1 2 3	Town of Richmond Selectboard Meeting Minutes of November 18, 2024
4 5	Members Present: Adam Wood, Bard Hill, David Sander, Jay Furr, Lisa Miller
6 7 8	Absent: None
9 10 11	Staff Present: Josh Arneson, Town Manager; Duncan Wardwell, Assistant to the Town Manager; Linda Parent, Chief of Police Anthony Cambridge.
12 13 14 15 16 17	Others Present: MMCTV Erin Wagg, American Institute of Architects John Linn, Tess Storrs (Parks Committee), Daniel Hayes, Jeanne Goslin, Bobolink, Martha Nye, Jeanne, Bonnie Steuer, Julie Welkowitz, Trevor Brooks, JP, Ian Bender, Brendan Filkins, Gaitan and Genny, Rachel, Dorian, Martha Crannell, Chuck Crannell, Matt Cohen, Paige Kaleita, Connie van Eeghen, Fran (Roundchurch), Cath Burns, Ernie Buford, Kristens iPhone, Nick, Jeffrey Reyome, Virginia Clarke, Patty Brushett, Sarah Heim
18 19 20 21	MMCTV Video: Recorded by MMCTV by Erin Wagg https://youtu.be/bEWH24nW2Wg?si=Vc8s112P1L0x12HS
21 22 23	Call to Order: 7:02 pm
24 25	Welcome by: Sander
26 27	Public Comment:
28 29 30	Furr stated that Friday Food Affair had almost 200 meals distributed, which is amazing. Sander thanked election poll workers for their service on election day.
31 32	Additions or Deletions to Agenda: None
33 34	Items for Presentation or Discussion with those present
35 36 37 38	Discussion of results of the Special Town Meeting that was held on November 9, 2024, to vote on the process to approve the annual budget and to vote on the establishment of a Special Projects Reserve Fund Timestamp: 0:02
39 40 41 42	https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2024/11/3b_Special_T own_Meeting_11-9-24_Results.pdf
43 44	People who participated in discussion: Sander, Arneson, Furr
45 46 47 48 49	Furr stated that he was dismayed that the vote to move the budget to Australian ballot was 63 to 58. He and Arneson had discussed if there were other items that should be moved to Australian ballot. Articles 1 and 2 were accepted to be moved to Australian ballot. Article 3 was also accepted 78 to 27, by voice vote. Hill stated that a question was posed "why does the Town even entertain discretionary funding to separate

50	organizations?" And why don't we favor organizations that are based in Richmond.
51	Arneson added that by putting it on Australian or paper ballot, it prevents any adjustment
52	by voice vote at a Town Meeting. Hill continued that at least a couple of times in his
53	history of Town Meetings, budget items have been adjusted by voice vote at the meeting.
54	During Covid the budget was voted on using paper ballot.
55	
56	
57	Reminder of the Monday, December 9, 2024 Special Selectboard meeting for
58	discussion of the FY26 Budget
59	Timestamp: 0:09
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61	Arneson conjectured that it would be a good idea to add another Special Meeting to
62 63	discuss the budget on November 25, at 7 p.m. No one contested this idea.
64	
65	Consideration of transferring funds to Special Projects Reserve Fund
66	Timestamp: 0:10
67	
68	People who participated in discussion: Sander, Arneson,
69	
70	At the Special Town Meeting it was voted to allow the Selectboard to transfer up to
71	\$795,287 from the general fund to the Special Projects Reserve Fund.
72	
73	Wood moved to transfer \$795,287 from Unassigned Funds to the Special Projects
74	Reserve Fund. Hill seconded.
75	Roll Call Vote: Furr, Hill, Miller, Sander, Wood in favor. Motion approved.
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77	
78	Police Chief Cambridge to provide update on increased number of thefts
79	Timestamp: 0:12
80	1
81	People who participated in discussion: Sander, Arneson, Cambridge, Furr
82	
83	Chief Cambridge reported that there's been an increase in both towns [Hinesburg and
84	Richmond] and in the surrounding areas of car break ins and car thefts. Recently in one
85	night, we had a car stolen in Richmond and three taken in Hinesburg, one being an RV.
86	The week before that, we had a school bus taken. These are crimes of opportunity and
87	drug related; they are looking for change or something they can sell. In past years we
88	could pinpoint one particular person or group of people who committed such crimes, now
89	it's a whole number of different people. Furr queried if the school bus had been located,
90	to which Cambridge said yes and the RV as well, which had been stolen by the same
90 91	
	individual looking for a place to sleep. Cambridge warned the community really needs to
92 02	start locking their doors at night and stop leaving their keys in the car.
93	
94	

