

TOWN OF
RICHMOND
M A S S A C H U S E T T S



Photo Credit: Patrick Barry

ANNUAL REPORT 2017



RICHMOND TOWN HALL

Monday through Friday – 9:00 – 3:00

(413) 698-3355

Town Administrator – Mark Pruhenski
698-3882

Monday through Friday – 9:00 – 3:00

Treasurer/Tax Collector – Paul A. Lisi, Jr.
698-3356

Monday through Thursday – 9:00 am – 3:00

Town Clerk – Marie Y. Ryan
698-3555

Administrative Asst. – Claudia Ryan
698-3355

Monday, Wednesday, Friday – 9:00 am – 3:00

COA Director – Phyllis LeBeau
698-3656

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday – 9:00 am – 3:00

Board of Selectmen

2nd and 4th Wednesday – 6:00 pm

Board of Assessors

2nd Wednesday – 6:00 pm

Board of Health

1st Tuesday – 6:00 pm

Planning Board

2nd Monday – 6:30 pm

Conservation Commission

2nd Tuesday – 7:00 pm

Building Inspector – Paul Greene

1st, 2nd and 4th Wednesday – 10:30 am - 12:00

Zoning Enforcement Officer – Paul Greene
698-2525

1st, 2nd and 4th Wednesday – 10:30 am - 12:00 pm

Chief of Police – William Bullett
(442-3693)

2nd and 4th Wednesday – 7:30 pm

Animal Control Officer

John Springstube
232-7038



In Memoriam



*Each year we honor town officers and employees
who have passed away.*

In 2017 we lost the following:

Stephen Congdon (2016)

Library Trustee

Peggy Lund

Poll Worker

Roberta Cunningham

Historical Society

Selwyn Ives

ZBA Member and Chairman

This town report is dedicated to their memory.

Town of Richmond

Massachusetts

ANNUAL REPORTS of the Town Officers



For the Year Ending
December 31, 2017

FY 2018 Tax Rate – \$ 11.75
FY 2017 Total Valuation – \$ 412,969,106
FY 2017 Total Tax Levied – \$ 4,852,387

Population Local Census – 1,460
Population Federal Census 2010 – 1,475
Registered Voters – 1,137
Area of Town – 19.07 Square Miles



TABLE OF CONTENTS



Affordable Housing Committee	32	Historical Society	54
Ambulance Service	73	Planning Board	56
Board of Assessors	33	Police Chief	57
Board of Health	34	Recreation Committee	58
Board of Selectmen/ Sewer Commissioners	31	Richmond Civic Association	59
Building Department	36	Richmond Consolidated School	60
Cemetery Superintendent	37	Richmond Land Trust	61
Community Health Association	37	Scholarship Committee	62
Conservation Commission	39	School Committee	63
Council on Aging	41	Tax Collector	64
Cultural Council	42	Tax Title Custodian	65
Department of Public Works	44	Town Administrator	68
Directory of Town Officials	3	Town Clerk	69
Emergency Management Director	45	Town Meeting (Annual) Warrant, May 16, 2018	7
Employee Earnings History	88	Explanations	17
Fence Viewers	46	Town Meeting (Annual) Warrant, May 17, 2017	76
Field Drivers	47	Treasurer	70
Finance Committee	48	Tree Warden	72
Free Public Library	49	Volunteer Fire Department	73
Friends of the Richmond Library	51	Zoning Enforcement Officer	74
Historical Commission	53		





DIRECTORY OF TOWN OFFICIALS

ELECTED TOWN OFFICIALS

Selectmen

Neal Pilson, 2019

Alan B. Hanson, 2018
Chair

Roger W. Manzolini, 2020

Berkshire Regional Transit Authority Delegate

Alan B. Hanson

Board of Health

Anthony Segal, 2018
Andrew Fisher, 2018

Louise Maron, 2019
Chair

Fred Schubert, 2019
Peter Cohen, 2020

School Committee

Adeline Ellis, 2019

Dewey Wyatt, 2018
Chair

Andrea Harrington, 2020

Finance Committee

Eileen Martin, 2018
Stevan Patterson, 2018

Robert Gniadek, 2020
Chair

John Mason, 2019
Patricia Callahan, 2019

Planning Board

Katherine Keenum, 2020
John Hanson, 2020

John Vittori, 2021
Chair

Richard Bell, 2019
Adeline Ellis, 2020

Berkshire Regional Planning Commission Delegate

Adeline Ellis

Library Trustees

Kathryn Wilson, 2020

Lisa Donfried, 2018
Chair

Nanci McConnell, 2019

Moderator

John H. Whitney, 2018

Deputy Moderator

William Martin, 2018

* The date following each name denotes the expiration of the term of office.

APPOINTED TOWN BOARDS/COMMISSIONS

Board of Appeals

Richard Stover, 2019	Stevan Patterson, 2019	Linda Morse, 2019
Wendy Laurin, 2019	Chair	William Martin, 2018
Peter Killeen, 2020 (alternate)		Ina Wilhelm, 2021 (alternate)

Assessors

Diane Pero	Jeffrey Daigle, 2018	Raymond Supranowicz, 2020
	Chair	

Budget Advisory Committee

Board of Selectmen		Finance Committee
Alan B. Hanson, 2018		Robert Gniadek, 2020
Roger W. Manzolini, 2020		John Mason, 2019
Neal Pilson, 2019		Patricia Callahan, 2019
		Stevan Patterson, 2018
		Eileen Martin, 2018

Conservation Commission

Patrick Seckler, 2018	Co-Chairs	Shep Evans 2018
Adam Weinberg, 2018	Freya Segal, 2018	Robert Dahlen, 2018
John Scorpa (alternate)	Ron Veillette, 2019	Nick Martinelli, 2019
		Daniel Scorpa (alternate)

Council on Aging

Kathleen McMahon, 2019	Peter Cohen, 2019	William Bullett, 2018
Betsy Bemis, 2019	Chair	Patricia Malnati, 2019
Janice Hartford, 2018		Christopher Doyle, 2019

Cultural Council

Irma Godlin, 2019	Sandra Flannery, 2019	Theresa Fasano, 2018
Catherine Gamberoni, 2018	Chair	Frieda Pilson, 2019
Wendy Mackey, 2018		Ina Wilhelm, 2017

Historical Commission

William Edwards, 2018	Gloria Morse, 2018	Allison Edwards, 2018
Virginia Larkin, 2019	Chair	Frieda Pilson, 2019
Melanie Masdea, 2018		Amy Diamond, 2019

Recreation Committee

Danielle Mullen	Jeff Konowitch, 2019	Matt Lenehan
Rick Saupe	Chair	Holly Freadman

Registrars of Voters

Kathleen McMahon, 2018		Stephen Murray, 2018
------------------------	--	----------------------

APPOINTED TOWN BOARDS/COMMISSIONS (Continued)

Road Advisory Committee

Chairman, Board of Selectmen – Alan Hanson
Chairman, Conservation Commission – Freya Segal, Ron Veillette
Chairman, Planning Board – John Vittori
Chairman, Finance Committee – Robert Gniadek
DPW Superintendent – Peter Beckwith
Tree Warden – Adam Weinberg

TOWN OFFICERS

** As of January 1, 2017*

Town Administrator/Assistant Town Clerk - Mark Pruhenski
Administrative Assistant - Claudia Ryan
Animal Control Officer - John Springstube
Assessors' Clerk - Mary Stodden
Board of Health Agent - John Olander
Chief Procurement Officer - Mark Pruhenski
Conservation Agent - Shep Evans
Constables - Eric Latimer, Thomas Grizey, Francis Malnati, Ryan Malumphy
Custodian of Town Hall - Jessica Lisi
Emergency Management Director - Steve Traver
Emergency Management Assistant Director - Chris Porter
Fence Viewers - Alan B. Hanson, Roger W. Manzolini, Neal Pilson
Field Driver - Vacant
Fire Chief - Steve Traver
Hazardous Waste Response Coordinator - Steve Traver
Highway Department - Peter Beckwith - **Superintendent**, Michael Lamke, Robert Navin,
Tyler Kern
Inspector of Animals - John Springstube
Inspector of Buildings - Paul Greene; **Assistant** - Brian Duval
Inspector of Gas and Plumbing - Robert Gennari
Asst. Inspector of Gas and Plumbing - Robert Krupski
Inspector of Oil Burners - Steve Traver
Inspector of Wiring - Thomas Grizey
Library Director - Kristin Smith
Police Chief - William Bullett
Sewer Operations - Thomas Grizey, Horice Brazie, Mark Pruhenski
Superintendent of Cemeteries - Stephen Parsons
Superintendent of Dutch Elm and Gypsy Moth - Peter Beckwith
Town Accountant - Angela Garrity
Town Clerk - Marie Y. Ryan

APPOINTED OFFICERS *(Continued)*

Town Collector - Paul A. Lisi, Jr.

Town Counsel - Elizabeth Goodman

Treasurer/Custodian of Tax Title Property - Paul A. Lisi, Jr.

Tree Warden - Adam Weinberg

Veterans' Agent - James Clark

Zoning Enforcement Officer - Paul Greene





WARRANT FOR THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING



DRAFT ONLY

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Berkshire, ss

To any of the Constables of the Town
of Richmond in said County,
Greetings:

In the name of said Commonwealth, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Richmond qualified to vote in town affairs to meet in the Consolidated School of said Richmond on May 16, 2018, at 7:30 PM, and then and there to act upon the following:

[Consent Calendar- Articles 1-4]

ARTICLE 1 - To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to determine the manner of repairing the highways and caring for the cemeteries for the year.

ARTICLE 2 - REVOLVING FUNDS. To see if the Town will vote to amend the general bylaw that established certain revolving funds pursuant to the provisions of Section 53E 1/2 of Chapter 44 of the General Laws, which was adopted at the Annual Town Meeting held on May 17, 2017 by making the changes to paragraph 5 shown below:

5. Authorized Revolving Funds. The Table establishes:

- A. Each revolving fund authorized for use by a Town department, board, committee, agency or officer,
- B. The department or agency head, board, committee or officer authorized to spend from each fund,
- C. The fees, charges and other monies charged and received by the department, board, committee, agency or officer in connection with the program or activity for which the fund is established that shall be credited to each fund by the Town Accountant,
- D. The expenses of the program or activity for which each fund may be used,
- E. Any restrictions or conditions on expenditures from each fund; and
- F. The fiscal years each fund shall operate under this by-law.

ARTICLE 3 - REVOLVING FUND LIMITS. To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to the

Revolving Fund	Authorized User	Revenue Source	Allowed Expenses	Restrictions/ Conditions	Fiscal Years
Inspectional Services	Electrical, Plumbing, and Gas Inspectors	Fees charged and received by the Electrical, Plumbing, and Gas Inspectors	Wages of Inspectors performing electric, plumbing, and gas inspections	Salaries or wages of full-time employees shall be paid from the annual budget appropriation and not from the fund	Fiscal Year 2019 and subsequent years
Council on Aging	Council on Aging	Program participation fees received and other donations	Elder transportation programs, events, and classes	Salaries or wages of full-time employees shall be paid from the annual budget appropriation and not from the fund	Fiscal Year 2019 and subsequent years
Board of Health	Board of Health/Board of Health Agent	Fees received for the sale of composting and recycling bins	Education associated with Conservation, consultants Costs associated with the purchase of composting and recycling bins	Salaries or wages of full-time employees shall be paid from the annual budget appropriation and not from the fund	Fiscal Year 2019 and subsequent years
Wetland Protection	Conservation Commission	Fees charged for conservation commission applications	Education associated with conservation	Salaries or wages of full-time employees shall be paid from the annual budget appropriation and not from the fund	Fiscal Year 2019 and subsequent years
Municipal Building or Property Rental	Town Administrator, Treasurer, or Tax Collector	Fees and rents received from the rentals of municipal buildings	Upkeep and maintenance of rented facility	Salaries or wages of full-time employees shall be paid from the annual budget appropriation and not from the fund	Fiscal Year 2019 and subsequent years

provisions of Section 53E 1/2 of Chapter 44 of the General Laws, to authorize the spending limits of the revolving funds outlined below which were just approved. Expenditures from said funds shall not exceed the amount of funds received in the respective accounts or authorized below, shall come from any funds received by the respective boards and officers for performing services, shall be used solely for the purpose of coordinating and carrying out the programs delineated and shall be approved by a majority vote of the respective boards or officers.

- Inspectional Services - \$20,000**
- Council on Aging - \$5,000**
- Board of Health - \$2,500**
- Wetland Protection - \$5,000**
- Municipal Building or Property Rental - \$10,000**

ARTICLE 4 - To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and accept any monies appropriated for use by the Massachusetts Highway Department for Chapter 90 highway aid for maintenance and reconstruction of Town roads and to fund the appropriation by transferring said amounts from available funds. Said funds shall carry over from year to year until spent by the Town and shall be reimbursed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in accordance with Chapter 90 of the General Laws. (Approved by the Finance Committee)

ARTICLE 5 - To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate such sums of money as shall be deemed necessary for the upkeep and repair of the buildings, equipment, highways and cemeteries and for all other charges and expenses of the Town for the year and to set the salaries and compensation of all elected officers of the Town as provided by Section 108 of Chapter 41 of the General Laws. [Fiscal Year 2018 amounts are shown for comparative purposes. Please see the Explanations section following this warrant for more information] (Approved by the Finance Committee)

[LINE ITEMS]

<u>General Government</u>	Final	Draft	Increase	% Change
	FY 2018	FY 2019		
Assessors Salaries	3,600	3,600	-	0.0%
Assessors Expenses	18,700	18,700	-	0.0%
Assessors Contracted Services	-	38,200	-	
Assessor Clerk	27,770	-	(27,770)	-100.0%
Audit	15,000	15,000	-	0.0%
Moderator Salary	500	500	-	100.0%
Selectmen Salaries	5,250	5,250	-	0.0%
Selectmen Expenses	2,000	4,500	2,500	125.0%
Town Clerk Salary	10,595	21,528	10,933	103.2%
Town Clerk Expenses	2,500	8,670	6,170	246.8%

Richmond Annual Town Report - 2017

Treasurer Salary	53,560	55,167	1,607	3.0%
Treasurer's Expenses	2,300	2,500	200	8.7%
Town Accountant Salary	20,600	52,850	32,250	156.6%
Town Accountant Expenses	950	1,500	550	57.9%
Tax Collector Salary	16,192	15,450	(742)	-4.6%
Tax Collector/Treasurer Assistant	4,759	4,000	(759)	-15.9%
Tax Collector Expenses	14,000	15,200	1,200	8.6%
Town Secretary	28,949	-	(28,949)	-100%
Administrative Assistant	-	16,130	16,130	
Town Counsel/Legal Services	15,000	17,500	2,500	16.7%
Town Report	7,500	7,500	-	0.0%
Town Hall	21,000	25,000	4,000	19.0%
Elections and Voter Registration	6,400	6,600	200	3.1%
Town Admin/Assistant Town Clerk Salary	71,400	76,400	5,000	7.0%
Town Admin Expenses	2,000	2,200	200	10.0%
Conservation Commission Expenses	2,000	2,500	500	25.0%
Conservation Agent Salary	20,600	21,218	618	3.0%
Historical Commission	500	500	-	0.0%
Planning Board	285	285	-	0.0%
Recreation Committee	3,750	3,750	-	0.0%
IT Services	20,000	20,600	600	0.0%
Technology Hardware	10,000	10,000	-	0.0%
COA Director & General Admin Assistant	27,562	28,389	827	3.0%
Council on Aging	4,722	4,722	-	0.0%
Tax Collection Services	4,500	1,500	(3,000)	-66.7%
Veteran's Agent Salary	1,957	2,250	293	15.0%
Website Hosting	-	1,900	1,900	0.0%
General Government - Subtotal	446,401	511,559	65,158	14.6%

Protection - Persons and Property

Police Chief Salary	2,957	3,046	89	3.0%
Police Department Expenses	1,000	1,000	-	0.0%
County Communications	12,000	12,360	360	3.0%
Constable Salaries	1,250	1,288	38	3.0%
Constable Expenses	250	1,250	1,000	400.0%
Animal Control Officer Salary	3,016	3,107	91	3.0%
Animal Control Officer Expenses	1,000	1,000	-	0.0%
Fire Department	62,014	61,514	(500)	-0.8%
Fire House Rent	12,000	14,400	2,400	20.0%
Emergency Management	5,900	5,900	-	0.0%
Fire Chief Salary	-	15,000	15,000	
Tree Warden	6,935	7,500	565	8.1%
Building Inspector Salary	6,816	7,021	205	3.0%

Richmond Annual Town Report - 2017

Building Inspector Expenses	1,000	4,500	3,500	350.0%
Alternate Building Inspector	250	258	8	3.2%
Zoning Enforcement Officer	3,649	3,759	110	3.0%
Zoning Enforcement Expenses	1,000	1,000	-	0.0%
Inspection Services	100	100	-	0.0%
Protection- Subtotal	121,137	144,003	22,866	18.9%

Health

			-	
Board of Health Salaries	850	850	-	0.0%
Board of Health Expenses	2,915	2,095	(820)	-28.1%
Board of Health Agent Salary	5,228	4,800	(428)	-8.2%
Board of Health Agent Expenses	1,045	1,140	95	9.1%
Board of Health Contracted Services		3,000	3,000	
Animal Inspector	198	204	6	3.0%
Rubbish Disposal	171,866	177,022	5,156	3.0%
Community Health Services	25,250	25,500	250	1.0%
Nuisance Abatement	500	500	-	0.0%
Health- Subtotal	207,852	215,111	7,259	3.5%

Highways

			-	
Machinery Maintenance	57,500	57,500	-	0.0%
Road Construction	100,000	125,000	25,000	25.0%
Road Maintenance	171,604	171,604	-	0.0%
Town Garage	18,344	19,478	1,134	6.2%
Winter Roads	263,079	263,673	594	0.2%
Gravel Roads	50,000	55,000	5,000	10.0%
Vacation and Sick Pay	16,947	15,962	(985)	-5.8%
Private Roads	3,500	3,500	-	0.0%
Beaver Control	3,500	3,500	-	0.0%
Town Beach	12,845	15,595	2,750	21.4%
Highways- Subtotal	697,319	730,812	33,493	4.8%

Unclassified

			-	
Berkshire County Retirement	146,261	172,551	26,290	18.0%
Berkshire Regional Planning Commission	7,500	1,150	(6,350)	-84.7%
Cemetery Superintendent Salary	8,037	8,279	242	3.0%
Cemetery Expenses	2,000	2,000	-	0.0%
Group Insurance	178,232	159,708	(18,524)	-10.4%
Insurance and Bonding	85,000	95,000	10,000	11.8%
Library	56,946	57,985	1,039	1.8%
Library Rent	12,000	12,000	-	0.0%
Memorial Day	200	200	-	0.0%
Stationery and Office Supply	9,200	9,200	-	0.0%

