

1 **Town of Richmond**
2 **Meeting of Water and Sewer Commission**
3 **Minutes of June 17, 2024**
4

5 **Members Present:** Bard Hill, David Sander, Erin Farr, Jay Furr, Morgan Wolaver
6

7 **Members Absent:** None
8

9 **Staff Present:** Josh Arneson, Town Manager; Duncan Wardwell, Assistant to the Town
10 Manager; Linda Parent, Town Clerk; Steve Cote, Water Resources
11

12 **Others Present:** The meeting was recorded for MMCTV, Heidi Bormann, Peter
13 Bormann, Tyler Billingsley
14

15 **MMCTV Video:** https://youtu.be/mz_jaBHY7Z0?si=KDVZ3haaqyAAOVHT
16

17 **Call to Order: 6:00 pm**
18

19 **Welcome:** Wolaver
20

21 **Public Comment:** None
22

23 **Additions or Deletions to the Agenda:** None
24

25 **Approval of Minutes, Warrants and Purchase Orders**
26

27 **Minutes:**
28

29 *Sander moved to approve the Minutes of 6/3/24 meeting as presented. Hill seconded.*
30 *Roll Call Vote: Furr, Hill, Sander, Wolaver in favor. Farr absent. Motion approved.*
31

32 **Purchase Orders:**
33

34 *Sander moved to approve PO# 4899 to M&T Bank/Wilmington Trust FY25 for Water*
35 *Tank Loan not to exceed \$37,706.86. Hill seconded.*
36 *Roll Call Vote: Furr, Hill, Sander, Wolaver in favor. Farr absent. Motion approved.*
37

38 **Warrants:**
39

40 *Sander moved to approve the 6/17/24 Warrants as presented. Hill seconded.*
41 *Roll Call Vote: Furr, Hill, Sander, Wolaver in favor. Farr absent. Motion approved.*
42

43 **Items for Presentation or Discussion with those present**
44

45 **Review of water tank with engineer Tyler Billingsley**
46

46 Timestamp: 0:04

47 [https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2024/0](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2024/06/4a1_750KG_2_Celled_Report.pdf)
48 [6/4a1_750KG_2_Celled_Report.pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2024/06/4a1_750KG_2_Celled_Report.pdf)

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50 [https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water Sewer Commission/Meetings/2024/0](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2024/06/4a2_Photos_from_Tank_Inspection.pdf)
51 [6/4a2 Photos from Tank Inspection.pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2024/06/4a2_Photos_from_Tank_Inspection.pdf)

52

53 People who participated in discussion: Wolaver, Arneson, Billingsley, Sander, Hill, Cote,
54 Furr

55

56 Arneson stated that Billingsley reviewed the tape from the outside as well as photos and
57 videos from when the tank was cleaned. Billingsley stated that the structural design work
58 for water tanks perched up on a hill is a specialty discipline, he is not that discipline but
59 will provide a quick review. Billingsley stated that it is showing more cracking given its
60 age and the freeze-thaw climate. Billingsley reviewed that this style of tank was more
61 common in the 60s to but not perched on a hill.

62

63 Billingsley confirmed that it's not a huge risk that the rebar contained within the concrete
64 is bare steel and not epoxy coated, but it would have been nice to do it in hindsight.

65 Billingsley reviewed that there are some injectable epoxy resin crack injection products
66 to seal that water from leaking out and help bond that concrete back together. Billingsley
67 confirmed that it is a specialty niche market that a bit out of his knowledge base and
68 expertise. Billingsley suggested reaching out to someone who's done a lot more different
69 styles of tanks in different locations.

70

71 Billingsley stated that a tank warranties one-year workmanship. Sander recalled that it
72 was SD Ireland, and they reluctantly did the epoxy injection that was supposed to fix it.
73 Cote stated he did not think they did anything to the interior of it. Billingsley confirmed
74 that all concrete cracks, but it is a little surprising that there as many and as big at this
75 point. Cote confirmed that he reached out to Hoyle Tanner's structural engineer to look
76 at the video and give a second opinion. Cote also asked the dive company for prices on
77 crack maintenance. Cote confirmed that there are no obvious roof sags.

