

# Town of Goshen

Massachusetts

## 2023 Annual Town Report



Reports through December 2023

Financials based on Fiscal Year 2023

July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023

## **Dedication to the Heartbeats of Our Hilltown:**

In the tapestry of our Hilltown life, there are countless threads of dedication and resilience woven by the hands of our dedicated staff and volunteers. To each of the 80+ individuals who have selflessly given their time, energy, and passion to the betterment of our town and community, we extend our deepest gratitude.

From routine meetings, developing policies, to organizing community events and supporting our most vulnerable members, your unwavering commitment and tireless efforts have helped to shape the very essence and personality of our town. Over time the hope is that it will continue to foster a sense of belonging and unity that will reverberate in conversations from our historic town hall to our transfer, fire and police stations, over our paved and unpaved roads, to each home.

In the quiet moments and bustling days, you stand as beacons of light, illuminating the path towards a brighter future for all who call this place home. As we reflect on the achievements of the past year, it is with humility and admiration that we acknowledge the invaluable contributions of each and every one of you.

To all our incredible staff and volunteers, and those who are now with us in spirit only, you are the heartbeats of our Town, gifting kindness, compassion, and unwavering dedication. Your contributions are recognized and we thank you for all that you do.

With our deepest appreciation,

The Select Board

Angela Otis , Chair

Peri Hall, Vice-Chair

Kristine Bissell, Clerk

Table of Contents

Dedication----- 0

Table of Contents----- 1

Facts of Interest about Goshen----- 2

National, State, and County Officials----- 2

Goshen Elected & Appointed Officials, Committees and Employees FY 2023----- 3

Town Contacts and Office Hours----- 6

Animal Control & Inspection----- 7

Animal Inspector----- 8

Board of Assessors----- 9

Board of Health----- 10

Board of Health - Foothills Health Agent----- 11

Building Inspection Department----- 12

Capital Planning----- 13

Cemetery Report----- 14

Community Preservation Committee----- 15

Conservation Commission----- 16

Council On Aging----- 16

Cultural Council----- 18

Emergency Management----- 19

Finance Committee----- 20

Fire Department----- 22

Highland Ambulance EMS, Inc.----- 24

Highway Department----- 25

Hilltown Resource Management Cooperative (HRMC)----- 26

Historical Commission----- 27

Municipal Light Plant Report----- 28

Open Space Committee----- 29

Planning Board----- 30

Police Department----- 31

Public Library----- 34

Recreation Commision----- 34

Select Board----- 36

Schools – Hampshire Regional District – Superintendent Report----- 37

Schools - Hampshire Regional High School----- 39

Schools - New Hingham Regional Elementary School District----- 43

Tax Collector----- 45

Tilton Town Farm Supervisors----- 46

Town Accountant----- 46

Town Clerk----- 59

Town Meeting Warrant and Minutes (ATM & STM)----- 60

Treasurer----- 73

Tree Warden----- 75

Veterans Service----- 75

Zoning Board of Appeals----- 76

## **Facts of Interest about Goshen**

[www.goshen-ma.us](http://www.goshen-ma.us)

### **History**

Goshen was first settled in 1761 as a part of the Town of Chesterfield. It was officially incorporated as the Town of Goshen on May 14, 1781.

1761 Original settlement  
1781 Incorporated

### **Points of Interest**

D.A.R. State Forest  
Camp Howe Summer Camp  
Home of Goshen building stone (schist)  
Goshen Historical Museum  
Goshen Town Hall is on the National Register of Historic Places

### **Location**

Located in Hampshire County, centrally 13 miles west of the Connecticut River in the Berkshire foothills.

### **Latitude and Longitude of Town Hall**

42.44°N 72.81°W

### **Elevation**

1450 ft (442 m) above sea level

### **Area**

17.7 square miles 11,328 acres

### **Local Form of Government and Voting**

Open Town Meeting / Select Board  
Annual Town Caucus - 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday in April  
Annual Town Meeting – 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday in May  
Annual Election – 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday in June  
Goshen residents at least 18 years old with US  
Citizenship may register to vote at Town Clerk's Office,  
motor vehicle registration renewal, or the State election website.

### **Population/Demographics**

2023 Local Census 950  
Federal Census 2020 960  
Federal Census 2010 1,054  
Federal Census 2000 921  
Labor Force 2020 615  
Labor Force 2019 680  
Unemployment Rate: 3.7%  
2020 Income per Capita \$16,413

### **Road Miles (not including DAR State Forest) 38.23**

Town Roads – 24.44 miles  
State Roads – 7.37 miles  
Private Roads – 6.42 miles

### **Property Tax Information**

FY 2023: \$14.79 (per thousand of assessed property value)  
FY 2023 Average Single-Family Tax Bill: \$4,353  
FY 2023 Average Property Valuation: \$294,321  
FY 2023 Total Town Valuation: 2.5MM

## **National, State, and County Officials**

### **Governor & Lt. Governor**

Maura Healey, Governor  
Kim Driscoll Lt. Governor  
Office of the Governor  
State House, Room 280 Boston, MA 02133  
617-725-4005 [www.mass.gov/gov](http://www.mass.gov/gov)

### **Secretary of the Commonwealth**

William Francis Galvin  
One Ashburton Place Boston, MA 02108  
617-727-7030 [www.sec.state.ma.us](http://www.sec.state.ma.us)

### **Attorney General**

Andrea Campbell  
One Ashburton Place Boston, MA 02108  
617-727-8400 [www.mass.gov/ago](http://www.mass.gov/ago)

### **United States Senators**

Edward J. Markey  
1500 Main St, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Springfield, MA 01103  
413-785-4610 [www.markey.senate.gov/](http://www.markey.senate.gov/)  
Elizabeth Warren  
1550 Main St, Suite 406  
Springfield, MA 01103  
413-788-2690 [www.warren.senate.gov/](http://www.warren.senate.gov/)

### **Representative in Congress** 2nd Congressional District

Jim McGovern  
94 Pleasant Street, Northampton, MA 01060  
413-341-8700 <https://mcgovern.house.gov/>

### **State Senator** Berkshire/Hampshire/Franklin/Hampden

Paul Mark  
State House, Room 70 Boston, MA 02133  
617-772-1625 [Paul.Mark@masenate.gov](mailto:Paul.Mark@masenate.gov)  
District Office Phone  
413-464-5635

### **State Representative** 1<sup>st</sup> Hampshire District

Lindsay Sabadosa  
State House, Room 160 Boston, MA 02133  
(617) 722-2304  
District Office: 76 Gothic St. Northampton, MA 01060  
(413) 270-1166

### **District Attorney**

David E. Sullivan – Hampshire/Franklin District  
1 Gleason Plaza Northampton, MA 01060  
413-586-9225

**Goshen Elected & Appointed Officials, Committees and Employees FY 2023**

**Almoners (3-year term)**

Kristine Bissell (Chair) (2024)  
 Henrietta Munroe (2025)  
 Sabrina McGill (2026)

**Board of Assessors (3-year term)**

Diane Bushee (2025)  
 Gina Papineau (2024)  
 Paula Pedersen (2026)

**Board of Health (3-year term)**

Tiffany Marcinek (Chair) (2024)  
 Laura Barrus (2025)  
 Joshua Lafond (2026)

**Board of Library Trustees (3-year term)**

Andrew B Watt (Chair) (2024)  
 Rosemary Bienz (2026)  
 Jane McGrath (appointed 06/2023)  
 Steve Daiber (2025)  
 Melanie Dana (2025)  
 Roxanne Cunningham (2024)

**Finance Committee (3-year term)**

Dawn Scaparotti -Chair (2026)  
 Kristine Bissell (2025)  
 Mary Packard (2026)  
 Gina Papineau (2025)  
 Angela Otis (2024)

**Moderator (2-year term)**

Keith Wright (2024)

**Planning Board (5-year term)**

James Barrett -Chair (2027)  
 Julie Hooks (2025)  
 Gary Griswold (2024)  
 Robert Raymond (2026)  
 VACANT (2028)

**School Committee -Hampshire Regional (3-year term)**

Paul Marcinek (2026)

**School Committee - New Hingham Regional Elementary School (3 year term )**

Heather Crocker Aulenback (2026)  
 Barton Gage (2024)  
 Carla Raymond (2025)

**Select Board (3-year term)**

Angela Otis- Chair (2024)  
 Kristine Bissell (2026)  
 Peri Hall (2025)

**Town Clerk (3-year term)**

Kristen Estelle (2024)

**Tilton Town Farm Supervisors (1-year term)**

Richard K. Polwrek (Chair) (2024)  
 Roger Culver (2024)  
 Robert O. Goss (2024)

**Animal Control Officer (1-year term)**

Kelli Wainscott (2023)

**Animal Control Officer Back-Up (1-year term)**

Warren Kirkpatrick (2023)

**Animal Inspector (1-year term)**

Nick Cockoros (2023)

**Assistant Assessor (indefinite appointed by Board of Assessors)**

Gina Papineau (2023)

**Assessor's Clerk (1-year term)**

Pat Morey (2023)

**Assistant Town Clerk (1-year term)**

Gina Papineau (2023)

**Board of Health - Special Public Health Pandemic Liaison**

Michael Kurland

**Board of Registrars (3-year term)**

John Bienz (2024)  
 Rose-Marie Carr (2025)  
 Connie Schwaiger (2023)

**Capital Planning Committee (3-year term)**

Gina Papineau (2024)  
 Todd Dewkett (2024)  
 Dawn Scaparotti (2025)  
 Gary Griswold (2026)  
 Vacant

**Goshen Appointed Officials, Committees and Employees, - FY 2023 - cont.**

**Cemetery Superintendent (1-year term)**

Roger Culver (2023)

**Certified Public Weighers (1-year term)**

Vacant

**Community Compact Program (1-year term)**

Vacant

**Community Preservation Committee (1-year term)**

Sandra Papush –Chair, Conservation (2023)

James Barrett—Planning Board (2023)

Joan Griswold – Recreation (2023)

Pat Morey – Open Space (2023)

John Otis- At Large (2023)

Joe Roberts – Historical (2023)

Vacant – Community Housing

**Conservation Commission (3-year term)**

Charles Amo - Chair (2025)

Tom Cairns (2023)

Michael Duquette (2024)

Sandra Papush (2024)

Vacant

**Constable (2-year term)**

Charlie Amo (2024)

Nick Cockoros (2023)

**Council on Aging (3-year term)**

Kathryn Boisvert (2024)

Lorraine Brisson (2023)

Henrietta Munroe (2025)

Kerry Normandin (2023)

Nancy Wood (2023)

Patrice Woodward (2025)

**Cultural Council (3-year term)**

Nancy Wood- Chair (2025)

Jane O’Riordan (2023)

Marya Zilberberg (2025)

Rose Marie Carr (2023)

Carla Raymond (2024)

**Custodian for Town Properties (3-year term)**

Allan Kidston (2024)

**Custodian**

Ronald Loven, Jr.

**Election Warden (1-year term)**

Evelyn Kellogg-Culver (2023)

Shannon Wade (2023)

**Electrical Inspector (1-year term)**

Curt Golec (2023)

**Emergency Management Director (1-year term)**

Larry Holmberg (2023)

**Emergency Response Coordinator (1-year term)**

Larry Holmberg (2023)

**Fence Viewers (1-year term)**

Vacant

Vacant

**Field Driver (1-year term)**

Vacant

**Fire Chief (1-year term)**

Cameron Lacey (2023)

**Fire Warden (1-year term)**

Cameron Lacey (2023)

**Flood Plan Administrator**

Larry Holmberg (2023)

**Health Agent (appointed by Board of Health)**

Mark Bushee

**Historical Commission (3-year term)**

Joe Roberts- Chair (2024)

Sandra Greenwood (2024)

Ed Greenwood (2023)

Vacant

Vacant

**Highway Department Superintendent (1-year term)**

Todd Dewkett (2023)

**Highway Department Personnel**

Philp Culver

Christopher Rooney

**HRMC Director (1-year term)**

Linda Cernik

**HRMC Representative (1-year term)**

Laura Barrus (2023)

Vacant

**Inspector of Buildings (1-year term)**

Phil Harris (2023)

**Inspector of Buildings Clerk (1-year term)** (2023)

Patricia Morey

**Legal Counsel (1-year term)**

KP Law

**Goshen Appointed Officials, Committees and Employees, FY 2023 cont.**

**Library Director (Acting)**

Julie Cavacco (2023)

**Library Aide (appointed by Library Trustees)**

Vacant

**Minute Taker (Interim)**

Linda Clapp

**Municipal Light Plant Manager (1-year term)**

Wayne Glaser (2023)

**Municipal Coordinator for the Enhanced 911 System**

Cameron Lacey (2023)

**Open Space Committee (1-year term)**

Lorraine Brisson (2023)

Melanie Dana (2023)

Jane Hillman (2023)

Patricia Morey (2023)

Sandra Papush (2023)

**Pioneer Valley Planning Commission Rep (1-year term)**

Vacant

Vacant

**Plumbing and Gas Inspector (1-year term)**

Donald Lawton (2023)

**Police Chief (Acting, 1-year term)**

Fred Bezio (2023)

**Police Sargent (1-year term)**

William Bissell (2023)

**Police Department Administrative Assistant (1-year term)**

Vacant

**Police Officers (1-year term)**

Beth Bezio (2023)

Eric Haiberman (2023)

**Recreation Commission (1-year term)**

Talon Zdaniewicz—Chair (2023)

Roger Culver (2023)

Joan Griswold (2023)

Vacant

**Route 112 Advisory Representative (1-year term)**

Vacant

**Town Accountant (1-year term)**

Eric Kinsherf (2023)

**Town Administrator**

Dawn Scaparotti

**Town Collector (1-year term)**

Eric Moulton (2023)

**Assistant Town Collector (1-year term)**

Maya Bachman (2023)

**Town Treasurer (3-year term)**

Allan Kidston (2024)

**Assistant Treasurer (1-year term)**

Maya Bachman (2023)

**Transfer Station Technician**

Timothy Hogan

**Assistant Transfer Station Technician**

Dustin Mollison

**Tree Warden (3-year term)**

Robert Goss (2025)

**Trench Permit Issuing Authority (1-year term)**

Todd Dewkett (2023)

**Veterans Agent (1-year term)**

Vacant

**Zoning Board of Appeals (3-year term)**

William O’Riordan—Chair (2024)

Roger Culver, Alternate (2025)

Steve Estelle (2025)

Vacant

Kelly Loven (2023)

Kimberly Rida (2023)

Vacant

## Town Contacts and Office Hours

*\* Meeting/Office Hours Subject to Change - Check website for latest information*

### Animal Control Officer/Animal Inspector

24/7 Dispatch: 413-586-1508

### Board of Assessors

413-268-8236 ext. 302

*Office Hours – Tuesday 8 AM – 2 PM*

*Meetings Wednesday 6:30 PM*

### Board of Health

413-268-8236 ext. 110

*Meetings 1<sup>st</sup> Monday 6 PM*

### Building Department

Inspector of Buildings 413-268-8236 ext. 116

Electrical Inspector 413-320-1156

Plumbing/Gas Inspector 413-268-7487

*Office Hours –*

*Mon 5 PM – 7 PM, Weds 1:30-5:30 PM*

### Conservation Commission

413-268-8236 est. 451

*Meetings – 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday 6 PM*

### Council on Aging

413- 268-8236 ext. 118

*Luncheon – 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday Noon in Town Hall Meetings – Last*

*Tuesday 1 PM*

### Finance Committee

*Meetings 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday 6 PM*

### Fire Department

56 Main Street

Emergency 911

Business 413-268-7161

### Hampshire Regional School District

19 Stage Road

Westhampton, MA 01027

Superintendent 413-527-7200

### Hampshire Regional High School

19 Stage Road

Westhampton, MA 01027

413-527-7680

*School Committee Meetings 1<sup>st</sup> Monday 7 PM*

### New Hingham Elementary School

30 Smith Road

Chesterfield, MA 01012

413-296-0000

*School Committee Meetings 1<sup>st</sup> Wed. 5:30 PM*

### Highland Ambulance

12 Williams Drive

Emergency 911

Business 413-268-7272

### Highway Department

8 Highland Road

413-268-7062

### Historical Museum

48 Main Street

413-268-7562

### Library Board of Trustees

413-268-8236 ex 111

*Library Hours –*

*Wed 2– 6 PM, Thurs 10am-2pm, Sat 10 AM – 2 PM*

*Meetings – 3rd Wednesday 5 PM*

### Planning Board

413-268-8236

*Meetings – 1<sup>st</sup> Monday 6 PM*

### Police Department

40 Main Street

Emergency 911

Business 568-3116

Dispatch 586-1508

### Recreation Department

413-923-8084

*Meetings – 2nd Wednesday*

### Select Board/Town Administrator

413-268-8236 ext. 301

*Meetings – 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays 5:30 PM*

### Tax Collector

413-268-8236 ext. 106

*Office Hours – Wednesday 5 – 7PM*

### Town Clerk

413-268-8236 ext. 107

*Office Hours – Monday 8:30 AM– 2:30 PM, 6– 8 PM*

### Town Treasurer

413-268-8236 ext. 108

*Office Hours – Monday 5 – 7 PM*

### Transfer Station

18 Wing Hill Road

(413) 268 8236 ext. 110

*Open Saturday 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM*

### Veterans Agent

413-587-1299

### Voter Registration

413-268-8236 ext. 107

Town Clerk's Office

*Monday 8:30 AM – 2:30 PM, 6 – 8 PM*

Registration deadline 10 days before election



## Animal Control & Inspection

### **2023 CALLS FOR SERVICE & ACO / ANIMAL INSPECTOR INITIATED ACTIVITY:**

|                            |    |                            |    |
|----------------------------|----|----------------------------|----|
| Alleged Neglect Reports    | 2  | Stray Domestic             | 1  |
| Licensing Enforcement      | 5  | Dog Complaints/Leash Law   | 12 |
| Animal Bites & Quarantines | 2  | Hit & Runs                 | 2  |
| Loose Livestock            | 17 | Domestic Animal Intakes    | 0  |
| Assist Other Agency Calls  | 20 | Wildlife Complaints        | 12 |
| Missing Domestic           | 11 | Follow-up Invests          | 30 |
| Kennel Inspections         | 1  | Wildlife Intakes           | 2  |
| Sick/Injured Wildlife      | 7  | Livestock tag Confirmation | 1  |
| Hearings/Trials            | 0  | Ongoing investigations     | 2  |

**TOTAL: 127**

#### **KENNEL LICENSES:**

Beginning in 2020, anyone with 5 or more dogs is required to obtain a kennel license in town (even if it is for private/personal use). Prior to obtaining a kennel license from the Town Clerk, a kennel inspection must be conducted by the Animal Control Officer. Anyone needing to schedule a kennel inspection should contact the ACO at [aco@townofchesterfieldma.com](mailto:aco@townofchesterfieldma.com) to schedule an appointment or to have any questions or concerns answered prior to licenses expiring this spring.

#### **DISEASE/RABIES CONTROL:**

All quarantines were successfully completed. There were no rabies cases in 2023. More information on rabies can be found at [www.mass.gov/rabies](http://www.mass.gov/rabies).

#### **REPORT WRITING AND INVESTIGATIONS:**

In 2023, we had two major cases in which the police department, the selectboard and other entities had to be involved. The first case was the C.Delp Goat Case in which two goats were purchased and then released at the DAR. The individual that had released the goats became very difficult to deal with and had also been arrested and involved with law enforcement multiple times from June 2023 until September of 2023. I actively pursued a restraining order due to threats and harassment, and was ultimately denied. C. Delp was eventually blocked from my personal cell phone and Chief Bezio was of enormous assistance in getting this case to court. In total, I worked on this case for 62 hours. This does not include the care and custody of both goats to keep them healthy and safe until they were adopted out.

Our second major case was the C.Ferrante Pig Case. This case began when the State was alerted to a group of pigs at the residence owned by T.Barrus. The pigs were very large and not fenced in, therefore we were taking reports of pigs being found wandering in the road and in private yards. Several agencies were involved, and eventually all the pigs (almost 30) were removed from the property. This case went from November 2023 until January of 2024. In total, I worked on this case for 57 hours. This includes the feeding of the pigs, phone calls, report writing and meetings. With the assistance of the town, we were able to resolve this case without court proceedings.

#### **CONTACTING ANIMAL CONTROL:**

In the event of an emergency, residents should dial 9-1-1. For urgent situations requiring immediate attention or assistance, residents are asked to call Mass State Police Dispatch (Northampton Control) who will page out the

ACO and/or Police Department. Routine inquiries can be e-mailed to the ACO at [aco@townofchesterfieldma.com](mailto:aco@townofchesterfieldma.com). Animal Control can also be found on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/chesterfieldanimalcontrol> where lost & found pets are frequently posted along with helpful tips for residents.

Respectfully Submitted,  
**ACO Kelli Wainscott**  
**Animal Control Officer Town Of Goshen**  
**(413) 586-1508 (24/7 Dispatch)**  
[aco@townofchesterfieldma.com](mailto:aco@townofchesterfieldma.com)

**Animal Inspector**

The Select Board nominates an Animal Inspector annually and the State Division of Animal Health appoints the Animal Inspector, as it does for every city and town in the Commonwealth. The primary duty of the Animal Inspector is rabies control in the domestic animal population.

The Animal Inspector works closely with the Animal Control Officer when there is a rabies concern, especially because of an animal bite. In such cases, the Animal Control Officer will contact the Animal Inspector. Any domestic mammal, which bites a human or animal, must be quarantined to determine the risk of rabies transmission. The Animal Inspector initiates and releases the quarantine. The Animal Inspector has the authority and responsibility to quarantine any animal.

The Animal Inspector is also responsible for barn inspections and may be called to assist with domestic animal disease quarantines in the event of an outbreak. The barn inspections are typically done in the late summer/early fall and must be completed by January 1. The purpose of inspections, in addition to getting a good count of the domestic animal population, is to ensure the health and welfare of the animals.

For 2023, I observed 373 healthy animals within 28 farms in the Town of Goshen. They were apportioned in the following categories:

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| ● 290 Chickens     | ● 32 Waterfowl                                |
| ● 0 Turkey         | ● 5 Peacocks                                  |
| ● 2 Llamas/Alpacas | ● 5 Oxen                                      |
| ● 36 Horses        | ● 37 Cattle (22 Beef, 9 Dairy, 4 Steers)      |
| ● 24 Goats         | ● 26 Swine (8 Piglets, 6 Feeders, 3 Breeders) |
| ● 16 Sheep         | ● 0 Rabbits                                   |
| ● 4 Donkeys        | <b>TOTAL Animals: 477</b>                     |

These observations were reported to the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources in December within the 2023 Farm Inspection Booklet for the Town of Goshen.

Respectfully submitted,  
 Nicholas Cockoros, Animal Inspector

**Board of Assessors**

This year the Assessors’ Office brings change to the Town of Goshen and FY 2023 was a better year in the Assessor’s office. The Assessor’s field work moved along with 108 inspections completed. The Board appreciates the warmth, understanding and hospitality that was and is continued to be extended to us by our neighbors when we arrive to measure, list or inspect their homes and other buildings under these unprecedented times. These state mandated inspections help us to correct any errors or omissions that may exist on the property record cards and maintain a consistency within the town. We strive to maintain our records in the most correct and complete form possible.

The Board of Assessors is not only responsible for all the real property in town; it is also responsible to assess the personal property in the town as well. As always the Board of Assessors must abide by the rules issued by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue.

Each year, just before the tax rate is set, the Selectboard must hold a Classification Hearing that is advertised and open to the public, during which the assessors make a presentation recommending either a split rate or a single rate. Each year we have recommended a single rate. All property in Goshen that is assessed uses the same tax rate whether it is residential, commercial, industrial or personal.

Summary of 2021, 2022 and 2023:

|  | <b>FY2021</b>         | <b>FY2022</b>         | <b>FY2023</b>         |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <u>Local Expenditures:</u>                             |                       |                       |                       |
| Appropriations   | \$2,728,677.80        | \$2,856,877.89        | \$2,908,244.87        |
| Cherry Sheet Offsets                                   | \$2,374.00            | \$3,173.00            | \$3,847.00            |
| Debt & Interest Charges                                | \$2,976.00            | \$0.00                | \$0.00                |
| State & Cherry Sheet Charges                           | \$1,968.00            | \$2,308.00            | \$2,181.00            |
| Assessors' Overlay                                     | \$19,764.69           | \$28,098.76           | \$12,507.87           |
| <b>Gross Amount to be Raised</b>                       | <b>\$2,755,760.49</b> | <b>\$2,890,457.65</b> | <b>\$2,926,780.74</b> |
| <u>Estimated Receipts and Available Funds:</u>         |                       |                       |                       |
| Cherry Sheet Estimated Receipts                        | \$251,556.00          | \$263,076.00          | \$286,507.00          |
| Local Estimated Receipts                               | \$212,700.00          | \$217,700.00          | \$245,000.00          |
| Free Cash  | \$225,675.00          | \$199,050.22          | \$364,958.00          |
| Other Available Funds                                  | \$55,163.10           | \$130,815.37          | \$50,821.26           |
| <b>Total Estimated Receipts &amp; Available Funds:</b> | <b>\$745,094.10</b>   | <b>\$810,641.59</b>   | <b>\$947,286.26</b>   |
| Gross Amount to be Raised                              | \$3,615,281.48        | \$3,819,674.48        | \$4,402,077.13        |
| Total Estimated Receipts & Available Funds             | -\$745,094.10         | -\$810,641.59         | -\$947,286.26         |
| <b>Net Amount to be Raised</b>                         | <b>\$2,870,187.38</b> | <b>\$3,009,032.89</b> | <b>\$3,454,790.87</b> |
| Real Property Values                                   | \$2,651,719.38        | \$2,766,487.16        | \$2,827,013.09        |
| Personal Property Values                               | \$76,958.00           | \$90,390.73           | \$81,231.78           |
| <b>Total Tax Levy</b>                                  | <b>\$2,728,677.38</b> | <b>\$2,856,877.89</b> | <b>\$2,908,244.87</b> |
| Tax Rate   | \$16.61               | \$16.13               | \$14.79               |
| Fiscal Year 2024 Tax Rate is \$14.74 per thousand.     |                       |                       |                       |

The Board continues to meet each Wednesday evening beginning at 6:00 PM. You are always welcome to stop in at our meeting or contact us at (413) 268-8236, extension 302; voicemail is available or feel free to email us at [assessors@goshen-ma.us](mailto:assessors@goshen-ma.us). During the summer months of June, July, August and part of September, the Board is usually out inspecting on the first, second and third Wednesday of each month.

Respectfully submitted:  
Gina M. Papineau, MAA  
Diane E. Bushee

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### Board of Health

Membership: Tiffany Marcinek served as the Chair of the Board of Health. Laura Barrus and Joshua Lafond were members of the BOH. Michael Kurland continued in his role as Coordinator for COVID-19 activities and Special Liaison to the Board of Health. The Board has been very active this past year related to a number of issues. One of the major issues includes septic system approvals and protection of our waterways, particularly in a time of climate change. We have had several meetings related to the approval of septic systems at houses on lakes and need to review our bylaws and regulations in order to better protect our fragile environment. Our biggest challenge this past year was the volume of work which needed to be accomplished and the lack of clerical/administrative support, as we are all volunteers.

Transfer station: Staffed by two employees and open on Saturdays, the transfer station has operated successfully with few problems. We passed our required annual inspection. We fulfilled all of the requirements of our RDP grant, attended all HRMC meetings and fulfilled all data submission requirements. Linda Cernik, the HRMC administrator, has been doing a wonderful job. We continue to participate in the State's RDP program which provides thousands of dollars of funds for the Town each year in return for promoting excellent recycling protocols and practices. We continue to explore new ways of reducing compacted waste disposal but some methods require capital expenses in order to accomplish them. We continue to review all practices and vendors for effectiveness and cost efficiency. We are currently reviewing the fee structure as costs continue to rise. Fees have not been increased for the past 8 years.

Budget: BOH has spent many hours reviewing all aspects of the budget with Dawn Scaparotti and assuring that our funding can cover all aspects of accomplishing our many responsibilities in an effective and efficient manner. This continues to be a challenge, as the expectations of a local BOH continue to increase and identified needs still include clerical support. The cost of transfer station items such as hauling, solid waste removal and recycling has finally stabilized. The cost of public health services has remained stable for the past 2 years due to our membership in the Foothills Health District (FHD) and its success in obtaining major State grants.

Health Agent/Foothills Health District: The services of the Health Agent are provided under contract through the Foothills Health District (Goshen, Williamsburg, Westhampton and Whately). Mark Bushee is the Director of Health of the FHD and is responsible for inspections of septic systems, wells, housing, camps, restaurants, etc and all are up to date. He was also responsible for coordinating the public health response to COVID-19 and other health threats. The FHD has been receiving a Public Health Excellence Grant and as a result has expanded the number of staff and menu of services and has been able at the same time keep the Town's assessments at last year's level. This year the FHD received approximately \$430,000/year in grant funding which will continue for at least the next 3 years. Additional funding and staff have enabled us to perform various health indicator and public health assessments, expand staffing, digitize all records, initiate PH nurse clinics, offer vaccination clinics, and initiate online permitting. The BOH and FHD web pages will soon be enhanced with additional features. We are also reviewing the best way to collaboratively spend our Opioid settlement funds and provide mandated tobacco control inspections.

Public Health Preparedness: Goshen BOH members attended meetings of the HPHPC and the Goshen Emergency Planning Committee and have participated in readiness drills.

Landfill: We worked with the Select board, Tighe and Bond (Engineers), the DEP and the Conservation Committee to assure that the landfill project is being monitored and maintained.

COVID-19 Pandemic response: The major challenge we faced in the past few years of performing multiple public health functions related to outbreak management and containment as necessitated by the COVID-19 pandemic has fortunately transitioned to a prevention/surveillance and preparation function. We have remained in contact with many Towns and MADPH even though contact tracing is no longer in effect. We continue to maintain necessary PPE, supplies and resources provided by the State which are necessary for any public health emergency. We have continued to obtain free COVID test kits and distribute them to the public.

Lessons learned: It takes a full team effort to assure the public health of our citizens, particularly during any type of outbreak or public health emergency. We discovered that fully meeting our statutory obligations requires additional collaborative agreements, funding by the State, additional staffing to assure resiliency and a robust and diverse Board. The State has recently revised and expanded the mandates of local Boards of Health and we must be able to meet those expectations. Additional qualified residents must join the BOH to assure its effectiveness and ability to respond. Additionally we learned that the Massachusetts DPH does NOT have the personnel or resources to assist us in an emergency. The BOH is legally responsible for carrying out the directives of the Commonwealth, which provides guidance, grant funding, and training. We implement the directives.

We must assure that our BOH is poised to provide that level of service.

Submitted by: Tiffany Marcinek & Michael Kurland

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### **Board of Health - Foothills Health Agent**

During 2023, the Department issued 2 Beach Permits, 2 Campgrounds for Children permits, 6 Septic System Permits, 8 Septic Installers, 8 Food Permits, 1 Refuse Haulers, 1 Tobacco Permit, 9 Septic Pumpers and 3 Wells. We also witnessed 4 Perc Tests and 8 Septic System Inspections.

A total of \$10,450.00 was collected in fees.

