

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TOWN OFFICERS



TOWN
OF
WESTHAMPTON

FOR THE
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2016

DEDICATION



Westhampton Police Department

The 2016 Annual Town Report is dedicated to the Westhampton Police Department for its outstanding service to our community. The Police Department, consisting of Chief David White, Sergeant Floyd Fisher and Officers Matt Malo and Spencer Hotz, has earned the trust and respect of the Selectboard, town officials, and residents. Under the supervision and guidance of Chief White, the Department has established itself as highly reputable both in and out of town. In addition to their day to day operations, officers assist fire/EMS personnel and the highway department during emergencies and aid various inspectors during home visits of unknown environments. The Department also works diligently to establish a strong mutual agreement with neighboring police departments. Being a police department in a small town, the officers understand the importance and value of community outreach. This year, a part-time School Resource Officer position was established at Hampshire Regional High School for the first time in the school's history. Office Matt Malo accepted the position and has been a consistent presence at HRHS since

September. In October 2016, The Westhampton Police Department received a letter of commendation from HRHS principal Kristen Smidy for their support and professionalism during a challenging situation. Upon learning of the outstanding work of the police department, the Selectboard followed up with its own letter to further acknowledge the officers' efforts.

Chief White understands the needs of small towns and has served on Westhampton town committees providing valuable input in matters of public safety and administration. He successfully manages the police department within the parameters of a tight budget and part-time staff. Chief White and his entire department perform their duties effectively, with minimal resources, space, and aging vehicles. In Fiscal Year 2016, Chief White applied for and received a criminal justice grant of \$25,568 for IT and communications. The grant enabled the town of Westhampton to benefit from technology to enhance police communication, which in turn, improves the overall safety of citizens and officers.

For their constant ability and willingness to perform under all conditions and maintain an open relationship with the community, this town report is dedicated to the Westhampton Police Department.

Sincerely,

Selectboard
Philip Dowling, Chair
James Huston, Clerk
Arthur Pichette

REPORT OF THE SELECTBOARD

The year began with Art Pichette as Chair, Jim Huston as Clerk, and Phil Dowling. In June, Art Pichette was re-elected for a three year term and the board re-organized with Phil Dowling as Chair, Jim Huston as Clerk, and Art Pichette. Cheryl Provost continues as Administrative Assistant.

In its 238th year, Westhampton continues to be a great place to live and raise a family (also cows, horses, dogs and cats)! The Town's new Website makes it easier than ever to stay connected with town events, meeting agendas and minutes, links to various departments, the library, schools and more! Visit at:

<http://www.westhampton-ma.com/>

The Selectboard has been working closely with the Finance Committee and the Capital Planning Committee to create a 20 year plan for the Town's infrastructure needs. Our intent is to level fund equipment replacement, building maintenance and other capital expenses with the ultimate goal of reducing the tax rate. A committee has been formed to begin planning the last major town building project of our generation: upgrading the Fire and Police Facilities. We hope to include a multi-use space for the COA in this project.

As you read through the 2016 Annual Report, please be aware that this Town could not function without the hard work and dedication of all the departments, committees, boards, staff, and individuals listed herein. Community doesn't just "happen", it requires continuous effort and attention. While responding to a 2AM fire in a snow storm or rushing from work to attend an evening meeting may not seem all that attractive, there is great personal satisfaction in knowing that you are helping, and, on the most basic level, sustaining our democracy. Positions are open on many boards and committees and we would like to encourage anyone interested to contact the Selectboard for more information.

Here are some highlights of 2016:

- NEW FIRE TANKER TRUCK was purchased with a Federal Grant for \$226667.00 and town funds of \$84,746.00 (pictured on cover).

- NORTHWEST ROAD culvert relining project was funded by Mass DOT and completed by Tim Zanelli Excavating with EJ Prescott.
- TOWN HALL EXTERIOR PAINTING was completed by ASAP Painting.
- TOWN HALL ROOF REPAIRS, including a new porch roof and replacement of broken and missing slate, were completed by Robert's Roofing.
- INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY: Signed into a Community Compact Agreement with the Hampshire District towns and the high school on February 18. Received a grant of \$9,430.00 through the Continuity Best Practice Program for consultant services. The highway department connected the Town Hall and Annex with conduit and cable. The internet service and connections were upgraded and is now provided through the Annex, with Wi-Fi available throughout both buildings. Once again, the highway department willingly accepted the project and saved the town money and time by helping out.
- GOLDEN CANE designated to Margaret P. Kelly.
- CEMETERY COMMISSION: At Annual Town Meeting voters approved the development of an appointed Cemetery Commission, contingent upon ballot approval at Annual Town Election 2017.
- ZIP CODE: Began research to request a separate zip code for Westhampton.
- SPECIAL LEGISLATION: Town meeting voted to allow the Selectboard to file a petition with the General Court to seek special legislation to authorize the Selectboard to issue to Outlook Farm a license for the retail sale of wine and malt beverages to be consumed on the premises (farmer series pouring license) at Outlook Farm, 136 Main Road.

- AUDIT: An audit of FY15 was completed by Scanlon Associates.

We thank all the officials, employees, and volunteers that dedicate their time and services to Westhampton. The Selectboard meets every other Monday evening and is here to serve you. Contact Cheryl at 413-203-3086 or westhamptontownhall@comcast.net with concerns or to make an appointment to get on our agenda.

Respectfully submitted,

Philip Dowling, Chair
James Huston, Clerk
Arthur Pichette

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.

Births 8

Westhampton welcomed 4 girls and 4 boys

Marriages 3

6/3/2016	Robert F. Reyor Jr.	to	Margaret O. Crouch
6/4/2016	Raymond P. Paquette	to	Lori C. Wellor
7/4/2016	Joseph M. Bykowski	to	Suzanne M. Krafft

Deaths 17

01/08/2016	Frank D. Miller	05/18/2016	Charles Inman
01/11/2016	Gordon MacDonald	05/21/2016	Beth Ann Laberge
01/15/2016	Leland H. Marshall	07/27/2016	Lucille R. Wayne
01/19/2016	William V. St. Martin	07/20/2016	Denise I. Williams
01/30/2016	Edward S. Huntley	08/05/2016	Louise Inman
03/08/2016	William F. Thompson	08/10/2016	Martin J. Hogan Jr
05/02/2016	Anne Strayer	10/08/2016	Celia E. Giuliana
05/12/2016	Urena Blakesley	10/19/2016	Jessie Cole
		11/30/2016	Alice Fox

Dog Licenses

Males	14	\$ 140	Kennel 4 dogs or less	3	\$ 54
Females	8	\$ 80	Kennel 5 to 9 dogs	0	\$ 0
Spayed	141	\$ 705	Kennel 10 dogs up	2	\$130
Neutered	117	\$ 585			
Totals	280	\$1,510		5	\$184

Dog Licenses are available by March each year. All dogs six months or older must be licensed by June 30th and a current rabies certificate is required. 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 application is also available on Town web site.

Historical Preservation

I created a program and took over the dog licensing from the Hampshire Council of governments. This created a new revenue source that is being used to preserve vital records. This year the Town was able to preserve the logs recording births, marriages and deaths for the years 1894- 1966. The book is beautiful and I invite anyone interested to stop by and see the finished product.

Town Clerk Fees Collected

Burial Permits	7	\$ 140.00
Death Certificates	88	\$ 440.00
Birth Certificates	15	\$ 75.00
Marriage Certificates	14	\$ 70.00
Marriage License	4	\$ 80.00
Business Certificate	6	\$ 120.00
Zoning/Planning	5	\$ 1070.00
Street Listing	1	\$ 10.00
Dog Violations	5	\$ 190.00
Copies	1	\$ 3.90
Total		\$ 2,198.90

At the Annual Town Meeting held May 14, 2016 and continued June 20, 2016, it was voted to amend the Town Bylaws Article 7 Section 9 Dog Regulations. This change was to amend current Town Bylaws to meet new State regulations. The changes to Bylaws were submitted and approved by the Massachusetts Attorney General on October 3, 2016.

Population from local census **1645**

Democrats	252
Republicans	116
United Independent Party	3
Unenrolled	859
Designation	10
Total Registered Voters	1240

The Presidential election was held on November 8, 2016. The State of Massachusetts for the first time instituted early voting with extended hours. The Town had nineteen percent of voters take advantage of early

voting. The Town had a ninety -two percent total turnout for the election which is one of the highest in the state. I want to thank the numerous volunteers on election night who volunteered their time to come help count ballots as well as the dedicated election workers who helped with the four elections in 2016.

The Town Clerk holds office hours Monday night from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM and Friday mornings from 8:00 AM to noon. If you cannot make it during these hours please call 413-203-3080 and I will be glad to meet you at another time. Services include providing copies of birth, death and marriage certificates; issuing marriage licenses, dog licenses, business licenses and special permit/variance applications; voter registration; and information needed for all elections. All meetings and agendas are posted on the bulletin board outside the Town Clerk's office and in the mailbox in front of town hall or if you have internet access the Town website www.westhampton-ma.com

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia W. Cotton
Town Clerk

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

Balance July 1, 2015	1,398,383.93
Receipts	7,022,760.32
Disbursements	6,659,486.13
Balance June 30, 2016	1,761,658.12
Easthampton Library	17961.28
Easthampton Savings Collector	339,560.88
Easthampton Savings Sweep	68,851.57
Easthampton Savings Bank Charity	1679.14
Easthampton Payroll	6,339.92
MMDT General	62467.20
MMDT Cultural Council	4465.12
MMDT Septic Grant	79794.58
Peoples MM	112,570.36
Peoples Septic	5,238.32
Unibank	812,915.69
Unibank Online Collections	78,072.04
Unibank Fire Online Collections	8362.15
Unibank Deputy Collector	21,870.69
Germain Trust	5,276.10
Clapp Trust	92,728.06
OBEP Trust	8102.80
MMDT Charity	7153.00
MMDT Veterans Trust	2,229.78
MMDT Stabilization Fund	26,019.04
Balance June 30, 2016	1,761,658.12
Interest Earned	4,237.35

Tax Title Account:

Name	Balance due as of 6/30/2016	
Kellogg, Loretta	225 Northwest Rd	13,813.06
Moore, Abby, Aloisi	North Rd	2,005.22
Levesque, Abbie M	Reservoir Rd	1,847.83
Progressive Structures	Northwest Rd	5,265.26
Young, Mark	41 Loudville Rd	38,314.81
Young, Mark	Loudville Rd	1,407.38
Freitag, Edward	32 Northwest Rd	Pd 12/8/16 18,860.82
Total		79,929.00

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia W. Cotton,
Treasurer

REPORT OF THE TAX COLLECTOR

AS OF JUNE 30, 2016

	Real Estate Balances	Personal Property Balances	Motor Vehicle Balances
	as of June 30, 2016	as of June 30, 2016	as of June 30, 2016
2016	\$89,601.93	\$4,229.96	\$19,009.52
2015	\$39,020.92	\$1,222.43	\$1,467.71
2014	\$11,819.91	\$344.14	\$1,671.42
2013	\$4,156.94	\$(10.00)	\$2,467.11
2012	\$1,061.98	-	\$649.72
2011	-	-	\$730.21
Prior Yrs.	\$3,152.10	\$3,497.77	\$13,885.50
TOTAL	\$148,813.78	\$9,284.30	\$39,881.19

GRAND TOTAL: \$197,979.27

All payments are due on the quarterly system, with due dates as follows:

1st quarter - August 1

2nd quarter - November 1

3rd quarter - February 1

4th quarter - May 1

Bills are mailed quarterly, one month before due date.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Marie Knox, Tax Collector

Town of Westhampton
Balance Sheet
June 30, 2016

	<u>Governmental Funds</u>				<u>Fiduciary Funds</u>		<u>Account Group General</u>	
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>Capital Projects</u>	<u>Trust and Agency</u>	<u>Long-Term Debt</u>	<u>Totals</u>		
<u>Assets</u>								
Cash	\$ 851,468	\$ 637,009	\$ 84,746	\$ 189,365	\$ -	\$ 1,762,588		
Investments	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Taxes Receivable:								
Real property	150,684					150,684		
Personal property	9,274					9,274		
Tax liens	78,887					78,887		
	238,845	-	-	-	-	238,845		
Allowance for abatements and exemptions	(42,888)	-	-	-	-	(42,888)		
	195,957	-	-	-	-	281,733		
Other Receivables:								
Motor vehicle and other excise	40,852					40,852		
RollBack Tax	506					506		
Commonwealth of Massachusetts- Highway		135,418				135,418		
	41,358	135,418	-	-	-	176,776		
Amounts to be Provided for Retirement of Long-Term Debt	-	-	-	-	720,000	720,000		
Total Assets	\$ 1,088,783	\$ 772,426	\$ 84,746	\$ 189,365	\$ 720,000	\$ 2,941,097		

Liabilities:			
Accrued Payroll			
Deferred revenue -Property			
Deferred revenue - Tax Liens			
Deferred revenue - MVE			
Deferred revenue - Rollback			
Deferred revenue - Highway			
Long-term debt			
	\$	123,786	\$
		117,069	
		78,887	
		40,852	
		506	
		135,418	
		720,000	
			\$
			126,287
			117,069
			78,887
			40,852
			506
			135,418
			720,000
Total Liabilities		361,101	
		137,919	
		-	
		-	
		720,000	
			1,219,020

Fund Balances:						
Reserved:						
Continue Appropriations	19,000					19,000
Encumbrances	68,026					68,026
Expenditures	45,000					45,000
Unreserved:						
Designated		634,507	84,746	189,365		908,618
Undesignated	595,657					595,657
Total Fund Balances	727,682	634,507	84,746	189,365	-	1,636,301
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	\$ 1,088,783	\$ 772,426	\$ 84,746	\$ 189,365	\$ 720,000	\$ 2,855,320

REPORT OF THE TOWN ACCOUNTANT

July 1, 2015-June 30, 2016

RECEIPTS

TAXES

Property	4,241,192.30	
Motor Vehicle Excise	254,253.41	
Tax liens	16,062.32	
In Lieu of Taxes	17,175.15	
Rollback Taxes	8,131.48	
Interest and Penalties on Taxes	30,712.53	4,567,527.19

COMM MASS

Local Aid/Lottery UGGA	133,585.00	
Exemptions	11,860.00	
PILOT	1,010.00	
Chapter 70 Schools	457,770.00	
Charter School Reimbursement	26,580.00	
Vocational Transportation	29,591.00	
State Aid to Libraries	3,011.58	
Veterans Reimbursements	11,236.00	
Extended Polling Hours	241.00	
Medical Records	65.00	
Medicare D Refund	3,524.64	
Medicaid	14,678.55	693,152.77

GRANTS AND GIFTS

COA – Federal	1,000.00	
COA – State	4,500.00	
Cultural Council	4,420.04	
Library Gifts	4,051.90	
Library Building Gift	53.88	
MSBA-School Roof	26,811.00	
DEP Recycling Grant	3,000.00	
Wetlands Conservation	330.00	44,166.82

