

EXPLANATIONS
2019 Annual Town Meeting Warrant

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 2020 budget, including the operation of the sewer system, the ambulance, and several proposed capital improvements, is \$7,288,399, or an increase of 4.3% (\$300,663). The Selectmen and the Finance Committee continue to present to you a balanced budget that does not rely on the use of reserves to fund operational costs while providing the services residents expect from town government. Highlights of this year's budget include funding for the replacement of our Ambulance, a new storage shed to house our rescue boat at the Richmond Pond, some new Highway Department equipment and upgrades, upgraded HVAC controls at the School, and continued funding of the OPEB trust fund, just to name a few. This year's budget includes a 3% salary increase for all non-school employees as well as increases in our pension assessment. However, once again you will see that many of our non-salary related line items have been level funded (or even reduced in some cases) from their Fiscal Year 2019 levels. The School Committee's Fiscal Year 2020 request from the town budget is \$3,499,554, an increase of \$170,275, or 5.1% over total school appropriations in Fiscal Year 2019.

The proposed Fiscal Year 2020 Sewer Budget is \$225,000, which is level-funded from Fiscal Year 2019. This budget funds the costs of operating the system as well as debt payment associated with the system's design and construction. 100% of these costs are borne by the users of the system.

The article for the school bond payment (\$146,200) continues to reflect the reduced payment resulting from the refinancing of the school debt. This year's payment represents the ninth payment in the ten-year repayment schedule for the \$1.2 million borrowed to retire older bonds.

The breakdown of the revenues that will be required to meet the proposed expenditures for Fiscal Year 2020 are as follows:

	<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>Percentage of Total Revenue</u>
Real and Personal Property Taxes (Tax Levy)	\$5,281,129	72%
Non-Property Tax (State Aid, Local Receipts, Other)	\$2,007,270	28%
Total	\$7,288,399	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 2019 was \$165,547.

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.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

1. Assessors Salaries: \$3,600 - These are the annual salaries of the Assessors with \$1200 per Assessor. No change from Fiscal Year 2019.
2. Assessors Expenses: \$18,700- This account pays for the Assessors' office supplies, map updating, contracted services, software licenses, and other expenses. No change from Fiscal Year 2019.
3. Assessor Contracted Services: \$38,200- This account pays for the contract between the Town

and Regional Resource Group (a private contractor), for the Assessing services it provides to the Town. This is year three of a three-year contract.

4. Audit: \$15,000- To be used to fund the annual audit of the town's books using the town's outside auditor, Thomas P. Scanlon, CPA. No change from Fiscal Year 2019.

5. Moderator Salary: \$500- The Moderator is entitled to a \$500 salary in FY20.

6. Selectmen Salaries: \$5,250- These are the annual salaries of the Selectmen at \$1,750 per Selectman. No change from Fiscal Year 2019.

7. Selectmen Expenses: \$4,500- This account pays for meetings, mileage, trainings, dues, and other expenses of the Selectmen. No change from Fiscal Year 2019.

8. Town Clerk Salary: \$20,000- This is the salary line for the Town Clerk, who is the town's official record keeper and license issuer. Reduced by 7.1% this year to more accurately reflect the needs of the Town at this time.

9. Town Clerk Expenses \$8,670- This pays for software licensing, maintenance of voting machines and poll pads, mileage, dues, and other Town Clerk expenses. No change from Fiscal Year 2019.

10. Treasurer Salary: \$56,823- This is the base annual salary of the contracted Treasurer, who manages the town's financial transactions, provides benefits management for all employees including payroll, and oversees properties placed in Tax Title. This figure includes a 3% increase.

11. Treasurer's Expenses: \$5,300- This account pays for meetings, conferences, mileage and other expenses of the Treasurer. This account was increased by \$2,800 for Fiscal Year 2020 to cover the cost of mandatory ACA reporting and consulting.

12. Town Accountant Salary: \$54,436- This is the annual salary of the Town Accountant, who maintains the town's accounts, prepares the weekly warrant that the Selectmen sign to approve payment of the town's bills, and who files regular reports with the Department of Revenue. This figure includes a 3% increase.

13. Town Accountant Expenses: \$1,500- This account pays for training, meetings, mileage, and other expenses of the Town Accountant. No change from Fiscal Year 2019.

14. Tax Collector Salary: \$15,914- This is the annual salary of the Tax Collector, who collects all real and personal property, motor vehicle excise taxes and sewer fees. This figure includes a 3% increase.

