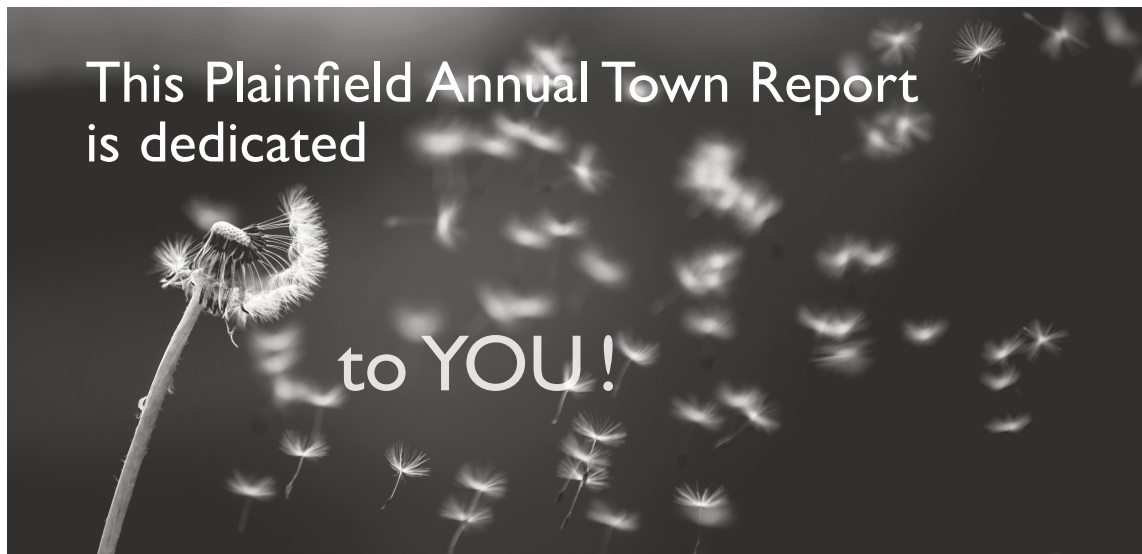


**ANNUAL REPORTS
FOR THE
TOWN OF PLAINFIELD
MASSACHUSETTS
2018**

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IF YOU ARE READING THIS REPORT it means you are interested. YOU want to know what happened in this town, YOUR Town, in the past year.

The odds are good that if YOU are reading this report you have served on a committee, commission or board. Again, good odds that YOU are serving at this minute. Or YOU did or do work for the Town.

It can sometime be surprising, sometime overwhelming, how much business it takes to operate Your town. With a population usually at approximately 595 there is much to be done on behalf of all of us.

When we set up the new email system, 150 addresses were required. Many of us answer multiple mailboxes on that system. But it is a large email system to get all of the dedicated folks who answer the call to shoulder some of the responsibility in the business of making Plainfield our fine community.

YOU know who you are. YOU also know many of the others who, like YOU, take some piece in the place of managing Plainfield's community activities. From serving on a board or in elected office, or volunteering your time at a community event, we truly thank YOU for your service to us all.

This year, the Plainfield Annual Report is dedicated to all of YOU.

To everyone who is, or has, invested their time in service to Plainfield this Dedication is a tiny tangible symbol of the gratitude we share for all who serve in these endeavors.

And we would of course welcome recruits who may read this Dedication and be moved to join us in the future work of moving Plainfield forward. We all do this work in public for the public good.

And, again, for all of YOU who serve this town in any and all the work and effort on our behalf, Plainfield says

THANK YOU!

ELECTED OFFICIALS				
Position	Term Expires			
			Linda J. Melle	2021
			Ruth Osgood	2019
			Robert Fusco	2019
Board of Assessors – 3 years		Broadband Committee	DISBANDED 3/28/2017	
Claude E. Dupont III	2021			
Dudley Williams	2019	Building Committee-3 Year		-
Helene Tamarin	2020	Appointed by Moderator	David Alvord	2020
Board of Health – 3 years		Appointed by Moderator	Claude Dupont	2021
Ellen Dupont, Chairman	2019	Appointed by Moderator	Jeff Prost	2020
David Crowell	2021	Appointed by Select board	Phillip Sargenski	2020
Linda Carver	2020	Appointed by Finance Comm.	Peter LaPointe	2022
Board of Selectman - 3 years		Burial Agent-1 Year	Ruth Osgood	2019
Howard Bronstein, Chair	2020			
Winton Pitcoff	2019	Carl Nilman Scholarship Comm. Representative-1 Year		
Hilary Weeks	2021		Allen Irvine	2019
Constables – 3 years		Cemetery Comm.-3 Year	Merton D. Taylor, Sr.	2016
1st Merton Taylor, Sr.	2019		Theresa A. Thatcher	2021
2nd Edward E. Morann	2019		Ruth Osgood	2019
Councilor, Hampshire Council of Governments – 2 year				
Peg Keller	2020	Conservation Commission-3 Year	Judith B. Williams, Chairman	2020
Library Trustees – 3 years			Nina Incharidi	
Sandra Morann	2021		Eric Burcroff	2021
Ann Kohn	2019		John Burns	2020
Lynn Robbins	2020		John Nelson	2020
Moderator – 1 year			Alice Schertle	2019
Laurie Israel	2019	CORI Officer-1 Year	On Hold	2018
School Committee – 3 years				
Heather Davis	2019	Council on Aging-3 Year	Shirley Todd Wood	2019
Dudley Williams (remainder of term)	2020		Lina Berstein	2021
Town Clerk – 3 years			Elaine Sidney-resigned	2019
Ruth E. Osgood	2019		Ann Kohn	2021
Tree Warden – 1 year			Anne Irvine	2021
Winton Pitcoff	2019		Susan Pearson	2021
Whiting Street Fund Disbursement Committee – 3 years			Linda Carver & Sadie Stull	2022
David W. Alvord, Chairman	2020	Emergency Management-1 Year	Merton D. Taylor, Jr., Chair	2019
Ellen Baer	2021		Dennis Thatcher, Co-Chair	2019
Robert Persing	2019		Justin Litchfield	2019

<i>Position</i>	<i>Appointee</i>	<i>Term Expires</i>
Accountant-3 Year	Paula J. King	2019
Ad Hoc Road Status Committee-1 Year	William Sheppard	2019
	Merton Taylor Jr.	2019
	Edward Morann	2019
Americans with Disabilities Act Committee-1 Year	William Adams	2019
	Vacant	
Agricultural Commission-3 Year	Anna Hanchett	2021
	Bi-Sek Hsiao	2020
	Anne Williamson	2021
	Ed Stockman	2019
	Sarah Stull	2019
<i>Alternate-1 Year</i>	David Crowell,	2019
AMCO Officer-1 Year	Philip Lococo	
Animal Aid Committee-1 Year	Ronald A. Scott, Chairman	2019
Animal Control Officer-1 Year	Casey Dwyer	2019
	Warren Kirkpatrick, Certified	2019
Board of Registrars-3 Year	John F. Westwood, Chairman	2020

Fire Department- I Year	Dennis A. Thatcher, Chief EMT	2019
	David W. Alvord, Assist. Chief EMT	
2019		
Fire Chief appoints Officers	Edward E. Morann, Captain	2019
	Merton D. Taylor, Jr., Captain	2019
	Matthew Hardwick, Lt.	2019
	Duane Meehan Captain	2019
	Ellen Dupont, Lt/EMT.-Med. Officer	
2019		
M. Lococo	2019	Flags & Flowers Comm.- I Year Susan
Sandra J. Morann	2019	
Bonnie Phillips	2019	
Vacant		
Franklin Reg. Transit Auth.- I Year	Howard Bronstein	2019
Geneologist- I Year	Betsey Howes	2019
Grant Writing Committee-3 Year	Kimberly Longley	2020
	Vacant	
	Vacant	
Hazardous Materials Officer- I Year	Dennis A. Thatcher	2019

Highland Ambulance -.Rep.-3 Year	Ed Morann	2020
Highland Valley Elder Serv.-I Year	Vacant	
HCDC. Rep.-I Year	Vacant	
Hilltown Resource Management Cooperative-I Year	Vacant	
	John Nelson, (Recycling Coord)	2019
Historical Commission-3 Year	Judy A. Williams, Chairman	2021
	Lori Austin	2021
	Dario Coletta	2020
	Dudley Williams	2019
	Bettie Briggs	2021
Inspector of Gas Fittings-I Year	Donald Lawton	2019
Inspector of Plumbing-I Year	Donald Lawton	2019
Inspector of Wiring-I Year	David Rhinemiller	2019
IT Director-I Year	Vacant	
Master Street Address Guide Committee-I Year	Edward E. Morann, Chairman	2021
	Robert L. Persing	2021
	Dennis A. Thatcher	2021
	Theresa A. Thatcher	2021
	Laurence D. Wood, Jr.	2021
MLP Manager-I Year	Kimberly Longey	2019
Assistant Manager MLP	Brian Hawthorne	2019
Mohawk Municipal Advisory Committee-I Year		Disbanded
Moth Superintendent-I Year	Judy A. Williams	2018
		2019
Municipal Hearing Officer - M.G.L. Chapter 148A-I Year	William Adams - Cumington	
Plainfield's Deleg.-Wired West-I Year	Kimberly Longey, Delegate	2019
	Brian Hawthorne Alt Del.	2019
Plainfield Energy Comm.-I Year	Stephen Bushway	2019
	Conrad Liebnow	2019
	Renee Schmidt	2019
	Tim Walter	2019
	Judy Williams	2019
Planning Board-3 Year	Peter LaPointe <i>PVPC Commis.</i>	2019
	Roberta Wooldridge	2021
	Claude Dupont	2021
	Robert Silberberg <i>PVPC Alt.</i>	2020
	Brian Hawthorne, Chairman	2021
Police Department-I Year	Justin Litchfield, Chief	2019
<i>Police Chief appoints</i>	Sgt Matthew Miazga	2019
<i>Police Officers</i>	Danielle Wright, Reg. Officer	2019
	Edward Morann, Reg. Officer	2019
	Brian Turner, Sp. Officer	2019
	Sandra Morann, Sp. Officer	2019
	Merton D. Taylor, Sr., Sp. Off.	2019
Recreation Committee-3 Year	Sandra Morann, Chairman	2021
	Heather Davis	2021
	Justina Harrison	2021
	Samatha Davis	2021
	Roxanne Shearer	2020
Alternates-I Year	Vacant	

Right to Know Officer-I Year	Vacant	
Safety Coordinator-I Year	Vacant	
Surveyors of Wood & Lumber-I Year	Vacant	
	Claude DuPont III	2019
Tax Collector-2 Year	Heather Davis	2020
Tax Collector Assistant-I Year	Allan Kidston	4/2019
Town Clerk Assistant-I Year	Theresa Thatcher	2019
Town Treasurer and Tax Title Custodian-2 Year		
	Allan Kidston	2020
Treasurer Assistant-I Year	Heather Davis	6/2019
Town Perambulator-I Year	Vacant	
Town Administrative Sec.-3 Year	Paula King	2021
Uniform Procurement Off.-I Year	Winton Pitcoff	2019
Veteran's Agent-I Year	Brian Brooks	2019
Veterans' Graves Officer-I Year	Dudley Williams	2019
Upper Pioneer Valley Vets' Service District-I Year	Phillip S. Lococo	2019
Zoning Board of Appeals-3 Year	Joan Wattman	2020
	Peg Keller	2020
	Ann Irvine	2019
I Year Alternate	Bill Latimer.	2019

Appointments done in April - Done by State Calendar

Inspector of Animals-I Year	Casey Dwyer	2019
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Appointments done in September

Cultural Council-3 Year	Rebecca Coletta	2021
	Dario Coletta	2021
	Cynthia Poirier	2020
	Lina Berstein	2021
	Lynda Christie	2018
	Allen Irvine	2021
	Kathryn Jenson	2021
	Suzie Westwood	2021

Appointments/Hires not done by Selectmen

Assessors' Assistant-Assessor's Hires-I Year		
Town Moderator appoints-3 Year	Gina Papineau	6/2019

Finance Committee-	Robert L. Persing	2020
	David Kramer, Chairman	2019
	Lew Robbins	2021
	Paul (Tim) Walter	2021
	Roberta Wooldridge	2021

Library Director - Library Trustee's hire-I Year		
	Denise M. Sessions	2019
Voc.Ed. Advisory Com-I Year	Paula King	2019
	Heather Davis, Alternate	2019

Appointments/Hires done by Selectmen

Building Commissioner -I Year	Gerald Garner	2019
Building Inspector-Local-I Year	Vacant	
Highway Superintendent-I Year	Merton Taylor Jr.	2019
Tax Collector Deputy-I Year	Point Software	2019
Town Counsel-I Year	Atty Ronald Berenson	019
	KP Law	2019
Town Custodian-I Year	Bonnie Phillips	2019

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING May 7, 2018

Held Saturday May 5, 2018 at the Public Safety Complex on North Central St. Meeting called to order at 1:00 p.m. by the Town Clerk, Ruth Osgood. Laurie Israel, Moderator for the meeting. There were 58 Plainfield Residents in attendance.

Article 1. To vote by official ballot for all Town Officers, Committees, Trustees, etc., and to fix compensation for the same.
Passed Unanimously

Article 2. To see if the Town will vote to 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, 2018 or take any other action relative thereto.

Fiscal 2019 Budget Articles 1 through 88 passed unanimously to raise and appropriate. The vote was for the total amount of each category.

Article 3. Vocational Education
To see if the Town will vote to amend the MOHAWK TRAIL REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT – REGIONAL DISTRICT AGREEMENT by striking the following language contained in Section III(E) – Vocational and Trade School Pupils:

Any pupil residing in a member town which is not a member of a vocational regional school district who is desirous of attending a trade or vocational school outside the District shall have all the privileges of attending such a school as are now or may be hereafter provided for by law. The cost of tuition for attending such a school and the cost of transportation, when necessary, shall be assessed by the District upon the town wherein the student resides, providing, however, that the District school does not offer the vocational courses.

and replacing said language with the following:

Any pupil residing in a member town which is not a member of a vocational regional school district who is desirous of attending a trade or vocational school outside the District shall have all the privileges of attending such a school as are now or may be hereafter provided for by law. Such towns shall be responsible for the education of such pupils at such out-of-district schools in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 74 of the General Laws and acts amendatory thereto. The cost of tuition for attending such schools shall be borne by the town wherein the pupil resides.

The Committee, acting on the behalf of these towns, shall furnish transportation services, as needed, for town pupils who attend a trade or vocational school outside the District, and the cost of transportation (when necessary) shall be assessed by the District upon the town wherein the pupil resides. The cost of transportation during a fiscal year shall be assessed to the towns in the same fiscal year at such times and in such manner as the Committee and the towns shall agree. The award of any contract for such transportation services shall be made by the Committee, subject to the advice and consent of the involved towns.

To facilitate these arrangements and promote cooperation between the towns and the Committee, an Advisory Committee shall be appointed each year following annual town elections and the annual reorganization of the Committee. Each town which is not a member of a vocational regional school district shall, by its board of

selectmen, appoint one member and one alternate to the Advisory Committee. The Committee, by its chair, shall appoint one member and one or more alternates to the Advisory Committee. The Advisory Committee shall have five voting members, each member to have one vote.

Submitted by the MTRSD and VEAC
Approved by the School Committee

Passed Unanimously

Article 4. Rowe Tuition

To see if the Town will vote to accept the following amendments to the Mohawk Trail Regional Agreement (note: the amendments below are to be effective July 1, 2018):

Strike the following language in Section I(A):

A member appointed by the Rowe School Committee would serve as a non-voting member of the Committee as described in Section IX (G) of this Agreement.

Strike the following language in Section III(F):

The Committee shall accept for enrollment in the District High School, pupils from the Town of Rowe on a tuition basis and upon such terms as are set forth in Section IX of this Agreement. The Committee may accept for enrollment in the regional district schools pupils from towns other than the member towns and the Town of Rowe on a tuition basis and upon such terms as it may determine. In either case, income received by the District from tuition pupils shall be deducted from the total operating costs in the next annual budget to be prepared after the receipt thereof, prior to apportionment under Section IV of this Agreement to the member towns.

and replace said language with the following:

Pursuant to Chapter 371 of the Acts of 1993, the Committee shall accept for enrollment in the District Middle/High School, all pupils from the Town of Rowe in grades seven through twelve on a tuition basis and upon such terms as are set forth in the tuition agreement entered into by the Committee and the Rowe School Committee. Such pupils shall include all Rowe pupils who are entitled to attend the District Middle/High School irrespective of the specific and particular educational needs of any pupil from said Town of Rowe, and irrespective of whether such education for any pupil from said Town of Rowe is provided at the District High School or at any other school as may be approved by said Committee (note: Rowe shall be financially responsible for resident pupils who choose to attend a vocational school). The Committee may accept for enrollment in the regional district schools pupils from towns other than the member towns and the Town of Rowe on a tuition basis and upon such terms as it may determine. In either case, income received by the District from tuition pupils shall be deducted from the total operating costs in the next annual budget to be prepared after the receipt thereof, prior to apportionment under Section IV of this Agreement to the member towns.

