**Town of Richmond Selectboard Meeting** Minutes of October 21, 2024 Members Present: Bard Hill, Adam Wood, Bard Hill, David Sander, Jay Furr, Lisa Miller **Absent:** None Staff Present: Josh Arneson, Town Manager; Duncan Wardwell, Assistant to the Town Manager; Linda Parent, Town Clerk. Others Present: MMCTV Tom Astle, Martha Nye, MJ Denis, Charlotte Phillips, Dorian Evans, Jeanette Malone, Kevin Kittinger, Mary Ann Kittinger, Project All Together Now Adi Crary, Polly iPad, June Heston, Paige Kaleita, John Linn, Ian Bender, Annie Valentine, Danielle Beaudoin, Stefani Hartsfield, Robin Pesci, Douglas Thompson, Trevor Brooks, Rod West, Connie van Eeghen, Rachel's iPad, JP, Roger and Debbie Knakal, Noa, Chelsye's iPhone, Fran (Round Church), B Johnsom, Branden Martin, Marshall Paulsen, Ian Stokes. MMCTV Video: Recorded by MMCTV by Tom Astle Call to Order: 7:00 pm Welcome by: Sander **Public Comment:** Phillips mentioned that the paving that was done on Southview Drive in the past week was a surprise and is subpar in quality, as a Southview resident she would have liked to have been forewarned. Hill stated that paving projects are usually forewarned on Front Porch Forum, to which Arneson added that it depended on the project. Miller gushed about how nice the Mobil station on Route 2 looks and how nicely it is coming along. Additions or Deletions to Agenda: None. Timestamp: 0:04 Items for Presentation or Discussion with those present Reminder of the Tuesday, November 12, 2024 Special Selectboard meeting for discussion of the FY26 Budget Timestamp: 0:04 

50	Reminder of Special Town Meeting on Saturday, November 9, 2024, to vote on the
51	process to approve the annual budget and to vote on the establishment of a Special
52 53	Projects Reserve Fund Timestamp: 0:04
54	Timestamp. 0.04
55	https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2024/10/3b ELECTI
56	ON_SPECIAL_MTG_WARNING_FALL_2024_FINAL_SIGNED.pdf
57	
58	
59	People who participated in discussion: Sander, Arneson
60 61	This will take place at Camel's Hump Middle school at 9:00a. An Agenda will be posted
62	on Front Porch Forum.
63	on Front Forein Crain.
64	
65	Discussion of Town Clerk's retirement
66	Timestamp: 0:06
67 68	Doorlo vika marticipated in discussion. Candar Even Doront Amassan
68 69	People who participated in discussion: Sander, Furr, Parent, Arneson
70	Parent expounded on that she has worked for the Town for 34 years and she has been
71	Town Clerk for 22 years in March 2025, Parent no longer lives in Richmond, which is
72	one of several reasons she is choosing to retire. Furr asked if she had a favorite year, to
73	which she replied that she didn't. Hill emphasized that her position is a voted position, so
74	it's important that people who live in Richmond know that this position will be opening.
75	Sander asked if Parent would be open to coming back hourly to help a new person get
76	acclimated to which she replied "sure." Arneson asked if he should post the job on Front
77	Porch Forum, to which everyone agreed, if Parent was consulted to help create the
78	wording of the posting. There was a round of applause.
79	
80	
81	Consideration of closing Esplanade St. and Pleasant St. for Halloween
82	Timestamp: 0:14
83	
84	https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2024/10/3d_email_on
85	esplanade road closure.pdf
86	
87	
88	People who participated in discussion: Sander, Paulsen, Arneson
89	
90	Marshall, a representative from Pleasant Street asked that the traffic on Pleasant and
91	Esplanade Streets be closed from 4:00p until 9:00p on Halloween with the understanding
92	that one lane will always remain open for fire trucks, rescue vehicles or access to the
93	Wastewater facility. Closing these streets makes it safe for kids and adults. He would like
94	to see more adults enjoying these closed streets as well.
95	

