

# TOWN OF GOSHEN MASSACHUSETTS



## ANNUAL TOWN REPORT JULY 1, 2017 – JUNE 30, 2018

### **With Gratitude for your Dedication**

This year's annual report is dedicated to the loyal, dedicated and hard-working employees, committee members, and volunteers of the Town of Goshen. Without your commitment, the Town would not be able to function as efficiently as it does. Thank you!

### **In Memorium**

to those Goshen residents now deceased who passed during the fiscal 2018 year. Their contributions to our Town are greatly appreciated. You are missed.

8/14/2017	Linda LeBeau
9/06/2017	Raymond Sarafin
1/13/2018	Norman Arnold
2/17/2018	George Monaghan Jr.
3/31/2018	Kenneth Roberts
5/07/2018	George St. Amand

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**Directory and Calendar**  
**Town of Goshen, 40 Main Street**  
**www.goshen-ma.us**  
**(Meeting/Office Hours Subject to Change)**

**Animal Control Officer/Animal Inspector**

24/7 Dispatch: (413) 586 – 1508

**Board of Assessors** 268-8236 ext. 302

*Office Hours - Wednesday 8AM-2PM*

*Meetings Wednesday 6:30 PM*

**Board of Health**

268-8236 ext. 110

*Meetings 1<sup>st</sup> Monday 7:00 PM*

**Building Department**

*Office Hours - Tues 10AM-12 PM, Thurs 11AM-3 PM*

Inspector of Buildings 268-8236 ext.305

Electrical Inspector 320-1156

Plumbing/Gas Inspector 268-7487

**Conservation Commission** 695-3500

*Meetings – 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday 6:00 PM*

**Council on Aging** 268-3316

*Luncheon - 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday Noon in Town Hall*

*Meetings – Last Tuesday 1:00 PM*

**Fire Department**

56 Main Street

Emergency 911

Business 268-7161

**Hampshire Regional School District**

19 Stage Road

Westhampton, MA 01027

Superintendent 527-7200

Hampshire Regional High School

19 Stage Road

Westhampton, MA 01027

527-7680

*School Committee Meetings 1<sup>st</sup> Monday 7:00 PM*

New Hingham Elementary School

30 Smith Road

Chesterfield, MA 01012

296-0000

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

**Highland Ambulance**

2-12 Williams Drive

Emergency 911

Business 268-7272

**Highway Department**

8 Highland Road

268-7062

**Historical Museum**

48 Main Street

268-7026

*Hours vary*

**Library Board of Trustees**

268-8236 ext. 111

*Library Hours – Tues 3-6PM, Wed 3-6PM, Sat 11-3*

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

**Planning Board** 268-3316

*Meetings – 1<sup>st</sup> Monday 7:00 PM*

**Police Department**

40 Main Street

Emergency 911

Business 268-3116

Dispatch 586-1508

**Recreation Department** 268-3316

*Meetings – Last Tuesday 7:30 PM*

**Selectboard/Town Administrator**

268-8236 ext. 301

*Meetings – Every Other Monday 6:00 PM*

**Tax Collector** 268-8236 ext. 106

*Office Hours - Wednesday 6:00-8:00 PM*

**Town Clerk** 268-8236 ext. 107

*Office Hours - Monday 9 AM-3 PM, 6-8PM*

**Town Treasurer** 268-8236 ext. 108

*Office Hours - Monday 6:00-8:00 PM*

**Transfer Station**

18 Wing Hill Road

268-7079

*Open Saturday 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM*

**Veterans Agent** 587-1299

*Office Hours - 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday 11:30 AM-1:30 PM*

**Voter Registration** 268-8236 ext. 107

Town Clerk's Office

*Monday 9:00 AM-3:00 PM, 6:00-8:00 PM*

Registration deadline 20 days before election.

## 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 and was officially incorporated on May 14, 1781 as a separate town.

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

### 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 Election – 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday in May  
Annual Town Meeting – 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in May  
Goshen residents at least 18 years old with American  
Citizenship may register to vote at Town Clerk's Office,  
motor vehicle registration renewal, or the State election website.

### Population/Demographics

2017 Local Census - 974  
Federal Census 2010 - 1,054  
Federal Census 2000 - 921  
Labor Force 2016 - 654  
Median Age 2017 - 48.2  
Income per Capita 2015 - \$12,177  
Equalized Valuation per Capita 2016 - \$140,277

### 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 2018: \$15.62  
FY 2019: \$14.69  
Average Single-Family Tax Bill FY2018: \$3,439  
Average Single-Family Tax Bill FY2019: \$3,576  
Total Valuation of Taxable Property FY2019: \$161,908,451

## National, State and County Officials

### Governor & Lt. Governor:

Charles Baker, Jr., Governor  
Karyn Polito, 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:

Maura Healey  
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 01101  
413-785-4610 <https://www.markey.senate.gov/>  
Elizabeth Warren  
1550 Main St, Suite 406  
Springfield, MA 01103  
413-788-2690 <https://www.warren.senate.gov/>

### Representative in Congress: 1<sup>st</sup> Congressional District

Richard E. Neal  
300 State St, Suite 200  
Springfield, MA 01105  
43-785-0325 [neal.house.gov](http://neal.house.gov)

### State Senator: Berkshire/Hampshire/Franklin/Hampden District

Adam Hinds  
State House, Room 309  
Boston, MA  
617-772-1625 [Adam.hinds@masenate.gov](mailto:Adam.hinds@masenate.gov)  
District Office  
100 North St, Suite 410  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
413-344-4561

### Representative in General Court: 1st Franklin District

*Stephen Kulik (Retired January 2019)*  
Natalie Blais (Elected November 2018)  
State House, Room 134  
Boston, MA 02133  
617-722-2400 [natalieblais@mahouse.gov](mailto:natalieblais@mahouse.gov)  
District Office  
413-362-9453

### District Attorney:

David E. Sullivan – Hampshire/Franklin District  
1 Gleason Plaza  
Northampton, MA 01060  
413-586-9225 <https://northwesternda.org/>

## Local Elected Officials - FY2018

### Almoners (3-year term)

Stephen Estelle (2019)  
Kristine Bissell (2021)  
Michael Rock (2020)

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

Gina Papineau (2021)  
Cassandra Morrey (2020)  
Diane Bushee (2019)

### Hampshire Council of Governments (2-year term)

Diane Bushey (*Resigned December 2018*)

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

Michael Kurland (2021)  
Elizabeth Bell-Perkins (2019)  
*Clarence Rowley (Resigned March 2018)*  
*John P. Rooney, Jr. (Term expired May 2018)*

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

Miriam Kurland (2021)  
Rosemarie Clark (2021)  
James Barrett (2020)  
Rosemary Beinz (2020)  
Melanie Dana (2019)  
Marcia Shaw (2019)  
*Arlene Harry (Term expired May 2018)*

### Finance Committee (3-year term)

Angela Otis (2021)  
Vacant (2021)  
Dawn Scaparotti (2020)  
Ann Marie Deres (2020)  
Kristine Bissell (2019)

### Moderator (2-year term)

Keith Wright (2020)  
*Robert Labrie (Term expired May 2018)*

### Planning Board (5-year term)

Roger Culver (2023)  
James Barret (2022)  
Lisa Newman (2021)  
Dana Stiepok (2020)  
Joseph Frye (2019)

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

David Pesuit (2020)

### New Hingham Elementary School Committee (3-year term)

Jessica Judd (2021)  
Sabrina Willard (2020)  
Edward Sturtevant (2019)

### Selectboard (3-year term)

Angela Otis (2021)  
*Nina Pinger (resigned August 2017)*  
James Heroux (2020) Elected in special election October 2017  
Wayne Glaser (2019)

### Town Clerk (3-year term)

Kristen Estelle (2021)  
*Gina M. Papineau (Term expired May 2018)*

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

Roger Culver (2019)  
Richard K. Polwrek (2019)  
Robert O. Goss (2019)

## Appointed Officials and Committees (FY2018)

### Administrative Assistant (1-year term)

Melissa Papillon

### Administrative Support Backup (1-year term)

Pat Morey

### Animal Control Officer Supervisor (1-year term)

Warren Kirkpatrick

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

Don Tryon

### Animal Inspector (1-year term)

Don Tryon

### Assistant Assessor (3-year term)

Gina Papineau

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

Evelyn Kellogg-Culver

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

Gina Papineau

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

Susan Warriner

### Assistant Treasurer (1-year term)

Vacant

### Board of Registrars (1-year term)

Audrey Bissell  
Rose-Marie Carr  
Janice Ellis

### Capital Planning Committee (2-year term)

Ann Deres  
Todd Dewkett  
Wayne Glaser  
Jeffrey Hewes  
Dawn Scaparotti

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

Roger Culver

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

Vacant

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

Vacant

**Complete Streets Committee ((1-year term)**

John Bienz

Rosemary Bienz

Joan Griswold

Gary Griswold

Marya Zilberberg

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

Charles Amo

Michael Duquette

Lloyd Ewing

James Heroux

Sandra Papush

**Constable (1-year term)**

Melissa Papillon

Don Tryon

**Council on Aging (1-year term)**

Evelyn Kellogg-Culver - Director

Kathryn Boisvert

Lorraine Brisson

Elizabeth Loven

Henrietta Munroe

Sandra Papush

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

Don Boisvert – Housing

Alison Bowen – Open Space

Robert Labrie – Historical

Sandra Papush – Conservation

David Peruit – At large

Shannon Wade – Recreation

Vacant – Planning Board

**Cultural Council (1-year term)**

Kathryn Boisvert

Alison Bowen

Kristen Estelle

Jonathan Foulkes

Henrietta Munroe

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

Allan Kidston

**Custodians (1-year term)**

Ronald E. Loven, Jr.

Melissa A, Papillon

**Elderly Housing Study Committee (1-year term)**

Don Boisvert

Maureen Krok

Henrietta Munroe

Rochelle Nahmias

William O’Riordan

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

Evelyn Kellogg-Culver

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

Curt Golec

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

Larry Holmberg

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

Larry Holmberg

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

James Morey

Vacant

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

Vacant

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

Susan Labrie

**Goshen Light Goshen Energy Committee (1-year term)**

Vacant

**Green Communities Committee (1-year term)**

David Christopolis

Joe Roberts

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

Valerie Bird

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

Robert Labrie

Floyd Merritt

Margaret Waggoner

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

Todd Dewkett

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

Phillip Culver

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

Kathleen Casey

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

Timothy Hogan

John Rooney

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

Joseph Latronica

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

Patricia Morey

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

KP Law

**Library Director (Appointment by Library Trustees)**

Martha Noblick

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

Janice Ellis

**Municipal Light Plant Manager**

Vacant

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

Alison Bowen  
Melanie Dana  
Jane Larson  
Patricia Morey  
Sandra Papush

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

Joseph Frye

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

Donald Lawton

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

Jeffrey Hewes

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

David Martin

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

Donna Hewes

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

William Bissell  
Donna Hewes  
Ami Wallace

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

Jennifer Bisbee  
David Bond  
Roger Culver  
Taylor Granger  
Shannon Wade

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

Joseph Frye  
David Packard  
Vacant

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

Roland Chafee - HCG

**Town Accountant Clerk**

Sabrina Fowler

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

Michelle Bond

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

Allan Kidston

**Transfer Station Technician (1-year term)**

Timothy Hogan

**Assistant Transfer Station Technician (1-year term)**

Roger Culver

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

Robert Goss

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

Todd Dewkett

**Wired West Representative (1-year term)**

David Christopolis  
Robert Labrie

**Webmaster (1-year term)**

Robert Labrie

**Veteran's Agent (1-year term)**

Thomas Geryk

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

Lisa Newman (2019)  
William O'Riordan (2018)  
Vacant (2020)  
Roger Culver – Alternate (2019)



## Select Board

The Board was actively engaged in topics and community projects important to our residents and worked to resolve issues and to promote the town with local, regional and state organizations.

A Complete Streets advisory committee was formed to assess safety of all modes of transportation and to develop solutions to making pedestrian activities safer, develop a walkability and connectivity plan, and to create solutions for a more user-friendly and visible town center. We secured a \$10,000 grant to prepare a plan for this vision (Step 1) and also were awarded \$30,013 in MassDOT funds to engineer and estimate costs within a Complete Streets Prioritization Plan (Step 2) which will be a precursor to applying for construction/implementation funds. We look forward to input from residents during public forums.

Rigor, deliberate action and progress continued towards a 2020 completion by Westfield Gas and Electric to bring high speed fiber optic to our homes. The design was completed and pole licenses were submitted to National Grid and Verizon, paving the way for the cost structure to be defined and the network to be built. In addition to the state grant of \$770,000, the town will most likely receive a \$261,762.80 FCC grant to help under-served broadband communities, once the network is up and running.

The Town continues to make progress implementing best practice standards for replacement of information technology hardware and software so as to maintain standards to allow for regular and scheduled maintenance to improve the security and operability of our systems.

The Board developed and implemented a policy defining the circumstances, measures and standards around snow & ice removal on private ways.

The West Street Resurfacing project began in late summer and the rainy fall and early winter brought construction to a halt. It will begin by May 2019 with reclamation, binder paving and shoulder work and residents should experience the results of this transportation improvement project by September 2019.

The need for repair to the landfill cap was a disappointment. With a price tag of close to \$655,000, the Board embarked on securing a low interest loan, through State Revolving Funds, to yield savings of close to

\$100,000 in interest. We thank our MassDEP partners for their support.

Significant improvement to safeguard the town's assets and deploy strong financial reporting and accounting practices were a focus of the Board. We entered into a regional accounting service agreement and addressed a number of past challenges and concerns.

Also a first, the Board developed a town administrator position, which was supported at town meeting - a key role in providing continuity and support for executing on many Select Board priorities, municipal mandates and opportunities. We welcomed Ira Brezinsky to this position in October 2018.

We continue to look for opportunities in shared regional services, increased rural school funding, bridge and infrastructure support, Green Communities and Compact Community Grants.

This year brought new state regulation around OSHA safety and also around the sale and cultivation of marijuana. Efforts are underway to understand these legislated components. We also are utilizing a grant to assess the effectiveness of our town property as it relates to the Americans With Disabilities Act standards.

2018 marked the nomination acceptance of the Town Hall into the National Register of Historic Places and we are grateful for Norene Roberts advocacy.

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.

Without you, there would be no animal safety, building inspections, capital planning and balanced budget, community preservation, cultural events, economic development, elections, emergency management, additional grant funds, library, licenses, planning and zoning bylaws, recreation programs, regulated wetlands, safe and healthy environments, school committee, senior housing, senior programs, snow removal, resource management and transfer station, tax collection, town meetings, treasury services, tree care, website, well maintained Tilton Town farm, roads, cemetery, and buildings.

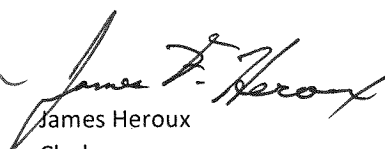
Respectfully submitted,



Angela Otis  
Chair



Wayne Glaser  
Vice Chair



James Heroux  
Clerk

**TOWN OF GOSHEN, MASSACHUSETTS**  
**Combined Balance Sheet – All Fund Types and Account Groups**  
**as of June 30, 2018**  
**(Unaudited)**

					Fiduciary	Account	
		Governmental Fund Types			Fund Types	Groups	Totals
		Special	Capital		Trust and	Long-term	(Memorandum
		Revenue	Projects		Agency	Debt	Only)
		General					
<b>ASSETS</b>							
Cash and cash equivalents	600,603.00	678,894.75	443,784.52		1,054,998.20		2,778,280.47
Investments							-
Receivables:							-
Personal property taxes	(334.55)						(334.55)
Real estate taxes	93,729.56						93,729.56
Allowance for abatements & exemptions	(187,792.43)						(187,792.43)
Tax liens	126,891.85						126,891.85
Tax foreclosures	10,258.10						10,258.10
Motor vehicle excise	17,009.41						17,009.41
Other receivables		(485.72)					(485.72)
Due to/from other funds	205.22						205.22
Amounts to be provided – payment of bonds						148,299.20	148,299.20
Amounts to be provided – vacation/ sick leave							-
Total Assets	660,570.16	678,409.03	443,784.52		1,054,998.20	148,299.20	2,986,061.11
<b>LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY</b>							
Liabilities:							
Deferred revenue							-
Real & personal property taxes	(94,397.42)						(94,397.42)
Tax liens	126,891.85						126,891.85
Tax foreclosures	10,258.10						10,258.10
Motor vehicle excise	17,009.41						17,009.41
Other receivables	205.22	(485.72)					(280.50)
Warrants payable	(3,730.57)						(3,730.57)
Accrued payroll and withholdings	3,770.35						3,770.35
Other liabilities					1,125.00		1,125.00
Bonds payable						148,299.20	148,299.20
Total Liabilities	60,006.94	(485.72)			1,125.00	148,299.20	208,945.42
Fund Equity:							
Reserved for encumbrances	10,964.48						10,964.48
Reserved for expenditures	143,416.30						143,416.30
Reserved fund balance		678,894.75	443,784.52		1,053,873.20		2,176,552.47
Undesignated fund balance	446,182.44						446,182.44
Total Fund Equity	600,563.22	678,894.75	443,784.52		1,053,873.20	-	2,777,115.69
Total Liabilities & Fund Equity	660,570.16	678,409.03	443,784.52		1,054,998.20	148,299.20	2,986,061.11

<b>TOWN OF GOSHEN, MASSACHUSETTS</b>			
<b>Trust Fund Balance Detail</b>			
<b>as of June 30, 2018</b>			
<b>(Unaudited)</b>			
		<b>Fund Balance</b>	
<b>Fund</b>	<b>Fund Name</b>	<b>6/30/2018</b>	
82	ASSESSOR PROP REVAL	32,331.99	
82	AUDIT STABILIZATION	30,000.00	
82	CAPITAL STABILIZATION	156,555.81	
82	FIRE DEPT VEH STABILIZATION	131,077.85	
82	HIGHWAY DEPT STABILIZATION	90.42	
82	POLICE VEHICLE STABILIZATION	69.24	
82	STABILIZATION	522,315.97	
82	TOWN BLDGS STABILIZATION	344.04	
85	ARCHIBALD MCCONNELL	1,626.27	
85	CEMETERY PERPETUAL	16,908.67	
85	CEMETERY TRUST	9,125.34	
85	CONSOLIDATED TRUST	3,097.58	
85	JOHN MCCRAE FIREHOUSE	16,326.20	
85	LIB. CARMELA WALSH ST	18,802.47	
85	LIB. DURKAN BEQUEST	2,349.28	
85	LIBRARY TRUST	52,976.80	
85	TILTON TN FARM	30,198.58	
85	TOWN CLOCK	543.26	
85	WHITING ST POOR ALMONERS	16,199.46	
85	WRIGHT FUND ALMONERS	12,933.97	
		\$1,053,873.20	

<b>TOWN OF GOSHEN, MASSACHUSETTS</b>			
<b>Capital Project Fund Balance Detail</b>			
<b>as of June 30, 2018</b>			
<b>(Unaudited)</b>			
		<b>Fund Balance</b>	
<b>Fund</b>	<b>Fund Name</b>	<b>6/30/2018</b>	
30	BOOK BINDING	1,066.74	
30	BROADBAND PROJECT	320,000.00	
30	COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY	1,348.00	
30	EAST STREET CULVERT	2,601.85	
30	LANDFILL CAP REPAIR	67,604.63	
30	NARROWBAND REPLACE RADIO	430.00	
30	POLICE CRUISER	1,650.00	
30	TOWN HALL REHABILITATION	37,992.31	
30	TRANSFER CONTAIN	1,540.00	
30	WEST STR RECONSTRUCTION	9,550.99	
		\$443,784.52	

