

Town of
Williamsburg
Massachusetts



2023
Annual Report

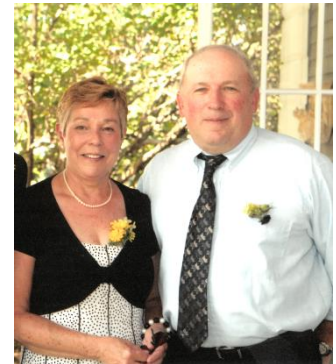


David Mathers

The Williamsburg Board of Selectmen is honored to dedicate the 2023 Annual Report to their colleague and friend David Mathers, a steadfast elected official for the Burgy community.

Dave literally and figuratively wore many hats, from his usual black cap to the time he spent serving in the military, to operating a small business, being actively involved with American Legion Post 236, and working as a long-time employee with National Grid, where he retired in 2017 after nearly thirty-years. He was a true gearhead, capable of fixing anything mechanical.

In his life outside of work Dave is portrayed lovingly by wife Liddy as a “kind and gentle soul to me and the kids,” with “a lot of good friends.” He is survived by her and her four children: Amy, Rick, Doug, and Clay. Married in 1986, Liddy and Dave would often travel by motorhome, car in tow, to the far reaches of Maine, including frequent stops in Kennebunk and Van Buren. Depending on the season Dave could be found sitting in the grandstands for stock car racing, or riding snowmobile trails, but always willing to rush home from a holiday to be present at Board meetings.



Some say that public service is a thankless job. But Dave loved the town and put his heart and soul into it. He was appointed to the Zoning Board of Appeals as an associate member from 1991-97, then becoming a full member and eventually long-time chair until 2007. Then he was elected to the Board of Selectmen, where he served until his passing in 2023. Along the way he served as chair of the Anne T. Dunphy School renovation committee and the Public Safety Complex building committee. Dave is often recalled as a deeply dedicated elected official who was financially prudent, while always acting with a quiet thoughtfulness that had the Town’s best interests at heart.

He’ll long be remembered in Town Offices for his warm cheerful presence, his sense of humor, and his measured decision making.

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Photo credits:

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Angel Park - Nick Dines	44
Cultural - Davis Bates; Aimee Gelinas	50
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Government Officials

Select Board

William Sayre
Denise Banister
Paul Wetzel

Representative in the General Court (1st Hampshire District)

Lindsay Sabadosa
State House, Room 160, 24 Beacon St., Boston, MA 02133
(617) 722-2304
District Office: 76 Gothic Street, Northampton, MA 01060 (413) 270-1166
lindsay.sabadosa@mahouse.gov

State Senator (Berkshire, Hampshire & Franklin District)

Paul Mark
Room 70, State House, 24 Beacon St., Boston, MA 02133
(617) 722-1625
District Office: 773 Tyler St, Pittsfield, MA
Local Office: 141 Main St, Williamsburg (413) 413-570-0022
Paul.Mark@masenate.gov

United States Representative (2nd District)

James McGovern
370 Cannon House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-6101 Fax: (202) 225-5759
94 Pleasant Street, Northampton, MA 01060
Phone: (413) 341-8700 Fax: (413) 584-1216

United States Senators

Elizabeth Warren
317 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
(202) 224-4543
1550 Main Street, Suite 406
Springfield, MA 01103
(413) 788-2690 www.warren.senate.gov

Edward Markey
255 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
(202) 224-2742 Fax: (202) 224-8525
1550 Main Street, 4th Floor
Springfield, MA 01101
(413) 785-4610
www.markey.senate.gov/contact

Governor

Maura Healey
Office of the Governor, State House, Room 280, Boston, MA 02133
(617) 725-4005 or (888) 870-7770 (in-state use only)
436 Dwight Street, Suite 300, Springfield, MA 01103
(413) 784-1200
<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/governors-office-scheduling-and-special-request-forms#email-the-governor->

Town Office Hours and Contact Information

<i>Subject to change, see www.burgy.org</i>	
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR Nicholas Caccamo, (413) 268-8418	Town Offices, 141 Main Street Mon–Fri 8–3:30, in office Mon thru Thurs townadmin@burgy.org
ADMIN. ASST. TO SELECT BOARD Eleanor Warnock, (413) 268-8400	Mon thru Thurs varies, often 11 – 3 selectmen@burgy.org
TOWN COLLECTOR/TREASURER Sharon Strzegowski, (413) 268-8401	Mon thru Thurs 9 – 4 collectortreasurer@burgy.org
TOWN CLERK Brenda Lessard, (413) 268-8402	Mon 8 – 11:30, Tues 8-5, Thurs 4:30 – 7 townclerk@burgy.org
ASSESSORS Robin Everett, (413) 268-8403	Tuesday 9 –11 assessors@burgy.org
TOWN ACCOUNTANT Nathan Rosewarne, (413) 268-8412	By appointment accountant@burgy.org
FOOTHILLS HEALTH AGENT Mark Bushee, (413) 268-8404	Hours vary, please call foothills@burgy.org
SENIOR CENTER Director Melissa Wilson (413) 268-8410	Mon thru Thurs 8 – 2 Meals Mon thru Thurs, meals delivered Fri seniorcenterdirector@burgy.org
VETERANS' AGENT Dan Nye, (413) 587-1299	First and third Wed 11:30 – 1 dnye@northamptonma.gov
HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT Dan Banister, (413) 268-8405	24 Main St, Williamsburg, Mon thru Fri 7 – 3:30 burgyhighway@burgy.org
FIRE DEPARTMENT Chief Jason Connell, (413) 268-7233	16 Main St, Williamsburg firechief@burgy.org
POLICE DEPARTMENT Chief Denise Wickland, (413) 268-7237	16 Main St, Williamsburg wicklandd@williamsburgpd.org
TRANSFER STATION & RECYCLING CENTER (413) 268-8408	27 Mountain Street, Haydenville Wed and Sat 9 – 4
BUILDING INSPECTOR Jonathan Flagg, (413) 587-1240	212 Main St, Northampton, MA 01060 Mon thru Fri 7 – 3:30 jflagg@northamptonma.gov

Board Meeting Schedules

Agricultural Commission	Four times a year, February, May, August, November, 2 nd Thursday, 7 p.m.
Assessors	Weekly, Tuesday 9 – 11 a.m.
Conservation Commission	Once a month, 2 nd Thursdays, 7 p.m. Site visits and other meetings as needed
Council on Aging	Monthly, 3 rd Wednesday, morning, times vary
Energy Committee	Varies
Finance Committee	Various Wednesdays, 7 p.m.
Board of Health	Fourth Monday, 10 a.m.
Library Trustees	Monthly, 2 nd Monday, 7 p.m.
Mill River Greenway Committee	Monthly, 1 st Thursday, 7 p.m.
Open Space Committee	Varies
Planning Board	Monthly, 1 st Monday, 7 p.m. or as needed
Recreation Commission	Monthly, 1 st Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.
Williamsburg School Committee	Monthly, 3 rd Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. Anne T. Dunphy School
Hampshire Regional School Committee	Monthly, 1 st Monday, 7 p.m.
Select Board	Every other Thursday, 4 p.m. (warrant weeks)
Technology Committee	Varies
Trust Fund Commission	Monthly, 1 st Tuesday, 7 p.m.
Water/Sewer Commission	Every other Tuesday, 5 p.m. (meeting days can vary)
Woodland Trails	Monthly, 2 nd Wednesday, 7 p.m.
Zoning Board of Appeals	Per application

Some changes may be made in scheduling to accommodate summer/winter scheduling. Many boards hold additional meetings as necessary. Meetings are not held on state or federal holidays. All meetings and agendas are posted on the bulletin board in the Town Clerk's office and on the Town website www.burgy.org.

2023 Elected Officials

Office Expiration

Assessors (3 years)

Robin Everett	2026
Denise Banister	2024
Glen Everett	2025

Board of Health (3 years)

Donna Gibson	2025
Helen Symons	2026
Gordon Luce	2024

Board of Library Trustees (3 years)

Todd Lynch	2025	appointed 2/2023
Charlotte Meryman	2025	
Patricia Billingsley	2023	term expired 7/2023
Robert Stinson	2023	term expired 7/2023
Kevin McAllister	2026	elected 7/2023
Anna Seren	2026	elected 7/2023
Joan Coryat	2024	
Ken Borden	2024	

Elector – Oliver Smith Will (1 year)

Richard Kisloski	2026
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Finance Committee (3 years)

Richard Kisloski	2025	
Gordon Allen	2025	
Melissa Zawadzki	2025	
Gilbert Loud III	2023	term expired 7/2023
Amy Bisbee	2026	elected 7/2023
Lisa Sheehy	2026	
Paul R. Wetzel	2026	
Eric Cerreta	2024	
Charles Dudek	2024	
Julia Peters	2024	

Local School Committee (3 years)

Glenda Cresto	2025	
Kathaleen Emerson	2025	
Collin Black	2026	
Ryan Schiff	2023	term expired 7/2023
Nicole Farach	2026	
Marissa Nye	2024	

Moderator (3 years)

Kayla Solomon	2026
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Recreation (3 years)

Alan Golash	2025	deceased 4/2023
Geoffrey Smith	2024	appointed 5/2023
Ben Thompson	2025	
Coni Gilman	2026	
Nicole Turner	2026	
Pam Plumer	2023	term expired 7/2023
Collin Black	2024	

Regional School Committee (3 years)

Lawrence Childs	2025	elected 7/2023
Glenda Cresto	2026	elected 7/2023
Paul Kennedy	2024	resigned 5/2023

Board of Selectmen (3 years)

David Mathers	2025	deceased 7/2023
Paul Wetzel	2025	elected 11/2023
Denise Banister	2026	
William Sayre	2024	

Town Clerk (3 years)

Brenda Lessard	2025
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Trust Fund/Cemetery Commission (3 yrs)

Eric Weber	2024
Dick Kisloski	2025
Collin Black	2026

Water/Sewer Commission (3 years)

Eric Cerreta	2025	
Paul Sanderson	2025	
Gary Benoit	2026	
Paul Kennedy	2023	resigned 5/2023
Joshua Lapointe	2026	elected 7/2023
James Packard	2024	appointed 1/2023 elected 7/2023

2023 Appointed Officials Town Employees

<u>Office</u>	<u>Expiration</u>	
Accountant		Melissa Zawadzki 2025 also appt by Finance
Nathan Rosewarne	2026	Robert Cayo 2023 term exp 6/2023
Administrative Assistant		(Vacancy) 2021
Eleanor Warnock	2024	Sharon Strzegowski – Advisory Ex officio
Agricultural Commission (5 members, 3 years, up to 3 alternates, 1 year)		Chaplain, Police & Fire (1 year)
Alan Everett	2026	Worth Noyes 2024
David Nehring	2026	Collector (3 years)
Amanda Emerson	2024	Sharon Strzegowski 2026
Keith Dufresne	2025	Conservation Commission (5 members, 3 years)
Paul Zononi	2025	Marcianna Caplis (vacancy) 2023 resigned 6/2023
Andy Erwin, Alt.	2024	Mary Dudek 2024
Ann Loomis, Alt.	2024	Melinda McCall 2024
Alternate (vacancy)		Andrew MacLachlan 2025
Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator (1 year)		Joseph Rogers 2025
Nick Caccamo	2024	Marcianna Caplis, Alt. 2024
Animal Control Officer (1 year)		Melinda McCall, Secretary
Shayla Howe	2024	Appt by Conservation Commission
Animal Inspector (1 year) (term May 1 to April 30)		Constables (4, 3 years)
Donald Lawton	2024	John Svoboda (vacancy) 2023 term exp 6/2023
Assessors' Clerk (appointed by Assessors)		Paul Sanderson 2024
Robin Everett		Robert Lapointe 2025
Assistant Town Treasurer (appointed by Treasurer, 1 year)		Joshua Lapointe 2025
Karen Karowski	2024	Council on Aging Advisory Board (5 members, 3 years, 1 year for alternates)
Building Inspector (contract City of Northampton, 1 year)		Dianne Martin 2026
Jonathan Flagg	2024	Linda Gibbon 2024
Building Supervisor (1 year)		Maureen O'Brien 2024
Richard Bart	2024	Pat Billingsley 2025 resigned 8/2023
Capital Planning Committee (5 members plus Advisory)		Mary Bisbee 2025 appt full member 9/2023
(3 year appointments by Select Board, 1 year appointments by Finance Committee)		Daria D'Arienzo 2025
Julia Peters	2024 appt by Finance	Mary Lee Satterfield, Emerita (Lifetime)
		Toni Boughton, Assoc. 2024 appt 7/2023
		Gerry Mann, Assoc. 2024

Council on Aging Senior Center Staff (1-year term)

Melissa Wilson, Director 2024
 Sharon Loomis, Admin. Asst. 2024
 Tamar Smith, Meal site Coordinator 2024
 Carol Hendricks, Outreach Coordinator 2024
 Joy Moore, Office Asst. 2024

Cultural Council (5 members, 3 years)

Ann Biddle 2024 *resigned 6/2023*
Zevey Steinitz 2024 *resigned 1/2023*
 Lesley Ham 2024 appt 7/2023
 Terry Tangredi 2024 appt 5/2023
 Louise Mosrie Coombe 2025 appt 9/2022
Trish LaFreniere 2023 *resigned 3/2023*
 Lauri Munroe-Hultman 2023 appt 9/2022
 Donna McGill 2026 appt 5/2023
 Rob Longley, Alt. 2024

Election Pollworkers (1 year) (appointed between July 15 and August 15; term to August 31)

R. Dean Acheson 2024
 Pamela Acheson 2024
 Madelyn Breen 2024 corrected 11/2023
 Pat Casterline 2024
 DeAun Corbett 2024
 Joan Donovan 2024
 Charles Dudek 2024 appt 7/2023
 Cindy Foster 2024 appt 7/2023
 Gail Gagne 2024
 Thomas Hodgkins 2024
 Susan McAllister 2024
 Diane Merritt 2024
 Dortha O'Connell 2024
 Diane Punska 2024
 Rebecca Robbins 2024
 Fran Tilley 2024
 Mary Jane Warner 2024 appt 7/2023

Election Wardens (1 year) (appointed between July 15 and August 15; term to August 31)

Glenda Cresto 2024
 Kathleen Luce 2024

Emergency Management Director (1 year)

Denise Banister 2024
 Jason Connell, Asst 2024

Energy Committee (5 members, 1 year)

Neal Anderson 2024
 Richard Guzowski 2024
 Mimi Kaplan 2024
 Adin Maynard 2024
 Jim Piermarini 2024
 Jonathan Gregory, Alt. 2024 appt 3/2023

Environmental Certifying Officer (3 years)

Nick Caccamo 2025

Field Driver Team (1 year)

Diane Merritt, Coordinator 2024
 Robin Merritt, Coordinator 2024
 Kathy Emerson 2024
 Alan Everett 2024
 Sue Fortgang 2024
 Sue Froehlich 2024
 Mike Hebert 2024 reappt 7/2023
 David Nehring 2024
 Carl Schlerman 2024

Fire Chief/Forest Fire Warden (1 year)

Jason Connell 2024

Firefighters (appointed by the Fire Chief, 1 year) 2024

Daryl Springman – Deputy Chief
 Daniel Banister – Captain
 Alex Kassell – Captain
 Cory McGill – Captain
 Joshua Lapointe – Lieutenant
 Jake Lulek – Lieutenant
 Worth Noyes – Chaplain (Police & Fire)
 Kenneth Taylor – Administrative Assistant
 Denise Banister – Emergency Management Director

Firefighters

Andre Barnes	Bartholomew Casey
Joshua Connell	Mark Curtin
Greg Dibrindisi	Mark Girard
Matthew Godin	Kim Higgins
Patrick Higgins	Reese Hillenbrand
Mikayla Joyner	Peter Korotev
Sabrina McGill	James Robinson
Shawna Rogers	Daniel Stuart

Senior Firefighters

Alan Everett	Glen Everett
James Ferron	Richard Karowski
Robert Lapointe	Paul Sanderson

Junior Firefighters

Christopher Connell	Julia Guiel
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Gas Inspector (1 year)

Donald Lawton	2024
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Health Agent (contract)

Foothills Health District	
Mark Bushee	

**Highland Ambulance Board of Directors
(appointed by Highland Ambulance)**

Denise Banister	
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Highway Superintendent (contract)

Dan Banister	
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Highway Department

Dan Banister	
<i>Josh Lapointe (hired 2/2023, resigned 8/2023)</i>	
Robert Lapointe	
Mark Loven	
<i>John McGill (resigned 2/2023)</i>	
Bryan Osetek	
Darren Pensivy (hired 8/2023)	
Anthony Thomas III	

**Hilltown Resource Management
Cooperative (1 year)**

Gordon Luce	2024
Melinda McCall	2024

Historical Commission (5 members, 3 year)

Daniel Nye	2025
Steve Herzberg	2026
Ed O'Neil	2026
Leah Chava Reiner	2024
Eric Weber	2024

Libraries

Beverly Bullock – Library Director	
Rochelle Wildfong – Assistant Director and Children's Librarian	
Bobbin Young – Technical Services Librarian (January to June)	

Naomi Schmidt – Kmit Children's Programming Librarian (January to August)	
Makayla Skubel – Kmit Children's Programming Librarian (from September)	
Daria D'Arienzo – Archivist	
Amber Smith-Harder, Beth Kilduff, Susan Cornell, Irene Tournas (January to August), Wenny Niu (from September) – Circulation Assistants	
John Palmer – Bookkeeper	
Laurie Scanlon – Library Cleaner	

**Materials Recycling Facility Advisory
Board (appointed by MRF)**

Linda Cernik	
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Measurer Gravel/Soil and Manure (1 year)

Alan Everett	2024
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**Mill River Greenway Committee (11
members, 1 year)**

Jennifer Black	2024
Eric Bloomquist	2024
Francie Borden	2024 from alt. 7/2023
John Connolly	2024
Nick Dines	2024
John Hoogstraten	2024
Jim Hyslip	2024
Gaby Immerman	2024
Jody Nishman	2024
Joseph Rogers	2024
David Weber	2024
Rachel Koh, Alt.	2024 from full member 7/2023

**Open Space and Recreation Committee (7
members, 1 year)**

Eric Bloomquist	2024
<i>Kenley Clark (vacancy) 2023 term expire 6/2023</i>	
<i>Paul Kennedy (vacancy) 2023 resigned 5/2023</i>	
Rusty Korotev	2024 appt 7/2023
Sally Loomis	2024
Melinda McCall	2024
Markelle Smith	2024

Parking Clerk (1 year)

Nick Caccamo	2024
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Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (1 year)

Christopher Flory (commissioner) 2024

Appointed by Planning Board

Holly Hendricks (alt.) 2024

Pioneer Valley Joint Transportation Committee (1 year)

Dan Banister 2024

Nick Dines, Alt. 2024

Pioneer Valley Transit Authority Representative (1 year, appointed by Select Board Chair)

J.M. Sorrell 2024

Planning Board (7 members, 5 years)

Holly Hendricks 2024

Christopher Flory 2025

Tariq Abu-Jaber 2026

Stephen Smith 2026

Jean O'Neil 2027

Amy Bisbee (vacancy) 2023 term expire 6/2023

Eric Schmitt 2028

Plumbing Inspector (1 year)

Donald Lawton 2024

Police Chief (contract)

Denise Wickland

Police Officers (1 year)

Jason Soukup, Sergeant 2024

Peter Fisher 2024

Bryan Luszczycki 2024

Robert Reinke 2024

Aimee Wallace 2024

*Danielle Wright (vacancy) 2023 term expired 7/2023***Procurement Officer (1 year)**

Nick Caccamo 2024

Public Safety Complex Building Committee

Amy Bisbee

Dan Bonham

Jason Connell

Mary Dudek

Dick Guzowski

Dave Mathers deceased 7/2023

Melinda McCall appt 8/2023

Jean O'Neil

Robert Reinke

Bill Sayre

Daryl Springman

Denise Wickland

Records Access Officers (ex officio)

Brenda Lessard (Town Clerk), Chief RAO

Denise Wickland (Police Chief)

Jason Connell (Fire Chief)

Nicholas Caccamo (Town Administrator)

Registrar of Voters (4 members, 3 years)

Brenda Lessard 2025

Jean York 2025

Marjorie Dunphy 2026

Diane O'Sullivan 2024

Surveyor Wood/Lumber (1 year)*Alden Bacon 2023 term expired 6/2023*

Alan Everett 2024 appt 7/2023

Tax Title Custodian (3 years)

Sharon Strzegowski 2026

Technology Committee (3 members, 1 year)

Collin Black 2024

Rich French (vacancy) 2023 resigned 6/2023

David Martin 2024

Town Administrator (contract)

Nick Caccamo

Town Common Committee (9 members)

Denise Banister

Jason Connell

Nick Dines

Mark Girard

Sally Loomis

Jim Moran

Dan Nye

Joe Rogers

Dave Weber

Town Office Custodian*Al Golash deceased 4/2023*

Tammy Johnson

Transfer Station Manager

Gordon Luce

Transfer Station Staff

William Ahearn

David Brooks

Linwood Clark

Mike Jobst (hired 5/2023)

Jim Packard

Gilman Smith

James Wilson

Treasurer (3 years)

Sharon Strzegowski 2026

**Tree Warden/Gypsy Moth Superintendent
(1 year)**

Thomas Por 2024

Trench Permit Granting Authority (1 year)

Dan Banister 2024

Veterans' Agent (contract)

City of Northampton

Steve Connor

**Veterans' Memorial Committee (3
members, 1 year)**

Dan Nye (vacancy) 2023 term expire 6/2023

Roy Beals 2024

Mark Girard 2024 appt 5/2023

Dan Nye, ex officio

**Wiring Inspector/Electrical Inspector
(contract City of Northampton, 1
year)**

Roger Malo 2024

**Woodland Trails Committee (9 members, 1
year)**

Gwen Blodgett 2024

John Hoogstraten 2024

Paul Jahnige 2024

Eileen Keegan 2024

Dinah Mack 2024

Kevin McAllister 2024

Diane Merritt 2024

David Weber 2024

Sarah Welch 2024

**Zoning Board of Appeals (3 members, 3
years, 2 alternates, 1 year)**

Gerald Mann 2026

Paul Kennedy 2024 resigned 5/2023

Amy Bisbee 2024 appt 5/2023

Mickey Gallagher 2025 resigned 6/2023

Nancye Hodgkinson 2025 appt 11/2023

Dean Acheson, Alt. 2024 appt 12/2023

Alternate (vacancy)

Town Clerk

In 2023 these vital records were recorded:

Deaths:

Finch, Daryl E., Jr., son of June M. Sporbet (Asher) and Daryl E. Finch. Born on December 7, 1952, in Northampton, MA. Date of death was January 3, 2023, in Williamsburg, MA.

Torrey, Dannie Marie, daughter of Misty A. (Belanger) and Robert W. Torrey. Born on July 7, 1990, in Northampton, MA. Date of death was February 13, 2023, in Northampton, MA.

Richardson, Russell Clark, Sr., son of Lizzie E (Warren) and Augustus Richardson. Born on July 29, 1932, in Goshen, MA. Date of death was February 15, 2023, in Northampton, MA.

Polczwartek, Michael, son of Elizabeth (Kulesa) and Michael Polczwartek. Born on June 6, 1935, in Northampton, MA. Date of death was March 6, 2023, in Williamsburg, MA.

Harry, Dorothy, daughter of Marion (Edwards) and Newell Stimson. Born on October 28, 1924, in Whately, MA. Date of death was March 6, 2023, in Northampton, MA.

Ilson, Myra B., daughter of Mariam (Unknown) and Lewis Silvers. Born on May 7, 1927, in Bronx, NY. Date of death was March 11, 2023, in Northampton, MA.

Ouimet, Wilfred, son of Catherine (Conheeneey) and Raymond Ouimet. Born on May 6, 1939, in Brookline, MA. Date of death was March 17, 2023, in Williamsburg, MA.

Female, age 82, date of death February 5, 2023.

Rowley, Francis W., son of Anna (McAndrews) and Leo M. Rowley. Born on October 7, 1926, in Adams, MA. Date of death was March 28, 2023, in Williamsburg, MA.

Golash, Alan Adam, son of Rowena (Nye) and Vardic Edward Golash. Born on April 28, 1950, in Northampton, MA. Date of death was April 12, 2023, in Northampton, MA.

Milkowski, Sheila A., daughter of Hazel (Johnson) and James Fleming. Born on April 1, 1935, in Gardner, MA. Date of death was April 20, 2023, in Williamsburg, MA.

Krasofski, Stephen F., son of Mary (Walasewicz) and Frank Krasofski. Born on May 31, 1958, in Columbus, GA. Date of death was April 18, 2023, in Williamsburg, MA.

Desrosier, Philip G., son of Helene (Sullivan) and Phillip L. Desrosier. Born on August 9, 1940, in Quincy, MA. Date of death was April 26, 2023, in Williamsburg, MA.

Weeks, Joseph E., son of Carmon (Damion) and Charles Warren Weeks. Born on November 19, 1930, in Williamsburg, MA. Date of death was May 4, 2023, in Northampton, MA.

Young, Barbara, daughter of Virginia Henes (Henes) and Arthur Young, Jr. Born on April 13, 1948, in Chicago, IL. Date of death was June 16, 2023, in Northampton, MA.

Yurgielewicz, Susan Jane, daughter of Dorothy (Kuzmeski) and Robert Korytoski. Born on August 26, 1955, in Northampton, MA. Date of death was June 22, 2023, in Williamsburg, MA.

Rosenzweig, Mark, son of Freda (Krenzel) and Irwin Norman Rozenzweig. Born on September 12, 1950, in Philadelphia, PA. Date of death was July 5, 2023, in Williamsburg, MA.

Mathers, David Edward, son of Dorothy (Rogers) and John Mathers, Jr. Born on August 8, 1947, in Northampton, MA. Date of death was July 21, 2023, in Northampton, MA.

Locke, Norma, daughter of Mable (Plews) and Louis T. Carlson. Born on August 12, 1921, in Cripple Creek, CO. Date of death was July 27, 2023, in Williamsburg, MA.

Duggan, Edward John, son of Elizabeth (Valeski) and Edward Duggan. Born on March 20, 1966, in Northampton, MA. Date of death was August 15, 2023, in Williamsburg, MA.

Lopez Hilleger, Cesar Marvin, son of Margery Hilleger (Hilleger) and Cesar G. Lopez. Born on February 17, 1967, in Los Angeles, CA. Date of death was August 18, 2023, in Williamsburg, MA.

McCulloch, Ann Marie, daughter of Marie (Healy) and Philip Leonard McCulloch. Born on March 19, 1947, in Lee, MA. Date of death was August 27, 2023, in Gill, MA.

Reid, Jeanne, daughter of Berniece (Ryan) and Herbert Holly Stevenson. Born on October 14, 1938, in Ely, NV. Date of death was September 21, 2023, in Northampton, MA.

Cahillane, James Francis, son of Imogene (Smith) and James Cahillane. Born on January 3, 1933, in Northampton, MA. Date of death was October 4, 2023, in Northampton, MA.

Klarich, M Richard, son of Marija (Kovacic) and Slavko Richard Klarich. Born on November 11, 1940, in Chicago, IL. Date of death was October 20, 2023, in Williamsburg, MA.

Henry, George Orson, Jr., son of Edith I. (Bartchi) and George O. Henry, Sr. Born on November 18, 1934, in Northampton, MA. Date of death was November 4, 2023, in Hadley, MA.

Champagne, Micheline Luce, daughter of Georgianna (Champagne) and Lucien Drapeau. Born on April 19, 1940, in St. Prosper, Quebec, Canada. Date of death was November 5, 2023, in Williamsburg, MA.

Pollard, Sandra Jean, daughter of Alice Eleanor (Sawyer) and Gardiner Scoggin Norton. Born on March 1, 1935, in Des Moines, IA. Date of death was November 9, 2023, in Northampton, MA.

Pertzoff, Liv, daughter of Ethel G. (Strong) and Loren S. Olson. Born on July 2, 1938, in Portland, OR. Date of death was December 8, 2023, in Northampton, MA.

Gaitenby, David D., son of Margaret H. (Reuther) and Donald W. Gaitenby. Born on May 7, 1942, in Northampton, MA. Date of death was December 11, 2023, in Northampton, MA.

Johnson, Bruce Trumbull, son of Margery (Trumbull) and Carl Johnson. Born on August 12, 1957, in Northampton, MA. Date of death was December 22, 2023, in Northampton, MA.

Garber, Susan A., daughter of Marilyn McGough (McGough) and James S. Garber. Born on July 17, 1952, in Lakewood, OH. Date of death was December 22, 2023, in Northampton, MA.

Stevens, John G., son of Edith (Slavin) and George Stevens. Born on April 7, 1931, in Whitefield, NH. Date of death was December 27, 2023, in Holyoke, MA.

Marriages:

Kelli Diane Punska, Williamsburg, MA, and Lise Anne Ross, Williamsburg, MA, were married on February 10, 2023, in Williamsburg, MA.

Alan Adam Golash, Williamsburg, MA, and Tammy Lee Johnson, Williamsburg, MA, were married on February 13, 2023, in Williamsburg, MA.

Michael Robert Long, Williamsburg, MA, and Cheryl Ann Brooks, Williamsburg, MA, were married on April 1, 2023, in Williamsburg, MA.

Cas Ford Martin, Williamsburg, MA, and Jesse Taylor Arsenault, Williamsburg, MA, were married on April 29, 2023, in Deerfield, MA.

Marc Jeffery Mal, Williamsburg, MA, and Rachael Lynn Carriere, Williamsburg, MA, were married on May 11, 2023, in Williamsburg, MA.

Sara Jannessa Cochran, Williamsburg, MA, and Thomas Andrew Nimmo, Williamsburg, MA, were married on June 2, 2023, in South Hadley, MA.

Aliza Beth Zimmerman, Dover, NH, and Langdon John McGuirk, Dover, NH, were married on June 3, 2023, in Williamsburg, MA.

Kelly Shannon Casey, Boston, MA, and Erin Marie Corrigan, Weymouth, MA, were married on July 29, 2023, in Williamsburg, MA.

Deron John Zambruno, Williamsburg, MA, and Erin Adine Berning Slott, Williamsburg, MA, were married on August 31, 2023, in Williamsburg, MA.

Kirsten Annelise Hipsky, Williamsburg, MA, and Kyle Joseph Marquis, Williamsburg, MA, were married on October 1, 2023, in Williamsburg, MA.

Elise Irene Gibson, Williamsburg, MA, and Scott Alfred Vickers, Williamsburg, MA, were married on October 8, 2023, in Williamsburg, MA.

Bridget Helen Platek, Orange, MA, and Ronald Allen Culver, Jr., Colrain, MA, were married on December 23, 2023, in Williamsburg, MA.

Joseph Allen Carrasquillo, Williamsburg, MA, and Davi Chuong, Williamsburg, MA, were married on December 31, 2023, in Deerfield, MA.

Births:

(Due to identity theft, I choose not to publish the names of the children whose births were recorded in 2023.)

2023 Events		Births	Deaths	Marriages
	Male	2	19	
	Female	5	14	
	Total	7	33	13



Dog Licenses

Dog Licenses are renewed annually by March 31st. The fees for a dog license are \$10.00 for spayed or neutered dogs, and \$20.00 for intact dogs. Kennel fees vary in price depending on the size of the kennel. A penalty of \$25.00 is assessed after May 1st for late registration with an additional \$25.00 penalty after June 1st.

Total Dog Licenses including Kennel Issued in 2023	386
Total Kennel Licenses Issued in 2022	3 containing 23 dogs

2023 Town Meetings and Elections



The increased workload for the Clerk is now a permanent part of the job for the Town Clerk. Vote by Mail and Early Voting Hours are now law for State Elections going forward.