Richmond Annual Town Report - 2017

Unemployment Reserve	13,110	2,500	(10,610)	-80.9%
Banking Services	300	200	(100)	-33.3%
Medicare	37,132	35,000	(2,132)	-5.7%
Veterans' Aid	7,500	7,500	-	0.0%
Stray Animals	100	100	-	0.0%
Town Building Maintenance	20,000	20,000	-	0.0%
Legal Advertising	7,000	7,000	-	0.0%
Group Purchasing	600	600	-	0.0%
Training	8,500	8,500	-	0.0%
Office Equipment/Software Support	29,500	20,000	(9,500)	-32.2%
Richmond Pond Ramp Monitors	20,000	20,000	-	0.0%
Misc. Expenses	700	700	-	0.0%
Unclassified- Subtotal	649,818	640,173	(9,645)	-1.5%
Line Item Budget - Total	2,122,527	2,241,658	119,131	5.6%
Articles - Total	4,282,731	4,180,579	(102,152)	-2.4%
Line Items & Articles - Total	6,405,258	6,422,237	16,979	0.3%

ARTICLE 6 - To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$146,400 for a principal and interest payment on the school bond. (Approved by the Finance Committee)

ARTICLE 7 - To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000 to the reserve fund. (Approved by the Finance Committee)

ARTICLE 8 - To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,329,279 for the support of the schools. (Approved by the Finance Committee)

ARTICLE 9 - To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 for the removal of trees and for monument repair/maintenance within town cemeteries. (Approved by the Finance Committee)

ARTICLE 10 - To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Certified Free Cash the sum of \$100,000 to the Other Post-Employment Benefits Liability Trust Fund, established under the provisions of M.G.L. Ch. 32B, Section 20. (Approved by the Finance Committee)

ARTICLE 11 - To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Certified Free Cash the sum of \$10,000 for the Town Hall Repair Stabilization Fund, the purpose of which is to make repairs and upgrades to the Town Hall. (Approved by the Finance Committee)

ARTICLE 12 - To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the Stabilization Fund, the sum of \$100,000 for maintenance and repairs to the Town Hall. (Approved by the Finance Committee)

(2/3 vote required)

ARTICLE 13 - To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$9,500 for the conservation land fund. (Approved by the Finance Committee)

ARTICLE 14 - To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds the sum of \$225,000 to operate the sewer enterprise, as follows:

Salaries	\$21,218
Expenses	\$28,306
Emergency Reserve	\$4,000
Debt Payment	\$171,476
Total	\$225,000

And that \$225,000 to be raised as follows:

Department receipts	\$225,000
Total	\$225,000

(Approved by the Finance Committee)

ARTICLE 15 - To see if the Town will vote to transfer and appropriate the sum of \$45,000 from the ambulance receipts account to the ambulance expense account for the operation of the Richmond Ambulance service, the maintenance of the town ambulance, and for payments to Comstar and to other ambulance services providing backup and advanced life support to the Richmond Ambulance service, with any unexpended balance to be returned to the ambulance reserve account. (Approved by the Finance Committee)

ARTICLE 16 - To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Certified Free Cash the sum of \$5,400 for the purchase of new voting equipment. (Approved by the Finance Committee)

ARTICLE 17 - To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Certified Free Cash the sum of \$7,200 for the purchase of solar powered radar speed signs for the Richmond Consolidated School zone on Route 41. (Approved by the Finance Committee)

ARTICLE 18 - To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,000 for the treatment of weeds in Richmond Pond. (Approved by the Finance Committee)

ARTICLE 19 - To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Certified Free Cash the sum of \$20,000 for playground upgrades at the Richmond Consolidated School. (Approved by the Finance Committee)

ARTICLE 20 - To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the Stabilization Fund the sum of \$100,000 for the replacement of the Town Storage Barn. (Approved by the Finance Committee)

(2/3 vote required)

ARTICLE 21- To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Certified Free Cash the sum of \$2,800 to fund the remainder of a Fire Department mini-pumper acquired by a Federal grant. (Approved by the Finance Committee)

ARTICLE 22 - To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$40,000 for the purpose of hiring consultants and technical assistance related to long range planning, master planning, sustainability, affordable housing, and marketing, subject to the approval of the Board of Selectmen. (Approved by the Finance Committee)

ARTICLE 23 - To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Trustees of the Richmond Library to proceed with a feasibility study to examine the options for building a new library facility.

ARTICLE 24 - To see if the Town will authorize the Board of Trustees of the Richmond Library to apply for, accept, and expend any State or other public or private grants, which may be available, for a library planning and design project.

ARTICLE 25 - To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 59, Section 5 (54) and exempt from taxation those personal property accounts with less than \$3,000 in fair cash value beginning in Fiscal Year 2019.

ARTICLE 26 - To see if the Town will vote to charge each written demand issued by the Collector, a fee of \$30.00 to be added to and collected as part of the tax, as authorized by Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 60, Section 15, effective for fiscal year 2018.

ARTICLE 27 - To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Richmond's Zoning By-Laws by adding a new section 4.8, SHORT-TERM RENTAL BUSINESS, as proposed below and further amend the Table of Contents to add Section 4.8, "SHORT-TERM RENTAL BUSINESS":

Definitions:

Short-Term Room Rental Business: The rental of a dwelling, or rooms within a dwelling, or the rental of an accessory structure, or rooms within an accessory structure, by an absentee owner or investor-owner where the rental period is 1 to 30 nights and while the owner is also not dwelling on site.

Add a new section as follows:

SECTION 4.8 TABLE OF USE REGULATIONS

SECTION 4.8 A. PERMITTED PRINCIPAL USES

DISTRICTS
RA-A

	Continued:	RA-C	SR	COMM
13. Short-Term Room Rental Business provided that:		SPA	SPA	SPA

- a. The business passes an annual safety inspection by the Inspector of Buildings
- b. The business shall comply with all Town regulations and bylaws and Commonwealth of Massachusetts law, including all health and safety regulations
- c. The Board of Appeals finds that the lot size, buildings structures, off-street parking and other facilities and equipment are adequate for the proposed use and that the operation of the business will not be detrimental to the neighborhood.

(2/3 vote required)

You are also directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of Richmond qualified to vote in town affairs to meet in the Town Hall on Saturday, May 19, 2018, at 11:00 AM, to bring in votes for the following Town Officers:

- One Member of the Board of Selectmen- 3-year term
- Two Members of the Board of Health- 3-year terms
- Two Members of the Finance Committee- 3-year terms
- One Member of the School Committee- 3-year term
- One Member of the Board of Library Trustees- 3-year term
- One Member of the Planning Board- 3-year term
- Town Moderator- 1-year term

And the polls may close at 7:00 PM.

And you will serve the warrant by posting up true and attested copies hereof, one at the Richmond Town Hall, one at the Richmond Post Office, one at the Bartlett's Orchard bulletin board and one at the Richmond Shores Civic Association bulletin board, seven days at least before the time of said meeting.

Given under our hands this 11th day of April, 2018.

Alan Hanson, Chairman

Roger Manzolini

Neal Pilson
Board of Selectmen

I have posted up true and attested copies hereof, one at the Richmond Town Hall, one at the Richmond Post Office, one at the Bartlett's Orchard bulletin board, and one at the Richmond Shores Civic Association bulletin board.

Constable

Date



EXPLANATIONS

Introduction

As is the custom, we are providing a brief explanation of each article and line item in the warrant.

Budget Summary

The proposed Fiscal Year 2019 budget, including the operation of the sewer system, the ambulance, and several proposed capital improvements, is \$6,964,449, or a decrease of -0.2%. The Selectmen and the Finance Committee continue to present to you a balanced budget that does not rely on the use of reserves to fund operational costs while providing the services residents expect from town government. Highlights of this year's budget include funding for the replacement of our Town Highway storage building, continued funding of the OPEB trust fund, continued repairs to our Town Hall, an appropriation to replace the School's playground surface and the installation of solar powered radar speed signs in the school zone, just to name a few. This year's budget includes a 3% salary increase for all non-school employees as well as increases in employee benefit costs and our pension assessment. However, once again you will see that many of our non-salary related line items have been level funded (or even reduced in some cases) from their Fiscal Year 2018 levels. The School Committee's Fiscal Year 2019 request from the town budget is \$3,329,279, an increase of \$136,313, or 4.3% over total school appropriations in Fiscal Year 2018.

The proposed Fiscal Year 2019 Sewer Budget is \$225,000, which is level-funded from Fiscal Year 2018. This budget funds the costs of operating the system as well as debt payment associated with the system's design and construction. 100% of these costs are borne by the users of the system.

The article for the school bond payment (\$146,400) continues to reflect the reduced payment resulting from the refinancing of the school debt. This year's payment represents the eighth payment in the ten-year repayment schedule for the \$1.2 million borrowed to retire older bonds.

The breakdown of the revenues that will be required to meet the proposed expenditures for Fiscal Year 2019 are as follows:

	Source of Revenue	Percentage of Total Revenue
Real and Personal Property Taxes (Tax Levy)	\$5,102,225	73%
Non-Property Tax (State Aid, Local Receipts, Other)	\$1,862,224	27%
Total	\$6,964,449	100%

Again this year, Town Meeting consideration of the warrant articles will be done using the "consent calendar" approach. The Moderator will ask the town meeting attendees for permission to consider Articles 1-4 together, which will allow discussion of any of the

articles under a single motion and will ask for a vote on all four articles on the same motion. In addition, in order to save time at the town meeting, the Moderator will not read all of the line items, but will read the heading of each section of line items and ask for any “holds” for each section. He will reserve any held line items for further discussion after seeking approval of any “non-held” line items and then proceed to discuss and vote on any held line items individually. For more information about the town budget process, please contact the Selectmen's Office.

Consent Calendar- Articles 1-4

Article 1- Repair highways and care for cemeteries

This is a standard article from year to year authorizing the Selectmen to supervise the highways and cemeteries.

Article 2- Revolving Funds

This article establishes revolving funds that receive certain revenues and it authorizes expenditure of these funds without further appropriation. Revisions to last year’s revolving fund article are included in Article 2, and an updated chart is provided.

Article 3- Revolving Fund Limits

This article establishes the limits of each revolving fund identified in Article 2.

Article 4- Transportation Bond

This is a standard article allowing the Town to spend a state grant for road construction and repair. The Town's provisional amount for fiscal year 2019 is \$165,547.

Article 5- Line Items

This article raises and appropriates the funds for the general operational expenses of the town. Only items that are raised and appropriated from taxes appear in this article. Items that call for other methods of funding, such as transfers between accounts, require separate articles. Also, pursuant to Section 108 of Chapter 41 of the General Laws, we have shown each elected officer's salary below each applicable line item on the warrant.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

1. Assessors Salaries: \$3,600 - These are the annual salaries of the Assessors with \$1200 per Assessor. No change from Fiscal Year 2018.
2. Assessors Expenses: \$18,700- This account pays for the Assessors' office supplies, map updating, contracted services, software licenses, and other expenses. No change from Fiscal Year 2018.
3. Assessor Contracted Services: \$38,200- This account pays for the contract between the Town and Regional Resource Group (a private contractor), for the Assessing services it provides to the Town. This is year two of a three-year contract.
4. Audit: \$15,000- To be used to fund the annual audit of the town’s books using the town’s

outside auditor, Thomas P. Scanlon, CPA. No change from Fiscal Year 2018.

5. Moderator Salary: \$500- The Moderator is entitled to a \$500 salary in FY19.

6. Selectmen Salaries: \$5,250- These are the annual salaries of the Selectmen at \$1,750 per Selectman. No change from Fiscal Year 2018.

7. Selectmen Expenses: \$4,500- This account pays for meetings, mileage, trainings, dues, and other expenses of the Selectmen. This line was increased by \$2,500 to cover the cost of attendance at the Massachusetts Municipal Conference in Boston held each January.

8. Town Clerk Salary: \$21,528- This is the base annual salary of the Town Clerk, who is the town's official record keeper and license issuer. This line was increased due to a position re-organization at Town Hall. The previous Town Clerk salary was funded from multiple lines, and no increase in hours is being requested.

9. Town Clerk Expenses \$8,670- This pays for mileage, dues and other Town Clerk expenses. This line was increased by \$6,170 this year to fund the purchase of Town Clerk software, electronic poll pads, and to cover the additional costs associated with 3 elections in the coming year.

10. Treasurer Salary: \$55,167- This is the base annual salary of the contracted Treasurer, who manages the entire town's financial transactions, provides benefits management for all employees including payroll, and oversees properties placed in Tax Title. This figure includes a 3% increase.

11. Treasurer's Expenses: \$2,500- This account pays for meetings, conferences, mileage and other expenses of the Treasurer. This account was increased by \$200 for Fiscal Year 2019.

12. Town Accountant Salary: \$52,850- This is the annual salary of the Town Accountant, who maintains the town's accounts, prepares the weekly warrant that the Selectmen sign to approve payment of the town's bills, and who files regular reports with the Department of Revenue. This position was increased to full-time in FY18 during a position reorganization at Town Hall.

13. Town Accountant Expenses: \$1,500- This account pays for training, meetings, mileage, and other expenses of the Town Accountant. It was increased by \$550 for FY19.

14. Tax Collector Salary: \$15,450- This is the annual salary of the Tax Collector, who collects all real and personal property, motor vehicle excise taxes and sewer fees. This salary line was reduced by \$742 from Fiscal Year 2018.

15. Tax Collector Assistant Salary: \$4,000- This is the base salary for the Assistant to the Tax Collector, who assists the Tax Collector with some of the basic functions of the collector's office including data base management, and the collection of taxes. This salary line was reduced by \$759 from Fiscal Year 2018.

16. Tax Collector Expenses: \$15,200- This is for postage, stationery, training, mileage, and other costs of the Tax Collector. It has been increased by \$1,200 this year to include the cost

of our Collector software licensing and support (including Sewer Betterments).

17. Administrative Assistant: \$16,130- This is the annual salary of the Administrative Assistant, who answers the phones at Town Hall, assists residents, and serves as general clerical staff. This position eliminated the Town Secretary position and reduced this account by \$12,819 during a position re-organization at Town Hall in Fiscal Year 2018.

18. Town Counsel: \$17,500- This amount is used for Town Counsel and Special Town Counsel services, who advise and defend the town in legal matters. This line has been increased by \$2500 this year to more accurately reflect the annual cost of legal counsel.

19. Town Report: \$7,500- This is the cost of printing the annual town report. No change from Fiscal Year 2018.

20. Town Hall: \$25,000- This account pays for utilities, routine maintenance, cleaning, septic pumping, and other goods and services at the Town Hall. This account was increased by \$4,000 from Fiscal Year 2018 to more accurately reflect the cost of operating our Town Hall and pumping our new septic tanks on a regular basis.

21. Elections and Board of Registrars: \$6,600- This account pays for the expenses involved in conducting elections, registering voters, and maintaining the street list. This account was increased by \$200 from Fiscal Year 2018 to help cover the cost of a third election in the coming year.

22. Town Administrator/Assistant Town Clerk Salary: \$76,400- This is the annual base salary of the Town Administrator, who oversees the day-to-day operations at Town Hall, supervises Town Hall and Sewer personnel, serves as the Harbormaster, the Sewer Administrative Officer, and the Assistant Town Clerk. Work related to the oversight of sewer operations is compensated from the sewer enterprise budget. This is a contracted position and reflects a \$5,000 increase over last year's appropriation.

23. Town Administrator Expenses: \$2,200- This account pays for meetings, conferences, mileage and other expenses of the Town Administrator. This account has been increased by \$200 to more accurately reflect the expenses of the Town Administrator.

24. Conservation Commission: \$2,500- This account pays for meetings, conferences, mileage, supplies and other expenses of the Conservation Commission. This account has been increased by \$500 to cover the cost of new/newer member training/certifications, updated regulation trainings, and technical seminars.

25. Conservation Agent: \$21,218- This line item is to fund the services of the Conservation Agent. This salary includes a 3% increase over Fiscal Year 2018.

26. Historical Commission: \$500- This account pays for copying, membership, meetings and other expenses of the Historical Commission. No change from Fiscal Year 2018.

27. Planning Board: \$285- This account pays for annual subscriptions, meetings and other expenses of the Planning Board. No change from Fiscal Year 2018.

28. Recreation Committee: \$3,750- This account pays for the various recreation programs offered by the town, except for the Town Beach, which is operated by the DPW and funded under a separate line item. The committee also has access to a type of revolving fund that allows it to receive and expend program fees. No change from Fiscal Year 2018.

29. IT Services: \$20,600- This account is for our contracted IT services. It covers the expenses related to server maintenance and support, workstation maintenance and support, and overall IT support for all town owned buildings. This line was increased by \$600 over Fiscal Year 2018.

30. Technology Hardware: \$10,000- This account is used to pay for the replacement and/or repair of workstations, copiers, printers, etc., in all town owned buildings. No change from Fiscal Year 2018.

31. COA Director/Administrative Assistant-\$28,389- This is the annual salary for the Council on Aging Director/Administrative Assistant position. The Administrative Assistant provides office support to the Town Administrator, Treasurer, Board of Health, as well as others as needed. This includes a 3% salary increase over Fiscal Year 2018.

32. Council on Aging: \$4,722- This account pays for the various programs offered by the COA, including senior lunches, health programs and the van program. No change from Fiscal Year 2018. The council also receives funding from a state grant and has access to a revolving fund.

33. Tax Collection Services: \$1,500- This account pays for the cost of an outside service to perform the duties of the deputy tax collector, legal fees, and other costs associated with the collection of overdue taxes that have yet to go into Tax Title. This account was decreased by \$3,000 from Fiscal Year 2018.

34. Veterans' Agent Salary: \$2,250. This is the annual salary for the Town's Veterans' Agent, now contracted through the City of Pittsfield. This account was increased by \$293 over Fiscal Year 2018.

35. Website Hosting: \$1,900. This is the annual cost of hosting our Town's website and includes technical support.

PROTECTION OF PERSONS AND PROPERTY

36. Police Chief Salary: \$3,046- This is the annual salary of the Police Chief, who issues firearms permits, arranges traffic details, and cooperates with the State Police on traffic accidents and other matters. 3% increase from Fiscal Year 2018.

37. Police Department Expenses: \$1,000- This account pays for the equipment and supplies used by the department, such as badges and firearm licensing supplies. No change from Fiscal Year 2018.

38. County Communications: \$12,360- This account pays Richmond's share of the Berkshire County Sheriff's Department to operate the 911 emergency dispatch system. This is a \$360

increase from Fiscal Year 2018.