**TOWN OF GOSHEN, MASSACHUSETTS**

**Special Revenue Fund Balance Detail**

**as of June 30, 2018**

**(Unaudited)**

<b>Fund</b>	<b>Fund Name</b>	<b>Fund Balance 6/30/2018</b>
25	ANCE CONSERVATION	983.20
25	BOH SUSTAIN MATERIAL RECOVERY	5,579.94
25	CARING COMM. BUILD GRANT	361.50
25	COMMM SEPTIC MGT PROG	8,585.16
25	COUNCIL ON AGING DONATIONS	1,335.21
25	CULTURAL COUNCIL	4,164.98
25	DEPUTY COLL FEES	13,749.00
25	DONATION ACPT POLICE	1,455.00
25	FIRE DEPT SAFE GANT - SENIOR	4,571.38
25	FIRE DEPT SAFE GRANT	1,093.38
25	FIRE DEPT SAFE GRANT - TRAILOR	6,056.74
25	FRTA TRANS SERVICE	2,363.23
25	GREEN COMMUNITY	(1,022.99)
25	HIST COMM GIFTS	3,561.59
25	HISTORY BOOK FUND	349.50
25	LAW ENFORCE TR FUND	0.83
25	LIBRARY GIFTS	1,496.00
25	LIBRARY INTEREST ACCT	109.41
25	OUTSIDE POLICE DETAIL	15,329.25
25	PLAYGROUND DONATIONS	442.79
25	POLICE VESTS	6,430.81
25	RECREATION FUND	1,570.69
25	REVOLVING - AMBULANCE BLDG	10,394.84
25	REVOLVING - ANIMAL CONTROL	4,245.83
25	REVOLVING - ASSESSOR	4,397.50
25	REVOLVING - ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR	3,000.00
25	REVOLVING - ZBA	5,269.84
25	SALE OF CEM LOTS	12,219.84
25	SEPTIC GRANT INTEREST	3,426.13
25	SOLARIZE MASS	339.09
25	STATE AID LIBRARY	372.39
25	STATE POL FIREARMS LICENSES	4,062.60
25	STATE SEPTIC GRANT	97,594.79
25	TN CLERK DOG LICENSES	4,949.60
25	TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT	3,760.91
25	WETLANDS PROT FUND	7,304.79
28	CPA BUDGET RESERVE	69,000.00
28	CPA COMMUNITY HOUSING RESERVE	16,075.00
28	CPA FUND ADMINISTRATIVE	5,700.00
28	CPA HISTORIC RESERVE	30,000.00
28	CPA OPEN SPACE RESERVE	121,075.00
28	CPA UNDESGINATED FUND BALANCE	113,512.51
28	CPA W BOLTWOOD HSE RESTORE	73,746.00
28	CPA ELDER HOUSING PROJECT	1.00
28	CPA PUBLIC PLAYGROUND	200.00
28	CPA RESTORE 1937 FIRE TRUCK	9,680.49
		<b>\$678,894.75</b>

## **Animal Control & Inspection**

There were **235** documented Animal Control Calls for Service (CFS) and Officer Initiated activities in 2018. The following is a breakdown of calls for service, officer initiated work and other activities completed by Animal Control & Inspection during 2018:

### **ACTIVITY BREAKDOWN**

(35) Stray or Missing Domestic Animals  
(17) Reports of Loose Livestock  
(2) Assist Person           (5) Possible Neglect  
(41) Incident Follow-ups  
(30) Kennel & Barn Inspections  
(25) Animal/Bylaw Complaints  
(1) Injured Domestic Animals  
(17) Wildlife Related Calls  
(53) Citations Issued (Warnings & Fines)  
(3) Dog Adoptions/Fosters  
(12) Quarantines & Follow-ups  
(3) Mutual Aid Requests  
(1) Disaster Animal Response Team Activation  
(14) Meetings  
(8) Admin/Office Days  
(1) Grant Awarded  
(16) Training Days

### **DEPARTMENT ENHANCEMENTS**

Animal Control has been reclassified as Public Safety and is now a division of the Police Department. This will streamline the reporting process and capabilities for Animal Control and will also be beneficial for training purposes. Additionally, Animal Control now has a dedicated vehicle fully equipped and ready to be deployed, eliminating the need to switch out specialty equipment for most calls and decreasing response times for certain incidents. Animal Control and the Town Clerk have also created a new Dog License Form (available in the Clerk's office and online) which is more explanatory and accessible to residents.

### **BUDGET**

Animal Control is operating on a \$500 budget for FY19. Additionally, we were awarded annual funding in the amount of \$1,000 by the MVMA Charities program towards the care of Stray Animals. Aging equipment, mandatory education requirements, vehicle maintenance needs and an increase in Animal Control calls for 2018 have resulted in recent budget concerns. We will continue to work with the Finance Committee and Select Board to address these concerns and adequately equip the department for the upcoming fiscal year.

### **ACO EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS**

Both myself and back-up ACO Warren Kirkpatrick (Ashfield ACO) are fully certified ACO's, having successfully completed ACO Certification Academy's and passing the State's Core Competency course. We continue to be up-to-date on continuing education requirements and remain in good standing with the Department of Agriculture.

Respectfully Submitted,

### **ACO Don Tryon**

Animal Control Officer / Animal Inspector  
24/7 Dispatch: (413) 586 – 1508  
[animalcontrol@goshen-ma.us](mailto:animalcontrol@goshen-ma.us)

## **Board of Assessors**

Each year the Assessors' Office brings change to the Town of Goshen and FY 2018 was the end of the cyclic cycle of inspections. The Assessor's field work rapidly progressed as spring arrived and lasted straight through the fall. We have restarted our cyclic review back at year 1. The Board visited approximately 110 properties including building permits updates, abatements and our regular inspections. 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. 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.

In 2018 the Board completed our revaluation by the Department of Revenue for our Fiscal 2019 Year. The Department of Revenue has changed the revaluation cycle to five years from three years. So as the Assessor's work starts in this revaluation year, the office also will be working to update its inspection schedules and processes to align with the Department of Revenue's new revaluation cycle.

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 Select Board must hold a Classification Hearing that is advertised and open to the public, during which the Board of 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.

	FY2016	FY2017	FY2018
<u>Local Expenditures:</u>			
Appropriations	\$2,195,932.66	\$2,231,445.38	\$2,268,490.00
Cherry Sheet Offsets	\$2,059.00	\$2,049.00	\$2,135.00
State & Cherry Sheet Charges	\$11,897.00	\$1,820.00	\$2,047.00
Assessors' Overlay	\$34,635.66	\$34,473.48	\$29,132.93
<b>Gross Amount to be Raised</b>	\$2,244,524.32	\$2,269,787.86	\$2,301,804.93
<u>Estimated Receipts and Available Funds:</u>			
Cherry Sheet Estimated Receipts	\$215,557.00	\$229,956.00	\$231,039.00
Local Estimated Receipts	\$194,700.00	\$194,700.00	\$200,700.00
Free Cash	\$106,134.00	\$117,639.00	\$235,881.00
Other Available Funds	\$134,247.53	\$203,714.43	\$283,385.00
<b>Total Estimated Receipts &amp; Available Funds:</b>	\$650,638.53	\$746,009.43	\$951,005.00
Gross Amount to be Raised	\$3,325,025.21	\$3,210,454.81	\$3,339,497.00
Total Estimated Receipts & Available Funds	-\$650,638.53	-\$746,009.43	-\$951,005.00
<b>Net Amount to be Raised</b>	\$2,674,386.68	\$2,464,445.38	\$2,388,492.00
Real Property Values	\$2,139,722.05	\$2,176,883.69	\$2,201,134.00
Personal Property Values	\$56,210.61	\$54,561.69	\$67,356.80
<b>Total</b>	\$2,195,932.66	\$2,231,445.38	\$2,268,490.80
Tax Rate	\$15.66	\$15.58	\$15.62
Fiscal Year 2019 Tax Rate is \$14.69 per thousand.			

The Board continues to meet each Wednesday evening beginning at 6:30 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 and second Wednesday of each month.

Respectfully submitted:

Cassandra L. Morrey  
Gina M. Papineau, MAA  
Diane E. Bushee

## Board of Health

### ANNUAL REPORT OF THE FOOTHILLS HEALTH AGENT

During 2018, the department witnessed 8 perc tests. Septic system permits were issued for 11 new systems or system components. Three inspections or reinspections of food establishments were completed. A total of \$6625 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 Health Agent:

- 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

I may be reached at 268-8404. In-person help must be scheduled in advance. Written messages or mail should be directed to me at PO 447 Haydenville, MA 01039, or via email at [foothillshealth@yahoo.com](mailto:foothillshealth@yahoo.com). I look forward to another productive year in Goshen.

Respectfully submitted,

Valerie Bird  
Health Agent  
Foothills Health District

## Building Inspection Department

In fiscal year 2018 (July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018), the Building Department issued 85 permits and conducted 7 inspections for places of assembly.

Breakdown of Certificates of Inspection And Permits Issues: Fees Collected

7 certificates of inspection	\$280.00
Total Permits	\$23134.64

New construction = 5

Windows/siding/doors = 14

Roofs = 12

Solar = 16

Wood stove installation = 4

Insulation = 2

Decks/porches = 4

Sheds/barns = 4

Additions/remodels = 6

Miscellaneous (demos, foundation, pools etc) = 11

Total fees collected:	\$23,414.64
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Total construction costs:	\$3,706,090.89
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The Building Department is staffed by Pat Morey, Administrative Assistant and Joseph Latronica, Inspector of Buildings.

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). Our current office hours are Tuesdays 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. and Thursdays 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. The Inspector is available Tuesday and Thursday 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Inspections are by appointment and are usually scheduled for Tuesdays and Thursdays before office hours or directly after office hours.

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.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph P. Latronica, Inspector of Buildings

## Cemetery

The Cemetery is closed from December 1<sup>st</sup> and reopens on May 1<sup>st</sup>.

The winter weather was not bad. There were a few stones that got tipped over due to the frozen ground. A small section of the back stone wall slid down but was easily fixed.

There were 4 cremations and 1 full burial.

3 lots sold

Put in 5 new head stones

Put in 3 military markers

The leaves did not get picked up in the fall because of the rain and the early snow fall. It will be interesting in the spring to get it all cleaned up by May 1<sup>st</sup>.

Respectfully submitted

Roger A. 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. Communities that adopt the CPA in Massachusetts are eligible to receive up to 100% matching funds 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 regarding community preservation. The CPC reviews applications and makes recommendations to Town Meeting for project funding.

In November 2018 Goshen received 100% matching state funds of \$65,290.

Goshen has received 100% state matching funds every year since CPA was approved in 2007.

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

Don Boisvert	Affordable Housing Representative
Alison Bowen	Open Space Committee
Bob Labrie	Historical Commission
Jim Barrett	Planning Board
Sandra Papush	Conservation Commission
Shannon Wade	Recreation Committee
Joe Roberts	Member at Large

Thanks to David Pesuit who served as Member at Large; Select Board appointed Joe Roger to this position. Jim Barrett filled the open position on Planning Board.

CPC meets at Town Offices on the second Monday of the month at 7 pm; 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. A site visit is scheduled prior to signing the application, so it is important to allow time for this. If wetlands are involved in a project, a filing is often required and a public meeting/hearing is held.

Some of the projects we worked on this year were, Repair of the dump cap, Highland Lake Dam Restoration, and West St Repair.

The Conservation Commission meets on the first and third Tuesdays 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.

Conservation Commission is a five member board.

Members are:  
Charles Amo  
James Heroux  
Lloyd Ewing  
Sandra Papush  
Mike Duquette

Respectfully submitted,

Charles Amo, Chair

## Council on Aging

The Council on Aging is sponsored by the town and by the state. The function of the COA board is to understand and help our senior population. Our board puts on various programs to benefit our aging group.

Our most popular event is the monthly luncheon, where we serve a complete meal with plenty of desserts. When the meal is over, we have a little entertainment or informational session. Some of our visitors this year included: the Goshen Police and Triad team, who gave us good tips on how to stay safe; Sheriff Patrick Cahillane, who entertained us with jokes and stories; Arlene Harry, who spoke about her husband joining the service and the places he went; Shannon Wade, who gave us some hints on how not to fall; Lorraine Brisson, who honored our Veterans, and last but not least, Santa (Don Boisvert), who came to our December luncheon. In August we held our Appreciation Luncheon to thank all of the volunteers who help throughout the year. We also honored our seniors who are 90 and over, and we had four who were able to come: Ernie Carver, Arlene Harry, Dick Durant and Floyd Merritt.

In January we started a monthly coffee hour. It seems to be a hit. Who doesn't like eating pastry and catching up with friends, both old and new?

In March, we had an opportunity to paint the upstairs dining room of the town hall, and were given a pair of drapes. The room had not been painted in many years. Painters were Jessica Thomas Lagasse, Roger Culver and Evelyn Culver. During the spring months, we watched as the homes for the elderly housing were built between the town parking lot and the church: 10 units total. In May, we were invited to go and see the homes after our luncheon.

In the summer, Carl Smith built new counter tops for the kitchen and Ronnie Loven cleaned out and painted the kitchen. George Propane put in a new sink. With the help of the Library and the Goshen Congregational Church, we put on an ice cream social in June. It was well attended and we plan on doing it in 2019. In September, the newly arrived folks from senior housing were invited to our luncheon and all had been given a welcome bag.



We started our "Goshen Age Friendly Outreach Group". Henrietta Munroe is chairperson of this group. The Outreach Group is reaching out to anyone that needs a little help with things. It is just getting started with things like making sure fellow seniors have rides to appointments, luncheons and muscle strengthening class, getting buckets of sand for their walks and driveways, and bringing books from the library.

2018 was the 3<sup>rd</sup> year that we have sponsored the muscle strengthening classes. It restarted in September and grew throughout the year. We are thankful for Joan Grisworld for instructing.

Our 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday adventures worked out well. We went to Mount Holyoke College Art Museum, the Flynt Center of Early New England Life in Deerfield, Magic Wings, and Pine Hill Orchards. Some months we just went to lunch.

The Council sponsored "Gardening for all Seasons" by Lorraine Brisson, an Old Country Road concert and a basket class taught by Jean Weller, which were all funded by the Goshen Cultural Council. We also sponsored monthly foot care clinics, blood pressure clinics, and a flu clinic.

Our friends who passed away this year are: Norman Arnold, Millie Barrus, Homer Bissell, Roger Brown, Bryan Clarke, George Monaghan, Philip Perrault, Joseph Richard, Kenny Roberts, and George St. Amand.

Thank you to my board, and to all the people who help throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,

Evelyn Kellogg-Culver

## Cultural Council

The Massachusetts Cultural Council awarded \$4,400.00 to our local Goshen Cultural Council for the 2017-2018 granting year. These funds are appropriations both from the State Legislature and the Natural Endowment for the Arts.

In keeping with our mission statement of providing quality programming and reaching out to town organizations and committee, grants were awarded to: Council on Aging (series of workshops on Gardening for all Seasons, a four part workshop on Basket Weaving, Old Country Road concert); Goshen Free Public Library(Dinosaurs in the Connecticut Valley); Goshen Women's Club (Sidetracked musical concert); New Hingham PTO (Musical Petting Zoo); Hampshire Regional High School(Spring Musical, Life in a Changing Climate through Mass Audubon's Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary); Let the Landscape Speak, program from the Narragansett Indian Tribal Historic Preservation Office.

Reaching out to neighboring hill towns, grants were presented to the Chesterfield 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade; Cummington Village Congregational (Friday Night Café);

Hilltown Families; Ashfield Community Theater (Spring play); Cummington Family Center (Pop Up Playground); Thorton Wilder's "Our Town." at Memorial Hall, Shelburne.

Our Council members invite your suggestions, ideas and feedback so that we may continue offering fine programming to our community. We are always looking towards new programs and invite you to visit [massculturalcouncil.org](http://massculturalcouncil.org) which offers updates, events listing and available services.

Soon to complete many years of service as a board member, we are grateful to Henrietta Munroe for her commitment to the Council. Thank you, Henrietta, for your dedication, professionalism and energy given to the cause of bringing enjoyable and thoughtful programming to our Goshen community!

Respectfully submitted,

Goshen Cultural Council  
Kathy Boisvert  
Alison Bowen  
Kristen Estelle  
Jonathan Foulkes  
Henrietta Munroe

## Elder Housing Committee

In the Spring of 2010, The Goshen Selectboard appointed an Elder Housing Committee to start the process of examining the possibilities of providing "affordable" housing to seniors in Goshen. The Board appointed Rochelle Nahmias, Maureen Krok, Henrietta Munroe, William O'Riordan, and Don Boisvert to this committee. Given that the Hilltown Community Development Corporation (HCDC) has considerable experience in developing senior housing in our hilltowns, the Committee chose to collaborate with HCDC in this endeavor. In May of 2011, HCDC received a \$50,000 HUD grant to explore the need for senior housing in Goshen. The results of the study in 2012 concluded that Goshen has a need for ten to twelve units for its seniors.

Based upon a recommendation by the town's Community Preservation ACT (CPA) committee, in June of 2013, the town's annual meeting approved an \$80,000 grant to the HCDC for the purposes of continuing work towards establishing elder housing in Goshen.

In July 2014, HCDC and the committee agreed upon the site of the existing parsonage to the Congregational Church as an ideal location. In October 2014, two successful percolation tests were successfully completed and HCDC in behalf of the committee made an offer to purchase the property from the Congregational Church. The Church membership made a counter-offer which was accepted by the committee and HCDC.

Representatives of the Elder Housing Committee and/or representatives of HCDC made outreach contacts with the Goshen Council on Aging, the Goshen Conservation Commission, the Selectboard, the Goshen Women's club,

the Goshen Historical Commission, the Goshen Zoning Board, and the Goshen Historical Society regarding our plans to site a senior housing complex on the parsonage lot.

In February of 2015, a final option to purchase was completed with a 12 month term plus a 6 month possible extension at the buyer's discretion. Following agreement, boundary and topographical surveys were completed. Meetings with the project architect, the engineer and the landscape architect occurred to develop preliminary drawings. An environment site assessment was completed with the determination that there are no environmental issues or hazards identified.

In the summer of 2015, the committee and a representative of HCDC met with the Goshen zoning board of appeals to pursue waivers as a result of seeking to implement multiple units on a non-conforming lot. The ZBA subsequently granted the necessary waivers. Now, HCDC, in behalf of the Committee was ready to pursue funding agents for the project.

Based upon a recommendation by the town's Community Preservation Act (CPA) committee, in June of 2015, the town's annual meeting approved an additional \$50,000 grant to the HCDC for the purposes of actual construction of elder housing units.

HCDC, in behalf of the committee, submitted proposals to multiple federal and state funding sources with the hope and expectation that they would fully fund the balance of this endeavor.

During FY '17, HCDC used CPA dollars and other funds to close on the property, to drill a well with potable water and then pursued building permits. During the year, HCDC heard from the various funding sources that combinations of federal and state funds were approved for the construction to begin. In the Spring of 2017, with permits in place, demolition of the old parsonage and garage were accomplished with ground work for the footings and foundations of the new buildings began in July of 2017.

Due to weather conditions, actual construction of the buildings was delayed till early fall, but subsequently progressed fairly well. Applications for the units were ready by the first of January 2018 and, as completed, forwarded into HCDC for review and approval. On January 6<sup>th</sup>, the Committee held a walk-through for the benefit of potential residents in spite of the fact that the interiors were still in the rough.

On March 14<sup>th</sup>, HCDC conducted a "Lottery" at the Goshen town hall for those who had submitted an approved application for the units.

By the end of May, the units themselves were finished though some landscaping still needed to be accomplished. Occupancy became available on June 1<sup>st</sup> and some of our first residents arrived. By the end of July, all ten units were occupied.

On September 28, 2018, HCDC and the Committee held an open house with dignitaries from our various funding sources, politicians, and the general public. A luncheon was provided and a representative from Senator Hinds's office presented the Committee with a citation signed by the President of the State Senate in recognition of the work that the Committee had done since 2010.