I want to again thank my wardens, Kathy Luce and Glenda Cresto, and all my poll workers for their dedication and hard work this past year. The town office custodian passed away this year and Alan Golash will be missed, His wife, Tammy Johnson, who took over for Al, gets an extra special thank you for her help going above and beyond to make sure everything is set up and ready to go for the town meetings and elections and helping to clean up after us after the elections.

Here is a breakdown of total registered voters as of December 31, 2023:

Party or Designation	Democrat	Libertarian	Republican	Unenrolled	United Independent Party	Grand Total
	748	5	108	1243	6	2110

TOWN OF WILLIAMSBURG	DATE HELD
Annual Town Caucus	March 7, 2023
Annual Town Election	May 1, 2023
Annual Town Meeting	June 5, 2023
Special Town Caucus	September 5, 2023
Special Town Election	November 4, 2023



The full text of all town meeting votes, and all election results are published in the Annual Town Report, on the town website at www.burgy.org or available for public inspection at the Town Clerk's Office. I still look forward to serving the residents of Williamsburg and Haydenville for the upcoming year and hopefully many more into the future.

Brenda Lessard, Williamsburg Town Clerk

Certificate of Nomination – Town Caucus

We certify that a caucus of 49 qualified voters (quorum 40) of the Town of Williamsburg was called and held in accordance with the provisions of law relating thereto, at the Williamsburg Town Offices, 141 Main Street, on the seventh day of March 2023, and the following nominations of Candidates for Town Offices were made:

The Town Clerk, Brenda Lessard, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The Voters of Caucus elected a Chair and Secretary.

Chair: Kayla Solomon

Secretary: Glenda Cresto

OFFICE	TERM	CANDIDATE	RESIDENCE	SIGNATURE
ASSESSOR	3	Robin Everett	89 Ashfield Road	Signed by same
BOARD OF HEALTH	3	Helen Symons	9 High Street	Signed by same
BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES	3	Joy Kinigstein	17 Fairfield Ave.	Signed by same
	3	Kevin McAllister	43 Chesterfield Rd.	Signed by same
	3	Anna Seren	105 Adams Rd	Signed by same
BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES	2	C. Todd Lynch	5 Adams Rd.	Signed by same
ELECTOR-OLIVER SMITH WILL	1	Richard Kisloski	12 Cole Road	Signed by same
FINANCE COMMITTEE	3	Amy Bisbee	2 Village Hill Ave	Signed by same
	3	Lisa Sheehy	49 South St	Signed by same
	3	Paul Wetzal	108 Petticoat Hill Rd	Signed by same
	3	Robert Cayo	22 Petticoat Hill Rd	Not signed
LOCAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE	3	Nicole Farach	10 Judd Ln	Signed by same
	3	Collin Black	119 Nash Hill Rd	Signed by same
MODERATOR	1	Kayla Solomon	57 South St	Signed by same
RECREATION COMMISSION	3	Coni Gilman	57 South St	Signed by same
	3	Nicole Turner	19 Old Goshen Rd	Signed by same
REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE	3	Glenda Cresto	10 Petticoat Hill Rd	Signed by same

REGIONAL SCHOOL				
COMMITTEE	2	Lawrence Childs	152 Ashfield Rd	Signed by same
SELECTMAN	3	Denise Banister	54 Old Goshen Rd	Signed by same
TRUST FUND/CEMETERY				
COMMISSION	3	Collin Black	119 Nash Hill Rd	Signed by same
WATER/SEWER				
COMMISSION	3	Gary Benoit	8 Grove St	Signed by same
	3	Paul Kennedy	10B Eastern Ave	Not signed
WATER/SEWER				
COMMISSION	1	James Packard	9 Maple St	Signed by same

We hereby certify that at least forty qualified voters of the Town of Williamsburg participated, there were 49, and voted therein.

Due to the fact that all of the nominees would be placed on the ballot, Motion made and seconded and so voted that the Secretary cast one ballot to certify the nominees are certified. We also certify that a motion was made and seconded and so voted that in the case of death, withdrawal or in-eligibility of the candidate or candidates so nominated, the vacancy or vacancies shall be filled by the following: a committee consisting of the Chairman and Secretary of the Caucus and the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

S/ Kayla Solomon, Presiding Officer S/ Glenda Cresto, Secretary to Caucus

Filed March 13, 2023

A TRUE COPY ATTEST BRENDA LESSARD, TOWN CLERK

Minutes of Annual Town Election

May 1, 2023

Polling Place: Williamsburg Town Office 141 Main Street Haydenville, MA Polling Hours: 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.	Warrant Signed- 4/06/2023	Warden- Kathleen Luce & Glenda Cresto
	Warrant Posted- 4/11/2023	Constables: Paul Sanderson, Robert Lapointe, Josh Lapointe
	Registered Voters- 2082	
	Early Voter Ballots Sent- 5	
	Early Voter Ballots Cast- 4	# Ballots used for testing Imagecast: 25
	Absentee Ballots Sent- 0	
	Absentee Ballots Cast- 0	
	Total Ballots Cast- 178	Last Day to Register-4/21/2023

The polls opened at 10:00 a.m. at the Williamsburg Town Offices and balloting began. The polls closed at 7:00 p.m., and the Imagecast machine tape was printed. The following are the election results recorded by Wardens Kathleen Luce, Glenda Cresto and Town Clerk Brenda Lessard. All elected individuals take office July 1, 2023, per the bylaw change voted November 14, 2005.

Assessor–3 years–vote for 1

Blanks–10
Robin Everett–168 E
Write-Ins–0

Board of Health–3 years–vote for 1

Blanks–18
Helen Symons–160 E
Write-Ins–0

Board of Library Trustees–3 years–vote for 2

Blanks–34
Joy Kinigstein–102
Kevin McAllister–108 E
Anna Seren–111 E
Write-Ins–1
Eric Cerreta

Board of Library Trustees–2 years–vote for 1

Blanks–13
C. Todd Lynch–165 E
Write-Ins–0

Elector Oliver Smith Will–1 year–vote for 1

Blanks–26
Richard Kisloski–152 E
Write-Ins–0

Finance Committee–3years–vote for 3

Blanks–57
Lisa Sheehy–154 E
Paul Wetzels–162 E
Amy Bisbee– 161 E
Write-Ins–0

Local School Committee–3 years–vote for 2

Blanks–43
Collin Black–159 E
Nicole Farach–154 E
Write-Ins–0

Moderator–1 year–vote for 1

Blanks–18
Kayla Solomon–160 E
Write-Ins–0

Recreation Commission–3 years–vote for 2

Blanks–47
Coni Gilman–148 E
Nicole Turner–150 E
Write-Ins–11
Geoffrey Smith–11

Regional School Comm. –3 years–vote for 1

Blanks–11

Glenda Cresto–167 E

Write-Ins–0

Regional School Comm. –2 years–vote for 1

Blanks–14

Lawrence Childs–164

Write-ins–0

Selectman–3 years–vote for 1

Blanks–16

Denise Banister–162 E

Write-Ins–0

Trust Fund/Cemetery–3 years–vote for 1

Blanks–13

Collin Black–165 E

Write-Ins–0

Water/Sewer Comm. –3 years–vote for 2

Blanks–106

Gary Benoit–164 E

Write-Ins–6

Joshua Lapointe–3 E

Amy Bisbee–1

Peter Shumway–1

Gina Callahan–1

Water/Sewer Commission–1 year–vote for 1

Blanks–18

James Packard–158 E

Write-Ins–2

Joshua Lapointe–2

Filed: May 1, 2023

Brenda Lessard, Williamsburg Town Clerk

Annual Town Meeting

Monday, June 5, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

The Annual Town Meeting was held at the Anne T. Dunphy Gymnasium, 1 Petticoat Hill Rd., Williamsburg, MA

The warrant was signed and posted on May 25, 2023.

Moderator: Kayla Solomon

Town Clerk: Brenda Lessard

Selectmen Present: Denise Banister – Chair, and William Sayre

Constable: Paul Sanderson

There were 119 voters present of 2074 registered voters. This represents 5.7% voter turnout.

Last day to register to vote was May 26, 2023

William Sayre spoke about Dave Mathers' absence.

Stephen Smith, Chair of the Planning Board spoke briefly of the Planning Board's desire to begin work on a Comprehensive Plan for the Town of Williamsburg.

Denise Banister read the dedication of the 2022 Town Report to Roger Bisbee.

A quorum of sixty (60) registered voters being present, there were 119 voters, the town meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m. by the Moderator. The Moderator noted the return of the warrant and that it had been properly posted.

Motion made and seconded that the Town adopt a rule that the Moderator be authorized to declare a 2/3 or 4/5 vote in the same manner as a majority vote is declared, provided that if a vote so declared is requested by seven (7) or more members of Town Meeting, the Moderator shall verify the vote by taking a count.

Motion Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 1

Moved and seconded that the Town vote pursuant to M.G.L. c268A, §21A to authorize the Board of Selectmen, Board of Water/Sewer Commissioners, Board of Assessors, Board of Health, Board of Appeals, Finance Committee, and the Trustees of the Libraries to appoint their own members to positions under their respective jurisdictions at such salaries or wage rates to be established by the Board of Selectmen.

Motion Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 2

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

Motion Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 3

Moved and seconded that the Town vote to accept monies from the Massachusetts Department of Transportation, including but not limited to Chapter 90 funds, for the maintenance and reconstruction of Town roads and bridges, and to authorize expenditure of the same without further appropriation.

Motion Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 4

Moved and seconded that the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept and expend any grants and/or gifts that may become available.

Motion Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 5

Moved and seconded that the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell, trade in or dispose of any surplus town-owned equipment and/or personal property.

Motion Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 6

Moved and seconded that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$219,214 composed of the amounts listed below, for the purpose of operating, maintaining, and constructing the Town water system and all costs incidental and related thereto, including the laying of mains, for Fiscal Year 2024, and to take said sum from Water Enterprise Revenue.

Stipends	\$	2,940
<u>Expenses</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>216,274</u>
Total	\$	219,214

Motion Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 7

Moved and seconded that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$263,375 composed of the amounts listed below, for the purpose of operating, maintaining, and constructing the Town sewer system and all costs incidental and related thereto, for Fiscal Year 2024, and to take said sum from Sewer Enterprise Revenue.

Stipends	\$	2,940
<u>Expenses</u>	\$	<u>260,435</u>
Total	\$	263,375

Motion Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 8

Moved and seconded that the Town vote to transfer from Water Retained Earnings the sum of \$50,000 for needed work and upgrades to the Town wells.

Motion Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 9

Moved and seconded that the Town vote to amend the General Bylaws of the Town of Williamsburg entitled “Revolving Funds” by adding a revolving fund for monies associated with firearms licensing for firearms training for officers and the public and for all costs associated with firearms licensing.

<u>Revolving Fund</u>	<u>Authority to Spend</u>	<u>Revenue Source</u>	<u>Use of Fund</u>
Firearms Licensing Fund	Chief of Police	Monies paid for firearms licensing	Firearms training for officers and the public and for costs associated with firearms licensing

Motion made and seconded to move the question.

Motion Passed Majority (2 Nay)

Original Motion Passed Majority (2 Nay)

ARTICLE 10

Moved and seconded that the Town vote pursuant to M.G.L. c44, §53E1/2, as most recently amended, to set Fiscal Year 2024 spending limits for the Revolving Funds as outlined in Article 10 in the warrant.

REVOLVING FUND \$ LIMIT

Board of Assessors.....\$15,000
Gas Inspector.....\$1,500
Electrical Inspector.....\$10,000
Plumbing Inspector.....\$4,000
Transfer Station Open Box....\$30,000
Board of Appeals.....\$6,000

REVOLVING FUND \$ LIMIT

Planning Board.....\$30,000
Animal Control Officer.....\$5,000
Recreation Commission.....\$30,000
Council on Aging.....\$2,000
Conservation Commission.....\$5,000
Fire Department.....\$7,000

Total Spending.....\$145,500

Motion Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 11

Moved and seconded that the Town vote to approve the Capital Improvement Plan, as prepared and approved by the Finance Committee, including recommended capital improvements for the following five fiscal years. [see next page]

Motion made and seconded to call the question.

Motion Passed Unanimously

Original Motion Passed Unanimously

Total Debt Years	Years Remaining	Interest Rate %	Project Description	Funding Method	Funding Year	Cost to Town (Current \$\$, Interest Not Incl.)	Remaining Principle	FY 2024	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028
APPROVED REQUESTS												
Bonded												
20	12	2.85	ATD School Bu	DE	FY13	5,183,250	3,118,103	328,750	318,350	312,950	302,350	296,750
20	20	3.60	Public Safety C	DE	FY24	3,600,000	3,600,000	260,600	265,100	264,225	263,100	261,725
Short Term Borrowing												
5	5	??	Fire Dept. Res	B	FY25	240,000	240,000	-	48,000	48,000	48,000	48,000
Third Party Assessments												
TOTAL												
						9,023,250	6,958,103	589,350	631,450	625,175	613,450	606,475
FY OPERATION BUDGET (EST.)								9,068,534	9,521,961	9,998,059	10,497,962	11,022,860
DEBT PMNT. AS % BUDGET (EST.)								6.50	6.63	6.25	5.84	5.50
CURRENT REQUESTS PROPOSED FY2024												
			TFC - cemeter	FC	FY24	17,880						
			FIRE - chief's v	FC	FY24	70,000						
			FIRE - tool set	FC	FY24	800						
			FIRE - utility tra	FC	FY24	7,800						
			HWY - tractor v	FC	FY24	60,000						
			HWY - truck wi	FC	FY24	60,000						
			HWY - dump tr	FC	FY24	110,000						
			LIB - haydenvill	FC	FY24	40,000						
			PB - meeting e	FC	FY24	2,100						
			POLICE - new	FC	FY24	66,000						
			MDAR - agricu	FC	FY24	20,500						
			TOTAL			455,080						
FUTURE REQUESTS												
			FIRE - Engine #2		FY25	275,000			275,000			
			TO - roof replacement		FY25	100,000			100,000			
			TO - gutter replacemem		FY25	15,000			15,000			
			TO - elevator upgrade(s)		FY25	125,000			125,000			
			TO - bridget st. easeme		FY25	75,000			75,000			
			LIB - meekins mini splits		FY25	60,000			60,000			
			LIB - meekins re-point		FY25	50,000			50,000			
			FIRE - engine #4		FY26	500,000				500,000		
			LIB - meekins windows		FY26	50,000				50,000		
			LIB - meekins old entrar		FY26	10,000				10,000		
			HWY - truck 5 F550		FY26	75,000				75,000		
			TREA - pension liability: ongoing			3,100,000						
			TOTAL			4,435,000			700,000	635,000		

ARTICLE 12

Moved and seconded that the Town vote to fix the salary and compensation of all elected and appointed officers of the Town for the twelve-month period ending June 30, 2024, as provided in M.G.L. c41, §108, as amended, and to see if the Town vote to raise and appropriate such sums of money as shall be deemed necessary to defray the expenses of the Town for that same period, with each line being its own appropriation and in the total sum of \$9,068,534 as recommended by the Finance Committees, such sum to be appropriated by transferring \$260,000 from Free Cash and raising \$8,808,534 from taxation. [see next page]

Motion made and seconded to move budget section by section.

TYPE	FY23 \$	FY24 \$	DIFFERENCE \$	DIFFERENCE %
Culture / Recreation.....	210,208	233,191	22,983	10.93
Debt Service.....	474,629	595,834	121,205	25.54
Education.....	4,681,289	4,828,686	147,397	3.15
Fixed Costs.....	1,107,987	1,171,639	63,652	5.74
Gen Gov't.....	689,775	703,391	13,399	1.94
Health / Human.....	139,924	155,432	15,508	11.08
Intergovernmental.....	96,901	97,316	415	0.43
Public Safety.....	541,186	617,871	76,685	14.17
Public Works.....	631,303	665,174	33,871	5.27
Total.....	8,573,419	9,068,534	495,115	5.78

Culture/Recreation Budget Passed Unanimously

Debt Service Budget Passed Unanimously

Education Budget Passed Unanimously

Fixed Costs Budget Passed Unanimously

General Government Budget Passed Majority (2 Nay)

Health/Human Budget Passed Unanimously

Intergovernmental Budget Passed Unanimously

Motion made and seconded to call the question re: Public Safety Budget. Passed Unanimously

***Public Safety Budget Passed Majority (6 Nay)**

Public Works Budget Passed Unanimously

**It was understood by voters present that the Public Safety Budget, if passed, would make the position of Fire Chief a full-time position. FY25 Budget will include additional compensation for the full-time Fire Chief. The FY24 budget includes salary for a full time Fire Chief to begin January 1, 2024.*

Original Motion for Total Budget Passed Unanimously

CATEGORY	DEPARTMENT	NAME	FY23 BUDGET	FY24 BUDGET	\$ DOLLAR DIFFERENCE	% PERCENT DIFFERENCE
Gen Govt	Moderator	Salary	333	333	-	-
Gen Govt	Selectmen	Salaries & Wages, Elected Offi	9,312	9,312	-	-
Gen Govt	Selectmen	General Expenses	3,750	3,750	-	-
Gen Govt	Town Administrator	Salaries & Wages, Elected Offi	66,675	70,009	3,334	5.00
Gen Govt	Town Administrator	Admin Asst	17,934	19,764	1,830	10.20
Gen Govt	Town Administrator	General Expenses	750	1,250	500	66.67
Gen Govt	Town Administrator	Massachusetts Certified Public Procurement Offi	1,885	-	(1,885)	(100.00)
Gen Govt	Capital Planning Comr	General Expenses	75	75	-	-
Gen Govt	Finance Committee	Salaries & Wages, Elected Offi	4,209	4,209	-	-
Gen Govt	Finance Committee	General Expenses	500	500	-	-
Gen Govt	Reserve Fund	General Expenses	60,000	50,000	(10,000)	(16.67)
Gen Govt	Accountant	Salaries & Wages	38,802	41,003	2,201	5.67
Gen Govt	Accountant	General Expenses	150	300	150	100.00
Gen Govt	Accountant	Accounting Software	750	750	-	-
Gen Govt	Accountant	Audit Services	24,000	24,000	-	-
Gen Govt	Assessors	Salaries & Wages, Elected Offi	10,345	10,345	-	-
Gen Govt	Assessors	Salaries & Wages	22,973	25,025	2,052	8.93
Gen Govt	Assessors	General Expenses	19,700	17,200	(2,500)	(12.69)
Gen Govt	Assessors / Revaluatio	General Expenses	5,000	5,000	-	-
Gen Govt	Treasurer	Salaries & Wages, Elected Offi	25,076	28,751	3,675	14.66
Gen Govt	Treasurer	Salaries & Wages (stipend)	1,000	1,000	-	-
Gen Govt	Treasurer	Treasurers Asst	6,659	7,439	780	11.71
Gen Govt	Treasurer	General Expenses	6,500	6,500	-	-
Gen Govt	Treasurer	Treasurer's Software	5,100	5,500	400	7.84
Gen Govt	Treasurer	OPEB Reeval	6,500	6,500	-	-
Gen Govt	Collector	Salaries & Wages, Elected Offi	48,090	56,175	8,085	16.81
Gen Govt	Collector	Salaries & Wages (stipend)	1,000	1,000	-	-
Gen Govt	Collector	General Expenses	7,992	16,000	8,008	100.20
Gen Govt	Collector	Deputy Coll Expenses	1,900	2,000	100	5.26
Gen Govt	Collector	Tax Title Exp	1,500	1,500	-	-
Gen Govt	Oliver Smith Trust	General Expenses	35	35	-	-
Gen Govt	Legal	General Expenses	10,000	10,000	-	-
Gen Govt	Advertising / Operatio	General Expenses	1,200	1,200	-	-
Gen Govt	Other Operations Supp	Energy Comm Expenses	250	250	-	-
Gen Govt	Constable	Salaries & Wages, Elected Offi	495	495	-	-
Gen Govt	Clerk	Salaries & Wages, Elected Offi	25,461	26,970	1,509	5.93
Gen Govt	Clerk	Clerk's Assistant	2,540	2,600	60	2.36
Gen Govt	Clerk	General Expenses	1,700	1,700	-	-
Gen Govt	Clerk	Clerk's Software	500	500	-	-
Gen Govt	Clerk	Records Storage	2,500	1,500	(1,000)	(40.00)
Gen Govt	Elections	General Expenses	10,500	11,500	1,000	9.52
Gen Govt	Street Listing	General Expenses	1,450	1,450	-	-
Gen Govt	Conservation Commis	Salaries & Wages	1,995	1,995	-	-
Gen Govt	Conservation Commis	General Expenses	2,700	2,700	-	-
Gen Govt	Planning Board	General Expenses	750	750	-	-
Gen Govt	Zoning Board/Appeals	General Expenses	600	600	-	-
Gen Govt	Town Office	Custodian Labor	13,235	13,235	-	-
Gen Govt	Town Office	Building Supervisor	10,221	10,221	-	-
Gen Govt	Town Office	General Expenses	30,000	30,000	-	-
Gen Govt	Town Office	Town Office Exp	2,500	2,500	-	-
Gen Govt	Town Office	Internet	10,000	11,000	1,000	10.00
Gen Govt	Town Office	Town Telephone	11,000	11,000	-	-
Gen Govt	Town Office	Copier Maint	2,400	2,400	-	-
Gen Govt	Town Office	Document Storage	2,100	2,100	-	-
Gen Govt	Town Office	Heating	45,000	25,000	(20,000)	(44.44)
Gen Govt	Town Office	Electricity	25,500	35,000	9,500	37.25
Gen Govt	Town Office	Computer Services	45,000	45,000	-	-
Gen Govt	Town Office	Technology Upgrades	5,000	5,000	-	-
Gen Govt	Town Office	Town Building Repairs	20,000	20,000	-	-
Gen Govt	Town Reports	General Expenses	1,900	1,500	(400)	(21.05)
Gen Govt	Transfer To	OPEB	5,000	10,000	5,000	100.00

Public Safety	Police	Salaries & Wages	79,348	85,416	6,068	7.65
Public Safety	Police	Police Dept labor	145,434	162,248	16,814	11.56
Public Safety	Police	General Expenses	25,626	25,626	-	-
Public Safety	Police	Police Records Software	8,035	8,035	-	-
Public Safety	Police	Police Bridge Academy Training & Gear	17,000	17,000	-	-
Public Safety	Fire	Salaries & Wages	37,451	56,177	18,726	50.00
Public Safety	Fire	Fire Dept labor	32,661	42,000	9,339	28.59
Public Safety	Fire	FD Admin Asst	13,325	15,331	2,006	15.05
Public Safety	Fire	FD Training	15,641	17,246	1,605	10.26
Public Safety	Fire	General Expenses	38,050	42,072	4,022	10.57
Public Safety	Ambulance	General Expenses	122,428	140,533	18,105	14.79
Public Safety	Emergency Medical S	Salaries & Wages	1,331	1,331	-	-
Public Safety	Emergency Medical S	Emer Mgmt Deputy	620	620	-	-
Public Safety	Emergency Medical S	General Expenses	3,750	3,750	-	-
Public Safety	Emergency Medical S	Emergency Communications	486	486	-	-
Public Works	Tree Service	Tree Removal/Planting	7,000	7,000	-	-
Education	Elementary School	Salaries & Wages, Elected Officials	1,590	1,590	-	-
Education	Elementary School	General Expenses	2,349,081	2,391,744	42,663	1.82
Education	Regional School	General Expenses	1,690,092	1,849,352	159,260	9.42
Education	Voctional/Technical Sc	General Expenses	600,000	531,000	(69,000)	(11.50)
Education	Voctional/Technical Sc	Voc Transportation	40,526	55,000	14,474	35.72
Public Works	Highway	Salaries & Wages, Elected Offi	69,875	78,750	8,875	12.70
Public Works	Highway	Salaries & Wages	147,693	147,693	-	-
Public Works	Highway	General Expenses	85,000	93,500	8,500	10.00
Public Works	Highway	Highway Garage/Equip Maint	41,641	45,800	4,159	9.99
Public Works	Highway	Vehicle Fuel	35,000	45,000	10,000	28.57
Public Works	Highway	Invasive Species	1,500	1,500	-	-
Public Works	Highway	Sidewalk Construction	5,000	5,000	-	-
Public Works	Highway	Highway Surplus equip	3,000	3,300	300	10.00
Public Works	Snow & Ice Removal	Salaries & Wages	15,997	15,997	-	-
Public Works	Snow & Ice Removal	General Expenses	72,500	72,500	-	-
Public Works	Street Lighting	General Expenses	8,000	8,000	-	-
Public Works	Transfer Station	Salaries & Wages	33,818	35,509	1,691	5.00
Public Works	Transfer Station	General Expenses	102,825	102,825	-	-
Public Works	Cemetery	General Expenses	1,100	1,200	100	9.09
Public Works	Cemetery	Haydenville Town Clock	1,354	1,600	246	18.17
Health / Human	Animal Inspection	General Expenses	1,020	1,020	-	-
Health / Human	Board of Health	Salaries & Wages, Elected Offi	4,109	4,109	-	-
Health / Human	Board of Health	General Expenses	1,050	1,050	-	-
Health / Human	Board of Health	Public Health Emgy/Training	1,550	1,550	-	-
Health / Human	Council on Aging	Salaries & Wages	31,814	38,274	6,460	20.31
Health / Human	Council on Aging	COA Labor	15,765	19,764	3,999	25.37
Health / Human	Council on Aging	COA Meal Site Staff	12,424	14,823	2,399	19.31
Health / Human	Council on Aging	COA Admin Asst	10,473	12,567	2,094	19.99
Health / Human	Council on Aging	General Expenses	5,000	5,000	-	-
Health / Human	Council on Aging	COA HEN Program	4,000	4,000	-	-
Health / Human	Veteran's Services	General Expenses	12,319	12,875	556	4.51
Health / Human	Veteran's Services	Veterans Benefits	40,000	40,000	-	-
Health / Human	ADA	General Expenses	400	400	-	-
Culture / Recrea	Library	Salaries & Wages, Elected Officials / Director	53,550	57,420	3,870	7.23
Culture / Recrea	Library	Salaries & Wages	111,949	128,720	16,771	14.98
Culture / Recrea	Library	General Expenses	14,000	14,000	-	-
Culture / Recrea	Library	Materials / Books	3,000	5,000	2,000	66.67
Culture / Recrea	Library	School library program	17,095	17,437	342	2.00
Culture / Recrea	Recreation Activities	Salaries & Wages	4,114	4,114	-	-
Culture / Recrea	Recreation Activities	General Expenses	5,000	5,000	-	-
Culture / Recrea	Recreation Activities	Woodland Trails Comm	500	500	-	-
Culture / Recrea	Historical Commission	General Expenses	500	500	-	-
Culture / Recrea	Veteran's Recognition	General Expenses	500	500	-	-
Debt Service	Retirement of Debt	Highland Amb Vehicle	6,444	6,484	40	0.62
Debt Service	Retirement of Debt	School Building	290,782	260,000	(30,782)	(10.59)

Debt Service	Retirement of Debt	Highland Amb Building	14,878	-	(14,878)	(100.00)
Debt Service	Retirement of Debt	Highway Garage	18,994	-	(18,994)	(100.00)
Debt Service	Retirement of Debt	Highway Truck BAN	10,200	-	(10,200)	(100.00)
Debt Service	Retirement of Debt	Public Safety Complex	-	105,000	105,000	-
Debt Service	Retirement of Debt	Fire Rescue Truck	-	-	-	-
Debt Service	Interest on Long-term	School Building	78,806	68,750	(10,056)	(12.76)
Debt Service	Interest on Long-term	Highway Garage	745	-	(745)	(100.00)
Debt Service	Interest on Long-term	Highway Truck BAN	159	-	(159)	(100.00)
Debt Service	Interest on Long-term	Public Safety Complex	53,621	155,600	101,979	190.18
Debt Service	Interest on Long-term	Fire Rescue Truck	-	-	-	-
Intergovernmental	County Assessment &	FRCOG Assessment	2,750	3,025	275	10.00
Intergovernmental	County Assessment &	HC Reg Lock Up	1	1	-	-
Intergovernmental	Inspection Services	General Expenses / Hilltown Resource MGMT	13,369	13,912	543	4.06
Intergovernmental	Inspection Services	Foothills Health District	37,535	37,120	(415)	(1.11)
Intergovernmental	Inspection Services	Building Inspection Prog	42,500	42,500	-	-
Intergovernmental	Inspection Services	PVPC Assessment	446	458	12	2.69
Intergovernmental	Inspection Services	Plumbing/Gas Inspect Prog	300	300	-	-
Fixed Costs	Retirement Contributio	General Expenses	344,622	386,108	41,486	12.04
Fixed Costs	Worker's Compensatio	General Expenses	36,778	15,000	(21,778)	(59.21)
Fixed Costs	Unemployment Comp	General Expenses	5,000	2,500	(2,500)	(50.00)
Fixed Costs	Unemployment Comp	Police & Fire insurance	4,587	16,031	11,444	249.49
Fixed Costs	Health Insurance	General Expenses	590,000	637,000	47,000	7.97
Fixed Costs	Medicare	General Expenses	47,000	45,000	(2,000)	(4.26)
Fixed Costs	Property Insurance	General Expenses	80,000	70,000	(10,000)	(12.50)
TOTAL			8,573,419	9,068,534	495,115	5.78
		CATEGORY	FY23 BUDGET	FY24 BUDGET	\$ DOLLAR DIFFERENCE	% PERCENT DIFFERENCE
		Gen Govt	689,992	703,391	13,399	1.94
		Public Safety	541,186	617,871	76,685	14.17
		Education	4,681,289	4,828,686	147,397	3.15
		Public Works	631,303	665,174	33,871	5.37
		Health / Human	139,924	155,432	15,508	11.08
		Culture / Recreation	210,208	233,191	22,983	10.93
		Debt Service	474,629	595,834	121,205	25.54
		Intergovernmental	96,901	97,316	415	0.43
		Fixed Costs	1,107,987	1,171,639	63,652	5.74
		TOTAL	8,573,419	9,068,534	495,115	5.78

ARTICLE 13

Moved and seconded that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$17,880 for the purpose of paying for maintenance costs and any other incidental and related expenses at the Old Village Hill Cemetery and Mountain Street Cemetery.

Motion Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 14

Moved and seconded that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$70,000 for the purpose of purchasing and equipping a new vehicle for the Williamsburg Fire Department and any other incidental and related expenses.

Motion Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 15

Moved and seconded that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$7,800 for the purpose of purchasing and equipping a utility vehicle trailer for the Williamsburg Fire Department and any other incidental and related expenses.

Motion Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 16

Moved and seconded that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$800 for the purpose of purchasing and equipping a tool set for the Williamsburg Fire Department Rescue Truck and any other incidental and related expenses.

Motion Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 17

Moved and seconded that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$60,000 for the purpose of purchasing and equipping a tractor with loader for the Williamsburg Highway Department and any other incidental and related expenses.

Motion Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 18

Moved and seconded that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$60,000 for the purpose of purchasing and equipping a truck with plow for the Williamsburg Highway Department and any other incidental and related expenses.

Motion made and seconded to call the question.

Motion Passed Unanimously

Original Motion Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 19

Moved and seconded that the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$110,000 for the purpose of purchasing and equipping a dump truck with sander for the Williamsburg Highway Department and any other incidental and related expenses.

Motion Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 20

Moved and seconded that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$66,000 for the purpose of purchasing and equipping a cruiser for the Williamsburg Police Department and any other incidental and related expenses.

Motion Passed Majority (2 Nay)

ARTICLE 21

Moved and seconded that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$40,000 for the purpose of paying for maintenance costs and any other incidental and related expenses at the Haydenville Library.