96	Wood moved to close Esplanade St. and Pleasant St. on October 31, 2024 from 4pm –
97	9pm to allow for trick or treating with the requirement that both streets be open for first
98	responder vehicles and that Esplanade St. be open for vehicles that need to access the
99	Wastewater Treatment Facility. Hill seconded.
100	Roll Call Vote: Furr, Hill, Miller, Sander, Wood in favor. Motion approved.
101	
102	
103	Consideration of approval of request from Project All Together Now VT to utilize
104	\$3,000 from the Community Well Being budget line
105	Timestamp: 0:19
106	
107	https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2024/10/3e_Richmon
108	d_Town_Selection_24 Google_Docs.pdf
109	
110	People who participated in discussion: Sander, Crary
111	
112	Finance and data analysis intern Crary from Project All Together Now VT stated that
113	they are a nonprofit organization that focuses on equitable mental health treatment. They
114	are asking for \$3,000 to continue to support the community of Richmond.
115	
116	Miller moved to approve the use of \$3,000 from the Community Well Being budget line to
117	support the work of Project All Together Now VT which includes youth interns and
118	community programs which support Richmond residents. Hill seconded.
119	Roll Call Vote: Furr, Hill, Miller, Sander, Wood in favor. Motion approved.
120	
121	
122	Update on submitting Notices of Intent and stormwater permit renewal applications
123	for Mary Dr. and Hidden Pines, and discussion of Jericho Rd. stormwater permit
124	which does not encompass private property
125	Timestamp: 0:22
126	
127	https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2024/10/3f_HiddenPi
128	nes-SOW-10-10-24signed_by_Richmond.pdf
129	
130	https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2024/10/3f_MaryDriv
131	e-SOW-10-10-24 - signed by Richmond.pdf
132	
133	https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2024/10/3f_email_on
134	after 3 acre Jericho Rd. list for Southview and waving of fees HP and Mary
135	<u>Drpdf</u>
136	
137	People who participated in discussion: Sander, Arneson, Hill, Miller
138	

139	Arneson elaborated that during the last meeting, the Board made the motion to move
140	forward with the Town submitting applications for Mary Drive and Hidden Pines and
141	submitting those as individual applications, to avoid any future confusion about the size
142	of the impervious surface. He entered into an agreement with Watershed Consulting, for
143	a fee of \$4,750 per site for the estimate engineering. Usually the estimates are lower per
144	site, but it was explained that because the 9010 permits have expired, and we now need
145	33-9050 permits, a more thorough engineering review is required. In the interim, the
146	State had indicated that we need to pay \$860 per acre of impervious surface to reinstate
147	those permits, however the State has agreed to waive those fees. We have already paid
148	for the Jericho Road stormwater permits, which encompasses only public roads, whereas
149	the Mary Drive and Hidden Pines also encompass private property. Hill emphasized that
150	he doesn't understand why this does not fall under municipal roads. Miller added that
151	even the State has been uncertain about stormwater management.
152	
153	
154	Update on process to submit the Notice of Intent and permit application for the
155	Southview Subdivision 33-9050
156	Timestamp: 0:28
157	
158	https://www.richmondvt.gov/news/post/stormwater-general-permit-3-9050-for-the-
159	southview-subdivision
160	
161	https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2024/10/3g_Southvie
162	w-SOW-10-10-24 - signed by Richmond.pdf
163	
164	People who participated in discussion: Sander, Arneson, Furr
165	Amoran stated that he has him d Watershad Consulting for this ich and their total consulting
166	Arneson stated that he has hired Watershed Consulting for this job and their total came to
167	just over \$32,000, which is the approximate amount the grant will cover. Arneson stated
168	that a specific website linked to the Town's website has been created and will allow
169	residents to see what has been done and what is happening with this process. Furr urged
170 171	Arneson to mail out letters to residents about this process as not all residents are on the internet. Hill reiterated that the Town is going ahead with this process thoughtfully,
171	because the lawyer has already recommended the Town not get involved, but there will
172	be a need to resolve how everything will get paid for, particularly improvements made to
173	private properties.
174	private properties.
176	
177	Consideration of approving a contractor for the Tilden Ave. stormwater project
178	Timestamp: 0:32
179	1 m 2 m m p . 0.02
180	https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2024/10/3h TildenAv
181	eBidJHutchins.pdf

