

Town of Richmond
Meeting of Water and Sewer Commission
Minutes of July 7, 2025

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

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Superintendent Steve Cote; Town Manager Josh Arneson; Assistant to the Town Manager Duncan Wardwell

Others Present: The meeting was recorded for MMCTV Erin Wagg, Aiden Short, Jon Olin, Kirstin DiPietro Worden, Matt Leonetti

MMCTV Video: MMCTV Erin Wagg
https://youtu.be/BPm1XY1lFO8?si=TDtUzS_9g0CWXbbm

Call to Order: 6:00 pm

Welcome: Wolaver

Public Comment: Furr commented that we hope we will be free of flooding this week

Additions or Deletions to the Agenda: None

Approval of Minutes, Warrants and Purchase Orders

Minutes:

Sander moved to approve the minutes of June 16, 2025. Furr seconded.

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

Purchase Orders:

Sander moved to approve purchase order number 5195 to Simpleroute for FY26 IT services in the amount of \$4,158.00. Farr seconded.

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

Sander moved to approve purchase order number 5319 to various chemical suppliers for sodium aluminate wastewater chemical in the amount of \$17,510.00. Farr seconded.

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

Sander moved to approve purchase order number 5320 to CSWD for shipment and disposal of dewatered sludge in the amount of \$140,000.00. Farr seconded.

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

Sander moved to approve purchase order number 5321 to various chemical suppliers for polymers biosolid chemical in the amount of \$70,000.00. Farr seconded.

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

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51 **Warrants:**

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53 *Furr moved to approve the Warrants as presented. Sander seconded.*

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

55
56 **Recognition of article about Richmond Water Resources in the national publication**
57 **Treatment Plant Operator**

58 Timestamp: 0:06

59
60 [https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2025/0](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2025/07/4a_Treatment_Plant_Operator.pdf)
61 [7/4a_Treatment_Plant_Operator.pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2025/07/4a_Treatment_Plant_Operator.pdf)

62
63 People who participated in discussion: Wolaver, Furr, Cote, Farr

64
65 Farr requested that we post a link to the article on Front Porch Forum.

66
67 **Update on Congressionally Directed Spending Request advancing to next round**

68 Timestamp: 0:07

69
70 [https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2025/0](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2025/07/4b_CDS_request_advancing_to_next_round.pdf)
71 [7/4b_CDS_request_advancing_to_next_round.pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2025/07/4b_CDS_request_advancing_to_next_round.pdf)

72
73 People who participated in discussion: Wolaver, Arneson, DiPietro Worden, Farr, Furr

74
75 DiPietro Worden stated that Senator Welch's office has advanced it to the next round but
76 there are still several more steps before it gets funded.

77
78
79 **Consideration of recommending Water and Sewer Commission appointments to**
80 **Selectboard**

81 Timestamp: 0:09

82
83 [https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2025/0](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2025/07/4c1_Wolaver_Letter_to_Serve_on_W_S_Commission_20252026.pdf)
84 [7/4c1_Wolaver_Letter_to_Serve_on_W_S_Commission_20252026.pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2025/07/4c1_Wolaver_Letter_to_Serve_on_W_S_Commission_20252026.pdf)

85
86 [https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2025/0](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2025/07/4c2_Farr_Letter_to_Serve_on_W_S_Commission_20252026.pdf)
87 [7/4c2_Farr_Letter_to_Serve_on_W_S_Commission_20252026.pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2025/07/4c2_Farr_Letter_to_Serve_on_W_S_Commission_20252026.pdf)

88
89 People who participated in discussion: Farr, Sander, Wolaver

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91 *Farr moved to recommend that the Selectboard appoint Morgan Wolaver to the Water*
92 *and Sewer Commission. Sander seconded.*

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

94
95 *Wolaver moved to recommend that the Selectboard appoint Erin Farr to the Water and*
96 *Sewer Commission. Sander seconded.*

