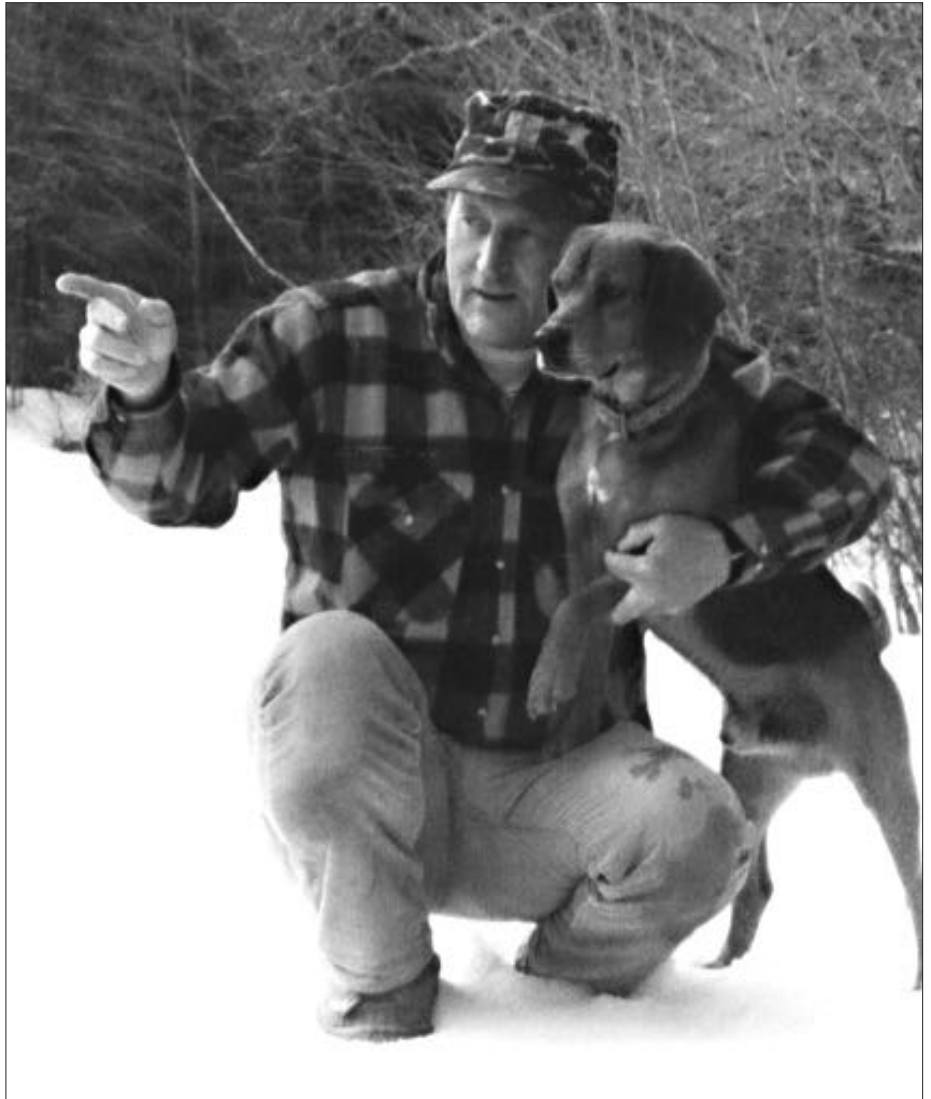


ANNUAL REPORTS
FOR THE
TOWN OF PLAINFIELD
MASSACHUSETTS
2012

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Wayne's lifelong service to the Town of Plainfield began shortly after he and Bonnie settled into their Main Street home. He was appointed as Surveyor of Wood and Lumber in 1970, a position he held through 2012. He is best remembered, however, for his twenty-two years as a member of the Board of Assessors, many of which he served as chairman. More than once Wayne was known to have tactfully explained to state officials why property assessment criteria used in urban areas is not relevant and does not apply to land and properties in the hill towns of Western Massachusetts. Wayne was truly an advocate of Plainfield landowners. In addition to his service to Plainfield, Wayne was a longtime member of the Trustees of Sanderson Academy.



WAYNE E. PHILLIPS, JR.

Wayne loved the outdoors. It's where he worked; it's where he played. A self-employed logger, Wayne was a steward of the land in the purist sense. The timber he harvested was done as selective cutting leaving each wood lot with the promise of sustaining and encouraging new growth. Before sawmills were recognized as an agricultural use, Wayne navigated the permitting process to establish his own sawmill. An avid hunter and fisherman, he had the utmost respect for nature because he understood it. With a glance at the sky Wayne could interpret the weather patterns and forecast the weather more accurately than the meteorologists.

When weather conditions prevented outside activities, Wayne enjoyed reading the newest novels from the library, playing cribbage, poker, or pitch with his friends, or taking a trip to Foxwoods. A sports fan, Wayne was a familiar face at Mohawk basketball games long after his daughters had graduated. He always had the television tuned in to Red Sox, Patriots, or Celtic games.

Wayne and Bonnie raised their daughters Leah, Angie, and Laura at their Main Street home. His lifelong path leaves Plainfield with a legacy of sensible footprints. It is with honor and respect this edition of the Annual Report of the Town of Plainfield is dedicated in memory of Wayne E. Phillips, Jr.

ELECTED OFFICIALS

	Term Expires
Board of Assessors - 3 Years	
Claude E. Dupont III, Chairman	2015
Wayne E. Phillips, Jr.	2014
Howard Hudson	2013
Board of Health - 3 Years	
David A. Danielson, Chairman,	2014
David Crowell	2015
Ruby Goodnoff	2013
Board of Selectmen - 3 Years	
Phillip S. Lococo, Chairman	2013
Judith Feeley	2014
Dennis Mimitz	2015
Constables - 3 Years	
1st - Edward E. Morann	2013
2nd - Merton Taylor, Sr.	2013
Councilor, Hampshire Council of Governments - 2 Years	
David A. Danielson	2013
Library Trustees - 3 Years	
Sandra Morann, Chairman	2015
Ann Kohn	2013
Linda O'Dea	2014
Moderator - 1 Year	
Penn Moulton	2013
School Committee - 3 Years	
Heather Davis	2013
Robert Aeschback	2014
Tax Collector - 3 Years	
Mary Lynn Sabourin	2013
Town Clerk - 3 Years	
Theresa A. Thatcher	2013
Treasurer - Years	
Linda Alvord	2013
Tree Warden - 1 Year	
Claude E. Dupont III	2013
Whiting Street Fund Disbursement Comm.- 3 Years	
David W. Alvord, Chairman	2014
Ellen Baer	2015
Robert Persing	2013

APPOINTED OFFICIALS

	Term Expires
Accountant - 3 Years	
Paula J. King	2013
Ad Hoc Road Status Committee - 1 Year	
William Sheppard	2013
Merton Taylor Jr.	2013
Edward Morann	2013
Agricultural Commission - 3 Years	
Anna Manning-Hanchett, Chairman	2015
Paul Dileo	2014
Ellen Gallergani	2015
Edward Stockman	2013
John Taliaferro	2013
William Burt -	Resigned
Winton Pitcoff -	Resigned 2013

Agricultural Commission - Alternate - 1 Year

David Crowell	2013
AMCO Officer	
Philip Lococo	2013

Americans with Disabilities Act Committee - 1 Year

William Adams	2013
Vacant	2013

Animal Aid Committee - 1 Year

Ronald A. Scott, Chairman	2013
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Animal Control Officer - 1 Year

Kyle Meservey	2013
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Board of Registrars - 3 Years

John F. Westwood, Chairman	2014
Linda J. Melle	2015
Thelma Pilgrim	2013
Theresa A. Thatcher	2013

Building Committee - 3 Years

James Feeley, Chairman	2014
Claude E Dupont III	2015
Dennis Mimitz	2013
Andrew Sargenski	2013
Clara Pleun Bouricius, Non-voting member	2015
Vacant	2015

Building Commissioner/Insp. of Buildings - 3 Years

Gerald W. Garner	2015
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Burial Agent - 1 Year

Theresa A. Thatcher	2013
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Carl Nilman Scholarship Committee Rep. - 1 Year

James Pilgrim	2013
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Cemetery Committee - 3 Years

Theresa A. Thatcher, Clerk	2015
Betsy Howes	2013
Merton D. Taylor, Sr.	2014

Conservation Commission - 3 Years

Judith B. Williams, Chairman	2015
Emily Boss	2015
Susan LaRock	2013
Alice Schertle	2013
John Nelson	2014

Cori Officer - 1 Year

Edward E. Morann	2013
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Council on Aging - 3 Years

Jay McMahan, Chairman	2013
Ruby Goodnoff	2013
Ann Kohn	2015
Philip Alessio	2015
Vacant	2014

Council on Aging - Alternate - 1 Year

James Feeley	2013
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Cultural Council - 3 Years

Elaine Holder, Chairman	09/30/2015
Erik Burcroff	09/30/2015
Dario Coletta	09/30/2013
Rebecca Coletta	09/30/2013
Linda Christie	09/30/2013
Gail Fusco	09/30/2013
Perri Kelly	09/30/2015

Sarah Stull	09/30/2014		
Emergency Management - 1 Year			MBI Community Rep. (Point of Contact) - 1 Year
Merton D. Taylor, Jr., Chairman	2013	Brian Hawthorne	2013
Dennis Thatcher, Co-Chairman	2013		
Laurence D. Wood, Jr., Co-Chairman	2013	Mohawk Municipal Advisory Committee - 1 Year	
		Robert Persing	2013
Field Driver - 1 Year			
David Crowell	2013	Moth Superintendent - 1 Year	
		Judy B. Williams	2013
Finance Committee - 3 Years			
Robert L. Persing, Chairman	2013	Municipal Hearing Off. for M.G.L. Chap. 148A - 1 Year	
Bettie Briggs	2013	Penn Moulton	2013
David Briggs	2013		
Paul Walters	2015	Plainfield's Delegation - Wired West - 1 Year	
Roberta Wooldridge	2015	Brian Holt-Hawthorne	2013
		Vacant - Alternate	2013
Fire Department - 1 Year			
Dennis A. Thatcher, Chief	2013	Plainfield's Energy Committee - 1 Year	
David W. Alvord, Deputy Chief	2013	Stephen Bushway	2013
Edward E. Morann, Captain	2013	David Danielson	2013
Merton D. Taylor, Jr., Captain	2013	Ruby Goodnoff	2013
Matthew Hardwick, Lieutenant	2013	Edward Stockman	2013
Stacey Magdycz, Lieutenant	2013	Sarah Stull	2013
		Paul Walters	2013
		Vacant	2013
Flags & Flowers Committee - 1 Year		Judith Feeley -	Resigned
Ruth D. Fuhrmann, Chairman	2013		
Susan M. Lococo	2013	Planning Board - 3 Years	
Sandra J. Morann	2013	Robert L. Persing, Chairman	2013
Bonnie F. Phillips	2013	Claude E. Dupont III	2015
Vacant	2013	Brian Holt-Hawthorne	2015
		Edward Morann	2015
Franklin Regional Transit Authority-1 Year		Penn Moulton	2015
Judith Feeley	2013	David Bulissa	Resigned
Grant Writing Committee - 3 Years			
Kimberly Longley	2014	Police Department - 1 Year	
Vacant	2015	Laurence D. Wood, Jr., Chief	2013
Vacant	2013	Stacy Magdycz, Assistant Chief	2013
		Sandra Morann, Special Officer	2013
Hazardous Materials Officer - 1 Year		Joshua Shearer, Regular Officer	2013
Dennis A. Thatcher	2013	Merton D. Taylor, Sr., Special Officer	2013
		Edward E. Morann, Special Officer	2013
Highland Valley Elder Services - 1 Year			
Ann Kohn	2013	Recreation Committee - 3 Years	
		Sandra Morann, Chairman	2015
Highway Department Advisory Committee - 1 Year		Heather Davis	2015
No appointments		Justina Harrison	2015
		Roxanne Shearer	2014
Highway Dept. Advisory Comm., Alternate - 2 years			
Jamie Wooldridge	06/30/2014	Recreation Committee Alternates - 1 Year	
Hilltown Community Development Corp. Rep. - 1 Year		Kenneth Magdycz	2013
Robert M. Baker	2013	Kara Kitchen	?
		Robert Jensen	?
Hilltown Resource Management Cooperative - 1 Year		Gino Orlandi	?
David A. Danielson	2013		
Historical Commission - 3 Years			
Dario Coletta, Chairman	2014	Right to Know Officer - 1 Year	
Laurie Austin	2015	Gregor B. Prentice	2013
Bettie Briggs	2015		
Dudley Williams	2013	Safety Coordinator - 1 Year	
Judy A. Williams	2014	Gregor B. Prentice	2013
Inspector of Animals - 1 Year			
Kyle Meservy	4/30/2013	School Council Community Representative - 1 Year	
		Vacant	2013
Master Street Address Guide Committee - 1 Year			
Edward E. Morann, Chairman	2013	Surveyors of Wood & Lumber - 1 Year	
Robert L. Persing	2013	Claude E. Dupont III	2013
Dennis A. Thatcher	2013	Wayne E. Phillips, Jr.,	2013
Theresa A. Thatcher	2013		
Laurence D. Wood, Jr.	2013	Tax Collector Assistant - 1 Year	
		Vacant	2013

Town Clerk Assistant - 1 Year Betsy Howes	2013
Treasurer Assistant - 1 Year Vacant	2013
Town Perambulator - 1 Year Erik Burcroff	2013
Town Administrative Assistant/Secretary - 1 Year Paula King	2013
Uniform Procurement Officer - 1 Year Dennis Mimitz	2013
Veteran's Agent - 1 Year Leo J. Parent, Jr.	2013
Veterans' Graves Officer - 1 Year Dudley Williams	2013
Veteran's Service, Western Franklin Rep. - 1 Year Phillip S. Lococo	2013
Zoning Board of Appeals - 3 Years Robert E. Mellstrom, Chairman	2014
Joan Wattman	2014
Dudley Williams	2013
Vacant	2015
Zoning Board of Appeals - Alternate 1 Year Edward Kohn	2013
Sandra J. Morann	2013
 HIRED POSITIONS	
Assessor's Assistant - 1 Year Catherine Hall	2013
Building Local Inspector - 1 Year Vacant	2013
Gas Fittings Inspector - 1 Year Donald Lawton	2013
Highway Superintendent - 1 Year Merton Taylor Jr.	2013
Library Director - 1 Year Denise M. Sessions	2013
Wiring Inspector - 1 Year William Graham	2013
Plumbing Inspector - 1 Year Donald Lawton	2013
Tax Collector Deputy - 1 Year Point Software	2013
Town Counsel - 1 Year Attorney Ronald Berenson	2013
Kopelman & Paige	2013
John H Fitz-Gibbon	2013
Town Custodian - 1 Year Bonnie Phillips	2013
Leah Phillips - Resigned	2013

TOWN CLERK

Annual Vital Statics

Due to new regulations by Homeland Security, names of Births, Deaths and Marriages can no longer be published.

Marriages – 0

Deaths – 12

Respectfully submitted

Theresa Thatcher, Town Clerk

MISCELLANEOUS INCOME-2012

Qty		Town Fees	Total Collected
3	Beer Maps	\$3.00	\$9.00
1	Bicentennial License Plate	\$3.00	\$3.00
3	Business Certificate	\$20.00	\$60.00
20	Death Certificate Copy	\$5.00	\$100.00
2	License Plate	\$3.00	\$6.00
2	Marriage Certificate Copy	\$10.00	\$20.00
2	Pewter Coins	\$7.00	\$14.00
2	Post Cards	\$0.30	\$0.60
3	Post Cards - 5/\$1.00	\$1.00	\$3.00
1	Town-By-Law	\$5.00	\$5.00

Totals **\$211.60**
Total Paid to Treasurer **\$211.60**

DOG LICENSES ISSUED

Qty	Description	Cost	Pd Town Treasurer	Pd County Treasurer	Total Collected
6	Males	\$6.00	\$4.50	\$31.50	\$36.00
53	Males -Neutered	3.00	39.75	\$119.25	\$159.00
7	Females	6.00	5.25	\$36.75	\$42.00
43	Females - Spayed	3.00	32.25	\$96.75	\$129.00
0	Kennels - 10 or less	25.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
0	Replace Tag	0.10	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
4	Late Fee	5.00	20.00	\$0.00	\$20.00
0	Late Fee	10.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
5	Late Fee	25.00	125.00	\$0.00	\$125.00

Totals **\$226.75** **\$284.25** **\$511.00**
Paid to Town Treasurer **\$226.75**
Paid to Hampshire Council of Government **\$284.25**
Total Collected **\$511.00**

FISH & WILDLIFE LICENSES ISSUED

Discontinued as of January 2012

COMPACTOR PUNCH CARDS ISSUED

Qty	Description	Town Fees	Total Collected
209	Compactor Punch Cards	\$37.50	\$7,837.50

Totals \$7,837.50
Paid to Town Treasurer \$7,837.50

RABIES CLINIC - DONATION TO LIBRARY

Qty	Description	Town Fees	Total Collected
14	shots	\$6.00	\$84.00

Totals **\$84.00**
Paid to Town Treasurer **\$84.00**

SELECT BOARD

The Select Board began the new year with some unresolved issues from 2011. The town's appeal to the BCAB's (State Board) decision regarding 9 Mountain was heard in Superior Court. In late December the Judge upheld the BCAB decision for minimal yearly inspections pertaining to when they bought the property.