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Licenses Selectboard	595.50	
Plumbing Fees	3,155.00	
Electrical Fees	7,228.00	
Building Permits	21,819.52	
Planning Board	225.50	
Zoning Permits	708.00	
Library	221.42	
Tax Collector Fees	6,989.21	
HCOG Solar Credits	11,976.69	
Other Departmental	100.00	
Mark & Clear	960.00	
Town Clerk	2,769.00	
Insurance Settlement MCAD	50,000.00	
Miscellaneous	411.19	107,159.03

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Gift	450.00	
State DCR Grant	3,666.07	
Assistance to Firefighters Grant	56,000.00	
Ambulance Receipts Reserved	8,267.46	68,383.53

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Motor Vehicle Fines	407.50	
Summons Service	600.00	
Gun Permits	1,762.50	
CM Criminal Justice Grant	26,568.00	2,9338.80

BOARD OF HEALTH

Licenses & Permits, Fees	9,510.00	9,510.00
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REVOLVING FUNDS

Fire Dept. Revolving Fund	1,795.17	
Septic Repayment	338.09	
Cemetery Revolving Fund	5,870.00	8,003.26

SCHOOL FUNDS

Choice reimbursement	148,579.00	
Extra Relief Circuit Breaker	10,455.00	
Reimburse Summer School	5,242.50	
Erate	2,355.14	
Think Kids	713.00	
School Gift/Refunds	1,100.00	
GAPS/REAPS Grant	19,655.00	
Kindergarten Grant	9,000.00	
HCGIT Wellness Grant	500.00	
Misc Reimbursements	893.75	
Preschool	39,711.00	
Building Use	1,350.00	
School Lunch	16,575.53	256,129.92

HIGHWAY

Chapter 90	350,114.31	
Northwest Rd Culvert Grant	199,980.00	
Highway Miscellaneous	317.30	
Transfer Station Fees	49,664.00	600,075.61

TRUST

Clapp Trust	281.83	
St Germain Memorial Trust	15.82	
OPEB Trust	24.29	321.94

INTEREST

On General Fund	3,386.03	
On Charity Funds	16.74	
On Cemetery Funds	14.63	
On Veterans Trust	9.79	
On Stabilization	109.46	3,536.65

AGENCY

Deputy Collector Fees	4,199.00	
Meals Tax	3.46	
Gun Permits	5,262.50	
Police Outside Detail	4,525.00	
Payroll Deductions	621,338.87	635,328.83

**NON-APPROPRIATION
EXPENDITURES****TAX REFUNDS**

Property Tax	19,829.73	
Motor Vehicle Excise	1,417.11	24,046.84

AGENCY

Deputy Collector Fees	3,810.00	
Meals Tax	7.55	
Gun Permits	4,662.50	
Police Detail	4,645.00	
Payroll Deductions	621,435.26	634,560.31

**SCHOOL REVOLVING
FUNDS & GRANTS**

REAPS grant	15,012.40	
Kindergarten Enhancement	9,000.00	
Preschool	50,148.96	
School Choice	88,525.97	
School Lunch	17,835.00	
HCGIT Wellness Grant	570.97	
School Technology Gift	1,086.93	182,180.23

SPECIAL REVOLVING
FUNDS & GRANTS

Cemetery Revolving	4,236.25	
Cultural Council	3,127.31	
Fire Dept. Revolving	4,472.59	
Council on Aging Federal	1,143.35	
State DCR Fire Grant	4,000.00	
CM Criminal Justice Equip Grant	26,568.80	
Chapter 90 Highway Funds	300,991.81	
Library Gifts	110.60	
Library Building Gift	668.02	
State Aid to Library	2,848.01	
Safe Grant 2013	2,595.28	
Safe Grant 2014	2,273.14	
Insurance Settlement MCAD	75,000.00	428,035.16
CAPITAL PROJECTS		
Fire Tank Truck	56,000.00	
Highway Truck	226,620.00	282,620.00
TOTAL Non-Appropriation	1,551,442.54	

**APPROPRIATION
EXPENDITURES**
General Government

	BUDGETED	SPENT
Moderator	475.00	0.00
Selectboard Salary	4,175.00	4,175.00
Selectboard Expense	8,600.00	7,842.36
IT Support	7,938.85	7,938.85
Administrative Assistant	30,750.00	30,750.00
Town Accountant Salary	14,708.00	14,708.00
Town Accountant Expense	3,865.00	3,340.43
Independent Audit	14,000.00	0.00
Treasurer Salary	14,708.00	14,708.00
Treasurer Expense	5,400.00	5,005.17
Assessor Salary	7,900.00	7,900.00
Assessor Expense	16,672.00	15,007.96
Assessor Assistant	14,184.00	14,184.00
Tax Collector Salary	14,708.00	14,708.00
Tax Collector Expense	13,352.13	13,352.13
Tax Taking Expense	3,500.00	2794.17
Town Clerk Salary	12,608.00	12,608.00
Town Clerk Expense	5,241.00	4,735.60
Clerk Board of Registrars	100.00	100.00
Counsel Fees	24,679.81	20,410.02
Counsel Fees FY15 Encumbrance	5,085.49	5,085.49
Conservation Commission	225.00	206.00
Planning Board	300.00	174.54
Zoning Board of Appeals	600.00	314.45
Town Offices	26,450.00	21,968.81
		222,016.98

Public Safety

Police Chief	27,581.00	27,581.00
Police Department	50,807.73	50,807.73
Police Dept FY15 Encumbrance	601.94	601.94
Fire Chief	11,038.00	11,038.00
Fire Department	42,300.00	42,178.20
SCBA Grant Match	5,000.00	0.00
Public Safety Complex	14,925.00	13,777.32
Emergency Mngmt Director	441.00	441.00
Emergency Medical Services	17,000.00	15,087.91
Inspector Compensation	4,310.00	4,310.00
Building Inspector/Com Salary	12,118.00	12,118.00
Inspection Expense	2,300.00	2,167.92
Tree Warden	625.00	625.00
Tree Warden Expense	2,000.00	2,000.00
Animal Control Officer Salary	1,625.00	1,625.00
Animal Control Officer Expense	300.00	176.27
		184,535.29

Education

School Committee	1,455.00	980.00
Elementary School	1,520,567.00	1,437,597.15
Elementary FY15 Encumbrance	30,940.35	30,115.45
Hampshire Regional	1,159,409.00	1,121,794.00
Hampshire Regional Debt	73,977.00	73,977.00
School Choice Assessment	38,649.00	46,027.00
Charter School Assessment	68,640.00	97,967.00
Vocational Tuition	356,460.00	331,972.00
Vocational Transportation	55,837.00	50,524.02
		3,190,683.62

Public Works

Highway Administration	5,550.00	4,355.80
Highway Salaries	209,311.00	207,386.11
Highway Materials	72,895.90	69,381.15
Snow Removal	85,000.00	76,197.93
Road Machinery	41,701.00	30,347.81
Road Machinery Fuel	39,825.11	27,943.49
Road Machinery Buildings	29,887.00	18,811.43
Transfer Station	55,514.00	53,385.61
Cemetery Salary	6,039.00	6,039.00
		493,848.33

Human Services

Board of Health Salary	375.00	250.00
Board of Health Expenses	500.00	0.00
Hilltown Resource Mgmt. Coop	4,269.00	4,268.10
Foothills Health District	15,994.00	15,993.99
Inspector of Animals Salary	800.00	800.00
Council on Aging	3,025.00	2,527.16
COA Coordinator	2,279.00	2,279.00
Veterans Agent	1,655.00	1,655.00
Veterans Expenses	9,060.0	7,335.90
		35,109.15

Culture and Recreation

Library	89,832.00	83,747.17
Historical Commission	1,200.00	210.47
Historical FY15 Encumbrance	21.46	21.46
Memorial Day	200.00	114.00
Cultural Council	100.00	73.58
		84,166.68

Debt

Highway Bldg./ Firetruck	148,000.00	148,000.00
Highway Truck/School Roof	82,590.00	82,590.00
Interest Long Term Debt	11,670.00	11,669.50
		242,259.50

Intergovernmental

Hamp Council of Governments	761.00	760.40
State Assessments: Air Pollution	495.00	495.00
RMV Surcharge	640.00	640.00
Regional Transit	1,273.00	1,273.00
STRAP	12,000.00	12,000.00
Pioneer Valley Planning Comm.	242.00	241.05
		15,409.45

Unclassified

Hampshire County Retirement	171,421.00	171,421.00
Unemployment	16,500.00	0.00
Group Health Insurance	345,000.00	308,352.11
Medicare	27,825.00	25,095.44
Insurance & Bonds	82,550.00	71,943.17
		576,811.72
Total Appropriation	5,325,133.57	5,044,840.72
Grand Total Expenditures		6,596,283.26

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Boudreau, Town Accountant

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF ASSESSORS

In 2016, the Board of Assessors recorded 86 property transfers. Also, the Board approved a total of 27 personal exemptions, 3 real estate abatements and 85 motor vehicle excise abatements. In addition, the Tax Collector presented and the Assessors reviewed and deemed some accounts uncollectable. Some of these accounts date back as far as 1990.

Fiscal year 2017 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 November 2016.

Westhampton's assessed values for Fiscal Year 2017 are:

Real Estate - \$219,414,645

Personal Property - \$5,154,833

Exempt - \$27,987,600

The tax rate was certified by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue in December 2016 for fiscal year 2017 at \$19.31 per \$1000 of value.

Assessor business can be transacted Monday & Wednesday mornings from 9-12 and the Board of Assessors meets Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall Annex.

Contact us at 413-203-3082 or westhamptonassessors@comcast.net

Respectfully submitted,
Walter Morrey, Chair
Dolores Thornhill
Sarah Challet

SCHEDULE OF CAPITAL PLANNING

DEPARTMENT	REQUEST	Life Exp. (years)	Cost Est.	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031
Highway Dept.	(2003) Dump Truck	15	\$ 250,000			\$ 47,000	\$ 47,000	\$ 47,000	\$ 47,000	\$ 47,000	\$ 47,000	\$ 47,000						
	(2007) Loader	10	\$ 150,000			\$ 26,500	\$ 26,500	\$ 26,500	\$ 26,500	\$ 26,500	\$ 26,500	\$ 26,500						
	(2009) Pick Up Truck	10	\$ 50,000			\$ 9,100	\$ 9,100	\$ 9,100	\$ 9,100	\$ 9,100	\$ 9,100	\$ 9,100						
	(1985) Grader	25+	\$ 225,000			\$ 40,000	\$ 40,000	\$ 40,000	\$ 40,000	\$ 40,000	\$ 40,000	\$ 40,000						
	(2006) Dump Truck	15	\$ 175,000			\$ 31,000	\$ 31,000	\$ 31,000	\$ 31,000	\$ 31,000	\$ 31,000	\$ 31,000						
	(2012) Backhoe	15	\$ 150,000															
	(2010) Bunch Chapter	20	\$ 65,000															
	(2016) PWD Dump Truck	15	\$ 300,000															
Elementary School	Replace Beliers (3% interest rat	20	\$ 60,000			\$ 13,000	\$ 13,000	\$ 13,000	\$ 13,000	\$ 13,000	\$ 13,000	\$ 13,000						
Elementary School																		
Elementary School																		
Select Board	Town Hall																	
	All items previously requested have been moved to a committee based entity to pursue																	
	Items included slate roof, painting or siding exterior.																	
Police Department																		
Police Department	Prius Vehicle (2010) Ford	10	\$ 50,000			\$ 9,120	\$ 9,120	\$ 9,120	\$ 9,120	\$ 9,120	\$ 9,120	\$ 9,120						
	Prius Vehicle (2008) Ford Crown	8	\$ 47,000			\$ 8,800	\$ 8,800	\$ 8,800	\$ 8,800	\$ 8,800	\$ 8,800	\$ 8,800						
	Robert Speed Design Scanner	10	\$ 12,000			\$ 12,000												
	Digital Dual Band Radios	5	\$ 12,000				\$ 12,000											
Fire/EMS Department																		
Fire/EMS Department	Ambulance	10	Note #1			\$ 133,000	\$ 133,000	\$ 133,000	\$ 133,000	\$ 133,000	\$ 133,000	\$ 133,000	\$ 133,000	\$ 133,000	\$ 133,000	\$ 133,000	\$ 133,000	\$ 133,000
	Public Safety Complex	50	\$ 2,250,000															
	Facility/Design fees		\$ 40,000		\$ 55,000	\$ -												
	Staff Vehicle	10	\$ 35,000			\$ 6,200	\$ 6,200	\$ 6,200	\$ 6,200	\$ 6,200	\$ 6,200	\$ 6,200						
	(1987) Fire engine	25+	\$ 500,000									\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000			
COA																		
COA																		
	Senior Center	30																
	Inquiring to see if this could be an add on with the public safety complex																	

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

As of January 1, 2016 members and their respective terms were:

Jacqueline Brodeur	2016
Aniko Giordano	2016
Celeste Whiting	2016
Tom Cleary	2017
Maryanne Duggan	2017
Joe Pipeczyniski	2017
Mary Ceary	2018
Ellice Gonzalez Brandow	2018
Chevey Seney	2018
Edward Zawacki	2018

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.

The fiscal year 2016 town budget was directed towards improving town services and making operations more efficient. Many of these changes were the result of retirements and reorganization in administrative functions of the Town, as well as state mandates for services. As a result, several departments saw significant changes in their budgets. In order to realize this budget, an override was passed and overlay surplus funds were drawn down.

Due to multiple fortunate events, which are unlikely to be repeated, many departments were able to underspend their budgets and return money to the Town for the year ended June 30, 2016. Two of the notable causes for the return of funds were an unseasonably warm winter requiring less snow removal and lower oil prices.

As part of the budgeting process, the Finance Committee undertook to develop policies that were data driven in evaluating and making recommendations. One area of particular attention was Proposition 2 1/2 and the assumption that items should be increased by 2.5 percent per year. The Finance Committee looked to market data in analyzing expenses and trends and made recommendations based upon this data. It was our assertion that in some years inflation will be greater than 2.5 percent and in some years less, but that budgets should reflect market dynamics so that services can be maintained but also so that revenue

increase requests in the form of taxes can follow the income of the residents of the Town.

The Finance Committee continued its reliance upon a standard budget request format so that budgets could be compared from year to year and requested that budgets be prepared earlier in the year allowing ample time to adapt budgets to economic realities. We found that this process worked well and that transparency increased with regards to communication with the larger departments and their needs.

We would like to thank the Town Departments and Committees for understanding the fiscal constraints that exist and submitting budgets reflecting those limits. We would also like to thank Joe Boudreau, Town Accountant, for attending many of our meetings, educating us, and providing perspective on choices other similar communities have made.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas M. Cleary, Jr., Chair

REPORT OF THE HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT

The winter of 2015-2016 was unusually dry with very few storms. As a result, the snow removal budget was not overspent for the first time in quite a few years. \$85,000.00 was appropriated and a total of \$76,193.93 was spent.

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

Beavers

Beavers continue to be active in four separate sites throughout town: at one bridge and three culvert crossings. Nothing irritates me more than spending valuable time and resources dealing with them.

