

**Town of
Williamsburg
Massachusetts**



**2008
Annual Report**

Russ Richardson and Leo Dextraze

This year we are pleased to honor two men – Russell Richardson and Leo Dextraze – for their constant and dependable service to the Town of Williamsburg. Both have stepped forward out of retirement to perform jobs they saw that needed to get done, and have applied their energies and experience to accomplish the tasks.



Russ, who serves as custodian at the Town Office building and previously at the Police Station as well, keeps a watchful and caring eye on the buildings, even making extra stops in the cold weather to check on the furnace. He is sure to make someone aware of potential problems. Russ has a great wealth of knowledge of how to keep things running, and uses a good measure of Yankee ingenuity to get the job done.

Leo mows the Town Office lawn and cleans up the parking lot. He also shovels the sidewalk at the Haydenville Library and keeps on going to include the sidewalk on the adjacent bridge. As soon as the snow is gone, Leo sweeps and picks up the leavings of the winter. Leo is always cheerful and smiling and has a kind word to say. He genuinely enjoys the satisfaction of a job well done.



For their quiet competence and willingness to serve, we are proud to dedicate this year's Town Report to Russ Richardson and Leo Dextraze.

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Government Officials

Select Board

Jeffrey S. Ciuffreda, Chair
David Mathers, Clerk
Denise L. Banister

Representative in the General Court

Stephen Kulik
1st Franklin District
Room 473F, State House, Boston, MA 02133
(617) 722-2210 Fax: (617) 722-2821
E-mail: Rep.StephenKulik@state.ma.us
1 Sugarloaf Street, South Deerfield, MA 01373
(413) 665-7200 Fax: (413) 665-7101

State Senator (Berkshire, Hampshire & Franklin District)

Benjamin B. Downing
Room 413F, State House, Boston, MA 02133
(617) 772-1625 Fax: (617) 722-1523
20 Bank Row, Suite 202, Pittsfield, MA 01201
(413) 442-4008 Fax: (413) 442-4077 www.bendowning.org

United States Representative

John W. Olver
1st District
1111 Longworth HOB, Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-5335 Fax: (202) 226-1224
57 Suffolk Street, Suite 310, Holyoke, MA 01040
(413) 532-7010 Fax: (413) 532-6543 www.house.gov/olver

United States Senators

Edward M. Kennedy	John F. Kerry
317 Russell Senate Office Building	304 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510	Washington, DC 20510
E-mail: senator@kennedy.senate.gov	E-mail: john_kerry@kerry.senate.gov
2400 JFK Building	1500 Main Street, Suite 304
Boston, MA 02203	Springfield, MA 01101
(617) 565-3170 http://kennedy.senate.gov	(413) 785-4610 http://kerry.senate.gov

Governor

Deval Patrick
Office of the Governor, State House, Room 360, Boston, MA 02133
(617) 725-4005 Fax: (617) 727-9725
(888) 870-7770 (in-state use only)
E-mail: GOffice@state.ma.us

Town Office Hours

	Town Offices, 141 Main Street
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR Steven Herzberg, (413) 268-8418	Tuesday through Thursday 9:30-4:00, Friday by appointment
ADMIN. ASST. TO SELECT BOARD Eleanor Warnock, (413) 268-8400	Monday and Thursday 10:00-12:00 Tuesday and Wednesday 10:00-2:00
TOWN COLLECTOR Bonnie Roberge, (413) 268-8401	Monday through Thursday 8:30-3:00
TOWN CLERK Brenda Lessard, (413) 268-8402	Monday 8:30-3:30, eve 5:00-6:30, Tuesday 8:30-3:30 Thursday 9:00-2:00, eve 6:00-8:00
ASSESSORS (413) 268-8403	Tuesday 10-11:30, eve 7:00-8:00
TOWN ACCOUNTANT Joyce Muka, (413) 268-8412	Thursday 9:00-3:00
TOWN TREASURER Peter Mahieu, (413) 268-8415	By appointment
FOOTHILLS HEALTH AGENT Jackie Duda, (413) 268-8404	By appointment
REGIONAL SENIOR CENTER Director Mary Wheelan, (413) 268-8407 Program Director Fran Goebel	Monday through Thursday 8:30-1:30
REGIONAL MEAL SITE Director Sandra Liimatainen (413) 268-9326	Meals served Wednesday and Thursday at 11:45 a.m.
HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT Bill Turner, (413) 268-8405	24 Main St., Williamsburg Monday through Friday 7:00-3:30
POLICE CHIEF John Cotton, (413) 268-7237	16 South Main Street, Haydenville
HILLTOWN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT Administrator Eric Weiss, (413) 268-3845	P.O. Box 630, Williamsburg
TRANSFER STATION & RECYCLING CENTER (413) 268-8408	Mountain Street, Haydenville Wednesday and Saturday 9:00-4:00
REGIONAL BUILDING INSPECTOR Paul Tacy, (413) 296-0127 Office Assistant Tara Ussailis	Chesterfield Town Offices, P.O. Box 175, Chesterfield 01012 Monday through Wednesday 8:45-12:30

These times are subject to change. For vacations and other changes, see www.burgy.org.

Board Meeting Schedules

Agricultural Commission	Monthly, 2 nd Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.
Assessors	Weekly, Tuesday 10:00-11:30 a.m., 7:00-8:00 p.m.
Brassworks Reuse Committee	Monthly, 2 nd Tuesday, 5:30 p.m.
Building Needs Committee	Monthly, 2 nd Monday, 7:00 p.m.
Conservation Commission	Twice a month, 2 nd and 4 th Thursdays, 7:00 pm Site visits as needed
Council on Aging	Monthly, 3 rd Wednesday, 10:00 a.m.
Energy Committee	Monthly, 1 st Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.
Finance Committee	Monthly, 3 rd Thursday, 7:00 p.m.
Board of Health	Twice a month, every other Wednesday
Hilltown Resource Management	Monthly, 1 st Thursday, 7:00 p.m.
Library Trustees	Monthly, 3 rd Wednesday, at Meekins Library
Open Space Committee	Monthly, 4 th Thursday, 7:00 p.m.
Planning Board	Twice a month, 1 st and 3 rd Mondays, 7:00 p.m.
Recreation Commission	Monthly, 1 st Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.
Williamsburg School Committee	Monthly, 3 rd Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. Anne T. Dunphy School
Hampshire Regional School Committee	Monthly, 1 st Monday, 7:00 p.m. Hampshire Regional School
Select Board	Every other Thursday, 7:00 p.m. (warrant weeks)
Shade Tree Committee	Monthly, 3 rd Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.
Technology Committee	Varies
Trust Fund Commission	Twice a month, 1 st and 3 rd Mondays, 7:00 p.m.
Water/Sewer Commission	Every other Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. (warrant weeks)
Woodland Trails	Monthly, 2 nd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.
Zoning Board of Appeals	Per application

Please note that some changes are made in scheduling to accommodate summer/winter scheduling. Many boards hold additional meetings as necessary. Meetings are not held on state or federal holidays. All meetings are posted on the bulletin board in the Town Clerk's office, on cable television channel 15 in Williamsburg and on website www.burgy.org.

2008 Elected Officials

<u>Office</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Expiration</u>
Assessors		
Marjorie Dunphy	3 years	2010
Peter Shumway	3 year	2011
Denise Banister	3 years	2009
Board of Health		
Donna Gibson	3 years	2010
Ira Gabrielson	3 years	2009
Donald Lawton	3 years	2011
Board of Library Trustees		
Anne Haxo	3 years	2010
Mary Gabrielson	3 years	2010
Patricia Billingsley	3 years	2011
Connie Fitzgerald	3 years	2011
Christopher B. Loring	3 years	2009
James Locke	3 years	2009
Elector-Oliver Smith Will		
Eric Cerreta	1 year	2009
Finance Committee		
Charles Heath	3 years	2010
Christopher Smith	3 years	2010
Gordon Allen	3 years	2010
Christopher Morris	3 years	2011
Robert Buchele	3 years	2009
Karen DeSalvio	3 years	2009 resigned 5/19/08
Walter (Kim) Boas	3 years	2009
Eric Ceretta	1 year	2009 appointed 7/17/08
Gary R. Benoit	3 years	2011
Paul R. Wetzel	3 years	2011
Hampshire Council of Governments Councilors		
Eileen Stewart	2 years	2010
* Position was placed on 2007 Caucus but not on the May 2007 ballot, only incumbent was nominated at Caucus and remains in position until the 2008 Annual Election*		

<u>Office</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Expiration</u>
Local School Committee		
Diane Bishop	3 years	2010
Jeff Gelbard	3 years	2010
Duncan Laird	3 years	2011
Michael Beattie	3 years	2008
Charlene Nardi	3 years	2009
Sarah Christiansen	3 years	2011
Moderator		
Joseph Larkin	1 year	2009
Recreation		
Alan Golash	3 years	2010
Robert Bihler	3 years	2010
Gary Benoit	3 years	2011
John O'Sullivan	3 years	2011
Dennis Bishop	3 years	2009
Regional School Committee		
Sherrie Marti	3 years	2010
David P. Nardi	3 years	2011
Kate Smith	3 years	2009
Board of Selectmen		
David Mathers	3 years	2010
Denise Banister	3 years	2011
Jeffrey Ciuffreda	3 years	2009
Town Clerk		
Brenda Lessard	2 years	2010
Treasurer		
Peter Mahieu	3 years	2010
Trust Fund/Cemetery Commission		
Peter Siersma	3 years	2010
John Pohanka	3 years	2011
James DiDonato	3 years	2009
Water/Sewer Commission		
Walter Kellogg	3 years	2010
Howard Sanderson	3 years	2011
Kenneth Taylor	2 years	2011
William Turner	3 years	2009
James Hyslip	3 years	2010

2008 Appointed Officials

<u>Office</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Expiration</u>	
Administrative Assistant			
Eleanor Warnock	1 year	2009	
Assistant Town Treasurer			
Karen Karowski	1 year	2009	
Agricultural Council			
Paul Zononi, alternate	1 year	2009	
Alden Bacon	3 years	2010	
Henry Warner	3 years	2009	
Jacqueline Dufresne	3 years	2009	
Alan Everett	2 years	2011	
Lincoln Fish	2 years	2011	
Keith Dufresne, alternate	1 year	2009	
Americans with Disabilities Act Committee			
Vacancy	1 year	2005	
Vacancy	1 year	2004	
Animal Inspector			
Donald Lawton	1 year	2009	
Board of Appeals			
Donald Turner, alternate	1 year	2009	
Osa Flory, alternate	1 year	2009	
Martin Mahoney	2 years	2009	
Lisa Berkman, Chair	3 years	2010	
Gerald Mann	3 years	2011	
Brassworks Reuse Committee			
Peter Mahieu	1 year	2009	Appointed by Finance
Martin Mahoney	1 year	2009	Appointed by Planning Bd
Jeffrey Ciuffreda	1 year	2009	
Building Inspector			
Paul Tacy	1 year	2009	
Building Needs Committee			
John Pohanka	1 year	2009	
James Locke	1 year	2009	
Bill Sayre	1 year	2009	
Stephen Smith	1 year	2009	
Eric Cerreta	1 year	2009	
Andy Soles	1 year	2009	

<u>Office</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Expiration</u>	
Capital Planning Committee			
Robert Buchele	1 year	2009	
Gordon Allen	1 year	2009	
Bill Sayre	3 years	2011	
George Mathers	3 years	2010	
Peter Mahieu, Advisory	3 year	2010	
* 3 year appointments by Selectboard * 1 year appointments by Finance Committee			
Conservation Commission			
Philip Skwira	3 years	2009	
Robert Stinson, Chair	3 years	2010	
Gordon Luce	3 years	2010	
Tom Hodgkins, alternate	1 year	2009	
Jim Wilson	3 years	2011	
Wilbur Loomis	3 years	2011	
Constables			
Jeffrey Cranston	3 years	2009	resigned 4/15/2008
Wilbur Loomis	3 years	2009	
Paul Sanderson, Asst Chief	3 years	2009	
John Svoboda, Chief	3 years	2009	resigned 7/28/2008
Gordon Luce, Chief	3 years	2011	
Jason Connell	3 years	2011	
Council on Aging			
Carl Beach, Vice Chair	3 years	2010	
Dorothy Backer	3 years	2010	
Eric Backer	3 years	2010	
Philip Reid, Associate	3 years	2010	
Nylda Weeks, Associate	3 years	2010	
Donna Baldwin	3 years	2011	
Ira Gabrielson	3 years	2011	
Kerstin Liander	3 years	2011	
Gerald Mann	3 years	2009	
Janet Nurczyk	3 years	2009	
Lenore Gervais	3 years	2009	
Sandy Liimatainen, Associate	3 years	2009	
Emma Hall, Associate	3 years	2009	
Glen Goebel, Associate	3 years	2009	
Frances Goebel, Program Director	1 year	2009	
Mary Wheelan, Director	1 year	2009	
Athena Warren	Emeritus	Lifetime	
Sandy Liimatainen, Coordinator of Mealsite			

<u>Office</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Expiration</u>
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Cultural Council

Mary Kay Hannon	3 years	2010
Linda Gibbon	3 years	2011
Nan Fleming	3 years	2011
Sarah Palmer	3 years	2011
Freda Brackley	3 years	2009
Anne Benedict	3 years	2011

Dog Officer

William Turner	1 year	2009
Debra Turner	1 year	2009

Field Driver

Donald Lawton	1 year	2009
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Emergency Management Director

John Cotton	1 year	2009
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Energy Committee

Kim Boas	1 year	2009
John Cotton	1 year	2009
Gary Kuntz	1 year	2009
Andrew Lawrence	1 year	2009
Andrew Webster	1 year	2009
Tomasin Whitaker	1 year	2009

Fire Chief/Forest Fire Warden

Donald Lawton	1 year	2009
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Fire Fighters

Donald Turner, Deputy Chief	1 year	2009
Eric Cerreta, Deputy Chief		
James Ferron, Captain		
Jason Connell, Captain		
Paul Sanderson, Lieutenant		
Matt Brusio, Lieutenant		
Cory McGill, Lieutenant		

Fire Fighters

Peter Banister	Roger Bisbee	Alan Everett	Glen Everett
Heather Heinz	Richard Karowski	Lawrence Lashway	John Pope
Brian McGill	Kenneth Taylor	Jeremiah Pelkey	Robert Parker
Robert Cayo III	Doug McGill	Greg Dibrindisi	Robert LaPointe
Jeremy LaRochelle			

* Firefighters are appointed by the Fire Chief

Daniel Banister** Mark Curtin** Tim McQueston** Daryl Springman**

** Consultants to Williamsburg Fire Department

<u>Office</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Expiration</u>
Gas Inspector		
Donald Lawton	1 year	2009
Hampshire County Regional Housing Authority		
Vacancy	4 years	2006
Highway Superintendent		
William Turner	1 year	2009
Hilltown Community Development Corporation		
Vacancy	1 year	1997
Hilltown Resource Management Cooperative		
Ira Gabrielson	1 year	2009
Donna Gibson	1 year	2009
Historical Commission		
Mary Bisbee	3 years	2010
Ralmon Black	3 years	2009
Sarah Palmer	3 years	2010
Dave Majercik	3 years	2011
Eric Weber	3 years	2009
Materials Recycling Facility Advisory Board		
Eric Weiss	1 year	2009
Measurer Gravel/Soil and Manure		
Wilbur Loomis	1 year	2009
Open Space and Recreation Committee		
Kate Dollard	1 year	2009
Melissa Adams	1 year	2009
Charlie Heath	1 year	2009
Roz Driscoll	1 year	2009
Sally Loomis	1 year	2009
Anne Gelbard	1 year	2009
* Representatives to the Five Town Initiative Committee are Sally Loomis and Kate Dollard		
Parking Clerk		
Bonnie Roberge	1 year	2009
Pioneer Valley Region Joint Transportation		
Vacant – alternate	1 year	2008
William Turner	1 year	2009

<u>Office</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Expiration</u>
Planning Board		
Neal Anderson	4 years	2011
Jim Locke	5 years	2012
Roger Bisbee	5 years	2012
James Lawrence	5 years	2009
Timothy McQueston	5 years	2010
Andy Soles	5 years	2010
Steven Snow	5 years	2011
Plumbing Inspector		
Donald Lawton	1 year	2009
Police and Fire Chaplain		
Joshua Davis	1 year	2009
Police Chief		
John Cotton	1 year	2009
Police Officers		
Denise Wickland, Sergeant	1 year	2009
Jeffrey Brooks, Corporal	1 year	2009
Michael Wayne	1 year	2009
Aimee Wallace	1 year	2009
William Chapman	1 year	2009
Sabrina Willard	1 year	2009
Michael Romano	1 year	2009
Greg Smith	1 year	2009
Procurement Officer		
Steven Herzberg	1 year	2009
PVTA Representative		
Christopher Morris	1 year	2009
Registrar of Voters		
Jean York	3 years	2010
Brenda Lessard	3 years	2010
Linda Rowley	3 years	2011
Diane O'Sullivan	3 years	2009
Shade Tree Committee		
Osa Flory	1 year	2009
Anne Bussler	1 year	2009
John Kuzeja, Jr.	1 year	2009

<u>Office</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Expiration</u>
Surveyor Wood/Lumber		
Alden Bacon	1 year	2008
Technology Committee		
Tom Adams	1 year	2009
David Nardi	1 year	2009
Peter Pelland	1 year	2009 resigned 5/22/2008
Lynn Goodhue	1 year	2009
David Chase	1 year	2009
Town Accountant		
Franklin Council of Governments		
Joyce Muka	1 year	2009
Town Administrator		
Steve Herzberg	3 years	2011
Town Collector		
Bonnie Roberge	3 year	2010
Town Wide Wage Study Committee		
Denise Banister	1 year	2009
Steve Herzberg	1 year	2009
Christopher Morris	1 year	2009
Tree Warden/Gypsy Moth Superintendent		
Shade Tree Committee	1 year	2009
Trench Permit Granting Authority		
William Turner	1 year	2009
Veteran's Agent		
City of Northampton		
Steven Connor	Contract	
Veterans' Memorial Committee		
Gordon Cranston	2 year	2009
James LeBeau	2 year	2009
Russell Warner	2 year	2009
Whiting Street Fund		
Carol Conz	1 year	2009
Charlene Nardi	1 year	2009
Eileen Stewart	1 year	2009

<u>Office</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Expiration</u>
Williamsburg School Council (The School Council is not appointed by Town Government)		
Alfred J. Venne, Principal	Principal	2009
Kate Dollard, Parent	3 years	2009
Sara Wein, Parent	3 years	2010
Lisa Peloquin, Teacher	1 years	2009
Karen Schweitzer, Teacher	1 years	2009
Jeff Gelbard, SC liaison	1 year	2009
Vacancy, Community Member	1 year	2009
• 2 parents (3 years), 3 teachers (1 year), 1 community member (3 years)		

Williamsburg Woodland Trails Committee

Diane Merritt	1 year	2009
Eileen Keegan	1 year	2009
John Hoogstraten	1 year	2009
Paul Jahnige	1 year	2009
Gwen Blodgett	1 year	2009
Susan Milsom	1 year	2009

Wiring Inspector

Paul Lyons	1 year	2008 resigned 6/30/2008
George Fournier	1 year	2008
George Marney	1 year	2009

Town Employees/Election Workers

Williamsburg Libraries

Lisa Wenner, Library Director
 Rochelle Wildfong
 Bobbin Young
 All the wonderful volunteers

Health Agent

Jackie Duda

Highway Department

Kenneth Taylor	Donald Turner	Peter Banister
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Pollworkers

Pat Casterline	Mary Ann Ciuffreda	Mark Corner
Kate Davidheiser	Sheila Dufresne	Ira Gabrielson
Mary Kay Hannon	Thomas Hodgkins	Gary Kuntz
Dot Lucey	Bernardine Magdalenski	Maureen Mathers
Diane Merritt	Don Owens	John Pohanka
Candy Smith		

Election Wardens

Bess Lojko	Kathleen Luce
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Town Office Custodian

Russell Richardson

Transfer Station Manager

Thomas Poudrier

Transfer Station Staff

George Newman Henry Warner

Annual 2008 Report of the Town Clerk

The year 2008 was a very busy and exciting year. This office was busy with five elections, a town caucus and Annual Town Meeting. Along with street listings, dog licensing, dump sticker sales, and many other duties, my office was very active.

The following Town Meetings and Elections were held in Williamsburg from January 2008 to December 2008.

Presidential Primary – February 5, 2008

Annual Town Caucus – March 3, 2008

Annual Town Election – May 5, 2008

Annual Town Meeting – June 2, 2008

State Primary – September 8, 2008

Debt Exclusion Override – September 16, 2008

State Election – November 4, 2008

As of December 31, 2008, there were 1,977 registered voters. The breakdown of registered voters:

713 active registered Democrats

172 active registered Republicans

1069 active registered Unenrolled (formerly called Independent)

17 registered Green-Rainbow

4 registered Libertarian

2 registered Working Families

Thank you to the Registrar of Voters – Diane O’Sullivan, Linda Rowley and Jean York; the Wardens – Bess Lojko and Kathleen Luce; and the dedicated and efficient election workers – Pat Casterline, Mary Ann Ciuffreda, Mark Corner, Kate Davidheiser, Sheila Dufresne, Ira Gabrielson, Mary Kay Hannon, Thomas Hodgkins, Gary Kuntz, Dot Lucey, Bernardine Magdalenski, Maureen Mathers, Diane Merritt, Don Owens, John Pohanka, and Candy Smith.

As always, I appreciate the support and flexibility of the School Administration and hard work of head custodian, Mike O’Brien, in the setup for all our town events. I made this an even tougher year for Mike as I changed the setup at the elections. Thank you, Mr. Venne and Mike!

I give my thanks to our dedicated constables. We saw two resignations this year. Jeff Cranston resigned for personal reasons, and John Svoboda resigned as he moved from town. The Select Board appointed two new constables this year. Our hardworking constables are: Gordon Luce, Paul Sanderson, Wilbur Loomis, and Jason Connell. Thank you for helping keep our elections running smoothly with little or no problem.

The following numbers and licenses were recorded as of December 31, 2008:

The total population – 2586

Residents 18 and over – 2181

The Dog Officers and Town Clerk licensed 499 dogs (including kennel licenses).

Fishing and Hunting Licenses were issued from the Town Clerks office as listed below:

36 Sporting and Hunting Licenses

27 Fishing Licenses

It is with great joy that the town of Williamsburg recorded 13 births for 2008. May each of those children and their families be blessed with a lifetime of health and happiness.

It is always exciting to see couples take the step of committing to one another through marriage. The town of Williamsburg issued and recorded 15 marriages for 2008. Congratulations to all the couples.

The town of Williamsburg recorded 10 deaths in the year 2008. The town extends it deepest condolences to all the families that lost a loved one.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda M. Lessard
Town Clerk

Minutes of the Presidential Primary February 5, 2008

The polls were open at 7:00 a.m. and closed at 8:00 p.m. The following were the results of the election.

Wardens: Bess Lojko and Kathy Luce

Registered Voters: 1826

Absentee Ballots: 48 but 1 Republican would not go through so put in as paper ballot

Votes Tallied by Accu-vote: 1043

Paper Ballots: 1

Total Ballots Cast: 1044

Democrat Ballots: 851

Green-rainbow: 4

Republican Ballots: 189

Working Family: 0

Presidential Preference – Democratic Party

Blanks:	0
John R. Edwards:	12
Hillary Clinton:	355
Joseph R. Biden, Jr.:	0
Christopher J. Dodd:	0
Mike Gravel:	0
Barack Obama:	475
Dennis J. Kucinich:	9
Bill Richardson:	0
No Preferences:	0
Write-Ins:	0

State Committee Man – Democratic Party

Blanks:	326
Peter G. Arlos:	139
Matt L. Barron:	383
Write-In:	3

State Committee Woman – Democratic Party

Blank:	332
Margaret Johnson Ware:	518
Write-In:	1

Town Committee – Democratic Party 25 Positions

Blank:	21242
Write-In:	31

Pat Billingsley, James Cahillaine, John O'Sullivan, Rose Simmon, Ann Turner, Charlotte Otis, Jim Locke, Wendy Thomson, Mike Steenburgh, Sue Froehlich, Bill Turner, Don Lawton, Phil Cranston, Pat Nichols, Charlene Nardi, Dave Mathers, Eric Cerreta, Judy Haigler, Connie Fender, Linda Rowley, S. Claudia Vargas, Irene Heath, Elizabeth Lojko, Paul Sonerson, Helen Malloy, E. Malloy, Paul Dunphy, Raymond Heath, James Godfrey, Annmarie Hanson, Joe Larkin (none of these write-ins received the required 6 votes)

Presidential Preference – Republican Party

Blank:	1
John McCain:	101
Fred Thompson:	1
Tom Tancredo:	0
Duncan Hunter:	0
Mike Huckabee:	9
Mitt Romney:	68
Ron Paul:	8
Rudy Giuliani:	0
No Preference:	0
Write-In:	1
John Edwards	

State Committee Man – Republican Party

Blank:	187
Write-In:	2

State Committee Woman – Republican Party

Blank:	188
Write-In:	1

Town Committee–Republican Party 35 Positions

Blank:	6610
Write-In:	5

Gary Benoit, Rod Snelling, Ed Parsons, Blank, Henry Warner
(none received the required 6 votes)

Presidential Preference – Working Families Party

Blank:	0
No Preference:	0
Write-In:	0

State Committee Man – Working Families Party

Blank:	0
Write-In:	0

State Committee Woman – Working Families Party

Blank:	0
Write-In:	0

Town Committee – Working Families Party 10 Positions

Blank:	0
Write-In:	0

Presidential Preference – Green-Rainbow Party

Blank:	0
Jared Bell:	0
Ralph Nader:	0
Elaine Brown:	0
Kat Swift:	1
Cynthia McKinney:	3
Kent Mesplay:	0
No Preference:	0
Write-In:	0

State Committee Man – Green-Rainbow Party

Blank:	0
Write-In:	0

State Committee Woman – Green Rainbow Party

Blank:	0
Write-In:	0

Town Committee: Green Rainbow Party 10 Positions

Blank:	0
Write-In:	0

Filed February 7, 2008

A TRUE COPY ATTEST

BRENDA LESSARD, TOWN CLERK
TOWN OF WILLIAMSBURG

CERTIFICATE OF NOMINATION – TOWN CAUCUS 2008

We certify that a caucus of qualified voters (quorum 43) of the Town of Williamsburg was called and held in accordance with the provisions of law relating thereto, at the Anne T. Dunphy School on the third day of March 2008, and the following nominations of Candidates for Town Offices were made:

The Town Clerk, Brenda Lessard, called the meeting to order at 7:26 P.M. The Voters of Caucus elected a Chair and Secretary.

Chair: Joseph Larkin

Secretary: Diane O'Sullivan

OFFICE	TERM	CANDIDATE	RESIDENCE	SIGNATURE
ASSESSOR	3	Peter Shumway	185 Ashfield Rd	Signed by same
BOARD OF HEALTH	3	Donald Lawton	39 Goshen Road	Signed by same
BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES	3	Patricia Billingsley	82 South Street	Signed by same
	3	Connie Fitzgerald	8 South Main Street	Signed by same
ELECTOR – OLIVER SMITH WILL	1	Eric Cerreta	157 Main St.	Signed by same
FINANCE COMMITTEE	3	Christopher Morris	28 Village Hill Road	Away – Not Signed
	3	Eric Cerreta	157 Main Street	Signed by same
	3	Michael Beattie	81 South St	Signed by same
HAMPSHIRE COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS COUNCILOR	2	Eileen Stewart	7 Petticoat Hill Rd	Signed by Same
LOCAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE	3	Sarah Christiansen	30 Petticoat Hill Road	Signed by same
	3	Duncan Laird	104 Petticoat Hill Road	Signed by same
	3	Michael Beattie	81 South Street	Signed by same
MODERATOR	1	Joseph Larkin	3 Judd Lane	Signed by same
RECREATION COMMISSION	3	Gary Benoit	8 Grove Street	Signed by same
	3	John O'Sullivan	12 Fairfield Avenue	Signed by same

REGIONAL SCHOOL

COMMITTEE	3	David Nardi	67 Nash Hill Road	Signed by same
	3	Michael Beattie	81 South Street	Signed by same

SELECTMAN	3	Denise Banister	54 Old Goshen Road	Signed by same
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TOWN CLERK	2	Brenda Lessard	42 Nash Hill Rd	Signed by same
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TRUST FUND/CEMETERY

COMMISSION	3	John Pohanka	123 South Street	Signed by same
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WATER/SEWER

COMMISSION	3	Howard Sanderson	2 Village Hill Avenue	Signed by same
	3	Kenneth Taylor	13 Williams Street	Signed by same

We hereby certify that at least forty qualified voters of the Town of Williamsburg participated and voted therein. Due to the fact that all of the nominees would be placed on the ballot, it was voted that the Secretary cast one ballot to certify the nominees are certified. We also certify that the caucus voted that in the case of death, withdrawal or in-eligibility of the candidate or candidates so nominated, the vacancy or vacancies shall be filled by the following: a committee consisting of the Chairman and Secretary of the Caucus and the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

S/ Joseph Larkin, Presiding Officer

S/ Diane O'Sullivan, Secretary to Caucus

Filed March 10, 2008

A TRUE COPY ATTEST

BRENDA LESSARD, TOWN CLERK

Minutes of the Annual Election May 5, 2008

Warrant signed and posted on April 3, 2008 Selectmen: Denise Banister, Jeffrey Ciuffreda,
David Mathers
Last day to register to vote – April 15, 2008 Constables: Paul Sanderson, John Svoboda,
Wilbur Loomis
Nineteen (19) ballots were used to test the machine and ballots
Twenty-six (26) Absentee ballots were mailed, twenty-three (23) were returned
Delivered one thousand six hundred and twenty-one ballots to the polls.

The polls opened at 10 a.m. in the Anne T. Dunphy School gymnasium and balloting begun.

The polls closed at 7 p.m., the machine tape was printed. The following are the Election Results recorded by Warden Kathleen Luce, Sheila Dufresne and Town Clerk, Brenda Lessard. All Elected individuals take office July 1, 2008 per the bylaw change voted November 14, 2005.
Votes Cast – 325 Number of Eligible Voters – 1834

Assessor – 3 years – vote for 1

Blanks – 45
Peter Shumway – 280 E
Write-ins – 0

Board of Health – 3 years – vote for 1

Blanks – 45
Donald Lawton – 280 E
Write-ins – 0

Board of Library Trustees – 3 years – vote for 2

Blanks – 156
Patricia Billingsley – 244 E
Constance Fitzgerald – 248 E
Write-ins – 2
Michael Beattie - 2

Elector – Oliver Smith Will – 1 year – vote for 1

Blanks – 99
Eric Cerreta – 225 E
Write-ins – 1
Dick Briggs - 1

Finance Committee – 3 years – vote for 3

Blanks – 137
Christopher Morris – 213 E
Michael Beattie – 81
Eric Cerreta – 175
Gary R. Benoit – 180 E
Paul R. Wetzel – 189 E
Write-ins – 0

Hamp. Council of Gov. Councilor – 2 yrs – vote 1

Blanks – 71
Eileen Stewart – 254 E
Write-ins – 0

Moderator – 1 year – vote for 1

Blanks – 62
Joseph Larkin – 263 E
Write-ins – 0

Local School Committee – 3 years – vote for 2

Blanks – 54
Michael Beattie – 89
Duncan Laird – 251 E
Sarah Christiansen – 256 E
Write-ins – 0

Recreation Commission – 3 years – vote for 2

Blanks – 155

Gary Benoit – 242 E

John O’Sullivan – 253 E

Write-ins – 0

Selectman – 3 years – vote for 1

Blanks – 96

Denise Banister – 227 E

Write-ins – 2

Steve Snow – 1

Patricia Billingsley – 1

Hampshire Regional School Committee – 3 years – vote for 1

Blanks – 12

David Nardi – 258 E

Michael Beattie – 55

Write-ins – 0

Town Clerk – 2 years – vote for 1

Blanks – 60

Brenda Lessard – 265 E

Write-ins – 0

Trust Fund/Cemetery Commission – 3 years – vote for 1

Blanks – 68

John Pohanka – 257 E

Write-ins – 0

Water and Sewer Commission – 3 years – vote for 2

Blanks – 147

Howard Sanderson – 255 E

Kenneth Taylor – 247 E

Write-ins – 1

Gary Benoit

Filed May 6, 2008

A TRUE COPY ATTEST

Brenda Lessard, Town Clerk

TOWN OF WILLIAMSBURG

Annual Town Meeting

June 2, 2008

The Warrant was signed and posted on May 22, 2008

Moderator: Joseph Larkin Town Clerk: Brenda Lessard

Selectboard Members present: Denise Banister, Jeffrey Ciuffreda, and David Mathers

Constables: John Svoboda, Paul Sanderson, Wilbur Loomis

A quorum (60 registered voters) being present, the meeting was called to order at 7:06 P.M. The Town Clerk read the greeting.

