

2021 TOWN REPORT



TOWN OF WINCHENDON

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ON THE COVER

Winchendon residents and many more from other communities joined together celebrating a highly successful 2021 Fall Festival, with an estimated 2,000 or more attending the six hour event, enjoying time with friends and family and filling up the grounds of Central Street in a way not seen since the last event in October, 2019.

Gathering for the first time in two years due to the pandemic shutdown through 2020, many participants starting setting up at 7:00 a.m. or earlier, with vendor popup tents, food tents and trucks, and much more quickly filling the downtown Central Street business district at a feverish pace. At the beginning of the event's opening, several hundred attendees could already be seen walking the closed street, a strong sign of what was soon to come.



2021 ANNUAL REPORTS

OFFICERS
OF THE
TOWN OF WINCHENDON
MASSACHUSETTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

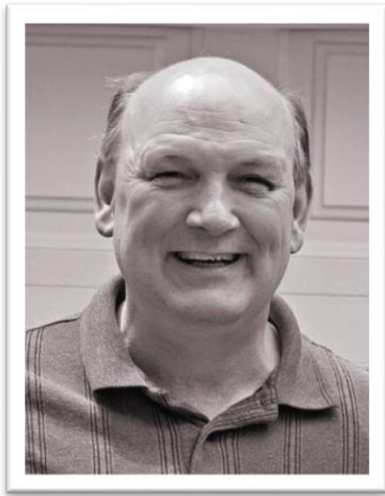
Accountant-----	48
Agricultural Commission-----	63
Animal Control-----	64
Appointed Officers-----	9
Board of Appeals (Zoning Board of Appeals)-----	65
Board of Assessors-----	67
Board of Health-----	70
Agent Report-----	68
Board of Selectmen-----	15
Collector/Treasurer-----	73
Community Action Committee-----	74
Community Profile-----	7
Conservation Commission-----	76
Council on Aging-----	77
Cultural Council-----	79
Elected Officials of the Town-----	8
Elections: Annual Town Election, May 3, 2021-----	18
Finance Committee-----	80
Fire Department-----	83
Land Use Department (Building Department)-----	88
Library – Beals Memorial Library-----	90
Master Plan Implementation Committee-----	93
Memoriam-----	3
Planning and Development-----	114
Planning Board-----	117
Police Department-----	119
Public Works Department-----	124
Transfer Station-----	130
Recreation Commission-----	132
Schools-----	
Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School-----	94
Winchendon Public Schools-----	133
Town Clerk-----	147
Town Manager-----	17
Town Meetings:-----	
Special and Annual Town Meeting, May 17, 2021-----	21
Special Town Meeting, November 8, 2021-----	40
Veteran’s Services-----	148
Wendell P. Clark Memorial YMCA-----	150
Winchendon Community Park-----	
Infrastructure Committee-----	152
Programming Committee-----	154
Winchendon Housing Authority-----	156
Winchendon Redevelopment Authority-----	160

In Memoriam

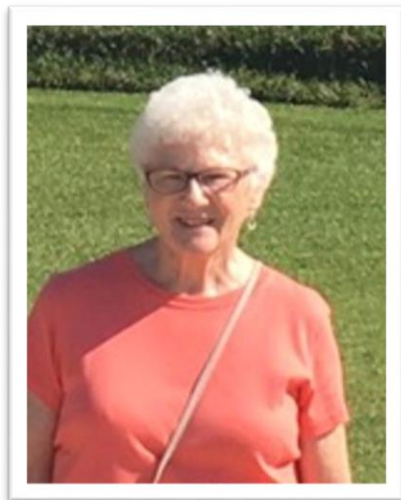
Please take a moment to remember those who have served our wonderful Town and are now passed on.

Scott J. Gauthier

May 21, 1959 - February 18, 2021



Mr. Gauthier was born in Winchendon, a lifelong resident graduating from Murdock High School. Scott was involved in education and veterans' affairs his entire life. He had worked as admission counselor at Fitchburg State College and later worked as a guidance counselor at Narragansett Regional High School and had been director of Student Resources at Shepherd Hill Regional High School and a school counselor at Greenfield Community Virtual Schools. Scott proudly served his country as a member of the United States Air Force and had been the Veterans' Agent for the Town of Winchendon for several years. He was also a member and past commander of Eugene M. Connor Post #193 American Legion and held other state offices.



