

ANNUAL REPORT

2012



TOWN OF WEST BROOKFIELD
FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2012

TOWN OF WEST BROOKFIELD

WORCESTER COUNTY

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

ESTABLISHED: 1660 – Quaboag Plantation
INCORPORATED: March 3, 1848
LAND AREA: 20.67 Square Miles
POPULATION: 3,294

LOCATION: Central Massachusetts bordered on the North-by-North Brookfield, Northwest by New Braintree, West by Ware, Southwest by Warren and Southeast by Brookfield.

TOPOGRAPHICAL FEATURES: Generally hilly terrain with elevation ranging from 598 feet above sea level to 1,206 feet above sea level. A relatively wide valley crosses the southern portion of the Town where the Quaboag River flows. Wickaboag Pond is the only major body of water.

ELEVATION AT TOWN HALL: 633 ft above sea level

SCHOOL SYSTEM:

Quaboag Regional School (Warren – West Brookfield)

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 2nd Massachusetts

Jim McGovern, Congressman

1-508-831-7356 Worcester Office

UNITED STATES SENATOR:

Elizabeth Warren, Senator

1-617-565-3170 Boston Office

John F. Kerry, Senator

1-617-565-8519

STATE SENATORIAL DISTRICT: Franklin, Hampden,
Hampshire, Worcester Counties

Stephen M. Brewer, Senator

1-617-722-1540

STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT: 5th Worcester

Anne M. Gobi, Representative

1-617-722-2000

TYPE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT:

Town Meeting

Board of Selectmen – Three (3) Members

ADA COORDINATOR

The Architectural Barriers Act of 1968 (42 USC, 4151 et seq.) requires certain federally assisted buildings to be constructed so as to be accessible to physically handicapped persons and *the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990* (42 USC, 12101 et seq.) prohibits discrimination against the disabled individuals in private and public employment, public accommodations, public transportation, government services and telecommunications.

The Selectmen have agreed to place an article on the Annual Town Meeting Warrant on May 14, 2013 to allow residents to vote on the purchase and installation of audible pedestrian traffic signals to be located at the crosswalks on Route 9/Cottage/Central Streets.

Respectfully submitted,
Johanna Swain, ADA Coordinator

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The primary task of the Advisory Committee is to review and make recommendations on all articles that appear in any warrant presented to the voters of West Brookfield. In addition, we advise the Board of Selectmen on those issues on which they request our input. The seven Advisory Committee members are appointed by the Selectmen for three-year overlapping terms. In the event that the Board of Selectmen fails to appoint a new member within 30 days after a vacancy occurs, the Committee, itself, may appoint a new member.

The Committee meets regularly throughout the year, more frequently during periods leading up to Town Meetings in order to review budgets and warrant articles.

In May, Chairman Al Collings departed the Committee after almost 10 years of dedicated service. His presence and experience are missed, and we thank him for the countless hours he devoted to the town. Roger Slobody was appointed by the Advisory

Committee to fill the vacant position. John Tivnan took over the Chairmanship.

State aid (Cherry Sheet) to cities and towns of the Commonwealth remains at a very low level; therefore, the Advisory Committee requested that for the FY13 budget cycle the cost of living salary adjustments (except for step and grade increases) be limited to 3%; and that budgeted expenses (excluding salary adjustments, energy, and transportation costs) be limited to 0% of the approved FY12 budgeted expenses.

West Brookfield’s state mandated school district minimum contribution budget for FY13 was \$2,388,714, an increase of \$43,255, or 1.9% over last year. The School District requested and received an additional \$50,000.00 in Discretionary Funds above this minimum requirement.

The Town Warrant budget figures for the Annual Town Meeting, excluding debt, are as follows:

Town Department operating budget requests	\$3,100,639
Education budget requests (includes vocational ed.)	3,051,803
TOTAL Omnibus Budget	\$6,152,442
Article request for funds	145,500
TOTAL Warrant needs	\$6,297,942
Raise & appropriate funds available	\$5,865,076
Funded from other sources	432,866
TOTAL funding needed	\$6,297,942

Free cash on hand at the May Town Meeting was \$191,233.17, which was used to fund some of the amounts needed above and beyond our income (referred to as “raise and appropriate”) estimate for this year. At the conclusion of the meeting, the free cash amount stood at \$11,324.75.

“Free cash” is the term for money that has not been spent by town departments and is returned to the General Fund. Also included is Chapter 90 reimbursement; any income received in excess of what was estimated for the May Town Meeting; and

other sources. There was a total of \$692,729 in free cash certified by the state in July 2012. Therefore, that was the amount the Advisory Committee had to work with at the Fall Special Town Meeting.

At the Fall Special Town Meeting, 10 warrant articles were funded by this free cash. Among these were:

Route 9 TIPS Project	\$131,151
Fire Truck Stabilization Fund	\$30,000
Chapter 90 (roadwork, will be reimbursed)	\$235,812
Fleet Account	\$88,000
2011 Halloween storm clean-up (some reimbursement)	\$102,724

These and other expenditures, totaled \$692,537, leaving a balance of \$191.29 at the close of the meeting.

Over the years, The Town of West Brookfield has accumulated financial reserves for funding budget items in times of decreased state aid. The funds have been depleted as we have dipped into them to finance our town's operational needs. These reserves include three stabilization accounts.

The \$1,306,611 *General Stabilization Account* is reserved for capital projects, and the Advisory Committee has recommended that the account balance not dip below \$1,000,000.00. Due to funding articles at the May Town Meeting, the General Stabilization Account was reduced to \$1,048,460.89.

As noted above, \$30,000 was deposited in the *Fire Truck Stabilization Account* (established to fund the purchase of a new truck) bringing the fund's total to \$253,518. The plan is to continue to increase this account by \$30,000 for the next several years. The Advisory Committee has worked with the Fire Department to delay the purchase of a new truck for as long as is feasible, and has encouraged the investigation of less expensive options, which will provide needed coverage.

The \$2,123,723 *Water Stabilization Account* was created from the receipt of Methyl Tertiary Butyl Ether (MTBE) settlement funds from various oil companies. The Advisory Committee has recommended that these accounts be used for upgrades to the aging well and water distribution system, with

the caveat that \$1.5 million remain in the account until such time as there is a higher degree of confidence that the town will never have to defend or pay an MTBE claim. With the development of the new well west of Route 9, the Water Department spent a little more than \$1.3 million of this account at the May Town Meeting and another \$331,000 at the Fall special Town Meeting, leaving a balance of \$882,997 in the fund.

Last year, our share of funding for the Quaboag Regional Middle/High School building and technology projects was passed over due to the failure of Warren voters to approve their share. This year, Warren voted to approve a debt exclusion and expenditures for their elementary school, as well as their share of the Middle/High School projects. West Brookfield approved our estimated \$379,510 share of the Middle/High School technology and building improvements. We had already approved a debt exclusion for this amount, so only a town meeting article expenditure was needed.

The Road Committee recommended to the town that approximately \$2,502,230 was needed to fund road repair projects. They created a ten-year schedule detailing which roads were to be repaired; upgraded, etc. (This schedule can be found on wbrookfield.com under Highway Department.) The Advisory Committee recommended financing \$125,000 for FY13 and thereafter, and giving consideration to entering into a bond agreement and debt exclusion at some future town meeting.

Our continuing updated vehicle purchase analysis for the next five years, shared with voters at the town meetings, has proved to be a useful tool. After discussions with department managers, we have deferred a decision to purchase a new fire truck for several years, and considered less expensive options for replacing vehicles in other departments.

With all of our financial needs and limited resources, we are going to have to continue to manage our budget priorities carefully over the next several years. If the current trend of decreased state aid coupled with increased financial demands from the School District, along with the depletion of all our reserves continues, the town will be forced to shrink monies spent on other departmental

budgets (Highway, Police, Library, Town Hall, etc.) in order to live within our means.

Respectfully submitted,
John V. Tivnan, Chairman

Richard Gobi	Roy Roberts	Tom Long
Phil Landine	Roger Slobody	Diane Vayda

ANIMAL INSPECTOR

As I predicted in 2010, the beef production has risen. Dairy farms are out and beef farms are in. Need for considerable amounts of open land for feed and pasture are attainable in the town of West Brookfield. Salems, Talvey, and Johnson farms all large acres of these very resources. Horses seem to be on a decline this year.

West Brookfield is a farm friendly town and many are taking advantage of this idea.

ANIMAL COUNT 2012

	<u>Adult</u>	<u>Young</u>
Dairy	4	20
Beef	191	108
Goats	31	8
Sheep	54	
Swine	8	65
Horses (mini)	48	8
Horses	78	
Ponies	3	
Donkeys	10	

Respectfully submitted,
Barry Nadon, Sr., Animal Inspector

ANNUAL SALARY

Adams, Kenai	\$1,448.50		Courtemanche, Elaine	\$3,607.47	
Adams-White, Renne	\$34.00		Couture, John	\$1,074.86	
Albano, James	\$1,376.00	D	Crevier, Shawn	\$1,032.00	D
Allen, Sarah	\$38,370.20		Dacey, Paul	\$344.00	D
Allen, Virginia	\$1,967.39		Daley, James	\$68,755.60	
Anderson, Ashley	\$1,430.98		DeSantis, Aaron	\$1,096.50	D
Anderson, Beverly	\$208.25		DeSantis, Christopher	\$860.00	D
Anderson, Scott	\$3,817.46		DiGrigoli, Dinnea	\$165.00	
Arsenault, Keith	\$30,297.81		DiMaio, Elisabeth	\$28,379.98	
Arsenault, Marie	\$53,600.53		DiMaio, James	\$600.00	
Ayer, Richard	\$172.00	D	Dolan, Jane	\$2,055.33	
Ayers, Brian	\$21,505.83	D+	Donais, Christopher	\$1,870.50	D
Ayotte, James	\$140.12	D	Dorman, Kevin	\$3,399.50	
Ball, Justyna	\$6,099.28		Dorman, Melvin	\$1,050.00	
Barrett, Jason	\$344.00		Duggan Jr., Herbert	\$18,988.06	D+
Barrett, Nicholas	\$297.00		Dunivan, Kevin	\$3,876.12	
Barrett, Teresa	\$32,339.71		Dustin, Brian	\$977.96	
Bastien, Joanne	\$161.50		Edwards, Clayton	\$2,226.60	
Benson, Robert	\$7,486.07		Frank, Nicholas	\$912.70	
Bentini, Todd	\$258.00	D	Frew, Betty	\$19,287.64	
Berard, Jesse	\$2,085.50	D	Frew, Michael	\$1,977.50	
Boos, James	\$197.10		Frizzell Sr., John	\$840.00	
Bordeau, Sharon	\$7,734.24		Fullam, Brandon	\$1,012.88	D
Borlikoski, Charlotte	\$114.75		Garin, Mary	\$148.75	
Bourget, Albert	\$1,505.00	D	Gaudet, Dillion	\$1,149.50	
Brown, Joanna	\$1,820.95		Goodman, Philip	\$10,577.90	
Brown, Marissa	\$5,985.91		Gorham, Jacob	\$51.00	
Brown, Trevor	\$150.00		Grabosky, John	\$7,633.49	
Burns-Jackson, Mary	\$29,369.60		Gray, William	\$668.20	
Casey, Elsie	\$123.25		Grimshaw, Carrie	\$38,915.20	
Cassavant, Daniel	\$284.70		Haire, Carol	\$229.50	
Cassavant, Duane	\$46,443.42		Hartung, Kara	\$8,898.51	D+
Cassavant, Mark	\$142.12		Higgins, Jane	\$565.00	
Cassavant, Ryan	\$162.14		Hilliker, Cody	\$1,299.57	
Cassavant, Wesley	\$57,250.40		Horne, Randy	\$1,892.00	D
Chaffee, Richard	\$354.05		Iwaniec, Eric	\$9,889.82	D+
Charron, Brian	\$4,751.84		Jankins, Oliva	\$132.00	
Chase, Clavin	\$51.00		Jankins, Shelby	\$264.00	
Christakis, Margot	\$222.81		Jankins, Thomas	\$187.00	
Churchey, David	\$2,590.75	D	Judycki, Kally	\$3,958.27	
Churchey, Lee	\$1,677.00	D	Kane, Alexandra	\$1,601.00	
Ciejka, Joseph	\$1,495.99		Kennan Jr., Richard	\$41,586.80	
Contacos, Suzanne	\$38.25		Kent Jr., Edward	\$312.52	

ASPARAGUS & FLOWER HERITAGE FESTIVAL

This year's annual event was held on Saturday, May 29 on the Town Common from 10am – 4pm. Attendance was amazing!

Co-sponsors once again were the West Brookfield Historical Commission and the Quaboag Historical Society. Over 100 vendors, non-profit organizations, and exhibitors took part in the event. Each food vendor provided a special asparagus dish in addition to traditional foods.

A great variety of games were provided. These along with “Ed the Wizard,” the Spencer Savings Bank train and the Frog Jumping Contest provided great fun for the children. Country Bank volunteers, once again, assisted in the creation of decorative visors, which were worn by folks young and old.

Dick Chase provided music that everyone enjoyed. Hay bales provided seating for those enjoying the music.

The “May Pole Dance” was enjoyed by all.

This year, tote bags and drink coasters with the Festival logo were available at the Information Booth.

Donations were made to the Jimmy Fund and the Fountain Restoration Fund by the Festival Committee.

We *thank* the dancers, musicians, vendors and Highway Department, once again. Special *thanks* to Rudy Arn for his portrayal of Diederick Leertouwer, whose history inspired this event.

Committee Members in 2012 were: Kara Bigda, Melinda Czub, Amy Dugas, George and Elaine Hibbard, Dick Rossman and Claudia Tourigny.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard Rossman, Chairman

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Our town has 2,479 parcels:

- 1,379 Residential Improved Parcels
- 788 Vacant Parcels
- 95 Commercial/Industrial/Mixed Used Parcels
- 93 Chapter 61, 61A, 61B Parcels
- 124 Personal Property

The value of all taxable property of Fiscal Year 2012 was \$370,324,052. The Fiscal Year tax rate is \$11.63 per thousand. The new tax rate reflects an accurate rate without last year's Quaboag Regional return of \$154,445.

In addition, the Assessors continue to implement the state law passed by the legislature (Chapter 59, Section 2D), which allows towns to issue supplemental real estate tax bills to property owners who make improvements to their property equal to more than fifty percent (50%) of the property's prior value. These bills are triggered by the issuance of occupancy permits and prorated according to the date on the occupancy permit.

The Assessors continue to work very closely with the Building Inspector, as the Town requires building permits on almost all improvements made to your property. These building permits aid in correctly valuing a property's worth. Upon notification by the Building Inspector of permits issued, the Assessors will visit the property to verify and photograph it. Prior to our inspection, the property owner will receive a questionnaire from our office for them to complete. This will assure us that our records are correct. **We ask that anyone who receives one of these questionnaires takes the time to complete it and return it to us.** When these forms are not returned to our office, we cannot make the necessary changes to ensure that the information we have on file is accurate.

ADDRESS CORRECTIONS

The bulk of information used in the Assessors' Office is indexed by address. **It is essential that you inform our office of any changes in your address as soon as the change occurs.** It certainly will help us to serve you more efficiently and prevent the necessity of duplicate mailings at an added cost to the taxpayers.

MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE TAX BILLS

Many people come to our office with questions regarding their Motor Vehicle Excise Tax Bills. The Registry of Motor Vehicles sends computerized data to all towns and the bills are then printed and mailed from the Tax Collector's Office. The information you receive on your bill is based on data the Registry of Motor Vehicles has in their files for any calendar year beginning January 1st. Please pay particular attention to the **"Garaging Location"** on your insurance form. If you have any changes in this location or in any other information, you must notify the Registry of Motor Vehicles so that your license, registration and Motor Vehicle Excise Tax Bills are correct. This also ensures that you receive a bill at your correct address.

In addition, if you have sold a motor vehicle during the year, you may apply for an abatement of your excise bill by completing an application and providing our office with proof of sale, as well as a copy of the Plate Return Receipt, or new registration if you transferred your license plates.

Our door is always open and we welcome any comments or questions. We are proud to provide a very personalized service to you and enjoy the opportunity to meet with many of you throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,
William Mansfield, Chairman
Kevin Dorman
Nicole Vongratsamy
Elisabeth DiMaio, Secretary

BOARD OF HEALTH

During the past year, the Board of Health has generated approximately \$13,187.00 through various required permit fees. The fees are as follows:

The Board of Health issued:

Septic Permit	\$200. ⁰⁰	Perc Test	\$150. ⁰⁰
Septic Installers	\$50. ⁰⁰	Septic Haulers	\$50. ⁰⁰
Trash Haulers	\$50. ⁰⁰	Retail Food	\$50. ⁰⁰
Food Service	\$50. ⁰⁰	Food Catering	\$50. ⁰⁰
Milk Store	\$10. ⁰⁰	Body Art	\$180. ⁰⁰
Tanning	\$15. ⁰⁰	Outdoor Boilers	\$75. ⁰⁰
1-Day Food Permit	\$10. ⁰⁰	Farmer's Market	\$35. ⁰⁰
		(includes Asparagus Festival)	

Perc Permit	25	Septic Permit	23
Food Permit	33	Milk Permit	11
Tanning Permit	2	Septic Installer Permit	9
Campground Permit	1	Mobile Home Park Permit	1
Pool Permit	1	Septage Hauling Permit	3
Trash Hauling Permit	6	Farmer's Market/Seasonal	9
		Food Permit	
Bathing Beach Permit	1	Outdoor Wood Boiler	0
One-Day Food Permit	16	Body Art Permit	0

The West Brookfield Board of Health contracts its medical services with Harrington Hospital.

The Town of West Brookfield has a low interest loan program for the repair of septic systems. Contact the Administrative Assistant for further information.

Many hours have been devoted to studying the issues that could lead to **the dredging of the North Cove of Lake Wickaboag**. Through many generous donations, we are several steps closer to our goal. The testing phase is complete. Town officials and representatives of the Lake Wickaboag Preservation Association have been working with Apex Incorporated and the permitting, disposal & financing phase has begun. See the Lake Wickaboag Preservation Report for more information.

Hazardous Waste Day is once a year in September at the North Brookfield Transfer Station. **Latex paint is not accepted. Dry the latex paint in the can with a mix and dispose of with the normal trash.**

On June 5, 2012 and Emergency Dispensing Site Drill was conducted. The board passed with just a few recommendations to improve upon in the future. *We thank* all the volunteers that manned the site within the allotted time. If you wish to become a volunteer for the Board of Health, please contact us at the number below.

The Board of Health wishes to remind all residents that it meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month at 7:00pm, in the West Brookfield Town Hall, Room LL4. The public is invited to attend.

The Board of Health telephone number is 867-1421 Ext 310.

Office hours are:

Monday - 12:00pm to 2:00pm

Tuesday through Thursday - 9:00am to 11:00am

Tuesday evening - 6:00pm to 8:00pm

Title V Agent – John Thomasian

Health Agent – Joanne Petterson-Bernier/Earl Bernier

Administrative Assistant – Sarah J. Allen

Clerk – Virginia Allen

Respectfully submitted,
Melvin Dorman, Chairman
Jason Paquette
John Frizzell

BOARD OF REGISTRARS

Information for the year ending December 31, 2012 is as follows:

TOTAL POPULATION	3,294
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VOTER REGISTRATION

AMERICAN INDEPENDENT	3
DEMOCRAT	572
GREEN PARTY USA	1
GREEN-RAINBOW	2
INTER. 3 RD PARTY	1
LIBERTARIAN	11
REPUBLICAN	381
UNENROLLED	1,525
WORKING FAMILIES	1
VOTER TOTAL	2,497

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah J. Allen
Jane Dolan
Madelyn Tivnan

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

As always our Board placed priority on the effectiveness of financial management of the Town. This was accomplished while attempting to maintain or improve the standing portfolio of essential municipal services.

COMMUNITY:

We approved a Central Corridor Rail Passenger Service Resolution.

We also approved the Asparagus & Flower Heritage Festival to be held on May 19, 2012, an Arbor Day Proclamation for April 27, 2012 and allowed the Knights of Columbus to conduct their Annual Tootsie Roll Drive on Columbus Day Weekend.

Jim Dimaio, Tree Warden, provided our Board with a list of Hazardous Trees, noting that 91 of the 97 trees had been removed. Jim thanked the Highway Department and tree crews involved with the project.

We allowed Polearm Productions to film at the Town Beach on August 5, 2012 between the hours of 3-5:30pm.

We received a letter from Jim Allard, President Clowning for Kidz, stating that they would be hosting a Car Show and Family Fun Day at the football field on Cottage Street on Saturday, July 21, 2012.

Charlotte Boos, Chair of the White Christmas Committee, wrote our Board to announce that White Christmas will be held on Sunday, December 2, 2012 from 11:30am to 8:00pm.

CONTRACTS:

Our Board approved two (2) Forest Management Plans: Wigwam & New Braintree 89.15 acres and Route 9 122.3 acres, as submitted by Tree Warden Dimaio. Our Board briefly discussed the possibility of creating a revolving account to be used in conjunction with the Stewardship Plans.

Upon the recommendation of the Burial Commissioners, our Board accepted Alan Bigos's bid of \$14,600 for caretaker services; as outlined in a letter from the Burial Commissioners to the Selectman dated 10 April 2012.

Our Board voted to support Hampshire Council of Government's joint petition for Municipal Aggregation of Electricity.

FINANCES:

School personnel presented a proposal for technology and facilities improvements to the Quaboag MHS and the Warren Elementary School. Based upon the information presented, the District was looking for \$250,830 for technology and \$147,000 for facilities from West Brookfield and \$1,014,573 from the Town of Warren. Our Board took the information under advisement.

Upon receipt of a complaint received from Jim Supria, MA DIB Office, on behalf of Mr. Richard Clapham, Sr.; our Board discussed the possibility of installing an audible alarm on the crosswalks located at Route 9/Cottage/Front Streets. Supt. Daley stated that the installation would cost upwards of \$3,000. Legal Counsel emailed our Board stating that there is not currently any law in place that mandates the Town install an audible alarm. Our Board agreed to place the request on the May ATM Warrant.

