

2008 TOWN REPORT



TOWN OF WINCHENDON

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Front Cover
Old Centre Church through the ice laden trees – December 11, 2008
Courtesy of Winchendon Fire Department

ANNUAL REPORTS
of the
OFFICERS
of the
Town of Winchendon
Massachusetts
2008



UNITED STATES SENATORS

Senator Edward M. Kennedy
317 Russell Senate Office Building
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510
202-224-4543

2400 J. F. K. Building
Boston, MA 02203
617-565-3170

Senator John F. Kerry
304 Russell Building ,Third Floor
Washington, DC 20510
202-224-2742

One Bowdoin Square
Tenth Floor
Boston, MA 02114
617-565-8519

1ST MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Congressman John Olver
1111 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
202-225-5335 FAX: 202-226-1224

463 Main Street
Fitchburg, MA 01420
978-342-8722
FAX: 978-343-8156

GOVERNOR

Governor Deval Patrick
Governor's Executive Office
State House, Room 360
Boston, MA 02133
In State: 888-870-7770

STATE CITIZEN
INFORMATION
800-392-6090

2ND WORCESTER DISTRICT

Senator Stephen M. Brewer
Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire and Franklin District
Room 109B, State House
Boston, MA 02133-1053
617-722-1540 FAX: 617-722-1078

Representative Robert Rice, Jr.
State House, Room 33
Boston, MA 02133-1054
617-722-2060
FAX: 617-722-2849

District Office
City Hall, Room 209
95 Pleasant Street
Gardner, MA 01440
978-632-3255

In Memoriam



Harold P. Hackett, Jr.

Born September 24, 1933

Died July 27, 2008

Residing in Winchendon many years, Harold served his community as Town Treasurer and was a member of the Board of Registrars. He was a member of the Republic Town Committee as well as the Kiwanis Club, JC's and the Eugene M. Connor Post American Legion.



Joyce A. Kendall

Born November 24, 1932

Died September 27, 2008

A life-long resident of Winchendon, Joyce served her community in several capacities over the years. She was Asst. Town Clerk, a member of the Board of Health and a member of the Housing Authority. She was also active in the Ladies Auxiliary of Lt. Frederick Wilder White Post VFW and the Eugene M. Connor Post, American Legion.

COMMUNITY PROFILE

Town Incorporated	1764
Form of Government	Open Town Meeting
Annual Town Meeting (Bylaw Article)	First Monday in May each year
Annual Election (Bylaw Article)	First Monday in May each year
Population (2008)	9,971
Number of Water Customers Rate: \$4.00 h.c.f.	2,168
Number of Sewer Customers Rate: \$6.05 h.c.f	2,177
Numbers of Households:	
Single Family	2,756
Condos	62
2 Family Units	224
3 Family Units	37
4 to 8 Family Unit	50
Number of Commercial Parcels	170
Mix Use (resident/business combine)	122
Industrial Parcels	68
Tax Rate FY09	\$12.13 per \$1,000 valuation
Highest Elevation	Mt. Pleasant, 1,267 feet
Miles of Town Roads	135
Square Miles of Area	42

ELECTED OFFICIALS

MODERATOR

Richard L. Morin Sr.	May 2010
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SELECTMEN

Burton E. Gould Jr.	May 2009
Corey Bohan	May 2009
Keith Barrows	May 2010
Mark Shea	May 2010
Elizabeth Hunt	May 2011

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Michael Niles	May 2009
Christine Philput	May 2009
Kathleen L. Murphy	May 2011
Michael Barbaro	May 2011

BOARD OF HEALTH

Rosemarie Jackson	May 2009
Sebastian Valera	May 2009
Kevin Bliss	May 2010
Robert S. Mable	May 2011
Norman Norcross	May 2011

HOUSING AUTHORITY

Malcolm Sibley	May 2009
Burton E. Gould Jr.	May 2010
Frederick Hardy	May 2011
Jacquelyn Flynn	May 2012
Frank A. Cosentino Jr.	May 2013

APPOINTED OFFICERS

ACCOUNTANT

(Selectmen Appointment)

Charlotte Noponen

ANIMAL CONTROL

(Town Manager Appointment)

Sondra Magee

Indefinite

ANIMAL INSPECTOR

(Board of Health)

Deborah Giordano

June 2009

ASSESSORS

(Town Manger Appointment)

Maureen Cote

June 2009

Ardythe Bilodeau

June 2010

Linda Bevan

June 2011

BEALS LIBRARY IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

Julia White

Susan Budd

Ronald Robillard

Burton E. Gould Jr.

Jon Nicholson

BUILDING COMMISSIONER

(Town Manager Appointment)

Paul Blanchard

BYLAW/CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE

(Moderator)

Mark Shea, Chairman

Lois Abare

Karen Murphy

Doneen Durling

Guy Corbosiero

R. Clifford Lupien, res.

Sheila Donofrio

TOWN CLERK

(Town Manager Appointment)

Lois A. Abare

June 2010

COLLECTOR/TREASURER

(Town Manager Appointment)

Joan M. Bousquet

June 2010

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

(Selectmen Appointment)

David Koonce, Agent

June 2009

Lawrence Amburgey

June 2010

David Whitaker

June 2010

Stephen Chace

June 2010

Kyle Bradley

June 2011

Scott Burns

CONSTABLES

(Town Manger Appointment)

Robert Hertubise	June 2009
Michael Young	June 2009
Frederick Cloutier	June 2010

COUNCIL ON AGING

(Board of Selectmen Appointment)

Judith Mizhir	Lila Dorval
William Lawrence	Susan Dekant
Rudolf Arlig	Jacqueline Flynn
Cynthia Sylvester	Betty Russell
Gloria LaBrack	Jean Joyal
Sheila Symonowicz, Coordinator	

TOWN COUNSEL

(Town Manager Appointment)

Kopelman and Paige

FENCE VIEWER/FIELD DRIVER

(Selectmen Appointment)

Robert Mable	June 2009
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FINANCE COMMITTEE

(Moderator Appointment)

William Belko	June 2009
Cynthia Leroy	June 2009
Jennifer Goodale	June 2009
Ulysse Maillet	June 2010
C. Jackson Blair	June 2010
Jeanne Hue	June 2010
Kevin J. Miller	June 2011

Debra Dennis, recording secretary

FIRE DEPARTMENT

(Town Manager Appointment)

OFFICERS

Chief, Allen J. Lafrennie, EMT	Lt. Craig Ashmore, EMT
Deputy Chief Thomas Connor, EMT	Lt. Maurice Bateman, EMT
Capt. Stephen Lafrennie, EMT	Lt. Gerald Valliere, EMT-1
Capt. Ricci Ruschioni, EMT	Lt. David Connor, EMT
Lt. Martin Brooks, EMT-1	Lt. Robert Soucy, EMT
	Lt. William Brown

FIREFIGHTERS

Eng. Richard Sevigny
Pvt. Corey Bohan, EMT
Pvt. Josh Nasiatka
Pvt. Mark Fleming, EMT/P
Pvt. Michael Mullen EMT/P
Pvt. Rick Peters, EMT/P
Pvt. Jay Carrier
Pvt. Brian Croteau
Pvt. Tyler LaFontaine
Pvt. Lance Budka
Rec. Thomas Heuer

Pvt. Robert Ford
Pvt. Mike March, EMT
Pvt. Daniel Brown, EMT
Pvt. Jason Moury, EMT
Pvt. Randy Girouard EMT/P
Pvt. Scott Parkinson
Pvt. Brian Vaine EMT/P
Pvt. Nate Milevsky
Pvt. Kyle Bradley
Rec. Benjamin Cole
Rec. James Bevilacqua

TOWN FOREST COMMITTEE

(Selectmen Appointment)

HEALTH AGENT

(Town Manager Appointment)

Steven Calichman, Agent

James D. Abare, Inspector

HISTORICAL COMMISSION/ HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

(Selectmen Appointment)

Priscilla Draeger
James McCrohon
Corey Bohan
Ruth DeAmicis
Yvonne G. Harrington
Lois Abare
Shirley Parks

June 2009
June 2009
June 2010
June 2010
June 2011
June 2011
June 2011

LIBRARY TRUSTEES

(Selectmen Appointment)

Suzanne Rader
Cindy Darcy
Ronald Muse
Ronald Robillard
Joan Liberti-Potvin

June 2009
June 2010
June 2010
June 2011
June 2011

TOWN MANAGER

(Selectmen Appointment)

James M. Kreidler Jr.

**REP. MONTACHUSETT JOINT TRANSPORTATION
COMMITTEE**
(Planning Board)

Vacant

REP. MONTACHUSETT REG. PLANNING
(Planning Board)

John H. White	June 2009
James M. Kreidler, Jr.	June 2009

REP. MONTACHUSETT OPPORTUNITY COUNCIL
(Selectmen Appointment)

Vacant

**MONTACHUSETT REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY
ADVISORY BOARD**
(Selectmen Appointment)

Vacant

REP. TO MONTY TECH SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Burton E. Gould, Jr.	June 30, 2009
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MEASURER OF LUMBER
(Selectmen Appointment)

Vacant

PARKS AND RECREATION
(Selectmen Appointment)

Noel Veilleux	June 2009
Diana Ringer	June 2010
Joyce Thompson	June 2010
George Ladeau	June 2011

PLANNING BOARD
(Selectmen Appointment)

John H. White	June 2009
Guy Corbosiero	June 2009
Robert O'Keefe	June 2010
Russell Gaulin	June 2011
Mark Shaughnessy	June 2011
Mark Shea, associate	

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
(Town Manager Appointment)

Ellen DeCoteau, Planning Agent

PLUMBING & GAS INSPECTOR

(Town Manager Appointment)

Donald Desmarais

POLICE DEPARTMENT

(Town Manager Appointment)

Scott Livingston, Chief

David Walsh, Lt.

Gerald J. Gagne, Sgt.

Raymond Anair, Sgt.

William P. Geoffroy, Sgt

John Perreault, Ptl.

Richard Oinonen, Ptl.

James P. Spofford, Ptl.

Derek Blair, Ptl.

Paul Betourney, Reserve

Kevin E. Wolski, Ptl.

Tracy Flagg, Ptl.

Martin Rose, Ptl.

Alan Ross, Ptl.

POLICE/FIRE EMERGENCY DISPATCH

Wayne Gelinas

Beth Landry

Timothy Fleck, perm. PT dispatcher

Teresa Flint

Jaime Holden

REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

(Town Manager Appointment)

David Connor

Sheila Donofrio

Elizabeth Hunt, state app.

James Kreidler Jr.

Gerry White

June 2009

June 2009

June 2012

indef.

indef.

REGISTRARS OF VOTERS

(Selectmen Appointment)

Teresa Lupien

David Connor

Benjamin Miller

Lois A. Abare, Clerk

June 2009

June 2010

June 2011

SCHOOL ZONES SAFETY COMMITTEE

(Moderator)

Michael Murphy

Allen Lafrennie

Ruth DeAmicis

David Romanowski

Scott Livingston, ex officio

Burton Gould Jr.

Teresa Lupien

David Johnson

SEALER, WEIGHTS & MEASURES

(Town Manager Appointment)

Stephen Slocum	June 2008
Steven Hirons, Alt.	June 2009

TOY TOWN LOCAL PARTNERSHIP

(Selectmen Appointment)

Elaine Mroz	
Michael McRae	George J. Ladeau
Roger Tobia	Cynthia Boucher
Pamela Elbrader	Margaret Urquhart

TREE WARDEN

(Town Manager Appointment)

Michael Murphy	June 2008
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VETERANS SERVICE DIRECTOR

(Town Manager Appointment)

Scott Gauthier	June 2009
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VETERANS CEMETERY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Henry Doody	John Walker
F. Richard Ladeau	Priscilla Draeger

WINCHENDON CULTURAL COUNCIL

(Selectmen Appointment)

Nancy Romanowski	June 2009
Donna Stram	June 2009
Coral May Grout	June 2009
Theresa Hillman	June 2010
Ruth Anderson	June 2010
Veronica Gomez	June 2011

WINCHENDON EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

(Town Manager Appointment)

James D. Abare, Director
Gerald Valliere, Assist. Dir. Chief Diver
Allen J. Lafrennie, Fire Department Representative
Scott Livingston, Police Department Representative
Michael Murphy, DPW Representative
Terri Flint, Dispatch Representative
Peter Laperriere, Communications
Frederick Hardy, Transportation

WINCHENDON INSURANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

(Town Manager Appointment)

Karen Murphy
Lorraine Lemire
Ricci Ruschioni

Candace Bredberg
Donna Spellman
Jerry Valliere

WIRING INSPECTOR

(Town Manager Appointment)

Robert Marshall
Evan Kaiser, Alternate
Richard Cannavino, Alternate

June 2009

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

(Selectmen Appointment)

Keith Simeone
Robert Marshall
Charles Scanio
Cynthia Carvill, Alt
Evelyn Higgins, Alt

June 2009
June 2010
June 2011
June 2009
June 2009

Annual Report of the Board of Selectmen 2008

Dear Voters of Winchendon,

It is our pleasure to provide the annual report of the Winchendon Board of Selectman for the calendar year 2008.

Last year's annual report focused on several ongoing issues. We are proud to say that each has been drawn to a successful conclusion.

First among them were the 19th Hill and Stateline Land Conservation Deal. After months of tedious work packaging a deal between various stakeholders, our Town Manager James M. Kreidler, Jr. announced that the Commonwealth of Massachusetts had increased its funding commitment for the land preservation article that was favorably voted upon at the meeting.

To put this opportunity into perspective, we draw your attention to a quote from the Winchendon Town Meeting approved Master Plan wherein it was stated that a key objective for the town was to-

“protect the rural character and scenic quality of the Town through the preservation of open spaces...forested land, ...wildlife habitat[s]...rare plant habitats..., and recreational land.”

We are pleased to have stewarded this project through to its successful vote on the town meeting floor in an effort bigger than us all...an effort to preserve this land for this and all generations to come.

In this past year we have prevailed in Superior Court in the litigation brought against us by the prior owner of the 19th Hill and Stateline parcels and we have received the \$600,000 committed to us by the Commonwealth toward the purchase. Accordingly, in December we paid off the \$1.2 million dollar bond and this pristine open space is owned outright and debt free.

Yet another “legacy” project undertaken in 2007 and finalized in 2008 was the Agricultural Preservation Restriction sought through the Commonwealth to protect in perpetuity a local treasure and symbol of our agricultural heritage---the Murdock Farm. The Girouard family, owners of the Murdock Farm, submitted an application to determine their eligibility for funding under the Commonwealth's Agricultural Preservation Restriction (APR) program. This program would allow for the Farm to remain privately owned by the family with an amount of money paid to the family to place a deed restriction on the land that would serve to keep it preserved as open agricultural space forever.

In August of this year, the APR was approved and the farm is now and forevermore will be preserved. Generations of Winchendonians have cherished memories

of the farm and we are thrilled about and committed to seeing that the future hold that very same promise for those that will follow us.

The year 2008 brought the first full year of our newly formed Agricultural Commission. Throughout the late-Spring through late-Fall months, every Thursday afternoon, we were treated to a very vibrant Farmer's Market in the Legion Park across from the Town hall. We saw fresh, locally grown produce, flowers and plants. We had goat milk soaps, crafts and knit wares. It was an outstanding success and plans are underway to kick off another season even better than the first.

Last year we spoke about the "Commonwealth Capital Score." Each year we are required to go through an excruciating process with the state to receive such a score. We are scored on how well we perform against a series of what have been determined by the Commonwealth to be "Sustainable Development Points." These points range from planning issues to utility usage. This overall rating is what is then relied upon by the state when they approve grant funding from any of the hundreds of grant programs that they have. Without a score you can't get funded and the higher the score the higher your application is viewed for consideration of funding.

Last year we were thrilled to announce that we had achieved a score of 99 points. This score placed us in the top ten (10) out of all communities in the commonwealth. Not the top ten percent (10%), but the top TEN out of all three hundred and fifty one (351) cities and towns in Massachusetts. This year we are even more proud to inform you that we increased our score to 106 and climbed even higher in the state-wide rank to number 6 overall. This is extraordinary news and will pay dividends as we continue to do your work and seek the support of Federal and State grant funds to do so.

The latest phase of the North Central Pathway, the bike and walking trail that will eventually link Downtown Winchendon to downtown Gardner, was completed this past year. This newest section is the jewel of the project. It runs from behind the Clark Memorial YMCA across the dam and spillway of Whitney's Pond and then meanders along the water's edge past "Sandy Beach" all the way to a paved and landscaped parking area at the intersection of Spring and Glenallen Streets. This .8 mile section of the pathway has already seen more foot and bicycle traffic on it over the late fall and early winter than prior sections have seen in a full year. One added point of interest has been the regular sightings of a majestic American eagle soaring over the pond. It is a wonderful asset to our town that encourages exercise and brings people to the water and the water's beauty to the people.

Speaking of the North Central Pathway, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has an annual event in which "Unsung Heroines" in each community are honored. In 2008, Cindy Boucher, a former member of the Board of Selectmen and the tenacious lead advocate for the North Central Pathway was honored. While her certificate may become lost over time, the gift of her labors for this lovely pathway will be public and prominent for years to come for all to see and enjoy.

It is worthy of note that in the face of the crushing economic downturn that has gripped our state and nation, that we are not only holding our own but that we are improving. A town's municipal bond rating is akin to your own personal credit score. It is a measure of our financial strength and management capacity. Over the past year, we have been witness to many communities having their bond ratings downgraded as a result

of these difficult times. True to form, however, Winchendon bucked the trend. This past year we had our bond rating reviewed and worked diligently to try to avoid a market driven downgrade. Not only were we not downgraded, but based on the strength of our books, our systems and our people---we received an upgrade to an A+. This is truly outstanding.

Once again, our Winchendon Redevelopment Authority had an excellent year. We encourage you to read its report in this very volume.

All in all, the year 2008 was a very good one for the Town of Winchendon. In spite of a failing economy and challenging budget times, we firmly believe that things are on the right track. We feel that with patience and a continued vision that the quality of life for the people of our fair town will only improve as we move on into the future. Whether its neighbors cheering on the Blue Devils football team to a win over Narragansett or singing along to a concert at the bandstand under the summer sky, our little slice of America is a fine place to raise a family and we are proud to call it home.

Sincerely,

THE WINCHENDON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

RECORD OF THE TOWN ELECTION

MAY 5, 2008

Met at Toy Town Elementary School at 7 a.m. Polls declared open at 8 a.m. by Coral Grout, Warden.

Election officers sworn and assigned to their respective stations. Official ballots, cards of instruction, and voting lists delivered to the presiding officer. Specimen ballots and cards of instruction posted in the hall and at the entrance.

Ballot boxes checked and registers set at zero. Keys to same turned over to Sgt. Raymond Anair, officer in charge.

Polls were declared closed at 8 p.m. At the close of polls the registers on the ballot boxes read 146 in Precinct 1; 118 in Precinct 2; and 184 in Precinct 3.

After being counted, the result of the balloting was announced at 8:45 p.m. Ballots cast and not cast sealed in proper containers and delivered to the town clerk.

The result of the balloting was as follows:

	Pre 1	Pre 2	Pre 3	Total
SELECTMAN				
Blank	2	0	4	6
Jennifer Goodale	68	51	59	178
Elizabeth Hunt	76	67	120	263
Write-ins			1	1
SCHOOL COMMITTEE (3 YEARS)				
Blank	116	66	101	283
Michael Barbaro	61	65	103	229
Kathleen Murphy	114	101	163	378
SCHOOL COMMITTEE (2 YEARS)				
Blank	135	111	176	422
Write-ins	11	7	8	26
SCHOOL COMMITTEE (1 YEAR)				
Blank	48	31	46	125
Christine Philput	95	86	136	317
Write-ins	3	1	2	6
BOARD OF HEALTH				
Blank	182	131	204	517
Robert S. Mable	107	104	160	371
Norman Norcross				
(write-in)	1	1	3	5
Other write-ins	2		1	3
HOUSING AUTHORITY				
Blank	41	29	39	109
Frank A. Cosentino Jr.	105	88	141	334
Write-ins		1	4	5

A true record attest: Lois A. Abare, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF WINCHENDON
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
MAY 19, 2008**

Worcester, ss:

To either of the Constables in the Town of Winchendon, in the County of Worcester,

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Winchendon qualified to vote in town elections and town affairs to meet at the MURDOCK MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL, 3 Memorial Drive, off Elmwood Road in said Winchendon on

MONDAY, MAY 19, 2008
AT 7:00 P.M.

then and there to act on the following articles:

Meeting called to order at 7:10 p.m. by Moderator Richard L. Morin Sr. following adjournment of the Annual Town Meeting.

**REPORTS AND COMMITTEES
(majority vote required)**

ARTICLE 1:

To see if the Town will vote to hear and act on the report of the Finance Committee, or act in relation thereto. (usual and customary article)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 3-0
FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 6-0

VOTED (unanimously) to hear the report of the Finance Committee.

**FISCAL YEAR-END FINANCIAL ARTICLES
(majority vote required)**

ARTICLE 2:

To see if the town will vote to transfer from the stabilization account the sum of \$178,476 to increase the FY08 snow and ice accounts:

014231	5130-00	\$27,356
014232	5530-00	\$151,120

or act in relation thereto. (submitted by the Town Manager)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 3-0
FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 5-1

VOTED (2/3 vote declared by Moderator) to approve the article as printed in the warrant.

ARTICLE 3:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate into the Capital Stabilization Fund from free cash the sum of \$219,717, or act in relation thereto. (submitted by the Town Manager)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 3-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 4-2

VOTED (unanimously) to approve the article as printed.

ARTICLE 4:

To see if the town will vote to transfer from the capital stabilization fund and/or other available funds the sum of \$267,217 for existing capital projects as follow:

Memorial School Energy Conversion	\$ 96,304
Existing Capital Projects	\$170,913

or act in relation thereto. (submitted by the Town Manager)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 3-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 6-0

VOTED (2/3 vote declared by Moderator) to transfer the following sums

AMOUNT	FROM
\$239,217	Capital Stabilization Fund
\$16,000	Capital Projects Payment May 07 ATM (01145002 5978-25)
\$12,000	Capital Projects Payment May 07 ATM (01145002 5978-26)

For existing capital projects as follows:

Memorial School Energy Conversion	\$96,304
Existing Capital Projects	\$170,913

ARTICLE 5:

To see if the town will vote to reduce lines:

Account	Description	Amount
014212 5530-00	Highway Supplies	\$11,000.00
018502 5320-20	Monty Tech	\$2,822.22
019111 5170-05	WCRS	\$10,809.29
019131 5176-00	Unemployment	\$18,000.00
017512 5925-00	Short Interest	\$37,000.00
019141 5171-00	Health Insurance	\$50,000.00
019141 5171-10	Retirees Health Ins	\$8,000.00
019121 5174-00	Work Comp	\$5,690.71
011312 5780-33	<u>Fin Com Reserve - Culvert Balance</u>	<u>\$2,677.78</u>

by \$146,000 from the FY08 General Government budget and transfer those funds into the below listed accounts of the FY08 General Government budget:

Account	Description	Amount
015432 5770-00	Veterans Benefits	\$20,000
014222 5480-00	Fleet Vehicle Fuel	\$44,000
014242 5210-00	Street Lighting	\$15,000
014222 5212-00	Fleet Heat	\$11,000
011512 5300-40	Legal	\$44,000
011922 5210-10	Town Hall Electric	\$ 2,000
	Accountant	\$10,000
		\$146,000

or act in relation thereto. (submitted by the Town Manager)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 3-0 FinCom: RECOMMEND 6-0
VOTED (2/3 declared by Moderator) to approve the article as printed in the warrant.

ARTICLE 6:

To see if the town will vote, in accordance with the Town's prior commitment of the January 29, 2007 town meeting, to transfer from free cash the sum of \$600,000 to pay down the incurred debt service expenses that resulted from the town meeting approved 19th Hill and Stateline Land Preservation deal, so-called, or act in relation thereto. (submitted by the Town Manager)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 3-0 FinCom: RECOMMEND 6-0
VOTED (majority) to approve the article as printed in the warrant.

Meeting adjourned on motion at 7:30 p.m.

And you are hereby directed to serve this warrant by posting attested copies thereof at the several places designated by the bylaws of the town of Winchendon fourteen days at least before the time of holding such meeting and by mailing a copy of this warrant to each household in Winchendon in which a registered voter resides or by publication of the same in a newspaper of local distribution as required by said bylaws.

Hereof, fail not and make due return of said warrant with your doings thereon at the time and place of the meeting aforesaid. Given under our hands and seal this 29th day of April 2008.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

Keith R. Barrows

Keith R. Barrows, Chair

Mark S. Shea

Mark S. Shea, Vice Chair

Burton E. Gould Jr.

Corey A. Bohan

Corey A. Bohan

**TOWN OF WINCHENDON
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
MAY 19, 2008**

Worcester, ss:

To either of the Constables in the Town of Winchendon, in the County of Worcester,

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Winchendon qualified to vote in town elections and town affairs to meet at the MURDOCK MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL, 3 Memorial Drive, off Elmwood Road in said Winchendon on

MONDAY, MAY 19, 2008
AT 7:00 P.M.

then and there to act on the following articles:

Meeting called to order at 7 p.m. by Moderator Richard L. Morin Sr. There were 395 voters present in the hall.

