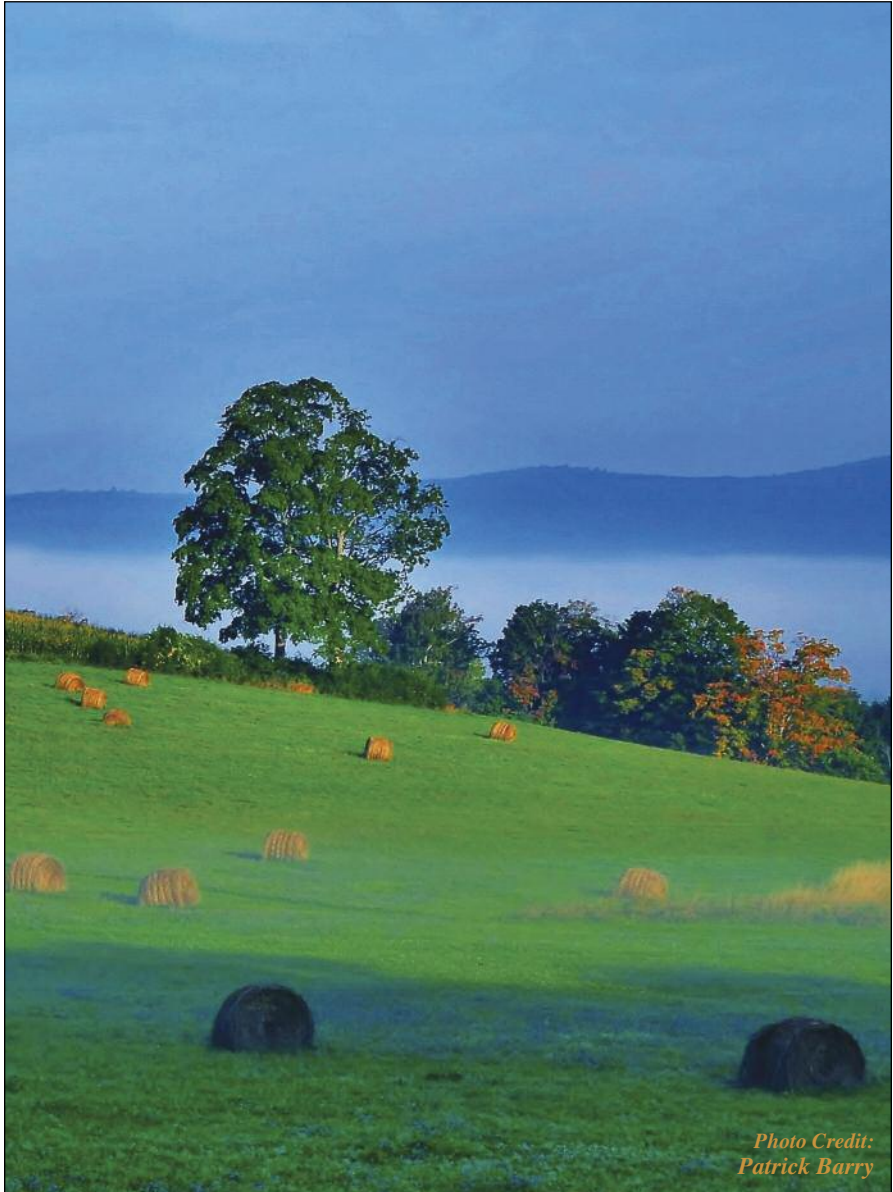


TOWN OF
RICHMOND
M A S S A C H U S E T T S



*Photo Credit:
Patrick Barry*

ANNUAL REPORT 2023



RICHMOND TOWN HALL

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday – 8:00 am – 4:00 pm
Wednesday – 8:00 am – 6:00 pm

(413) 553-7793

Town Administrator – Danielle Fillio

Treasurer/Tax Collector – Amy Lane-Carmody

Town Clerk – Angela Garrity

Town Accountant – Angela Garrity

Administrative Assistant/COA Director – Heather Lorange

Board of Selectmen

2nd and 4th Wednesday – 6:00 pm

Board of Assessors

2nd Wednesday – 5:00 pm

Board of Health

1st Tuesday – 5:00 pm

Planning Board

2nd Monday – 6:30 pm

Conservation Commission

2nd Tuesday – 6:30 pm

Building Inspector/Zoning Enforcement Officer – Paul Greene

Chief of Police – William Bullett

Deputy Chief of Police – Patrick Barry
413-441-1106

Animal Control Officer

John Drake
413-464-2148



In Memoriam



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

In 2023 we lost the following:

James B. Cunningham, Jr.
*Richmond Assistant Fire Chief
Wiring Inspector*

Charles Morse
Richmond Fire Chief

Anne Shields Stout
*Conservation Commission
Council on Aging*

Gladys Traver
(passed December 2022)
*Co-chair 1st Council on Aging
Director of Richmond School Lunch Program*

John Vittori
Planning Board

This town report is dedicated to their memory.

Town of Richmond

Massachusetts

ANNUAL REPORTS of the Town Officers



For the Year Ending
December 31, 2023

FY 2023 Tax Rate – \$ 10.68
FY 2023 Total Valuation – \$ 559,592,787
FY 2023 Total Tax Levied – \$ 5,965,259.11

Population Local Census – 1,509
Population Federal Census 2020 – 1,407
Registered Voters – 1,295
Area of Town – 19.07 Square Miles



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DIRECTORY OF TOWN OFFICIALS

ELECTED TOWN OFFICIALS

Selectmen

Roger W. Manzolini, 2026

Alan B. Hanson, 2024
Chair

Neal Pilson, 2025

Berkshire Regional Transit Authority Delegate

Neal Pilson

Board of Health

Katy Broggi, 2024

Louise Maron, 2025
Chair

Linda Mitchell, 2024
Claudia Ryan, 2023

Lawrence Cohen, 2026

Mehernosh Khan, 2024

School Committee

Tom Forstner, 2025

Ina Wilhelm, 2026
Chair

Kimmie Leeco, 2024
Karen Youdelman, 2026

Nate Steele, 2025

Finance Committee

Patricia Callahan, 2025

Robert Gniadek, 2026
Chair

Stevan Patterson, 2024
Robert Youdelman, 2024

Eileen Martin, 2025

Planning Board

Richard Bell, 2024

Douglas Bruce, 2026
Chair

Katherine Keenum, 2027
Peter Lopez, 2026

John Hanson, 2025

Berkshire Regional Planning Commission Delegate

Neal Pilson

Library Trustees

Nanci McConnell, 2025

Kathryn Wilson, 2026
Chair

Katherine Keenum, 2024

Moderator

William Martin, 2024

Deputy Moderator

Vacant

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

APPOINTED TOWN BOARDS/COMMISSIONS

Board of Appeals

Richard Stover, 2025

Wendy Laurin, 2025

Robert Gniadek (alternate)

William Martin, 2024

Chair

Peter Killeen, 2024

Mark Gross, 2024

Robert Harrison, 2025

Assessors

Jeffrey Daigle, 2024

Chair

Raymond Supranowicz, 2026

Budget Advisory Committee

Board of Selectmen

Alan B. Hanson, 2024

Roger W. Manzolini, 2026

Neal Pilson, 2025

Finance Committee

Patricia Callahan, 2025

Eileen Martin, 2025

Stevan Patterson, 2024

Robert Youdelman, 2024

Conservation Commission

Rebecca Lord, 2025

Karen O'Donnell, 2025

Co-Chairs

Thomas Potter, 2025

Ernie Smith, 2025

Patrick Seckler, 2024

Ron Veillette, 2024

Registrars of Voters

Claudia Ryan, 2024

John Ryan, 2024

Historical Commission

Allison Edwards, 2024

William Edwards, 2024

Virginia Larkin, 2025

Gloria Morse, 2024

Melanie Madea-Dignum, 2024

Frieda Pilson, 2025

Recreation Committee

Doug Bruce - Secretary

Brad Havill

Jeff Konowitch

Chair

Mike Harke

Andy Leeco

Road Advisory Committee

Chairman, Board of Selectmen – Alan Hanson

Chairman, Conservation Commission – Tom Potter, Ernie Smith

Chairman, Planning Board – Doug Bruce

Chairman, Finance Committee – Robert Gniadek

DPW Superintendent – Peter Beckwith

Tree Warden – Adam Weinberg

TOWN OFFICERS

** As of January 1, 2023*

Town Administrator/CPO - Danielle Fillio

Administrative Assistant/COA Director - Heather Lorance

Animal Control Officer - John Drake

Assessors' Clerk - Mary Stodden

Board of Health Agent - Valerie Bird

Conservation Agent - Kim Wetherell

Constables - Eric Latimer, John Ryan, Patrick Barry

Emergency Management Director - Steve Traver

Emergency Management Assistant Director - Chris Porter

Facilities & Maintenance Manager - Bob Hammer

Fence Viewers - Alan B. Hanson, Roger W. Manzolini, Neal Pilson

Field Drivers - Alan B. Hanson, Roger W. Manzolini, Neal Pilson

Fire Chief - Steve Traver

Highway Department Superintendent - Peter Beckwith

Edward Flynn, Travis Searing, Brett Smith

Inspector of Buildings/Zoning Enforcement - 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 - Nick Fredsall

Library Director - Kristin Smith

Police Chief - William Bullett

Deputy Police Chief - Patrick Barry

Sewer Operations - Peter Beckwith, Horice Brazie, Forest Borden

Superintendent of Cemeteries - Peter Beckwith & Rich Atwood, Plot Manager

Superintendent of Dutch Elm and Gypsy Moth - Peter Beckwith

Town Accountant - Angela Garrity

Town Clerk - Angela Garrity

Town Counsel - Elizabeth Goodman

Town Treasurer/Collector - Amy Lane-Carmody

Tree Warden - Adam Weinberg

Veterans' Agent - Amanda Bates



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 15, 2024, 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 FUND LIMITS. 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 spending limits of the revolving funds outlined below. 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.

Inspection 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 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 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. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*

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 2023 amounts are shown for comparative purposes. Please see the Explanations section following this warrant for more information] *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*

[LINE ITEMS]

EXPENDITURES	FY2024	DRAFT	Increase/
GENERAL GOVERNMENT		FY 2025	Decrease
Assessors Salaries	3,600	3,600	-
Assessors Expenses	15,000	21,500	6,500
Assessor's Contracted Services	45,000	44,220	(780)
Audit	15,000	15,000	-
Longevity & Vacation Buyout	8,000	12,000	4,000
Moderator Salary	500	500	-
Selectmen Salaries	5,250	5,250	-
Selectmen Expenses	4,500	4,500	-
Town ClerkSalary	22,511	17,390	(5,121)
Town Clerk Expenses	9,000	9,000	-
Treasurer/collector Salary	65,000	66,950	1,950
Treasurer/Collector Expenses	18,000	13,000	(5,000)
Tax Title Expense	-	4,000	4,000
Town Accountant Salary	61,270	63,109	1,839
Town Accountant Expenses	2,000	1,500	(500)
Administrative Assist/Council on Agir	20,600	53,560	32,960
Town Counsel/Legal Services	35,000	35,000	-
Town Report	4,000	4,000	-
Town Hall	50,000	50,000	-
Elections and Voter Registration	8,000	10,000	2,000
Town Admin	86,145	88,730	2,585
Town Admin Expenses	3,000	3,000	-
Conservation Commission Expenses	3,500	3,500	-
Conservation Agent Salary	21,218	24,000	2,782
Historical Commission	500	500	-
Planning Board	285	285	-
IT Services	22,000	22,000	-
Technology Hardware/ Software purchas	34,300	22,000	{12,300}
COA Director & General Admin Assistant	29,797	-	(29,797)
Council on Aging	2,500	2,500	-
Veteran's Agent Salary	500	500	-

Richmond Annual Town Report - 2023

Stationery and Office Supply	9,000	7,000	{2,000}
Town Facility Maintenance	25,000	25,000	-
Legal Advertising	5,000	5,000	-
Training	4,000	4,000	-
Office Equipment	4,100	3,500	(600)
Website Hosting	1,900	1,900	-
General Government - Subtotal	644,976	647,494	2,518

PROTECTION

Police Chief Salary	2,060	2,400	340
Deputy Police Chief Salary	1,500	2,000	500
Police Department Expenses	1,000	1,000	-
County Communications	14,464	14,756	292
Constable Expenses	500	500	-
Animal Control Officer Salary	5,000	5,000	-
Animal Control Officer Expenses	500	500	-
Fire Department Expenses and On call S	70,500	79,500	9,000
Fire House Rent	14,400	14,620	220
Emergency Management	3,500	3,500	-
Fire Chief Salary	17,390	17,912	522
Tree Warden	7,500	7,500	-
Building Inspector Salary	8,140	8,384	244
Building Inspector Expenses	4,500	4,500	-
Alternate Building Inspector	300	300	-
Zoning Enforcement Officer	4,359	4,489	130
Zoning Enforcement Expenses	500	500	-
Inspection Services	100	100	-
Protection- Subtotal	156,213	167,461	11,248

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Board of Health Salaries	850	850	-
Board of Health Expenses	4,000	4,000	-
Board of Health Contracted Services	23,033	24,460	1,427
Stray Animals	100	100	-
Rubbish Disposal	241,851	249,107	7,256
Veterans' Aid	9,500	9,500	-
Health- Subtotal	279,334	288,017	8,683

HIGHWAYS

Machinery Maintenance	65,000	70,000	5,000
Road Construction	125,000	125,000	-
Road Maintenance	30,000	32,500	2,500
Town Garage	11,250	12,900	1,650

Richmond Annual Town Report - 2023

Winter Roads	150,000	160,000	10,000
Gravel Roads	55,000	55,000	-
Salaries	284,540	298,667	14,127
OT	30,000	30,000	-
Fuel	46,200	42,000	(4,200)
Utilities	10,100	12,060	1,960
Private Roads	3,500	3,500	-
Beaver Control	3,500	4,000	500
Town Beach	18,000	18,000	-
Highways- Subtotal	832,090	863,627	31,537
 CULTURE & RECREATION			
Recreation Committee	3,750	3,750	-
Memorial Day	200	200	-
Library	77,067	78,786	1,719
Culture & Recreation- Subtotal	81,017	82,736	1,719
 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS			
Berkshire County Retirement	247,401	247,546	145
Group Insurance	154,000	194,000	40,000
Employee Benefits- Subtotal	401,401	441,546	40,145
 TOWN INSURANCE			
Insurance and Bonding	127,000	130,000	3,000
Town Insurance- Subtotal	127,000	130,000	3,000
 UNCLASSIFIED			
Berkshire Regional Planning Commissior	1,198	1,198	-
Cemetery Superintendent Salarv	10,500	2,500	(8,000)
Cemetery Expenses	2,500	10,500	8,000
Unemployment Reserve	2,500	2,500	-
Medicare	45,000	45,000	-
Group Purchasing	800	800	-
Richmond Pond Ramp Monitors	5,000	5,000	-
Misc Expenses	700	700	-
Unclassified- Subtotal	68,198	68,198	-
Line Item Budget - TOTAL	2,590,229	2,689,079	98,850
Articles - TOTAL	5,393,523	5,682,114	288,591
LINE ITEMS & ARTICLES - TOTAL	7,983,752	8,371,193	387,441

ARTICLE 5- To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$430,200 for the debt service payment for the New Town Hall Library Building (*Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee*)

ARTICLE 6- To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Certified Free Cash the sum of \$50,000 for the purchase of a new tractor and brush cutter attachments *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*

ARTICLE 7- To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Certified Free Cash the sum of \$57,000 to cover the cost of a Defibrillator machine and necessary accessories. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*

ARTICLE 8- To see if the Town will vote to transfer and appropriate the sum of \$210,000 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 County Ambulance 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. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*

ARTICLE 9- To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds the sum of \$226,000 needed to operate the sewer enterprise fund. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*

ARTICLE 10- To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,409,491 for the support of the school. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*

ARTICLE 11- To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Certified Free Cash the sum of \$75,000 for the School HVAC upgrades. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*

ARTICLE 12- To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Stabilization the sum of \$25,000 for the School HVAC upgrades. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*
TWO – THIRDS VOTE REQUIRED

ARTICLE 13- To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Certified Free Cash the sum of \$5,000 to the Other Post-Employment Benefits Liability Trust Fund, established under the provisions of M.G.L. Ch. 32B, Section 20. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*

ARTICLE 14- To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Certified Free Cash the sum of \$20,000 to the reserve fund. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*

ARTICLE 15- To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Certified Free Cash the sum of \$6,000 for a fuel emergency assistance program administered under a contract with Berkshire Community Action Council for the benefit of low-income Richmond residents. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*

ARTICLE 16- To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Certified Free Cash the sum of \$5,000 for the treatment of weeds in Richmond Pond. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*

ARTICLE 17- To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Certified Free Cash the sum of \$8,500 to preserve deteriorating vital records books. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*

ARTICLE 18- To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Certified Free Cash the sum of \$30,000 to cover the first year start up costs for switching collecting/accounting software. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*

ARTICLE 19- To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Certified Free Cash the sum of \$25,000 for removal or trimming of dead or dying trees town – wide. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*

ARTICLE 20- To see if the Town will vote to create a special Stabilization Fund for the purpose of town needs related to departments of Highway and Public Safety. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*

TWO – THIRDS VOTE REQUIRED

ARTICLE 21- To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Town Hall Stabilization the sum of \$89,000 to the newly created Highway and Public Safety Stabilization. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*

TWO – THIRDS VOTE REQUIRED

ARTICLE 22- To see if the Town will vote to create a special Stabilization Fund for the purpose of town needs related to Ambulance Department. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*

TWO – THIRDS VOTE REQUIRED

ARTICLE 23- To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Town Hall Stabilization the sum of \$10,000 to the newly created Ambulance Stabilization. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*

TWO – THIRDS VOTE REQUIRED

ARTICLE 24- To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Certified Free Cash the sum of \$923 for prior Fiscal Year Invoices. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*

ARTICLE 25- To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to petition the Legislature to enact special legislation which provides that, notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the board of trustees of the town of Richmond Free Public Library may invest any present or future gifts and donations received by and for the library in a

separate interest-bearing account, or take any other action in relation thereto. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*

ARTICLE 26- To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of G.L. c. 44 Section 54 (b) to allow Town trust funds to be invested in accordance with G.L. c. 203C, the so called “Prudent Investment Rule”, or take any other action in relation thereto. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*

ARTICLE 27- To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town Zoning Bylaw by inserting the words “for more than 80 days in a calendar year” to section 4.8 A Permitted Principal Uses 13. Short Term Room Rental Business to read as follows:

13. Short-Term Room Rental Business for more than 80 days in a calendar year provided that:
TWO – THIRDS VOTE REQUIRED

ARTICLE 28- To see if the Town will vote to amend the General Town Bylaw by adding a new section 11 to Chapter X Miscellaneous called Short Term Room Rentals. A copy of this proposed bylaw is on file with the Town Clerk.

