

The 2021
Annual
Report





Town of Westhampton
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www.westhampton-ma.com

Dedication



After over twenty years of faithful service to the Town of Westhampton, Sgt. Fisher retired from the Westhampton Police Department at the end of 2021.

Sgt Fisher started a career in policing in 1996, and joined the Westhampton Police Department in 2007, serving for many years as a patrolman prior to his appointment as Sergeant.

Through the years, Sgt. Fisher has proven himself to be a true asset to the force – and to the Town. He exemplifies the best qualities of small town policing: embracing a connection to the community, while fairly and impartially enforcing the law.

Known for his outstanding performance on the job, Sergeant Fisher performed his duty fairly and directly, maintaining a spirit of responsiveness while keeping his focus on the greater good of the community.

In honor and gratitude to his service to the Town, the 2021 Annual Town Report is dedicated to Sergeant Floyd Fisher. We wish you the best of luck, and a long and healthy retirement!

The Westhampton Selectboard
Phil Dowling, Chair
Maureen Dempsey
Teri Anderson

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Fisher Hill Inn, also known as the "Connery House". Ca. 1905.

General Government

Report of the Selectboard

The year continued with Philip Dowling as Chair, Maureen Dempsey as Clerk and Teri Anderson.

In June, Maureen was re-elected for a three year term and the board re-organized, continuing with Phil Dowling as Chair, and Maureen Dempsey as Clerk. Cheryl Provost continued as Administrative Assistant through the end of October of 2021. After an extensive search, Douglas Finn was appointed to the position of Administrative Assistant in November of 2021.



The Selectboard wishes to thank Cheryl for her many years of dedicated service to the Town of Westhampton. Having served as Administrative Assistant since her appointment in September of 2013, Cheryl has provided invaluable support to the Town and the Selectboard for the past eight years. Cheryl supported other town departments and officers, and even filled in as Town Clerk when the need arose. We thank her for her service to Westhampton, and wish her well on her new adventure.

As members of the Selectboard, we we're humbled by the trust conferred upon us by the voters of Westhampton. We encourage residents to stay in touch, and stay informed! Check the Town's website, which offers news and information about the 'doings' of local government, and supports clear communication between residents and their town officials.

Learn more at: www.westhampton-ma.com

Covid-19, Year Two

January saw the continuance of the Covid-19 Pandemic, and the state of Emergency first declared by Governor Baker on March 10, 2019. While medical advances promised an end to the masks and social distancing, we started 2020 as we left 2019 – remotely working, remotely meeting, and seeing each other only through “Zoom” meetings.

In spite of these limitations, the Town and Selectboard were able to accomplish a great deal, including significant progress on a number of projects:

Public Safety Building

After years of planning, Town Meeting approval for funding, and a town-wide vote to accept a Proposition 2-1/2 debt exclusion for the project, the Town began work in 2021 on a new Public Safety Building, which will house the Fire and Police departments, with capacity to house emergency management staff, public health resources and more.

In preparation for the project, Police and Fire Department offices, materials and equipment were moved in the Spring of 2021 to the Westhampton's Highway Department's facility on Hathaway Road, making for a very close-quarters situation. Compromises were made by all in order to best protect the Town's valuable equipment, and maintain operational readiness.

With the relocation of the Police and Fire department operations, the town's old public safety complex was disconnected from the electric and communication grids, and demolished in Spring of 2021. Site work began shortly thereafter.

As of December, 2021, the project continues with all due haste. Members of the Public Safety Building Committee, which has overseen the project through its development and design phases, continue to oversee site work and building construction. We completion of construction, and rededication of our new facility, in the summer of 2022.

The Selectboard recognizes the extraordinary efforts made by the Public Safety Building Committee, the Highway Department crew, the volunteer firefighters and EMTs, Highway Superintendent Bill Jablonski, Fire Chief David Antosz, and Police Chief David White for their cheerful support of this undertaking. You have the Town's gratitude for your dedication and commitment to this project!

The Municipal Vulnerability Project

In 2021, two grants were received through the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs Massachusetts Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Program to help the Town prepare for weather and climate change related hazards. The planning project identified the primary hazards Westhampton is likely to experience and our strengths in meeting those challenges. Primary hazards could include: extreme rainfall and flooding, heat and drought, cold and winter storms, and wind related damage. The plan also identified priority actions the town can take to minimize impacts such as upgrading roads, bridges, and culverts; protecting emergency communication systems; planning for the future through a master plan and open space and recreation plan. The Westhampton Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Planning Grant Summary of Findings report can be found on the town's website.

The second phase of the program is to help the town comprehensively plan for the future with climate change, resilience, and sustainability in mind. The grant funds are helping us prepare the Town's first Master Plan, revise our existing Open Space & Recreation Plan, help teachers at Hampshire Regional High School incorporate climate change curriculum in the High School resulting in a student exhibition to be held in May 2021, and host a training for staff and the community on diversity, equity and inclusion.

Community participation is essential to the success of these planning projects. Two working groups have been created by the Selectboard - one for the Master Plan and one for the Open Space and Recreation Plan. There will also be several public meetings to gather input as well as community wide surveys on topics ranging from open space and recreation needs, agricultural

protection, land use development patterns, economic development, historic/cultural protection and community building. We hope you will participate in developing these important plans, vision, and strategies for the Westhampton's future.

Town Hall Upgrades and Improvements

There were a number of improvements and upgrades to Westhampton Town Hall this year, including refinishing of the floors in the main hall, new coats of paint on the interior walls and window sash, installation of a new permanently-mounted projection screen and “day-light” projector, and the addition of video-conferencing capability for the main hall and administration offices. Much of the work was accomplished through the support and assistance of dedicated volunteers and local business owners.

Acknowledgements

Finally, we recognize that the success of the town is due in a large part to contributions made by many dedicated individuals and organizations. We extend our heartfelt thanks to all who have volunteered their time and energy, skills and experience, for the betterment of the town and its residents.

Respectfully,

The Westhampton Selectboard
Phil Dowling
Maureen Dempsey
Teri Anderson

Report of the Town Clerk

Vital records are kept by the Town Clerk. The State recommends not printing the names of births due to privacy regulations. Vital records are reported for the calendar year 2021.

Births

Westhampton welcomed 3 girls and 7 boys

Marriages

02/13/2021	Martin Wysocki	to	Ellen Jean Rosati
09/25/2021	Matthew James Guglielmo	to	Brittany Anne Butler
10/16/2021	Caitlin Heather Mays	to	Eric Anderson Lees
10/17/2021	Abbey Leigh Hathaway	to	Marc Robert Szpila

Deaths

02/14/2021	Sean E. McGuire	08/17/2021	Robert T. Kingsbury
03/20/2021	Joseph Amie Auger, Jr.	08/31/2021	Brian Kent Montgomery

03/30/2021	Donald Rhoades Graham	09/07/2021	William Michael Magrone
04/17/2021	Frederick Matthew Uhlig	09/27/2021	Maria Derouin
05/11/2021	Gale Wright	10/21/2021	Marilyn Carrie Theroux
05/13/2021	John Clement Foley	11/01/2021	Samuel Michael Figarsky
05/16/2021	Laura Ann Mulligan	11/03/2021	Leslie Ann Morrey
07/29/2021	Laura Amelia Crooks	11/29/2021	Letitia Cole
08/08/2021	Thomas Frank Dunn	12/18/2021	Nancy Motyka

Dog Licenses

Total 284 Total Kennel Licenses: 0

Dog Licenses are available beginning in January each year. All dogs six months or older must be licensed by June 30th. **A current rabies certificate is required each year**, even if it is a 3 year certificate which has already been provided. Per State Law, any person whose dog is not licensed by the June deadline is subject to fines and penalties. License information is included with the annual census and a license application is available on the Town web site.

Town Meeting

Special Town Meeting February 27, 2021 was recessed and continued to March 6, 2021 due to weather. Voters approved the following by a vote of 221-69:

Motion and second was made that the Town appropriates \$4,260,000.00 to pay costs of constructing, equipping and furnishing a new public safety complex to be located at 48 Stage Road in Westhampton, the site of the current public safety complex, to demolish the current structure, and to pay all other costs incidental and related thereto, and to meet this appropriation, Town Treasurer with the approval of the Selectboard, is authorized to borrow said sum of money, under the provisions of M.G.L. c. 44, §7(1), or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor. Any premium received upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this vote, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs approved by this vote in accordance with M.G.L. c. 44, §20, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs by a like amount. No amounts shall be borrowed or expended pursuant to this vote unless the Town shall have voted to exclude the amounts required to be raised to repay any borrowing pursuant to this vote from the limitations on local property taxes set forth in M.G.L. c. 59, §29C (also known as Proposition 2½).

Special Town Election March 13, 2021 –

Voters approved the following by a vote of 350-186:

Question 1: Shall the Town of Westhampton be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one-half, so-called, the amounts required to pay for the bond issued in order to pay costs of designing, constructing, equipping and furnishing a new public safety complex to be located at 48 Stage Road in Westhampton, the site of the current public safety complex, to demolish the current structure, and to pay all other costs incidental and related thereto?

Annual Town Meeting May 8, 2021 –

Capital expenditures approved by voters from Free Cash were

\$25,000 for design and construction of a break room in the Highway Department garage (it was noted that this project would be funded and completed in two parts, this year and next) and

\$9,000 for painting interior walls and refinishing floors of the great hall at Town Hall.

Other expenditures of Free Cash approved by voters were

\$50,000 transferred to the Stabilization Fund and

\$100,000 to balance the budget.

Other business of Annual Town Meeting included passage of a Resolution Declaring Westhampton to be a Pollinator-Friendly Community. Copies of this resolution were later sent to the offices of the Governor and the MA Agricultural Resources Commissioner by the Town Clerk.

Annual Town Election June 5, 2021- There were no races or questions on the ballot. Voter turnout was a very low 93 out of 1,319 registered voters.

Population from 2021 local census	1602
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Population from 2020 Federal census	1622
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Among other services and duties, the Town Clerk provides copies of birth, death and marriage certificates, issues marriage licenses, dog licenses and business certificates, receives special permit/variance applications and voter registrations and oversees all elections. All board and committee meeting agendas are posted on the bulletin board outside the Town Clerk's office and in the "agenda mailbox" in front of Town Hall or, if you have internet, they are also posted on the Town website.

The Town Clerk office hours for public access are Wednesdays 8am – 4pm. It is still recommended that you contact the office at 413-203-3080; or better yet: email clerk@westhamptonma.org.

Thanks to all for the warm welcome to your beautiful community.

Respectfully Submitted,

Katrin Kaminsky,
Town Clerk

Report of the Treasurer

Balance July 1, 2020	\$2,729,653.20
Receipts	\$12,431,831.17
Disbursements	\$7,602,977.17
Balance June 30, 2021	\$7,558,507.20

Bank Balances

Easthampton Savings Collector	\$113,193.06
Easthampton Savings Sweep	\$13,883.08
Easthampton Savings Bank Charity	\$1,971.64
Easthampton Payroll	\$3,685.15
Unibank Fire Online Collections	\$32,536.37
MMDT General	\$211,974.39
MMDT Cultural Council	\$6,763.59
MMDT Septic Grant	\$90,701.12
Unibank General MMA	\$4,652,343.84
Unibank Online Collections	\$1,475,844.19
Unibank Deputy Collector	\$78,351.46
Clapp Trust	\$89,716.99
Easthampton Library	\$7,153.85
OPEB Trust	\$38,174.95
GermainTrust	\$5,451.73
Peoples Solar	\$285,678.71
Peoples Cemetery	\$57,838.07
MMDT Stabilization Fund	\$383,704.61
MMDT Veterans Trust	\$2,387.40
MMDT Charity	\$7,153.00
<hr/>	
Balance June 30, 2020	\$7,558,507.20
Interest Earned	\$4,674.05

Tax Title Account

Name; address	Balance due as of 6/30/2021	
Creek, Von & Jean; 105 Reservoir Rd	\$27,859.00	<i>Paid 2/8/2022</i>
Kellogg, Loretta; 225 Northwest Rd	\$9,310.39	
Lacombe, Dana; 6 Lyman Rd	\$14,190.18	
Montague, Matthew & Happy; 61 Chesterfield Rd	\$39,107.80	
O'Brien, Martin J; 42 Pine Island Lake	\$28,338.35	<i>Paid 3/8/2022</i>
Progressive Structures; Northwest Rd	\$6,756.85	
Stone, Norman; 303 Southampton Rd	\$20,799.02	
	\$146,361.59	

Report of the Tax Collector

All balances due as of June 30, 2021

Fiscal Year	Real Estate	Personal Property	Motor Vehicle
2021	\$ 57,524.96	\$ 6,610.99	\$ 42,458.80
2020	\$ 6,593.40	\$ 6,084.98	\$ 2,600.15
2019	\$ 737.02	\$ 258.65	\$ 993.06
2018	\$ -	\$ 99.09	\$ 241.57
2017	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 795.63
2016	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 575.84
2015	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 268.96
TOTALS	\$ 64,855.38	\$ 13,053.71	\$ 47,934.01
GRAND TOTAL \$125,843.10			

Real Estate and Personal Property taxes are mailed and due quarterly.

1st quarter due: August 1st
2nd quarter due: November 1st
3rd quarter due: February 1st
4th quarter due: May 1st

Motor vehicle taxes are due 30 days from issue date.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Cotton,
Town Collector

Report of the Town Accountant

July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

Receipts

TAXES

Property	4,977,686.76	
Motor Vehicle Excise	273,171.70	
Tax Liens	68,178.06	
Payments In Lieu of Taxes	80,275.09	
Rollback Taxes	4,601.56	
Interest and Penalties on Taxes	45,015.11	
		5,448,928.28

COMM MASS

Local Aid/Lottery UGGA	153,875.00	
Exemptions	1,506.00	
PILOT	2,681.00	
Chapter 70 Schools	481,862.00	
Charter School Reimbursement	2,673.00	
Vocational Transportation	3,437.00	
Extended Polling Hours	516.00	
State Aid to Libraries	4,084.47	
Veterans Reimbursements	10,772.00	
STRAP Assessment Refund	2,000.00	
School Choice Assessment Refund	2,733.00	
Charter School Assessment Refund	6,838.00	
Medicaid	2,229.21	
		675,206.68

MISC GRANTS AND GIFTS

COA – State	6,000.00	
Cultural Council	12.54	
Library Gifts	300.00	
Library Building Gift	13.69	
CTCL Election Grant	5,000.01	
CARES Postage Reimbursement	232.42	
COVID19CARES CvRF	116,525.00	
COVID CLFRF	85,671.21	
COVID COA	3,296.45	
Municipal Vulnerability Grant	20,000.00	
Green Community Grant	32,283.75	
CCC IT Grant	10,000.00	
CCC Doc Mgmt Grant	3,292.03	
		282,627.10

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Licenses Selectboard	449.00
Plumbing Fees	4,750.00
Electrical Fees	6,360.00

Building Permits	52,235.25	
Planning Board	200.00	
Zoning Permits	167.00	
Library	42.00	
Tax Collector Fees	6,477.53	
HCOG Solar Credits	4,935.53	
Mark & Clear	1,160.00	
Town Clerk Fees	4,059.50	
Other Departmental Revenue	1,054.02	
Miscellaneous Receipts	448.00	
		82,337.83

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Dept Receipts	165.00	
State DCR Grant	997.50	
Federal Fire Grant		
EMPG Grant		
Sale of Town Property (Ambulance)		
Ambulance Receipts Reserved		
		1,162.50

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Motor Vehicle Fines	1,117.50	
Police Detail Cruiser Fee	1,758.00	
Gun Permits	1,562.50	
		4,438.00