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

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

We can be reached at 413-268-8404. Office hours are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 8 AM to 3 PM. Written messages or mail should be directed to me at P.O. Box 447 Haydenville, MA 01039, or via email at [Foothills@Burgy.org](mailto:Foothills@Burgy.org). I look forward to another productive year.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mark R. Bushee  
Health Director  
Foothills Health District

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### Building Inspection Department

In fiscal year 2023 (July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023), the Building Department issued 76 permits including 4 inspections of places of assembly.

Breakdown of permits issued:

|                           |    |   |   |
|---------------------------|----|---|---|
| ● New construction        | 3  | ● Decks/porches                                 | 2 |
| ● Windows/siding/doors    | 9  | ● Additions/remodels                            | 7 |
| ● Roofs                   | 9  | ● Miscellaneous (demos, foundation, pools etc.) | 4 |
| ● Solar                   | 16 | ● Garage/barns/storage                          | 3 |
| ● Wood stove installation | 5  | ● Periodic Inspections                          | 4 |
| ● Insulation              | 14 |   |   |

Total fees collected: \$18,267

Total construction costs: \$2,743,301

The Building Department was staffed by Phil Harris, Building Commissioner, and Pat Morey, Administrative Assistant. Mr. Harris resigned on January 22, 2024. He was hired in late 2019 and worked throughout the Pandemic. The Town is grateful for his years of dedicated service. Robert Walden, Building Commissioner, was hired as the Town's Building Inspector, replacing Phil Harris in January 2024.

The Building Department can be reached via office phone, 413-268-8236 X116 or by email, [inspector@goshen-ma.us](mailto:inspector@goshen-ma.us).

The current office hours are **Mondays 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.** and **Wednesday 1:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.**

Inspections are by appointment and can be arranged by contacting the Building Inspector's office by phone or email.

Other information may be found on the Town of Goshen website:

<http://www.goshen-ma.us/home/departments/building-inspector> including downloadable permit application forms and fee schedules. Applications are also available at Town Hall Offices.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert Walden, Building Commissioner

## Capital Planning

The Town's formal Capital Plan was developed in 2016. Capital is defined as equipment, vehicles, technology, or improvements that cost \$5,000 or more. The Capital Plan is a living document that is intended to be updated as new information is available but at least annually. It should be reviewed as part of the annual budgeting and appropriations process. The first five years are typically considered most relevant in a capital plan. For long range planning purposes and to make it easier for the Town going forward, we have extended the information to span a 20+ year period.

### **Capital Stabilization Fund**

A capital stabilization fund was established and has been aggressively funded by free cash and consolidation of other stabilization fund balances. This has been an important step forward in planning for our Town's capital needs. Best practice guidelines include funding the capitalization stabilization contribution line code in our budget annually with an amount equal to 3% – 5% of our operating budget or tax levy. We have met this milestone since the passage of the Proposition 2 ½ override in FY 2020.

No funds can be spent from the capital stabilization account without it being approved at the Annual Town Meeting. The 5-year capital plan is presented at the Annual Town Meeting and focuses primarily on the items submitted for approval for the upcoming year, on the ATM Warrant. It also includes those capital requests submitted but not yet approved for the remaining 4 years of a 5 years period.

### **Progress & Concerns**

We are delighted that the heavy lifting is behind us in terms of capturing the data and creating the model. There are more refinements to make to ensure efficiency and ease of use, but this work has strengthened our Towns financial infrastructure. It has created a tool for capturing essential information and for evaluating the financial impact of our capital decisions. The tool facilitates having all financial matters, both operating and capital, presented at the May Annual Town Meeting. Over time it should aid in making clear the trade-offs of limited resources so they can more comprehensively and transparently be discussed and considered.

With the passage of the Proposition 2 ½ Override in Sept of 2020 our ongoing concern that we were not able to include critical contributions to our capital stabilization fund as part of the annual budget appropriated by the town has been addressed. Contributions will still need to be supplemented each year with Free Cash to ensure the fund is growing at a rate sufficient to meet capital requirements. We were able to do that this year with a contribution of \$332.2K. Taking advantage of the opportunities to fund our capital stabilization account with free cash will help us significantly.

### **Reconstituted Capital Planning Committee**

At the July 25, 2020 Town Meeting the Town voted to amend its General By-Laws pursuant to M.G.L. c.41, §106B, to establish a Capital Planning Committee, that will replace any previous Capital Planning Committee. This change created a Capital Planning Committee that would conform to the current M.G.L. requirements with respect to a structure for the Capital Planning Committee and the Committee needs to be reappointed.

The following is the language that outlines the membership as well as purpose and role of the Capital Planning Committee.

The Capital Planning Committee shall be made up of five members, each appointed for 3-year staggered terms. All members shall be appointed by the Select Board, and initially, one member shall be appointed for (1) one year, two members for (2) two years and two members shall be appointed for (3) three years. Two members are to be appointed from amongst the Finance Committee by the Select Board. The remaining three committee members are appointed by the Select Board based upon the best available candidates with an appropriate background and knowledge to fulfill the needs and duties of the Committee. All appointments shall be based upon the beginning and

ending of the fiscal year for the terms described above. Any vacancy for an unexpired term shall be filled in the same manner so as to complete the term of the original appointment.

The fundamental purpose of the Capital Planning Committee shall be to enhance the Town's capacity to identify, prioritize, and understand the financial implications of capital projects with a useful life of at least five (5) years, and an aggregate cost of at least \$5,000. And, to develop a capital plan relative to the aforementioned purpose. Further, the Capital Planning Committee will work with the Finance Committee to develop policies consistent with best practices.

▶ The Capital Planning Committee should solicit requests from each municipal department that would have a capital request meeting the above criteria. The departmental requests should include a brief statement of justification of the request including why it is needed; what is the useful life of the item, what is the estimated cost of the item and why it is necessary in the year for which it is being requested.

▶ The Capital Planning Committee shall gather information, review and prioritize recommendations regarding capital project needs and expenditures that will be funded by annual appropriations in accordance with the financial constraints of the Town.

▶ Develop and present a capital plan budget and multi-year capital program to the Finance Committee and Select Board with the recommendations of the Capital Planning Committee for what should and should not be included in any given year.

▶ In conjunction with the Finance Committee analyze the municipality's ability to afford major expenditures by examining recent and anticipated trends in revenues, expenditures and debt burden and propose a method of payment that will be supported by the ability of the Town to pay for it with current revenue; available reserves; debt or debt excluded and debt overrides from the limits of Proposition 2 ½.

▶ The funding strategy for the Capital Stabilization account should be consistent with best practices such as targeting 3% - 5% of the levy limit or 3% - 5% of the annual budget, prior to debt exclusions.

▶ The Capital Planning Committee, in conjunction with the Finance Committee, should recommend a method for financing each project.

WE have several open positions on this committee. If you are interested in serving in one of the open positions on the Capital Planning Committee, please contact Angela Otis, the Chair of the Select Board, as they are the appointing authority or Dawn Scaparotti, the current chair, who can provide additional information.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Scaparotti,  
Capital Planning Committee Chair

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### Cemetery Report

In 2023, 3 lots were sold. 2 full burials and 3 cremations took place in the summer. The area is slowly running out of room. We worked on a list of lots that have been sold over the years in hopes it will help in the future.

I would like to thank the second and third generation for the help that is needed and displaying the American flags. We thank the Morey family for doing a great job of mowing and fall clean up.

Respectfully,

Roger Culver



Community Preservation Committee

Goshen voters approved the Community Preservation Act (CPA) at the May 2007 Town Election with a 3% surcharge on real estate taxes and an exemption for those who qualify for low-income housing or low- or moderate-income senior housing. Since 2007, Goshen has received a 100% state match every year from the Community Preservation Fund, an independent state trust fund.

The duties of the Community Preservation Committee (CPC) are to study the needs, possibilities and resources of the Town, with regards to community preservation. The CPC reviews applications and makes recommendations to Town Meetings for project funding.

The CPC is a seven member committee, composed of one member from each of the following boards, committees and commissions:

|                  |                                     |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Sandra Papush    | Open Space Committee                |
| Sandra Greenwood | Historical Commission               |
| Jim Barrett      | Planning Board                      |
| Open             | Conservation Commission             |
| Joan Griswold    | Recreation Committee                |
| John Otis        | Member at Large (appointed by SB)   |
| Open             | Community Housing (appointed by SB) |

CPC received four applications for funding in 2023, which were recommended to Town Meeting for a vote. The Select Board submitted an application in February 2023 for funding Town Hall Rehabilitation Project Phase II. This phase includes rehabilitation of the exterior building envelope, including windows, exterior doors, repointing masonry, evaluation and repair of flat roof over the back extension, and any other repairs deemed necessary. The request was for \$400,000 and was approved by the requisite majority.

The Select Board submitted a subsequent application in September 2023 for additional funding of \$410,000. These funds were necessary for completion of Town Hall Rehabilitation Project Phase II and to meet the deadlines for the bidding process. This request was passed by the requisite majority.

The Open Space Committee submitted an application to fund the *Re-Imagine Goshen Center Project*. This project proposes renovations to the existing park and area occupied by the tennis courts. The project includes removal of the tennis court and installation of a pavilion, installation of a green and patio, accommodating stone walls, café tables, memorial stones, ADA compliant walkways and benches ringed by flowering trees and shrubs. The project is estimated at \$300,000. Open Space requested \$200,000 which was passed by the requisite majority.

*The Williams-Boltwood House Trust* submitted a request for funding of \$108,450 which represents 90% of the estimated costs of \$120,500 for this phase of the restoration project. This phase will include the creation of an historical structure report (HSR) which will be supported by structural engineering, dendrochronology, and paint assessments, roof repairs and the creation of a set of baseline architectural drawings. This was also approved by the required majority.

The CPA meets at Town Offices (check the town website for day and time). The public is always welcome.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sandra Papush, Chair

### Conservation Commission

The Goshen Conservation Commission administers the regulations for wetland resource areas covered under the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act. The Conservation Commission signs off on all building/demolition permit applications to make sure that there are no wetland issues.

All projects that might involve wetlands need to submit a RDA, (Request for Determination) to schedule a site visit prior to signing the application, so it is important to allow time for this. If wetlands are involved in a project, a filing NOI, (Notice of Intent) may be required. A public meeting/hearing is held for both Applications.

#### RDA:

This simplest permit application is suitable for many situations, including requesting a determination if a planned project is near or has potential to impact wetland resources. Formally it is known as a WPA (Wetlands Protection Act) Form 1-Request for Determination of Applicability (RDA). There is no application fee for an RDA. However, once your application has formally been submitted and a meeting date provided by the Commission, a notice of the application hearing must be placed at the applicant's expense in a local newspaper at least 5 Business days before the meeting.

#### NOI:

One other commonly used wetland permit is the WPA (Wetlands Protection Act) Form 3 – Notice of Intent (NOI), which addresses any work proposed within, or adjacent to, wetland or river resource areas.

There are application fees for an NOI. Once your application has formally been submitted and a meeting date provided by the Commission, a notice of the application hearing must be placed at the applicant's expense in a local newspaper at least 5 Business days before the meeting.

Some of the projects worked on this year were several septic upgrades, boardwalk bridges at the DAR, Solar Arrays, and new home construction.

The Conservation Commission meets on the first and third Mondays of the month at 6:00 p.m. at Town Offices. Site visits are usually scheduled at these meetings. We encourage prospective applicants to allow adequate time to complete the necessary paperwork, schedule a site visit and have their project reviewed at a regularly scheduled meeting. If there are any questions about wetland resource areas or any information is needed, please contact us or come to a meeting.

The Conservation Commission is a five-member board. We currently only have three members and are looking for new members. Call Charles Amo, Chair, @413-695-3500 if you are interested, have any questions, or want to attend a meeting.

Current members are:

Charles Amo, Chair

Tom Cairns

Mike Duquette

Respectfully submitted,  
Charles Amo, Chair

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### Council On Aging

The Goshen COA had a wonderful year. Our plan was to include activities and events that involve fun and food, health and exercise, education, and honoring and appreciating the people and places that make our town unique. Our Games Group, led by Nancy Wood and Roxanne Cunningham, as well as our Knitting and Crafts group, led by Pat Wheeler and Roxanne Cunningham, brought seniors together each month for fun and friendship. Our Friday morning Community Connections group welcomed speakers on the topics of Tai Chi, Therapy Dogs, Cooking with Nutrition in

Mind, Integrated Energy Therapy, Sound Healing, Reiki, Yoga, the use of Herbs and Plants for health, and Fall Prevention featuring the knowledge of many Goshen residents as instructors. Our monthly luncheons continue to be very well attended, and we were fortunate to work with our Goshen businesses including Spruce Corner Restaurant, Red's Bakery, and The Ledges. Delicious meals and desserts have been enjoyed by all. Our Highland Valley Elder Services Grab-and-Go lunches were expanded to twice a month in July, with an average of 22 seniors participating and receiving a hot nutritious meal. Joan Griswold came back in person to the Town Hall for an exercise class on Wednesday mornings. The class simultaneously broadcasts on Zoom, which is a wonderful way to include all who wish to participate. In September, Richard Larson started a weekly Tai Chi class focusing on the Eight Ways.

The COA continues with the traditions of the June Ice cream Social, the August Appreciation Picnic, and the award of the Golden Scepter (our version of the Boston Post Cane). This year, in coordination with the Goshen Library, Tom Ricardi and his Birds of Prey, entertained and educated over 90 people of all ages at the Town Hall. Ice cream sundaes were enjoyed together after the presentation. At the August Appreciation Picnic, we honored nine Goshen seniors over 90 years old: Esther Korowski, Pearl Woodward, Ernest Carver, Arlene Harry, Ruth Dresser, Audrey Bissell, Patricia Perrault, Raymond Sheehan, and Dora Emerson. Bound booklets were created by Kathy Boisvert which included a brief biography of each honoree, they were given out along with a gift bag of treats. All the volunteers who make COA events a success throughout the year were also recognized at the picnic. In early December, we were able to honor Pearl Woodward with a certificate, flowers, and the Golden Scepter, a sign of respect for the oldest member of our beautiful town.

Throughout the year the COA hosted presentations on Elder Safety and Empowerment by the Northwestern District Attorney's office, on Medicare Fraud by Senior Medicare Patrol, and understanding the MOLST form and Home Care service options with a nurse from the Foothills Health Nurse District in a group coordinated in part by Goshen resident Grace Gibson. We have helped refer seniors to the correct resources for fuel assistance, food assistance, and help with health insurance. We celebrated our community in multiple ways including a trip and tour of Three Sisters Sanctuary, by passing out popsicles to participants of the Hilltown Olympics, by inviting our new Police Chief to our luncheon to welcome him, by attending games night at New Hingham Regional Elementary School, by working with the Fire Department on senior safety, and by hosting lunches and walking groups at the beautiful Tilton Town Fields. We offered classes in art, writing and pottery, the latter featuring Goshen talent of Siegfried Haug and Vanessa Kerby. We had a five-week book and discussion group. We ventured out of town with trips to see Whispering Bones Ghost Stories in Ashfield and conquering the Corn Maze in Sunderland.

The Goshen COA is part of the Hilltown Consortium of Councils on Aging ([northernhilltowncoas.org](http://northernhilltowncoas.org)) which meets monthly. This year this group presented a Conference on Memory; created, disseminated and collated the data from the Aging and Technology Survey to determine technology needs of seniors in the Hilltowns; applied for and received a grant to aid technology needs in the Hilltowns; and advocated and received a grant for funding of the COA newsletter. Goshen COA also worked with other towns on a grant to support transportation needs in the Hilltowns.

Our major project of getting Critical Information Binders to senior residents, initiated in 2022, was completed. Other towns have adopted this idea, and the Regional Section of the COA newsletter featured a series of articles on tips to get organized, encouraging all to develop a system like the binder to gather important documents and information.

An important subset of our COA is the Age Friendly Group led by Henrietta Munroe who works with Bill O'Riordan, Maureen Krok, Evelyn Kellogg-Culver, and Nina Pinger. This group aided seniors in town with durable medical equipment needs, locating community resources, and answering questions when someone needed assistance.

In 2023, we mourned the losses, and celebrated the lives, of eleven Goshen seniors: Susan Smith, Brian Tennyson, Sr., Darlene Roberts, James Wentzel, Jr., Mary McCulloch, Norman Hathaway (Goshen Constable), Floyd Merritt, Ronald Rehor, James LeBeau, Esther Korowski, and Pearl Woodward.

The Council on Aging events and activities would not be possible without the dedication of the volunteers who serve. We have seen the retirement of Kathy Boisvert and Lorraine Brisson from the COA board, and we thank them for all their years of volunteering to support the seniors in town. Tremendous gratitude goes out to the current COA Board which includes Henrietta Munroe (chair), Nancy Wood, Patti Woodward, and Pat Wheeler. Roxanne Cunningham,

Evelyn Kellogg-Culver, and Kathy Boisvert serve as vital associate members. Other Goshen residents have also given their time and talents to help at activities. Together, there have been over 474 volunteer hours dedicated to the seniors of our lovely town. Thank you all.

Respectfully submitted,

Kerry Normandin, Goshen COA Coordinator

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### Cultural Council

The Massachusetts Cultural Council awarded \$5,500 to the Goshen Cultural Council for 2023. The Massachusetts Cultural Council receives its funding from the state legislature and the National Endowment for the Arts.

The mission of the Goshen Cultural Council is to offer the Goshen community an opportunity to enjoy, learn and grow through talented performers and workshops with a view towards diversity in program planning and inter-generational activities. The Goshen Cultural Council appreciates and considers all projects but prioritizes applications that support Goshen and other hilltown artists and presenters, local schools and organizations, community involvement, and new programs.

The Council received thirty seven applications for funding during the 2023 grant cycle. In 2020 and 2021 during the height of the Covid pandemic, many of the funded applicants did not complete their projects, even when given extensions. The unused grant funds from those projects became available for redistribution in 2023, making it possible for the Council to fund more applicants during the 2023 grant cycle.

For 2023, the Council approved grants to thirty-one of thirty-six applicants, including the following town-affiliated groups: three to New Hingham Elementary School (Tanglewood Marionettes, Earth Dome project, and New Hingham podcast), one to Hampshire Regional High School (Spring Musical), four to the Goshen Free Public Library (Birds of Prey, 1000 Sunrises, Visit from picture book author and Mother-Daughter Duo), one to the Goshen Women's Club (Country Music with Sidetracked). The Council also approved the following: (1) a grant for a Wildlife Trail photography project on Hilltown Land Trust properties in Goshen; (2) a grant to Tamarack Hollow Nature and Cultural Center for flora and fauna hike in the DAR State Forest; and (3) a grant to Piti Theatre for the Inclusion Improv program at New Hingham Elementary School. The Council accepted grant applications for the following programs and activities in nearby towns: Chesterfield Fourth of July Celebration, Evening of Ghost Stories in Ashfield, Hilltown Families Suggests online newsletter, Friday Night Café at Cummington Village Church, Concerts at 7 in Plainfield, Seveners Concerts in Worthington, KlezCummington, Child Music Classes for Hilltown families, the Living Presence of Our History sponsored by the Ohketeau Cultural Center in Ashfield, Windsor Jazz-Blues workshop, Hilltown Youth Arts Festival, Hilltown Theatre Anonymous performance, Tiny Glass Tavern Concert in Conway, an Oil Painting Class in Chesterfield, Native American Storytelling project for Hilltown Home School Cooperative, Culombo Singing Workshop and Concert in Haydenville, Community rug-making project in Florence, Conway Fine Arts Concert Series, and the Charlemont Speaker Forum. Twenty-five of the thirty-one approved applications were funded. One applicant was given a six month extension to complete their project by July 2024. Five applicants did not submit reimbursement requests for their grants.

The state requires that the local cultural council have at least five members, who serve no more than two consecutive three year terms. In June 2023, Rose Carr completed her second term on the Council. The Council thanks Rose for her years of service on the Council. The Council welcomes Peter Contuzzi who was appointed to the Council upon Rose's departure. Also, Jane O'Riordan was reappointed to the Council for a second three year term.

In June 2023, the Council met to elect officers. Nancy Wood was reelected Chair and Carla Raymond was reelected Secretary-Treasurer. At the meeting, Marya Zilberberg agreed to draft a survey for distribution to Goshen residents for their input on the granting process. Sixty-three people responded to the survey and the Council considered their

comments when approving the Council priorities for the 2024 grant cycle at their meeting in August 2023. Also at that meeting, the Council voted to use up to 5% or \$275 of the \$5,500 state allocation for administrative funds during the 2024 grant cycle.

In October 2023, Nancy Wood submitted the annual Financial Report for the Council to the state. In November 2023, the Council met and reviewed thirty-seven applications for the 2024 grant cycle. After the meeting, denial notices were sent to twelve applicants. Upon submission of the 2023 Final Report to the state, grant approval notices were sent to twenty-five applicants for grants in 2024.

Respectfully submitted, Nancy Wood, Peter Contuzzi, Jane O’Riordan, Carla Raymond, and Marya Zilberberg

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### Emergency Management

The Emergency Planning Committee (EPC), which I chair, completed a major project this year: the complete update to the Town’s Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP). This plan is essentially a playbook on how departments will do a coordinated response to a major disaster. The EPC consists of representatives from the fire, highway, and police departments, the Board of Health, the Select Board, Highland EMS, and the School. And while not an official member of the Committee, the Council on Aging has and continues to play a significant role in emergency planning for the Town.

The EPC also started the update to the Town’s Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan with the support of a \$20,000 grant received from the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency. The grant is used to hire a consultant to guide us through the update and approval process. For this project, the EPC expands to include representatives from the Conservation Commission, the Planning Board, the Building Inspector, and the Open Space Committee. The updated plan with approvals from the State and FEMA should be complete in late 2024 or early 2025.

The final grant is called the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) which we receive annually. Awarded in December, the plan is to purchase a CONEX box to store emergency management equipment and other items. This grant will run through June 2023.

Fortunately, no major disaster hit the town or the area but it is important to remember that disasters may strike at any time and you should be prepared to take action when they do. In school, we teach children what to do if a fire strikes based on a plan that they make. Does your family have a plan? Do you practice it? Everyone should prepare for an emergency, large or small, by making a family emergency plan that includes a “Go-Kit” containing items such as food, clothing, medications, copies of important documents, pet supplies, etc. Please contact me if you would like more information about creating a family emergency plan or a “Go-Kit”.

Responding to a disaster is a team effort. A response to a major incident requires more than one department let alone one person. Emergency Management needs a trained group of people to staff the Emergency Operation Center, sometimes on a 24-hour basis. The work involves tracking of incidents, record keeping, monitoring the situation, public information and assisting in finding needed resources. The work is not hard or dangerous but it can be critical especially when federal funds become available. If you would be interested in helping the Town by becoming part of the EOC Team or want more information, please contact me at [emd.goshen.ma@gmail.com](mailto:emd.goshen.ma@gmail.com) or by calling 413-296-4247.

Respectfully submitted, Larry Holmberg, Emergency Management Director

## Finance Committee

### **FY 2024 Budget, May 20, 2023, Annual Town Meeting**

We have continued to work on behalf of our Town's residents and taxpayers to understand the financial issues facing the Town and our community partners. We are recommending funding strategies and an FY 2023 Budget that incorporate this information and positions us to move steadily toward our financial and operational goals.

We are recommending an FY 2023 budget of **\$3,422,796**. This represents:

- Municipal Department Expense of **\$1,354,903** or 40% of the Total FY 2023 Budget and
- Community PARTner Expenses of **\$2,067,983**, or 60% of the Total FY 2023 Budget. .

This year's recommendations build on the progress we have made in the last several years. In addition to meeting the assessments by our community partners for next year, the primary focus for the municipally controlled expenses is to:

- Take the next step in a multi-year effort to align Town stipends, salaries, and wages to those of our neighboring communities. This will help to sustain employees and staff who perform these essential functions in our Town and make it easier to hire for these essential positions.
- Factor increases for inflation based on the significant increases in petroleum-based products.
- Continue the proactive funding of capital stabilization from the budget which positions us to meet future needs

Beyond funding the operating budget, we have made the following recommendations:

- Establish an enterprise fund with an FY 2023 budget of \$375,466. This fund will capture all expenses and revenues associated with operating the MLP High Speed ( Broadband) Internet Network
- Allocate from Free Cash:
  - \$117,437.28 to create a broadband stabilization account
  - \$70,000 transfer to capital stabilization account to repay amount used dor MLP high speed internet prior to revenues being generated
  - \$35.00 transferred to the account known as "Bills of Prior Years" for the payment of an FY 2022 bill from the Massachusetts Municipal
  - \$2,000 transferred to the COVID-19 Expense Account for expenses incurred in connection with the Federally Declared State of Emergency known as the COVID-19 Pandemic
  - \$15,000 for the purpose of tree removal
  - \$8,000.00 for the purpose of purchasing Fire Department Turnout Gear to meet state compliance
  - \$29,322.54, to fund a Cell Tower Stabilization Account.
  - \$5,000.00, to the OPEB Liability Trust Fund for the purpose of covering Other Post-Employment Benefits
  - \$20,000 for the purpose of hiring a consultant to work with the appropriate committees and/or boards, to create a comprehensive book of General By-Laws and to update the Zoning By-laws
  - \$600,080.18 to the Capital Stabilization Account

Annually, the Finance Committee produces a report (available as hard copy or on the Goshen website) that is part of the Annual Town Meeting. It is intended to provide information that:

- creates transparency about the Town's financial information
- informs voters about the potential impacts of their voting options
- explains many of the challenges and considerations that come with developing a balanced budget
- includes relevant statistics and analysis to add context to our spending

We have made recommendations that are aligned with best practices to maintain and strengthen the long-term operational and financial stability of the Town. We are making very good progress towards our goals and have a much stronger financial foundation from which to move forward.

**The Approved FY 2023 budget is summarized below, by category and traditional departments:**

| <b>Category</b>                              | <b>FY 2023 Approved Budget</b> |               |
|--|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Community Partner Assessments, w school debt | \$ 2,067,893                   | 60.4%         |
| Municipal Department Expenses                | \$ 1,199,358                   | 35.1%         |
| Municipal Capital Stabilization              | \$ 115,000                     | 3.3%          |
| Municipal Debt                               | \$ 40,545                      | 1.2%          |
| <b>Total FY 2023 Budget with Debt</b>        | <b>\$ 3,669,315</b>            | <b>100.0%</b> |

| <b>Traditional Departments</b>        | <b>FY 2023</b>      |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| General Government                    | <b>\$ 478,880</b>   |
| Public Safety                         | <b>\$ 237,622</b>   |
| Public Works                          | <b>\$ 482,778</b>   |
| Public Health & Sanitation            | <b>\$ 88,870</b>    |
| Community Services                    | <b>\$ 100,321</b>   |
| Pensions and Insurance                | <b>\$ 191,231</b>   |
| Capital Stabilization Fund            | <b>\$ 115,000</b>   |
| Education w/ Debt (Debt = \$16,966)   | <b>\$ 1,687,549</b> |
| Municipal Debt /Debt Exclusion        | <b>\$ 40,545</b>    |
| <b>Total FY 2023 Budget with Debt</b> | <b>\$ 3,422,796</b> |

**Capital Plan Funding & Best Practices**

The Town’s formal Capital Plan was developed by the Capital Planning Committee in 2016 and is updated annually. In 2023 there were no meetings. The Finance Committee, who has consistently had two members participating on the Capital Committee, has worked collaboratively to coordinate funding and understand budget implications. In the last several years we have been aggressively funding the plan through Free Cash and other stabilization fund balances. We have continued to fund to the threshold outlined in best practice guidelines. Those guidelines provide an amount equal to 3% – 5% of our operating budget or tax levy. For Goshen, this represents an annual figure of \$102K - \$171K. Our \$124K appropriation in this line code reflects 3.53%. We have achieved a milestone and an important step forward in planning for our Town’s future capital needs.

**Broadband Funding and Policy Decisions**

The Finance Committee participated in many discussions regarding the policies for the Fiber Optic High Speed / Broadband Network. We provided input to the MLP Manager and MLP Board regarding our perspective on the financial implications of policy decisions, based on the information available at the time. Many of the ongoing financial implications are a function of the number of people who sign up for the internet (take-rate). Final costs and revenues will not be known until we know the actual numbers of homes that sign up for the service. There were

around 460 subscribers towards the end of 2022 . The take rate was about 85% among full time residents and a much lower, 33% take rate among seasonal households. Some policy decisions may need to change, and some will evolve once there is sufficient subscriber experience to evaluate the policies and their impact on receipts.

**Stabilization Accounts and Free Cash**

Over the years, the Town has appropriated funds into stabilization accounts to assist in Goshen’s long-term financial management. A Town vote (two thirds majority) is required to move funds in or out of these accounts. The approximate stabilization fund balances prior to and after the May 21,2022, Annual Town Meeting actions are:

|                                       | <b>Before</b>       | <b>After</b>        |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
|                                       | <b>May 2023 ATM</b> | <b>May 2023 ATM</b> |
| 1. General Stabilization              | \$ 268,072          | \$ 268,072          |
| 2. Capital Stabilization              | \$ 916,466          | \$ 1,315,939        |
| 3. Fire Vehicle Stabilization         | \$ 2,696            | \$ 2,397            |
| 4. Audit Stabilization                | \$ 15,000           | \$ 15,000           |
| 5. Assessor Property Revaluation      | \$ 32,763           | \$ 32,753           |
| 6. Town Building Stabilization        | \$ 1,339            | \$ 1,316            |
| 7. Free Cash**                        | <u>\$ 364,958</u>   | <u>\$ 0</u>         |
| <br>Total Stabilization and Free Cash | <br>\$1,336,743     | <br>\$1,634,992     |

Respectfully Submitted,

Dawn Scaparotti,

Finance Committee Chair

Committee Members: Kristine Bissell, Angela Otis, Mary Packard, Gina Papineau, Dawn Scaparotti

**Fire Department**



2023 has been yet another great year for the Goshen Fire Department. The consistent commitment and dedication of our members of the Goshen Fire Department played a huge role in the safety of the town and the department. As always, our volunteer members continually stepped up to the challenges that, yet another record call volume year brought.

The S.A.F.E. (Student Awareness of Fire Education) program entered its 27th year. We received a State S.A.F.E. Grant in the amount of \$3,065, which allowed Goshen Fire to teach 3 in-person fire and life safety lessons at New Hingham Regional Elementary School. This year we are happy to be able to step back into the school and continue this program. With the continuation of this educational program to the children, we have raised a fire safe generation. The State has seen a drastic reduction in home fires and fire deaths since the program began. The Department also received a Senior S.A.F.E. Grant in the amount of \$2,055 to teach fire and life safety lessons to Goshen’s Senior Citizens. This grant allowed the Department to purchase and install 10-year, sealed-battery smoke and Carbon Monoxide detectors in Seniors’ homes. If you are a Senior Citizen and would like a firefighter to change detector batteries or replace old battery-operated detectors with new 10-year sealed battery detectors, please call the Fire Department at 268-7161 and leave a message. The grant has also made available temporary lockboxes for Seniors’ homes. These allow secure Fire Department keyed access to a home for emergency calls where the occupant may be unable to unlock the door for first responders.

We’ve added two new firefighters, Ed Sturtevant, Paul Schadel . We’ve had three of our junior firefighters reach the age where they graduate from junior firefighter to adult firefighter status: The Department continually needs to add members to maintain coverage and we are always ready to welcome those willing and able to give it a try.