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 Thursday, May 16, 2024, at 11:00 AM, to bring in votes for the following Town Officers:

Board of Health	1 years
Board of Health	2 years
Board of Health	3 years
Finance Committee	3 years
Finance Committee	3 years
Library Trustee	3 years
Moderator	1 year
Planning Board	5 years
Select Board	3 years
School Committee	3 Years

Question 1.

Shall section 5, Clause 41C1/2 of G.L. c. 59, added by chapter 139, Section 41 of the Acts of 2006, granting real estate property tax reductions to qualifying senior citizens, be accepted?

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 th day of May 2023.

Board of Selectmen
Alan Hanson, Chairman
Neal Pilson
Roger Manzolini

I have posted 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 2025 budget, including the operation of the Richmond Shores sewer system, the ambulance, and several proposed capital expenditures, is \$8,905,319, or an increase of \$353,391, 4.1%. 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. This year's budget includes a 3% salary increase for non-school employees as well as increases in our insurance assessment. However, once again you will see that many of our non-salary related line items have been level funded (or reduced in some cases) from their Fiscal Year 2024 levels. The School Committee's Fiscal Year 2025 request from the town budget is \$4,409,491, an increase of \$192,918, or 4.58% over total school appropriations in Fiscal Year 2024.

The proposed Fiscal Year 2025 Sewer Budget is \$226,000 This budget funds the costs of operating the system as well as debt payment associated with the system's design and construction. All these costs are borne by the users of the system.

The breakdown of the revenues that will be required to meet the proposed expenditures for Fiscal Year 2025 in comparison to Fiscal Year 2024 are as follows:

Source of Revenue			Percent change of Revenues	2025 Percentage of Total Revenue
	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>		
Real and Personal Property Taxes (Tax Levy)	\$6,262,278	\$6,528,120	4.2%	73.2%
Non-Property Tax (State Aid, Local Receipts, Other)	\$2,289,650	\$2,377,199	3.8%	26.8%
Totals	\$8,551,928	\$8,905,319	4.1%	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 1-3 together, which will allow discussion of any of the articles under a single motion and will ask for a vote on all three 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 1-3

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. This article also establishes the limits of each revolving fund.

Article 3- Transportation Bond

This is a standard article allowing the Town to spend a state grant for road construction and repair. The Town's share for fiscal year 2025 is estimated to be \$162,117.

Article 4- 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. *(All line items below are recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

1. Assessors Salaries: \$3,600- These are the annual salaries of the Assessors with \$1200 per Assessor. No change from Fiscal Year 2024.
2. Assessors Expenses: \$21,500- This account pays for the Assessors' office supplies, map updating, contracted services, software licenses, and other expenses. \$6,500 increase from Fiscal Year 2024 per increased costs of software programming.
3. Assessor Contracted Services: \$44,220- 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. A contractual decrease of \$780 from Fiscal Year 2024.
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 2024.
5. Longevity/Vacation Buyout: \$12,000- We offer longevity stipends to employees after a certain number of years of service. Three employees are eligible for longevity. Also all non school personnel are eligible for one week buy back vacation. \$4,000 increase from Fiscal Year 2024 to budget for vacation and sick buyout of anticipated employee retirement.
6. Moderator Salary: \$500- The Moderator is entitled to a \$500 salary. No change from Fiscal Year 2024.

7. Selectmen Salaries: \$5,250- These are the annual salaries of the Selectmen at \$1,750 per Selectman. No change from Fiscal Year 2024.
8. Selectmen Expenses: \$4,500- This account pays for meetings, mileage, trainings, dues, and other expenses of the Selectmen. No change from Fiscal Year 2024.
9. Town Clerk Salaries: \$17,390- This is the salary line for the Town Clerk, who is the town's official record keeper and license issuer. This line includes a 3% salary increase and a \$5,121 decrease from Fiscal Year 2024 as this no longer includes the assistant salary (which has been moved to Administrative Assistant/COA Director – Line #16)
10. Town Clerk Expenses: \$9,000- This pays for software licensing, maintenance of voting machines and poll pads, mileage, dues, and other Town Clerk expenses. No change from Fiscal Year 2024.
11. Treasurer/Collector Salary: \$66,950- This is the annual salary of the Treasurer/Collector, who manages the town's financial transactions, provides benefits management for all employees including payroll, and oversees properties placed in Tax Title, and collects all personal, property, motor vehicle excise taxes and sewer fees. 3% increase from Fiscal Year 2024.
12. Treasurer/Collector Expenses: \$13,000- This account pays for meetings, conferences, mileage and other expenses of the Treasurer/Collector. Tax Collection services was added to this budget line rather than keep it separate for more accurate accounting. \$5,000 decrease from Fiscal Year 2024 to reflect actual town spending more accurately.
13. Tax Title Expense: \$4,000- This was a special article last year and is built into the budget this year and is used to cover legal costs of the tax taking process. Fees are collected once a closing and pay-off are completed. This can, however, take years.
14. Town Accountant Salary: \$63,109- 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. 3% increase from Fiscal Year 2024.
15. Town Accountant Expenses: \$1,500- This account pays for training, meetings, mileage, and other expenses of the Town Accountant. \$500 decrease from Fiscal Year 2024.
16. Administrative Assistant: \$53,560- This position has become a combined Administrative Assistant/Council on Aging Director as well as Assistant Town Clerk. Additionally, this position answers the phones at Town Hall, assists residents, and serves as general clerical staff for all offices including Board of Health, and Conservation. Salaries from Lines 9 and 29 have been added here. \$32,960 increase from Fiscal Year 2024.
17. Town Counsel: \$35,000- This amount is used for Town Counsel and Special Town Counsel services, who advise and defend the town in legal matters. No change from Fiscal Year 2024.
18. Town Report: \$4,000- This is the cost of printing the annual town report. No change from Fiscal Year 2024.

19. Town Hall: \$50,000- This account pays for utilities, routine maintenance, cleaning, and other goods and services at the Town Hall/Library. No change from Fiscal Year 2024.
20. Elections and Board of Registrars: \$10,000- This account pays for the expenses involved in conducting elections, registering voters, and maintaining the street list. \$2,000 increase over Fiscal Year 2024 due to increased number of elections during the Presidential Election year.
21. Town Administrator: \$88,730- This is the annual base salary of the Town Administrator (a contracted position) who oversees the day-to-day operations at Town Hall, supervises Town Staff and Sewer personnel, and serves as the Harbormaster. 3% salary increase over Fiscal Year 2024.
22. Town Administrator Expenses: \$3,000- This account pays for meetings, conferences, mileage and other expenses of the Town Administrator. No change from Fiscal Year 2024.
23. Conservation Commission: \$3,500- This account pays for meetings, conferences, mileage, supplies and other expenses of the Conservation Commission. No change from Fiscal Year 2024.
24. Conservation Agent: \$24,000- This line item is to fund the services of the Conservation Agent. \$2,782 increase from Fiscal Year 2024.
25. Historical Commission: \$500- This account pays for copying, membership, meetings and other expenses of the Historical Commission. No change from Fiscal Year 2024.
26. Planning Board: \$285- This account pays for annual subscriptions, meetings, and other expenses of the Planning Board. No change from Fiscal Year 2024.
27. IT Services: \$22,000- This account is for our contracted IT services currently with Brainspiral Technologies. It covers the expenses related to server maintenance and support, workstation maintenance and support, and overall IT support for all town owned buildings.
28. Technology Hardware and Software: \$22,000- This account is used to pay for the replacement and/or repair of workstations, copiers, printers, including any software purchases, in all town owned buildings. \$12,300 decrease due to changing of software companies from Fiscal Year 2024.
29. COA Director/Administrative Assistant: This is a combined position. Please see explanation in Line 16.
30. Council on Aging: \$2,500- 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 2024. The council also receives funding from a state grant and has access to a revolving fund.
31. Veterans' Agent Salary: \$500- This is the annual salary for the Town's Veterans' Agent, now contracted through the City of Pittsfield. No change from Fiscal Year 2024.
32. Stationery and Office Supply: \$7,000- This account pays for paper, pens, pencils, postage,

toner, and similar expenses at Town Hall. \$2,000 decrease from Fiscal Year 2024 to reflect actual town spending more accurately.

33. Town Facility Maintenance: \$25,000- This account pays for routine maintenance for all town facilities and properties. No change from Fiscal Year 2024.

34. Legal Advertising: \$5,000- 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 2024.

35. Training: \$4,000- This pays for most training/continuing education opportunities for town officers and employees. No change from Fiscal Year 2024

36. Office Equipment: \$3,500- This pays for office equipment and furniture, and related expenses. \$600 decrease from Fiscal Year 2024 to reflect actual town spending more accurately.

37. Website Hosting: \$1,900- This is the annual cost of hosting our Town's website and includes technical support. No change from Fiscal Year 2024.

PROTECTION OF PERSONS AND PROPERTY

38. Police Chief Salary: \$2,400- This is the annual salary of the Police Chief, who issues firearms permits, arranges traffic details, and other matters. \$340 increase from Fiscal Year 2024.

39. Deputy Police Chief Salary: \$2,000- This is the annual salary of the Deputy Police Chief, who issues firearms permits, arranges traffic details, and other matters under the supervision of the Police Chief mainly during the winter months. \$500 increase from Fiscal Year 2024.

40. 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 2024.

41. County Communications: \$14,756- This account pays Richmond's share of the Berkshire County Sheriff's Department to operate the 911 emergency dispatch system. \$292 increase from Fiscal Year 2024 which includes a 2% increase.

42. Constable Expenses: \$500- This account remains to pay for Constable uniforms as they still work the elections. Salaries are paid for out of the Elections budget. No change from Fiscal year 2024.

43. Animal Control Officer Salary: \$5,000- This is the annual salary for the Animal Control Officer. No change from Fiscal Year 2024.

44. Animal Control Officer Expenses: \$500- This pays for gloves, rabies shots, boarding of animals and other expenses of the Animal Control Officer. No change from Fiscal Year 2024.

45. Fire Department: \$79,500- This account pays for fuel, truck and equipment maintenance,

training, stipends and other expenses of the Fire Department. This is a \$9,000 increase from Fiscal Year 2024 to cover the increase in costs of hose testing and equipment maintenance.

46. Fire House Rent: \$14,620- This account pays the rent to the Trustees of the Volunteer Fire Department for use of the building. \$220 increase from Fiscal Year 2024 per lease agreement.

47. Emergency Management: \$3,500- 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 2024.

48. Fire Chief/EMD Salary: \$17,912- This is the annual salary of the Fire Chief/EMD which is a part-time, non-benefit eligible position. \$522 increase from Fiscal Year 2024

49. Tree Warden: \$7,500- These funds are used for contracting with a tree service to remove problem trees. No change from Fiscal Year 2024.

50. Building Inspector Salary: \$8,384- This is the Building Inspector's annual salary. \$3% increase from Fiscal Year 2024

51. Building Inspector Expenses: \$4,500- This account pays for training, expenses and mileage of the Building Inspector and Alternate. No change from Fiscal Year 2024.

52. Alternate Building Inspector: \$300- This is the annual salary of the Alternate Building Inspector, who fills in if the Building Inspector is not available or has a conflict of interest. No change from Fiscal Year 2024

53. Zoning Enforcement Officer Salary: \$4,489- This is the annual salary of the ZEO, who ensures that building projects and proposed uses conform to the Zoning Bylaw. \$3% increase over Fiscal Year 2024.

54. Zoning Enforcement Officer Expenses: \$500- This account pays for meetings, mileage and other expenses of the ZEO. No change from Fiscal Year 2024.

55. 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 \$45 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 2024.

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

56. Board of Health Salaries: \$850- This is the annual salary account to be divided among five board members. No change from Fiscal Year 2024.

57. Board of Health Expenses: \$4,000- This account pays for meetings and other expenses of the Board of Health. No change from Fiscal Year.

58. Board of Health Contracted Services: \$24,460- This account covers the cost of additional inspectional services provided to the Board of Health by the Berkshire Public Health Alliance. This includes a contractual increase, as well as an increase in duties for Community Health Programs. \$1,427 increase from Fiscal Year 2024

59. Stray Animals: \$100- This account will help pay any costs associated with retrieving stray animals, usually farm animals. No change from Fiscal Year 2024.

60. Rubbish Disposal: \$249,107- 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. 3% increase over Fiscal Year 2024 per contract.

61. Veterans' Aid: \$9,500- 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 2024

HIGHWAYS

62. Machinery Maintenance: \$70,000- This account pays for the upkeep and repair of equipment and trucks. \$5,000 increase from Fiscal Year 2024 due to the increased cost of replacement parts.

63. Road Construction: \$125,000- This account, combined with state transportation bond funds, pays for road construction and re-construction. No change from Fiscal Year 2024.

64. Road Maintenance: \$32,500- This account pays for routine road maintenance. \$2,500 increase from Fiscal Year 2024 due to line painting cost increases.

65. Town Garage: \$12,900- This account pays for heating fuel, and other expenses at the Town Garage. \$1,650 increase from Fiscal Year 2024.

66. Winter Roads: \$160,000- This account pays for the plowing and sanding of the roads, including the costs of salt and sand. \$10,000 increase due to increased costs in material. Salt has increased by \$20/ton.

67. Gravel Roads: \$55,000- This account pays for the maintenance of the gravel roads. No change from Fiscal Year 2024.

68. Salaries: \$298,667- This account is used to pay the road crew salaries. \$14,127 increase from Fiscal Year 2024.

69. Overtime: \$30,000- This account covers the costs of overtime in the department. No change from Fiscal Year 2024.

70. Fuel: \$42,000- This account covers the costs of fuel used by multiple town departments. \$4,200 decrease from Fiscal Year 2024 to reflect actual town spending more accurately.

71. Utilities: \$12,060- This covers the costs of utilities such as electric, cable, phone, and internet. \$1,960 increase from Fiscal Year 2024.

72. 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 2024.

73. Beaver Control: \$4,000- 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. \$500 increase from Fiscal Year 2024.

74. Town Beach: \$18,000- This account pays for the expected lifeguards and equipment costs involved in running the Town Beach. No change from Fiscal Year 2024.

CULTURE & RECREATION

75. 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 spend program fees. No change from Fiscal Year 2024.

76. Memorial Day: \$200- This account pays for flowers, markers and flags for Memorial Day. No change from Fiscal Year 2024.

