

ANNUAL
Official Reports
of the
Town of Petersham
MASSACHUSETTS



2007-2008

Town of Petersham – Annual Report

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LIST OF PETERSHAM TOWN OFFICERS

FY08

July 1, 2007, through June 30, 2008

ELECTED BOARDS AND OFFICERS

Moderator		Term Expires:
Richard Nickless		2008
Bart Wendell		2011
Town Clerk		
Diana Cooley		2009
Treasurer		
Dana Robinson		2011
Selectboard		
Alfred M. Berry, Vice-chair		2008
Nancy S. Allen, Chair		2009
Christine M. Durgin, Clerk		2010
Fredrik A. Marsh		2011
Tax Collector		
Virginia Newman		2009
Board of Assessors		
Dana W. Kennan, Chair		2009
Jean Robinson		2010
Fredrik A. Marsh		2011
Board of Health		
Doreen Frost		2009
Fifi Scoufopoulos, Chair		2010
Maryanne Forgues, Agent		2011
Philip Leger, Agent		2008
Susan Gatautis, Agent		2008
Mahar Regional School Committee		
Michael LeBlanc		2009
Dana W. Kennan		2010
Petersham Center School Committee		
Charles Berube		2009
Dana W. Kennan		2010
Laura Webber, Chair		2011

Planning Board

Marcia L. Shaw, Chair	2009
Stephen Herzog	2009
Bart Wendell, r 3/21/08	2010
John Lawson	2011
Fraser Sinclair	2011

Trustees of Public Library

Robert C. Hall, Jr.	2009
Ivan Ussach, r 6/30/08	2010
Annette Ermini	2011

Constables

Richard N. Bartus	2010
Denis N. Legare	2010
Larry Robinson	2010

APPOINTED POSITIONS**Term Expires:****Police Officers**

Scott Acito
 Ted A. Bassett, r 6/30/08
 Jeffrey R. Boyer, a 6/10/08
 Peter J. Buck
 Richard D. Cooley, Jr.
 Christopher P. Harrington, a 1/16/08
 Randy Horne
 Bruce Kilhart, r 12/31/07
 Denis N. Legare
 Robert Legare
 Jason Lichtenberger

Chief of Police

Denis N. Legare

Sergeant

Richard D. Cooley, Jr.

Auxiliary Police Officers (Special)

Larry Robinson

Police Officers (Special)

Joseph Camden, New Salem Police
 James Owens, Hardwick Police
 Richard Bartus, Petersham Police, retired
 Bruce Kilhart, Petersham Police, retired, a 1/1/08

Municipal Hearings Officer
Denis N. Legare

Dog Officer/Animal Control
Andrew Ohlson

Fire Chief
Dana Robinson

6/30/2009

Assistant Fire Chief
Ronald DeJackome

Deputy Fire Chief
Gilbert M. King, Jr.
Robert F. Laford

Tree Warden
Michael Leonard

6/30/2008

Deputy Tree Warden
Leslie Cooley

Superintendent of Streets
Norman LaPointe

6/30/2010

Town Accountant
Jean Joel

6/30/2009

Sexton
Gilbert M. King, Jr.

Custodian
Neil Legare

Emergency Management Director
Denis N. Legare

Asst. Emergency Management Director
Norman LaPointe

Forest Warden
Dana Robinson

Deputy Forest Warden
Gilbert M. King, Jr.
Robert D. Legare

Robert F. Laford
Ronald DeJackome

Director of Veterans' Services, Veteran's Agent, and Burial Agent
Neil McGuirk
Appt. through District
Board

Graves Registration Officer
Gilbert M. King, Jr.
6/30/2010

Zoning Board of Appeals
Robert Paquet 2008
Ellen Anderson, Chair 2009
Brian MacEwen 2009
Don Eaton, Alternate 2009
James Ermini, Alternate 2009

Custodian of Tax Title Possessions
Dana Robinson

Inspector of Animals
David Perkins

Asst. Inspector of Animals
Andrew Ohlson

Inspector of Buildings
Brianna Skowyra
6/30/2009

Local Building Inspector
Ralph Brouillette

Electrical Inspector
Gary Terroy

Asst. Electrical Inspector
Glenn Tattan

Gas Inspector
Michael Schlosser

Plumbing Inspector
Gerald Brousseau

Alternate Plumbing Inspector
John Dolan

ADA Coordinator
Brianna Skowyra

Transfer Station Monitor
Tim Comisky

Town Counsel
Kopelman and Paige

TOWN COMMITTEES

Board of Registrars

Diana Cooley, Clerk
Ellen G. Moriarty /D/

Barbara M. Nickless /R/
Helen E. Simms /R/

Affordable Housing Plan Committee

Ellen Anderson
James Ermini
Marcia L. Shaw
Clinton A. Shaw

1 year term

Bandstand Decoration Committee

Danielle Stair
Melissa Sault
Kate Tattan
Glenn Tattan

1 year term

Bandstand Renovation and Maintenance Committee

Nancy Allen (resident)
Emily Arnold (resident)
James Baird (resident and Petersham Historical Society President)
John Berry (resident and contractor)
George Bull (resident and Petersham Lions Club member)
Gilbert M. King, Jr. (resident)
Robert Legare (resident and contractor), r 3/14/08

1 year term

Buildings and Sites Committee

No appointments to date

1 year term

By-laws Revision Committee

James Ermini
Richard Nickless

1 year term

Capital Improvement Planning Committee

Nancy S. Allen (Selectboard)
John Anderson (Citizen at large appointed by Moderator)
Charles Berube (Petersham Center School Committee), a 3/11/08
David Davis (Advisory Finance Committee)
John Lawson (Planning)
Rebecca Legare (Citizen at large appointed by Moderator)
Dana Robinson (Treasurer)

Cemetery Commission

Kenneth Levine

3 year term
2008

Ruth Robinson	2008
George Brunelle, r 4/22/08	2009
Jan Bedau, Chair	2009
Michael Huppert	2009
Samantha Tomlin, a 4/22/08	2009
Glenede Albertine, a 9/18/07	2010
Gilbert M. King, Jr.	2010
Conservation Commission	3 year term
John Baker	2008
Heidi Lux	2008
Ivan Ussach, r 6/30/08	2008
David Perkins	2009
Henry Woolsey	2009
Robert Clark, Chair	2010
Thomas Webber	2010
Council on Aging	3 year term
Gilbert M. King, Jr.	2008
John LePoer, r 2/29/08	2008
Anne Hyde	2009
Linda King, r 11/1/07	2009
Barbara Amidon	2010
Elizabeth Marsh	2010
Janice Olson	2010
Mary Russell	2010
Charlotte Kennan, Treasurer	2011
Council on Aging FRTA Advisory Board	1 year term
Charlotte Kennan	
Cultural Council (Petersham)	6 year term
Jane Lynch-Gilbert	2010
Donna Schlosser	2011
Kathleen Geary	2012
Linda Kabo	2012
Lisa Payne	2012
Sandra Whaley	2012
Emergency Management Ambulance Committee	1 year term
Gilbert M. King Jr.	
Denis Legare	
Dana Robinson	
Emergency Management Planning Committee	1 year term
John Anderson	
Norman LaPointe, Asst. Director	
Denis Legare, Director	

Dana Robinson
Lynne Shaw, Consultant

Energy Committee, a 6/10/08

1 year term

Kathy Ballou
Elizabeth Davis
Julian Hadley
Kenneth Levine
Richard Matteson
Linda Paquet, Chair

Forest and Shade Tree Committee

1 year term

Stephen Herzog
Melissa Levangie
Michael Leonard, non-voting
Thomas Webber
Sheila Youd

Health/Town Insurance Committee

1 year term

George Bull
Peter Richardson

Historic District Commission/Historical Commission

5 year term

Robert Clark, Chair	2009
Polly Pillsbury	2009
Annette Ermini	2010
Marcia L. Shaw	2010
Nancy S. Allen, Vice-chair	2011
Douglas Cameron	2012
Peter George, a 2/12/08	2013

Master Plan Committee

1 year term

Ellen Anderson
Alan Bachrach
James Baird
Alfred M. Berry
Charles Berube
Larry Buell
Stephen Herzog
Ronald DeJackome
John Lawson
Richard McCrae
Irene Perkins
Fifi Scoufopoulos
Lynn Shaw
Fraser Sinclair
Bart Wendell, r 3/21/08
Henry Woolsey

Memorial Park and Common Committee

1 year term

Emily Arnold
Rexine Barnes
Ruth Bassingthwaite
George Brunelle

Nichewaug Inn Task Force, a 3/1/08

1 year term

Ellen Anderson
Robert Bellefeuille
Gus Block
Alfred M. Berry
Charles Berube
Larry Buell
Christine Durgin
James Ermini
Ann Lewis, Chair
William Littlefield
William Mahoney
Fredrik Marsh
Richard McCrae
Robert Paquet
Ann Townsend
Henry Woolsey

Open Space and Recreation Committee

1 year term

Emery Boose
Robert Clark
David Davis
Clinton Shaw
Henry Woolsey

Parking Committee

1 year term

Alfred M. Berry
Robert Day, r 6/30/08
Denis N. Legare
Michael Lundquist
Brian MacEwen
Polly Pillsbury, r 6/30/08
Larry Robinson

Personnel Policy Review Committee

1 year term

George Bull, non-voting, Town Health Insurance Committee rep
Richard D. Cooley, Jr., Police
Leslie Cooley, Highway
Ann Degnan, citizen-at-large
Christine Durgin, Selectboard
Peter Richardson, non-voting, Town Health Insurance Committee rep
Dana Robinson, Fire

Police Building Committee 1 year term
Richard D. Cooley, Jr.
Denis N. Legare
James Patrick

Rt. 122 Scenic By-way Steering Committee 1 year term
Alfred M. Berry
Anne Perkins

Tax-exempt Committee 1 year term
Richard Nickless, a 9/25/07, r 6/30/08
Vincent J. Purple, a 9/11/07, r 6/30/08
Martha Siccardi, a 9/11/07
V. Edward Simms, a 9/11/07, r 6/30/08

APPOINTED BY THE MODERATOR

Advisory Finance Committee
James Regan 7/31/2009
Ross France 7/31/2010
Frederick Richards 7/31/2010
Robert Bellefeuille 7/31/2011
David Davis, Chair 7/31/2011

Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School
V. Edward Simms

Petersham Regional School District Planning Committee
Charles Berube
Michael LeBlanc
Gary Orcutt, Chair

BOARD OF HEALTH

July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008

The Board of Health has maintained full membership of three and a part-time administrative assistant, which allows us to carry out our responsibilities. Phil Leger continues to act as our Health Agent. The Board of Health holds office hours in the Town Office Building on Mondays (except holidays) from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. The Board also has meeting twice a month on the first and third Thursdays.

The responsibilities of the Board include the review of applications and monitoring of new and repair of septic systems, well monitoring and new well permits and inspections of all food establishments and health facilities inspections for compliance with state laws. We also follow-up on transmittable diseases.

We are a member of the BT Region II Public Health Coalition and the Massachusetts Association of Health Boards.

We continue to assist the selectboard with the operation of the Transfer Station and are still part of the North Central Regional Solid Waste Cooperative.

The Board of Health is responsible for the Public Health portion of the Emergency Management Programs. This is to ensure compliance with the Department of Homeland Security.

A rabies clinic was held in collaboration with the Town Clerk, Animal Control Officer, Highway Department and a local veterinarian and his staff. Dogs and cats were vaccinated and the donations given to support our new animal shelter at the Town Barn.

Local Board of Health Duties

A. Septic System Regulations

Site Work	9
Plan Reviews	10
Repair	12
New	5
Inspections	32
Compliances	15
System Installer Permits	3
System Haulers Permits	2
B. Private Well Permits	2
C. Public Well Monitoring	5
D. Sanitary Code Violations	2

E. Food Operations

Establishment Inspections	11
F. Temporary Food Permits	5
G. Food Born Illness Investigations	0
H. Bacterial Illness Investigations	2
I. Animal Bite Reports Monitored	2
J. Rec. Camp Inspections	0
K. Asbestos Removal Monitoring	2
L. Tobacco Sales Reports	0
M. Body Art Licenses	0
N. Massage Licenses	1
O. Housing Inspections	0
P. Outdoor Wood Burning Boiler permits	5

The Board of Health would like to thank the other Town Boards, Department Heads and the Town's Residents for their assistance in promoting the work of the Board as it pertains to the health of our community.

Fifi Scoufopoulos, Chairperson ♦ Mary Anne Forgues
Doreen Frost



*Town of
Petersham, Massachusetts 01366-0486*

OFFICE OF THE SELECTBOARD

Report of the Selectboard for FY2008, July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008

Fiscal year 2008 was an active year.

TOWN OFFICE AND TOWN HALL ADA HANDICAP ACCESS PROJECT

The ADA Improvement Advisory Committee, composed of Selectboard members Nancy Allen and Alf Berry with Gil King, Jr., continued work on handicap compliance with the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission. In July 2007, the Committee recommended hiring Margo Jones Architects (of Greenfield, for architectural design services to implement the Phase 2 'Design and Construction Documents' portion of the project. The balance of the summer and fall was spent working on design, engineering, and financing plans. A deadline of February 2008 was in place as the CDBG grant application deadline for the final Phase 3 'Construction.' A Special Town Meeting was held in November 2007 whereby the voters approved debt exclusion funding of \$225,000 to be matched by a \$1,000,000 CDBG grant to upgrade the Town Office including handicap access, new restrooms, and expanded space. In the follow-on Ballot Election of December 2007, the voters did not approve the debt exclusion. The project concluded with all plans in hand, but no ability to proceed to the construction phase.

POLICE STATION PROJECT

During the course of the year, the Police Building Committee provided project updates to the Selectboard and both groups worked together on budget development. The Police Committee, working with Lynne Shaw, applied for a state EOPS construction funding grant and in the fall was awarded \$131,0000 towards the project. This figure was added to the \$165,000 already appropriated by the local taxpayers. At the recommendation of the Police Committee, the town hired Reinhardt Associates of Agawam, MA, as architects for the project. In May 2008, Diversified Construction of Belchertown, MA, was awarded the construction project.

NICHEWAUG INN / SISTERS OF THE ASSUMPTA ACADEMY PROPERTY – TOWN CENTER

The Town closed on the property at 25 Common Street in August, 2007. The Selectboard held a ceremonial Closing on the property grounds with many residents in attendance along with special guests including a half dozen historical figures from the Town's past. During the fall 2007, the Selectboard worked in conjunction with the Police Chief, Fire Chief, Building Inspector, and Highway Dept. to secure the property. In spring 2008, the Selectboard appointed an eighteen-member Nichewaug Inn Task Force composed of a Steering Committee; Planning, Use & Design Committee; Buildings & Property Committee; Finance & Grants Committee; and a Communications Committee.

DAVENPORT PROPERTY – DOE VALLEY ROAD

A portion of the property will be conserved through funding provided by the U.S. Forest Legacy Program as administered by Mount Grace Land Trust (MGLT). A property appraisal and survey were required as part of the process. Numerous meetings and site visits were held during the course of the year including with the Planning Board, Conservation Commission, the former Davenport III Committee, and MGLT. In fall 2007, review of a conservation restriction agreement for the property began in conjunction with Conservation Commission and Open Space & Recreation Committee. The property was sub-divided into three designated parcels for conservation, municipal use, and auction. At June 2008 Town Meeting, voters approved proceeding with the land partition.

GOULD WOODLOT PROPERTY – NORTH MAIN STREET

In July 2007, the Selectboard gave approval to the Conservation Commission and Open Space & Recreation Committee's recommendation to apply for a state 'Self-Help Grant' to conserve 87 acres in northern Petersham in conjunction with East Quabbin Land Trust and Harvard Forest. The Self-Help grant was awarded in fall of 2007 and provided the funding for the land to be preserved at no cost to the local taxpayers. A Town Meeting vote followed in November 2007, whereby voters approved acceptance of the grant. Work proceeded on the conservation restriction agreement for the property with the Selectboard, Conservation Commission, assisted by East Quabbin Land Trust.

HERITAGE LANDSCAPE INVENTORY PROGRAM

In January 2008, the Selectboard signed a Memorandum of Agreement to participate in the state's Dept. of

Conservation and Recreation's Heritage Landscape Inventory Program with fourteen other regional towns. The goals of the program are to help communities identify a wide range of landscape resources, particularly those that are significant and unprotected, and to provide strategies for preserving heritage landscapes. The project proceeded with community input with the final Reconnaissance Report submitted in late spring highlighting five sections of town.

SPECIAL TOWN MEETINGS AND SPECIAL BALLOT ELECTIONS

A Special Town Meeting was held on October 22, 2007. Due to lack of quorum, the Meeting was continued to Oct. 25. The Warrant contained Articles for transfer of funds to affect the 2007 tax rate and reduce the 2008 tax levy.

A Special Town Meeting was held on November 22., 2007. The Warrant contained Articles seeking approval to fund \$200,0000 via debt exclusion for handicap access and other upgrades to the Town Office building; acceptance of a Self-Help Grant in the amount of \$275,200 for conservation of the "Gould Woodlot;" and transfer of funds within the Fire Dept. A special follow-on Ballot Election was held on December 17, 2007 to determine funding for the Handicap Access Project. The majority vote was in the negative to not approve the request for \$225,000.

ALSO OF NOTE

- The Office of the Selectboard in conjunction with Petersham Historical Society honored the town's oldest resident, Myra Cobb Dugan, who turned age 97 on December 1.
- The Selectboard supported the 'Regional Housing Rehabilitation Program,' and 'First-Time Homebuyer Program,' offered for residents and as provided by a CDBG grant in tandem with Athol, Phillipston, and Royalston.
- The Board approved the North Quabbin Loan Fund project designed to offer loans to small businesses of the area.
- The Selectboard was pleased to acknowledge the volunteer work of the members of the Council on Aging with 15 volunteers providing 1,7033 hours of service valued at \$26,206 to the town.
- The Selectboard acknowledged volunteer construction work and fundraising by dedicated local residents for a new Stray Animal Shelter near the Highway Barn.
- The Selectboard was pleased to nominate Fifi Scoufopoulos to represent Petersham for the Mass. Commission on Women's 'Unsung Heroine of the Year' in recognition of her steadfast volunteer work for the town.
- Alf Berry and Christine Durgin represented the Selectboard at a 6th grade Center School class on the subject of local government and civic responsibility.
- The Selectboard received approval of their request from MassHighway to allow installation of a permanent handicap ramp on the state owned land in front of the Town Office building.
- The Board signed a maintenance easement for access around the town-owned one room schoolhouse, the Fourth District Ledgeville School on East Street.
- In spring 2008, Requests for Bids specifications were released for painting of the Town Hall exterior. Alpha Contracting of Dedham, MA, was awarded the job. Whittier Plumbing of Orange, MA, was awarded the job to upgrade the Town Hall kitchen sink to meet mandated health code compliance.
- The Selectboard worked with the Tree Warden, Conservation Commission, and Police Dept. on the investigation of an illegal timber harvest of over one hundred trees from town property and ensuing wetlands violations on the Poor Farm Road trail through the Country Club.
- The Office of the Selectboard began selling transfer station bags at several additional locations around town for the convenience of residents.
- The Selectboard continued work reviewing the town's Personnel Policy and human resource matters.
- The Selectboard hosted a Finance Departments Meeting in December and an Interdepartmental Meeting in March. A 'Candidates' Night' was held in February so residents could hear from candidates prior to March town elections.

THANK YOU

In March 2008, Selectman Alfred Berry decided to not run for re-election after serving three terms on the Selectboard. The Board is grateful to Alf for his dedicated service and commitment to the community.

Town Moderator Dick Nickless decided to not run for re-election after serving the town for forty-eight consecutive years. Many, many thanks to Dick from us, and from all of the Selectboards with whom he served.

Lastly, we thank all Town staff and departments for their work throughout the year. We are very grateful for the dedicated efforts of many volunteer Committees and individuals. Their service is invaluable – our sincere thanks.

Respectfully submitted, PETERSHAM SELECTBOARD ~
 Nancy S. Allen, *Chair*
 Christine J. Durgin, *Vice Chair*
 Fredrick Marsh, *Clerk*

Cemetery Commission

July 2007 – June 2008

The Cemetery Commission meets at 7:30 P.M. on the second Thursday of each month in the upstairs conference room of the Town Office building to proceed with its responsibilities of selling of cemetery lots, overseeing the maintenance of Petersham's nine cemeteries, facilitating burials, and maintaining and updating records. Gilbert King serves as sexton. Glenede Albertine and Sandra Tomlin are new members on the Cemetery Commission.

The Cemetery Commission is progressing with projects to maintain and repair the town's cemeteries. During visits to the cemeteries, members marked stones with tape at East Street Cemetery and West Road Cemetery which were noted to be unsafe. Gilbert King met with Athol Granite Works to have several stones repaired within budget and time constraints. Members of the Cemetery Commission along with students fulfilling community service from the Key Club at Mahar Regional High School began the repainting of the picket fence at East Street Cemetery. Barnes Landscaping is contracted to maintain the cemetery grounds. The restoration of the Hearse House requires the support of many to preserve this historic structure in memory of Delight Haines. The Cemetery Commission proceeds with research into funding through grants.

The maintenance, organization, and updating of records continue to be major projects for the Cemetery Commission members. Much time is spent by Ruth Robinson and Gil King researching to fulfill requests for genealogical information. Work continues on the development of a database and digital mapping. Members have met with the Petersham Historical Society and genealogy researchers to determine not only how to organize information but also what information is helpful to researchers. Some members have joined the Association for Gravestone Studies. The Association's tour of Petersham's Center Cemetery in June 2008 gave details about the Aaron Whitney, Miles, and Flint monuments.

Cemetery Commission, June 30, 2008

Jan Bedau, Chairperson

Gilbert King, Sexton

Glenede Albertine

Michael Huppert

Kenneth Levine

Ruth Robinson

Sandra Tomlin

PETERSHAM COUNCIL ON AGING ANNUAL REPORT
FY JULY 1, 2007 – JUNE 30, 2008

Mission Statement: Petersham's Council on Aging dedicates itself to addressing concerns of the sixty year and older population.