Our personnel meet weekly and devote hours to training and maintaining equipment to be ready for the next call. Training not only includes firefighting but also many types of rescue situations, extrication, medical calls, hazardous materials recognition, and traffic control.

The GFD was dispatched to a variety of situations in 2023, utilizing much of our training and equipment. In all, the Department responded to 187 emergency calls throughout the year, 32 more calls than in 2022. The call breakdown was as follows:

- 109 Medical
- 16 Detectors Sounding (Smoke and/or Carbon Monoxide)
- 18 Motor Vehicle Collisions
- 8 Structure Fires (One was mutual aid to other towns)
- 6 Hazardous Conditions including wires and/or trees down
- 1 Rescues
- 5 Brush Fires / Illegal burns
- 3 Chimney Fire
- 1 Vehicle Fire
- 20 Other

In addition to our weekly in-house training, we continue to have monthly Tri-Town drills with Chesterfield and Williamsburg (our automatic mutual aid fire departments) as well as training with other surrounding towns building on our mutual aid system that has been in place for years. This provides us with the opportunity to train and become familiar with their equipment and personnel, allowing a seamless operation at mutual aid scenes. Department members also attend Hampshire County Fire Defense Firefighter training classes and Massachusetts Fire Academy training programs to strengthen their knowledge and skills. This year the Hilltown fire departments have started a RIT (Rapid Intervention Team). We currently have 23 skilled fire fighters and are growing on this team. These firefighters would be utilized on a fire scene in teams of 4 to extricate a downed firefighter if a mayday was declared.

The Volunteer Firefighter Incentive Program has been in effect for its 13th year. Active adult firefighters who attended at least 50% of our training sessions and responded to calls, earned a stipend commensurate with their level of participation. This was equivalent to \$5.50 per hour. In total, Department members dedicated more than 2,600 hours to the Town in 2023. The Incentive Program is a great way for the community to acknowledge and thank the volunteer firefighters that gave so much of themselves.

**When someone dials 911, we all assume someone will come to help.... Right?**

That *someone* who responds to your call for help could be your neighbor, a family member, or a person who lives on the other side of Town. They could be a school teacher, student, electrician, office worker, truck driver, accountant, or nurse. The alarm bell continues to sound for new volunteers to join the Fire Department family. If you haven't joined because you weren't asked, **we are asking!** Our members all have busy schedules, but we still find the time to meet, train, and respond to calls for the sole purpose of helping others. The Department also has a Junior Firefighter Program for responsible individuals aged 16 - 17.

We meet each Tuesday evening at the Goshen Fire Station at 6:30 p.m. Please come join us or call the station to find out more and help make a difference!

Many thanks to the active Department members who answered the call in 2022:

|                    |                 |                 |                |
|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Bill Connell       | Mike Cunningham | Kim Dresser     | Francis Dunham |
| Steve Estelle      | Emily Godden    | Sergio Madrigal | Joshua Lafond  |
| Joshua Gryszan     | Hannah Labrie   | Cameron Lacey   | Vuk Whallon    |
| Jill Lacey         | Jake Lulek      | Adrien Neveu    | Dillon Neveu   |
| Marianne Neveu     | Mason Neveu     | Monica Neveu    | Michaela Rock  |
| Jonathan Schwaiger | River Williams  | West Williams   |                |
| Dylan Tanner       | Kayla Jones     |                 |                |

Respectfully submitted, Cameron Lacey, Fire Chief

### Highland Ambulance EMS, Inc.

Our run volume has continued to increase especially in the degree of acuity. There are more people requiring Paramedic level transport due to the severity of their medical condition. We continue to have a healthy return on our collectibles.

We have been able to pay off our building thanks to a generous donor and we were able to increase the pay rate of our EMT staff to move toward a livable wage. We have done this without an increase in the assessment to our towns.

**Operations:** Highland Ambulance is the primary ambulance service provider for the towns of Ashfield, Chesterfield, Cummington, Goshen, Plainfield and Williamsburg. Highland also provides primary back-up service to the town of Worthington in support of Hilltown Ambulance of Huntington. Paramedics are on duty at Highland's station in Goshen from 6AM until midnight seven days a week. During the midnight to 6AM time periods Highland Basic EMT's are occasionally assisted by Paramedics from other ambulance companies when the service of a Paramedic is required.

Highland's active roster as of June 30, 2023 consisted of 27 members of which there are, 11 paramedics and 16 Basic EMT's. Our 11 paramedics consist of our Service Director, Assistant Service Director, a full-time training officer / CQI assistant and 8 part time staff. Currently all our Basic EMT's are part time staff.

Highland's affiliate medical direction is provided by Cooley Dickinson Hospital. Dr. Peter Morse is our current Medical Director.

**Mission:** The mission of Highland Ambulance EMS, Inc. is to provide the full range of emergency medical services to our member communities. These services include:

- Responding to all 911 calls that may require emergency medical services.
- Providing training and certification for first responders.
- Developing and practicing emergency response plans with the schools and camps in member towns.
- Conducting health and safety classes for the schools.
- Working with the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA), the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and Homeland Security to develop emergency response plans for member towns.
- Providing mutual aid and paramedic intercept services to the neighboring communities.
- Providing transport services
- Providing standby service for major emergency situations such as structure fires.
- Providing standby service for major community events such as the Chesterfield Parade, the Ashfield Fall Festival and the Cummington Fair.
- Providing CPR programs to community members.

**Emergency Responses:** During FY 22/23 Highland responded to **1000** emergency calls.

Calls broken down by town are as follows:

|             |            |                      |            |
|-------------|------------|----------------------|------------|
| Ashfield:   | <b>277</b> | Chesterfield:        | <b>98</b>  |
| Goshen:     | <b>106</b> | Williamsburg:        | <b>301</b> |
| Cummington: | <b>116</b> | Mutual Aid Requests: | <b>50</b>  |
| Plainfield: | <b>102</b> |                      |            |

**Training:** The following is a partial list of training events held:

- Nero's Training (police dog emergency care)
- PALS (Pediatric Advanced Life Support)
- ACLS (Advanced Cardiac Life Support)
- Paramedic Recertification Course
- Basic EMT Recertification Course
- ASHER training (active shooter emergency response)
- CPAP/BiPAP training

12 Lead EKG & Advanced Cardiology  
 Medical Management review (MD call reviews)  
 Power stretcher and load system training  
 Surgical cricothyrotomy course  
 CPR / AED  
 First Responder training  
 Response to the Active Fire Scene

**Community Involvement:** Here are some of the ways Highland participated in our communities in support of them. Ashfield Fall Festival, Chesterfield 4th of July Parade, school safety programs and Junior Olympics

**Operating Expenses in FY 22/23:           \$889,780.71**

**Cash on hand June 30, 2023:**

|                           |                     |
|---------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Operating Fund:</b>    | <b>\$139,856.50</b> |
| <b>Capital Amb. Fund:</b> | <b>\$41,396.69</b>  |
| <b>Memorial Fund:</b>     | <b>\$43,083.63</b>  |
| <b>Dresser Fund:</b>      | <b>\$4,112.97</b>   |
| <b>Donations:</b>         | <b>\$339,733.69</b> |

Our six towns contributed **\$446,166.92** of our total operational budget, based upon town assessments. The balance came from billings to insurance companies, Medicare, Medicaid and contributions.

Respectfully submitted for FY 22/23,  
 Highland Ambulance Board of Directors:

|                |                  |               |                               |
|----------------|------------------|---------------|-------------------------------|
| Ashfield -     | Patricia Thayer  | Williamsburg- | Denise Banister               |
| Chesterfield - | Spencer Timm     | At Large -    | Bernard Forgea - (Cummington) |
| Cummington -   | Amanda Savoie    | At Large -    | Nate Rosewarne - (Goshen)     |
| Goshen -       | Cassandra Morrey | At Large -    | Douglas Mollison - (Ashfield) |
| Plainfield -   | Edward Morann    |               |                               |

**Highway Department**

The Highway Department’s 2023, was totally ruled by several weather events. We had two rain events that qualified as one hundred year rain storms. We had severe damage to several Town roads. The first two months of spring we were still trying to cut and chip all the trees that came down and were damaged by the winter’s storms. Before we could finish, the first rain event happened and we needed to make repairs to several roads. On Wing Hill road the water overwhelmed a cross culvert and ran down the side of the road and got under the blacktop, making the road one lane for several weeks. Hyde Hill road had several locations where it washed out and needed repair as well as tons of material removed from the ditches. Loomis road had four cross culverts become overwhelmed and washed out four to six foot wide sections of the road. Shaw road lost tons of material along the shoulders and water got under the blacktop in a couple of locations. Spruce Corner road had the shoulders washed away in several locations. Sears road lost shoulders in a few locations. Mollison Hill road washed out on both sides of the road and one culvert collapsed, which had to be replaced. Fuller road had water come over the road at two cross culverts, and wash out the shoulder in one location and the road at the other. Dresser Hill road had the cross culvert overflow and damaged the shoulder on several occasions. West Street lost shoulder material in several locations and the improved drainage could not handle the amount of water that came from these storms. Briar Hill road had several washouts and more water that most of the cross culverts could handle. Ball road washout for hundreds of feet as the water was bigger than the ditches and washed the edge of the road away.

We rented a wheeled excavator and a road widener to help with several repairs. Having the second excavator allowed us to be working on two different locations each day. We are trying to up size the cross culverts that failed and got several installed throughout the summer. One of the toughest problems is culverts not being available and then the price has jumped in the last couple of years. Just an example: an eighteen inch culvert is now thirty dollars a foot compared to three years ago eight dollars a foot. Moving forward we will keep trying to work on the problem spots and improve our drainage but it will take time.

Sincerely,  
Todd R. Dewkett

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### **Hilltown Resource Management Cooperative (HRMC)**

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

The member-Towns that comprise the HRMC include Ashfield, Chesterfield, Cummington, Goshen, Huntington, Middlefield, Plainfield, Westhampton, Williamsburg, and Worthington. Each Town appoints two representatives to serve on the HRMC Board. Board Officers for 2023 included: John Chandler, Chair (Chesterfield); Gordon Luce, Vice Chair (Williamsburg); and, Thomas Poissant, Treasurer (Ashfield).and Administrator Linda Cernik, HRMC services included:

- Conducting annual DEP transfer station inspections and work as a liaison between Towns & MADEP on transfer station compliance matters.
- HRMC Administrator has been certified as a Third-Party Administrator with MassDEP maintenance and operations of a transfer Station. The administrator conducted HRMC pre-inspections and Third-Party Inspections, completed all official paperwork, reviewed with the towns, and all reports were signed and uploaded on the new MassDEP reporting portal EEA.
- HRMC Mattress Recycling “HUB” diverted 228 mattresses from the waste stream to recycling components of the units; foam, box springs; wood, and springs.
- Introduced New Recycling opportunities within the Textile Services, newest Collection box Middlefield with (Apparel Impact). The textile company pays the Town of Middlefield .7cents per pound for textiles.
- Town of Goshen converted from Salvation Army to CMRK for Textile vendor, (collecting clothes, shoes, sheet, ETC.) 5,101 pounds were diverted from the waste stream. This also generated a revenue of .7cents per pound total \$357.07 for CY23.
- Introduced “Green Team” Mass DEP Program, youth educational programming.
- Execution of an annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection event, over 130 households took place. This event every year diverts Household chemicals, paints, oil, stain etc. from the waste stream to Recycling venues. Each town is billed separately for the number of HH, size of load dropped off for recycling. This event is historically held in October yearly with pre-registration involved.
- Program management of transfer station recyclables including collection, hauling, and recycling of tires, electronic waste, universal waste~ HRMC towns are now utilizing Next Level Recycling (NLR) for all the universal Waste disposal / Recycling. Book vendors CMRK, and CFC recovery Freon evacuation is Interstate Recovery.
- Our First-year offering “Shred Fest” with Pro-Shred secure shredding company. This was held in the town of Huntington, No cost to the residents! HRMC, Small Scales grant award from MassDEP helped offset the cost of the event. We are offering it again in CY24, Town of Williamsburg, June 8 2024 9am ~noon, Williamsburg DPW garage.
- Outreach on transfer station operations and recycling initiatives.
- Submittal of member-Town DEP annual surveys, grant applications, and reports.
- Financial administration of HRMC programs and services.

The day-to-day business and program operations of the HRMC are managed by a contracted Administrator, who also serves as a representative to the Springfield Materials Recycling Facility (MFR) Municipal Advisory Board the State Solid Waste Advisory Committee, the Western Mass Regional Recycling Coordinator group; and interfaces with local, regional, and State officials, and Mass Recycle Board. Board meetings are held on alternate months.

The HRMC has an annual operation's assessment that is approved by each Town at their annual Town meeting. The annual Assessment Budget is based on tonnage and population. In FY23, the combined assessment for all ten towns was \$ 67,540. The Assessments offset base operating expenses. HRMC recycling program collection costs are pass-thru expenses from the HRMC to the Towns to best maximize economy of scale and to enable the HRMC administrator to have review and oversight of vendor relations and program operations.

In 2023, all HRMC member-towns were eligible for and received Recycling Dividend Program Grants (RDP) under the DEP Sustainable Materials Recovery Program. Applications were submitted for them through the HRMC. In total, the HRMC Towns received \$ 53,250.00 in grant funds to be used to further enhance recycling programs. Goshen was awarded \$5,000.

During the past year, the HRMC member-Towns collectively diverted 834 tons of recyclable materials to the MRF; the Town of Goshen recycled 50 tons in 2023. Eight of the ten member-Towns have adopted recycling goals of 50% with the intent of increasing quantity and improving the quality of materials being recycled at their transfer stations and to reduce waste being landfilled. In 2023 the Town of Goshen had a recycling rate of 37% compared with 27.8% in 2022.

Linda Cernik, HRMC Administrator

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### Historical Commission

Goshen Historical Commission held no routine meetings in the calendar year 2023. It held one special meeting, at which we voted to recommend to the Town's Select Board that Sandra Greenwood be appointed to represent the Historical Commission on the Town's Community Preservation Committee. The Goshen History Museum, the curation and preservation of whose holdings is the responsibility of Goshen Historical Commission, was closed. There are currently two vacancies on the commission.

Commission activities in 2023 included inquiries handled by Joe Roberts, chair, all of which were about the genealogy of families with ties to Goshen. There was no progress to report on the commission's primary responsibility: the historical inventory of all town buildings 50 years old and older. The attempts to perform this survey with volunteers, which began some 40 years ago, have not produced a single survey form that passed muster at the state level. The town needs to raise money to contract with professionals to do the survey.

Historic preservation activities included the next phase of the rehabilitation of Goshen Town Hall. This phase will refurbish the original windows (1910 cost: three dollars per sash), make watertight the roof over the 1935 addition, and tuck point the masonry of the walls, among other tasks. This project is financed with substantial grants of state historic preservation money, and Community Preservation Act money authorized by town meeting on the recommendation of the Community Preservation Committee.

In addition to the town hall work, the trust that owns and manages the Williams Corner property reported a successful effort to prepare a Form B historical survey form for the property. The Form B is the first step toward nomination of the property to the National Register of Historic Places. The Williams Corner project received substantial Community Preservation Act funding, authorized by town meeting on the recommendation of the Community Preservation Committee. This CPA money financed contracts for professionals to prepare a Historic Structures Report, which contributed the content for the Form B, and will be the basis for planning and financing the rehabilitation of this property, the site of Goshen's first town meeting.

Respectfully Submitted: Sandra Greenwood, Member

Edwin Greenwood, Member

Joe Roberts, Chair

# Goshen MLP

## High speed internet



**Summary:** 2023 was the second full year of operation for the Municipal Light Plant (MLP).

**Network Operational Environment:** The network was 100% operational during calendar year 2023. There have been localized power outages, with downed electrical wires and fiber optic lines, that interrupted service. Whip City Fiber's response time for repairs has been very good; their crews are on call 365 days a year. Preventative tree removal and trimming is a major, continuing focus to strengthen network resilience. Damage repair is a continuing and expensive cost for the MLP. Climate change will mean more regular storm damage from freezing rain, windstorms, heavy wet winter snow and a generally wetter environment.

**Distribution Network Improvements – Redundancy, Reliability & Resilience (RRR):** The central geographic cluster of six MLPs, to which Goshen belongs, has worked with Whip City Fiber and Nokia to engineer, plan, install and implement a more resilient network environment, providing multiple fiber access points through three different backhaul routes and two different carriers. This environment now provides automatic failover switching if a backhaul connection is damaged or taken out of service. It also provides automatic traffic rerouting when this type of failure occurs. Additionally, using Multiprotocol Label Switching (MPLS), bandwidth is shared by the six towns in the cluster, allowing for real time routing to obtain the optimal transport path for each data request. This allows the six towns to negotiate a larger bandwidth pool via three 10 Gbs (total pooled bandwidth of 30 Gbs) separate fiber backhaul lines for a savings to each town for their overall bandwidth pricing. This accommodates current and future higher data usage and availability for all the towns.

**Network Hut:** Implementation of the RRR project required installation of high speed routers in each of the central cluster's huts and 100 Gbs routers at the terminal interface points for the three separate backhaul connection points in different cities. This included software engineering and hardware installation changes to facilitate automatic switching and redirection protocols (MPLS). Temperature, humidity and power monitoring have been installed in the Goshen hut to provide real-time data on the hut environmental conditions in order to address systemic failures rapidly. Additional infrastructure security measures will be put in place in 2024.

### **Financial and Operational Priorities and Accomplishments:**

- Entering into a ten-year Inter-Governmental Agreement (IGA) with Westfield Gas & Electric (as our Network Operator and Internet Service Provider) in 2023 to provide some long term reduction in costs as well as to provide a stable business environment conducive to the operational and financial stability of the MLP.
- Reduce and eliminate MLP debt as swiftly as possible. For every \$100,000 of principal reduction we can currently eliminate roughly \$5,000 of interest payments for each year of subsequent loan payments. These lower principal amounts will allow for lower tax increases, based on \$105,000 less, for repayment of the MLP proposition 2 ½ tax override that was passed by the town at both the Special Town Meeting and Special Town Election held in 2015.
- Build capital reserves to replace, enhance or strengthen both the physical plant and fiber plant as needed.
- After debt repayment is completed and appropriate capital reserves are accumulated, the MLP can pivot to lowering monthly internet service fees, taking into account the rising costs of labor and materials, which will help to position us as various types of unforeseen competitive service environments emerge.

- Continue operational excellence and improvements in bandwidth capabilities. Continue to invest in improving and managing the network fiber pathways on roads to reduce and better control long term repair costs as storm damage, in times of climate change, will continue to worsen.
- Expand our base of customers through new homes or businesses being built and new people moving into existing homes that did not originally sign up for service.

| <b>SOURCES OF GRANT &amp; BORROWING FUNDING RECEIVED &amp; CURRENTLY IN USE AT THE END OF 2023</b>   |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| Massachusetts Executive Office of Housing & Economic Development (EOHED) Grants  | \$1,707,247.00        |
| Debt Override Borrowing Approved by the Town (the original authorization of \$1.4 million for borrowing was reduced to the amount at the right through prudent fiscal management and judicious sourcing and use of grant monies) | \$1,205,815.00        |
| US American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds   | \$316,542.00          |
| <b>Total:</b>  | <b>\$3,229,604.00</b> |

Wayne Glaser  
MLP Manager

### Open Space Committee

Re-Imagine Goshen Center continued to be the major project focus for Open Space in 2023.

An email address and online presence was established on the Open Space Committee web page of the Goshen website. Revisions were made to the design plan resulting in a larger and more accommodating pavilion and town green. A site survey was completed. The Open Space Committee launched a crowdfunding initiative which included a town mailing, distribution of brochures in the surrounding hilltowns, bingo at the Town Hall, a quilt raffle, and an online donation option. This initiative generated \$16,978 in revenue, \$10,000 of which was an anonymous donation. In April, the CPC awarded \$200,000 to the project.

We sponsored several events including the removal of the tennis court’s chain linked fence and subsequent clean up by volunteers and (from/in?) the Highway department.

In September, an informational session with several displays was held at the Town Hall. The Highway Department removed the shrubs in front of the tennis court. Trees to the west and south of the tennis court were cut down. Bob Goss volunteered his time and expertise to prune trees.

Although we applied to the State for a grant to assist us with this project, we were not awarded this very competitive grant. Many thanks to all the donors and volunteers who came forward to help in a variety of areas including: data management, marketing, website design, social media postings, and crowdfunding.

### Project Updates

Sally Loomis of Hilltown Land Trust presented recent conservation restriction (CR) projects in Goshen. The Waggoner CR has been approved by the state and permanently conserves 160 acres, with 115 acres in Goshen and 45 acres in Ashfield. It connects DAR State Forest to land conserved by Mass Wildlife and includes a large section of Sears Meadow, with two miles of public trails.

Another project is the Clary Hill/Sofinieski 83 acre CR in Goshen and Williamsburg which connects Brier Hill Road to the DAR. This is a new CR and plans are in process for connecting trails between Goshen and Williamsburg Brier Hill Conservation Area.

Pat Morey was contacted by American Farmland Trust, who in cooperation with USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Massachusetts, are working with municipalities to increase the amount of farmland eligible for federal preservation funding. Representatives presented information about an initiative to identify “farmland of local importance” that will recognize and preserve additional land suitable for agriculture. There is no cost to the town. Voted to proceed with initiative.

Melanie toured South Loop Trail with Bob Goss and Ry Patton, forester from Bay State Forestry, to discuss the timber harvest and wood bank. The trail needs work as do the bridges, which are in poor shape. There is the possibility of harvesting hemlock for boards to repair the deck on the bridges.

|               |                  |
|---------------|------------------|
| Members:      | Pat Morey        |
| Sandra Papush | Lorraine Brisson |
| Melanie Dana  | Jane Hillman     |

The Open Space Committee meets on the first Monday of the month at 3 p.m. in the back office at Town Offices. We welcome all and encourage new members and volunteers.

Respectfully submitted, Sandra Papush, Chair

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### Planning Board

During the course of the year the Planning Board finalized a proposed Flood Plain Overlay district Bylaw after garnering comments and suggestions from Larry Holmberg (Town Emergency Manager), a state representative, and Phil Harris (Building Inspector). A public hearing was held and the draft was approved, but neighboring towns were not informed as is required by the state. In order for the Bylaw to be accepted by the state the process of the public hearing must be repeated in 2024, followed by approval at Town Meeting.

At the request of the Select Board, the Planning Board took up the issue of re-writing the bylaw pertaining to rock quarries, known as the Earth-Moving Bylaw. The Board held a hearing which was attended by the two active quarries. Quarry owners attended several other Board meetings, and hosted Board members at their work sites for informational tours. The Board began work towards developing a new Bylaw that ensures the rights of homeowners and the safety of workers, considers economic and environmental factors, and also minimizes restrictions on these important local businesses. This work, including a Public Hearing and Town Meeting, should be completed in 2024.

Roger Culver resigned from the Board in 2023. The Board thanks Roger for his many years of service. In the 2023 election, Gary Griswold and Bob Raymond were elected as new Planning Board members. Julie Hooks was officially elected by the Board as Secretary.

Respectfully submitted,

Town of Goshen Planning Board  
Jim Barrett, Chairman  
Julie Hooks, Secretary  
Bob Raymond, Member  
Gary Griswold, Member



## Police Department

I am very pleased to present to you the 2023 Goshen Police Department Annual Report. This report reflects the Department's police service through 2023.

### **We here at the Goshen Police Department are Truly Proud to Serve our Community!**

This Department responds to calls for service within Goshen in addition to assisting other neighboring agencies as requested. Calls for service within this area are defined as requiring police action; this does not include mere directions or questions. Officers respond to fire and ambulance calls, where Officers assist at these scenes with traffic control and rendering medical aid. Between calls received by the Northampton Control Dispatch Center and department initiated calls including but are not limited to area checks, house checks, self-initiated, cruiser maintenance, and administration.

Your Officers patrol all areas of the Town of Goshen, watching for any unusual activity while keeping all residents, motorists and visitor's safety in mind. During patrols, Officers perform law enforcement activities such as, but not limited to, arresting violators of the law, checks of property and persons, security, and house checks, investigating traffic crashes, enforcement of traffic offenses. Officers on duty also conduct criminal investigations.

#### **Your Officers:**

During the 2023 calendar year, Fred Bezio was hired as the permanent Chief of Police starting on February 13, 2023. Chief Bezio has been with the Goshen Police Department since June of 2021. William Bissell, who has served the Goshen Police Department since 1988, was promoted to the position of Sergeant. Beth Bezio who is the Chief of Police for the town of Ashfield, is a Goshen Officer as well as an administrative resource. Officer Eric Haberman who has many years of experience in law enforcement started his career in West Springfield, MA. Officer Brian Tennyson and Officer Jeffrey Fish both resigned during the calendar year 2023. Mr. Tennyson went on to pursue other opportunities while Officer Jeffrey Fish continues to work in law enforcement in other agencies. Like Officer Fish, many of our officers play dual roles in the law enforcement community serving in multiple police departments including the sheriff's office.

#### **Certification & Training:**

In 2021 the Commonwealth passed the Police Reform Act. The Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) now certifies all police officers in our State. Chief Fred Bezio, Sergeant William Bissell, Chief Beth Bezio and Officer Eric Haberman are all POST Certified and hold Full Time Officer Certifications. This means that all officers are qualified to work both part-time and fulltime at any law enforcement agency.

The Commonwealth also mandates that all officers receive forty (40) hours of in-service training annually. The training covers firearms, legal updates, first responder, CPR, AED, along with specialized and refresher subjects like motor vehicle law and operating under the influence (OUI) enforcement, report writing and courtroom testimony and officer wellness. Along with the mandated training, officers can take additional trainings of interest.

#### **Grant Programs (Body Cameras):**

On October 2, 2023, Governor Maura T. Healey and Lieutenant Governor Kimberly Driscoll sent Chief Fred Bezio a letter informing him that the Goshen Police Department was awarded \$26,050.00 in grant funding from the FY24 Body Worn Camera (BWC) Grant Program offered by the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security's Office of Grants and Research.

This much needed funding will cover the separation and isolation of the police departments computer system network per state and federal requirements along with new computers, body cameras and backup storage systems which includes off site back up.

Body-worn cameras are a critical tool for the police officer in today's law enforcement environment. The presence of a body-worn camera documents encounters with the public, aids in evidence collection and court proceedings, and can be a direct crime deterrent tool. Body-worn cameras assist the police department with transparency and accountability for both police officers and the public.

**Grant Programs (DMH Co-Responder):**

The Department of Mental Health (DMH) Co-Responder Grant Program officially kicked off on August 1, 2022 and continued throughout 2023. This grant designates a specific patrol consisting of an officer and clinician, who are exclusively responding to crisis situations and other behavioral health issues. The response can be to one of the many towns included in this grant (Ashfield, Buckland, Colrain, Conway, **Goshen**, Heath, Plainfield, Rowe, Shelburne, and now Williamsburg). Through this grant, Clinical Support Options is contracted to provide a clinician for the patrols.

The goal of this grant is to limit the number of arrests and incarceration of individuals with mental illness and provide a better mental health service to individuals that will bring them a better quality of life. The most effective way to do this is when people are in a moment of crisis and can be provided with a mental health assessment. Often members of our departments receive call for individuals in crisis and our options for assisting them are limited and usually ends up with us trying to get them to a hospital to speak with a professional that can address their needs. Many times, these individuals will refuse assistance, but remain upset and their crisis is never addressed appropriately. With this grant, we can help those in need of crisis intervention.





### **Community Outreach:**

The Goshen Police Department took part in several Community Outreach Events in 2023. Our department was honored to be part of the Second Annual Oliver's and Friends Farm Stand Festival. We had a chance to spend time with some "old" friends and meet new ones. The police department held a free chance raffle for kids 12 and under. Prizes were provided by the Goshen officers along with donations from Oliver's Farmstand with some anonymous donations too. The department provided free bike helmets to those in need along with freebies for kids of all ages. A good time was had by all.

Chief Bezio had a chance to visit The Institute for the Musical Arts fundraising Jam-a-thon in November. The Chief is an avid musician and enjoyed watching the talent. His visit included a tour of the facility including the studio. Rumor has it that Chief Bezio will be performing in 2024 so stay tuned.

In December, the Goshen Police Department teamed up with the Ashfield Police Department to hold a Stuff the Cruiser Event for It Takes a Village organization. The outpouring of support for this event was Fantastic and more than we could have hoped. We really appreciate all who supported this event by giving. Your generosity turned into a lot of smiles on children's faces during the Holidays.

### **General Reminders:**

Renewals for your License to Carry (LTC) should be started 60 days prior to your expiration date to allow sufficient processing time. The fee for licensing is \$100, and there is no charge for anyone 70 years or older. Call the office to schedule an appointment.

Emergencies should be reported to 911, and non-emergencies may be called in to 413-586-1508. The police station is located at 40 Main Street and the office phone number is 413-268-3116. To contact us by email: [goshenmapd@gmail.com](mailto:goshenmapd@gmail.com). The mailing address is P.O. Box 23, Goshen, MA 01032.

In closing, I look forward to continuing to serve the Community with the utmost professionalism and dedication. The Chief's door is always open, please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns. The Goshen Police Department is dedicated to serve the Community, residents, and visitors of the Town of Goshen.

Fred Bezio  
Chief of Police

## Public Library

Goshen Free Library has seen some wonderful growth this past year.

We successfully made it into the CWMARS network in the fall.

Items are now more easily accessed for patrons to borrow items from other libraries and have them delivered to Goshen. We have expanded circulation with items from our collection and other libraries, which include holds and returns, to upwards of 50-60 items a week. Before we joined CWMARS in a two month period (Sept/Oct) we circulated 85 items. In our first 2 months (Nov/Dec) in CWMARS we circulated 279 items.

This also means we are a reciprocal member and that our unique collection is available to borrow to others in the CWMARS network. **Goshen is on the map!**

We took part in the Road Map of Libraries put on by a local Western MA library support group. People traveling around the region stop in and visit around the region. They love this little library for its collection, activities, and atmosphere.

Our program attendance has shot up following the lead of townspeople's interests.

We have a daytime book discussion and an evening mystery discussion with enthusiastic participants.

We have an ongoing puzzle area for adults, which often catches the eye of children, which has created the sweetest interactions among three generations.

We've had tea parties that span the generations.

We are happy to assist the COA in providing a cozy space for their Game Day and Craft Days. We also help provide games and supplies for crafts. Many of the activities are on hand for drop in at other times. It can be a natural fit for all ages.

I am pleased to have come on as the permanent director. As a former youth services and children's librarian I've found my experience carries over to all ages. I am ready, willing and able to help with preschool literacy with a small grant from Coordinated Families and Community Engagement.

We have been given some grants that will help me enhance summer reading. Summer 2023's Summer Reading Program served a variety of ages.

We had nice interest in an Herb of the Month Program in a Take and Make Package.

We had a small poetry program last year. We also applied to our Local Cultural Council for grants in the fall and look forward to expanding this program and adding more.

We feel that a library is a community center open to everyone.

Help us build your community and come and visit us soon.