Jean Priestley

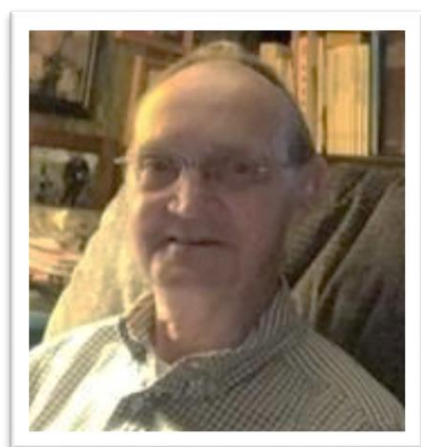
Sept. 14, 1938 – February 26, 2021

Ms. Priestley, had been a long-time resident of Winchendon for over 50 years. She later worked in the cafeteria at Memorial School for over 20 years until her retirement in 1998. She enjoyed bowling, sewing and knitting. Jean was a wonderful wife, mother and grandmother. Jean relished in the happiness of sharing daily life with her family.

Stephen P. Lafrennie
December 22, 1951 – March 6, 2021



Mr. Lafrennie was a lifelong resident of Winchendon. He graduated from Murdock High School, where he played basketball, baseball and football. He later attended classes on fire technology at Mt. Wachusett Community College. Steve was a member and former Fire Chief of the Orange Fire Department and was a former captain, member and EMT of the Winchendon Fire Department. He had a love of people and was known for his big heart. He was also a member of Eugene M. Connor Post Sons of the American Legion and the Unitarian Universalist Church and Immaculate Heart of Mary.



George E. Ares
December 27, 1935 – March 15, 2021

After proudly serving in the United States Army during the Korean War, Mr. Ares settled in Winchendon with his wife Henriette where they raised their family. George began working at George B. Bent Company in Gardner and at the age of 74, he retired from the Nichols and Stone Furniture Factory. He served as chairman for the Winchendon Finance Committee for many years.



Judith A. LaJoie
October 18, 1957 – June 5, 2021

Ms. Lajoie had lived in Winchendon for most of her life. Judy gave 36 years of dedicated service to the Town of Winchendon, retiring in 2019 as Winchendon Town Clerk. She was former treasurer of Winchendon Youth Hockey and Winchendon CAC. Judy had also been a step instructor at the Wendell Clark Memorial YMCA. Judy loved being a mom, Mimi and wife. She was an avid hockey fan of the Boston Bruins. She loved working with her flower gardens, crafts and traveling. Judy especially enjoyed spending time with her grandchildren.



John R. "Jack" Dale Jr.
December 16, 1957 – June 20, 2021

Mr. Dale began his career as a police officer for the Town of Ashburnham and had worked part time as a police officer for the Town of Winchendon and Town of Phillipston. He worked as a police officer for the Town of Templeton for 25 years until his retirement. Jack had been a member of the Board of Directors at the former Colonial Cooperative Bank and was a former corporator of Fidelity Bank. He had been a member of Templeton Lions Club, Winchendon Finance Committee and a member of St. Vincent de Paul Church in Baldwinville.



Richard Blodgett
February 13, 1940 – November 12, 2021

Mr. Blodgett had lived in Winchendon for most of his life and a graduate of Murdock High School. Dick served as a volunteer firefighter and lieutenant on the Winchendon Fire Department for 40 years. Dick was an active member of the Winchendon community and had been a member of the Winchendon Boosters Club, Operation Winchendon Cares and Winchendon JC's. Dick and his wife spent many years as members of the Clark Memorial, involved in sporting activities such as bowling, softball and hockey. He was a member of the United Parish and The Red Knights.