15. Tax Collector Assistant Salary: \$6,500- This is the base salary for the Assistant to the Tax Collector, who assists the Tax Collector with some of the basic functions of the collector's office including database management, and the collection of taxes. This salary line is being increased by \$2,500 for additional hours.
16. Tax Collector Expenses: \$15,500- This is for postage, stationery, training, mileage, and other costs of the Tax Collector. It has been increased by \$300 this year to cover the increase in cost of our Collector software licensing and support (including Sewer Betterments).
17. Administrative Assistant: \$16,614- This is the annual salary of the Administrative Assistant, who answers the phones at Town Hall, assists residents, and serves as general clerical staff. This figure includes a 3% increase.
18. Town Counsel: \$30,000- This amount is used for Town Counsel and Special Town Counsel services, who advise and defend the town in legal matters. This line has been increased by \$12,500 this year to more accurately reflect the cost of legal counsel in recent years.
19. Town Report: \$5,000- This is the cost of printing the annual town report. This line was reduced by \$2,500 from Fiscal Year 2019.
20. Town Hall: \$27,500- This account pays for utilities, routine maintenance, cleaning, septic pumping, and other goods and services at the Town Hall. This account was increased by \$2,500 from Fiscal Year 2019 to more accurately reflect the cost of operating our Town Hall and pumping our new septic tanks on a regular basis.
21. Elections and Board of Registrars: \$6,600- This account pays for the expenses involved in conducting elections, registering voters, and maintaining the street list. No change from Fiscal Year 2019.
22. Town Administrator/Assistant Town Clerk Salary: \$83,000- This is the annual base salary of the Town Administrator, who oversees the day-to-day operations at Town Hall, supervises Town Hall and Sewer personnel, serves as the Harbormaster, the Sewer Administrative Officer, and the Assistant Town Clerk. Work related to the oversight of sewer operations is compensated from the sewer enterprise budget. This is a contracted position.
23. Town Administrator Expenses: \$3,000- This account pays for meetings, conferences, mileage and other expenses of the Town Administrator. This account has been increased by \$800 to more accurately reflect the expenses of the Town Administrator.
24. Conservation Commission: \$4,078- This account pays for meetings, conferences, mileage, supplies and other expenses of the Conservation Commission. This account has been increased by \$1,578 to cover the cost of new/newer member training/certifications, updated regulation trainings, and technical seminars.

25. Conservation Agent: \$21,218- This line item is to fund the services of the Conservation Agent. No change from Fiscal Year 2019.

26. Historical Commission: \$500- This account pays for copying, membership, meetings and other expenses of the Historical Commission. No change from Fiscal Year 2019.

27. Planning Board: \$285- This account pays for annual subscriptions, meetings, and other expenses of the Planning Board. No change from Fiscal Year 2019.

28. Recreation Committee: \$3,750- This account pays for the various recreation programs offered by the town, except for the Town Beach, which is operated by the DPW and funded under a separate line item. The committee also has access to a type of revolving fund that allows it to receive and expend program fees. No change from Fiscal Year 2019.

29. IT Services: \$23,000- This account is for our contracted IT services. It covers the expenses related to server maintenance and support, workstation maintenance and support, and overall IT support for all town owned buildings. This line was increased by \$2,400 over Fiscal Year 2019.

30. Technology Hardware: \$10,000- This account is used to pay for the replacement and/or repair of workstations, copiers, printers, etc., in all town owned buildings. No change from Fiscal Year 2019.

31. COA Director/Administrative Assistant-\$26,473- This is the annual salary for the Council on Aging Director/Administrative Assistant position. The Administrative Assistant provides office support to the Town Administrator, Treasurer, Board of Health, as well as others as needed.

32. Council on Aging: \$4,722- This account pays for the various programs offered by the COA, including senior lunches, health programs and the van program. No change from Fiscal Year 2019. The council also receives funding from a state grant and has access to a revolving fund.

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

34. Veterans' Agent Salary: \$2,250. This is the annual salary for the Town's Veterans' Agent, now contracted through the City of Pittsfield. No change from Fiscal Year 2019.

35. Website Hosting: \$1,900. This is the annual cost of hosting our Town's website and includes technical support. No change from Fiscal Year 2019.

PROTECTION OF PERSONS AND PROPERTY

36. Police Chief Salary: \$1,830- This is the annual salary of the Police Chief, who issues firearms

permits, arranges traffic details, and other matters. This line was reduced by \$1,216 to fund a new Deputy Chief position in the coming fiscal year. This will allow us to have coverage during the Chief's winter absence.