39. Constable Salaries: \$1,288- This is the salary account from which we pay the Constables and the Police Chief if they are needed to direct traffic or for performing similar duties. This is a \$38 increase over Fiscal Year 2018.

40. Constable Expenses: \$1250- This account pays for Constable mileage, shirts, radios, and other expenses. This account was increased by \$1,000 over Fiscal Year 2018.

41. Animal Control Officer Salary: \$3,107- This is the annual salary for the Animal Control Officer. 3% increase from Fiscal Year 2018.

42. Animal Control Officer Expenses: \$1,000- This pays for snares, gloves, rabies shots, boarding of animals and other expenses of the Animal Control Officer. No change from Fiscal Year 2018.

43. Fire Department: \$61,514- This account pays for fuel, truck and equipment maintenance, training, stipends and other expenses of the Fire Department. This is a decrease of \$500 from Fiscal Year 2018.

44. Fire House Rent: \$14,400- This account pays the rent to the Trustees of the Volunteer Fire Department for use of the building. This account was increased by \$2,400 to reflect the increase in the lease for Fiscal Year 2019.

45. Emergency Management: \$5,900- This account pays for equipment and supplies for this department, which provides assistance and direction during natural disasters, storms and other emergencies. No change from Fiscal Year 2018.

46. Fire Chief/EMD Salary- \$15,000. This is a new line this year and is proposed to replace the inspectional fees and call stipends provided to the Fire Chief. This would remain a part-time, non-benefit eligible position.

47. Tree Warden: \$7,500- These funds are used for contracting with a tree service to remove problem trees. This account was increased by \$565 over Fiscal Year 2018.

48. Building Inspector Salary: \$7,021- This is the Building Inspector's annual salary. He has office hours the first, second and fourth Wednesdays of the month from 9:30AM-11AM and is available on call. This is a 3% increase from Fiscal Year 2018.

49. Building Inspector Expenses: \$4,500- This account pays for training, expenses and mileage of the Building Inspector and Assistant. This account was increased by \$3,500 this year to include the cost of Building Software expenses.

50. Assistant Building Inspector: \$258- This is the annual salary of the Assistant Building Inspector, who fills in if the Building Inspector is not available or has a conflict of interest. This represents an 3% increase from Fiscal Year 2018.

51. Zoning Enforcement Officer Salary: \$3,759- This is the annual salary of the ZEO, who ensures that building projects and proposed uses conform to the Zoning Bylaw. He holds

office hours on the first, second and fourth Wednesdays of the month from 9:30AM -11AM and is available on call. 3% increase over Fiscal Year 2018.

52. Zoning Enforcement Officer Expenses: \$1,000- This account pays for meetings, mileage and other expenses of the ZEO. No change from Fiscal Year 2018.

53. Inspection Services: \$100- This is for inspections by the plumbing, wiring, gas and oil burner inspectors and their alternates on projects, such as town projects, where there is no fee tendered. They receive \$30 per inspection. All other compensation for the inspectors comes from the revolving inspection account, where fees for services are paid to the town and are turned around and paid to the inspectors. No change from Fiscal Year 2018.

HEALTH

54. Board of Health Salaries: \$850- This is the annual salary account to be divided among five board members. No change from Fiscal Year 2018.

55. Board of Health Expenses: \$2,095- This account pays for meetings and other expenses of the Board of Health. This year, the expenses have been reduced by \$820 from Fiscal Year 2018 to help offset the cost of Board of Health Contracted Inspectional Services.

56. Board of Health Agent Salary: \$4,800- The Board of Health Agent witnesses perc tests, tracks the solid waste collection program, and serves as the principal staff person for the Board of Health. This year, the salary of the Health Agent was reduced by \$428 to help offset the cost of Board of Health Contracted Inspectional Services.

57. Board of Health Agent Expenses: \$1,140- This pays for the mileage, supplies and other expenses of the agent. This represents an increase of \$95 over Fiscal Year 2018.

58. Board of Health Contracted Services: \$3,000- This account is being proposed this year to cover the cost of Inspectional Services provided to the Board of Health by the Berkshire Public Health Alliance. The BPHA provides regular food service and camp inspections throughout Town.

59. Animal Inspector: \$204- This pays for the salary of the Animal Inspector, who performs the annual farm animal census and also is responsible for the quarantine of animals suspected of having rabies. 3% increase over Fiscal Year 2018.

60. Rubbish Disposal: \$177,022- This account pays for the collection and disposal of the town's garbage and recyclables, as well as participation in the regional Household Hazardous Waste collection days. This is a \$5,156 increase from Fiscal Year 2018 due to an increase in the contracted amount for trash collection.

61. Community Health: \$25,500- This account funds the contract between the Community Health Association and the Town for Public Health Nurse Services. This is a \$250 increase over Fiscal Year 2018.

62. Nuisance Abatement: \$500- This account provides funds to address public health matters that are an immediate threat to public health and safety. No change from Fiscal Year 2018.

HIGHWAYS

63. Machinery Maintenance: \$57,500- This account pays for the upkeep and repair of equipment and trucks. No change from Fiscal Year 2018.

64. Road Construction: \$125,000- This account, combined with state transportation bond funds, pays for road construction and re-construction. This line was increased by \$25,000 over Fiscal Year 2018 to fund bridge engineering expenses related to grant applications that are in-process.

65. Road Maintenance: \$171,604- This account pays for routine road maintenance, including the cost of DPW salaries from April 1st-November 1st. No change from Fiscal Year 2018.

66. Town Garage: \$19,478- This account pays for fuel, utilities and other expenses at the Town Garage. This represents an increase of \$1,134 over Fiscal Year 2018.

67. Winter Roads: \$263,673- This account pays for the plowing and sanding of the roads, including the costs of salt and sand, diesel fuel and the salaries of the DPW crew during the winter months. This represents an increase of \$594 over Fiscal Year 2018.

68. Gravel Roads: \$55,000- This account pays for the maintenance of the gravel roads. This account was increased by \$5,000 over Fiscal Year 2018.

69. Vacation and Sick Pay: \$15,962- This account is used to pay the road crew when they are sick or on vacation. This represents a decrease of \$985 from Fiscal Year 2018.

70. Private Roads: \$3,500- These funds are used to help Richmond Shores and the Whitewood Association maintain their private roads, pursuant to Chapter X of the Town Bylaws. No change from Fiscal Year 2018.

71. Beaver Control-\$3,500- This is the account to handle the beaver related problems that the town has had in recent years. Much of this funding pays for an agreement with a contractor to maintain several water control devices in water bodies where beavers have set up housekeeping. No change from Fiscal Year 2018.

72. Town Beach: \$15,595- This account pays for the lifeguards and equipment costs involved in running the Town Beach. This represents an increase of \$2,750 over Fiscal Year 2018.

UNCLASSIFIED

73. Berkshire County Retirement: \$172,551- This account is Richmond's share paid to the Berkshire County Retirement System to cover the town's municipal employees. Teachers are covered under a separate retirement system administered by the state. This is a \$26,290 increase from Fiscal Year 2018 due to an increase in the annual assessment.

74. Berkshire Regional Planning Commission: \$1,150- This is the county's regional planning agency that reviews projects and assists cities and towns on planning and zoning matters. This account was reduced by \$6,350 from Fiscal Year 2018 to reflect the expected needs of

the Town in the coming year.

75. Cemetery Superintendent Salary: \$8,279- This is the annual salary of the Cemetery Superintendent who maintains the town's cemeteries. This is an increase of \$242 from Fiscal Year 2018.

76. Cemetery Expenses: \$2,000- This account pays for the equipment and supplies in maintaining the cemeteries. No change from Fiscal Year 2018.

77. Group Insurance: \$159,708- This account pays for the town's share of the health insurance, dental insurance, life insurance for non-school employees. The cost for school personnel is included in the school budget. This account was decreased by \$18,524 from Fiscal Year 2018. This line is estimated based on the number of anticipated policies for the coming year.

78. Insurance and Bonding: \$95,000- This account pays for the Town's insurance policies, including motor vehicle, property, public liability, worker's compensation, and officers' bonds. This account was increased by \$10,000 this year to cover the expected increase in our policy for the coming year.

79. Library: \$57,985- This account pays the salaries and operating costs of the Library. This account has been increased by \$1,039 over Fiscal Year 2018.

80. Library Rent: \$12,000- This is for the annual rent for the library building. The Town is entering year 3 of a 3-year lease in July. No change from Fiscal Year 2018.

81. Memorial Day: \$200- This account pays for flowers, markers and flags for Memorial Day. No change from Fiscal Year 2018.

82. Stationery and Office Supply: \$9,200- This account pays for paper, pens, pencils, postage, toner, and similar expenses at Town Hall. No change from Fiscal Year 2018.

83. Unemployment Reserve: \$2,500- This amount will help to cover the town's liability if a non-school employee files an unemployment claim. This account has been decreased by \$10,610 from Fiscal Year 2018.

84. Banking Services: \$200- This account pays for banking fees and charges. This line has been reduced by \$100 from Fiscal Year 2018.

85. Medicare: \$35,000- This account pays the town's share of Medicare employee withholding. This is a \$2,132 decrease from Fiscal Year 2018.

86. Veterans' Aid: \$7,500- This account pays for financial assistance to veterans as required by state law. The State reimburses the Town for 75% of the assistance costs incurred assisting veterans. No change from Fiscal Year 2018.

87. Stray Animals: \$100- This account will help pay any costs associated with retrieving stray animals, usually farm animals. No change from Fiscal Year 2018.

88. Town Building Maintenance: \$20,000- This account helps to pay for routine maintenance

for all town buildings. No change from Fiscal Year 2018.

89. Legal Advertising: \$7,000- This account pays for the many legal ads that the town runs each year, ranging from invitations for bids to notices of public hearings. No change from Fiscal Year 2018.

90. Group Purchasing: \$600- This pays for the town's membership in the regional group purchasing program. No change from Fiscal Year 2018.

91. Training: \$8,500- This pays for most training/continuing education opportunities for town officers and employees. No change from Fiscal Year 2018.

92. Office Equipment and Software Support: \$20,000- This pays for regular software purchases, service contracts, office equipment and furniture, and related expenses. This account was reduced by \$9,500 from Fiscal Year 2018.

93. Richmond Pond Ramp Monitors: \$20,000- This pays the wages for the summer boat ramp monitors who under state regulation are required to certify that all water vessels launched from the state boat ramp are free from weeds and zebra mussels. The State of Massachusetts provides funding to offset some of the costs associated with the administration of this program. No change from Fiscal Year 2018.

94. Miscellaneous Expenses: \$700: This pays for miscellaneous expenses that cannot be justified by any other funding source. No change from Fiscal Year 2018.

Article 6- School Bond Payment: \$146,400

This article will pay the interest and principal payment for the 10-year school project bond. Once completely paid off, the amount needed to fund this expense will no longer be added to the town's levy. The remaining schedule for the bond payments is as follows:

Fiscal Year 2019	\$146,400.00
Fiscal Year 2020	\$146,200.00
Fiscal Year 2021	\$150,800.00

Article 7- Reserve Fund: \$20,000

This funds unexpected expenses with the approval of the Finance Committee. No change from Fiscal Year 2018.

Article 8- School Budget: \$3,329,279

This represents a 4.3% increase over the Town's Fiscal Year 2018 school appropriation. While the total school budget exceeds the amount to be voted, the difference will be made up through the use of School choice monies, grants, and other school revenues. Below is a comparison of the accounts between the Fiscal Year 2018 budget and the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2019. Each account group has several sub-accounts which are not shown for space reasons. A full breakdown of the budget can be viewed on the school's web-site: www.richmondconsolidatedschool.org

	FY 2018	FY 2019
School Committee Accounts	\$10,770	\$10,540
Union Accounts	\$15,781	\$10,332
Superintendent Accounts	\$69,073	\$72,043
Union Coordinator Accounts	\$3,212	\$383
Special Education Accounts	\$378,769	\$341,189
Principal Accounts	\$126,366	\$135,449
Supply Accounts	\$40,775	\$37,275
Teaching Accounts	\$1,286,087	\$1,470,816
Library Services	\$6,495	\$6,250
Professional Development Accounts	\$21,300	\$21,300
Technology Accounts	\$44,550	\$40,000
Health Accounts	\$50,467	\$55,480
Transportation Accounts	\$214,161	\$217,772
Activity Advisor	\$23,000	\$12,855
Tuition Accounts	\$327,438	\$309,437
Food Service Supervisor	\$58,620	\$59,492
Operations & Maintenance Accounts	\$274,075	\$259,075
Employee Benefits and Insurance Accounts	\$626,275	\$650,252
Unemployment Accounts	\$5,000	\$5,000
Contingency Accounts	\$18,500	\$20,670
Total	\$3,600,713	\$3,735,610
Amount raised and appropriated by the town	\$3,192,966	\$3,329,279
School choice, grants and pre-school revenue	\$407,747	\$406,331

Article 9-Cemeteries: \$5,000

This appropriation is to fund repairs and maintenance to cemetery monuments as well as address the removal of trees and tree limbs within our cemeteries when needed.

Article 10- OPEB Trust Fund: \$100,000

This deposit to the Other Post-Employment Benefits Trust Fund (established under the provisions of M.G.L. Ch. 32B, section 20) will be the third year of funding the liability for future OPEB costs, primarily retiree health insurance premiums. The source of this request is Certified Free Cash.

Article 11- Town Hall Repair Stabilization Fund: \$10,000

This fund is used to cover capital improvements to Town Hall. Like other “savings accounts”, deposits are made annually to be used as a funding source in the coming or future fiscal years. The source of this request is Certified Free Cash.

Article 12- Town Hall Repairs: \$100,000

This article would fund ongoing repairs to the Town Hall building, including but not limited to: foundation repairs, plaster repairs, interior/exterior painting, electrical upgrades, and other similar expenses. The source of this request is the Stabilization Fund which will require a 2/3 majority vote.

Article 13- Conservation Land Trust Fund: \$9,500

This appropriation goes into a fund that can purchase land for conservation purposes. The fund currently contains approximately \$351,845. No change from Fiscal Year 2018.

Article 14- Sewer Enterprise Fund: \$225,000

This will fund all expenses, salaries and debt service associated with the operation of the sewer system. A detailed breakdown of the budget is included in the Warrant. The revenues to fund the sewer come from fees and betterments from the users (department receipts). Any funds not expended in upcoming fiscal year will revert to the sewer enterprise and become the retained earnings in future fiscal years.

Article 15- Ambulance Account: \$45,000

The Ambulance Account is composed of the fees received from operating the Ambulance Service and pays for vehicle replacement, maintenance, training, stipends, and payments to County Ambulance when it sends an ambulance in lieu of or to supplement our service and for other Ambulance Service expenses. No change from Fiscal Year 2018.

Article 16- Voting Equipment: \$5,400

This article would fund the replacement of our outdated voting equipment for which we can no longer acquire replacement parts for. This is a one-time expense and the source of funding is Certified Free Cash.

Article 17- Solar Radar Signs: \$7,200

This article would fund the purchase and installation of two (2) solar powered, radar controlled speed signs in the school zone on Route 41 (one for the northbound lane, one for the Southbound lane). These are intended to slow traffic during drop-off/pick-up times and during school hours. The source of funding is Certified Free Cash.

Article 18- Treatment of Weeds in Richmond Pond: \$15,000

Systemic and spot treatment of Richmond Pond to control invasive species. No change from Fiscal Year 2018.

Article 19- School Playground Upgrades: \$20,000

This article will fund improvements to the playground surface at the Richmond Consolidated School. It is expected that the remaining cost will be supported with existing school budget funds. The source of funding is Certified Free Cash.

Article 20- Town Barn: \$100,000

This article will fund the replacement of our Town owned barn (the red barn located behind the Post Office building), that is currently used by our Highway department. The building is beyond repair and is in need of replacement. The source of funding for this article is the Stabilization Fund which requires a 2/3 majority vote.

Article 21- Mini-Pumper: \$2,800

This article would fund the remaining balance for the purchase of a Fire Department mini-pumper that will be acquired through a Federal Grant. The source of funding is Certified Free Cash.

Article 22- Technical Assistance: \$40,000

This article would fund three (3) categories of consulting and technical assistance in the coming years, in order to continue the work related to long-range planning. It is proposed that roughly \$20,000 would be used for a Town Hall study to identify the upgrades needed for our current Town Hall. Roughly \$10,000 would be used to assist the Municipal Building Committee with the Library grant application process, and the remaining \$10,000 would be used to continue the Marketing efforts of the Town through a contract with the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission (BRPC).

Article 23- No funding requested

This article would allow the Library Board of Trustees to explore options available to them for constructing a new library.

Article 24- No funding requested

This article would allow the Library Board of Trustees to apply for, accept, and expend any funding available to them for the purpose of planning and designing a new library.

Article 25- Board of Assessors

This article would allow the continuation of the practice of exempting from taxation, low dollar value personal property. Collecting these low value amounts often costs more in processing and postage than is collected in revenues.

Article 26- Demand Fees

This article would allow the Tax Collector to charge a fee of \$30.00 for tax demands.

Article 27- Short-Term Rental Zoning Bylaw

This article would amend the current Zoning Bylaw by including a new section (4.8) to regulate short-term rental businesses.

Town Election Notice

You are also directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of Richmond qualified to vote in town affairs to meet in the Town Hall on Saturday, May 19, 2018, at 11:00 AM, to bring in votes for the following Town Officers:

- One Member of the Board of Selectmen-3-year term
- Two Members of the Board of Health-3-year terms
- Two Members of the Finance Committee-3-year terms
- One Member of the School Committee-3-year term
- One Member of the Board of Library Trustees-3-year term
- One Member of the Planning Board-3-year term
- Town Moderator-1-year term

And the polls may close at 7:00 PM.

TOWN DEPARTMENTS





BOARD OF SELECTMEN / SEWER COMMISSIONERS

It continues to be an honor to serve the residents of Richmond as your Selectmen. This was another busy year and we continued to ensure that the Town remains an affordable and hospitable place to live. Just some of our accomplishments and highlights of the past year include:

-All town-owned buildings were retrofitted with LED lighting, and were weatherized (insulated, weather-stripped, and caulked) with State grant funding. These upgrades are expected to save the Town thousands of dollars annually.

-Significant IT upgrades were completed this year including the replacement of our server, workstations, and networked computers. These network improvements eliminated the need for 10 printers at Town hall alone, and will better protect our critical data. We also introduced a new reverse 911 platform in July of 2017 to improve communication with residents, and worked at length to design a new Town website that will be launching in 2018.