The Committee takes this opportunity to thank the many people who made this project a success, particularly HCDC and its staff, the CPC Committee, our various State and Federal funding sources, Austin Design (our architectural firm), Terry Reynolds (our civil engineer), Sovereign Builders and our town's people who approved grants to enable this project.

This endeavor has come to fruition; this is our last report.

Respectfully Submitted  
The Goshen Elder Housing Committee

Maureen Krok  
Henrietta Munroe  
Rochelle Nahmias  
William O'Riordan  
Don Boisvert

## Emergency Management

In 2018, we moved forward with the traffic control project by purchasing a trailer and stocking it with various types of signage, cones, and barricades so that in the event of an incident, the Goshen Public Safety can quickly and efficiently delineate alternate routes around the impacted area.

This project began as a result of the February 2017 tornado that struck Goshen and Conway. In 2018, the National Weather Service increased the severity level of the tornado based on information provided by this office, Bob Labrie of Goshen Fire, and members of the public.

Regular activities continue even with the disasters and the paperwork that goes with them. These include writing and updating local emergency response plans and working with our regional partners to develop and exercise multi-town and multi-discipline response plans. These partners include the Hampshire Regional Emergency Planning Committee (HREPC), the Medical Reserve Corps of Hampshire County (MRC), the Hampshire Emergency Animal Response Team (HEART), the Hampshire Public Health Preparedness Coalition, the American Red Cross, the Western Region Homeland Security Advisory Council, and others.

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".

Finally, during a large-scale emergency such as a hurricane or ice storm, we open up the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) located at the Town Hall. The EOC may be opened 24/7 for the duration of the immediate emergency but in order to do this, we need a trained group of people. 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 like what happened with Tropical Storm Irene or the Halloween Snowstorm. If you would be interested in helping the Town by becoming part of the EOC Team or want more information, please contact me at [Lholmberg@crocker.com](mailto:Lholmberg@crocker.com) or by calling 413-296-4247.

Respectfully submitted,  
Larry Holmberg  
Emergency Management Director

## Fire Department

It has been a good year for the Goshen Fire Department (GFD). We received a federal Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) award of \$90,667 to purchase 14 new Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) and one Rapid Intervention bag. These will replace the older units, which are many editions out of NFPA compliance. (SCBA allow firefighters to breath fresh air at incidents where the atmosphere may be hazardous such as structure fires, car fires, Carbon Monoxide calls, or hazardous materials incidents.)

The S.A.F.E. (Student Awareness of Fire Education) program entered its 22<sup>nd</sup> year. A State S.A.F.E. Grant in the amount of \$2,808 allowed Goshen Fire to teach 5 fire and life safety lessons at New Hingham Regional Elementary School. By continuing to educate children, we have raised a fire safe generation. Some of the students we taught now have children of their own and we are working on a second 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 \$2,115 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 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 lock-boxes for Seniors' homes. These allow Fire Department keyed access to a home for emergency calls where the occupant may be unable to unlock the door for first responders.

We added one new junior firefighter to our roster, West Williams. However, we removed three inactive firefighters from the roster without adding any new adult members. Because of this normal attrition, the Department continually needs to add members to the roster 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 in order 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 2018, utilizing much of our training and equipment. In all, the Department responded to 104 emergency calls throughout the year, 9 more calls than in 2017.

The call breakdown was as follows:

- 61 Medical
- 15 Motor Vehicle Collisions (2 of these calls required extrication)
- 6 Hazardous Conditions including wires and/or trees down
- 5 Detectors Sounding (Smoke and/or Carbon Monoxide)
- 7 Box Alarms (structure fires – all were mutual aid to other towns)
- 3 Rescues
- 2 Brush Fires / Illegal burns
- 2 Vehicle Fire
- 1 Cooking Fire
- 2 Other

Fire departments rely on each other for help using mutual aid at significant events such as structure fires, vehicle collisions requiring extrication, or large brush/forest fires. This type of call brings with it extra personnel and equipment. This year, Goshen had no structure fires. However, we responded with mutual aid to other communities for fires in their towns.

In addition to our weekly in-house training, we continue to have monthly Tri-Town drills with Chesterfield and Williamsburg (our automatic aid fire departments). 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.

The Volunteer Firefighter Incentive Program was in effect for its ninth year. Active Fire Department members who attended at least 50% of our training sessions and responded to calls earned a stipend commensurate to their level of participation. Department members dedicated more than 1,635 hours to the Town in 2018. The Incentive Program was a great way for the community to

acknowledge and thank the firefighters that gave so much of themselves. Reimbursement for the year broke down to \$6.12 per hour.

### **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 7:00 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 2018:

Bill Connell, Kim Dresser, Steve Estelle, Dale Gougeon, Bob Labrie, Hannah Labrie\*, Sue Labrie, Cam Lacey, Jill Lacey, Jake Lulek, Adrien Neveu\*, Monica Neveu, Dylan Nygren, Chris Roberts, Erika Roberts, Michaela Rock\*, Jonathan Schwaiger, River Williams\*, West Williams\*, and Keith Wright

\* designates Junior Firefighter status

Respectfully submitted,

Susan M. Labrie  
Fire Chief

## **Green Communities Committee**

In the past year the Goshen Green Energy Committee gained a new member. Ira Brezinsky, the town administrator joined the committee in December 2018. Joe Roberts and Dave Christopolis remained as members, with Dave chairing the committee. The Town was awarded a Green Communities grant a few years ago. The Green Communities grant is in its final phase and has a small balance remaining to expend. As of March 1, 2019, the grant balance remaining was just under \$35,000.

This amount limits what can be done related to energy efficiency in addition to what we have already done with prior grant funds. We have been approved by MA DOER to install a solar array on the Goshen Fire House roof. As of this writing, the committee has issued a request for quotes to solar installers with a plan to have the panels installed in late spring, 2019. The committee requested an extension to the grant period and was approved by MA DOER to allow for enough time to complete the installation.

Once the installation is complete, the grant will be closed. At that time the committee intends to meet with the Goshen Select Board to revisit the purpose of the committee and determine if there is additional work for the committee to explore. It is likely there will be additional Green Communities funding available to compete for.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Christopolis, Chair

## **Hampshire Council of Governments**

**Hampshire Power**, the only Massachusetts-based nonprofit electricity supplier, allows local customers to power their values by keeping their energy dollars local, while giving back to the community. Hampshire Power provides energy to 196 individual entities.

- 133 businesses
- 35 municipalities
- 16 nonprofits
- 12 residential
- 71% of all customers use green power
- Total usage: 18,705MWh
- Total Revenue: \$1,802,779

**Hampshire Renewables** supports local green energy initiatives by facilitating a 15% discount on participants' electricity bill through the purchase of net metering credits.

- Two local dairy farms are supported by HCG's Cow Power
- 17 solar arrays in local communities are supported by Hampshire Renewables
- Total Revenue \$51,789

**HCG's Purchasing Co-op** makes it easy for over 120 towns, cities, schools, and nonprofits to save money, time, and effort on major and everyday purchases.

- 52 towns
- 47 schools or school districts
- 23 nonprofits
- \$8.3M worth of goods sold
- 37 available bids
- Launched 4 new bids
- Total revenue \$137,187

**HCG's Solar Renewable Energy Credit (SREC) brokerage** is the local choice to maximize your solar energy investment.

- Works with 1,482 local solar owners
- Combined systems for 13.8 MW of solar
- For a total of 8,452 SRECs
- Gross sales \$2,363,007
- Revenue \$108,377

**New Alternative Energy Certificate (AEC) brokerage** service helps owners of renewable energy tap into significant new financial incentives. Qualifying systems include: solar hot water, pellet central heating, woodchip boilers, air source heat pumps, and geothermal.

- Assists 65 local owners of clean heating technologies
  - 12 ASHP; 21 GSHP; 4 SHW; 28 Woody biomass
- Combined systems for rated capacity of 5.872 MBtu/hr of energy
- For a total of 12,439 AECs
- Gross sales \$207,702
- Revenue \$19,433

**Solarize Hot Water Western Massachusetts** launched through a grant from the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center, the Commonwealth's pilot solar hot water program.

- 4 local municipalities led the clean energy charge in their communities
- Program resulted in 16 new solar hot water installations across the region

**RSVP of the Pioneer Valley**, the volunteer connector for people 55 and over, was awarded the Commonwealth's only Senior Corps expansion grant to extend services provided to include Hampden County.

RSVP works with:

- 60 partner organizations
- Providing 637 volunteers
- Who contributed 95,758 volunteer hours
- 78 Healthy Bones & Balance volunteers led exercise classes for seniors at 27 sites

**The Hampshire Franklin Tobacco-Free Community Partnership** works to enhance state and local tobacco control efforts, mobilize support for community change, and highlight work being done in the community to support tobacco-free living.

- Helped 92 housing units in 2 local housing authorities go smoke free in 2018 (all housing authorities in Hampshire and Franklin Counties have now adopted smoke-free policies)
- Hosted 24 educational trainings on the dangers of nicotine and vaping

**New Western Massachusetts OPEB Trust** introduced to save public entities time and money in funding their retiree healthcare obligations.

## Highland Ambulance EMS, Inc.

**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 in the town of Worthington in support of Hilltown Ambulance of Huntington. Paramedics are on duty at Highland's station in Goshen from 6 AM until midnight seven days a week. During the midnight to 6 AM time period, Highland EMT's are assisted by Paramedics from other ambulance companies when the service of a Paramedic is required. Highland's active roster as of June 30, 2018 consisted of 37 members including 18 Paramedics and 19 EMT's. Our Service Director and Assistant Service Director are two

fulltime paramedics and this year we did hire a fulltime Basic EMT to solidify our staffing pattern. Thus, we now have three fulltime employees. In addition, we increased our administrative assistant hours to help us with clerical duties.

Dr. Peter Morse is our Medical Director.

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

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

**Emergency Responses.** During FY 2018 Highland responded to 648 emergency calls. These are broken down by Town as follows:

- Ashfield 91 or 14.2%
- Chesterfield 67 or 10.3%
- Cummington 81 or 12.4%
- Goshen 66 or 10.2%
- Plainfield 93 or 14.4%
- Williamsburg 214 or 32.8%
- Other 36 or 5.7%

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

- CPR and First Responder trainings for Emergency Service Personnel, Police, & firefighters
- Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS)
- Medical Management Classes
- ALS/BLS interface classes for area EMTs
- Several Paramedics had the opportunity to participate in a cadaver lab to practice bone injections and advanced airways.
- Mass Casualty Incident training class for all area EMT's and 1<sup>st</sup> Responders
- Basic EMT refresher courses
- Paramedic refresher courses
- Bio-hazard class
- Fire Rehab class.

**Community Involvement.** Highland provided support to our communities including:

- Ambulance Coverage for Community events including the Chesterfield 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade, the Cummington Fair, the Ashfield Fall Festival
- Safe Day at Sanderson Academy, New Hingham, and Anne T. Dunphy schools
- On January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018 Highland hosted a Board & Finance committee meeting with all 6 of our participating towns.
- Met with the administrators of the new Swift River Addiction Center in Plainfield to discuss 911 responses.
- Highland hosted a Red Cross blood drives here at our station.
- Donations paid for CPR manikins, an OB manikin and a Needle Cricothyrotomy manikin.
- EMT coverage at the Chesterfield Gorge for a 5K run.

In May, Highland finalized a payor-of-last-resort agreement with the Swift River Rehab Center to cover cost related to patient transports for which we could not obtain insurance information.

**Operating Expenses in FY 2018:** \$643,499.56

**Cash On Hand June 30, 2018**

- Operating Funds \$10,287.03
- Ambulance Fund \$151,626.56
- Memorial Fund \$30,677.86
- Dresser Fund \$4,071.21
- Donations \$38,367.02

Our six towns contributed \$393,799.56 of our total operational budget, based upon town assessments. The balance came from billings to insurance companies, Medicare, Medicaid and contributions. Our collection rate is approximately 94% of our allowables.

**Building:** There were a number of small repairs/changes that were not anticipated but needed to be completed in the new facility. These expenses were met either through our current budget or from donations.

Respectfully Submitted,

- Highland Ambulance Board of Directors:  
Ashfield - Patricia Thayer  
Goshen - Donald Boisvert  
Chesterfield - Spencer Timm  
Plainfield - Edward Morann  
Cummington - Amanda Savoie  
Williamsburg - Leslie Smith  
At-Large - Bernard Forgea (Cummington)  
At-Large - Cassandra Morrey (Goshen)  
At-Large - Douglas Mollison (Ashfield)

## Highway Department

Highway Department projects for the 2018 season were as follows: Wing Hill road was overlaid with asphalt from East Street to the transfer station. This work was done by Warner Bros Construction and was paid for using road improvement funds. The highway department cut the brush and cleaned the ditches before the paving.

The second project a small section of Spruce Corner road was overlaid with asphalt. This section was starting to break up so Warner Bros construction overlaid it with asphalt and road improvement funds were used. The highway department cut the shoulders and brush before the paving.

This year's chapter 90 funds were used to replace the 2002 Komatsu loader. The loader needed transmission work and the hydraulic pump was getting weak. The repair person komatsu estimated it would cost \$45,000.00 to repair the machine which didn't make sense. We got a 2018 Cat 918M loader with a 2 yard bucket and it has the coupler to use our existing loader plow. This machine is the same exact size as our old one and so far is working out nicely.

I do appreciate your calls alerting us to problems that you see and would like to thank everyone for helping throughout the year.

Sincerely

Todd R. Dewkett

Highway Department Superintendent

## Hilltown Community Development Corporation (HCDC)

The Hilltown Community Development Corporation (Hilltown CDC) was created in 1981 with a mission to "improve the quality of life for hilltown residents by addressing economic, housing, educational, social and community needs while preserving the rural character of the area." Its core service area includes the ten towns of Chester, Chesterfield, Cummington, Goshen, Huntington, Middlefield, Plainfield, Westhampton, Williamsburg and Worthington. In recent years its small business assistance program has expanded to serve 21 Hilltowns. Hilltown CDC's four major program areas are affordable housing, small business assistance, social services and community development/planning. Hilltown CDC also administers a regional grant program that secures federal grant funds from the Department of Housing and Urban Development to ensure housing and services are provided to the homeless through a Continuum of Care (CoC) model which serves Hampshire, Franklin and Berkshire Counties.

Hilltown CDC works with the community to identify and secure financial resources to serve the community development needs of the region. In 2018, Hilltown CDC helped the hilltown region care for the elderly, provided safe affordable housing to seniors and low-income families, improved many Hilltown homes and continued work that supports local agriculture such as the Keep Farming initiative.

### **Goshen Senior Housing:**

Hilltown CDC worked closely with the Goshen Senior Housing Committee for the past 5 years to develop a 10-unit Senior Housing rental project in Goshen. In 2017 Hilltown CDC secured all the financing needed to build this development. It should be noted that the Town of Goshen and the CPA committee approved and awarded \$130,000 in CPA funds toward the construction of this project located in the Town center across from the Town Hall. It is very likely that this project would not have been possible without the support of CPA funds. In addition, Hilltown CDC raised \$150,000 of private funds and successfully applied to the MA Department of Housing and Community Development and the Federal Home Loan Bank of Boston to secure the majority of the financing. The total development cost including the purchase of the land is \$2,738,554. This housing development will remain restricted to low to moderate incomes seniors 62 years of age or over.

### **Community Transportation:**

Hilltown CDC operates the FRTA Senior Van. The program doubled its ridership in 2018 providing essential transportation to seniors for medical appointments, groceries and recreation. The FRTA is not the final solution to the transportation needs in the Hilltowns but it is a helpful resource to ensure a minimum of transportation services are available to our seniors.

Hilltown CDC will continue to explore ways to expand rural transportation options for local residents.

### **Social Services:**

Hilltown CDC's **Hilltown Elder Network (HEN)** Program delivered in-home caregiving assistance (primarily chore and transportation assistance) to low-income Hilltown elders at no cost to the participants. HEN staff provided transportation for medical visits and other purposes, including snow removal. Community Development Block Grant funding was awarded allowing Hilltown CDC to provide CDBG funded HEN services. This grant allowed these services to be delivered through calendar year 2018. Funding is also provided by Highland Valle Elder Services, Hampshire County United Way and the Eleanor Schwartz Charitable Foundation.

The following social service programs provided assistance to residents in the hilltowns with CDBG funds:

- **The Health Outreach Program for Elders (HOPE)**, administered by Hilltown Community Health Centers (HCHC), provided free in-home nursing care and podiatric services to homebound elders.
- **The Hilltown Food Pantry** distributed food to hilltown individuals. The Pantry is administered by the Northampton Survival Center at the Goshen Town Hall.
- **Child Care Subsidies**, hilltown families were provided subsidies through this program to assist them with child care expenses.

### **Economic Development/Small Business**

#### **Assistance:**

- Provided individualized business consulting and/or training to hilltown businesses, ranging from one hour to 30 hours per business.
- Published the 2018 Hilltown Business Directory, distributed to 16,000 Hilltown households in 22 towns, with contact information and descriptions of 317 hilltown businesses in 94 categories. The Directory is also on-line at [www.hilltowncdc.org](http://www.hilltowncdc.org).

#### **Affordable Housing:**

We actively pursue opportunities to preserve and create affordable housing to meet the needs of low and moderate income Hilltown residents.

- **Westhampton Woods Senior Housing:** Hilltown CDC owns and operates Westhampton Woods Senior Housing which provides 15 apartments for low-to-moderate income seniors over 60 years old.
- **Rental Housing:** Hilltown CDC completed the renovation of 24 units of scattered affordable rental housing in six properties located in Williamsburg, Westhampton and Chesterfield in 2016. Hilltown CDC hired a local contractor to complete this project.
- **New Project Development:** Hilltown CDC completed construction of 10 rental units of affordable senior housing. Hilltown CDC secured \$2.7 million to develop this project.

**Housing Rehabilitation Program:** This program provides zero percent interest, deferred-payment loans to income eligible homeowners for use in making a wide variety of repairs to their homes, including roofs, septic systems, electrical, plumbing, and heating. In addition, the program provides a source of steady year-round employment for area contractors.

In 2018H illtown CDC rehabilitated homes in the Towns of Cummington, Chesterfield, Williamsburg, Peru and Plainfield.

**Community Planning:** We also work closely with municipalities and community groups in our service area to plan for, raise funds for and/or manage a range of projects. During 2018 HCDC:

- Continue to support the Hilltown Arts Alliance
- Support to the Town of Goshen's complete streets and town center walkability project
- Helping coordinate planning meetings with towns regarding hazard mitigation and climate
- Leadership role in a regional food system project to pilot a mobile market food delivery system

Please visit [www.hilltowncdc.org](http://www.hilltowncdc.org) for more information.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Christopolis,  
Executive Director  
Hilltown Community Development Corporation

## 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.

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 2018 included: Joe Kearns, Chair (Middlefield); John Chandler, Vice Chair (Chesterfield); and, Paul Wetzel, Treasurer (Williamsburg).

The HRMC assists hilltown member-communities with managing their solid waste including municipal waste hauling and disposal bid administration, recycling administration, hazardous waste disposal, and, DEP compliance and technical assistance. In 2018 those services included:

- Liaison between Towns and MassDEP on compliance matters.
- Execution of an annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection event.
- Program management of Transfer Station Recyclables including collection, hauling and recycling of tires, electronic waste, universal waste (including free recycling of mercury thermostats and re-chargeable batteries), and Freon removal from appliances.
- Transfer Station operations and compliance monitoring including informal HRMC site visits as well as the formal, annual DEP 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Inspection and Reporting.

- Preparation and submittal of DEP annual surveys and reports.
- DEP Grant Administration including grant writing and reporting.

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

In 2018, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection announced their Recycling Dividend Program Grants under the annual Sustainable Materials Recovery Program. All ten HRMC member-towns were eligible for and received grants submitted for them through the HRMC. In total, the HRMC Towns received \$ 42,700.00 in grant funding to be used to further enhance recycling programs within their communities.