Selectmen Chair Denise Banister read the dedication of the Annual Town Report.

Article 1

Moved and seconded that the town empower the Board of Selectmen, Board of Water/Sewer Commissioners, Board of Assessors, Board of Health, Board of Appeals, Finance Committee, and the Trustees of Libraries to appoint their own members to town departments at such salaries or wage rates as shall be established by the Board of Selectmen.

Passed by Majority Vote

Article 2

Moved and seconded to authorize the Moderator to choose a committee to expend the income from the Whiting Street Fund.

Whiting Street is the gentleman that left the money. This small amount of money (est. \$200.00) is used at the holidays for gifts to children and the like type needs.

Passed Unanimously

Article 3

Moved and seconded to fix a salary and compensation of all elected and appointed officers of the town for the twelve month period ending June 30, 2009, as provided in Section 108, Chapter 41, General Laws as amended, and to see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate such sums of money as shall be deemed necessary to defray the expenses of the period as follows, or take any other action thereon.

Moved the budget section by section.

Moved and seconded to raise and appropriate, and transfer from available funds the sum of **\$381,246**, the amounts recommended by the Finance Committee for the purpose of **General Government**, with each item to be considered a separate appropriation and to raise \$333,246 from taxation and appropriate \$48,000 from free cash.

Passed Majority Vote

Budget Item	FY07 Actual Expenditure	(1) FY08 Total Budget	FY09 Department Requests	(2) FY09 Finance Committee's Proposed Budget
GENERAL GOVERNMENT				
Moderator	262	270	270	278
Selectboard Salaries	7,323	7,543	7,543	7,769
Selectboard Expenses	2,200	3,000	3,000	3,000
Town Administrator		32,500	43,334	44,634
Administrative Assistant	23,581	12,000	12,000	12,360
Town Administrator Expenses			2,000	2,000
Oliver Smith Trustee	26	27	27	28
Town Counsel	12,822	17,000	17,000	17,000
Advertising Expense	691	1,000	1,200	1,200
Constable Salary	262	270	270	278
Constable Elections	200	200	200	200
Parking Clerk Labor	262	270	270	278
Finance Committee Salaries	2,789	3,409	3,409	3,511
Finance Committee Chair	154	154	154	159
Finance Committee Secretary	384	800	800	824
Finance Committee Expenses	295	600	600	600
Reserve Fund from Free Cash	36	50,000	48,000	48,000
Reserve Fund from Taxation	0	0	7,000	7,000
Capital Planning Labor	0	298	298	307
Capital Planning Expenses	0	125	125	125
Accountant Labor	15,995	24,728	26,690	26,690
Accountant Asst. Labor	4,260			0
Accountant Expense	998	1,110		0
Accounting Software Purchase	4,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Audit Services	21,525	17,000	17,000	17,000
Assessors' Salaries	7,323	7,543	7,732	7,769
Assessors' Labor	6,017	6,822	6,993	7,027
Assessors' Expenses	1,102	2,942	4,192	4,192
Assessors' CAMA Fee	1,350	1,250	0	0
Assessors' Revaluation	10,450	4,000	4,000	4,000
Treasurer Salary	17,689	16,974	16,974	17,483
Treasurer's Additional Salary	416		0	0
Assistant Treasurer	0		5,000	5,000
Treasurer's Assistant	2,659	2,774		0
Treasurer's Expenses	4,528	4,600	4,600	4,600
Treasurer's Software	9,820	1,580	1,709	1,709
Collector Salary	26,691	24,728	24,728	25,470
Collector's Additional Salary	959			0

Collector's Expenses	9,473	9,630	9,630	9,630
Clerk Salary	11,712	12,063	15,456	15,920
Clerk Labor	5,182	5,337	1,944	2,002
Clerk's Expenses	894	1,000	1,000	1,000
Clerk's Software	3,250	500	500	500
Elections, Registration, Listings	6,487	6,570	6,570	6,570
Town Meeting Expense	122		578	578
Street Listing	768	960	1,060	1,060
Conservation Commission Labor	53	270		0
Conservation Commission Expense	2,717	3,100	3,100	3,100
Planning Board	774	1,500	1,500	1,500
Zoning Board of Appeals	248	500	500	500
Custodian Labor	8,098	9,407	9,407	9,689
Town Buildings & Grounds	30,696	33,000	38,000	38,000
Town Office Expense	3,080	4,000	4,400	4,400
Town Office Telephone	6,338	6,300	7,245	7,245
Town Office Internet	2,145	2,000	2,300	2,300
Copier Maintenance	3,572	4,700	3,000	3,000
Technology Upgrade	0	4,000		0
Repair Boiler/Heating System		4,000		0
Painting/Siding Town Office		15,000		0
Town Reports	2,250	2,250	2,500	2,500
First Call for Help	0	260	260	260
Town Building Weatherization			6,500	
Town Building Reuse Study			2,500	
Subtotal General Government	284,928	372,864	386,068	381,246

Moved and seconded to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$281,348**, the amounts recommended by the Finance Committee for the purpose of **Protection of Persons and Property**, with each item to be considered a separate appropriation and to raise said sum from taxation.

Passed Unanimously

PROTECTION PERSONS and PROPERTY	FY07 Actual Expenditure	(1) FY08 Total Budget	FY09 Department Requests	(2) FY09 Finance Committee's Proposed Budget
Police Chief Salary	12,832	18,500	18,500	19,055
Police Dept Labor	108,596	112,879	117,379	120,765
Police Dept Expenses	30,608	29,740	30,540	30,540
Regional Records Software	1,209	5,500	5,500	5,500
Heating Upgrade Police/Fire		7,500		0
Fire Chief Salary	13,090	18,500	18,963	19,055
Fire Dept Labor	22,985	23,750	28,500	29,355
Fire Dept Expenses	22,088	21,320	21,320	21,320
Ambulance Service	26,269	27,653	27,758	27,758
Emergency Management Director	316	325	1,000	1,000
Shade Tree Committee Expenses	3,083	3,500	6,000	6,000
Tree Removal/Planting		1,500	1,000	1,000
Subtotal Protection Persons and Property	241,076	270,667	276,460	281,348

Moved and seconded to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$1,393**, the amounts recommended by the Finance Committee for the purpose of **School Committee Stipends**, with each item to be considered a separate appropriation and to raise said sum from taxation.

Passed Unanimously

Moved and seconded to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$1,466,975**, the amounts recommended by the Finance Committee for the purpose of **Local School Expenses**, with each item to be considered a separate appropriation and to raise said sum from taxation.

Unanimous consent to allow Mr. Fred Venne, Principal, to speak.

Passed Unanimously

Moved and seconded to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$1,374,337**, the amounts recommended by the Finance Committee for the purpose of **Hampshire Regional School Assessment**, with each item to be considered a separate appropriation and to raise said sum from taxation.

Presentation by Mr. James Connelly, Principal of Hampshire Regional High School. Williamsburg is the 5th Town to vote on budget.

Passed Unanimously

Moved and seconded to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$281,237**, the amounts recommended by the Finance Committee for the purpose of **Vocational School Assessment**, with each item to be considered a separate appropriation and to raise said sum from taxation.

Passed Unanimously

EDUCATION	FY07 Actual Expenditure	(1) FY08 Total Budget	FY09 Department Requests	(2) FY09 Finance Committee's Proposed Budget
School Committee Salaries	1,313	1,352	1,352	1,393
Local School Expenses	1,403,786	1,466,975	1,466,975	1,466,975
Dunphy Upgrades		8,500		0
Dunphy Fire Protection		13,200		0
Vocational School Assessment	281,534	236,793	281,237	281,237
Hampshire Regional Assessment	1,283,568	1,392,221	1,374,337	1,374,337
Subtotal Education	2,968,888	3,119,041	3,123,901	3,123,942

Moved and seconded to raise and appropriate, and transfer from available funds the sum of **\$466,422**, the amounts recommended by the Finance Committee for the purpose of **Public Works and Facilities**, with each item to be considered a separate appropriation and to raise said sum from taxation.

Passed Unanimously

PUBLIC WORKS and FACILITIES	FY07 Actual Expenditure	(1) FY08 Total Budget	FY09 Department Requests	(2) FY09 Finance Committee's Proposed Budget
Highway Labor	140,633	150,711	150,711	155,232
Highway Road Maintenance	52,212	68,395	60,463	60,463
Highway Garage/Equipment Maintenance	37,660	36,625	37,375	37,375
Highway Surplus Equipment	0	2,000	2,000	2,000
Vehicle Fuel		16,250	24,000	24,000
Cement Sidewalk Construction			5,500	5,500
Winter Salaries	10,687	9,708	12,208	12,499
Winter Expenses	52,196	60,271	64,146	64,146
Bridges & Street Lighting	9,111	10,300	12,000	12,000
Transfer Station Labor (Board of Health)	18,102	18,356	18,356	18,907
Transfer Station Expenses (Board of Health)	61,409	72,300	72,300	72,300
Cemetery Commission	900	1,000	2,000	2,000
Subtotal Public Works and Facilities	382,910	445,916	461,059	466,422

Moved and seconded to raise and appropriate, and transfer from available funds the sum of **\$60,875**, the amounts recommended by the Finance Committee for the purpose of **Human Services**, with each item to be considered a separate appropriation and to raise said sum from taxation.

Passed Unanimously

HUMAN SERVICES	FY07 Actual Expenditure	(1) FY08 Total Budget	FY09 Department Requests	(2) FY09 Finance Committee's Proposed Budget
Board of Health Salaries	3,250	3,328	3,328	3,428
Board of Health Expenses	100	300	300	300
Public Health Nurse	2,353	2,274	2,274	2,342
Animal Inspector	1,552	1,648	1,648	1,697
COA Director	10,232	10,539	10,539	10,855
COA Office Assistant	14,212	14,638	14,638	15,077
COA Meal Site Staffing	2,428	2,501	2,501	2,576
COA Expenses	2,650	2,800	2,800	2,800
COA HEN Program	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000
Veterans Agent	1,109	1,500	1,500	1,500
Veterans Agent Expense	400	400	400	400
Veterans Benefits	3,207	4,675	15,500	15,500
Americans With Disabilities Expense	0	400	400	400
Subtotal Human Services	45,493	49,003	59,828	60,875

Moved and seconded to raise and appropriate, and transfer from available funds the sum of **\$113,080**, the amounts recommended by the Finance Committee for the purpose of **Culture and Recreation**, with each item to be considered a separate appropriation and to raise said sum from taxation.

Passed Unanimously

CULTURE and RECREATION	FY07 Actual Expenditure	(1) FY08 Total Budget	FY09 Department Requests	(2) FY09 Finance Committee's Proposed Budget
Library Salaries	63,441	65,508	73,239	75,436
Library Expenses	31,537			0
Library Exp-Utilities		12,120	13,620	13,620
Library Exp-Maintenance		8,955	9,540	9,540
Library Exp-Books & Supplies		13,399	6,872	5,014
Recreation Labor	3,516	4,437	4,437	4,570
Athletic Fields	3,659	4,000	4,000	4,000
Historical Commission Exp	30	500	500	500
Veterans' Recognition	0	400	400	400
Subtotal Culture and Recreation	102,183	109,319	112,608	113,080

Moved and seconded to raise and appropriate, and transfer from available funds the sum of **\$296,213**, the amounts recommended by the Finance Committee for the purpose of **Debt Service** with each item to be considered a separate appropriation and to raise said sum from taxation.

Passed Unanimously

DEBT SERVICE	FY07 Actual Expenditure	(1) FY08 Total Budget	FY09 Department Requests	(2) FY09 Finance Committee's Proposed Budget
Hampshire Regional Debt Service	149,809	99,868	93,442	93,442
School Debt Principal	36,850			0
School Debt Interest	1,265			0
Capping Wood Waste Principal	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
Capping Wood Waste Debt Interest	3,270	2,750	2,150	2,150
Fire Truck Principal	19,000	19,000	18,000	18,000
Fire Truck Debt Interest	5,011	1,785	1,215	1,215
Fire Truck #2 Principal		23,500	23,500	23,500
Fire Truck #2 Debt Interest		9,588	7,593	7,593
Highway Grader Principal	13,000			0
Highway Grader Debt Interest	338			
Highway Sander Principal	8,000			
Highway Sander Debt Interest	208			
Highway Truck Principal		17,000	18,266	18,266
Highway Truck Debt Interest	907	1,439	656	656
Highway Loader Principal		20,000	20,000	20,000
Highway Loader Debt Interest		3,979	2,867	2,867
Library Principal	40,000	42,000	40,000	40,000
Library Debt Interest	14,115	13,075	11,815	11,815
Town Hall Heating Principal	4,000			
Town Hall Heating Debt Interest	104			
Police/Fire Roof Principal		10,000	10,000	10,000
Police/Fire Roof Debt Interest	509	816	359	359
Police 4 x 4 Principal		15,000	14,709	14,709
Police 4 x 4 Debt Interest		1,213	529	529
Police Cruiser Principal			10,000	10,000
Police Cruiser Debt Interest			1,112	1,112
Subtotal Debt Service	316,386	301,013	296,213	296,213

Moved and seconded to raise and appropriate, and transfer from available funds the sum of **\$63,158**, the amounts recommended by the Finance Committee for the purpose of **Intergovernmental Expenses**, with each item to be considered a separate appropriation and to raise said sum from taxation.

Passed Unanimously

INTERGOVERNMENTAL EXPENSES	FY07 Actual Expenditure	(1) FY08 Total Budget	FY09 Department Requests	(2) FY09 Finance Committee's Proposed Budget
Hampshire Council of Governments Assessment	3,338	3,338	3,338	3,338
Hampshire County Regional Lockup		2,239	2,239	2,239
Hilltown Resource Management (Board of Health)	8,658	8,658	8,658	8,658
Foothills Health District (Board of Health)	18,675	21,740	22,967	22,967
Building Inspection Program	22,030	23,196	25,592	25,592
PVPC Assessment			364	364
Subtotal Intergovernmental Expenses	52,701	59,171	63,158	63,158

Moved and seconded to raise and appropriate, and transfer from available funds the sum of **\$619,408**, the amounts recommended by the Finance Committee for the purpose of **Fixed Miscellaneous Expenses** with each item to be considered a separate appropriation and to raise said sum from taxation.

Passed Unanimously

FIXED MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES	FY07 Actual Expenditure	(1) FY08 Total Budget	FY09 Department Requests	(2) FY09 Finance Committee's Proposed Budget
Hampshire County Retirement	115,311	108,986	123,107	123,107
Workers' Compensation	11,335	17,121	12,959	12,959
Unemployment Insurance	8,266	5,000	5,000	5,000
Group Insurance	343,271	370,000	398,000	398,000
Medicare & Social Security	25,168	27,000	28,000	28,000
General Insurance	51,652	55,267	52,342	52,342
Subtotal Fixed Misc Expenses	555,003	583,374	619,408	619,408

Moved and seconded to approve the entire budget as moved section by section in the sum of \$5,405,692, the amounts recommended by the Finance Committee and to raise said sum from taxation.

Passed Unanimously

Total Budget	FY07 Actual Expenditure	(1) FY08 Total Budget	FY09 Department Requests	(2) FY09 Finance Committee's Proposed Budget
TOTAL OPERATING BUDGET	4,949,568	5,310,368	5,398,703	5,405,692
FROM FREE CASH		57,500		48,000
FROM BRASSWORKS LOAN FUND		30,000		0
FROM STABILIZATION FUND		21,700		0
FROM TAXATION		5,201,168		5,357,692
ANTICIPATED REVENUES		5,204,296		5,358,642

Article 4

Moved and seconded to Take No Action on the article to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the Stabilization Fund and determine whether said sum shall be raised by taxation, taken from available funds, or take any other action thereon.

Passed Unanimously to Take No Action

Article 5

Moved and seconded to adopt a Capital Improvement Plan, as prepared by the Capital Planning Committee and, whose budget has been accepted by the Finance Committee, including recommended capital improvements for the following five fiscal years or take any other action thereon.

Passed Majority Vote

Article 6

Moved and seconded to raise and appropriate the sum of up to \$250,000 to bring the Highway Garage up to code and to construct an addition to the Highway Garage and take said sum from Borrowing.

Motion made and seconded to amend article to read:

To raise and appropriate the sum of \$250,000 to bring the Highway Garage up to code and to construct an addition to the Highway Garage and to take said sum from Borrowing by Debt Exclusion.

Motion passed Majority Vote

Article 6 as Amended

Moved and seconded to raise and appropriate the sum of \$250,000 to bring the Highway Garage up to code and to construct an addition to the Highway Garage and to take said sum from **Borrowing by Debt Exclusion**.

Passed by 2/3 Majority Aye-149 No-5

Article 7

Moved and seconded to raise and appropriate the sum of \$130,000 for the purchase of a new truck for the Highway Department to replace Truck #6 and take said sum from Borrowing.

Passed 2/3 Majority Aye-143 No-11

Article 8

Moved and seconded to raise and appropriate the sum of \$6,500 for weatherization and energy conservation improvements to the Town Offices and Police Station and take said sum from Free Cash.

Passed Majority Vote

Article 9

Moved and seconded to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,500 for space utilization and building re-use studies for town buildings and take said sum from free cash.

Passed Majority Vote

Article 10

Moved and seconded to raise and appropriate the sum of up to \$12,366.00 to prepare and install an iron fence along the west branch of the Mill River of the Town of Williamsburg, Meekins Library property line and take said sum from free cash.

Passed Majority Vote

Article 11

Moved and seconded to raise and appropriate the sum of \$230,130.00 composed of the amounts listed below, for the purpose of operating and maintaining the town's water system, including the laying of mains in fiscal 2009, and take said sum from Water Enterprise Revenue.

Salaries	\$ 2,800.00
Expenses	\$ 76,250.00
Debt Service	\$151,080.00
Total	\$ 230,130.00

Passed Unanimously

Article 12

Moved and seconded to raise and appropriate \$146,662.50 composed of the amounts listed below, for the purpose of operating, maintaining and constructing the town sewer system for fiscal year 2009, and take said sum from Sewer Enterprise Revenue.

Salaries	\$ 2,800.00
Sewer Construction	\$ 30,000.00
Operation & Maintenance	\$ 81,800.00
Debt Service	\$ 32,062.50
Total	\$ 146,662.50

Passed Unanimously

Article 13

Moved and seconded to authorize the Board of Selectmen to designate the board or officer as the permitting authority under M.G.L. Chapter 82A, Section 2 to issue permits for the excavation of trenches as that term is defined by M.G.L. c. 82A, s. 2 and 520 CMR 14.00 Excavation and Trench Safety; or take any other action thereon.

Motion made and seconded to call the question (after much debate)

Passed 2/3 Majority

Original Motion-Passed Majority Vote

Article 14 Departmental Revolving Funds Authorization.

Motion made and seconded to authorize revolving funds for certain town departments under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44 §53E1/2 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2008.

Passed Unanimously

Revolving Fund	Authorized to Spend Fund	Revenue Source	Use of Fund	FY09 Spending Limit
Gas Inspector Revolving Fund	Gas Inspector	Fees charged for inspections required under the permit process	Salary of the Inspector and expenses related to the issuance of permits.	\$ 1,500.00
Electrical Inspector Revolving Fund	Electrical Inspector	Fees charged for inspections required under the permit process	Salary of the Inspector and expenses related to the issuance of permits.	\$ 7,500.00
Plumbing Inspector Revolving Fund	Plumbing Inspector	Fees charged for inspections required under the permit process	Salary of the Inspector and expenses related to the issuance of permits.	\$ 3,500.00
Transfer Station Open Box Revolving Fund	Board of Health	Fees and charges for services related to the Transfer Station and disposal areas.	Disposal costs of the open box and management of the Transfer Station and disposal areas.	\$18,000.00
Planning Board Revolving Fund	Planning Board	Fees charged specific to proposed sub-divisions within Williamsburg and new construction	Expenses associated with proposed sub-divisions within Williamsburg and other related expenses associated with new buildings	\$30,000.00
Dog Control Revolving Fund	Town Clerk	Fees specific to dogs	Expenses associated with licensing and controlling dogs and to pay the Dog Officer salary.	\$ 5,000.00
Recreation Commission Revolving Fund	Recreation Commission	Fees specific to recreation programs	Pay cost of operating recreation programs.	\$30,000.00
Council on Aging Revolving Fund	Council on Aging Executive Director	Fees specific to advertising in the newsletter	Pay for printing and distribution of the Council on Aging newsletter	\$ 2,000.00
Conservation Commission Revolving Fund	Conservation Commission	Fees specific to NOI/WPA Filing fees.	Pay expenses associated with WPA filing fees for administration and Enforcement of Wetlands Protection Act.	\$ 5,000.00

Board of Appeals Revolving Fund	Board of Appeals	Fees specific to applications	Pay expenses associated with processing of applications, purchase of laptop computer and software for record keeping	\$ 3,000.00
Fire Dept Revolving Fund	Fire Chief	Fees specific to inspections (smoke, CO, etc.)	Salary of the Inspector and expenses related to the issuance of permits.	\$ 3,000.00
Total Spending Limit				\$108,500.00

Article 15

Moved and seconded to amend the General Government By-law, Highways and sidewalks, section 6 by inserting the words “any Town Police Officer” after the words “The Highway Superintendent” in the second sentence as follows:

Whoever violates any provision of the Highways and Sidewalks section of the By-laws, the violation of which is subject to a specific penalty, may be penalized by the non-criminal method of disposition as provided in M.G.L. Chapter 40, section 21D. The Highway Superintendent, any Town Police Officer, and the Board of Selectmen of the Town are designated as the enforcing persons for non-criminal disposition enforcement of the Highways and Sidewalks Bylaw.

Motion made and seconded to remove the word “any”

Motion Failed

Motion made and seconded to remove “The Highway Superintendent” from the By-Law

Motion Passed Majority Vote Aye-57 Nay-27

Amended General Government By-law, Highways and sidewalks Section 6 to read:

Whoever violates any provision of the Highways and Sidewalks section of the By-laws, the violation of which is subject to a specific penalty, may be penalized by the non-criminal method of disposition as provided in M.G.L. Chapter 40, Section 21D. Any Town Police Officer and the Board of Selectmen of the Town are designated as the enforcing persons for non-criminal disposition enforcement of the Highways and Sidewalks Bylaw.

Amended Bylaw passed by Majority Vote

Article 16

Moved and seconded that the town **take no action on this article** (accept the provisions of M.G.L. chapter 258 section 13 which provides that the town shall indemnify and save harmless municipal officials, elected or appointed, from personal financial loss and expenses including reasonable legal fees and costs, if any, in an amount not to exceed one million dollars, arising out of any claim, demand, suit or judgment by reason of any act or omission except an intentional violation of civil rights of any person under any law, if the official at the time of such act or omission was acting within the scope of his official duties or employment, or take any action thereon.)

Passed Unanimously

Article 17

Moved and seconded that the Town allow the Hampshire Regional School District Administration to enter into a five year contract consisting of a three year base contract with the option to renew each year for two additional years to provide bus transportation to Hampshire Regional High School, Chesterfield-Goshen Regional School,

Southampton Public Schools, Westhampton Public Schools, Williamsburg Public Schools, and vocational transportation.

Passed Unanimously

Article 18

Moved and seconded that the Town accept the layout as a public way of Deer Haven Drive, as shown on a plan entitled "The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Street Acceptance Plan of Deer Haven Drive, Williamsburg, Massachusetts," dated May 12, 2008, prepared by Harold L. Eaton and Associates, Inc., on file with the office of the Town Clerk, including such drainage easements as shown on said plan, but excluding the retention ponds shown on the plan and as further described below, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen, on behalf of the Town, to acquire by gift, easements for such public way and drainage easements, or take any action relative thereto.

Motion made and seconded to Table the Article

Motion Failed Majority Vote

Original Motion Passed Majority Vote

Deer Haven Drive Legal Description

Beginning at a concrete bound set at the intersection of the Northerly and westerly sidelines of Fort Hill Road, said concrete bound being N 89°30'00" W a distance of one hundred ten and 95/100 (110.95) feet from an iron pin found in the said northerly sideline of Fort Hill Road, thence running;

S 21°31'37" W along the said westerly sideline of Fort Hill Road a distance of one hundred and 59/100 (100.59) feet to a concrete bound set at the most easterly corner of Lot 2, thence running;

Northwesterly and westerly along the northerly line of said Lot 2 following the arc of a curve to the left having a radius of thirty and 00/100 (30.00) feet an arc distance of fifty four and 65/100 (54.65) feet to a concrete bound set, thence continuing;

N 82°50'38" W along the northerly line of the said Lot 2 and the northerly line of Lots 3, 4, and a portion of Lot 5 a distance of six hundred forty nine and 72/100 (649.72) feet to a concrete bound set, thence continuing;

Westerly and southwesterly and southerly along the said northerly line of Lot 5 following the arc of a curve to the left having a radius of thirty and 00/100 (30.00) feet an arc distance of thirty seven and 12/100 (37.12) feet to a concrete bound set, thence continuing;

Southerly, southwesterly, westerly, northwesterly, northerly, northeasterly and easterly along the said northerly line of Lot 5, the easterly line of Lot 6 and a portion of the southerly line of Lot 7 following the arc of a curve to the right having a radius of eighty and 00/100 (80.00) feet an arc distance of three hundred ninety seven and 33/100 (397.33) feet to a concrete bound set, thence continuing;

Easterly along the said southerly sideline of Lot 7 along the arc of a curve to the left having a radius of seventy five and 00/100 (75.00) feet an arc distance of forty four and 07/100 (44.07) feet to a concrete bound set, thence continuing;

S 82°50'38" E along the said southerly sideline of the remainder of Lot 7 and the southerly sidelines of Lots 8, 9 and 10 and remaining land of Thomas Masters a distance of seven hundred twenty one and 76/100 (721.76) feet to the concrete bound at the point of beginning.

Containing 64,173 square feet, more or less.

Deer Haven Drive Legal Description

Drainage Easement A-1

Beginning at a concrete bound set at the intersection of the Northerly and westerly sidelines of Fort Hill Road, said concrete bound being N 89°30'00" W a distance of one hundred ten and 95/100 (110.95) feet from an iron pin found in the said northerly sideline of Fort Hill Road, thence running;

S 21°31'37" W along the said westerly sideline of Fort Hill Road a distance of seventeen (17)± feet to the northerly edge of the existing pavement of Deer Haven Drive, thence running;

Westerly along the said northerly edge of the pavement of Deer Haven Drive a distance of two hundred twenty two and 50/100 (222.5)± feet to an unmarked point, thence running;

N 07°09'22" E a distance of eighteen (18)± feet to an unmarked point in the northerly sideline of Deer Haven Drive, thence running;

S 82°50'38" E along the said northerly sideline of Deer Haven Drive a distance of two hundred twenty six and 62/100 (226.62) feet to the concrete bound at the point of beginning.

Article 19

Motion Made and seconded to amend the General Government by-law to add the **WILLIAMSBURG RIGHT-TO-FARM BYLAW** as follows:

Add:

WILLIAMSBURG RIGHT-TO-FARM BYLAW

Section 1. Purpose

The purposes of this Bylaw are to promote agriculture, educate citizens about agriculture and to encourage its acceptance in our community. Agriculture is a vital part of Williamsburg, past and present. The Town of Williamsburg is committed to do what it can to ensure the continuation of agriculture, despite our rapid residential development. Agriculture is important to our town for the local production of food and forest products and a source of local employment, and for environmental values that agricultural land provides, such as clean air, scenic beauty and open space. In order to accomplish the above-stated purposes, this Bylaw : 1) affirms the right to farm in Williamsburg, 2) provides a definition of agriculture, 3) provides a disclosure notice to educate potential buyers of property in Williamsburg about our commitment to agriculture and 4) establishes a procedure for mediation of disputes involving agricultural practices.

Section 2. Legislative Intent and Authority

The intent of this Bylaw is to state with emphasis the Right to Farm accorded to all citizens of the Commonwealth under Article 97 of the Articles of Amendment of the Massachusetts Constitution and all state statutes and regulations thereunder including, but not limited to, Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40A, Section 3, Paragraph 1; Chapter 90, Section 9; Chapter 111, Section 125A; and Chapter 128, Section 1A. We, the citizens of Williamsburg, restate and republish these rights pursuant to the Town's authority conferred by Article 89 of the Articles of Amendment of the Massachusetts Constitution ("Home Rule Amendment"). This General Bylaw encourages the pursuit of agriculture, promotes agriculture-based economic opportunities, and protects farmlands within the Town of Williamsburg by allowing agricultural uses and related activities to function with minimal conflict with abutters and Town agencies.

Section 3. Definitions

The word "farm" shall include any parcel or contiguous parcels of land, or water bodies used for the primary purpose of agriculture. The words "farming" or "agriculture" or their derivatives shall include, but not be limited to the following:

- farming in all its branches and the cultivation and tillage of the soil;
- dairying;
- production, cultivation, growing, and harvesting of any agricultural, aquacultural, floricultural, viticultural, or horticultural commodities;
- growing and harvesting of forest products upon forest land, and any other forestry, lumbering, or tree-growing operations;
- raising of livestock, including horses;
- keeping of horses as a commercial enterprise;
- keeping and raising of poultry, swine, cattle, sheep, ratites (such as emus, ostriches, and rheas), and camelids (such as llamas, alpacas, and camels), and other domesticated animals for food and other agricultural purposes, including bees and fur-bearing animals.

“Farming” shall encompass activities including, but not limited to, the following:

- operation and transportation of slow-moving farm equipment over roads within the town;
- control of pests including, but not limited to, insects, weeds, predators, and disease organisms of plants and animals;
- application of manure, fertilizers, and pesticides;
- conducting agriculture-related educational and farm-based recreational activities, provided that the activities are related to marketing the agricultural output or services of the farm;
- processing and packaging of the agricultural output of the farm and the operation of a farmer’s market or farm stand, including signage thereto;
- maintenance, repair, or storage of seasonal equipment or apparatus owned or leased by the farm owner or manager used expressly for the purpose of propagation, processing, management, or sale of the agricultural products;
- on-farm relocation of earth and the clearing of ground for farming operation;
- construction and use of farm structures and facilities for the storage of animal wastes, farm equipment, pesticides, fertilizers, agricultural products and livestock, for the processing of animal wastes and agricultural products, for the sale of agricultural products, and for the use of farm labor, in accordance with applicable labor laws and regulations, as permitted by local and state building codes and regulations; including construction and maintenance of fences.

Section 4. Right to Farm Declaration

The Right to Farm is hereby recognized to exist within the Town of Williamsburg. The above-described agricultural activities may occur on holidays, weekdays, and weekends by night or day and shall include the attendant incidental noise, odors, dust, and fumes associated with normally accepted agricultural practices. It is hereby determined that whatever impact may be caused to others through the normal practice of agriculture is more than offset by the benefits of farming to the neighborhood, community, and society in general. The benefits and protections of this Bylaw are intended to apply exclusively to those agricultural and farming operations and activities conducted in accordance with generally accepted agricultural practices. Moreover, nothing in this Right to Farm Bylaw shall be deemed as acquiring any interest in land, or imposing any land use regulations, which are properly the subject of state statute, regulation, or local zoning bylaw. This Bylaw does not supersede local, state or federal laws or regulations, or private covenants.

