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2017 Town of Richmond Annual Town Meeting Minutes

Richmond, Me.

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TOWN OF RICHMOND
2017 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT

Sagadahoc, ss.

State of Maine

At 6:01pm, Chairman O'Neil LaPlante welcomed everyone to June 6, 2017 Annual Town Meeting. Opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Then Chairman O'Neil LaPlante, asked Carol Lichtenberg to come forward to the stage, he presented her with the Spirit of America Award on behalf of Frederic Browne for his service to school & town.

Junior-Kylie Temple and Sophomore Emma Carbonni from Richmond High School chorus sang the National Anthem.

Fire Chief, Matthew Roberge and Deputy Chief, John Bellino did the First Responder presentation. After the presentation, Chairman O'Neil LaPlante conducted a non-binding straw poll with a show of hands, majority was in approval.

Fire Chief Matthew Roberge & Deputy Chief John Bellino, had a presentation for Michael Averell and Paul Adams for 20 plus years of service to the Fire Department.

Town Manager, Janet Smith presented a summary of the warrant and proposed budget.

Town Clerk, Sharon Woodward called the meeting to order at 6:35pm.

TO: Scott MacMaster, Constable of the Town of Richmond

Greetings:

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the voters of the Town of Richmond, in said county and State, qualified by law to vote in Town affairs, to meet at the Richmond High School in said town, on **Tuesday, June 6, 2017 at 6:00 PM**, then and there to act upon **Articles 1-47**, at the conclusion of which the meeting will be recessed; the recessed meeting will be reconvened at the Richmond High School in said town on **Tuesday, June 13, 2017 from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM**, then and there to act upon the remaining articles in the warrant to wit:

ARTICLE 1: To elect a Moderator, by secret ballot, who will preside at said meeting. The "Maine Moderator's Guide" shall be utilized by the Moderator.
Town Clerk, Sharon Woodward read **Article 1** and asked for a motion for moderator, David Thompson made motion to nominate **Robert Lenna**, seconded by O'Neil LaPlante. The board cast the ballots for Robert Lenna 5-0 vote. Mr. Lenna took & signed his oath papers then went over housekeeping rules with the body of Town meeting.

ARTICLE 2: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Administrative Account.

Selectboard/Budget Committee Recommendation: **\$ 224,063**

Article 2. Motion was moved for \$224,063. Seconded. No discussion. Vote. **Adopted.**

ARTICLE 3: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Animal Control Account.

Selectboard/Budget Committee Recommendation: **\$ 4,511**

Article 3. Motion was moved for \$4,511. Seconded. No discussion. Vote. **Adopted.**

ARTICLE 4: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Benefits Account.

Selectboard/Budget Committee Recommendation: **\$ 268,455**

Article 4. Motion made to moved for \$268,455. Seconded. Discussion. Vote. **Adopted.**

ARTICLE 5: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Boards and Committees Account.

Selectboard/Budget Committee Recommendation: **\$ 16,800**

Article 5. Motion made to move \$16,800. Seconded. No discussion. Vote. **Adopted.**

ARTICLE 6: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Capital Outlay Account.

Selectboard/Budget Committee Recommendation: **\$ 112,100**

Article 6. Motion made to move \$112, 100. Seconded. Discussion. Vote. **Adopted.**

ARTICLE 7: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Code Enforcement/LPI Account.

Selectboard/Budget Committee Recommendation: **\$ 37,599**

Article 7. Motion made to move \$37,599. Seconded. No discussion. Vote. **Adopted.**

ARTICLE 8. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Debt Service Account.

Selectboard/Budget Committee Recommendation: **\$ 41,585**

Article 8. Motion made to move \$41,585. Seconded. No discussion. Vote. **Adopted.**

ARTICLE 9: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Fire Department Account.

Selectboard/Budget Committee Recommendation: \$ 83,927

Article 9. Motion to move \$83,927. Seconded. No discussion. Vote. **Adopted.**

ARTICLE 10: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the General Assistance Account.

Selectboard/Budget Committee Recommendation: \$ 10,000

Article 10. Motion to move \$10,000. Seconded. Discussion. Vote. **Adopted.**

ARTICLE 11: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Insurance Account.

Selectboard/Budget Committee Recommendation: \$ 57,844

Article 11. Motion to move \$57,844. Seconded. No discussion. Vote. **Adopted.**

ARTICLE 12: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Intergovernmental Account.

