

Clarence Cummins, Chairman
Peter Warner-Vice Chairman
Tracy Tuttle
Rose Beckwith
Gary Poulin

MINUTES
MEETING OF THE RICHMOND BOARD OF SELECTBOARD
TOWN OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM
6:00 P.M.-WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2013

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

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

Others: Town Manager Marian Anderson, Executive Assistant Laurisa Loon, Planning Board Chairman Russ Hughes, O'Neil Laplante, Police Chief Scott MacMaster, Matt Roberge, RSU #2 Superintendent Virgil Hammonds, Paul Adams, Fred Browne and Jonathan Edwards.

2.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3.0 REQUEST TO APPROVE BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES OF OCTOBER 16, 2013

Selectman Beckwith made a motion to approve the minutes, Selectman Poulin seconded, motion passed (4-0). Selectman Tuttle was absent from the vote.

4.0 APPOINTMENTS, RESIGNATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, RESOLUTIONS

4.1 Appointment of Jan Wanggaard as a member of the Library Board of Trustees.

Selectman Beckwith made a motion to appoint Jan Wanggaard as a member of the Library Board of Trustees, Selectman Warner seconded motion passed (4-0). Selectman Tuttle abstained from the vote absent from discussion.

5.0 PUBLIC HEARINGS, PRESENTATION

5.1 Planning Board discussion and update

The Town Manager stated that we sent a letter out to the members of the planning board to see how we can be helpful to the board. Russ Hughes Chairman of the board is present.

Russ Hughes stated that the board meets once a month. Development has been slow. The support from the Selectboard has been great. James Valley the new assistant to the board and CEO is doing great advising us. The Family Dollar project will be coming up within the next few months and we feel it may be a contentious project. The board has averaged about 2-3 projects a month. Member Bill Schellinger passed away recently. Selectman Warner asked if the Family Dollar project is contentious to the planning board or the public. Russ Hughes replied not to the board but we do take into account public opinion. The Town Manager added if you need an outside expert don't forget

you have that option. Selectman Cummins asked if other businesses or people don't like the idea of the store. Russ Hughes responded that people look at it as a mini Walmart. Selectman Cummins added that there are wetlands associated with that area. Russ Hughes replied that if there are we would review the requirements of State and Town ordinances. We have not gotten that far. We understand from James they will be before the board with the application within the next month or two.

5.2 RSU #2 Virgil Hammonds

Superintendent Virgil Hammonds wanted to give the board a brief over view of what's happening with the school budget. They changed the funding formula for schools, it depends on the valuation and student enrollment, they take an average of three years valuation, this year is the average of the previous two years.

Mr. Hammonds provided the board with a graph handout showing 50.44% of funding from the State including retirement costs. We needed to set a budget before that figure came in. Selectman Cummins asked if we get any money back this year. Mr. Hammonds responded you are not getting any back your just not assessed that amount.

Mr. Hammonds supplied the board with a student enrollment count handout. Richmond has been losing counts over the years. Being part of the RSU helps balance out the funding.

Mr. Hammonds stated that in regards to the student's education we have growth that we can do with our kids. The report was based on the junior class SAT's from last year, the elementary school is currently above the State average, progress is happening.

Mr. Hammonds wanted to also extend an invite to the board to attend the finance meetings that will start in December.

Selectman Tuttle asked if the RSU is considering a real estate purchase. Mr. Hammonds responded that their current offices are leased for \$1.00 a year in Hallowell. We are making a proposal to take ownership of the buildings. We are making improvements on the buildings now within our budget. The alternative education program is located at these buildings, they currently don't allow us to make any changes to the outside. Selectman Tuttle asked if you would allow someone to go in and estimate what it is going to cost the towns to repair these buildings. Virgil Hammonds responded, yes. Selectman Cummins asked what this is going to cost over a number of years. Virgil Hammonds responded that they set aside so much a year for capital improvements. This year was \$100,000.

Selectman Warner asked if they are looking for other places. Virgil Hammonds responded, yes there are a number of ideas.

6.0 ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS-UNFINISHED BUSINESS

6.1 Isaac F. Umberhind Library-Update

6.1.1 Updated budget figures.

The Town Manager would like to thank Gary Poulin and family for their contribution of the cupola at the library. The Manager provided the board with budget handouts and stated that we are still on track with the construction budget.

We ran into an issue with the plumber we originally contracted with the gentlemen lost his license. We have not heard from him as of this date. We asked for a response by the 28th to return equipment purchased and money not spent on equipment. We have hired Dan Stewart as our new plumbing contractor. Selectman Tuttle added that the money he was given was for materials. The Town Manager added that the letter asked for a breakdown of time and materials. We will send out a follow up letter. I understand he did have communication with Steve Musica.

The Manager added that the carpentry contract is dated to finish March 15th he predicts he will be done much sooner.

6.2 Electronic Data Devices for Selectboard

The board was provided information on different products. The Town Manager suggests going with the Apple iPad Air. The security on the iPad is much better than those on the android tablets.

7.0 ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS-NEW BUSINESS

7.1 2014/2015 BUDGET PREPARATION

The Town Manager request guidance regarding preparation of the 2014/2015 Fiscal Budget.

The Town Manager stated she met with the budget committee Monday night. She would like the board to be prepared at the next meeting to come up with a budget calendar to publish both budget and selectmen meetings. I would also like to stay on the same timeline as last year that way we can have public hearings prior to town meeting. We are trying to increase the transparency. The next Budget Committee meeting is November 18th at 6:00p.m.

8.0 ASSESSOR ITEMS-NEW BUSINESS

9.0 MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS-ORAL & WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

9.1 Public

Fred Brown asked if it would be possible to get a copy of library expense sheet handout. Do you anticipate the amount you will get back from the plumber?

9.2 Town Manager

The Manager asked if the board saw the email from the senior center on the possible relocation of the center to Robert's Hall.

James Donnell is the new police officer. He is currently going through the waiver process they are matching up his training from North Carolina with Maine. He will be a full time blue pin.

Fred Brown added that it's pleasing to see a cruiser in the morning at the school.

Selectman Cummins asked the Manager how her conference went.

The Manager added the Health Trust is working on setting rates and crunching those numbers it looks like 4% to insurance premiums. Part of that is we have to pay so much into individual pools for people that don't have insurance. There are certain rules for employers under 50 people. Waiting to see if volunteer fire fighters count as employees.

9.3 Selectmen

Selectman Warner asked where we are at with the cable ordinance. The Town Manager stated that the board approved the updated ordinance. We need to schedule a public hearing to discuss the rates. The Town Manager stated that we are also looking at another Connect ME grant.

9.4 Boards and Committee-None

10.0 WARRANT

10.1 Request for action regarding all disbursement warrants.

Selectman Tuttle made a motion to approve the warrant, Selectman Beckwith seconded, motion passed (5-0).

Selectman Poulin excused himself from the meeting.

11.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION 1 M.R.S.A 405 (6) (A) PERSONNEL MATTERS

Selectman Tuttle made a motion to move into executive session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. (6) (A) Personnel Matters, Selectman Warner seconded, motion passed (4-0).

No action taken.

Selectman Warner made a motion to come out of executive session, Selectman Beckwith seconded, motion passed (4-0).