-We continued to upgrade our Town Hall this year with a significant clean-out and re-organization. Carpeting and flooring was replaced, a new meeting space was created for smaller boards and committees to meet in, the offices and halls were re-painted, our doors were replaced with ADA compliant ones, and we replaced our failing septic system.

-3 major Highway Department Trucks were replaced this year.

-3 years of paving projects were completed in the fall of 2017 to heavily traveled roads in Town.

-We completed and re-opened our boat ramp this year. Improvements were made to the drainage and parking with new gravel and blacktop, ADA compliant fishing stations were installed, and an ADA car-top water craft station was installed.

-Lastly, we welcomed 4 new department heads this year including our new Town Clerk, Accountant, Assessing Clerk, and Highway Superintendent to replace our long-time Superintendent Jerry Coppola, who retired this year after 31 years of service to the Town. Congratulations on your retirement Jerry and welcome to our new staff!

We also like to thank all the hard working employees, elected, and appointed officials who help to make Richmond the Town that we are all proud to call home.

Alan Hanson, Chairman

Roger Manzolini

Neal Pilson

Board of Selectmen/Sewer Commissioners



AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE

The Richmond Housing Committee was formed to examine and assist the Board of Selectman in the development of a range of housing opportunities at variety of price points for young professionals, families and seniors within the Town of Richmond. Expanding the range of housing options would make the Town a more vibrant and sustainable community.

In 2017, the Housing Committee held a town meeting to present existing data about Richmond housing. In addition, information was shown on what other communities have accomplished within Berkshire Community in regards to housing as well as other nationwide projects or opportunities.

Input from participant at the meeting was discussed as well as a short survey gathering more data was collected.

The next phase will be to research if several of the opportunities chosen by the Selectmen would be options for Richmond. The committee will work with BRPC to explore them.

Wendy Laurin
Laura Persily
Edward (Ted) Andrews
Steve Murray





BOARD OF ASSESSORS

The Board of Assessors, along with our assessing staff provided under contract by Regional Resource Group, continues to assure the fair taxation of all Richmond properties. Regional Resource Group came on board June 1, 2017 and is handling the day to day management of the office as well as evaluation and tax rate setting.

During the past year, we continued to reorganize and update assessment records. Our GIS/Public Access System is online and offers access to town maps, property record cards and sales information. Other efforts included inspecting property after building permits are processed, auditing property files for accuracy and completeness and updating map changes.

Our Board strives to build and maintain good public relations. We provide our residents with:

- Abutters lists required for any property additions or alterations;
- Mailings to those eligible for special tax classifications and exemptions;
- Assistance in completing forms for residents who are eligible for exemptions;
- Current property ownership information by processing registered deeds, name and address changes and other related information.
- Motor Vehicle Excise Abatements;
- Information on a host of tax and property assessment issues.

As the town's principal revenue generator, the Assessors continue to review properties subject to taxation. We plan to enhance tax revenues by:

- Identifying second homeowners and businesses whose personal property are subject to taxes;
- Making sure that new construction is monitored and assessed, and that property given a certificate of occupancy is correctly assessed and taxed accordingly.

Other office activities included:

- Processing parcel divisions and other map changes;
- Processing and reviewing all abatement requests;
- Processing personal property forms, chapter land applications, exemption applications;
- Preparing various Department of Revenue Reports.

Respectfully submitted

Jeff Daigle, Chair
Richmond Board Of Assessors



BOARD OF HEALTH

The Board of Health (BOH) meets regularly with the Health Agent and is made aware of topics that have an effect on general health issues in town. The BOH also meets with Emilie Jarrett (RN, BSN), Director of the Community Health Association. These meetings serve to apprise the BOH of any situations relating to local communicable diseases, general health hazards in the larger community of Berkshire County, as well as in The Commonwealth. This exchange of information gave the BOH an early warning of the severity of the flu and the lack of effectiveness of the current flu vaccine.

Board members are continually in contact with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH) about food recalls and disease outbreaks. We also receive regular updates from the Office of Preparedness and Emergency Management (OPEM), concerning snow, severe thunder storms, flooding, etc. that affect Berkshire County and our local area.

The BOH has contracted for some inspectional services with the Berkshire Public Health Alliance (BPHA), of which Richmond is a member. The Alliance will inspect food service establishments and will assist with camp inspections.

The Board continues its working relationship with The Berkshire County Mosquito Control Project to track West Nile Virus, Eastern Equine Encephalitis and Zika. The Board is alerted to any outbreak of mosquito or tick-borne diseases and communicates this information regularly to the community.

Recently, we have been working with Mark Pruhenski, the Town Administrator, to develop a comprehensive set of Richmond non-smoking regulations in outdoor and indoor locations within our town. A Public Hearing on this proposal was held just preceding the Board's most recent regular monthly meeting on February 6, 2018. After considerable discussion, several amendments were made to the document as originally prepared, and a motion to accept the regulations was unanimously approved by the Board. The matter will then be put before the Annual Town Meeting, and will then be put to a vote by all present.

Permits for septic system repair and upgrade fell to 13 in calendar year 2017, down from 26 in the previous year. Five of septic system permits issued were for complete upgrade of systems, and eight were issued for minor repairs. No permits were issued for new houses. There were four potable well permits issued in 2017, two for new residences, and two for houses which were on shared wells.

There were 22 Title 5 Inspections done in 2017, compared to 31 in the previous year.

Title 5 Inspections, required for transfer of ownership of a residence, are conducted by private inspector and witnessed by the BOH agent. Of the total, all but two systems passed inspection, with three requiring minor repairs before passing. Five percolation tests were witnessed during the year, three for potential new residence buildings and two for upgrade of older systems. Permits were issued for septic systems installers, septic tank pumpers, food establishments, bathing beaches, and Camp Russell. Water quality was monitored at various bathing beaches on Richmond Pond in accordance with state regulations, with acceptable water quality through the summer testing period.

Respectfully submitted,

Louise Maron, Chair
Peter Cohen
Andrew Fisher
Anthony Segal
Fred Shubert
John Olander, Agent



BUILDING DEPARTMENT

For the calendar year 2017 the Town of Richmond approved 71 building permits.

Cross payments from permits : \$23,566.00

- New homes 3
- Additions 7
- Renovations 7
- Windows / sidings 9
- Wood stoves 3
- Roofing 19
- Solar 11
- Demo 4
- Garages / barns 2
- Insulation 6

Most of those building permits were for repairs and renovations.

Please remember to get a permit before you start any new construction. Changes to the State Building Code have increased the number of things that might trigger a need for a building permit.

If you have any questions or are unsure if you need a permit, please feel free to call me at 413-446-0964.

Respectfully Submitted

Paul Greene
Richmond Building Inspector





CEMETERY SUPERINTENDENT

There were 5 burials and 2 plots were sold

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Parsons
Cemetery Superintendent



COMMUNITY HEALTH ASSOCIATION

The Community Health Association continues to provide many health promotion programs: flu clinics, educational programs, weekly blood pressure screenings, communicable disease follow-ups, home and office nursing visits, and community outreach.

In June, CHA hosted an educational event and dinner at the Richmond Congregational Church. Dr. Louise Maron presented a lecture titled "When Feeling Bad is Good." Both the presentation and group discussion with 31 people in attendance emphasized how excess stress can be understood as a needed signpost for change.

In September, CHA, in conjunction with the West Stockbridge Council on Aging, hosted an educational event and dinner at the Parish Center featuring CHA Board Chairman Laurence D. Cohen, M.D. Dr. Cohen presented a lecture titled "How to Avoid Doctor Visits, Surgeons, and Other Money Saving Tips Regarding Self-Medical Care" followed by a lively question and answer period with 57 people in attendance.

There continue to be two blood pressure and health promotion clinics weekly: every Monday and Wednesday morning at the CHA office in West Stockbridge, and every Thursday morning at the Richmond Congregational Church. CHA continues to work with the Boards of Health from both Richmond and West Stockbridge regarding communicable disease follow-up.

Flu clinics started in October and we administered 244 influenza vaccinations. We made ourselves available for special appointments and home visits for those who could not make the public clinics. In addition to offering flu shots, we had 337 office/clinic evaluations and made 335 home visits in 2017.

From January through November 2017, donations totaled \$20,865. The winter appeal, which started in December 2017, totals \$13,105 as of December 31, 2017. Special thanks go out to Don Johnson for thinking of us at the annual West Stockbridge Apple Press. Thank you very much to everyone who contributes and for the thoughtfulness of those who included us as recipients of memorial donations in honor of their loved ones. Because of your generous and compassionate support, we are able to keep our mission alive. We, and those we serve, deeply appreciate your loyal support.

We wish you good health in 2018 and stand ready to serve your health needs in the upcoming year.

Respectfully submitted,
Emilie Jarrett,
RN BSN, Director



CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The mission of the Richmond Conservation Commission is to administer the Mass Wetlands Protection Act and Regulations (GL Ch. 131 Sec. 40 & 310 CMR 10.0), Richmond Wetlands By-law and the Berkshire Scenic Mountain Act (GL Ch. 131 Sec. 39a). The Commission serves to protect and conserve the quality of the environment, fisheries and wildlife habitat, natural communities and aesthetics of the Town of Richmond by regulating activities that could negatively impact sensitive resource areas, including wetlands, streams and ponds, riparian areas, steep slopes and mountain tops.

The number of filings and overall activity handled by the Conservation Commission in 2017 were reduced compared to the prior year. In all, there were 24 filings and miscellaneous discussions, compared to 31 in 2016. Requests for Determination of Applicability (RDAs) accounted for 15 of the filings. These requests all involve site visits by Commission members and advertised deliberations by the Commission following a presentation by the applicant. In each case, the Commission determines whether a fairly simple project may go forward as proposed, perhaps with a few conditions. In complex or large scale projects where significant alteration of sensitive areas may be expected, the Commission may require the applicant to file a Notice of Intent (NOI). An NOI is a more extensive presentation of proposed work, including detailed calculations of sensitive area impacts, steps to be taken to repair or compensate for these impacts, often including complex engineered solutions for storm water management and repair or replacement after resource area damage. In the most complex cases, the Commission has the authority to require applicants to provide for independent consultants to advise the Commission to suggest special permit conditions and propose alternative solutions to the most serious issues.

In 2017 the Commission received and processed 4 new or amended Notices of Intent. In July, the Commission opened a public hearing on a project to relocate an existing driveway on the former Camp Marion White property at 20 Swamp Road, to construct new portions of interior driveway to service two new house sites on the property and to establish a new curb cut and driveway entrance off Swamp Road. The hearing was continued into the August meeting and the Commission then approved the project with conditions. In August, the Commission opened a public hearing for a project proposed at 887 Lenox Road to repair and replace an outlet structure of a small private pond. The hearing was closed and permit issued in one evening. Throughout the year, the Commission was confronted with a series of issues associated with a Notice of Intent and Order of Conditions issued under the Scenic Mountains Act for construction of a new residence at the intersection of Lenox and Lenox Branch Roads. Initial clearing and importation of fill had far exceeded the originally permitted impacts. It was necessary to conduct several site visits throughout the fall and additional site visits and inspections are expected to be required in the Spring of 2018. In November, the Commission Opened a hearing and issued an amendment to a previously issued Order of Conditions for management of invasive wetland vegetation and removal of an ineffective benthic barrier in a fire pond off Perry's Peak Road.

When an NOI is processed, the Commission holds an advertised public hearing and issues an Order of Conditions which spells out the conditions under which the work might go forward. When a permitted project has been completed, the Commission often receives a request for a certification that all the conditions in the permit have been adhered to. In 2016, the Commission received one such request and issued one Certificate of Compliance.

In years past Emergency Certifications have frequently been issued by the Commission to protect human health/safety and public property. Most of these have involved work to control and/or limit damage to public or private infrastructure by beavers. In 2017, however, there were no beaver related Emergency Certifications requested.

As a reminder, our office hours at Town Hall are coordinated so that the Building Inspector, Health Agent, Conservation Agent and Zoning Enforcement Officer can be available on Wednesday mornings. Property owners who are planning projects are encouraged to call ahead for an appointment to discuss planned activity, and ensure that they understand what permits and approvals may be required.

As always, we would like to ask all residents, whether full-time residents or week-end home owners, to use the resources of the Commission to educate themselves on the Wetlands Protection Act, the Richmond Wetlands By-laws and the Berkshire Scenic Mountains Act as adopted by Richmond. Through education, the Commission can help residents execute projects as expeditiously as possible while ensuring compliance with regulations that safeguard our natural environment and promote scenic beauty.

In the spring of 2017, former Conservation Agent and Commission Member, Ryan J. Aylesworth announced his retirement in order to devote fulltime attention to his duties in another municipality. In the summer of 2017, John Scorpa and his son Daniel Scorpa responded to a call for interested parties to consider Associate Membership with the Commission. The Scorpas have a lake cottage on Richmond Pond, and look forward to participating in site visits and meetings as they become familiarized with wetlands regulations and the regulatory process.

Respectfully submitted,

Shepley W. Evans
Conservation Agent



COUNCIL ON AGING

The Council on Aging provides diverse services to the senior population of Richmond. Among these is transportation, which provides rides to and from medical appointments, social engagements, shopping expeditions and others. This important aspect of the Council's commitment to the health and well-being of Richmond's seniors is made possible only with the dedication of its volunteer drivers: Bill Hydon, Dave Palardy, James Beauregard, Joan Chapman-Bartlett, Suzanne Dombkowski, Al Hanson, Mary Anne Hicks, Roger Manzolini, James Moffat, Douglas Chapman and John Whitney.

The Council owes a debt of gratitude to them and to Gerald Coppola, who keeps the vehicles in top running condition, maintains the garage where they are kept and whose invaluable assistance helps to assure the successful, smooth running of the Annual COA picnic. Mr. Coppola just retired in January of 2018 and he takes with him the sincere appreciation of the Richmond COA and their wishes for the best of everything in his retirement.

The bi-monthly newsletter, Just Older Youth, published by the COA Director, Phyllis LeBeau, provides an ongoing source of important information on topics of particular interest and importance to seniors, as well as announcements of the upcoming special events hosted by the COA. In 2016, the COA held the following events in cooperation with the West Stockbridge Council on Aging:

February 23rd - "Grandparents' Day at the Movies" Kickoff event for Movie Matinees at Town Hall. A showing of the Animated Feature, "Up."

April 5th - Lunch & Learn - "Consumer Safety Issues - MA Office of Consumer Affairs"

May 4th - "Swinging on A Star - Roger Tincknell" Made possible by a Cultural Council Grant

June 14th - Lunch & Learn - "Personal Emergency Response"

August 25th - The Annual COA Picnic held at the Fire Department Pavilion

October 20th - Van Trip to the Vermont Country Store

December 14th - The Annual COA Holiday Party

The COA also sponsors the Third Grade Special Friends Program, which creates a bridge of understanding between volunteer seniors and the Richmond Consolidated School's third grade students.

The COA continues to offer exercise classes four days a week under the leadership of Christine Faber. These include Yoga, Tai Chi, Osteo-Strength Training Exercises and Line Dancing.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Cohen, Chair



CULTURAL COUNCIL

The Richmond Cultural Council (RCC) received 27 Grant applications, including 1 Field trip request from the Richmond Consolidated school, for the 2018 fiscal year. As of December 31, 2017, the Council awarded 13 grants totaling \$4,428 for local cultural programs. These grants will support a range of grass-roots activities, such as concerts for Richmond residents of all ages, plays, field trip, library programs, science club and local bird walks. A complete list of recipients can be found below.

The Richmond Cultural Council is part of a network of 329 Local Cultural Councils (LLC's) serving all 351 cities and towns in Massachusetts under the umbrella of the Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC). The MCC Program is the largest grassroots cultural funding network in the nation, supporting thousands of community-based projects in the arts, sciences and humanities every year. The state legislature provides an annual appropriation to the Massachusetts Cultural Council which then allocates funds to each community, based on the size of its population. Decisions regarding who receives the grants are made at the community level by a board of municipally appointed volunteers.

The Richmond Cultural Council is always interested in feedback and input from our town residents. The RCC meets approximately two times a year to conduct general business and to vote on the annual grant awards. Please contact our chairperson or any other member of the council to discuss your ideas. If you would like to get involved, the RCC is looking for interested people to join the council.

The fiscal year 2018 grant awards are:

Richmond Consolidated school: Intergenerational Theatre Project	500
Ronald Barron Trumpet program for fuel assistance	650
Marie Rundle Girls Science club	400
West Stockbridge Chamber Players: Summer concert	200
WAM Theater	200
Richmond Free Public Library: St. Patrick/Chocolate program	365
Richmond Free Public Library: Aromatherapy program	365
Berkshire Theater Group: Plays and workshop at RCS	448

IS 183: After school workshops	200
Joy Mullen, RCS: Field trip to Great East Festival	400
MA Audubon Berkshire Sanctuaries: Birdwalks at Tracy Brook, Richmond	400
Shakespeare & Co.: 2018 Fall Festival	200
Music in Common: Raise the Mic- intercultural and interreligious program	100
TOTAL OF GRANTS	\$4428

Respectfully submitted by:

Sandra Flannery, Chairperson

Current Cultural Council Members

Theresa Fasano, Member

Sandra Flannery, Chair

Cathy Gamberoni, Publicity

Irma Godlin, Member

Frieda Pilson, Treasurer

Ina Wilhelm, Grant Coordinator





DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

The winter of 2016/2017 went as follows:

- October: 6.5” snow fall with a high of 80 and a low of 25.
- November: 10.5” snow fall (all on 11/20). High of 69 and low of 21.
- December: 19.21” snow fall with a high of 48 and low of -3.
- January: 9.41” snow fall with a high of 53 and low of -4.
- February: 22.18” snow fall with a high of 69 and low of 4. On Feb. 9 we received a 10” snow storm.
- March: 23.58” snow fall with a high of 60 and low of 1. On March 14 we received a 20.5” snow storm.
- April: 1.14” snow fall with a high of 83 and low of 27.
- A total of 92 inches.

The Highway Department began its spring maintenance season in the second half of March by adding stone to the muddy sections of gravel roads and patching potholes in blacktop. Once the gravel roads dried out and became workable, we graded and shaped them for the summer. Also during this time, we performed all preparations needed to open the Town Beach for the residents.

After grading was completed the crew focused on roadside mowing using the two bush hogs and boom mower. At the same time, all the guardrails were trimmed.

In September preparation for a large paving job got under way. Palmer Paving won the bid and was contracted to repave sections of Swamp Road, the two small sections of Sleepy Hollow Road, all of Lenox Road, and the bottom strip of Osceola Notch Road. After Palmer Paving completed applying Hot Mix Asphalt, the highway crew backfilled the roadside edges.

