

The Arrow

May
2008 Newsletter

Volume 18
Issue 2

New School Budget Approval Process!

By John Fraser, Town Manager

Beginning with the current budget approval process, there will be new procedures to follow in order for the school budget to be approved by Arundel's residents. Instead of approving the school budget through a simple show of hands at the annual town meeting, the town is now required, by statute, to hold a School Budget meeting in a traditional town meeting style (7PM, June 2, 2008) where we will vote a new set of eleven warrant articles entitled "Cost Center Categories". Once the school budget is approved the town must then hold a "School Budget Validation Referendum" within ten days to vote on a single article accepting or rejecting the entire budget (8AM to 8PM, June 10, 2008). Should the budget fail to pass the referendum vote the entire process is repeated until a budget is successfully adopted.

As I am sure you are well aware, the Governor has pledged not to raise taxes to balance his budget or to make up current deficits. Unfortunately, you will feel the end result of that decision when you receive your property tax bill this fall primarily because the governor's budget cut approximately \$39 million dollars from the State Subsidy payments made to local school districts resulting in flat funding for Arundel's School Department next fiscal year (the normal yearly increase in the subsidy has averaged over \$245,000 over the last several years). This flat funding is in conflict with the "Peoples" referendum vote a few years ago requiring the state to fund 55% of education costs and 100% of Special Education – this has not been achieved as Arundel is currently receiving only 51.7%!

The proposed Arundel School Budget for Fiscal Year 2009 is \$ 6,616,519, which is a net increase of 14.7% from last year's enacted budget. It is important that you re-

view the insert the Arundel School Department has placed in the newsletter so that you fully understand their budget prior to voting next month.

The Town's gross budget for Fiscal Year 2009 is \$2,555,861, or \$78,608 less than last year's (this is \$260,650 under the limit imposed by LD1). However, due to the economic times that we are going through, our anticipated revenues will be decreasing by an estimated \$47,450, so our net budget (the portion to be raised from taxes) will be \$943,525 or a \$31,158 decrease from last year. The Town Budget will still be voted on at the annual town meeting along with the amendments to the Residential Growth Ordinance and the Land Use Ordinance.



For those of you that would like to review the Town Meeting Warrants prior to the publication of the Town Report, please visit our website (www.arundelmaine.org).

LAND USE & RESIDENTIAL GROWTH ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS

By Aaron Shields, Town Planner

Over the last several months the Planning Board has held countless meetings to work on amendments to both the Land Use Ordinance and the Residential Growth Ordinance in order to have the proposed amendments ready for the June 2008 Town Meeting. Below I have highlighted the Articles and the proposed amendments and tried to give a brief and easy explanation as to what they're about and why they are being proposed.

ARTICLE 4: Shall the town vote to adopt an ordinance entitled "Amendment to the Arundel Land Use Ordinance Sections 9.7.B.1.a and 9.7.D"? This amendment is proposed so that the Town will be appropriately reimbursed for its time and expenses when working on Conditional Use Applications. Currently there is a small fee that does not come close to covering the expenses or time involved for reviews and this amendment will ensure that the taxpayers will not be covering costs associated with private developments. The new permit fee is based on the average fees of a multi-town fee survey and is still on the lower side in comparison to several of our neighboring communities. There is also a minor change in wording to one of the sections that will make it consistent with another section of the ordinance with the same reference.

ARTICLE 5: Shall the Town vote to adopt an ordinance entitled "Amendment to the Arundel Land Use Ordinance Sections 2.2 (Definitions), 5.1 (Non-Conformance), 6.2 (District Regulations), 7 (Performance Standards-General Requirements), and 8 (Specific Site and Use Standards)"? These amendments are mostly associated with general clean up of the ordinance language, deletion of language that is no longer relevant or that has caused confusion in past reviews, restructuring of several terms and definitions to match the land use table, changes that will assist the Code

Enforcement Officer in his interpretations, revisions that will make that section consistent with other codes and ordinances that the town has adopted and most important the addition of an Accessory Apartment section that will now allow these apartments without the need to comply with the dimensional regulations for Two-family dwellings.