BOARD OF HEALTH

Licenses & Permits, Fees	18,650.00	
Transfer Station Fees	67,656.00	
DEP Recycling Grant	5,600.00	
Covid19Cares CvRF		
		91,906.00

REVOLVING FUNDS

Consultants C.44, 53G		
Montague Escrow 44,53G1/2	925.76	
TNC Fund	3.70	
Resource Officer	1,512.80	
Fire Dept. Revolving Fund	2,340.00	
Septic Repayment	169.74	
Cemetery Revolving Fund	12,289.50	
		17,241.50

SCHOOL FUNDS

Misc Reimbursements to Elementary School	37,520.30	
Group Health Insurance	1,494.93	
Choice Reimbursement	123,552.00	
Extra Relief Circuit Breaker	38,550.00	
GAPS/ REAPS Grant	33,910.00	
FY21 COVID Prevention	4,425.00	

ESSER II	8,584.00	
STARS MCC Grant	1,850.00	
Pre-School	33,398.50	
HCGIT Wellness Grant	600.00	
Rural School Aid	16,289.83	
School Lunch Town	731.05	
School Lunch Federal	35,398.50	
School Lunch State	4,025.00	
		340,329.11

HIGHWAY

Chapter 90	197,358.20	
Shared Streets & Spaces	61,100.00	
Highway Misc	315.00	
		258,773.20

TRUST

Clapp Trust	171.97	
Sale of Lots C.114, S.15	800.00	
Cemetery Trust	363.91	
OPEB Trust	73.16	
		1,409.04

INTEREST

On General Fund	2,201.39	
On Charity Funds	18.83	
On Veterans Trust	4.81	
On Stabilization	718.25	
		2,943.28

AGENCY

Deputy Collector Fees	3,891.00	
Gun Permits	4,687.50	
Police Outside Detail	6,732.00	
Payroll Deductions	702,545.03	
		717,855.53

PROCEEDS OF BORROWING

Safety Complex	4,434,520.25	
		4,434,520.25

TOTAL RECEIPTS		12,359,678.30
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Non-Appropriation Expenditures

TAX REFUNDS

Property Tax	5,901.01	
Motor Vehicle Excise	3,159.41	
		9,060.42

AGENCY

Deputy Collector Fees	3,485.00	
DOR Child Support	803.67	
Gun Permits	4,737.50	
Police Detail	6,812.00	
Payroll Deductions	703,047.46	
		718,885.63

SCHOOL REVOLVING FUNDS & GRANTS

GAPS/REAPS grant	21,000.07	
Extra Relief SPED Circuit Breaker	44,259.00	
Rural School Aid	16,450.00	
ESSER II	7,600.80	
Preschool	15,000.01	
School Choice	90,105.08	
STARS MCC Grant	1,200.00	
School Lunch	28,599.00	
		224,213.96

SPECIAL REVOLVING FUNDS & GRANTS

Cemetery Revolving	8,193.66	
Cultural Council	750.00	
Council on Aging State	3,729.72	
Council on Aging Federal	200.00	
CTCL Election Grant	4,996.48	
State Aid to Library	3,624.81	
Resource Officer	2,404.00	
Fire Dept. Revolving	1,538.70	
Municipal Vulnerability Grant	20,000.00	
19 EMPG Grant	2,700.00	
20 EMPG Grant	2,700.00	
CCC IT Grant	6,865.34	
Covid19Cares CvRF	23,833.54	
Covid COA	3,296.45	
HCGIT Wellness Grant	591.45	
Chapter 90 Highway Funds	197,358.20	
Shared Streets & Spaces	61,078.16	
Library Gifts	3,288.47	
		347,148.98

CAPITAL PROJECTS

Safety Complex Design	199,484.76	
Safety Complex Construction	76,364.94	
		275,849.70

TOTAL Non-Appropriation		1,575,158.69
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Appropriation Expenditures

	BUDGETED	SPENT	TOTAL
General Government			
Moderator	509.00	509.00	
Selectboard Salary	5,253.00	3,668.00	
Selectboard Expense	5,800.00	4,017.98	
IT Support	11,108.00	9,744.91	
Document Mangement System	2,100.00	2,100.00	
Administrative Assistant	41,988.00	41,988.00	
Accounting Officer Salary	16,599.00	16,599.00	
Accounting Officer Expense	4,200.00	4,187.26	
Independent Audit	14,500.00	14,500.00	
Treasurer Salary	16,599.00	16,599.00	
Treasurer Expense	7,000.00	5,636.99	
Tax Title Expense	3,500.00	2,925.40	
Tax Title Expense Enc	1,094.40	1,094.40	
Assessor Salary	8,894.00	6,042.00	
Assessor Expense	16,312.00	13,911.01	
Assessor Assistant	15,578.00	15,968.00	
Field Review Conversion	12,500.00	0.00	
Tax Collector Salary	16,599.00	16,599.00	
Tax Collector Expense	18,670.00	17,885.36	
Tax Taking Expense	800.00	210.00	
Town Clerk Salary	14,195.00	14,195.00	
Town Clerk Expense	5,800.00	6,192.91	
Clerk Board of Registrars	100.00	100.00	
Training-Treasurer,Collector and Town Clerk	5,000.00	4,777.50	
Counsel Fees	20,000.00	14,727.32	
Conservation Commission	225.00	203.00	
Planning Board	334.70	334.70	
Consulting Planner	6,000.00	0.00	
Zoning Board of Appeals	1,064.80	1,064.80	
Town Offices	28,573.00	20,968.19	
Town Hall Roof	90,000.00	56,539.50	
Town Hall & Annex Repairs	13,278.15	0.00	
			313,288.23
Protection of Persons & Property			
Police Chief	33,878.00	33,713.00	
Police Department Expense	81,410.00	61,107.16	
Police Equip & Training	4,316.00	3,482.40	
Fire Chief	13,428.00	13,428.00	
Fire Department Expense	42,200.00	41,127.07	
Fire Department Expense Enc	775.00	775.00	
Public Safety Complex	13,500.00	9,034.10	
Emergency Management Dir.	2,600.00	2,600.00	
Emergency Medical Services	9,250.00	8,702.33	
EMS Coordinator	5,200.00	5,200.00	
Ambulance Service	25,000.00	25,000.00	
Covid-19	1,170.58	1,087.00	
Inspector Compensation	6,000.00	5,880.00	
Building Insp/Comm Salary	24,000.00	24,000.00	

Inspector Expense	9,200.00	4,480.98
Tree Warden	686.00	686.00
Tree Warden Expense	2,600.00	2,200.00
Animal Control Officer Salary	1,830.00	926.61
Animal Control Officer Expense	1,043.00	0.00
		243,429.65

Education

School Committee	1,596.00	1,596.00
Elementary School	1,804,844.00	1,653,947.79
Elementary School FY19 Encumbrance	6,581.59	4,953.73
Elementary School Parking Lot	20,000.00	18,452.15
Hampshire Regional	1,380,138.00	1,380,138.00
Hampshire Regional Capital	13,400.00	13,400.00
School Choice Assessment	29,854.00	19,458.00
Charter School Assessment	61,771.00	44,401.00
Vocational Tution	375,000.00	323,737.75
Vocational Transportation	60,104.00	58,386.50
		3,518,470.92

Public Works

Highway Administration	8,026.00	7,705.36
Highway Administration Enc	262.12	0.00
Highway Salaries	237,645.00	227,761.15
Highway Materials	93,505.00	77,335.57
Snow Removal	100,000.00	99,470.61
Road Machinery	42,742.00	42,084.74
Road Machinery Fuel	42,450.00	21,731.55
Road Machinery Fuel Storage Tanks	45,020.93	43,856.49
Highway Generator	30,000.00	27,930.00
Road Machinery Buildings	29,887.00	22,764.71
Transfer Station	79,006.00	69,203.71
Transfer Station Enc	5,054.00	5,054.00
Cemetery Salary	6,800.00	6,800.00
Cemetery Commission	481.00	481.00
		652,178.89

Human Services

Board of Health Salary	1,285.00	1,285.00
Board of Health Expense	500.00	249.99
Hilltown Resource Mgt Coop	7,529.00	7,528.00
Foothills Health District	22,538.00	22,537.98
Animal Inspector Salary	879.00	663.30
Council on Aging	3,025.00	2,278.35
COA Coordinator	4,883.76	4,883.76
Veterans Agent	1,863.00	1,863.00
Veterans Expense	14,460.00	8,532.91
		49,822.29

Culture & Recreation

Library	106,859.00	105,140.25
Library Enc	144.00	144.00
Historical Commission	1,200.00	968.18
Memorial Day	200.00	200.00

Cultural Council	75.00	0.00	
			106,452.43
Debt			
Highway Truck/Loader	144,428.00	144,428.00	
Public Safety Complex Design	167,000.00	167,000.00	
Interest Long Term Debt	2,801.00	2,800.70	
			314,228.70
Intergovernmental			
State Assessments: Air Pollution	514.00	514.00	
RMV Surcharge	1,360.00	1,360.00	
Regional Transit	299.00	299.00	
STRAP	2,000.00	2,000.00	
Pioneer Valley Planning Comm.	274.00	272.45	
			4,445.45
Unclassified			
Hampshire County Retirement	217,213.00	217,213.00	
Unemployment	20,000.00	5,011.66	
Group Health Insurance	395,000.00	370,917.21	
Medicare	30,000.00	29,867.68	
Insurance & Bonds	87,570.00	76,975.00	
OPEB Trust	5,000.00	5,000.00	
			704,984.55
TOTAL Appropriation Expenditures	6,395,328.03	5,907,301.11	
GRAND TOTAL All Expenditures			7,482,459.80

Balance Sheet – Assets:

	Governmental Fund Types			Proprietary Fund Types		Fiduciary Fund Types Trust and Agency	Account Groups Long-term Debt	Totals (Memorandum Only)
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Enterprise	Internal Services			
ASSETS								
Cash and cash equivalents	1,464,578.88	1,171,647.22	4,318,414.80			603,866.30		7,558,507.20
Investments								0.00
Receivables:								
Personal property taxes	13,053.71							13,053.71
Real estate taxes	60,700.21							60,700.21
Allowance for abatements and exemptions	(41,036.20)							(41,036.20)
Tax liens	146,361.59							146,361.59
Tax foreclosures								0.00
Motor vehicle excise	47,853.79							47,853.79
Rollback	3,704.03							3,704.03
In Lieu of Taxes	874.54							874.54
Due from other governments		60,421.64						60,421.64
Amounts to be provided - payment of bonds								
Total Assets	1,696,090.55	1,232,068.86	4,318,414.80	0.00	0.00	603,866.30	4,120,000.00	11,970,440.51

Balance Sheet – Liabilities

LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY

Liabilities:									
Accounts payable								0.00	0.00
Warrants payable								0.00	0.00
Accrued payroll and withholdings	165,267.87	17,863.02							183,130.89
Agency Funds									11,028.92
Deferred revenue:									
Real and personal property taxes	32,717.72								32,717.72
Tax liens	146,361.59								146,361.59
Tax foreclosures									0.00
Motor vehicle excise	47,853.79								47,853.79
Rollback	3,704.03								3,704.03
In Lieu of Taxes	874.54								874.54
Other receivables									0.00
Due from other governments		60,421.64							60,421.64
Bonds payable							4,120,000.00		4,120,000.00
Notes payable			191,832.00						191,832.00
Total Liabilities	396,779.54	78,284.66	191,832.00	0.00	0.00	11,028.92	4,120,000.00		4,797,925.12

Fund Equity:

Reserved for encumbrances	101,565.30							101,565.30	
Reserved for expenditures	184,000.00							184,000.00	
Reserved for continuing appropriations	26,942.59							26,942.59	
Undesignated fund balance	986,803.12	1,153,784.20	4,126,582.80			592,837.38		6,860,007.50	
Total Fund Equity	1,299,311.01	1,153,784.20	4,126,582.80	0.00	0.00	592,837.38	0.00	7,172,515.39	
Total Liabilities and Fund Equity	1,696,090.55	1,232,068.86	4,318,414.80	0.00	0.00	603,866.30	4,120,000.00	11,970,440.51	

Respectfully Submitted

Joseph Boudreau
Town Accountant

Report of the Finance Committee

As of December 31, 2021, members and their respective terms were:

Stephen Holt	Member	2022
Andrew Klyman	Member	2022
Priscilla (Pat) Miller	Member	2022
Jeremy Durrin	Member	2023
Barbara Pelissier	Member	2023
Jake Antosz	Secretary	2023
Tad Weiss	Chair	2024
Vacancy	Member	2024
Vacancy	Member	2024
Marilyn Witherall	Member	2024

The Finance Committee's duties are to review department budget requests, prepare the town's annual budget, and serve as the town's fiscal advisory body.

Several departments underspent their budgets and returned money to the town for the fiscal year (FY) that ended June 30, 2021. Finance Committee supports this practice, seeking to encourage open dialogue with the various departments and supports the discussion of adjustments should they arise during the fiscal year. The Finance Committee strives to support the appropriation of funds for accurate budgets that reflect the needs of the various departments. To do this, an open dialogue is essential so that the townspeople can best determine how to allocate the limited town resources. The result is that if a budget is underspent in one year, it is not automatically reduced in a subsequent year; rather, the reasons and anticipated future needs are reviewed.

In March 2021, voters approved funding of the new public safety complex. As a result of our solid bond rating for Westhampton, we were awarded a very low interest rate - saving the town as much as \$800,000 over 20 years. Additionally, the Finance Committee continued its collaboration with town departments, the Selectboard, and the Capital Planning Committee to anticipate capital needs for the next 25 years so that finances may be planned accordingly.

Special thanks to our new Town Administrator, Doug Finn, who has worked tirelessly developing advanced financial planning tools that make budgeting activities easier, more accurate, more transparent, and helpful in understanding how our money is raised, spent, and saved. Available for public viewing, these documents can be found on the Finance Committee's link at Westhampton's website.

Some financial considerations from 2021:

- Appropriation for refinishing of the Town Hall floor & wall painting (Article 14)
- Appropriation for partial construction of a breakroom at the Town Garage (Article 15)
- First payment made to town from the Solar project on Montague Road (about \$90k/year)
- We added a new part time employee at the transfer station

Additionally, the committee reviewed requests from various town departments for transfers related to unforeseen events. The following transfers were approved in FY2021:

FY 2021 Transfers

Reserve Fund to Assessors Expense	\$1,312
Reserve Fund to Training – Treasurer, Collector, Clerk	\$5,000
Reserve Fund to Planning Board Expense	\$35
Reserve Fund to Zoning Board of Appeals	\$465
Reserve Fund to COA Coordinator	\$294
Reserve Fund to Safety Complex Design	\$2,000
Transfer from Town Hall Roof to Town Hall and Annex Repairs	\$5,000
Transfer from Road Machinery Fuel to Highway Administration	\$600

As of July 1, 2020, our Free Cash was \$518,509. **As of July 1, 2021, our Free Cash was \$925,814.**

To explain this increase: unspent appropriations sent back to town coffers were \$388,696. Noteworthy were: \$28k Town Hall Roof, \$20k Police Expense, \$55k Westhampton Elementary, \$51k Smith Vocational Tuition, \$20k Highway Fuel, \$24k Group Health Insurance, \$16k Highway Materials.

We also had higher than budgeted receipts of \$162,250, including \$49k in overdue taxes, and \$80k in lieu of taxes.

Also in 2021, we had Free Cash appropriations of \$100,000 to lower the tax rate for town residents, a \$50,000 transfer to raise the Stabilization Account balance, an appropriation of \$25,000 to partially fund a break room at the Town Garage, and \$9,000 for refinishing the Town Hall floor.

As of 2/28/21 our Stabilization Account stood at \$383,559.

