

ANNUAL REPORT 2018



TOWN OF WEST BROOKFIELD
For the Year Ending December 31, 2018

DEDICATION



It is with great honor that we dedicate this Annual Town Report to Robert “Benny” Benson for his many years of devoted service to the residents of West Brookfield.

“Benny” has been a member of the Fire Department for nearly 50 years having served in many capacities including Acting and Interim Chief. He was recently promoted to Fire Commissioner and continues to provide administrative support and conduct inspections for the department. He is also a longtime member of the Water Department Board of Commissioners.



You will find him daily riding about Town in his red Jeep ready to provide assistance where necessary. Give him a wave and tip of your hat the next time you see him drive by.

“Benny” embodies the essence of volunteer community service and for this we are forever grateful.

TOWN OF WEST BROOKFIELD

WORCESTER COUNTY

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

ESTABLISHED: 1660 – Quaboag Plantation
INCORPORATED: March 3, 1848
LAND AREA: 20.67 Square Miles
POPULATION: 3,478

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 feet above sea level

SCHOOL SYSTEM:
Quaboag Regional School (Warren – West Brookfield)

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 1st Massachusetts
Richard Neal, Congressman, Springfield
1-413-785-0325

UNITED STATES SENATOR:
Elizabeth Warren, Senator 1-617-565-3170
Edward J. Markey, Senator 1-617-565-8519

STATE SENATORIAL DISTRICT: Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire, Middlesex, Worcester Counties
Anne M. Gobi, Senator
1-617-722-1540

STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT: 5th Worcester
Donald Berthiaume, Representative
1-617-722-2090

TYPE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT:
Town Meeting
Board of Selectmen – Three (3) Members

ACCOUNTANT

Combined Balance Sheet - All Fund Types and Account Groups as of June 30, 2018

	Governmental Fund Types			Proprietary Fund Types		Fiduciary	Account	Totals (Memorandum Only)
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Water Fund	Internal Services	Trust and Agency	Long-term Debt	
ASSETS								
Cash and cash equivalents	2,518,066.49	210,292.00	(262,888.97)	444,856.47		1,983,356.24	172,000.00	5,065,682.23
Investments								-
Receivables:								-
Personal property taxes	38,152.04							38,152.04
Real estate taxes	378,534.82							378,534.82
Deferred taxes	-							-
Allowance for abatements and exemptions	(543,834.07)							(543,834.07)
Special assessments								-
Tax liens	250,016.35							250,016.35
Tax foreclosures	(5,564.43)							(5,564.43)
Motor vehicle excise	172,490.66							172,490.66
Other excises								-
Utility Charges								-
Departmental	(28,783.46)							(28,783.46)
Other receivables	11,217.62	11,785.73		(3,941.22)				19,052.13
Due to/from other funds								-
Due from other governments			164,858.37					164,858.37
Prepays								-
Inventory								-
Fixed assets, net of accumulated depreciation								-
Amounts to be provided - payment of bonds								-
Amounts to be provided - vacation and sick leave								-
Total Assets	<u>2,790,296.02</u>	<u>222,077.73</u>	<u>(98,030.60)</u>	<u>440,915.25</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,983,356.24</u>	<u>172,000.00</u>	<u>5,510,614.64</u>
LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY								
Liabilities:								-
Deferred revenue								-
Real and personal property taxes	126,959.20							126,959.20
Deferred taxes	183.08							183.08
Prepaid taxes/fees								-
Special assessments		(11,785.73)						(11,785.73)
Tax liens	(250,016.35)							(250,016.35)
Tax foreclosures	5,564.43							5,564.43
Motor vehicle excise	(172,490.66)							(172,490.66)
Other excises								-
Utility Charges								-
Departmental	28,783.48							28,783.48
Deposits receivable								-
Other receivables				3,941.22				3,941.22
Due from other governments			(164,858.37)					(164,858.37)
Due to other governments								-
Accounts payable								-
Warrants payable	(233,568.36)							(233,568.36)
Accrued payroll and withholdings								-
Other liabilities	(19,270.72)					(179,833.93)		(199,104.65)
IBNR								-
Bonds payable							172,000.00	172,000.00
Notes payable			(175,000.00)					(175,000.00)
Vacation and sick leave liability								-
Total Liabilities	<u>(513,855.90)</u>	<u>(11,785.73)</u>	<u>(339,858.37)</u>	<u>3,941.22</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(179,833.93)</u>	<u>172,000.00</u>	<u>(869,392.71)</u>

Fund Equity:							
Reserved for encumbrances	(398,875.48)			(264,400.13)			(663,275.61)
Reserved for expenditures	(408,891.64)						(408,891.64)
Reserved for continuing appropriations							-
Reserved for petty cash							-
Reserved for appropriation deficit							-
Reserved for snow and ice deficit	84,540.12						84,540.12
Reserved for debt Service							-
Reserved for premiums							-
Reserved fund balance							-
Undesignated fund balance	(1,553,218.03)	(210,292.00)	437,888.97	(180,456.34)	(1,803,522.31)		(3,309,599.71)
Unreserved retained earnings							-
Investment in capital assets							-
Total Fund Equity	(2,276,445.03)	(210,292.00)	437,888.97	(444,856.47)	-	(1,803,522.31)	(4,297,226.84)
Total Liabilities and Fund Equity	(2,790,300.93)	(222,077.73)	98,030.60	(440,915.25)	-	(1,983,356.24)	(5,166,619.55)

Parameters: Fiscal Year: 2018 Start Date: 7/1/2017 end: 6/30/2018

Ledger History - Allocated Trial Balance - General Ledger

	Allocated	Debits	Credits	Ending
Code: 21 - Water Fund				
Cash Fund 21 Water	263,311.00	956,121.70	774,576.23	444,856.47
Water Rates Receivable	76,439.23	456,820.14	537,200.59	-3,941.22
DFR - Water Rates Receivable	-76,439.23	348,245.77	267,865.32	3,941.22
FB Res. For Encumbrances	-3,671.88	3,671.88	264,400.13	-264,400.13
UFB Undesignated Fund Balance	-259,639.12	707,358.69	628,175.91	-180,456.34
Revenue Control	0.00	1,027,867.47	1,027,867.47	0.00
Expenditure Control	0.00	471,949.24	471,949.24	0.00
Code: 21 - Water Fund	0.00	3,972,034.89	3,972,034.89	0.00
Code: 22 - Revolving				
Cash Fund 22 53E1/2 Revolving	20,141.37	26,375.93	16,438.57	30,078.73
Planning Board MGL 53G	-663.75	0.00	0.00	-663.75
Stormwater Revolving MGL 53E1/2	-16,126.40	12,107.53	13,024.93	-17,043.80
Stewardship Program Revolving MGL 53E1/2	-3,230.00	4,143.77	4,343.77	-3,430.00
Cemetery Revolving MGL 53E1/2	-121.22	4,331.04	13,151.00	-8,941.18
Code: 22 - Revolving	0.00	46,958.27	46,958.27	0.00
Code: 23 - Cable Revolving 53F3/4				
Cash Fund 23 53F3/4 Cable Revolving	0.00	577.00	2,751.54	-2,174.54
UFB Undesignated Fund Balance	0.00	2,751.54	577.00	2,174.54
Code: 23 - Cable Revolving 53F3/4	0.00	3,328.54	3,328.54	0.00
Code: 24 - Gifts & Donations				
Cash Fund 24 Gifts & Donations	87,000.76	33,832.79	37,923.48	82,910.07
Common Committee Gifts & Donations	0.00	337.36	1,000.00	-662.64
FB Open Space Donations	0.00	0.00	100.00	-100.00
Dare Donations Police Dept.	-944.62	0.00	0.00	-944.62
Explorers Donations	-2,947.45	0.00	0.00	-2,947.45
Fire Safe Donations	-100.00	0.00	0.00	-100.00
Lyons Donation Stormwater	-2,495.51	0.00	0.00	-2,495.51
COA Transportation Medicare Program	-13,852.61	4,728.49	4,968.50	-14,092.62
Council on Aging Donations	-6,133.77	7,373.64	4,300.00	-3,060.13
Veterans Dinner Donations	-492.24	0.00	0.00	-492.24
War Memorial Walkway	-1,507.19	0.00	100.00	-1,607.19
Library Donations Books	-8,481.92	3,083.11	3,661.72	-9,060.53
WBTV Donations	-669.27	0.00	0.00	-669.27
Asparagus & Flower Festival	-9,081.16	8,866.67	9,054.00	-9,268.49
Historical Donations	-969.00	40.00	705.00	-1,634.00

	Allocated	Debits	Credits	Ending
White Christmas	-6,852.97	9,844.21	10,293.57	-7,302.33
Lake Water Quality Donations	-32,473.05	4,000.00	0.00	-28,473.05
Code: 24 - Gifts & Donations	0.00	72,106.27	72,106.27	0.00
Code: 27 - Other Town Revolving				
Cash Fund 27 Other Town Revolving	47,906.85	9,513.69	14,482.70	42,937.84
FB Insurance Reimbursements Under \$100k	0.00	1,264.82	0.00	1,264.82
Town Document Search	-257.66	0.00	153.69	-411.35
Town Hall Insurance Water Damage	-22,224.89	0.00	0.00	-22,224.89
Stormwater 53E1/2 Revolving	0.00	5,479.88	0.00	5,479.88
Road Machinery Fund	-7,725.00	0.00	4,075.00	-11,800.00
Repairs to Private Roads	-2,571.78	0.00	0.00	-2,571.78
Cemetery Insurance Damaged Fence	-282.55	0.00	0.00	-282.55
Quaboag Plantation Triathlon	-14,844.97	7,738.00	5,285.00	-12,391.97
Code: 27 - Other Town Revolving	0.00	23,996.39	23,996.39	0.00
Code: 81 - Trust Funds				
Cash Fund 81 Trust	675,893.67	82,351.75	65,944.93	692,300.49
Restricted Cash Fund 81 Trust	315,760.47	0.00	0.00	315,760.47
M. Preisach Magnante (Nexp)	-29,132.41	0.00	0.00	-29,132.41
Common John Shackley (Nexp)	48,405.25	0.00	0.00	48,405.25
Common Hawks/Stickney (Nexp)	-107,702.34	0.00	0.00	-107,702.34
M. Preisach Magnante	-7,816.82	1,785.49	1,786.44	-7,817.77
Col. Fairfax Ayers Historical	-4,760.64	107.64	107.77	-4,760.77
Helen Paige Shackley Bandstand	-17,254.55	390.15	390.60	-17,255.00
Common John Shackley	-10,569.03	1,333.52	1,335.03	-10,570.54
Common Hawks/Stickney	-3,900.11	334.48	334.86	-3,900.49
Peter Brady Memorial Gift	-98.67	2.23	2.24	-98.68
Common I. England Trust	-713.35	16.13	16.15	-713.37
Rice Fountain Trust	-25,525.10	1,819.12	1,345.03	-25,051.01
Septic and Rehabilitation Trust	-288,035.65	7,336.88	9,084.98	-289,783.75
Conservation Fund	-15,186.41	0.00	0.00	-15,186.41
Town Hall Reynis Estate Trust	-28,966.56	11,360.97	5,877.99	-23,483.58
Cemetery Trust Funds	-2,237.77	0.00	0.00	-2,237.77
Cemetery Perpetual Care	-205,711.56	6,147.88	9,527.14	-209,090.82
William A. Edson Cemetery	-27,067.45	612.05	612.74	-27,068.14
Cemetery Gilbert Landscape	-9,103.43	2,143.61	2,143.84	-9,103.66
Cemetery W.G. Woodard	-7,396.01	167.24	167.43	-7,396.20
Library Mary L. Brown (Nexp)	-5,304.96	0.00	0.00	-5,304.96

	Allocated	Debits	Credits	Ending
Library Lydia Lane (Nexp)	-1,051.83	0.00	0.06	-1,051.89
Lib. Fairbanks Holmes (Nexp)	-1,000.42	0.00	0.00	-1,000.42
Library Merriam (Nexp)	-928.36	0.00	0.05	-928.41
Library Mary L. Brown	-3,473.12	198.49	198.49	-3,473.12
Library Lydia Lane	-1,017.93	46.80	46.80	-1,017.93
Lib. Fairbanks Holmes	-1,047.37	46.31	46.37	-1,047.43
Library Merriam	-900.08	41.34	41.34	-900.08
Library Helen Hawkes	-17,932.98	1,421.67	2,000.24	-18,511.55
Library W.G. Woodard	-365.78	8.27	8.50	-366.01
Library Gilbert Salary	-21,057.51	3,937.12	7,937.12	-25,057.51
Library I. England Trust	-55,111.97	10,129.70	19,129.70	-64,111.97
Self Insurance Fund	-22,402.73	4,682.79	523.75	-18,243.69
Recreation Trust England	-1,731.22	221.97	221.97	-1,731.22
Priscilla E. Side Fund	-4,691.44	200.00	400.00	-4,891.44
Cemetery Helen B. Hawkes	-43,145.18	2,080.20	3,217.21	-44,282.19
Historical England Trust	-66,706.63	9,350.00	15,825.00	-73,181.63
Lucy Stone Birthplace	-1,012.02	22.88	22.91	-1,012.05
Code: 81 - Trust Funds	0.00	148,296.68	148,296.68	0.00
Code: 82 - Stabilization				
Cash Fund 82 Stabilization	987,515.17	373,380.09	716,689.11	644,206.15
General Stabilization	-161,987.94	60,826.62	60,600.18	-161,761.50
Fire Truck Stabilization	-234,602.03	63,609.59	10,455.68	-181,448.12
Water Stabilization	-590,925.20	592,252.90	302,324.23	-300,996.53
Code: 82 - Stabilization	0.00	1,090,069.20	1,090,069.20	0.00
Code: 83 - OPEB Trust				
Cash Fund 83 OPEB	99,926.65	51,896.84	568.29	151,255.20
Other Post Employment Benefits Trust	-99,926.65	568.29	51,896.84	-151,255.20
Code: 83 - OPEB Trust	0.00	52,465.13	52,465.13	0.00
85 Account(s) totaling:	0.00	5,409,255.37	5,409,255.37	0.00

Respectfully submitted,
Town Accountant

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 Town continues to strive to meet all federal and state requirements.

Respectfully submitted,
Board of Selectmen

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

In Fiscal Year 2019, the Advisory Committee met on a regular basis throughout the year focused on improving the financial standing of the Town. The committee is comprised of seven appointed volunteer members tasked with making reports or recommendations to the town on all municipal matters, submitting a budget at the annual town meeting, and providing an annual report as it deems for the best interest of the town. All meetings are posted and open for public participation.

Last May at the annual election, town residents voted to change the positions of Treasurer and Tax Collector from elected to appointed. This change has long been advocated by this committee in accordance with recommendations from the Massachusetts Department of Revenue due to the ever-increasing complexity of managing municipal finances. Since that time the Town has hired a new Town Accountant and Tax Collector. The accounting services had previously been performed by a contracted consulting firm. The final component of this shift will take place when the current Treasurer's term expires this May.

The new financial team has been busy over the past several months analyzing town finances and reconciling balances. As of the writing of this report all documentation related to the certification of free cash has been submitted to the state for review and is being processed. The Tax Collector has implemented procedures to improve the management of tax collections. Many of the accounting processes that were done manually are slowly being converted to an electronic format with the goal of increasing accuracy and accountability within the system. Change does not come easily or quickly, but we are already seeing significant improvements in the way we manage our resources. We thank our department heads, committees and boards, as well as our residents, for your understanding and support during this transitory period.

The costs of equipment upgrades, employee raises, educational expenses and rising inflation continue to challenge us as a community. In past years we have seen our reserves diminish in order to address these needs. Last year we were able to add a minimal amount of funding to our general stabilization account, a trend we hope to be able to continue. Our committee's efforts are to meet the actual needs of each department, while

ensuring the overall financial security of our future. It is a complicated balancing act. We encourage you to stay informed with the town's annual finances and departmental needs as we make decisions as a community on the future management of our resources.

The Advisory Committee continues to advocate for a change in the management of town government. The administration of local government has become increasingly time consuming and complex. We believe there is a need for a Town Manager/Administrator to serve as a centralized figure to oversee the day-to-day operations of the town as well as to promote the development and management of the community.

In closing, it is an honor to serve on this Committee. We recognize we are advisors and not policy makers and take this responsibility seriously. We thank the Select Board for its continued cooperation and overwhelming support. Above all, we thank our department heads, committee and board members, town employees and residents for making West Brookfield the place to be.

Respectfully submitted,

Bradley Hibbard, Co-Chairperson

Lori Loughlin, Co-Chairperson

Pamela Griffing

Tom Long

Roland Sickenberger

Doug Aspinall

Craig Carter

*Please note that the opinions expressed in this report are the opinions of the West Brookfield Advisory Committee. They should not be construed as legal advice or advice on how taxpayers should vote. The Committee is tasked with making recommendations only and the comments in this report are just that – recommendations.

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

This year has been another year for people to be proud of this town when it comes to animal control. The dogs I have had to pick up have been claimed almost immediately after posting them on the Town Facebook page. Keep up the good work people.