In Memoriam



COMMUNITY PROFILE

Town Incorporated	1764
Form of Government	Open Town Meeting
Annual Town Meeting (Bylaw Article)	No earlier than first Monday in May. No later than second Monday in June.
Annual Election (Bylaw Article)	First Monday in May each year.
Population	10,364
Number of Water Customers Rate: \$6.01 h.c.f.	2,199
Number of Sewer Customers Rate: \$10.49 h.c.f	1,389
Number of Households	
Single Family	2,895
Condos	62
2 Family Units	220
3 Family Units	33
4 to 8 Family Units	50
Number of Commercial Parcels	153
Mix-Use (resident/business combine)	61
Industrial Parcels	68
Tax Rate FY21	\$15.72 per \$1,000 valuation
Highest Elevation	Mt. Pleasant, 1,267 feet
Miles of Town Roads	135
Square Miles of Area	42

ELECTED OFFICIALS

MODERATOR

Dr. Coral Grout	May 2022
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SELECTMEN

Audrey LaBrie	May 2022
Richard Ward	May 2022
Amy Salter	May 2023
Barbara Anderson	May 2024
Danielle LaPointe	May 2024

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Gregory Vine	May 2022
Karen Kast-McBride	May 2023
Lawrence Murphy	May 2023
Ryan Forsythe	May 2024
Shauna Lapointe	May 2024

BOARD OF HEALTH

Garrett Wante	May 2022
Edward Bond	May 2023
Tina Santos	May 2023
Lionel Cloutier	May 2024
Keith Kent	May 2024

HOUSING AUTHORITY

Burton E. Gould, Jr. (state appointed)	April 2025
Jacquelyn Flynn now Jane Leavens (tenant appointed)	May 2022
Leston J. Goodrich	May 2023
David A. Johnson	May 2024
Nancy Romanowski	May 2026

APPOINTED OFFICERS

ACCOUNTANT

Joanne Goguen	Indefinite
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AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

Olivia Tarleton	June 2024
June Girouard, Alt.	June 2022
Audrey LaBrie	June 2022
Jordyn Lynds	June 2024
Alicia Trickett	June 2022
Janet Lee	June 2023
Taylor Tower	June 2024

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICERS

Cassandra Tompkins	June 2024
Susan Kowaleski	June 2024
Patti Lessard	June 2024

ANIMAL HEALTH INSPECTORS

Susan Kowaleski	April 2022
Cassandra Tompkins	April 2022

ASSESSORS

Harald Scheid
George Bourgault

BUILDING COMMISSIONER

Geoffrey Newton	Indefinite
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CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

Audrey LaBrie	June 2022
Greg Vine	June 2021
Doug Delay	June 2022
Garrett Wante	June 2022
Michael Barbaro	June 2022

TOWN CLERK

Wendy Stevens	Indefinite
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COLLECTOR/TREASURER

Lynn Nystrom	Indefinite
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CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Alison Manugian, Agent	Indefinite
David Whitaker	June 2022
Kyle Bradley	June 2022
Ken Wante	June 2023
Melissa Blanchard	June 2023
Lionel Cloutier	June 2024

CONSTABLES

Frederick Cloutier (Election)	June 2023
Rick Marinelli (Election)	June 2024
Kenneth MacNeil (Civil Service)	June 2022
Raymond Gonzalez (Civil Service)	June 2022

COUNCIL ON AGING

Judith Mizhir	Gail Casavant
Jacqueline Flynn	Jean Joyal
Rita Amenta	Anne Coderre
F. Richard Ladeau	John Webber
Gloria LaBrack	Diane Alexander
Phil White	Sheila Bettro, Director

TOWN COUNSEL

KP Law	Indefinite
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FENCE VIEWER/FIELD DRIVER

Karen Brooks	June 2021
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FINANCE COMMITTEE

Thomas J. Kane Jr.	June 2023
Charles Corts	June 2024
Dr. Maureen Ward	June 2022
Douglas R. Delay	June 2022
David Alexander	June 2021
Keith Kent	June 2022
Phil Levine	June 2021

HEALTH AGENT

James D. Abare, Inspector	Indefinite
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HISTORICAL COMMISSION/HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Lois Abare	June 2023
Peggy Corbosiero	June 2023
Yvonne G. Harrington	June 2024
James McCrohon	June 2024
Mary Harrington	June 2024
Don O'Neil	June 2022