37. Deputy Police Chief Salary: \$1,300 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. This is a newly created position for FY20.

38. 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 2019.

39. County Communications: \$12,729- This account pays Richmond's share of the Berkshire County Sheriff's Department to operate the 911 emergency dispatch system. This is a \$369 increase from Fiscal Year 2019.

40. Constable Salaries: \$1,327- This is the salary account from which we pay the Constables if they are needed to direct traffic or for performing similar duties on Town owned Roads. This is a \$39 increase over Fiscal Year 2019.

41. Constable Expenses: \$1,500- This account pays for Constable mileage, shirts, radios, and other expenses. This account was increased by \$250 over Fiscal Year 2019.

42. Animal Control Officer Salary: \$3,201- This is the annual salary for the Animal Control Officer. 3% increase from Fiscal Year 2019.

43. Animal Control Officer Expenses: \$1,000- This pays for snares, gloves, rabies shots, boarding of animals and other expenses of the Animal Control Officer. No change from Fiscal Year 2019.

44. Fire Department: \$61,514- This account pays for fuel, truck and equipment maintenance, training, stipends and other expenses of the Fire Department. No change from Fiscal Year 2019.

45. Fire House Rent: \$14,400- This account pays the rent to the Trustees of the Volunteer Fire Department for use of the building. No change from Fiscal Year 2019.

46. Emergency Management: \$5,900- This account pays for equipment and supplies for this department, which provides assistance and direction during natural disasters, storms and other emergencies. No change from Fiscal Year 2019.

47. Fire Chief/EMD Salary- \$15,450. This is the annual salary of the Fire Chief/EMD which is a part-time, non-benefit eligible position. 3% increase from Fiscal Year 2019.

48. Tree Warden: \$7,500- These funds are used for contracting with a tree service to remove

problem trees. No change from Fiscal Year 2019.

49. Building Inspector Salary: \$7,232- This is the Building Inspector's annual salary. He has office hours the first, second and fourth Wednesdays of the month from 9:30AM-11AM and is available on call. This is a 3% increase from Fiscal Year 2019.

50. Building Inspector Expenses: \$4,500- This account pays for training, expenses and mileage of the Building Inspector and Assistant. No change from Fiscal Year 2019.

51. Assistant Building Inspector: \$300- This is the annual salary of the Assistant Building Inspector, who fills in if the Building Inspector is not available or has a conflict of interest. This represents a \$42 increase from Fiscal Year 2019.

52. Zoning Enforcement Officer Salary: \$3,872- This is the annual salary of the ZEO, who ensures that building projects and proposed uses conform to the Zoning Bylaw. He holds office hours on the first, second and fourth Wednesdays of the month from 9:30AM -11AM and is available on call. 3% increase over Fiscal Year 2019.

53. Zoning Enforcement Officer Expenses: \$1,000- This account pays for meetings, mileage and other expenses of the ZEO. No change from Fiscal Year 2019.

54. Inspection Services: \$100- This is for inspections by the plumbing, wiring, gas and oil burner inspectors and their alternates on projects, such as town projects, where there is no fee tendered. They receive \$30 per inspection. All other compensation for the inspectors comes from the revolving inspection account, where fees for services are paid to the town and are turned around and paid to the inspectors. No change from Fiscal Year 2019.

HEALTH

55. Board of Health Salaries: \$850- This is the annual salary account to be divided among five board members. No change from Fiscal Year 2019.

56. Board of Health Expenses: \$2,095- This account pays for meetings and other expenses of the Board of Health. No change from Fiscal Year 2019.

57. Board of Health Agent Salary: \$4,800- The Board of Health Agent witness' perc tests, tracks the solid waste collection program, and serves as the principal staff person for the Board of Health. No change from Fiscal Year 2019.

58. Board of Health Agent Expenses: \$1,140- This pays for the mileage, supplies and other expenses of the agent. No change from Fiscal Year 2019.

59. Board of Health Contracted Services: \$11,500- This account is being increased by \$8,500 this

year to cover the cost of additional inspectional services provided to the Board of Health by the Berkshire Public Health Alliance. The BPHA provides regular food service and camp inspections throughout Town.

60. Animal Inspector: \$211- This pays for the salary of the Animal Inspector, who performs the annual farm animal census and also is responsible for the quarantine of animals suspected of having rabies. 3% increase over Fiscal Year 2019.