Section 5. Effective Date

This Bylaw becomes effective upon filing with the Massachusetts Attorney General. *[Section 5 subsequently deleted by order of the Attorney General’s office. A by-law does not take effect until it is reviewed and approved by the Attorney General’s office and posted or published by the Town Clerk pursuant to M.G.L. c. 40, sec. 32.]*

Section 6. Disclosure Notification to Real Estate Buyers

In order to allow prospective purchasers to make informed decisions prior to a real estate transaction, and to promote harmony between farmers and their new neighbors after a transaction, the Town of Williamsburg

requests selling landholders and/or their agents (and assigns) provide written notice to prospective purchasers substantially as follows:

“It is the policy of the Town of Williamsburg to conserve, protect and encourage the maintenance and improvement of agricultural land for the production of food and other agricultural products, and also for its natural and ecological value. This disclosure notification is to inform buyers that the property they are about to acquire lies within a town where farming activities occur. Such farming activities may include, but are not limited to, activities that cause noise, dust and odors, for example, tractor traffic on roadways, noise associated with forest harvesting equipment, such as chainsaws, or occasional stray livestock. Purchasing, and henceforth occupying land within Williamsburg means that one should expect and accept such conditions as a normal and necessary aspect of living in Williamsburg.”

Written notification may occur in one of several ways including, but not limited to, a disclosure form or addendum to a Purchase and Sale Agreement, and should include an acknowledgement by the buyer that he or she has received notification.

Within 30 days after this Bylaw becomes effective, the Board of Selectmen shall make available for use by selling landowners or their agents (and assigns) copies of example written notifications.

Within 30 days after this Bylaw becomes effective the Board of Selectmen shall prominently place in the town hall the above disclosure.

Section 7. Resolution of Disputes

Any person who seeks to complain about the operation of a farm may, notwithstanding pursuing any other available remedy, file a grievance, using the form made available for this purpose, with the Board of Selectmen, the Zoning Enforcement Officer, or the Board of Health, depending upon the nature of the grievance. The filing of the grievance does not suspend the time within which to pursue any other available remedies that the aggrieved may have. The Zoning Enforcement Officer or Board of Selectmen may forward a copy of the grievance to the Agricultural Commission or its agent, which shall review and facilitate the resolution of the grievance, and report its recommendations to the referring Town authority within thirty days of being notified of the grievance.

The Board of Health, except in cases of imminent danger or public health risk, may forward a copy of the grievance to the Agricultural Commission or its agent, which shall review and facilitate the resolution of the grievance and report its recommendations to the Board of Health within thirty days of notification.

Section 8. Severability Clause

If any part of this Bylaw is for any reason held to be unconstitutional or invalid, such decision shall not affect the remainder of this bylaw. The Town of Williamsburg hereby declares the provisions of this Bylaw to be severable.

Motion made and seconded to amend Section 1 to include the words:

“to only apply to properties in excess of three acres”

Motion to amend Failed

Motion made and seconded to amend Section 6 as follows:

Section 6. Disclosure Notification to Real Estate Buyers

In order to allow prospective purchasers to make informed decisions prior to a real estate transaction, and to promote harmony between farmers and their new neighbors after a transaction, the Town of Williamsburg ***to require*** selling landholders and/or their agents (and assigns) provide written notice to prospective purchasers substantially as follows:

“It is the policy of the Town of Williamsburg to conserve, protect and encourage the maintenance and improvement of agricultural land for the production of food and other agricultural products, and also for its natural and ecological value. This disclosure notification is to inform buyers that the property they are about to acquire lies within a town where farming activities occur. Such farming activities may include, but are not limited to, activities that cause noise, dust and odors, for example, tractor traffic on roadways, noise associated with forest harvesting equipment, such as chainsaws, or occasional stray livestock. Purchasing, and henceforth occupying land within Williamsburg means that one should expect and accept such conditions as a normal and necessary aspect of living in Williamsburg.”

Written notification may occur in one of several ways including, but not limited to, a disclosure form or addendum to a Purchase and Sale Agreement, and should include an acknowledgement by the buyer that he or she has received notification.

Within 30 days after this Bylaw becomes effective, the Board of Selectmen shall make available for use by selling landowners or their agents (and assigns) copies of example written notifications.

Within 30 days after this Bylaw becomes effective the Board of Selectmen shall prominently place in the town hall the above disclosure.

Motion to amend Failed

Original Motion Passed Unanimously

Article 20

Motion made and seconded to amend the Zoning by-law of the Town of Williamsburg to add the **AGE RESTRICTED HOUSING COMMUNITY (ARHC) by-law** as follows:

Add: Sections 9.13 through 9.20:

[text of by-law as originally presented and with numbers amended is available from Town Clerk's office]

Motion made and seconded to accept amended version of By-law for consideration

Passed Unanimously

Motion made and seconded to amend section 9.14-4 as follows:

9.14-4 Age Qualification: An ARHC shall constitute housing intended for persons of age fifty-five or over in accordance with M.G.L. chapter 151B, section 9, sub-section 6. One hundred percent (100%) of the dwelling units in a Age Restricted Housing Community shall each be occupied by at least one person fifty-five (55) years of age or older except in the event of the death of the qualifying occupant of a dwelling unit (*a non-qualifying spouse or domestic partner may remain indefinitely*), or foreclosure or other involuntary transfer of a dwelling unit, a two (2) year exemption shall be allowed to facilitate the transfer of the dwelling unit to another eligible household.

Motion made and seconded to refer Bylaw back to the Planning Board and Town Council for further discussion and reconvene Town Meeting for June 16, 2006 at 7:00 pm at the Anne T. Dunphy Gymnasium.

Motion Failed by Majority Vote

Motion for amended Section 9.14-4 Failed by Majority Vote

Motion made and seconded to amend Section 9.15-1 as follows:

- 9.15-1 Roadways and Lot Access: All proposed roads shall comply with Section 8 of the Construction Standards as contained in the Rules and Regulations Governing the Subdivision of Land in the Town of Williamsburg *and the roadways must be named*. The construction and maintenance of roads, driveways, alleyways, and parking areas in an ARHC is the sole responsibility of the project applicant or an association of dwelling unit owners.

Motion to amend Section 9.15-1 Passed Unanimously

Article 20 as amended

Motion made and seconded to amend the Zoning by-law of the Town of Williamsburg to add the **AGE RESTRICTED HOUSING COMMUNITY (ARHC) by-law** as follows:

Add: Sections 9.13 through 9.20:

9.13 AGE RESTRICTED HOUSING COMMUNITY (ARHC) (Amended)

A master-planned development of land as a unified residential community, constructed expressly for use and residence by persons who have achieved a minimum age of fifty five (55) years, in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 151 B, Section 4, Subsection 6, and also incorporating the preservation of natural open space areas as an integral element of the development. An Age Restricted Housing Community shall be permitted only within the Age Restricted Housing Community Overlay District and only upon the granting of a special permit by the Zoning Board of Appeals.

9.13-1 Purpose

The purposes of the Age Restricted Housing Community Overlay District are:

- a. To increase the variety of housing choices for citizens who are 55 years of age and older;
- b. To provide well-designed homes affordable to residents who wish to remain in the community;
- c. To recognize the importance of diversity and variety in the design of Age Restricted housing communities;
- d. To provide housing which reduces residents' burdens of building and yard maintenance and which minimizes demands on municipal services;
- e. To promote flexible and efficient use of land while maintaining a respect for its natural beauty.
- f. To provide for building at a higher density than would normally be allowed, and allow greater flexibility in site planning to promote affordable housing and the preservation of open space and historic resources within the development; and
- g. To provide for the review of all such proposals prior to construction, to ensure compliance with the above intent and objectives and to assure that the proposal will not result in or contribute to incompatible use of the land, pollution of the soil or groundwater, traffic congestion or inappropriate site development.

9.14 APPLICABILITY

The Zoning Board of Appeals (hereafter in this Section called the Board), acting as Special Permit Granting Authority, may grant a Special Permit for construction of a Age Restricted Housing Community (ARHC) and accessory structures, in the Age restricted Housing Community Overlay District as defined below:

- 9.14-1 Age Restricted Housing Community Overlay District Delineation: The age restricted housing community overlay district shall be defined as the areas of town serviced at a public way by Williamsburg public sewer and Williamsburg public water.
- 9.14-2 Special Permit Approval: Approval by the Board of a special permit hereunder shall not substitute for compliance with MGL Chapter 41: subdivision control laws, nor reduce any time periods for board consideration under the law.
- 9.14-3 Uses in the ARHC Overlay District: Non-residential uses may be permitted in the ARHC development upon the issuance of a Special Permit by the Zoning Board of Appeals, provided that such use shall be consistent only with those uses allowed by right and by Special Permit in the Village Residential zone and the gross square footage of the proposed use does not exceed 4% of the gross building square footage of the ARHC.
- 9.14-4 Age Qualification: An ARHC shall constitute housing intended for persons of age fifty-five or over in accordance with M.G.L. chapter 151B, section 9, sub-section 6. One hundred percent (100%) of the dwelling units in a Age Restricted Housing Community shall each be occupied by at least one person fifty-five (55) years of age or older except in the event of the death of the qualifying occupant of a dwelling unit, or foreclosure or other involuntary transfer of a dwelling unit, a two (2) year exemption shall be allowed to facilitate the transfer of the dwelling unit to another eligible household.
- 9.14-5 Applicant Qualifications: The applicant for a Special Permit for an ARHC shall be the owner of the land proposed for such development or be authorized in writing by the owner to apply for and be issued such Special Permit.
- 9.14-6 Maximum Number of ARHC Dwelling Units in the Town of Williamsburg: The maximum number of permitted housing units within all permitted ARHC developments in the Town of Williamsburg shall be limited to a number equivalent to five percent (5%) of the existing residential units (excluding ARHC units) located in the Town of Williamsburg. For the purpose of this Bylaw, the number of residential units shall be as established by the Board of Assessors as of January 1 of each calendar year.
- 9.14-7 Affordability Requirement: A proposal shall, at a minimum, set aside fifteen percent (15%), with a minimum of one (1) unit per development, of the total number of dwelling units provided on the site as affordable Age Restricted housing. For the purposes of this Section, affordable Age Restricted housing shall be defined as dwelling units that are rented or sold to, and occupied by, households earning up to 80% of the Median Area Household Income, as such median is defined by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Affordable Age Restricted rental units shall be "rent restricted", as such term is defined in the Federal Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Program, Internal Revenue Code Section 42(g)(2), such that rents, including utilities, are set at no more than thirty (30) percent of the income limit. Affordable Age Restricted units shall be dispersed throughout the ARHC and shall be externally indistinguishable from the market rate units. The property owner shall seek the services of a third party entity such as a local community development corporation to manage the assignment of affordable age restricted units.
- 9.14-8 Permanent Age Restriction: Each dwelling unit within an ARHC shall be subject to a permanent age restriction, described in a deed, deed rider or lease, and the organizational documents for the ARHC shall be recorded with the Hampshire Registry of Deeds or run with the land for a minimum period of 99 years and shall be enforceable by any or all of the owners of the ARHC or by the Town.

9.15 DIMENSIONAL REGULATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS

Except as noted below, an ARHC shall comply with all applicable dimensional regulations and development requirements listed in the Rules and Regulations Governing the Subdivision of Land in the Town of Williamsburg, Massachusetts.

- a. Lot Area: At the time of granting a special permit by the Zoning Board of Appeals, the property under consideration for an ARHC shall be located on one or more contiguous parcels, whether or not separated by a public or private way, having an area of at least five (5) acres.
 - b. Lot Frontage: an ARHC shall have a minimum frontage of not less than 100 feet.
 - c. Setbacks: There shall be no minimum standards for internal lot line setbacks within the ARHC, however the distribution of buildings and lots within the ARHC shall be distributed in a manner designed to enhance the primary and secondary resources as defined in Section 9.62 and 9.63. There shall be a minimum of 30 feet between the edge of the access drive and any abutting property line.
 - d. Lot Width: the lot or combination of lots upon which an ARHC is located shall maintain a minimum width of open land between the limits of work of the ARHC and any adjacent property of 50 feet, except for access to the development.
 - e. Open Space: at least 50% of an ARHC lot shall be maintained as open space as defined in Section 9.5.
 - f. Number of Dwelling Units: The maximum number of dwelling units allowed in an ARHC is 40. The minimum number of dwelling units allowed in an ARHC is 7.
 - g. Distribution Of Dwelling Unit Types: In an ARHC development, the distribution of dwelling unit types shall be at the discretion of the applicant, except for the following standards:
 - At least 50% of the units constructed shall be single-family or two-family dwellings.
 - h. Parking: Parking for motor vehicles shall be provided as follows:
 - Two (2) spaces per dwelling unit.
 - Guest parking – One (1) space per six (6) dwelling units.
 - Common Facility parking – Additional parking spaces shall be provided at shared or common facilities (swimming pool, clubhouse, etc.) within the ARHC provided that no common facility lot shall contain more than twelve (12) spaces.
 - All driveways must meet the performance standards for parking lots set forth in the Williamsburg Zoning Bylaw, Section 10.
- 9.15-1 Roadways and Lot Access: All proposed roads shall comply with Section 8 of the Construction Standards as contained in the Rules and Regulations Governing the Subdivision of Land in the Town of Williamsburg and the roadways must be named. The construction and maintenance of roads, driveways, alleyways, and parking areas in an ARHC is the sole responsibility of the project applicant or an association of dwelling unit owners.
- 9.15-2 Natural and Neighborhood Features: The plan for an ARHC shall be designed to maximize the preservation of natural and neighborhood features. To the extent possible, existing vegetation should be retained where such growth provides a benefit to the natural environment. In developed areas, the design of the ARHC shall also consider human-designed landscapes by extending existing street tree plantings and by providing landscapes and landscape amenities that reinforce the physical layout of the neighborhood.

- 9.15-3 Pedestrian Facilities: The plan for an ARHC shall incorporate pedestrian systems that allow for the convenient and safe movement of those who choose to walk for leisure or as a means of transportation. Connections to the Town's existing or planned sidewalk network shall be made by the applicant where possible.
- 9.15-4 Transit Access: The applicant shall make every reasonable effort to insure adequate access to transit routes, including bus stops, from the ARHC development.
- 9.15-5 Landscaping And Screening: All service areas and equipment, rubbish and recycling containers, service outbuildings, and any other accessory facilities identified by the Zoning Board of Appeals, shall be adequately screened from the view of public ways and adjacent properties using vegetative plantings, fencing, berms, or a combination of these techniques.
- 9.15-6 Accessory Buildings and Structures: In an ARHC, accessory buildings and structures may be permitted, including clubhouse, swimming pool, tennis court, cabanas, storage and maintenance structures, garages, and other customary accessory structures. Accessory buildings and structures shall be shown on the Site Plan.
- 9.15-7 Other Facilities: All facilities for utility services, drainage, lighting and signage shall be in accordance with requirements established by the Zoning Board of Appeals, consistent with applicable provisions of the Williamsburg Zoning Bylaws and the Williamsburg Subdivision Regulations.
- 9.15-8 Project Maintenance: In an ARHC there shall be an organization of the owners of the residential dwelling units, either a Condominium or Homeowners Association, which shall be responsible for the maintenance and repair of internal roads and driveways, snow plowing, landscape maintenance, trash removal, utility services and maintenance and repair of other common elements and facilities serving the residents. The Town of Williamsburg shall assume no responsibility for these facilities unless specifically noted under separate agreement.
- 9.15-9 Water Supply and Wastewater Disposal: In every development wastewater disposal shall comply with the regulations of the Williamsburg Board of Health and applicable Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection regulations. No ARHC shall be approved that is not served by the Town of Williamsburg Public Sewer System. No ARHC shall be approved that is not served by the Town of Williamsburg Public Water Supply System.

9.16 BUILDING AND DWELLING UNIT REQUIREMENTS

The following requirements shall apply to all buildings and dwelling units in an Age Restricted Housing Community:

9.16-1 Dwelling Unit Types: Unit types allowed in an approved ARHC are:

- Single-Family Detached
- Duplex or Two-Family Dwelling
- Triplex or Three-Family Dwelling
- Quadplex or Four-Family Dwelling

9.16-2 Maximum D.U. per Building. No building shall contain greater than four (4) dwelling units.

9.16-3 Maximum Number of Bedrooms. No dwelling unit shall contain more than two (2) bedrooms.

9.16-4 Maximum Height: No building shall exceed 35 feet in height.

9.16-5 Architectural Appearance: All buildings shall be compatible with the character, scale and context of the surrounding neighborhood. The applicant shall present and respond to review comments by the Williamsburg Historical Commission.

9.17 OPEN SPACE AND BUFFER AREA REQUIREMENTS

No development, including clearing, primary or accessory structures, parking, wastewater disposal or stormwater management, shall take place within the required open space areas.

9.17-1 In ARHC development the following requirements for open space shall apply:

- a. The open space shall be planned as single, contiguous areas whenever possible. Long thin strips or narrow areas of open space (less than 100 feet wide) shall occur only when necessary for access, as vegetated buffers along wetlands or the perimeter of the site, or as connections between open space areas.
- b. Open space areas shall be designed to protect or enhance the primary and secondary resources as defined in Sections 9.62 & 9.63.
- c. Where the proposed development abuts or includes a stream, river, body of water or wetland, these areas and the buffer to such areas shall be incorporated into the open space. Where appropriate, reasonable access shall be provided to the shorelines.
- d. Where a proposed development abuts land held for conservation purposes, the development shall be configured to minimize adverse impacts to the abutting conservation land. Trail connections should be provided where appropriate.
- e. No more than 50 percent of the common open space shall be situated within wetlands or the Williamsburg Floodplain Overlay District.
- f. Open space shall be used solely for recreation, conservation, agriculture or forestry purposes by residents and the public. The board shall have the authority to approve or disapprove particular uses proposed for the open space.
- g. The open space shall be owned in common by the owners of the dwelling units in the ARHC, or by an organization or entity owned and controlled by such dwelling unit owners. An enforceable restriction shall be recorded on all open space parcels providing that such land shall be kept in an open or natural state and not be built for residential use or developed for accessory uses such as parking, roadway or active recreation.

9.18 APPLICATION PROCEDURES

The Planning Board shall by regulation establish a fee schedule for each application. The procedure for issuance of a special permit for an Age Restricted Housing Community shall be as follows:

9.18-1 Preliminary Plan and Determination of Density:

Applicants shall submit preliminary plans and materials for a joint review by the Zoning Board of Appeals and the Planning Board prior to formal application for special permit. The applicant may submit a Sketch Plan to assist the Boards in making a determination regarding maximum number of dwelling units to be permitted on the tract of land proposed for an AHRC. The sketch plan shall be drawn at 1" = 40' and include a Yield and Proposed development plan as follows:

- a. A yield plan drawn to scale shall clearly indicate the number of buildable residential lots the applicant believes would be attainable if the site were to be developed as a conventional subdivision consistent with the Rules and Regulations Governing the Subdivision of Land in the Town of Williamsburg, MA.

- b. A proposed development plan drawn to scale shall clearly indicate the primary and secondary resource areas as defined below. From these two resource areas, the final plan shall clearly indicate the building placement, lots and road layout of the proposed AHRC.
- c. A registered architect, surveyor, landscape architect, or professional engineer shall prepare all Site Plans All Proposed Development Plans shall be on standard 24" x 36" sheets and shall be prepared at a sufficient scale to show:
 - The location and boundaries of the lot, adjacent streets or ways, and the location and owners' names of all adjacent properties.
 - Existing and proposed topography including two-foot contours, the location of wetlands, streams, water bodies, drainage swales, areas subject to flooding, and unique natural land features.
 - Boundary lines of all proposed lots with approximate dimensions and lot areas in square feet.
 - Existing and proposed structures, including dimensions and elevations.
 - The location of existing and proposed parking and loading areas, driveways, walkways, access and egress points.
 - The location and description of all existing and proposed septic systems, water supplies, storm drainage systems, utilities, and refuse and other waste disposal methods.
 - Proposed landscape features including the location and a description of screening, fencing and plantings.
 - The location, dimensions height, and characteristics of proposed signs and lighting.
 - The location and a description of proposed open space or recreation areas.

9.18-2 Primary Resource Areas:

Primary resource areas should show the following:

- a. The location of all wetlands and floodplains as determined by a licensed hydrologist, and/or qualified licensed professional.
- b. The location of all significant woodlands, tree lines, or open fields or meadows, rocky outcroppings of ledge or bedrock, public water supply areas, watershed divides, aquifer recharge areas, drainage ways, wildlife habitat and corridor areas and areas of slopes greater than 10%.
- c. The location of soil test pits with supporting documentation on test results.

9.18-3 Secondary Resource Areas:

Secondary resource areas should show the following:

- a. The location and description of all significant scenic views, fences and stone walls, roads and trails, recreational areas, historic structures and archeological sites.
- b. A statement of the proposed use and ownership of the open space as permitted by this bylaw.

9.18-4 Board Determination on Yield Plan:

Based on the sketch plans, drawings and any other materials the applicant submits relevant to the tract under consideration, the Planning Board shall make a determination within 30 days as to the number of conventional lots that can be achieved on the proposed site.

9.18-5 Maximum Density of Proposed Development Plan:

If the proposed area of common open space exceeds 60% of the site, the permitted maximum density allowed under the ARHC special permit shall be the number of conventional lots as determined by the board times 110 percent. If the proposed area of common open space exceeds 70% of the site, the permitted maximum density allowed under the ARHC special permit shall be the number of conventional lots as determined by the Planning Board times 120 percent.

9.18-6 Conclusion of the Preliminary Plan Process:

Upon the conclusion of the preliminary plan process, the Planning Board shall approve, approve with modifications or disapprove said preliminary plan and in the case of disapproval, the Planning Board shall state in detail the reasons for its disapproval.

9.19 DEFINITIVE PLAN

A Definitive Plan of an ARHC may be submitted after a preliminary plan application and determination of density has been made by the Planning Board. The purpose of Plan Review is to further the purposes of this Bylaw and to ensure that new development of ARHC residential structures are designed in a manner that reasonably protects visual and environmental qualities and property values of the Town, and assures safe vehicular access, safe pedestrian movement, and appropriate drainage of surface water.

9.19-1 Application

- a. Each application for ARHC Plan Review shall be submitted to the Planning Board by the current owner of record, accompanied by eleven (11) copies of the Site Plan.
- b. The Planning Board shall by regulation establish a fee schedule for each such application
- c. A definitive plan may not be submitted without an approval of the preliminary plan as endorsed by the Planning Board.

9.19-2 Required Site Plan Content

Site Plans shall be on standard 24"x 36" drawing. A registered architect, surveyor, landscape architect, or professional engineer shall prepare all Site Plans. All sheets and shall be prepared at a sufficient scale to show:

- a. The location and boundaries of the lot, adjacent streets or ways, and the location and owners' names of all adjacent properties.
- b. Existing and proposed topography including two-foot contours, the location of wetlands, streams, water bodies, drainage swales, areas subject to flooding, and unique natural land features.
- c. Boundary lines of all proposed lots with approximate dimensions and lot areas in square feet.
- d. Existing and proposed structures, including dimensions and elevations.
- e. The location of existing and proposed parking and loading areas, driveways, walkways, access and egress points.
- f. The location and description of all existing and proposed septic systems, water supplies, storm drainage systems, utilities, and refuse and other waste disposal methods.
- g. Proposed landscape features including the location and a description of screening, fencing and plantings.
- h. The location, dimensions height, and characteristics of proposed signs and lighting.

- i. The location and a description of proposed open space or recreation areas.
- j. The Planning Board may request any additional information it judges to be necessary or convenient, or waive any information requirements it finds unnecessary, for the review of a particular plan.

9.19-3 Procedures for Site Plan Review

- a. An application for a Special Permit for an ARHC requiring ARHC Plan Review shall be considered incomplete without an application for ARHC Plan Review by the Planning Board.
- b. The period of review for a Special Permit requiring ARHC plan review shall be the same as any other Special Permit and shall conform to the requirements of Chapter 40A Section 9, "Special Permits." Specifically a joint Public Hearing shall be held by the Planning Board and the Zoning Board of Appeals within sixty-five (65) days of the filing of a Site Plan Review application with the Planning Board. Within forty-five (45) days of the joint Public Hearing, the Planning Board and the Zoning Board of Appeals shall hold a joint meeting at which the Planning Board shall report its findings and recommendations regarding the Site Plan application. Within forty-five (45) days after the joint meeting, and no longer than ninety (90) days from the date of the close of the Public Hearing, the Zoning Board of Appeals shall, after due consideration of the recommendations of the Planning Board, take final action on the Special Permit.

9.19-4 Site Plan Review Criteria

The following criteria shall be considered by the Planning Board in the review and evaluation of an ARHC Plan, consistent with a reasonable use of the site for the purposes permitted or permissible by the regulations of the district in which it is located.

- a. The development shall be integrated into the existing terrain and surrounding landscape, and shall be designed to protect abutting properties and community amenities. Building sites shall, to the extent feasible:
 - Minimize impact on wetlands, steep slopes, flood plains, hilltops;
 - Minimize obstruction of scenic views from publicly accessible locations;
 - Preserve unique natural or historical features;
 - Minimize tree, vegetation and soil removal and grade changes;
 - Maximize open space retention;
 - Screen objectionable features from neighboring properties and roadways.
- b. The plan shall maximize the convenience and safety of vehicular and pedestrian movement within the site and in relation to adjacent ways. The plan shall describe estimated average daily and peak-hour vehicular traffic to be generated by the site, traffic flow patterns for vehicles and pedestrians showing adequate access to and from the site, and adequate circulation within the site.
- c. The Site Plan shall show adequate measures to prevent pollution of surface or groundwater, to minimize erosion and sedimentation, to prevent changes in groundwater levels, and to prevent increased run-off and potential for flooding. Drainage shall be designed so that run-off shall not be increased and that neighboring properties will not be adversely affected. A system of groundwater recharge shall be provided that does not degrade groundwater quality. Recharge shall be by storm water infiltration basins or a similar system covered with natural vegetation. Dry wells shall be used only where other methods are not feasible. All basins and

wells shall be preceded by oil, grease and sediment traps to facilitate removal of contamination. Any and all recharge areas shall be permanently maintained in full working order by the owner.

- d. Electric, telephone, cable TV, and other such utilities are required to be underground unless proven to be physically and environmentally unfeasible.
- e. Exposed storage areas, machinery, service areas, truck loading areas, utility buildings and other unsightly structures or uses shall be set back or visually screened to protect the neighbors from objectionable site characteristics.
- f. Outdoor lighting shall be designed to prevent glare or light, which reflects, strays or scatters beyond the subject structure or structures.
- g. Noise generated by machinery or equipment shall not extend beyond the property line.
- h. The Site Plan shall comply with all other provisions of this bylaw.

9.19-5 Technical Consultants

If after receiving a subdivision application the Planning Board determines that it requires technical advice 'unavailable from municipal employees and departments to review the application, it may employ outside consultants. The Planning Board may, by majority vote, require that the applicant pay a reasonable review fee for the employment of outside consultants chosen by the Planning Board alone.

- a. A review fee may be imposed only if:
 - The work of the consultant consists of review of studies prepared on behalf of the applicant, and not of independent studies on behalf of the Planning Board,
 - The board finds that an adequate review can not be performed by Town board members or employees,
 - The work is in connection with the applicant's specific project, and
 - All written results and reports are made part of the record before the Planning Board.
- b. Before a fee is imposed:
 - The applicant shall be given five business days notice and opportunity to submit written comments relative to the invitation for bids or request for proposals,
 - The applicant shall be given five business days notice and opportunity to comment on all bids or proposals prior to the selection of the consultant and the award of a contract,
 - The applicant shall be given five business days notice and the opportunity to file an appeal of the selection of the outside consultant with the Selectboard. Grounds for said appeal are limited to written claims, with written documentation, that the consultant selected has a conflict of interest or does not possess the minimum required qualification in accordance with MGL Ch. 44, Section 53G.

9.19-6 Finding

- a. Before a finding on an ARHC Plan, the Planning Board may request the applicant to make modifications in the proposed design of the project to ensure that the above criteria are met.
- b. After a public hearing, the Planning Board may waive, for good cause shown, any or all requirements of ARHC Plan Review where such action is in the public interest and not inconsistent with the purpose and intent of this Bylaw.
- c. The Planning Board's finding shall consist of:

- A written denial of the application, stating that the plan fails to provide adequate information for the Planning Board to make a determination of whether the development satisfies decisional criteria set forth in this section.
- A finding that the project will constitute a suitable development subject to any conditions, modifications, and restrictions the Planning Board may deem necessary or appropriate.
- A finding that the proposed project does not constitute a suitable development in that it does not meet the criteria set forth in section 6.5.

9.20 DEFINITIONS

CONDOMINIUM – A legal form of ownership of real property, usually individual ownership of a dwelling unit in a multi-unit development where some rights are held in common by the residents of that development.

HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION - A private non-profit organization (corporation, association, or other legal entity) established by the developer to manage, maintain, support, and finance the common area and facilities and open space of an Age Restricted Housing Community Development, and to enforce certain covenants and restrictions.

OPEN SPACE - Undeveloped land set aside for common or individual ownership as a result of a Retirement Community Development, with conservation easements and other deeded restrictions to ensure that the land will remain permanently open and undeveloped. A condition of Age Restricted Housing Community Development approval is that open space may not be further subdivided.

AGE RESTRICTED - An individual who is 55 years of age or older.

AGE RESTRICTED HOUSING COMMUNITY - A master-planned development of land as a unified, self contained, residential community, constructed expressly for use and residence by persons who have achieved a minimum age requirement for residency of fifty five (55) years or older, in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 151 B, Section 4, Subsection 6, and also incorporating the preservation of natural open space areas as an integral element of the development. An Age Restricted Housing Community shall be permitted only within the Age Restricted Housing Community Overlay District and only upon the granting of a special permit by the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Amended By-law Passed Unanimously

The meeting adjourned at 11:23 P.M.

Filed: June 3, 2008

Brenda Lessard, Town Clerk

Debt Exclusion Override Vote September 8, 2008

Warrant signed and posted on July 24, 2008

Selectmen: Jeffrey Ciuffreda, David Mathers, Denise Banister

Last Day to register to vote-August 19, 2008

Constables: Paul Sanderson, Wilbur Loomis

Fourteen (14) Ballots were used to test the machine and ballots including absentee

Twenty-two (22) absentee ballots were mailed and eighteen (18) were returned and cast.

Delivered Nine hundred and ninety-nine (999) ballots to the poll.

The polls opened at 10:00 a.m. in the Anne T. Dunphy School gymnasium and balloting begun.

The polls closed at 7:00 p.m., and the machine tape was printed. A total of 269 ballots were cast.

Wardens: Elizabeth Lojko and Kathleen Luce.

Town Clerk: Brenda Lessard

Votes Cast: 269

Number of eligible voters: 1862 (14.5%)

Question 1

Shall the Town of Williamsburg be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one-half, so-called, the amounts required to pay for the bond issued in order to bring the Highway Garage up to code and to construct an addition to the said Highway Garage?

PASSED

YES – 138 NO – 131

Recorded: September, 9, 2008

A True Copy Attest: Brenda Lessard, Town Clerk of Williamsburg

Minutes of the State Primary September 16, 2008

The polls were open at 7:00 a.m. and closed at 8:00 p.m. The following were the results of the election.

Wardens: Bess Lojko and Kathy Luce Constables: Wilbur Loomis & Paul Sanderson

Registered Voters: 1871

Absentee Ballots: 25 mailed 18 returned and accepted

Total Ballots Cast: 319 (17% voter turnout)

Democrat Ballots: 297

Green-rainbow: 0

Republican Ballots: 22

Working Family: 0

Democrat Ballot:

Senator in Congress:

Blanks: 1
John F. Kerry: 216
Edward J. O'Reilly: 79
Write-In: 1
Mary Ford

Representative in Congress:

Blanks: 5
John W. Olver: 238
Robert A. Feuer: 54
Write-In: 0

Councillor:

Blanks: 81
Thomas T. Merrigan: 215
Write-In: 1

Senator in General Court:

Blanks: 75
B. Brackett Downing: 222
Write-In: 0

Representative in General Court:

Blanks: 36
Stephen Kulik: 261
Write-In: 0

Register of Probate:

Blanks: 73
David E. Sullivan: 224
Write-In: 0

Republican Ballot:

Senator in Congress:

Blanks: 2
Jeffrey K Beatty: 20
Write-In: 0

Representative in Congress:

Blanks: 4
Nathan A. Bech: 18
Write-In: 0

Councillor:

Blanks: 4
Michael Franco: 18
Write-In: 0

Senator in General Court:

Blanks: 22
Write-In: 0

Representative in General Court:

Blanks: 22
Write-In: 0

Register of Probate:

Blanks: 22
Write-In: 0

There were no Green Rainbow or Working Families Ballots Voted.