The Finance Committee would like to thank town departments and committees for understanding the fiscal constraints that exist and submitting budgets reflecting those limits.

As always, Finance Committee meetings are open to the public and all are encouraged to attend. For the calendar year 2021, meetings were held via Zoom as a COVID-19 safety precaution. Westhampton residents' input is welcomed, as it helps Finance Committee members understand the town's financial needs and what our neighbors want for Westhampton. Information on town finances, including meeting agenda announcements and meeting minutes are available on the Westhampton website.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tad Weiss, Chair

Report of the Board of Assessors

In 2021, the Board of Assessors recorded 59 property transfers. Also, the Board approved a total of 19 personal exemptions, 17 real estate abatements and 48 motor vehicle excise abatements.

Fiscal year 2022 was an interim recertification year for the Town of Westhampton. The State of Massachusetts, Department of Revenue, Division of Local Services is involved in this process. They reviewed and then certified the Town's values in October 2021.

Westhampton's assessed values for Fiscal Year 2022 are

- Real Estate - \$244,019,863
- Personal Property - \$ 5,169,110
- Exempt - \$29,630,500

The tax rate was certified by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue in November 2021 for fiscal year 2022 at \$20.49 per \$1000 of value.

The Assessor's Office is once again open to the public. Business can be transacted Tuesday evenings from 4:30pm to 8:30pm & Thursday mornings from 10am-2pm. You can also reach the office at 413-203-3082 or via email at assessor@westhamptonma.org

Property record cards can be viewed online at <https://gis.vgsi.com/WesthamptonMA/Search.aspx>

The Board of Assessors currently meets every other Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall Annex. Information on attending the meetings online is available on the town website.

Respectfully submitted,

Walter Morrey, Chair
Winnie Gorman
Marilyn Witherell

Report of the Planning Board

At the beginning of 2021 the Planning Board was comprised of Susan Bronstein, Wade Clement, Pat Coffey, Saxon Elliott, and Ger Ronan; in February Ger resigned and in October Saxon did as well. The Selectboard subsequently appointed Maureen Dempsey and John Zimmerman to complete the Planning Board for the remainder of this term. The Planning Board is appreciative of this support from the Selectboard.

The Planning Board continues to meet the second Tuesday of the month; virtual meetings via Zoom have continued as well.

This year the Planning Board reviewed and approved six site plans. The Board also held two Public Hearings for Special Permit applications. One Hearing resulted in a withdrawal and re-application to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a Variance, and the other was approved.

A representative of the Planning Board continues to participate on the Zoning Bylaw Review Committee keeping the Planning Board informed of the ZBRC's progress.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Bronstein, Chair
Westhampton Planning Board

Report of the Zoning Board of Appeals

During 2021, Westhampton's Zoning Board of Appeals held its monthly meetings on the second Tuesday of every month, with additional public hearings scheduled to meet the legal time requirements. The board consists of John Kelsey, Peter Ignatovich, Dave Loven, Richard (Bill) Tracy, chair; and Laurie Sanders, secretary.

In 2021, the board held public hearings on six (6) requests for special permits or variances. Of these, three (3) were subsequently withdrawn without prejudice.

The other three (3) applications were granted with conditions:

- The Town of Westhampton, Public Safety Complex, Stage Road (frontage set-back);
- The owners of 15 North Road (frontage setback for an extended porch); and
- The potential owners of 1 Main Road (change of business use).

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Tracy, Chair
Zoning Board of Appeals

Report of the Zoning Bylaw Review Committee

Members of the committee:

Pat Coffee

Steve Gagne

John Kelsey

Bill McCloud *

Art Pichette

Brigid O'Riordan

John Shaw

** resigned February of 2021*

Work on the following bylaw and definition drafts were completed in 2021:

Accessory Apartments

Dwelling Two Family

Common Driveway

Adult Day Care Center

Restaurant

Restaurant: Drive-in/Fast Food

Gas Station	Motor Vehicle Light Repair
Service Shop	Auto Body Shop
Medical Clinic	Affordable Housing
Kennel (commercial, private, veterinarian)	Helipoint
Commercial Recreational Facility	Rod and Gun Club
Shooting Range	Commercial Boarding Stable/Riding Academy
Commercial Farm Stand	Self-Service Storage Facility
Sawmills	Wood/Stump Reclamation Facility
Home Occupation/Office or Studio	Barn
Short Term Residential Unit	Floodplain Overlay District

Table 1 Schedule of Use continually is updated as changes in the body of the Zoning draft are finished. It is the main area where all uses are designated, approved by-right (Y), Special Permit (SP), Special Permit with Site Plan Approval (SP/SPA) or prohibited (N). It is also the area that defines which board, Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) or Planning Board (PB) are the granting authority.

Definitions have to be continually updated as new terms are added to the Zoning Bylaws. Considerable time has been spent on this area.

Flood Plain District bylaw had to be reworked in order to bring it up to current legislation passed in Massachusetts. The committee produced both definition, and Bylaw from recommendation from the Commonwealth.

We sent to Town Council some of the new draft bylaws, to receive their input and opinion. They returned recommendations which the committee took into consideration in the draft.

The committee will continue to review all remaining parts of the present (old 1995) Zoning By-laws. A draft proposal, will be placed on the town website upon completion of the draft. The hope is for residents, boards, departments, and committees to read it so when it goes to public hearings people will be acquainted with its contents. Public Hearings can take a great deal of time so please read the draft so the hearings are productive in a timely manner.

We will continue to meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of every month on Zoom as long as is allowed by the Commonwealth. All meetings are open to the public. The Town Clerk receives minutes and the agenda for all meetings. Check with the Town Clerk for zoom and meeting information.

We thank you for your patience as we work thru this lengthy process. Our objective is to make Westhampton Zoning Bylaws clearer, and determinations quicker. It is also our goal to make the work of the Building Inspector, Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals and building applicants, more user friendly.

Thank You,

Report of the Conservation Commission

Members: Brad Morse (Chair), Fred Morrison, Bill Randolph, Alyson Arnold, Jessica Lerman (recorder); Associate (non-voting) Member: Steve Holt

Brief Summary of WCC activities for 2021:

• Site visits:	25
• Public Hearings:	7
• Continuation of Hearing:	2
• Request for Determination (RDA):	4
• Notice of Intent (NOI):	6
• Order of Conditions (OOC):	5
• Certificate of Compliance (COC):	4
• Determination of Applicability (DOA):	3
• Building permit (wetland) sign-offs:	3
• Forest Cutting Plan notifications:	6
• Emergency Septic Repair:	1
• Violation Concern:	none

Conservation Restriction Properties annually monitored by Westhampton Conservation Commission:

- Westhampton Public Library Conservation Restriction Area (2012)
- Kestrel Land Trust Conservation Restriction Area—Skibiski (2012)
- Kestrel Land Trust Conservation Restriction—Sarafin (2013)
- Hilltown Land Trust Conservation Restriction—Weiss donor (pre-2012)
- Kestrel Land Trust Conservation Restriction—Glass donor (2015)
- Martin/Held property Conservation Restriction (2016)
- Lewis Conservation Restriction (2018)
- Kestrel Land Trust Conservation Restriction—Hanging Mountain/Lashway (2018)
- Kestrel Land Trust Conservation Restriction—Collins (2018)
- Kestrel Land Trust Conservation Restriction—Greenberg (2018)
- Redwin Conservation Restriction (2019)

Respectfully submitted,

Fred Morrison and Jessica Lerman

Public Safety

Report of the Police Department

Police Reform

Police Reform has been front and center this year. The department has welcomed many of the changes to include standardized policy development and centralized training. With this said, the part-time police academy is no more. Current part-time officers are required to attend a bridge academy with an additional 120 hours of off-site defensive tactics, driving and firearms training. This in addition to online testing and the required yearly in-service.

Faced with this, part-time officers have chosen to leave policing. The Town will need to rely on full -time trained officers in a part time capacity as a second job or retirees. Times are changing and I do not have answers.

This year's budget is for this year and next could be a very different story. The request to increase the hourly rate is outside the "normal" 2.5 % but is necessary to recruit staff in a competitive time.

Calls for service

Our calls continue to revolve around speed complaints this year. As the world began to open up again, more people were out and our quiet roads became busier. Fraud and attempted fraud/scam calls continued and personal property crimes (mailboxes, vandalism, neighbor disputes and minor larcenies) have occurred. The crime levels and occurrences are on par with last year. We continue to attempt to better document and log reports directly to the station. A total of about 450 calls were made to the department phone last year.

Summary: 5 Breaking and Entry/Larceny from a building/Attempt
 68 Officer Wanted
 28 911 misdials/Alarms
 20 Accidents
 8 Vandalism/Property Damage
 5 ID and Property Thefts

Next fiscal year, we will settle into the new police office at the public safety building. Once established, recruitment of new officers will need to be put in the forefront. This will cost additional dollars to comply with the new standards as required by the Police Reform Act. It is still not completely known what unfunded mandates will be promulgated in the new laws.



We have changed the way we accept firearms permits. Your application, new or a renewal, can be printed from www.mass.gov/firearms and mailed to 48 Stage Rd. Please include any safety certificates and a check for \$100 made out to the Town of Westhampton. This will start the process and an officer will contact you if there are additional requirements for your application. Please remember to renew your license before your birthday to ensure your permit remains current.

Respectfully,

D. White #671
Chief of Police

Report of the Fire Department

The Westhampton Fire Department is an all-volunteer organization consisting of thirty-four Firefighters, Emergency Medical Responders and Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT's) that respond to numerous emergency calls throughout the year. All personnel are alerted to an emergency in town through a paging system that provides the emergency responders with the location and nature of the call. Emergency personnel then stop what they are doing to respond to the Fire Station to retrieve equipment and vehicles needed for the response. We have continually educated people throughout the community that given the current type of volunteer organization the town has in place, there is a possibility that someone may have an emergency and not get a response from a member of the Westhampton Fire Department or Westhampton EMS. Additionally, we have informed the public that, if we do have personnel that can respond, from the time of notification for an emergency, to the time we arrive on the scene and begin mitigation efforts could be anywhere from 10-15 minutes depending on the location in town where the emergency occurred. This time frame is within the normal response time based on Call/Volunteer Departments as outlined in the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1720 Standard.



The 2021 year was another eventful one for the Westhampton Fire Department. The year started with the introduction of new vaccines to help combat the COVID- 19 Pandemic. Emergency personnel were given the opportunity to receive these starting in January. Some members helped staff the vaccination site to assist first responders from many departments get vaccinated.

We were fortunate for the towns support in granting the funds to enable the emergency services in town to build a modern public safety complex. This has been in the planning stage for many years and the public safety complex committee spent many hours researching what would suit the town best and support it for many years into the future. The funding was passed in late winter with the hope that the building would be up by the end of the year. Unfortunately, due to various setbacks this did not happen. There was some progress made though by the end of the year. As a result of the timing, the department's apparatus needed to be kept somewhere under cover. The town highway department stepped up and moved equipment around to create space in their garage for the fire apparatus. The delay of the new complex construction also affected all the

other emergency equipment and office equipment requiring it to be relocated. Fortunately, we were able to utilize storage areas and space offered by several people and businesses in town. We are looking forward to the completion of the complex and are thankful for the effort that was put forward to make it possible.

We were also fortunate to have applied for and received numerous grants from different state agencies. With these grants we were able to outfit our newest members with compliant turn out gear and additional equipment to enhance our responder's safety and current response capabilities. These accounted for over \$20,000 in equipment purchases that the town did not have to fund. We currently have additional grant funding opportunities in the works and hope to be awarded these soon. We also completed the retrofit of back up cameras on all fire apparatus adding to scene safety.

Personnel continued doing training in the spring of 2021 as was possible following COVID guidelines. By the end of May we were able to do a broader list of live training. Although some live trainings were not able to be completed, Westhampton Fire Department was very creative in gaining access to various training opportunities. Training officer and retired Fire Captain Mike Derouin was instrumental in tailoring the department's training so department members could safely continue learning and reinforcing their knowledge.

We completed the first full year of our three-year agreement with the City of Easthampton Fire Department to provide paramedic level ambulance service for the Town of Westhampton. This service is in conjunction with Westhampton's EMS personnel and is a valuable cooperative effort between the two departments to provide the town's residents with the best possible care when emergencies happen. We continue to augment our current EMS personnel and have added additional EMT's and EMR's to help serve the residents of Westhampton. As of this report we added two new EMT's and are looking at three more who will be completing courses and the testing involved in becoming licensed EMT's.

Like many organizations, the fire service continues to face challenges. Recruitment of new personnel continues to be a major concern for small, volunteer organizations. The Westhampton Fire Department is always looking for anyone willing to make the commitment and join the Department so we can maintain this active organization. Ongoing training and education are a significant focus in the fire service based on the need to keep up with changing technologies and hazards encountered by personnel. The safety of all our personnel and mutual aid partners has always been paramount and a primary focus of our mission. Throughout the year, personnel are expected to attend local, county, state, or federal training programs to remain competent and operate safely during any emergency.

We welcomed new firefighters Tyler Colby, Tylor Paschal and Shane Gilbert to the department. We also started a junior firefighter program that is open to town residents that are between the ages of 16 to 18. They can join the department and participate with training and other activities. We were fortunate to have McKenzie Nichols and Liam Reynolds sign up and participate in this program. Unfortunately, due to schoolwork load Liam was not able to continue through the rest of the year but was a joy to have on the department and showed great enthusiasm for helping out. We hope young volunteers, along with new and established residents in town will continue to step forward and volunteer their time and skills.

Along with our welcomed growth on the department we were also able to start up a volunteer community-based emergency response support team. The team's name is the Westhampton Fire

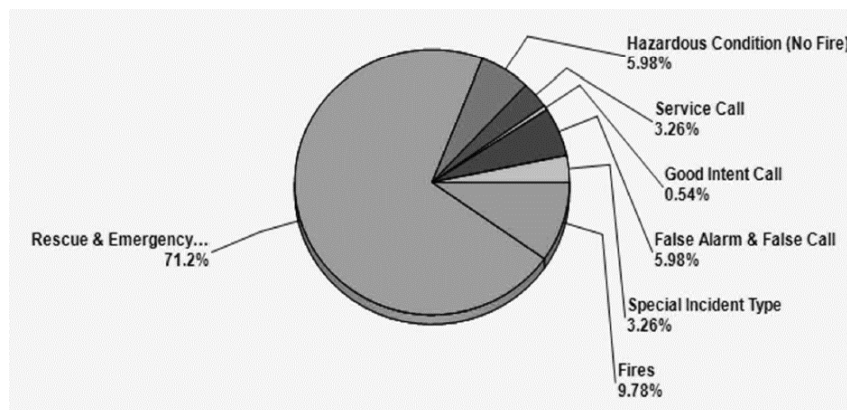
Incident Auxiliary. This group is made up of numerous volunteers that if a major situation in town occurs, they will respond and assist by setting up an area that can be used for rehabbing the emergency personnel on scene with water, food and other needed items to help keep the responders safe and hydrated. This is a welcome addition to the town's emergency response system.

Based on the volunteer nature of the fire department, many preventative measures have been explored or implemented to help maintain this type of organization. Open burning is only allowed on Saturday or Sunday during burning season with a valid permit. This is to have a higher probability that personnel will be home during the hours of open burning if the need to respond arises.

Residential sprinklers have been previously required in subdivisions here in town, as well as promoted during any new construction projects. Fire extinguisher training programs have been conducted to help people understand how to safely operate these devices.

The Department responded to one hundred and eighty-four calls for service this year. These calls for service were for fire suppression, emergency medical services, hazardous conditions response, carbon monoxide alarm activations, motor vehicle accidents, utility wires down, residential fire alarm activations and other response types and requests.

