



The Something to Crow About RICHMOND ROOSTER

January 2020

JOYS OF JANUARY

Karen O'Brien of The Green Woman's Garden

The astrologers went into the child's inn, and found him with his mother. Then with prostrate bodies they worshipped Christ, and opened their treasure chests and offered him threefold gifts: gold, incense and myrrh... The gold signified that he is a true king, the frankincense that he is the true God, the myrrh that he was then mortal; but now he remains mortal in eternity.

— Sermon on the Epiphany of the Lord,
by 10th century monk Aelfric

JANUARY brings new beginnings. Janus, the Roman god with two faces, symbolized looking both backward at the old and forward to the new. In earlier times, people celebrated this new year with feasting that began with Saturnalia, or the winter solstice, and ended with Twelfth Night. In later times, Christians claimed January 6, or Twelfth Night, as the time when the Three Kings visited the baby Jesus and bestowed upon him precious gifts. Gold, as stated by Aelfric in the passage above, would truly be a gift for a king. But frankincense and myrrh?

Frankincense, *Boswellia carteri*, and myrrh, *Commiphora myrrha*, are two types of balsams that grow in

the Middle East and Africa. The Magi (or Three Kings) were said to have traveled from the East, where these resins were obtained. Herodotus, in the 5th century BC, wrote that Arabia was the only country which produced frankincense, myrrh, cassia, and cinnamon, and the trees were guarded by winged serpents.

Frankincense and myrrh are obtained by making incisions, or slashes, in the bark, which then oozes a sap. After a few weeks, the sap hardens, and is harvested and left to dry further. The small globules are either sold as “tears” or ground into powder. The fragrance of these resins is released when heated. When I was in Egypt several years ago, I wanted to buy both frankincense and myrrh. In a show of good faith, the shopkeepers would use a lighter to heat the resins to prove that they were indeed the product I wanted.

Frankincense, also known as *olibanum*, was a chief incense burned throughout history in many civilizations. Originally used as a disinfectant, it came to have symbolic meaning – prayers rising up to heaven, or a sacrifice of a precious thing. It was used as a ceremonial incense in ancient Persia, Babylon (during the feast of Bel), Assyria, and by the Romans. It was also burned in Egyptian homes with aloe wood and benzoin for warmth. Jews used it as one of the four sweet scents of





incense, presented with *shew* bread on the Sabbath.

It has also been used through time for medicinal purposes. Pliny claimed it as an antidote to hemlock poisoning. Avicenna touted its value in the treatment of tumors, ulcers, vomiting, dysentery, and fevers. In China, it was used for leprosy. Today, the essential oils of frankincense and myrrh are used for a treatment for the skin, to strengthen the immune system, and fight viruses and bacteria. The black eye powder known as kohl is sometimes made from the charred wood of frankincense. It is also used in perfumes as a fixative, and in some cosmetic products.

Myrrh is sometimes referred to as the mother energy, and frankincense as father energy. They are frequently used together, and ancient Egyptians and Hebrews used a formula of six parts frankincense to one part myrrh. Myrrh comes from the word *bitter* in Arabic, and so is used with more restraint in incense. In the burial of the dead, myrrh was used for embalming by Egyptians and Palestinians. In accordance with Jewish custom, Jesus was wrapped in linen strips containing myrrh and aloes. It was considered to be an antiseptic, astringent, tonic, and stimulant. Myrrh and scurvy grass is an old folk remedy for toothache. It is the oil that is repeated most often in the Bible, though many sources agree that the myrrh referenced in the Bible is *labdanum*, which is another resin entirely.

Both frankincense and myrrh have become popular today in the field of nutraceuticals. These are natural products prepared by enzymatic transformation into herbal supplements. Myrrh yields *guggulsterones*, which are reputed to lower cholesterol. Frankincense is known for *boswellic acids*, which are supposed to have anti-inflammatory properties. There is more to discover about the properties of these long-valued plants.

The value of frankincense and myrrh caused it to be used primarily by the wealthy, hence the inclusion of these resins in the gifts of the Magi. It is more easily obtainable today, though most of us never use it. Some frankincense and myrrh placed upon a lighted charcoal perfumes the room with an exotic scent, and is an enjoyable link to the past. Here's to a new beginning.

Selectmen's Minutes November 18, 2019 Meeting

Selectmen present: William Daniels, Douglas Bersaw, and Andrew Wallace

Selectmen absent:

Non-Board members present: Susan Harrington

Public present:

Meeting opened at 5:30 pm

*** Amendment to the minutes on November 4, 2019 minutes ***

Minutes read that Elton Blood Jr.'s term is to expire on March 31, 2020 in error. Elton Blood Jr.'s term is to expire on March 31, 2021.

Bersaw moved; Wallace 2nd; the Board voted to approve the manifest dated November 11, 2019 for payroll/accounts payable in the amount of \$ 29,435.36 for the week of November 8, 2019-November 14, 2019. This check detail includes the monthly stipend payroll for the month of November.