Filed: September 18, 2008

A TRUE COPY ATTEST

BRENDA LESSARD, TOWN CLERK

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
Town of Williamsburg
General & State Election
November 4, 2008

Election held at Anne T. Dunphy School gymnasium, 1 Petticoat Hill Road

Polls opened at 7:00 a.m. and closed at 8:00 p.m.

Total Registered Voters: 1978 – Total Ballots cast 1700 (85.9%)

Warrant Posted: October 9, 2008

Constables: Gordon Luce, Paul Sanderson, Jason Connell & Wilbur Loomis

Wardens: Elizabeth Lojko & Kathleen Luce

Pollworkers: Pat Casterline, Mary Ann Ciuffreda, Mark Corner, Kate Davidheiser, Sheila Dufresne, Ira Gabrielson, Gary Kuntz, Dot Lucey, Bernardine Magdalenski, Maureen Mathers, Diane Merritt, Don Owens, John Pohanka, and Candy Smith.

Electors of President and Vice President

Baldwin & Castle	5
Barr & Root	12
McCain & Palin	331
McKinney & Clemente	8
Nadar & Gonzalez	21
Obama & Biden	1309
Clinton & Unknown	1
Paul & Unknown	3
Write-Ins	4
Blanks	6

Senator in Congress

John F. Kerry	1257
Jeffrey K. Beatty	318
Robert Underwood	73
Write-Ins	4
Blanks	48

Representative in Congress – First District

John W. Olver	1341
Nathan A. Bech	301
Write-Ins	1
Blanks	57

Councillor – Eighth District

Thomas T. Merrigan	1206
Michael Franco	282
Write-Ins	1
Blanks	211

Senator in General Court –

Berkshire, Hampshire & Franklin

Benjamin Brackett Downing	1299
Write-Ins	2
Blanks	399

Register of Probate – Hampshire County

David E. Sullivan	1305
Write-Ins	2
Blanks	393

Representative in General Court – First Franklin District

Stephen Kulik	1398
Write-Ins	0
Blanks	302

QUESTION 1: LAW PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION

Do you approve of a law summarized below, on which no vote was taken by the Senate or the House of Representatives before May 6, 2008?

SUMMARY

This proposed law would reduce the state personal income tax rate to 2.65% for all categories of taxable income for the tax year beginning on or after January 1, 2009, and would eliminate the tax for all tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2010.

The personal income tax applies to income received or gain realized by individuals and married couples, by estates of deceased persons, by certain trustees and other fiduciaries, by persons who are partners in and receive income from partnerships, by corporate trusts, and by persons who receive income as shareholders of "S corporations" as defined under federal tax law. The proposed law would not affect the tax due on income or gain realized in a tax year beginning before January 1, 2009.

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

A YES VOTE would reduce the state personal income tax rate to 2.65% for the tax year beginning on January 1, 2009, and would eliminate the tax for all tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2010.

A NO VOTE would make no change in state income tax laws.

Yes – 264

No – 1413

Blank – 23

QUESTION 2: LAW PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION

Do you approve of a law summarized below, on which no vote was taken by the Senate or the House of Representatives before May 6, 2008?

SUMMARY

This proposed law would replace the criminal penalties for possession of one ounce or less of marijuana with a new system of civil penalties, to be enforced by issuing citations, and would exclude information regarding this civil offense from the state's criminal record information system. Offenders age 18 or older would be subject to forfeiture of the marijuana plus a civil penalty of \$100. Offenders under the age of 18 would be subject to the same forfeiture and, if they complete a drug awareness program within one year of the offense, the same \$100 penalty.

Offenders under 18 and their parents or legal guardian would be notified of the offense and the option for the offender to complete a drug awareness program developed by the state Department of Youth Services. Such programs would include ten hours of community service and at least four hours of instruction or group discussion concerning the use and abuse of marijuana and other drugs and emphasizing early detection and prevention of substance abuse.

The penalty for offenders under 18 who fail to complete such a program within one year could be increased to as much as \$1,000, unless the offender showed an inability to pay, an inability to participate in such a program, or the unavailability of such a program. Such an offender's parents could also be held liable for the increased penalty. Failure by an offender under 17 to complete such a program could also be a basis for a delinquency proceeding.

The proposed law would define possession of one ounce or less of marijuana as including possession of one ounce or less of tetrahydrocannabinol ("THC"), or having metabolized products of marijuana or THC in one's body.

Under the proposed law, possessing an ounce or less of marijuana could not be grounds for state or local government entities imposing any other penalty, sanction, or disqualification, such as denying student financial aid, public housing, public financial assistance including unemployment benefits, the right to operate a motor vehicle, or the opportunity to serve as a foster or adoptive parent. The proposed law would allow local ordinances or bylaws that prohibit the public use of marijuana, and would not affect existing laws, practices, or policies concerning operating a motor vehicle or taking other actions while under the influence of marijuana, unlawful possession of prescription forms of marijuana, or selling, manufacturing, or trafficking in marijuana.

The money received from the new civil penalties would go to the city or town where the offense occurred.

A YES VOTE would replace the criminal penalties for possession of one ounce or less of marijuana with a new system of civil penalties.

A NO VOTE would make no change in state criminal laws concerning possession of marijuana.

Yes – 1302

No – 372

Blanks – 26

QUESTION 3: LAW PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION

Do you approve of a law summarized below, on which no vote was taken by the Senate or the House of Representatives before May 6, 2008?

SUMMARY

This proposed law would prohibit any dog racing or racing meeting in Massachusetts where any form of betting or wagering on the speed or ability of dogs occurs.

The State Racing Commission would be prohibited from accepting or approving any application or request for racing dates for dog racing.

Any person violating the proposed law could be required to pay a civil penalty of not less than \$20,000 to the Commission. The penalty would be used for the Commission's administrative purposes, subject to appropriation by the state Legislature. All existing parts of the chapter of the state's General Laws concerning dog and horse racing meetings would be interpreted as if they did not refer to dogs.

These changes would take effect January 1, 2010. The proposed law states that if any of its parts were declared invalid, the other parts would stay in effect.

A YES VOTE would prohibit dog races on which betting or wagering occurs, effective January 1, 2010.

A NO VOTE would make no change in the laws governing dog racing.

Yes – 1233

No – 418

Blanks – 49

FILED: November 17, 2008

Brenda Lessard, Williamsburg Town Clerk

Annual Report of the Town Accountant Balance Sheet FY2008

<u>ASSETS</u>	General Fund	Special Revenues	Capital Projects	Enterprise	Trust & Agency	Long-Term Debt
Cash, Petty	480.00					
Cash, Pooled	994,578.00	654,020.58	4,873.35	521,546.91	379,705.29	2,554,724.13
Wachovia Securities					1,532,048.89	
2008 Personal Property	1,443.07					
2007 Personal Property	293.56					
2006 Personal Property	303.04					
2005 Personal Property	1,163.08					
Prior Years	368.92					
Total Personal Property	3,571.67					
2008 Real Estate	97,195.92					
2007 Real Estate	43,254.30					
2006 Real Estate	31,377.42					
2005 Real Estate	12,873.68					
Prior Year	11,899.15					
Total Real Estate	196,600.47					
2008 Allow for Abate/Exempt	-6,835.60					
2007 Allow for Abate/Exempt	-2,306.01					
Prior Years	-4,533.52					
Total Allow for Abate/Exempt	-13,675.13					
Tax Liens	43,450.65					
Tax Possessions	5,171.08					
2008 Motor Vehicle Excise	22,421.86					
2007 Motor Vehicle Excise	7,091.14					
2006 Motor Vehicle Excise	5,071.53					
2005 Motor Vehicle Excise	2,068.00					
Prior Year	0.00					
Total Motor Vehicle Excise	36,652.53					
Farm Animal Excise	543.25					

Sewer Charges				13,217.00	
Water Charges				22,570.00	
Water/Sewer Liens				13,983.00	
Due from Chapter 90			72,331.67		
To Be Provided-Long Term Debt					1,375,000.00
To Be Provided-Municipal Purpose Loan					365,284.50
TOTAL ASSETS				571,316.91	1,911,754.18
				4,873.35	1,740,284.50

Annual Report of the Town Accountant

Balance Sheet FY2008

<u>LIABILITIES</u>	General Fund	Special Revenues	Capital Projects	Enterprise	Trust & Agency	Long-Term Debt
Warrants Payable	100,090.44			6,621.64		
Accounts Payable	19,989.01					
Accrued Payroll	232,218.15					
Other Liabilities	5,100.77					
Payroll Withholdings	-5,738.65					
Def.Rev - Property & RE Tax	186,497.01					
Def.Rev - Tax Liens	43,450.65					
Def.Rev - Motor Vehicle Excise	36,652.53					
Def.Rev.- Tax Possession	5,171.08					
Def.Rev.- Farm Animal Excise	543.25					
Def.Rev. Sewer Charges				13,217.00		
Def.Rev. Water/Sewer Liens				13,983.00		
Def.Rev. Water Charges				22,570.00		
Bonds Payable - Fire Truck						36,000.00
Bonds Payable-Sewer						175,000.00
Bonds Payable-Solid Waste						60,000.00
Bonds Payable -Water Imp						796,000.00
Bonds Payable - Library						308,000.00
Municipal Purpose Loan						365,284.50
Police Detail					426.50	
Deputy Tax Collector					139.00	
Town Clerk's Fees					229.18	
Due to State - Fish/Wildlife					0.00	
Due to State - Firearms					-139.50	
Collector Fees					0.00	
TOTAL LIABILITIES	623,974.24	0.00	0.00	56,391.64	655.18	1,740,284.50

Annual Report of the Town Accountant

Balance Sheet FY2008

<u>FUND EQUITY</u>	General Fund	Special Revenues	Capital Projects	Enterprise	Trust & Agency	Long-Term Debt
Reserve for FY09	-			50,862.18		
Reserve for Encumbrances	-					
Undesignated Fund Balance	-			0.00		
Grant Account Balances		19,046.45				
School Grant Accounts		578,066.20				
Fund/Revolving Balances		129,239.60	4,873.35			
Stabilization					133,898.27	
Elder Trust Fund					14,420.66	
Unemployment Trust					7,672.74	
School Trust Funds					824,909.90	
Town Trust Funds					592,691.07	
Brassworks Funds					301,512.65	
Meekins Library Trust					26,928.43	
Seewald Technology Grant					9,065.28	
TOTAL FUND EQUITY	0.00	726,352.25	4,873.35	50,862.18	1,911,099.00	0.00
TOTAL LIAB & FUND EQUITY	623,974.24	726,352.25	4,873.35	107,253.82	1,911,754.18	1,740,284.50
	-643,398.28	0.00	0.00	-464,063.09	0.00	0.00

Annual Report of the Town Accountant

Budget vs Revenue Report FY2008

	<u>Account Name</u>	<u>2008 Budget</u>	<u>2008 YTD Revenues</u>	<u>Over/(Under)</u>
<u>Taxes</u>				
001-001-4110-000-000-0	Personal Property Taxes	46,127.68	46,980.24	-852.56
001-001-4120-000-000-0	Real Estate Taxes	4,076,497.32	4,144,987.27	-68,489.95
001-001-4142-000-000-0	Tax Liens Redeemed	0.00	0.00	0.00
001-001-4150-000-000-0	Motor Vehicle Excise	220,950.00	306,503.72	-85,553.72
001-001-4162-000-000-0	Farm Animal Tax	0.00	1,807.18	-1,807.18
001-001-4163-000-000-0	Forest Products Tax	4,127.00	0.00	4,127.00
001-001-4170-000-000-0	Pen & Int on Prop Taxes	25,000.00	46,566.74	-21,566.74
001-001-4171-000-000-0	Pen & Int on Excise Taxes	0.00	63.78	-63.78
001-001-4173-000-000-0	Pen & Int on Tax Titles	0.00	0.00	0.00
001-001-4180-000-000-0	Pmts In Lieu of Taxes	46,338.00	43,742.64	2,595.36
001-001-4195-000-000-0	Abated MV Taxes Recovered	0.00	0.00	0.00
	<u>Total Taxes</u>	<u>4,419,040.00</u>	<u>4,590,651.57</u>	<u>-171,611.57</u>
<u>Fees</u>				
001-122-4320-000-000-0	Fees-Selectboard	0.00	0.00	0.00
001-141-4320-000-000-0	Fees-Assessors	0.00	22.00	-22.00
001-145-4320-000-000-0	Fees-Treasurer	0.00	42.40	-42.40
001-146-4320-000-000-0	Fees-Collector	9,825.00	0.00	9,825.00
001-149-4320-000-000-0	Fees-Registry Markings	0.00	1,500.00	-1,500.00
001-161-4320-000-000-0	Fees-Town Clerk	0.00	619.70	-619.70
001-171-4320-000-000-0	Fees-Conservation Comm	0.00	0.00	0.00
001-175-4320-000-000-0	Fees-Planning Board	0.00	0.00	0.00
001-176-4320-000-000-0	Fees-Zoning Board	0.00	0.00	0.00
001-210-4320-000-000-0	Fees-Police	0.00	2,621.03	-2,621.03
001-220-4320-000-000-0	Fees-Fire Dept	0.00	1,655.00	-1,655.00
001-431-4320-000-000-0	Fees-Transfer Station Stickers	45,000.00	49,931.20	-4,931.20
001-433-4320-000-000-0	Fees-Transfer Station Bags	0.00	0.00	0.00
001-512-4320-000-000-0	Fees-Bd of Health	0.00	7,930.00	-7,930.00
	<u>Total Fees</u>	<u>54,825.00</u>	<u>64,321.33</u>	<u>-9,496.33</u>
<u>Rentals</u>				
001-001-4360-000-000-0	Rentals	0.00	0.00	0.00
	<u>Total Rentals</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
<u>Other Services</u>				
001-001-4380-000-000-0	Other Charges for Service	0.00	0.00	0.00
	<u>Total Other Services</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
<u>Licenses & Permits</u>				
001-122-4410-000-000-0	Licenses-Liquor	0.00	11,172.50	-11,172.50
001-122-4420-000-000-0	Licenses-Other	0.00	1,595.00	-1,595.00
001-210-4450-000-000-0	Permits-Police Dept	0.00	2,275.00	-2,275.00
001-241-4450-000-000-0	Permits-Building Insp	35,000.00	18,957.82	16,042.18
001-242-4450-000-000-0	Permits-Gas Inspection	0.00	1,180.00	-1,180.00
001-243-4450-000-000-0	Permits-Plumbing Insp	0.00	2,802.40	-2,802.40
001-245-4450-000-000-0	Permits-Electrical Insp	0.00	-35.00	35.00
	<u>Total Licenses & Permits</u>	<u>35,000.00</u>	<u>37,947.72</u>	<u>-2,947.72</u>

Annual Report of the Town Accountant
Budget vs Revenue Report FY2008

	<u>Account Name</u>	<u>2008 Budget</u>	<u>2008 YTD Revenues</u>	<u>Over/(Under)</u>
<u>State Revenue</u>				
001-001-4610-000-000-0	Reimb for Loss of Taxes	1,654.00	1,654.00	0.00
001-001-4613-000-000-0	Veterans Abatements	8,961.00	10,983.00	-2,022.00
001-001-4614-000-000-0	Surv Spouse Abatements	0.00	0.00	0.00
001-001-4616-000-000-0	Elderly Abatements	13,068.00	13,066.00	2.00
001-001-4620-000-000-0	School Aid Chapter 70	419,233.00	410,847.00	8,386.00
001-001-4621-000-000-0	School Transportation	0.00	20,061.00	-20,061.00
001-001-4622-000-000-0	School Construction	0.00	0.00	0.00
001-001-4661-000-000-0	Lottery Aid	376,807.00	376,807.00	0.00
001-001-4665-000-000-0	Veterans Benefits	1,920.00	11,195.00	-9,275.00
001-001-4680-000-000-0	Other State Revenue	0.00	270.00	-270.00
001-001-4681-000-000-0	Foundation Reserve	0.00	0.00	0.00
	<u>Total State Revenue</u>	<u>821,643.00</u>	<u>844,883.00</u>	<u>-23,240.00</u>
<u>Fines</u>				
001-001-4685-000-000-0	Fines - RMV	5,000.00	3,490.00	1,510.00
001-001-4771-000-000-0	Fines - District Court	0.00	1,210.00	-1,210.00
	<u>Total Fines</u>	<u>5,000.00</u>	<u>4,700.00</u>	<u>300.00</u>
<u>Other Revenue</u>				
001-001-4815-000-000-0	Sale of Fixed Assets	0.00	1,177.38	-1,177.38
001-001-4820-000-000-0	Earnings on Investments	30,000.00	46,496.29	-16,496.29
001-001-4839-000-000-0	Indirect Costs Reimbursed	0.00	9,230.88	-9,230.88
001-001-4840-000-000-0	Miscellaneous Revenue	5,000.00	15,371.04	-10,371.04
001-001-4971-000-000-0	Tr Fr Special Revenue	30,000.00	30,000.00	0.00
001-001-4973-000-000-0	Tr Fr Capital Projects	0.00	0.00	0.00
001-001-4974-000-000-0	Tr Fr Stabilization	21,700.00	21,700.00	0.00
	<u>Total Other Revenue</u>	<u>86,700.00</u>	<u>123,975.59</u>	<u>-37,275.59</u>
	<u>Total Revenue</u>	<u>5,422,208.00</u>	<u>5,666,479.21</u>	<u>-244,271.21</u>

Annual Report of the Town Accountant
Budget Expense Report FY2008

	<u>Original Budget</u>	<u>Budget Revisions</u>	<u>Total Budget</u>	<u>Year to Date Expenses</u>	<u>Balance Remaining</u>	<u>% Used</u>
001-114-5100-000-000-0 Moderator	270.00	0.00	270.00	0.00	270.00	0.00%
001-122-5100-000-000-0 Selectboard Salaries	7,543.00	0.00	7,543.00	7,543.00	0.00	100.00%
001-122-5400-000-000-0 Selectboard Expenses	3,000.00	0.00	3,000.00	2,588.24	411.76	86.27%
001-123-5100-000-000-0 Town Administrator	32,500.00	-12,490.40	20,009.60	20,009.60	0.00	100.00%
001-123-5110-000-000-0 Administrative Assistant	12,000.00	0.00	12,000.00	11,999.91	0.09	100.00%
001-130-5110-000-000-0 Capital Planning Labor	298.00	0.00	298.00	0.00	298.00	0.00%
001-130-5400-000-000-0 Capital Planning Expenses	125.00	0.00	125.00	60.00	65.00	48.00%
001-131-5100-000-000-0 Finance Committee Salaries	3,409.00	0.00	3,409.00	2,872.51	536.49	84.26%
001-131-5110-000-000-0 Finance Committee Chair	154.00	0.00	154.00	89.81	64.19	58.32%
001-131-5120-000-000-0 Finance Committee Secretary	800.00	0.00	800.00	269.02	530.98	33.63%
001-131-5400-000-000-0 Finance Committee Expenses	600.00	0.00	600.00	240.00	360.00	40.00%
001-132-5400-000-000-0 Reserve Fund	50,000.00	-49,642.91	357.09	0.00	357.09	0.00%
001-135-5110-000-000-0 Accountant Labor	24,728.00	0.00	24,728.00	24,728.00	0.00	100.00%
001-135-5400-000-000-0 Accountant Expenses	1,110.00	0.00	1,110.00	339.47	770.53	30.58%
001-135-5420-000-000-0 Accounting Software	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00	100.00%
001-135-5800-000-000-0 Audit Services	17,000.00	3,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	0.00	100.00%
001-141-5100-000-000-0 Assessor's Salaries	7,543.00	0.00	7,543.00	7,543.00	0.00	100.00%
001-141-5110-000-000-0 Assessor's Labor	6,822.00	0.00	6,822.00	5,827.19	994.81	85.42%
001-141-5400-000-000-0 Assessor's Expenses	2,942.00	0.00	2,942.00	1,856.94	1,085.06	63.12%
001-141-5410-000-000-0 Assessor's CAMA Fee	1,250.00	0.00	1,250.00	1,250.00	0.00	100.00%
001-142-5400-000-000-0 Assessor's Revaluation	4,000.00	0.00	4,000.00	1,760.00	2,240.00	44.00%
001-145-5100-000-000-0 Treasurer's Salary	16,974.00	0.00	16,974.00	16,974.00	0.00	100.00%
001-145-5120-000-000-0 Treasurer's Assistant	2,774.00	0.00	2,774.00	2,310.00	464.00	83.27%
001-145-5400-000-000-0 Treasurer's Expenses	4,600.00	0.00	4,600.00	2,773.52	1,826.48	60.29%
001-145-5420-000-000-0 Treasurer's Software	1,580.00	0.00	1,580.00	1,580.00	0.00	100.00%
001-146-5100-000-000-0 Collector's Salary	24,728.00	0.00	24,728.00	24,728.00	0.00	100.00%
001-146-5400-000-000-0 Collector's Expenses	9,630.00	0.00	9,630.00	9,225.25	404.75	95.80%
001-149-5100-000-000-0 Oliver Smith Trustee	27.00	0.00	27.00	0.00	27.00	0.00%

Annual Report of the Town Accountant
Budget Expense Report FY2008

001-151-5400-000-000-0	Town Counsel	17,000.00	8,000.00	25,000.00	24,350.34	649.66	97.40%
001-159-5400-000-000-0	Advertising Expenses	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	815.49	184.51	81.55%
001-160-5100-000-000-0	Constable-Salary	270.00	0.00	270.00	270.00	0.00	100.00%
001-160-5400-000-000-0	Constable-Elections	200.00	0.00	200.00	200.00	0.00	100.00%
001-161-5100-000-000-0	Clerk's Salary	12,063.00	0.00	12,063.00	11,964.10	98.90	99.18%
001-161-5120-000-000-0	Clerk's Assistant	5,337.00	-1,606.07	3,730.93	2,720.71	1,010.22	72.92%
001-161-5400-000-000-0	Clerk's Expenses	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	661.82	338.18	66.18%
001-161-5420-000-000-0	Clerk's Software	500.00	0.00	500.00	500.00	0.00	100.00%
001-162-5400-000-000-0	Registrar/Election Expenses	6,570.00	0.00	6,570.00	5,811.45	758.55	88.45%
001-164-5400-000-000-0	Street Listing	960.00	0.00	960.00	960.00	0.00	100.00%
001-171-5110-000-000-0	Conservation Comm Labor	270.00	0.00	270.00	152.95	117.05	56.65%
001-171-5400-000-000-0	Conservation Comm Expenses	3,100.00	0.00	3,100.00	1,211.25	1,888.75	39.07%
001-175-5400-000-000-0	Planning Board	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00	177.60	1,322.40	11.84%
001-176-5400-000-000-0	Zoning Bd of Appeals Expenses	500.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	500.00	0.00%
001-192-5120-000-000-0	Custodian Labor	9,407.00	0.00	9,407.00	8,336.99	1,070.01	88.63%
001-192-5400-000-000-0	Town Bldgs & Grounds	33,000.00	8,288.28	41,288.28	40,368.87	919.41	97.77%
001-192-5410-000-000-0	Town Office Expense	4,000.00	0.00	4,000.00	3,575.06	424.94	89.38%
001-192-5420-000-000-0	Town Office Telephone	6,300.00	0.00	6,300.00	6,024.36	275.64	95.62%
001-192-5430-000-000-0	Town Office Internet Services	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00	1,843.33	156.67	92.17%
001-192-5440-000-000-0	Copier Maintenance	4,700.00	-2,194.20	2,505.80	1,943.99	561.81	77.58%
001-192-5800-000-000-0	Technology Upgrade	4,000.00	0.00	4,000.00	3,112.20	887.80	77.81%
001-192-5810-000-000-0	Repair Boiler/Heating System	4,000.00	0.00	4,000.00	0.00	4,000.00	0.00%
001-192-5820-000-000-0	Painting/Siding Town Office	15,000.00	0.00	15,000.00	0.00	15,000.00	0.00%
001-193-5400-000-000-0	Comprehensive Insurance	55,267.00	-9,234.78	46,032.22	46,032.22	0.00	100.00%
001-195-5400-000-000-0	Town Reports	2,250.00	0.00	2,250.00	1,760.00	490.00	78.22%
001-199-5400-000-000-0	First Call for Help	260.00	0.00	260.00	0.00	260.00	0.00%
001-210-5110-000-000-0	Police Chief Salary	18,500.00	0.00	18,500.00	18,500.00	0.00	100.00%
001-210-5120-000-000-0	Police Dept Labor	112,879.00	7,811.24	120,690.24	120,512.83	177.41	99.85%
001-210-5400-000-000-0	Police Dept Expenses	35,000.00	-5,670.79	29,329.21	29,263.03	66.18	99.77%
001-210-5410-000-000-0	Police Records Software	5,500.00	-3,100.45	2,399.55	2,399.55	0.00	100.00%
001-210-5800-000-000-0	Heating Upgrade Police/Fire	0.00	7,500.00	7,500.00	6,849.50	650.50	91.33%

Annual Report of the Town Accountant
Budget Expense Report FY2008

001-220-5110-000-000-0	Fire Dept Salaries	18,500.00	0.00	18,500.00	18,500.00	0.00	100.00%
001-220-5120-000-000-0	Fire Dept Labor	23,750.00	14,597.08	38,347.08	38,322.58	24.50	99.94%
001-220-5400-000-000-0	Fire Dept Expenses	25,000.00	-3,680.00	21,320.00	20,041.06	1,278.94	94.00%
001-231-5400-000-000-0	Ambulance Service	27,653.00	0.00	27,653.00	27,653.00	0.00	100.00%
001-232-5110-000-000-0	Emer Management Dir Salary	325.00	0.00	325.00	325.00	0.00	100.00%
001-249-5100-000-000-0	Parking Clerk Labor	270.00	0.00	270.00	270.00	0.00	100.00%
001-294-5400-000-000-0	Shade Tree Committee Expenses	3,500.00	0.00	3,500.00	3,189.74	310.26	91.14%
001-294-5410-000-000-0	Tree Removal/Planting	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00	0.00%
001-300-5100-000-000-0	School Committee Salaries	1,352.00	0.00	1,352.00	1,352.00	0.00	100.00%
001-300-5400-000-000-0	Local School Expenses	1,466,975.00	0.00	1,466,975.00	1,463,586.66	3,388.34	99.77%
001-300-5800-000-000-0	Dunphy Upgrades	8,500.00	0.00	8,500.00	8,500.00	0.00	100.00%
001-300-5810-000-000-0	Dunphy Fire Protection	13,200.00	0.00	13,200.00	13,200.00	0.00	100.00%
001-310-5400-000-000-0	Hampshire Reg School Assessmen	1,362,321.00	29,900.00	1,392,221.00	1,387,503.00	4,718.00	99.66%
001-310-5800-000-000-0	Hampshire Reg Capital Assessme	99,868.00	0.00	99,868.00	97,033.00	2,835.00	97.16%
001-320-5400-000-000-0	Vocational School Assessment	236,793.00	0.00	236,793.00	213,826.93	22,966.07	90.30%
001-422-5110-000-000-0	Highway Labor	150,711.00	0.00	150,711.00	148,884.53	1,826.47	98.79%
001-422-5400-000-000-0	Highway Road Maintenance	72,000.00	-3,605.00	68,395.00	68,251.44	143.56	99.79%
001-422-5410-000-000-0	Highway Garage/Equip Maintenan	36,625.00	0.00	36,625.00	35,371.33	1,253.67	96.58%
001-422-5800-000-000-0	Highway Surplus Equipment	2,000.00	-2,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
001-422-5420-000-000-0	Vehicle Fuel	100.00	29,607.36	29,707.36	29,707.36	0.00	0.00%
001-422-5810-000-000-0	Cement Sidewalk Construction	5,500.00	0.00	5,500.00	4,513.97	986.03	0.00%
001-422-5820-000-000-0	Highway Building Addition	0.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	2,000.00	3,000.00	0.00%
001-423-5110-000-000-0	Winter Overtime	9,708.00	0.00	9,708.00	9,691.61	16.39	99.83%
001-423-5400-000-000-0	Winter Expenses	63,876.00	29,035.98	92,911.98	92,911.98	0.00	100.00%
001-424-5400-000-000-0	Street Lighting	10,300.00	1,000.00	11,300.00	10,446.16	853.84	92.44%
001-433-5110-000-000-0	Transfer Station Labor	18,356.00	0.00	18,356.00	18,049.92	306.08	98.33%
001-433-5400-000-000-0	Transfer Station Expenses	72,300.00	-5,000.00	67,300.00	67,300.00	0.00	100.00%
001-491-5400-000-000-0	Cemetery Expense	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	150.00	850.00	15.00%
001-510-5400-000-000-0	Animal Inspector	1,648.00	0.00	1,648.00	1,550.00	98.00	94.05%
001-512-5100-000-000-0	Bd of Health Salaries	3,328.00	0.00	3,328.00	3,324.00	4.00	99.88%
001-512-5400-000-000-0	Bd of Health Expenses	300.00	0.00	300.00	52.79	247.21	17.60%
001-512-5410-000-000-0	Public Health Nurse	2,274.00	0.00	2,274.00	2,274.00	0.00	100.00%

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001-541-5110-000-000-0	COA Director	10,539.00	0.00	10,539.00	10,539.00	0.00	100.00%
001-541-5120-000-000-0	COA Office Assistant	14,638.00	0.00	14,638.00	14,638.00	0.00	100.00%
001-541-5130-000-000-0	COA Meal Site Staffing	2,501.00	0.00	2,501.00	2,500.50	0.50	99.98%
001-541-5400-000-000-0	COA Expenses	2,800.00	0.00	2,800.00	2,795.33	4.67	99.83%
001-541-5410-000-000-0	COA HEN Program	4,000.00	0.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	0.00	100.00%
001-543-5110-000-000-0	Veterans Agent	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	0.00	100.00%
001-543-5400-000-000-0	Veterans Agent Expenses	400.00	0.00	400.00	243.24	156.76	60.81%
001-543-5410-000-000-0	Veterans Benefits	4,675.00	7,507.50	12,182.50	12,182.50	0.00	100.00%
001-549-5400-000-000-0	Amer With Disabilities Expense	400.00	0.00	400.00	0.00	400.00	0.00%
001-610-5110-000-000-0	Library Labor	65,508.00	0.00	65,508.00	65,506.11	1.89	100.00%
001-610-5400-000-210-0	Library Exp-Utilities	12,120.00	2,437.88	14,557.88	14,557.88	0.00	100.00%
001-610-5400-000-240-0	Library Exp-Maintenance	8,955.00	147.00	9,102.00	9,093.88	8.12	99.91%
001-610-5400-000-850-0	Library Exp-Books & Supplies	13,399.00	0.00	13,399.00	13,399.00	0.00	100.00%
001-630-5110-000-000-0	Recreation Labor	4,437.00	0.00	4,437.00	4,435.18	1.82	99.96%
001-630-5400-000-000-0	Athletic Fields	4,000.00	0.00	4,000.00	3,662.92	337.08	91.57%
001-691-5400-000-000-0	Historical Commission	500.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	500.00	0.00%
001-699-5400-000-000-0	Veterans Recognition	400.00	0.00	400.00	30.00	370.00	0.00%
001-710-5920-000-000-0	Principal-Capping Wood Waste	20,000.00	0.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	0.00	100.00%
001-710-5930-000-000-0	Principal-Fire Truck	19,000.00	0.00	19,000.00	19,000.00	0.00	100.00%
001-710-5935-000-000-0	Principal- Fire Truck #2	23,500.00	0.00	23,500.00	23,500.00	0.00	100.00%
001-710-5950-000-000-0	Principal-Library	42,000.00	0.00	42,000.00	42,000.00	0.00	100.00%
001-710-5980-000-000-0	Principal-Highway Truck	17,000.00	0.00	17,000.00	17,000.00	0.00	100.00%
001-710-5985-000-000-0	Principal-Highway Loader	20,000.00	0.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	0.00	100.00%
001-710-5990-000-000-0	Principal-Police/Fire Roof	10,000.00	0.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	0.00	100.00%
001-710-5995-000-000-0	Principal-Police 4 x 4	15,000.00	0.00	15,000.00	15,000.00	0.00	100.00%
001-751-5920-000-000-0	Interest-Capping Wood Waste	2,750.00	0.00	2,750.00	2,750.00	0.00	100.00%
001-751-5930-000-000-0	Interest-Fire Truck	1,785.00	0.00	1,785.00	1,785.00	0.00	100.00%
001-751-5935-000-000-0	Interest-Fire Truck #2	9,588.00	0.00	9,588.00	9,588.00	0.00	100.00%
001-751-5950-000-000-0	Interest-Library	13,075.00	0.00	13,075.00	13,075.00	0.00	100.00%
001-751-5980-000-000-0	Interest-Highway Truck	1,439.00	0.00	1,439.00	1,439.00	0.00	100.00%
001-751-5985-000-000-0	Interest-Highway Loader	3,979.00	0.00	3,979.00	3,977.68	1.32	99.97%
001-751-5990-000-000-0	Interest-Police/Fire Roof	816.00	0.00	816.00	816.00	0.00	100.00%
001-751-5995-000-000-0	Interest-Police 4 x 4	1,213.00	0.00	1,213.00	1,213.00	0.00	100.00%
001-820-5640-000-000-0	Air Pollution District	604.00	0.00	604.00	604.00	0.00	100.00%
001-820-5646-000-000-0	RMV Marking Surchg	960.00	0.00	960.00	1,120.00	-160.00	116.67%
001-820-5663-000-000-0	Reg Transit Authority	26,022.00	0.00	26,022.00	21,981.00	4,041.00	84.47%
001-820-5691-000-000-0	School Choice Assessment	116,254.00	0.00	116,254.00	167,820.00	-51,566.00	144.36%

Annual Report of the Town Accountant
Budget Expense Report FY2008

001-830-5622-000-000-0	HCOG Assessment	3,338.00	0.00	3,338.00	3,337.52	0.48	99.99%
001-830-5640-000-000-0	Hamp County Regional Lockup	2,239.00	0.00	2,239.00	2,239.00	0.00	100.00%
001-840-5400-000-000-0	Hilltown Resource Management	8,658.00	0.00	8,658.00	8,657.75	0.25	100.00%
001-840-5410-000-000-0	Foothills Health District	21,740.00	0.00	21,740.00	18,790.17	2,949.83	86.43%
001-840-5420-000-000-0	Building Inspec Program	23,196.00	0.00	23,196.00	23,196.00	0.00	100.00%
001-911-5400-000-000-0	Franklin County Retirement	108,986.00	0.00	108,986.00	108,986.00	0.00	100.00%
001-912-5400-000-000-0	Worker's Compensation	17,121.00	0.00	17,121.00	13,023.39	4,097.61	76.07%
001-913-5400-000-000-0	Unemployment Insurance	5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	0.00	100.00%
001-914-5400-000-000-0	Group Insurance	370,000.00	-13,207.72	356,792.28	346,497.74	10,294.54	97.11%
001-916-5400-000-000-0	Medicare & Social Security Exp	27,000.00	0.00	27,000.00	26,799.95	200.05	99.26%
Totals		5,422,308.00	42,400.00	5,464,708.00	5,403,946.90	60,761.10	98.89%

Annual Report of the Town Administrator

This year, for the first time in its history, Williamsburg employed a Town Administrator, funding this new position at 80% of full-time. It has been my honor and privilege to work with the many talented individuals who serve our Town as volunteers, in elected and appointed positions, and as staff. During this first year, we have worked together to understand and better define the roles and responsibilities of the Williamsburg Town Administrator position.