ARTICLE 6: Shall the Town vote to adopt an ordinance entitled "Amendment to the Arundel Residential Growth Ordinance Sections 1.4 (c) – EXEMPTIONS and 1.7(a) – BUILDING PERMIT SELECTION SYSTEM" be enacted? The amendment is necessary to bring our current Residential Growth Ordinance into compliance with State Statute 30-A M.R.S.A. 4360. There are two proposed changes: 1.) To increase the set number of permits allocated for new homes from the current number of 36 to a new number of 40; this was determined by averaging the last 10 years of permits granted and adding 5% for annual growth. 2.) To add an additional 4 permits per year dedicated for affordable housing, these 4 permits would be in addition to the 40 permits per year mentioned above, this was also determined by averaging the last 10 years of permits granted and adding 5% for annual growth. Both of these proposed amendments would essentially increase the total possible number of building permits that the town would grant for new homes for the next year, but the Planning Board has indicated that they would like to review this ordinance annually with the possibility of future changes if the residential growth in town increases to a level that is not manageable by the town's resources.

Copies of the proposed changes have been posted on the town's web site at www.arundelmaine.org. Paper copies are also available at the town office. For further information contact Aaron D. Shields, Town Planner at 985-4201 or Email A.Shields@Roadrunner.com



ARUNDEL SCHOOL DEPARTMENT PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2008-2009

Dear Residents:

I respectfully submit the 2008-2009 School Board Budget, which was approved on May 14, 2008, to the voters of Arundel. The current economic climate in the state has had an impact on this budget. The state allocation was much less than anticipated as compared to the previous five years and the Board's concern for the impact on local taxes restricted the Board from expanding offerings to our elementary students and resulted in a "compliance" budget at best. The approved budget of \$6,616,519.00 reflects a 7.49 % increase over last year. The Arundel Budget Committee has reviewed the budget with the School Board and supports this budget.

NEW BUDGET ADOPTION PROCESS

Recent legislation has changed the actual budget approval process. The budget referendum procedure provides a "double approval" process for the school budget. First the budget is presented in a line item format for action at the school budget Town Meeting that will be held on **Monday, June 2, 2008 at 7:00 P.M. at the Mildred L. Day School gym**. This will be similar to previous Town Meeting format. A Moderator will be elected and the budget will be presented. The moderator will conduct the meeting to vote on the dollar amounts for the eleven cost centers as well as a final budget amount. After the budget is approved by the school budget Town Meeting, a school budget validation referendum will be held on **Tuesday, June 10th at the Arundel Fire Department** to vote on the question to approve or ratify the action taken at the prior Town Meeting.

After the school budget Town Meeting, "printed information" including the total proposed amounts for each cost center summary budget category article, the amounts approved at the school budget Town Meeting, and a summary of the total authorized expenditures, must be prepared and displayed at the polling place.

Residents are encouraged and urged to attend the school budget Town Meeting on June 2 in the M. L. Day School gym and to register their votes at the polls at the Arundel Fire Department on June 10, 2008.

Thank you for your continued support of the children and our schools.

BUDGET REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

The challenge of developing the 2008-2009 budget was evident as changes in state law, caused by the school consolidation mandate, indicated that state funding was in trouble. In March, Arundel received information that state funding would be slightly lower than in 2007-2008. Subsequent changes reflected that Arundel would receive a slight increase (\$7,553.00) over the previous year. This comes on the heels of 5 years of increasing state allocations to the Arundel School Department. Those increases were on average above \$250,000.00 per year. Changes to the Medicaid payments adversely affected anticipated revenues in addition to a loss of state agency client reimbursements with the closing of group homes in Arundel by Sweetser. The loss in revenues coupled with a drop in the anticipated state allocation results in an increased expenditure line of \$468,695.00 over last year.

ESSENTIAL PROGRAMS AND SERVICES CALCULATION (EPS)

The state EPS formula was designed to calculate the cost of Essential Programs and Services for all school systems statewide. Arundel will receive less in 2008-2009 than it did last year based on 100% EPS Allocation. This reduction in state aid calculation is a direct result of budget difficulties at the state level and changes in the law to encourage school district consolidation. Even though consolidation will not occur in 2008-2009, these changes resulted in Arundel receiving 50% less for system administration, 5% less for transportation, 5% less for facilities maintenance and 5% less for Special Education. With these significant reductions by the state, Arundel will be required, like most towns in the state, to pick up more of the cost of education through local taxation.

The state EPS formula also fails to include any costs in several categories of expenditures such as heating fuel, diesel, and electricity each with substantial impact on the budget.