Harrington would like to record in the minutes the invoice numbers from the Trustee of the Trust Fund request in the amount of \$6,361.99 from the Fire Department Equipment Fund that was requested during the October 28, 2019 meeting. The following invoices were from Firematic Supply Co. Inc.: invoice #368732 for \$614.35; invoice #369160 for \$505.07; invoice #370538 for \$2,230.57; and invoice #370571 for \$3,012.00 for a grand total of \$6,361.99.

Daniels moved; Bersaw 2nd; Board voted to approve Building Permits for Map 402 Lot 078 Sub 001. Wallace moved; Daniels 2nd; Board voted to approve Yield Tax bill for operation #18-385-03-T in the amount of \$2,262.23 and Yield Tax bill for operation #18-385-01-T in the amount of \$538.43.

Board discussed Preliminary Tax Rate of \$26.19. Municipal portion is \$7.34, County at \$3.78, Local Education is \$13.09, and State Education is \$1.98. Bersaw moved; Wallace 2nd; Board voted to reduce the tax rate by \$2.00 bringing the tax rate down to \$24.19 a total of \$201,750.00 fund balance to reduce taxes.

Harrington advised the Board of a free 3-hour Flood-plain Administrator 101 Training Workshop for local officials on December 9, 2019 from 1 to 4 at 49 Community Way in Keene. Snow date: Dec. 12, 2019.

Appointments

Tom and Pam Lavoie, Jeani and Rosti Eismont, Jennifer Tomer, and James Laitinen met with the Board to be updated on a zoning violation and compact zone.

Fire Chief, Ed Atkins met with the Board to discuss the 2020 Budget for the Fire Department and the Rescue Department.

Approved Budget = \$71,655.00

Requested Budget = \$60,560.00

2020 Capital Reserves Requests are: Fire Department Equipment Fund = \$10,000.00

Fire Truck Fund = \$20,000.00 Public Safety Radio & Comm Equip = \$2,500.00 Total amount requested = \$32,500.00

Cemetery Trustee, Jerry Merrifield met with the Board to discuss the 2020 Budget.

Approved Budget = \$ 11,027.00

Requested Budget = \$ 12,000.00

Jerry mentioned a pine tree that has fallen at the Aldrich Cemetery. Harrington to contact B. Blood. Cemetery Sexton position and equipment inventory reviewed.

Emergency Management, John Janicki met with the Board to discuss the 2020 Budget.

Approved Budget = \$11,306.00

Requested Budget = \$9,981.00

Road Agent, Buddy Blood, met with the Board to discuss the 2020 Budget.

Approved Budget = \$215,352.90

Requested Budget = \$228,860.50

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 pm. Respectfully Submitted, Susan Harrington

November 25, 2019 Meeting

Selectmen present: William Daniels, Douglas Bersaw,

and Andrew Wallace

Selectmen absent:

Non-Board members present: Susan Harrington

Public present:

Meeting opened at 5:30 pm

Wallace moved; Daniels 2nd; the Board voted to approve the manifest dated November 25, 2019 for payroll/accounts payable in the amount of \$23,904.01 for the week of November 15, 2019 – November 21, 2019.

The Tax Collector and Deputy Tax Collector have mailed the tax bills. The bills are due on or before Wednesday, January 8, 2020.

Daniels moved; Bersaw 2nd; Board voted to approve Building Permits for Map 402 Lot 078 Sub 001.

Application for highway laborer received and reviewed.

Estimate to repair and/or renovate interior of Civil Defense building received. Estimate includes removing shelving and lockers, relocate cabinet, replace light bulbs, correct closet light from plug-in to light switch, and repair doorjamb. Reviewed.

Bersaw moved; Daniels 2nd; Board approved Vet Hall rental on 1-5-20.

Wallace moved; Daniels 2nd; Board approved Intent to Cut for Map 412 Lots 45 and 57.

Bersaw moved; Wallace 2nd; Board approved Occupancy Permit for Map 402 Lot 060.

Board reviewed Municipal Aid in the amount of \$21,241.54 reference RSA 31:95-b.

Board reviewed pictures from Zoning Compliance Officer of Zoning Violations.

Board reviewed energy contracts. Eversource rate will be at .088 (\$/kWh) starting in January 2020. First Point Power has offered the Town of Richmond a rate of \$0.0829 for 36 months.


Appointments

Sheri Reynolds and Billy Hillock met with the Board to discuss the 4 Corners property.

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Steve Boscarino, Tax Collector, and Ann Dea Whippen, Deputy Tax Collector met with the Board to discuss overpayment refunds.

*** Friendly reminder ***

The Town Hall will be closed on Wednesday, November 27th and Thursday November 28th in observance of Thanksgiving.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm Respectfully Submitted, Susan Harrington

December 2, 2019 Meeting

Selectmen present: William Daniels, Douglas Bersaw, and Andrew Wallace

Selectmen absent:

Non-Board members present: Susan Harrington

Public present:

Meeting opened at 5:30 pm

Bersaw moved; Wallace 2nd; Board voted to approve the manifest dated December 2, 2019 for payroll/accounts payable in the amount of \$5,130.68 for the week of November 22, 2019 – November 28, 2019.

Daniels moved; Bersaw 2nd; Board voted to approve Occupancy Permit for Map 402 Lot 073.