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 FY18, the combined assessment for all ten towns was \$ 49,951. The Assessments offset base operating expenses. Recycling program collection costs (other than MRF recyclables) are pass-thru expenses from the HRMC to the Towns to best maximize the economy of scale and to enable the HRMC administrator to have review and oversight of vendor relations, and program operations.

During the past year, the HRMC member-Towns collectively diverted 928 tons of recyclable materials to the Springfield MRF. In addition, the Town of Plainfield diverted bulky rigid plastics; the Towns of Cummington, Plainfield, Westhampton and Williamsburg diverted EPS (Styrofoam); and, the Towns of Plainfield and Williamsburg diverted pellet bags. The Town of Williamsburg continued to serve as the HRMC regional mattress recycling facility. The Town of Westhampton continued to serve as the host-site for the HRMC's annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection event.

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 2018, the Town of Goshen had a recycling rate of 26.3 % compared with 30% in 2017. The Town recycled 50 tons of recyclables at the MRF in 2018 compared with 57 tons in 2017.

For more information about HRMC programs, visit us online at [www.hrma.org](http://www.hrma.org) or by emailing [hrmc@hrmc-ma.org](mailto:hrmc@hrmc-ma.org)

Kathleen A. Casey  
HRMC Administrator



## Public Library

The library's summer, 2018 activities began in mid- June with an ice cream social cosponsored with the Council on Aging, with funding from The Massachusetts and Goshen Cultural councils, and followed in July by Dinosaurs in the Connecticut River Valley , another Cultural Council- funded program presented by an educator from the Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Associatio. This program was enjoyed by a wide range of ages, from preschool through senior citizens, including several grandparents accompanying their grandchildren. The adult reading group continued to meet monthly throughout the year.

New members are always welcome in the reading group, either to attend one particular discussion, or to attend monthly. In the fall the library began hosting drop in game time at 1 p.m. on Saturday afternoons, or anytime during library open hours.

The library is constantly adding new books, movies, magazines, games, puzzles and museum passes to the collections, and your suggestions are always appreciated. Stop in to borrow books, etc., or passes for free admission to any of Massachusetts's state parks or several area museums including the Clark Art Museum, the Eric Carle Museum of Picture book Art, or Historic Deerfield, or stop in with friends or family members to play games on Saturday afternoons, or any time during library hours. Mon. and Wed. 2-6 p.m. and Sat. 11-3. Be sure to mark you calendar for this summer's ice cream social in June, accompanied by a concert presented by the Ashfield Band.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Noblick, Director

## Open Space Committee

The Open Space Committee was appointed to address the goals and objectives of the Open Space and Recreation Plan included in Goshen's Community Development Plan. The OSRP focuses on ensuring that Goshen retains its rural character through the conservation of important natural and cultural resources and improving the quality of its recreational resources for current and future generations. A copy of the OSRP is available in the library or contact the committee.

In Fall 2017 the committee held an event with the Town Farm Supervisors at the Recreation Area to hear about the history of the Town Farm, plans to improve the health of the forest through harvesting and planting trees, and hike on the North Loop trail. We also acknowledged Caelan Lamere of Boy Scout Troop 705 Chesterfield/Goshen for the trail work he and his crew accomplished as part of his Eagle

Scout project including building a new trailhead kiosk by the ballfields.

Trail maintenance on the North and South Loops at the Tilton Farm Recreation Area was ongoing throughout the year. Trails have been reblazed and a new map was created. The committee appreciates Roger Culver for clearing downed trees and brush on the North Loop trail, as well as keeping the trail mowed in season.

The committee continues to assist landowners who would like to preserve their land as open space for future generations. In 2018 committee member Alison Bowen attended the Keystone Conference to learn more about land conservation and compile resources for the town.

Two newer projects are pursuing a state climate change resiliency grant through the Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Program and supporting the work of the Complete Streets Committee.

The Open Space Committee meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 4 pm in the Town Offices. New members and volunteers are always welcome.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Papush, Chair

## Planning Board

During the course of the year various members of the Planning Board represented the Board on the Community Preservation Committee and the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission.

A draft Floodplain Bylaw developed in conjunction with the Town's Emergency Management Coordinator was finalized and will be presented to Town Meeting in due course.

The Board prepared and presented to Town Meeting a bylaw amendment to impose a moratorium on adult use marijuana establishments. The amendment was approved by Town Meeting. This moratorium will allow the Planning Board sufficient time to understand the current state laws regarding such businesses and draft town regulations governing them.

During the course of the year the Board reviewed and approved 3 plans of land.

Mr. Jim Barrett was elected to the Board to fill a vacancy.

Respectfully submitted,

Goshen Planning Board

Roger Culver, Chairman

Joseph Frye, Secretary

Lisa Newman

Dana Steipock

## Police Department

The Officers of the Goshen Police department, continue to serve the community 24 hours a day 7 days a week with hard work and dedication. This year we answered **672** calls for Police Services. Currently there are 5 officers that work for the department.

Chief Jeffrey Hewes Officers William Bissell Donna Hewes Erik Loik Brendan Smith.

The police station is located at **40A Main Street** in the rear of the town office building. Please use the entrance at the rear of the building where the blue awning is that says **POLICE**.

The Mailing address for the Police department is **PO Box 23 Goshen, MA 01032**.

I would like to **congratulate Sergeant David Martin** on his retirement from law enforcement after 31 years of dedicated service. Dave started his career in 1988 in Cummington, 1993 Goshen, and 1997 Williamsburg finishing his career with Goshen. Hope you enjoy your down time and are able to fish as much as you can we have it from here Enjoy.

**A REMINDER** to residents when you receive your notice from the firearms record bureau start the process to **renew a firearms license to carry or FID** please do this as soon as you receive this as this needs to be done **3 months** in advance. The process for licensing is taking longer as there are more background checks for applicants and more applications being submitted throughout the State. Call the police department to make your appointment. **If you let your permit expire there is no grace period.** The fee for Firearms Licenses is **\$100.00** made out to the Town of Goshen.

**GOT DRUGS** we now have a **MedReturn Collection Unit located at the police station** for your unwanted prescription and non-prescription medications vitamins and veterinary medications. Sorry no liquids, syringes, IV equipment or chemotherapy drugs can be accepted simply stop in or call to make an appointment to drop off. Thank you to all who have come in to get rid of unwanted and expired prescriptions and non-prescription medications.

We encourage all residents to report suspicious activities **when they occur** by calling **911**, **also if a vehicle is involved try and get a plate number/description of person.** Remember if it looks suspicious report it. Our non-emergency number is **413-586-1508** the Station number is **413-268-3116 business only. OFFICERS SHOULD NOT BE CONTACTED AT THEIR RESIDENCES OR BY THEIR PERSONAL PHONE THIS IS FOR OFFICER SAFETY!** Please use the numbers provided above and an officer will be toned to assist you. **All calls must go through our dispatch.**

Respectfully submitted,

Chief Jeffrey Hewes

## Recreation Commission

The Recreation Commission continues to maintain our Tilton Town Field recreation area in 2018. General maintenance and field preparation was attended to throughout the year, thanks to Roger Culver and Taylor Granger. New picnic tables, equipment for the softball fields and maintenance equipment was purchased. Community use for this area and the pavilion continue to be a goal for Tilton Recreation Areas. Shannon Wade was designated to represent the Recreation Commission at the CPA Committee.

Our fields were again enjoyed by two softball leagues again this past year. Last fall the ball fields were used by the Rocky Hill Softball League. This is an adult coed softball league made up of six local teams. The Commission continued to support the Goshen Women's Softball Team, a member of the Pioneer Valley Women's Softball League. Due to the combined Goshen/Chesterfield baseball and the small number of teams for 2018, no youth baseball utilized our fields. We hope that they will return in the future.

With the support of the Goshen Recreation Commission the town of Goshen's children participated in the 38th Annual Hilltown Junior Olympics on September 22, 2018. This is held annually at the Tilton Town Field and hosted by a different town every year. The success of the individual participants and town team event members resulted in a third place trophy for the Town of Goshen. We would like to thank our town representative Kerri Baldwin for her willingness to volunteer her time to this valuable endeavor. We are always seeking volunteers for the Hilltown Junior Olympics which is held annually in September.

We are very pleased to see the Tilton Town Field Recreation area again this year utilized by residents for all types of activities including hiking, mountain biking, picnicking, horseback riding and organized sporting events. The Council on Aging has hosted many events there as well.

We are always looking for new members willing to join in the efforts to promote recreational activities in the Town of Goshen. The Goshen Recreation Commission is in need of new membership and would benefit greatly from support of our townspeople who have connections to the youth and youth related activities as well as other recreational desires. Please give joining our committee some thought.

Goshen Recreation Commission:

Roger Culver- Chair

Shannon Wade

David Bond

Taylor Granger

## Public Schools

### Central Office

I am pleased to report that through my first six months as superintendent of schools, the Hampshire Regional member school districts have had another year of strong performance and growth in multiple areas. As I work on completing my entry findings report to the school committees, it is clear that we have successes to capitalize upon along with areas of improvement to help meet the challenges of educating students to be 21<sup>st</sup> century learners. The past year has seen increased collaboration as our five school districts have come together and renewed efforts to face the changing landscape of education. This year has also seen a changing of the guard at many key positions within the region including superintendent, director of pupil services, director of curriculum, instruction & assessment, health services coordinator, Chesterfield-Goshen principal, and two new assistant principals at Hampshire Regional High School. Coupled with a foundation of multiple experienced senior staff, there is a feeling that the districts can make effective change while honoring and building upon the underlying accomplishments of the region.

While individual school reports will speak to school-based leadership changes, the new members of the central office leadership team bring a range of experiences from many walks of life as follows:

Superintendent Aaron Osborne comes to Hampshire with ten years of specific education experience, including four years in leadership roles bridging curriculum, instruction and finance. As a teacher, Aaron taught middle and high school math, served as a union treasurer, and coached swimming. Prior to his time in education, Osborne served as the director of administrative services for the Fresno Housing Authority, where he oversaw a \$110 million budget along with a large combined Housing Choice Voucher program serving 15,000 clients. Mr. Osborne holds a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst and a master's degree in business administration from the University of Massachusetts, Boston. He currently resides in Amherst with his wife, two daughters, two dogs, three guinea pigs, and an always changing assortment of fish, while his older son is a police officer on Martha's Vineyard.

Nancy Parlakulas, director of pupil services, returns to Hampshire following three years in a comparable role for Gill-Montague Regional Schools. After college, Nancy worked for two years as a teacher at the Penikese Island Residential School for troubled boys, located off the coast of Woods Hole on Cape Cod. Penikese Island was a rugged environment and, by design, did not have electricity and required staff to live on the island bi-weekly. Nancy was then offered an opportunity to be an English as a Second Language teacher in Istanbul, Turkey where she lived and worked for three years, during which she met her husband, Ahmet. After returning from Turkey, Nancy worked as a

middle school paraprofessional in Hadley while she completed her master's degree in special education at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst. Nancy was then hired as a special education teacher at Smith Vocational & Agricultural High School and taught there for eight years. In 2004, Nancy was hired as a special education teacher at Hampshire Regional High School where she also served as the special education department coordinator. Nancy's goal as the Hampshire Regional School District's director of pupil services is be viewed as a support and resource to administrators, staff and families. She believes deeply that outcomes for children are strengthened when there is a positive, trusting, and collaborative working relationship between home and school.

Director of curriculum, instruction, and assessment, Kate Messmer, served as interim director for during the 2017-2018 school year prior to being selected to fill the role in a full capacity. Kate was the English department program leader for Hampshire Regional from 2009-2017; she was hired to teach English at Hampshire in 2003. During her tenure at Hampshire, Kate was the Hampshire Regional Education Association's president, vice president, and grievance officer. Asked by the class officers every year, she has been honored to sing at Hampshire's graduation ceremony since 2004. Kate began her career as an elementary school teacher; after earning her master's degree in English, Kate taught at the University of Massachusetts and Holyoke Community College. While working as a performing songwriter in Nashville, Tennessee, Kate's day job was with the Vanderbilt University Child Development Center where she was involved in research on ADHD, autism spectrum disorders, and developmental screening.

Health services coordinator, Stephanie Faas began her nursing career in 2007 at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, where she gained extensive experience working with acutely ill patients on a medical-surgical unit. Her passion for promoting health and overall well-being coupled with an enthusiasm for educating others led her to the school setting. Stephanie worked at a charter school in Boston managing the middle school health office for three years until she moved to western Massachusetts with her husband in 2016. In her time at HRSD, Stephanie has worked part-time in the health office at William E. Norris, as a one- to one nurse for a medically complex student at Hampshire Regional Middle High School, and had the opportunity to transition to the nurse leader position this school year after co-leading with Mary Phelan last school year. Stephanie is dedicated to ensuring the best possible care and supports are provided to each child in our community, and truly enjoys serving as a resource to the district nurses.

As a somewhat transitional year in the central office, the overall theme is one of continuing the work that has been done, making adjustments where necessary, and working to develop a long range strategic vision and plan for the region. While the Superintendent is sharing a public entry

plan with the five school committees, each new leader is doing some degree of entry planning of their own to assess the landscape prior to making any broad changes. Department heads are actively meeting with students, staff and community stakeholders while diving deeply into data, contracts, and other media to better understand the needs of the region. This is not to say that work is not being done and necessary change is not happening, but that strategic and structural change will be done in a thoughtful and meaningful way. In the end we are confident that we can develop such a comprehensive and flexible plan around common themes without sacrificing the individual cultures and visions of our member schools.

A common theme among schools today is that of social-emotional learning (SEL), anxiety and dealing with trauma-influenced behaviors. Students are arriving at school with an increasingly diverse range of experiences and behaviors that influence how teachers and staff develop meaningful and trusting relationships to guide them through the learning process. Positional authority and punitive measures no longer work, are not supported by research, and are limited further by state law. While Hampshire schools are on the leading edge in many of these areas, many of our staff have the experience dealing with traditionally challenging behaviors in the classroom and work can be done to adapt. Some of this is being addressed immediately and more will be dealt with as we plan strategically. Nonetheless, budgeting and staffing become increasingly stressed as programs and curriculum to deal with these issues are unfunded mandates.

Providing quality educational opportunities for students requires that schools have effective, well-trained, high quality teaching staff. The Grinspoon Excellence in Teaching Awards annually recognize several of the many excellent teachers working in our District. HRHS special education teacher Jeff Carriero, Westhampton reading specialist Erin Zimble, and New Hingham pre-k teacher Laura Geryk were the recipients of the 2018 excellence in teaching awards.

While educating students is our core mission, student safety is our most important responsibility and we will continue to make that the highest priority. While we are fortunate to be located in communities with responsive local emergency services personnel, their resources, availability, and response times are limited. Working together with the Massachusetts State Police, as well as local police and fire departments, our individual schools continue to tighten daily procedures (including those that are in place to protect students on their way to and from school) and improve coordinated District actions to respond to emergencies. We continue to refine our procedures and make changes where necessary including updates to our Medical Emergency Plans and Emergency Operations Procedures. It is regrettable these actions are necessary as they place additional demands on fiscal resources and an already tight academic calendar. However, having to be

prepared to respond is a reality we live with, and a responsibility we accept, knowing that we must work to protect our children.

The central office is made up of a number of fairly small support departments that all serve an essential role in making the Hampshire schools as exceptional as they are. Following are reports from each of these departments.

### **Office of Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessment**

The office of the director of curriculum, instruction, and assessment for the Hampshire Regional School District is pleased to present an annual report for 2018. In addition to supervising the district's federal entitlement grants, the office programs professional development for the district's staff, oversees the district's English Language Learner program, and monitors the district's civil rights compliance. Working with the superintendent, principals, and teachers, the office selects curriculum materials, advises instructional practices, and oversees assessment systems.

The focus of the year's professional development was improving students' academic and behavioral outcomes. The first speakers for the district's professional development day (October 2017) were from the National Alliance for Mental Illness (NAMI). The speakers addressed the issue of mental illness as it affects students, their teachers, and their school nurses. The speaker for the January 2018 professional development day was an autism spectrum disorder specialist from the Collaborative for Educational Services. During the second part of both professional development days, teachers worked in grade-level teams that included special educators and ELL teachers to create and assess a science writing assignment.

This office also provided teachers with two unique professional learning opportunities. The first was a Google Classroom workshop sponsored by the Western Massachusetts Writing Project (WMWP). Twenty-five teachers met over the course of several winter months to design their own Google Classroom spaces. The second occurred during the summer when thirty teachers from across the district's schools completed a workshop devoted to best teaching practices for English Language Learners.

There were several initiatives involving curriculum, instruction, and assessment in 2018. Summer offered the opportunity for elementary teacher leaders to come together to design a set of professional learning communities (PLCs) ranging from project-based learning to rethinking assessment. The PLCs met for the first time during the October 2018 professional development day. The work of those teacher-led groups has continued through this academic year.

Another significant academic initiative for Hampshire Regional students began in the spring of 2018; the high school principal, Kristen Smidy, and the director of curriculum, Kate Messmer, created a pilot program for the school's entering ninth-grade students. Inspired by national

studies that indicate the critical nature of the first year of high school for students, the ninth-grade teachers gathered with the principal and the curriculum director over the summer to finalize the design of a pilot program that was implemented at the beginning of the 2018-2019 school year.

The new social studies standards were also a focus of summer curriculum work. The sixth- and seventh-grade social studies teachers worked with the director of curriculum over the summer to study the new standards and determine the best practices for teaching those standards to their incoming classes. The work to implement the new social studies standards is ongoing with specific attention shifting to a new civics course for eighth-grade students to be offered during the next academic year. This office has applied for a state grant that, if awarded, will assist the district in providing professional development for all of its teachers to guide them in their implementation of the new social studies standards across all grade levels.

Elementary mathematics has also been an ongoing concern of the director of curriculum. With access to the digital resources of the current curriculum expiring in 2019, the district is taking this opportunity to consider a new elementary math curriculum. A steering committee of teachers from across the elementary schools is currently reviewing math materials for adoption in 2019.

Additional work of this office during 2018 included: promoting elementary keyboard instruction; providing resources to strengthen literacy across the schools; and selecting and implementing a new English curriculum for grades 7-12. In addition, reviewing the elementary report cards to address curriculum shifts in math, science, and social studies; applying for any grants for which the district qualifies; preparing for state oversight; and attending local, regional, and state meetings that inform the varied responsibilities of this office have been critical to supporting the students of the Hampshire Regional School District.

### **Office of Pupil Services**

The Hampshire Regional School District is currently providing special education services to 360 students Pre-K to age 22. Of these 360 students, we have 33 special needs PreK students, 167 special needs kindergarten to grade 6 students, and 160 special needs grade 7 to age 22 students. In addition, we have 13 students in out of district placements.

Across the district, some exciting work is happening in the area of early childhood education. Our programs are submitting applications to earn a Level 3 rating from the Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS). QRIS is a systemic approach to assess, improve, and communicate the level of quality in early and school-age care and education programs. A QRIS Level 3 rating reflects a program that is of very high quality in regards to curriculum and learning, safe, healthy indoor and outdoor environments, workforce qualifications and professional development, and family and community engagement. It is

a rigorous process that entails self-evaluation, professional development, and program observations conducted by a state early education and care administrator. Once a Level 3 rating is achieved, programs will qualify for grant funds for consumable goods for their programs.

Formally known as the Comprehensive Program Review, the district's pupil services director is conducting a Tiered Focus Monitoring self-assessment to ensure each District's compliance with special education laws and regulations in preparation for the 2019 – 2020 Department of Elementary and Secondary Education site visit. The areas being reviewed in the self-assessment include: The Special Education Identification process, IEP Development, and Programming and Support Services, with a special focus on assistive technology. The District's self-assessment will be submitted by May 1, 2019.

### **Office of Health Services**

Our health services team works diligently to provide safe and competent care to all of the students in our school community. We have many students with complex medical needs that our district nurses monitor and treat on a daily basis so students are able to receive a high quality education. District nurses are also making an effort to get into classrooms to provide health and wellness education to all students as time permits. They consistently educate staff to ensure we provide a safe environment for all members of our school community.