182 183 People who participated in discussion: Sander, Arneson, Furr 184 185 Arneson stated this relates to replacing an aging Town stormwater pipe on Tilden Ave. 186 The pipe originates on private property and is part of a century old, combined storm water and sewer system installed by the Town. The current pipe is failing and causing 187 flooding of 102 Tilden Ave (owned by Sean and Christy Witters) in high rain events. The 188 Pipe needs to be disconnected from the sewer system and become only a stormwater 189 190 pipe. The job went out for bid with only one bid coming back double of what was 191 expected for the job (current bid \$89,500, Hutchinson). Gosselin is proposing that we 192 reject this bid and re-bid the project for construction next season. Gosselin will create a temporary overflow swale on the Witters' property to direct any overflow away from the 193 194 house. Furr and Wood concurred that since the Witters can hold off until spring, it would 195 be wise to try and get a lower bid or approach Hutchinson and ask if they could do the 196 job for \$60,000. Heston queried why the Town was willing to pay for this stormwater 197 issue and not the ongoing issue in Southview Drive, to which Hill replied that this was created initially by the Town and is a 100-year old issue. He continued that our elected 198 representatives should be invited back to listen to the Town's concerns regarding the 199 stormwater issues on Southview Drive, since these issues seem arbitrary and capricious. 200 201 202 203 Consideration of approval of amendments to the Andrews Community Forest 204 **Committee Bylaws** 205 Timestamp: 0:44 206 207 https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2024/10/3i BylawsPr oposed August 2024 .pdf 208 209 210 People who participated in discussion: Sander, Arneson, Furr, Representatives of the 211 Andrews Community Forest Committee (Melissa Wolaver and Ian Stokes), Wood, Hill, 212 Miller 213 214 Representatives of the Andrews Community Forest Committee (Wolaver and Stokes) explained that the changes they were asking to make presently are related to membership 215 on the committee and how people can become involved, since it is the Selectboard that 216 217 makes determinations about committee membership. In addition, someone on the Trails and Conservation committees can serve on the Andrews Community Forest (ACF) 218 Committee. Furr asked if requiring a two-thirds majority vote was hampering them 219

language was not consistent.

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221

222

during decision-making. To which the representatives said they hadn't witnessed any issues. Hill said that requiring a 2/3 decision, as opposed to simple majority or a quorum,

is on the face-of-it not common for committees. Furr and Wood pointed out that the

225 226	Furr moved to amend the Andrews Community Forest Bylaws as amended where all 2/3 majority be changed to a simple majority and that language in section 3d under rules
227	under regular meetings be changed to say simple majority by committee members. Wood
228	seconded.
229	Roll Call Vote: Furr, Hill, Miller, Sander, Wood in favor. Motion approved.
230	
231	
232	Discussion of easement for VELCO for Andrews Community Forest, possible
233	executive session
234	Timestamp: 1:05
235	
236 237	People who participated in discussion: Sander, Arneson, Wolaver, Wood
238	Wolaver is filling in for Wright Preston - She explained that the main issue surrounding
239	the easement is around right of way, which comes out higher than estimated, at
240	\$8,549.45, which is \$3.50 per linear foot. Additionally, \$2,500 is needed for trail
241	maintenance at the old western end of the Bass Trail. ACF has asked VELCO for
242	\$10,000 which they have said "no" to, twice. Wood pondered if accepting \$2,500 for trail
243	maintenance would be better than nothing. The attorney has not heard back from
244	VELCO.
245	122001
246	
247	Consideration of request to utilize \$1,180 of ARPA Funds for tree work at the
248	Round Church Green
249	Timestamp: 1:12
250	•
251	https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2024/10/3k1 Round
252	Church Risk Assess.pdf
253	
254	https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2024/10/3k2_Job_To
255	wnofRichmond20240808 ProposalFusionAcer 1 .pdf
256	
257	People who participated in discussion: Sander, Arneson, Fran
258	
259	Fran explained that the Tree Warden Caitlin Littlefield and Acer tree services did a
260	thorough examination of the Norway maple, and it needs to be pruned due to being close
261	to the Round Church and branches falling off.
262	
263	Furr moved to approve the use of an additional \$1,180 in ARPA funds for the pruning of
264	the Norway Maple at the Round Church Green. Miller seconded.
265	Roll Call Vote: Hill, Furr, Miller, Sander, Wood in favor. Motion approved.
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267	

268 Discussion of no parking zone on West Main St. 269 Timestamp: 1:19 270 271 People who participated in discussion: Sander, Arneson, Hill, Miller, Furr 272 273 Arneson explained that this was brought to his attention by some members of the 274 Catholic Church's buildings and grounds committee, and they're concerned about the exit from the church onto US Route 2. They queried if parking was prohibited to the left of 275 276 that exit, on the east side, to provide a better line of sight. Hill was curious how far down 277 Route 2 the parking ban would go. Arneson stated he thought just a bit to the left, up to 278 the doctor's office and then a bit to the right of the exit. Miller concurred that she often 279 pulls out of that lot and cannot see anything to the right. Furr mentioned that the Manual 280 of Uniform Traffic Control Devices says you can use yellow paint on the curb to indicate 281 a no parking zone and supplement that with signs, rather than putting it on the surface 282 where people drive. Hill said that the widest part of the shoulder is right at the exit and 283 gets narrower to the west (to the right). Wood commented that the person who is always parked by the curb (big black truck) and has a trailer, that person would not be able to 284 park further down, because the shoulder is narrower, and that person clearly uses their 285 286 truck and trailer as a business. The apartment building does not have enough parking. 287 More discussion is needed. 288 289 290 Update on new speed study for Hinesburg Rd. 291 Timestamp: 1:26 292 293 People who participated in discussion: Sander, Arneson 294 295 Arneson is still getting reports of excessive speed on Hinesburg rd. He asked CCRPC to redo their speed study this fall. The speed limit on Hinesburg road is not consistent 296 297 throughout, it runs from 40 mph up to 45 mph, then down to 35 mph into Hinesburg. 298 299 300 Consideration of approving an engineer for Flood Mitigation Study 301 Timestamp: 1:29 302 303 https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2024/10/3n1 Stone.p  $\underline{df}$ 304 305 https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2024/10/3n2 SLR.pdf 306 307 308 People who participated in discussion: Sander, Arneson, Furr, Wood, Hill 309