Submitted with great respect for the Town of Goshen,

Julie Cavacco

Director, Goshen Free Library

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## Recreation Commision

The Recreation Commission continues to maintain Tilton Town Field Recreation area as a gathering space for youth and adult sports, community functions and events for residents. The ball field preparation and general maintenance has fallen on volunteers in coordination with our neighboring recreation committee members. The maintenance of the mowing and edge trimming has been contracted out and recently needed to be expanded upon to keep this space safe for use.

In 2023, Kelly Loven was voted in as chair, while Talon Zadanewicz was assigned co- chair. Roger Culver, Joan Griswold and Kim Rida remain active committee members. This committee is in need of new membership and would benefit greatly from the support of our residents who have children looking to participate in youth related activities.

With the ease of COVID, the field was utilized for COA events, youth events, Hilltown Junior Olympics, adult softball and private functions. A lock box was installed to house keys to the bathrooms and kitchen.

The 42<sup>nd</sup> Hilltown Junior Olympics was held at the field on September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023. We had 36 children from Goshen that received participation pins, a total of 59 meals were cooked and enjoyed by event volunteers and participating children. The Goshen kids won a total of 64 medals in all age groups and events. Plainfield will be hosting the event in 2024, the weekend of Sept 29<sup>th</sup> and it will return to Goshen hosting again September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

The committee offered some new youth activities. There were 7 weeks of Friday evening kickball, in spite of much rain. Hilltown baseball played on Tilton field this season.

The Coed and womens softball leagues used the Tilton field weekly for their practices and games.

There was a retirement party that took place in August for retiring Kim Dresser, long time fireman. Several other private events took place throughout the summer.

The Council on Aging had the annual picnic hosting the 90 plus seniors at Tilton Field, while the majority of their other events were offered up at town hall.

There were many times trash was left in the bathrooms after adult program use. It was suggested the keys be changed to limit who had access. The tent suffered extensive damage from wind damage. We will need to inventory and replace some of the parts to be able to use the tent again.

The ice machine is no longer in working order and we remain hopeful to have it serviced and repaired for use again this season. It is a value added item to using this space.

We experienced minimal issues this season with damage to the fields via vandalism.



Kelly Loven - Chair

Talon Zdaniewicz - Co-Chair

Roger Culver

Joan Griswold

Kim Rida

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## Select Board

The Board was actively engaged in topics and community projects important to our residents, worked to resolve issues and to promote the town with local, regional, and state organizations with particular focus on the impact of climate events on our roads and the necessity of completing a new highway garage. We are awaiting notification from Congressman Jim McGovern's office after our presentation and appeal for funding for the new highway facility (garage and material storage shed).

The Select Board, who also serve as the Municipal Light Plant Board, observed good response time from Whip City Fiber and impressive strengthening of the town's network in terms of resiliency, reliability, and cost effectiveness. See the MLP report for details.

Fred Bezio was appointed to the police chief role and William Bissell, our long-serving officer and past interim chief, was appointed sergeant. Beyond the day-to-day policing and community outreach, the chief's focus has been to upgrade the physical office space, ensure CJS compliance with computer infrastructure, and on bringing body cameras to the force. See the Police Dept report for details.

We are grateful for our town administrator's dedication to the Board, town residents and committees in the day-to-day operations of the Town. She has been instrumental in increasing awareness with the state on rural issues and the need for infrastructure support, pursuing grants and leading the procurement and project management process for the next phase of several projects which will be implemented next year, including town hall rehabilitation and the integration of our financial software systems for accounting, collector, treasurer.

We close our report with tremendous appreciation for our Community Services, General Government, Public Safety, Public Works, and Public Health employees, committees/boards -all of whom work with limited resources while providing unlimited commitment to the Town.

We encourage you to read the Finance Committee Report, published annually, which captures the financial planning and funding strategies for the town.

Thank you for your continued support. It is town residents that make this town so special and motivates us to focus on priorities that will make a difference.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela Otis, Chair

Peri Hall, Vice Chair

Kristine Bissell, Clerk

## Schools – Hampshire Regional District – Superintendent Report

It has been an interesting and busy 2023! This is my third and last year as Superintendent of Schools, and I hope that I am leaving the district in a better place with a clearer vision of becoming a high-performing district. Our central office saw a great deal of movement, and has several fresh faces: Mary Jane Rickson (Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment), Nicole Heroux (Director of Student Services), and Mickey Buhl (Business Administrator). Two new elementary principals joined our HRSD community: Amanda Faro at NHRES and Andrea McGrath at WES. All of these leaders are energetic, strong, knowledgeable, empathetic, flexible, and most importantly, love students!

I continue to be impressed with the districts' sense of community, desire for increased collaboration, strive for academic excellence, and focus on students' mental well-being. The Hampshire Regional member school districts continue to work towards shared goals with the overarching goal of increasing the functionality and collaboration within our district to ensure efficiency, stability, and high performance. We continue to address this by concentrating on centralized leadership and operations, increased district collaboration, clearly defined business processes, in-depth program evaluations, improved communication with stakeholders, and the utilization of best instructional practices in all schools to address varied student needs in a consistent manner. Large strides have been made in getting all five districts to work collaboratively in an effort to have consistent policies and procedures, aligned curricula, and common expectations among all schools. The All Districts Committee, representative of all 5 school districts, finalized the Working Group Agreement, which is focused on the presentation of budgets and the Superintendent evaluation and hiring process.

The Pioneer Valley Excellence in Teaching Award from the Grinspoon Foundation is a highly coveted award and recognizes the accomplishments and best teaching practices of our outstanding educators. The winners of the award for the 2023 school year were Lisa Rice from William E. Norris Elementary School and Greg Reynolds of Hampshire Regional High School. Winners from local districts were celebrated at the annual banquet at the Log Cabin. Congratulations to both of our winners!

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

### **Business Office**

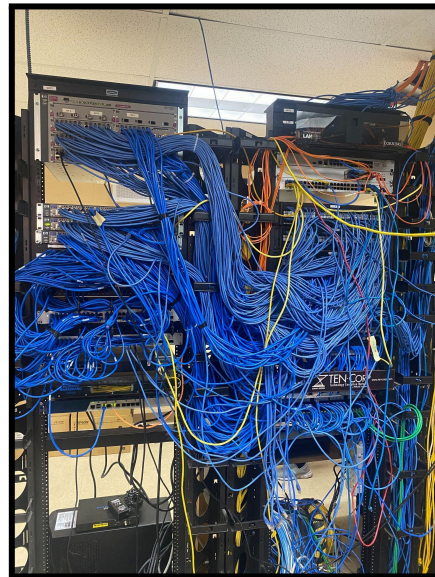
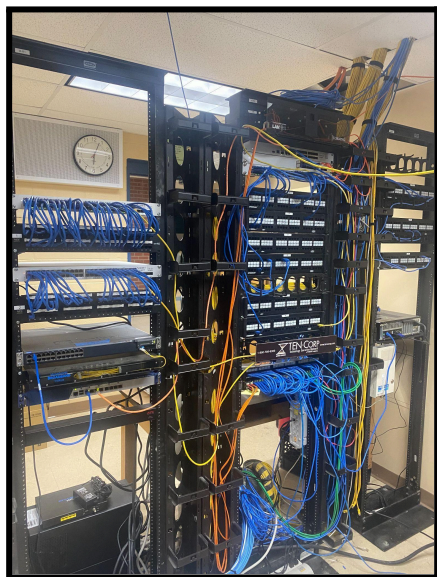
Mickey Buhl joined our NHRS team in July. The business office is responsible for all finance, operations, personnel, and contract functions for the five separate districts of Hampshire Regional Schools- this means five budgets, five different school contracts, and five different towns. The business office manages all five budgets to support nearly 1550 students and over 360 employees throughout the region. While much additional funding was provided in the past few years to help offset costs associated with Covid, most of the additional funding has been spent. Since the government has not provided us with additional funds with the exception of Rural Aid, we are trying to be strategic and focused in our spending. Additionally, in an effort to improve communication pertaining to the budgeting process, the Central Office budget was presented to all school committees prior to any school budgets in order for school committees to view the Central Office budget before having to approve a budget in its entirety. Transparency and open communication will be an ongoing effort of the school business office. Additionally, accounting and human resources procedures and protocols, as well as new payroll systems are being developed in order to maximize efficiency and effectiveness.

### **Technology**

An outside agency continues to meet our districts' Director of Technology needs, Todd Schubach and Blake Mallet were our Directors from Suzor IT. After an internal audit was completed in the Fall of 2022, Suzor IT determined that a network infrastructure update was the single most important priority to improve our technology speed and continuity of services. In addition to the hardware installation, critical changes were made to the network that

helped strengthen connectivity issues, stability issues, and overall security. We also were able to move all of the phone systems within the district over to the newly installed switches. A new security camera system, a Verkada system with 20 cameras, was implemented at the Anne T. Dunphy School.

HRSD continues to have 1:1 devices at all schools, and Suzor IT has developed a comprehensive technology replacement plan that will help us maintain our devices and replace them as necessary.



### **Curriculum, Assessment, and Instruction/Grants**

Mary Jane Rickson became the Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment in September. Hampshire Regional is one of four districts across the Commonwealth that was awarded the SOA Rural Innovation and Efficiencies Grant (FC 123), which supports the alignment of mathematics (PK-12) across all the district's schools. The \$208,000.00 award, granted in 2022, enabled the purchase of a new 6-8 math curriculum (Into Math), and also supported professional development for all math teachers through online and in-person coaching. We have already noticed improved MCAS math scores, and this specialized professional development played a large role in the increased scores.

Ms. Rickson organized a district-wide professional development day on December 15th. All of the elementary schools in the District were afforded the opportunity to meet by grade level to collaborate on curriculum, review school data, and discuss grade-level matters.

The district is currently working with an outside agency to audit our Pre-K programs, specifically in curriculum, early intervention referrals, and progress monitoring to identify strengths and challenges. We plan to create unified systems and processes that will provide the best educational environment to best serve our students and their caregivers.

### **Student Services**

Nicole Heroux joined the team at Hampshire Regional in July. The Director of Student Services is committed to fostering an inclusive and supportive learning environment while optimizing resource utilization for the benefit of all students. Her focus for the year is to determine how to support the districts and their special education programs. Ms. Heroux is currently collecting data aimed at identifying strategic measures to reduce special education costs. This effort involves gathering and analyzing data related to various aspects of special education services, resource allocation, and program effectiveness. The goal is to explore innovative approaches and evidence-based practices that not only enhance the quality of special education but also contribute to cost-saving measures within the



department. Ms. Heroux would like to explore options of creating more in-house programs to support our students' needs and keep them in the community rather than sending students out of the district.

The Massachusetts Department of Education is currently in the process of disseminating the new Individualized Education Program (IEP), and dedicated training sessions are being provided to staff members. This initiative aims to ensure that all relevant personnel are well-informed and equipped with the necessary knowledge and skills to effectively implement and navigate the updated IEP guidelines. The training sessions are designed to empower staff members with a comprehensive understanding of the new IEP framework, fostering a seamless transition and promoting the delivery of high-quality special education services across the state. The Massachusetts Department of Education remains committed to supporting educators in their continuous efforts to meet the diverse needs of students through these updated protocols.

HRSD received \$509,577 (Grant 240) to supplement the costs of special education programming and services for all of our schools. In addition, an Early Childhood entitlement grant (Grant 262) brought in \$15,440 to supplement our early childhood programs. Additional monies are reimbursed for special education costs through the Circuit Breaker and School Choice Special Ed.

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

Sincerely,  
Diana Bonneville, Ph.D.  
Superintendent of Schools

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**Schools - Hampshire Regional High School**

Principal's Report 2023

As we reflect on 2023 at Hampshire Regional High School, it's evident that our community continued to thrive and adapt to the evolving landscape of education. While challenges persisted, the resilience and dedication of our staff, students, and families remained unwavering. This report provides a snapshot of the achievements, events, and changes that shaped the past year.

**Enrollment**

At the end of 2023, 711 students were currently enrolled at HRHS. This is an increase in enrollment from the past few years.

*Current Enrollment by Town:*

- Chesterfield: 20 students
- Goshen: 31 students
- Southampton: 310 students
- Westhampton: 85 students
- Williamsburg: 86 students
- Worthington (tuition agreement): 27 students
- School Choice: 152

*Current Enrollment by Grade:*

- 7th Grade: 147 students
- 8th Grade: 139 students
- 9th Grade: 109 students
- 10th Grade: 103 students
- 11th Grade: 110 students
- 12th Grade: 103 students

**Staffing**

In February, it was my absolute pleasure to award the Grinspoon Excellence in Teaching award to French teacher Greg Reynolds. Greg was nominated by numerous colleagues who said that “Greg is a joyful educator. He is excited

by his work and by interacting with students, which of course is then reflected in his teaching and in students' learning... Greg is continually up to date with new practices and working hard to push [the world language department] forward."

In 2023, we bid farewell to four staff members who dedicated many years to Hampshire Regional. Teacher Michele McHale retired at the end of the 2022-2023 school year after 24 years. Building Substitute Judy Thrasher retired in October after six years of service to our school, and Para Educator Laura Bean in September retired after 23 years. Van Driver Joyce Dragon retired after five years at Hampshire.

I was so pleased to welcome new staff members to our school community in August. Alyssa Prucnal, Alia Woofenden, and Joseph Castillo all joined our staff as Para Educators. Kimberly Downey has joined our staff as a Permanent Building Substitute. Clifford (CJ) Holt returned to Hampshire as our new Director of Student Activities. Finally, Melissa McDonnell joined our team in November as a Health/Physical Education teacher.

In December, our beloved Occupational Therapist and Para Educator Mia Sgueglia lost her life in a tragic car accident. Our students and staff are mourning this loss and our counseling department provided additional support and resources to those who were most deeply affected. 8th grade student Taylan McColgan came up with the idea of a memorial scholarship in Mia's name to honor her life and her contributions to HRHS. The first Mia Sgueglia Memorial Scholarship will be given to a student in the class of 2024 this coming June.

### **Academic Achievements**

Hampshire Regional High School earned a spot on the Advanced Placement (AP) Honor Roll and also earned the AP Access Award in 2023! This recognition from the College Board is based on our students' performance on AP exams, and underscores our commitment to providing students with access to challenging coursework, preparing them for future academic endeavors.

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) assigns a rating and an accountability percentile to every school throughout the state each year. Hampshire Regional High School maintained a strong standing in the state's accountability system, reflecting our commitment to academic success and student growth. Our accountability percentile in 2023 is 80, which means that Hampshire Regional High School is performing better than 79% of K-12 and middle/high schools across the state. This is an improvement from our accountability percentile of 72 last year, and is the highest accountability percentile we have been assigned since DESE began using this rating in 2013.

In November, 35 juniors and seniors were inducted into the Hampshire Regional High School Academic Society, run by HRHS librarian Andrea Belanger! In order to be eligible for Academic Society, students must have maintained a minimum of a 3.7 grade point average, completed their 30 hours of community service by the time they are applying, and complete additional community service throughout their time in Academic Society. This year, current Academic Society members chose Anne T. Dunphy Principal and HRHS Alumna Stacey Jenkins as their guest speaker.

Two students in the class of 2024 were named *Commended Students* as part of the National Merit Scholarship Program based on their outstanding PSAT scores. Congratulations to Nicky Elias-Gillette (Williamsburg) and Devin Lemay (Easthampton)!

Five additional Hampshire students earned national recognition from the College Board! This recognition is based on their academic performance in school in addition to their performance on the PSAT and/or AP exams. Congratulations to Alex Materdey (Williamsburg) who received National Hispanic Recognition Award, and Devin Lemay (Easthampton), Kaylee McConnell (Southampton), Tim Cahill (Southampton), and Tyler Hetu (Southampton) who all received the National Rural and Small Town Award.

### **Athletic and Extracurricular Achievements**

Senior Gavin DaFonte (Southampton) was appointed to the MIAA Student Advisory Committee for the 2023-2024 school year. Gavin completed a thorough application process, including an interview, and will represent HRHS (and Western Mass) as he participates in a variety of leadership, sportsmanship, wellness, diversity, equity & inclusion and community service programs through the MIAA this year.

Our athletic teams have also experienced great success this year. Our softball team continues to shine and again won the Western Mass Championship in June! Our boys soccer team won their first Western Mass Championship since 2007 in November. Our cross country teams both made it to the State Championship races this fall with the boys team coming in 10th place in the state and the girls coming in 9th place!

This year's spring musical, *The Drowsy Chaperone*, was just as fabulous as we have come to expect from our students and staff! Directed, produced, and supported by Myka Plunkett, Lauren Bell, Pam Plumer, and Dave Tripp, the spring musical captivated audiences with humor and talent. The dedication of the 33 students in the cast and crew shone through in each performance.

Two seniors from the class of 2023, Riley Smith (Southampton) and Ozzie Frazier (Easthampton), represented Hampshire Regional in the prestigious All-State Music Festival, showcasing their musical talents at Symphony Hall in Boston. Choral director Aidan Linden supported them throughout this process and helped make it possible for our students to achieve such success in this area.

The 2023 spring drama production was directed by graduating seniors Mimi Hilnbrand (Westhampton) and Penelope Black (Williamsburg). Mimi and Penelope directed a series of one-act plays in the black box theater. This was a fantastic evening with a wide variety of performances that allowed individual students to showcase their own talents and creativity!

High school Student Council students, led by teachers Kim Bush and Kelly Carpenter, orchestrated another successful series of "Raider Days" in April, a testament to their dedication to enhancing our school's culture and fostering student leadership. Students participated in student-led workshops throughout the morning. Each workshop was supervised by at least one staff member but was facilitated by a high school Student Council representative. The workshops that were offered included:

- Stress Management and Movement
- Relationship Building Bracelets
- Time Management and Mental Health
- Why Hampshire?

After the workshops concluded, students played lawn games, participated in a kickball tournament, and attended the spirit rally. Mrs. Carpenter, Mrs. Bush, and the whole Student Council put an inordinate amount of time into planning this day for the second year in a row. Their dedication and love for HRHS is evident through their work and was greatly appreciated by students and staff alike!

### **Class of 2023**

Celebrating the 102 members of class of 2023 through their many seniors events, culminating in our June 3 graduation ceremony, was a joy for all. 70 awards were given out to a total of 46 seniors at Senior Awards Night on May 30. The next day, May 31, seniors went to Brownstone Adventure Sports Park for a day of fun and celebration with their classmates and class advisors. On June 1, seniors participated in a beloved annual tradition where they walk through their elementary schools with their caps and gowns as our district's elementary students and teachers cheer them on. Both students and teachers look forward to this event every year and there are many hugs, tears of joy, and high fives to go around! Our outdoor graduation ceremony almost did not happen this year due to the threat of rain and storms, but in the end, we were able to hold our outdoor ceremony on June 3 at 6pm! It was a chilly but beautiful evening for us to celebrate the class of 2023 like they deserved. Graduation speakers included President Eliza Warner (Chesterfield), Vice President Silvia Bastek (Williamsburg), Secretary Stellina Simonelli (Williamsburg), Katie Sullivan (Northampton), Valedictorian Ellia Masenior (Northampton), and Salutatorian Riley Smith

(Southampton). Seniors from our high school chorus performed *Walking in the Wind* and the HRHS Chamber Singers sang the National Anthem. I would like to extend our gratitude to the Westhampton Police Department who once again volunteered their time to help ensure a smooth graduation ceremony from start to finish.

### **Summer, College, and Career Programming:**

Summer at Hampshire Regional was vibrant with various programs aimed at supporting our students. These included our transition program for incoming 7th grade students with IEPs, credit recovery for students in grades 7-11, 7th grade Raider Camp, building tours and locker practice for all new students, and 7th grade orientation. 125 of our 140 7th graders attended Raider Camp, and we had almost perfect attendance at 7th grade orientation, meaning that our students were extraordinarily prepared and ready to start middle school on the first day of school!

Our Counseling department, led by Amy Scully, has hosted numerous events for students and families to begin preparing for life after high school. During 10th grade ELA MCAS in March, junior students participated in College and Career Workshops to provide juniors with valuable insights into interview skills, resume building, college panels, career exploration, and more. During 10th grade Math MCAS in May, freshmen students participated in Career Exploration Days. They participated in activities to learn more about GPA and transcripts, heard from a college panel with representatives from local universities, and completed a career exploration lesson. The second day was career day when we had a panel of presenters to share more about their jobs. Presenters included a physical therapist, electrical engineer, fire captain, probation officer, dentist, occupational therapist, state trooper, Sheriff Cahillane, software designer, physician assistant, and many more. Amy Scully did a stellar job planning these two days!

College Planning Night was hosted in June for families in 9th and 10th grade; families were able to hear from current and former parents about the college search process and to ask questions and get advice. In December, we held a Financial Aid Night for families of students in grades 9-12 to learn more about the financial aid process. A representative from Massachusetts Educational Financial Authority (MEFA) reviewed the new FAFSA and other important information for families who are beginning this process. Also in December, we hosted Junior College Night for families of 11th grade students to really start to dig into the college process.

### **Contract Negotiations**

We navigated contract negotiations throughout all of 2023 for our teachers and educational support professionals (admin assistants, para educators, and building substitutes). The school committee and the Hampshire Regional Education Association (HREA) are currently in mediation working to come to an agreement.

The success and vibrancy of Hampshire Regional High School are certainly a collective effort. We express our heartfelt appreciation to our dedicated staff, students, families, community members, and elected officials. Together, we will continue to make Hampshire Regional a truly special place for learning and growth. Thank you for another remarkable year.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lauren Hotz, Principal

**Schools - New Hingham Regional Elementary School District**

**Chesterfield-Goshen Regional School District, Principals Report**

It is my privilege to submit the 2023-2024 annual report for the New Hingham Regional Elementary School. Reflecting back on the year brings an opportunity to celebrate all of our growth and accomplishments. Throughout it all, New Hingham continues to strengthen its sense of community and has made great strides in expanding our reach to the residents of Chesterfield and Goshen. Since joining New Hingham last December, I have continued to be impressed with the commitment, dedication, and pride of our staff, students, and all stakeholders to make New Hingham the wonderful school that it is.

This year our School Improvement Plan focused on goals of continued community engagement and the inclusion of families to regularly participate in school sponsored events. We kicked off our school year with a new Community Game Night, featuring indoor and outdoor games for participants of all ages. This was incredibly well attended by both members of our school and the larger community. That being said, we hope to continue this as a new annual tradition. In addition, we have also reinstated our monthly All School Meetings hosted by our students with the help of their teachers. This has been a wonderful opportunity to share some of the hard work that our students have been doing and gives us a chance to meet together as a school community.

Other school events that allow us to connect with the towns of Chesterfield and Goshen are thanks to our wonderful Parent Teacher Organization who have been an integral part of planning activities for our students and community members. This fall the NHRES PTO hosted the annual school-wide Book Fair that lasted over several days, a visit from the Earth Dome presenter who shared about geography and the history of our planet, and the annual Holiday Bazaar that allowed every student to purchase gifts for family members and friends. We also had some amazing artists visit our school including the Tanglewood Marionettes, a performance by local resident James Kitchen to share multiple instruments, and the second year of our Improv Club for students in grades 1st through 6th hosted by Jonathan Mirin from the Piti Theater Group.

Executing these and other goals would not be possible without the hard work of all staff. The 2023-2024 school year brought with it a number of new staff members to New Hingham in a variety of roles. Each of these staff members seamlessly joined the school community and have positively attributed to our growth and achievement this year. This year's new staff includes:

- **Holland Gage**, 1st Grade Teacher
- **Wendy Somes**, 5th/6th Grade Teacher
- **Lura Elderkin-Rouleau**, Reading Specialist
- **Karrisa Fabin**, Library & Technology
- **Robert Germain**, Head Custodian
- **Karen Aquipel**, Paraprofessional
- **Kim Rida**, Paraprofessional
- **Rylee Mower-Rushmore**, Paraprofessional
- **Susie Lenz**, 2nd Grade Teacher
- **Charles O'Neil-Abel**, Interim School nurse

Additionally, some staff remained at our school but shifted within their previously assigned roles. This includes **Jessica Liiamtainien**, a former paraprofessional, who is now serving as the Administrative Assistant. We are so appreciative of all that our new staff members have done to immerse themselves in our school community! Another goal from this year's School Improvement Plan focused on student social/emotional health and developing the skills to work collaboratively within a group setting. All students worked together at the end of the 2023 school year to develop school wide expectations. This was completed through group discussions of what is needed to have

our school run successfully and safely. Next, we identified common themes and created five statements that will serve as the new expectations. The statements created are as follows:

1. **Speak and act with kindness and respect**
2. **Respect others’ differences**
3. **Take care of the school environment**
4. **Keep yourself and others safe**
5. **Believe in yourself and do hard things!**

We have been working hard to remind students of these expectations and keep them relevant through activities, events and discussions. For example, with the help of our 5th/6th grade teacher, Julie Britain, and our School Adjustment Counselor, Leslie Leff, our oldest students were trained to become our NHRES Peer Mentors. These students will help to address minor issues amongst their peers as they arise through facilitating counseling sessions to find common ground. We also hope that our students will serve as role models for others by demonstrating the school values and expectations in action.

Academically, students who require additional support are continuing to receive assistance from our reading and math specialists in and outside of the classroom. Each classroom teacher has also been assigned a “What I Need” block during each school day which allows students to work on individual goals as identified through their progression towards grade level standards during the school year. Our students continue to put forth their best effort on our MCAS exams, remaining above the state average of scores for both English Language Arts and Mathematics. With continued support for both our students and professional development for teachers in our newly adopted curriculum materials, we expect even more growth next year and beyond!

| Fall 2023 Enrollment |            |
|----------------------|------------|
| Pre-Kindergarten     | 22         |
| Kindergarten         | 14         |
| 1st Grade            | 18         |
| 2nd Grade            | 23         |
| 3rd Grade            | 12         |
| 4th Grade            | 16         |
| 5th Grade            | 16         |
| 6th Grade            | 16         |
| <b>Total</b>         | <b>138</b> |

In the spring, we were able continue the valued tradition of our 6<sup>th</sup> grade graduation on the playground of NHRES. This year’s graduates included **Lucille Belisle, Eric Berube, Carson Bisbee, Victoria Bond, Sabella Donatelli, Jacob Fiset, Deacon Foster, Cailin Gougeon, Thomas Janik, Henry Judd, Savannah Judd, Elle Marcinek, Matthew Nadolski, Connor Perkins, Elka Pruzynski, Cylis Reyor, Leo Ryor, Adalynn Roberts, Danielle Wolf, and Robert Zononi**. We wish all of our graduates well and hope for success in their future endeavors!

We are always appreciative of our supportive community and elected officials who strengthen our school and help us to make it such an amazing place for our students to learn and grow. New Hingham Regional Elementary School is a special place that I feel lucky to be a part of. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at [afaro@hr-k12.org](mailto:afaro@hr-k12.org) or (413)296-0000. For more information about New Hingham and our current events, please feel free to visit our school website at [www.newhingham.org](http://www.newhingham.org).

All the best,  
Amanda Faro, Principal

Tax Collector

|                             | Outstanding<br>as of<br>07/01/22 | Committed    | Collected    | Abatements/<br>Exceptions/<br>Refunds/<br>Adjustments | Outstanding<br>as of<br>6/30/2023 | Collection<br>Rate to<br>Commitment | Collection<br>Rate to<br>Outstanding |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------|--------------|---|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>Real Estate Taxes</b>    |                                  |              |              |   |                                   |                                     |                                      |
| Fiscal Year 2023            |                                  | \$ 2,827,082 | \$ 2,745,838 | \$ 15,967   | \$ 65,277                         | 98%                                 |                                      |
| Fiscal Year 2022            | \$ 73,178                        |              | \$ 72,482    | \$ 696  | \$ -                              |                                     | 99%                                  |
| All Previous Years          | \$ 9,295                         |              | \$ 9,295     |   | \$ -                              |                                     | 100%                                 |
| <b>Personal Property</b>    |                                  |              |              |   |                                   |                                     |                                      |
| Fiscal Year 2023            |                                  | \$ 81,232    | \$ 80,614    |   | \$ 617                            | 99%                                 |                                      |
| All Previous Years          | \$ 95                            |              | \$ 95        |   | \$ -                              | 100%                                | 100%                                 |
| <b>CPA Account</b>          |                                  |              |              |   |                                   |                                     |                                      |
| Fiscal Year 2023            |                                  | \$ 84,811    | \$ 83,704    |   | \$ 1,107                          | 99%                                 |                                      |
| All Previous Years          |                                  |              | \$ (8)       |   | \$ 8                              |                                     | 50%                                  |
| <b>Motor Vehicle Excise</b> |                                  |              |              |   |                                   |                                     |                                      |
| Fiscal Year 2023            |                                  | \$ 168,348   | \$ 143,050   | \$ 1,371  | \$ 23,928                         | 86%                                 |                                      |
| Fiscal Year 2022            | \$ 19,817                        |              | \$ 15,398    |   | \$ 4,419                          |                                     | 93%                                  |
| All Previous Years          | \$ 4,672                         |              |              |   | \$ 6,668                          |                                     |                                      |

The CPA issue of previous year's has been corrected. Due to a software conversion in Q4, there are some inconsistent data conversions for previous years. We are actively working with our accountant to correct these. The software wasn't aligning payments properly and took well into Q2 of FY24 to identify the issue. The challenge of this software leads to an unforeseen number of challenges. Despite these challenges, we successfully collected over 98% of all committed real estate and personal property bills. We hope FY 24 is a much smoother year.

Respectfully  
submitted,

Eric Moulton  
Tax Collector

**GLOSSARY OF TERMS**

**Committed** – Amount of tax due - determined by Board of Assessors

**Collected** – Amount of tax collected to date

**Abatements** – A reduction in the tax assessed on property for the fiscal year- per approval of the Board of Assessors

**Exemptions** – A relief from taxation granted by the Board of Assessors to certain taxpayers, such as Veterans, the elderly, and the blind, according to MA General Laws.

### Tilton Town Farm Supervisors

The Tilton Town Farm Supervisors would like to report on improvements made throughout the year to the farmhouse and land.

Tilton Trails:

- Our collaboration with The Open Space Committee continues to benefit all people who use the hiking trails on the Tilton Land.

Tilton Land:

- The Board teamed up with Bay State Forestry to continue with our Forest Management Program. The goal of the program is to manage the Tilton land and forests for long term sustainability.

Farmhouse & Barn @ 27 Wing Hill Road:

- The Tilton farmhouse continues to be maintained. The farmhouse continues to be rented. The income from the rent is used to maintain the property and the land.
- The Board plans on making improvements to the barn on the property in 2024.

The Tilton Town Farm continues to be self-sufficient and does not rely on taxpayers monies for funding.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bob Goss, Roger Culver, Rich Polwrek

Tilton Town Farm Supervisors


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### Town Accountant

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and citizens of Goshen, I submit to you the following Annual Financial Report.

Our mission is to ensure that the appropriate financial and auditing controls within the Town are maintained in an efficient, cost-effective and responsive manner. We oversee all departmental appropriations assuring that departments operate within their annual budget. In addition, we are responsible for maintaining all financial records and that they are in compliance with federal, state and local laws and regulations.

