

1 **SELECTBOARD MEETING**

2 August 16, 2023

3
4 Attending the meeting; Merrily Lovell, Maggie Gordon, Mike Loner, Dennis Place, Paul Lamberson, Todd
5 Odit, Phil Stolz, Karl Novak

6 Attending remotely; Scott Burbank, Christine Forde, Matt Nemmeth, AJ Driscoll, Jennifer Decker, Anthony
7 Cambridge

8 Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm.

9 Agenda Additions and Deletions

10 Public Comment

11 Karl Novak spoke about Donald Trump as a presidential candidate and the idea of blocking him from
12 being able to be on the Vermont ballot for president.

13 Phil Stolz spoke about the condition of Texas Hill road and wanted to know why it hadn't been graded yet
14 and why the washout near Hayden Hill East had not been repaired yet.

15 Approve Minutes of 7/19

16 Maggie moved to approve the minutes of 8/2 as presented. Seconded by Mike and approved with 5 yes
17 votes.

18 Selectboard Forum

19 Paul mentioned that the charter group had met to look over a draft charter that had been put together
20 by Dawn Francis.

21 Town Common Committee Interview – AJ Driscoll

22 The Selectboard interviewed AJ for an open position on the Town Common Committee.

23 Maggie moved to appoint AJ Driscoll to the Town Common Committee for a term ending April 2025.
24 Seconded by Mike and approved with 5 yes votes.

25 Presentation of Bridge Scoping Reports – Scott Burbank and Matt Nemmeth

26 Todd explained that the town sought the financial assistance of the Regional Planning Commission to
27 have studies done on the condition of a bridge on the Hollow Rd and Levansworth Rd and recommend
28 potential repair strategies. Scott and Matt presented a summary of the reports.

29 Consider Approval of FY23 Capital and Non-Capital Reserves

30 Todd gave an overview of the proposed FY23 ending fund balances.

31 Mike moved to approve the FY23 Capital and Non-Capital Reserve fund balances. Seconded by Maggie
32 and approved with 5 yes votes.

33 Maggie moved to convene as the Board of Water and Wastewater Commissioners. Seconded by Mike
34 and approved with 5 yes votes.

35 Consider Approval of FY24 Water and Wastewater Allocation Pools

36 Todd provided an overview of the proposed allocations for FY24.

37 Mike moved to approve the proposed water and wastewater allocation pools. Seconded by Maggie and
38 approved with 5 yes votes.

39 Paul moved to adjourn as the Board of Water and Wastewater Commissioners and to reconvene as the
40 Selectboard. Seconded by Maggie and approved with 5 yes votes.

41 Consider Approval of the FY24 Tax Rates

42 Todd explained the proposed tax rates and that they were essential the same as what was estimated
43 when the FY24 budget was presented to voters. The proposed rate of \$0.6024 would result in a tax bill
44 increase of \$21.50 per \$100,000 of assessed value. The proposed local agreement rate was a \$0.0001
45 increase to \$0.0012.

46 Paul moved to adopt an FY24 municipal tax rate of \$0.6024 and a local agreement rate of \$0.0012.
47 Seconded by Mike and approved with 5 yes votes.

48 Review of Proposed Amendments to the Water and Wastewater Ordinances

49 Todd explained the proposed changes to the ordinances, the most significant of which would be the
50 Selectboard setting the design flows for residential projects instead of relying on the state rules, which
51 are significantly higher than actual use. The other change would be to allow for a well in the water
52 service area if it were strictly agricultural use.

53 Consider Approval of Police Chief Services for Richmond

54 At 7:45 pm Maggie moved to enter executive session pursuant to 1 V.S.A. §313(a)(1)(A) to discuss a
55 contract the premature disclosure of which may put the town at a disadvantage. Seconded by Mike and
56 approved with 5 yes votes.

57 Mike moved to adjourn the executive session at 7:54 pm. Seconded by Maggie and approved with 5 yes
58 votes.

59 Mike moved to approve the intermunicipal services agreement with Richmond for police chief services.
60 Seconded by Maggie and approved with 5 yes votes.

61 Town Manager Report

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- The fourth highway position has been filled.
 - Preliminarily it is looking like FY23 will end with a deficit of \$175,000, which is \$100,000 better than the budgeted deficit of \$276,000.
 - We received notice that we were not awarded a bicycle and pedestrian grant for the Richmond Road path. This is the second year in a row that we were denied. Joy will follow-up to try and get an explanation.
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68 • A follow-up report for the wastewater treatment facility project is expected in September. The
69 consultants were delayed as a result of having to help towns whose treatment facilities were
70 flooded.

71 Approve Warrants

72 Possible Executive Session Pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(3)

73 Merrily moved to enter executive session pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(3) to evaluate an employee.
74 Seconded by Mike and approved with 5 yes votes.

75 Merrily moved to exit executive session at 8:30 pm. Seconded by Mike and approved with 5 yes votes.

76 Merrily moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 pm. Seconded by Mike and approved with 5 yes votes

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78 Respectfully submitted,

79 Todd Odit

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