Motion made and seconded to call the question.

Motion Passed Majority (2 Nay)

Original Motion Passed Majority (8 Nay)

ARTICLE 22

Moved and seconded that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$2,100 for the purpose of purchasing audio visual equipment and any other incidental and related expenses for hosting virtual or hybrid public meetings for Town Boards and Committees.

Motion Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 23

Motion made and seconded that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$20,500 for the purpose of providing a 5% local contribution and any other incidental and related expenses to the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources (MDAR) for an Agricultural Preservation Restriction (APR) at 96 Mountain Street and further to authorize the Select Board or other board or commission to acquire an APR on said property.

Motion Passed Majority (1 Nay)

ARTICLE 24

Moved and seconded that the Town vote to transfer \$160,000 from Free Cash into the Stabilization Fund.

Motion Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 25

Moved and seconded that the Town vote to transfer from free cash the sum of \$5,000, being an amount equal to one-half of the amount received by the Town as Medicaid reimbursements in the FY23, to the Williamsburg School Department.

Motion Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 26

Moved and seconded that the Town vote, pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c.40, §5B, to create a new special purpose stabilization fund in the amount of \$15,210.77 as outlined in Article 26 of the warrant to be known as the Opioid Settlement Stabilization Fund.

Motion Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 26 (Warrant Article)

To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c.40, §5B, to create a new special purpose stabilization fund, to be known as the Opioid Settlement Stabilization Fund, which may be expended for all of the purposes allowed by law, including those outlined in applicable opioid-litigation settlement documents, a document prepared by the Substance Abuse Bureau of the Commonwealth's Office of Health and Human Services Department, found at <https://www.mass.gov/doc/massachusetts-abatement-terms/download> entitled "Abatement Strategies", and consistent with any state guidelines or regulations further clarifying allowable uses of opioid litigation settlement funds; and further, to adopt the last paragraph of said §5B and dedicate to such fund, without further appropriation, 100% of the opioid litigation settlement funds received by the Town; and further, to transfer from available funds a sum of money equal to that received or to be received by the Town from opioid litigation settlements resulting from the Town's participation in the national Opioid Multi-District Litigation into said Opioid Settlement Stabilization Fund; or take any other action related thereto.

ARTICLE 27

Moved and seconded that the Town vote to accept M.G.L. c. 41 §97A, entitled "Police Departments; Chief of Police; Powers and Duties," to create a so-called "strong" Police Chief, thereby revoking its acceptance of Section 97 of said Chapter 41, to be effective starting in the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023.

Motion made and seconded to call the question.

Motion Passed Majority (2 Nay)

Original Motion Passed Majority (4 Nay)

ARTICLE 28

Moved and seconded that the Town will vote in favor of a resolution to formally adopt the Land Acknowledgement Statement that was printed in the 250th Anniversary Brochure. [this is a citizen petition]

We acknowledge that the Town of Williamsburg is built with the ancestral homelands of the Pocumtuc Nation. The Pocumtuc, who had connections with these lands for millennia, are part

of a vast expanse of Algonquian relations. We recognize our present-day neighboring Indigenous people that continue to persevere as sovereign nations: the Nipmuc and the Wampanoag to the East, the Mohegan and the Pequot to the South, the Mohican to the West, and the Abenaki to the North. We acknowledge, too, the presence of Native people among and all around us. Over hundreds of years of removal, members of South New England Tribes would make the journey home to tend important places and renew their connection to their ancestral lands. Such care and connection to land and waters continues to the present day.

We express gratitude for nearby waters and surrounding lands, including the Kwinitekw—the southern portion of what’s now called the Connecticut River and the Pocumtuc, now called Deerfield River, which means “swift, shallow, sandy stream.” We recognize these lands and waters as important Relations with which we are all interconnected and depend on to sustain life and well-being.

Land acknowledgments name the long history of the land on which our town is situated and express gratitude to the Indigenous peoples who have lived and continue to live in the region. Land acknowledgments are statements that recognize the ongoing relationship between the land, its Native and Indigenous stewards, and all guests gathered on that land. Land acknowledgments are made to cultivate an environment that recognizes accountability within our community particularly as it relates to our engagement of Indigenous peoples in the past, present, and future history of our town.

Motion Passed Majority (3 Nay)

Motion made and seconded to adjourn Town Meeting. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:23 p.m.

Filed: June 7, 2023

A True Copy Attest: Brenda Lessard, Town Clerk

Brenda Lessard
Williamsburg Town Clerk

Cc: Accountant, Department of Revenue, Finance Committee, Board of Selectmen, Treasurer, Assessors, KP/Law, Highway Department, Planning Board, Board of Health, Town Administrator, Water & Sewer Commission, Police Department, Capital Planning, and Fire Department

Certificate of Nomination – Town Caucus

We certify that a caucus of 93 qualified voters (quorum 40) of the Town of Williamsburg was called and held in accordance with the provisions of law relating thereto, at the Williamsburg Town Offices, 141 Main Street on the fifth day of September 2023, and the following nominations of Candidates for Town Offices were made:

The Town Clerk, Brenda Lessard, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. once a quorum was met. The Voters of Caucus elected a Chair and Secretary.

Chair: Denise Banister Secretary: Kathleen Luce

There were three nominations, Richard Kisloski of 12 Cole Road; Paul Wetzel of 108 Petticoat Hill Road; and Patrick Sumner of 101 Mountain Street for two seats for caucus nomination (MGL 53:121) for the one seat on the Board of Selectmen. A vote of caucus members was taken and the candidates vote totals were Richard Kisloski-46, Paul Wetzel-64, and Patrick Sumner-28. The two nominees with the most votes became the caucus nominees.

<u>OFFICE</u>	<u>TERM</u>	<u>CANDIDATE</u>	<u>RESIDENCE</u>	<u>SIGNATURE</u>
SELECTMAN	To fill Vacancy	Richard Kisloski	12 Cole Road	Signed by same
SELECTMAN	To fill Vacancy	Paul Wetzel	108 Petticoat Hill Road	Signed by same

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

Meeting adjourned at 6:26 p.m.

S/ Denise Banister, Presiding Officer S/Kathleen Luce, Secretary to Caucus

Filed September 7, 2023

A TRUE COPY ATTEST BRENDA LESSARD, TOWN CLERK

Minutes of the Special Election

Saturday, November 4, 2023

The polls were open at 9:00 a.m. and closed at 4:00 p.m. at 141 Main Street, Haydenville, MA. The following were the results of the election.

Wardens: Kathy Luce Clerk: Fran Tilly

Registered Voters: 2123

Absentee & Early Ballots: 53 mailed, 51 cast

Votes Tallied by Imagecast: 469

Total Ballots Cast: 469 (22.1% of the registered voters)

Board of Selectmen

Blanks:	0
Richard Kisloski:	101
Patrick Sumner:	6
Paul Wetzel:	361 E
Write-In:	1

Filed: November 4, 2023

A TRUE COPY ATTEST BRENDA LESSARD, TOWN CLERK

Town Accountant Revenue Report FY2023

Account Code	Account Title	Original Budget	Revised Budget	YTD Budget - Final	YTD Actual	Balance
001	General Fund					
001	Balance Sheet					
4110	Personal Property Taxes	0.00	247,442.63	247,442.63	270,238.60	(35,646.26)
4120	Real Estate Taxes	0.00	6,858,108.61	6,858,108.61	6,821,547.27	(199,335.78)
4142	Tax Liens Redeemed	0.00	0.00	0.00	27,711.34	(27,711.34)
4146	Rollback Taxes	0.00	0.00	0.00	13,393.92	(13,393.92)
4150	Motor Vehicle Excise	0.00	300,000.00	300,000.00	376,412.41	(86,412.41)
4170	Pen & Int on Prop Taxes	0.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	28,856.55	(8,856.55)
4171	Pen & Int on Excise Taxes	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,016.55	(5,016.55)
4173	Penalty and Interest on Tax	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,443.88	(6,443.88)
4180	Pmts In Lieu of Taxes	0.00	50,000.00	50,000.00	52,806.70	(2,806.70)
4196	Meals Tax	0.00	30,000.00	30,000.00	44,944.21	(24,944.21)
4320	Fees	0.00	0.00	0.00	(20.00)	20.00
4360	Rentals	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,560.64	(3,560.64)
4510	Medicaid Revenue	0.00	0.00	0.00	27,882.98	(27,882.98)
4610	Reimb for Loss of Taxes	0.00	10,404.00	10,404.00	10,404.00	(2,298.00)
4613	Veterans Abatements	0.00	10,969.00	10,969.00	0.00	26,224.00
4616	Elderly Abatements	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,518.00	(4,518.00)
4620	School Aid Chapter 70	0.00	834,197.00	834,197.00	811,383.00	(26,016.00)
4640	School Choice	0.00	11,325.00	11,325.00	39,956.00	(17,128.00)
4661	Lottery Aid	0.00	350,710.00	350,710.00	350,710.00	(17,968.00)
4665	Veterans Benefits	0.00	14,043.00	14,043.00	25,455.24	(13,587.24)
4685	Fines - MV	0.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	1,205.99	1,794.01
4770	Fines - Parking	0.00	0.00	0.00	75.00	(75.00)
4771	Fines - District Court	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	300.00	700.00
4820	Earnings on Investments	0.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	40,526.21	(39,026.21)
4840	Miscellaneous Revenue	0.00	32,366.00	32,366.00	40,144.88	(20,144.88)
4971	Tr Fr Special Revenue	0.00	6,303.85	6,303.85	6,303.85	292,860.15
Total 001	Balance Sheet	0.00	8,781,369.09	8,781,369.09	9,009,777.22	(261,174.39)
122	Selectmen					
4410	Alcoholic Beverage Licenses	0.00	8,500.00	8,500.00	6,310.00	2,190.00
4420	Other Licenses	0.00	500.00	500.00	1,500.00	(1,000.00)
Total 122	Selectmen	0.00	9,000.00	9,000.00	7,810.00	1,190.00
146	Collector					
4320	Fees	0.00	0.00	0.00	10,030.63	(10,030.63)
Total 146	Collector	0.00	0.00	0.00	10,030.63	(10,030.63)
161	Clerk					
4320	Fees	0.00	0.00	0.00	50.00	(50.00)
Total 161	Clerk	0.00	0.00	0.00	50.00	(50.00)

210	Police					
4320	Fees	0.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	2,918.29	2,081.71
4450	Permits	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>650.00</u>	<u>(650.00)</u>
Total 210	Police	0.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	3,568.29	1,431.71
220	Fire					
4320	Fees	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	(100.00)
Total 220	Fire	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	(100.00)
241	Building Inspections					
4450	Permits	0.00	16,000.00	16,000.00	28,903.06	(12,903.06)
Total 241	Building Inspections	0.00	16,000.00	16,000.00	28,903.06	(12,903.06)
300	Elementary School					
4540	Revenue	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,892.78	(3,892.78)
Total 300	Elementary School	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,892.78	(3,892.78)
431	Trash Stickers					
4320	Fees	0.00	50,000.00	50,000.00	50,048.00	(48.00)
Total 431	Trash Stickers	0.00	50,000.00	50,000.00	50,048.00	(48.00)
433	Transfer Station					
4320	Fees	0.00	0.00	0.00	505.00	(505.00)
Total 433	Transfer Station	0.00	0.00	0.00	505.00	(505.00)
512	Board of Health					
4320	Fees	0.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00
4450	Permits	0.00	0.00	0.00	13,650.00	(13,650.00)
4540	Revenue	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,250.00</u>	<u>(1,250.00)</u>
Total 512	Board of Health	<u>0.00</u>	<u>5,000.00</u>	<u>5,000.00</u>	<u>14,900.00</u>	<u>(9,900.00)</u>
Report Difference		<u>0.00</u>	<u>8,866,369.09</u>	<u>8,866,369.09</u>	<u>9,129,584.98</u>	<u>(295,982.15)</u>

Town Accountant Expense Report FY2023

Account Code	Account Title	Original Budget	Revised Budget	Total Budget	YTD Actual	Balance	% Exp
114	Moderator						
5100	Salaries & Wages, Elected	<u>333.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>333.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>333.00</u>	<u>0.00%</u>
Total 114	Moderator	333.00	0.00	333.00	0.00	333.00	0.00%
122	Selectmen						
5100	Salaries & Wages, Elected	9,312.00	0.00	9,312.00	9,312.00	0.00	100.00%
5400	General Expenses	3,750.00	0.00	3,750.00	2,401.09	1,348.91	64.03%
5405	FY19 Art#19 250th	4,000.00	5,941.53	9,941.53	6,202.39	3,739.14	62.39%
5802	STM Prior FY Bill	0.00	2,382.27	2,382.27	2,382.27	0.00	100.00%
5804	ART #10 ATM Prior FY	<u>200.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>200.00</u>	<u>200.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>100.00%</u>
Total 122	Selectmen	17,262.00	8,323.80	25,585.80	20,497.75	5,088.05	80.11%
123	Town Administrator						
5100	Salaries & Wages, Elected	66,675.00	0.00	66,675.00	66,675.00	0.00	100.00%
5101	Admin Asst	17,934.00	0.00	17,934.00	17,154.84	779.16	95.66%
5400	General Expenses	750.00	0.00	750.00	490.99	259.01	65.47%
5403	MCPPO Training	<u>1,885.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,885.00</u>	<u>1,885.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>100.00%</u>
Total 123	Town Administrator	87,244.00	0.00	87,244.00	86,205.83	1,038.17	98.81%
130	Capital Planning Committee						
5400	General Expenses	<u>75.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>75.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>75.00</u>	<u>0.00%</u>
Total 130	Capital Planning Committee	75.00	0.00	75.00	0.00	75.00	0.00%
131	Finance Committee						
5100	Salaries & Wages, Elected	4,209.00	0.00	4,209.00	3,741.36	467.64	88.89%
5400	General Expenses	<u>500.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>500.00</u>	<u>225.50</u>	<u>274.50</u>	<u>45.10%</u>
Total 131	Finance Committee	4,709.00	0.00	4,709.00	3,966.86	742.14	84.24%
132	Reserve Fund						
5400	General Expenses	<u>60,000.00</u>	<u>(59,991.46)</u>	<u>8.54</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>8.54</u>	<u>0.00%</u>
Total 132	Reserve Fund	60,000.00	(59,991.46)	8.54	0.00	8.54	0.00%
135	Accountant						
5110	Salaries & Wages	38,802.00	0.00	38,802.00	38,802.00	0.00	100.00%
5400	General Expenses	150.00	0.00	150.00	0.00	150.00	0.00%
5420	Accounting Software	750.00	0.00	750.00	750.00	0.00	100.00%
5710	Audit Services	<u>24,000.00</u>	<u>4,500.00</u>	<u>28,500.00</u>	<u>4,500.00</u>	<u>24,000.00</u>	<u>15.79%</u>
Total 135	Accountant	63,702.00	4,500.00	68,202.00	44,052.00	24,150.00	64.59%
141	Assessors						
5100	Salaries & Wages, Elected	10,345.00	0.00	10,345.00	10,344.60	0.40	100.00%
5110	Salaries & Wages	22,973.00	0.00	22,973.00	22,973.00	0.00	100.00%
5400	General Expenses	19,700.00	0.00	19,700.00	7,633.20	12,066.80	38.75%
5499	Encumbrance	<u>0.00</u>	<u>2,970.00</u>	<u>2,970.00</u>	<u>2,970.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>100.00%</u>
Total 141	Assessors	53,018.00	2,970.00	55,988.00	43,920.80	12,067.20	78.45%

142	Revaluation						
5400	General Expenses	<u>5,000.00</u>	<u>12,000.00</u>	<u>17,000.00</u>	<u>6,014.88</u>	<u>10,985.12</u>	<u>35.38%</u>
Total 142	Revaluation	5,000.00	12,000.00	17,000.00	6,014.88	10,985.12	35.38%
145	Treasurer						
5100	Salaries & Wages, Elected	25,076.00	0.00	25,076.00	25,076.00	0.00	100.00%
5110	Salaries & Wages	1,050.00	(50.00)	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00	100.00%
5123	Treasurers Asst	6,342.00	317.00	6,659.00	6,659.00	0.00	100.00%
5400	General Expenses	6,500.00	640.55	7,140.55	7,140.55	0.00	100.00%
5421	Treasurer's Software	5,100.00	823.31	5,923.31	5,923.31	0.00	100.00%
5810	OPEB Reeval	<u>6,500.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>6,500.00</u>	<u>1,400.00</u>	<u>5,100.00</u>	<u>21.54%</u>
Total 145	Treasurer	50,568.00	1,730.86	52,298.86	47,198.86	5,100.00	90.25%
146	Collector						
5100	Salaries & Wages, Elected	48,090.00	0.00	48,090.00	46,919.20	1,170.80	97.57%
5110	Salaries & Wages	1,050.00	(50.00)	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	0.00%
5400	General Expenses	7,992.00	0.00	7,992.00	6,781.35	1,210.65	84.85%
5410	Deputy Coll Expenses	1,900.00	0.00	1,900.00	801.61	1,098.39	42.19%
5460	Tax Title Exp	<u>1,500.00</u>	<u>2,420.63</u>	<u>3,920.63</u>	<u>1,690.34</u>	<u>2,230.29</u>	<u>43.11%</u>
Total 146	Collector	60,532.00	2,370.63	62,902.63	56,192.50	6,710.13	89.33%
149	Oliver Smith Trust						
5400	General Expenses	<u>35.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>35.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>35.00</u>	<u>0.00%</u>
Total 149	Oliver Smith Trust	35.00	0.00	35.00	0.00	35.00	0.00%
151	Legal						
5400	General Expenses	<u>10,000.00</u>	<u>5,127.57</u>	<u>15,127.57</u>	<u>15,127.57</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>100.00%</u>
Total 151	Legal	10,000.00	5,127.57	15,127.57	15,127.57	0.00	100.00%
159	Other Operations Support						
5400	General Expenses	1,200.00	178.42	1,378.42	1,378.42	0.00	100.00%
5401	Energy Comm Expenses	<u>250.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>250.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>250.00</u>	<u>0.00%</u>
Total 159	Other Operations Support	1,450.00	178.42	1,628.42	1,378.42	250.00	84.65%
160	Constable						
5100	Salaries & Wages, Elected	<u>495.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>495.00</u>	<u>371.25</u>	<u>123.75</u>	<u>75.00%</u>
Total 160	Constable	495.00	0.00	495.00	371.25	123.75	75.00%
161	Clerk						
5100	Salaries & Wages, Elected	25,461.00	0.00	25,461.00	25,461.00	0.00	100.00%
5124	Clerk's Assistant	2,540.00	0.00	2,540.00	2,535.00	5.00	99.80%
5400	General Expenses	1,700.00	0.00	1,700.00	1,628.49	71.51	95.79%
5404	Records Storage	2,500.00	0.00	2,500.00	2,159.40	340.60	86.38%
5422	Clerk's Software	<u>500.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>500.00</u>	<u>500.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>100.00%</u>
Total 161	Clerk	32,701.00	0.00	32,701.00	32,283.89	417.11	98.72%
162	Elections						
5400	General Expenses	<u>10,500.00</u>	<u>963.37</u>	<u>11,463.37</u>	<u>11,463.37</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>100.00%</u>
Total 162	Elections	10,500.00	963.37	11,463.37	11,463.37	0.00	100.00%
164	Street Listing						
5400	General Expenses	<u>1,450.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,450.00</u>	<u>1,339.21</u>	<u>110.79</u>	<u>92.36%</u>
Total 164	Street Listing	1,450.00	0.00	1,450.00	1,339.21	110.79	92.36%

171	Conservation Commission						
5110	Salaries & Wages	1,995.00	0.00	1,995.00	1,163.69	831.31	58.33%
5400	General Expenses	<u>2,700.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>2,700.00</u>	<u>1,003.65</u>	<u>1,696.35</u>	<u>37.17%</u>
Total 171	Conservation Commission	4,695.00	0.00	4,695.00	2,167.34	2,527.66	46.16%
173	Mill River Greenway						
5400	General Expenses	<u>0.00</u>	<u>3,500.00</u>	<u>3,500.00</u>	<u>3,165.65</u>	<u>334.35</u>	<u>90.45%</u>
Total 173	Mill River Greenway	0.00	3,500.00	3,500.00	3,165.65	334.35	90.45%
175	Planning Board						
5400	General Expenses	<u>750.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>750.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>750.00</u>	<u>0.00%</u>
Total 175	Planning Board	750.00	0.00	750.00	0.00	750.00	0.00%
176	Zoning/Appeals Board						
5400	General Expenses	<u>600.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>600.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>600.00</u>	<u>0.00%</u>
Total 176	Zoning/Appeals Board	600.00	0.00	600.00	0.00	600.00	0.00%
192	Town Office						
5125	Custodian Labor	13,235.00	0.00	13,235.00	12,099.41	1,135.59	91.42%
5130	Building Supervisor	10,221.00	0.00	10,221.00	10,221.00	0.00	100.00%
5400	General Expenses	30,000.00	2,396.41	32,396.41	32,396.41	0.00	100.00%
5412	Town Office Exp	2,500.00	0.00	2,500.00	1,464.83	1,035.17	58.59%
5430	Internet	10,000.00	0.00	10,000.00	9,736.45	263.55	97.36%
5431	Town Telephone	11,000.00	0.00	11,000.00	10,459.03	540.97	95.08%
5432	Copier Maint	2,400.00	451.15	2,851.15	2,851.15	0.00	100.00%
5436	Document Storage	2,100.00	0.00	2,100.00	2,100.00	0.00	100.00%
5450	Heating	45,000.00	0.00	45,000.00	37,109.79	7,890.21	82.47%
5455	Electricity	25,500.00	10,086.63	35,586.63	35,586.63	0.00	100.00%
5470	Computer Services	45,000.00	1,863.04	46,863.04	46,863.04	0.00	100.00%
5480	Technology Upgrades	5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00	4,971.70	28.30	99.43%
5807	Multi-Factor Authen	0.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00	0.00%
5812	A:12 Town Off Bldg Repairs	60,000.00	0.00	60,000.00	9,437.50	50,562.50	15.73%
5850	Town Building Repairs	<u>20,000.00</u>	<u>7,916.14</u>	<u>27,916.14</u>	<u>27,178.05</u>	<u>738.09</u>	<u>97.36%</u>
Total 192	Town Office	281,956.00	24,213.37	306,169.37	242,474.99	63,694.38	79.20%
193	Property Insurance						
5400	General Expenses	<u>80,000.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>80,000.00</u>	<u>69,893.00</u>	<u>10,107.00</u>	<u>87.37%</u>
Total 193	Property Insurance	80,000.00	0.00	80,000.00	69,893.00	10,107.00	87.37%
195	Town Reports						
5400	General Expenses	<u>1,900.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,900.00</u>	<u>1,446.00</u>	<u>454.00</u>	<u>76.11%</u>
Total 195	Town Reports	1,900.00	0.00	1,900.00	1,446.00	454.00	76.11%
210	Police						
5110	Salaries & Wages	79,348.00	0.00	79,348.00	79,348.00	0.00	100.00%
5121	Police Dept labor	145,434.00	0.00	145,434.00	139,870.77	5,563.23	96.17%
5400	General Expenses	25,626.00	0.00	25,626.00	22,528.62	3,097.38	87.91%
5423	Police Records Software	8,035.00	0.00	8,035.00	8,035.00	0.00	100.00%
5441	Bridge Academy Training/G	<u>17,000.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>17,000.00</u>	<u>6,717.18</u>	<u>10,282.82</u>	<u>39.51%</u>
Total 210	Police	275,443.00	0.00	275,443.00	256,499.57	18,943.43	93.12%

220	Fire							
5110	Salaries & Wages	37,451.00	0.00	37,451.00	37,451.00	0.00	100.00%	
5122	Fire Dept labor	32,661.00	0.00	32,661.00	32,661.00	0.00	100.00%	
5131	FD Admin Asst	13,325.00	0.00	13,325.00	13,324.58	0.42	100.00%	
5132	FD Training	15,641.00	0.00	15,641.00	15,641.00	0.00	100.00%	
5400	General Expenses	38,050.00	0.00	38,050.00	37,964.06	85.94	99.77%	
5813	AFG GRANT MATCH	0.00	3,921.58	3,921.58	0.00	3,921.58	0.00%	
Total 220	Fire	137,128.00	3,921.58	141,049.58	137,041.64	4,007.94	97.16%	
231	Ambulance							
5400	General Expenses	122,428.00	0.00	122,428.00	122,427.63	0.37	100.00%	
Total 231	Ambulance	122,428.00	0.00	122,428.00	122,427.63	0.37	100.00%	
232	Emergency Medical Service							
5110	Salaries & Wages	1,331.00	0.00	1,331.00	1,331.00	0.00	100.00%	
5127	Emer Mgmt Deputy	620.00	0.00	620.00	620.00	0.00	100.00%	
5400	General Expenses	3,750.00	0.00	3,750.00	3,450.60	299.40	92.02%	
5433	Emergency Communication	486.00	1,458.00	1,944.00	0.00	1,944.00	0.00%	
Total 232	Emergency Medical Service	6,187.00	1,458.00	7,645.00	5,401.60	2,243.40	70.66%	
294	Tree Service							
5414	Tree Removal/Planting	7,000.00	1,320.00	8,320.00	8,320.00	0.00	100.00%	
Total 294	Tree Service	7,000.00	1,320.00	8,320.00	8,320.00	0.00	100.00%	
300	Elementary School							
5100	Salaries & Wages, Elected	1,590.00	0.00	1,590.00	1,590.00	0.00	100.00%	
5400	General Expenses	2,349,081.00	0.00	2,349,081.00	2,144,233.04	204,847.96	91.28%	
5499	Encumbrance	0.00	8,310.87	8,310.87	12,535.86	(4,224.99)	150.84%	
Total 300	Elementary School	2,350,671.00	8,310.87	2,358,981.87	2,158,358.90	200,622.97	91.50%	
310	Regional School							
5400	General Expenses	1,690,092.00	0.00	1,690,092.00	1,580,692.25	109,399.75	93.53%	
Total 310	Regional School	1,690,092.00	0.00	1,690,092.00	1,580,692.25	109,399.75	93.53%	
320	Vocational/Technical Schools							
5400	General Expenses	600,000.00	0.00	600,000.00	550,913.37	49,086.63	91.82%	
5415	Voc Transportation	40,526.00	0.00	40,526.00	40,526.00	0.00	100.00%	
Total 320	Vocational/Technical Schools	640,526.00	0.00	640,526.00	591,439.37	49,086.63	92.34%	
422	Highway							
5100	Salaries & Wages, Elected	69,875.00	5,125.00	75,000.00	75,000.00	0.00	100.00%	
5110	Salaries & Wages	147,693.00	0.00	147,693.00	120,830.72	26,862.28	81.81%	
5400	General Expenses	85,000.00	0.00	85,000.00	78,497.51	6,502.49	92.35%	
5416	Highway Garage/Equip	41,641.00	0.00	41,641.00	40,490.94	1,150.06	97.24%	
5417	Vehicle Fuel	35,000.00	15,887.26	50,887.26	50,887.26	0.00	100.00%	
5440	Invasive Species	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	0.00	100.00%	
5443	Sidewalk Construction	5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00	0.00%	
5817	Front End Loader A:11 ATM	140,000.00	0.00	140,000.00	136,502.00	3,498.00	97.50%	
5837	Art #3 STM 8/31/21 culvert	0.00	8,517.57	8,517.57	1,756.90	6,760.67	20.63%	
5840	Highway Surplus equip	3,000.00	734.67	3,734.67	3,309.99	424.68	88.63%	
5841	Cement Sidewalk Const	0.00	7,673.68	7,673.68	0.00	7,673.68	0.00%	
Total 422	Highway	528,709.00	37,938.18	566,647.18	508,775.32	57,871.86	89.79%	

423	Snow & Ice Removal						
5110	Salaries & Wages	15,997.00	2,888.24	18,885.24	18,885.24	0.00	100.00%
5400	General Expenses	<u>72,500.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>72,500.00</u>	<u>72,500.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>100.00%</u>
Total 423	Snow & Ice Removal	88,497.00	2,888.24	91,385.24	91,385.24	0.00	100.00%
424	Street Lighting						
5400	General Expenses	<u>8,000.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>8,000.00</u>	<u>7,795.46</u>	<u>204.54</u>	<u>97.44%</u>
Total 424	Street Lighting	8,000.00	0.00	8,000.00	7,795.46	204.54	97.44%
433	Transfer Station						
5110	Salaries & Wages	33,818.00	0.00	33,818.00	31,169.44	2,648.56	92.17%
5400	General Expenses	102,825.00	0.00	102,825.00	87,094.42	15,730.58	84.70%
5499	Encumbrance	<u>0.00</u>	<u>8,660.00</u>	<u>8,660.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>8,660.00</u>	<u>0.00%</u>
Total 433	Transfer Station	136,643.00	8,660.00	145,303.00	118,263.86	27,039.14	81.39%
491	Cemetery						
5400	General Expenses	1,100.00	100.00	1,200.00	1,200.00	0.00	100.00%
5458	Haydenville Town Clock	<u>1,354.00</u>	<u>134.31</u>	<u>1,488.31</u>	<u>1,488.31</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>100.00%</u>
Total 491	Cemetery	2,454.00	234.31	2,688.31	2,688.31	0.00	100.00%
510	Animal Inspection						
5400	General Expenses	<u>1,020.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,020.00</u>	<u>1,020.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>100.00%</u>
Total 510	Animal Inspection	1,020.00	0.00	1,020.00	1,020.00	0.00	100.00%
512	Board of Health						
5100	Salaries & Wages, Elected	4,109.00	0.00	4,109.00	4,108.98	0.02	100.00%
5400	General Expenses	1,050.00	0.00	1,050.00	100.00	950.00	9.52%
5418	Public Health Emgy/Training	<u>1,550.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,550.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,550.00</u>	<u>0.00%</u>
Total 512	Board of Health	6,709.00	0.00	6,709.00	4,208.98	2,500.02	62.74%
541	Council on Aging						
5110	Salaries & Wages	31,814.00	0.00	31,814.00	31,814.00	0.00	100.00%
5128	COA Labor	15,765.00	0.00	15,765.00	14,799.00	966.00	93.87%
5129	COA Meal Site Staff	12,424.00	0.00	12,424.00	11,983.07	440.93	96.45%
5140	COA Admin Asst	10,473.00	0.00	10,473.00	10,473.00	0.00	100.00%
5400	General Expenses	5,000.00	115.18	5,115.18	5,115.18	0.00	100.00%
5419	COA HEN Program	<u>4,000.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>4,000.00</u>	<u>4,000.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>100.00%</u>
Total 541	Council on Aging	79,476.00	115.18	79,591.18	78,184.25	1,406.93	98.23%
543	Veteran's Services						
5400	General Expenses	12,319.00	0.00	12,319.00	11,812.00	507.00	95.88%
5454	Veterans Benefits	<u>40,000.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>40,000.00</u>	<u>25,354.93</u>	<u>14,645.07</u>	<u>63.39%</u>
Total 543	Veteran's Services	52,319.00	0.00	52,319.00	37,166.93	15,152.07	71.04%
549	ADA						
5400	General Expenses	<u>400.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>400.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>400.00</u>	<u>0.00%</u>
Total 549	ADA	400.00	0.00	400.00	0.00	400.00	0.00%
610	Library						
5100	Salaries & Wages, Elected	53,550.00	0.00	53,550.00	53,550.00	0.00	100.00%
5110	Salaries & Wages	111,949.00	0.00	111,949.00	110,398.42	1,550.58	98.61%