LIBRARY TRUSTEES

Robert Courtemanche	March 2022
Suzanne Rader	June 2024
Jane LaPointe	June 2023
Cindy Darcy	June 2022
Ronald Muse	June 2022
Caela Provost	June 2023

TOWN MANAGER

Justin Sultzbach	
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MASTER PLAN IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE

Jill Sackett	June 2024
Amanda Phillips	June 2024
Nikki Nickerson	June 2024
Kyle Bradley	June 2023
Guy Corbosiero	June 2023
Erika Eitland	June 2022
Miranda Jennings	June 2022

REP. MONTACHUSETT REG. PLANNING

Guy Corbosiero	June 2021
Rick Ward	June 2022

REP. MONTACHUSETT OPPORTUNITY COUNCIL

Vacant	Indefinite
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REP. MONTACHUSETT REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Justin Sultzbach June 2022

REP. TO MONTY TECH SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Dr. Maureen Ward April 2022

MEASURER OF LUMBER

Vacant

PLANNING BOARD

Leston Goodrich	June 2023
Guy Corbosiero	June 2024
Burton E. Gould, Jr.	June 2022
Arthur Amenta Jr.	June 2023
Garrett Wante,	June 2024

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Tracy Murphy, *Director of Planning and Development*

PLUMBING & GAS INSPECTOR

Edward Tonet June 2021

RECREATION COMMISSION

Laura Gaydos	June 2021
Linda Hofhaug	June 2023
Debra Bradley	June 2023
Abigail Bradley, Student Rep	June 2022
Emily Bradley, Student Rep	June 2021
Tiffany Newton	June 2024

REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

David Connor	June 2020
Michael Barbaro	June 2022
Leston J. Goodrich	June 2025
Kenneth LaBrack	June 2022
Garrett Wante	June 2023

REGISTRARS OF VOTERS

Terry Lupien	March 2024
Lynn Murray	March 2022
Donna Spellman	March 2023
Wendy Stevens, Clerk	Indefinite

ELECTIONS

Dr. Maureen Ward, Warden	Indefinite
Susan Giardini, Deputy Clerk	Indefinite

SEALER, WEIGHTS & MEASURES

Stephen Slocum	June 2024
Stephen Hirons (Alt)	June 2024

TOY TOWN COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

Elaine Mroz	David Romanowski
George J. Ladeau	Arthur Amenta, Jr.
Cynthia Boucher	Jane LaPointe
Cailte Kelley (Alt.)	

TREE WARDEN

Brian Croteau	Indefinite
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VETERANS SERVICE DIRECTOR

Stephen Bassett	Indefinite
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WINCHENDON COMMUNITY PARK PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE

Tiffany Newton	June 2021
Miranda Jennings	June 2023
Dawn Bilodeau	June 2023
Molly Velasco	June 2024
Debra Kane (Alt.)	June 2023

WINCHENDON COMMUNITY PARK INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

David Romanowski	June 2022
Dylan Romanowski	June 2022
Ken LaBrack	June 2023
Randy Tenney	June 2023
Jane LaPointe	June 2024

WINCHENDON CULTURAL COUNCIL

Andrew Arceci	June 2021
Linda Hofhaug	June 2024
Miranda Jennings	June 2024
Tina Santos	May 2021
Jill Sackett	June 2024
James McCrohon	June 2021
Nicole Elias	June 2022
Linsey Laserte	June 2023
Molly Velasco	June 2023
Camille Hart	June 2023

WINCHENDON EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

James D. Abare, Director
Peter Laperriere, Communications

Planning Team:

Justin Sultzbach – Town Manager
Thomas J. Smith - Fire Department
David Walsh - Police Department
Brian Croteau - DPW
Sheila Bettro – COA
Thad King - School Superintendent
Martin Johnson – School
David Connor- Winchendon Housing Authority

WIRING INSPECTOR

Robert Marshall	June 2024
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ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Raymond Benoit	June 2024
Cynthia Carvill	June 2024
Richard Stancombe	June 2023
David Grady (Alt)	June 2023
Rob Bushay	June 2022
Bryan Vaine	June 2023
Brandon Fournier (Alt.)	June 2022
Evelyn Higgins (Alt.)	June 2022

Board of Selectmen

On behalf of myself and my fellow board members, I am pleased to present to you the Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Report of the Winchendon Board of Selectmen.