95	Update on the no parking zone on West Main St. located between the entrances to
96	Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Church and Richmond Family Medicine
97	Timestamp: 0:17
98	
99	People who participated in discussion: Sander, Arneson, Miller, Furr, Goslin
100	
101	Arneson explained that our best bet would be to paint stripes, which VTrans will permit.
102	VTrans said no to jersey barriers or cones, as well as having a yellow curb. Arneson will
103	have to submit an 1111 Permit to the State before striping can be painted. We don't know
104	if we have the authority to tow cars yet. Miller stated that we asked for "No Parking"
105	back when the area was paved, but now we want more. Cambridge iterated that his
106	officers are giving warnings and will escalate to tickets before resorting to towing. He
107	feels there has already been a positive change with less people parking between the two
108	No Parking signs. Furr stated that the church has requested heightened enforcement on
109	Saturday afternoons, before, during and after mass. Goslin wondered if any tickets had
110	been written and could enforcement increase on Sunday mornings also. Cambridge said
111	that no tickets had been issued since this is a change in the parking of that area, warnings
112	need to be written first to give people a chance to comply.
113	
114	
115	Update on delay of Hinesburg Rd. Speed Study
116	Timestamp: 0:23
117	
118	People who participated in discussion: Sander, Arneson, Hill
119	
120	Arneson informed that CCRPC had started to collect some more data on Hinesburg Road
121	to try to have a speed study for us in the middle of the winter. They had trouble with the
122	speed tubes that they place on the roadway and had to move them, this caused a delay and
123	now they are unable to complete such a study because of the winter months. Hill stated
124	that this is the way forward before a speed limit can be raised or lowered.
125	
126	
127	Review of eligibility determination letter from the Emergency Watershed Protection
128	program
129	Timestamp: 0:25
130	
131	https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2024/11/3h_Richmon
132	d_EWP_5042_Eligibility_Letter_2024-11-08.pdf
133	
134	People who participated in discussion: Sander, Arneson, Hill, Welkowitz, Hayes
135	
136	Arneson elaborate that the EWP program looks at rivers and streams that imminently
137	threaten private structures, septic/leach fields, wells, or access roads into or out of a

138 139	private property. We had around 40 properties looked at by EWP conservation engineers
139	in September 2024. There were about 8 sites that were approved for this program. The homeowner must be willing to pay 25% of the total repair if approved. Hill read off the
140	approval letter that most of the properties were denied because it was not an imminent
141	
142	threat to a property. Welkowitz asked if there was an appeal process for this. Arneson stated he would ask the engineers. Hayes explained that several of his neighbors had read
144 145	the denial letter and were upset. Arneson reiterated that it must threaten a structure and if
145 146	repair work was already completed by any property owners, this would make them not be
146 147	eligible.
148 149	Deview of letter to residents regarding starmwater normitting for Southview
149	Review of letter to residents regarding stormwater permitting for Southview, Hidden Pines, and Mary Dr.
150	Timestamp: 0:32
152	Thiestamp. 0.52
152	https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2024/11/3i_Letter_to_
155	Residents_11-11-24_DRAFT11-11-24_with_map.pdf
154	Kesidents_11-11-24_DKAF111-11-24_whth_map.pdf
156	People who participated in discussion: Sander, Arneson, Hill
157	reopie who participated in discussion. Sander, Arneson, Thi
158	Anderson stated that this was one last look at the letter before it gets sent out. Hill added
159	that he had met an angry resident in Richmond Market, who was clearly angry and
160	disappointed that this letter had not yet been forthcoming. But as Josh just described, the
161	letter is also predicated on a map that is accurate and complete. Arneson went over the
162	letter and a current map. Sander said that we are still waiting for an updated map from the
163	State. Arneson does not want to send out a letter that is not clear.
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165	
166	Update on Fair and Impartial Policing Policy
167	Timestamp: 0:36
168	
169	https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2024/11/3j1_Model_F
170	IP_Policy_updated_04.23.24 - Migrant_Justice_redline_edits.pdf
171	
172	https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2024/11/3j2_Model_F
173	IP_Policy_updated_04.23.24Migrant_Justice_alternative_with_VCJC_Comments.pdf
174	
175	
176	People who participated in discussion: Sander, Arneson, Hill, Miller
177	
178	Arneson explained that what it came down to was about six words in parentheses in one
179	portion of the policy, which allowed officers to communicate citizenship and immigration
180	status to federal authorities. Migrant Justice would like to see that removed. That was not