In February the Board voted to advertise the position of Highway Superintendent. Merton Taylor, Jr. was appointed as acting Superintendent. Later in May he was hired for that position.

Also in February of 2012 Brian Hawthorne (Representative for WiredWest), Jim (Buildings Committee Chair) and Judy Feeley (Light Plant Manager) met with MBI Consultant Cornell Robinson regarding MBI renting A space in Hathaway Hall as a POI (Point of Intersection) headquarters for Broadband connection. Brian will work with MBI (Massachusetts Broadband Initiative) on contract negotiations with the town. On March 21, 2012 a draft agreement with the MBI was signed. In June Jim and Judy Feeley met with Broadband contractors responsible for installing the electrical components and also revamping the room (previous fire chief's office) in Hathaway Hall annex to their specification. In November the town signed the final contract with MBI for the rental of said space. Fiber Optic Connections are being installed from the utility pole to the equipment location inside the building.

In February Stantec reported to the Board that the Route 116 Strap Grant project was 75% complete and should reach the 100% stage by summer. This stage will place the project on the T.I.P. program for completion of work for the Route 116 project.

Police Chief David Wood worked with the state to implement new Traffic Rules and Orders. The new order will allow the police department to write tickets and collect fines. The police chief was appointed as Parking Clerk and the Board approved the new order.

Fire Chief Dennis Thatcher announced that the PVFD has been awarded \$260,490 toward the purchase of a new tanker under a Firefighter's Grant Program. The Board then advertised to bid the project, and in August accepted a bid submitted by VTEC as recommended by the fire chief.

At the annual town meeting held in May the town voted "No" to amend the Zoning By-law to allow for By-Right Siting of Large Scale Ground Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Installations. A good discussion for and against was held before the vote was taken.

A public Hearing was held in November to discuss this year's Community Action Plan with CDC Director Dave Christopolis. The Board then signed the plan to be submitted along with other towns for possible grant approval.

The Board has discussed seeking help with setting up a Town Website. Josh Shearer was appointed as Director of Information Technology.

During the year 3 separate "Pole Hearings" were held. It has been decided that future Pole Hearings will include the Tree Warden and the Highway Superintendent.

During the year appointments were made as needed to fill vacancies or fill new positions. The Board wishes to thank all members of all committees for your dedicated service to our town. All of you make this town function well.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judy Feeley

Clerk for the Select Board

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

May 5, 2012

Pursuant to the Warrant, the inhabitants of the Town of Plainfield qualified to vote in town affairs, to assemble at the Town Hall on Saturday May 5, 2012. The quorum being 25 and 57 registered voters being present, the meeting was opened at 1:05 PM by Penn Moulton, Town Moderator. The Warrant was read by Penn Moulton and the following action was taken:

Article 1: Motion made and supported to validate official Ballot for all Town Officers, Committees, Trustees, etc., and to fix compensation for the same. 60 Registered voters voted on May 5, 2012. The following are the results of the Ballots:

Board of Assessors: (3 Years)	Claude Dupont III Merton Taylor Jr. Blank	52 6 2
Board of Assessors: (1 Year) (Balance of Term)	Howard Hudson Gilman Smith Blank	54 1 5
Board of Health: (3 Years)	David Crowell Blank	52 8
Board of Health: (2 Years) (Balance of Term)	David Danielson Ellen Dupont Blank	15 10 32
Board of Selectmen: (3 Years)	Dennis Mimitz Robert Aeschback Blank	48 1 11
Library Trustee: (3 Years)	Sandra Morann Blank	56 4
Moderator: (1 Year)	Penn Moulton Blank	53 7
Tree Warden: (1 Year)	Claude F Dupont III Wayne Phillips Merton Taylor Jr. Blank	52 1 2 5
Whiting Street Fund Disbursement Committee: (3 Years)	Ellen Baer Blank	54 6

Article 2: Motion made and supported raise and appropriate or otherwise provide such amounts of money as are reasonable and necessary to defray the expenses of the town for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2012, or take any other action relative thereto. See Appropriations for actual amounts approved

Unanimous Approved

Article 3: Motion made and supported to return \$708.60 from book sales and fines to the Shaw Memorial Library, or take any other action relative thereto. Inserted by the Town Accountant Recommended by the Finance Committee

Unanimous Approved

Article 4: Motion made and supported to authorize the Assessors to apply \$87,600.00 from Free Cash to reduce the Fiscal 2013 tax rate, or take any other action relative thereto. Inserted by the Town Accountant Recommended by the Finance Committee

Unanimous Approved

Article 5: Motion made and supported to take the amount of \$21,780.00 from Free Cash to defray the Fiscal 2012 Veteran's Benefits expenses pursuant to M.G.L. c. 115, sec. 6, or take any action relative thereto. Inserted by the Town Accountant. Recommended by the Finance Committee

Unanimous Approved

Article 6: Motion made and supported to raise and appropriate \$2,000.00 and transfer \$2,000.00 from the Sale of Real Estate Account for the purchase of a leaf blower (tractor mounted) for the Highway Department, or take any action relative thereto. Inserted by the Highway Department. Recommended by the Finance Committee

Unanimous Approved

Article 7: Motion made and supported to transfer the amount of \$7,000.00 from the Sale of Real Estate Account for the purchase of an 11 foot snowplow for the Highway Department, or take any action relative thereto. Inserted by the Highway Department. Recommended by the Finance Committee

Unanimous Approved

Article 8: Motion made and supported to transfer the amount of \$16,000.00 from the Sale of Real Estate Account for the purchase of a dump body for truck #6 for the Highway Department, or take any action relative thereto. Inserted by the Highway Department. Recommended by the Finance Committee

Unanimous Approved

Article 9: Motion made and supported to raise and appropriate the amount of \$2,000.00 for the purchase of a Blackboard Connect system for the Fire Department, or take any action relative thereto. Inserted by the Fire Chief. Recommended by the Finance Committee

Unanimous Approved

Article 10: Motion made and supported to to transfer the amount of \$52,086.00 from Free Cash to the Stabilization Fund, or take any action relative thereto. Inserted by the Town Accountant. Recommended by the Finance Committee

**Requires a 2/3 vote
Approved 53 Opposed 4**

Article 11: Motion made and supported to authorize the following: Not withstanding any General or Special law to the contrary, Laurence David Wood, Chief of the Police Department of the Town of Plainfield, may continue in such position until June 20, 2017, or until the date of his retirement, or until his non-reappointment by the Select Board whichever comes first. No further deductions shall be made from the regular compensation of Laurence David Wood under Chapter 32 of the General Laws for service subsequent to June 1, 2012, or take any action relative thereto. Inserted by the Police Chief. Supported by the Select Board

Article 11 Addendum: Motion made and supported to change "June 20" to "June 30"

Unanimous Approved

Article 11 Amended: Motion made and supported to approve the Article with Addendum

Unanimous Approved

Article 12: Motion made and supported to amend The Zoning By-Law of the Town of Plainfield as follows: **To Allow for the By-Right Siting of Large-Scale Ground-Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Installations**

Amend the Plainfield Bylaws Section 2.1 to include the following under

SECTION II: DEFINITIONS

2.1.6.1 As-of-Right Siting: The siting of a development may proceed without the need for a special permit, or other discretionary approval. However, development shall be subject to site plan review to determine conformance with local zoning ordinances, bylaws, federal and state building codes, and to protect the public health, safety and welfare. Siting of projects cannot be prohibited, but can be reasonably regulated by the local building commissioner, local inspectors, and a designated Site Plan Review Authority.

2.1.8.1 Building Commissioner: The lead person in a municipal building department. All other inspectors are deemed to be local inspectors in accordance with MGL, chapter 143, & section 3 & 3A. The building commissioner is also the zoning enforcement officer.

2.1.9.1 Building Permit: A construction permit issued by an authorized local building commissioner; the building permit evidences that the project is consistent with the state and federal building codes as well as local zoning bylaws.

2.1.45.1 Site Plan Review: A review by the Site Plan Review Authority to determine conformance with local zoning ordinances or bylaws. For each application a provision shall be made for a separate an independent third-party review by a professional engineer, licensed in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts separate and apart from the applicants engineering firm to advise said authority. The cost of all engineering advisory services to Site Plan Review

Authority shall be paid by the applicant.

Amend the Plainfield Zoning Bylaw Section 4.1 to include the following:

4.1.6 The Siting of Large-Scale Ground-Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Installations(see Section 8.3)

Amend the Plainfield Zoning Bylaw to include the following in Section VIII:

8.3 The Siting of Large Scale Ground-Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Installations

Purpose

The purpose of this Section 8.3 is to promote the creation of new large-scale ground-mounted solar photovoltaic installations by providing standards for the placement, design, construction, operation, monitoring, modification and removal of such installations that address public safety, minimize impacts on scenic, natural and historic resources and to provide adequate financial assurance for the eventual decommissioning of such installations. The provisions set forth in this Section shall apply to the siting, construction, maintenance, and removal of large-scale ground-mounted solar photovoltaic installations.

Definitions

8.3-A Large-Scale Ground-Mounted Solar Photovoltaic

Installation: A solar photovoltaic system that is structurally mounted on the ground and is not roof-mounted, and has a minimum nameplate capacity of 250 KW DC and covers not more than two acres of land in aggregate.

8.3-B On-Site Solar Photovoltaic Installation: A solar photovoltaic installation that is constructed at a location where other uses of the underlying property do or may occur.

8.3-C Rated Nameplate Capacity: The maximum rated output of electric power production of the Photovoltaic system in Direct Current (DC).

8.3-D Site Plan Review Authority: The person or group designated as such by the municipality to perform Site Plan Reviews.

8.3.1 Applicability

This Section applies to large-scale ground-mounted solar photovoltaic installations proposed to be constructed after the effective date of this Section. This Section also pertains to physical modifications that materially alter the type, configuration, or size of these installations or related equipment.

8.3.2 General Requirements for all Large Scale Solar Power Generation Installations

The following requirements are common to all solar photovoltaic installations.

8.3.2.1 Compliance with Laws, Ordinances and Regulations

The construction and operation of all large scale solar photovoltaic installations shall be consistent with all applicable local, state and federal requirements, including but not limited to all applicable environmental, conservation, safety, construction, electrical, and communications requirements. All buildings and fixtures forming part of a solar photovoltaic installation shall be constructed in accordance with federal and state building codes and local ordinances, and subject to a Site Plan Review.

8.3.2.2 Site Plan Review

Ground-mounted large scale solar photovoltaic installations shall undergo site plan review by the Site Plan Review Authority prior to construction, installation or modification as provided in this Section. For the purpose of this Section of the Zoning Bylaw, the Planning Board shall be the Site Plan Review Authority.

8.3.2.2.1 General

All plans and maps shall be prepared, stamped and signed by a Professional Engineer licensed to practice in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

8.3.2.2.2 Required Documents

Pursuant to the site plan review process, the project proponent

shall provide the following documents:

- (a) A site plan showing:
 - i. Property lines and physical features, including roads, for the project site;
 - ii. Proposed changes to the landscape of the site, grading, vegetation clearing and planting, exterior lighting, screening vegetation or structures;
 - iii. Blueprints or drawings of the solar photovoltaic installation signed by a Professional Engineer licensed to practice in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts showing the proposed layout of the system and any potential shading from nearby structures
 - iv. One or three line electrical diagram detailing the solar photovoltaic installation, associated components, and electrical interconnection methods, with all National Electrical Code compliant disconnects and overcurrent devices;
 - v. Documentation of the major system components to be used, including the PV panels, mounting system, and inverter;
 - vi. Name, address, and contact information for proposed system installer;
 - vii. Name, address, phone number and signature of the project proponent, as well as all co-proponents, property owners or operators if any;
 - viii. The name, contact information and signature of any agents representing the project proponent; and
- (b) Documentation of actual or prospective access and control of the project site;
- (c) An operation and maintenance plan;
- (d) Proof of liability insurance; builders risk insurance.
- (e) Description of financial surety.

8.3.2.3 Site Control

The project proponent shall submit documentation of actual or prospective access and control of the project site sufficient to allow for construction and operation of the proposed solar photovoltaic installation.

8.3.2.4 Operation & Maintenance Plan

The project proponent shall submit a plan for the operation and maintenance of the large- scale ground-mounted solar photovoltaic installation, which shall include measures for maintaining safe access to the installation, storm water controls, as well as general procedures for operational maintenance of the installation.

8.3.2.5 Utility Notification

No large- scale ground –mounted solar photovoltaic installation shall be constructed until evidence has been given to the Site Plan Review Authority that the utility company that operates the electrical grid where the installation is to be located has been informed of the solar photovoltaic installation owner or operator's intent to install an interconnected customer-owned generator. Off-grid systems shall be exempt from this requirement.

8.3.2.6 Dimension and Density Requirements

8.3.2.6.1 Setbacks

For large - scale ground-mounted solar photovoltaic installations, front, side and rear setbacks shall be 50 feet each.

8.3.2.6.2 Segmentation

In determining whether a project complies with the lot size restriction in section 2.1.32.1, the developer and the Site Plan Review Authority shall consider the entirety of the development, including:

- (a) Any likely future expansion of the project on the subject property or on any property which is contiguous to the subject property or under related ownership;
- (b) Any past, related development on any property which is contiguous to the subject property or any property that is under related ownership with the subject property at the time that this bylaw was adopted. A developer may not phase or segment a project or transfer ownership of con-

tiguous properties to evade, defer or curtail the requirements set forth in this bylaw.

8.3.2.6.3 Structures

All structures for large-scale ground-mounted solar photovoltaic installations shall be subject to existing bylaws. All appurtenant structures, including but not limited to, equipment shelters, storage facilities, transformers, and substations, shall be architecturally compatible with each other.

8.3.2.6.4 Screening

Whenever reasonable, all structures shall have year-round opaque screening from view of side yards of abutters by means of walls, fencing, berms, evergreen trees or shrubs to avoid adverse visual impacts.

8.3.2.7 Design Standards

8.3.2.7.1 Site Lighting

Lighting of solar photovoltaic installations shall be consistent with local, state and federal law. Lighting of other parts of the installation, such as appurtenant structures, shall be limited to that required for safety and operational purposes, and shall be reasonably shielded from abutting properties. Where feasible, lighting of the solar photovoltaic installations shall be directed downward and shall incorporate full cut-off fixtures to reduce light pollution.

8.3.2.7.2 Signage

Signs on large- scale ground-mounted solar photovoltaic installations shall comply with Section 8.0 of this bylaw. Each sign shall be required to identify voltage and electrocution hazards, the owner and provide a 24-hour emergency contact phone number. Solar photovoltaic installations shall not be used for displaying any advertising except for reasonable identification of the manufacturer or operator of the solar photovoltaic installation.

8.3.2.7.3 Utility Connections

Reasonable efforts, as determined by the Site Plan Review Authority, shall be made to place all utility connections from the solar photovoltaic installation underground, depending on appropriate soil conditions, shape, and topography of the site and any requirements of the utility provider. Electrical transformers for utility interconnections may be above ground if required by the utility provider.

8.3.2.8 Safety and Environmental Standards

8.3.2.8.1 Emergency Services

The large scale solar photovoltaic installation owner or operator shall provide a copy of the project summary, electrical schematic, and site plan to the local fire chief. Upon request the owner or operator shall cooperate with local emergency services in developing an emergency response plan. All means of shutting down the solar photovoltaic installation shall be clearly marked. The owner or operator shall identify a responsible person for public inquiries throughout the life of the installation.

8.3.2.8.2 Land Clearing, Soil Erosion and Habitat Impacts

Clearing of natural vegetation shall be limited to what is necessary for the construction, operation and maintenance of the large – scale ground-mounted solar photovoltaic installation or otherwise prescribed by applicable laws, regulations, and bylaws.

8.3.2.8.3 Solar Glare

Siting and/or shielding of the solar photovoltaic panels shall be such that solar glare will be reduced or eliminated from roads, residences and residents.

8.3.2.9 Monitoring and Maintenance

8.3.2.9.1 Solar Photovoltaic Installation Conditions

The large - scale ground-mounted solar photovoltaic installation owner or operator shall maintain the facility in good condition. Maintenance shall include, but not be limited to, painting, structural repairs, and integrity of security measures. Site access shall be maintained to a level acceptable to the local Fire Chief and Emergency Medical Services. The owner or operator shall be responsible for the cost of maintaining the solar photovoltaic installation and any access road(s), unless accepted as a public way.

8.3.2.9.2 Modifications

All material modifications to a solar photovoltaic installation made after issuance of the required building permit shall require approval by the Site Plan Review Authority.

8.3.2.10 Abandonment or Decommissioning

8.3.2.10.1 Removal Requirements

Any large-scale ground-mounted solar photovoltaic installation which has reached the end of its useful life as defined by Marshal & Swift Indices, or has been abandoned, shall be removed. The owner or operator shall physically remove the installation no more than 150 days after the date of discontinued operations. The owner or operator shall notify the Site Plan Review Authority by certified mail of the proposed date of discontinued operations and plans for removal. Decommissioning shall consist of:

- (a) Physical removal of all large-scale ground-mounted solar photovoltaic installations, structures; including below grade duct banks, raceways, equipment, security barriers and transmission lines from the site.
- (b) Disposal of all solid and hazardous waste in accordance with local, state, and federal waste disposal regulations.
- (c) Stabilization, recovery or re-vegetation of the site as necessary to minimize erosion. The Site Plan Review Authority may allow the owner or operator to leave landscaping or designated below-grade foundations in order to minimize erosion and disruption to vegetation.

