

**TOWN OF RICHLANDS**  
**SPECIAL CALLED MEETING**

The Richlands Town Council held a “Special Called Meeting” on Tuesday, June 18, 2024, at 6:00 pm in the Richlands Council Chambers with the following present:

Mayor: Rod. D. Cury  
Town Manager: Jason May  
Town Attorney: Mike Thomas  
Finance Manager: Ronnie Campbell  
Office Manager: Absent  
Town Clerk: Amanda Beheler  
Council Members: Seth White, Gary Jackson, Rick Wood, Jordan Bales, Jan White, and Laura Mollo.

The Town Meeting was called to order at 6:00pm and opened with the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Cury.

**IN RE: Additions, Deletions, or Corrections to the Agenda**

Mr. May requested the following additions to the agenda:

- 3 Budget Amendments

Upon a motion by Rick Wood seconded by Laura Mollo and the unanimous roll call vote of all members present, the Council voted to approve the amended agenda.

**IN RE: Natural Gas Generator Discussion**

Mark Ramono with Quantum Power advised the Council that:

- The Load Flow Study was done and gave an overview to the Council.
- The wire size suggested was within the capabilities of operating two generators.
- The study showed that the Cat Bank will not be needed, will use a regulator.
- There will be a \$213k price increase for the Mercury 50 in July.
- The Town can lock the purchase price in now and would have 30 days after to make a monetary commitment.

Mr. White asked Mr. Ramono if the milestone payments would go towards paying for the Mercury 50. Mr. Ramono advised the majority of it would go towards the down payment on the Mercury 50.

Mr. White asked Mr. May if he had followed up with National Bank regarding a Line of Credit the Town had that was used for the engineering of the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Mr. May advised that the loan had been paid off and he is waiting to hear back from the bank at this time. Mr. White would like to know if that line of credit is still open.

Mr. White advised that the Town has submitted an application for a three million dollar AMLAR Grant.

Mr. White also advised that the Town has received a lot of support for the Tobacco Commission Grant that will be submitted in September and anticipates the Town to qualify for around two million dollars.

The Council discussed several grant opportunities.

Mr. White inquired about staging in another generator later on. Mr. Ramono advised it will be easier in the future to add on.

Mr. White stated this will be a huge asset to the Town.

Mr. Bales asked what the difference was between Mitigation Case A and Mitigation Case B and if it was the gauge of the wire. Charlie Bales explained the difference, explanation was inaudible.

Mr. May spoke to the Council about the project and expressed his support for it.

Mr. White asked Mr. Ramono if the costs listed were overestimated. Mr. Ramono advised they were.

Justin Shipley with Power Engineers spoke to the Council- Inaudible.

Mrs. Mollo expressed her support for the project and stated this will attract new businesses and benefit citizens.

Mr. Wood stated he attempted to get power generation within the Town the first time he was on the Council many years ago and always received negative comments. Mr. Wood said he is very excited to see this project moving forward.

Mr. White stated he is proud of the Council and the Town Manager for working together on this project and moving the Town forward in a positive direction.

Mr. Ramono advised the Council that his late mother was originally from the area, and he is very excited to begin this project.

Mr. Campbell spoke to the Council about his history of working with Dominion and stated he is very excited about this project as well.

Mrs. White stated that this is one of the most forward-thinking Councils that she has served with and everyone has a vision for the future.

Upon a motion by Laura Mollo seconded by Rick Wood and the unanimous roll call vote of all members present, the Council voted to approve the Notice to Proceed for Quantum Power and to authorize the Town Manager to begin raising the funds to be able to meet the first payment due at the end of July.

**IN RE: Budget Amendments**

Mr. May gave an overview of the following Budget Amendments:

- Rescue- move \$6k from Retirement to a Capital Line to purchase a Golf Cart.
- Police- move \$15k from Retirement to a Capital Line to purchase two larger Golf Carts.
- Street- move \$40k from Retirement to a Capital Line to purchase a Side-by-Side with a Snowplow Attachment and an Ice Maker Machine.

Upon a motion by Laura Mollo seconded by Rick Wood and the unanimous roll call vote of all members present, the Council voted to approve all three Budget Amendments.

**IN RE: Adjournment**

Upon a motion by Rick Wood seconded by Seth White and the unanimous roll call vote of all members present, the meeting was adjourned.

  
Amanda Beheler, Town Clerk

  
Rodney D. Cury, Mayor