The EPS formula **REQUIRES** us to raise 6.55 mills on our town state valuation as a minimum, this is known as the local mill rate expectation and amounts to \$2,610,175.00. If we fail to raise this amount, our subsidy is reduced.

The additional amount required locally to fund our budget of \$6,616,519.00 is \$1,029,117.00 that exceeds the EPS allocation by \$901,891.00.

REVENUE SOURCES

State GPA Contribution	\$2,802,227.00
Local Mill Rate Expectation	\$2,610,175.00
Additional Local Funds	\$1,029,117.00
Other Non-Tax Revenues	<u>\$ 175,000.00</u>
TOTAL	\$6,616,519.00

**2008-2009 BUDGET VALIDATION WARRANT ARTICLES BY NEW* COST CENTERS**

	<u>2007-2008</u>	<u>2008-2009</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Article 2 Regular Instructions			
Elementary	1,040,427.00	1,109,877.00	69,450.00
Middle School Tuition	948,360.00	1,071,750.00	123,390.00
Secondary Tuition	<u>1,745,130.00</u>	<u>1,924,960.00</u>	<u>179,830.00</u>
TOTAL	3,733,917.00	4,106,587.00	372,670.00
Article 3 Special Education			
Salaries/Benefits	315,356.00	287,715.00	-27,641.00
Other Professional Services	154,590.00	152,120.00	-2,470.00
Administration/Tuition	721,138.00	779,313.00	58,175.00
Transportation	51,000.00	51,000.00	0.00
Other expenses	<u>48,116.00</u>	<u>60,644.00</u>	<u>12,528.00</u>
TOTAL	1,290,200.00	1,330,792.00	40,592.00
Article 4 Career/Technical Education	.00	.00	.00
Article 5 Other Instruction	.00	4,350.00	4,350.00
Article 6 Student and Staff Support			
Library Services	34,221.00	35,575.00	1,354.00
Guidance Services	63,664.00	66,180.00	2,516.00
Health Services	34,939.00	34,179.00	-760.00
Technology Services	86,695.00	75,034.00	-11,661.00
Improvement of Instruction	<u>12,000.00</u>	<u>19,500.00</u>	<u>7,500.00</u>
TOTAL	231,519.00	230,468.00	-1,051.00
Article 7 System Administration			
School Board	15,255.00	22,025.00	6,770.00
Superintendent's Office	<u>137,224.00</u>	<u>129,016.00</u>	<u>-8,208.00</u>
TOTAL	152,479.00	151,041.00	-1,438.00
Article 8 School Administration	136,006.00	142,110.00	6,104.00
Article 9 Transportation/Buses	200,727.00	270,981.00	70,254.00
Article 10 Facilities/Maintenance	319,223.00	322,950.00	3,727.00
Article 11 Debt Service	91,200.00	57,240.00	-33,960.00
Article 12 Other Expenditures	.00	.00	.00
TOTAL OF ALL	6,155,271.00	6,616,519.00	461,248.00

EXPENDITURE WARRANT ARTICLES

Residents are **encouraged** and **urged** to attend the school budget Town Meeting on June 2nd in the M. L. Day School gym at 7 pm and to register their votes at the polls at the Arundel Fire Station on June 10, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,
Alton L. Hadley, III, Superintendent

*Mandated by the new consolidation law

ARUNDEL... ANNALS, TALES, AND WAYS

Did you know...that Brimstone Pond was known as Beaver Pond in the mid-1800s?

From our Town Reports...

1916 Board of Health: "The Board of Health of the Town of North Kennebunkport submit the following report for the year ending Feb. 20, 1917. But one case of contagious disease was reported to the board. Scarlet fever, one case, and this case received prompt attention and proper disinfectants were used."

1946 Superintendent's Report: "Now that the war is over and building materials will soon be obtainable, consideration should be given to the erection of a modern elementary school building, housing several of the schools located in various sections of the town. Under certain conditions grants are obtainable from the government. Our present educational system does not permit the best training for the boys and girls. Employment will become more highly competitive in the future, and elementary school preparation furnishes the groundwork for success."

1966 Warrant Article 19: "To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise by assessment and appropriate for the Removal of Snow. The Budget Committee recommends \$5000.00."

