ARTICLE 26 ACCEPTANCE OF LEGISLATION/ESTABLISHMENT OF A PARKING BENEFITS DISTRICT

To see if the Town will vote to accept provisions of Chapter 218 of the Acts of 2016 ("An Act Modernizing Municipal Finance and Government") Sections 26, 27 and 30, allowing the Town to establish Parking Benefits Districts, in which parking revenue collected therein may be designated in whole or in part for use in that district through a dedicated fund in accordance with the purposes and uses listed in Section 22A of Chapter 40; or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted at the request of the Town Manager)

VOTED: That the Town does hereby adopt provisions of Chapter 218 of the Acts of 2016 ("An Act Modernizing Municipal Finance and Government"), Sections 26, 27 and 30 regarding the authorization to establish Parking Benefits Districts in the Town of Arlington, including any subsequent amendments or modifications thereto, such adoption shall be effective upon acceptance.

(4-0) Mr. Greeley was absent.

COMMENT: The Board of Selectmen enthusiastically endorses positive action on this article, which accepts a provision of the Massachusetts Municipal Modernization Act to enable the Town to establish "Parking Benefits Districts." Through the establishment of these districts, the Town may segregate its parking revenues for expenditure in designated geographic areas (for example, the areas with parking meters) for a wide range of purposes including parking meter maintenance, increased street sweeping or snow removal, beautification, or larger street and infrastructure improvements such as lighting improvements or roadway improvements. These districts have been tremendously successful throughout the country, and represent an innovative means of focused investment, particularly in commercial districts in Town.

It should be noted that it is the Town Manager's intention that any operating improvements in a parking benefit district still be brought before the Finance Committee, while any capital improvements be brought before the Capital Planning Committee; and further that both would subsequently be presented to Town Meeting in a manner similar to the CDBG disbursements.