Noting that the Town had recently received a Wellness Award from MIIA, Keith asked our Board to allow him to use up to \$1,000 from his Group Health Insurance excess towards continuing the exercise program currently in place. Our Board voted to allow the Treasurer to utilize up to \$1,000 from his Group

Health Insurance Account towards the Wellness Program at MIIA.

The Regional Highway Department (Brookfield, West, East, Brimfield & Warren) received a \$58,000 Community Innovation Challenge Grant for equipment.

Our Board approved stipends for the Fire Captain (\$1,000) and for the two Lieutenants (\$600 each).

The Police Chief told our Board that an EMPG Grant was used to purchase a trailer to house emergency beds. Noting that Country Bank had donated \$2,500, Our Board agreed to accept the donation and to allow the police department to purchase two (2) tazers.

Upon a recommendation from Police Chief O'Donnell, our Board voted to give Ted Balicki, District Safety Inspector at MassDOT District 2, the Police Departments surplus lap top mounts.

Our Board voted to allow the Accountant to create donation accounts for "Repairs to Rice Fountain" and for "Tree Replacement".

Our Board sold three items at a Sealed Bid Auction – Three chrome chairs, an adjustable lamp and a 1975 Bombardier Sidewalk Plow; which brought in \$1,817.77 for the Town's General Fund.

Our Board voted to raise the Plumbing & Gas fees on 2 October 2012.

Our Board adopted a single tax rate on November 27, 2012.

Representatives from the School District provided an overview of the building and technology upgrades being accomplished at the WBES. The District stated that they are currently \$21,035 under budget but asked us to consider using the extra money to cover

septic repairs, door repairs, corroded pipes, driveway erosion and sidewalk repairs. After some discussion, our Board voted to allow the District to use ½ of the excess towards door and pipe repairs and to install a fence and loam rather than to conduct driveway repairs.

LIQUOR LICENSES:

Ms. Birch and Ms. Petruzzi told our Board that the Lions Club wished to have a One-Day Liquor Permit for their 1st Annual Lions Club Harvest Festival scheduled for Saturday, October 13th with a rain date of October 14th. Both parties stated that they were looking into having a brewing company provide the services. Our Board was also in receipt of an email from Police Chief O'Donnell stating that he did not have any objections to the request, but that he would like to work the Lions Club to work out the details. Our Board voted to approve a One Day Liquor Permit for the Lions Club, contingent upon them meeting of the restrictions/guidelines to be set in place by the Police Chief.

Our Board voted to allow Ye Olde Tavern to have a One Day Outdoor Liquor License for Saturday, August 4, 2012.

Our Board voted to allow S. Patrick Swain and Johanna Barry use of the Great Hall on Friday, 21 December 2012 in conjunction with a one day liquor license.

The Board renewed eight (8) liquor licenses. P&S Pizza did not request a renewal of their license.

LEGAL:

Safety Insurance approached the Town for a Settlement on one of four small claims cases filed on behalf of the Hazmat Department. Our Board agreed to settle any of the small claims Hazmat cases for the initial cost plus the \$50 court filing fee.

STAFFING:

Upon the recommendation from the Fire Chief, our Board appointed Clayton Edwards as a Recruit Fire Fighter and Ashley Anderson as a Junior Fire Fighter.

Our Board voted to accept Alan Bigos's resignation as Town Common Grounds Keeper & Cemetery Grounds Keeper.

Our Board voted to appoint David Broschart as a full member of the Zoning Board of Appeals; effective until 2013.

Our Board received an email from Al Collings stating that he was requesting our Board not appoint him to another term on the Advisory Committee. Al stated that he had been a member of the Advisory Committee for nearly ten years and believed that it was his time to step down and allow others to provide guidance and direction to the Town. He further stated that he would continue his partnership with the Town in his capacity as President of the Lake Wickaboag Preservation Association. Our Board acknowledged all of Al's hard work and accomplishments and agreed to send him a thank you letter for his service to the Town.

Our Board accepted Madaline Arn's resignation from the White Christmas Committee, with regret.

Our Board appointed Tom Long to the Advisory Committee.

Our Board accepted Patrolman Edwin Ward's resignation from the Police Department.

Upon the request of the Police Chief, our Board appointed Herbert Duggan as a Full Time Officer with the proviso that he attend and pass the full time police academy within the allowed waiver period.

Our Board voted to accept David M. Broschart's resignation from the ZBA effective December 12th and

Joan Veinot's resignation from the ZBA effective December 31st, both with regret.

TOWN FLEET:

Rescue President Paul Lupacchino asked our Board to consider temporary housing for the old ambulance, along with the sign board and other fire equipment currently stored outside. He stated that the Rescue Squad was willing to use some of its funds to purchase and install temporary housing.

The Fire Chief explained to our Board that he followed Chapter 30B and put the body repairs for Engine One out to bid. He further stated that he only received one (1) bid; which he considered to be from a reputable company. Upon the recommendation of the Fire Chief, our Board voted to accept the bid from M&R for \$40,000, as it was felt to be in the best interest of the Town, to refurbish the body of 1993 Engine One.

We appreciate and thank all town employees and all volunteers for their part in making West Brookfield such a great place to live. It is an honor and a privilege for the three of us to service our town and its citizens.

Respectfully submitted,
Mike H. Frew
Mark Long
Barry J. Nadon, Jr.

BURIAL GROUND COMMISSION

The Board of Cemetery Commissioners consists of John Bartlett, Marjorie Reim, and Kevin Roberts.

The Cemetery Commissioners have the oversight of three separate cemeteries: The Old Indian Cemetery on Cottage Street, the Methodist Cemetery on Lyons Road and the Pine Grove Cemetery on Church Street. The 2012 Caretaker job was advertized and solicited bids to provide weekly service and upkeep of the cemetery grounds, grave headstones, and water faucets. The lowest bid at \$14,600 for Cemetery Caretaker services conducted between January 1 and December 31, 2012.

As in the past couple of years, a clear directive was received by the Cemetery Commissioners to operate within restricted budgetary funding. As a result, the need to address the following concerns have been placed on hold:

- ✧ Repair of fencing surrounding cemetery grounds, specifically fencing around the Pine Grove Cemetery
- ✧ Purchase of a columbarium
- ✧ Purchase of additional burial grounds

The Cemetery Commission extends sympathy to those of you who have experienced a loss; and wishes to thank the individuals who have taken a special interest to provide care for the lots and surroundings of our loved ones.

As a reminder: In respect for our deceased, dogs are not allowed at any time on burial grounds. Please inform the West Brookfield Police Department if you witness any vandalism or suspicious activity.

We had 12 burials in Pine Grove during 2012:

From West Brookfield

Ruth Cleveland

Newton Frost III

Richard Parker

Out of Town

Claudia Allen	Boston, MA
Abigail Benway	Oxford, MA
Hilda Cutler	Dennis, MA
Gertrude Deverux	California
Inez Fredette	Southbridge, MA
Robert MacWilliams	Southbridge, MA
Ellen Mundell	Ware, MA
Allen Reid	Holyoke, MA
Richard Savoy	Wilbraham, MA

Respectfully submitted,
John Bartlett, Chairman
Marjorie Reim
Kevin Roberts

COMMON COMMITTEE

It has been a year of change and growth for the town common this year. Both the Asparagus Festival and the annual Congregational Church tag sale enjoyed record-breaking crowds. The weekly summer concerts and farmers market also saw increased numbers of visitors this year. New this year was the 1st Annual Lion's Club Harvest Festival. The annual White Christmas celebration and tree lighting ceremony capped off the year's events.

The big change to our common was the dismantling and removal of our beloved Rice Memorial Fountain. Due to the deterioration of the fountain, it was decided to remove and restore the fountain to its original condition. The fountain is expected to be returned and functioning in 2013.

We would like to extend our appreciation and thanks to Al Bigos and John Bartlett of the Burial Grounds Commission for their efforts in keeping our common functional and looking beautiful. We also would like to thank Jim Daley and the West Brookfield Highway Department for all their help throughout the

year and Tree Warden Jim DiMaio for his work in maintaining the health and beauty of our trees. A special *thank you* to Kip's Tree Farm for their donation of Christmas trees for our nativity display.

We bid farewell to Sara Allen for her years of service as Treasurer. Betty DiMaio has assumed the role of Treasurer. We welcome Martha Leasca as our new committee member who will be serving in the role of Secretary.

It has been our pleasure to serve our community as members of the West Brookfield Town Common Committee.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert J. Richard, Chairman
Betty DiMaio, Treasurer
Martha Leasca, Secretary

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The West Brookfield Conservation Commission works in conjunction with other state agencies and local boards to protect West Brookfield's natural and recreational resources. This is accomplished through careful administration of the state's wetland and riverfront regulations as mandated in the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act (310 CMR 10.00).

During the year, the Conservation Commission was involved in twenty-five permits, site visits, and meetings regarding the enforcement of the Massachusetts Wetland Protection Act. We held public hearings for eleven (11) Notices of Intent and fourteen (14) Requests for Determination.

Please visit our website at <http://wbrookfieldma.com>. All forms as well as instructions for completing are located at this site and can be downloaded for your convenience. Minutes of our meetings can be viewed here.

The Conservation Commission wishes to remind all property owners that Massachusetts General Law states that any work proposed within 100 feet of any wetland and 200 feet from any

rivers or streams requires a filing of a Request for Determination of Applicability.

An Agricultural Preservation Restriction Program is also in place to assist and encourage the retention of the Commonwealth's best farmland. The program is a permanent solution for maintaining an agricultural land base for local food production. Chapter 61 and 61A provides tax relief for land in agricultural production, forestry, or recreation. Any interested landowners should contact the Commission for more information.

The Conservation Commission meets the first Wednesday of the month at 7:00pm in the Lower Level Conservation Office in the Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,
Gordon DeWolf, Chair
Richard Provencher
Brian Silva
Jesse Serrano
Christine M. Long, Secretary
Eric Tunley
James Talvy

COUNCIL ON AGING

We would like to thank the Council on Aging for their continued support and dedication to the Senior Center and our senior citizens. We thank once again all our volunteers who have spent many hours setting up and cleaning up for all the special programs during the day, nights, and weekends.

In the year 2012, we have introduced several new programs and expanded our "after hours" activities. The 90+ Birthday Party was well attended and many great memories were shared. The Council on Aging had the privilege of hosting the Boston Post Cane ceremony presenting the cane to Alice Jay. We held a successful Fall Festival with cooking demonstrations and vendors. The Council on Aging took pleasure in having a White Christmas Open House with the display of gingerbread houses this year.

We are very grateful for the funding from the Friends of the Council on Aging and the Irving England and Jane England Charitable Trust Grant to purchase storage cabinets. Special *thanks* to Country Bank and Quaboag Rehabilitation & Skilled Care Center for their continued support to the senior center and programs. In addition, we are thankful to all who have donated items from our wish list in the Silverstreak Newsletter including paper napkins, paper plates, small kitchen items, tablecloths, large cans of coffee, etc.

We continue to provide information and referral, outreach, reassurance calls and other individual services that help seniors and their families cope with problems related to aging. The Senior Center continues to offer the Medicare Program (medical transportation) and several clinics including blood pressure, flu clinic, fuel assistance, DAV agent, SHINE, AARP Tax Assistance, and other medical screenings.

The mission for the Council on Aging of the West Brookfield Senior Center is to enhance the lives of our senior citizens by providing information, referral services, and opportunities for socialization and recreation.

We would like to *thank* the Selectmen, Finance Committee, and the community for your continued support and assistance.

Respectfully submitted,
Cynthia Norden, Director
Beverly Cassavant, COA Chair

EARTH REMOVAL BOARD

“Earth Material Excavation Requiring a Permit” - More than 500 cubic yards of soil excavated in any one year. Excavation incidental to the construction of buildings or other accessory uses and expansions may be exempt provided that the quantity of materials removed shall not exceed that displaced by the portion of the building or accessory use below grade and all required permits by the West Brookfield Bylaws and/or Zoning Bylaws have been issued. Other exceptions are excavation in the course of

customary agricultural use of land for a farm, garden, or nursery; excavation of material subject to a licensed issued under M.G.L. Chapter 40 Subsection 21 (7), excavation in compliance with the specific requirements of an approved subdivision plan, and excavation in the normal use of a cemetery.

“Earth Material” includes soil, sand, gravel, stones, topsoil, peat, muck, loam, bedrock or other earth materials from any land in the town.

The Earth Removal Board continues to manage three (3) active permits relative to earth material excavation under Section XII Section 2 of the Town’s General Bylaws.

Respectfully submitted,	
Jason Paquette, Chairman	Health
Bob Lipovsky	Planning
Mike Frew	Selectmen
Gordon DeWolf	Conservation
Kevin Dorman	Zoning

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

The office of Emergency Management is responsible for assisting town agencies in both handling and preventing of disasters, whether natural or man-made. The office is responsible for the creation and updating annually of the Community Emergency Management Plan and insuring the town’s compliance with regulations adopted by both the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency and the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

During 2012, we continued our association with the Quaboag Regional Emergency Planning Committee. The committee addresses a wide range of issues from pandemic planning to hazard mitigation. As a group we are seeking grants to update our All Hazard plans. Utilizing state EMPG grants, we have been able to purchase portable radios and shelter supplies. We have

also partnered, and been working with the Emergency Management office in Warren on sheltering issues. At present we have the capability to stand up a 200-bed shelter at the high school, and we are constantly looking for ways to improve delivery of service. We continue to work with our Board of Health and the Regional Public Health Coalition on issues of mutual concern.

We continue to work with the town of Warren on our local Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). The CERT meets monthly at the high school, and has been used at several events over the past year, such as White Christmas and the Quaboag Triathlon. Anyone interested in volunteering for the CERT should contact either the West Brookfield or Warren Police Department.

Respectfully submitted,
C. Thomas O'Donnell, Jr., Director of Emergency Management

FIRE DEPARTMENT

For the year 2012, the West Brookfield Fire Department responded to 159 emergency calls as follows:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 Structure Fire 2 Suspicious Package 5 Chimney Fires 4 Brush Fires 6 Brush permits out of control 1 Tree Fire 1 Trash Fire 1 Appliance Fires 1 Appliance Malfunction 15 Motor Vehicle Accidents 5 Motor Vehicle Accidents with Hazmat cleanup 1 Tractor Roll Over 2 Assist a Home Owner 5 Lift Assists 1 Lost Person 3 Tactical Rescues 3 Assist other Town Agencies 2 Smell of smoke 1 Strike Team Activation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8 Smoke/Fire Investigation 1 Fire Investigation 20 Fire Alarms no Fire 4 Activated Fire Alarm with Fire 2 Vehicle Fires 4 Carbon Monoxide 20 Illegal Burns 1 Electrical/Pole Fires 1 Power Line Down 2 Smell of Gas 2 Assist Medical 2 Fuel Fire 1 Fire other 4 Hazmat (other than the cleanup from Motor Vehicle Accidents) 1 Dumpster Fire 1 Cellar Pump 2 Natural Disasters/Storm Standby 1 Electrical Transformer Fire
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Mutual Aid was given ten (20) times to the following Towns:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Ware 8 Warren 3 North Brookfield 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 New Braintree 3 Brookfield 2 Brimfield 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Charlton Strike Team 1 East Brookfield
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We received Mutual Aid 4 times in 2012 from neighboring communities.

The Fire Department was very productive this past year responding to calls, training new and seasoned members, maintaining equipment and refurbishing our fleet.

Engine 1 if not provided with the care we did would cost \$500,000.00 to replace. Last year we mechanically restored the truck, and this year refurbished the body eliminating all corrosion and repainted the entire body. All repairs to date are running \$59,000.00 and nearing new like condition. This truck should be available for at least 15 more years giving it a 35-year life span and could be more. We also were fortunate this past year to be gifted a Water Tanker from the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) and from Military Excess Property. This truck with an estimated value of \$350,000.00 if purchased new came to us free and for our use as long as we want or need the truck. Aggressively our Fire Department advocated and obtained this piece of equipment that will benefit all our residents everywhere but mostly in outlying areas of town, out of the water district, where portable water supplies are in major



demand for fire suppression. With this truck we have the ability to bring 2000 gals of water to any incident. A value we did not have for immediate response.

Over the last three years the Fire Department has spent \$80,000.00 from our Fire Truck refurbishing replacement account, refurbishing our fleet. We mechanically restored Engine 2, in 2011 and with the accomplished work mentioned above, and with the acquisition of the Tanker we have saved the Town in purchases that would have been needed over the next eight to fifteen years of over \$1,000,000.00 dollars and just in time given the projected financial state the Town is in from short falls from State reimbursements.

Savings that we are heading for; with the Tanker and a re-evaluation of the town and our Department, an evaluation that is anticipated over the next year from the Insurance Services Office (ISO) we will have the ability to provide direct pocket savings for many residents with the rating reflecting the ability the Tanker can provide of over \$30,000.00 each year, not a one time savings each year. We will need support in providing storage of this vehicle and other emergency equipment we currently store outside. More info will be provided in the future how you can help us help you.

We appreciate the support in our efforts and will do all we can to continue to get the best bang for your tax dollar. We invite you to the station too view the work we have done to preserve your fleet of equipment and see for yourself the hard work the Firefighters do in maintaining the equipment in ready condition.

In addition to Fire Suppression duties, the Department conducts numerous Safety and Code Compliance Inspections under Fire Prevention. We also issue permits under various State required programs. These required inspections and issuance of permits are performed primarily by Deputy Chief Benson, assisted by myself. The Department conducted one hundred and eight (108) Inspections up 14 from 2011 consisting of the following:

Inspect the Installations or Removal of:

12 OIL BURNERS
6 OIL TANK
2 UNDER GROUND OIL TANK REMOVALS
1 ABOVE GROUND OIL TANK REMOVAL
12 ABOVE GROUND PROPANE TANK
4 UNDER GROUND PROPANE TANK
1 UNVENTED GAS APPLIANCE INSPECTION
2 DIESEL PORTABLE TANK INSPECTIONS
1 SAFETY KLEEN INSPECTION
12 QUARTERLY REST & NURSING HOME INSPECTIONS

Other Inspections Performed

55 SMOKE AND CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTORS
COMMERCIAL SPRINKLER SYSTEMS
LIQUOR LICENSE BUILDING SAFETY
ELEVATOR SAFETY
TOWN OWNED SPRINKLER SYSTEM

Permits Issued for:

BLASTING
BON-FIRE
BURNING
FIRE ALARM
FIRE SUPPRESSION SYSTEM
FUEL AND FLAMMABLE LIQUID STORAGE TANK

Thank you, Deputy Chief Benson, for your dedication and commitment to the Safety and Code Compliance Unit of our Department.

For more permit requirements and changes to the Smoke Detector and Carbon Monoxide laws and regulations please go to www.mass.gov/dfs and click on “Division of Fire Safety.” You will find the latest Fire Regulations and Code Requirements.

A much-needed message this year to homeowners and landlords is the need for replacement of your Carbon Monoxide detectors. It has been 7 years since the requirement for this detection went into place. Many of these detectors have a 7-year

life span and have an internal timer programmed into the detector that will cause the detector to sound a reminder in the form of a beep that mimics a low battery or in most cases cause homeowners to call for assistance thinking Carbon Monoxide is present.

Please be aware of the alarm indication your individual detector gives as well as its age. The date of manufacture and its alarm beep sequence is printed in most cases on the back of the detector and should be reviewed. If found that the detector has been in service for over 7 years the detector should be discarded and replaced.

By keeping these guidelines in mind it will reduce the amount of miss-understood alarms and need for evaluation.

Our other permit process that most Firefighters take part in is the issuing of Brush Burning Permits. In 2012, 309 Burning Permits were issued, up 137 permits. We contribute the permits issued to natural disaster such as the October snowstorm and other natural disasters. With the accumulation of wooded debris adds to the fire danger year after year, we continue to brace for a catastrophic event. Again our priority for combating these major fire dangers will be by preventing fires from beginning, preserving Firefighters lives and protecting homes from progressive heavily fueled brush fires.

Please tend to your campfires, never turn your back on it, and never leave it alone and please when extinguishing it make sure is completely out. Our brush fires from out of control permits totaled 6 for the year, up 4 from last year. We contribute this to the increase of residents burning brush and the amount of debris from the major storms over the last two years. Even though this is an increase its still a low number, this low number we continue to hope is from conscientious residents taking the necessary precautions when burning brush.



Starting in 2010, the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) took over the control of outdoor burning activities and dictates when we can or cannot burn brush during the brush-burning season. The ability to burn is governed by the daily air quality that disperses smoke to the atmosphere. You can check the air quality by logging into the DEP air quality map at public.dep.state.ma.us/MassAir/Pages/MapForecast.aspx?&ht=1&hi=108 and confirm a good air quality day, or get there from our web page. If it's not a good air quality day, burning will be suspended until the quality resumes to the proper level of "good." This is all driven by the ability to dissipate smoke effecting air quality for individuals with breathing difficulties. The DEP delegates the responsibility to the Fire Chief, and/or his designee, to monitor and issue orders for extinguishment of any fire that causes a compromise to air quality for another person, including a cooking fire. I would like to ask everyone to continue to be considerate of your neighbor when lighting outdoor cooking or recreational campfires and have consideration for those who enjoy this controlled campfire activity. Understand that if you are requested to extinguish your fire you are being requested to do so under these delegated orders from the DEP.

Another responsibility is Public Education in Fire Safety. The Fire Department again was fortunate to apply for and obtain, for the 16th year, the S.A.F.E. (Students Awareness of Fire Education) Grant. This program, coordinated within the school system, provides Fire and Life safety messages during the school year. Fire personnel visit the school starting in or around January and ending at the conclusion of the school year. We provide Fire Safety tips that we hope are brought home and shared with the entire family.

In addition to Fire Safety messages, this program teaches CPR (Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation) to the entire 5th Grade. CPR Instructors from the Fire Department, and supplies given free for the entire class from the West Brookfield Rescue Squad, provides this instruction. This is a great addition to the safety of our community. Over fifty children have been trained and are able to perform CPR when a Cardiac Arrest emergency arises. Our hats are off to the 5th grade, Great Job! We would like to

thank Principal Colleen Mucha for her cooperation and support to our Public Education efforts; and to the 5th Grade Teachers, Mr. Ryan Hibbard and Mrs. Karen Oliveira, for allowing us time in their classrooms and for the support they give in assisting with the teaching of our important safety messages.