Respectfully submitted,



Eric A. Kinsherf, CPA

[www.erickinsherfcpa.com](http://www.erickinsherfcpa.com)

Town Accountant



**TOWN OF GOSHEN, MASSACHUSETTS**  
**Combined Balance Sheet - All Fund Types and Account Groups**  
**as of June 30, 2023**  
**(Unaudited)**

|   | Governmental Fund Types |                     |                   | Proprietary Fund Types |                     | Fiduciary Fund Types |                 | Account Groups |  | Totals<br>(Memorandum<br>Only) |
|---|-------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------|----------------|--|--------------------------------|
|   | General                 | Special Revenue     | Capital Projects  | Enterprise             | Trust and Agency    | Long-term Debt       | Memorandum Only |                |  |                                |
| <b>ASSETS</b>                               |                         |                     |                   |                        |                     |                      |                 |                |  |                                |
| Cash and cash equivalents                   | 1,729,736.74            | 1,609,969.43        | 461,059.02        | 193,650.56             | 1,812,060.90        |                      |                 |                |  | 5,806,476.65                   |
| Investments                                 |                         |                     |                   |                        |                     |                      |                 |                |  | 0.00                           |
| Receivables:                                |                         |                     |                   |                        |                     |                      |                 |                |  |                                |
| Personal property taxes                     | 484.24                  |                     |                   |                        |                     |                      |                 |                |  | 484.24                         |
| Real estate taxes (includes Rollback Taxes) | 46,319.66               | 1,274.97            |                   |                        |                     |                      |                 |                |  | 47,594.63                      |
| Rollback Taxes                              | 401.51                  |                     |                   |                        |                     |                      |                 |                |  | 401.51                         |
| I & E Fines Added to Taxes                  | 25.00                   |                     |                   |                        |                     |                      |                 |                |  | 25.00                          |
| Allowance for abatements and exemptions     | (93,309.56)             |                     |                   |                        |                     |                      |                 |                |  | (93,309.56)                    |
| Tax liens                                   | 95,120.21               |                     |                   |                        |                     |                      |                 |                |  | 96,670.89                      |
| Tax foreclosures                            | 4,121.93                | 1,550.68            |                   |                        |                     |                      |                 |                |  | 4,121.93                       |
| Motor vehicle excise                        | 16,729.74               |                     |                   |                        |                     |                      |                 |                |  | 16,729.74                      |
| Other receivables                           | 0.00                    |                     |                   |                        |                     |                      |                 |                |  | 0.00                           |
| Due from other governments                  | 27,122.00               |                     |                   |                        |                     |                      |                 |                |  | 27,122.00                      |
| Amounts to be provided - payment of bonds   |                         |                     |                   |                        |                     |                      |                 |                |  | 594,739.90                     |
| <b>Total Assets</b>                         | <b>1,826,751.47</b>     | <b>1,612,795.08</b> | <b>461,059.02</b> | <b>193,650.56</b>      | <b>1,812,060.90</b> | <b>594,739.90</b>    |                 |                |  | <b>6,501,056.93</b>            |
| <b>LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY</b>          |                         |                     |                   |                        |                     |                      |                 |                |  |                                |
| Liabilities:                                |                         |                     |                   |                        |                     |                      |                 |                |  |                                |
| Accrued payroll and withholdings            | 35.38                   |                     |                   |                        |                     |                      |                 |                |  | 35.38                          |
| Undistributed Receipts                      | 2,072.21                | 27.91               |                   |                        |                     |                      |                 |                |  | 2,100.12                       |
| Agency Funds                                |                         |                     |                   |                        | 14,764.83           |                      |                 |                |  | 14,764.83                      |
| Deferred revenue:                           |                         |                     |                   |                        |                     |                      |                 |                |  |                                |
| Real and personal property taxes            | (46,079.15)             | 1,274.97            |                   |                        |                     |                      |                 |                |  | (44,804.18)                    |
| Tax liens                                   | 95,120.21               | 1,550.68            |                   |                        |                     |                      |                 |                |  | 96,670.89                      |
| Tax foreclosures                            | 4,121.93                |                     |                   |                        |                     |                      |                 |                |  | 4,121.93                       |
| Motor vehicle excise                        | 16,729.74               |                     |                   |                        |                     |                      |                 |                |  | 16,729.74                      |
| Other receivables                           |                         |                     |                   |                        |                     |                      |                 |                |  | 0.00                           |
| Due from other governments                  | 27,122.00               |                     |                   |                        |                     |                      |                 |                |  | 27,122.00                      |
| Due to other governments                    |                         |                     |                   |                        |                     |                      |                 |                |  | 0.00                           |
| Bonds payable                               |                         |                     | 1,546,500.00      |                        |                     |                      |                 |                |  | 1,546,500.00                   |
| Notes payable                               |                         |                     |                   |                        |                     |                      |                 |                |  | 0.00                           |
| Total Liabilities                           | 99,122.32               | 2,853.56            | 1,546,500.00      | 0.00                   | 14,764.83           | 594,739.90           |                 |                |  | 2,257,980.61                   |
| Fund Equity:                                |                         |                     |                   |                        |                     |                      |                 |                |  |                                |
| Reserved for encumbrances                   | 35,675.45               |                     |                   |                        |                     |                      |                 |                |  | 35,675.45                      |
| Reserved for expenditures                   | 896,840.00              |                     |                   |                        |                     |                      |                 |                |  | 896,840.00                     |
| Reserved for continuing appropriations      | 276,458.62              | 401,002.79          |                   |                        |                     |                      |                 |                |  | 677,461.41                     |
| Reserved for debt service                   |                         |                     |                   |                        |                     |                      |                 |                |  | 0.00                           |
| Reserved for appropriation deficit          |                         |                     |                   |                        |                     |                      |                 |                |  | 0.00                           |
| Undesignated fund balance                   | 518,655.08              | 1,208,938.73        | (1,085,440.98)    | 193,650.56             | 1,797,296.07        |                      |                 |                |  | 2,633,099.46                   |
| Total Fund Equity                           | 1,727,629.15            | 1,609,941.52        | (1,085,440.98)    | 193,650.56             | 1,797,296.07        | 0.00                 |                 |                |  | 4,243,076.32                   |
| <b>Total Liabilities and Fund Equity</b>    | <b>1,826,751.47</b>     | <b>1,612,795.08</b> | <b>461,059.02</b> | <b>193,650.56</b>      | <b>1,812,060.90</b> | <b>594,739.90</b>    |                 |                |  | <b>6,501,056.93</b>            |

**TOWN OF GOSHEN, MASSACHUSETTS  
GENERAL FUND EXPENSE REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023**

| Account Number            | Description                     | Balance Forward | Budget        | Budget Revisions | Revised Budget | Expended      | Balance      | Closed       | Carry Forward |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|------------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| <b>GENERAL GOVERNMENT</b> |                                 |                 |               |                  |                |               |              |              |               |
| 01.114.5110               | Moderator Salary                | \$ 182.00       | \$ 182.00     | \$ -             | \$ 182.00      | \$ 182.00     | \$ -         | \$ -         | \$ -          |
| 01.122.5110               | Selectboard Stipend             | \$ 12,360.00    | \$ 12,360.00  | \$ -             | \$ 12,360.00   | \$ 12,360.00  | \$ -         | \$ -         | \$ -          |
| 01.122.5115               | Minutes Recorder Salary         | \$ 5,957.00     | \$ 5,957.00   | \$ -             | \$ 5,957.00    | \$ 3,645.30   | \$ 2,311.70  | \$ 2,311.70  | \$ -          |
| 01.122.5119               | Committee Longevity Program     | \$ 4,000.00     | \$ 4,000.00   | \$ -             | \$ 4,000.00    | \$ 2,333.33   | \$ 1,666.67  | \$ 1,666.67  | \$ -          |
| 01.122.5420               | Selectboard Expense             | \$ 9,333.00     | \$ 2,900.00   | \$ 2,900.00      | \$ 12,233.00   | \$ 11,966.52  | \$ 276.48    | \$ (75.96)   | \$ 352.04     |
| 01.123.5110               | Town Administrator Salary       | \$ 20,000.00    | \$ 20,000.00  | \$ -             | \$ 20,000.00   | \$ 59,000.00  | \$ -         | \$ -         | \$ -          |
| 01.122.5115.01            | Administrative Clerk Salary     | \$ 15,450.00    | \$ 15,450.00  | \$ -             | \$ 15,450.00   | \$ 4,343.50   | \$ 15,656.50 | \$ 15,656.50 | \$ -          |
| 01.122.5780               | Project/Board/Committee Support | \$ 440.00       | \$ 440.00     | \$ -             | \$ 440.00      | \$ 15,425.50  | \$ 24.50     | \$ 24.50     | \$ -          |
| 01.131.5580               | Finance Committee Expense       | \$ 37,200.00    | \$ 37,200.00  | \$ (31,511.13)   | \$ 5,688.87    | \$ -          | \$ 5,688.87  | \$ 5,688.87  | \$ -          |
| 01.122.5500               | Finance Committee Reserve Fund  | \$ 15,000.00    | \$ 15,000.00  | \$ -             | \$ 15,000.00   | \$ -          | \$ 15,000.00 | \$ -         | \$ 15,000.00  |
| 01.135.5300               | Accountant Assessment           | \$ 33,000.00    | \$ 33,000.00  | \$ -             | \$ 33,000.00   | \$ 30,000.00  | \$ 3,000.00  | \$ 3,000.00  | \$ -          |
| 01.135.5420               | Accountant Expense              | \$ 4,000.00     | \$ 4,000.00   | \$ -             | \$ 4,000.00    | \$ 3,948.15   | \$ 51.85     | \$ 51.85     | \$ -          |
| 01.141.5110               | Assessor's Salary               | \$ 7,316.00     | \$ 7,316.00   | \$ -             | \$ 7,316.00    | \$ 5,893.45   | \$ 1,422.55  | \$ 1,422.55  | \$ -          |
| 01.141.5115               | Assistant Salary                | \$ 23,000.00    | \$ 23,000.00  | \$ -             | \$ 23,000.00   | \$ 23,000.00  | \$ -         | \$ -         | \$ -          |
| 01.141.5117               | Assessors Clerk Salary          | \$ 3,250.00     | \$ 3,250.00   | \$ -             | \$ 3,250.00    | \$ 2,117.30   | \$ 1,132.70  | \$ 1,132.70  | \$ -          |
| 01.141.5300               | Assessors Consultant            | \$ 4,500.00     | \$ 4,575.00   | \$ 4,575.00      | \$ 9,075.00    | \$ 5,750.00   | \$ 3,325.00  | \$ 3,325.00  | \$ -          |
| 01.141.5420               | Assessor Expense                | \$ 10,500.00    | \$ 10,500.00  | \$ -             | \$ 10,500.00   | \$ 10,205.62  | \$ 294.38    | \$ 274.88    | \$ 19.50      |
| 01.145.5110               | Treasurer Salary                | \$ 20,000.00    | \$ 20,000.00  | \$ -             | \$ 20,000.00   | \$ 20,000.00  | \$ -         | \$ -         | \$ -          |
| 01.145.5115               | Assistant Salary                | \$ 8,815.00     | \$ 8,815.00   | \$ -             | \$ 8,815.00    | \$ 8,063.57   | \$ 751.43    | \$ 751.43    | \$ -          |
| 01.145.5420               | Treasurer Expenses              | \$ 6,500.00     | \$ 6,500.00   | \$ -             | \$ 6,500.00    | \$ 3,250.00   | \$ 3,250.00  | \$ 3,250.00  | \$ -          |
| 01.145.5780               | Treasurer Tax Possession Exp    | \$ 13,390.00    | \$ 13,390.00  | \$ -             | \$ 13,390.00   | \$ 13,390.00  | \$ -         | \$ -         | \$ -          |
| 01.146.5110               | Town Collector Salary           | \$ 3,744.00     | \$ 3,744.00   | \$ -             | \$ 3,744.00    | \$ 3,646.50   | \$ 97.50     | \$ 97.50     | \$ -          |
| 01.146.5115               | Town Collector Asst Salary      | \$ 8,150.00     | \$ 8,150.00   | \$ -             | \$ 8,150.00    | \$ 8,063.57   | \$ 751.43    | \$ 750.23    | \$ 1.20       |
| 01.146.5420               | Tax Collector Expense           | \$ 13,100.00    | \$ 13,100.00  | \$ -             | \$ 13,100.00   | \$ 2,818.35   | \$ 925.65    | \$ 925.65    | \$ -          |
| 01.146.5580               | Tax Title Expense               | \$ 1,200.00     | \$ 412.97     | \$ 412.97        | \$ 1,612.97    | \$ 1,383.07   | \$ 229.90    | \$ 229.90    | \$ -          |
| 01.151.5300               | Town Legal Expense              | \$ 13,000.00    | \$ 13,000.00  | \$ 605.00        | \$ 13,605.00   | \$ 13,604.17  | \$ 0.83      | \$ 0.83      | \$ -          |
| 01.161.5110               | Town Clerk Salary               | \$ 17,680.00    | \$ 17,680.00  | \$ -             | \$ 17,680.00   | \$ 17,680.00  | \$ -         | \$ -         | \$ -          |
| 01.161.5115               | Town Clerk Asst Salary          | \$ 1,501.00     | \$ 1,501.00   | \$ -             | \$ 1,501.00    | \$ 1,501.00   | \$ -         | \$ -         | \$ -          |
| 01.161.5380               | Register of Voters              | \$ 100.00       | \$ 100.00     | \$ -             | \$ 100.00      | \$ 100.00     | \$ -         | \$ -         | \$ -          |
| 01.161.5381               | Town Clerk Election Expenses    | \$ 9,300.00     | \$ 9,300.00   | \$ (255.00)      | \$ 9,045.00    | \$ 5,019.03   | \$ 4,025.97  | \$ 4,025.97  | \$ -          |
| 01.161.5420               | Town Clerk Expense              | \$ 2,100.00     | \$ 2,100.00   | \$ 255.00        | \$ 2,355.00    | \$ 2,354.94   | \$ 0.06      | \$ 0.06      | \$ -          |
| 01.171.5420               | Conservation Expense            | \$ 450.00       | \$ 450.00     | \$ -             | \$ 450.00      | \$ 215.60     | \$ 234.40    | \$ 234.40    | \$ -          |
| 01.175.5420               | Planning Board Expense          | \$ 700.00       | \$ 700.00     | \$ -             | \$ 700.00      | \$ -          | \$ 700.00    | \$ 700.00    | \$ -          |
| 01.192.5110               | Town Building Janitor Salary    | \$ 12,243.00    | \$ 12,243.00  | \$ -             | \$ 12,243.00   | \$ 9,043.84   | \$ 3,199.16  | \$ 3,199.16  | \$ -          |
| 01.192.5340               | Town Office IT Expense          | \$ 45,000.00    | \$ 45,000.00  | \$ -             | \$ 45,000.00   | \$ 45,113.15  | \$ (113.15)  | \$ (113.15)  | \$ -          |
| 01.192.5430               | Town Building Maint             | \$ 56,000.00    | \$ 56,000.00  | \$ -             | \$ 56,000.00   | \$ 52,211.21  | \$ 3,788.79  | \$ 1,681.43  | \$ -          |
| 01.192.5460               | Town Building Mowing            | \$ 16,100.00    | \$ 16,100.00  | \$ -             | \$ 16,100.00   | \$ 14,737.50  | \$ 1,362.50  | \$ 1,362.50  | \$ 2,107.36   |
|                           | <b>TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT</b> | \$ -            | \$ 509,155.00 | \$ (23,018.16)   | \$ 486,136.84  | \$ 476,803.76 | \$ 69,333.08 | \$ 51,852.98 | \$ 17,480.10  |
| <b>PUBLIC SAFETY</b>      |                                 |                 |               |                  |                |               |              |              |               |
| 01.210.5110               | Police Chief Salary             | \$ -            | \$ -          | \$ -             | \$ -           | \$ 417.60     | \$ (417.60)  | \$ (417.60)  | \$ -          |
| 01.210.5111               | Police Officer Wages            | \$ 60,000.00    | \$ 60,000.00  | \$ (4,954.26)    | \$ 55,045.74   | \$ 45,136.88  | \$ 9,908.86  | \$ 9,908.86  | \$ -          |
| 01.210.5112               | Constable Salary                | \$ 237.00       | \$ 237.00     | \$ -             | \$ 237.00      | \$ 237.00     | \$ -         | \$ -         | \$ -          |
| 01.210.5580               | Police Expenses                 | \$ 19,078.00    | \$ 19,078.00  | \$ 4,954.26      | \$ 24,032.26   | \$ 23,845.65  | \$ 186.61    | \$ 186.61    | \$ -          |
| 01.210.5581               | Police Mandated Training        | \$ 10,000.00    | \$ 10,000.00  | \$ -             | \$ 10,000.00   | \$ 3,756.40   | \$ 6,243.60  | \$ 6,243.60  | \$ -          |
| 01.220.5110               | Fire Chief Salary               | \$ 12,000.00    | \$ 12,000.00  | \$ -             | \$ 12,000.00   | \$ 12,000.00  | \$ -         | \$ -         | \$ -          |
| 01.220.5190               | Volunteer Fire Dept. Incentive  | \$ 3,000.00     | \$ 3,000.00   | \$ -             | \$ 3,000.00    | \$ 11,996.99  | \$ 3.01      | \$ 3.01      | \$ -          |
| 01.220.5580               | Fire Dept. Expenses             | \$ 39,315.00    | \$ 39,315.00  | \$ -             | \$ 39,315.00   | \$ 38,097.69  | \$ 1,217.31  | \$ (555.39)  | \$ 1,772.70   |
| 01.231.5380               | Highland Ambulance Assessment   | \$ 57,751.00    | \$ 57,751.00  | \$ -             | \$ 57,751.00   | \$ 55,749.83  | \$ 2,001.17  | \$ 2,001.17  | \$ -          |
| 01.241.5110               | Building Inspector Salary       | \$ 10,236.00    | \$ 10,236.00  | \$ -             | \$ 10,236.00   | \$ 10,236.00  | \$ -         | \$ -         | \$ -          |
| 01.241.5115               | Assistant Salary                | \$ 5,119.00     | \$ 5,119.00   | \$ -             | \$ 5,119.00    | \$ 4,506.60   | \$ 612.40    | \$ 612.40    | \$ -          |

**TOWN OF GOSHEN, MASSACHUSETTS  
GENERAL FUND EXPENSE REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023**

| Account Number                  | Description                        | Balance Forward | Budget          | Budget Revisions | Revised Budget  | Expended        | Balance      | Closed       | Carry Forward |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| 01.241.5580                     | Building Inspector Expense         | \$ -            | \$ 450.00       | \$ 643.13        | \$ 1,093.13     | \$ 971.65       | \$ 121.48    | \$ -         | \$ 121.48     |
| 01.242.5110                     | Plumbing & Gas Inspector Salary    | \$ -            | \$ 1,444.00     | \$ -             | \$ 1,444.00     | \$ 1,444.00     | \$ -         | \$ -         | \$ -          |
| 01.242.5580                     | Plumbing & Gas Inspector Expense   | \$ -            | \$ 200.00       | \$ -             | \$ 200.00       | \$ 155.00       | \$ 45.00     | \$ 45.00     | \$ -          |
| 01.292.5110                     | Animal Control Officer Salary      | \$ -            | \$ 3,002.00     | \$ -             | \$ 3,002.00     | \$ 2,876.94     | \$ 125.06    | \$ 125.06    | \$ -          |
| 01.292.5118                     | PH Animal Inspector Salary         | \$ -            | \$ 674.00       | \$ -             | \$ 674.00       | \$ 674.00       | \$ -         | \$ -         | \$ -          |
| 01.292.5580                     | Animal Control Officer Expense     | \$ -            | \$ 1,900.00     | \$ -             | \$ 1,900.00     | \$ 43.13        | \$ 1,856.87  | \$ 1,856.87  | \$ -          |
| 01.292.5581                     | PH Animal Inspector Expense        | \$ -            | \$ 150.00       | \$ -             | \$ 150.00       | \$ -            | \$ 150.00    | \$ 150.00    | \$ -          |
| 01.299.5110                     | Emerg. Manag. Director & Dep       | \$ -            | \$ 3,090.00     | \$ -             | \$ 3,090.00     | \$ 3,090.00     | \$ -         | \$ -         | \$ -          |
| 01.299.5580                     | Emergency Management Expenses      | \$ -            | \$ 900.00       | \$ 500.00        | \$ 1,400.00     | \$ 1,241.30     | \$ 158.70    | \$ 158.70    | \$ -          |
| 01.299.5581                     | Emerg. Operations Ctr Expense      | \$ -            | \$ 900.00       | \$ 450.00        | \$ 1,350.00     | \$ 1,350.00     | \$ -         | \$ -         | \$ -          |
| TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY             |                                    | \$ -            | \$ 238,446.00   | \$ 1,593.13      | \$ 240,039.13   | \$ 217,826.66   | \$ 22,212.47 | \$ 20,439.77 | \$ 1,772.70   |
| <b>EDUCATION</b>                |                                    |                 |                 |                  |                 |                 |              |              |               |
| 01.301.5320                     | Chesterfield/Goshen Regional       | \$ -            | \$ 830,717.00   | \$ -             | \$ 830,717.00   | \$ 830,717.00   | \$ -         | \$ -         | \$ -          |
| 01.301.5700.01                  | New Hingham Roof Debt Exclusion    | \$ -            | \$ 16,966.00    | \$ -             | \$ 16,966.00    | \$ 16,966.00    | \$ -         | \$ -         | \$ -          |
| 01.301.5700.02                  | NHRES Septic Repairs               | \$ -            | \$ -            | \$ 11,621.39     | \$ 11,621.39    | \$ 11,621.39    | \$ -         | \$ -         | \$ -          |
| 01.302.5320                     | Hampshire Regional                 | \$ -            | \$ 590,866.00   | \$ -             | \$ 590,866.00   | \$ 552,134.50   | \$ 38,731.50 | \$ 38,731.50 | \$ -          |
| 01.303.5320                     | Smith Vocational                   | \$ -            | \$ 200,000.00   | \$ -             | \$ 200,000.00   | \$ 169,218.87   | \$ 30,781.13 | \$ 30,781.13 | \$ -          |
| 01.304.5330                     | Smith Vocational Transportation    | \$ -            | \$ 49,000.00    | \$ -             | \$ 49,000.00    | \$ 45,880.72    | \$ 3,119.28  | \$ 3,119.28  | \$ -          |
| TOTAL EDUCATION                 |                                    | \$ -            | \$ 1,687,549.00 | \$ 11,621.39     | \$ 1,699,170.39 | \$ 1,626,538.48 | \$ 72,631.91 | \$ 72,631.91 | \$ -          |
| <b>PUBLIC WORKS</b>             |                                    |                 |                 |                  |                 |                 |              |              |               |
| 01.421.5110                     | Highway Salaries                   | \$ -            | \$ 191,000.00   | \$ -             | \$ 191,000.00   | \$ 188,403.66   | \$ 22,596.34 | \$ 22,596.34 | \$ -          |
| 01.422.5430                     | Equipment Repair                   | \$ -            | \$ 34,000.00    | \$ -             | \$ 34,000.00    | \$ 29,504.46    | \$ 4,495.54  | \$ 4,495.54  | \$ -          |
| 01.422.5480                     | Fuel Expense                       | \$ -            | \$ 36,000.00    | \$ 7,500.00      | \$ 43,500.00    | \$ 41,140.83    | \$ 2,359.17  | \$ 2,359.17  | \$ -          |
| 01.422.5530                     | Highway Rd Improvement             | \$ -            | \$ 38,000.00    | \$ -             | \$ 38,000.00    | \$ 26,160.78    | \$ 11,839.22 | \$ 11,839.22 | \$ -          |
| 01.422.5580                     | Town Garage Expense                | \$ -            | \$ 13,250.00    | \$ -             | \$ 13,250.00    | \$ 12,962.26    | \$ 287.74    | \$ (213.27)  | \$ 501.01     |
| 01.422.5581                     | General Highway Expense            | \$ -            | \$ 88,000.00    | \$ -             | \$ 88,000.00    | \$ 77,131.06    | \$ 10,868.94 | \$ 6,571.28  | \$ 4,297.66   |
| 01.423.5110                     | Winter Hwy Sal & Expense           | \$ -            | \$ 53,000.00    | \$ -             | \$ 53,000.00    | \$ 49,588.02    | \$ 3,411.98  | \$ 3,411.98  | \$ -          |
| 01.424.5530                     | Street Lighting                    | \$ -            | \$ 4,600.00     | \$ -             | \$ 4,600.00     | \$ 650.25       | \$ 3,949.75  | \$ 3,949.75  | \$ -          |
| 01.429.5110                     | Tree Warden Expenses               | \$ -            | \$ 7,500.00     | \$ -             | \$ 7,500.00     | \$ 7,500.00     | \$ -         | \$ -         | \$ -          |
| 01.433.5110                     | Transfer Station Wages             | \$ -            | \$ 14,610.00    | \$ -             | \$ 14,610.00    | \$ 11,033.92    | \$ 3,576.08  | \$ 3,576.08  | \$ -          |
| 01.433.5300                     | Hilltown Res Mgt Waste P/U         | \$ -            | \$ 1,616.00     | \$ -             | \$ 1,616.00     | \$ 665.80       | \$ 950.20    | \$ 950.20    | \$ -          |
| 01.433.5380                     | Hilltown Resource Mgt Coop         | \$ -            | \$ 4,430.00     | \$ -             | \$ 4,430.00     | \$ 4,429.76     | \$ 0.24      | \$ 0.24      | \$ -          |
| 01.439.5381                     | PH Waste Disposal Expenses         | \$ -            | \$ 50,000.00    | \$ -             | \$ 50,000.00    | \$ 31,904.12    | \$ 18,095.88 | \$ 7,313.74  | \$ 10,782.14  |
| 01.450.5190                     | Water Specialist                   | \$ -            | \$ 300.00       | \$ -             | \$ 300.00       | \$ -            | \$ 300.00    | \$ 300.00    | \$ -          |
| 01.491.5110                     | Supt of Cemetery Wages             | \$ -            | \$ 1,028.00     | \$ -             | \$ 1,028.00     | \$ 1,028.00     | \$ -         | \$ -         | \$ -          |
| TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS              |                                    | \$ -            | \$ 537,334.00   | \$ 7,500.00      | \$ 544,834.00   | \$ 462,102.92   | \$ 82,731.08 | \$ 67,150.27 | \$ 15,580.81  |
| <b>HUMAN SERVICES</b>           |                                    |                 |                 |                  |                 |                 |              |              |               |
| 01.512.5300                     | Public Health Agent                | \$ -            | \$ 14,390.00    | \$ 658.34        | \$ 15,048.34    | \$ 15,048.34    | \$ -         | \$ -         | \$ -          |
| 01.512.5580                     | Public Health Expense              | \$ -            | \$ 3,000.00     | \$ (658.34)      | \$ 2,341.66     | \$ 84.80        | \$ 2,256.86  | \$ 2,256.86  | \$ -          |
| 01.541.5110                     | Council on Aging Salaries          | \$ -            | \$ 4,210.00     | \$ -             | \$ 4,210.00     | \$ 4,198.78     | \$ 11.22     | \$ 11.22     | \$ -          |
| 01.541.5580                     | Council on Aging Expenses          | \$ -            | \$ 5,070.00     | \$ -             | \$ 5,070.00     | \$ 5,069.90     | \$ 0.10      | \$ 0.10      | \$ -          |
| 01.543.5581                     | Veterans Services                  | \$ -            | \$ 54,000.00    | \$ -             | \$ 54,000.00    | \$ 36,163.57    | \$ 17,836.43 | \$ 17,836.43 | \$ -          |
| 01.543.5560                     | Veterans Agent Assessment          | \$ -            | \$ 4,751.00     | \$ -             | \$ 4,751.00     | \$ 4,529.00     | \$ 222.00    | \$ 222.00    | \$ -          |
| TOTAL HUMAN SERVICES            |                                    | \$ -            | \$ 85,421.00    | \$ -             | \$ 85,421.00    | \$ 65,094.39    | \$ 20,326.61 | \$ 20,326.61 | \$ -          |
| <b>CULTURE &amp; RECREATION</b> |                                    |                 |                 |                  |                 |                 |              |              |               |
| 01.610.5580                     | Library Expenses                   | \$ -            | \$ 9,000.00     | \$ -             | \$ 9,000.00     | \$ 8,940.84     | \$ 59.16     | \$ 59.16     | \$ -          |
| 01.630.5580                     | Recreation Commission Expenses     | \$ -            | \$ 4,000.00     | \$ -             | \$ 4,000.00     | \$ 3,405.39     | \$ 594.61    | \$ 44.61     | \$ 550.00     |
| 01.691.5580                     | Historical Commission Expenses     | \$ -            | \$ 3,690.00     | \$ -             | \$ 3,690.00     | \$ 2,361.24     | \$ 1,328.76  | \$ 1,328.76  | \$ -          |
| 01.699.5780                     | Open Space Comm Expense            | \$ -            | \$ 150.00       | \$ 13.64         | \$ 163.64       | \$ 163.64       | \$ -         | \$ -         | \$ -          |
| TOTAL CULTURE & RECREATION      |                                    | \$ -            | \$ 16,840.00    | \$ 13.64         | \$ 16,853.64    | \$ 14,871.11    | \$ 1,992.53  | \$ 1,432.53  | \$ 550.00     |
| <b>DEBT</b>                     |                                    |                 |                 |                  |                 |                 |              |              |               |
| 01.710.5910.01                  | Landfill Cap Repair Debt Exclusion | \$ -            | \$ 25,353.18    | \$ -             | \$ 25,353.18    | \$ 25,353.18    | \$ 0.08      | \$ 0.08      | \$ -          |