Respectfully submitted,
Leah Shattuck, Animal Control Officer

ANIMAL INSPECTOR

This year, in the Town of West Brookfield, there were:

ANIMAL COUNT 2018

Camelids	2	Oxen	5
Cows	215	Rabbits	9
Chickens	269	Sheep	23
Donkeys	2	Swine	115
Goats	40	Turkeys	10
Horses	147	Waterfowl	15

Respectfully submitted,
Leah Shattuck, Animal Control Officer

ANNUAL SALARY

Adams-White, Renee	\$12,553.76	DiMaio, James	\$1,212.00
Allard, Donna	\$30,967.37	Dolan, Jane	\$2,439.22
Allen, Sarah	\$40,156.17	Donais, Christopher	\$1,395.00
Anderson, Beverly	\$700.28	Dorman, Kevin	\$2,913.12
Ayers, Brian	\$12,161.90	Dorman, Melvin	\$1,117.05
Bacon, Patricia	\$60.50	Downing, Ryan	\$4,005.00
Barrett, Teresa	\$162.53	Dufault, Justin	\$360.00
Beauregard, Richard	\$180.90	Dupuis, Michael	\$17,158.66
Bell, John	\$4,324.82	Dyer, Sarah-Jane	\$1,507.50
Benoit, Brian	\$184.45	Dyson Jr., Eric	\$75,699.54
Benson, Robert	\$9,739.13	Early, James	\$104,647.98
Bigda, Daniel	\$1,000.00	Edwards, Clayton	\$6,394.69
Bolaske, Adam	\$715.00	Esser, Daniel	\$1,325.45
Borlikoski, Charlotte	\$143.00	Foley, Herbert	\$3,840.43
Bouchard, Paul	\$3,238.08	Fontaine, Keith	\$4,518.48
Brown, Trevor	\$600.00	Foster, Paul	\$17,598.82
Burlingame, Casey	\$1,151.84	Frank, Nicholas	\$400.00
Burns-Jackson, Mary	\$32,913.92	Frew, Betty	\$22,768.80
Cacela, John	\$360.00	Frew, Michael	\$6,307.96
Carlson, Chase	\$1,543.75	Frizzell Sr., John	\$893.05
Caron, Richard	\$1,732.50	Goodman, Philip	\$9,815.06
Cassavant, Beverly	\$143.00	Griffing, Matthew	\$654.50
Cassavant, Duane	\$62,375.65	Haire, Carol	\$214.50
Cassavant, Ryan	\$271.35	Hall, Matthew	\$1,836.14
Cassavant, Wesley	\$66,143.36	Hartung, Kara	\$12,952.76
Charron, Brian	\$9,702.90	Henrichon, Dora	\$1,051.35
Charron, Craig	\$74,858.09	Hibbard, Ryan	\$450.00
Churchey, David	\$3,195.00	Hicks, John	\$1,978.97
Churchey, Lee	\$1,507.50	Higgins, Linda	\$2,684.68
Courtemanche, Elaine	\$1,998.03	Hopkins, Joseph	\$167.76
Cowden, Paul	\$105,944.53	Ingraham, Jane	\$4,442.59
Czub, Kirah	\$737.00	Johnson, Alex	\$427.50
Czub, Melinda	\$1,634.39	Kemp, Karlee	\$1,068.75
Dacey, Camden	\$630.00	Kemp, Tessa	\$3,472.50
Daley, James	\$86,092.92	Kenniston, Beverly	\$4,255.10
Davis, Jon	\$57.44	Kent Jr., Edward	\$334.90
Desantis, Christopher	\$3,420.00	King, William R.	\$132.00

DiMaio, Elisabeth	\$30,896.36	Korman, Debra	\$198.00
Kozik, Elizabeth	\$44.00	Raymond, Susan	\$9,683.25
Kuranda, Dariusz	\$6,900.40	Robbins, Nicholas	\$913.00
Landine, Philip	\$1,500.00	Roberts, Teri	\$31,456.04
Landry, Kathleen	\$198.00	Robinson, Paul	\$6,850.76
Lapine, Gary	\$3,708.72	Rocco, Lauri	\$500.00
Lareau, Kyle	\$360.00	Romani, Christopher	\$7,020.00
LaRoche, Amy	\$2,500.00	Rust, James	\$2,878.70
Lawrence, Scott	\$2,272.50	Ryan, Jordan	\$225.00
Lazarick III, Joseph	\$3,825.00	Santos Jr., Daniel	\$5,983.58
Leger, Ashley	\$1,574.74	Sauve, Geraldine	\$5,676.31
LePage, Mary	\$377.22	Searah, Dana	\$1,805.96
Letendre, Matthew	\$99,103.91	Seery, Michael	\$1,224.00
Leufstedt, Diane	\$143.00	Seeton, Nancy	\$143.00
Leupold, Ashton	\$696.57	Seymour, Benjamin	\$163.02
Lewis, Derek	\$1,119.17	Shattuck, Leah	\$3,231.66
Long, Christine	\$8,718.19	Shepherd, Darian	\$759.00
Lucia, Christopher	\$583.16	Sickenberger, Daniel	\$396.75
Lupacchino, Patricia	\$59.80	Simone, Gary	\$9,692.22
MacCoy, Linda	\$32,843.52	Simonelli, Nathan	\$855.00
Manseau, Cory	\$7,359.50	Skutnik, Paul	\$720.00
Mansfield, Scot	\$208.08	Spencer, Meldoy	\$23.18
Marchessault, Ronald	\$125.00	Stentiford, Caroline	\$44.00
Melanson, Tammi	\$39,474.39	Swain, Johanna	\$82,389.65
Merriam, Jesse	\$3,298.54	Takorian, Clay	\$308.74
Murphy, Lee	\$720.00	Takorian, Holly	\$34,228.48
Nadon Sr., Barry	\$3,455.27	Talbot, Christopher	\$1,575.00
Niles, Matthew	\$1,755.00	Taylor, Jeffrey	\$15,515.04
O'Donnell Jr. C. Thomas	\$95,335.21	Thomasian, John	\$3,850.00
O'Donnell, Mark	\$64,779.20	Thurber, Glenn	\$3,893.51
Onofre, Gerber	\$725.18	Tivnan, John	\$1,740.60
Paquette, Jason	\$893.05	Tomasino, Susan	\$148.50
Paquette, Lester	\$400.55	Tombor, Andrew	\$43,057.28
Pariseau, Steven	\$1,642.50	Vayda, Diane	\$1,500.00
Pelletier, Mary Anne	\$39,120.96	Waterman, Gregg	\$59,558.64
Pianka, Graegorz	\$967.50	Whitcomb, Kyle	\$1,080.00
Pierce, David	\$5,634.28	Whitehouse, Louise	\$93.50
Pratt, Kathleen	\$143.00	Whittemore, Eric	\$52,589.98
Prokop, Lorena	\$1,043.75	Wirf, Kenneth	\$71.50
Provencher, Deborah	\$920.62	Wrobel, Demitria	\$4,428.90
Quansah, Naomi	\$9,961.64	Wrobel, Jean	\$27,390.09
			\$1,794,992.19

Police Detail Amounts*

***These amounts are
included in the Annual
Salary amounts**

Ayers, Brian	\$1,740.96	Hartung, Kara	\$6,370.32
Bell, John	\$4,252.50	Johnson, Alex	\$427.50
Cacela, John	\$360.00	Lareau, Kyle	\$360.00
Caron, Richard	\$1,732.50	Lawrence, Scott	\$2,272.50
Charron, Craig	\$11,050.32	Lazarick III, Joseph	\$3,825.00
Churchey, David	\$3,195.00	Letendre, Matthew	\$10,397.82
Churchey, Lee	\$1,507.50	Murphy, Lee	\$720.00
Cowden, Paul	\$39,202.58	Niles, Matthew	\$1,755.00
Dacey, Camden	\$630.00	Pariseau, Steven	\$1,642.50
Desantis, Christopher	\$3,420.00	Pianka, Graegorz	\$967.50
Donais, Christopher	\$967.50	Romani, Christopher	\$7,020.00
Downing, Ryan	\$4,005.00	Ryan, Jordan	\$225.00
Dufault, Justin	\$360.00	Simonelli, Nathan	\$855.00
Dyer, Sarah-Jane	\$1,507.50	Skutnik, Paul	\$720.00
Dyson, Eric	\$3,667.50	Talbot, Christopher	\$1,575.00
Early, James	\$25,188.68	Whitcomb, Kyle	\$1,080.00
			<u>\$102,787.54</u>

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

The mission of the Board of Assessors is to value real and personal property efficiently, fairly and accurately, in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; to administer motor vehicle excise, exemption and abatement programs; to address concerns from the public quickly courteously.

The Town of West Brookfield has 2,521 taxable real and personal property accounts:

- 1398 Residential Improved Parcels
- 766 Vacant Parcels
- 99 Commercial/Industrial/Mixed Use Parcels
- 65 Chapter 61, 61A, 61B Parcels
- 159 Personal Property

The value of all taxable property for Fiscal Year 2019 was \$376,949,451. The Fiscal Year tax rate is \$15.67 per thousand dollars of valuation. The tax rate is a formula that uses two basic figures, the total levy, which is the amount to be raised by taxation, and the total value of the Town divided by 1,000.

$R \text{ (Rate)} = L \text{ (Levy)} / V \text{ (Total value)}$ $R = (\$5,906,798 / \$376,949,451 / \$1,000 = \$15.67)$ <p>The tax rate is \$15.67 per thousand dollars of value.</p>

The major variable in the equation is the tax levy, which is determined by the approved town budget. The higher the levy, the higher the taxes. It is Town spending, not the value, that determines what one will pay in taxes. The assessed values are a mechanism that allows the levy to be distributed fairly among all the taxpayers. The Town is required to appraise property within very strict guidelines by the Department of Revenue (DOR).

Proposition 2 ½ - Levy Limit Explained

‘Proposition 2 ½’ refers to an initiative statute adopted by the voters of the Commonwealth in November 1980. Its purpose was to stabilize municipal property taxes. It limits the amount by which the taxing capacity of the Town is allowed to increase each year. The allowed growth is 2.5 percent of the prior year’s levy limit. This allowed increase in the limit for FY2019 is 142,212 (which is 2.5% of the FY2018 levy limit, \$ 5,688,495).

Also, added to the levy limit computation is the levy increase attributable to “new growth”. This represents additions to the base of taxable property, typically as a result of new construction, renovations and minor additions, or change of use.

Permitting the levy to be adjusted by “new growth” recognizes the fact that development creates pressures on Town services over the long term. The new tax rate reflects \$76,896 in new growth.

The assessment date for each tax year is the previous January 1. The Town has accepted the provisions of Section 40 of Chapter 653 of the Acts of 1989 regarding assessment date changes for new growth. This legislation allows communities to tax in the current fiscal year all new construction built between January 1 and June 30 of that year. The purpose of this local option legislation is to reduce the delay that can occur between construction and taxation.

Total growth of the levy limit is therefore attributable to two factors, allowed growth, which is fixed (2.5% per year), and new growth that is variable and subject to economic conditions.

Property Inspections

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 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 the assessors. 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 Changes

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 into 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.

The Board of Assessors welcomes 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,

Beverly Kenniston, Chairperson

Kevin Dorman

Michael Frew

Renee Adams-White, Assessor Assistant

Elisabeth DiMaio, Administrative Assistant

BOARD OF HEALTH

During the past year, the Board of Health has generated approximately \$11,525.00 through various required permit fees. The fees are as follows:

Septic Permit	\$250.00	Perc Test	\$175.00
Septic Installers	\$100.00	Septic Haulers	\$100.00
Trash Haulers	\$100.00	Retail Food	\$75.00
Food Service	\$100.00	Food Catering	\$75.00
Milk Store	\$25.00	Body Art	\$180.00
Tanning	\$25.00	Outdoor Boilers	\$75.00
1-Day Food Permit	\$25.00	Sports Camp	\$50.00
Farmer's Market (includes Asparagus Festival)			\$50.00

The Board has enacted a \$75.00/per hour charge for food inspections due to violations. The Board has enacted a \$75.00/per hour inspection fee for extra septic related inspections.

The Board of Health issued:

Perc Permits	10
Septic Permits	10
Food Service Permits	22
Retail Food Permits	16
Milk Permits	13
Tanning Permit	0
Septic Installer Permits	9
Campground Permit	1
Mobile Home Park Permit	1
Motel Permit	1
Pool Permit	1
Septage Hauling Permits	4
Trash Hauling Permits	5
Farmer's Market/Seasonal Food Permits	15
Bathing Beach Permit	2
Outdoor Wood Boilers	0
One Day Food Permits	27
Body Art Permits	0
Sports Camp Permit	1
Cater	1

New Food	1
Inspection Fees	2
Fine	1

The West Brookfield Board of Health contracts its medical services with Harrington Memorial Hospital. We are sorry to report that Harrington Memorial Hospital decided to close the department that supplied these services. The Board of Health and several of the surrounding towns have met to rectify this loss of essential service.

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

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

Sharps may be dropped off at the Board of Health for disposal during normal business hours, provide that they are in the proper containers, which may be purchased at any pharmacy for a minimal amount.

The Board continues to revise and prepare for all emergencies. A drill testing our ability to set up a Dispensing Site at the West Brookfield Senior Center was completed on December 11, 2018 with great success. 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 **7:00 PM**, 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 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM
 Tuesday through Thursday from 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM
 and Tuesday evening from 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Title V Agent: John Thomasian
 Health Agent: Chrissy Florence
 Administrative Assistant: Sarah J. Allen

Respectfully submitted,
Melvin Dorman, Chairman
Jason Paquette
John Frizzell

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

The Board of Selectmen have the general direction and management of the property and affairs of the Town in all matters not otherwise provided by law or the Town Bylaws. Under Massachusetts law, the Selectmen have several important powers; including: preparation of the Town Meeting Warrant, making appointments to Town boards and committees, employing Town counsel, and signing warrants for payment of Town expenses. The Selectmen meet regularly throughout the year and encourage residents to attend their open meetings to stay abreast of issues important to the management of the Town.

This past year was a busy year for the Selectmen who oversaw many changes in the management of the Town.

A major milestone was reached with the adoption in January of the Town's first Master Plan. This plan is the culmination of a yearlong project which ended in December 2017. This plan lays out the vision for the Town's future over the next ten years and creates the roadmap to follow to attain the Town's goals. The Master Plan Committee has now disbanded and the new Master Plan Implementation Committee was formed to help guide the Town through the goals set in the Master Plan. The Board thanks those members who served on the Master Plan Committee and welcomes those members appointed to the Master Plan Implementation Committee.

In May, the Town voted to change the positions of Treasurer and Tax Collector from elected to appointed positions. The Selectmen appointed Naomi Quansah as Tax Collector and Assistant Treasurer. In addition to adding a new Tax Collector, the Selectmen appointed Donna Allard, a Certified Governmental Accountant, as Town Accountant. The position of Treasurer will be filled in 2019.

The Board of Selectmen welcomed Daniel Bigda as a new Selectman in May 2018.

The Selectmen worked on many projects throughout the year which included:

- Enacting a Solar Bylaw
- Enacting a Marijuana Bylaw
- Re-examining the process to explore how to become a Green Community
- Updating the Town website

- Installing a new network firewall to protect the Town's computer server and critical digital information
- Working with National Grid to replace existing street lights with LED lighting; saving the Town money and electricity usage
- Replacing the Town Hall boiler system
- Exploring the implementation of a new Town telephone system for Town Hall and other Town facilities; which will replace the current 14 year old system and save the Town money by consolidating costs

We take pleasure in serving the Town's needs and continuing to explore ways to make improvements that benefit the Town.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Vayda, Chair

Philip Landine

Daniel Bigda

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES LICENSES ISSUED IN CALENDAR 2018

Cynthia A. Larson, Manager
 Ye Old Tavern
 7 East Main Street
 West Brookfield, Mass 01585
All Alcoholic Innholder

Nancy Salem
 Salem Cross Inn
 253 West Main Street
 West Brookfield, Mass 01585
All Alcoholic Innholder

Joan Leslie, Manager
 Adams-Coney-Frew American Legion Post #244
 5 Ware Road Post Office Box 252
 West Brookfield, Mass 01585
All Alcoholic Club License

Peter J. McKearney, Manager
Country Corner Citgo, Inc.
118 West Main Street
West Brookfield, Mass 01585
Wine and Malt Retail Package Goods Store

Richard Turnbull, Manager
Colonial Heights Spirits, Inc.
139 West Main Street
West Brookfield, Mass 01585
All Alcoholic Retail Package Store

Steven Barrett
Northeast Pizza
208 West Main Street
West Brookfield, Mass 01585
Wine and Malt Common Victualler

Harikrishna G. Patel
Varniraj Liquors Inc. dba Main Street Liquors
11 East Main Street
West Brookfield, Mass 01585
All Alcoholic Retail Package Store

Jie Yang, Manager
Lin Yuan Inc. d/b/a Lins Garden
154A West Main Street
West Brookfield, Mass 01585
All Alcoholic Common Victualler

Nabil Roufail, Manager
George's Pizza
4 East Main Street
West Brookfield, Mass 01585
Wine and Malt Common Victualler

Allowed 14 Annual Licenses All Kinds of Alcoholic Beverages under section 12.
(On premises - we currently have four (4) counting the American Legion.)

Allowed 2 Annual License for All Kinds of Alcoholic Beverages under Section 15.
(Not on premises - we currently have two (2).)

Allowed 5 Annual Licenses for Wines and Malt Beverages under Section 12.
(Not on premises - we currently have zero (0).)

Allowed 5 Annual Licenses for Wines and Malt Beverages under Section 12.
(Common Victualler or Innholder on premises - we currently have three (3).)

One Day Licenses:

Hardwick Winery, 3305 Greenwich Rd, Hardwick

Ragged Hill Cider Co, LLC 29 Rodman Rd

Ragged Hill Cider Co, LLC 29 Rodman Rd

WB Lions Club, PO Box 859

Ragged Hill Cider Co, LLC 94 John Gilbert Road

There were zero (0) violations in 2018.

BUILDING INSPECTOR

Single Family Dwellings	6
Sheds	3
Additions	1
Roofing	24
Garages	2
Windows/Siding	10
Renovations/Remodeling	12
Stoves: Pellet/Wood	14
Pools: In-ground/Above-ground	7
Signs	2
Decks	3
Demolition	2
Barns	0
Pavilion/Gazebo	0
Antenna/Cell Tower	2
ADA Ramp	0
Solar	9
Weatherization/Insulation	10
Sprinkler System	0
Sheet Metal	3
Total	110

Total Permit Income	\$16,012.00
Estimated Value on Permits	\$3,158,949.44

Respectfully submitted,
Jeff Taylor, Building Inspector

BURIAL GROUND COMMISSION

The Board of Cemetery Commissioners consists of: Teri Roberts, David Swekla, and Mark Astrella.

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.

2018 was a busy year for the Commission and caretakers. At the beginning of the season, a new zero turn mower was purchased with half of the funds coming from our perpetual care fund and the remaining balance raised at Town Meeting. The Commission hired a new laborer, Herb Foley, to work alongside our cemetery caretaker, Mike Dupuis.

The Commission continues to work with a local engineer to designate a new area for burials and anticipate this will be completed in the coming year.

The Cemetery Commission extends sympathy to those who have experienced a loss of a loved one over the past year. We also wish to thank individuals who have taken special interest in providing care for the lots and surroundings.