A moment of silence was observed for the passing of Dorothy Sibley and Ernest Dionne.

Rep. Robert Rice addressed the assembly briefly concerning state aid.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m. in order to convene the Special Town Meeting.

The meeting re-convened at 7:30 p.m.

**REPORTS AND COMMITTEES
(majority vote required)**

ARTICLE 1:

To see if the Town will vote to hear and act on the report of the Finance Committee, or act in relation thereto. (usual and customary article)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 3-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 5-0-1ABSTAIN

VOTED (unanimously) to hear the report of the Finance Committee.

ARTICLE 2

To see if the Town will vote to hear the annual report of the Selectmen and of any other officers or committees required to report to the Town, or act in relation thereto. (usual and customary article)

- Charter and Bylaw Review Committee
- Public Safety Facility Committee
- School Safety Committee

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 3-0
FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 6-0

VOTED (majority) to hear the oral reports of the following committees:

Sheila Donofrio for the Charter and Bylaw Review Committee
David Johnson, for the Public Safety Committee
Burton Gould for the School Safety Committee.

ARTICLE 3

To see if the Town will vote to choose all other town officers or committees that may be required or deemed necessary to the Town for the ensuing year and give any instructions to same, or to any other town officer or officers, or act in relation thereto. (usual and customary article)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 3-0
FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 6-0

VOTED (unanimously) to direct the Moderator to appoint a five member committee of town residents to research, analyze and report back to the town meeting on the feasibility and/or viability of utilizing earth material from town owned land on River Street (Landfill/Transfer Station site) to generate revenue for any lawful municipal purpose.

And further VOTED (2/3 vote declared by Moderator) to approve the appointment of a five member feasibility committee made up of voters of the Town and appointed by the Selectmen within 30 days, and said committee to make a report to the Board of Selectmen within six months after appointment with recommendations on how to make the town Transfer Station more efficient and viable.

ARTICLE 4

To see if the Town will vote to discharge any committees, which have completed their duties, or act in relation thereto. (usual and customary article)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 3-0
FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 6-0
There were no committees to be discharged.

CUSTOMARY FINANCIAL BORROWING ARTICLES **(2/3 vote required)**

ARTICLE 5

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by borrowing, if necessary, the sum of \$339,480 or such lesser amount distributed to the Town by the Commonwealth to be used by the Town for the repair and maintenance of Town roads. Said sum will be reimbursed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, pursuant to Chapter 90 of the Massachusetts General Laws, and the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is

authorized to borrow said sum of money under and pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 7 of the General Laws as amended and supplemented, or any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes, or act in relation thereto. (usual and customary article)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 3-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 6-0

VOTED (unanimously) to approve the article as printed in the warrant.

CUSTOMARY FINANCIAL ARTICLES

(majority vote required)

ARTICLE 6

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Collector/Treasurer to enter into a compensating balance agreement or agreements for Fiscal Year 2008 pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 53(F) of the General Laws, as amended, or act in relation thereto. (usual and customary article)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 3-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 6-0

VOTED (unanimously) to authorize the Town Collector/Treasurer to enter into a compensating balance agreement or agreements for Fiscal Year 2009 pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 53(F) of the General Laws, as amended.

REVOLVING FUND AUTHORIZATION ARTICLES

(majority vote required)

ARTICLE 7

To see if the Town will vote to establish a Hazardous Materials Recovery revolving account as provided for under the provisions of section 53E ½ of Chapter 44 of the Massachusetts General Laws, into which account receipts for charges to responsible parties for the disposal of hazardous materials collected pursuant to section 4 of Chapter 21E of the Massachusetts General Laws, shall be deposited, and to authorize the Fire Chief to expend funds received and deposited into said account for the purchase of supplies and material relating to hazardous material recovery, and that the total amount which may be expended in the current fiscal year for this purpose shall not exceed \$2,500.00, or act in relation thereto. (submitted by the Fire Chief)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 3-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 6-0

VOTED (unanimously) to approve the article as printed in the warrant.

ARTICLE 8

To see if the Town will vote to establish a Student Parking Fees Revolving Fund for the 2008 and 2009 fiscal year in accordance with the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 44, Section 53E ½ as follows: receipts from the student parking permit fees at Murdock Middle High School shall be credited to said fund; the Winchendon Public Schools shall be authorized to expend said fund for establishing and operating parking permit program and maintenance of parking lot and/or proposed parking lot expansion; the total amount of said fund shall not exceed \$20,000; or act in relation thereto. (submitted by the School Department)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 3-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 6-0

VOTED (unanimously) to approve the article as printed in the warrant.

ARTICLE 9

To see if the Town will vote to establish a Court Ordered Restitution and/or Insurance Reimbursement Fees Revolving Fund for the 2008 and 2009 fiscal year in accordance with the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 44, Section 53E ½ as follows: receipts from court ordered restitution relating to Land Use matters shall be credited to said fund; the Land Use Office shall be authorized to expend said fund for any lawful purpose relating to its department; the total amount of said fund shall not exceed \$20,000; or act in relation thereto. (submitted by the Building Commissioner)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 3-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 6-0

VOTED (2/3 vote declared) to approve the article as printed in the warrant.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT BUDGET ARTICLE
(majority vote required)

ARTICLE 10

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and transfer from other available funds* the sum of \$10,713,500, for the operating budget of the Town for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2008, or act in relation thereto. (usual and customary article)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 3-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 5-0-1 ABSTAIN

VOTED (2/3 vote declared) to approve the article as printed in the warrant, with the exception of the following amendments:

- 1. Change "Public Works Total" line from \$955,786 to \$1,161,725.65,**
- 2. Change the "Raise and Appropriate" total from \$10,713,500.00 to \$10,919,439.65,**
- 3. Change the "General Government Operating Budget" total from \$11,539,149 to \$11,745,088.65.**

*Other Available Funds

Cemetery Trust	\$8,000
Cemetery - Sale of Lots	\$1,000
Dog License Fees	\$15,000
Pension Fund	\$15,000
Infrastructure	\$72,917
Liens Redeemed - Title V	\$7,810
Overlay surplus	
Wetlands Fees	\$2,500
Article '01541002 5977-12 Mart Van	\$4,389
Article 01541002 5970-00 Wheeler Poor	\$5,611

TOTAL OTHER FUNDS \$132,227

ACCOUNT	FY08 BUDGET	FY09 PROPOSED	% CHAN GE	COMMENTS:
ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE:				
SELECTMEN	14,000.00	14,000.00	0.0%	No change
TOWN MANAGER	243,203.00	243,203.00	0.0%	No change
FINANCE COMMITTEE	38,837.78	49,160.00	26.6%	No change
ACCOUNTING	116,043.15	115,903.00	-0.1%	Misc. minor decrease
ASSESSOR	87,159.36	69,947.00	-19.7%	Cut Assistant Position
COLLECTOR/TREAS.	164,826.62	166,426.00	1.0%	Software Supp. Incr.
AUDIT EXPENSE	37,000.00	37,000.00	0.0%	Actual Cost
LEGAL EXPENSE	65,000.00	65,000.00	0.0%	Usual and customary
DATA PROCESSING	24,775.00	25,378.00	2.4%	Software Supp. Inc
TECHNOLOGY	17,575.00	17,575.00	0.0%	No change
COMM. COMMITTEE	9,838.00	6,500.00	-33.9%	Cable op. reduced
TOWN CLERK	102,410.11	94,776.00	-7.5%	Cut Assistant Position
REGISTRAR OF VOTERS	18,185.00	22,185.00	22.0%	More elections
CONSERVATION	15,190.68	15,215.00	0.2%	Misc. minor increase
PLANNING BOARD	6,200.00	7,550.00	21.8%	Added per diem clerk
ZONING BOARD	1,588.00	3,388.00	113.4%	Added per diem clerk

COMMUNITY DEVELOP.	74,066.00	49,434.00	-33.3%	Cut Secretary Position
TOWN HALL	109,573.00	116,063.00	5.9%	Energy Cost Increases
ADMIN. AND FIN. TOTAL:	1,145,470.70	1,118,703.00	-2.3%	
PUBLIC SAFETY ACCOUNTS:				
POLICE	987,838.22		.09%	Fuel and Ed. Incentive
DISPATCH	185,861.00		.04%	Misc. minor increase
ANIMAL CONTROL	39,269.00		-38.3%	ACO cut to Part-time
POLICE/DISPATCH/AC	1,212,968.22	1,207,137.00	-0.5%	
FIRE	572,152.95		1.7%	Union 3% COLA
AMBULANCE	62,450.00		-3.0%	Misc. minor decrease
FIRE/AMBULANCE TOTAL	634,602.95	642,560.00	1.3%	
LAND USE	103,480.33	73,641.00	-28.8%	Cut Commissioner 1/2
CIVIL DEFENSE	2,702.00	2,702.00	0.0%	No change
PUBLIC SAFETY TOTALS:	1,953,753.50	1,926,040.00	-1.4%	
PUBLIC WORKS ACCOUNTS:				
DPW ADMINISTRATION	92,615.87		-0.7%	Misc. minor decrease
HIGHWAY	388,791.00		-0.6%	Misc. minor decrease
FLEET MAINTENANCE	231,268.00		-1.3%	Cut mechani
SNOW & ICE	71,000.00		42.3%	Fuel incr. Incr. closer to actual

STREET LIGHTING	41,000.00		-12.2%	Maintain current lights Close Transfer Station
TRANSFER STATION	280,503.00		-91.4%	
CEMETERY	82,802.00		0.2%	No change
TREE TRIMMING	5,000.00		0.0%	No change
PUBLIC WORKS TOTAL	1,192,979.87	955,786.00		
PUBLIC WORKS TOTAL:	1,192,979.87	955,786.00	-19.9%	
HEALTH ACCOUNTS:				
HEALTH DEPT	52,081.00	52,693.00	1.2%	Misc. minor increase
HEALTH OUTSIDE	1,750.00	1,750.00	0.0%	No change
HEALTH VISITING NURSES	8,500.00	8,500.00	0.0%	No change
HEALTH TOTAL:	62,331.00	62,943.00	1.0%	
SOCIAL SERVICE ACCOUNTS:				
COUNCIL ON AGING	120,867.00	114,831.00	-5.0%	Cut ¼ time position
VETERANS	133,318.00	183,318.00	37.5%	Projected Ve Benefits
LIBRARY	149,399.00	150,390.00	0.7%	Misc. minor increase
RECREATION COMMITTEE	3,400.00	3,400.00	0.0%	No change
HISTORICAL COMM.	500.00	500.00	0.0%	No change
SOC. SERV. ACCOUNTS:	407,484.00	452,439.00	11.0%	

BENEFIT ACCOUNTS:				
PENSIONS	629,761.00	712,844.00	13.2%	Actual Assessment
WORK'S COMP & UNEMP.	229,787.00	227,732.00	-0.9%	Actual expense
HEALTH INSURANCE	1,813,906.00	1,832,544.00	1.0%	5% rate increase
LIFE INSURANCE	24,684.00	24,666.00	-0.1%	Actual expense
MEDICARE	190,000.00	186,329.00	-1.9%	Estimated expense
BENEFIT TOTALS:	2,888,138.00	2,984,115.00	3.3%	
UNCLASSIFIED ACCOUNTS:				
PROPERTY/LIABILITY INS.	196,728.00	209,395.00	6.4%	Actual expense
DEBT SERVICE	2,346,348.00	2,288,200.00	-2.5%	Actual expense
REGIONAL PLANNING	2,546.00	2,610.00	2.5%	Actual assessment
MONTY TECH	689,023.22	713,269.00	3.5%	Actual assessment
UNCLASSIFIED TOTALS:	3,234,645.22	3,213,474.00	-0.7%	
RAISE & APPR. TOTAL:	10,884,802.29	10,713,500.00	-1.6%	
STATE ASSESSMENT ACCOUNTS:				
MART	18,007.00	10,000.00	-44.5%	COA Van, Assessment
SCHOOL CHOICE	567,391.00	601,120.00	5.9%	More students out
CHARTER SCHOOLS	186,121.00	188,537.00	1.3%	More students out
SPED ASSESSMENT	5731.00	0.00	100.0%	Actual Assessment
AIR POLLUTION	2,104.00	2,154.00	2.4%	Actual Assessment

RMV	7,480.00	15,120.00	102.1%	Actual Assessment
WORCESTER COUNTY	8,718.00	8,718.00	0.0%	Actual Assessment
STATE ASSMNT.				
TOTALS:	795,552.00	825,649.00	3.8%	
GENERAL GOVERNMENT				
	11,680,354.29	11,539,149.00	-1.21%	
OPERATING BUDGET				

SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLING ARTICLES

Fee for Service Curbside Program

ARTICLE 11

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from available funds an amount not to exceed the sum of \$790,000 to fund a solid waste and recycling contract to provide curbside solid waste and recycling service for every town residence at a rate of \$20.00* per residential unit per month for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2008, unless the owner opts out of such plan in writing, or act in relation thereto. (submitted by the Town Manager)

No. of Participants	\$ Year 1 Monthly	\$ Year 2 Monthly	\$ Year 3 Monthly	\$ Year 4 Monthly	\$ Year 5 Monthly	\$ Year 6 Monthly	\$ Year 7 Monthly
*3,600	\$ 20.00	\$ 20.94	\$21.91	\$ 22.93	\$24.00	\$ 25.11	\$ 26.28
3,000	\$ 23.67	\$ 24.78	\$ 25.93	\$ 27.14	\$28.41	\$ 29.74	\$ 31.13
2,600	\$ 27.04	\$ 28.31	\$29.63	\$ 31.02	\$32.48	\$34.00	\$ 35.60
2,000	\$ 34.64	\$ 36.27	\$37.98	\$39.77	\$ 41.65	\$ 43.61	\$ 45.67

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 2-1

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 5-1

Voted to pass over the article.

Fee for Service Municipally Operated Transfer Station Program

ARTICLE 12

To see if the Town will vote to amend Article 10, the FY09 Operating Budget, Public Works, of this town meeting to appropriate from available funds the sum of \$325,000 to fund a solid waste and recycling transfer station for town residents, with a continuation of the current “pay-as-you-throw” program, with an additional flat rate of \$50.00 per residential unit per year for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2008, unless the owner opts out of such plan in writing, or act in relation thereto. (Submitted by the Town Manager)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 2-1

FINANCE COMMITTEE: DISAPPROVE 4-2

Voted to pass over the article.

Override for Municipally Operated Transfer Station Program

ARTICLE 13

To see if the Town will vote to amend Article 10, the FY09 Operating Budget, Public Works, of this town meeting to appropriate from available funds the sum of \$225,000 and to raise by taxation \$100,000 to fund a solid waste and recycling transfer station for town residents for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2008, provided that the \$100,000 to be raised by taxation is contingent upon the passage of a proposition 2 ½ override vote or act in relation thereto. (submitted by Selectman Gould)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: NOT RECOMMEND 3-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: DISAPPROVE 6-0

Voted to pass over the article.

WATER ENTERPRISE ARTICLE

(majority vote required)

ARTICLE 14

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Water revenues and/or retained earnings the sum of \$1,050,214 for the operating budget of the Water Department enterprise fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2008, or act in relation thereto. (usual and customary article)

FY08 Rate: \$3.55 hcf FY09 Rate: \$4.00 hcf

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 3-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 6-0

VOTED (unanimously) to appropriate from Water revenues and/or retained earnings the sum of \$621,669 for the operating budget of the Water Department Enterprise Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2008.

ARTICLE 15

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate by borrowing the following sums for the following Water Enterprise purposes:

\$ 10,000	Hospital Hill Water Tank Interim Minor Remediation
\$250,000	Town-wide Meter Replacement
\$ 30,000	System Engineering

or act in relation thereto. (submitted by the Town Manager and/or Town Accountant)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 3-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 6-0

VOTED (2/3 vote declared) to approve the article as printed in the warrant.

WASTEWATER ENTERPRISE ARTICLE
(majority vote required)

ARTICLE 16

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Wastewater revenues and/or retained earnings the sum of \$621,669 for the operating budget of the Wastewater Treatment Department enterprise fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2008, or act in relation thereto. (usual and customary article)

FY08 Rate: \$4.70 hcf FY09 Rate: \$6.05 hcf

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 3-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 6-0

VOTED (unanimously) to appropriate from Wastewater revenues and/or retained earnings the sum of \$1,050,214 (\$657,204—User Rates and \$393,010—Reserve for Betterment Debt Service) for the operating budget of the Wastewater Treatment Department Enterprise Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2008.

EDUCATION BUDGET ARTICLES
(majority vote required)

School Operating Budget Article

ARTICLE 17

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the sum of \$12,813,503 (\$10,861,118 Chapter 70 plus \$4,512,742 Local Aid (Governor's Proposal) less \$2,560,357 in Indirect Costs) for the School Department for the operating budget of the Winchendon Public Schools for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2008, or take any action thereon. (submitted by the School Committee)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 3-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 5-0-1 ABSTAIN

VOTED (unanimously) to approve the article as printed in the warrant.

ARTICLE 18

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and or appropriate from available funds the sum of \$624,800.00 for in-town School Transportation, or act in relation thereto. (submitted by the Town Manager, usual and customary article)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 3-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 6-0

VOTED (unanimously) that the town raise and appropriate \$582,800 and to transfer from free cash the sum of \$42,000 for a total sum of \$624,800 for in-town School Transportation.

ARTICLE 19

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and or appropriate from available funds the sum of \$430,293.00 for Special Education Transportation, or act in relation thereto. (submitted by the Town Manager, usual and customary article)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 3-0
FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 6-0

VOTED (unanimously) to raise and appropriate the sum of \$430,293.00 for Special Education Transportation.

ARTICLE 20

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and or appropriate from available funds the sum of \$10,940.00 for crossing guards, or act in relation thereto. (submitted by the Town Manager, usual and customary article)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 3-0
FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 6-0

VOTED (unanimously) to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,940.00 for crossing guards.

ARTICLE 21

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from free cash the sum of \$45,252 as reimbursement for expenses and revenue generated during fiscal year 2007 from the Municipal Medicaid Reimbursement Program to the fiscal year 2008 School Department budget, or take any action thereon. (submitted by the School Department)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 3-0
FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 6-0

VOTED (unanimously) to transfer from free cash the sum of \$3,252 as reimbursement for expenses and revenue generated during fiscal year 2007 from the Municipal Medicaid Reimbursement Program to the fiscal year 2008 School Department budget.

SPECIAL FINANCIAL ARTICLES

PERSONNEL AND BENEFIT ARTICLES

(majority vote required)

ARTICLE 22

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds the sum of one thousand two hundred (\$1,200.00) dollars for the purpose of funding any expenses that may arise as a result of the Town's acceptance of MGL 41, 100b, or act in relation thereto. (submitted by the Town Manager)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 3-0
FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 6-0

VOTED (unanimously) to transfer from free cash the sum of one thousand, two hundred dollars (\$1200) for the purpose of funding any expenses that may arise as a result of the Town's acceptance of MGL 41, 100b.

MISCELLANEOUS FINANCIAL ARTICLES

(majority vote required)

ARTICLE 23

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds the sum of \$15,000 to be used to fund the tax title work of the Town Treasurer Collector, or act in relation thereto. (submitted by the Town Manager)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 3-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 6-0

VOTED (unanimously) to transfer the sum of \$7,110.76 from free cash and \$7,889.14 from the stabilization fund, to be used to fund the tax title work of the Town Treasurer/Collector.

ARTICLE 24

To see if the town will vote to transfer from the Overlay Surplus account the sum of \$20,000 for the purpose of Assessors recertification of property values in FY09, or act in relation thereto. (submitted by the Town Manager)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 3-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 6-0

VOTED (2/3 declared) to approve the article as printed in the warrant.

ARTICLE 25

To see if the town will vote to transfer from the Overlay Surplus account the sum of \$20,000 for the purpose of Assessors inspections in FY09, or act in relation thereto. (submitted by the Town Manager)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 3-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 6-0

VOTED (2/3 declared) to transfer from the Overlay Surplus Account the sum of \$10,037.86 and from the following old articles with remaining balances the sum of \$9,962.14 for a total of \$20,000 for the purpose of Assessors inspections in FY09.

FY04	In town bussing	.79
FY04	Crossing guards	769.48
FY03	Crossing guards	143.22
FY07	Crossing guards	143.89
TT	Heating system	5,941.00
Energy Conversion 05/06	ATM	.96
Johnson Control	FY08	.96
Old Murdock Pymt	5/06	500.00
Zoning Bylaws	5/04	753.03
TT Partnership	3/9/98	118.89
Open Space	3/9/98	203.74
Em. Domain	11/00	.67
Land Use file cabinet		6.28
WWTP Equipment		1,362.75
Water Meters		16.48

ARTICLE 26

To see if the town will vote to transfer from the overlay surplus account and/or available funds the sum of \$13,500 for the purpose of Assessors re-evaluations for FY09, or act in relation thereto. (submitted by the Town Manager)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 3-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 6-0

VOTED (2/3 declared) to transfer \$6,797.00 from the overlay surplus account and \$6,703.00 from free cash totaling the sum of \$13,500 for the purpose of Assessors re-evaluations for FY09.

ARTICLE 27

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from available funds the sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) for the Senior Tax Work-off Program, or act in relation thereto. (submitted by the Town Manager)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 3-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 5-0-1 ABSTAIN

(amended to \$7,500)

(amended to \$7,500)

VOTED (unanimously) to appropriate from free cash the sum of \$7,500 for the senior tax work-off program.

ARTICLE 28

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from available funds the sum of \$8,500.00 to fund state mandated inspection reports of town owned dams, or act in relation thereto. (submitted by the Town Manager)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 3-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 6-0

VOTED (unanimously) to appropriate from free cash the sum of \$4,361.24 and to transfer the available balance of \$4,638.76 from Article #29 of the May 21, 2007 Annual Town Meeting, emergency Action Plans—Town Owned Dams, for a total of \$8,500 to fund state mandated inspection reports of town owned dams.

ARTICLE 29

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from available funds the sum of eighteen thousand dollars (\$18,000) for the Community Action Committee, or act in relation thereto. (submitted by the Town Manager)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 3-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 5-0-1 ABSTAIN

VOTED (unanimously) to appropriate from free cash the sum of \$18,000 for the Community Action Committee.

PRIOR FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL ARTICLES

ARTICLE 30

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from available funds a sum or sums of money to pay the following prior year unpaid bills, or act in relation thereto. (submitted by the Town Manager)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: NO RECOMMENDATION 3-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 6-0

Voted to pass over the article.

CAPITAL PLAN FINANCIAL ARTICLES
(majority and/or two-thirds vote required)

ARTICLE 31

To see if the Town will vote to borrow the sum of \$_____transfer from the capital stabilization fund and/or free cash \$_____ to fund the recommendation of the Capital Planning Committee, or act in relation thereto. (submitted by the Capital Planning Committee)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: NO RECOMMENDATION 3-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: DISAPPROVE 6-0 CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE:

Voted to pass over the article.

SCHOOL DEPARTMENT CAPITAL ARTICLES

ARTICLE 32

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from available funds and or borrow the sum of \$68,550 for the following capital items:

1. Memorial Sidewalk Replacement Article (Capital Committee) \$35,800

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from available funds and or borrow the sum of \$35,800 to fund for the School Department for replacing the sidewalk along the front of Memorial Elementary School, or take any action thereon. (submitted by the School Committee)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 2-1

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 4-0-2 ABSTAIN

(as capital exclusion) (as capital exclusion)

CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE:

2. District Maintenance Pick-up Truck Article (Capital Committee) \$32,750

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from available funds and or borrow the sum of \$32,750 to fund for the School Department a maintenance department four wheel drive pick-up truck, or take any action thereon. (submitted by the School Committee)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 2-1

FINANCE COMMITTEE: DISAPPROVE 5-1

(as capital exclusion) (as amended)

CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE:

VOTED (majority) to raise and appropriate by taxation as a capital exclusion the sum of \$68,550 for the following capital items:

- 1. Memorial Sidewalk Replacement \$35,800**
- 2. District Maintenance Pick-up Truck \$32,750**

Provided that the \$68,550 to be raised by taxation is contingent upon the passage of a Proposition 2 ½ override vote.

ARTICLE 33

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from available funds and or borrow the sum of \$11,000 (to be used with a Memorial PTO donation of \$5,000 and a previous town meeting article with available funds of \$4,675, account no. 010032-597818) to fund the installation of safety zone flashing lights at the campus entrance at 32 Elmwood Road, or take any action thereon. (submitted by the School Committee and Selectman Gould)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 2-1

FINANCE COMMITTEE: DISAPPROVE 6-0

(as capital exclusion)

CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE:

VOTED (majority) to raise and appropriate by taxation as a capital exclusion the sum of \$11,460 (to be used with a Memorial PTO donation of \$5000 and a previous town meeting article with available funds of \$4,215, account no. 010032-597818) for the following capital item:

- 1. Purchase and installation of safety zone flashing lights at the campus entrance at 32 Elmwood Road.**

Provided that the \$11,460 to be raised by taxation is contingent upon the passage of a Proposition 2 ½ override vote.

