickly. Machia explained that this is related to Emergency incidents only, the ability to regulate waterways is difficult, because waterways are a public resource even when on private land. Wood stated that this is related to the Flood

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- Hill moved to approve Emergency Order No. 2024-01 which provides for temporary suspension of certain zoning approval requirements in the flood hazard overlay zoning district. Miller seconded.
- 130 Roll Call Vote follows discussion.

Hazard Overlay District only.

131

- 132 LaBounty was concerned that people who live close to streams not included in the Flood
- Hazard Overlay District, but who have damage from the most recent flood, would not be
- included in this. Machia stated that those properties would also fall under this Emergency
- 135 Order No. 2024-01.
- Machia explained you do need a permit if it involves stream alteration. Stream alterations
- would be permitted quickly if this is approved. Hill suggested to modify this emergency
- order which presently reads: "temporary suspension of certain zoning approval
- requirements in the flood hazard overlay zoning district," to omit the phrase "in the flood
- hazard overlay district." Machia concurred.
- Hill added, it is important to note this is only for flood related emergency orders, not
- other DRB approvals. Machia said it is important to not it does not apply to all DRB
- approval. Oborne stated to be careful and not strike Section 6.8 as it reads. Welkowitz
- concerned with activity done to a stream or bank upstream that would affect her
- 145 downstream.

147	Hill moved to amend line 2: For any stream or bank alteration or riverbed not included
148	in the official flood hazard overlay district, the above-mentioned exemptions still apply.
149	Miller seconded.
150	Roll Call Vote: Hill, Furr, Miller, Sander, Wood in favor. Motion approved.
151	
152	
153	Consideration of approval of contractor to clean, and repair flood damage in,
154	Volunteers Green
155	Timestamp: 1:26
156 157	https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2024/08/3d1_Mow_N Maintain Bid.pdf
158	
159	https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2024/08/3d2_Richmo
160	nd_TownVolunteers_Green_Repairs_RFP.pdf
161	
162	https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2024/08/3d3_Photos_
163	for_Volunteers_Green_RFP.pdf
164	
165	https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2024/08/3d4_Volunte
166	ers_Green_Repairs_RFP_Addendum.pdf
167	
168	People who participated in discussion: Sander, Furr, Hill, Wardwell
169	
170	Furr moved to hire Mow N Maintain for clean-up and repair of Volunteers Green
171	including the removal of fallen trees at an amount not to exceed \$26,500. Hill seconded.
172	Roll Call Vote: Hill, Furr, Miller, Sander, Wood in favor. Motion approved.
173	
174	Consideration of request to close Baker St. for a block party on September 7, 2024
175	Timestamp: 1:29
176	https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2024/08/3e_request_t
177	o close Baker St. for a block party.pdf
178	
179	People who participated in discussion: Sander, Miller, Furr
180	
181	Hill moved to approve the closure of Baker St. on September 7, 2024, from 3:30 – 8:00
182	pm for a block party with a rain date of September 14, 2024. Furr seconded.
183	Roll Call Vote: Hill, Furr, Miller, Sander, Wood in favor. Motion approved.
184	
185	
186	Consideration of making appointments to the Committee to Explore Funding
187	Options for a Recreation Path from the Village to Riverview Commons
188	Timestamp: 1:30
189	https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2024/08/3f Aiken
190	Mark.pdf
191	
192	People who participated in discussion: Sander, Wardwell, Wood, Hill, Miller
193	respie who participated in discussion. Sunder, wardwell, wood, thii, willer
193	Wood moved to appoint Mark Aiken and Jared Katz to the Committee to Explore Funding
195	Options for a Recreation Path from the Village to Riverview Commons. Hill seconded.
196	Roll Call Vote: Hill, Furr, Miller, Sander, Wood in favor. Motion approved.