77. Library: \$78,786- This account pays the salaries and operating costs of the Library. A 2.2% increase of \$1,719 from Fiscal Year 2024.

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

78. Berkshire County Retirement: \$247,546- This account is Richmond's share paid to the Berkshire County Retirement System to contribute towards the expected retirement costs of town's municipal employees. Teachers are covered under a separate retirement system administered by the state. \$145 increase from Fiscal Year 2024 due to an increase in the annual assessment.

79. Group Insurance: \$194,000- 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. \$40,000 increase from Fiscal Year 2024. This line is estimated based on the number of anticipated policies for the coming year and a 7.93% rate increase.

TOWN INSURANCE

80. Insurance and Bonding: \$130,000- This account pays for the Town's insurance policies, including motor vehicle, property, public liability, worker's compensation, and officers' bonds. \$3,000 increase from Fiscal Year 2024 which includes a factor based on the average loss percentage of the town.

UNCLASSIFIED

81. Berkshire Regional Planning Commission: \$1,198- This is the county's regional planning agency that reviews projects and assists cities and towns on planning and zoning matters. No change from Fiscal Year 2024.

82. Cemetery Superintendent Salary: \$2,500- This is the annual salary of the Cemetery Plot Manager. \$8,000 decrease from Fiscal Year. Mr. Parsons has retired. Duties are now handled with an outside vendor and the Department of Public Works Superintendent.

83. Cemetery Expenses: \$10,500- This account pays for the equipment and supplies in maintaining the cemeteries. \$8,000 increase from Fiscal Year 2024 which includes the salary from the prior line for mowing expenses now covered by the Department of Public Works.

84. Unemployment Reserve: \$2,500- This amount will help to cover the town's liability if a non-school employee files an unemployment claim. No change from Fiscal Year 2024.

85. Medicare: \$45,000- This account pays the town's matching share of Medicare costs. No change from Fiscal Year 2024.

86. Group Purchasing: \$800- This pays for the town's membership in the regional group purchasing program. No change from Fiscal Year 2024.

87. Richmond Pond Ramp Monitors: \$5,000- 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 partial funding of the costs associated with the administration of this program. No change from Fiscal Year 2024.

88. Miscellaneous Expenses: \$700- This pays for miscellaneous expenses that may arise and cannot be covered by any other funding source. No change from Fiscal Year 2024.

Article 5- Debt Service payment: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$430,200** to pay for debt service for the new Town Hall, Library, Community Center *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*

Article 6- Highway Department Equipment Purchase: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Certified Free Cash the sum of **\$50,000** for the purchase of a new tractor and brush cutter attachments This tractor will replace the 1968 Ford open cab tractor that we use during the summer with a new closed cab tractor. The current tractor requires a lot of extra costly maintenance after every use. This will allow the town to be able to use two tractors to make road grading, roadside mowing and brush cutting more efficient. It will also save the town money with repair parts and down time to make the repairs. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*

Article 7- Ambulance Equipment Purchase: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Certified Free Cash the sum of \$57,000 to cover the cost of a Defibrillator machine and

necessary accessories. This will allow the Ambulance to perform more life saving techniques without having to wait for a different ambulance to meet them. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*

Article 8- Ambulance - \$210,000 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 County Ambulance 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. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*

Article 9- Sewer Enterprise Fund: \$226,000

This will fund all expenses, salaries and debt service associated with the operation of the sewer system. 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. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*

Article 10- School Budget: \$4,409,491 This represents a 4.58% increase over the Town’s Fiscal Year 2024 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 2024 budget and the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2024. 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 website: www.richmondconsolidatedschool.org

	FY 2024	FY 2025
School Committee Accounts	\$12,830	\$12,830
Superintendent Accounts	\$114,363	\$71,985
Special Education Accounts	\$576,006	\$571,967
Principal Accounts	\$180,615	\$206,033
Supply Accounts	\$40,000	\$40,000
Teaching Accounts	\$1,749,569	\$1,759,479
Library Services	\$10,925	\$10,990
Professional Development Accounts	\$28,800	\$29,300
Technology Accounts	\$24,000	\$24,000
Health Accounts	\$70,698	\$71,367
Transportation Accounts	\$271,195	\$278,069
Activity Advisor	\$22,500	\$22,500
Tuition Accounts	\$590,072	\$904,887
Food Service Supervisor	\$61,328	\$51,328
Operations & Maintenance Accounts	\$318,185	\$334,031
Employee Benefits and Insurance Accounts	\$592,136	\$651,350
Unemployment Accounts	\$5,000	\$5,000
Contingency Accounts	<u>\$10,000</u>	<u>\$10,000</u>
Total	\$4,678,222	\$5,055,116

Less School choice, grants and pre-school revenue	\$461,649	\$645,625
Amount raised and appropriated by the Town		
(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)	\$4,216,573	\$4,409,491

Article 11- School HVAC: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Certified Free Cash the sum of **\$75,000** for the School HVAC upgrades. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*

Article 12- School HVAC: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Stabilization the sum of **\$25,000** for the School HVAC upgrades. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*

TWO – THIRDS VOTE REQUIRED

Article 13- OPEB: \$5,000 transferred from free cash will continue funding towards the Other Post-Employment Benefits Liability Trust Fund, established under the provisions of M.G.L. Ch. 32B, Section 20 *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*

Article 14- Reserve Fund -\$20,000 Transfer free cash to the reserve fund. This funds unexpected expenses with the approval of the Finance Committee. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*

Article 15- Fuel Emergency Assistance Program: \$6,000

This is a fund to help low income Richmond residents in times of emergency. Each winter we are able to supplement the amount given to low income residents who receive federal fuel assistance funds through Berkshire County Community Action. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*

Article 16- Treatment of Weeds in Richmond Pond: \$5,000

Systemic and spot treatment of Richmond Pond to control invasive species. No monies were spent in FY24 and will be carried forward. Any additional funds needed will be covered by the Richmond Pond Association. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*

Article 17 - Vital Records Restoration: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Certified Free Cash the sum of **\$8,500** to preserve deteriorating vital records books. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*

Article 18 – \$30,000 startup software costs

The Town is switching software companies for collecting/accounting software and payroll. This software will be a savings for the Town but has one-time start-up costs to convert data from the existing software. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*

Article 19 – \$25,000 Dead or dying trees

This will cover costs associated with removal or trimming of dead or dying trees town – wide. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*

Article 20- To see if the Town will vote to create a special Stabilization Fund for the purpose of town needs related to departments of Highway and Public Safety. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*

TWO – THIRDS VOTE REQUIRED

Article 21- To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Town Hall Stabilization the sum of **\$89,000** to the newly created Highway and Public Safety Stabilization. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*

TWO – THIRDS VOTE REQUIRED

Article 22- To see if the Town will vote to create a special Stabilization Fund for the purpose of town needs related to Ambulance Department. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*

TWO – THIRDS VOTE REQUIRED

Article 23- To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Town Hall Stabilization the sum of **\$10,000** to the newly created Ambulance Stabilization. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*

TWO – THIRDS VOTE REQUIRED

Article 24- To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Certified Free Cash the sum of **\$923** for prior Fiscal Year Invoices. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*

Article 25- To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to petition the Legislature to enact special legislation which provides that, notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the board of trustees of the town of Richmond Free Public Library may invest any present or future gifts and donations received by and for the library in a separate interest-bearing account, or take any other action in relation thereto. This will allow the town to petition special legislature to allow funds donated to the Town library to be invested and maintain its own interest which is currently not allowed by law. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*

Article 26- To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of G.L c. 44 Section 54 (b) which became effective July 1, 2023 to allow Town trust funds to be invested in accordance with G.L. c. 203C, the so called “Prudent Investment Rule”, or take any other action in relation thereto. Voting yes for this article will allow our town to invest our trust funds, including cemetery perpetual care funds, unless otherwise provided or directed by the donor of the funds under the Prudent Investment Rule. Prudent investing allows for much greater investment diversification opportunities than what is currently allowed under the MA Legal List of Investments. Where appropriate, Prudent investing allows investment managers to use diversified mutual funds, ETFs, individual stocks, bonds, alternative investments, etc. Previously, these municipal funds had to adhere to a very short and restrictive list of stock and bond investments by law. Prudent investing does not inherently mean more risk in the investment portfolio, it simply means that there are greater investment options, which allows for reduced concentration risk and an overall more balanced portfolio allocation. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*

Article 27- To see if the Town will vote to amend the General Town Bylaw by adding a new section 11 to Chapter X Miscellaneous called Short Term Room Rentals. A copy of this proposed bylaw is on file with the Town Clerk.

The Town is proposing a general bylaw to allow for enforcement measures of short – term rental properties throughout Town. This bylaw has rules and regulations attached to it along with annual license renewal instructions, fines for violations, and a complaint process for residents if there are concerns. This bylaw will allow short term rentals in all zoning districts by right for up to 80 days, anyone wishing to rent our more than 80 days will be required to apply for a special permit.

Article 28- To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town Zoning Bylaw by inserting the words “for more than 80 days in a calendar year” to section 4.8 A Permitted Principal Uses 13. Short Term Room Rental Business to read as follows:

13. Short-Term Room Rental Business for more than 80 days in a calendar year provided that:
TWO – THIRDS VOTE REQUIRED

This article makes the zoning bylaw coincide with the proposed new Short-Term Room Rental General Bylaw

Ballot Question 1.

Shall section 5, Clause 41C1/2 of G.L. c. 59, added by chapter 139, Section 41 of the Acts of 2006, granting real estate property tax reductions to qualifying senior citizens, be accepted?

A yes vote on this question will allow the Town to be able to make changes to the circuit breaker qualifications to allow more residents to qualify for tax exemptions. The changes to the circuit breaker would have to be voted on at a town meeting after the adoption of the above reference legislation.

TOWN DEPARTMENTS





AMBULANCE

Over the past year, Richmond Ambulance has continued to evolve into a professional, well-respected emergency medical services agency within the region. While 2023 was not a “record breaking” year for calls, the volume remained steady compared to 2022. Our agency was requested a total of 311 times for various incidents ranging from medical alarm, medical emergency, motor vehicle accidents, lost/injured hikers, fires, support services on long duration incidents, and various other types of calls. As a part of regulatory requirements (and being good neighbors), we had the ability to provide 44 mutual aid ambulance responses to surrounding communities such as Pittsfield, Hancock, Great Barrington, Lee, Lenox, Stockbridge, and even Becket. 2023 represented a year of strong growth for our department and our ability to respond to calls for service- in 2019 our ambulance was able to respond to just shy of 50% of the calls, to now responding to 96% of our calls! The remaining 4% of calls included those while we were already on other calls, or the few times when we needed assistance from neighboring communities.

In 2022, Richmond and West Stockbridge made the commitment to the safety of their communities with the addition of paid staffing during the weekdays, which has been historically the hardest for us to cover. 2023 was our first full year of paid staffing with our shared services agreement between Richmond and West Stockbridge (splitting the salary and benefits cost 50/50), while our operational costs remain self-sufficient by way of EMS billing. This arrangement between both towns has proven itself to be a critical need for our residents, visitors, and those travelling through our communities- I cannot thank the residents of Richmond and West Stockbridge enough for their support in this “new” endeavor of staffing.

Aside from responding to calls for service, our EMTs and First Responders also engage in many hours of required and voluntary training to better serve the community. This past summer, our department hosted the triennial first responder training for the Richmond and West Stockbridge Fire Departments, a 28-hour program. We also hosted and completed our biennial CPR training with both departments. Furthermore, our EMTs have completed the required training set forth by the Commonwealth to treat and transport Police K9s injured or ill in the line of duty as a part of a legislative act known as Nero’s Law.

This past year we were fortunate to receive a grant for just shy of \$19,000 from the Massachusetts Department of Fire Services to purchase equipment for the departments (ballistic vests, helmets, and other gear) allowing us to operate safely during hostile incidents in conjunction with our mandated Active Shooter and Hostile Event Response (NFPA 3000) training. We also were fortunate to receive an EMPG grant that funded the purchase of a pop-up rehabilitation tent to be utilized on long duration events, which we used for the first time while providing EMS standby services at the West Stockbridge Zucchini Festival. On top of these purchases, we were fortunate to be able to upgrade critical radio communications equipment to provide seamless interoperability with state and surrounding

agencies, as well as for increasing the safety of our responders.

As always, I am incredibly thankful for the dedication of our full-time firefighter/ EMTs: Tanelle Ciempa and Jacob Soldato, our volunteer EMTs; Katherine DeSantis, Hayley Duffy, Crystal Marcantel, Scott Muir, and Heather Perkins, and of course, the many first responders on both Richmond and West Stockbridge Fire Departments. Without these individuals we would not be able to do the job that we do. Thank you!!!

Respectfully submitted,

Austin White, NRP, I/C
EMS Director





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 consists of five elected members serving three-year staggered terms.

This past year, two long-time members have moved creating 2 vacancies. Anthony Segal, and Andrew Fisher have left the Town of Richmond. We were lucky to find two members to replace them.

The Role of the Board of Health

The Town of Richmond, like many other towns in Berkshire County, has contracted with the professional services of the Berkshire Public Health Alliance to perform duties relative to the protection of the environment from damage and pollution. The Alliance has inspectors specializing in different areas of Public Health.

Mandated duties also include health care and disease control; enforcement of housing and dwelling codes; monitoring and providing for hazardous waste disposal; enforcement of Title 5; investigating nuisances which may be injurious to health; enforcing the State Sanitary code involving food service establishment and enforcing the State Environmental Code regarding safety and sanitation of bathing beaches.

The Board of Health has moved to the new building at 1751 State Road. The Board of Health shares an office with the assessor at the end of the hall. Office hours remain on Tuesday mornings, and by appointment. I am available by email, or by phone should you need assistance.

In 2023 the following duties have been performed:

- Septage Hauler license 5
- Private Well permits 4
- DSCP 21
- Title 5 witnessed 21
- Perc Test witnessed 9
- Septic Installer license 4
- Camp Inspection 1
- Food Establishment permits 5

Respectfully submitted,

Valerie Bird



BOARD OF SELECTMEN / SEWER COMMISSIONERS

It continues to be an honor to serve the residents as your Selectmen in these challenging times.

This has been a busy year for everyone. The new Town Hall is open for business. The staff is happy to be out of the “cellar”. Library services are premium! Everyone is pleased. Public response is very positive.

The weather has caused headaches for the Highway Department, with the constant thawing and freezing, still, the roads are in good condition.

There has been staff turnover with Tom Grizey retiring from the Sewer Department, and the departure of Jodi Hollingsworth as Collector/Treasurer. Joining our staff is Heather Lorange as Assistant Town Administrator and Bob Hammer as Highway Department Employee/Town Hall Custodian.

The many dead trees along town roads are a concern. We are working on a plan to mitigate this problem.

Odor from a marijuana farm in nearby West Stockbridge has discussions underway on steps to mitigate this problem.

We are in ongoing discussions on short-term rentals which are affecting many towns in Berkshire County and beyond.

The Hollow Fields parties on Perry’s Peak Road continue settlement discussions between themselves and the Town.

The Boat Ramp Monitoring Program to keep Richmond Pond zebra mussel-free continues.

As doing business as a Town becomes increasingly complicated, we thank all the hardworking employees, elected and appointed, who make Richmond the Town that we are all proud of.

Alan Hanson, Chairman

Roger Manzolini

Neal Pilson

Board of Selectmen/Sewer Commissioners



BUILDING DEPARTMENT

For the calendar year 2023 the Town of Richmond approved 132 building permits.

Cross payments from permits : \$21,902.00

- New Homes 4
- Additions 16
- Renovations 18
- Roofing 21
- Solar 12
- Accessory Buildings 18
- Windows/doors/siding 17
- Misc. Insulation/Duct 25

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

The Town of Richmond had a total of nine burials and one Plot Sale in 2023. All activity took place in Center Cemetery.

Respectfully submitted,

Cemetery Department





CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The mission of the Richmond Conservation Commission is to administer the Mass Wetlands Protection Act and Regulations (MGL Ch.131 Sec40 and 310 CMR 10.00), the Richmond Local Wetland Bylaw (Ch. XII) and the Richmond Regulations adopted under the Berkshire Scenic Mountains Act (MGL Ch.131 Sec.39A). The Commission serves to protect and conserve the quality of the environment, fisheries and wildlife habitat, and aesthetics of the Town by regulating activities that could negatively impact sensitive resource areas, including wetlands, streams and ponds, riparian areas, steep slopes and mountain tops.