Training continues to become more demanding, with the introduction of new technologies, additional fire codes, and regulations, and training new recruits. It becomes a never-ending upgrade. Our Training Officer, Scott Anderson with the assistance of the Operations Officers continues to head up this task and does a great job and I again thank him for his diligent efforts in organizing monthly trainings and helping the Operational Officers Lieutenant Joe Landry and Lieutenant David Tebo in keep all Firefighters abreast of the latest techniques and hazards we will face, and I thank those officers as well for their important work in assisting the Training Lieutenant and assisting myself with the operations of the Department.

I would also like to acknowledge Assistant Chief Dan Santos for his assistance in the operational duties and administration of the Department. Assist Chief Santos provides Command presence on emergency scenes and maintains assurance that all Firefighters are ready for the call. He oversees that all station equipment is maintained mission ready. I can count on him for any assistance needed to keep the Department ready for duty. ***Thank You*** Assistant Chief Santos.

As an update to last year's presentation, a plan to spread out the replacement purchases of required equipment. With the help of the Board of Selectmen and the Advisory Board we were successful in putting a yearly plan in place spreading out the cost in replacing all this much-needed equipment avoiding the need for large sums of money that would be needed to be allocated on Town Meeting floor ultimately driving up tax rates. The Fire Department has been maintaining our older fleet of vehicles and putting off replacements of those trucks by providing good maintenance programs. I will need your continued support, the support I thank you in advance for, to assist us in providing the necessary safety equipment and tools to the Firefighters in order to do the job. Each Firefighter deserves my due diligence in providing this much

needed safety equipment and I know I can count on you to help continue to provide it.

Space is in need and I wish you all to be aware of the conditions that exist in our station. Many Safety concerns exist with many outdated conditions i.e. bays designed for fire trucks that carried half the equipment we do now and where two thirds the size. We provide 18" of space from the side of the truck and the nearest wall, 6" from the back of one truck and the front of the next, truck exhaust that is discharged in proximity of Firefighters donning protective clothing that produce known carcinogens to cause health issues and more.

We have been looking aggressively for over 20 years for the solution to this issue and have been put off for other capital improvements the town needed i.e. school and highway expansion and this is something we cannot avoid for much longer. We are willing to work with all emergency services and place us under the same roof ultimately reducing operation costs along with maintenance cost as well. Please help us resolve this need and provide the safety we should be providing for the people that provide you with the safety you need, expect and deserve.

In 2012, the Department has seen many joys. We have graduated three Firefighters from the District 7 Firefighting training supported by the Massachusetts Fire Academy. Fire Fighter Clayton Edwards, Dan McCall, and Cody Hilliker have graduated from this training consisting of over 300 Hrs of classroom and practical training. GREAT JOB, be proud of your accomplishments and I appreciate all your efforts in becoming the best in your trade, keep up the good work.

*A reminder to our community that the Fire Department is
a Call Volunteer Department
all duties are performed on this basis.*

The Fire Department is a department many times not thought about until needed. The men and women of the Department are the true reason everyone can rest at night knowing that, if the call arises and an emergency strikes, these individuals are on call and ready to respond. I take much pride in

saying I lead one of the most dedicated groups of Firemen in the Fire Service. I *thank* the officers for their assistance in leading the Department, and thank each Firefighter for their service. I thank them for their dedication, commitment to serve, and willingness to risk the ultimate sacrifice for the safety of their neighbor, family, or friend!

At the time of the writing of this report the memory of one of our honorary Firefighters passing looms on our minds and felt in our hearts.

Firefighter Brian Wirf passed on 23 December. His dedication for 25 years to the Department was commendable and he would have continued to serve if a health condition did not take him away. Brian will be missed but never forgotten.



I would also like to say, if there are any men and women from our community who feel they possess the desire, dedication, commitment to serve, and are physically fit to perform Firefighting duties and are interested in joining our dedicated department – please contact us at (508) 867-1408. Leave a message and we will get back to you. You can also come to the station on any Monday night, we are there, and one of the Fire Officers or Firefighters would gladly talk over this opportunity with you. We need you! We need your help!

Your 2012 Fire Department members are as follows:



Chief Paul Lupacchino
Deputy Chief Robert Benson
Assistant Chief Daniel Santos
Lieutenant Joe Landry
Lieutenant David Tebo
Training Lieutenant Scott Anderson
Firefighter Brian Charron
Firefighter Brian Dustin
Firefighter Clayton Edwards
Firefighter Nicholas Frank
Firefighter Brandon Fullum (auxiliary)
Firefighter William Gray
Firefighter Patricia Lupacchino
Firefighter Dan McCall
Firefighter Jessie Merriam
Firefighter Dana Searah
Recruit Firefighter Cody Hilliker
Recruit Firefighter Andrew Sarja
Recruit Firefighter Ashley Anderson
Recruit Firefighter Patrick Gorham
(At the time of writing this report)
Honorary Bagpiper Warren Tirrell

I would like to say *thank you* to all the Departments that supply direct assistance when called upon, especially the Rescue Squad, Police Department, also the Highway and Water Departments, the Central Dispatch Center, and all other departments who assist us in getting our job done daily and during emergencies.

I would like to thank Warren Tirrell our honorary bagpiper who voluntarily provides his talent to our department. His gifted talents in providing the unforgettable sound of the pipes are cherished. He joins the members during services on the occasion when the department honors members and past honorary members upon their passing, and during other department functions. *Thank you, Warren; you are truly a good friend.*

We thank our families, who put up with us bolting out the door and their willingness to be there upon our return, sharing us with the community, and supporting us in our calling.

In closing, I would like to *thank* the Selectmen, Finance Committee, and all the Town Departments for the support they have extended to the Fire Department. I would like to *thank* the community for their support, but most of all I would like to *thank* the Firefighters of the West Brookfield Fire Department who stand behind me with unwavering support, dedication, and confidence in this most honorable position in the Fire Service as Chief. I will represent you, protect you, and lead you with honor. I *thank you* for the opportunity to serve you as your Chief. The Town of West Brookfield remains safe because of you!

Respectfully submitted,
Paul Lupacchino, Fire Chief

GAS/PLUMBING INSPECTOR

The following is a compilation of Gas and Plumbing Inspections performed during 2012:

Gas Inspections			
Boiler	21	Grille	1
Conversion Burner	1	Room/Space Heater	1
Cook Stove	7	Roof Top Unit	1
Direct Vent Heater	5	Test	2
Dryers	7	Unvented Room Heater	2
Fireplace	5	Water Heater	11
Furnace	6	Gas Line	6
Generator	8	Vented Room Heater	1

Plumbing Inspections			
Bathtub	13	Toilet	34
Cross Connect Device	8	Washing Machine Conn.	12
Dishwasher	11	Water Heater – all types	36
Floor/Area Drain	4	Water Piping	14
Kitchen Sink	15	Bar Sink	1
Lavatory	36	Boiler W.H. Combination	1
Shower Stall	17	Sample Sink	1
Service/Mop Sink	3	Eye Wash	1
		Ejector Pump	1

Respectfully submitted,
Joseph Ciejka, Gas & Plumbing Inspector
Edward Kent, Assistant Inspector

HARBOR MASTER

Due to hot, humid weather this summer's lake activity was below average. Lake draw down due to heavy rain worked well with no flooding. The red flag system also did its job when the lake was treated.

Over all, the only problem was with fishing boats going to close to the docks. Most fishermen were not aware of the new 50-foot regulation.

Respectfully submitted,
Joseph Borlikoski, Harbor Master

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

The winter of 2012 was very uneventful, after the October Halloween Storm we encountered eight (8) plowing events and sanded the roads fifteen (15) times. Therefore, we were able to get a jump on some other projects.

- Finish clean up of the October Halloween Storm and filed paperwork with FEMA for a 75% reimbursement. This clean up included the town beach and cemeteries.
- Cut 85 hazardous trees designated by the Tree Warden, Jim DiMaio.
- Grind, loam and seed 35 stumps.
- Roadside mowing and tree trimming.

The spring of 2012 came early; in fact, we started sweeping during the first week of March. The following work was completed during the spring clean up:

- 7 weeks of street sweeping
- 50 tons of cold patch applied by hand
- Shoulders and waterways were opened
- Crosswalks and street markings were done with Highway personnel with a savings of \$3,000 over work that was previously sub-contracted

- Center line and gutter line painting was contracted through the RHE Co-op savings over last year was \$3,200

After the spring clean up we started working on our Road Project List. The following were completed:

Chapter 90 (Re-construction)

Wigwam Road Phase III

- Applied tack coat and 1-1/2" state top (2,217 ton)
- Re-worked driveway aprons
- Backed up all shoulders

The total cost of Phase III of Wigwam Road was \$226,447 and the total cost of the 3.1-mile road was \$760,360 (over 3 years of Chapter 90 funding at \$235,000 per year).

Repairs to Town Roads (Article 16 – May 2012 Town Meeting)

Wickaboag Valley Road, Church Street, Myrick Street to Mill Brook Bridge

- Shim pave, crack seal and chip seal (total cost \$87,105)

George Allen Road

- Replace rusted metal pipes, cut shoulders, shim pave and chip seal (total cost \$42,162)

These repairs represent approximately 10% of the cost of reconstruction and will extend the life of the road by 7 – 10 years. We must continue to save the roads that are in fair condition before they deteriorate further and require costly reconstruction.

Fleet Maintenance

I am happy to report that we are making great progress with the Fleet Account Maintenance Program. All (3) Mack trucks, bodies and frames have been sandblasted and painted by the highway Department Mechanic. All Highway trucks and equipment have been treated with a rust inhibitor. In October, all vehicle safety DOT inspections were done at the Highway Department including Police, Fire, and Ambulance vehicles.

Highway Regionalization

The Towns of West Brookfield, East Brookfield, Brookfield, Warren, and Brimfield applied for and received a Community Innovation Challenge Grant for \$58,000.

The components of the Grant are as follows:

- Formalize the Highway Regional Concept – With the help of Bill Scanlon and Legal Council, the Highway Departments have formalized working procedures for procurement and equipment sharing.
- Purchase of an asphalt roller and trailer – enabling Highway Departments to save time and money on repairs.
- Purchase of a sign machine – Highway Departments are making street signs, stop signs, and traffic signs at a 40 to 50 percent savings.

The RHE CO-OP (Regional Highway Equipment Sharing Co-op) has also submitted two successful Grant proposals totaling \$193,000 through the Regional Homeland Security Council.

(Highway Department radios and an emergency response trailer)

A complete list of road projects, repairs and reconstruction projects can be found on the Highway Department website.

In summary, if the Town of West Brookfield does not continue to supplement Chapter 90 State Funding, the roads will continue to deteriorate.

I would like to express my gratitude to the residents of West Brookfield, the Board of Selectmen and various other Town Department's employees for their continued support. I would also like to thank all of the Highway Department employees for their dependability and commitment during the past year.

Respectfully submitted,
James Daley, Highway Superintendent

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

The Historical Commission met monthly, January to June and October to December in the Commission Office, Room 201 in Town Hall.

This year a contract was approved for the redesign and hosting of the Commission website (www.westbrookfield.org). Work is still underway on this project.

Reorganization of our office continued with the purchase of new binders, file boxes and a computer.

Eligibility for the National Historic Register nomination of the Lucy Stone Homesite was submitted to the Mass. Historic Commission (MHC). The Homesite was found eligible for listing. A research historian will be selected to prepare the nomination.

With approval of the Cemetery Commission, the Historical Commission contracted with Fannin-Lehner Assoc. to conduct a "Condition Assessment" of the Old Indian Cemetery on Cottage Street. This report will include the specific conservation required for each of the 186 gravestones in the cemetery.

In the spring, the Commission funded two programs at the West Brookfield Elementary School. Old Sturbridge Village (OSV) presented "*History on the Road*" while the Antiquarian Society presented "*Isaiah Thomas – Patriot Printer.*"

Work continued with the East Quabbin Land Trust on preservation of the 1665 John Pynchon Mill Site on Sucker Brook. The Commission funded appraisal of the site and participated in the preparation of a state Conservation Partnership Grant which was awarded in December.

The Commission once again co-sponsored and participated in the "*Asparagus and Flower Heritage Festival*" on the Common in May.

Other activities during the year included:

- ✿ The purchase of a reduced admission pass to Old Sturbridge Village. The pass, available at the Library, provides four admission tickets at half price per visit.

- ✿ Participation in the Community Preservation Act presentation in the Town Hall.
- ✿ Participation in a Document Preservation Workshop, presented by the Brookfield Historical Commission at Elm Hill Farm.
- ✿ Requested the “Scenic Road” designation be added to new road signs for the town’s scenic roads.
- ✿ Contacted residents and MHC concerning the proposed Solar Array Site on East Main Street.
- ✿ Submitted a revised Historic Register nomination of the Jedediah Foster Homesite to MHC.
- ✿ Donated \$5,000 to the Fountain Restoration Fund.
- ✿ Awarded the Boston Post Cane pin to Alice Jay, the town’s oldest resident.
- ✿ Once again offered the \$2,000 Historical Commission Scholarship.
- ✿ Welcomed new associate members, Craig Burgess and Ed Londergan.

The Commission once again thanks the J. Irving and Jane L. England Charitable Trust for the generous gift received. It continues to motivate us to do more to recognize and preserve the history of this great town. We also appreciate the support of the Town.

The 2012 members and associate members are:

Craig Burgess
 Amy Dugas
 Dave Fitzgerald
 Louise Garwood
 Ed Londergan

Anne-Marie Nolan
 Anne Phillips
 Barbara Rossman
 Richard Rossman

Respectfully submitted,
 Richard Rossman, Chairman

HOUSING AUTHORITY

We hereby submit our annual report to the people of the Town of West Brookfield.

The West Brookfield Housing Authority meets on the third Monday of each month at 11:00 am in the Community Building at Olde Village Place, 29 East Main Street. During the year 2012, eleven regular meetings and one special meeting were held. All meetings are posted with the Town Clerk and are open to the public. Our annual meeting is held in May.

All housing authorities have four members elected by the voters of the town and one member appointed by the Governor of Massachusetts. Our elected members are Vice Chairman, Beverly Anderson, Ken Miller, James Pierce, and Peggy Walker. Our appointed member and Chairman is Michael Frew.

The West Brookfield Housing Authority has three employees: Maintenance Manager Keith Bordeau, Administrative Assistant Laurie Sokol, and Executive Director Fiona Andrewes.

The Authority currently administers 36 one-bedroom units under the State's Chapter 667 program, 6 three-bedroom units and 4 two-bedroom units under the State's Chapter 705 program. Also located on our site is a Chapter 689 program that is administered by the Bridge of Central Massachusetts. All of these programs are funded by the Department of Housing and Community Development and are operated under state guidelines. The West Brookfield Housing Authority processes applications for state-aided elderly housing from persons who are sixty years of age or older. As in the past, handicapped persons continue to be eligible for state-aided housing for the elderly regardless of age. The Authority also processes applications for state-aided family housing from persons who qualify. Preference is given to local residents and local veterans. This past year we housed four (4) elderly tenants, one of which was a local veteran, and five (5) family applicants. Anyone who wishes to live at Olde Village Place should fill out an application, which can be obtained from

the office. Tenants are selected from our waiting list and all state guidelines are adhered to in the tenant selection process.

We wish to express our gratitude and appreciation to the West Brookfield Police, Fire, and Rescue Departments for their caring dedication to the safety and security of our residents.

Respectfully submitted,

THE WEST BROOKFIELD HOUSING AUTHORITY

Michael H. Frew

Beverly Anderson

Ken Miller

James Pierce

Peggy Walker

INSPECTOR OF BUILDINGS

Single Family Dwelling	8
Sheds	2
Additions	8
Roofing	25
Garages	1
Windows/Siding	15
Renovations/Remodeling	7
Stoves/Pellet/Wood	23
Pools/In-ground/Above ground	6
Signs	1
Decks	6
Demolition	4
Barns	3
Pavilion/Gazebo	0
Antenna/Cell Tower	2
ADA Ramp	0
Solar	2
Weatherization/Insulation	6
Treatment Plant	1
Sheet Metal	1
Total	121

Total permit income	\$18,396.00
Estimated value on permits	\$2,957,083.00

Respectfully submitted,
 Jeff Taylor, Inspector of Buildings

LAKE WICKABOAG PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION (LWPA)

The 2012 boating season started early on Lake Wickaboag and in May we were able to see almost seven feet down into the lake using our Sechi disk. We received two responses to our weed and algae Request for Proposal (RFP) for the summer of 2012. Lycott Environmental was the low bidder and with the Lycott staff, we conducted several weed surveys of the lake. Our initial analysis this year again identified a large portion of variable milfoil in the north end of the lake. After two applications, most of the milfoil disappeared. However, since the weed grows in very shallow water in the area that cannot be treated effectively, we will continue to see it reappear in the future. We also identified a large growth of Tape Grass in the cove near the dam. Our first weed treatment in June was reasonably successful, and Lycott did a follow-up spot application in July with the algae treatment.

We monitored the algae conditions and by June began to observe deterioration in water clarity. Our first and only algae treatment was scheduled for the 23rd of July. Excessive amounts of Chara, an alga that appears string like and can be mistaken for a weed form were again observed. The contractors we have spoken with have suggested that this is actually a beneficial alga as it grows low to the bottom and can limit weed growth. However, since the amounts were somewhat less than prior 2011, only one treatment was conducted. As a result, the Chara was reduced at the end of Rodman Road and an area near the Boat Club. We may struggle with managing Chara for several more years.

In mid July, we observed a fish kill along the east shore. A variety of species appearing to be hatchlings, either from this year or last year, were identified. We reported the event and sent samples to MA Fish & Game. Their conclusion was that this was a natural event and may have been related to stress from the dry and hot weather conditions we had been experiencing. With reports of toxic algae blooms in several lakes in the Common-

wealth including a near-by pond, we tested the water in August and again in September, but found no significant algae that could lead to toxic conditions in our pond.

In addition to the lake monitoring, we hosted another successful lake clean-up, published spring and fall newsletters, and supported dam maintenance activities. At our annual meeting, over 80 friends and supporters of Lake Wickaboag heard a well received presentation of 100 years of fishing at the lake from Richard Hartley from MA Fish & Game. Did you know that Lake was once, and may continue to be, one of the best white perch lakes in the Commonwealth? Ed Himlan discussed stormwater runoff cleansing projects at his lake and suggestions that we could implement at Lake Wickaboag. Both PowerPoint presentations are available for viewing. Working with the Stormwater Authority and consultants from ESS, design work and permit applications for the stormwater improvement project for the two retention ponds next to the town beach continued. Completion of this project will limit the amount of run-off of contaminants flowing into the lake. DEP, EPA, and Army Corps. Representatives visited the site in August and required several changes to the design. The actual work is now expected to begin in the late fall of 2013.

Representatives of the LWPA have been actively participating with the West Brookfield Board of Health and other interested town residents in a project to dredge part of the north end of the lake. Apex Companies LLC was hired as the project consultants. After taking nearly one hundred samples and compositing those into thirty-six units, the analyses indicate there are no serious contaminants in the sediments. However, there is no viable commercial use for the material. Funding of the initial segments of the newly projected \$5 - \$8 million dredging project is occurring with private donations. \$153,325 has been raised. Our thanks to Lee Lyons, Bill Lyons and Kevin and Carol Donahue who provided three \$25,000 challenge-matching contributions. Initial permits for the project should be filled in the spring of 2013. Watch the LWPA newsletter for additional status reports.

During 2013, we will expand our lake monitoring program and continue publication of our newsletters and will conduct

another lake clean up. In the future, we would like to extend the cleanup program to include the entire town and will be looking for volunteers for that effort.

ANNUAL BUDGET FROM WEST BROOKFIELD

Fiscal Year July 1 to June 30

	<u>'09 – '10</u>	<u>'10 – '11</u>	<u>'11 – 12</u>	<u>'12 – '13</u>
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Estimate
Weed Management	\$8,900	\$8,900	\$9,000	\$10,000
Algae Management	3,700	5,590	4,500	5,000
Water Testing/Projects	4,310	2,420	87	1,910
TOTAL	\$16,910	\$16,910	\$13,587	\$16,910
Budget	\$16,910	\$16,910	\$16,910	\$16,910
Under (Over) Budget	\$-0-	\$-0-	\$3,323	\$-0-

While there has been an overall decline in the weed population, new species arrive and old ones return so, there will be a need to continue the surveys and some weed treatments. With the cost of copper used in copper sulfate for algae treatments remaining high, we have only enough funds for only one treatment during the summer of 2013.

LWPA remains committed to achieving the best water quality for our lake. We thank all town officials and the town residents for your continued support.

Respectfully submitted,
 Albert F. Collings, President
 Mary Beth Czaja, Vice-President

LIBRARY

The Merriam-Gilbert Public Library was very busy this year. We held a record 124 children’s and adult programs throughout the year. Our doors were wide open to the community as we continue to strive to be one of its most valuable resources. Libraries are more than just books and we have created a community center atmosphere that has benefited the community greatly.

Just stop by to make a photocopy or fax, stay for a program, and don't forget to check out a book or DVD before you go.

The year brought a variety of programs to the community starting with "Taiji Ruler: a Chinese yoga meaning yin and yang in harmony and balance," featuring local resident, Gisela Kaupp. Area Celtic-based music group, "Boys of the Town," delivered top-shelf entertainment, including high-energy, toe-tapping jigs and reels, as well as heartfelt ballads, to a large audience of over 50 patrons with "An Evening in Ireland" for St. Patrick's Day. More local speakers, James Wilson, MD (West Brookfield Family Practice) and Janice King, RD, CDE, (Quaboag School Nutrition Department), presented a special community wellness event, "Choose Your Plate: How to Read Nutrition Facts Labels." Award-winning pastel artist, Gregory Maichack, returned with a new workshop, "Que Sera, Seurat! How to Pastel Paint Optically," which was sponsored by a grant from the West Brookfield Cultural Council. Spring continued with "Celtic Chamber Music", featuring West Brookfield's own Samantha Gillogly on violin and Tim Maurice on piano; also, Tina Bemis from Bemis Farms Nursery returned with "Stunning Porch Flower Pots," held outside on the Library patio.