We are an all volunteer organization. Funds to promote this objective came from an annual grant of \$3,300 from the Executive Office of Elder Affairs, a grant of \$750 from the Town of Petersham and services from Franklin County Home Care Corp. (HCHCC) and Franklin Regional Transit Authority, (FRTA).

Changes in the Council on Aging Board for F/Y 07-08 include the resignation of our Chairman, Linda King in January, 2008. Linda has been a vital part of the COA's energy and focus. She has written our grants, served as liaison with outside agencies and organized our activities with great care and dedication to the seniors of Petersham. She is sorely missed. John LePoer resigned as Secretary after many years of dedicated service in multiple roles. He is truly a man for all seasons. Ruth Bassingthwaite joined the Board as Secretary in June. Her well honed writing skills have added a spark of humor to our meetings and minutes. We are still looking for a Chairman. We meet every second Monday of the month at 10:30 in the Lower Town Hall. Please join us. Our current officers are:

Janice Olson, Vice Chairman
Ruth Bassingthwaite, Secretary
Charlotte Kennan, Treasurer

The Council's Senior Transportation Program has provided an on-call or on-demand program through the Franklin Regional Transit Authority. Rides for shopping, medical and legal appointments have been provided for the over 60 population that have no other access to transportation. F/Y 07-08 had 7 different riders for a total of 1,194 miles and 70 hours of driving at a cost of \$597.00. Drivers use their own cars and receive partial reimbursement through the FRTA. Charlotte Kennan is Petersham's representative to the FRTA.

The Monday Luncheon Club through the FCHCC's Meals-on-Wheels Program is in its 14th year. John LePoer has passed the job of Site Manager to Mary Russell. Mary has been a resourceful and creative manager. Catered meals arrive at the Town Hall site and are reheated and presented to the seniors. Mary, Ann Hyde, Barbara Amidon and Betty Marsh come together every Monday morning to prepare and serve the meals. This year 1,065 meals were served on 40 Mondays. The volunteers that provide this service comply with the requirements of the Massachusetts Department of Health and the Petersham Board of Health. Mary has worked hard and has received a State Serve-Safe Certificate. Training sessions are also held for all the meal site volunteers. Our meal site also has been up-dated by the town with the addition of 2 more sinks to meet the requirements mandated by the Board of Health. We are an approved site. We recommend a donation of \$2.00 for lunch. To reserve a meal, please call Gill King at 978-724-3276 on Friday for a lunch on Monday. However drop-ins are welcome.

The COA newsletter, underwritten by the EOE is sent to all Petersham residents 60 years and older. The newsletter has a calendar of local activities, senior program notices, monthly meal site menus, health and legal advisories. It is published on a 10 month basis.

A review of the programs and activities highlighted in this year's newsletters included:

- The Exercise Program for seniors consisted of two 10 week sessions led by YMCA instructors at the Center School on Mondays and Fridays from 9:00 to 10:00 am
- Distribution of the "File of Life" forms from the Petersham Police department
- Blood Pressure Clinic held on the first Monday of the month in the Lower town Hall at 11:45 am. Thank you Sheri D'Annolfo, Center School Nurse
- Welcome letters to all new residents over 60 listing all services, programs and resources available to them.
- Ann Hyde arranged trips to the Big E, Mystic, CT and the Northshore Theater.
- Diabetic/Cholesterol Screening Clinic – Sept. 24, '07
- Housing Rehabilitation Program/Grant – Oct. 15, '07
- East Quabbin Land Trust Seminar – Oct. 29, '07
- Respiratory Infections, Athol Memorial Hospital – Oct. 22, '07
- Town Handicap Access Project Information – Nov. 5, '07
- Lions Senior Holiday Luncheon – Dec. 17, '07
- Volunteer Recognition Luncheon

The Council wishes to thank:

- The Center School for sharing their gym and their fantastic chorus that entertained us at the Lion's Christmas lunch.
- The Board of Selectmen for their support in all the COA's activities.
- Dale Bull, Administrative Coordinator for all her assistance in printing the newsletter and coordinating the use of the Town Hall.
- Norman LaPointe for keeping the walkway clear for us and for trash removal.
- A big thank you to all those unsung volunteers who have kept us going.

Respectfully submitted,
Council on Aging Board Members

Janice Olson, Vice Chairman
Ruth Bassingthwaite, Secretary
Charlotte Kennan, Treasurer
Mary Russell, Site Manager

Barbara Amidon
Ann Hyde
Gil King
Betty Marsh

DOG OFFICER ANNUAL REPORT

The year 2008 was a good year in the Town of Petersham. We boarded 9 dogs during the year and found owners and new homes for all of them.

I would like to thank the Police Department for their efforts in covering my position when it was not possible for me to do so. I would like to thank the residents of Petersham who licensed in a timely manner. This made the year run smoother.

I responded to approximately 50 complaints during the year and hopefully solved the problem at hand for all the residents involved. The year had more complaints from residents which means everyone has not been abiding by the By-laws.

Construction of a new kennel facility is underway from an account set up for the Dog Officer from donations given. The donations from the rabies clinic for the past few years have made the construction of the new dog kennel possible. I would like to thank all the Town departments which made the annual rabies clinic a great success. I would like to thank Dr. Alan Bachrach and his wife Debra for providing their time, vaccinations, expertise and donations to make this kennel project a success. I would also like to thank those who donated money, time and expertise for the project to move forward. The new account has grown again this year and will continue to fund expenses needed for the new facility.

In conclusion, it has been a great year as Dog Officer and I will continue to answer complaints and enforce the Massachusetts General Laws and Town By-laws in the up-coming year. I will strive to place as many strays in new homes or with their owners as possible.

I am also reminding residents to vaccinate their animals and license them early to avoid the citation process in the upcoming year. Dogs are to be licensed by January 1 of each year.

- 9 Dog boarded
- 0 Dogs humanely euthanized
- 50 Complaints responded to for dogs at large
- 4 Excessive barking complaints
- 0 Animals struck by automobiles
- 3 Dogs rescued found new homes
- 6 Dogs found rightful owners

- 4 Animal Control-related complaints for wild animals
- 10 Complaints unfounded
- 23 Citations issued for failure to license dogs
- 3 Citations issued for failure to restrain dogs
- 6 Warnings issued for allowing dogs to run at large
- 2 Kennel inspections
- 1 Animal bites
- 1 Legal order issued to keep dogs restrained or confined

Andrew S. Ohlson
Petersham Dog Officer
Animal Control Officer
Asst. Inspector of Animals
978-544-6441

Special Town Election
December 17, 2007

Shall the Town of Petersham be allowed to exempt from the Provisions of Proposition Two and One-half, so-called, the amount required to pay for the bonds to be issued in order to finance the removal of handicap barriers and implementation of Americans With Disabilities Act improvements and subsequent required building code upgrades to the Petersham Town Office Building, Assessors' Map Parcel Number 26, located at 3 South Main Street, including necessary design, engineering, construction, and other costs incidental and related thereto, as voted under Article 5 of the warrant for the Special Town Meeting held November 19, 2007.

Yes – 58

No - 102

907 REGISTERED VOTERS
537 VOTES CAST

PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY
FEBRUARY 5, 2008

59% TURNOUT

<u>DEMOCRAT - 321 VOTES</u>		<u>REPUBLICAN - 215 VOTES</u>	
<u>PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE</u>		<u>PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE</u>	
JOHN R. EDWARDS	5	JOHN MCCAIN	91
HILLARY CLINTON	118	FRED THOMPSON	
JOSEPH R. BIDEN, JR.		TOM TANCREDO	
CHRISTOPHER J. DODD		DUNCAN HUNTER	
MIKE GRAVEL		MIKE HUCKABEE	15
BARACK OBAMA	196	MITT ROMNEY	94
DENNIS J. KUCINICH	1	RON PAUL	13
BILL RICHARDSON		RUDY GIULIANI	1
		OTHERS	1
BLANKS	1	BLANKS	
<u>STATE COMMITTEE MAN</u>		<u>STATE COMMITTEE MAN</u>	
WILLIAM R. SHEMETH III	203	WILLIAM L. BROWN, JR.	126
BLANKS		BLANKS	89
<u>STATE COMMITTEE WOMAN</u>		<u>STATE COMMITTEE WOMAN</u>	
LAURA LEAH JETTE	206	JANET GARON	12
BLANKS		OTHERS	3
		BLANKS	200
<u>TOWN COMMITTEE</u>		<u>TOWN COMMITTEE</u>	
OTHERS	8	GROUP	
BLANKS	6211	NANCY L. BAKER	118
		ELLEN C. BURNHAM	129
		PETER B. BUNHAM	132
		KATHARINE P. DODD	123
		JANE R. HEIN	124
		CHARLOTTE B. KENNAN	133
		OLIVE R. KUNIHOLM	126
		SANDRA B. LARSON	123
		CAROLYN MAY	131
		BARBARA M. NICKLESS	145
		RICHARD L. NICKLESS	145
		RUTH B. ROBINSON	138
		OTHERS	1
		BLANKS	5957
<u>WORKING FAMILIES</u>			
<u>PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE</u>		<u>STATE COMMITTEE MAN</u>	
BLANKS		BLANKS	1
<u>STATE COMMITTEE MAN</u>		<u>STATE COMMITTEE WOMAN</u>	
BLANKS		BLANKS	1
<u>STATE COMMITTEE WOMAN</u>		<u>TOWN COMMITTEE</u>	
BLANKS		BLANKS	1
<u>TOWN COMMITTEE</u>			
BLANKS			
<u>GREEN-RAINBOW</u>			
<u>PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE</u>		<u>STATE COMMITTEE MAN</u>	
JARED BALL		BLANKS	1
RALPH NADER		<u>STATE COMMITTEE WOMAN</u>	
ELAINE BROWN		BLANKS	1
KAT SWIFT		<u>TOWN COMMITTEE</u>	
CYNTHIA MCKINNEY		BLANKS	1
KENT MESPLAY			
BLANKS	1		

Annual Town Election
March 3, 2008

Moderator – 3 years
Bart Wendell 121
Dick Nickless 34
Others 3
Blanks 67

Board of Selectmen – 3 years
Marcia Maglione Flynn 79
Frederik A. Marsh 129
Blanks 17

Treasurer – 3 years
Dana C. Robinson 192
Blanks 33

Board of Assessors – 3 years
Frederik A. Marsh 169
Blanks 46

Board of Health – 3 years
Maryann Forgues 195
Others 30

Petersham School Comm. – 3 years
Laura B. Webber 155
Others 7
Blanks 63

Petersham School Comm. – 2 years
Dana W. Kennan 164
Others 1
Blanks 60

Trustees of Public Library – 3 years
Annette Ermini 59
Others 7
Blanks 159

Planning Board – 3 years
VOTE FOR 2
John Lawson 155
Donald O'Neil 61
D. Fraser Sinclair 142
Blanks 92



Petersham Fire Department

Petersham, Massachusetts 01366

Report of the Petersham Fire Department Fiscal Year 2008

To the Citizens of Petersham:

Below is the report of the activity of the Petersham Fire Department for the Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2008. During the Fiscal Year the department responded to 75 calls, an increase from the previous year of 74 requests. The nature of the calls for assistance is outlined below.

Structure Fires	1
Chimney Fires	4
Brush Fires	3
Automobile Accidents	11
Medical Emergencies	20
Carbon Monoxide Alarms	3
Wires Down/Arcing	4
Alarm Activation – No Fire	9
Investigate Lightning Strike	1
Hazardous Materials Investigation	2
School Bus Problem	2
Cellars Pumped	2
Stand-by at Station – Radio Problem	1
Stove Fire	1
Burning without a Permit	1
Good Intent Call	1
Smoke Investigation	1
Mutual Aid	<u>8</u>
Total Calls	75

Inspections and Permits Issued

Smoke and CO Detector Inspections	18
Oil Burner Permits	24
Propane Storage Permits	16
Oil Tank Truck Permits	1
Liquor License Renewal Inspections	5
Brush Burning Permits Issued	345
Sprinkler Installation Permit	1

During Fiscal Year 2008 the Fire and Police Departments replaced their Automatic Defibrillators with funds voted at the Annual Town Meeting. The replacement was necessary due to changes in EMS protocols and the age of our old units which were unable to be reprogrammed. The new units that were purchased are compatible with the equipment that Athol Fire has on their Ambulances. In addition, we were able to purchase two additional units that will be placed in public buildings. The Board of Health also received an additional defib unit through the Worcester County Board of Health with a storage cabinet that will be installed in the Town Hall.

The Department received \$3,900.00 through the State Firefighters Equipment Grant Program during the year. These funds were used to purchase a new 250 GPM portable pump that replaced a similar pump that was close to 50 years old. The grant also allowed us to purchase 2 new GPS devices complete with maps.

Once again we applied for funding under the Federal Assistance to Firefighters Grant program, seeking to replace our 1960 Tanker. Unfortunately, under the definitions used in the grant program, our two engines and two tankers fall in the same category so the grant reviewers disqualify our request because we have too many of the "Same type" of vehicle and too small of a call volume. Even though the stated goal of the vehicle acquisition program is to remove from service vehicles not originally built as fire apparatus.

The Fire Department meets on the First and Third Wednesdays of the month at 7:00 P.M. Any resident interested in joining the Fire Department is encouraged to contact the Chief. New firefighters with and without experience are welcome. Training is provided during bi-monthly meetings and free training opportunities are available nearby that are sponsored by the Mass. Fire Academy.

Firefighters Cory Bourque and Scott Churchill, completed the Fire Fighter Training class that was hosted in Barre. Both are to be commended for the time they invested in receiving this valuable training. Most department members were recertified in CPR and the use of Automatic Defibrillators.

Again this year the department visited the Center School and the Montessori School during Fire Prevention Week. We also sponsored a Fire Prevention Poster Contest at the Center School with the winners in each grade receiving a ride to school in a Fire Truck. Thanks to school nurse Sherri D'Anolfo for her help coordinating the contest.

Finally, I would like to thank the families of the firefighters for their support of our public safety mission here in Petersham. I also wish to thank the Police and Highway departments for their continued support and cooperation. Good working relationships pay dividends during emergencies.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dana C. Robinson, Fire Chief

ANNUAL REPORT
July 1, 2007– June 30, 2008

CHAPTER 90 WORK

Birch Drive was repaved and the intersection with Rte 122 was reconstructed. New Athol Road had 800' of sub-drain installed in preparation for a new surface. Cold patch was made to level New Athol Road.

GENERAL HIGHWAY ACCOUNT

A new culvert 15"x25' was installed on Nelson Road. Two new drop inlets and 450' of 12" pipe were installed on Nichewaug Road to fix a drainage problem.

Many washouts were repaired throughout Town. Hundreds of dead trees were also removed around Town. A cement pad for the new dog kennel was poured in front of the Town Barn. Large rocks on the sides of the roads were removed at various locations. Dirt roads were regraded, gravel was added as needed. All paved roads were swept of winter sand. The Academy Building was secured with plywood over a seven-week period in the fall.

SNOW ACCOUNT

The unusually severe winter used 565 tons of salt and over 2,000 yards of sand. I would like to thank everyone who helped out over this past year.

Respectfully submitted,

Norman LaPointe
Highway Superintendent

David Perkins
45 Maple Lane, Petersham, MA 01366
phone 978-724-3417

Inspector of Animals
2008

I have inspected the animals on 55 premises in Petersham, and have found the animals well cared for and the facilities in good condition.

1. Cattle - dairy	52
2. Cattle – beef	76
3. Horses/ Ponies	124
4. Goats	40
5. Sheep	107
6. Poultry	246
7. Llamas/ Alpacas	76
8. Stables	1

Three dogs and one cat were quarantined this year.

Animal bites should be reported to the Animal Inspector, and animals will be quarantined for ten days before being released by the Animal Inspector.



Town of Petersham
Brianna Skowyra - Inspector of Buildings
3 South Main Street
P.O. Box 486

Petersham, MA 01366-0486
Office 978-724-3586 Fax 978-724-3501

Inspector of Buildings Report

July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008

<u>Category</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Building Permits	87	\$ 12247.40
Wood /pellet stoves/inserts	3	\$ 75.00

Building Permits

4 New Homes	3 Decks and Porches
2 Additions	29 Roof and Siding
1 Animal Shelter	5 Remodels
11 Barns/Garages/Sheds	5 Repairs
1 Sugar Shack	2 Pools
24 Other	

Office Hours are held every Monday (except Holidays) from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the Town Office Building.

Respectfully Submitted,
Brianna Skowyra
Inspector of Buildings

At the Special Town Meeting held on October 22, 2007, at which a quorum was not achieved, it was voted to adjourn the Special Town Meeting to October 25, 2007, at 7:30 p.m.

At the Special Town Meeting held on October 25, 2007, at 7:30 p.m., at which a quorum was present, the following was voted:

Special Town Meeting

October 22, 2007

7:30 p.m.

Petersham Town Hall

Article 1.

To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$17,000.00 from the Affordable Housing Consultant Account, as was established by vote under Article 39 of the Warrant for the 2005 Annual Town Meeting, to the Stabilization Fund, or act in relation thereto.

RESULTS: The Town voted to transfer \$17,000.00 from the Affordable Housing Consultant Account to the Stabilization Fund.
2/3's vote required. Voted Unanimously

Article 2.

To see if the Town will vote to take from the Stabilization Fund, or from amounts appropriated for other purposes, appropriate from available funds, borrow, or any combination thereof, a sum not to exceed \$65,000.00 for the purpose of affecting the tax rate for the period of July 1, 2007 to July 30, 2008 and reducing the Fiscal Year 2008 Tax Levy, or act in relation thereto.

RESULTS: The Town voted to take **\$9,423.00 from the Overlay Surplus and \$51,534.00 from the Stabilization Fund, for a total of \$60,957.00** for the purpose of affecting the tax rate for the period of July 1, 2007, to **June 30, 2008**, and reducing the Fiscal Year 2008 Tax Levy.
2/3's vote required. Voted Unanimously

Special Town Meeting

Petersham Town Hall

November 19, 2007

7:30 p.m.

ARTICLE 1.

To receive the reports of Town Officers and Committees and act thereon.

ARTICLE 2.

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$430,000 and, to meet that appropriation, authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectboard and subject to a positive grant award notification from the "Self-Help Program" of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, to take said sum from a "Gould Woodlot Conservation Restriction Acquisition Account," to be established with funds to be transferred to the Town by the East Quabbin Land Trust, or its designee, for the purpose of acquiring a Conservation Restriction, by negotiated purchase, on a certain property to be owned by the President and Fellows of Harvard College known as the "Gould Woodlot," located at North Main Street, Petersham, and shown on the Petersham Assessors' Maps as Parcel Numbers 518 and 526, consisting of 87.37 acres, as more particularly shown on a Survey entitled "Plan of Land in Petersham made by Gary D. Lanpher, Jr." and dated December 2006, said Conservation Restriction to be conveyed to the Town of Petersham under the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40, Section 8C, and as it may hereafter be amended, and other applicable Massachusetts statutes relating to conservation, to be managed and controlled by the Conservation Commission of the Town of Petersham; and to authorize the Conservation Commission to file on behalf of the Town of Petersham any and all applications deemed necessary for grants and/or reimbursements from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts under the Self-Help Act (General Laws Chapter 132A, Section 11) and any other federal, state, or local grant or reimbursement program; and to authorize the Selectboard and/or the Conservation Commission, and Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectboard, to enter into all agreements and execute any and all instruments as may be necessary on behalf of the Town of Petersham to effect said purchase.

RESULTS: The Town voted to appropriate the sum of \$430,000 and, to meet that appropriation, authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectboard and subject to a positive grant award notification from the "Self-Help Program" of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, to take said sum from a "Gould Woodlot Conservation Restriction Acquisition Account," to be established with funds to be transferred to the Town by the East Quabbin Land Trust, or its designee, for the purpose of acquiring a Conservation Restriction **from the East Quabbin Land Trust**, by negotiated purchase, on a certain property to be owned by the President and Fellows of Harvard College known as the "Gould Woodlot," located at North Main Street, Petersham, and shown on the Petersham Assessors' Maps as Parcel Numbers 518 and 526, consisting of 87.37 acres, as more particularly shown on a Survey entitled "Plan of Land in Petersham made by Gary D. Lanpher, Jr." and dated December 2006, said Conservation Restriction to be conveyed to the Town of Petersham under the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40, Section 8C, and as it may hereafter be amended, and other applicable Massachusetts statutes relating to conservation, to be managed and controlled by the Conservation Commission of the Town of Petersham; and to authorize the Conservation

Commission to file on behalf of the Town of Petersham any and all applications deemed necessary for grants and/or reimbursements from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts under the Self-Help Act (General Laws Chapter 132A, Section 11) and any other federal, state, or local grant or reimbursement program; and to authorize the Selectboard and/or the Conservation Commission, and Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectboard, to enter into all agreements and execute any and all instruments as may be necessary on behalf of the Town of Petersham to effect said purchase.

ARTICLE 3.

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Fire Department to use \$2,500 from the "Forest Vest Pack Pump Account," as was established by vote under Article 33 of the Warrant for the June 6, 2005 Annual Town Meeting, for the purchase of forestry equipment, or act in relation thereto.

RESULTS: The Town voted to authorize the Fire Department to use \$2,500 from the "Forest Vest Pack Pump Account," as was established by vote under Article 33 of the Warrant for the June 6, 2005, Annual Town Meeting, for the purchase of forestry equipment.

ARTICLE 4.

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$500,000 for removal of handicap barriers and implementation of Americans With Disabilities Act improvements and subsequent required building code upgrades to Petersham Town Hall and the Petersham Town Office Building, Assessors' Map Parcel Number 26, located at 1 and 3 South Main Street, including necessary design, engineering, construction, and other costs incidental and related thereto, and contingent upon receipt of a Community Development Block Grant from the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development through a grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; and, to meet said appropriation, authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectboard, to issue bonds or notes therefor in accordance with the provisions of General Laws Chapter 44, Section 7(3A), and any other enabling authority; provided that such appropriation shall be contingent upon the vote of the Town, at an election, to exempt from the provisions of Proposition 2 1/2, so-called, the amount required to pay for the bonds issued to meet said appropriation, or act in relation thereto.