8.3.2.10.2 Abandonment

Absent notice of a proposed date of decommissioning or written notice of extenuating circumstances, the solar photovoltaic installation shall be considered abandoned when it fails to operate for more than one year without the written consent of the Site Plan Review Authority. If the owner or operator of the large-scale ground-mounted solar photovoltaic installation fails to remove the installation in accordance with the requirements of this section within 150 days of abandonment or the proposed date of decommissioning, the town may enter the property and physically remove the installation.

8.3.2.10.3 Financial Surety

The Project Proponent of large-scale ground-mounted solar photovoltaic projects shall provide a form of surety, either through escrow account, or bond or bonds rated as high or higher than United States Treasuries by Standard and Poor's (S&P) to cover the cost of removal in the event the Town must remove the installation

and remediate the landscape, in an amount and form determined to be reasonable by the Site Plan Review Authority, but in no event to exceed more than 125 percent of the cost of removal and compliance with the additional requirements set forth herein, as determined by the Project Proponent. Such surety will not be required for municipally- or state-owned facilities. The Project Proponent shall submit a fully inclusive estimate of the costs associated with removal, prepared by a qualified engineer. The cost estimate shall incorporate a mechanism to adjust for the rate of inflation as calculated the Bureau of Labor Statistics consumer price index (CPI) for construction costs. Also, the amount shall include a mechanism for calculation increased removal costs due to inflation based on Standard and Poor's historical inflation index. **Submitted by the Planning Board Requires a 2/3 vote**

Article 5 Amendment #1: A motion made and seconded to delete from the proposed Bylaw 8.3 under "Purpose" the following: "(excluding Prime Farmland acreage as defined by the United States Department of Agriculture National Resources Conservation Service maps existing as of the date of the application)" and to delete ", or the siting of an installation in all or part on Prime Farmland shall require a Special permit issued by the Zoning Board of Appeals."

Approved 24 Opposed 15

Article 5 Amendment #2: A motion was made and seconded to replace in 2.1.4.5.1 under "Definitions" the word "shall" with the word "may".

Unanimous Approved

Article 5 Amendment #3: A motion was made and seconded to adopt the rest of Section 2 "Definitions" as read

Unanimous Approved

Article 5 Amendment #4: A motion was made and seconded to change in 8.3.2.6.1, "50 feet" with "at least 50 feet".

Approved 44 Opposed 3

Article 5 Amendment #5: A motion made and seconded to adopt the proposed Amended By-law

Approved 17 Opposed 22

There being no further business to come before the meeting it was adjourned at 2:56 PM by unanimous vote.

A true record to the best of my knowledge.

ATTEST: Betsey H. Howes, Assistant Town Clerk

A True Copy:

ATTEST: Betsey H. Howes, Assistant Town Clerk



Elaine Holder



TREASURY RECEIPTS SUMMARY From 07/01/2011 to 06/30/2012

Description	Amount
Personal Prop Taxes F2003	3.63
Personal Prop Taxes F2004	3.89
Personal Prop Taxes F2005	3.91
Personal Prop Taxes F2012	36,090.31
Real Estate Taxes F2007	2,081.56
Real Estate Taxes F2008	2,207.69
Real Estate Taxes F2009	5,599.20
Real Estate Taxes F2010	11,947.77
Real Estate Taxes F2011	19,582.97
Real Estate Taxes F2012	1,086,909.77
Motor Vehicle Ex F2006	125.63
Motor Vehicle Ex F2007	369.27
Motor Vehicle Ex F2008	304.84
Motor Vehicle Ex F2009	590.19
Motor Vehicle Ex F2010	2,777.73
Motor Vehicle Ex F2011	10,184.29
Motor Vehicle Ex F2012	42,474.94
Rollback	3,800.00
Tax Titles	25,980.51
Estimated Receipts	460.00
Interest on Property Tax	11,343.32
Interest on Excise Taxes	1,345.97
Interest on Tax Titles	4,737.20
In Lieu of Taxes	500.00
Garbage/Trash Charges	1,743.00
Ch 71 Pupil Transportatio	6,223.00
Liquor Licenses	900.00
Board of Health Permits	815.00
Building Inspection Permits	5,159.30
Collector Fees	1,795.00
Compactor Cards	9,562.50
Electrical Permits	705.00
Plumbing Permits	711.00
Police Department Permits	350.00

Other Licenses and Permit	135.00
Town Clerk Sporting Licen	28.60
Copier Receipts	33.00
State Owned Land	25,847.00
Comm of Mass Vet Blind	1,475.00
School Aid Chapter 70	51,024.00
Local Aid	22,750.00
Lottery	19,684.00
Court Fines	2,795.00
Dog License Fees	113.25
Sale of Inventory	1.00
Interest on Savings	928.47
Contributions & Donations	625.00
Misc. Revenues N.O.C.	1,403.27
Room Tax	2,434.23
Mark Fees	160.00
Federal Withholding	28,614.82
ING	7,450.04
Medicare Withholding	3,509.80
State withholding	13,143.47
OBRA Voluntary	1,200.00
County Retirement	14,873.07
Dental Insurance With.	2,182.45
License to Carry/State	1,050.00
Div. Fisheries & Wildlife	171.50
BC/BS - Officials	12,960.00
Health Insurance	16,195.81
Dog Licenses	525.00
Elections - State	240.00
Library Grant	1,502.24
Cultural Council	3,870.00
Council on Aging - State	3,500.00
Chapter 291B	109,009.12
Town Hall Association	10.00
FEMA Jan 2011 Storm	6,312.56
FEMA/MEMA Trop Storm Irene	29,715.56
Septic System Rpr. Grant	8,023.44
Ice Storm December 2008	15,328.00
October 2011 Snowstorm FEMA/MEMA	7,289.37
STRAP Grant	25,561.75
Internet Donations Pub. Safety Bldg.	558.87
Council on Aging Gifts	284.00
Library Gifts	684.00
Recreation/General	274.99
Flag Gifts	100.00
WiredWest Donations	1,110.00
Wind Energy Film Donations	250.00
Deputy Tax Collector Fees	1,014.00
Off-Duty Police Detail	27,863.50
Admin Fees Police Detail	1,765.20
Ch 148A Municipal Enforcement Fines	100.00
Cemetery PC Fund	1.20
Arts Lottery Fund	1.98
M.Arvilla Dyer Lib. Fund	1.29
Martha Smith Library Fund	1.78
Whiting Street Fund	2.57
Stabilization	651.42
County Tax	-434.00
Dog Fund	128.32
Cemetery Lot Int./Perpet.	325.79
Conservation Comm/Wetland	202.50
Library Sales & Fines	736.60
Sale of Real Estate	25,000.00
Burial Plots	200.00

Report Total **1,799,887.22**

TAX COLLECTOR

	Balance	Commitment	Omitted	Payment	Abatements	Refunds	Adjustment	Tax Title	Balance
2012 Real Estate	\$0.00	\$1,246,738.33		\$1,086,909.77	\$7,279.05	\$6,433.39	\$1.47	\$16,198.74	\$142,785.63
Personal	\$0.00	\$79,610.15		\$36,090.31					\$43,519.84
Motor Vehicle	\$0.00	\$54,735.26		\$42,474.94	\$358.53	\$113.22			\$12,015.01
Farm Animal Excise	\$0.00	\$1,188.00							\$1,188.00
Roll-back	\$0.00	\$3,800.00		\$3,800.00					\$0.00
2011 Real Estate	\$62,762.28			\$19,582.97		\$2,229.93	\$103.17	\$20,608.49	\$24,903.92
Personal	\$0.00					\$87.24			\$87.24
Motor Vehicle	\$8,436.19	\$8,626.66		\$10,184.29	\$376.56	\$328.23			\$6,830.23
Farm Animal Excise	\$105.00								\$105.00
2010 Real Estate	\$34,252.68			\$11,947.77		\$56.12	\$10.41	\$14,606.84	\$7,764.60
Personal	\$0.00					\$36.00			\$36.00
Motor Vehicle	\$4,307.67			\$2,777.73	\$88.75	\$113.69			\$1,554.88
Farm Animal Excise	\$105.00								\$105.00
Forest Products Cut	\$0.00								\$0.00
2009 Real Estate	\$19,390.96			\$5,599.20		\$4,493.31		\$14,761.02	\$3,524.05
Personal	\$482.32								\$482.32
Motor Vehicle	\$975.06			\$590.19		\$190.00			\$574.87
Farm Animal Excise	\$980.50								\$980.50
Forest Products Cut	\$0.00								\$0.00
2008 Real Estate	\$13,369.89			\$2,207.69		\$54.20		\$10,605.96	\$610.44
Personal	\$0.00								\$0.00
Motor Vehicle	\$3,362.84			\$304.84		\$24.30			\$3,082.30
Farm Animal Excise	\$448.00								\$448.00
Roll-back	\$0.00								\$0.00
2007 Real Estate	\$12,567.48			\$2,081.56				\$8,330.51	\$2,155.41
Personal	\$0.00								\$0.00
Motor Vehicle	\$2,579.35			\$369.27					\$2,210.08
Farm Animal Excise	\$448.00								\$448.00
2006 Real Estate	\$3,960.26							\$2,683.08	\$1,277.18
Personal	\$2.26								\$2.26
Motor Vehicle	\$1,522.26			\$125.63					\$1,396.63
2005 Real Estate	\$3,173.51							\$2,453.33	\$720.18
Personal	\$346.99			\$3.91					\$343.08
Motor Vehicle	\$368.07								\$368.07
2004 Real Estate	\$1,034.19							\$325.50	\$708.69
Personal	\$143.81			\$3.89					\$139.92
Motor Vehicle	\$2,521.88								\$2,521.88
2003 Real Estate	\$588.46								\$588.46
Personal	\$212.36			\$3.63					\$208.73
Motor Vehicle	\$925.08								\$925.08
Personal Property	\$369.79								\$369.79
Motor Vehicle	\$845.55								\$845.55
Farm Animal Excise	\$0.30								\$0.30
2001 Real Estate	\$271.37								\$271.37
Motor Vehicle	\$130.67								\$130.67
Forest Products Cut	\$5.00								\$5.00
2000 Real Estate	\$979.41								\$979.41
Personal Property	\$203.96								\$203.96
Motor Vehicle	\$961.03								\$961.03
1999 Real Estate	\$1,216.62								\$1,216.62
Personal Property	\$499.10								\$499.10
Motor Vehicle	\$3,080.49								\$3,080.49
Motor Vehicle	\$1,860.16								\$1,860.16
1997 Real Estate	\$617.26								\$617.26
Personal Property	\$630.18								\$630.18
Motor Vehicle	\$526.80								\$526.80
Farm Animal Excise	\$653.50								\$653.50
1996 Real Estate	\$389.78								\$389.78
Personal Property	\$609.19								\$609.19
Motor Vehicle	\$122.75								\$122.75
1995 Personal Property	\$323.46								\$323.46
Motor Vehicle	\$1,230.17								\$1,230.17

	Balance	Commitment	Omitted	Payment	Abatements	Refunds	Adjustment	Tax Title	Balance
1994 Personal Property	\$149.49								\$149.49
Motor Vehicle	\$1,389.78								\$1,389.78
1993 Personal Property	\$1,224.82								\$1,224.82
Motor Vehicle	\$800.84								\$800.84
1992 Personal Property	\$986.96								\$986.96
Motor Vehicle	\$573.86								\$573.86
1991 Personal Property	\$876.21								\$876.21
Motor Vehicle	\$960.00								\$960.00
1990 Personal Property	\$412.57								\$412.57
Motor Vehicle	\$646.47								\$646.47
1989 Personal Property	\$53.82								\$53.82
1988 Personal Property	\$18.50								\$18.50
1987 Personal Property	\$20.50								\$20.50
TOTALS	\$201,594.98	\$1,394,698.40	\$0.00	\$1,225,057.59	\$8,102.89	\$14,159.63	\$90,573.47		\$286,719.06

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Lynn Sabourin, Tax Collector

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Tax Rate Recapitulation for Fiscal Year 2012 July 1, 2011 thru June 30, 2012

Total amount to be raised:	\$1,610,028.07
Total estimated receipts and revenues from other sources:	283,682.96
Net amount to be raised by taxation (Tax Levy):	1,326,345.11

Valuation by Class

Residential	\$62,903,751.00
Commercial	7,510,360.00
Industrial	909,400.00
Personal Property	4,554,356.00
Total Property Valuation	\$75,877,867.00

Tax Levy By Class

Residential	\$1,099,557.57
Commercial	131,281.09
Industrial	15,896.31
Personal Property	79,610.14
Total Tax Levy	\$1,326,345.11

Number of real estate transfers received in calendar year 2011	13	
Number of motor vehicle excise bills sent:		
For registration year 2011	147	
For registration year 2012	797	
Number of motor vehicle abatements granted:		
For registration year 2010	3	88.75
For registration year 2011	12	376.56
For registration year 2012	9	358.53
Exemptions for real estate granted	8	2,525.00
Abatements for real estate granted:	6	4,754.05
Tax Exempt Property:		
Value: Town, State, Charities, Audubon:		\$10,131,400.00
67 parcels tax dollars		\$177,096.87

Respectfully Submitted,
Claude DuPont III, Chairman
Howard B. Hudson



Sandy Powers

ASSETS

CASH	Assets	Liabilities
General Cash	354,555.93	
TOTAL FOR CASH		354,555.93
PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES	Assets	Liabilities
Personal Prop Taxes F2000	203.96	
Personal Prop Taxes F2002	369.79	
Personal Prop Taxes F2003	212.36	
Personal Prop Taxes F2004	143.81	
Personal Prop Taxes F2005	346.99	
Personal Prop Taxes F2006	2.26	
Personal Prop Taxes F2009	482.32	
Personal Prop Taxes F2012	43,519.84	
Personal Prop Taxes F1987	20.50	
Personal Prop Taxes F1988	18.50	
Personal Prop Taxes F1989	53.82	
Personal Prop Taxes F1990	412.57	
Personal Prop Taxes F1991	876.21	
Personal Prop Taxes F1992	986.96	
Personal Prop Taxes F1993	1,224.82	
Personal Prop Taxes F1994	149.49	
Personal Prop Taxes F1995	323.46	
Personal Prop Taxes F1996	609.19	
Personal Prop Taxes F1997	630.18	
Personal Prop Taxes F1999	499.10	
TOTAL FOR PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES		51,074.70
REAL ESTATE TAXES	Assets	Liabilities
Real Estate Taxes F2000	979.41	
Real Estate Taxes F2001	271.37	
Real Estate Taxes F2003	588.46	
Real Estate Taxes F2004	708.69	
Real Estate Taxes F2005	720.18	
Real Estate Taxes F2006	1,277.18	
Real Estate Taxes F2007	2,155.41	
Real Estate Taxes F2008	610.44	
Real Estate Taxes F2009	3,354.71	
Real Estate Taxes F2010	7,764.60	
Real Estate Taxes F2011	24,903.92	
Real Estate Taxes F2012	142,785.63	
Real Estate Taxes F1996	389.78	
Real Estate Taxes F1997	617.26	
Real Estate Taxes F1999	1,216.62	
TOTAL FOR REAL ESTATE TAXES		188,343.66
MOTOR VEHICLE EX TAXES	Assets	Liabilities
Motor Vehicle Ex F2000	961.03	
Motor Vehicle Ex F2001	130.67	
Motor Vehicle Ex F2002	845.55	
Motor Vehicle Ex F2003	925.08	
Motor Vehicle Ex F2004	2,521.88	
Motor Vehicle Ex F2005	368.07	
Motor Vehicle Ex F2006	1,396.63	
Motor Vehicle Ex F2007	2,210.08	
Motor Vehicle Ex F2008	3,082.30	
Motor Vehicle Ex F2009	574.87	
Motor Vehicle Ex F2010	1,554.88	
Motor Vehicle Ex F2011	6,830.23	
Motor Vehicle Ex F2012	12,015.01	
Motor Vehicle Ex F1990	646.47	
Motor Vehicle Ex F1991	960.00	
Motor Vehicle Ex F1992	573.86	

Motor Vehicle Ex F1993	800.84	
Motor Vehicle Ex F1994	1,389.78	
Motor Vehicle Ex 1995	1,230.17	
Motor Vehicle Ex F1996	122.75	
Motor Vehicle Ex F1997	526.80	
Motor Vehicle Ex F1998	1,860.16	
Motor Vehicle Ex F1999	3,080.49	
TOTAL FOR MOTOR VEHICLE EX TAXES		44,607.60

FARM EXCISE TAXES	Assets	Liabilities
Farm Animal Excise	3,927.80	
Forest Products Cut	5.00	
TOTAL FOR FARM EXCISE TAXES		3,932.80

TAX TITLES & POSSESSIONS	Assets	Liabilities
Tax Titles	122,112.93	
TOTAL FOR TAX TITLES & POSSESSIONS		122,112.93

ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE	Assets	Liabilities
Highway Chapter 291B	478,013.82	
TOTAL FOR ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE		478,013.82

GRANTS	Assets	Liabilities
STRAP Grant	4,119.66	
TOTAL FOR GRANTS		4,119.66

TOTAL ASSETS	1,246,761.10
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LIABILITIES

PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES	Assets	Liabilities
Personal Prop Taxes F2001		152.82
Personal Prop Taxes F1998		20.12
TOTAL FOR PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES		172.94

REAL ESTATE TAXES	Assets	Liabilities
Real Estate Taxes F2002		815.25
Real Estate Taxes F1998		305.80
TOTAL FOR REAL ESTATE TAXES		1,121.05

REVENUE	Assets	Liabilities
Revenue Fiscal 2013		107,171.34
TOTAL FOR REVENUE		107,171.34

AGENCY	Assets	Liabilities
Federal Withholding		302.65
ING		77.40
Medicare Withholding		37.90
State Withholding		153.93
County Retirement		187.86
Dental Insurance Withholding		53.81
Div. Fisheries & Wildlife		18.50
BC/BS - Officials		1,200.04
Health Insurance Withholdings		176.59
Dog Licenses		69.25
Unclaimed checks		22.10
TOTAL FOR AGENCY		2,300.03

GRANTS

	Assets	Liabilities
Library Grant		20,763.83
Cultural Council		3,551.11
Cult Council Enrich Fund		660.00
Council on Aging - State		4,228.03
Town Hall Project Gifts		610.00
Town Hall Association		4,256.40
Dog Kennel Gift		50.00
Emergency Management/FEMA		2,297.00
Homeland Security Grant		167.74
Septic System Rpr. Grant		56,941.62
Community Policing Grant		6,474.60
Fire Equipment Grant		799.54
Health Bd Emer Prep Grant		1,469.30
FEMA Firefighters Assistance Grant		1,282.44
Council on Aging Gifts		1,637.72
Library Gifts		3,670.97
Cemetery Gifts		200.00
Cemetery (Funds Approp. for Use)		17.87
Recreation/General		492.87
Playstructure@ Ballfield		2,678.85
Flag Gifts		11.95
WiredWest Donations		110.00
Library Addition		1,497.63
Historical Comm Donation		11.74
TOTAL FOR GRANTS		113,881.21

REVOLVING

	Assets	Liabilities
Deputy Tax Collector Fees		634.00
Off-Duty Police Detail		312.00
Insurance Claim		206.33
Insurance Claim - Fire House		9,160.58
Ch I48A Municipal Enforcement Fines		100.00
TOTAL FOR REVOLVING		10,412.91

RCPTS RESVRD FOR APPROP

	Assets	Liabilities
Dog Fund		128.32
Cemetery Lot Int./Perpet. Care		650.84
Conservation Comm/Wetland		1,168.06
Library Sales & Fines		83.00
TOTAL FOR RCPTS RESVRD FOR APPROP		2,030.22

OVERLAYS RES FOR ABATE

	Assets	Liabilities
Overlay F1987		20.50
Overlay F1988		18.50
Overlay F1989		53.82
Overlay F1990		412.57
Overlay F1991		876.21
Overlay F1992		986.96
Overlay F1993		1,224.82
Overlay F1994		149.49
Overlay F1995		323.46
Overlay F1996		998.97
Overlay F1997		1,247.44
Overlay F1999		1,573.29
Overlay F2000		1,029.29
Overlay F2001		271.37
Overlay F2002		369.79
Overlay F2003		800.82
Overlay F2004		1,178.00

Assets Liabilities

Overlay F2005		3,923.17
Overlay F2006		3,962.52
Overlay F2007		5,074.40
Overlay F2008		5,215.43
Overlay F2009		3,834.36
Overlay F 2010		7,761.18
Overlay F 2011		9,863.66
Overlay F2012		4,786.92
TOTAL FOR OVERLAYS RES FOR ABATE		55,956.94

REVENUE RESERVED UNTIL COL

	Assets	Liabilities
Tax Title & Poss. Rev.		122,112.93
Motor Vehicle Excise Rev		44,607.60
Special Tax Revenue		3,932.80
Hwy Chapter 291B Revenue		478,013.82
Cemetery Lot Revenue		13,210.00
TOTAL FOR REVENUE RESERVED UNTIL COL		661,877.15

SURPLUS REVENUE

	Assets	Liabilities
Surplus Revenue		291,837.31
TOTAL FOR SURPLUS REVENUE		291,837.31

TOTAL LIABILITIES**1,246,761.10****TRUST FUNDS**

	Assets	Liabilities
Trust Cash	309,841.90	
Cemetery PC Fund		2,707.28
Arts Lottery Fund		950.51
M. Arvilla Dyer Lib. Fnd		2,791.15
Martha Smith Library Fund		3,883.07
Whiting Street Fund		5,476.79
Stabilization		294,033.10
TOTAL FOR TRUST FUNDS	309,841.90	309,841.90

LONG TERM DEBT

	Assets	Liabilities
Inside Debt Limit	410,691.00	
Hwy Dump Truck		60,180.00
Public Safety Building Loan		343,311.00
Hwy Pick Up Truck		7,200.00
TOTAL FOR LONG TERM DEBT	410,691.00	410,691.00



Conrad Liebenow

All Departments Expenditure Report

From 07/01/2012 to 06/30/2012

ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	CARRY FWD	ORIG BUD	AMENDED	EXPEND	UNENCUM BAL
Board of Selectmen		5,000.00		5,000.00	
Town Office Expense		8,800.00		8,601.93	198.07
Treasurer		10,694.00	.04	10,694.04	
Administrative Secretary		12,000.00		12,000.00	
Moderator		30.00		30.00	
Accountant		10,800.00		10,800.00	
Tax Title Expense		2,000.00	177.73	2,177.73	
Training/Seminar Expense		500.00			500.00
Town Counsel		6,000.00		4,629.91	1,370.09
Assistant Town Clerk Salary		500.00		500.00	
Assessors		3,905.00	23.96	3,928.96	
Assessors Salaries		38,109.70		37,805.01	304.69
GIS Update	1,750.00			1,750.00	
Tax Collector		10,145.00		9,262.84	882.16
Collector's Salary		10,694.00	.04	10,694.04	
Town Clerk	446.61	4,625.00		2,174.44	2,897.17
Town Clerk Salary		6,000.00		6,000.00	
Conservation Commission		500.00		395.10	104.90
Finance Committee		150.00		126.00	24.00
Planning Board		400.00		140.00	260.00
Zoning Board		200.00			200.00
Hamp. Council of Govt.		804.56		804.56	
Highway Salaries		136,088.00	-2,878.15	117,093.86	16,115.99
Highway General		30,000.00		29,274.30	725.70
Machinery Upkeep		46,200.00		43,160.53	3,039.47
Winter Roads		47,091.00	2,878.15	49,969.15	
Street Lights		675.00		539.49	131.51
Mohawk Reg. School Oper.		567,668.00		567,668.00	
Mohawk Reg. School Cap.		35,676.00		35,676.00	
Vocational Tuition/Trans.		196,029.00	-2,869.48	165,045.91	28,113.61
School Committee Exp.		750.00		725.32	24.68
Shaw Memorial Library		14,123.92		14,123.92	
Gen. Franklin Vet. Dist.		2,487.00		1,166.00	1,321.00
Veterans' Benefits			21,780.00	21,780.00	
Cemetery Commission		4,050.00		3,749.46	300.54
Veteran's Graves/Mem. Day		100.00			100.00
Police Department		10,572.00		6,534.78	4,037.22
Radio Rpr. & Maint.		1,500.00	117.00	1,617.00	
Police Salaries		8,000.00	627.46	8,627.46	
Fire Department		18,300.00		18,300.00	
Highland Ambulance EMS		8,736.00		8,736.00	
Highland Ambulance Capital		1,206.00	1,206.00		
Assist. to Firefighters Grant Match		3,524.00		3,524.00	
Fire Chief Salary		4,193.00	.04	4,194.04	
Building Alarms		1,237.00		1,234.00	3.00
Building Inspector		9,000.00	255.82	9,255.82	
Plumbing Inspector		1,800.00		1,800.00	
Electrical Inspector		2,070.00		1,800.00	270.00
Emergency Management		1,000.00			1,000.00
Animal Control Officer		1,000.00		999.96	.04
Animal Control Off. Exp.		600.00		26.05	573.95
Barn & Cattle Inspector		200.00		200.00	
Immunizations		500.00			500.00
EMT Training		2,000.00		2,000.00	
Tree Warden		3,000.00		487.50	2,512.50
Compactor		24,409.00		20,946.90	3,462.10
Compactor Salaries		5,320.00	43.36	5,363.36	
Hilltown Res. Mgmt. Coop		1,630.60		1,630.60	
Pick-up Truck Loan		7,200.00		7,200.00	
Public Safety Bldg. Bond Loan		9,537.00		9,537.00	

ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	CARRY FWD	ORIG BUD	AMENDED	EXPEND	UNENCUM BAL
Hwy. Dump Truck w/ Wing Loan		20,060.00		20,060.00	
Int. Long-term Debt		19,356.16		19,356.16	
Int. Short-term Debt		1,000.00		289.39	710.61
Insurance	2,500.00	62,005.00	-989.63	46,428.00	17,087.37
Town Bldg. Repair		7,700.00		4,738.66	2,961.34
ADA		100.00			100.00
Twn. Bldg. Operations		35,000.00		31,581.80	3,418.20
Twn. Bldg. Sup/Maint/Cust		7,635.00	2,869.48	10,504.48	
Town Reports		1,000.00		689.00	311.00
Council on Aging		737.00			737.00
Recreation Committee		2,760.00		1,467.98	1,292.02
Flags/Flowers		300.00		66.64	233.36
Historical Commission		50.00		43.80	6.20
Agricultural Commission		200.00			200.00
County Retirement		34,031.00		33,382.00	649.00
Medicare		4,500.00		3,543.69	956.31
Unemployment		750.00		259.43	490.57
Ch. 32B Medical Ins.		52,600.00		47,766.95	4,833.05
Reserve Fund		3,000.00	-255.82		2,744.18
Total	4,696.61	1,592,113.94	21,780.00	1,509,359.95	109,230.60

Respectfully submitted,
Paula King, Town Accountant



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SHAW MEMORIAL LIBRARY

The Shaw Memorial Library is a member of the Massachusetts Library System. Being a member of the MLS we can purchase books at a discount, which lets us get more of the bestsellers for your reading pleasure. Thanks to our regional library borrowing system, CWMARS, we still have the ability to be able to order Inter-Library loan books, and this past year we requested over 500 books for our patrons. If we don't have what you are looking for, we do are best to get it for you through this service.

We are working on enlarging our DVD, CD, and Large Print collections and keep two computers for public use up to date.

This past year we had several events in our meeting/reading room:

- Two Poetry readings which are always well attended and bring people from surrounding towns as well.
- Rebecca Mlynarczyk did a talk on "Literacy For The Aging." This was about four Plainfield women: Kay Metcalfe, Irene Caplan, Anna Hathaway, and Blanche Cizek.
- Exhibitions of the paintings of Wynne Llewellyn (Cummington), Quilts by Jane Neri, Paintings by Laurie Israel, and Metal Sculpture by Ron Scott. We had around 15 people show their favorite photographs. Also a beautiful display of 12 wedding gowns, that were enjoyed by all.
- The annual book sale Labor Day weekend, as well as our annual Valentine Tea which was well attended.

If your new in town and haven't visited the library yet, do stop by. As you can see, we have a lot to offer.

Library Hours: Tuesday 2:00 - 8:00
 Thursday 6:00 - 8:00
 Saturday 9:00 - 12:00

Respectfully Submitted:

Denise Sessions—Library Director

Sandy Morann—Trustee Chair

Ann Kohn

Linda O'Dea

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Each town and city in Massachusetts has a Conservation Commission, which is charged with protecting the town's wetlands resources under the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act (1972) (General Law Chapter 131, Section 40). This law (www.state.ma.us/dep) prohibits the removal, dredging, filling or altering of wetlands without a permit. Residents planning construction or alteration on their property should contact a member of the Plainfield Conservation Commission for a Request for Determination (RDA) to determine if their property falls under our jurisdiction. We will inspect your property and issue a positive or negative determination. A negative determination which implies there is no negative impact, states that the area/work does not fall under our jurisdiction, approves resource area boundaries, or approves alternative analysis. Under some negative determinations the project may go forward but certain conditions might apply. A positive determination indicates that the area/work does fall under the jurisdiction of the Act and therefore a Notice of Intent must be completed and submitted to the Conservation Commission and Department of Environmental Protection. The four members of the Plainfield Conservation Commission work with property owners to insure that all interests are addressed.

The Plainfield Conservation Commission's public meetings are held on the last Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. The Commission's usual business includes reviewing applications for building permits and forest cutting plans in order to ensure compliance with the Wetlands Protection Act (1972) and the more recent Rivers Protection Act (1996). Members of the Commission also make site visits to help property owners identify possible resource areas and buffer zones. The Commission also serves an educational role for the community. Members attend workshops on conservation issues and can in turn serve to raise community awareness of Plainfield's rich natural history and needs.

During 2012 the Plainfield Conservation Commission:

Held public meetings for:

- April 25, 183 Summit St., Jim Markham, the commission issued a negative determination under #4. The area is not protected



Sandy Powers

under the Wetlands Protection Act.

- May 30, Hallockville Road (8A), Mert Taylor Jr., work will involve grinding & repaving, Commission issued a Negative Determination under #3, work will be done in buffer zone but will not alter the area. Conditioned upon the installation of a properly installed silt fence. ConCom will inspect fencing before work begins.
- Aug. 30, North Union St., Nancy Borey, potential clearance of 1-3 acres for pasture, Commission issued a negative determination under #2, the work will not remove, fill, dredge, or alter the area.
- Nov. 5, Mass Broadband Institute representatives Cornell Robinson, Michael Turgeon and Michael Nolan, presented plans to install fiber optic cable near Hathaway Hall. Commission issued a negative determination under #3. Conditioned on the use of straw wattles or other effective erosion control.

Site Visits were made to:

- March, 183 Summit St., Jim Markham
- March 31, Hallockville Road (8A), Mert Taylor, Jr., Highway Superintendent
- March 31, Prospect St., Mert Taylor, repaving
- March 31, 158 Pleasant St., Serena Torrey, extension of barn
- April 6, 53 Old South St., Eliza H. Melle, clearing for construction of home
- April 13, 287 West St., Michael Holden, construction of porch
- April 16, 32 South Central, Philip Sargenski, construction of horse shed
- June 20, 28 Grant St., Stephen Ridell, wet soil caused by under-street culvert
- Sept. 3, Upper Liberty St., David Perkins, dredging a pond
- August, 215 West Hill Road, Gene & Sue Flores, herbicide spraying of fields has caused acute respiratory problems, not jurisdictional
- July 6, 159 West Hill Rd., Tom Marcoux, building of a garage
- Sept., 8 Warner Hill Road, Steve & Beverly Woolf, building addition

Review of forest cutting plans:

- Upper Liberty St., Robert Kasper and Maude Geng, 2nd ext. through April 2012
- Mountain St., Joan Wattman, extension
- West St., Alice L. Aeschbach, new filing
- 268 West St., John and Sebern Fisher property

Other Business:

- Alan Page, Green Diamond Systems, explained his biochar program on S. Central Street owned by John Olver
- Reviewed Western Mass Electric's Yearly Operational Plan for the application of herbicides along right of ways
- Ed Morann presented information about town water sources on property owned by Nancy Borey
- The fee for legal notices was raised to \$50.
- We accepted with regret Emily Boss's resignation as Conservation Commissioner because she is moving to Greenfield. Emily is now a licensed forester and is working for the Franklin Land Trust. The Plainfield Conservation Commission has benefitted immeasurably from her skill, knowledge, enthusiasm and dedication.

We welcomed, Jack Nelson, as a new Conservation Commissioner. Jack recently moved to Plainfield from Bethlehem, Ct. where he served as chair of the Conservation Commission

Respectfully submitted:

Sue LaRock
Jack Nelson
Alice Schertle
Judith Williams (Chair)



Sandy Powers

PLANNING BOARD

In spite of the fact that the Planning Board did a better job in 2012 of informing the town residents of the purposes and specifics of the proposed solar bylaw, not to mention incorporating changes requested by individuals and groups, the proposed bylaw was postponed at the May Town Meeting to a specific date in September. Again, public meetings were held and to the proposed bylaw were once again made. Nevertheless, the bylaw was voted down in September. The essence of the proposed bylaw was to make the installation of solar panels a by-right business with certain restrictions. In other words, the generation of electricity as a business may still be installed in Plainfield under the provisions of the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Personnel wise, David Bulissa resigned from the Planning Board, Brian Hawthorne was appointed, and Ed Morann replaced Bob Persing as chairman as of January 9, 2013.

