

1 **Town of Richmond**
2 **Meeting of Water and Sewer Commission**
3 **Minutes of June 17, 2024**
4

5 **Members Present:** Bard Hill, David Sander, Erin Farr, Jay Furr, Morgan Wolaver

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7 **Members Absent:** None

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9 **Staff Present:** Josh Arneson, Town Manager; Duncan Wardwell, Assistant to the Town
10 Manager; Linda Parent, Town Clerk; Steve Cote, Water Resources

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12 **Others Present:** The meeting was recorded for MMCTV, Heidi Bormann, Peter
13 Bormann, Tyler Billingsley

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15 **MMCTV Video:** https://youtu.be/mz_jaBHY7Z0?si=KDVZ3haaqyAAOVHT

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17 **Call to Order: 6:00 pm**

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19 **Welcome:** Wolaver

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21 **Public Comment:** None

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23 **Additions or Deletions to the Agenda:** None

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

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27 **Minutes:**

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29 *Sander moved to approve the Minutes of 6/3/24 meeting as presented. Hill seconded.*
30 *Roll Call Vote: Furr, Hill, Sander, Wolaver in favor. Farr absent. Motion approved.*

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32 **Purchase Orders:**

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34 *Sander moved to approve PO# 4899 to M&T Bank/Wilmington Trust FY25 for Water*
35 *Tank Loan not to exceed \$37,706.86. Hill seconded.*
36 *Roll Call Vote: Furr, Hill, Sander, Wolaver in favor. Farr absent. Motion approved.*

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38 **Warrants:**

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40 *Sander moved to approve the 6/17/24 Warrants as presented. Hill seconded.*
41 *Roll Call Vote: Furr, Hill, Sander, Wolaver in favor. Farr absent. Motion approved.*

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43 **Items for Presentation or Discussion with those present**

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45 **Review of water tank with engineer Tyler Billingsley**

46 Timestamp: 0:04

47 [https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2024/0](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2024/06/4a1_750KG_2_Celled_-_Report.pdf)
48 [6/4a1_750KG_2_Celled_-_Report.pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2024/06/4a1_750KG_2_Celled_-_Report.pdf)

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https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2024/06/4a2_Photos_from_Tank_Inspection.pdf

People who participated in discussion: Wolaver, Arneson, Billingsley, Sander, Hill, Cote, Furr

Arneson stated that Billingsley reviewed the tape from the outside as well as photos and videos from when the tank was cleaned. Billingsley stated that the structural design work for water tanks perched up on a hill is a specialty discipline, he is not that discipline but will provide a quick review. Billingsley stated that it is showing more cracking given its age and the freeze-thaw climate. Billingsley reviewed that this style of tank was more common in the 60s to but not perched on a hill.

Billingsley confirmed that it's not a huge risk that the rebar contained within the concrete is bare steel and not epoxy coated, but it would have been nice to do it in hindsight. Billingsley reviewed that there are some injectable epoxy resin crack injection products to seal that water from leaking out and help bond that concrete back together. Billingsley confirmed that it is a specialty niche market that a bit out of his knowledge base and expertise. Billingsley suggested reaching out to someone who's done a lot more different styles of tanks in different locations.

Billingsley stated that a tank warranties one-year workmanship. Sander recalled that SD Ireland reluctantly did epoxy injection that was supposed to fix it. Cote stated he did not think they did anything to the interior of it. Billingsley confirmed that all concrete cracks, but it is a little surprising that there as many and as big at this point. Cote confirmed that he reached out to Hoyle Tanner's structural engineer to look at the video and give a second opinion. Cote also asked the dive company for prices on crack maintenance. Cote confirmed that there are no obvious roof sags.

Arneson stated that it would be helpful to the attorneys and VLCT to understand the scope of the problem.

Consideration of approval of funds for contractor to relocate fire hydrant in front of the Fire Department

Timestamp: 0:29

https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2024/06/4b_Email_with_details_on_cost_of_hydrant_relocation.pdf

People who participated in discussion: Wolaver, Arneson

Cote reviewed that the fire hydrant and three water valves need to be located in a different spot due to the bridge construction and it would be about \$18,200 from ECI.