RESULTS: The Town voted to appropriate the sum of \$500,000 for removal of handicap barriers and implementation of Americans With Disabilities Act improvements and subsequent required building code upgrades to Petersham Town Hall and the Petersham Town Office Building, Assessors' Map Parcel Number 26, located at 1 and 3 South Main Street, including necessary design, engineering, construction, and other costs incidental and related thereto, and contingent upon receipt of a Community Development Block Grant from the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development through a grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; and, to meet said appropriation, authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectboard, to issue bonds or notes therefor in accordance with the provisions of General Laws Chapter 44, Section 7(3A), and any other enabling authority; provided that such appropriation shall be contingent upon the vote of the Town, at an election, to exempt from the provisions of Proposition 2 1/2, so-called, the amount required to pay for the bonds issued to meet said appropriation

2/3's vote required. Motion fails

ARTICLE 5.

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$350,000 for removal of handicap barriers and implementation of Americans With Disabilities Act improvements and subsequent required building code upgrades to the Petersham Town Office Building, Assessors' Map Parcel Number 26, located at 3 South Main Street, including necessary design, engineering, construction, and other costs incidental and related thereto, and contingent upon receipt of a Community

Development Block Grant from the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development through a grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; and, to meet said appropriation, authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectboard, to issue bonds or notes therefor in accordance with the provisions of General Laws Chapter 44, Section 7(3A), and any other enabling authority; provided that such appropriation shall be contingent upon the vote of the Town, at an election, to exempt from the provisions of Proposition 2 1/2, so-called, the amount required to pay for the bonds issued to meet said appropriation, or act in relation thereto.

RESULTS: The Town voted to appropriate the sum of **\$225,000** for removal of handicap barriers and implementation of Americans With Disabilities Act improvements and subsequent required building code upgrades to the Petersham Town Office Building, Assessors' Map Parcel Number 26, located at 3 South Main Street, including necessary design, engineering, construction, and other costs incidental and related thereto, and contingent upon receipt of a Community Development Block Grant from the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development through a grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; and, to meet said appropriation, authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectboard, to issue bonds or notes therefor in accordance with the provisions of General Laws Chapter 44, Section 7(3A), and any other enabling authority; provided that such appropriation shall be contingent upon the vote of the Town, at an election, to exempt from the provisions of Proposition 2 1/2, so-called, the amount required to pay for the bonds issued to meet said appropriation.

2/3's vote required. Motion passed 90 in favor, 20 opposed

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

June 2, 2008

7:30 p.m.

ARTICLE 1.

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from available funds, take from the Stabilization Fund, or otherwise provide the sum of \$51,538.97 to eliminate the Fiscal Year 2008 Snow and Ice Account Deficit, or act in relation thereto.

RESULTS: The Town voted to take \$51,538.97 from Free Cash to be appropriated to the 2008 Snow and Ice Account.

ARTICLE 2.

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from available funds, transfer, or any combination thereof, a certain amount for deposit into the Stabilization Fund, or act in relation thereto.

RESULTS: The Town voted to take no action.

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
JUNE 2, 2008
7:30 P.M.**

ARTICLE 1.

To receive the reports of Town Officers and Committees and act thereon.

ARTICLE 2.

To choose all necessary Town Officers not elected by ballot.

RESULTS: The Town voted to take no action.

ARTICLE 3. CONSENT

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer to enter into compensating balance agreements during Fiscal Year 2009, as permitted by Massachusetts General Laws (MGL), Chapter 44, Section 53F, or act in relation thereto.

RESULTS: The Town voted the article as read.

ARTICLE 4. CONSENT

To see if the Town will vote to endorse the recommendation of its member to the Franklin Regional Transit Authority authorizing transportation service to or from or within the Town including the commitment by the Town for its share of any deficit as the result of such service, or to take any other action relative thereto.

RESULTS: The Town voted the article as read.

ARTICLE 5. CONSENT

To see if the Town will vote to use the Dog Fund and also the income of the William B. Spooner Fund as of March 31 of the current fiscal year at the Petersham Memorial Library for Fiscal Year 2009 or act in relation thereto.

RESULTS: The Town voted the article as read.

ARTICLE 6. CONSENT

To see if the Town will vote for the Conservation Commission to use the accumulated interest from the Evelyn V. Murphy Conservation Fund as of March 31 of the current fiscal year for Fiscal Year 2009, or act in relation thereto.

RESULTS: The Town voted the article as read.

ARTICLE 7. CONSENT

To see if the Town will vote for the Conservation Commission to use the accumulated interest from the Lewis and Corrine Babbitt Wildlife Sanctuary Fund as of March 31 of the current fiscal year, to be used at the Sanctuary for Fiscal Year 2009, or act in relation thereto.

RESULTS: The Town voted the article as read.

ARTICLE 8. CONSENT

To see if the Town will vote to re-authorize a Revolving Fund pursuant to MGL, Chapter 44, Section 53E ½ for deposits of fees collected under the Zoning Board of Appeals Rules and Regulations Fee Schedule, to be expended by the Zoning Board of Appeals for the purposes of carrying out its duties; expenditures from said Revolving Fund for Fiscal Year 2009 not to exceed \$7,000.00, or act in relation thereto.

RESULTS: The Town voted the article as read.

ARTICLE 9. CONSENT

To see if the Town will vote to re-authorize a Revolving Fund pursuant to MGL, Chapter 44, Section 53E ½ for deposits of fees collected under the Petersham School Committee Fee Schedule for use of the Petersham School Building, to be expended by the Petersham School Committee for the purpose of repairs to the Building and replacement of equipment associated with the use of the Facility; expenditures from said Revolving Fund for Fiscal Year 2009 not to exceed \$2,000.00, or act in relation thereto.

RESULTS: The Town voted the article as read.

ARTICLE 10. CONSENT

To see if the Town will vote to re-authorize a Revolving Fund pursuant to MGL, Chapter 44, Section 53E ½ to be expended by the Treasurer for fees due to the Electrical Inspector, Gas Inspector and Plumbing Inspector. The Accountant shall be authorized to effect transfers from this account as required to cover vouchers submitted for payment upon verification that the disbursement requested does not exceed receipts to date; expenditures from said Fund for Fiscal Year 2009 not to exceed \$7,000.00, or act in relation thereto.

RESULTS: The Town voted the article as read.

ARTICLE 11. CONSENT

To see if the Town will vote to re-authorize a Revolving Fund pursuant to MGL, Chapter 44, Section 53E ½ for deposits of fees collected under the Planning Board Rules and Regulations Fee Schedule, to be expended by the Planning Board for the purpose of hiring professional consultants to assist the Planning Board in carrying out its duties; expenditures from said Revolving Fund for Fiscal Year 2009 not to exceed \$1,000.00, or act in relation thereto.

RESULTS: The Town voted the article as read.

ARTICLE 12. CONSENT

To see if the Town will vote to re-authorize a Revolving Fund, pursuant to MGL, Chapter 44, Section 53E ½ to which shall be deposited all receipts for grave openings and from which the Selectboard may make expenditures to pay the costs thereof, said expenditures not to exceed \$2,500.00 for Fiscal Year 2009, or act in relation thereto.

RESULTS: The Town voted the article as read.

ARTICLE 13. CONSENT

To see if the Town will vote to re-authorize the Accountant to deposit income generated from property and timber sales into a "Commissions Account" for payment of commissions due as submitted for payment by the Selectboard following sale of property, pursuant to the provisions of MGL, Chapter 44, Section 53E ½, to pay commissions due on the sale of real and/or personal property of the Town; said fund to be established from receipts of said property, and expenditures shall not exceed \$5,000.00 for Fiscal Year 2009, or act in relation thereto.

RESULTS: The Town voted the article as read.

ARTICLE 14. CONSENT

To see if the Town will vote to re-authorize the Town Clerk to deposit fee income generated from certificates, DBA's, Dog Fees, Genealogy, etc. into a Commissions Account for payment of fees due as submitted for payment by the Town Clerk pursuant to the provisions of MGL, Chapter 44, Section 53E ½, said fund to be established from receipts of

said income, and expenditures shall not exceed \$3,000.00 for Fiscal Year 2009, or act in relation thereto.

RESULTS: The Town voted the article as read.

ARTICLE 15. CONSENT

To see if the Town will vote to re-authorize a Revolving Fund pursuant to MGL, Chapter 44, Section 53E ½ to be expended by the Treasurer for fees due to the Fire Chief. The Accountant shall be authorized to effect transfers from this account as required to cover vouchers submitted for payment upon verification that the disbursement requested does not exceed receipts to date; expenditures from said Fund for Fiscal Year 2009 not to exceed \$1,500.00, or act in relation thereto.

RESULTS: The Town voted the article as read.

ARTICLE 16. CONSENT

To see if the Town will vote to re-authorize a Revolving Fund, pursuant to MGL, Chapter 44, Section 53E ½ to be expended by the several Town departments that process permit and license hearing applications, to pay for services and fees charged for the filing of hearing applications, to include retrieval fees, legal notices, clerical fees, postage fees, and the carrying out of duties required; said fund to be established from receipts collected by the various departments, and said expenditures not to exceed \$5,000.00 for Fiscal Year 2009, or act in relation thereto.

RESULTS: The Town voted the article as read.

ARTICLE 17. CONSENT

To see if the Town will vote to accept and expend Chapter 90 Funds from the State, said expenditures to be 100% reimbursed by the State, or act in relation thereto.

RESULTS: The Town voted the article as read.

ARTICLE 18. CONSENT

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,500.00 for six (6) concerts at \$250.00 per concert, to be held during the summer, or act in relation thereto.

RESULTS: The Town voted the article as read.

ARTICLE 19.

To see if the Town will vote to choose a Director of Agriculture for the ensuing year in accordance with the provisions of MGL Chapter 128, and raise and appropriate the sum of \$25.00 to cover program expenses, or act in relation thereto.

RESULTS: David Perkins was nominated as the Director of Agriculture. He was voted in unanimously. The Town voted to raise and appropriate \$25.00 to cover program expenses.

ARTICLE 20.

To see if the Town will vote to authorize a Revolving Fund, pursuant to MGL, Chapter 44, Section 53E ½ to be expended by the Board of Health, to pay for consulting services as required by the Board of Health, said fund to be established from receipts collected by the Board of Health for fees for its services, said expenditures not to exceed \$7,000.00 for Fiscal Year 2009, and further vote that \$8,000 of the balance in the Account at the end of Fiscal Year 2008 shall revert to the General Fund, or act in relation thereto.

RESULTS: The Town voted to authorize a Revolving Fund, pursuant to MGL, Chapter 44, Section 53E ½ to be expended by the Board of Health, to pay for consulting services as

RESULTS: The Town voted to raise and appropriate the following necessary sums of money to pay Town charges and expenses for FY09 as per budgets submitted by the several Town departments and as approved by the Advisory Finance Committee or any other amounts deemed to be sufficient. They are as follows:

\$ 271,285	GENERAL OFFICES AND FINANCE
\$ 290,234	PROTECTION PERSONS & PROPERTY
\$ 11,872	HEALTH AND SANITATION
\$ 209,603	HIGHWAYS BUDGET
\$ 3,312	CHARITIES AND VETERANS' BENEFITS
\$ 152,639	UNCLASSIFIED

Michael LeBlanc moved to raise and appropriate \$786,600 for the Ralph C. Mahar Regional School District. Nancy Allen made an amendment to raise and appropriate \$776,600 for the Ralph C. Mahar Regional School District. Motion was seconded and passed.

\$ 776,600	R.C. MAHAR REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
\$ 32,796	MONTACHUSETT REGIONAL VOCATIONAL DISTRICT

Laura Webber moved to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,189,477 for the Petersham Center School. Christine Durgin made an amendment to raise and appropriate \$1,172,477 and transfer the sum of \$3,000 from the Hildreth School Fund, and transfer the sum of \$1,000 from the Josephine Dickman School Fund for a total appropriation of \$1,176,477 for the Petersham Center School. Motion passed.

\$ 1,176,477	PETERSHAM CENTER SCHOOL
\$ 2,924,818	GRAND TOTAL - GENERAL BUDGET

ARTICLE 26.

To see if the Town will vote to fix the salaries of all Elective Town Officers as provided in Section 108 of Chapter 41, General Laws as amended: Moderator \$-0-; Town Treasurer \$13,113.00; Town Clerk \$8,987.00; Tax Collector \$10,437.00; Selectboard, Chair \$2,226.00; two members \$2,002.00 each; Board of Assessors, Chair, \$2,587.00; Clerk, \$2,239.00, other member, \$2,107.00; Trustee of Public Library FREE; Constables \$9.33/per hour; Board of Health co-chairs, \$160.00 each; other member, \$117.00; or act in relation thereto.

RESULTS: The Town voted the article as read.

ARTICLE 27.

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate from available funds, take from the Stabilization Fund, borrow, or any combination thereof the sum of \$1,090.72 for partial payment of assessments to the Ralph C. Mahar Regional School District for teacher salaries, or act in relation thereto.

RESULTS: The Town voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,090.72 for partial payment of assessments to the Ralph C. Mahar Regional School District for teacher salaries.

ARTICLE 28.

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate from available funds, or any combination thereof, the sum of \$35,069 to pay the FY09 principal and interest on the construction note for the Mahar Building, or act in relation thereto.

required by the Board of Health, said fund to be established from receipts collected by the Board of Health for fees for its services, said expenditures not to exceed \$7,000.00 for Fiscal Year 2009, and further voted that \$8,000 of the balance in the Account at the end of Fiscal Year 2008 shall revert to the General Fund.

ARTICLE 21.

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Inspector of Buildings to deposit fee income generated from inspections and related work into a Revolving Account, to be expended by the Inspector of Buildings, for the purposes of carrying out department duties, pursuant to MGL, Chapter 44, Section 53E½, said fund to be established from receipts of said income and expenditures shall not exceed \$11,000.00 for Fiscal Year 2009, and further vote that \$20,000 of the balance in the Account at the end of Fiscal Year 2008 shall revert to the General Fund, or act in relation thereto.

RESULTS: The Town voted to authorize the Inspector of Buildings to deposit fee income generated from inspections and related work into a Revolving Account, to be expended by the Inspector of Buildings, for the purposes of carrying out department duties, pursuant to MGL, Chapter 44, Section 53E½, said fund to be established from receipts of said income and expenditures shall not exceed \$11,000.00 for Fiscal Year 2009, and further voted that \$20,000 of the balance in the Account at the end of Fiscal Year 2008 shall revert to the General Fund.

ARTICLE 22.

To see if the Town will vote to take the sum of \$6,000 from the Consolidated Cemetery Fund I and II to cover the balance of the Care of Cemeteries account, or act in relation thereto.

RESULTS: The Town voted the article as read.

ARTICLE 23.

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate from available funds, take from the Stabilization Fund, or any combination thereof, the sum of \$2,000.00 for deposit into a Special Cemetery Repair Fund, said fund to be expended by the Cemetery Commission, or act in relation thereto.

RESULTS: The Town voted to take the sum of \$2,000.00 for deposit into a Special Cemetery Repair Fund, said fund to be expended by the Cemetery Commission.

ARTICLE 24.

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate from available funds, take from the Stabilization Fund, or any combination thereof the sum of \$2,500.00 for new planting, pruning, and maintenance of trees, or act in relation thereto.

RESULTS: The Town voted to transfer \$2,500 from the Timber Account into the Care and Maintenance of Town Trees Account for new planting, pruning, and maintenance of trees.

ARTICLE 25.

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate from available funds, transfer from the Stabilization Fund, approve subject to Proposition 2 1/2 Over-ride, or any combination thereof, all necessary sums of money to pay Town Charges and Expenses for the Fiscal Year 2009 as per budgets submitted by the several Town Departments and as approved by the Advisory Finance Committee or any other amounts deemed to be sufficient, or act in relation thereto.

RESULTS: The Town voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$35,069 to pay the FY09 principal and interest on the construction note for the Mahar Building.

ARTICLE 29.

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate from available funds, or any combination thereof, the sum of \$103,980.00 to pay the FY09 principal and interest due on the Petersham Center School project, or act in relation thereto.

RESULTS: The Town voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$103,980.00 to pay the FY09 principal and interest on the Petersham Center School project.

ARTICLE 30.

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate from available funds, take from the Stabilization Fund or any combination thereof, the sum of \$850.00 to be used for Council on Aging activities, or act in relation thereto.

RESULTS: The Town voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$850.00 to be used for Council on Aging activities.

ARTICLE 31.

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate from available funds, take from the Stabilization Fund, or any combination thereof, the sum of \$25,000.00 for deposit into the Reserve Fund, or act in relation thereto.

RESULTS: The Town voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000.00 for deposit into the Reserve Fund.

ARTICLE 32.

To see if the Town will vote to approve the budget of the Transfer Station Enterprise Fund for Fiscal Year 2009 and to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the sum of \$55,000.00 for the purpose of operating the Station, or act in relation thereto.

RESULTS: The Town voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$55,000.00 for deposit into the Transfer Station Enterprise Fund budget to operate the transfer station for Fiscal Year 2009, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Selectboard and appropriated as follows: take \$35,000 from the Transfer Station Fees Account and take \$20,000 from Free Cash.

ARTICLE 33.

To see if the town will vote to amend its By-laws, **ARTICLE VII, POLICE REGULATIONS, SECTION 21 TRANSFER STATION BY-LAW**, to read as follows:

SECTION 21. For benefit of the Town of Petersham and in the best interest of the health and welfare of the people of Petersham, the Transfer Station on New Salem Road shall be used by the residents located within the geographical limits of the Town of Petersham. Each vehicle entering the Transfer Station shall have affixed a bumper sticker on the front left corner valid for one year from October 1 until September 30. The cost of this sticker will be \$25.00. All trash will be placed in the plastic bags available from the Town at a cost of \$2.00 per bag. All stickers and bags must be purchased at the Town Office Building or an outlet assigned by the *Selectboard*. Any non-resident found using the Transfer Station will be fined \$100.00 per offense. Any person using the Transfer Station without the bumper and bag stickers will be fined \$25.00 per offense.

Or act in relation thereto.

RESULTS: The Town voted to amend its By-laws, **ARTICLE VII, POLICE REGULATIONS, SECTION 21 TRANSFER STATION BY-LAW**, to read as follows:

SECTION 21. For benefit of the Town of Petersham and in the best interest of the health and welfare of the people of Petersham, the Transfer Station on New Salem Road shall be used by the residents located within the geographical limits of the Town of Petersham. Each vehicle entering the Transfer Station shall have affixed a bumper sticker on the front left corner valid for one year from October 1 until September 30. The cost of this sticker will be \$25.00. All trash will be placed in the plastic bags available from the Town at a cost of \$2.00 per bag. All stickers and bags must be purchased at the Town Office Building or an outlet assigned by the *Selectboard*. Any non-resident found using the Transfer Station will be fined \$100.00 per offense. Any person using the Transfer Station without the bumper sticker and official bags will be fined \$25.00 per offense.

ARTICLE 34.

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate from available funds, take from the Stabilization Fund, borrow, or any combination thereof, the sum of \$11,500.00 to install a minimum of three (3) groundwater monitoring wells and to conduct a minimum of two (2) rounds of groundwater and surface water monitoring at the Petersham Transfer Station per the requirements of the Department of Environmental Protection, or act in relation thereto.

RESULTS: The Town voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$11,500.00 to install a minimum of three (3) groundwater monitoring wells and to conduct a minimum of two (2) rounds of groundwater and surface water monitoring at the Petersham Transfer Station per the requirements of the Department of Environmental Protection

ARTICLE 35.

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate from available funds, take from the Stabilization Fund, borrow, or any combination thereof, the sum of \$12,000.00 to pay the first lease payment of a three-year lease on a cruiser for the Petersham Police Department, or act in relation thereto.

RESULTS: The Town voted to take from the Police Department Vehicle Stabilization Fund the sum of \$12,000.00 to pay the first lease payment of a three-year lease on a cruiser for the Petersham Police Department.

2/3's vote required. Voted Unanimously

ARTICLE 36.

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate from available funds, take from the Stabilization Fund, borrow, or any combination thereof, the sum of \$9,000.00 to pay the first lease payment of a three-year lease on a pick-up truck for the Petersham Fire Department, or act in relation thereto.

RESULTS: The Town voted to take from Free Cash the sum of \$9,000.00 to pay the first lease payment of a three-year lease on a pick-up truck for the Petersham Fire Department.

ARTICLE 37.

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate from available funds, take from the Stabilization Fund, borrow, or any combination thereof the sum of \$12,700.00 to pay the first lease payment of a three-year lease on a pick-up truck for the Petersham Highway Department, or act in relation thereto.

RESULTS: The Town voted to take from the Highway Department Vehicle Stabilization Fund the sum of \$12,700.00 to pay the first lease payment of a three-year lease on a pick-up truck for the Petersham Highway Department.
2/3's vote required. Voted Unanimously

ARTICLE 38.

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate from available funds, take from the Stabilization Fund, borrow, or any combination thereof, the sum of \$12,000.00 to replace overhead doors and upgrade openers at the Petersham Fire Station, or act in relation thereto.

RESULTS: The Town voted to take from Free Cash the sum of \$12,000.00 to replace overhead doors and upgrade openers at the Petersham Fire Station.

ARTICLE 39.

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate from available funds, take from the Stabilization Fund, or any combination thereof, the sum of \$4,600.00 to purchase a copier and any related items for the Petersham Selectboard Office, or act in relation thereto.

RESULTS: The Town voted to take no action.

ARTICLE 40.

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate from available funds, take from the Stabilization Fund, or any combination thereof, the sum of \$3,000.00 to purchase a speed trailer for the Petersham Police Department, or act in relation thereto.

RESULTS: The Town voted to take no action.

ARTICLE 41.

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate from available funds, take from the Stabilization Fund, or any combination thereof the sum of \$4,000.00 for the installation of a used Cascade System at the Petersham East Street Fire Station, or act in relation thereto.

RESULTS: The Town voted to take no action.