Chapter 90 Projects

Oil & Stone

Sections of the following two roads were chip sealed: North Road from Montague Road to the new bridge by Walter Brown's, #279, and Kings

Highway from Reservoir Road to Tom Warren's, #188. Total of 1.1 miles.

Black Top

Sections of the following two roads were overlaid with hot mix asphalt: North Road from Perry Hill Road to Montague Road, and Easthampton Road from Stage Road to the Northampton town line. Total of 2.3 miles.

Guardrail

All the existing guardrail on Chesterfield Road at the intersection with Northwest Road was removed and replaced because it was severely deteriorated.

Crack Sealing

Sections of the following roads were crack sealed: South Road, Southampton Road, Perry Hill Road, Hathaway Road, Chesterfield Road, Easthampton Road and Kings Highway. Total of 3,000 gallons.

Other Projects

Brush & Trees

The lack of deep snow during the winter allowed for lots of dead trees and brush to be cut at various locations throughout town, especially on Laurel Hill and upper Tob Roads. Eversource also removed approximately 30 hazard trees along their electric lines throughout town.

Line Painting

Line painting was done on most of the main roads in the fall.

EPA Storm Water Waiver

I applied for and received a waiver from the Massachusetts Phase II Stormwater MS4 permit requirements. Fortunately, Westhampton's urbanized areas are small and unpopulated enough to make us eligible to apply for a waiver. Having this waiver on file is a huge cost savings to the town.

Kings Highway Bridge (the skinny bridge)

Mass Department of Transportation (D.O.T.) has issued this bridge a project I.D. number and it is scheduled to be advertised in FY2020. This project will be a complete replacement of the existing bridge. Mass D.O.T. will cover all design and construction costs. The town's only

responsibility will be to secure any right of way issues necessary to complete the project.

Northwest Road Culvert

On March 23, 2016, Administrative Assistant Cheryl Provost and I traveled to Representative Peter Kocot's office at the State House on Boston. There we met with Secretary of Transportation Stephanie Pollack to discuss the relining project for the Northwest Road culvert. The Secretary had set aside a 1 hour block of time to meet with us; a big deal for little old Westhampton, for sure. We were asking for \$200,000 to fund the project. She assured us that, at the end of FY16, there would be "left over" money from other projects and she would be sure that we received \$200,000 to complete our project. Sure enough she kept her word and the Selectboard awarded a contract to Tim Zanelli Excavation LLC of North Reading MA in the amount of \$107,950. The project was completed in September at no cost to the town. Again, thanks to Representative Kocot for supporting this project and scheduling the meeting with Secretary Pollack.

Once again, I thank the guys I work with for their dedication and hard work: Bill, Jerry and Scott on the Highway Department, as well as Don Fox, at the Transfer Station.

Respectfully submitted,

David Blakesley,
Highway Superintendent

REPORT OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Westhampton Fire Department is an all-volunteer organization consisting of thirty Firefighters 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 any response from any 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 that 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.

Like many organizations, the fire service continues to face many challenges. Recruitment of new personnel continues to be a major concern for many 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 is a significant focus in the fire service based on the need to keep up with changing technologies and hazards encountered by our 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.

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 Saturdays or Sundays with a valid permit in order to have a higher probability that personnel will be home during these hours of burning. Residential sprinklers have been required previously in subdivisions here in town as well as promoted during any new construction projects. Fire extinguisher training programs

have been offered and encouraged for all residents in town to help everyone understand how to safely operate these devices. Finally, smoke detector and carbon monoxide detector installation projects have been implemented and undertaken in collaboration with other groups throughout the town to help increase the safety of our residents. These are just a few examples of how we have tried to increase the safety of all our residents while maintaining a volunteer organization.

The Westhampton Fire Department had another busy year in 2016 providing emergency services to the community. The Department responded to one-hundred and seventy-nine calls for service this year. These calls for service were for fire suppression, emergency medical services, hazardous materials response, motor vehicle accidents, utility wires down, residential fire alarm activations, inspections and many more.

MAJOR INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS	% of TOTAL
Fires	14	7.82%
Rescue & Emergency Medical Service	101	56.42%
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	17	9.50%
Service Call	36	20.11%
Good Intent Call	2	1.12%
False Alarm & False Call	9	5.03%
TOTAL	179	100.00%

The department's fleet of apparatus consists of a 2004 Engine, a 1986 Engine, a 2017 Tanker Truck (pictured on cover), a 2002 Brush Truck, a 2009 Rescue Truck, a 2009 Mobile Air trailer with a light tower and generator, and a 1996 ambulance. 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 service completed by certified Emergency Vehicle Technicians throughout the year to prolong the expected life-span of the vehicles and improve the safety during emergency responses. Again this year, we had both Engines professionally pump-tested to ensure adequate pump performance as determined by the manufactures. These testing procedures are also reflected in the Department's Insurance Services Organization (ISO) rating and meet the requirements set by National Standards pertaining to Fire Apparatus.

The new Tanker Truck was put into service on November 20, 2016. This vehicle was obtained with the assistance of a \$226,000 federal grant last

year as well as funding from the Town in the amount of \$85,000. This vehicle is critical for our operations as the town has no municipal water supply or hydrants and relies solely on a mobile water system for fire suppression. This vehicle provides much more versatility and pumping capabilities that the older vehicle never had. Most importantly, this vehicle is much safer and more reliable and is designed for emergency vehicle response.

The Department received a \$5,000 grant this year from the Massachusetts Interlocal Insurance Association (MIIA) to install backup cameras in all of our emergency vehicles. Motor vehicle accidents continue to be a significant challenge for emergency response agencies across the Country. These cameras will increase the safety of our personnel and limit our exposure for property damage to the vehicles and buildings. In October, the Fire Fighters Association partnered with the Council on Aging on a carbon monoxide installation campaign. Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless, and tasteless gas that can be only detected with a metering device. Although state law requires these metering devices to be in every residential home that has an attached garage or fossil fuel burning heating equipment, many homes still do not have these. The Fire Fighters Association purchased thirty of these detectors and installed them in the homes of seniors across the community to help protect them from this deadly gas.

In February 2016, we began working with representatives from the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission to update our community Hazard Mitigation Plan. This plan can be viewed on the town website, and provides the town a template for responding and dealing with all hazard emergencies. This document is required for federal reimbursement and grants and must be updated at least every five years. David Blakesley and Ginny Curtis put a lot of time and effort into this process to ensure this got done on time and approved by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

This year, the Department had all of the fire hose pressure tested to ensure adequate operational effectiveness. National Standards recommend that this is done once a year, and in addition, it is reflected in the ISO ratings that this testing procedure be done to minimize the insurance rates in Town. More important, to ensure the safety of all members utilizing fire hose during operational procedures, it is our responsibility that they are provided with equipment that is safe and functioning to the highest standards. The testing revealed that the Department did have fire hose in

service that did not pass the required pressure rating. These were removed from service and replaced with some of the spare hose that was also tested and passed the requirements. These testing requirements demonstrated that this was a project that was needed and should be continued each year to help ensure that the integrity and operational capacity of the equipment is maintained. We also had all of our ground ladders tested to the National Standards, ensuring they could meet the performance requirements during emergency operations. All of these projects are critical to properly maintaining all of the equipment and ensuring the highest degree of safety for our personnel utilizing these resources.

This past year was the first full year the town has had the ambulance service in operation. The system is structured so a private ambulance service, Pioneer Valley Ambulance, provides transportation between the hours of midnight and 4PM, and the Westhampton Fire Department provides transportation between the hours of 4PM and midnight. These times allow for the volunteers to get home from work, school, etc. and provide coverage as needed when calls come in. All EMT's will continue to respond 24 hours a day, seven days a week, but will respond in their personal vehicles during those off hours. In 2016, the ambulance service transported nineteen patients.

In fiscal year 2015, prior to the town providing EMS transport services, the town allocated \$8,550 for expenses for the fiscal year. These funds were used to purchase equipment and supplies such as defibrillator pads, certifications cards, training, and EMS disposable equipment. In fiscal year 2016, the first year we provided EMS transport services, the town allocated \$17,000 for these operations. Ambulance receipts collected for that fiscal year were \$8,267. The Department also turned back \$1,762 in used funds for that same fiscal year. Total EMS expenditures for fiscal year 2016 for full paramedic service to the Town of Westhampton was \$6,971 (which is less than what was used prior to Westhampton not doing the ambulance service and more importantly does not take into consideration the increase in service with this transport capability). Finally, prior to Westhampton not having an ambulance, the Town was being charged \$18,600 just to provide service on top of our own expenditures mentioned previously and the town was not able to recover any costs to help offset the cost for the services that were provided. Below is a chart outlining the costs that communities of similar size pay for the same type of emergency services:

Members of the Department are continuing to work with the Elementary School and their staff to deliver public education and fire safety lessons to the Students. This education is done in the form of classroom presentations and demonstrations as well as public education programs at Town events such as the Fall Festival. Our Department continues to be a member of the Hampshire County Fire Defense Association providing us access to a regional public education trailer to assist in the delivery of the fire safety lessons. This continues to be an extremely valuable program and we look forward to our continued collaboration with the school Administration for this purpose.

The Department continues to rely heavily on its website to help with the communications throughout the community. We have transitioned all of our burning permits and inspections to this online forum to make it more convenient for anyone to request or schedule these and get immediate feedback. For a Department that is an all-volunteer, we have already seen a dramatic improvement in communication both externally and internally with our members. We hope to continually make improvements such as this in the future to better service all the residents as efficiently as possible.

The Town continues to have a mass notification system to alert all Town residents for any emergent needs. This system is called CodeRED and provides the Town the ability to call all landlines, or any other cell phone numbers, text message, or email individuals on the alert. 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 on things such as expectations of power being restored, opening of warming shelters, and items that individuals are expected to have on their own. We have done two test calls with this system with positive feedback from the system and the community as a whole. Anyone can sign up for this system by going to the Department website at www.westhamptonfire.org and click on the CodeRED icon on our homepage.

There are a number of capital projects that the Fire Department is going to need input and support on from the community in the immediate future. The largest of these is a need for a new Public Safety Complex to meet the growing demands of the community. The current facility is reaching seventy years old and no longer is able to accommodate the demands placed on the public safety services (Police, Fire, EMS, and Emergency Management). In addition, one of the Engines is thirty years old and has

reached its life expectancy. However, no new Engine available will fit in the current facility given the current size and parameters.

All of Committee these items have been forwarded to the Town Capital Improvements with emphasis placed on a new building. We will continue to explore all available funding options to minimize the financial impact on the community, but the conversation needs to continue in order to plan and prepare for vehicles and equipment for the next ten to twenty-five years and a facility that will continue to meet the service demands for the next fifty plus years.

In June, the Department had a promotional ceremony recognizing some new positions and responsibilities for some of our members. Steve Holt was promoted to the position of Assistant Fire Chief. He brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to this position and will help to oversee the day to day operations of the Department. Additionally, Rick Tracy and Mark Gould were both promoted from the rank of Lieutenant to Captain, as well as Dave Antosz and Steve McGrath being promoted to Captain. Each of these Officers will be a valuable asset to the organization. The Department also appointed Brian Duggan as the Emergency Management Coordinator to help oversee all of the emergency management functions and activities as well as the operations and management of any significant events during all-hazard emergencies.

Finally, I'd like to thank all of the personnel at the Department for their continued support and dedication to the Town and the Department. It continues to be an absolute pleasure and honor to work for all of them and be part of an organization that cares so much about their community. The members of the Westhampton Fire Department continue to do much more than respond to emergencies. Throughout the years, they continue to clean residents chimneys each fall, hang the flags on the utility poles in the center of town when needed, get involved in community sponsored events such as the Halloween parade, fill residents swimming pools and the water tanks at the Town Cemetery, install smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors, and put up house numbers for residences to help emergency responders find the proper location and decrease response times. The Westhampton Fire Department is one of the few healthy and vigorous volunteer departments left in the region, and all of the members are very dedicated and proud to serve the residents and community. Thank you and have a safe and healthy year.

Respectfully submitted,
Christopher W. Norris,
Fire Chief/Paramedic

Members appointed January 2017:

Steve Holt- Assistant Chief / EMT
Lee Douchkoff- Deputy Chief / EMT
John Bridgman- Deputy Chief
Brian Duggan- Emergency Management Coordinator / EMT
Bill Jablonski- Captain
Mark Gould- Captain / EMT
Rick Tracy- Captain
Dave Antosz- Captain
Steve McGrath- Captain
Don Fox- Firefighter
Michael Diggins- Firefighter
Matt Campbell- Firefighter
Christopher Brooks- Firefighter
Wally Marek- Firefighter
Jeff Brooks- Firefighter
Scott Tirrell- Firefighter
Mike Holt- Firefighter
Alan Torrey- Firefighter / EMT
Joe Bykowski- Firefighter
John Zimmerman- Firefighter
Alex Antosz- Firefighter
Kayla Chudzik-Holt- Firefighter
Jeff Dion- Firefighter
Sam Carrier- Firefighter
Ben Fisher- Firefighter / EMT
Keith Robbins- Firefighter
Robert Miller- First Responder
Maryanne Duggan- EMT
Ashleigh Norris- EMT



REPORT OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

The mission of the Police Department is to provide professional, community oriented services to the residents of Westhampton. Providing a secure community is of the utmost importance to the Westhampton Police Department. We take pride in the opportunity to serve and protect the town. While working within the parameters of the yearly budget, your officers have been able to build community partnerships through regular patrols, attending town events, and working with mutual aid partners. It is our belief that a safer living environment is a result of a strong collaboration between the police department and the residents. The department continues to work hand in hand with the fire and highway departments to accomplish the overall task of providing public safety services to all members of this community.

The following is a synopsis of reported trends over the past six years:

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Emergency paged calls totals:	361	271	253	308	298	330
-Arrests/summons	9	6	6	3	2	2
-Disturbances	10	6	11	16	7	8
-Breaking Entry	6	4	4	5	4	4
-Larcenies	6	6	10	11	5	12
-Domestic Calls	5	7	4	4	3	6
-Assault	5	2	2	5	3	1
-Alarms/911 hang up/ misdials	94	85	41	91	71	81
-Suspicious Persons/Vehicles	16	13	22	7	32	17
-Medical/Fire Assists	18	23	21	47	71	50
-Accidents	26	29	24	34	28	24
-Officer Assistance	106	83	90	82	86	68
-Vandalism	6	12	9	12	9	11
Non-emergency calls	600	578	648	730	620	608

Last year, with the support of the Hampshire Regional School Administration, a part time School Resource Officer Program was started at the high school. This Westhampton police officer works directly with the students, staff and administration to support the educational initiatives of the district and to further promote a safe and secure atmosphere to learn and thrive. This collaboration is a milestone project for the police department which will yield benefits for years to come in our ever-changing world.

If there are any thoughts or questions, please contact the department at 527-6154. The messages are checked at least twice per day and an officer will return your call. The above number should be used for **non-emergencies**. In case of an emergency, call 911. In the event the town police officers are not available, the Massachusetts State Police will be dispatched from Northampton.

