



The Pipeline

May, 2019 Volume 23, No. 1

Charlestown Incorporated 1738

All-Day Financial Referendum

June 3, 2019

Charlestown Town Hall

Poll Open 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM

To view the COMPLETE 2019—2020 Proposed Budget: <http://www.charlestownri.org>
On right hand side of home page, look under “News and Information” and select “Town Budget FY 2019—2020”

Ballot Question

1. “Shall the Town appropriate the FY 2019-2020 budget of \$16,984,199 for municipal services, as adopted by the Charlestown Town Council on May 13, 2019?”

Budget Commission's Recommendation Letter to Town Council

Dear Councilors:

The Charlestown Budget Commission's recommended budget for Fiscal Year 2020 is presented for your information and review.

The Budget Commission wishes to express its appreciation to the budget preparation contributors, Town Administrator Mr. Mark Stankiewicz, Town Treasurer Ms. Patricia Anderson, Department Heads and Administrative Assistant Michele Voislow.

The recommended budget for FY 2020 is \$30,313,520. This budget requires no increase in rates of taxation, based upon current estimates of the Grand List. The estimated Real Estate tax rate shall remain at approximately \$9.64 per thousand dollars of valuation.

The FY 2020 proposed budget is unique, incorporating funding for a Community/Recreation/Senior Center as directed by the Town Council. A construction account in the amount of \$3,095,000 is included. The Budget Commission, under separate cover, has prepared a memorandum of its review process and determination of financial funding capacity.

Budget Commission's recommendation for FY20 expenditures and comparison with the prior fiscal year:

EXPENDITURES				
	2019	2020	\$ Change	% Change
Chariho School Budget	14,216,622	13,329,321	-887,301	-6.24%
Department Expenditures	10,439,116	11,089,955	650,839	6.23%
Transfers Out *	1,225,225	957,488	-267,737	-21.85%
Debt Service	766,967	821,077	54,110	7.06%
Capital Expenditures **	1,836,716	1,020,679	-816,037	-44.43%
Community/Rec./ Sr. Center	-	3,095,000	3,095,000	
Total Recommended Budget	28,484,646	30,313,520	1,828,874	6.42%

*Reduced Transfers to reserve accounts. **Major road projects funding completed. *Continued ...*

The proposed Revenue Schedule is based upon the current best estimates of local revenues, and the Governor's proposed State transfers/grants to the Town. The Governor's local funding remains subject to State legislative action. The estimated net assessment value of the Town's Grand List is \$ 2,565,664,695, and remains subject to the Assessor's finalization and certification.

Charlestown's tax rate is among the lowest in the State of Rhode Island (3rd to 4th lowest, varies by category), and maintains its favorable tax status with this budget.

The Budget Commissions recommendation of Revenues for FY 2020 and prior year comparison is presented below:

REVENUES				
	2019	2020	\$ Change	% Change
General Fund Tax Revenue - Current Year	23,926,758	23,965,512	38,754	0.16%
General Fund Tax Revenue - Prior Years	300,000	275,000	(25,000)	-8.33%
Interest	160,000	140,000	(20,000)	-12.50%
In Lieu of Tax	7,699	7,600	(99)	-1.29%
State Reimbursement Excise Tax	243,680	296,996	53,316	21.88%
State Aid to Education	1,624,182	1,607,264	(16,918)	-1.04%
Other Governmental Revenue	392,980	385,975	(7,005)	-1.78%
Local Revenues	1,241,347	1,418,442	177,095	14.27%
Fund Balance Transfer ***	369,565	1,250,000	880,435	238.24%
Transfer from Reserve Funds ***	130,435	854,731	724,296	555.29%
Investment Income	45,000	85,000	40,000	88.89%
Other	43,000	27,000	(16,000)	-37.21%
General Fund Revenues	28,484,646	30,313,520	1,828,874	6.42%

***Large Percentage increases represent Transfers from reserves/close outs/and fund balance to fund construction.

Overall the proposed budget has increased by \$1,828,874, or 6.42%. The adjusted revenue raised by taxation is similar to last year, adjusted by growth.