310	Arneson elaborated that he put in a grant application to FEMA advanced assistance for
311	flood mitigation with the idea that they would study the Winooski River. We received
312	that grant in the spring, then were quickly flooded again before he could get the RFP out.
313	The RFP went out in August for engineer work, and we also included the tributaries of
314	Jones Mill Brook, Snipe Island Brook, and the Huntington River. In the most recent
315	flooding, we received two bids: the SLR bid was \$125,000 and Stone Environmental was
316	\$124,766. Stone Environmental went into more detail and they described how they would
317	study the tributaries. FEMA has put down a recent deadline of November 18, and this is
318	not an achievable timeline for the Town. Furr noted that SLR had more detail about jobs
319	they have completed in Vermont, meanwhile Stone doesn't seem to have any experience
320	in Vermont. Hill mentioned that the bids are similar, but that SLR doesn't go as far up
321	into the tributaries.
322	
323	Furr moved to enter into an agreement with Stone Environmental to complete a Flood
324	Mitigation Study at a cost not to exceed \$124,766 which will be covered by the FEMA
325	Advanced Assistance Grant and a match from the State. Wood seconded.
326	Roll Call Vote: Hill, Furr, Miller, Sander, Wood in favor. Motion approved.
327	
328	
329	Discussion of Flood Recovery Roundtable with the Governor on Thursday, October
330	24, 2024
331	Timestamp: 1:37
332	
333	People who participated in discussion: Sander, Arneson, Furr
334	2 copie i ino particolparon in discussioni a minori, i minori, i uni
335	Furr stated that he, Hill, and Miller are all interested in participating in the meeting.
336	Arneson added that the letter from the Governor's office indicates they do not want a
337	quorum, nor a publicly warned meeting, more an informal conversation with Town staff
338	and leadership, so that two members from the Selectboard should be chosen. Wood and
339	Miller were chosen as representatives.
340	willer were enosen as representatives.
341	
342	Review of Richmond Rescue Quarterly Report
343	Timestamp: 1:40
344	Timesamp. 1.40
345	https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2024/10/3p Richmon
346	d Rescue Quarterly Report.pdf
347	<u>u_keseue_Quarterry_keport.pur</u>
348	People who participated in discussion: Sander
349	reopie who participated in discussion. Sander
350	Sander: Excellent job!
351	Sander. Executing jou:
352	
35Z	

353	Approval of Minutes, Purchase Orders, Warrants
354	Timestamp: 1:41
355	Minutes:
356	
357	Furr moved to approve the draft Minutes of 10/07/24 as presented. Miller seconded.
358	Roll Call Vote: Hill, Furr, Miller, Sander, Wood in favor. Motion approved.
359	
360	Furr moved to approve the draft Minutes of 10/15/24 as presented. Miller seconded.
361	Roll Call Vote: Hill, Furr, Miller, Sander, Wood in favor. Motion approved.
362	
363	Motions for Purchase Orders:
364	
365	Furr moved to amend Purchase Order number 4950 to Hinesburg Sand and Gravel for
366	material for emergency road repair to \$154,295.97. Miller seconded.
367	Roll Call Vote: Hill, Furr, Miller, Sander, Wood in favor. Motion approved.
368	
369	Furr moved to approve Purchase Order number 5047 to Pike Industries for paving for
370	\$200,000. Miller seconded.
371	Roll Call Vote: Furr, Hill, Miller, Sander, Wood in favor. Motion approved.
372	
373	Wood moved to approve Purchase Order number 5076 to Hinesburg Police Department
374	for police coverage in July 2024 for \$36,337.50. Furr seconded.
375	Roll Call Vote: Hill, Furr, Miller, Sander, Wood in favor. Motion approved.
376	
377	Warrants:
378	
379	Furr moved to approve the Warrants as presented. Miller seconded.
380	Roll Call Vote: Hill, Furr, Miller, Sander, Wood in favor. Motion approved.
381	
382	
383	Next Meeting Agenda
384	Timestamp: 1:48
385	
386	Southview stormwater, sending a letter out, and reaching out to the Legislators
387	No parking zone by Catholic Church
388	
389	
390	<b>Executive Sessions</b>
391	
392	Update on police department hiring
393	Timestamp: 1:48