Permit applications and overall activity: For Year 2023, Commission activity declined in numbers of filings and miscellaneous discussions, however there were a half dozen wetland permits and several enforcement matters that extended over many months. In all, there were 43 filings, miscellaneous consultations and enforcement matters, and the Commission has been able to resolve several minor infractions and has initiated significant enforcement efforts on two serious, long running Scenic Mountain and Wetland violations.

Wetland Protection Act & Richmond Local Wetland Bylaw - Requests for Determination of Applicability (RDA) accounted for 9 and 1 SMA request of this year's filings. These requests all involve site visits by Commission members and advertised deliberations by the Commission following 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 serious alteration of sensitive areas may be expected, the Commission often requires the Applicant to file a Notice of Intent.

Wetland Protection Act & Richmond Local Wetland Bylaw - Notice of Intent (NOI) is a more extensive presentation of proposed work, including detailed calculations of impacts, often including complex engineered solutions. In the most complex cases, the Commission has the authority to require applicants to provide for independent consultants to advise the Commission and to suggest special permit conditions. In 2023 the Commission received and processed WPA 10 Notices of Intent and SMA 2 Notices of Intent. 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 permit holder is required to request a Certificate of Compliance from the Commission that all the conditions in the permit have been fulfilled. In 2023, the Commission received 5 such requests and issued 5 Certificates of Compliance.

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 2023, the Commission issued 4 beaver related Emergency Certification.

The Commission is an advisor, when called upon by the Board of Selectmen or Zoning Board of Appeals concerning applications for Special Permits, Variances or Appeals of earlier decisions by other Town authorities. In 2023 the Conservation Commission made recommendations on two such matters.

Resident Education & Assistance: The Commission would like to ask all property owners to use the resources of the Commission to educate themselves on the Wetlands and Scenic Mountains regulations. Through education, the Commission can help residents execute projects while safeguarding the environment.

The Commission would like to thank Agent, Shepley“Shep” Evens for his long term service and commitment to the Town of Richmond Commission.

Respectfully submitted,

Ernie Smith – Chairman
Tom Potter – Vice Chairman
Ronald Veillette
Pat Seckler
Adam Weinberg
Karen O’Donnell
Rebecca Lord
Shepley Evans – Agent



COUNCIL ON AGING

The Richmond Council on Aging, in cooperation with the West Stockbridge Council on Aging, provides diverse services to the senior population of Richmond and West Stockbridge. The Council remains committed to the health and well-being of Richmond's seniors.

The 2023 bi-monthly newsletter published by the COA Director, Phyllis LeBeau, was made possible with funding from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Elder Affairs. It provided an ongoing source of important information on topics of particular interest to seniors as well as announcements of upcoming special events hosted by the COA.

The combined COAs were able to host the following events:

- Weekly Exercise Classes: Yoga, Tai Chi, Weights, Line Dance
- Annual one-time Hip-Hop Chair Exercise (thanks to a grant from the Richmond Cultural Council)
- Blood pressure clinics and flu vaccine clinics provided by Berkshire Alliance
- Monthly Paper Folding Classes
- Farmers' Market Coupons
- Annual Winter Holiday Luncheon at the new Richmond Town Hall. Excellent food prepared by Marketplace in Great Barrington was served by Town Hall staff as well as adult/student volunteers from Richmond Consolidated School (RCS). The RCS Jazz Band entertained attendees with a beautiful performance.
- Special Friends of the Third Grade Program. The COA and the Richmond Consolidated School match seniors with a third grader to encourage interaction between the two age groups. The group meets monthly at the school for a planned activity and lunch, designed to broaden mutual understanding.

The members of the Council on Aging Committee are:

Ms. Betsy Bemis
Ms. Patricia Malnati
Ms. Linda Mitchell
Ms. Joanna Stengel

Respectfully submitted,

Council on Aging



CULTURAL COUNCIL

The Richmond Cultural Council is part of a network of 329 Local Cultural Councils (LCC's) representing every city and town 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 municipality appointed volunteers.

In 2023 The Richmond Cultural (RCC) received 38 grant applications, with requests totaling \$22,169.00 in funding. The Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC) allocated \$6000 dollars for distribution by the RCC. A further \$554 in unclaimed funds from the 2022 cycle was allocated by the council. The Council awarded 20 grants totaling \$6,279.00 for local cultural programs. These grants supported a range of projects throughout Berkshire County including plays, concerts, field trips, and exhibits. The Council has provided support for projects sponsored by Richmond entities including Richmond Consolidated School and the Richmond Free Public Library. A complete list of recipients can be found below. \$275 was retained by the RCC for administrative expenses.

The Richmond Cultural Council works to promote excellence, inclusion, education, and diversity in the arts, humanities, and sciences, fosters a rich cultural life for all Massachusetts residents, and contributes to the vitality of our communities and economy - by approving grants created by and in service to Richmond residents of all ages. Grant applications for 2024 will become available in the fall of 2023. For more information visit <https://massculturalcouncil.org/communities/local-cultural-council-program/>

The fiscal year 2023 grant awards:

1. A Recital of American Music for Trombone and Piano. Ronald Barron. \$400
2. Festival Latino of the Berkshires. Festival Latino of the Berkshires, Inc. \$125
3. ARTcentric: Berkshires After School at Richmond Consolidated School. IS183, Inc. \$250
4. Hip Hop Chair Dance for Seniors! MUSIC Dance.edu. \$200
5. Pittsfield Shakespeare in the Park. Pittsfield Shakespeare, Inc. \$125
6. Author Visit: Jimmy Preller. RCS. \$200
7. Berkshire Museum Field Trip. RCS \$100
8. Springfield Museum Trip. RCS. \$125
9. Great East Festival for grades 6-8 Chorus. RCS. \$300
10. DIRT: The Secret Life of Soil. RCS. \$375
11. Flying Deer Interdisciplinary Adventure. RCS. \$700
12. Field Trip to Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art. RCS. \$200

13. Plimoth Patuxet: A View to the Past. RCS. \$300
14. Character Education Through Circus Arts. RCS. \$450
15. Wildlife on Wheels. Richmond Free Public Library \$387
16. Publication of non-profit community newspaper Richmond Record, Inc. \$700
17. Fall Festival of Shakespeare. Shakespeare & Company, Inc. \$125
18. Connecting music and dance w/an interactive concert - featuring members of Trio Candela & Gaia Roots & STARS residency students Tamarack Hollow Nature and Cultural Center, Inc. \$450
19. The Stockbridge Sinfonia: Intergenerational Community Orchestra of the Berkshires. The Stockbridge Sinfonia, Inc. \$125
20. Storytelling Night at Richmond Town Hall. Cultural Council \$642

Total: \$6,279

Respectfully submitted by:

Bridgette Stone, Co-Chairperson
Emily Cohen, Co-Chairperson and Treasurer
Susan Sacher, Publicity
Sarah Novak, Grants Coordinator
Amanda Hale, Member
Amity Winters, Member





DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

The winter of 2022/2023 went as follows:

- November: 1.5" snowfall, first accumulation on 11/15. High of 71, Low 14, Average 41.
- December: 14.25" snowfall. High of 55, Low -1, Average 28.
- January: 11" snowfall. High 53, Low 14, Average 31.
- February: 6" snowfall. High 59, Low -17 (2/4), Average 28.
- March: 23.15" snowfall, 14" on 3/14. High 57, Low 10, Average 34.

In April, the Highway Department performed spring cleanup, fixed roadsides, gravel roads and chipped fallen debris.

In May, working with Wilkinson and Sons Excavaton, Richmond updated roadway and drainage on East Road. A 1400' section of road was excavated out and subsurface stabilization was installed, which included 900' of French drain containing of 12' perforated pipe, 3/4" & 6" stone, and seven new drop inlet catch basins. This project has been holding up very well and stays dry.

Throughout July grading of the town's 20 miles of gravel roads plus an additional mile of private roads was achieved. This process involved using the grader to rip up the road and lay it back out to a proper crown. A tractor followed with a road rake to remove large rocks and give a fine finish. The roadways were rolled using a rented 12-ton vibratory roller. The process was completed with the spraying of an environmentally safe calcium chloride base dust control.

The Town welcomed a new employee, Robert Hammer. Robert (Bob) is the new Maintenance person that will oversee mowing town properties, cleaning Town Hall, and scheduling rental of the Community Room. Robert comes to us having prior experience in electrical, plumbing and HVAC.

July through September crews worked on general roadside maintenance including mowing roadsides, reshaping and cleaning out storm drainage, and filling potholes.

In October, the Highway Department assisted in transferring from the old to its new location. On Osceola Road three French drains were added into the road along with roadside drainage in a notoriously wet/muddy section of road. On sleepy Hollow Extension a French drain was installed. During installation, an old deteriorated non-working perforated pipe was found. There are future plans to add more drains to areas where water springs up from underneath the roadway. Also, during this time crews were clearing fallen leaves from roadsides and drainage swales.

Our focus throughout November and December was to prep and get all winter equipment installed and working to its best ability for the upcoming snow season.

I would like to thank the Richmond Highway & Maintenance Staff Edward Flynn, Robert Hammer, Travis Searing, and Brett Smith for their dedication and hard work.

Respectfully Submitted,

Peter Beckwith, Jr.
Highway Superintendent





EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR

This year we received another grant from the state for \$2,700.00 in which I bought 6 pagers to page people for emergencies. We still test the sirens the last Saturday of the month. I still recommend that people sign up for Code Red at the town hall so you will be called in an emergency.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Traver

Director, Richmond Emergency Management



FENCE VIEWERS

The fence viewers were not called upon this year to settle any agricultural fence disputes, but we are available for that purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

Roger Manzolini
Alan Hanson
Neal Pilson
Fence Viewers



INTERIM FIELD DRIVERS

We did not have the pleasure of rounding up any live stock, but with the Animal Control Officer, we are ready!

Respectfully submitted,

Alan Hanson
Roger Manzolini
Field Drivers



FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Finance Committee serves as the official fiscal watchdog for Richmond. Our responsibility is to represent taxpayers and be informed about all aspects of town finances. Town voters select members to serve in order to conduct a thorough review of town finance questions on their behalf. The most significant duty is to advise and make recommendations to town meeting on the budget and other areas of finance. We also have statutory authority to make transfers from the town's reserve fund (a modest contingency fund created as part of the annual budget; \$20,000 in recent years) for extraordinary or unforeseen occurrences. It also approves, with the selectmen, minor budget transfers during the last two months of the fiscal year and the first two months of the new fiscal year in order to close out the town's fiscal year financial records.

In Richmond, the Finance Committee and the Selectmen work together as the Budget Advisory Committee to develop a fiscal year budget. The Budget Advisory Committee utilizes the expertise of Town staff to develop each fiscal year budget. Our Town Administrator, Danielle Fillio is instrumental in setting schedules for departmental budget submissions, reviewing and refining those budgets with department heads, putting them together in spreadsheets and notebooks, scheduling sessions with department heads for budget presentations and sharing ideas for spending and savings. In other words, she and the Town Hall staff do all the hard work and the Budget Advisory Committee gives her more hard work to do in order to present a reasonable and appropriate budget to town voters at the Annual Town Meeting.

FY24's Operating and Capital budgets were prepared over nine meetings held in February 2023, March 2023 and April 2023. We finally were able to hold most meetings in person at the old Town Hall. No tears were shed upon realizing we were holding our last meeting in the worn out and tired meeting room.

In anticipation of moving into the new Town Hall the BAC spent parts of several sessions trying to estimate the costs of operating in the new building. As of the end of the calendar year it seems that costs are in line with expectations.

The School budget continues to be the single largest expenditure in the Town's budget (approximately 2/3 of our operating budget). In addition to funding our Pre-K - 8 school, we pay tuition for students needing special education services as well as tuition to send our high school students to their chosen high school, Lenox, Monument Mountain or either of the Pittsfield high schools. After reviewing the initial budget presented by the School administration we asked them to find additional savings and come back to us. Their revised budget was \$50,000 lower resulting in a 5.0% increase. According to school officials, further reductions would have caused deep cuts in programs.

The FY24 budget, approved by voters, included a 1.0% increase in total Departmental and Unclassified budgets with an increase of 4.1% in Articles to be raised from property taxes. The expected increase in property taxes of 4.9% resulted from having \$300,000 less free cash available for special projects. The budget approved by town voters at the town meeting totaled slightly more than \$8.5 million of expenditures.

The budget included \$426,950 for the second debt service installment on the new Town Center. According to our debt service schedule all future payments will all be around \$430,000. This amount was factored into tax rates in the initial payment year and will have no incremental impact on the tax rate in future years.

Richmond's Excess Levy Capacity (the amount property taxes can go up above 2 ½% without the need for an override vote) decreased from \$263,000 to \$137,000.

The Committee would like to thank Danielle and the staff at Town Hall for making the move into the new Town Hall while keeping up with their day-to-day duties and for their hard work during the budget process.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Gniadek, Chair
Pat Callahan
Eileen Martin
Stevan Patterson
Bob Youdelman





FIRE DEPARTMENT

This year we responded to 511 calls – up 36 calls from last year. 200 fire calls. 311 ambulance calls. 234 in Richmond. 195 in West Stockbridge. 12 to the Mass Pike. 7 to New York and 22 to the Town of Hancock. We are part of the Columbia Co. Task Force and train with them. They also respond to Richmond for fires. The Monday – Friday is working very well. I would like to thank all the members for 24-7 for all the time they put into the Department. EXCELLENT JOB by everyone.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Traver
Chief





FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

2023 was an historic year for the Richmond Free Public Library. It's the year the library moved from rented space at 2821 State Rd to our permanent home at 1751 State Road. We are now open an additional 9 hours per week for a total of 32.5 hours per week. Since we don't always need double staffing because of nearby Town Hall staff, we are now open 6 days a week, while previously only open 3 days per week. And we are now located in a central location and are within walking distance from Richmond Consolidated School. Also we are now handicap accessible providing all our patrons with a bright, welcoming space in our community. All are welcome at our new town library!

Through our collection and access to statewide materials via Interlibrary Loan, the library circulated books, magazines, audio books, videos, E-books, downloadable audios, downloadable videos, museum passes and items from our Library of Things collection.

In 2023 we continued to hold our monthly book discussion and the library held five "Lively World Series" events. Ruth Bass facilitates these programs in memory of Milton Bass. Our "Lively World" guests included John Hamilton and authors: Margery B. Metzger, Pier Boutin, M.D., Judy White Staber, Roberta Silman and Rachel Urquhart. In August, Candy Mountain hosted a Genealogy Round Table where participants shared genealogy research tips. We ended the year with our festive Winter Solstice holiday drop-in event.

Our children's programs included a summertime weekly story hour, a live animal presentation by Animal Adventures (funded by the Richmond Cultural Council), an Independent Summer Reading Program, a summer book club, and an end-of-summer Ice Cream Social. In December the library started a weekly story time for young children facilitated by South Berkshire Kids. Also, in December, we started welcoming class visits from students from Richmond Consolidated School. We ended the year with a fabulous holiday music program directed by Katherine Medicis. At various times during the year, we passed out "Take and Make" crafts and we participated in the town wide Trunk or Treat.

In the early part of the year we prepared to move by culling the collection and cleaning. We packed all books and materials into boxes during the month of September and closed at the end of the month. The movers transferred our boxes and furniture to the new building in early October and we unpacked and set up over the next few weeks. Although we had patrons stopping in during October, we formally reopened on November 6th. Since then we have greeted our returning patrons and welcomed many new patrons. I have been asked what I love about our new library and my answer is that I love being next to the school as well as being in the same building as the Town Hall and Community Room, essentially being in the heart of our Richmond community.

Kathryn Wilson, who is a Library Trustee, Friend of the Library and member of the Building Committee, writes, “In October, the Library moved from the rented space we had occupied for more than 25 years into a perfectly-sized new building, shared with Town Offices. Our beautiful, sunny, new Richmond Free Public Library has plenty of bookshelves, a children's room, a teen area, and meeting rooms for book clubs and study groups. We are so thankful to the townspeople, the volunteers and the donors who helped to make this new space a reality.”

The library wishes to thank our wonderful 2023 volunteers who helped throughout the year and during our move: Pat Callahan, Carol Chapman, David Dee, Kathy Erickson, Judy Gordon, Larry Gordon, Jan Hartford, Katherine Keenum, Kathy Korte, Jennifer Kujawski, Pat Kujawski, Nanci McConnell, Candy Mountain (who processed the donations made to the Friends and ordered the new tables, chairs and cases), John Mountain, Margaret Ramos, Peter Smith, Kathryn Wilson and Sean Wilson.