Sander asked why Water/Sewer users are paying to move the Town's fire hydrant and plumbing because the State's moving the road. Arneson confirmed that they have a contract approved by the Commission before the project that all those structures be moved. Hill confirmed that this is one of the reasons that they charge a fire protection fee charged to all the Town.

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99 *Hill moved to approve ECI to relocate the fire hydrant in front of the Richmond Fire*
100 *Department at a cost not to exceed \$18,200 to be paid for from the Water Line budget*
101 *line. Sander seconded.*

102 *Roll Call Vote: Farr, Furr, Hill, Sander, Wolaver in favor. Motion approved.*

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104 **Review of water data for May 2024**

105 Timestamp: 0:37

106 [https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2024/0](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2024/06/4c_Monthly_Water_Report_for_May_2024.pdf)
107 [6/4c_Monthly_Water_Report_for_May_2024.pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2024/06/4c_Monthly_Water_Report_for_May_2024.pdf)

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109 People who participated in discussion: Wolaver, Cote, Furr

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111 **Superintendent's Report**

112 Timestamp: 0:39

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114 People who participated in discussion: Wolaver, Cote, Hill, Arneson

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116 Cote stated that a couple of people came down to take tours of the plant and now want
117 interviews.

118

119 Cote confirmed that the Zenner rep from Texas is here to start installing the main readers
120 and provide some technical assistance on how to install the meters the way they want it.

121

122 Cote reviewed that the wastewater plant had a few snafus with the press and air
123 compressor, but they have been averaging 50,000 gallons of septage a day.

124

125 Cote stated that the aeration tank, or the old fish tank, is now drained and cleaned the 20-
126 year upgrade will assess if there's cracks or damage.

127

128 Cote confirmed that a multitude of people want to fill their swimming pools with a break
129 on their sewer bill and we do not do that. Hill reviewed that they can purchase from a
130 third party trucking vendor.

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132 **Discussion of Gateway expansion project**

133 Timestamp: 0:49

134 [https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2024/0](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2024/06/4e_email_thread_with_CCRPC_on_Gateway_Project.pdf)
135 [6/4e_email_thread_with_CCRPC_on_Gateway_Project.pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2024/06/4e_email_thread_with_CCRPC_on_Gateway_Project.pdf)

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137 People who participated in discussion: Wolaver, Arneson, Cote, Hill, Bormann

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139 Arneson reviewed the update from NBRC about the grant. Arneson stated that the next
140 step was to clean up the easement work over at the school.

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142 **Discussion of dewatering location**

143 Timestamp: 0:54

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145 People who participated in discussion: Wolaver, Cote, Hill

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147 Cote reviewed getting the truck traffic off of Esplanade and the center of town and giving
148 the wastewater facility more space. Cote reviewed that they should think of where they
149 could locate a facility that could treat septage.

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151 **Update on Congressional Spending Request**

152 Timestamp: 0:57

153 [https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2024/0](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2024/06/4g_Update_on_Congressional_Spending_Request.pdf)
154 [6/4g_Update_on_Congressional_Spending_Request.pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2024/06/4g_Update_on_Congressional_Spending_Request.pdf)

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156 People who participated in discussion: Wolaver, Arneson

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158 Arneson reviewed that Senator Welsh and Sanders have recommended it for approval of
159 funding for the upgrades to the septage receiving and processing facility.

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161 **Discuss Items for Next Agenda:**

162 *Dewatering location

163 *Water tank

164 *Fire Dept truck available

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166 **Adjournment**

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168 *Sander moved to adjourn. Furr seconded.*

169 *Roll Call Vote: Farr, Furr, Hill, Sander, Wolaver in favor. Motion approved.*

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171 Meeting adjourned at: 6:59 pm

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173 **Chat file from Zoom:**

174 00:08:24 iPhone: I'm in a tractor! But I'm listening :)

175 00:08:41 iPhone: This is Erin farr

176 00:09:54 Richmond Town Center Meeting Room: Thanks Erin.

177