FIRE DEPARTMENT CAPITAL ARTICLE

ARTICLE 34

To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$42,500 from the following accounts:

30220813	5890	81	Fire Department Roof	\$32,500
01220002	5973	09	Dry Hydrants	\$ 5,000
01220004	5974	22	Dry Hydrants	\$ 5,000

to upgrade the Fire Alarm System, or act in relation thereto. (submitted by the Fire Chief)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 3-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 6-0

CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE:

VOTED (unanimously) to approve the article as printed in the warrant.

STABILIZATION FUND ARTICLE

(two-thirds vote required)

ARTICLE 35

To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from free cash to the stabilization fund, or act in relation thereto. (Submitted by the Board of Selectmen, Finance Committee and Town Manager)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 2-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: DISAPPROVE 5-0-1 ABSTAIN

Voted to pass over the article.

GENERAL BUSINESS ARTICLES

(majority vote required)

ARTICLE 36

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Bylaws of the Town of Winchendon as printed in the handouts and to seek home rule petition through the Legislature to amend the Winchendon Home Rule Charter as is printed in the handouts, or act in relation thereto. (submitted by the Charter and Bylaw Review Committees Committee)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 1; NOT RECOMMEND 1; NO
RECOMMENDATION 1

FINANCE COMMITTEE: DISAPPROVE 6-0
Voted to pass over the article.

ARTICLE 37

To see if the Town will vote to create a general bylaw as follows:

Capital Improvement Committee

Section 1.

There shall be a Capital Improvement Planning Committee, composed of one member of the Board of Selectmen, one member of the Finance Committee, one member of the Planning Board, one member representing the School Department and one at large member appointed by the Selectmen. The Town Accountant or his/her designee shall be an ex-officio Committee member with no voting rights. The Committee shall choose its own officers, and shall report its recommendations to town meeting, regarding all capital expenditures.

Section 2.

The Committee shall study proposed capital projects and improvements involving major non-recurring tangible assets and projects which: 1) are purchased or undertaken at intervals of not less than five years; 2) have a useful life of at least five years; and 3) cost over \$10,000.

The Town Manager will prepare and make available to the Capital Improvement Committee, information concerning all anticipated projects requiring Town Meeting action by January 1st of each year.

The Committee will consider the relative need, impact, timing and cost of capital expenditures and the effect each will have on the financial position of the town.

Section 4.
Capital Improvement meeting schedule

The Capital Improvement Committee will meet to consider capital request as follows.

Sept.-Oct.	Committee surveys status of previously approved Projects and prepares inventory of current projects request.
Nov. -Dec.	Committee prepares financial analysis
Jan.-- Feb.	Committee receives and ranks request. Prepares five year schedule of projects and makes decision on method of financing based on Financial analysis.
March	Committee presents Capital Budget and Capital Program to the Board of Selectmen.
April	Committee presents Capital Budget and Capital Program to Finance Committee.
May	Committee presents Capital expenditures for upcoming year to Town Meeting.

or act in relation thereto. (submitted by the Finance Committee)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: NOT RECOMMEND 3-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: DISAPPROVE 6-0

(as presented)

Voted to pass over the article.

ARTICLE 38

RETIREE HEALTH INSURANCE FOR SCHOOL DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court for a Special Act to read as follows, provided, however, that the General Court may only make clerical or editorial changes to the form of the bill, unless the Board of Selectmen approves amendments to the bill before enactment by the General Court. The Board of Selectmen is hereby authorized to approve amendments which shall be within the scope of the general public objectives of this petition; or act in relation thereto.

AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN OF WINCHENDON TO COUNT THE COST OF SCHOOL DEPARTMENT RETIREES HEALTH INSURANCE TO BE CONSIDERED PART OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICTS NET SCHOOL SPENDING AND THAT THE GENERAL GOVERNMENT PROVIDES THE REQUIRED (50%) COST OF SAID INSURANCE IN ADDITION TO THE AMOUNT PRESCRIBED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AS MINIMUM LOCAL CONTRIBUTION.

Section 1. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Education is hereby authorized and directed to include in the determination of net school spending compliance for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2008 for the Town of Winchendon all amounts paid by the Town for retirees of the school department for health insurance premiums paid in addition to the minimum required local contribution. Section 2. This act shall take effect upon passage, or act in relation thereto. (submitted by the Town Accountant)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 3-0
FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 6-0

VOTED (unanimously) to approve the article as printed in the warrant.

ARTICLE 39

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to convey to the Winchendon Redevelopment Authority, on such terms and consideration as the Board of Selectmen deems appropriate, two parcels of land off Gardner Road/Route 140 listed as portions of Assessor's Map 12 Parcel 80, described as parcels C and D on a plan entitled "Plan of land in Winchendon, Mass. Prepared for Winchendon Redevelopment Authority" dated 2007 by David E. Ross Associates, Inc., plan number L-10444 and further described as follows;

PARCEL C

A certain parcel of land situated in the Town of Winchendon, County of Worcester, Commonwealth of Massachusetts lying easterly of Gardner Road bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING at the northwesterly corner of the premises on the line of Parcel B at a corner of Parcel D, THENCE S71-37-43E by Parcel D eighty two and 50/100 (82.50') feet to a point at Parcel E, THENCE southerly by Parcel E along a curve concave to the east having a radius of two thousand one hundred eighty seven and 38/100 (2,187.38') feet a distance of three hundred thirty five and 26/100 (335.26') feet to a point of tangency, THENCE S9-35-23W by Parcel E and by Parcel A four hundred seventy three and 15/100 (473.15') feet to a point of curvature, THENCE southerly by Parcel A along a curve concave to the east having a radius two thousand nine hundred six and 79/100 (2,906.79') feet a distance of one hundred fifteen and 84/100 (115.84') feet to a point of compound curvature, THENCE southerly by Parcel A along a curve concave to the east having a radius one thousand two hundred ninety one and 52/100 (1,291.52') feet a distance of fifty eight and 32/100 (58.32') feet to a point at a corner of land now or formerly of the Nancy J. Hoar Revocable Indenture of Trust, Nancy J. Hoar, Trustee and of the Town of Winchendon Rail Trail, 1 of 3 THENCE N89-20-25W by said land of the Town of Winchendon Rail Trail eighty two and 69/100 (82.69') feet to a point at land of John R. Enright, THENCE northerly by land of said Enright along a curve concave to the east having a radius of one thousand three hundred seventy four and 02/100 (1,374.02') feet a distance of sixty seven and 90/100 (67.90') feet to a point of compound curvature, THENCE northerly by land of said Enright along a curve concave to the east having a radius of two thousand nine hundred eighty nine and 29/100 (2,989.29') feet a distance of one hundred nineteen and 13/100 (119.13') feet to a point of tangency, THENCE N9-35-23E by land of said Enright and by Parcel B four hundred seventy three and 15/100 (473.15') feet to a point of curvature, THENCE northerly by Parcel B along a curve concave to the east having a radius two thousand two hundred sixty nine and 88/100 (2,269.88) feet a distance of three hundred forty seven and 90/100 (347.90') feet to the point of beginning.

CONTAINING 1.89 Acre and being shown on a plan entitled "Plan of land in Winchendon, Mass. Prepared for Winchendon Redevelopment Authority" dated 2007 by David E. Ross Associates, Inc., plan number L-10444.

SUBJECT to Proposed Access Easement for the benefit of Parcel A as shown on said plan.

PARCEL D

A certain parcel of land situated in the Town of Winchendon, County of Worcester, Commonwealth of Massachusetts lying easterly of Gardner Road bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING at the northwesterly corner of the premises at a corner of the remaining land of Philip C. Beals and Fleet Bank of Massachusetts, N.A., as Successor to Bank of New England, N.A., Trustees under the will of George C. Beals and the Town of Winchendon Rail Trail, THENCE 589-43-39E by the Town of Winchendon Rail Trail ninety one and 71/100 (91.71') feet to a point at a corner of Parcel E and the remaining land of said Beals, THENCE S26-09-53W by Parcel E two hundred fourteen and 62/100 (214.62') feet to a point of curvature,

THENCE southerly by Parcel E along a curve concave to the east having a radius of two thousand one hundred eighty seven and 38/100 (2,187.38') feet a distance of two hundred ninety seven and 53/100 (297.53') feet to a corner of Parcel C, THENCE N71-37-43W by Parcel C eighty two and 50/100 (82.50') feet to a corner at Parcel B, 2 of 3 THENCE northerly by Parcel B along a curve concave to the east having a radius of two thousand two hundred sixty nine and 88/100 (2,269.88') feet a distance of three hundred eight and 75/100 (308.75') feet to a point of tangency, THENCE N26-09-53E by Parcel B one hundred seventy four and 57/100 (174.57') feet to the point of beginning.

CONTAINING 0.94 Acre and being shown on a plan entitled "Plan of land in Winchendon, Mass. Prepared for Winchendon Redevelopment Authority" dated January, 2008 by David E. Ross Associates, Inc., plan number L-10444.

SUBJECT to Drainage Easements D-16 and D-7 as shown on said plan and on 1975 Transfer Layout #6241 said parcel of commercially-zoned, municipal land for the purpose of promoting economic development, and to further authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept an easement on said parcel of land from the Winchendon Redevelopment Authority for the purpose of a recreational bicycle trail, or act in relation thereto. (Submitted by the Winchendon Redevelopment Authority)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 3-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 6-0

VOTED (unanimously) to approve the article as printed in the warrant.

ARTICLE 40

To see if the Town will vote to accept, for the purpose of maintenance, that certain portion of Mellen Road that had been previously DISCONTINUED at the 1914 Town Meeting, being the Third Way under Article 25. The Discontinuance being formerly described as "So much of the Mellen Road, so called, as extends from the house of J. Q. Mellen deceased, to the lane leading to house of J. Shaw", and is now being described as follows:

Beginning at the southerly terminus of the present Accepted portion of Mellen Road at the "Mellen House", said house being situated on land now or formerly owned by David & Mary Galat; thence southeasterly and easterly about 3175 feet to the junction of an old road running easterly at a point where Mellen Road turns and runs southerly, said intersection being at land now or formerly owned by John A. & Celeste Wehmeyer; thence southerly about 3916 feet to the "lane" that leads to the former location of the house of J. Shaw" being situated on land now or formerly owned by Ronald J. Eddy. Mellen Road is a Variable Width road that is bounded generally by stone walls and, in most cases further

defined by various and many plans filed at the Worcester District Registry of Deeds, or act in relation thereto. (Submitted by the Superintendent of Public Works)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 3-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 4-2

(as amended to conclude at the last home on Mellen Rd) (as amended to conclude at the last home on Mellen Rd)

Voted to pass over the article.

ARTICLE 41

To see if the town will vote to donate unclaimed and abandoned bicycles obtained by the Police Department to the Kiwanis Club, a non-profit charitable organization, to be refurbished for a "Recycle a Bicycle" program, or act in relation thereto. (submitted by Selectman Shea)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 3-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 6-0

VOTED (unanimously) to approve the article as printed in the warrant.

ZONING BYLAW ARTICLE

(2/3 vote required)

ARTICLE 42

New language in bold type and deletions struck through.

To see if the town will vote to amend the Winchendon Zoning Bylaw by amending Article 1 as follows;

Add a new Section 1.1.1 Mission following the first paragraph as follows;

It is the intention of this bylaw to encourage practices which will make Winchendon a sustainable community. These include practices that will contribute to the reduction of global warming, discourage the generation of greenhouse gases and encourage their absorption, discourage unnecessary energy use, and encourage the use of renewable energy sources.

Amend Section 1.3 Title to read as follows:

This bylaw shall be known and may be cited by the title: "Winchendon, Massachusetts Zoning Bylaw"

Cross reference in Subdivision regulations and the Master Plan

Amend Section 1.5 Communication to read as follows;

"The structure of the bylaw is as follows: Article 1 serves as the introduction to the bylaw. Article 2 contains the definitions of terms used in the bylaw. Articles 3 and 4 concern zoning districts and special zoning districts, respectively. Article 5 deals with principal land uses. Article 6 takes up accessory, nonconforming and other special buildings and

uses. Article 7 deals with dimensional and density requirements for lot layouts. Article 8 treats parking and traffic considerations. Article 9 discusses signage. Article 10 deals with the removal and handling of natural materials on a given site. Article 11 treats flexible residential development (formerly known as cluster and/or conservation subdivisions). Article 12 deals with on-site considerations through requirements for site plan approval. Finally, Article 13 deals with the remaining legal and administrative issues.

The Planning Board is authorized, after a public hearing as provided in section 11 of chapter 40A of the Massachusetts General Laws, to adopt by simple majority vote appendices that may be included after this bylaw. These will not be legally binding but will serve as clarifications and guidelines for those interpreting the bylaws. The appendices may originate from material that changes over time, such as the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) tables. Developers should make sure to use the most up to date version of the sources referenced.

The Department of Planning and Development shall keep up-to-date copies of this zoning bylaw available to and accessible by all the citizens. Copies shall be available for sale. Every attempt, within reason and within reasonable cost, shall be made so that such copies are identical to the definitive reference in the town clerk's office at the Town Hall.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: NO RECOMMENDATION 3-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 3-0-3 ABSTAIN

PLANNING BOARD:

VOTED (unanimously) to adopt the amendment as printed in the warrant.

ARTICLE 43

To see if the town will vote to amend Article 6 of the Winchendon Zoning Bylaw by adding Section 6.3.7 Dwellings Accessory to Commercial or Industrial Uses and making related changes to Table 6.3 as follows;

Section 6.3.7 Dwellings Accessory to Commercial or Industrial Uses

If the particular use of a commercial or industrial property in the industrial zone is such that a caretaker or attendant is required to live on that property on a 24 hours a day/seven days a week basis, the Zoning Board of Appeals may grant a special permit to allow one dwelling unit on such commercial or industrial property or immediately adjacent to the property for the use of such caretaker or attendant and his/her family. Such a permit shall be supported by a finding by the Board which states in detail the use which requires such caretaker or attendant and the reasons that necessitate such a dwelling unit. Any such permit shall be limited to a period of not more than five years but may be renewed. Should such use change or be discontinued during such permit period, the dwelling space must be converted to non residential use or removed unless a new permit is granted.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: NO RECOMMENDATION 3-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 5-0-1 ABSTAIN

PLANNING BOARD:

VOTED (2/3 vote declared by moderator) to adopt the amendment as printed in the warrant.

ARTICLE 44

To see if the Town will vote to adopt the Winchendon Zoning Map as amended or act in relation thereto. Amendments include; the redefinition of the Waterville Planned Development District; redefinition of the Spring Village Planned Development District; the addition of the Affordable Housing Overlay District; and the rezoning of several individual parcels to reflect current or intended use. Map changes are on file in the Town Clerk's Office and are identified by Assessor's Map and Parcel numbers.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: NO RECOMMENDATION 3-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 5-0-1 ABSTAIN

PLANNING BOARD:

VOTED (2/3 vote declared by moderator) to adopt the Winchendon Zoning Map as amended, such amendments to include: the redefinition of the Waterville Planned Development District; redefinition of the Spring Village Planned Development District; the Winchendon Village Planned Development District; and the rezoning of several individual parcels to reflect current or intended use, all as identified by Assessor's Map and Parcel numbers and shown in more particular detail on maps on file in the town Clerk's Office dated January 2008.

ARTICLE 45

To see if the town will vote to amend Article 6 of the Winchendon Zoning Bylaw by inserting a new Section 6.10 Wind Energy Conversion Systems (WECS) Bylaw as follows;

1. Purpose. The purpose of this section is to provide for the development and use of wind power as an alternative energy source, while protecting public health, safety and welfare, preserving environmental, historic and scenic resources, controlling noise levels and preventing electromagnetic interference.
2. Applicability. Construction and use of a Wind Energy Conversion System (WECS) or any part thereof shall comply with this by-law.
3. Definitions.
 - A. Wind Energy Conversion Systems (WECS) - All equipment, machinery, and structures, whether underground, on the surface, or overhead, used to collect, transmit, distribute, store, supply, or sell energy derived from wind, including but not limited to wind turbines (rotors, electrical generators and towers), anemometers (wind measuring equipment), transformers, substations, power lines, control and maintenance facilities, and site access and service roads.
 - B. Commercial Wind Energy System (CWES): A wind energy conversion system consisting of a wind turbine, a tower, and associated control or conversion electronics, which has a rated capacity greater than 10 kW.
 - C. Residential Wind Energy System (RWES): A wind energy conversion system consisting of a wind turbine, and associated control or conversion

electronics, which has a rated capacity of not more than 10 kW, located on a single lot, intended as an accessory use in a designated residential district or in connection with any residential use in a designated commercial district. The rated capacity of not more than 10 kW can be increased at the discretion of the SPGA.

- D. Wind Turbine: A single device that converts wind to electricity or other forms of energy, typically consisting of a rotor and blade assembly, electrical generator, and tower with or without guy wires.
 - E. Overall Engineer Designed Fall Zone: The area on the ground, determined by a registered professional engineer, within a prescribed radius from the base of a WECS, typically the area within which there is a potential hazard from falling debris or collapsing material.
 - F. Wind Farm: A collection of towers in the same location. See Section 5.D for allowance of more than one (1) tower on the same lot or on contiguous lots held in common ownership.
- 4. Special Permit Granting Authority: The Planning Board is hereby established as the Special Permit Granting Authority (SPGA) in connection with construction of Wind Energy Facilities (WECS). WECS are allowed in all districts by special permit. Special scrutiny will be given to WECS to be located in a Historic District. The SPGA may grant a Special Permit only if it finds that the proposal complies with the provisions of this bylaw and is consistent with the applicable criteria for granting special permits.
 - 5. Development Requirements. The following requirements apply to all Wind Energy Conversion Systems (WECS).
 - A. Proposed WECS shall be consistent with all applicable local, state and federal requirements, including but not limited to all applicable electrical, construction, noise, safety, environmental and communications requirements.
 - B. WECS serving neighborhoods or multiple residences are encouraged however; proposals shall be permitted as a CWES allowed in residential districts. If applicable, any necessary easements between property owners must be recorded.
 - C. RWES and CWES shall be limited to one (1) tower per lot including one (1) tower per lot on contiguous lots held in common ownership. The SPGA may exceed this limit if the applicant can demonstrate that additional number is necessary to serve the purposes of this bylaw and that the additional towers will not create an adverse impact in comparison to the siting of one tower as outlined in this bylaw with respect to factors including, but not limited to, Noise (Section 5.H.), Shadowing/Flicker (Section 5.I.), Visual Impact (Section 5.K.), and Electromagnetic Interference (Section 5.L.).

D. Tower height.

1. CWES. Maximum height three hundred feet. The SPGA may allow the height restriction to be exceeded as part of the special permit process if it finds that the applicant has demonstrated that additional height is needed and that increased height does not create a greater adverse impact than a facility built in compliance with this section with respect to factors including, but not limited to, Noise (Section 5.H.), Shadowing/Flicker (Section 5.I.), Visual Impact (Section 5.K.), and Electromagnetic Interference (Section 5.L.).
2. RWES. Maximum height one hundred and fifty feet. The SPGA may allow the height restriction to be exceeded as part of the special permit process if it finds that the applicant has demonstrated that additional height is needed and that increased height does not create a greater adverse impact than a facility built in compliance with this section with respect to factors including, but not limited to, Noise (Section 5.I.), Shadowing/Flicker (Section 5.J.), Visual Impact (Section 5.L.), and Electromagnetic Interference (Section 5.M.).

E. Monopole towers are the preferred type of support.

F. Height Calculation. Overall height of the wind turbine, including any roof mounted wind turbine, shall be measured from the ground level (the land in its natural state prior to grading or filling) to the highest point reached by any part of the wind turbine.

G. Fall Zone Setbacks. (See figure A) The minimum setback for the WECS shall be maintained equal to the overall engineer designed fall zone plus ten (10) feet from all boundaries of the site on which the WECS is located.

1. No part of the WECS support structure, including guy wire anchors, may extend closer to the property boundaries than the standard structure setbacks for the zone where the land is located.
2. WECS shall be set back a distance of the overall engineer designed fall zone plus ten (10) feet, from ways, drives, access easements, trails, ascertainable paths and above ground utility lines (See Figure A).

The SPGA may waive the Fall Zone Setbacks in Section 5.G. if it determines that such a waiver does not derogate from the purpose of this bylaw, and is in the public interest. If any portion of the fall zone setback area referred to in Section 5.G includes abutting property, in order for the SPGA to grant such a waiver, the applicant must present evidence that he or she has secured a permanent "fall zone easement" from the abutting property owner(s). The area of the "fall zone easement" shall be shown on all applicable plans submitted to the SPGA. The easement shall prohibit the placement of temporary or permanent buildings or structures within the

“fall zone” and state that it is for the benefit of the applicant’s property and that the easement shall run with the land and forever burden the subject property. The easement shall be recorded no later than ten (10) days from the grant of said waiver, and a copy of the recorded easement shall be provided to the SPGA promptly. In addition, the SPGA may waive the setback requirement in Section 5.G. for setbacks from a public way for good cause.

H. Noise. The WECS and associated equipment shall conform to the Massachusetts noise regulation (310 CMR 7.10). If deemed necessary by the SPGA, an analysis, prepared by a qualified engineer, shall be presented to demonstrate compliance with these noise standards and be consistent with Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection guidance for noise measurement.

1. Manufacturers specifications may be accepted when, in the opinion of the SPGA, the information provided satisfies the above requirements.

2. If noise levels are determined to be excessive, the Zoning Enforcement Officer shall require the property owner to perform ambient and operating decibel measurements at the nearest point from the wind turbine to the property line of the complainant and to the nearest inhabited residence.

I. Shadowing/Flicker. The WECS shall be sited in a manner that does not result in significant shadowing or flicker impacts. The applicant has the burden of proving that a WECS does not have significant adverse impact on neighboring or adjacent uses either through siting or mitigation.

J. Prevention of Access. The applicant/owner shall ensure that all related components of the WECS are protected from unlawful access. Climbing access to the tower shall be limited by the following methods: by placing climbing apparatus no lower than twelve feet from the ground and by installation of a six foot high fence with locked gate set back no less than ten (10) feet from the base of the WECS (See Figure B).

K. Visual Impact. The applicant shall employ all reasonable means, including landscaping and alternative locations, to minimize the visual impact of all WECS components. All components of the WECS and its support structure shall be painted plain non-reflective muted colors without graphics or other decoration.

The WECS shall not unreasonably interfere with any scenic views, paying particular attention to such views from the downtown business area, public parks, natural scenic vistas or historic building or districts. WECS shall, when possible, be sited off ridgelines where there visual impact is least detrimental to scenic views and areas. In determining whether the proposed WECS will have an undue adverse impact on the scenic beauty of a ridge of hillside, the SPGA consider, among other things, the following:

1. The period of time during which the proposed WECS will be viewed by the traveling

- public on a public highway, public trail, or public body of water;
- 2. The frequency of the view of the proposed WECS by the traveling public;
- 3. The degree to which the view of the WECS is screened by existing vegetation, the topography of the land, and existing structures;
- 4. Background features in the line of sight to the proposed WECS that obscure it or make it more conspicuous;
- 5. The distance of the WECS from the viewing vantage point and the proportion that is visible above the skyline;
- 6. The number of travelers or vehicles traveling on a public highway, public trail, or public body of water at or near the critical vantage point, and
- 7. The sensitivity or unique value of the particular view affected by the proposed WECS.

To assist the SPGA in its review it may require the applicant to fly or raise a three-foot diameter balloon at the maximum height of the proposed WECS at a location within fifty (50) horizontal feet of the center of the proposed facility. The applicant shall provide photographs of the balloon test taken from at least four vantage points previously designated by the SPGA.

- L. Electromagnetic interference. No WECS installation shall cause electromagnetic interference. The applicant may be asked to bring in consultants at his/her own expense to certify that the system will not cause interference. If neighbors can demonstrate that there is excessive interference, the Building Commissioner shall notify in writing the owner of the WECS to correct the violation. If the interference is not remedied within 30 days the WECS shall remain inactive until the interference is remedied, which may include relocation or removal.

6. Procedural Requirements:

- A. Site Plan. A site plan must be submitted, prepared to scale by a registered land surveyor or civil engineer showing the location of the proposed WECS, distances to all property lines, existing and proposed structures, existing and proposed elevations, public and private roads, above ground utility lines and any other significant features or appurtenances. Any portion of this section may be waived if in the opinion of the SPGA the materials submitted are sufficient for the SPGA to make a decision.

- 1. Vegetation. Existing vegetation must be shown including average height of trees and any proposed vegetation removal on the subject property or abutting properties. The SPGA may also consider the height of vegetation at maturity.
- 2. Lighting. If lighting is proposed (other than required FAA lights) the applicant shall submit a plan indicating the horizontal foot candles at grade, within the property line and twenty-five (25) beyond the property lines.

The plan shall also indicate the locations and types of luminaries proposed.