Firearms applications are accepted on the second Wednesday of each month. The application may be downloaded off the new town website at www.westhampton-ma.com. This website also offers a variety of links and forms that may be useful.

Thank you for your continued support.

Respectfully submitted,

D. White #671, Chief of Police

REPORT OF THE ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER & INSPECTOR OF ANIMALS

The Inspector of Animals conducts barn inspections to document ownership of all agricultural animals to be used for the return of found animals and provides the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources with data for emergency response planning. Inspections are also to ensure the animals are in good health with access to food, water, and adequate shelter. The Inspector also responds to bites of unknown origin, orders rabies testing, and quarantines animals if required.

The Animal Control Officer enforces the state and local laws of the keeping of dogs.

The following is a summary of actions by the Animal Control Officer/Inspector of Animals:

Wildlife calls-5

Dog hit by car-2

Possible neglect-1

Dog "At large"-5

Missing Dogs-5

Loose large animals-1

Found dogs returned to owners-12

Nuisance dog-1

Additional information provided on the department webpage:

<http://www.westhampton-ma.com/animal-control-officer>

Respectfully submitted,

Teresa Donovan,

Animal Control Officer & Inspector of Animals

REPORT OF THE FOOTHILLS HEALTH DISTRICT AGENT

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 and Title 5 inspections 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
- Restaurant inspections

I may be reached at 268-8404. In-person help must be scheduled in advance. Written messages or mail should be directed to me at PO 447 Haydenville, MA 01039, or via email at RondLaurin@Gmail.com. I look forward to another productive year in all the Foothills towns. Below is a breakdown of all the Towns and fees received in the Foothills.

Respectfully submitted,

Valerie Bird & Ron Lauren
Health Agents, FHD

REPORT OF THE VETERANS' AGENT

The year 2016 veterans continue to face concerns with health care, education, jobs and guidance. Veterans and Veterans' family members can get quick answers and guidance from MassVetsAdvisor.org.

Their web site provides avenues to State and Federal areas of need. If you are not computer savvy, then call your Veterans' Service Officer and we become the front-line in your effort to get info and answers.

Visit the Veterans Agent page of the Westhampton town website for links to MassVetsAdvisor and other informational sites.

Massachusetts General Laws Ch. 115, 108 provides many avenues for benefits for the veterans and their families.

Please contact the Veterans' Office at 413-427-3054 to set up an appointment.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Henning, Veterans Agent

REPORT OF THE PLUMBING INSPECTOR

During the year 2016 the Plumbing Inspector's office received forty-nine permit applications. Eighteen were for plumbing work thirty-one for gas inspections. Seven of the permits were for new homes and eleven were for remodeling.

A total of \$3,215.00 was collected for permits and fees.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Pichette, Plumbing Inspector

REPORT OF THE BUILDING INSPECTOR

☺There were 97 building permits issued in 2016 with \$16,961.59 collected in fees for projects valued at \$3,047,071

Permit Classification	Project Value	No.
Additions	147,000	1
Annual Inspections (not bp)	0	5
Barns/Sheds/Garages/Carport	270,002	6
Decks/Porches/Steps	36,200	6
Demo Misc	14,000	2
New Earth Removal (not bp)	0	0
Insulation/Weatherization	42,489	☺ 12
Pellet/Wood Stoves	23,000	8
Pools	57,528	1
Renovations	202,273	10
Repairs	86,500	6
Roofs	129,492	12
Solar	393,913	☺ 15
Siding	57,232	4
Single Family Rebuild/Replace	710,000	2
Single Family Residences	640,000	4
Two Family Hume 2 nd unit	194,500	1
Windows/Doors	35,500	6
Antenna Modification	5,000	1

Note: Building permits and inspections are for your protection and safety to help uphold minimum building standards, please make sure your contractor is licensed, has a permit, and calls for inspections.

Respectfully submitted,
Charles Miller, Building Inspector

REPORT OF THE PLANNING BOARD

The Planning Board reviewed a two-family project this year and held public hearings on a solar array project, which it approved.

The real estate market remains slow.

The Board reviewed and approved a few building lots and building permit applications.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark T. Schwallie, Chair

REPORT OF THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

The 2016 Zoning Board of Appeals was made up of Leo Aloisi as Chair, John Kelsey, Shirley Morrigan, Wayne Parks, Stephen St. Marie and Richard Tracy. Ms Morrigan began 2016 as an alternate, but during 2016, Mr. St. Marie expressed his wish to become the alternate. Ms. Morrigan was appointed a full member, and Mr. St. Marie became the alternate. Mr. Tracy served as Clerk during part of 2016, but expressed his wish to step down. After Ms. Morrigan was appointed a full member, the ZBA elected Ms. Morrigan Clerk. Mr. Tracy and Ms. Morrigan shared the duties of Clerk during the year 2016.

Our Board has room for two more alternate members and would welcome the services of people willing to analyze and study the cases which come before this Board. Please send your letters of interest to the Selectboard for consideration.

The ZBA signs off on building permit requests, answers residents' questions, explains the Zoning Bylaws, and tries to help Westhampton residents keep their property in compliance with the rules. When necessary the ZBA holds public hearings to consider requests for Special Permits or Variances or an appeal of an aggrieved party. In 2016 the ZBA evaluated

and acted on three requests for Special Permits, all of which had Public Hearings, as described below:

1. A continuation of the Public Hearing for Application #201, seeking a Special Permit to erect a two-family house at 245 Main Road. The hearing continued through January 12, 2016; March 8, 2016; March 22, 2016; April 12, 2016; and concluded in a combined hearing with the Planning Board on June 14, 2016. Special permit granted with conditions.

2. A Public Hearing for Application #204, seeking a Special Permit for a deck at 21 Pine Island Lake was held on June 14, 2016. Special Permit granted with conditions.

3. A number of public hearings for Application #203, seeking a Special Permit to demolish an existing house and construct a new house, equivalent sized footprint, at 35 East Shore Road, were held on April 12, 2016; May 10, 2016; June 14, 2016; and July 12, 2016. Special Permit was granted with conditions.

Respectfully submitted,

Shirley P. Morrigan, Clerk

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL ON AGING

The Westhampton Council on Aging is a provider of services and a source of information to over 500 seniors in our town.

Current board members are:

Lillian Baxter, Wendy Blow, Louise Jasionkowski, Bill Magrone, Shirley Raymond, Jean Webster and newly appointed Charles Horn.

Having served as COA coordinator for over 5 years, Pat Miller has stepped down. We are thankful for all her hard work initiating new programs and ideas into our organization. Julia Lennen has been appointed as the new coordinator and we look forward to her leadership in this coming year.

Working through the Northern Hilltown Consortium, Westhampton COA has been able to secure grant money to aid us with outreach to seniors. With grant funding from the Mass Office of Elder Affairs and our own generous town funds, we have been able to support our many programs. We have also been able to secure federal grant money through Highland Valley Elder services.

This year the council has continued to provide transportation to seniors on a one to one basis for medical and other needs through FRTA (Franklin Regional Transit Authority). We also offer assistance with household tasks through the HEN program (Helping Elders in Need). Outreach also includes our monthly newsletter, seasonal hikes, SNAP program, and referrals for help with taxes, Medicare and assisted home care.

Some of the COA programs include information from the state police, the Alzheimer's association, "Birds of Prey", entertainment by the 4th graders, a tea cup auction, Fran Ryan teaching us about our wildlife and the Chordsmen at our annual July picnic.

A new pamphlet was successfully completed and made available to all town residents as a source of information. It contains phone numbers and services offered through town departments. These pamphlets can be obtained at the town hall or library. We also continue outreach through our COA section of the town web site and our senior newsletter for local and regional information.

The COA provides monthly luncheons with informational programs or entertainment. It also offers equipment lending, a monthly breakfast social, monthly movies, computer classes, yoga classes, a November veteran's breakfast, bus trips, and information access.

The Friends of the Council on Aging is a group we could not do without. It has continued to be an active fund raiser by organizing the fall festival pie sale. They have helped organize and run bus trips such as The Big E, Smith College bulb show and Bridge of Flowers. They recognize 90th birthdays and make memorial donations. Proceeds from a bake sale this year were donated to the Alzheimer's association. We encourage town residents of all ages to be a member and help out this worthy group.

As a growing town with an increasing older population, 2017 will have new challenges. We encourage all residents to join our activities and volunteer. You can help us reach the goals the COA has set. Our mission is to provide for the physical, social and emotional needs of seniors, helping them to lead independent and self-reliant lives as long as possible.

Respectfully submitted,

Louise Jasionkowski (Interim Director COA)

REPORT OF THE TRIAD COUNCIL

To empower those 60 and better, we strive to harness information and provide tools to seniors promoting their financial, medical, and physical safety and well-being. As volunteers, we are sponsored by the Hampshire County Sheriff's Dept. and the Office of the Northwestern District Attorney. Working with our Police Chief Dave White and Fire Chief Chris Norris, we assist in implementing Town and County safety programs.

TRIAD HISTORY

In 1988, three national groups: AARP, the Association of Chiefs of Police, and National Sheriffs' Association agreed crime prevention needs of older citizens could be best met by a cooperative effort. By signing an agreement, a Triad was formed. The National Assoc. of Triads today requires participation and leadership of three entities: law enforcement, adult volunteers, and community support groups. In 1992, Sheriff R. Garvey began the Hampshire County Triad; the first Westhampton Triad was formed in 1994.

FREE TRIAD PUBLICATIONS

"SPECIAL WISHES": 10 section guide organizes personal affairs, medical directives, will preparation, important documents. Found on Police website

"WHERE TO GET HELP": Directory of local, State, Federal services
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS:

Manual for Survival Kits, Power Outages, Fire Safety, Storms, Sheltering
HOME SAFETY CHECKLIST: Take preventive actions at your home
FILE OF LIFE: Every second counts. Your critical medical info card to keep visible at home, in wallet, car to assist responding emergency personnel

PROJECTS & GOALS

PRESCRIPTION DRUGS: Promoting programs for safe storage/disposal to protect our land, water supply, and address the epidemic of addiction.

"SPECIAL WISHES": Revised, updated. Go to Town Police website

"SAFE ENTRY PROGRAM": Sponsors are Town Fire Dept. & County Sheriff. FREE home Lock Boxes are offered and installed for responding EMT's and Emergency Services

BELLTOWER MONTHLY ARTICLES: Fraud alerts, Caregiving, Health, Disposal, Legislative updates, Downsizing, Housing, Family communication

COA NEWS ARTICLES: Aging in Place, Support Services, Safety issues

TOWN DISASTER & EMERGENCY PLANNING: supporting Town officials by providing information to our senior citizens

FUND RAISING EVENTS: Triad is funded solely by donations. We thank you for your encouragement and support in meeting our yearly goals.

PROMOTING SAFETY & COMMUNICATION

We welcome your participation in reaching our Community goals. Email or call for publications and with any questions or concerns you want addressed to 529-9873 or westhamptontriad@comcast.net

Members: David Majercik, Chuck Horn, and Ginny Curtis

Respectfully submitted,

Ginny Curtis, Chair

REPORT OF THE WESTHAMPTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Westhampton Public Library represents an important gathering place for people, organizations and ideas. Lynn Blair has just completed her first year as our Library Director. Her enthusiasm for creating programs, working with community organizations, and getting to know the patrons has been a great asset to the library.

Hillary Nolan continues in her position as staff librarian, creating and managing programs for children and covering the circulation desk. Hillary was also instrumental in developing a new website for the library which list library hours, an event calendar, CW MARS lending services, online databases, trustee meeting times and minutes, and a link to the library solar production site.

Along with the Director and staff librarian the library has many volunteers who give their time to help the library run smoothly. We would like to thank Victoria Yoshen, Ellice Gonzalez, Helen Pajak, Lorraine O'Keefe, Sheila Marks, Angela Griefen, and Dan Parker who work inside the library. Tom Martin also organizes volunteers to maintain the library grounds. While these people volunteer on a regular basis, many townspeople give of their time and talents whenever a special project needs attention.

The trustees also appreciate the work of Jared Brown, custodian, who keeps the library clean and well cared for.

In 2016 there were 922 residents who held library cards. Our library provided 3,867 items via interlibrary loan to other libraries while loans from other libraries decreased to 2,879 items. The library hosted 305 programs with a total attendance of 3,520.

The Friends of the Westhampton Public Library had 160 members in the fiscal year 2016. This group is an invaluable source of support for the library through their fund raising efforts. The friends provide "Fill the Shelves Funds" raised during their membership drive and funding for programs, art exhibits, and concerts. The Friends, along with the Elementary School PTO, sponsor the Fall Festival held each year at the library.

Since becoming operational in 2015, the library solar panels have generated \$15,833 from the sale of solar renewable energy credits. This revenue goes directly into the Town General Fund.

The Trustee budget request for the coming fiscal year represents what the Trustees believe to be the minimum needed to continue to provide library services to Westhampton and to maintain Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners certification.

Respectfully submitted,

Board of Trustees:

Maureen Dempsey, Chair

Michelle Nevins, Treasurer

Carol McMurrich, Secretary

Lynn Cooper

Brian Mulvehill

Andrea Belanger

REPORT OF THE CULTURAL COUNCIL

The Westhampton Cultural Council was allotted \$4400 by the Massachusetts Cultural Council to fund grant applications in FY17. \$50.00 was allotted this year for clerical expenses. With our previous balance, including earned interest, and our FY 2017 allotment we were able to grant \$4648. We received 24 grants and approved the 15 below:

Westhampton Elementary School/Acorn People	\$300
Chester Theatre Company/Education Programs	\$100
Westhampton Public Library/Leapin' Lizards	\$425
Friend of Westhampton Library/Flea Circus	\$350
Pandora Redwin/The Play Workshop/Playground	\$500
Davis Bates/Storytelling	\$425
Arcadia Wildlife/Life in a Changing Climate	\$400
Morley Cleary/Westhampton Fall Festival	\$200
Erin Zimbler/Literacy Alive	\$500
Debra Immergut/Writing Your Life	\$325
Stacy Benham/African Culture Unit	\$250
HRHS PTO/Musical	\$173
North Hall/Season of Arts	\$100
Friends of Westhampton Library/Field of Dreams	\$500
Hilltown Families/Learn Local Play Local	\$100

The Council tries to present a well-balanced distribution of projects/arts/music/theatre in order to benefit all residents of Westhampton. Please contact the Selectboard and/or Robby Armenti or Ann Lewis Co-chairs WCC, if you wish to be appointed to the Council, or with any ideas for future grants and rewards.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Lewis, Co-chair

Robby Armenti, Co-chair

Brian Mulvehill, Lara Ramsey, Greg Reynolds, Alison Smith

REPORT OF THE HISTORICAL COMMISSION

The Historical Commission in 2016 was made up of Richard W. Tracy-chairperson, Steve Brooks, Robert Dragon, Daniel Krug, Jr., and Leonard Day. Dave Goddard, as Treasurer of the Friends group, meets with us each month, and he is also our main computer expert. Barbara Pelissier also meets with us regularly in her position of President of the Historical Society. We meet on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, except December. We meet at 7:00 pm, at the museum on 5 Stage Road and we welcome any interested folks to join us there.