The library wishes to thank the following volunteer organizations for their continuing support: the Budget Advisory Committee, the Board of Selectmen, the Finance Committee, the Friends of the Richmond Library, the Richmond Building Committee, the Richmond Cultural Council, the Richmond Garden Club, the Richmond Record and our Library Trustees: Katherine Keenum, Nanci McConnell and Kathryn Wilson. You are all vital to our library community!

As always, I wish to thank the 2023 Richmond Library staff: Angeli Faggioni, John Mielke, Candy Mountain, Madelyn Ritrosky, Lily Rotenberg and Rosie Rotenberg. Lastly, I wish to thank Bob Hammer, our Building Facilities Manager, for all that he does on behalf of the library.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristin Smith
Library Director





FRIENDS OF THE RICHMOND LIBRARY

The Friends of the Richmond Library is a 501(c) (3) Ch. 180 tax exempt corporation whose sole purpose is to support and enhance library service at the Richmond Free Public Library by fundraising and volunteering.

As of the end of December 2023 we had seventy-nine members. The board meets annually in June. We also meet virtually via email to discuss projects and purchases for the library throughout the year.

The board members in 2023 were:

Candy Mountain	– President	Kathryn Wilson	– Clerk
Jan Hartford	– Vice President	Christine Grenoble	– Member at large
Nanci McConnell	– Treasurer	Melissa Roller	– Member at large

Our major focus this year was the purchasing of furniture for the new library. These purchases would not be possible without the contributions from our generous community members. With these contributions, we purchased window shades to protect the collection from harmful UV rays. We provided funds for the library’s new circulation desk. We bought new bookcases, tables and chairs. For the children’s area we bought a play kitchen and a cute reading bench. The YA area has a special rug and there are now colorful chairs, just for our teens.

We also purchased a case of bottled water, U.S. postage stamps and clear plastic storage boxes.

Other activities included purchasing seasonal raffle baskets. Every time a patron comes to the library, they have an opportunity to put a ticket in the can for a chance to “win” the seasonal basket. This is not a fundraiser but just a bit of fun for the library’s patrons.

This year we raised money by selling Richmond photo cards, 01254 hats, Deneen Pottery mugs, birdhouses built by a local craftsman, our annual membership drive, the sale of lunch bags donated by Blue Q and sales from our book sale area. It should be noted that now that the library is in its new space, there is no longer a book sale area. Also, thanks to the former Richmond Civic Association, we have copies of Richmond Massachusetts: The Story of a Berkshire Town and Its People by Katharine Annin to sell.

And, lastly, we sent financial support to the Richmond Garden Club to thank them for the lovely planters that they maintain in the front of the library and we supported the annual Library 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

Richmond Historical Commission is a requirement of the State Government, and we are appointed by the town selectmen to help promote the history and the houses and areas of Richmond. Also, to help identify the history of things that might not be known.

Richmond Historical Commission for the year 2023 has been a busy one even if we only held one meeting.

We as individual members have helped the community in many ways.

William Edwards and Gloria Morse did a program for Berkshire Community College, Olie, with John Dickson doing Berkshire County Towns. It was on the Richmond Furnace and the Early History of Richmond, Massachusetts, with photos.

First, several of us along with many volunteers set the flags at the many veterans' graves in our cemeteries for Memorial Day. Keeping track of our veterans is an ongoing project.

Several hours were spent with Bob Sackett on what documentation we had on the roads in town including Perry's Peak Road. This was a very long and informative project. We are very sorry to learn that Bob has passed way.

Several of us spent many days sorting and packing our files for the move to the new town hall. Then, there are days of unpacking and sorting and scanning many of these files to a more usable database. This is still a long way from being done and will require many more hours of work.

Late in the Summer William Edwards led a tour of the Furnace grounds, which included neighbors from the Furnace and several members of the Hancock Shaker Museum blacksmiths.

Gloria did a program for Berkshire Family History, Berkshire Athenaeum, with Angela Rifkin at Pittsfield Community TV, on the Early History of Richmond, Massachusetts, with photos.

We participated in two walks for the Upper Housatonic Valley, Heritage walks for 2023, in the early fall, one at Cone Hill Cemetery and the other at the Northeast Schoolhouse.

There was very lengthy planning for the moving of Richmond Grange's Albert Sterner, Grand Drape Curtain, from the old town hall to the new recessed wall at the New Municipal Building. This took many hours and phone calls and emails to find the right company and the right timing to accomplish this. This Grande Drape was painted for the Richmond Grange youth by Albert Sterner in the fall of 1939. It had graced the stage of the old town hall building for 84 years and is still in very good shape. Curtains Without

Borders, from Burlington, Vermont, under the direction of Christine Hadsel and her associate Mary Richardson, spent two days with volunteers, cleaning and retouching the linen fabric, stabilizing the sides of the curtain, and replacing the top sandwich board after Chris May and his men had removed it from the old Town Hall and it was taken to the new building. After all this was done Chris and his men rehung the Grande Drape and Scott Phelps and Ernest Smith added a trim board at the top to make it look better. The original down spout roller was kept and fashioned in place by brackets made by Chris May's crew. It looks wonderful in its new home, almost as if it was painted for that spot.

The town's weights and measures cabinet with the two sets of scales from the early 1900's was moved to the new Lobby by the Town Road crew, and has had some restoration work done on it.

Also, saving the Old Ballot Box and its memories, which wasn't that long ago, before electronic voting, and the original selectman's table from the 1923 Town Hall.

We are still picking away at the M.A.C.R.I.S. files on the many older homes, buildings, and objects for our Town's inventories. We still have a long way to go to complete this project.

I have answered many questions and requests for information on many topics and look forward to answering more.

Respectfully submitted,

Gloria Morse, Chair
Allison and William Edwards
Virginia C. Larkin
Melonie Masdea Dignum
Freda Pilson





HISTORICAL SOCIETY

2023 - Our Thirty First Year

OUR PURPOSE: *"To promote and foster a greater knowledge and appreciation of the history of the Town of Richmond, Massachusetts, through research, lectures, exhibits, acquisitions and preservation of historical materials, sites, and other means."*

At our annual meeting and election of officers we had two talks. Gloria Morse gave a history of Mount Ephraim and Yorktown Bill Edwards gave a talk on the Richmond Iron Works.

We now have installed the former 1937 Richmond Consolidated School Flagpole in front of the northeast school case that was at Bill and Judy Bullet's home on Dublin Road.

A flag will be flown on special occasions and when the school house is open for tours.

The northeast school house was open once a month throughout the summer for tours and a changing photo exhibit.

Kristin Smith organized a special after school tour of the northeast schoolhouse, which was well received. Open house tours will continue once a month in summer 2024.

We led 2 walks for the upper Housatonic National Heritage area. The northeast schoolhouse was open for tours and a walking tour of the Cone Hill Cemetery.

A large tree fell apart on our front lawn last summer. Kevin Holden's crew cut up and removed the larger pieces. A clean up crew led by Scott Phelps cleaned up the rest.

Society members and volunteers continue to place flags on veterans' graves for Memorial Day.

The stage curtain painted by local artist Albert Sterner was moved from the Old Town Hall to the New Town Hall with help of several of our members.

Thank you for your continued support of our society.

Respectfully submitted,

Officers:

William Edwards, President
Gloria Smith Morse, Vice President
Joyce Phelps, Treasurer
Janice Hartford, Secretary

Board Members:

Margaret McMahan, **Marty McMahan**,
Kristin Smith, **Carol Stephens**,
Stedman Stephens, **Virginia Larkin**



MUNICIPAL BUILDING COMMITTEE

The Building Committee spent the time from May 2022 until the end of 2023 working with our partners, P3, Caolo and Bienek Architects and David Tierney Construction, to complete the delivery of the new Town Hall and Library Building. The Committee met monthly through November 2023 and had our last meeting in January 2024. At that time the Committee recommended that the Board of Selectmen dissolve the Committee as its charge had been fulfilled.

The building received a statement of substantial completion at the end of September 2023 and the staff of the Town Hall and the Library moved in mid-October 2023 into the building as planned. A punch list of items was established, and the Town Hall staff worked with the contractor to complete required items.

The building construction schedule met the plan that was outlined and explained in last year's report.

The project funds which were allocated by the town were sufficient to complete the building and a modest amount of funds remained after the building was complete.

A contract has been signed by the town for a rooftop solar installation and it is scheduled to be installed by the end of July 2024.

The Committee was an excellent example of residents working together for the good of the town. All members expressed their appreciation for being part of this project.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Callahan, Chair
Stephanie Beling
Bob Gniadek
Mark Gross
Roger Manzolini
Chris May
Gloria Morse
Melissa Roller
Kristin Smith
Nate Steele
Dick Stover
Kathryn Wilson



PLANNING BOARD

The Planning Board reviewed two approval-not-required (ANR) subdivisions. In each case, two lots were created from one existing lot, all four having sufficient frontage and acreage to be in conformance with the zoning bylaw.

Two special permits were issued for ground-mounted solar arrays. These permits allowed the residential properties to install larger arrays than are allowed by-right in the zoning bylaw. These projects suggest that the size of allowable arrays might be inadequate; the Board may consider revising the zoning bylaw in the future.

Respectfully submitted,

Douglas Bruce, Chairman
Richard Bell
John Hanson
Katherine Keenum
Peter Lopez





POLICE CHIEF

In accordance with the Massachusetts gun control act of 1998, we, Deputy Chief Patrick Barry and I, processed 39 license applications between January 1, 2023, and December 31, 2023. We processed new and renewal license applications to all Richmond residents that applied. We currently serve about 275 active license holders.

We coordinated traffic details with other departments when the state police were unable to supply coverage. We handled all correspondence from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and other agencies, and tended to numerous other administrative matters.

We coordinated the staffing of election details with constables, and the posting of warrants. Many thanks to our constables for their support and cooperation in the posting of town warrants and their election day coverage.

Constables:
Eric (Rick) Latimer
John Ryan
Patrick Barry

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

We will gladly meet with any resident, as needed, to obtain permits, answer questions, or assist in any other way we can.

I look forward to continuing to serve Richmond as your chief of police.

Respectfully submitted,

William H. Bullett
Chief of Police





RECREATION COMMITTEE

The Richmond Recreation Committee (RRC) continued this year with members: Jeff Konowitch (Chair), Doug Bruce (Secretary), Mike Harke, Brad Havill and Andy Leeco. Our youth basketball program continues on Saturday mornings with growing numbers. We appreciate our coaches Tom Forstner and Pat Roney and their stalwart assistants. RCS started a volleyball clinic for Richmond students, both beginners and some that are more advanced. Also, before the basketball program started the RCS ran an additional 8-week program for some students. Andy Leeco is also running a lacrosse team and using the school fields or the indoor space in inclement weather.

We will soon begin planning the Ping Pong tourney this spring and a late spring running event.

Pickle Ball lines on the tennis courts are getting good use.

The RRC wants to encourage all to get out and take advantage of the beautiful outdoor spaces that the Town of Richmond has to offer. Once again, we received great collaboration with RCS and Principal Dr. Beth Choquette, the ever-helpful Natalie Gingras and of course Tammy Jervas the incredible chef of the school and the school custodian Tracey Bullett.

We would like to thank the Selectmen and School Committee for keeping our children safe throughout the year and helping us to run all of our programs.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeff Konowitch
Chairman





RICHMOND CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL

Richmond Consolidated School

I'm thrilled to share the incredible progress we've made at Richmond Consolidated School during my time as Superintendent this school year. It's been a fulfilling experience, and I feel incredibly blessed to work with such an amazing staff, dedicated students, and supportive families in this vibrant learning community.

Our focus on relationships, a multi-tiered system of support, and family and community engagement has yielded tangible results. We've successfully brought back beloved events like the Community Thanksgiving Dinner and Veterans Day Luncheon, witnessing the heartwarming support from our families and the community.

This year, we've introduced new programs to enrich our students' education, including intervention blocks, advisory time, and electives that allow them to explore a variety of different activities in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics. We've implemented a new reading curriculum across grades K-8 and introduced a new social studies and civics curriculum in our middle school.

Over the past two years, our commitment to Universal Design for Learning has ensured that all students have access to high-quality teaching, fostering an inclusive learning environment. We're dedicated to learning and implementing restorative practices and will continue our training and implementation to empower students to take ownership of their actions and strengthen relationships.

Our budget priorities are intricately tied to our school improvement plan, emphasizing the importance of supporting the budget to sustain and enhance the high-quality education we provide to our students. Your continued support will enable us to maintain these positive initiatives and further contribute to the success and growth of our school community.

Richmond is truly a special town with an exceptional school, and I'm grateful to be part of a learning environment that genuinely cares for all its students. I'm excited about the future and look forward to continuing to serve our students, families, and town with enthusiasm and dedication.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth N. Choquette, Ed.D



RICHMOND LAND TRUST

On a beautiful fall day, many Richmond residents gathered on the Haas farm to appreciate the lovely vistas over the fields to the south and west to the Taconic range. Volunteer bakers provided a variety of traditional New England pies, and the Richmond Land Trust thanked the Haas family for their generosity in protecting this open space with a Conservation Restriction. In a brief annual meeting Lauren Broussal was elected to the board of directors, a new leadership team was recognized with Rebecca Augur as president and Kerry Hamilton as vice-president. Chris Magee stepped down as president and Ruth Bass retired from the board; both deserve the gratitude of the town for their dedicated and effective service.

We are now into year four of attempting to resolve the legal challenges that Hollow Fields Reserve neighbors have raised in 2021. Their contention that recreation is not an allowed use of open space in Richmond was settled by the Town's overwhelming support at Town Meeting in 2022 of a zoning by-law amendment to make explicit the fact that recreation is allowed. The current attempt to limit access to Hollow Fields is the claim that Perry's Peak Road is a private road in spite of the fact that the Town has maintained the road and considered it public for more than a century. At the Select Board meeting on March 22, 2023, the Selectmen proposed mediation, involving the Town, Berkshire Natural Resources Council, and the neighbors in an attempt to come to a mutually acceptable agreement. We understand that the parties are continuing settlement discussions. Meanwhile, the trails are open to hikers. Recently, a memorial bench was placed at the spectacular Richmond Point vista to enhance the pleasure of those who trek to the top.

2023 marked success in preserving properties on both sides of the "cathedral" section of Swamp Road between Sleepy Hollow Road and the intersection with East Road. The first of the four properties comprising this pristine roadway was purchased with gifts of RLT supporters in 2000. The board of directors continue stewardship of 21 properties owned by the land trust and the ten conservation restrictions that it holds or co-holds. We are deeply grateful to our conservation partner Berkshire Natural Resources Council for the help and support they give to our all-volunteer organization.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Augur, President
Kerry Hamilton, Vice President
John Mason, Treasurer
Glenn Novak, Clerk



RICHMOND POND ASSOCIATION

For the convenience of members and the public, the RPA met using the Zoom format with good attendance, monthly from April through October. The RPA's annual meeting was held August 22nd, in person, and was hosted at Camp Arrow Wood. The attendees enjoyed a meal of tacos and ice cream and heard reports on initiatives.

The Pond was not treated again this year, partly due to a lack of response from Natural Heritage to questions regarding herbicide treatment. The goal is to have new permitting approved for 2024 which would include herbicide treatment, weed harvesting, and the annual lake draw down. The RPA, in collaboration with the Town and City of Pittsfield, is exploring hiring a consultant to help develop a comprehensive lake management plan and assist with permitting. Weed mapping of the pond was done in 2023, paid for by the City of Pittsfield.

RPA officer elections were held in the fall. This year Ken and Carl left their respective positions of president and treasurer on the Board of Directors. Ken will remain an active Board member as the representative for the independent cottages. Re-elected were Louise Brogan as vice president, Laura Rosenthal as treasurer, Jonna Gaberman as the assistant treasurer and Doreen Donovan as secretary. The elections concluded with a vacancy in the role of president. To increase the pool of potential candidates for officer positions, an amendment was made to the RPA Bylaws, "If one of the RPA officer positions remains unfilled, following outreach to all eligible/voting members of the RPA board, an alternate or ex officio member of the RPA board may be elected to fill the position, on an interim basis and would serve with voting authority."

Ongoing:

- RPA volunteers conducted tributary monitoring, with testing done twice this summer. All beaches are tested weekly by their contracted agencies, for E. coli. The E. coli and nitrate counts have been low, below the warning levels. Phosphates continue to be high in Clarks Brook, which promotes algae growth in the north western part of the pond.
- Cyanobacteria testing was done bi-weekly by the Lakes & Ponds Association of Western MA, paid for by the RPA. The levels for cyanobacteria have been well below the state threshold. Ongoing monitoring is again planned for 2024.
- The Town funded and managed the public boat ramp monitors. They were able to staff the boat ramp with sufficient monitors. There were no applicants for the lifeguard positions again this year. The beach opened without a lifeguard and the gate was locked at 6 pm. The beach was cleaner this year. The Town is working on

a solution to replace the deteriorated handicap access mat into the swim area.