5400	General Expenses	14,000.00	0.00	14,000.00	11,628.60	2,371.40	83.06%
5442	Materials/Books	3,000.00	0.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	0.00	100.00%
5444	School Library Program	<u>17,095.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>17,095.00</u>	<u>15,640.88</u>	<u>1,454.12</u>	<u>91.49%</u>
Total 610	Library	199,594.00	0.00	199,594.00	194,217.90	5,376.10	97.31%
630	Recreation Activities						
5110	Salaries & Wages	4,114.00	0.00	4,114.00	429.94	3,684.06	10.45%
5400	General Expenses	5,000.00	71.56	5,071.56	5,071.56	0.00	100.00%
5425	Woodland Trails Comm	<u>500.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>500.00</u>	<u>372.75</u>	<u>127.25</u>	<u>74.55%</u>
Total 630	Recreation Activities	9,614.00	71.56	9,685.56	5,874.25	3,811.31	60.65%
691	Historical Commission						
5400	General Expenses	<u>500.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>500.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>500.00</u>	<u>0.00%</u>
Total 691	Historical Commission	500.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	500.00	0.00%
699	Veterans Recognitions						
5400	General Expenses	<u>500.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>500.00</u>	<u>100.00</u>	<u>400.00</u>	<u>20.00%</u>
Total 699	Veterans Recognitions	500.00	0.00	500.00	100.00	400.00	20.00%
710	Retirement of Debt						
5481	Highland Amb Vehicle	6,444.00	0.00	6,444.00	6,443.75	0.25	100.00%
5917	Highland Amb Building	14,878.00	0.00	14,878.00	14,877.93	0.07	100.00%
5925	School Building	290,782.00	0.00	290,782.00	251,379.31	39,402.69	86.45%
5975	Highway Garage	18,934.00	60.00	18,994.00	18,620.69	373.31	98.03%
5980	Highway	<u>10,200.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>10,200.00</u>	<u>10,200.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>100.00%</u>
Total 710	Retirement of Debt	341,238.00	60.00	341,298.00	301,521.68	39,776.32	88.35%
751	Interest on Long-term Debt						
5925	School Building	78,806.00	0.00	78,806.00	78,805.18	0.82	100.00%
5975	Highway Garage	745.00	0.00	745.00	744.82	0.18	99.98%
5977	PSC Building	80,000.00	(26,379.00)	53,621.00	53,620.71	0.29	100.00%
5980	Highway	<u>159.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>159.00</u>	<u>158.68</u>	<u>0.32</u>	<u>99.80%</u>
Total 751	Interest on Long-term Debt	159,710.00	(26,379.00)	133,331.00	133,329.39	1.61	100.00%
820	State Assessments & Charges						
5640	Air Pollution District	0.00	747.00	747.00	693.00	54.00	92.77%
5646	RMV Marking Surchg	0.00	2,200.00	2,200.00	1,628.00	572.00	74.00%
5663	Reg Transit Authority	0.00	40,524.00	40,524.00	37,147.00	3,377.00	91.67%
5690	Charter School	0.00	129,662.00	129,662.00	113,530.00	16,132.00	87.56%
5691	School Choice Assessment	<u>0.00</u>	<u>67,606.00</u>	<u>67,606.00</u>	<u>63,152.00</u>	<u>4,454.00</u>	<u>93.41%</u>
Total 820	State Assessments &	0.00	240,739.00	240,739.00	216,150.00	24,589.00	89.79%
830	County Assessments & Charges						
5494	FRCOG Assessment	2,750.00	275.00	3,025.00	3,025.00	0.00	100.00%
5628	HC Reg Lock Up	<u>1.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1.00</u>	<u>0.00%</u>
Total 830	County Assessments & Charge	2,751.00	275.00	3,026.00	3,025.00	1.00	99.97%
840	Inspection Programs						
5400	General Expenses	13,369.00	707.46	14,076.46	14,076.46	0.00	100.00%
5490	Foothills Health District	37,535.00	0.00	37,535.00	37,532.79	2.21	99.99%
5491	Building Inspection Prog	42,500.00	0.00	42,500.00	42,500.00	0.00	100.00%
5492	PVPC Assessment	446.00	0.00	446.00	446.00	0.00	100.00%
5493	Plumbing/Gas Inspect	<u>300.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>300.00</u>	<u>16.00</u>	<u>284.00</u>	<u>5.33%</u>

Total 840	Inspection Programs	94,150.00	707.46	94,857.46	94,571.25	286.21	99.70%
911	Retirement Contribution						
5400	General Expenses	<u>344,622.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>344,622.00</u>	<u>344,622.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>100.00%</u>
Total 911	Retirement Contribution	344,622.00	0.00	344,622.00	344,622.00	0.00	100.00%
912	Worker's Compensation						
5400	General Expenses	<u>36,778.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>36,778.00</u>	<u>14,396.00</u>	<u>22,382.00</u>	<u>39.14%</u>
Total 912	Worker's Compensation	36,778.00	0.00	36,778.00	14,396.00	22,382.00	39.14%
913	Unemployment Compensation						
5400	General Expenses	5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00	0.00%
5411	Police & Fire insurance	<u>4,587.00</u>	<u>10,837.00</u>	<u>15,424.00</u>	<u>15,424.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>100.00%</u>
Total 913	Unemployment Compensation	9,587.00	10,837.00	20,424.00	15,424.00	5,000.00	75.52%
914	Health Insurance						
5400	General Expenses	<u>590,000.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>590,000.00</u>	<u>576,102.76</u>	<u>13,897.24</u>	<u>97.64%</u>
Total 914	Health Insurance	590,000.00	0.00	590,000.00	576,102.76	13,897.24	97.64%
916	Medicare						
5400	General Expenses	<u>47,000.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>47,000.00</u>	<u>41,672.66</u>	<u>5,327.34</u>	<u>88.67%</u>
Total 916	Medicare	47,000.00	0.00	47,000.00	41,672.66	5,327.34	88.67%
970	Transfer To						
5900	OPEB	5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	0.00	100.00%
5962	Transfer to Stabilization	191,929.00	0.00	191,929.00	191,929.00	0.00	100.00%
5966	Transfer to Spec Purpose	<u>5,000.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>5,000.00</u>	<u>5,000.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>100.00%</u>
Total 970	Transfer To	<u>201,929.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>201,929.00</u>	<u>201,929.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>100.00%</u>
Report Difference		<u>9,000,650.00</u>	<u>297,043.94</u>	<u>9,297,693.94</u>	<u>8,541,765.37</u>	<u>755,928.57</u>	<u>91.87%</u>

Town Accountant Special Revenue Funds FY2023

		Beginning Bal	Revenue	Expense	Balance
1HW	Highway Funds				
	Highway C291 FY07	0.03	122,918.16	(130,005.54)	(7,087.35)
	WRAP PROGRAM	0.00	141,593.37	(102,645.20)	38,948.17
	Share Streets Grant DOT	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>(22,720.00)</u>	<u>(22,720.00)</u>
	Total Highway Funds	0.03	264,511.53	(255,370.74)	9,140.82
2Rev	Revolving Funds				
	Wetlands Protection Fund	4,416.25	0.00	0.00	4,416.25
	Dog Revolving Fund	7,661.04	4,337.00	(2,352.50)	9,645.54
	Transfer Station Open Box	54,348.29	31,173.25	0.00	85,521.54
	Planning Board	14,621.91	100.00	0.00	14,721.91
	Recreation Revolving Fund	329.24	0.00	0.00	329.24
	Fire Inspections	97.00	2,895.00	(3,135.00)	(143.00)
	Plumbing Inspections	(697.00)	2,888.00	(3,172.00)	(981.00)
	Electrical Inspections	<u>5,926.81</u>	<u>7,145.00</u>	<u>(6,140.00)</u>	<u>6,931.81</u>
	Total Revolving Funds	86,703.54	48,538.25	(14,799.50)	120,442.29
3OSR	Other Special Revenue				
	Board of Appeals	3,564.20	1,033.00	(421.30)	4,175.90
	Conservation Revolving	12,765.09	800.00	(7,068.67)	6,496.42
	Early Voting Funds	987.27	0.00	0.00	987.27
	Insurance Claims	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Town Picnic Fund	389.64	0.00	0.00	389.64
	Road Machinery Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Mill River Greenway	8,557.68	50.00	(4,146.08)	4,461.60
	Recreation Donation	31,684.48	0.00	0.00	31,684.48
	Horse Mountain	3,472.37	0.00	0.00	3,472.37
	Woodland Trails Donation	8,674.16	750.00	(2,757.74)	6,666.42
	COA Donations	19,671.86	12,664.91	(2,979.63)	29,357.14
	Flag Donations	383.05	0.00	0.00	383.05
	Ice Rink Donations	509.62	0.00	0.00	509.62
	DTA-SNAP	1,011.24	0.00	0.00	1,011.24
	Library Donations Greta	10,712.28	0.00	(2,482.18)	8,230.10
	Library Local	47,771.17	23,218.66	(30,057.04)	40,932.79
	Town Flag Gift Donations	125.00	0.00	0.00	125.00
	Angel Garden Fund	3,423.45	180.00	(420.00)	3,183.45
	TNC Ride Share	91.00	12.00	0.00	103.00
	Highland Valley Elder Serv	353.00	3,785.00	(3,625.00)	513.00
	PVTA	(3,146.44)	11,550.54	(11,210.16)	(2,806.06)
	250th Committee	<u>31,315.94</u>	<u>15,936.50</u>	<u>(31,396.68)</u>	<u>15,855.76</u>
	Total Other Special Revenue	182,316.06	69,980.61	(96,564.48)	155,732.19
4S&F	State & Federal Grants				
	MIIA Grant	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Green communities Grant	1.00	0.00	0.00	1.00
	EMP Grant	310.00	0.00	0.00	310.00
	Septic Grants	15,934.23	0.00	0.00	15,934.23
	Comcast Technology Fund	14,044.80	6,633.42	0.00	20,678.22
	SAMSHA Policing Grant	368.28	0.00	(53.88)	314.40
	MARTAP Grant	0.00	1,000.00	(1,000.00)	0.00
	Mass Personal Safety	795.45	0.00	0.00	795.45

Accountant - Special Funds

	AED Equipment Grant	148.00	0.00	0.00	148.00
	EMPG Grant	(2,257.90)	2,256.91	0.00	(0.99)
	Bulletproof Vest Grant	7,989.79	600.00	(3,976.00)	4,613.79
	Gov Highway Safety Grant	(871.89)	0.00	0.00	(871.89)
	COA Formula Grant	4,993.11	11,244.00	(7,255.14)	8,981.97
	Library State Aid	2,449.41	9,305.21	(8,228.96)	3,525.66
	Cultural Council	5,627.20	5,500.00	(7,365.00)	3,762.20
	MVPARPA GRANT	0.00	0.00	(737,043.52)	(737,043.52)
	MassWorks Grant	(34.12)	0.00	0.00	(34.12)
	250th Celebration MA	(9,972.98)	9,972.98	0.00	0.00
	Volunteer Fire Assistance	0.00	3,000.00	(3,078.00)	(78.00)
	Fire Dept SAFE Grant	2,098.59	9,316.00	(5,399.54)	6,015.05
	Fire Safety Equip Grant	(12,500.00)	12,500.00	(11,180.00)	(11,180.00)
	Fire Dept Equip Grant	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Recycling Div Grant	5,269.93	4,200.00	(10,294.04)	(824.11)
	Veterans Benefits COLA	1,422.00	0.00	0.00	1,422.00
	ARPA FUNDS	256,202.12	368,552.13	(72,950.29)	551,803.96
	Regional IT Grant	2,087.00	0.00	(80.00)	2,007.00
	Document IT Mgmt	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.03
	Mass Trails Grant	(80,000.00)	80,000.00	(188,900.00)	(188,900.00)
	CC Econ Dev Assess Grant	20,000.00	0.00	(20,000.00)	0.00
	Comm Comp Grant	22,000.00	0.00	(22,000.00)	0.00
	Title I Grant	877.92	7,601.00	(16,535.78)	(8,056.86)
	School Choice	199,339.40	52,799.00	0.00	252,138.40
	REAPS Grant	(5,704.59)	5,511.00	(14,590.60)	(14,784.19)
	94-142 Grant	9,347.24	0.00	(8,169.51)	1,177.73
	Star Grant	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	RURAL AIDE	5,405.48	52,533.02	(6,280.12)	51,658.38
	Title IIA	0.00	0.00	(205.00)	(205.00)
	Medicaid Reimbursement	(2,880.00)	0.00	(1,912.73)	(4,792.73)
	Circuit Breaker	57,497.00	65,195.00	0.00	122,692.00
	Voc Transportation	11,554.00	0.00	0.00	11,554.00
	Coronavirus Prev Grant	498.53	0.00	0.00	498.53
	ESSER II	(27,085.62)	15,132.00	(9,495.22)	(21,448.84)
	ASOST GRANT	(1,080.55)	7,072.00	(7,715.50)	(1,724.05)
	ESSER III	15,524.00	0.00	(4,764.63)	10,759.37
	Covid Payroll	5,016.94	0.00	0.00	5,016.94
	TITLE I GRANT	14,071.00	4,050.00	(3,246.70)	14,874.30
	TITLE II GRANT Ed	154.00	520.00	(3,006.00)	(2,332.00)
	TITLE IV GRANT	421.00	1,000.00	(7,129.08)	(5,708.08)
	Preschool Program	100,002.34	29,311.00	(21,081.17)	108,232.17
	School Building Use	12,628.65	0.00	0.00	12,628.65
	School Lunch Fund	14,071.24	76,677.38	(67,192.28)	23,556.34
	Elaine Lawton Fund	28,272.73	1,605.00	(2,423.38)	27,454.35
	Big Yellow School Bus	1,490.16	0.00	0.00	1,490.16
	Korpitass Kids Awards	900.00	0.00	0.00	900.00
	Wellness Grant	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Total State & Federal Grants	696,424.92	843,087.05	(1,272,552.07)	266,959.90
5Ent	Enterprise Funds				
	Water Enterprise Fund	980,354.77	275,544.18	(139,443.16)	1,116,455.79
	Sewer Enterprise Fund	308,560.59	296,729.80	(228,831.12)	376,459.27
	Total Enterprise Funds	1,288,915.36	572,273.98	(368,274.28)	1,492,915.06

6CP	Capital Projects				
	School Construction	0.14	0.00	0.00	0.14
	Fire Truck	1,001.57	0.00	0.00	1,001.57
	Highway Truck	45,552.37	0.00	(30,600.00)	14,952.37
	PSC Building	<u>498,677.84</u>	<u>3,649,238.12</u>	<u>(2,774,283.14)</u>	<u>1,373,632.82</u>
	Total Capital Projects	545,231.92	3,649,238.12	(2,804,883.14)	1,389,586.90
7Tru	Trust Funds				
	Daniel Collins Fund	662,490.90	(110,309.20)	(22,971.26)	529,210.44
	O C Spellman Fund	132,543.46	(22,478.70)	(4,363.96)	105,700.80
	Ethel Curry Fund	377.50	(64.54)	0.00	312.96
	Albert D Sanders Fund	24,167.71	(4,092.83)	(973.96)	19,100.92
	Dunphy-Dunphy School	28,189.46	(4,782.55)	(935.90)	22,471.01
	Dunphy-James School	41,401.58	(7,013.87)	(1,558.87)	32,828.84
	Ellsworth Hyde Fund	2,284.88	(390.88)	8.80	1,902.80
	Byron Loomis Fund	28,206.68	(4,785.52)	(935.84)	22,485.32
	Helen E James Fund	38,411.82	(6,571.08)	147.77	31,988.51
	WCTU Clock Fund	5,435.27	(932.56)	20.97	4,523.68
	Cemetery Perpetual Care	22,768.77	(3,868.54)	(285.46)	18,614.77
	Whiting Street Fund	6,618.11	(1,152.91)	25.92	5,491.12
	Arthur King Fund	128,292.84	(21,450.99)	(6.44)	106,835.41
	Albert Hills Fund	6,670.96	(1,141.20)	25.66	5,555.42
	Christian Hills Fund	33,379.83	(5,710.27)	128.41	27,797.97
	Henry Hills Fund	110,086.20	(18,780.05)	(982.15)	90,324.00
	Mary Main Fund	4,776.86	(817.17)	18.38	3,978.07
	Lyman Wait Fund	1,096.53	(187.59)	4.21	913.15
	Electra Wait Fund	9,876.68	(1,689.59)	37.98	8,225.07
	Henry Warner Fund	49,803.47	(8,519.85)	191.60	41,475.22
	Women's Club Fund	3,365.53	(575.74)	12.95	2,802.74
	James Taylor Fund	2,830.44	(484.21)	10.88	2,357.11
	Sanderson/Heath Fund	4,976.62	(851.33)	(130.86)	3,994.43
	Library Humanities Fund	9,860.94	(1,686.91)	37.94	8,211.97
	William J Sheehan Fund	264.24	(29.08)	0.00	235.16
	KMIT Library Fund	584,941.19	(99,682.31)	(17,273.98)	467,984.90
	Brassworks-Rec Long-	14,489.86	(2,478.77)	55.74	12,066.83
	VNA TRUST	28,392.84	2,248.44	(202.69)	30,438.59
	Unemployment	17,168.36	20.18	0.00	17,188.54
	Elder Trust Fund	13,089.31	(2,270.13)	(155.49)	10,663.69
	Stabilization Fund	457,719.27	192,997.56	(6,303.85)	644,412.98
	Meekins Library Trust	26,493.69	(4,696.67)	(953.11)	20,843.91
	Seewald Technology Grant	471.57	0.00	0.00	471.57
	OPEB	22,704.39	5,032.37	0.00	27,736.76
	Opioid Settlement	<u>0.00</u>	<u>15,210.77</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>15,210.77</u>
	Total Trust Funds	2,523,647.76	(121,985.72)	(57,306.61)	2,344,355.43
8Age	Agency Funds				
	Off Duty Police Detail	(182.70)	19,353.50	(17,600.00)	1,570.80
	Firearm ID Cards	(1,377.00)	2,425.00	(2,100.00)	(1,052.00)
	Clerk Fees	(43.72)	2,514.00	(2,404.25)	66.03
	Collector Fees	3,853.74	0.00	0.00	3,853.74
	Deputy Collector Fees	<u>813.05</u>	<u>4,284.00</u>	<u>(4,110.00)</u>	<u>987.05</u>
	Total Agency Funds	<u>3,063.37</u>	<u>28,576.50</u>	<u>(26,214.25)</u>	<u>5,425.62</u>
	Total Williamsburg	<u>5,326,302.96</u>	<u>5,354,220.32</u>	<u>(4,895,965.07)</u>	<u>5,784,558.21</u>

Angel Park Quiet Reflections Garden

The Garden is used by school children and teachers on special occasions and is available to the public for spending quiet moments during the day during all seasons. Visitors came to the park to for refuge and reflection and volunteer staff continued to provide ongoing care. Angel Park Music Series hosted an array of musical artists and the performances were well received by appreciative audiences. Performances are planned for the 2024 season.

Park Improvements and Ongoing Care Projects for the 2023 Garden Year:

1. New Memorial Bricks were installed.
2. The Park lawns and planting beds received organic care to prevent infestations of an array of garden pests.
3. The beds were fed, weeded and pruned by N. Dines and the Williamsburg Dead Head Society, led by Joan Coryat and Heidi LeBaron Johnson. Thanks to additional help by Joan Donovan, Dianne Martin, Tamar Smith and Lisa Sheehy, who tended the gardens and watered the flower pots at both the Vet's Park and the Angel Park.
4. Zononi Lawn Maintenance provided regular mowing, trimming and raking services throughout the season.
5. Additional perennials were planted to replace older plants and shrubs and trees were pruned to allow more access and light into the park and the planting beds.

2024 Plans:

The Angel Park Summer Music series will schedule performances for July and August.

See below if you would like to help with ongoing care of Angel Park or any of the other Public Gardens listed.

Funding

The Park is funded in part by donations from memorial brick purchases (forms available at Town Offices), contributions from the Summer Music Series, and the ongoing care funds provided by the Williamsburg Beautification Fund, which also supports all of the Public Gardens, including Meekins Library Gardens and the Mill River Park, the Market Square Gardens, and the flower beds along Route 9. Ms. April O'Brien administers the Beautification Fund at Florence Bank. The Fund gratefully receives private donations as well as weekly income from the redemption of bottles and cans collected at the Transfer Station. Local businesses that support the fund are: Florence Bank, Williamsburg Market, Cichy's Garage, Dove Business Associates, Burgu Brews, and the General Store. The Williamsburg Redemption Society is a group of volunteers, who work in shifts on Wednesdays and Saturdays to sort, stack, and transport the bottles and cans to Pat's for deposit redemption, (Thanks to John Hoogstraten, Eileen Keegan, John Lancaster, Daria D'Arienzo, David Prichard, Danielle Wagner, Penny



Schultz, Jody Nishman, Art Silver, Joan Coryat, Michael Downey and Jen Black). Many thanks to Pat's for their generous cooperation in processing the collected bottles and cans. Please note the signs at the shed to aid in sorting and help volunteers with their work.

The Williamsburg Dead Head Society (including the Angel Park gardeners) also receives assistance from Susan Waltner, Kathleen Casey, Elaine Howes, Charles and Mary Dudek, David Boughton and Melinda McCall. Please let us know if you would like to help at the Bottles and Cans Shed or with the Garden Crew; send a message to: ndines@umass.edu

Volunteers receive compensation that is priceless and the benefit package is excellent. Contact us at the above email address before available slots are filled! Do not miss out on this opportunity. Thanks to all who help with ongoing care, provide support, and who enjoy the beauty of Angel Park and surrounding Public Gardens of Williamsburg.

N. Dines, FASLA

Board of Assessors

The Board of Assessors submits the following annual report for the year ending December 31, 2023.

As of January 1, 2023, the Town had 1282 real property accounts and 67 personal property accounts including 4 Pilot Agreements. The voters passed a town budget of \$10,622,556.98 at the Town Meeting. To meet the budget, \$7,309,367.21 was raised by taxation. The FY 2024 tax rate is \$18.10 per thousand dollars of valuation. The assessors are responsible for measuring the value of real and personal property and ensuring that owners of such property all pay their fair and equitable share of the tax burden based upon those values.

Valuation in Massachusetts is based on "full and fair cash value," the amount a willing buyer would pay a willing seller on the open market. Assessors must collect, record, and analyze a great deal of information about property and market characteristics in order to estimate the fair market value of all taxable properties in their communities.

A field audit of the entire town was successfully conducted in 2023 by the consulting firm Bishop Associates. The last field audit was conducted over 20 years ago. This was done to review all properties by professionals.

A new solar array was added to the tax base.

The Board of Assessors holds meetings weekly at 10 a.m. on Tuesday. The meetings are open to the public, and we welcome any questions or concerns. The Assessors may be reached at 413-268-8403 or Assessors@Burg.org or by appointment.

Denise Banister, Chair, Glen Everett, Robin Everett
Board of Assessors

Building Inspector

The Town of Williamsburg has contracted with the City of Northampton to provide Building Inspection and Zoning services as required by M. G. L. c. 143, § 3 and c. 40A, §7 and for Electrical Inspection services in accordance with M.G.L. 166, § 32. The Acting Building Commissioner is Kevin Ross and the Inspector of Wires is Roger Malo.

The Building Department office in Northampton is open to the public again, from 8:30 to 4:30 Monday through Friday. The department has two building inspectors, three electrical inspectors and two full time-clerks. This staffing allows us to schedule timely inspections and provide expedient support for permit applications and customer service. Permit processing and inspections are back to a normal schedule.

Permit wise, 2023 was a good year for building activity in Williamsburg. The number of building permits (161) was nearly the same as 2022 (168). Permit fees (\$38,414) were higher than 2022 (\$21,011) and the estimated costs of construction were somewhat lower than 2022 primarily because there weren't any major projects like the public safety building last year. The estimated cost of construction in 2023 was \$6,225,874.

2023's building permit total (161) is again above the average of the past 14 years (145 per year). The total permit fees in 2023 (\$38,414) were higher than the 13-year average (\$27,565). The estimated cost of construction in 2023 (\$6,225,874) was lower than 2022, but still higher than the 13-year average (\$5,220,196).

Yet again, Williamsburg continues to add solar electric systems. There were 15 residential solar electric system permits issued in 2023 compared to 22 in 2022 but 2023's arrays were generally larger and the total output was comparable. Beginning with the Solarize Williamsburg program in 2014, there have been 220 residential solar installations through the end of 2023, with an estimated capacity of 1.56 megawatts. Williamsburg's four large scale ground mounted solar arrays have a total capacity of approximately 18.65 megawatts. The town's total solar capacity, over 20 megawatts, is 0.5% of Massachusetts' total solar capacity of approximately 4,000 megawatts. Williamsburg's solar capacity is an exceptional number, considering the population of Williamsburg is less than .04% of the population of the state. From another perspective, 20 megawatts is enough electricity to power more than 3,000 homes; nearly three times the number of houses in Williamsburg.

The new Public Safety complex was the most exciting building project in 2023. It was completed and received its Certificate of Occupancy in November.

I expect 2024 permit activity to maintain the same pace as 2023.

We look forward to providing prompt and courteous building, zoning and electrical inspection services to Williamsburg and Haydenville residents in the coming year. As always, feel free to contact me with any problems or concerns you may have regarding building or zoning issues. The Building Department telephone number is (413) 587-1240 and my email address is kross@northamptonma.gov.

Kevin Ross, Acting Building Commissioner

<u>Total Building Permits, 2023</u>	<u>161</u>
<u>Total Building Permit Fees, 2023</u>	<u>\$38,414</u>
<u>Total Estimated Cost of Construction, 2023</u>	<u>\$6,225,874</u>
<u>Total Building Permits (14 year avg.)</u>	<u>142</u>
<u>Total Building Fees (13 year avg.)</u>	<u>\$27,564</u>
<u>Total Estimated Cost of Construction (13 year avg.)</u>	<u>\$5,220,196</u>
<u>New Single Family Dwellings</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>New Duplex</u>	<u>1</u>
<u>Additions</u>	<u>6</u>
<u>New Accessory Dwellings</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>Renovations</u>	<u>50</u>
<u>Roofing, Siding, Windows and Doors</u>	<u>39</u>
<u>Weatherization and Insulation</u>	<u>36</u>
<u>Accessory Buildings</u>	<u>8</u>
<u>Miscellaneous</u>	<u>15</u>



Town Collector

The Town Collector is responsible for the collection of real estate, personal property and excise taxes. They are also responsible for the collection of Water and Sewer charges for the town.

Real estate and personal property bills are due on a quarterly basis based on the town's fiscal year of July – June. To keep postage at a minimum, only two mailings are sent, with two quarters in each mailing. 1st quarter and 2nd quarter are mailed in late June and 3rd quarter and 4th quarter mailed in late December. The due dates are as follows:

- 1st Quarter – August 1
- 2nd Quarter – November 1
- 3rd Quarter – February 1
- 4th Quarter – May 1

Excise taxes are billed on a calendar year and are issued throughout the year through the Registry of Motor Vehicles, so the due date varies.



Water and Sewer Charges are twice a year based on the town's fiscal year of July – June. Bills are due November 1, mailed late September, and May 1, mailed late March.

The following table is a recap of the Fiscal Year 2023 (July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023) collections.

Here is a explanation of the table:

1. Fiscal Year – Year for which the taxes are due
2. Revenue Type – Tax type collected
3. Beginning Balance – Rollover balance from FY2023
4. Taxes Committed – Amount of taxes issued
5. Payments – Amount of money received in fiscal year
6. Tax Title or \$ to Lien –
 - Tax Title – Real Estate balances due at the end of the fiscal year are turned into Tax Title by placing a lien on property.
 - \$ to Lien – Water and Sewer charges unpaid at the end of the fiscal year are liened onto the 3rd and 4th quarters of the next year's Real Estate bills.
7. Abatements – Reduction in the tax assessed on the property for the fiscal year
8. Refunds – Overpayments returned to customer

Sharon Strzegowski, Town Collector

Town Collector

Recap FY 2023 (7/1/22 - 6/30/23)

Fiscal Year	Revenue Type	Beginning Balance	Taxes Committed	Payments	Tax Title or To \$ Lien	Abatements	Refunds	Ending Balance
2017	Excise	951.67	0.00	73.33	0.00	(128.75)	0.00	749.59
2018	Excise	718.55	0.00	223.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	495.42
2019	Excise	1,121.01	0.00	35.42	0.00	(127.26)	0.00	958.33
2020	Excise	2,471.94		379.41	0.00	(580.30)	(256.87)	1,769.10
2021	Excise	3,822.17		1,649.59	0.00	(381.53)	(342.60)	2,133.65
2022	Excise	30,357.45	31,104.19	56,608.79	0.00	(2,711.29)	(2,175.45)	4,317.01
2023	Excise	0.00	340,235.12	327,178.73	0.00	(3,193.66)	(2,543.44)	12,406.17
2022	PP Taxes	25,047.42		25,047.42				0.00
2023	PP Taxes	(993.43)	247,228.92	244,980.30	0.00	0.00	(146.87)	1,402.06
2022	Lien Meter	67.50	0.00	47.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	20.00
2023	Lien Meter	0.00	200.00	185.00	(15.00)	0.00	(5.00)	5.00
2022	Lien Sewer Use	5,464.02	0.00	4,244.22	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,219.80
2023	Lien Sewer Use	0.00	9,068.79	8,027.10	(743.08)	0.00	0.00	298.61
2022	Lien Water Use	5,775.22	0.00	4,624.62	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,150.60
2023	Lien Water Use	0.00	8,269.74	7,497.42	(607.00)	0.00	(42.74)	208.06
2022	Lien WS Demands & Interest	1,806.87	0.00	1,418.47	0.00	0.00	0.00	388.40
2023	Lien WS Demands & Interest	0.00	2,959.54	2,688.02	(231.59)	0.00	(33.65)	73.58
2022	Real Estate	80,430.44	0.00	78,245.70				2,184.74
2023	Real Estate	(38,857.20)	6,853,161.23	6,699,987.59	(34,239.38)	(49,539.41)	(13,845.37)	44,383.02
2022	Sewer Use	21,692.99	0.00	22,274.24	0.00	0.00	(581.25)	0.00
2023	Sewer Use	0.00	291,328.40	263,663.48	0.00	(4,616.53)	(1,038.32)	24,086.71
2021	Water Meter	5.00	0.00	5.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2022	Water Meter	410.00	0.00	705.16	0.00	0.00	(295.16)	0.00
2023	Water Meter	0.00	6,575.00	6,055.90	0.00	(193.75)	(135.08)	460.43
2021	Water Use	13,197.60	0.00	13,197.60	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2022	Water Use	45,413.01		45,818.01	0.00		(405.00)	0.00
2023	Water Use	0.00	239,655.79	198,023.08		(1,121.95)	(1,307.42)	41,818.18
2023	Water Back Flow	0.00	1,300.00	700.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	600.00
2023	PILOT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes)	0.00	52,806.70	52,806.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2023	Roll Back Taxes	0.00	13,393.92	13,393.92	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

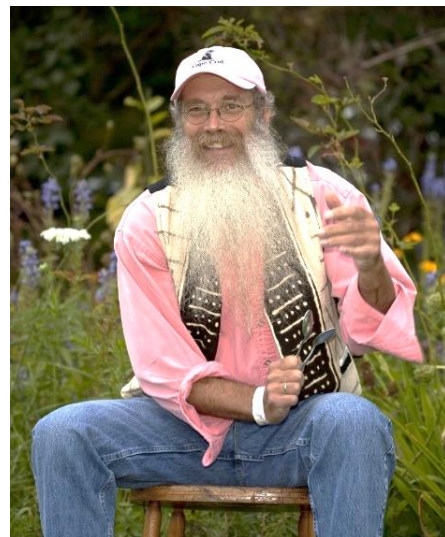
Sharon Strzegowski, Town Collector

Cultural Council

The Williamsburg Cultural Council is part of a network of local councils throughout the state that administers funds from the Massachusetts Cultural Council. Local councils make decisions on grant proposals “to support public programs that promote excellence, education, diversity and inclusion in the arts, humanities and science to foster a rich cultural life.”