With school safety always being a top priority, one of our high school nurses, Cyndy Domina held a CPR class for all of the newly hired paraprofessionals this year. All of the paraprofessionals are CPR certified at HRHS thanks to nursing staff! They are also hoping to incorporate a Narcan training for staff this year given the increasing opioid epidemic. HRHS is also proud of the weekly collaboration with SRO's that occurs to discuss school safety and at risk students.

Moreover, all district nurses are currently working on a shared team goal to improve communication, collaboration, and the overall working relationship with pediatric offices that serve our student population. Nursing staff attended a meeting with Northampton Area Pediatrics in October 2018 to discuss best practices around serving our students' health needs. We have further established three areas to improve upon in our current interactions with community healthcare providers and are drafting a letter to send to providers that will streamline communication with pediatricians. This initiative includes a plan to make site visits to meet with a handful of providers in the community on our professional development afternoon in March 2019.

Furthermore, health services coordinator Stephanie Faas and Sarah Carlan (RHC school adjustment counselor) co-led a professional learning community with elementary school nurses and school adjustment counselors this school year with the aim of strengthening the partnership between disciplines. Each school's team developed a plan to implement a coordinated treatment model to improve

student care in their school. In an effort to better support our students' overall wellness and therefore, readiness to learn, we will continue to meet to reflect on our practices, successes, barriers, and will tweak our model to meet the needs of our community.

### **Schools' Business Office**

The business office is responsible for all finance, operations, personnel, and contract functions for the five unique member districts of Hampshire Regional Schools. The business office manages a combined operating budget of roughly \$30 million across many unique programs to support nearly 1,750 students and 300 employees throughout the region. We are happy to report that while every audit year provides opportunities for improvement, there were no material findings in the past fiscal year and all of our programs are in full compliance.

This year, business director Bobbie Jones has been soliciting increased feedback on the budgeting process from member towns and working to improve communications. This includes a detailed explanation of how the central office funding and budgeting process dovetails with each school as well as how other programs and agreements offset costs. Bobbie also offered detailed explanations at each school committee meeting regarding how agreements with other entities such as Worthington interrelate within the central office budget.

### **Office of District Technology**

Technology continues to have an essential role in the academic mission of our schools as we embrace an ever growing industry of digital curriculum resources and online tools for teaching and learning. In addition, our administrative support systems continue to play a critical role in running the business side of our educational mission, as well as complying with mandatory state reporting and electronic record archiving. Below are some highlights of technology related happenings around the District this year.

#### **1. Digital Curriculum**

Digital curriculum materials being utilized for teaching and learning in our member schools include resources like: Big Ideas Math, Kahn Academy, TurnItIn, Envisions Math, Fastbridge Assessment, Discovery Education, Scholastic Reading, Keyboarding Without Tears, Google Classroom, etc. These materials are used by both faculty and students in support of their academic endeavors.

Students in grades 2-6 continue to focus on how to keyboard using a program called "Keyboarding Without Tears." This skill is a needed building block for students as they begin to utilize other online materials. Keyboarding is also essential in order for students to take the state's computer based MCAS test, which starts in the 3rd grade.

In addition to keyboarding, elementary students are engaged in learning how to validate online resources, search online library databases, and use Google documents to collaboratively write and create presentations.

At the middle/high school, students continue to use a mix of online textbooks, online math and ELA programs, Google Applications, 3D design software, etc. throughout the year to complete coursework. Upper grade students also utilize a program called Naviance, an application that aligns student strengths and interests with post-secondary goals.

#### **2. Standardized Online State Testing - MCAS**

This year the state required all students to take the MCAS test online, so in the spring of 2018, all schools successfully transitioned from paper based tests to online computer based tests. Not only did schools have to have a sufficient number of computers for students to use, but each school had to have a robust wireless network to successfully administer online tests.

To meet the state's mandate for online testing this year, planning and preparation happened several years ago, and included a grant award to upgrade each school's wireless network infrastructure. The grant (*Digital Connections Partnership Grant - Part 1*) provided funds to procure and install new wireless access points and network devices. The 2016 grant award included funding for:

Westhampton Elementary School = \$20,602  
New Hingham Regional Elementary School = \$28,075  
William E. Norris Elementary School = \$50,423  
Hampshire Regional Middle/High School = \$30,662  
(note: *Anne T. Dunphy School's wireless infrastructure was already updated due to the recent building renovation project so they did not receive funding.*)

#### **3. Technology Grants**

Two competitive technology grants were awarded to help fund computers as well as a set of programmable robots. Those grants were:

##### **a. Digital Connections Partnership Grant - Part 2**

In June 2018, as part of the *Digital Connections Partnership Grant -Part 1* (see MCAS section above), member schools were also eligible for additional funding under the original grant to procure computers. The following funds were obtained through this grant to upgrade/replace older laptops in each school:

Westhampton Elementary School = \$9,037  
New Hingham Regional Elementary School = \$11,635  
William E. Norris Elementary School = \$23,168  
Hampshire Regional Middle/High School = \$14,552  
(note: *Anne T. Dunphy School's wireless infrastructure was already in place due to the building renovation project, so they were not eligible for this part of the grant.*)

##### **b. MassCue Grant - Putting the "A" into STEAM**

This past spring, the Norris art program was awarded a \$3,000 grant to integrate science, technology, engineering and mathematics standards into the art curriculum. Grant funds were used to procure 4 iPads and 12 programmable Sphero robots. Sixth grade students have been experimenting with programming the robots to create paintings. This enriched activity

exposes students to programming concepts, problem solving strategies, the dynamics of group work, science, technology, math, engineering and abstract art concepts using various paint combinations on a large canvas area.

#### **4. Family Coding Nights**

In celebration of *Computer Science Education Week*, families were invited to participate in the *2nd Annual Family Coding Night* held at schools across the district.

Coding activities challenged parents and students to build computer logic to navigate characters from popular video games like Angry Birds. As parents and students progressed from one coding activity to the next, they were challenged with more complex tasks, which required lots of problem solving and critical thinking. All events were well attended.

#### **5. 3-D Design and Printing**

Schools across the district have access to a 3-D printer and online design software that can be utilized to teach science, math and engineering standards. While teachers are excited to use this technology in their classrooms, some teachers are just starting to learn how to integrate 3-D design and printing into their curriculum.

At the middle/high school, a few science teachers are utilizing 3-D printer technology with students for class assignments as well as middle school science fair projects.

At the Norris School, teachers offered a 3-D Printer Club during recess for 6th grade students who were interested in learning how to create 3-D print designs. These students act as mentors to other students during science classes that utilize this technology. In addition, 2nd grade students were able to buddy up with 6th grade students to design and print 3-D animals as part of their unit on forest animals. Each student in the class got an opportunity to design a 3-D animal utilizing online software called TinkerCad. Students learned how the 3-D printer worked and had an opportunity to watch the 3-D printer as animals were being printed.

#### **6. MakerSpaces**

Students in the middle/high school Makerspace Club engage in various activities that required them to work collaboratively, be creative and think critically about their design projects. Some past activities include, student-designed 3D printing projects, basic computer programming, making light-up/pop-up cards using electric circuits and constructing infinity cubes.

Students at the Anne T. Dunphy School signed up during recess to participate in open ended makerspace design projects. During that time, students were given options to work on, including using materials like legos, electronic circuits and laptops to build robots. Students also created 3D printed objects that were designed utilizing TinkerCad.

#### **7. Technology Related Professional Development**

Teachers across the district participated in various technology related professional development offerings, including:

- Course on Backward Design and Google Classroom (10 hours)
- Technology Professional Learning Community
- Create a Teacher/Classroom Webpage
- Integrating 3D Printing

#### **8. New District and School Websites**

The web platform used for our district and school websites became obsolete in December 2018 so we were forced to change vendors and migrate all existing web content to a new system. In doing so, we also had to ensure our new websites were ADA compliant (American Disabilities Act), such that someone with a disability can access and obtain information from our websites. After reviewing criteria and software options, a vendor was selected and all content was successfully migrated to the new web platform. Training for staff and teachers who maintain web pages on the new site is underway.

#### **Looking Ahead**

The role of schools within the larger community is becoming more complex with increasing regulatory requirements and unfunded mandates making the environment more and more challenging. Working with and through state agencies has become a major part of our day-to-day operations and schools are increasingly being called upon to act as the focal point for not only student, but family support structures. Nonetheless, our dedicated staff and administration continue rising to the challenge and increasingly meet students and families where they are. While this is often overwhelming, it serves an unquestionably essential and rewarding need in the lives of our students. We are continuing to come together as a robust community of partnering schools and engaging in a shared mission to improve the education, and thus the future, for the children of our communities. We are very proud of the work our teachers, support staff, and administrators have done to enhance learning opportunities and achievement outcomes for all students. We encourage you to visit your individual school websites, the website of the central office, or the superintendent's Facebook page for additional information. Whenever you have a question or wish to become involved in your community schools, please call our office or the principal of your local school.

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

Respectfully Submitted by  
Aaron Osborne  
Superintendent of Schools

## Hampshire Regional High School

Hampshire Regional High School students and faculty engaged in another productive year of learning, growth, and development. The communities of Hampshire Regional worked together successfully to ensure that all students were given a rich education to prepare them for life after high school in college or the workforce.

Safety is always a priority at Hampshire Regional, and school administration was intentional about planning a number of activities to increase knowledge, awareness, and security. On January 9, Hampshire Regional's School Council hosted a community event entitled Taking Action Against Addiction. The evening featured a panel that included expert on teen brain development Dr. Ruth Potee, substance abuse counselor Lisa Pineo, Master's level counseling intern in long term recovery Derrick Cotnoir, and Jim Ouimette, father of Mitch Ouimette who died from a drug overdose in 2017. The event was well attended and well received. Additionally, Hampshire became the first public school in Hampshire County to conduct a reunification drill with student and family participation on March 15. This drill was conducted in collaboration with the Westhampton Police Department, the Southamton Police Department, and the Massachusetts State Police. The drill was so successful that the Hampshire administrative team and Southamton Police Officer Scott Gove presented a Reunification Seminar to teach other schools how to conduct a successful reunification on June 27. Over 50 superintendents, police chiefs, fire chiefs, and principals from around the state attended. Around the time of prom, students also had an opportunity to increase their safety awareness by participating in the Mock Accident hosted by SADD in collaboration with the Westhampton Emergency Service team. In May, students and staff wrote gratitude cards to one another to share positive messages across the community. The feeling of safety certainly increases when students connect positively with one another and with staff.

The spring brought on the usual round of standardized tests including MCAS and AP testing. The state's Department of Elementary and Secondary Education required testing to be done online except for the 10<sup>th</sup> grade (10<sup>th</sup> grade online testing will start in 2019) and also introduced a new way of reporting results. Hampshire was designated as a school not requiring interventions or assistance, which was due to the students' strong overall performance. Hampshire's performance was in the 70<sup>th</sup> percentile compared to other schools. All growth percentiles were in the average range except for 8<sup>th</sup> grade math, which means Hampshire Regional students demonstrated a typical year's growth and learning on their MCAS tests. Tenth graders outperformed the state in every MCAS category. Students are required to pass the MCAS exam in order to earn their high school diploma, and there has never been a Hampshire student unable to earn his or her diploma because of this requirement. 65 Hampshire students also took 113 AP exams in 14 subjects. Students who earn a 3 or higher on

this exam may be able to get college credit and bypass coursework in college. Students appreciated being able to take advantage of this opportunity and enjoyed the challenge of the coursework.

In addition to the excessive standardized testing in the spring, many students love participating in academic and extracurricular activities. The girls basketball team made it to the state championship falling to Archbishop Williams after an amazing season with a notable contribution from senior and captain Katelyn Pickunka. Taylor Mitchell was honored for committing to attend and participate in the diving program at the University of Maine, a D1 school. Former choral director Rebecca Phelps produced the spring musical *Curtains* starring Olivia Brennan, Ryan Bell, and Emma Kuntz. Sarah Unger, Alex Willard, Sage Antonio, Abigail Buschini, Abigail Thibodeau, Nolan Jasiorkowski, and Eliza Warner all advanced to the state science fair after placing at the Western Massachusetts Regional Science Fair. Seventh grade Team Greylock took to marking the trails on the school's campus to increase awareness and apply a number of academic standards to real life.

Special education teacher Jeff Carriero was awarded with the Harold Grinspoon Teacher of Excellence from Hampshire in May. Jeff was an ideal candidate for this accolade due to his patience, kindness, infectious energy, and commitment to students in the classroom and in his role as a coach of different sports in multiple seasons. Additionally, Hampshire was awarded \$1193 from Florence Savings Bank through the community choice grant. This funding supported students in extra-curricular activities and accessing field trips.

Hampshire Regional High School graduated 101 students at John M. Greene Hall on Friday, June 1 after a number of senior trips and activities. Advisors Kelly Carpenter and Grayson DeWitt organized fun events for seniors to participate in before graduating. Memorable speeches were given by class valedictorian Amanda Adams, the class salutatorian Lydia Touchette, class President William LaFosse, class Secretary Barret LaPlante, and class Treasurer Gregory Norris. Three students did not meet the HRHS graduation requirements but completed all expectations by the end of the summer to earn their diplomas.

At the end of the year, there were a few notable retirements and staff departures. Dr. Craig Jurgensen, the school superintendent for nine years, announced his plans to retire. Aaron Osborne replaced him after a lengthy search process. Mr. Osborne previously worked in Palmer as the Business Manager and taught Business and Math before going into a leadership position. Mark Folta, Assistant Principal at the high school, also decided to retire after twelve years at Hampshire. Lauren Hotz, a HRHS graduate, replaced Mr. Folta. Ms. Hotz previously worked in Springfield at Forest Park Middle School as an assistant principal. She also taught English at the Renaissance School prior to her administrative position. Matthew Collins, Assistant Principal for the middle school, left to be the



Principal at St. Mary's School in Westfield. Mark Biagini was hired as the new Middle School Assistant Principal after running special education programs at Mohawk Schools. Linda Hampson retired from her position as the cafeteria manager and was replaced by Carol Inman. Maureen Monaghan retired from the main office, and was replaced by Jen Reagan, who was formerly in the guidance office. Sarah Jablonski took Ms. Reagan's role in the guidance office. Ryan McCarthy was hired as a special education teacher and Sheela Haque accepted the position as School Adjustment Counselor. Elizabeth Caretti Ramirez is the new Spanish teacher while Joyce Dragon was hired to be the second van driver for the school. New para educators hired included Ty Dickinson, Janet Baron, Jeni Glenowicz, Linda Sickler and Beth Illingsworth. A chemistry teacher, Ashley Figueiredo, was also hired in the summer. Ms. Figueiredo unexpectedly passed away in the fall. Her position was filled internally by Jesse Porter-Henry and Eric Frary was hired to replace Jesse in the middle school science classroom.

The 2018-2019 School Year welcomed 733 students to Hampshire Regional including 130 school choice students.

GRADE	ENROLLMENT
7	139
8	133
9	136
10	105
11	126
12	89
Post HS	5

As there is a great deal of research indicating that student success in 9<sup>th</sup> grade indicates overall success in high school and beyond, the 9<sup>th</sup> grade teachers agreed to participate in an internal collaborative effort to reflect on instructional practices and engage with families. Led by Principal Smidy, Curriculum Director Kate Messmer, and teacher leader Kirsti Wiemokly, this initiative supported the 9<sup>th</sup> grade teachers to have structured time during the school day to observe one another and communicate about student progress.

In the fall, Hampshire Regional hosted its annual open house. Teachers worked hard to present during the new activity fair component of the evening, which was warmly received by families. Later in the evening, parents and guardians communicated with teachers about class expectations and curriculum to better support students in partnership. Prospective students and families also attended, as Hampshire is a sought-after learning community by many from surrounding towns.

The Academic Society inducted 23 new students on October 24. Students in the Academic Society must have a 3.7 GPA and engage in 30 additional community service hours beyond the graduation requirement. The 2018 inductees were: Neil Adams, Jacqueline Babyak, Emma Barnes, Ryan Bell, Fiona Bulman, Emma Civello, Anne Curran, Kaitlyn Duggan, Jessica Fish, Naomi Golasinski, Mary Kate Kraus,

Jacob Labrie, Cobi Loud, Nathaniel Marks, Aine McDonald, Abigail Meunier, Adrien Neveu, Nickolas Pellegrini, David Spencer, Catrina Touchette, Gideon Touchette, April Warner, Mason Willard. The Academic Society is led by advisor Grayson DeWitt and co-presidents Nicholas Eline and Rebecca Buehler.

Rebecca Buehler, senior student from Southampton, was named as a National Merit Scholarship semi-finalist. Over 1.6 million juniors in about 22,000 schools entered the program by taking the PSATs in 2017. The pool of semi-finalists represents less than 1% of high school seniors. Finalists will be announced in the spring of 2019.

The Hampshire Regional staff engaged in meaningful professional development in 2018. The entire school district participated in a seminar on identifying unconscious bias in their practice and a number of educators went on to participate in the follow up seminars throughout the fall at the high school organized by Curriculum Director Messmer. Educators also worked towards completing curriculum mapping to allow for further collaboration and transparency in their instruction. Additionally, a team of teachers, counselors, and administrators participated in a college and career in the curriculum program led by the state department. Teachers engaged in a number of workshops and conferences that applied to their practice individually, continuously pushing to improve their work with students.

Regardless of the challenges that face today's youth, I am extremely proud and thankful to be a part of the Hampshire Regional learning community. It is a unique district with many strengths including our amazing students, our caring staff, our partnership with families and the community, and the strong support from towns. I am hopeful that these values continue to drive our collaborative efforts as we prepare students to be contributing members of our community now and in the future.

## **Hampshire Regional Athletics - 2018**

### **Girls Basketball**

Congratulations to senior Katelyn Pickunka who ended her Hampshire Regional basketball career as a 1,000 point scorer. As a team, the girls qualified for the Western Mass Tournament, won their league, were crowned as Western Mass Division 3 Champions and were the runners up in the Division 3 State Championship Game. The Massachusetts Basketball Coaches Association recognized Coach Amy Cyr as the Division 3 Western Mass Basketball Coach of the year.

### **Boys Basketball**

The program hosted a Drug Abuse and Opioids Education night and raised over \$400. The money was donated to Hampshire's SADD chapter (Students Against Destructive Decisions) in honor of recent Hampshire graduate Mitch Quimette who passed away of an opioids overdose in late

2017. The money went towards bringing in a guest speaker to present to Hampshire students before the 2018 prom.

### **Indoor Track**

Congratulations to Peter Jacek and Hannah Labrie for qualifying for the state competition in Indoor Track. Peter in the High Jump and Hannah in the 55 Hurdles.

### **Wrestling**

Congratulations to senior DJ Willard who ended his Hampshire Regional wrestling career with over 100 wins. Sophomore Mike Baldwin also reached the milestone. Also, congratulations to the Wrestling team for their impressive showing at the Western Mass tournament. As a team they earned the Division 3 Sportsmanship Award. Mike Baldwin, Kobe Clifford, Nate Picard, Forrest McSweeney, Max Abel, Nate Hogan, Mason Willard and Tallon Gabelli all medaled in the tournament. Additionally, DJ Willard is the Division 3 Western Mass 160 lb champion. DJ, Mike and Kobe all qualified to compete in the State Championships where Mike finished in 5th place, Kobe in 8th and DJ Willard finished as a State Champion and received the "Outstanding Wrestler" Award. Additionally, the team was recognized by the Western Mass Wrestling Officials Association with the Division 3 Sportsmanship Award.

### **Alpine Skiing**

Edward Przybala, Santiago Guevara-Lemelin, Kaitlin Dunn and Talya Gilman-Solomon earned a ticket to represent Hampshire Regional and the PVIAC at the State Alpine Skiing Championships. Aeden Madden and Dawson Kelly also attended as alternates.