- RPA's goose management plan was discontinued this year. There was no volunteer to manage the program.
- The Town worked with Camp Russell to restore the deteriorated detention basin at the camp.
- RPA board member Miles Garfinkel and Holly Stover have been working on removing purple loosestrife from around the pond and along Town Beach Road. This is a long range project to slow down the spread of this invasive plant.
- The RPA website and Facebook page were regularly updated. Bruce Whitman is managing the RPA website. He has updated the calendar and added live links. Pond updates were submitted monthly to Richmond Record.
- The annual "Developments at Richmond Pond" funding solicitation newsletter was distributed by mail in July.
- The picture book, *The Gem of Richmond - A History of Richmond Pond*, was a successful endeavor with 750 books published and over 600 sold. They remain for sale at Bartlett's. Books have also been donated to Richmond School. Ken has shared his experience with publishing the book with other lake organizations, to encourage similar efforts.

Respectfully submitted,

Louise Brogan, Vice President
Laura Rosenthal, Treasurer
Jonna Gaberman, Assistant Treasurer
Doreen Donovan, Secretary
Ken Kelly



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. The committee managed nine named scholarships in 2023. The 14 awards given totaled \$19,875.

Three awards were given from the Anita Chapman Scholarship Fund. A \$3,000 award was given to Noah Hoffman. The Thomas M. Mooney Scholarship in Memory of Barbara L. Morey in the amount of \$2,000, went to Lisa Krasii. An award for \$2,000 given to honor Founding Member Betty Bartlett, was awarded to Sara Rawson.

The Morray Award, given In Honor of Maze and Jerry Morray, was shared between Megan Mitchell and Seth Wyatt, with each receiving \$4,000.

The Sara MacDonald Scholarship, established in honor of a teacher who first taught at a one-room school in Richmond, and the Mildred Wheeler Memorial, named for a former Richmond Consolidated School art teacher, are both invested by the town and administered by the scholarship committee. Joe Weinberg received the \$750 MacDonald award and Jade Ling Garstang received the \$250 Wheeler award.

The Joyce C. Spence Award of \$300 was given to Evan Smith. A special thanks to the Richmond PTO for their continued support of this award. A \$375 William A. and Hazel B. Dickson Scholarship went to Peter Fiegel. Mrs. Dickson is remembered for her work in the Richmond Community Health Association.

The remaining scholarship funds are privately invested. Two scholarships of \$1,000 each were given by the Richmond Volunteer Fire Department/Malnati Family Fund. These went to Emily Roller and Nya Mielke. Two awards of \$500 each were given from the Helen and Harold Kingsley Memorial Scholarship and went to Ella Smith and Emily Erickson. Micah Kanz received the \$200 George Kingsley Scholarship. The Fire Department/Malnati awards are funded in part by proceeds from the annual chicken barbecue.

An awarding committee, made up of representatives from five Richmond civic organizations, chooses the winners for all of the scholarships. 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, with some consideration given for need.

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 for continued and generous support of these scholarships. We thank those of you who have contributed this past year as well, either directly or through the Scholarship Jug at Bartlett's Orchard.

In accordance with IRS regulations, donations made to the Anita Chapman Scholarship Fund, Inc. are tax deductible based on the organizations 501(c)(3) status as a public charity. More information is available from Elizabeth Gniadek, treasurer or from Jan Hartford.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Hartford
President





SCHOOL COMMITTEE

The Richmond Consolidated School Committee is composed of five members elected on a rotating basis for three-year terms at the Town Election each May. The school committee meets the second Tuesday of each month with school committee agendas and meeting minutes posted on the Richmond Town Information Board, Richmond Town and Richmond Consolidated School's web sites. Agendas are also posted 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting in the notice box outside town hall. School committee meetings were held via zoom this year.

Responsibilities of the Richmond School Committee include:

- * Evaluating the superintendent and principal
- * Supporting the superintendent and administrative/leadership team
- * Developing and overseeing the school budget
- * Advocating for the school system with citizens and the town government
- * Establishing policies in accordance with state law and regulations
- * Establishing a harmonious and productive relationship with the superintendent/principal by establishing two way communication
- * Champion wise decision making to foster and promote educational excellence

The Mission of the RCS School Committee is to support an educational environment that encourages positive self-esteem, critical thinking, responsibility, mutual respect, citizenship, and a lifelong love of learning.

The Richmond Consolidated School welcomes Richmond students and choice students by lottery, from preschool through eighth grade. RCS's commitment to academic achievement, social integration, and arts appreciation provides students with a solid, beneficial foundation for lifelong learning and success.

During 2023, the School Committee:

- * Continued updating RCS's policy handbook to align with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's policies
- * Continued reviewing and approving updates to the curriculum to meet MA standards
- * Supported the School Improvement Plan to promote academic achievement, equity in education and social-emotional learning
- * Met regularly with the newly established Civic Leaders' Group, consisting of a representative from the select board and financial planning board, Town Manager, RCS Business Administrator, Dr. Choquette, and School Board Chair to collaboratively develop a budget designed to meet the needs of RCS students while being fiscally responsible to tax payers



Dr. Beth Choquette was appointed to the dual leadership role of RCS Superintendent and Principal at the August 15, 2023, School Committee meeting. With a wealth of practical experience and multiple degrees and certificates, Dr. Choquette is committed to educational equity and excellence, where all children are successful regardless of their personal, social, or cultural contexts.

Dr. Choquette, a 24 year veteran in education with 18 years as a building leader, comes to Richmond from the Northampton Public Schools where she was principal for 10 years. Prior to that she was a PreK-8 principal in Vermont as well as an elementary music teacher in Adams, Massachusetts.

Dr. Choquette received her doctorate from Boston College in Educational Leadership. She received her MM in music performance at Michigan State University and her BA in music education and music performance from the Crane School of Music at the State University of New York-Potsdam.

The RCS School Committee is exceptionally honored to have Dr. Choquette serve as the Richmond Consolidated School's Superintendent and Principal.

Each year the Richmond School Committee encourages community members to attend School Committee meetings. Residents' input is valued.

Respectfully submitted,
Ina Wilhelm, Chair
Kimmie Leeco, Vice Chair
Nate Steele, Secretary
Dr. Karen Youdelman
Tom Forstner





TAX COLLECTOR UNAUDITED

The table below shows the outstanding receivables as of June 30, 2023 – the end of fiscal year 2023. These figures are drawn from the Collector’s records as of June 30, 2023.

Real Estate Taxes

Levy of 2023	\$126,190.57
Levy of Prior Years	\$5,926.07
Total	\$132,116.64

Personal Property Taxes

Levy of 2023	\$662.80
Levy of 2022	\$74.68
Levy of 2021	\$105.71
Total	\$843.19

Motor Vehicle Excise Taxes

Levy of 2023	\$13,876.67
Levy of 2022	\$4,172.94
Levy of 2021	\$1,537.70
Levy of Prior Years	\$2,919.91
Total	\$22,507.22

Sewer Betterment Quarterly Payments

Total outstanding for all levy years \$2,041,744.19

Sewer Operation & Maintenance Annual Payments

Total outstanding for all levy years \$5,971.83

Respectfully submitted,

Jodi Hollingsworth
Treasurer/Collector



TOWN CLERK

There was one Annual Town Meeting and one Annual Town Election.

May 17, 2023	Annual Town Meeting	49 out of 1248 voters attended (0.03%)
May 20, 2023	Annual Town Election	51 out of 1248 voters attended (0.04%)

I'd like to thank all of the election workers, constables, and the Board of Registrars for all their assistance for the election and town meetings that were held.

The clerk's office registered 8 births, 4 marriages, and 21 deaths in the Town of Richmond. We also licensed 250 dogs for the fiscal year. At the end of the fiscal year Richmond had 1249 registered voters and a total of 1509 residents. Thank you to our townspeople who responded to the Annual Street Listing/Census.

I could not do my job as your Town Clerk without the help of Assistant Town Clerk Claudia Ryan, Town Administrator Danielle Fillio and our Highway Superintendent Peter Beckwith and his staff for helping to keep our voting area safe to protect our workers and residents. I would have never been able to do it without them. We have a great team working for you at Town Hall.

It has been an honor to serve the Town of Richmond.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela Garrity
Town Clerk





TREASURER'S REPORT UNAUDITED

Beginning Balance 07/01/2022	\$ 5,722,369.50
Receipts	\$18,120,490.82
Payments	\$16,803,834.88
Ending Balance 06/30/2023	\$ 7,039,025.44

Outstanding Loans

Sewer Project	\$1,498,078.59
Library/Town Hall	\$7,095,000.00

Respectfully submitted,

Jodi Hollingsworth
Treasurer/Collector





TOWN ACCOUNTANT REPORT

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and Citizens of Richmond.

Following is the Town Accountant's Annual Report for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2023.

The Individual reports provided are listed below:

Unaudited Combined Balance Sheet

Expense Report

Revenue Report

Respectfully submitted,

Angela Garrity
Town Accountant



TOWN OF RICHMOND
Unaudited Combined Balance Sheet 07/01/2022 - 06/30/2023

	General Fund	Special Revenue Funds	Govern Grant Funds	Capital Project Funds	Sewer Fund	Trust Fund	Agency Fund	Long Term Debt Group
ASSETS								
Cash	1,482,147.13	1,154,786.09	339,531.20	1,684,093.73	986,685.31	1,353,390.43	38,509.03	0.00
Receivables	5,758.49	3,750.00	0.00	105,124.52	2,041,744.19	0.00	0.00	0.00
Property Taxes	134,840.11	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Allowance for Abate & Exempt	-67,423.37	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tax Liens	40,537.44	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Motor Vehicle Excise	22,507.22	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
A - User Charges / Liens	0.00	123,760.89	0.00	0.00	6,484.02	0.00	0.00	0.00
Amts Prov for Pay of Bonds	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	9,090,010.20
TOTAL ASSETS	1,618,367.02	1,282,296.98	339,531.20	1,789,218.25	3,034,913.52	1,353,390.43	38,509.03	9,090,010.20
LIABILITIES								
Other Liability	5,758.49	3,750.00	0.00	105,124.52	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Payroll Withholdings	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	14,026.58	0.00
Tailings	2,066.87	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,985.76	0.00
Der Rev Prop Tax	67,416.74	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Der Rev Tax Liens	40,537.44	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Der Rev MV Excise	22,507.22	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
L - User Charges / Liens	0.00	123,760.89	0.00	0.00	6,484.02	0.00	0.00	0.00
Bonds Payable	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,041,744.19	0.00	0.00	9,090,010.20
TOTAL LIABILITIES	138,286.76	127,510.89	0.00	105,124.52	2,048,228.21	0.00	16,012.34	9,090,010.20
FUND BALANCES								
Reserved for Encumbrances	638,374.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Reserved for Expenditures	404,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Designated	123.00	1,154,786.09	339,531.20	1,684,093.73	666,189.69	1,353,390.43	22,496.69	0.00
Undesignated	437,583.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	320,495.62	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL FUND BALANCES	1,480,080.26	1,154,786.09	339,531.20	1,684,093.73	986,685.31	1,353,390.43	22,496.69	0.00
TOTAL LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCES	1,618,367.02	1,282,296.98	339,531.20	1,789,218.25	3,034,913.52	1,353,390.43	38,509.03	9,090,010.20

TOWN OF RICHMOND
All Departments Revenue Report
7-01-22 to 6-30-23

General Property Taxes

Personal Property Tax	\$274,090.00
Real Estate Tax	\$5,583,422.04
Motor Vehicle Excise Tax	\$300,784.06
Interest on Taxes & Excise	\$33,250.94
Tax Title Redeemed	\$40,190.48
Sub-Total General Taxes	\$6,231,737.52

Permits & Fees

Fire Permits	\$2,734.00
Building Permits	\$27,282.00
Plumbing Inspector	\$3,432.00
Wiring Inspector	\$45.00
Board of Health Permits	\$11,900.00
Fire Arm Permits	\$750.00
Sub-Total Permits for Services	\$46,143.00

Other Charges & Miscellaneous

Tax Collector	\$8,520.04
Municipal Lien Fees	\$1,075.00
Earnings on Investments	\$29,429.08
Town Clerk	\$1,330.00
Dog Licenses	\$1,230.00
Zoning Board	\$50.00
Planning Board	\$210.00
Out of District Tuition	\$38,740.50
Miscellaneous Rev	\$96,176.69
White Good Collection	\$1,106.43
Other Dept Rev	\$680.00
Liquor License	\$275.00
Sub-Total Other Charges & Miscellaneous	\$178,822.74

Revenue From State (Cherry Sheet)

Charter School Tuition Reimbursement	\$36,438.00
Chapter 70	\$515,255.00
State Owned Land	\$20,588.00
General Govt. State Aid	\$129,433.50
Sub-Total State Revenue	\$701,714.50

Revenue from other Governments

Local Room Tax	\$25,658.18
Veteran's Reimbursement Benefits	\$6,159.00
Sub-Total other Governments	\$31,817.18

Total General Fund Revenues **\$7,190,234.94**

SEWER ENTERPRISE

Enterprise Revenue	
Sewer User Charges	\$49,785.58
Other Departmental Rev	\$183,850.23
Investment Income	\$1,633.39
Total Revenue	\$235,269.20

Stabilization Fund Balance As of 06/30/2022

Stabilization	\$432,084.85
Town Building Repair	\$99,039.81
Stabilization Fund Balance	\$531,124.66

TOWN OF RICHMOND
All Departments Expenditure Report
7-01-22 to 6-30-23

General Government

Treasurer

Treasurer / Collector Salary	\$62,422.30
Treasurer / Collector Expenses	\$13,905.35
Treasurer Tax Title Expenses	\$4,821.61
Sub-Total Treasurer / Collector	\$81,149.26

Selectmen

Selectmen Salaries	\$5,250.00
Selectmen Expense	\$1,043.23
Training	\$138.00
IT Services	\$17,795.98
Audit of Books	\$14,500.00
Sub-Total Selectmen	\$38,727.21

Town Administrator

Town Administrator Salary	\$84,872.00
Administrative Assistant	\$19,999.91

Town Administrator Expenses	\$2,705.95
Miscellaneous Expenses	\$290.94
Web Site Hosting	\$1,900.00
Town Report Expense	\$3,776.50
Longevity	\$10,921.24
Prior Year Invoices	\$1,313.28
Sub-Total Town Administrator	\$125,779.82

Town Accountant

Accountant Salary	\$59,485.03
Accountant Expense	\$1,659.89
Sub-Total Town Accountant	\$61,144.92

Assessors

Assessors Salary	\$2,400.00
Assessors Expenses	\$5,567.32
Assessors Contracted Services	\$39,715.00
Sub-Total State Revenue	\$47,682.32

Town Counsel

Town Counsel	\$32,087.30
Legal Advertising	\$5,134.16
Sub-Total Town Counsel	\$37,221.46

Town Clerk

Town Clerk Salary	\$16,391.32
Town Clerk Asst	\$5,463.96
Town Clerk Expenses	\$6,332.20
Elections & Voter Registration	\$6,569.01
Sub-Total Town Clerk	\$34,756.49

Conservation Commission

Con Comm Salary	\$21,559.26
Con Comm Expense	\$1,324.00
Sub-Total Conservation Commission	\$22,883.26

Planning Board/ZBA

Berkshire Reg Plan	\$1,168.61
Zoning Officer	\$4,232.04
Sub-Total Planning Board/ZBA	\$5,400.65

Town Hall

Town Building Maintenance	\$24,922.31
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Town Hall	\$28,647.85
Stationary & Office Supply	\$5,550.79
Office Equipment	\$19,442.59
Sub-Total Town Hall	\$78,563.54

Town Meeting Articles

Richmond Pond Ramp Monitors	\$11,107.50
Goose Pond	\$633.34
Technology Hardware	\$5,691.30
Monitoring Well	\$32,784.01
New Building	\$35,268.86
Church Lane	\$4,831.96
Storm water Assessment	\$33,163.88
Back Hoe	\$170,000.00
Pickup Truck	\$54,495.00
Sub-Total Special Articles	\$347,975.85

Education

School Salaries	\$2,202,448.00
School Expenses	\$1,765,148.05
Total Education	\$3,967,596.05

Total General Government Expenses **\$4,848,880.83**

Public Safety

Police Department	
Police Chief Salary	\$2,000.04
Police Dept Expense	\$1,144.40
Deputy Police Chief Salary	\$892.64
Constable Expenses	\$486.26
Sub-Total Police Department	\$4,523.34