Sangita Desai offered "Henna Painting," the ancient Indian art of Mehndi to all age groups. In the fall, local resident, Lynne Rehbein, gifted the Library with her handmade "Underground Railroad Quilt," and hosted a program telling its story, explaining the



meaning of each quilt square. The quilt now hangs in our main fiction room. Just in time for Halloween, Rita Parisi of Waterfall

Productions performed “Gothic Victorian Tales by Candlelight,” a theatrical presentation of supernatural tales by 19th century New England writer, Sarah Orne Jewett. Leicester native, BJ Hill related his “Walk Across America,” a 4,250-mile trek from San Francisco to Boston in 2008 and 2009, collecting messages for both President Barack Obama & First Lady, Michelle Obama. On December 1, 2011, after walking 450 miles to Washington, D.C., he presented four notebooks to the President, who described them as a ‘fascinating tapestry of the spirit of the country.’ Two holiday programs with Tina Bemis of Bemis Farms Nursery ended the year: “Gingerbread Houses” (held in conjunction with the White Christmas Committee’s new Gingerbread House making contest) and “Hanging Holiday Cones,” both sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

Local authors reading excerpts from and signing their books at the Library this year included:

- Robert Calchera aka Jack Pendragon – “Drafted: A Rogue Recruit’s Tale”
- Tom McCarthy – “Elmer Trett and the Gods of Thunder”
- Jonathan Hill – “Toto the Tornado Kitten” (sponsored by Country Bank for Savings)
- Ed Londergan – “The Devil’s Elbow” (sponsored by the West Brookfield Historical Commission).

Autographed copies of the authors’ books were available for purchase.



“Toto the Tornado Kitten” was extremely popular, with over 60 people in attendance, eager to meet Toto and listen to his story.



The Adult Book Group was a hit with avid readers, led by Library Director, Carrie Grimshaw, discussing such titles as “Cloud Atlas” by David Mitchell, “The House of the Spirits” by Isabel Allende, “Rules of Civility” by Amor Towles, and “Macbeth” by William Shakespeare.

The Library offered five rotating art exhibits in the 2nd floor meeting room:

- “American Perspectives”: Susan Kallander, local artist and author of the children’s book, “Up in Smoke,” donated a watercolor entitled “Foster Hill.”
- “Rock House Images”: Dave Cameron, local photographer, dedicated his exhibit in memoriam to Walter Fullam, Rock House benefactor, and donated his framed photograph entitled “Reflection Rock.”
- “Pastel Portraits”: Jean Stockman Duteau, local artist, donated a watercolor entitled “Dresser Hill” and a pastel entitled “Fancy Nancy.”
- “Untitled”: Regina Caron gave her very first art exhibit in late summer.

- “The Four Seasons”: Brian Alton Higgins, award-winning, local pastel artist whose show was featured during White Christmas, donated “Castle Lights” which has been exhibited at Mass General Hospital and Lindenberg Gallery in New York City.

In May, C/W Mars introduced a new circulation system called Evergreen. This circulation system has one interface for both central and western regions, which lowered costs and offered greater flexibility in the design and customization of the catalog. The adjustment for both patrons and staff has been, to say the least, difficult. We appreciate our patrons’ patience during this transition while C/W Mars continues to update and hopefully, improve the system.

Other Library technology advancements:

- Newsletters – In addition to being posted on the website, they can now be emailed to patrons upon request.
- New Color Scanner – This scanner made it possible for patrons to attach documents electronically and to make colored photocopies.
- Wowbrary Alerts – Wowbrary is a nonprofit service that showcases our acquisitions via free weekly emails, RSS feeds, Facebook posts, and new book lists and widgets on our Library website.

Monthly Children’s programs continued with Story Hour, Toddler Playgroup, Craft Club, American Girl Club, Bedtime Snacks, and Lego Club, averaging 25 patrons in attendance. In September, our Annual First Grade Field Trip to the Library welcomed 36 students from the West Brookfield Elementary School. The children received their Library Cards and toured the Library after reading stories with Mary Beth Jackson, the Children’s Librarian, who also visits the first graders monthly with more stories. In addition, the Library participated in the annual West Brookfield Sportsman’s Club Essay Contest in which 44 of our young patrons participated. A stuffed turkey was on

display for over three months in the children's room as a contest advertisement.

A special program called the Lego "Duplo Read Build Play!" National Tour came to the Library, which had 70 participants. Large Lego models were displayed in the Library. Many pictures of this event were posted on our Library's Facebook page. A large donation of Duplos and books were donated to the Library from the Lego Company.



In the fall, the Library started a new music program for children. Renee Coro, a children's music performer, came to the Library in September, October, and December with an average audience of 37 participants. This program has been extremely popular. The Library plans to have Renee Coro return in the spring as well. Other new children's programs throughout the year included: Movie Nights, Wii Dance Party Days, and Fancy Nancy Tea Parties to celebrate the new Fancy Nancy book releases.

Our popular Summer Reading Program began in July and its theme of "Dream Big Read" let patrons enjoy crafts every Thursday from 2:30 – 3:30 pm, and the Creative Performance Series provided family entertainment every Tuesday from 6:30 – 7:30 pm.



Performers included:

- Mary Jo Maichack’s *“Dream Big”*
- Creature Teachers’ *“Creatures of the Night!”*
- Pumpernickel Puppets’ *“The Three Billy Goats Gruff/The Lion and the Mouse”*
- Wingmasters’ *“The World of Owls!”*
- Steve Blunt Singer/Storyteller
- Museum of Science’s *“Super-Cold Science”*

“Dream Big Read” was made possible at your library through the following local businesses and institutions:

Country Bank for Savings
Dr. Thomas Cahill
Family First Bank
Gremarco Industries
The Hearst Foundation
Dr. and Mrs. King

Local Cultural Council Grant (\$1,350.00)

Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners and Boston Bruins

North Brookfield Savings Bank
Shaw’s
Spencer Savings Bank
Super Stop and Shop
Webster First Federal Credit Union
Massachusetts Library System

There were a total of 112 Children’s programs in 2012. The total number of participants was 2,625. The average attendance per program was 23.

The Library is extremely valuable to our community. The Library's appropriated budget for the year was \$181,444.52. The Massachusetts Library Association's Value of the Library Service Calculator reveals exactly how valuable our goods and services are to the people of West Brookfield.

Use	Services	Value
10,064	Adult Books Borrowed	171,088.00
8,934	Children's/Young Adult Books Borrowed	107,208.00
739	Magazines Borrowed	3,695.00
1,060	Newspapers Browsed	10,070.00
8,070	Videos Borrowed	32,280.00
1,450	Audio Books Borrowed	14,427.50
762	CDs Borrowed	7,581.90
50	Museum Passes Borrowed	1,500.00
8,890	Interlibrary Loan	222,250.00
422	Adult Programs Attendance	6,330.00
2,454	Children's Programs Attendance	17,178.00
3,484	Hours of Computer Use	41,808.00
8,217	Information Research Requests Answered	57,519.00
Value to the Community:		692,935.40

The Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners awarded the Library several grants totaling \$3,814.64 for participating in the survey and meeting/exceeding 10 certification requirements.

The Library received some generous gifts and grants this year. The England Trust gifted the Library \$7,500, which was set aside for future building maintenance emergencies. The West Brookfield Historical Commission funded the Old Sturbridge Village passes, and donated a Library commemorative ornament and a copy of their book, *“A History of West Brookfield, 1650 – 1990”* to the Friends of the MGPL White Christmas Raffle Table. In addition, the Library received a grant from the Greater Worcester Community Foundation for the Director to attend the American Library Annual Conference. Some conference highlights included attending a workshop held by the Rural, Native, and Tribal Libraries of All Kinds Committee and making connections with the Lego Company National Tour.



Jeff Robbins, Peter Scribner, Alexandra McNitt, Paul Spencer, Virginia Allen, and Lizzie Anaya-Calderon.

Not pictured: Lloyd Hubbard and Michael Ozbayrak.

The Board of Library Trustees is composed of a group of elected officials who donate their time to support the Library. They, along with the Director, make important library decisions involving budget, building maintenance, and library advocacy on local and state levels. The Board consists of Virginia Allen, Lizzie Anaya-Calderon, Alexandra McNitt, Michael Ozbayrak, Jeff Robbins (Sec.), and Paul Spencer (Chair). They would like to thank our dedicated Library volunteers: Danielle Casey, Sean Jackson, Ashley Leger, Nathan Latter, Taylor Latter, Jennifer Finne, Audrey Roy, Jessica Dwelly, Chris Jackson, Elizabeth Fedirko, Max Merrill, Melanie Merrill, Makayla Vessella, Lizzie Anaya-Calderon, Paul Spencer, and the Friends of the Library.

The Friends of the Library (FOL), led by Co-Presidents Elizabeth Jay and Judy Kelley-Rzeznikiewicz, hosted two events. The Annual Book Sale was held in June, with special thanks going to members of the North Brookfield Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints for their assistance. Prior to the Book Sale, some of our books were donated to the West Brookfield Elementary School Library. The Annual White Christmas Raffle was a very successful fundraising effort, the proceeds of which were unprecedented. The record number of donations by local businesses and residents and exceptional community participation made for a memorable day.

The FOL supports the Library by sponsoring our Museum Passes, website updates and service, and special programming. Museum Passes provided by the Friends are Magic Wings Butterfly Conservatory and Gardens, The Ecotarium, and Springfield Museum. The Library also provides the USS Constitution pass sponsored by the Institute of Museum and Library Services for patron use. Another FOL contribution was the new TV located on the second floor of the Library. This has been a great addition to the Library and made it possible to offer family movie nights and Wii Dance Party programs.

Our Staff strives to provide its patrons with exemplary service and support. We take pride in the Library's appearance and our goal is to maintain an inviting, welcoming, and comfortable environment. Adult Librarian, Holly Takorian, and Children's Librarian, Mary Beth Jackson are extremely dedicated

to the Library and to the community. They, along with the Library Director, Carrie Grimshaw do their best to make the Library full of activity with exciting programs, materials, and resources. Our part-time staff of pages is comprised of Melanie Merrill, Elaine Courtemanche, Kally Judycki, and Melody Spencer. Finally, our custodian, John Grabosky, continues to maintain and improve the building.



Holly Takorian, Elaine Courtemanche, Kally Judycki, Mary Beth Jackson, Carrie Grimshaw, Melanie Merrill, and Melody Spencer (from left to right).
Not pictured: John Grabosky.

Respectfully submitted,
Carrie Grimshaw, Library Director

LIST OF APPOINTED OFFICIALS

* Indicates Chairperson. () Indicates Term of Office

ADVISORY BOARD (7 MEMBERS – 3 YEAR TERMS)

Richard Gobi	(2012)	
Al Collings	(2012)	Resigned
Vacant	(2012)	
Tom Long	(2013)	Appt to 2012
Diane Vayda	(2013)	
Roy Roberts	(2013)	
Phil Landine	(2014)	
John Tivnan	(2014)	*

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

Brad Quigley	(2013)	*
Vacancy	(2013)	
Arthur Maskell	(2013)	
Gordon DeWolf	(2013)	
Vacancy	(2012)	
Barry Nadon, Sr.	(2013)	Alternate
Vacant	(2012)	Alternate
Vacant	(2012)	Alternate
Lisa Long	(2013)	Alternate

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT COORDINATOR

Johanna Swain	(2013)
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ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER/DOG OFFICER

Leah Shattuck	(2013)
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ANIMAL INSPECTOR

Barry J. Nadon, Sr.	(04/30/12)
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ASPARAGUS & FLOWER HERITAGE FESTIVAL

George Hibbard	(2013)	
Richard Rossman	(2013)	
Amy Dugas	(2013)	
Elaine Hibbard	(2013)	
Claudia Tourigny	(2013)	Resigned 1/18/13

ASSISTANT ASSESSOR

Renee Adams-White	(2013)	
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ASSISTANT TOWN CLERKS

Tammi Kemp	(2013)	
Geraldine Sauve	(2013)	
Teresa Barrett	(2013)	
Christine Long	(2013)	
Robert Spera	(2013)	

ASSISTANT TOWN TREASURER

Teri Ann Roberts	(2013)	
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AUCTIONEER (PROPERTY)

Johanna Swain	(2012)	
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BOARD OF REGISTRARS

Madelyn Tivnan	(2013)	
Jane R. Dolan	(2014)	
Anna May Zabek	(2015)	

BUILDING INSPECTOR

Jeff Taylor	(2013)	
John Couture	(2013)	Alternate

BURIAL GROUND COMMISSIONERS

Marjorie Reim	(2013)	
John Bartlett	(2014)	
Kevin Roberts	(2015)	

CABLE TELEVISION COMMITTEE, LOCAL ACCESS

Barry Gillogly, Director (2013)

CENTRAL MASS. REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Tim Morrell (2013)

Mark Long (2013) Alternate

CMRPC REGIONAL PLANNING TASK FORCE

C. Thomas O'Donnell (2013)

CHIEF PROCUREMENT OFFICER

Johanna Swain (2013)

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE COORDINATOR

Paul Lupacchino (2012)

COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Lyn Tivnan (2013)

Mandy Morrison (2013)

Keith Arsenault (2013)

Edwin Ward (2013) Resigned 10/15/12

CONSERVATION COMMISSION (3 YEAR TERMS – CHP 40, SEC 8C)

Christine M. Long (2013)

Eric Tunley (2013)

Brian Silva (2014)

Richard Provencher (2014)

Jesse Serrano (2014)

Gordon DeWolf (2015)

James Talvey (2015)

(COA) WB SENIOR CENTER DIRECTOR

Cynthia Norden, Director (2013)

Betty Frew, Asst. Director (2013)

COUNCIL ON AGING

Gloria Hanks	(2013)
Jim Pierce	(2013)
Irene White	(2013)
Eric Tunley	(2013)
Beverly Cassavant	(2014)
Catherine Buzzell	(2014)
Connie Pratt	(2015)
Carolyn Boucher	(2015)

COUNCIL ON AGING CUSTODIAN

Justyna Ball	(2013)
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COUNCIL ON AGING SMC ELDER BUS BOARD

Cynthia M. Norden	(2013)
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CUSTODIAN OF PROPERTY

Board of Selectmen	(2013)
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CULTURAL GRANTS COUNCIL

Joan Veinot	(2013)
Fern Maskell	(2013)
Kate Kane	(2013)
Richard Ullman	(2013)
Barry Gillogly	(2013)
Paula Slade	(2013)
Cynthia Laub	(2013)

EARTH REMOVAL BOARD

Bob Lipovsky	(2013)	Planning
Jason Paquette	(2013)	Health
Michael Frew	(2013)	Selectmen
Gordon DeWolf	(2013)	Conservation
Kevin Dorman	(2013)	Zoning

E-911 COORDINATOR

Paul Lupacchino	(2012)
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ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR

Kevin Dunivan (2013)
Keith Fontaine (2013) Alternate

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

C. Thomas O'Donnell (2013)

ETHICS COMMISSION LIAISON

Sarah Allen (2013)

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Johanna Swain (2013)

FIRE CHIEF

Paul Lupacchino (2013)

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Robert Benson	Deputy Chief
Daniel Santos	Assistant Chief
Wesley Cassavant	Captain, Retired
Joseph Landry	Lieutenant
Scott Anderson	Training Lieutenant
David Tebo	Lieutenant

FOREST FIRE WARDEN

Paul Lupacchino (2012)

GAS PIPING & GAS APPLIANCES/PLUMBING INSPECTOR

Joseph Ciejka (2013)
Edward Kent (2013) Alternate

HARBORMASTER

Joseph Borlikoski (2013)

HAZARDOUS WASTE COORDINATOR

Brian Charron (2013)
David Tebo (2013) Assistant

HIGHWAY CLERK

Tammi Melanson (2013)

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT

James P. Daley (2032)

HISTORICAL COMMISSION (7 MEMBER BOARD)

Barbara Rossman (2013)
David Fitzgerald (2013)
Anne Marie Nolan (2013)
Louise Garwood (2014)
Amy Dugas (2014) Resigned 3/22/13
Vacancy (2014)
Richard Rossman (2015) (Rotating 3-year term)
Anne Phillips (2015)

HISTORICAL CONSERVATION AND PRESERVATION

Vacant (2013)

INSECT & PEST CONTROL INSPECTOR

James DiMaio (2013)

LAKE WICKABOAG DREDGING ADMINISTRATORS

Melvin Dorman (2013)
John Frizzell (2013)
Jason Paquette (2013)

LIAISONS

Michael Frew To Highway Department
Barry Nadon, Jr. To Quaboag School District
Mark Long To Fire & Police Departments
(Fire removed 10/31/12)
Michael Frew To Fire Department (effective
10/31/12)

LIBRARY CHILDREN’S SERVICES LIBRARIAN

Mary Beth Jackson (2013)

LIBRARY CUSTODIAN

John Grabosky (2013)

LIBRARY DIRECTOR

Carrie Grimshaw (2013)

MASTER PLAN COMMITTEE

Timothy Morrell (2013)

Gordon DeWolf (2013)

Sonia Burke (2013)

**MUNICIPALITIES ORGANIZED FOR REGIONAL EFFECTIVENESS
(MORE) REPRESENTATIVES**

Barry J. Nadon, Jr. (2013)

Michael Frew (2013) Alternate

MUSIC COMMITTEE

Lisa Marie Berthel (2012)

Patricia Woffenden (2012) Secretary

Cindy Larson (2012) Co-Chair, Co-Treas.

Robyn Scott (2012)

Diana Lask (2012) Co-Treas.

Rebecca Fay (2012) Co-Chair

Tracy Ashworth (2014)

Eric Von Bleicken (2014)

Jaclyn Von Bleicken (2012)

Lisa Durkee (2014)

OPEN SPACE IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE

Tim Morrell	(2013)	Planning
Vacant	(2013)	Historical
Mary Beth Czaja	(2013)	LWPA (Ex-Officio)
Ralph Carlson	(2013)	LWPA
Gordon DeWolf	(2013)	Conservation
Vacant	(2013)	Recreation (Ex-Officio)

PARKING CLERK

Teresa Barrett	(2013)
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POLICE DEPARTMENT

CHIEF OF POLICE

C. Thomas O'Donnell

SERGEANT

Charles LaPerle	(2013)
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FULL TIME POLICE OFFICERS

Harold Parker	Lifetime*	3 year rollover
S. Patrick Swain	Lifetime*	3 year rollover
Edwin Ward	(2013)	Resigned 11/01/12
Matt Letendre	(2013)	
Herbert Duggan	(2013)	Provisional Appt.

PART TIME POLICE OFFICERS

David Pierce	Lifetime*	3 year rollover
Marissa Brown	Lifetime*	3 year rollover
Brian Ayers	Lifetime*	3 year rollover
Eric Mawhinney	Lifetime*	3 year rollover
Kara Hartung	Lifetime*	3 year rollover
Eric Iwaniec	Lifetime*	3 year rollover
Herbert Duggan	(2013)	Appt to FT 11/27/12

CONSTABLES

C. Thomas O'Donnell	(2015)	
Arthur Tatro	(2015)	
John Healy	(2015)	
David Pierce	(2015)	
Harold Parker	(2015)	
Marissa Brown	(2015)	
Charles LePerle	(2015)	
S. Patrick Swain	(2015)	
Edwin Ward	(2015)	Resigned 11/06/12
Alan R. Jesky	(2015)	

POLICE DEPARTMENT CLERK

Tammi Melanson	(2013)
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QUABOAG HIGH SCHOOL MUNICIPAL REPRESENTATIVE

Barry J. Nadon, Jr.	(2013)
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QUABOAG SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE

Barry J. Nadon, Jr.	(2013)
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QUABOAG VALLEY BUSINESS ASST. CORP REP.