Letter from Cheshire County Board of Commissioners reference proposed 2020 Budget. Read.

Board discussed project updates received from Quantum CC reference Tully Brook Bridge #155/066 State Project Number #29056 and Whipple Hill Bridge #065/083 State Project Number #29055.

Board reviewed 2020 contract for ambulance service provided by Diluzio Ambulance Service. LLC.

Appointments

Two appointments were cancelled due to snowstorm.

Buddy Blood met with the Board to discuss estimates received for Morgan Road.

Meeting adjourned at 6:36 pm, Respectfully Submitted, Susan Harrington

December 9, 2019 Meeting

Selectmen present: William Daniels, Douglas Bersaw

Selectmen absent: Andrew Wallace

Non-Board members present: Susan Harrington

Public present:

Meeting opened at 5:30 pm

Bersaw moved; Daniels 2nd; the Board voted to approve the manifest dated December 9, 2019 for payroll/accounts payable in the amount of \$386,667.39 for the week of November 29, 2019 – December 5, 2019. This check detail also includes the annual County Tax payment in the amount of \$381,691.00 payable to the Cheshire County Treasurer.

Daniels moved; Bersaw 2nd; Board voted to approve the appointment of Maureen Daugherty to the Parks and Recreation Commission. Term to expire March 2022.

Bersaw moved; Daniels 2nd; Board approved the following abatement refunds due to an overpayment:

Map 411 Lot 036 refund in the amount of \$793.00

Map 407 Lot 042 refund in the amount of \$835.00

Map 402 Lot 073 refund in the amount of \$1,175.00

Map 407 Lot 094-1 refund in the amount of \$518.00

Map 409 Lot 035 refund in the amount of \$1,152.00

Daniels moved; Bersaw 2nd; Board approved the Yield Tax for Operation 18-385-08-T. Map 405 Lots 84-01 and 84-02.

Letter received from Richmond Planning Board to notify the Board of a Public Meeting to be held on December 11, 2019 at 7:00 PM at the Veteran's Memorial Hall. Reference Map 408 Lot 044.

Bersaw moved; Daniels 2nd; Board voted to cancel the Internet service at the Civil Defense building and Veteran's Memorial Hall.

Appointments

Zoning Compliance Officer, Richard Drew met with the Board to discuss Zoning Violations. Zoning Violation letters will be sent.

Richmond Community United Methodist Church

PASTOR SHARON SARGENT

Sunday Worship Service
10:30 am



All are welcome to join our church family!

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Tax Collector, Steve Boscarino met with the Board to discuss his 2020 Budget.

Approved Budget = \$19,853.00

Requested Budget = \$20,027.00

Bersaw moved; Daniels 2nd; Board voted to enter into nonpublic under RSA 91-A: 3, II (a) The dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee, or the investigation of any charges against him or her, unless the employee affected (1) has a right to a public meeting, and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted. Roll Call: Bersaw (Y) and Daniels (Y). Non-Public session was entered at 7:00 pm.

Daniels moved; Bersaw 2nd; Board voted to reconvene Public session. Roll call: Daniels (Y), and Bersaw (Y). Public session was reconvened at 7:10 pm.

Minutes from nonpublic session sealed and entered.

Walk Ins

Seth Smith met with the Board to discuss a Zoning Violation letter. Board to follow up.

Meeting adjourned at 7:33 pm Respectfully Submitted, Susan Harrington

2020 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Annette Tokunaga, Town Clerk

Following is the holiday schedule for when the town clerk's office will be closed for the year 2020:

New Year's Eve	Wed, Jan 1
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	Mon, Jan 20
Presidents' Day	Mon, Feb 17
Memorial Day	Mon, May 25
Labor Day	Mon, Sept 7
Columbus Day	Mon, Oct 12
Veterans' Day	Wed, Nov 11
Thanksgiving Break	Wed/Thu, Nov 25 & 26
Christmas Eve	Thu, Dec 24
Christmas Day	Fri, Dec 25

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From the Town Clerk's Office

Annette Tokunaga, Town Clerk

The Town Election will be held on March 10, 2020. The following officers will be elected at that time:

- One Cemetery Trustee, 3-year term.
- One Library Trustee, 3-year term.
- One Moderator, 2-year term.
- Two Planning Board members, 3-year term each.
- One Selectman, 3-year term.
- One Supervisor of the Checklist, 6-year term.
- One Supervisor of the Checklist, 4-year term.
- One Trustee of Trust Funds, 3-year term

If you would like to run for any of the above offices, please come to the Town Clerk's office during the filing

Pamela Goodell

Author

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period to fill out the Declaration for Candidacy form.

The filing period begins January 22, 2020, and ends January 31, 2020. The office will be open on Friday, January 31, 2020, from 3 – 5 PM for declarations of candidacy purposes only. You must be a Richmond resident and a registered voter in order to run for a town office. If you are not yet a registered voter, your last opportunity to register in order for you to be able to run for a town office is January 21, 2020, when the Supervisors of the Checklist hold their session.