Fire Dept/EMD	
Fire Chief/EMD	\$16,883.04
Fire Dept Expense	\$71,134.88
Fire House Rent	\$14,400.00
County Communications	\$13,908.92
Emergency Management	\$6,929.43
Sub-Total Fire Dept	\$123,256.27

Ambulance Dept

Ambulance Salary	\$75,776.72
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Ambulance Expense	\$44,363.74
Ambulance Intercept Charges	\$4,254.81
Sub-Total Ambulance	\$124,395.27

Building Inspector

Building Inspector Salary	\$7,902.96
Building Inspector Alt	\$360.00
Building Inspector Expense	\$3,295.00
Sub-Total Building Inspector	\$11,557.96

Animal Control

Animal Control Salary	\$5,000.04
Animal Control Expenses	\$158.51
Sub-Total Animal Control	\$5,158.55

Tree Warden	\$5,591.00
Dead & Diseased Trees	\$2,409.00
Total Public Safety Expenses	\$8,000.00

Public Works

Beach	
Town Beach	\$6,037.54
Sub-Total Total Beach	\$6,037.54

Highway Dept

Highway Salary	\$240,265.32
Overtime	\$26,167.41
Beaver Control	\$4,959.21
Machinery Maintenance	\$71,019.21
Road Construction	\$117,375.44
Road Maintenance	\$32,054.77
Town Garage	\$12,177.94
Gravel Roads	\$46,422.73
Private Roads	\$3,500.00
Fuel	\$37,277.36
Utilities	\$12,127.37
Winter Roads	\$139,911.26
Sub-Total Highway Dept	\$743,258.02

Sanitation

Rubbish Disposal	\$206,512.20
Sub-Total Sanitation	\$206,512.20

Cemetery Dept

Cemetery Supt Salary	\$9,318.00
Cemetery Expenses	\$1,119.51
Sub-Total Cemetery	\$10,437.51

Total Public Works Expenses **\$966,245.27**

Public Health

Board of Health

Board of Health Salaries	\$850.00
Board of Health Expenses	\$2,315.00
Board of Health Contracted Services	\$25,312.50
Sub-Total Board of Health	\$28,477.50

Veterans

Veterans Agent Salary	\$500.00
Veterans Aid	\$6,329.96
Memorial Day	\$60.00
Sub-Total Veterans	\$6,889.96

Council on Aging

COA Director	\$28,929.00
Council on Aging Expenses	\$2,522.88
Sub-Total Council on Aging	\$31,451.88

Total Public Health Expenses **\$66,819.34**

Culture And Recreation

Library	\$68,365.05
Library Rent	\$12,000.00
Recreation Committee	\$3,347.23
Historical Commission	\$523.61
Total Public Health Expenses	\$84,235.89

Debt Services

New Building Debt Payment	\$432,961.39
Total Debt Services Expenses	\$432,961.39

Unemployment/Insurance

Berkshire County Retirement	\$233,713.50
Group Insurance	\$122,616.75
Medicare - Town Share	\$47,814.72

Insurance & Bonding	\$128,871.80
Total Unemployment/Insurance	\$533,016.77

Total General Fund Expenditure	\$7,209,050.88
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Sewer Enterprise

Salaries	\$16,379.22
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Sewer Expenses	\$18,028.75
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Debt Payments	\$170,915.09
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Total Sewer Enterprise Expenditure	\$205,323.06
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TREE WARDEN

A number of trees were identified this year as a danger in the town ROW and were removed. The Emerald Ash Borer continues to be problematic for all Ash trees and each year we see more and more being removed as they rapidly decline which indicates that they may go the way of Elm and Chestnut, however, the Elm is attempting a comeback.

The climate has also affected many trees as the amount of rain continues to increase, expanding waterways, marshy areas and low lying spots, saturating the ground and in turn the nearby trees which may not be able to handle wet roots.

If you notice any trees in the Town Right of Way that may be stressed or dead please contact me at 441-7836.

Thank you to all the arborists who have helped in this endeavor as well as the Richmond Town Public Works Department.

Respectfully submitted,

Adam Weinberg
Richmond Tree Warden



2023
TOWN MEETING
WARRANTS





WARRANT FOR THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING



TOWN OF RICHMOND
MINUTES FOR
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
MAY 17, 2023



Noting there was a quorum, Moderator William Martin called the Annual Town Meeting to order at 7:30pm p.m at Richmond Consolidated School.. Moderator introduced the head table, Selectmen: Roger Manzolini, Neil Pilson, Alan Hanson, Town Clerk/ Town Accountant Angela Garrity, Town Administrator Danielle Fillio, and Town Counsel Elisabeth Goodman. Town Clerk Angela Garrity confirmed that the warrant was posted in a timely manner. The Moderator stated the meeting will go by the rules of Town Meeting Time. He also stated the rules of this meeting: approach the microphone and state name and address; only address the Moderator not the audience; non-voters need to make it known they are not voters before they speak;

[Consent Calendar- Articles 1-3)

Motion made and seconded.

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 FUND LIMITS. 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 spending limits of the revolving funds outlined below. 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 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 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. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*

Articles 1-3 Approved Unanimously

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 2023 amounts are shown for comparative purposes. Please see the Explanations section following this warrant for more information] *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*

Articles 4 Approved Unanimously

ARTICLE 5- To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$426,950 for the debt service payment for the New Town Hall Library Building

Articles 5 Approved Unanimously

ARTICLE 6- To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,216,573 for the support of the school. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*

Articles 6 Approved Unanimously

ARTICLE 7 - To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Certified Free Cash the sum of \$100,000 for the repaving of the School Parking lot. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*

Articles 7 Approved Unanimously

ARTICLE 8- To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Certified Free Cash the sum of \$100,000 for the purchase of a new loader *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*

Articles 8 Approved Unanimously

ARTICLE 9- To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Certified Free Cash the sum of \$65,000 for the purchase of a new pickup truck, sander and plow for new Full-time Facilities Maintenance/Highway Personnel. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*

Articles 9 Approved Unanimously

ARTICLE 10- To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Certified Free Cash the sum of \$55,000 to cover the cost of a fulltime employee for the ambulance. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*

Articles 10 Approved Unanimously

ARTICLE 11- To see if the Town will vote to transfer and appropriate the sum of \$120,000 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 County Ambulance 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. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*

Articles 11 Approved Unanimously

ARTICLE 12- To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds the sum of \$226,000 to operate the sewer enterprise fund. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*
Articles 12 Approved Unanimously

ARTICLE 13- To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Certified Free Cash the sum of \$20,000 to the reserve fund. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*
Articles 13 Approved Unanimously

ARTICLE 14 - ESTABLISH ADOPT OPED TRUST (MGL CH. 32B, S.20)
To see if the Town will vote to adopt and accept the provisions of Section 20 of Chapter 32B of the Massachusetts General Laws, as amended by Section 15 of Chapter 218 of the acts of 2016, establishing an Other Post-Employment Benefits Liability Trust Fund; to authorize the Board of Selectmen and Treasurer to execute a declaration of trust creating an expendable trust for the purpose of holding monies appropriated to such fund; to designate the Treasurer as the trustee of such trust; to authorize the transfer of any and all monies currently held for the purpose of paying retiree health and life benefits to such trust; and to authorize the trustee to invest and reinvest the monies in such fund in accordance with the Prudent Investor Rule established under Chapter 203C of the Massachusetts General Laws.
Articles 14 Approved Unanimously

ARTICLE 15- To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Certified Free Cash the sum of \$35,000 to the Other Post-Employment Benefits Liability Trust Fund, established under the provisions of M.G.L. Ch. 32B, Section 20. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*
Articles 15 Approved Unanimously

ARTICLE 16- To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Certified Free Cash the sum of \$2,500 for the conservation land fund. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*
Articles 16 Approved Unanimously

ARTICLE 17 - To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Certified Free Cash the sum of \$5,000 for a fuel emergency assistance program administered under a contract with Berkshire Community Action CoWlcll for the benefit of low-income Richmond residents. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*
Articles 17 Approved Unanimously

ARTICLE 18- To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Certified Free Cash the sum of \$5,000 for the treatment of weeds in Richmond Pond. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*
Articles 18 Approved Unanimously

ARTICLE 19- To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Certified Free Cash the sum of \$8,500 to preserve deteriorating vital records books. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*
Articles 19 Approved Unanimously

ARTICLE 20- To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Certified Free Cash the sum of \$4,000 to pay for tax title expenses. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*
Articles 20 Approved Unanimously

ARTICLE 21- To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Certified Free Cash the sum of \$4,000 to pay for the rent of the library for 4 months until we move into the new building. *(Recommended for Approval by the Finance Committee)*
Articles 21 Approved Unanimously

ARTICLE 22- To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter II Town Meeting Section 1. of the General Bylaws to move the annual election day to the day after the Town meeting so that the section reads; "The Annual Town Meeting shall be held at 7:30 p.m. on the third Wednesday of May for consideration and action on articles in the Annual Warrant. The Town Caucus shall be held on the fourth Monday of March. The election of town officers will be held on the day following the Annual Town Meeting. The polls shall be opened at 11 a.m. and closed at 7 p.m."
Articles 22 Approved Unanimously

ARTICLE 23- To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to acquire Church Lane for the purposes of public access and general municipal purposes by purchase, donation, eminent domain or otherwise, an easement or other real property interests in, on, over, across, under and along all or any portion of a parcel of land being described as set forth below: The layout consists of establishing a roadway location of existing Church Land and the extension of Church Land on the easterly side of the First Congregational Church of Richmond and is more fully described as follows:
The layout consists of establishing a roadway location of existing Church Land and the extension of Church Land on the easterly side of the First Congregational Church of Richmond and is more fully described as follows:

Beginning at a point on the July 25,1899 State Highway Layout (Layout No. 340) baseline of Route 41 shown on the plan hereinafter referred to as station 60+95.43 and extends thence line S 41°05'32" E 41.17 feet to the easterly sideline of the said July 25, 1899 baseline and being station 0+41.17 on the May 2023 baseline of Church Lane.

Thence N 12°11'40" E 20.47 feet to a pin in the northeasterly sideline of the said May 2023 Church Lane layout.

Thence following ten (10) courses and distances along the northeasterly sideline of the said May 2023 Church Lane Layout:

Thence S 41°05'32" E 179.83 feet to a pin being N 72°19'16" E 25.99 feet distance from station 2+00.24;

S 08°38'28" W 91.48 feet to a point, being S 71°47'55" E 16.73 feet distance from station 2+78.85;

S 27°45'41" W 84.32 feet to a point, being S 88°18'37" E 18.37 feet distance from station 3+68.46;

S 24°22'56" E 56.80 feet to a point, being N 80°06'35" E 17.04 feet distance from station 4+29.07;
S 82°08'11" E 42.84 feet to a point, being N 30°26'01" E 29.59 feet distance from station 4+81.74;
S 45°55'18" E 228.50 feet to a pin, being N 44°16'36" E 24.75 feet distance from station 7+03.65;
S 45°31'30" E 136.30 feet to a pin, being N 44°07'20" E 24.75 feet distance from station 8+40.02;
S 46°13'50" E 113.58 feet to a point, being N 43°54'17" E 24.75 feet distance from station 9+53.70;
S 45°57'37" E 489.56 feet to a pin, being N 45°26'07" E 24.76 feet distance from station 14+42.60; and
S 43°10'09" E 152± feet to a point, being S 79°25'08" E 41.86 feet distance from station 15+60.57; Said point being in the northerly assumed sideline of the Town Layout of Sleepy Hollow Road.

Thence N 79°25'08" W 41.86 feet along the said northerly assumed sideline of Sleepy Hollow Road to station 15+60.57 in the baseline of said May 2023 Church Lane Layout;

Thence N 79°25'08" W 41.86 feet along the said northerly assumed sideline of Sleepy Hollow Road to a point in the southwesterly sideline of the said May 2023 Church Lane layout;

Thence following eleven (11) courses and distances along the southwesterly sideline of the said New May 2023 Church Lane Layout:

Thence N 43°10'09" W 84± feet to a pin, being S 45°26'07" W 24.76 feet distance from station 14+42.60;

N 45°57'37" W 488.24 feet to a point, being S 43°54'17" W 24.75 feet distance from station 9+53.70;

N 46°13'50" W 113.77 feet to a point, being S 44°07'20" W 24.75 feet distance from station 8+40.02;

N 45°31'30" W 136.44 feet to a point, being S 44°16'36" W 24.75 feet distance from station 7+03.65;

N 45°55'18" W 225.23 feet to a pin, being S 30°26'01" W 19.24 feet distance from station 4+73.08;

N 53°21 '57" W 50.21 feet to a pin, being S 51°07'34" W 17.04 feet distance from station 4+29.07;

N 24°22'56" W 72.95 feet to a point, being N 88°18'37" W 18.37 feet distance from station 3+68.46;

N 27°45'41" E 94.91 feet to a point, being N 71°47'55" W 16.73 feet distance from station 2+78.85;

N 08°38'28" E 55.52 feet to a point, being S 86°43'41" W 16.86 feet distance from station 2+17.07;

N 15°11'07" W 26.39 feet to a point, being S 61°51'40" W 16.93 feet distance from station 1+83.41; and

N 41°05'32" W 126.14 feet to the point of ending thereof, on the easterly sideline of the aforesaid July 25, 1899 State Highway Layout (Layout No. 340) of Route 41, said point being S 12°11'40" W 20.58 feet distance from station 0+41.17 of the baseline location of said May 2023 Church Lane layout.

on such terms and conditions as the Select Board may determine; that a sum of money be raised and appropriated, transferred and/or borrowed to pay costs of acquiring the real property interests authorized

by this vote, including all costs incidental and related thereto; or take any other action relative thereto
Articles 23 Approved Unanimously

ARTICLE 24- To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to petition the Legislature to enact special legislation which provides that, notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, Steven Traver may be employed as Chief of the Fire Department of the Town of Richmond, subject to approval by the Select Board, until June 30, 2025 or until the date of his retirement, or until the Select Board vote not to reappoint him to this position in accordance with all applicable laws; provided, however, that he is mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of such position and provided that, if requested, Steven Traver shall be examined by an impartial physician designated by the Select Board to determine such capability, and provided that, deductions shall continue to be made from the regular compensation of Steven Traver under Chapter 32 of the General Laws, while he is employed as Chief of the Fire Department in accordance with all applicable laws, or take any other action in relation thereto.
Article 24 Approved by Majority Vote Opposed- 1

ARTICLE 25- To see if the Town will vote to initiate the process to aggregate electrical load pursuant to M.G.L. c. 164, § 134 and, further, to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has engaged in a process to establish a competitive market place through the restructuring of the electricity market; and

WHEREAS, citizens of Richmond have a substantial economic and social interest in terms of greater customer choice and opportunities for savings in this restructured market; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Richmond hereby finds that it may be in the interest of its citizens who are electric ratepayers, both residential and commercial/industrial, to develop and secure such approvals and enter into appropriate agreements with consultants, experts and attorneys in connection with the establishment and operation of an electricity aggregation plan.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Town of Richmond hereby:
Publicly declares its intent to become an aggregator of electric power on behalf of its residential and business electric customers and to reestablish such plan if its operation is suspended; and

To negotiate and enter into such contracts for power supply pursuant to the plan or services for such plan, with the understanding that if a power supply contract is executed, individual consumers would retain the option not to participate in the aggregation plan and, instead, to choose any electricity alternatives they desire and, further, to take such other action relative hereto as may be appropriate and necessary.

Articles 25 Approved Unanimously

ARTICLE 26 - Citizen Petition

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to acquire for the purposes of public access and general municipal purposes by purchase, donation, eminent domain or otherwise, an easement or other real property interests in, on, over, across, under and along all or any portion of a parcel of land being described as set forth below:

A certain parcel of land located northerly of State Highway (Route 41), in the Town of Richmond, County of Berkshire, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, being more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at a point on the northerly sideline of said State Highway (Route 41), at land now or formerly of Berkshire Meadow View, LLC, said point being the easterly most corner of the following described parcel, thence running;

Southwesterly on a curve to the left having a radius of Seven Hundred Eighty-Eight and 66/100 (788.66') feet and an arc length of Forty-Four and 07/100 (44.07') feet by the northerly sideline of said State Highway (Route 41) to a point, thence turning and running;

N 45°49'25" W a distance of One Hundred Sixty-Nine and Thirteen Hundredths (169.13) feet by land now or formerly of The Laurence D. Cohen Revocable Trust to a point on the southerly sideline of Perry's Peak Road, thence turning and running;

N 76°00'30" W a distance of Two Thousand Two Hundred Six and Eighty-Two Hundredths (2206.82) feet by the southerly sideline of Perry's Peak Road to a point on the easterly line of land of now or formerly Green Meads Farm Nominee Trust, thence turning and running;

N 14°51'20" E a distance of Forty (40.00) feet by land of now or formerly Green Meads Farm Nominee Trust to a point on the northerly sideline of Perry's Peak Road, thence turning and running;

S 76°00'30" E a distance of Two Thousand Two Hundred Eighty-Five and Twenty-Five Hundredths (2285.25) feet by the northerly sideline of Perry's Peak Road to a point on the southerly line of now or formerly Berkshire Meadow View, LLC, thence turning and running;

S 13°14'32" W a distance of Forty (40.00) feet by land of now or formerly Berkshire Meadow View, LLC, thence turning and running;

S 45°49'25" E a distance of One Hundred Eighteen and Eighty-Four Hundredths (118.84) feet by land now or formerly of said Berkshire Meadow View, LLC to the point of beginning.