Each year, the Williamsburg Cultural Council reviews grant proposals submitted in the fall for the upcoming year’s cycle. In 2023, we updated our council priorities and guidelines. We support and encourage programs that:

- Are well-designed, demonstrate past success in completion of projects, provide a realistic budget, and have a clear alternative plan for COVID-safety.
- Provide clear benefit to Williamsburg residents, in close proximity to Williamsburg and accessible to Williamsburg residents, and are inclusive and reflective of cultural diversity.
- Reflect a wide range of diverse disciplines that reach residents of various ages and demographics.



In 2023, we had a large turnover on the council, with Zevey Steinitz, Patricia LaFreniere and Ann Biddle stepping down. Lauri Munroe-Hultman, who had filled an incomplete term in 2022, began another three-year term, ending in 2026. Louise Mosrie Coombe’s term expires in 2025. In Spring 2024, following a recruitment effort through Facebook and printed fliers, Leslie Ham and Terry Tangredi filled terms that expire in 2024, and Donna McGill filled a term that expires in 2026. Robert Longley agreed to serve as an alternate member. The council elected Lauri as chair, Louise as treasurer, and Terry and Donna as co-secretaries.

In 2023, we continued to provide direct grants, allowing awardees to claim their funds before holding their programs and follow up with final reports. We distributed funding to programs chosen for the 2023 grant-cycle, as well as some from previous cycles that had extensions due to Covid restrictions.

Due to program cancellations connected with Covid over the last few years, we had a surplus of \$2,912 in our account going into the 2024 grant cycle. Our annual allotment from Massachusetts Cultural Council of \$5,500 gave us a balance of \$8,412. As allowed by the state, we chose to keep \$275 as administrative funds for 2024, giving us \$8,137 to grant for programs. We reviewed 38 applications, requesting a total of more than \$20,000, and selected 24 programs to fund. Even with the surplus, we could not award the full amount requested by many programs. In fairness, and to accommodate more programs, we kept each award to \$500 or less.



For more information, visit <https://www.burgy.org/cultural-council> or <https://massculturalcouncil.org/>. The cultural council can be reached at burgycc@gmail.com. Applications for the 2025 grant cycle will be open from September to mid-October 2024.

Conservation Commission

Members of the Williamsburg Conservation Commission include Joseph Rogers Chairperson), Mary Dudek, Andrew MacLachlan, Melinda McCall, and Marci Caplis (alternate).

The Williamsburg Conservation Commission works in cooperation with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection to administer and enforce the Massachusetts Wetland Protection Act and the Massachusetts Rivers Protection Act. These laws protect wetland resources which provide for clean water, flood control, and habitat for wildlife.

Residential and commercial projects near these resources require review and approval by the Conservation Commission. Landowners should contact the Commission prior to breaking ground or commencing any project within 200 feet of a stream or river, or within 100 feet of a wetland. We are happy to assist landowners planning a project who are unsure if their land is within wetland buffer or riverfront zones to determine if any action is required on their part. More information and required forms are available on the town website at <http://www.burgy.org/conservation-commission>.

The Commission aims to educate residents and facilitate the required paperwork. In 2023, the Conservation Commission drafted and approved the following Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection forms submitted on behalf of town residents and property owners: 7 Requests for Determination, 2 Notices of Intent, 5 Violations, 3 Emergency Certifications, and 2 Certificates of Compliance. The Commission provided guidance to the public on 12 occasions and performed 14 site visits. 2023 saw many calls for help with flooding and erosion issues, as well as the need to rebuild destroyed bridges.

In addition to regulatory work, the Conservation Commission continued its collaboration with other town boards and organizations. The goals and objectives of the Conservation Commission overlap with those of the Open Space and Recreation Committee (OSRC) and the Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) plan. Unobstructed flood plains, clean water, vibrant habitats, and open space are essential to the health of the community.

The Commission also collaborates with local land trusts to protect land vulnerable to flooding and to connect parcels to maximize their effectiveness as habitat protection and recreational value.

The Commission manages six conservation areas in town: Horse Mountain, with the Kestrel Land Trust; Brewer Brook, with the Forest Resiliency Project; the Hall, Briar Hill and Gere Hill properties with the Williamsburg Woodland Trails and the Open Space Committees; and Old Wolf Hill, with the Kestrel Land Trust. Holding the conservation restrictions on these properties allows the Town to assure properties are maintained in perpetuity in natural and scenic conditions while protecting drinking water, wildlife habitat, and providing public trails for hiking.

Other work done by the Commission includes the following:

- Continued monitoring of large projects including the construction of the large Main Street/ Hatfield Street solar array, the remediation of polluted soil at a firing range, and construction of the Public Safety Complex.

- Administered and paid for the second stage of invasive plant clearing at a town-owned parcel at 50 Chesterfield Road.

The Commission meets monthly on the second Thursday (and fourth Thursday as needed) at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom, or on the second floor of the Town Offices in Haydenville when possible. The Commission would welcome new people to get involved as commissioners. To contact the Commission, please email conservation@burgy.org or call (413) 268-8416.

Emergency Management

The year 2023 presented some challenges for the Emergency Management Team. On March 15, a winter storm dumped about thirty inches of snow on the area. Trees and wires were downed and roads were closed. Some areas of town could not be reached until the power company was able to turn off power to lines so trees could be moved off the wires, and then power could be restored.



On July 10, heavy rain caused the level of rivers to rise quickly, and some residents were trapped in their homes necessitating a swift water rescue. There was no cell or radio service in the area, so help was called in to facilitate communications between responders on scene and the Emergency Operations Center, which was located at the North Main Street Fire Station. Bridges to access homes along Ashfield Road were damaged, farm crops along the Mill River were ruined, and there was much damage to businesses along Main Street. Governor Maura Healey and state and MEMA officials came to Williamsburg to talk to residents and to observe the damage to farms, residences, and businesses. The

bridges on North Street and on Bridge Street were closed pending inspection by MassDOT. Both bridges were able to be opened following inspection.

Williamsburg received another bout of heavy rain later in the fall. This storm caused the two bridges – one on North Street and the other on Bridge Street – to be closed. Unfortunately, the Bridge Street bridge sustained enough damage to cause it to remain closed. The grounds of the Anne T. Dunphy School were flooded, and the standing water needed to be pumped. The Emergency Management team met with Stacey Jenkins, the principal of the Dunphy School, and the decision was made to close the schools early before the river rose high enough to cause road closures. This event was the first emergency to be handled from the new Public Safety Complex.



The Highway, Police, and Fire Departments should all be commended for their cooperation and hard work. Town Clerk Brenda Lessard can always be counted on to send out Reverse 911 messages to keep the public informed. The residents of Williamsburg are in good hands indeed. Many, many thanks.

Denise Banister, Emergency Manager

Employee Earnings

<i>Last Name</i>	<i>First Name</i>	<i>Department</i>	<i>Total Paid</i>
ACHESON	ROBERT	Poll Worker	\$75.00
ACHESON	PAMELA	Poll Worker	\$75.00
AHEARN	WILLIAM	Transfer Station	\$3,415.37
ALLEN	GORDON F.	Finance Committee	\$467.67
ANDERSON	MATTHEW	School-Substitutes	\$100.00
ASSELIN	AMANDA	School-Teachers	\$62,193.88
BAKER	BETTINA	School-Clerical	\$55,525.06
BANISTER	DANIEL	Firefighter	\$7,903.64
BANISTER	DANIEL	Highway Dept Head	\$77,518.18
BANISTER	DENISE	Assessors, Emergency Manager	\$4,811.20
BANISTER	DENISE	Select Board	\$3,104.00
BARNES	ANDRE	Firefighter	\$1,277.80
BART	RICHARD	Building Supervisor	\$10,390.32
BENOIT	GARY	Finance Committee	\$1,100.00
BERTRAND	MEREDITH	School-Teachers	\$47,460.48
BERUBE	PAMELA	School-Teachers	\$76,060.37
BHOWMIK	MONICA	School-Substitutes	\$800.00
BLACK	COLLIN	School Committee	\$618.00
BLACK	HANNAH	School-Aides	\$28,884.36
BLACK	ALYSON	School-Substitutes	\$2,300.00
BOURGET	JACLYN	School-Teachers	\$30,983.36
BROOKS	DAVID	Transfer Station	\$6,099.29
BROWN	DONNA	School-Substitutes	\$490.00
BULLOCK	BEVERLY	Library Dept Head	\$55,066.97
BUSSLER	ANNE	School-Substitutes	\$1,800.00
CACCAMO	NICHOLAS	Town Admin	\$67,799.19
CASEY	BARTHOLOMEW	Firefighter	\$418.21
CASTERLINE	PATRICIA A.	Poll Worker	\$240.00
CERRETA	ERIC	Water / Sewer	\$8,010.21
CLARK	LINWOOD	Transfer Station	\$5,474.92
CONNELL	JASON A.	Fire Chief	\$34,900.39
CONNELL	JOSHUA	Firefighter	\$7,609.69
CONNELL	REBECCA	Firefighter	\$57.03
CORNELL	SUSAN	Library	\$1,857.45
CRESTO	GLENDA	Poll Worker	\$639.00
CURTIN	MARK	Firefighter	\$3,494.88
DANEK	MEG	School-Teachers	\$54,616.60
DERBY	NICOLE	School-Teachers	\$72,883.72
DIAS	NATALEE	School-Teachers	\$37,359.24

DIBRINDISI	GREG	Firefighter	\$486.65
DONOVAN	JOAN	Poll Worker	\$135.00
DUDEK	CHARLES	Finance Committee	\$527.67
DUNLAP	IAN	School-Substitutes	\$361.92
DUNLAP	ANNA	School-Substitutes	\$100.00
DUNLAP	CAREY	School-Teachers	\$75,281.52
EMERSON	KATHALEEN	School Committee	\$318.00
EVERETT	GLEN	Assessors	\$3,448.20
EVERETT	ROBIN	Assessors Labor	\$27,317.11
EVERETT	ALAN	Firefighter	\$464.84
EVERETT	GLEN	Firefighter	\$96.95
FERRON	JAMES	Firefighter	\$3,606.26
FINE	ANNE	School-Substitutes	\$245.00
FISHER	PETER	Police	\$64,261.55
FLOREK	MEGAN	School-Aides	\$31,005.72
FLYNN	RORY	School-Teachers	\$7,265.56
FOSTER	CINDY	Poll Worker	\$75.00
GAGNE	GAIL	Poll Worker	\$45.00
GELBARD	ANNE	School-Aides	\$26,224.24
GIBSON	DONNA	Board of Health	\$684.83
GILMAN	BRIAN	School-Teachers	\$59,425.28
GIRARD	MARK	Firefighter	\$5,469.82
GODIN	MATTHEW	Firefighter	\$1,364.28
GOLASH	ALAN	Custodian	\$3,554.53
HARVEY	RENEE	School-Cafeteria	\$37,786.68
HASKINS ROGERS	MELINDA	School-Teachers	\$16,527.36
HENDRICKS	CAROL	COA	\$3,662.38
HENDRY	KAREN	School-Teachers	\$50,035.72
HIGGINS	PATRICK	Firefighter	\$968.65
HIGGINS	KIM	Firefighter	\$755.74
HILL-DEIHL	NANCY	School-Custodial	\$2,851.92
HILLENBRAND	REESE	Firefighter	\$1,604.44
HOWE	SHAYLA	Animal Control	\$3,053.00
HUNTINGTON	SARAH	School-Teachers	\$76,845.56
JENKINS	STACEY	School-Clerical	\$120,404.78
JENKINS	MADELINE	School-Substitutes	\$300.00
JOBST	MICHAEL	Transfer Station	\$2,409.27
JOHNSON	TAMMY	Custodian	\$9,867.68
JOYNER	MIKAYLA	Firefighter	\$410.61
JURGENSEN	EVA	School-Teachers	\$67,111.80
KAROWSKI	KAREN	Asst Treasurer	\$10,222.71
KAROWSKI	RICHARD P.	Firefighter	\$1,420.24

KASSELL	ALEX	Firefighter	\$3,933.64
KENNEDY	PAUL	Water / Sewer	\$458.40
KILDUFF	ELIZABETH	Library	\$6,557.40
KISLOSKI	RICHARD	Finance Committee	\$802.67
KLINE	TODD	School-Custodial	\$46,996.76
KOROTEV	PETER	Firefighter	\$516.12
KRAUS	TANYA	School-Substitutes	\$70.00
LAPOINTE	JOSHUA	Firefighter	\$23,991.57
LAPOINTE	ROBERT	Firefighter	\$1,325.20
LAPOINTE	ROBERT	Highway	\$14,281.48
LASTOWSKI	ANTHONY	Water / Sewer	\$12,740.00
LESSARD	BRENDA	Town Clerk	\$38,194.02
LITTLE	TARA	School-Custodial	\$9,006.96
LOOMIS	SHARON	COA Asst	\$15,073.30
LOUD	GILBERT	Finance Committee	\$467.67
LOVEN	MARK	Highway	\$60,760.33
LUCE	KATHLEEN	Poll Worker	\$403.50
LUCE	RITA MACINNIS	School-Substitutes	\$600.00
LUCE	GORDON	Transfer Station	\$9,492.47
LULEK	JAKE	Firefighter	\$6,192.18
LULEK	EDEN	School-Aides	\$23,658.97
LUSZCZKI	BRYAN	Police	\$9,006.23
LYNDS	KRAIG	Firefighter	\$365.31
MALONI	ROBERT	Water / Sewer	\$4,125.00
MATHERS	DAVID E.	Select Board	\$1,552.00
MATRISHON	KRISTA	School-Teachers	\$19,367.04
MCAVOY	LORI	School-Teachers	\$17,620.72
MCCAFFREY	MICHELLE	School-Teachers	\$76,825.42
McCALL	MELINDA	Conservation Commission Secretary	\$2,777.25
MCDONOUGH	LAURA	School-Substitutes	\$100.00
MCGILL	CORY J.	Firefighter	\$2,734.53
MCGILL	JOHN	Highway	\$12,910.46
MCQUESTON	REILLY	Firefighter	\$38.02
MOORE	JOY	COA Asst	\$13,121.27
NIU	WENNY	Library	\$3,667.44
NYE	MARISSA	School Committee	\$318.00
O'BRIEN	MICHAEL	School-Custodial	\$61,966.43
O'CONNELL	DOROTHEA	Poll Worker	\$75.00
O'CONNELL	MICHAEL	School-Teachers	\$30,711.93
OSETEK	BRYAN	Highway	\$78,901.10
O'SULLIVAN	DIANE M.	Poll Worker	\$80.00
PACKARD	JAMES	Transfer Station	\$6,235.54

PALMER	JOHN	Library	\$4,529.25
PEDRUCZNY	KAREN	Library Custodial	\$1,417.50
PENSIVY	DARRIN	Highway	\$16,755.04
PETERS	JULIA	Finance Committee	\$467.67
PICKARD	KATHERINE	School-Teachers	\$76,008.12
PISANO	KRISTIN	School-Teachers	\$70,574.20
POLATOL	ANN MARIE	School-Substitutes	\$7,735.80
PORTER	ANNE	School-Teachers	\$50,351.74
PUNSKA	DIANE	Poll Worker	\$120.00
PUNSKA	HEATHER	School-Teachers	\$56,157.53
REINKE	ROBERT	Police	\$4,701.62
ROBBINS	REBECCA	Poll Worker	\$150.00
ROBIDOUX	RANDYLL	School-Nurse	\$52.50
ROBINSON JR.	JAMES	Firefighter	\$493.41
ROGERS	SHAWNA	Firefighter	\$313.67
ROMANOWSKI	STEVEN	School-Aides	\$31,809.57
ROSEWARNE	NATHAN	Treasurer/Accountant	\$32,434.44
ROVATTI	VERONICA	School-Teachers	\$35,790.00
RYAN	LORRAINE	School-Cafeteria	\$2,836.38
SANDERSON	PAUL	Constable	\$2,560.89
SANDERSON	PAUL	Firefighter	\$5,571.01
SAYRE	WILLIAM	Select Board	\$3,104.00
SCANLON	LAURIE	Library	\$6,767.24
SCHIFF	RYAN	School Committee	\$318.00
SCHMIDT	NAOMI	Library	\$13,069.79
SKUBEL	MAKAYLA	Library	\$3,232.22
SMITH	TAMAR	COA	\$12,593.26
SMITH	SYLVIA	School-Cafeteria	\$6,578.32
SMITH	GEORGE	Transfer Station	\$3,858.80
SMITH-HARDER	AMBER	Library	\$8,221.77
SNYDER	EVELYN	School-Teachers	\$19,762.16
SOMES	WENDY	School-Teachers	\$21,454.80
SOUKUP	JASON T	Police	\$5,748.46
SPRINGMAN	DARYL R.	Firefighter	\$3,823.07
SPRINGMAN	ALLISON	School-Aides	\$32,684.09
STRZEGOWSKI	SHARON	Collector/Treasurer	\$68,265.41
STUART	DANIEL	Firefighter	\$1,628.74
SYMONS	HELEN	Board of Health	\$684.83
TAYLOR	CHRISSA	School-Aides	\$23,052.32
TAYLOR JR	KENNETH H	Fire Admin	\$15,881.98
THOMAS	ANTHONY	Highway	\$6,315.88
TILLEY	FRANCES	Poll Worker	\$300.00

Employee Earnings

TOURNAS	IRENE	Library	\$6,672.52
WALLACE	AIMEE M.	Police	\$56,921.66
WARNOCK	ELEANOR	Admin Assistant	\$18,191.21
WEBER	ERIC	Trust Fund Committee	\$300.00
WETZEL	PAUL	Finance Committee	\$467.67
WICKLAND	DENISE	Police Chief	\$89,978.75
WICKLINE	JOHN	School-Aides	\$26,458.08
WILDFONG	ROCHELLE	Library	\$41,719.90
WILDMAN	ERIKA	School-Teachers	\$54,032.84
WILSON	MELISSA	COA Director	\$34,651.98
WILSON	JAMES	Transfer Station	\$2,075.52
WOODS	MARY ELLEN	School-Teachers	\$76,671.53
WRIGHT	LISA	School-Teachers	\$74,680.89
YOUNG	BARBARA	Library	\$19,398.29
ZAWADZKI	MELISSA	Finance Committee	\$467.67

\$3,270,769.27

*****Totals are based on a calendar year*****



Energy Committee

The Williamsburg Energy Committee (WEC) meets monthly to discuss and advise the Town, its residents and businesses on all matters related to energy usage in Williamsburg. All members of the community are encouraged to attend and contribute to these important conversations surrounding energy, climate change, and sustainability. More information on our activities and past/upcoming meetings can be found online at <https://www.burgy.org/energy-committee>.

Public Safety Complex – Solar PV & MVP Grant

2023 was a milestone year for Williamsburg’s push to reduce and offset its electric usage. The Energy Committee was actively involved in the process of preparing the MVP grant sections related to solar, interfacing with solar firms and National Grid’s interconnection team, advising various Town committees of its findings and recommendations, as well as ongoing discussions and advocacy for this tremendous opportunity. Several critical votes were ultimately passed in 2023, which allowed this project to advance to final engineering and installation later in 2024. The results should be a Solar PV system estimated to be capable of offsetting the entire electric load of the new Public Safety Complex, as well as produce enough excess electricity to cover almost all other Town buildings in Williamsburg. Additionally, Adin Maynard, a member of the



WEC, volunteered his equipment and expertise as a professional HERS (Home Energy Rating System) rater to perform a blower door test on the newly completed Public Safety Complex Building. This test, along with Adin’s recommendations, was used to determine the HERS energy rating of the structure and advise on steps to make the building more efficient – and was completed at no cost to the Town.

Town Building Energy Efficiency

Helping to assure that all Town buildings operate as efficiently as possible is another area of focus for the WEC, which helps to reduce the tax burden on residents as well as local impacts related to climate change. There are several efforts in progress in this area. First, the Town was awarded a \$15,000 DOER “Municipal Energy Technical Assistance” (META) grant to help analyze energy usage and mechanical systems at the Anne T.

Dunphy School. The results will yield detailed recommendations for improving the building’s efficiency and reducing operating costs to the Town. Second, Meekins Library received \$5,000 National Grid / Mass Save funding to conduct a scoping study to look at the building’s potential to eliminate fossil fuels as a heating source as well as identify other ways the building could save energy. The Highway Department Garage is another Town building in consideration for efficiency scoping study support by National Grid. In addition to these opportunities, the WEC is regularly in contact with National Grid energy efficiency reps and DOER Green Communities personnel to consider similar efforts at other Town facilities and remain up-to-date with various state and utility programs.

Energy Prices and Community Aggregation

The WEC is involved in conversations surrounding our [Community Choice Power Supply Program](#), which was able to negotiate and lock in favorable electricity rates for Williamsburg. All businesses and residents have the option to opt in or opt out of this program at their leisure by visiting the following web page: <https://colonialpowergroup.com/williamsburg/>

DOER Green Communities

The WEC is responsible for contributing to maintaining our status as a “Green Community” as it relates to the [MA Department of Energy Resources \(DOER\) Green Communities program](#). These efforts include monitoring and reporting on energy usage in all Town buildings as well as working to leverage grant and funding opportunities to help make Williamsburg a more efficient town.

Join the Conversation

WEC encourages residents of Williamsburg who have an interest in seeing our Town support a more sustainable future to participate in upcoming Energy Committee meetings both to observe and to have your voices heard.

Looking to 2024 and beyond, the WEC will be working to educate and inform the Williamsburg community on the many opportunities available for homeowners and business owners to save money and reduce carbon emissions through building electrification and other efficiency efforts. This includes utility-sponsored heat pump rebates, 0% financing, and tax credits for advanced appliances, heat pumps for space conditioning and water heating, and more.

Finance Committee

The Town of Williamsburg Finance Committee provides oversight of the Town’s budget. The Committee works closely with the Select Board, Town departments, and the Town Administrator to create a budget that is presented to the Town at its annual meeting for discussion and approval.

Although much attention is given to the Town’s operating budget at Town meeting, the complete budget for the Town has other components besides the operating budget. Additional expenses beyond the operating budget consist of state and county assessments, purchases approved on Town meeting floor, and funding of the water and sewer enterprise funds. Additional revenues include state aid, local tax receipts, and any free cash used to balance the budget. The table below provides a summary of the complete Town budget for Fiscal Year 2024 (FY24).

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

FISCAL YEAR 24

Budget & Assessments

TOWN OPERATING BUDGET (General Gov’t, Public Safety,
Debt & Fixed Costs, Public Works, Health & Culture)

4,241,433

<u>WARRANT ARTICLES</u> (Water & Sewer Costs, Town Meeting warrant purchases, money transferred to Stabilization)	1,362,661
<u>MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS</u> (State & County Assessments)	247,552
<u>SCHOOL ASSESSMENT</u> (Local, regional, Smith Vocational, Choice)	4,827,096
TOTAL GROSS BUDGET	10,678,742
Revenues	
<u>STATE RECEIPTS</u> (State Aid)	1,248,180
<u>LOCAL RECEIPTS</u> (Vehicle tax, meal tax, PILOT, licenses, permits, fees, miscellaneous)	530,000
<u>ENTERPRISE FUND REVENUE</u> (Water & sewer fees)	482,581
<u>FREE CASH APPROPRIATED</u> (Free Cash for annual budget, reserve fund, Town Meeting warrant purchases)	1,362,422
TOTAL ESTIMATED RECEIPTS	3,623,183
TOTAL BUDGET	10,678,742
TOTAL REVENUES	3,623,183
PROPERTY TAX LEVY	7,055,559

The FY24 operating budget for the Town is presented in greater detail in the table and graphic below. The Town spends the greatest proportion of its resources on education (53%), followed by insurance and employee benefits (13%). About 27% of the operating budget goes to Town services—the library, elder activities and support, public works, Town administration, and emergency services. Debt service on the elementary school and the public safety complex, represents 7% of the operating budget.

CATEGORY	FY23 \$	FY24 \$	DIFF \$	DIFF %
Culture / Recreation.....	210,208	233,191	22,983	10.93
Debt Service.....	429,653	595,834	166,181	38.68
Education.....	4,681,289	4,828,686	147,397	3.15
Fixed Costs.....	1,107,987	1,171,639	63,652	5.74
Gen Gov't.....	689,992	705,276	15,284	2.22
Health / Human.....	139,924	155,432	15,508	11.08
Intergovernmental.....	96,901	97,316	415	0.43
Public Safety.....	541,186	617,871	76,685	14.17
Public Works.....	631,303	664,874	33,571	5.32
Total.....	8,528,443	9,070,119	541,676	6.35

FY24 OPERATING BUDGET



Debt [\$595,834; ↑38.7%]

Public Safety Complex (↑\$260,600)—First year of interest and principal payments.

Debt Retired (↓\$44,976)—Highway garage and Ambulance building payments complete.

Payment (\$6,484) still being made on ambulance vehicle.

Elementary School (↓\$328,750)—Interest & principal payments, the only other major Town debt.

Education [\$4,828,686; ↑3.15%]

Elementary School (\$2,393,334; ↑\$42,663)—Increased 1.8% primarily from contractual wage increases.

Regional School (\$1,849,352; ↑\$159,260)—Town assessment increased in part because of reassessment of property values and a small increase in students from Williamsburg attending the regional school.

Smith Vocational (\$586,000; ↓\$69,000)—three fewer students attending from Williamsburg (~\$22,000/student)

When it comes to salaries, the Town has no formal position categories or wage structure. Historically, requested wage increases were considered on a case-by-case basis. Wage increases for all employees in the form of a cost-of-living adjustments (COLA) were set by the Finance Committee (FC) and ranged from 1% to 3% but jumped to 5% in FY23. The COLAs are loosely tied to the national inflation rate and what the Town can afford each year. Recognizing that Town employees were its most valuable asset and that a wage structure would improve budget management, the Town received a *Classification & Compensation Study* for the Town in 2022 from the Center for Public Management at UMASS Boston (state grant supported).

This year nearly every department head and some individual employees requested salary increases beyond COLAs. Salary requests varied widely from none at all to an increase of “\$1 per hour” to a six-thousand-dollar annual increase. Several department heads spoke of difficulty in attracting or retaining new and existing workers. This situation caused the Finance Committee to use the compensation study and consider changes in the wage structure of the Town.

For the FY24 budget the Finance Committee decided to give employees a 5% COLA. The FC also decided to apply the results of the compensation study to Town employee base pay as a financially responsible and equitable way to respond to the various wage adjustment requests. This primarily affected employees in the lower salary ranges. Total employee compensation increases in the FY24 budget equal \$84,741 to non-school employees. This increase consisted of \$35,404 in wage increases and \$49,337 in COLA increases. Before the compensation changes, 60% of Town employees were paid below the lowest wage rate of their grade in the compensation study. After FC changes, 48% of the employees had a pay rate below the lowest wage rate of their grade. Salary adjustments are expected to be a multi-year process.

The Fire Chief position was changed from a part time (20 hours/week) to forty hours per week. Justification for this change included increased inspections (solar, gas station, propane tanks, fire alarm systems), writing grants, preparing monthly trainings, and other administrative duties. Call volume has increased in recent years and the Chief would also respond to calls and be available most of the time, especially during workday hours. The Fire Chief position was changed from part time to full time at Town meeting. The full-time position will start in January 2024 and will cost ~\$75,000 annually.

We are fortunate to have strong Free Cash and Stabilization Fund balances. Williamsburg’s Free Cash position currently stands at \$1,256,326. The Stabilization Account is \$645,748. A general rule of thumb is that the amount of money in both the Free Cash and Stabilization funds should equal 10% of the Town’s operating budget – about \$910,000 in our case.

Members of the Finance Committee include Paul Wetzels chair, Gordon Allen, Amy Bisbee (second half of year), Eric Cerreta, Charles Dudek, Richard Kisloski, Gil Loud (first half of year), Julia Peters, Lisa Sheehy, and Melissa Zawadzki.

Fire Department

The Williamsburg Fire Department is a call/volunteer fire department that responds to various emergency calls in the Town of Williamsburg and provides mutual aid to neighboring towns. The department also conducts Life and Fire Safety programs for elementary schools, senior citizens, and other groups upon request. Additionally, the department is responsible for performing various types of inspections, including but not limited to smoke and carbon monoxide alarms for home sales and building permit occupancies, oil and propane tanks, and oil burner equipment. The department is also proud to participate in community events such as the Memorial and Veterans Day parades and ceremonies, the annual Field Day and other events at the school, and many other community activities.



The department previously operated out of two stations until the opening of the new Public Safety Complex in December. The department has a fleet of a Chief/Command vehicle, two attack pumpers, one pumper/tanker, and a utility pick-up truck that responds to brush fire and medical calls and can tow the department's two trailers, one of which carries a Utility Terrain Vehicle (UTV). Thanks to the support of the residents of Williamsburg, the department has a new light rescue truck on order. Besides the Public Safety Complex, the department operates a small training facility with additional cold storage space next to the transfer station. Finally, the department shares space with the police department at the highway department that houses the trailers and the UTV.

The department uses a county-wide radio system shared among many other departments in the county. Northampton Control Dispatch, based at the Massachusetts State Police barracks in Northampton, centrally dispatches all calls.

The department believes having a positive and collaborative working relationship with neighboring hill town departments is essential. Every second Tuesday of the month, the department trains with the Chesterfield and Goshen fire departments and sometimes other departments in the hill towns. This unified training allows the departments to work more cohesively as one large department on significant incidents involving mutual aid.

In 2023, our department broke its record again by responding to 639 calls for service. The calls included fire suppression, emergency medical services, hazardous material responses, carbon monoxide incidents, motor vehicle accidents, storm-related calls, fire alarm activations, and many other emergencies. Our department also provided mutual aid to neighboring towns fifty-one times and received mutual aid six times. Additionally, we handled 104 inspections.

A breakdown of the call and inspection types for 2023 are listed below:

MAJOR INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS	% OF TOTAL
Fires	22	3.44%
Overpressure rupture, explosion, overheating – no fire	2	0.31%
Rescue & Emergency Medical Service	348	54.46%
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	121	18.94%

Service Call	46	7.20%
Good Intent Call	12	1.88%
False Alarm & False Call	68	10.64%
Severe Weather & Natural Disaster	11	1.72%
Special Incident Type	9	1.41%
TOTAL	639	100.00%

INSPECTION TYPE	# OF INSPECTION	% OF TOTAL
Propane Tank	27	26%
Oil Burner	7	7%
Smoke & CO (Home Sale)	16	15%
Smoke & CO (Re-Inspections)	1	1%
Smoke & CO (Pre-Inspections)	6	6%
Smoke & CO (Occupancy)	4	4%
Solar Reviews	11	11%
Storage of Flammable Liquids	1	1%
Camp	1	1%
Food Truck	2	2%
Short Term Rental	1	1%
Oil Tank	17	16%
Fire Alarm	2	2%
Liquor License	7	7%
Blasting Permit	1	1%
Total	104	100%

The fire department works tirelessly to secure additional funding through grants. In 2023, the department obtained \$6,000 from the SAFE and Senior SAFE Program, \$12,500 from the Firefighter Safety Grant, which was used to purchase various equipment, and \$3,000 towards purchasing new forestry equipment. Grants like these play a significant role in helping the department replace old or damaged equipment and provide new equipment that enables members to be better prepared and safe. Each grant application requires a lot of effort and time to complete, and we are grateful to everyone who contributed to this process.