Primary goals for the first year of this position, and highlights of work accomplished in these areas, were:

I. Improve communications within Town government and with Town residents

- ✓ developed good working relationships with the heads of each department and got to know their staffs as well; my door has always been open for residents to just drop by, and many of you have used it
- ✓ coordinated “All Boards” meetings at which representatives of each Town department, board and committee come together to discuss specific issues and to share information
- ✓ revived, produced, and circulated the Williamsburg Town newsletter to increase the flow of information to residents
- ✓ worked in concert with the Town Technology Committee to modernize the Channel 15 cable access station and began a complete overhaul of the Town’s website to make it a far more useful tool for residents, including: Board and Committee meeting calendar, agendas and minutes, electronic versions of the newsletter, Town planning and zoning documents, permit applications, and, of course, current and back issues of the Annual Town Report

II. Manage special projects and shepherd long-term plans

- ✓ procured and oversaw painting of the Town Offices Building
- ✓ participated in discussions about regionalizing services
- ✓ acted as liaison to Mass Highway for the rebuilding of the Skinnerville Bridge and a traffic study for the center of Williamsburg
- ✓ coordinated acceptance of a new town road
- ✓ prepared the Town’s Commonwealth Capital Application
- ✓ helped establish long-range goals for the Select board

III. Increase the Town’s capacity to bring in outside resources to benefit Williamsburg

- ✓ submitted grant applications resulting in funding for energy audits for key town buildings
- ✓ successfully applied for two MIIA grants, one for fire equipment and one for police video equipment
- ✓ successfully applied for a homeland security grant for a radio repeater to ensure better communications for public safety personnel

IV. *Establish more efficient management systems, particularly in the areas of procurement, purchasing and personnel*

- ✓ ensured proper procurement procedures for highway, police, the new police department furnace, and other purchases, both small and large
- ✓ established Town procedures for disposing of surplus property
- ✓ revised procedures for the Capital Planning Committee
- ✓ established new system to track employee vacation, sick and personal time
- ✓ established new system to track Town vehicle fuel use
- ✓ revised Town personnel policies
- ✓ processed worker's compensation claims and helped resolve various personnel matters
- ✓ prepared audit response; developed Financial Management Review Checklist
- ✓ worked with the Select Board to streamline and prioritize its workload, including annotated agendas for meetings
- ✓ supported new Town Committees: the Building Needs Study Committee, the Energy Committee, and the Technology Committee

Annual Report of the Agricultural Commission

The Agricultural Commission is a relatively new commission in Williamsburg, which was formed in response to the perceived threat to our rural lifestyle and the ability to maintain an agriculturally based way of life in the face of increased population pressure. The members wanted to get in place a town by-law affirming the Right-to-Farm we have based on the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. We met monthly for about 18 months to prepare the by-law and submit it for presentation at the Town Meeting on June 2, 2008. We also spent time on outreach and education about the by-law so that when people saw it on the ballot they would know what it meant. The by-law was passed. We are continuing to meet to discuss how we can further help the agricultural community. We welcome suggestions for the use of our time. Our meetings are open to the public and the schedule is available at the Town Clerk's office.

Jacqueline Dufresne
Chairperson
Williamsburg Agricultural Commission

Annual Report of the Angel Park Committee

In the spring of 2008, work resumed on "Quiet Reflections Garden."

We planted additional shrubs, trees and perennials to fill the beds surrounding the park, and we completed the irrigation system so it could be properly winterized. In pressure testing the system, it was discovered that a leak in one of the main pipes will need to be repaired this spring and will be done prior to turning the system on for the summer watering season. A small leak in the main water valve bleed cap was discovered and reported to the Historical Society. A new cap and Teflon tape will be placed next spring to correct the problem.

1. A new bench was installed under the flowering crab apple tree to provide a shaded sitting area.
2. A granite paving band was installed at the park entrance walk in anticipation of being engraved to mark the Park Name (Quiet Reflections Garden) and the date of Completion (2008).
3. Drip irrigation pipes were placed in the flower beds prior to completion of the perennial plantings on the west and north edges of the Park (see above).
4. Additional engraved bricks were installed and defective light bulbs were replaced.

On Sunday, June 1st, 150 people gathered for the dedication ceremony. The Rev. Josh Davis of the Williamsburg Congregational Church gave the blessing. Nick Dines spoke and thanked everyone who helped transform the area from the site of the highway garage to a place to come and reflect. The Rev. Dariusz Wudarski of Our Lady of the Hills blessed the park. Henry and Marion Warner handed out angel candles.

The snow was kept cleared for winter visitors.

Angel Park work scheduled for 2009:

1. Install additional bench on the upper terrace adjacent to the planted berm.
2. Repair irrigation main feed line.
3. Add additional perennial plantings and plant spring bulbs during the fall.
4. Renew the mulch in the planting beds.
5. Feed all plantings with organic fertilizer and add lime and fertilizer to the lawns.
6. Install granite block edging to complete the south planting bed edge to facilitate mowing and cut down on labor required to trim turf back during the season.

Resources for Town Parks and Gardens ongoing care:

The "Williamsburg Parks and Gardens Beautification Fund" receives funds from local businesses in exchange for annual upkeep of the Route 9 flower gardens, and from the redemption of bottles and cans collected at the Transfer Station. This money is used to pay for ongoing seasonal lawn

care activities, irrigation winterization, new and replacement plant purchases, and partial payment of irrigation water usage associated with the Walk of Flowers, Market Square, the Veterans' Park, and Quiet Reflections Garden (Angel Park). \$1,000.00 of this has been given to the Veterans' Memorial Fund for the future engraving of names. Donations may be made to: Williamsburg Beautification Fund, c/o Mr. Doug Baker at the Florence Savings Bank. This is a non-profit organization.

Labor for garden maintenance is donated by Nicholas Dines and the Williamsburg Dead-Head Society.

"Quiet Reflections Garden" is a labor of love by many which will serve as a lasting tribute to memorialize loved ones for years to come.

Once again a "thank you" goes to everyone who has made this a reality.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Baldwin
Henry Warner
Co-chairs

Annual Report of the Board of Assessors

During Fiscal Year 2008 all property values were adjusted to bring them into the range of 90% to 110% of market value. Sales from calendar years 2005 and 2006 were used for the comparison, as required by the guidelines presented by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue. The values were presented to and certified by the state. The tax rate for Fiscal Year 2008 was increased from \$13.00 per \$1,000 valuation to \$13.52 per \$1,000 valuation.

Our plan to make a transition to electronic mapping has been put on hold, because of the cost. Given the current fiscal climate, the Board does not feel justified in proceeding on this project at this time.

Any resident with questions is urged to get in touch with the Board of Assessors by telephone (268-8403) or in person at our meetings, which are from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday evenings.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise L. Banister, Chair

Brassworks ReUse Committee

The Brassworks ReUse Committee continued to meet on the second Tuesday of each month in 2008, at 5:00 p.m. in the Town Offices. The membership of the committee stayed the same as the past year:

Martin Mahoney as the designee of the Planning Board
Peter Mahieu as the designee of the Finance Committee
Jeffrey Ciuffreda as the designee of the Board of Selectmen

The only outstanding loan for this period was that of the Hilltown Community Development Corporation for the loan given to it years ago to help save and rehabilitate affordable housing units in Haydenville. This loan continues to be current.

Since there were no small business loan requests, although several application forms had been requested, many of the meetings included discussions on what the proper amount would be to leave in this small business loan fund and whether any of the money could be proposed to be voted into the stabilization account. No resolution had been reached by year end.

Additionally, due to an audit concern about how some of the trust funds were set up, specifically the recreation accounts, work was begun to address those concerns. The Town Accountant was also involved, as was the State Department of Revenue's local services department. The intention was to preserve these funds for the original and voted-upon purpose, while also addressing how the accounts were structured. No resolution had been reached on these matters by year end.

These issues will continue to be addressed with the hope of preserving these funds as intended for as long as there is a perceived need.



CHESTERFIELD

GOSHEN

HUNTINGTON

MIDDLEFIELD

WILLIAMSBURG

HAMPSHIRE INSPECTION PROGRAM
P.O. BOX 175 - 422 MAIN ROAD
CHESTERFIELD, MA 01012

Paul F. Tacy, Building Commissioner
Phone: (413) 296-0127
Fax: (413) 296-0147

Annual Report of the Hampshire Inspection Program

Three hundred and thirty-six building permits were issued throughout the member towns of the Hampshire Inspection Program in 2008. Of these, 13 permits were for new homes. The severe economic downturn in the second half of 2008 put a definite halt to construction of new homes, yet more permits were issued this year than last, mostly due to small renovation projects, repairs and wood stove installations.

The breakdown of permit activity for the five member towns is as follows:

<u>Town</u>	<u>Total permits</u>	<u>New homes</u>	<u>Total permit fees collected</u>
Chesterfield	78	3	\$ 8,496.17
Goshen	47	2	\$ 6,498.89
Huntington	83	4	\$ 9,855.17
Middlefield	21	0	\$16,446.48
Williamsburg	106	4	\$13,301.60

While permit activity has increased somewhat compared to last year, and I have been at least as busy as in previous years, most towns have seen a decrease in fees collected. This is due to the small minimum fee collected for smaller projects.

This year saw the ushering in of a new State Building Code, the seventh edition. Many changes appear in the new code, and I have had to attend many training sessions to keep current. The code is a living document, and even since its introduction many amendments have been made. This is certain to prove confusing to contractors. It certainly is a challenge for building officials.

An unprecedented number of permits have been issued for wood and pellet stove installations in the past few months. Please keep in mind that the installation of wood stoves, coal stoves, pellet stoves and outdoor wood boilers requires a building permit. These are inherently dangerous appliances, and must be installed correctly in order to be safe. The permit fee is only \$30.00, and the required inspection only takes minutes. Many homes are lost or severely damaged every year due to unsafe wood stoves. Play it safe! It's easy to get the permit, it's cheap, and it's the law! If you've already installed a stove, and weren't aware of the permit requirement, please call. An inspection can be arranged quickly.

Tara Ussailis has been on the job as my administrative assistant for almost eight years now, and again I thank her for her contributions. Despite our subsistence budget and lack of normal office amenities, she manages to keep everything in order, keep me on schedule, and keep smiling. I'd be lost without her. She's in the office rain or shine Monday through Wednesday 8:45 – 12:30.

Our office is located at the Davenport School Building, 422 Main Road in Chesterfield, and is open Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings to serve residents of all member towns. Office hours are also held Wednesday evenings at 7:30 in the Huntington Town Offices. Residents may phone anytime at (413) 296-0127. Permit applications are available at our Chesterfield office, Williamsburg Town Clerk's office, Huntington town offices, and Goshen town offices.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Tacy
Building Commissioner

Year	Total Permits	Houses	Total Fees	Hours
2008	106	4	\$ 13,301.60	496.50
2007	106	19	\$ 24,497.72	196.80
2006	123	13	\$ 38,698.86	514.15
2005	119	11	\$ 19,120.66	410.38

Annual Report of the Building Needs Committee

In October of 2008, the Select Board established the Building Needs Committee to evaluate the land and building assets to determine the town's short term and long term building space needs and to make recommendations on fulfilling those needs. The Building Needs Committee has met five times since its establishment in 2008. The committee anticipates completing the assessment and report on town assets by the fall of 2009. Currently the committee is surveying users of town properties about their needs, collecting data on assets and documenting town buildings and properties. Once all data is collected and processed, the committee will begin doing the evaluation and proposing recommendations.

Respectfully submitted,

Andy Soles, Chairman

Steve Smith, Clerk

Jim Locke

John Pohanka

Bill Sayre

Andrew Webster

Annual Report of the Capital Planning Committee

The charge of the Capital Planning Committee is to help the town plan for anticipated capital expenditures and their financing. The Committee is to be composed of six members: three at-large members appointed by the Board of Selectmen, two members of the Finance Committee, appointed by the Finance Committee, and the Town Treasurer, serving as an ex-officio member.

The current members are Robert Buchele, Gordon Allen, William Sayre, George Mathers, and Peter Mahieu. We have one vacancy.

Each year the committee solicits capital expenditure requests for the next fiscal year and anticipated requests for the next five years from all town departments. (Capital expenditures include all equipment or projects that cost at least \$10,000 and have a useful life of at least five years.) It then compiles and prioritizes these requests and forwards them to the Finance Committee along with its funding recommendations.

The Committee forwarded the following capital expenditure and debt service projections for the Town of Williamsburg to the Finance Committee in May 2008 (see FY2009 spreadsheet on the next page).

William Sayre
Chairman

Annual Report of the Town Collector for FY2008

The following lists represent amounts that remain outstanding as of the end of the fiscal year, June 30th.

Real Estate Taxes	Year	Balance outstanding 06/30/2007	Balance outstanding 06/30/2008
	2008	\$ -	\$ 97,198.75
	2007	176,212.34	43,254.30
	2006	57,270.97	31,377.43
	2005	31,185.72	12,869.71
	2004	11,011.53	8,106.53
	2003	10,733.18	3,792.62
	2002	4,281.27	0.00
	2001	495.68	0.00
Totals		\$ 291,190.69	\$ 196,599.34

Personal Property Taxes			
	2008	\$ -	\$ 1,443.07
	2007	1325.08	293.56
	2006	1082.18	303.04
	2005	1510.67	1279.95
	2004	368.92	368.92
	Prior Yrs	5433.00	0.00
Totals		\$ 9,719.85	\$ 3,688.54

Motor Vehicle			
	2008	\$ -	\$ 22,422.38
	2007	51205.30	6260.57
	2006	7099.24	5094.74
	2005	2715.56	2067.54
	2004	2736.66	0.00
	Prior Yrs	20582.70	0.00
Totals		\$ 84,339.46	\$ 35,845.23

Water and Sewer Usage			
	Water	\$ 64,577.12	\$ 22,570.36
	Sewer	36588.30	13217.50
	Liens	0.00	13432.24
Totals		\$ 101,165.42	\$ 49,220.10

	\$ 486,415.42	\$ 285,353.21
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The following list represents other money and fees collected.

	FY2007	FY2008
Water Connection Fees	\$ 2,100.00	\$ 2,040.00
Sewer Connection Fees	19,560.00	35,590.00
Cross Connection Insp Fees	0.00	2,200.00
Brassworks Loan Payments	3,635.88	3,332.89
Building Inspector	23,893.91	20,799.22
Electrical Inspector	4,520.00	5,080.00
Fire Inspector	3,090.00	2,580.00
Gas Inspector	1,215.00	3,275.00
Board of Health	83,386.00	39,115.20
Planning Board	250.00	350.00
Plumbing Inspector	3,886.00	2,716.00
Parking Clerk	50.00	375.00
Registry Mark Fees	880.00	1,520.00
Farm & Machinery Excise	2,005.58	2,024.43
PILOT	0.00	43,742.64
Appeals Board	0.00	509.20
Totals	\$ 148,472.37	\$ 165,249.58

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie Roberge
Collector

Annual Report of the Conservation Commission

Members of the Williamsburg Conservation Commission are Rob Stinson, Chairperson, Wilbur Loomis, Gordon Luce, Phil Skwira, Jim Wilson, and Tom Hodgkins, alternate.

In 2008 the Commission approved the following:

- 14 Requests for Determination
- 0 Notices of Intent
- 2 Emergency Certificates
- 0 Certificates of Compliance

The Commission's responsibility is to protect resource areas, which include rivers, perennial streams, and a 200-foot zone extending from the rivers' mean annual high water line. Also protected are wetlands and a 100-foot extension from their boundaries. Work in these areas requires notifying the Commission.

The Conservation Commission meets the second and fourth Thursdays of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Offices. Further information can be provided or questions can be answered by the Commission or the secretary, Jackie Lawton, whose office hours are 9-11 every Wednesday. A message may also be left at 413-268-8416.

Respectfully submitted,

Williamsburg Conservation Commission

Annual Report of the Williamsburg Council on Aging

By the end of 2008 the number of town residents age sixty and over increased to 572, due primarily to aging Baby Boomers. That is an increase of 70 from just two years ago. The increased numbers meant an increased need for services. Many more people received assistance with such things as: fuel assistance applications, food stamp applications, information and referral services, transportation, tax preparation, health insurance counseling, Brown Bag, congregate meals, health screenings, assistive equipment loans, reports of elder abuse and neglect, outreach services, and more. Also, there were social and educational activities like: cards and games, picnics, parties, classes, and guest speakers. There was also some great entertainment including: Horse Mountain Jazz Band, The Dump Ladies, and the Dunphy School Chorus.

In addition to paid staff, many volunteers helped to provide services and organize activities. Almost exclusively volunteers provided rides to medical appointments and errands. Volunteers also assist with office work, groups and activities. Without the help of our very dedicated volunteers we would be unable to provide anywhere near the amount of services people received here at the COA.

Other agencies made use of the Williamsburg COA as a way to reach elders, not only here in town, but in other hilltowns as well. Highland Valley Elder Services distributed Meals on Wheels to hilltown drivers here in Haydenville. Also, the Food Bank brought its Brown Bags here for distribution to hilltown COAs. Steven Connor, the Northampton Director of Veterans' Services, came here monthly to meet with veterans, spouses of veterans, and other relatives of veterans from Williamsburg and surrounding towns. Kerstin Liander, a SHINE (Serving Health Insurance Needs of Elders) counselor, met regularly with elders needing information about such things as: Medicare, Prescription Advantage, insurance claim forms, long-term care insurance, and more. Kate Davidheiser, an AARP volunteer and Haydenville resident, had 64 appointments to provide help with tax preparation, a number that was higher than past years due, in part, to the economic stimulus. The HOPE (Hilltown Outreach Program for Elders) nurse, Mary Kane, from Hilltown Community Health Centers, came here monthly to provide blood pressure screenings. The COA also arranged for speakers from other agencies to speak on various issues and services. There were speakers from Hospice of Western Massachusetts, SHINE, Highland Valley Elder Services, RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteer Program), the Williamsburg Visiting Nurses Association, and more.

Activities held weekly included: line dancing, quilting, tai chi, writing, cards, and computer classes. The quilting class raffled off a quilt to raise money for supplies. They also made lap quilts during the month of February and donated them to the Veterans' Hospital in Leeds. A couple of members of the writing group had books published and did readings at the Meekins Library.

A training organized by the Williamsburg Council on Aging and the Hilltown Consortium of Councils on Aging was held at the Chesterfield Senior Center in May. The training, entitled *Loss of Balance: Rehab Options and Fall Prevention*, was attended by about 50 people and was

very well received. It was so well received that people working on the state level of elder services in Boston heard about how much people liked it.

The Williamsburg COA held some of its programming at Nash Hill Place, a residence for elders and people with disabilities of any age. Some of the activities held in 2008 included: massages, a picnic, musical entertainment, folk dancing, brunches, games, osteoporosis exercise classes, parties, Iris scans, a seminar entitled *Pain After Shingles*, and more. As a result of its programming at Nash Hill Place, the COA became aware of just how much of a problem the lack of an elevator there is, with very long waits for applicants needing first floor apartments. As a result, the COA advocated for an elevator at Nash Hill Place to be included in the town's community development strategy. The Hilltown Community Development Corporation began working with Realty Resources, the management of Nash Hill Place, to get the needed funding for an elevator. It may take a couple of years to become a reality but, at least, it is now an established goal. While some events at Nash Hill Place are "for residents only" many activities held there were attended by people from town.

About 75 elders received flu shots at the Elder Health and Safety Fair and at a subsequent flu shot clinic, despite inclement weather. Many agencies and businesses specializing in health and/or safety were represented at the event.

The COA's quarterly newsletter, *Mature Matters*, was supported primarily by advertisements from local businesses. Advertisers in 2008 included: Jennifer Snyder, Megan Hudson D.C., Charles Baldwin, Steenburgh Associates, Steve Snow Real Estate, Williamsburg Market, Florence Savings Bank, and Marianna Frantz. For rates and other information about advertising in the newsletter contact 268-8410.

In addition to funding from the town, the COA received funding from the Williamsburg Cultural Council, Highland Valley Elder Services, Executive Office of Elder Affairs, National Council on Aging, Williamsburg Elder Trust Fund, Hilltown Consortium of Councils on Aging, and PVTa. The Council has also received donations from individuals and businesses, both cash and in-kind.

To find out more about COA services and activities or to volunteer your services, feel free to call 268-8407 or e-mail us at coa@burgy.org.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Wheelan
Executive Director

Annual Report of Employee Earnings

<u>last name</u>	<u>first name</u>	<u>mid name</u>	<u>job title</u>	<u>total</u>
ADAMS	CATHLEEN W.		Substitute School	90.00
ALLEN	GORDON F.		Finance Committee	468.59
ANDREWS	RANDY	K	CUSTODIAN	30121.67
AVAKIAN	AMY	E.	SCHOOL NURSE	9814.58
BAKER	BETTINA		Clerical	35665.62
BANISTER	DANIEL		Firefighter	229.34
BANISTER	DENISE		Assessor	6940.17
BANISTER	PETER B.		FIRE FIGHTER	469.77
BANISTER	PETER B.		Highway	41942.41
BEATTIE	MICHAEL		Finance Committee	270.40
BEAUPRE	GRETCHEN	K.	SCHOOL SUBSTITUTE	552.50
BELDENGREEN	CLAUDIA	A	TEACHER	43372.99
BIERWERT	KAREN		Teacher	37891.58
BISBEE	ROGER		Firefighter	1410.17
BISHOP	DIANE C.		School Committee	270.40
BLACK	JENNIFER L.		Teacher	57228.79
BOAS	WALTER	K	FINANCE COMMITTEE	378.78
BOOKWALTER	MARILYN	G.	SCHOOL SUBSTITUTE	60.00
BOWYER	DIANE H.		Substitute	7309.57
BOYLE	THOMAS	J	HIGHWAY-WINTER	867.79
BRAMAN	DIANA L.		Teacher	60751.85
BRAND	TERI	L.	SCHOOL SUBSTITUTE	640.00
BROOKS	JEFFREY M.		Police Officer	16040.03
BROOKS	RHONDA	G.	SCHOOL AIDE	5936.87
BRUSO	MATTHEW J.		Firefighter	3644.14
BUCHELE	ROBERT K.		Finance Committee	378.78
CASTERLINE	PATRICIA A.		Pollworker	285.00
CAYO III	ROBERT A.		Firefighter	908.71
CERRETA	ERIC		FINANCE COMMITTEE	284.13
CERRETA	ERIC		FIRE FIGHTER	1690.68
CHAPMAN	WILLIAM A.		Police Officer	4918.42
CHEVALIER	ELIZABETH A.		Cafeteria Sub	1242.80
CHILDS	LARAINÉ		Teacher	50374.50
CIUFFREDA	JEFFREY S.		Select Board	2552.00
CIUFFREDA	MARY ANN		Poll Worker	195.00
CONNELL	JASON A.		Fire Fighter	4460.08
CORNER	MARK	D.	POLLWORKER	65.00
COTTON	JOHN W.		Police Chief	26207.73
CRANSTON	JEFFREY C.		Constable	117.50
CYCZ	MARTHA		Teacher	22816.54
DAVIDHEISER	KATHY M.		POLL WORKER	285.00
DAVIDSON	SUSAN		SUBSTITUTE	120.00
DENNO	NICHOLS	M.	FIREFIGHTER	179.34
DESALVIO	KAREN		FINANCE COMMITTEE	315.70
DESROSIER	PHILIP	G	SCHOOL SUBSTITUTE	150.00
DIBRINDISI	GREG	ALAN	FIREFIGHTER	64.05
DOMINA	CYNTHIA	M.	SCHOOL SUBSTITUTE	60.00

DOUYARD	JANET	C	SCHOOL CAFETERIA	2932.60
DOWNEY	CLAUDIA		POLL WORKER	110.00
DOYLE	STEVEN	A	SCHOOL CROSSING GUARD	1720.00
DUFRESNE	SHELIA		POLL WORKER	155.00
DUNPHY	MARJORIE		ASSESSOR	8703.19
EDWARDS	CHARLES H.		WATER	3975.00
EVERETT	ALAN		FIREFIGHTER	822.74
EVERETT	GLEN		FIREFIGHTER	935.44
FERRON	JAMES		FIREFIGHTER	2026.02
FORSTER	NANCY	S	TEACHERS AIDE	20346.07
FOURNIER	GEORGE	A.	ELECTRIC INSPECTIONS	830.00
GABRIELSON	IRA	W.	POLL WORKER	65.00
GABRIELSON	IRA		BOARD OF HEALTH	1125.40
GELBARD	ANNE C.		SCHOOL AIDE	5422.59
GELBARD	JEFFREY D.		SCHOOL COMMITTEE	270.40
GIBSON	DONNA		SWOP	132.00
GIBSON	DONNA		BOARD OF HEALTH	1125.40
GOEBEL	FRANCES M.		COA-ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR	21444.19
GURDAK-FOLEY	ROBIN GRACE		TEACHER	61563.14
HANNON	MARY	C	POLLWORKER	65.00
HARVEY	RENEE		CAFETERIA	24291.44
HEATH	CHARLES	D.	FINANCE COMMITTEE	378.78
HEFFERNAN	JOHN S.		Teacher	59251.85
HENDRY	KAREN	A.	SCHOOL NURSE	26048.54
HERZBERG	STEVEN	M	TOWN ADMINISTRATOR	41653.16
HODGKINS	THOMAS	C.	POLL WORKER	175.00
HOLMQUIST	HEATHER		School Nurse	675.00
HOWLAND	BETH C.		SWOP	16.00
HYSLIP	JAMES	P	WATER DEPARTMENT	1100.00
JANIK	MICHAEL	E.	SCHOOL SUBSTITUTE	120.00
KAROWSKI	KAREN	M	ASSISTANT TREASURER	3037.50
KAROWSKI	RICHARD P.		Firefighter	2418.55
KELLOGG III	WALTER E.		Water	15079.05
KORPITA	JOHANNA M.		Teacher	51924.50
KRESS	CHERYL A.		Teachers Aide	18069.06
KRESS	LYDIA	C.	SCHOOL SUBSTITUTE	180.00
KUNTZ	GARY	P	Poll Worker	240.00
LABONTE	MEGHAN	L.	SCHOOL SUBSTITUTE	120.00
LAIRD	DUNCAN		School Committee	270.40
LAROCHELLE	JEREMY	M.	FIREFIGHTER	140.91
LARSON	BARBARA	J.	SCHOOL SUBSTITUTE	30.00
LASHWAY	LAWRENCE J. III		Firefighter	281.53
LAWTON	DONALD E.		Fire Chief	26487.99
LAWTON	JACQUELINE	A.	CONSERVATION COMM. SEC.	1456.30
LESSARD	BRENDA	M	TOWN CLERK	19263.15
LIIMATAINEN	SANDRA		COA	2361.79
LODI	ELISE	R.	SUBSTITUTE-SCHOOL	180.00
LOJKO	ELIZABETH M.		Poll Worker	275.00
LONG	MARY JANE		Teacher	49496.09
LOOMIS	WILBUR W.		Constable	117.50
LOOMIS	WILBUR W.		PT Winter Hwy	1194.81

LUCE	JENNA M.		Substitute	180.00
LUCE	KATHLEEN		Poll Worker	310.00
LUCE	RITA MACINNIS		Teacher	50354.50
LUCEY	DOROTHY L.		Poll Worker	286.00
LULEK	AGNES T.		Clerical	20452.48
LULEK	CHESTER J.		Custodian	5779.61
LYONS	PAUL J.		Electrical Inspections	1725.00
MAGDALENSKI	BERNIE		Poll Worker	285.00
MAHIEU	PETER		Treasurer	17693.58
MAHONEY	NANCY K.		Teacher	30251.11
MAREK	CATHERINE		Substitute	75.00
MARTI	SHERYL A.		Teacher	56384.28
MATHERS	DAVID E.		Select Board	2552.00
MATHERS	MAUREEN		POLL WORKER	100.00
MATUSZKO	DEBORAH	M	SCHOOL NURSE	1720.57
MAYNARD	PATRICIA		Teacher	58548.79
MCGILL	BRIAN R.		Firefighter	128.10
MCGILL	CORY J.		Firefighter	2812.52
MCGILL	DOUGLAS	C.	FIREFIGHTER	525.21
MCNEIGHT	RYAN M.		Custodian	1214.08
MCQUESTON	MARYELLEN B.		SUBSTITUTE	30.00
MCQUESTON	TIMOTHY E.		Firefighter	204.46
MERRITT	DIANE U.		Poll Worker	65.00
MILLETTE	NANCY		Teacher	52727.06
MILSOM	SUSAN D.		Teachers Aide	22889.76
MIMITZ	DONNA M.		Substitute	60.00
MIMITZ	KYLIE S.		Substitute	120.00
MORRIS	CHRISTOPHER		Admin Asst	378.78
MOULTON	SHARON		Teacher	64087.77
NARDI	CHARLENE L.		Town Clerk	270.40
NEWMAN	GEORGE A.		Transfer Station	7491.84
NOONAN	SARAH		SCHOOL SUBSTITUTE	140.00
NURCZYK	JANET	M	SWOP	540.00
O'BRIEN	MICHAEL P.		Custodian	39334.42
O'CONNELL	MICHAEL P.		Teacher	20141.80
O'SULLIVAN	DIANE M.		Poll Worker	40.00
OWENS	DONALD L.		Poll Worker	285.00
PARKER	ROBERT A.		Firefighter	92.50
PELOQUIN	LISA A.		Teacher	55891.56
PERRAULT	RONALD C.		Cafeteria	5528.66
PION	MARK	S	TEACHERS AIDE	11410.93
POHANKA	JOHN		Poll Worker	220.00
POPE	JOHN P.		Firefighter	640.60
POUDRIER	THOMAS		Transfer Station	11180.00
RANDOLPH	WILLIAM	A.	SCHOOL SUBSTITUTE	2010.00
RENAULD	HEIDI	H.	SCHOOL SUBSTITUTE	65.00
RETCHIN	STEVEN	G	SCHOOL SUBSTUTUTE	90.00
RHOADES	SOLANGE	R	COA	147.68
RICHARDSON	RUSSELL	C.	SWOP	732.00
RICHARDSON	RUSSELL C.		Custodian	8562.89
ROBERGE	BONNIE		Collector	39681.81

ROMANO	MICHAEL	A	POLICE OFFICER	12898.88
ROWLEY	LINDA		Finance Comm.Secretary	309.02
RYAN	ANNE	M	TEACHERS AIDE	20346.07
SANDERSON	HOWARD		Water	1100.00
SANDERSON	PAUL		CONSTABLE	117.50
SANDERSON	PAUL		Firefighter	2001.72
SCHIPPELLITE	KAREN M.		Substitute	3960.00
SCHWEITZER	KAREN		Teacher	52367.13
SHUMWAY	PETER B., JR		Board of Assessors	3522.00
SMITH	CANDACE	M.	POLL WORKER	65.00
SMITH	G. GILMAN		Firefighter	351.89
SMITH	GREGORY	C.	POLICE OFFICER	3782.67
SMITH	MARY		SWOP	750.00
SPRAGUE	DAVID R.		Teacher	16523.48
SPRINGMAN	DARYL R.		Firefighter	555.74
SVOBODA	JOHN		Constable	117.50
SZABO	AMELIA		Teacher	53261.78
TAYLOR JR.	KENNETH H.		FIRE FIGHTER	25.62
TAYLOR, JR.	KENNETH H.		Highway	43477.33
TURNER	DONALD W.		FIRE FIGHTER	3589.10
TURNER	DONALD W.		Highway	42212.44
TURNER	WILLIAM		Highway Supt	57213.25
VALONE	MARGO G.		Library	2715.20
VENNE	ALFRED		School Principal	80084.95
VENNE	GENEVIEVE	M.	SCHOOL SUBSTITUTE	1380.00
WALKER	ALICE A.		Teacher	42034.70
WALLACE	AIMEE M.		Police Officer	18833.20
WARNOCK	ELEANOR	H	ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	13115.31
WAYNE	MICHAEL H.		Police Officer	5363.59
WEEKS	NYLDA		SWOP	750.00
WENNER	LISA W.		Librarian	30817.49
WENTWORTH	PAULA A.		SWOP	739.60
WHEELAN	MARY P.		COA Director	16792.00
WICKLAND	DENISE		Police Officer	51090.77
WILDFONG	ROCHELLE L.		Librarian	25838.68
WILLARD	SABRINA	M	POLICE OFFICER	37174.56
WILLIS	SARAH	A.	SCHOOL SUBSTITUTE	60.00
WOLK	MICHELE	MORALES	LIBRARY	600.00
WOODS	MARY ELLEN		Teacher	56081.56
YORK	JEAN T.		POLL WORKER	40.00
YOUNG	BARBARA		Library	14002.25

Annual Report of the Finance Committee

The Town of Williamsburg Finance Committee is composed of nine elected members who meet monthly to approve budget transfers as well as other expenditures for the town's departments, and who work closely with these departments as well as the town's Select Board to create a budget, that will in turn, be presented to the town at its annual meeting for discussion and approval. This coming fiscal year shall be a challenge due to the proposed budget cuts that the state will impose with a broad brush across the entire state.