Respectfully submitted:
Bob Persing, Chair
Claude DuPont
Ed Morann
Penn Moulton



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HIGHLAND AMBULANCE EMS

Operations. Highland Ambulance is the primary ambulance service provider for the towns of Ashfield, Chesterfield, Cummington, Goshen, Plainfield and Williamsburg. Highland also provides primary back-up in the town of Worthington in support of Hilltown Ambulance of Huntington. Paramedics are on duty at Highland's station in Goshen from 6 AM until midnight seven days a week. During the midnight to 6 AM time period, Highland EMT's are assisted by Paramedics from other ambulance companies when the service of a Paramedic is required. Highland's active roster consists of 36 members including 12 Paramedics and 24 EMT's.

Donations and Grants. In March Highland dedicated a new ambulance generously donated by John April of Goshen in memory of his father and grandfather. In May Highland received a \$20,000 grant from FEMA for an "Active Shooter" program. This program provided area EMT's and Police with training regarding emergency response when there is risk in an active shooting situation. In December we were awarded a \$77,000 Assistance to Firefighters Grant from FEMA. This grant will provide for the purchase of cardiac monitors for each of our ambulances. These monitors will replace our existing monitors and offer enhancements compliant with current technology.

During Fiscal Year 2012 we received \$39,944 in donations. We are grateful for the level of support we receive from the community.

Emergency Responses. During 2012 Highland responded to 616 emergency calls. These are broken down by Town as follows:

Ashfield	100	Chesterfield	68	Cummington	67
Worthington	29	Goshen	62	Plainfield	77
Williamsburg	199	Other	14		

Out of these responses, 366 required advanced life support services of a paramedic.

Community Involvement. Highland provided support to our communities including:

- Ambulance Coverage for Community events including the Junior Olympics held in Chesterfield, Chesterfield 4th of July Parade, the Cummington Fair and the Ashfield Fall Festival.
- Safety Day programs at New Hingham School and at Sanderson Academy.
- A Flu shot clinic for area first responders and EMT's.
- CPR training. Training is offered on the third Thursday of each month. Information is available by calling Highland Ambulance at 268 7272.

Cash On Hand June 30, 2012

Operating Funds	\$ 4,125.94
Memorial Fund	17,678.58
Dresser Fund	2,726.59
Cummington Funds	1,328.95
Highland Funds	6,955.14
Total Cash On Hand	\$ 32,815.20

Respectfully Submitted,

Highland Ambulance Board of Directors

Ashfield Patricia Thayer

Plainfield James Pilgrim

Chesterfield Spencer Timm

Williamsburg Christopher Smith

Cummington James Drawe

At-Large Francis Dresser

Goshen Donald Boisvert

At-Large Bernard Forgea

At-Large Douglas Mollison



Sandy Powers

POLICE DEPARTMENT

During the 2012 calendar year the Plainfield Police Department responded to 266 incidents, and conducted 38 motor vehicle stops. The breakdown by incident type is listed below:

No Classification	14	M/V Complaint	12
911 Hang-Up	11	M/V Violation	6
911 Misdialed	7	Medical	47
Accident-Damage	4	Miscellaneous	6
Missing Child	15	Accident-Injury	8
Missing Persons	7	Accident-Unknown	3
Alarm	24	Motor Vehicle Stops	38
Notification	1	Animal Complaint	25
Officer Wanted	11	Assist Other Agency	2
Paperwork Service	2	Assault	2
B&E - Building	1	Building Check	1
Psychological Emergency	3	Burglary	1
Cell/Call Trace	1	Check Welfare	2
Safety Hazard	3	Disabled M/V	13
Shots Fired	3	Disturbance	2
Suicide Attempt	1	Domestic	1
Suspicious Vehicle	2	Fire	4
Traffic Hazard	11	Unwanted Person	1
Vandalism	1	Juvenile Offense	1
Investigation	2		
Wires Down	5		

Josh Shearer has joined the Plainfield Police Department. He lives with his wife and daughter on South Central Street. We wish to congratulate Josh on completing the academy and placing number two in his class.

To report a crime or emergency call Northampton Control by dialing 911. If you need a police officer, the fire department, or the ambulance call 911. If you are not sure if your problem is a 911 emergency, then call 413 586-1508 to speak to a dispatcher. The non-emergency Plainfield Police office phone number is 413 634-0139. Use the Northampton Control number to report all crimes.

The Plainfield Police Department office hours are the first and third Saturdays of each month from 10:00 am until noon, and the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month from 7:00 until 9:00 pm.

The Police Department wants to thank the residents of the Town of Plainfield for their support, and the Fire and Ambulance Services for their assistance, and special thanks to the officer's families for their help and support.

Respectfully Submitted,

David Wood, Chief

Stacey Magdycz, Asst. Chief

Josh Shearer, Officer

Edward Morann, Special Police Officer

Sandra Morann, Special Police Officer

Merton Taylor, Sr., Special Police Officer

Kyle Meservy, Animal Control Officer

Sandy Powers



PLAINFIELD FIRE EMS DEPARTMENT

In June, we received news that our grant application to the Assistance to Firefighter Grant (AFG) for a 3000 gallon vacuum tanker was funded. AFG's are funded under FEMA. The cost of the Vacuum Tanker is \$274,500.00. The bid awarded to VTEC in Williamstown, VT. AFG will cover 95% of the cost with the town covering the other 5%. The Tanker will carry 3000 gallons of water with a 750 gpm midship pump. This truck is able to fill its self in less than 2 minutes through the vacuum pump and is able to use shallow water sources. The truck will be delivered in June 2013.

Ellen Dupont and Debbie Stevens took and passed the EMT class at Greenfield Community College giving up their spring and summer. Congratulations and welcome aboard.

Narrow Banding became effective January 1 2013. This narrowed the radio frequency from 25 KH to 12.5 KH this would have reduced our radio coverage to less than 50% in Plainfield and Cummington. The State Police and the Franklin Regional Council of Government funded a project to install radio equipment on the WMECO tower in Plainfield, a cell phone tower in Cummington and at the Goshen Fire Station. This allows all three towers to transmit and receive at the same time. Thank You Chief Bernie Forgea for your 4 plus years of commitment to see this project through.

Total of 119 calls:

Medical	67	False Alarms	8
Chimney Fires	2	CO	3
Motor Vehicle Accidents	9	Investigations	2
Brush Fires	2	Hazmat	1
Tree down	1	Power Line down	6
Flood Basement	1	Search	1
Snowmobile Accident	1	Malicious False Alarm	1

Mutual Aids:

Ashfield	3	Cummington	5	Goshen	1
Savoy	1	Windsor	2	Worthington	2

Submitted by:

Dennis Thatcher, Fire Chief

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

MOHAWK TRAIL REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

HAWLEMONT REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

ROWE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL^o

INTRODUCTION

Until 2012, public school districts in Massachusetts were held accountable by a system governed by the Federal No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB). Under that system, schools were classified as having either “Met Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)” or “Not Met AYP.” In 2011, as the Federal NCLB AYP requirements in English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics approached the unrealistic goal of 100%, 81% of Massachusetts schools and 90% of Massachusetts districts failed to meet AYP. These percentages made no sense, because Massachusetts is widely regarded as having one of the more rigorous public education systems in the nation. As a result, the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) applied for, and received, a waiver to NCLB AYP during the winter of 2012.

NEW STATE ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM

In 2012, a new Massachusetts accountability system replaced the Federal NCLB system, including several key changes. The NCLB goal of 100 percent proficiency was replaced with a new goal of reducing proficiency gaps by half by 2017. AYP was replaced with a new performance measure (the Progress and Performance Index, or PPI) that incorporates student growth and other indicators, including science and dropout rates. Schools and districts are now classified into one of five “Levels,” with Level 1 signaling strong performance and Level 5 signaling unacceptable performance.

Student growth is now an important component of the accountability system. The Student Growth Percentile (SGP) measures how much students gain from one year to the next relative to other students statewide with similar MCAS test score histories. Science is included in the accountability system as well as ELA and Math. A new “High Needs” subgroup is tracked, which includes students in a school or district belonging to at least one of the following individual subgroups: low income students, students with disabilities, English language learners (ELL) and former ELL students.

CLASSIFICATION LEVELS

Eighty percent of schools are classified into Level 1 or 2 based on the cumulative PPI for the “All Students” and “High Needs” groups. For a school to be classified into Level 1, the cumulative PPI for both the “All Students” group and “High Needs” students must be 75 or higher. The Cumulative PPI combines information about narrowing proficiency gaps, growth, and graduation and dropout rates over the most recent four-year period into a single number between 0 and 100.

Annual PPI is a measure of the improvement that a group makes toward its own targets over a two-year period using up to seven indicators: narrowing proficiency gaps (ELA, Math, and science); growth (ELA and Math); the annual dropout rate; and the cohort graduation rate. The Cumulative PPI is the average of a group’s annual PPIs over four years, weighting the most recent years the most (Current Year PPI 40%, Current Year-1 30%, Current Year-2 20%, Current Year-3 10%). If a school does not meet both of these requirements, the school is classified into Level 2. A school may also be classified into Level 2 if it has low MCAS participation rates for any group (between 90 and 94%).

Schools are classified into Level 3 if they are among the lowest 20 percent relative to other schools in their grade span statewide, if one or more subgroups in the school are among the lowest performing 20% of subgroups relative to all subgroups statewide, if they have persistently low graduation rates (less than 60% for any subgroup over a four-year period), or if they have very low MCAS participation rates for any group (less than 90%).

The lowest achieving, least improving Level 3 schools are candidates for classification into Levels 4 and 5, the most serious designations in Massachusetts’ accountability system. In general, a district is classified into the level of its lowest performing school, unless the district was independently classified into Level 4 or 5 as a result of action by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education.

MOHAWK TRAIL REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT ACCOUNTABILITY DATA 2012

MOHAWK TRAIL REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT Classification: Level 2

- Because all schools within the District, including BSE, were classified as Level 2 schools, Mohawk exited Level 3 status, which is a positive consequence of the 2012 MCAS results.
- Within these results, there was a substantial increase in the number of students who performed at an Advanced level in ELA, Math and Science.
 - Increased percentage of students Advanced in ELA from 11% to 15%.
 - Increased percentage of students Advanced in Math from 21% to 26%.
 - Increased percentage of students Advanced in Science from 7% to 12%.

Progress and Performance Index

MOHAWK TRAIL REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT ALL STUDENTS					
YEAR	1-YEAR PPI	CLASSIFICATION	WEIGHT	1-YEARxWEIGHT	4-YEAR PPI
2012	57	Level 2	0.4	23	68
2011	75	Level 1	0.3	23	
2010	79	Level 1	0.2	16	
2009	68	Level 2	0.1	7	
MOHAWK TRAIL REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT HIGH NEEDS					
YEAR	1-YEAR PPI	CLASSIFICATION	WEIGHT	1-YEARxWEIGHT	4-YEAR PPI
2012	46	Level 2	0.4	18	62
2011	75	Level 1	0.3	23	
2010	71	Level 2	0.2	14	
2009	71	Level 2	0.1	7	

Composite Performance Data (CPI)

MOHAWK TRAIL REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT English Language Arts Proficiency Gap Narrowing						
STUDENTS	6-YEAR GOAL	2011 CPI (BASELINE)	2012 TARGET	2012 CPI	CPI CHANGE	RATING
All students	93.7	87.4	88.5	87.2	-0.2	No change
High needs	90.1	80.1	81.8	79.8	-0.3	No change
2012 Mathematics Proficiency Gap Narrowing						
STUDENTS	6-YEAR GOAL	2011 CPI (BASELINE)	2012 TARGET	2012 CPI	CPI CHANGE	RATING
All students	90.4	80.8	82.4	79.0	-1.8	No change
High needs	85.6	71.2	73.6	70.1	-1.1	No change
2012 Science Proficiency Gap Narrowing						
STUDENTS	6-YEAR GOAL	2011 CPI (BASELINE)	2012 TARGET	2012 CPI	CPI CHANGE	RATING
All students	90.1	80.1	81.8	78.1	-2.0	No change
High needs	86.2	72.3	74.6	66.9	-5.4	Decline

MOHAWK TRAIL REGIONAL MIDDLE-HIGH SCHOOL

Classification: Level 2

- After two years of very high performance (2011 PPI 89 and 2010 PPI 96), the Middle-High School's 2012 MCAS results declined.
- Within these disappointing results, there were some bright spots.
 - Increased percentage of students Advanced in Math from 24% to 31%.
 - Increased the Student Growth Percentile in Math from 48 to 56.
 - Increased percentage of students Advanced in ELA from 14% to 18%.
 - The 4-Year Cohort Graduation Rate increased from 76% to 79%.
 - The Annual Drop-Out Rate declined from 4% to 2%.

Progress and Performance Index

MOHAWK TRAIL REGIONAL SCHOOL MIDDLE-HIGH SCHOOL					
ALL STUDENTS					
YEAR	1-YEAR PPI	CLASSIFICATION	WEIGHT	1-YEARxWEIGHT	4-YEAR PPI
2012	50	Level 2	0.4	20	72
2011	89	Level 1	0.3	27	
2010	96	Level 1	0.2	19	
2009	57	Level 2	0.1	6	
HIGH NEEDS STUDENTS					
YEAR	1-YEAR PPI	CLASSIFICATION	WEIGHT	1-YEARxWEIGHT	4-YEAR PPI
2012	36	Level 2	0.4	14	65
2011	89	Level 1	0.3	27	
2010	86	Level 1	0.2	17	
2009	68	Level 2	0.1	7	

Composite Performance Data (CPI)

MOHAWK TRAIL REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT						
English Language Arts Proficiency Gap Narrowing						
STUDENTS	6-YEAR GOAL	2011 CPI (BASELINE)	2012 TARGET	2012 CPI	CPI CHANGE	RATING
All students	95.5	90.9	88.2	88.2	-2.7	Declined
High needs	91.9	83.8	85.2	78.6	-5.2	Declined
2012 Mathematics Proficiency Gap Narrowing						
STUDENTS	6-YEAR GOAL	2011 CPI (BASELINE)	2012 TARGET	2012 CPI	CPI CHANGE	RATING
All students	90.4	80.7	82.3	77.7	-3.08	Declined
High needs	84.6	69.1	71.7	65.5	-3.6	Declined
2012 Science Proficiency Gap Narrowing						
STUDENTS	6-YEAR GOAL	2011 CPI (BASELINE)	2012 TARGET	2012 CPI	CPI CHANGE	RATING
All students	90.1	80.2	81.9	75.0	-5.2	Declined
High needs	85.6	71.2	73.6	60.7	-10.5	Declined

SANDERSON ACADEMY

Classification: Level 2

- In 2012, the students performed very well in ELA, but the Math and Science results declined.
- Outstanding performance in ELA:
 - All Students rating is Above Target with a CPI of 93.3.
 - Increased percentage of students Advanced from 16% to 26%.
- The Math scores declined, but the CPI is a strong 86.6.
 - 67% of the students were Proficient-Advanced, greatly exceeding the State's 59%.
- The Science scores also declined, but the CPI is a very respectable 82.5.
 - 55% of the students were Proficient-Advanced, exceeding the State's 54%.

Progress and Performance Index

SANDERSON ACADEMY					
YEAR	1-YEAR PPI	CLASSIFICATION	WEIGHT	1-YEARxWEIGHT	4-YEAR PPI
2012	55	Level 2	0.4	22	63
2011	50	Level 2	0.3	15	
2010	94	Level 1	0.2	19	
2009	69	Level 2	0.1	7	

Composite Performance Data (CPI)

SANDERSON ACADEMY						
English Language Arts Proficiency Gap Narrowing						
STUDENTS	6-YEAR GOAL	2011 CPI (BASELINE)	2012 TARGET	2012 CPI	CPI CHANGE	RATING
All students	95.2	90.4	91.2	93.3	2.9	Above Target
2012 Mathematics Proficiency Gap Narrowing						
STUDENTS	6-YEAR GOAL	2011 CPI (BASELINE)	2012 TARGET	2012 CPI	CPI CHANGE	RATING
All students	96.2	92.3	92.9	86.6	-5.7	Declined
2012 Science Proficiency Gap Narrowing						
STUDENTS	6-YEAR GOAL	2011 CPI (BASELINE)	2012 TARGET	2012 CPI	CPI CHANGE	RATING
All students	95.0	90.0	90.8	82.5	-7.5	Declined

THE YEAR AHEAD

In 2012, the Mohawk and Hawlemont School Districts made substantial progress toward achieving their educational goals, which is reflected in the new Massachusetts accountability system. As is always the case, there is room for growth. During 2013, both the District Improvement Plans and School Improvement Plans will be significantly revamped in order to facilitate this growth. Within these efforts, I look forward to the introduction of Professional Learning Communities, Learning Walkthroughs, and the New Educator Evaluation System. There is a great deal of hard but exciting work in front of us, and I am very confident that our educational teams are up for the challenge. Indeed, the future is bright for our students!

Respectfully submitted,
Michael A. Buoniconti
Superintendent of Schools

PRINCIPAL

Mohawk Trail Regional High School

The connection between our school and our community is vitally important. Partnerships with our community provide students with enriching and authentic learning experiences, such as the Archaeology course in which students worked with a local archaeologist on the excavation of the Sanford Tavern site at Hawley's Old Town Common.