There were 19 burials in the Pine Grove Cemetery during 2018:

Victor Masterjohn	Stephen Morris
Dorothy Whittemore	Richard Landry
Joseph Borlikoski	James Contacos
Alexander Cordy	Ruth Dunnam
Nancy Cloutier	Robert Beaudry
Edward Cloutier	Gloria Reid
John Grazier	Forbes Henshaw
Kristopher Adams	Stephen Henshaw
Katherine Stevens	Thomas Brigham
Santa Pratt	

The Commission received \$6,950.00 in burial fees in 2018. There were 8 full burials and 11 cremation burials. The Commission sold 9 burial lots in the amount of \$5,400.00.

As a reminder, in respect for our deceased, dogs are not allowed at any time on cemetery grounds. Also, please report any vandalism or suspicious activity to the West Brookfield Police Department.

Respectfully submitted,

Teri Roberts, Chairman

Dave Swekla

Marc Astrella

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

During the year, the Conservation Commission was involved with numerous permits, site visits, and meetings regarding the enforcement of the Massachusetts Wetland Protection Act. We held public hearings for seven Notice of Intent and two Requests for Determination. We issued one Certificate of Compliance, and one Extension Permits for Order of Conditions.

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

At the Annual Town Meeting on June 5, 2018, the Town voted to change the membership of the Conservation Commission from seven members to five members.

The Conservation Commission wishes to remind all property owners that Massachusetts General Law states that *any work proposed within 100-feet of any wetland (intermittent streams, lakes, marshes, bogs, or seasonally wet areas) and 200-feet from any permanent stream 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. 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,

Eric Tunley, Chairman

Gordon DeWolf

Richard Provencher

Brian Silva

Christine M. Long

COUNCIL ON AGING

This past year has proved itself to be a year of growth. Once again the Senior Center has undergone upgrades and additions to programs. The addition of the Senior Center Vehicle has proven a valuable asset. The outreach department uses “Streak” to do home visits, attend conferences and trainings, and occasionally transport seniors to appointments.

The Center has been upgraded by means of a new paint face lift and with the help of the Sherriff’s Department as well as custom cabinets by Representative Donnie Berthiaume that make the Main Hall less cluttered.

New programs include the transition of chair yoga to flex and stretch and the addition of line dancing! The center also offers new and revised cultural programs, music concerts, and creative events.

Come visit when you have a minute or even a few hours.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda MacCoy, COA, Director

DROP-OFF CENTER

Wigwam Road

THE DROP-OFF CENTER IS FOR **RESIDENTIAL** USE ONLY

Hours of Operation

**Wednesday from 9:00 am – 3:00pm Saturday from 9:00am – 3:00pm
(Saturdays only – December through March)**

TVs 27" and under: \$10.00	TVs over 27": \$20.00
<i>(Large console TVs: priced accordingly by attendant)</i>	
Radios: \$5.00	Printers: \$10.00
VCRs: \$5.00	Dishwashers: \$15.00
Keyboards: \$5.00	Stoves: \$20.00
Stereos: \$5.00	Washers: \$20.00
Microwaves: \$5.00	Dryers: \$20.00
Water coolers: \$10.00	Copiers: \$20.00
Computers: \$10.00	Air Conditioners: \$20.00
Monitors: \$10.00	Refrigerators: \$20.00
	Propane Tanks: \$5.00
Tires with rims: \$5.00	Tires without rims: \$3.00
<i>(Large Tires: priced accordingly)</i>	

***BRUSH: 1st load is free, additional loads are \$5.00 each per day
(no larger than 3" diameter & 4' length)***

Leaves: Free (no bags, *please*), Grass Clippings: Free, Scrap metal: Free
Wood chips and compost may be taken by residents but MUST be loaded by hand.

Batteries are free but must have caps attached. Any motor must have fluids drained.

**NO equipment allowed into Drop Off Center
(i.e. chain saws, tractors, cut off saws etc.)**

***No Contractors, *No Construction materials, *No trash
NO ASHES**

No other materials shall be removed (i.e. loam, gravel, stone etc.)

****USED MOTOR OIL AND ANTI-FREEZE
ARE NO LONGER ACCEPTED****

**RULES AND REGULATIONS *SUBJECT TO CHANGE*
AS MARKET FLUCTUATES.**

Any littering will be subject to a fine and or Drop Off privilege denied.

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 material subject to a license issued under MGL 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 town.

The Earth Removal Board continues to manage four (4) active permits relative to earth material excavation under SECTION XII, SECTION 2 of the Town’s General Bylaws.

Respectfully submitted,

Jason Paquette, Chairman

Dean Wisniewski

Diane Vayda

Gordon DeWolf

Kevin Dorman

Health

Planning

Selectmen

Conservation

Zoning

ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR

The town received a total of 75 electrical permits for the year 2018. Below is a list of the types of permits inspected and completed:

New houses	14
Remodel/renovations	18
Residential solar	7
Fire investigations	4
Pools, above and in-ground	8
Appliances/single equipment	8
Garages/shed, out buildings	3
Asparagus festival	1
Service changes	5
Temporary services	5
Fuel dispensary	1
Generator	1

Respectfully submitted,
Keith Fontaine, Electrical Inspector

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 Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency and the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

We continue to work with the Town of Warren on our local Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). CERT members are volunteers with varying backgrounds, but a common desire to help their communities. 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. CERT is funded through state grants, and members receive training on such subjects as traffic direction, First Aid/CPR, and shelter operations. Anyone interested in finding out more information or volunteering for the CERT should contact either the West Brookfield or Warren Police Departments, or either town's Emergency Management Department.

Respectfully submitted,

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

FIRE DEPARTMENT

2018 generated a new outlook in the growth of the West Brookfield Fire Department, not only firming up its foundation from within, but reaching out and expanding upon our public programs to increase fire prevention and public safety awareness through multiple agency cooperation. We have expanded our SAFE program in the Elementary School which only taught one grade to now interacting with all the grades from Kindergarten through Grade 6. Working with the West Brookfield Rescue Squad, we were able to continue to not only teach CPR to the 5th Grade class but were able to expand a “Stop the Bleeding” class with the 6th Grade class. All these are life-long skills which we hope that if they will ever be needed, will help save a life. Also, we are currently in discussion with the Warren Fire Department, along with the West Brookfield Rescue Squad, in teaching a Firefighter Class similar to what our Firefighters must go through to be certified, to include CPR and First Responder First Aid at the Quaboag Regional High School for students of both communities. The Fire Instructors will come from both Warren and West Brookfield Fire Departments. We hope this will also generate interest in future staffing for both departments. We are still continuing to pursue a new complex that is functional as the current facility is outdated for our needs going forward, which I highlighted last year. We have applied for an apparatus grant and we are currently waiting to hear the outcome of the grant, however we will need to make a presentation at the next Annual Town Meeting for an apparatus replacement. We also had the opportunity to sponsor and participate in multiple town/agency training with Life Flight, a Hazardous Material Railroad Incident training and Water Tanker Shuttle training

The West Brookfield Fire Department received this year \$2,854.00 for the SAFE program and \$2,100.00 for the Senior SAFE program. Both grant programs are competitive grant programs annually and we do get a lot from these grants. For example, we were able to purchase a “kitchen simulator prop” which is portable and can be used to demonstrate what to do in the event of fires dealing with kitchen stove fires.

The status of equipment is as follows: Engine 1 needs the tires to be replaced and are we working to replace them this fiscal year or ask for the funds in an article at the next Annual Town Meeting to replace these tires. Unexpected repairs have put a limit on our budget for replacement this year. Engine 2 is functional but needs work and needs replacement. This Engine has served the town well. One major issue is its open rider design

which causes major safety concerns. Engine 4 is in good condition and received a new backup camera this year to enhance crew and civilian safety. Tanker 1 received new tires this year. Rescue 1 which was reported last year to be functionally well suffered a major breakdown at the end of the year. The repairs were costly, to not only the pump but while repairing the pump, it was found that the support frame of the vehicle had rusted through and needs repair. This vehicle is removed from service until the repairs can be completed. This vehicle also received a backup camera this year. Forestry 1 is functioning well. This unit is housed at the Water Department due to not having room at the Fire Station. Squad 1 is in service and must be parked outside the building as there is no room in the Station for this vehicle. Car 1 is functioning well.

I would like to thank the Water Department for helping us with housing our apparatus there, otherwise it would be exposed to the elements, accelerating its usefulness. I would like to thank the Officers and the Firefighters and their families of the West Brookfield Fire Department for their dedication to the mission of protecting Life and Property. Few too many step up to do what we do. I would also like to thank the West Brookfield Board of Selectmen, Police Department, Highway Department, Elementary School and the Rescue Squad for their assistance throughout the year.

We stay vigilant in our duty for you.

Respectfully submitted,
Paul H. Foster, Fire Chief

FIRE REPORT

<u>TYPE</u>	<u>SITUATION</u>	<u>COUNT</u>
100	Fire, other	4
111	Building Fire	8
112	Fires in structure other than in a building	1
113	Cooking Fire, confined to container	2
121	Fie in a mobile home used as a fixed residence	1
130	Mobile property (vehicle) fire, other	1
131	Passenger vehicle fire	2
138	Off-road vehicle or heavy equipment fire	1

142	Brush or bursh-and-grass mixture fire	6
151	Outside rubbish, trash or waste fire	1
162	Outside equipment fire	1
220	Overpressure rupture from air or gas, other	1
300	Rescue, EMS incident, other	3
311	Medical assist, assist EMS crew	4
320	Emergency medical service incident, other	1
321	EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	1
322	Motor vehicle accident with injuries	6
324	Motor vehicle accident with no injuries	8
352	Extrication of victim(s) from vehicle	1
400	Hazardous condition, other	1
410	Combustible/flammable gas/liquid condition, other	1
412	Gas leak (natural gas or LPG)	2
422	Chemical spill or leak	1
424	Carbon monoxide incident	2
444	Power line down	2
445	Arcing, shorted electrical equipment	1
463	Vehicle accident, general cleanup	3
500	Service call, other	3
510	Person in distress, other	1
511	Lock-out	1
520	Water problem, other	1
521	Water evacuation	2
542	Animal rescue	1
550	Public service assistance, other	2
551	Assist police or other governmental agency	3
553	Public service	1
554	Assist invalid	1

571	Cover assignment, standby, move up	2
600	Good intent call, other	1
651	Smoke scare, odor of smoke	1
700	False alarm or false call, other	6
714	Central station, malicious false alarm	1
715	Local alarm system, malicious false alarm	1
730	System malfunction, other	1
733	Smoke detector activation due to malfunction	12
735	Alarm system sounded due to malfunction	5
736	CO detector activation due to malfunction	13
743	Smoke detector activation, no fire – unintentional	4
744	Detector activation, no fire – unintentional	5
745	Alarm system activation, no fire – unintentional	1
746	Carbon monoxide detector activation, no CO	3
815	Severe weather or natural disaster standby	1

TOTAL INCIDENT COUNT: **135**

(Types of calls categorized by the National Fire Reporting System (NFIRS version 5) and the Massachusetts Fire Incident Reporting System (MFIRS). This system is standardized throughout the United States.)*

FIRE PREVENTION REPORT

Furnace Inspections	7
Permit to Store Flammable Liquids	4
LPG Inspections	33
Smoke/CO Inspections	63
Vendor Inspections	6
Fuel Tank Truck Inspections	7
Rehabilitation/Assisted Care Centers Inspections	8
Annual Business Inspections	8
Burning Permits	150

GAS/PLUMBING INSPECTOR

Fifty-three plumbing and fifty-two gas inspections were performed by me during the year 2018. The Town issued twenty-nine permits to do plumbing work totaling \$2,345.00. The Town issued forty-eight permits to do gas work totaling \$2,300.00; for a total of \$4,645.00 for the year 2018.

Respectfully submitted,
Paul Bouchard, Gas & Plumbing Inspector

HARBOR MASTER

The boating on Lake Wickaboag in 2018 was normal due to good weather. The lake now has a large number of pontoon boats, which keeps the lake cleaner due to less churning of the bottom. The lake was treated due to its needs in 2018. The Red Flag System is used to close lake use. Controlling the seven-limit trailer parking has a large part of keeping the lake cleaner. Most boats using the parking spots are pleasure boats, which means skiing and tubing, which stirs up the bottom of the lake. All lake residents treat the lake with respect and help as needed. One problem this year was fishing tournaments. Some fishermen hook docks, boats, and so forth. This problem must be addressed before the start of tournaments.

Respectfully submitted,
Joseph H. Borlikoski Jr., Harbor Master

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

The Highway Department had a very active winter of 2017/2018 with 44 snow or ice events including 3 major nor'easters. After a spring cleanup the following projects were completed.

MassWorks Cottage and Lake Street project came in \$91,659.44 under budget so we were able to put in an amendment to use this money as long as the new project connected to Cottage or Lake Street. The amendment was approved for improvements on Church Street and a small section of Wickaboag Valley Road.

The following work was completed:

- Mill and overlay 1,215' of Church Street and 900' of Wickaboag Valley Road
- All drainage structure frames and covers were adjusted
- All new hot mix asphalt berm installed
- Sidewalks were regarded and paved to a 5' width
- All driveway aprons repaved
- ADA concrete wheelchair ramp installed
- New pavement markings

This project was completed before June 30, 2018 and closed out the \$1,000,000. MassWorks Grant.

The final section of Ragged Hill Road from Wickaboag Valley Road to the Tucker Road intersection was reconstructed.

The following work was completed:

- Removal of 49 trees to widen the road from 18' to 22'
- 5 telephone poles moved by National Grid for widening and drainage purposes
- All shoulders were cleaned
- All stumps removed

- All large rocks removed for road widening
- 3 failed metal cross culvers replaced with ADS double wall pipe
- 23 new drainage structures installed
- 1,500' of new 15" & 12" ADS double wall pipe installed
- The entire section of road was box widened to 24' and straightened out anywhere possible
- Full depth reclamation (FDR) with calcium was done. Road was graded with a 2% crown compacted and capped with calcium
- Road was paved with 11' travel lanes and a monolithic berm installed as needed (1,425 ton of dense binder)
- Driveways and drainage structures have been tied into the new pavement

This project will be completed in 2019. The remaining work consists of paving 1 ½" state top, pave driveway aprons, drainage swales and backup shoulders

Shea Road from Wickaboag Valley Road to Madden Road was also completely reconstructed

- Removal of several hazardous trees as well as pruning was done
- 4 new drop inlets installed with provisions for future reconstruction of Madden Road
- 900' of 15" diameter and 60' of 12" diameter ADS double wall pipe was installed
- Road was box widened to 22' as required
- Full depth reclamation (FDR) with calcium was done
- Road was graded with a 2% crown compacted and capped with calcium
- 670 tons of dense binder was machine applied and compacted
- Drainage swales and driveways tied in
- New guardrails installed over the bridge

This project will be finished in 2019. The remaining work consists of paving road with 1 ½” of state top, finish paving swales, driveway aprons and backing up shoulders.

New Braintree Road was leveled and overlaid from Church Street 1,860’ towards New Braintree. 600 ton of state top was machine applied with tack and compacted.

This project is completed.

Please review West Brookfield’s current project list. This list is based on current Chapter 90 funding level of \$233,357.00 per year. Please also note that the West Main Street / Route 9 projects require \$329,500.00 for engineering costs. The funding source will be determined at the Annual Town Meeting.

We are also going to be applying for a Complete Streets Grant for downtown safety improvement which is not on this schedule. In FY20 we intend on applying for another MassWorks Grant which also is not on the schedule.

I would like to express my gratitude to the residents of West Brookfield, the Board of Selectmen and all other Town department employees for their continued support. I would also like to thank both full and part time employees for their dependability and commitment during the past year.

Respectfully submitted,
James Daley, Highway Superintendent

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

The Historical Commission held meetings from January to June and September to December in the Commission Office, Room 201 in Town Hall.

This was a very busy and rewarding year.

On Saturday, August 11 and Sunday, August 12, 2018, the Historical Commission and the Community, with the support of the Trustees, presented “A Lucy Stone Bicentennial Celebration.” Dan Hamilton was chairman of the event.

On Saturday morning, a “Three Site Tour” of the Lucy Stone Homesite, Rock House Reservation, and Quaboag Historical Society Museum was led by renowned Stone biographer Joelle Million. Ninety people attended.

On Saturday afternoon, a “Birthday Celebration Suffragist Tea” was held in the great Hall of Town Hall. Costumed hostesses served refreshments including a one-of-a-kind cake by June’s Bakeshop. Guest speakers included State Senators Ann M. Gobi and Stephen M. Brewer along with keynote speaker Dr. Regina M. Edmonds. One hundred sixty people attended.

On Sunday afternoon, a powerful one-woman show “I Now Pronounce You Lucy Stone” featuring Judith Kalaora of “History at Play” followed by “A Concert of Period Music” by violinist Samantha Galloby and pianist Virginia Bailey was held at the Congregational Church. One hundred thirty-eight people attended.

On Sunday evening, a “Round Table Discussion” “Lucy Stone, Where do we go from Here?” was held in the Great Hall of Town Hall. WBUR Radio Host Deborah Becker moderated the discussion. Panelists included Senator Ann M. Gobi, Dr. Regina M. Edmonds, author Joelle Million, Dr. R. Vivian Acosta, Dr. Linda Jean Carpenter, Samantha Gilloby, and Judith Kalaora.

A thirty-seven page Commemorative Program was prepared by chairman Dan Hamilton.

Event attendees included Moira Hickey, a BBC reporter from Scotland whose inquiry about Lucy Stone inspired us to plan this celebration; noted sculptor Meredith Bergmann, whose Lucy Stone bronze statue is on The Commonwealth Mall in Boston also attended along with 35 descendants of the Stone and Blackwell families.

Donors and contributors included Country Bank, The J. Irving and Jane L. England Charitable Trust, Gavitt Wire Cable Co., Inc. Hannaford

Brothers Co., J. P. McCarthy & Sons, Quaboag Historical Society, Salem Cross In, Sherman Oil, and the Trustees of Reservations.

Other activates during the year:

- Publication of the “Old Bay Path Indian Trail” guide.
- Updating the Commission website: www.westbrookfield.org.
- Cosponsored “World War II Women” living history program at the library.
- Offered The Historical Commission Scholarship.
- Co-sponsored and participated in “The Asparagus and Flower Heritage Festival” in May.
- Participated in the installation of a bronze marker at Franklin Mile marker 68 on the common.
- Continued funding for conservation of 118 gravestones at the Old Indian Cemetery.
- Funded Historic Register Nomination for the Methodist Cemetery.
- Prepared a Demolition Delay Bylaw draft.
- Attended Mass Historical Commission workshops.

