

MINUTES
MEETING OF THE RICHMOND BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TOWN OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM
6:00P.M.-WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2012

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Selectmen Present: Peter Warner, Tracy Tuttle, Gary Poulin and Clarence Cummins.

Others: Mike Grizkewitsch, Marian Anderson, Laurisa Loon, Paul Adams, Matt Roberege and Fred Browne.

2.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3.0 REQUEST TO APPROVE THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 28, 2012

No quorum, minutes tabled until next meeting.

4.0 APPOINTMENTS, RESIGNATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, RESOLUTIONS

4.1 Appointment of Frederic W. Browne to the Budget Committee.

Selectman Tuttle made a motion to appoint Frederic W. Browne to the Budget Committee, Selectman Warner seconded, motion passed (4-0).

5.0 PUBLIC HEARINGS, PRESENTATION-None

6.0 ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS-UNFINISHED BUSINESS

7.0 ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS-NEW BUSINESS

7.1 Holiday Office Schedule

The Town Manager wanted to confirm with the board that the office employees leave at 1p.m. on Christmas Eve December 24th. Employees will be using their own time.

7.2 Budget Calendar

The Budget committee had their first meeting last night. Selectman Tuttle would like to separate the budget meetings from the selectmen meetings, the board scheduled a meeting on the 19th of December at 6:00p.m.

7.3 Comprehensive Plan

The Town Manager stated that we are not scheduling any continuing meetings until the first of the year and would like the board to appointment a committee at the next January meeting. Selectman Tuttle questioned how many committee members, and would like to see it put in the newsletter.

7.4 Cameras at holding area

The Town Manager stated that we have had a problem with theft at the holding area, we have purchased solar operated game cameras, we will be installing those soon, metals are a source of revenue, tire rims, etc... Selectman Tuttle added that there have been robberies in that area on residential homes.

7.5 CDBG Grant Application-Public Infrastructure

The Utilities District had asked the town if we would apply for funds, the trustees met and no longer want to pursue grant funding at this time.

Selectman Cummins stated that we have received many grants and would like it to be put in the newsletter.

7.6 Langdon Road Update

The Town Manager stated that the company will come back in the spring to fix the road at no cost to the town. She will have a statement signed for the board.

7.7 COPS Fast grant update

The officer that we hired to fill this position has accepted a full time position with Gardiner. We are exploring the options, we sent out questions to the COPS Fast department. We can advertise for a blue pin, we are exploring to be able to fund one of the existing officers if we can demonstrate we have fiscal complaints, we have five officers, discussion on budget going back to four officers, if we can demonstrate we have a financial hardship due to budget cuts we could have it funded federally. Selectman Warner asked if you have to advertise immediately. The Town Manager responded yes once the position becomes vacant. Selectman Tuttle supports option 2, having the position funded federally if possible.

7.8 Municipal Officers approval of transfer of forfeiture of assets.

The Manager stated that we have had some court cases and money has been forfeited, our police department has been involved, the board has to say they would accept the money before we can receive it, a public vote must be made and the document must be returned with the town seal.

Selectman Tuttle made a motion to approve the Docket CR 12-30 forfeiture of assets, Selectman Poulin seconded, motion passed (4-0).

7.9 Town Property Use Form review

The Town Manager stated that we are in the final draft stages. We took the RSU 2 form and are wording it to fit the town needs. We will have the first draft in January.

8.0 ASSESSOR ITEMS-NEW BUSINESS

8.1 R01-052-01-Abatement Request

Adjustment to acreage from 39 to 37.7 resulting in an abatement of \$6.84.

Selectman Tuttle made a motion to approve the abatement, Selectman Poulin seconded, motion passed (4-0).

8.2 R03-026 Abatement Request

Adjustment to total value from \$98,800 to \$73,600 resulting in an abatement of \$430.92.

Selectman Tuttle made a motion to accept the abatement, Selectman Poulin seconded, motion passed (4-0).

9.0 MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS-ORAL & WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

9.1 Public

Mike Grizkewitsch wants to address how important 7.9 is. The form RYRA filled out got kicked out, we forgot to say we needed a broom, chairs and bleachers, would like to see the schools use a form for when they use the towns field. Would love to have a 12 page form. Selectman Tuttle stated that we should be meeting with our school board members. The president of RYRA met with the school board, basically they didn't take any action on the issue. I wonder if other schools are having complaints. The Town Manager plans to invite them to our January meeting. Also, the building and grounds

department needs to attend these meetings, he believes that form comes from that office.

Frederic Browne stated that he was doing some door to door and speaking with residents during the election process. Some residents would like the town to pave Hinkley Street. Selectman Cummins stated that we can add it to the list. We plan in the spring to look at all the roads in town. There are some we can upgrade if we can afford it we don't have the money for paving at this time. Also a resident complained about the speed on the Alexander Reed Road. Paul Adams stated that it's a State road. The Town Manager stated that you need to petition the state to change the speed limit. Residents would like to see the police department pay more attention in that area. Fred Browne stated that he spoke with another resident that is disabled and want's a poverty abatement and would like to share her name in confidence. The Town Manager stated that we can give you a poverty abatement application but we cannot have a conversation with a third party.