3. The Site Plan shall be accompanied by any additional documentation necessary to provide a complete description of WECS including technical, economic, environmental, and other reasons for the proposed location, height and design.
- B. Proof of Liability Insurance.** The applicant shall be required to provide evidence of liability insurance in an amount and for duration sufficient to cover loss or damage to persons and structures occasioned by the failure of the facility.
- C. Compliance with FAA Regulations.** WECS must comply with applicable FAA regulations, including any necessary approvals for installations close to airports.
- D. Utility Notification.** No WECS shall be installed until evidence has been given that the utility company has been informed of the customer's intent to install an interconnected customer-owned generator. Off-grid systems shall be exempt from this requirement.
- E. Discontinuance:** A WECS shall be considered to be discontinued if it is not operated for a period of two years. Once a WECS is designated as discontinued, the owner shall be required to physically remove the WECS within 90 days of written notice. "Physically remove" shall include, but not be limited to:
1. Removal of WECS, any equipment shelters and security barriers from the subject property.
 2. Proper disposal of the waste materials from the site in accordance with local and state solid waste disposal regulations.
 3. Restoring the location of the WECS to its natural condition, except that any landscaping and grading shall remain in the after-condition.

If the applicant fails to remove the WECS in accordance with the requirements of this section, the town shall have the authority to enter the property and physically remove the facility at the owners cost, which may include placing a lien on the property and/or taking other actions.

- F. Modifications.** All modifications (excluding routine repairs and maintenance) to a WECS made after issuance of the Special Permit shall require approval by the SPGA.
- G. Professional Fees.** The SPGA may retain a technical expert/consultant to verify information presented by the applicant. The cost for such a technical expert/consultant will be the expense of the applicant.

- H. Unsafe Installation.** Should a WECS be deemed unsafe by the appropriate town authority because of its construction or condition, it shall be repaired or removed at the owner's expense.

FIGURE A: WIND ENERGY CONVERSION SYSTEM (ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLE ONLY)

A = Overall Height of WECS. Maximum Height of a Residential WECS is 150 Feet

and Maximum Height for a Commercial WECS is 300 Feet. Maximum Height may be exceeded as part of the special permit process if there is a demonstrated need.

B = Fall Zone Setback: A minimum of the overall engineer designed fall zone plus 10 feet. This setback does not apply to any residential or commercial structure that is owned by the applicant.

C = Standard Structure Setback.

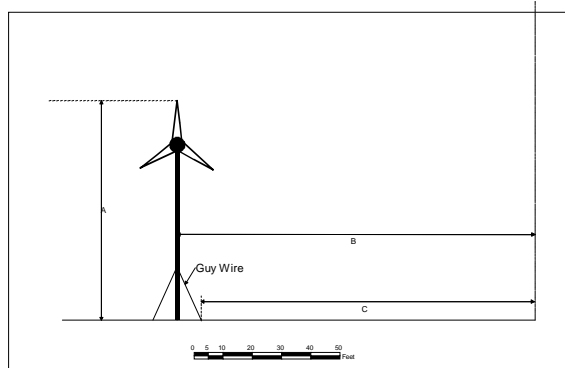
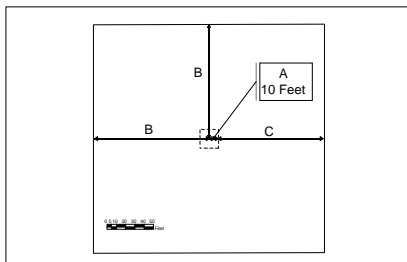


FIGURE B: WIND ENERGY CONVERSION SYSTEM (Illustrative Example Only)

A = Six foot high fence with locked gate set back **no less than ten (10) feet from the base of the WECS**

B = Fall Zone Setback: A minimum of the overall engineer designed fall zone plus 10 feet. This setback does not apply to any residential or commercial structure that is owned by the applicant.

C = Standard Structure Setback.



BOARD OF SELECTMEN: NO RECOMMENDATION 3-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND PLANNING BOARD:

VOTED (2/3 vote declared by Moderator) to adopt the amendment as printed in the warrant.

CITIZEN PETITIONS

ARTICLE 46

This warrant is being presented to have the town people vote on utilizing land resources aka sand and gravel located on River Street adjacent to the town landfill/transfer station and owned by the town residents.

With a passing vote of the town to then proceed to appoint a 5 member committee by the TOWN MODERATOR to establish the best process and economic method of processing sand and gravel to generate revenue for the Town.

This vote shall direct the procurement officer and the Board of Selectmen to utilize the monies collected and placed in the general fund to be used to balance the town and school budget. OR ACT IN RELATION THERETO. (submitted by Norman Norcross)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: PASSOVER 3-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: DISAPPROVE 5-0-1ABSTAIN

(should be taken up under Article 3)

Voted to postpone indefinitely.

ARTICLE 47

To see if the Town will vote to amend Article 7 Site Considerations – Dimensional and Density Regulations of the Town of Winchendon Zoning By-Law as follows:

7.2 Table of Dimensional & Density Regulations

Zoning District	Min. Lot Area Square Feet	Frontage (3)	Front Setback (3)	Side Set-back (3)	Rear Set-back (3)	Max. Structure Height (floors)	Max. Man Made Struc. Height	Max Imp. Area as % of Lot (1)
R80	43,560	150	40	25	50	2-1/2	35'	10%
R40	40,000	150	40	25	50	2-1/2	35'	15%
R10	10,000	75	20	10	20	2-1/2	35'	25%
C1	75,000	250	75	25	25	3	45'	45%
C2	20,000	100	30	15	30	3	45'	45%
I	43,560	150	40	25	50	no	50'	no
PD	5,000	75	5	0	0	3	45'	70%
WF (2)								

Or act in relation thereto. (submitted by George Mizhir)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: PASSOVER 3-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: DISAPPROVE 6-0

PLANNING BOARD:

Voted to postpone indefinitely.

ARTICLE 48

To see if the Town will vote to amend Article 10 Soil, Vegetation, Rock and gravel Removal of the Town of Winchendon Zoning Bylaws as follows:

10.2.5 Any earth removal over 19 yards for the sole purpose of commercial processing and/or sale may be done in an industrial Zone or R-80 zone,

Or act in relation thereto. (submitted by George Mizhir)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: PASSEVER 3-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: DISAPPROVE 6-0

PLANNING BOARD:

Voted to postpone indefinitely.

ARTICLE 49

To see if the Town will vote to amend Article 5 Use Regulations by adding to Article 5.2.3 Principal Use Categories

Industrial Uses	R80	R40	R10	C1	C2	I	PD
L. Landfill	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N

Or act in relation thereto. (submitted by George Mizhir)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: PASSEVER 3-0
DISAPPROVE 6-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

PLANNING BOARD:

Voted to postpone indefinitely.

Meeting adjourned on motion at 10:55 p.m.

A true record attest:

Lois A. Abare
Town Clerk

To: Board of Assessors

From: Town Clerk

The following sums of money were voted to be raised and appropriated, or appropriated by transfer, or by borrowing, for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2008 at the annual Town Meeting which convened on May 19, 2008.

<u>ACCOUNT</u>	<u>FY09</u>
SELECTMEN	14,000.00
TOWN MANAGER	243,203.00
FINANCE COMMITTEE	49,160.00
ACCOUNTING	115,903.00
ASSESSOR	69,947.00
COLLECTOR/TREASURER	166,426.00
AUDIT EXPENSE	37,000.00
LEGAL EXPENSE	65,000.00
DATA PROCESSING	25,378.00
TECHNOLOGY	17,575.00
COMM. COMMITTEE	6,500.00
TOWN CLERK	94,776.00
REGISTRAR OF VOTERS	22,185.00
CONSERVATION	15,215.00
PLANNING BOARD	7,550.00
ZONING BOARD	3,388.00

COMMUNITY DEVELOP.	49,434.00
TOWN HALL	116,063.00
ADMIN. AND FIN. TOTAL:	1,118,703.00
POLICE DISPATCH ANIMAL CONTROL POLICE/DISPATCH/ACO	1,207,137.00
FIRE AMBULANCE FIRE/AMBULANCE TOTAL	642,560.00
LAND USE	73,641.00
CIVIL DEFENSE	2,702.00
PUBLIC SAFETY TOTALS:	1,926,040.00
PUBLIC WORKS TOTAL:	1,161,725.65
HEALTH ACCOUNTS:	
HEALTH DEPT	52,693.00
HEALTH OUTSIDE	1,750.00
HEALTH VISITING NURSES	8,500.00
HEALTH TOTAL:	62,943.00
COUNCIL ON AGING	114,831.00
VETERANS	183,318.00
LIBRARY	150,390.00
RECREATION COMMITTEE	3,400.00

HISTORICAL COMM.	500.00
SOC. SERV. ACCOUNTS:	452,439.00
BENEFIT ACCOUNTS:	
PENSIONS	712,844.00
WORK'S COMP & UNEMP.	227,732.00
HEALTH INSURANCE	1,832,544.00
LIFE INSURANCE	24,666.00
MEDICARE	186,329.00
BENEFIT TOTALS:	2,984,115.00
UNCLASSIFIED ACCOUNTS:	
PROPERTY/LIABILITY INS.	209,395.00
DEBT SERVICE	2,288,200.00
REGIONAL PLANNING	2,610.00
MONTY TECH	713,269.00
UNCLASSIFIED TOTALS:	3,213,474.00
RAISE & APPR. TOTAL:	10,787,212.65
APPROPRIATIONS BY TRANSFER ART.10	132,227.00
GENERAL GOVERNMENT OPERATING BUDGET	10,919,439.65
OTHER APPROPRIATIONS BY TAXATION	
Art. 17: School Budget	12,813,503.00
Art. 18: In-town school transportation	582,800.00
Art. 19: Special Ed. Transportation	430,000.00
Art. 20: Crossing guards	10,000.00
Art. 33: Cap. Excl. flashing lights	11,460.00
Total	13,848,996.00
TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS BY TAXATION	\$24,636,208.65

TRANSFERS FROM AVAILABLE FUNDS—SPECIAL ARTICLES

Art. 23: Stabilization Fund to tax title work	7,889.24
Art. 24: Overlay Surplus to Assessors recert.	20,000.00
Art. 25: Overlay Surplus to Assessors inspect.	10,037.86
Art. 25: Following balances to Assessors inspect.	9,962.14

*FY04 IN TOWN BUSSING	\$ 0.79
FY04 CROSSING GUARDS	\$ 769.48
FY03 CROSSING GUARDS	\$ 143.22
FY07 CROSSING GUARDS	\$ 143.89
TT HEATING SYSTEM	\$ 5,941.00
ENERGY CONVERSION 05/06 ATM	\$ 0.96
JOHNSON CONTROL FY08	\$ 0.96
OLD MURD PAYMENT MAY 06	\$ 500.00
ZONING BYLAWS ATM 05/04	\$ 753.03
TT PARTNERSHIP 3/9/98	\$ 118.89
OPEN SPACE PLAN 3/9/98	\$ 203.74
EMIN DOMAIN - SPRING STM 11/00	\$ 0.67
LAND USE FILE CABINETS	\$ 6.28
WWTP EQUIPMENT	\$ 1,362.75
WATER METERS	\$ 16.48

Art. 26: Overlay Surplus to Assess. Reval.	6,797.00
Art. 28: Art 29 (5-21-07) to Dam Inspect.	4,638.76
Art. 33: #010032-597818 to flashing lights	4,215.00
Art. 34: Bal. old acc'ts to Fire Alarm Upgrade	42,500.00

Total Transfers—Special Articles 106,040.00

TOTAL TRANSFERS AVAILABLE FUNDS \$238,267.00

TRANSFERS FROM FREE CASH

Art. 18: In-town school transportation	42,000.00
Art. 21: Medicaid Reimbursement	3,252.00
Art. 22: MGL 41, s.100b	1,200.00
Art. 23: Tax title	7,110.76
Art. 26: Assessors re-valuation	6,703.00
Art. 27: Senior tax work-off	7,500.00
Art. 28: Dam inspections	4,361.24
Art. 29: CAC	18,000.00

TOTAL TRANSFERS FROM FREE CASH \$90,127.00

ENTERPRISE FUNDS

Art. 14: Water rev. to water dept.	621,669.00
Art. 16: Wastewater rev. to wastewater dept.	1,050,214.00

TOTAL ENTERPRISE FUNDS	\$1,671,883.00
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APPROPRIATIONS BY BORROWING

Art. 5 Chapter 90	339,480.00
Art. 15: Water Enterprise purposes	290,000.00

TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS BY BORROWING	\$629,480.00
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I CERTIFY that the foregoing figures totaling \$27,265,966.65 to be the amounts to be raised, by taxation, transfers and borrowing for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2008.

Attest:

Lois A. Abare
Town Clerk

RECORD OF THE STATE PRIMARY

September 16, 2008

Met at Toy Town Elementary School at 6 a.m. Polls declared open at 7 a.m. by Coral Grout, Warden.

Election officers were sworn and assigned to their respective stations. Official Ballots, cards of instruction and voting lists delivered to the presiding officer. Specimen ballots and cards of instruction posted in the hall and at the entrance.

Ballot boxes were checked and registers set at zero. Keys to same were turned over to John Perreault, officer in charge.

The polls were declared closed at 8 p.m. At the close of polls the registers on the ballot boxes read 107 in Precinct 1; 112 in Precinct 2; and 141 in Precinct 3, for a total of 360 ballots cast. These totals included 5 absentee ballots in Precinct 1; 7 in Precinct 2; and 10 in Precinct 3.

After being counted the result of the balloting was announced at 8:45 p.m.

Ballots cast and not cast and check lists stored in proper containers and delivered to the town clerk.

The result of the balloting was as follows:

DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY

	Pre. 1	Pre. 2	Pre. 3	Total
SEN. IN CONGRESS				
Blank	1	0	1	2
John F. Kerry	67	64	82	213
Edward J. O'Reilly	24	26	33	83
REP. IN CONGRESS				
Blank	1	2	4	7
John W. Olver	73	66	87	226
Robert A. Feuer	18	22	25	65
COUNCILLOR				
Blank	15	19	27	61
Thomas J. Foley	77	70	89	236
Write-in	0	1	0	1

SEN. GENERAL COURT

Blank	11	15	11	37
Stephen M. Brewer	79	74	104	257
Write-ins	2	1	1	4

REP. GENERAL COURT

Blank	13	13	21	47
Robert L. Rice	78	77	95	250
Write-in	1	0	0	1

REGISTRAR PROBATE

Blank	16	21	27	64
Stephen G. Abraham	76	69	89	234

REPUBLICAN PRIMARY

SEN. CONGRESS

Blank	1	0	1	2
Jeffrey K. Beatty	14	22	23	59
Write-in	0	0	1	1

REP. CONGRESS

Blank	3	0	1	4
Nathan A. Bech	12	22	23	57
Write-in	0	0	1	1

COUNCILLOR

Blank	15	22	25	62
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SEN. GENERAL COURT

Blank	15	22	24	61
Write-in	0	0	1	1

REP. GENERAL COURT

Blank	15	22	25	62
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REGISTRAR PROBATE

Blank	15	22	25	62
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A true record attest:

Lois A. Abare, Town Clerk

RECORD OF THE SPECIAL TOWN ELECTION

SEPTEMBER 19, 2008

Met at Toy Town Elementary School at 11:30 a.m. Polls declared open at 12 noon by Acting Warden John L. Morris.

Election officers sworn and assigned to their respective stations. Eight hundred official ballots were delivered to each of the three precincts. Cards of instruction and specimen ballots were posted in the hall and at the entrance.

Ballot boxes checked and registers set at zero. Keys to same turned over to Timothy Fleck officer in charge.

Polls were declared closed at 4 p.m. At the close of polls the registers on the ballot boxes read 130 in Precinct 1; 23 in Precinct 2; and 35 in Precinct 3.

After being counted, the result of the balloting was announced at 4:20 p.m. Ballots cast and not cast sealed in proper containers and delivered to the town clerk.

The result of the balloting was as follows:

QUESTION 1: (sidewalk repair and pick-up truck)

YES: 158

NO: 252

BLANK: 2

QUESTION 2: (flashing lights at school zone)

YES: 206

NO: 202

BLANK: 4

A true record attest:

Lois A. Abare
Town Clerk

RECORD OF THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION NOVEMBER 4, 2008

Met at Toy Town Elementary School at 6 a.m. Polls were declared open at 7 a.m. by Coral M. Grout, Warden.

Election officers were sworn and assigned to their respective stations. Official ballots, 1500 in each of the three precincts, cards of instruction, and voting lists delivered to the presiding officer. Specimen ballots and cards of instruction posted in the hall and at the entrance.

Ballot boxes were checked and registers set at zero. Keys to same were turned over to Tracy Flagg, officer in charge.

Polls were declared closed at 8 p.m. At the close of polls, the registers on the ballot boxes read 1306 in Precinct 1; 1646 in Precinct 2; and 1368 in Precinct 3, for a total of 4320 ballots cast. This total was later amended to 4323 after three federal write-in ballots were counted at a meeting of the Board of Voter Registrars on November 17, 2008. There were 44 absentee ballots cast in Precinct 1; 112 in Precinct 2; and 85 in Precinct 3.

After being counted, the result of the balloting was announced at 9:20 p.m. Ballots cast and not cast and check lists sealed in proper containers and delivered to the town clerk.

The result of the balloting was as follows:

	Prec. 1	Prec. 2	Prec. 3	Total
PRESIDENT & VP				
Blank	17	12	11	40
Baldwin & Castle	8	5	4	17
Barr & Root	4	13	4	21
McCain & Palin	547	730	589	1866
McKinney & Clemente	4	3	3	10
Nader & Gonzalez	17	28	16	61
Obama & Biden	705	847	742	2294
Write-ins	4	8	2	14
SEN. IN CONGRESS				
Blank	44	43	41	131
John F. Kerry	773	883	759	2415
Jeffrey K. Beatty	424	635	501	1560
Robert J. Underwood	65	85	67	217
REP. IN CONGRESS				
Blank	72	80	74	229
John W. Olver	851	1044	856	2751
Nathan A. Bech	383	522	438	1343

COUNCILLOR

Blank	347	448	354	1152
Thomas J. Foley	959	1198	1014	3171

SEN. GENERAL COURT

Blank	272	351	275	898
Stephen M. Brewer	1034	1295	1096	3425

REP. GENERAL COURT

Blank	178	238	184	603
Robert L. Rice	839	1017	905	2761
Carolyn A. Kamuda	289	391	279	959

REGISTER OF PROBATE

Blank	359	488	385	1232
Stephen G. Abraham	947	1158	986	3091

QUESTION 1 (repeal income tax)

Blank	35	33	35	103
YES	401	547	388	1336
NO	870	1066	948	2884

QUESTION 29 (non-criminalization marijuana)

Blank	18	27	37	82
YES	907	1107	856	2870
NO	381	512	478	1371

QUESTION 3 (ban dog racing)

Blank	27	43	49	119
YES	694	900	725	2319
NO	585	703	597	1885

A true record attest:

Lois A. Abare
Town Clerk

Insert Town Account Report here
1 page

Insert Town Account Combined balanced sheet
1 page

REPORT OF THE WINCHENDON AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

The Winchendon Agricultural Commission is charged with promoting agricultural-based economic opportunities in town; acting as mediators, advocates, educators and/or negotiators on farming issues; working for the preservation of prime agricultural lands and pursuing all initiatives appropriate to creating a sustainable agricultural community. The positions are appointed by the Town Manager. The Commission consists of seven members and up to five alternates. All member positions are filled, with two alternate positions open.

The Commission re-organized as follows: Audrey LaBrie, Chair, Paul Kachinsky, Vice Chair, Alana Morlock, Secretary/Treasurer.

The highlight of the year was the very successful Toy Town Farmers' Market. The Market was held mid-May through early October, Thursdays rain or shine from 4 – 7 P.M. at the American Legion Park. A total of 16 vendor applications were received and accepted, with an average of 10 vendors selling each week. Products and services offered included produce, plants, crafts, baked goods and animal products. Some vendors signed up to accept WIC and Senior Citizen coupons. The response from the town was tremendous, with many customers coming back each week.

The Commission is working with the Planning Board on a Soil Removal By-law, intended to help preserve the valuable topsoil in our community. The Commission also reviewed the Low Impact Development By-law. The Commission hosted a meeting to discuss the benefits of Agricultural Preservation Restrictions (APR) and Conservation Restrictions (CR). Representatives of The Mount Grace Land Conservation Trust presented a slide show on the programs and answered questions.

A meeting with the Commission and Ken Forty, Assistant Principal at Murdock Middle/High School was the starting point for the formation of the MMHS Agricultural Committee. Before long, land had been made available by the Girouard family and plans made to introduce students from many grade levels to agriculture. Students will do everything from starting seed to planting and harvesting.

Three Commission Members attended the first annual Massachusetts Agricultural Commission Conference, held in Worcester, MA. Over 110 towns and communities were represented. Workshops provided information on a range of topics, and discussions were held to debate the benefits of a state-wide Agricultural Commission.

In January the Commission hosted an Agricultural Open House. People interested in agriculture stopped by for refreshments and an opportunity to speak with Commission members on any related topic. It was well received, and will likely become an annual event.

The Commission is looking forward to a great year. We meet the second Wednesday of the month, 7:00 P.M. in the 4th floor conference room at Town Hall. Please stop by and see what we're doing, and consider an appointment to the Commission as an alternate member.

We hope you will stop by the Toy Town Farmers' Market and support our local craftspeople and farmers.

Respectfully submitted,

Audrey LaBrie, Chair
Paul Kachinsky, Vice Chair
Alana Morlock, Secretary/Treasurer
Ken Girouard, Member
John McDonough, Member
Patricia Stanko, Member
Olivia Tarleton, Member
June Girouard, Alternate
Burton E. Gould, Jr., Alternate
Kathy Kachinsky, Alternate



ANIMAL CONTROL YEAR END REPORT 2008

To the Board of Selectmen and citizens of Winchendon:

For the calendar year 2008 Winchendon Animal Control reports the following:

Number of calls:	1200
Stray dogs taken in:	104
Owner-surrendered dogs:	10
Dogs returned to owner:	79
Euthanized:	1

Sadly one cat was euthanized this year when Animal Control received a call from a resident who reported a stray cat having seizures. Dogs who weren't claimed, or who were surrendered to animal control, were adopted to good homes through Ahimsa Haven and Emma's Spirit animal rescue groups.

Anne Eddy resigned as Animal Control Officer in October of this year after serving the town for seven years. She remains as a volunteer animal control officer. Sondra Magee was sworn in as the town's new ACO. Sondra was originally an Assistant ACO under Anne and comes to the town with prior experience working with animals as well as training under Anne Eddy. She also attended school for criminal justice. She looks forward to serving the citizens of Winchendon.

Winchendon Animal Control would like to remind the citizens that we're here to serve you and your animals. If you have any problems please do not hesitate to contact us.



Zoning Board of Appeals 2008 Annual Report

During fiscal year 2008 (7/1/2007–6/30/2008), the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) experienced a slight decrease in the number of applications from a total of 23 in FY 2007 to 17 in FY 2008. The applications can be categorized as follows:

	<u>Applied For</u>	<u>Granted</u>	<u>Denied</u>	<u>Withdrawn</u>
Special Permits	8	8	0	0
Special Permit Modifications	1	1	0	0
Variances	7	7	0	0
Administrative Appeals	1	1	0	0

It was extremely gratifying to note again that of all of the decisions rendered by the Board during this fiscal year, *none* of the decisions was appealed despite the fact that several of these decisions were controversial. This indicates, at least during this FY, that the Board's decisions were acceptable to all parties concerned. Consequently, none of the Board's decisions was subject to judicial review saving applicants, abutters, and particularly the Town expensive and protracted legal proceedings.

Two of the Special Permits granted were for the creation of new local town businesses; namely, used car lots. Five of the Special Permits granted were for the construction of a house or a duplex in a PD zone. One Special Permit was granted for the construction of a maintenance shed for the Winchendon Housing Authority in an R10/I zone. All seven of the Variances were granted for minor setback or frontage requirements needed to adequately and fully use the applicant's property in keeping with the spirit and intent of the zoning bylaws. The single Administrative Appeal granted clarified the definition of a "kennel" as intended by the Zoning Bylaws. The Special Permit Modification allowed the holder of a previously granted Special Permit to successfully request a minor change to one of the conditions in his Special Permit.

Membership on the Board changed slightly with the resignation of Mark Ransom during the FY. Election for Board officers was held early in the FY, with the following results: Charles Scanio, Chairperson; Robert Marshall, Vice-chair; and Mark Ransom, Clerk.

It is important for the residents of Winchendon to understand that the ZBA is a voluntary board that endeavors to grant Administrative Appeals, Special Permits, and Variances *only* when they meet the criteria delineated in the Winchendon Zoning Bylaws. The Board sincerely attempts to be responsive to the rights and needs of applicants, abutters, and the town as a whole while working within the overall framework of the Zoning Bylaws and the Town's Master Plan.

The Board encourages your attendance at our meetings, held the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month (only when hearings are scheduled) in the Town Hall Auditorium. We also encourage interested citizens to volunteer for membership on the Board. We can guarantee you interesting meetings and a vital stake in the critical role the Board plays in shaping Winchendon's future.