Budget Commission's comments regarding major changes and recommendations for Fiscal Year 2019-2020

Charlestown Community/Recreation/Senior Center: \$3,095,000
(Transfer to Construction/Plan Reserve Account)

Information Technology Position and Service Improvements: \$236,333
Information technology position to manage computer service recommended by the consultant who examined the current IT system, its challenges and needed improvements. Funds include equipment and services needed to expeditiously implement needed operational changes.

Public Works:
Heavy truck with plow (replacement) \$157,380
Backhoe/loader (replacement) \$180,600
Road Resurfacing \$120,000

Parks and Recreation:
Charlestown Beach Parking Lot Paving \$120,000

Continued ...



2019 Spring/Summer Parks & Recreation Programs

The Charlestown Parks and Recreation Department is offering the following programs. You may register at the Charlestown Parks and Recreation Department office located in the Town Hall, or online at www.charlestownrec.com/info.

Parks & Recreation Phone Number: 364-1222

Summer Day Camp - Camp Ninigret - This Summer we will be opening registrations to Residents only for the month of April and Non-Residents registrations will begin May 1st. Due to the limitations of our facilities our camp will be capped at 150 campers. Also, we have a limited number of scholarships available and applications will be accepted on a "first come first serve" basis with Residents getting priority. Camp Ninigret is a day camp for children 5 - 12 years old located at Ninigret Park. Camp Ninigret provides sports, games, swimming, arts and crafts, weekly performers and field trips with an experienced and enthusiastic staff. The camp utilizes Ninigret Park's great facilities which include Little Nini Pond, many large fields, basketball courts, tennis courts, bike path, two covered pavilions, picnic tables and a playground. The campers are broken up into age appropriate groups and move from activity to activity throughout the day. We break the summer up into 3 sessions. The 1st session is 5 weeks long from June 24th - July 26th. The 2nd and 3rd are extended week sessions and are from July 29th - August 2nd and August 5th -9th. Check our web-site www.charlestownrec.com for more information. **NOTE: There is no camp July 4th.**



Summer CIT/Leadership- Is your child too young for a job but too old for traditional summer camps? We've got you covered. Our CIT / Leadership program is designed for children ages 13 - 17 and looking to build a resume for future summer employment. The program will provide leadership experience working with our camp children and participating in certification classes, speakers and getting constant feedback from our experienced CIT / Leadership staff. Participants will get CPR/ First Aid certified, have group discussions about working with children and the community, and go on leadership trips.

Tennis Lessons - Serving up tennis instruction you're sure to love! Your child will have a ball learning from Don Fair. Get the racket out of your house and onto the court.

Summer Session – Instructor: Don Fair

Location: Ninigret Park Tennis Courts

Date: July 8th to August 23rd

Time: Mon, Wed, Fri

Fee: \$120/student / 6 - 8 Year Olds - 8:00 am - 9:00 am / 9 - 11 Year Olds 9:00 am - 10:00 am / 12-17 Year Olds 10:00 am - 11:00 am



Summer Concerts Join us select Sundays at Ninigret Park, New Pavilion (near the playground) from 5 pm -7 pm for our free summer concerts.

Hustle Souls - June 30th -Hustle Souls is an Asheville, NC based groove-centric but emotionally driven soul/rock band with a lust for songwriting and fervid live performance. With years of relentless touring, sold-out shows and major festival appearances, the band's infectious modern meets vintage sound has earned them a reputation as one of the East Coast's most promising acts.

Phil Adams Group -July 7th - Phil Adams is a talented, young musician based in Westerly, RI. Plays inspired originals and eclectic covers that range from classic rock, jam band and everything in-between. Sponsored by Dr.Stuart V. Demirs.

