

# Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

## Wednesday July 26, 2023

### Hybrid Meeting (Town Hall and Zoom)

Members Present: Al Hanson-Chair, Neal Pilson, Roger Manzolini

Other Participants: Danielle Fillio-Town Administrator, Beth Goodman-Town Counsel, Tom Grizey-Sewer manager, zoom participants, Holly & Dick Stover,

Chair Al Hanson opened the meeting at 6:00PM, stating who was present for the meeting.

1. Town Center Discussion
  - i. Discussion/vote on invoices/change orders

Mr. Hanson asked Mr. Manzolini if there were any issues to discuss. Mr. Manzolini stated there wasn't anything new to discuss or vote on.

- ii. Discussion/status of building

Mr. Manzolini stated that the building was 70% complete and on budget and on time.

- iii. Any Items requiring a vote of approval by Board.
    1. ISA for solar installation (Interconnecting Service Agreement)

This is a service agreement between the Town of Richmond and Eversource Power Company. The purpose is to allow for the town's solar system(once it is up and running) to be tied into the power grid.

Mr. Hanson made a motion to approve the agreement it was seconded by Mr. Pilson for discussion purposes only.

Mr. Manzolini explained that an agreement such as this is needed prior to going out for bids for construction of the solar system and applying for an RFP.

Ms. Goodman spoke about the parts of the contract agreement that pertained to the town. She stated that several points in the contract agreement were not pertinent to the town, that it is a one size fits all agreement not specific to just Richmond, so several of the parts that the selectmen had questions about did not relate to the town. She explained to the Board that there is no cost, a \$300 application fee has already been paid, and that is the only charge. The town has hired Scott Sullivan as an energy consultant, and he read over the agreement and has no issue with it. The agreement is non-binding and can be cancelled by either party at any point. There was a clause in the agreement about third party involvement and Mr. Sullivan told Ms. Goodman that there is no third party involved in this project. The town owns the building and will own the solar installation. The only concern Ms. Goodman had was about the insurance, the insurance is based on the kilowatts that will be generated. She stated that Eversource told her it will be 50 kilowatts and this falls within the town's insurance parameters. The one issue is that the town is self-insured through MIA. She asked MR. Sullivan if he knew if that would be an issue, he did not. He did state that Eversource accepts self-insurance from other governmental entities.

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Ms. Goodman has no concerns about signing the agreement. Mr. Manzolini made a motion to approve the agreement, it was seconded by Mr. Pilson and passed unanimously by roll call vote. Mr. Manzolini then made a motion to authorize MS. Fillio to be able to sign all documents associated with this agreement. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hanson and passed unanimously by roll call vote. Ms. Fillio then signed the agreement.

#### 2. Create new position for Beach Monitor.

Ms. Fillio explained what a beach monitor is and why the town needs one. She stated that the town has been unable to find lifeguards for the beach. Several other towns are having the same issue and have hired beach monitors. The beach monitors will be responsible for locking and unlocking the porta potties (which will now be pumped on Fridays & Mondays not just Fridays), they had been abused with garbage and clothing items left in them. They will be responsible for maintenance of the beach area, for locking and unlocking the gate( the exact hours the beach will be open will depend on staffing). For enforcing the rules that are posted, for example people have been fishing in the swimming area . The town will be putting the float back in after it was destroyed last year by vandals. Basically, with a monitor the trash, and destruction that took place last year when no one was there to oversee what was going on won't occur once monitors are in place. Mr. Manzolini asked if a job description has been created. Ms. Fillio stated she can create one. The funds for paying for the beach monitors will come from the lifeguard budget. Mr. Pilson mentioned that at the Richmond Pond Association meeting the night before several of the issues concerning the beach area were brought up so they will be very pleased that the town is going to do this. Mr. Manzolini made a motion to create 2 beach monitor positions, it was seconded by Mr. Pilson and passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Mr. Stover asked if the monitors would be supplied with cell phones in case of an emergency. The board hadn't decided on that.

#### 3. Yearly Appointments

The reappointing of Ray Supranowicz to the Board of Assessors. Mr. Hanson made a motion to reappoint Ray Supranowicz to the Board of Assessors for a 3 year term. It was seconded by Mr. Manzolini and passed unanimously by roll call vote.

#### 4. Public Comment

Mr. Stover asked why Selectmen minutes haven't been posted for several months. Ms. Fillio stated that a town hall employee was just looking into it and found the typed minutes which will be posted immediately. Mr. Stover also wanted to know what was happening with 159 Willow Road. Ms. Fillio stated that she has received an email from Mr. Bohlman stating he is working with an attorney about getting his paperwork in order to present it to the ZBA for review. Ms. Stover stated that there will be a trash pickup on Swamp Road between Bartlett's and the top of the hill, it will take place on Thursday July 27 weather permitting. She also stated that she would like to organize a trash pickup on East Road but

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that the high grass needs to be mowed for safety reasons and that the town should cut down the bittersweet vines that are choking the trees along the embankment of East Road. She also stated that she has been trying to contact the Boy's Club about a site visit to the east detention basin located on their property, but they haven't responded back to here with a date for the site visit. She stated it is creating an erosion issue which is a violation of the state regulations. Mr. Hanson asked Ms. Stover if she had contacted Mr. Smith or Mr. Potter (Chair & Vice-Chair of Conservation Commission) concerning this issue. She stated she will try to contact them.

#### 5. Town Administrator Updated

Ms. Fillio updated the members on the roadwork being done. She stated that the DPW is working nonstop on mowing and clearing the culverts but with all this rain it is a case of never being able to get ahead of the mowing and clearing of the clogged drainage culverts. They have been concentrating their mowing on the most dangerous roads, they just finished mowing Lenox Road. She stated that she has spoken with Mr. Smith and Mr. Potter about advertising for a new Conservation Agent for the town. Ms. Fillio stated she has been working with Mr. Smith and Mr. Potter on setting them up with access to the emails for Conservation and access to the building permits for them to review. They will be manning the Conservation agent's office during the posted hours until a new agent is hired. She stated that the Treasurer/Collector (Jodi Hollingsworth) who has been out due to a death in the family will be back in the office on Monday July 31st. Ms. Fillio stated that she has submitted the paperwork for reimbursement for the storm water management grant that the town received. The final plan and all related materials are posted on the town website under the Department of Public Works page. She stated that new signs have been ordered denoting that there is no access to Interprint via the Boys Club Road and Shore Road. They will be situated facing both ways on Swamp Road prior to the turn for Boy's Club Road and also just before Beach Road stating turn around no access to Interprint. Interprint will tell the trucking companies that the only access is from Route 41, and they will attempt to find out which GPS system the truckers (mostly coming out of Canada) are using that are giving them the wrong directions.

#### 5. Selectmen Matters

Roger Manzolini : None, he only stated that he hopes the communication system in the new building will be better than what there is now. Ms. Fillio stated it will be but not at the very beginning of use of the new building.

Neal Pilson: None

Al Hanson: None

#### 6. Sewer Matters

Mr. Hanson asked Mr. Grizey (Sewer Operator) if the rainfall has created issues for the sewer system. He stated that so far the rainfall hasn't. Mr. Grizey did state that the town needs to buy a backup pump in case of a failure there isn't a backup. Ms. Stover asked if any of the residents in the shores are using

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sewer pumps and having them drain into the sewer system. Mr. Grizey stated he didn't know of any and that he can't go to residents and ask to look in their basements.

Mr. Manzolini moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:43PM, it was seconded by Mr. Pilson and passed unanimously.

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Mr. Hanson-Chair

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Date

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Mr. Pilson

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Mr. Manzolini