Respectfully submitted by the FY 2008 Board,

Charles Scanio, Chair (writer of this report) 2008; Cynthia Carvill, Reg. Member 2008
Robert Marshall, Regular Member, 2007; Mark Ransom, Reg. Member (resigned) 2009
Evelyn Higgins, Alternate Member, 2008; Alana Morlock, Alt. Member, Secretary 2008

BOARD OF ASSESSORS 2008 Annual Town Report

To the Town Manager and Board of Selectmen,

The Board of Assessors submit the following report for the twelve month period beginning July 1, 2007 and ending June 30, 2008.

Motor Vehicle Excise Taxes Committed	\$1,043,733.69
Real Estate Taxes Committed	8,833,937.74
Personal Property Taxes Committed	126,625.39
Title 5 Sewer Liens Committed	8,497.10
Sewer Betterments Committed	203,487.35
Sewer Liens Committed	70,128.61
Water Liens Committed	<u>99,237.18</u>
Total Committed for Collection	\$10,385,647.06

Real Estate Exemptions Granted:

Clause 17D Statutory	\$ 7,000.00	
Clause 22 Veterans	22,300.00	
Clause 37 Blind Persons	4,375.00	
Clause 41C Elderly	<u>17,310.23</u>	
Total Exemptions Granted	\$50,985.23	\$ 50,985.23
Real Estate Abatements Granted		8,228.37
Personal Property Abatements Granted		80.25
Motor Vehicle Abatements Granted		<u>29,064.15</u>
Total Exemptions and Abatements Granted		\$ 88,358.00

Respectfully submitted,

Linda V. Bevan

Ardythe E. Bilodeau

Maureen Cote
Board of Assessors

BOARD OF HEALTH
Annual Report
July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008

PURPOSE

The Board of Health, according to various statutes in the Massachusetts General Laws, is responsible, among other things, for inspections and enforcing the State Sanitary codes for, restaurants, retail food establishments, and minimum housing standards including the proper storage of solid waste, recreational camps, ice rinks and public lodging. The Board is also responsible for enforcement of the State Environmental codes regarding proper storage and disposal of solid waste and proper subsurface sewage disposal, i.e. Title 5

PERSONNEL

The Town of Winchendon has a five-member elected Board of Health who works along with a health agent, Steven Calichman and health inspector, James Abare. Members of the Board are elected at the annual Town election in May. Current membership with the year their term expires is:

Robert Mable (2008)
Norman Norcross (2008)
Rose Marie Jackson (2009)
Sebastian Valera (2009)
Kevin Bliss (2010)

PUBLIC HEALTH

The Board maintains a working relationship with the Board of Health Tobacco Control Alliance with emphasis on the health dangers of tobacco use and preventing youths from purchasing tobacco and related products.

The Board also continues its contractual relationship with the Gardner Visiting Nurses Association. It is through this relationship that monthly blood pressure clinics are held at Senior Citizen Housing, annual flu shots are provided, and a public health nurse holds monthly office hours at the Board of Health office in Town Hall on the second Tuesday of each month from 2PM – 3PM. The nurse also does follow up of reportable communicable diseases.

The Board has furnished educational material to the public on ways to help prevent mosquitoes from breeding on your property and ways to minimize exposure to mosquito bites in an effort to prevent West Nile virus. In the future the Board will continue our efforts to treat catch basins with an appropriate larvicide to kill developing mosquitoes.

The Board also furnished educational material to the public on preventing disease spread by ticks.

Annual Report Board of Health

July 1, 2007- June 30, 2008

	<u># COUNT</u>
Miscellaneous inspections, meetings, Public contacts	490
Other	825
Subsurface Sewage Disposal Inspections	77
Soil Testing for repairs	24
Soil Testing for new lots	36
Reviewed and approved Septic System plans	42
Restaurant Inspections	115
Housing Inspections	33
Trash complaints	47
Environmental Samplings	0
Public Swimming Pool Inspections	1
Recreational Camp for Children Inspections	1
Beaver Complaints	4
<hr/>	
<i>total</i>	1695
<hr/>	

Total Departmental Payments to Treasurer	\$50,930.00
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INSERT COLLECTOR/TREASURER'S REPORT FROM EXCEL

Annual Report FY 2008

Winchendon Community Action Committee, Inc.

The Winchendon CAC Inc. is a Human Service Agency dedicated to helping families and individuals in crisis and the economically disadvantaged families in need of emergency services. Its purpose is: to provide a means for the community to examine and act on problems of poverty, to assess community needs, initiate programs to meet those needs, and to coordinate with area agencies and local government to provide appropriate services which may include advocacy and referral, emergency assistance, Medical Transportation, Food, counseling and educational programs.

Community Service Building

Many Social Service Agencies are accessible to town residents through the CAC. Those agencies, groups and individuals sharing space at the Community Service Building include:

Mount Wachusett Community College - GED, Pre GED, and Adult Basic Ed
(Classes are held Monday – Friday 9-12:30)

Independant Psychologists Inc. - Individual and family counseling services
After school Children's Counseling services
Anger Management Counseling and
S.O. Counseling

New England Farm Workers - Fuel Assistance
(Application intake by appointment only)

Battered Women's Resources - Counseling and Support Groups for Battered
Women (By appointment only)

The Salvation Army - Good Neighbor Program and Emergency Vouchers
(Monday – Friday 8:30 – 12:30)

Legal Assistance - Legal Services (By appointment only)

Mass Rehab. – Individual Counseling (By appointment only)

Community Education, Organization and Outreach

One Baby-sitter Course is offered, for ages 10 and up this popular program with receiving certificates. Many of these young people are employed by local residents who called in for baby-sitters.

Youth Services

Applications were given out and 100 children attended Bonnie Brae summer day camp. These children were able to enjoy 2 weeks of fun and recreation. The United Way provided funding for transportation and each child received breakfast, snack, lunch, swimming recreation and arts & crafts for a \$3.00 registration fee.

Holiday Programs

Thanksgiving Baskets were given out to 103 families which included 645 individuals. The food was provided by Worcester County Food Bank, IGA, Hannaford, Market Basket, wonderful individuals, school children, and generous donations.

Christmas dinner baskets were provided to 89 families that included 535 individuals. Funding for the holiday food came from private donations and The Worcester County Food Bank.

The Telegram and Gazette Santa Program provided gifts for 96 families that included 212 children. These gifts were given to parents to put under the tree and 4 families were helped through our Adopt-A-Family Program.

Mittens, scarves, slippers as well as hats were collected from donations by Winchendon residents and distributed to all children who came to pick up their gifts from Santa. Many more were also distributed to schools, bus drivers and safety guards.

Housing

FEMA funding of \$6817 helped prevent eviction for 7 local families (\$3,715.00). \$1,234 was used to help 6 local families with utilities and \$325 for hotel/motel services. Referrals were made to RCAP Solutions to help additional families with Rent and Mortgage payments.

Emergency Services

One of the CAC's primary purposes is to help meet the emergency needs of their clients. Crisis situations need immediate response. The Robinson-Broadhurst Emergency Fund, and The Salvation Army fund meet these needs. The Veterans also did a collection and donated \$402.00 to our emergency fund. Great job everyone!

FEMA funds of \$1,543.00 were allotted for food from the Worcester County Food Bank. Project Bread donated \$1,500.00 and Huhtala Oil donated \$1,300.00 also used to purchase food. USDA monthly donations and food pantry requests went to 1,537. Families served from our pantry for 2008 included 2,273 children, 3,142 adults and 493 elderly residents, totaling 5,908 clients.

Over 9,000 lbs. of food were donated through the US Postal Service community collection. The Schools, Boy Scouts, Brownie troops, Churches, Businesses and Day Cares also donated large quantities of food. A big thank you to all who helped keep our pantry full this year. Wonderful volunteers see that our clients receive bread and pastry from Hannafords, local farms and stores. These volunteers haul the food and prepare it for the clients. Much time and work goes into this program and thanks go to Peter Saloom of Saloom's Furniture who donates a truck and drivers Ray Vaillancourt, Arthur Plante, Bill and Nancy Langille and John Separdson and others.

Clothing comes in faster than we can sort it. All donations that are not used here are given to the Salvation Army. Many volunteers help sort and hang the clothing. Without their help this could not be accomplished.

Furniture donations came in from individuals and are given directly to the families in need.

Robinson-Broadhurst Foundation

This year we were most grateful to receive another grant from the Robinson-Broadhurst Foundation to provide funds to keep our now full time van driver. Carol Flinckstrom has been most faithful and much appreciated had to leave us in mid-season and we are grateful that John Shepardson came in to keep our medical transportation going .

Due to a few of the bikers motorcycle accidents, they were unable to put on their run to raise money for our fuel but they did send us a check for \$300. Thank you very much and we wish them well on their recovery.

Our Neighbor's Kitchen

The last Thursday of each month will find about 80 - 100 people enjoying a meal at "Our Neighbor's Kitchen" located at the Church of the Unity. Faithful volunteers prepare and serve a free meal to all who are hungry. EFSP funds of \$773 and donations make this possible. Members of the Lions Club, youth from Winchendon School, local Veterans, the Girl Scouts and church members serve and clean up.

Medical Transportation

Transportation is the direct service most requested. Many elderly and low-income families and individuals rely on the CAC totally for their medical and Social Service transportation. Transportation is provided to doctors, hospitals, and clinics as well as to Social Service agencies including the Welfare Office and the Social Security Office. We have also added transportation to work places on a temporary basis.

Elderly Clients	415	Medical Apts.	1238
Non - Elderly	688	Work	1
Handicapped	184	Education	58

Total Client trips 1287 Total One Way Trips 2574 Days used 238

CAC Office

Medical Transportation continues to be a top issue and much time and dedication goes into this position. Due to funding from the Robinson-Broadhurst Foundation we were able to hire our van driver full time. This has been a real asset. Carol Flinckstrom is dedicated to our clients and it is great to be able to pay her for the many hours she puts in. Thank you Carol! We are still looking for a volunteer back -up driver.

Patricia Flinckstrom continues on as our morning receptionist. Her position is paid for through Catholic Charities as an Experience Works employee. We also have Mary Guy hired through the same program. They are both invaluable and much appreciated. Many wonderful and most faithful Board Members and volunteers work in the afternoons. Those volunteers include Regina Duval, Penny Lee, Linda Rivard and Ruth Dube.

Respectfully submitted,
Martha L. Trepanier,
Director, WCAC

Board of Directors 2007-08

President: Mr. Rudolf Arlig

Secretary Treasurer: Mrs. Linda Robinson

Mark Eden, Jack Williams, Ray Vaillancourt, John Separdson

Town Representative vacant, MOC Representative Mark Edern

Honorary Board Members

Town Manager Mr. James Kreidler

TOWN REPORT CAC MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION 2007-8									
Qtr.	Eld	N.Eld	Lift	Total	Medical	S.S.	Ed.	Runs	Days
1 st	116	184	42	342	562	14		573	63
2 nd	63	183	46	292	431	16	48	495	65
3 rd	105	151	42	298	465	28	17	536	64
4 th	131	170	54	355	480			612	63
FY 07-08	415	688	184	1287	1938	58	65	2219	255

2007-8 ANNUAL TOWN REPORT – WORCESTER COUNTY FOOD BANK					
Characteristics of People Served					
	1st Qtr.	2nd Qtr.	3rd Qtr.	4th Qtr.	Total 07-08
Households	161	465	539	558	1723
People	1443	1412	1478	1514	5847
Child	560	600	537	576	2273
Adult	760	756	799	827	3142
Elder	123	117	142	111	493
Male	714	731	740	741	2926
Female	729	742	738	773	2982
Afro-American	26	55	53	48	182
Asian	11	6	6	0	23
Latino	92	72	59	105	328
White	1310	1336	1357	1358	5361
New	657	124	91	121	993
Bags	1599	1457	2156	2232	7444

CONSERVATION COMMISSION FISCAL YEAR 2008 REPORT JULY 1, 2007 TO JUNE 30, 2008

The Winchendon Conservation Commission is a seven-member board responsible for the local administration and enforcement of the Massachusetts Wetland Protection Act (MGL, Chapter 131, Section 40). In Fiscal Year 2008, the Conservation Commission also assumed the same responsibilities for the Town of Winchendon Wetlands Protection Bylaw approved by voters at the 2007 Annual Town Meeting. The Town of Winchendon Wetlands Protection Bylaw includes some stronger provisions over and above those found in the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act, primarily in the form of greater no-build and no-disturb setbacks from wetland resource areas.

Generally, the Conservation Commission's regulatory authority is triggered when alteration or construction is proposed in a wetland or floodplain, within 100 feet of a wetland, or within 200 feet of a river, stream or brook that flows year round. Under the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act and Town of Winchendon Wetlands Protection Bylaw, the Commission is required to issue decisions that provide for the following eight interests:

- Protection of public and private water supply.
- Protection of groundwater supply.
- Flood control.
- Prevention of storm damage.
- Prevention of pollution.
- Protection of land containing shellfish.
- Protection of fisheries.
- Protection of wildlife habitat.

Regulation under the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act and Town of Winchendon Wetlands Protection Bylaw entails reviewing plans, wetland and floodplain maps, and research, prior to issuing final Determinations of Applicability or Orders of Conditions that adequately protect the environment and the public interest. The state Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) provides policy guidance, administrative oversight, and training and technical assistance. DEP also issues final rulings on appeals of Conservation Commission decisions. The Commission would like to stress that cooperation, communication, and proper filing procedure are key to the successful review and evaluation of proposed activities under the Commission's jurisdiction; most construction activities can be altered slightly or conditioned to protect the above eight wetland interests. Any questions that you might have or any proposed or observed activities that might impact the wetlands of floodplains should be brought to the attention of the Commission or its Conservation Agent.

The Winchendon Conservation Commission currently consists of five very environmentally concerned citizens, led by Chairman Scott Burns, and is currently in need of two additional members to fill vacancies on the seven-member board. The Commission encourages any member of the public who is concerned with protecting the Town's precious wetlands and floodplains, and who would like to learn more about serving on the Conservation Commission, to contact the Town Manager or the Commission. The public

is also welcome to attend any of the regularly scheduled meetings held on the fourth Thursday evening of every month. Each member of the Commission is also a member of the Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions, (MACC) and attends the MACC annual meeting held in Worcester. The meeting provides for many varied training sessions related to the Wetland Protection Act and other related environmental issues.

The Commission has the professional assistance of Conservation Agent David Koonce and Recording Secretary Patty Driscoll. Mr. Koonce assumed the Agent position in April, 2008 after the previous Agent Bob Maki was appointed Conservation Agent for the Town of Westminster. The Commission is very grateful to Mr. Maki for his many years of fine service to the Town of Winchendon. The Conservation Agent can be contacted at the Town Hall on Monday mornings 9 am – noon and Thursday afternoons 3 pm – 6pm.

In Fiscal Year 2008, the Commission held 12 monthly meetings. Field trips were conducted incident to the meetings. Applicants submitting Notices of Intent were issued Orders of Conditions. Requests for Determinations of Applicability were generally approved if submitted plans indicated the proper mitigation to adequately protect the wetlands during construction. The Commission had a busy fiscal year, issuing 27 Orders of Conditions for projects including, but by no means limited to, construction of new single family homes and driveways, septic system repairs and upgrades, and new subdivision roads. Ten (10) Determinations of Applicability were processed, and also issued were two (2) Enforcement Orders and several Certificates of Compliance.

We also wish to extend an invitation to anyone who is interested in obtaining more information on the subject of wetlands, and how they are protected, to contact any member of the Conservation Commission or the Conservation Agent.

Respectfully Submitted,

David Koonce, Conservation Agent
Scott Burns, Chairman
Patty Driscoll, Recording Secretary

Winchendon Council on Aging Annual Town Report

The Council on Aging has had a busy 2008. Beginning with our Grand Opening in October, 2008, our offices are now fully operational at 52 Murdock Avenue. Lunches are being served daily and the Center is busy.

The Council on Aging expanded their services by adding more transportation to medical facilities in Worcester and surrounding towns.

The Council on Aging, with our employment efforts, was fortunate to attract new and enthusiastic people. Without the staff and volunteers – Betty Raymond, Sally McKinney and Jim Stephenson – we could not have held the activities that we do at the Senior Center without their continued assistance.

The Council on Aging Nutrition Program, staffed by Mary Lou Johnson and David Tavares, served over sixteen thousand meals for the past fiscal year. Nine thousand of these were home delivered meals. When broken down, this number turns into 66.6 meals per day. Our Thanksgiving special lunch drew approximately 120 people; our Christmas special brought in close to 100 diners. Our weekly bingo has drawn a regular crowd of twenty seniors.

During the past fiscal year, Council on Aging Van Driver Sharon Dickens and MART Driver Paula Waugh were able to dispatch and transport over sixteen hundred elders to doctor's appointments, meal sites, shopping and recreational trips, for a total of over eight thousand miles driven this year. We finish the year with an excellent driving record.

The Council on Aging continues to offer blood pressure checks daily with clinics held twice a month, sponsored by the Gardner Visiting Nurse's Association.

The COA was very active and busy with special trips and programs such as:

Caregivers; Dealing with Alzheimer's Medication Management	Painting classes, line dancing, belly dancing, yoga, quilting, BINGO, cards, pool, shuffleboard games, Valentine's, Halloween and Christmas celebrations.
Identify Theft Prevention, Senior Health Fair	Birthday and holiday celebrations, coffee hour and a chicken barbeque
Medicare Part D, SHINE, Flu Clinic, Fuel Assistance and Food Stamps	Chinese Cooking Demonstration, Summer Picnic at Lake Dennison

We especially want to thank all the volunteers again who work in the kitchen daily or at the many functions we host.

We are proud to serve the Senior Citizens of Winchendon.

Respectfully submitted, Sheila Symonowicz, Director, Winchendon Council on Aging

REPORT OF THE WINCHENDON CULTURAL COUNCIL

To the Citizens and Taxpayers of Winchendon, Greetings:

This year, the Council welcomed new member Ruth Anderson. Members Julia White Cardinal and Jackie Flynn could not accept re-appointment due to Cultural Council term limits.

The following is the annual report of the Winchendon Cultural Council (WCC) reports financial activity for Fiscal Year 2008.

This year, the Council received a total of 32 applications from both local and non-local organizations, including local schools and individuals. These applications, taken all together, were seeking \$17, 373.00. Four applications came in under the PASS program, for student admission to museums or performances, and the rest were Local Cultural Council applications. Winchendon's local Council was again awarded \$4,580.00 by the Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC). This money was re-granted under the MCC regulations.

FY07 grants:

Beals Memorial Library for Museum of Fine Arts Pass	\$175
Beals Memorial Library for Museum of Science Pass	300
Beals Library for Week of the Young Child Animal Program	200
Clark Summer Solstice for Musical Program	500
Friends of the Library Birds Richard Clark	200
Friends of the Library, The Art of Pastels program	150
Dorothy Hayden for Poetic Refrains at Broadview	200
Memorial School for PASS grant to Plimoth Plantation trip	700
Second Grade	
Memorial School M. Wachusett Theater	450
Murdock Middle High School MFA, Boston trip	128
Toy Town Elementary School for Theatre Works	300
Winchendon Council on Aging John Root musical program	300
Unitarian Universalist Church Trio Concert	200
Winchendon Golden Age Club Program	150
Winchendon Historical Society for Historic Field Trip	300
Winchendon Parks & Recreation Comm. for summer concert	<u>500</u>
Total	\$4,753

We continue to make use of MCC's On-line Office for management of the WCC activities. All of our reports to MCC are filed electronically. Members of the Winchendon Council have taken advantage of on-line training opportunities. All members have now completed this training.

We would like to thank the many local volunteers and organizations who work to put on programs and events, thereby contributing to the cultural life of our community. A notable example is the Winchendon Historical Society's bus trip for third graders. This event utilizes the talents and expertise of the Society's members to focus attention on our town's heritage. Many other events such as those sponsored by the Clark and the Winchendon Parks and Recreation Comm. are successful because local residents attend them, and bringing along their children. We are grateful for that support. It helps to make our work worthwhile.

Ruth Anderson was elected Chairperson for the coming year. Coral Grout was elected treasurer. Julia White Cardinal has volunteered to continue to serve as secretary.

Respectfully submitted,

The Winchendon Cultural Council

Veronica Gomez, Chair	(2008)
Theresa Hillman, Treasurer	(2009)
Nancy Romanowski	(2009)
Donna Stram	(2009)
Coral May Grout	(2009)
Ruth Anderson	(2010)

WINCHENDON FINANCE COMMITTEE

2007-2008 Annual Report

The Winchendon Finance Committee is pleased to present our 2007-2008 annual report.

Finance Committee meetings are held at the Town Hall Robinson-Broadhurst Conference room the second Tuesday of each month. The Finance Committee began 2008 with seven members: Ulysse Maillet as Chairman, Jeanne Hue as Vice Chairperson, Beth Hunt, Jim Hunt, Cindy Leroy, Kevin Miller and Dave Romanowski. In June 2007 Ulysse and Jeanne were re-elected as chairperson and vice-chairperson respectively. Dave Romanowski resigned in December 2007 for personal reasons and Jim Hunt resigned in March 2008 for work reasons. In May 2008 Beth Hunt resigned to join the Board of Selectman. Jackson Blair joined the committee in April 2008. Debra Dennis was the Finance Committee Secretary and did an excellent job documenting committee meetings this year.

The Finance Committee continued to investigate the development of a five year financial plan for Winchendon. As part of this effort, representatives from the Finance Committee, Board of Selectmen and the Town Manager met with the Arlington Town Manager in July 2007. Arlington has developed and operates according to an integrated five year financial plan. This has eased financial planning and operations because residents and town departments know what to expect from year-to-year according to the plan and the plan represents a complete view of town finances. We expect to continue work towards establishing a similar multi-year planning approach for Winchendon in 2008-2009.

July 2007 also included a joint meeting with the Board of Selectmen. The purpose of this meeting was to consider and vote on year-end transfers.

September, October and November 2007 were focused on financial matters related to the special town meeting in November 2007. The primary topic for this town meeting was funding for school transportation. Activities included a joint meeting with the Board of Selectmen and the School Committee to discuss warrant articles for the November 2007 special town meeting.

Several Finance Committee members attended the Massachusetts Municipal Association Annual meeting in January 2008. MMA workshops provide valuable information and training on municipal financial matters and facilitated networking with fiscal officials and volunteers from across the state.

In February 2008, we started reviews of the School Department and Municipal budgets in leading up to the annual town meeting in May. The entire town budget this year was balanced but not without much work and some noticeable impacts, particularly on the municipal budget side.

Considerable attention was paid to the Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School (Monty Tech) line item in the town budget. The Monty Tech Superintendent and Business Manager had met with the committee in September 2007 to review the Monty Tech budget

line-by-line. We recommended at annual town meeting that the Monty Tech budget line be rejected to attempt to get Monty Tech to further tighten their budget and to commensurate with the reduction that local towns such as Winchendon have made. Town Meeting voted to pay the line item as assessed. The Finance Committee will continue to work on this issue in 2008-2009.

The other item receiving considerable discussion was options for the town transfer station. The Town Manager proposed several approaches for reducing expenses associated with the transfer station. In the end, arrangements were made to keep the transfer station open while a committee was established to further investigate and refine options. We expect the results of this work to be evident in 2008-2009.

The Finance Committee approved the following transfers throughout the year

- \$8,298.93 - \$6,666.01 and \$2,218.77 for unemployment expenses
- \$3,600.00 for Town Hall emergency generator repairs
- \$1,710.00 for Fire Dept. Dispatch equipment repairs

The Finance Committee members look forward to continuing our service to the residents of Winchendon in 2008-2009. We expect it to be a challenging year and we encourage residents to become active in the governing of their town.

Respectfully submitted,

Ulysse Maillet, Chairman
Winchendon Finance Committee

Winchendon Fire Department Town Report 2008

**I am pleased to submit the following Annual Report
Chief Allen J. Lafrennie**

Mission Statement

“To minimize loss in the community by providing the best possible fire, emergency, and medical services with the highest possible level of training for the safety of the personnel with the best possible equipment at the level of funding provided by the community”.