For a second year, the COVID-19 pandemic dominated the landscape. After the state lifted the COVID restrictions the end of May, life began a slow return to the new normal. Winchendon schools re-opened to a hybrid mix of in-person and remote learning, resuming full in-person learning in September. This brought its own set of challenges to students, parents, and school staff. With safety protocols in place, town buildings, restaurants and recreation events began opening back up. As COVID variants appeared and the town's COVID numbers increased and decreased, the town adjusted protocol regarding masks and the opening to the public of town buildings.

Four years in the making, the town's first cannabis business, a retail store, opened in February 2022. There are additional projects for Winchendon that are still awaiting approval by the state's Cannabis Control Commission. Those projects include growing and manufacturing facilities as well as retail projects. Since the question of bringing the cannabis industry to Winchendon first came to the forefront four years ago, many hours were spent laying the groundwork. Several town departments were involved in that planning, including the Board of Selectmen, Planning and Development, Zoning, and town meeting. We can now appreciate the detail that went into preparing for these businesses to open in town.

Throughout the year, several department heads presented reports to the board, updating the board with data on services provided and projects being worked on. Those departments included IT, Planning and Development, Beal's Memorial Library, Health Department, Building Department, and the office of the Treasurer/Collector. We continue to hold Tri-Board meetings every three months; attendees at these meeting are the Finance Committee, School Committee, and Board of Selectmen, with the agenda including topics submitted by each group.

There were several town-wide projects that the board received and gave input on. The Old Murdock Senior Center building received temporary repairs. A condition assessment of the Town Hall building showed not only the obvious issues, such as loose bricks, but also pointed out structural issues, such as the condition of the cupola. Through the impetus of the Town Manager, projects to improve the look of the "gateways" into Winchendon were implemented.

One of the more pleasant tasks of the board, in my opinion, is the permitting of different special events that are held in town throughout the year. After the shut-down of 2020, this last year saw a wonderful array of events. Some of the events were the Bull Spit "Pop-up" Brew Yard, the "Tour de Winchendon", the state annual triathlon, Fall Fest, Toy Town Tree Festival, and Winchendonstock. The Recreation Committee held a scavenger hunt and concerts, and local businesses, clubs, and churches held functions.

I would be remiss in my duties if, in the course of this report, I didn't thank all of the citizens, volunteers, individuals, groups, commissions, committees, and boards who have worked to make Winchendon the great town that it is today. I would also like to extend our thanks to State Representatives Jon Zlotnik and Susannah Whipps, and Senator Anne Gobi for their

continued hard work and support, both by their presence at local events and their work on our behalf at the Massachusetts State House.

As we move into our future, there is no doubt that difficulties will arise. Murphy's Law will certainly put in an appearance or two. There is also no doubt that the people who work for and live in Winchendon will deal with those challenges to the benefit of Winchendon.

Regards,

Audrey LaBrie
Chairman

Winchendon Board of Selectmen

Audrey LaBrie, Chair

Rick Ward, Vice-Chair

Barbara Anderson

Amy Salter

Danielle LaPointe



TOWN MANAGER

2021 was a unique year in many ways, with the Office of the Town Manager seeing combined leadership efforts from Town Manager Keith Hickey, Interim Town Manager Steve Delaney, and most recently myself. The community put forth a significant effort to move Winchendon forward through the challenges of the COVID-19 Pandemic. As I write this message, I would be remiss to not acknowledge the substantial work accomplished by our Town Staff and Town Officials prior to my arrival in Town in May of 2021. While the financial situation in Town continues to be a challenge in some areas, significant progress over the past several years has afforded our community the opportunity to turn our sights to other much needed improvements in Winchendon.