Mohawk students demonstrate initiative, extending what they learn beyond the classroom. This past spring students launched a composting program in our school cafeteria, significantly reducing the amount of waste that enters landfills. For the first time Mohawk students participated in the Model Congress that is held each year at American International College (AIC) in Springfield and they were honored with the "School Spirit" award recognizing their active participation in the legislative sessions. Members of the Varsity M club refurbished trophy display cases throughout the building and made regular visits to the elementary schools to serve as Reading Buddies for younger students. Students in the Vocational Integration Program (VIP) work with the Meals on Wheels program every week, helping to sort and distribute food.

Community organizations support our school through their generous efforts. The tenth annual Doug Turner Walkathon was held in October; over the past decade this event has raised over \$100,000 for Mohawk athletic programs to date. In March the Mohawk Music Association organized a Mohawk Alumni Concert, with graduates from across the decades performing along with current students in a celebration of music. Through the generosity of civic and community groups as well as contributions from private citizens, Mohawk seniors were awarded scholarships totaling in excess of \$100,000 and students who have graduated from Mohawk were awarded more than \$50,000 in scholarships this year.

This year also saw important improvements to the physical plant of our school, as windows and the roof were replaced for greater energy efficiency. During this past year Mohawk completed its decennial self-assessment for NEASC (New England Association of Schools and Colleges) accreditation, culminating in a site visit by an evaluation team in late September-early October. With the addition of a Curriculum Director position, staff professional development has become a priority; faculty are increasingly collaborating through Professional Learning Communities (PLCs), which provide a structure for focused work such as book discussions, peer observations, and curriculum writing.

At the midpoint of the 2012-2013 school year, enrollment in grades 7-12 is 511. The seventh grade has 82 students and the eighth grade has 86. There are 85 students in the ninth grade, 93 in the tenth grade, 70 students in the junior class, and 89 students in the senior class. Six students are enrolled in our post-graduate program.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn R. Dole
Principal

SPECIAL EDUCATION and PUPIL SERVICES

The District Standards and Indicators adopted by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) have shaped the School Districts' Improvement Plans (DIP) and directly impact the quality of our student services.

The Districts have demonstrated proficient performance on many of the state indicators including Time on Learning, Leadership and Governance, Educational Access and Continuity, and School Safety. The Superintendent's Office has identified indicators requiring focused attention: (1) Aligned, Consistently Delivered, and

Continuously Improving Curriculum and (2) Strong Instructional Leadership and Effective Instruction.

To revise and align its curriculum to the new state curriculum frameworks, the Districts have invested in a significant increase in professional development time. Full and half-day sessions for staff training are spread across the calendar so that staff can focus on the use of a web-based curriculum writing tool that will allow for a standard format and accessibility across all grade levels. By applying the Standards of Effective Instruction and principles of Universal Design, considering the needs of a diverse student body, the Districts will be poised to deliver a rich educational program to all learners.

Students identified with disabilities continue to receive the services defined by their Individual Educational Programs but interventions are not limited to that population of students. The elementary schools and the middle school are improving student learning and increasing inclusion of disabled students by providing tiered instructional delivery to all students as they need them. This starts with a rich core instruction with multiple means of learning and expressing understanding. Subsequent instructional interventions are informed by the regular collection of progress monitoring data. The high school is examining how instruction can change to support a diverse student body in all classes and provide additional time and support for students who have academic or behavioral challenges. District leaders have participated in regional DESE trainings in the use of the MA Tiered System of Supports which includes academic interventions and social and behavioral interventions that provide a continuum of service options based on student performance. These institutional improvements and the protections provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act will continue to complement and support our students in their educational experiences.

Respectfully submitted

Patricia Bell

Director of Pupil Personnel Services

CARL H. NILMAN SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The fund was established under the provisions of the will of Carl H. Nilman for the purpose of providing scholarships. Recipients shall reside in the school district and be graduates of the Mohawk Trail Regional High School who desire and are deemed worthy of post high school education or training and who are in need of financial assistance.

This year the Awards subcommittee read 81 applications, 34 were from seniors and 47 from previous graduates of Mohawk. \$29,750.00 is to be awarded using 30% for seniors and 70% for graduates. The Committee feels that seniors have multiple scholarship opportunities from other sources while graduates have far fewer resources. 24 scholarships totaling \$9,150.00 were awarded to seniors (70% of applicants). 42 scholarships totaling \$20,600.00 were given to graduates (98% of applicants.) The awards committee is Sheila Graves, Marge Porrovecchio (Charlemont), Eric Sumner (Heath), Michelle Hillman (Colrain) and Marion Scott (Buckland).

From 1991-2012 a total of \$779,225.00 has been awarded in scholarships. Mohawk seniors have received \$240,475.00 and \$538,750.00 has been awarded to Mohawk graduates.

A new formula for determining what percentage of the funds should be distributed as scholarships has been established by the School Committee and the management firm of Bartholomew and Company.

Co-chairs of the Committee are Marge Porrovecchio and Robin Hartnett. The Finance Committee is composed of David Engle, Marion Taylor and Jim Pilgrim. Other members of the Committee are Paula Consolo, member at large from Buckland, Jonathan Diamond from Heath and Rebecca Bradley.

We wish to thank David Purington who has served as liaison between the School Committee and the Carl H. Nilman Scholarship Committee.

The Mohawk community owes a debt of gratitude to Mr. Nilman for his foresight in supporting higher education for the students of the Mohawk Trail Regional High School. The committee members are honored to bring the wishes of his will to fruition.

Students of any age who are graduates of Mohawk (and were living in the nine town area at the time of graduation) are encouraged to apply for scholarships to help meet their continuing education needs. Call the Guidance Office at Mohawk for information regarding requirements and deadlines.

Respectfully submitted,

Marion E. Scott, Secretary

PRINCIPAL SANDERSON ACADEMY

2012 was another productive and successful year for students and staff at Sanderson Academy. It was a year that saw generally strong academic performances from students, some staffing changes, and work continuing on a number of significant mandates from the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

Our enrollment on the last day of 2012 was 117 students in grades K-6, a reduction of nine students from the previous year. The number of students at each grade level were as follows: 17 children in kindergarten, 12 children in first grade, 16 children in grade two, grade three had 21 students, fourth grade had 20 students, fifth grade had just 12 students and 19 students were in our sixth grade class. There were 85 students from Ashfield and 25 enrolled from Plainfield. We had 7 students who were classified as "school choice" students due to the fact that they were accepted from towns other than Ashfield or Plainfield. All classes are grouped heterogeneously.

The faculty for the 2012 – 2013 school year consists of 7 full-time classroom teachers, one special education teacher, one full-time reading teacher, and one full-time math interventionist. The math interventionist position was expanded to full-time for this school year. Specialists providing services in our school include a psychologist three days per week, a full-time speech/language pathologist, a full time nurse, and occupational and physical therapists, each for one half day per week. We have part time Art, Music, and Physical Education teachers who provide students with one hour of class time weekly in each subject area. We also have a part-time library manager and six other paraprofessionals. In June we said good-bye to Judy Dabkowski, who retired. Cheryl Edgerly, a veteran teacher from Amherst, has replaced her. Kare Marshall moved into the math interventionist position and Ashfield resident Krissy Schreiber has been hired to teach sixth grade.

The Spring of 2012 saw Sanderson Academy students again performing well on the Massachusetts Comprehensive Achievement System (MCAS) tests. In the three areas assessed, English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science and Technology, our students performed at levels, which were similar to or better than the performances of other students in our District or State, but when compared to our own previous scores, our students showed some decline in the areas of Mathematics and Science. The staff has carefully reviewed these results and has made adjustments in our instructional programs.

2012 again saw a great deal of time devoted to addressing numerous new state mandates. Our school and District have begun using Professional Learning Communities as collaborative study forums to help us implement the new Curriculum Frameworks (Standards) in both English Language Arts and Mathematics while expanding our use of research-based instructional practices. We are also preparing for next year's implementation of a new and compre-

hensive, statewide educator evaluation system.

Thank you citizens of Ashfield and Plainfield for all you do to support your community school!

Respectfully submitted,

Budge A. Litchfield M.Ed.

MARY LYON FOUNDATION

Innovative Support of Local Education

Our Spring Lyonnaise celebrated excellence in local education with displays of student work from all schools and dramatic presentations by students from Heath and Mohawk. Awards included the Spirit of Adventure Award presented to NASA astronaut Cady Coleman by the foundation's honorary advisory board member Senator Stan Rosenberg; the Mohawk Outstanding Alumni Award was presented to Northampton Mayor David Narkewicz '84 by Mohawk Principal Lynn Dole who also presented a certificate of commendation to senior Francesca Maroney. Drama director Jonathan Diamond presented the George Needham Business Award to Mo's Fudge Factor; and the Pat Kerrins Award was given to Jean Bernhardt, Administrative Director of the MGH Charlestown Healthcare Center by Sarah Kemble, MD. School committee chairperson Bob Aeschback presented a certificate of appreciation to teacher Shelley Schieffelin.

This past year we initiated a fundraising campaign and extensive work bee for the Rowe Elementary School which was struck by lightning on August 4. Truckloads of new and used school supplies, books and equipment were donated, and countless volunteers assisted in the relocation of the Rowe School to the nearby Hawlemont Regional School. Cash and stock donations of \$5,000 were raised for the purchase of items lost in the fire.

Grants were gratefully received from the US Brookfield Foundation for the Harper Gerry Student Assistance Fund, from the Myrtle Atkinson Foundation and Recorder to support our programs in the schools and community and from Mass Humanities and the Rowe, Leyden and Charlemont/Hawley cultural councils for the highly successful Hilltowns History Conference and Fair held October 13 at the Colrain Central School. The history conference featured humanities scholars Dr. Michael Coe and Prof. Leonard Richards, vendors, live music, children's activities, re-enactors and 17 concurrent workshops. All school district staff were given free admission and professional development credit.

The annual Community Spelling Bee held November 8 raised \$7,000 for our mini-grant program; competing for the grand championship were 25 teams of 3 adults. The grand champion winning team was the FRCOG COGitors comprised of Phoebe Walker, Rachel Stoler and Kimberly Naoke MacPhee sponsored by Blackmer Insurance Agency.

In other matters we established a Vanguard brokerage account to accept gifts of stock and launched an e-newsletter along with a revitalized web site www.marylyon.org. The annual special education conference was held in March at Deerfield Academy for 700 western Massachusetts educators, and the Gift Catalog or wish list of school supplies garnered \$4,000 in cash and in-kind donations with major support from Goodnow's Chip 'N Putt and Keystone Market.

Board members are George Dole, Marion Taylor, Hugh Knox, Karen Fairbrother, Sharon Hudson, Suzanne Conway Lagreze, Beth Bandy, Stefan Kostka, Jim Pilgrim, Amy Love, student representatives Molly Walsh Warder and Lydia Morris. Along with about 60 volunteers our part-time staff includes Sheila Damkoehler, Gina Sieber, Lynn Nichols, Josie Tetreault and Jill Connolly.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Samoriski, Ed.D.

HILLTOWN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COOPERATIVE

The Hilltown Resource Management Cooperative (HRMC) was created 24 years ago and includes the Towns of Ashfield, Chesterfield, Cummington, Goshen, Huntington, Middlefield, Plainfield, Westhampton, Williamsburg and Worthington. The HRMC was created by a group of dedicated volunteers from each member Town who had the vision to seek a regional solution to help small towns with volunteer local boards that had a desire to protect the environment, become more sustainable and manage the expensive problem of rapidly rising solid waste disposal costs.

In the past 24 years the HRMC has created cost saving recycling and sustainability programs. The past year has also been one in which the HRMC and the Hampshire Council of Governments continued their partnership by working closely together on sustainability and green energy development issues. In fact the HRMC Administrator splits his time, spending ? of each week being Administrator of the HRMC and ? of each week being the Sustainability Director for the Hampshire Council of Governments.

WHAT PROGRAMS DOES THE HRMC HELP WITH?

The HRMC contracted Administrator, Eric Weiss, helps your Town manage disposal recycling and sustainability programs, including;

- Solid Waste Disposal and Hauling Contracting
- MRF Household Recycling and Hauling and Contracting
- Electronics, Paint, Propane Tank, Tire, and Clothes Recycling Programs
- Organize and Manage the Annual Regional Household Hazardous Waste Collection
- Provide Sustainability and Recycling Outreach and Education efforts
- Assisting local Boards with DEP Compliance Related Issues
- Assisting with monitoring transfer station efforts costs and activities
- Advocating on behalf of the Towns with State Legislators
- Explore new green energy and sustainability programs and grants
- Assist member Towns in becoming Massachusetts designated "Green Communities"
- Coordinate sustainability activities and green energy program development in cooperation with the Hampshire Council of Governments
- Explore zero waste issues on behalf of member Towns

WHO MANAGES THE HRMC?

- Two residents (appointed by your Towns Board of Selectmen) from each of the ten member Towns serve on the HRMC Board which is responsible for the management and oversight of the HRMC.
- The current Chairman of the HRMC is Joe Kearns from Middlefield, the current Vice-Chairman of the HRMC is Donna Gibson from Williamsburg and the current Treasurer of the HRMC is Tom Martin from Westhampton.
- The HRMC has an annual assessment which is approved by each Town at their annual Town meeting. The annual assessment is based on population and the amount of tonnage handled at your Towns transfer station. The Total (for the Ten Towns combined) annual assessments are currently \$39,487.56. After two years of budget reductions the HRMC has level funded its assessment budget for two the past two fiscal years in a row.
- The HRMC also receives grant and recycling revenues to supplement its budget and many efforts on behalf of its member Communities. The HRMC continues to be a very successful effort for the Hilltown region. It has become a program which local boards of Selectmen and Health and Energy Committees have grown to depend on for sound technical assistance and

- guidance on recycling and sustainability issues.
- The HRMC works closely with local officials in every one of its member Towns by providing information and important technical assistance to the Towns.
- We also help your Towns obtain access to the resources needed for the management of successful solid waste, recycling, sustainability and green energy (solar) programs.

Last year the HRMC helped the 10 member Towns:

- Recycle 1083 tons of material
- Save \$73,644 in disposal costs
- Save 6001 tons of greenhouse gas emissions
- Earn over \$49,472 in recycling revenue.

We look forward to continuing to assist your Town during this upcoming year. If you have any questions about recycling or have a waste disposal problem, please call us at (413) 268-3845 or (413) 687-3356 or email us at hrcm@crocker.com right away.

Eric Weiss
Administrator, HRMC
Sustainability Director, HC

HILLTOWN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

The Hilltown Community Development Corporation (Hilltown CDC) was created in 1981 with a mission to "improve the quality of life for hilltown residents by addressing economic, housing, educational, social and community needs while preserving the rural character of the area." Its core service area includes the ten towns of Chester, Chesterfield, Cummington, Goshen, Huntington, Middlefield, Plainfield, Westhampton, Williamsburg and Worthington. In recent years its small business assistance program has expanded to serve 20 Hilltowns. Hilltown CDC's four major program areas are affordable housing, small business assistance, social services and community development/planning.

Hilltown CDC works with the community to identify and secure financial resources to serve the community development needs of the region. In Fiscal Year 2012, Hilltown CDC helped the hilltown region care for the elderly, provided safe affordable housing to seniors and low income families, improved many hilltown homes and sponsored an annual hilltown spring festival celebrating the hilltown region. The following details provide more information about services delivered in 2012.

Social Services: Hilltown CDC's Hilltown Elder Network (HEN) Program delivered over 7,000 hours of in-home caregiving assistance (primarily chore and transportation assistance) to over 120 low-income Hilltown elders at no cost to the participants. HEN staff provided over 20,000 miles of transportation for medical visits and other purposes, and \$8,000 in snow removal help. CDBG funding was not awarded in 2012 but Hilltown CDC continued to provide HEN services by seeking alternate funding. Hilltown CDC utilized 2011 CDBG funding for four locally-based social service programs:

- **The Health Outreach Program for Elders (HOPE)**, administered by Hilltown Community Health Centers (HCHC), provided free in-home nursing care and podiatric services to nearly 96 eligible homebound elders.
- **The Hilltown Food Pantry** distributed over 75,000 pounds of food to almost 300 hilltown individuals. 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, offered train-

ing and peer support activities focused on family issues such as parenting, family dynamics, and family health education to 60 hilltown households.

- **Child Care Subsidies**, 13 hilltown families were provided subsidies to assist them with child care expenses this past year.

Economic Development: Hilltown CDC, from July, 2011 to June, 2012:

- Provided individualized business consulting and/or training to 68 hilltown businesses, ranging from one hour to 60 hours per business.
- Published the 2012 Hilltown Business Directory, distributed to 13,000 hilltown households in 20 towns, with contact information and descriptions of 282 hilltown businesses in 84 categories. The Directory is also on-line at www.hilltowncdc.org.
- Worked with WiredWest to move closer to its goal of universal access to high speed broadband service in all of Western Massachusetts, including the hilltowns.
- Organized the 6th annual Hilltown Spring Festival at the Cummington Fairgrounds, gathering 2,000 hilltowners to enjoy local music and dance groups, food from local vendors, displays by local businesses and non-profit organizations, and children's activities for all ages.