Paul Adams feels it's a good idea to put the grants in the newsletter before accepting the grant. He would like to have known what our annual costs are for running the street lights. That should be part of the responsibility of the person trying to get these items. The comfort station, that comes with a cost to the tax payers, what is it? It should be part of asking for the grant, part of the COP grant is costing us \$14,000 a year, we have to have additional money to pay for the final year. We were asked to raise an additional \$14,000 to pay for the fourth year at town meeting. Selectman Cummins stated the money is coming from a savings from having the sixth officer, we needed to make sure the money was set aside that was saved and not put into the general fund. We can follow up and make sure that's happening. Selectman Tuttle stated that was her fear, how can we say that we are going to save that money. I know the Chief said we would save in overtime, but I am not convinced. Paul Adams would like to be more transparent on what the annual town costs are for the improvements, for maintenance and upkeep. Selectman Tuttle added that those are her feelings with the library when people wanted to build a million dollar library there is cost and maintenance on that kind of building.

Paul Adams stated he is confused and concerned about people trying to use the comprehensive plan to tell residents how to landscape property, plant trees, development, etc. The Manager stated that the goal is to provide a vision for the growth of the community, what you are referring to would be in the land use ordinance, we are asking the public what would residents like to see, what kind of events, etc...it's more of a visionary document, not intended to be a policing document. The Town Manager suggested for Paul to look at the one we have, even though its old, the goals are similar, do we want to continue with those goals. Mr. Adams feels that the comprehensive plan was the base document which developed the land use ordinance and split the town into different zones, will the ordinance change. The Manager

responded that we honestly at this point don't know what the vision is, I don't believe the vision has changed, you have made valid comments it's important and helpful for you to participate with the process. The idea is not to be restrictive. We want to make sure it's what the town's people want.

Fred Browne stated that he attended the first meeting and found there was a lot of input from the people that were there, collective thoughts of what they would like to see with the town in the years to come. He believes the town does need a vision and to consider it and meet the needs of the people.

Selectman Warner added that we had a lot of similar views, on where we would like to see growth and industry by the highway, the concerns we had at the meeting were common in the rural area we would love to see them stay that way, but does not feel it should be mandated.

Mike Grizkewitsch asked if there is a way to shut off half of the street lights or every other one? The Town Manger stated that they have solar sensors.

Mike Grizkewitsch stated he would like to see something on the warrant about getting rid of the town forest? Selectman Cummins stated he was going to look at the files. Mike feels it's an asset the town needs to sell. The state has conservation land now on Route #24.

9.2 Town Manager

The board needs to sign the municipal authorization letter allowing James Valley to sign off on motor vehicles.

9.3 Selectmen

Selectman Warner stated he would like to thank Marian and Laurisa and everyone at the town that helped make the tree lighting successful. As well as, Gary Emmons and Annabella's for their support.

What is the status of the business friendly community program are we working on that. The Manager stated that we are working on the application but we do not have a date to submit this will be on our next agenda for an update.

Selectman Tuttle would like a property update on the old pleasant pond market. The Town Manager stated that the CEO is going to go out and take a look at what is happening, no building permit was issued.

The \$247,000 in the library budget does not include the appropriation from the town. The Town Manager stated that is the building money raised through fundraising and grants. Why do they have checking/savings account? The Town manager responded that when people pay fines, late fees, or donations for example Gary Emmons donated \$1,000 for story hour a discretionary fund, they have to be used for that specific purpose. The money in the building fund was from grants, to build a new building.

Gary Poulin stated he has acquired a telephone pole, 24-40 feet he would like to donate to the solar light project if it becomes a reality, solar light price ranges from \$400-3,000 the area they cover is 30x50 or 30x70. He has narrowed it down to two; one was \$499 and the other \$599, he does have information on each of them if anyone would like to review them. They have an 8 hour run time, and are a special order from the Home Depot. Selectman Cummins would like to move ahead with this project. Mike Grizkewitsch stated he would like to see the board move forward with this project.

10. WARRANT

10.1 Request for action regarding all disbursement warrants.

Selectman Tuttle made a motion to sign the warrant, Selectman Poulin seconded, motion passed (4-0).

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION MATTERS 1 M.R.S.A. 405 (6)(F), POVERTY ABATEMENT & 1 M.R.S.A. 405 (6)(A)-PERSONNEL MATTERS.

Selectman Tuttle made a motion to move into Executive Session, Selectman Poulin seconded, motion passed (4-0).

Selectman Tuttle made a motion to come out of executive session.

Action taken to grant the poverty abatement, Selectman Tuttle made a motion to approve the abatement, Selectman Poulin seconded, motion passed (4-0).