197 198 The committee now has three people on it: Gary Bresser, Jared Katz, and Mark Aiken. 199 200 Discussion of a request to develop a Town owned strip of land off of Mary Dr. to 201 rural road standards, possible executive session 202 Timestamp: 1:32 203 https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2024/08/3g1 To the 204 Town of Richmond Select board.pdf 205 https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2024/08/3g2 1109 -206 PL1 Boundary Plat - Signed.pdf 207 208 https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2024/08/3g3 town ap 209 proval.pdf 210 211 https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2024/08/3g4 DRB de 212 cission 10-22-12.pdf 213 214 https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2024/08/3g5 Peet De 215 ed 1993.pdf 216 217 People who participated in discussion: Sander, O'Neill, Machia, Crider, Miller, 218 LaBounty, Wood, Hill, Furr 219 220 LaBounty made an offer for this piece of land for \$10,000. 221 222 Machia explained that this piece of land was given to the Town in 1998, but the town did 223 not know it owned the land until recently (2024). Right of way was sold for \$10,000 224 previously. Danny Peet needs that piece of land sold to him or else he needs use of that 225 land signed off by the Town so he can move forward with DRB and continue to develop 226 the land, similarly other landowners' still need right of way secured to reach their 227 respective land. 228 229 Miller clarified with Machia that the discussion is pertaining only to Lot K on 3g2 1109 230 – PL1. Hill stated that the other road that leads to this tract is a private road. 231 O'Neill, who owns Lot AB, explained that currently this road is maintained and plowed 232 and graveled by him, Lot J and L, as it is the only access to his property from Mary Drive 233 and it runs into the driveway to Lot 13 - he did not realize the town owned it. Machia 234 continued that based off communications with Peet who would prefer that Lot K remain 235 owned by the Town while still protecting the use of the land to the current landowners in 236 that area. 237 Crider, who owns Lot J chimed in by asking how will the cost of maintaining that road 238 be, moving forward? He wanted to make sure any amendments to the current 239 arrangements regarding use of the road, needs to outline use and maintenance of the road. 240 LaBounty suggested the Town sell that strip of land and not have to be responsible for 241 upkeep of that land. 242 243

Hill added that private roads on public property makes it difficult to determine who is 244 responsible for liability as it pertains to road maintenance or storm water management.

245 Machia emphasized that a private road on public property is an outlier and unusual.

- 247 Hill and Wood discussed: Should the town give it back to the original giver? Put it out to
- 248 auction? Give it to the current homeowners who live there? A decision was not made.
- 249 Hill, Wood, Furr, Sander and Miller want the Selectboard to be given options for
- 250 solutions regarding this land and need to be presented more clearly with options listed,
- 251 such as A, B, C at the next meeting.

252

- 253 Consideration of adoption of resolution to utilize American Rescue Plan Act
- 254 (ARPA) funds for FY24 payroll expenses and discussion of establishment of a
- 255 special projects fund for projects that were approved to be paid for with ARPA
- 256 funds
- 257 Timestamp: 2:08
- 258 https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2024/08/3h1 ARPA
- 259 Res Richmond - 7-30-24.pdf

260

- 261 https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2024/08/3h2 ARPA
- 262 Committments as of 7-29-24.pdf

263

- 264 People who participated in discussion: Sander, Miller, Wood, Wardwell, Furr, LaBounty
- 265 Wood stated that a fund needs to be opened, but not necessarily populate it with money.

266

- 267 Wood moved to adopt the Resolution to obligate and expend SLFRF funds in the amount
- 268 of \$993,021.00 for the purpose of municipal workforce retention. Hill seconded.
- 269 Roll Call Vote: Hill, Furr, Miller, Sander, Wood in favor. Motion approved.

270 271

- Review of draft warning for special Town Meeting
- 272 Timestamp: 2:13
- 273 https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2024/08/3i1 ELECTI
- 274 ON SPECIAL MTG WARNING FALL 2024 DRAFT.pdf

275

- https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2024/08/3i2 Special 276
- 277 Projects Reserve Fund - DRAFT.pdf

278

- 279 People who participated in discussion: Sander, LaBounty, Furr, Wood, Wardwell
- 280 As he stated above, Wood reiterated that an account needs to be opened, but not
- 281 necessarily populate it with money. Or create a fund that we can use as a reserve for
- 282 emergency purposes. Furr agreed. Restrictions on this fund will limit what it can be
- 283 utilized for, but it needs to be specified that it is to be used for emergency services.
- 284 LaBounty stated that this money can be used for projects, but it needs to be repaid.
- 285 Wardwell clarified that the restrictions listed can be changed, this being a draft.