If it is difficult for you to come to the office to pick up and/or complete the Declaration of Candidacy, someone may pick up the form for you. I would also be happy to mail/email it to you. Once you have completed the Declaration of Candidacy, you may personally bring it back to the Town Clerk's office, have someone return it for you, or you may mail it. Any filings for candidacy must be done IN PERSON on the last day. Any Declaration of Candidacy forms that are mailed or that are delivered by someone other than the candidate must be received between January 22 and January 30.

Please call 239-6202 or stop by the office if you have any questions.

The Presidential Primary

Annette Tokunaga, Town Clerk

The NH Presidential Primary will be held on Tuesday, February 11, 2020. Voting will take place at the Veterans Memorial Hall from 8:00 AM until 7:00 PM.

On Election Day, you, the voter, will receive a Democratic ballot if you are registered as a Democrat or a Republican ballot if you are registered as a Republican. If registered as "Undeclared," you will be able to announce which ballot you wish to receive when you check in to vote. It is no longer possible for you to change your party affiliation prior to the Presidential Primary. If you are not certain of your party affiliation, please call or come to the town clerk's office. You can

look up your party affiliation at <https://app.sos.nh.gov>. If you are not registered to vote, you can complete the voter registration forms at the Town Clerk's office. You can also register on Election Day.

Absentee ballots can be obtained through the town clerk's office. In order to receive an absentee ballot, the request must be in writing and signed by the voter. Request forms are available at the Town Clerk's office and at <http://sos.nh.gov>, the NH Secretary of State's website. Absentee voting is not early voting. A voter may receive an absentee ballot only under specific circumstances, which are outlined on the application form.

After the voter has finished marking the ballot, there are several ways that the completed absentee ballot may be returned.


The ballot may be mailed. It must be received no later than 5:00 PM on Election Day.

The voter may return the ballot in person. To the Town Clerk or to the deputy Town Clerk before 5:00 PM on the day before Election Day.

Someone other than the voter may return the completed ballot. The people who now qualify as a person who is able to deliver the absentee ballot on the voter's behalf (delivery agent) has been expanded. These delivery agents are the voter's spouse, parent, sibling, child, grandchild, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, stepparent, or stepchild. In addition, if the voter is living in a nursing home or residential care facility, certain qualified persons are also allowed to deliver the absentee ballot.

Finally, someone assisting a voter who is blind or a voter with a disability may deliver the absentee ballot. When a delivery agent is returning the absentee ballot, the ballot must be delivered before 5:00 PM on Election Day and the person delivering the ballot must provide proof of identification either with a government-issued photo ID or with verification by the Town Clerk. I recommend, if you are the qualified person returning an

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absentee ballot for a voter, that you bring a government-issued photo ID. In this way, you are not relying on the Town Clerk/deputy to remember who you are.

Regardless of whether the voter or a delivery agent returns the ballot, that person must always hand the absentee ballot directly to the Town Clerk or the Deputy Town Clerk. Do not leave the ballot in any receptacle, on a counter (even the Town Clerk's counter) or with someone other than the Town Clerk or Deputy Town Clerk. Please call 239-6202 if you have any questions.

Dog Raffle

Annette Tokunaga, Town Clerk

On Monday, May 4, 2020, the seven winners of the first ever Richmond Dog Raffle will be drawn. You will automatically be entered if you license your dog between January 2, 2020, and April 30, 2020. Following are the prizes (none were purchased with taxpayer dollars):

“Dog Lover” Refrigerator Magnet
Chew and Rope Toy
“Kong Air Dog” Football Toy
Ceramic Mug with Pet Toy
“Kong Classic” and Jar of Peanut Butter
“Thermo Pet Mat”
“Tall Tails” Pet Blanket

If you'd like to participate in the Richmond Dog Raffle, please be sure to license your dog(s) no later than April



30. Your odds of winning one of these seven prizes is far better than any lottery. And though the monetary value might be much less than any lottery winning, this raffle will be more fun! You will not need to be present during the drawing to be a winner, although your presence is certainly welcome. More details about the time of the drawing on May 4th will be forthcoming.

There are a couple of ways that you can renew your dog license. You can come to the Town Clerk's office. Or you can do it online if you licensed your dog(s) last year with the Town of Richmond. Go to the Town website, www.richmond.nh.gov, and then go to the Town Clerk's page. You will see a link that will enable you to request the dog license renewal. To locate your dog information, enter "19" followed by the number on the metal dog tag that was issued to you in 2019. If the number on the tag is between 1 and 99, you will need to put one or two zeros (0) in front of the tag number, in order to create a three-digit tag number. If you have any difficulty completing the transaction online or if you have any questions, please contact me.

If you previously provided an email address to the Town Clerks, you should receive an email notification in January reminding you to license your dog.

You can call the office at 239-6202. The email address is richmondtownclerk@yahoo.com.