Throughout October the DPW blew leaves out of ditches, waterways, and from along roadsides. They prepped all of the winter equipment for the upcoming cold season. Our first snow event occurred on December 9 giving Richmond 5” of heavy wet snow.

Finally, the coming of the New Year brought the retirement of longtime DPW Director Gerald Coppola. Jerry thank you for your 31 years of service, hard work and dedication.

I want to extend my thanks to the highway crew, Mike Lamke, Bob Navin, Tyler Kern, and summer helper Rick Latimer for all their continued hard work in making Richmond a safe and beautiful place for all.

Respectfully Submitted,

Peter Beckwith, Jr.
Director of Public Works



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR

The Emergency Management Director is responsible for coordinating volunteers and resources during emergencies and disasters in town. We provide leadership to our public safety partners and plan for the effective response to hazards and threats to the town's residents, the town's assets, and the town's resources. As your Emergency Management Director, I attend monthly meetings in Agawam Massachusetts, and I'm actively working to update our all-hazard emergency plans at this time. We will continue to apply for and receive yearly grants through the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) and continue to partner with them for all aspects of planning, in order to keep our community safe and prepared.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Traver

Director, Richmond Emergency Management



FENCE VIEWERS

We were not called to address any fence issues in 2017, but remained ready to serve if needed.

Please be aware that your fence viewers are available to help resolve a fence-line dispute; however, determining property boundaries (lines) is not within our job description. Should you encounter a fence line issue, please call and we'll do whatever we can to bring about a solution.

Respectfully submitted,

Neal Pilson
Alan Hanson
Roger Manzolini





INTERIM FIELD DRIVERS

We were called to action twice in 2017. First on a nice sunny Sunday, June 4th when 4 cows were spotted milling about near 600 Dublin road. Thanks to the neighbors in that area and Cindy Ivonowitz we were able to herd those getaways into Cindy's pasture. It made for an exciting morning keeping those guys from crossing route 41(Thanks Art) and then getting them to turn north on summit road. Turns out the cows were just purchased from Cindy by the Grants, and they missed "home".

Then on December 10th a snowy Sunday morning, a loose cow was spotted behind McMahons on Osceola road. That calf belonged to Jeff Grant, and was full of energy and had no intension of being caught. Again a crew of people including the Grants and Cindy eventually herded that rascal into a vacant fenced area behind 680 Sleepy Hollow road. He was a lot more challenging than the June getaways!

A field driver position remains open to anyone interested in having fun when you least expect it.

Alan Hanson
Roger Manzolini
Neal Pilson
Field Drivers





FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Committee worked with the Selectmen, our new Town Administrator, Mark Pruhenski and Town Hall staff to develop the Town's Fiscal Year 2018 operating budget, which was approved at the May 2017 Annual Town Meeting.

The FY18 budget included a spending increased of 3.9%, with the increase in the property tax rate expected to be 1.4%. Importantly, we were able to continue to fund the Town Stabilization Fund, used to fund major capital expenditures in lieu of borrowing and to provide a necessary cushion should an unexpected event occur. We once again funded the OPEB (Other Post-Employment Benefits) Trust Fund, established in FY17 to address future obligations of the Town to its' current and future retirees. The establishment and funding of this Trust Fund demonstrates our commitment to maintaining a strong financial position, a benefit in the event of any future bond issues.

The largest increases in the FY18 budget were personnel related, with health insurance costs representing nearly 25% of the line item budget increase. Some of the other increases were one-time costs funding a retirement payout and technology upgrades, while others represented increases in base budget costs, such as higher Treasurer and Accountant salaries.

Other budget highlights in FY18, include a significant increase in the School's funding request to the Town of 12.5%. This increase in funding results from an increase in operating expenses and a decrease in the application of School Choice funds to support the school's budget. The impact of ever-rising health insurance costs represented over half of the increase in the school budget. We are encouraging town administration to explore ways to control these costs.

The Committee believes that as a community we need to preserve our town as an attractive place to live and raise a family, at a cost which remains affordable for all residents and second home owners. While that can be challenging when growth in our property tax base remains stagnant, we must continue to seek opportunities to grow town revenue, increase efficiencies and control costs, while maintaining necessary important town services.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Gniadek, Chair
Eileen Martin, Clerk
Pat Callahan
John Mason
Stevan Patterson



FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

In 2017, the Richmond Free Public Library celebrated its 125th year. The library was founded in 1892. Although the library has moved locations during the past 125 years, the library staff's commitment to the Richmond community has remained the same. The library has and will continue to provide Richmond patrons with quality service, interesting programs and access to a wide range of materials. For this anniversary year, the library and the Friends of the Richmond Library (see the Friends report) hosted numerous special programs and events.

The library continued to facilitate a monthly book discussion, an annual Oscar event, a flu clinic, and a solstice social. Our special programs for our 125th anniversary included the following: a book signing with Richmond author Ruth Bass, a Bee Keeping program with guest speaker Richard Clapper, and a wine tasting evening with wine educator, Phil Kampe.

"The Lively World Series" which is an author/lecture series in memory of Milton Bass brought special guests to the library as well. The first guest speaker was Adele Rodbell who shared her love and knowledge of Japanese prints. Our second program in the series was a Jazz Trio with featured musician, Charlie Tokarz. Then in December, Becky Cushing from the Lenox Audubon Society gave an illustrated talk on the Audubon's Winter Sanctuaries including the Tracy Brook Wildlife Sanctuary located in Richmond.

For children, the library hosted the following programs: a visit from Richmond School's third graders, an Independent Summer Reading program, and "Halloween Harvest" with storyteller Davis Bates. Over 100 people squeezed into the library to attend Zoo on the Go, a live animal program.

Through collection development and access to statewide materials via Interlibrary Loan, in FY2017, the library circulated

- 8,656 books
- 753 print periodicals
- 740 audio books
- 5,227 videos
- 599 E-books
- 262 downloadable audios
- 3 downloadable videos
- 247 museum passes/miscellaneous item

The library wishes to thank our volunteers for 2017: Bob Dziuban, Peter Cohen, Jan Hartford, Nanci McConnell, John Mountain and Kathryn Wilson.

The library wishes to thank the following organizations for their yearly support:

Friends of the Richmond Library, Library Board of Trustees, Richmond Board of Selectmen, Richmond Garden Club, and the The Richmond Record.

And of course, I wish to thank the amazing library staff: Candace Mountain, Deborah Evans, Monique Mielke, Peter Cohen, and Emily Helleskov.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristin Smith
Director





FRIENDS OF THE RICHMOND LIBRARY

The Friends of the Richmond library is a Ch. 180 tax exempt corporation whose sole function is to support and enhance library service at the Richmond Free Public Library by fundraising and volunteering. We also maintain the library copy machine.

As of December 2017 we had ninety seven members. The board meets annually in June, and also meets virtually via email to discuss projects and purchases for the library throughout the year. The present board members are:

Candy Mountain – President
Jan Hartford – Vice President
Nanci McConnell – Treasurer
Open Seat – Clerk
Rick Baehr – Member at large
Karel Fisher – Member at large

As you can see we are still in need of a clerk. The duties of our clerk is to take the minutes at the annual meeting and to record the decisions that we make during the year by email. Also the clerk sends thank you cards for the special donations that we sometimes receive. The only requirement to being on the board is to be a current member of the Friends and being interested in doing things for the library. We have very reasonable membership levels.

This year we helped the library to celebrate the library's 125 anniversary by ordering new Deneen Pottery mugs to raise money and to celebrate that there has been a library in Richmond since 1892. We also sell Monahan note cards and we still sell the very popular 01254 hats.

We also celebrated the library's 125th by providing 4 seasonal baskets that were worth \$125, that we raffled off to four of the library's lucky patrons. We had a special vinyl window decal put on the library's front window, and we had a company wash the front of the building.

We renewed the library's website. We continued to purchase the library's collection of magazines. We bought the library a new computer, a vacuum cleaner, a plastic chair mat, a bike rack and 2 new garbage cans.

In July we had Setsuko & Simon Winchester come to discuss their "Freedom From Fear/ Yellow Bowl Project. This was our first "Friends Only" event. And lastly we sent financial support to the state's annual Legislative Breakfast.

Respectfully Submitted,

Candy Mountain
Friends of the Richmond Library
President



Library Time Line Highlights

- 1892 - The Richmond Free Public Library is established. The Rev. T.C. Luce is Librarian and the books are kept in the parsonage's study.
- 1902 - Mrs. Abbie Barnes is appointed Librarian and the books are moved to her living room.
- 1908 - First year library rent is recorded.- \$70.00 to Mrs. Barnes for care and rent for the library.
- 1914 - Abbie Barnes dies. Ida Barnes is appointed Librarian.
- 1933 - A tea party is held on the library lawn
- 1937 - The four rural schools are closed and the new Consolidated School is opened in September. School is just south of the library.
- 1943 - Ida H. Barnes resigns due to illness.
It is hoped that the town will vote to build a wing on the new school for the library.
- 1943 - Books are moved to the south room of the Consolidated School, with the understanding that this arrangement is only for the duration of the war.
- 1944 - Katherine Annin appointed librarian.
- 1946 - Committee appointed at Town Meeting to plan for new library building. Which was approved, but no money was appropriated.
- 1946 - Francis Wright appointed librarian.
- 1948 - Library moved from school to the Moore house. Library room needed for classes.
- 1959 - Library moves to the basement of the Consolidated School. Library closed for 6 months.
- 1960 - Library reopens in new room in the Consolidated School.
- 1964 - Francis Wright retires.
- 1964 - Katherine Annin reappointed librarian.
- 1965 - Mrs. Jane Hooker is hired as assistant.
- 1967 - Library hires part time typists.
- 1969 - A new checkout desk is acquired.
- 1971 - School committee needs the library space for classrooms. Library future uncertain.
- 1973 - Library is moved to two upstairs rooms on the north side of the Consolidated School.
- 1975 - Katherine Annin retires.
- 1975 - Barbara Rawson is appointed librarian.
- 1979 - Library closed for month of January, for weeding of the adult collection. The rooms are also insulated and a drop ceiling installed.
- 1987 - "Project Caring" grant received, books on tape, music and tape players purchased.
- 1989 - School Library Program ended cause of lack of funds.
- 1990 - Barbara Rawson Brouker retires.
- 1990 - Rebecca O. Spencer appointed Director.
- 1990 - Bookmobile visits cut back to every 9 weeks.
- 1992 - English Author Lynn Reid Banks comes to Richmond Free Public Library.
- 1992 - Rebecca Spencer resigns.
- 1992 - Lynn G. Sciacca appointed library Director.
- 1993 - Lynn G. Sciacca resigns.
- 1993 - Mary Ann Sicotte appointed Director.
- 1993 - Candy Mountain hired as Assistant Director.
- 1993 - School Library program reinstated.
- 1995 - Completion of the first Long Range Plan.
- 1996 - Library moved from school to former gas station/ craft shop. School needed the room the library was in for classes.
- 1996 - The Friends of the Richmond Library is established.



HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Our Annual Report begins with the loss of our first Richmond Historical Commissions Chairman Roberta G. Cunninham. Roberta passed way in May, Roberta and her family had lived in Richmond from 1963 until 1987 moving due to her husband Richards work. Roberta was instrumental in preserving some of Richmond's older records and keeping Richmond's History alive through the school system. She had been very active in Richmond's Bi Centennial programs and continued to send us past newspaper articles, photos and archival material from her mother- in- law Esther Cunningham's collections. Roberta's input will be greatly missed.

Bill and Allison Edwards led the fall Heritage Walk in September. This walk was along part of the Richmond Boulder Train Trail It started at Hollow Fields on Peary's Peak Road and ended near #41 across from the Center Cemetery, taking in the several Boulder Trains and Elephant Rock. 25 attended.

I have answered several letters and inquiries on Richmond Families and Richmond Houses all are very interesting to work on. Also sever site visits have been made, just to update our records.

With everyone's busy schedules we only held one meeting this year.

Penhryn on Reservoir Road a large 20th century estate house sold this year it had been one of our interest in the past year for documentation.

Kenmore a Richmond, Ma. National Registry property owned for over 50 years by the Scaduto family was finally sold in late January 2018, in its new life it will become a County Inn.

WE are always looking at the History of Richmond as we ourselves make Richmond's future history.

Respectfully submitted,

Gloria Morse, Chair.



HISTORICAL SOCIETY

2017 - Our Twenty Fifth Year

You made it happen. Because of your participation, the various programs planned to celebrate the Richmond Historical Society's 25th Anniversary were successful. Thank you!

Activities during this year:

- Our treasury was boosted with funds from a Spring Basket Raffle... donated by Margaret and Martyn McMahon.
- The storm panels were installed on the Northeast Schoolhouse windows by Berkshire Plate Glass. A huge thank you goes to Bill Edwards who spearheaded and followed through to the end with this project - made possible by special generous donations.
- We opened a Northeast Schoolhouse exhibit of original rare late 18th century documents hand written in Richmond, on loan by Allison and Bill Edwards. PRESERVATION, a companion photo exhibit compiled by Virginia Colton Larkin showcased a few of the approximately 26 current homes still standing and once lived in by families listed in the 1789 papers. Gloria Morse and Bill Edwards hung large format local vintage photographs.
- We hosted the popular annual town Pie Social on our grounds and opened the doors of our schoolhouse. The late 18th century documents were again shown. Quite often, we receive questions about our once busy town center. To help with answers, Virginia Colton Larkin prepared and hung vintage photographs of the businesses and surrounds.
- We participated in the Housatonic Heritage Walks and Talks with Bill Edwards leading a tour of the Richmond Boulder Train.
- Speakers included three Richmond residents; held at the Richmond Congregational Church: Neal Pilson, retired president of CBS Sports showed professional videos and told inside stories of various sports events.
Barry Kellogg, VMD. His theme: Dare to Do – Behind the scenes action on adventures in animal issues in various cultures and rescues of animals in natural disasters around the world.
Dr. Joseph Kravitz, Professor of Meteorology at BCC introduced an inside look at the mysteries of forecasting weather.

Other news: Once again second graders from Pittsfield's Stearns School and Richmond Consolidated School third graders visited our schoolhouse, where Gloria Morse and Virginia Colton Larkin spoke on days gone by of one-room schoolhouse life.

Jayne Boynton Merrick has loaned vintage clothing from the former John Fairfield East Road home.

Janice Clark, a Pierson descendant, donated two books; a 1913 arithmetic book labeled "Property of the Richmond Schools" and Franklin, His Life by Himself published in 1894, requested and used by teacher Gertrude A Pierson.

The Richmond Historical Society is very grateful for the response to our Annual Appeal letter. These monies help with the fixed on-going expenses of the Northeast Schoolhouse, home of the

society. We are exploring grant programs and other avenues for funds to replace a deteriorating roof.

If you are interested in learning more about the Richmond Historical Society and/or have any ideas and skills, such as grant writing or programming, please call any officer or board member.

The Northeast Schoolhouse, settled at Stevens Corners, is a shining reminder of our town's pioneer heritage, a statement, that is, about our efforts in preserving both scenery and history.

- Officers:** Virginia Colton Larkin, *President*,
Treasurer, Stedman Stephens;
Secretary, Janice Hartford.
- Board Members:** William Edwards, Gloria Morse, Carol Stephens,
Bonnie LaPierre, Joan Chapman-Bartlett,
Margaret McMahon, and Martyn McMahon.

***THE PURPOSE OF THE CORPORATION IS TO
ENGAGE IN THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES:***

“To promote and foster a greater knowledge and appreciation of the history of the Town of Richmond, Massachusetts, through research, lectures, exhibits, acquisition and preservation of historical materials and sites, and other means.”



*The Northeast Schoolhouse is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.
We are a fully tax deductible 501(c)3 non-profit organization.*



PLANNING BOARD

1. Site Plan Reviews – There were no Site Plan Reviews in 2017.
2. Building Lots - PB endorsed three land plans that created one additional lot by subdividing an existing lot on Town roads. This rate of lot subdivision was the same as last year.
3. Public Hearing – PB conducted a public forum for a Marijuana Moratorium
4. Zoning By-Law Changes – PB continues discussions on the need for possible zoning changes to the following:
The area directly abutting Richmond Pond and not part of the Richmond Shores Subdivision. This would include the Camp Russell, former Camp Marion White, Whitewood and Branch Farm.
 - b) Marijuana Establishments
 - c) Residential Solar
 - d) Short term rentals.
 - e) Siding on a dwelling.
 - f) Update of Town Master Plan

Before any changes are recommended to a Town Meeting, a public hearing will be scheduled.

5. PB Internal business
 - a) Created improved PB webpage
 - b) Created a new electronic transcript of Subdivision Rules and Regulations.

Respectfully submitted,

John Vittori, Chairman
Richard Bell
John Hanson
Katherine Keenum
Adeline Ellis





POLICE CHIEF

In accordance with the Massachusetts gun control act of 1998 I have issued Fire Arms Identification Cards or Licenses to Carry Firearms to all qualified applicants during the period of January 1, 2017 and December 31, 2017.

We continue to assist the Massachusetts State Police in the control of traffic, investigations of motor vehicle accidents and other investigations of matters in town.

Thanks to all our constables for their support and cooperation in the handling of work details and emergency traffic control situations, thereby keeping safe the work crews, emergency response personnel and traveling public.

As always, our thanks to the Massachusetts State Police for their continued quick response and the professional handling of all the towns law enforcement requirements.

I will continue to hold office hours at the town hall every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month from 7:30 PM to 9:00 PM so that residents can bring any questions they have, obtain permits and any other information they may require.

I look forward to continuing to be of service to the town as Chief of Police.

Respectfully submitted,

William H. Bullett
Chief of Police





RECREATION COMMITTEE

The Richmond Recreation Committee (RRC) this year's members have been Jeff Konowitch (Chairman), Rachel Kanz, Rick Saupe, Matt Lenehan and our newest member Danielle Mullen.

The RRC supports a wide variety of programs that encourage the Richmond community to live healthy lives. The programs range from Richmond Youth Basketball to the Fall Fest & Frolic and the Winter Carnival. The latter two were co-sponsored with the PTA. Some students participate in programs in other towns like soccer, basketball, baseball and tennis.

This year the RRC held a one mile walk & run called the Country Mile at RCS in conjunction with the PTA. It was a joint event at the Richmond Fall Fest & Frolic that included many fun outdoor activities.

The second annual Winter Carnival took place on a Friday evening in January. There were several stations set-up around the school that included unicycling, tumbling, hula-hoops, rock climbing, ping pong and a craft table. The night ended with a huge game of dodgeball. With the help of the RCS student council and the PTA there were about 100 students/parents/staff of the school and the surrounding community. This event was a welcome break in the cold days of January.