Selectboard/Budget Committee Recommendation: \$ 10,320

Article 12. Motion to move \$10,320. Seconded. No discussion. Vote. **Adopted.**

ARTICLE 13: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Legal Services Account.

Selectboard/Budget Committee Recommendation: \$ 15,000

Article 13. Motion to move \$15,000. Seconded. No discussion. Vote. **Adopted.**

ARTICLE 14: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Isaac F. Umberhine Public Library Account.

Selectboard/Budget Committee Recommendation: \$ 42,118

Article 14. Motion to move \$42,118. Seconded. Discussion. Motion to move the question, seconded. Vote passed to move the question. Motion to vote on \$42,118. Vote. **Adopted.**

ARTICLE 15: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Parks & Cemeteries Account.

Selectboard/Budget Committee Recommendation: \$ 19,890

Article 15. Motion to move \$19,890. Seconded. Discussion. Vote. **Adopted.**

ARTICLE 16: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Police Department Operations Account.

Selectboard Recommendation: **\$234,725**

Budget Committee Recommendation: \$250,325

Article 16. Motion to move Budget Committee request \$250,325. Seconded. Discussion. Motion to amend from Budget Comm. request \$250,325 to Selectboard request of \$234,725. Seconded. Vote. Passed.

Motion to accept Selectboard request of \$234,725. Seconded. Vote. **Adopted.**

ARTICLE 17: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Professional Services (not including Legal Services) Account.

Selectboard/Budget Committee Recommendation: **\$ 24,250**

Article 17. Motion to move \$24,250. Seconded. No discussion. Vote. **Adopted.**

ARTICLE 18: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Public Safety Account.

Selectboard/Budget Committee Recommendation: **\$ 137,688**

Article 18. Motion to move \$137,688. Seconded. No discussion. Vote. **Adopted.**

ARTICLE 19: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Public Works Operations Account.

Selectboard Recommendation: **\$ 318,920**

Article 19. Motion to move \$318,920. Seconded. No discussion. Vote. **Adopted.**

ARTICLE 20: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following amounts for the following Reserve Accounts:

Fire Department Equipment Reserve: \$ 1,500

Town Office Technology Reserve: \$ 2,500

Town Vehicle Reserve: \$100,000

TOTAL: **\$104,000**

Selectboard/Budget Committee Recommendation: Approval

Article 20. Motion to move \$104,000. Seconded. Discussion. Motion to cease discussion. Seconded. Vote. Passed.

Motion to move \$104,000. Seconded. Vote. **Adopted.**

ARTICLE 21: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Senior Center Account.

Selectboard/Budget Committee Recommendation: \$ 15,901

Article 21. Motion to move \$15,901. Seconded. No Discussion. Vote. **Adopted.**

ARTICLE 22: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Solid Waste Account.

Selectboard/Budget Committee Recommendation: \$ 41,024

Article 22. Motion to move \$41,024. Seconded. No discussion. Vote. **Adopted.**

ARTICLE 23: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate for Summer Recreation.

Selectboard/Budget Committee Recommendation: \$ 12,448

Article 23. Motion to move \$12,448. Seconded. Discussion. Vote. **Adopted.**

ARTICLE 24: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Town Fuel Account.

Selectboard/Budget Committee Recommendation: \$ 43,150

Article 24. Motion to move \$43,150. Seconded. No discussion. Vote. **Adopted.**

ARTICLE 25: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following amounts for support of the following Social Services for the ensuing year:

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Spectrum Generations: | \$ 500 |
| Richmond Food Pantry: | \$ <u>5,000</u> |
| TOTAL: | \$ 5,500 |

Selectboard/Budget Committee Recommendation: **Approval**

Article 25. Motion to move \$5,500. Seconded. No discussion. Vote. **Adopted.**

ARTICLE 26: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the support of the Friends of the Cobbossee Watershed Mil-Foiler Program.

Selectboard/Budget Committee Recommendation: \$ 5,000

Article 26. Motion to move \$5,000. Seconded. No discussion. Vote. **Adopted.**

ARTICLE 27: To see if the Town will vote to transfer all amounts currently in the "Richmond Rec" general ledger account to the new Richmond Recreation Reserve Fund; to deposit all

revenues generated by the Richmond Recreation program into this reserve fund; and to authorize the Selectboard to appropriate said reserve account funds for operation costs, equipment, and recreation programming.