### **Baseball**

Under new leadership from Hampshire Regional graduate and now physical education teacher, Dan Korpita, the Hampshire Baseball team won their league for the first time since 2012 qualifying for the Western Mass Tournament.

### **Outdoor Track**

Hampshire Regional Track program won their league from the girls side on their way to sending participants to both the girls and boys PVIAC and Division Two West/Central Championships.

### **Soccer**

The Boys and Girls Soccer team both had exciting season qualifying for the Western Mass postseason where the girls were victorious in the first round matchup and advanced to the semi-finals.

### **Cross Country**

The Girls Cross Country team won their league for the fifth consecutive year and placed fourth in the Western Mass

Championships. The Boys Cross Country team won their league for the second year in a row and placed second in Division 2 at the Western Mass Championships where Chris Vayda placed first. From the girls' team, Maddie Jenkins & Sylvie Mahon-Moore qualified for the State Championships along with the boys who placed 16th in the state as a team. The boys team also received the MIAA Ted Kutkiewicz Team Sportsmanship Award.

### **Gymnastics**

Being extremely young didn't stop the gymnastics team from having a great season. Even though they did not have any seniors on the squad for the second year in a row, the team placed third in the Western Mass Championships.

### **Club & Co-op Sports**

Hampshire Regional continues to grow its extracurricular sports programs with the addition of a Field Hockey Club to supplement the already thriving Cheer Squad and Volleyball Club. In terms of cooperative agreements with surrounding schools, Hampshire Regional students now have the opportunity to play lacrosse through an agreement with St. Mary's to compliment the Football, Ice Hockey and Swimming & Diving opportunities that were renewed with Easthampton High School.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen Smidy, Principal

## **New Hingham Regional Elementary School Chesterfield-Goshen Regional School District Principal's Report**

It is my privilege to submit this annual report of New Hingham Regional Elementary School. Our elementary school continues to provide learning experiences focused on the development of the whole child under the support and dedication of the staff, school committee, school council, the New Hingham parent/teacher organization, and the communities of Chesterfield and Goshen.

It is with great enthusiasm that I begin my work as Principal of New Hingham Regional Elementary School. Since my entry on July 1st, I have enjoyed the various opportunities to begin getting to know members of the community: at the Hilltown Junior Olympics, at the Hilltown Food Pantry Benefit, at the local town meetings, at the post office, in the halls of New Hingham, and in local establishments throughout the county.

Before joining the New Hingham learning community, I served as a 6th and 8th grade English teacher and principal intern at Pittsfield Public Schools. Prior to that, I taught 11th

and 12th grade English literature in Springfield and Adams. Throughout my career in education, I have taken advantage of growth opportunities with the intention of building my educational and experiential background in teaching and administration. In 2014, I graduated with two bachelor's degrees in English literature and education from Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts. Shortly thereafter, I returned to my alma mater where I earned a master's degree in curriculum and instruction in 2016. After spending a considerable amount of time working with educators to perfect their practice, my interest in becoming a building leader grew. After several years of successful teaching experience, I pursued a certificate of advanced graduate study in educational leadership that led to my licensure as a principal and superintendent of schools. This fall, I will begin my doctoral degree in transformative leadership at the University of New England in Maine.

I believe in the power that educators possess to make young learners feel safe, supported, accepted, celebrated, valued, important, and loved. I often quote Maya Angelou who said, "I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel." It is my belief that the combination of high-quality academic instruction and positive relationships with students is the foundation for success. In addition, each member of the school community must play an active role as teacher and learner, leader and follower, and speaker and listener. In turn, this shared responsibility will lead to a collective effort that is focused on increasing the impact of learning.

In an effort to respect the process of transitioning from one principal to the next, I created an entry plan for the New Hingham community. This entry plan reflects my priorities as the leader of New Hingham Regional Elementary School. Some of those priorities include the following: putting students first; listening to you - the community, staff, and families; and using meaningful data to guide our work. These principles have guided my entry into the school and will inform my work over the next several years. As a resident of Chesterfield, I am committed to our community's success. Our youth have only one chance for a quality PreK-6 education; therefore, it is imperative that we work together to ensure that we make our school the best it can be. It is important for the communities of Chesterfield and Goshen to understand that my committed, personal, and visionary leadership will be most effective by working together.

The 2018 school year brought several new talented staff members to New Hingham. First, we welcomed Aaron Osborne as our new Superintendent of Schools, replacing Dr. Craig Jurgensen who served our District for nine years. Mr. Osborne previously worked in Palmer as the Business Manager and served as a business and math teacher prior to his administrative experience. We also welcomed Jennifer Overton, our new Cafeteria Manager, and Melissa Loven, our Cafeteria Assistant. Jenn and Melissa have been working diligently to make a positive difference in the New Hingham kitchen. Ursula Elmes and Calvin Thatcher joined

us as paraprofessionals. Both Ursula and Calvin are former New Hingham students. Lastly, we welcomed Evelyn Snyder as our School Psychologist. "Evie" brings extensive experience in the field of education.

On June 19, 2018, we celebrated 16 sixth-grade students on their successful completion of elementary school. Ms. Sullivan, our sixth-grade teacher, hosted the ceremony with personal comments on the successes of each student in the class. We would like to honor the following 2018 graduates: Megan Baldwin, Andrew Brisbois, Lauren D'Astous, Lydia Donatelli, Deanna Harry, Jack Hennemann, Sarafina Jarrett, Thomas Lachance, Misty Layman, Kaylee Rooney, Andrew Royer, Leah Schnauber, Kira Shutt, Josephine Taylor, Nicholas West, and Jason (Vincent) Zononi.

In 2018, New Hingham hosted many enrichment activities for students and families. It would be impossible to list all of the special events and enrichment opportunities, but here are a few highlights: Back to School BBQ; Pinwheels for Peace; Kindergarten Tea Party; Eric Carle Museum; Fire Department Safe Day; Halloween Parade; Veterans' Day Celebration; Peace Poster Contest; Thanksgiving Share; Bright Spot Reading Dog Program; UMASS Women's Basketball; Family Coding Night; and Winter Chorus Concert.

New Hingham is very fortunate to have a dedicated PTO. The organization has been quite busy this year. Here are some of the highlights: Summer Playgroups; Box Tops for Education; Square 1 Art; Thanksgiving Food Drive; Holiday Shop Hop; Family Mud Run; and the School Bus Demolition Derby. Throughout the year, the PTO has generously paid for field trip transportation, classroom supplies, books, etc. For a complete list of events, please contact the PTO at [newhinghampto@gmail.com](mailto:newhinghampto@gmail.com).

Over the past few months, New Hingham teachers evaluated two high-quality English language arts curriculum resources. Both programs are aligned to the Common Core standards and offer teachers the resources necessary to teach reading, writing, grammar, etc. They also had the opportunity to participate in teaching demonstrations by the vendors to determine which program best meets the needs of their students. Beginning in September of 2019, students and teachers will begin using Journeys by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt. It is our philosophy that curriculum materials are a resource, not the one and only resource. Nevertheless, it is essential for our staff to have research-based curriculum materials so they can focus on what matters most.

In a survey that was administered towards the end of the 2018 school year, students, families, and teachers expressed a strong interest in increasing students' access to technology. We are pleased that we have been able to provide new interactive projectors in all classrooms over the past six months. Additionally, each classroom (grades 1-6) now has its own laptop cart with ten computers. Technology is now firmly entrenched in daily living and educators must begin technological education early on,

continually improving teaching techniques to support students. Embracing digital literacy is key to encouraging learning from pre-k through adulthood and it is essential to a school's success and a student's lifelong improvement.

The mission of New Hingham Regional Elementary School is to develop successful learners through a student-centered, integrated learning environment combining academics and the arts. To accomplish this mission, everyone in the educational community will model and promote behaviors that foster self-esteem, respect, and lifelong learning. In pursuit of our mission, we will strive to incorporate learning skills to show empathy, manage our emotions, and apply problem solving skills through our core values each and every day. However, there are times when student behaviors are not aligned with core values, which occurs in every school. This year, we're implementing a new system called "majors and minors" to monitor and track student behavior. In addition, the goal is to increase communication with families about behaviors that interfere with learning. As a building, we are able to analyze the data and provide appropriate interventions. Since the beginning of the school year, we have seen a decrease in problematic behaviors, and we have received positive feedback from families about the increased communication and supports. All of this work is aligned to PBIS (i.e., positive behavioral interventions and support), a framework that we are revitalizing at New Hingham.

Every month, students and staff gather for an all-school assembly. In the past, the building principal or classroom teachers would lead the assembly. In an effort to provide students the opportunity to develop lifelong skills, students are tasked with "running the show." Students are in charge of coming up with the greeting, activities, transitions, etc. The entire assembly is student led and everyone has a role. For example, one class recently discussed growth mindset and the language we can use to foster this type of thinking. The New Hingham students look forward to their opportunity each month!

In an effort to provide high quality, meaningful, and consistent professional development opportunities for all staff, the Flying Cloud Institute has begun their work with teachers and paraprofessionals during our half-day PD sessions. The mission of Flying Cloud is to "Inspire young people and educators through dynamic science and art activities that ignite creativity." In between sessions, teachers and paraprofessionals have the opportunity to engage in online discussions about the content and plan hands-on activities. Learn more about this opportunity at [flyingcloudinstitute.org](http://flyingcloudinstitute.org).

Throughout the school year, staff members have engaged in various professional development opportunities outside of school. More recently, a team of teachers and I participated in a Responsive Classroom workshop. Responsive Classroom is an evidence-based approach to education that focuses on the strong relationship between academic success and social-emotional learning (SEL). The Responsive Classroom approach empowers educators to create safe, joyful, and engaging learning communities where all students have a

sense of belonging and feel significant. Another team of teachers and I attended a workshop provided by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education called "Leading with Access and Equity: Innovative Systems and Practices to Support All Students." Some of the workshop included chronic absenteeism, developing multi-tiered systems of support, the impact of poverty and trauma on learning, inclusive co-teaching models, effectively engaging families, approaches to addressing students' mental health needs, and developing capacity to support social emotional learning.

Each year, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) requires schools to administer the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS). The standardized test scores provides schools with student-specific data about students' overall performance, growth, and early warning indicators, to name a few. Over the past several years, DESE has changed the test's format and how they hold schools accountable. Overall, New Hingham students did an excellent job on the Spring 2018 test. At New Hingham, we continue to use test results as *a* data source, not *the* data source, to help us in our instructional planning and goals. The data provided gives us some guidance around the improvements necessary to continue to strengthen our curriculum and instruction; however, it is important to note that the MCAS does not assess what makes any child unique. The machines that score the multiple choice do not see the thinking that goes into the selection of the answers. The individuals that read and score the essays do not see the time and effort it takes to produce the final product or where the students were at the beginning of the school year. The people who create these tests and score them do not know each of the students in the way that we know them. While they see a number, we see human beings with many talents. We see students who participate and excel in dance, music, art, sports, and languages. We see students being a good friend and supporting others in need. We see students write and talk about their hopes and dreams. We see students discover their love of reading poetry, fishing in a nearby pond, working with animals, taking machines apart and putting them back together, and coming up with ways to make our community and world a better place. *This* is why we do what we do. We must not forget the human being behind the score. The scores will tell us something, as they are a snapshot of student learning, which is important, but they will not tell you everything.

This past October, we submitted a grant proposal to the MIAA (Massachusetts Interlocal Insurance Association) to receive funding that would enhance security at New Hingham. We were awarded \$3,395, which will allow us to purchase new radios (some will connect to the police department) and other safety equipment.

We are excited to announce that we are one of the recipients of the new rural school aid. The Legislature's \$41.88 billion compromise budget approved earlier this year included a new "rural school aid" account championed by local Senator Adam Hinds as a way of addressing the

financial challenges of rural school districts. The budget calls for \$1.5 million in additional funding for 33 rural school districts, most of which are in western Massachusetts. The new account provides additional funding to qualifying school districts with enrollment of fewer than 21 students per square mile and per capita income below the state average, with priority given to districts serving fewer than 11 students per square mile. New Hingham received \$17,962 and we are planning to use the funding in areas that will positively impact teaching and learning, school safety, and family engagement.

One of our major challenges is the school roof. The school was built in 1998 and the shingles that were installed (i.e., IKO shingles) have a manufacturer’s defect. Unfortunately, the entire roof needs to be replaced due to severe leaking. We have applied for state funding, but our school was rejected multiple times due to the building’s age. The state increased the age requirements just a few months before we would have qualified. Due to the severity of the leaks and the amount of time it takes to move forward with a roof replacement, we were forced to cover the roof with tarps to help us get through the winter. We are moving forward with an architect who will help us with a design, the bidding process, etc. It is our hope that we can replace the shingles in the summer of 2019, but it will depend on funding from the towns.

While we have seen a decrease in enrollment over the years, as most schools have throughout Massachusetts, we still have healthy class sizes and we are working to increase our enrollment, especially in the earlier grade levels. The current enrollment at New Hingham is as follows: PreKindergarten = 15; Kindergarten = 13; Grade 1 = 20; Grade 2 = 19; Grade 3 = 14; Grade 4 = 16; Grade 5 = 12; Grade 6 = 20. The total number of students is 129. We have 19 students who school choice to New Hingham from other towns and 14 students who school choice to other districts.

As a school, we recognize the increased costs that the school department and towns face each year. However, we must find a way to meet the needs of students with what we have. Building a budget based on tax dollars earned and paid for by our neighbors in each community is an almost sacred task. Our students and families have one opportunity to receive a quality PreK-6 public education and the importance of our work cannot be overstated. As a small, rural school, we understand that every dollar counts—as every dollar needs to go toward keeping our entire community well served. The towns of Chesterfield and Goshen are facing tight fiscal constraints in FY20 and likely for several years beyond next year, especially with known cost increases such as health insurance premiums. It is the responsibility of the towns and the school department to be as strategic as possible with our taxpayers’ dollars. Typically, we often see the budget process geared towards gaining what schools previously lost as opposed to moving forward and making decisions based on student need. As the building principal, I would like to work more closely with both towns’ selectboards and finance committees to discuss how we can be more

strategic with our funding, which we have already begun. One way to do this is to establish the following guiding principles and to make strategic decisions based on student need:

- Are we legally obligated to provide this service, program, or specific level of service?
- Are we morally obligated to provide this service, program, or specific level of service?
- Does our community expect this service for its annual investment in New Hingham?
- Are students making gains commensurate with the funds spent on programs and/or staff?
- Is there a more strategic option to provide the same level of service?

The staff and students at New Hingham Regional Elementary School are fortunate to be part of such a supportive community. We appreciate our relationships with stakeholders who support and strengthen our school community. It has been a privilege serving as your community’s principal and I thank you for welcoming me into the school. I look forward to getting to know and working with you as I continue to serve as New Hingham’s leader. If you have questions, comments, or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me. I can be reached at [jmcmillan@hr-k12.org](mailto:jmcmillan@hr-k12.org) or (413) 296-0000. You may also visit our new school website at [www.newhingham.org](http://www.newhingham.org).

Respectfully Submitted,

Jesse McMillan, Principal

### Tax Collector

Year of Tax	Type of Tax	Outstanding June 30, 2018
2018	Real Estate	\$ 70,013.30
2018	Personal Property	\$ 1,065.03
2018	Motor Vehicle	\$ 12,811.27
2017	Real Estate	\$ 11,731.03
2017	Personal Property	\$ 455.03
2017	Motor Vehicle	\$ 1,771.06
2016	Real Estate	\$ 2,960.88
2016	Personal Property	\$ 463.40
2016	Motor Vehicle	\$ 838.13
2015	Real Estate	\$ 2,890.17
2015	Personal Property	\$ 441.28
2015	Motor Vehicle	\$ 771.25
2014	Real Estate	\$ 2,761.79
2014	Personal Property	\$ 41.54
2014	Motor Vehicle	\$ 125.42
2013	Real Estate	\$ 1,954.26
2013	Motor Vehicle	\$ 491.26
2011	Motor Vehicle	\$ 80.64
2010	Motor Vehicle	\$ 181.77

Respectfully submitted

Michelle Bond

## Tilton Town Farm Supervisors

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

### Timber Management Plan:

- We entered into our 4th year of our Timber Management Plan with Bay State Forestry. This plan promotes healthy regeneration to the forest while improving wildlife habitat and existing hiking trails. We also continued to treat and remove invasive species located on the property.
- With the help of Bay State Forestry we were able to successfully apply and receive a grant from the Department of Conservation & Recreation. With this grant, we continued to make improvements to the Tilton land. We were also able to create a “wood bank”. Similar to a food bank, we were able to provide 1 cord of firewood to eligible citizens of Goshen. With the help of numerous volunteers, a total of 13 cords of wood was cut & split.
- Our collaboration with The Open Space Committee on our Timber Management Plan has ensured open communications and has helped avoid duplication of efforts and resources.

### Farmhouse @ 27 Wing Hill Road:

- At the beginning of 2018, we continued to make improvements to the electrical system inside of the house. Other interior improvements included the sanding & refinishing of the hardwood floors and a fresh coat of paint to many of the rooms
- The installation of a new septic system was completed in the fall
- Other improvements were made to the exterior of the house which will continue into 2019

Respectfully Submitted,

Bob Goss  
Roger Culver  
Rich Polwrek  
Tilton Town Farm Supervisors

## Town Clerk

### 2018 Vital Statistics

**Births:** The Town of Goshen was blessed to welcome four newborns into the community in 2018: three males and one female.

**Marriages:** The lives of three couples were joined in marriage, with the issuance and recording of their marriage in the Town in 2018.

**Deaths:** Our deepest condolences to all families who lost a loved one this year. In 2018, the Town of Goshen recorded eight deaths.

**Dogs:** Single Licenses Issued: 255  
Kennel Licenses Issued: 6

**2018 Street Listing:** 973 Residents

**Registered Voters:** 712

**Town Meetings held in 2018:** (See pages that follow for meeting minutes)

March 10, 2018	SpecialTown Meeting
March 19, 2018	Annual Town Caucus
May 21, 2018	Annual Town Meeting
September 17,2018	Special Town Meeting

### **Elections held in 2018:**

May5,2018Annual Town Election; 91 ballots cast  
June23,2018SpecialTownElection;62 ballots cast  
September4,2018State Primary; 307 ballots cast  
October2,2018SpecialTownElection;88ballotscast  
November6,2018StateElection;549 ballots cast

I would like to extend a thank you to the Board of Registrars (Audrey Bissell, Rose-Marie Carr and Janice Ellis) and to the Town election workers whose diligence in their duties makes the election process smooth and enjoyable.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen M. Estelle  
Town Clerk of Goshen

The meeting was called to order at 11:07 a. m., a quorum being present and 28 voters signed in.

The Moderator informed the gathering that the meeting was being recorded to aid the Town Clerk in taking the minutes.

ARTICLE 1: Motion made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Goshen Zoning By-laws by adding Section IV (D), "Temporary Moratorium on the Sale and Distribution of Recreational Marijuana" as follows:

**D. Temporary Moratorium on the Sale and Distribution of Recreational Marijuana**

**1. Purpose**

By vote at the State election on November 8, 2016, the voters of the Commonwealth approved a law regulating the cultivation, distribution, possession and use of marijuana for recreational purposes. The law took effect on December 15, 2016 (as amended on December 30, 2016; Chapter 351 of the Acts of 2016 and thereafter, on July 28, 2017 by Chapter 55 of the Acts of 2017) and requires a Cannabis Control Commission to issue regulations regarding the licensing of commercial activities by March 15, 2018 and begin accepting applications for licenses on April 1, 2018.

Currently, non-medical Marijuana Establishments (hereinafter "Recreational Marijuana Establishment") as defined in G.L. c.94G, §1 are not specifically addressed in the Zoning Bylaw and any regulations promulgated by the State Cannabis Control Commission are expected to provide guidance to the Town in regulating Recreational Marijuana Establishments.