This progress can be seen in the form of several large scale projects throughout our community. This includes the Winchendon Community Park Amphitheater which secured permitting in Fall 2021, the replacement of the Robbins Road Bridge, a reconstruction of Central Street that is fully designed with construction to begin in the Spring of 2022, Phase 1 of the Old Murdock Restoration which was funded at Annual Town Meeting 2021 with an Owner's Project Manager to be secured in early 2022, and the redevelopment of town-owned 4 Summer Drive – a historic industrial site in the heart of our downtown that will see early phases of a brewing operation open its doors next year.

2021 was also an opportunity to turn our sights to future challenges and potential opportunities as we look to be proactive on issues throughout town, rather than reactive. Under my direction our team is working to develop a long term Capital Improvement Plan that accurately reflects the condition of our existing assets and identifies future needs in our community. This included the identification of an urgent need for plans to restore the exterior of Town Hall, which a 2021 study identified as rapidly deteriorating. We are also exploring future phases of restoration at the Old Murdock Senior Center, a design for a future Fire Station, a review of Blair Square and other infrastructure upgrades, the addition of a Children's Library, as well as significant roof repairs to our DPW Building. This full report, with input from the Capital Planning Committee, will be forthcoming.

As public servants our work is never truly finished. The Town of Winchendon is facing a host of future challenges in 2022, however our efforts in 2021 highlight how far we have come. No challenge is too big for the people of Winchendon as long as we work together. I appreciate the support of our Staff, Town Officials, and most importantly citizens as we strive to rebuild a thriving and vibrant Winchendon. If you have any questions, concerns or thoughts on how the Town can improve the services provided to the community, please feel free to stop by the Town Offices. My door is always open.

Respectfully submitted,

Justin B Sultzbach
Town Manager

Election Record

May 3, 2021 - Annual Town Election

We met at the Murdock Senior Center, 52 Murdock Ave at: 7:00am

Election Officers for first shift were sworn in at 7:50AM and assigned to their respective stations, see attached list.

Police Officer Daniel Caputi delivered voter lists a total of 1398 official ballots:

P1-400	P1A-198	P2-400	P3-400
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The specimen ballots and cards of instruction were posted in the hall and at the entrance.

Ballot boxes were checked and set to zero. The zero reports were displayed for the public to view in the hall.

Polls were declared open at: 8:00am by: Warden, Dr. Maureen Ward

EV & AV ballots were processed by: Dr. Maureen Ward & Susan Giardini

Election Officers for second shift were sworn in at 10:53AM and assigned to their respective stations.

Police Officer Tracy Flagg replaced Officer Caputi at 2:06PM and remained on duty until the end.

The polls were declared closed at 8pm and the unofficial results of the election were announced and posted in the hall.

Ballots cast and not cast and check lists were sealed in proper containers and delivered to the Town Clerk's office.

Total voters of the election:

Prec. 1: 53	Absentee ballots: 6	Early Voting Ballots: 1
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Prec. 1A: 26	Absentee ballots: 1	Early Voting Ballots: 0
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Prec. 2: 69	Absentee ballots: 7	Early Voting Ballots: 2
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Prec. 3: 106	Absentee ballots: 12	Early Voting Ballots: 3
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TOTAL VOTERS: 254

Provisional ballots: NONE

Registered voters: 6832 & 392 inactive=7,224= 3% turnout

Respectfully Submitted,

Wendy A. Stevens, Town Clerk

Linda St. Laurent, Election Clerk

TOWN OF WINCHENDON
ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION MAY 3, 2021

	P-1	P-1A	P-2	P-3	TOTAL
BOARD OF SELECTMEN 3 YR (VOTE FOR 2)					
Barbara L. Anderson	24	23	48	73	168
Danielle R. Lapointe	40	21	55	85	201
BLANKS	40	7	35	49	131
OTHERS (Write-Ins)	2	1		5	8
TOTAL	106	52	138	212	508
SCHOOL COMMITTEE 3 YR (VOTE FOR 2)					
Ryan G. Forsythe	36	23	57	78	194
Shauna B. Lapointe	31	21	44	72	168
BLANKS	38	8	36	61	143
OTHERS (Write-Ins)	1		1	1	3
Julia White Cardinal					
Don Mason					
Susan Antonellis					
TOTAL	106	52	138	212	508
BOARD OF HEALTH 3 YR (VOTE FOR 2)					
Lionel C. Cloutier	31	24	45	74	174
Keith M. Kent	28	19	44	76	167
BLANKS	46	9	48	59	162
OTHERS (Write-Ins)	1		1	3	5
TOTAL	106	52	138	212	508