ARTICLE 42. (OPTION 1)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate from available funds, take from the Stabilization Fund, borrow, or any combination thereof, the sum of \$43,719.00 for the repair and painting of the entire exterior of the Town Hall Building, to include but not be limited to the steeple and dome, or act in relation thereto.

RESULTS: The Town voted to take \$151.00 from the 250th Anniversary Account, \$22,568.00 from the Insurance Reimbursement Account, and raise and appropriate \$21,000.00 with such appropriation to be contingent upon the vote of the Town, at an election to approve a Proposition 2 ½ Capital Outlay Expenditure Exclusion under General Laws, Chapter 59, Section 21C(I 2 ½) for the repair and painting of the entire exterior of the Town Hall Building, to include but not be limited to the steeple and dome.

ARTICLE 43. (OPTION 2)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate from available funds, take from the Stabilization Fund, borrow, or any combination thereof, the sum of \$19,000.00 for improvements to the exterior of the Town Hall Building to include but not be

limited to the partial repair and painting of the four exterior sides of the Town Hall, not including the steeple and dome, or act in relation thereto.

RESULTS: The Town voted to take no action.

ARTICLE 44.

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate from available funds, take from the Stabilization Fund, borrow, or any combination thereof, the sum of \$19,670.00 to conduct a cyclical data collection inspection and analysis (Full Measure and List) of all Real Estate and Personal Property as required by State Law, said amount being two-thirds of the actual cost of the Full Measure and List, or act in relation thereto.

RESULTS: The Town voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$19,670.00 to conduct a cyclical data collection inspection and analysis (Full Measure and List) of all Real Estate and Personal Property as required by State Law, said amount being two-thirds of the actual cost of the Full Measure and List.

ARTICLE 45.

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate from available funds, transfer, or any combination thereof, a certain amount for deposit into the Stabilization Fund, or act in relation thereto.

RESULTS: The Town voted to take no action.

ARTICLE 46.

To see if the Town will vote to terminate an appurtenant easement for a spring-fed pipe and the right to discharge drainage from the land shown as Assessor's Parcel Number 48 owned by the Town of Petersham and known as the "Nichewaug Inn property" located at 25 Common Street, Petersham to a private property now or formerly of Nilson, located at 21 Common Street, Petersham and shown as Assessor's Parcel Number 58, and authorize the Selectboard to execute all documents and take all actions necessary in connection therewith, or act in relation thereto.

RESULTS: The Town voted to terminate an appurtenant easement for a spring-fed pipe and the right to discharge drainage from the land shown as Assessor's Parcel Number 48 owned by the Town of Petersham and known as the "Nichewaug Inn property" located at 25 Common Street, Petersham to a private property now or formerly of Nilson, located at 21 Common Street, Petersham and shown as Assessor's Parcel Number 58, and authorize the Selectboard to execute all documents and take all actions necessary in connection therewith.

ARTICLE 47.

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to grant a nonexclusive easement to the President and Fellows of Harvard College in, along, and upon a portion of the land owned by the Town known as "Prospect Hill Road" for the purposes of locating, relocating, installing, laying, operating, renewing, maintaining, replacing and removing underground buried cables, conduits, pipes, fixtures and appurtenances, with the wires and cables therein or thereon, constituting a line or lines for the transmission of electricity, for nominal consideration, upon such terms and conditions as the Selectboard shall determine to be appropriate, or act in relation thereto.

RESULTS: The Town voted to authorize the Selectboard to grant a nonexclusive easement to the President and Fellows of Harvard College in, along, and upon a portion of the land owned by the Town known as "Prospect Hill Road" for the purposes of locating, relocating, installing, laying, operating, renewing, maintaining, replacing and removing underground

buried cables, conduits, pipes, fixtures and appurtenances, with the wires and cables therein or thereon, constituting a line or lines for the transmission of electricity, for nominal consideration, upon such terms and conditions as the Selectboard shall determine to be appropriate.

ARTICLE 48.

To see if the Town will vote to amend the vote taken under Article 46 of the warrant for the 2002 Annual Town Meeting as follows: by transferring to the Selectboard the custody and control of the Town-owned property shown as Auction Parcel (2.58 acres), Town Use Parcel (.68 acres) and Conservation Parcel (80.01 acres) on a plan entitled "Plan Land in Petersham, Massachusetts prepared for the town of Petersham" dated January 23, 2008, Scale 1" = 100', prepared by Alfred M. Berry, P.L.S., a copy of which is on file in the office of the Town Clerk, for the following purposes:

Auction Parcel: for sale at public auction;

Town Use Parcel: to be used for future municipal use;

Conservation Parcel: for use as a conservation area for passive recreation;

Or act in relation thereto.

RESULTS: The Town voted the article as read.

ARTICLE 49.

To see if the Town will vote to amend the boundaries of the Historic District, as described in **ARTICLE XII of the Town's By-laws, PART 2, SECTION 2.**

ESTABLISHMENT OF DISTRICT by extending the District to the north to include the property now or formerly of Boose-Lewis of 19 North Street, Parcel Number 552, on the westerly side of North Street, and amending said Section 2 to reflect such change in boundaries, or act in relation thereto.

RESULTS: The Town voted to extend the boundaries of the Historic District and amend **ARTICLE XII of the Town's By-laws, Part 2. Section 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF DISTRICT**, by inserting after the second paragraph (northerly extension) the following new paragraph:

The northerly extension of the Historic District shall include the parcel known and numbered as 19 North Street, Town Parcel number 552, located on the westerly side of North Street, and described in a deed recorded with the Worcester Registry of Deeds in Book 11633, Page 258.

ARTICLE 50.

To see if the Town will vote to amend its By-laws, **ARTICLE II, TOWN MEETINGS, SECTION 4. PROCEDURE AT TOWN MEETINGS a.** to read:

a. The number of voters necessary to constitute a quorum at any Town meeting shall be *five per cent (5%)* of the voters registered as of the previous January 1, but any number may adjourn any meeting to a stated time and place. The Moderator shall determine and announce the presence of a quorum, and his determination shall be conclusive upon the question unless his determination be doubted by a registered voter, in which case a count shall be taken and recorded in the records by the Town Clerk, or act in relation thereto.

RESULTS: The Town voted to fail the article.

ARTICLE 51.

To see if the Town will vote to amend its By-laws, **ARTICLE XVI, ZONING BY-LAW, SECTION 2A.** by deleting the existing text and inserting in its place the following:

1.1 TOWNWIDE RATE OF DEVELOPMENT

1.1.1 Purpose. The purposes of this by-law, "Townwide Rate of Development," are to (a) promote orderly residential growth in the Town of Petersham, consistent with the rate of growth over the last 10 years (expressed herein as building permits issued for new dwelling units); (b) phase growth so that it will not unduly strain the community's ability to plan for and provide basic public facilities and services; (c) provide the Town and its boards and agencies the information and reasonable time necessary to preserve and enhance existing community character, safety, health, and the value of property; and (d) ensure the greatest degree of fairness and equal opportunity to all in the distribution of available building permits.

1.1.2 General. Beginning on the date of the adoption of this By-law, building permits (hereafter, "permits") for no more than six (6) new dwelling units shall be issued in each of the *six full calendar years following said adoption, those years being 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, and 2014.* See Section **1.1.3(8)** below regarding the remainder of calendar year 2008. More than six (6) permits may be issued in one year if paragraphs **1.1.3(5)** or **1.1.3(6)** below apply.

1.1.3 Procedures. Any permits shall be issued in accordance with the following procedures:

1. Any natural person, partnership, corporation, realty trust or legal entity may apply for no more than one permit in any given *30 day period*. For the purposes of this section, subsequent applications in the same *30 day period* by any natural person, partnership, corporation, realty trust or legal entity which in any way may be construed as having a common ownership, interest or control with previous applications in the same *30 day period* are prohibited, and shall be returned to the applicant.
2. Permits shall be issued on or before Friday of each week by the Building Inspector (following approval by the Building Inspector). The Building Inspector shall act on each permit in order of submission. Any permit application that is incomplete or inaccurate shall be returned to the applicant and shall require a new submission.
3. From the first Friday in January through the sixth (6th) Friday of the year, either no (0) permit if there are no *eligible* applications awaiting issuance, or one (1) permit if there is one or more *eligible* applications awaiting *building permit* issuance, shall be issued in any given week. If all six (6) permits have not been issued by the sixth (6th) Friday of the year, the remaining permits shall be issued for *eligible* applications at the rate of one or more per week until all six (6) permits are issued for that year. In circumstances where paragraphs **1.1.3 (5)** and **1.1.3 (6)** below apply, there may be more than six (6) permits available for issuance.

4. The Building Inspector shall mark each application with the time and the date of submission, and shall act on each application in a timely manner. He/she shall issue approved permits in accordance with the schedule in paragraph 1.1.3 (3) above. If the Building Inspector has more permits *eligible for issuance* in any given week than he/she is authorized to issue, the Building inspector shall retain said permits to be issued in the order in which the applications were submitted.
5. If any permit is deemed abandoned or invalid in the same calendar year in which it was issued, then it shall be returned and counted as an additional permit available for issuance during that same calendar year. A permit which is deemed abandoned or invalid in a calendar year different from the year in which it was issued shall be returned and counted as an additional permit to be issued during the calendar year in which it is deemed abandoned or invalid only if 1) there were more *eligible* applications for permits than *the number of permits that* were issued in the year when the said permit was issued, and 2) if there are any intervening years between the calendar year of issuance and calendar year in which said permit is deemed abandoned or invalid, there were also more *eligible* applications for permits than *the number of permits that* were issued during all of those intervening years.
6. Permits not issued in any calendar year shall be available for issuance in the subsequent year only.
7. By the first Friday of January during any calendar year in which this by-law is in effect, the Building Inspector shall determine whether or not each *eligible* application for which a permit has not been issued during the previous calendar year shall be retained. Upon being informed in writing by the applicant before said first Friday in January that the applicant desires the application to remain in effect, the Building Inspector shall continue to treat said application as an *eligible* application in accordance with this by-law. All *eligible* applications for which a permit has not been issued, and for which the applicant has not informed the Building Inspector in writing by the said first Friday in January of the applicant's desire for the application to remain in effect shall not be retained, and the application shall be returned to the applicant.
8. The maximum number of permits to be issued *for the year 2008 shall be six (6)*. All provisions of this by-law shall apply to said issuance.

1.1.4 Exemptions. The provisions of this by-law shall not apply to, nor limit in any way, the granting of building or occupancy permits required for enlargement, restoration, rehabilitation, or reconstruction of dwellings existing on lots as of the date of passage of this by-law.

1.1.5 Severability. If any provision of this by-law is held invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of the by-law shall not be affected thereby. The invalidity of any section or sections or parts of any section or sections of this by-law shall not affect the validity of the remainder of the Petersham Zoning By-law.

1.1.6 Time Limitation and Extension. *This section shall expire on January 1, 2015;*

provided, however, that this section may be extended without lapse of its provisions and limitations by vote of the Town Meeting *prior to January 1, 2015.*

Or action in relation thereto.

RESULTS: The Town voted the article as printed.

2/3's vote required. One opposed. Motion passed

FY08 Annual Report
Petersham Energy Committee

Two weeks before the end of FY08, the Selectboard unanimously appointed the following individuals to the newly-formed Petersham Energy Committee through June 30, 2009.

Kathy Ballou (publicity)
Julian Hadley
Richard Matteson
One position vacant

Elizabeth Davis (clerk)
Ken Levine
Linda Paquet (chairperson)

The committee was organized to encourage conservation and efficient energy practices, and to promote the use of renewable energy where possible in public buildings, homes and businesses of Petersham.

It was decided to meet on the 4th Tuesday of each month, at 7 pm, in the conference room in the Town Office Building.

The committee immediately began gathering grant information, researching energy audits for town buildings and designed a handout. It was determined that there was \$468 in a former energy committee account that would be available for use. The committee learned that there is \$4271 in Petersham's Clean Energy Choice Matching Grant fund. The fund is established through National Grid and MA Technology Collaborative matches voluntary premiums paid by residents to support renewable energy. The fund grows as participation levels increase. The Selectboard can decide which clean energy goods or services will be purchased. This contribution represents participation of 14 households or 4% of the town. The committee decided to promote this program town-wide and looks forward to a successful upcoming year.

PETERSHAM MEMORIAL LIBRARY

23 Common Street
Petersham, Massachusetts 01366
www.petershamlibrary.org

Annual Report to the Town of Petersham
of the Petersham Memorial Library
July 01, 2007 to June 30, 2008

As of July 01, 2007 our total holdings numbered 15,629 items. 471 residents of Petersham are C/WMARS library card holders. Petersham Memorial Library circulated 8,420 items during fiscal year 2008.

A total of thirty children signed up for the Statewide Summer reading Program. The theme was *Catch the Beat @ Your Library*. Many of the children brought in their reading records and added music notes to the music poster in the Children's Area. We had a big turnout for the *Drums on the Common* program on Wednesday, July 25, 2007. More than twenty children and at least twenty adults gathered on the Common to hear Julian Gerstin and his friends demonstrate drums from Cuba and Martinique. Members of the audience had a chance to play the instruments and get up and dance if they wanted to. This program was paid for through the Susan B. Coolidge Memorial Children's Fund

Rosanne Amodeo was hired to repair and refinish the round, antique library table as well as the antique "Board Meeting" table. This project was paid for with funds raised at the June 2006 Petersham Branch Alliance Plant & Bake Sale. Rosanne Amadeo did a great job that was made quite a bit easier by the generous willingness of the First Congregational Parish Unitarian Church of Petersham to let Rosanne use the Davis Memorial Building as a workplace. The larger table was too big to fit in her van or workshop so various staff, trustees and townspeople carried the table back and forth to the church.

We received a Small Libraries in Networks grant for FY08. This grant is from the Massachusetts board of Library Commissioners (MBLC) and is administered through CWMARS, the network to which the library belongs. The Small Libraries in Networks program was conceived as a way to bring small libraries, in communities with a population of fewer than 10,000, who were not already circulating members of a network, into one of the eight networks that support public library service throughout the state. The grant was closed when we automated but opened up to include more members which made it possible for us to be included even though we were already circulating members of a network.

In an effort to improve our record keeping, organization and overall operating activities Jill Berry began work in October as our very part-time bookkeeper.

Lynn and Andrew Herzog put in many hours preparing books for the book sale that had been weeded from the collection. Thanks to them, many weeded books made it into the October Book Sale. The Annual Library Book Sale was another record breaking success thanks in part to another generous donation of books from the Day family as well as the efforts of Ann Townsend, Jim Baird, Jean Sinclair, Lynn and Andrew Herzog, Niki Clark, Samuel Korstvedt, Tally Lent and of course Fifi Scoufopoulos as well as many others who so graciously offered their support. Some of the proceeds from this event went to the purchase of sturdy folding tables.

As of January 02, 2008 the open hours for the Petersham memorial Library changed to:

Tuesday	10:00 A.M. to 5:00P.M.
Wednesday	2:00P.M. to 7:00P.M.
Friday	2:00P.M. to 5:00P.M.
Saturday	9:00A.M. to 1:00P.M.

Some other changes began in January. Story Time has been offered on Tuesday mornings at 10:30. Sandra Whaley was hired to be our Story Hour Presenter. Stories and songs are featured and all ages are welcome.

A children's movie is shown after school, and a modest snack provided. There is a film shown in the evening as well. The library trustees have been offering films for adult audiences to enjoy. Details are posted in the library and on our website. The library also began selling trash bags for the Town transfer Station.

Other events during the year included at least two school visits by the students from the Petersham Center School. In February Nita bates prepared and ran a Chinese New Year program for children. Eleven children enjoyed crafts word searches, Chinese yo-yos and snacks. In April Library Assistant Alicia frost and her two older daughters Keeley and Emma brought six of their ten-day-old chicks for kids to see and hold. Twelve children came to see the chicks and make the crafts Alicia had prepared. Poetry Night was also a big success in April. Eleven people signed up in advance to read and four more signed up that evening. Most of the readers read something they had written, although quite a few read something written by an established author. At least five of the audience members attended just for the enjoyment of listening to poetry.

The big news for spring was that Petersham Memorial Library went wireless thanks in part to the technical expertise of Bill Littlefield as well as the financial assistance of Healthcare. The signal appears to cover the entire library as well as going to the tree line in the front lawn.

Once again volunteers got a lot of work done for the Petersham Memorial Library. Sue Kim, a student at Quabbin regional High School shelved books and learned how to prepare items for the Library Book Sale. Also volunteering at the library were Mary Ann Walker, Judy Davis, Richard Moriarty and Dorothy Dodge. We appreciate all of our volunteers and all they do to make the Petersham Memorial Library the great place it is.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jayne G. Arata, Director

**Petersham Memorial Library
Treasurer's Report - FY '08 (July 1, 2007 - June 30, 2008)**

INCOME

Endowment	\$61,525.00
State Grant	\$2,616.20
Town Appropriation	\$5,469.00
Dog Fund	\$2,078.75
Town Managed Funds	\$502.82
Fundraising and Book Sale	\$4,556.03
Interest	\$56.66
Gifts	\$10,534.19
Small Lib Network Grant	\$2,568.90

Total Income **\$89,907.55**

EXPENSE

Collection Materials	\$12,370.03
CW MARS	\$1,937.00
Payroll Expense	\$32,321.03
Utilities	\$7,821.19
Projects and Programs	\$452.96
Miscellaneous	\$862.60
Insurance	\$2,736.00
Postage and Supplies	\$883.07
Corporate Operating Exp.	\$3,227.00
Capital Expense	\$3,789.51

Total Expense **\$66,400.39**

Note 1: All Gifts were placed in the Endowment Fund.

Note 2: All expenses were at or below budgeted levels.



NORTHEAST QUABBIN DISTRICT

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' SERVICES

584 MAIN STREET, ATHOL, MASSACHUSETTS 01331

PHONE: 978/249-6935 FAX: 978/575-0269

email: vetagnt@townofathol.org

"Putting Veterans First"

Serving the Towns of Athol, Petersham, Phillipston, Royalston and Templeton

The Northeast Quabbin District, Department of Veterans' Services serves the Towns of Athol, Petersham, Phillipston, Royalston and Templeton. The officer operating the department is the Director of Veterans' Services.

The purpose of the Department is to provide such information, advice and assistance to veterans and their families as may be necessary to enable them to procure the benefits to which they are or may be entitled relative to employment, vocational or other educational opportunities, hospitalization, medical care, pensions, and other veterans benefits.

Expenditures for Chapter 115 benefits paid to eligible veterans and/or their dependents were \$4,524.91 for fiscal year 2008. Petersham will be reimbursed 75% of the expenditure by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The Department has assisted veterans and/or their dependents through the application process for United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) benefits, grave markers, and increase in service-connected disability compensation, pensions, and other services.

At the request of a veteran or family member, the Veterans' Department has acquired discharge, personnel and medical records as well as medals and decorations previously not received from the United States Department of Defense.

In conducting Veterans business for the Town, the Director has met with veterans and/or family members in their home, at the Town Office, and the Athol office. I can be reached at (978) 249-6935.

I look forward to serving the veterans of Petersham.

Respectfully submitted,

Neil P. McGuirk
Director of Veterans' Services

Planning Board Annual Report

June 2007 – June 2008

The Planning Board reviewed and endorsed 4 ANR plans during this time period. New parcels were created on Dugway Road, Doe Valley Road, Barre Road (Rt. 122), and Hardwick Road (Rt. 32A).

In January the board voted to support the Select Board recommendation for partition and disposition of the Davenport Property. This recommendation was to divide the parcel into three pieces to be known as the conservation parcel, the auction parcel, and the town parcel.

The Planning Board recommended new zoning bylaw, which exempted Municipal properties from some zoning regulations for a limited period of time, was passed at the June 2007 Town Meeting. The board prepared, held public hearings, and recommended two new bylaws for the June 2008 Town Meeting. The first was an extension to 2015 for the soon to expire Rate of Development bylaw. The second was an extension of the Historic District to include the property at 19 North Street.

We continued to work with Jeff Lacy on a new set of Rules and Regulations for the Planning Board and with the Master Plan Committee on new zoning bylaws.

In March Bart Wendell submitted his resignation from the board in order to take up his new responsibilities as town moderator.

PETERSHAM POLICE REPORT FY 2008

The Petersham Police Department would like to thank the residents of Petersham for their continued support of our Department. Our objective is "To Protect and and Serve".

All officers are committed to provide quality service. Each officer attends numerous state and local in-service training programs, service at little cost to thee town. All officers are qualified on the pistol range and are First Responders, C.P.R., and Defibrillator certified. Three officers are Emergency Medical Technicians.

In an ongoing effort to provide safety, we are firmly committed to the education of our youth. The department, in conjunction with the bus company, presented two bus safety programs at the school. The department also provided a bicycle safety class at the center school. In addition, 23 protective helmets were provided for the children during the year. Due to lack of funding, it was unfortunate that the D.A.R.E. program came to an end after sixteen successful years.

We were awarded a community policing grant of \$ 11, 299.00 from the state of Massachusetts. This grant provides several programs for the citizens of Petersham. The grant funds 26 - six hour traffic enforcement patrols. It enables us to provide officers at no cost to the town for events such as band concerts, fairs and Old Home Day. The Crime Watch Program is partially funded by this grant. We also received a grant from The Governors Highway safety Council for \$ 4,000.00 for traffic patrols, seat belt and O.U.I. enforcement.

We would like to thank the voters for funding an addition to our East Street location. This funding, along with a grant from the state, will allow construction to begin in the early fall of 2008. The station should be completed in the spring of 2009.

I wish to thank all the volunteers for their great service to our community.

We would like to thank the voters for their continued support of the police department.

In closing, I express my sincere gratitude to Officer Bruce Kilhart for his years of service. Officer Kilhart retired in December 2007. Special thanks to Officer Ted A. Bassett, who retired in June of 2008 after dedicating 37 years of service to the town. Thanks also to Sgt. Richard D. Cooley Jr., and to the officers and their families for the unselfish commitment and support to our town and to public safety.