Will Evans - July 21st - Sponsored by Arrowhead Dental - Will Evans has spent the last decade as the primary songwriter, drummer, and front man for the Roots Rock outfit Barefoot Truth. The band released four full-length albums and has surpassed over 20 million plays on Spotify. In his live performances, Will uses his impressive looping skills to combine his drumming background with his highly energized and entertaining acoustic style.

Continued on next page..

Jabbawaukee with Peak - July 28th - Sponsored by Charlestown Chamber of Commerce
Jabbawaukee is a Providence based quintet that utilizes every trick in their musical bag of sorcery. With their experimentation of psychedelic rock, display of song writing sensibilities and vocal harmonies of Americana, driving elements of blues, explosion of booty shaking funk and execution of lock tight changes.

Bernard John - August 11th - Direct and sincere, Bernard John writes songs for both the heartbreakers and the broken hearted. His voice and lyrics powerfully fill a room without any hint of restraint. If melancholy is the bread, then hope is the butter.

James DeSalvo - August 18th - Sponsored by Pats Power Equipment - 2016 Wakefield Idol winner James DeSalvo will entertain with a mix of great originals and covers from reggae to rock favorites. He brings tons of energy to every show with his powerful vocals and unique sound.

Summer Movies - Join us at Ninigret Park at dusk this summer for free movie night at the field across from the playground!

July 10th - LEGO[®] Movie 2
July 17th - Ralph Breaks the Internet
July 24th - The House with a Clock in Its Walls
July 31st - Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald

**MOVIES
for the
FAMILY**

Swimming Lessons - Dive into summer with youth swimming lessons. Learn with our Life Guard certified swimming instructors at Little Nini pond.

Location: Little Nini Pond, Ninigret Park

Date: Mon, Wed -Session 1 - 7/8 - 7/24 Session 2 - 7/29 - 8/14 **Time:** 9:00 am – 10:45 am

Fee: \$60 per session - 3 - 5 Year Olds 9:00 am - 9:45 am Ages 6 + 10:00 am - 10:45 am

The first class of each new session will meet at 9:00 am to determine levels for weeks to follow.



Junior Golf - Instructor Lou Toscano has been teaching golf for more than 10 years. Lou's experience has provided him with the unique ability to explain the golf swing in simple, easily understood terms. Every facet of the game is covered including iron play, driving, short game, putting, and course management.

Location: Winnapaug Country Club • Shore Road • Westerly

Dates: Tuesdays: (6/25 - 7/16) 1:00 - 2:00 / 2:00 - 3:00 -Wednesdays: (6/26 - 7/17) 1:00 - 2:00 / 2:00 - 3:00 (7/10 - 7/31) 9:00 - 10:00 / 10 - 11:00 -Thursdays: (6/27 - 7/19) 1:00 - 2:00 / 2:00 - 3:00

Fee: \$125.00 (includes four 1 hour lessons, range balls, greens fees) Three Day Golf Clinic: Mon.- Wed. 7/1 - 7/3 9:00 am - 12:00 pm - Fee: \$275.00 (Includes 9 hours of instruction, balls, greens fees, lunch on last day)

To register contact Lou Toscano at biglou52@cox.net or 401-932-9126

www.loutoscanogolfinstruction.com



Charlestown BEACH Bags, MARKET Totes

and INSULATED Bags are in Stock

and available at Town Hall

and at Local Participating Merchants!

**The
Perfect Summer
Accessory**



Charlestown Animals in Need of "Forever Homes"

Jasmine



Seagan

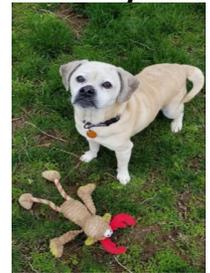


Molly



SeaSea

Lily



Call 364-1211
to inquire about
any of these
terrific pets!



HOURS
M - F 8:30 am - 4:00 pm
Saturday 8:00 am - noon
Please call first

News from the Tax Collector's Office - 4th Quarter Taxes Due

The 2018 4th quarter installment is now due and will be delinquent after June 1st, 2019. Make sure to call for interest figures if your account is past due.

