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# TOWN OF NEW RICHMOND

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Work Session Minutes  
February 19, 2025 at 11am.  
New Richmond Community Room

**Roll Call:** Sarah Farmer-Forbes, Clerk-Treasurer; Linda Forbes, President; Rachelle Cowherd, Board Member; Jebadiah Lind, Board Member; Jay Busse, Maintenance Supervisor; Jeremy Minor, Town Marshall; Rob Reimondo, Legal Council; Kristy Jerrell, Grant Administrator.

**Topics to be Discussed:**

1. Information presented from Kristy Jerell.
  - a. Kristy Jerrell asked for information as to what the potential upcoming lagoon project would be. Jay Busse gave her the requested information. It was discussed that we do have an Agreed Order with IDEM but our current engineer isn't doing what the board has requested. Kristy discussed possible options if the board is not wanting to move forward with Ken Smith. The board was adamant they want to be clear as to what direction we are headed with this and who our engineering options are. It was stated that a member of the community expressed did not want to work with Banning Engineering; however, Earl Heide and Kristy Jerrel both said this was a good option. It was suggested that we could do a scoring/interview process and let the board pick who they think would be the best fit. It was voted on to do an Interview/Scoring process for the sewer project. Rachelle C. made the motion to approve, Jeb L. seconded the motion, Linda F. called for a vote, motion carried.
  - b. Kristy Jerrel stated that there would need to be a Scoring Committee for interviews. The people who volunteered/were chosen for this were: Linda Forbes, Jay Busse, Earl Heide, Rachelle Cowherd and Sarah Farmer-Forbes.
  - c. It was also stated that one person will be in charge of making reference calls when the time arrives and can be chosen closer to that date. Interviews are 20 minutes long, 5 minutes for questions and 10 minutes in between.
2. Animal Welfare League Contract
  - a. The Board discussed the contract that was sent from AWL. It was suggested that we might be able to use that money elsewhere and if we decide at the end of the year that we should do it next year, to reevaluate then. It was voted for Rob Reimondo draft up a letter to keep on hand to send out from the Clerk's Office for times when we might need to have a stronger stance on specific cases and then an additional letter from Rob's office if the Clerk letter doesn't get movement.
  - b. The decision to not do the AWL contract was voted on. Jeb L. made the motion to approve, Rachelle C. seconded the motion, Linda F. called for a vote, motion carried.
  - c. The decision to have Rob R draft up a two-letter approach was voted on - Jeb L. made the motion to approve, Rachelle C. seconded the motion, Lidna F. called for a vote, motion carried.
3. Any outstanding IDEM issues?

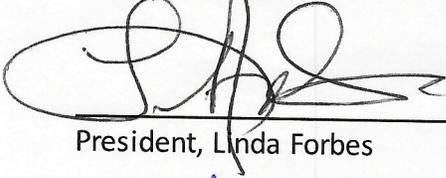
- a. This was previously discussed in the first topic with Krisy Jerrell.
4. WHPP update –
  - a. Sarah FF stated that we had been given the name to a new Alliance contract who could help with our Wellhead Protection Plan. Her name is Alisha Cornwell and we were also granted an additional 90 day extension which expires on 5/12/25.
  - b. She stated that as of today she had not received a response from Alisha at Alliance.
5. Blighted properties like in Wingate
  - a. There was discussion as to whether or not we should amend the blighted properties ordinance to include old/decaying buildings. Rob R stated he could look into what the city of Crawfordsville did for their unsafe/fallen buildings.
  - b. Based upon Rob's findings the board thinks they would like to have a drafted letter to keep on hand to be sent out for any buildings that meet this criteria.
6. Christmas Party theft
  - a. The topic of the theft from the 2025 Christmas party was discussed and what, if anything, should be done. It was voted on that the Town Marshall do an interview and gather more information and then proceed forward with a vote at that time as to what to do next.
  - b. Jeb L. made the motion to approve this, Rachelle C. seconded the motion, Linda F called for a vote, motion carried.
7. Community Crossings Grant
  - a. Jay B suggested that we ensure roads are our number one priority. Sarah FF presented information to the board about the 2025 proposed approved budget, Community Crossing information, the % Year street plan and then also the PASER ratings.
  - b. It was suggested that the board get an engineering estimate done to see what the best next steps would be to utilize funds better.
  - c. Jay B was asked for his recommendation as to what to do first and he said that he would start at the south end of town and work toward the middle of town.
8. Upcoming Holidays
  - a. The board discussed which holidays what board members would cover. It was decided to do the following:
  - b. Easter - Linda Forbes; Halloween - Jeb Lind; Christmas - Rachelle
9. Any updates from Rob
  - a. All updates from Rob were discussed in the topics that they fell in.
10. After hours Sign Posted
  - a. It was requested to have an After Hours Sign with emergency phone numbers put on the front door of the Town Hall.
11. Community Room Updates
  - a. It was requested that we at least redo the flooring at the community room and paint the walls.
  - b. Jay B said that he could get a price estimate to epoxy the floors again and the board was in agreement to have the walls repainted.
12. ELAN Warranty Extension (\$299/sign per year for 3 years)
  - a. Rachelle C. made the motion to approve this, Jeb L. seconded the motion, Linda F called for a vote, motion carried.
13. Rock issue with O'Connor and Fultz
  - a. It was stated by Rob R that this is a civil matter.
  - b. Rob R will be drafting a letter to both parties stating this is not a town issue and has requested Sarah FF send him the names and mailing addresses.
  - c. Rachelle C. made the motion to approve this, Jeb L. seconded the motion, Linda F called for a vote, motion carried.
14. July Compliance (Town Web Service & Mike Hufford)

- a. We are waiting on price estimates for this from two companies.
- b. This topic was tabled until we have more information.

15. Cleaning Person Updates

- a. Sarah FF informed the board that the current cleaning person has officially resigned and she is actively looking for a new person.
- b. The board said they would be interested in both individuals and company applicants.

Jeb L. made the motion to adjourn the meeting, Rachelle C. seconded the motion, Linda F. called for a vote, motion carried.



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President, Linda Forbes

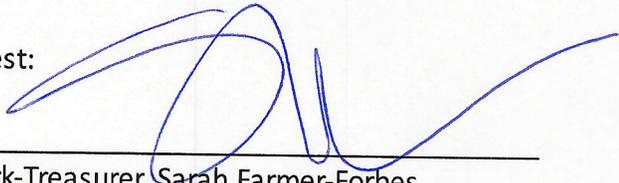


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Council Member, Rachelle Cowherd



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Council Member, Jebadiah Lind

Attest:



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Clerk-Treasurer, Sarah Farmer-Forbes