

MINUTES
5:00P.M. MEETING OF THE RICHMOND SELECTBOARD
TOWN OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2016

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Selectmen present: Oneil Laplante, Gary Poulin, Peter Warner, Bucky Bodge and David Thompson.

Others present: Shawn Pierce, Paul Adams, Russ Hughes, Fred Browne, Superintendent Zima; Town Manager, Janet Smith and Executive Assistant, Laurisa Loon.

2.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3.0 REQUEST TO APPROVE BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES OF JANUARY 6, 2016

Selectman Laplante made a motion to approve the minutes of January 6, 2016, Selectman Poulin seconded, motion passed (4-0), Selectman Thompson abstained from vote.

4.0 APPOINTMENTS, RESIGNATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, RESOLUTIONS

4.1 Appointment of Steve Musica to the Cobbossee Watershed Committee

Selectman Laplante made a motion to appoint Steve Musica to the Cobbossee Watershed Committee, Selectman Poulin seconded, motion passed (5-0).

5.0 PUBLIC HEARINGS, PRESENTATION

5.1 RSU #2 Superintendent Zima Presentation

The Superintendent stated that he started in August and is excited to be part of the RSU #2. He is working on open communication with the communities. They are currently working on negotiating two contracts and working through the ground stages of the budget process. The contracts are the Teacher and Ed Tech contracts. Selectman Warner asked if they have seen any fuel savings with the new boilers in place. The Superintendent responded yes they have seen a savings. Selectman Thompson asked about the status of the bond that passed last year. The Superintendent stated he was unsure and would get the information on the bond, he believes there is \$650,000-\$700,000 left in the bond. Selectman Laplante asked what the student to teacher ratio is in Richmond High School. The Superintendent responded it looks to average between 13/14 ratio. Compared to the district with Hall Dale and Monmouth slightly higher at 16/17 ratio. The Superintendent stated he feels like the budget will go up due to salaries, food cost and benefits increasing every year, if our district saw a decrease in services we could stay at 0 and I don't know where they are going to be with teacher contracts. Selectman Laplante asked if the Superintendent was familiar with the scores. The Superintendent responded yes they are not where I want them to be, they are

below the State average and they do vary by grade level. As far as the district the middle school is producing higher than other schools in our district, our focus is math at the middle and high school level. Selectman Thompson asked if the student to teacher ration included Ed-techs. The Superintendent responded no. Ed-techs are usually assigned to a specific student.

6.0 ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS-UNFINISHED BUSINESS

6.1 Town Manager update on the Spillman Maintenance Fees

At the County's last meeting they voted to bring Richmond into the fold and the annual fees our now going to be paid out of the County budget. The other piece for the upcoming budget season is the MiFi air cards, we had budgeted for those. In next year's budget the county will pick up two of our three air cards. We are looking at right around a \$1,000 savings a year from the police department budget. The Town Manager spoke with our representative to come in and do a meet and greet with selectmen and give an update from the county.

7.0 ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS-NEW BUSINESS

7.1 Selectman discussion on the sale of the Lincoln Street Fire Station

The Town Manager talked with the Fire Chief and asked for any issues that the board should be aware of. The first issue is looking into a way to store the forestry truck at the Myrtle Street Station. The other concern is the antique Tempest. The Department would like to see the funds from the sale go to whatever would need to be done at the Myrtle Street Station or the Fire Truck Reserve account. Other items located at the station have been put on a disposal list, hoses, brass fittings would be recycled into revenues. Selectman Warner stated to winterize the forestry truck and keep the building at 45 degrees in case they need to bring it out it would still be active and useable. The other small bill is the water/sewer charge. Selectman Bodge asked if it is a buildable size lot. Selectman Laplante asked how much does it get used? Do we want to take that into consideration that we might need to take money from the sale to put a bay on. Selectman Bodge stated he is curious what a realtor says it might be worth.

7.2 Selectman discussion on the 2016 Spirit of America Award

Last year we were late in coming up with recommendation, would like to do it at town meeting this year. Selectman Warner stated he had a couple of names he would like to suggest; Mike and Janet Sweem have been operating the food bank for several years and do a fantastic job.

7.3 Selectman discussion on the 2015 Annual Report Dedication

7.4 Selectman discussion on the 2016/2017 road closure for winter maintenance

The Town Manager stated she gave the board the process on how to close a road.

Selectman Bodge asked if Allan Moeller had any recommendations. The Manager replied no he doesn't right now we are looking at plow routes, materials and looking at what are savings would be.

7.5 Selectman discussion on laptops for selectmen meeting use-Table

Selectman Poulin made a motion to table discussion on laptops until February 3, 2016, Selectman Laplante seconded, motion passed (5-0).

8.0 ASSESSOR ITEMS-BUSINESS

8.1 Personal Property Abatement-Cianbro Equipment, LLC \$1,174.05-Items not located in Richmond on April 1, 2015

Selectman Thompson made a motion to abate the personal property for Cianbro Equipment, LLC, Selectman Laplante seconded, motion passed (5-0).

8.2 Uncollectible Personal Property-Jim's Cabinet Shop \$60.37

Selectman Thompson made a motion to approve the uncollectible personal property for Jim's Cabinet Shop in the amount of \$52.80, Selectman Poulin seconded, motion passed (5-0).

9.0 BOARD OF TRUSTEES BUSINESS

10.0 MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS-ORAL & WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

10.1 Public-None

10.2 Town Manager

The Manager stated she sent the public art policy to the attorney. Her recommendation is since it's a public art policy for this year, it should be a warrant article specific to see if the town wants a public art policy, if that is approved at town meeting then you have the policy that could be enacted.

The auditors are requesting the board sign the authorization letter for auditing services. It is a \$10,500 fee for the audit. The board asked if that compares to other towns. The Manager responded it's a range some are paying over \$12,000, some paying \$7-8,000. Selectman Warner asked if we should be looking for a better deal. The price is still the same as last year's contract. We could look at an RFP for the next budget season. Selectman Thompson asked if the books are standardized in most towns. The Manager responded that each town has their nuances and does things a little different.

Selectman Thompson made a motion to give the Town Manager authorization to sign the authorization letter for the town audit with the possibility of going out for an RFP next budget season, Selectman Poulin seconded, motion passed (5-0).

The Manager stated she would not be at the next meeting but would Skype in.

10.3 Selectmen

Selectman Laplante stated he would like the board to consider looking at a mechanic for the town. The Manager replied that they have put in for a 25 hour week part time public works laborer in the proposed budget. This would free up someone to do oil changes and maintenance on the police cruiser or public works vehicles, general maintenance pieces.

Selectman Thompson asked if the employees were NIMS compliance. The Manager responded that those that need it are up to date on their training.

Selectman Warner stated that an account has been opened at K&G Hardware for items for seniors such as carbon monoxide detectors, smoke detectors. People can make donations for this account.

11.0 WARRANT

11.1 Request for action regarding all disbursement warrants

Selectman Poulin made a motion to sign the warrant, Selectman Laplante seconded, motion passed (5-0).

12.0 ADJOURNMENT

Selectman Thompson made a motion to adjourn, Selectman Poulin seconded, motion passed (5-0).