Strike the entirety of Section IX as follows, and renumber the remaining Sections:

SECTION IX

EDUCATION OF PUPILS FROM THE TOWN OF ROWE

(A) Special Education Pupils from the Town of Rowe

The Committee shall provide for the education of all pupils from

the Town of Rowe in grades seven through twelve who are entitled to attend the District High School irrespective of the specific and particular educational needs of any pupil from said Town of Rowe, and irrespective of whether such education for any pupil from said Town of Rowe is provided at the District High School or at any other school as may be approved by said Committee.

(B) Transportation of Pupils from the Town of Rowe

The Committee shall provide for the transportation of pupils from the Town of Rowe who are entitled to attend the District High School, to and from said District High School to the extent that such transportation is provided for pupils from member towns who are entitled to attend said District High School. The Committee shall provide for the transportation of pupils from the Town of Rowe who are entitled to attend the District High School, to and from any other school as may be approved by said Committee to the extent that such transportation is provided for pupils from member towns who are entitled to attend said District High School, to and from any other school as may be approved by said Committee.

The Town of Rowe shall bear the cost of transportation for elementary pupils attending the Rowe elementary school.

(C) Tuition Basis for Pupils Grades 7-12 from the Town of Rowe

The cost of tuition to the District High School for each pupil in grades seven through twelve who attends the District High School or any other school as may be approved by the Committee, and who resides in the Town of Rowe shall be paid by said Town of Rowe to the District during the fiscal year when each such pupil is actually in attendance. The basis of the cost of tuition to the District High School or any other school as may be approved by said Committee for each fiscal year shall be established as follows: The total Maintenance and Operating Budget for said District High School as defined in Subsection VI(D) of this Agreement, for that fiscal year, reduced by the anticipated amounts of receipts from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to be used by the Committee to defray such budgeted maintenance and operating charges for that fiscal year, and further reduced by the anticipated amounts of surplus revenue from the District treasury to be used by the Committee to defray such budgeted maintenance and operating charges for that fiscal year, and further reduced by the amounts received from towns paying tuition to the district, consistent with the terms of Subsection III(F) of this Agreement; the balance (viz. the net operating and maintenance budget for said fiscal year) to be divided by the total enrollment of pupils in the District High School from member towns as of October 1 of the previous fiscal year and the resulting balance further divided by one and one-tenth (1.1); the final balance to equal the cost of tuition for one pupil for one complete school year.

(D) Reduction of the Cost of Tuition for Pupils Resident in the Town of Rowe

In the event the Committee reduces the net operating and maintenance costs assessed to the member towns for any fiscal year, by reduction of the Operating and Maintenance Budget for said fiscal year or by the application of additional amounts of revenue, irrespective of the source thereof, to reduce the net operating and maintenance costs assessed to said member towns for that fiscal year, the cost of tuition to the Town of Rowe for the education of its pupils during said fiscal year shall be likewise reduced in accordance with the provisions of Subsection IX(D).

(E) Schedule of Payment of Tuition Costs by the Town of Rowe

The Town of Rowe shall pay for the tuition of its pupils to the

District High School, or any other school as may be approved by the Committee, such amounts as are in accordance with the provisions of Subsection IX (D), and shall make such payments twice each fiscal year at the following time: 1) not later than January 31 of each fiscal year; 2) not later than June 30 of each fiscal year.

(F) Payment of Capital Costs by the Town of Rowe

The Town of Rowe shall have the opportunity to pay a portion of capital costs as defined in Subsection IV (B) for capital projects at District High School. The Committee shall negotiate the rate of a voluntary contribution with the Rowe School Committee at the time of each capital project.

(G) Representation on the Committee

The School Committee of the Town of Rowe may appoint one of its members to represent the Town of Rowe at meetings of the Committee. The Committee shall allow such representative all powers of discussion, debate and deliberation including, but not limited to, participation in such meetings of the Committee while in executive session, but such representative shall not have the power to vote on any matter which comes before the Committee.

(H) Administrative Support Services for Rowe Pupils Grade K-6

The Town of Rowe shall have the opportunity to utilize the services of the Superintendent of Schools and central administration, and Director of Pupil Services who also directs special education, for administration of the Rowe Elementary School and bear the costs thereof.

(I) Distribution of Assets in the Event of Dissolution of the District

In the event of the dissolution of the District, its assets shall be distributed to the member towns and the Town of Rowe on the basis of each town's respective aggregate payment of capital cost to the District.

Submitted by the MTRSD

Approved by the School Committee

Passed Unanimously

Article 5. Sixth Grade to Mohawk

To see if the Town will vote to accept the following amendments to the Mohawk Trail Regional Agreement:

Strike the following language in Section III(A):

Residents of the member towns and all residents of the Town of Rowe in grades seven through twelve will be eligible to attend school at the Mohawk Trail Regional High School, currently located on Route 112 in Buckland, Massachusetts.

and replace said language with the following:

Residents of the member towns in grades six through twelve and all residents of the Towns of Rowe, Hawley, and Charlemont in grades seven through twelve will be eligible to attend school at the Mohawk Trail Regional High School, currently located on Route 112 in Buckland, Massachusetts.

Strike the following language in Section IV(D):

(I) Grades 7-12

Operating and capital costs, as defined above, associated with grades seven to twelve (7-12) inclusive of the District school or schools shall be deemed District costs and the member towns shall be assessed their respective net shares thereof in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement.

2) Grades pre-K-6

(a) Costs associated with the operation of grades pre-Kindergarten to six, inclusive, of the District schools shall be deemed operating costs of the District and the member towns shall be assessed their respective net shares thereof in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement.

(b) All capital costs incurred by the Committee and associated with grades pre-Kindergarten to six, inclusive, of the District schools shall be deemed capital costs of the District and the member towns shall be assessed their respective net shares thereof in accordance with the provisions of section IV(E) of this Agreement.

(c) If any member town or towns should construct an elementary school, the respective member town or towns will assume responsibility for all capital costs.

and replace said language with the following:

(1) Middle/High School

Operating costs, as defined above, associated with grades seven to twelve (7-12) inclusive of the District school or schools shall be deemed District costs and the member towns, shall be assessed their respective net shares thereof in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement.

Capital costs, as defined above, associated with grades six to twelve (6-12) inclusive of the District school or schools shall be deemed District costs and the member towns, shall be assessed their respective net shares thereof in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement.

(2) Elementary Schools

(a) Costs associated with the operation of grades pre-Kindergarten to six, inclusive, of the District schools shall be deemed operating costs of the District and the pre-K-12 member towns shall be assessed their respective net shares thereof in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement.

(b) All capital costs incurred by the Committee and associated with grades pre-Kindergarten to five, inclusive, of the District schools shall be deemed capital costs of the District and the pre-K-12 member towns shall be assessed their respective net shares thereof in accordance with the provisions of section IV(E) of this Agreement.

(c) If any member town or towns should construct an elementary school, the respective member town or towns will assume responsibility for all capital costs.

Strike the following language in Section IV(E):

Apportionment of Capital Costs Grades pre-K-6

(1) Ashfield, Plainfield

Capital costs incurred by the Committee and associated with grades pre-Kindergarten to six, inclusive, of the District school or schools serving pupils from the Towns of Ashfield and Plainfield shall be apportioned to the Towns of Ashfield and Plainfield as follows:

To Ashfield: A portion of the whole expressed as a percentage of the total to the nearest one-hundredth of one per-cent calculated as follows: By (1), computing the ratio which the population of the

Town of Ashfield bears to the total of the population of the Towns of Ashfield and Plainfield, and by (2), computing the ratio which the sum of the enrollments of pupils at said school(s), resident in the Town of Ashfield, as determined by the census of pupils at said school(s) each October 1 for the five most recent years, bears to the sum of the enrollment of pupils at the Ashfield Plainfield district school(s), resident in the Towns of Ashfield and Plainfield, as determined by the census of pupils at said school(s) each October 1 for the five most recent years (note: pre-K enrollment will be included in the calculation beginning in FY18 and will include the data from October 1, 2015 and October 1, 2016); and by summing both ratios ((1) + (2)), and dividing such sum by two.

To Plainfield: A portion of the whole expressed as a percentage of the total to the nearest one-hundredth of one per-cent calculated as follows: By (1), computing the ratio which the population of the Town of Plainfield bears to the total of the population of the Towns of Ashfield and Plainfield, and by (2), computing the ratio which the sum of the enrollments of pupils at the Ashfield Plainfield district school(s), resident in the Town of Plainfield, as determined by the census of pupils at said school(s) each October 1 for the five most recent years, bears to the sum of enrollment of pupils at the Ashfield and Plainfield district school(s), resident in the Towns of Ashfield and Plainfield, as determined by the census of pupils at said school(s) each October 1 for the five most recent years (note: pre-K enrollment will be included in the calculation beginning in FY18 and will include the data from October 1, 2015 and October 1, 2016); and by summing both ratios ((1)+(2)), and dividing such sum by two.

(2) Buckland, Shelburne

Capital costs incurred by the committee and associated with grades pre-Kindergarten to six, inclusive, of the District school or schools serving the pupils from the Towns of Buckland and Shelburne shall be apportioned to the Towns of Buckland and Shelburne as follows:

To Buckland: A portion of the total of all principal and interest on bonds, notes or other obligations as issued by the Committee consistent with the above, expressed as a percentage of the total to the nearest one-hundredth of one per-cent calculated as follows: By (1), computing ratio which the sum of the enrollments of pupils at the Buckland Shelburne Elementary School, resident in the Town of Buckland, as determined by the census of pupils at said district school each October 1 for the five most recent years, bears to the sum of enrollments of pupils at the said district school, resident in the Towns of Buckland and Shelburne, as determined by the census of pupils each October 1 for the five most recent years (note: pre-K enrollment will be included in the calculation beginning in FY18 and will include the data from October 1, 2015 and October 1, 2016); and by (2) expressing such ratio as a percentage.

To Shelburne: A portion of the total of all principal and interest on bonds, notes or other obligations as issued by the Committee consistent with the above, expressed as a percentage of the total to the nearest one-hundredth of one per-cent calculated as follows: By (1), computing the ratio which the sum of the enrollments of pupils at the Buckland Shelburne Elementary School, resident in the Town of Shelburne, as determined by the census of pupils at said district school each October 1 for the five most recent years, bears to the sum of enrollments of pupils at said district school, resident in the Towns of Buckland and Shelburne, as determined by the census of pupils each October 1 for the five most recent years (note: pre-K enrollment will be included in the calculation beginning in FY18 and will include the data from October 1, 2015 and October 1, 2016); and by (2) expressing such ratio as a percentage.

and replace said language with the following:

Apportionment of Capital Costs Grades pre-K-5

(1) Ashfield, Plainfield

Capital costs incurred by the Committee and associated with grades pre-Kindergarten to five, inclusive, of the District school or schools serving pupils from the Towns of Ashfield and Plainfield shall be apportioned to the Towns of Ashfield and Plainfield as follows:

To Ashfield: A portion of the whole expressed as a percentage of the total to the nearest one-hundredth of one per-cent calculated as follows: By (1), computing the ratio which the population of the Town of Ashfield bears to the total of the population of the Towns of Ashfield and Plainfield, and by (2), computing the ratio which the sum of the enrollments of pupils at said school(s), resident in the Town of Ashfield, as determined by the census of pupils at said school(s) each October 1 for the five most recent years, bears to the sum of the enrollment of pupils at the Ashfield Plainfield district school(s), resident in the Towns of Ashfield and Plainfield, as determined by the census of pupils at said school(s) each October 1 for the five most recent years (note: pre-K enrollment will be included in the calculation beginning in FY18 and will include the data from October 1, 2015 and October 1, 2016); and by summing both ratios ((1) + (2)), and dividing such sum by two.

To Plainfield: A portion of the whole expressed as a percentage of the total to the nearest one-hundredth of one per-cent calculated as follows: By (1), computing the ratio which the population of the Town of Plainfield bears to the total of the population of the Towns of Ashfield and Plainfield, and by (2), computing the ratio which the sum of the enrollments of pupils at the Ashfield Plainfield district school(s), resident in the Town of Plainfield, as determined by the census of pupils at said school(s) each October 1 for the five most recent years, bears to the sum of enrollment of pupils at the Ashfield and Plainfield district school(s), resident in the Towns of Ashfield and Plainfield, as determined by the census of pupils at said school(s) each October 1 for the five most recent years (note: pre-K enrollment will be included in the calculation beginning in FY18 and will include the data from October 1, 2015 and October 1, 2016); and by summing both ratios ((1)+(2)), and dividing such sum by two.

(2) Buckland, Shelburne

Capital costs incurred by the committee and associated with grades pre-Kindergarten to five, inclusive, of the District school or schools serving the pupils from the Towns of Buckland and Shelburne shall be apportioned to the Towns of Buckland and Shelburne as follows:

To Buckland: A portion of the total of all principal and interest on bonds, notes or other obligations as issued by the Committee consistent with the above, expressed as a percentage of the total to the nearest one-hundredth of one per-cent calculated as follows: By (1), computing ratio which the sum of the enrollments of pupils at the Buckland Shelburne Elementary School, resident in the Town of Buckland, as determined by the census of pupils at said district school each October 1 for the five most recent years, bears to the sum of enrollments of pupils at the said district school, resident in the Towns of Buckland and Shelburne, as determined by the census of pupils each October 1 for the five most recent years (note: pre-K enrollment will be included in the calculation beginning in FY18 and will include the data from October 1, 2015 and October 1, 2016); and by (2) expressing such ratio as a percentage.

To Shelburne: A portion of the total of all principal and interest on bonds, notes or other obligations as issued by the Committee consistent with the above, expressed as a percentage of the total to the nearest one-hundredth of one per-cent calculated as follows: By (1), computing the ratio which the sum of the enrollments of pupils at the Buckland Shelburne Elementary School, resident in the Town of Shelburne, as determined by the census of pupils at said district school each October 1 for the five most recent years, bears to the sum of enrollments of pupils at said district school, resident in the Towns of Buckland and Shelburne, as determined by the census of pupils each October 1 for the five most recent years (note: pre-K enrollment will be included in the calculation beginning in FY18 and will include the data from October 1, 2015 and October 1, 2016); and by (2) expressing such ratio as a percentage.

Strike the following language in Section IV(F):

(F) Apportionment of Capital Costs Grades 7-12

and replace said language with the following:

(F) Apportionment of Capital Costs Grades 6-12

Strike the following language in Section IV(J):

The District School Committee shall not interfere with a town's or Local Education Council's use of trust funds or other special funds, including separate town meeting articles, intended for the enhancement of the educational opportunities for that town's pupils at the pre-K-6 grades only. The operations budget shall not be reduced by the receipt of such funds.

and replace said language with the following:

The District School Committee shall not interfere with a town's or Local Education Council's use of trust funds or other special funds, including separate town meeting articles, intended for the enhancement of the educational opportunities for that town's pupils at the pre-K-5 grades only. The operations budget shall not be reduced by the receipt of such funds.

Submitted by the MTRSD
Approved by the School Committee

Twenty eight (28) - Opposed Twenty One (21) in Favor and Two (2) Abstentions. This Article was defeated.

Article 6. To see if the town will authorize the Assessors to apply \$80,000.00 from Free Cash to reduce the Fiscal 2019 tax rate or take any action relative thereto. Inserted by the Town Accountant
Recommended by the Finance Committee

Passed Unanimously

Article 7. To see if the town will vote to transfer the amount of \$5,500.00 from Free Cash for a Compactor Roof or take any action relative thereto.

Inserted by the Board of Health
Recommended by the Finance Committee

Passed Unanimously

Article 8. To see if the Town will vote to transfer the amount of \$6,450.00 from Free Cash to remove and replace the Compactor Retaining Wall or take any action relative thereto.

Inserted by the Board of Health
Recommend by the Finance Committee

Passed Unanimously

Article 9. To see if the Town will vote to transfer the amount of \$15,000.00 from Free Cash for the purchase of a Brush Chipper or take any action relative thereto. Inserted by the Highway Department
Recommended by the Finance Committee

A discussion from the floor concluded that \$15,000 was not enough to purchase an appropriate chipper. As a result of this discussion the following motion was made.

A motion was made by Brian Hawthorne to amend Article 9 to transfer \$3,000 to the General Highway Appropriation for rental of Chipper on a "as needed" basis. Article 9 passed unanimously as amended.