Hopefully all three entities, Select Board, Capital Planning Committee and the Finance Committee, can come to terms with this and act swiftly and intelligently to control spending.

Each year at the Town Meeting, the Finance Committee is authorized to spend up to the specified dollar amount to cover all unforeseen departmental expenses. The 2008 budget transfers specified by the Finance Committee are as shown below.

Fiscal Year 2008 Reserve Fund Transfers:

Opening Balance: **\$50,000.00**

Jan-08	(\$6000.00)	Veterans' Services
Feb-08	(\$331.73)	Town Fuel Expense
Apr-08	(\$500.00)	Audit Services
Apr-08	(\$2487.90)	Town Vehicle Fuel
Apr-08	(\$475.25)	Buildings & Grounds / heating oil, electric
Apr-08	(\$90.00)	Town Buildings & Grounds
Apr-08	(\$2115.21)	Town Vehicle Fuel
Apr-08	(\$2723.03)	Town Buildings & Grounds
May-08	(\$352.05)	Library Heating Oil
Jun-08	(\$147.00)	Library Maintenance
Jun-08	(\$1779.76)	Library Utilities
Jun-08	(\$32640.98)	Winter Highway Expenses

Total Transfers: **(\$49,642.91)**

Closing Balance: **\$357.09**

Annual Report of the Williamsburg Fire Department

In 2008, the Williamsburg Fire Department responded to 199 calls. This is down from 2007, as well as the dollar loss from the calls. This is very good news! The calls were as follows:

- 7 structure fires (most of which were mutual aid to other towns)
- 20 motor vehicle accidents
- 72 emergency medical
- 39 alarm and appliance malfunctions
- 29 hazards and wires down
- 2 rescues
- 8 outside fires and brush fires
- 1 chimney fire
- 17 misc. (includes pumping cellars and lock outs)
- 4 haz mat

The largest incident was the ice storm in December. Our first call was on Thursday evening and the calls continued until the following Monday at noontime. We took fuel out to generators for residents, opened roads, did "well being" checks, pumped out cellars and helped with the emergency shelter that was set up at the Anne T. Dunphy School. Our Polaris Ranger 6x6 proved very helpful in this storm. We were able to negotiate places where larger equipment could not go due to downed trees and power lines.

In 2008, the Firefighters' Association raised the funds to purchase a trailer to store and haul the Ranger and other equipment. This is very useful to us.

At this time, we have one firefighter attending the Firefighter I and II classes at the Springfield Firefighting Training Academy. This consists of attending classes from 6 to 10 pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and one all day Saturday class per month. The class started on February 5th and continues through until June. This is a very demanding class and requires a lot of dedication. Almost every member on the Fire Department has done equal training over the years that they have been on the Fire Department. There is no pay for attending these classes, nor is there reimbursement for traveling expenses. That's dedication!

In the last six months, we have received several grants. The grants were used for small equipment, training and S.A.F.E education in our schools. Firefighter Matthew Brusco does the S.A.F.E education in the schools and was nominated one of ten top educators in the state!

Burning season runs from Jan 15th to the end of April, weather permitting. To obtain a burning permit, call the fire station at 268-7233 in advance of the day you would like to be able to burn brush. Leave your name, address and phone number and someone from the Fire Department will return your call and go over the state regulations with you.

I would like to thank everyone for the support the Fire Department receives from the residents. It really helps.

I also wish to thank all firefighters and their families for the time that is spent protecting the town and their neighbors.

Respectfully submitted,
Chief Donald Lawton

Annual Report of the Foothills Health Agent

I have now been your Health Agent for over four years. The time has sped by, and although 2008 was less hectic owing to the slowed building trade, I kept quite busy. All together in 2008 I witnessed 9 perc tests, 21 Title V inspections; I performed 4 food inspections, inspected 8 new septic systems, issued 3 well permits, and 7 new septic system permits. Housing and nuisance complaints resulted in 22 inspections or investigations – up considerably from last year. Five beaver removal permits were issued in 2008. A total of \$6890 was collected in fees. This year I also received additional training on disease surveillance, new septic technologies, bioterrorism response, wetland soils, and communication with the public and press during an emergency.

New on the horizon is the “bioremediator” for failed septic leach fields – a device placed in the septic tank that is said to return a failed leach field back to health. While it may not be suitable for every failed leach field, it may be worth looking into. Please call me if you want additional information.

In December 2008, the Department of Environmental Protection passed regulations affecting the sale, installation, and use of outdoor wood burning furnaces (called Outdoor Hydronic Heaters). DEP and the Board of Health have responsibility for enforcing these regulations. If you own or are considering the purchase of an outdoor wood burning furnace, I urge you to read the regulations, which can be found online at:

<http://www.mass.gov/dep/service/regulations/ohhregfl.doc>.

Members of your Board of Health, Fire and Police Departments, Town Emergency Manager, Selectmen, Town Administrator, and volunteers have begun work with guidance provided by MAPHCO, our public health coalition, on the town’s Emergency Dispensing Site plan. By now you have received a brochure on the EDS function – to dispense emergency medication to everyone in Williamsburg and Goshen within 48 hours in a public health emergency. We will be exercising the plan as part of a flu clinic in fall 2009 and will need your help. Please consider volunteering for this important town function. We will train and guide you, and assign you a task. By the end of the day you will have practiced an emergency, be better prepared for a “real” event, and have contributed to the general goal of protecting Williamsburg residents in an emergency. You will have our esteemed thanks! To volunteer please call me.

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 P.O. 447, Haydenville, MA 01039. You will also find much information on the town webpage at www.burgy.org. Thank you for another interesting and pleasurable year working in Williamsburg.

Jackie Duda
Health Agent
Foothills Health District

Annual Report of the Hampshire Council of Governments Fiscal Year 2008

The focus of the Hampshire Council of Governments continues to be to help local governments save money and solve problems through regional cooperation, and a commitment to the concept of local control over local affairs. The combined dues for the Council of Governments in Fiscal Year 2008 were \$37,206. All twelve Council members receive a 75% dues reduction because they voted to continue their membership with the Council for four years. The purpose of the reduction was to ease the financial burden to the municipalities while increasing the stability of the Council membership. The dues collected help support Council programs, services, and assistance to a variety of programs. It is the intent of the Council to increase revenues from a variety of sources to offset the reduced assessment.

In FY08, fifty towns and districts throughout the counties of Hampshire, Franklin, Hampden and, most recently, Berkshire were utilizing the Council's Electricity Program, Hampshire Power, for electricity supply for their municipal facilities. This Program was also the electricity supplier for eleven businesses in Hampshire County. Hampshire Power continues to offer two rate plans. The Real Time Rate is the hourly market rate for each hour's usage during the meter cycle. An administrative charge is added to this rate. The Profit Share Rate is the actual utility price and customers who opt for this rate share in profits which the Council hopes to earn by buying directly from the electricity spot market. Although market prices in December 2007 and the spring months of 2008 were very high, overall both rate groups saved over utility rates. The Council is ready to extend into Worcester County in the coming year. The implementation of pilot residential services in Hampshire County as a stepping stone to supplying more residents through a municipal aggregation is another goal.

The Cooperative Purchasing program, now in its 28th year, coordinates and administers a formal bidding process on behalf of Council departments, municipalities, school districts, human service agencies, and miscellaneous governmental entities throughout the Berkshire, Franklin, Hampden, and Hampshire County region. Buying in bulk generates added savings over lone bidding efforts while complying with state procurement statutes and eliminating duplication of administrative work. The total purchasing volume for goods and services for Fiscal Year 2008 was \$5.8 million with a projected savings of \$926,643.

In a year when many towns are facing double-digit rate increases in health insurance premiums, our towns once again held their costs to single-digit increases. The Hampshire Councilors serve as the trustees of the Hampshire County Group Insurance Trust, a cooperative effort to provide health and life insurance with excellent benefits at competitive rates. An Insurance Advisory Committee, made up of representatives of all participating units, meets regularly to discuss problems and possible solutions and to explore new ideas. The Trust manages a self-funded group of health insurance products. The Insurance Year 2008, April 1, 2007, to March 31, 2008, collective premium for the Trust was \$36M. Through the efforts and expertise of the Trust management, the volume of participation in the program, and the participation of the town representatives on the Advisory Board, the Insurance Trust is successful at managing costs while providing excellent benefits.

The Regional Services Department develops regional approaches to problems shared by Hampshire County municipalities. Department personnel are primarily involved with sales, account analysis, and program development for Hampshire Power. In addition, the department continues to secure surplus federal equipment for various Massachusetts municipalities and state entities. The current net savings of property delivered to member communities for Fiscal Year 2008, after fees and delivery charges, totaled \$10,252. Member communities receive a discount on the fees, as well as the right of first refusal on nicer pieces of equipment obtained through the surplus program. Regional Services continued its oversight of the Hampshire Inspection Program, which provides building inspection and zoning enforcement services. Emergency inspection services are also available for other towns not in the program for an hourly fee. Department personnel prepared two grant applications for the Town of Pelham, although results have not been announced yet. Finally, personnel prepared a wage and salary survey of Hampshire County municipalities.

The elected Councilors provide public oversight for Hampshire Care in Leeds, a rehabilitation and skilled nursing facility owned and operated by the Council and County since 1914. The facility provides for 120 patients, with over 250 admissions per year from all the towns in the County. The majority of patients are admitted for rehabilitative care following an accident or illness. Hampshire Care also provides post hospital treatment, and long-term nursing services. The facility has an exemplary record of performance on State and Federal surveys, and rates highest in the County on State Survey results. (See Massachusetts Department of Public Health "Nursing Home Report Card.") As a government owned, non-profit facility, Hampshire Care has no owners or stockholders to report to and concentrates all of its resources on offering the best patient care possible. All revenues for the facility's operation come from patient services. Hampshire Care also has roughly the same profile of Medicare, Medicaid, and private patients as the average long-term care facility in Massachusetts. The Hampshire Council of Governments is very sensitive to its responsibilities as a government entity to provide services for the communities it serves. The Council would like to be able to expand the public services being offered on the campus of Hampshire Park, where Hampshire Care is located. Hampshire Care also provides a substantial number of good jobs, with 120 full-time equivalents and over 150 employees. These employees, as with the patients, almost all are residents of the surrounding towns and villages. The total financial impact on the local economy is about \$8.5 million dollars. As a government entity Hampshire Care is challenged by the need to provide employees with better benefits than private sector facilities, while receiving lower reimbursement because of the high quality of patient care.

One of the less noted benefits to local communities is the impact that Hampshire Care has on the cost of retirement benefits. Retirement costs are based on total number of current employees, and benefits are paid only to employees who stay over ten years. Few of the nursing employees remain long enough to vest in the system so they can eventually collect benefits, yet Hampshire Care contributes based on the current number of employees. Costs for most communities are substantially lower because Hampshire Care is part of the Hampshire County Retirement System.

The Council has continued to provide tobacco prevention efforts in the region since 1994. Currently there are two programs run by the Tobacco Free Network. Through the Youth Access to

Tobacco prevention program we are working in 33 towns in Franklin, Hampshire, and Worcester Counties. These communities do not have local youth access to tobacco regulations or are not currently enforcing their regulations. By conducting compliance checks, providing retailer and community education, and working with local boards of health we hope to reduce the sale of tobacco to minors and increase compliance with the state law. In addition, the Network has developed a smoke free apartment website, www.smokefree.hampshirecog.org, funded through a partnership with the Northeastern University's Public Health Advocacy Institute. We are working to provide education and information to landlords in Western Mass. about the health and legal consequences of allowing smoking in their apartments and the advantages of going smoke free. Finally, the Network is part of a four town wellness project where tobacco cessation is a key component of the program. This year we launched the Wellness Initiative, a worksite wellness program for the Hampshire County Group Insurance Trust's nearly 70 worksites. We are surveying insurance subscribers to learn about their individual health needs and interests, providing education on specific health topics, sending a monthly newsletter to the units and individuals, conducting visibility events and launching wellness programs.

In addition to the various departments, programs, and services, each Councilor attends a monthly Full Board Meeting as well as a Standing Committee Meeting. Each Committee has oversight of specific departments and programs and continues to look for ways to increase revenue and provide services.

For further information on Council programs, expenses, and revenues, please contact the Councilors' Office at 413-584-1300 ext. 2. You may also visit the Council website at www.hampshirecog.org.

Annual Report of the Board of Health

Recycling continues to be important to our environment. Unfortunately, the market for recycled materials has fallen sharply with the current recession. This decline affects our direct costs and also the operations of the Hilltown Resources Management Cooperative.

When Transfer Station operations were audited this year we were told to eliminate all cash transactions and accept only checks or vouchers. Books of vouchers in various denominations can be purchased from the Town Clerk and at the Williamsburg Pharmacy.

Plans for an Emergency Dispensing Site are being developed in cooperation with the Fire, Police and Emergency Management departments. During the recent ice storm the Dunphy School was staffed by the Red Cross and provided shelter for some residents. In an epidemic or spreading of a disease, mass immunization could be lifesaving. We want to be prepared.

Fluorescent lamp bulbs and tubes contain some mercury and are an environmental hazard. Special collection boxes are being provided.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Gibson
Don Lawton
Ira Gabrielson

Annual Report of Highland Ambulance EMS

Operations. Highland Ambulance is the primary ambulance service provider for the towns of Ashfield, Chesterfield, Cummington, Goshen, Plainfield and Williamsburg. Highland's active roster consists of 48 members, including 14 Paramedics, 7 Intermediate EMT's and 27 Basic EMT's. Paramedics are on duty at Highland's station in Goshen from 6 a.m. until midnight seven days a week. From midnight to 6 a.m., on-call Highland EMT's are assisted by Paramedics from Am-B-Care in Northampton when Advanced Life Support services of a Paramedic are needed.

Training. We are continuing to implement our program to increase the number of EMT's with advanced training who are residents of our six town area. During the year three Highland EMT's completed training at Greenfield Community College, passed the state examination and attained the advanced level of EMT Intermediate. At the close of 2008 five Highland EMT's were entered in the Paramedic course at Greenfield Community College.

Emergency Responses. During 2008, Highland responded to 537 emergency calls. These are broken down by town as follows:

Ashfield	90	Chesterfield	49	Cummington	73		
Goshen	75	Plainfield	46	Williamsburg	189	Other	15

Out of these responses, 271 required advanced life support services of a paramedic.

Community Involvement. During the year we participated in a school safety program at Berkshire Elementary School in Cummington. We assisted the Elementary Schools in Ashfield and Cummington with the information and materials to start and install an automatic external defibrillator program within the schools. During the December ice storm, Highland EMT's worked with emergency personnel in all towns by making well-being checks and transporting elderly residents to emergency shelters.

In 2008 a fund drive raised over \$25,000 in much needed funds to upgrade our training equipment. We are deeply grateful for the continuing support of the community residents and businesses.

Cash On Hand June 30, 2008

Operating Funds	\$ 15,748.38
Memorial Fund	6,636.73
Training Fund	16,821.24
Equipment Fund	10,793.79
New Ambulance Funds	
Cummington Funds	\$ 6,061.55
Williamsburg Funds	8,662.44
Highland Funds	48,103.40
Total	62,827.39
Total Cash On Hand	\$112,827.53

Respectfully submitted,

Highland Ambulance Board of Directors

Ashfield – Patricia Thayer

Chesterfield – Spencer Timm

Cummington – James Drawe

Goshen – Donald Boisvert

Plainfield – Stacey Magdycz

Williamsburg – Christopher Smith

At-Large – Francis Dresser

At-Large – Bernard Forgea

At-Large – Douglas Mollison

Annual Report of the Highway Superintendent

Along with all of the normal yearly maintenance and snow removal, the following construction projects were done:

One mile of Old Goshen Road and Hemenway Road were completely rebuilt, starting with reclaiming the old blacktop, installing new drainage, adding a new layer of gravel and putting a base course of blacktop. Thanks to the hard work of the highway crew we were able to do all of this work in one season and were able to do most of the work ourselves, saving the town a huge amount of money.

The December 11th ice storm caused a significant amount of tree damage in the higher terrain. This will require a lot of clean-up this coming spring.

So far the winter of 2008/2009 has been a very busy and very expensive winter.

The new Highway Department truck has arrived and was put into service in February 2009. It is a International Work Star and is, so far, working out better than expected. We look forward to many years of service from this truck.

I would like to thank the Highway Crew, Don Turner, Ken Taylor and Pete Banister, for their dedicated service to the Town of Williamsburg Highway Department, and all the sub-contractors that help with snow removal.

Thank you.

Bill Turner
Highway Superintendent

Williamsburg Highway Department
24 Main Street, P.O. Box 447
Haydenville, Massachusetts 01039-0447
Telephone (413) 268-8405 Fax: (413) 268-9977

Annual Report of the Hilltown Community Development Corporation

The Hilltown Community Development Corporation was created to improve the quality of life for hilltown residents by “addressing economic, educational, and social needs while preserving the rural character of our area.” Its core service area includes the ten towns of Chester, Chesterfield, Cummington, Goshen, Huntington, Middlefield, Plainfield, Westhampton, Williamsburg and Worthington. Hilltown CDC writes applications for and manages Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds on behalf of seven northern hilltown communities to support a variety of programs described below. The CDC also manages and develops affordable housing serving low and moderate income residents in all ten core communities. And the CDC provides assistance to existing and start-up small businesses in 11 hilltowns (including Ashfield) to strengthen the hilltown economy, increase local jobs and support the marketing of locally produced goods and services. Below are the program highlights for FY 2008:

Social Services: Hilltown CDC seeks to support the highest possible quality of life for the most vulnerable Hilltown residents. During FY 2008 HCDC programs:

- Delivered 6,656 hours of direct in-home caregiving services to 100 low-income hilltown elder households through the **Hilltown Elder Network (HEN) Program**, at no cost to the participants, and provided 26,581 miles of escorted transportation to elders.
- Secured CDBG funding for three additional locally-based social service programs:
 - **The Health Outreach Program for Elders (HOPE)**, administered by Hilltown Community Health Centers (HCHC), provided over 1,000 hours of free in-home nursing care and podiatric services to nearly 200 eligible homebound elders.
 - **The Hilltown Food Pantry** distributed over 70,000 pounds of foods (35 tons) to 277 eligible participants. The Pantry is administered by the Northampton Survival Center at the Goshen Town Hall. Call 586-6564 or 268-7578 for information.
 - **Families Together**, another HCHC program, offers activities focusing on family issues such as parenting, family dynamics, and family health education to over 60 eligible hilltown households.

Economic Development: Hilltown CDC provides individual counseling, technical assistance and training workshops to small and micro-businesses on many subjects, from business planning to website design, computer software, and marketing. In FY 2008 Hilltown CDC:

- Published the 2008 Hilltown Business Directory, distributed to over 9,000 hilltown households, listing 266 hilltown businesses by town and by category.
- Organized the 2nd Hilltown Spring Festival at the Cummington Fairgrounds for nearly 1,000 hilltowners, including an Arts and Crafts Expo, a Business Expo, a Sustainability Expo, school group performances and local food and music.
- Held 56 training workshop sessions on 20 different subjects, from financial planning to website design; 194 local business people attended.
- Provided individual consulting assistance totaling 240 hours to 121 hilltown businesses.

Affordable Housing: We actively pursue opportunities to preserve and create affordable housing to meet the needs of low and moderate income hilltown residents. Hilltown CDC owns and manages affordable rental housing, has renovated and constructed first time homebuyer housing and has planned and developed senior housing. FY08 project highlights include:

- **Laurel Road in Haydenville:** Construction and sale was completed on a \$3 million cluster of 11 single family detached condo homes off Laurel Road in Haydenville. The passive solar homes incorporate rooftop photovoltaic solar panels to produce electricity, super-insulation and other green technologies. All of the homes are energy-star certified.
- **Huntington Rental Development:** Rehabilitation of a four-unit apartment building on Blandford Road in Huntington was completed and the apartments were made available for rent to income-eligible households. The project restores to active use a 100-year-old building in the village of Huntington that stood vacant for ten years.

First-time Homebuyer Program: Finding affordable homes continues to be a hurdle for area buyers. We offer three types of assistance to first-time homebuyers:

- **Individual Counseling** provided an opportunity for 47 households to discuss finances confidentially and prepare for the home buying process.
- **First-Time Homebuyer Workshops** provided 37 households with the certificates of completion needed to obtain subsidized mortgage products.
- **Direct Financial Assistance** provided grants and deferred payment loans to 9 income-eligible households buying a home in the Hilltown CDC service area.

Housing Rehabilitation 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 FY 2008 HCDC:

- Rehabilitated 16 houses in the Towns of Chesterfield, Cummington, Goshen, and Williamsburg using deferred payment loans for home repairs and lead paint removal totaling \$317,778.05.

Community Facilities: Hilltown CDC works with a wide range of community groups in the public and private sector and with local municipalities. The Community Facilities Program helps with the development process for construction of buildings and infrastructure by identifying project needs and obtaining project funding. It also helps communities make their facilities more handicapped accessible. In FY 2008 HCDC:

- Completed the procurement of a new ambulance for the Town of Plainfield.
- Completed replacement of roofs and windows at the Hillside Terrace senior housing facility in Cummington.
- Provided Project Management services to the Town of Chesterfield for replacement of the wood flooring at the Senior Center.
- Secured \$38,084 in funding from the CDBG Program for the construction of a new Handicapped Accessible Bathroom at the Westhampton Town Hall.

Community Planning: We also work closely with municipalities and community groups in our service area to plan for, raise funds and/or manage a range of projects. During FY 2008 HCDC:

- Provided planning assistance to the northern hilltowns of Chesterfield, Cummington, Goshen, Plainfield, Westhampton, Williamsburg, and Worthington preparing and updating their Community Development Strategies. A number of new community needs were identified, along with projects to be included in future CDBG funding applications.
- Completed a Hilltown Affordable Housing Planning project which includes locating and studying potential sites for senior housing in Chesterfield and other communities.
- Completed a study to explore interest in developing a regional senior center.

- Continued to support and participate in regional efforts to bring high-speed broadband internet services to the unserved and underserved communities in the hilltowns.

In FY 2008, Hilltown CDC generated over \$5 million in revenues to support the above projects, including a \$1.126 million regional CDBG grant, and recruited three new Board members: Pam Sanborn (Chester), Noreen Suriner (Middlefield), and Marj Snyder (Williamsburg).

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew Baker, Executive Director
Hilltown Community Development Corporation

Annual Report of the Hilltown Resource Management Cooperative

Last year the Hilltown Resource Management Cooperative helped your Town recycle and divert over 429.71 tons of material saving the Town over \$31,709.11 in avoided disposal costs and earning over \$10,213.56 in recycling revenue to support your recycling programs. For your Town's annual assessment amount of \$8,657.75 you received over \$41,922 in indirect cost savings, services and revenues from the services and efforts provided by the HRMC.

The HRMC is a unique, regional municipally funded organization which was created in 1989 by concerned residents in the towns of Ashfield, Chesterfield, Cummington, Goshen, Huntington, Middlefield, Plainfield, Westhampton, Williamsburg and Worthington. Since 1989 the primary mission of the HRMC has been to assist its member Towns with the planning and management of solid waste and recycling programs. The HRMC is now also examining new sustainability programs to benefit the entire Hilltown region.

These are challenging times for recycling programs. Since October 1, 2008, the worldwide recycling markets, like all other economic markets, have fallen to their lowest levels in years. We continue to receive some revenue for our recyclables and so far there have not been any reductions in the materials we can recycle. So for now your Town's ability to recycle everything it can through programs managed by the HRMC is OK. During the upcoming year the HRMC plans to continue to assist all of its member Towns with their important recycling and environmental protection efforts. Encouraging environmental protection efforts through recycling and sustainability-based outreach programs will help to limit the effects of climate change and help reduce our footprint on the earth and are now more important than ever.

The HRMC has not requested an assessment budget increase in over 5 years and in this year's FY2010 budget we have reduced our assessment to the member Towns by 5% because of the current economic situation we are all in. The HRMC will be more prudent in how it manages its budget and some program reductions may be needed at a later date.

The HRMC Administrator, Eric Weiss, our one and only employee, helps all HRMC member Towns with these many tasks. Last year the HRMC helped the Towns (combined) recycle over 2055.24 tons of materials, saving the Towns over \$149,651.49 in direct disposal cost savings and earning the Towns (combined) over \$48,785.55 in recycling revenue. Currently the HRMC assists your Town in the following (8) ways:

- 1) Assists local officials with the careful and cost efficient management of the Town's waste management and recycling program.
- 2) Helps protect the environment through the recycling of as many items as possible, including: glass, cans, plastic bottles, paper, newspaper, junk mail, cardboard, electronics, tires, propane tanks, paint, clothes, fluorescent light bulbs and other common household products.
- 3) Operates the regional Household Hazardous Waste Collection, Paint Recycling, Electronics Recycling programs and Mercury Collection Programs to help keep toxic materials out of our local environment.

- 4) Assists your Town directly with the bidding of recycling hauling, solid waste hauling, disposal contracts and transfer station equipment.
- 5) Obtains cash and equipment grants to assist your Town.
- 6) Assists your Town with the development of new recycling programs.
- 7) Advocates on behalf of its member Towns with State legislators.
- 8) Explores long term sustainability and climate change issues which will affect and benefit all Hilltown Communities.

We look forward to continuing to help you and your Town protect the environment and save money. If you have any questions about recycling, sustainability or have a waste disposal problem, please call us at (413) 268-3845 or email us, hrmc@crocker.com.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Weiss
Administrator
Hilltown Resource Management Cooperative
P.O. Box 630
Williamsburg, MA 01096
(413) 268-3845
Cell (413) 687-3356
hrmc@crocker.com

Annual Report of the Historical Commission

This year David Majercik, after many years of service, resigned from the Commission and the Select Board appointed Russell Warner, replacing him.

The Historical Commission did not meet during 2008 and has no current active projects. However, individual members have continued to work industriously, often in collaboration, at Meekins Library and in the Williamsburg Historical Society collection, on projects addressing various aspects of the history of Williamsburg, helping to identify, reorganize and catalog Williamsburg's historic resources, copying, digitizing and transcribing some of the items there, and developing historical material for a future Williamsburg website.

Members of the Commission have assisted the Town Clerk and the Williamsburg Librarians in responding to the many requests from local, visiting or distant researchers, seeking genealogical and historical information. Such work has produced a published history of the potash industry, the first cash crop, which involved most of the earliest settlers of this district.

During the year several tours have been conducted for schools, groups and individuals, viewing features of local history, primarily concerning early industry and the flood of 1874, and especially the very interesting site of the failed reservoir dam off Judd Lane. The route to the dam site crosses private property. Anyone traversing that property will be treated as trespassers unless part of an organized tour, giving advanced notice to the property owners. Such arrangements may be made through the office of the Historical Commission by calling Ralmon Black or Eric Weber.

Respectfully submitted,

Ralmon Jon Black, Chair
Eric W. Weber, Clerk
Mary Bisbee
Sarah C. Palmer
Russell Warner

Annual Report of the Williamsburg Libraries ~ Meekins & Haydenville ~ Fiscal Year 2008

Library Statistics and Services 2008:

In FY 2008 total circulation increased from 79,545 in FY07 to 87,501 in FY08. During the year the Williamsburg Library lent 7,000 items to other libraries and borrowed 10,596 items for our patrons from other libraries through the statewide inter-library loan system. Total inter-library loan was up 12.77% from FY07. The Meekins Library was open a total of 1,092 hours, still down from 1,290 hours prior to FY06 due to staff shortage. Fifty-one people volunteered over 3,000 hours at the libraries. The library is staffed by: Lisa Wenner, Library Director, Rochelle Wildfong, Children's Librarian, and Bobbin Young, Technical Services. The 8,500 square foot library is cleaned five hours a week by Margo Valone. The Haydenville Library circulated 152 items and was open 82 hours thanks to the generosity of volunteers organized by Maureen Mathers. As of June 2008, 2,081 residents held Williamsburg CW/MARS library cards while many other Williamsburg residents held CW/MARS cards from other area libraries. CW/MARS cards are used interchangeably at all CW/MARS libraries. The Meekins Library served as the school library for the 23rd year. Classes visited the library Tuesday and Thursday mornings. Pre-school story-time with Rochelle Wildfong was offered at the Meekins Library each Wednesday at 10. The Library web-site, www.meekinslibrary.org or www.meekins-library.org, continues to provide access to library and community information, the library catalog, information databases and links to other libraries, thanks to our volunteer webmaster, Steve Berlin-Chavez. Meekins Library gardens and grounds were again tended by volunteers Nick Dines, Eric Weber and John Stevens.