At the end of the year, member Dave Fitzgerald announced his resignation. Dave served as secretary and was a member for fourteen years. Dave’s amazing knowledge, interest, and participation will be truly missed.

Once again, The Commission thanks the J. Irving and Jane L. England Charitable Trust for the generous gift. Gifts received enable us to fund projects described and motivates us to do more. We also appreciate the support of the Town.

The 2018 members are:

Ron Bullock
Dave Fitzgerald
Louise Garwood
Dan Hamilton

Jesse Morrison
Anne-Marie Nolan
Richard Rossman

Respectfully submitted,
Richard Rossman, Chairman

HOUSING AUTHORITY

We hereby submit our annual report to you, the Honorable Board of Selectmen, and the people of the Town of West Brookfield.

The West Brookfield Housing Authority held 11 regular meetings including our Annual Meeting on May 15, 2018. We also held two special meetings in August and November. The West Brookfield Housing Authority meets on the third Tuesday of each month in the Community Building at Olde Village Place, 29 East Main Street. The meetings are held at 10.00 am and are open to the public. All meetings are posted with the Town Clerk. There is no meeting held in August of each year.

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, Beverly J. Anderson (Chairman), Marta Davis (Vice-Chairman), Debra Korman (Treasurer and state appointee), Susan Rowden and Roy Roberts.

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 Ch. 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 veterans. This past year we housed 4 new family tenants and 3 new elderly tenants. Anyone who wishes to live at Olde Village Place should fill out an application, which can be obtained from the office. Tenant selection is made from our

waiting list and all state guidelines are adhered to in the tenant selection process.

The Department of Housing and Community Development continues to support us with capital improvement awards. This past year we had new roofs replaced on two of our 8 unit elderly buildings. We also removed and replaced the retaining wall at the entrance to the development. As an unexpected emergency project, both air conditioning units at the 689 development failed and we had to replace them both.

Our non-smoking policy has been going very well and generally everyone is adhering to the policy and helping to make the development a safer and cleaner place for all who reside here.

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

We would also like to say thank you to Roger and Cindy Larson of Pleasant Street Pub. They continue to support the housing authority by kindly cooking and carving our Christmas turkey every year. This is a tremendous help to us. Also, a big thank you to John and Nancy Dyjak. They attend every social function held in our community room and John is the best Santa and Easter Bunny we have ever had. We are also happy to have a great relationship with Dipody Doo Child Care and Development Center. They have brought their little ones to the housing authority for Halloween and Christmas, and our tenants love having them visit, trick or treat and sing Christmas Carols. We hope to continue this new activity with them. We live in such a great community that is so supportive of the housing authority.

Respectfully submitted,
The West Brookfield Housing Authority

Beverly J. Anderson

Susan Rowden

Roy Roberts

Marta Davis

Debra Korman

LIBRARY

The Merriam-Gilbert Public Library
Serving West Brookfield in 2018 ...

James Fallows on the “Reinvention of America” as published in the *Atlantic*, April 2018 ...

“Libraries might seem fated to become the civic counterparts of yesteryear’s Borders or Barnes & Noble, but in nearly every city we visited they were newly prominent. By most measures of use – classes and programs offered, daily attendance, visits to the website, everything except calls to reference librarians for the research people can now do on Google – libraries are becoming more rather than less popular and central to civic life. The soft measures of impact are powerful: Walk into a random public library and you’ll see waiting lines for computers, librarians helping with job searches or other practical concerns, desk space for young entrepreneurs. According to a recent Pew survey, Millennials use libraries more than their Gen X or Boomer elders do.”



The Merriam-Gilbert Public Library is by all means central to civic life in West Brookfield. James Fallows’ snapshot of a “random public library” could indeed have been taken of our beloved Library. While many of our regular patrons are avid readers and stop by to replenish their book inventory, others come to read the paper, check out DVDs, music CDs, audiobooks, and more. Daily use of the many services available continues to prove the worth and appreciation of such access... as often you will see patrons visiting to check e-mail, job search, conduct online business, research, and more. Printing, copying, faxing, and Wi-Fi remain heavily used services at the Library with patrons using these services for many important life tasks such as payroll submission, insurance and medical/legal correspondence, tax purposes, and more.

Nearly 2,500 registered borrowers have access to more than 62,000 circulating materials at the Library including downloadable, audio, and printed books, as well as magazines, music, videos, toys, museum passes, a telescope, and beautiful hand-crafted ukuleles from Magic Fluke Co. of

the Berkshires. In addition to materials within the Library, thousands more materials can also be borrowed from libraries throughout the state and beyond thanks to various forms of interlibrary loan available to patrons of their hometown state-certified library. But providing materials is only part of what you'll find as the Library offers dozens of programs each year to all ages. Book discussions, Dungeons & Dragons meetings, and knitting group gatherings are a few of the regulars with a wide spectrum of other opportunities available.

The Merriam-Gilbert Children's Room is always a magical place to visit with thousands of books, DVDs, CDs, puzzles, toys, stuffed animals, and of course, Children's Librarian Mary Jackson, affectionately known as "Miss Mary." Miss Mary welcomed nearly 2,500 participants to 120+ programs in 2018. Children and families enjoyed regular groups such as Toddler Playgroup, Kids' Crafts, Lego Club, and musical programs "Sing with Your Baby" with Julie Stepanek and "Tune in Together" with Renee Coro generously sponsored by the Friends of the Library. The Friends also sponsored a special school vacation week performance by "Pumpernickel Puppets" and a September performance of "Story Stars: Hedgehog and Turtle" by Teaching Creatures. Special seasonal and holiday-themed story and craft programs such as bead crafts, bird feeders, decorating flower pots, and painting ceramics also made for sharing creativity throughout the year. In December, thanks to the Friends of the Library, Bemis Farms Nursery led a very festive gingerbread people decorating workshop for 15 families.



Visitors to the Children's Room also enjoyed beautiful new murals in the window wells painted by art students Zachary Pelletier and Kerry



Monihan. Two window murals were created: an ocean scene complete with a flashing lighthouse as well as a woodland backdrop used to create a fairy garden with fairy homes and figurines in the warmer months and a winter creatures theme when fall came around. The children especially love to come check out the windows to see if any of the fairies or creatures have "moved".

The 2018 Collaborative Summer Reading Program themed, "Libraries Rock!" included some great events with Teaching Creatures, Mary Jo Maichack, Cactus Head Puppets, Springfield Science Museum, Magic by

Scott Jameson, rock painting, and more! The 2018 Summer Reading Program was generously supported by: Cornerstone Bank, Country Bank for Savings, Eastern States Exposition, The Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art, Friendly's, The Friends of the Merriam-Gilbert Public Library, Gremarco Industries, Hannaford Bros. Co., Howard's Drive-In, Maha Family Dental, North Brookfield Savings Bank, USS Constitution Museum, Webster First Federal Credit Union, Yankee Candle, and the West Brookfield Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

Teen/tween programs offered for ages nine and up included an array of crafts/arts as well as gardening topics. Programs included teacup planters for Mothers' Day, hanging glass terrariums, herb gardens, fall planters, and holiday card making. Summer Reading



Programs for teens/tweens following the "Libraries Rock" theme included garden

stepping stones, gemstone jewelry with Kim Larkin of Klassic Kreation, rock painting, t-shirt tie-dye as well as ukulele lessons with Julie Stepanek sponsored by the West



Brookfield Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

The arts were well represented at the Library in 2018 as the Library's second floor meeting room lent itself to beautiful displays by local artisans such as photographer Beth Johnson and pastel painter Brian Higgins. Upon entering the Library, visitors are also greeted by the beautiful craftsmanship of wood carving specialist Ginny McVeigh whose walking stick sculpture depicts a "walking tour" of West Brookfield honoring the Town's rich history. Artist Greg Maichack led participants in Monet's Magic pastel creations, a program generously sponsored by the West Brookfield Cultural Council in conjunction with the Massachusetts Cultural Council, while music filled the Library throughout the year with Ukulele Scramble, Cabaret Consortium delighting attendees with a Frank Sinatra tribute, and internationally acclaimed folk artist Sarah McQuaid mesmerizing patrons with her heavenly voice. Judith Kalaora of History at Play did not disappoint with her presentation "World War Women: The

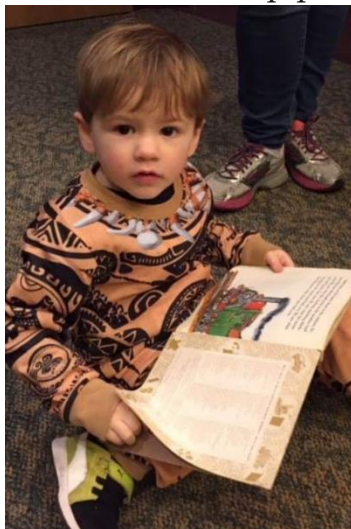


Unsung Heroines of WWII” (co-sponsored by the West Brookfield Historical Commission and the Quaboag Historical Society). Authors Tracey Ryan featuring *Wicked Game of the Hunter* and Jeff Belanger with stories of “Creepy Christmas” also informed and entertained patrons. The Friends of the Library helped highlight our youth artists by hosting art exhibits featuring the artwork of West Brookfield Elementary School students. Opening night receptions were held for students and families as the Library held shows in March, May, and November of 2018 with pieces honoring artists Charlie Harper and Edvard Munch, as well as the beloved children’s book *Chicka Chicka Boom Boom*. Also thanks to the Friends of the Library, Angela Carter of Angela’s Ink Link offered Valentine card making programs for participants aged 5-adult.

Appealing to the culinary artist in all of us, the Library also offered several food related programs including Celtic Chocolate with Kim Larkin of Klassic Creations sponsored by the Friends of the Library as well as a Pancakes and Pajamas Breakfast to benefit the Friends. The Library’s 2nd Annual National Pumpkin Day Recipe Contest in October brought several new contestants with entries from teens and adults featuring everything from desserts to pumpkin bisque.

The Library joined West Brookfield in the celebration of Lucy Stone’s 200th birthday in August of 2018. Special activities included a Lucy Stone trivia contest, a display of QRMHS student work honoring Ms. Stone, and book discussion dedicated to Sally McMillen’s *Lucy Stone: An Unapologetic Life*. A watercolor of Lucy Stone created by QRMHS student Katelyn Maskell will remain in the Library to honor the great women’s rights leader.

Other community programs for 2018 included a Tick Awareness and Lyme Disease workshop presented by the Central Mass Lyme Foundation;



Meditation for Stress Free Living by Dr. Allan Hughes; Milkweed, Monarchs & Migration by Master Gardener Jane Higgins and members of the Western Massachusetts Master Gardeners Association; as well as a Domestic Violence Awareness Forum offered by the Rotary Club of the Brookfields.

The Friends of the Merriam-Gilbert Library

Many of the wonderful programs and museum/attraction passes are only available at the Merriam-Gilbert Public Library thanks to the generosity and hard work of our amazing Friends of the Library group. Through annual fundraisers

the Friends have fervently supported our patrons with opportunities that would not be a reality otherwise. Their June and September Book Sales are popular among community members of West Brookfield and surrounding towns. A small on-going used book sale within the Library also helps to increase funding for endeavors sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

Only in its 2nd year, the “Books for Treats” celebration held in the Library on Halloween had an amazing turn-out thanks to the Friends and the organizational expertise of Bonnie Holske. More than 1,000 visitors entered the Library doors on Halloween night with each child receiving a free book.

Despite a cold dreary day, the Friends’ Annual White Christmas Raffle brightened the opening of the holiday season at the Library with visitors enjoying hot mulled cider and sugary confections as they perused the many wonderful items available for raffle. Local photographer Beth Johnson offered a beautiful display of her work while Tom Meade sweetened things up with his local Bucket List Maple Syrup. Many thanks to the generosity of local community members and businesses who together provided more than 60 raffle items.

In 2018 the Friends’ monthly gift basket raffle continued to be a fun attraction, often featuring seasonal goodies and decorations. The baskets have become popular among the patrons who look forward to each month’s display.

The Friends are led by Chairperson Elizabeth Jay and Treasurer Laverne Cholewa with members Marie Andrea, Margo Arel, Nancy Brown, Despina Fazzuoli, Monica Frew, Megan Pereira, Lisa Remiszewski, Elaine Spencer, and Pat Zazula. The trustees, staff, and patrons of the Merriam-Gilbert Public Library are most grateful to the Friends of the Library for their unwavering support of our community Library.

Other Community Endeavors

The Library continues to support local services by hosting an on-going food drive to benefit the Sharing Cupboard of West Brookfield. As the weather turned colder, the Library’s Mitten Tree also offered an opportunity for patrons to donate mittens, gloves, hats, and scarves to help keep their community members in need of a little warmth each winter.

Other community efforts included Miss Mary’s monthly visits to read at the West Brookfield Elementary School as well as welcoming the first grade class on a field trip to the Library each fall and spring. In addition to all of her duties as the Adult Services Librarian, Holly Takorian also

hand selects and delivers items for residents of the Quaboag on the Common Rehabilitation and Skilled Care Center. The delivery of reading materials and audiobooks to homebound patrons continues to increase. Community Reading Day in November once again offered Director MaryAnne Pelletier the chance to talk about the Library and to enjoy reading to two classes of second graders at West Brookfield Elementary School.

Staff, Trustees & Volunteers

The staff of the Merriam-Gilbert Public Library is a dedicated group of individuals who take great joy in serving the West Brookfield community. Director MaryAnne Pelletier, Adult Services Librarian Holly Takorian, Children's Librarian Mary Beth Jackson as well as Library Assistants Elaine Courtemanche, Linda Higgins, Jane Ingraham, Ashley Leger, and Mary LePage enjoy sharing their love of knowledge and sense of family with all who visit the Library. Custodian Cory Manseau and substitute custodian Clay Takorian take magnificent care of our beautiful Library, while snow shoveler Luke Pakseresht works diligently to assure the safety of our patrons as they come and go in the winter months. In addition to the staff, the Library Board of Trustees as well as several regular library volunteers show deep commitment to the Merriam-Gilbert Public Library and the West Brookfield community. The Library Board of Trustees consists of six elected officials with Paul Spencer serving as Chairman. Mr. Spencer is joined by Ronald Bullock, Mary Magnante, Alexandra McNitt, Jeff Robbins (Secretary), and Peter Scribner. Together with the library director, the trustees guide the Library's planning, policy, and budgetary decisions. Volunteers Sofia Fazzuoli, and Makenna Matczak give selflessly of their time each week to help ensure many tasks are taken care of within the Library.

In Closing...

The Library trustees, staff, and Friends are deeply grateful to the patrons who make our role in this community so fulfilling. It is an honor to serve you! We also wish to thank the Town of West Brookfield and all of the local businesses, organizations, and benefactors who have made it possible for us to provide a continued high level of materials, services and programming to the beautiful community of West Brookfield. We look forward to learning and growing together in 2019!

Respectfully submitted,
MaryAnne Pelletier, Library Director

LIST OF APPOINTED OFFICIALS

* Indicates Chairperson. () Indicates Term of Office

ADVISORY BOARD (7 MEMBERS – 3 YR TERMS)

Roland Sickenberger	(2019)	
Tom Long	(2019)	
Pam Griffing	(2019)	
Craig Carter	(2020)	
Lori L. Loughlin	(2020)	*
Douglas Aspinall	(2021)	
Brad Hibbard	(2021)	*

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

Vacancy	(2019)	
Vacancy	(2019)	
Steven Gould	(2019)	
Gordon DeWolf	(2019)	
Matthew Koziol	(2019)	*
Marcel F. Gaumond	(2019)	Alternate
Kevin Blaine	(2019)	Alternate
Melinda Czub		Secretary

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT COORDINATOR

Johanna Swain	(2019)
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ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER/DOG OFFICER

Leah Shattuck	(2019)	
Sydney Plante	(2019)	Assistant

ANIMAL INSPECTOR

ASPARAGUS & FLOWER HERITAGE FESTIVAL

George Hibbard	(2019)
Melinda Czub	(2019)
Amy Dugas	(2019)
Christine Holbrook	(2019)

ASSISTANT ASSESSOR

Renee Adams-White	(2019)
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ASSISTANT TOWN CLERKS

Tammi Melanson	(2019)
Geraldine Sauve	(2019)
Christine Long	(2019)
Mike Frew	(2019)

ASSISTANT TREASURER

Naomi Quansah	(2019)
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BOARD OF REGISTRARS

Madelyn Tivnan	(2019)
Jane R. Dolan	(2020)
Deborah Provencher	(2021)

BUILDING INSPECTOR

Jeff Taylor	(2019)	
Vacant	(2019)	Alternate

BURIAL GROUND COMMISSIONERS

Dave Swekla	(2019)	
Teri A. Roberts	(2020)	
Mark Astrella	(2021)	
Mike Seery	(2019)	Clerk
Herbert Foley	(2019)	Assistant Caretaker

CABLE TELEVISION COMMITTEE, LOCAL ACCESS

Vacant (2019) Director

CENTRAL MASS. REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Wesley Slobody (2019)

CMRPC REGIONAL PLANNING TASK FORCE

C. Thomas O'Donnell (2019)

CHIEF PROCUREMENT OFFICER

Vacant (2019)

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

James Talvy (2018)

Christine M. Long (2019)

Eric Tunley (2019)

Brian Silva (2020)

Richard Provencher (2020)

Vacancy (2020)

Gordon DeWolf (2021)

(COA) WB SENIOR CENTER DIRECTOR

Linda MacCoy (2019) Director

Betty Frew (2019) Assistant Director

COUNCIL ON AGING

Elizabeth Bliss (2019)

Irene White (2019)

Lyn Corfey (2020)

Barbara J. Smith (2020)

Nancy Arsenault (2020)

Beverly Cassavant (2021)

Nancy Seremeth (2021)

COUNCIL ON AGING – OUTREACH COORDINATOR

Susan Raymond (2019)

COUNCIL ON AGING - SMC ELDER BUS BOARD

Linda MacCoy (2019)

CUSTODIAN OF PROPERTY

Vacant (2019)

Diane Vayda (2019)

Philip Landine (2019)

Daniel Bigda (2019)

CULTURAL GRANTS COUNCIL

Joan Veinot (2019)

Kate Kane (2019)

Richard Ullman (2019)

Barry Gillogly (2019)

Paula Slade (2019)

Cynthia Laub (2019)

Joanne Gadoury (2019)