Article 10. To see if the Town will vote to transfer the amount of \$60,080.00 from Free Cash to purchase Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) for the Fire Department or take any action relative thereto. Inserted by the Fire Department
Recommended by the Finance Committee
Passed Unanimously

Article 11. To see if the Town will vote to transfer the amount of \$50,000.00 from Free Cash to replace the Highway Garage roof or take any action relative thereto. Inserted by the Buildings Committee
Recommended by the Finance Committee
Passed Unanimously

Article 12. To see if the Town will vote to transfer the amount of \$10,000.00 from Free Cash to replace the Town Hall Fire Escape or take any action relative thereto. Inserted by the Buildings Committee
Recommended by the Finance Committee
Two (2) Opposed. Article passed by a majority

Article 13. To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board to borrow up to \$220,000 for up to seven years for a used grader or take any action relative thereto. Inserted by the Highway Department
Recommended by the Finance Committee
Requires a 2/3 vote
Two (2) Opposed
Two (2) Abstentions

Article 14. To see if the Town will vote to transfer the amount of \$46,906.65 from Free Cash to the Stabilization Fund or take any other action relative thereto. Inserted by the Town Accountant
Recommended by the Finance Committee
An amendment was made to add \$58,906.65 from Free Cash to the Stabilization Fund. Motion passed unanimously.

Article 15. To see if the Town will vote to transfer the amount of \$661.48 from Library Sales and Fines to the Shaw Memorial Library or take any other action relative thereto. Inserted by the Town Accountant
Passed Unanimously

Article 16. To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board to apply, accept, and expend for specific purposes provided by any Federal or State Grants or Programs which may be awarded to the Town. Inserted by the Select Board
Passed Unanimously

Article 17. To see if the Town will vote to accept as available funds any and all monies from the Executive Office of Transportation for Fiscal 2019. Inserted by the Select Board
Passed Unanimously

Article 18. To see if the Town will choose or create, as appropriate, any other Town Committees, Boards, Commissions, Trustees, Offices, etc., and to fix compensation for the same, or take any other action relative thereto.
Passed Unanimously

Article 19. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to retain legal counsel for the town, or take any other action relative thereto. Inserted by the Select Board
Passed Unanimously

Article 20. To see if the Town will vote to leave the care, maintenance and repair of the Town Hall, Shaw Memorial Library, Hallock Memorial School Building, Hathaway Hall, Firehouse, Town Garage, Police Station, Public Safety Building, and surrounding areas, in the charge of the Buildings Committee, or take any other action relative thereto. Inserted by the Buildings Committee
Passed Unanimously

Article 21. To see if the Town will vote to leave the care, maintenance and repair of the cemeteries in the charge of the Cemetery Committee, or take any other action relative thereto. Inserted by the Cemetery Committee
Passed Unanimously

Article 22. To see if the Town will vote to leave the care, maintenance and repair of the highways, public ways, including the alteration and widening thereof, railings and bridges in the charge of the Select Board, or take any other action relative thereto. Inserted by the Select Board
Passed Unanimously

Article 23. To see if the Town will vote to accept the reports of the Town Officers, Boards, Committees, Trustees, etc. as printed in the Town Report.
Passed Unanimously

Article 24. To see if the Town of Plainfield will vote to adopt the following resolution: We call on the United States to lead a global effort to prevent nuclear war by:

- renouncing the options of first strike with nuclear weapons and of the first use of nuclear weapons
- ending the president's sole, unchecked authority to launch an unprovoked nuclear attack
- taking nuclear weapons off a hair-trigger alert
- canceling the plan to replace the United States' entire nuclear weapons arsenal with enhanced nuclear weapons
- actively pursuing a verifiable agreement among nuclear armed states to eliminate their nuclear arsenals

The Town Clerk is directed to send copies of this resolution to the two Massachusetts U.S. senators, and to the U.S. representative for this district, and to the President and Secretary of State of the United States, and to the Massachusetts state senator and state representative from this district. Inserted by Voter Request
Article passed with three (3) Abstentions

Article 25. To see if the Town will vote to transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting.

No other business brought before the Town Meeting.
Meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

A True Record to the best of my knowledge.

ATTEST: Ruth E. Osgood, Town Clerk

A True Copy:

ATTEST: Ruth E. Osgood, Town Clerk

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES July 24, 2018

The Meeting was called to order by the Town Clerk at 7:00 p.m. Laurie Israel, Town Moderator, could not be in attendance. Town Clerk called for nominations for a Moderator. Howard Bronstein was voted as Special Town Meeting Moderator.

There were 26 registered Plainfield Voters in attendance.

Article 1. To see if the Town will vote to rescind the authorization to borrow up to \$220,000.00 for a used grader for up to seven years approved on May 5, 2018 or take any action relative thereto.

Inserted by the Select Board

Supported by the Select Board

The Article passed with one (1) no vote

Article 2. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to borrow up to \$220,000.00 for up to seven years for a new or used fully out-fitted dump truck for the Highway Department or take any action relative thereto.

Inserted by the Highway Department/Select Board

Supported by the Select Board

Requires a 2/3 vote

After much discussion this article was defeated by 14 Yes and 8 No.

The vote did not meet the 2/3 majority. The article needed 17 yes votes to pass with a 2/3 majority.

Article 3. To see if the Town will vote to adopt the provisions of MGL Chapter 46N, Section 3, or any other enabling authority, to impose a local sales tax upon the sale or transfer of marijuana or marijuana products by a marijuana retailer operating within the Town to anyone other than a marijuana establishment at the rate of 3 percent of the total sales price received by the marijuana retailer as a consideration for the sale of marijuana or marijuana products, or at any higher rate as authorized by law.

Inserted by the Select Board

Passed unanimously

Article 4. To see if the Town will vote to transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

No other business brought before the meeting

A True Record to the best of my knowledge.

ATTEST: Ruth E. Osgood, Town Clerk

A True Copy:

ATTEST: Ruth E. Osgood, Town Clerk

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES October 30, 2018

Special Town Meeting Minutes held at the Town Hall, Tuesday, at 7:00 p.m. Meeting was called to order by the Town Clerk at 7:00 p.m. Approximately 65 were in attendance.

Article 1. To see if the Town will vote to take the amount of \$43,650.00 from the Stabilization Fund to add to the FY'19 Police Salaries Account or take any action relative thereto.

Inserted by the Select Board and Police Chief

Supported by the Finance Committee

Requires a 2/3 vote

Passed by 56 Yes Votes and One No Vote

Article 2. To see if the Town will vote to take the amount of \$7,536.00 from the Stabilization Fund to add to the FY'19 Police Expense Account or take any action relative thereto.

Inserted by the Select Board and Police Chief

Supported by the Finance Committee

Requires a 2/3 vote

Passed unanimously with 56 votes

Article 3. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to borrow up to \$125,000.00 for up to seven years with a down payment of \$100,000.00 from the Stabilization Fund for a new or used fully out-fitted dump truck for the Highway Department or take any action relative thereto.

Inserted by the Highway Department/Select Board

Supported by the Finance Committee

Requires a 2/3 vote

Passed by 53 Yes Votes and 7 No Votes

Article 4. To see if the Town will vote to take the amount of \$5,000.00 from the Stabilization Fund to provide for a fine that may be levied by the State in absence of Town Hall lift inspections or take any action relative thereto.

Inserted by the Select Board and Buildings Committee

Supported by the Finance Committee

Requires a 2/3 vote

Passed Unanimously 53 Yes

Article 5. To see if the Town will vote to transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

No other business brought before the meeting. Meeting was adjourned.

A true record to the best of my knowledge.

ATTEST: Ruth E. Osgood, Town Clerk

A True Copy:

ATTEST: Ruth Osgood, Town Clerk



Elaine Holder

FINANCE COMMITTEE

In September 2017, the Finance Committee laid out five principal goals for the 2018 fiscal year:

- To rationalize Plainfield's salaries by gathering relevant information from some of our neighboring towns in western Massachusetts and detailing the scope and hours of work of each town employee.

Action:

- The town of Plainfield obtained a grant to conduct a survey with the goal of creating a job classification and compensation plan. A report was submitted to the Board of Selectmen in October 2018 by consultant Don Jacobs, and further action is yet to be taken, with no changes in job classifications or salary recommendations to be instituted before FY 2020.
- To propose operating budgets based on specific guidelines to help departmental managers and committee chairs understand what information the Finance Committee and Select Board need to evaluate their budget requests.

Action:

- The Finance Committee revised its budget request form to encourage departments and committees to give priority to actual spending patterns over past allocations.
- To recommend a single cost of living adjustment (COLA) for all town employees, and that any other proposed salary

increases be approved by the respective employee's supervisor, the Finance Committee, and the Select Board.

Action:

- The Finance Committee requested all departments and committees not to ask for salary increases for FY2019 pending the results of the job classification and salary survey and not to request a COLA in their budgets, since the Finance Committee would make a single COLA recommendation for the entire town. These requests were universally honored, and the committee recommended a 2.5% COLA for FY 2019.

- To develop a formal capital budget, separate from the operating budget, to forecast current and future spending on big-ticket items that have a multiyear life expectancy.

Action: The revised budget request form separates the operating budget from capital requests, defined as building repairs or equipment whose cost exceeds \$5,000 and is expected to last several years. Departments with large capital expenditures (Highway Department, Fire Department, Buildings Committee, Police Department) have been asked to present long-term capital budgets to the Finance Committee. Still to be implemented is to collect all these data into a single long-term capital planning document.

- To assist departments and committees that need help with their financial planning.

Action: The Finance Committee has appointed liaisons to the Council on Aging, Police Department, Fire Department, Highway Department, and Buildings Committee.

	FY 2018 Budget	% of Total	FY 2018 Spent	FY 2017 Spent	FY 2016 Spent
Education	\$ 811,602	39.6%	\$ 788,538	\$ 788,382	\$ 756,282
Highways & Roads	472,929	23.1%	464,897	617,959	362,625
General Government	366,501	17.9%	316,253	303,926	342,927
Employee Benefits	136,059	6.6%	130,616	122,852	112,330
Public Safety	113,263	5.5%	102,357	90,181	72,747
Debt Service	60,247	2.9%	60,149	37,047	37,047
Health-Sanitation	35,009	1.7%	28,876	27,204	31,601
Special Articles	31,320	1.5%	25,214	19,467	0
Human Services	20,394	1.0%	20,293	18,226	17,596
Cultural-Recreation	2,430	0.1%	1,239	2,269	1,094
TOTAL SUMMARY	\$2,049,754	100%	\$1,938,432	\$2,027,513	\$1,734,250

	FY 2018	FY 2017	FY 2016
Percentage of Budget Spent	94.6%	90.5%	88.2%
Amount of Budget Unspent	\$ 111,322	\$ 213,455	\$ 231,060
Tax Rate per \$1,000 Valuation	\$ 19.08	\$ 19.46	\$ 18.86

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Baker
David Kramer (chair)
Robert Persing
Lewis Robbins
Tim Walter
Roberta Wooldridge



Benjamin Kanzer

TAX COLLECTOR

	Real estate Balances	Personal Property Balances	Motor Vehicle Balances	Other Excise Balances
	As of June 30,2018	As of June 30,2018	As of June 30,2018	As of June 30, 2018
2018	49,541.17	749.18	8,794.78	4,357.30
2017	-37.15	244.50	1,268.61	
2016	-166.92	180.96	314.04	
2015	488.49	0	-69.64	
Prior Years	7,393.53	460.41	5,650.21	0.00
Totals	57,219.12	1,635.05	15,958.00	4,357.30
				Grand Totals: 79,169.47

All payments are due on the quarterly system, with dues dates as follows :

First Quarter: August 1, Second Quarter: November 1, Third Quarter: February 1, Fourth Quarter: May 1.

To keep postage to a minimum, I send out First Quarter and Second Quarters together and the Third and Fourth are mailed out separately.

Respectfully submitted

Heather Davis
Tax Collector

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Tax Rate Recapitulation for Fiscal Year 2018

July 1, 2017 thru June 30, 2017

Total amount to be raised:	\$2,265,038.70
Total estimated receipts and revenues from other sources:	589,405.50
Net amount to be raised by taxation (Tax Levy):	1,675,633.20

Valuation by Class

Residential	\$68,358,467.00
Commercial	7,231,083.00
Industrial	800,400.00
Personal Property	11,434,497.00
Total Property Valuation	\$87,821,447.00

Levy by Class

Residential	\$1,304,279.55
Commercial	137,969.06
Industrial	15,271.63
Personal Property	218,112.96
Total Tax Levy	\$1,675,633.20

Tax Rate

\$19.08

Number of real estate transfers received in calendar year 2017

31

Number of motor vehicle excise bills sent:

For registration year 2017	107	\$ 6,995.81
For registration year 2018	751	\$72,466.85

Number of motor vehicle abatements granted:

For registration year 2015	1	34.27
For registration year 2016	1	53.75
For registration year 2017	4	1,019.98
For registration year 2018	4	2,440.10

Exemptions for real estate granted:

9 \$ 4,450.00

Abatements for real estate granted:

1 944.46

Tax Exempt Property:

Value: Town, State, Charities, Audubon: 9,926,500.00
71 parcels—exempted tax dollars \$189,397.62

Respectfully Submitted,

Claude DuPont III, Chairman
Dudley Williams
Helene Tamarin

ZBA CONSULTANT FEE REPORT

The Town of Plainfield ZBA received three checks totaling \$10,260.55 for the purpose of hiring outside consultants from NEXAMP in April and May of 2017 for professional services relating to a Special Permit Application for a large-scale photovoltaic array. Expenses charged to the account were: \$4,329.93 paid to Fuss & O'Neil, Inc.; \$2029.55 and \$1,282.00 to Pioneer Valley Planning Commission. The remaining balance of \$2,619.07 was returned to NEXAMP on November 7, 2018 per instruction of the Plainfield ZBA chair.

Respectfully,

Paula J. King, Plainfield Accountant

WHITING STREET FUND

After 97 years of helping needy residents of Plainfield with financial support, the Whiting Street Fund is running low on funds. That having been said, the Whiting Street Committee is still accepting requests from individuals or friends of individuals in need of unexpected financial support. Only one such request for assistance was received in the past year. As always, written requests may be sent to any member of the Committee.

Respectfully submitted

David Alvord,
Ellen Baer
Robert Persing, Chairman

TOWN ACCOUNTANT

Balance Sheet from 07/01/2017 to 06/30/2018

ASSETS

CASH	Assets	Liabilities
General Cash	1,081,584.29	
TOTAL FOR CASH		1,081,584.29
PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES	Assets	Liabilities
Personal Prop Taxes F2012	377.22	
Personal Prop Taxes F2014	83.19	
Personal Prop Taxes 2016	180.96	
Personal Prop Taxes F2017	244.50	
Personal Prop Taxes F2018	749.18	
TOTAL FOR PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES		1,635.05
REAL ESTATE TAXES	Assets	Liabilities
Real Estate Taxes F2004	143.50	
Real Estate Taxes F2008	783.61	
Real Estate Taxes F2010	34.49	
Real Estate Taxes F2012	5,336.88	
Real Estate Taxes F2013	197.82	
Real Estate Taxes F2014	908.86	
Real Estate Taxes F2015	488.49	
Real Estate Taxes F2018	49,541.13	
TOTAL FOR REAL ESTATE TAXES		57,434.78
MOTOR VEHICLE EX TAXES	Assets	Liabilities
Motor Vehicle Ex F2009	415.95	
Motor Vehicle Ex F2010	703.68	
Motor Vehicle Ex F2011	1,393.36	
Motor Vehicle Ex F2012	872.03	
Motor Vehicle Ex F2013	1,379.51	
Motor Vehicle Ex F2014	429.06	
Motor Vehicle Ex F2016	314.04	
Motor Vehicle Ex F2017	1,301.95	
Motor Vehicle Ex F2018	8,714.53	
TOTAL FOR MOTOR VEHICLE EX TAXES		15,524.11
FARM EXCISE TAXES	Assets	Liabilities
Farm Animal Excise	4,352.30	
Forest Products Cut	5.00	
TOTAL FOR FARM EXCISE TAXES		4,357.30
TAX TITLES & POSSESSIONS	Assets	Liabilities
Tax Titles	108,600.38	
TOTAL FOR TAX TITLES & POSSESSIONS		108,600.38
ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE	Assets	Liabilities
Highway Chapter 291B	201,857.90	
TOTAL FOR ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE		201,857.90
LOANS AUTHORIZED	Assets	Liabilities
Loans Authorized	1,130,000.00	
Due frm Stabilization Fnd	41,461.25	
TOTAL FOR LOANS AUTHORIZED		1,171,461.25
GRANTS	Assets	Liabilities
DOER META Grant	9,400.00	
TOTAL FOR GRANTS		9,400.00
TOTAL ASSETS	2,651,855.06	