**TOWN OF GOSHEN, MASSACHUSETTS  
GENERAL FUND EXPENSE REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023**

| Account Number                             | Description  | Balance Forward | Budget          | Budget Revisions | Revised Budget  | Expended        | Balance       | Closed        | Carry Forward |
|--|--|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
|  | Debt Principal   | \$ -            | \$ 25,353.18    | \$ -             | \$ 25,353.18    | \$ 25,353.10    | \$ 0.08       | \$ 0.08       | \$ -          |
| 01.751.5915.01                             | Landfill Cap Repair Debt Exclusion                       | \$ -            | \$ 11,579.82    | \$ -             | \$ 11,579.82    | \$ 11,579.82    | \$ -          | \$ -          | \$ -          |
| 01.752.5925.06                             | Broadband Debt Exclusion                                 | \$ -            | \$ 3,612.00     | \$ -             | \$ 3,612.00     | \$ 3,062.50     | \$ 549.50     | \$ 549.50     | \$ -          |
| 01.752.5925                                | Interest on Short Term Debt                              | \$ -            | \$ 1,100.00     | \$ -             | \$ 1,100.00     | \$ -            | \$ 1,100.00   | \$ 1,100.00   | \$ -          |
|  | Debt Interest  | \$ -            | \$ 16,291.82    | \$ -             | \$ 16,291.82    | \$ 14,642.32    | \$ 1,649.50   | \$ 1,649.50   | \$ -          |
|  | TOTAL DEBT   | \$ -            | \$ 41,645.00    | \$ -             | \$ 41,645.00    | \$ 39,995.42    | \$ 1,649.58   | \$ 1,649.58   | \$ -          |
| <b>ASSESSMENTS</b>                         |  |                 |                 |                  |                 |                 |               |               |               |
| 01.823.5630                                | Air Pollution  | \$ -            | \$ 328.00       | \$ -             | \$ 328.00       | \$ 300.00       | \$ 28.00      | \$ 28.00      | \$ -          |
| 01.820.5630                                | RMV Non-Renewal Surcharge                                | \$ -            | \$ 920.00       | \$ -             | \$ 920.00       | \$ 1,326.00     | \$ (406.00)   | \$ (406.00)   | \$ -          |
| 01.842.5650                                | Regional Transit   | \$ -            | \$ 933.00       | \$ -             | \$ 933.00       | \$ 855.00       | \$ 78.00      | \$ 78.00      | \$ -          |
| 01.841.5650                                | PV Regional Planning Agency/Comm.                        | \$ -            | \$ 175.00       | \$ -             | \$ 175.00       | \$ 170.99       | \$ 4.01       | \$ 4.01       | \$ -          |
|  | TOTAL OTHER ASSESSMENTS                                  | \$ -            | \$ 2,356.00     | \$ -             | \$ 2,356.00     | \$ 2,657.99     | \$ (295.99)   | \$ (295.99)   | \$ -          |
| <b>EMPLOYEE BENEFITS</b>                   |  |                 |                 |                  |                 |                 |               |               |               |
| 01.911.5170                                | County Retirement  | \$ -            | \$ 70,203.00    | \$ -             | \$ 70,203.00    | \$ 50,395.00    | \$ 19,808.00  | \$ 19,808.00  | \$ -          |
| 01.912.5170                                | Worker Comp Insurance                                    | \$ -            | \$ 6,100.00     | \$ 963.00        | \$ 7,063.00     | \$ 7,060.00     | \$ 3.00       | \$ 3.00       | \$ -          |
| 01.912.5170.01                             | Injured On Duty  | \$ -            | \$ 9,778.00     | \$ 1,327.00      | \$ 11,105.00    | \$ 11,105.00    | \$ -          | \$ -          | \$ -          |
| 01.913.5170                                | Unemployment Insurance                                   | \$ -            | \$ 1,100.00     | \$ -             | \$ 1,100.00     | \$ 537.22       | \$ 562.78     | \$ 562.78     | \$ -          |
| 01.914.5170                                | Health Ins-Town Share                                    | \$ -            | \$ 53,260.00    | \$ -             | \$ 53,260.00    | \$ 11,837.00    | \$ 41,423.00  | \$ 41,423.00  | \$ -          |
| 01.915.5170                                | Group Life Insurance-Town Share                          | \$ -            | \$ 490.00       | \$ -             | \$ 490.00       | \$ 39.05        | \$ 450.95     | \$ 450.95     | \$ -          |
| 01.916.5170                                | Medicare Expense - Town share                            | \$ -            | \$ 8,100.00     | \$ -             | \$ 8,100.00     | \$ 7,779.50     | \$ 320.50     | \$ 320.50     | \$ -          |
|  | TOTAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS                                  | \$ -            | \$ 149,031.00   | \$ 2,290.00      | \$ 151,321.00   | \$ 88,752.77    | \$ 62,568.23  | \$ 62,568.23  | \$ -          |
| <b>OTHER INSURANCE</b>                     |  |                 |                 |                  |                 |                 |               |               |               |
| 01.122.5740                                | General Insurance  | \$ -            | \$ 41,200.00    | \$ -             | \$ 41,200.00    | \$ 33,704.00    | \$ 7,496.00   | \$ 7,496.00   | \$ -          |
|  | TOTAL OTHER INSURANCE                                    | \$ -            | \$ 41,200.00    | \$ -             | \$ 41,200.00    | \$ 33,704.00    | \$ 7,496.00   | \$ 7,496.00   | \$ -          |
|  | TOTAL BUDGET   | \$ -            | \$ 3,308,977.00 | \$ -             | \$ 3,308,977.00 | \$ 2,968,341.50 | \$ 340,635.50 | \$ 305,251.89 | \$ 35,383.61  |
| <b>FY2023 ARTICLES</b>                     |  |                 |                 |                  |                 |                 |               |               |               |
| 01.710.5910.04                             | 2019 Hwy Ford F350 Pickup Prin 1 of 5                    | \$ -            | \$ 6,295.00     | \$ -             | \$ 6,295.00     | \$ 6,295.00     | \$ -          | \$ -          | \$ -          |
| 01.751.5915.04                             | 2019 Hwy Ford F350 Pickup Int 1 of 5                     | \$ -            | \$ 489.75       | \$ -             | \$ 489.75       | \$ 489.75       | \$ -          | \$ -          | \$ -          |
| 01.710.5910.02                             | 2019 Hwy Mack Plow/Dump Truck Prin 1 of 10               | \$ -            | \$ 22,000.00    | \$ -             | \$ 22,000.00    | \$ 22,000.00    | \$ -          | \$ -          | \$ -          |
| 01.751.5915.02                             | 2019 Hwy Mack Plow/Dump Truck Int 1 of 10                | \$ -            | \$ 674.00       | \$ -             | \$ 674.00       | \$ 672.13       | \$ 1.87       | \$ 1.87       | \$ -          |
| 01.710.5910.03                             | 2019 Police Ford K8A Interceptor Utility AWD Prin 1 of 5 | \$ -            | \$ 10,675.00    | \$ -             | \$ 10,675.00    | \$ 10,675.00    | \$ -          | \$ -          | \$ -          |
| 01.751.5915.03                             | 2019 Police Ford K8A Interceptor Utility AWD Int 1 of 5  | \$ -            | \$ 833.91       | \$ -             | \$ 833.91       | \$ 833.91       | \$ -          | \$ -          | \$ -          |
| 01.710.5910.07                             | 2021 Hwy Yanmar YT234 Tractor Prin 1 of 5                | \$ -            | \$ 8,720.00     | \$ -             | \$ 8,720.00     | \$ 8,720.00     | \$ -          | \$ -          | \$ -          |
| 01.751.5915.07                             | 2021 Hwy Yanmar YT234 Tractor Int 1 of 5                 | \$ -            | \$ 1,133.60     | \$ -             | \$ 1,133.60     | \$ 1,002.80     | \$ 130.80     | \$ 130.80     | \$ -          |
| 01.422.5810.9000                           | Highway Dept Land Purchase                               | \$ -            | \$ 15,000.00    | \$ -             | \$ 15,000.00    | \$ 14,800.00    | \$ 200.00     | \$ 200.00     | \$ -          |
| 01.429.5240.9001                           | ATM 5/22 A7 Tree Removal                                 | \$ -            | \$ 12,000.00    | \$ -             | \$ 12,000.00    | \$ 12,000.00    | \$ -          | \$ -          | \$ -          |
| 01.122.5780.9002                           | ATM 3/23 Prior Year Bills                                | \$ -            | \$ 529.69       | \$ -             | \$ 529.69       | \$ 529.69       | \$ -          | \$ -          | \$ -          |
| 01.122.5780.9003                           | ATM 5/22 A8 Prior Year Bill                              | \$ -            | \$ 35.00        | \$ -             | \$ 35.00        | \$ 35.00        | \$ -          | \$ -          | \$ -          |
| 01.220.5870.9004                           | ATM 5/23 A29 Fire Pumper                                 | \$ -            | \$ 60,000.00    | \$ -             | \$ 60,000.00    | \$ 10,000.00    | \$ 50,000.00  | \$ 50,000.00  | \$ -          |
|  | TOTAL SPECIAL ARTICLES                                   | \$ -            | \$ 77,821.26    | \$ 60,564.69     | \$ 138,385.95   | \$ 88,053.28    | \$ 50,332.67  | \$ 132.67     | \$ 50,200.00  |
| <b>TRANSFERS TO OTHER FUNDS</b>            |  |                 |                 |                  |                 |                 |               |               |               |
| 01.998.5967                                | Transfer to Cap Slab                                     | \$ -            | \$ 332,223.13   | \$ -             | \$ 332,223.13   | \$ 332,223.13   | \$ -          | \$ -          | \$ -          |
| 01.998.5967                                | Transfer to Cap Slab                                     | \$ -            | \$ 115,000.00   | \$ -             | \$ 115,000.00   | \$ 115,000.00   | \$ -          | \$ -          | \$ -          |
| 01.998.5965                                | Transfers to OPEB  | \$ -            | \$ 6,000.00     | \$ -             | \$ 6,000.00     | \$ 6,000.00     | \$ -          | \$ -          | \$ -          |
|  | TOTAL TRANSFERS TO OTHER FUNDS                           | \$ -            | \$ 453,223.13   | \$ -             | \$ 453,223.13   | \$ 453,223.13   | \$ -          | \$ -          | \$ -          |
|  | TOTAL ALL FY2023 BUDGET & ARTICLES                       | \$ -            | \$ 3,840,021.39 | \$ 60,564.69     | \$ 3,900,586.08 | \$ 3,509,617.91 | \$ 390,968.17 | \$ 305,384.56 | \$ 85,583.61  |
| <b>PRIOR YEAR ARTICLES CARRIED FORWARD</b> |  |                 |                 |                  |                 |                 |               |               |               |
| 01.220.5870.9000                           | Fire Brush Truck   | \$ 3,135.18     | \$ -            | \$ -             | \$ 3,135.18     | \$ -            | \$ 3,135.18   | \$ -          | \$ 3,135.18   |
| 01.192.5870.9000                           | Town Office Comp Svr & Hdw                               | \$ 13,709.68    | \$ -            | \$ -             | \$ 13,709.68    | \$ 262.50       | \$ 13,447.18  | \$ -          | \$ 13,447.18  |
| 01.210.5850.9000                           | Digital Port Radios                                      | \$ 676.26       | \$ -            | \$ -             | \$ 676.26       | \$ -            | \$ 676.26     | \$ -          | \$ 676.26     |

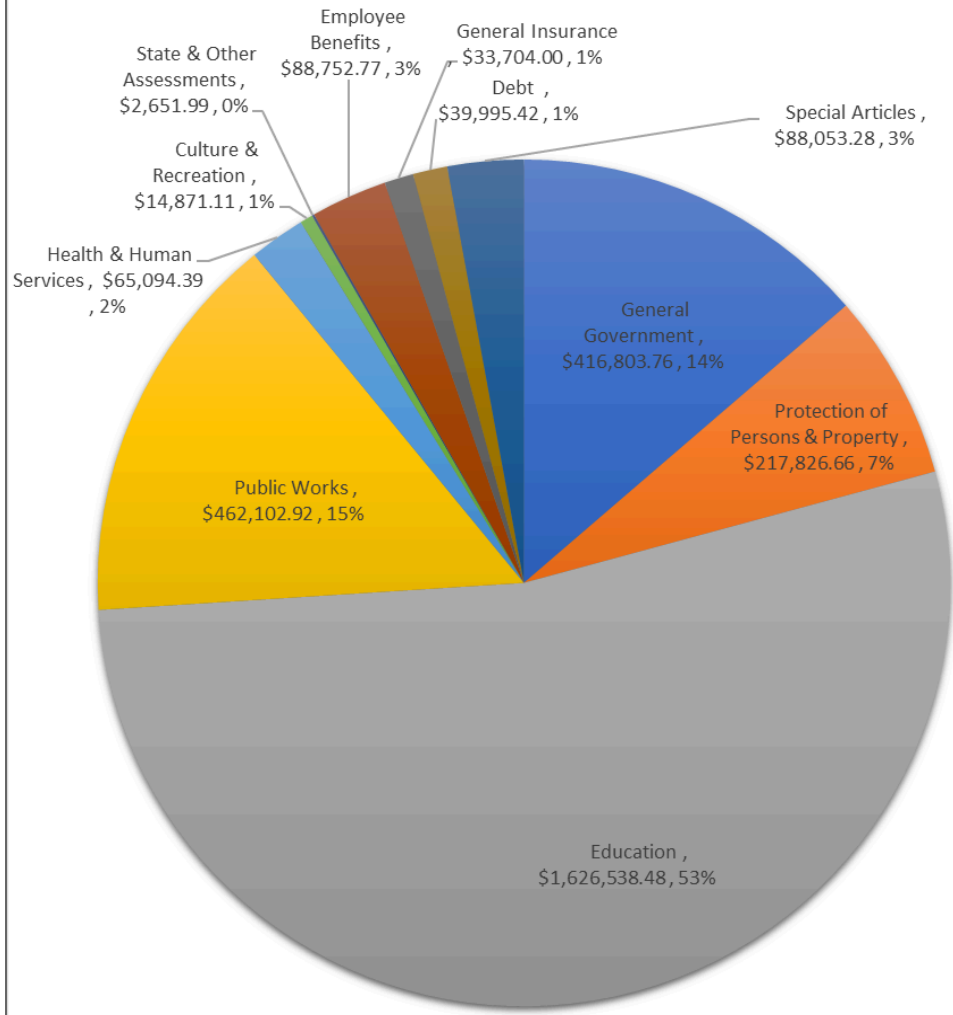
**TOWN OF GOSHEN, MASSACHUSETTS  
GENERAL FUND EXPENSE REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023**

| Account Number                                   | Description                                 | Balance Forward | Budget          | Budget Revisions | Revised Budget  | Expended        | Balance       | Closed        | Carry Forward |
|--|---|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 01-135-5300-9000                                 | ATM 6/21 A11 Chart of Accounts              | \$ 5,000.00     |                 |                  | \$ 5,000.00     |                 | \$ 5,000.00   |               | \$ 5,000.00   |
| 01-192-5870-9001                                 | ATM 6/21 A7 Replace Phone System            | \$ 7,000.00     |                 |                  | \$ 7,000.00     |                 | \$ 7,000.00   |               | \$ 7,000.00   |
| 01-220-5870-9002                                 | ATM 6/21 A8 Used Fire Rescue                | \$ 100.00       |                 |                  | \$ 100.00       |                 | \$ 100.00     |               | \$ 100.00     |
| 01-422-5300-9000                                 | Hwy/PS Feasibility Study                    | \$ 196,900.00   |                 |                  | \$ 196,900.00   |                 | \$ 196,900.00 |               | \$ 196,900.00 |
|  | <b>TOTAL PRIOR YEAR SPECIAL ARTICLES</b>    | \$ 226,521.72   | \$ -            | \$ -             | \$ 226,521.72   | \$ 262.50       | \$ 226,259.22 |               | \$ 226,259.22 |
| <b>PRIOR YEAR ENCUMBRANCES</b>                   |   |                 |                 |                  |                 |                 |               |               |               |
| 01-122-5420-8002                                 | Selection's Expense                         | \$ 204.44       |                 |                  | \$ 204.44       | \$ 204.44       | \$ -          |               | \$ -          |
| 01-141-5420-8001                                 | Assessors Expenses                          | \$ 12.00        |                 |                  | \$ 12.00        | \$ 12.00        | \$ -          |               | \$ -          |
| 01-192-5460-8000                                 | Town Hall Expenses                          | \$ 1,880.77     |                 |                  | \$ 1,880.77     | \$ 1,880.77     | \$ -          |               | \$ -          |
| 01-210-5580-8001                                 | Police Expense                              | \$ 278.47       |                 |                  | \$ 278.47       | \$ 278.47       | \$ -          |               | \$ -          |
| 01-220-5190-8001                                 | FY21 Vol FF Incentives                      | \$ 703.22       |                 |                  | \$ 703.22       | \$ 411.38       | \$ 291.84     |               | \$ 291.84     |
| 01-220-5580-8002                                 | Fire Expenses                               | \$ 1,662.02     |                 |                  | \$ 1,662.02     | \$ 1,662.02     | \$ -          |               | \$ -          |
| 01-422-5580-8003                                 | Highway Expense                             | \$ 123.59       |                 |                  | \$ 123.59       | \$ 123.59       | \$ -          |               | \$ -          |
| 01-439-5381-8000                                 | PH Waste Disposal                           | \$ 38.39        |                 |                  | \$ 38.39        | \$ 38.39        | \$ -          |               | \$ -          |
| 01-610-5580-8001                                 | Library Expense                             | \$ 32.98        |                 |                  | \$ 32.98        | \$ 32.98        | \$ -          |               | \$ -          |
| 01-630-5580-8001                                 | Recreation Expense                          | \$ 145.40       |                 |                  | \$ 145.40       | \$ 145.40       | \$ -          |               | \$ -          |
|  | <b>TOTAL PRIOR FISCAL YEAR ENCUMBRANCES</b> | \$ 5,081.28     | \$ -            | \$ -             | \$ 5,081.28     | \$ 4,789.44     | \$ 291.84     |               | \$ 291.84     |
| <b>TOTAL BUDGET, ARTICLES &amp; ENCUMBRANCES</b> |   | \$ 231,602.40   | \$ 3,840,021.39 | \$ 60,564.69     | \$ 4,132,188.48 | \$ 3,514,669.85 | \$ 617,518.63 | \$ 305,384.56 | \$ 312,134.07 |

**TOWN OF GOSHEN, MASSACHUSETTS  
STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES -  
BUDGETARY BASIS - (NON-GAAP) -  
BUDGET AND ACTUAL - GENERAL FUND  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023**

|  | Budgeted Amounts       |                        |                        | Actual                 | Amounts<br>Carried<br>Forward<br>to Next Year | Variance with<br>Final Budget<br>Positive<br>(Negative) |
|--|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|---|---|
|  | Carry<br>Forward       | Original<br>Budget     | Final<br>Budget        | Budgetary<br>Basis     |   |   |
| <b>Revenues:</b>   |                        |                        |                        |                        |   |   |
| Property Taxes   | \$ -                   | \$ 2,895,737.00        | \$ 2,895,737.00        | \$ 2,922,104.93        | \$ -  | \$ 26,367.93  |
| Sale of Tax Foreclosure  | \$ -                   | \$ -                   | \$ -                   | \$ -                   | \$ -  | \$ -  |
| Excise & Other Taxes   | \$ -                   | \$ 156,000.00          | \$ 156,000.00          | \$ 162,903.30          | \$ -  | \$ 6,903.30   |
| Interest on Delinquent Taxes   | \$ -                   | \$ 11,000.00           | \$ 11,000.00           | \$ 14,980.47           | \$ -  | \$ 3,980.47   |
| Charges for Services-Trash Disposal & Sewer  | \$ -                   | \$ 24,000.00           | \$ 24,000.00           | \$ 40,262.28           | \$ -  | \$ 16,262.28  |
| Licenses, Permits & Fees   | \$ -                   | \$ 27,653.00           | \$ 27,653.00           | \$ 29,295.86           | \$ -  | \$ 1,642.86   |
| Other  | \$ -                   | \$ 22,347.00           | \$ 22,347.00           | \$ 25,214.77           | \$ -  | \$ 2,867.77   |
| Fines & Forfeits   | \$ -                   | \$ 1,000.00            | \$ 1,000.00            | \$ 1,505.00            | \$ -  | \$ 505.00   |
| Interest from Investments  | \$ -                   | \$ 3,000.00            | \$ 3,000.00            | \$ 34,371.19           | \$ -  | \$ 31,371.19  |
| Intergovernmental-Comm. of Mass.   | \$ -                   | \$ 282,660.00          | \$ 282,660.00          | \$ 274,122.00          | \$ -  | \$ (8,538.00)   |
| <b>Total Revenues</b>  | <b>\$ -</b>            | <b>\$ 3,423,397.00</b> | <b>\$ 3,423,397.00</b> | <b>\$ 3,504,759.80</b> | <b>\$ -</b>                                   | <b>\$ 81,362.80</b>                                     |
| <b>Expenditures:</b>   |                        |                        |                        |                        |   |   |
| Current Fiscal Year:   |                        |                        |                        |                        |   |   |
| General Government   | \$ -                   | \$ 509,155.00          | \$ 486,136.84          | \$ 416,803.76          | \$ 17,480.10                                  | \$ 51,852.98  |
| Protection of Persons & Property   | \$ -                   | \$ 238,446.00          | \$ 240,039.13          | \$ 217,826.66          | \$ 1,772.70                                   | \$ 20,439.77  |
| Education  | \$ -                   | \$ 1,687,549.00        | \$ 1,699,170.39        | \$ 1,626,538.48        | \$ -  | \$ 72,631.91  |
| Public Works   | \$ -                   | \$ 537,334.00          | \$ 544,834.00          | \$ 462,102.92          | \$ 15,580.81                                  | \$ 67,150.27  |
| Health & Human Services  | \$ -                   | \$ 85,421.00           | \$ 85,421.00           | \$ 65,094.39           | \$ -  | \$ 20,326.61  |
| Culture & Recreation   | \$ -                   | \$ 16,840.00           | \$ 16,853.64           | \$ 14,871.11           | \$ 550.00                                     | \$ 1,432.53   |
| State & Other Assessments  | \$ -                   | \$ 2,356.00            | \$ 2,356.00            | \$ 2,651.99            | \$ -  | \$ (295.99)   |
| Employee Benefits  | \$ -                   | \$ 149,031.00          | \$ 151,321.00          | \$ 88,752.77           | \$ -  | \$ 62,568.23  |
| General Insurance  | \$ -                   | \$ 41,200.00           | \$ 41,200.00           | \$ 33,704.00           | \$ -  | \$ 7,496.00   |
| Debt Service:  |                        |                        |                        |                        |   |   |
| Principal & Interest on LT Debt  | \$ -                   | \$ 25,353.18           | \$ 25,353.18           | \$ 25,353.10           | \$ -  | \$ 0.08   |
| Interest on ST Debt  | \$ -                   | \$ 16,291.82           | \$ 16,291.82           | \$ 14,642.32           | \$ -  | \$ 1,649.50   |
| Special Articles   | \$ -                   | \$ 77,821.26           | \$ 138,385.95          | \$ 88,053.28           | \$ 50,200.00                                  | \$ 132.67   |
| <b>Total Current Fiscal Year Expenditures</b>  | <b>\$ -</b>            | <b>\$ 3,386,798.26</b> | <b>\$ 3,447,362.95</b> | <b>\$ 3,056,394.78</b> | <b>\$ 85,583.61</b>                           | <b>\$ 305,384.56</b>                                    |
| <b>Other Expenditures:</b>   |                        |                        |                        |                        |   |   |
| Prior Year Articles  | \$ 226,521.12          | \$ -                   | \$ -                   | \$ 262.50              | \$ 226,258.62                                 | \$ -  |
| Prior Year Encumbrances  | \$ 5,081.28            | \$ -                   | \$ -                   | \$ 4,789.44            | \$ 291.84                                     | \$ 0.00   |
| <b>Total Other Expenditures</b>  | <b>\$ 231,602.40</b>   | <b>\$ -</b>            | <b>\$ -</b>            | <b>\$ 5,051.94</b>     | <b>\$ 226,550.46</b>                          | <b>\$ 0.00</b>  |
| <b>Total Expenditures</b>  | <b>\$ 231,602.40</b>   | <b>\$ 3,386,798.26</b> | <b>\$ 3,447,362.95</b> | <b>\$ 3,061,446.72</b> | <b>\$ 312,134.07</b>                          | <b>\$ 305,384.56</b>                                    |
| <b>Excess of Revenues Over<br/>(Under) Expenditures</b>  | <b>\$ (231,602.40)</b> | <b>\$ 36,598.74</b>    | <b>\$ (23,965.95)</b>  | <b>\$ 443,313.08</b>   | <b>\$ (312,134.07)</b>                        | <b>\$ 386,747.36</b>                                    |
| <b>Other Financing Sources (Uses):</b>   |                        |                        |                        |                        |   |   |
| Operating Transfers In   | \$ -                   | \$ 52,401.26           | \$ 112,401.26          | \$ 112,401.26          | \$ -  | \$ -  |
| Operating Transfers (Out)  | \$ -                   | \$ 453,233.13          | \$ 453,223.13          | \$ 453,223.13          | \$ -  | \$ -  |
| <b>Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)</b>  | <b>\$ -</b>            | <b>\$ (400,831.87)</b> | <b>\$ (340,821.87)</b> | <b>\$ (340,821.87)</b> | <b>\$ -</b>                                   | <b>\$ -</b>   |
| <b>Excess of Revenues and Other Financing<br/>Sources Over (Under) Expenditures and<br/>Other Financing Uses</b> | <b>\$ (231,602.40)</b> | <b>\$ (364,233.13)</b> | <b>\$ (364,787.82)</b> | <b>\$ 102,491.21</b>   | <b>\$ (312,134.07)</b>                        | <b>\$ 386,747.36</b>                                    |
| <b>Audit Adjustments</b>   |                        |                        |                        | \$ -                   |   |   |
| <b>Fund Balances, Beginning of Year</b>  |                        | \$ 1,625,137.94        | \$ 1,625,137.94        | \$ 1,625,137.94        | \$ -  | \$ -  |
| <b>Fund Balances, End of Year</b>  | <b>\$ (231,602.40)</b> | <b>\$ 1,260,904.81</b> | <b>\$ 1,260,350.12</b> | <b>\$ 1,727,629.15</b> | <b>\$ (312,134.07)</b>                        | <b>\$ 386,747.36</b>                                    |

### BUDGET FY2023 EXPENDITURES



|   | <b>Actual</b>          |
|---|------------------------|
|   | <b>Budgetary</b>       |
|   | <b>Basis</b>           |
| <b>Expenditures:</b>                          |                        |
| Current Fiscal Year:                          |                        |
| General Government                            | \$ 416,803.76          |
| Protection of Persons & Property              | \$ 217,826.66          |
| Education                                     | \$ 1,626,538.48        |
| Public Works                                  | \$ 462,102.92          |
| Health & Human Services                       | \$ 65,094.39           |
| Culture & Recreation                          | \$ 14,871.11           |
| State & Other Assessments                     | \$ 2,651.99            |
| Employee Benefits                             | \$ 88,752.77           |
| General Insurance                             | \$ 33,704.00           |
| Debt  | \$ 39,995.42           |
| Special Articles                              | \$ 88,053.28           |
| <b>Total Current Fiscal Year Expenditures</b> | <b>\$ 3,056,394.78</b> |

**TOWN OF GOSHEN, MASSACHUSETTS  
SCHEDULE OF SPECIAL REVENUE  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023**

|   | Fund Balances<br>June 30, 2023 | Opening Balance | Rev           | Exp           | Balance/Entry |
|---|--------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| <b>Special Revenue:</b>                     |                                |                 |               |               |               |
| <b>Federal Grants:</b>                      |                                |                 |               |               |               |
| Fire VFA                                    | \$ 1,191.10                    | \$ 1,191.10     | \$ -          | \$ -          | \$ 1,191.10   |
| Fire VFA 2020                               | \$ -                           | \$ (2,000.00)   | \$ 2,000.00   | \$ -          | \$ -          |
| Police Bullet Proof Vests                   | \$ 4,030.81                    | \$ 4,030.81     | \$ -          | \$ -          | \$ 4,030.81   |
| EMPG Grant                                  | \$ (2,700.00)                  | \$ (636.58)     | \$ 636.58     | \$ 2,700.00   | \$ (2,700.00) |
| Police SAMHSA                               | \$ 118.53                      | \$ 118.53       | \$ -          | \$ -          | \$ 118.53     |
| ARPA  | \$ 65,332.69                   | \$ 74,120.93    | \$ 158,271.16 | \$ 167,059.40 | \$ 65,332.69  |
| Covid 19                                    | \$ (2,000.00)                  | \$ (11,029.33)  | \$ 9,029.33   | \$ -          | \$ (2,000.00) |
| <b>State Grants:</b>                        |                                |                 |               |               |               |
| BOH Sustain Material Recovery               | \$ 9,896.67                    | \$ 6,105.06     | \$ 5,250.00   | \$ 1,458.39   | \$ 9,896.67   |
| Solarize Mass                               | \$ 339.09                      | \$ 339.09       | \$ -          | \$ -          | \$ 339.09     |
| Fire Safety Equipment Grant                 | \$ (8,909.06)                  | \$ -            | \$ -          | \$ 8,909.06   | \$ (8,909.06) |
| Caring Community Building                   | \$ 361.50                      | \$ 361.50       | \$ -          | \$ -          | \$ 361.50     |
| Community Septic Management Program         | \$ 8,585.16                    | \$ 8,585.16     | \$ -          | \$ -          | \$ 8,585.16   |
| Green Community                             | \$ 327.01                      | \$ 327.01       | \$ -          | \$ -          | \$ 327.01     |
| State Polling                               | \$ 1,945.30                    | \$ 1,945.30     | \$ -          | \$ -          | \$ 1,945.30   |
| Municipal Vulnerability                     | \$ 13.92                       | \$ 13.92        | \$ -          | \$ -          | \$ 13.92      |
| Election State Grant                        | \$ 2,151.54                    | \$ 319.17       | \$ 1,832.37   | \$ -          | \$ 2,151.54   |
| IT CCC Grant                                | \$ -                           | \$ 1,192.03     | \$ -          | \$ 1,192.03   | \$ -          |
| Clinical Services                           | \$ (4,657.00)                  | \$ -            | \$ 744.00     | \$ 5,401.00   | \$ (4,657.00) |
| IT CCC Accounting Grant                     | \$ 86,047.00                   | \$ -            | \$ 86,047.00  | \$ -          | \$ 86,047.00  |
| CC Employee                                 | \$ 9,000.00                    | \$ -            | \$ 9,000.00   | \$ -          | \$ 9,000.00   |
| CC Wage                                     | \$ 14,855.00                   | \$ -            | \$ 15,000.00  | \$ 145.00     | \$ 14,855.00  |
| Senior Safe Grant                           | \$ 1,795.67                    | \$ 1,820.24     | \$ 2,532.00   | \$ 2,556.57   | \$ 1,795.67   |
| Fire/Safe Grant                             | \$ 3,574.26                    | \$ 7,167.55     | \$ 326.00     | \$ 3,919.29   | \$ 3,574.26   |
| Fire/Safe Grant                             | \$ 13,314.39                   | \$ 10,795.74    | \$ 3,606.74   | \$ 1,088.09   | \$ 13,314.39  |
| Traffic Enforcement                         | \$ 3,760.91                    | \$ 3,760.91     | \$ -          | \$ -          | \$ 3,760.91   |
| Police AED Grant                            | \$ 92.00                       | \$ 1,882.00     | \$ -          | \$ 1,790.00   | \$ 92.00      |
| MADOT Shared Streets                        | \$ -                           | \$ -            | \$ 45,558.00  | \$ 45,558.00  | \$ -          |
| Arts Council                                | \$ 8,622.67                    | \$ 7,103.63     | \$ 5,533.64   | \$ 4,014.60   | \$ 8,622.67   |
| COA Formula Grant                           | \$ 258.87                      | \$ 271.88       | \$ 6,000.00   | \$ 6,013.01   | \$ 258.87     |
| Library                                     | \$ 1,765.53                    | \$ 3,429.11     | \$ 3,813.70   | \$ 5,477.28   | \$ 1,765.53   |
| <b>Receipts Reserved for Appropriation:</b> |                                |                 |               |               |               |
| Wetlands Protection Fund                    | \$ 7,702.29                    | \$ 7,702.29     | \$ -          | \$ -          | \$ 7,702.29   |
| Sale of Cemetery Lots                       | \$ 15,069.84                   | \$ 14,619.84    | \$ 450.00     | \$ -          | \$ 15,069.84  |
| ANCE Conservation                           | \$ 983.20                      | \$ 983.20       | \$ -          | \$ -          | \$ 983.20     |