286

- 287 Discussion of response from the Secretary of Transportation regarding the grant for
- 288 the Bridge St. sidewalk project which has been stopped
- 289 Timestamp: 2:19
- 290 https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2024/08/3j1 Letter fr
- 291 om Secretary of Transportation re- TAP Grant.pdf

- 293 https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2024/08/3j2 Letter fr
- 294 om Richmond Regarding TAP Grant.pdf
- https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2024/08/3j3 Expense 295
- 296 s on Bridge St. Sidewalk Southern Section 7-31-24.pdf

297					
298	People who participated in discussion: Sander				
299	Sanders stated that Secretary Flynn has agreed to waive \$2,007.25.				
300					
301	Consideration of accepting the \$20,000 Local Economic Recovery Grant				
302	Timestamp: 2:21				
303	1 m 40 m mp 1 2 1 2 1				
304	People who participated in discussion: Sander				
305	1 copie who participated in discussion. Sander				
306	Miller moved to accept the \$20,000 in Local Economic Recovery Grant funds and to				
307	name Town Manager Josh Arneson as the duly authorized representative. Hill seconded.				
308	Roll Call Vote: Hill, Furr, Miller, Sander, Wood in favor. Motion approved.				
309	Rou Cau voie. Hui, Part, Miller, Sander, wood in Javor. Motion approved.				
310	Adjusting the size of the Trails Committee from 15 to 9				
311	Timestamp: 2:22				
312	Timestamp. 2.22				
313	People who participated in discussion: Sander, Hill, Miller, Wood, Wardwell				
314	reopie who participated in discussion. Sander, 11111, Willier, Wood, Wardwell				
315	Miller stated that there had been an email regarding the number of people on the Trails				
316	Committee, which was expanded to fourteen a few years ago. Presently only eight				
317	members are serving, all eight voted to petition the selectboard to reduce the number of				
	C' C 1				
318	members needed to reach a quorum. The proposal is to reduce down to nine current				
319	members. This can be voted on at the next Selectboard meeting.				
320	Wardwell stated that no vote could be taken because this needs to be warned before				
321	deciding. Sander read the entire email from a representative of the Trails Committee.				
322	Annuaval of Minutes Dunchase Ondone Wannants				
323	Approval of Minutes, Purchase Orders, Warrants				
324 325	Timestamp: 2:25				
326	Minutes:				
327	Williutes:				
	Every moved to approve the Minutes of 7/15/24 as muse out of Sanday accorded				
328	Furr moved to approve the Minutes of 7/15/24 as presented. Sander seconded.				
329	Roll Call Vote: Hill, Furr, Miller, Sander, Wood in favor. Motion approved.				
330	$H(1) = \dots = 1$				
331	Hill moved to approve the Minutes of 7/29/24 as presented. Furr seconded.				
332	Roll Call Vote: Hill, Furr, Miller, Sander, Wood in favor. Motion approved.				
333	Possels and Oralisms				
334	Purchase Orders:				
335	Mall I. DOW 1025 (Dr. off I C W) F				
336	Miller moved to approve PO# 4935 to Dirt Tech for Various Equipment and Labor not to				
337	exceed \$200,000. Furr seconded.				
338	Roll Call Vote: Hill, Furr, Miller, Sander, Wood in favor. Motion approved.				
339	E				
340	Furr moved to approve PO# 4936 to Bevins & Sons for Various Equipment and Labor				
341	not to exceed \$32,520.00. Hill seconded.				
342	Roll Call Vote: Hill, Furr, Miller, Sander, Wood in favor. Motion approved.				
343	Hill would be appeared DOI 4027 to E.W. W. LL C. Mr. H. Gr. LINDE C.L.				
344	Hill moved to approve PO# 4937 to F.W. Webb for Miscellaneous Sized HDPE Culverts				
345	not to exceed \$60,000.00. Miller seconded.				
346	Roll Call Vote: Hill, Furr, Miller, Sander, Wood in favor. Motion approved.				