Alexandra McNitt	(2013)
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RECREATION COMMITTEE

Paris Gogos	(2013)
John Vayda	(2013)
Teresa Barrett	(2013)
John Schlosstein	(2013)

REGIONAL TASK FORCE

Michael Frew	(2013)
Mark Long	(2013)
Barry Nadon, Jr.	(2013)

REPRESENTATIVE TO CENTRAL DISPATCH

C. Thomas O'Donnell	(2013)
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REPRESENTATIVE TO THE ROCK HOUSE
Barry J. Nadon, Jr. (2013)

RIGHT TO KNOW MUNICIPAL COORDINATOR
Brian Charron (2013)

ROAD PROJECTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Michael Frew (2013)
Jim Daley (2013)
Jeff Robbins (2013)
Bill King (2013)
Keith Arsenault (2013)

SEXUAL HARASSMENT OFFICER
Teri Ann Roberts (2013)

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
James Daley (2013) Highway
Suzanne LePage (2013) Member at Large
John Frizzell (2013) Health
Johanna Swain (2013) Selectmen
Gordon DeWolf (2013) Conservation
Robert Benson (2013) Water
Tim Morrell (2013) Planning

TOWN ACCOUNTANT
Marie Arsenault (2013)

TOWN COUNSEL
Petrini & Associates (2013)

TREE WARDEN
James DiMaio (2013)

TRIATHLON COMMITTEE

Rachel Wilson (2013)
Billie Moberg (2013)
Amanda Ostrout (2013)
Felix Kurilov (2013)
James Wilson (2013)

VETERAN'S AGENT

S. Patrick Swain (2013)

WAR MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

Ron Marchessault (2013)
Anna May Zabek (2013)

WMCTF COMMITTEE

Western MA Casino Task Force
Barry J. Nadon, Jr. (2013) Representative
Vacant (2013) Alternate

WHITE CHRISTMAS COMMITTEE

Richard Rossman (2013)
Charlotte Boos (2013)
Barbara Rossman (2013)
Michelle Niemiec (2013)

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Vacancy (2013) Associate Member
David Broschart (2013) Resigned 12/12/12
Richard Ullman (2013)
Kevin Dorman (2014) Chair effective 12/12/12
George Hibbard (2015)
Joan Veinot (2015) Associate Member
Resigned 12/31/12
William Mansfield (2015) Associate Member

ZONING OFFICER

Gary Simeone (2013)

LIST OF ELECTED OFFICIALS

* Indicates Chairperson. () Indicates Term of Office

MODERATOR

Trevor Brown (2015)

TOWN CLERK

Sarah J. Allen (2013)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Michael H. Frew (2013)

Mark Long (2014)

Barry J. Nadon, Jr. (2015)

TOWN TREASURER

Keith R. Arsenault (2013)

TAX COLLECTOR

Teresa M. Barrett (2013)

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

William F. Mansfield (2013)

Nicole M. Vongratsamy (2014) Resigned 10/29/12

Beverly P. Kenniston (2014) Partial Appt to 2013

Kevin G. Dorman (2015)

BOARD OF HEALTH

John E. Frizzell, Sr. (2013)

Jason Paquette (2014)

Melvin F. Dorman (2015)

BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES

Lloyd T. Hubbard (2013)
Jeffrey R. Robbins (2013)
Lizzie Anaya-Calderon (2014)
Virginia A. Allen (2014)
Paul D. Spencer (2014)
Peter Scribner (2015)
Alexandra McNitt (2015)

BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

Robert E. Benson (2013)
Barry J. Nadon, Sr. (2014)
Lester Paquette, Sr. (2015)

COMMON COMMITTEE

Robert Joseph Richard (2013)
Elisabeth E. DiMaio (2014)
Sarah Allen (2015) Resigned
Martha Salem-Leaseca (2013) Must run for 2014 & 2015

HOUSING AUTHORITY (5 YEAR TERMS)

Michael H. Frew (2010) State Appt
Peggy Walker (2014)
James F. Pierce (2015)
Kenneth B. Miller (2016)
Beverly Anderson (2017)

PLANNING BOARD

Timothy S. Morrell (2013)
Robert J. Brodak (2014)
Keith Arsenault (2015)
William F. Mansfield (2016)
Robert Lipovsky (2017)

QUABOAG REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Laurie A. Hebert	(2013)	
Dolores A. M. Morin	(2013)	
Paula Messier	(2013)	
Daniel P. Para	(2013)	
Clifford G. Fountain	(2014)	
Andrew Schwenker	(2014)	
Lori L. Loughlin	(2014)	
Gina Lavallee	(2014)	
John Dolan	(2015)	
Leane M. Pierce	(2015)	
Daniel Korzec	(2015)	
Vacant	(2015)	Warren

PARKING CLERK

During 2012, thirteen (13) parking tickets were issued. Forty dollars (\$40.⁰⁰) was collected and turned over to the Treasurer.

Many of the violations were attributed to unauthorized *All Night Parking* and the *Winter Parking Ban*. However, there is a decline of *Town Beach Parking Violations*.

Please be advised that from November 1st through April 1st there is a parking ban in effect during the hours of 1:00 am to 6:00 am. To obtain a beach-parking sticker, please inquire at the Police Department.

Respectfully submitted,
Teresa Barrett, Parking Clerk

POLICE DEPARTMENT

The year 2012 proved to be much less eventful than 2011, a fact for which we are certain everyone is thankful. Calls for service were down 10% from 2011; numbering 3,832 down from 4,240 in 2011. The reduction in activity was seen across all types of calls and this was the second year in a row that a decrease was seen.

While we have always enjoyed a close working relationship with the West Brookfield Elementary School and the District Administration, the tragic events in Newtown, CT in December refocused our efforts on safety planning. We are working closely with the School Administration, the Warren Police and Fire Departments, the West Brookfield Fire Department, and our other public safety partners to insure a safe learning environment for our children.

As always we strive to deliver quality police services to the residents of West Brookfield and are extremely grateful for the support we receive from the community.

Respectfully submitted,
Chief C. Thomas O'Donnell, Jr.

The following are examples of calls for service handled by the Department in 2012:

911-Hang up	40	Alarms	105
Animal calls	135	Assist citizen	178
Assault	5	Assist other agencies	118
Burglary	10	Building check	210
Carbon Monoxide alarm	3	Computer crimes	2
Complaint/non-specific	92	Court appearance	81
Disturbance	59	Disabled vehicle	69
Domestic Disturbance	23	Escort	12
Assist Fire Dept	76	Gunshots	8
Harassment	2	Hazardous incident	13
Identity theft	1	Illegal dumping	5
Investigation/non-specific	26	Juvenile offences	2
Larceny	19	Lockout	60
Medical emergency	463	Motor Vehicle accident	73
Complaint – MV operations	60	Missing persons	6
Motor Vehicle investigation	212	Motor Vehicle stop	661
Notification	6	Officer initiated/non-specific	336
Property damage/vandalism	23	Annoying calls	4
Lost/found property	10	Psychiatric emergency	29
Records check	10	Repossession	3
Serve restraining order	12	Safety hazard	106
Sex offenses	2	Stolen vehicle	2
Snow Ban	4	Serve summons	41
Suspicious activity	77	Threat	5
Trespass	5	Traffic control	182
Serve warrant	40	Welfare check	41

The 661 motor vehicle stops conducted by the Department, in 2012, had the following results:

Criminal Complaints	28	Civil Infractions	114
Arrests	19	Written Warnings	358
Verbal Warnings	266	Voided for Procedural Error	3

During 2012, eighty-nine (89) people were charged with crimes and eight (8) were taken into protective custody. The following is a summary of the charges filed:

Assault and Battery	10	Assault and Battery on a Police Officer	1
Burglary	1	Larceny	10
OUI	6	Warrant arrests	18
Suspended/Revoked license	10	Reckless/negligent operation of a vehicle	8
Leaving the Scene of an Accident	3	Uninsured Vehicle	2
Possession of Class D/intent to sell	2	Warrant of Apprehension	5
Abuse Prevention Order Violation	2	Unlicensed Operation	2
Possession of Alcohol in public	2	Possession of Liquor – under 21	2
Harassment Order Violation	3	Junior Operator Violation	1
Unregistered Vehicle	2	Attaching Plates	1
Witness intimidation	1	Disorderly/Disturbing the Peace	7
Identity Fraud	1	Uttering	1
Trespass with Motor Vehicle	1	Motor Vehicle Theft	2
Resisting Arrest	1	Use of Motor Vehicle without authority	1
Damage to Property	8	Indecent Exposure	1
Selling House to House without permit	1	Failure to Register as a sex offender	1

PUBLIC ACCESS TELEVISION

Local Access (aka, West Brookfield Public Access Television, Channel 11 or WBTv) has maintained its 24/7 goal of providing diverse programming and the bulletin board.

Equipment –

1. Purchase of a Sound Library Development Suite.
Upgraded video editing software to Adobe Premiere Pro.

Programming –

2. The station increased its multi-age oriented programming to 11 – 12 different programs per day.

Bulletin Board –

3. WBTv has continued to increase the number of local event bulletins. Once again, due to the down turn economy, we still have not charged an underwriter fee in 2012 for commercial bulletins. We will continue to monitor the situation as time goes on for any further moves.

Additional notes for 2012 –

4. Upgraded the video cameras for Chanel 13 (Gov. Channel) and added streaming Audio Journal to air when Selectmen Meetings are not running.
5. The 2013 renewal of our contract with Charter is upon us. I have already read their proposal and will be working with Johanna and Charter to devise a means of not changing the Charter billing to individual subscribers, but being able to upgrade our server and eliminate the periodic crashing of our current server. Other issues will have to be discussed in early 2013.

Respectfully submitted,
Barry Gillogly

RESCUE SQUAD

The West Brookfield Rescue Squad responded to over five-hundred sixty (560) 911 calls in the year of 2012, our 60th year of service to West Brookfield. Although our call volume leveled off this year, it continues to increase yearly when we look at using mutual aid for second and sometimes third calls while we are already out on a call. The majority of our calls continue to be for medical emergencies, but the numbers also reflect motor vehicle accidents, assisting the Fire Department at fire scenes, lift assists, and patient evaluations and refusals.

The Rescue Squad currently has twenty active EMTs and one administrative secretary, the result of our active effort to recruit and financially support their EMT training. We will soon be adding three more EMTs. Our goal continues to be to provide the Town of West Brookfield with 24-hours a day, 7 days a week emergency service. At times however, a full crew is unavailable and we are working on increasing the membership of the squad to help us fill all available shifts. We have recently purchased a new ambulance in the summer of 2012. With this and the use of our previous ambulance, we are working on alleviating the use of mutual aid from other ambulance services for basic needs to the Town of West Brookfield. The Town of Ware and Brookfield provide ALS (Advanced Life Support) services should the need arise.

In order to meet the demand for our increasing call volume and our continued goal of 24-hour coverage, the Rescue Squad continues to need more EMTs. Baystate Mary Lane Hospital offers EMT courses through its Community Outreach Department. The next course is to be determined, usually running mid-September. Participants who complete the course and join the squad will be reimbursed the tuition fee, after the successful completion of a membership application, pre-employment physical, and a probationary period of active service. With financial difficulties facing many, the WBRS is again able to offer scholarships to qualifying students who are able to make a commitment of service to the squad.

The West Brookfield Rescue Squad welcomes new members at any time. Anyone interested in joining can contact President James Boos (508) 867-9116 or any other squad member.

West Brookfield Rescue Squad continues to be committed to giving back to the community. First Responder and CPR training is provided free of charge to various departments, as needed, and offered to the public throughout the year, time permitting. The Rescue Squad maintains the Automatic Defibrillators (AEDs) in the following locations: Elementary School, Senior Center, Library, and the Town Hall, all free of charge to the community. With this dedication, West Brookfield has been designated a heart safe community by Central Mass Regional Office of Emergency Medical Services and the American Heart Association.

The cost of operating the Rescue Squad continues to rise, not only with the above-mentioned community services provided, but insurance and equipment upkeep and the rising cost of supplies. All the Rescue Squad's expenses are covered by utilizing the monies collected from insurance company reimbursements for services, the Annual Subscription Drive, as well as the memorial and general contributions donated generously throughout the year. Our services continue to be offered to the Town of West Brookfield for "ZERO" tax dollars. Without your continued generosity, it would be very difficult to continue this service. The Rescue Squad is a 501G3 corporation; all donations are tax deductible.

Please remember the West Brookfield Rescue Squad is a state licensed "EMERGENCY TRANSPORT" ambulance. We are unable to provide transport to the hospital for non-emergency evaluations, treatments, or appointments under our state license.

Please call 911, the EMERGENCY ONLY NUMBER, when a LIFE THREATENING or MEDICAL EMERGENCY arises.

We would like to thank the residents of West Brookfield for their continued support of our efforts. We appreciate the continued financial support through the subscription drive, memorial contributions, and other generous donations throughout

the years. As always, we would like to thank the Police, Fire, Highway Departments and Central Dispatch center for their help and support. Without their efforts, we would not have the great service we have today.

Members:

PRESIDENT: James Boos

VICE PRESIDENT, BOD: M. Christine Coulthard-Schlosstein

BOD: Paul Lupacchino, Renee Cook, Josh Howe, Laura Charron, Diane Merriam

MEMBERS: Peggy Walker, Dan Santos, Ashley Hopkins, Brian Charron, Patricia Lupacchino, Elissa Boos, Lori Merriam, Dan McCall, Brandon Fullam, David Dodson, John Drane, Edward Ye, Cherie St. Francis, Clayton Edwards, Rebecca Dilboy, Sharon Ricard.

Respectfully submitted,
Board of Directors, West Brookfield Rescue Squad

TAX COLLECTOR

Totals represent posting activity year to date January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012

Fiscal Year	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	Misc.	Totals
Real Estate Tax	\$1,920,373.83	\$2,259,618.41	\$50,952.52	\$9,394.54	\$6,088.04	\$0.00	\$4,246,427.34
Interest on Real Estate	\$1,661.74	\$9,401.01	\$7,753.04	\$3,481.37	\$3,004.82	\$0.00	\$25,301.98
Personal Property Tax	\$40,142.59	\$45,403.50	\$206.37	\$53.94	\$47.93	\$0.00	\$85,854.33
Interest on Personal Property	\$11.41	\$53.05	\$29.33	\$15.53	\$37.75	\$0.00	\$147.07
Motor Vehicle/Trailer Excise	\$0.00	\$362,545.44	\$21,895.65	\$2,647.24	\$1,062.62	\$2,015.21	\$390,166.16
Interest on MV/Trailer Excise	\$0.00	\$1,492.45	\$2,398.31	\$638.96	\$403.92	\$1,158.52	\$6,092.16
Total Receipts	\$1,962,189.57	\$2,678,513.86	\$83,235.22	\$16,231.58	\$10,645.08	\$3,173.73	\$4,753,989.04

Respectfully submitted,
Teresa Barrett, Collector of Taxes

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

The Technology Committee serves the Town Hall departments with their technology needs, requests, and support. We replace the hardware in each department as it reaches the end of its service life and its operating software becomes obsolete. Our annual operating budget incorporates these hardware replacements as well as the annual license fees for each department using specialized software from outside vendors. We are also responsible for ensuring the network server functions properly and internet service is available to each department through the network router.

We are currently preparing to replace the network server, which has exceeded its service life and operates with outdated software. Our decisions will incorporate the expected needs for all departments for the foreseeable future including the increased need for wireless internet and reliable data backup system.

In closing we would like to thank former chairman Gary Simeone for his many years of leadership and service to the departments in the town hall.

Respectfully submitted,
Keith Arsenault
Madelyn Tivnan
Mandy Allen

TOWN CLERK

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH**

**WARRANT FOR PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY
SS.**

To either of the Constables of the Town of West Brookfield

GREETING:

In the name of the Commonwealth, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said town who are qualified to vote in Elections to vote at

PRECINCT 0
POLLING LOCATION 1
SENIOR CENTER, 73 CENTRAL STREET

On **TUESDAY, THE MARCH 6, 2012** from 7:00 A. M. to 8:00 P. M. for the following purpose:

To cast their votes in the Presidential Primary for the candidates of political parties for the following offices:

PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE.....FOR THE COMMONWEALTH
STATE COMMITTEE MAN.....WORCESTER, HAMPDEN, HAMPSHIRE & MIDDLESEX
DISTRICT
STATE COMMITTEE WOMAN.....WORCESTER, HAMPDEN, HAMPSHIRE &
MIDDLESEX DISTRICT
TOWN COMMITTEE.....TOWN OF WEST BROOKFIELD

Hereto fail not and make return of this warrant with your doings thereon at the time and place of said voting.

Given under our hands this _____ day of _____, 2012.

_____ A TRUE COPY ATTEST: _____
Sarah J. Allen, Town Clerk

Constable

Selectmen of West Brookfield

Date _____AM/PM

POSTED ON THE BULLETIN BOARD OF THE TOWN HALL

**PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY RESULTS
MARCH 6, 2012
RESULTS**

REPUBLICAN BALLOT

<i>PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE</i>	<i>VOTE FOR ONE</i>
RON PAUL	41
MITT ROMNEY	167
RICK PERRY	0
RICK SANTORUM	50
JON HUNTSMAN	1
MICHELE BACHMANN	0
NEWT GINGRICH	19
No Preference	2
(Write-In)	0
Blank	1
Total	281

<i>STATE COMMITTEE MAN</i>	<i>VOTE FOR ONE</i>
MICHAEL J. VALANZOLA	33
WILLIAM J. GILLMEISTER	154
DAVID P. KOPACZ, SR.	47
(Write-In)	0
Blank	47
Total	281

<i>STATE COMMITTEE WOMAN</i>	<i>VOTE FOR ONE</i>
JANET E. GARON	200
(Write-In)	1
Blank	80
Total	281

<i>TOWN COMMITTEE</i>	<i>VOTE FOR TEN</i>
(Write-In)	8
Blank	2802
Total	2810

DEMOCRATIC BALLOT

<i>PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE</i>	<i>VOTE FOR ONE</i>
BARACK OBAMA	64
No Preference	8
(Write-In)	3
Blank	5
Total	80

<i>STATE COMMITTEE MAN</i>	<i>VOTE FOR ONE</i>
WILLIAM R. SHEMETH, III	68
(Write-In)	0
Blank	12
Total	80

<i>STATE COMMITTEE WOMAN</i>	<i>VOTE FOR ONE</i>
LAURA L. JETTE	66
(Write-In)	1
Blank	13
Total	80

<i>TOWN COMMITTEE</i>	<i>VOTE FOR THIRTY-FIVE</i>
BETTY J. FREW	66
MICHAEL H. FREW	65
GREGORY M. FREW	63
KATHARINE G. SNYDER	58
JANE R. DOLAN	60
RICHARD D. GOBI	67
ROBERT B. CALCHERA	57
THOMAS LONG	64
CHRISTINE M. LONG	59
MADELYN R. TIVNAN	67
JOHN V. TIVNAN	65
(Write-In)	0
Blank	2109
Total	2800

GREEN RAINBOW PARTY BALLOT

<i>PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE</i>	<i>VOTE FOR ONE</i>
KENT MESPLAY	1
JILL STEIN	0
HARLEY MIKKELSON	0
No Preference	1
(Write-In)	0
Blank	0
Total	2

<i>STATE COMMITTEE MAN</i>	<i>VOTE FOR ONE</i>
(Write-In)	1
Blank	1
Total	2

<i>STATE COMMITTEE WOMAN</i>	<i>VOTE FOR ONE</i>
(Write-In)	1
Blank	1
Total	2

<i>TOWN COMMITTEE</i>	<i>VOTE FOR TEN</i>
(Write-In)	0
Blank	20
Total	20

TOWN OF WEST BROOKFIELD
WEST BROOKFIELD MA 01585

POSTAL PATRON
WEST BROOKFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS 01585

2012

Annual Town Meeting
Warrant
and the
Advisory Committee
Report

ELECTION - Tuesday, May 1st 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
West Brookfield Senior Center

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING - Tuesday, May 8th, 7:00 p.m.
West Brookfield Elementary School

PLEASE BRING THIS REPORT TO THE ANNUAL
TOWN MEETING FOR YOUR PERSONAL REFERENCE.

West Brookfield Advisory Committee

As required by law, this Warrant is presented to the voters of West Brookfield for the Annual Town Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, May 8, 2012. An informational meeting sponsored by the Advisory Committee for the residents of the town will be held on Wednesday, April 25, 2012 at the West Brookfield Senior Center beginning at 7:15 pm. The proposed Omnibus Budget and all other articles contained in the Warrant will be discussed.

Our current fiscal year 2012 West Brookfield operating budget seems to be relatively intact as state revenues are approximating base line estimates. However, as expected, fiscal year 2013 budget requests present some challenges. While the national and state economies are continuing to grow slowly, the preliminary forecast for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013 state budget suggests that there will little if any increase in revenue support for cities and towns. Local property tax increases are limited to two and one-half percent and new growth in real estate activities and fee income sources will continue to be at the lowest levels we have seen in several years. This will mean lower financial resources to support our town and schools.

For fiscal 2013, the Advisory Committee has requested that cost of living salary adjustments, except for step and grade increases, be limited to 3% and also, that budgeted expenses (excluding salary adjustments) be limited to 0% of the approved fiscal year 2012 budgeted expenses. That 0% increase request is proving to be unrealistic due to increases in energy and transportations costs.

Initial information from officials of the Quaboag Regional School District indicate that the West Brookfield share of the state mandated school district minimum contribution budget for fiscal year 2013 will be \$43,255 or 1.9% more than the foundation budget we approved for fiscal year 2012. In addition, the District will most likely be requesting additional funds above the minimum requirement. At the same time, the Governor’s proposed budget provides for the same support for the Quaboag Regional School District as fiscal year 2012 for a 0% increase. We are frustrated that the state can mandate that a town such as ours can be required to increase our support of the schools while the state does not have to increase their share.

As of this writing, the preliminary operating budget figures for fiscal year 2013, excluding debt, are as follows:

<i>Omnibus town department operating budget requests</i>	<i>\$3,100,639</i>
<i>Education budget requests</i>	<i>3,051,803</i>
<i>Article request for recurring items</i>	<i><u>145,500</u></i>
<i>Total recurring operating needs</i>	<i><u>\$6,297,942</u></i>
<i>Raise & appropriate funds</i>	<i>\$5,865,076</i>
<i>To be funded from other sources</i>	<i><u>432,866</u></i>
<i>Total funding needed</i>	<i><u>\$6,297,942</u></i>

Due to the prudent financial management of this and prior Advisory Committees, the Town of West Brookfield has some financial resources for funding budget priorities in times like these. However, these funds are declining as we continue to use them for operational needs. Free cash on hand is now \$191,233.17 (a few years ago free cash was over a million dollars) which could be used to fund some of the amounts needed above our expected income (referred to as “raise and appropriate”) estimate for this year.

However, we will need \$414,866 to balance the operating requests received. Currently, we are projecting only \$84,433 in additional free cash at June 30, 2012 leaving us with a problem to find more free cash or to begin the long avoided task of cutting expense budgets. Adding to the problem is a number of requests to fund capital expenditures for fiscal year 2013.

West Brookfield is fortunate to have three stabilization accounts. The \$1,306,611 general stabilization account has been reserved for capital projects and the Advisory Committee has recommended that the account balance not dip below the higher of one million dollars or 10% of the annual operating budget or currently a minimum balance of about \$1.6 million. Current capital requests could reduce the general stabilization account to just above \$1.0 million.

The \$214,038 fire truck account was established for the purchase of a new truck. We would like to increase that account by about \$30,000 a year over the next several years. The \$2,123,723 Water Stabilization account was created from the receipt of MTBE settlement funds from various oil companies. The Advisory Committee has recommended that these accounts be used for upgrades to the aging well and water distribution system, but to leave a balance of at least \$1.5 million in the account until it is determined that there will never be an MTBE claim the town will have to defend or pay. However, with the development of the new well west of route 9, the Water Department will propose spending a little over \$1.3 million of this account.

During this last year, we requested all departments to review their capital spending requirements for the next five years. Since that amount now exceeds \$20 million with many projects subject to grant and other funding, a more detailed schedule will be available for the annual town meeting.

Last year, West Brookfield voters approved a debt exclusion and \$795,000 in expenditures for building and technology upgrades at the West Brookfield Elementary School. Our share of funding for the Quaboag Regional Middle/High School building and technology projects was passed over since Warren voters did not approve a companion action. This year, Warren town officials are considering asking voters to again approve a debt exclusion and expenditures for their elementary school as well as their share of the Middle/High School projects. If they approve, we will ask our voters to approve our estimated \$379,510 share of the Middle/High School technology and building improvements. Since we already approved a debt exclusion for this amount, only a town meeting article expenditure will be needed.