LIABILITIES

REAL ESTATE TAXES	Assets	Liabilities
Real Estate Taxes F2016		166.92
Real Estate Taxes F2017		27.67
TOTAL FOR REAL ESTATE TAXES		194.59
MOTOR VEHICLE EX TAXES	Assets	Liabilities
Motor Vehicle Ex F2015 114.44		114.44
TOTAL FOR MOTOR VEHICLE EX TAXES		114.44
REVENUE	Assets	Liabilities
Revenue Fiscal 2019		222,624.66
TOTAL FOR REVENUE		222,624.66
AGENCY	Assets	Liabilities
Federal Withholding		375.60
ING		213.50
Medicare Withholding		79.62
State Withholding		290.32
County Retirement		310.08
Dental Insurance With.		83.60
License to Carry/State		656.25
NEXAMP Decommission Escrow		27,027.00
BC/BS - Officials		1,233.04
Health Insurance Withholdings		311.74
Unclaimed checks		187.93
TOTAL FOR AGENCY		30,768.68
GRANTS	Assets	Liabilities
Library Grant		24,921.93
Cultural Council		4,870.70
Cult Council Enrich Fund		660.00
Town Hall Project Gifts		660.00
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		65,323.83
Community Policing Grant		290.31
Green Commun. Designation Grant		13,394.26
Community Compact Wage Salary Grant		17,000.00
Health Bd Emer Prep Grant		1,469.30
Broadband Last Mile Grant		197,384.80
MLP Broadband Construction		210,000.00
BoH RDP Grant		8,897.00
DARE		200.00
Solarize Mass Grant		305.72
Direct Energy Solar Gift		3,055.50
Police Dept. Donations		8,059.43
Council on Aging Gifts		2,181.05
Library Gifts		3,671.44
Cemetery Gifts		300.00
Cemetery (Funds Approp. for Use)		17.87
Recreation/General		4,315.64
BAseball Activities Donations		1,000.00
Playstructure @ Ballfield		2,478.85
Flag Gifts		260.16
WiredWest Donations		4.76
Library Addition		1,497.63
Historical Comm Donation		11.74
TOTAL FOR GRANTS		579,003.06

REVOLVING	Assets	Liabilities
Deputy Tax Collector Fees		728.00
Off-Duty Police Detail		989.00
Ch 148A Municipal Enforcement Fines		200.00
Loans Authorized Unissued	1,130,000.00	
TOTAL FOR REVOLVING		1,131,917.00

RCPTS RESVRD FOR APPROP	Assets	Liabilities
Cemetery Lot Int./Perpet. Care		1,690.39
Conservation Comm/Wetland		1,819.11
ZBA Consultant Services		2,619.07
Library Sales & Fines		36.00
TOTAL FOR RCPTS RESVRD FOR APPROP		6,164.57

OVERLAYS RES FOR ABATE	Assets	Liabilities
Overlay F20	17,882,284.90	
TOTAL FOR OVERLAYS RES FOR ABATE		88,284.90

REVENUE RESERVED UNTIL COL	Assets	Liabilities
Tax Title & Poss. Rev.		108,600.38
Motor Vehicle Excise Rev		15,524.11
Special Tax Revenue		4,357.30
Hwy Chapter 291B Revenue		201,857.90
Cemetery Lot Revenue		15,820.31
CDBG Housing Rehab Repayment		17,339.32
TOTAL FOR REVENUE RESERVED UNTIL COL		363,499.32

SURPLUS REVENUE	Assets	Liabilities
Surplus Revenue		229,283.84
TOTAL FOR SURPLUS REVENUE		229,283.84

TRUST FUNDS	Assets	Liabilities
Trust Cash	691,981.25	
Due To General Fund		41,461.25
Cemetery PC Fund		2,709.68
Arts Lottery Fund		951.38
M.Arvilla Dyer Lib. Fnd		2,793.14
Martha Smith Library Fund		3,885.99
Whiting Street Fund		3,575.46
Stabilization		636,604.35
TOTAL FOR TRUST FUNDS	691,981.25	691,981.25

LONG TERM DEBT	Assets	Liabilities
Inside Debt Limit	406,007.00	
Hwy Dump Truck		92,408.00
Public Safety Building Loan		286,089.00
Loader Loan		27,510.
TOTAL FOR LONG TERM DEBT	406,007.00	406,007.00



Conrad Liebenow

ALL DEPARTMENTS EXPENDITURE REPORT

From 07/01/2017 to 06/30/2018

ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	CARRY FWD	ORIG BUD	AMENDED	ENCUMB	EXPEND	UNENCUM BAL	% EXP
Board of Selectmen		5,000.00			5,000.00		100.00 %
Town Office Expense		11,000.00			9,039.11	1,960.89	82.17 %
Treasurer		11,689.00	173.00		11,862.00		100.00 %
Administrative Secretary		20,605.00	304.00		20,909.00		100.00 %
Moderator		30.00			30.00		100.00 %
Accountant		12,235.00	181.00		12,416.00		100.00 %
Tax Title Expense	132.80		8,000.00		8,040.75	92.05	98.86 %
Training/Seminar Expense		1,000.00			1,000.00		0.00 %
Town Counsel		4,000.00			1,973.66	2,026.34	49.34 %
Assistant Town Clerk Salary		523.00			507.00	16.00	96.94 %
Assessors		6,435.00			5,562.02	872.98	86.43 %
Assessors Salaries		43,338.00			42,878.40	459.60	98.93 %
Town Office Technology		5,000.00			5,000.00		0.00 %
Website Expense		500.00			380.00	120.00	76.00 %
IT Service/Expense		775.00			210.58	564.42	27.17 %
Tax Collector		11,075.00			9,331.13	1,743.87	84.25 %
Collectors Salaries		11,689.00	173.00		11,862.00		100.00 %
Town Clerk	37.50	5,000.00			1,165.70	3,871.80	23.14 %
Town Clerk Salary		12,024.00			12,024.00		100.00 %
Conservation Commission		600.00			441.00	159.00	73.50 %
Finance Committee		150.00			135.00	15.00	90.00 %
Planning Board		1,000.00			1,000.00		0.00 %
Zoning Board		500.00				500.00	0.00 %
Hamp. Council of Govt.		403.00			402.28	0.72	99.82 %
Highway Salaries		197,432.00	-15,000.00		180,338.08	2,093.92	98.85 %
Highway General		57,500.00	658.55		57,295.81	862.74	98.51 %
Machinery Upkeep		72,500.00			67,551.05	4,948.95	93.17 %
Hwy. Dept. Truck			41,461.25		41,461.25		100.00 %
Plow, Wing, Frame, Hydraulics, Etc.		16,000.00			14,894.25	1,105.75	93.08 %
Winter Roads		75,000.00	42,676.91		117,676.91		100.00 %
Street Lights		700.00			573.62	126.38	81.94 %
Mohawk Reg. School Operat		719,185.00			719,185.00		100.00 %
Mohawk Regional School		19,310.00			19,310.00		100.00 %
Vocational Tuition		100,000.00	-27,676.91		49,259.36	23,063.73	68.11 %
School Committee Expense		775.00	8.59		783.59		100.00 %
Shaw Memorial Library		17,981.00	340.00		18,320.68	0.32	99.99 %
C. Frank. Vet. Dist.		1,236.00			1,235.66	0.34	99.97 %
Cemetery Commission		57.42	4,000.00		2,452.36	1,605.06	60.44 %
Veterans' Graves/Mem. Day		400.00			400.00		0.00 %
Police Department		15,000.00	135.00		15,135.00		100.00 %
Police Salaries		9,121.00			7,912.90	1,208.10	86.75 %
Fire Department		30,661.00			26,731.45	3,929.55	87.18 %
Highland Ambulance EMS		24,430.00			24,430.00		100.00 %
Blackboard Connect		2,000.00			1,602.71	397.29	80.13 %
Fire Chief Salary		5,000.00			5,000.00		100.00 %
Highland Ambulance/EMS Bldg. Cap.		3,368.00			3,114.97	253.03	92.48 %
Building Alarms		1,380.00	28.00		1,408.00		100.00 %
Building Inspector		9,820.00			9,320.00	500.00	94.90 %
Plumbing Inspector		1,800.00			1,800.00		100.00 %
Electrical Inspector		2,670.00			2,400.00	270.00	89.88 %
Emergency Management/CD		1,000.00				1,000.00	0.00 %
Animal Control Officer		1,000.00			1,000.00		100.00 %
Animal Control Off. Exp.		600.00	1,150.00		267.82	1,482.18	15.30 %
Animal Control Vehicle	3,600.00				2,233.40	1,366.60	62.03 %
Barn & Cattle Inspector		200.00			200.00		100.00 %
Immunizations		500.00			500.00		0.00 %
Tree Warden		5,000.00	650.00		5,650.00		100.00 %
Plainfield Light & Communications		22,000.00			5,283.58	16,716.42	24.01 %
Compactor	358.86	24,409.00			19,425.80	5,342.06	78.43 %
Compactor Salary		5,817.00	1,176.00		6,225.39	767.61	89.02 %

ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	CARRY FWD	ORIG BUD	AMENDED	ENCUMB	EXPEND	UNENCUM BAL	% EXP
Hilltown Res. Mgmt Coop		2,364.00			2,364.00		100.00 %
HRMC MRF Container Assessment		684.00			661.08	22.92	96.64 %
Loader Loan		27,510.00			27,510.00		100.00 %
Public Safety Bldg. Bond Prin.		9,537.00			9,537.00		100.00 %
Hwy Dump Truck w/ Wing Loan		23,200.00			23,102.00	98.00	99.57 %
Int. Long-term Debt		19,374.00			17,852.44	1,521.56	92.14 %
Int. Short-term Debt		1,000.00				1,000.00	0.00 %
Insurance		55,000.00	-5,000.00		47,142.00	2,858.00	94.28 %
Town Building Repair		20,000.00			16,371.28	3,628.72	81.85 %
Hwy Garage Furnace		9,700.00	620.00		10,320.00		100.00 %
ADA		100.00			100.00		0.00 %
Twn. Bldg. Operations		46,000.00	7,400.00		52,277.98	1,122.02	97.89 %
Twn. Bldg. Sup/Maint/Cust		15,000.00			13,925.50	1,074.50	92.83 %
Town Reports		1,000.00			803.75	196.25	80.37 %
Prior Years Bills			127.65		127.65		100.00 %
Council on Aging		737.00			737.00		100.00 %
Recreation Committee		1,680.00			941.18	738.82	56.02 %
Flags/Flowers		300.00			297.60	2.40	99.20 %
Historical Commission		50.00				50.00	0.00 %
Agricultural Commission		200.00			197.00	3.00	98.50 %
County Retirement		66,459.00			66,459.00		100.00 %
Medicare		5,000.00			4,358.00	642.00	87.16 %
Unemployment		3,200.00			338.30	2,861.70	10.57 %
Chapter 32B Medical Ins.		61,400.00			59,460.26	1,939.74	96.84 %
Reserve Fund		5,000.00	1,119.86			6,119.86	0.00 %
Total	4,186.58	1,994,861.00	50,705.90		1,938,431.29	111,322.19	
Total GENERAL FUND	4,186.58	1,994,861.00	50,705.90		1,938,431.29	111,322.19	
GRAND TOTAL	4,186.58	1,994,861.00	50,705.90	0.00	1,938,431.29	111,322.19	



Conrad Liebenow

TREASURER

FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018

To: The Residents of Plainfield

CASH BALANCES as of June 30, 2018

Easthampton Savings Bank	Vendor & Payroll	\$ 258,669.46
Easthampton Savings Bank	Investment & State Receipts	388,578.21
Easthampton Savings Bank	Municipal Light Plant - Grant	407,384.80
Citizens Bank	Deputy Collector	34,539.32
Peoples United Bank	Trust – Septic Loan Fund	61,956.81
Citizens Bank	Trust - Various	17,282.89
Greenfield Savings Bank	Trust – Cemetery Funds	15,034.33
Mass Municipal Deposit Trust	Stabilization	619,159.25
Total Cash Balances June 30, 2018		\$1,802,605.07

RECEIPTS

July, 2017	\$241,556.88
August	247,434.47
September	36,960.50
October	165,506.46
November	242,372.24
December	53,043.06
January, 2018	259,870.75
February	228,872.26
March	102,860.51
April	395,937.65
May	470,095.24
June, 2018	144,318.24
Total FY 2018	2,588,828.26

DEBT OUTSTANDING

	<i>Outstanding as of June 30, 2017</i>	<i>Retirements</i>	<i>Outstanding as of June 30, 2018</i>
Public Service Bldg	\$295,626.00	\$9,537.00	\$286,089.00
Hwy Loader	55,020.00	27,510.00	27,510.00
Truck	115,510.00	23,102.00	92,408.00
Totals	\$466,156.00	\$60,149.00	\$406,007.00

TAX TITLE

The Town holds the following real estate parcels for nonpayment of real property taxes, subject to a right of redemption under the Commonwealth's Tax Taking Statute Ch 60, S 54. The amount shown below was certified by the Town Collector and includes the outstanding taxes, tax collector's interest and fees. The amounts as of June 30, 2018 are shown:

<i>Record Owner</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Lot designation (map, block, lot)</i>	<i>Total due as of FYE 2018</i>
Berry, Alice	Hill Street	21A, 0, 100	\$1,051.82
Crowell, David P.	41 Bow Street	16, 0, 30	4,345.10
Crowell, Harold et al	56 South Central	21B, 0, 30	3,830.21
Dyer, Lena	Campbell Road	50, 0, 180	20,056.10
Dyer, Lena	River Road	21A, 0, 20	10,772.57
Jackson, Douglas	West Main Street	140, 0, 70	306.29
Lesure, Donald	West Main Street	140, 0, 370	450.24
Owner Unknown	West Main Street	15C, 0, 390	12,069.08
Owner Unknown	Windsor Avenue	240, 0, 90	498.48
Owner Unknown	Windsor Pond	60, 0, 60	1,324.71
Phenicie, Kellie	East Main Street	16, 0, 263	394.83
Rice, D. Estate of	Off East Main Street	160, 0, 280	439.11
Stahl, Jaylin	Off East Main Street	170, 0, 100	464.65
Thatcher, Art.c/oSnake	1 Pleasant Street	22, 0, 13	45,207.23
Thatcher, Art.c/oSnake	Off So Central St	28, 0, 70	167.76
Thatcher, Art.c/oSnake	So. Central St	28, 0, 50	170.99
Waryjasz, Robt. E. Trst	166 East Main Street	16, 0, 10	3,994.43
Waryjasz, Robt. E. Trst	East Main Street	16, 0, 17	277.02
Waryjasz, Robt. E. Trst	166 East Main Street	16, 0, 190	208.43
Waryjasz, Robt. E. Trst	Off East Main Street	16, 0, 21	476.06
Waryjasz, Robt. E. Trst	Off North Street	90, 0, 23	556.26
Waryjasz, Robt. E. Trst	North Street	90, 0, 100	305.82
Wells, Leonard	61 West Street	12, 0, 2	716.61

Tax Title Total - June 30, 2018

\$108,161.80

Footnote: The amounts shown above do not include treasurer's interest which accrues at 16%, any attorney fees and/or other legal/court costs incurred, or redemption fees. Subsequent to yearend several of the above accounts have been paid in full or entered into payment agreements. Six of the above accounts are in the foreclosure process.

Respectfully submitted,

Allan L. Kidston, CMMT, Treasurer

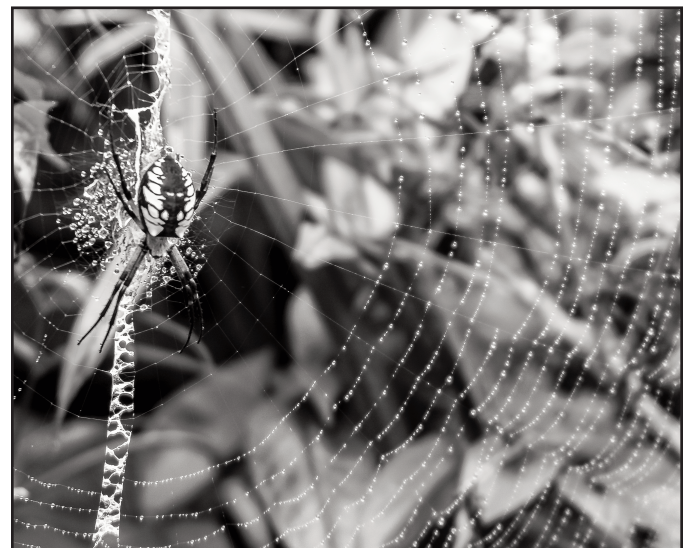
BOARD OF REGISTRARS

The year began with 477 registered voters consisting of:

- 133 Democrats
- 32 Republicans,
- 5 Green Rainbows,
- 1 Interdependent 3rd Party,
- 5 United Independent Party
- 303 unenrolled

BIRTHS, DEATH AND MARRIAGES IN 2018

Plainfield had two births, three deaths and one marriage in 2018. The population is approximately 590.



SELECT BOARD

The Select Board's annual report is a view of our community's stewards of Plainfield's public business. This is also the opportunity to acknowledge and laud the work of so many others. The Select Board monitors and keeps current of the hard and excellent work being done by the Plainfield Municipal Light Plant, as established last year as a town department. Manager Kimberley Longey and Assistant Manager Brian Hawthorne and the MLP Team have created construction plans, service delivery plans, policy decisions and financial plans. This year we expect to see the actual building of Plainfield's own Broadband System.