The Museum is open each Sunday afternoon between 2:00 and 4:00, from Memorial Day until the Fall Festival in October. We also open for special requests or groups. Our main responsibility is the maintenance and enhancement of the museum and contents. Along with this responsibility is the need to study and teach the history, values, and ethics, of those who came before us, so we can better appreciate what we have received and enjoy every day by living in this town. Also, to consider how we might improve on it for those who will follow in our places.

We continue to build new display booths in the blacksmith portion of the building, which gives more wall space, and much neater display areas. We had to replace the name sign near the road, and did other regular maintenance. We have added a storage shed in order to keep maintenance equipment from taking up space in the museum. We are an integral part of the Fall Festival each October, which is a grand finale to our season. In June we always enjoy the Third graders coming to visit as they study their town's history. The Town's new website for the whole town is working well, and we are looking forward to becoming active users as a way of promoting some of our programs.

In the past we sponsored a program at the library telling the history of the village of Loudville which generated much interest, and this year we held an on-site field day in April pointing out the locations of the various mills and homes that were there in the 1800's. This was a wonderful day with over 100 interested people attending. We had hired a bus to transport folks from the town parking lot to the sites, in order to keep the village of Loudville from being flooded with cars. We hope we can do more of these field trips as there certainly seems to be much interest.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard W. Tracy, Chairman

REPORT OF THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Members: Brad Morse(Chair), Fred Morrison, Peter Cleary, Elvira Loncto, Bob LaPalme(Secretary), Steve Holt(Associate)

Under The Wetlands Protection Act, eight “interests” are protected by town conservation commissions across the state. Those commissions process thousands of applications every year for permits to do work in and near wetlands, floodplains, banks, riverfront areas, beaches and surface waters, (source: Mass Assn of Conservation Commissions).

The eight important public values subject to protection referred to as “interests” are 1. Protection of public and private water supply 2. Protection of groundwater supply 3. Flood control 4. Storm damage prevention 5. Prevention of pollution 6. Protection of land containing shellfish 7. Protection of fisheries 8. Protection of wildlife habitat.

What follows is a brief summary of WCC activities for year 2016:

Site visit	10
Determination (informal, no further action)	0
Public hearing	4
Request for Determination (RDA)	3
Notice of Intent	0
Order of conditions	1
Certificate of Compliance	0
Violation concern	2
Enforcement order	0
Cutting plan notification	8
Septic upgrade	1

Additional activity:

- Invasive species removal, none
- Martin held land/conservation restriction to be monitored by commission
- Several building permit sign-offs by commission
- Agricultural preservation restriction; policy tracking system proposal
- Milikowski conservation restriction proposal heard; approved by Selectboard at meeting attended by commission

Conservation Restricted Properties annually monitored by WCC:

- Westhampton Public Library Conservation Restricted Area
- Kestral Land Trust Conservation Restricted Area; Skibiski
- Kestral Land Trust Conservation Restricted; Sarafin
- Hilltown Land Trust Conservation Restricted; Weiss donor
- Kestral Land Trust Conservation Restricted; Glass donor
- Martin-Held property conservation restriction

Respectfully submitted,

Bob LaPalme, Secretary

REPORT OF THE CEMETERY CARETAKER

Routine clean-up and maintenance completed in early spring and continued throughout the entire season.

Eight 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.

There were:

4 Traditional burials

5 cremations

12 burial lots were acquired.

2 monument foundations were installed.

I would like to thank the Westhampton Highway Department for their assistance in 2017.

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

I can be reached by calling (413) 527-6480 or (413) 626-2259.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward H. Thornton,
Cemetery Superintendent

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

HAMPSHIRE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Writing the annual report requires a thorough look back over a recently ended calendar year that spans the end of one school year and the beginning of another. The work we do together in our schools and communities is complex in the moments, days, and years by which we measure our success and evaluate our challenges as we work to get a firm hold of the long-view. Every school day – 180 times between the start of the school year and our last day – our school buses from Durham, Lecrenski, and Van Pool drive students over 2500 miles to and from school and our own vans at HRHS and Norris provide additional transportation to preschool children and students with special needs. Our work is sometimes overwhelming but it is also essential and rewarding. Education is the foundation of our society and provides us with a shared opportunity to enhance our understandings and commitments to each other. Together we make a positive difference in the lives of our students, their families, and the communities in which we live and work. We are increasingly coming together as a learning community, learning about the experiences of one-and-other and appreciating what we share as we also seek to understand what makes us unique. The November defeat of a ballot initiative that would have removed the cap placed on Massachusetts charter schools reaffirmed our commitment to public education.

Together, with support from all of our towns, we are holding firm to our basic beliefs and expanding our shared commitment to improve the education we provide to all of our children.

Quality educational opportunity requires quality teaching staff. Grinspoon Excellence in Teaching Awards were presented on April 28 to HRHS English teacher Kim Bush at HRHS, Chesterfield-Goshen Fifth Grade Teacher, Julie Britain, and Westhampton Fourth Grade Teacher, Sarah Overstreet. In an unprecedented honor, three teachers received Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching. The PAEMST program, administered by the National Science Foundation on behalf of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy recognizes outstanding teachers for their contributions to the teaching and learning of mathematics and science. Each awardee received a citation signed by President Obama and a \$10,000 award. Congratulations were certainly in order for John Heffernan and Karen Schweitzer from Anne T. Dunphy in Williamsburg and Chemistry Teacher Keith Wright at HRHS.

Teachers and administrators across the state recognize that children are coping with increasingly complex challenges to their behavioral health and social emotional development. Experts cite (and school staff recognize) these stressors to include: peer relationships, academic pressure, higher incidence of children exposed to trauma, and social media overload. The effects on school success and adjustment can be anxiety, depression, and emotional stress. Our schools are responding by partnering with social service agencies, providing targeted professional development, integrating social emotional learning into the core values of our schools, and evaluating effective programs and curriculum to support our students. It is clear that social emotional learning is as important to student success as more traditional curricular offerings. That said, schools must always be looking forward as we prepare our students to be “21st century learners” with the promise of making them “future ready” lifelong learners. We are often reminded that we are preparing students for jobs and careers that don’t exist yet, in some cases jobs that haven’t even been imagined. We know, however, that critical thinking, cooperation, communication, and creativity are essential for our students to succeed. To ensure our instructional practice includes these foundational skills, teachers at all levels and throughout all of our schools continually review and revise their curriculum and teaching practices.

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education approved new standards, called the "Digital Literacy and Computer Science" standards (DLCS), to address technology skills in the 21st century. These standards replace a set of outdated technology standards that had been in place since approx. 2008. The DLCS standards articulate a progression of critical skills and learning outcomes, by grade level, for all students, K through 12. These desired outcomes are based on the fact that technology exists in most industries today as well as the devices we encounter in our everyday lives. Students are being exposed to key concepts of these new standards via existing units of study. Specifically, these include science units involving the engineering design process; the use of programmable robots as a manipulative to teach physical science; text to speech and speech to text applications to assist struggling learners. In addition to the new DLCS standards, we are expanding use of digital curriculum materials. In order to address these needs, we have to develop sustainable technology budgets to support the use of technology in our schools. The District has been working on such an approach, but it is a multi-year (and multi-faceted) effort that will require continued revision and refinement.

In March Governor Baker signed into law the Opioid Bill which, among other actions, required all schools to have policies regarding substance abuse prevention and education of students about the dangers of substance abuse. These policies were approved by all school committees and implemented as required. On June 3, Governor Baker signed “An Act to Improve Public Records” into law. These amendments to the public records law required the designation of at least one Records Access Officer who is responsible for coordinating and responding to public records requests. For our District, Bobbie Jones (Assistant School Business Manager) and the School Superintendent are so designated.

School safety and emergency preparedness planning continue to be significant activities. All of our schools are fortunate to be located in communities with responsive local police, fire, ambulance, and other emergency management personnel. Working together with the Massachusetts State Police, as well as local police and fire departments, our individual schools continue to tighten daily procedures (including those that are in place to protect students on their way to and from school) and improve coordinated District actions to respond to emergencies. We continue to refine our procedures and make changes where necessary including updates to our Medical Emergency Plans and Emergency Operations Procedures. It is regrettable these actions are necessary and place additional demands on an already tight academic calendar but it is a reality we live with, and a responsibility we accept, knowing that we must work conscientiously to protect our children.

As the 2015-2016 school year came to an end, school administrators and elected officials throughout the Commonwealth explored and validated a “Rural Schools Initiative”, originally conceived by Mohawk Superintendent Michael Buonocoti, and formed a “Rural Schools Coalition” to advocate for additional funding and support for the states rural schools. The Coalition began focusing attention on the financial needs of rural communities in supporting public schools, as well as increasing awareness and expanding understanding that costs are outpacing available funding in many small towns. The impact of state and federal initiatives and mandates disproportionately impacts small schools and towns. Ultimately, the Coalition wants the legislature to modify the Chapter 70 funding formula and provide additional funding to support rural education in much the same way that urban schools are supported.

I encourage you to visit the individual school's or Superintendent's website (www.hr-k12.org) for current news and information about our students and District activities, as well as a detailed explanation of school budget development. School Committee meeting agendas and minutes can be found here. This website will also provide you with links to individual school websites and to useful information from numerous resources. I also recommend the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's website for data about individual schools and school districts, as well as guidance on educational initiatives and news. Whenever you have a question or wish to become involved in your community schools, please call me or the principal of your local school.

Thank you for your support and commitment to our local Hampshire Regional public schools.

Sincerely,

Craig Jurgensen,
Superintendent of Schools

REPORT OF SPECIAL EDUCATION

Federal and state law requires that students from 3-22 years of age who are identified as having a disability are provided with individually designed instruction to meet their unique learning needs. The Hampshire Regional School District provides services to 390 students with disabilities on Individualized Education Programs (IEP). Students in each of the six schools receive special education services both in and out of the general education classroom. These services are provided by special education certified teachers and related service providers. Current related services include: occupational therapy, speech therapy, physical therapy, nursing/medical services, counseling, autism consultation, clinical consultation, vision therapy, and teacher of the deaf services.

School	Total Enrollment	Special Education Students
Hampshire	748	134
Chesterfield-Goshen	140	31
Westhampton	131	27
Williamsburg	159	24
Southampton	524	103
Worthington	60	8
Smith Vocational	109	49
Out of District	13	13
Westfield Vocational	2	1
Total	1886	390

During the 2016 school year the district completed a series for Corrected Action Plans in response to findings on the 2014 Coordinated Program Review for each school. School Principals and the Director of Pupil Services worked together to implement corrective action plans, which included professional development and ongoing monitoring to reach one hundred percent compliance. Program Quality Assurance, a branch of the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, continues to monitor compliance.

The Hampshire Regional Special Education Parent Advisory Counsel (HRSE PAC) meets regularly as a group and annually with principals. The activities of HRSE PAC include advising the school committee on matters that pertain to the education and safety of students with disabilities;

development, and evaluation of special education programs. The HRSEPAAC continues to recruit representatives from all districts.

A second cohort of teachers, one from Westhampton and one from Chesterfield-Goshen, are enrolled in a Level One Orton Gillingham Instructor Program. The Pupil Services Director and Principals are working together to implement the use of Orton Gillingham approach to teaching reading in each school. Southampton teachers are finishing a two-year Level Two training. The long-term goal is to have a teacher in the district qualified to be an Orton-Gillingham trainer. Having a specialized reading program in each school improves services to students with learning disabilities. There have been no out of district placements for reading disabilities since the implementation of Orton Gillingham in our schools.

Special Education Professional Development grant funds have been dedicated to supporting students with social, emotional and behavioral challenges again this year. There has been a sharp increase of students with significant social and emotional needs. Administration, staff and families work together with outside agencies to meet the varied needs of our students and to support school success for all students. Southampton, Hampshire Regional and Williamsburg have started programs to support students with social-emotional learning needs. Each school was able to hire trained special educators with expertise and experience in behavior management and social/emotional supports to help keep students in their home schools with support. Southampton has a specialized preschool program designed to meet the needs of students with moderate to severe special needs. This program is in its second year and continues to be at capacity.

The district has completed focused professional development to support staff in meeting students' diverse and intensive needs. Trainings on the following topics have been offered in 2016: De-escalation and Restraint Techniques, Functional Behavior Assessment/Behavior Intervention Plans, Social Thinking, Social Pragmatics, Working with students and families with Anxiety, Social Emotional Development, Autism and Mindfulness.

At HRHS, the Life Skills program has undergone program evaluation and change. The middle school program is designed to teach and assess whether students will take an academic or life skills/vocational course of

study in high school. The Transition to Adulthood program for students who are 18-21 years old includes an option for to participate in Holyoke Community College's Inclusive Concurrent Enrollment Program. For students seeking a work experience, working with a job coach to secure competitive employment is an important part of school programming. A Peer Mentoring program was added to support students with disabilities as they develop relationships with typical students with whom they can interact throughout their school day.

The Clarke Mainstream program at HRHS expanded into the eighth grade this year. There are two sophomores and four seniors. HRHS has implemented numerous changes and improvements to provide for greater information access of auditory information including video display monitors for announcements and information-sharing throughout the school. HRHS also added a high school language-based learning disabilities teacher to meet the needs of students transitioning to high school from the middle school. Middle School and High School teachers who work with Clarke Mainstream program students and language based learning disabled students have had focused professional development during the 2015-2016 school year.

Respectfully submitted,

Irene Ryan, MSW, CAGS
Director of Pupil Services

REPORT OF THE HAMPSHIRE REGIONAL MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL

2016 marked another successful year of teaching and learning at Hampshire Regional High School. Students and staff continue to thrive in a positive, safe environment. Because of the support from our local community, Hampshire Regional offers many rigorous and engaging programs for all of our students to be prepared for life after high school. After much preparation, Hampshire Regional High School completed its decennial accreditation visit for the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) in the spring of 2016. Students, staff, school committee, parents and community members participated in the evaluation visit. NEASC accreditation is required to ensure that our school is considered on par with other high schools in the country. The reputation of the community strongly benefits from having an accredited local high school. NEASC accreditation requires a comprehensive analysis of all aspects of the school including core values and learning expectations, curriculum, instruction, assessment, school culture and leadership, school resources, and community resources. NEASC reaccredited Hampshire Regional High School noting the following commendations:

- Hampshire Regional's core values and learning expectations
- Hampshire Regional's rigorous academic and elective programs
- The availability of adequate instructional materials, technology supplies and facilities
- The practice of differentiation and using data to inform instructional practices
- The constructive feedback that is provided to students to allow them to revise their work for continued growth
- The multiple forms of assessments used to inform instructional practices
- The safe, accepting and inclusive environment
- The high academic and social expectations for all
- The variety of opportunities for students to personalize their learning
- The varied intervention strategies used for students
- The extensive use of technology by student support services
- The developmental counseling program
- The dependable funding which sustains and adds new programs
- The capital plan that addresses building maintenance repairs

- The communication and cooperation between all stakeholders in the budget process
- The efforts of the maintenance staff to maintain a safe and clean learning environment

In addition to the NEASC evaluation visit, students participated in a number of assessments in the spring. In March, May and June, 7th, 8th, and 10th graders completed the MCAS in English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Biology. Hampshire Regional is in the 66th percentile relative to other schools for our performance and is ranked as a level two school according to the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. Based on their performance, 38 seniors earned the John and Abigail Adams Scholarship which entitles students to four years of a tuition waiver at any Mass. Public college / university. An additional 41 seniors were invited to apply for the Stanley Z. Koplik Award. This award qualifies students for a tuition waiver to a state university. These students must also complete two additional academic achievements such as 2 AP scores of 3 or better or 2 SAT subject tests or 1 AP score and 1 SAT subject test. In May, 76 students completed 118 AP tests in Chemistry, Psychology, Spanish Language and Culture, Computer Science, Physics, English Literature and Composition, Calculus AB and BC, US History, Modern European History, Biology, Music Theory, and French Language and Culture. 78% of exams earned a passing grade, which may allow students to earn college credit for the course.

