

Budget, library, Centre Farm among spring warrant articles

By Bill Laforme

Lynnfield voters will have 32 warrant articles awaiting them at the April 25 Town Meeting, with topics ranging from the town budget to the library building project to the status of the Centre Farm property.

On Monday night, selectmen closed the warrant with its 32 articles, many of which involve routine annual financial transactions for the town. This year, there are also a handful of warrant articles that would make small changes to language in town zoning bylaws, primarily for the purpose of clarifying them.

Among the more notable warrant articles, numbers seven and eight seek approval for the town's annual budget, and for its capital expenditures budget. Article 20 would authorize the library to apply for a state grant that if accepted, would pay for a portion of a new library being eyed for next to the Reedy Meadow Golf Course. The library held several public forums over the winter on the project, and has been emphasizing that this particular warrant article

would not actually involve any town money.

Article 21 would give selectmen the authority to sell off the Centre Farm property, which was purchased by the town a couple of years ago to protect the traditional New England character of the town center. The warrant article specifies that the property would be sold with historic preservation restrictions attached, in order to protect the rare early American features found throughout the place.

At Town Meeting, residents will also likely hear from a lifelong Lynnfield resident who hopes to fix the place up, with help from a historic preservation architect, and live there with his family. Various other proposals have come up over the past couple of years for Centre Farm, but many have been viewed as prohibitively expensive and potentially damaging to the house because of the upgrades that would have to be made to turn it into a public building.

Article 23 would authorize the town to spend around \$1 million to build a new clubhouse at the King Rail Golf Course, which is

expected to re-open this spring next to Market Street Lynnfield after a hiatus of several years.

As for article 24, the Lynnfield Mom's Group has been working to renovate the town's playgrounds, and this would authorize using about \$175,000 in town funds to improve and fix up Glen

Meadow Park.

Articles 25 through 31 involve the previously mentioned modifications to language in the town's zoning bylaws.

Finally, article 32 would establish the first town roads to be covered under the scenic roads bylaw, which was enacted last year

by Town Meeting voters. Trees, stone walls and other structures located in the public rights of way areas are protected under the scenic roads bylaw. Under article 32, Chestnut, Essex, Lowell, Main and Summer Streets would be officially designed as scenic roads in Lynnfield.

Happy Easter
and Passover
Selectman
Tom
Terranova
& Family