We have also made major progress on our pledge to bring Plainfield's organizational structure and human resources practices into current Best Practices for managing personnel and municipal work. The existing patchwork of policies and procedures, developed over years and adopted by various bodies, will soon be replaced by a single Plainfield Personnel Manual. We have completed working with a consultant hired with funds from The Commonwealth of Massachusetts' Community Compact Program. The Select Board is currently revising the materials gathered to date with staff and other officials so our manual will reflect the "Best Practices" as they apply to Plainfield. We received a Salary Study that has provided valuable information on where Plainfield fits into the financial picture of the region, as well as a Job Classification System aiding the descriptions used in the Personnel Manual.

This work was done primarily at additional Select Board meetings, convened on Wednesday mornings, often with Finance Committee members in attendance. The Board realized that this was an important project that could not be adequately addressed at our usual Tuesday night meetings...held on the second and fourth Tuesdays at Town Hall at 7pm. We continue working closely with Finance Committee and Chair David Kramer and support the Committee's approach to developing departmental budgets based on real spending history and building long term budgets for capital investment for vehicles, buildings and infrastructure planning one year, five years, and ten years into the future.

In documenting our work, we also met with representatives from the Massachusetts Dept of Revenue's Division of Local Services (DLS). The Select Board and our financial Team of our Town Accountant, Treasurer, Tax Collector and Assessors' Clerk met in a working session. The Select Board learned two important things that morning. Number One: The DLS will provide a Financial Policy Handbook for our team, a useful tool in keeping with our own proposed Personnel Manual. Number 2: Our Financial Team, by our own and the State's standards, does an excellent job as Stewards of Plainfield finances.

The Building Committee has also made great progress in maintaining town buildings. Thanks to their diligence, our Town Hall lift is now fully operational and licensed by the Commonwealth. Because the permit had lapsed and repairs were required, the State's Public Safety Department assessed a fine, which we got reduced from \$5,000 to only \$1,200. And with our Best Practices documentation campaign of the work done to maintain things, this is a good example of making us more efficient in the future.

We also looked to the future of Plainfield and found Town Meeting support for revamping the Plainfield Police Department. Chief Justin Litchfield was appointed in June and has been able to recruit a fuller department than we were experiencing. Chief Litchfield and two officers are now able to provide a local response to almost all Public Safety calls in Plainfield.

We are also working with the Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals, Town Counsel and others to revise our bylaws and local procedures so building projects that are new to us - like large-scale solar, or the more common place, like a private home or project - will be fairly and consistently inspected, assessed and moved through

the municipal approval process. With Building Committee help we have applied for a grant to help us plan how we can best manage our own municipal resources such as our compactor in need of a new wall and our Town Hall in need of a better parking plan.

The work we do on the Select Board involves so many other hard working and dedicated folks. We always encourage citizens to come and see all our Stewardship in action. We have instituted an Introduction, and after the meeting is called to order, we ask everyone to introduce themselves. The work proceeds with amiable and informed ambiance. We do Plainfield's municipal business at 7pm on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday evenings of each month. Please join us.

Respectfully submitted,
Howard Bronstein



Elaine Holder

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

The Zoning Board of Appeals is responsible for hearing and acting on requests for special permits, variances, site plan review and appeals of the Building Inspector/Zoning Enforcement Officer decisions, in accordance with the Town of Plainfield By-Law.

We started the year with Peg Keller, chair; Laurie Israel, clerk; Joan Wattman, member and Ann Irvine & Sandy Moran, alternate members. Laurie resigned on 2/17/18 and Ann was sworn in as a full member before the March meeting. Sandy Moran stepped down and William Latimer then became the alternate after attending the April meeting.

We worked with the Town Clerk, the Planning Board and the Building Inspector to review and revise our policies and procedures regarding applications for special permits and variances, delineate our responsibilities for components of the application process, and worked on updating the Guidelines (information sheet for residents) and Application forms. We received guidance and technical assistance from Larry Smith of the Pioneer Valley Regional Planning Commission on the roles of the Building Inspector and the Zoning Board of Appeals.

We also worked with the Planning Board to update the By-Laws especially the Rules and Regulations section as it relates to Site Plan Review. The Select Board replaced Leslie Rule with Howard Bronstein as our liaison.

In October, November and December we held a public hearing for the 27 Broom St LLC application for a special permit to build a marijuana cultivation facility in town. We hired our own engineering consultant and received advice from the town counsel to assist us in that process. The decision on that application was not made until January 2019. We also held a public hearing for a building modification.

The Zoning Board of Appeals meets the third Thursday of the month at 6pm at Town Hall, unless otherwise posted. Meeting and agenda notices are posted 48 hours in advance at the Town Hall and Town Offices and minutes are posted on the Town's website.

Respectfully submitted,
Peg Keller, chair

DOG REPORT

During 2018 168 dogs were registered in Plainfield;

10 Males,
67 Neutered Males
86 Spayed Females
5 Females.

A total of \$549.00 collected and \$450.00 in late fees were collected all of which goes into the General Fund.

A rabies clinic was held in March 2018 at Hathaway Hall by the Animal Control Officer and Joann Morrison DVM of Worthington. Town Clerk was present to issue dog licenses.

Submitted by

Ruth Osgood, Town Clerk

TREE WARDEN

Progress continued on removing hazardous trees in 2018.

Eversource's crews worked methodically through the year, cutting down and removing several hundred trees that they worked with the town tree warden to identify as hazardous to power lines. Many of those same trees also threatened roads and homes, so having Eversource's resources available to carry out this task was a great benefit to the town.

Additional trees on town land that posed danger to roads or property were removed at town expense. The tree warden maintains a list of trees identified as hazardous for eventual removal, and is always happy to hear from residents with questions or concerns about specific trees.

Respectfully submitted,

Winton Pitcoff

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

The Plainfield Agricultural Commission devoted most of its work in 2018 on continuing the vision begun with the passing of the Town Resolution to protect pollinators and their habitat. We concentrated on pollinator gardens, rejuvenating and adding plantings to the garden in front of the post office & the small garden at the corner of West Hill & Summit Streets. A sign at the post office garden announces our purpose and our membership in the efforts of the Western Mass Pollinator Networks. It is also one of the 1001 pollinator gardens project in western Massachusetts. In the fall we started reclamation of the triangle of grass behind the church which was donated to our efforts by Lina Bernstein and David Kramer. Because this plot has been used for several years for parking and dumping snow it is going to take some time before it is recognized as a garden. We hope to make its boundaries visible next spring and continue to build healthy soil in preparation for planting. We used much of our 2018 budget to purchase native pollinator friendly plants for our gardens and are eager to start the plantings in this presently unsightly little plot.

Some of our members continue to work with Toxic Actions Network and the Pollinator Network to help other towns start resolutions to protect pollinators. This has included a panel at NOFA Mass summer conference, conference calls with interested citizens across the state, and sharing of project ideas with other towns to make the resolutions continually active.

We participated in discussions about the situation of the tenant farmer on the APR land owned by the Kohns on S. Central and did periodic checks with the Kohns and the Mass DAR to see that restitution of the land was being done. We also attended meetings of the town Zoning Board to keep abreast of the proposed uses of open land at the medicinal marijuana farm on Broom St. (The com-

mercial growing of medicinal marijuana is not considered agricultural. However, if hemp were to be grown on the three acres outside the greenhouses, it would be classed as an agricultural crop.)

We sponsored and became early members of the Plainfield Tree Alliance which was formed in response to the massive cutting of trees done by Eversource in many parts of town. This culling made us realize how many of our iconic old "street trees" are endangered for many reasons. It also encouraged us to envision a better future for our town trees and our arboreal townscape, including the impact the removal and planting of trees might have on agricultural activities. Our delegates to the Tree Alliance are able to encourage the inclusion of pollinator friendly trees wherever possible.

We discussed a series of informative films on restoration of damaged land but decided to delay those presentations so we could support the series of talks organized by the Tree Alliance, planned for the winter of 2019. We scheduled a talk about beneficial insects for early March, 2019

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 ([HYPERLINK "http://www.state.ma.us/dep" www.state.ma.us/dep](http://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 five members of the Plainfield Conservation Commission work with property owners to insure that all interests are addressed.

The Plainfield Conservation Commission's regularly scheduled public meetings are held on the last Wednesday of each month, or as needed, at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall. 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 the benefit of Plainfield's wetlands and forests.

During 2018 the Plainfield Conservation Commission conducted the following business:

Public Hearing:

On Nov. 28 a public hearing was held for an abbreviated notice of resource area delineation (ANRAD) submitted by Marvel Solar, LLC for Robert Pytko and Whitney Shepperd for a proposed solar facility at 66 North Union St. The Con Com informed the Marvel Solar Representative, Michael Newhouse, that a peer review will be conducted by John Furman of VHB. The hearing will be continued until Jan. 30, 2019.

Public Meetings:

- Franklin Land Trust submitted an RDA for the Guyette Property

located at Gloyd and South Central. The work involves planting of native shrubs and forbs to encourage pollinators, provide diversity, and combat invasive species. The Commission issued a negative determination as the project will not remove, fill, dredge, or alter the area negatively.

- Judith Hanson & Pamela Wayne, 33 Stetson Ave., submitted an RDA for work involving stone steps, retaining wall & patio. The Con Com issued a negative determination.
- Gary Rzaab & Janine Parker, 330 Main St., submitted an RDA for vegetation management & removal of invasive species. The Con Com issued a negative determination.
- Katy Wilkins of Tighe & Bond, representing Eversource described a project to build 3 permanent bridges over 3 streams which cross the Eversource Right of Way east of West Street. The work is within the 100 ft. buffer zone to bordering vegetated wetlands and inland bank. The Con Com issued a negative determination that the work was within the buffer zone but would not alter an area subject to protection under the act.

Made Site Visits to:

- Guyette Property, Gloyd St., March 12, regarding an Order of Conditions for a bridge. After inspecting the bridge a Certificate of Compliance was signed.
- Site visits were made on May 7, July 2, July 18, & Nov. 2 for the Nexamp Solar Project off of Union Street.
- A site visit was made by four members of the Con Com on June 16 to 33 Stetson Ave.
- On August 30 a site visit was made to the Cullen Property on Route 116. Allison Wright, service forester, and Eric Donnelly, consulting forester, answered questions regarding the forest cutting plan for the property.
- On July 5 five members of the Con Com made a site visit to the Casey Dwyer property on Campbell St. There were no wetland issues.
- On August 30 a site visit was made to the Ashfield Rod and Gun Club to inspect a proposed pistol range. There were no wetland issues.
- On Nov. 2 a site visit was made to the Guyette Property, Gloyd & South Union Street, to view a proposed cutting plan for 17.5 acres along South Central St. that would allow for maximum sprouting of poplar and/or to establish new ruffed grouse and woodcock habitat.

Review of forest cutting plans:

- West Main Street 30 acres, Cullen property.
- A resident expressed concern regarding cutting of trees at the South Central Street, Paige Property. Alison Wright, service forester was contacted and stated that the project was in compliance with forest cutting plans.
- Will Anderson, property manager for Franklin Land Trust, submitted a forest cutting plan for 17.5 acres on the Guyette Property, Gloyd & South Union Street.

Building permit & Certificate of Compliance sign offs:

- John Lyles, 6 Mountain Street, removal of a garage.
- Guyette Property, Gloyd St, COC issued for an Order of Conditions issued for an NOI filed in 2009.
- A COC for a NOI issued in 1991 for 151 South Street was unanimously approved.
- A building permit was signed for the Broadband Fiber Hub located near the Public Safety Building.

Other Business:

A resident expressed concern regarding the amount of salt & sand used on roads that can cause runoff into wetlands. Highway superintendent, Mert Taylor, Jr., said that he has reduced the amount of salt used but must consider road maintenance and safety, as well as, the effects on wetlands.

Reviewed the conservation restriction on the Nelson/Sargent property

co-held by the Town of Plainfield and The Franklin Land Trust. Four members of the Con Com signed the acceptance of the restriction (Jack Nelson recused himself).

MACC Annual meeting, March 3, was attended by John, Jack, & Judy Wild and Scenic Westfield River designation for Plainfield's streams was discussed with Bob Thompson, professor at Westfield State University. If approved the designation would entail certain advantages: 1. Technical assistance from the National Park Service & the MA Dept. of Ecological Restoration 2. Funding for projects, such as, culvert replacement 3. Possible immunity from gas pipelines

Pleun Bouricius attended a Con Com meeting to discuss concern regarding cutting of trees by Eversource.

A Municipal Certification approving a conservation restriction held by the Franklin Land Trust on 109 acres of property owned by the O'Brien Family off of West St. was unanimously approved by the Con Com. Members of the Con Com attended meetings held by the newly formed Plainfield Tree Alliance.

The Commission reviewed a Memorandum of Understanding between the Department of Environmental Protection and the Department of Conservation & Recreation regarding procedures and responsibilities of each agency under the Wetlands Protection Act and the Forest Cutting Practices Act.

Respectfully submitted:

**Erik Burcroff, John Burns, Jack Nelson,
Alice Schertle, Judith Williams (Chair)**

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 Hiltown Ambulance of Huntington. Paramedics are on duty at Highland's station in Goshen from 6 AM until midnight seven days a week. During the midnight to 6 AM time period, Highland EMT's are assisted by Paramedics from other ambulance companies when the service of a Paramedic is required. Highland's active roster as of June 30, 2018 consisted of 37 members including 18 Paramedics and 19 EMT's. Our Service Director and Assistant Service Director are two fulltime paramedics and this year we did hire a fulltime Basic EMT to solidify our staffing pattern. Thus we now have three fulltime employees. In addition, we increased our administrative assistant hours to help us with clerical duties.

Dr. Peter Morse is our Medical Director.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Community Involvement. Highland provided support to our communities including:

- Ambulance Coverage for Community events including the Chesterfield
 4th of July Parade, the Cummington Fair, the Ashfield Fall Festival.
- Safe Day at Sanderson Academy, New Hingham, and Anne T. Dunphy schools.
- On January 3rd, 2018 Highland hosted a Board & Finance committee meeting with all 6 of our participating towns.
- Met with the administrators of the new Swift River Addiction Center in Plainfield to discuss 911 responses.
- Highland hosted a Red Cross blood drives here at our station.
- Donations paid for CPR manikins, an OB manikin and a Needle Cricothyrotomy manikin.
- EMT coverage at the Chesterfield Gorge for a 5K run.
- In May, Highland finalized a payor-of-last-resort agreement with the Swift River Rehab Center to cover cost related to patient transports for which we could not obtain insurance information.

Operating Expenses in FY 2018:	\$643,499.56
Cash On Hand June 30, 2018	
Operating Funds	\$ 10,287.03
Ambulance Fund	
\$151,626.56	
Memorial Fund	\$ 30,677.86
Dresser Fund	\$ 4,071.21
Donations	\$ 38,367.02

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

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

Respectfully Submitted,

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

PLAINFIELD FIRE EMS DEPARTMENT

In March, we hosted a First Responder program. This class is required to be taken every three years by all Firefighters who are not EMT's. We had neighboring Police and Fire Departments send students to the class.

In September, we had our Bi-Annual EMT Refresher class. It was held at the Plainfield Safety Complex. This makes it much easier for our EMT's to get the required training done in Town, saving them from having to travel out of town at their own expense.

In October, we had our state ambulance inspection. Lieutenant/EMS Officer Ellen Dupont did a wonderful job in getting the ambulance and paperwork ready for this inspection.

We had five (5) new firefighters join the department this year. Justin Litchfield, Danielle Wright, Ron Weeks, Olan Thompson and Alan Provost. Justin rejoined the department after moving back to Plainfield after many years in Florida. Welcome to our new members.

We said goodbye to Stacey Hudson when she moved out of town. She was an EMT on the department. She worked for County Ambulance for years and brought valuable knowledge and training to our department.

The Association purchased a set of Air Bags. These are used to lift heavy objects to extricate a trapped patient from vehicles, under a log, and in a building. They need less than two inches of clearance to be used.

Captain Duane Meehan is our new fire department training officer. Branden Nieves is in charge of maintenance of the equipment.

As everyone is aware that Cancer is increasing in Firefighters due to toxic smoke. In November, the Plainfield Volunteer Firefighters Association letter fund drive was to purchase a Washer/Extractor and Dryer. The smoke contaminates the turnout gear and by washing the gear it will help reduce the risks of health issues for our firefighters.

Thank you to all who donated to this cause.

Total of 152 calls for the year—January 1 to December 31, 2018:

Medical	110	Fire Alarm	15
Chimney Fire	1	Motor Vehicle Accident	4
Power Lines Down	8	Water Emergency	1
Missing Person	1	Brush Fire	3
Carbon Monoxide	1	Electrical Failure	2
Car Fire	1		

Mutual Aid:

Ashfield	1	Cummington	2	Hawley	2
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Respectfully submitted

Dennis Thatcher, Fire Chief

POLICE DEPARTMENT

2018 was a busy and exciting year for the Plainfield Police Department. June 1st 2018 Chief Hudson resigned from the department after nearly 20 years in the public safety field, including Police, Fire, and EMS. Thank you for your service and dedication. Chief Litchfield was hired in June 2018 as the new Chief of Police. Sergeant Miazga was hired as well as Special Officer Wright who will be graduating the police academy February 2nd.