The regulation of Recreational Marijuana Establishments and Marijuana Retailers raise novel and complex legal, planning, and public safety issues, and the Town needs time to study and consider the regulation of Recreational Marijuana Establishments and address such issues, as well as to address the potential impact of the State regulations on local zoning and to undertake a planning process to consider amending the Zoning Bylaw regarding regulation of Recreational Marijuana Establishments and other uses related to the regulation of recreational marijuana. The Town intends to adopt a temporary moratorium on the use of land and structures in the Town for Recreational Marijuana Establishments so as to allow the Town sufficient time to engage in a planning process to address the effects of such structures and uses in the Town and to adopt provisions of the Zoning Bylaw in a manner consistent with sound land use planning goals and objectives.

**2. Definitions**

"Manufacture", to compound, blend, extract, infuse or otherwise make or prepare a marijuana product.

"Marijuana accessories", equipment, products, devices or materials of any kind that are intended or designed for use in planting, propagating, cultivating, growing, harvesting, manufacturing, compounding, converting, producing, processing, preparing, testing, analyzing, packaging, repackaging, storing, containing, ingesting, inhaling or otherwise introducing marijuana into the human body.

"Marijuana cultivator", an entity licensed to cultivate, process and package marijuana, to deliver marijuana to marijuana establishments and to transfer marijuana to other marijuana establishments, but not to consumers.

"Marijuana establishment", a marijuana cultivator, independent testing laboratory, marijuana product manufacturer, marijuana retailer or any other type of licensed marijuana-related business.

"Marijuana product manufacturer", an entity licensed to obtain, manufacture, process and package marijuana and marijuana products, to deliver marijuana and marijuana products to marijuana establishments and to transfer marijuana and marijuana products to other marijuana establishments, but not to consumers.

"Marijuana products", products that have been manufactured and contain marijuana or an extract from marijuana, including concentrated forms of marijuana and products composed of marijuana and other ingredients that are intended for use or consumption, including edible products, beverages, topical products, ointments, oils and tinctures.

"Independent testing laboratory", an entity licensed to test marijuana and marijuana products, including certification for potency and the presence of contaminants.

"Marijuana retailer", an entity licensed to purchase and deliver marijuana and marijuana products from marijuana establishments and to deliver, sell or otherwise transfer marijuana and marijuana products to marijuana establishments and to consumers.

### **3. Temporary Moratorium**

For the reasons set forth above and notwithstanding any other provision of the Zoning Bylaw to the contrary, the Town hereby adopts a temporary moratorium on the use of land or structures for Recreational Marijuana Establishments. The moratorium shall be in effect through December 31, 2018. During the moratorium period, the Town shall undertake a planning process to address the potential impacts of recreational marijuana in the Town, consider the Cannabis Control Commission's regulations regarding Recreational Marijuana Establishments and related uses, determine whether the town shall, by ballot measure, restrict any, or all Recreational Marijuana Establishments and shall consider adopting new provisions of the Zoning Bylaw to address the impact and operation of Recreational Marijuana Establishments and related uses.

### **4. Severability**

The provisions of this bylaw are severable. If any provision, paragraph, sentence, or clause of this by-law or the application thereof to any person, establishment, or circumstances shall be held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect the other provisions or application of this bylaw.

AND by adding a new Zoning Bylaw placing a Temporary Moratorium on the Sale and Distribution of Recreational Marijuana.

**Note: 2/3's vote is required; if not unanimous a count is also required.**

**Discussion:** Neil Godden asked what the plan is and what the concerns are. Joe Frye, member of the Planning Board stated that the State has not completed the regulations. The Planning Board and the Select Board need to have time to review the regulations and determine the impact to the Town. Angela Otis, Select Board Chair, explained that since the regulations are not ready and people can start submitting applications after April 1<sup>st</sup>, the Town needs time to determine what is best for us. Dawn Scaparotti asked who was going to be working on this, the Planning Board, Selectboard or a Marijuana Commission. Angela said that has not been determined yet. Angela explained that when someone submits an



application there will be a public hearing to let the Town know. Margaret Waggoner asked who would be issuing the licenses and what the requirements would be. Angela said that until the regulations are complete it is not certain who will be issuing and what requirements would be needed. The regulations will determine how many establishments will be allowed in each community. Neil asked if the Town has to adopt the state's regulations. Angela explained that we as a town can't override any state regulations. Carolyn Lehan asked if the Police Dept. and Fire Dept. would have input into the issues that would affect the Town. How would it affect the crime rate, traffic issues and impairment of people? Jeffrey Hewes explained that federally it's still a crime. He has a large reference manual that he is still reviewing. One of his biggest concerns is the people who are impaired. He said they have a lot of unanswered questions at this point. Carolyn asked if we were going to look at any of the other states that have had recreational marijuana for a few years to see what issues they have had. James Heroux, member of the Select Board said we as a Town just need to take a step back and review the issues and determine what is best for the Town. Due to the timing to complete the review before the moratorium ends on December 31, 2018, it is going to take a lot time and as the Selectboard digest the information James said "be open to volunteer to help to get the work done".

**Passed Unanimously.**

ARTICLE 2: Motion made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$733.38 from Free Cash to the account known as "Bills of Prior Years" for the purpose of payment of a bill from the following account: TOWN BUILDING MOWING – FY 2017 \$733.38 payable to JAMES MORREY to complete the contract obligation.

**Note: A vote of 9/10<sup>th</sup> s is required because it is a bill of a prior year**

**Passed Unanimously.**

The Moderator asked if there was any other business to come before the Town.

Neil Godden asked for an update on the Broadband Project. James explained that the pole mapping was complete and that in the spring Nationalgrid and others will be starting the pole survey. The survey will indicate which poles have to be replaced. Moderator Labrie said that May of 2019 is the unofficial date to complete the project. Moderator Labrie said that folks should check the website for updates. Dawn asked who the MLP manager and what is his role. James said there is a job description and that E. J. Brennan has been appointed as the MLP manager.

Norene Roberts said she had some nomination papers for the position that is being vacated by Steve Kulik. She said there are six people interested in running.

Dawn Scaparotti said that the state had created a commission to review the rural school districts. There is a meeting on Monday, March 12, 2018 at 6pm at Mohawk Regional School with Senator Adam Hinds if anyone would like to attend.

There being no other business to come before the Town, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn at 11:43 a. m. **Passed Unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Gina M. Papineau,  
Town Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m., a quorum being present and 89 voters signed in.

Moderator Wright introduced himself as it was his first town meeting in his new role. He informed the group that the meeting was being recorded to aid the Town Clerk in taking minutes. He told them the ballots they were handed when they walked in were to help name the Senior Housing Project.

Moderator Wright recognized several Goshen residents who have passed away in the last year.

Diana Lashway, wife of Daniel  
Linda LeBeau, wife of Robert  
Raymond Sarafin, husband of Phyllis  
Norman Arnold, partner of Liz Loven  
George Monaghan Jr., husband of Martha  
Kenny Roberts, husband of Kathleen  
George St. Amand, husband of Beverly

The moderator asked for a moment of silence in memory of those we lost.

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 choose all necessary officers to serve for the ensuing year, or take any other action relative thereto.  
**Passed Unanimously.**

ARTICLE 2: Motion made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to act on the reports of the town officers, or take any other action relative thereto.  
**Passed Unanimously.**

ARTICLE 3: Motion made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to permit the Select Board to set the compensation of Town employees and appointed officials, in accordance with the Town Employee Handbook as established in the Town's personnel policies, or take any other action relative thereto.  
**Passed Unanimously.**

ARTICLE 4: Motion made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate such sums of money as may be necessary to defray the Town charges from July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019, and to vote to set all Town budgets, or take any other action relative thereto.

**General Government:**

Line 3. Select board Stipend. Steve Estelle asked why the stipend was still being budgeted for, if the hiring of a town administrator was imminent. Dawn Scaparotti from the Finance Committee responded that the line item will be adjusted when that happens. Norene Roberts asked if Roland Chaffee, our town accountant, has passed away. Angela Otis, chair of the select board, replied that he had. The Moderator asked for a moment of silence in his memory.

The motion was made and seconded to raise and appropriate \$356,541.24 for General Government.

**Passed Unanimously.**

Public Safety:

The motion was made and seconded to raise and appropriate \$207,487.14 for Public Safety.

**Passed Unanimously.**

Public Works:

Line 7. Winter Highway Snow Removal. Bob Labrie asked about the breakdown in plowing, and what percentage of the roads plowed are in Hammond Acres. Todd Dewkett, highway superintendent, said the town plows approximately 25 miles of road, and that it costs \$21.41 a mile for public roads, and \$36.73 a mile for private roads. There was much discussion about why private roads are more expensive to plow.

Line 14. WiredWest Assessment. Bob says Wired West is waiting for each town to build their own networks. Joe Roberts asked if we were totally committed to Wired West, and Wayne Glaser, vice chair of the select board, responded that the town is a long way from picking a network operator. Don Boisvert asked about Westfield Gas & Electric. Wayne responded that they are doing the design and they would like to be the operator. Don asked when we would be able to connect to broadband internet, and Wayne said end of 2019, maybe into 2020.

The motion was made and seconded to raise and appropriate \$422,310.52 for Public Works.

**Passed Unanimously.**

Public Health & Sanitation:

Line 3. Public Health Committee Salary. Elizabeth Bell-Perkins from the Board of Health spoke about why she believes that BOH members should continue to receive a stipend. Dawn Scaparotti read the letter that the Finance Committee sent to the BOH. She spoke about how the Health Agent performs tasks that the BOH used to perform. She mentioned she would like to pay all of our volunteers, but the town cannot afford it. Steve Estelle made a motion to increase the BOH committee salary to \$3,390. It was seconded. There was much discussion about how the line could be funded, keeping a balanced budget and volunteering without expectation of pay. The motion failed.

The motion was made and seconded to raise and appropriate \$61,522.06 for Public Health & Sanitation.

**Passed with a majority vote.**

Community Services:

The motion was made and seconded to raise and appropriate \$63,112.00 for Community Services.

**Passed Unanimously.**

Pensions and Insurance:

Line 4. Workers Compensation. Bob Goss asked why the cost was so high. Dawn explained that our incident rating went up, so it will take a few years to bring it back down.

The motion was made and seconded to raise and appropriate \$178,967.14 for Pension and Insurance.

**Passed Unanimously.**

Education:

The motion was made and seconded to raise and appropriate \$1,486,834.00 for Education.

**Passed Unanimously.**

Debt Service

The motion was made and seconded to raise and appropriate \$27,740.00 for Debt Service.

**Passed Unanimously.**

The motion was made and seconded to raise and appropriate \$2,804,514.00 for sums of money as may be necessary to defray the Town charges from July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019.

**Passed Unanimously**

ARTICLE 5: Motion made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to authorize the chief elected officials to apply for Massachusetts Small Cities Programs, or other Federal, or any State monies, and to expend any monies as received as set forth in the appropriate application, or take any other action relative thereto.

**Passed Unanimously.**

ARTICLE 6: Motion made and seconded to see if the Town will authorize the treasurer, with the approval of the Select board, to borrow a sum of \$250,000.00 for a period of up to Fifteen (15) years or less, in accordance with the capital plan, to fund the purchase of a Single Axle Secondary Plow/Dump fully outfitted for the Highway Department, or take any other action relative thereto.

**Note: 2/3's vote is required.**

**Note: This is to replace a failing 2005 truck used for plowing, sanding and hauling.**

Discussion: Alison Bowen asked what year the new truck is, to which Todd Dewkett replied that it was a 2018. Jess Judd asked what the issue was with the 2005 truck. Todd replied that the town got it used from VT, and it has an issue that mechanics are unable to solve. Jess asked why we needed to replace it with a brand new truck, and Todd replied that the longevity of the truck will be worth it.

**Passed Unanimously.**

ARTICLE 7: Motion made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$38,183.90 from Free Cash to the Capital Stabilization Fund, or take any other action relative thereto.

Mack Truck	Principal	Interest	Total Payment
2014	\$37,435.20	\$748.70	\$38,183.90

**Note: A majority vote is required.**

**Passed Unanimously.**

ARTICLE 8: Motion made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer to expend from Capital Stabilization Fund the sum of \$38,183.90 for the payment of the principal and interest on the 2014 Mack Dump Truck, or take any other action relative thereto.

**Note: 2/3's vote is required.**

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

**Passed Unanimously.**

ARTICLE 9: Motion made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$8,142.06 from Free Cash to the Capital Stabilization Fund, or take any other action relative thereto.

Police Ford Expedition	Principal	Interest	Total Payment
2013	\$7,928.00	\$214.06	\$8,142.06

**Note: A majority vote is required.**

Discussion: Alison Bowen asked what the current fleet of police vehicles was. Chief Hewes responded that we have three vehicles: a 2010 Ford Crown Victoria, a 2013 Ford Expedition, and a 2017 Ford Police Inceptor.

**Passed Unanimously.**

ARTICLE 10: Motion made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to authorize the treasurer to expend from the capital stabilization fund, the sum of \$8,142.06 for the payment of the principal and interest on the 2013 Police Ford Expedition, or take any other action relative thereto.

**Note: 2/3's vote is required.**

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

**Passed Unanimously.**

ARTICLE 11: Motion made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$9,090.34 from Free Cash to the Capital Stabilization Fund, or take any other action relative thereto.

International Truck	Principal	Interest	Total Payment
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2008	\$8,234.00	\$856.34	\$9,090.34
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**Note: A majority vote is required.**

**Passed Unanimously.**

ARTICLE 12: Motion made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer to expend from the Capital Stabilization Fund the sum of \$9,090.34 for the payment of the principal and interest on the 2008 International single axle secondary plow/ dump Truck, or take any other action relative thereto.

**Note: 2/3's vote is required.**

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

**Passed Unanimously.**

ARTICLE 13: Motion made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer to expend from the Capital Stabilization Fund the sum of \$9,954.090 for the payment of the principal and interest on the 2017 Police Ford Interceptor, or take any other action relative thereto.

Police Ford Interceptor	Principal	Interest	Total Payment
2017	\$9,000.00	\$954.00	\$9,954.00

**Note: 2/3's vote is required.**

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

Discussion: Bob Labrie asked if the amount in the warrant question should be the same number listed in the table: \$9,954.00. Angela Otis replied that yes, that is the correct number. Bob made a motion that was seconded to amend the amount listed in the warrant question to \$9,954.00.

**Passed Unanimously.**

ARTICLE 14: Motion made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to appropriate or reserve from the Community Preservation annual revenues, in the amounts recommended by the Community Preservation Committee, for community preservation projects, and other expenses in fiscal year 2019, with each item to be considered a separate appropriation:

**Appropriations:**

From FY 2019 estimated revenues for Committee Administrative Expenses \$ 5,000

**Passed Unanimously.**

**Reserves:**

From FY 2019 estimated revenues for Historic Resources Reserve \$16,000

**Passed Unanimously.**

From FY 2019 estimated revenues for Community Housing Reserve \$16,000

**Passed Unanimously.**

From FY 2019 estimated revenues for Open Space Reserve \$16,000

**Passed Unanimously.**

From FY 2019 estimated revenues for Budgeted Reserve \$70,000

**Passed Unanimously.**

or take any other action relative thereto.

**Note: Total appropriation reflects 90% of the expected 100% state match.**

ARTICLE 15: Motion made and seconded to see if the Town will vote pursuant to M.G.L. c.44, §54E½, as most recently amended, to set Fiscal Year 2019 spending limits for the Revolving Funds as follows. Or take any other action relative thereto.

<b>Program or Purpose</b>	<b>FY 2019 Spending Limit</b>
FRTA	\$20,000
Highland Ambulance Fuel Reimbursement Account	\$12,000
Animal Control Revolving Fund	\$2,500
Board of Appeals Revolving Fund	\$6,000
Electrical Inspector Revolving Fund	\$5,000

**Passed Unanimously.**

ARTICLE 16: Motion made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Assessors to employ themselves in the performance of their work and for such work to be paid from appropriations under budget line Assistant Assessor Salary, and therefore do not need to meet the requirements of Chapter 268A, Section 21A, or take any other action relative thereto.

**Note:** Chapter 268A, Section 21A is the section of Mass General Law that deals with ethics for Municipal Employees. This warrant article indicates that the town is aware that the proposed arrangement is a violation of the Ethics Laws as the assistant assessor, who is also an assessor, would report to the Board of Assessors in violation of this law unless first approved at an Annual Town Meeting. This article, if passed, would provide that "the provisions of this section shall not apply to a member of a town commission or board." This article was last voted and approved at the Annual Town Meeting of May 2015.

Discussion: Multiple people asked: "What does this mean?" Gina Papineau explained the history. In 2010, the Board of Assessors realized the conflict, and when they talked to town attorney, they were advised to include this on the annual town meeting warrant every time the assistant assessor is re-appointed. It has been approved at ATM three other times. Four other towns nearby are doing the same thing.

**Passed Unanimously.**

ARTICLE 17: Motion made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$100,000.00 from General Stabilization to Capital Stabilization and to authorize expenditure of such funds for the repair of the Landfill Cap or take any other action relative thereto.

**Note:** This note applies to this article and the next two articles concerning the landfill cap repair. The Board of Assessors, Finance Committee, Capital Planning Committee, and Select Board support this article. This article is necessary to be in compliance with the MassDEP letter of April 2018 (310 CMR 19.142 & 19.143) which indicates that the Town, by June 15, 2018 must submit an engineering plan to the DEP for repair of erosion damage on the landfill cap. Additionally, by August 15, 2018, the repair on the cap shall commence, and shall be performed in accordance with MassDEP's approval of the engineering plan.

**Note: 2/3's vote is required.**

Discussion: Bob Goss asked if the landfill was not capped properly the first time. James Heroux, select board clerk, stated that, at the time, the design met all the standards. When the town originally voted to have it capped, they were given two options, and the town voted on the least expensive and least effective one. Alison Bowen asked if there were any guarantees that this wouldn't need to be fixed again, to which James stated that there weren't any guarantees. Wayne Glaser informed the group that the town may be fined if we don't give DEP a plan by June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

**Passed Unanimously.**

ARTICLE 18: Motion made and seconded to see if the town will vote to transfer the sum of \$100,000.00 from Overlay Surplus to Capital Stabilization and to authorize the expenditure of such funds for the repair of the Landfill cap as required by MassDEP, or take any other action relative thereto.

**Note: A majority vote is required.**

**Passed Unanimously.**

ARTICLE 19: Motion made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to authorize the treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, to borrow a sum of \$300,000.00 for a period of Fifteen (15) years or less and to authorize the expenditure of such funds to fund the landfill cap repair, so long as plans relating to the project have been approved by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, and provided that this borrowing shall be contingent upon passage of a Proposition 2 ½ debt exclusion ballot question, authorizing the Town to raise this additional amount outside limits imposed by Proposition 2 ½, all in accordance with G.L. c. 59, S21C(g) or take any other action relative thereto.

**Note: 2/3's vote is required.**

Discussion: David Pesuit asked what the total was for the project. Dawn Scaparotti replied that it was \$645,000.

**Passed Unanimously.**

ARTICLE 20: Motion made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to authorize the transfer of \$11,000.00 from Free Cash to the West Street Resurfacing Project for construction, engineering and related costs, or take any action relative thereto.

**Note: This expenditure is a contractual obligation in support of the construction and roadway safety improvement of the West Street Resurfacing Project.**

**Passed Unanimously.**



ARTICLE 21: Motion made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$10,000 from the Highway Salary account to the Highway Road Improvement account for road repair, or take any action relative thereto.

**Passed Unanimously.**

ARTICLE 22: Motion made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$85,000.00 from Free Cash to Capital Stabilization, or take any other action relative thereto.

**Note: To fund the Capital Stabilization account for FY2019 Capital Plan.**

**Note: Majority vote is required.**

**Passed Unanimously.**

ARTICLE 23: Motion made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$5,000.00 from General Stabilization to Capital Stabilization, or take any other action relative thereto.