Department Statistics:

From Jan.1, 2008-December 31, 2008, the Department responded to 1475 requests for services as shown below:

SITUATION TYPE	QTY	SITUATION TYPE	QTY
111 Building fire	6	522 Water or steam leak	6
113 Cooking fires	4	531 Smoke or odor removal	11
114 Chimney fire	13	550 Public service assist	20
116 Burner/Boiler problem	1	551 Assist Police	15
118 Trash or rubbish fire	3	553 Public service	36
132 Road freight Fire	1	554 Assist invalid	21
142 Brush/grass fire	13	561 Unauthorized burning	52
300 EMS (ALS) call	496	571 Cover assignment/standby	36
311 EMS (BLS) call	350	600 Good intent call	27
322 Motor vehicle accident	52	611 Canceled en route	18
323 MV/Pedestrian	1	622 No incident found	11
324 MVA no injuries	26	651 Odor of smoke	32
361 Swimming area rescue	1	700 False alarm or false call	3
381 Mutual aid ambulance	15	710 Malicious false call	4
411 Gasoline/flammables	4	721 Bomb scare	2
413 Oil or other combustible	4	730 System malfunction	9
424 Carbon monoxide incident	12	733 Smoke detector activation	6
440 Electrical wiring	4	735 Alarm system malfunction	14
444 Power line down	7	736 CO detector malfunction	6
445 Arching electrical	18	740 Unintentional transmission	15
462 Aircraft standby	2	743 Smoke detector no fire	11
481 Attempt to burn	1	744 Detector activation	5
500 Service call	19	745 Alarm system no fire	14
510 Person in distress	25	800 Severe weather	1
511 Lockout	11	813 Wind storm	1
520 Water problem	7	814 Lightning strike, no fire	3

Permits:

Brush burning permits	227
Blasting	4
Smoke detectors	92
Oil burner	68
L.P. gas	32
Fire reports	4
Fire safety inspections	3
Cannons	2
Tank removal	<u>3</u>
Total	435

Revenue Collected \$ 8,415.00

Fire Losses

Fire losses for 2008 amounted to \$ 9,300.00, a major reduction from the fire loss experienced in 2007 of \$387,700.00.

Personnel:

The Department has maintained a somewhat reduced roster of on-call members in the past year but continues to recruit and add qualified personnel in an ongoing effort to maintain adequate numbers of firefighters. The tremendous amount of time required for training, testing and responding to emergency calls creates difficulties for a lot of people in today's fast pace world. Our current members find the time needed and remain dedicated to helping their fellow citizens. I respect them for their commitment and readiness to leave their families at any time of the day, regardless of the weather or situation. Anyone meeting the requirements and interested in becoming a call firefighter need only to apply at the fire station. We're always looking for a few good men and women.

Department Equipment

The following chart illustrates the state of the department's fire equipment. I have included a column on funding source so that you may understand how lucky we have been to benefit from the Robinson Broadhurst Foundation. That, too, is changing as many additional charitable organizations are applying each year for funding from this limited source. As a result, the Fire Department has seen a decrease in funds available for our needs.

Description	Year	Funding/Donation Source	Condition	Life Expectancy
Engine 2	2002 Ford E-1	R/B *	Good	2012
Engine 3	1996 E-1	R/B *	Good	2021
Engine 4	1991 Central States	R/B *	Good	2016
Ladder 1	1984 E-1	Taxation	Good	2012
Forestry 5	1985 Chevrolet	DEM **	Poor	2009

	Pickup				
Forestry 6	1969 Mack1500 gal	DEM **	Good	2012	
Truck 6	1998 Ford F250	HSG Auth.	Good	2012	
	Pickup				
Truck 7	1983 Chevy. Bucket	School Dept.	Poor	2009	
	Trk.				
Car 1	2007 Ford Expedition	R/B *		2015	
			Excellent		
Car 2	2000 Ford Explorer	R/B *	Good	2012	

* R/B = Robinson Broadhurst Foundation Grant

** DEM = Department of Environmental Management Surplus Equipment Program



A lot of our motorized equipment is in need of replacement as several pieces are in poor condition and others are fast approaching the end of their service life. The Town has not had to raise funds for fire equipment for many years and I believe that the time has come where it will be necessary to fund several new pieces of major equipment in order for us to maintain the level of service the Town has come to expect.

Building Needs: The current state of the fire station is generally good. The citizens voted the necessary funds to repair the leaking roof on the living and administrative area of the building in 2007. The roof had been leaking for quite some time and had reached the point of needing to be replaced. The building was erected in 1978 and has served the town proudly for the past thirty years. The Public Safety/Works Building Needs Study Committee continues to meet and discuss the future building needs. The committee is looking to address the future needs of the Police, Fire and Public Works Departments for many years to come.

Service Delivery: The Winchendon Fire Department is a full-service department delivering emergency medical, fire suppression, hazardous materials, technical rescue, fire investigation, public safety education, fire prevention and specialized community services. The department welcomes any feedback from citizens as to how well we are delivering those services and any suggestions for improvement. Residents and others are welcome to visit the station or contact the Chief of the Department at any time.

Emergency Medical Services

Statistics: In calendar year 2008, the Winchendon Ambulance Service responded to and transported nine hundred and sixteen (916) requests for medical assistance. Ambulance receipts for the year were \$ 339,466.17

Personnel:

Craig Ashmore/EMT	Maurice Bateman/EMT	Corey Bohan/EMT
Martin Brooks/EMT-I	Dan Brown/EMT	William
Brown/EMT		
Monique Connor/EMT	Thomas Connor/EMT	Brian
Croteau/EMT		
Lea Dennette/EMT	Mark Fleming/EMT-P	Randy
Girouard/EMT-P		
Danielle Hart EMT	Thomas Heuer/EMT-P	Allen
Lafrennie/EMT		
Stephen Lafrennie/EMT	Michael March/EMT	Michael
Mullen/EMT-P		
Rick Peters/EMT-P	Ricci Ruschioni/EMT	Robert Soucy/EMT
Gerald Valliere/EMT-I		

Equipment:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Funding Source</u>	<u>Condition</u>	<u>Replacement Year</u>
Ambulance 1	2005	Robinson-Broadhurst	Good	2013
Ambulance 2	2000	Robinson-Broadhurst	Fair	2010

General Information

Contact Information:

The Fire Station is located at 405 Central Street Winchendon, MA 01475
Phone: 978-297-2323
Email: wfd39c1@aol.com

Special Thanks To:

The Department wishes to thank all who donate to the department either by gifts or services to help offset the cost to the town and improve the safety of the firefighters. The support from the community makes the job that much easier for all of us. The cakes, cookies and candies say thank you in a big way. In addition, I would like to thank the other town departments for their high level of cooperation and professionalism in assisting us in delivering emergency services. Special thanks to the Police Department, the DPW and the Emergency Communication Center for their assistance.

Respectfully submitted,
Chief Allen J. Lafrennie

WINCHENDON HOUSING AUTHORITY ANNUAL REPORT FY08

The Winchendon Housing Authority hereby presents its Annual Report for our fiscal year ending September 30, 2008.

The Winchendon Housing Authority was formed in 1962 thru M.G.L. 121B and is a quasi-governmental agency. Funding for our programs comes directly from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

At the annual meeting of the Board of Commissioners that was held in May 2008 the election of officers was held and as follows:

<u>Slate of Officers</u>	<u>Name of Officer</u>	<u>Term of Office</u>
Chairperson	Malcolm Sibley	May, 2009
Vice-Chairperson	Burton Gould	April, 2010
Treasurer	Jacquelyn Flynn	May, 2012
Asst.-Treasurer	Frank Cosentino	May, 2013
Secretary	Fredrick Hardy	May, 2011
Secretary ex-Officio	David P. Connor	Executive Director

The Board of Commissioners meet between the Ipswich Drive Community Building, Hyde Park Community Building or Pearl Drive Community Building on the 2nd Tuesday of each Month at **1pm** and the Annual Election of Officers is held in May of each year. Public posting of each meeting and its location is at the Town Hall and Ipswich Drive office for anyone wanting to attend our public Board meetings.

The Executive Director is the Chief Executive Officer of the Authority and is responsible for the daily operation and serves as the Contracting and Purchasing Officer.

The Winchendon Housing Authority's office is located at **108 Ipswich Drive** in Winchendon and is open to the public between the hours of **8 AM** and **4 PM** Monday through Friday. The staff at the housing authority at the end of fiscal year 2008 is as follows,

WHA Staff:

Ms. Michelle Sweeney
Housing Administrator

Mr. Rocky Flint
Hyde Park Maintenance
Mechanic/HQS Inspector

Ms. Cyndee LaFreniere
Financial/ Procurement
Coordinator

Mr. Dean Strait
Pearl Drive Maintenance Mechanic

Ms. Linda Tenney
Tenant Coordinator

Mr. Michael Field
Ipswich/ 14-16 Ready Drive
Maintenance Mechanic

Ms. Linda Bond

Mr. Marc LeBlanc

Groundskeeper

Scattered Site/ 1-12 Ready Drive
Maintenance Mech. / Oil Burner
Technician

Housing Mission Statement:

To provide Decent, Safe and Sanitary housing that is in good repair within Winchendon and surrounding communities. Also assist with the rents of eligible families, elderly and handicapped people living in private rental housing.

Federal Housing:

There is a total of 131 units of public housing breaking down as follows, 80 units of conventional 1 bedroom Elderly housing at Ipswich Drive, 34 units of conventional 1-2-3 - 4 bedroom Family housing at Pearl Drive, 17 units of conventional scattered site 1,2,3,4 bedroom Elderly and Family housing throughout the community. The Housing Authority has a waiting list for all applicants that meet the income requirements for Federal Housing

We also have 35 Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers program that is used to help extremely low and very low-income people keep or find apartments within the private housing market. This type of assistance is becoming more popular for people that want to keep living in a neighborhood environment and help landlords get the fair market rents (FMR) for that area the apartment is located. Of the 35 vouchers there are 17 of them participating in our FSS program. This program allows each resident an opportunity to save money and use it to help them transition from rental assistance. In this program the WHA has been designated as a **HIGH PERFORMER** for our impressive administration oversight of this program.

There is a waiting list for all of our federal housing units. Please if you are interested in applying for housing you should apply early.

Federal Modernization:

We have 1 active program of federal modernization:

Capital Fund FY 2008:

We were awarded \$183,810 in September 2008. These funds will be used to complete the following work items.

Ipswich Drive
Sidewalk Upgrade
Roofing Upgrade
Bond Payment 504 Upgrade

Scattered Sites
Siding upgrade at our Oak
Street Garage

Pearl Drive
New Stoves
Bond Payment 504 Upgrade

Over the past 8 years the Winchendon Housing Authority has been designated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development a **HIGH PERFORMER** in both

the Public Housing and Section 8 Program. This is a great time for the WHA and with the highest designation from HUD allows us to operate our programs with greater flexibility.

State Housing:

There are a total of 119 units of public housing breaking down as follows, 77 units of conventional 1 bedroom Elderly/ Handicap housing at Hyde Park Drive. 10 units of Congregate 1 bedroom Elderly/ Handicap housing at Ready Drive, There is 12 units of conventional 2 - 3 bedroom Family housing at Ready Drive. 12 units of conventional scattered site Family housing units within Winchendon and 8 units of Physical and Mentally Handicapped housing of which the Winchendon Housing Authority has contracted the department of Mental Health to manage these units for us. Again we have a waiting list for these units and people need to fill out an application.

The congregate housing units have openings and are available for housing at this time. If you meet the eligibility requirements set by the selection committee the Housing Authority will be able to house you immediately. Anyone interested in a tour of the congregate units please call the office at 978-297-2280.

We also have 7 Mass Rental Voucher Program (MRVP) vouchers that are used to assist people in the private sector housing market find and keep their apartments. All vouchers are tenant based and are used within the Winchendon area. These stay with each tenant until they request removal or the voucher subsidy ends.

State Modernization:

The WHA received from the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) funds in the amount of \$350,000 for New Fire Alarm and Emergency Lighting at Hyde Park Drive. This work will be starting in the summer of 2009 and will be completed within 30 weeks. Over the past 8 years the WHA has received over 2.45 million dollars in state modernization funding for Hyde Park Drive. This is a great achievement of the efforts by the Local Board of Commissioners, our State Representative and State Senator working together for the benefit of our residents at Hyde Park Drive.

Anyone interested in applying for Housing and that meet the eligibility requirements for any of our units please feel free to come see us at 108 Ipswich Drive or call us at (978) 297-2280 or via email at wha@net1plus.com we will be happy to answer any of your questions or help assist you in any of your housing needs.

I would like to thank the people of Winchendon for supporting and allowing the Winchendon Housing Authority the opportunity to supply decent, safe and sanitary housing that is in good repair located in Winchendon and the surrounding communities.

Respectfully Submitted:

David P. Connor

Executive Director/ Secretary Ex-Officio

ANNUAL REPORT LAND USE DEPARTMENT

July 1, 2007-June 30,2008

Building Department

PURPOSE OF PERMIT	NO. OF PERMITS
New Dwelling Units	23
Foundation	
Only	6
Additions/Alterations	117
Garage	
Additions	16
Deck Addition/Repairs	11
Sheds	8
Roofs	30
Swimming	
Pools	10
Demolitions	9
Signs	5
Safety Inspections	25
Wood Stoves	10
Pellet Stove	25
	295

WIRING INSPECTOR

The wiring inspector issued a total of 180 *wire* permits during FY08.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Marshall, Wiring Inspector

SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

The sealer of weights and measures sealed 97 scales and adjusted 10 during FY08.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven Slocum, Sealer of Weights and Measures

PLUMBING/GAS INSPECTOR

The Plumbing/Gas inspector issued a total of 74 *plumbing* permits during FY08.

The Plumbing/Gas inspector issued a total of 47 *gas* permits during FY08.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald Desmarais Plumbing & Gas Inspector

The **Land Use Department** issued a total of 596 permits, FY08

with a total of \$ 81,328.34 in fees collected.

Respectfully submitted, Paul Blanchard Building Commissioner

BEALS MEMORIAL LIBRARY ANNUAL REPORT 2008

TO THE CITIZENS OF WINCHENDON:

Ongoing Activities

During 2008, the Beals Memorial Library continued to serve Winchendon residents of all ages, as a resource for information, educational, and recreational materials. These were provided from collections in a variety of formats: books, periodicals, compact discs, videocassettes, audiocassettes, (also known as books on tape), CD ROMs, and of course, wonderful, and ever-popular picture books for the enchantment of young readers. This year, we have continued our efforts to increase our collections of DVDs (Digital Video Discs) and books on CD.

Circulation for FY 2008 totaled 32,254, of which there were 7,073, video items, and 1,384 audio items, and 22,705 were books. Miscellaneous items, such as magazines, made up the balance.

Saturday hours continue to be offered from Labor Day until Memorial Day, and continue to be popular with library users. Regular Library Hours were expanded to meet the minimum hours open requirement under the Minimum Standards for Free Public Library Service. Now that Winchendon's population exceeds 10,000 people, our requirement has increased to 40 hours per week, Memorial Day until Labor Day. (We were previously open 39 hours per week.) Current library hours are Mondays through Thursdays from 1-8, Fridays from 9 to 5, and Saturdays 9-1. The library is closed on Saturdays between Memorial Day and Labor Day, and on legal holidays.

Our 2008 Summer Reading Program, "Wild Reads @ your library," was offered with materials supplied by the Massachusetts Regional Library Systems, and with some support of the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners. We are grateful for local support from the Friends of the Library, and Winchendon's Subway Sandwich Shop. A total of 165 children participated. Staff Members Linda Bredberg and Melissa Thayer organized a series of story/craft programs. Patti Stanko accepted the invitation to make a presentation on plants.

The Library continued to offer Friday morning Preschoolers' Story Hours for children ages 3-5, presented by Melissa Thayer. We also tried repeating the programs on selected Wednesday afternoons. Several 6-8 week series of Toddler Times, for children ages 3 and under, were presented primarily by Julia White Cardinal.

Again, with the cooperation of the administration, PTO, and the First Grade teachers of Memorial School, seven classes were afforded the opportunity to register for library cards, and use them to check out a book. The Library hosted all Memorial School second grade classes for a fall program about the library's services. Mrs. Cardinal was invited to participate in Read Across America Day at Memorial School.

During part of the year, Bob Till continued to work at the Library under the Senior Work-off program. Bob helped with general clean up, yard work, and maintenance of the DVD and CD collections. During the fall, we had help from Senior Work-off program participant Lorraine Homon who helped primarily with collection maintenance. We also had help from volunteers Lisa Beauvais, Tina Belletete, and Megan Thayer.

Winchendon's public library continues to participate in the state-funded Central Massachusetts Regional Library System, of which Winchendon is a member. Through this system, our library is provided with the delivery and return of Inter-Library Loan materials. In all, 1,609 items were received from other libraries, and 2,072 items were loaned out. In addition, the Regional Library System provides for networking with other libraries, consulting services, professional development workshops, and access to some on-line databases. The Regional Library System also assists us by delivering Mass. state income tax forms to us, for distribution to the public. The Mass. Dept. of Revenue is no longer distributing these forms via post offices.

Again this year, the Library took advantage of the Internal Revenue Service distribution program to make available to the public a supply of common federal tax forms.

Winchendon again qualified for Library Incentive Grants totaling \$16,952. This is a direct benefit of our Library's compliance with the Minimum Standards for Free Public Library Service, and filing the required documents with the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners. This money forms a large portion of the Library budget for new materials. Over-due fine money represents about 10% of our book budget. This year, the fine on overdue library books was increased from 5 cents per day to 10 cents per day.

During portions of this year, the Library offered the following museum discount coupons: the Museum of Fine Arts, The Ecotarium in Worcester, the Museum of Science, and the New England Aquarium. The later two are supported in part by grants from the Massachusetts Cultural Council, as supported locally by the Winchendon Cultural Council. This year, we were also able to offer a free parking pass good at most Massachusetts State Parks. This pass was provided by the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation. With the cooperation of the Winchendon Parks and Recreation Commission, we were able to make available to local patrons a second free parking pass.

Our library continues to participate in the C/W MARS (Central/Western Machine Automated Resource Sharing) network for bibliographic information, and access to other electronic databases, many of which are now available on-line for access from home or office, in addition to in-library use. These databases provide users with high quality information, and many full-text articles from peer-reviewed journals, and major Massachusetts newspapers. For more information on accessing these high-quality resources, please visit the library for a brochure. The library can also help with free access to e-books, and downloads of audio-books.

The Library continues to provide access to computers, and the Internet to an average of 75 people per week, a 15 % increase over the prior year.

Notable for 2008

In the Spring, we learned, with sadness, of the passing of Philip C. Beals of Southboro, Massachsettes. As the grandson of the donor (Charles Beals), Mr. Beals made occasional visits to our library, participated in major celebrations, and generally expressed great interest and support.

We were also saddened to learn, in December, that Lylli Holman had died in Huntsville, TX. Mrs. Holman had served as Winchendon's librarian for 21, retiring in 1977.

It was necessary to have minor repairs made to the roof on two separate occasions, due to leaking which we observed. The library's roof is now more than 20 years old, and the time will soon be coming for major repairs. It was also necessary to have minor, but urgent repairs made to the heating system return piping in the basement.

Through the generosity of the Robinson-Broadhurst Foundation, we were able to get the exterior woodwork painted, as well as the ceiling of the Reference Room, and interior walls in the upstairs meeting room, and 2 walls of Memorial Hall, along with the back stairway.

Also through the generosity of the Robinson-Broadhurst Foundation, we were able to acquire a digital scanning microfilm reader and computer, along with a computer. In process at this writing is the microfilming of *The Winchendon Courier* from 1989 through 2008. We wish to thank Editor Ruth Deamicis for her cooperation in this effort. We are also grateful to members of the Friends for carefully preparing the newspapers for shipment to the microfilming company.

The photocopier was replaced with a new model, purchased on the state contract.

The Beals Memorial Library building was dedicated in September, 1913, so it was time to celebrate the 95th anniversary. The Library Trustees, acting in concert with the Friends of the Library, scheduled an array of programs to mark the great event. To kick off the celebration, the Friends sponsored Wolfwalk, given by Michael LeBlanc from Gardner, along with a live wolf. The program was a great hit with the audience.

In November, the Library Trustees held a birthday party for the library, complete with Magician Eddy Raymond, and refreshments. Representative Robert Rice and Senator Stephen Brewer brought official congratulations from the Great and General Court. The Friends of the Library sponsored the event.

The Friends sponsored a Kids Make a Gift program for the holidays. We were pleased to learn that one young participant sent off the tree he had made to his father, who was then serving in Iraq. With support from the Winchendon Cultural Council, the Friends of the Library presented Richard Clark as Mark Twain in the Spring. This program was held in the Town Hall Auditorium.

In addition, the Friends sponsored the acquisition of a pair of wooden rocking horse cutouts. They were painted and installed by a loyal member of the Friends.

The biggest news of the year came in August from the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners (MBLC). We received official notification that Winchendon's library has

been awarded a provisional grant award in the amount of \$3,310,544 under the public library construction program. The MBLC is also making available an additional 5% if the building can gain LEED Certification as a green building. Good though this news is, the grant award represents only about one-third the projected cost, and we can only qualify for that money by undertaking the entire renovation and addition project. In addition, our cost estimates need updating, and our schematic design requires some revision, as the building codes have changed slightly, and the MBLC's review committee has requested some alterations. The contemplated renovated and expanded library facility would be in compliance with current codes and requirements, and provide handicapped access, a sprinkler system, air conditioning, a separate children's room, a local history and genealogy room, accessible rest rooms, space for computers, an accessible meeting room, and a parking lot. The building would be sized to meet the community's needs for the coming 20 years.

Most unfortunately, newspapers currently indicate, day by day, that this is a difficult time to mount a capital campaign, to approach major donors, and to ask foundations for grants. At this writing, the Board of Library Trustees and the Library Improvement Committee are still deciding upon the best course to take.

Winchendon's library trustees voted to participate in the Gates Foundation Opportunity Online Hardware Grant, a two year program which will bring 4 new computers to Winchendon's library. The grants were offered to communities with a high concentration of people living in poverty, and to libraries owning computer hardware vulnerable to becoming obsolete. Local libraries must agree to provide a funding match over the two-year term of the program, participate in an American Library Association Internet and Public Funding Survey, and participate in *Turning the Page*, a Foundation-supported advocacy symposium. The total amount awarded over two years amounts to \$5200, and the total local match, over two years, is \$3,900. In September, Library Director Julia Cardinal and Library Trustee Joan Potvin attended the required two-day symposium sponsored by the Foundation, aimed at helping local libraries advocate for technology funding.

The Friends continue to accept donations of used books, and to offer book sales in the basement. Proceeds help support children's reading programs as well as educational and informational programs for the entire community.

In cooperation with the Winchendon Partnership for Young Children, the Library presented the Animal Adventures for the Week of the Young Child. This program was partially funded by a grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Council, as administered locally by the Winchendon Cultural Council. We obtained the use of Town Hall for the animal show, so everyone could come.

Board News

Correction: The Trustees and library director regret that last year's Annual Report incorrectly listed Mr. Geoffrey Weaver as having served two three-year terms on the Board of Library Trustees. In fact, Mr. Weaver served from 1997 to 2007.

Mrs. Joan Liberti-Potvin joined the Board in early 2008. At this writing, there is one vacancy on the Board, as well as two vacancies on the Library Improvement Committee.

As always, the Board of Trustees has many people to thank for another successful year. The Board wishes to acknowledge the dedication and hard work of the entire library staff: Julia White Cardinal, Kathleen McRae, Linda Bredberg, Melissa Thayer and Custodian Keith Bussiere. We wish to thank the Friends of the Library for their on-going support and involvement. We are also grateful to the individuals who have made cash contributions this year, and to the many volunteers and friends who have donated time, books, magazines, and miscellaneous materials.

Respectfully submitted,

The Board of Library Trustees

Suzanne Rader, Chair, (June 2009)
Cindy Darcy (June 2010)
Ronald Robillard (June 2011)
Ron Muse (June 2010)
Joan Potvin (June 2011)
vacancy

Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School

Annual Report – 2008

The Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School District committee presents this report to the Citizens of the District. The Committee consists of twenty-two members – four from Fitchburg, represented by LeRoy Clark, Mark Louney, Robert Campbell and Brian Walker, two from Gardner, represented by Helen Lepkowski and Alice Anderson and one from each of the communities of Ashburnham – represented by Diane Swenson, Ashby – represented by Warren Landry, Athol – represented by Toni L. Phillips, Barre – represented by John Scott, Harvard – Vacancy, Holden – represented by Nancy Anderson, Hubbardston – represented by Jacqueline B. Kaminski, Lunenburg – represented by Barbara Reynolds, Princeton – represented by John Mollica, Royalston – represented by Mary C. Barclay, Sterling – represented by Dr. Kenneth I.H. Williams, Templeton – represented by James M. Gilbert, Westminster – represented by Jeff Schutt and Winchendon – represented by Burton E. Gould, Jr.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Numerous challenges were faced during the development of the fiscal year 2008-2009 budget, including the rising costs of energy, healthcare and an aging infrastructure and the need to update and modernize our technology and vocational technical offerings.

Considerable effort was put forth by the School Committee, administration and staff to develop a cost-effective budget. The final fiscal year 2008-2009 Educational Plan totaled \$22,388,670.

The District was audited in August 2008 as part of the yearly financial audit by the accounting firm of Melanson, Heath and Company from Greenfield, MA and an “excellent” report is anticipated.

STUDENT BODY

Monty Tech’s October 1, 2008 enrollment included 1,341 students in grades nine through twelve. Students are represented from every community in the district, as follows: Ashburnham (44), Ashby (38), Athol (124), Barre (36), Fitchburg (391), Gardner (163), Harvard (2), Holden (56), Hubbardston (47), Lunenburg (64), Petersham (5), Phillipston (18), Princeton (17), Royalston (16), Sterling (46), Templeton (70), Westminster (54), and Winchendon (135).