Selectboard/Budget Committee Recommendation: **Approval**

Article 27. Motion to move as approved. Seconded. No discussion. Vote. **Adopted.**

Motion to take **Article 28 and Article 29** and vote on as a group. Seconded. No discussion. Vote. Passed. Motion to approve **Article 28 & Article 29** as written. Seconded. Vote. **Adopted.**

ARTICLE 28: To see if the Town will vote to transfer all amounts currently in the "Senior Center Fundraising" general ledger account to the new Senior Center Reserve Fund; to deposit all revenues generated by the Richmond Seniors into this reserve fund; and to authorize the Selectboard to appropriate said reserve account funds for senior recreation programming.

Selectboard/Budget Committee Recommendation: **Approval**

ARTICLE 29: To see if the Town will vote to transfer all amounts currently in the "Library Donation" general ledger account to the new Richmond Isaac F. Umberhine Public Library Donation and Memorial Reserve"; to deposit all donations and monetary gifts in memory of into this reserve fund; and to authorize the Selectboard to appropriate said reserve account funds to acknowledge memorial gifts, enhance the Library collection; and enhance library programming.

Selectboard/Budget Committee Recommendation: **Approval**

ARTICLE 30: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$200,000 for road projects, to include but not limited to, portions of the following town roads: Lincoln Street, Parks Road, Stable Road, Knickerbocker Road, Spruce Street, Weeks Road.

Selectboard/Budget Committee Recommendation: **Approval**

Article 30. Motion to move \$200,000. Seconded. Discussion. Vote. **Adopted.**

ARTICLE 31: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$17,000 for repairs to the Town tennis courts.

Selectboard/Budget Committee Recommendation: **Approval**

Article 31. Motion to move \$17,000. Seconded. No discussion. Vote. **Adopted.**

Motion was made to take Article 32, Article 34, Article 35, Article 36, Article 37, Article 38, Article 39, Article 40, Article 41, Article 43, Article 44, Article 45 as a group to vote on with the exception of Article 33 and Article 42. Seconded. No discussion. Vote on **Article 32, Article 34, Article 35, Article 36, Article 37, Article 38, Article 39, Article 40, Article 41, Article 43, Article 44, and Article 45 as a group.** Vote. **Adopted** as a group.

ARTICLE 32: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate fifty-percent (50%) of the money received from the State of Maine for snowmobile registrations to the Richmond Sno-Rovers Club for the maintenance of their system or network of snowmobile trails, on the condition that those trails be open to the public for snowmobile purposes at no charge in the snow season, and to authorize the Selectboard to enter into an agreement with the Club under such terms and conditions as it deems advisable for that purpose.

Selectboard/Budget Committee Recommendation: **Approval**

ARTICLE 33: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$647,965 from the Estimated Revenues Account (Non-Property Tax Revenue) to be applied to reduce the Fiscal Year 2017-18 tax commitment.

Selectboard/Budget Committee Recommendation: **Approval**

Article 33. Motion to move \$647,965. Seconded. No discussion. Vote. **Adopted.**

ARTICLE 34: To see if the Town will vote to fix the date when property taxes become due and payable, with the first payment being due and payable on November 13, 2017; and the second payment being due and payable on May 10, 2018; and to instruct the Tax Collector to charge interest at 7% per annum on all taxes unpaid after said date(s).

ARTICLE 35: To see if the Town will vote to set the rate of 3% interest per annum on abated taxes and to authorize such interest paid or abatements granted to be appropriated from Overlay funds then, if necessary, from unassigned fund balance.

[Note: 36 M.R.S.A. § 506-A provides the rate of interest may not exceed the rate set for delinquent taxes, nor be less than that rate reduced by 4%]

ARTICLE 36: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Tax Collector to accept prepayment of taxes not yet committed, with no interest to accrue on any excess paid over the amount finally committed.

ARTICLE 37: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Tax Collector to offer a Fiscal Year 2017-18 Tax Club Plan to taxpayers who enroll no later than July 31, 2017; who pay the total

amount of FY 2017-18 taxes by monthly payments from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018; who abide by the requirements of said plan as established by the Selectboard; who shall receive from the Town, in return for such payments, full credit for such taxes paid without incurring any charge of interest.