Our RRC programs continue to prepare our students for high school athletics and beyond to have an interest in physical fitness. These lifelong values help keep all involved in fitness and healthy lifestyles.

For 2018, the RRC is planning the 9th annual Ping Pong Tournament at the Richmond Consolidated School gymnasium. We look forward to having a great evening for all ages to come together to play table tennis.

We thank all those who played and/or helped out to make it a successful year. This includes our Committee members (past and present). We also like to thank the Selectmen and the other town officials and town staff that assisted us throughout the year. We want to thank our Town Administrator Mark Pruhenski. And let's not forget the school administration of Monica Zanin and Dr. Peter Dillon along with the great Natalie Gingras, Tammy Jervas and the rest of the staff of RCS for a great year of collaboration.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeff Konowitch
Chairman



RICHMOND CIVIC ASSOCIATION

The objectives of this Association focus on the preservation and protection of the natural and desirable features of the town and the development and improvement of the community in cooperation with town officials. All town residents are members.

Each May, the RCA sponsors the annual Baby Town Meeting where issues from the upcoming town warrant are presented for discussion and candidates for election are introduced.

Additionally, the Association helps sponsor the annual fall Pie Social. The RCA publishes a free Community Events Calendar with a distribution to 700 families and businesses. A “Welcome Bag” initiative provides outreach and support to new Richmond families. Monies raised are reinvested in the town to support scholarships and the fuel fund.

Copies of a soft-cover reprinting of Richmond Massachusetts, The Story of a Berkshire Town and Its People 1765-1965 by Katharine Huntington Annin are still available. Proceeds will help support the work of the RCA. Copies are available by contacting the president or secretary.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Morse, President
Jan Hartford, Secretary





RICHMOND CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL

Richmond Consolidated School
Shaker Mountain School Union #70

The 2017-2018 school year is off to a great start. We're upgrading technology including our server and wireless access points as well as our parts of our approach to school safety. We're planning to replace our playground ground cover.

The school year is going wonderfully. Students and teachers are engaged in meaningful work. The depth and quality of student work remains amazing. As in the past, MCAS scores are exemplary. You may recall, because our school and class sizes are so small, the data are not reported in fine detail. Principal Zanin has developed a thoughtful range of professional development opportunities. School tone is wonderful.

Parent and community involvement remain very strong. It's good to see so many community members supporting and contributing to student learning and growth. We appreciate the community's support.

The School Committee has decided to continue the shared superintendent agreement. We continue to build on our strengths and I'm excited about our path together going forward.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter W. Dillon, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools
Shaker Mountain School Union #70





RICHMOND LAND TRUST

The highlight of the year for land preservation in Richmond was securing an Agricultural Preservation Restriction (APR) on about 70 acres of fields located between March Hare and Dublin roads, known locally as the lower Malnati farm. The APR was made possible through the combined efforts of the Malnati family, which has farmed in Richmond for decades, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Berkshire Natural Resources Council, Richmond Land Trust and a generous anonymous donor. In 2016, Tracy Brook Wildlife Sanctuary became the first Mass Audubon sanctuary in Richmond; and this APR, which protects prime agricultural land from development, is the town's first

The Richmond Land Trust continues to work closely with BNRC, and we are committed to supporting their High Roads initiative. The Taconic range on our western border and Yokun Ridge on the east are key elements in the High Roads network of trails throughout Berkshire County. We work jointly with BNRC on the stewardship of the existing preserved properties, securing additional protections, and improving access.

The annual pie social was held at the Northeast School this year in conjunction with the Richmond Historical Society's 25th anniversary. More than a hundred Richmond residents enjoyed pies provided by the town's talented bakers and toured an exhibition of historical photos and documents at the school. The KusiK Citizenship Award this year honored Alan B. Hanson for his service as Selectman and for his many volunteer activities.

The board of the land trust had to say good-bye to faithful and energetic member Elena Powell this year. Elena and Ed have moved to Central Massachusetts to be near their daughter and to take up grandparenting duties.

Thanks to all the donors to the Richmond Land Trust, who make our work possible. We lost one of the town's outstanding part-time residents in 2017 with the death of Benjamin Barber, and we are particularly grateful that he left a bequest to help us continue carrying out our mission of preserving open space and encouraging thoughtful development.

Respectfully submitted,

John Keenum, President
Ruth Bass, Vice President
John Mason, Treasurer
Christopher Magee, Clerk
Glenn Novak, Assistant Clerk



SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

The Anita Chapman Scholarship Fund was established in 1971 with the sole purpose of assisting young people with their education or training following high school graduation. The awards may be used for education or training at a college, junior college, or vocational school or any other full time program considered appropriate. Presently the committee oversees the administration of eight scholarships.

Two awards of \$1,000 each were given from the Anita Chapman Scholarship Fund: one to William T. Serkin and one to Micaela Bartlett. In addition, a \$750 award from the Anita Chapman Scholarship Fund was given to Daniella DeFelice.

The Mildred Wheeler Memorial, named for a Richmond art teacher, and the Sara MacDonald Scholarship, established in honor of a resident who taught at a one-room school in Richmond, are both invested by the town. Benita Lopez won the Wheeler award of \$750, and Molly Weinberg received the \$750 MacDonald award.

This year the Joyce C. Spence Award of \$450 was awarded to Lucia Hoffman. A special thanks to the Richmond PTO for their continued support of this award. A \$700 William A. and Hazel B. Dickson Scholarship went to Mercedes Girona.

The remaining scholarship funds are privately invested. Two scholarships of \$800 each were given by the Richmond Volunteer Fire Department/Malnati Family Fund. These went to Jennifer Evans and Samuel Lyons. An award of \$200 was given from the Helen and Harold Kingsley Memorial Scholarship and went to Alexandra Daley. Crista Cardillo received the \$100 George Kingsley Scholarship. The Fire Department/Malnati awards are funded in part by proceeds from the annual chicken barbecue.

The awards committee for all the scholarships consisted of representatives from Richmond civic organizations. All recipients are full-time Richmond residents who are either entering college or are already enrolled. The awards committee's decisions are based mainly on academic achievement and community service.

The Anita Chapman Scholarship Committee, which administers the awards procedure and is in charge of investing the monies for three of the funds, wishes to thank the Richmond Congregational Church and the Richmond Civic Association for their continued, generous support of these scholarships. Additionally, the committee gratefully acknowledges a gift from the estate of Thomas M. Mooney. Donations to the various funds are welcome and we thank those of you who have contributed this past year as well. More information is available from either Jan Hartford or Elizabeth Gniadek, treasurer.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Hartford, Chair
Anita Chapman Scholarship Committee



SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Richmond Consolidated School continues to effectively deliver on the mission of providing a valuable educational experience to its students. Overall the shared-services agreement with Berkshire Hills Regional School District has worked well, and we are looking to extend the agreement in 2018. The School Committee, Administration, and the Shaker Mountain School Union Shared Services Committee are working to further define the needs for this new model. Our goal is to solidify what has worked well while continuing to identify and address areas in need of improvement. We at Richmond Consolidated (RCS) and at Richmond Town Hall are fortunate to be working with Superintendent Dr. Peter Dillon, Business Manager Sharon Harrison, and some of their support staff to meet the educational needs of Richmond Consolidated School students.

There continues to be a strong emphasis on maximizing educational output with the funding our taxpayers have provided. Under the direct guidance of Principal Monica Zanin, the school continues to do just this. A key component to the educational experience is to remain very connected to the community. The long list of outreach efforts are evidence of that. Here are some examples: Veterans Day celebration, the Thanksgiving lunch, visits with elderly groups, participation in the Memorial Day Parade. An important outcome from the experiences at RCS is the further development of overall positive contributors to society.

Last year we were hopeful in regard to early indications that the downward population trend in our town was shifting. We are pleased that the positive trends have continued with an increase in the numbers of families moving into Richmond, both from within Berkshire County, as well as from outside the county. This has resulted in the school choice numbers dropping towards a more balanced level.

The School Committee sincerely appreciates the continued efforts put forth by so many towards the growth and education of our students. From the dedicated staff, the PTO's tireless fundraising, and the countless volunteers who support activities, to each Richmond taxpayer, we appreciate all who make our successes possible. I invite everyone to take advantage of opportunities to visit the school and to see the many positive things happening.

As always, we welcome everyone to our meetings at the Richmond Consolidated School on the second Tuesday of each month at 6 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dewey Wyatt
School Committee Chairman



TAX COLLECTOR UNAUDITED

The table below shows the outstanding receivables as of June 30, 2017 – the end of fiscal year 2017. These figures are drawn from the Collector’s records as of June 30, 2017.

Real Estate Taxes

Levy of 2017	\$94,897.73
Levy of 2016	\$29,251.18
Levy of 2015	\$1,997.71
Total	\$126,146.62

Personal Property Taxes

Levy of 2017	\$640.57
Levy of 2016	\$274.87
Total	\$915.44

Motor Vehicle Excise Taxes

Levy of 2017	\$16,834.42
Levy of 2016	\$5,298.65
Levy of 2015	\$567.82
Levy of 2014	\$815.93
Levy of 2013	\$402.08
Levy of 2012	\$332.40
Total	\$24,251.30

Sewer Betterment Quarterly Payments

Levy of 2017	\$9,166.63
Levy of 2016	\$3,135.97
Levy of 2015	\$3,925.25
Levy of 2014	\$2,093.54
Levy of 2013	\$1,051.11
Total	\$19,372.50

Total Betterment Outstanding **\$2,631,128.97**

Sewer Operation & Maintenance Annual Payments

Total outstanding for all levy years **\$3,831.47**

Respectfully submitted,

Paul A. Lisi, Jr.
Treasurer/Collector



TAX TITLE CUSTODIAN

Tax Title #	Account #	Owner/ Location	Year	Tax	Betterments	Interest	Demand	Charges	Net of Transactions	Bal Due	Trs Chgs	Trs Int	Total Due		
2	101.0 0053 0000.0	Skuzacek, Sylvia Amy 0 hemlock Road	2009	5.26	0.00	1.28	0.00	222.01	0.00	228.55	0.00	258.18	486.73		
			2010	5.35	0.00	0.65	0.00	15.00	0.00	21.00	0.00	22.84	43.84		
			2011	5.42	0.00	0.68	0.00	15.00	0.00	19.50	0.00	21.10	0.00	40.60	
			2012	4.85	0.00	0.90	0.00	15.00	0.00	20.75	0.00	20.75	0.00	14.53	35.28
			2013	4.98	0.00	0.66	0.00	15.00	0.00	20.64	0.00	20.64	0.00	12.23	32.87
			2014	5.15	0.00	0.47	0.00	15.00	0.00	20.62	0.00	20.62	0.00	9.70	30.32
			2015	5.49	0.00	0.72	0.00	15.00	0.00	21.21	0.00	21.21	0.00	0.00	21.21
Total			2016	5.74	0.00	0.57	0.00	15.00	0.00	21.31	0.00	0.00	21.31		
				42.24	0.00	5.93	15.00	312.01	0.00	375.18	0.00	336.98	712.16		
3	101.0 0113 0000.0	Brabec, Charles 0 Chestnut Street	2010	2.72	0.00	0.41	0.00	210.42	0.00	213.55	0.00	216.05	429.60		
			2011	2.74	0.00	0.25	0.00	15.00	0.00	17.99	0.00	16.62	0.00	34.61	
			2012	4.85	0.00	0.90	0.00	15.00	0.00	20.75	0.00	20.75	0.00	14.55	35.28
			2013	4.98	0.00	0.66	0.00	15.00	0.00	20.64	0.00	20.64	0.00	12.23	32.87
			2014	5.15	0.00	0.47	0.00	15.00	0.00	20.62	0.00	20.62	0.00	9.70	30.32
			2015	5.49	0.00	0.72	0.00	15.00	0.00	21.21	0.00	21.21	0.00	5.44	26.65
			Total			2016	5.74	0.00	0.57	15.00	0.00	21.31	0.00	0.00	21.31
				31.67	0.00	3.98	15.00	285.42	0.00	336.07	0.00	274.57	610.64		
9	101.0 0032 0000.0	Swain, Roger S. Swain, Shirley D. 0 Maple Road	2000	6.31	0.00	8.90	0.00	212.01	0.00	227.22	0.00	257.57	484.79		
			2001	11.60	0.00	15.31	0.00	5.00	0.00	31.91	0.00	36.18	0.00	68.09	
			2002	2.93	0.00	3.42	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.35	0.00	7.20	0.00	13.55	
			2007	4.06	0.00	1.89	0.00	5.00	0.00	10.95	0.00	12.41	0.00	23.36	
			2008	4.91	0.00	1.89	0.00	15.00	0.00	21.80	0.00	24.71	0.00	46.51	
			2009	5.26	0.00	1.25	0.00	15.00	0.00	21.51	0.00	24.38	0.00	45.89	
			2010	5.35	0.00	0.65	0.00	15.00	0.00	21.00	0.00	22.84	0.00	43.84	
			2011	5.42	0.00	0.68	0.00	15.00	0.00	21.10	0.00	21.10	0.00	19.50	40.60
			2012	4.85	0.00	0.90	0.00	15.00	0.00	20.75	0.00	20.75	0.00	14.53	35.28
			2013	4.98	0.00	0.66	0.00	15.00	0.00	20.64	0.00	20.64	0.00	12.23	32.87
			Total			2014	5.15	0.00	0.47	0.00	15.00	0.00	20.62	0.00	9.70
			2015	5.49	0.00	0.72	0.00	15.00	0.00	21.21	0.00	0.00	21.21		
			2016	5.74	0.00	0.57	15.00	0.00	21.31	0.00	0.00	0.00	21.31		
				72.05	0.00	37.31	15.00	342.01	0.00	466.37	0.00	441.25	907.62		

Richmond Annual Town Report - 2017

Tax Title #	Account #	Owner/ Location	Year	Tax	Betterments	Interest	Demand	Charges	Net of Transactions	Bal Due	Trs Chgs	Trs Int	Total Due
10	412.0 0001 0000.0	N.R.I.I., East. 0 Cross Road.	2008	210.25	0.00	34.76	0.00	222.01	0.00	467.02	0.00	530.43	997.45
			2009	465.16	0.00	76.40	0.00	15.00	0.00	556.56	0.00	632.13	1,188.69
			2010	473.65	0.00	49.03	0.00	15.00	0.00	537.68	0.00	584.75	1,122.43
			2011	480.02	0.00	51.38	0.00	15.00	0.00	546.40	0.00	504.90	1,051.30
			2012	463.66	0.00	76.42	0.00	15.00	0.00	555.08	0.00	388.59	943.67
			2013	475.61	0.00	55.36	0.00	15.00	0.00	545.97	0.00	323.57	869.54
			2014	491.86	0.00	40.60	0.00	15.00	0.00	547.46	0.00	257.74	805.20
			2015	500.69	0.00	65.36	0.00	15.00	0.00	581.05	0.00	0.00	581.05
			2016	523.03	0.00	52.69	15.00	0.00	0.00	590.72	0.00	0.00	590.72
Total				4,083.93	0.00	502.00	15.00	327.01	0.00	4,927.94	0.00	3,222.11	8,150.05
11	408.0 0112 10000.0	Rose Land Co., Ltd 0 East Road.	2004	9.24	0.00	8.17	0.00	212.01	0.00	229.42	0.00	223.87	453.29
			2005	13.51	0.00	10.03	0.00	5.00	0.00	28.54	0.00	27.85	56.39
			2006	14.08	0.00	9.00	0.00	5.00	0.00	28.08	0.00	27.40	55.48
			2007	14.28	0.00	7.37	0.00	5.00	0.00	26.65	0.00	26.00	52.65
			2008	24.57	0.00	5.76	0.00	15.00	0.00	45.33	0.00	44.23	89.56
			2009	26.28	0.00	4.32	0.00	15.00	0.00	45.60	0.00	44.50	90.10
			2010	26.76	0.00	2.77	0.00	15.00	0.00	44.53	0.00	41.30	85.83
			2011	27.12	0.00	2.91	0.00	15.00	0.00	45.03	0.00	34.40	79.43
			2012	26.19	0.00	4.32	0.00	15.00	0.00	45.51	0.00	24.57	70.08
			2013	26.87	0.00	3.12	0.00	15.00	0.00	44.99	0.00	19.47	64.46
			2014	27.78	0.00	2.30	0.00	15.00	0.00	45.08	0.00	14.00	59.08
			2015	28.55	0.00	3.72	0.00	15.00	0.00	47.27	0.00	0.00	47.27
			2016	29.82	0.00	3.00	15.00	0.00	0.00	47.82	0.00	0.00	590.72
Total				295.05	0.00	66.79	15.00	347.01	0.00	723.85	0.00	628.19	1,352.04
14	104.0 0027	DiNicola, Michael DiNicola, Terry 19 Pine Road	2007	0.00	2,967.19	0.00	5.00	385.30	0.00	3,357.49	0.00	968.30	4,325.79
			2008	0.00	2,492.96	0.00	5.00	5.00	0.00	2,502.96	0.00	0.00	2,502.96
			2009	0.00	2,248.75	0.00	15.00	15.00	0.00	2,278.75	0.00	0.00	2,278.75
			2010	0.00	2,170.30	0.00	15.00	15.00	0.00	2,200.30	0.00	0.00	2,200.30
			2011	0.00	2,411.32	0.00	15.00	15.00	0.00	2,441.32	0.00	1,348.04	3,789.36
			2012	0.00	2,170.22	0.00	15.00	15.00	0.00	2,200.22	0.00	1,207.12	3,407.34
			2013	0.00	2,183.63	0.00	15.00	15.00	0.00	2,213.63	0.00	873.27	3,086.90
			2014	0.00	1,953.78	0.00	15.00	15.00	0.00	1,983.78	0.00	747.76	2,731.54
			2015	0.00	2,008.34	0.00	15.00	15.00	0.00	2,038.34	0.00	447.42	2,485.76
			2016	0.00	1,919.01	0.00	15.00	15.00	0.00	1,949.01	0.00	234.56	2,183.57
Total				0.00	22,525.50	0.00	130.00	510.30	0.00	23,165.80	0.00	5,826.47	28,992.27

Richmond Annual Town Report - 2017

Tax Title #	Account #	Owner/ Location	Year	Tax	Betterments	Interest	Demand	Charges	Net of Transactions	Bal Due	Trs Chgs	Trs Int	Total Due
16	101.0 0045 0000.0	DiNicola, Michael DiNicola, Terry 40 Maple Road	2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016	0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00	2,400.63 2,184.52 2,248.75 2,170.30 2,411.32 2,170.22 2,183.63 1,953.78 1,980.64 1,919.01 21,622.80	0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00	5.00 5.00 15.00 15.00 15.00 15.00 15.00 15.00 15.00 15.00 130.00	385.30 5.00 15.00 15.00 15.00 15.00 15.00 15.00 15.00 15.00 279.00	0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00	2,790.93 2,194.52 2,278.75 2,200.30 2,441.32 2,200.22 2,213.63 1,983.78 2,010.64 1,949.01 22,263.10	0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00	162.71 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00	2,953.64 2,194.52 2,278.75 2,200.30 2,441.32 3,407.11 3,086.69 2,731.35 2,455.32 2,183.41 25,932.41
Total													
18	411.0 0062 0000.0	Godlin, Irma 1310 Lenox Road	1994 1995 2000 2002 2003	1,232.69 2,041.01 1,302.11 3.12 2,044.92 6,623.85	0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00	0.00 4,370.26 1,815.51 3.53 1,548.46 7,737.76	0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00 5.00 0.00 212.01 217.01	1,232.69 6,411.27 3,122.62 665 2,937.52 13,710.75	0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 867.87 867.87	0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 867.87 867.87
Total													
73	249/101.0-0018-0	Celentano, Sharon	2013 2014 2015 2016	7.69 15.44 16.47 17.20 56.80	0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00	3.00 4.38 2.34 1.73 11.45	15.00 15.00 15.00 15.00 60.00	0.00 0.00 160.75 0.00 160.75	0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00	25.69 34.82 194.56 33.93 289.00	0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00	6.19 8.40 46.91 0.00 61.50	31.88 43.22 241.47 33.93 350.50
Total													
92	104.0-0028-0000.0	Borden, Joseph J. Keuma-Borden, Carol C. 20 Willow Road	2013 2014 2015 2016	0.00 0.00 419.66 0.00	481.79 436.86 0.00 371.32 1,709.63	0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00	15.00 15.00 15.00 15.00 60.00	215.60 0.00 0.00 0.00 215.60	0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00	712.39 451.86 434.66 386.32 1,985.23	0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00	712.39 451.86 434.66 386.32 1,985.23
Total													
Total				11,205.59	45,857.93	8,365.22	455.00	3,227.42	13,710.75	55,400.41	0.00	14,460.38	69,860.79
TT Total				11,205.59	45,857.93	8,365.22	455.00	3,227.42	13,710.75	55,400.41	0.00	14,460.38	69,860.79



TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

My report to the Town last year summarized the considerable changes that took place in my first year on the job. As I close in on my second year here in Richmond, I'm happy to report that we were able to continue to make great strides in improving services for our residents, and completing many new projects once again, thanks to the assistance of a great staff and the support of town leaders.