Laurie Sokol (2019)

EARTH REMOVAL BOARD

Dean Wisniewski (2019) Planning

Jason Paquette (2019) Health

Diane Vayda (2019) Selectmen

Gordon DeWolf (2019) Conservation

Kevin Dorman (2019) Zoning

E-911 COORDINATOR

Vacant

ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR

Keith Fontaine (2019)

Scot Mansfield (2019) Alternate

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

C. Thomas O'Donnell (2019)

ETHICS COMMISSION LIAISON

Sarah Allen (2019)

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Johanna Swain (2019)

FIRE CHIEF

Paul Foster (2019)

FIRE SAFE COORDINATOR

Laurie Rocco (2019)

FOREST FIRE WARDEN

Paul Foster (2019)

GAS PIPING & GAS APPLIANCES/PLUMBING INSPECTOR

Paul Bouchard (2019)

Edward Kent (2018) Alternate

HARBORMASTER

Joseph Borlikoski (2019)

HIGHWAY CLERK

Tammi Melanson (2019)

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT

James P. Daley (2019)

HISTORICAL COMMISSION (7 MEMBER BOARD) ROTATING 3-YR TERM

Dan Hamilton (2019)

David Fitzgerald (2019)

Anne Marie Nolan (2019)

Louise Garwood (2020)

Vacant	(2020)
Jesse T. Morrison	(2020)
Richard Rossman	(2021)
Ronald Bullock	(2021)

INSECT & PEST CONTROL INSPECTOR

James DiMaio	(2019)
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LAKE WICKABOAG DREDGING ADMINISTRATORS

Melvin Dorman	(2019)
John Frizzell	(2019)
Jason Paquette	(2019)

LIBRARY DIRECTOR

Maryanne Pelletier	(2019)
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MASTER PLAN IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE

Sharon Shepherdson	(2019)
MJ Haesche	(2019)
Steve Carroll	(2019)
Dean Wisnewski	(2019)
Al Collings	(2019)
Rebekah DeCoursey	(2019)
Diane Vayda	(2019)
Rich Provencher	(2019)
Deborah Provencher	(2019)

MUSIC COMMITTEE

Erin Mahoney	(2019)
Brendan Mahoney	(2019)
Jamie Hubacz	(2019)
Jason Ostrout	(2019)
Natalie Masterjohn	(2019)
Rick MacDonald	(2019)
Rainy Walsh	(2019)

OPEN SPACE IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE

Steve Carroll	(2019)	Planning
Richard Rossman	(2019)	Historical
Mary Beth Czaja	(2019)	LWPA
Gordon DeWolf	(2019)	Conservation
Jeremiah Czub	(2019)	Recreation (Ex-Officio)

PARKING CLERK

Vacant	(2019)
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POLICE DEPARTMENT

CHIEF OF POLICE

C. Thomas O'Donnell

SERGEANT

Matt Letendre	(2020)
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FULL TIME POLICE OFFICERS

James Early	(2019)
Eric Dyson	(2019)
Paul B. Cowden	(2020)
Craig Charron	(2021)

PART TIME POLICE OFFICERS

Kara Hartung	(2019)
David Pierce	(2021)
Brian Ayers	(2021)

CONSTABLES

C. Thomas O'Donnell	(2019)
Alan R. Jesky	(2019)
Matt Letendre	(2019)
Craig Charron	(2019)
David Pierce	(2019)
Brian Ayers	(2019)

Kara Hartung	(2019)
James Early	(2019)
Paul Cowden	(2019)
Arthur Tatro	(2021)
John Healy	(2021)

POLICE DEPARTMENT CLERK

Tammi Melanson	(2019)
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POLL WORKERS

Louise Whitehouse	(2019)
Eleanore Paquette	(2019)
Nancy Seeton	(2019)
Michael Frew	(2019)
John Tivnan	(2019)
William King	(2019)
Betty Frew	(2019)
Carol Haire	(2019)
Pauline LaCroix	(2019)
Charlotte Borlikoski	(2019)
Mary Garin	(2019)
Patricia Bacon	(2019)
Susan Tomasino	(2019)
Christine Long	(2019)
Caroline Stentiford	(2019)
Beverly Cassavant	(2019)
Teresa Barrett	(2019)
Robert Spera	(2019)
Geraldine Sauve	(2019)
Kathleen Landry	(2019)
Elizabeth Kozik	(2019)
Beverly Kenniston-Potvin	(2019)
Kathy Pratt	(2019)
Diane Loufstedt	(2019)
Neil Blodgett	(2019)
Gail Ryan	(2019)

Nancy Olson (2019)
Comfort Smythe (2019)
Demi Wrobel (2019)
Deb Korman (2019)

QUABOAG HIGH SCHOOL MUNICIPAL REPRESENTATIVE

Phil Landine (2019)

QUABOAG VALLEY BUSINESS ASST. CORP REP.

Alexandra McNitt (2019)

RECREATION COMMITTEE

Jeremiah Czub (2019)
Ryan Laroche (2019)
Lori Piazza (2019)
Chris Goodwin (2019)

REPRESENTATIVE TO CENTRAL DISPATCH

C. Thomas O'Donnell (2019)

REPRESENTATIVE TO THE ROCK HOUSE

John Tivnan (2019)

REGIONAL HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT COOPERATIVE (RHE COOP)

Diane Vayda (2019) Board of Directors Rep.

RIGHT TO KNOW MUNICIPAL COORDINATOR

Brian Charron (2019)

ROAD PROJECTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Diane Vayda (2019)
James Daley (2019)
Jeff Robbins (2019)
Bill King (2019)

Keith Arsenault (2019)

SEXUAL HARASSMENT OFFICER

Phil Landine (2019)

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

James Daley	(2019)	Highway
Mary Beth Czaja	(2019)	Member at Large
John Frizzell	(2019)	Health
Vacant	(2019)	Selectmen
Gordon DeWolf	(2019)	Conservation
Robert Benson	(2019)	Water
Timothy Morrell	(2019)	Planning – Resigned 10/30/17
Steven Carroll	(2019)	Planning
John Hicks	(2019)	Fire
Cap. Clayton Edwards	(2019)	Alternate Fire

TAX COLLECTOR

Naomi Quansah (2019)

TOWN ACCOUNTANT

Donna Allard (2021)

TOWN COUNSEL

Petrini & Associates (2019)

Morgan, Brown & Joy (2019)

TREE WARDEN

James DiMaio (2019)

TRIATHLON COMMITTEE

Rachel Wilson (2019)

James Wilson (2019)

Jessica Swistak (2019)

VETERAN’S AGENT

Gary W. Lapine (2019)

WAR MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

Anna May Zabek (2019)
Gary Lapine (2019)
David Tebo (2019)
Doug Aspinall (2019)
Ron Marchessault (2019)

WHITE CHRISTMAS COMMITTEE

Richard Rossman (2019)
Barbara Rossman (2019)
Michelle Niemiec (2019)

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

(APPOINTMENTS TO BE MADE PRIOR TO MARCH 1ST)

Richard Ullman (2019)
Vacancy (2020) Associate Member (*1 AM is
Chairs choice)
Kevin Dorman (2020) *
Renee Adams-White (2020) Associate Member (*AM's-
rotating 2-yr terms)
George Hibbard (2020)

ZONING OFFICER

Gary Simeone (2019)

LIST OF ELECTED OFFICIALS

* Indicates Chairperson () Indicates Term of Office

MODERATOR

Trevor Brown (2021)

TOWN CLERK

Sarah J. Allen (2019)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Diane S. Vayda (2019) *

Philip J. Landine (2020)

Daniel Bigda (2021)

TOWN TREASURER

Teri A. Roberts (2019)

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Michael H. Frew (2019)

Beverly P. Kenniston (2020)

Kevin G. Dorman (2021)

BOARD OF HEALTH

John E. Frizzell, Sr. (2019)

Jason Paquette (2020)

Melvin F. Dorman (2021)

BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES

Ronald Bullock (2019)

Jeffrey R. Robbins (2019)

Mary Reagon Magnante (2020)

Paul D. Spencer (2020)

Peter Scribner (2021)

Alexandra McNitt (2021)

BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

Robert E. Benson (2019)

Barry J. Nadon, Sr. (2020)

Lester Paquette, Sr. (2021)

COMMON COMMITTEE

Leane Pierce (2019) *

Malinda Mathieson (2020)

Rayne Petruzzi (2021)

HOUSING AUTHORITY (5 YEAR TERMS)

Debra Korman (12/12/2020) State Appt 5yr term
Roy Roberts (2019)
Susan Rowden (2020)
Beverly J. Anderson (2021)
Marta Davis (Resident) (2023)

PLANNING BOARD

Steven A. Carroll (2019)
Keith Arsenault (2020)
Wesley Slobody (2021)
Dean W. Wisniewski (2022)
MJ Haesche (2023)

QUABOAG REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Jeremiah M. Czub (2019)
Craig Burgess (2019)
Jonathan Burke (2019)
Robert Souza (2019)
Clifford G. Fountain (2020)
Andrew Schwenker (2020)
Tracy L. Waz (2020)
James C. Wilson III (2020)
Sarah D. Tetreault (2021)
Dustin Atwood (2021)
Jason G. Morgan (2021)
Lori Jean Piazza (2021)

PEG ACCESS TELEVISION

WBTV Channels 191, 192 & 194

EQUIPMENT

Public Access:

Most equipment is running well and do not expect any need for major replacements in the coming year.

Education Access:

General broadcast equipment from Public Access is performing well and do not expect any need for major replacements in the coming year.

Government Access:

No new equipment was added this past year and do not expect any need for major replacements in the coming year.

PROGRAMMING

Public Access maintained its multi-age oriented programming to 11 to 14 different programs per day repeated on two-week cycles.

Education Access is airing live School Committee Meetings, sports, school events, and available shared programming relevant to the children and their parents in the community. Due to budget cuts in the school system, the Media Club was temporarily discontinued.

Again, the *Government Access* encourages any committee that uses the Meeting Room to have their meetings broadcast on the station.

BULLETIN BOARD

The Bulletin Board continues to service the community and local non-profits.

ADDITIONAL NOTES FOR 2018

We thank Barry Gillogly for his past service as the Director and wish him well in future endeavors. In 2019, we expect to bring aboard an additional employee and/or volunteer to focus on continuing and expanding the services offered.

GOALS FOR 2019

We expect to be able to launch to launch the station's website and video on demand during the 2019 season.

Respectfully submitted,

Board of Selectmen

PLANNING BOARD

The Planning Board approved One (1) ANR Lot Subdivision applications in 2018.

The Planning Board, in conjunction with the Master Plan committee and Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission completed its work on the West Brookfield Master Plan. The Planning Board thanks the Master Plan Committee members for their hard work on this worthy project.

The Planning Board presented a warrant article at Town Meeting for a Zoning Bylaw amendment to include a chapter on Recreational Marijuana use. The Planning Board also sponsored a Zoning bylaw amendment to add a chapter on Ground-Mounted Solar Energy Facilities (Non-Residential). Both articles were passed at the Annual Town Meeting.

The Planning Board recognizes the services of Vice-Chairman Mr Wesley Slobody and wishes him well in future endeavors. The Committee welcomed Ms Rebekah DeCoursey to the Planning Board.

The Board is currently meeting on the second Monday of the month and on an as needed basis for the convenience of those who require Planning Board approval of your projects.

Respectfully submitted,

The West Brookfield Planning Board

Keith Arsenault

MG Haesche

Steve Carroll

Wesley Slobody

Rebekah DeCoursey

Dean Wisniewski

POLICE DEPARTMENT

The year 2018 was again a very active year for the West Brookfield Police Department. This past year, the department responded to 6890 calls for service, compared to 6389 in 2017.

Unfortunately, 2018 continued a string of tragedies that had begun in November of 2017. We saw our first multiple homicide, bank robbery, and yet another fatal motor vehicle accident during the year. Though it is of little consolation to the families of the victims involved, each of these ended in the arrests of the persons responsible. In each case, successful resolutions were possible due to the hard work of our officers and the invaluable work done by our neighboring police agencies, and the Worcester County Detective Unit assigned to the District Attorney’s office. Support given by the West Brookfield Fire Department and Rescue Squad during two of these incidents was likewise invaluable.

During 2018, thirty-eight percent of the people taken into physical custody were either taken into protective custody for alcohol/drug related issues, or involuntarily hospitalized due to an emergency mental health situation. Substance abuse and mental health issues are a silent epidemic in nearly every town in the Commonwealth, and touch nearly every family in some way. If you are a loved one are dealing with these issues, there are a number of local resources that can help. If you need help accessing these services, please reach out to us.

The following are examples of calls for service handled by the Department in 2018:

911-Hang up	50	Medical Assist	422
Alarms	89	Missing Person	8
Animal calls	134	Motor Vehicle Accident	64
Assault	4	MV Complaint – operation	86
Assist citizen	218	MV Investigations	163

Assist Fire Dept.	74	MV Stops	1,252
Assist other agencies	131	Officer initiated activity	178
Building check	1681	Parking Complaint	23
Burglary	11	Property damage/Vandalism	15
Community Policing	23	Psychiatric emergency	11
Complaints – general	79	Robbery	1
Directed Patrol	32	Safety hazard	99
Disabled Vehicle	62	Scam	15
Disturbance	52	Serve restraining order	16
Domestic Disturbance	27	Serve Summons	43
Fraud	11	Serve Warrant	54
Gun Shots	13	Harassment	11
Hazardous Incident	5	Sex Offenses	2
Illegal Dumping	2	Suspicious activity	108
Investigations	62	Threat	8
Larceny	5	Traffic control	294
Lockout	65	Trespass	15
Lost/Found property	27	Welfare check	110

The 2,252 motor vehicle stops conducted by the Department, in 2018, had the following results:

Citations	44	Written warnings	324
Criminal complaints	85	Verbal warnings	792
Arrests	35	Voided due to procedural errors	2

In 2018, the Department processed the following License to Carry and Firearms Identification Card applications:

LTC 768 | FID 85

During 2018, criminal charges were filed against 266 persons and 8 were taken into protective custody. What follows is a breakdown of the charges filed:

Abuse Prevention Order Violation	3	Kidnapping	1
Armed robbery	1	Larceny	3
Assault	4	Larceny of MV	1
Assault/Battery	2	Leaving Scene of accident	1
Assault/Battery - dangerous weapon	6	License Restriction Violation	1
Assault/Battery – disabled person	2	Malicious destruction - property	11
Assault/Battery – domestic	6	MV Homicide	1
Assault/Battery – household member	16	Narcotics violations	18
Assault/Battery – on person over 60	2	Negligent operation – MV	23
Assault/Battery – strangulation	1	Obscene Calls	1
Assault/Battery on a Public Official	1	Obstruction of Justice	
Attaching plates	6	Obstruction of Justice	1
Attempted to Commit a Crime		Open Container violation	10
Breaking/Entering	1	Operating under influence	20
Civil Warrants	1	Possession of Firearm - intoxicated person	1

Conspiracy	2	Possession of Liquor – under 21	1
Disorderly conduct	13	Receiving stolen property	2
Disturbing the Peace	12	Revoked license	9
Evidence Destruction		Revoked registration	12
Extortion	2	Suspended license	47
Failure to Stop for Police	1	Suspended Registration	6
Falsely Reporting a Crime	1	Threat to commit crime	7
Forgery		Trespass	1
Harassment	4	Uninsured MV	22
Harassment Order Violation	1	Unlicensed operation of MV	7
Improper storage of firearm	1	Warrant arrests	33
Involuntary Temporary Hospitalization	30	Wiretap violation	2
Junior Operator violation	1	Witness intimidation	5

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

PROCUREMENT OFFICER

The Uniform Procurement Act MGL Chapter 30B and Massachusetts Statutes for Construction Contracts summarize the procurement procedures necessary for the purchase of supplies and services, for the disposal of surplus property, for advertising and awarding contracts for construction projects including but not limited to work on bridges, roads, construction materials, streets, parks, sewers, water mains, landfills, and other improvements.

The Town of West Brookfield continues to strive toward total compliance with all areas of these statutes.

Respectfully submitted,

Board of Selectmen

RECREATION COMMITTEE

West Brookfield Recreation Committee spent the past year, again, doing their best to add to West Brookfield recreational activities, both for the children and adults.

The Committee welcomed the summer by offering our summer programs for the children of West Brookfield. These programs were all successful, but the Committee will continue to investigate new and exciting programs to be offered over the summer break and are always open to suggestions!

The Town Beach was again very well attended over the summer break and we as a Committee will look to continue to ensure the beach is maintained at the highest level for town residents. We recommend all West Brookfield residents pick up a sticker at the Town Hall, in order to avoid a warning or ticket.

The Rec Committee again offered extensive support to our local kids' recreational sports teams (soccer, basketball, and little league) and we plan to continue to do this in the future. Our goal is to support these organizations so they can keep the registration fees reasonable so all children interested in playing sports can participate. We also supported a men's soccer team for the first time in 2017/18 and plan to continue this. We want to ensure we support both children and adult recreational activities in town.

2018 was an exciting year for the Recreation Committee, but our goal is to improve every year. More use of the town beach, town common, as well as supporting our local recreational teams and activities is our mission. So get outside, around town, and down to our town beach and enjoy the activities we have on offer!

If you have any interest in joining the Rec Committee, please contact Jerry at [**jerczub81@hotmail.com**](mailto:jerczub81@hotmail.com).

Respectfully submitted,
Recreation Committee

RESCUE SQUAD

The West Brookfield Rescue Squad completed over 840 patient transports in 2018. These transports include all 911 emergency medical calls, motor vehicle accidents, patient lift assists, evaluations and refusals, assisting the Fire Department at fire scenes, and non-emergent transports. Emergency calls have not increased but our new capabilities have increased our volume. We have increased our Mutual Aid responses to assist with the region as well as offering our residents non-emergent transports. The West Brookfield Rescue Squad is a private non-profit 501c3 organization and receives no municipal funding from the town. We rely on insurance billing, private contributions, memorial donations, and our annual subscription drive.

The Rescue Squad currently has 21 Licensed EMT's and 4 Certified First Responders and we operate two class 1 ambulances. The Rescue Squad has a very dedicated group of men and women who sign up for shifts on a monthly basis. Crews are on duty at our station 24 hours a day 7 days per week 365 days a year. Advanced Life Support services are available 24/7 when needed.