Students were engaged in many academic and extracurricular opportunities throughout the spring. Middle school students showed off their hard work at the annual science fair. Upperclassmen were certified in CPR with the assistance of Fire Chief Chris Norris and the Westhampton Fire Department. Students enrolled in the Independent Living course were responsible for taking care of baby simulators, which was certainly an eye opening experience for many. In Human Oppression, students were tasked with creating meaningful Public Service Announcements to raise awareness towards an organization of their choice. The spring musical for Hampshire was *Peter Pan*, starring seniors Delaney Reynolds as Peter Pan and Dan Sullivan as Captain Hook. Hampshire's girls' softball team won the State Championship for the second year in a row. Notably, the Hampshire Regional School Committee approved the consolidation of a bus route and the addition of a late bus three days a week for students to stay after school and get

transported to their town’s elementary school at 4pm. The late bus gives more students access to participate in after school programs and seek out extra help from teachers without an additional cost to towns.

Kim Bush, high school English teacher from Southampton, received the honor of being named as the Grinspoon Teacher of the Year from Hampshire Regional. Mrs. Bush was nominated for this award because of her sound instructional practices, her strong advocacy for all students to succeed and her involvement in the Hampshire community.

On June 3, 2016, 130 seniors graduated from Hampshire Regional High School. Valedictorian Samantha Tripp of Southampton played her flute as part of her remarks, and Salutatorian Alexander Kubosiak of Southampton reminisced about the learning and opportunities he experienced at Hampshire Regional. 83% of students from the class of 2016 planned to go to a two or four year school, 8% joined the military or attended a specialized school, and 9% were undecided or heading into the workforce.

At the end of the 2015-2016 school year, Hampshire recognized two faculty members, Ann Trytko and Virginia Elliott for their years of service as they retired. Ms. Trytko worked in the Wellness Department as a PE teacher, but was well known throughout the state for her work as Hampshire’s Athletic Director. Ginger Elliott taught in Spanish in the foreign language department and was heavily involved in the school community throughout her career. Dale Nicodemi, Math teacher, also retired in November.

The 2016-2017 school year welcomed 753 students to Hampshire Regional.

Grade	Number of Students
7	159
8	138
9	119
10	95
11	113
12	124
Total	748

Hampshire welcomed quite a few new staff members for the 2016-2017 school year. John Plourd, previously the program leader for the wellness department, was hired as the Director of Student Activities taking over

athletics for Ann Trytko, but also adding advisory and extracurricular activities to the responsibilities of the position. The special education and guidance department welcomed Chris Nadeau, Erin Mahon-Moore, Dawn Young, Sarah Wollschlager, Danielle Martineau, Alison Labrecque, and Jeffery Carriero. Kari Manning and Steve Croft were hired for the wellness department. Sonia Jimenez, Deena Lashway, and Haley Richard accepted teaching positions in the foreign language department. Ellen Doyle was hired as the English Language Learners teacher. Stephanie Faas accepted the shared position as a nurse between Hampshire and Norris Elementary School. Dale Nicodemi's vacancy was filled by Stacy Benham, and Keith Wright accepted the high school chemistry position. Keith was notified he was selected for the prestigious Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching. This is a high honor, as only one high school science teacher from every state is selected to receive this award each year.

Students had the opportunity to enroll in a number of new courses at Hampshire Regional included history quarter courses for junior year with specialized topics such as the Great Depression, World War II, Civil Rights, and Modern America. Hampshire also started to offer English elective courses such as High School ELA Plus and Holocaust Literature. Health 9 was reinstated as a required course for ninth graders and the math department added a College Prep level of Pre-Calculus.

New members were elected to Hampshire Regional's School Council. School Committee member Margaret Larson, parent Bill Curran, and Guidance Leader Amy Scully were joined by new members parents Luci Dalton, Eileen Hamel and Melissa Adams and teachers Kelly Carpenter, Tonya Aitken, and Keith Wright.

In September of 2016, Hampshire Regional suffered an unspeakable loss when senior Thomas Bisbee died unexpectedly due to a heart condition. The learning community came together to support each other and his family through this very difficult time. The senior class and Thomas' friends were especially affected by his death and many took advantage of the support systems offered through Hampshire Regional to work through their emotions. Students showed and continue to prove immeasurable courage by motivating one another to work hard and meet their goals because that's what their friend would have wanted for them. Thomas will be remembered at the 2017 graduation ceremony and in the yearbook.

One of Hampshire's School Improvement Plan goals is to support the whole child, and there have been different events and programs developed to follow through with this goal. Dr. Ruth Pote gave a well-received talk to parents and staff at open house to discuss the effects of drug use on the developing teen brain. Hampshire Regional's SADD hosted a Distractology Program that taught inexperienced drivers about the dangers of distracted driving. It was sponsored by Finck & Perras Insurance Agency out of Easthampton and Arbella Insurance and was developed at UMass Amherst with support from the District Attorney's office. Another significant support was the addition of the Social Emotional special education teacher who created a program to provide support services to middle school students. Because of this teacher's work in collaboration with administration, the special education department and guidance department, Hampshire has been able to support students locally instead of sending them to private schools for special education services.

As schools are increasingly charged with developing students socially and emotionally as well as academically, I reflect on the work done by the staff at Hampshire Regional and the support that towns have provided. Our students are truly well on their way to being contributing members of our community due to the collaboration and commitment of all stakeholders.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen Smidy, Principal

HAMPSHIRE REGIONAL ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT

It was another exciting and successful year for athletics at Hampshire Regional.

In the winter, both our girls and boys basketball teams qualified for the Western Massachusetts Tournament. The girl's team reached the semi-finals and played at the Curry Hicks Cage. Senior Chelsea Mousette and junior Katy O'Connor both capped the 1,000 point milestone for their careers.

On the wrestling mat, Nick Hoskin and Matt Carrier both took home Western Massachusetts Runner-Up honors, while Brandon Weyant was not only a Western Massachusetts Champion, he also won the title of All State Champion.

There was even more to celebrate in the spring season as Coach Brian McGan lead the softball team to its second straight Western Massachusetts Championship, and even more impressively, its second straight State Championship. Senior standout Alexis Ferris came within two strikeouts of setting the Hampshire Regional all-time strikeout record and received the female Western Mass Pitcher of the Year Award.

With the conclusion of the spring season, we also saw the Athletic Directing career of Ann Trytko comes to a close. After dedicating 11 years to Hampshire Regional Athletics, Ann retired to spend more time with her grandchildren. The Athletic Directing responsibilities have been transferred to Hampshire's newly created position, "Director of Student Activities". A 2006 graduate from Hampshire Regional, John Plourd was hired over the summer and not only has the honor of directing Hampshire Regional Athletics, but all manner of student activities as Hampshire's first Director of Student Activities.

When the leaves turned in 2016, Hampshire's winning ways continued. The boys' and girls' soccer teams both qualified for the Western Massachusetts Tournament. The boy's team celebrated a league championship and each teams had players receive All-League, All-Western Mass and All-State honors.

Perhaps the most proud moments of the calendar year came with our girls cross country team and the co-op football team with Easthampton receiving the State Sportsmanship Awards in their respective sports. Coach Sue Tracy and the girls accepted their award at the Western Mass championship meet while Coach Matt Bean and his team traveled to Gillette Stadium to accept their award at the during halftime of the state high school super bowl.

2016 came to an end and we are left with memories and examples of Hampshire's students standing out above the crowd. Hampshire Regional continues to be a place where students are able to show off their prowess as athletes and as top-tier individuals.

Respectfully submitted,

John P. Plourd,
Director of Student Activities

REPORT OF THE WESTHAMPTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Principal Deane Bates is pleased to report that the last year at Westhampton Elementary was productive and encouraging. We continued to make steady progress towards our long-term goals of continued improvement of the educational program and maintaining and updating our facilities.

As part of the Every Student Succeeds Act, schools and districts are placed into one of five accountability and assistance levels (1-5), with the highest performing in Level 1 and lowest performing in Level 5. Our school has been placed into Level 1. Schools are also ranked using percentiles: a school percentile between 1 and 99 is reported for most schools. This number shows the overall performance of our school relative to other schools that serve the same or similar grades. Our school percentile rank is 77. This means that our school is performing higher than 77 percent of the elementary schools in the state.

Another accountability measure used is the Progress and Performance Index (PPI). The PPI is a number that indicates our school's progress toward narrowing proficiency gaps, or, in other words, helping all students reach proficiency and be prepared for success in high school and beyond. For a group of students to be considered to be making sufficient progress toward narrowing proficiency gaps, a cumulative PPI of 75 or higher is required. Our cumulative progress and performance index is 82.

Our success has made Westhampton Elementary a popular destination for school choice students. Although we have numerous applications each year for potential choice students, we remain conservative in accepting new students to ensure reasonable class sizes and maintain our ability to service students from our community. The School Choice Program, however, has provided us with another source of revenue and helped us to continue to be responsive to student needs. This revenue source has for many years allowed us to keep annual budget increases reasonable. School choice funds are used for a number of purposes, the most important of which is to make improvements in our educational programs and keep Westhampton Elementary in a strong position to best serve our students and remain an attractive school for choice students.

This year, we will once again have exceptional costs associated with our special education program. It is our obligation to provide specialized

programming for students when we are unable to meet their needs with existing staff or programs. We will be using funds from numerous sources to cover these costs and keep the operational budget request reasonable.

Our staffing patterns have shifted somewhat during the past year. Mrs. Tobin retired from her position as our cafeteria manager. I appreciate Mrs. Tobin's many years of dedicated service to our school. We have hired Wendy Wilcox as our new cafeteria manager. Also, we had two long time special education aides / paraprofessionals, Heather Gagnon and Kelly Birchenough, resign their positions to pursue other opportunities. I appreciate their many years of skilled service with our students. To replace them, I have hired Alison Ramondetta and Nicole Rhodes to replace them. Additionally, Maura Meunier was hired in the fourth grade as a 1:1 special education aide. This year we also hired Tria Sweeny and Jennifer Miklasiewicz as special education aides in our preschool to support an increased special education population. I feel very fortunate to have hired such knowledgeable and experienced support staff members.

In addition to hiring Wendy in our cafeteria, we have made significant progress in updating and adding to our school lunch program. We have added new procedures to streamline ordering and paying for school lunch. Our new computer system features point of sale capabilities with scannable cards to help make billing and lunch accounting more efficient and effective. Wendy continues to work on updating our kitchen and equipment.

This year we have been able to add a beginning band program for students in 5th and 6th grades. Susan Hatfield, who also teaches music in Chesterfield, is our part time band teacher. Susan comes with a wealth of teaching experience and our students have quickly embraced the instrumental music program. I am hopeful that going forward we are able to expand the program to include more grades.

This is the third year of implementation for the Envisions math program district wide. The program was updated to meet common core and state standards. The adoption of the 2.0 Envisions program is an important step in focusing our efforts and maintaining a consistent approach toward math instruction in kindergarten through grade six. I am confident that this work will pay dividends, as we continue our efforts to improve math instruction in our school and district wide. We continue to work to find ways to improve and refine our math curriculum.

A major focus of our school improvement program has been to create a more sophisticated approach for managing student behavioral and emotional needs. Many schools across the country are recognizing the importance of tiered systems of behavior management. These systems resemble the way schools have traditionally supported students' academic needs. A well-managed system of supports for our students will have a positive impact on our students' academic progress and school wide morale. Simply put, a tiered approach helps us to have a more consistent approach for matching a level of support and service to a particular student's need.

We continue to work toward our goal of updating systems, procedures and training for staff members in dealing with student behavior. Our particular focus this year in our K -2 classrooms has been on teaching pro social behaviors through "Zones of Regulation" and "The Incredible Flexible You / Social Problem Solvers". The objective of the programs is to build stronger social emotional skills so that kids can develop more flexible thinking, better impulse control, self-esteem, resilience, self-regulation, perspective taking and empathy. All of these skills help our students to be more effective members of the classroom and more active learners.

Our efforts to expand the integration of technology into the curriculum continue. Fortunately last year we were able to purchase several new computers to help us meet the demands of newly incorporated MCAS rules that require our students to complete computer based testing. These requirements stipulate that by 2019 all students participating in MCAS will need to be tested on computers. I am happy to announce that we will be expanding our robotics curriculum. John Heffernan, our part time technology teacher, has written a grant that will enable us to purchase new materials and we will soon be training teachers to implement components of the robotics curriculum. Moving forward we hope to experiment with offering enrichment coding classes after school hours.

Another area focal point at Westhampton Elementary is having more opportunities for students to take part in after school enrichment. Once again math and ski clubs are going strong. Students in math club have been competing in math competitions and we had a record number of students participate in skiing this year. Additionally, we have had an opportunity to have movement breaks in the classroom. Students are learning how to use yoga and mindfulness to center themselves and be more present and

available for learning during the school day. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Heather Paul, Andy Hilnbrand, Brigid O’Riordan, Ella Demar and the members of our PTO for offering their time and experience to make these after school activities available.

Safety continues to be an important focus of our work together. Our staff and students worked with local fire and police, as well as representatives from the Massachusetts State Police, to improve and refine our safety plan in the event of an emergency. We had opportunities to practice fire drills and a lock down drill with support from emergency service personnel. These drills are an important part of emergency preparedness. We continue to update and refine our policies and practices regarding life threatening allergies and responding to crisis situations at recess. All of our staff members have received training in responding to these types of emergencies.

Last June, we graduated a class of 23 students: Abigail Avakian, Samuel Barnes, Abigail Buschini, Olivia Donnis, Gallivan Florek, Luke Gaida, Trevor Hurd, Olivia Jablonski, Cadence Loven, Grace Martin, Alden Montague, Rose Montague, Alexander Murdock, Andrew Nichols, McKenzie Nichols, Carleigh Page, Madalyn Pease, Maya Perrone, Summer Poudrier, Thomas Pratt, Nitesh Roncone, Lyssa Tirrell, and Mariah Willor. I congratulate these students on their successful completion of their Elementary School experience.

	Total
Preschool	14
Kindergarten	14
1st	17
2nd	18
3rd	17
4th	16
5th	18
6th	17
School Totals	131

I am proud of this school, our staff and these students. We will always do our best to meet the needs of our families and to be responsible financial partners with our town.