The Plainfield Police Department call volume for 2018 was 317 calls for service. As of November we have begun active patrols in the community as well. Through a grant we were able to send officers to a 3 day Tactical EMS Training in Belchertown, MA. This advanced training would have been impossible without the grant assistance.

The Plainfield Police was also awarded a grant through Hampshire Hope. We have been funded for every officer and each cruiser to carry Narcan. Narcan is a nasal spray form of naloxone, an opiate antagonist. In the event of an overdose, Narcan can be administered immediately and reverses the overdose by blocking the opioid receptors in the brain. We feel that this is important to have available to our aging community, as an overdose can occur when a patient forgets if they took a medication and then takes it again. This grant also funded EMS supplies including oxygen and masks for each cruiser.

The old Fire Department (Hathaway Hall) was given to the Police Department to expand. One bay of the garage has been walled off by the Building Department and given to the Council on Aging for storage. We were able to acquire cubicles, desks, and chairs through the Massachusetts Government Surplus program. The Hatfield Police Department donated a 2011 Ford Expedition to the Plainfield Police Department. The Plainfield Fire Department has allowed us to use one of their AEDs, which is used for a patient in cardiac arrest. Officer Wright has her own AED as well that is being utilized by the Police Department. Our goal is to have an AED available to each officer.

Another grant was written and awarded Plainfield with some much needed equipment for officer safety. Tasers, body armor, ballistic helmets, and other protective equipment have been funded through this federal grant. We have begun working with the Ashfield Police Department and Sanderson Academy to begin joint trainings in response to the school.

We are still unable to use the CJIS computer at the station, and would like to thank Chief Hewes of Goshen Police Department for his help with License to Carry and FID cards.

2018 was an exciting year for the Police Department, and we would like to thank the community for their generous donations and support.

Respectfully submitted

PLANNING BOARD

The Planning Board spent all of 2018 continuing the work from 2017 on proposals to rework the town's Zoning Bylaw. This process included extensive input from the Zoning Board of Appeals, and by the end of the year the planning board had produced a draft that was ready to present to the Select Board and to the Town in early 2019. Much of the process revolved around discussions of which uses should be allowed by right, which would be allowed with site plan review, and which uses would require a special permit. A second major topic was around the division of responsibilities among the Planning Board, the Zoning Board of Appeals, and the Building Commissioner.

The board endorsed several survey plans as not requiring approval under the subdivision control law, including a division of parcels by AC Realty for conservation by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Fish and Game and Franklin Land Trust. The Planning Board also continued the process of reviewing the status of all accepted public ways in town, but deferred until after the completion of the bylaw amendments making any recommendations.

In 2019, the board anticipates completing the current zoning bylaw amendment process, taking on a greater role in granting special permits, and hopes to complete the road analysis, including making recommendations for transfers from Hampshire Council of Governments of county ways to the town with acceptance by town meeting, possible discontinuances by town meeting, and possible declarations by the selectboard of unmaintained sections.

Respectfully submitted

Brian Hawthorne

BOARD OF HEALTH

2018 was a busy year for the Board of Health. We did our semi-annual inspections of food service establishments. We issued permits for septic haulers and installers. We reviewed perc tests and issued permits for new installations or repairs. There were many Title 5 inspections, some questionable, that required we accept or reject the findings. We notified buyers of foreclosed properties that a Title 5 report be submitted to be sure the property was in compliance.

We had to condemn a property for non-compliance of minimum standards for housing. We are now researching another property for the same issue.

The recycling has been going well and we are starting to make some money to offset the costs. The number of hauls for the trash container has decreased as the result of the amount of recycling. This is a cost savings for the town. Good job to all the people that recycle. Keep up the good work.

The compactor retaining wall is shifting and needs to be replaced. We are researching ways that this can be done in a cost effective way and with the least disruption of services.

We will continue to work to keep our town in compliance with the laws and to make it a safe place for all to live.

Respectfully Submitted:

Ellen Dupont, Chairman

David Crowell

Linda Carver

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

January thru mid-April work primarily consisted of sanding and plowing, clearing drains during rain/snowmelt, clearing trees/branches during wind/ice/wet snow, patching potholes, and repairing muddy roads.

Spring and Summer work consisted of pothole and muddy road repairs continuing, filling washouts from heavy rains, roadside mowing, and line painting on Rte 116, Rte 8A, and South Central St.

During the Fall, paving work was done on North Central St, North St, and Gloyd St. Other fall work included continued washout repairs, leaf blowing, installing snow pole road markers, and preparing equipment for winter.

A fully outfitted dump truck was purchased and delivered in the beginning of the Winter. The remainder of 2018 work consisted of plowing, sanding, and mud road repairs.

I would like to thank the highway crew, selectboard, finance committee, town office personnel, police, and fire/ems for their assistance.

Respectfully Submitted,

Merton Taylor Jr

Highway Superintendent

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

2018 was a quiet year — no State of Emergency was declared in Plainfield. Communication was maintained with MEMA concerning any hazards/threats/emergencies throughout the year. A Hazard Mitigation Plan is currently being put together by a committee made up of various town officials and The PVPC. It should be completed in 2019 and presented to MEMA for approval. Once approved, Plainfield will be able to apply for grants for projects that would minimize damage from storms or other emergencies.

I would like to thank all the emergency personnel in the town of Plainfield for their hard work and dedication.

Respectfully Submitted,

Merton Taylor Jr

Emergency Manager

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

MOHAWK TRAIL REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

HAWLEMONT REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Introduction

During 2018, Mohawk and Hawlemont continued to lead the Massachusetts Rural Schools Coalition, which has been advocating on behalf of rural public schools across the Commonwealth since 2016.

2018 marked a major progress milestone for the coalition with the establishment of Rural School Aid within the Massachusetts FY19 budget at a funding level of \$1.5 million. Of these funds, Mohawk received \$132,932 and Hawlemont received \$23,096.

Both districts used the new Rural School Aid to fund the purchase of Chromebooks in order to support an increased educational focus on our students' digital literacy. Mohawk implemented a 1:1 program so that all of its students in grades 7-12 are now equipped with a Chromebook as part of their educational resources. In both Mohawk and Hawlemont, a sufficient number of Chromebooks were purchased so that students in grades 3-6 would have access to a Chromebook in their classrooms.

By the end of 2018, Mohawk and Hawlemont were again leading the charge to support educational equity in Massachusetts' rural public schools. The MA Rural Public Schools Coalition proposed the introduction of a rurality factor in the Massachusetts Chapter 70 educational funding formula, which would be a more permanent fix to the current financial crisis in rural public schools within the Commonwealth. Our rural story includes the following major elements.

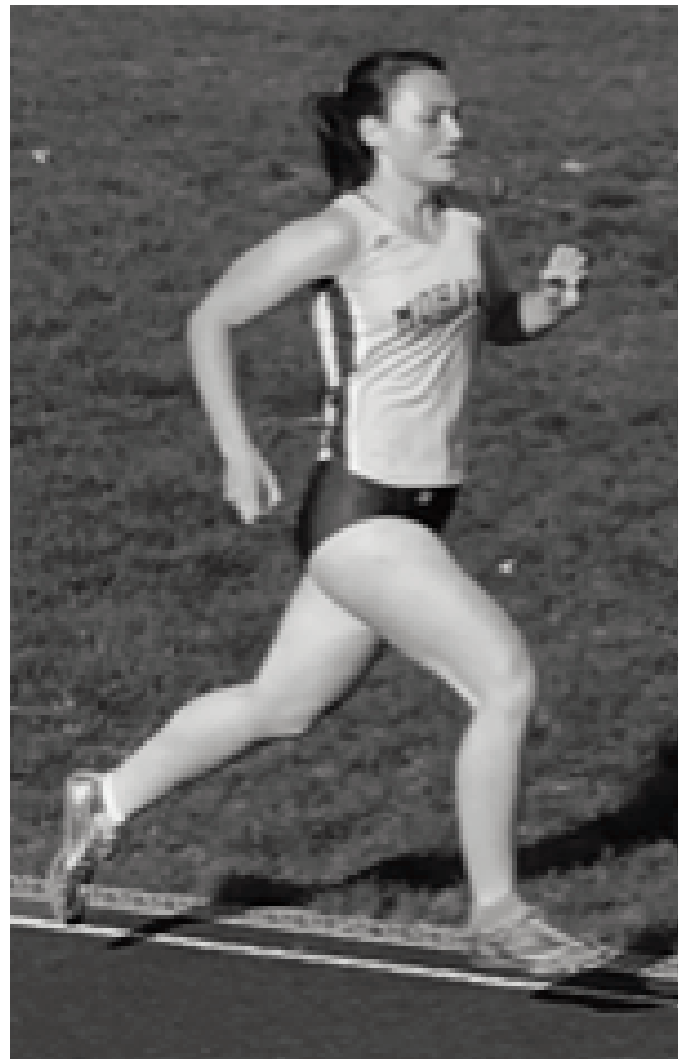
FINANCIAL – EDUCATIONAL CRISIS - While Massachusetts is among the least rural states in the U.S., according to the National Center for Education Statistics, nearly 10% of its 950,000 public school students attend school in rural communities. Within the natural beauty of these rural communities, an educational funding crisis that began during the late 1990s, has been quietly reaching epidemic proportions throughout much of Western Massachusetts and Cape Cod. In many ways, the Mohawk Trail Regional School District and the Hawlemont Regional School District, located within Franklin County in northwestern Massachusetts, have become the poster child of the unique challenges facing rural public schools within the Commonwealth.

DECLINING ENROLLMENT - At the center of the crisis is a severe drop in student enrollment. In the late 1990s, Mohawk's student enrollment exceeded 1,700 students in grades K-12. Today, Mohawk's enrollment has dipped below 1,000 including its pre-school students. Similarly, Hawlemont's K-6 enrollment exceeded 200 in the late 1990s and dipped below 100 in 2011. More recently, Hawlemont's enrollment has exceeded 150 with the introduction of Heath students following the closure of Heath Elementary School.

FLAT STATE EDUCATIONAL AID - Because the Massachusetts public education funding formula, Chapter 70, is based largely on enrollment, rural public school districts experiencing enrollment decline such as Mohawk and Hawlemont, have been receiving essentially flat state education funding for nearly 20 years.

LACK OF ECONOMIES OF SCALE - During this time, Mohawk and Hawlemont have struggled mightily to reduce costs. In 2008, in a desperate effort to contain runaway health care costs, Mohawk and Hawlemont were among the first regional school districts in Massachusetts to join the state's Group Insurance Commission (GIC). Additionally, in 2017, Mohawk closed one of its elementary schools (Heath Elementary). Despite such concerted efforts to reduce costs, both Mohawk's and Hawlemont's operating expenditures have slowly but persistently increased over time, which highlights a characteristic unique to rural public schools- lack of scale.

HIGH FIXED COSTS - Whether in Massachusetts or the Midwest, rural public school districts have higher fixed costs on a per pupil basis compared to urban and suburban districts. The reason for these higher fixed costs is their fundamental lack of scale. Take Colrain



Heather Davis

Meghan Davis, 2019 graduate, has competed in many races all over New England and NYC and has broken many track records for Mohawk in the last few years.

Central School within the Mohawk district as an illustration. Like many rural elementary schools in Massachusetts, Colrain is comprised of one class per grade. One kindergarten class. One first grade class. One second grade class... and so on through grade 6. Let us imagine that enrollment in Colrain's first grade class drops from 20 to 15. While enrollment may have declined 25%, the staffing requirement cannot be reduced proportionately. Colrain's first grade class requires a full-time teacher.

HIGH TRANSPORTATION COSTS - Beyond fixed staffing costs, rural public school districts often face uniquely expensive transportation costs. Mohawk serves nine towns and encompasses an area greater than 250 square miles. Many of its secondary students already endure bus rides in excess of one hour to and from school. More than two hours per day on a school bus. The bottom line is that rural Massachusetts public school districts like Mohawk and Hawlemont are financially and thus, educationally, unsustainable. On the front lines of this crisis are the superintendents of schools serving these rural school districts.

ESTABLISHING RURAL VOICE – ADVOCATING - In the spring of 2016, a group of these superintendents established the Massachusetts Coalition of Rural Schools and have been advocating for changes in the Commonwealth's educational funding formula that factor in the unique operating conditions of rural public schools. At the heart of our advocacy is the introduction of a rurality factor in the

Chapter 70 formula that would enable rural Massachusetts public school districts to provide an adequate and equitable education for our students.

The Massachusetts Coalition of Rural Schools points to the state of Wisconsin's Sparsity Aid Program as a model for the Commonwealth. Wisconsin currently provides \$400 per student to its rural public school districts. If Massachusetts were to fund its more economically disadvantaged rural public school districts at a similar level, the total cost would be approximately \$15 million annually.

ALL TO ACTION - Because the Massachusetts state legislature will be addressing the recommendations of the Foundation Budget Review Commission during 2019, the time to address the needs of its rural public school students is now. While the recommendations of the Foundation Budget Review Commission would increase the state's educational funding by more than one billion dollars, none of this huge increase would address the financial unsustainability of rural Massachusetts public schools.

The time is now for Massachusetts political and educational leadership to do right by our rural public school students. It is imperative that a rurality factor be introduced into the Commonwealth's Chapter 70 educational funding formula. Rural Massachusetts public school students deserve an adequate and equitable education!

On behalf of our students, I thank the entire Mohawk and Hawlemont school communities for your dedicated support of our children's education. We need your support as we continue to lead the efforts of the MA Rural Schools Coalition to achieve a level of state education funding that supports an adequate and equitable education for all rural students.

THANK YOU!!

Respectfully submitted,

Michael A. Buoniconti

Chairman, MA Rural Schools Coalition

CO-PRINCIPALS MOHAWK TRAIL REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

Reflecting on this year, we can see how efforts over years are being recognized and honored. An excellent example is the outstanding leadership of Coach Joe Chadwick, who began coaching at Mohawk in 1982. On December 14, 2018 Mohawk Coach Joe Chadwick broke the state record for the most wins of any coach in any sport in Massachusetts history. Joe has coached boys and girls cross-country, track, and indoor track over the years. To date, Mohawk teams Joe has coached have won 39 Western Massachusetts Championships and 5 State Championships. This year senior Meghan Davis broke the girls school course record in cross country; this was just one highlight of a season that saw the girls cross-country team with a record of 9 wins and no losses for the league championship. We congratulate Coach Chadwick on his record of inspirational leadership and appreciate the generations of Mohawk runners who have contributed to this success.

This year Mohawk was awarded two substantial grants to support initiative and innovation as we bring together students, staff, families, and community members to reimagine how our school can better meet the needs of all students. In October a team of five, comprised of Mohawk Co-Principal Marisa Mendonsa, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) teachers Drue Johnson and Travis Minnick, Art teacher Rachel Silverman, and Mohawk parent representative Tim Shearer, participated in the Mass IDEAS School Design Institute, a weekend opportunity for educators and other key stakeholders to come together to "rethink school within their communities." This work served as the springboard for the two successful grant applications.

Mohawk was awarded a \$14,800 Mass IDEAS School Design Institute mini-grant to host a weekend school design institute in January 2019 to reimagine Mohawk's graduation requirements. Students, parents,

staff, and community members convened to envision alternative pathways for innovative learning experiences. Mohawk Mass IDEAS team member Rachel Silverman explained how instrumental this process will be in helping the team to move forward with their original project ideas. "Being chosen for this grant is an honor," said Silverman. "It acknowledges the strength of our school community and the potential we have to move education forward with bold ideas. Our redesign process is rooted in the reality that one school path doesn't work for every student. We are creating a model that allows each learner to customize their trail through high school!"

Mohawk also received a \$150,000 Mass IDEAS planning grant to further its work in redesigning Mohawk's student experience. As one of five schools in the state to be awarded this competitive grant, Mohawk will use the planning grant to work with educational consultants and school stakeholders to create a comprehensive plan, which includes revised academic programming, professional development, and new opportunities for students to engage in internships and innovative coursework. Funding will be rolled-out during 2019. Both grants are funded by Mass IDEAS, an initiative of Next Generation Learning Challenges at EDUCAUSE, with generous support from the Barr Foundation and the Nellie Mae Education Foundation.