Recollections...more from Kenneth H. Taylor's autobiography:

"We had our first telephone installed in 1913. It was a wall type with hand crank run by three dry cells. Our number was 6-5-7. Local news traveled quite fast then because most everyone listened in on conversation when convenient."

"Automobiles became quite common in our neighborhood from 1914. Arthur bought a Metz, the Irving's had a Willis Overland, and the Walker's had a Cadillac until they traded it for an Oakland."

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If you have your own recollections or facts to share about Arundel's history, the Arundel Historical Society would love to hear from you!

*Send information to Arundel Historical Society
c/o Arundel Town Hall
468 Limerick Road, Arundel, ME 04046*

REMINDER: We are still interested in any information you have about Arundel's old homes. Blank forms are available at Town Hall.

Contributed by Donna derKinderen

Tri Town Little League



The league in Arundel is sponsoring a Bike Run to benefit the Arundel Tri Town Little League on Saturday, June 28th. Registration is at 8:00 a.m. and the bikes roll at 10:00 after breakfast.

Money raised by this bike run is being used to help purchase new bleachers and maintain the fields for the boys and girls baseball teams of Arundel.



The Golden Girls, an over 50 senior group, meets at the firehouse on Mondays at 10:00 am. So far we have had two speakers and a sax player for entertainment. Telephone before dropping in if you are a guest, we maybe on a picnic these summer days. FMI

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

By Dana Peck

The newly incorporated Arundel Historical Society is pleased to inform Arundel residents that there has been great progress in our recent efforts to profile the history of our town. Suzanne and Ben Madore have donated the historic John Paquette/ Lunt Family Farm of Rt. 111 to the Historical Society as a facility to house our various records, pictures and memorabilia. We are seeking a central location in town where it can be relocated for better access for all citizens. Anyone interested in leasing or donating such a sight please contact Melanie Mitchell at 283-0974 or Jake Hawkins at 283-9699.



The Maine Veterans Administration and associated veterans groups have joined our efforts to create a Veterans Memorial in town. We are presently discussing design and fund-raising efforts to make this a reality.



Recreation Updates

By Jenn Dumas, Rec Director



We still have some family 4-packs available for "Beauty and the Beast" at the Arundel Barn Playhouse....first come first serve. Final registration deadline is Thursday June 10th. The show is at 8pm on Friday, June 27, 2008. Don't miss this opportunity for your family to see a live theater production offered to Arundel residents by our very own community theater, at a drastically reduced price! Tickets are sold in 4-packs only, which include 2 adult tickets and 2 student tickets. Students can use an adult ticket, but adults cannot use a student ticket. Call 286-9241 or email arundelrec@roadrunner.com for more information.

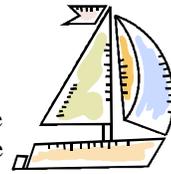
Registrations are now being accepted for our summer sports camps for grades 1-9.....basketball and soccer camps are available. See our website for full details <http://arundelmaine.org>



There is still room in our Middle School Summer Trips program for Arundel residents entering grades 6-9 in the fall. Pick and choose only the days your child wants to attend....pay by the day, the week, or the season. See our tentative list of awesome trips on our website <http://arundelmaine.org> Sign up no later than Thursday of the week before attendance.

Cub Scout Pack 330

Jay Ferrill, Cub Master



Well, the boys in Cub Scout Pack 330 have been having a great year. We started out the year with our annual snow-tubing trip in Windham. In February, we had our Pinewood Derby, and three boys went on to the District Derby. In March, we had two big celebrations, the birthday of Cub Scouting and our Cross Over Ceremony. During the Cross Over, the pack had seven boys in the Webelos 2 den receive the Arrow of Light Award, the highest award in Cub Scouts, and they were accepted into two of our local Boy Scout Troops.

Our big event this spring occurred in April when the boys participated in an overnighiter on the USS Massachusetts, a battleship in Fall River, MA. The pack arrived on a Friday night, and slept on the same bunks the soldiers slept on during W.W. II. On Saturday, we explored the battleship, a destroyer, and a submarine.

In May, the boys took part in our Raingutter Regatta. The boys were given wooden boat kits, which they assembled. On the day of the regatta, two ten foot long raingutters were filled with water, then placing their boats on one end, the boys would blow the boats to the other end with a straw. Everyone had lots of fun! I would like to take this opportunity to welcome six new cub scouts to our pack. They are already working hard to earn new achievements, awards, and participate in the scouting experience.