While it's impossible to note everything, certain projects are worth highlighting, such as the work we completed toward our "Green Community" goals. This year we were able to weatherize our town owned buildings by further insulating, caulking, and weather-stripping all of the doors, windows, and gaps. We were also able to complete LED retrofits in all of our buildings, including the school. These projects, funded entirely with State grant funding, are expected to save the town thousands of dollars annually in electric and fuel costs.

This year was also a big year for our social media efforts with the launch of our Facebook Page, our new CodeRED reverse 911 system, and our new user-friendly website. All of these outlets are helping us reach our residents and visitors more efficiently and effectively, from friendly community reminders to timely emergency notifications.

Town Hall improvements continued into this year, with new ADA compliant doors and openers, new flooring and carpeting, new emergency exit lighting, new septic tanks, interior painting throughout, and major IT and network improvements to secure and manage our financial data.

Another step worth noting this year was the appointment of a Municipal Building Committee (MBC) to study the long-term needs of our aging town hall, and our library. I look forward to reporting back on the work of the MBC at a future date.

I hope everyone had an opportunity to visit our newly renovated boat ramp this year, which included the installation of ADA compliant fishing stations, a new car-top watercraft launching station, and drainage, paving, and gravel improvements throughout the area. A special thank-you goes out to the Massachusetts Department of Fisheries and Wildlife for the funding and work to improve access to Richmond Pond for all.

Once again, it's been an honor to serve the Town of Richmond this past year, and I look forward to serving as your Town Administrator for many more years to come.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Pruhenski
Town Administrator



TOWN CLERK

During the fiscal year that began on July 1, 2016 and ended June 30, 2017, there was only one town meeting and one election:

May 17, 2017	Annual Town Meeting	71 out of 1172 Voters attended (6%)
May 20, 2017	Annual Town Election	64 out of 1172 Voters Voted (5.5%)

Articles of interest at the Annual Town Meeting included combining the Town Tax Collector and the Town Treasurer positions into one position, Town Tax Collector/Treasurer. There was also a Town Bylaw change to the Board of Selectmen appointments. The meeting began at 7:30 PM and ended at 9 PM with all 26 articles being passed.

The Clerk's Office had 6 births, 5 marriages, 8 deaths and 368 dogs licensed in Richmond for the fiscal year. As of the end of the fiscal year, Richmond had 1492 residents of which 1130 were registered voters. I want to thank you all for being so responsive to the Town Census, this helps Richmond have an accurate census to gain grants and funding for our town.

This was my first year as Town Clerk of Richmond and I would like to thank all of the very supportive and friendly residents as well as the election workers who helped get me through my first election here in Richmond. I truly enjoy working at your Town Hall with the great staff and supportive Town Administrator Mark Pruhenski as well as the Board of Selectmen. It has been an honor to be of service to you all.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Y. Ryan, MMC
Town Clerk



TREASURER'S REPORT UNAUDITED

Beginning Balance 07/01/2016	\$3,344,793.81
Receipts	\$7,763,647.70
Payments	\$7,258,901.85
Ending Balance 06/30/2015	\$3,849,539.66

Outstanding Loans

School Project	\$540,000.00
Sewer Project	\$2,622,030.42

Respectfully submitted,

Paul A. Lisi, Jr.
Treasurer/Collector



TOWN OF RICHMOND
Combined Balance Sheet 07/01/2016 - 06/30/2017

	General Fund	Special Revenue Funds	Govern Grant Funds	Capital Project Funds	Sewer Fund	Trust Fund	Agency Fund	Long Term Debt Group
ASSETS								
Cash	1,397,922.22	552,282.12	-85,093.06	0.00	683,246.94	1,090,652.92	40,342.40	0.00
Receivables	16,944.68	8,236.00	0.00	-1,703.00	2,631,128.97	0.00	0.00	0.00
Property Taxes	122,371.38	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Allowance for Abate & Exempt Tax Liens	-66,534.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Motor Vehicle Excise	100,574.31	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
A - User Charges / Liens	24,251.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Amts Prov for Pay of Bonds	0.00	41,734.09	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,162,030.42
TOTAL ASSETS	1,595,529.88	602,252.21	85,093.06	-1,703.00	3,314,375.91	1,090,652.92	40,342.40	3,162,030.42
LIABILITIES								
Other Liability	16,944.68	8,236.00	0.00	-1,703.00	2,631,128.97	0.00	0.00	0.00
Payroll Withholdings	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	13,919.61	0.00
Tailings	2,066.87	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,985.76	0.00
Def Rev Prop Tax	55,837.37	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Def Rev Tax Liens	100,574.31	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Def Rev MV Excise	24,251.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
L - User Charges / Liens	0.00	41,734.09	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Bonds Payable	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,162,030.42
TOTAL LIABILITIES	199,674.53	49,970.09	0.00	-1,703.00	2,631,128.97	0.00	15,905.37	3,162,030.42
FUND BALANCES								
Reserved for Encumbrances	413,623.4519	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Reserved for Expenditures	536,364.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Reserved for Deficits	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Designated	0.00	552,282.12	85,093.06	0.00	533,391.94	1,090,652.92	24,437.03	0.00
Undesignated	445,868.16	0.00	0.00	0.00	149,855.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL FUND BALANCES	1,399,855.35	552,282.12	85,093.06	0.00	683,246.94	1,090,652.92	24,437.03	0.00
TOTAL LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCES	1,595,529.88	602,252.21	85,093.06	-1,703.00	3,314,375.91	1,090,652.92	40,342.40	3,162,030.42



TREE WARDEN

This past year the tree wardens budget was exhausted dealing with dead, dying and dangerous trees. We continue to be proactive in identifying trees in town that seem to be declining with a separate budget that allows us to do so. The unfortunate circumstances of the Ash trees has added to this need of being vigilant. Ash trees are going the way of the Chestnut almost a century ago because of the destructive Ash borer and the bacterial disease 'Ash Yellows'. The combination of these has made for a death sentence of these native trees. Please feel free to contact me should you notice any stressed, declining or dead trees in the town right of way.

Much thanks to town administrator Mark Pruhenski, the now retired Gerry Coppola and his crew in the highway department and all the tree contractors involved over the past year.

Respectfully submitted,

Adam Weinberg
Richmond Tree Warden





VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT & AMBULANCE SERVICE

In 2017 we responded to 293 calls. 124 fire calls, 31 mutual aid out of town, 7 mutual aid to Richmond. 169 Ambulance calls, 96 in town and 73 to West Stockbridge.

We train 4 times a month Once a Month to New York State.

I would like to thank town residents for their continued support to the letter fund. And thank the Association for buying the members class A uniforms which helped the department take first place in the Pittsfield July 4th Parade, first time we took first place.

Excellent job by All involved. Finally, thank the membership for their dedication 365 days a year 24 hours a day. NICE JOB!!!!

Stephen Traver,
Chief





ZONING ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

Overall, 2017 has been quiet in the Town of Richmond for zoning issues. There have been four complaints, mostly about disagreements between neighbors. As your zoning Officer, I make a point of hearing all sides of the issues and try to find a solution to the conflict that will avoid larger problems in the future. For the most part, I believe I have been successful.

The Zoning Board of Appeals met three times and held two Public Hearings in 2017. In April, the Board held a Public Hearing to consider a petition for a variance in which two abutters agreed to swap portions of their respective land in resolution of a dispute. Following the granting of the Variance the Board met to elect officers and agreed to amend their Rules and Regulations to clarify the term "Parties in Interest" with respect to the duties of the Town Clerk.

In September, the Board met and held a Public Hearing on a petition for Special Permit to convert a single- family residence into a Country Inn. That Special request was approved.

In November, the Board met to adopt the amendment to the Rules and Regulations and at that meeting considered whether a valid appeal of the Zoning Enforcement decision had been filed. A seasonal business is being operated out of a single-family home and an abutter requested the Zoning Enforcement Officer find that that constituted a zoning violation. Upon investigation, the Zoning Officer determined that no zoning violation was occurring and the abutter notified the Town Clerk that he was appealing that decision, but made a limited attempt to properly file an appeal. Because the petitioner failed to pay the \$200 filing fee, the Board determined that a proper appeal had not been made.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Green
Zoning Officer



**2017
TOWN MEETING
WARRANTS**





WARRANT FOR THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Berkshire, ss



To any of the Constables of the Town
of Richmond in said County,
Greetings:

In the name of said Commonwealth, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Richmond qualified to vote in town affairs to meet in the Consolidated School of said Richmond on May 17, 2017, at 7:30 PM, and then and there to act upon the following:

[Consent Calendar- Articles 1-3]

ARTICLE 1 - To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to determine the manner of repairing the highways and caring for the cemeteries for the year.

ARTICLE 2 - REVOLVING FUNDS To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to the provisions of Section 53E 1/2 of Chapter 44 of the General Laws, to authorize the establishment of revolving funds as set forth below:

DEPARTMENTAL REVOLVING FUNDS

1. Purpose. This by-law establishes and authorizes revolving funds for use by Town, departments, boards, committees, agencies and officers in connection with the operation of programs or activities that generate fees, charges or other receipts to support all or some of the expenses of those programs or activities. These revolving funds are established under and governed by General Laws Chapter 44, Sec. 53E 1/2.

2. Expenditure Limitations. A department or agency head, board, committee or officer may incur liabilities against and spend monies from a revolving fund established and authorized by this by-law without appropriation subject to the following limitations:

A. Fringe benefits of full-time employees whose salaries or wages are paid from the fund shall also be paid from the fund.

B. No liability shall be incurred in excess of the available balance of the fund.

C. The total amount spent during a fiscal year shall not exceed the amount authorized by Annual Town Meeting on or before July 1 of that fiscal year, or any increased amount of that .

3. Interest. Interest earned on monies credited to a revolving fund established by this by-law shall be credited to the general fund.by-law. The Town Accountant shall include a statement on the collections credited to the fund, the encumbrances and expenditures charged to each fund and the balance available for expenditure in the regular report the Town Accountant provides the department, board, committee, agency or officer on appropriations made for its use.

5. Authorized Revolving Funds. The Table establishes:

- A.** Each revolving fund authorized for use by a Town department, board, committee, agency or officer,
- B.** The department or agency head, board, committee or officer authorized to spend from each fund,
- C.** The fees, charges and other monies charged and received by the department, board, committee, agency or officer in connection with the program or activity for which the fund is established that shall be credited to each fund by the Town Accountant,
- D.** The expenses of the program or activity for which each fund may be used,
- E.** Any restrictions or conditions on expenditures from each fund; and
- F.** The fiscal years each fund shall operate under this by-law.

ARTICLE 3 - To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and accept any monies appropriated for use by the Massachusetts Highway Department for Chapter 90 highway aid for maintenance and reconstruction of Town roads and to fund the appropriation by transferring said amounts from available funds. Said funds shall carry over from year to year until spent by the Town and shall be reimbursed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in accordance with Chapter 90 of the General Laws. *(Approved by the Finance Committee)*

A Revolving Fund	B Department, Board, Committee, Agency or Officer Authorized to Spend from Fund	C Fees, Charges or Other Receipts Credited to Fund	D Program or Activity Expenses Payable from Fund	E Restrictions or Conditions on Expenses Payable from Fund	F Fiscal Years
Inspectional Services	Electrical, Plumbing, Gas, and Fire Inspector	Fees charged and received by the Electrical, Plumbing, Gas, and Fire Inspector	Salaries or wages of inspectors performing electric, plumbing, gas, and fire inspections	Salaries or wages of full- time employees shall be paid from the annual budget appropriation of the Electrical, Plumbing, Gas, and Fire Inspector and not from the Fund.	Fiscal Years 2018 and subsequent years

Transportation, Elder Care, other services COA	Council on Aging	Costs, charges, and fees received by the Council on Aging	Elder Transportation, programs, events, and classes	Salaries or wages of full-time employees shall be paid from the annual budget appropriation.	Fiscal Years 2018 and subsequent years
Board of Health	Board of Health and Health Agent	cvFees charged and received for composting bins and recycling bins	Purchase of composting and recycling bins	Salaries or wages of full-time employees shall be paid from the annual budget appropriation.	Fiscal Years 2018 and subsequent years
Conservation Commission/ Berkshire Scenic Mountains Act	Conservation Commission	Fees charged for conservation commission applications and fines received for conservation violations	Education associated with Conservation, consultants	Salaries or wages of full-time employees shall be paid from the annual budget appropriation.	Fiscal Years 2018 and subsequent years
Chapter 148A Hearings Officer	Fire Department	Fees collected from fines	Cost of Hearings Officer	Contracted cost of Hearings Officer only.	Fiscal Years 2018 and subsequent years
Richmond Pond Lake Management	Board of Selectmen	Fees and fines	Costs related to weed and pond management	Salaries or wages of full-time employees shall be paid from the annual budget appropriation.	Fiscal Years 2018 and subsequent years

ARTICLE 4 - To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate such sums of money as shall be deemed necessary for the upkeep and repair of the buildings, equipment, highways and cemeteries and for all other charges and expenses of the Town for the year and to set the salaries and compensation of all elected officers of the Town as provided by Section 108 of Chapter 41 of the General Laws. [Fiscal Year 2017 amounts are shown for comparative purposes. Please see the Explanations section following this warrant for more information]
(Approved by the Finance Committee)

[LINE ITEMS]

<u>General Government</u>	Final FY 2017	Draft FY 2018	Increase	% Change
1 Assessors Salaries	3,600	3,600	-	0.0%
2 Assessors Expenses	26,000	18,700	(7,300)	-28.1%
3 Assessor Clerk	26,961	22,770	809	3.0%
4 Audit	15,000	15,000	-	0.0%
5 Moderator Salary	-	500	-	100.0%
6 Selectmen Salaries	5,250	5,250	-	0.0%
7 Selectmen Expenses	2,000	2,000	-	0.0%
8 Town Clerk Salary	10,286	10,595	309	3.0%
9 Town Clerk Expenses	2,422	2,500	500	3.2%10
10 Treasurer Salary	40,978	53,560	12,872	30.7%
11 Treasurer's Expenses	1,900	2,300	400	21.1%
12 Town Accountant Salary	16,688	20,600	3,912	23.4%
13 Town Accountant Expenses	950	950	-	0.0%
14 Tax Collector Salary	15,720	16,192	458	3.0%
15 Tax Collector/Treasurer Assistant	4,620	4,759	139	3.0%
16 Tax Collector Expenses	11,195	14,000	2,805	25.1%
17 Town Secretary	28,105	28,949	844	3.0%
18 Town Counsel/Legal Services	10,000	15,000	5,000	50.0%
19 Town Report	7,500	7,500	-	0.0%
20 Town Hall	21,000	21,000	-	0.0%
21 Elections and Voter Registration	6,400	6,400	-	0.0%
22 Town Admin/Assistant Town Clerk Salary	70,859	71,400	541	0.8%
23 Town Admin Expenses	1,500	2,000	500	33.3%
24 Conservation Commission Expenses	1,375	2,000	625	45.5%
25 Conservation Agent Salary	14,250	20,600	6,350	44.6%
26 Historical Commission	500	500	-	0.0%
27 Planning Board	285	285	-	0.0%
28 Recreation Committee	2,750	3,750	1,000	33.3%
29 IT Services	-	20,000	20,000	0.0%
30 Technology Hardware	-	10,000	10,000	0.0%
31 COA Director & General Admin Assistant	25,056	27,562	2,506	10.0%
32 Council on Aging	4,722	4,722	-	0.0%
33 Tax Collection Services	4,420	4,500	80	1.8%
34 Veteran's Agent Salary	1,900	1,957	57	3.0%
<i>General Government - Subtotal</i>	384,192	446,401	62,209	16.2%
<u>Protection - Persons and Property</u>				
35 Police Chief Salary	2,870	2,957	87	3.0%
36 Police Department Expenses	1,000	1,000	-	0.0%
37 County Communications	11,650	12,000	350	3.0%