2021 Emergency Calls Breakdown



MAJOR INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS	% of TOTAL
Fires	18	9.78%
Rescue & Emergency Medical Service	131	71.2%
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	11	5.98%
Service Call	6	3.26%
Good Intent Call	1	0.54%
False Alarm & False Call	11	5.98%
Special Incident Type	6	3.26%
TOTAL	184	100%

In addition to the emergency responses, personnel commit numerous hours to training and other activities for the community. Continual training is a critical component for all our members in order to keep them safe and remain competent in their skill sets throughout the year. In 2021, members in our organization again trained to a modified schedule and training methods due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This training included in house courses along with Hampshire County and Mass Fire Academy courses, neighboring community mutual aid training exercises, along with online courses that are offered through the Mass Fire Academy and IFSTA, an International Fire Service Training Association.

The Department's fleet of apparatus consists of a 2004 Engine, 1986 Engine, 2017 Tanker Truck, 2002 Brush Truck, 2009 Rescue Truck, 2009 Mobile Air trailer with a light tower and generator, and a 2009 Jeep Liberty. All vehicles are checked by department personnel on a weekly basis to ensure a state of operational readiness and reliability. All of these vehicles have maintenance service completed each year along with any repairs needed that require a certified Emergency Vehicle Technician (EVT's) to prolong the expected lifespan of the vehicles and improve safety during emergency responses. This maintenance also includes rescue equipment, SCBAs, and hose and pump testing procedures. They are reflected in the department's Insurance Services Organization (ISO) rating and meet the requirements set by National Standards pertaining to Fire Apparatus.

The Department continues to rely heavily on its website to help with communications throughout the community. The website is incorporated with the Town of Westhampton and all our burning permits and smoke detector/CO inspection requests have transitioned to this online forum. This makes it more convenient for anyone to request a permit or inspection and receive a response in a short amount of time. For a department that is all-volunteer, we have already seen a dramatic improvement in communication, both externally and internally with our members. We hope to continually make improvements in the future to better service all town residents as efficiently as possible.

The town continues to have a mass notification system to alert all town residents of any emergencies. This system is called CodeRED and provides the town the ability to call all landlines or cell phone numbers and text message or email individuals that are part of the program. The intent of this type of system is to improve communication prior to a large-scale disaster or weather-related event to provide guidance and direction to the community. Information such as expectations of power being restored, opening of warming shelters, and items that individuals are expected to have on their own are some examples of what may be shared. Anyone can sign up for this system by going to the Westhampton Fire Department website at westhampton-ma.com and click on the CodeRED icon on our homepage.

To conclude, I would like to thank every member of the Department for all the work they do. The members of the Westhampton Fire Department continue to do much more than just respond to emergencies. Throughout the year, they are involved in community sponsored events such as the Halloween parade, filling of residents swimming pools and the water tanks at the Town Cemetery, providing safety training to the local schools and have helped with the Boy Scouts.

As is always the case, we continue to look for new volunteers that are interested in serving as an EMT, EMR (First Responder), Firefighter or in combined roles.

Thank you for your continued support.

Dave Antosz – Fire Chief /EMR

Members:

Steve Holt- Assistant Chief / EMT	John Bridgman- Deputy Chief / EMR
Mark Gould- Deputy Chief / EMT /EMS Coordinator	Bill Jablonski- Captain / EMR
Rick Tracy- Captain / EMR	Steve McGrath- Captain / EMR / Retired 12/2021
Christopher Brooks- Captain / EMR	Scott Tirrell- Captain / EMR
Don Fox- Firefighter / EMR	Michael Diggins- Firefighter / EMR
Matt Campbell- Firefighter / EMR / On Leave	Wally Marek- Firefighter / EMR / On Leave
Jeff Brooks- Firefighter / EMR	Mike Holt- Firefighter / EMR / On Leave
Joe Bykowski- Firefighter / EMR	John Zimmerman- Firefighter / EMR
Garrett Antosz- Firefighter / EMR	Jake Antosz- Firefighter / EMT
Cody Guessing- Ames- Firefighter / EMR	Adam Brunet- Firefighter
Chris Dunn- Firefighter/EMR	Austin Norris- Firefighter/EMR
Tom Rice- Firefighter / Paramedic	Bridget Diggins- Firefighter /EMR
Sophie Morini- Firefighter/EMR	Ryan Gagne- Firefighter / EMR
McKenzie Nichols- Firefighter	Tyler Colby – Firefighter/EMT
Tylor Paschal – Firefighter	Shane Gilbert – Firefighter/EMT
Michael Derouin – Training Officer	Robert Miller- EMR
Lee Douchkoff - EMT	Audrey Antosz – EMT
Charleen Diggins – EMR	Barbara Nichols – EMR
Tiffany Holt - EMR	

Reports from the Building Inspection Department

Report of the Building Inspectors

There were 131 building permits issued in 2021 with \$45,820 collected in fees for projects valued at \$5,648,468.

Residential permits	113
Commercial permits	9
Sheet Metal permits	2
Tent permits	3
Sign permits	2

A building permit is required by the State Building Code to construct, alter, repair, remove, or demolish a building or structure. If you are not sure whether your project will require a permit, please call before you begin construction.

The Building Department's new on-line permitting program has been in use for over a year now, and is working well. The electronic payment portion of the program is now functional, allowing for permits to be paid for on-line at the time of the application.

Permit applications may now be completed through the new on-line Building permits portal on the Town's website: www.westhampton-ma.com.

The Building Commissioner's office no longer has regular office hours but appointments can be scheduled if necessary. If you need help filling out the forms, please send us an email: buildinginspector@westhamptonma.org or give us a call.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas F. Quinlan, Jr.
Westhampton Building Commissioner
413-364-7782

Todd Alexander
Local Building Inspector
413-652-3430

Wally Marek
Local Building Inspector
413-977-9539

Report of the Plumbing Inspector

During the year 2021, the Plumbing Inspectors office received 62 requests for plumbing and gas inspections. 22 were for plumbing. Of those, 9 were for new houses, and 13 for renovation. 40 were for gas inspections.

A total of \$4,920 was collected for permits and fees.

Brian Pichette
Plumbing and Gas Inspector

Report of the Foothills Health District Health Agent

During 2021, the department witnessed 10 perc tests and 15 Title 5 inspections. Septic system permits were issued for 11 new systems or system components. A total of \$16,850 was collected in fees.

The following is a general breakdown of the many responsibilities handled on a regular basis by your Board of Health and the Health Agent:

- Witnessing percolation tests for all new and replacement septic systems

- Permit review and on-site inspections for all septic repairs and installations
- Housing code inspections and enforcement
- Infectious disease investigation and reporting
- Tobacco regulation enforcement
- On-site inspections for all beaver conflict permits
- Handling the numerous public health-related questions and complaints
- Camp inspections
- Bathing Beach test review
- Food establishment permitting and inspections

I may be reached at 413-268-8404. In-person help must be scheduled in advance. Written messages or mail should be directed to me at P.O. Box 447 Haydenville, MA 01039, or via email at Foothills@Burgy.org. I look forward to another productive year.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark R. Bushee, Health Agent
Foothills Health District

Education

Report of the Hampshire Regional School District

As the new Superintendent of Schools, I'd like to thank the school committees, local town administrators, Select Boards, and families for welcoming me into this role. It is truly a privilege to lead this district. I have been visiting the schools and observing classrooms frequently and am impressed with the districts' sense of community, level of collaboration, strive for academic excellence, focus on students' mental wellbeing, and consistent flexibility. Teaching and learning during the past eighteen months have been challenging due to Covid-19 restrictions, staffing shortages, enacted safety protocols, and evolving DESE guidance. Physical safety and mental health have been our greatest priorities in 2021, as well as addressing the identified areas of academic regression over the past 18 months. Schooling continues to look different due to the mitigating safety measures we have in place but as Covid-19 case counts decrease in the county and state, we look forward to a return to normalcy.

The Hampshire Regional member school districts continue to work towards a district with a shared vision of continued collaboration, common programming, instructional leadership focused on strengthening teaching, and sharing services and resources to better support each student. School committees are collaborating on a Five Districts Working Agreement that would clarify the employment and evaluation of the Superintendent and streamline policy revisions.

The 2021 Pioneer Valley Teaching in Excellence Award from the Grinspoon Foundation is a highly coveted award and recognizes the accomplishments and best teaching practices of our outstanding educators. This year's recipients were Jennifer Murphy from NHRES and Bob Smith from Norris. Congratulations! 2022 award recipients will be announced shortly.

While the details of the year are summarized by the school principals in their individual reports, I would like to provide a few highlights from Central Office, which is made up of a number of fairly small support departments that all serve an essential role in making Hampshire schools as exceptional as they are. Following are reports from each of these departments:

Business Office

The business office is responsible for all finance, operations, personnel, and contract functions for the five unique member districts of Hampshire Regional Schools. The business office manages a combined budget of roughly \$30 million across many unique programs to support nearly 1650 students and 362 employees throughout the region. While 2021 presented many challenges to the business office, through hard work and diligence, over \$1.25 million in COVID-19 funding was managed throughout the district, in addition to districts' operating budgets and regular entitlement grants. There was a flurry of spending as a result of COVID-19, and we successfully handled purchasing all necessary products and hiring maintenance services to ensure a safe school environment.

Additionally, in an effort to improve communication pertaining to the budgeting process, feedback was sought from school committees and community members. Seeking transparency, the Central Office budget was presented to all school committees prior to any school budgets in

order for school committees to view the Central Office budget before having to approve a budget in its entirety. Transparency and open communications will be an ongoing effort of the school business office. My sincere gratitude to Business Administrator Bobbie Jones, Central Office staff, and building principals for all of their hard work!

Health Services

The primary focus of our health services team over the past year has been pandemic response: keeping our school communities safe and meeting the demands of the COVID-19 pandemic under the leadership of Stephanie Faas, Director of Health Services and our Nurse Leader. We have worked collaboratively with local boards of health and COVID-19 contact tracers to handle the ongoing case management of positive individuals, close contacts, and symptomatic individuals. Our nurses and administrators routinely completed contact tracing when positive individuals were in school while infectious. They also worked with staff and families to offer quarantine, isolation, and testing guidance as needed to ensure compliance with COVID-19 school protocols. Developing and implementing mitigating strategies and health/ safety protocols plays a critical role in our pandemic response. Multiple vaccination clinics were offered throughout the year with the assistance of our nurses who donated their time. Thank you to Anne Chaput (WES), Tracy Dale (Norris), Joann Duggan (Norris), Amy Dunham (NHRES), Karen Hendry (ATD), Lori McAvoy (ATD), Sam Pease (RH Conwell), Cyndy Domina and Lindsey Sojkowski (HRHS)!

While the pandemic has monopolized our time, the district nurses continue to provide safe and competent care to all of the students in our school communities. The Nurse Leader partnered with the HRHS athletic department this winter to coordinate a nutrition education seminar for middle/high school athletes, stressing the importance of nutrition, fitness and underfueling. Two of our school nurses, Cyndy Domina (HRHS) and Karen Hendry (ATD), held multiple CPR classes for staff in the district. We are also very proud of Tracy Dale (Norris) who passed the test required by the National Board for Certification of School Nurses to attain the prestigious National Certified School Nurse (NCSN) credential!

Curriculum, Assessment, and Instruction/Grants

There were significant increases in competitive grants awarded and entitlement grants received in 2021, written by Kate Messmer, in large part due to the pandemic. ESSER (Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund) monies were disbursed to each of the districts, as well as monies from the Coronavirus Relief Fund (CvRF) and the State Coronavirus Prevention Fund. Competitive grants awarded included the Summer and Vacation Learning Grant, The Remote Learning Technology Grant, the After-School-Out-of-School Time Grant (ASOST), and the Student Opportunity Act (SOA) grant. The District was awarded \$184,235 through the Emergency Connectivity Fund Grant to fund mobile hotspots and laptops in order to ensure equitable access for students and staff to high-speed internet. There were also a number of Cultural Council grants awarded from the district's regional towns to support academic enrichment activities. In FY21, the total amount of entitlement grants was \$1,707,616; the total amount of competitive grants awarded in FY21 was \$602,199. Thus far in FY22, the total amount of entitlement grants received is \$1,150,923, and the total amount of competitive grants awarded is \$180,870.

Focused and engaging professional development enhances the mastery of teaching. One emphasis of this year's professional development for staff focused on social justice and equity across the schools. The districts worked with the National Center for Community and Justice (NCCJ) to prepare for the district's upcoming curriculum audit this spring, raising awareness around deconstructing curricular bias and increasing inclusive teaching practices in their schools. During the summer, HRHS staff were offered workshops on active pedagogy and technology, curriculum mapping and addressing curricular bias. Principals reviewed DESE's "Acceleration Roadmap" tool, which provided a focused and phased approach to supporting students as they returned to school for the 2021-2022 school year. In addition, training was provided on the implementation of the Fastbridge Assessment System. In January, elementary teachers met in grade-level and content-specific cohorts to review the state standards and analyze student performance data.

Pupil Services

The Director of Pupil Services, Nancy Parlakulas, concluded a successful special education Tiered Focus Monitoring cycle with an on-site visit from DESE's Office of Public School Monitoring in the spring of 2021, which was previously postponed due to COVID-19. All 22 special education compliance areas reviewed were found to be compliant with federal and state special education laws and regulations, and no negative findings were reported. In addition, the director secured \$319,920 in grant funding to supplement the costs of special education programming and services for all the district schools.

At the start of this school year, Hampshire Regional High School's Clarke Mainstream Program welcomed two new Clarke teachers of the deaf, one Clarke speech and language pathologist, and five new students. The Mainstream program is a collaboration between Clarke Mainstream Services and Hampshire Regional High School and serves students in grades 9–12 from Hampshire and a variety of outside communities including Springfield, Holyoke, Greenfield, Southbridge, and Westfield. Sending districts pay tuition for their students to attend the Mainstream program.

Technology

As in many other aspects of life during the pandemic, the role of technology took on an essential role in our District's mission to educate students. At no other time have we relied so heavily on the use of laptops, iPads, and virtual platforms for teaching, learning, communicating and conducting business in our schools. The challenges of virtual learning were navigated through Zoom, Google Classroom, and Seesaw. This change drove a fundamental shift in the way the District structured its technological infrastructure and the types of supports that were necessary to be successful.

Under the guidance of our Technology Director Kim Florek, all schools in the District transitioned to a one device per student model (1-to-1) in order to meet the demands of remote learning in 2021. During that time, approximately 1,500 student laptops and iPads were individually configured and assigned to students in grades PreK to 12. In order to protect the District's inventory of laptops and iPads that students were taking home, a Device Protection Plan (DPP), a type of insurance, was developed and offered to families at Hampshire Regional High School and the William E. Norris School. One of the most ambitious remote-learning technical challenges last year was the implementation of synchronous remote learning at both the

William E. Norris School and the Hampshire Regional Middle/High School. "Zoom Stations" allowed for full remote participation in class for students who were at home.

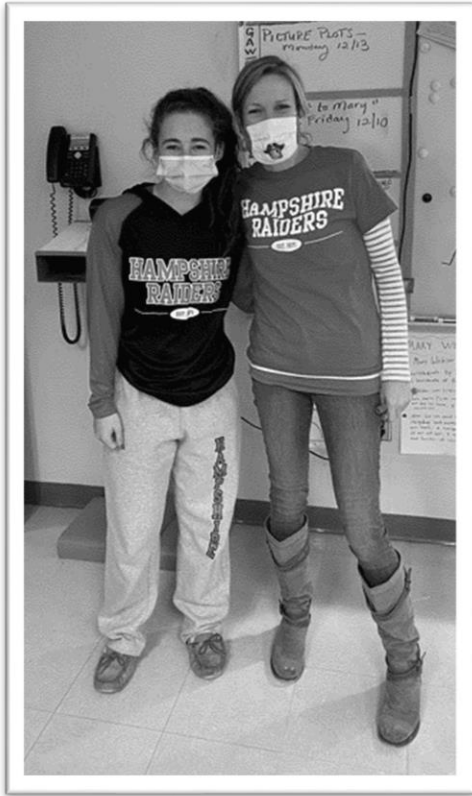
In order to support the increased usage of the school's networks, the internal and external networks of all schools in the district were upgraded. These enhancements included reconfigurations of wireless networks and the implementation of internet fiber services at the Anne T. Dunphy School and the Westhampton Elementary School.