181	in our policy from 2021 and the Vermont Criminal Justice Council (VCJC) has stated that
182	if we submitted the current suggested policy, it would be rejected, and we would be
183	underneath their model policy. Arneson and Cambridge attended a meeting with VCJC,
184	and all voiced the opinion that the Town would like to be able to strike those words from
185	the model policy. We did not come away from that meeting with a clear answer and this
186	is still under review. Miller wondered if there was a deadline to submit a new policy and
187	Arneson answered that we could submit it whenever.
188	
189	
190	Consideration of approving six applications for home buyouts as part of the FEMA
191	Hazard Mitigation Grant Program
192	Timestamp: 0:41
193	
194	https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2024/11/3j Property
195	Buyout Elevate List as of 10-30-24.pdf
196	
197	https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2024/11/3k_Property_
198	Buyout_Elevate_List_as_of_11-15-24.pdf
199	
200	People who participated in discussion: Sander, Arneson, Hayes
201	
202	Miller moved to approve submitting applications for the home buyout program for 257
203	Bridge St, 41 Red Barn Ln., 42 Red Barn Ln., 23 Jones Mill Rd., 176 Lily Pond Circle,
204	and 99 Esplanade St. Wood seconded.
205	Roll Call Vote: Furr, Hill, Miller, Sander, Wood in favor. Motion approved.
206	
207	Hill mentioned that people can still back out of a buyout if they change their mind.
208	Arneson said that yes, people in a buyout can back out the day of the closing. Hayes
209	wanted to know if this money was already allotted to Vermont Emergency Management
210	(VEM), because he is worried about the new administration in January. Arneson said that
211	the money is perhaps allocated, but it is not yet set aside for the Town of Richmond, for
212	that to happen the projects have to be accepted by FEMA and VEM.
213	that to happen the projects have to be accepted by TEMAY and VEM.
214	Consideration of setting a date for a public hearing for proposed Zoning
214	Amendments creating two new zoning districts; Village Residential Neighborhoods
215	North (new section 3.11) and Village Residential Neighborhoods South (new section
217	3.12), introduction of Residential Density (new section 6.14), and amend Sections
218	6.1, 6.13, and 7 and including changes requested by the Selectboard at their 10/7/24 Public Hearing to align the regulations with A at 181
219	Public Hearing to align the regulations with Act 181
220	Timestamp: 0:45
221	