The West Brookfield Rescue Squad offers all of it's members continued education training to maintain certification. We offer advanced training to our members and currently have three enrolled in a paramedic program. As well as free CPR certification training to all town employees, the Rescue Squad maintains all Automatic Defibrillators (AED's) located in the Town Hall, Elementary School, Senior Center and Library. All free of charge. This has designated West Brookfield as being a "Heart Safe Community" by the Central Mass Regional Office of Emergency Medical Services and the American Heart Association. The Rescue Squad with it's dedicated staff also provides a community wellness program for it's citizens with medical needs as well as provides training seminars, clinics and wellness checks for residents in cooperation with the Senior Center staff. The Rescue Squad provides support and medical team coverage for all special events that our great town has throughout the year.

With the increased demand and need for 24 hour coverage, the Rescue Squad continues to need more EMT's. Please ask any member or stop by the station and ask about EMT training programs in the area and our tuition reimbursement and scholarship programs. You can also visit us at www.westbrookfieldrescuesquad.com and like us on our Facebook page.

We would like to thank the West Brookfield Police Department and West Brookfield Fire Department with assisting and keeping us safe on every call. We also thank the West Brookfield Highway Department for making sure our roads are safe and for assisting the Squad with emergency snow removal during emergency calls.

Please call 911 for life threatening or Medical emergencies

A very special thank you goes to the residents of West Brookfield for their continued support of our efforts. We appreciate the great financial support through the subscription drive, memorial contributions, and other generous donations throughout the years.

We are all very proud to serve this great community!

Officers:

President: Dan McCall

Vice-President: David Carrington

Members:

Renee Adams-White

Matthew White

Abigail Kaczprowicz

Daniel Ruiz

Bonny Cook

Natasha Boynton

Corrina Barry

Kyle Sledziewski

Ryan Garvey

Alanna Servant

Brendan LaValley

Chris Blood

Jessica Tyler

Michaela Casey

Gina Mathes

Tyler Wade

Alanna Servant

Chase Carlson

Frank Johnson

First Responders:

Hanna Niemiec

Seth Bourdeau

Morgan Orzulak

Luke Quatrocelli

Respectfully submitted,
The West Brookfield Rescue Squad
Board of Directors

“BECAUSE WE CARE”

TAX COLLECTOR

Totals Represent Posting Activity Year to Date
January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018.

Real Estate Tax	
Real Estate Tax	\$ 5,547,255.51
Interest on Real Estate Tax	\$ 18,580.98
	\$ <u>5,565,836.49</u>
Personal Property Tax	
Personal Property Tax	\$ 251,299.01
Interest on Personal Property Tax	\$ 142.79
	\$ <u>251,441.80</u>
Excise Tax	
Motor Vehicle/Trailer Excise	\$ 492,717.37
Interest on Motor Vehicle Trailer Excise	\$ 4,807.53
	\$ <u>497,524.90</u>
Total Receipts for 2018	\$ <u><u>6,314,803.19</u></u>

Respectfully submitted,
Naomi Zuansah, Tax Collector

TOWN CLERK

TOWN CLERKS REPORT 2018

TOWN OF WEST BROOKFIELD

WEST BROOKFIELD MA 01585

BULK RATE U.S. POSTAGE PAID PERMIT #7 WEST BROOKFIELD, MA 01585

POSTAL PATRON
WEST BROOKFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS 01585

2018

Annual Town Meeting
Warrant

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

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING - Tuesday, June 5th, 7:00 p.m.

West Brookfield Elementary School
89 North Main Street

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

FY18 Report of the Advisory Committee

The Advisory Committee is comprised of seven appointed members and is tasked with making reports or recommendations to the town on all municipal matters, submitting a budget at the annual town meeting, and providing an annual report as it deems for the best

interest of the town. We met 32 times in the last year. All meetings are posted and open for public participation.

In Fiscal Year 2018, the Advisory Committee focused on tightening up the budget process. With the cooperation of all the committees, boards and departments, we increased the level of transparency, and strengthened the precision of estimates used the budgeting process. We believe this will assist us in creating more accurate budgets so we know where best to spend our resources, and to reduce surprises. We also believe we will better be able to follow spending trends and uncover potential savings with the detail that will be generated, as well as providing better information to the greater community.

Every year proves to be challenging as the needs of the community grows. Equipment needs to be updated, employees need raises, and costs continue to rise. Furthermore, we must balance the needs of the community with the need to maintain adequate reserves and free cash. We continue to watch the town stabilization account diminish. This is a very dangerous pattern that could lead to trouble in the future, if not properly managed. Our committee's efforts are to meet the needs of each department, while ensuring the financial security of our future. It is a delicate balancing act. We encourage you to read the town's annual financial report carefully to better understand what the towns' needs are and where its resources are allocated.

In FY 2019, the Advisory Committee expects its focus to be directed to supporting the goals of the newly adopted Master Plan. The Master Plan is a roadmap to the community's vision of its future. Considerable time has been spent by the town in assessing plans for housing, land use, economic development, recreation, transportation, town services, and preservation of our unique and wonderful community. The plan was adopted and should serve as guidance as to the town's desires for its future. It is for these reasons that the Advisory Committee wishes to support the efforts and intention of the Master Plan in any way we can.

The Advisory Committee continues to advocate for a change in the management of town government. The administration of local government has become increasingly time consuming and complex. We believe that a Town Manager/Administrator will further the cause of the Master Plan and promote the healthy development and management of our town.

In closing, it is an honor to sit on this Board in support of the Town of West Brookfield. We recognize we are advisors and not rule makers and take this task seriously. We thank the Select Board for its increased cooperation in working with us. We thank all town employees for doing their part for the public. We encourage the residents to stay involved and be an active part of your community. It may take a village to raise a child, but it takes the entire community to run a town.

* Please note that the opinions expressed in this report are the opinions of the West Brookfield Town Advisory Committee. They should not be construed as legal advice or advice on how taxpayers should vote. The Committee is tasked with making recommendations only and the comments in this report are just that – recommendations.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Loughlin, Chairperson

Tom Long
Bradley Hibbard
Pamela Griffing
Daniel Bigda
Roland Sickenberger
Doug Aspinall

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 2018 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 on 89 North Main Street in said WEST BROOKFIELD on TUESDAY the FIFTH day of JUNE 2018 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 3 years, one (1) Selectman for 3 years, one (1) tax collector for 1 year, one (1) Assessor for 3 years, one (1) Board of Health Member for 3 years, two (2) Library Trustees for 3 years, 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) Housing Authority Member for 5 years, one (1) Housing Authority Member for 2 years, four (4) Quaboag Regional School Committee Members for 3 years, one (1) Quaboag Regional School Committee Member for 1 year 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:

	FY'18	FY'19
	Approved	Recommended
Moderator	\$600.00	\$600.00
Selectmen 2 members	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Selectmen, Chairman	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Town Treasurer	\$31,168.36	\$31,480.04

Tax Collector	\$31,719.88	\$31,719.88
Assessors, (each) 2 members	\$2,913.12	\$2,913.12
Assessors, Clerk	\$4,161.60	\$4,161.60
Board of Health, (each) 2 members	\$915.55	\$915.55
Board of Health, Chairman	\$1,144.40	\$1,144.40
Town Clerk	\$29,232.84	\$29,525.17
Water Commissioners (each)	\$400.55	\$400.55

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 the General Fund Stabilization Account or from other available funds in the Treasury, such sums of money as listed in the Advisory Committee Fiscal Year 2019 Budget Request and as amended as may be necessary to defray the expenses of the Town for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2018 and ending on June 30, 2019, 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 **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)

Article 6

To see if the Town will vote pursuant to M.G.L. c. 44, § 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 2019; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Sponsored by the Burial Grounds Commission)

Article 7

To see if the Town will vote pursuant to M.G.L. c. 44, § 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 2019; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Sponsored by the Stormwater Authority)

Article 8

To see if the Town will vote pursuant to M.G.L. c. 44, § 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 2019; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Sponsored by the Tree Warden)

Article 9

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Water Commissioners to employ their Licensed Water Commissioners at Grade 1 Step 2 (**\$12.06** per hour) for standby duty and emergency work in the absence of the Superintendent in Fiscal Year 2019; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Sponsored by the Water Department)

Article 10

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 deposited into the “Reserve Fund” to provide for extraordinary or unforeseen expenditures under the provisions of M.G.L. c. 40, § 6 known as the Reserve Fund; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Sponsored by the Advisory Committee)

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 deposited into the “Town Building Maintenance Account”; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen)

Article 12

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds in the Treasury **a sum of money** to purchase a truck lift for the Highway Department; 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, borrow or transfer from available funds in the Treasury **a sum of money** to purchase a truck for the Highway Department to replace its 1993 Ford; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Sponsored by the Highway Department)

Article 14

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 “Repairs To Private Ways Account” to pay for repairs to private ways within West Brookfield pursuant to M.G.L. c. 40, § 6N and Chapter XII, Section 8 of the General Bylaws, the repairs to include road materials and related labor expenses only, and further, that all repairs made to private ways will be completed in strict adherence to all applicable state laws and West Brookfield bylaws; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Sponsored by Board of Selectmen)

Article 15

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 the principal and interest due on the borrowing for the highway loader; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Sponsored by the Highway 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 placed in the “Town Road Maintenance Account”; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Sponsored by the Highway Department)

Article 17

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 to grind brush and trees at the Drop Off Center; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Sponsored by the Highway Department)

Article 18

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 towards the New Braintree Road Waterline Extension Project borrowing; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Sponsored by the Board of Health and Board of Selectmen)

Article 19

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 “*Post-Employment Benefits*” Account; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen)

Article 20

To see if the Town will vote to transfer **a sum of money** from the Water Surplus Account to rehab and clean Well #3 and Well #4 (Regular Maintenance); or take any other action relative thereto.

(Sponsored by the Water Commissioners)

Article 21

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen, under M.G.L. c. 40, §§ 3 and 15, to grant an easement and/or to enter into a lease agreement for a period of up to 20 years with a third party to install and operate a solar facility on the capped landfill located on Town land situated on Wigwam Road; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen)

Article 22

To see if the Town will vote to amend Section 1.4 of the Town of West Brookfield Zoning Bylaws to add a definition for “Solar Energy Facility”; to add to the table of uses in Section 3.26 of the Town of West Brookfield Zoning Bylaws a new item 9 to require a Special Permit for siting Solar Energy Facilities (Non-Residential) in certain zoning districts within the Town; and to add as Section 3.28 of the Town of West Brookfield Zoning Bylaws a new section titled “Ground-Mounted Solar Energy Facilities (Non-Residential)”

(Sponsored by the Zoning Board of Appeals)

Article 23

To see if the Town will vote pursuant to M.G.L. c. 44, § 53E ½ to authorize the use of a revolving fund to authorize the use of a revolving fund to pay for removal of abandoned ground-mounted solar energy facilities which fund shall be credited with receipts from various applicants for Special Permits for such ground-mounted solar energy facilities; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen)

Article 24

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of M.G.L.c. 64N, § 3 to impose a local sales tax “upon sale or transfer of marijuana or marijuana products by a marijuana retailer operating with the town to anyone other than a marijuana establishment; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen)

Article 25

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning Bylaws to impose a temporary moratorium on the use of land for adult use marijuana establishments as defined in M.G.L. c. 94G; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Sponsored by the Planning Board)

Article 26

To see if the Town will vote to amend the General Bylaws to impose a temporary moratorium on the operation of adult use marijuana establishments as defined in M.G.L. c. 94G; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Sponsored by the Planning Board)

Article 27

To see if the Town will vote to decrease the membership of the Conservation Commission from seven (7) members to five (5) members pursuant to M.G.L. c. 41, § 2; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Sponsored by the Conservation Commission)

Article 28

To see if the Town will vote to allow the Common Committee to retain the proceeds from the sale of the zinc sculptures from Rice Fountain by depositing the proceeds into the “Common Committee Donations Account”; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Sponsored by the Common Committee)

Article 29

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 or architectural costs associated with conducting a feasibility study for a Public Safety Complex on Wigwam Road; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Sponsored by the Police Department, Fire Department and Board of Selectmen)

Article 30

To see if the Town will vote to close out the following articles and transfer the balances, as of 31 May 2018, into the Stabilization Account; or take any other action relative thereto.

- 02-192-5240-101006 Natural Gas Generator
- 02-192-5240-101007 Town Hall Chimney Repairs
- 02-210-5851-101011 Police Cruiser
- 02-220-5244-101012 Fire Vehicle Exhaust
- 02-220-5853-101029 Fire Department Vehicle
- 02-422-5243-101019 Traffic Control System
- 02-422-5830-101017 N Main Street Sidewalk
- 02-422-5850-101030 Highway Line Painting Machine
- 02-422-5853-101028 Highway F350 Replacement
- 02-434-5310-101022 Landfill Repairs

(Sponsored by the Advisory Committee)

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 27th day of March in the year of our Lord two thousand eighteen.

_____ A TRUE COPY. ATTEST:

Selectmen of West Brookfield

Constable
Worcester, SS April _____, 2018 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

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 **FIFTH** day of **JUNE 2018**, at **6:30PM** then and there to act on the following articles:

Article 1

To see if the Town will vote transfer from available funds in the Treasury the sum of **\$2,130.00** to cover revisions to the Quaboag Regional School District's FY 2018 Operating Assessment; originally voted by the Town as Article 4 of the June 6, 2017 Annual Town Meeting.

	<u>Voted 2017</u>	<u>Proposed Revision</u>
Minimum Contribution	\$2,715,691	\$2,708,098
Above Minimum Request	\$ 243,216	\$ 248,679
Transportation Assessment	<u>\$ 356,005</u>	<u>\$ 356,005</u>
	\$3,314,912	\$3,312,782

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

Article 2

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 remove two (2) oil tanks and to purchase and install a replacement boiler in the Town Hall; or take any other action relative thereto.
(Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen)

Article 3

To see if the Town will vote transfer from the Vocational Transportation Account the sum of **\$12,690.90** and transfer from Free Cash the sum of **\$100,056.10** to the Vocational Tuition Account to pay the vocational tuition shortfall for FY18; or take any other action relative thereto.
(Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen)

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 9th day of May in the year of our Lord two thousand eighteen.

_____ A TRUE COPY. ATTEST:

Selectmen of West Brookfield

Constable

Worcester, SS

May 9, 2018 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, 2018**

MODERATOR

3 YEARS	VOTE FOR ONE	
TREVOR JAMES BROWN		376
WRITE IN		0
<u>BLANK</u>		<u>86</u>
TOTAL		462

SELECTMAN

3 YEARS	VOTE FOR ONE	
DANIEL M. BIGDA		341
WRITE IN		9
<u>BLANK</u>		<u>112</u>
TOTAL		462

TAX COLLECTOR

1 YEAR	VOTE FOR ONE	
KEVIN M. ROBERTS		272
WRITE IN		51
<u>BLANK</u>		<u>139</u>
TOTAL		462

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

3 YEARS	VOTE FOR ONE	
KEVIN G. DORMAN		354
WRITE IN		2
<u>BLANK</u>		<u>106</u>
TOTAL		462

BOARD OF HEALTH

3 YEARS	VOTE FOR ONE	
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MELVIN F. DORMAN	372
WRITE IN	2
BLANK	88
TOTAL	462

WATER COMMISSIONER
 3 YEARS VOTE FOR ONE

LESTER J. PAQUETTE	374
WRITE IN	2
BLANK	86
TOTAL	462

LIBRARY TRUSTEE
 3 YEARS VOTE FOR TWO

ALEXANDRA MCNITT	345
PETER M. SCRIBNER	331
WRITE IN	1
BLANK	247
TOTAL	924

COMMON COMMITTEE
 3 YEARS VOTE FOR ONE

RAYNE A. PETRUZZI	363
WRITE IN	4
BLANK	95
TOTAL	462

PLANNING BOARD
 5 YEARS VOTE FOR ONE

MARY JANE HAESCHE	363
WRITE IN	0
BLANK	99
TOTAL	462

HOUSING AUTHORITY
 5 YEARS VOTE FOR ONE

MARTA G. DAVIS	341
WRITE IN	0
BLANK	121
TOTAL	462

HOUSING AUTHORITY
 2 YEARS VOTE FOR ONE

SUSAN ROWDEN	352
WRITE IN	0
<u>BLANK</u>	<u>110</u>
TOTAL	462

QUABOAG REGIONAL DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE
3 YEARS YOU MAY VOTE FOR ANY FOUR CANDIDATES

JASON MORGAN	187
SARAH D. TETREAUULT	183
DUSTIN ATWOOD	254
DARLENE I. MANZARO	226
LORI JEAN PIAZZO	269
WRITE IN	2
<u>BLANK</u>	<u>727</u>
TOTAL	1848

QUABOAG REGIONAL DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE

<i>1 YEAR</i>	<i>VOTE FOR ONE</i>	
JEREMIAH M. CZUB		330
WRITE IN		3
<u>BLANK</u>		<u>129</u>
TOTAL		462

QUESTION #1.

Shall the town vote to have its elected Town Treasurer become an appointed Town Treasurer of the Town?

Yes	253
No	202
<u>BLANK</u>	<u>7</u>
TOTAL	462

QUESTION #2.

Shall the town vote to have its elected Tax Collector become an appointed Tax Collector of the Town?

Yes	253
No	201
<u>BLANK</u>	<u>8</u>
TOTAL	462

**SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
JUNE 5, 2018**

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

Johanna Swain	Executive Secretary
Amanda Zuretti	Petrini & Associates, PC

And to allow the following non-voters to speak:

Johanna Swain	Executive Secretary
Amanda Zuretti	Petrini & Associates, PC
	Baystate Municipal Accounting Group
Dr. Brett Kustigian	Quaboag District School Superintendent
Camie Lamica	Quaboag District Business Manager
Colleen Mucha	WBES Principal

Article 1

Voted majority to transfer from Free Cash the sum of **\$2,130.00** to cover revisions to the Quaboag Regional School District's FY 2018 Operating Assessment; originally voted by the Town as Article 4 of the June 6, 2017 Annual Town Meeting.

	<u>Proposed Revision</u>	<u>Voted 2017</u>
Minimum Contribution	\$2,715,691	\$2,708,098
Above Minimum Request	\$ 243,216	\$ 248,679
Transportation Assessment	<u>\$ 356,005</u>	<u>\$ 356,005</u>
	\$3,314,912	\$3,312,782

Article 2

Voted unanimously to transfer from Free Cash the sum of **\$58,491.00** to be used to remove two (2) oil tanks and to purchase and install a replacement boiler in the Town Hall.

