

MEMORANDUM

TO: Selectboard
FROM: Richmond Free Library Trustees
DATE: October 13, 2023
RE: Request for funding for Library building restoration

Our submission for a Bruhn Grant application was not approved, however, we continue to need funds to address the continued and serious deterioration of the building envelope. The language in our previous request stated that *“Should we not receive the grant, we would use the ARPA funds toward needed work and continue to phase the work while continuing to seek additional funding.”* However, in the Selectboard vote this was not the wording for the request. Hence we are resubmitting this request:

The Richmond Library Trustees would like to ask the ARPA committee to consider allocation of \$148,000 of Richmond’s ARPA funding toward the repair/restoration of the exterior of the Library building. The Library plays a vital role in our community and the building suffers from many years of deferred maintenance and the effects of weather on the exterior. With the help of 2 small grants from Preservation Trust of Vermont, we were able to have reports from preservation specialists on the specific needs of the building. These reports were also confirmed by the Breadloaf Construction report done in 2018.

Through the Town Center & Library Building Committee, we issued an RFP for all of the needed work on the building and received a bid of \$429,600 for this work. Because of the size of this estimate, this work is being done in several phases as we secure funding. The first 2 phases have been approved by the Selectboard and partially funded by a small grant from the Vermont Division of Historic Preservation. Initial woodwork and slate repair on the towers are complete and historic windows are being restored.

Based on a new building assessment by Hunger Valley Construction (attached) we would use the \$148,000 toward:

Woodwork repairs -- upper towers	\$23,000
Woodwork repairs on the main block	\$12,000
Painting (as specified in the assessment)	\$93,000
10% contingency, 3-5% inflation for next year, and Owner's Rep management fee	\$20,000
Total	\$148,000

If you have questions about this request, or need more information, please contact Laurie Dana, Chair, Richmond Free Library Trustees