Respectfully Submitted,

Denis N. Legare
Chief of Police

Police Department Statistics
(FY -2008)

E-911/HANG UPS	29	SEXUAL ASSAULTS	04
ABANDONDED M/V'S	17	STOLEN M/V'S	02
ANIMAL CALLS	78	SNOW BAN	11
ARRESTS	13	SERVE COURT ORDERS	47
ASSIST F.D. ALARMS	09	SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY	34
" " AUTO	01	THREATS	03
" " BRUSH	04	TRESPASSING COMPLAINTS	11
" " STRUCTURE	02	TRAFFIC ASSISTS	07
" " OTHER	11	VANDALISM	06
" OTHER AGENCIES	36	WELFARE CHECKS	27
BUILDING CHECKS	18		
BURGLAR ALARMS	35	-----	
BURGLARY B/E'S	07	TOTAL:	1662
CARBON ALARMS	02		
CITIZEN ASSISTS	37		
COMPAINTS	16		
DMV'S	35		
DISTURBANCE CALLS	13		
DOMESTIC DISTUBANCES	06		
DRUG INVEST & ARRESTS	05		
ESCORTS/TRANSPORTS	09		
GENERAL INFORMATION	13		
GUN SHOT COMPLANTS	06		
HAZARDOUS INCIDENTS	08		
ILLEGAL DUMPING	03		
INVESTIGATIONS	59		
JUVENILE COMP'S	05		
LARCENY	08		
LOCK OUTS (HOUSE)	02		
LOST/STOLEN PLATES	04		
MEDICAL EMERGENCY	31		
M/V ACCIDENTS	29		
M/V INVESTIGATIONS	81		
M/V STOPS	741		
OFFICER INITIATED	63		
PROPERTY DAMAGE	07		
PROPERTY (LOST&FOUND)	02		
RECORDS CHECKS	07		
RECOVERED M/V'S	01		
REPOSSESSION ASSIST'S	07		
RESTRAINING ORDERS	09		
SAFETY HAZARDS	44		

Report of the Town Treasurer
Fiscal Year 2008

General Government

Selectmen

Nancy Allen	Selecmen	2,226.00	
Alfred Berry	Selecmen	1,334.64	
Christine Durgin	Selecmen	2,002.00	
Fredrik Marsh	Selecmen	667.84	
Dale Bull	Admin. Coordinator	37,438.41	
Renee Wingertsman	Secretary	8,537.71	\$ 52,206.60

Assessors

Dana Kennan	Assessor	2,512.00	
Frederick Marsh	Assessor	2,046.00	
Jean Robinson	Assessor	2,174.00	
Kelly Garlock	Asst. Assessor	26,296.50	\$ 33,028.50

Tax Collector

Virginia Newman		13,852.97	\$ 13,852.97
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Town Clerk

Diana Cooley		11,359.97	
Renee Wingertsman	Secretary	515.00	\$ 11,874.97

Town Treasurer

Dana Robinson		12,731.00	\$ 12,731.00
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Town Accountant

Jean Joel		12,731.00	\$ 12,731.00
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Building Inspector

Brianna Skowyra		8,240.00	
Renee Wingertsman	Secretary	1,346.13	\$ 9,586.13

Board of Health

Mary Anne Forgues	Health Board	113.00	
Fifi Scoufopoulos	Health Board	154.50	
Doreen Frost	Health Board	154.50	
Richard D. Cooley Jr	Water Operator	525.00	
Timothy Comiskey	Sanitation Supv.	4,063.08	
David Gatautis	Asst. Sanitation Supv.	53.05	
Susan Gatautis	BOH Secretary	3,069.00	
Timothy Gatautis	Asst. Sanitation Supv.	50.00	\$ 8,182.13

Animal Inspector/Dir of Agriculture

David Perkins		125.00	\$ 125.00
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Town Hall & Office Custodian

Neil Legare		5,687.85	\$ 5,687.85
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Tree Warden

Michael Leonard		500.00	\$ 500.00
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Conservation Commission

Renee Wingertsman	Secretary	165.40	\$ 25.47
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Dog Officer

Andrew Ohlson		1,060.00	\$ 1,060.00
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Plumbing Inspector

Gerald Brousseau		1,825.00	\$ 1,825.00
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Electrical Inspector

Gary Terroy		6,648.47	\$ 6,648.47
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Gas Inspector

Michael Schlosser		505.00	\$ 505.00
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Report of the Town Treasurer
Fiscal Year 2008

Elections & Registration

Michelle Bartus		29.12	
Sharon Bassett		410.88	
Anne Hyde		269.44	
Charlotte Kennan		291.94	
Dana Kennan		87.36	
Carolyn May		265.28	
Richard Moriarty		133.12	
Richard Nickless		83.20	
Monika Perkins		29.12	
Jean Robinson		29.12	
Ruth Robinson		141.44	
Helen Simms		100.00	
		\$ 1,870.02	

Police Department

Denis Legare	Chief	63,646.60	
R. Dana Cooley Jr.	Sargent	7,868.35	
Scott Acito		6,511.72	
Richard Bartus		168.00	
Ted Bassett		7,681.00	
Peter Buck		385.40	
Christopher Harrington		1,050.50	
Randy Horne		44,825.97	
Bruce Kilhart		3,596.90	
Robert Legare		5,985.90	
Jason Lichtengerger		4,646.75	\$ 146,367.09

Fire Department

Dana Robinson	Chief	4,525.00
	Forest Warden	25.00
Ronald Dejackome	Asst. Chief	2,510.00
Stanley Andriski III		23.75
Cory Bourque		803.25
William Bourque		541.50
Shawn Bush		11.75
Scott Churchill		558.00
Nathan Davis		467.50
Peter Devoll		454.25
Robert Goodfellow		733.75
Kurt Graeff		269.25
Gilbert King, Jr	Deputy Chief	1,171.00
Robert Laford	Deputy Chief	580.50
Neil Legare		552.25
Rebecca Legare		338.25
Robert Legare	Captain	459.00
Shawn Legare	Captain	372.75
David Perkins		335.25

Report of the Town Treasurer
Fiscal Year 2008

Fire Department (continued)

Jeffrey Perkins		70.50	
Larry Robinson	Captain	666.75	
Kevin Shortis		210.00	
James West		139.50	
Peter West		498.25	\$ 16,317.00

Highway Department

Norman LaPointe	Superintendent	61,143.88	
Leslie Cooley		49,974.78	
Gary Martinelli		43,652.68	
Scott Acito		1,925.15	
Brian Bassett		5,775.54	
Jeffrey Perkins		3,865.83	
Gary Waid		3,100.80	
William Blanchette		2,978.40	\$ 172,417.06

School Department

Patricia Martin	Superintendent	31,009.65
Rebecca Phillips	Principal/Special Needs	71,387.07
Melanie Pallotta	Kindergarten	57,317.81
Susan Andriski	Grade 1	53,632.40
Wendi LeBlanc	Grade 2	56,407.67
Tracy Smith	Grade 3	49,369.57
Maureen Donelan	Grade 4	36,631.14
Nicole Ruggles	Grade 5	48,673.28
Christopher Dodge	Grade 6	39,949.42
Natasha Hanna	Music/Aide	17,682.14
Angela Haynes	Music/Aide	11,718.40
Kay Leonard	Art	8,133.94
Daniel Bevis	Phys. Ed./Aide	2,670.00
Erica Talbot	Phys. Ed./Aide	8,573.25
Stanley Ricker	Phys. Ed.	4,375.00
Sheri D'Annolfo	School Nurse	30,481.36
Karen Varney	Nurse Sub.	60.00
Tina Duguay	Nurse Sub.	630.00
Angela Littlewood	Nurse Sub.	890.00
Leanne McHugh	Nurse Sub.	10.00
Katrina Wheeler	Nurse Sub.	85.00
Bridget Koetsch	Special Needs	48,281.84
Glenn Goodale	Technology/Library	39,184.61
Karen Regan	Speech Pathologist	37,975.75
David Weinberg	Guidance	38,157.41
Melissa Clark	Aide	16,579.26
Margaret Cooley	Aide	13,407.42
Jo-ann Fitzgerald	Aide	6,176.81
Kelley Mongeau	Aide	10,502.12
Angelo Garofalo	Administration Mentor Student	525.00
Ann Degnan	Secretary	31,069.62
Barbara Young	Secretary	12,836.93

Report of the Town Treasurer
Fiscal Year 2008

School Department (con't)

Debra Phelps	Cook	15,332.36	
John Anderson	Head Custodian	36,847.65	
Mark Cooley	Custodian	23,870.36	
Glenede Albertine	Subsitute	240.00	
Joan Bevers	Substitute	180.00	
Jennifer Degnan	Substitute	360.00	
Ryan Holmgren	Substitute	120.00	
Tracy Murphy	Substitute	300.00	
Mary Jenkins	Substitute	900.00	
Charlotte Kennan	Substitute	2,080.50	
Darlen Sargent-Murphy	Substitute	150.00	
Helen Simms	Substitute	1,807.12	
Suzanne Tattan	Substitute	60.00	
Renee Wingerstsman	Substitute	803.40	
Richard D. Cooley, Jr	Water Operator	920.00	
Robert Hughes	Water Operator	300.00	\$ 868,655.26

Total Payroll All Departments

\$ 1,376,196.52

1099 Vendors

Thresa Bolick	School	1,400.00	
Barnes Landscaping	Care of Common & Cemeteries	23,604.29	
Thomas Garbett	School	9,280.60	
Phillip Leger	Board of Health Agent	13,155.00	
Andrew Levasseur	Electrical	1,040.00	
Nicole Mooney	School	600.00	
David Locke-Smith	Cons Comm	1,300.00	
Kevin Perrier	Roofing Contractor	22,790.00	
Hayden Roofing	Roofing Contractor	1,800.00	
Whittier Plumbing	Plumbing Repair	2,553.94	

\$ 77,523.83

Total Payroll & 1099 Vendors

\$ 1,453,720.35

Respectfully Submitted,
Dana C. Robinson
Town Treasurer

Revenue Category / Account	Estimated Revenue	Revenue Revisions	Revised Estimated Rev.	Actual Revenue	Balance	% Rec
<u>TAXES and EXCISES</u>						
Personal Property Taxes (01-4-110-000)	37,887.08		37,887.08	37,771.63	115.45	100
Real Estate Taxes (01-4-120-000)	1,791,354.69		1,791,354.69	1,761,502.33	29,852.36	98
Rollback Tax Revenue (01-4-122-000)				377.39	(377.39)	0
Tax Liens Redeemed (01-4-142-000)				5,985.09	(5,985.09)	0
Motor Vehicle Excise (01-4-150-000)	135,800.00		135,800.00	136,433.52	(633.52)	100
Farm Animal Excise (01-4-162-000)				56.00	(56.00)	0
Forest Products (01-4-163-000)				2,674.93	(2,674.93)	0
Penalties and int. taxes (01-4-170-000)	5,000.00		5,000.00	5,493.09	(493.09)	110
Interest on Motor Veh Ex (01-4-172-000)	1,600.00		1,600.00	2,184.26	(584.26)	137
In Lieu of Taxes (01-4-180-000)	343,267.00		343,267.00	380,147.16	(36,880.16)	111
TOTAL TAXES and EXCISES:	2,314,908.77	0.00	2,314,908.77	2,332,625.40	(17,716.63)	101
<u>DEPARTMENTAL REVENUE</u>						
Fees - Miscellaneous (01-4-329-000)	450.00		450.00	655.70	(205.70)	146
Rentals (01-4-360-000)	525.00		525.00	450.00	75.00	86
DeptRev-Police Department (01-4-371-000)	1,000.00		1,000.00	790.00	210.00	79
DeptRev-Fire Department (01-4-372-000)				5.00	(5.00)	0
DeptRev-Dog Officer (01-4-373-000)	25.00		25.00	164.00	(139.00)	656
Licenses - Alcoholic (01-4-410-000)	2,400.00		2,400.00	2,400.00		100
Licenses - Misc. Business (01-4-420-000)				5.00	(5.00)	0
Permits - Police Dept. (01-4-451-000)				475.00	(475.00)	0
Permits - Misc. Business (01-4-458-000)	450.00		450.00	535.00	(85.00)	119
Permits - Other (01-4-459-000)	450.00		450.00	235.00	215.00	52
TOTAL DEPARTMENTAL REVENUE:	5,300.00	0.00	5,300.00	5,714.70	(414.70)	108
<u>STATE REVENUE</u>						
State Owned Land (01-4-611-000)	48,037.00		48,037.00	48,037.00		100
Elderly Abatements (01-4-616-000)	2,510.00		2,510.00	2,008.00	502.00	80
MA-Chapter 70 (01-4-621-000)	446,027.00		446,027.00	446,027.00		100
MA-Lottery (01-4-671-000)	142,683.00		142,683.00	142,683.00		100
Veterans' Benefits (01-4-682-000)	5,288.00		5,288.00	13,051.00	(7,763.00)	247
Court Fines (01-4-695-000)				1,125.00	(1,125.00)	0
MA-Regis. Motor Vehicles (01-4-696-000)	10,500.00		10,500.00	8,407.50	2,092.50	80
Fines - Dog Violations (01-4-697-000)	1,000.00		1,000.00	1,240.00	(240.00)	124
TOTAL STATE REVENUE:	656,045.00	0.00	656,045.00	662,578.50	(6,533.50)	101
<u>MISCELLANEOUS SOURCES</u>						
Earnings on Investments (01-4-820-000)	16,100.00		16,100.00	5,376.58	10,723.42	33
Miscellaneous Revenue (01-4-840-000)				5,807.10	(5,807.10)	0
TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS SOURCES:	16,100.00	0.00	16,100.00	11,183.68	4,916.32	69
<u>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES</u>						
Transfer from Spec Rev. (01-4-972-000)				71.16	(71.16)	0
Transfer from Revolving (01-4-973-000)				28,000.00	(28,000.00)	0
Transfer From Trust Funds (01-4-975-000)				2,928.84	(2,928.84)	0
Transfer From Stabiliza. (01-4-976-000)				71,834.00	(71,834.00)	0
Transfer From Timber Acct (01-4-979-000)				5,000.00	(5,000.00)	0

Revenue Category / Account	Estimated Revenue	Revenue Revisions	Revised Estimated Rev.	Actual Revenue	Balance	% Rec
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES:	0.00	0.00	0.00	107,834.00	(107,834.00)	0
TOTAL REVENUES as of 2008/06/30:	2,992,353.77	0.00	2,992,353.77	3,119,936.28	(127,582.51)	104

Expense Category / Account	Previous Year's Balance	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Revised Budget	Actual Expended	Balance	% Exp
GENERAL GOVERNMENT							
Moderator Expenses 015114-000		70.00		70.00	60.00	10.00	86
Selectmen's Salaries 015122-000		6,230.00		6,230.00	6,230.00		100
Selectmens' Expenses 015122-001		4,200.00		4,200.00	4,086.48	113.52	97
Selectmen - Part-Time 015122-003		8,570.00	51.11	8,621.11	8,621.11		100
Computer/Software 015122-007		1,500.00		1,500.00	1,500.00		100
Admin Coordinator Sala 015129-000		36,206.00		36,206.00	36,206.00		100
Admin Coord Overtime 015129-001		3,252.00		3,252.00	1,184.72	2,067.28	36
Advis/FINCOM Expenses 015131-000		725.00		725.00	389.19	335.81	54
Reserve Fund 015132-000		25,000.00	(8,156.90)	16,843.10		16,843.10	0
Town Accountant Salary 015135-000		12,731.00		12,731.00	12,731.00		100
Town Accountant Expens 015135-001		450.00		450.00	442.67	7.33	98
Audit Expense 015135-003	16,000.00	2,500.00		18,500.00	18,500.00		100
Computer 015135-005		1,500.00		1,500.00	1,500.00		100
Software 015135-007		12,000.00		12,000.00	3,496.64	8,503.36	29
Assessor's Salaries 015141-000		6,732.00		6,732.00	6,732.00		100
Assessor's Expenses 015141-001		11,350.00		11,350.00	8,969.51	2,380.49	79
Assistant Assessor Sal 015141-003		26,326.00		26,326.00	26,326.00		100
Cyclical Data 015141-006		9,835.00		9,835.00	8,419.00	1,416.00	86
Digital Camera 015141-007		300.00		300.00	160.96	139.04	54
Treasurer's Salary 015145-000		12,731.00		12,731.00	12,731.00		100
Treasurer's Expenses 015145-001		3,747.00		3,747.00	3,018.49	728.51	81
Payroll Processing Fee 015145-003		2,600.00		2,600.00	2,600.00		100
Treasurer Acct Bank Fe 015145-005		1.00		1.00		1.00	0
Tax Collector's Salary 015146-000		10,133.00		10,133.00	10,133.00		100
Tax Collector's Expens 015146-001		14,573.00		14,573.00	9,201.12	5,371.88	63
Computer/Software 015146-003		700.00		700.00	700.00		100
Legal Fees 015151-000	7,948.72	10,000.00		17,948.72	4,627.30	13,321.42	26
Town Clerk's Salary 015161-000		8,740.00		8,740.00	8,740.00		100
Town Clerk's Expenses 015161-001	97.89	2,260.00		2,357.89	1,821.17	536.72	77
Vital Statistics 015161-002		75.00		75.00	75.00		100
Part Time Clerk 015161-004		515.00		515.00	515.00		100
Town Clerk Exp FY 06 E 015161-006	253.66			253.66		253.66	0
Election/Regis. Sala 015163-000		2,000.00	2,187.25	4,187.25	4,187.25		100
Election & Reg. Expens 015163-001		300.00		300.00	299.60	0.40	100
FY 05 - Enc - Open Spa 015172-001	1,228.57			1,228.57		1,228.57	0
Planning Board Expense 015175-000	600.00	1,250.00		1,850.00	58.42	1,791.58	3
Affordable House Consu 015175-002	22,118.00		(17,000.00)	5,118.00		5,118.00	0
Planning - Admin Assis 015175-004		840.00		840.00		840.00	0
Zoning Bd of Appeals E 015180-000		750.00		750.00		750.00	0
ZBA Consultant 015180-002		700.00		700.00		700.00	0
Computer/Software 015180-003		1,650.00		1,650.00		1,650.00	0
Land Court Fees 015185-000		4,000.00		4,000.00	3,885.12	114.88	97
TTitle Surveys/Apprais 015185-001	3,862.00			3,862.00	891.02	2,970.98	23
Tax Title Expenses FY 015185-007	91.80			91.80	91.80		100
Town Hall/Office Maint 015192-000	24,207.35	17,174.69	1,194.00	42,576.04	6,979.10	35,596.94	16
Town Hall/Office Expen 015192-001		28,994.00		28,994.00	25,900.08	3,093.92	89
Town - Phone 015192-002		9,600.00		9,600.00	9,366.32	233.68	98
Handicap Acc/Twn Hall/ 015192-003	21,155.52			21,155.52	12,750.90	8,404.62	60
Computer Service 015192-012	1,000.00	1,000.00		2,000.00	443.48	1,556.52	22
Town Hall/Office Wire 015192-020	12,000.00			12,000.00		12,000.00	0
T Hall Windows w/Scree 015192-021	26,000.00			26,000.00		26,000.00	0
Town Hall Alarm System 015192-025		10,500.00		10,500.00		10,500.00	0

Expense Category / Account	Previous Year's Balance	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Revised Budget	Actual Expended	Balance	% Exp
Town Printing 015195-000	1,619.59	3,350.00	1,442.26	6,411.85	6,411.85		100
Software Maintenance 015199-000		650.00		650.00	650.00		100
TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT	138,183.10	318,310.69	(20,282.28)	436,211.51	271,632.30	164,579.21	62

PROTECT. PERSONS & PROPERTY

Police Chief Salary 015210-000		61,258.00		61,258.00	61,258.00		100
Police Depart. Salarie 015210-001		21,500.00		21,500.00	21,500.00		100
Full Time Officer 015210-002		39,960.00		39,960.00	39,917.91	42.09	100
Police Depart. Expense 015210-003		25,810.00		25,810.00	25,544.97	265.03	99
Cruiser Lease 015210-009	9,969.78			9,969.78	9,969.78		100
Police - Lavatory & Ga 015210-010	12,860.80			12,860.80	12,860.80		100
Fire Dept. Salaries 015220-000		13,904.00	2,405.75	16,309.75	16,309.75		100
Fire Depart. Expenses 015220-001		18,414.00		18,414.00	18,263.48	150.52	99
Forestry Equipment 015220-019	2,500.00			2,500.00		2,500.00	0
Fire - Portable Tank 015220-023	1,500.00			1,500.00	1,500.00		100
Tanker 1 Tires 015220-025		2,361.00		2,361.00	2,361.00		100
Forest Engine 1 Tires 015220-026		2,875.00		2,875.00	2,875.00		100
Dry Hydrant Buell's Po 015220-027		3,000.00		3,000.00		3,000.00	0
Forestry Gear 015220-028		10,000.00		10,000.00		10,000.00	0
Emergency Mgmt. 015225-000	1,015.07	7,571.00		8,586.07	8,586.07		100
Auto Defibrillators (3 015225-001		10,000.00		10,000.00	6,590.00	3,410.00	66
Building Inspect. Sala 015241-000		8,240.00		8,240.00	8,240.00		100
Building Inspector Exp 015241-001		1,615.00		1,615.00	932.54	682.46	58
Clerical 015241-002		2,142.00		2,142.00	1,326.13	815.87	62
Dog Officer Salary 015292-000		1,060.00		1,060.00	1,060.00		100
Dog Officer Expenses 015292-001		1,810.00	180.71	1,990.71	1,990.71		100
Dog Officer Exp FY 06 015292-006	582.22			582.22	582.22		100
Tree Warden Salary 015294-000		500.00		500.00	500.00		100
Tree Warden Expense 015294-001		200.00		200.00	104.76	95.24	52
Town Trees 015294-002		5,000.00		5,000.00	1,923.00	3,077.00	38
Forest Warden Salary 015295-000		25.00		25.00	25.00		100
PS Commun. Radio Repai 015296-000		1,200.00		1,200.00	1,006.48	193.52	84
PS - IMC & LEAPS 015296-001	570.00	1,620.00		2,190.00	1,981.50	208.50	90
PS-IMC & LEAPS FY 06 E 015296-006	90.00			90.00	90.00		100
Dir. Agriculture Salar 015297-000		25.00		25.00	25.00		100
Hearing Enforce Office 015298-000		2,800.00		2,800.00	2,500.00	300.00	89
TOTAL PROTECT. PERSONS & PROPERTY	29,087.87	242,890.00	2,586.46	274,564.33	249,824.10	24,740.23	91