Several innovations this year have expanded opportunities for student learning and collaboration, while increasing equity and access to resources for all students. This year Mohawk launched a Design Lab, repurposing space that had been used for storage and maintenance into a light-filled Makerspace where teachers can bring their classes for creative collaborative work, including using 3-D printers and other tools. The Design Lab is an example of how educators, like Arts Integration teacher Whitney Brooks and STEM teacher Travis Minnick, could float an idea in January that was embraced by the school leadership team and brought to fruition for the beginning of the school year in August, through the support of the school community, including generous donors who helped to provide resources and tools. This year Mohawk began offering a Robotics course, taught by Mohawk teacher Downey Meyer; that students can take for college credit through Greenfield Community College (GCC). For years Mohawk students have been able to take college level courses at GCC while still in high school, but this is the first time such a course has been available in the Mohawk school building. In the fall, Mohawk issued Chromebooks to all students in grades 7-12, greatly increasing student access to online tools and resources for research and collaboration.

At the mid-point of the 2018-2019 school year, enrollment in grades 7-12 is 359. The seventh grade has 68 students and the eighth grade has 54 students. There are 65 students in grade 9, 51 in 10th grade, 50 juniors, and 66 seniors. Five students are enrolled in our post-graduate program.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn R. Dole and Marisa Mendonsa

Co-Principals

SPECIAL EDUCATION and PUPIL SERVICES

The Mohawk Trail and Hawlemont Regional Special Education Department serves students in the Sanderson, Colrain, Hawlemont, Buckland-Shelburne, and Mohawk Middle and High Schools. The primary function is to ensure that students with an IEP (Individual Education Plan), or a 504, are being serviced at a level required to make effective progress with supports outlined in their IEP or 504. According to state data, The Mohawk Trail and Hawlemont district have about 21% and 24% respectively, of their student population receiving special education services. Those services are in several areas; speech and language, occupational therapy (OT), physical therapy (PT),

counseling and academics. Every school has at least one Special Education Teacher. The OT and PT spend about one day in each school. Mohawk has a full-time Speech Language Assistant and a part-time Speech Language Pathologist, BSE, Colrain and Sanderson transitioned to having one full-time Speech Pathologist versus a part-time Speech Pathologist and an assistant. This model has increased consistency and support for our students, while being cost effective. Sanderson continues to have a Speech Pathologist. With an increased need for counseling services for all students, each school has begun to increase this level of support. BSE and Sanderson have a full-time School Psychologist, Colrain and BSE share an Adjustment Counselor and Hawlemont has a four-day per week School Psychologist, the Middle and High School have a full-time Adjustment Counselor and School Psychologist. The level of services in each building is based on population and the need and level of services legally required by an IEP.

The districts are legally obligated to support a SEPAC (Special Education Parent Advisory Committee). The meetings have not been well attended. The focus has been on providing workshops to parents such as: Transition to Middle School, Internet Safety, and Rights and Responsibilities in Special Education. The districts will continue to support workshops and informational sessions to parents.

The districts continue to support several substantially separate programs for students

- Students requiring the support of a BCBA (Board Certified Behavior Analyst). The program is located at BSE and currently serves six students. When the program began, students spent more than 50% of their time within the program. Currently those students are in their mainstream classes more than 70% of the time.
- Mohawk Supported Classroom, located in the Middle and High School. The program supports students with social emotional needs. Students receive educational support both in the program and within the general education setting.
- Mohawk Vocational Program. Services students with Intellectual Disabilities who require a higher level of support. The program also supports those students who are eligible to remain in school until age 22, focusing on transition and vocational skills.

Respectfully Submitted,

Leann Loomis

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 60 applications, 20 were from seniors and 40 were from graduates. The Committee feels that seniors have multiple scholarship opportunities from other sources while graduates have fewer resources. 19 scholarships totaling \$9,100 were awarded to seniors, 38 scholarships totaling \$21,000 were given to graduates.

From 1991 until 2018 a total of \$974,225 has been awarded in scholarships. Mohawk seniors have received \$299,875 and \$674,350 has been awarded to graduates.

Once again, the applications are available online for the graduates and senior can pick up their application at Mohawk.

Press releases were published in both the Independent and Greenfield Recorder in March containing information about the Carl H. Nilman Scholarship Fund.

There are fifteen members on the Carl H. Nilman Scholarship Fund, one from each of the nine member towns in the district; Sheila

Graves (Ashfield), Marion Scott (Buckland), Marge Porrovecchio (Charlemont), Michelle Hillman (Colrain), Eric Sumner (Heath), Alice Parker Pyle (Hawley), Allen Irvine (Plainfield), Marion Taylor (Shelburne), and Laurie Pike (Rowe); three at large members appointed by the School Committee; Hussein Hamdan, David Engle and Gloria Fisher; a past School Committee member; Robin Hartnett; current School Committee member; Suzanne Crawford; and the chairman of the School Committee; Martha Thurber.

Officers are: Marge Porrovecchio and Robin Hartnett, Co-Chairs, and Marion Scott is Secretary. Subcommittees are Finance: Marion Taylor, Robin Hartnett and Eric Sumner; Scholarship: Marge Porrovecchio, Sheila Graves, Michelle Hillman, Marion Scott and Allen Irvine.

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. Please call the Guidance Office at Mohawk for information regarding requirements and deadlines.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marion E. Scott, Secretary

MARY LYON FOUNDATION

Innovative Support of Local Education

Highlights of the year include the launch of the Guardian Angel Fund to benefit children and their families in difficult circumstances. An anonymous matching pledge of \$5,000 was received in memory of Anna Marie Townsend who was a student at the BSE school in the 1960's. The Mary Lyon Foundation received a Capacity Grant from the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts to develop a Strategic Plan. Also, in memory of Carlton Roberts, well-known local contractor, \$2,880 was donated to benefit the Mohawk wood shop.

The most successful annual Community Spelling Bee to date was held November 29 at Mohawk Trail Regional School. There were 30 teams of three participants vying for the coveted Grand Championship won in the final round by Jim Kessler, Jackie Walsh and Rick Leskowitz as the Pothole Pixies. Major Queen Bee sponsors of the event were the Greenfield Savings Bank and Clark's Corvair Parts. The spelling bee raises money for the Mary Lyon Foundation's popular Mini-Grant program which awards competitive grants to school district staff for educational, replicable, innovative school-based projects.

The Mary Lyon Foundation is always busy during the holiday season, and this year was no different. We are very fortunate to have so many supportive individuals and organizations right here in western Massachusetts helping us do our work. One such outstanding person is UMass track star Heather MacLean who organized our Track for Success program. Through her sponsorship with New Balance, Heather and fellow graduate student Sam Downes delivered a dozen pair of brand new sneakers that were distributed to Mohawk students by coaches Joe Chadwick and Tim Shearer.

For many years an anonymous local donor has brought two truckloads of Christmas trees for the Mary Lyon Foundation to distribute to families with children who need a little extra boost during the holiday season. Early in December the freshly cut trees were delivered to Mohawk where our office is located. With the help of the Mohawk Vocational Program the trees were decorated with paper snowflakes. The Betty Allen DAR chapter in Northampton provided brand new warm hats, mittens and scarves to also adorn the trees, so when families came to make their selection, they could take advantage of the colorful, wearable decorations.

Other agencies also provided unique support. Warm jackets

were donated by the Knights of Columbus through St. Joseph's church in Shelburne Falls, a project spearheaded by Deacon Tom Rabbit and parishioner Larry Wells. The Greenfield Lodge of Elks brought baskets of Thanksgiving turkey dinners with all the trimmings for needy families, and the United Way of Franklin County donated brand new toys. Families were invited to the office to select toys for their children, then wrap and tag the presents. The festive occasion was organized by volunteer Sandy Gilbert, and everyone left with gifts ready to be placed under the tree.

We thank our many generous supporters including the Myrtle Atkinson Foundation, United Way of Franklin County, Mayhew Steel, Greenfield Savings Bank, Greenfield Northampton Cooperative Bank, Bristol Myers Squibb, Titan Roofing, Blackmer Insurance Agency and the countless individuals and businesses that support our work. We are especially grateful to the Mohawk Trail Regional School District for office space at the high school.

Members of the board during 2018 were Brenda Parrella, Nancy Eisenstein, Emily Willis, Marion Taylor, Sylvia Orcutt, Karen Fairbrother, Katherine McKay, Peter Stevens, and Laurie Benoit. Longtime board member Susan Schuman succumbed to a battle against cancer and will be remembered for her dedication to excellence in education. Student representatives to the board are Grace Poplawski and Mae Rice-Lesure. Bruce Willard, Sharon Hudson and Hugh Knox are Lifetime Honorary Board Members. Sandy Gilbert and Rita Jaros volunteer in the office; Phil Gilfeather-Girton is our Business Manager who replaces Gina Sieber.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Samoriski and Sheila Damkoehler
Co-Executive Directors

SHAW MEMORIAL LIBRARY

We are members of the Massachusetts Library System which operates out of two offices, in Marlborough and Northampton, MA. This allows the library to have the opportunity to order materials on cwmars that we do not have through inter-library, which is located in Oxford, MA. This past year we filled over 600 requests for materials with titles that we do not own.

We are adding several new titles to our collection every month, for your reading pleasure. As well as new CD'S and DVD'S. We have two computers for the public to use as well as free wifi if you wish to bring your own lap top.

The Library received a grant from "Coordinated Family and Community Engagement Program".

As in years past we had several of our regular programs.

- Our annual Valentine Tea, which is always well attended and enjoyed by all that come.
- The summer reading theme was "Libraries Rock"
- We had our book sale Labor Day weekend with an ice cream social two weeks later.
- We did a Holiday Cookie Exchange in December.
- The following Plainfield residents showed their handi work.
Ann Barbanti - Pottery
Joyce Erb - custom greeting cards
Linda Mason - Paintings
- Gary Rzaab did a program with his many different drums. Those that attended all had a chance The Library has the following museum passes for the public to borrow.
- Hancock Shaker Village• Berkshire Museum
- The Clark• Norman Rockwell
- Mass MoCa• State Park Pass
- Library Hours: Tuesday 2:00 - 8:00
Thursday 5:00 - 8:00
Saturday 9:00 - 12:00

Respectfully Submitted:

Denise Sessions: Library Director
Ann Kohn: Chairman
Sandy Morann: Secretary
Lynn Robbins



Michael Lumsden

COUNCIL ON AGING

It has been an interesting year for the Plainfield COA, full of changes and new ideas. Debbie Thibault had to leave her post as coordinator and we have hired Susan Metcalfe LaRock as our new coordinator. We are still holding our twice-monthly COA luncheons on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at 12 noon at the town hall. Elaine Sidney did a wonderful job managing our meals, making sure that all were welcome and the food was both nutritious and delicious. Regrettably, she had to resign her position in December and we are now looking for guest chefs to fill in where possible. We will also serve pot luck meals where folks can contribute their favorite recipes. Our board meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month after the luncheon. All are welcome to attend.

Other programs that we offer are the Foot Care Clinic on the first Tuesday of every other month. Reservations are recommended by calling Piper Sagan, RN at 413-522-8432, \$30 at the Town Hall, \$40 in-home visit. Blood pressure clinics are also offered by the Hilltown Community Health Center on the second Wednesday of the month along with a flu clinic in the fall.

Special programs this past year included a rousing drum roll by Gary Rzaib with several of us jumping in for a basic drum lesson on a variety of his drums from around the world. John Burns lead a wonderful holiday sing-a-long after our luncheon putting everyone in the spirit of the season. We also held a luncheon honoring our veterans on Veteran's Day. It was a huge success and looks to be an annual event.

We started a body strengthening exercise class at the town hall Mondays in December. It is back in 2019 by popular demand and is run by Joan Griswold who has had many years teaching these classes. We only ask for a small donation to defray costs.

We are presently looking at other programs that would appeal to our seniors such as offering a boat ride down the Connecticut River sometime this summer. We are also thinking about offering painting classes as well as writing classes in the near future. Any additional suggestions would be gratefully accepted.

We are part of a Hilltown Consortium of COA towns including Chesterfield, Cummington, Worthington, Williamsburg, Westhampton and Goshen. We meet the first Monday of the month in Chesterfield and have found this an invaluable partnership.

The senior newsletter is as popular as ever and provides much needed information about all things Plainfield and in the surrounding area. It is a free publication paid for through the Consortium. Plainfield Cares is working alongside our COA and has been a great asset to the community.

We are looking forward to another great year serving the town of Plainfield.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Metcalfe LaRock, Coordinator, COA



Elaine Holder

CULTURAL COUNCIL

The council met on August 31, 2018, to plan the ArtsFeast that took place in the library during the annual firefighters barbeque. Artist-exhibitors at ArtsFeast on September 2, 2018 included (among others): Gail Fusco, Susi Westwood, Anne Barbanti, Guy Matsuda, Joyce Erb, Liebe Coolidge, Ralph Timberlake, Rachel Kohn, Ann Kohen, Sue and Gene Flores, Chris Stockman, Mike Melle, Lori Austin, Gary Rzab, Lynda Mason, Ron Scott, Pleun Bouricius, Lina Bernstein. The day was successful with lots of folks viewing the exhibits.

We met again on November 8, 2018, to discuss the applications for the 2019 projects and decide how to grant the money we receive from the state and from the funds we have collected in the past. After that meeting, rejection letters were sent to those applicants who were not funded by PCC. We allowed 15 days for possible appeals, after which letters to successful applicants were mailed. Altogether we awarded 20 grants, distributing \$4,750. We hope that the programs we chose to fund will be enjoyed by many folks in and out of town.

We welcomed the new member of PCC Kathryn Jensen and returning members, Rebecca and Dario Coletta.

Submitted by

Susi Westwood and Lina Bernstein, Co-Chairs

VETERANS SERVICES

Our district has now been in operation for 3 ½ years. We are the largest district by community count and square miles covered in the state. Below are just some of the programs and services we help veterans' and their dependents with:

M.G.L. Ch 115 benefit – Needs based program of financial and medical assistance to eligible veterans and their dependents

Assistance to veterans and dependents to help file for health care, pensions, and service-connected disabilities

Homeless prevention assistance to veterans and their families

Employment help with job searches, resumes, and job interview skills

Burial assistance to include government markers, flag holders, internment, and VA burial reimbursement

Veterans records retrieval and storage

Referral to other public and private agencies to include housing, fuel assistance, employment, training, education

Attend area outreach events (fairs, festivals, health care expos)

We have continued to work hard helping veterans and dependents file for VA benefits due them. Our awarded claims have outpaced CY17 bringing in close to \$435,000.00 in new claim money for our clients. Overall the district has over \$2,358,000.00 in VA awards flowing into our towns on a monthly basis.

We forecast the Ch115 caseload to remain flat for the foreseeable future for our towns. Although reimbursed back to the towns at 75%, this takes over a year to get back from the state, so reducing payouts up front has freed up funds for the member towns.

For the coming year we will continue to assist veterans, and will emphasize programs for the dependents of veterans, particularly the elderly population. Our long-term goals include up dated hardware and expanding satellite hours in the district.

Timothy Niejadlik, Director

Upper Pioneer Valley Veterans' Services District

VETERANS' GRAVES OFFICER

One Plainfield veteran passed away in 2018: **Paul E. Hogan.**

Paul Hogan served his country during the Vietnam Era in the U.S. Army.

200 flags were placed on the 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 frayed and faded during the winter.

Respectfully submitted,

Dudley D. Williams

Veterans' Graves Officer

CEMETERY COMMITTEE

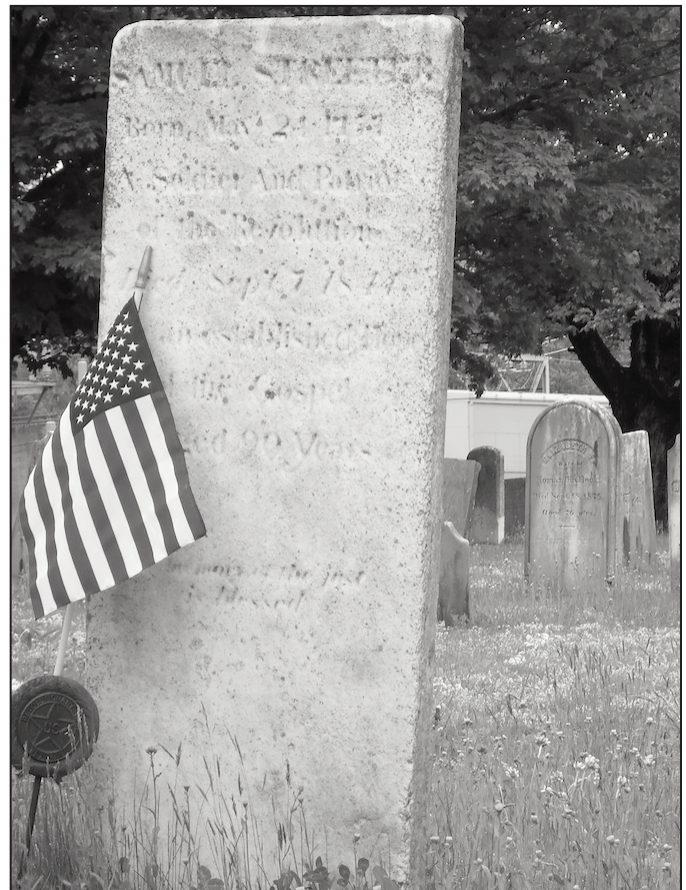
Two cemetery plots were sold in 2018 at \$200 each in the Hilltop Cemetery on North Central St. There was one creation burial at the Hilltop Cemetery and none at the West Hill Cemetery. Spring clean up was performed at both the Hilltop and West Hill Cemeteries and the two cemeteries were mowed and trimmed four times during the season. The cemetery committee anticipates the need to purchase a new mower in the near future.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Osgood – Burial Agent

Merton D. Taylor, Sr.