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

- **Westhampton Woods Senior Housing:** Hilltown CDC secured funding to expand Westhampton Woods Senior Housing from 7 apartments to 15 apartments. Construction will begin in the Spring of 2013.
- **Rental Housing:** Hilltown CDC continued to improve the management of its 30 units of scarce affordable rental housing in Williamsburg, Huntington, Westhampton and Chesterfield and is applying for funding to do significant improvements to all existing properties in 2014. This includes the acquisition of a new property in Haydenville.
- **New Project Development:** Hilltown CDC completed a senior housing market study in Goshen and is discussing the next

steps toward development with the Town of Goshen and its senior housing committee. Hilltown CDC has also assisted the Town of Chesterfield in exploring senior housing this past year. Finally, Hilltown CDC completed a senior housing market study in Becket.

First-time Homebuyer Program: Hilltown CDC provided individual homebuyer counseling and workshops to 155 beneficiaries to help them prepare for the purchase of homes. In addition, CDBG funding enabled 4 income-eligible households to secure grants and deferred payment loans to help them buy homes in the Hilltowns.

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 2012 HCDC:

- Rehabilitated 16 houses in the towns of Chesterfield, Cummington, Goshen, Peru, Plainfield, Westhampton, Williamsburg, and Worthington using deferred payment loans for home repairs and lead paint removal totaling \$367,815.

Community Planning: We also work closely with municipalities and community groups in our service area to plan for, raise funds for and/or manage a range of projects. During FY12 HCDC:

- Provided planning assistance to the Northern Hilltowns of Chesterfield, Cummington, Plainfield, Westhampton, Peru, Williamsburg, and Worthington for preparing and updating their Community Development Strategies. Community needs were identified along with projects to be included in the CDBG funding application. Unfortunately, an FY 2012 CDBG grant was not awarded to the region. Hilltown CDC will work with local towns to prepare an FY 2013 CDBG application.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Christopolis, Executive Director



Pleun Bouricius

HAMPSHIRE COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

The Hampshire Council of Governments (Council) is a membership based organization that solves common challenges through regional solutions while retaining local control over local affairs. The combined dues for the Council of Governments in Fiscal Year 2012 were \$52,256. The dues collected help support Council programs and services. It is the continued goal of the Council to increase revenues from a variety of sources to offset the assessment and to expand services.

For every dollar spent on Council programs, participating western Massachusetts communities receive at least three dollars back in taxpayer savings and value. All of our programs and services are designed to save taxpayer money, keep investments local, and contribute to a healthy, sustainable environment. You can also be sure that the revenue generated is reinvested into local communities.

The Hampshire County Group Insurance Trust serves 63 units in Hampshire, Franklin, and Hampden counties with over 4,500 members, which translates into more than 9,000 insured participants. In 2012, the Trust saved members in excess of \$3.2 million in insurance costs when compared to the State benchmark. Since 2006, the Council's electricity customers have saved over \$2.1 million as compared to the default utility service price. These are dollars that can be used to improve town services, hire new teachers, or keep tax rates stable.

In Fiscal Year 2012 the Town of Plainfield used the following Council programs and services with an estimated savings and value of \$19,532: Hampshire Power; Municipal Aggregation; green community support; Municipal Solar RFP; Hampshire Purchasing Cooperative; Tobacco Free Community Partnership for Hampshire and Franklin Counties.

Programs and services that the town did not use for additional savings and value include Healthy Hampshire/Mass In Motion grant; grant research and writing; sustainability and green energy consulting; Hampshire IT; Hampshire County Group Insurance Trust; RSVP of Hampshire & Franklin Counties. By taking advantage of the unused programs and services the town can maximize value and increase savings. It is also suggested that the town seek approval for participation in the Group Insurance Trust, and sign up for free IT security check provided by Hampshire IT.

The Council achieved several key goals in Fiscal Year 2012.

- Zero percent increase in health insurance premiums for the Hampshire County Group Insurance Trust.
- The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program provided more than 124,000 hours of service to our communities, equaling a contribution of more than \$3.2 million.
- Towns of Hatfield and South Hadley rejoined Council membership.
- Moving forward with fundraising for Courthouse building renovations, repairs, and preservation.
- Hampshire/Municipal Solar Program.
- Solar Renewable Energy Certificates Aggregation.
- New Program: Regional Municipal Accounting and Bookkeeping service.
- New Program: Hampshire Information Technology Program.

ADMINISTRATION

The Council continues to enhance current programs and services while looking to develop new projects to increase savings and value for our members. Continued Administration efforts include a review of membership benefits, marketing, and encouraging support of local businesses. Meetings with local elected and appointed officials and outside organizations were held to help with development of new programs and services and to provide information about the Council's evolving mission.

May 7th was the opening ceremony celebrating Hampshire County's 350th Anniversary. The event was attended by local elected

and appointed officials and legislators. The Governor proclaimed May 7, 2012, to be Hampshire County Day and a joint Senate and House Resolution honoring Hampshire County Day acknowledged the County's richness and diversity of history, and its cultural and educational presence. May 7th was also the first time that copies of a part of the County's vast historic archive of maps and historic documents were made available for sale in cooperation with the Special Collections at UMass Archives. Proceeds from the sale go to the preservation and restoration of the historic Courthouse. Other 350th celebrations included local historic commissions, societies, and museums displaying a portion of their collections and meeting with the public touring the exhibits as part of the Arts Night Out.

The Council began a campaign to address significant areas of deterioration of the structural integrity of the historic Courthouse. The cost to restore the Courthouse is in excess of \$3.7 million. The Council has approached local Community Preservation Act Committees requesting financial support. State and federal funding sources will also be identified because the building is owned by the 'inhabitants of Hampshire County' and is our shared historic legacy.

The Council was pleased to welcome the Towns of Hatfield and South Hadley as returning Council members. For the second year in a row the Councilors awarded scholarships to help support graduating high school students who have demonstrated civic and community involvement and maintained a grade point average of 3.0 or above. The Councilors also doubled the number of scholarships awarded to four.

Electricity Department

In Fiscal Year 2012, electricity prices in New England dropped to historically low levels, prompting a change of strategy towards new customers. Instead of recruiting new customers for its supply program, Hampshire Power expanded its services by becoming a licensed broker for fixed price electricity and sold a number of large contracts with major energy companies at extremely favorable rates. About 20 percent of Hampshire Power's load is now brokered through these fixed-price multi-year arrangements. Meanwhile, the Real-Time indexed program saved Hampshire Power customers \$212,348.53 in Fiscal Year 2012, with a total cumulative savings of \$2.1 million since the program's inception in 2006.

Municipal Aggregation

The Municipal Aggregation program for residential and business customers moved forward with the filing of a plan on behalf of twenty-eight communities. The Department of Energy Resources recommended approval of the plan by the Department of Public Utilities. Additional towns are expected to sign agreements to join the program in the coming months. With its Hampshire Green option, Municipal Aggregation will complement the Council's Sustainability programs.

MUNICIPAL SERVICES

Cooperative Purchasing

The Hampshire Purchasing Cooperative is celebrating its 31st year serving the purchasing needs of western Massachusetts' communities and school districts. The program 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 2012 was \$5,173,292.05 with an estimated savings of \$733,098.49 for participating communities.

Hampshire Inspection Program

After many years of providing inspection and zoning services, the program was discontinued.

Hampshire IT

The Council initiated a professional, affordable, and comprehensive IT service tailored to our member communities by partnering with Paragus, Strategic IT. The rapid evolution of technology and the growing expectation of citizens to interact with government electronically combined with the requirements of the Data Privacy Law, the need to have secure and comprehensive information technology capacity has dramatically increased. Currently Hadley is being provided this service and we expect rapid growth in the future.

Regional Municipal Accounting and Bookkeeping

Recognizing that towns have experienced a decline in available and qualified town accountants, the Council established a professional accounting and bookkeeping service. In Fiscal Year 2012 the Council provided accounting services for the Town of Granby, WiredWest, Springfield Materials Recycling Facility, Hampshire Group Insurance Trust, and Hilltown Resource Management Cooperative.

Healthy Hampshire/Mass in Motion Grant

The Council was awarded a multi-year grant from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health to create Healthy Hampshire (HH) and we have been working through municipal and community leaders in Amherst, Belchertown, Northampton, and Williamsburg to effect changes to community policies and systems that have been shown to have a measurable impact on health. Goals of Healthy Hampshire include:

- Improve nutritional quality of school meals and snacks
- Increase the number of students walking and biking to school
- Increase the number of healthy options available to consumers in small retail outlets
- Create healthy design standards for municipalities to follow when considering any new development or retrofits

Over the past year Healthy Hampshire consultants have supported the Williamsburg Greenway Committee in assessing the viability of the proposed bike trail between Northampton and Williamsburg. At least two routes have been developed, and barriers/opportunities discussed. HH identified concerns from parents at Hilltown Charter School regarding walkability/bikeability around the school, and brought these to the Greenway Committee for consideration. Those parents continue to be involved in the committee.

HH administered the CHANGE Tool, a community health survey that included questions about communitywide efforts impacting the social and built environments, such as improving food access, walkability or bikeability, tobacco use and exposure, and personal safety. The survey was administered in all four towns, and follow-up focus groups were held in Amherst and Belchertown. Results of the survey and focus groups were shared with municipal leaders and local elected officials, and are being used to develop effective strategies for each town.

HH launched the Healthy Markets Initiative in January with the first meeting of the Healthy Markets Committee. Belchertown participants identified several local markets they hope to involve, and are making plans for incorporating cultural competence into their approach. And finally, HH partnered with MASSBike to do bicycle safety audits at over 40 intersections throughout the four towns. Results of the audits will be available February 2013.

Healthy Hampshire is a collaboration between the Hampshire Council of Governments, the SPIFFY Coalition, and the municipalities of Amherst, Belchertown, Northampton and Williamsburg.

Hampshire County Group Insurance Trust (HCGIT)

The Trust has once again held their costs down with NO premium

increases for the 2012 insurance year. With the Trust premiums remaining flat our member towns were better able to utilize any increase in town funds to cover other expenses.

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.

In the Insurance Year 2012 (April 1, 2011, to March 31, 2012), the collective premium for the Trust was slightly over \$47M. 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 health benefits.

Wellness Initiative Program

The Wellness Initiative is a worksite wellness program promoting healthier choices and behaviors amongst employees covered by the HCGIT.

The Wellness Initiative utilizes health risk data and employees' needs and interest surveys to develop program strategies to address the risk factors of the insured. During 2011 eight (8) mini grants were awarded to fund Worksite Wellness Teams, including one to the Belchertown School District. These teams develop and implement the wellness programs at their worksite, using the data to develop evidence based programs to address the risks of their populations.

A few of the programs supported by the Wellness Initiative included:

- Spring Challenge – 225 participated in this physical fitness challenge by walking, biking, raking leaves running logging thousands of hours, steps and miles.
- Passport to Health – screenings conducted at worksites to help employees know and understand their biometric numbers
- Nutrition programs including “Start your day the healthy way” and Healthy Local Potlucks
- Colonoscopy Promotion – a yearlong promotion beginning in April 2011 to encourage our subscribers to have a colonoscopy – for both prevention and diagnostic reasons – colonoscopies save lives.

Sustainability Department

In June 2011 the Hampshire Council of Governments created the position of Sustainability Director and hired Eric Weiss to promote green energy development and energy conservation projects throughout the Western Massachusetts region. The Council is involved in a long term effort to support the local and regional economy and help it to become more sustainable.

In Fiscal Year 2012 the Sustainability Department has; Initiated and managed a Solar Renewable Energy Credits (SRECS) brokering program which as of 6/30/12 had 206kW (35 clients) under contract.

- Created and administered a large multi-county RFP to promote the development of solar PV projects in Municipalities throughout Western Massachusetts. The RFP covered 115 properties in 38 Communities throughout Western Massachusetts; we received proposals from 5 vendors.
- Assisted the Town of Middlefield to implement its Green Community Energy reduction plan by assisting with the bidding and construction of a 12kW solar array at the Town hall as well as energy consumption improvement efforts for other Town buildings.
- Worked closely with Hampshire Power to create and offer and financial viable solar net metering option for Hampshire Power member municipalities.

Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)

RSVP of Hampshire & Franklin Counties is the Council's community service program that mobilizes adults age 55+ to meet community needs by recruiting, placing, and supporting volunteers in a diverse array of service opportunities at local non-profit and public agencies. RSVP matches people with experience and skills to offer with organizations that need their help. The program benefits the senior population by keeping them active and engaged, and benefits our region by bringing these volunteers' dedication, wisdom, and expertise to bear on our communities' most pressing needs.

During Fiscal Year 2012, 722 RSVP volunteers gave more than 124,000 hours of service to our communities, equaling a contribution of more than \$3.2 million. RSVP volunteers serve at hospitals, nursing homes, schools, libraries, after school programs, survival centers, and senior centers in towns across the two counties.

The following are some examples of the impact RSVP volunteers are having on our communities:

- 26 volunteers worked with students in schools and after school programs to improve academic skills.
- Through RSVP's Osteoporosis Exercise Program, 62 volunteers led weekly strength training classes for more than 400 seniors.
- 187 volunteers increased food security in our region by providing food to more than 2000 elders.
- 326 volunteers improved the quality of life for more than 13,000 seniors by leading activities and providing information at senior centers.

The Tobacco Free Community Partnership (TFCP)

The Hampshire and Franklin County Tobacco Free Community Partnership (TFCP) supports communities' efforts to lower smoking prevalence and exposure to secondhand smoke by enhancing state and local tobacco control efforts, exposing tobacco industry tactics, mobilizing the community to support and adopt evidence-based policies, and changing social norms.

Funded by the Massachusetts Cessation and Prevention program, TFCP serves as a resource for local coalitions, health and human service agencies, municipalities, and workplaces on tobacco interven-

tion efforts. The five core goals of the program are: 1) Ensure access to safe and effective cessation resources for all Massachusetts residents; 2) Protect Massachusetts' young people from tobacco industry tactics; 3) Increase the price of tobacco; 4) Ensure all health care visits include a tobacco intervention; and 5) Advance a smoke free environment for all Massachusetts residents. TFCP programs and services include the Ex-Smoker Hall of Fame, policy promotion and support, 84 promotion, cessation education, other tobacco products (OTP) presentations, updating board of health tobacco regulations, and smoke free housing.

During Fiscal Year 2012, the seven youth chapters of the 84 showed a great presence at Kick Butts Day on March 21st held in Boston at the State House. The Ex-Smokers Hall of Fame was on display at UMass, the Hampshire Mall, Franklin County Community Health Center (Greenfield and Orange sites), Forbes Library, and Athol Hospital. TFCP presented at three health care organizations and four community based organizations. The smoke free housing initiative has been making strides. Two housing complexes have requested and received assistance on adopting a smoke free policy. This work takes the housing management from the initial steps of tenant survey through to legal assistance in creating and adopting their smoke free policy. Continuing legislative visits both in Boston and in the district provide TFCP with the opportunity to educate lawmakers to current trends in adult and youth smoking, to youth use rates of other tobacco products, usage of the MassHealth and Commonwealth Care cessation benefit, and updates on local tobacco regulations.

In Fiscal Year 2012 Plainfield did not use the TFCP's enhanced services. Please contact staff to learn how your town can utilize the program's services to fully benefit from their programs.

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, FB, and Twitter.



Pleun Bouricius

VETERANS' GRAVES OFFICER

Two Plainfield veterans passed away in 2012, Harold B. Crowell and Wayne E. Phillips, Jr. Harold was a U.S. Army Air Corps WWII veteran and served with the 8th Air Force in England. Wayne was also a U.S. Air Force veteran and served in France for four years. 215 flags were placed on veterans' graves in the Hilltop Cemetery, in the West Hill Cemetery, and on the Veterans' Memorial in front of the Plainfield Congregational Church. As required by State Law, the flags are set before Memorial Day, and are removed after Veterans' Day to prevent them from becoming faded and frayed during the winter.

Respectfully submitted,
Dudley D. Williams
Veterans' Graves Officer

VETERANS SERVICES

The Central Franklin County District was formed in 1940 and provides Veterans Services for twenty three towns within Franklin County. Currently we are providing support for 76 veterans who reside in your district

The mission of the Department of Veterans' Services (DVS) is to be the chief advocate for the nearly half-million veterans of the Commonwealth and their families.

Under Chapter 115 of Massachusetts General Laws (M.G.L. ch. 115), the Commonwealth provides a uniform program of financial and medical assistance for income eligible veterans and their dependents.

Qualifying veterans and their dependents receive financial assistance for food, shelter, clothing, housing supplies, and medical care in accordance with a formula which takes into account the number of dependents and income from all sources. Eligible dependents of deceased veterans are provided with the same benefits as they would were the veteran still living.

The District office is located at 190 Millers Falls Road, Turners falls, Mass. 01376. Our offices are open four days a week from 8:00 AM until 4:00 PM (413-863-3205), and Friday by appointment. Leo Parent is the Director of Veterans Services, Mark Fitzpatrick is your Veterans Services Officer, and Donna Bezio is our Administrative Assistant.

Leo and Mark held our first annual Job Fair for Veterans at the French King Bowling Center with great success; as well as, a Veterans Administration Health Fair

Many Veterans have been calling looking for the VA Web Sites here are a few for you.

- Educational Benefits: www.gibill.va.gov Home Loan Guaranty: www.homeloans.va.gov
- Federal Jobs: www.usajobs.opm.gov Returning Veterans: www.seamlessstranstion.va.gov
- VA Home Page: www.va.gov Government Jobs: www.usajobs.gov/opm
- Massachusetts State Veterans Services: MassVets Advisor

Leo J. Parent, Director
Mark Fitzpatrick, VSO



Elaine Holder

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

In 2012 the Historical Commission saw its submission accepted to apply for the center of Plainfield (and a few outlying areas) to be included in the National Register of Historic Places. This is a lengthy process but hopefully it will be successfully completed in 2012.