We have collaborated with TRIAD/Williamsburg Police and the Williamsburg Senior Center once again to offer senior lock boxes and buckets of sand to seniors residing in town. These programs, along with various other programs, are financed by grants, and a significant part of the work to make them a success is carried out by volunteers from the police and fire departments.



Once again, the Williamsburg Firefighters Association held its annual Voluntary Tollbooth (Roadblock) fundraiser. Fundraisers and donations help support the men and women of the department by purchasing equipment and other items that may not be feasible under the department's normal operating budget. In addition, they also help support community projects around town. A few of the items purchased and programs that have been supported over the last couple of years include:

- Flashlights for All Firefighters • Ground Monitor for New Engine • 3 Thermal Imagers • 2 Multi-gas Meters • Slope Rescue equipment, including Stokes baskets, ropes, and pulleys 80 • Annual Halloween Events • Children's Christmas Funds • Sidewalk Lights along Main Street • Holiday Decorations for Sidewalk Lights • Annual Field Day at the Anne T. Dunphy School.

Donations also support our auxiliary program, providing food and drinks during emergencies and all-day training.

In 2022, the town began construction on a new Public Safety Complex. The complex was built on the former Helen E. James Building/Williamsburg High School site and completed in December 2023. The fire department side of the complex was made operational shortly after the department members were handed the keys to the building. Although both departments are still in the process of moving in, the new complex will replace the two separate stations and bring all the department apparatus under one roof, making it a great improvement. The department is grateful for the community's support towards the new complex.

The fire department celebrated its 175th anniversary in year 2023. The fire department was established in 1848 to protect the villages and factories of Williamsburg. Initially, the villages of Haydenville and Williamsburg each had its own engine company, named "Hope Engine Co" and "Empire Engine Co" respectively. On February 22, 1848, 71 men drafted and signed 13 articles to create the first engine company. Also, in February of that year, the town received its first two engines for \$1000. Additionally, another committee was formed that same year to procure sites to house both engines: one in Haydenville and one in Williamsburg. Eventually, these two companies merged to form the present-day fire department. The department has plans to celebrate this anniversary in the summer of 2024.

We would like to thank the following who helped or were a part of the Fire Department in 2023

FIRE CHIEF

Jason Connell (EMT)

DEPUTY CHIEF

Daryl Springman (EMT)

CAPTAIN

Cory McGill – Alex Kassell – Daniel Banister

LIEUTENANT

Joshua Lapointe (EMT) – Jake Lulek

CHAPLAIN/EMD/ADMIN

Worth Noyes (Chaplain) – Denise Banister (EMD) – Kenneth Taylor (Admin)

FIREFIGHTER/1st RESPONDERS/AUXILIARY/SUPPORT

Paul Sanderson – James Ferron – Richard Karowski – Robert Lapointe – Glen Everett – Alan Everett – Bartholomew Casey (EMT) – Andre Barnes – Greg Dibrindisi – Shawna Rogers (EMT) – Joshua Connell – Daniel Stuart – Patrick Higgins – Peter Korotev – James Robinson (EMT-P) – Sabrina McGill – Reese Hillenbrand – Mark Girard (EMT) – Kim Higgins – Mikayla Joyner – Matthew Godin – Mark Curtin – Christopher Connell (Jr. FF) – Julia Guiel (Jr. FF)



Board of Health

The members of the Board of Health are Donna Gibson, chair, Gordon Rusty Luce and Helen Symons.

Williamsburg is a member of the Foothills Health District and has shared public health services with Whately, Goshen and Westhampton. As part of an excellence grant from the State Department of Public Health, Public Health Nurse Mike Archbald has been able to meet with residents and has been instrumental in helping people get access to care. He continues to monitor the rate of infectious diseases through the Maven System and shares any pertinent information with members of the Board of Health. In the last few months of 2023, the rate for infections from Covid has risen dramatically. Most people now use the home Covid tests, which the Board of Health has been able to obtain for residents through the State Department of Public Health. Unfortunately, there was a lot of confusion as to whether these tests were expired but this was clarified.

Rusty Luce has continued to be the manager of the Transfer Station and oversees six dedicated employees. For 2023, the BOH has been able to keep the yearly charge for permits unchanged. We no longer get any compensation for the recycling of glass and plastic but taking it out of the general waste stream does help with the cost of dumping fees. The free table serves residents who need to dispose of still useful items and is a popular addition to the Transfer Station.

The Transfer Station has a large area for yard waste and Rusty has made the area serviceable so that residents can take the compost that is being generated.



We are a regional site for the recycling of mattresses. This process reduces the amount of material that would previously go into the waste stream. All the towns of Western Mass. are facing the same problems with the increased costs of disposing of waste.

Williamsburg is a member of the Hilltown Resource Management Cooperative (HRMC). Rusty Luce and Melinda McCall are our representatives.

Volunteers continue to sort the cans and bottles which have been donated by the public. The sorting area has been improved by adding heat and lighting. The proceeds go to a special fund to improve the gardens in the town and we appreciate all the efforts of the Deadheaders led by Nick Dines. Thank you to everyone who makes the extra effort to both collect and recycle these items.

Helen Symons, Recording secretary

Foothills Health Agent

During 2023, the Department issued 1 Body Art Permit, 7 Septic System Permits, 11 Septic Installers, 25 Food Permits, 1 Camps for Children, 1 Refuse Haulers, 3 Tobacco Permits, 5 Septic Pumpers and 3 Wells. We also witnessed 2 Perc Tests and 7 Septic System Inspections. A total of \$15,200 was collected in fees.

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

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

We can be reached at 413-268-8404. Office hours are Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Written messages or mail should be directed to me at P.O. Box 447, Haydenville, MA 01039, or via email at Foothills@Burgy.org. We might be reducing our office hours soon but will still be available by phone or email Monday through Friday. I look forward to another productive year.

Mark R. Bushee
Health Director
Foothills Health District

Highland Ambulance EMS, Inc.

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

Emergency Responses: During FY 22/23 Highland responded to **1000** emergency calls. Calls broken down by town are as follows:

Ashfield:	277	Plainfield:	102
Chesterfield:	98	Williamsburg:	301
Cummington:	116	Mutual Aid Requests:	50
Goshen:	106		

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

- Nero's Training (police dog emergency care)
- PALS (Pediatric Advanced Life Support)
- ACLS (Advanced Cardiac Life Support)
- Paramedic Recertification Course
- Basic EMT Recertification Course
- ASHER training (active shooter emergency response)
- CPAP/BiPAP training
- 12 Lead EKG & Advanced Cardiology
- Medical Management review (MD call reviews)
- Power stretcher and load system training
- Surgical cricothyrotomy course
- CPR / AED
- First Responder training
- Response to the Active Fire Scene



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

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

Cash on hand June 30, 2023:

Operating Fund:	\$139,856.50
Capital Amb. Fund:	\$41,396.69
Memorial Fund:	\$43,083.63
Dresser Fund:	\$4,112.97
Donations:	\$339,733.69

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

Highland Ambulance Board of Directors:

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

Highway Department



The Highway Department had another busy year. Along with our routine road and equipment maintenance, we continued to deal with problem trees in town. After the March snowstorm where some areas of town saw little snow, other areas in the high terrain saw upwards of 30 inches of snow. This presented not only wet, heavy snow, but many trees in town came down, blocking roads and creating safety hazards. The department ended up renting a larger chipper and cut roadside trees and brush to make the roads safer after the storm. A subcontractor came in late spring to grind up our large pile of brush and trees to clean up our yard.

Along with the heavy snow, the town also experienced heavy rains and some severe flooding this year.

Some roads suffered damage due to washouts, which we were able to repair promptly. Gravel and larger stone were used to facilitate the repairs. I'm afraid this is going to continue to be a problem in town with the changing weather patterns.

Town meeting the last few years approved numerous vehicle and equipment purchases that the department is very grateful for. After



some delays due to supply chain issues, we were finally able to get a new front end loader, a tractor, two pickup trucks, and a small dump truck to update our aging fleet. Some of the vehicles took over three years to get. All of these purchases have been put to very good use since their arrival.

As far as road repairs go, we were able to reclaim and pave the final mile of Adams Road, as well as reclaim and pave a small portion of Old Goshen Road from the intersection of Hemenway Road, approximately 1,000 feet.

The Department assisted the contractors in getting the Public Safety Complex up and running, and we would like to

congratulate the Police, Fire, and Emergency Management personnel on a beautiful new workspace!

I would once again like to thank our employees for their hard work and dedication to the department and to the residents and visitors of the town. These include Bryan Osetek, department foreman, Mark Loven, Darrin Pensivy, Jack McGill, Josh Lapointe, Robert Lapointe, Anthony (Tiger) Thomas, Don Lawton, and Steve Rida.



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 through solid waste and recycling programs.

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

- Conducting annual DEP transfer station inspections and work as a liaison between towns and Mass DEP on transfer station compliance matters.
- HRMC Administrator has been certified as a third party inspector with MassDEP, maintenance and operations of a Transfer Station. Administrator conducted HRMC pre-inspections and Third-party inspections. Completed all official paperwork, reviewed with towns, and all reports were signed and uploaded on the new MassDEP reporting portal EEA.
- HRMC Mattress Recycling “HUB” helped divert 228 mattresses and box springs from the waste stream. Thank you to the town of Williamsburg for taking the lead for all of HRMC towns.
- Introduced New Recycling opportunities within the Textile Services; latest addition is a Textile Box in the Town of Middlefield.
- Town of Williamsburg diverted 8,281 pounds of textiles from the waste stream to Re-use.
- Introduced “Green Team” Mass DEP Program
- Execution of an annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection event, over 130 households took part in this regional event. This much needed event helps the residents divert household chemicals from the waste stream to re-use programming and proper disposal.
- 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), books, and Freon evacuation.
- Outreach on transfer station operations and recycling initiatives.
- Our first year offering “Shred Fest” with Pro-Shred secure shredding company. This was held in the town of Huntington, no cost of the event. We are offering this again in calendar year 2024, town of Williamsburg, June 8, 2024.
- Submittal of member-town DEP annual surveys, grant applications, and reports.
- Financial administration of HRMC programs and services.

The day-to-day business and program operations of the HRMC are managed by a contracted Administrator, who also serves as a representative to the Springfield Materials Recycling Facility (MFR) Municipal Advisory Board, the State Solid Waste Advisory

Committee, the Western Mass Regional Recycling Coordinator group; and interfaces with local, regional, and state officials, and is a Mass Recycle Board Member. HRMC Board meetings are held on alternate months.

The HRMC has an annual operations assessment that is approved by each town at its annual Town meeting. The annual Assessment Budget is based on tonnage and population. For FY24, the combined assessment for all ten towns was \$ 67,540. The Assessments offset base operating expenses. HRMC recycling program collection costs are pass-thru expenses from the HRMC to the towns to best maximize economy of scale and to enable the HRMC administrator to have review and oversight of vendor relations and program operations.

In 2023, all HRMC member-towns were eligible for and received Recycling Dividend Program Grants (RDP) under the DEP Sustainable Materials Recovery Program (SMRP). Applications were submitted for them through the HRMC. In total, the HRMC towns received \$ 53,250 in grant funds, to be used to further enhance recycling programs. Williamsburg was awarded \$4,200.

Town of Williamsburg took on the role of HRMC Mattress and Box Spring Recycling “HUB” official November 1, 2022. The Waste ban State regulation for Mattress and Box spring 310. CMR 19.017 prohibits the following materials from Disposal in Household trash. The Town of Williamsburg diverted 228 units from the waste stream (landfill). Our Hub utilizes Raw Materials Recovery which is on the



State Contract FAC90 for hauling and processing of these raw materials. The diversion of materials such as wood, metal springs, foam, cotton, textile are all source separated, bailed, and sent to different buyers. Thank you to the Town of Williamsburg!

During the past year, the HRMC member-towns collectively diverted 834 tons of recyclable materials to the MRF; the Town of Williamsburg recycled 172 tons in 2023. Eight of the ten member-towns have adopted recycling goals of 50% with the intent of increasing quantity and improving the quality of materials being recycled at their transfer stations and to reduce waste being landfilled. In 2023, the Town of Williamsburg had a recycling rate of 33%.

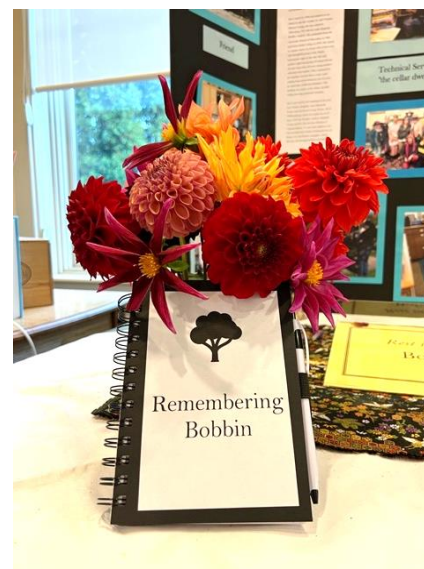
Thank you for your continued support in Recycling!

Linda Cernik, HRMC Administrator

Libraries

Looking back, 2023 was another busy year at Meekins. with an increase in library visits, activities and programs for patrons of all ages. To keep the library going, behind the scenes we ordered, cataloged, and processed new books, magazines, audio books, DVDs, and more, got them ready—and then checked out thousands of items, a grand total of 55,787! We telephoned and e-mailed, for more than 1,200 reference questions, answered in-person, by phone and online near and far. Local History inquiries continued to come from patrons visiting Meekins and those visiting virtually. Our online sources saw increased use with the coaching and encouragement of staff: Kanopy streaming service had 8,234 visits, including 1,232 videos watched; Hoopla clocked 505 “watches” for movies, TV shows, books, comics, and magazines. Our patrons checked out 9,431 electronic items from LIBBY this year, a number which has doubled in the last three years.

2023 brought significant changes to the Meekins. In June we lost our long-time Technical Services Librarian, Bobbin Young. For 25 years, Bobbin helped create our library’s catalogue, providing online access to book information and fielding questions of all sorts from the patrons she loved. Her passing left its mark. After five years, Kmit Youth Programming Librarian Naomi Schmidt moved away leaving her legacy of innovative children’s programs. In the fall, Makayla Skubel joined us as the Kmit Librarian and jumped right in to all the school activities and began putting her mark on youth programs.



Library Assistant Irene Tournas left in the summer and by early fall Wenny Niu had joined the Meekins, a new face on the library’s service desk.

A new “people counter” added in January kept accurate track of the number of visitors to the Meekins. And we got our much-needed “tweaking” to our aging computers, giving them a few extra years of service. The Hawks~Hayden room saw an increase in use after these last few years of pandemic. All year we had a rotating series of exhibitions of local artists in the Neil Hammer Gallery and community groups made good use of the community room throughout 2023.

OUR BUILDINGS and GROUNDS

We took special care of our historic library buildings with town support for roof repairs and a gutter project that will remedy water issues throughout Meekins. The big old oak door, the original 1896 entrance to library, was beautifully restored to its former glory, welcoming people who come up the old steps. Haydenville Library got some extra love this year with a brand-new ventilation and dehumidification system generously donated by M. J. Moran, Inc., with Western Mass Heating, Cooling & Plumbing and Marney Electric donating the installation and electrical



work. In 2024, we hope to attend to some much-needed work on the exterior of Haydenville Library.

The Meekins grounds were attended to by the “Deadheaders,” Trustees, and Friends, who pruned and pulled many weeds and invasive species. Fine weather found our grounds well populated for quiet moments on the patio or on the chairs and benches near the river and for fun by multiple generations in every season—a real oasis in the center of town.

ADULT PROGRAMS

Special adult programs filled the year. In February Meekins was the venue for a local “Town Hall” event with our local Massachusetts representative and senator. In April, performance artist and musician Pamela Means provided her “Power of The Protest Song: Our Shared History & Present Day” program. The Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners created a Western Mass Library Road Trip Program to take place during the high point of leaf season. Visitors from all over the commonwealth stopped at Meekins and had their road trip passports stamped. Meekins was part of two multi-library virtual events this year: one featuring Isaac Fitzgerald, author of *Dirtbag Massachusetts* and the other featuring Shannon Huneycutt, a trained Marie Kondo tidying expert with “Spark Joy – Organizing Your Life” program. A presentation by Alexis Doshas of the Native Plant Trust and the special Pollinator Garden Walk program brought out many garden lovers. We viewed the Metropolitan Opera’s “Doctor Atomic” followed by a discussion of Robert Oppenheimer; Bob McMaster’s talk about Edward Hitchcock was a new take on the old local geologist; Christian McEwen’s reading from her book *In Praise of Listening* was a thoughtful and enjoyable evening; and the Back Self Care program with Lynne Paterson was welcomed by all attendees. We celebrated World Tai Chi Day indoors because of rain and celebrated poetry in April with a series of poetry readings. For the first time this year, we held an “Ask an Archivist” day—for all your historical and genealogical questions.



Our ongoing monthly programs included Open Circle Poetry Night with participants reading self-composed or favorite poems on the first Thursdays of the month. Yarn Spinners met monthly on the second Sunday afternoon, knitting, exchanging yarn wisdom, and indulging in treats. The Meekins Book Club met on the fourth Mondays of each month to discuss books that transported us to all corners of the world.

CELEBRATE LIBRARIES AND READING

To celebrate National Library Week in April, metal sculptor James Kitchen’s “Steampunk Spaceship” landed at the Meekins. James Kitchen and the



Appliances played lively folk music to a packed library audience. The spaceship's short visit sparked lots of interest. "Drop Everything and Read," an annual celebration on Beverly Cleary's



birthday, brought readers and listeners of all ages together both at the Anne T. Dunphy School and here at the Meekins, with a wonderful selection of good books and expressive readers. Naomi's graphic novel book clubs racked up their own book counts, discussing their favorite characters and themes in graphic novels each month. The "Find Your Voice" themed summer reading program utilized the Beanstack online platform as well as traditional paper reading records, with participants earning lanyards filled with buttons they created with our button maker.

YOUTH PROGRAMS

Four Anne T. Dunphy school classes came each week and learned how to use the library, search for books and other curriculum tasks to set kids on a good path for life-long library use. All year, parents, caregivers and children came weekly for Rochelle's traditional and lovely story hour. Crafts, science, Legos, and board game programs were popular Saturday events, and vacation activities were well attended. STEAM programs brought kids and science and engineering together for creative experiments. Escape Rooms, held at the Haydenville Library, were popular with a mysterious ghost escaping from the basement. Dungeons & Dragons had a steady, committed group of players.

Halloween festivities were held throughout the spookily decorated library and hundreds visited following the Town Rag Shag parade. Luckily, we had a never-emptying bowl of treats. We shared "Day of the Dead" bread with those who visited the memorial altar in front of the fireplace in the Black Reading Room. People took special care to look at all the memorial photos and mementos placed there by community members. This year's Cabinet of Curiosities offered lovely felted creatures by a local artist, a Dedham pottery collection, as well as funky vintage library finds.

EVERYTHING ELSE



The library continued its series of Technology Days, getting people into Meekins to meet with volunteer experts to help with their tech questions. The coming year will include more technology offerings, especially focusing on the excellent electronic resources available in the forms of research databases, streaming video, e-books and e-audio books and the useful Local History information, all available through our website.

At the end of the year, the Meekins Market returned as our patrons discovered "new" old treasures to share. Year three of the new favorite puzzle raffle—ten puzzles this year—giving more people a chance to win. We held our decade-plus annual warm clothing drive to add coats to the permanent food collection bin in the library supporting the Neighbors Helping Neighbors local pantry. Once again, we participated in the "Christmas in Williamsburg"

festivities at the Grange, with happy children (and adults) making special cards while waiting to visit Santa. The 15th annual Holiday Read was a lovely interlude in a crazy season as we read new and old favorites by the fireplace.

Kids of all ages undertook the very popular monthly scavenger hunts. “Take & Make” crafts flew out of the library lobby daily. Every week throughout the year, new Throwback Thursday moments appeared on Facebook and Instagram, sharing bits of the stories of town places and history, remembering townsfolk, and highlighting quirky Meekins tidbits. Finally, we watched Sssmeekins, the temperature snake, grow to his full-year length, a whopping 6 feet 2¾ inches. A new 2024 temperature snake (naming contest to come) has been started and it will be interesting to track and compare the temperature changes once again.

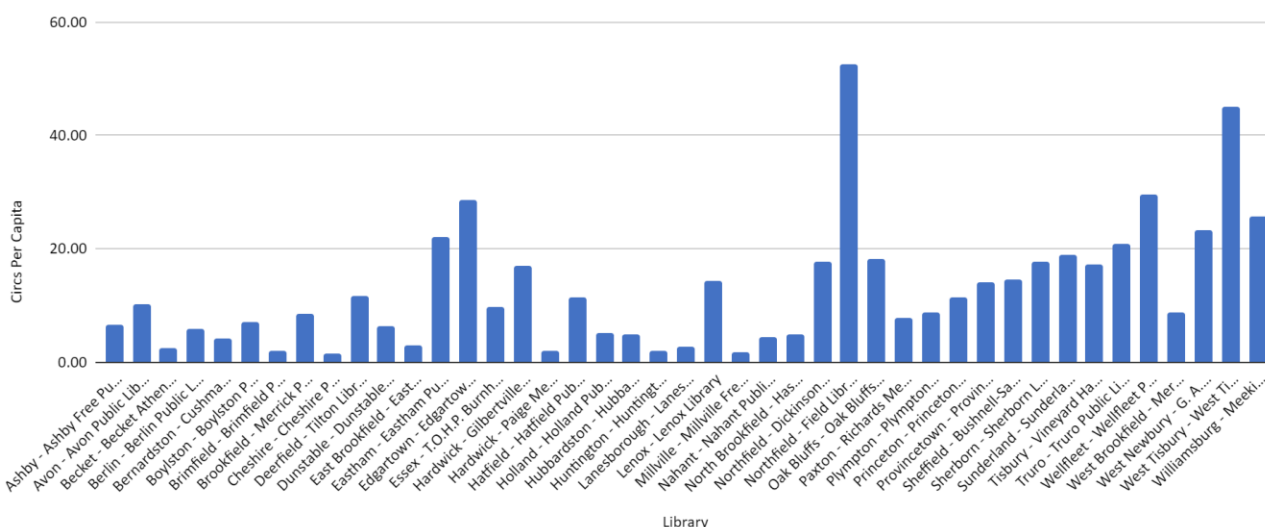


WE ARE SMALL BUT MIGHTY!

The chart below illustrates circulation per capita for all libraries that fall within the Massachusetts Library System’s B grouping, a categorical designation based on municipal population.

Williamsburg’s circulation per capita indicates that the average number of loans made to each resident annually equaled 25.62. Compared to other libraries within the B designation, *Williamsburg ranked 5th in the state!*

Circs per Capita: All B Population Libraries



By the Numbers:

Library visits: 29,707

Print circulation: 55,787

Non-print circulation: 17,326

Digital circulation: 10,199

Youth programs: 119

Total program attendance: 3,009

Hits on our website-meekins-library.org: 14,692

As we look forward to 2024, our action plans are full of the ideas generated from community input and our Strategic Planning work. More music offerings are on the docket; a mending workshop is coming; the development of a Library of Things to lend has begun; special adult offerings, thanks to the Williamsburg Cultural Council, will be spread throughout the year; and more teaching and sharing of library-related technology events, are all part of the future. Meekins remains committed to remaining a vital part of the town and serving everyone as Williamsburg's community library.

Bev Bullock, Library Director

Deepest gratitude to Daria D'Arienzo for her expert archival contributions and assistance throughout the process. Photographs by Rochelle Wildfong and Daria D'Arienzo. MBLC Statistical chart by Meghan Doyle.

Library Staff:

Beverly Bullock, Library Director

Rochelle Wildfong, Children's Librarian/Assistant Director

Bobbin Young, Technical Services Librarian (January to June)

Meghan Doyle, Technical Services Librarian (Began January 2024)

Naomi Schmidt, Kmit Youth Services Librarian (January to August)

Makayla Skubel, Kmit Youth Services Librarian (September +)

Daria D'Arienzo, Meekins Archivist

Amber Smith-Harder, Beth Kilduff, Susan Cornell, Circulation Assistants

Irene Tournas (January to August), Wenny Niu (September +), Circulation Assistants

John Palmer, Bookkeeper

Laurie Scanlon, Library Cleaner

Williamsburg Board of Library Trustees:

Charlotte Meryman, Chair

Joan Coryat, Vice Chair

Ken Borden, Treasurer

Todd Lynch

Kevin McAllister

Anna Seren

Our Library Volunteers:

Tariq Abu-Jaber

Ken Borden

Kathleen Casey

Daria D'Arienzo

Nick Dines and the Deadhead Garden

Volunteers

Anne Gelbard

Ivan Harder

Elaine Hyde

Friends of the Williamsburg Libraries

Marty Jones

John Lancaster

Program Volunteers

Eric Weber

Jim Weigang

Board of Library Trustees

2023 was a year of big transitions for the Board of Library Trustees. In February Todd Lynch was appointed to the seat recently vacated by Fred Goodhue. Then in June we said a reluctant farewell to longtime stalwarts Pat Billingsley, who stepped down after 21 years on the board, and Rob Stinson, who served for a decade. Both played key roles in many important trustee initiatives, and we are immensely grateful for their many years of generous service to the library and town. In July we welcomed newly elected trustees Anna Seren and Kevin McAllister, who, along with Todd Lynch, bring new perspectives and fresh energy to our mission.

As a landscape designer, Todd has a strong interest in enhancing the appeal and utility of our outdoor spaces and has taken the lead in working with Nick Dines to assess and tend the grounds at both Meekins and Haydenville. In the spring and fall, he led trustee work days to clean up, weed, and prune around the Meekins patio and main entrance. And in consultation with Nick Dines, Tree Warden Tom Por and an arborist from Bartlett Tree, he identified multiple trees of concern and obtained state and town environmental permits to address them. This work will be ongoing over the next several years. Most critical was the emergency removal in the fall of a large rotting ash tree at the river end of the parking lot. In the future, Todd hopes to develop a Master Visioning Plan for the Meekins grounds, addressing one of the library's strategic goals.



The Haydenville Library has been another priority area for Trustees, who have been working with Director Bev Bullock, in consultation with Building Supervisor Dick Bart, Town Administrator Nick Caccamo and Selectman Bill Sayre, to address the building's condition. In October, the board voted to temporarily close the building to staff and the public due to potential health hazards. November brought an exciting and unexpected development when Jim Moran, owner of MJ Moran, Inc., announced that he would donate a ventilation and dehumidification system at no cost to the town, with installation donated by Western Mass Heating, Cooling and Plumbing, and wiring donated by Marney Electric!! We cannot thank these generous donors enough!! Installation was under way at the close of 2023, and the building will be reopened as meeting space as soon as it is deemed safe. Next up in 2024 is exterior scraping, painting, and repairs. Stay tuned!

Trustees are grateful to the Finance Committee for recognizing the need to improve pay for library staff. Based on wage data we assembled for comparable positions at other area libraries and on a Classification and Compensation Study conducted for the town by the UMass Collins Center, the Finance Committee recommended and Town Meeting approved some significant wage increases. Our dedicated staff are the library's most valuable asset, and the board will continue to advocate for appropriate compensation for all positions.

The board worked closely throughout the year with the library director and bookkeeper to monitor funds, expenses, and future expenditures. The FY 2024 Annual Fund campaign raised \$19,950 by its conclusion June 30, 2023! These funds are critical to meeting state certification

requirements, including the state-mandated purchase of new materials, which is not fully covered by our town appropriation. Many thanks to everyone for their continued support!

In an ongoing effort to connect more residents with the library, trustees sent a letter this summer to those who may be new to town, introducing them to the library's services.

The Board also assisted the director in revising the Financial Gifts Policy to clarify how memorial donations are used, revising the Meeting Room Policy to spell out guidelines for use of the space by political groups, and drafting a formal policy and process for handling concerns regarding materials in the collection.

In December, trustees formed a small working group to study possible options for increasing library hours.

Finally, throughout the year, trustees continued to liaison regularly with the Friends of the Williamsburg Libraries to ensure we are all working in concert to support the library's strategic goals.

— Charlotte Meryman, Chair, Board of Library Trustees

Friends of the Williamsburg Libraries, Inc.

During 2023, the Friends of the Williamsburg Libraries continued many of its traditional activities in support of the library's mission, such as our annual fall book sale, and introduced new traditions, including bringing back the Friends' Annual Meeting and thanking library staff and volunteers with a luncheon during National Library Week. Another highlight was a ceremony dedicating a memorial bench in honor of Eileen Stewart, a dear member of our community who passed away in 2021.

In September, the Friends Board of Directors invited members and the public to an Annual Meeting to vote on our revised bylaws and elect our 2023–2024 board: Susan Farrell, President; Becky Houlihan, Vice President; Freda Brackley, Secretary; Anne Bussler, Treasurer; and Holly Hendricks, Corresponding Secretary. Our current at-large board members are Anne Haxo, Jason Heffner, and our newest member, Melissa Adams. Many thanks to former Treasurer Nikki Gardner, who also led our social media and member email outreach efforts, and who resigned to focus on her photography business. Thanks also to Jason Heffner for his time as president, during which he helped structure a more efficient way to channel funds to our library director, Beverly Bullock, and led an all-day retreat in which we created a vision for the future that expanded our horizons for fundraising and community building.

The September Annual Meeting opened with a history of the Friends, founded in 1986 when the original Stephen Meekins endowment began to run low. Our mission is to help the library purchase items that are not covered by town allocations, as well as to support the library as a vibrant cultural center for Williamsburg, Haydenville, and the surrounding hilltowns. The meeting was enlivened by speaker Bill Newman, Director of the Western Regional Law Office of the American Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts and well-known radio host on WHMP.

His talk was entitled “Libraries and Liberty,” which addressed recent challenges to books in libraries and schools.

In meeting our mission to support the library over the past year, the Friends sponsored the very popular passes to area museums, helped finance the complex restoration of the original front door, bought a disc buffer for restoring DVDs and CDs, provided funds for the 125th anniversary celebration of the library, purchased a new book cart and plants for the library’s patio pots, financed backpacks for schoolchildren to use on their weekly walk to the library, and provided candy and other materials for the Halloween celebration, as well as supplies for the annual summer reading program.

The Friends sponsored several memorable events this year. For National Library Week, we put on a luncheon for the hardworking library staff and volunteers, catered by the Williamsburg Market. For over two hours, these fine folks enjoyed a tasty meal and the unique opportunity to relax together and enjoy each other’s company.

Another memorable event was a gathering to honor our dear friend Eileen Stewart. She was a much-loved neighbor, longtime Town Moderator, and devoted library supporter as a Trustee and Friend. We had a great turnout on a beautiful spring day as we uncovered her memorial bench, thanks to the many donations in her memory. The bench now faces the river on the library lawn for anyone in town who wishes to find a shady and tranquil moment of respite, chat with a friend, or enjoy lunch.



This year’s annual fall book sale was memorable in terms of both the sizeable volunteer turnout and the number of enthusiastic buyers who came out in the pouring rain. The sale was one of the highest grossing in our long history of book sales. Despite social media and online book reading, folks still love to read actual books!

Our primary source of income is the membership dues and donations so graciously given to the Friends by members of the community. We are very grateful for this support.

The Friends invite community members to consider serving on our Board of Directors and as volunteers at our events. Our meetings are held on the second Monday of each month, and our Annual Meeting is held as part of our September monthly meeting.

In closing, the Friends would like to honor the memory of Bobbin Young, beloved long-time Meekins employee who gave so much to the library and community.