Theresa Thatcher



Elaine Holder

PLAINFIELD LIGHT AND COMMUNICATIONS PLANT

2018 Annual Report from Plainfield Light and Telecommunications Department (aka Plainfield Broadband)

Plainfield Broadband is actively working to design and build a town-owned broadband network that will provide internet and telephone service to any residence or business located in our town. Westfield Gas and Electric, a 100-year-old public utility with significant municipal broadband experience, is providing design, engineering and project management services for this work.

We continue to effectively manage a \$650,000 state grant from the Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development (EOHED). The grant funds, coupled with \$1.13M authorized at the May 2015 town meeting, help advance our vision for truly high speed internet throughout town, capable of connecting every home and business in Plainfield, coupled with resiliency, sustainability, built-in growth and community interconnection.

Accomplishments between July 2017 and December 2018 include:

- Between July 2017 and February 2018 engineering data was collected on 1053 utility poles and 363 premises by Precision Valley Communications of Vermont. This information is the basis of our network design which was substantially completed in March 2018.
- We successfully negotiated and executed pole attachment agreements with Eversource and Verizon in October 2017 and applied to attach fiber to the utilities' poles in March 2018. This started the time-clock for the utilities to conduct field surveys to assess what work was needed to make room for our fiber equipment on those poles.
- In the early spring of 2018, the Broadband Team met with 120 households to verify and correct premise data for inclusion in our final network design. Residents were able to locate their homes on maps of the four Fiber Services Areas (FSAs) and hear updates on the project timeline.
- Preparation for the telecommunications shelter (the "hub" that is the brains of the network) began in April 2018 with tree and brush clearing performed by volunteers over two weekends. During the summer of 2018 our highway crew and private citizens lent us their time and earth-moving equipment to dig trenches and build an access road to the hub.
- In March 2018 we put the distribution network phase of work out to bid through the state procurement system. In June 2018 a \$680,000 contract was awarded to the low qualified bidder, White Mountain Cable Company, LLC of New Hampshire.

- In June 2018 we procured \$527,000 of materials needed for the distribution network and telecommunications shelter electronics and equipment through an intergovernmental agreement with Westfield Gas and Electric (aka Whip City Fiber). These materials are being stored at WG+E's operations center until White Mountain is ready to take delivery of them.

- In June 2018 we established an intergovernmental agreement with the Town of Windsor to construct infrastructure along Windsor Pond Access Road, West Street, and Windsor Bush Road to help Windsor reach their residents whose properties can only be accessed through Plainfield. Windsor will reimburse Plainfield for the approximately \$80,000 in capital costs for this work and will also reimburse Plainfield on an annual basis for a prorated share of costs for network operations, maintenance and repairs.

- In August 2018 Plainfield, along with 19 other towns, participated in a consortium lead by WG+E to pursue federal funding through the Connect America Fund (CAFII) program. \$10M has been allocated to the consortium, and Plainfield's share is \$430,686 to be paid over 10 years. This funding can be used to reduce the town's costs to construct the network. The Final CAFII funding award will be announced in 2019 and is contingent upon WG+E meeting certain eligibility requirements.

- In October 2018 we took delivery of the 9x16 precast concrete hub structure and generator. More than 60 people turned out in early November 2018 for our "hub warming" celebration. Work to outfit the hub with racks and electronic equipment will begin in spring 2019.

- In December 2018 the utility companies completed their necessary field survey and cost estimating work to establish the "make ready" requirements for all the poles in town. Plainfield advanced \$386,742 to Eversource and Verizon so that work could be scheduled.

- A broadband finance working group was established in September 2018 and is comprised of the MLP Manager and Assistant Manager, the Selectboard Chair, two members of the Finance Committee, the Town Accountant and Town Treasurer. This group has conducted extensive financial modeling for the capital and operational phases of the project.

- Plainfield continues to closely monitor discussions concerning the Commonwealth's last-mile contingency funds, urging the "allowable uses" to cover any and all cost overruns.

- The MLP Manager convenes a periodic meeting of MLP Managers from the towns of Ashfield, Charlemont, Chesterfield, Cummington, Goshen and Windsor. This group meets approximately every 6 weeks to share lessons learned and collaborate on solutions. Plainfield Broadband is recognized as the leader amongst neighboring towns in terms of our expertise, diligence, cooperation, information sharing and support as towns grapple with these highly complex projects.

Our broadband team continues to meet once a month -- or



MElaine Holder

more, if necessary -- and are in communication with residents through monthly Plainfield Post articles, direct mail emails, an updated webpage on the Town website, and information in the Plainfield Library. Our mailing list reaches approximately 60% of the town residents. We encourage you to visit our page on the town's website for updates on the project schedule and to sign up to our email list.

Respectfully,

Kimberly Longey, Manager
Brian Hawthorne, Assistant Manager
Michal Lumsden
Rebecca Coletta
Sally Silberberg

ENERGY COMMITTEE

The Plainfield Energy Committee (PEC), working with the building committee, contracted with World Energy to install Light Emitting Diodes (LED) fixtures inside and outside the Hallock Building and Town Hall and on the outside of the Public Safety Complex. The gross cost was \$20,368 minus a \$1,919 incentive from Eversource for a net cost of \$18,449, taken from our town's Green Community (GC) Designation grant of \$137,525. Some of the fixtures, such as in the library, were highly specialized.

The PEC facilitated, through a Hampshire Council of Governments photovoltaic net metering agreement, obtaining three 25 kilowatt community solar shares (109,500 kilowatt hours) to receive a 15% discount, amounting to \$1,800 annual savings to our town. This discount applies to about 83% of the town's electricity expense.

The Nexamp Large-Scale Community Solar (2.76 MW-DC) west of Union Street is nearing completion. For people who have not been able to have solar at their residences, Community Solar is an option to support clean energy while saving 15% on your electric bill. For more information go to the PEC's page on the town web site, energy@town.plainfield.ma.us, or talk to a PEC member.

After much research and consultation with the building committee, it was decided that the Public Safety Complex could not support the additional load of solar panels on its roof and that the Highway Garage, if insulated with GC funds, has a roof that might not hold the additional snow load. There were several issues identified by a structural inspection of the garage, which was built in 1974.

Plainfield received a gift of \$4,200 for a much-needed upgrade to the windows in Town Hall. The building committee decided to put this toward the upstairs windows.

It now appears that much of the remaining \$115,076 of the GC designation grant will be spent on solar. Proposals include the picnic pavilion roof behind the library, pole-mounted panels along the north end of that property, or, less likely, near the Safety Complex. GC designation grants can be spent on solar, but possible future competitive grants cannot, so there is some incentive to spend this on solar. We have been assured that doing so will not put the town at a disadvantage in applying for competitive grants.

Before the Industrial Age, starting about 1750, there were about 280 parts per million (ppm) of carbon dioxide, the main greenhouse gas that causes global warming, in Earth's atmosphere. By 1958 there were 315 ppm. In April 2018 it exceeded 410 ppm. These increases in carbon dioxide levels correlate with increases in Earth's atmospheric temperature. Also in 2018 Earth's oceans hit their hottest temperatures ever recorded. We have much to do if we are to keep Earth from warming past the point where it becomes uninhabitable.

The PEC meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7 pm at town hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Walter, Chair
Conrad Liebenow, Vice Chair, Steve Bushway, Secretary,
Judy Williams, Renee Schmitt

THE BUILDINGS COMMITTEE

Another very busy year for the Plainfield Buildings Committee as the Committee met 1-2 times a month, as well as on site meetings as required for on-going projects.

Much time was spent over the past year on the Highway Garage. The bathroom was renovated with new appliances and ceiling and wall improvements. Much discussion took place with the energy committee on a new building roof and complete facility insulation upgrade. Ultimately, due to the age of the facility (47 year's old), after a structural engineering report of the facility found multiple upgrades needed to allow a new insulated roof to be installed that would satisfy required snow load code limits, the project has stalled. Investing in an existing older and highly used town building verses building a new facility needs extensive further discussion.

The committee also spent many hours looking at possible solar locations on town property with the Energy Committee. Focus currently is on the Town Office/Library property.

The Town Hall has had much work done on the building this year. In particular, the building elevator has been repaired and inspected by the state after a 7 year lapse of required bi-annual inspections. Due to outstanding efforts by Selectman Howard Bronstein who appealed the \$5000.00 fine, the town fine was reduced to \$1200.00.

The final 6 second floor windows that were never replaced when the remaining windows were done 20 years ago will be replaced this year. Repair of the exterior siding, installed incorrectly 20 years ago, will also be addressed this year. The committee recognizes the need for further work on this heavily used facility, including crawl-space remediation and ventilation and the fire escape stairs. We will continue to upgrade the building as time and finances allow.

Work was completed on the damaged west exterior wall of the Public Safety Complex this past summer. This damage is due to many years of snow build up along the wall. The committee also worked with the Broadband Committee during planning and installation of the town's new Hub next to the Safety Complex last Fall.

Work with the Police Department's plans for renovating Hathaway Hall continues.

The committee continues it's yearly management of snow shoveling all town building entrances and mowing of our town lawns and fields. Furnace maintenance, interior town office/Library cleaning, fire extinguisher certification and town building pest control are also dealt with annually.

We welcomed new member, Peter LaPointe, to our committee in January.

Respectfully submitted,

Claude Dupont, chairman, Jeff Prost
David Alvord, Peter LaPointe



Michael Lumsden

BUILDING INSPECTOR

In accordance with 780 CMR, the Massachusetts State Building Code, as Building Commissioner I am required to submit a written report covering fully the activities of the Building Inspection Department for the preceding fiscal year. The Building Inspection Department's charge is to insure that all new construction, alterations, renovations, repairs, and demolitions are in conformance with the Massachusetts State Building Code, Massachusetts General Laws, and the Town of Plainfield Zoning Bylaw. I am pleased to submit the following report listing the number of permits issued by the Building Inspection Department.

A total of 46 building permits were issued

Job Code

1	New Residential Homes	1
1A	Foundation only	1
2	Additions/Alterations-Residential	8
3	Accessory Buildings	2
4	Pools	0
5	Demolition	0
6	Other	18
7	Additions and Alterations Commercial	0
8	Garage Residential	1
9	Signs	0
10	Stoves	5
11	Fences	0
12	Commercial / New	0
13.	Solar	10

The amount of permit fees collected by the Building Inspectors Office totaled \$7771.00 for FY 2019, with an estimated cost of construction of \$1,492,772.00.

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

ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR REPORT

Garage	1	Services 200 Amp.	5
New Dwelling	0	Services 400 Amp.	0
Commercial Rough-in	0	Services 600 Amp.	0
Final Inspections	26	Services 800 Amp.	0
Additions	6	Services 1200 Amp.	1
Furnaces	1	Services Reconnection	
Pools	0	on Old	3
Solar	14	Services Temporary	1
Residential Rough-in	19	Renovations	3
Services 100 Amp.	4	Additions	3
Services 150 Amp.	0	FA Systems	0

Miscellaneous Inspections

Board of Health	0	Loan Agencies	2
Building Inspector	0	Power Company	4
Complaints	0	State Inspectors Office	0
Fires	0	State Police	0
Insurance Companies	2	State Police Fire Marshal	0

Inspections Made 90

Permits Granted 18

Respectfully submitted,

DB Rhinemiller Chief Electrical Inspector

HILLTOWN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COOPERATIVE

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

The member-Towns that comprise the HRMC include:

Ashfield, Chesterfield, Cummington, Goshen, Huntington, Middlefield, Plainfield, Westhampton, Williamsburg, and Worthington. Each Town appoints two representatives to serve on the HRMC Board. Board Officers for FY17 included: Joe Kearns, Chair (Middlefield); John Chandler, Vice Chair (Chesterfield); and, Paul Wetzel, Treasurer (Williamsburg).

The HRMC assists hilltown member-communities with managing their solid waste including: municipal waste hauling and disposal bid administration, recycling administration, hazardous waste disposal, and, DEP compliance and technical assistance. In FY17 those services included:

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

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

In FY17, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) announced their Recycling Dividend Program Grants under the annual Sustainable Materials Recovery Program (SMRP). All ten HRMC member-towns were eligible for and received grants submitted for them through the HRMC. In total, the HRMC Towns received \$ 24,200.00 in grant funding to be used to further enhance recycling programs within their communities. Grant applications for FY18 were submitted in June 2017 for a total of more than \$ 42,000 in funding requests.

The HRMC has an annual operation's assessment that is approved by each Town at their annual Town meeting. The annual Assessment Budget is based on tonnage and population. In FY17, the combined assessment for all ten towns was \$ 49,575. The Assessments offset base operating expenses. Recycling program collection costs (other than MRF recyclables) are pass-thru expenses from the HRMC to the Towns to best maximize the economy of scale and to enable the HRMC administrator to have review and oversight of vendor relations, and program operations. In FY17, the HRMC acquired one new MRF container in an on-going plan to remove containers from the HRMC fleet (purchased 1989) that are no longer road-worthy. Cost for the new container was shared by those Towns utilizing the HRMC fleet.

During the past year, the HRMC member-Towns collectively diverted 975 tons of recyclable materials to the Springfield MRF. In addition, the Town of Plainfield diverted bulky rigid plastics; the Towns of Cummington, Plainfield, Westhampton and Williamsburg diverted EPS (Styrofoam); and, the Towns of Plainfield and

Williamsburg diverted pellet bags. The Town of Williamsburg continued to serve as the HRMC regional mattress recycling facility. The Town of Westhampton served as the host-site for the HRMC's annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection event. In FY17, all Towns began recycling household fire extinguishers through a free program administered by HRMC in collaboration with George Propane and Pittsfield Fire.

Last year, 8 member-Towns adopted recycling goals of 50% with the intent of increasing quantity and improving the quality of materials being recycled at their transfer stations and to reduce waste being landfilled. In 2016, the HRMC Towns had an average recycling rate of 32.1% and in 2017, 31.9%. In 2016, The Town of Plainfield had a recycling rate of 31.4% and in 2017, 32.9%. The Town recycled 47 tons of recyclables at the MRF in 2017.

This past year, HRMC re-invigorated the Compost Bin distribution program and the Towns of Chesterfield, Westhampton, and Williamsburg offered special subsidized pricing to encourage at home composting for their residents.

For more information about HRMC programs, visit us online at www.hrhc-ma.org or by emailing hrmc@hrmc-ma.org

Respectfully submitted

Kathleen A. Casey, HRMC Administrator

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 21 Hilltowns. Hilltown CDC's four major program areas are affordable housing, small business assistance, social services and community development/planning. Hilltown CDC also administers a regional grant program that secures federal grant funds from the Department of Housing and Urban Development to ensure housing and services are provided to the homeless through a Continuum of Care (CoC) model which serves Hampshire, Franklin and Berkshire Counties.

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

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

Community Transportation: Hilltown CDC operates the FRTA Senior Van. The program doubled its ridership in 2018 providing essential transportation to seniors for medical appointments, groceries and recreation. The FRTA is not the final solution to the transportation needs in the Hilltowns but it is a helpful resource to ensure a minimum of transportation services are available to our seniors. Hilltown CDC will continue to explore ways to expand rural transportation options for local residents.

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

- The Health Outreach Program for Elders (HOPE), administered by Hilltown Community Health Centers (HCHC), provided free in-home nursing care and podiatric services to homebound elders.



Michael Lumsden

- The Hilltown Food Pantry distributed food to hilltown individuals. The Pantry is administered by the Northampton Survival Center at the Goshen Town Hall.
- Child Care Subsidies, hilltown families were provided subsidies through this program to assist them with child care expenses.

Economic Development/Small Business Assistance:

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

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

Westhampton Woods Senior Housing: Hilltown CDC owns and operates Westhampton Woods Senior Housing which provides 15 apartments for low-to-moderate income seniors over 60 years old.

Rental Housing: Hilltown CDC completed the renovation of 24 units of scattered affordable rental housing in six properties located in

Williamsburg, Westhampton and Chesterfield in 2016. Hilltown CDC hired a local contractor to complete this project.

New Project Development: Hilltown CDC completed construction of 10 rental units of affordable senior housing. Hilltown CDC secured \$2.7 million to develop this project.

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

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

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

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

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Christopolis,
Executive Director



Conrad Lieberow

HAMPSHIRE COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

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

Hampshire Power provides energy to 196 individual entities.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

RSVP works with:

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

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

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

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



Michael Lumsden

Notes