Article 3

Voted majority to transfer from the Vocational Transportation Account the sum of **\$12,690.90** and to transfer from Free Cash the sum of **\$100,056.10** to the Vocational Tuition Account to pay the vocational tuition shortfall for FY18.

The meeting adjourned at 6:40 PM.

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
JUNE 5, 2018**

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

Johanna Swain	Executive Secretary
Amanda Zuretti	Petrini & Associates, PC

And to allow the following non-voters to speak:

Johanna Swain	Executive Secretary
Amanda Zuretti	Petrini & Associates, PC
C. Thomas O'Donnell	Police Chief
Mathew Letendre	Police Sergeant
Dr. Brett M. Kustigian	Superintendent of Schools, Quaboag RSD
Camie Lamica, CPA	Assistant Superintendent of Business Baystate Municipal Accounting Group
Jim Daley	Highway Superintendent
Colleen Mucha	WBES Principal

Article 1

Election

Article 2

Voted unanimously to hear and act upon the Annual Reports of the Town Officers and Committees.

Sarah Allen made the following motion:

I move the town of West Brookfield amend the Town Clerk stipend to \$40,000.00 in fairness and equality. The motion was second. The motion failed.

Alexandra McNitt made the following motion:

I move the town vote to increase the Town Clerk pay by \$1,500.00 for Fiscal Year "19" while a salary study is conducted. The total salary would then be \$30,732.84 moneys to come from free cash. The motion was second. The vote was unanimous approval.

Article 3

Voted majority to determine the compensation to be paid to the following elected Town Officers:

	FY'18 Approved	FY'19 Recommended
Moderator	\$600.00	\$600.00
Selectmen 2 members	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Selectmen, Chairman	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Town Treasurer	\$31,168.36	\$31,480.04
Assessors, (each) 2 members	\$2,913.12	\$2,913.12
Assessors, Clerk	\$4,161.60	\$4,161.60
Board of Health, (each) 2 members	\$915.55	\$915.55
Board of Health, Chairman	\$1,144.40	\$1,144.40
Town Clerk	\$29,232.84	\$30,732.84
Water Commissioners (each)	\$400.55	\$400.55

Article 4

Voted majority approval to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$7,493,179.00** and transfer from Free Cash the sum of **\$78,892.64** such sums of money as listed in the Advisory Committee Fiscal Year 2019 Budget Request and as amended as may be necessary to defray the expenses of the Town for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2018 and ending on June 30, 2019, and to vote that any State reimbursements which result in available funds to the Quabog Regional School District, in excess of the approved budget, shall be used to reduce the Town's assessment.

Article 5

Voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$39,514.00** to pay West Brookfield's share of the principal and interest payments owed on bonds for the Quabog Regional Middle/High School.

Article 6

Voted unanimously pursuant to M.G.L. c. 44, § 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 2019.

Article 7

Voted unanimously pursuant to M.G.L. c. 44, § 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 2019.

Article 8

Voted majority pursuant to M.G.L. c. 44, § 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 2019.

Article 9

Voted unanimously to authorize the Water Commissioners to employ their Licensed Water Commissioners at Grade 1 Step 2 (**\$12.06** per hour) for standby duty and emergency work in the absence of the Superintendent in Fiscal Year 2019.

Article 10

Voted unanimously to transfer from Free Cash the sum of **\$50,000.00** to be deposited into the “Reserve Fund” to provide for extraordinary or unforeseen expenditures under the provisions of M.G.L. c. 40, § 6 known as the Reserve Fund.

Article 11

Voted unanimously to transfer from Free Cash the sum of **\$20,000.00** to be deposited into the “Town Building Maintenance Account”.

Article 12

Voted unanimously to transfer from Free Cash the sum of **\$19,200.00** to purchase a truck lift for the Highway Department.

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 borrow the sum of **\$242,500.00** to purchase a truck to replace the 1993 Ford for the Highway Department including all costs incidental thereto.

Article 14

Voted majority to transfer from Free Cash the sum of **\$5,000.00** to be placed in the “Repairs To Private Ways Account” to pay for repairs to private ways within West Brookfield pursuant to M.G.L. c. 40, § 6N and Chapter XII, Section 8 of the General Bylaws, the repairs to include road materials and related labor expenses only, and further, that all repairs made to private ways will be completed in strict adherence to all applicable state laws and West Brookfield bylaws.

Article 15

Voted majority to transfer from Free Cash the sum of **\$47,214.00** to pay the principal and interest due on the borrowing for the highway loader.

Article 16

Voted unanimously to transfer from Free Cash the sum of **\$50,000.00** to be placed in the “Town Road Maintenance Account”.

Article 17

Voted unanimously to pass over 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

*Lester Paquette made the following motion on Article 18:
I move the Town vote to transfer the sum of **\$88,585.00** from the General Stabilization Account and to transfer **\$88,858.00** from Free Cash to pay off the New Braintree Road Waterline Extension Project borrowing. The motion was second. The amendment failed.*

Article 18

Voted 2/3 majority to transfer from Free Cash the sum of **\$88,585.00** and to transfer from the Water Stabilization Account the sum of **\$88,585.00** to pay off the New Braintree Road Waterline Extension Project borrowing.

Article 19

Voted majority to transfer from Free Cash the sum of **\$50,000.00** to be placed into the “Post-Employment Benefits” Account.

A 2/3 vote is required to pass Article 20. A motion as made and second to dispense with the required secret ballot. The vote: unanimous approval.

*Lester Paquette made the following motion on Article 20:
I move the Town vote to amend Article #20 to read as follows:
Article #20
I move the town vote to transfer the sum of **\$35,000.00** from the Water Stabilization account to be placed in the Water Expense Account to rehab and clean Well#3 and Well #4 (regular maintenance): or take any other action relative there to. The amendment was second. The amendment passes.*

Article 20

Voted 2/3 majority to transfer the sum of **\$35,000.00** from the Water Stabilization account to be placed in the Water Expense Account to rehab and clean Well#3 and Well #4 (regular maintenance): or take any other action relative there to.

The following motion was made on Article 21:

I move the town vote to authorize the town to enter into discussion and then approach the town with information and then ask for permission to grant or lease for a solar farm at a future town meeting. The motion was second. The motion passes unanimously.

Article 21

Voted majority approval to authorize the town to enter into discussion and then approach the town with information and then ask for permission to grant or lease for a solar farm at a future town meeting.

A 2/3 vote is required to pass Article 22. A motion was made and second to dispense with the required secret ballot. The vote: unanimous approval

John Frizzell made the following motion:

I move that the Planning Board vote is invalid. The motion did not receive a second.

After much discussion a motion was made and second to move to question. The vote: unanimous approval.

Article 22

Voted 2/3 majority approval to amend the Town of West Brookfield Zoning Bylaws to add to Section 1.4 new definitions, including but not limited to, "Solar Energy Facility"; to add to the table of uses in Section 3.26 a new item 9 to require a Special Permit for siting Solar Energy Facilities (Non-Residential) in certain zoning districts within the Town; and to as a new Section 3.28 "Ground-Mounted Solar Energy Facilities (Non-Residential)"

Article 23

Voted majority pursuant to M.G.L. c. 44, § 53E ½ to authorize the use of a revolving fund to authorize the use of a revolving fund to pay for removal of abandoned ground-mounted solar energy facilities which fund shall be credited with receipts from various applicants for Special Permits for such ground-mounted solar energy facilities.

Article 24

Voted unanimously to accept the provisions of M.G.L.c. 64N, § 3 to impose a local sales tax "upon sale or transfer of marijuana or marijuana products by a marijuana retailer operating with the town to anyone other than a marijuana establishment at a rate of 3 per cent of the

total sales price received by the marijuana retailer as a consideration for the sale of marijuana or marijuana products."

A 2/3 vote is required to pass Article 25. A motion was made and second to dispense with the required secret ballot. The vote: unanimous approval

A vote was declared 2/3 majority approval and was challenged. A standing vote was taken was called for by the Moderator with the following result.

Yes-77

No-18

Article 25

Voted 2/3 majority approval to amend the Zoning Bylaws to impose a temporary moratorium on the use of land for adult use marijuana establishments as defined in M.G.L. c. 94G; with an end date not later than December 31, 2018.

The Planning Board read their required report on Article 26.

After much discussion a motion was made and second to move to question. The vote: unanimous approval.

Article 26

Voted majority approval to amend the General Bylaws to impose a temporary moratorium on the operation of adult use marijuana establishments as defined in M.G.L. c. 94G; with an end date not later than December 31, 2018.

Article 27

Voted unanimously to decrease the membership of the Conservation Commission from seven (7) members to five (5) members pursuant to M.G.L. c. 41, § 2.

Article 28

Voted unanimously to allow the Common Committee to retain the proceeds from the sale of the zinc sculptures from Rice Fountain by depositing the proceeds into the "Common Committee Donations Account".

After much discussion a motion was made and second to move to question. The vote: unanimous approval.

Article 29

Fails to pass.

A 2/3 vote is required to pass Article 30. A motion was made and second to dispense with the required secret ballot. The vote: unanimous approval

Paul Lupacchino made the following motion:

To see if the town will vote to close out the following articles and transfer the balances once the articles are complete and meet the town satisfaction into the following account

02-220-5244-101012	Fire Vehicle Exhaust	\$ 2.56
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Into the Fire Truck Stabilization Account

02-192-5240-101006	Natural Gas Generator	\$25,000.00
02-192-5240-101007	Town Hall Chimney Repairs	\$.00
02-210-5851-101011	Police Cruiser	\$ 730.33
02-422-5243-101019	Traffic Control System	\$ 1,042.50
02-422-5830-101017	N Main Street Sidewalk	\$ 591.10
02-422-5850-101030	Highway Line Painting Machine	\$.05
02-422-5853-101028	Highway F350 Replacement	\$11,840.72
02-434-5310-101022	Landfill Repairs	<u>\$23,858.69</u>

\$63,065.95

*Into the Stabilization Account or take any other action relative thereto.
The motion was second. The amendment was approved by majority.*

After much discussion a motion was made and second to move to question. The vote: unanimous approval.

Article 30

Voted 2/3 majority approval to close out the following articles and transfer the balances once the articles are complete and meet the town satisfaction into the following account

02-220-5244-101012	Fire Vehicle Exhaust	\$ 2.56
--------------------	----------------------	---------

Into the Fire Truck Stabilization Account

02-192-5240-101006	Natural Gas Generator	\$25,000.00
02-192-5240-101007	Town Hall Chimney Repairs	\$.00
02-210-5851-101011	Police Cruiser	\$ 730.33
02-422-5243-101019	Traffic Control System	\$ 1,042.50
02-422-5830-101017	N Main Street Sidewalk	\$ 591.10
02-422-5850-101030	Highway Line Painting Machine	\$.05
02-422-5853-101028	Highway F350 Replacement	\$11,840.72
02-434-5310-101022	Landfill Repairs	<u>\$23,858.69</u>

\$63,065.95

Into the Stabilization Account or take any other action relative thereto.

The meeting adjourned at 9:53 PM.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

WARRANT FOR 2018 STATE PRIMARY

SS.

To the Constables of the City/Town of West Brookfield

GREETINGS:

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 Primaries to vote at:

WARD 0, PRECINCT 1

SENIOR CENTER, 73 CENTRAL STREET

on **TUESDAY, THE FOURTH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2018**, from 7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. for the following purpose:

To cast their votes in the State Primaries for the candidates of political parties for the following offices:

SENATOR IN CONGRESS. FOR THIS
COMMONWEALTH
GOVERNOR. FOR THIS
COMMONWEALTH
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR. FOR THIS
COMMONWEALTH
ATTORNEY GENERAL. FOR THIS
COMMONWEALTH
SECRETARY OF STATE. FOR THIS
COMMONWEALTH
TREASURER AND RECEIVER GENERAL. FOR THIS
COMMONWEALTH
AUDITOR. FOR THIS
COMMONWEALTH
REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS. 2nd DISTRICT
COUNCILLOR. 7th DISTRICT

SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT WORCESTER,
HAMPDEN, HAMPSHIRE, & MIDDLESEX
DISTRICT
REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT 5th WORCESTER
DISTRICT
DISTRICT ATTORNEY MIDDLE DISTRICT
CLERK OF COURTS. WORCESTER COUNTY
REGISTER OF DEEDS. WORCESTER DISTRICT

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 _____, 2018.

A true copy attest:

Sarah J. Allen, Town Clerk

Selectmen of West Brookfield

POSTED ON THE TOWN CLERK’S OUTSIDE BULLETIN BOARD

_____, 2018.

Constable

DEMOCRATIC PARTY

SENATOR IN CONGRESS	Vote for one
ELIZABETH A. WARREN	231
BLANKS	32
WRITE INS	5
TOTAL	268

GOVERNOR	Vote for one	
JAY M. GONZALEZ		123
BOB MASSIE		85
BLANKS		49
WRITE INS		<u>11</u>
TOTAL		268

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR	Vote for one	
QUENTIN PALFREY		132
JIMMY TINGLE		71
BLANKS		60
WRITE INS		<u>5</u>
TOTAL		268

ATTORNEY GENERAL	Vote for one	
MAURA HEALEY		246
BLANKS		21
WRITE INS		<u>1</u>
TOTAL		268

SECRETARY OF STATE	Vote for one	
WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN		203
JOSH ZAKIM		55
BLANKS		9
WRITE INS		<u>1</u>
TOTAL		268

TREASURER	Vote for one	
DEBORAH B. GOLDBERG		224
BLANKS		44
WRITE INS		<u>0</u>
TOTAL		268

AUDITOR	Vote for one	
SUZANNE M. BUMP		223
BLANKS		45
WRITE INS		<u>0</u>
TOTAL		268

REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS	Vote for one	
JAMES P. MCGOVERN		233
BLANKS		34
WRITE INS		<u>1</u>
TOTAL		268

COUNCILLOR Vote for one

PAUL M. DEPALO	214
BLANKS	54
<u>WRITE INS</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	268

SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT Vote for one

ANNE M. GOBI	246
BLANKS	22
<u>WRITE INS</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	268

REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT Vote for one

JEAN ANNE STRAUSS	223
BLANKS	45
<u>WRITE INS</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	268

DISTRICT ATTORNEY Vote for one

JOSEPH D. EARLEY, JR.	235
BLANKS	32
<u>WRITE INS</u>	<u>1</u>
TOTAL	268

CLERK OF COURTS Vote for one

DENNIS P. MCMANIS	221
BLANKS	47
<u>WRITE INS</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	268

REGISTER OF DEEDS Vote for one

KATHRYN A. TOOMEY	227
BLANKS	40
<u>WRITE INS</u>	<u>1</u>
TOTAL	268

REPUBLICAN PARTY

SENATOR IN CONGRESS Vote for one

GEOFF DIEHL	98
JOHN HINGSTON	87
BETH JOYCE LINDSTROM	47
BLANKS	17
<u>WRITE INS</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	249

GOVERNOR Vote for one

CHARLES D. BAKER	143
SCOTT D. LIVELY	105
BLANKS	1
<u>WRITE INS</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	249

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR Vote for one

KARYN E. POLITO	193
BLANKS	54
<u>WRITE INS</u>	<u>2</u>
TOTAL	249

ATTORNEY GENERAL Vote for one

JAMES R. MACMAHON	129
DANIEL L. SHORES	77
BLANKS	43
<u>WRITE INS</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	249

SECRETARY OF STATE Vote for one

ANTHONY M. AMORE	176
BLANKS	71
<u>WRITE INS</u>	<u>2</u>
TOTAL	249

TREASURER Vote for one

KEIKO M. ORRALL	176
BLANKS	73
<u>WRITE INS</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	249

AUDITOR Vote for one

HELEN BRADY	177
BLANKS	72
<u>WRITE INS</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	249

REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS Vote for one

TRACY LYN LOVVORN	128
KEVIN WILLIAM POWERS	80
BLANKS	41
<u>WRITE INS</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	249

COUNCILLOR Vote for one

JENNIE L. CAISSIE	183
BLANKS	66
WRITE INS	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	249

SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT Vote for one

STEVEN R. HALL	191
BLANKS	58
WRITE INS	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	249

REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT Vote for one

DONALD R. BERTHEAUME	204
BLANKS	44
WRITE INS	<u>1</u>
TOTAL	249

DISTRICT ATTORNEY Vote for one

BLANKS	205
WRITE INS	<u>44</u>
TOTAL	249

CLERK OF COURTS Vote for one

JOANNE E. POWELL	173
BLANKS	76
WRITE INS	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	249

REGISTER OF DEEDS Vote for one

KATE D. CAMPANALE	159
KEVIN J. KUROS	62
BLANKS	28
WRITE INS	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	249

LIBERTARIAN PARTY

SENATOR IN CONGRESS Vote for one

BLANKS	0
WRITE INS	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	0

GOVERNOR Vote for one

BLANKS	0
WRITE INS	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	0

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR	Vote for one
BLANKS	0
WRITE INS	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	0

ATTORNEY GENERAL	Vote for one
BLANKS	0
WRITE INS	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	0

SECRETARY OF STATE	Vote for one
BLANKS	0
WRITE INS	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	0

TREASURER	Vote for one
BLANKS	0
WRITE INS	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	0

AUDITOR	Vote for one
DANIEL FISHMAN	0
BLANKS	0
WRITE INS	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	0

REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS	Vote for one
BLANKS	0
WRITE INS	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	0

COUNCILLOR	Vote for one
BLANKS	0
WRITE INS	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	0

SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT	Vote for one
BLANKS	0
WRITE INS	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	0

REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT	Vote for one
BLANKS	0
WRITE INS	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	0

DISTRICT ATTORNEY Vote for one
 BLANKS 0
 WRITE INS 0
 TOTAL 0

CLERK OF COURTS Vote for one
 BLANKS 0
 WRITE INS 0
 TOTAL 0

REGISTER OF DEEDS Vote for one
 BLANKS 0
 WRITE INS 0
 TOTAL 0

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

WARRANT FOR THE STATE ELECTION

SS.