61. Rubbish Disposal: \$184,340- This account pays for the collection and disposal of the town's garbage and recyclables, as well as participation in the regional Household Hazardous Waste collection days. This is a \$7,318 increase from Fiscal Year 2019 due to an increase in the contracted amount for trash collection and HHW fees.

62. Community Health: \$25,750- This account funds the contract between the Community Health Association and the Town for Public Health Nurse Services. This is a \$250 increase over Fiscal Year 2019.

63. Nuisance Abatement: \$500- This account provides funds to address public health matters that are an immediate threat to public health and safety. No change from Fiscal Year 2019.

HIGHWAYS

64. Machinery Maintenance: \$57,500- This account pays for the upkeep and repair of equipment and trucks. No change from Fiscal Year 2019.

65. Road Construction: \$125,000- This account, combined with state transportation bond funds, pays for road construction and re-construction. No change from Fiscal Year 2019.

66. Road Maintenance: \$166,424- This account pays for routine road maintenance, including the cost of DPW salaries from April 1st-November 1st. This account was reduced by \$5,180 from FY19.

67. Town Garage: \$19,478- This account pays for fuel, utilities and other expenses at the Town Garage. No change from Fiscal Year 2019.

68. Winter Roads: \$267,058- This account pays for the plowing and sanding of the roads, including the costs of salt and sand, diesel fuel and the salaries of the DPW crew during the winter months. This represents an increase of \$3,385 over Fiscal Year 2019.

69. Gravel Roads: \$55,000- This account pays for the maintenance of the gravel roads. No change from Fiscal Year 2019.

70. Vacation and Sick Pay: \$30,112- This account is used to pay the road crew when they are sick or on vacation. This represents an increase of \$14,150 from Fiscal Year 2019 to cover a retirement sick pay buyout if required during the coming year.

71. 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 2019.

72. Beaver Control-\$3,500- This is the account to handle the beaver related problems that the town has had in recent years. Much of this funding pays for an agreement with a contractor to maintain several water control devices in water bodies where beavers have set up housekeeping. No change from Fiscal Year 2019.

73. Town Beach: \$15,600- This account pays for the lifeguards and equipment costs involved in running the Town Beach. This represents an increase of \$5 over Fiscal Year 2019.

UNCLASSIFIED

74. Berkshire County Retirement: \$206,034- This account is Richmond's share paid to the Berkshire County Retirement System to cover the town's municipal employees. Teachers are covered under a separate retirement system administered by the state. This is a \$33,483 increase from Fiscal Year 2019 due to an increase in the annual assessment.

75. Berkshire Regional Planning Commission: \$1,176- This is the county's regional planning agency that reviews projects and assists cities and towns on planning and zoning matters. This account was increased by \$26 over Fiscal Year 2019.

76. Cemetery Superintendent Salary: \$8,527- This is the annual salary of the Cemetery Superintendent who maintains the town's cemeteries. This is an increase of \$248 from Fiscal Year 2019.

77. Cemetery Expenses: \$2,000- This account pays for the equipment and supplies in maintaining the cemeteries. No change from Fiscal Year 2019.

78. Group Insurance: \$141,679- This account pays for the town's share of the health insurance, dental insurance, life insurance for non-school employees. The cost for school personnel is included in the school budget. This account was decreased by \$18,029 from Fiscal Year 2019. This line is estimated based on the number of anticipated policies for the coming year.

79. Insurance and Bonding: \$103,000- This account pays for the Town's insurance policies, including motor vehicle, property, public liability, worker's compensation, and officers' bonds. This account was increased by \$8,000 this year to cover the expected increase in our policy for the coming year.