Said parcel contains 97,183 square feet of land more or less.

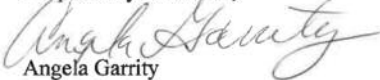
on such terms and conditions as the Select Board may determine; that a sum of money be raised and appropriated, transferred and/or borrowed to pay costs of acquiring the real property interests authorized by this vote, including all costs incidental and related thereto; or take any other action relative thereto.

Articles 26 Motion made by John Mason to Table and seconded by someone on the floor Approved Unanimously

Motion to adjourn the ATM was moved, seconded and approved by unanimous vote at 8:10 p.m.

A True Copy Attest:
July 6, 2023

Respectfully submitted,



Angela Garrity
Town Clerk

Total Registered Voters -1274

Total Voters that Attended - 49



WARRANT FOR THE SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

**TOWN OF RICHMOND
MINUTES FOR
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
OCTOBER 25, 2023**



Noting there was a quorum, Moderator William Martin called the Annual Town Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m at Town Hall Community Room at 1751 State Road. Moderator introduced the head table, Selectmen: Alan Hanson, Roger Manzoloni and Neil Pilson, Town Clerk/ Town Accountant Angela Garrity, Town Administrator Danielle Fillio, and Town Counsel Elisabeth Goodman. Town Clerk Angela Garrity confirmed that the warrant was posted in a timely manner. The Moderator stated the meeting will go by the rules of Town Meeting Time. He also stated the rules of this meeting: approach the microphone and state name and address; only address the Moderator not the audience; non-voters need to make it known they are not voters before they speak;

ARTICLE 1- To determine if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to transfer the care, custody, and control, and management of the following parcels of land from the Board of Selectmen for the purpose for which they are currently held, to the Board of Selectmen to be held for the purpose of disposal by sale or lease for the reason that the use as a Town Hall on this property is no longer needed by the Town.

The property described in a deed recorded with the Central Berkshire Registry of Deeds in Book 36, Page 36 and dated March 25, 1796.

After Discussion someone in the audience was concerned if the property does not sell the town should not lease. With further discussion the Board of Selectmen agreed to no Lease option.

TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY VOTE REQUIRED

Motion made by Roger Manzoloni to approve with no lease option and seconded by Alan Hanson.
Article 1 Approved by 2/3rds Majority Vote

ARTICLE 2- To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell, lease, or otherwise dispose of the following parcel of land pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 30B, Section 16 on such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen determine to be in the best interest of the Town; or take any other action relative thereto.

The property described in a deed recorded with the Central Berkshire Registry of Deeds in

Book 36, Page 36 and dated March 25, 1796.

Someone in the audience also requested that Art 1 should be applied to Art 2 regarding no lease option. Board of Selectmen agreed.

TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY VOTE REQUIRED

*Motion made by Alan Hanson to approve with no lease option and seconded by Neal Pilson
Article 2 Approved by 2/3rds Majority Vote*

ARTICLE 3- To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the stabilization fund a sum of money to install solar panels on the new Town Hall Library Building with the understanding that it will be repaid with reimbursement monies after installation.

TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY VOTE REQUIRED

*Motion made and seconded.
Article 3 Approved by 2/3rds Majority Vote*

Motion to adjourn the STM was moved, seconded and approved by unanimous vote at 6:00 p.m.

A True Copy Attest: October 30, 2023

Respectfully submitted,

Angela Garrity
Town Clerk
Total Registered Voters – 1265
Total Voters that Attended – 49





EMPLOYEE EARNINGS HISTORY

ALIBOZEK, DEBRA J	SCHOOL	TEACHER	100,300.59
ALLEN, THOMAS R.	FIRE	FIRE FIGHTER	1,260.00
BABICH, MEGAN E.	SCHOOL	PARAPROFESSIONAL	27,768.69
BAEHR SMITH, KRISTIN	LIBRARY	LIBRARIAN	27,188.75
BARRY, PATRICK F	POLICE	CONSTABLE	1,462.96
BARTLETT, CYNTHIA A.	SCHOOL	PARAPROFESSIONAL	24,467.25
BECKWITH JR., PETER C.	PUBLIC WORKS	HIGHWAY	83,283.63
BEEKER, ROBERTA	SCHOOL	SUBSTITUTE	3,565.00
BELL-DEVANEY, GEOFFREY	SCHOOL	SPED TEACHER	98,891.29
BENLIEN, MADISON	FIRE	AMBULANCE	280.00
BRAZIE, HORACE	PUBLIC WORKS	SEWER DEPT.	12,270.95
BRAZIE, PAUL R	PARKS AND RECREATION	BOAT RAMP MONITOR	2,265.00
BULLETT, TRACEY A.	SCHOOL	CUSTODIAN	47,117.26
BULLETT, WILLIAM H	POLICE	POLICE CHIEF	2,000.04
CALLAHAN, LISA R	SCHOOL	TEACHER	88,769.43
CAROLAN, CATRINA E	SCHOOL	LONG TERM SUBSTITUTE	49,338.44
CHOQUETTE, BETH N	SCHOOL	PRINCIPAL	116,749.92
COHEN, LAURENCE D	BOARD OF HEALTH	BOARD OF HEALTH	85.00
COELLO, CHRISTOPHER A	SCHOOL	NIGHT CUSTODIAN	6,443.00
CONDON, DAVID W	PARKS AND RECREATION	BOAT RAMP MONITOR	3,090.00
COOKE-VANBRAMER, ALEXIS R	FIRE	FIREFIGHTER/EMT	7,153.00
CRERAR, SUZANNE M	ELECTIONS	ELECTIONS	65.25
CZERWINSKI, ROBERT K.	FIRE	FIRE	1,180.00
DAIGLE, JEFFREY	ASSESSORS	ASSESSOR	1,200.00
DESANTIS, KATHERINE	FIRE	FIRE	200.00
DICROCE, THOMAS J	FIRE	FIREFIGHTER	680.00
DRAKE, JOHN MICHAEL	POLICE	ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER	5,000.04
DUFFY, HAYLEY	FIRE	AMBULANCE	1,020.00
DUVAL, BRIAN P	INSPECTORS	ALTERNATE BUILDING	360.00
EDELMAN III, L. WILLIAM	FIRE	FIREFIGHTER	1,500.00
EVANS, DEBORAH	LIBRARY	LIBRARY	204.03
EVANS, SHEPLEY W.	CONSERVATION	CONSERVATION COMM.	21,559.26
FABER, CHRISTINE M.	COUNCIL ON AGING	COA FITNESS INSTRUCTOR	2,310.00
FAGGIONI, ANGELI T	LIBRARY	LIBRARY AIDE	3,749.63
FANCHER, TRACY	SCHOOL	TUTOR	1,700.00
FERRY-DEAN, MARCELLA A	SCHOOL	PARAPROFESSIONAL	7,010.00
FILLIO, DANIELLE V.	EXECUTIVE	TOWN ADMINISTRATOR	87,827.88
FISHER, ANDREW	BOARD OF HEALTH	BOARD OF HEALTH	255.00

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FLYNN, EDWARD M.	PUBLIC WORKS	HIGHWAY DEPT.	60,499.39
GARDNER, BROOKLYN H	SCHOOL	BUS MONITOR	363.00
GARRITY, ANGELA B	FINANCE	TOWN ACCOUNTANT	76,376.35
GENNARI, ROBERT L	INSPECTORS	GAS INSPECTOR	4,767.00
GINGRAS, NATALIE	SCHOOL	PRINCIPAL'S ADMIN. ASST.	43,660.02
GLASS, DIANA L	SCHOOL	SUBSTITUTE	15,313.48
GREENE, PAUL	INSPECTORS	BUILDING INSPECTOR	12,135.00
GREGORY, JULIA A.	SCHOOL	TEACHER	56,719.78
GRIZEY, THOMAS G	PUBLIC WORKS	SEWER DEPT.	14,118.27
HALLOCK, JAMES L	FIRE	FIRE FIGHTER	60.00
HANAVAN, RUTH E	SCHOOL	SUBSTITUTE	562.50
HANSON, ALAN	EXECUTIVE	SELECTMEN	1,750.00
HARTFORD, JANICE A	ELECTIONS	ELECTION WORKER	116.00
HERNANDEZ, ENOC ELEAZAR	FIRE	FIREFIGHTER	760.00
HOLCOMB, TRACY L	SCHOOL	SPEECH PATHOLOGIST	94,927.85
HOLLINGSWORTH, JODI	TAX COLLECTOR	TREASURER	34,865.88
HOLM, CHRISTOPHER M.	FIRE	FIREFIGHTER	60.00
HOSLEY, KIMBERLY J	SCHOOL	TEACHER	94,302.65
HOUSMAN, DAVID J	SCHOOL	PARAPROFESSIONAL	11,144.57
HUGHES, AMANDA L	FIRE	FIREFIGHTER/EMT	210.00
JERVAS, TAMMY J	SCHOOL	SCHOOL LUNCH	49,833.42
JEZAK, JESSICA R.	SCHOOL	PARAPROFESSIONAL	29,168.97
JONES, JEANNE L	SCHOOL	TEACHER	78,227.76
KANZ, RACHEL J	SCHOOL	TEACHER	100,979.35
KEATING, RYLEIGH S	SCHOOL	SCHOOL LUNCH	17,863.75
KNOX, JEREMY A. B.	FIRE	FIREFIGHTER	20.00
KOHLER, ROGER L.	SCHOOL	TEACHER	84,210.26
KOKOEFER, SHARON M	SCHOOL	OCCUPATIONAL	4,686.52
KORTE, HALEY ANN THOMAS	SCHOOL	TEACHER	53,950.77
KUSTER, KIMBERLEY	SCHOOL	TEACHER	74,995.45
LAMKE, DEVIN J	SCHOOL	OCCUPATIONAL	21,230.84
LARMON, ANDREA L.	SCHOOL	AUTISM SPECIALIST	350.00
LATIMER, ERIC	PUBLIC WORKS	HIGHWAY DEPT.	11,024.75
LEBEAU, PHYLLIS	SCHOOL	SECRETARY	31,849.69
LEGERE, ELIZABETH	SCHOOL	SPANISH TEACHER	36,895.91
LEIGHTON, KEVIN	PARKS AND RECREATION	BOAT RAMP MONITOR	1,530.00
LENFEST, CRISTINA M.	SCHOOL	SCHOOL NURSE	66,570.01
LISI, JESSICA L.	TOWN	TOWN CUSTODIAN	10,920.00
LISI JR., PAUL A	FINANCE	TREASURER	34,197.34
LONG, SUSANNAH P.	SCHOOL	NURSE SUBSITURE	1,725.00

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LUCAS, PAUL A	PARKS AND RECREATION	BOAT RAMP MONITOR	4,072.50
MACDONALD, PAMELA	SCHOOL	FRENCH TEACHER	31,056.57
MANZOLINI, ROGER W	EXECUTIVE	SELECTMEN	1,750.00
MARCANTEL, CRYSTAL	FIRE	EMT	770.00
MARON, LOUISE	BOARD OF HEALTH	BOARD OF HEALTH	255.00
MIELKE, JOHN V	LIBRARY	LIBRARY	3,460.31
MORSE, GLORIA D	ELECTIONS	ELECTIONS	556.50
MORSE, LAWRENCE P.	FIRE	FIRE	70.00
MOUNTAIN, CANDACE F	LIBRARY	LIBRARY	9,403.00
MUIR, SCOTT M	FIRE	EMT	25,345.00
MULHOLLAND, PAUL H	SCHOOL	CAFETERIA	411.23
MULLEN, JOY C	SCHOOL	MUSIC TEACHER	103,078.48
NAVIN, ROBERT E	FIRE	FIRE	460.00
O'DONNELL, ANNA M.	SCHOOL	TEACHER	69,639.18
OSTRANDER, HEATHER M.	SCHOOL	SCIENCE TEACHER	95,099.30
PARSONS, STEPHEN	CEMETERY	CEMETERY SUPER.	9,318.00
PERKINS, HEATHER G.	FIRE	FIREFIGHTER	9,150.00
PERKINS, KIMBERLY	FIRE	AMBULANCE	100.00
PHELPS, JOYCE E	ELECTIONS	ELECTIONS	541.50
PILSON, NEAL H.	EXECUTIVE	SELECTMEN	1,750.00
PORTER, CHRISTOPHER P	FIRE	FIRE	2,600.00
RACE, RONALD J	SCHOOL	BUS MONITOR	7,725.00
RENFREW, SHARON	SCHOOL	TEACHER	99,393.19
RITROSKY-WINSLOW, MADELYN M	LIBRARY	LIBRARY	2,179.13
ROMANO, GILL L.	SCHOOL	TEACHER	86,202.73
RONEY, ERRIN M	SCHOOL	PARAPROFESSIONAL	29,074.63
ROTENBERG, LILLIAN V	LIBRARY	LIBRARY	2,754.00
ROTENBERG, ROSELYN	LIBRARY	LIBRARY AIDE	270.00
RYAN, CLAUDIA A.	EXECUTIVE	ADMIN. ASSISTANT	25,963.87
RYAN, JOHN J.	POLICE	CONSTABLE	302.25
RYAN, MICHAEL J	ELECTIONS	ELECTIONS	275.50
SABOURIN, JULIA B.	SCHOOL	TEACHER	34,772.01
SCHWARTZ, LISA J	SCHOOL	PARAPROFESSIONAL	25,463.34
SCOTT, AMY M.	SCHOOL	ADMINISTRATIVE	42,186.56
SEARING, TRAVIS L	PUBLIC WORKS	HIGHWAY	56,262.23
SEGAL, ANTHONY	BOARD OF HEALTH	BOARD OF HEALTH	255.00
SENER KEEFNER, MARGUERITE	SCHOOL	CAFETERIA	19,643.14
SHOOK, MARY E.	SCHOOL	SPED TEACHER	49,862.28
SILVAGNI, CHRISTOPHER A	FIRE	FIRE	980.00
SILVEIRA, MANUEL E	SCHOOL	CUSTODIAL HELP	18,783.23

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SMITH, BRETT J	PUBLIC WORKS	HIGHWAY	56,068.73
SMITH, ELIZABETH T	SCHOOL	TEACHER	91,453.93
SMITH, ERIC N	FIRE	FIRE	1,480.00
SMITH, MICHELLE	SCHOOL	TEACHER	94,618.98
SOLDATO, JACOB M	FIRE	FIREFIGHTER/EMT	22,683.00
STENGLE, JOANNA H	ELECTIONS	ELECTIONS	138.50
STORIE, MICHAEL	FIRE	FIRE	200.00
SUPRANOWICZ, RAYMOND	ASSESSORS	ASSESSOR	1,200.00
TRAVER, STEPHEN H	FIRE	Fire Chief	16,883.04
TURCZAK, RICKY	PARKS AND RECREATION	BOAT RAMP MONITOR	450.00
WATERMAN-SPTIZER, KIMBERLY	SCHOOL	CAP PROGRAM	1,932.00
WEEDEN, ERIN M	SCHOOL	PARAPROFESSIONAL	28,645.00
WENTWORTH, DOUGLAS S.	SCHOOL	SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST	91,852.75
WESTON, DANIEL JAY	SCHOOL	PRINCIPAL	20,996.16
WHITE, AUSTIN M.	FIRE	EMT	10,840.72
WINTER, MICHAEL J	FIRE	FIREFIGHTER	680.00
WOJTKOWSKI, SANDRA J	SCHOOL	PARAPROFESSIONAL	30,203.37
WYATT, DAVID M.	FIRE	FIRE FIGHTER	3,135.00
ZIGMAND, RONNA E.	SCHOOL	TEACHER	100,568.73
	Number of Records	137	3,517,777.39