Library Annual Appeal: During the fall of 2007 the Williamsburg Board of Library Trustees undertook their first Annual Appeal. Goals for the first annual fund included: a return of library service on Wednesday evening and Saturdays until 3 p.m., updating and building the non-fiction collection, wireless computer access at the Haydenville Library, and new materials for the children's department. The Board set a goal of \$10,000 for the appeal. Over 121 families helped the library reach \$10,000 by the end of June 2008 and the library board made plans to implement library goals.

Summer Reading Program: Over 195 children signed up to read books and win prizes as part of the 2007 Summer Reading Program "*Catch the Beat.*" At our annual kick-off party Todd Brodeur, Frisbee Champion, demonstrated his award-winning frisbee moves and taught over 50 children and adults how to do beginning moves and tricks on the Meekins Lawn. The Summer Reading Program was made possible in large part by a generous donation from the Friends of the Williamsburg Library and donations from Mark Rosenzweig, of ACME Surplus, Victoria Loud, of the Loud Family Sugar House, as well as support from the Western Massachusetts Regional Library System.

Reading Programs included a four session Family Reading Program as well as a Mother-Daughter book group facilitated by Debbie Connell. The groups were co-sponsored by the Hilltown Community Health Centers and the Meekins Library. Jennifer Black, 6th grade teacher at the Anne T. Dunphy School, organizes and runs our popular children's reading program, "Reading to Dogs."

Grants: The library applied for three grants in FY08. Gates Foundation Computer grant: Library staff completed a Gates Foundation on-line computer assessment program and an online course designed to help the library seek additional funding for computers. The Haydenville and Meekins Library were awarded funds to help purchase and maintain two computers in the next two years. The Library applied for and was awarded an Equal Access Grant for \$3,000 to help provide health information and programming at the library. The Library Director attended a two-day workshop to prepare for this grant. The library applied for and was awarded the Institute of Museum and Library Services grant for Serving Tweens and Teens for \$20,000. This is a two-year grant, starting in October 2008.

The Neil Hammer Gallery: The following shows appeared in the Neil Hammer Gallery in the Hawks~Hayden Community Room during FY08:

- July 2007 – *Environmental Palette, Modern Dynamics* paintings by Sherid Adams
- August – *Nature Photography* by Lee Satterfield
- September – *Sites Unseen* photography by Kate Way
- October & November – *Moments...Forms in Nature*, fine art photography by Lauren Salva
- December – Lisa Wenner “*Mexico Mio*” photographs and art from Mexico
- January & February 2008 – Cyndy Sperry Prints, *The Building Blocks Series*
- March – *Art Exhibition of 6th Grade Peace Posters*
- April – *Cajun and Zydeco Musicians an exhibition of photographs* by Alan Bernhardt; visitors at the opening listened to music, learned some steps, and sampled Cajun food from Big Mamou’s
- May – *Sculpture · Tapestry · Prints · Drawings: performance and installation* by Robroy Chalmers
- June – *Snap Peas; a fifth grade photovoice project* in the Williamsburg school garden

Public Programs held in the Hawks~Hayden Community Room:

- Magic Show with Sherid Adams
- Fungus Follies, a Mushroom Talk and Walk by the Highland Communities Initiative
- Avalanche, a rock performance
- Bailly Morse book signing and reading *Fortune’s Flight*
- First Aid Spanish, 10 beginning Spanish lessons with Gloria Black
- Documentary Film Series presented by Jim Weed
- Meekins Reading Discussion of *Middlesex*
- Reading to Dogs, a reading program for elementary school students with Jennifer Black and others
- Pamela Thompson book reading and signing *Every Past Thing*
- Erica Verillo book reading and signing and costume party *Elissa’s Quest*
- Family Book Club co-sponsored with the Hilltown Community Health Center
- *Raw Milk, a collection of poems*, poetry reading by Wendy Elaine Emerson
- Four part reading discussion program “Mexico: From Pre-Conquest to Fuzzy Peaches and Painted Birds; History, Literature, Art and Music,” sponsored by the Friends of the Williamsburg Libraries, Meekins Library and the Massachusetts Foundation for the Humanities
- Williamsburg Post Office sponsored class “Learn How to Buy and Sell on e-Bay”
- John Porcino storyteller, “Cabin Fever stories and songs”

- Tracking class with Massachusetts Audubon
- Leora Nesson, “Spring Cleansing”
- Arbor Day Poetry Reading co-sponsored by the Friends of the Williamsburg Libraries and Williamsburg Tree Committee
- Keith Harmon Snow, “Selected Travel Stories: Wheels of Life (and other stories) The Freedom & Wonder of Travel by Bicycle, Portraits & Stories from Afghanistan (After Democracy), Heart of Darkness: Another White Guy on the Congo River”
- Fabric Book Workshop with Laura Curren
- “The New Art of Pastel II The da Vinci Mode” with Gregory Maichak
- Dusty Miller, *Stop Running From Love*, book signing and discussion
- Memorial for Williamsburg resident Helen Bacon

Meeting Space for Clubs, Organizations, Boards, Departments: Board of Library Trustees, family evening watching slides, Fire Chief’s meeting, Foster Parents group, Friends of the Library, Hampshire County Riding Club, Hampshire Hoof-Beats 4-H Group, Hilltown Community Development Corporation: 1st Time Home Buyers and informational meetings about local housing, Hilltown Community Land Trust, Pioneer Valley Antiques Association, Spanish language group led by Gloria Black, Williamsburg Council on Aging Writing Group, Williamsburg Historical Commission Board, Williamsburg Historical Society Board, Williamsburg Police Department, Williamsburg Technology Committee, WMRLS, yoga classes.

Friends of the Library: The Friends of the Williamsburg Libraries continue to support our libraries with financial donations, gifts and volunteer efforts, most notably at the Haydenville Library where Maureen Mathers, the volunteer coordinator, keeps the library staffed with volunteers. Once again the Friends, with help from the local cultural council, offered their popular Sunday Music program held at Nash Hill Place. Over the summer the Friends co-sponsored beginning Spanish lessons and in the fall the Friends and the Library offered a five part reading discussion series. In November, Move It For Meekins (Run, Walk, Pedal, Push and Chili Fest) brought runners, walkers and bikers to the library. In March twelve of the Friends of the Library took a trip to Mexico as the conclusion to a study of that country. They traveled to Oaxaca, Puebla and Mexico City. Nel Wijnhoven, long time member of the Friends, and Lisa Wenner organized the trip.

Kmit Memorial Fund: In December of 2007, Evelyn Kmit, who was born and raised in Williamsburg, and who worked as librarian at the Meekins Library as well as physical education teacher and coach in the Williamsburg Schools, left \$300,000 to the town to be used for library programs for children. This fund is managed by the Williamsburg Trust Fund Commission. Interest from the trust will provide funds to assist children in learning to appreciate and use the library.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Wenner, Library Director

Anne Haxo, Chair; Connie Fitzgerald, Treasurer; Jim Locke, Building Liaison; Pat Billingsley; Mary Gabrielson; Chris Loring; Williamsburg Board of Library Trustees

Williamsburg Libraries – Volunteers

Christine Allen	Jeff Gelbard	Lauren Salva
Jennifer Antill	Lynda Hall	Else Schlerman
Katharine Baker-Titleman	Eleanor Hebert	Gloria Silverman
Jack Barry	John Hoogstraten	John G. Stevens
Lois Beaty	Elaine Hyde	Kathy Thomas
Amy Bedell	Myra Ilson	Janet Tudryn
Steve Berlin-Chavez	Terry Johnson	Elaine Ulman
Gloria Black	Eileen Keegan	Margo Valone
Robert Buchele	Beth Kilduff	Marvin Ward
Anne Bussler	John Lancaster	Eric Weber
Marianna and John Connolly	Jennifer Lewis	Ingar Westburg
Linda Culver	Matthew Marian	Gina Wetzel
Daria D'Arienzo	Maureen McKenna	Victoria Yoshen
Kate Davidheiser	Maureen Mathers	Nancy Zimmer
Nick Dines	Phoebe Mathews	
Joan Donovan	Michele Morales-Wolk	
Gail Fusco	Sandra Papush	
Lee Garvais	Peter Pelland	

Annual Report of the Open Space Committee

In 2008, the Williamsburg Open Space Committee launched efforts to improve mechanisms for protecting the town's natural areas. We worked with the Select Board and Town Administrator to develop a process for the town to use in reviewing its right of first refusal to purchase properties enrolled in the Chapter 61 Program that come up for sale. This process will help the town make timely and informed decisions about whether or not to exercise its right of first refusal to purchase land in town. The Committee also provided landowners with land enrolled in the Chapter 61 Program with information on the current opportunities and responsibilities associated with that program.

There are currently an array of land protection options with compelling federal and state tax incentives available to Massachusetts landowners. The Williamsburg Open Space Committee is working to ensure landowners are aware of these options and to help make connections between interested landowners and land trusts or state agencies that could help protect these lands. Landowners interested in land protection options now or in the future should contact the Open Space Committee. The committee also has detailed information about the ecological value of all sections of town for a range of criteria. Anyone interested in learning more about the ecological importance of their land should contact the Open Space Committee.

The Open Space committee has two vacancies that we are eager to fill as soon as possible. Anyone interested in joining the committee should submit a letter to the Select Board. No particular experience is needed, though knowledge of forests, farms and other open lands in Williamsburg or experience with Geographic Information Systems (GIS) are always a plus.

Annual Report of the Planning Board

The Planning Board met 18 times during 2008.

Seven applications for Subdivision Approval Not Required (A.N.R.) were received; all applications were approved. Three joint hearings with the Tree Warden (Tree Committee) were held to determine the removal of certain public shade trees.

The Planning Board continued the process to enact an Age Restricted Housing By-law. A public hearing was held and the By-law was presented to Town Meeting. The By-law was passed by Town Meeting.

Mr. Tom Masters requested that Deer Haven Manor be accepted as a town way. The Planning Board followed the appropriate steps outlined in the Subdivision Regulations to determine that all conditions were met, then forwarded that information to the Select Board.

The Planning Board held a Public Hearing to revise Section 14, Permits and Exemptions, in the By-law. The Board found that the Building Inspector's intent was unclear and voted to table the article to change the By-law on Town Meeting floor. Further work was completed by the Board and we intend to hold another public hearing to change Section 14 of the By-law and present it at Town Meeting 2009.

The Board spent time at many meetings discussing the naming of a subdivision adjoining Laurel Road, 6R Laurel Road. Not having an actual street name could cause confusion for emergency responders, delivery people and the public. After our discussions the Board learned that the Select Board was following a similar endeavor and voted to have the Select Board take the lead on this matter.

The Planning Board received an application for Site Plan Review from Andrew Quient to expand his business at 206 Main Street. The Board held a joint Public Hearing with the Zoning Board of Appeals. The Planning Board found that Mr. Quient's proposal is a suitable development, but called attention to a section of the By-law concerning outdoor lighting.

Respectfully submitted,

Roger Bisbee, Chairman

Jim Locke, Clerk

James Lawrence

Timothy McQueston

Andy Soles

Stephen Snow

Neal Anderson

Martin Mahoney, former member representing the Planning Board on the Brassworks Reuse Committee

Annual Report of the Police Department

The police department made significant progress toward modernization during this year.

Federal, State and Private Grants allowed the department to purchase the following equipment:

A radar speed monitoring and display trailer has been purchased, using grant funding from the Executive Office of Public Safety, Highway Safety Division and Community Policing funds. The funded cost was \$ 9,950.00. As soon as the snow and ice melt, this trailer will visit different areas of Williamsburg.

MIIA, the insurance group that provides insurance to Williamsburg, awarded the Police Department a grant to purchase a digital video and audio recording system for the booking room to help reduce liability. The cost of this equipment was \$ 4,400.00. MIIA paid \$ 3,750.00. The police budget paid the additional \$ 650.00.

A grant from Homeland Security in the amount of \$ 46,000.00 made possible the purchase and installation of a repeater system for Hilltown police departments. In addition new radios for Hilltown police departments are being provided.

A 2008 Cruiser was purchased this year, replacing a 2001 cruiser as a front line vehicle. Attempts to trade the 2001 cruiser resulted in no offers. The 2001 car has been kept as a backup cruiser.

During the ice storm of December 2008, FEMA reimbursed our community at the rate of \$ 18.00 per hour for each hour of cruiser use.

FEMA money for cruiser use during the ice storm:	\$ 2,776.50
Use of cruisers for traffic details generated an additional	\$ 3,799.00
The total to date for police vehicle use is:	\$ 6,575.00

Officers working details have brought in approximately \$ 1,942.00 in administrative fees.

The police department to date has generated a total of \$ 8,518.00 in fees for our community. FY09 still has a few months remaining.

“Greening” of the Police Department

In FY08 a new heating system was installed in the police fire building in Haydenville. This was accomplished by a fifty percent grant from the Executive Office of Public Safety and matching town funds.

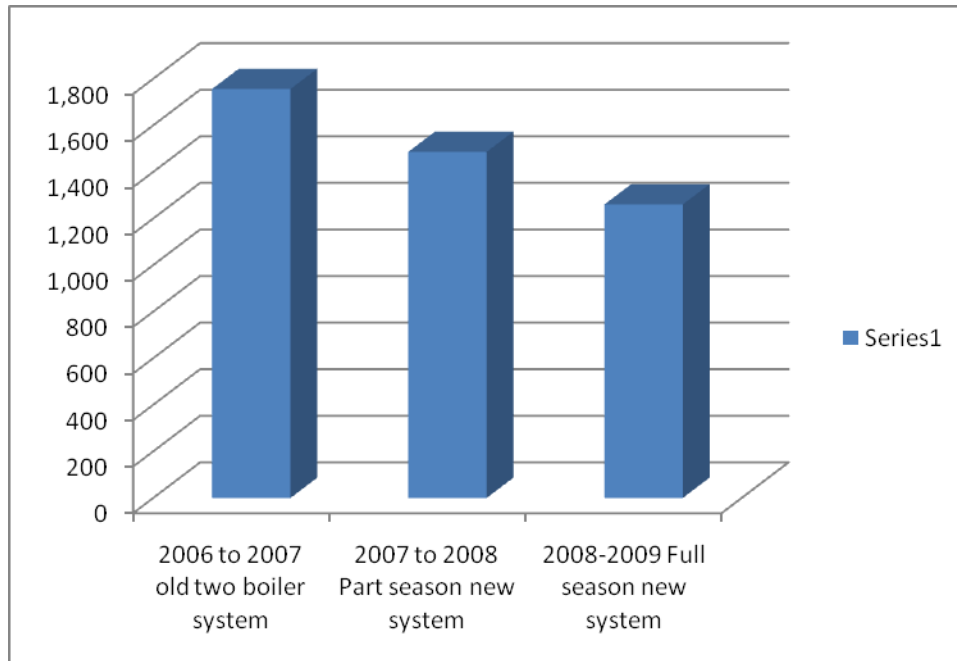
Heating oil consumption:

2006-2007 – 1,756 gallons

2007-2008 – 1,486 gallons

2008-2009 – 1,248 gallons. Total savings of heating oil approximately 500 gallons.

Dollars saved depend on price per gallon the town pays for heating oil.



Heating fuel consumption may be further reduced after an energy audit determines ways to reduce heat loss for this building.

Patrols

This year adequate money was provided in the labor account to fund daily patrols. Using a rotating schedule of daytime and evening (5 p.m. to 1 a.m.) patrols, the department has been able to cover at least eight hours of every day. On days the schedule overlaps, the department covers a full sixteen hours. There is still not enough money in the budget to cover for officers who are out sick or on vacation. One of the functions of daily patrol activity is to keep the station open for walk in reports, firearms licensing, accident reports and other police business.

Crime in Williamsburg

Traffic control and speed is still the number one concern in town. With the addition of the radar speed monitoring trailer, I hope to reduce speeding in Williamsburg.

This past summer there was a rash of breaking and entries into unoccupied homes. Those were solved. Alert neighbors assisted in the solving of those crimes. If you see something which does not look “right,” please call the department to let us know. Officers will investigate the situation you are reporting. Your observation may be what is needed to prevent or solve a crime.

The following data are from 01/01/2008 to 12/31/2008 – the calendar year.

On view arrests: 11 (brought to the station under arrest)

Summons arrests: 66 (summons to court – not brought into station)

Total combined arrests: 77

Education

Officers continued to attend classes and in service training sessions this year. Continuing education is needed to keep police officers proficient.

The new marijuana law

I have had many people ask me how I felt now that “marijuana is legal”. My reply is: Possession of marijuana is still not legal. Possession of under one ounce is now a non criminal \$100.00 fine, to be paid to the town clerk. A non criminal citation will be issued. In the case of juveniles, the parents are now liable, along with the juvenile, for possession. The new law places responsibility on parents for the actions of their children.

John W. Cotton
Chief of Police

Annual Report of the School Committee

The Williamsburg School Committee is made up of five elected Williamsburg voters. The 2008 members were Michael Beattie (January – June), Diane Bishop, Sarah Christiansen (July – December), Jeff Gelbard, Duncan Laird and Charlene Nardi. The Committee under the Education Reform Act of 1993 has three main responsibilities: to hire and evaluate the Superintendent, to establish policy and to review and approve the budget.

The School Committee continues to support the work of the Superintendent in addressing the five goals identified by her, our Principal and other School Administrators in the regional district. She continues to resolve the issues identified in the 2005 State Audit and lead the regions and local districts forward to educational excellence.

Policies are continually updated to be in compliance with state law or changes within the educational framework of our schools. An important focus for the 2008 year was to learn more about the Governor's readiness program and the state initiatives toward regionalization and collaboration. The impact of these initiatives on our schools is still unknown; however, we continue to communicate with our state legislators and the Department of Education to gain clarity on the proposals. We will continue to communicate with the school community and Town officials as we learn more.

In January 2008, the School Committee submitted an updated Notice of Intent to the reorganized Massachusetts School Building Authority (SBA) to address the need to consolidate our schools and improve the infrastructure of our buildings. Even though we began this process with the state initially in 2003, the updated Williamsburg submission was given a "Planning" status early in the 2008 process. From our conversations with representatives from the SBA and the looming Governor and Department of Education's state's regionalization initiative, we aren't hopeful that we will be receive any financial support from the state in our building project. Therefore, the School Committee is moving forward and has begun communications with the Williamsburg Finance Committee, Building Needs Committee, Town Treasurer, Capital Planning, Select Board and Town Administrator to discuss how the Town can address our school building needs locally.

The Williamsburg School FY09 budget (2008-2009 school year), approved at the June 2008 Annual Town Meeting, was level funded for the tax payers of Williamsburg at \$1,466,975, the same as the prior fiscal year. As with every year, the Administration and School Committee worked very hard to put together a budget that reflected the educational needs of our children and was fiscally responsible. We continued to make compromises in order to balance these two goals. The increased FY09 costs which included staff contractual obligations, oil, electric and transportation, were absorbed by using \$295,000 in School of Choice funds and through natural attrition. The budget maintained our programs, small class sizes and special education services, and supported our math instructional programs, which were a particular focus to respond to the State Audit.

Unfortunately we are again facing the reality of potentially significant cuts in funding from the state and other grant support, in addition to the reduction of School of Choice funds this next fiscal year. As your representatives in the community in managing the school budget, we encourage you to come and listen in on our regular monthly meetings, held on the third Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. in the Anne T. Dunphy School cafeteria.

The educational needs of children have changed with each generation. Today we live in a very fast paced world where the bar for student, classroom and school achievement is always changing. It is a challenge for everyone in the educational community to meet these goals. We are fortunate that the Williamsburg community has always valued education and realized that it is not a luxury but a necessity for the future success of our students and our community. The School Committee appreciates the consistent funding support from the Williamsburg voters and Town officials, and the commitment of our school community families, which allow us to provide quality education programs. We thank our district Administrators and Principal for their leadership and guidance in governing the Williamsburg Schools. We especially thank our dedicated teachers who every day face the challenge of teaching our children all the requirements expected in today's world in only 180 days.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlene Nardi
Williamsburg School Committee Chair

Annual Report of the Williamsburg School Department

Anne T. Dunphy School, Grades 3 – 6

Helen E. James School, Grades PK – 2

School Vision and Focus: Our school mission states: “At the core of our mission are the students. We guide students to develop their minds, bodies and spirits to sustain themselves, their communities and the Earth.” Before detailing the school focus, we first looked to a definition of sustainability. We found sustainability, a term used in everyday language, may have its origin in the Brundtland Commission, led by the former Norwegian Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland. The Commission defined sustainable development as “that which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”

As a school focus we looked hard at sustainability from three distinct perspectives. First, sustainability as it relates to the social emotional well being of our school community. Second, sustainability as it relates to school facilities and practices. And third, sustainability as it is formally learned through our integrated curriculum work.

Williamsburg School Council

The mission of the School Council is to assist the Principal in formulating meaningful educational goals for the students of the Williamsburg Schools, assessing the needs of the schools in light of those goals, and defining and promoting objectives and activities that will advance those goals, address those needs and improve student performance.

Membership 2008

Kate Dollard, Parent (3rd Year of 3 year term)

Sarah Wein, Parent (1st Year of 3 year term)

Lisa Peloquin, Teacher (2nd Year of 2 year term)

Karen Schweitzer, Teacher (2nd Year of 2 Year term)

Jeff Gelbard, School Committee Liaison (Appointed by the School Committee 1 year term)

Vacancy – Community Member

Alfred Venne, Principal

Topics addressed this year have included: School Improvement Planning process, School vision of Sustainability, the evolution of Chapter 70 funding, Gardner’s Multiple Intelligences, updating of the Williamsburg School Web site. School based activities like community meetings, the work of the Cultural Arts Committee, council membership, MCAS & AYP, PTO and Title I status.

The PTO

The PTO has been reestablished this year with new leadership and wonderful enthusiasm. The PTO meets once a month. Co-Presidents are Melissa Zononi and Jeana Stanek, Secretary Patti Hillenbrand, and Treasurer Mindy Kelly. Other board members are Jen Reagan, Phoebe Shaw and Sharon Moulton. The PTO hosted many events this year including: Genevieve’s, Mother

Earth, Fairtrade Coffee Fundraiser, Dufresne Maple Syrup Fundraiser, Science Night/ Basket Raffle and the annual Book Fair. It should be noted that the PTO was under the guidance of Cindy Spelman during a transition period in the spring of 2008. One major accomplishment initiated by Mrs. Spelman this past year was the PTO attaining 501c3 non-profit status. This status allows the PTO to accept donations from the community.

WCAC

The Williamsburg Cultural Arts Committee (WCAC) is a volunteer committee made up of parents of children in the Williamsburg school system as well as interested staff members. The purpose of the committee is to research, organize, and sponsor culturally diverse arts programming for students in Kindergarten through 6th grade. The Committee collaborates with teachers and staff within the school to integrate the arts into the curriculum wherever possible. The committee believes in the value of arts education that includes exposure and involvement with performing arts such as theater, dance and music as well as the visual arts and creative writing. Tom Adams served as the parent coordinator this year with the able assistance of Art Teacher Nancy Mahoney.

Facility Work

Fire Alarm – The Anne T. Dunphy School smoke and fire alarm system was inspected and a certification granted by the Williamsburg Fire Department during the first week of July.

PK Floor – 300 square feet of the James School floor tile and two bound carpets required replacement following water damage from the July 4 weekend.

ATD Boiler Work – During our routine boiler maintenance some aspects of the interior masonry of the boiler had deteriorated to a point where some rebuilding will be necessary. One of the blower motors burned out and was replaced. Also several univents had minor updates.

HEJ Dishwasher – A new James School dishwasher was tested for the first time October 2008. The installation called for an upgrading of the electrical work associated with the installation.

Plumbing – The ATD classroom drinking fountains were removed. The majority of the remaining classroom faucets in both the James and Dunphy schools were repacked. Eyewash equipment was installed, a backflow preventer was installed on one of the Kindergarten sinks and of some flushometers were replaced. Also the Dunphy School main drain from the kitchen needed “The Drain Medic,” the grease trap was cleaned out and the dishwasher was repaired.

Electric Car Repair – The electric car was discovered to be discharging the batteries. This seven-year-old vehicle will require new batteries, a new charger and a minor upgrade in order to be put back into service. This vehicle has enabled certain students to access parts of our program cost effectively, including the library, PE programs and the garden.

Staff

Alice Walker retired. Mrs. Walker, a special education teacher, dedicated her 35+-year career to the children and families of Williamsburg. During her career in Williamsburg she served as Principal, Summer School Coordinator, Head Teacher, and Bus Monitor, etc. Mrs. Walker worked in every building used as a school, including the Haydenville School, James School, the Grange, and the Dunphy School. We wish her well. **John Heffernan**, computer technology coordinator and teacher, was recognized by MASCUE this year for his major contributions to technology education in the state. **David Sprague** returned this year following a one-year leave

of absence. **Mark Pion**, former assistant teacher, was hired as a science/technology specialist in Longmeadow. Assistant teacher **Holly Bower** replaced him. She is a certified teacher with a masters degree in education. **Anne Gelbard** was hired to work with our Preschool morning session this year. **Betty Chevalier** replaced **Janet Dooryard** as one of our assistants in the kitchen two days a week at the James School. **Karen Bierwert** resigned her teaching position with the Williamsburg School as she moved into retirement. Students, teachers and parents will miss Karen's admirable teaching. **Rochelle Nahmias** did not renew her Occupational Therapy contract with us for the fall of 2008. **Rhonda Goodspeed Brooks**, an experienced pediatric OT who also works with Cooley Dickinson Hospital, replaced her.

Professional Day, Tuesday, November 4. Staff participated in over 40 different professional development opportunities ranging from "Learning in the 21st Century" to the impacts of nanotechnology. The professional development opportunity was a coordinated effort including eight area school districts through the Hampshire Educational Collaborative.

Professional Day Curriculum Work, Monday, September 26. Using the results from the school wide administration of the Developing Writer's Assessment, teachers worked together to score student samples and set writing goals for individual students. In addition yearlong writing goals were set for each classroom.

Summer 2008 professional development included "Writing and the Teaching of Writing", "Presenting Investigations Workshops", "East Asian Studies @ Smith College", "Aligning Grade Level Themes to the Massachusetts Frameworks", "Creating Sculpture", "Read Naturally – Remedial Reading Training", etc. In addition all grade K-6 teachers were actively involved in greater district initiatives including the continued implementation of the math work

Program/Curriculum

Connections with Higher Education. UMass K12 Connections – Community Food Systems students, coordinated by parent/teacher Catherine Sands, worked with and taught Grades 1, 2 and 5. Smith College Botany/Biology students, coordinated by parent/teacher Carolyn Wetzel Seed, worked with and taught Grade 5.

Representative Stephen Kulik hosted Snap Peas, State House. The "Snap Peas" photo exhibit of model school garden program at the Williamsburg Elementary School was on display November 3-7, 2008 at the State House. Earlier in the fall the Snap Peas photo exhibition traveled to UMass Student Center, October 3 and 4. It was part of the 15th anniversary celebration of the Center for Public Policy.

Winter 2007 Food Drive. Student/teacher council organized a food drive for people who need food. Over 700 pounds of food were collected for the Hilltown Western Mass. Survival Center.

Harvest Feast was held on Friday, October 17. Some 200 people – a record crowd – came together for the annual Harvest Feast. The event was coordinated by Teacher Sherrie Marti and Parent Catherine Sands.

Exhibition of Peace Posters. Meekins Library hosted an exhibition of Peace Posters made by the sixth grade classes at the Anne T. Dunphy School, in the Hawks~Hayden Community Room during the month of March.

Other

On Friday, December 12, the Anne T. Dunphy School was used closed as a school and was opened as an emergency shelter for area families who, due an ice storm, lost power and were temporarily displaced. The shelter stayed open for nearly four days. The Emergency response team was activated in cooperation with the American Red Cross, Williamsburg Fire Department and Police Department with assistance from Highland Ambulance service.

Respectfully submitted

Alfred J. Venne
Principal

Annual Report of the Hampshire Regional School Committee

The Hampshire Regional School Committee, which serves the five town regional secondary school district, has been active and engaged on many issues throughout 2008. The district, including the towns of Chesterfield, Goshen, Southampton, Westhampton and Williamsburg, has completed three and a half years under the leadership of Superintendent Barbara Ripa. While her evaluation for 2008 remains a work in progress, our preliminary review indicates she continues to meet and exceed our expectations and continues her efforts to insure quality education to the children of our communities. The Hampshire Regional School Committee along with the elementary districts have extended Dr. Ripa's contract. We are pleased to continue to work with her and our district administrators to meet the educational needs of all students in our school district.

Setting the regional budget for fiscal '09 (July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009) as always required communication and cooperation between the Regional School Committee and the elected officials of our communities. With state Chapter 70 and transportation funding increasing but little from fiscal '08, each of our district towns faced financial difficulties to meet our budget request. Hampshire Regional shares district financial data with the towns to help local officials understand our financial situation and needs. The five towns continued to face their own budget problems, and assistance was most difficult in Southampton. The Regional School Committee adopted and the towns supported a final '08 budget of \$11,098,030 for the Regional School District, which represented a 5.4% increase over the district's Fiscal '08 budget. The budget increase was driven by increased health insurance, energy and transportation costs. The continued increase in health care costs is a problem that extends beyond our district, but we continue to seek ways to reduce increases. Our staff agreed to pay higher percentages for health insurance through collective bargaining in early 2008. The FY '09 budget permitted some necessary technology improvements. Hampshire Regional also began a very successful laptop lease program (LEEP) that seeks to provide our students with computers to prepare them for the global economic realities of the 21st century. Planning for educational change remains difficult without greater resources. It is clear from the economic chaos of 2008, with rising oil prices and then falling state revenues affecting our towns, that budgeting in 2009 will be extremely difficult. A new bus contract will be put out for bid in mid-2009 and, as our contractors experienced great difficulties with \$4.00 per gallon fuel in 2008, higher transportation costs are likely. It is very possible that there will be changes in bus service in September 2009. Our district is in competition with surrounding districts and area charter schools and must continue to find ways to reach and maintain excellence in education if we are to meet the needs of our communities. Our district must remain safe, friendly, supportive and innovative, and a great place to learn.

Hampshire Regional Principal Jim Connolly served to June 2008. He came to Hampshire at a time of a budget deficit which reduced staff, and he worked very hard during his five years at Hampshire to add staff and resources every year. He very ably guided Hampshire through its ten year NEASC accreditation process. He helped Hampshire Regional reflect on what it is and could be and kept it faithful to our mission. Dr. Connolly surveyed students and parents to determine their thoughts about Hampshire and helped establish our Parent Teacher Student

Organization (PTSO). He has left us much to remember and a vision of our future. We thank him for his service to our school.

In January 2008, Hampshire Regional held its 25th annual History Day fair, which involved our students in research and presentation of historical information. Two of our participants, eighth graders Alaina Belanger and Julie Roberts, presented their project “Captors and Captives: 1704 French and Indian Raid on Deerfield, Massachusetts” at the National History Day contest in the Washington, DC, area in June 2008. In March 2008, our Drama Club and Music Department successfully presented Fiddler on the Roof at Hampshire Regional. Also in March, Hampshire’s Guidance Department organized a career day for ninth graders. Our April 2008 Science Fair stressed the scientific method with research on a hypothesis and an explanation of results. In June, the School Committee again cooked breakfast for our 110 graduating seniors. Our seniors continue to complete 15 hours of community service as a graduation requirement. During the summer, Hampshire Regional and the four elementary districts received a health services grant that permits a rotating nurse to provide coverage to all our schools in the event that the regular nurse is absent. In September 2008, Patricia Clem began serving Hampshire Regional as our interim principal. In October, Evan Baum and Lauren Howe began serving as student representatives to the School Committee. Ann Trytko, our athletic director, was recognized by the MIAA as recipient of the Theodore Danko Award for significant contributions and invaluable service to interscholastic athletics. In March, Karissa Gorman, a member of our co-op swim team with Easthampton High School, won the 100 yard breast stroke at the MIAA state meet. Our co-op football team, also with Easthampton, participated in the 2008 Super Bowl, losing to Assabet Valley 24-16. These activities and many others at Hampshire Regional helped the school to meet its mission to develop our students’ knowledge and skills to enable them to be life-long learners and responsible citizens.