**TOWN OF GOSHEN, MASSACHUSETTS  
SCHEDULE OF SPECIAL REVENUE  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023**

|                               | Fund Balances<br>June 30, 2023 | Opening Balance        | Rev                  | Exp                  | Balance/Entry          |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| Hist Comm Gifts               | \$ 9,911.59                    | \$ 7,786.59            | \$ 2,125.00          | \$ -                 | \$ 9,911.59            |
| History Book Fund             | \$ 349.50                      | \$ 349.50              | \$ -                 | \$ -                 | \$ 349.50              |
| Transportations Network       | \$ 6.70                        | \$ 6.50                | \$ 0.20              | \$ -                 | \$ 6.70                |
| <b>Revolving Funds:</b>       |                                |                        |                      |                      |                        |
| Recreation                    | \$ 1,720.69                    | \$ 1,720.69            | \$ -                 | \$ -                 | \$ 1,720.69            |
| Ambulance                     | \$ 10,378.61                   | \$ 10,637.76           | \$ 15,532.00         | \$ 15,791.15         | \$ 10,378.61           |
| Zoning Board of Appeals       | \$ 9,173.16                    | \$ 8,329.27            | \$ 2,032.00          | \$ 1,188.11          | \$ 9,173.16            |
| Animal Control                | \$ 11,497.89                   | \$ 10,178.16           | \$ 1,350.00          | \$ 30.27             | \$ 11,497.89           |
| Electrical Inspectors         | \$ 10,268.00                   | \$ 7,873.00            | \$ 5,875.00          | \$ 3,480.00          | \$ 10,268.00           |
| Assessors                     | \$ 4,397.50                    | \$ 4,397.50            | \$ -                 | \$ -                 | \$ 4,397.50            |
| <b>Other Special Revenue:</b> |                                |                        |                      |                      |                        |
| CPA Fund                      | \$ 1,186,645.82                | \$ 1,025,135.37        | \$ 167,685.65        | \$ 6,175.20          | \$ 1,186,645.82        |
| State Septic Grant            | \$ 100,804.20                  | \$ 100,804.20          | \$ -                 | \$ -                 | \$ 100,804.20          |
| Septic Grant Interest         | \$ 4,014.84                    | \$ 3,980.36            | \$ 34.48             | \$ -                 | \$ 4,014.84            |
| COA Donations                 | \$ 9,639.74                    | \$ 8,469.88            | \$ 3,066.00          | \$ 1,896.14          | \$ 9,639.74            |
| Police Donation               | \$ 1,955.00                    | \$ 1,955.00            | \$ -                 | \$ -                 | \$ 1,955.00            |
| Library Gifts                 | \$ 4,191.40                    | \$ 3,464.40            | \$ 727.00            | \$ -                 | \$ 4,191.40            |
| Playground Donation           | \$ 442.79                      | \$ 442.79              | \$ -                 | \$ -                 | \$ 442.79              |
| Goshen Kids Activities        | \$ 2,348.80                    | \$ 2,348.80            | \$ -                 | \$ -                 | \$ 2,348.80            |
| Library Interest              | \$ 109.41                      | \$ 109.41              | \$ -                 | \$ -                 | \$ 109.41              |
| Law Enforcement Trust         | \$ 0.83                        | \$ 0.83                | \$ -                 | \$ -                 | \$ 0.83                |
| Police MED Program            | \$ 3,174.41                    | \$ 3,174.41            | \$ -                 | \$ -                 | \$ 3,174.41            |
| Highway Voc Ed Intern         | \$ (5,440.00)                  | \$ -                   | \$ -                 | \$ 5,440.00          | \$ (5,440.00)          |
| Comm Forest Gr Tilton         | \$ 1,481.75                    | \$ 1,481.75            | \$ -                 | \$ -                 | \$ 1,481.75            |
| <b>Total Special Revenues</b> | <b>\$ 1,609,941.52</b>         | <b>\$ 1,347,166.26</b> | <b>\$ 554,057.85</b> | <b>\$ 291,282.59</b> | <b>\$ 1,609,941.52</b> |



**TOWN OF GOSHEN, MASSACHUSETTS  
SCHEDULE OF TRUST FUNDS AND AGENCY  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023**

| Fund Balances<br>June 30, 2023 | Opening Balance        | Rev                  | Exp                  | Balance/Entry          |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Trust Funds:</b>            |                        |                      |                      |                        |
| <i>Non-Expendable:</i>         |                        |                      |                      |                        |
| Archibald McConnell            | \$ 1,670.07            | 22.11                | -                    | \$ 1,670.07            |
| Lib. Carmela Walsh St          | \$ 29,537.18           | 3,033.04             | -                    | \$ 29,537.18           |
| Wright Fund Almoners           | \$ 13,097.39           | -                    | -                    | \$ 13,097.39           |
| <i>Expendable Trust:</i>       |                        |                      |                      |                        |
| Cemetery Trust                 | \$ 9,175.26            | 3.52                 | -                    | \$ 9,178.78            |
| Cemetery Perpetual             | \$ 17,104.62           | 22.76                | -                    | \$ 17,104.62           |
| Consolidated Trust             | \$ 3,116.54            | 40.84                | -                    | \$ 3,157.38            |
| Library Trust                  | \$ 53,792.89           | 413.92               | -                    | \$ 54,206.81           |
| Lib Durkan Bequest             | \$ 2,349.28            | -                    | -                    | \$ 2,349.28            |
| John McCrae Firehouse          | \$ 16,755.66           | 222.10               | -                    | \$ 16,755.66           |
| Whiting St Poor Almoners       | \$ 16,411.06           | -                    | -                    | \$ 16,411.06           |
| Town Clerk                     | \$ 347.20              | 7.39                 | -                    | \$ 347.20              |
| Tilton Tn Farm                 | \$ 46,724.61           | 8,217.52             | 7,316.85             | \$ 46,724.61           |
| OPEB Trust                     | \$ 10,591.57           | 6,343.24             | -                    | \$ 10,591.57           |
| <b>Stabilization Accounts:</b> |                        |                      |                      |                        |
| General                        | \$ 274,342.32          | 6,176.79             | -                    | \$ 274,342.32          |
| Assessors Property Reval       | \$ 33,203.69           | 439.75               | -                    | \$ 33,203.69           |
| Fire Dept Vehicle              | \$ 2,885.38            | 137.69               | -                    | \$ 2,885.38            |
| Town Buildings                 | \$ 2,407.81            | 1,066.48             | -                    | \$ 2,407.81            |
| Audit                          | \$ 15,000.00           | -                    | -                    | \$ 15,000.00           |
| Capital                        | \$ 1,248,325.26        | 447,523.19           | 110,821.26           | \$ 1,248,325.26        |
| <b>Agency Funds:</b>           |                        |                      |                      |                        |
| Police Firearms Licenses       | \$ 9,298.35            | 506.25               | -                    | \$ 9,298.35            |
| Police Detail                  | \$ (13,723.44)         | 10,097.50            | 9,497.50             | \$ (13,723.44)         |
| Firearms Permits               | \$ 956.25              | 1,518.75             | 1,600.00             | \$ 956.25              |
| Due to Deputy Collector        | \$ 13,284.07           | 1,393.07             | 1,306.00             | \$ 13,284.07           |
| Dog Licenses                   | \$ 4,949.60            | -                    | -                    | \$ 4,949.60            |
| <b>Total Trust Funds</b>       | <b>\$ 1,812,060.90</b> | <b>\$ 487,185.91</b> | <b>\$ 130,541.61</b> | <b>\$ 1,812,060.90</b> |

**TOWN OF GOSHEN, MASSACHUSETTS  
CAPITAL PROJECTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023**

|                                     | Fund Balances<br>June 30, 2023 | Opening Balance       | Rev               | Exp               | Balance/Entry         |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Capital Projects:</b>            |                                |                       |                   |                   |                       |
| Chapter 90                          | -                              | -                     |                   |                   |                       |
| Town Hall Rehabilitation            | 37,266.64                      | 37,349.29             | 145,686.32        | 145,686.32        | \$ 37,266.64          |
| Landfill                            | 73,190.54                      | 73,190.54             | -                 | 82.65             | \$ 73,190.54          |
| Police Cruiser                      | 1,650.00                       | 1,650.00              | -                 | -                 | \$ 1,650.00           |
| Police AWD SUV                      | 0.31                           | 0.31                  | -                 | -                 | \$ 0.31               |
| Book Binding                        | 1,066.74                       | 1,066.74              | -                 | -                 | \$ 1,066.74           |
| Narrowband Replace Radio            | 430.00                         | 430.00                | -                 | -                 | \$ 430.00             |
| West Street Reconstruction          | 4,110.49                       | 4,110.49              | -                 | -                 | \$ 4,110.49           |
| East Street Culvert                 | 2,601.85                       | 2,601.85              | -                 | -                 | \$ 2,601.85           |
| Computer Technology                 | 1,348.00                       | 1,348.00              | -                 | -                 | \$ 1,348.00           |
| Transfer Containers                 | 1,540.00                       | 1,540.00              | -                 | -                 | \$ 1,540.00           |
| Highway Plow/Dump Truck             | (146,500.00)                   | (168,500.00)          | 22,000.00         | -                 | \$ (146,500.00)       |
| Highway Pickup Truck                | (6.00)                         | (6.00)                | -                 | -                 | \$ (6.00)             |
| Broadband Borrowing+Last Mile Grant | (1,062,139.55)                 | (966,597.22)          | 22,500.00         | 118,042.33        | \$ (1,062,139.55)     |
| <b>Total Capital Projects</b>       | <b>(1,085,440.98)</b>          | <b>(1,011,816.00)</b> | <b>190,186.32</b> | <b>263,811.30</b> | <b>(1,085,440.98)</b> |

**TOWN OF GOSHEN, MASSACHUSETTS  
STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES -  
BUDGETARY BASIS - (NON-GAAP) -  
BUDGET AND ACTUAL - BROADBAND ENTERPRISE FUND  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023**

|  | Carry Forward | Budgeted Amounts     |                      | Actual               | Amounts Carried Forward to Next Year | Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative) |
|--|---------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
|  |               | Original Budget      | Final Budget         | Budgetary Basis      |                                      |  |
| <b>Revenues:</b>   |               |                      |                      |                      |                                      |  |
| Broadband Usage Revenues   | \$ -          | \$ 506,293.00        | \$ 506,293.00        | \$ 478,497.87        | \$ -                                 | \$ (27,795.13)                                 |
| Penalties & Interest   | \$ -          | \$ -                 | \$ -                 | \$ -                 | \$ -                                 | \$ -   |
| Earnings on Investments  | \$ -          | \$ -                 | \$ -                 | \$ -                 | \$ -                                 | \$ -   |
| Miscellaneous Revenues   | \$ -          | \$ -                 | \$ -                 | \$ -                 | \$ -                                 | \$ -   |
| <b>Total Revenues</b>  | <b>\$ -</b>   | <b>\$ 506,293.00</b> | <b>\$ 506,293.00</b> | <b>\$ 478,497.87</b> | <b>\$ -</b>                          | <b>\$ (27,795.13)</b>                          |
| <b>Expenditures:</b>   |               |                      |                      |                      |                                      |  |
| Current Fiscal Year:   |               |                      |                      |                      |                                      |  |
| Expenses   | \$ -          | \$ 375,466.00        | \$ 375,466.00        | \$ 283,267.31        | \$ 500.00                            | \$ 91,698.69                                   |
| Special Articles   | \$ -          | \$ -                 | \$ -                 | \$ -                 | \$ -                                 | \$ -   |
| <b>Total Current Fiscal Year Expenditures</b>  | <b>\$ -</b>   | <b>\$ 375,466.00</b> | <b>\$ 375,466.00</b> | <b>\$ 283,267.31</b> | <b>\$ 500.00</b>                     | <b>\$ 91,698.69</b>                            |
| <b>Other Expenditures:</b>   |               |                      |                      |                      |                                      |  |
| Prior Year Articles  | \$ -          | \$ -                 | \$ -                 | \$ -                 | \$ -                                 | \$ -   |
| Prior Year Encumbrances  | \$ -          | \$ -                 | \$ -                 | \$ -                 | \$ -                                 | \$ -   |
| <b>Total Other Expenditures</b>  | <b>\$ -</b>   | <b>\$ -</b>          | <b>\$ -</b>          | <b>\$ -</b>          | <b>\$ -</b>                          | <b>\$ -</b>                                    |
| <b>Total Expenditures</b>  | <b>\$ -</b>   | <b>\$ 375,466.00</b> | <b>\$ 375,466.00</b> | <b>\$ 283,267.31</b> | <b>\$ 500.00</b>                     | <b>\$ 91,698.69</b>                            |
| <b>Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures</b>  | <b>\$ -</b>   | <b>\$ 130,827.00</b> | <b>\$ 130,827.00</b> | <b>\$ 195,230.56</b> | <b>\$ (500.00)</b>                   | <b>\$ 63,903.56</b>                            |
| <b>Other Financing Sources (Uses):</b>   |               |                      |                      |                      |                                      |  |
| Operating Transfers In   | \$ -          | \$ -                 | \$ -                 | \$ -                 | \$ -                                 | \$ -   |
| Operating Transfers (Out)  | \$ -          | \$ 1,580.00          | \$ 1,580.00          | \$ 1,580.00          | \$ -                                 | \$ -   |
| <b>Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)</b>  | <b>\$ -</b>   | <b>\$ (1,580.00)</b> | <b>\$ (1,580.00)</b> | <b>\$ (1,580.00)</b> | <b>\$ -</b>                          | <b>\$ -</b>                                    |
| <b>Excess of Revenues and Other Financing Sources Over (Under) Expenditures and Other Financing Uses</b> | <b>\$ -</b>   | <b>\$ 129,247.00</b> | <b>\$ 129,247.00</b> | <b>\$ 193,650.56</b> | <b>\$ (500.00)</b>                   | <b>\$ 63,903.56</b>                            |
| <b>Audit Adjustments</b>   |               |                      |                      | \$ -                 |                                      |  |
| <b>Fund Balances, Beginning of Year</b>  |               | \$ -                 | \$ -                 | \$ -                 | \$ -                                 | \$ -   |
| <b>Fund Balances, End of Year</b>  | <b>\$ -</b>   | <b>\$ 129,247.00</b> | <b>\$ 129,247.00</b> | <b>\$ 193,650.56</b> | <b>\$ (500.00)</b>                   | <b>\$ 63,903.56</b>                            |

**TOWN OF GOSHEN, MASSACHUSETTS  
BROADBAND ENTERPRISE EXPENSE REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023**

| Account Number      | Description                                 | Balance Forward | Budget            | Budget Revisions | Revised Budget    | Expended | Balance           | Close | Carry Forward    |
|---------------------|---|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|----------|-------------------|-------|------------------|
| <b>EXPENDITURES</b> |   |                 |                   |                  |                   |          |                   |       |                  |
| 60.461.5110.00      | MLP Staff Stipends                          | \$              | 7,800.00          | \$               | 7,800.00          | \$       | 2,599.96          | \$    | 2,599.96         |
| 60.461.5210.00      | Hub Electricity                             | \$              | 3,600.00          | \$               | 3,600.00          | \$       | 3,600.00          | \$    | 3,600.00         |
| 60.461.5210.01      | Hub Propane                                 | \$              | 800.00            | \$               | 800.00            | \$       | 684.52            | \$    | 684.52           |
| 60.461.5230.00      | Whip City Fiber Subscriber Costs            | \$              | 156,486.00        | \$               | 156,486.00        | \$       | 144,007.33        | \$    | 12,478.67        |
| 60.461.5230.01      | OOMA Phone Subscriber Costs                 | \$              | 32,771.00         | \$               | 32,771.00         | \$       | 31,821.61         | \$    | 949.39           |
| 60.461.5230.02      | Backhaul Service                            | \$              | 26,400.00         | \$               | 26,400.00         | \$       | 27,650.75         | \$    | (1,250.75)       |
| 60.461.5240.00      | Network Repairs & Maintenance               | \$              | 30,000.00         | \$               | 30,000.00         | \$       | 20,117.04         | \$    | 9,882.96         |
| 60.461.5240.01      | Hub Generator Maintenance Contract          | \$              | 500.00            | \$               | 500.00            | \$       | 290.00            | \$    | (290.00)         |
| 60.461.5240.02      | Network Path Maintenance                    | \$              | 18,000.00         | \$               | 18,000.00         | \$       | 15,210.00         | \$    | 2,790.00         |
| 60.461.5300.00      | Legal Fees                                  | \$              | 5,000.00          | \$               | 5,000.00          | \$       | 5,000.00          | \$    | 5,000.00         |
| 60.461.5380.00      | Lifeline Administration                     | \$              | 2,000.00          | \$               | 2,000.00          | \$       | 40.00             | \$    | 1,960.00         |
| 60.461.5380.01      | Pole Bond @3k per Utility                   | \$              | 6,000.00          | \$               | 6,000.00          | \$       | 6,000.00          | \$    | -                |
| 60.461.5380.02      | MBI Failover 2nd Circuit                    | \$              | 8,400.00          | \$               | 8,400.00          | \$       | 9,093.51          | \$    | (693.51)         |
| 60.461.5740.00      | Network Insurance                           | \$              | 5,359.00          | \$               | 5,359.00          | \$       | 5,350.00          | \$    | 9.00             |
| 60.461.5740.01      | Pole License Attachment Fees                | \$              | 24,320.00         | \$               | 24,320.00         | \$       | 11,550.20         | \$    | 12,769.80        |
| 60.461.5780.00      | CC Stripe Fees                              | \$              | 6,483.00          | \$               | 6,483.00          | \$       | 6,483.00          | \$    | 6,483.00         |
| 60.461.5780.01      | EFT Stripe Fees                             | \$              | 2,112.00          | \$               | 2,112.00          | \$       | -                 | \$    | 2,112.00         |
| 60.461.5780.02      | CAFII Fees & Hold Backs                     | \$              | 1,400.00          | \$               | 1,400.00          | \$       | 1,366.58          | \$    | 33.42            |
| 60.461.5780.03      | Miscellaneous Expenses                      | \$              | 2,000.00          | \$               | 2,000.00          | \$       | 53.55             | \$    | 1,946.45         |
| 60.461.5780.04      | Network Operations Monitoring & Contingency | \$              | 5,200.00          | \$               | 5,200.00          | \$       | -                 | \$    | 5,200.00         |
| 60.461.5780.05      | Dig Safe/NJUNS Fees                         | \$              | 2,000.00          | \$               | 2,000.00          | \$       | 1,531.17          | \$    | 468.83           |
| 60.461.5780.06      | Emergency Restoration Retainer thru WG&E    | \$              | 3,600.00          | \$               | 3,600.00          | \$       | 3,587.55          | \$    | 12.45            |
| 60.461.5780.07      | Contingency-Uniforseen Expenses             | \$              | 13,235.00         | \$               | 13,235.00         | \$       | -                 | \$    | 13,235.00        |
| 60.461.5870.00      | Equipment Replacement                       | \$              | 12,000.00         | \$               | 12,000.00         | \$       | 282.50            | \$    | 11,717.50        |
|                     | Total Budget                                | \$              | 375,466.00        | \$               | 375,466.00        | \$       | 283,267.31        | \$    | 92,198.69        |
|                     | Indirect Costs to GF                        | \$              | 1,580.00          | \$               | 1,580.00          | \$       | 1,580.00          | \$    | -                |
|                     | Total Other Uses                            | \$              | 1,580.00          | \$               | 1,580.00          | \$       | 1,580.00          | \$    | -                |
|                     | <b>TOTAL ALL EXPENDITURES</b>               | \$              | <b>377,046.00</b> | \$               | <b>377,046.00</b> | \$       | <b>284,847.31</b> | \$    | <b>92,198.69</b> |
|                     |   | \$              |                   | \$               |                   | \$       |                   | \$    | <b>500.00</b>    |

**OTHER FINANCING USES:**

|                |                      |    |          |    |          |    |          |    |   |
|----------------|----------------------|----|----------|----|----------|----|----------|----|---|
| 60.461.5961.00 | Indirect Costs to GF | \$ | 1,580.00 | \$ | 1,580.00 | \$ | 1,580.00 | \$ | - |
|                | Total Other Uses     | \$ | 1,580.00 | \$ | 1,580.00 | \$ | 1,580.00 | \$ | - |

**TOTAL ALL EXPENDITURES**

|  |  |    |                   |    |                   |    |                   |    |                  |
|--|--|----|-------------------|----|-------------------|----|-------------------|----|------------------|
|  |  | \$ | <b>377,046.00</b> | \$ | <b>377,046.00</b> | \$ | <b>284,847.31</b> | \$ | <b>92,198.69</b> |
|  |  | \$ |                   | \$ |                   | \$ |                   | \$ | <b>500.00</b>    |

## Town Clerk

The Town Clerk's Office is one of the oldest elected offices in the Town serving the residents of Goshen since 1781. The Town Clerk administers the Oath of Office to over 75 elected and appointed members of local committees and boards and provides a copy of the Open Meeting Law and Conflict of Interest Law as required by law. The Clerk is also responsible for maintaining the Conflict of Interest exam certifications from all town employees and members of all boards and committees.

### 2023 Statistics

The Town Clerk is Registrar of Vital Statistics, registering all births, deaths and marriages that occur within Goshen and those events occurring elsewhere, to town residents. The Town Clerk is responsible for the examining and certification of all vital records by signing and affixing the town seal.

**Births:** Goshen happily welcomed three newborns into the community in 2023: two females and one male.

**Marriages:** Four couples were joined in marriage, with the issuance and recording of their marriage in Goshen in 2023.

**Deaths:** Our deepest condolences to all families who lost a loved one this year. In 2023, Goshen recorded ten deaths.

**Dogs:**

Single Licenses Issued: 243

Kennel Licenses Issued: 1

### Elections and Meetings

The Town Clerk is the Chief Election Official overseeing all aspects of elections whether they are town, state or federal and is responsible for the certification of all election results that are sent to the Secretary of State. She is Clerk, Ex-Officio of the Board of Registrars. The Town Clerk nominates appointment of approximately 20 Election Officials each year. The Clerk conducts the Annual Town Census (Street Listing); entering all town residents into the state database.

**2023 Street Listing:** 950 Residents

**Registered Voters:** 761

**Town Meetings held in 2023:** (See pages that follow for meeting minutes)

- ❖ March 13, 2023 Special Town Meeting
- ❖ April 10, 2023 Annual Town Caucus
- ❖ May 20, 2023 Annual Town Meeting
- ❖ October 23, 2023 Special Town Meeting

### Elections held in 2023:

- ❖ June 3, 2023 Annual Town Election; 75 ballots cast

Our Annual Town Election went off without a hitch thanks to our skilled and dedicated election staff. I'd like to thank Evelyn Kellogg-Culver and Shannon Wade, Election Wardens; and Kerry Normandin and Kit Rock, Election Clerks, as they once again made the day run smoothly.

Thank you, election workers and constables, for your cheerfulness and reliability. Thank you, Ronnie & Joanie Loven, for setting up and taking down all the election equipment. Last but not least, thank you, Gina Papineau, for your continued assistance and support.

Respectfully submitted,  
 Kristen M. Estelle  
 Town Clerk of Goshen

**Town Meeting Warrant and Minutes (ATM & STM)**

**TOWN OF GOSHEN  
 JOHN JAMES MEMORIAL HALL**

**SPECIAL TOWN MEETING  
 Monday, March 13, 2023**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm, a quorum being present and 30 voters signed in. Since Moderator Keith Wright was out of state, Town Clerk Kristen Estelle began the meeting and opened the floor to nominations for a temporary moderator. Stephen Estelle was the only person nominated, and was thus elected temporary moderator.

The temporary moderator noted that the warrant was duly posted and returned and then dispensed with the formal reading of the warrant and moved to Article 1.

**ARTICLE 1** Motion made and seconded to transfer the sum of \$529.69 from Free Cash to the account known as "Bills of Prior Years" for the purpose of payment of FY 2020, FY 2021, and FY 2022 bills from the following accounts.

| Purpose   | Amount    |
|---|-----------|
| Konica Minolta, 4 invoices. FY 2020<br>General Government     | \$ 64.11  |
| Barnes & Noble, 4 invoices. FY 2021 & 2022<br>Library Expense | \$ 456.63 |
| Charlie Amo, FY 2022<br>Conservation Commission               | \$ 8.95   |

Note: A 9/10ths vote is required for a bill of a prior year at an STM.

**Passed unanimously.**

**ARTICLE 2** Motion made and seconded to approve an appropriation of \$400,000, as recommended by the Community Preservation Committee (CPC), for the purpose of funding the Town Hall Rehabilitation Project Phase II. This phase will include the rehabilitation of the exterior building envelope, including windows, exterior doors, repointing masonry, evaluation and repair of the flat roof over the back extension and any other repairs deemed necessary. Said funds to come from the following CPA accounts:

| Account                   | Amount     |
|---------------------------|------------|
| Historic Resource Reserve | \$ 129,875 |
| Undesignated Fund Balance | \$ 270,125 |

These sums will be placed into a special project account known as the Town Hall Rehabilitation Account. Project expenses will be paid from this account.

Any unexpended funds shall be returned to the CPA accounts from which they were appropriated after three years from the date of appropriation, unless extended for cause, by approval of the Goshen Select Board and the CPC.

Note: Majority vote is required.

**Passed unanimously.**

There being no other business to come before the Town, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn at 7:12pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen M. Estelle  
Town Clerk

**TOWN OF GOSHEN  
JOHN JAMES MEMORIAL HALL**

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING  
Saturday, May 20, 2023**

The meeting was called to order at 9:40 a.m., a quorum being present and 72 voters signed in. The annual meeting was held in the John James Memorial Hall for the first time since 2019. The 2020-2022 annual town meetings were held under a tent in the field behind town offices, due to Covid-19 pandemic precautions.

Moderator Keith Wright recognized the Goshen residents who passed away since the last annual town meeting and asked for a moment of silence:

David Pesuit  
Richard Durant Sr.  
Dana Smith  
Norene Roberts  
Richard Malinowski  
Virginia Otis  
Lois Bacon

Michael Helbling  
Susan Smith  
James Wentzel Jr.  
Darlene Roberts  
Brian Tennyson  
Mary McCulloch

The moderator noted that the warrant was duly posted and returned and then dispensed with the formal reading of the warrant and moved to Article 1.

ARTICLE 1: Motion made and seconded to authorize the Treasurer to expend from the Capital Stabilization Account the sum of \$6,605.40 for the payment of the principal and interest on the 2019 Ford Super Duty F350 ¾ ton pickup truck.

| Ford Super Duty F350 pickup truck | Principal  | Interest | Total Payment |
|-----------------------------------|------------|----------|---------------|
| 2019                              | \$6,278.90 | \$326.50 | \$6,605.40    |

Note: 2/3rds vote is required.

Note: This is the 4th of 5 payments. This expenditure is a contractual payment for previously authorized & signed borrowing.

**Passed unanimously.**

ARTICLE 2: Motion made and seconded to authorize the Treasurer to expend from the Capital Stabilization Account the sum of \$11,247.04 for the payment of the principal and interest on the 2019 Police Ford K8A Interceptor Utility AWD.

| Police Ford K8A Interceptor Utility AWD | Principal   | Interest | Total Payment |
|---|-------------|----------|---------------|
| 2019                                    | \$10,691.10 | \$555.94 | \$11,247.04   |

Note: 2/3rds vote is required.

Note: This is the 4th of 5 payments. This expenditure is a contractual payment for previously authorized signed borrowing.

**Passed unanimously.**

ARTICLE 3: Motion made and seconded to authorize the Treasurer to expend from the Capital Stabilization Account the sum of \$25,955.50 for the payment of the principal and interest on the 2019 Mack single axle primary plow/dump truck.

| Mack Primary Plow/Dump Truck | Principal   | Interest   | Total Payment |
|------------------------------|-------------|------------|---------------|
| 2019                         | \$22,000.00 | \$3,955.50 | \$25,955.50   |

Note: 2/3rds vote is required.

Note: This is the 4th of 10 payments. This expenditure is a contractual payment for previously authorized & signed borrowing.

**Passed unanimously.**

ARTICLE 4: Motion made and seconded to authorize the Treasurer to expend from the Capital Stabilization Account the sum of \$9,522.24 for the payment of the principal and interest on the Yanmar YT235 tractor.

| Yanmar YT235 Tractor | Principal  | Interest | Total Payment |
|----------------------|------------|----------|---------------|
| 2021                 | \$8,720.00 | \$802.24 | \$9,522.24    |

Note: 2/3rds vote is required.

Note: This is the 2nd of 5 payments. This expenditure is a contractual payment for previously authorized borrowing & signed borrowing.

**Passed unanimously.**

ARTICLE 5: Motion made and seconded to establish a Broadband Stabilization Account.

Note: 2/3rds vote is required.



Note: The funds in this account will be used to contribute to the Goshen MLP High Speed Internet Operations Enterprise Funds in years where there may be a deficit or to pay down broadband debt, or offset subscriber fees based on recommendations of the Goshen Finance Committee in consultation with the Select Board and MLP Board.

**Passed unanimously.**

ARTICLE 6: Motion made and seconded to transfer from Free Cash, funds in the amount of \$117,437.28 to the Broadband Stabilization Account.

Note: Majority vote is required.

Note: These funds represent MLP High Speed Internet revenues available from the 1<sup>st</sup> year subscriber fees prior to the establishment of a Broadband Enterprise account.

**Passed unanimously.**

ARTICLE 7: Motion made and seconded to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$70,000 to the Capital Stabilization Account for repayment of amounts used for MLP High Speed Internet Expenses.

Note: Majority vote is required.

Note: As per article #12 on the June 12, 2021 ATM warrant, this amount was transferred from Free Cash to the MLP High Speed Internet Account to cover broadband expenses in advance of subscription revenues. This amount would have otherwise been transferred to the Capital Stabilization Account.

**Passed unanimously.**

ARTICLE 8: Motion made and seconded to transfer the sum of \$35.00 from Free Cash to the account known as "Bills of Prior Years" for the payment of an FY 2022 bill from the Massachusetts Municipal.

Note: A 4/5<sup>ths</sup> vote is required at an ATM.

Note: This bill was received too late to be processed in FY22.

**Passed unanimously.**

ARTICLE 9: Motion made and seconded to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$2,000 to the COVID-19 Expense Account for expenses incurred in connection with the Federally Declared State of Emergency known as the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Note: Majority vote is required.

Note: This article refers to expenses incurred during the pandemic in connection with COVID-19, but *NOT reimbursed* by FEMA or the Commonwealth of Massachusetts CARES Act Grant. The Town spent \$102,837.98 on Covid-19 Expenses. All but \$2,000.00 were reimbursed either by FEMA (\$ 9,029.33) or the Commonwealth of Massachusetts CARES Act, \$93,808.65.

**Passed by requisite majority.**

ARTICLE 10: Motion made and seconded to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$15,000, for the purpose of tree removal. And, to authorize the Select Board to expend such monies for this purpose.

Note: Majority vote is required.

Note: This is to proactively remove trees jeopardizing the Town's right of way and to alleviate the frequency of utility & internet service interruptions. The work will be planned and overseen by the Tree Warden in coordination with the Highway Supervisor and MLP Manager.

**Passed by requisite majority.**

ARTICLE 11: Motion made and seconded to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$8,000.00 for the purpose of purchasing Fire Department Turnout Gear to meet state compliance guidelines, and, to authorize the Fire Chief to expend such monies from a turnout gear project account for this purpose.

Note: Majority vote is required.