222	https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2024/11/311_VRN_s_
223	- Memo to the Selectboard for setting the date for 2nd public hearing -
224	<u>_11.18.24.pdf</u>
225	
226	https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2024/11/312 Act 181
227	- Section 52 11.18.24.pdf
228	
229	https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2024/11/313 Richmon
230	d-Zoning-Regulations redline proposed VRN s - ACT 181 ALIGNED
231	
232	
233	People who participated in discussion: Sander, Miller, Wood
234	
235	Miller mentioned that the Selectboard has chewed on this thing long enough that
236	probably all the substantive issues have come up. Wood commented that the most
237	dramatic changes are not at the behest of the Planning Commission but are new State law.
238	
239	Furr moved to set a date of Monday, January 6, 2025 at 7pm for a public hearing for
240	proposed Zoning Amendments creating two new zoning districts; Village Residential
241	Neighborhoods North (new section 3.11) and Village Residential Neighborhoods South
242	(new section 3.12), introduction of Residential Density (new section 6.14), and amend
243	Sections 6.1, 6.13, and 7 and including changes requested by the Selectboard at their
244	10/7/24 Public Hearing to align the regulations with Act 181. Hill seconded.
245	Roll Call Vote: Furr, Hill, Miller, Sander, Wood in favor. Motion approved.
246	
247	
248	Consideration of hiring an architect to design a layout for Volunteers Green
249	recreation facilities
250	Timestamp: 0:48
251	
252	People who participated in discussion: Sander, Arneson, Wood, Linn, Furr
253	
254	Wood said that the rate that John Linn (AIA) is offering the Town is great and to iterate
255	that he is grateful to Linn. Linn replied he is excited to get started. Sander said that this
256	was a 50% discount for architecture work for Volunteers Green. Furr wanted to know
257	where the funds would come from for this, he did not think it should come from the
258	Special Projects Reserve Fund, which the other members concurred with.
259	
260	Furr moved to approve the use of up to \$3,000 in funds from the Special Projects Reserve
261	Fund to pay for a design for Volunteers Green. This funding will not come from the
262	\$550,000 set aside for improvements in the parks. Wood seconded.
263	Roll Call Vote: Furr, Hill, Miller, Sander, Wood in favor. Motion approved.
264	

265 266 267 268 269 270 271	Consideration of submitting an application to the Development Review Board for a site plan review for Browns Court Timestamp: 0:51 <u>https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2024/11/3n_Browns_</u> Court Project Permit Application DRAFT 11-14-2024.pdf
272	
273 274	People who participated in discussion: Sander, Arneson, Storrs
275 276 277 278 279 280 281 282 282 283	Arneson said Wardwell has been helping to submit the paperwork to DRB when it's ready. Even if we don't get on the board until January, it still gives us plenty of time to get construction for pickleball courts by the spring. Storrs said she was there on behalf of the Parks Committee, she asked who would be presenting in front of the DRB Arneson or Wardwell, and that she would be available if necessary. Arneson stated that the paperwork needs to go to the Town's Zoning Administrator Tyler Machia first for approval. She wanted clarity on the rules of signage for the pickleball courts. The appeal process is 30-days Wood added.
283 284 285 286 287	Wood moved to approve submitting a site plan for Browns Court to the Development Review Board. Hill seconded. Roll Call Vote: Miller nay. Furr, Hill, Sander, Wood in favor. Motion approved.
288 289 290 291 292 293	Consideration of re-naming the Committee to Explore Path Funding to better depict that the Committee is exploring funding for a bicycle and pedestrian path between the Village and the Riverview Commons neighborhoods Timestamp: 1:03
294	People who participated in discussion: Sander, Arneson, Wood, Furr
295 296 297 298 299 300 301 302 303 304 305 306	Wood asked how many were on this Committee, to which Arneson replied 3. They have met a few times. Hill wanted to know why the name needs to be changed. Arneson said it was to make it clearer where the path would be and what the committee was doing. Furr doesn't like that the name is so long and descriptive, and that this could set a precedent for other committees to want long names. Hill stated that the endpoint of this path has changed, and it's unclear if it goes to the Park & Ride or to Riverview Commons. Wood and Furr wanted the Committee to create a better name. Since no one from the committee was present, they are being asked to present a better name to the Selectboard. Hill said that it's not clear what this Committee is supposed to be doing.