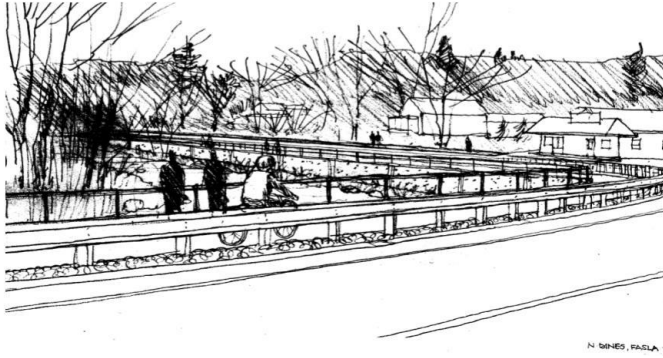
The Officers of the Friends of the Williamsburg Libraries, Inc.

Susan Farrell, President; Becky Houlihan, Vice President; Freda Brackley, Secretary; Anne Bussler, Treasurer; and Holly Hendricks, Corresponding Secretary

Mill River Greenway Committee

The Mill River Greenway Committee is nearing 12 years of diligent effort to study, advance, and secure funding to connect Haydenville and Williamsburg via a shared use path along the Mill River.

Greenway at Snack Bar Curve



The project hit an important milestone in 2023 with the completion of the entire proposed design, from the MassCentral Rail Trail dismount in Haydenville to the new Public Safety Complex in downtown Williamsburg, and all funding secured/pending for the construction. To date, the MRGC has mobilized over \$6 million for this project, which will in turn result in over \$50 million of new climate-resilient

infrastructure (roads, bridges, drainage, retaining walls) for the town, along with a separated trail for walkers and bikers that will be a great asset to our community recreationally, economically, and ecologically.



In July 2023, a rainstorm that dumped up to 5” of rain per hour swelled the Mill River to the point of undermining the abutments of the Bridge Street bridge from Route 9 to South Main Street, Haydenville, prompting its permanent closure. This hastened the urgency of MassDOT’s project to replace both Haydenville bridges, and led MassDOT to schedule a 25% Design Public Hearing a few weeks later. This hearing brought many local residents into the conversation, and daylighted significant concerns with respect to proposed changes to traffic direction, impacts on local businesses, and the advisability of a “bike

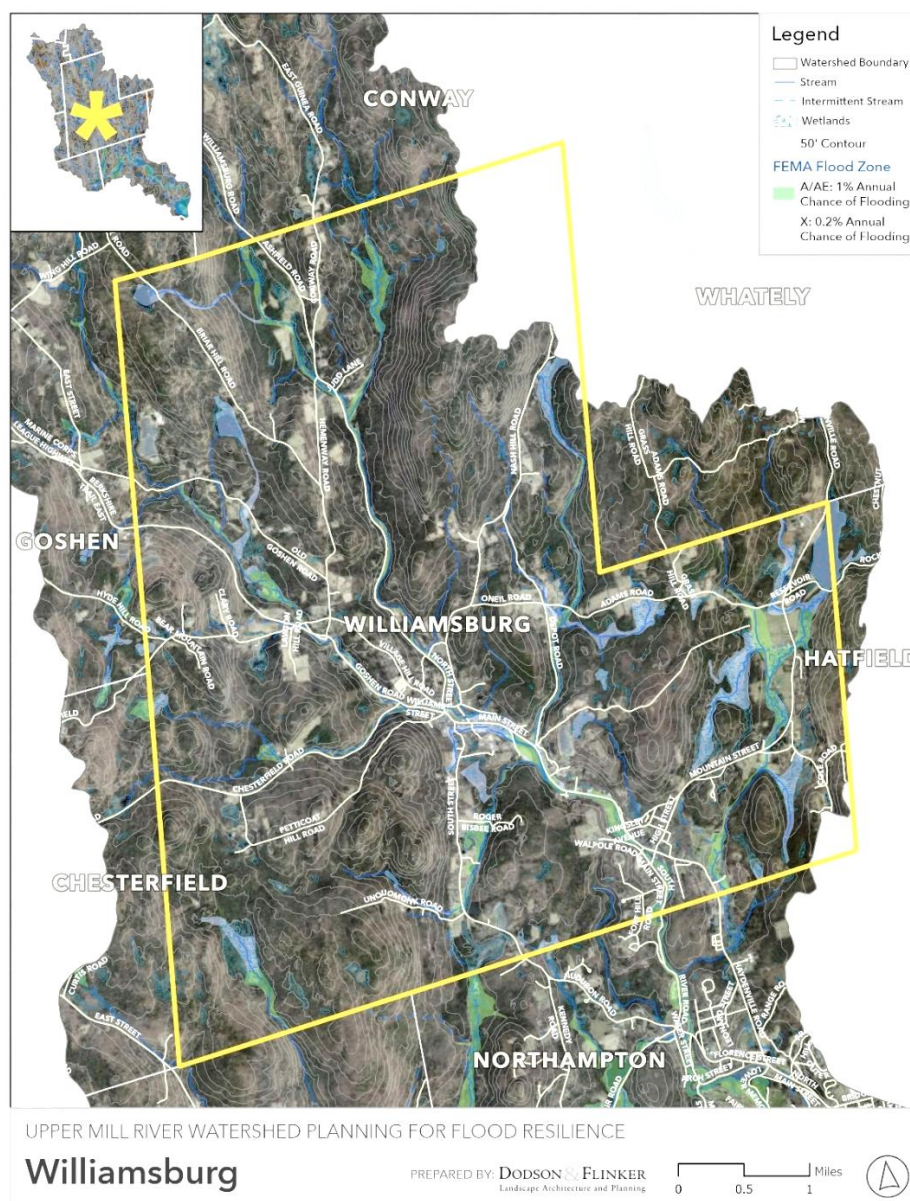
boulevard” versus separated off-road bicycle accommodations along the thickly settled two blocks of South Main. The committee focused a great deal of time and effort in the second half of 2023 to working with the neighborhood and town officials to address these concerns, including additional public forums and conversations with the Select Board and town officials.

Meanwhile, in May, the MRGC successfully spearheaded the effort to secure a \$700,000 grant from the state’s Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness program to study the Mill River Watershed. The funds support four contractors – Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, Hilltown Land Trust, Dodson & Flinker (regional planners/landscape architects), and VHB (civil and environmental engineers) – to undertake a comprehensive analysis of the Mill River and watershed, and will result in a list of recommendations to make Williamsburg more resilient in light of increased flooding risk due to climate change. This will, in turn, enable the town to seek further funding to implement these recommendations, which will likely include infrastructure improvements, bylaw and regulations updates, land conservation, and other proposals to make

the Route 9–Mill River corridor better prepared for more frequent and severe storms like the ones we experienced this year.

Members of the Greenway Committee have also been engaged with planning for the 150th Anniversary of the Mill River Flood of 1874, which will take place on May 16, 2024. In partnership with Historic Northampton, a wide array of commemorative events and installations are planned, including the creation of a new urban memorial forest, which will provide 140+ new trees to be planted within the flood’s extent and along the Greenway in Williamsburg, Skinnerville, Haydenville, Leeds, and Florence.

The Greenway Committee welcomes your ideas, energy, and questions, and can be reached at millrivergreenway@burgy.org.



Open Space Committee

Williamsburg's Open Space committee has been prioritizing action items in the recently approved Open Space and Recreation Plan. Developing a Mill River watershed management plan focused on flood resilience and public education, turning town-owned land along the Mill River (and future Greenway) into community parks, supporting the conservation of land with important habitat and climate resilience values, and exploring passage of the Community Preservation Act are all clear priorities.

Developing a Mill River Watershed management plan is being pursued by the town through a Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) grant. The Mill River Watershed includes most of Williamsburg and small sections of all adjacent towns. This effort involves multiple Town Boards and Committees as well as outside organizations and consultants. The two-year project will produce options for improving stormwater management, a public web-based mapping tool, recommendations for changes to town zoning bylaws, identify potential new conservation projects, and highlight actions that we can take as individuals and as a community to mitigate risk and build resilience in a rapidly changing climate.

The Open Space Committee and Agricultural Commission sponsored an effort to make more locally important farmland eligible for state and federal agricultural conservation funding.

In the land conservation realm, Hilltown Land Trust received a donation of 132 acres of conservation land at the Williamsburg–Goshen–Conway town line. The bulk of the land, known as Clary Hill, is in Goshen with 25 acres in Williamsburg. The land is adjacent to Williamsburg's Briar Hill Conservation Area and will eventually have trails connecting that popular hiking spot to the DAR state Forest.

Additional land conservation projects are underway in town and should be completed in 2024.



View from Briar Hill

Planning Board

The major accomplishments of the Planning Board for 2023 focused on preparing to write a Comprehensive Plan for the town. The Board has been working with the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission receiving guidance and support while undertaking this project. Under Massachusetts law a Comprehensive Plan must address the following elements:

- Land Use
- Open Space & Recreation
- Natural & Cultural Resources
- Housing
- Services & Facilities
- Economic Development
- Transportation

With those in mind, the initial step was the writing of a survey which was available to town residents 16 and older from August 17 through October 30. Input was received both online as well as paper copies. There were 452 responses, 21% of the eligible population.

The next step was a Community Meeting held November 30, 2023. This was the initial visioning step to help inform how the Planning Board would move forward. Nearly 80 town residents attended, which was deemed a very good response. The community input phase will continue through June 2024.

Climate change and resiliency was also a major focus and is being incorporated into focus groups on the required plan elements, being held in winter 2024.

The most pressing zoning bylaw matters were addressed in 2022 so no bylaw changes were proposed in 2023.



Photo of Board on Feb. 12, 2024. From top left: Jean O'Neil, Holly Hendricks, Tariq Abu-Jaber, Steve Smith, Chris Flory. Not shown: Eric Schmitt.

Police Department

In 2023 the Police Department was composed of the following members:

Chief Denise Wickland
Sergeant Jason Soukup
Officer Bryan Luszczyki

Officer Robert Reinke
Officer Peter Fisher
Officer Aimee Wallace



The Williamsburg Police Department has experienced many changes over the last year. From changes in personnel to a change in building location, the department continues to support the mission of public safety in the town of Williamsburg. In 2023, we said farewell to one of our department members. With additional training requirements, it become even more difficult to hire and retain officers. Despite being short staffed, the Police Department maintains a positive outlook as our remaining Officers are some of the best trained in the Commonwealth. We have also moved! Construction has finally

been completed on the new Public Safety Complex, located at 16 Main Street. The police department staff is enjoying this new joint venue with the Williamsburg Fire Department and are grateful for all the hard work that went into making this vision a reality.

For the last three years, our Officers have had to complete additional training in accordance with the recent police reform legislation. As of this date, all Officers have successfully completed this Bridge Academy. The last group are set to be certified by the Post Commission in July. As mentioned in previous years, this training is in addition to the academies, annual in-service training and specialized trainings that our officers have received. The training is intensive and requires a significant time commitment by each officer. It speaks to the dedication of the officers of the department when they set aside additional time away from their families to complete these trainings.



The Police Department is excited to announce participation in two new programs this year to better serve the residents of Williamsburg who struggle with substance use disorders or mental illness.

The Drug Addiction Recovery Team (DART) is a partnership with Hampshire HOPE and has been piloted in Northampton since 2016 with great success. DART members are police officers who have volunteered to be a part of this program in addition to their regular patrol duties. They attend specialized trainings and collaborate with local organizations to assist members of our community struggling with substance abuse issues. Although all Williamsburg police officers are trained in opioid overdose response, DART officers are able to provide additional post-overdose

resources, including connecting the individual with a peer recovery coach or transporting them to a treatment facility. DART officers often work with and provide resources to the family and friends of individuals struggling with substance abuse issues and provide free Naloxone and Naloxone training to Williamsburg residents and businesses upon request.



The Williamsburg Police Department has also joined a grant from the Massachusetts Department of Mental Health to have a mental health professional co-responder. Even though the majority of the department has received 40 hours of Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training, the co-responder team model pairs a trained mental health clinician with police officers to respond to individuals experiencing behavioral health crises. This collaborative crisis response model aims to improve the experiences and outcomes of persons in crisis by providing effective crisis de-escalation, diversion from the criminal justice system, and connection to appropriate behavioral health services.

Some of the collective duties of the Department include: responding to emergency and nonemergency calls, handling department administrative functions, routine patrols, criminal investigations, responding to medical emergencies, investigating traffic crashes, attending court, and enforcing state and local laws. Williamsburg should pride itself on being a low crime community, although the Police Department would like everyone to remember that we are not crime free. The Department does investigate drug possession and distribution cases, sexual assaults, burglaries, domestic violence and child abuse. Williamsburg is lucky to have officers who have attended various specialized trainings to aid in these types of investigations. These crimes take place in every community, even Williamsburg.

The Police Department handles approximately 3,000 calls per year, which all require some form of action or follow up. These calls range anywhere from loose dogs to violent subjects and everything in between. The calls come in from the emergency dispatch center and also through our nonemergency line. Several arrests were made in 2023 for various criminal offenses including warrants, operating under the influence of liquor, operating under the influence of drugs, revoked licenses, possession of narcotics, distributing narcotics, illegal possession of firearms, assault and battery, intimidation of a witness, violating protection orders issued by the court, and several other offenses. Each arrestee is taken to the Williamsburg Police Department, where they are booked according to policy, prior to transport to the Regional Lock up Facility for holding in a cell until release or until they are transported to court.

The Safe Entry Program continues to be a success in town. In collaboration with the Fire Department many new boxes were installed. The program provides mounted lock boxes to seniors in our community. The boxes are installed by a member of the Police or Fire Department and hold a key to the home provided by the resident. If emergency responders need to make entry to the home for a medical emergency, they are able to call the dispatch center and receive the code which will unlock the box. This not only provides quick access to a person having an emergency but also prevents damage to homes which may otherwise occur if a home is locked and there is no other way to gain access to a patient. These boxes are provided to seniors at no cost and to any other residents with a suggested donation of \$25. Anyone interested in one of these lock boxes can call the Police Department at 413-268-7237.

Each year the Department participates in the National Drug Take Back days, which are times when the public can drop off unused and expired medications at a specific location. We want residents to know that they do not have to wait for a National Take Back Day. There is a permanent kiosk at the Police Department. This is a place where unused prescription and over-the-counter medications, expired medications, and pet medications can be disposed of safely.



Anyone wishing to dispose of unused medications may do so, no questions asked. Someone needing to utilize the kiosk can call the Police Department and make an appointment to access the lobby. This service is open to all citizens whether they reside in Williamsburg or not. To date the Williamsburg Police Department has collected more than 2,100 pounds of unused medications.

The Police Department performs other duties that some residents may not be aware of. We offer vacant property checks for unoccupied homes or homes that may be vacant while families are away on vacation. These checks can be requested by contacting the Police Department and completing a simple request form. There is a certified car seat installation technician on the Police Force. Free seat inspections and installations are available by appointment and seats are available to families who need them. Anyone interested in receiving a car seat or having their current seat inspected should contact the station.

Public Safety Complex Building Committee

The Public Safety Complex Building was completed successfully and ownership was transferred to the Town of Williamsburg on November 1, 2023. The Committee was organized on June 9, 2021, to oversee construction and approve designs and budgets.

The architect was Kevin Chrobak of Juster, Pope, Frazier; the Owner's Project Manager Rob Todisco of P3; and the General Contractor Eric Forish of Forish Construction.

The total project expenses as of the end of the year were \$5,358,136 for a building of 8,713 square feet; a cost of \$615/sf. The project was aided with significant support from a grant from the State of Massachusetts Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness program in the amount of \$1,891,126 for energy efficient construction, solar power generation, climate resilient landscaping and public outreach. The solar array will be installed in the summer of 2024 and is projected to generate \$57,000/year, to be credited against the Town's total electrical costs.



On July 21, 2023, the committee lost its chair, Dave Mathers, to illness, and his leadership, steady hand and deep knowledge of the Town were dearly missed. William Sayre became acting chair on April 19, 2023, with Jean O'Neil as vice chair.

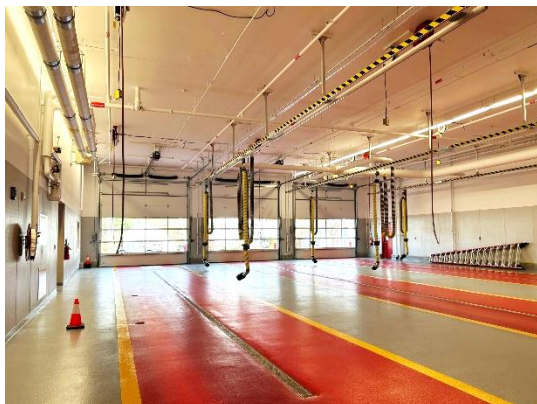
The year was very busy with finishing construction, monitoring final details and the inevitable change order approvals. The final product has been well received by the Town and the Fire and Police Departments, and quickly came into fulfilling its role as a combined Safety Complex and Emergency Operations Center. The Town's equipment and operations are now well housed and protected, and every member of the Town and Departments can be proud that we are providing the best for our dedicated emergency responders.



The Committee was quite active in community outreach, publishing four newsletters for distribution to the public and conducting an open house for public inspection.

Some items to note about construction:

- An epoxy floor coating was added for durability and safety to the Fire and Police bays.
- The fire truck bays have radiant in-floor heating to improve the longevity of the equipment, improve firefighter safety, and reduce energy costs.
- A 150kW propane generator was installed for whole building backup power.
- A Gypsum ceiling was installed above the fire bays for acoustical and aesthetic reasons.
- The building was tested twice for air leakage by Town resident Adin Maynard. The walls have sprayed on foam insulation for efficient heating and to establish an air tight building.
- A Plymovent exhaust system was installed to keep the atmosphere in the building free of exhaust fumes from vehicles.
- A security camera system was planned and wired for installation.



The Committee is very grateful to all those who worked on the project and recognizes that this project would not have been successful without their help.

Committee members: Dave Mathers, Chair; William Sayre, Chair; Jean O'Neil, Vice Chair; Jason Connell, Fire Department Chief; Denise Wickland, Police Department Chief; Amy Bisbee, Dan Bonham, Mary Dudek, Dick Guzowski, Melinda McCall, Robert Reinke, Daryl Springman.

Others who assisted: Nick Caccamo, Town Administrator; Tariq Abu-Jaber, MVP coordinator; Paul Wetzel, MVP grant writer, landscape consultant; Dan Banister, Highway Superintendent; Adin Maynard, building energy consultant

WPS Project Budget Update

February 16, 2024

1	P3 Project Planning Professionals	\$	128,500	
2	Juster Pope Frazier	\$	296,000	
3	Forish Construction Contract Award	\$	3,764,618	
4	Change Orders	\$	770,232	
5	AARPA Funding for Epoxy Flooring	\$	(59,712)	
6	Costello Dismantling - HEJ Demo	\$	394,000	
7	Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment	\$	41,034	
8	Construction Testing	\$	16,049	
9	Hazardous Materials	\$	6,028	
10	Misc. Soft cost Expenses	\$	1,387	
11	TOTAL PROJECT EXPENSES TO DATE	\$	5,358,136	Sum of Lines 1 - 10
12	Original Project Budget	\$	5,100,000	
13	Reduced Borrowing	\$	(500,000)	
14	MVP Grant Addition	\$	806,971	
15	Current Total Project Budget	\$	5,406,971	Sum of Lines 12 - 14
16	Total Spent to Date	\$	5,358,136	Equal to Line 11
17	Available Funds / Balance Today	\$	48,835	Line 15 Less Line 16
18	What is outstanding to Buy:			
19	Signage	\$	23,835	
20	Cameras, monitors & software	\$	25,000	
25	Subtotal of Funds to Finish	\$	48,835	
26	Projected Budget Balance	\$	-	Line 17 less Line 25
27	TOTAL Additional Funds Needed	\$	-	

Recreation Commission



The 2023 calendar year was productive for the Williamsburg Recreation Commission as we continued to strive to provide various recreational activities for community members, especially children.

Several groups used the Dunphy School gym for pickleball (adult pick-up) and basketball (Suburban League practices, adult pick-up, and “open gym”). We are grateful to Principal Stacey Jenkins and the custodial staff at the Anne T. Dunphy School for supporting the use of the gym. We purchased a high-quality portable pickleball net, now being kept at the school.

Williamsburg continues to partner with other Hampshire Regional towns through “Hampshire Hoops” for recreational basketball, as well as Suburban teams through 8th grade. This past winter, 21 young hoopsters were registered to play:

Three girls, 1st-3rd

One girl, 4th-6th

One girl, 5th-6th Suburban

Two girls, 7th-8th Suburban

Two boys, 1st-2nd

Three boys, 3rd-4th

Four boys, 5th-6th

One boy, 7th-8th

Three boys, 5th-6th Suburban

One boy, 7th-8th Suburban

The Recreation Commission held three T-Ball clinics over the summer, and we hope to recruit more community members to field a robust T-Ball and Coach Pitch program in 2024.

As usual, the Ames Field area was busy with pick-up Ultimate Frisbee, tennis, pickleball, soccer, and basketball. We appreciate all the work Zononi's Lawn and Landscape did to keep the fields and area around the courts in good shape. We are especially thankful for their aerating of the fields, free of charge, in the fall, as they tested out some new equipment. The courts need repair, and we have been actively looking into options for getting that done, including an overlay system that appears to be both durable and cost-effective.

In the spring, the Commission plans to hold a volunteer workday to clean up the play and garden area behind the town offices. In recent years, that area has fallen into disrepair.

While there was not enough interest to have a youth field hockey program this past year, we hope to offer it again soon.

The Recreation Commission would love to see more community members step up with recreational program ideas and take the lead in organizing and running events. The Commission is here to support such efforts in any way we can (promoting, providing financial support, etc.). Recreation Commission meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month at the Town Offices.

Recreation Commission Members: Ben Thompson (Chair); Nicole Turner (Secretary); Geoff Smith (Treasurer), Coni Gilman, Collin Black



Anne T. Dunphy School Williamsburg School District Annual Principal's Report

It is with pleasure that I submit this annual report as the principal of the Anne T. Dunphy School. The commitment of the staff, the energy of the students, and the support from Williamsburg continue to create a very special community of which I am proud to be part.

I want to acknowledge the continued support provided by the School Council, the PTO, and the community of Williamsburg. I would also like to acknowledge the service of Williamsburg's School Committee members, **Marissa Nye (chair), Glenda Cresto, Kathaleen Emerson, Collin Black, and Nicole Farach**. We would also like to extend gratitude to **Ryan Schiff**, who served on the Williamsburg School Committee during three of the most challenging years in

Student Enrollment Fall 2023	
Preschool	10
Kindergarten	17
1 st grade	15
2 nd grade	15
3 rd grade	11
4 th grade	18
5 th grade	20
6 th grade	19
Choice in students: 19	
Choice out students: 7	
Charter out students: 8	

public education, and whose contributions during that time will not soon be forgotten. Nicole Farach was elected in June 2023 to fill the open position after Ryan's departure from the committee.

Our school community is also incredibly grateful to the many community organizations that support us as we provide important and quality experiences for our students: the Williamsburg Fire Department, the Williamsburg Police Department, the Williamsburg Council on Aging, the Williamsburg Cultural Council, the Daniel Collins Trust Fund, the Meekins Library staff, trustees, and Friends, and the Williamsburg Historical Society. The school community is also grateful for the support of the Williamsburg Highway Department and the staff at the Williamsburg Town Offices.

With generous financial support from the Williamsburg Trust Funds and Williamsburg PTO, throughout the past year, our students benefitted from the rich area resources outside of our school. Students were able to visit to such locations as the Connecticut Science Center, the Historic Williamsburg Dam Trail, Hitchcock Center for the Environment, Old Sturbridge Village, Boston Science Museum, Porter Family Farm, Fletcher Farm, Look Park, the Williamsburg Fire station, the Beneski Museum of Natural History, Williamsburg Woodland Trails, the Eric Carle Museum of Picturebook Art, Gillette Stadium's Wellness Education Day, Brownstone Park, Magic Wings Butterfly Conservatory, the Nolumbeka Project in Greenfield, and the Shelburne Historical Museum. This year, because our traditional fifth grade overnight opportunity was not available,



our fifth graders had a special experience for which they'd been begging... an overnight "Lock In" in the school! With the support of several brave staff members, our fifth grade students spent the evening and overnight hours at the school, participating in team building and leadership activities, and even had the opportunity to play hide-and-seek in the dark school! After sleeping through the night on the gym floor, they enjoyed a cereal bar before they headed off for their weekend.

At the close of the school year, we were proud to honor the elementary school achievements of our sixth grade students. The 2023 graduates of Anne T. Dunphy School were: **Elizabeth Barry, Samantha Black, Tayla Eiseman, Daniel Guiel, Kylie Hodges, Vincent Kajka, Anna MacLachlan, Damian Pasiut, Mason Pedersen, Sophia Pompei-Axt, Mila Schauer, Hazel Scully-Henry, Destiny Slack, Benjamin Sweet, Amaya Torres Mor, and Lydia Williams.**



Fall 2023 brought some new faces to our school community as some of our staff members moved on to new adventures. **Wendy Somes** joined us as our sixth grade teacher and **Krista Matrishon** filled our first grade classroom position. We also welcomed **Rory Flynn** as a paraprofessional, **Anne Polatol** as a part-time school nurse, and **Laurie Ryan** as a part-time cafeteria helper. In this challenging hiring climate, we are fortunate to continue to attract strong educators and support personnel to join our school community. As we started our school year, we also acknowledged staff who were entering their 5th, 10th, and 15th years in our school community – and an extra special acknowledgement for Mrs. Tina Baker who is the longest serving employee in the entire Hampshire Regional School District as she started her 42nd year in our school!

Throughout the year, staff at Anne T. Dunphy School are engaged in professional learning through in-district opportunities, as well as area professional development opportunities. Much of the district professional learning for staff in 2023 was focused on mathematics, with many opportunities for teachers to meet with grade level colleagues across the Hampshire Regional district. Family education programs were also held across the district focusing on childhood anxiety and social media and internet safety.

The highlights of our school year are when we are able to engage with our families and the Williamsburg community. Our spring musical, *James & the Giant Peach, Jr.* was once again well supported by our school community and the folks in Williamsburg. We also enjoy collaboration with the COA through our sixth grade COA Pen Pal project, working with the Williamsburg Grange as we prepare displays for their annual fair, and organizing an annual Flu Clinic in conjunction with the COA and municipal employees. Our school loves engaging with our families during events such as our annual Harvest Feast, our seasonal music/art performances, and classroom events such as our fourth grade American Changers Museum and our second grade Biography Bash.

During the summer of 2023, we pursued a significant technology infrastructure upgrade, replacing the classroom wireless access points, swapping out the networking switches for newer models with remote-management features, and upgrading the security cameras to higher-resolution, cloud-managed devices. Additionally, one classroom set of new iPads was added. These projects were supported by the Rural Aid state funding and addition grant resources.

As I shared last year, our students' rates of progress and proficiency as measured by MCAS continued to improve even through the instructional challenges of the COVID years, including a 20% increase in the number of students performing at the meets/exceeds level in mathematics during those three years. As the 2023 MCAS data was released, we were so pleased to see a continued upward trend in both English-Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics, and even more proud to be designated as a **2023 School of Recognition** by the **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE)**.



The staff and students at the Williamsburg Schools wish to thank the citizens of Williamsburg for your continued support.

Stacey Jenkins, Principal

Hampshire Regional High School

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

Enrollment

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

Current Enrollment by Town:

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

Current Enrollment by Grade:

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

Staffing

In February, it was my absolute pleasure to award the Grinspoon Excellence in Teaching award to French teacher Greg Reynolds. Greg was nominated by numerous colleagues who said that “Greg is a joyful educator. He is excited by his work and by interacting with students, which of course is then reflected in his teaching and in students’ learning... Greg is continually up to date with new practices and working hard to push [the world language department] forward.”

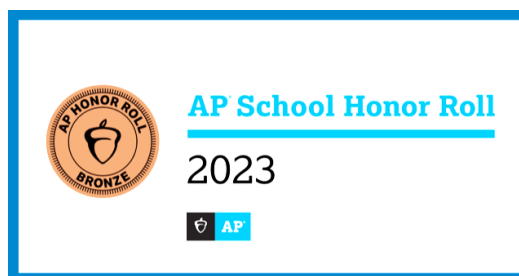
In 2023, we bid farewell to four staff members who dedicated many years to Hampshire Regional. Teacher Michele McHale retired at the end of the 2022-2023 school year after 24 years. Building Substitute Judy Thrasher retired in October after six years of service to our school, and Para Educator Laura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

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

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

Academic Achievements

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



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

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

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

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

Athletic and Extracurricular Achievements

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



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

This year's spring musical, *The Drowsy Chaperone*, was just as fabulous as we have come to expect from our students and staff! Directed, produced, and supported by Myka Plunkett, Lauren Bell, Pam Plumer, and Dave Tripp, the spring musical captivated audiences with humor and

talent. The dedication of the 33 students in the cast and crew shone through in each performance.

Two seniors from the class of 2023, Riley Smith (Southampton) and Ozzie Frazier (Easthampton), represented Hampshire Regional in the prestigious All-State Music Festival, showcasing their musical talents at Symphony Hall in Boston. Choral director Aidan Linden

supported them throughout this process and helped make it possible for our students to achieve such success in this area.

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



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

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

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

Class of 2023

Celebrating the 102 members of class of 2023 through their many seniors events, culminating in our June 3 graduation ceremony, was a joy for all. 70 awards were given out to a total of 46 seniors at Senior Awards Night on May 30. The next day, May 31, seniors went to Brownstone Adventure Sports Park for a day of fun and celebration with their classmates and class advisors.



On June 1, seniors participated in a beloved annual tradition where they walk through their elementary schools with their caps and gowns as our district's elementary students and teachers cheer them on. Both students and teachers look forward to this event every year and there are many hugs, tears of joy, and high fives to go around! Our outdoor graduation ceremony almost did not happen this year due to the threat of rain and storms, but in the end, we were able to hold our outdoor ceremony on June 3 at 6 p.m.! It was a chilly but beautiful evening for us to

celebrate the class of 2023 as they deserved. Graduation speakers included President Eliza Warner (Chesterfield), Vice President Silvia Bastek (Williamsburg), Secretary Stellina Simonelli

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

Summer, College, and Career Programming

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

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

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

Contract Negotiations

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

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

Lauren Hotz, Principal

Superintendent of Schools

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

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

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

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

Business Office

Mickey Buhl joined our HRHS team in July. The business office is responsible for all finance, operations, personnel, and contract functions for the five separate districts of Hampshire Regional Schools – this means five budgets, five different school contracts, and five different towns. The business office manages all five budgets to support nearly 1550 students and over 360 employees throughout the region. While much additional funding was provided in the past few years to help offset costs associated with Covid, most of the additional funding has been spent. Since the government has not provided us with additional funds with the exception of

Rural Aid, we are trying to be strategic and focused in our spending. Additionally, in an effort to improve communication pertaining to the budgeting process, the Central Office budget was presented to all school committees prior to any school budgets in order for school committees to view the Central Office budget before having to approve a budget in its entirety. Transparency and open communication will be an ongoing effort of the school business office. Additionally, accounting and human resources procedures and protocols, as well as new payroll systems, are being developed in order to maximize efficiency and effectiveness.

Technology

An outside agency continues to meet our districts' Director of Technology needs, Todd Schubach and Blake Mallet were our Directors from Suzor IT. After an internal audit was completed in the Fall of 2022, Suzor IT determined that a network infrastructure update was the single most important priority to improve our technology speed and continuity of services. In addition to the hardware installation, critical changes were made to the network that helped strengthen connectivity issues, stability issues, and overall security. We also were able to move all of the phone systems within the district over to the newly installed switches. A new security camera system, a Verkada system with 20 cameras, was implemented at the Anne T. Dunphy School.

