

Town of Richmond Water and Sewer Commission Meeting Minutes of July 5, 2022

Members Present: Bard Hill, David Sander, Jay Furr, Greg Tucker, Morgan Wolaver

Members Absent:

Staff Present: Duncan Wardwell, Assistant to the Town Manager; Kendall Chamberlin, Water Superintendent

Others Present: The meeting was recorded for MMCTV, Bob Reap, Matt Tourville, Rod West

Call to Order: 5:30 pm

Welcome by: Sander

Public Comment:

Sander: Thank you to everyone who participated in the Fourth of July celebrations. It was really good to get together as a Town after 2 years.

Tucker: It was a great Fourth!

Furr: You have no idea how much work goes into this.

Tucker: Have we ever considered a Water & Sewer float? There are enough septic trucks.

Hill: It was interesting that the septic trucks brought up the rear of the parade. This event illustrates how many folks help make this a strong community.

Furr: The vendors only regretted not having more food to sell.

Additions or Deletions to the Agenda: None

Items for Presentation or Discussion with those present

Welcome to new Commission members and re-organization of the Committee

Sander: Greg is back with us for a little while and Morgan Wolaver is our new member. Welcome and thank you for volunteering.

Wolaver: I figure it was my time to give back to the community.

Sander: We need to appoint a new Chair and Vice-Chair.

Furr moved to appoint David Sander as the Chair of the Water and Sewer Commission for the 2022-2023 term. Hill seconded.

Roll Call Vote follows discussion

Sander: I will continue but we have rotated this in the past. I want to make sure nobody else wants to serve this time.

Furr: You and Bard bring years of experience and leadership. This job requires the knowledge you bring. It is the only practical way to go at this point.

Hill: The Vice-Chair often serves as a good opportunity for a transition and training to Chair.

Roll Call Vote: Hill, Furr, Tucker, Wolaver in favor. Sander abstains. Motion passed.

Hill moved to appoint Jay Furr as Vice-Chair of the Water and Sewer Commission for the 2022-2023 term. Wolaver seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Hill, Sander, Tucker in favor. Furr abstains. Motion passed.

Superintendent's Report

Chamberlin: We've worked with folks on Esplanade for a new building. We did manhole locating and cleaning in Volunteers Green to locate critical items for Highway's stormwater project. We helped getting ready for the Fourth. The Reservoir painting project might also discuss something on the flat roof that could be seen from above. We are still waiting for the mixer and other parts and supplies for the Reservoir as they are on back order.

Discussion regarding request to have Engineer Tyler Billingsley work for the Town and private residents on the Gateway Expansion Project

Sander: Last meeting Rod West asked if Tyler Billingsley could work on the private expansion project. There was a question of conflict of interest. Since Tyler would be the person to review the private expansion specifications, an independent engineering should be used for the design process. Rob was contacting the Mobil Station to see if they had an engineer who might work on such a design.

West: Tyler made clear that he was not available to do work for a non-public entity. The Mobil Station that is going in front of the DRB at next meeting for finished proposal which is scheduled to be complete within 5 months of approval. They need septic ready to go by the end of the year.

Hill: I don't think this ends the discussion of a private line or extension. It would be prudent to look at other costs, but the contributing factor now is timing.

Wolaver: Is the timing critical because the present system is failing?

West: The whole site is being redeveloped and has been working for at least three years. It is an expansion of the Mobil station site to improve economic capacity.

Update on engineering for Gateway Expansion Project

Chamberlin: CHMS is unable to locate their force main. They do not have any records on it. We studied it awhile back and it was not in good condition. Bob Reap might have an opportunity for a public and private partnership to develop specifications that would tie into the school.

Hill: What is the vintage of the school-based force main?

Chamberlin: In the early 1970s, there is no record of it anywhere, so it is time.

Reap: We talked to the school in the past and they are receptive to getting the force main fixed. We will reach out again.

Update on status of closing the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan for the Bridge St. project

Sander: Josh Arneson and Connie Bona have reached out many times to understand what details are needed in order to receive full reimbursement. The project is complete, and the total costs were \$273,795 construction plus \$45,900 in engineering. The agreement with DWSRF is for a 75% subsidy of the cost of the project. No update as of tonight.

Hill: At what point are we waiting too long? We need to look at the timeline and history of this work.

Tucker: Does that board acknowledge their commitment and are they will be willing to pay?

Sander: The money hasn't come in yet so not sure what the delay might be.

Hill: We need to look for an award or agreement document that specifies the 75% pay back. Is there some problem why we are not receiving it yet?

Chamberlain: There are specific steps to follow to make sure this is complete. It is unusual that we are waiting for the State to get our award from the State.

Approval of Minutes, Warrants and Purchase Orders

Minutes

*Furr moved to approve the Minutes of 6/20/22 as presented. Hill seconded.
Roll Call Vote: Hill, Furr, Sander, Tucker, Wolaver in favor. Motion passed.*

Warrants

*Furr moved to approve the Warrants as presented. Hill seconded.
Roll Call Vote: Hill, Furr, Sander, Tucker, Wolaver in favor. Motion passed.*

Purchase Orders - none

Discuss Items for Next Agenda and Adjourn

- *Follow up on 75% DWSRF reimbursement
- *Follow up on Gateway Expansion
- *Mobil Station updates

Adjournment

Wolaver moved to adjourn. Hill seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Hill, Furr, Sander, Tucker, Wolaver in favor. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 6:02 pm

Chat: None