Last year, the Roads Committee presented their recommendations for \$2,502,230 in needed road repair projects. Of the four financing options, the Advisory Committee recommended financing an additional \$150,000 for fiscal year 2012 and thereafter and give consideration to entering into a bond agreement and debt exclusion at some future town meeting.

Our continuing updated vehicle purchase analysis for the next five years shared with voters at the town meetings has proven to be a useful tool. After discussions with department managers, we have deferred a decision to purchase a new fire truck for several years and considered less expensive options for replacing other vehicles. The Fleet Account report will be available at the town meeting.

With all of our financial needs and limited resources, we are going to have to continue to carefully manage our budget priorities over the next several years.

*Respectfully submitted,
Albert Collings, Chair*

Rich Gobi

Tom Long

Jack Tivnan

Phil Landine

Roy Roberts

Diane Vayda

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Town of West Brookfield
*****Annual Town Meeting*****

Worcester, SS.

To Either of the Constables of the Town of West Brookfield in the County of Worcester, Greetings.

In the NAME OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town, qualified to vote in elections and in Town affairs, to meet at the WEST BROOKFIELD SENIOR CENTER on 73 Central Street in said WEST BROOKFIELD ON TUESDAY, the FIRST day of MAY 2012 at 8:00 AM until 8:00 PM, then and there to elect by ballot the following Town Officers in article #1, and at the WEST BROOKFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL in said WEST BROOKFIELD on TUESDAY the EIGHTH day of MAY 2012 at 7:00 PM, then and there to act on the following articles:

Article 1

To bring in their votes for one (1) Moderator for 1 year, one (1) Selectman for 3 years, one (1) Assessor for 3 years, one (1) Board of Health Member for 3 years, two (2) Library Trustees for 3 years, one (1) Library Trustee for 1 year, one (1) Water Commissioner for 3 years, one (1) Common Committee Member for 3 years, one (1) Planning Board Member for 5 years, one (1) Planning Board Member for 3 years, one (1) Housing Authority Member for 5 years, four (4) Quaboag Regional School Committee Members for 3 years or take any other action relative thereto.

(Sponsored by Town Clerk)

Article 2

To hear and act upon the Annual Reports of the Town Officers and Committees, or take any other action relative thereto.

Article 3

To see if the Town will vote to determine the compensation to be paid to the following elected Town Officers:

	FY12 Approved	FY13 Recommended
Moderator	\$150.00	\$150.00
Selectmen, each member	\$1,600.00	\$1,760.00
Selectmen, Chairman	\$1,600.00	\$1,760.00
Town Treasurer	\$28,797.65	\$29,958.19
Tax Collector	\$31,781.21	\$32,734.65
Assessors, two members	\$1,200.00	\$4,999.00
Assessors, Clerk	\$52,049.84	\$25,000.00
Board of Health, two members	\$800.00	\$880.00
Board of Health, Chairman	\$1,000.00	\$1,100.00
Town Clerk	\$26,346.00	\$27,137.00
Water Commissioners	\$350.00 each	\$385.00 each

or take any other action relative thereto.
(Sponsored by the Advisory Committee)

Article 4

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds in the Treasury, such sums of money as listed in the Advisory Committee Fiscal Year 2013 Budget Request and as amended as may be necessary to defray the expenses of the Town for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2012 and ending on June 30, 2013, and to vote that any State reimbursements which result in available funds to the Quaboag Regional School District, in excess of the approved budget, shall be used to reduce the Town's assessment, or take any other action relative thereto.

(Sponsored by the Advisory Committee)

Article 5

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds in the Treasury **a sum of money** to be placed in the Reserve Fund to provide for extraordinary or unforeseen expenditures under the provisions of Chapter 40, Section 6 of the General Laws known as the Reserve Fund, or take any other action relative thereto.

(Sponsored by the Advisory Committee)

Article 6

To see if the Town will vote pursuant to General Laws Chapter 44 Section 53E ½ to authorize the use of a revolving fund to pay cemetery related expenses which fund shall be credited with receipts from various Burial Grounds Commission fees, such expenditures not to exceed \$16,000.00 in fiscal year 2013, or take any other action relative thereto.

(Sponsored by the Burial Grounds Commission)

Article 7

To see if the Town will vote pursuant to General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53E ½ to authorize the use of a revolving fund to pay Police Officer Detail Expenses, which fund shall be credited with receipts from various Details fees, such expenditures not to exceed \$50,000.00 in fiscal year 2013, or take any other action relative thereto.

(Sponsored by the Police Department)

Article 8

To see if the Town will vote pursuant to General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53E ½ to authorize the Stormwater Authority use of a revolving fund, which fund shall be credited with receipts from various Stormwater Authority fees, such expenditures not to exceed \$25,000.00 in fiscal year 2013, or take any other action relative thereto.

(Sponsored by the Stormwater Authority)

Article 9

To see if the Town will vote pursuant to General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53E ½ to authorize the Tree Warden use of a revolving fund, which fund shall be credited with receipts from various Stewardship Programs, such expenditures not to exceed \$10,000.00 in fiscal year 2013, or take any other action relative thereto.

(Sponsored by the Tree Warden)

Article 10

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Water Commissioners to employ their Licensed Water Commissioners at Grade 1 Step 1 (**\$10.92** per hour) for standby duty and emergency work in the absence of the Superintendent in Fiscal Year 2013, or take any other action relative thereto.

(Sponsored by the Water Department)

Article 11

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds in the Treasury **a sum of money** to be placed into the Revaluation Account, or take any other action relative thereto.
(Sponsored by the Board of Assessors)

Article 12

To see if the Town will vote raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds in the Treasury **a sum of money** to be placed in the Town Road Maintenance Account, or take any other action relative thereto.
(Sponsored by the Highway Department)

Article 13

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds in the Treasury **a sum of money** to be used for engineering fees associated with the Route 9 Reconstruction (TIPS) Project; or take any other action relative thereto.
(Sponsored by the Highway Department)

Article 14

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the Town Building Maintenance Account **a sum of money** to pay for repairs to the Merriam Gilbert Public Library roof; or take any other action relative thereto.
(Sponsored by the Library Board of Trustees/Board of Selectmen)

Article 15

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the Water Stabilization Account **a sum of money** to pay for costs associated with the creation of a new well house (#2) on Leland Road; or take any other action relative thereto.
(Sponsored by the Water Department)

Article 16

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds in the Treasury **a sum of money** to be used to supplement the Town's Chapter 90 money, which is used for road construction/reconstruction and repair; or take any other action relative thereto.
(Sponsored by the Roads Advisory Committee, Highway Department & Board of Selectmen)

Article 17

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the Town Building Maintenance Account **a sum of money** to pay for chimney repairs on the Town Hall; or take any other action relative thereto.
(Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen)

Article 18

To see if the Town will vote to grant the Board of Selectmen the authority to develop and participate in a contract, or contracts, for power supply and other related services, independently, or in joint action with other municipalities through the Hampshire Council of Governments. If such contracts are to be approved, individual consumers would retain the option not to participate and to choose any alternative service they desire. The Board of Selectmen would also be granted the authority to appoint a representative for a committee to oversee such joint action or take any other action relative thereto.

(Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen)

Article 19

To see if the Town will vote to amend its General By-laws by adding a new Chapter XVIII, Fire Department Cost Recovery Program, as follows:

Chapter XVIII Fire Department Cost Recovery Program

Section 1. Established

Due to the increased costs of providing non-emergency services, the Town hereby authorizes the Fire Department to mitigate these costs through a Fire Department Cost Recovery Program.

Section 2. Definitions

Motor vehicles: Motor vehicles as defined by Mass. General Laws, as well as off-road vehicles, watercraft both powered and unpowered, snowmobiles, aircraft, and other powered means of transportation.

Fire Department Services: Services performed by the Fire Department which are not fire response, immediate emergency response or life-saving services. Specific examples of Fire Department Services for which the Fire Department may seek cost recovery under this By-law are: recovery of motor vehicles from off-road locations such as embankments, ravines, lakes, streams, water bodies, ice or other areas; services provided at a motor vehicle crash site after extinguishment of any fire and provision of life safety services; fire watches; standby at bomb scares or other types of lockdowns if a Responsible Party is identified.

Responsible Party: Any individual, corporation, association, partnership, commercial entity, consortium, joint venture, government entity or other legal entity responsible for a public safety response which involves a response by the Fire Department.

Section 3. Scope

Whenever the Fire Department provides Fire Department Services, the Fire Chief or designee shall send an invoice to the owner, operator, or other

Responsible Party or parties for the cost incurred in performing Fire Department Services. The costs to be assessed will be only those costs incurred for Fire Department Services as defined by this By-law. The cost of such Fire Department Services shall be charged and payable according to the schedule established from time to time by the Board of Selectmen.

Section 4. Recovery Procedures

The Fire Chief or designee shall create appropriate billing procedures to recover the costs of Fire Department Services described in this By-law. Any person who is aggrieved by an action taken by the Fire Chief under this By-Law may, within ten days of such action, file an appeal, in writing, with the Board of Selectmen of the Town of West Brookfield (the Board). After notice the Board shall hold a hearing, after which it shall issue a decision in which it affirms, annuls or modifies the action taken by the Fire Chief, giving its reasons therefore. The Board shall send its decision to the petitioner by first class mail within ten days after the hearing. The decision of the Board shall be a final administrative decision.

Section 5. Collection of Costs

Any invoices created pursuant to this bylaw must be paid within 30 days of mailing. If not paid within 30 days, the Town may collect the costs by filing a complaint in a court of competent jurisdiction. This does not prevent the Town from pursuing other remedies available to recover the costs described in this By-law.

Section 6. Liability

The recovery of costs imposed under this By-law does not limit the liability of the Responsible Party under any other local by-law or state or federal laws, rules or regulations.

Section 7. Regulations

The Board of Selectmen may enact regulations to carry out the provisions of this By-law.

Section 8. Severability

If any clause, sentence, section, paragraph or part of this By-law, or application thereof to any person or entity or circumstances, shall be for any reason adjudged by a court of competent jurisdiction to be unconstitutional or invalid, such judgment shall not effect, impair, or invalidate the remainder of this By-

law and the application of such provisions to other persons, entities or circumstances; and the application of such provision to other persons, entities or circumstances by such judgment shall be confined to its operation to the clause, sentence, section, paragraph, or part of this bylaw thereof directly involved in the judgment. It is hereby declared to be the legislative intent that the bylaw would have been adopted had such invalid or unconstitutional provisions not have been included in this By-law; or take any other action relative thereto. (Sponsored by the Fire Department)

Article 20

To see if the Town will vote to approve West Brookfield's share of the debt authorized by the Quaboag Regional School Committee on March 12, 2012 in the amount of \$949,500.00 to be expended under the Regional School Committee's direction for the purpose of capital projects (building & technology) to update facilities at the Quaboag Regional Middle High School, including engineering, design, and other costs incidental and related thereto, in accordance with General Laws chapter 71 section 16(d) and the District Agreement, and to raise and appropriate, borrow, or transfer from available funds a sum of money for said purposes; or take any other action related thereto. (Sponsored by the School Committee)

Article 21

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds in the Treasury **a sum of money** to pay principal and interest payments owed on bonds for the West Brookfield Elementary School, or take any other action relative thereto. (Sponsored by the Town Treasurer)

Article 22

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds in the Treasury **a sum of money** to pay West Brookfield's share of the principal and interest payments owed on bonds for the Quaboag Regional Middle/High School, or take any other action relative thereto. (Sponsored by the Town Treasurer)

AND you are directed to serve this Warrant by posting up attested copies at the BULLETIN BOARD located on the Cottage Street side of the exterior of the TOWN HALL, in said Town, FOURTEEN (14) days at least before the time of holding said meeting.

HEREOF FAIL NOT, and make due return of this Warrant, with your doing thereon, to the Town Clerk, the time and place of meetings, as aforesaid.

Given under our hands this 20th day of March in the year of our Lord two thousand twelve.

A TRUE COPY. ATTEST:

Selectmen of West Brookfield

Constable

Worcester, SS

March _____, 2012 AM PM

Pursuant to the within Warrant, I have notified and warned the inhabitants of the TOWN OF WEST BROOKFIELD by posting an attested copy of the same on the Bulletin Board in the front entrance of the WEST BROOKFIELD TOWN HALL fourteen (14) days at least before the time of holding said meeting.
Constable of WEST BROOKFIELD

ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION RESULTS

MAY 1, 2012

<i>MODERATOR (3-YEARS)</i>	<i>VOTE FOR ONE</i>
*TREVOR BROWN	115
(Write-In)	0
Blank	9
Total	124

<i>SELECTMAN (3-YEARS)</i>	<i>VOTE FOR ONE</i>
*BARRY J. NADON, JR.	103
(Write-In)	3
Blank	18
Total	124

<i>BOARD OF ASSESSORS (3-YEARS)</i>	<i>VOTE FOR ONE</i>
*KEVIN G. DORMAN	101
(Write-In)	0
Blank	23
Total	124

<i>BOARD OF HEALTH (3-YEARS)</i>	<i>VOTE FOR ONE</i>
*MELVIN F. DORMAN	107
(Write-In)	1
Blank	16
Total	124

<i>WATER COMMISSIONER (3-YEARS)</i>	<i>VOTE FOR ONE</i>
*LESTER J. PAQUETTE, SR.	103
(Write-In)	3
Blank	18
Total	124

<i>LIBRARY TRUSTEE (3-YEARS)</i>	<i>VOTE FOR ONE</i>
*ALEXANDRA E. MCNITT	92
PETER SCRIBNER	84
(Write-In)	1
Blank	69
Total	246

<i>LIBRARY TRUSTEE (1-YEAR)</i>	<i>VOTE FOR ONE</i>
(Write-In)	12
THOMAS LLOYD HUBBARD won the seat	
Blank	112
Total	124

<i>COMMON COMMITTEE (3-YEARS)</i>	<i>VOTE FOR ONE</i>
*SARAH J. ALLEN	108
(Write-In)	0
Blank	16
Total	124

<i>PLANNING BOARD (5-YEARS)</i>	<i>VOTE FOR ONE</i>
*ROBERT LIPOVSKY	98
(Write-In)	1
Blank	25
Total	124

<i>PLANNING BOARD (3-YEARS)</i>	<i>VOTE FOR ONE</i>
*KEITH ARSENAULT	99
(Write-In)	2
Blank	23
Total	124

<i>HOUSING AUTHORITY (5-YEARS)</i>	<i>VOTE FOR ONE</i>
*BEVERLY ANDERSON	104
(Write-In)	1
Blank	19
Total	124

QUABOAG REGIONAL DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE SCHOOL COMMITTEE ELECTION IS AT LARGE

3 YEARS YOU MAY VOTE FOR ANY FOUR CANDIDATES

The two candidates with the highest vote totals in each town will be elected

MEMBERS FROM THE TOWN OF WARREN

DANIEL KORZEC	80
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MEMBERS FROM THE TOWN OF WEST BROOKFIELD

JOHN DOLAN	101
LEANE PIERCE	102
(Write-In)	2
Blank	211
Total	496

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

MAY 8, 2012

Voted unanimously to allow the following non-voters to sit with the Board of Selectmen:

Barbara Saint Andre	Town Counsel
Johanna Barry	Executive Secretary

And to allow the following non-voters to speak:

Barbara Saint Andre	Town Counsel
Johanna Barry	Executive Secretary
Brett Kustigian	QRSD Superintendent
Joseph Scanlon	Director of Finance & Operations
Jim Daley	Highway Superintendent
Kenneth Elstein	Hampshire Council of Governments
Robert Spera	Assistant Town Clerk

Article 2

Voted unanimously to receive the Annual Reports of the Town Officers and Committees.

Article 3

Voted unanimously the compensation to be paid to the following elected Town Officers:

	FY13 Recommended
Moderator	\$150.00
Selectmen, two members @ each	\$1,760.00
Selectmen, Chairman	\$1,760.00
Town Treasurer	\$29,958.19
Tax Collector	\$32,734.65
Assessors, three members @ each	\$4,999.00
Board of Health, two members @ each	\$880.00
Board of Health, Chairman	\$1,100.00
Town Clerk	\$27,137.00
Water Commissioners, each member	\$385.00

Article 4

Voted Majority to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$5,874,190.00**, transfer from Free Cash the sum of **\$180,108.42** and transfer from Overlay Surplus the sum of **\$75,000.00**, such sums of money as listed in the Advisory Committee Fiscal Year 2013 Budget Request and as amended as may be necessary to defray the expenses of the Town for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2012 and ending on June 30, 2013, and to vote that any State reimbursements which result in available funds to the Quaboag Regional School District, in excess of the approved budget, shall be used to reduce the Town's assessment.

Article 5

Voted unanimously to transfer from Overlay Surplus the sum of **\$25,000.00** to be placed in the Reserve Fund to provide for extraordinary or unforeseen expenditures under the provisions of Chapter 40, Section 6 of the General Laws known as the Reserve Fund.

Article 6

Voted unanimously pursuant to General Laws Chapter 44 Section 53E ½ to authorize the use of a revolving fund to pay cemetery related expenses which fund shall be credited with receipts from various Burial Grounds Commission fees, such expenditures not to exceed \$16,000.00 in fiscal year 2013.

Article 7

Voted unanimously pursuant to General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53E ½ to authorize the use of a revolving fund to pay Police Officer Detail Expenses, which fund shall be credited with receipts from various Details fees, such expenditures not to exceed \$50,000.00 in fiscal year 2013.

Article 8

Voted unanimously pursuant to General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53E ½ to authorize the Stormwater Authority use of a revolving fund, which fund shall be credited with receipts from various Stormwater Authority fees, such expenditures not to exceed \$25,000.00 in fiscal year 2013.

Article 9

Voted unanimously pursuant to General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53E ½ to authorize the Tree Warden use of a revolving fund, which fund shall be credited with receipts from various Stewardship Programs, such expenditures not to exceed \$10,000.00 in fiscal year 2013.

Article 10

Voted unanimously to authorize the Water Commissioners to employ their Licensed Water Commissioners at Grade 1 Step 1 (**\$10.92** per hour) for standby duty and emergency work in the absence of the Superintendent in Fiscal Year 2013.

Article 11

Voted unanimously to transfer from Overlay Surplus the sum of **\$5,000.00** to be placed into the Revaluation Account.

A 2/3 vote is required to pass Article 12. A motion was made and second to dispense with the required secret ballot. The vote: unanimous approval

Article 12

Voted unanimously transfer from the General Stabilization Account the sum of **\$50,000.00** to be placed in the Town Road Maintenance Account.

A 2/3 vote is required to pass Article 13. A motion was made and second to dispense with the required secret ballot. The vote: unanimous approval

Article 13

Voted 2/3 majority to transfer from the General Stabilization Account the sum of **\$83,150.00** to be placed into the Route 9 Reconstruction (TIPS) Project Account to be used for engineering fees.

Article 14

Voted unanimously to transfer from the Town Building Maintenance Account the sum of **\$25,000.00** into a Library Roof Repair Account to pay for repairs to the Merriam Gilbert Public Library roof.

A 2/3 vote is required to pass Article 15. A motion was made and second to dispense with the required secret ballot. The vote: unanimous approval

Article 15

Voted unanimously to transfer from the Water Stabilization Account the sum of **\$1,300,000.00** into the Well 2 Leland Road Account to pay for costs associated with the creation of a new well house (#2) on Leland Road.

A 2/3 vote is required to pass Article 16. A motion was made and second to dispense with the required secret ballot. The vote: unanimous approval

Article 16

Voted unanimously to transfer from the General Stabilization Account the sum of **\$125,000.00** to be placed into the Town Roads Supplement Chapter 90 Account to be used for road construction/reconstruction and repair.

Article 17

Voted unanimously to transfer from the Town Building Maintenance Account the sum of **\$10,000.00** into a Town Hall Chimney Repair Account to pay for chimney repairs on the Town Hall.

Article 18

Voted unanimously to grant the Board of Selectmen the authority to develop and participate in a contract, or contracts, for power supply and other related services, independently, or in joint action with other municipalities through the Hampshire Council of Governments. If such contracts are to be approved, individual consumers would retain the option not to participate and to choose any alternative service they desire. The Board of Selectmen would also be granted the authority to appoint a representative for a committee to oversee such joint action.

Article 19

Voted unanimously to amend its General By-laws by adding a new Chapter XVIII, Fire Department Cost Recovery Program, as written in the Annual Town Meeting Warrant.

Article 20

Voted Majority to approve West Brookfield's share of the debt authorized by the Quaboag Regional School Committee on March 12, 2012 in the amount of \$949,500.00 to be expended under the Regional School Committee's direction for the purpose of capital projects (building & technology) to update facilities at the Quaboag Regional Middle High School, including engineering, design, and other costs incidental and related thereto, in accordance with General Laws chapter 71 section 16(d) and the District Agreement, and to raise and appropriate, borrow, or transfer from available funds a sum of money for said purposes.

Article 21

Voted Unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$3,000.00** to pay principal and interest payments owed on bonds for the West Brookfield Elementary School.

Article 22

Voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$18,093.00** to pay West Brookfield's share of the principal and interest payments owed on bonds for the Quaboag Regional Middle/High School.

The meeting adjourned at 8:12 PM.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

WARRANT FOR STATE PRIMARY

SS.

To the Constables of the City/Town of West Brookfield

GREETING:

In the name of the Commonwealth, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said city or town who are qualified to vote in the State Election to vote at

PRECINCT 0
POLLING LOCATION 1
SENIOR CENTER, 73 CENTRAL STREET

on **THURSDAY, THE SIXTH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2012**, from 7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. for the following purpose:

To cast their votes in the State Election for the candidates for the following offices:

SENATOR IN CONGRESS..... FOR THIS COMMONWEALTH
REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESSSECOND DISTRICT
COUNCILOR SEVENTH DISTRICT
SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT.....WORCESTER, HAMPDEN, HAMPSHIRE
&MIDDLESEX DISTRICT
REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT. 5TH WORCESTER DISTRICT
CLERK OF COURTS..... WORCESTER DISTRICT
REGISTRY OF DEEDS WORCESTER COUNTY

Hereof fail not and make return of this warrant with your doings thereon at the time and place of said voting.