The Guidance Department/Admissions Department received 714 applications for admission in September 2008. Of these, 660 were for the available ninth grade openings. Due to the retention rate of our upper classes, we were only able to admit 25 students to the tenth and eleventh grades.

Monty Tech continued to offer a variety of opportunities for students, parents and community members to learn about and visit the school. In October, over seventeen hundred district eighth graders participated in tour Days. Students toured many of our twenty vocational/technical areas and learned about the challenging academic offerings and

exciting athletic and extracurricular programs. This Open House, as well as last spring's Open House, was attended by an estimated one thousand individuals per event, comprised of students, parents and community members from throughout the district.

The Vocational Interest Program (V.I.P.) continued to attract large numbers of seventh and eighth grade students during the 2007-2008 school year. Due to the high enrollment, a third five-week session was implemented. Participants had opportunities to attend hands-on after school sessions in a variety of vocational/technical areas. A satisfaction survey rated this program 4.8 out of 5. The 2007-2008 enrollment is the highest ever at 598 seventh and eighth graders. The survey also indicates that 487/510 students surveyed intended to or have applied to Monty Tech.

In June 2008, the class of 2008 graduated 303 seniors. These graduates received diplomas and technical certificates. Approximately 95% of the graduates planned to continue their education at the post-secondary level or employment, while another 5% planned to enter military service.

The Scholarship Committee awarded approximately \$21,000 in scholarships to members of the Class of 2008. In addition, they awarded \$6,000 to the practical nursing graduates. Once again, local (Business Education Enrichment Fund) and state organizations, as well as generous individuals, continue to recognize the ability and potential of Monty Tech graduates in the form of generous donations. The School Committee, administration, faculty, and graduates themselves are grateful for this support.

The Tech Prep Articulation Agreements with local colleges continued to play an important role in helping our graduates enter college through credits earned at Monty Tech. Approximately 62% of our graduates entered a two or four year college. This number continues to grow over the years.

ACHIEVEMENT

Based on tenth grade MCAS scores, Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School continued to see an improvement during the 2007-2008 school year in student achievement in both English/Language Arts and Mathematics. In the spring of 2007, Monty Tech's passing rate on the mathematics portion of the test climbed from 95% to 98%, while the percentage of students scoring in the proficient and advanced categories in math jumped from 62% to 79%. The school's passing rate on the English portion of the test also climbed from 98% to 100%, while the students scoring in proficient and advance categories in English went from 65% to 73%. Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School was cited as a top ten state performer for increases in proficient and advanced categories.

Hard work by a competent staff and the student body continues to result in improved student achievement.

SKILLS USA

Skills USA is a national organization, in partnership with business and industry, that prepares students for the world through opportunities that develop jobs, teamwork, leadership and professional skills through education, training and competition.

Highlights of the year included:

- A total of 37 medals were captured at the District Level
- A total of 35 medals were won at the State Level
- Based on our performance at the State Event, 18 Monty Tech students qualified to participate at the National Event
- Monty Tech's performance at nationals included a Silver Medal in Total Quality Management (TQM), Cosmetology (over 500 hours- 4th place, Nail Care – 4th place, Computer Maintenance – 5th place, Cosmetology (under 500 hours) – 6th place and Cabinetmaking – 16th place.

WOMEN IN TECHNOLOGY

During the 2007-2008 school year students from Drafting Technology and Information Technology completed the sixth year of the Women in Technology Program, locally known as Project WATCH) Women Achieving Technical Career Heights. A Projects Presentation is held at the end of the year to showcase the students' work for company executives, school personnel and families and friends.

CURRICULUM

In addition to the house building projects, the vocational-technical programs continue to provide communities in the Monty tech District with a range of services as a component of the curricula. The projects listed below are a sampling of services accepted during the 2007-2008 school year.

Auto Body/Collision Repair

Templeton Police Department – Refinish rear bumper on cruiser and replace tail lamp, painted a cruiser.

Sterling – repaired push bar on cruiser

Phillipston – refinished bottom of cruiser

Automotive Technology

Ashby Highway Department – 4 wheel brake job

Cabinetmaking

Handicap kitchen cabinets for Leominster CTE's Habitat for Humanity house building project (a partnership because Leominster does not have a Cabinetmaking Program)

Cosmetology

Gardner Elderly Housing – free hair services and manicures

Cabinetmaking, House Carpentry, Electrical, Masonry and Plumbing

Gardner – in partnership with the Greater Gardner CDC, built a single-family home to be sold to first-time homebuyers

Gardner CDC – renovated the first floor of 246 Central Street, to be the new offices and home of the Greater Gardner CDC

Fitchburg – in partnership with the Montachusett Enterprise Center, built a single-family home to be sold to first-time homebuyers

Winchendon Housing Authority – built an addition to the maintenance building. Built eight sheds

Dental Assisting

Fitchburg Community Health Center – students assisted the dental hygienists in placing dental sealants on children

Drafting Technology

Fitchburg – Made K-9 Unit Letters for the cruiser

Graphic Communications

Fitchburg – made brochure and letterhead for Habitat for Humanity

Health Occupations

Monty Tech – held two blood drives

Industrial Technology

Phillipston – build a covered staircase for the rear entrance of the police station

North Central Mass. Chamber of Commerce –built shed for storage of mower and snow blowers

Masonry

Westminster –renovated the Crocker Pond Bath House

Gardner – installed new granite posts and sign for the Helen Mae Sauter and Waterford Street Schools

Winchendon Housing Authority – repaired concrete walkways

SPECIAL SERVICES

During the 2007-2008 school year, the Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School District provided special education services to over two hundred students. In September 2008, the Student Support Services Department is working with approximately two hundred thirteen students.

The federal special education law, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), was reauthorized in December of 2004 and came fully into effect on July 1, 2005. In August 2006, the U.S. Department of Education released new Regulations for Part B of IDEA, which went into effect October 13, 2006. The 2004 Amendments to IDEA expand upon the 1997 reauthorization and include new requirements. The reauthorized act continues to emphasize the role of parents and expands opportunities for parents, general educators and special educators to work together in partnerships that support student learning and the success of students in adult life.

The Student Support Services Department at Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School provides support to all students. We have two full-time nurses, who administer medications, perform state mandated health screening exams and provide, when necessary, health information to the TEAM for a student's IEP meeting. We employ a full time school social worker that is able to participate on TEAM's and assist students who have needs concerning finances, family issues homelessness, maternity, health issues, and proper food and clothing. Our students have access to the services of a full time

adjustment counselor and part time school psychologist. Both of these individuals are available for scheduling counseling sessions and mental health emergency treatment as well as crisis intervention. We do have on staff a full time psychologist whose role it is to evaluate all students referred to an initial evaluation or who require a three-year re-evaluation. IN addition, we have a full time speech pathologist that is available to service students with disabilities, assess these students and consult the teachers within the building.

The Special Education Department at Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School District is reviewed annually in May, in accordance with regulator requirements. The results of this evaluation are used to improve the special education procedures and programs at Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School District. The Parent Advisory Council participates in this review and evaluation.

The Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School District adheres to federal and state laws regarding confidentiality of personally identifiable student information.

STUDENT AFFAIRS AND ATHLETICS

The Monty Tech Athletic Program was again very successful in the 2007-2008 school year. Our numbers keep increasing every day. We had 15 teams compete in the fall of 2007, 12 in the winter of 07-08 and 8 last spring.

Last fall, the Varsity Football team finished at 2 – 9. The JV Football team was 6 – 4 and Freshman Football team 2 – 6. The Varsity Boys Soccer team finished 10 – 3 – 5 and qualified for the Central Mass Tournament, where they were beat by Nipmuc Regional 5 – 3. The JV Boys Soccer team was 8 – 4 – 3. The Golf Team’s record was 0 – 12. We had four JV Golf Tournaments at the Red Farm Golf Course in Upton in an attempt to improve our program. The Field Hockey team was 4 – 12 – 2, under first year coach, Nancy LeBlanc, who filled in for Dee Gevrekakis, who had her first child, Christopher, in October. The Monty Tech Faculty held the annual Teachers vs. Student Field Hockey game to raise money for a scholarship, which was very successful. The Boys Cross Country team was 2 – 12, and the Girls Cross Country team was 4 – 5. The Girls Volleyball team had a 7 – 13 record. The JV Girls Volleyball team was 2 – 16, and the Freshmen Girls team was 2 – 4, as they continue to improve. The JV Girls Soccer team finished at 14 – 1 – 2, with most of the girls moving up this fall, our girls program looks very promising. The Varsity Cheerleaders participated in the CAL Championships, held at Blackstone Valley Tech in October.

The winter season was very exciting. The Girls Varsity Basketball team qualified for the District tournament with a 19 – 1 record and won the Colonial Athletic League Championship again. In the State Vocational Tournament, they beat Tri-County 50 – 37 and lost to Lynn Tech 56 – 45 in the championship game. They beat Blackstone Valley Tech in the District Tournament 52 – 33 before losing to Whitinsville Christian 60 – 52. They finished the entire season at 21 – 3. The Varsity Boys Basketball team finished at 14 – 6 in the regular season to qualify for the District Tournament. They also qualified for the State Vocational Tournament, where they lost to Shawsheen Valley Tech 43 – 41 in a very exciting game. In the District Tournament, they beat St. Mary’s 67 – 48, before losing to South Lancaster Academy 76 – 53. They tied for the Colonial Athletic League title, with a 12 – 2 league record, the first title since 1994. The JV Boys Basketball team was 6 – 14

and played with a lot of desire and pride. The Freshmen Boys were 7 – 6 and showed vast improvement over the year. The JV Girls were 10 – 7. The Freshmen Girls were 2 – 11, as they prepared to move up to the JV Program this year. The Wrestling team was 2 – 9 in dual meets and participated in many tournaments. We ran a Co-op Ice Hockey team, which did very well again, as they participated in the District Tournament, losing in the semi-finals. The JV Ice Hockey team played very well, as the younger players look to improve their skills. We participated in a Co-op Swim team with Leominster and had 6 girls and 2 boys complete the season. We look forward to this venture again this year.

In the spring, the Varsity Softball team again gave Monty Tech a lot to be proud of, as they won the State Vocational Tournament for the third time, beating Whittier Tech 10 – 23 and Shawsheen Tech 7 – 7, scoring four runs in the bottom of the 7th for the win. They finished 21 – 3 and won the Colonial Athletic League Championship for the fourth year in a row and the nineteenth time in 23 years. They beat Nashoba Tech 15 – 3 in the Central Mass. Tournament, before falling to Narragansett 10 – 4. Coach Reid is only eight wins away from 500 in his coaching career at Monty Tech. The JV Softball team was 6 – 12. The Boys Volleyball team was 7 – 13. The Varsity Baseball team finished at 2 – 18. The JV Baseball team was 5 – 7 – 1, and the Freshmen Baseball team was 1 – 7. The Boys Track & Field team was 7 – 3, while the Girls Track & Field team was 9 – 1, and won the Colonial Athletic League championship.

The Outstanding Male and Female athletes for 2007 - 2008 were:

Male – Eric Gallotto

Female – Madeline Merchant

David Reid, Athletic Director, was selected as the District E – Athletic Director of the Year for 2008-2009. This is the second time he has won this award. He will be honored at the annual conference in March at the Cape. He has been with Monty Tech since 1973 as a teacher, retiring at the end of the 2006-2007 school year. He began his Athletic Director's job in 1978 and continues to serve Monty Tech in this position.

TECHNOLOGY

The demand for technology support continues to grow as technology changes and as teachers and staff become aware of the resources available to them. The Technology Office supports computer labs in both the trade and academic areas in addition to individual computers in classrooms and administrative offices.

The demand for information has also increased, both at the state level and school level. The Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education Student Information Management System (SIMS) reporting has been in place for many years. For the first time, in October 2007, schools were required to transmit staff data to the state as part of the Education Personnel Information Management System (EPIMS) reporting. At the school level, data drive decisions are reflected in improved student achievement.

In the spring of 2008, the school converted to the x2 Aspen student information system. The x2 system has excellent querying and exporting capabilities, which has improved the Technology Office's ability to provide timely information. The x2 system includes a "family portal" which allows guardian access to student attendance, conduct, and grade information.

Network performance continues to be a challenge. The replacement of “cat 3” wiring in some areas of the building is still a need. The continued support of the School Committee and administration is appreciated as the Technology Office strives to provide vital support to students and staff.

GRANTS AND CONTRACTS

Monty Tech continues to pursue grant funding on an annual basis. For fiscal year 2008, state and federal grant sources provided the school with \$840,112. Programs funded by these grants include Improving Teacher Quality, Enhanced Education through Technology, Special Education Allocation, Special Education Assistance and Mentoring, Special Education Program Improvement, Title V, Title I, Drug Free Schools, Occupational Education – Vocational Skills, Safe Schools and Summer Academic Support. With a \$40,000 state competitive grant, Monty Tech provided students in the Health Occupations Program with current EMT training.

CONCLUDING STATEMENT

The School Committee and administration is justly proud of the staff and students of the Monty tech District and their accomplishments. Monty Tech will continue to work with the business community, local educational institutions, higher education and its vocational technical counterparts across the Commonwealth to develop common sense plans and responses to the educational challenges we face.

Monty Tech’s School Committee, administration and staff look forward to continued growth, and we are committed to providing the best possible educational opportunities for workforce development within the District, and to that end, respectfully invites and encourages the continued support of town officials, parents and citizens in each of its member communities.

Thank you for your support.

Respectfully Submitted,
James R. Culkeen, Superintendent-Director
Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School

WINCHENDON PARKS AND RECREATION 2008 ANNUAL REPORT

The Winchendon Parks and Recreation consists of four adult members and one student member and we have an appropriation of \$ 3400.00. With this appropriation, we try to offer a variety of community and family-oriented activities, which we hope will enrich the lives of the members of this community.

During the past year we have sponsored our "Friday Night in the Park" concert series consisting of seven weeks of entertainment for the entire community in the summer of 2008. These concerts are very popular and well attended. During the fall, we hold our annual scarecrow making/painting event, bringing many families together. In December, we invite the community to our Christmas Tree Lighting Event and Parade. Family attendance grows each year for this event.

During the spring, we sponsor some very popular events. The first event hosted by the Parks and Recreation, is our annual Easter Egg Hunt, with an attendance of approximately 200 children in 2007 and over 275 children in 2008. Our second event is our Town-Wide Earth Day Clean-Up. This event grows yearly and brings many community members and groups together for the clean-up.

We would like to thank everyone who has helped us during the past year and all the people who attended our events.

We will continue efforts to entertain and enrich our fellow citizens, and it is our hope that during the next coming year, we hope to see even more people attend the events.

Diana Ringer
Joyce Thompson
Joe Ladeau
Noel Veilleux
Sarah McKellick – student member

Department of Planning and Development

2008 Report

The Department of Planning and Development serves as the town's chief planning and development office. The department provides staff to the Zoning Board of Appeals, Planning Board, the Winchendon Redevelopment Authority, Council on Aging and the Toy Town Partnership; administers the Community Development Block Grant and other grant programs; assists businesses with financial and regulatory issues; prepares and updates municipal planning documents; and administers assorted development activities. We work closely with the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission (MRPC) in areas of Community, Economic Development, Planning, GIS, environmental assessments, and traffic studies. Annual reports of the Zoning Board of Appeals, Planning Board, and Redevelopment Authority appear separately.

Planning and Development Staff include; the Planning Agent, Grants Administrator and the Financial Manager. The positions of Director and Administrative Assistant have been eliminated due to budget constraints.

The department administers the town's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) activities. The CDBG program is a critical source of funding for municipal and community development. CDBG funds also underwrite the major portion of the department's operating costs. Since 1985 the town has sought, received and invested \$4.7 million in CDBG grants to correct housing code violations in existing homes and make them safe and affordable for approximately 329 local residents. These funds have also been used to upgrade some of the Town's neediest road surfaces as well as the underground utilities. CDBG funds have also been used to contract with non-profit agencies to provide "First Time Homebuyer's Seminars" to some of the Town's low-to-moderate income families and to develop "Affordable Housing" which is then sold to Low-to-Moderate income families. This creation of Affordable Housing also benefits the Town as it counts towards the Subsidized Housing Inventory.

The Town was last awarded \$1 million as a result of the FY 06 CDBG application for Mechanic Street and Locust Street repairs as well as the elevator for the Old Murdock High School Building. The department provided technical assistance to the Council on Aging and procured a qualified architect to produce a feasibility study and subsequent design work for the Senior Center at the Old Murdock facility. The department was also awarded an additional \$5,000 Community Facilities Grant for the Old Murdock facility from USDA-Rural Development.

The department applied for a CDBG grant of \$900,000 to rehabilitate Academy Street and to rehabilitate the homes of up to ten low and moderate income families. Upgrades to the Town's business district has an been on-going effort and continues to be one of the focal points of community development

The department works directly with the Planning Board in regards to the revision of bylaws and initiation of new bylaws in an effort to best manage and direct town growth.

The Commonwealth Capital Application was submitted and received a score of 106. This score placed Winchendon within the top six communities in Massachusetts! Commonwealth Capital endorses planning and zoning measures that are consistent with the Commonwealth's Sustainable Development Principles and encourages municipalities to implement these measures by using state funding as an incentive. This policy encourages communities to site and build homes and businesses in ways that conserve energy and natural resources. Municipalities that plan for future growth and utilize the innovative land use techniques that the Commonwealth Capital Policy encourages will be doing their part to ensure that the interests of future generations are not compromised by today's development decisions.

The department also prepares and distributes marketing materials and fact sheets for businesses, and functions as the first point of contact for current and prospective businesses seeking financial or permitting assistance to expand or relocate in Winchendon.

A current street map was also completed and will be made available to the public. Office facilities were upgraded by the addition of a large format copier and printer which was made possible by Robinson Broadhurst. This has increased our abilities to serve the public while saving outsourcing expenses. The Department also assisted MRPC with the mapping portion of the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan for the Town of Winchendon.

The Department continues to assist the Toy Town Partnership with technical support for the Converse Garden Restoration Plan. While the department has secured over \$6,500 in the past, we continue to seek grants through agencies such as USDA-Rural Development to augment existing Robinson Broadhurst Grants in this venture.

Since the year 2000 the department has managed over \$5 million in grant funds for municipal purposes; prepared and proposed major zoning reforms; pursued new economic development in our downtown and industrial areas; and the expansion of new parks and recreation facilities to enhance our quality of living. This record of accomplishment was only possible due to the faithful and professional work of our department staff and in particular the work of numerous town volunteers. We offer them our thanks and appreciation.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen DeCoteau, Gerald White, Anne Marie Blake

Report of the Planning Board for 2008

MEMBERSHIP: John White and Guy C. Corbosiero served throughout the year. Robert O'Keefe joined the board in January and Mark Shaughnessy joined in November. Russell Gaulin indicated his intention to resign but his formal resignation came in 2009. Mark Shea continued as our associate member but was not required to participate in any special permit hearings during the year. At the annual reorganization Mr. White was reelected chair and Mr. Corbosiero was elected vice chairman.

MEETINGS: The board held sixteen meetings during the year. Some were omitted for lack of business or because of holidays. Most meetings were carried on cable TV. Several executive sessions were held to consider matters concerning pending litigation.

APPOINTMENTS: Mr. White continued on the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission and the town Capital Planning Committee. These are Board appointments.

TRAINING: Most of the board and staff members attended the spring training conference in Worcester which was conducted by the Citizen Planner Training Collaborative. Several also attended the spring meeting of the Mass. Association of Planning and Appeals Boards in Leicester. The Board has always urged members to take advantage of the various training opportunities available and all have at various times. Members are also supplied with copies of the *Planning Commissioners' Journal* to help them keep up with current trends.

PLANNING STAFF: Ellen DeCoteau is Planning Agent and Alana Morlock was administrative assistant until her position was eliminated by budget cuts. The planning board chair has spent a few hours most weeks in the planning office to meet with citizens who had planning questions and discuss pending matters.

APPROVAL NOT REQUIRED PLANS: Only six ANR plans were submitted in 2008. None provided new lots for residential development. This is a very great change from previous years and reflects the housing downturn. Several were submitted by the Redevelopment Authority to make provision for new commercial development.

SUBDIVISIONS: One subdivision was pending at the beginning of the year: Tarbell Heights located off School Street. After numerous hearings an acceptable plan was received and it was approved on December 2. The plan for Old Centre Estates off Old County and Cummings Roads was slightly modified at the request of the developer The Joslin Estates, proposal was reheard under court order with the same action as previously: disapproval. The matter continues in active litigation.

SITE PLAN APPROVALS: The board received and ultimately approved a site plan for a small used car dealership on Main Street. An extension of development time was granted to Mathieu Ford for its new location on Gardner Road because of the poor

economic conditions. Approval of a plan by McDonald's to slightly enlarge their restaurant was waived as it will have no significant impact.

MISCELLANEOUS ACTIONS: After hearing, the Board approved creation of a reduced frontage lot on Benjamin Street. It reviewed and recommended against exercising town first refusal rights to properties on Baldwinville Road and on Kemp Street. It reviewed a situation at a former gravel pit on Mains Street and one at a proposed fireworks store mostly in Rindge but that would have been partly in Winchendon. An application to the Board of Appeals for renewal of a special permit for gravel removal was reviewed and concerns expressed to that Board. Also a couple of would be developers presented concept plans for informal review. These were not further heard from during the year.

ZONING AMENDMENTS: The board presented several zoning amendments at the annual town meeting and all were approved. Some involved revisions of the zoning map so that it more closely conforms with existing uses and others reduced the size of the planned development district. We appreciate of the vote of confidence given our board by the voters in approving the amendments as we recommended, with little or no debate and with strong affirmative votes.

A citizen submitted zoning amendments too late to properly receive the required public hearing before the 2008 annual town meeting. A hearing was held in June and the Board voted not to recommend the amendments. It was expected these would be considered at a fall town meeting but none was held. The petitioner has been told the amendments must be resubmitted since our board must hold its hearing not more than six months before the town meeting.

OTHER PLANNING WORK: In January the Board approved revised site plan regulations. The regulations are now in conformity with the current zoning bylaw and are more comprehensive than the older regulations. Similarly, the Board also adopted new updated regulations for the conduct of its business. In order to enhance the revenue the board receives, the board's fee schedule was again updated.

The Planning Agent again prepared and submitted an application for the town's qualification under the Commonwealth Capital program. This makes it easier for the Town to receive certain grants. The town's rating improved from last year indicating the Town is following smart growth principles.

GENERAL COMMENTS: To further our efforts to prevent the improper disposal of stormwater, we appointed a subcommittee to draft a general bylaw requiring low impact development as a means to see that stormwater is returned to the soil nearly where it falls. The subcommittee drafted such a bylaw and suggested Board regulations to implement it. We had expected to submit these to a fall town meeting but since none was held, they will be presented to the 2009 annual town meeting.

The town manager and the Winchendon Redevelopment Authority with the assistance of grants administrator Gerald White have worked to provide access to the

proposed commercial area off Route 140 opposite Brian's Place that was zoned as such in 2006 . We anticipate a proposal for an access road and businesses in 2009.

A revision of the 2001 Master Plan is still on the Board's to-do list. We foresee mostly an extension of the proposals made in the present plan rather than any change in direction..

The board is very appreciative of the support and assistance of Ms. Ellen DeCoteau, planning agent; Ms. Alana Morlock, former administrative assistant; David Partridge, P. E. from Tighe and Bond, engineering consultant for the board; building commissioner Paul Blanchard; health agent Steve Calichman; and the other town boards and officials that have assisted in the work of the board.