Respectfully submitted,
Dario Coletta, Chair

CEMETERY COMMITTEE

The committee is still working with New Comm software to get Hilltop Cemetery completely computerized. This has been a very slow process, due to time constraints of the committee members.

There was only One (1) Burial in the Hilltop Cemetery in 2012.

Respectfully Submitted,
Betsey Howes
Theresa Thatcher
Merton Taylor Sr.

THE BUILDINGS COMMITTEE

The Buildings Committee continues to provide maintenance, repairs and/or renovations to the Town's public access facilities.

Town Hall Community Center:

A Rain-cap is sorely needed for the top of the Town Hall's chimney in lieu of rebuilding the chimney itself. Still standing as a deferred issue is the renovation of the "Town Hall" auditorium, inside and out. Due to the expense, perhaps a long-term endeavor initiated and implemented through several phases might be necessary. Additional funds will also necessitate the over-all project. Any ideas????

A suggestion was entertained to change the location of the Fire-alarm temperature sensor from the present location adjacent to the alarm box to an area within the kitchen complex due to the excess cold draft setting it off within the present stairway location. As of now nothing has been done.

Attention is also being given to the wood erosion from rainwater to the bottom of the main entrance door of the building.

Library and Town Offices:

Roof and ceiling work needs attention in the children's room in the Library.

Due to other priorities and extenuating circumstances, the shelving-project in the basement of the Town Offices has been curtailed to the spring. When the winter months are over, the stone marquee in front of the Library will be raised upon another pedestal to become more visible and out of the way for plowing. The handicap railing has been scraped and repainted black

Hathaway Hall:

After meeting with the Board of Health, it was established that the old Fire-chief's office could possibly be utilized as a storage unit for the Board pending a financial grant toward the project for renovation. The grant was never received therefore the project was put on hold with a suggestion for another storage facility to be built in conjunction with the sharing of a possible adjacent space of a Police Storage/Interrogation area. Still under study.

The location of the Old Fire-chief's office was changed to be an

excellent location for the new Broad-Band facility. After meeting with Cornell Robinson of Broad-Band it became obvious that that location was most compliant for their use. It will also add to the Town budget with a modest rental fee, in addition to wiring all the town facilities free of charge. Wired-West will expand the service from that location to outreaching homes and residential areas within all the hill-towns. This location has been under re-construction for said purpose beginning late 2012 and is still under construction.

After meeting with George Propane to discuss the possibility of exchanging the existing water-heater for an "instant-on" heater located within the confines of the kitchen there has been no reply. This would save the unnecessary Reply to cost, etc. is still pending.

Highway Garage:

New Overhead lights, garage door openers and electrical work has brought the garage up to code besides offering better lighting for maintenance of equipment. Poissant Electric won the final bid of \$8,874 which included the rental of the scissors lift.

Fire and Public Safety Building:

Provision are still being made through the Buildings Committee for additional kitchen shelving in the Public Safety Building.

Grounds:

Bob Aeschbach is still mowing town property

The Committee has accepted two letters of resignation from Andy Sargenski and Pleun Bouricius. Work is underway to recruit additional members for the Buildings Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Feeley, Chair

Andy Sargenski, Secretary

Pleun Bouricius, consulting member

Claude Dupont, member

BOARD OF HEALTH

By law, the Plainfield Board of Health consists of three elected members, who are currently Davio Danielson, Chair, David Crowell and Ruby Goodnoff. In addition, three people work part-time under the auspices of the Board.

Plainfield's official witness for perc tests and Title V compliance issues is Barbara Curran, a registered soil scientist. In addition Tom Leue of Ashfield reviews all complex plans for septic repairs and installations and submits recommendations to the Board. Barbara can be reached at (413) 584-7468 or (413) 320-8669.

The attendant at the compactor and transfer station is Allen Roberts, who is reliably there Saturday mornings, Sunday afternoons, and Wednesday evenings when the recycling station and compactor are open. Ray Adams, who served in this capacity for a number of years, is recovering from a stroke at the Veteran's Administration Hospital in Leeds and appreciates cards, letters and visitors from old friends in Plainfield.

The past year has brought us face to face with the need to replace the compactor after over 25 years of service. It was patched up several years ago by the master mechanics at DPW, but it isn't developing enough pressure, and we're spending more than we should hauling extra loads to the landfill. The Board is working with Eric Weiss of the Hthe Finance Committee to put forth a proposal to replace it and also to upgrade the shed that (somewhat) shelters the attendant.

Danielson and Goodnoff attended professional seminars to upgrade skills on regulations and practices affecting food safety and Incident Command in the event of a public health emergency. We enforce regulations affecting safe housing standards, sanitation, food safety in restaurants, campgrounds, and water quality at swimming beaches and we have to stay up to date. Everything seems to be



Judy Feeley



running pretty smoothly on all fronts.

BPH-related revenues last year were \$11,305.50 for Compactor Cards and Disposal Fees. And expenditures were \$20,946.90 and salaries \$5,363.36. The fee for a well permit was raised last year to \$25 but all other fees remain unchanged. We are not considering raising the price of a dump card at this time, but we may see small increases for disposal of paint, electronics, furniture and the like that must be passed on to our residents.

Anyone with public health related questions is invited to get together with us at a BPH meeting at Town Hall on the first or third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM, or to call the Chair during the week with any urgent questions. If a scheduled meeting falls on election day or a holiday we usually schedule for the following Tuesday, but check the town bulletin boards to be sure.

Respectfully submitted,
Davio Danielson (634-0321)
David Crowell (634-2143)
Ruby Goodnoff (634-2203)

RECREATION COMMITTEE

The Recreation Committee sponsored two baseball teams this year. Both teams did very well. Thank you to Hilary Weeks for coaching T-ball and to Ken Magdycz for coaching the Little League team. Ken was also our liaison for the League. We discussed the possibility of forming a new league due to a lack of players in most of the hill towns. The Recreation Committee also hosted the annual Halloween Party that was very well attended. We maintained the beach at Plainfield Pond which more people seem to be enjoying. We had a successful Holiday craft making party again this year. Thank you to all of the parents who helped at these events.

Sandra Morann
Plainfield Recreation Committee

BUILDING INSPECTOR

The Building Inspection Department ensures that all new construction, alterations, renovations, repairs and demolitions are in conformance with 780 CMR, the Massachusetts State Building Code, Massachusetts General Laws, Town of Plainfield Zoning By-Laws and any other applicable codes and statutes enforced by the Building Inspector.

A total of 35 permits were issued:

Job Code		
1	New Residential Homes	2
1A	Foundation only	1
2	Additions/Alterations-Residential	9
3	Accessory Buildings	2
4	Pools	0
5	Demolition	0
6	Other	11
7	Additions and Alterations Commercial	0
8	Garage Residential	1
9	Signs	0
10	Stoves	9
11	Fences	0
12	Commercial / New	0
	Total Job Values	\$ 829,523.00
	Permit Fees Collected	6225.00

The new, Eighth Edition Massachusetts State Base Code (Commercial Code) which is based on the **2009 International Building Code** (IBC) became effective August 6, 2010 and the Massachusetts Residential One and Two Family Building Code which is based on the **2009 International Residential Code** (IRC) became in effect on February 4, 2011. Both editions of the code had a six month concurrency period with the Seventh Edition of the Massachusetts State Building Code from the adoption dates.

I would like to thank the Board of Selectman for their appointment to this position and all of the departments for their coopera-

tion and dedication of service. I look forward to working with the citizens of Plainfield and assisting them in their endeavors to make this an enjoyable community.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gerald W Garner

Building Commissioner/Inspector of Buildings

TREE WARDEN

We are making progress towards the removal of aging dangerous trees along Plainfield roadsides in an effort to make our roadways safer. In 2012, several large trees were removed on South Central Street. In order to save money and improve the safety of Plainfield roads we attempt to work with WMECO whenever possible.

Respectfully submitted,

Claude DuPont III

Tree Warden

WHITING STREET FUND

During the past year the WSF was pleased to have distributed funds to two Plainfield households in financial need. This fund, put in place by Mr. Whiting Street of Northampton over 100 years ago, is still available for use by any town resident in need of financial assistance. The fund is overseen by a committee whose three members are elected by the town. The committee meets as needed to review requests. All requests for assistance are kept in strict confidence throughout the process. If you are having financial difficulties or know of someone in town who is in need, please contact any committee member and they will be glad to explain the process to have your situation evaluated for possible assistance.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Persing, Chair

David Alvord

Ellen Baer

BOARD OF REGISTRARS

The year began with 461 registered voters consisting of 122 Democrats, 36 Republicans, 2 Greens, 4 Green Rainbows and 297 unenrolled.

The year ended with 471 registered voters consisting of 125 Democrats, 33 Republicans, 1 Green, 2 Green Rainbows, 1 Interdependent 3rd Party and 309 unenrolled.

Respectfully submitted,

John Westwood, Chair

Linda Melle

Thelma Pilgrim

Theresa Thatcher

ENERGY COMMITTEE

During 2012 the energy committee time spent most of its time researching and drafting provisions for a by-right large scale solar array bylaw. We forwarded these recommendations to the planning board, which included many of these provisions in the planning board's proposed bylaw.

The bylaw was presented at the Annual Meeting in May and the town members present voted to table it and have a special town meeting to address it. On 29 September 2012 at the special town meeting 38 of Plainfield's 446 registered voters defeated with 17 for and 21 against the proposed bylaw. It required a 2/3's vote to pass. Plainfield thus became ineligible for a state grant of \$136,500

for energy conservation and ineligible for any other grants under the Green Communities Act. That act is funded by a fee on electricity, which everyone who uses electricity in Massachusetts pays.

So far at least 103 municipalities, including Ashfield, Buckland, Chesterfield, and Middlefield, have passed the Green Community Bylaw. Plainfield is the only one to defeat it.

Massachusetts law states that towns may not "unreasonably regulate" large scale solar arrays, and therefore Plainfield is susceptible to such a project without a bylaw.

In the meantime 2012 at an average 55.3 degrees F. (3.2 degrees F. above normal) was the warmest year on record in the contiguous United States.

The energy committee is proposing a mission statement and hopes to educate the town on energy conservation and usage.

The selectboard appoints the energy committee. Its members are Steve Bushway, Ruby Goodnoff, Susan Pearson, Ed Stockman, Sadie Stull, and Tim Walter with Judy Williams as possible new member pending selectboard approval. It meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the town hall.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

2012 was a busy year—work done during the year included plowing and sanding roads, scraping and raking gravel roads, filling in mud-holes/washouts, cleaning up trees/branches after windstorms/ices-torms patching potholes, cleaning ditches and runouts, cutting grass and brush on the roadsides, installing/replacing road signs, maintenance of Fire Department apparatus and aging highway equipment, and line painting on 116/8A/South Central st. The big project which was accomplished this year was the reclaiming of half of Prospect st and all of 8A, then laying down a 6"+ base of gravel, then paving those 2 roads. Shoulder and ditch work was also done on those roads, which necessitated disassembling and then reassembling hundreds of feet of guardrail on Prospect st. Equipment purchased included a new dump body, tarp, and plow for #6 dump truck, a new "highway" style plow for #1 pickup truck, and a tractor mounted leaf/debris blower. This year also saw personnel changes—Claude Dupont left, and new hire Karl Dewkett came on board in July. My thanks to Claude Dupont, Frank "Sparky" Skaling, Karl Dewkett, Dennis Thatcher, Stacy Magdycz, Ed Morann, Merton Taylor Sr, and Dave Wood for their help and hard work this year.

Respectfully submitted,

Merton Taylor, Jr

Highway Superintendent



Jim Feeley

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

2012 was a fairly quiet year, with one exception—Hurricane Sandy in late October. Massachusetts declared a state of emergency for that event, and an EOC/shelter in Plainfield was in operation for 48 hours. One resident did stay overnight in the shelter, while a number of others came for water, showers, and info on electricity restoration/road closures. This event was the first time our recently acquired Blackboard Connect(reverse 911) system was put to use, automatically calling residents with a pre-recorded message with info on storm hazards and EOC operation. With the exception of a minor issue, it worked well, and residents I heard from had a positive response to it's use. The emergency personnel (fire,police,ems,highway) did an exceptional job as they always have—doing damage assessments, closing roads, checking on town residents—this town is truly fortunate to have such people willing to do this, and it has been an honor to work with them.

Respectfully submitted,
Merton Taylor, Jr
Emergency Manager

COUNCIL ON AGING

The council members are Phil Alessio, Ruby Goodnoff, Jay McMahon,Ann Kohn, with jane neri, as coordinator. We continue the pot-luck lunches on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday each month, held at noon. The lunches are open to all, with good food and good socializing. We request a \$1.00 donation. The monies are used for our meals, possible entertainment and transportation.

We have several games for after-lunch entertainment, as well.

We thank Gail Fusco, Thelma Pilgrim and Phil Alessio for their help in delivering the "brown bag" once/month, for those in town who need a food supplement.

We continue to receive info on available resources for seniors in the Hilltowns, thru the COA consortium. We still have several pedometers for anyone. They were donated to use from blue cross/blue shield to keep us moving. We also have "file of life" cards for anyone. See you for lunch!

Please call Jane Neri at 634-5703 for any suggestions and/or questions.

Respectfully
Jane Neri, coordinator

CULTURAL COUNCIL

The Plainfield Cultural Council met during 2012 to discuss and implement three important tasks: the annual grant cycle funding, the ArtsFeast exhibit held at the firemen's barbecue in September, and a Community Input Survey. The Council received \$3870 (level funding) from the Commonwealth with the economic recession again affecting local cultural councils. The Council received 35 applications, and at its November meeting awarded \$5300 (included monies from projects that did not materialize) to 23 individuals and organizations. While the decisions were difficult, we supported projects that provided the most public benefit for our community. Funding was awarded to the Plainfield Volunteer Fire Fighters Association for music at the barbecue, Plainfield Congregational Church for its Concerts at 7 series, Guyette Farm Community Garden, and Cummington Family Center for a puppet show, to name just a few.

The ArtsFeast exhibit, held during the firemen's barbecue, was again a success with 23 artists and artisans displaying their work in the spacious Meeting and Greeting room at the Shaw Memorial Library. Outdoor sculptures welcomed visitors to enjoy the "Feast." Thanks go to our librarian, Denise Sessions, for her assistance. We welcome all artistic media and urge anyone interested in participating to contact any member of the Council.

In September we asked residents to fill out a brief Community Input Survey that was available in the Plainfield Post, at the Library and at the ArtsFeast exhibit, with an October 1st deadline. While the response was small, the feedback helped us set our funding priorities for the coming years.

In October, we welcomed new member, Lynda Christie. We also received David Kramer's resignation and thank him for his years of service on the Council.

The Council looks forward to supporting arts and cultural programs that are of the most value to our community in the coming year.

Respectfully submitted,
Elaine Holder, Chair
Peri Kelly, Secretary
Sarah Stull, Treasurer
Erik Burcroff
Dario Coletta
Rebecca Coletta
Gail Fusco
Cynthia Poirier
Lynda Christie



Sculpture by Michael Melle

FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Finance Committee once again must thank all departments, committees, and boards which turned in budgets and the outstanding work of the Town Accountant for making it possible for the Finance Committee to recommend for approval a town budget which once again remained under the 2 ½ percent override provision and was subsequently approved at Town Meeting. Each year this becomes more difficult as it is totally dependent upon (1) the Town's local needs, (2) the Regional School Budget, and (3) the so called Local Aid provided by the State which is never known until some-time after Town Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Persing, Chair

Bettie Briggs, David Briggs

Tim Walter, Roberta Wooldridge

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

The Zoning Board of Appeals is your Town Board responsible for hearing and acting upon requests for variances and special permits in accordance with the Town of Plainfield Zoning Bylaw, and acting upon filed appeals of the building inspector as it pertains to the Zoning Bylaw. During the calendar year 2012, the Board conducted the following business:

The Board conducted one Public Hearing resulting in a Special Permit to create an Accessory Apartment.

The Board issued a Finding that the proposed improvements to a residence on a non-conforming lot were not more detrimental to the neighborhood character.

The Board issued a Finding that the proposed installation of the Hampshire County Telecommunications antenna on the WMECO tower is consistent with and allowed by the Special Permit issued by the ZBA on May 8, 2008.

The Board met regularly on the second Wednesday of each month and at the request of residents, had informal discussions regarding Zoning Bylaw matters. We encourage residents and property owners to come before the Board for such discussions prior to a request for public hearing.

During 2012, the Board consisted of Bob Mellstrom as Chairman, Dudley Williams and Joan Wattman as members. Sandy Moran and Ed Kohn remain as alternates. We continue to meet on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 P.M. at the Plainfield Town Hall.

In closing, the Board reminds all residents to carefully review the Plainfield Zoning Bylaw prior to any proposed change in residential, commercial or business use and any proposed building construction for proper compliance with the Bylaw. Your Building Inspector and Board members are available to assist you.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Mellstrom, Chairman

Dudley Williams

Joan Wattman



Elaine Holder