

**RICHMOND SELECTBOARD
REGULAR MEETING
January 18, 2010 MINUTES**

Members Present: Peter Parent, Chair; Jon Kart; Erik Filkorn; Mary Houle; and Marcia Lawrence

Others Present: Geoffrey Urbanik, Town Administrator; Brian Appleberry; Kurt Hughes, Times Ink; Gary Bressor; Linda Parent, Town Clerk; Bruce LaBounty; GC Morris; and several members of the public; Ruth Miller was present to videotape the meeting for MMCTV Channel 15.

Chairman Parent called the meeting to order at 7:20p.m.

1. Public Comment

Chairman Parent thanked Kendall Chamberlin and the Water Department for a quick fix to a line break on Jericho Road.

2. Minutes

Chairman Parent moved the Minutes to the February 1st meeting.

3. Discussion Items

Chairman Parent moved the Selectboard Goals discussion to the February 1st meeting.

Park Bench: Gary Bressor explained the background, in that a member of the armed forces wanted the park bench since he had proposed to his wife on it many years ago. The replacement bench was funded partly by the Historical Society and partly through private donations. He also wanted a bike rack and some electrical repairs at the bench site. There was discussion on the appearance of the bench. Mr. Bressor asked if the town would be willing to pick up at least part of the cost of a bike rack and the board agreed that they would if required. Ms. Houle offered a motion to approve Mr. Bressor's bench plan and was seconded by Mr. Filkorn. The motion passed 5-0.

Once Mr. Bressor returned to the audience someone said they would donate the bike rack.

Possible Australian Ballot vote of Town Budget: Mr. Filkorn explained that the question had come up of whether or not to vote the town Budget by Australian Ballot. A petition had been circulated but would not be able to take effect for this year's Town Meeting but possibly next year's. He suggested that the Board would need to know how to approach the issue if it came up.

Ms. Lawrence said that it was too late for this year's budget but the process would be the same as this evening.

Bruce LaBounty said that more time was needed for these discussion in advance of Town Meeting. He also asked how the process was managed, and Chairman Parent said it was set by statute.

Ms. Lawrence asked if a petition was received was the Selectboard mandated to act on it and Chairman Parent answered yes.

4. Other Business

Richmond Area Teen Center: A minor edit was pointed out. Ms. Houle said that at a prior date there had been babysitting at the teen center and felt this was a violation of the lease.

Ms. Lawrence asked about usage and requested that a representative from RATC be present for this discussion. Chairman Parent moved this discussion to the February 1st agenda.

1 Mr. Filkorn said that the teen center was used to watch children at the September meeting at his
2 and Mr. Kart's suggestion.

3 Vermont Town and City Manager's Association: There were no objections to Mr. Urbanik joining
4 this association.

5 Humane Society: The Town Administrator was directed to look into this and report back for the
6 February 1st agenda.

7 Letter in Support of Grant for Library: Mr. Urbanik explained that the Library had applied for an
8 energy conservation grant to install insulating curtains in the large room of the library. In support
9 of the grant, Chairman Parent signed a letter last week which was before the Board tonight for
10 ratification. Mr. Kart motioned to approve the letter and was seconded by Ms. Houle and the
11 motion carried 5-0. Ms. Houle explained that she was on the board that approves these
12 applications but she would recuse herself from this application when it came up.

13 Police Hires: Mr. Urbanik presented to draft letters of hire for the two police candidates. Ms.
14 Houle said that there should be a contract relating to how long they would be required to stay
15 employed since we were investing in their training and certification. There was discussion on this
16 and the Board agreed that there needed to be something in writing on this item. Mr. Filkorn asked
17 if they were still hired and the Board agreed that their intent was to hire but the terms written in the
18 letter were not final and the discussion was moved to February 1st.

19 Greystone Estates: Mr. Urbanik explained that there were outstanding issues with some public
20 improvements and the road, however, the town had a small amount of money in a "set aside" to
21 pay for completion. Mr. Urbanik also explained that the homeowners association and a contractor
22 had claims against the developer for faulty work or nonpayment and there was a request for the
23 town to mediate. There was much discussion but the Selectboard agreed that there wasn't
24 anything for the town to do in the private disputes.

25 Reports: Mr. Urbanik went through the reports. No FEMA flood plain mapping appeals were
26 received. There was a small failure of an expansion joint on the pedestrian walkway of the Bridge
27 Street Bridge. The engineers inspected the failure and said it was due to faulty welding and the
28 contractor who constructed it returned and repaired the damage. There had been rumors that this
29 could happen in other spots on the bridge but it was explained by the engineers that this was a
30 failure of one unique piece of metal that was not duplicated in other areas. Also the bids were
31 received for the two stimulus projects and they were below engineer's estimates which was good
32 news.

33 Mr. Kart noted that Brian Mattison passed an exam and there was a request for the requisite salary
34 increase.

35 Ms. Houle said that Ms. Gent had asked for the FY 2010 COLA of 3.5%, pending her review by
36 the Planning Commission. This was conditionally approved 5-0.

37 Ms. Houle said there was no paysheet for Chief Miller and said he should be required to submit
38 one. There was some discussion on this and the fact that salaried employees do not submit time
39 sheets. It was agreed that salaried employees must submit work schedules and absences to the
40 Town Administrator for tracking.

41 Mr. Filkorn noted that a meeting on the reconstruction of Railroad Street had occurred. Mr.
42 Urbanik explained that the town would use Mr. Noyes to construct the sewer and road
43 improvements, and the town would pay for them once they were complete and accepted by the
44 Town. There was a question as to why this would happen and Mr. Urbanik explained that the
45 town up until this point had no public right of way here, but that Mr. Noyes was conveying one
46 and offered to pave the road and install underground utilities at the Town's expense at the same

1 time he was constructing his parking lot and sidewalks in order to make for a seamless job. The
2 town was agreeing to this timetable and the project workplan and proposed costs were reviewed by
3 the Town's engineer and were not found to be unreasonable.

4 Mr. Kart notified everyone of the Valentine's Day Dance on February 13th. The scouts were not
5 doing it this year but the event was to benefit an injured resident.
6

7 **5. Adjourn**

8 Motion by Ms. Houle to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m. Seconded by Mr. Filkorn. So voted.