80. Library: \$59,240- This account pays the salaries and operating costs of the Library. This account has been increased by \$1,255 over Fiscal Year 2019.
81. Library Rent: \$12,000- This is for the annual rent for the library building. The Town is entering year 1 of a 3-year lease in July. No change from Fiscal Year 2019.
82. Memorial Day: \$200- This account pays for flowers, markers and flags for Memorial Day. No change from Fiscal Year 2019.
83. Stationery and Office Supply: \$9,200- This account pays for paper, pens, pencils, postage, toner, and similar expenses at Town Hall. No change from Fiscal Year 2019.
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 2019.
85. Banking Services: \$200- This account pays for banking fees and charges. No change from Fiscal Year 2019.
86. Medicare: \$35,000- This account pays the town's share of Medicare employee withholding. No change from Fiscal Year 2019.
87. Veterans' Aid: \$7,500- This account pays for financial assistance to veterans as required by state law. The State reimburses the Town for 75% of the assistance costs incurred assisting veterans. No change from Fiscal Year 2019.
88. Stray Animals: \$100- This account will help pay any costs associated with retrieving stray animals, usually farm animals. No change from Fiscal Year 2019.
89. Town Building Maintenance: \$20,000- This account helps to pay for routine maintenance for all town buildings. No change from Fiscal Year 2019.
90. 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. This account was reduced by \$2,000 this year to more accurately reflect the needs of the Town.
91. Group Purchasing: \$600- This pays for the town's membership in the regional group purchasing program. No change from Fiscal Year 2019.
92. Training: \$10,000- This pays for most training/continuing education opportunities for town officers and employees. This account was increased by \$1,500 to more accurately reflect the needs of employee training and ongoing recertifications.
93. Office Equipment and Software Support: \$20,700- This pays for regular software purchases, service contracts, office equipment and furniture, and related expenses. This line was increased

by \$600 for the coming Fiscal Year to cover the increase in our support contract.

94. Richmond Pond Ramp Monitors: \$20,600- This pays the wages for the summer boat ramp monitors who under state regulation are required to certify that all water vessels launched from the state boat ramp are free from weeds and zebra mussels. The State of Massachusetts provides funding to offset some of the costs associated with the administration of this program. 3% increase over FY19.

95. Miscellaneous Expenses: \$700: This pays for miscellaneous expenses that cannot be justified by any other funding source. No change from Fiscal Year 2019.

Article 5- School Bond Payment: \$146,200

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

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

Article 6- Reserve Fund: \$20,000

This funds unexpected expenses with the approval of the Finance Committee. No change from Fiscal Year 2019.

Article 7- School Budget: \$3,499,554

This represents a 5.1% increase over the Town's Fiscal Year 2019 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 2019 budget and the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2020. Each account group has several sub-accounts which are not shown for space reasons. A full breakdown of the budget can be viewed on the school's web-site: www.richmondconsolidatedschool.org

	FY 2019	FY 2020
School Committee Accounts	\$10,540	\$10,770
Union Accounts	\$10,332	\$10,193
Superintendent Accounts	\$72,043	\$75,407
Union Coordinator Accounts	\$383	\$387
Special Education Accounts	\$341,189	\$386,929
Principal Accounts	\$135,449	\$138,326
Supply Accounts	\$37,275	\$37,275

Teaching Accounts	\$1,470,816	\$1,498,881
Library Services	\$6,250	\$6,400
Professional Development Accounts	\$21,300	\$23,300
Technology Accounts	\$40,000	\$40,000
Health Accounts	\$55,480	\$56,820
Transportation Accounts	\$217,772	\$222,999
Activity Advisor	\$12,855	\$12,855
Tuition Accounts	\$309,437	\$374,853
Food Service Supervisor	\$59,492	\$59,492
Operations & Maintenance Accounts	\$259,075	\$252,871
Employee Benefits and Insurance Accounts	\$650,252	\$630,221
Unemployment Accounts	\$5,000	\$5,000
Contingency Accounts	\$20,670	\$56,575
Total	\$3,735,610	\$3,899,554
Amount raised and appropriated by the town	\$3,329,279	\$3,499,554
School choice, grants and pre-school revenue	\$406,331	\$400,000

Article 8-Cemeteries: \$5,000

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

Article 9- OPEB Trust Fund: \$100,000

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

Article 10- Fuel Emergency Assistance Program: \$5,000

This is a fund to help low income Richmond residents in times of emergency. We were able each winter to supplement the amount given to low income residents who receive federal fuel assistance funds through Berkshire County Community Action.

Article 11- Town Hall Repairs: \$25,000

This article would fund ongoing repairs to the Town Hall building, including but not limited to: foundation repairs, plaster repairs, interior/exterior painting, electrical upgrades, and other similar expenses.

Article 12- Conservation Land Trust Fund: \$9,500

This appropriation goes into a fund that can purchase land for conservation purposes. No change from Fiscal Year 2019.

Article 13- Sewer Enterprise Fund: \$225,000

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

Article 14- Ambulance Account: \$50,000

The Ambulance Account is composed of the fees received from operating the Ambulance Service and pays for vehicle replacement, maintenance, training, stipends, and payments to County Ambulance when it sends an ambulance in lieu of or to supplement our service and for other Ambulance Service expenses.