78

79 Arneson stated that it would be helpful to the attorneys and VLCT to understand the
80 scope of the problem.

81

82 **Consideration of approval of funds for contractor to relocate fire hydrant in front of**
83 **the Fire Department**

84 Timestamp: 0:29

85 [https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water Sewer Commission/Meetings/2024/0](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2024/06/4b_Email_with_details_on_cost_of_hydrant_relocation.pdf)
86 [6/4b Email with details on cost of hydrant relocation.pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2024/06/4b_Email_with_details_on_cost_of_hydrant_relocation.pdf)

87

88 People who participated in discussion: Wolaver, Arneson

89

90 Cote reviewed that the fire hydrant and three water valves need to be located in a
91 different spot due to the bridge construction and it would be about \$18,200 from ECI.

92

93 Sander asked why Water/Sewer users are paying to move the Town's fire hydrant and
94 plumbing because the State's moving the road. Arneson confirmed that they have a
95 contract approved by the Commission before the project that all those structures be
96 moved. Hill confirmed that this is one of the reasons that they charge a fire protection fee
97 charged to all the Town.

98

99 *Hill moved to approve ECI to relocate the fire hydrant in front of the Richmond Fire*
100 *Department at a cost not to exceed \$18,200 to be paid for from the Water Line budget*
101 *line. Sander seconded.*

102 *Roll Call Vote: Farr, Furr, Hill, Sander, Wolaver in favor. Motion approved.*

103

104 **Review of water data for May 2024**

105 Timestamp: 0:37

106 [https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2024/0](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2024/06/4c_Monthly_Water_Report_for_May_2024.pdf)
107 [6/4c Monthly Water Report for May 2024.pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2024/06/4c_Monthly_Water_Report_for_May_2024.pdf)

108

109 People who participated in discussion: Wolaver, Cote, Furr

110

111 **Superintendent's Report**

112 Timestamp: 0:39

113

114 People who participated in discussion: Wolaver, Cote, Hill, Arneson

115

116 Cote stated that a couple of people came down to take tours of the plant and now want
117 interviews.

118

119 Cote confirmed that the Zenner rep from Texas is here to start installing the main readers
120 and provide some technical assistance on how to install the meters the way they want it.

121

122 Cote reviewed that the wastewater plant had a few snafus with the press and air
123 compressor, but they have been averaging 50,000 gallons of septage a day.

124

125 Cote stated that the aeration tank, or the old fish tank, is now drained and cleaned the 20-
126 year upgrade will assess if there's cracks or damage.

127

128 Cote confirmed that a multitude of people want to fill their swimming pools with a break
129 off of their sewer bill and we do not do that. Hill reviewed that they have a mechanism to
130 sell them water to put in a truck.

131

132 **Discussion of Gateway expansion project**

133 Timestamp: 0:49

134 [https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2024/0](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2024/06/4e_email_thread_with_CCRPC_on_Gateway_Project.pdf)
135 [6/4e_email_thread_with_CCRPC_on_Gateway_Project.pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2024/06/4e_email_thread_with_CCRPC_on_Gateway_Project.pdf)

136

137 People who participated in discussion: Wolaver, Arneson, Cote, Hill, Bormann

138

139 Arneson reviewed the update from NBRC about the grant. Arneson stated that the next
140 step was to clean up the easement work over at the school.

141

142 **Discussion of dewatering location**

143 Timestamp: 0:54

144

145 People who participated in discussion: Wolaver, Cote, Hill

146

147 Cote reviewed getting the truck traffic off of Esplanade and the center of town and giving
148 the wastewater facility more space. Cote reviewed that they should think of where they
149 could locate a facility that could treat septage.

150

151 **Update on Congressional Spending Request**

152 Timestamp: 0:57

153 [https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2024/0](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2024/06/4g_Update_on_Congressional_Spending_Request.pdf)
154 [6/4g_Update_on_Congressional_Spending_Request.pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Water_Sewer_Commission/Meetings/2024/06/4g_Update_on_Congressional_Spending_Request.pdf)

155

156 People who participated in discussion: Wolaver, Arneson

157

158 Arneson reviewed that Senator Welsh and Sanders have recommended it for approval of
159 funding for the upgrades to the septage receiving and processing facility.

160

161 **Discuss Items for Next Agenda:**

162 *Dewatering location

163 *Water tank

164 *Fire Dept truck available

165

166 **Adjournment**

167

168 *Sander moved to adjourn. Furr seconded.*

169 *Roll Call Vote: Farr, Furr, Hill, Sander, Wolaver in favor. Motion approved.*

170

171 Meeting adjourned at: 6:59 pm

172

173 **Chat file from Zoom:**

174 00:08:24 iPhone: I'm in a tractor! But I'm listening :)

175 00:08:41 iPhone: This is Erin farr

176 00:09:54 Richmond Town Center Meeting Room: Thanks Erin.

177