We are fortunate to have so much support from our communities and families, and we thank the towns for their collaboration throughout this year. Thank you for your support, advocacy and commitment to the Hampshire Regional public schools.

Sincerely,

Diana Bonneville, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Report of the Hampshire Regional High School



2021 continued to be greatly impacted by the coronavirus pandemic and was a year full of transitions, flexibility, and perseverance for students, staff, and our communities alike. After starting off primarily in a remote learning model in the fall of 2020, January of 2021 brought in-person education back for all of our students at Hampshire Regional High School. In January, many of our students came back to school in-person for two half days per week. Some students came four half days per week, while others chose to stay fully remote. Come April, most students started coming in-person four half days per week, and by the end of April, they were back in-person five full days a week. By the end of the year, approximately 10% of our students were still learning remotely while the other 90% were back in the school building full time.

We are so impressed with how our students, staff, and families alike persevered through many schedule iterations, remote, hybrid, and in-person learning, COVID restrictions, masking, and many new protocols in the school building. The amount of resilience that our school community--staff, students, and families--has shown throughout the past 18 months is incredible and admirable.

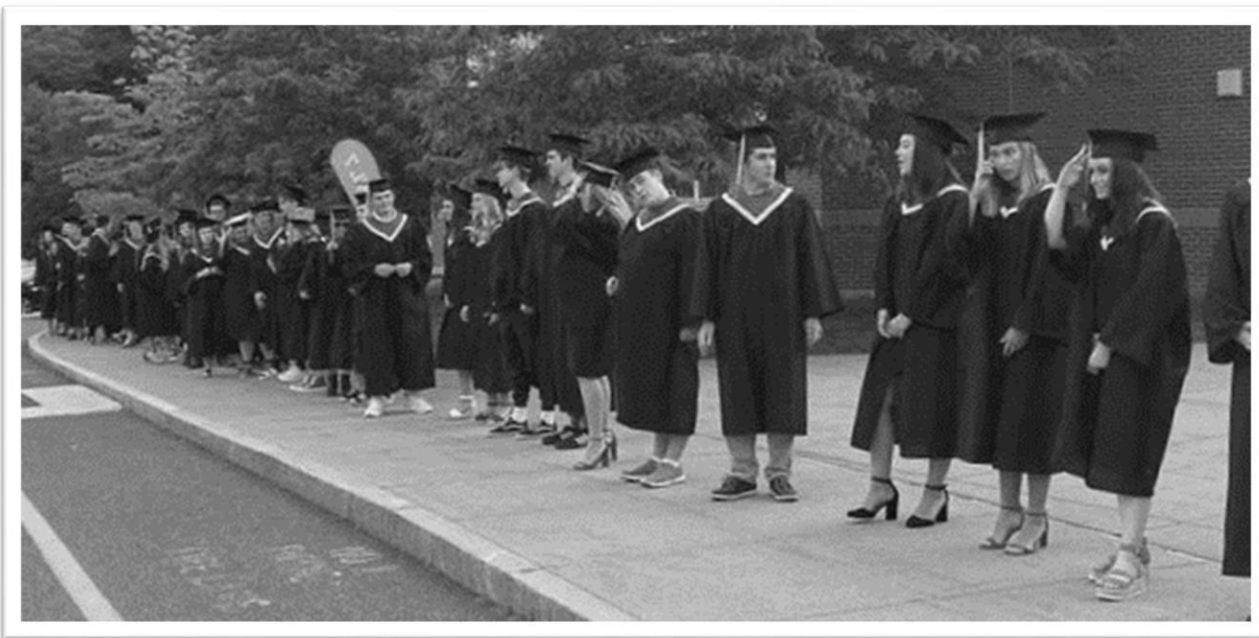
Despite many challenges, I am proud to share that 30 juniors met all of the requirements for Academic Society, and were inducted into the society in April of 2021. These students have maintained a minimum of a 3.7 GPA, completed their community service requirement, and consistently demonstrate excellent character and leadership.

Over 150 high school students took Advanced Placement (AP) exams in May and June. For the first time, many of the AP exams were fully administered online, while some continued to be paper exams in school. Our 7th, 8th, and 10th graders took MCAS again this year, this time in June (MCAS usually begins in March and goes throughout April and May). Middle school students took a shortened version of MCAS this year while our 10th graders were still required to pass the full math and English tests in order to earn their high school diplomas in 2023.

In June, HRHS held its first ever outdoor musical and it was a huge success! Students spanning grades 7-12 performed scenes from *Frog and Toad*, *Chicago*, and *Little Women* over the course of three days out on Dorunda Field.

For the first time in many years, Commencement was held at HRHS in 2021. 97 students from the Class of 2021 graduated on June 3 out on Dorunda Field at a beautiful and unique ceremony. Bringing Commencement back to Westhampton was very special, and we look forward to continuing to hold this event at Hampshire Regional moving forward. Speakers at Commencement included Valedictorian Elias Touchette, Salutatorian Peter Tse, Class President Caitlin Reardon, Vice President Jillian Scott, Secretary Zoe Paradis Stern, Treasurer Maxwell

Abel, and Class Advisors Kim Hallett and Chris Butler. Despite COVID restrictions, we were able to offer unique and exciting events for our seniors, including an outdoor Senior Banquet at the Log Cabin, a senior bonfire at the Westhampton Public Library, a class camping trip, and the traditional senior walk-throughs at the elementary schools.



June 18, 2021 brought an end to remote and hybrid learning. We were able to offer many exciting programs this summer, including two brand new programs.

- One of our new programs, called Next Level Performance Academy, had 20 students enrolled and ran two days per week. Students were able to identify their own focus areas and develop individual plans to work towards those goals.
- The other new program, called Raider Camp, was held over the course of two sessions in July and August. This program was for incoming 7th graders, and in total, almost 75% of our incoming 7th graders participated. Raider Camp was run by HRHS staff members in addition to high school Student Council members, who facilitated team building activities and many other activities to get our new students acclimated to HRHS.
- At the end of August, we held a program specifically to help our students who stayed fully remote in 2020-2021 reintegrate into the school building. 14 students participated in this program that supported them as they returned to in-person schooling.
- We had two special education programs running in July--one is a program for incoming 7th graders to support them in their transition from elementary school to middle school. The other is our life skills program, where students work in the community, host an art gallery, and continue to practice the skills that they learn throughout the year.
- Finally, we held our typical credit recovery program for students who did not earn credit for one or two courses during the school year. 21 students participated in credit recovery and recovered 26 credits in total.

We celebrated five retirements in 2021. Starr Adams was a para educator at HRHS for 23 years and retired in June. Bobbie Smith worked as a special education teacher here for 21 years. Dave Aultman was a custodian here at Hampshire for 24 years and officially retired on August 31.

Patti Richmond worked here for the past 18 years as a school counselor, and retired on August 26. Dara Adams-Smith was our band director for the past 22 years, and retired from her post on October 29. All are greatly missed in the halls of HRHS!

Kristen Smidy, who served as the Principal of Hampshire Regional since 2013, left her post at the end of July to become the Superintendent of the Gateway Regional School District. After working for the past three years as the Associate Principal at HRHS, I was fortunate enough to step into the Principal role. A new High School Assistant Principal, Alex Seid, was brought on board after teaching in Springfield for over 15 years.

We had many new hires for the 2021-2022 school year. Xavier Pease was hired in the spring to be Hampshire's full-time athletic trainer. John Plourd, the Director of Student Activities for the past six years, moved back into a full-time teaching role, and Jim Kelley has taken over the DSA position. Beth Rochon was hired as our new school counselor to replace Patti Richmond. Adam Burt, who was previously a para educator at HRHS, became a special education teacher. Jules Marciano, also previously a para educator here, is now a high school math teacher. CJ Holt was hired to teach physical education and health for this school year while Kari Daly is on parental leave. To replace retiree Dara Adams-Smith, Allison Ingraham was hired as our new band director. We also have many new para educators this year, including three Hampshire graduates: Morgan Cloutier, Karen Fisher, Joe Gentile, Sylvia Montague, Steven Musante, Nick Reid-Lastowski, and Dawn Young. Clarke School for the Deaf hired three new staff members who work full-time at Hampshire in our inclusive program: Brittany Dorn and Lila West are both teachers of the deaf, and Karen Cahalane is a speech language pathologist. We have two new faces in the cafeteria this year: Jennifer Mott and Jennifer Hathaway. Our two new nighttime custodians are Max Lyman and Nick Romanski.



The 2021-2022 school year marks Hampshire Regional's 50th birthday! Hampshire opened in September of 1971, and we are so excited to celebrate Hampshire's birthday this year. Hampshire is truly a special place to be--one that is progressive and always moving forward, but

still steeped in tradition with deep ties to the community. 22 staff members are graduates of Hampshire Regional between the years of 1974 and 2019, including teachers, para educators, principal, a van driver, and a school resource officer. We are looking forward to inviting the community to our 50th birthday party in the spring of 2022!

All students came back into the school building full time in September. While school certainly looks different than it has in the past, both students, families, and staff alike were thrilled to return to some sense of normalcy. Notable differences in the school day include universal mask wearing, new lunch locations, social distancing during lunch, mask breaks, more outdoor education, and frequent hand sanitizing. In addition to our new 7th graders, we welcomed 60 new students (some school choice, some re-enrolling at HRHS after a year away) to Hampshire Regional.



Our students continue to push themselves and consistently demonstrate determination, competitiveness, and academic excellence. This year, we have 111 high school students enrolled in at least one of our 18 AP courses, with many students taking more than one. Students also have the opportunity to take online AP courses if we do not offer it here at the school. Five of our current seniors were named Commended Students in the 2022 National Merit Scholarship Program: William Cook, Madeleine Manganelli, Eleanor Meunier, Nora Mulvehill, and Sarah Unger (out of approximately 34,000 Commended Students throughout the nation). One senior, Suzannah Buehler, was named a Semifinalist in the National Merit Scholarship Program (only 16,000 students nationwide are named as Semifinalists!). In November, our Junior Achievement team took first place in the Stock Market Challenge run by the Junior Achievement of Western Massachusetts.



We were excited to be able to offer as many “typical” school activities as possible this past fall. Our seniors in the class of 2022 were able to purchase and then paint their own parking spots as part of the senior painting party in late August and early September. Our athletic program was up and running in a mostly typical fashion, including gymnastics, golf, cross country, soccer, and our co-op football team. Many of our clubs are running again this year, including the Yearbook Committee, Junior Achievement, Chess Club, As Schools Match

Wits, Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD), Student Council, World Cultures Club, Club Kindness, Gender Sexuality Alliance (GSA), Insingeraiders, and more.

In an effort to hold a modified version of Open House, we held our first ever outdoor Open House on September 30. Staff members were stationed by middle school teams and departments out on the track, and students and families were able to walk the track and speak with all of their teachers individually. We also held an Activity Fair at this event so that students and families could see what we offer outside of school hours. Finally, 7th grade parents, and parents of students new to HRHS, were offered tours of the building by Student Council students. The event was festive, fun, and well-attended!

Our middle school teams were excited to have “in-school field trips” in October. The teambuilding activities on these days were facilitated by Next Level Adventures, in addition to Hampshire teachers. These were great opportunities for our students to begin connecting (or reconnecting) with one another after a year of not being able to connect in these ways.

In November, Drama Company had their first in-person performance since the pandemic began, and did three performances of *Much Ado About Nothing* in front of live audiences. The HRHS Musical held auditions and the group has been working hard to prepare for the spring musical in 2022. HRHS Choral Director, Aidan Linden, held our first in-person choral concert in November and while it was a shortened version of our typical concerts, it was wonderful for families to be able to see their students perform in person again.



I cannot fully express my deep gratitude and appreciation for the amount of work that the staff at Hampshire Regional High School has done over the past 12 months. Our staff seamlessly transitioned between remote, hybrid, and full in-person learning; they sought out additional professional development and honed their technology skills in ways nobody had ever imagined necessary; many have stepped into new roles (in addition to their typical roles) to be class advisors, extracurricular advisors, and coaches, in order to offer these important activities for students; they have dealt with multiple schedule iterations to best support our students' academic, physical, and mental health needs. Although 2021 was certainly a year full of challenges for everybody, Hampshire Regional truly is a special place to be. We are so fortunate to have so much support from our communities and families, and we thank the towns for their collaboration throughout this year.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lauren Hotz, Principal
Hampshire Regional High School

Report of the Westhampton Elementary School

As Principal of Westhampton Elementary School, I am pleased to report that despite our second full school year in the shadow of the ongoing Pandemic, we continue to adjust our practices to ensure students' safety and maintain educational growth. Despite many obstacles, our staff continue to make steady progress towards our goals of continued improvement of our educational programs and maintaining and updating our facilities.



Last June our teaching staff came together to analyze end of year student assessment data and reflect on the past year's successes and challenges. All of our teachers, specialists, interventionists worked together to examine and analyze the impact of hybrid and remote instruction. They planned a modified scope and sequence for instruction to target high priority areas in the state learning standards for improved student outcomes. In addition, they used this data to develop their own personalized student learning goals for the 21-22 school year. Over this last school year our staff worked hard to take full advantage of in-person learning time with students. I am confident that our staff working together can diminish any negative impact of reduced learning time. Overall, I have been pleased with our students' progress throughout this difficult period. In fact, this year Westhampton Elementary was named one of the top 50 elementary schools in Massachusetts by US News and World Reports. This is the first time this publication that is known for ranking colleges and universities has ranked elementary schools. I attribute this success to our outstanding student body, supportive and engaged families and our dedicated teaching staff. Congratulations to all.

I would like to recognize Brigid O'Riordan who served on the Westhampton School Committee for the past eight years. Brigid was a dedicated public servant and a thoughtful advocate for children. Brigid served as the school committee chair for the last six years. I thank her for the substantial amount of time and energy she dedicated in helping to support and improve our school.

In August, our teaching staff came back earlier than normal on the 30 & 31st to begin this year working with our new phonemic awareness program Foundations. Our reading specialist, Katie Galenski, led our staff professional development for grades pre k through three, and has been working to support and coach in classrooms through the year. I believe that this approach will help solidify reading skills in our younger grades.

Of course one of the primary focuses of our work this year continues to be health and safety amid the pandemic. Once again, this year we continue to maximize physical distancing, enforce

mask wearing and separate cohorts in and outside of the building. We again have a three lunch schedule to distance students and students eat snacks in the cafeteria as well. I feel confident that our continued use of these Covid protocols has helped keep students and staff safe and minimized the transmission of Covid in our building. This year we are participating in pooled testing and have recently begun to give Covid test kits to staff and families. At this writing 90% of our staff are vaccinated and 60% of our student body. My hope is that as vaccination rates increase we will see a continued decline of the Covid positivity rate and we can begin to welcome families and visitors back into our building. I know we all look forward to seeing each other's faces and getting back to an increased sense of normalcy. I want to thank all our School Committee representatives, members of our town government, emergency services, and Board of Health for all stepping up during this difficult time to provide additional support that helps to keep our school a safe place. I would like to recognize and thank our students and their families. I appreciate the patience and flexibility our students and families have demonstrated and your continued support. We have upgraded large segments of our HVAC system including the addition of higher capacity exhaust fans throughout the building, and increased air filtration capacity. Additionally this year we upgraded our bathrooms with auto flush toilets, hand free sinks, a new boys bathroom floor and a new integrated systems of clocks for the building.