EDUCATION

Petersham Elem. Expens 015310-000		1,120,643.00		1,120,643.00	1,120,639.70	3.30	100
RC Mahar RSD 015315-000		705,073.00		705,073.00	701,840.00	3,233.00	100
Teacher Salary Deferra 015315-001		1,090.72		1,090.72	1,090.72		100
Montachusett Reg Voc T 015320-000		24,747.00		24,747.00	24,565.96	181.04	99
TOTAL EDUCATION	0.00	1,851,553.72	0.00	1,851,553.72	1,848,136.38	3,417.34	100

PUBLIC WORKS AND FACILITIES

Highway Depart. Salari 015420-000		119,082.00		119,082.00	118,513.44	568.56	100
Highway Depart. Expens 015420-001		42,400.00		42,400.00	42,400.00		100
Town Barn Expenses 015421-000		5,035.00	678.91	5,713.91	5,568.54	145.37	97
Snow Removal Expense 015423-000		38,000.00	51,538.97	89,538.97	89,538.97		100

Expense Category / Account	Previous Year's Balance	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Revised Budget	Actual Expended	Balance	% Exp
Street Lights 015426-000		5,060.00		5,060.00	4,789.98	270.02	95
Cemetery Expenses 015491-001	337.03	200.00		537.03	413.98	123.05	77
Care of Cemeteries 015491-003	1,600.00	21,764.00		23,364.00	20,752.20	2,611.80	89
Computerizing Cemetery 015491-005	1,050.00			1,050.00		1,050.00	0
Cemetery Repairs 015491-006	2,700.00	2,000.00		4,700.00	214.37	4,485.63	5
TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS AND FACILITIES	5,687.03	233,541.00	52,217.88	291,445.91	282,191.48	9,254.43	97
HUMAN SERVICES							
Bd of Health Salaries 015510-000		422.00		422.00	422.00		100
Bd of Health Expenses 015510-001	2,500.00	7,150.00		9,650.00	6,546.63	3,103.37	68
Inspector of Animals 015510-002		75.00		75.00	75.00		100
BOH-Admin. Assistant 015510-003		4,944.00		4,944.00	3,081.00	1,863.00	62
COA Expenses 015541-000		750.00		750.00	750.00		100
Veterans' Agent Expens 015543-001		3,007.00		3,007.00	3,007.00		100
TOTAL HUMAN SERVICES	2,500.00	16,348.00	0.00	18,848.00	13,881.63	4,966.37	74
CULTURE AND RECREATION							
Library-Operating Subs 015610-000	5,283.00	5,469.00		10,752.00	10,752.00		100
Concerts (6) 015631-000		1,500.00		1,500.00	1,500.00		100
Bandstand Lighting 015632-000		500.00		500.00	140.59	359.41	28
Bandstand Renovations 015632-001	15,000.00			15,000.00		15,000.00	0
Town Clock 015633-000		81.00		81.00	81.00		100
Care of Common 015634-000		6,695.00		6,695.00	6,294.59	400.41	94
Historic Comm. Expense 015690-000		90.00		90.00		90.00	0
Historic Dist. Comm. E 015691-000		270.00		270.00	41.98	228.02	16
Memorial Day Expenses 015699-000		550.00	16.91	566.91	566.91		100
TOTAL CULTURE AND RECREATION	20,283.00	15,155.00	16.91	35,454.91	19,377.07	16,077.84	55
DEBT SERVICE							
Interest Expense 015710-000		4,250.00		4,250.00	2,051.51	2,198.49	48
Center School Debt 015715-000		101,117.50		101,117.50	101,117.50		100
Mahar Debt Payment 015726-000		33,124.00		33,124.00	33,124.00		100
TOTAL DEBT SERVICE	0.00	138,491.50	0.00	138,491.50	136,293.01	2,198.49	98
INTERGOVERNMENTAL EXPENSES							
Assessmt-County Tax 015820-000		2,154.00		2,154.00	2,154.00		100
Assessmt-School Choice 015820-001		53,946.00		53,946.00	88,664.00	(34,718.00)	164
Assessmt-Air Pollution 015820-002		323.00		323.00	323.00		100
Assessmt-Regional Tran 015820-003		556.00		556.00	556.00		100
Assessmt-RMV Non-Renew 015820-004		340.00		340.00	380.00	(40.00)	112
TOTAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL EXPENSES	0.00	57,319.00	0.00	57,319.00	92,077.00	(34,758.00)	161
MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES							
Worcester County Retir 015911-000		62,354.00		62,354.00	62,354.00		100
Insurance- Health 015914-000		33,131.00		33,131.00	33,116.64	14.36	100
Health Ins - Retirees 015914-003		14,064.00		14,064.00	12,235.74	1,828.26	87
Insurance-Medicare 015915-000		18,092.00		18,092.00	15,999.60	2,092.40	88
Insurance-General 015916-000	602.36	69,322.00		69,924.36	69,394.80	529.56	99

Expense Category / Account	Previous Year's Balance	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Revised Budget	Actual Expended	Balance	% Exp
Nichewaug Inn/Academy 015925-000	15,000.00			15,000.00	8,123.98	6,876.02	54
Transfr to Stabiliz. F 015997-000			17,000.00	17,000.00	17,000.00		100
Transfer Police Veh St 015997-001		15,000.00		15,000.00	15,000.00		100
Transfer to Hwy Veh St 015997-002		32,000.00		32,000.00	32,000.00		100
TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES	15,602.36	243,963.00	17,000.00	276,565.36	265,224.76	11,340.60	96
TOTAL EXPENSES as of 2008/06/30:	211,343.36	3,117,571.91	51,538.97	3,380,454.24	3,178,637.73	201,816.51	94

ASSETS

Cash	512,880.75	

Subtotal Cash		512,880.75
Personal Property Tax Receivable:	734.52	
Real Estate Tax Receivable:	98,510.38	
Allowance for Abatements:	2,930.23	
Tax Titles and Possessions:	137,774.42	
Motor Vehicle Excise Tax Receivable:	35,593.02	

Subtotal Taxes		275,542.57

Total Assets		788,423.32
		=====

LIABILITIES

Warrants Payable		-79,849.92
State Withhold. Payable		-12.22
Retirement Withhld. Paybl		681.17
Def Comp (Aetna) WH		1,694.63
BCBS Withheld		-5,438.02
Annuity WH-Valic		-1,079.64
Abandoned Prop (Tailings)		-311.36
Def Rev Real & Prop. Tax		-102,175.13
Def Rev Tax Liens		-37,347.61
Def Rev Tax Foreclosures		-100,426.81
Def Rev Motor Vehicle Ex		-35,593.02

Subtotal Liabilities		-359,857.93

FUND BALANCE

FB Res for Encumbrances		-185,839.71
FB Res for Expenditures		-41,000.00
FB Undesignated		-204,655.91
FB Unres. O/U Assessments		2,930.23

Subtotal Fund Balance		-428,565.39

Total Liabilities/Fund Balance		-788,423.32
		=====

FUND 22 SCHOOL LUNCH

ASSETS

Cash - Unrestricted -5,939.49

Total Assets -5,939.49

LIABILITIES

Warrants Payable -398.11

Subtotal Liabilities -398.11

FUND BALANCE

Fund Bal. - School Lunch 6,337.60

Subtotal Fund Balance 6,337.60

Total Liabilities/Fund Balance 5,939.49

FUND 23 HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENTS

ASSETS

Cash-Highway Improvements -44,509.55

Due from State C# 50937 196,066.00

Due Fr State - Ch 122 72,287.00

Due Fr State - Ch 291C 69,010.37

Total Assets 292,853.82

LIABILITIES

Warrants Payable -430.12

Def. Rev.-C# 50937 -196,066.00

Def Rev - Ch 122 -72,287.00

Def Revenue - Ch 291C -69,010.37

Subtotal Liabilities -337,793.49

FUND BALANCE

FB-Hwy Improve. Fund 44,939.67

Subtotal Fund Balance 44,939.67

Total Liabilities/Fund Balance -292,853.82

FUND 24 SPECIAL REVENUE

ASSETS

Cash-Other Special Rev. 135,881.52

Total Assets 135,881.52

LIABILITIES

Warrants Payable -24,295.01

Subtotal Liabilities -24,295.01

FUND BALANCE

FB - Wetland Protection -2,509.96

FB DON-School Davis Tr -767.34

FB School Choice	-87,111.65
FB Bus Transportation	-1,064.03
FB W. Smith Cemetery	-51.77
FB Indian Cemetery	-18.64
FB 250th Anniversary	-151.75
FB Bandstand	-10,689.74
FB Dog Officer Gift Acct	-3,013.37
FB - Dome Restoration	-4,807.24
FB - Sped Reimbursement	-1,050.10
FB - Gould Woodlot Consv	-350.92

Subtotal Fund Balance	-111,586.51

Total Liabilities/Fund Balance	-135,881.52
	=====
FUND 25 TOWN GRANTS	
ASSETS	
Cash-Town Grants	61,480.31

Total Assets	61,480.31
	=====
LIABILITIES	
Warrants Payable	-3,196.32

Subtotal Liabilities	-3,196.32

FUND BALANCE	
FB-Town Clerk Elections	-304.32
FB-Police DARE Grant	-74.08
FB-Community Policing	-13,665.74
FB-Police Body Armor	1,410.87
FB-Cultural Council	-11,342.96
FB-Tree Grant	-943.00
FB - Library Grant	-46.09
FB - Fire Equipment Grant	-232.00
FB - Gov.'s Hwy Safety	6,461.51
FB - CDBG - Town Hall	-16.87
FB - Homeland Security	-989.30
FB - BOH Grant	-2,542.01
FB -Library Plan & Design	-36,000.00

Subtotal Fund Balance	-58,283.99

Total Liabilities/Fund Balance	-61,480.31
	=====
FUND 26 SCHOOL GRANTS	
ASSETS	
Cash-School Grants	3,825.01

Total Assets	3,825.01
	=====
LIABILITIES	
Warrants Payable	-3,457.69

Subtotal Liabilities	-3,457.69

FUND BALANCE	
FB - Reap Grant	1,227.73

FB - Sped Entitlement	225.46
FB - Drug Free	-19.12
FB - Sped Improvement 08	-1,503.73
FB - Title IIA	-297.66

Subtotal Fund Balance	-367.32

Total Liabilities/Fund Balance	-3,825.01
	=====
FUND 27 REVOLVING FUNDS	
ASSETS	
Cash-Revolving Funds	53,811.57

Total Assets	53,811.57
	=====
LIABILITIES	
Warrants Payable	-9,876.49

Subtotal Liabilities	-9,876.49

FUND BALANCE	
FB-Timber	-5,142.14
FB-Gas Inspector Revolving	-495.00
FB-Electrical Insp. Revol	-72.00
FB-Plumbing Insp Revolv	-2,036.50
FB-Board of Health Revolv	-1,186.03
FB-Machinery Maint. Revol	-20,638.01
FB-Use Sch Facility	-309.37
FB-Graves & Burials	195.00
FB-Town Clerk Fees	-244.65
FB-Fire Chief Fees	-3,885.00
FB- ZBA Fees	-1,108.67
FB - Building Inspector	-8,125.48
FB - Planning Board Fees	-560.00
FB - Hearing Fees	-327.23

Subtotal Fund Balance	-43,935.08

Total Liabilities/Fund Balance	-53,811.57
	=====
FUND 28 RECEIPTS RESERVED	
ASSETS	
Cash-Receipts Reserv. App	24,613.86

Total Assets	24,613.86
	=====
FUND BALANCE	
FB-Sale of Cemetery Lots	-2,045.58
FB - Ins Reimb over \$20K	-22,568.28

Subtotal Fund Balance	-24,613.86

Total Liabilities/Fund Balance	-24,613.86
	=====

FUND 31 CAPITAL PROJ-POLICE ADD

ASSETS

Cash - Police Addition	-12,634.73
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Total Assets	-12,634.73
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FUND BALANCE

Fund Balance - Police Add	12,634.73
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Bonds Authorized	150,000.00
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Bond Authorized-Offset	-150,000.00
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Subtotal Fund Balance	12,634.73
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Total Liabilities/Fund Balance	12,634.73
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FUND 65 ENTERPRISE FUND

ASSETS

Cash-Transfer Station-EF	-14,925.28
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Total Assets	-14,925.28
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LIABILITIES

Warrants Payable	-6,461.20
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Subtotal Liabilities	-6,461.20
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FUND BALANCE

Reserve for Encumbrance	-290.88
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Unreserved Retained Earn.	21,677.36
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Subtotal Fund Balance	21,386.48
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Total Liabilities/Fund Balance	14,925.28
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FUND 82 NON-EXPENDABLE TRUSTS

ASSETS

Cash-NonExpendable Trust	146,227.30
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Total Assets	146,227.30
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FUND BALANCE

FB-Cook Cemetery	-1,026.25
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FB-Pond Cemetery	-2,333.33
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FB-Consolidated Cemetery	-64,451.71
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FB-Williams Flowers	-544.61
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FB-Rickey Flowers	-188.97
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FB-Mudge Flowers	-2,131.32
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FB-Daniels Flowers	-1,069.54
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FB-Wheeler Library	-3,000.00
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FB-Mann Library	-5,000.00
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FB-Spooner Library	-4,659.00
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FB-Cook Library	-1,026.25
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FB-McCarthy School	-3,310.91
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FB-Dickman School	-2,926.79
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FB-Hildreth School	-4,476.72
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FB-Newton Charities	-3,441.65
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FB-Newton Poor	-13,672.26
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FB-Evelyn Murphy Conserv.	-10,000.00
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FB-Flint Fund	-22,967.99
Subtotal Fund Balance	-146,227.30
Total Liabilities/Fund Balance	-146,227.30
=====	
FUND 84 EXPENDABLE TRUSTS	
ASSETS	
Cash-Expendable Trusts	427,121.86
Total Assets	427,121.86
=====	
LIABILITIES	
Warrants Payable	-466.00
Subtotal Liabilities	-466.00
=====	
FUND BALANCE	
FB-Stabilization Fund	-176,694.08
FB - Police Stabilization	-15,287.07
FB- Highway Stabilization	-32,612.43
FB-Cook Cemetery	-361.50
FB-Pond Cemetery	-1,551.27
FB-Consolidated Cemetery	-9,817.16
FB-Williams Flowers	-5.74
FB-Rickey Flowers	-1.98
FB-Mudge Flowers	-559.34
FB-Daniels Flowers	-11.29
FB-Wheeler Library	-491.52
FB-Mann Library	-819.17
FB-Spooner Library	-243.87
FB-Cook Library	-168.38
FB-McCarthy School	-562.24
FB-Dickman School	-687.92
FB-Hildreth School	-3,081.15
FB-Discovery	-689.62
FB-Newton Charities	-8,932.04
FB-Newton Poor	-32,877.28
FB-Babbitt Wildlife	-82,537.18
FB-Evelyn Murphy Conserv	-6,482.36
FB-Flint Fund	-9,302.97
FB-Disaster	-25,629.96
FB-Unemployment	-13,283.75
• FB-Energy Commission	-467.79
FB-Village Improve Soc.	-206.14
FB-Police Trust Fund	-3,290.66
Subtotal Fund Balance	-426,655.86
Total Liabilities/Fund Balance	-427,121.86
=====	
FUND 89 AGENCY	
ASSETS	
Cash-Agency Funds	25,308.13
Total Assets	25,308.13
=====	
LIABILITIES	

Warrants Payable	-9,775.00
Police Extra Duty	-6,504.97
Dog Licenses to Library	-2,428.50
Tax Collector's Fees	-4,992.31
Student Activity Funds	-1,117.12
Media Fund	-28.98
Firearms & Pistol Permits	-461.25

Subtotal Liabilities	-25,308.13

Total Liabilities/Fund Balance	-25,308.13
	=====
FUND 90 General Long Term Debt	
ASSETS	
Amt To Be Provided - Debt	1,210,000.00

Total Assets	1,210,000.00
	=====
FUND BALANCE	
School Addition Bond	-1,210,000.00

Subtotal Fund Balance	-1,210,000.00

Total Liabilities/Fund Balance	-1,210,000.00
	=====
FUND 95 Fixed Assets	
ASSETS	
Buildings	5,146,583.32
Accum. Depreciation-Bldgs	-643,322.90
Vehicles	269,321.75
Accum. Depreciation-Vehic	-170,974.15

Total Assets	4,601,608.02
	=====
FUND BALANCE	
Investment in Fixed Asset	-4,601,608.02

Subtotal Fund Balance	-4,601,608.02

Total Liabilities/Fund Balance	-4,601,608.02
	=====



TOWN OF PETERSHAM

OFFICE OF THE TOWN CLERK

Diana L. Cooley

PO Box 486 * 3 South Main St. * Petersham, MA 01366 * (978) 724-6649

REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

Once again, it has been a great year in the Town Clerk's Office. The residents of Petersham continue to be great to work with. Things have run smoothly and for that I am grateful. I look forward to serving the Town of Petersham in the coming year.

As I always do, I want to thank Dale Bull for her continued support throughout the year. Thank you also goes to Renee Wingertsman for the help that she has provided me through the year.

To my election workers, for their hours of great work and support, I continue to say that without them, elections would not run so smoothly. The Board of Registrars, Kay Simms, Ellen Moriarty and Barbara Nickless, continue to be there when needed. To them goes a big thank you!

The biggest thanks goes to my family for understanding the hours and commitment it takes to be the Town Clerk.

Diana L. Cooley
Town Clerk

RAFFLES

The following organizations purchased raffle licenses at \$10.00 each for a total of \$60.00, which was paid to the Treasurer.

St. Peter's Church
Petersham Police Association
Petersham Craft Center
Petersham Fire Association
Petersham Curling Club
Petersham Lions Club

DOG FUNDS

A total of \$2,200.75 was collected for the library from the dog license fund. A total of \$1,230.00 was collected in dog fines and turned over to the Treasurer.

Diana L. Cooley
Town Clerk

**Town of Petersham
Trust Fund Report Fiscal Year 2008
July 1, 2007 - June 30, 2008**

Fund	Princ. Bal. 7/1/2007	Earnings Bal. 7/1/2007	Princ. Contrib.	Earnings Net	Cash Disb.	Princ. Bal. 6/30/2008	Earnings Bal 6/30/2008	Ending Cash Value
Cemetery Funds								
Consolidated Cemetery I & II	\$ 55,008.68	\$ 5,503.32	\$ 9,443.03	\$ 3,058.02	\$ 1,255.82	\$ 64,451.71	\$ 9,817.16	\$ 74,268.87
E.M. Cook Cemetery Fund	1,026.25	539.22		\$ 62.53	(240.25)	\$ 1,026.25	\$ 361.50	\$ 1,387.75
L.L. Pond Cemetery Fund I & II	2,333.33	2,530.29		\$ 186.28	(1,165.30)	\$ 2,333.33	\$ 1,551.27	\$ 3,884.60
Belle Rickey Cemetery Fund	188.97	7.10		\$ 8.21	(5.69)	\$ 188.97	\$ 9.62	\$ 198.59
Cemetery Bequests	7,143.03	2,698.11		\$ -	(9,841.14)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Annie Daniels Flower Fund	1,069.54	56.61		\$ 46.70	(48.48)	\$ 1,069.54	\$ 54.83	\$ 1,124.37
John Mudge Flower Fund	2,131.32	570.91		\$ 113.79	(63.57)	\$ 2,131.32	\$ 621.13	\$ 2,752.45
J & C Williams Flower Fund	544.61	21.35		\$ 23.68	(17.26)	\$ 544.61	\$ 27.77	\$ 572.38
Katherine M. Dexter Trust Fund	500.00	81.00		\$ -	(581.00)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Subtotal	\$ 69,945.73	\$ 12,007.91	\$ 9,443.03	\$ 3,499.21	\$ (10,706.87)	\$ 71,745.73	\$ 12,443.28	\$ 84,189.01
School Funds								
McCarthy School fund	\$ 3,310.91	\$ 968.99		\$ 184.14	\$ (590.89)	\$ 3,310.91	\$ 562.24	\$ 3,873.15
Hildreth School fund	4,476.72	2,770.33		\$ 310.82		\$ 4,476.72	\$ 3,081.15	\$ 7,557.87
Josephine Dickman School Fund	2,926.79	1,123.61		\$ 174.31	(610.00)	\$ 2,926.79	\$ 687.92	\$ 3,614.71
Discovery Center School	459.22	202.03		\$ 28.37		\$ 459.22	\$ 230.40	\$ 689.62
Subtotal	\$ 11,173.64	\$ 5,064.96	\$ -	\$ 697.64	\$ (1,200.89)	\$ 11,173.64	\$ 4,561.71	\$ 15,735.35
Library Funds								
Mann Library Fund I & II	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 579.88		\$ 239.29		\$ 5,000.00	\$ 819.17	\$ 5,819.17
GW Cook Library Fund	1,026.25	119.24		\$ 49.14		\$ 1,026.25	\$ 168.38	\$ 1,194.63
Spooner Library Fund I, II & III	4,659.00	540.35		\$ 206.34	(502.82)	\$ 4,659.00	\$ 243.87	\$ 4,902.87
Wheeler Library fund	3,000.00	347.93		\$ 143.59		\$ 3,000.00	\$ 491.52	\$ 3,491.52
Subtotal	\$ 13,685.25	\$ 1,587.40	\$ -	\$ 638.36	\$ (502.82)	\$ 13,685.25	\$ 1,722.94	\$ 15,408.19
Conservation Funds								
Babbit Fund	\$ 60,465.55	\$ 26,176.26		\$ 3,676.37	\$ (7,893.00)	\$ 60,465.55	\$ 21,959.63	\$ 82,425.18
Evelyn Murphy Conservation Fund	10,000.00	5,923.44		\$ 678.92	(120.00)	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 6,482.36	\$ 16,482.36
Subtotal	\$ 70,465.55	\$ 32,099.70	\$ -	\$ 4,355.29	\$ (8,013.00)	\$ 70,465.55	\$ 28,441.99	\$ 98,907.54
Charity Funds								
Elizabeth Newton Charity Fund	\$ 3,441.65	\$ 8,423.19		\$ 508.85		\$ 3,441.65	\$ 8,932.04	\$ 12,373.69
E Newton Deserving Poor Fund	13,672.26	35,382.18		\$ 2,041.10	(4,215.00)	13,672.26	\$ 33,208.28	\$ 46,880.54
Subtotal	\$ 17,113.91	\$ 43,805.37	\$ -	\$ 2,549.95	(4,215.00)	\$ 17,113.91	\$ 42,140.32	\$ 59,254.23

**Town of Petersham
Trust Fund Report Fiscal Year 2008
July 1, 2007 - June 30, 2008**

Other Funds

Flint Memorial Fund	\$ 22,967.99	\$ 7,975.87	\$ 1,327.10	\$ 22,967.99	\$ 9,302.97	\$ 32,270.96
Disaster Fund	6,849.70	17,726.27	\$ 1,053.99	6,849.70	\$ 18,780.26	\$ 25,629.96
Stabilization Fund	194,506.97	29,218.28	76,123.00	139,672.97	\$ 37,021.11	\$ 176,694.08
Energy Commission fund	184.62	263.94	19.23	184.62	\$ 283.17	\$ 467.79
Petersham Village Imp. Soc - GP Howland	115.66	81.99	\$ 8.49	115.66	\$ 90.48	\$ 206.14
Police Vehicle Stabilization Fund	-	-	15,000.00	15,000.00	\$ 287.07	\$ 15,287.07
Highway Vehicle Stabilization Fund	-	-	32,000.00	32,000.00	\$ 612.43	\$ 32,612.43
Subtotal	\$ 224,624.94	\$ 55,266.35	\$ 123,123.00	\$ 11,111.14	\$ 216,790.94	\$ 283,168.43

Grand Total Trust Funds

	\$ 407,009.02	\$ 149,831.69	\$ 132,566.03	\$ 22,851.59	\$ 155,595.58	\$ 566,662.75
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VITAL STATISTICS BIRTHS

In 2007, there were 3 babies born, all girls. In 2008, there were 2 babies born, both girls.