**Note: To fund the Capital Stabilization account for FY2019 Capital Plan.**

**Note: 2/3's vote is required.**

**Passed Unanimously.**

ARTICLE 24: Motion made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$3,000.00 from Free Cash to the Emergency Management Expense account, for the procurement of emergency management and safety equipment and signage, or take any other action relative thereto.

**Note: This is part of an overall estimated \$5,400 expenditure to populate the emergency management trailer with equipment and signage. The remaining approximately \$2,500 will be funded by an Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG).**

Discussion: Norene Roberts asked what equipment and signage was being bought. Sue Labrie, fire chief, answered that it was evident during the February 2017 tornado that the town did not have enough signage for detours, etc. Angela Otis said the equipment will be shared by all public safety entities.

**Passed Unanimously.**

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**Note pertaining to all Citizen petitions below: Citizen petitions, after certification, are required to be placed on the warrant exactly as they are provided. If the petition is illegal, nonsensical or poorly worded they still must appear on the warrant as received. Citizen petitions do not override the legal or statutory authority that is granted to the various municipal bodies.**

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ARTICLE 25: This is a citizen's petition submitted and certified by three Registrars of voters of the Town of Goshen.

Motion made and seconded to see if the Town Goshen will vote to adopt the following resolution:

We call on the United States to lead a global effort to prevent nuclear war by:

- Renouncing the option of using nuclear weapons first
- Ending the President's sole, unchecked authority to launch a nuclear attack
- Taking US nuclear weapons off hair-trigger alert
- Cancelling the plan to replace its entire arsenal with enhanced weapons
- Actively pursuing a verifiable agreement among nuclear armed states to eliminate their nuclear arsenals

The Town Clerk is directed to send copies of this resolution to the two Massachusetts U.S. Senators and the U.S. Representative for this district, and to the President and Secretary of State of the United States. Or to do or act anything in relation thereto.

Discussion: Elaine Ulman, who submitted the petition, explained that this is a resolution that has been going around different states. Alison Bowen expressed that she thought it was important to make a statement as a town.

**Passed with a majority vote.**

ARTICLE 26: This is a citizen's petition submitted and certified by three Registrars of voters of the Town of Goshen.

Motion made and seconded to see if all town of Goshen, MA employees, members of town boards and committees, shall assume these obligations and commitments.

- Be well informed concerning the local and state duties of a board/committee member whenever applicable
- Remember that they represents the Town of Goshen at all times
- Accept their position as a means of unselfish public service , not to benefit personally, professionally or financially from his/her board/committee position
- Treat all members of the board/committee and other persons present with respect despite differences of opinion; keeping in mind that professional respect does not preclude honest differences of opinion but requires respect within those differences
- Recognize that the chief function of local government at all times is to serve the best interests of all of the people
- Honor confidential information, seek no favor and believe that personal aggrandizement or profit secured by holding these positions is dishonest
- Conduct themselves so as to maintain public confidence in their local government and in their performance of the public trust
- Conduct official business in such a manner as to give the clear impression that they cannot be improperly influenced in the performance of their official duties
- Unless specifically exempted (e.g. Executive Session), conduct the business of the public in a manner that promotes open and transparent government and maintain full compliance with the Open Meeting Law (MGL Chapter 39, Section 23B)

Upon voter approval of this policy, text of this code of conduct will be posted on the town website and the Town Office building, distributed to all current and future employees, members of town boards and committees.

Discussion: Elizabeth Bell-Perkins explained that it was she who submitted the petition, and that she had many interesting conversations with townfolk regarding the contents. Wayne Glaser stated that there were several issues with the wording. For one, folks learn their duties as they go along. Secondly, employees do benefit professionally and financially. Thirdly, employees and members of committees serve in the best interest of the town, which is not always in the best interest of all the people. He also reminded everyone, that according to town counsel, citizen

petitions cannot set policies. Joe Roberts stated that he thinks the current oath taken by employees and committee members is fine. Wayne encouraged the writers of the petition to meet with the select board to come up with a policy that would work.

**Motion made and seconded to table the article.  
Motion passed with a majority vote.**

ARTICLE 27: This is a citizen's petition submitted and certified by three Registrars of voters of the Town of Goshen.

Motion made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to continue providing winter road maintenance, limited to plowing and sanding, on all passable roads within the Hammond Acres Association, consistent with the town's practice since 1959, or take any other action thereto.

**Note: A vote to accept the provisions of Section 6C of Chapter 40 of the Massachusetts General Laws, which authorizes the Town to appropriate money for the removal of snow and ice from any private ways therein open to the public use, was passed at the Annual Town Meeting on February 21, 1959 by a vote of Yes 84, No 17 and Blanks 12. (Book 5, Town Records, Page 192)"**

Discussion: Bob Labrie, who submitted the petition, explained that the residents of Hammond Acres were notified in early November 2017 that they would not be plowed anymore. Two of his daughters were involved in a car accident after the first storm. The annual budget of Hammond Acres is \$44,000. Of that \$44,000, \$12,000 of it goes to real estate taxes to the town. Bob said that, on average, the 31 full-time residents of Hammond Acres pay \$626.00 more than the average single family home in Goshen, and that a little under 20% of the entire town's tax money comes from them. Kim Dresser talked about how when he was on the select board, town counsel advised the town to continue to plow Hammond Acre roads, as there was a 40 year precedent, and there could be potential lawsuits if a fire truck or ambulance were unable to access the home from which the call was made. Jan Ellis informed the group that the 1959 vote was taken when there were only three people living full-time at Hammond Acres. Wayne Glaser said a town vote in 1992 denied plowing of all private roads. He said it's clear from Section 6C of Chapter 40 that it is up to the select board to decide whether or not to allocate money to plow private roads. Wayne also indicates, according to town counsel, it's up to the select board to decide what conditions must be met in order to authorize a private road to be plowed. He said the path forward is to let the select board do their job, and that, if the town were to continue plowing the Hammond Acre roads, it would add approximately \$8,000 to the budget. There was much discussion about whether Hammond Acre roads were private or not.

**Motion passed with a majority vote.**

There being no other business to come before the Town, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn at 11:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen M. Estelle  
Town Clerk

# Town Treasurer

Treasurer's Report For the Fiscal Year 2018: July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018

Debt Outstanding				
	Outstanding Debt as of July 1, 2017	New Debt Issued during FY 2018	Retired during FY2018	Outstanding Debt as of June 30, 2018
Police 2013 Ford Explorer	\$15,856		\$7,928	\$7,928
Highway 2014 MAC Truck	74,870		37,435	37,435
Highway 2016 Ford F-550 Truck	51,000		17,000	34,000
Highway 2008 Int'l Plow Truck	41,170		8,234	32,936
Police 2017 Ford Explorer	45,000		9,000	36,000
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$227896</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$79,597</b>	<b>\$148,299</b>

Debt Authorized and Unissued				
	Vote Date	Amount Authorized	Issued Retired Rescinded	Amount Unissued
Broadband Network	6/10/15	1,400,000	0	1,400,000
Plow Truck	10/11/16	50,000	41,170	8,830
Highway Truck	5/21/18	250,000	0	250,000
Landfill Cap	5/21/18	300,000	0	300,000
<b>Total Authorized &amp; Unissued</b>				<b>\$1,958,830</b>

Receipts	
July 2017	\$304,933.79
August	377,554.41
September	91,271.32
October	191,265.74
November	490,587.79
December	389,821.64
January 2018	290,047.07
February	414,608.30
March	172,761.71
April	202,201.27
May	575,348.58
June	77,825.10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,578,226.68</b>

### Tax Title Accounts Receivable as of June 30, 2018

PARCEL	TAX TITLE AMOUNT Certified by Collector
Map 1, Lot 0 30	\$25,221.11
Map 2, Lot 0 32-0	7,107.34
Map 8, Lot 0 107-0	11,819.43
Map 5, Lot 0 24-0	20,943.03
Map 5, Lot 0 72-0	852.84
Map 2, Lot 0 32-0	926.80
Map 10A, Lot 0 643-0	589.59
Map 8, Lot 0 109-0	28,690.93
Map 9, Lot 0 41-0	3,794.38
Map5A, Lot 0 165-0	759.07
Map 10A, Lot 0 719-0	1,228.03
Map 10A, Lot 0 661-0	549.05
Map 3, Lot 0 4-0	8,752.63
Map 3, Lot 0 2-0	5,614.93
Map 8, Lot 0 50-0	7,724.58
Map 10A, Lot 0 276-X	622.67
Map 10A, Lot 0 317-0	969.21
Map 10A, Lot 0 616-X30	739.04
<b>TAX TITLE ACCOUNTS TOTALS:</b>	<b>\$126,904.65 *</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. Subsequent to year end one account has been paid in full and the three of largest accounts outstanding have maintained their payment plans. Six accounts have been petitioned in Massachusetts Land Court for foreclosure, one of which was foreclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Allan L. Kidston, CMMT, Treasurer

## Tree Warden

Four times each year, I do a windshield survey of the roadside trees. As I drive along each road, I identify dead or dying trees, broken and large dead branches. I have a separate page in my note book for each road and make notes as I make my observations. I also drive these roads after each storm.

The tree warden budget is used to hire private tree companies to remove or prune trees that I have identified as priorities for the current year.

We focused on 3 roads this last year: Mollison hill, east st. and Spruce corner rd.

The trees to be removed are marked with a red X. The trees marked with a yellow X will be removed by National Grid.

The brush is chipped and the wood is left at the base of the tree and is available to the abutting land owner if they want it.

You may call or text me at 413-320-3100 if you have questions.

Submitted by,  
Bob Goss

## Veterans Services

Over the past year we have had some real challenges and have accomplished plenty. We continued to work with the Massachusetts Interagency Council on Housing and Homelessness on the implementation of the Integrated Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness Among Veterans, identifying veterans experiencing homelessness, and developing appropriate permanent housing models for them, i.e. Soldier On's Gordon H Mansfield veterans' community in Leeds.

In our role at the Hampshire County Housing Court in Hadley on a weekly basis to address the needs of veterans who are at risk of homelessness, we prevented three veterans and their families from falling into homelessness. Two of the cases were resolved by connecting the families with the VA HUD/VASH (VA supportive housing) program in order to get a voucher. The voucher allows the veteran to pay 30% of their family income and to be provided with a case manager to assist with ongoing challenges. The third veteran's case was resolved by providing one-time rental arrearages.

The Department of Veterans' Services has continued its participation in all of the above programs in order to continue striving for our goal to end veterans' homelessness. The Three County Continuum of Care is continuing its work with the veteran "by name list" even as we go through changes in the collaborative agency that houses the Continuum of Care from the Hilltown CDC to Community Action of the Pioneer Valley. We look forward

to working with this new partner that many feel is a very good match with the mission and the current activities and priorities of Community Action of the Pioneer Valley. Our department also is at the table with the town of Amherst homelessness committee led by the Department of Public Health and the Amherst housing trust, identifying veteran guests at Craig's Place or those living in encampments within the town limits and assisting them to permanent housing.

Our district wide objectives for the coming year are for one, to significantly increase our outreach efforts in low-income housing developments in our towns' Housing Authority properties to ensure we haven't missed residents eligible for our benefits and services. It is estimated that we should be regularly serving 1 veteran or their dependent in the community for every 1000 citizens. We meet that standard in many of our communities but not all and we hope to reach that goal district wide in the coming year. Secondly, we are planning to become a SNAP Outreach Partner in order to more directly assist Veterans and their families' access to this federal program. Currently, veterans and their families either need to go to Holyoke or Greenfield to a DTA office for in person applications. We plan to assist our clientele with the ability to do it right in any of the offices that we work in. We plan to begin in the spring or early summer of 2019.

A few of the more notable events that we supported in the small towns in the district this year include, Purple Heart ceremonies, Memorial Day and Veterans Day ceremonies, and the Cummington Fair. The Town of Middlefield and the Town of Worthington both became Purple Heart Communities this year. The Middlefield ceremony took place on June 23<sup>rd</sup> at Bell Cemetery. A police-escorted convoy traveled from the Springfield Vet Center to Bell Cemetery to honor the grave of Revolutionary soldier, Sgt. Elijah Churchill. Sgt. Churchill was the first recipient of the Badge of Military Merit awarded by Gen. George Washington. On November 12<sup>th</sup>, The Worthington COA was gracious enough to host the Worthington Purple Heart ceremony at their annual potluck luncheon. The District Director, Steve Connor, was pleased to present the proclamation for the town.

On Veteran's Day, we celebrated the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the end of WWI. A ceremony was held at the Williamsburg Veterans' War Memorial. As part of the ceremony we participated in a national tolling of the bells, referred to as, "The Bells of Peace". Roy Beals tolled the bell in remembrance of those who served in WWI. Our guest speaker was Haydenville native, Bethany Ouimet. She spoke of her father, Carl Hemenway's, service with the 104<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment during WWI.

As usual, we set up a veterans' outreach booth at the Cummington Fair. The fair has always been a successful forum to provide information to veterans and their families. We work with representatives from other veterans' organizations such as, the VA, the Vet Center, employment

service reps. and education reps. As to be expected, VA benefits and services were the most common topic of discussion. This year was particularly successful in terms of helping veteran's sign up for VA Health benefits right on the spot. We are looking forward to continued success and productivity in the months to come.

One of the primary objectives of Central Hampshire Veterans' Services is to administer state veterans' benefits in accordance with M.G.L. CH 115. In CY 2018, the Town of Goshen helped five veterans and their dependants with, needs based, financial assistance. The total amount of benefits issued by the town was \$26,549.85. The town received a reimbursement of \$19,527.64 from the state for benefits issued.

Respectfully Submitted,

Thomas Geryk, Veteran's Agent

## 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, requests for 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 2018 calendar year, 5 applications for Special Permits were filed and 6 of those applications were allowed (1 was filed in late 2017 and a decision was made in 2018). 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.

The Board had a large turnover in late 2018 and we would like to thank Joe Frye and Lisa Newman for their dedication and longtime service to the Board and Town of Goshen.

Respectfully Submitted,

William M. O'Riordan, Chair  
Michael Enright, Member  
Steve Estelle, Member  
Roger Culver, Alternate

## Capital Planning Committee

### Capital Plan Document - Three components

The Capital Plan is a living document that is intended to be updated annually and more often as new information is available. 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 our information to span a 20+ year period where assets are replaced as necessary and / or required by State mandate.

Capital is defined as equipment, vehicles, technology, or improvements in excess of \$5,000. We also collected information on all major repairs and improvements to buildings etc. The Chapter 90 funded projects (state money for road work) were not included. Such projects are overseen by the Highway Department and addressed separately from the capital plan.

Essentially there are 3 components that make up the Capital Plan: the financial model, the 5 year capital plan and a narrative component.

### ➤ Financial Model

The most comprehensive is a master workbook of spreadsheets for capturing the requests. It has comprehensive modelling capabilities that allow us to project the financial implications of every item out 20+ years. Assumptions are made about capital costs, inflation factors, borrowing rates, useful asset life, amortization schedules. These combine to show the current year financial impact and all future year impacts of every purchase. There is a summary spreadsheet and one for each of the 7 main departments within the Town, currently as follows: Education, Highway, Fire, Police, Public Health, Information Technology, and Town Buildings.

### ➤ 5 year Capital Plan

This is a "satellite" document which summarizes the most relevant and near term items on the master plan and captures sources of funds to pay for all projects on the plan.

### ➤ Narratives

There is also a narrative component that describes how the capital items are used as part of the departments operating strategy. The narratives are designed to provide information that might be helpful when projecting, evaluating, and approving the capital needs of each department.

## FY 2018

The major focus and use of time this year was working with the Finance Committee and Selectboard on the analysis of the repair of the landfill cap and the financing of the repair. Given that we had to spend \$655K on this repair, it was a tremendous success that one of our capital planning members, Wayne Glaser, was able to track down a program through the Clean Water Trust that provided a low interest loan over a longer period of time than we could have gotten otherwise.

Wayne, with a career spent in Information Technology (IT), began a comprehensive review of the town's (IT) requirements and assets. In order to get a handle on all the items required, these assets are being captured as

identified, though discreet items may be under the \$5,000 definition of capital. This will be refined as the items are identified. There is a specific line code within the operating budget that gets appropriated each year for software and IT items as well. They will be categorized appropriately and delineation will be made of these items once they are better understood.

Nothing is spent from the capital stabilization account or is purchased from the capital plan without it being brought in front of the Town for approval. The 5 year capital plan presented at the May and Sept 2018 Annual and Special Town Meeting focused primarily on the FY 2018 items submitted for approval on the Warrant. It also included those capital requests submitted but not yet approved for the remaining 4 year period, 2019 - 2022. All the items in 2018 – 2021 will be further reviewed and updated for presentation at the next ATM in 2019.

### **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 is facilitating 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.

An ongoing concern is that we were not able this year to include critical contributions to our capital stabilization fund as part of the annual budget appropriated by the town. Contributions have been made from free cash, but best practices dictate that such critical contributions be funded each year out of the annual appropriations, to ensure the fund is growing at a rate sufficient to meet capital requirements. The financial rule of thumb is 3% - 5% of the Towns operating Budget or tax levy. The Finance Committee is working towards this standard.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn M. Scaparotti,  
Capital Planning Committee Chair

Capital Planning Committee:

Ann Deres, Finance Committee  
Todd Dewkett, Highway Department  
Wayne Glaser, Selectboard  
Dawn Scaparotti, Finance Committee  
Open, At-Large Member

## **Finance Committee**

The Finance Committee spent the early months of 2018 working on the analysis of the repair of the landfill cap in collaboration with the Selectboard and Board of Health. Because it was such a large expenditure and the repairs were being addressed on an emergency basis, it was a priority project. Given that the \$655K expenditure was necessary, we worked together to optimize the financing of the project and minimize the impact on the taxpayers. The collaboration with the Clean Water Trust is saving us quite a bit in financing charges over the years as we received a lower interest loan than would otherwise have been available, over a longer period, thereby optimizing our cash flow. There was much time invested in collecting data, working with the States DEP office and the design engineers and Selectboard to ensure the best option was chosen for our money, to ensure all repair costs were captured and in presenting the results to the Town in preparation for debt override votes.

We worked very hard, as did the schools, and made difficult decisions to balance the budget for fiscal year FY 2019. Education assessments at the three schools continue to be the largest portion of our budget. Because there are so many unfunded State mandates for the schools to meet, much of the burden of funding these essential services falls to the Towns to fund. This is becoming increasingly difficult to make the trade-offs in the budget every year between municipal needs and the needs of our schools to provide a strong education for our children.

We are not alone in our annual struggle to meet the reasonable expenses of the school. We have been actively contacting our legislature to heighten their awareness of the impact not keeping their commitments has on a rural town such as Goshen. We wrote to the Ways and Means Committee during their deliberations to let them know we are deeply concerned about the nearly impossible choices we face to either fund our schools or pay for the most basic of municipal services. These choices are made all the more difficult due to a lack of reimbursement for regional transportation and other unfunded mandates. We asked them to fund the Regional Transportation budget at the higher level approved by the House, and not the lower amount submitted by the Senate.

We continue to focus on the funding within the Capital Stabilization fund. We have been aggressively funding the plan through free cash and other stabilization fund balances. This has been an important step forward in planning for our Town's capital needs. However, this form of funding alone is not a best practice; nor is it a sustainable one. 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 need to get to a point where we are putting in \$90K per year from our operating

budget. We are currently at zero from the operating budget. We must start to build for this funding in FY 2020.

The town authorized the school to spend up to \$40K for Goshen's share of temporary roof tarping and for design work for the permanent replacement of the roof. Next year we will need to authorize funds for the actual replacement of the roof, once the designs have been identified and bids received. Additionally, there are several other large expenditures on the horizon that will require clear understanding of the financial trade-offs. We continue to work concertedly at researching the facts and providing the information to the Town to make these decisions.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Scaparotti,  
Finance Committee Chair

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