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

Curriculum, Assessment, and Instruction/Grants

Mary Jane Rickson became the Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment in September. Hampshire Regional is one of four districts across the Commonwealth that was awarded the SOA Rural Innovation and Efficiencies Grant (FC 123), which supports the alignment of mathematics (PK-12) across all the district's schools. The \$208,000 award, granted in 2022, enabled the purchase of a new 6-8 math curriculum (Into Math), and also supported professional development for all math teachers through online and in-person coaching. We have already noticed improved MCAS math scores, and this specialized professional development played a large role in the increased scores.

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

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

Student Services

Nicole Heroux joined the team at Hampshire Regional in July. The Director of Student Services is committed to fostering an inclusive and supportive learning environment while optimizing

resource utilization for the benefit of all students. Her focus for the year is to determine how to support the districts and their special education programs. Ms. Heroux is currently collecting data aimed at identifying strategic measures to reduce special education costs. This effort involves gathering and analyzing data related to various aspects of special education services, resource allocation, and program effectiveness. The goal is to explore innovative approaches and evidence-based practices that not only enhance the quality of special education but also contribute to cost-saving measures within the department. Ms. Heroux would like to explore options of creating more in-house programs to support our students' needs and keep them in the community rather than sending students out of the district.

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

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

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

Diana Bonneville, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Board of Selectmen



2023 was a busy year for the Board of Selectmen. Much work was done to bring our long-awaited and much-needed Public Safety Complex to reality. Funding was secured and plans were drawn up to build a facility that would meet the needs of the Police and Fire Departments while not straining the allotted budget.

Compromises were made, and the result is a building that satisfies the needs of the departments. Governor Charlie Baker visited in 2022 to announce the award of a \$1.8 million Municipal Vulnerability Grant to fund a solar array to be installed on the

building and over the parking lot. After many discussions between the town's attorneys and Select Energy, a contract was signed for the design and construction of the solar installation. The Fire Department moved its operations into the new building in December; the Police Department will be fully moving its operations as soon as the necessary communications equipment is installed at the new building.

Our friend and long-time member, Dave Mathers passed away on July 21, 2023. Dave served on the Board of Selectmen since 2007; during his tenure he was active on the Anne T. Dunphy renovation project and he chaired the Public Safety Complex Building Committee until his health failed. Dave had also served on the Zoning Board of Appeals for many years. His wealth of knowledge and his love for his town is sorely missed. Board members welcomed Paul Wetzel to fill Dave's seat. We look forward to working with Paul.



Two other townspeople who worked for the good of the community also passed during 2023. Al Golash, long time member of the Recreation Committee as well as the custodian at the Town Office passed during 2023; and Darryl Finch, who quietly volunteered to do lawn care at the South Main Street Police and Fire Station also left us in 2023. They are missed.

As of January 1, 2024, Fire Chief Jason Connell, who has served for many years as the part-time Fire Chief will assume the duties of a full-time Chief. The town is fortunate to have the Chief in town to respond to the daytime calls that come in when many Fire Department members are out-of-town working at their daily jobs.





The Police Chief requested that she be made a strong chief, which would enable her to make decisions that affect policy and hiring without coming to the Board. This received a favorable vote at the Annual Town Meeting.

US Representative Jim McGovern met with board members to discuss the needs of rural communities.

The town has contracted with Franklin Regional Council of Government (FRCOG) to have them supply a Town Accountant for many years. Kala Fisher, who was serving as our accountant, has taken employment elsewhere, and because a replacement could not be found, the FRCOG allowed the town to amend their contract so it ended a year early, on June 30, 2023. Members of the town's financial team stepped up to fill the void and now Nathan Rosewarne serves as the Town Accountant, and Sharon Strzegowski is the Town Collector and the Treasurer.

The town received a \$15,000 DOER grant to study Dunphy School energy systems. The Planning Board has received Direct Technical Assistance funds and has requested ARPA funds to begin the process of creating a Comprehensive Plan. An MVP Action Grant has been applied for to create a Watershed Management Plan. The plan will study upstream flow into the Mill River to determine ways to reduce the flow by improving absorption through better forest management and to strengthen flood mitigation infrastructure along the Route 9/ Mill River corridor.

The Mill River Greenway Committee continues to work diligently on the South Main Street piece of the Greenway.



The trophy case which spent time at M.J. Moran offices until a suitable home could be found for the memorabilia is now safely housed in the Town Offices Auditorium. Many thanks to Jim Moran for safely guarding this piece of Williamsburg High School history.

As budget season approaches, the Finance Committee and the Board of Selectmen are hard at work to strike a balance between budget constraints and rising costs of materials and the need to increase wages and salaries to attract and retain employees.

The members of the Board of Selectmen wish to extend our thanks to each and every town employee and members of the boards and committees who extend their best efforts to serve the town we love. Thank you all.

Senior Center

The Williamsburg Senior Center is open Monday–Thursday, 8 a.m. – 2 p.m. The office can be contacted at 413-268-8407, 413-268-8410, 413-338-2920 or seniorcenterdirector@burgy.org. Information is available on the town website, burgy.org, Senior Center page.

The Williamsburg Senior Center receives funding from the Town of Williamsburg, the Executive Office of Elder Affairs (EOEA), Highland Valley Elder Services (HVES), Pioneer Valley Transit Authority (PVTa) and generous donations from residents and local agencies. We also partner with the Retired Senior Volunteer Program of the Pioneer Valley (RSVP) and the Western Mass Food Bank for various programs.



Technology: Addressing the Digital Divide:

In August of 2023 the Northern Hilltown Consortium (seven hill towns of which Burgy is a member) received a technology grant from the state Executive Office of Elder Affairs (EOEA) in the amount of \$299,780.00. Our goal is to assist seniors requesting technology help to maintain their independence and enhance their quality of life.

Food programs:

- Congregate meals continue to be served Monday through Thursday, with Monday and Thursday featuring a home cooked meal, and HVES providing meals Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday (Fridays are delivered).
- The Brown Bag program provided groceries (Western Mass Food Bank) once a month to 12 to 14 senior households on fixed incomes.
- Staff helped to coordinate the Take and Eat program, a Saturday lunch meal preparation and delivery to 45 to 50 households by two local churches, Williamsburg Congregational and Our Lady of the Hills.
- The Farm Shares – Prospect Meadow, a Service Net program – ran for twenty weeks (June – October) providing a generous portion of local, healthy produce for a nominal cost to about 22 households.



Exercise programs:

- Healthy Bones and Balance classes began this year, meeting on Thursdays in the Town Office building. Classes were well attended (17 to 20). The instructor, Mary Bisbee, is an RSVP volunteer.
- Tai Chi met Tuesdays (inside or outside, weather permitting). The instructor, Marty Phinney, has been offering her talent and knowledge for over 30 years!
- The Contemporary Dance group met once a week (inside or outside, weather permitting) with Susan Waltner, a dedicated and gifted instructor. She is in her eighth year.

- The Strength and Cardio exercise program continued throughout the year. It met several times a week in person or on zoom. The Williamsburg class met weekly on zoom. Residents can attend as many classes per week as they choose. The instructor, Joan Griswold, is in her fourth year.

Transportation:

- Medical, car pool or companion rides (shopping, errands, etc.) continued during the year. On average, there are over 35 to 40 rides arranged monthly. They are funded by PVTA and HVES.
- Transportation is also provided to congregate lunch meals and to monthly foot care appointments.

Reception and Outreach:

- Staff made weekly and monthly phone contact with 50 to 60 seniors, many of whom were living alone. The center also coordinates a companion/friendly visitor program.
- Reception staff was available Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. for phone calls, walk-ins, and emails. Staff assisted callers with SHINE (Serving the Health Insurance



Needs of Everyone) appointments, SNAP benefits (food stamps), Fuel Assistance applications, home care referrals, Veterans assistance, and many other requests.

- The Men's Group and the Ladies who Lunch met monthly at the Snack Bar.
- Living Well, the Senior Center monthly newsletter, has become an instrumental and important way for the center to connect with our constituency.

Some things to note in the past year:

- The Pen Pal program (a very popular collaboration with the school) had 17 seniors exchanging letters with the sixth-grade students at Anne T. Dunphy School.
- A multigenerational event in August was a big hit, featuring Bright Spot Therapy Dogs (Florence, MA). Youth members of the Grange and 4-H, led by Shannon Wade and Faith Bisbee, respectively, helped set up and serve food for over 50 folks. It was a lot of fun!
- An Ice Cream Social was held in July with over 40 folks in attendance. The ice cream and fixings were generously donated by Mark and Annette Larareo of the Village Green.
- A Health fair was held in September with over 20 vendors and 50+ folks stopping by to learn more about services in the community for older residents.
- The Senior Center and the staff at the Anne T. Dunphy school collaborated on a flu clinic in October. Over 90 folks received flu shots on that day.
- December Sing-a-Long. Voices of the Valley generously donated their time and talent to folks at the Senior Center. It was enjoyed by all.

Volunteers: The Senior Center has been fortunate to have the many volunteers who help us in a variety of ways. They are critical to the work that we do. The 2023 year was active, meaningful, and fun.

Our mission continues to be reducing isolation and loneliness among older adults, especially among our most vulnerable, and enhancing the quality of life and independence of seniors residing in our community.

Oliver Smith Will Charities

To the Residents of the Town of Williamsburg

RE: SMITH CHARITIES 2023 CALENDAR YEAR END BENEFICIARY DISTRIBUTIONS

Below please find a breakdown of the following applicant who was paid a monetary gift as a beneficiary under the Oliver Smith Will between January 1, 2023, through the December 31, 2023 year end:

Gift Distribution(s)		
<u>Recipient(s)</u>	<u>Beneficiary(ies)</u>	<u>Total Gift Amount</u>
1	Brides	\$ 200.00
0	Nurses	\$ 0.00
0	Tradespersons	\$ 0.00
<u>0</u>	Widows	<u>\$ 0.00</u>
1		\$ 200.00

Richard Kisloski
Current Williamsburg Elector Under the
Oliver Smith Will

Carla M. Kone, Treasurer
The Trustees of The Smith Charities

\$22,757 Total Beneficiary Gifts Fiscal Year Ending 1/31/2024* **The Trustees of The Smith Charities**

During the past fiscal year, February 1, 2023 – January 31, 2024, the following beneficiary activity has occurred within the nine (9) designated communities of Amherst, Deerfield, Easthampton, Greenfield, Hadley, Hatfield, Northampton, Whately, and Williamsburg:

<u>4 Brides' Gifts</u>	<u>→ Cross Total</u>
• Three (3) new brides each received a \$200 marriage gift.	\$ 700
• One (1) bride received a \$100 gift from prior year.	
<u>2 Nurses' Gifts</u>	
• Four (4) new student nurses were enrolled.	
• Two (2) nurses graduated this year, who each received a \$1,200 gift.	\$ 2,400
<u>2 Tradespersons' Gifts</u>	
• Eight (8) new tradespersons were enrolled.	
• Two (2) tradespersons each received a \$1,200 apprentice gift.	\$ 2,400

14 Widows' Gifts

- Two (2) new widows became eligible (included in below count).
- Fourteen (14) widows, new and renewing, were paid annual gifts of \$600 for first child under 18 years old, and \$200 for each additional child under 18 years (one new widow prorated) \$ 10,266

Individual Beneficiary Total \$ 15,766

Total Beneficiary Gift Recipients 22

Total Sum – The total sum disbursed as gifts to beneficiaries, was \$22,757*, which includes the \$6,991* that will be paid to the City of Northampton, after our monthly Trustees meeting on February 26, 2024, for the account of Smith's Agricultural School, being the net income from the permanent fund established for the school.

→ Total Sum Breakdown
\$ 15,766 Individual Beneficiaries
\$ 6,991 City of Northampton
***\$ 22,757 Beneficiary Gifts Total**

Beneficiaries from the nine (9) communities have been paid the following since the provision of the Will went into effect:

\$ 1,499,200 Bride's Gift (originally designated in the Will as Indigent Young Women)
\$ 818,933 Nurse's Gift (originally designated in the Will as Indigent Female Children)
\$ 2,931,900 Tradesperson's Gift (originally designated in the Will as Indigent Boys)
\$ 1,855,745 Widow's Gift
\$ 1,580,331 Smith's Agricultural School Yearly Distribution
\$ 5,000 Cash Donation to Smith's Agricultural School for 2022 fire damage
\$ 35,374 Annuities
\$ 613,717 Taxes
\$ 9,340,200 Grand Total Amount Paid to Date

Current Trustees

David A. Murphy, Carol Gray, Lydia Szych

*Special Note: All figures above have been rounded to the nearest dollar. The exact amount to be paid to the City of Northampton for the benefit of Smith Vocational & Agricultural High School is \$6,990.78.

Tree Warden

The Williamsburg Tree Warden works closely with the Highway Department Superintendent to manage all trees and other woody plants growing on the Town's land. Our resources are focused on identifying trees that pose a hazard to the public and responding to issues brought to our attention by residents of the community.

Tree Warden matters in 2023 typically involved identifying and removing potential hazards posed by our public shade trees to public safety and property.

The condition and vitality of our urban forest in the more densely populated sections of Williamsburg (including Haydenville to be clear) is poor in areas. Trees that line our streets are generally mature and in decline, so most of our efforts (and budget for arboriculture) focus on monitoring and eliminating hazard-related issues. Once identified, hazards are managed by contracted arborists possessing the training and equipment



necessary for the work (usually we'll compile a ranked list until there is enough work to hire a contractor for a half-day or day at a time), by National Grid, which is responsive to problems that pose a hazard to power lines, or by our Highway Department staff if they can do so safely.



Many of our public roads and rights-of-way in the less densely populated areas of Williamsburg are also lined by mature trees in decline, and require periodic maintenance to clear new growth that encroaches on ditches, roads, private property, etc., lining our roads. Poor resources for determining where public rights-of-way begin and end sometimes make decisions unnecessarily complicated.

There were a typical number of inquiries in 2023. Items of note included:

- Extreme weather events are occurring with more frequency, requiring more attention and resources to rectify issues brought about by these events. For example, renting a chipper for the Highway Department to use in cleaning up roadsides after storms.
- In cooperation with the Mill River Greenway Committee, we identified and lent support to removing three hazard trees within the right of way at 35 South Main Street in Haydenville, in preparation for the planned extension of the bike path.
- The ash component of our urban forest in Williamsburg is in serious decline due to Emerald Ash Borer activity, including a large ash tree that posed a hazard and was removed from the parking area of Meekins Library. (It was showing no signs of borer damage but was failing due to structural problems.)

Thank you for this opportunity to update you on Tree Warden activities through 2023.

Thomas Por, Tree Warden

Trust Fund and Cemetery Commission

During 2023, the three member Trust Fund and Cemetery Commission continued to oversee the more than 30 bequests left to the town by generous benefactors over the years, making distributions according to the terms of the various trusts, to our schools, the library, newborns, senior citizens and the financially disadvantaged. The values of the trusts have increased by 7.71% in FY 2023 to \$2,253,976.34 with expenditures of \$58,789.42, which includes distributions to town entities (\$43,882.34) and management fees (\$14,907.08). Earnings from dividends, interest and other income totaled \$10,757.23. We continue in our efforts to reach out to the citizens of Williamsburg to find creative ways to help students with school related educational projects

As trustees, we encourage all Williamsburg residents to consider the Town when planning their estates, so their generosity and forethought can benefit our community for generations. The Kmit family gift of \$354,000 is earmarked for the libraries, specifically to strengthen programs and expand educational opportunities for children under the age of nineteen. This year's fiscal year 2023 contribution was \$23,128.17. As of 12/30/2023 the value of the Kmit fund was \$616,476.59 an increase of 14.27%.

Other gifts are used to aid Williamsburg students and strengthen our public schools. Trust fund support in the past has enabled Williamsburg Public School students to take field trips and benefit from many other teacher and student projects. The Trust Fund has also provided support to Williamsburg Hampshire Regional students for academic related travel, computers, extracurricular activities, honors courses and study materials. The Commission encourages creative student-initiated proposals.

In managing these gifts the Trust Fund protects the original investment and only expends no more than 4% of the value above the original gift value on an annual basis. Distributions from the trusts are based on a formula that uses earned income, thereby protecting the principal. As the value of these trusts increase, the amount of gifting can increase.

Another responsibility of the Commission is to oversee the Town's two cemeteries, Old Village Hill and Mountain Street, and to handle the sale of plots at Mountain Street (a temporary hold has been placed on future sales due to access restraints). The historic Old Village Hill Cemetery is closed for additional burials. This year the Trust Fund undertook a cleaning and straightening of monuments at both the Mountain Street and Old Village Hill Cemeteries. Presently the work is approximately two thirds complete.



The Trust Fund is also responsible for the beautiful E. Howard & Co. clock, donated to the people of Haydenville in 1901 by Hayden Sands in memory of his mother, Alice. The clock, which is maintained weekly, is housed in the steeple of the Haydenville Congregational Church.

Whether helping students, providing for the needy families in Williamsburg, or welcoming newborns (five births in 2023 for which the Trust Fund provides \$200 for each birth), your gifts, too, could be a source of continuing giving. The generosity and forethought of a nineteenth century town doctor, Daniel Collins, is a case in point. In 1856, Dr. Collins left the town 51 shares of bank stock and \$7,000. Since then the bequest has generated tens of thousands of dollars to help our public school student grow and learn. This fiscal year 2023, \$37,982.04 was made available to the Anne T. Dunphy School and to Hampshire Regional for Williamsburg students. As of 12/30/2023 the Collins Fund was worth \$690,232.36.

In addition, this year the Trustees have been working with the High Street Cemetery Association to complete the transfer of the High Street Cemetery to the care and management of the Trust Fund. Presently \$200,000 of High Street Cemetery funds have been transferred to the Trust Fund and a survey of the property has been completed. An anticipated full transfer of the cemetery should be complete by the end of fiscal year 2024.

Finally, within the month of November the Trust Fund, in conjunction with St. Germain Investments (the Trust Fund management firm), has switched from Pershing LLC to Charles Schwab to decrease handling fees and improve document administration.

Trust Fund meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at the Town Offices in Haydenville.

Richard Kisloski, Chair; Eric Weber, Correspondent; and Collin Black, Secretary

Zoning Board of Appeals

The year 2023 resulted in a very quiet year for the Zoning Board of Appeals. The board lost two members, Paul Kennedy in April and Michelle Gallagher in June, due to their resignations from the board. Amy Bisbee, who was an alternate, moved up to a full board member, but having only two members, the board was unable to hold a public hearing from June until November. Luckily only one special permit application came in during that time, which was determined not to need a special permit. The board met with the Planning Board in September to discuss the possibility of an application coming forward regarding some lodging buildings. They also met in November to issue an extension of the expiration date of a Special Permit for a solar project off River Road.

The board welcomed Nancye Hodgkinson in November and Dean Acheson as an alternate in December. The board hopes to recruit another alternate member in 2024.

Gerry Mann, Chair
Amy Bisbee
Nancye Hodgkinson

Veteran Services

Central Hampshire Veteran Services outreach efforts post pandemic have been moving along. We are continuing to produce episodes of our new outreach television show, which is being aired district-wide on both town websites and local access television, and it can be found on YouTube under Central Hampshire Veteran Services. We continued our work on targeted outreach, via the creation and selected distribution of two informational letters. Our first letter, which we began distributing, is targeted to very recently returning veterans informing them of our programs including those specifically designed for recently discharged to veterans throughout Massachusetts. The second is intended to be distributed to all of the veterans in Williamsburg (more specifically those who self-identified as veterans in the town census) informing them of our programs and services. The latter will require more dedicated coordination with town leadership due to both the administrative requirement and cost. This is part of an overall effort to conduct outreach to veterans and their family members to connect them to the many benefits and services our office provides. With this, our office also held office hours twice a month at the Williamsburg Town Offices and participated in the Council on Aging's Health Fair, providing information to residents on the benefits that our office can assist with.

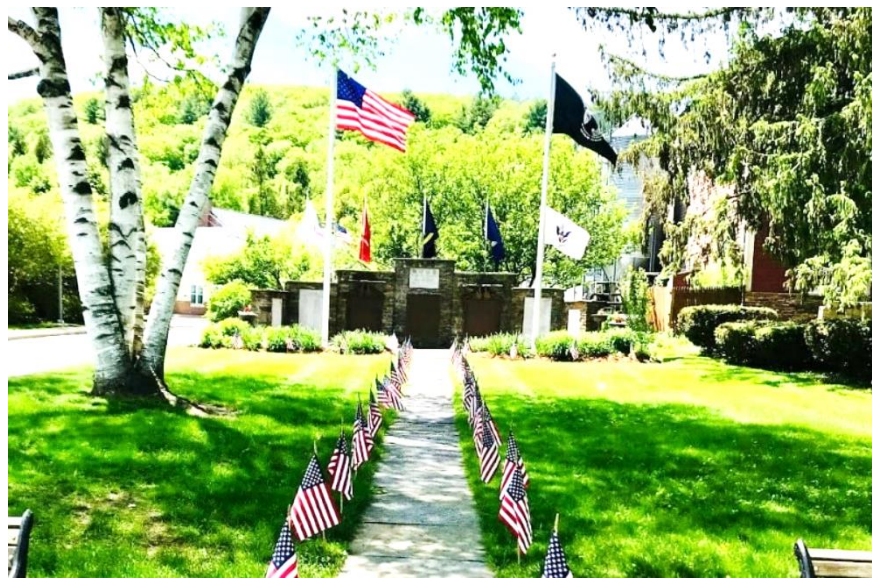
This year many Williamsburg veterans and some dependents received monthly VA compensation and pension benefits, amounting to \$78,082.35 in total. Additionally, the town was able to help several veterans and families by providing financial assistance in accordance with M.G.L. Ch. 115. In all, the town issued \$25,354.93 in benefits for FY 2023 and received 75% (\$19,016.21) of that money as a reimbursement from the state.

Williamsburg's two biggest events for recognition of our veterans were Memorial Day and Veterans' Day. The 2023 Memorial Day ceremonies and Parade were a success. As usual, American Legion Post 236 visited all the town cemeteries and provided a ceremony in honor and remembrance of our deceased veterans at each stop. This year's Memorial Day service centered on the awarding of the Massachusetts Medal of Liberty, the state's highest military award, given to the families of military service members who lost their lives in service to our nation. Central Hampshire Veteran Services Veteran Service Officer Daniel Nye and American Legion Post 236 Commander Ned Jalbert presented the awards to the next of kin of three Williamsburg/Haydenville service members who lost their lives in WWII, PFC Gerald E. Larkin, PVT Francis O'Brien and Gunner's Mate 2nd Class Arthur Litchfield. Special thanks go out to Kiernan Cone for her musical contributions. The Veterans' Day ceremony, as well, was a well-attended event and the weather cooperated nicely. Thanks go out to our group of community singers who provided the musical portion of the program, our community religious leaders, American Legion Post 236 (and associated groups), as well as Cub Scout Pack 209 for their contributions.

In addition to this work, through our efforts as a leading member of the Western Massachusetts Veterans Outreach Project, our office has spearheaded an initiative with Cooley Dickinson Hospital (CDH) to provide improved intake and referral services for veterans accessing the CDH system of care. CDH has identified this initiative as a major strategic priority. We have labeled this mission the "Just Ask Campaign," and we received a grant from the state of Massachusetts late in the year to pilot this program with two other behavioral health agencies. We will be hiring staff to help us with our six month effort to spread the mission throughout Western

Massachusetts. Our hope is to have many of the health providers in Western Massachusetts begin asking their patients if they or a family member have a history of military service. This question is now part of the CDH electronic medical records (EMR) system and our desire is to make that happen across the state, starting right here. Our Western Mass. Veterans Outreach Project collaborative, that includes CDH, ServiceNet, Smith College and others, is seeking to improve referral services for veterans and their family members when accessing health care outside the federal Department of Veterans Affairs.

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



Water and Sewer Commission

The Williamsburg Water and Sewer Commission is responsible for providing water and sewer services to residents who are on the system. We have an abundant and high-quality water source



from our aquifer off of South Street on Roger Bisbee Way. We own and control a good amount of land surrounding the wells, aquifer and storage tanks so that we can protect our drinking water source. We have two wells and this year we began to upgrade our older well that was originally installed in 1952. We have pulled the old pump and associated hardware and are installing a new pump, electrical, electronics, etc., and tying it into our computerized operating system so that both wells will be online. This gives us a backup to our newer well that will be operational at the flip of a switch. We feel it is important to have a fully functioning backup in regular use in the event we need to do service on our newer well.

Due to the extreme weather this summer and severe flooding, we found that a water main that was encased in a small dam on East Main Street on the East Brook Mill River crossing was partially exposed. This water main is cast iron and any debris like a rock could cause

a failure. We talked to Mass DOT about using their bridge and they stated it was not possible, and they gave us all of their soil boring and construction info to aid us in coming up with a way to replace the water main, as all the area is ledge. An engineering firm doing work on Route 9 for the new Greenway project that includes a new water main was asked to come up with a solution and the cost of engineering. We anticipate a quote early spring 2024. We did Pre Plan Temp Service using the sidewalk on the bridge in case of failure.

Numerous requests for Dig Safe mark outs were performed to assure the safety of underground water lines from any in-the-ground projects. The Water Department worked with both homeowners and contractors who requested to have water shut off so plumbing repairs could be completed. Some leak detection was also conducted to assist in finding possible service line leaks. Preventing or repairing leaks both in a building and in underground services allows for the prevention of water going to waste and helps with the conservation of water usage. More water conservation tips can be found on the Williamsburg website.



The Commission also provides sewer services to certain areas in town. Gravity dictates the limits of coverage, so we have service predominantly in the village centers and slightly out from them. Our sewer flows go to Northampton via the River Road, and we pay them to process our



waste. For the last six years, we have been plagued by high surcharges due to the high concentration of BOD (biochemical oxygen demand) and TSS (total suspended solids) in our waste stream. We also have had fresh water inflow during heavy rain events and times of high ground water levels. We have been diligently working on these issues and have been successful in bringing these surcharges down. However, we continue to have some problems with wipes. These so-called flushable wipes do not break down and the oils these wipes contain add to our BOD and TSS numbers that lead to surcharges from Northampton. They also clog the sewer mains and cause costly backups. Grease is also a cause for frequent backups. We remind residents that the sewer system was designed to handle human waste. We see food waste, grease, oils, cigarette butts, articles of clothing and other unusual debris in our system. Wipes should be thrown in the trash and grease should be poured into glass or metal containers and allowed to cool then be disposed of

at the transfer station. The commission does its best to keep the sewer rates as low as possible, but as we are surcharged by the city, we need to pass these costs along to our rate payers.

The Commission meets every other Tuesday at 5 p.m. in the town office. The public is welcome to come with any questions, comments or concerns.

We would like to remind you to check for leaky faucets, toilets, showers or sill cocks, etc., around your home. A small drip that goes undetected will increase your water usage more than you might think, and your water bill will reflect that. It is your responsibility to watch for and repair those leaks. We bill for any water that goes through your meter, whether it is a leak or not.

We work closely with the Highway Department and would like to thank them for their hard work in the maintenance and repair of our water and sewer systems. We also would like to thank our secretary, Brenda Lessard, and our water system operators for their commitment to our town. As chairman, it has been a pleasure to work with such dedicated people on behalf of our town.

Eric Cerreta, Chairman

Williamsburg Woodland Trails Committee

The Williamsburg Woodland Trails Committee (WWTC) was established by the Select Board to work with interested public and private property owners to enhance trail opportunities in town.

Goals of the Committee

- Work with public and private property owners, in a respectful manner, to open and improve trails for appropriate community use
- Collaborate with local land preservation organizations and volunteers to promote the use and maintenance of Williamsburg's woodland trails
- Strengthen the bonds of our community through this effort

Specific Goals for 2023

- Continue our discussion of our trail accessibility to include usability of the trails, marking, mapping and website information
- Resume holding public hikes (at least two) on our trails
- Consider possible trail development on the Sofinoski (Clary Hill) property
- Itemize and proceed with trail maintenance projects

2023 Hikes

- Horse Mountain Hike, Sunday, May 21, hikers met at the trailhead and with stops to highlight specific features, proceeded to White Rock where they enjoyed the view while snacking on refreshments provided by committee members.



Trail Maintenance

WWTC works closely with MassAudubon, Hilltown Land Trust (HLT), Kestrel Land Trust, Trustees of Reservations, Williamsburg Conservation Commission and private land owners on trail development and maintenance. We thank individual committee members and volunteers who donated their time, materials and money to purchase materials, clean up trail debris, refresh blazes, post signage, update kiosks, and perform chainsaw, construction and drainage work on our public and private trails.

- There was considerable damage to trails from heavy summer rains. The Historic Dam Trail brook flooded, washing away bridge steps, which were retrieved and replaced. The Breckenridge bridge was washed off its moorings and abutments destroyed. HLT members deconstructed the damaged bridge, leaving the trail presently discontinued from that point. HLT has no replacement plan. WWTC individuals monitored and cleaned up and repaired superficial damage on all trails.
- WWTC is collaborating with HLT and MassAudubon seeking to provide uniformity and updating of trail maps, kiosk panels and reducing design and production expenses on their WWTC trail properties.
- A workday was held at the Briar Hill Conservation Area on November 4th, with the assistance of four UMass students from Lena Fletcher's Environmental and Society class. The outlook area was cleared of view-obscuring brush.

Other Activities

A presentation was made to the Lions Club by John Hoogstraten, where he described the work our trails committee performs in creation and maintenance of our town trails and those belonging to local land trusts and private citizens.

Property owner Peter Matuszko brought up the issue of a discontinued road passing through his property being posted on “All Trails,” bringing unwanted hikers through his yard. The committee followed up and had the trail deleted.

Forest bathing guide Todd Lynch attended a WWTC meeting to investigate the possibility of holding a forest bathing hike on one of the town trails as a fundraiser for WWTC. We discussed possible suitable trails for the hike.

The committee received the town’s 2022 Economic Development survey. We noted that the environmental quality, outdoor recreational opportunities and hiking trails were all highly rated.

The Clary Hill property, adjacent to the Briar Hill Conservation Area, with acreage in Williamsburg, Goshen and Conway, is now under the ownership of Hilltown Land Trust. HLT and WWTC members held an exploratory hike to investigate trail development possibilities with the involved towns in the 132-acre property.

Pin-back buttons featuring our WWTC bear paw logo were purchased and will be available at our hikes and events.

Our budget was used to purchase trail building materials, tools and supplies and to promote our trails through our website and printed materials.

Announcements of events, workdays, projects and photos will be posted on Facebook, All Things Williamsburg and Kind Things Williamsburg.

Using Williamsburg’s Trails

Trail maps and information about Williamsburg's trails and current activities are available on our website, www.WilliamsburgWoodlandTrails.org. These trails may be located on or cross private and public property, so please respect the trails and properties. WWTC requests that all users follow these guidelines when using local trails.

- WWTC appreciates the Williamsburg landowners who have opened their properties for public trail use. On private and public property please follow all trail use signs.
- Please respect all trail uses: Hiking, biking, skiing, horseback riding, ATV and snowmobile use are all trail uses in Williamsburg.
- Please stay on trails.
- Please be sensitive to natural and cultural resources, remove trash if you find it and avoid environmentally and culturally sensitive areas.
- Please observe property specific guidelines for trail usage by dogs.

Williamsburg Woodland Trails Committee

Committee members: Paul Jahnige, chair, Gwen Blodgett, John Hoogstraten, Eileen Keegan. Kevin McAllister, Dinah Mack, Diane Merritt, David Weber, Sarah Welch