Our upper grade teachers and specialists worked on school improvement goals dealing with the theme of antiracism. One of these initiatives includes our staff working to build a more diverse picture book collection. After viewing a Ted Talk, titled “The Window and Mirrors of Your Child’s Bookshelf”, by Grace Lin, a local author, our staff was inspired to help create a collection of books that help our students to see things from other viewpoints. We have acquired approximately 30 new picture books as well as a few textbooks designed to help teachers better implement these resources with our students. Two of our staff members Kelly O’Connor and Natalee Dias are working with Emily Wayne, the children’s librarian at the Westhampton Public Library. Emily is helping them organize and prepare these books for student and staff use. Our staff is looking forward to further collaboration with our local library.

Other areas of emphasis outlined in the School Improvement Plan from the end of last year and the beginning of this year that are important parts of our work include, our implementation of the Fastbridge assessment system that continues this year. This is a web-based assessment system that allows us to efficiently and effectively assess students' grade level ability and monitor student learning throughout the course of the school year.

This year we are training reading and math specialists to monitor progress. We plan to schedule staff training with the Story Grammar Marker Program at the beginning of the next school year. This program will enable teaching staff to coordinate the teaching of narrative writing across grade levels in our building. This year we have invested in a program named Newsela. Newsela is a web-based literacy focused resource for teachers and students. The content is designed to engage students, facilitate differentiated instruction and align with state standards. Teachers and students can search a variety of subject areas and find interesting articles that are written specifically for various reading levels. Staff participated in professional development early in this school year to learn how to navigate and use this new resource.

In terms of staffing, Shelby Marowitz was hired as our math interventionist. Letitia Scafidi, who formerly worked as a paraprofessional, was hired as our first grade teacher. In October, we hired Rachel Delano as our new school adjustment counselor and increased that position to 4 days a week to support our students’ social emotional needs. Rachel most recently worked as a child life

specialist for Baystate Children's Hospital in the pediatric emergency department. Both Mary Ellen Gorman and Alexa Grober have returned to work this year as paraprofessionals on a part time basis. Susan Hatfield, our music teacher, left to pursue a new position as an administrator and we have hired Veronica Ravotti as our music teacher. Matt Hurd once again has joined the team as the part time day custodian and lunch monitor. Jamie Cardoza, Matt Hugget, Dana Dolittle were hired as special education aides. Kaitlyn Kelly and Tylor McCallumore, our former paraprofessionals, left to take teaching positions. We have contracted with Hampshire Regional to fill our cafeteria position formerly held by Wendy Wilcox. We have not yet filled the librarian position as that space is being used for multiple purposes due to Covid restrictions. I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all of our departing staff that worked so diligently on behalf of our students and school community.

This year the enrollment is 108 students in Pre-K through grade 6. I accepted six new school choice students this year. We have a total of 22 students attending through the choice program.

The annual town meeting last May was held outside at Westhampton Elementary. In our budget presentation, we originally requested an 8.9% budget increase that included contracted pay increases for our teachers and a new position of math interventionist and additional money for special education transportation. Ultimately, the budget included a 6.7% increase from the previous budget year. I am happy that we were able to fund the math interventionist and feel that this position will help to better support our students and increase students' mathematical abilities. One again, as a result of scaled down activities and Covid grant funding we were able to return money to the town. At the end of last year we returned \$50,000 or 2.86% of our budget to the town from our 20-21 operational budget.

I continue to work cooperatively with Selectboard member Phil Dowling to make repairs and upgrades to our heating system. We hope to make use of green community grant funding to upgrade our heating systems and make changes that may be more environmentally friendly and cost efficient.

In June we held our sixth-grade graduation in person on the playground. We graduated a class of 21 students: Natalia Black, Jesse Boudreau, Elyse Campbell, Trenton Clark, Lily Connor, Alexa Cortis, Max Cross, Meredith Cross, Natalie Dunlap, Eli Fern, Leo Florek, Riley Florek, Sloan Gajda, Zackary Hamel, Christopher Hanks, Clare Norris, Adalynn McVeigh, Caroline Payson, Vanessa Reese, Isaac Stith, William Warren. Congratulations to all of our graduates for all of their hard work.

I am proud of our school. We will always do our best to meet the needs of our families and to be responsible partners with the larger community. It is our goal to be a source of pride for the town of Westhampton.

Respectfully Submitted,

Deane Bates Principal
Westhampton Elementary School

Public Works

Report of the Highway Superintendent

The winter of 2020-2021 was a busy winter as we had several back-to-back storms. The \$100,000 that was appropriated in the Snow Removal account was spent for a total of \$105,000.

In the spring, all paved roads and parking lots were swept, and during the summer, all catch basins were checked, cleaned and given maintenance if needed.

Due to the ongoing world-wide pandemic, our everyday practices at the highway department were still a challenge. Training still took place on zoom and/or were cancelled.

Chapter 90 Projects:

Due to the state not releasing the Chapter 90 budget until August, it made it impossible to plan any projects before winter so we were only able to get crack sealing done.

Crack Sealing:	1.5 miles Easthampton Road
	7.5 miles on Main Road
	Total cost of \$18,116.61

Line Painting:

214,332 feet of line painting was completed on all main roads throughout town.

Beavers:

Beavers are continuing to cause problems at the Bridge on Main Road. Trappers were hired and 2 beavers were caught and removed from those locations.

Other Projects:

Safety Complex

Our work at the new Safety Complex started on April 1, 2021. We started with removing the underground gas tank, including removing all diesel fuel from those tanks and all the heating oil too. We also disconnected the water lines that ran to the building. The flag poles and signs were removed also to prep for the demolition of the old building.

We had to prep the highway garage to be able to fit in all the fire department trucks and apparatus. Electrical lines and air lines had to be installed to hook up to and charge all of the fire trucks. Much of the highway equipment had to be moved from its place to another spot in the garage or outside.

We continued to help with different jobs at the new safety complex throughout the spring and fall.

Town Hall

We removed all the metal grates off the windows and took down the basketball hoops so the walls could be repaired and painted. All the chairs and things on the floor had to be moved to the stage due to the floor being refinished.

Regular Maintenance

The usual maintenance was ongoing with brush cutting, hazardous tree removal, sign replacement/repairs, potholes filled, and gravel roads repaired and graded. We continued to do minor repairs and upkeep on all town buildings.

It was a record-breaking wet summer and fall so we spent much of our time fixing dirt roads and culvert pipes. We did this all while we were down one employee while keeping up with day-to-day jobs and maintenance.

Vehicles

We continue to do all the regular maintenance on the highway and fire vehicles. The highway department does most of the repair work and only sent the equipment out to repair shops if needed.

In July of 2021 we took delivery of the new Ford 550 pickup truck. Thank you to all of the voters for supporting the highway department.

Kings Highway Bridge

The bridge was closed at the end of March 2021. The old bridge was removed, and a new bridge was opened in December of 2021. Many items on the job still need to be completed but the bridge is fully operational.

Changes to Department Employees

Zachary Pruzynski left the department in July of 2021. I would like to thank him for his time and knowledge while working for the town. We worked with a 3-person crew from July until we hired Austin Norris in October of 2021. Austin comes to us with an extensive background of mechanical knowledge and operating skills. Austin is pursuing all necessary licenses, and should have all required certifications by early- to mid-January of 2022.

The crew continues to operate daily and get projects completed even with the difficulties that the pandemic and economy have presented us with.

I would like to thank Scott, Mike and Austin for all their support in making my job as Superintendent go as well as it did over the last couple of difficult years of the pandemic.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bill Jablonski, Superintendent
Westhampton Highway Department
highwaydept@westhamptonma.org
(413) 527-0136

Report of the Hilltown Resource Management Cooperative (HRMC)

The Hilltown Resource Management Cooperative (HRMC) was created in 1989 by a group of dedicated volunteers who had the vision to seek a regional solution to help small towns attain sustainability and environmental objectives through solid waste and recycling programs.



The member-Towns that comprise the HRMC include: Ashfield, Chesterfield, Cummington, Goshen, Huntington, Middlefield, Plainfield, Westhampton, Williamsburg, and Worthington. Each Town appoints two representatives to serve on the HRMC Board. Board Officers for 2021 included: Joe Kearns, Chair (Middlefield); John Chandler, Vice Chair (Chesterfield); and, Paul Wetzel, Treasurer (Williamsburg January - September), and Tom Poissant (Ashfield) for the remainder of the year. In 2021, HRMC services included:

- Conducting annual DEP transfer station inspections and work as a liaison between Towns & MADEP on transfer station compliance matters.
- Work with regional entities to challenge increased prevailing wage rates for hauling.
- Execution of an annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection event.
- Program management of transfer station recyclables including collection, hauling and recycling of tires, electronic waste, universal waste (including free recycling of mercury thermostats and re-chargeable batteries), books, and Freon evacuation.
- Outreach on transfer station operations and recycling initiatives.
- Submittal of member-Town DEP annual surveys, grant applications, and reports.
- Financial administration of HRMC programs and services.

The day to day business and program operations of the HRMC are managed by a contracted Administrator, who also serves as a representative to the Springfield Materials Recycling Facility (MFR) Municipal Advisory Board (Vice-Chair), the State Solid Waste Advisory Committee, the Western Mass Regional Recycling Coordinator group; and, interfaces with local, regional, and State officials. Board meetings are held on alternate months. The January, March, May, and July meetings were all held virtually to meet Covid 19 social distancing protocols.

The HRMC has an annual operation's assessment that is approved by each Town at their annual Town meeting. The annual Assessment Budget is based on tonnage and population. In FY21, the combined assessment for all ten towns was \$ 64,866. The Assessments offset base operating expenses. HRMC recycling program collection costs are pass-thru expenses from the HRMC to the Towns to best maximize economy of scale and to enable the HRMC administrator to have review and oversight of vendor relations and program operations.

In 2021, all HRMC member-towns were eligible for and received Recycling Dividend Program (RDP) Grants under the DEP Sustainable Materials Recovery Program (SMRP). Applications

were submitted for them through the HRMC. In total, the HRMC Towns received \$ 49,350.00 in grant funds to be used to further enhance recycling programs. Westhampton was awarded \$5,600 in RDP funds. In addition, the Town was awarded a \$3,000 SMRP Equipment Grant that was used towards the acquisition of a Universal Waste shed for mercury containing products and batteries at the transfer station.

During the past year, the HRMC member-Towns collectively diverted 902 tons of recyclable materials to the MRF; the Town of Westhampton recycled 96 tons in 2021. Eight of the ten member-Towns have adopted recycling goals of 50% with the intent of increasing quantity and improving the quality of materials being recycled at their transfer stations and to reduce waste being landfilled. In 2021, the Town of Westhampton had a recycling rate of 33.2% compared with 34.9% in 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen A. Casey, Administrator
Hilltown Resource Management Cooperative

Community, Culture, and Recreation

Report of the Cemetery Caretaker

Routine clean-up and maintenance was completed in early spring and continued throughout the entire season. 11 old tablet headstones had fallen over and were stood up and repaired.

The cemetery equipment is in good working condition.

I recommend tree work be completed along the East fence line to prevent limbs from damaging headstones. Cemetery Commission looked at the tree line will got estimates from contractors.

Consideration should be made to layout new section (North section). Limited lots are left in the old section (Section 3).



There were:

- 5 Traditional burials and 11 cremations
- 16 Burial lots were given
- 2 Burial lots were sold
- 6 Foundations were installed

I would like to thank the Westhampton Highway Department for their assistance in 2021.

I would also like to thank Don Fox and the Westhampton Fire Department for continuing to keep the water tanks filled at the cemetery.

Thank you for the last 8 years that I could be of service to the town.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward Thornton,
Cemetery Superintendent

Veterans' Service Agent

The Veterans Agent, also known as a Veterans Service Officer, provides comprehensive professional veterans services to town veterans and their dependents in compliance with state law.

Eligible veterans and family members may get financial assistance, peer support from the Statewide Advocacy for Veteran Empowerment (SAVE) team, connection to the Women Veterans' Network, or opportunity for burial at the Massachusetts Veteran Memorial Cemeteries in Agawam and Winchendon.

Chapter 115 Benefits

The Department of Veterans' Services offers a benefit to veterans with little income, called Chapter 115 benefits, which can help pay for daily living expenses, medical costs, housing, and other necessities.

The Department of Veterans' Services offers a benefit to veterans with little income, called Chapter 115 benefits, which can help pay for daily living expenses, medical costs, housing, and other necessities. Veterans can connect with their local Veteran Service Officer to apply.

Annuity Payments

The Department of Veterans' Services also offers an annuity to certain disabled veterans, parents of a deceased veteran, and the unmarried spouses of deceased veterans. The annuity is \$2,000 which is payable biannually on August 1st and February 1st in two installments of \$1,000 each.

Westhampton's Veterans Service Officer is Joe Henning, who can be reached by telephone at (413) 427-3054.

Report of the Council on Aging

The Council on Aging in Massachusetts is composed of 350 communities (COAs) consisting of 1.7 million older adults, 60 and over. Each COA provides a variety of support services to older adults, families and caregivers in the community. COAs advocate for elders – offering services and activities for older adults with the mission of assisting them in leading healthy, purposeful lives.

The elder population of Westhampton has grown with more town residents reaching the age of 60+. Our COA serves an estimated 677 residents out of a total population of approximately 1800 residents – nearly 30% of Westhampton's demographic. With state grant funds, town funds, federal funds provided by Highland Valley Elder Services, support from the Friends of the COA, and our many volunteers, the COA was able to offer a variety of programs and services for residents despite the obstacles posed by the pandemic.

The Westhampton COA consists of a Coordinator and Board of between five and seven members, appointed by the Board of Selectmen. The COA also works closely with the Northern Hilltown Consortium, which assists us in securing grant funds for some of our programs and provides guidance on valuable resources for our residents.

Our board currently consists of Julia Lennen (Chair), Ray Fontaine, Colleen Basile, and new members Lorraine Galica and David Goddard. Long-time board members, Louise Jaisonkowksi and Charles Horn have stepped down after many years of dedicated service. We are always on the look-out for new Board members and encourage anyone interested to attend one of our monthly Board meetings, currently held mid-month. There is no age requirement to join the Board.

2021 Highlights

COA Newsletter –

The printed 8-page newsletter, *Moving Forward*, made possible through generous funding from the MA Dept. of Elder Services, reaches approximately 377 households (and perhaps nearly twice this number of individuals). Edited by Daniel Valinski, the newsletter is sent to additional elders electronically. In 2021, our newsletter also contained useful Covid-19 vaccine information.

Ongoing Services & Programs –

Lillian Baxter coordinates the “HEN” program (Hilltown Elder Network, supported by the Hilltown CDC) which provides light household and yard work to elders. Louise Jaisonkowski coordinates our volunteer transportation program sponsored by FRTA, matching drivers with residents in need of rides to appointments. (Volunteer drivers receive small mileage compensation. Please contact us if you are interested in volunteering to accommodate those in need of a ride.) Jean Webster tracks donated medical equipment and other supplies. Outdoor, in-person Yoga classes with instructor Renee Rix, began in May. Computer Classes with Bob Miller resumed at the Library from Oct.-Dec. Breakfast with Friends, hosted by Julia Lennen, continued both virtually and in-person. Hiking (of great significance during the pandemic), led by Ray Fontaine and Chuck Horn, continued whenever possible.