Even though our year is coming to a close, along with the school year, we are planning activities for the summer, and look forward to another exciting year in the fall. If you know a boy, in first through fifth grade, who may be interested in joining cub scouts, please contact me at 283-9226.

Boy Scout Troop 330

By Phil Taschereau, Scoutmaster

Our program is doing very well and this spring we had thirteen new scout joined the troop. We are growing and so are our needs! We now have thirty-seven scouts registered in our troop, which makes life very interesting at times. We are sending three adults and two scouts to Wilderness First Aid Training the end of this month in hope of being better prepared for emergencies. High adventure trips require that all scout troops leaders be trained in Wilderness First Aid Training. Do to our size, we are sending two scouts who will take the same training in hopes of better serving the needs of our troop.



Hopefully we will have a chance to see some of you at the Kennebunkport Memorial Day Parade. We are planning to attend summer camp early this year, which means that we have very little time do all the fundraisers that are needed. Once the snow melted away we were able to finally do our spring clean-up of two shopping centers, which helped to raise money. In June, the scouts are planning to do a Pancake Breakfast at Apple-bee's in Sanford. They are already selling tickets for this important

fundraiser. We are counting on your returnable bottles and cans to help us raise money to send some of our scouts to camp. The fee this year is \$295.00 per scout for one week of summer camp. We are very excited and looking forward traveling to Camp Roosevelt, which is in East Eddington, Maine for our week of camp. We would like to thank some of you for your help in this matter. Two of our scouts have received a little help which they really appreciated and would like to thank you for your kindness and support. This is the first time that we are feeling the impact of this sluggish economy. We will not be at Shopper's Village this summer selling hamburgers and hot dogs to raise money for camp, since the shopping plaza will be under construction. The scouts really enjoy Cruise Nights and look forward to next year in hopes of seeing the old cars then. We are still planning on washing cars at McDonalds again this year after we return from summer camp. If you would like to help us send a scout to camp with the donation of your bottles and cans, please call Phil at 282-2851 to arrange for pick up. We would like to "Thank You" for all of your help and support. We now have a new flat screen monitor. "Thank You"!!!



Special Dates

School Budget Meeting
Monday, June 2nd
MLD Gym at 7 p.m.



State Primary & Referendum Election
Municipal Election
School Budget Validation Referendum
Tuesday, June 10th, polls at Fire Station
Voting will be from 8 am to 8 pm

Annual Town Meeting
Wednesday, June 11th at MLD Gym at 7 pm

Copies of all both Warrants School Budget Meeting and Annual Town Meeting along with Appendices for Land Use Amendments and Residential Growth Ordinance Amendments are available at the office of the Town Clerk or on line at www.arundelmaine.org for review prior to town meeting.



Town Offices will be Closing at 2:00 p.m.
Monday, June 30th
To allow for Fiscal Year-End Closing of Accounts.

Motor Vehicle Legislative Update

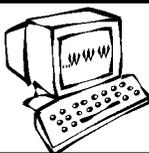
An Act to Keep Bridges Safe & Roads Passable—LD 2313 was Enacted into Law. This Act initiates a \$160 million revenue bond to be issued over the next four years for the exclusive purpose of making improvements to bridges and minor spans. The debt service on the bonds is to be paid out of the TransCap Trust Fund. The Fund is capitalized by dedicating the revenue generated by three motor vehicle fees (1) a \$10 increase in the registration fee for passenger cars, pick-up trucks, sport utility vehicles, and commercial vehicles under 6,000 lbs. (from \$25 to \$35); (2) a \$10 increase in the additional fee for obtaining a vanity license plate (from \$15 to \$25); and (3) a \$10 increase in the fee for filing an application for certificate of motor vehicle title (from \$23 to \$33). The effective date of the Act, and therefore the registration and title fee increases, begins on September 1, 2008.

Town of Arundel
468 Limerick Rd
Arundel, ME 04046

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U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 8
Kennebunkport, ME 04046



ARUNDEL RESIDENT
ARUNDEL, ME 04046



Visit the Town's WEBSITE at www.arundelmaine.org
to keep posted on meetings and events!
Renew your vehicle registration on line with Rapid Renewal www.SOSonline.org