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Library News

Wendy O'Brien

library@richmondnh.us (603) 239-6164

Calendar for January:

Every Saturday, 10:30 AM, Knitting Circle

Every Wednesday, 10:00 AM, Storytimes

Special Events

Sat. Jan. 4, 10:30-11:30, Community Coffee Hour

Thurs. Jan. 9, 5:00, Teen Pizza Night

Tues. Jan. 14, 6:00, Book Group, *The Underground Railroad* by Colson Whitehead

Traveling Art Exhibit: "The Peace in the World"

We are pleased once again to host a traveling art exhibition from the Fermata Foundation. Throughout the month of January, art from the S. Vasylykivskyi Children's Art School from Izyum, Kharkiv Region, Ukraine, will be on display throughout the Library. Our last exhibit from Estonia (in January 2019) gave us a chance to see how world peace is conceptualized through the eyes of children. The pieces were incredibly moving, and we hope you will take the opportunity to view world peace from the perspective of Ukrainian children.

Book Group: *The Underground Railroad* by Colson Whitehead. "As Whitehead brilliantly re-creates the unique terrors for black people in the pre-Civil War era, his narrative seamlessly weaves the saga of America from the brutal importation of Africans to the unfulfilled promises of the present day. *The Underground*

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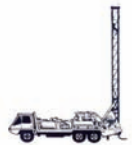
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Railroad is at once a kinetic adventure tale of one woman's ferocious will to escape the horrors of bondage and a shattering, powerful meditation on the history we all share." —GoodReads. Join us at 6:00 PM Tuesday, January 14 for a lively book discussion. Copies are available at the Library-pick one up today!

New Titles

Game of Thrones, Season 8 (DVD)

Tidelands, Philipa Gregory

Under Occupation, Alan Furst

Tom Clancy: Code of Honor, Marc Cameron

In a House of Lies, Ian Rankin

Things and Thoughts From the District

Neil Moriarty

Happy New Year to Richmond Residents!

If you have a problem you can't seem to solve on your own – Call 211 (like 911) to be connected to service organization that will help you with your problem?

Monadnock Regional School District Sues* Keene District Over School Start Times Change

Keene school district has changed the start time of the CCC** trade school to match their High School start times (starting in Sept. 2020, it moves school start time out about one hour). This puts Monadnock students at a terrible disadvantage, as Monadnock does not have the late start time program. In my opinion, not enough of our students attend even under the current start times.

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Furthermore, many kids will not attend the CCC (with late start time) because it will interfere with Monadnock extra curricular items, including sports. Say what you will about the choices kids make; never the less, this is an unfair burden on Monadnock students. I am a strong supporter of this suit.

Add Resource Officer Proposal

Your school board proposed in the FY ***2020/2021 Budget to add a part-time Swanzey police officer to the budget. Unlike the last time this proposal was made, they are not giving the voters a choice (it was on a separate warrant article – not hidden in the Operating Budget). I am collecting signatures for a partitioned Warrant Article to let the voter have a say.

Thanks for reading my article, if you have a topic you wish me to cover, a comment on a previous article, or whatever, contact me at: 603-239-4031, by mail at 782 Old Homestead Hwy, or cmoriarty@ne.rr.com.

*VERIFIED PETITION FOR INJUNCTIVE AND DECLARATORY RELIEF AND COMPLAINT AT LAW

**Cheshire Carreer Center is a State school, not a Keene school

***FY is Fiscal Year

1st Quarter Richmond Honor Roll Middle/High School

Neil Moriarty

If your child's name should be here – contact the school and release their name. The following is the 1st quarter honor roll for Monadnock – in name order, with grade and honor.

Name	Grade	Honor
Eva Bosonetto	7	Honors
Cheyenne Burt	10	Honors
Dylan Cashman	11	Honors
Aderyn Daugherty	10	Honors
Kyle Davis	9	Honors
Nathan Doyle	11	Honors

Willow Finley	11	Honors
Oliver Fougere	9	Honors
Ian Gauthier	10	Honors
Erin Harrington	7	Honors
Clayton Kulczyk	9	High Honors
Sebastian LaPlume	10	High Honors
Laci LeBlanc	9	Honors
Ivy Love	11	Honors
Elizabeth Morton	7	Honors
Caelan Purrington	10	Honors
Dean Rukstela	7	High Honors
Isabelle Schmidt `	7	High Honors
Sarina Stengle	8	Honors
Delaney Swanson	11	High honors
Anthony Tomer	11	Honors

Richmond Needs a School Board Member

Neil Moriarty

This position has a pay of \$1,000 a year which is paid in mid-December.

Congratulations

Neil Moriarty

The following RICHMOND athletes named All-State:

Delaney Swanson, Cross Country


Anthony Tomer, Boys Soccer Honorable Mention

Legislative News

Jennie Gomarlo

In September, we had two veto override sessions, and then a session to agree on the negotiated budget. Only one bill was overridden by both chambers apart from the repeal of the death penalty which happened back in May. That bill had to do with medical marijuana and wait times after switching providers.

The rest of fall was spent working on retained bills which are bills held back in committee that need more work. We will vote on those in January.




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Legislators were also fine tuning legislative requests put in for future bills. I only put in one to reduce the size of the house from 400 to 200 people. Unfortunately, I tried unsuccessfully to change that to a study committee to research both the size of the legislature and also the compensation, thereof. I may still be able to form an ad hoc committee. My reason for wanting a reduction is that 400 is a very unwieldy number of bodies, both to fit in one room (cramped!), and in the number of bills that are submitted (up to a thousand a year). I have noticed the younger people are trying to manage jobs, as well as their legislative responsibilities. It is a shame they can't just make a little more money. At 59, I am below the average age of the legislature. I truly appreciate the knowledge the leaders carry, and they will be hard to replace, but the youngsters need a fighting chance.