Given under our hands this _____ day of _____, 2012.

_____ A true copy attest: _____
Sarah J. Allen, Town Clerk

Selectmen of West Brookfield

_____, 2012
Constable

POSTED ON THE OUTSIDE BULLITEN BOARD OF THE TOWN CLERK

**STATE PRIMARY RESULTS
SEPTEMBER 6, 2012**

REPUBLICAN PARTY

<i>SENATOR IN CONGRESS</i>	<i>VOTE FOR ONE</i>
SCOTT P. BROWN	43
(Write-In)	1
Blank	2
Total	46

<i>REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS</i>	<i>VOTE FOR ONE</i>
(Write-In)	6
Blank	40
Total	46

<i>COUNCILLOR</i>	<i>VOTE FOR ONE</i>
JENNIE L. CASSIE	35
(Write-In)	0
Blank	11
Total	46

<i>SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT</i>	<i>VOTE FOR ONE</i>
(Write-In)	7
Blank	40
Total	46

<i>REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT</i>	<i>VOTE FOR ONE</i>
JASON M. PETRAITIS	37
(Write-In)	1
Blank	8
Total	46

<i>CLERK OF COURTS</i>	<i>VOTE FOR ONE</i>
(Write-In)	6
Blank	40
Total	46

<i>REGISTER OF DEEDS</i>	<i>VOTE FOR ONE</i>
(Write-In)	6
Blank	40
Total	46

DEMOCRATIC PARTY

<i>SENATOR IN CONGRESS</i>	<i>VOTE FOR ONE</i>
ELIZABETH A. WARREN	74
(Write-In)	3
Blank	11
Total	88

<i>REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS</i>	<i>VOTE FOR ONE</i>
JAMES P. MCGOVERN	71
WILLIAM FEEGBEH	12
(Write-In)	0
Blank	5
Total	88

<i>COUNCILLOR</i>	<i>VOTE FOR ONE</i>
(Write-In)	15
Blank	73
Total	88

<i>SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT</i>	<i>VOTE FOR ONE</i>
STEPHEN M. BREWER	79
(Write-In)	0
Blank	9
Total	88

<i>REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT</i>	<i>VOTE FOR ONE</i>
ANNE M. GOBI	81
(Write-In)	0
Blank	7
Total	88

<i>CLERK OF COURTS</i>	<i>VOTE FOR ONE</i>
DENNIS P. MCMANUS	73
(Write-In)	0
Blank	15
Total	88

<i>REGISTER OF DEEDS</i>	<i>VOTE FOR ONE</i>
ANTHONY J. VIGLIOTTE	78
(Write-In)	0
Blank	10
Total	88

GREEN RAINBOW PARTY

<i>SENATOR IN CONGRESS</i>	<i>VOTE FOR ONE</i>
(Write-In)	1
Blank	0
Total	1

<i>REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS</i>	<i>VOTE FOR ONE</i>
(Write-In)	1
Blank	0
Total	1

<i>COUNCILLOR</i>	<i>VOTE FOR ONE</i>
(Write-In)	0
Blank	1
Total	1

<i>SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT</i>	<i>VOTE FOR ONE</i>
(Write-In)	0
Blank	1
Total	1

<i>REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT</i>	<i>VOTE FOR ONE</i>
(Write-In)	0
Blank	1
Total	1

<i>CLERK OF COURTS</i>	<i>VOTE FOR ONE</i>
(Write-In)	0
Blank	1
Total	1

<i>REGISTER OF DEEDS</i>	<i>VOTE FOR ONE</i>
(Write-In)	0
Blank	1
Total	1

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Town of West Brookfield
****Special Town Meeting****

Worcester, SS.

To Either of the Constables of the Town of West Brookfield in the County of Worcester, Greetings:

In the **NAME OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town, qualified to vote in elections and in Town affairs, to meet at the **WEST BROOKFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, 89 NORTH MAIN STREET** in said **WEST BROOKFIELD** on **TUESDAY** the **SIXTEENTH** day of **OCTOBER 2012**, at **7:00PM** then and there to act on the following *Articles*:

Article 1

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of **\$25,000.00** to be deposited into the “Town Building Maintenance Account”, or take any other action relative thereto.

(Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen)

Article 2

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of **\$25,000.00** to be deposited into the Reserve Fund to provide for extraordinary or unforeseen expenditures under the provisions of Chapter 40, Section 6 of the General Laws known as the Reserve Fund, or take any other action relative thereto.

(Sponsored by the Advisory Committee)

Article 3

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash a **sum of money** to pay for engineering fees associated with the Route 9 TIP Project; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Sponsored by the Highway Department)

Article 4

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of **\$30,000.00** into the Fire Truck Stabilization Account to refurbish the Town's fire fleet, or take any other action relative thereto.

(Sponsored by the Fire Department)

Article 5

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of **\$235,812.00** to be used in accordance with the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 90, such sums of money to be reimbursed by the Commonwealth, or take any other action relative thereto.

(Sponsored by the Highway Department)

Article 6

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of **\$10,000.00** to be placed into the Tax Title Expense Account, or take any other action relative thereto.

(Sponsored by the Town Treasurer)

Article 7

To see if the Town will vote transfer from Free Cash the sum of **\$25,000.00** to be placed in the Town Road Maintenance Account, or take any other action relative thereto.

(Sponsored by the Highway Department)

Article 8

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash a **sum of money** to be deposited into the "Fleet Account" or take any other action relative thereto.

(Sponsored by the Selectmen)

Article 9

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of **\$102,724.71** to be used for the October Nor'Easter Storm Clean Up deficit, or take any other action relative thereto.

(Sponsored by the Highway Department)

Article 10

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$20,000.00** to be placed in the General Insurance Account, or take any other action relative thereto.

(Sponsored by the Selectmen)

Article 11

To see if the Town will vote to call upon the United States Congress to pass and send to the states for ratification a constitutional amendment to reverse the Supreme Court's ruling in Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission and to restore constitutional rights and fair election to the people, or take any other action relative thereto.

(Sponsored by Bob Datz, 147 West Main Street)

Article 12

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the Water Stabilization Account a **sum of money** to pay for costs associated with the creation of a new well house (#2) on Leland Road; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Sponsored by the Water Department)

Article 13

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the Road Machinery Account the sum of **\$8,000.00** into the Highway Expense Account, to be used towards the purchase of a new sander and twelve tires for the Highway Department, or take any other action relative thereto.

(Sponsored by the Highway Department)

Article 14

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen and/or the Board of Water Commissioners to grant a utility easement or easements to National Grid in all or a portion of the town well site land located at Leland Road, such land further described in the deed to the Town recorded at the Worcester County Registry of Deeds at Book 5206 Page 120, upon such terms and conditions as the Board shall determine to be appropriate, for the purpose of providing electrical and gas service to the Town's well site, and further to see if the Town will vote to appropriate a **sum of money** from the Water Stabilization Account for this purpose and any expenses related thereto, and authorize the Board of Selectmen, Board of Water Commissioners and Town officers to take all related actions necessary or appropriate to carry out this *Article*, or take any other action relative thereto.

(Sponsored by the Water Department)

Article 15

To see if the Town will vote to Transfer from the Water Stabilization Account the sum of **\$50,000.00** to pay for water pipes on Central and Front Streets contingent upon the award of a MassWorks Grant, or take any other action relative thereto.

(Sponsored by the Water Department)

Article 16

To see if the Town will vote to Transfer from Free Cash the sum of **\$9,850.00** to pay for a Street Acceptance Plan from Cottage Street to Roy Terrace; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Sponsored by the Stormwater Authority and Board of Selectmen)

Article 17

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen and/or the Board of Water Commissioners to acquire by gift, purchase or eminent domain and to accept a deed to the town of a utility easement running from Ware Road, Route 9, across land now or formerly of Carroll Motor Sales, Inc, and/or Herbert and Edna Leland, to the town well site land located at Leland Road, upon such terms and conditions as the Board shall determine to be appropriate, for the purpose of installing and maintaining water mains, and providing electrical and gas service to the Town's well site, and for other utilities, and further to see if the Town will vote to appropriate a **sum of money** from the Water Stabilization Account for this purpose and any expenses related thereto, and authorize the Board of Selectmen, Board of Water Commissioners and Town officers to take all related actions necessary or appropriate to carry out this *Article*, or take any other action relative thereto.

(Sponsored by the Water Department)

Article 18

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Water Commissioners to acquire by gift, purchase or eminent domain and to accept a deed to the town of either the fee in or an easement or restriction over all or a portion of the land shown as Lot 7 on a plan of land entitled "Plan of Lots in West Brookfield, Mass. owned by Overlook Realty Trust", dated January 5, 1972, by Theodore P. Drazek, recorded at the Worcester County Registry of Deeds in plan book 361 as plan 88, for water supply purposes, upon such terms and conditions as the Board shall determine to be appropriate, and further to see if the Town will vote to appropriate a **sum of money** from the Water Stabilization Account for this purpose and any expenses related thereto, and authorize the Board of Water Commissioners and Town officers to take all related actions necessary or appropriate to carry out this *Article*, or take any other action relative thereto.

(Sponsored by the Water Department)

AND you are directed to serve this Warrant by posting up attested copies at the BULLETIN BOARD in the front entrance way of the TOWN HALL, in said Town, FOURTEEN (14) days at least before the time of holding said meeting.

HEREOF FAIL NOT, and make due return of this Warrant, with your doing thereon, to the Town Clerk, the time and place of meetings, as aforesaid.

Given under our hands this 18th day of September in the year of our Lord two thousand twelve.

A TRUE COPY. ATTEST:

Selectmen of West Brookfield

Constable
Worcester, SS

September ____, 2012 AM PM

Pursuant to the within Warrant, I have notified and warned the inhabitants of the TOWN OF WEST BROOKFIELD by posting an attested copy of the same on the Bulletin Board in the front entrance of the WEST BROOKFIELD TOWN HALL fourteen (14) days at least before the time of holding said meeting.
Constable of WEST BROOKFIELD

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING RESULTS
OCTOBER 16, 2012

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM.

Barry J. Nadon, Jr. made a motion to allow the following non-voters to sit with the Board of Selectmen: Barbara St. Andre-Town Counsel, Johanna Barry, Executive Secretary

And to allow the following non-voters to speak: Barbara St. Andre-Town Counsel, Johanna Barry, Executive Secretary, James Daley-Highway Superintendent.

The motion was second and the vote was unanimous approval.

Article 1

Voted unanimously to transfer from Free Cash the sum of **\$25,000.00** to be placed in the Town Building Maintenance Account.

Article 2

Voted unanimously to transfer from Free Cash the sum of **\$25,000.00** to be deposited into the Reserve Fund.

Article 3

Voted unanimously to transfer from Free Cash sum of **\$131,151.00** to pay for engineering fees associated with the Route 9 TIP Project.

A 2/3 vote is required to pass Article 4. A motion was made and second to dispense with the required secret ballot. The vote: unanimous approval

Article 4

Voted unanimously to transfer from Free Cash the sum of **\$30,000.00** to be placed in the Fire Truck Stabilization Account.

Article 5

Voted unanimously to transfer from Free Cash the sum of **\$235,812.00** to be placed into the Chapter 90 Account.

Article 6

Voted unanimously to transfer from Free Cash the sum of **\$10,000.00** to be deposited into the Tax Title Expense Account.

Article 7

Voted unanimously to transfer from Free Cash the sum of **\$25,000.00** to be placed in the Town Road Maintenance Account.

Article 8

Voted unanimously to transfer from Free Cash the sum of **\$88,000.00** to be placed in the Fleet Account.

Article 9

Voted unanimously to transfer from Free Cash the sum of **\$102,724.71** to be placed in the October Nor'Easter Storm Clean Up Account.

Article 10

Voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$10,000.00** and transfer from Free Cash the sum of **\$10,000.00** to be placed in the General Insurance Account.

Article 11

Voted Majority to call upon the United States Congress to pass and send to the states for ratification a constitutional amendment to reverse the Supreme Court's ruling in Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission and to restore constitutional rights and fair election to the people.

A 2/3 vote is required to pass Article 12. A motion was made and second to dispense with the required secret ballot. The vote: unanimous approval

Article 12

Voted unanimously to transfer from the Water Stabilization Account the sum of **\$331,000.00** to be placed in the Leland Well House Account.

Article 13

Voted unanimously to transfer from the Road Machinery Account the sum of **\$8,000.00** to be placed in the Highway Expense Account.

Article 14

Voted unanimously to authorize the Board of Selectmen and/or the Board of Water Commissioners to grant a utility easement or easements to National Grid in all or a portion of the town well site land located at Leland Road, such land further described in the deed to the Town recorded at the Worcester County Registry of Deeds at Book 5206 Page 120, upon such terms and conditions as the Board shall determine to be appropriate, for the purpose of providing electrical and gas service to the Town's well site, and authorize the Board of Selectmen, Board of Water Commissioners and Town officers to take all related actions necessary or appropriate to carry out this *Article*.

A 2/3 vote is required to pass Article 15. A motion was made and second to dispense with the required secret ballot. The vote: unanimous approval

Article 15

Voted unanimously to transfer from the Water Stabilization Account the sum of **\$50,000.00** to be placed in the Central and Front Street Water Pipe Account.

Article 16

Voted unanimously to transfer from Free Cash the sum of **\$9,850.00** to be placed into the Street Acceptance Plan from Cottage Street to Roy Terrace Account.

Article 17

Voted unanimously to authorize the Board of Selectmen and/or the Board of Water Commissioners to acquire by gift, purchase or eminent domain and to accept a deed to the town of a utility easement running from Ware Road, Route 9, across land now or formerly of Carroll Motor Sales, Inc, and/or Herbert and Edna Leland, to the town well site land located at Leland Road, upon such terms and conditions as the Board shall determine to be appropriate, for the purpose of installing and maintaining water mains, and providing electrical and gas service to the Town's well site, and for other utilities, and authorize the Board of Selectmen, Board of Water Commissioners and Town officers to take all related actions necessary or appropriate to carry out this *Article*.

A 2/3 vote is required to pass Article 18. A motion was made and second to dispense with the required secret ballot. The vote: unanimous approval

Article 18

Voted unanimously to authorize the Board of Water Commissioners to acquire by gift, purchase or eminent domain and to accept a deed to the town of either the fee in or an easement or restriction over all or a portion of the land shown as Lot 7 on a plan of land entitled "Plan of Lots in West Brookfield, Mass. owned by Overlook Realty Trust", dated January 5, 1972, by Theodore P. Drazek, recorded

at the Worcester County Registry of Deeds in plan book 361 as plan 88, for water supply purposes, upon such terms and conditions as the Board shall determine to be appropriate, and further to see if the Town will vote to appropriate a **\$4,000.00** from the Water Stabilization Account for this purpose and any expenses related thereto, and authorize the Board of Water Commissioners and Town officers to take all related actions necessary or appropriate to carry out this Article.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

WARRANT FOR STATE ELECTION
SS.

To either of the Constables of the Town of West Brookfield

GREETING:

In the name of the Commonwealth, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said town who are qualified to vote in State Elections to vote at

PRECINCT 0
POLLING LOCATION 1
SENIOR CENTER, 15 FRONT STREET

On **TUESDAY, THE SIXTH OF NOVEMBER, 2012**, from 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM for the following purpose:

To cast their votes in the State Election for the candidates for the following offices:

ELECTORS OF PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT.FOR THIS COMMONWEALTH
SENATOR IN CONGRESS FOR THIS COMMONWEALTH
REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS. SECOND DISTRICT
COUNCILLORSEVENTH DISTRICT
SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT WORCESTER, HAMPDEN, HAMPSHIRE & MIDDLESEX DISTRICT
REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURTFIFTH DISTRICT
CLERK OF COURTS.WORCESTER COUNTY DISTRICT
REGISTER OF DEEDSWORCESTER DISTRICT

QUESTION 1: LAW PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION

Do you approve of a law summarized below, on which no vote was taken by the Senate or the House of Representatives on or before May 1, 2012?

SUMMARY

This proposed law would prohibit any motor vehicle manufacturer, starting with model year 2015, from selling or leasing, either directly or through a dealer, a new motor vehicle without allowing the owner to have access to the same diagnostic and repair information made available to the manufacturer's dealers and in-state authorized repair facilities.

The manufacturer would have to allow the owner, or the owner's designated in-state independent repair facility (one not affiliated with a manufacturer or its authorized dealers), to obtain diagnostic and repair information electronically, on an hourly, daily, monthly, or yearly subscription basis, for no more than fair market value and on terms that do not unfairly favor dealers and authorized repair facilities.

The manufacturer would have to provide access to the information through a non-proprietary vehicle interface, using a standard applied in federal emissions-control regulations. Such information would have to include the same content, and be in the same form and accessible in the same manner, as is provided to the manufacturer's dealers and authorized repair facilities.

For vehicles manufactured from 2002 through model year 2014, the proposed law would require a manufacturer of motor vehicles sold in Massachusetts to make available for purchase, by vehicle owners and in-state independent repair facilities, the same diagnostic and repair information that the manufacturer makes available through an electronic system to its dealers and in-state authorized repair facilities. Manufacturers would have to make such information available in the same form and manner, and to the same extent, as they do for dealers and authorized repair facilities. The information would be available for purchase on an hourly, daily, monthly, or yearly subscription basis, for no more than fair market value and on terms that do not unfairly favor dealers and authorized repair facilities.

For vehicles manufactured from 2002 through model year 2014, the proposed law would also require manufacturers to make available for purchase, by vehicle owners and in-state independent repair facilities, all diagnostic repair tools, incorporating the same diagnostic, repair and wireless capabilities as those available to dealers and authorized repair facilities. Such tools would have to be made available for no more than fair market value and on terms that do not unfairly favor dealers and authorized repair facilities.

For all years covered by the proposed law, the required diagnostic and repair information would not include the information necessary to reset a vehicle immobilizer, an anti-theft device that prevents a vehicle from being started unless the correct key code is present. Such information would have to be made available to dealers, repair facilities, and owners through a separate, secure data release system.

The proposed law would not require a manufacturer to reveal a trade secret and would not interfere with any agreement made by a manufacturer, dealer, or authorized repair facility that is in force on the effective date of the proposed law. Starting January 1, 2013, the proposed law would prohibit any agreement that waives or limits a manufacturer's compliance with the proposed law.

Any violation of the proposed law would be treated as a violation of existing state consumer protection and unfair trade-practices laws.

A YES VOTE would enact the proposed law requiring motor vehicle manufacturers to allow vehicle owners and independent repair facilities in Massachusetts to have access to the same vehicle diagnostic and repair information made available to the manufacturers' Massachusetts dealers and authorized repair facilities.

A NO VOTE would make no change in existing laws.

QUESTION 2: LAW PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION

Do you approve of a law summarized below, on which no vote was taken by the Senate or the House of Representatives on or before May 1, 2012?

SUMMARY

This proposed law would allow a physician licensed in Massachusetts to prescribe medication, at a terminally ill patient's request, to end that patient's life. To qualify, a patient would have to be an adult resident who (1) is medically determined to be mentally capable of making and communicating health care decisions; (2) has been diagnosed by attending and consulting physicians as having an incurable, irreversible disease that will, within reasonable medical judgment, cause death within six months; and (3) voluntarily expresses a wish to die and has made an informed decision. The proposed law states that the patient would ingest the medicine in order to cause death in a humane and dignified manner.

The proposed law would require the patient, directly or through a person familiar with the patient's manner of communicating, to orally communicate to a physician on two occasions, 15 days apart, the patient's request for the medication. At the time of the second request, the physician would have to offer the patient an

opportunity to rescind the request. The patient would also have to sign a standard form, in the presence of two witnesses, one of whom is not a relative, a beneficiary of the patient's estate, or an owner, operator, or employee of a health care facility where the patient receives treatment or lives.

The proposed law would require the attending physician to: (1) determine if the patient is qualified; (2) inform the patient of his or her medical diagnosis and prognosis, the potential risks and probable result of ingesting the medication, and the feasible alternatives, including comfort care, hospice care and pain control; (3) refer the patient to a consulting physician for a diagnosis and prognosis regarding the patient's disease, and confirmation in writing that the patient is capable, acting voluntarily, and making an informed decision; (4) refer the patient for psychiatric or psychological consultation if the physician believes the patient may have a disorder causing impaired judgment; (5) recommend that the patient notify next of kin of the patient's intention; (6) recommend that the patient have another person present when the patient ingests the medicine and to not take it in a public place; (7) inform the patient that he or she may rescind the request at any time; (8) write the prescription when the requirements of the law are met, including verifying that the patient is making an informed decision; and (9) arrange for the medicine to be dispensed directly to the patient, or the patient's agent, but not by mail or courier.

The proposed law would make it punishable by imprisonment and/or fines, for anyone to (1) coerce a patient to request medication, (2) forge a request, or (3) conceal a rescission of a request. The proposed law would not authorize ending a patient's life by lethal injection, active euthanasia, or mercy killing. The death certificate would list the underlying terminal disease as the cause of death.

Participation under the proposed law would be voluntary. An unwilling health care provider could prohibit or sanction another health care provider for participating while on the premises of, or while acting as an employee of or contractor for, the unwilling provider.

The proposed law states that no person would be civilly or criminally liable or subject to professional discipline for actions that comply with the law, including actions taken in good faith that substantially comply. It also states that it should not be interpreted to lower the applicable standard of care for any health care provider.

A person's decision to make or rescind a request could not be restricted by will or contract made on or after January 1, 2013, and could not be considered in issuing, or setting the rates for, insurance policies or annuities. Also, the proposed law would require the attending physician to report each case in which life-ending medication is dispensed to the state Department of Public Health. The Depart-

ment would provide public access to statistical data compiled from the reports.

The proposed law states that if any of its parts was held invalid, the other parts would stay in effect.

A YES VOTE would enact the proposed law allowing a physician licensed in Massachusetts to prescribe medication, at the request of a terminally-ill patient meeting certain conditions, to end that person's life.