Monthly Communal Programs –

Because of the pandemic, we held many of our monthly communal programs via Zoom. Virtual highlights included “Local Wildlife in Winter,” presented by wildlife educator Fran Ryan, who drew a large intergenerational crowd (March), an Irish-themed show by musicians, Kate O’Connor and Rico Spence (April) and a Wang Theater Tour (Nov). In-person programs featured live jazz by the 5-piece Agawam Melody Band (July), Sarah the Fiddler (September) and an Ice Cream Social (featuring Herrell’s Ice Cream) outside the Library.

New Life Skills/COA Program –

The COA initiated a pilot program in partnership with Hampshire Regional High School Life Skills. Students honed their life skills by preparing holiday gift bags for elders which they personally distributed. Plans were made for additional projects such as soup-making/delivery and the pairing of students with older adults to help with tasks where assistance is hard to come by in rural communities.

Friends of the COA –

The Friends of the COA co-sponsored May Day gift cards, sponsored elders for the Log Cabin Christmas Show and sent gift cards to those turning 90. Sarah the Fiddler was also generously sponsored by the Friends.

We are grateful for our continued partnership with the Selectboard, Town Clerk, Administrator, Accountant, Treasurer and Library.

We encourage all residents to volunteer, participate in events and share ideas to make Westhampton a safe, vibrant, and welcoming place for our aging population.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Landau, Coordinator
Westhampton Council on Aging

Report of the Westhampton Public Library

The Westhampton Public Library has successfully navigated another year of pandemic challenges. While Covid-19 has continued to impact the ways in which the library serves the community, the library staff, volunteers, and trustees have been committed to providing excellent service to the community of Westhampton while maintaining the safety of staff and patrons.

As the year began, the library was closed to the public due to the Covid-19 state of emergency. The library staff provided remote services and offered a variety of services using on-line formats. In-person browsing resumed in May, when the library also returned to hosting a variety of exhibits by local artists, as well as meetings for a variety of groups.

With the return of cold weather and the added risks of the Omicron variant of Covid, indoor use of the library was limited once again. Meaghan Schwelm, our Library Director, and Emily Wayne, our Youth Librarian, returned to offering a variety of programs using on-line formats. Attendance was impacted as a result.

Despite the disruptions and constraints resulting from Covid, the Library has continued to be a source of enrichment and information for the community. Here are some statistics:

Residents with Westhampton as a Home Library	951
Books circulated	14,965
Periodicals	680
Audiobooks	698
Video	2,666
Ebooks and downloadable audio	3,284
Children's materials	9,186
Items lent to other libraries via Interlibrary Loan	4,598

Items borrowed from other libraries via Interlibrary Loan	3,134
Total Items Circulated:	22,392

Program Attendance

- 13 Children's programs with 276 in attendance
- 1 Teen program with 4 in attendance
- 24 Adult programs with 201 in attendance.

Programs were one again impacted by the ongoing pandemic. The higher number of children in attendance is largely attributed to the excellent participation we had in the summer reading program.

Meeting rooms were used 10 times. This number is also lower due to the pandemic.

Additional Program Participation

Facebook Video Views	4,746
Virtual Programs	55 with 399 in attendance
Take & Make Craft Kits distributed	Over 250
Curbside Pickup Hours provided	1,181

Income from Library Solar Panels \$41,306.19 as of 8/23/21

The Westhampton Library is fortunate to be housed in a handsome building, in an idyllic setting, in the center of our beautiful town. The appreciation and continued support of community members are a vital part of the library's ability to thrive and grow as a resource for the town. Over several weekends in April, volunteers gathered to pull weeds, spread mulch, and establish a beautiful Pollinator Garden that adds to the beauty and sustainability of the library grounds. We thank them for their help and enthusiasm.

Later in the summer, the library supported Westhampton Connects, a group of local residents working to promote community awareness and resilience during the pandemic. They used the library grounds to erect a wooden frame with materials for the creation of a community-created, woven art piece. They also organized an art walk where the community could display art pieces that represented themselves and their connection to Westhampton.

The Library also supported and benefitted from Ella Cleary's Eagle Scout project. Ella planned, raised funds, and organized the construction of outdoor benches for the library grounds. She donated unused funds to the library, which will be used to enhance the Young Adult Room.

The Library also thanks Phil Dowling for donating his time, knowledge and skills to repairing the cupola that sits atop the library. Phil also painted much of the exterior of the Judd House and will continue the project this spring and summer.

The Friends of the Westhampton Library continue to support the Library by providing funding for a variety of programs and materials, including our Summer Reading Program. We are particularly grateful this year for our new Westhampton Public Library sign. The Friends had 159 members in fiscal year 2021-2022.

We continue to rely on a dedicated group of volunteers. Our volunteers contributed 635 hours of their time and talents this year. They are a critical part of the library's ability to serve the town. The trustees want to thank Ellice Gonzalez, Barbara Pelissier, Margaret Butterfield, Angela Griefen, Sheila Marks, Hilary Nolan, Jeffrey Olsen, Judee Wayne, and Victoria Yoshen. We also want to thank the Hampshire Regional High School students who volunteer at the library: Luke Gaida, Ellie Meunier, Anthony Sola, Nora Mulvehill, Matthew Solan, and Casey Breguet.

Custodian Jared Brown continues to do additional cleaning, beyond his pre-pandemic routine, to help keep library patrons safe. We thank him for his extra effort.

The Trustees would like the residents of Westhampton to know that our budget, the balances in the library accounts held by the town, and the income generated from the library solar panels can all be found on our website at <https://www.westhampton-ma.com/westhampton-public-library>. This website can also be found as a link on the town website. Anyone without computer access can ask the library director for paper copies. The income from the solar panels goes directly into the town general fund. Since becoming operational, the panels have generated over \$41,000 in revenue for the town.

Respectfully Submitted,

The Board of Trustees:
Chair Anne Marie O'Reilly
Vice-Chair Michelle Nevins
Treasurer Angela Griefen
Secretary Carol McMurrich
Brian Mulvehill
Caralyn Whipple

Records, Tables and Resources

Elected Town Officials

Selectboard - 3 members

Philip Dowling	2023
Maureen Dempsey	2024
Teri Anderson	2022

Board of Assessors - 3 members

Marilyn Witherell	2023
Walter Morrey	2024
Winnie Gorman	2022

Planning Board - 5 members

Susan Bronstein	2023
Wade Clement	2022
Donald (Pat) Coffey	2024
L. Saxon Elliot (resigned 11/21)	
(Maureen Dempsey appointed 11/21)	2022
John Zimmerman (appointed 11/21)	2023

Finance Committee - 10 members

Stephen Holt	2022
Andrew Klyman	2022
Priscilla (Pat) Miller	2022
Jeremy Durrin	2023
Barbara Pelissier	2023
Jacob Antosz	2023
Tad Weiss	2024
Richelle Hurd	2024
Marilyn Witherell	2024
Vacant	2024

Elementary School Committee - 5 members

Morley Cleary	2022
Scott Johndrow	2022
Peter Cleary	2023
Wesley Bowser	2023
Ian Stith	2024

Hampshire Regional School Committee – (varies with enrollment)

Scott Johndrow	2024
Thomas M. Cleary, Jr.	2023

Moderator

Benjamin A. Warren	2022
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Tree Warden

Tom Jenkins	2022
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Library Trustees - 6 members

Brian Mulvehill	2022
Michele Nevins	2022
Carol A. McMurrich	2023
Anne Marie O'Reilly	2023
Caralyn Whipple	2024
Angela Griefen	2024

Constables

Robert E. Miller (Center District)	2024
Leroy Douchkoff (North District)	2022
Charles Inman (South District)	2023

Appointed Town Officials

Police Chief		Cheryl Provost (through October 31)	2022
		Douglas Finn (November 1)	
David White	2022		
Police Officers		Town Accountant	
Floyd Fisher	2022	Joseph Boudreau	2022
Matthew Malo	2022	Treasurer	
Spencer Hotz	2022	Jennifer Day	2022
Jeff Fish	2022		
Fire Chief & Forest Warden		Tax Collector	
David Antosz	2022	Patricia Cotton	2022
Emergency Management Director		Town Clerk	
Todd Alexander	2022	Katrin Kaminsky	2022
Emergency Medical Services Coordinator		Board of Registrars	
Mark Gould	2022	Katrin Kaminsky, Clerk	2022
		Mary Vachula	2022
Highway Superintendent/Trench Permitting		Catherine Shaw	2022
Bill Jablonski	2022	Patricia W. Cotton	2022
Veterans' Agent		Election Officers	
Joseph Henning	2022	Deborah Barthelette	2022
		Barbara Moynihan	2022
Animal Control Officer		Melissa Melville	2022
Vacant	2022	Louise Jasionkowski	2022
		Shirley Raymond	2022
Inspector of Animals		Erika Subocz	2022
Teresa Donovan	2022	Jean Webster	2022
		Marilyn Witherell	2022
Cemetery Superintendent		Charlotte Wood	2022
Edward Thornton	2022	Susan Bronstein	2022
		Dolores Thornhill	2022
Cemetery Commission - 3 members		Lora Saltis	2022
Thomas Warren	2024	Deborah Ford	2022
Richard I. Tracy	2022	Zoning Board of Appeals -	
Charles P. (Karl) Norris	2023	5 members & 3 associate members	
Town Counsel		Richard W. Tracy	2024
Kopelman & Paige, P.C	2022	John Kelsey	2024
Administrative Assistant		Laurie Sanders	2022
		Peter Ignatovich	2022
		Dave Loven	2023
		vacant - associate	

vacant - associate
vacant – associate

Board of Health - 3 members

Thomas Martin	2022
Katch Bacheller	2023
Robbie Armenti	2024

Historical Commission - 5 members

Steve Brooks	2024
Dave Goddard	2022
Robert Dragon	2022
Richard W. Tracy	2023
Daniel Krug, Jr.	2023

Surveyors of Wood,Lumber & Bark

Vacant	2022
Richard I. Tracy	2022
Richard W. Tracy	2022

Field Drivers & Pound Keepers

Stephen Holt	2022
Vacant	2022
Vacant	2022

Fence Viewers

Vacant	2022
Glenn Loud	2022

Building Commissioner and Zoning Enforcement Officer

Thomas Quinlan	2023
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Local Inspector of Buildings and Zoning Enforcement Officer

Todd Alexander	2022
Walter Marek	2022

Plumbing & Gas Inspector

Brian Pichette	2022
Assistant Anthony Karella	2022

Wiring Inspector

James Mailloux	2022
Assistant John Lyons	2022

Health Agent

Foothills Health District	2022
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Almoners of Street & Wright Fund

Janice Tracy	2024
Margot Cleary	2024
Phil Dowling	2022
Barbara Pelissier	2023
Susan O'Rourke	2023

Conservation Commission - 5 members

Brad Morse	2024
Vacant	2024
Jessica Lerman	2022
Fred Morrison	2023
Bill Randolph	2023
Steve Holt (Associate)	2022

Council on Aging Coordinator

Amy Landau	2022
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Council on Aging - 7 members

Vacant	2022
Vacant	2022
Colleen Basile	2022
Raymond Fontaine	2023
Howard Davis "Dave" Goddard	2023
Lorraine Galica	2024
Julia Lennen	2024

Cultural Council

Winnie Gorman	2023
Melissa Redwin	2024
Sheila Marks	2023
Julie Held	2023
Lara Ramsey	2022
Jackie Brodeur	2023
Joshua Menke	2026
Brian Mulvehill	2022
Wade Clement	2023

Insurance Committee - 5 members

John Moynihan	2023
Anne Robbins	2021
Philip Dowling	2022
vacant	
vacant	

Hampshire County Insurance Trust

Jennifer Day 2022

John Zimmerman

2022

Floyd Fisher

2022

Agricultural Commission - 7 members

Richard Tracy 2024

Arthur Clapp 2024

Thomas Hathaway 2022

John Moynihan 2022

Steve Holt 2022

Edward Parsons 2023

Marilyn Witherell 2023

Capital Improvement Planning Committee - 5 members

Dave White (res.12/21) Tom Cleary 2024

Bill Jablonski 2024

Philip Dowling (Selectboard) 2024

David Antosz 2024

Steve Holt (Finance Committee) 2024

Franklin Regional Transit Authority

Teri Anderson 2022

**Town Property &
Energy Assessment Committee**

Chris Brooks 2022

Barbara Cook (resigned 12/21) 2022

Art Pichette 2022

Planning Board Associate

vacant

Zoning By-Law Review Committee

Steve Gagne 2022

Brigid O'Riordan 2022

Arthur Pichette 2022

John Shaw 2022

Pat Coffey (Planning Bd.) 2022

Public Safety Building Committee

Art Pichette 2022

Steve Holt 2022

Chris Brooks 2022

Philip Dowling 2022

Dave White 2022

Stephen Wurmbrand 2022

Open Space & Recreation Committee*(new in 2021 re:**Municipal Vulnerability Planning)*

Laurie Sanders	2022
Fred Morrison	2022
Bob LaPalme	2022
Jennifer Milikowsky	2022
Pandora Redwin	2022
Carter Cleary	2022
Dante Volkman Ternullo	2022
Kate Parsons	2022
Tom Jenkins	2022

MVP Action Grant Core Group (new in 2021)

Laurie Sanders	2022
Phil Dowling	2022
Teri Anderson	2022
Robby Armenti	2022
Katch Bachelor	2022
Susan Bronstein	2022
Arthur Clapp	2022
Morley Cleary	2022
Julia Lennon	2022
Pat Miller	2022
Fred Morrison	2022
Bill Tracy	2022
John Zimmerman	2022

Capital Improvement Planning Schedule

Dept:	Purpose	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Highway	(2021) Pick Up Truck (F-550)		\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000				
	(1999) Pick Up Truck (F-350)			\$ 65,000							
	(2008) Generator	\$ 30,000									
	(2001) Brush Mower				\$ 18,000	\$ 18,000	\$ 18,000	\$ 18,000	\$ 18,000	\$ 18,000	\$ 18,000
	(2006) Dump Truck				\$ 34,000	\$ 34,000	\$ 34,000	\$ 34,000	\$ 34,000	\$ 34,000	\$ 34,000
	(2012) Backhoe									\$ 18,000	\$ 18,000
	(1985) Grader (used?)							\$ 18,000	\$ 18,000	\$ 18,000	\$ 18,000
	(1999) Compressor			\$ 40,000							
	(2016) FWD Dump Truck										
	(2019) Bucket Loader										\$ 21,000
WES	(2010) Wood Chipper							\$ 70,000			
	(2019) Dump Truck										
	(2015) Asphalt Roller										
	Building Improv: Break Rm		\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000							
	(1998) Transfer Station: Compactor			\$ 45,000							
HRHS	Insulation Upgrades										
	Parking Lot	\$ 61,100									
	Elem. School Heat Sys upgrades										
	Capital Projects										
	Utility Shed Roof (?)										
Cemetery	Patrol Vehicle (2010) Ford			\$ 60,000							
	Digital Dual Band Radios**			\$ 13,000				\$ 13,000			
	Patrol Vehicle (2018)									\$ 70,000	
	(1987) Fire Engine 2 (used?)							\$ 37,000	\$ 37,000	\$ 37,000	
	Fire Engine 1 (2004)										
Fire/EMS	Tanker (2017)										
	Rescue 1 (2009)										
	Brush Truck (2002)										
	Utility ATV/Trailer (2009)										
	SCBA Trailer										
Town Buildings	Jeep 2004 (Club Cab 4WD Pickup?)				\$ 50,000						
	Radio Replacement										
	COA / Senior Center										
	Town Hall & Annex Roofs	\$ 90,000									
	1 South Rd - Attic / Wall Insulation										
	Lighting Upgrades - Town Hall, Annex, Library, Highway Garage	\$ 55,712									
	Safety Building										
	TOTALS	\$ 120,000	\$ 256,000	\$ 256,000	\$ 256,000	\$ 256,000	\$ 256,000	\$ 256,000	\$ 256,000	\$ 256,000	\$ 256,000
		\$ 147,229	\$ 306,000	\$ 529,000	\$ 383,000	\$ 333,000	\$ 333,000	\$ 396,000	\$ 376,000	\$ 451,000	\$ 402,000
		\$ 167,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Current Debt	Highway Truck and Loader (2018)										
	Public Safety Building Design										
TOTAL CAPITAL PAYMENTS		\$ 434,229	\$ 321,000	\$ 544,000	\$ 398,000	\$ 348,000	\$ 348,000	\$ 396,000	\$ 376,000	\$ 451,000	\$ 402,000

Information current as of May 21, 2021

Annual Town Meeting - May 8, 2021

63 Voters present

Moderator Ben Warren called the meeting to order at 9:08 A.M. and welcomed everyone to the Annual Town Meeting. He commended the efforts of all citizens and officials to keep Westhampton a wonderful place. The following articles were then acted upon:

ARTICLE 1: To hear and act on all reports presented at said meeting.