MARRIAGES

<u>DATE</u>	<u>PARTICIPANTS</u>	<u>FROM</u>
July 7, 2007	Todd Andrew Martinelli Leigh Ann Deveneau	Orange Orange
July 14, 2007	Eric James McCord Kelly Dawn Packard	Petersham Petersham
September 22, 2007	John Steven Covey Deborah L. Lauzier	Plainfield, CT Plainfield, CT
November 17, 2007	William Jason Russell Peggy L. Stanco	Petersham Petersham
June 15, 2008	Philip Michael Hubbard Ivana Kristina Kazda	Barre Barre

DEATHS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>AGE</u>
August 11, 2007	Edith S. Simoneau	Petersham	93
October 10, 2007	Glynn A. Morgan	Petersham	78
October 22, 2007	James Benjamin Seitz	Petersham	76
December 21, 2007	Russell G. O'Brien, Sr.	Petersham	69
January 1, 2008	Frederick W. Pillsbury	Petersham	85
January 2, 2008	Frederick J. Hellen	Petersham	86
January 9, 2008	Jeannette Lavoie	Petersham	76
February 13, 2008	Andrew S. Castonguay	Petersham	20
May 30, 2008	Evangeline J. Dufault	Petersham	88

Of the above, 4 were buried out of town. 9 people were brought into town for burial.

Annual Report of the Petersham Zoning Board of Appeals.

FY 2008 was a very quiet year for the ZBA. There were no hearings for Variances or Special Permits and there were no Appeals of the Decisions of the Building Inspector. The chairman signed a number of business permits for home-based businesses (which are allowed "As of Right") under the Zoning Bylaw. There are now more than 100 such businesses. New Business owners are asked to read the Bylaw to be sure that their businesses comply with the Bylaw.

Respectively Submitted,
Ellen H. Anderson, Chair
Brian MacEwen, Clerk
Don Eaton
James Ermini
Bob Paquet

I would like to express to all the teachers, staff, students and parents of the Petersham Center School my deep appreciation for your support and a commendation for a job well done. The 2007 – 2008 school year was an exciting and successful one.

The voters of Petersham approved a school budget of \$1,197,143 for the 2007 – 2008 school year. The Town Appropriation was \$1,120,643 with an estimated \$76,500 in school choice funds. A total of \$1,049,582 was expended during this school year and \$3.30 was returned to the town.

The Center School welcomed 117 students on the first day of school. Under the Massachusetts School of Choice Program students from Athol, Gardner, Orange , Leominster, and Barre attended the school.

Once again the school received several grants. These grants were used for a variety of purposes; salaries, books, materials, specialized services, consultation, and professional development. The total amount of grant monies received for the 2007 – 2008 school year was \$73,752.

The students were fortunate enough to attend several field trips to compliment their academic studies. These trips included the Babbitt Wildlife Sanctuary, Stocking fish at the Quabbin Reservoir, Harvard Forest Museum, and Red Apple Farm.

Ms. Erica Talbot joined our staff as the Physical Education Teacher at the start of the school year. When she resigned in February, Mr. Ley Ricker took over her responsibilities until the end of the school year. Mrs. Missy Clark returned to the school as a Special Education Paraprofessional.

The teaching staff at the school spent a great deal of time reviewing History curriculum over the summer. Two different curriculums were purchased and used at the start of the school year. Teaching staff attended training on the LINKS writing program. The entire staff once again participated in Emergency Management Training.

Many in-house events were attended by students. We had our annual visit from the tooth fairy, Mass. Electric and Cliff Reed. In addition, the Mahar Middle School band and chorus held a holiday and spring concert. The Petersham Police Department conducted programs on bus, Halloween, and bike safety. The Child ID program was also held at the school. This was a cooperative effort between the Freemasons and Community Policing .

The PTG continued to be an active and supportive group for the Petersham Center School. They sponsored several activities for the students. Some of these activities included monthly bake sales, Ice Cats game, Holiday Bazaar, Mystery Guest, and Mystery Field Trips.

Students in grades 3 – 6 participated in a Native American program at Deerfield and the PTG sponsored a Native American Play and workshop. Our Native American Theme Night was a tremendous success. Visitors were able to tour our “village”, enjoy craft work, and watch a Native American Dance.

It is with great appreciation that I thank the staff, parents and the community members for their support of a quality education at the Petersham Center School. I look forward to an exciting and rewarding 2008 - 2009 school year.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Dr. Patricia Martin
Superintendent**

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

REGULAR EDUCATION	Budget	Expended	Proposed
	2007-2008	2007-2008	2008-2009
1000 ADMINISTRATION			
1131 Committee Expense	100	75	100
1132 Committee Adv. Exp	750	1177	750
1133 Committee Legal Exp	500	0	500
1140 MASC Dues	1	0	1
1160 Census	175	175	175
1170 School Council	1	0	1
1100 COMMITTEE SUBTOTAL	1527	1427	1527
1210 Superintendent Salary	31010	31,010	31940
1220 Supt. Secretary Salary	15360	15,360	15821
1230 Supt. Office Expense	476	748	500
1240 Superintendent Dues	1	0	1
1250 Superintendent Travel	1	0	1
1260 Supt. Sec. Asst. Sal	2625	2,625	2704
1200 SUPERINTENDENT SUBTOTAL	49473	49743	50967
1000 ADMINISTRATION TOTAL	51000	51170	52494
2000 INSTRUCTION			
2100			
2210 Principal's Salary	65747	65,747	67720
2220 Principal Secretary Salary	15360	15,360	15821
2230 Office Expense	2300	3,244	3500
2241 N.E.A.S.C. Dues	1	0	1
2242 M.E.S.P.A Dues	1	0	1
2250 Principal Travel	1	0	1
2200 PRINCIPAL SUBTOTAL	83410	84351	87044
2301 Teacher Salaries	332807	296,225	354038
2302 Supervisor Salaries	24479	20,835	25827
2303 Substitute Salaries	4700	8,828	5000
2304 Band/Glee Club Salaries	13930	11,324	13310
2305 Discovery Salaries	4000	3,470	3000
2306 Teacher Aide Salaries	1	0	1
2307 Counselor Salary	18880	15,975	10471
2308 Tech/Media Specialist	37737	25,450	23954
2300 TEACHER SALARY SUBTOTAL	436534	382107	435601
2351 Teacher Course Credits	1	0	1
2352 Professional Development	3062	5,520	4000
2353 Scholar Supplies	9500	11,779	10000
2354 Technology	4405	4,783	5829
2355 Staff Travel	200	202	200
2356 Field Trips	700	1,001	700
2357 Workbooks	7778	6,911	6500
2358 Professional Materials	1	0	1
2350 MATERIALS&TRAIN. SUBTOTAL	25647	30196	27231

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

REGULAR EDUCATION	Budget 2007-2008	Expended 2007-2008	Proposed 2008-2009
2400 TEXTBOOK SUBTOTAL	13900	10,573	4000
2500 LIBRARY BOOKS SUBTOTAL	500	480	500
2600 AUDIO VISUAL SUBTOTAL	800	2130	60
2700 ACHIEVMNT. TEST SUBTOTAL	320	403	1
 2000 INSTRUCTION TOTAL	 561,111	 510,240	 554,437
 3000 OTHER SCHOOL SERVICES			
3200 School Physician(Flint Fund)	650	0	650
3210 School Nurse Salary	30354	23,683	31420
3220 Health Supplies	400	1131	1
 3370 Transportation	 76076	 78,260	 95760
3380 Trans. Contingency	1	0	1
 3400 Food Services	 1	 0	 1
 3000 OTHER SCHOOL SERV. TOTAL	 107482	 103074	 127833
 4000 OPERATION & MAINTENANCE			
4110 Custodian Salary	24149	23,870	24502
4111 Custodial Recall	500	0	500
4112 Custodial Supplies	6463	5,143	6843
4113 Director of Bldg. & Grounds	36848	36,848	37953
4120 Heating	43400	41,792	63000
4130 Telephone	5000	3,325	5000
4140 Electricity	25000	19,016	30000
4150 Alarm Monitoring	800	330	900
4210 Maintenance of Grounds	2823	4,129	2600
4220 Maintenance of Buildings	2750	393	2800
4221 Contracted Services	18722	10,729	18722
4222 Water Assoc. Dues	300	235	300
4230 Maint. Of Equipment - Bldg.	3500	3,048	3100
4232 Maint. Of Equipment - Educ.	6500	5,513	6100
 4000 OPERATION & MAINTENANCE	 176755	 154371	 202320
 5000 FIXED CHARGES			
5200 Health Insurance	122733	130,037	129635
5202 Dental Insurance	1	0	0
5000 FIXED CHARGES TOTAL	122734	130037	129635
 7000 ACQUIS. - FIXED ASSETS			
7200 Acquis. & Imprv. - Bldg.	1	0	1
7390 Acquis. Of Equip. - Educ.	3325	150	1200
7391 Acquis. Of Equip. - Bldg.	2800	2146	650
7490 Replacement Equip. - Educ.	1	0	1
7491 Replacement Equip. - Bldg.	1	0	1
7000 ACQUIS. - FIXED ASSETS	6128	2296	1853
8000 DEBT SERVICE/RETIREMENT	1786	1,786	1786
 REGULAR EDUCATION BUDGE	 1,026,996	 952,974	 1,070,358

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

SPECIAL EDUCATION	Budget 2007-2008	Expended 2007-2008	Proposed 2008-2009
92000 INSTRUCTION			
92210 Spec. Needs Admin Salary	5640	5,640	3637
92220 Special Needs Sec. Salary	5822	5822	5997
92230 Office Expense	200	55	350
92200 SPEC.NEEDS ADMIN. SUBTL.	11662	11517	9984
92301 Special Needs Teacher Salary	49241	43,693	55031
92302 Special Needs Teacher Salary	0	0	0
92303 Spec. Needs Teacher Sub Sal.	1	0	1
92304 Special Needs Aide Salary	22642	21,270	27876
92305 Special Needs Tutor Salary	1	0	1
92306 Speech Therapist Salary	37917	32,102	34171
92307 Therapist (PT, OT) Salaries	9000	6,935	9000
92308 Psychologist Salary	1	0	1
92309 Counselor Salary	15974	15,975	19446
92310 Summer Program Tch r. Salary	1	0	1
92311 Inclusion Specialist	1	0	1
92300 SPEC.NEEDS SALARY SUBTL.	134779	119975	145529
92350 Special Needs Travel	1	59	1
92351 Home/Hospital Instruction	100	0	100
92360 Cont. Servs. - Behav. Specialist	5200	10,140	12000
92365 Contr. Psychological Services	7000	10,688	7000
92370 Physician/Nurse	1	0	1
92371 Contracted Services	1	0	1
92375 S.N. Admin. Dues	0	0	0
92380 CONTR. SERV. & EXP. SUBTL.	12303	20887	19103
92390 SCHOOL SUPPLIES	700	1,882	1500
92400 TEXTBOOKS	200	176	500
92600 AUDIO VISUAL SERVICE	1	0	1
92000 INSTRUCTION TOTAL	159645	154437	176617
93000 TRANSPORTATION TOTAL	6000	8,694	17000
97390 ACQUISITION OF EQUIPMENT	1	0	1
94000 OPERATION & MAINTENANCE	1	1,035	1
99000 PROGRAMS W/OTHER DISTRICTS			
99100 CAPS Collab. Assessment	500	500	500
99110 Pre-School Program	1000	0	1000
99120 Tuition Out of District	3000	3000	28000
99000 PROGRAMS W/OTHER DIST.	4500	3500	29500
SPECIAL EDUCATION BUDGET	170147	167666	223119
REGULAR EDUC. BUDGET	1,026,996	952,974	1,070,358
SPECIAL EDUC. BUDGET	170147	167666	223119
TOTAL EDUCATION BUDGET:	1,197,143	1,120,640	1,293,477

**COMPARATIVE ENROLLMENT FIGURES
(October 1st)**

Grade	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
K	16	14	18	12	12	15	13
1	16	19	15	19	19	16	17
2	16	18	19	18	18	14	15
3	17	17	20	21	21	19	14
4	10	14	17	19	19	18	20
5	22	12	14	19	19	22	18
6	12	16	14	15	15	18	23
Pre-school	1	1	2	2	1		1
Out of Dist. Placement		1	1	1		1	1
Total:	110	112	120	126	124	123	122

2007-2008 Grants

Title IIA Teacher Quality	\$3,438.00
Special Needs Improvement	4,000.00
Sped. Allocation	28,338.00
Early Childhood	1,014.00
Safe & Drug Free	243.00
REAP Grant	22,829.00
Circuit Breaker	13,890.00

School Choice Money Allocated for 2007-2008 was \$76,500.00

Expenses for School Choice were \$71,058.00 – leaving a balance of \$5,442.00.

Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School

Annual Report – 2008

The Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School District committee presents this report to the Citizens of the District. The Committee consists of twenty-two members – four from Fitchburg, represented by LeRoy Clark, Mark Louney, Robert Campbell and Brian Walker, two from Gardner, represented by Helen Lepkowski and Alice Anderson and one from each of the communities of Ashburnham – represented by Diane Swenson, Ashby – represented by Warren Landry, Athol – represented by Toni L. Phillips, Barre – represented by John Scott, Harvard – Vacancy, Holden – represented by Nancy Anderson, Hubbardston – represented by Jacqueline B. Kaminski, Lunenburg – represented by Barbara Reynolds, Princeton – represented by John Mollica, Royalston – represented by Mary C. Barclay, Sterling – represented by Dr. Kenneth I.H. Williams, Templeton – represented by James M. Gilbert, Westminster – represented by Jeff Schutt and Winchendon – represented by Burton E. Gould, Jr.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Numerous challenges were faced during the development of the fiscal year 2008-2009 budget, including the rising costs of energy, healthcare and an aging infrastructure and the need to update and modernize our technology and vocational technical offerings.

Considerable effort was put forth by the School Committee, administration and staff to develop a cost-effective budget. The final fiscal year 2008-2009 Educational Plan totaled \$22,388,670.

The District was audited in August 2008 as part of the yearly financial audit by the accounting firm of Melanson, Heath and Company from Greenfield, MA and an “excellent” report is anticipated.

STUDENT BODY

Monty Tech’s October 1, 2008 enrollment included 1,341 students in grades nine through twelve. Students are represented from every community in the district, as follows: Ashburnham (44), Ashby (38), Athol (124), Barre (36), Fitchburg (391), Gardner (163), Harvard (2), Holden (56), Hubbardston (47), Lunenburg (64), Petersham (5), Phillipston (18), Princeton (17), Royalston (16), Sterling (46), Templeton (70), Westminster (54), and Winchendon (135).

The Guidance Department/Admissions Department received 714 applications for admission in September 2008. Of these, 660 were for the available ninth grade openings. Due to the retention rate of our upper classes, we were only able to admit 25 students to the tenth and eleventh grades.

Monty Tech continued to offer a variety of opportunities for students, parents and community members to learn about and visit the school. In October, over seventeen hundred district eighth graders participated in tour Days. Students toured many of our twenty vocational/technical areas and learned about the challenging academic offerings and exciting athletic and extracurricular programs. This Open House, as well as last spring’s Open House, was attended by an estimated one thousand individuals per event, comprised of students, parents and community members from throughout the district.

The Vocational Interest Program (V.I.P.) continued to attract large numbers of seventh and eighth grade students during the 2007-2008 school year. Due to the high enrollment, a third five-week session was implemented. Participants had opportunities to attend hands-on after school sessions in a variety of vocational/technical areas. A satisfaction survey rated this program 4.8 out of 5. The 2007-2008 enrollment is the highest ever at 598 seventh and eighth graders. The survey also indicates that 487/510 students surveyed intended to or have applied to Monty Tech.

In June 2008, the class of 2008 graduated 303 seniors. These graduates received diplomas and technical certificates. Approximately 95% of the graduates planned to continue their education at the post-secondary level or employment, while another 5% planned to enter military service.

The Scholarship Committee awarded approximately \$21,000 in scholarships to members of the Class of 2008. In addition, they awarded \$6,000 to the practical nursing graduates. Once again, local (Business Education Enrichment Fund) and state organizations, as well as generous individuals, continue to recognize the ability and potential of Monty Tech graduates in the form of generous donations. The School Committee, administration, faculty, and graduates themselves are grateful for this support.

The Tech Prep Articulation Agreements with local colleges continued to play an important role in helping our graduates enter college through credits earned at Monty Tech. Approximately 62% of our graduates entered a two or four year college. This number continues to grow over the years.

ACHIEVEMENT

Based on tenth grade MCAS scores, Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School continued to see an improvement during the 2007-2008 school year in student achievement in both English/Language Arts and Mathematics. In the spring of 2007, Monty Tech's passing rate on the mathematics portion of the test climbed from 95% to 98%, while the percentage of students scoring in the proficient and advanced categories in math jumped from 62% to 79%. The school's passing rate on the English portion of the test also climbed from 98% to 100%, while the students scoring in proficient and advance categories in English went from 65% to 73%. Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School was cited as a top ten state performer for increases in proficient and advanced categories.

Hard work by a competent staff and the student body continues to result in improved student achievement.

SKILLS USA

Skills USA is a national organization, in partnership with business and industry, that prepares students for the world through opportunities that develop jobs, teamwork, leadership and professional skills through education, training and competition.

Highlights of the year included:

- A total of 37 medals were captured at the District Level
- A total of 35 medals were won at the State Level
- Based on our performance at the State Event, 18 Monty Tech students qualified to participate at the National Event
- Monty Tech's performance at nationals included a Silver Medal in Total Quality Management (TQM), Cosmetology (over 500 hours- 4th place, Nail Care – 4th place, Computer Maintenance – 5th place, Cosmetology (under 500 hours) – 6th place and Cabinetmaking – 16th place.

WOMEN IN TECHNOLOGY

During the 2007-2008 school year students from Drafting Technology and Information Technology completed the sixth year of the Women in Technology Program, locally known as Project WATCH) Women Achieving Technical Career Heights. A Projects Presentation is held at the end of the year to showcase the students' work for company executives, school personnel and families and friends.

CURRICULUM

In addition to the house building projects, the vocational-technical programs continue to provide communities in the Monty tech District with a range of services as a component of the curricula. The projects listed below are a sampling of services accepted during the 2007-2008 school year.

Auto Body/Collision Repair

Templeton Police Department – Refinish rear bumper on cruiser and replace tail lamp, painted a cruiser.

Sterling – repaired push bar on cruiser

Phillipston – refinished bottom of cruiser

Automotive Technology

Ashby Highway Department – 4 wheel brake job

Cabinetmaking

Handicap kitchen cabinets for Leominster CTE's Habitat for Humanity house building project (a partnership because Leominster does not have a Cabinetmaking Program)

Cosmetology

Gardner Elderly Housing – free hair services and manicures

Cabinetmaking, House Carpentry, Electrical, Masonry and Plumbing

Gardner – in partnership with the Greater Gardner CDC, built a single-family home to be sold to first-time homebuyers

Gardner CDC – renovated the first floor of 246 Central Street, to be the new offices and home of the Greater Gardner CDC

Fitchburg – in partnership with the Montachusett Enterprise Center, built a single-family home to be sold to first-time homebuyers

Winchendon Housing Authority – built an addition to the maintenance building. Built eight sheds

Dental Assisting

Fitchburg Community Health Center – students assisted the dental hygienists in placing dental sealants on children

Drafting Technology

Fitchburg – Made K-9 Unit Letters for the cruiser

Graphic Communications

Fitchburg – made brochure and letterhead for Habitat for Humanity

Health Occupations

Monty Tech – held two blood drives

Industrial Technology

Phillipston – build a covered staircase for the rear entrance of the police station

North Central Mass. Chamber of Commerce –built shed for storage of mower and snow blowers

Masonry

Westminster –renovated the Crocker Pond Bath House

Gardner – installed new granite posts and sign for the Helen Mae Sauter and Waterford Street Schools

Winchendon Housing Authority – repaired concrete walkways

SPECIAL SERVICES

During the 2007-2008 school year, the Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School District provided special education services to over two hundred students. In September 2008, the Student Support Services Department is working with approximately two hundred thirteen students.