Article 15- Voting Equipment: \$5,700

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

Article 16- Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) Masks: \$5,000

This article would fund the purchase of SCBA masks for each member of the Fire Department as required under the new OSHA regulations.

Article 17- Fire Department Storage Shed: \$25,000

This article would fund the purchase or construction of a storage shed near the Richmond Pond Boat Ramp to house the new rescue boat during an emergency.

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

Systemic and spot treatment of Richmond Pond to control invasive species. No change from Fiscal Year 2019.

Article 19- All Pond Goose Management Plan: \$1,250

This article will fund a portion of the Richmond Pond Association's Goose Management Plan to be implemented in the summer of 2019.

Article 20- Highway Dept. Shared Mini-Excavator: \$28,000

This article will fund the purchase of a shared excavator to be used and maintained by both Richmond and West Stockbridge. This article also allows the Board of Selectmen to enter into a formal memorandum of understanding prior to the purchase that will address storage, use, repairs, etc.

Article 21- Highway Dept. Lawn Mower and Trailer: \$11,000

This article will fund the purchase of a new lawn mower and trailer, replacing an 18-year-old model that is used to maintain the town beach and the school.

Article 22- Highway Dept. Engineering Services and/or Repairs: \$18,000

This article would fund the engineering study and/or repairs to the Highway Department Building that would start to address the deteriorating concrete and extend the life of the building.

Article 23- Ambulance Replacement: \$181,500

This article would transfer from the Ambulance Reserve account, a portion of the funding needed to replace the 2004 Ambulance.

Article 24- Ambulance Replacement: \$58,500

This article would transfer from the Stabilization Fund, the remaining portion of the funding needed to replace the 2004 Ambulance. A 2/3 Majority vote is required on this article.

Article 25- Ambulance Stretcher: \$15,000

This article would fund the purchase of a new stretcher for the Richmond Ambulance.

Article 26- HVAC Control System: \$60,000

This article would fund a portion of the replacement HVAC Control System at the Richmond School. The source of funding for this article is Certified Free Cash.

Article 27- HVAC Control System: \$32,100

This article would fund the remaining portion of the replacement HVAC Control System at the Richmond School from the Stabilization Fund. A 2/3 Majority vote is required on this article.

Article 28- Prior Fiscal Year Bills: \$621

This article would fund the payment of two prior fiscal year bills for the Board of Health and the Recreation Committee. A 9/10 vote is required on this article.

Article 29- Town Hall Copier/Printer: \$10,000

This article would fund the replacement of a town hall printer/copier for the first-floor main offices.

Article 30- Authorization to petition the Legislature:

This article would allow the Board of Selectmen to petition the State Legislature to allow our Fire Chief to serve beyond the age of 65 until June 30, 2023 or until the date of his retirement or lack of appointment by the board.

Article 31- Noise Bylaw:

This article would amend the General Bylaws to include a section addressing noise. This bylaw was drafted to control "Excessive Noise" throughout town between the hours of 11:00 PM and 7:00 AM., with limited exceptions as described in the bylaw.

Article 32- Solar Energy Systems Bylaw:

This article would amend the current Zoning Bylaw to include a new section 13 and revising Section 4.8 A and 4.8 B, further clarifying our solar bylaws in town. A 2/3 Majority vote is required on this article.

Article 33- Accessory Buildings:

This article would amend the current Zoning Bylaw to revise the permit granting authority for Section 4.8.B 11 from the Board of Selectmen to the Planning Board. A 2/3 Majority vote is required on this article.

Article 34- Article by Petition: \$9,600

This article would provide funding to the Sewer Enterprise Fund to be applied toward the shortfall in the enterprise fund account. The funding source proposed is Certified Free Cash.

Town Election Notice

You are also directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of Richmond qualified to vote in town affairs to meet in the Town Hall on Saturday, May 18, 2019, at 11:00 AM, to bring in votes for the following Town Officers:

- One Member of the Board of Selectmen- 3-year term
- Two Members of the Board of Health- 3-year terms
- Two Members of the Finance Committee- 3-year terms
- One Member of the Finance Committee- 2-year term
- One Member of the School Committee- 3-year term
- One Member of the Board of Library Trustees- 3-year term
- One Member of the Planning Board- 2-year term
- One Member of the Planning Board- 4-year term
- One Member of the Planning Board- 5-year term
- Town Moderator- 1-year term

And the polls may close at 7:00 PM.