- 395 Wood moved to find that premature public knowledge about candidates for employment in the police department would cause the Town or person to suffer a substantial 396 397 disadvantage. Hill seconded. Roll Call Vote: Hill, Furr, Miller, Sander, Wood in favor. Motion approved. 398 399 400 Wood moved that we enter executive session to discuss candidates for employment in the police department under the provisions of 1 VSA 313(a)(3) and invite Town Manager 401 402 Josh Arneson into the executive session. Hill seconded. 403 Roll Call Vote: Hill, Furr, Miller, Sander, Wood in favor. Motion approved. 404 405 Furr moved to exit executive session to discuss candidates for employment in the police 406 department under the provisions of 1 VSA 313(a)(3) and invite Town Manager Josh 407 Arneson into the executive session. Hill seconded. 408 Roll Call Vote: Hill, Furr, Miller, Sander, Wood in favor. Motion approved. 409 410 411 Discussion of Annual Review of the Town Manager 412 Timestamp: 2:17 413 414 Furr moved to find premature public knowledge about the review of the Town Manager 415 would cause the town or person to suffer a substantial disadvantage. Hill seconded. Roll Call Vote: Hill, Furr, Miller, Sander, Wood in favor. Motion approved. 416 417 418 Furr moved that we enter executive session to discuss the review of the Town Manager under the provisions of 1 VSA 313(a)(3). Hill seconded. 419 420 Roll Call Vote: Hill, Furr, Miller, Sander, Wood in favor. Motion approved. 421
- Furr moved that we exit executive session to discuss the review of the Town Manager under the provisions of 1 VSA 313(a)(3). Hill seconded.
- 424 Roll Call Vote: Hill, Furr, Miller, Sander, Wood in favor. Motion approved.
- Hill elaborated that board members had discussed Arneson's performance evaluation and among many positive comments, we propose to give you a financial bonus this year.
- Sander added that this was a heartfelt bonus and gratitude for Arneson's long hours and everything he has done for the Town.
- Hill moved to allow a one time performance bonus in recognition of the extra hours,
   extra workload, particularly with the multiple flooding events and follow up from
- previous flooding events of \$3,500. Furr seconded.
   Roll Call Vote: Hill, Furr, Miller, Sander, Wood in favor. Motion approved.
- 436 **Adjourn** 437

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       Furr moved to adjourn. Hill seconded.
       Roll Call Vote: Hill, Furr, Miller, Sander, Wood in favor. Motion approved.
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442
       Meeting adjourned at: 9:47 pm
443
444
       Chat file from Zoom:
445
446
447
       Duncan Wardwell
448
       06:41
449
       Start video
450
451
       Tom MMCTV Astle
452
       06:49
453
       please
454
455
       Charlotte Phillips
       18:07
456
457
       Linda we will miss you!!!
458
459
       Annie Valentine
460
       28:43
461
       Thank you for the support
462
463
       pkaleita
       35:14
464
465
       Is the state responsible in any way to fix the damage of those 2 sites?
466
       pkaleita
467
       39:06
468
469
       Thanks for pursing this! Good to know!
470
471
       pkaleita
472
       46:51
473
       Southview had no problems during July 2023 or 2024 flooding events
474
475
       Chelsye's iPhone
476
       46:55
477
       Are the protective covenants in 51/376 still applicable?
478
479
       They're listed in the most recent deed of sale in the neighborhood.
480
       Book 51 Page 376 of the town records.
481
482
       For Southview.
483
       Chelsye's iPhone
484
       49:58
485
486
       If the three acre sites aren't "part of the problem" then their mitigation requirements will
487
       be much less extensive and thus much less expensive.
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488	
489	Danielle.Beaudoin@uvmhealth.org
490	50:21
491	https://dec.vermont.gov/watershed/stormwater
492	
493	This is the website that helps to clarify the different types of stormwater permits that are
494	required. The purpose of each permit is stated early in each published permit document.
495	
496	
497	
498	Operational Stormwater (GP 3-9050): storm water discharge that affects water quality in
499	impaired waterways (lake Champlain, etc.)
500	
501	MRGP: to achieve reductions in stormwater- related erosion from municipal roads