In 2008, Hampshire Regional made adequate yearly MCAS progress for all student groups. While our results are generally very good, the school must work diligently to meet the needs of all its students. Whenever students are identified as failing, Hampshire, through tutoring and additional academic effort, works to help them meet the MCAS requirements. The School Committee continued its commitment to maintaining our school’s mission of a balanced, broad and humane education for every student.

The year 2008 was a time of continued challenge for Hampshire Regional and your School Committee. The committee continued to work to provide our children with the best education we can in difficult economic times. We value the excellent work of our teaching, support and administrative staff. We continue our work with them and with the students, parents and residents of the five towns to meet the challenges of 2009.

Respectfully submitted,

Brad Brousseau
Chair, Hampshire Regional School Committee

Annual Report of the Superintendent of Schools

Superintendent Barbara Ripa reports that the schools in the Hampshire Regional School District have had another exciting and productive year. Teachers and staff worked hard to provide quality instructional and extra-curricular programs for our students, while maintaining safe, positive and productive learning environments within our schools. The following report will highlight some of the programs, events, measurements and activities undertaken as we strive to educate today's youth for tomorrow's world.

On September 2nd, Superintendent Ripa welcomed back 316 staff members from all five school districts during Convocation Day, held at Hampshire Regional. She thanked them for all their hard work in the previous school year and noted many recent successes throughout the districts:

- Through the collaborative efforts of teachers, administrators and other staff members, district personnel have increased awareness and understanding of safety, health and wellness issues in our schools and have developed and adopted wellness policies, nut protocols and emergency plans around shelter in place and evacuation. Many of our schools have Safety and/or Crisis Preparedness committees.
- We have expanded the number of computers and other educational technologies in our schools and increased teacher competence and confidence in using technology to enhance instruction and learning. Our school websites are ever improving and the use of Connect Ed has helped keep our parents and families informed and included.
- We have improved teacher/student ratios through the hiring of new staff and careful budgetary planning.
- New budgetary software program has provided more up-to-date information around budget balances and spending.
- Training in Responsive Classroom has provided a method for introducing and supporting positive classroom climate strategies for our elementary classrooms.
- The Pre-School Committee designed and piloted a Standards-Based Report Card.
- Teachers were trained in and implemented differentiated instructional strategies in their secondary classrooms.
- Secondary staff created curriculum maps to document what is taught in each content area in grades seven through twelve as a means to identify what standards are taught, when they are taught and how learning is measured.
- Elementary math teachers utilized a district math assessment to gather data on elementary math instruction.
- Enrichment activities and fairs at all levels highlight the multi-discipline curriculum and focus taught in all our schools.
- Hampshire Regional enjoyed its first musical in over thirty years. "Fiddler on the Roof" was a huge success.
- Transition from Grade 6 to Grade 7 is smoother for students and staff due to transitional planning and implementation.
- Through the successful application for the Essential School Health Services Grant, Mary Phelan was able to secure funds that are being used to pay the salary of an additional .5 nurse. While this additional health staff person is based at Hampshire Regional, she

spends time at our elementary schools on a rotating basis, providing much needed assistance especially around conducting student screenings.

- Articulation meetings between Grades 6 and 7 math and language arts teachers have improved understanding of curricula taught at both levels.
- A new teacher evaluation plan will be piloted this year thanks to the work of the committee addressing professional growth and evaluation.
- Our district-wide elementary math curriculum is in its third year for Grades 4-6 and second year for Grades K-3. For the first time, all of our schools and all of our sub-categories made AYP in math.

Some of these accomplishments came easily; others took much more work. But all are examples of what we were able to accomplish by working together toward common goals.

WILLIAMSBURG PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Helen E. James School, PreK-2

Anne T. Dunphy School, Grades 3-6

Principal Alfred Venne notes that Williamsburg staff continues its work around sustainability. Working with a facilitator last year, the staff and Principal Fred Venne developed a vision of sustainability for the school. The vision was in three parts: social/emotional sustainability, facilities, and curriculum. The pilot for the curriculum was launched this year and focused on the three R's: reduce, reuse and recycle. Through this focus, each class took on a local action project at the school. Fertile Ground and the school gardening project continued to be a major focus for 08-09. A third initiative was the creation of a Student/Teacher Council. This new group is composed of one student representative from each classroom and one adult from each building. The Student/Teacher Council was created to provide opportunities for students to learn and practice leadership skills and to promote the work toward a positive school climate.

More news from around the schools:

- In April, the PTO announced that the Brewmaster's Tavern raised \$1050.00 to be used for the schools. Thank you to our neighbor and supporter!
- Mrs. Long's second grade took an up-close look at airplanes at the Northampton Airport as part of their physics unit on weather. Students were able to compare and contrast their class-made windsocks with the huge orange windsock at the airport.
- In October, students attended a special assembly provided by Florence Savings Bank. Students got to see a brick of silver from the Treasury Department as they listened to a Gold Medalist soccer player talk to them about the importance of setting goals. She wore her gold medal to show the students.
- The October Harvest Fest was another success. A record number of people (over 200) turned out to enjoy a feast prepared by students and teachers and a host of families. Every class Pre K through Grade 6 cooked something for the event.
- Kindergarten students made a visit to the Eric Carle Museum in December.
- Botany and biology students from Smith College worked with Grade 5 students in December. The focus of the lesson was seed discernment.

WILLIAMSBURG PUBLIC SCHOOLS

October 1, 2007 Enrollment

GRADE	PRE-K	K	1	2	3	4	5	6
Enrollment	21	20	8	13	14	17	20	31

WILLIAMSBURG STUDENTS AT HAMPSHIRE REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

October 1, 2007 Enrollment

GRADE	7	8	9	10	11	12
Enrollment	23	12	17	10	25	11

School Committee members for school year 2008-2009:

Diane Bishop
Sarah Christiansen
Jeff Gelbard
Charlene Nardi, Chair
Duncan Laird

HAMPSHIRE REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

At the end of the 2007-08 school year and at the start of the 2008-09 school year, Hampshire Regional saw many faculty and staff changes:

- **Mrs. Patricia Clem**, replacing Principal **James Connolly**, became the Interim Principal for Hampshire Regional. However, in January, Mrs. Clem's status changed from Interim Principal to Principal. Welcome aboard, Mrs. Clem.
- **Mrs. Anita Hayes** retired after teaching in the foreign language department for 24 years and also serving as Curriculum Coordinator.
- We also said goodbye to our school nurse, **Mrs. Kathy Swiderski**. Mrs. Swiderski watched over our school children with tender loving care for 19½ years. We wish Mrs. Hayes and Mrs. Swiderski much happiness in their retirement.
- **Ms. Sally Masters**, Guidance, resigned her position to take a college assignment.
- **Ms. Laurie Garcia** will teach Spanish to replace Mrs. Hayes. Laurie came to us from The MacDuffie School in Springfield where she worked since 2004. Laurie actually worked part-time at Hampshire Regional as a Spanish teacher during the 1997- 98 school year. She is excited about returning to Hampshire.
- **Mrs. Jennifer Garmirian** was hired as a Special Education teacher. Jen is not a stranger to HRHS. She has been working in Ms. DeVecchio's Life Skills classroom since February of 2008. Before that, Jen worked for the Hampshire Educational Cooperative classroom, which was housed in our building until December 2007.
- **Mrs. Cynthia Domina** is our new school nurse and comes to us from Springfield Technical Community College, where she was on the faculty, and Holyoke Medical Center, where she has been working as an R.N. Cindy has had many years of nursing experience.

- Through funds provided by the Essential School Health Services Grant, **Mary Price** will be our new half-time nurse. Mary has had a number of experiences as an R.N. in eastern and western Massachusetts. Her most recent experience was as a per diem school nurse at Hilltown Cooperative Charter School.
- **Dr. Joseph Silverman** returned to the Hampshire Regional School District as a part-time School Psychologist. Joe worked at Hampshire during the 2000 through 2003 school years. Welcome back, Joe.
- **Mrs. Kathleen Campbell**, a long time Math paraprofessional at Hampshire also retired this summer. She will be replaced by **Mrs. Tammy Lyons**, who has been working here as a Special Education paraprofessional.
- We welcomed the following Special Education paraprofessionals to Hampshire Regional: **Mrs. Elizabeth Sormanti, Ms. Lisa Lavelle, Mrs. Sarah Jablonski and Mrs. Carolyn Florek**. They replaced **Stephanie Puc, David Powers and Kathleen Campbell**.
- **Jennifer Florek** was hired as a long-term substitute to replace Kelly Carpenter while she is out on a one-year maternity leave.
- We also welcomed back the following teachers who were on maternity leave last school year: **Mrs. Natalie Levreault, Mrs. Amy Cyr and Mrs. Tracey Pinkham**.
- **Christine Martin**, van driver, was hired to replace **Ron O'Brien**, who retired.

Celebrating teaching and learning

Julia Roberts and Alaina Belanger are national award winners, placing 11th in the country for their National History Day research project “Captors and Captives: The 1704 French and Indian Raid on Deerfield, Massachusetts.” Congratulations, Julia and Alaina. We are so proud of your accomplishments.

This past summer, senior **Brittany Rice** traveled to Iceland for two weeks. She participated in the Student Challenge Awards Program at Earthwatch Institute, where she studied glaciers. She was one of nine U.S. students who participated in the program. Brittany has decided that since her trip she definitely wants to pursue a career in science after high school.

Caitlin Powers traveled with her family to Akron, Ohio, this summer to participate in the international soap box derby where she drove the car she built herself. Nice job, Caitlin!

Cara Haxo was accepted into the All-State Chorus as an alto. She had an original piece of music performed during the March All-State Festival.

Michael Boucher and **Sam Antill** represented Hampshire Regional at the National Youth Leadership Forum on Medicine.

The Adams Scholarship offers four years of free tuition for students attending the University of Massachusetts or any participating state or community college. To qualify for the award, students must receive a score in the proficient or advanced level on the MCAS exam. Congratulation to 2008 winners: **Daniel Abrahamson, Amanda Blanchard, Christopher Brida, Laura Brown, Dominique Bruso, Seth Burt, Robin Clark, Bryan Clark Jr., Curtis**

Cox Jr., Melanie Culver, Kate Davies, Stephanie Desmond, Matthew Freniere, Eric Gillett, Julie Grden, Jonathan Hawkes, Benjamin Kitchen, Timothy Korpita, Cassandra Kulon, William Labrie, Blayne Lapan, Jacob Lyons, Derrek Marcus, Myles McCarthy, Elizabeth Moriarity, Brian Morse, Jonathan Myette, Sean O'Hare, Alyssa Ouimet, Thomas Paquette, Max Ponte, Sadie Prickett, Allison Prucnal, Kathryn Riel, Meaghan Swanson, Melissa Tavares and Kellie Welch.

Through the direction of **Mary Phelan**, Health Education Coordinator for the district, Hampshire Regional School District sponsored a workshop series called ***Guiding Good Choices*** to help parents learn how to strengthen their bonds with their children and reduce the risk that their children will use drugs. In a lively and open atmosphere, parents learned specific strategies to help their children avoid drug use and other adolescent problem behaviors. Parents also learned how to set clear family guidelines, learned and practice skills to strengthen family bonds and help their children develop healthy behaviors.

Athletic Achievements and Awards:

- Swimmer **Karissa Gorman** won Div. 2 State Championship in the breaststroke.
- Wrestler **Cam Ursia** was runner up in the heavyweight class at Western Mass. Championship.
- Hampshire cheerleaders won League and Western Mass. Championships.
- **Hampshire Golf team** claimed League championship for the 3rd time in 4 years and also won the PVIAC Conference Championship.
- Senior golfer **Sam LaBonte** won the PVIAC Individual Championship.
- Hampshire **Boys' Soccer Team** won the League Championship for the 4th year in a row.
- Senior soccer player **Dillon Zaengle** received the Division 2 Player of the Year honor.
- The Hampshire/Easthampton **Eagles Football team** won the League Championship and was the Western Mass representative to the Div. IIIA Superbowl.
- Senior runner **Nick Otis** took 2nd place at the WMASS Cross Country Championships.
- **Athletic Director Ann Trytko** was chosen by the Massachusetts Secondary Schools Athletic Directors Association to be this year's recipient of the Ted Damko Award. Mrs. Trytko was honored at the Annual MSSADA Conference in March.
- In April, after passing a national exam, **Mrs. Trytko** achieved the designation of Certified Athletic Administrator.

Staff recognition:

- Art Teacher **Karen Tetreault** displayed her photography at the Pelham Free Library during the month of January.
- World Language teacher **Cynthia Streker** was accepted into the Smith College Masters of Arts in Teaching degree program in the Department of Spanish/Education.
- In November, Hampshire Regional Choral Director **Rebecca Phelps** led the Bay Path Choral Group to perform in Vienna.
- Math teacher **Matthew Geertsma** and science teacher **Tara O'Brien** were engaged in a year-long activity project that uses math and science to design and build a school courtyard for students to enjoy.

- Math teachers **Jim Liptak, Terry Barut, Dale Nicodemi** and **Jenny Kirouac** continued to promote and support the student laptop initiative.
- **Dr. George Biggs** was appointed judge for the Promising Young Writers Program for the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE). The Promising Young Writers Program is an NCTE-sponsored competition designed to honor eighth-grade students in the United States, Canada, and American schools abroad for excellence in writing.
- **Matthew Geertsma** was selected as one of the recipients of the Pioneer Valley Excellence in Teaching Award, which annually recognizes the importance of teaching in the lives of children in our society and in the communities where they live and is meant to encourage and support these extraordinary professionals in their commitment to teaching. Sponsored by the Harold Grinspoon Charitable Foundation, this prestigious award went to Matt to recognize him for his enthusiasm, energy, creativity and leadership.

HAMPSHIRE REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

October 1, 2008 Enrollment

GRADE	7	8	9	10	11	12
Enrollment	138	136	134	110	119	100

School Committee Members for 2008-09:

Donald Abel	Cathy Karowski	David Pesuit
Diane Bishop	Sherrie Marti	Irene Ryan
Brad Brousseau, Chair	Patrick Monahan	Katherine Smith
Patricia Colson-Montgomery	Joseph Moynahan	Donald Snyder
Nancy Curtis	David Nardi	Angela Valinski
Janice Gibeau	Karl Norris	Tarin Weiss

Annual Report of the Board of Selectmen

This was a busy and interesting year as the Board adjusted to working with the new Town Administrator. The Board signed a three-year contract with Steve Herzberg and welcomed him on board.

The Board had a busy year with committees, creating three new ones, as well as appointing members to all.

- A Technology Committee, charged with reviewing all the Town's equipment and our website, recommending necessary changes and implementing the changes as approved by the Board.
- A three-person Veterans' Memorial Committee, to oversee the maintenance and other work at the Veterans' Memorial, including the adding of any missing names of veterans from past wars and adding the names of veterans from present and future wars or conflicts.
- A five- to seven-member Building Needs Committee, charged with listing and evaluating all Town buildings and properties and assessing their present and future uses and needs.

The Board reviewed the Town's personnel policy over the course of many meetings, made necessary updates and changes, and voted to adopt the updated policy. Review by Town Counsel is pending.

The Board received a Financial Management Review for Fiscal Year 2007 and recommended some changes to be made. The Fiscal Year 2007 audit was received, showing improvements in many areas and a few areas needing changes, many of which have already been made and should show up on the next year's audit.

Bonnie Roberge, the Collector, and Joyce Muka, our Accountant, worked very hard to balance the real estate tax numbers from previous years. The Collector, through aggressive billing and use of Town Counsel for tax liens, was able to collect almost all of the Town's delinquent taxes from past years.

The Board, at the recommendation of the Technology Committee, entered into a contract with Virtual Town Hall to design, implement and maintain the Town website.

The Highway Superintendent, working with the Board and Administrator, was able to find enough Chapter 90 funds from the previous and current year to rebuild, install new drainage and pave a mile of Old Goshen Road and Hemenway Road before winter. The new Highway Department ten-wheel dump truck that was voted for at Town Meeting has arrived and is in service.

The brewery at Brewmasters Tavern was completed, started producing and should be a nice addition to our Town center and to our tax base.

The Board reinstated holding All Boards meetings and started again to publish the Town newsletter.

The Town Wiring Inspector, Paul Lyons, retired from his position after many years of dedicated service and the Board appointed a new Inspector and an Alternate Inspector.

The Board held a public hearing on the Town's Community Development Strategy with Andrew Baker of the Hilltown Community Development Corporation and many interested residents. After receiving a great deal of input from those present and discussing the suggestions with the help of the Town Administrator, the Board made the necessary changes to the strategy document and voted to adopt it.

The Board feels it has or will have accomplished many of the things we set out to do this year, and we know there are many things left to do. With a year under our belts working with our Town Administrator, we feel we can get even more accomplished next year. The Board is working hard to help Williamsburg continue to be the wonderful town that it is.

Annual Report of the Shade Tree Committee/Tree Wardens

The Tree Warden operates under State Law Chapter 87 and Chapter 40. “Public Shade Trees” are defined as “all trees within a public way or on the boundaries thereof.” Public Shade Trees include trees that are acquired or planted for the purpose of “improving, protecting, shading or ornamenting” the public ways. Public Shade Trees may be growing on public or private property.

The Tree Warden meets on the third Tuesday of each month. In the past year we have had notifications from citizens regarding hazardous trees located along the road in front of their private property. National Grid requested permission to remove trees to protect their electric wires. The Williamsburg Highway Department asked permission to remove trees along a narrow section of Hemenway Road in order to improve safety conditions for drivers. In each case, the Tree Warden inspects the trees, holds public hearings in conjunction with the Planning Board, and a determination is made.

As in other years, we plan to do some planting of trees in the spring. There has been some interest expressed to us by private citizens to participate in the planning and planting of trees on their street. We encourage and welcome any citizen or group to be of help. Planting of public trees on private property is allowed under the State Law; however, maintenance of such public trees on private property could have practical problems; at this time, your town Tree Warden is suggesting planting of trees on public properties.

We have been informed of the Asian Longhorn Beetle infestation in Worcester. This beetle’s origin is China and has been imported via wood crates. These beetles love sugar maple trees. Worcester is working hard on their infestation. To limit chances of a local infestation, we advise people to purchase wood for burning from our county only.

The Tree Warden is currently composed of 3 members. There were at one time 7 members. More work was completed when the committee was larger. We urge and welcome citizens to consider joining our committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Bussler, 268-7979
John Kuzeja, 268-7265
Osa Flory, 268-7522

Annual Report of the Oliver Smith Will Charities

During the past year fifteen tradespersons were enrolled. Loans of \$600 each were made to five apprentices; the notes of eleven tradespersons have been surrendered and the benefit of \$600 granted to each. Six student nurses have enrolled under the Nurses' Program; four nurses who earned their degrees have received the nurse's gift of \$600. Eleven tradespersons and four nurses received an additional distribution of \$700 each. Forty-two widows have been paid a total of \$15,241 and nine brides have received the marriage gift of \$100 each. The total sum disbursed as gifts to beneficiaries was \$47,096, which includes \$11,455 that was paid to the City of Northampton for the account of Smith's Agricultural School, being the net income from the permanent fund established for the school. Additionally, \$13,316 was placed in the Reserved for Beneficiaries account.

Since provision of the Will went into effect, the beneficiaries of the nine communities have been paid:

Tradespersons*	\$ 2,850,100
Nurses**	798,133
Widows	1,710,262
Brides***	1,491,400
Smith's Agricultural School	1,466,505
Annuities	35,374
Taxes	613,717
<hr/>	
Total Payments	\$ 8,965,491
	=====

*Originally designated in the Will as Indigent Boys

**Originally designated in the Will as Indigent Female Children

***Originally designated in the Will as Indigent Young Women

Mortgage payments have been made promptly and outstanding loans are up to date.

Trustees
John E. Devine, Jr.
Timothy J. Strahan
Eric Cerreta

During Smith Charities' fiscal year, February 1, 2008 – January 31, 2009, there were no beneficiaries paid from Williamsburg. Two tradespersons were voted into the program and will be paid when they turn 22 years of age.

Eric Cerreta
Elector under the Oliver Smith Will

Annual Report of the Technology Committee

2008 was an exciting and busy year for this new committee. We have been working with town departments, staff, the Town Administrator and the Selectmen to coordinate the design of a completely new Town Website. The committee chose the services of VirtualTownHall.net to coordinate the design and hosting of this new site. Virtual Town Hall's user-input model is particularly appropriate for town staff and departments because it is extremely quick and easy to add new information and updates with its simple email-based submission method. The new website will allow for departments to submit calendar events, news alerts, application forms, PDF files, etc. Examples of other towns that use Virtual Town Hall's services can be found at http://www.virtualtownhall.net/Pages/VTH_Sites/index.

Another major accomplishment of the Technology Committee was the overhauling of the town's "community message board" on Comcast Channel 15. The Committee's chair, Tom Adams, used his previous experience as a community TV studio manager to suggest the new system's configuration: an Apple computer running Apple's "Keynote" slideshow software and playing music from iTunes as the soundtrack. The hope is to have local musicians submit their music to the channel so it can be added to the mix. Also, we hope to have residents submit their own photos to add to the visual appeal and variety of images displayed. Interested residents can email townclerk@burgy.org or tomadams@gmail.com for more info.

The new setup allows for easy updating by the town clerk, Brenda Lessard, and displays the various events and notices in an appealing and fun new format. Many residents have commented that they really enjoy the new slideshow and have been using it to find out what's happening in town.

The Technology Committee has also been working with the Meekins Library and their resident IT tech volunteer-extraordinaire, Matt Marian, to improve the technology there. A Cable TV line was installed in the Hawks~Hayden room to allow for group viewings. A small group also assembled to watch the Obama inauguration via streaming wifi video combined with audio from a good 'ole FM radio!

Tom Adams

Annual Report of the Trust Fund and Cemetery Commission & Trustees of the Meekins Library Corporation

The three-member Trust Fund Commission is responsible for overseeing the investment and distribution of funds left to benefit the people of Williamsburg. We are currently managing the funds with assistance from the investment firm Morgan Stanley.

As trustees, we encourage all Williamsburg residents to consider the Town when planning their estate, so their generosity and forethought can benefit our community for generations to come. Most bequests have been made for a specific purpose, such as education, Town beautification, or assisting low-income families, but the purpose of a trust is limited only by the creative spirit of the donor.

In the past three years alone, the Town has received generous bequests from the estates of Gertrude Ronk, Lois Scott and, most recently, from the Kmit family. The Kmit gift of \$354,000 is earmarked for the libraries, specifically to strengthen the programs and expand educational opportunities for children under the age of nineteen.

Other gifts are now used to aid students and support our schools. In the past few years, the students of Williamsburg have benefited from our funding of renewed creative efforts in computer technology and teacher- or student-initiated projects.

The Trust Fund Commission also handles the endowment for the Meekins Library. Acting as “Trustees of the Meekins Library Corporation,” the Commission is managing the principal from the original library trust. As with all Town funds, we have the responsibility of investing the funds and making distributions based on a formula that uses earned income and protects the principal. During these difficult economic times, it is important for the Trust Fund to provide as much support as possible, while adhering to guidelines that instruct us to protect the original investment.

Another responsibility of the Commission is to administer upkeep of the Town’s two cemeteries, Old Village Hill and Mountain Street, and to handle the sale of plots at Mountain Street, the historic Old Village Hill Cemetery being closed to burials.

Whether helping students, providing for needy families, sending flowers to the elderly on their birthdays, underwriting maintenance of the Town clocks and aiding in beautification projects, your gifts will be a source of continued giving for years to come. The generosity and forethought of Daniel Collins, the Town doctor, is a case in point. In 1856, Dr. Collins left the Town 51 shares of bank stock and \$7,000. Today his bequest is worth almost \$700,000 and is used annually to help our young scholars grow and learn.

The Trust Fund meets on the first and third Monday of each month, at 7 p.m. in the Town Offices.

Respectfully submitted,
John Pohanka, Chair
Peter Siersma
Paul Dunphy

Annual Report on Veterans' Services

The department has seen an expansion on all programs and services offered. This office continues to work with the veterans and their families in this community to receive all the benefits and recognition they deserve for their brave service to their country. We are providing benefits through the M.G.L. Chapter 115 program to our senior veterans and/or their surviving spouses, and to the occasional veteran who has hit upon hard times and is in need of short-term assistance.

There has been a significant increase in the filing for service-connected disability claims over the past year. These are claims for wartime veterans who have suffered an injury that has disabled the veteran for the long term and benefits are provided to compensate for these disabilities. We've filed for both WWII vets and more recently returning vets.

The monument committee was assigned with updating the names of veterans on the wall. The committee members have worked tirelessly with this office to verify information on wartime service through both the Massachusetts state archives and the National Archives and Records Administration in St. Louis, MO. Currently, 65 names have been verified for addition to the Memorial: 5 from WWII; 32 from the Korean War; 12 from the Vietnam War; 11 from the Persian Gulf; and 6 from the ongoing wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. At this time the committee has begun a fundraiser to raise \$6,000 to pay for the engraving of the new additions. Donations may be made to the Florence Savings Bank c/o War Memorial.

The two biggest days of recognition to our veterans are Memorial Day and Veterans' Day. This past year we worked cooperatively with the American Legion and their officers to continue, and improve upon, the demonstration of patriotism this community has always shown to those who've served their country so proudly. The 2008 Memorial Day Parade was a real success. Many citizens showed an interest in participating or simply viewing the event, which included the ceremonial salute to those who gave the ultimate sacrifice and for those veterans from our town who have passed on. We honor their service. We are working with various veterans and non-veterans groups to join in our parade and add to our tribute, and we are hoping Memorial Day 2009 will be another significant event.

The Veterans' Day ceremony, as well, was a well-spirited and well-attended event. Although a chilly day, it was heartwarming to see so many of the community out to honor our veterans from yesterday and today.

Great thanks go out to the American Legion, our speakers, Scouts, and lovely singing voices that greatly enhanced our proceedings. We will continue to strive to include more and more of our local citizenry, as well as bring in outside talent and organizations to improve our patriotic appreciation to our local veterans from the past wars to the current conflicts.

I look forward to another year of serving the veterans and their families and welcome any input the residents of Williamsburg have to offer to me or my staff.

Steven James Connor
Director of Veterans' Services

Annual Report of the Water and Sewer Commission

In March of 2008, the Water and Sewer Commission voted to raise the water rates from \$3.90 a cubic foot to \$4.00 a cubic foot and to raise the sewer rates from \$2.00 a cubic foot to \$2.50 a cubic foot. This was the first time sewer rates had been increased in approximately eight years and the first time since 1996 that water rates had been increased. The increases were necessary due to increased fixed costs and due to increased cost for sewer disposal through the City of Northampton. The new rates were effective with the May 2008 billing. The Water and Sewer Commission has worked hard over the years to keep the rates as low as possible for residents. Unfortunately, once the contract with Northampton is complete, it is certain that the rates will again need to be raised. Negotiations with Northampton are currently ongoing.

With assistance from Tighe and Bond, Commissioner Sam Kellogg filed an application for a 1.1 million dollar grant to replace the very old water main that goes from South Main Street to Hampshire Care in Leeds. Once complete, this would do away with the necessity for a holding tank at the hospital location. The grant was filed as part of the stimulus package put forth in early 2009.

A grant application for \$250,000 was also filed that, if approved, would repair the damage to the spillway so the Unquommonk dam and reservoir could be filled again legally. The Unquommonk Reservoir Dam represents an untapped resource for hydroelectric power generation. Repairing the dam's spillway will enable it to be used for hydroelectric power generation. It would be necessary to install a hydroelectric turbine and connect the turbine to the existing power grid and/or use it to run the drinking water system pump which is now run and billed on an on-demand basis. Additional grant monies for the cost of the turbine, which will vary based on the engineered size, in the range of \$100 - \$500,000 or more, were requested as an additional part of the grant application. This combined grant was also filed through the government stimulus plan.

Member Jim Hyslip continues to work on plans for the future usage of the Unquommonk Reservoir.

Again, we would like to remind you to check for leaky faucets, toilets, outside sillcocks, etc., around your home. A small drip that goes undetected or is allowed to continue will increase your water usage more than you might imagine and your water bill will reflect that. It is your responsibility to watch for and repair these leaks. It "pays" to take that few minutes periodically to check on things.

As always, we thank Highway Superintendent Bill Turner and the Highway Department for their continued work in conjunction with water and sewer lines. This allows the town to keep costs to the residents down by "hiring locally." It is a pleasure to see the town departments working well with each other for the benefit of the town.

Respectfully submitted,

Walter E. Kellogg III
Chairman

Annual Report of the Woodland Trails Committee

The Selectmen established the Williamsburg Woodland Trails Committee to work with interested public and private property owners to enhance trail opportunities in town.

Goals of the committee:

- ❑ Improve the system of existing trails in town for all users.
- ❑ Respect individual landowners' rights with respect to trails and trail use on their land.
- ❑ Strengthen the coalition of all trail users (including hikers, skiers, snowmobile riders, ATV riders, bikers and equestrians) interested in maintaining and improving Williamsburg's trails.
- ❑ Strengthen the bonds of our community through this effort.

Hall / O'Neil Hill Trail

Beginning in 2007 the Woodland Trails Committee partnered with Jr. Girl Scout Troop 228 and Mass. Audubon to create a trail connecting the Town-owned Hall Conservation Area with the recently acquired Mass. Audubon property, O'Neil Hill. During 2008 the Girl Scouts worked with Trails members to complete trail clearing, including a portion on private property. Mass. Audubon staff then installed signage.

The Girl Scouts constructed and erected a kiosk to display their trail information and maps. Their final task required to earn the Girl Scout Bronze Award was to design a Quest route, which uses clues to lead the participant to a letterbox located near the trail. All of the work was acknowledged at the June 21 trail opening ceremony held at the O'Neil Road entrance. After listening to speakers from Mass. Audubon, Troop 228, and Woodland Trails, attendees were led on a hike to open the new trail.

2008 Hikes

- ❑ First Day Snowshoe Hike at Henhawk Trail.
- ❑ Full Moon Hike, February 17, cancelled due to inclement weather.
- ❑ Move It for Meekins Hike, October 26 – Trails Committee partnered with Meekins Library as part of Williamsburg's Fall Festival to plan and lead the hike.

Trail maintenance

- ❑ The committee has developed a needs inventory by assessing maintenance requirements of Town trails. A list of volunteers has been developed who will assist committee members in addressing specific projects on these trails.
- ❑ Trail maintenance days may be scheduled to allow the public to participate in ongoing trail improvements.

Using Williamsburg's Trails

Copies of the Woodland Trails brochure listing publicly accessible trails in Town are available at the Town Offices and Meekins Library. These trails may cross public and private property, so users must respect the trails, the property and each other. The Woodland Trails Committee requests that all users follow these guidelines when using local trails.

- ❑ Please follow all posted trail, use and property signs.

- ❑ Please respect all trail users. Hiking, skiing, biking, horse-back riding, ATV riding and snowmobile riding are all important trail uses in Williamsburg.
- ❑ Please stay on trails.
- ❑ Please be sensitive to natural and cultural resources. Please remove trash if you find it, and avoid environmentally sensitive areas.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Merritt

Committee members: Paul Jahnige, chair, Gwen Blodgett, John Hoogstraten, Eileen Keegan, Susan Milsom

Annual Report of the Zoning Board of Appeals

The Board of Appeals responded to four applications for Special Permits this year; three were granted, a fourth denied. We noted that this was a relatively quiet year for applications.

In our internal administration, we elected to have the role of Chairperson become an annual rotating position among the three members, beginning each July 1. We hope that this change will share the administrative responsibilities more evenly across any three-year period and also increase the administrative skills of all members.

Brenda Lessard continues in her role as our secretary. We have asked her also to be the “go to” person for anyone wanting to reach a Board of Appeals member. Her Town Office phone is 268-8402.

The Board of Appeals has had no changes in its membership this year. We are: Lisa Berkman, current Chair, Gerald Mann, member, Martin Mahoney, member, Donald Turner, alternate member, Osa Flory, alternate member.