A NO VOTE would make no change in existing laws.

QUESTION 3: LAW PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION

Do you approve of a law summarized below, on which no vote was taken by the Senate or the House of Representatives on or before May 1, 2012?

SUMMARY

This proposed law would eliminate state criminal and civil penalties for the medical use of marijuana by qualifying patients. To qualify, a patient must have been diagnosed with a debilitating medical condition, such as cancer, glaucoma, HIV-positive status or AIDS, hepatitis C, Crohn's disease, Parkinson's disease, ALS, or multiple sclerosis. The patient would also have to obtain a written certification, from a physician with whom the patient has a bona fide physician-patient relationship, that the patient has a specific debilitating medical condition and would likely obtain a net benefit from medical use of marijuana.

The proposed law would allow patients to possess up to a 60-day supply of marijuana for their personal medical use. The state Department of Public Health (DPH) would decide what amount would be a 60-day supply. A patient could designate a personal caregiver, at least 21 years old, who could assist with the patient's medical use of marijuana but would be prohibited from consuming that marijuana. Patients and caregivers would have to register with DPH by submitting the physician's certification.

The proposed law would allow for non-profit medical marijuana treatment centers to grow, process and provide marijuana to patients or their caregivers. A treatment center would have to apply for a DPH registration by (1) paying a fee to offset DPH's administrative costs; (2) identifying its location and one additional location, if any, where marijuana would be grown; and (3) submitting operating procedures, consistent with rules to be issued by DPH, including cultivation and storage of marijuana only in enclosed, locked facilities.

A treatment center's personnel would have to register with DPH before working or volunteering at the center, be at least 21 years old, and have no felony drug convictions. In 2013, there could be no more than 35 treatment centers, with at

least one but not more than five centers in each county. In later years, DPH could modify the number of centers.

The proposed law would require DPH to issue a cultivation registration to a qualifying patient whose access to a treatment center is limited by financial hardship, physical inability to access reasonable transportation, or distance. This would allow the patient or caregiver to grow only enough plants, in a closed, locked facility, for a 60-day supply of marijuana for the patient's own use.

DPH could revoke any registration for a willful violation of the proposed law. Fraudulent use of a DPH registration could be punished by up to six months in a house of correction or a fine of up to \$500, and fraudulent use of a registration for the sale, distribution, or trafficking of marijuana for non-medical use for profit could be punished by up to five years in state prison or by two and one-half years in a house of correction.

The proposed law would (1) not give immunity under federal law or obstruct federal enforcement of federal law; (2) not supersede Massachusetts laws prohibiting possession, cultivation, or sale of marijuana for nonmedical purposes; (3) not allow the operation of a motor vehicle, boat, or aircraft while under the influence of marijuana; (4) not require any health insurer or government entity to reimburse for the costs of the medical use of marijuana; (5) not require any health care professional to authorize the medical use of marijuana; (6) not require any accommodation of the medical use of marijuana in any workplace, school bus or grounds, youth center, or correctional facility; and (7) not require any accommodation of smoking marijuana in any public place.

The proposed law would take effect January 1, 2013, and states that if any of its part were declared invalid, the other parts would stay in effect.

A YES VOTE would enact the proposed law eliminating state criminal and civil penalties related to the medical use of marijuana, allowing patients meeting certain conditions to obtain marijuana produced and distributed by new state-regulated centers or, in specific hardship cases, to grow marijuana for their own use.

A NO VOTE would make no change in existing laws.

Hereof fail not and make return of this warrant with your doings thereon at the time and place of said voting.

Given under our hands this _____ day of _____, 2012.

_____ A true copy attest: _____
Sarah J. Allen, Town Clerk

Selectmen of West Brookfield

Date _____, 2012

Constable

POSTED ON THE OUTSIDE BULLETIN BOARD OF THE WEST
BROOKFIELD TOWN HALL.

**STATE ELECTION RESULTS
NOVEMBER 6, 2012**

<i>ELECTORS OF PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT</i>	<i>VOTE FOR ONE</i>
JOHNSON AND GRAY	22
OBAMA AND BIDEN	965
ROMNEY AND RYAN	951
STEIN AND HONKALA	10
(Write-In)	1
Blank	13
Total	1962

<i>SENATOR IN CONGRESS</i>	<i>VOTE FOR ONE</i>
SCOTT P. BROWN	1139
ELIZABETH A. WARREN	813
(Write-In)	0
Blank	13
Total	1962

<i>REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS</i>	<i>VOTE FOR ONE</i>
JAMES P. MCGOVERN	1436
(Write-In)	19
Blank	507
Total	1962

<i>COUNCILLOR</i>	<i>VOTE FOR ONE</i>
JENNIE L. CASSIE	1317
(Write-In)	20
Blank	625
Total	1962

<i>SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT</i>	<i>VOTE FOR ONE</i>
STEPHEN M. BREWER	1675
(Write-In)	13
Blank	274
Total	1962

<i>REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT</i>	<i>VOTE FOR ONE</i>
ANNE M. GOBI	1379
JASON M. PETRAITIS	532
(Write-In)	1
Blank	590
Total	1962

<i>CLERK OF COURTS</i>	<i>VOTE FOR ONE</i>
DENNIS P. MCMANUS	1352
(Write-In)	11
Blank	599
Total	1962

<i>REGISTER OF DEEDS</i>	<i>VOTE FOR ONE</i>
ANTHONY J. VIGLIOTTE	1363
(Write-In)	0
Blank	590
Total	1962

	<i>YES</i>	<i>NO</i>	<i>BLANK</i>	<i>TOTAL</i>
QUESTION #1	1504	230	228	1962
QUESTION #2	965	955	42	1962
QUESTION #3	1183	731	48	1962

BIRTHS	33
MARRIAGES	15
DEATHS	92

DOG LICENSES	694
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Respectfully submitted,
Sarah J. Allen, Town Clerk

TREASURER

CALENDAR YEAR END BALANCE

Balances of Cash/Investments -December 31, 2012	\$	1,436,697.16
Receipts - January 1 to December 31	\$	7,562,246.47
Interest Earned on Investments	\$	6,859.25
Transfers from Trust Fund	\$	811,066.15
Payments per Warrant	\$	(8,285,189.56)
	\$	<u>1,531,679.47</u>

CASH

Country Bank for Savings	\$	399,363.85
Country Bank for Savings - Water	\$	208,196.19
North Brookfield Savings Bank	\$	251,671.72
Century Bank & Trust	\$	196,389.04
Mass Municipal Depository Trust	\$	181,615.18
Savers Bank	\$	292,710.87
Smith Barney	\$	<u>1,732.62</u>
Total Cash/Investments - December 31, 2012	\$	1,531,679.47

STABILIZATION FUND

Balance - December 31, 2011	\$	1,575,538.49
Interest Earned	\$	31,132.32
Appropriations/Transfers	\$	<u>(250,848.85)</u>
Balance - December 31, 2012	\$	1,355,821.96

WATER STABILIZATION FUND

Balance - December 31, 2011	\$	2,200,099.11
Interest Earned	\$	46,678.49
Appropriations/Transfers	\$	<u>(666,148.00)</u>
Balance - December 31, 2012	\$	1,580,629.60

FIRE TRUCK STABILIZATION FUND

Balance - December 31, 2011	\$	216,765.78
Appropriations/Transfer	\$	30,000.00
Interest Earned	\$	4,641.05
Balance - December 31, 2012	\$	<u>251,406.83</u>

CONSERVATION FUNDS

Balance - December 31, 2011	\$	5,110.70
Interest Earned	\$	109.42
Expenditure	\$	0.00
Balance - December 31, 2012	\$	<u>5,220.12</u>

CURB CUT ESCROW

Balance - December 31, 2011	\$	49,986.68
Interest Earned	\$	1,059.87
Deposits	\$	1,000.00
Reimbursements	\$	(1,000.00)
Balance - December 31, 2012	\$	<u>51,046.55</u>

REHAB AND SEPTIC ACCOUNT

Balance - December 31, 2011	\$	232,044.58
Interest Earned	\$	4,982.49
Participant Payments	\$	2,345.25
Participant Loan	\$	(75.00)
Balance - December 31, 2012	\$	<u>239,297.32</u>

SELF INSURANCE TRUST FUND

Balance - December 31, 2011	\$	26,392.31
Interest Earned	\$	565.07
Appropriation	\$	0.00
Balance - December 31, 2012	\$	<u>26,957.31</u>

TRUST FUND BALANCES

Quaboag Park	\$	78,857.88
Pine Grove Cemetery	\$	335,438.64
Merriam-Gilbert Library	\$	199,553.83
Fairfax Fund (Ayres Monument)	\$	4,030.48
Margaret Preisach Magnante Fund	\$	33,059.23
Priscilla E. Side Fund	\$	9,165.63
Common Committee Trust	\$	2,355.85
Historical Commission Trust	\$	80,031.66
Recreation Committee	\$	9,223.13
Brady Fund	\$	83.54
Lucy Stone Birthplace Account	\$	856.81
Town Hall Interior Fund - W. Reynis	\$	31,103.00

TRUST FUND INVESTMENT INCOME

Quaboag Park	\$	1,653.00
Pine Grove Cemetery	\$	7,599.78
Merriam-Gilbert Library	\$	3,757.90
Fairfax Fund (Ayres Monument)	\$	84.49
Margaret Preisach Magnante Fund	\$	692.97
Priscilla E. Side Fund	\$	192.13
Common Committee Trust	\$	56.27
Historical Commission Trust	\$	1,657.14
Recreation Committee	\$	172.37
Brady Fund	\$	1.75
Lucy Stone Birthplace Account	\$	17.96
Town Hall Interior Fund - W. Reynis	\$	664.10

TAX TITLE

Tax Title Redemptions	\$	41,411.61
Tax Title Interest	\$	14,211.97
Recovery of Tax Title Expense and Legal Fees	\$	0.00

PAYMENT IN LIEU OF TAXES

Quaboag on the Common	\$	0.00
West Brookfield Housing Authority	\$	3,591.76

INTEREST EARNED JANUARY 1, 2011 TO DECEMBER 31, 2012

General Funds	\$	6,859.25
Stabilization Funds	\$	31,132.32
Water Stabilization Funds	\$	46,678.49
Fire Truck Fund	\$	4,641.05
Conservation Funds	\$	109.42
Trust Funds	\$	16,549.86
Curb Cut Escrow	\$	1,059.87
Rehab and Septic System Account	\$	4,982.49
Self Insurance Trust Fund	\$	565.07

As in the past several years, 2012 investment income continued a downward trend due to the reduced returns on investments. However, the \$112,578 investment income for all funds is still substantial in today's interest rate environment. The current strategy is to keep more of the trust's funds in shorter maturing investments to take advantage of rising rates of return in future years while still laddering longer-term investments for a better return.

One of our primary objectives over the past several years has been capital preservation. By complying with the town's investment policy, we have avoided potential loss of principle funds. In addition, by careful choices and changes we have maximized general fund interest income while maintaining all cash in fully insured accounts and the state managed Massachusetts Municipal Depository Trust.

The Town of west Brookfield participates in the Medicare Part D subsidy program. In 2012, the Treasurer's office applied for and received \$2,599.01 to subsidize the health care we provide for our retirees. Applications for future years have been submitted. West Brookfield has been fortunate in that our health care costs for employees and retirees are well below most municipal employers. We have taken several steps to encourage healthier lifestyle choices in

an effort to keep employees healthy and reduce utilization of health care. A core group of West Brookfield employees have been organizing exercise classes sponsored and paid for by our health insurance provider. The town of West Brookfield has been recognized by MIIA – Massachusetts Interlocal Insurance Association for going “above and beyond.”

Many West Brookfield committees continue to receive generous contributions annually from the Irving and Jane England Charitable Trust. Likewise, the bequests from former Town Treasurer Walter Reynis for improvements to the Senior Center and Town Hall interior have been exceptionally helpful in completing both projects. It is our understanding the Reynis estate has also provided funding to the Lake Wickaboag Preservation Committee to assist with ensuring the quality of the lake for future generations. Many donations to the Lake Wickaboag Water Quality Fund have been received this past year.

The bonds for the two major school renovation and expansion projects have been paid off. A smaller project at the West Brookfield Elementary School and Quaboag Regional Middle and High School was approved by the voters to improve energy and heating efficiencies and to replace classroom computers and instructional equipment with the latest technology. The final grant payment in the amount of \$400,018 for the Elementary School project was received and applied to the debt obligation for the current projects reducing the amount to be paid by the West Brookfield taxpayers. We worked with the QRSD administration and West Brookfield Advisory Committee to structure the borrowings to reduce the impact on the West Brookfield tax rate.

We continue to resolve many of the outstanding tax title liens. Unfortunately, the Treasurer’s Office found it necessary to submit petitions to foreclose on a number of owner occupied properties this year. It is an unpleasant undertaking but a responsibility of the position.

The Treasurer’s office continues to assist the Board of Health in administering the septic system loan program. A local community bank assists with the billing and collection of quarterly payments. The loans at 5% are available to local residents with failed septic systems and meeting the income criteria.

Last year we implemented a new software system that integrates the financial process of the Tax Collector, Treasurer, Accountant, and Assessor. In our opinion, it works well. The software is housed at the vendor and is accessed by using the “web.” This allows the town’s data to be backed up constantly and reduces the use of the town’s network server.

Recently the Town updated the website to www.wbrookfield.com. Each year lists of tailings (un-cashed checks deemed to be abandoned) are posted in an attempt to ensure persons and vendors receive their payments.

In closing, I would like to encourage my fellow West Brookfield citizens in making local government work. By attending town meetings twice a year for no more than a few hours, you can demonstrate that democracy by participation still works.

Respectfully submitted,
Keith R. Arsenault, Town Treasurer

Combined Balance Sheet
June 30, 2012

	General Fund 01	State Aid To Highway 13	Other Special Revenue 14	Water Fund 28	Trust & Agency Funds 82-84- 85-89	Memorandum Only
ASSETS:						
Cash & Investments	\$1,657,604.54	\$118,043.27	\$229,904.10	\$180,380.05	\$4,626,793.29	\$6,812,725.25
<i>Receivable:</i>						
Real Estate Taxes	\$223,712.51					\$223,712.51
Personal Property Taxes	\$20,929.42					\$20,929.42
Less Allowance for Abatements & Exemptions	(\$265,001.61)					(\$265,001.61)
Motor Vehicle Excise	\$132,301.98					\$132,301.98
Tax Liens Receivable	\$208,397.72					\$208,397.72
Tax Possessions Receivable	\$74,123.38					\$74,123.38
Land of Low Value	\$11,217.62					\$11,217.62
Water Rates Receivable				\$78,704.64		\$78,704.64
Special Revenue Receivable		\$129,264.77				\$129,264.77
Due from Commonwealth				\$135,850.00		\$135,850.00
Amounts Provided For						
TOTAL ASSETS	\$2,063,285.56	\$247,308.04	\$229,904.10	\$394,934.69	\$4,626,793.29	\$7,562,225.68
LIABILITIES:						
Warrants Payable	\$169,660.38					\$169,660.38
Due to Agency Fund	\$0.00					\$0.00
Other Liabilities	\$5,919.12					\$5,919.12
Tailings	\$5,116.07					\$5,116.07
Note Payable				\$135,850.00		\$135,850.00
<i>Deferred Revenue:</i>						
Property Real & Personal	(\$20,359.68)					(\$20,359.68)
Motor Vehicle Excise	\$132,301.98					\$132,301.98
Tax Liens	\$208,397.72					\$208,397.72
Tax Possession & Land of Low Value	\$85,341.00					\$85,341.00
Water Rates				\$78,704.64		\$78,704.64
Special Revenue						\$0.00
Commonwealth of Mass.		\$129,264.77				\$129,264.77
<i>Fund Balances:</i>						
Storm Deficit	(\$102,724.71)					(\$102,724.71)
Reserved for Encumb.	\$336,729.87		\$229,904.10			\$566,633.97
Reserved for Expend.	\$285,108.42	\$118,043.27		\$51,609.53	\$4,626,793.29	\$5,081,554.51
Undesignated	\$957,795.39			\$128,770.52		\$1,086,565.91
TOTAL LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCE	\$2,063,285.56	\$247,308.04	\$229,904.10	\$394,934.69	\$4,626,793.29	\$7,562,225.68

TREE WARDEN

The focus of the town of West Brookfield's shade tree program is to provide diverse native shade trees that are safe and urban/rural ecosystem services such as: aesthetics, water quality, heating and cooling amelioration, and to a certain degree wildlife habitat. In general, most of the town's shade trees are of good health. However, there are a number of older trees that are dying and have interior stem decay that pose a hazard to public safety and risk to private property. 2012 continued to pose some exceptional extreme weather conditions in the form of drought, high winds, a tropical storm, and wet heavy snow that cause significant amounts of damage to our public shade trees. In addition, tree insects and diseases are adversely impacting Sugar and Norway maple and white ash trees. In September, the state identified emerald ash borer, a highly destructive invasive species in the Berkshires, which will cause significant mortality to our green, white, and black ash trees and insects that are impacting our white pine trees.

This past year the town responded to the following public shade tree program needs:

- Eleven (11) public shade trees were planted as part of the second Annual West Brookfield Arbor Day Tree Replacement Program. The West Brookfield's Elementary School, Highway Department and National Grid participated by planting shade trees. The West Brookfield Selectmen officially proclaimed and endorsed the Arbor Day Celebration. National Grid, West Brookfield Lions Club, and Palmer Paving donated all the shade trees that were planted this year.
- The Town's Old Cemetery, Cemetery, and Common's shade trees that had dead or dangerous limbs were pruned.
- Eighty-five (85) large public shade trees were removed that were deemed hazardous.
- Twenty-seven (27) stumps were ground, topsoil replaced, and grass planted as remedial efforts to improve aesthetics in the downtown section of West Brookfield.

- The town's Highway Department with assistance from local tree service contractors and National Grid responded to wind, tropical, and wet and heavy snow storms that caused public shade tree damage and related safety problems to many sections of West Brookfield.
- A number of public shade trees had dead, dying, or obstructive limbs pruned for safety purposes.
- National Grid removed twelve (12) large trees and pruned three (3) trees that were interfering with power transmission and ultimately reduced the amount of damage to the utility lines that occurred from extreme weather. We are now aware of the risk to our important infrastructure that our older public shade trees pose during extreme weather.
- A Public Shade Tree Inventory was conducted on Long Hill, Davis, and Bridges Roads that assessed the condition of all public shade trees and old stumps needing treatment.
- Fifty-five (55) hazardous public shade trees were identified for removal because they were dead, dying or pose a public safety and personal property threat. A public meeting was held to discuss these trees resulting in full public support for removal of all the identified hazardous trees. Removal is scheduled for 2013.

There is a continued need to coordinate with West Brookfield's residents, conduct public shade tree inventory, remove hazardous trees, and implement the Arbor Day Celebration and Tree Replacement Program.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim DiMaio, Tree Warden

VETERANS' SERVICE OFFICE

As many Veterans seek assistance Massachusetts continues to be a leader among States providing assistance through the Chapter 115 program. This program continues to help Veterans from all conflicts and wars in seeking benefits to improve their lives.

Again, with many generous donations a 2nd Veteran's dinner was held at the Salem Cross Inn to honor Veterans. This dinner not only honors the Veteran but also allows us to say *Thank You* to a family member or friend who has or is supporting the Veteran. A special thanks again to the Salem family for partnering with us for this special night.

I have been appointed by the Board of Selectmen to serve as Veterans' Service Officer and will strive to provide the best services to those Veterans in need. I am available by appointment by calling (413) 218-6990.

Respectfully submitted,
S. Patrick Swain, Veterans' Service Officer



WATER DEPARTMENT

The Water Department are pleased to submit the following Annual Report of the year 2012. The Water Commissioners are Robert E. Benson, Chairman; Lester Paquette, Barry Nadon, Sr.; Wesley Cassavant, Superintendent; Richard Kennan, Operator and Jean Wrobel, Clerk. We may be reached by calling (508) 867-1421 Ext. 306 or the Filtration Plant at (508) 867-1412.

The Water Department is happy to announce that it received a Water Quality Award from the Massachusetts DEP. The award means that we were in the top 5% of the state following the rules and regulations mandated by the state.

We are also happy to inform you that we are moving forward with the Leland Road Wellfield Project, the building is up and looks great, also the wells are all drilled and the casing and screens are in place. The Pump test and the submersible pumps will be complete at the end of December beginning of January. We also installed 1,000 ft of 8" ductile iron and directional drilled under Route 9.

The new meter project is still in motion but we are having trouble with customers not calling for appointments. So if you have received a notice please contact us for an appointment. It only takes approximately 15 minutes to complete. *Thank you* for your cooperation.

We continue to update our system, adding one new customer this year and *thank you* for all your support. Supplying the town with quantity and quality water is our goal. We would also like to *thank* the Highway Department for their help during the year. Please call **(508)867-1412** with any questions you might have.

Respectfully submitted,
The West Brookfield Water Department

"In accordant with Federal Law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discrimination on the basis of race; color; national origin, sex, age or disability. (Not all prohibited basis apply to all programs.)"

To file a complaint of discrimination, write-
USDA, Director
Office of Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410
Or Call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 795-6382 (TTD)

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

The Zoning Board of Appeals saw a slight increase in activity for 2012, granting 10 Special Permits.

The Board meets the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm in the Lower Level Conference rooms.

The Board was represented as follows:

Chairman – Dave Broschart

Members – Kevin Dorman and George Hibbard

Alternate Member – Joan Veinot

One applicant, West Brookfield Solar, for which a decision was granted in favor, was appealed.

The Board advises any applicants to purchase a Zoning By-Law Booklet before completing the application and submitting it to the ZBA. A letter from the Zoning Enforcement Officer stating that a Building Permit has been denied must be issued before an application can be accepted for a hearing. Applications can be obtained from the Town Clerk's Office. The application must be signed by the Tax Collector stating that all taxes are up to date, as well as other required documents and plans. Applications are reviewed by the Board at their monthly meeting prior to scheduling a public hearing.

Respectfully submitted,
Dave Broschart, Chairman
Kevin Dorman, Member
George Hibbard, Member
Joan Veinot, Alternate Member

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