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

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101
102 **Review of June 2025 water data**
103 Timestamp: 0:11
104 [https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2025/0](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2025/07/4d_Monthly_Water_Report_for_June_2025.pdf)
105 [7/4d_Monthly_Water_Report_for_June_2025.pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2025/07/4d_Monthly_Water_Report_for_June_2025.pdf)
106
107 People who participated in discussion: Wolaver, Cote
108
109 Cote stated that it was rock solid again.
110
111
112 **Review of responses to the request from the Town Plan Committee for feedback on**
113 **the Town Plan from the Water and Sewer Commission**
114 Timestamp: 0:11
115
116 [https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2025/0](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2025/07/4e_Town_Plan_2026_Update_WS_6-20-25.pdf)
117 [7/4e_Town_Plan_2026_Update_WS_6-20-25.pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2025/07/4e_Town_Plan_2026_Update_WS_6-20-25.pdf)
118
119 People who participated in discussion: Wolaver, Farr, Arneson
120
121 Arneson stated that they're just looking for feedback so he'll send this to the Town Plan
122 Committee.
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124
125 **Consideration of approving a vendor for an influent pump**
126 Timestamp: 0:12
127
128 [https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2025/0](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2025/07/4f_06302025_Influent_Bid_Award_Letter_to_Richmond.pdf)
129 [7/4f_06302025_Influent_Bid_Award_Letter_to_Richmond.pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2025/07/4f_06302025_Influent_Bid_Award_Letter_to_Richmond.pdf)
130
131 People who participated in discussion: Wolaver, Cote, Sander, Furr
132
133 Cote stated that the Flygt Pumps are simple to clean which they thought was an issue.
134 They are also submersible.
135
136 *Sander moved to approve the purchase of a Flygt Pump from Xylem for \$34,344.71 with*
137 *funding provided by the Wastewater Capital Reserve. Furr seconded.*
138 *Roll Call Vote: Hill, Farr, Furr, Sander, Wolaver in favor. Motion approved.*
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141
142 **Update from Hoyle Tanner on septage receiving analysis**
143 Timestamp: 0:15
144
145 [https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2025/0](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2025/07/4g1_Richmond_WWTF_-_Septage_Receiving_Analysis_Memo_-_)
146 [7/4g1_Richmond_WWTF_-_Septage_Receiving_Analysis_Memo_-_](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2025/07/4g1_Richmond_WWTF_-_Septage_Receiving_Analysis_Memo_-_)

06.20.2025 1 .pdf

https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2025/07/4g2_Theoretical_User_Rate_Impacts.pdf

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

DiPietro Worden and Short presented a slideshow summary. DiPietro Worden stated that the plant is running below capacity and has been accepting septage to press with sludge as a revenue stream. It provides higher revenue than the expenses it incurs. Short presented four different Analysis Alternatives. Short summarized that if you accept less septage, there is less of a net cost benefit for the Town. Short stated some conclusions that septage receiving generates more revenue than it incurs in expenses which lowers rates, dewatering is critical to minimize disposal and hauling expenses, user rate increases will be required to bond the project of any of the four alternatives, and the \$4.48 million grant application is currently under federal review. DiPietro Worden stated that one big project would be the most cost benefit for the Town compared to going out to bid in phases. Cote wants to revisit the engineering study as he cannot support raising rates by 142%.

Superintendent's Report

Timestamp: 0:50

People who participated in discussion: Wolaver, Cote

Cote reported that they have some issues with one filter tank.

Review of code of ethics

Timestamp: 0:53

https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2025/07/4h_CodeofEthics_03-17-2025.pdf

People who participated in discussion: Arneson

Arneson reviewed that this is the State version that was finalized last year, and the Town slightly amended it to apply to all employees and volunteers.

Discuss Items for Next Agenda:

Special meeting on Monday, July 14, 2025

Next regular meeting on Monday, July 21, 2025

Adjournment

196 *Furr moved to adjourn. Sander seconded.*
197 *Roll Call Vote: Hill, Farr, Wolaver, Furr, Sander in favor. Motion approved.*
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200 **Meeting adjourned at: 6:57 pm**
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202
203 **Chat file from Zoom:** None