Respectfully submitted,

Deane Bates, Principle

REPORT OF THE HILLTOWN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COOPERATIVE

Annual Report for fiscal year 2016

To the Member-Town Residents of the Hilltown Resource Management Cooperative:

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 with volunteer local boards attain sustainability and environmental objectives.

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 FY16 included: Joe Kearns, Chair (Middlefield); Paul Wetzels, Vice Chair (Williamsburg); and, Tom Martin, Treasurer (Westhampton).

The HRMC has been helping hilltown member-communities manage all aspects of their solid waste including: municipal waste hauling and disposal bid administration, recycling, hazardous waste, DEP compliance monitoring and technical assistance, and sustainability services. In FY16 those services included:

- Liaison between Towns and MassDEP on compliance matters.
- 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, and Freon removal from appliances. Oversight of the Call2Recycle re-chargeable battery collection service. Additionally, the Town of Westhampton became a regional Thermostat Recycling Center (TRC) for HRMC community transfer stations. Both the Call2Recycle Battery Program and the TRC programs are cost-free that save the member-Towns the expense of including these items in their universal waste recycling.

- Transfer Station operations and compliance monitoring including informal HRMC site visits as well as the formal, annual DEP 3rd Party Inspection and Reporting.
- Preparation and submittal of DEP annual surveys and reports.
- DEP Grant Administration including grant writing and reporting.

In addition to the managing the day to day business and program operations of the HRMC, the HRMC Administrator also serves as a representative on behalf of its member Towns to the MRF Municipal Advisory Board, the State Solid Waste Advisory Committee and, the Western Mass Regional Recycling Coordinators; advocates with local, regional, and State officials; and, is available to serve as a liaison to the DEP on transfer station operations and compliance related issues.

In FY16, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) announced their Small-Scale Initiative Grants under the annual Sustainable Materials Recovery Program (SMRP). All ten HRMC member-towns received a small-scale grant award of \$500. In addition, eight HRMC Towns were the recipients of additional grants under the Recycling Dividends Program. In total, the HRMC Towns received \$ 18,200.00 in grant funding - an increase of \$10,900.00 over the previous year. Grant applications for FY17 were submitted in June for a total of more than \$24,200 in funding requests.

The HRMC has an annual assessment that is approved by each Town at their annual Town meeting. The annual Assessment Budget is based on tonnage and population. In FY16, the combined assessment for all ten towns was \$39,487.56. The Assessments are intended to offset base operating expenses. Recycling program/collection costs (other than MRF) are pass-thru expenses from the HRMC to the Towns to best maximize the economy of scale and to enable the HRMC administrator to have review and oversight of vendor relations, and program operations. In FY16, the HRMC acquired two new MRF containers in an effort to begin to remove containers from the HRMC fleet that were no longer road-worthy.

During the past year, the HRMC member-Towns collectively diverted 1,000.79 tons of recyclable materials (paper, and bottles/cans) to the Springfield MRF. In addition, the Town of Plainfield diverted bulky rigid plastics; the Towns of Cummington, Plainfield, Westhampton and Williamsburg commenced diversion of EPS (Styrofoam); and, the Towns of Huntington and Williamsburg began diverting clean pellet bags. The

Town of Williamsburg continued to serve as the HRMC regional mattress recycling facility. The Town of Westhampton served as the host-site for the HRMC's annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection event.

The HRMC looks forward to continuing to assist the member Towns during the upcoming year. If you have questions about HRMC programs, call us at 413-685-5498 or by email at hrmc@hrmc-ma.org.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen A. Casey,
HRMC Administrator

REPORT OF THE HAMPSHIRE COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

“Fiscal Year 2016 was a year of challenges and triumph. While our entrepreneurial spirit was put to the test, we rallied together to make 2016 the most financially successful year in the history of the HCOG. With new programs and renewed focus, we are ready to tackle the challenges ahead and continue to serve our constituents and keep more money in our local economy.”

—Todd Ford, Executive Director

Council Overview

The Hampshire Council of Governments (HCOG) is a collective body made up of representatives from 15 Hampshire County towns. HCOG has two key focuses: to improve life in Hampshire County, and to provide our small towns with the advantage of economies of scale typically available only to larger cities. We accomplish these goals by promoting the local economy, investing in sustainable infrastructure, and aggregating the buying power of our communities. HCOG is not funded primarily by grants or taxes, but rather by fee-for-service programs that generate revenue sufficient to support its operating costs. Modest membership fees are also collected from member communities.

The mission of the Hampshire Council of Governments is to offer a robust suite of programs and services that combine the best practices of government and the private sector in support of municipalities, non-profits, and local businesses. Providing these services regionally saves participating entities the cost of an added employee and associated benefits to perform the same services and ensures that the appropriate MA laws are adhered to.

2016—Challenges: Growth!

HCOG has consistently demonstrated a high return on investment for our member communities: this year has been no exception. There was a continuation of high value provided as dues remained low. In fiscal year 2016 (FY16), the total estimated value secured for member towns was \$3,823,201. During the same period, member towns paid a collective \$23,083.99 in dues to HCOG.

About our Programs:

HCOG Revenue

HCOG's revenue is derived primarily from our fee-for-service programs. Total revenue in FY16 (including grants with specific designated purposes) was \$8,694,687.

HCOG Expenses

The total expenses in FY16 (including grants with specific designated purposes) was \$8,270,310.

The Financial situation of the HCOG improved in FY16 with a year-end positive balance of \$89,738. The Year-Over-Year growth from FY15 to FY 16 shows an increase in net revenue of \$496,819.

	FY15	FY16	YOY Growth
General	\$ (536,781.00)	\$ (612,821.00)	\$ (76,040.00)
Hampshire Power	\$ 129,700.00	\$ 702,559.00	\$ 572,859.00
Total	\$ (407,081.00)	\$ 89,738.00	\$ 496,819.00

Hampshire Power

Hampshire Power provides fixed rate electricity supply to businesses, nonprofits, and municipalities across the Commonwealth. It is the only nonprofit energy supplier in Massachusetts. Hampshire Power helps towns, homeowners, and businesses stabilize the cost of energy while keeping energy dollars in the local economy.

In FY16, Hampshire Power started serving an additional **six CCAs** bringing our total to **17 towns and cities**. The total number of meters served over that time was close to 90,000. **Between FY15 and FY16 Hampshire Power net revenue increased by 442% with a year over year growth of \$572,859.**

Late in FY16 HCOG started a Referral Rewards Program with the **United Way**. We encourage new customers to donate their rebate/referral rewards to the United Way of Hampshire County. In FY16, **\$300** was raised for the United Way

In FY16 Hampshire Power also partnered with **MeterGenius** to offer an online portal for customers to view electricity usage, receive specific

suggestions aimed at reducing usage, and reward those that have decreased their electricity usage over time.

Hampshire Solar

Hampshire Solar is a partnership between the HCOG and Nexamp's Community Solar program to offer a simple way to subscribe to a share of a community solar farm in Massachusetts.

This program helps municipalities, businesses, and homeowners support clean energy projects located in Massachusetts. Subscribers receive a 15% savings on net metering credits, which brings real savings to their electricity bills. In this way, people who can't install solar on their own roof or property can enjoy some of the benefits of solar. Hampshire Solar is tailored to each customer, and participation requires no upfront cost and no long term contract.

In FY16, Hampshire Solar customers received 1,424.5 kilowatts of electricity — enough to power 118 homes — through solar power, as opposed to fossil fuels. That's like taking 200 cars off the road or planting 24,025 trees.

Solar Renewable Energy Credit (SREC) Brokering

The solar market in Massachusetts has an incentive program to encourage the adoption of solar. SRECs are generated by solar owners and given values dictated by the market. For each 1,000kWh of electricity generated from a solar array, one (1) SREC is created. These SRECs are bought by electric utilities and suppliers to meet Renewable Portfolio Standards. For the solar owner, these SRECs are a key component of solar ownership financial return and are often brokered by large, out-of-state firms. Most solar owners do not have the volume or contacts to sell their own credits. That's where a SREC aggregator comes in.

HCOG bundles these SRECs together and sells them on the quarterly and annual SREC market for the maximum amount possible.

The program, which started in FY12 with fewer than 50 customers, has grown quickly. In FY16, HCOG brokered 4,215 SREC credits for 782 customers. These SRECs were valued at \$1.4 million dollars, earning a commission of \$70,000.

Hampshire Purchasing Cooperative

For 35 years, the Hampshire Purchasing Cooperative has coordinated and administered a formal bidding process on behalf of municipalities, school districts, and non-profit entities throughout Massachusetts. The Cooperative bids offer cost-savings opportunities in a diverse assortment of products and services such as Office Supplies, General School and Arts and Crafts supplies, Fuels, Food and Cafeteria products, Highway and Public Works supplies and services, Medical and EMS supplies, Hazardous Waste services, and more. Bid participation is free.

During FY16, participants saved an estimated \$791,000 on purchases of over \$9.5 million dollars' worth of supplies and services purchased. This represents an increase in purchases from FY15 of over \$2.4 million dollars, or 34%. Revenue generated totaled over \$113,000, which represents a 22% increase over FY15.

Revenue generated by the Hampshire Purchasing Cooperative is based on vendor fees associated with purchases made by participants and has increased nearly every year since FY12. We anticipate continued growth as the Purchasing Cooperative continues to seek new value-added products and services for our participants.

Hampshire Web

Hampshire Web is a regional bid on municipal web site design and implementation. Municipalities can upgrade their websites starting at an affordable \$4,200, with the option of a multi-year payment plan, providing a break to a town's annual budget. More robust websites are available with a significant discount thanks to our buying power. Businesses, residents, and visitors look to town websites for important information, and this program can offer online bill payment, emergency notifications, an events calendar, and meeting minutes, all in compliance with the new Public Records law.

Hampshire I.T.

Hampshire I.T. offers award-winning I.T. services at highly competitive rates provided by Paragus I.T. of Hadley. Hampshire I.T. also provides free detailed I.T. assessments to all communities in western Massachusetts. In FY16, eight municipalities and non-profits saved over \$37,700 compared to the price they would have paid by contracting individually. As more participants join the program, the hourly rate declines, and the additional savings benefit is secured by all.

RSVP of Hampshire and Franklin Counties

RSVP of Hampshire & Franklin Counties links volunteers age 55+ with opportunities to serve in our community. RSVP provides expert matching services for interested volunteers, helping them to find long term satisfaction in their volunteer roles. RSVP staff also share their volunteer management knowledge through workshops, presentations, and one-on-one mentorship of volunteer managers, increasing the region's capacity to support volunteer programs. Each year, RSVP works with more than 650 volunteers and 50 agencies to fill volunteer needs and make a measurable difference in Western Massachusetts.

In the last grant year (April 2015-March 2016), 679 RSVP members served 100,000 volunteer hours, an estimated contribution of \$2.9 million to the local community. RSVP volunteers provided home-delivered meals and monthly brown bags of groceries to more than 650 seniors. They supported 6 food pantries serving thousands of local residents. 1000 seniors benefitted from an array of RSVP volunteer-led services, including enrichment classes, transportation, companionship, and money management. RSVP's Healthy Bones and Balance Program leaders held weekly exercise classes at 25 sites for 660 seniors, enabling them to better avoid falls and maintain their strength and independence.

Through special events and fundraising programs, volunteers raised over \$200,000 in support of 28 local organizations. An additional group of skilled volunteers in the "Experience on Call" program provided area non-profits with planning and project support, assistance with marketing, grant writing, fundraising, volunteer management, and other essential tasks.

Hampshire County Group Insurance

The Hampshire County Group Insurance Trust (HCGIT) is a self-insured joint purchase Trust that provides medical insurance to 69 municipal groups in Hampshire, Franklin, Hampden, and Worcester County. HCGIT currently covers approximately 11,000 active employees, dependents, and retirees. It is the second largest (based on the number of municipal groups) joint purchase Trust in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The HCGIT plan rates have consistently been significantly below state plan rates with the Group Insurance Commission (GIC) while offering significantly better benefits to its subscribers. For FY16, the HCGIT plan rates offered an overall savings to its subscribers of \$7.5 million when compared to the most popular State GIC plan.

A unique benefit that the HCGIT offers to its member units is a full time Wellness resource. The Wellness Director coordinates biometric screenings, flu clinics, and health and wellness challenges/events for our subscribers.

Regional Accounting

The Regional Accounting program provides professional municipal accounting services to towns, quasi-governmental entities, and non-profits. Services include warrant input, journal entries, reconciliation of cash and receivables, year-end closing entries, Tax Rate Recapitulation, Free Cash certification, and Schedule a preparation. Our program helps to ensure accurate record keeping, timely report filing, and compliance with state and federal laws.

In FY16 the Regional Accounting Program served the Town of Goshen, the Hilltown Resource Management Cooperative, the Springfield Materials Recycling Facility Advisory Committee, WiredWest, New Century Theatre, the Northampton Community Arts Trust, and the Hampshire County Group Insurance Trust. The Regional Accounting staff provided over 750 hours of service to these organizations at an average cost of \$32/hr.

Tobacco Free Community Partnership

The Hampshire-Franklin Tobacco Free Community Partnership (TFCP), servicing all 44 towns in both counties, is funded by the Massachusetts Tobacco Cessation and Prevention program of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. The program supports communities' efforts to help people quit using tobacco, prevent youth from starting, and protect everyone from secondhand smoke. In addition to the many services it offers to local communities, the TFCP also supports The 84, a statewide youth movement for high school-aged youth who want to take a stand against the tobacco industry.

Last year, TFCP supported local Boards of Health considering robust tobacco regulations, including policies restricting sales of flavored tobacco products to adult-only retailers. Flavored tobacco products are considered by the U.S Food and Drug Administration and U.S. Surgeon General to be "starter" products that aid in the establishment of smoking patterns for youth and can lead to a long-term addiction. When a Board of Health passes a policy restricting the sales of flavored tobacco to adult-

only tobacco retailers, they are doing much to protect the health of youth in their community. By the end of FY16, 15 towns in Franklin and Hampshire County had adopted these important policies

Westhampton

Westhampton is represented by Councilor Arthur Pichette.

The Town saved \$78,883.45 through HCOG services in FY16.

The Town used the following services for total savings: Purchasing Cooperative, Hampshire Power, RSVP, Tobacco Free Partnership, Group Insurance Trust.

Unused services included Grant Administration, Hampshire Solar, Hampshire I.T., Hampshire Web, Regional Accounting.

Your town can lower its electricity bill by 15% by participating in Hampshire Solar's net-metering program.

Respectfully submitted,

Todd Ford, Executive Director
Hampshire Council of Government

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MAY 14, 2016

MINUTES

Moderator Richard W. Tracy called the meeting to order at 9:12 A.M. A quorum was present (110).

Moderator then acknowledged Hampshire Regional High School and Westhampton Elementary School staff, Police Chief David White and Town Accountant Joseph Boudreau asking if there was any objection to have these non-resident voters speak as needed. There was no objection.