Moderator announced the 2020 Annual Report and budget provided at check in. Motion made & seconded to move article as read. Motion carried. (Corrected versions of Planning Board & Zoning By-Law Review Committee reports were later provided.)

ARTICLE 2: To elect by ballot necessary officers to serve in the ensuing year:

Selectboard	One for three years
Board of Assessors	One for three years
Board of Assessors	One for two years
Board of Assessors	One for one year
Planning Board	One for three years
Planning Board	One for two years
Finance Committee	Four for three years
Library Trustees	Two for three years
Hampshire Regional School Committee	One for three years
Westhampton Elementary School Committee	One for three years
Moderator	One for one year
Tree Warden	One for one year
Constable (Center District)	One for three years

Moderator explained the article is informational and action will be taken election day June 5.

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to leave the care of the highways in charge of the Selectboard.

Motion made and seconded to move article as read. Motion carried.

ARTICLE 4: To vote in compliance with Section 108, Chapter 41 G.L., which requires that salaries of elected officials be fixed by vote of the Town.

Motion made and seconded that the town approve the salaries of elected officials as:

Salaries Elected Officials	Chair	Members	FY2022
Moderator			522.00
Selectboard (3)	2,135.00	1,678.00	5,491.00
Assessors (3)	3,272.00	2,922.00	9,116.00
School Committee (5)	492.00	286.00	1,636.00
Tree Warden			703.00

Motion carried.

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide, such sum of money as may be necessary to defray Town charges in the ensuing year.

Motion made and seconded that the Town approve the budget as recommended by the Finance Committee and raise and appropriate all items that are not a separate article vote.

Moderator explained that if there were specific questions on any line item, they would be held (H) for further discussion. He then proceeded to read each line category to hear for holds.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

COUNSEL FEES	20,000.00
SELECTMEN EXPENSE	5,800.00
DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM	2,100.00
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	43,038.00
TOWN ACCOUNTANT SALARY	17,014.00
TOWN ACCOUNTANT EXPENSE	4,350.00
ASSESSOR EXPENSE	12,000.00
ASSESSOR ASSISTANT	16,367.00
TREASURER SALARY	17,014.00
TREASURER EXPENSE	7,500.00
TAX TITLE EXPENSE	6,500.00
TAX COLLECTOR SALARY	17,014.00
TAX COLLECTOR EXPENSE	19,716.00
TAX TAKING EXPENSES	800.00
TOWN CLERK SALARY	16,367.00
TOWN CLERK EXPENSE	5,800.00
CLERK, BOARD OF REGISTRARS	100.00
CONSERVATION COMMISSION	225.00
ZONING BOARD	600.00
PLANNING BOARD EXPENSE	300.00
CONSULTING PLANNER	6,000.00

H

HIGHWAYS

HIGHWAY SALARIES	243,586.00
HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION	10,000.00
HIGHWAY MATERIALS	95,843.00
ROAD MACHINERY	43,811.00
ROAD MACHINERY FUEL	43,050.00
SNOW REMOVAL	100,000.00
ROAD MACHINERY BLDGS	30,634.00
TRANSFER STATION EXPENSES	84,108.00
HILLTOWN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COOP	7,550.00

SCHOOLS & LIBRARIES

LIBRARY	110,997.00
VETERANS	
VETERANS EXPENSE	14,460.00
VETERANS AGENT SALARY	1,910.00
MEMORIAL DAY	200.00
CULTURAL COUNCIL	75.00
CEMETERIES	
CEMETERY SALARY	6,970.00
CEMETERY COMMISSION	494.00

PROTECTION OF PERSONS & PROPERTY

POLICE CHIEF SALARY	34,725.00
POLICE DEPARTMENT	82,182.00

FIRE CHIEF	13,764.00	
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR	2,665.00	
FIRE DEPARTMENT	42,200.00	
SAFETY COMPLEX	13,700.00	
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES	9,250.00	
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COORDINATOR	5,330.00	
INSPECTORS COMPENSATION	6,000.00	
BUILDING INSPECTOR/COMMISSIONER SALARY	28,000.00	
INSPECTORS EXPENSE (see reconvene \$ 12,940.00)	11,140.00	
TREE WARDEN EXPENSE	2,600.00	
ANIMAL INSPECTOR	1,000.00	
ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER SALARY	2,000.00	
ANIMAL CONTROL/INSPECTOR EXPENSE	1,043.00	
BOARD OF HEALTH SALARY	1,317.00	
BOARD OF HEALTH EXPENSE	500.00	
FOOTHILLS HEALTH DISTRICT (see reconvene \$26,084.00)	28,997.00	
DEBT & INTEREST		
DEBT (PUBLIC SAFETY DESIGN/ENG. & HWY PICKUP)	(40,000.00)	H
DEBT (PUBLIC SAFETY COMPLEX CONSTRUCTION)	(255,795.00)	H
INTEREST ON LONG TERM DEBT	(0)	H
UNCLASSIFIED		
INSURANCE & BONDS	87,570.00	
TOWN OFFICES	28,610.00	
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT	15,272.00	
COUNCIL ON AGING	3,025.00	
COUNCIL ON AGING COORDINATOR	5,500.00	
HISTORICAL	1,200.00	
COUNTY RETIREMENT	229,706.00	
PIONEER VALLEY PLANNING COMMISSION	280.00	
GROUP INSURANCE	395,000.00	
OPEB TRUST FUND	5,000.00	
MEDICARE	30,000.00	
RESERVE FUND	15,000.00	
TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS AFTER RECONVENE	2,409,551	

Holds explained:

ZONING BOARD

Point of information. The Board will be charging applicants the legal notice fee.

DEBT (PUBLIC SAFETY DESIGN/ENG. & HWY PICKUP)

DEBT (PUBLIC SAFETY COMPLEX CONSTRUCTION)

INTEREST ON LONG TERM DEBT

These three line items all held until reconvened session as more information will be available.

Motion carried as amended to hold three line items until reconvened session.

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide, a sum of money to meet Westhampton's share of Hampshire Regional School District's assessment for Fiscal 2022, or any lesser sum as may be certified by the District, provided that any such certification shall be made prior to the establishment of the tax rate, and to meet this appropriation, a sum of money be raised by taxation, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Motion made and seconded that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,439,409.00 for Westhampton's share of Hampshire Regional School District's assessment for Fiscal 2022, or any lesser sum as may be certified by the District, provided that any such certification shall be made prior to the establishment of the tax rate. Motion carried.

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide, a sum of money for the Elementary School, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

Motion made and seconded that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,926,818.00 for the Elementary School. Motion carried.

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide, a sum of money for Vocational school tuition, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

Motion made and seconded that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$350,000.00 for vocational school tuition. Motion carried.

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide, a sum of money for Vocational school transportation, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

Motion made and seconded that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$60,897.00 for vocational school transportation. Motion carried.

ARTICLE 10: It was voted that the Town raise and appropriate \$14,500.00 for a Financial Audit for the Town.

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,925.00 for an Actuary Audit of Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB), or take any other action in relation thereto.

Motion made and seconded that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$0.00 for an Actuary Report on the OPEB costs and liability for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022. It was explained that the report would be done but funded from another source. Motion carried.

ARTICLE 12: It was voted that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,000.00 for Treasurer/Collector/Town Clerk Support/Training Expenses.

ARTICLE 13: It was voted that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,620.00 for Administrative Assistant Search/Training Expenses.

ARTICLE 14: It was voted that the Town transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$9,000.00 for painting interior walls and refinishing floors of great hall at Town Hall.

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide, a sum of money for design and construction of a break room in the highway department garage, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Motion made and seconded that the Town transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$24,000 for design and construction of a break room in the Highway Department Garage. Much discussion regarding need, timing and cost calculation.

Motion made and seconded to defer action until reconvened session. Motion carried.

ARTICLE 16: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money as may be certified from available funds, due to the Town as Chapter 90 Highway funds, from the Transportation Bond Issue, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Motion made and seconded to appropriate a sum of \$185,193.00 as may be certified from available funds, due to the Town as Chapter 90 Highway funds, from the Transportation Bond Issue. Motion carried.

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide, a sum of money for ambulance services, as provided by an agreement with the City of Easthampton, and to determine whether this amount shall be raised by taxation, transferred from available funds, or otherwise, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Motion made and seconded that the Town transfer of \$10,000.00 from Ambulance Receipts Reserved, and raise and appropriate \$15,000.00, to pay for ambulance services provided by the City of Easthampton. Motion carried.

ARTICLE 18: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide \$20,000 to hold in anticipation of unemployment benefits for Town employees in accordance with Chapter 151A of the General Laws of Massachusetts.

Motion made and seconded to move article as read. Motion carried.

ARTICLE 19: To see if the Town will vote to re-authorize a revolving fund not to exceed \$2000 for the Fire Department, under MGL Chapter 44, sec 53 E1/2, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Motion made and seconded to move article as read. Motion carried.

ARTICLE 20: To see if the Town will vote to re-authorize a revolving fund not to exceed \$6000 for the Westhampton Cemetery, under MGL Chapter 44, Sec 53 E1/2, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Motion made and seconded to move article as read. Motion carried.

ARTICLE 21: To see if the Town will vote to re-authorize a revolving fund not to exceed \$8,000.00 for the Police Department School Resource Officer payroll, under MGL Chapter 44, sec 53 E1/2, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Motion made and seconded to move article as read. Motion carried.

ARTICLE 22: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$5,000.00 for Police Department equipment and training, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Motion made and seconded to move article as read. Motion carried.

ARTICLE 23: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$7,500.00 for Police Reform Training, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Motion made and seconded to move article as read. Motion carried

ARTICLE 24: To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from Free Cash to the Stabilization Fund, or take any action relative thereto.

Motion made and seconded to transfer \$50,000.00 from Free Cash to the Stabilization Fund.
Motion carried.

ARTICLE 25: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money from Free Cash to balance the budget, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Motion made and seconded to defer action to reconvened session. Motion carried.

ARTICLE 26: To see if the Town will vote to adopt a resolution submitted by petition as follows:

Resolution Declaring Westhampton to be a Pollinator-Friendly Community

The purpose of this resolution is to increase pollinator education and take action to further support the health of pollinators.

Bees, butterflies and other pollinators are vital parts of our ecosystem. They provide essential services for valued crops and thus contribute to our local agricultural economy. The caterpillars of moths and butterflies are an exceedingly important food source for songbirds, enabling them to successfully rear their young.

As a right-to-farm community, our action in support of pollinator health concurrently supports local farms. In addition, these efforts increase community resilience, enhance food security and contribute to the overall health of the environment.

Some pollinator species are in sharp decline due to multiple stressors, including a loss of habitat, the impact of climate change, the arrival of non-native parasites and pathogens, an increase in artificial lighting, and exposure to pesticides and other environmental contaminants. The overall impact is a reduction in biodiversity.

A federal strategy to promote the health of honey bees and other pollinators was created to address these issues due to the fact that pollinators contribute over 15 billion dollars in agricultural value to the United States each year.

In addition, Massachusetts created a Pollinator Protection Plan (in 2017) which outlines best management practices and actions to benefit pollinators.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Town of Westhampton join in this effort to support pollinators by declaring the town of Westhampton a Pollinator-Friendly Community. As such, the town encourages the adoption of policies and practices that support pollinator health including:

- Increasing community education on pollinators and pollinator health.
- Following pollinator-friendly best practices as outlined in the Massachusetts Pollinator Protection Plan.
- Expanding pollinator habitat on town properties.

The Town Clerk is requested to send copies of this resolution to Governor Charles Baker and Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources Commissioner John Lebeaux.

Motion made and seconded to move article as read. Motion carried

Motion made and seconded to adjourn until a reconvened session at a date not yet determined. Motion carried at 10:20am.

Annual Town Meeting Re-convene Meeting Minutes - June 19, 2019

28 voters present

The Meeting was called to order by Moderator Ben Warren at 9:04 A.M. with a quorum present. The Moderator announced vacancies available for appointed positions and asked interested citizens to contact the Selectboard. He then announced that the meeting would proceed directly to the held items in Article 5 now that there was better information regarding the financial items held and asked for a motion to open Article 5 to consider the held items – motion made, seconded and carried.

It was voted unanimously to raise and appropriate \$40,000 for Debt (Public Safety Design/Eng. & Hwy Pickup) aka Line 97 on FY22 budget worksheet.

It was voted unanimously to raise and appropriate \$255,795 for Debt (Public Safety Complex Construction) aka Line 98 on FY22 budget worksheet.

Clerk's note – Interest on Long Term Debt aka Line 99 on FY22 budget worksheet was originally held but now passed over as no appropriation was indicated on the revised worksheet.

The Moderator then announced that the meeting could reconsider other line items in Article 5 now that there was better information:

It was voted unanimously to reconsider the Inspector Expenses Account at \$12,940.00. It was voted unanimously to reconsider the Foothills Health District at \$26,084.00.

ARTICLE 15: It was voted 21-4 to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$25,000 for design and construction of a break room in the highway department garage.

It was noted that the project would be funded and completed in two parts, this year and next year.

Article 25: It was voted unanimously to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$100,000 to balance the budget.

Motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to dissolve the Annual Town Meeting at 9:33 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Katrin Kaminsky, Town Clerk

RECAPITULATION

Article 4 Salaries of Elected Officials	17,468
Article 5 Budget	2,409,551
Article 6 Hampshire Regional HS Budget	1,439,409
Article 7 Elementary School	1,926,818
Article 8 Vocational Tuition	350,000
Article 9 Vocational Transportation	60,897
Article 10 Financial Audit	14,500
Article 12 Treas/Collector/Clerk Support/Training	2,000
Article 13 Admin. Asst. Search/Training	3,620
Article 17 Ambulance Service	15,000
Article 18 Unemployment	20,000
Article 22 Police Equipment & Training	5,000
Article 23 Police Reform Training	7,500
Total raise and appropriate [recap pg.4 (B)]	6,271,763
Article 17 Ambulance Receipts Reserved [recap pg.4 (D)]	10,000
Article 14 & 15 from Free Cash for specific purpose [recap pg.4 (C)]	34,000
Article 24 from Free Cash to Stabilization fund [recap pg.4 (C)]	50,000
<u>Article 16 Chapter 90 Available Funds [recap pg.4 (D)]</u>	<u>185,193</u>
TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS [recap pg.4 (A)]	6,550,956
 Article 25 from Free Cash to balance budget [recap pg.2]	 100,000