I have co-sponsored a bill with Craig Thompson, the at-large representative from Harrisville. The bill will include ski lift tickets in the items taxed by the meals-and-rooms tax. The revenue would be a Working Families Scholarship and go to students whose estimated family contribution is between \$6K and \$20K. It will be bundled into the governor's scholarship program. A portion would also go to the help with tuition for on-line learning at the Department of Corrections. There is ample evidence that education reduces recidivism. Lacking any broad-based tax in NH, we have to be creative about solving issues.

The County Delegation met in December to have a summary review of the proposed budget for 2020-2021. The commissioners proposed a budget of \$58 million, of which, \$6.9 million is for a bond to buy the new court house. There is no tax impact the first few years of the bond and the revenue generated in those years should offset the few years where there is a deficit. The tax impact is \$29 million, an increase of \$800,000, representing a 2.86% increase over this year's budget. Most increases are due to normal wage adjustments. Some are for Medicaid assistance for Cheshire County residents (federal pays 50% and county pays 50%). There are also increases for some outside agencies which serve the community in various ways. The delegation's executive committee will go through the budget, line by line, in January and February until a final version is reached and presented to the whole delegation for approval.

I hope you enjoyed the holiday season and are keeping warm. I am grateful for my woodstove.

gomarlo@leg.state.nh.us 352-9282

November 2019 Council Meetings

Debora Pignatelli, Executive Councilor, NHDistrict 5
One of our duties as councilors is to set the toll rates at all our tollbooths. Since I joined the Council in 2004, I have been working to help Merrimack residents with their tollbooth situation. There have been three exits in Merrimack and six tollbooths! You could not get in or out of Merrimack without paying a toll. Although I worked on this issue for the last 17 years, I never had two other councilors join me in reducing toll rates. This past meeting, I proposed lowering the rates at Exit 11 in Merrimack to zero. It passed!

I am crossing this accomplishment off my bucket list! Thanks to those town leaders, State elected officials, and my fellow councilors for seeing the unfairness in this situation and joining me in this solution.

November 25, 2019 Meeting

#4A. Authorized the nomination of Lieutenant Colonel James H. Kelly, Hollis, NH, for promotion to the rank of Colonel, NH Army National Guard. This officer meets all prerequisites for this grade, having been found to be physically, mentally, and professionally qualified.

VOTE: 5-0

#5A. Authorized to amend an award of grant funds in the amount of \$300,000 to the Town of Peterborough (originally approved by G&C on 5-2-18, item #64), to install and operate a biomass thermal heating and cooling system at the Peterborough Town Library, by extending the completion date from December 31, 2019 to December 31, 2020. 100% Renewable Energy Fund, a non-lapsing dedicated fund appropriated to the Commission. No Additional Funding. **VOTE: 5-0**

#28A. Authorized to decrease the rate of tolls at the F.E. Everett Turnpike Exit 11 ramp toll plazas in Merrimack to \$0.00 for all vehicles. Effective January 1, 2020.

VOTE: 5-0

#64. Authorized to transfer a permit from Robert King (originally approved by G&C on 7-11-18, item #43) to the new owners of the property Jason and Tara Bayko, to perform work on Lake Winnepesaukee in Wolfeboro.

VOTE: 4-1 (Pignatelli)

#72A. Authorized to enter into a contract with Crown NH Gaming LLC, d/b/a DraftKings of Boston, MA, to provide sports betting systems, equipment, and services to operate mobile and retail sports books within the State. Effective upon G&C approval through June 30, 2026, with the option to extend by two additional terms of two years each. (2) Further Authorized to amend a

contract with Intralot Inc., Duluth, GA (originally approved by G&C on 9-9-09, item #133), to add a scope of work to provide sports betting systems and services to operate lottery-based sports wagering. The proposed amendment will not extend the term of the contract, which is set to expire June 30, 2025. 100% Lottery Funds. **VOTE: 4-0-1** (Pignatelli recused).

My husband's law firm, Rath, Young and Pignatelli, does some lobbying and this vendor. DraftKings is one of their clients. My husband does not do any lobbying, but I think it best to recuse myself in all these situations.

#109. Authorized the Division of Public Works Design and Construction to enter into a contract amendment with Fulcrum Associates Inc., Amherst, NH (originally approved by G&C on 12-19-18, item #73), for work to be performed for the Department of Military Affairs and Veterans Services' NH Army National Guard Civil Support Team, Concord, NH, by increasing the contingency amount not to exceed \$135,000 from \$2,600,315 to \$2,735,315. Effective upon G&C approval through December 20, 2019. 100% Capital-General Funds. **VOTE: 5-0**

#111. Authorized the list of Governor and Council meeting dates for the period of January through June 2020. **VOTE: 5-0**

November 6, 2019 Meeting

#11. Authorize to enter into sole source agreements with Granite Recovery Respite LLC, Salem, NH; and NH Respite LLC, Nashua, NH, to provide crisis respite beds in an amount not to exceed \$2,111,500. (2)Further authorize advance payment in an amount not to exceed \$65,304 to NH Respite LLC for startup costs, hiring staff and readiness activities. Effective upon G&C approval through September 29, 2020. 100% Federal Funds.