307	Consideration of entering into an agreement with Northstar Fireworks for 4th of
308	July Fireworks
309	Timestamp: 1:11
310	
311	https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2024/11/3p1_Richmo
312	nd Town of Contract 07-04-25.pdf
313	
314	https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2024/11/3p2_11-18-
315	24_PO5151_Northstar_Electric_Fireworks.pdf
316	
317	https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2024/11/3p4_11-18-
318	24_Invoice_Fireworks.pdf
319	
320	
321	People who participated in discussion: Sander, Arneson, Furr
322	
323	Furr reiterated that this company does excellent work and the Town has used them
324	before, but that they are cutting back and it is imperative to get our order in soon,
325	including a deposit. Miller mentioned again that drone shows are a lot more expensive
326	but environmentally safer and better for pets and less noise and so on. Hill wondered if
327	this should be mentioned at a Town Meeting, the idea of having a drone show instead of
328	fireworks. Miller said contributions from the residents could be asked for.
329	
330	Furr moved to approve the agreement with Northstar Fireworks for a Fourth of July
331	fireworks show, Purchase Order Number 5151 to Northstar Fireworks for \$15,000, and
332	the warrant for the payment for the fireworks. Wodd seconded.
333	Roll Call Vote: Furr, Hill, Miller, Sander, Wood in favor. Motion approved.
334	
335	
336	Update on not being awarded a Municipal Energy Resilience Program grant
337	Timestamp: 1:16
338	
339	https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2024/11/3q_MERP_G
340	rant_Not_Awarded_to_Richmond.pdf
341	
342	People who participated in discussion: Sander, Wood
343	
344	Wood said we are not in an energy burden community and we did not qualify.
345	
346	Consideration of setting a date for a Special Selectboard Meeting for a public
347	meeting for the kickoff of the Flooding Mitigation Scoping Study
348	Timestamp: 1:18
349	

350 351	People who participated in discussion: Sander, Arneson
352	Arneson explained that this is the first kick-off meeting to discuss things we can do to
353	avoid more flooding. Three dates were suggested. December 3 at 7 p.m. was chosen.
354	
355	Wood moved to hold a Special Selectboard Meeting on Dec 3, at 7 p.m. at the Richmond
356	Free Public Library to receive public feedback on the Flooding Mitigation Scoping
357	Study. Miller seconded.
358	Roll Call Vote: Furr, Hill, Miller, Sander, Wood in favor. Motion approved.
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360	
361	Consideration of approval of Errors and Omissions on the Grand List
362	Timestamp: 1:22
363	r
364	https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Selectboard/Meetings/2024/11/3s_2024_Err
365	ors_and_Omissions.pdf
366	
367	People who participated in discussion: Sander
368	
369	Sander read an excerpt from the report.
370	1 1
371	Furr moved to approve the 2024 Grand List Errors and Omissions report and the Errors
372	and Omissions Certificate: Homestead Classification Change Only. Miller seconded.
373	Roll Call Vote: Furr, Hill, Miller, Sander, Wood in favor. Motion approved.
374	
375	
376	Approval of Minutes, Purchase Orders, Warrants
377	Timestamp: 1:23
378	-
379	Minutes:
380	
381	Furr moved to approve the Minutes of 11/04/24 as presented. Miller seconded.
382	Roll Call Vote: Hill abstain. Furr, Miller, Sander, Wood in favor. Motion approved.
383	
384	Furr moved to approve the Minutes of the Special Selectboard Meeting on November 12,
385	2024. Hill seconded.
386	Roll Call Vote: Wood abstain. Furr, Miller, Sander, Hill in favor. Motion approved.
387	
388	Motions for Purchase Orders:
389	
390	Miller moved to amend Purchase Order number 4950 to Hinesburg Sand for material for
391	emergency road repairs to the amount of \$114,754.02. Hill seconded.
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*Roll Call Vote: Hill, Furr, Miller, Sander, Wood in favor. Motion approved.* 

393	
394	Wood moved to approve Purchase Order number 4910 to Mount Mansfield Unified
395	Union School District for FY25 Second Quarter Education Taxes in the amount of
396	\$2,201,760.72. Miller seconded.
397	Roll Call Vote: Hill, Furr, Miller, Sander, Wood in favor. Motion approved.
398	
399	Next Meeting Agenda
400	Timestamp: 1:26
401	
402	Path naming committee
403	Update on DRB permitting on Browns Court
404	Buyouts, are there any remaining
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406	
407	Adjourn
408	
409	Furr moved to adjourn. Hill seconded.
410	Roll Call Vote: Furr, Miller, Sander, Wood, Hill in favor. Motion approved.
411	
412	
413	Meeting adjourned at: 8:33 pm
414	
415	
416	Chat file from Zoom:
417	
418	00:32:26 Julie Welkowitz: Is there any appeal process for that?
419	00:39:36 pkaleita: Is there a timeline for when the engineering study will be
420	done?
421	