Credit card payments can be made by phone, in person or online. Official Payments Corp. can be accessed by linking through the Town Website www.charlestownri.org or directly @ www.officialpayments.com as well as by phone at 888-272-9829. You will need to know your account number and the jurisdiction code (4902). We have an additional credit card service, RleGov, which requires both an acct# and PIN#. You can pay online at www.RleGovernment.com. You will find your personal PIN# on your tax bill or delinquent notice. RleGov charges a convenience fee of approximately 3%, where Official Payments charges a slightly higher percentage. If you need any assistance with paying by credit card, please contact our office at 401-364-1234.

As always, payments will be accepted at the Tax Collector's office. There is a drop box at the building entrance; in case you are unable to pay during normal business hours. If a receipt is requested, please enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope.

This is the 2nd year we have been utilizing the Lockbox. If you want a receipt for your payment, you will need to submit your payment to 4540 South County Trail with a self-addressed stamped envelope. The Lockbox Company cannot post to your actual account; therefore all requests for receipts must be sent to the Town Hall address @ 4540 South County Trail, Charlestown RI 02813. We will continue to utilize the Lockbox for this coming Tax season, so please keep an eye out for any information regarding the new Tax Bills.

If you are interested in signing up for ACH Withdrawals, please contact this office and we can assist you in the process. Your payments will be deducted from your either your checking or savings account and you can choose from the following options: annual/quarterly/monthly/bi-weekly or weekly.

Be on the lookout for your 2019 Tax Bill. The 2019 Tax Bills will be printed and mailed by the middle of July. The 1st Quarter is due August 1st and late after September 1st. If your bill is under \$100.00, the entire bill is due in the 1st Quarter.

Historic Card House Murals Installed in Council Chambers



Gen. Washington

The Card House, built circa 1732, is located across from the Rathskeller on Old Coach Road. About ten years ago, owners Tom and Patricia Ready undertook the restoration of this old house, when original walls and beams were uncovered, exposing these relics of American art and period décor. During an earlier process of updating the old house, perhaps in the latter 1800's, a great deal of damage was done to these murals, believed to have been executed between June 15th, 1836 and January 26th, 1837. At that time, there were twenty-five states in the Union and stars on the American flag, which appear to be represented above the patriotic images of the American Eagle on both murals. The figure of Lady Justice adorns each mural as well.

The iconic figures pictured are, President George Washington and the Marquis de Lafayette. It is believed that the presentation of Lafayette was not only intended to represent the unity and close relationship of these two men during the American Revolution and thereafter, but also perhaps to coincide with Lafayette's celebratory tour of America in 1824, which included our state of Rhode Island.

A presentation of these images appear in a book entitled, "Painted Rooms of Rhode Island", but Ann Eckert Brown, and are described as being, "executed with large, intricate, well-cut stencils in a three-color overlay procedure, demonstrating great ability and creativity on the part of the artist." The artist is unknown to us at this time. The appearance of these two iconic figures, or any human forms on art of this nature, is rare and virtually non-existent. The stenciling style seems closely related to some presented in early American homes in Wickford, RI and another particular piece found in New Hampshire. The Charlestown Historical Society will continue to research more conclusive information on this project now and in the future.



Charlestown Historical Society president Pam Lyons and vice-president Alan Angelo with one of the murals in the background.

The Charlestown Historical Society wishes to gratefully acknowledge the following organizations and persons in collaboration with this project.

The Champlin Foundation, Rhode Island
Adam Jenkins, American Institute of conservation, Philadelphia, PA
Katey Corda, Corda Conservation, Washington, DC
The Ocean House Marina, Charlestown, RI
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Ready, Charlestown, RI
Photos courtesy of Harold Hanka, The Westerly Sun

Community Center Information

The Town Council has adopted and scheduled a referendum vote on a \$16.9 million municipal budget that will result in a 0% tax increase. Included within that budget is \$3 million in funding for a Community/Recreation/Senior Center and the creation of an Ad Hoc Committee. The Committee includes: Richard Sartor (Chairman), Raymond Barry Goewey, Karen Green, Kathryn O'Connor, and Rene Pincinice. Upon budget approval by the voters at the June 3rd referendum, the Committee is charged to meet with residents and gather public comments and information on community needs.

