7. Recommended Votes for Articles 57 and 58

ARTICLE 57 APPROPRIATION/ COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUND

To see if the Town will vote to make appropriations from the Community Preservation Fund for eligible community preservation projects; for community preservation reserve accounts for historic preservation, open space and recreation, and affordable housing; for Community Preservation Committee administrative expenses or other eligible expenses; or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted at the request of the Community Preservation Committee)

VOTED:

- (1) That the Town take the following actions to appropriate funds for 2017 CPA projects, with each project considered a separate appropriation:
 - (a) That the sum of \$636,749 be appropriated from FY2017 Community Preservation Fund revenues to the Arlington Park and Recreation Commission's *Robbins Farm Park Field and ADA Renovation* project for the rehabilitation of recreational land, subject to the scope of work, budget and terms in the finalized proposal 3/16/16, such funds to be expended under the direction of the Park and Recreation Commission and the Community Preservation Committee. (9-0)
 - (b) That the sum of \$289,000 be appropriated from FY2017 Community Preservation Fund revenues to the Town of Arlington's *Rehabilitation of the Whittemore-Robbins Carriage House* project for the preservation of historic resources, subject to the scope of work, budget and terms in the revised project proposal dated 3/24/16, such funds to be expended under the direction of the Department of Health and Human Services, the Arlington Historical Commission, and the Community Preservation Committee. (9-0)
 - (c) That the sum of \$49,760 be appropriated from FY2017 Community Preservation Fund revenues for the Arlington Conservation Commission's *Spy Pond Edge and Erosion Control* project for the preservation of open space, subject to the scope of work, budget and terms in the project proposal dated 2/19/16, such funds to be expended under the direction of the Conservation Commission and the Community Preservation Committee. (9-0)

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- (d) That the sum of \$200,000 be appropriated from FY2017 Community Preservation Fund revenues to the Arlington Housing Authority's *Drake Village Window Replacement* project for the preservation of affordable community housing, subject to the scope of work, budget and terms in the proposal dated 2/18/16 and revised effective 3/29/16, such funds to be expended under the direction of the Arlington Housing Authority and the Community Preservation Committee. (9-0)
- (e) That the sum of \$200,000 be appropriated from FY2017 Community Preservation Fund revenues to the Housing Corporation of Arlington's *Kimball Farmer House* project for the creation of affordable community housing, subject to the scope of work, budget and terms in the revised project proposal dated 3/24/16, such funds to be expended under the direction of the Housing Corporation of Arlington and the Community Preservation Committee. (8-1)

COMMENT:

The Committee recommends the above CPA projects to Town Meeting for FY2017 funding, having carefully vetted each application for compliance with the CPA law, feasibility, importance, budget justification, sustainability and other criteria. Each project is described earlier in this report.

- (2) That the Town take the following actions regarding reserves and administrative expenses:
 - (a) Appropriate the sum of \$77,350 from FY2017 Community Preservation Fund revenues to a CPA Administrative Expenses account for eligible FY2017 administrative expenses, such funds to be expended under the direction of the Community Preservation Committee. (9-0)
 - (b) Reserve \$94,141 from FY2017 Community Preservation Fund revenues to a CPA Budgeted Reserve account for later FY2017 Town Meeting appropriation for any CPA purpose. (9-0)

COMMENT:

(a) The CPA committee is requesting the maximum 5% appropriation for CPA administrative expenses permitted by the CPA law. This account will be treated as a reserve to be used only as necessary, with the unspent balance returned at the end of the fiscal year to Arlington's general CPA fund for future Town Meeting appropriation, as required by law. The purpose of the administrative expenses account is to protect the Town's operating budget from CPA Committee costs wherever allowed by the CPA law. Depending on the new proposals brought before the committee, such expenses could include legal consultation, environmental or land surveys or other due diligence required of the committee to fully vet proposed CPA projects, costs that would otherwise fall on the Town operating budget. The CPA Committee will also require some staff support for

administrative functions, to administer the application process, and oversee funded projects; using CPA administrative funds for this purpose avoids unnecessary use of regular Town employee time funded by the operating budget.

- (b) \$94,141 is the balance of anticipated F2017 CPA revenues remaining after the recommended transfers and appropriations above. Transferring this balance into the CPA Budgeted Reserve allows Town Meeting access to these monies for later appropriation in FY2017 for CPA projects, should it so desire. Otherwise, these funds would be unavailable until FY2018 after the tax rate is set later this year.
- (3) That, *if necessary*, the Town take the following actions:
 - (a) Reserve the sum of \$154,700 from FY2017 Community Preservation Fund revenues to an Open Space and Recreation Reserve account, for later Town Meeting appropriation for open space and recreational land purposes. (9-0)
 - (b) Reserve the sum of \$154,700 from FY2017 Community Preservation Fund revenues to a Community Housing Reserve account for later Town Meeting appropriation for community housing purposes. (9-0)
 - (c) Reserve the sum of \$154,700 from FY2017 Community Preservation Fund revenues to a Historic Resources Reserve account for later Town Meeting appropriation for historic resources purposes. (9-0)

COMMENT:

These final three actions are included as a contingency should Town Meeting decline in vote (1) to appropriate at least 10% of Arlington's CPA revenues (\$1,540,700 in FY2017) in each of three CPA categories (open space and recreation, community housing, historic preservation). In short, if Town Meeting approves vote (1) under this article as set forth herein, this third vote is rendered moot and a member of the CPA Committee will move to change the recommended vote to "No Action." However, should Town Meeting reject vote (1), or amend it in such a fashion as to fail to appropriate 10 % of funds to requisite categories, part (3) will be necessary to avoid the need for a Special Town Meeting to appropriate or reserve sufficient funds in order to comply with the CPA law.

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