The federal special education law, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), was reauthorized in December of 2004 and came fully into effect on July 1, 2005. In August 2006, the U.S. Department of Education released new Regulations for Part B of IDEA, which went into effect October 13, 2006. The 2004 Amendments to IDEA expand upon the 1997 reauthorization and include new requirements. The reauthorized act continues to emphasize the role of parents and expands opportunities for parents, general educators and special educators to work together in partnerships that support student learning and the success of students in adult life.

The Student Support Services Department at Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School provides support to all students. We have two full-time nurses, who administer medications, perform state mandated health screening exams and provide, when necessary, health information to the TEAM for a student's IEP meeting. We employ a full time school social worker that is able to participate on TEAM's and assist students who have needs concerning finances, family issues homelessness, maternity, health issues, and proper food and clothing. Our students have access to the services of a full time adjustment counselor and part time school psychologist. Both of these individuals are available for scheduling counseling sessions and mental health emergency treatment as well as crisis intervention. We do have on staff a full time psychologist whose role it is to evaluate all students referred to an initial

evaluation or who require a three-year re-evaluation. IN addition, we have a full time speech pathologist that is available to service students with disabilities, assess these students and consult the teachers within the building.

The Special Education Department at Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School District is reviewed annually in May, in accordance with regulator requirements. The results of this evaluation are used to improve the special education procedures and programs at Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School District. The Parent Advisory Council participates in this review and evaluation.

The Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School District adheres to federal and state laws regarding confidentiality of personally identifiable student information.

STUDENT AFFAIRS AND ATHLETICS

The Monty Tech Athletic Program was again very successful in the 2007-2008 school year. Our numbers keep increasing every day. We had 15 teams compete in the fall of 2007, 12 in the winter of 07-08 and 8 last spring.

Last fall, the Varsity Football team finished at 2 – 9. The JV Football team was 6 – 4 and Freshman Football team 2 – 6. The Varsity Boys Soccer team finished 10 – 3 – 5 and qualified for the Central Mass Tournament, where they were beat by Nipmuc Regional 5 – 3. The JV Boys Soccer team was 8 – 4 – 3. The Golf Team's record was 0 – 12. We had four JV Golf Tournaments at the Red Farm Golf Course in Upton in an attempt to improve our program. The Field Hockey team was 4 – 12 – 2, under first year coach, Nancy LeBlanc, who filled in for Dee Gevrekakis, who had her first child, Christopher, in October. The Monty Tech Faculty held the annual Teachers vs. Student Field Hockey game to raise money for a scholarship, which was very successful. The Boys Cross Country team was 2 – 12, and the Girls Cross Country team was 4 – 5. The Girls Volleyball team had a 7 – 13 record. The JV Girls Volleyball team was 2 – 16, and the Freshmen Girls team was 2 – 4, as they continue to improve. The JV Girls Soccer team finished at 14 – 1 – 2, with most of the girls moving up this fall, our girls program looks very promising. The Varsity Cheerleaders participated in the CAL Championships, held at Blackstone Valley Tech in October.

The winter season was very exciting. The Girls Varsity Basketball team qualified for the District tournament with a 19 – 1 record and won the Colonial Athletic League Championship again. In the State Vocational Tournament, they beat Tri-County 50 – 37 and lost to Lynn Tech 56 – 45 in the championship game. They beat Blackstone Valley Tech in the District Tournament 52 – 33 before losing to Whitinsville Christian 60 – 52. They finished the entire season at 21 – 3. The Varsity Boys Basketball team finished at 14 – 6 in the regular season to qualify for the District Tournament. They also qualified for the State Vocational Tournament, where they lost to Shawsheen Valley Tech 43 – 41 in a very exciting game. In the District Tournament, they beat St. Mary's 67 – 48, before losing to South Lancaster Academy 76 – 53. They tied for the Colonial Athletic League title, with a 12 – 2 league record, the first title since 1994. The JV Boys Basketball team was 6 – 14 and played with a lot of desire and pride. The Freshmen Boys were 7 – 6 and showed vast improvement over the year. The JV Girls were 10 – 7. The Freshmen Girls were 2 – 11, as they prepared to move up to the JV Program this year. The Wrestling team was 2 – 9 in dual meets and participated in many tournaments. We ran a Co-op Ice Hockey team, which did very well again, as they participated in the District

Tournament, losing in the semi-finals. The JV Ice Hockey team played very well, as the younger players look to improve their skills. We participated in a Co-op Swim team with Leominster and had 6 girls and 2 boys complete the season. We look forward to this venture again this year.

In the spring, the Varsity Softball team again gave Monty Tech a lot to be proud of, as they won the State Vocational Tournament for the third time, beating Whittier Tech 10 – 23 and Shawsheen Tech 7 – 7, scoring four runs in the bottom of the 7th for the win. They finished 21 – 3 and won the Colonial Athletic League Championship for the fourth year in a row and the nineteenth time in 23 years. They beat Nashoba Tech 15 – 3 in the Central Mass. Tournament, before falling to Narragansett 10 – 4. Coach Reid is only eight wins away from 500 in his coaching career at Monty Tech. The JV Softball team was 6 – 12. The Boys Volleyball team was 7 – 13. The Varsity Baseball team finished at 2 – 18. The JV Baseball team was 5 – 7 – 1, and the Freshmen Baseball team was 1 – 7. The Boys Track & Field team was 7 – 3, while the Girls Track & Field team was 9 – 1, and won the Colonial Athletic League championship.

The Outstanding Male and Female athletes for 2007 - 2008 were:

Male – Eric Gallotto

Female – Madeline Merchant

David Reid, Athletic Director, was selected as the District E – Athletic Director of the Year for 2008-2009. This is the second time he has won this award. He will be honored at the annual conference in March at the Cape. He has been with Monty Tech since 1973 as a teacher, retiring at the end of the 2006-2007 school year. He began his Athletic Director's job in 1978 and continues to serve Monty Tech in this position.

TECHNOLOGY

The demand for technology support continues to grow as technology changes and as teachers and staff become aware of the resources available to them. The Technology Office supports computer labs in both the trade and academic areas in addition to individual computers in classrooms and administrative offices.

The demand for information has also increased, both at the state level and school level. The Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education Student Information Management System (SIMS) reporting has been in place for many years. For the first time, in October 2007, schools were required to transmit staff data to the state as part of the Education Personnel Information Management System (EPIMS) reporting. At the school level, data drive decisions are reflected in improved student achievement.

In the spring of 2008, the school converted to the x2 Aspen student information system. The x2 system has excellent querying and exporting capabilities, which has improved the Technology Office's ability to provide timely information. The x2 system includes a "family portal" which allows guardian access to student attendance, conduct, and grade information.

Network performance continues to be a challenge. The replacement of "cat 3" wiring in some areas of the building is still a need. The continued support of the School Committee and administration is appreciated as the Technology Office strives to provide vital support to students and staff.

GRANTS AND CONTRACTS

Monty Tech continues to pursue grant funding on an annual basis. For fiscal year 2008, state and federal grant sources provided the school with \$840,112. Programs funded by these grants include Improving Teacher Quality, Enhanced Education through Technology, Special Education Allocation, Special Education Assistance and Mentoring, Special Education Program Improvement, Title V, Title I, Drug Free Schools, Occupational Education – Vocational Skills, Safe Schools and Summer Academic Support. With a \$40,000 state competitive grant, Monty Tech provided students in the Health Occupations Program with current EMT training.

CONCLUDING STATEMENT

The School Committee and administration is justly proud of the staff and students of the Monty Tech District and their accomplishments. Monty Tech will continue to work with the business community, local educational institutions, higher education and its vocational technical counterparts across the Commonwealth to develop common sense plans and responses to the educational challenges we face.

Monty Tech's School Committee, administration and staff look forward to continued growth, and we are committed to providing the best possible educational opportunities for workforce development within the District, and to that end, respectfully invites and encourages the continued support of town officials, parents and citizens in each of its member communities.



**ANNUAL REPORT
FIFTY- SECOND ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
RALPH C. MAHAR REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMITTEE
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2008**

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

	Town	Term Expires
Maureen Donelan, Chair	Orange	2011
Cara Deane, Vice-Chair	Orange	2009
Joseph Camden	New Salem	2009
Nadine Parsons	Orange	2010
Peter Cross	Orange	2010
Patricia Smith	Orange	2009
Robin LaCroix	Orange	2011
Deb Habib, Ed.D.	Orange	2009
Dana Kennan	Petersham	2009
Michael LeBlanc	Petersham	2009
Richard Baldwin	Wendell	2009



**STUDENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Nicolas Guerra**

Reza Namin, Ph.D., Superintendent
Gabriele Voelker, District Treasurer
Robin Briand, Administrator of Finance and Personnel

Office Hours: 7:30 A.M. - 3:30 P.M.
Office Telephone: 978-544 2920
District Web site: <http://www.rcmahar.org>

**AT A MEETING OF THE RALPH C. MAHAR REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COMMITTEE HELD ON FEBRUARY 3, 2009, IT WAS VOTED TO ACCEPT THE
REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT AND ADOPT IT AS THE REPORT OF THE
REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMITTEE.**

To the members of the Ralph C. Mahar Regional School Committee and the voters of the Ralph C. Mahar Regional School District, I herewith submit my Annual Report as Superintendent. The report to the Ralph C. Mahar Regional School District Committee covers the period January 1, 2008 to December 31, 2008. As such, all reports cover the final half of the 2007-2008 Fiscal Year and the first half of the 2008-2009 Fiscal Year.

**VISION 2009 STRATEGIC PLAN
VOTED BY THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE ON JUNE 9, 2006**

Mission Statement

The Ralph C. Mahar Regional School District prepares all students to be responsible participants in a changing society. In a safe and supportive learning environment, we provide all students with the challenging experiences necessary to reach their potential.

Guiding Principles

We believe:

- all students do best when actively engaged in the learning process.
- all students should learn in a safe, secure, and healthy environment that respects diversity and values life-long learning.
- the education of a child is the shared responsibility of school, community, and the family.
- student assessment and program evaluation are essential for continuous improvement.
- all decisions should be made in the best interest of the students.
- high quality and relevant professional development is essential for the growth and the success of the education process.
- in setting high academic standards and being committed to proficiency for all students.
- in providing an opportunity for students to reach their full potential.
- in fostering personal responsibility in students.
- in maintaining a high level of technological education for students and staff.
- in a culture of shared decision making.
- in promoting business, school, and community partnerships.

Vision Statement

The Ralph C. Mahar Regional School District, in partnership with the community, offers a nurturing atmosphere in a modern facility. This environment fosters creativity and critical thinking in its students, staff, and administration – the Mahar Community.

All members of the Mahar Community are continually encouraged to reach their optimal development and to be committed to social good. Our success is demonstrated by the achievement of our students and their ability to face the challenges of the future.

Goals and Objectives

I. Teaching and Learning

To engage all students in challenging programs that will meet their individual needs.

- Developed and implemented an induction and mentoring program for all teachers in their first three years of employment.
- Designed and implemented a professional development program that builds on teachers' recommendations to develop relevant and useful programs and affiliations.
- Implemented a student-centered course selection system that incorporates teacher and parent recommendations.
- Developed and implemented a long-range budget plan for providing adequate educational resources equitably divided among all subject areas.
- Developed and implemented a plan to recruit and hire top quality candidates in a timely manner.
- Allocated adequate funds to form a teacher-based team that met in the summer of 2007. This team investigated, planned and reported to the regional school committee on alternative student-based learning programs for all levels of students, especially at-risk and advanced students.

II. District Climate and Culture

To create and sustain an atmosphere of mutual respect and cooperation within the entire school community.

- Provided a safe and respectful environment that welcomes diversity.
- Encouraged student input in developing and implementing programs that teach relevant and effective ways of dealing with peer relations.
- Enabled staff to be responsive to the evolving needs of students through appropriate professional development.
- Established and supported a professional community where ideas are exchanged and decisions are made in a collegial and collaborative manner.

III. Community Partnerships

To develop and nurture dynamic partnerships with the greater community.

- Identified and established mutually – beneficial community partnerships on an annual basis.
- Establish partnerships with community groups interested in promoting the civic involvement of our students.
- Created a school district capital planning committee to project future financial needs and engaged in an open and ongoing dialogue with member towns.

IV. School and District Organization

To build organizational structures which support effective teaching and learning at all developmental levels while maintaining fiscal responsibility.

- Submitted to the Mahar Regional School District an organizational structure for administrative supervision at grades 7-12 which defined and delineated clear lines of responsibility and authority for staffing and programs.
- Produced a recognizable and distinct identity for middle school governance by making changes in the current school district organizational structure.
- Established a study committee that investigated and issued a final report with recommendations to the Mahar Regional School District Committee on alternative scheduling methods to accommodate the needs of student at all developmental levels.
- Developed and implemented a structure of ongoing communication with K-6 feeder schools which allowed our district to focus on articulation and coordination of curriculum, transition issues and programming needs.

GRANTS

The efforts of staff members have resulted in the District receiving Grants totaling **\$456,256** (an increase of 35.4% more than previous year) for the 2008-2009 school year. This has allowed for programs and services to be implemented that otherwise would not be funded. Some examples of the federal and state grants are as following:

Title II-A Improving Educator Quality (\$41,794)

The purpose of this grant program is to increase student achievement through reduction of the class size and comprehensive district initiatives that focus on the preparation, training, recruitment, and retention of highly qualified educators. These initiatives should be aligned with Massachusetts' reform efforts and should help districts meet the NCLB goals and requirements for highly qualified teachers, instructional paraprofessionals in Title I targeted assistance and school wide programs, and high-quality professional development. The goal is to improve the overall quality of all educators, including administrators, within the district.

Title II-D - Enhancing Education Through Technology (\$1,948)

This federal grant program is intended to help districts improve student achievement through the use of technology in their schools. Also, it is designed to assist students in becoming technologically literate by the end of eighth grade. Lastly, it encourages high quality professional development that uses research-based instructional strategies to integrate technology effectively into the instruction.

Federal Special Education Entitlement P.L. 94-142 (\$197,444)

The salaries of the Home/School Liaison Counselor, one Special Education Teacher, and a Special Education Paraprofessional were paid through this grant. Some classroom instructional supplies were purchased.

Special Education – Program Improvement (\$2,700)

This state entitlement grant supports education for students who are challenged by the traditional learning environment. Professional development for the maintenance of the Integrated Learning Center AM and PM programs were funded by this grant.

Title I (\$181,385)

Title I, as reauthorized under the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, provides resources to local school districts to assist low achieving students in high poverty schools to meet the state's challenging academic standards.

Title IV Safe and Drug Free Schools (\$4,153)

The purpose of this federal grant is to support programs that prevent violence in and around schools; prevent illegal use of alcohol, tobacco, and drugs; involve parents and communities; and coordinate with related federal, state, school, and community efforts and resources to foster a safe and drug-free learning environment that supports student achievement.

Schools and Libraries Universal Service E-Rate (\$14,432)

The funding from this source was used to support the Virtual High School program. Five students participated in this program and successfully took courses such as Irish Literature, Nuclear Physics, Astronomy, Advanced Chemistry, Music, and Flash Animation and Graphics Design. In addition, the funding from this also helped in support of the communication tool called Connect-Ed.

Special Education Department MCAS Grant (\$12,400)

The funding is utilized to implement an innovative after school MCAS preparation program for seventy students identified based on individual needs in the Class of 2010 who will be taking the MCAS in the spring 2008. Other funds will be made available for students who have yet to earn a competency determination by passing the English and Language Arts or Mathematics portion of previous MCAS examinations.

PERSONNEL

Both in an effort to sustain the progress that Mahar Regional School District has made and to provide our children the best education possible, I have challenged our administration to recruit and hire the most qualified employees. It is my pleasure to welcome these "highly qualified" and outstanding individuals into our *school community* this year:

We are very pleased to have the following new faculty and staff members joining the Mahar family: Christopher Bailey, English Teacher; Robert Broussard, Alternative Education Teacher; Michael Dettorre, Math Teacher; Eric Dion, Guidance Counselor; Robin Dion, Health Teacher; Karrie Hammond, High School Secretary; Jamie Lewinski, High School ELL/English Teacher; Kyle Magoffin, Physical Education Teacher; Richard Pavlick, Middle School Science Teacher; Christine Perham, Math/Science Teacher; Meghan Stone, Academic Paraprofessional; Jillian Sullivan, Special Education Teacher; and Nicholas Wisniewski, Middle School Math Teacher

In hiring these individuals the central office, high school and middle school administration reviewed more than 300 applications and interviewed close to 100 candidates. It was flattering to me that so many educational professionals selected Ralph C. Mahar as a district of choice. It is also flattering to me that families continue to choose Ralph C. Mahar for their children – understanding that they could choose other educational options.

An analysis of the operations of the Special Education Department and the Student Services Department revealed that Guidance Counselors and Special Education Staff often deal with the same constituencies in an effort to improve academic, social and emotional success for our students. To create efficiencies focused on meeting the needs of our students and their families, these two departments are now merged under the title of Student Support Services Department.

NEW PARTNERSHIPS

CAPS Educational Collaborative

We are pleased to announce that the CAPS Educational Collaborative has selected the Ralph C. Mahar Regional School as the new location for their Horizons II program. This program services the educational needs of students with multiple disabilities. Currently three of the five students in this program are residents of Orange, MA. Prior to the existence of this program on the campus of Ralph C. Mahar Regional these students would travel to and from Gardner, MA to attend their specialized educational program. This partnership highlights inclusive practices in education as it provides the opportunity for children with severe disabilities to be educated in the same location as their same aged peers.

Communities Collaborative

The Student Support Services Department has worked closely with The Communities Collaborative, Inc. in Orange, MA. This organization was created by the extremely generous grant funding of local individuals who looked to increase support for families, children, and adolescents in our area. I would like to use this annual report as an opportunity to recognize this outstanding collaboration. It has served to bridge home and school in the creation of innovative hybrid educational programs for our students with extensive needs.

Dual Enrollment

Our students are now offered more opportunities for learning outside of the regular school environment. In accordance with *The Readiness Project* as introduced in 2008 by Governor Deval Patrick, I am looking forward to increased opportunities for our students to participate in dual enrollment with local colleges and universities. As a first step all Ralph C. Mahar 10th, 11th, and 12th graders have been offered the opportunity to take the *Accuplacer* examination. This assessment provides students valuable information about their own readiness to enter a college program. Students who score in the appropriate range may then enroll in classes at Mount Wachusett Community College, Greenfield Community College, and/or other area colleges in which college credits are earned while they remain high school students.

STUDENT DROPOUT

According to the data released by the Massachusetts Board of Education in regard to student dropout, Ralph C. Mahar Regional High School's student dropout rate has decreased to 0.6% which is a historical improvement from 7.1% since 2002.

CURRICULUM AND LEARNING

In January 2008, we opened the *Integrated Learning Center*. This alternative high school program has been successful in meeting the academic needs of high school students who are not traditional learners. The AM Program is characterized by full-time students who require specific programming to support cooperative peer to peer, and peer to adult relationships. This is accomplished through a level system which provides clearly identified rewards and consequences for varying student behaviors.

The *Integrated Learning Center Afternoon Instruction Program* strives to provide the best education possible within a minimal amount of time. Students enrolled in the Afternoon Instruction Program attend classes for two hours each day with the signed understanding that this academic program includes a 20 hour work week in which students earn career credits. This program allows students the flexibility to gain valuable work experience while pursuing their high school diplomas.



Ralph C. Mahar Regional High School has been ranked as one of America's Best High School, according to the U.S. News & World Report.

It is with delight that I announce that Ralph C. Mahar Regional School has been named one of the top 500 high schools of more than 21,000 United States Public High Schools, according to the US News & World Report. This distinction is based on exceptional performance on state tests (MCAS) and Advanced Placement (AP) scores when juxtaposed to the demographic make up of our student body. This award is a testament to the hard work of our administration and staff and their dedication to the students and families who make up the Mahar Regional School District.

CONCLUSION

With an excellent administrative team, school committee, faculty, parents, and students and with their willingness to adhere to our strategic plan, we have both the inspiration and the opportunity to renew our commitment to the education of our children. Together, we will continue building a better Mahar. Our strategic goals continue to engage all students in challenging programs that will meet their individual needs, create and sustain an atmosphere of mutual respect and cooperation within the entire school community, develop and nurture dynamic partnerships with the greater community, and to build organizational structures which support effective teaching and learning at all developmental levels while maintaining fiscal responsibility.

Respectfully submitted,

Reza Namin, PhD
Superintendent

TELEPHONE DIRECTORY EMERGENCIES

AMBULANCE	911
FIRE	911
POLICE	911
ATHOL STATE POLICE	978-249-4341
POISON INFORMATION	1-800-682-9211
SUICIDE INFORMATION	1-508-791-6562

TOWN GOVERNMENT

Administrative Coordinator	978-724-3353
Board of Assessors	724-6658
Board of Health	724-0057
Building Inspector	724-3586
Burning Permit	508-867-1066
Conservation Commission	724-3564
Council on Aging	(Mondays) 724-3522
Dog Officer	978-544-6441
Fire Station (non-emergency).....	724-3371
Gas Inspector	508-249-6175
Highway Department	724-3211
Planning Board	724-0057
Plumbing Inspector	978-544-6008
Police Department (office)	724-3330
Police Department (after-hours non-emergency)	724-3232
Selectboard	724-3353
Tax Collector	724-6620
Town Clerk	724-6649
Treasurer	724-6699
Tree Warden	724-8822
Veterans' Agent	978-249-6935
Wiring Inspector	978-249-4663
Zoning Board of Appeals	724-0057

SCHOOLS

Mahar Regional Superintendent's Office	978-544-2920
Mahar Regional Main Office	978-544-2542
Petersham Center School	978-724-3363
Petersham Montessori School	978-724-0246

HOSPITALS

Athol Memorial	978-249-3511
Henry Heywood, Gardner	978-632-3420