To the Constables of the City/Town of West Brookfield

GREETINGS:

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

WARD 0, PRECINCT 1

SENIOR CENTER, 73 CENTRAL STREET

on **TUESDAY, THE SIXTH DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2018**, 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 and questions:

SENATOR IN CONGRESS.FOR THIS
 COMMONWEALTH
 GOVERNOR and LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR.FOR THIS
 COMMONWEALTH
 ATTORNEY GENERAL.FOR THIS
 COMMONWEALTH

SECRETARY OF STATE.	FOR THIS
COMMONWEALTH	
TREASURER AND RECEIVER GENERAL.	FOR THIS
COMMONWEALTH	
AUDITOR.	FOR THIS
COMMONWEALTH	
REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS.	2nd
DISTRICT	
COUNCILLOR.	
7thDISTRICT	
SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT	
WORCESTER, HAMPDEN,	
HAMPSHIRE, & MIDDLESEX	
	DISTRICT
REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT.	5th
WORCESTER DISTRICT	
DISTRICT ATTORNEY	MIDDLE
DISTRICT	
CLERK OF COURTS.	
WORCESTER COUNTY	
REGISTER OF DEEDS.	WORCESTER
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 2, 2018?

SUMMARY

This proposed law would limit how many patients could be assigned to each registered nurse in Massachusetts hospitals and certain other health care facilities. The maximum number of patients per registered nurse would vary by type of unit and level of care, as follows:

- In units with step-down/intermediate care patients: 3 patients per nurse;
- In units with post-anesthesia care or operating room patients: 1 patient under anesthesia per nurse; 2 patients post-anesthesia per nurse;
- In the emergency services department: 1 critical or intensive care patient per nurse (or 2 if the nurse has assessed each patient’s condition as stable); 2 urgent non-stable patients per nurse; 3 urgent stable patients per nurse; or 5 non-urgent stable patients per nurse;
- In units with maternity patients: (a) active labor patients: 1 patient per nurse; (b) during birth and for up to two hours immediately postpartum: 1 mother per nurse and

1 baby per nurse; (c) when the condition of the mother and baby are determined to be stable: 1 mother and her baby or babies per nurse; (d) postpartum: 6 patients per nurse; (e) intermediate care or continuing care babies: 2 babies per nurse; (f) well-babies: 6 babies per nurse;

- In units with pediatric, medical, surgical, telemetry, or observational/outpatient treatment patients, or any other unit: 4 patients per nurse; and
- In units with psychiatric or rehabilitation patients: 5 patients per nurse.

The proposed law would require a covered facility to comply with the patient assignment limits without reducing its level of nursing, service, maintenance, clerical, professional, and other staff.

The proposed law would also require every covered facility to develop a written patient acuity tool for each unit to evaluate the condition of each patient. This tool would be used by nurses in deciding whether patient limits should be lower than the limits of the proposed law at any given time.

The proposed law would not override any contract in effect on January 1, 2019 that set higher patient limits. The proposed law's limits would take effect after any such contract expired.

The state Health Policy Commission would be required to promulgate regulations to implement the proposed law. The Commission could conduct inspections to ensure compliance with the law. Any facility receiving written notice from the Commission of a complaint or a violation would be required to submit a written compliance plan to the Commission. The Commission could report violations to the state Attorney General, who could file suit to obtain a civil penalty of up to \$25,000 per violation as well as up to \$25,000 for each day a violation continued after the Commission notified the covered facility of the violation. The Health Policy Commission would be required to establish a toll-free telephone number for complaints and a website where complaints, compliance plans, and violations would appear.

The proposed law would prohibit discipline or retaliation against any employee for complying with the patient assignment limits of the law. The proposed law would require every covered facility to post within each unit, patient room, and waiting area a notice explaining the patient limits and how to report violations. Each day of a facility's non-compliance with the posting requirement would be punishable by a civil penalty between \$250 and \$2,500.

The proposed law's requirements would be suspended during a state or nationally declared public health emergency.

The proposed law states that, if any of its parts were declared invalid, the other parts would stay in effect. The proposed law would take effect on January 1, 2019.

A YES VOTE would limit the number of patients that could be assigned to one registered nurse in hospitals and certain other health care facilities.

A NO VOTE would make no change in current laws relative to patient-to-nurse limits.

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 2, 2018?

SUMMARY

This proposed law would create a citizens commission to consider and recommend potential amendments to the United States Constitution to establish that corporations do not have the same Constitutional rights as human beings and that campaign contributions and expenditures may be regulated.

Any resident of Massachusetts who is a United States citizen would be able to apply for appointment to the 15-member commission, and members would serve without compensation. The Governor, the Secretary of the Commonwealth, the state Attorney General, the Speaker of the state House of Representatives, and the President of the state Senate would each appoint three members of the commission and, in making these appointments, would seek to ensure that the commission reflects a range of geographic, political, and demographic backgrounds.

The commission would be required to research and take testimony, and then issue a report regarding (1) the impact of political spending in Massachusetts; (2) any limitations on the state's ability to regulate corporations and other entities in light of Supreme Court decisions that allow corporations to assert certain constitutional rights; (3) recommendations for constitutional amendments; (4) an analysis of constitutional amendments introduced to Congress; and (5) recommendations for advancing proposed amendments to the United States Constitution.

The commission would be subject to the state Open Meeting Law and Public Records Law. The commission's first report would be due December 31, 2019, and the Secretary of the Commonwealth would be required to deliver the commission's report to the state Legislature, the United States Congress, and the President of the United States.

The proposed law states that, if any of its parts were declared invalid, the other parts would stay in effect. The proposed law would take effect on January 1, 2019.

A YES VOTE would create a citizens commission to advance an amendment to the United States Constitution to limit the influence of money in elections and establish that corporations do not have the same rights as human beings.

A NO VOTE would not create this commission.

QUESTION 3: REFERENDUM ON AN EXISTING LAW

Do you approve of a law summarized below, which was approved by the House of Representatives and the Senate on July 7, 2016?

SUMMARY

This law adds gender identity to the list of prohibited grounds for discrimination in places of public accommodation, resort, or amusement. Such grounds also include race, color, religious creed, national origin, sex, disability, and ancestry. A “place of public accommodation, resort or amusement” is defined in existing law as any place that is open to and accepts or solicits the patronage of the general public, such as hotels, stores, restaurants, theaters, sports facilities, and hospitals. “Gender identity” is defined as a person’s sincerely held gender-related identity, appearance, or behavior, whether or not it is different from that traditionally associated with the person’s physiology or assigned sex at birth.

This law prohibits discrimination based on gender identity in a person’s admission to or treatment in any place of public accommodation. The law requires any such place that has separate areas for males and females (such as restrooms) to allow access to and full use of those areas consistent with a person’s gender identity. The law also prohibits the owner or manager of a place of public accommodation from using advertising or signage that discriminates on the basis of gender identity.

This law directs the state Commission Against Discrimination to adopt rules or policies and make recommendations to carry out this law. The law also directs the state Attorney General to issue regulations or guidance on referring for legal action any person who asserts gender identity for an improper purpose.

The provisions of this law governing access to places of public accommodation are effective as of October 1, 2016. The remaining provisions are effective as of July 8, 2016.

A YES VOTE would keep in place the current law, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of gender identity in places of public accommodation.

A NO VOTE would repeal this provision of the public accommodation law.

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 _____, 2018.

Selectmen of Town of West Brookfield

POSTED ON THE TOWN CLERK'S OUTSIDE BULLETIN BOARD

_____, 2018.
Constable

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

**STATE ELECTION RESULTS
NOVEMBER 6, 2018**

SENATOR IN CONGRESS	Vote for one
ELIZABETH A. WARREN	770
GEOFF DIEHL	896
SHIVA AYYADRAI	66
BLANKS	27
<u>WRITE INS</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	1759

GOVERNOR & LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR	Vote for one
BAKER & POLITO	1366
GONZALEZ & PALFREY	338

BLANKS	45
<u>WRITE INS</u>	<u>10</u>
TOTAL	1759

ATTORNEY GENERAL	Vote for one
MAURA HEALEY	927
JAMES R. MACMAHON	806
BLANKS	26
<u>WRITE INS</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	1759

SECRETARY OF STATE	Vote for one
WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN	1006
ANTHONY M. AMORE	667
JUAN G. SANCHES, JR.	41
BLANKS	45
<u>WRITE INS</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	1759

TREASURER	Vote for one
DEBORAH B. GOLDBERG	903
KEIKO M. ORRALL	718
JAMIE M. GUERIN	71
BLANKS	67
<u>WRITE INS</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	1759

AUDITOR	Vote for one
SUZANNE M. BUMP	801
HELEN BRADY	781
DANIEL FISHMAN	58
EDWAR J. STAMAS	52
BLANKS	67
<u>WRITE INS</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	1759

REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS	Vote for one
JAMES P. MCGOVERN	931
TRACY LYN LOVVORN	791
BLANKS	35
<u>WRITE INS</u>	<u>2</u>
TOTAL	1759

COUNCILLOR	Vote for one
PAUL M. DEPALO	697
JENNIE L. CAISSIE	993
BLANKS	68

WRITE INS	<u>1</u>
TOTAL	1759

SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT Vote for one

ANNE M. GOBI	1011
STEVEN R. HALL	736
BLANKS	12
WRITE INS	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	1759

REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT Vote for one

JEAN ANNE STRAUSS	765
DONALD R. BERTHEAUME	960
BLANKS	32
WRITE INS	<u>2</u>
TOTAL	1759

DISTRICT ATTORNEY Vote for one

JOSEPH D. EARLEY, JR.	1062
BLAKE J. RUBIN	597
BLANKS	99
WRITE INS	<u>1</u>
TOTAL	1759

CLERK OF COURTS Vote for one

DENNIS P. MCMANIS	896
JOANNE E. POWELL	790
BLANKS	73
WRITE INS	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	1759

REGISTER OF DEEDS Vote for one

KATHRYN A. TOOMEY	773
KATE D. CAMPONALE	917
BLANKS	69
WRITE INS	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	1759

QUESTION #1.

Yes	446
No	1261
BLANK	<u>52</u>
TOTAL	1759

QUESTION #2.

Yes	1092
No	600

BLANK	67
TOTAL	1759

QUESTION #3.

Yes	970
No	748
BLANK	41
TOTAL	1759

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah J. Allen, Town Clerk

TREASURER

Calendar Year End Balance

Balances of Cash/Investments -December 31, 2018	\$	2,950,605.70
Receipts - January 1 to December 31	\$	8,901,621.33
Transfers from Trust Fund to General Fund	\$	126,818.88
Payments per Warrants	\$	(9,093,816.62)
	\$	<u><u>2,885,229.29</u></u>

Cash Accounts as of December 31, 2018

Country Bank for Savings – General Fund	\$	444,252.69
Country Bank for Savings – Payroll Account	\$	50,000.00
Country Bank for Savings – Expense Account	\$	50,000.00
Country Bank for Savings – Deputy Collector	\$	52,312.27
Country Bank for Savings – Tax Collector	\$	88,525.03
Country Bank for Savings – Water Dept.	\$	137,990.84
Morgan Stanley Cash Account	\$	38,720.61
MMDT General Fund	\$	1,164,778.90
Century Bank – Tax Collect Lock Box	\$	105,291.71
Country Bank – 2-year Cash CD	\$	685,468.82
UniBank – Town Clerk Online Payments	\$	17,465.60
UniBank – Tax Collector Online Payments	\$	115,799.23
	\$	<u><u>2,950,605.70</u></u>

Trust Accounts as of Dec. 31, 2018 Cash Value

Country Bank Septic Rehab	\$	41,599.26
MMDT Trust	\$	59,937.26
MMT Bond	\$	8,255.20
Country Bank 2-year Trust CD	\$	46,429.14
Morgan Stanley Trust	\$	1,440,104.99
Morgan Stanley OPEB	\$	203,595.73
	\$	<u><u>1,799,921.58</u></u>

Tax Title Income 2018

Tax Title Redemptions & Payments	\$	187,197.91
Auction Receipts	\$	112,500.00
	\$	<u><u>299,697.91</u></u>

Respectfully submitted,
Teri Roberts, Town Treasurer

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 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 continue to be in good health. There are a number of trees that are reaching maturity and old age and are highly susceptible to insects, diseases, and severe weather. Once again, 2018 posed a very difficult year in regards to tree health, mortality, and weather conditions. A combination of trees that were planted and are not native to the area, old trees, gypsy moth, drought and excessive rain conditions, and windy events resulted in a number of trees dying throughout the town. In particular, white ash trees are rapidly declining in health and pose a safety and property threat.

The town continues to support the tree removal and replacement programs by allocating additional funding to respond to the tree mortality.

West Brookfield residents are becoming keenly aware of the town's hazardous trees and routinely report dead, dying, and dangerous trees and forest insects that are infesting trees and forests. Forest insects and diseases are adversely impacting sugar, red and Norway maple and white ash trees. Emerald ash borer, a highly destructive invasive species, continues to spread throughout Massachusetts and cause mortality to our white, green and black ash trees and gypsy most is severely impacting oaks and other trees. We are faced with a real challenge keeping up with the dying and hazardous trees which seem to increase as we experience severe and extreme weather conditions.

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

- Six (6) public shade trees were planted as part of the seventh Annual West Brookfield Arbor Day Tree Replacement Program. The West Brookfield's Elementary School and town Highway Department participated by planting the shade trees. The West

Brookfield Selectmen officially proclaimed and endorsed the Arbor Day Celebration. The Lion's Club donated funding for shade trees that were planted this year.

- The town removed approximately forty five (45) public shade trees that were deemed hazardous, dead, or dying including trees from both cemeteries.
- Ten (10) stumps were ground, topsoil replaced, and grass planted as remedial efforts to improve aesthetics in the downtown section of West Brookfield.
- A number of public shade trees had dead, dying or dangerous limbs pruned.
- The town's Highway Department with assistance from local tree service contractors and National Grid responded to weather events that posed public safety problems.
- National Grid removed four (4) large trees upon request because of their poor condition and threat to continuous electrical service.
- One hundred fifty-five (155) hazardous public shade trees were identified for removal because they were dead, dying or pose a public safety and personal property threat. . The list continues to grow as the public routinely call to report dead, dying, and hazardous trees.

There is a continued need to coordinate with West Brookfield's residents, conduct public shade tree inventory, remove hazardous trees, manage the town lands sustainably, and implement the Arbor Day Celebration and the tree replacement programs.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim DiMaio, Tree Warden

VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER

The Veterans Services Office for the Town of West Brookfield has continued to see a marked increase in requests for services in general and an increased interest in the various Veterans Administration Programs.

For our aging veterans, their spouses, and the widows of veterans, the physical impairments and the resulting medical costs area major concern. Both the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the Veterans Administration have available healthcare programs for those veterans who qualify.

Please contact the Veterans Services Officer at (508)344-5592 or drop by the office at the West Brookfield Senior Center on Wednesdays from 9:30 am until 12:00 pm or call to arrange an appointment at your home.

Last April, I had the pleasure of participating in a Veterans Town Hal Meeting in a nearby town. It was a pleasure to meet the veterans there, and to respond to their concerns; and to answer questions concerning disability claims, healthcare programs, and the overall application process. I am planning on conducting a Veterans Town Hall Meeting in West Brookfield prior to Memorial Day.

As always, it is both an extreme pleasure and honor to service those who have served our great nation.

Respectfully submitted,
Gary W. Lapine, Veterans' Service Officer

WATER DEPARTMENT

The Water Department is pleased to submit the following Annual Report for the year 2018. The Water Commissioners are Robert E. Benson, Chairman; Lester Paquette, Barry Nadon, Sr., Superintendent Wesley Cassavant; Andrew Tombor, Operator; and Jean Wrobel, Administrative Assistant.

The Water Department has donated water to the Recreation Committee for the new skating rink on the common. We hope everyone enjoys the efforts on the new skating rink this winter.

We have also added ten new services to the system, plus replaced 2 iron pipe services with new poly plastic line, one of the services was replaced on Thanksgiving Eve, every inconvenient and very cold night. We also fixed three leaks located in the system, one at the Wickaboag Boat Club, Poplar Street, and Villa Estates.

Operator Andrew Tombor has completed two classes for T2 and D2 licenses. He has submitted his applications for his licenses and is still waiting to hear from The Massachusetts Licensing Board. We are always updating our education to provide the best water quality and services.

We would like to remind customers that we have a handful left that still need new meters. The project is still ongoing. So, if you are a customer still needing your meter changed out, please call the office and make arrangements to have your meter updated.

We may be reached by calling (508) 867-1421 Ext. 306 or the Filtration Plant at (508) 867-1412.

We would like to thank the Highway Department for their help during the year.

Please feel free to call (508) 867-1412 with any questions you might have.

Respectfully submitted,
The West Brookfield Water Department

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

The Board meets the second Tuesday of each month at 6:00pm in the Lower Level Conference Rooms.

The Board was represented as follows:

Chairman – George Hibbard

Members – Kevin Dorman and Dick Ullman

Alternate Member – Doug Aspinall and Renee Adams White

The Board advises any applicants to purchase a Zoning Bylaw 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,

George Hibbard, Chairman

Kevin Dorman, Member

Dick Ullman, Member

Doug Aspinall, Alternate

Renee Adams White, Alternate

ZONING ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

Regular office hours were maintained to assist the Building Inspector to expedite permit required projects in assuring compliance to the Town of West Brookfield Zoning Bylaws. During the 2018 year, this office has taken and responded to 194 phone calls and 372 email requests.

Eighteen (18) projects were documented and referred to the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) for special permit or variance.

This office sent out ten (10) letters to property owners for either specific zoning infractions, inquiries or requesting that they comply with the Zoning Bylaws to avoid further action and possible fines or inquiry into complaint(s) received. In most cases, these infractions were corrected immediately however, in some cases, further communication and follow up was needed and some required working with other boards to resolve the issue at hand. It was necessary to involve and utilize Town Counsel for three of these cases to acquire legal opinion. One in particular required Town Counsel to respond to the home owner in the form of legal letters in order to bring the issue to a close. Another issue is still outstanding as we are continuing to work with legal to reach closure.

Two (2) projects were fined a total \$150 for starting without first applying for and acquiring a building permit from our office.

Cooperation and compliance with zoning bylaws, decisions of the Zoning Enforcement Officer, ZBA, Planning Board and respect for neighbors is appreciated and helps to reduce the cost to the Town of West Brookfield when issues can be settled without the need for Town Counsel.

Copies of the Town of West Brookfield Zoning Bylaws are available from the Town Clerk or they may be viewed or printed from the town web site.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary M. Simeone, Zoning Enforcement Officer

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