Richmond Annual Town Report - 2017

38 Constable Salaries	1,250	1,250	-	0.0%
39 Constable Expenses	250	250	-	0.0%
40 Animal Control Officer Salary	2,928	3,016	88	3.0%
41 Animal Control Officer Expenses	1,000	1,000	-	0.0%
42 Fire Department	58,405	62,014	3,609	6.2%
43 Fire House Rent	12,000	12,000	-	0.0%
44 Emergency Management	5,900	5,900	-	0.0%
45 Tree Warden	6,935	6,935	-	0.0%
46 Building Inspector Salary	6,617	6,816	199	3.0%
47 Building Inspector Expenses	1,000	1,000	-	0.0%
48 Alternate Building Inspector	240	250	10	4.2%
49 Zoning Enforcement Officer	3,542	3,649	107	3.0%
50 Zoning Enforcement Expenses	1,000	1,000	-	0.0%
51 Inspection Services	100	100	-	0.0%
<i>Protection- Subtotal</i>	<i>116,687</i>	<i>121,127</i>	<i>4,450</i>	<i>3.8%</i>
<u>Health</u>			-	
52 Board of Health Salaries	850	850	-	0.0%
53 Board of Health Expense	2,140	2,915	775	36.2%
54 Board of Health Agent Salary	5,075	5,228	153	3.0%
55 Board of Health Agent Expenses	1,000	1,045	45	4.5%
56 Animal Inspector	192	198	6	3.1%
57 Rubbish Disposal	166,860	171,866	5,006	3.0%
58 Community Health Services	25,000	25,250	250	1.0%
59 Nuisance Abatement	500	500	-	0.0%
<i>Health- Subtotal</i>	<i>201,617</i>	<i>207,852</i>	<i>6,235</i>	<i>3.1%</i>
<u>Highways</u>			-	
60 Machinery Maintenance	57,500	57,500	-	0.0%
61 Road Construction	100,000	100,000	-	0.0%
62 Road Maintenance	130,639	171,604	40,965	31.4%
63 Town Garage	16,834	18,344	1,510	9.0%
64 Winter Roads	263,079	263,079	-	0.0%
65 Gravel Roads	50,000	50,000	-	0.0%
66 Vacation and Sick Pay	16,947	16,947	-	0.0%
67 Private Roads	3,500	3,500	-	0.0%
68 Beaver Control	3,500	3,500	-	0.0%
69 Town Beach	12,845	12,845	-	0.0%
<i>Highways- Subtotal</i>	<i>639,969</i>	<i>654,844</i>	<i>14,875</i>	<i>2.3%</i>
<u>Unclassified</u>			-	
70 Berkshire County Retirement	136,950	146,261	9,311	6.8%
71 Berkshire Regional Planning Commission	7,500	7,500	-	0.0%

Richmond Annual Town Report - 2017

72 Cemetery Superintendent Salary	7,802	8,037	235	3.0%
73 Cemetery Expenses	2,000	2,000	-	0.0%
74 Group Insurance	135,907	178,232	42,325	31.1%
75 Insurance and Bonding	85,000	85,000	-	0.0%
6 Library	56,382	56,946	564	1.0%
77 Library Rent	12,000	12,000	-	0.0%
78 Memorial Day	200	200	-	0.0%
79 Stationery and Office Supply	9,200	9,200	-	0.0%
80 Unemployment Reserve	1,000	13,110	12,110	1211.0%
81 Banking Services	500	300	(200)	-40.0%
82 Medicare	36,050	37,132	1,082	3.0%
83 Veterans' Aid	7,500	7,500	-	0.0%
84 Stray Animals	100	100	-	0.0%
85 Town Building Maintenance	20,000	20,000	-	0.0%
86 Legal Advertising	7,000	7,000	-	0.0%
87 Group Purchasing	600	600	-	0.0%
88 Training	6,500	6,500	-	0.0%
89 Office Equipment/Software Support	29,500	29,500	-	0.0%
90 Misc. Expenses	700	700	-	0.0%
Unclassified- Subtotal	582,391	649,818	67,427	11.6%
Line Item Budget - Total	1,939,731	2,122,527	182,796	9.4%

ARTICLE 5 - To see if the Town will vote to transfer and appropriate the sum of **\$451** from Certified Free Cash to pay a Fiscal Year 2016 bill. *(Approved by the Finance Committee)*

ARTICLE 6 - To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$150,950** for a principal and interest payment on the school bond. *(Approved by the Finance Committee)*

ARTICLE 7 - To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$20,000** to the reserve fund. *(Approved by the Finance Committee)*

ARTICLE 8 - To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$3,192,966** for the support of the schools. *(Approved by the Finance Committee)*

ARTICLE 9 - To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$20,000** for septic repairs and other improvements at the Richmond Consolidated School. *(Approved by the Finance Committee)*

ARTICLE 10 - To see if the Town will vote to transfer and appropriate from Certified Free Cash the sum of **\$100,000** for the Stabilization Fund. *(Approved by the Finance Committee)*

ARTICLE 11 - To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Certified Free Cash the sum of **\$100,000** to the Other Post-Employment Benefits Liability Trust Fund, established under the provisions of M.G.L. Chi. 32B, Section 20.

ARTICLE 12 - To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Certified Free Cash the sum of **\$50,000** for the Town Hall Repair Stabilization Fund, the purpose of which is to make repairs and upgrades to the Town Hall. *(Approved by the Finance Committee)*

ARTICLE 13 - To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the Town Hall Stabilization Fund, the sum of **\$40,000** for maintenance and repairs to the Town Hall. *(Approved by the Finance Committee)*

ARTICLE 14 - To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$9,500** for the conservation land fund. *(Approved by the Finance Committee)*

ARTICLE 15 - To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$5,000** for a fuel emergency assistance program administered under a contract with Berkshire Community Action Council for the benefit of low income Richmond residents. *(Approved by the Finance Committee)*

ARTICLE 16 - To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds the sum of **\$225,000** to operate the sewer enterprise, as follows:

Salaries	\$20,600
Expenses	\$28,664
Emergency Reserve	\$4,000
Debt Payment	\$171,736
Total	\$225,000

And that **\$225,000** to be raised as follows:

Department receipts	\$225,000
Total	\$225,000

(Approved by the Finance Committee)

ARTICLE 17 - To see if the Town will vote to transfer and appropriate the sum of **\$45,000** from the ambulance receipts account to the ambulance expense account for the operation of the Richmond Ambulance service, the maintenance of the town ambulance, and for payments to Costar and to other ambulance services providing backup and advanced life support to the Richmond Ambulance service, with any unexpended balance to be returned to the ambulance reserve account. *(Approved by the Finance Committee)*

ARTICLE 18 - To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Certified Free Cash the sum of **\$237,525** for the purchase of a new Plow Truck for the Highway Department. *(Approved by the Finance Committee)*

ARTICLE 19 - To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Certified Free Cash the sum of **\$38,839** for the purchase of a new Stake Body Truck for the Highway Department. *(Approved by the Finance Committee)*

ARTICLE 20 - To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Certified Free Cash the sum of **\$7,500** for the upgrade of our Town Website. *(Approved by the Finance Committee)*

ARTICLE 21 - To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$15,000** for the treatment of weeds in Richmond Pond. *(Approved by the Finance Committee)*

ARTICLE 22 - To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$5,000** for school security upgrades at the Richmond Consolidated School. *(Approved by the Finance Committee)*

ARTICLE 23 - To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$10,000** for the design and planning of the Town Barn. *(Approved by the Finance Committee)*

ARTICLE 24 - General Bylaw Changes/Treasurer-Collector- To see if the Town will vote to delete existing Chapter IV of the General Bylaws and replace it with the following:

CHAPTER IV

Financial Affairs

SECTION 1: This Section established the office of Tax Collector/Town Treasurer.

Section 1.1 - Office established; powers and duties. The office of Tax Collector/Treasurer of the Town of Richmond is hereby established. The Tax Collector/Treasurer shall act as the collector of taxes of the Town and shall exercise all the powers and duties of such office as well as the powers and duties of the treasurer. The office of the Tax Collector/Treasurer shall be under the direction and control of the Board of Selectmen.

Sec. 1.2. - Custodian of funds; depositories. The Tax Collector/Treasurer shall receive, receipt for, and have the care and custody of the current funds of the Town from the time the funds shall come into his or her possession, and also of all moneys, properties and securities which may be placed in his or her charge by virtue of any provisions of the general laws or ordinance, including custody of trust funds, or by virtue of any gift, devise, bequest or deposit; may deposit any portion of such current funds in such **national bank or trust company, savings bank** or banks organized under the laws of the state, and on such conditions and rates of interest as he or she shall deem best, subject to the provisions of G.L. c. 44, §55; shall, with the Board of Selectmen, sign all bonds and certificates of indebtedness issued by the Town; and shall preserve all rejected bids for loans, and all papers relating thereto.

Sec. 1.3. - Custodian of tax deeds and tax properties. The Tax Collector/Treasurer shall be the custodian of all tax deeds of land held by the Town. He or she shall also be the custodian and shall have the care, custody, management and control of all property acquired by the Town through the foreclosure of tax titles or acquired under G.L. c. 60, §80.

Sec. 1.4. - Receipt of gifts and bequests. The Tax Collector/Treasurer shall, unless the donors have otherwise directed, receive all moneys, properties and securities given, devised or bequeathed to or deposited with the Town for any specific purpose; give a receipt and discharge therefor on behalf of the Town; sell the same except the real estate; invest the proceeds as provided in G.L. c. 44, §54, as a permanent fund; and shall hold the income thereof subject to expenditure for the purpose designated in the gift, devise, bequest or deposit.

Sec. 1.5. - Appropriation by vote of town. No payment shall be made by the Tax Collector/Treasurer without an appropriation by vote of the Town, or against any appropriation in excess of the same except as authorized or required by law.

Sec. 1.6. - Bond. The Tax Collector/Treasurer shall give a bond to the Town as surety for the faithful performance of his duties in such form as the Town counsel shall approve as required by law, and satisfactory to the Board of Selectmen, in a sum not less than \$60,000.00 with an incorporated surety company. Such bond shall be delivered and approved before entering upon the duties of the office and within ten days after appointment. If the Tax Collector/Treasurer fails to give the bond within the time required, the appointment shall be void, and a new appointment shall be made forthwith. The reasonable amount paid as a premium for the surety upon any bond shall be allowed and paid as an expense of the department.

Sec. 1.7. - Sale for nonpayment of taxes. The Tax Collector/Treasurer or Tax Title Custodian may sell property taken under Tax Title procedure, after other Town boards have been given notice of property available. In case of sale, such property will be advertised and sold at public auction.

Sec. 1.8. - Distribution of tax bills. The Tax Collector/Treasurer shall, as soon as possible after receiving any tax list bills and warrant, distribute bills to both residents and nonresidents, but an omission to make or distribute tax bills shall not invalidate a tax or proceedings for the collections or enforcement of the same.

Sec. 1.9. - Demand for unpaid taxes. On all taxes not paid before November 2 in each year, the Tax Collector/Treasurer shall forthwith issue a demand stating the amount due thereon, the rates of interest charged and to be charged, and demanding payment of the amount due, which demand shall be served forthwith upon each delinquent taxpayer by mailing the demand, postage prepaid, to each such delinquent taxpayer addressed to his or her last or usual place of abode, or by causing the demand to be delivered at his or her last place of abode; and unless such tax is paid within 14 days after the service of such demand, with \$1.00 additional for such demand, the Tax Collector/Treasurer shall then proceed to collect the tax according to law.

Sec.1.10. - Power to collect taxes. The Tax Collector/Treasurer is authorized and empowered to use any and all lawful means for collecting the taxes committed to the office.

SECTION 2. An independent audit shall be performed annually and at the expiration of the terms of office of the Tax Collector/Town Treasurer.

SECTION 3. Each officer, department head, board, commission or committee authorized to spend money shall, on or before June 30 of each year, transmit to the Tax Collector/ Town Treasurer all unpaid bills outstanding as of that date.

SECTION 4. Except as otherwise provided by law, the Town Clerk shall have custody of investment bonds, blasting bonds, deeds, contracts, bonds of performance, Tax Collector/ Treasurer's bond, and Town Clerk's bond, insurance policies and similar instruments in possession of the Town.

SECTION 5. Every officer shall every seven days pay to the Tax Collector/Treasurer of the Town all amounts received on behalf of the Town, except as otherwise provided by law. All departments shall provide the Tax Collector/Treasurer with a true accounting of such funds stating the accounts upon which said amounts were received.

SECTION 6. The Selectmen shall appoint a “Chief Procurement Officer” who shall perform the duties of the office as established in G.L. c. 30B. The Selectmen may in their discretion also appoint a person to serve as “Procurement Officer” as that term is defined in G.L. c. 30B §1.

SECTION 7. All Departments may draw on the Treasury of the Town for money appropriated at a special or the Annual Town Meeting. Any Town monies appropriated as aforesaid and unused at the end of the fiscal year shall become a part of the General Fund of the Town, unless otherwise encumbered.

SECTION 8. This Section established the process by which licensing authorities may deny, revoke or suspend any license or permit of any party neglecting or refusing to pay taxes, fees, assessments, betterments, or other municipal charges.

Section 8.1 – List furnished by Tax Collector/Treasurer. The Tax Collector/Treasurer shall annually furnish to each department, board, commission or officer, hereinafter referred to the licensing authority, that issues license or permits including renewals and transfers, a list of any person, corporation or business enterprise, hereinafter referred to as the party, that has neglected or refused to pay any local taxes, fees, assessments, betterments or other municipal charges for not less than a twelve (12) month period, and that such party has not filed in good faith a pending application for an abatement of such tax or a pending petition before the appellate tax board.

Sec. 8.2 – Licensing authority power. The licensing authority may deny, revoke, or suspend any license or permit, including renewals and transfers, of any party whose name on said list furnished to the licensing authority from the Tax Collector/Treasurer or with respect to any activity, event or other matter which is the subject of such license or permit and which activity, event or matter is carried out or exercised on or about real estate owned by any party whose name appears on said list furnished to the licensing authority by the Tax Collector/Treasurer; provided, however, that written notice is given to the party and Tax Collector/Treasurer, as required by applicable provisions of law, and the party is given a hearing, to be held not earlier than fourteen (14) days after said notice. Said list shall be prima facie evidence for denial, revocation or suspension of said license or permit to any party.

Sec. 8.3 – Tax Collector/Treasurer right to intervene. The Tax Collector/Treasurer shall have the right to intervene in any hearing conducted with respect to such license denial, revocation or suspension.

Sec. 8.4 – Findings. Any findings made by the licensing authority with respect to such license denial, revocation or suspension shall be made only for the purpose of such proceeding and shall not be relevant to or introduced in any other proceeding at law, except for any appeal from such license denial, revocation or suspension.

Sec. 8.5 – Reissuance or renewal of license or permit. Any license or permit denied, suspended or revoked under this section shall not be reissued or renewed until the license authority receives a certificate issued by the Tax Collector/Treasurer that the party is in good standing with respect to any and all local taxes, fees, assessments, betterments or other municipal charges, payable to the Town as of the date of issuance of said certificate.

Sec. 8.6 – Payment agreement. Any party shall be given an opportunity to enter into a payment agreement, thereby allowing the licensing authority to issue a certificate indicating said limitations to the license or permit and the validity of said license shall be conditioned upon the satisfactory compliance with said agreement. Failure to comply with said agreement shall be grounds for the suspension or revocation of said license or permit; provided, however, that the holder be given notice and a hearing as required by applicable provisions of law.

Sec. 8.7 – Board of Selectmen power to waive. The Board of Selectmen may waive such denial, suspension or revocation if it finds there is no direct or indirect business interest by the property owner, its officers or stockholders, if any, or members of his immediate family, as defined in G.L. c. 268A, §1 in the business or activity conducted in or on said property.

This section shall not apply to the following licenses and permits:

Open burning, Section 13 of Chapter 48

Bicycle permits, Section 11A of Chapter 85

Sales of articles for charitable purposes, Section 33 of Chapter 101

Children work permits, Section 69 of Chapter 149

Clubs and associations dispensing food and beverages, Section 21E of Chapter 140

Dog licenses, Section 137 of Chapter 140

Fishing, hunting and trapping licenses, Section 12 of Chapter 140

Marriage licenses, Section 28 of Chapter 207

Theatrical event and public exhibitions, Section 181 of Chapter 14

ARTICLE 25 - General Bylaw Changes/BOS Appointments –

To see if the town will vote to amend the General Bylaws by deleting existing Chapter III Section 1 Paragraphs 2 - 5 and replacing those paragraphs with the following two paragraphs:

The Selectmen shall appoint the Town Administrator; a single individual to be both Treasurer and Collector in accordance with the Town Bylaws; the Town Clerk; the Fire Chief; such inspectors as it judges necessary to preserve the health, safety, and welfare of the Town's citizens; the Superintendent of Public Works; and the Building Inspector. The Selectmen shall appoint a three (3) member Board of Assessors pursuant to the provisions of MGL Chapter 41, Section 25.

The Board of Selectmen may create such additional other offices and boards as may be required for the proper administration, health, or safety of the Town and may terminate the same at its discretion. Terms of office for all positions and the number of places on boards and commissions shall be determined by the Board of Selectmen, but in no event shall any appointment exceed a three-year term. Individuals who are appointed to offices and boards may be reappointed by the Selectmen as their terms expire. All offices and agencies granted powers by the Constitution and the Massachusetts General Laws shall retain and exercise those powers. The Selectmen may consolidate departments of Town government under their jurisdiction, and boards, commissions, committees, and offices whose members they appoint.

Article 26 - To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Certified Free Cash the sum of \$10,000 to fund the Town's match of a Fire Pumper replacement acquired by a grant, if so approved. *(Approved by the Finance Committee)*

You are also directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of Richmond qualified to vote in town affairs to meet in the Town Hall on Saturday, May 20, 2017, at 11:00 AM, to bring in votes for the following Town Officers:

- One Member of the Board of Selectmen- 3-year term
- One Member of the Board of Health- 3-year term
- One Member of the Finance Committee- 3-year term
- Two Members of the School Committee- One 2-year term, One 3-year term
- One Member of the Board of Library Trustees- 3-year term
- Two Members of the Planning Board- One 5-year term, One 1-year term
- Town Moderator- 1-year term

And the polls may close at 7:00 PM.

And you will serve the warrant by posting up true and attested copies hereof, one at the Richmond Town Hall, one at the Richmond Post Office, one at the Bartlett's Orchard bulletin board and one at the Richmond Shores Civic Association bulletin board, seven days at least before the time of said meeting.

Given under our hands this 26th day of April, 2017.

Roger Manzolini, Chair

Alan B. Hanson

Neal Pilson
Board of Selectmen

I have posted up true and attested copies hereof, one at the Richmond Town Hall, one at the Richmond Post Office, one at the Bartlett's Orchard bulletin board, and one at the Richmond Shores Civic Association bulletin board.

Constable

Date

