

**Town of Richmond**  
**Meeting of Water and Sewer Commission**  
**Minutes of June 16, 2025**

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

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Superintendent Steve Cote; Assistant to the Town Manager Duncan Wardwell.

**Others Present:** The meeting was recorded for MMCTV Erin Wagg.  
[https://youtu.be/VfLGW5kPZpE?si=1As90R\\_8t1mem1Ge](https://youtu.be/VfLGW5kPZpE?si=1As90R_8t1mem1Ge)

**MMCTV Video:** MMCTV Erin Wagg

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

**Welcome:** Wolaver

**Public Comment:** None

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

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

Timestamp: 0:01

**Minutes:**

*Furr moved to approve the minutes of June 2, 2025. Sander seconded.*

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

*Sander moved to approve the Annual meeting minutes of June 3, 2025. Furr seconded.*

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

**Purchase Orders:**

*Sander moved to approve Purchase Order number 5181 to VLCT Property and Casualty for property, casualty, and workers compensation insurance for an amount billed to water and sewer of \$11,528.79. Furr seconded.*

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

*Sander moved to approve Purchase Order number 5291 to M and T Bank/Wilmington Trust for the water tank loan payment for an amount of \$37,704.86. Farr seconded.*

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

**Warrants:**

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

### **Review of May 2025 water data**

Timestamp: 0:05

[https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water\\_Sewer\\_Commission/Meetings/2025/06/4a\\_Monthly\\_Water\\_Report\\_for\\_May\\_2025.pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2025/06/4a_Monthly_Water_Report_for_May_2025.pdf)

People who participated in discussion: Cote, Furr

Cote explained the numbers are rock solid. Cote wants to buy a new chlorine analyzer.  
Furr said excellent job to the staff.

### **Request from the Town Plan Committee for feedback on the Town Plan from the Water and Sewer Commission**

Timestamp: 0:07

[https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water\\_Sewer\\_Commission/Meetings/2025/06/4b\\_email\\_on\\_Town\\_Plan\\_Survey.pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2025/06/4b_email_on_Town_Plan_Survey.pdf)

People who participated in discussion: Wolaver, Cote, Farr, Hill, Furr

Wolaver said the Town Plan Committee is asking for feedback. Farr asked if she should respond as an individual or if they should respond as a board. Furr thinks they should not respond as a board. Hill feels that goal 2 needs more discussion in terms of extension of water and wastewater to support more housing. Furr thinks its prohibitively expensive. Wolaver concurred that economically it's not feasible and the State won't support or pay for it. Farr asked if a letter should be created to give as feedback and highlight obstacles that have been discussed previously. Furr said he can take a stab at it and send it to the other members. Hill concurs that there should be a formal letter sent to respond to this request. The members think two members should collaborate on this letter. Farr volunteered to respond to Chelsye. Cote said service lines belong to the customer and won't be paid for by the Town to upgrade. He added that the Sewer line across the river is still in need of protection, the water line has been moved and protected from flooding.

### **Superintendents Report**

Timestamp: 0:24

People who participated in discussion: Cote, Farr, Furr, Hill

Cote said they are feverously working to install the water meter at Camel's Hump Middle school. Next up is the church.

97 On the water side they are back working on curb stops, but not on Cochran and Tilden  
98 because they will be changed next year.  
99 The plant is running well. The polymer pump in the dewatering process broke during the  
100 week of Jun 9 – 13. The part is taking 3 weeks to get here, but they fixed it with \$13 of  
101 parts from the hardware store. He wants a different polymer system that doesn't use  
102 water in the future. They are taking septage again. In the 3 days they were down they lost  
103 over 140,000 gallons of septage. He said Montpelier is overrun with septage at the  
104 moment. He said the three days without septage was a lot easier for him, so he is happy to  
105 not accept septage in the future. He wants to cut back on the upgrade regarding the Hoyle  
106 Tanner study and its suggestions.  
107 Cote has bids in for the influent pump. Submersible pumps are highly recommended, but  
108 more expensive. Parts are an issue with several models of these pumps. There is a  
109 Swedish model that is the Cadillac of pumps, but getting parts for it is difficult.  
110 Farr wanted to know if engineers get kickbacks from certain suppliers, which Farr stated  
111 was illegal and does not happen. Cote said some engineers like to work with specific  
112 suppliers. Farr said she does not see on her bill that there is a discount given when there  
113 is a septage receiving place in Town, something she heard was possible to get. Cote said  
114 he thinks Montpelier allows such a discount, but he isn't sure. Hill doesn't think a small  
115 discount will pay for the \$22 million upgrade that Tanner is suggesting. Cote wants to  
116 keep the upgrade under \$15 million. Currently he is limping along with the septage  
117 receiving, but he thinks he can keep things going this way. Preventative maintenance is  
118 currently the primary focus at the plant.  
119 Zinner software still is not up and running for customers to check their water usage on the  
120 app.

121  
122 **Discuss Items for Next Agenda:**

123 Wolaver and Cote working together  
124 Public outreach meeting for Cochran and Tilden update  
125 Easements must be signed  
126 Update on waterline  
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128  
129 **Adjournment**

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131 *Farr moved to adjourn. Furr seconded.*

132 *Roll Call Vote: Hill, Farr, Wolaver, Furr, Sander in favor. Motion approved.*  
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135 **Meeting adjourned at: 6:57 pm**  
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138 **Chat file from Zoom: None**