Moderator then began to read warrant – Motion was made and seconded to not read warrant as it was already printed and available – motion carried

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

The Moderator drew everyone's attention to the Annual Town Report dedication to Lyn Keating who retired as the Town Librarian after 25 years of service. Thomas Cleary Jr. from Finance Committee spoke of the insert for the budget for FY '17. Spoke about the Town and the level of service we want. Spoke about the how Social Security and federal benefits were not given any increase and initial discussion was employees other than those under contract would not receive any increase either. The Finance Committee did agree on a 1.5% increase for employees that earned over \$1,000.00 and no increases for anyone with a stipend under \$1,000.00. He also noted that if someone opted to increase a budget item that they are willing to offer an offset to account for it.

Motion made and seconded to approve the Town Report – Motion Carried

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
Planning Board	Two for three years
Finance Committee	Three for three years
Elementary School Committee	Two for three years
Elementary School Committee	One for two years
Moderator	One for one year
Tree Warden	One for one year
Library Trustees	One for three years
Constable (North District)	One for three years

No action taken at this time. The Annual Town Election is June 4, 2016 from 8:00 AM – Noon

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to accept by unanimous consent and without debate the following six articles or any combination of them: Article 4, Care of the Highways; Article 14, Unemployment Benefits; Article 15, short-term borrowing authorization; Article 16, Chapter 90 Highway Funds; Article 17, Fire Dept. revolving fund; Article 18, Cemetery revolving fund.

Motion was made and seconded to accept Article 3 as written but to remove Article 14, 15, and 16 –

Until further information is given- Motion carried

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to leave the care of the highways in charge of the Selectboard. **Motion made and seconded –Motion carried**

ARTICLE 5: 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 to hold article until reconvene of Annual Town Meeting –Motion Carried

6/20/16 - Motion was made and seconded to give all elected officials making over \$1,000 a 2.5% increase motion carried

Selectboard Chair	\$ 1565
Others	\$ 1357
Board of Assessors Chairman	\$ 2871
Others	\$ 2613
Board of Health Chair /others	\$ 125
Moderator	\$ 475
School Committee Chairman	\$ 475
Others	\$ 245
Tree Warden	\$ 625

ARTICLE 6: 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 was made and seconded to hold all salaries until reconvene June 20, 2016

6/20/16 - Motion was made and seconded to give all appointed officials making over \$1,000 a 2.5% increase motion carried –

ARTICLE 7: 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 2017, 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 was made and seconded to raise and appropriate \$1,097,496
The motion carried

ARTICLE 8: 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 capital assessment for Fiscal 2017, 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 was made and seconded to raise and appropriate \$69,782
The motion carried

ARTICLE 9: 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 was made and seconded to raise and appropriate \$1,583,294
The motion carried

ARTICLE 10: 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 was made and seconded to raise and appropriate \$341,900
The motion carried

ARTICLE 11: 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 was made and seconded to raise and appropriate \$55,820
The motion carried

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide, a sum of money for a Financial Audit for the Town, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Motion was made and seconded to raise and appropriate \$7,000
The motion carried

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or otherwise provide, a sum of money to prepare and paint the exterior of the Town Hall, or take any action relative thereto.

Motion was made and seconded to transfer the sum of \$30,000 from free cash to prepare and paint the exterior of the Town Hall.

Discussion held on how the amount of \$30,000 was arrived at. Phil Dowling being a painting contractor for many years felt in his professional opinion that was a good estimate. The building will not be de-leaded but will be scrapped and repainted which should last another ten years. Robert Miller asked about vinyl but vinyl would not cover the columns or windows and most people agreed it would not be a good alternative.

Motion was made and seconded to table the vote until reconvene – motion failed

Moderator called for vote on original motion – motion carried

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide \$19,000 to hold in anticipation of unemployment benefits for Town employees in accordance with Chapter 151A of the General Laws of Massachusetts.

So moved and seconded – motion carried

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer, with approval of the Selectboard, to borrow funds from time to time in anticipation of the revenue of the financial year beginning July 1, 2016, and in accordance with the provisions of Mass. General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 4 and to issue notes as may be given for a period of less than one year in accordance with the provisions of Mass. General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 17, or take any other action relative thereto.

So moved and seconded – 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 was made and seconded to appropriate \$188,506 or any other sum that may be certified by the State from the Transportation Bond Issue – Motion carried.

ARTICLE 17: 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.

Voted under Article 3

ARTICLE 18: 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.

Voted under Article 3

ARTICLE19: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money from Free Cash to reduce the tax rate, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Motion was made and seconded to appropriate \$15,000 from Free Cash to reduce the tax rate-Motion carried

ARTICLE 20: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to file a petition with the General Court for special legislation authorizing the Selectboard to issue to Outlook Farm a license for the retail sale of wine and malt beverages to be consumed on the premises at 136 Main Road, as set forth below, provided however, that the General Court may make clerical and editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the Selectboard approves amendments to the bill prior to the enactment by the General Court, and to authorize the Selectboard to approve amendments which shall be within the public purposes of the petition, or take any other action relative thereto.

An Act Authorizing the Issuance of a Certain License for the Retail Sale of Wine and Malt Beverages to be Consumed on the Premises in the Town of Westhampton

Section 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 11, 12, 15, 15F, 17, 19B and 19C of chapter 138 of the general laws, or of any other general or special law to the contrary, the licensing authority of the Town of Westhampton is authorized to grant to the Outlook Farm, at 136 Main Road, Westhampton, provided that said owner meets all other requirements for the issuance of the license and holds a farmer winery and/or farmer brewery license issued by the commonwealth of Massachusetts under sections 19B and 19C of said chapter 138, a license for the retail sale of wine and malt beverages produced by or for said winery and brewery and sold under the winery and brewery brand name, poured by the glass, to be drunk on the premises. The license shall be

subject to all of said chapter 138 except as provided in this act. The licensing authority shall not approve the transfer of the license to any other applicant or to any other location.

Section 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

Motion made and seconded to move article as written

Brad Morse owner of Outlook Farm spoke on the benefits of having this permit for his business and the Town. Art Pichette explained that a Public Hearing had been held on this question prior to today's meeting. Outlook already has a license to sell their products which is allowed by the State ABCC under the right to farm. This legislative process may take up to a year before it would be active. This vote would allow the Selectboard to issue a permit that would allow Outlook to serve only beer and wine produced by them on their property. This is the only vote the Town has to approve or disapprove this question. The Selectboard can put restrictions on this permit. The permit will need to be reissued each year. Concern was raised that the permit should be issued to Brad and Jeffrey Morse not Outlook Farm.

Motion was made and seconded to amend the article and replace Outlook Farm with Bradford and Jeffrey Morse –

Moderator appointed John Zimmerman and John Robinson as tellers
Town Clerk swore them in.

Motion carried Yes 55 No 16 Abstentions 13

A request was made to have a paper ballot for the original motion –
Moderator called for a paper ballot.

Motion carried Yes 63 No 30

ARTICLE 21: To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to G.L. c.41, §21, to authorize the Selectboard to appoint a Board of Cemetery Commissioners, provided, however, that the Selectboard will not have authority to make such appointments unless and until the Town votes at the 2017 Annual Town Election to approve the same, or taken any other action relative thereto.

So moved and seconded – Motion carried

ARTICLE 22: To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Westhampton General Bylaws

Article 7- Miscellaneous Provisions, Section 9-1 Dog Regulations and revise the existing Sections

7-9-4, 7-9-5, 7-9-6, 7-9-9, 7-9-12, 7-9-13, 7-9-14, 7-9-15. Delete Sections 7-9-7 and 7-9-8. Add new Sections 7-9-15 and 7-9-16, as follows; or take any action relative thereto.

So moved and seconded motion carries

(A full copy of the amendments, as approved by the Attorney General, are posted on the town website and available at the Town Hall

RECAPITULATION

Article 6	Budget	1,995,785
Article 7	Hamp Reg HS Budget	1,097,496
Article 8	Hamp Reg HS Capital Debt	69,782
Article 9	Elementary School	1,583,294
Article 10	Vocational Tuition	341,900
Article 11	Vocational Transportation	55,820
Article 12	Financial Audit	7,000
Article 13	Paint Town Hall – Free Cash	30,000
Article 14	Unemployment	19,000

Total Raise and appropriate	5,200,077
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Discussion was held regarding people having a hard time hearing and would it be possible to get a sound system. The Selectboard believes we have a sound system and will look into getting it set up before next meeting.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the Town Meeting to Monday June 20, 2016 at 7:30 P.M. was made and seconded. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 1:15 P.M.

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING CONTINUED
JUNE 20, 2016
MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order by moderator Richard Tracy at 7:30 PM with a quorum present (39).

Explanation that Article 5 and Article 6 had been held due to question of salary increases.

Finance Committee wants a 1.5% increase for all employees that earn more than \$1,000.00

Selectboard wants a 2.5% increase for all employees that earn more than \$1,000.00

Article 5. - Motion was made and seconded to increase elected salaries that are more than \$1,000.00 by 2.5 % -

Motion was made and seconded to vote each item separately – Motion failed.

Moderator called for vote on original motion – motion carried

Meeting was recessed at 7:59 to convene STM. – Reopened meeting 8:28 PM

Article 6. - Motion was made and seconded to increase appointed salaries that are more than \$1,000.00 by 2.5 % - Motion carries

Motion was made and seconded an unanimously approved to dissolve the Annual Town Meeting at 8:43 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia W. Cotton
Town Clerk

NOTE: The final 2017 warrant will be posted at least seven days before the Annual Town Meeting, May 13 in the usual location and the town website. Copies will be available at the Town Hall prior to and at the meeting.

SALARIES FY2017/PROPOSED FY2018

All figures are annual unless otherwise noted

ELECTED OFFICIALS	FY2017	Proposed FY18
Selectboard 3 Chair/Others	1565/1357	1595/1395
Board of Assessors 3 Chair/Others	2871/2613	2996/2652
Board of Health 3 Chair/Others	125	500/350
Moderator	475	487
School Committee 5 Chair/Others	475/245	483/252
Tree Warden	625	641
 APPOINTED OFFICIALS		
Town Clerk	12,923	13,246
Town Accountant	15,075	15,452
Treasurer	15,075	15,452
Clerk, Bd. Registrars	100	100
Election Workers	9.29/hr.	11.00/hr.
Administrative Assistant	31,518	31,211
Tax Collector	15,075	15,452
Assessor Assistant	14,538	14,900
COA Coordinator	13.57/hr.	15.00/hr.
Animal Inspector	800	820
Animal Control Officer	1,665	1,707
Veterans Agent	1,696	1,738
Building Inspector/Commissioner	12,700	14,000
Wiring	30/inspection	30/inspection
Plumbing Inspectors	30/inspection	30/inspection
Cemetery Commissioners 3	0	150
 HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT		
Grade1A	24.38/hr.	24.98/hr.
Grade 1	23.36/hr.	23.96/hr.
Superintendent	63,226	64,807
Transfer Station Attendant	13.19/hr.	13.79/hr.
 LIBRARY Director	38,950	39,924
Staff Librarian	12.78/hr.	15.47/hr.
Custodian	11.32/hr.	11.21/hr.
Program Organizer	500	500
TOWN HALL Custodian	11.32/hr.	11.80/hr.
Snow Removal	17.38/hr.	17.81/hr.
	28,270	28,977
 POLICE CHIEF		
Officers – Regular	16.55/hr.	17.20/hr.
Sergeant	19.86/hr.	20.36/hr.
FIRE CHIEF	11,313	11,596
EMERGENCY MGT DIR	441	452
CEMETERY CARETAKER	6,190	6,345

PROPOSED BUDGET FISCAL 2018

GENERAL GOVERNMENT	FY2017	FY2018
Counsel Fees	20,000	20,000
Moderator	475	487
Selectboard Salary	4,279	4,385
Selectboard Expense	4,700	5,700
Administrative Assistant	31,518	32,306
Town Accountant Salary	15,075	15,452
Town Accountant Expense	3,865	3,800
Audit	7,000	7,000
Assessor Salary	8,097	8,300
Assessor Expense	11,600	11,600
Assessor Assistant	14,538	14,900
Treasurer Salary	15,075	15,452
Treasurer Expense	5,600	6,050
Tax Title Expense	3,500	2,500
Tax Collector Salary	15,075	15,452
Tax Collector Expense	14,820	14,820
Town Clerk Salary	12,923	13,246
Town Clerk Expense	5,300	5,000
Clerk, Board of Registrars	100	100
Conservation Commission	225	225
Zoning Board Expense	600	600
Planning Board Expense	300	300

HIGHWAYS

Highway Administration	4,750	4,750
Highway Salaries	215,294	220,676
Highway Materials	89,000	89,000
Road Machinery	41,701	41,700
Road Machinery Fuel	43,050	43,050
Snow Removal	85,000	90,000
Road Machinery Buildings	29,877	29,887
Transfer Station Expenses	55,550	51,550
Hilltown Resource Management Co	5,446	5,448

SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES

Hampshire Regional HS	1,097,496	1,143,862
HRHS Capital	69,782	67,148
Vocational Tuition	341,900	386,330
Vocational Transportation	55,820	56,396
Elementary School	1,583,294	1,622,086
School Committee Salary	1,455	1,490
Library	89,544	91,854

VETERANS

Veterans Expense	3,500	3,500
Veterans Agent Salary	1,696	1,738
Memorial Day	200	200
Cultural Council	75	75

CEMETERIES

Cemetery Salary	6,190	6,345
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PROT. OF PERS. & PROP.

Police Chief	28,270	28,977
Police Department	53,935	55,441
Fire Chief	11,313	11,596
Emergency Management Director	441	452
Fire Department	42,200	42,200
Safety Complex	14,925	14,925
Emergency Medical Services	17,000	17,000
Inspector Compensation	3,600	5,500
Building Inspector/Commiss Salary	12,390	14,000
Inspector Expense	1,375	1,280
Tree Warden Expense	2,000	2,000
Tree Warden Salary	625	641
Animal Inspector Salary	800	820
Animal Control Officer Salary	1,665	1,707
Animal Control Officer Expenses	700	700
Board of Health Salary	375	1,200
Board of Health Expense	500	500
Foothills Health District	16,507	16,507

DEBT AND INTEREST

Long Term Debt(hwygarage&fire truck)	152,000	145,000
Long Term Debt(hwy truck&schl roof)	83,000	95,000
Interest Long Term Debt	9,312	6,922

UNCLASSIFIED

Insurance & Bonds	82,550	83,375
Town Offices	27692	27,705
Town Hall paint	30,000	0
Information Technology Support	7,600	7,600
Council on Aging	3,025	3,025
COA Coordinator	2,336	2,593
Historical	1,200	1,200
County Retirement	165,568	186,914
Council of Governments	761	761
Pioneer Valley Planning Council	248	254
Unemployment (Art 13)	19,000	19,000

Group Insurance	348,500	390,000
OPEB Trust Fund	5,000	5,000
Medicare	28,375	27,000
Reserve Fund	10,000	10,000
Town Hall Paint	30,000	0
Feasibility Study	0	55,000
Ambulance	0	8,571
TOTAL	5,200,077	5,455,920

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