Respectfully submitted,
John H. White, Chairman



THE WINCHENDON POLICE DEPARTMENT AND EMERGENCY DISPATCH CENTER ANNUAL REPORT

I, hereby, submit the Annual Report of the Winchendon Police Department for the year ending December 31, 2008:

OFFENSES FOR YEAR 2008

Kidnapping	2
Rape	2
Lewdness, Open and Gross	4
Indecent A&B on Child under 14	9
Indecent A&B on Child over 14	3
Robbery, Armed	2
Robbery, Unarmed	2
A&B	38
Assault to Murder	1
A&B with a Dangerous Weapon	27
Assault with a Dangerous Weapon	16
Assault with a Dangerous Weapon +60	1
Assault	5
A&B on a Police Officer	4
A&B on +60/Disabled with Injury	1
A&B Domestic	58
Domestic Assault	4
Resisting Arrest	3
Witness Intimidate	8
Bomb Threat, False	2
Telephone Calls, Annoying/Obscene	15
Threat to Commit a Crime	11
Arson of Dwelling House	1
Burglary, Unarmed	3
B&E Building Nighttime for Felony	39
B&E for Misdemeanor	14
Larceny from Building	13
Larceny over \$250	80
Larceny under \$250	62
Larceny by Check +\$250	6
Larceny by Check -\$250	4
Shoplifting by Asportation	5
Shoplifting by Concealing Merchandise	6
B&E Building Daytime for Felony	37
Larceny of Firearm	1

Drug, Larceny of	2
Motor Vehicle, Larceny of	15
B&E Vehicle/Boat Nighttime for Felony	10
B&E Vehicle/Boat Nighttime for Misdemeanor	9
B&E Vehicle/Boat Daytime for Felony	4
Use MV without Authority	3
Utter False Check	2
Credit Card Fraud Under \$250	4
Credit Card Larceny of	5
Credit Card Fraud Over \$250	3
Identity Fraud	8
MV, Receive Stolen	3
Receive Stolen Property +\$250	20
Receive Stolen Property -\$250	2
Glass in Building Break	7
Vandalize Property	55
Tagging Property	21
Destruction of Property +\$250	26
Destruction of Property -\$250	27
MV, Malicious Damage to	22
Drug, Possession/Distribution/Trafficking	43
Firearm without FID/LTC Card Possess/Carry	8
Accost/Annoy Person of Opposite Sex	5
Disorderly Conduct	29
Disturbing the Peace	14
Indecent Exposure	6
OUI Drugs	2
OUI Liquor	17
OUI Liquor 2nd Offense	5
Protective Custody	58
Liquor, Person Under 21 Posses	11
MV in, Possess Open Container	3
Child In Need of Service	5
Trespass	18
Juvenile Runaway	8
Abuse Prevention Order, Violate	21
Criminal Harassment	14
Animal, Cruelty to	3
Fugitive from Justice	4
Arrest Based on a Warrant	88
Sex Offender Fail to Register	4
Marked Lanes Violation	6
Unlicensed Operation of MV	27
Speeding	20
Inspection/Sticker, No	21

License Suspended/Revoked Violations	62
Registration Suspended, Op MV	35
Leave the Scene of Accident	14
Negligent Operation of MV	23
Reckless Operation of MV	8
Stop for Police, Fail	3
Uninsured/ Unregistered MV	47

ACCIDENTS FOR YEAR 2008

Fatal	2
Non-fatal injury-Incapacitating	3
Non-fatal injury-non-incapacitating	47
Non fatal injury-possible	32
No injury	418
Unknown	4
School Bus	6

VEHICLE CITATIONS ISSUED FOR YEAR 2008

Civil Complaints	549
Criminal Complaints	199
Arrests (Traffic)	79
Warnings	636

RECEIPTS TURNED OVER TO TOWN TREASURER FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008

Pistol Permits/FID Cards	3,125.00
Insurance Reports	1,667.12
Special Agency	101,314.16
10% Town Overhead	5,642.18
Police Equipment Donation	750.00

GRANTS FOR THE YEAR 2008

Community Policing Grant	25,908.12
GHSB	8,400.00
SETB	5,000.00
E-911	21,173.00
Plus Equipment	13,186.15

EMERGENCY DISPATCH CENTER

Answered Calls for Service	9,823
Total E9-1-1 Calls Answered	2,072

Respectfully Submitted,
Scott M. Livingston

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

ANNUAL REPORT MICHAEL P. MURPHY, SR. PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

Geary Priest
Charles Higgins
George LaBarge
Ryan Scoville
Mel Antinarella
Patrick Mullins

Working Foreman, Highway Department
Working Foreman, Highway Department
Working Foreman Cemetery/Parks Department
Chief Operator W.W.T.P.
Chief Mechanic Fleet Maintenance Department
Working Foreman Solid Waste Facility

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

The Winchendon Public Works Department improved several town roads again this year with monies from the State Transportation bond issue, which provides for 100% reimbursement of the costs for projects on state aid primary and local town roads.

The following roads were improved by asphalt reclamation and resurfaced with type I bituminous concrete.

1. Grove Street from Central Street to School Street.
2. Mechanic Street from Grove Street to Mill Street.
3. Maple Street from Central Street to Woodlawn Street
4. Hale Street from Baldwinville Road to Loral Street
5. Front Street from Spring Street to School Street

Drainage repairs were completed before construction. All manholes and catch basins were rebuilt and adjusted. Driveway aprons were cut back and paved to match the new road surface. Loam and seed was placed on all disturbed areas. New sidewalks were constructed on Maple Street from Central Street to Woodlawn Street

The Highway Department graded all town owned and private roads several times, painted all cross walks, placed new regulatory and street signs throughout town, swept streets and sidewalks from winter sand, patched potholes, cleaned 680 catch basins and drop inlets, cut and chipped brush from several town roads, removed several dead or dying trees throughout town Repaired or replace culverts and storm drains throughout town.

Plowed and sanded all town owned and private roads, sidewalks and removed snow from the downtown area. All streets were treated with approximately 1500 tons of salt and 12,000 cubic yards of sand.

The Town Department of Public Works maintains 135 miles of town owned and private roads.

The work force to maintain these roads is comprised of 10 pieces of equipment (one grader, two loaders, four truck/sander combinations, two pickups and a one ton truck).

The Highway has two working foreman and five truck driver operators for plowing and sanding. The Cemetery Department Foreman and cemetery operators as well as two Water Department operators, and Fleet maintenance personnel are also used for plowing, sanding and snow removal.

The winter season of 2007 / 2008 over all was one of average snow fall. The area was affected by mostly smaller storms however there was several icing events that struck causing rather large power outages and numerous motor vehicle accidents throughout the Northeast.

WATER DEPARTMENT

The Water/Sewer Dept. maintains 61 miles of water mains, all service connections, fire hydrant, four water storage tanks, two water booster stations and the main pumping station is in Ashburnham.

The Water Treatment Plant provides treated water to the Towns of Winchendon and Ashburnham. The Treatment Plant is being operated under contract with Veolia Water of North America of Chicago, IL.

Veolia water operates, maintains and repairs the Treatment Plant in full compliance with the Mass Drinking Water Regulations and is paid by each town by the amount of treated water delivered to each town. 2008 the treatment plant treated and pumped 232,702,351 gallons of water to Winchendon for an average of .64 MGD. The town's current registered withdrawal permit is .67 MGD

The Water Dept. collected 12 drinking water samples per month throughout the distribution system at predetermined locations and sends them to Microbac Laboratories, Inc. for analysis and reports the findings to the Division of Environmental Protection. No Violations were detected throughout the distribution system. Monthly sampling results are posted at the Winchendon Town Hall at 109 Front Street

The Town Water Dept. must also sample for volatile organic compounds (VOC's) inorganic compounds (IOC's) nitrates, lead and copper, radionuclide, synthetic organic compounds (SOC's) and nitrites. The sampling schedule is provided by D.E.P.

The Town's Water Dept. collected one full round of lead & copper samples in 2007 including 2 school samples Twenty two samples were collected and taken to Microbac Labs, Inc. for analysis. The results of these samples will determine the effectiveness of The Filtration Plant's corrosion control program and also determine the next level of sampling requirements for compliance with the Federal Safe Drinking Water Acts. Sampling results are posted at the Town Hall, 109 Front Street, Winchendon, MA 01475. Winchendon's sampling requirement has been reduced from 20 samples once a year

to 20 samples every (3) three years because samples collected and analyzed were below the 90th percentile for the monitoring period. The next round of lead and copper samples is scheduled for the third quarter of 2010 including 2 more school samples.

SEWER DEPARTMENT

The Sewer Department maintained two lift stations cleaned sewer lines with a high-pressure sewer jet. Repaired or replaced several sewer manholes, maintains all main line sewers and 1254 sewer services.

The main sewer interceptor sewer line from the newly upgraded Wastewater Treatment Plant to Lake Street was replaced as part of the Town's Sewer System Rehab which is under a consent decree from the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the Massachusetts Dept. of Environmental Protection. The entire main sewer line has been replaced, new manholes installed, all sewer service connections have been replaced and several new ones added.

Some additional rehab work is expected to be completed in the spring; this includes T.V. inspection and cleaning of sewer lines.

The Town's sump pump removal will also continue into 2009

CEMETERY & PARKS DEPARTMENT

The Cemetery and Parks Department maintain the Riverside, New Boston, and Old Centre Cemeteries along with the Legion Park VFW Park, GAR park, Old Centre Park and Norcross Square. Routine work was done at the three Town Cemeteries.

Mowed, trimmed and maintained all ground, installed foundations, veterans markers, planted flowers, trimmed hedges, picked up leaves, dug, back filled and restored burial, filled in sunken graves, and reseeded winter burials. Work continues on the new section of Riverside behind the V.F.W.

WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANT

The Town of Winchendon Wastewater Treatment Plant processes the Town's raw sewage and treats it to disinfect the final effluent. The facility then uses sodium metabisulfite to remove any residual chlorine.

The treatment process removes total suspended solids (TSS) and biochemical oxygen demand (B.O.D.) in compliance with its N.P.D.E.S. Permit issued by the United States Environmental Protection Agency. The WWTP treated 266.65 Million gallons of sewerage in 2008

The upgrade of the Town's Wastewater Treatment Plant is complete with only some minor punch list items remaining. The plant has been upgraded from .5 MGD per

day to 1.1 MGD. The Town now has capacity to add additional sewer connections for both business and residential customers.

FLEET MAINTENANCE

The Fleet Maintenance Department services, repairs and maintains all town owned vehicles and machinery including Police, Fire, Ambulance, DPW, Council on Aging, C.A.C., School and Civil Defense. Service records are kept on all vehicles and equipment.

Fleet maintenance workers also maintain the town garage on Glenallen St. where the DPW equipment is housed.

Fleet Maintenance Department has two mechanics and one chief mechanic.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael P. Murphy, Sr.
Director of Public Works
Town of Winchendon



Central St. at North St. during ice storm Dec. 2008

PLACE HOLDER FOR SOLID WASTE FACILITY REPORT
1 OF 2

PLACE HOLDER FOR SOLID WASTE PAGES
2 OF 2

WINCHENDON PUBLIC SCHOOLS REPORT

WINCHENDON SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Michael Niles, Chair	Term Expires 2009
Christine Philput	Term Expires 2009
Kathleen Murphy	Term Expires 2011
Michael Barbaro	Term Expires 2011

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION

Peter J. Azar, Ed.D.	Superintendent
Richard Bedard	Business Manager
Cynthia Landanno	Sp. Ed. Director
Nicholas DeSimone	MMHS Principal
Deborah Peterson	Toy Town Principal
Emily Soltysik	TTE Ass't Principal
Christina Littlewood	Memorial Principal
Steven Meyer	Ass't H.S. Principal
Kent Forty	Ass't M.S. Principal
Alan Hallquist	Athletic Director
Peter Antonellis	Ass't Athletic Director
Timothy O'Connell	Ass't Memorial Principal
Valorie Miller	Dir. of Instructional Services
Jane Ripley	Director of Curriculum & Instruction

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Please accept my report to the town as Superintendent of the Winchendon Public Schools. It is my distinct pleasure to report that the label of "underperforming" has been formally lifted from the Winchendon Public Schools effective April 2008 by the Massachusetts State Board of Education. This label was lifted as a result of the hard work and efforts of the administration and staff to analyze data, revise and implement school and district improvement plans, realign curriculum based on analysis of data and changes in the Massachusetts Frameworks and reconfigure scheduling within the school day to increase time on learning. As a result of these efforts, the Winchendon Public Schools as a district has made adequate yearly progress for three consecutive years for English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics for the aggregated and all subgroups. It is especially pertinent to note that the Winchendon Public Schools is the first district within the state of Massachusetts to have had the label of "underperforming" lifted.

The Winchendon Public Schools has a model pre-kindergarten program for three and four year old students, which is housed at the Marvin School conveniently located on Ash Street. The preschool program at the Marvin School has been accredited for the past ten years and has updated its accreditation for another five years. Every five years the preschool must go through an extensive program review based on specific criteria developed by the National Association of the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) leading to nationally recognized accreditation. This accreditation status ensures that the Winchendon Public Schools is

offering optimal programming for our young students. The preschool program is an inclusionary setting which services students with and without special needs.

The Elementary Schools continue to have a strong program beginning with our full day kindergarten. All students in Winchendon are eligible for full day kindergarten via a combination of grant and chapter 70 funding. Through a continuum of services students are provided an intensive educational program which follows the Winchendon Learning Standards that are aligned to the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks. The English Language Arts and Mathematics programs at the Memorial School and Toy Town Elementary support instruction and provide consistency in educational programming from building to building. The Elementary Schools continue to provide during the school day enrichment programming in music, computer instruction, physical education and library services. In our plan to develop skills for the 21st Century, the Winchendon Public Schools has state of the art computer labs in all schools with a special thank you to the Robinson-Broadhurst Foundation. In addition, before and after school programs are available in partnership with the Clark Memorial Community Center for students in grades K-6. The Winchendon Public Schools has benefited from the 21st Century After School programs funded by competitive grant funding for students in grades 4-8.

Murdock Middle/High School is proud to announce their successful completion of accreditation with the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC). Every ten years high schools must complete an evaluation process including a self-evaluation and an onsite program review to apply for continued accreditation. Murdock Middle/High School completed this process with no areas of concern that affect our continued accreditation status. Colleges value a student graduation from an accredited high school. Murdock Middle/High School has increased time on learning with the elimination of study halls and has increased electives available to students. Articulation agreements with local colleges provide opportunities for students to earn college credit for a course completed at Murdock Middle/High School. A new schedule for classes this year has further enhanced learning opportunities for all students. The sports and arts programs continue to thrive at Murdock and students have numerous opportunities to become involved in a wide variety of programs outside of the regular academics.

We appreciate and thank everyone for the support from our parents and community. We diligently work hard as a school community to improve our practices and in turn improve the educational delivery for our students.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brooke Clenchy
Superintendent of Schools

POINTS OF INTEREST

1. Winchendon Public Schools Cafeteria Program is a self-supporting program funded annually by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the Federal Government. Monies to run this program are not part of the School Budget. Our schools provide a “Breakfast

Program” and a “Hot Lunch Program”. The program fee for 2007-2008 for the secondary students was \$2.00 for lunch and \$1.00 for breakfast. The fee at the elementary level was \$1.75 for lunch and \$1.00 for breakfast. For those who qualify, there are free or reduced price lunches and breakfasts. The reduced lunch price for 2007-08 was \$.40 and breakfast was \$.30 at both the elementary and secondary levels.

2. The total enrollment as of October 1, 2007 was 1,674. Twenty-three percent of the student population for 2007-08 were special needs students. During the 2007-08 school year, approximately 1,300 students were transported to and from school.

3. Winchendon Public Schools participates in the “School Choice” program in Massachusetts. We had thirty-three students who are residents of other Massachusetts communities enrolled in our schools and 132 students from Winchendon attending schools in other communities.

Breakdown of Pupil Enrollment 2007-08 School Year

Pre-Kindergarten	80
Kindergarten	132
Grades 1-3	394
Grades 4-6	401
<u>Grades 7-12</u>	<u>666</u>
Total	1674

Winchendon had 139 students attending Monty Tech during FY’08. There were an additional 105 Winchendon students matriculating in nearby private and parochial schools and approximately 52 other students being home schooled by parents.

General Information

Pre-Kindergarten:	A.M. Session 9:00-11:15 P.M. Session 12:30-2:45
Memorial Elementary:	8:50 a.m.-3:05 p.m.
Toy Town Elementary:	8:35 a.m.-2:50 p.m.
Murdock Middle/High:	7:30 a.m.-2:05 p.m.

EARLY RELEASE TIMES

Elementary School:	12:20 (Toy Town) 12:35 (Memorial)
Middle/High School:	11:35 a.m.

The Marvin School Early Childhood Center opened in the Fall of 1998 and houses PreK and Head Start students. Telephone for PreK – 297-3436; FAX – 297-0631. Telephone for Head Start – 297-9832.

The Memorial Elementary School which houses Grades K to Grade 3 was opened in 1975 and has 70,000 sq. ft. Telephone - 297-1305, 1306; FAX - 297-3944.

Toy Town Elementary School houses Grades 4-6 and was built in 1961, with 69,000 sq. ft. Telephone - 297-3005; FAX - 297-3011.

Murdock Middle/High School opened in 1995 and is a three-story building which houses Grades 7-12 and has a total of 165,000 sq. ft. Telephone - 297-1256, 1257; FAX - 297-0509.

The Special Education Department, as well as the Central Administrative Offices of the school system are located in Toy Town Elementary School at 175 Grove Street. These offices are open from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Special Needs can be reached at 297-1850; FAX - 297-3336. The Superintendent can be reached at 297-0031; FAX - 297-5250.

SCHOOL BUDGET 2007-2008

School Committee	\$ 113,567
Central Administrative Office	745,353
Special Ed. Department S/W	1,536,840
Marvin School	221,009
Memorial School Instruction	3,160,293
Toy Town Elem. Instruction	1,994,039
Middle/High School Instruction	4,670,452
Maintenance	<u>105,152</u>
School Dept. Total Operating Budget	<u>\$12,546,705</u>
Town Assessment/Ind. Costs	<u>2,719,349</u>
Total School Dept. Budget	<u>\$15,266,054</u>
Transportation	<u>1,037,092</u>

TRANSPORTATION

Policy available at Central Office

2008 Annual Report – Toy Town Partnership

The Toy Town Partnership met monthly throughout the year, continuing its work in helping to move along a number of projects in town.

Converse Gardens Thanks to the generous support of the Robinson-Broadhurst Foundation, The United States Dept. of Agriculture, The Worcester County Sheriff's Dept. of Community Service and dozens of local volunteers and supporters, Winchendon now has the solid beginning of a beautiful historic riverfront park.

During 2008 Winchendon's own Powell Stone and Gravel completed three major pieces of infrastructure work on the site:

- Constructed a 300 foot long and 10 foot wide compacted gravel access pathway from the west to the central flat portion of the garden area.
- Repaired two cracked drainage pipes using a low-impact solution by creating stone catch basins that allow for more effective infiltration of storm water and ground water. The added benefit of this design is that we now have a nice waterfall feature. Stone benches provide an excellent vantage point to the protected woodlands across the Millers River.
- Constructed a 300 foot long retaining wall to stabilize the slope. Techo Monumental blocks were used to add a finished look to the entire garden site, and give the necessary hardscape to support plantings.

As a complement to that work, Winchendon's Lakeview Nurseries worked with the Partnership to establish a number of flowering pear trees, Japanese maples, dwarf lilacs, evergreens and over 300 more bulbs on the site. Some of this work is made possible by private cash donations from Winchendon residents and supporters. This support is greatly appreciated.

The Partnership is hopeful it will be able to continue this project in 2009. It has applied for a Robinson-Broadhurst grant for continued work on the retaining wall and other infrastructure needs. It has also applied for a grant from the Massachusetts Dept. of Conservation and Recreation under The Recreational Trail Program. If we are awarded this grant, we will construct an access trail from Front Street down to the central flat part of the original garden site where one wall of Converse's original pergola still stands.

North Central Pathway Work on the proposed 16 mile bicycle trail connecting downtown Gardner to downtown Winchendon continues. Ongoing progress has been possible thanks to support from the Robinson-Broadhurst Foundation, to the efforts of Congressman John Olver and to the hard work of the Planning and Development Office in helping to secure grant funds.

Phase IV – the construction of this phase, from downtown Winchendon to Glenallen St. began this past summer and is anticipated to be completed by June 2009. This section is a 12' wide path that includes a new bridge over the Whitney Pond Dam, a trailhead with parking at Glennallen St., benches and plantings along the entire path. Many townspeople

are already enjoying this very attractive path which provides a one and one half mile roundtrip.

Phase V – a public hearing on the 25% review was held in April 2008. There were several comments made by Mass. Highway and they have asked for the 25% engineering plans to be resubmitted by the town. Before resubmitting, the town chose to undertake additional survey work and bridge plan changes. Engineering continues on this section, with the 25% resubmittal planned for the summer of 2009. After that time, engineering will continue on to the 100% status. It is hoped that the trail will get an infusion of funds from the Federal stimulus package, so that construction can begin in late 2010 or the spring of 2011.

Other Projects The Partnership was pleased to be able to oversee the replacement of the roof which shelters the Toy Town Horse thanks to a generous donation. The group hopes to arrange for some maintenance work on the horse itself in the coming year.

Members The following is a list of members provided by the Town Clerk: Elaine Mroz, Pamela Elbrader, Meg Urquhart, George Ladeau, Cynthia Boucher, Michael McRae and Roger Tobia. Also participating in 2008 were Lee Cloutier, Ellen DeCoteau, Peter Newton, and various town personnel. All interested members of the community are invited to participate.

2008 ANNUAL TOWN REPORT

DEPARTMENT OF VETERAN'S SERVICES

“When you see a veteran, shake their hand and say thank you – thank you for serving your country and keeping America free!”

Greetings from the veteran's office! 2008 completes my fifth year of dedicated service assisting all veterans, widow's/spouses, or family members about options available in either with Veteran's Affairs (federal benefits) or through the Department of Veterans' Services (state benefits). The Town of Winchendon continues to stay in compliance with Massachusetts General Law Chapter 115, mandating the appointment of a veteran's agent to serve the needs of their community. The caseload has remained steady with a monthly average of 29 clients, with this office spending for the calendar year 2008, \$197,784.56. For every dollar spent by the town, \$.75 comes back to the town through proper accounting procedures established through this office and the state of Massachusetts.

What is a profile of one of my clients? We serve veterans with earnings below the poverty line. For example, a single veteran who makes \$1733 monthly; however, only has \$1600.00 in total savings to his/her name. Or a married couple who makes less than \$2333.00 monthly and has a total savings of less than \$3200.00 per month. When we as citizens complain about gas or oil prices, cost of groceries, increases in taxes, and the cost of health care, my clientele have to make a choice of either eating or purchasing their prescription drugs or paying their rent/mortgage instead of eating or paying for medications. My job is to find the less fortunate and supplement their income so they survive. Through utilization of regulation 108 CMR, this office establishes a budget to supplement their income to keep their heads above water financially. The majority of my clients are elderly; however, this office continues to serve our returning veterans with job placement or financial assistance while they are searching for a job. All these benefits are available to a veteran who served their country honorably for a minimum of 180 days. Each day, your Veterans Agent listens to the heartfelt stories of survival and provides every support possible to ensure that basic needs are maintained. My clients are thankful for this assistance. This agent is thankful to be in a position to assist these veterans/spouses/widows in need.

Each year, the prideful citizens of this community have enjoyed the annual Memorial Day parade and the Veterans Day program sponsored in part by the veteran organizations in Winchendon. Unfortunately, hard times have also hit the American Legion with the disbanding of their Bingo Program over a year ago due to struggling numbers arriving to play. Bingo has paid for our Memorial Day exercises for over the past 25 years; however, the main fundraiser for the Legion Post 193 no longer has the resources to fund these exercises. The Veterans Office will petition to the townspeople to help establish a budget to cover the costs of both Memorial Day and Veterans Day. The Legion and VFW will provide help; however, I ask for your approval for any financial assistance so these activities are fully funded annually.

Again, my thanks to everyone in Winchendon for the continued support of veterans services. Your generosity continues to make me proud to be a lifelong resident of Winchendon. God bless!

Sincerely, Scott J. Gauthier, Director/Agent

Winchendon Redevelopment Authority Annual Report 2008

The Winchendon Redevelopment Authority (WRA) was established in 2004 with a five member board, four appointed by the Town Manager and one appointed by the State. Meetings are currently held monthly on the second Thursday at 3:30 p.m. in the Town Hall second floor auditorium.

The WRA welcomed Beth Hunt, a new member to the board. She is an active and successful advocate for community and economic development in Winchendon. Currently the board has three members seated including Ms. Hunt, Sheila Donofrio and David Connor. In its busiest year, these three dedicated board members have taken on and excelled in the planning and actual development of our community.

The WRA had its most active year in terms of development. They bid out a 7 acre parcel located on Lincoln Avenue Extension for the use of a “No Kill” animal shelter. Ahimsa Haven was the successful bidder for the property. The WRA negotiated the use for the Town animal shelter in the transfer into the terms of the sale facilitating an annual savings to the Town of over \$6,000 for a period of not less than 10 years.

They also bid out an additional lot located at 60 Franklin Street for reuse and job creation. The WRA successfully sold the parcel for \$20,000 with the planned creation of an additional 4 jobs. The project is scheduled to be up and running at full capacity in late spring of 2009.

The WRA has been successfully working on the commercial project named “Hillview Business Park” which is located along Hwy 140 directly across from Brian’s Place. They bid out a parcel adjacently 6.5 acres and accepted a bid for the construction of a manufacturing operation which also will host a recreational and retail segment as well. This part of the project is just the start of an overall plan to bring in new businesses and jobs. The Authority also purchased a 70 acre parcel located adjacent to this project which will increase the capacity for economic development. The Town is applying for a grant to construct the roadway to this project.

The development of a Town brochure was deemed to be a necessary economic development tool that the WRA could champion. A vendor was located and the process was started in February of 2008. The WRA generated a list of possible Town businesses to contract for advertising purposes with the brochure. The company visited and compiled approximately 100 photos of the Town in a fall setting. The WRA has reviewed initial photos and preliminary script and returned their edits. The brochure is now in its final draft and is expected to hit the streets by late spring. This product was paid for by the advertisers in half and the WRA paid the remaining half. The brochure will be used by the Town and businesses to help sell the Town and its beautiful amenities to prospective residential, commercial and industrial possibilities. The WRA is committed to helping Winchendon grow in a healthy manner.

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