Note: Turnout gear is required to be replaced every 10 years and includes jackets, pants, boots, helmets, hoods and gloves. Funds for a standard replacement of 2 full sets per year have been in the Fire Dept. budget. Due to inflationary pressures the amount in the budget did not cover boots and helmets. Funds from this article will provide for them.

**Passed by requisite majority.**

ARTICLE 12: Motion made and seconded to establish a Cell Tower Stabilization Account.

Note: 2/3rds vote is required.

Note: The purpose of the Account is to accumulate funds to pay for potential future cell tower maintenance and related costs.

**Passed by requisite majority.**

ARTICLE 13: Motion made and seconded to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$29,322.54, to fund a Cell Tower Stabilization Account.

Note: Majority vote is required.

Note: The \$29.3K amount was received from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts upon the dissolution of the Hampshire County of Governments and the transfer of the cell tower to the Town of Goshen. It represents what was remaining in HCOG for the cell tower after 20 years.

**Passed by requisite majority.**

ARTICLE 14: Motion made and seconded to transfer from Free Cash, the sum of \$5,000.00, to the OPEB Liability Trust Fund for the purpose of covering Other Post-Employment Benefits. And, to authorize the Treasurer (The OPEB trustee) to expend such monies for this purpose.

Note: Majority vote is required.

Note: The OPEB Liability Trust Fund was approved by vote at the Annual Town Meeting of June 12, 2021, article 23. The liability is actuarially calculated, and is a standard governmental accounting best practice for recording unfunded future liabilities.

**Passed by requisite majority.**

ARTICLE 15: Motion made and seconded to transfer, from Free Cash, the sum of \$20,000 for the purpose of hiring a consultant to work with the appropriate committees and/or boards, to create a comprehensive book of General By-Laws and to update the Zoning By-laws, and to authorize the Select Board to expend such monies for this purpose.

Note: Majority vote is required.

Note: The General By-laws exist in various places, such as the Town Meeting Minutes and Town Clerk's office. There is no central collection of the Town's By-laws.

**Passed by requisite majority.**

ARTICLE 16: Motion made and seconded to transfer, from Free Cash the sum of \$600,080.18 to the Capital Stabilization Account.

Note: Majority vote is required.

**Passed by requisite majority.**

ARTICLE 17: Motion made and seconded to transfer \$30,000 from the account known as Assessors Overlay Surplus to reduce the FY 2024 tax rate.

Note: Majority vote is required

Note: The Overlay Surplus account is required by the DOR to reserve for tax exemptions, abatements, and uncollected taxes. In that the Tax Collector has collected a lot of outstanding taxes we are allowed to reduce the amount in this overlay account.

**Passed by requisite majority.**

ARTICLE 18: Motion made and seconded that the Town raise and appropriate \$3,669,315.38 to fund the FY 2024 Town budget and defray the charges from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 for the maintenance and operation of the Town as shown in the Finance Committee Report and Budget Recommendations for the Annual Town Meeting.

Note: Majority vote is required.

**Passed by requisite majority.**

ARTICLE 19: Motion made and seconded to appropriate \$423,935.93 to fund the Goshen MLP Enterprise Fund budget for FY 2024 including Salaries and Benefits, Operation and Maintenance, and Debt Service and to fund said budget appropriation \$26,100 from a CAFII federal grant and the remaining \$397,835.93 by user fees.

Note: Majority vote is required.

Note: The MLP budget is to be funded from MLP subscriber fees and \$26,100 from CAFII federal grant funds.

**Passed by requisite majority.**

ARTICLE 20: Motion made and seconded to authorize the Select Board to set the compensation of Town employees and appointed officials as established in the Town’s personnel policies.

Note: Majority vote is required.

**Passed by requisite majority.**

ARTICLE 21: Motion made and seconded to fix the salaries and hourly rates of all compensated elected officers of the Town for Fiscal Year 2024 as indicated by M.G.L. Chapter 41, Section 108.

Note: Majority vote is required.

| ELECTED POSITION         | COMPENSATION |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| Moderator                | \$ 200.00    |
| Board of Assessors       | \$ 2,520.00  |
| Select Board, Clerk      | \$ 3,500.00  |
| Select Board, Vice Chair | \$ 5,500.00  |
| Select Board, Chair      | \$ 6,500.00  |
| Town Clerk               | \$ 19,100.00 |

**Passed by requisite majority.**

ARTICLE 22: Motion made and seconded to rescind Article 23 adopted at the July 25, 2020 ATM which accepted provisions for M.G.L. Chapter 59 Section 21A concerning additional compensation for Certified Assessors or Assistant Assessors, and, in its place, adopt Chapter 59 Section 21 A <sup>1/2</sup> concerning additional compensation for certified Assessors or the Assistant Assessor.

Note: Majority vote is required.

Note: This will in effect change the compensation for being certified from \$500 per annum to 10% of the regular salary.

**Passed by requisite majority.**

ARTICLE 23: Motion made and seconded to advise the Select Board to approve removing the Town current tennis courts, which have fallen to disrepair, and reclaiming the area where the old courts are now located for use as a Town green or other landscaped public area in cooperation with the Open Space Committee research and plans that have been presented to the community in public meetings.

Note: Majority vote is required

Note: This is a non-binding advisory vote. A vote of Town Meeting is not required for this action but a positive vote may demonstrate community support for future grant funding to support open space projects.

**Passed by requisite majority.**

ARTICLE 24: Motion made and seconded to vote to appropriate or reserve from the Community Preservation Act annual revenues, for community preservation projects, and other expenses, in the amounts recommended by the Community Preservation Committee as follows, with each item to be considered a separate appropriation:

Note: Majority vote is required.

Note: These figures are based on the estimated FY2024 real estate tax Community Preservation Act surcharge commitments plus a 100% match from the state, allocated by a minimum of 10% percent to Historic

Resources, 10% to Open Space, 10% to Community Housing, and a maximum of 5% to Administrative Expenses and the remainder to Budgeted Reserve (65%).

**Appropriations From FY 2024 estimated revenues:**

\$8,500 for Committee Administrative Expenses

**Reserves From FY 2024 Estimated Revenues:**

\$ 17,000 for Historic Resources Reserve

\$ 17,000 for Community Housing Reserve

\$ 17,000 for Open Space Reserve

\$110,000 for CPA Budget Reserve

**Passed by requisite majority.**

ARTICLE 25: Motion made and seconded to approve an appropriation of \$200,000 from the Open Space Reserve, as recommended by the Community Preservation Committee (CPC), for the purpose of funding the Re-Imagine Goshen Center Project. This project proposes renovations to Memorial Park and the area occupied by the tennis courts. Project includes removal of the tennis court and installation of a pavilion where the tennis court currently is and removal of selected shrubs and trees, installation of a green surrounded by stonewalls and patio accommodating café tables, memorial stones, ADA compliant walkways and benches, ringed by flowering trees and shrubs.

Note: Majority vote is required.

Note: The project is estimated to cost \$300,000. The remaining funding is expected to be covered by a \$50,000 State grant being submitted and \$50,000 in fundraising efforts.

**Passed by requisite majority.**

ARTICLE 26: Motion made and seconded to approve an appropriation of \$108,450, from the CPA undesignated fund balance, as recommended by the Community Preservation Committee (CPC), to be used for Phase I of the restoration of the Williams–Boltwood House located at 2 Williams Drive in Goshen. This phase will include the creation of an historical structure report (HSR) which will be supported by structural engineering, dendrochronology, and paint assessments, funds for roof repairs and the creation of a set of baseline architectural drawings. Said funds will come from the undesignated fund balance account. These sums will be placed into a special project account known as the Williams-Boltwood House Restoration Account. Project expenses will be paid from this account. Any unexpended funds shall be returned to the CPA account from which it was appropriated, after three years of the date of appropriation, unless extended for cause by approval of the CPC.

Note: Majority vote is required.

Note: The \$108,450 represents 90% of the estimated \$120,500 costs associated with this phase of the project. The remaining 10%, or \$12,050, will come from the Williams-Boltwood House Trust, through donations and fundraising efforts.

**A motion was made to indefinitely postpone the article. That motion was seconded but then failed.**

**After much discussion, a motion was made to move the article. That motion was seconded and passed by requisite majority.**

**The original motion passed by requisite majority.**

ARTICLE 27: Motion made and seconded to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, to expend out of the Capital Stabilization Account the sum of \$157,550, for the purchase of a 2024 Chevrolet Silverado 6500 HD, 4WD Model CK56403, outfitted for plowing for the Highway Department.

Note: A 2/3rds vote is required.

Note: This vehicle will be used to plow the narrower roads in the town and for plowing when the snow is heavy and wet.

**Passed unanimously.**

ARTICLE 28: Article 28 was moved as printed in the warrant and appropriate \$470,000, and to fund said appropriation, the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, be authorized to borrow \$470,000 for the purpose specified in Article 28, all pursuant to G.L. c44 §§7 or 8 or any other enabling authority, and issue bonds and notes therefor.

Note: A 2/3rds vote is required.

Note: The current vehicle is 30 ft 7 inches in length and holds 750 gallons of water. The proposed vehicle is 28 ft 3 inches in length and holds 2000 gallons of water.

Note: In the event the borrowing does not reach the total authorization, the excess borrowing amount will be rescinded.

**Passed unanimously.**

ARTICLE 29: Motion made and seconded to vote to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, to expend out of the Capital Stabilization Account \$60,000 for the down payment of the purchase of a 2024 Freightliner 1250 GPM Tanker Pumper, to replace the 1995 KME 1250 GPM fire.

Note: A 2/3rds vote is required.

Note: The current vehicle is 30 ft 7 inches in length and holds 750 gallons of water. The proposed vehicle is 28 ft 3 inches in length and holds 2000 gallons of water.

**Passed unanimously.**

ARTICLE 30: Motion made and seconded to close out the Fire Vehicle Stabilization Account to the Capital Stabilization Account. The estimated balance in this Fire Vehicle Stabilization Account is \$2,885.58, however, provided that additional interest is accrued, the treasurer is authorized to close out the entire balance.

Note: A 2/3rds vote is required.

**Passed unanimously.**

ARTICLE 31: Motion made and seconded that the Town vote pursuant to M.G.L. c.44, §53E½, as most recently amended, to set Fiscal Year 2024 spending limits for the Revolving Funds as follows.

| <b>Program or Purpose</b>                     | <b>FY 2024 Spending Limit</b> |
|---|-------------------------------|
| Highland Ambulance Fuel Reimbursement Account | \$12,000                      |
| Animal Control Revolving Fund                 | \$7,500                       |
| Board of Appeals Revolving Fund               | \$6,000                       |
| Electrical Inspector Revolving Fund           | \$5,000                       |

Note: Majority vote is required.

**Passed unanimously.**

ARTICLE 32: Motion made and seconded that the Town vote pursuant to M.G.L. c.268A, §21A to authorize the Board of Assessors, Board of Health, Finance Committee, Planning Board, Select Board, and the Tilton Town Supervisors to appoint their own members to positions under their respective jurisdictions and supervision as shall be established by Town Meeting.

Note: Majority vote is required.

Note: Due to the continuing need to find and fill roles with qualified and available individuals in small towns, this article allows these elected Boards or Committees to appoint their own members to subordinate positions, if necessary.

**Passed unanimously.**

ARTICLE 33: Motion made and seconded to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, to expend out of the Capital Stabilization Account \$60,000 to replace the drain, reclaim the asphalt and resurface the driveway at the Town Offices.

Note: A 2/3rds vote is required.

Note: This is intended to address the water problem in the Police Station and repair the drains that are cracked and sinking.

**Passed unanimously.**

ARTICLE 34: This is a citizen's petition submitted and certified by three Registrars of voters of the Town of Goshen.

**Resolution in Support of Changing the State Flag and Seal of Massachusetts**

**Whereas** the history of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts is replete with instances of conflict between the European Colonists and the Native Nations of the region, who first extended the hand of friendship to the Colonists on their shores in 1620, and helped them to survive starvation during the settlers’ first winters on their land; **Whereas** members of the Native Nation for whom the Commonwealth of Massachusetts is named were ambushed and killed by Myles Standish, first commander of the Plymouth Colony at Wessagussett (now Weymouth) in April of 1623, barely two years after the Pilgrims arrived;

**Whereas** the Colonial broadsword held by a white hand above the head of the Indigenous person on the Massachusetts Flag and Seal is modeled after Myles Standish's own broadsword, borrowed for that purpose from the Pilgrim Hall in Plymouth by the illustrator Edmund Garrett in 1884;

**Whereas** the belt binding the Native's cloak on the Flag and Seal is modeled after a belt worn by Metacomet, known to the English as King Philip, who was among the Indigenous leaders that resorted to a mutually destructive war in 1675-6 in defense of Native lands against Colonial encroachment;

**Whereas** the proportion of the body of the Indigenous person on the Flag and Seal were taken from the skeleton of an Indigenous person unearthed in Winthrop, the bow modeled after a bow taken from an Indigenous man shot and killed by a colonist in Sudbury in 1665, and the facial features taken from a photograph of an Ojibwe chief from Great Falls, Montana, considered by the illustrator to be a 'fine specimen of an Indian,' though not from Massachusetts;

**Whereas** the history of relations between Massachusetts since Colonial times and the Native Nations who continue to live within its borders include the forced internment of thousands of so-called 'praying Indians' on Deer Island in Boston Harbor, where they died by the hundreds of exposure in the winter of 1675, the enslavement of Indigenous people in Boston, Bermuda, and the Caribbean Islands, the offering of 40 pounds sterling as bounty for the scalps of Indigenous men, women and children in Massachusetts beginning in 1686, increased to 100 pounds sterling for the scalps of Indigenous adult males by 1722, half that amount for Indigenous women and children.

**Whereas** Indigenous people were legally prohibited from even stepping foot into Boston from 1675 until 2004, when that Colonial law was finally repealed;

**Whereas** the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the landing of the Colonists at Plymouth Plantation, which gave rise to the long chain of genocidal wars and deliberate government policies of cultural destruction against Native Nations of this continent, occurred in the year 2020, affording every citizen of the Commonwealth a chance to reflect upon this history and come to an appreciation of the need for better relations between the descendants of the Colonial immigrants and the Native Nations of the Commonwealth;

**Whereas** the land area now know as the Town of Goshen, shares a rich history with modern tribal nations such as the Mohicans and the Abenaki, who inhabited this area lying before the first colonial settlers arrived in 1761; Now, therefore, **Be It Resolved**, that the Town of Goshen hereby adopts this resolution in support of the work of the Special Commission on the official Seal and Motto of the Commonwealth, established by a Resolve of the General Court in 2021 and appointed by the Governor to recommend changes in the current flag and seal of Massachusetts and **in support of a new flag and seal for the Commonwealth** that may better reflect our aspiration for harmonious and respectful relations between all people who now call Massachusetts home. The town clerk shall forward a copy of this resolution to Sen. Nick Collins and Rep. Antonio Cabral, who serve as co-chairs of the Joint Committee on State Administration and to Sen. Paul Mark and Rep. Lindsay Sabadosa, with the request that they continue their strong support for the work of the aforementioned Special Commission and advocate for a new flag and seal for the Commonwealth.

**Passed by requisite majority.**

Julie Cavacco, Acting Librarian, invited residents to see the library display on stage and vote for whether or not they liked the library card design she came up with.

Bill O'Riordan of Goshen Historical Society invited interested residents to attend the next meeting on June 8<sup>th</sup>.

Melanie Lamere of the Williams-Boltwood House Trust, Inc. invited residents to their annual Memorial Day tag sale.

There being no other business to come before the Town, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn at 12:07pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen M. Estelle  
Town Clerk



The meeting was called to order at 6:33pm, a quorum being present and 36 voters signed in. Moderator Keith Wright noted that the warrant was duly posted and returned and then dispensed with the formal reading of the warrant and moved to Article 1.

ARTICLE 1 Motion made and seconded to revise the Town of Goshen’s Zoning By Law dated May 20, 2019 to add an Overlay District Section XVII with Item A Flood Plain, as proposed by the Planning Board.

Note: 2/3<sup>rd</sup> vote is required

Note: The complete text of the proposed Zoning By-Law may be found in the Town Clerk's office, on the Town website and as a handout at the Special Town Meeting.

Note: This Floodplain district is required by FEMA in order to continue to participate in the Federal Flood Plain Insurance. A public hearing to review the proposed by-law was held on August 10, 2023.

**Passed unanimously.**

ARTICLE 2 Motion made and seconded to rescind the debt authorizations for the dates and unissued amounts below.

| Original Article & Authority Date                                | Project or Purpose                                  | Unissued Amount |
|--|---|-----------------|
| STM 06/29/2015, Article 14 & Special Town Election of 07/06/2015 | To fund construction of the MLP Fiber Optic Network | \$ 194,185.00   |

Note: A majority vote is required.

**Passed unanimously.**

ARTICLE 3 Motion made and seconded to approve an appropriation of \$410,000, as recommended by the Community Preservation Committee (CPC). These funds are necessary for the Town Hall Rehabilitation Phase II Project. This phase will include the rehabilitation of the exterior building envelope, including repairing windows and storms, exterior doors, repointing masonry on all facades, repair of the flat roof over the back extension, rebuilding the parapets on both ends of the flat roof and any other repairs deemed necessary. Said funds to come from the following CPA accounts:

| Account                   | Amount     |
|---------------------------|------------|
| Historic Resource Reserve | \$ 17,000  |
| Undesignated Fund Balance | \$ 393,000 |

These sums will be placed into a special project account known as the Town Hall Rehabilitation Account. Project expenses will be paid from this account.

Any unexpended funds shall be returned to the CPA accounts from which they were appropriated after three years from the date of appropriation, unless extended for cause, by approval of the Goshen Select Board and the CPC.

Note: Majority vote is required.

**Passed by requisite majority.**

Andrew Watt, chair of the library trustees, announced that the Goshen Free Library is now connected to CW Mars and residents can order books and pick them up here in town.

Dawn Scaparotti, town administrator, read a statement from the Tilton Farm Supervisors regarding a forestry management plan that will begin this winter. There will be a volunteer opportunity in the spring to plant saplings. Interested residents were encouraged to sign up on the form at the front of the town hall.

There being no other business to come before the Town, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously and the special town meeting adjourned at 7:02pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen M. Estelle  
Town Clerk

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Treasurer

**Treasurer's Report**

**For the Fiscal Year 2023: July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023**

| <b>Receipts</b>     |                       |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>July 2022</b>    | <b>\$ 592,683.39</b>  |
| <b>August</b>       | <b>1,972,218.65</b>   |
| <b>September</b>    | <b>236,434.55</b>     |
| <b>October</b>      | <b>313,104.57</b>     |
| <b>November</b>     | <b>591,459.45</b>     |
| <b>December</b>     | <b>121,385.27</b>     |
| <b>January 2023</b> | <b>797,089.33</b>     |
| <b>February</b>     | <b>324,908.76</b>     |
| <b>March</b>        | <b>306,975.34</b>     |
| <b>April</b>        | <b>473,562.42</b>     |
| <b>May</b>          | <b>508,707.95</b>     |
| <b>June</b>         | <b>153,798.82</b>     |
| <b>TOTAL</b>        | <b>\$6,392,328.50</b> |

The receipts listed above include all sources: real estate, personal property, and motor vehicle excise taxes, various local receipts (i.e. transfers station, various permits and fees etc.), all grants received and all borrowings initiated wherein new proceeds were realized. Simply put, the receipts represent all inflows of cash to the Town during the fiscal year.

| <b>Debt Outstanding</b>                 |  |                                       |                              |   |
|---|--|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|---|
|   | <b>Outstanding Debt as of July 1, 2022</b> | <b>New Debt Issued during FY 2023</b> | <b>Retired during FY2023</b> | <b>Outstanding Debt as of June 30, 2023</b> |
| <b>Clean Water Trust (Landfill Cap)</b> | 551,273.00                                 |                                       | 25,353.10                    | 525,919.90                                  |
| <b>Police Vehicle &amp; Hwy Truck</b>   | 50,910.00                                  |                                       | 16,970.00                    | 33,940.00                                   |
| <b>Hwy Truck</b>                        | 168,500.00                                 | 146,500.00                            | 168,500.00                   | 146,500.00                                  |
| <b>Broadband Construction</b>           | 1,400,000.00                               | 1,400,000.00                          | 1,400,000.00                 | 1,400,000.00                                |
| <b>Hwy Tractor</b>                      | 43,600.00                                  |                                       | 8,720.00                     | 34,880.00                                   |
| <b>Totals</b>                           | <b>\$2,214,283.00</b>                      | <b>1,546,500.00</b>                   | <b>\$1,619,543.10</b>        | <b>\$2,141,229.00</b>                       |

| <b>Debt Authorized and Unissued as of June 30, 2023</b> |                  |   |                                 |                        |
|---|------------------|---|---------------------------------|------------------------|
|   | <b>Vote Date</b> | <b>Amount Authorized</b>                  | <b>Issued Retired Rescinded</b> | <b>Amount Unissued</b> |
| <b>Total Authorized &amp; Unissued</b>                  |                  | <b>No outstanding Debt authorizations</b> |                                 | <b>0.00</b>            |

**Tax Title Accounts Receivable**

As of June 30, 2023

| <b>PARCEL</b>                     | <b>TAX TITLE AMOUNT</b><br>Certified by Collector |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Map 2, Lot 0 32-0                 | <b>\$ 9,187.37</b>                                |
| Map 10A, Lot 0 364-0              | <b>773.75</b>                                     |
| Map 7, Lot 0 38-0                 | <b>2,683.43</b>                                   |
| Map 10A, Lot 0 369-0              | <b>400.48</b>                                     |
| Map 10A, Lot 0 33-0               | <b>1,937.69</b>                                   |
| Map 10, Lot 0 66-0                | <b>2,954.29</b>                                   |
| Map 10A, Lot 0 610-X              | <b>1,425.88</b>                                   |
| Map 10A, Lot 643-0                | <b>696.83</b>                                     |
| Map 10A, Lot 645-0                | <b>763.69</b>                                     |
| Map 10A, Lot 635-X                | <b>830.54</b>                                     |
| Map 10A, Lot 682-0                | <b>600.13</b>                                     |
| Map 10A, Lot 0 534-0              | <b>398.20</b>                                     |
| Map 5A, Lot 0 167-0               | <b>704.05</b>                                     |
| Map 10A, Lot 0 646-X              | <b>480.23</b>                                     |
| Map 10A, Lot 0 719-0              | <b>1,830.38</b>                                   |
| Map 10A, Lot 0 661-0              | <b>1,035.54</b>                                   |
| Map 4, Lot 0 4-0                  | <b>641.42</b>                                     |
| Map 8, Lot 0 50-0                 | <b>11,525.45</b>                                  |
| Map 10A, Lot 0 505-0              | <b>458.79</b>                                     |
| Map 10, Lot 0 61-0                | <b>12,452.92</b>                                  |
| Map 10A, Lot 0 276-X              | <b>1,146.87</b>                                   |
| Map 10, Lot 0 10-0                | <b>11,820.06</b>                                  |
| Map 5, Lot 104-0                  | <b>5,886.65</b>                                   |
| Map 10A, Lot 0 317-0              | <b>1,464.68</b>                                   |
| Map 10A, Lot 0 616-X30            | <b>1,061.39</b>                                   |
|                                   |   |
| <b>TAX TITLE ACCOUNTS TOTALS:</b> | <b>\$ 73,160.71 *</b>                             |

\* Tax Title Amounts are past due real estate taxes outstanding, Collector's fees, and interest as certified by the Tax Collector and turned over to the Treasurer for collection. All amounts subject to 16% interest and additional legal fees and redemption costs. Several properties are before the Massachusetts Land Court in foreclosure proceedings.

Respectfully submitted,  
Allan L. Kidston, CMMT  
Treasurer

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### Tree Warden

During the year I survey each road several times to identify and mark hazardous trees. I list them in order of priority. These trees are removed and paid for out of the tree warden budget. I also oversaw other work that was done on town trees under the Fiber optic budget. this work involved removing trees that threatened the fiber line. Also extensive pruning was done to provide clearance specifically for the fiber line.

National Grid does not prune to clear our fiber line. This work was focused on West st, Fuller rd. Spruce corner rd. And Sears rd.

I also oversaw tree work that was paid for under the highway budget. The objective of this work was to prune or remove trees that were likely to be damaged during storms of heavy snow or ice.

The highway crew has done an excellent job removing large quantities of wood that was left on the side of the roads for all 3 of these projects.

I have resigned from my position as tree warden.

Ed Sturtevant is now the tree warden.

Submitted by,  
Bob Goss

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### Veterans Service



Our outreach efforts post pandemic have been moving along. We are continuing to produce episodes of our new outreach television show, which is being aired district-wide on both town websites and local access television, and it can be found on YouTube under Central Hampshire Veteran Services. We have also developed two letters, the first which we would like to distribute to selected residents of Goshen, who self-identified as veterans in the town census, informing them of our programs and services. Our second letter is targeted to very recently returning veterans informing them of our programs including those specifically designed for recently returning veterans throughout Massachusetts. This is part of an overall effort to conduct outreach to veterans and their family members to connect them to the many benefits and services our office provides.

This year many veterans and some dependents of Goshen received monthly VA compensation and pension benefits amounting to \$15,915.74 in total. Additionally, the town was able to help several veterans and families by providing financial assistance in accordance with M.G.L. Ch. 115. In all, the town issued \$36,163.57 in benefits for FY 2023 and received 75% (\$27,122.70) of that money as a reimbursement from the state.

For those Goshen residents receiving the Chapter 115 benefits, our office delivered turkeys, pies and bags of fixings in advance of Thanksgiving. We also coordinated the ordering and delivery of 288 American flags to mark the graves of the town's deceased veterans prior to Memorial Day.

In addition to this work, through our efforts as a leading member of the Western Massachusetts Veterans Outreach Project, our office has spearheaded an initiative with Cooley Dickinson Hospital (CDH) to provide improve intake and

referral services for Veterans accessing the CDH system of care. CDH has identified this initiative as a major strategic priority. We have labeled this mission the “Just Ask Campaign” and we received a grant from the state of Massachusetts late in the year two pilot this program with two other behavioral health agencies. We will be hiring staff to help us with our six month effort to spread the mission throughout Western Massachusetts. Our hope is to have many of the health providers in Western Massachusetts asked the question if they or a family member have a history of military service. This question is now part of the CDH electronic medical records (EMR) system and our desire is to make that happen across the state, starting right here. Our WMVOP collaborative that includes CDH, ServiceNet, Smith College and others are seeking to improve referral services for Veterans and their family members when accessing health care outside the federal Department of Veterans Affairs.

Western Mass. Veterans Outreach Project and Baystate Medical had originally planned a training conference to improve the lives of military and veteran family members in our western Massachusetts region in November 2023. There were a few stubborn obstacles that were not overcome in time for that original date but there is still work at moving the date into May 2024. The goal is to reach health care and behavioral health providers, first responders, law enforcement personnel, veteran organizations, veteran services representatives, school guidance counselors and educators, pastoral care and clergy, and all others who connect with family members or who interact with our broad and diverse military and Veteran community in western Massachusetts to improve their lives and well-being.

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### **Zoning Board of Appeals**

The Zoning Board of Appeals is a volunteer board appointed by the Select Board. It consists of 4 members (Chair, 2 members and 1 alternate).

The Board hears and decides on requests for special permits, variances and appeals on the decisions of the Building Inspector.

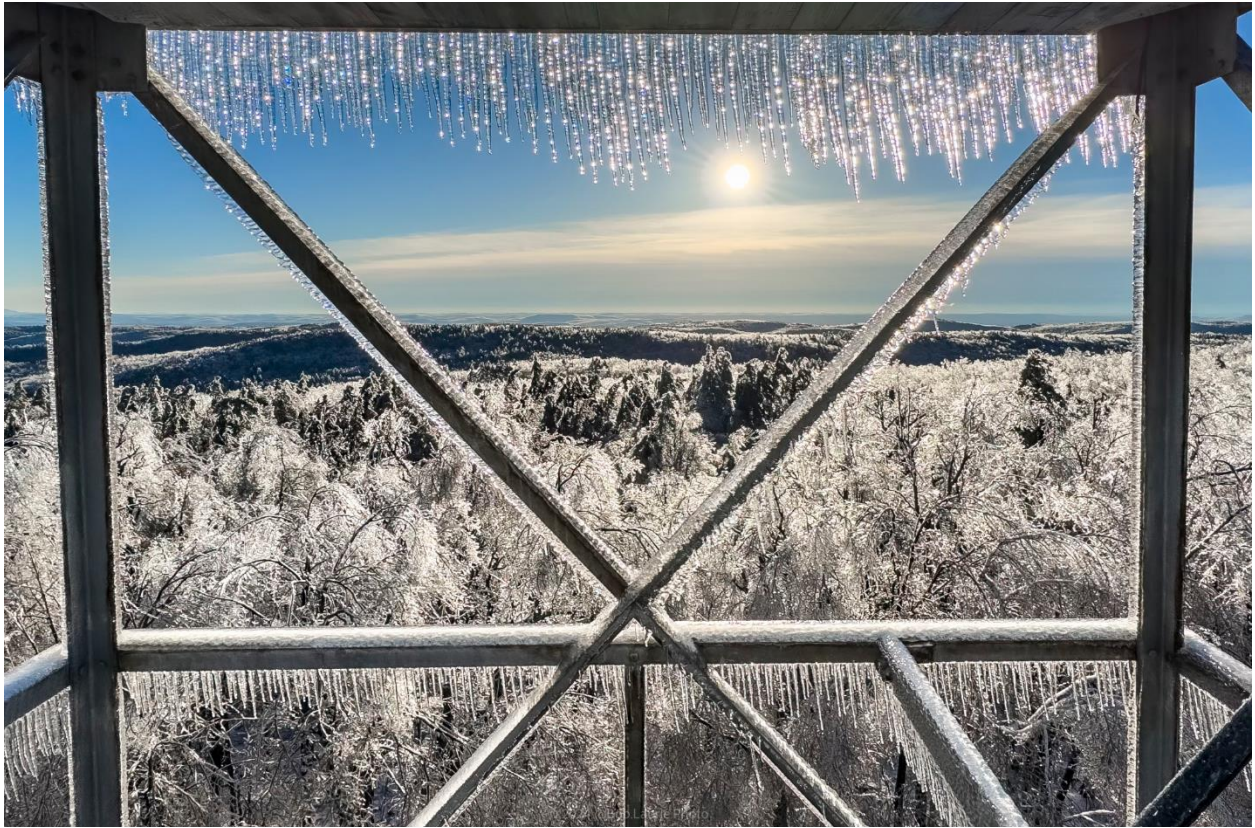
The Board reviews applications, conducts public hearings when applications are presented, receives input from abutters and the general public before deliberating and rendering decisions.

During the 2023 calendar year, 5 applications for Special Permits were filed and 5 of those applications were allowed. There were no filings for variances or appeals of the Building Inspector’s decisions.

Applications for hearings may be obtained at the office of the Town Clerk.

Respectfully Submitted,

William O’Riordan, Chair  
Steve Estelle, Member  
Vuk Whallon, Member  
Roger Culver, Alternate



Photos from the Bob Labrie Collection.

# Town of Goshen

Massachusetts | 2023 Annual Town Report



Reports through December 2023

Financials based on Fiscal Year 2023 (July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023)