#39. Authorize to award a grant to the Pine Grove MHP Cooperative Inc., Swanzey, NH, in the amount not to exceed \$534,038 for water system improvements. Effective upon G&C approval through December 1, 2020.



100% Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund. (2)Further authorize a loan agreement with the Pine Grove MHP Cooperative Inc., Swanzey, NH, in the amount not to exceed \$500,000 to finance water system improvements. Effective upon G&C approval. 100% Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Repayment Funds. **#41.** Authorize to accept the gift of a 0.213 acre parcel of land from Etchstone Properties Inc., Nashua, NH.

If you know of others who might like to receive these minutes, contact me so that I can add them to the list, or they can [add themselves here](#).

Parks and Recreation

Karen Daugherty

I hope everyone is enjoying the winter season so far. In December, we showed the movie *Home Alone* at Camp Takodah, along with crafts and goodies! It was wonderful to have early snow. Let's hope we have lots of it for the Winter Event on January 11th!

Thank you to Roxanne Hubert and the other participating ladies who have introduced the town to BUNKO and Ladies Game Night. It has been a blast! There are a couple of changes to Ladies Game Night. February's will be on the 21st, and April's will be on the 17th.
January 10, 6PM Veteran's Hall Ladies Game Night
January 11, 11-1PM Winter Event
February 21, 6PM Veteran's Hall Ladies Game Night
February 22, 1-3PM movie time at Camp Takodah
March 13th, 6PM Veteran's Hall Ladies Game Night
April 17, 6PM Veteran's Hall Ladies Game Night
April 2020 Annual Easter Egg Hunt
Spring 2020 Roadside Clean-up
June 2020 Annual Summer Picnic and Tie Dye party

An Eagle-Eyed Eagle Scout

Bonnie McCarthy

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\$	WANTED TO BUY			\$
\$	Toys	Vintage Photographs and Clothing	Tools	\$
\$	Pottery	Blue Decorated Stoneware	Old Radios	\$
\$	Frames	Musical Instruments	Old Telephones	\$
\$	Cameras		Old Electric Fans	\$
	Danny Wahl	We are currently looking to purchase many different items, including but not limited to these items	603-239-7200	

have never had the opportunity to see their top floor meeting room. I recently met with Eagle Scout Ben Stanley and his father Bob, to view the recently, pristinely refurbished room. When I asked for a “before” description, Bob said, “It looked like a bunch of bachelors lived here.” Let your imaginations run wild.

Ben Stanley, age 15, is a junior fire fighter and his dad is a member of the squad. The family is originally from Leominster, MA, where they ran a family farm for generations. Sadly, urban living encroached on their livelihood. Three years ago, they found peaceful acreage in Richmond and relocated “Stanley Farms.” Currently, the farm services only prior customers, but future plans call for a farm store.

Ben is a sophomore at Monadnock Regional High School and a member of the football team playing both left guard and defensive tackle. He has been active in scouting his entire life and is currently a member of Boy Scout Troop #151 in Leominster, MA. Ben, a born leader, has worked his way up the ranks as Senior Patrol Leader (3 years), Patrol Leader (1 year) and now as the Junior Assistant Scout Leader. Among its many activities, Troop #151 specializes in honoring veterans, and because of his troop leadership, Ben was awarded the Veteran’s Service of the Year from the State of Massachusetts in 2018. Under the sponsorship of the Boston Bruins, the 20-member troop mans the *Trees for Sol-*

diers program in Leominster. Every Saturday and Sunday in December, the scouts give an estimated 1000 trees per weekend to soldiers at no cost. This involves helping the soldiers choose trees and load the trees for transportation home. After the holidays, the next big volunteer project is to be active in welcoming the Vietnam Traveling Wall to Townsend, MA on the third week of August, 2020. Operation Services will bring a life-size, steel replica in pieces of the Vietnam Wall in Washington DC to Townsend, volunteers like Troop #151 will construct it.

When Ben became an Eagle Scout, he had to settle on an Eagle Scout Project and obtain approval from the Boy Scout Troop Counsel. Being a member of the Richmond Fire Department, he was familiar with the unsatisfactory upstairs meeting room, and decided, with the unanimous approval of his fellow fire fighters, to make its renovation his project. Preplanning of work involved financing, arranging for materials, and personnel needed. Upon approval, Ben coordinated gutting the room with help from his father and four members of Troop #151. New flooring was laid. New dry wall was put up, spackled, and painted. New light fixtures were put in the new ceiling with the much-appreciated help of Ben Crosby Electric. A striking new sign designating “25 House” was created by Johnson Lettering and hung to honor Fire House #25 and their new meeting room. The only



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remnants of the old room are the doors and the trim.