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- 348 Furr moved to approve PO# 4938 to McCullough Crushing for Miscellaneous Rock and
- 349 *Gravel Plant Mix not to exceed \$30,000.00. Hill seconded.*
- 350 Roll Call Vote: Hill, Furr, Miller, Sander, Wood in favor. Motion approved.

351

- 352 Hill moved to approve PO# 4939 to Omega Excavation for Miscellaneous Crushed
- 353 Gravel and Rock not to exceed \$60,000.00. Wood seconded.
- 354 Roll Call Vote: Hill, Furr, Miller, Sander, Wood in favor. Motion approved.

355

- 356 Sander moved to approve PO# 4940 to F.W. Whitcomb for Miscellaneous Rock and Plant
- 357 Mix not to exceed \$60,000.00. Miller seconded.
- 358 Roll Call Vote: Hill, Furr, Miller, Sander, Wood in favor. Motion approved.

359

- 360 Miller moved to approve PO# 4941 to Richard Cowles LLC for Miscellaneous Sized
- 361 Blast Rock not to exceed \$95,000.00. Furr seconded.
- 362 Roll Call Vote: Hill, Furr, Miller, Sander, Wood in favor. Motion approved.

363

- 364 Miller moved to approve PO# 4942 to MTE for Ventrac Replacement not to exceed
- 365 *\$31,197.90. Furr seconded.*
- 366 Roll Call Vote: Hill, Furr, Miller, Sander, Wood in favor. Motion approved.

367

- $368 \quad \textit{Furr moved to approve PO\# 5011 to Richmond Rescue Inc for FY25 Donation not to} \\$
- 369 *exceed* \$58,338.00. Hill seconded.
- 370 Roll Call Vote: Hill, Furr, Miller, Sander, Wood in favor. Motion approved.

371

- 372 Furr moved to approve PO# 5013 to F.W. Webb Company for Culverts for Road Repairs
- 373 not to exceed \$25,782.40. Wood seconded.
- 374 Roll Call Vote: Hill, Furr, Miller, Sander, Wood in favor. Motion approved.

375

- Wood moved to approve PO# 5019 to Hinesburg Police Department for March Police
- 377 Coverage not to exceed \$32,520.00. Hill seconded.
- 378 Roll Call Vote: Hill, Furr, Miller, Sander, Wood in favor. Motion approved.

379

- 380 Miller moved to approve PO# 5020 to Hinesburg Police Department for June Police
- 381 Coverage not to exceed \$32,430.00. Furr seconded.
- 382 Roll Call Vote: Hill, Furr, Miller, Sander, Wood in favor. Motion approved.

383

384 Warrants:

385

- Furr moved to approve the general warrants on 8/5/24 as presented. Hill seconded.
- 387 Roll Call Vote: Hill, Furr, Miller, Sander, Wood in favor. Motion approved.

388

- 389 **Next Meeting Agenda**
- 390 Size of the trails committee
- 391 Flood updates
- 392 Public/Private Road, PPR driveway

- 394 Miller observed that Kevin Wilson and Alan Carpenter stare still on the Verizon Bill.
- Wardwell guessed that Steve may have Carpenter's phone but will investigate that

396 further. 397 398 Adjourn 399 400 Furr moved to adjourn. Hill seconded. 401 Roll Call Vote: Hill, Furr, Miller, Sander, Wood in favor. Motion approved. 402 403 Meeting adjourned at: 9:43 pm 404 405 **Chat file from Zoom:** 406 Julie Welkowitz (she/her), UVM Counseling: 00:14:10 407 I thought you could apply for both at the beginning. 408 00:19:18 Julie Welkowitz (she/her), UVM Counseling: 409 My understanding is that we can be eligible for Waterbury's network of assistance. 00:39:56 Tennis reserves! 410 Jay Furr: Replying to "My understanding is ..." 411 00:54:26 Julie Welkowitz: RE: above-Waterbury can provide assistance to individuals if they have the person power 412 413 after they have helped their residents. 414 02:15:28 MMCTV Erin: Still screen sharing Peet letter.