The Committee will also select and oversee architectural and engineering services to develop a site plan and construction cost estimates. The Plans will be presented for public review, and an opportunity for modification, prior to Town Council approval and before any construction proceeds. Any resident or group wishing to meet with the committee, to share ideas or be better informed, are encouraged to send an email to CommunityCenter@CharlestownRI.org or call the Town Hall at 401-364-1210.

THE TOWN HALL PIPELINE

Charlestown Town Hall
4540 South County Trail
Charlestown, RI 02813



Time Sensitive Material

Beach Sticker Fees 2019

Resident Beach Sticker	\$ 50
Resident Senior Citizen	\$ 25
Non-Resident Beach Sticker (Blue Shutters)	\$ 100
Non-Resident Sr. Sticker (65+ Blue Shutters)	\$ 50
Cottage Pass	\$ 425
Daily Parking fee (Weekdays)	\$ 20
Daily Parking fee (Weekends)	\$ 30

As of May 1, 2019 seasonal Beach passes are available at the Town Clerk's Office. You may stop in or mail a letter of request to the Town Clerk along with your Charlestown property address, a copy of your vehicle registration, a check made payable to Town of Charlestown and a self addressed stamped envelope.

Daily Entrance Beach Fees

Charlestown Beach	
Weekdays	\$ 20
Weekends/Holidays	\$ 30
Blue Shutters	
Weekdays	\$ 20
Weekends/Holidays	\$ 30

Seasonal Hours of Operation

Mon.–Fri. (non-holidays) 9 AM to 5 PM
Sat., Sun. and Holidays 8 AM to 5 PM



Memorial Day—Labor Day
Lifeguards on Duty
WEATHER PERMITTING



Rhode Island's Bye Bye Mattress is a statewide mattress recycling program, created by a 2013 law and managed by the Mattress Recycling Council. As a participating collection site, we accept mattresses and box springs for free at Charlestown Residential Collection Center (CRCC) located at Sand Hill Road In Charlestown, during the following hours of operation: Monday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM. See CRCC Note at bottom right of this page for CRCC holiday information.

Thanks to this program, the mattresses and box springs we collect are diverted from landfills and used to make other useful products like carpet padding, insulation, filters and mulch. It's also helping our community deter illegal dumping.

To learn more about Rhode Island's program, visit www.byebyemattress.com.

CRCC Reminder

Charlestown Residential Collection Center (CRCC) ID Stickers expire annually at the end of the calendar year and must be renewed at Town Hall or by mail with a copy of your registration(s) and a twenty dollar check (made out to CRCC) for each sticker. Please call Alan at (401) 364-1230 weekdays with questions.



A very helpful online resource for questions about how to recycle various items is located at www.rirrc.org. Go to A-Z Recyclopedia.

Town Hall Contact Info

364-1210 Town Administrator
364-1215 Building/Zoning
364-1230 Dept. of Public Works
364-1222 Parks & Recreation
364-1225 Planning
364-1233 Tax Assessor's
364-1234 Tax Collector's
364-1200 Town Clerk
364-1235 Treasurer
364-1212 Police (non-emergency)
364-1076 Public Assistance
364-5030 Wastewater Mgt.



Address:

4540 South County Trail, Charlestown RI 02813

Town Hall Hours: M-F 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM

Animal Shelter: Call ahead, 364-1211

M-F 8:30 AM – 4:00 PM, Saturday 8:00 AM to Noon

CRCC Hours: M, TH, FRI, SA, 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM

NOTE: If a holiday falls on a Sunday, it will be observed the next day (Monday). If a holiday falls on a Monday, the CRCC does not open another day to compensate.