- ARTICLE 38: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to apply for State, federal (including Community Development Block Grants) and other grants on behalf of the Town for purposes deemed by the Selectboard to be in the best interests of the Town; to accept such grants, including, when necessary, the authority to sign contracts and related documents and to accept conditions of approval; and to appropriate such grant funds for any purpose for which the Town has appropriated funds in Fiscal Year 2017-18.
- ARTICLE 39: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to retain, sell or dispose of, by a means and upon such terms and conditions as the Selectboard deems advisable, any real estate acquired by the Town for non-payment of taxes thereon, and to execute such contracts, deeds and other instruments, and to take such other actions as may in the Selectboard's judgment be advisable to effect the sale of such property, or, if the property is prior-owner occupied residential property, to convey the property to the prior owner upon payment in full of all taxes, interest and charges incurred by the Town within 90 days of notice to the prior owner of the repurchase opportunity. Any tax acquired property to be sold will be posted through the public notice process prior to any sale.
- ARTICLE 40: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer to waive the foreclosure of a tax lien mortgage by recording a waiver of foreclosure at the Registry of Deeds in which the tax lien certificate is recorded prior to expiration of the right of redemption pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A. § 944 upon a finding by the Selectboard that ownership of the property that is subject to the tax lien mortgage would be contrary to the Town's best interests.
- ARTICLE 41: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to sell or otherwise dispose of Town-owned personal property deemed by the Selectboard to be obsolete on such terms and conditions as it deems advisable.
- ARTICLE 42: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to sell **at fair market value** the former fire station located at 10 Lincoln Street (Tax Map U3, Lot 26) by such method and on such terms and conditions as the Selectboard deems advisable and to execute such contracts, deeds and other instruments, and to take such other actions as may in the Selectboard's judgment be advisable, to effect the sale of such property and to deposit the sale proceeds in the Town Properties Improvement Reserve Account.
- Article 42. Motion to move Article 42. Seconded. Discussion. Motion to amend Article 42 to add after the word sell in the first line **at fair market value**. Seconded. Vote. Passed.

Motion made to accept **Article 42** as written with the amendment to add **at fair market value** after the word sell in the first line. Seconded. Vote. **Adopted.**

ARTICLE 43: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to accept or reject donations of personal property and/or to accept or reject gifts of money to the various accounts of the Town for the ensuing year and to appropriate those monies donated for specific purposes.

ARTICLE 44: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to make final determinations, after notice and hearing, regarding the winter closing of roads in accordance with 23 M.R.S.A. § 2953(3) and final determinations, after notice and hearing, to annul, alter or modify such orders in accordance with 23 M.R.S.A. § 2953(4).

ARTICLE 45: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard and Treasurer to enter into multi-year contracts necessary to provide services to the Town.

Selectboard/Budget Committee recommend the article to pass. Services for the town may include, but are not limited to, ambulance service, banking, road maintenance, cemetery mowing, bulky waste disposal.

ARTICLE 46: Shall an ordinance entitled "2017 Amendments to the Town of Richmond Land Use Ordinance" be enacted?

[The proposed ordinance amendments are available for review and inspection at the Town Clerk's Office and will be available at the Town Meeting.]

Article 46. Motion to accept as written. Seconded. Discussion. Vote. **Adopted.**

ARTICLE 47: To see if the Town will vote to increase the property tax levy limit established for Richmond by State law in the event that the municipal budget approved under the preceding articles will result in a tax commitment that is greater than the property tax levy limit. ***[Note: If this article is needed, a written ballot is required.]***

Article 47. Is not needed. No written ballots required.

Motion made to adjourn until June 13, 2017 at 8:00am. Seconded. Vote. Passed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:14pm. 61 registered voters at Town Meeting.

ARTICLE 48: To elect by secret ballot the following officials:

- A. Two (2) Selectmen/Assessors/Overseers of the Poor for three (3) year terms.
- B. One (1) RSU #2 member for three (3) year term.
- C. One (1) Budget Committee members for three (3) year term.
- D. One (1) Richmond Utilities District member for three (3) year term.

ARTICLE 49: To vote by secret ballot on the following question:

“Shall this municipality authorize the State to issue licenses for the sale of liquor to be consumed on the premises of licensed establishments on Sundays?”

GIVEN UNTO OUR HANDS THIS 10th DAY OF May, 2017.

Selectboard, Richmond, Maine

O’Neil LaPlante, Chairman

David Thompson, Vice-Chairman

Gary Poulin, Selectboard Member

Ryan Chandler, Selectboard Member

Robert Bodge, Selectboard Member