Finally, Eagle Scout Ben Stanley sends sincere thanks to all his volunteer helpers. He also offers deep gratitude to Ben Crosby and Mark Johnson, who provided their electrical and lettering services at discounted prices. Ben supplied the vast majority of the financing for his project from his wages working on the family farm. Ben's future plans? He is not interested in farming or college, but in scouting and firefighting.

How To Simulate Shipboard Life At Home.

Jeani Eismont

In 2001 and 2002, I spent 7 months aboard the Tall Ship Picton-Castle. I found this funny article by someone who also trained on that ship. If you can't picture being on the ship, use this guide to see how it feels at home.

Kat Spencer-Sunday, Aug 11, 2019, Minutes, Picton-Castle

- Sleep on the shelf in your hall closet.
- Replace the closet door with a curtain.
- Four hours after you go to sleep, have your roommate whip open the curtain, shine a flashlight in your eyes, and mumble: "whoops, sorry wrong rack."
- Leave the lawn mower running in your living room for 24 hours.
- Smash your forehead and shins with a hammer to simulate collision injuries sustained onboard ship.
- Have the paperboy give you a haircut.
- Invite twenty people who you don't really like, to stay with you for a few weeks/months.
- Install a 6" fluorescent light under your coffee table, then lie under it to read a book.
- Use 17 scoops of coffee for 8 cups of water, let it stand for 6 hours with the grounds still in the pot, and then drink it.
- Every week carry out one of the following: a fire drill, an evacuation drill, a man over the roof drill.
- Have someone you have known for three days climb onto the roof of your house and vomit into the wind, getting it all over themselves and you.
- Splatter all of your clothes with tar.
- Wake up at 2 AM and patrol the house for 2 hours.
- Climb telephone poles of questionable structural integrity.
- Record a friend/family member snoring. Turn recording up to full volume and place it under your bed.
- Have people you know randomly shout ALL HANDS ON DECK!!! throughout the day and night.
- Take afternoon naps while wearing a harness.

- Spend an hour every morning polishing all the brass in your house.
- Cover at least 2 lights in every room with red cellophane and leave them on 24/7.
- Request permission to come aboard prior to stepping onto your friend's porch when visiting.
- Monitor all home appliances hourly, recording all vital information (ie: plugged in, lights come on when doors open, etc).
- Lock the bathroom twice a day for a 4-hour period.
- Never sleep for longer than 4 hours.
- Listen to your favorite CD 6 times a day for 2 weeks.
- Cut a twin mattress in half and enclose three sides of your bed. Add a roof that prevents you from sitting up (about 10 in. is a good distance) then place it on a platform that is 4 feet off the floor. Place a small dead animal under the bed to simulate the smell of your bunkmate's socks.
- Every day, bring 40 strangers into your home, show them how all the appliances work, explain the history of your house in detail, and field the following questions: "Is this a REAL house?" "Those are just for show. You don't really use them, right?"

Tortellini Tomato Spinach Soup

Terri O'Rorke

A delicious soup with crusty Italian bread.

10 oz. frozen spinach, drained and chopped

1 Tblsp. olive oil

1 minced garlic clove

1/2 C. minced onion

14 oz. can diced tomatoes

1/4 C. Parmesan cheese

4-6 C. chicken broth

9-10 oz. tortellini

salt and pepper to taste

In soup pot, heat oil over medium-high heat. Add onion and garlic, stirring for about 5 mins. Add broth and tomatoes. Bring to a boil on high heat. Add tortellini and cook according to package directions. About 2 minutes before pasta is done, add the spinach. Season with salt and pepper; serves 4.



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Town Business Hours

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William Daniels, Doug Bersaw, Andrew Wallace

Mon. 9 AM – 12 PM, 3 – 7 PM, 5:30 – 7 PM for business

7 PM – ? for public concerns)

Wed. 9 AM – 1 PM

Thurs. 9 AM – 12 NOON (unless posted)

Public is welcome to attend. Please call for an
appointment if you have an item for the agenda.

Town Administrator: Susan Harrington

Administrative Assistant: Jennifer Thompson

Town Clerk: Annette Tokunaga

Deputy Town Clerk: Martine Imon

Mon. 9 AM – 12 NOON, 1 – 4 PM, 6 – 8 PM

Wed. 9 – 12 noon, 1 – 4 PM, Thurs. 9 AM – 12 NOON

Tax Collector: Steve Boscarino

Deputy Tax Collector: Ann Dea Whippen

Mon. 6 PM – 8 PM, Wed. 9 AM – 12 NOON

Planning Board:

Meetings held at Veterans Hall.

1st Tues. of the month – 7:30 PM

and 3rd Tues. if needed

Transfer Station and Recycling Facility: 239-8136

Tues. 8 AM – 4 PM, Thurs. 8 AM – 7 PM

Sat. 8 AM – 5 PM

Town Library: Wendy O'Brien, Librarian, 239-6164.

Tues. 3 PM – 7 PM, Wed. 9 AM – 12 NOON

Thurs. 3 PM – 7 PM, Sat. 10 AM – 2 PM

Police (Non Emergency): 355-2000

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Fire Warden: Ed Atkins, 392-2027

Selectmen – 239-4232

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