

**ARTICLE 23**

**ACCEPTANCE OF LEGISLATION/VETERAN  
PROPERTY TAX WORK-OFF PROGRAM**

To see if the Town will vote to accept Massachusetts General Law Chapter 59, Section 5N, in order to authorize Arlington to establish a program to allow veterans, to volunteer to provide services in exchange for a reduction in the real property tax obligations of that veteran on the veteran's tax bills, which reduction shall be in addition to any exemption or abatement to which that person is otherwise entitled; or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted by the Board of Selectmen)

**VOTED:** That the Town does hereby adopt Section 5N of M.G.L. Ch. 59, establishing a veteran tax work off program as defined therein, including any subsequent amendments or modifications thereto and electing to allow “approved representatives” to perform the services for the Town where otherwise eligible veterans are physically unable to do so themselves; such adoption shall be effective upon acceptance.

**(4-0) Mr. Greeley was absent.**

**COMMENT:** This article represents the second measure this Board sought from Town personnel to ease the tax burdens on potentially vulnerable homeowners as a series of property tax increases are employed to meet the Town’s capital pressing improvement needs. Accepting this legislation provides the same type of new tool discussed in Article 22, but for Arlington veterans; allowing them to meet a portion of their local real property tax obligations through a volunteer “work off” program. As with the previous measure, this tool would supplement other abatement or exemption programs, but with a maximum property tax reduction of up to \$1,000.00 for calendar year.

As with the senior-oriented “work off” program, the Board also recommends this acceptance of legislation with the added option to allow an “approved representative” to perform the volunteer work for an eligible veteran if such person is physically unable to provide the approved work services.