BOARD OF HEALTH 2 YR (VOTE FOR 1)					
Tina M. Santos	33	20	52	75	180
BLANKS	19	5	13	28	65
OTHERS (Write-Ins)	1	1	4	3	9
					0
					0
					0
TOTAL	53	26	69	106	254
HOUSING AUTHORITY 5 YR (VOTE FOR 1)					
Nancy F. Romanowski	42	25	59	94	220
BLANKS	11	1	10	12	34
OTHERS (WRITE-INS)					0
TOTAL	53	26	69	106	254



TOWN OF WINCHENDON
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
May 17, 2021

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 17, 2021
AT 7:00 P.M.

then and there to act on the following articles:

REPORTS AND COMMITTEES
(majority vote required)

ARTICLE 1

To see if the Town will vote to hear and act on the reports of the Finance Committee, or act in relation thereto.

(usual and customary article)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

No Action Taken

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 26th day of April 2021.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

Michael Barbaro, Chairman
Rick Ward, Vice-Chairman
Barbara Anderson
Audrey LaBrie
Amy Salter

TOWN OF WINCHENDON

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

MAY 17, 2021

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 17, 2021
AT 7:00 P.M.

then and there to act on the following articles:

We met at Murdock Middle/High School at 7:00pm. The Annual Town Meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Moderator Dr. Coral Grout with a quorum of 130 voters present. Brian Riley was present representing Town Counsel KP Law.

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, 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)

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

Michael Barbaro, Chairman of the Board of Selectmen acting as a Trustee of the Boston Post Cane, made the following presentation:

“The Winchendon Board of Selectmen, as Trustees of the Boston Post Cane, proudly congratulates Mr. Earl W. McQueston and acknowledge that he has the distinguished honor as the oldest resident in the Town of Winchendon and is the recipient of the Boston Post Cane. Mr. McQueston turned 99 in January this year. We hope to present Mr. McQueston with this honor in the near future” This is a New England tradition established in 1909 following Mr. Edwin A. Grozier, Publisher of the Boston Post Newspaper who presented this cane to the oldest resident in Winchendon.

Tom Kane gave a presentation for the Finance Committee, no vote take

ARTICLE 2

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, and to discharge any committees which have completed their duties, or act in relation thereto.
(usual and customary article)

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

Vote: Voted by majority to pass over article. 7:14pm.

REVOLVING FUNDS AUTHORIZATION ARTICLE

ARTICLE 3

To see if the town will vote to fix the maximum amount to be spent during fiscal year 2022 beginning on July 1, 2021 for the revolving funds established in town by-laws for certain departments, boards, committees, agencies or officers in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53 E1/2, or take any other action relative thereto.

<u>Revolving Fund</u>	<u>Department, Board, Committee Agency or Officer</u>	<u>FY 2022 Spending Limit</u>
Agriculture	Agriculture Commission	\$ 1,000
Large Copy Fees	Planning & Development	\$ 1,000
Restitution Fees	Land Use	\$ 1,000
Extended Day	School	\$10,000
Damaged books	School	\$ 5,000
Summer School	School	\$ 1,000
Recycling	Board of Health	\$ 1,000
Composting	Board of Health	\$ 1,000
Arts Lottery	Arts Lottery Commission	\$ 7,500
Wetland Fees	Conservation	\$20,000
Library copy Fees	Librarian/Library Trustees	\$ 8,000
Library Material	Librarian/Library Trustees	\$ 8,000
Student parking	School	\$ 5,000
Community Development	Town Manager	\$25,000
Block Program Income		

(submitted by the Interim Town Manager)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 4-0-1
FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 5-0

Vote: Approved by majority to establish the annual spending limits of the revolving accounts as set forth in the warrant. 7:15pm.

USUAL AND CUSTOMARY FINANCIAL ARTICLES

(majority vote required)

ARTICLE 4 Senior Tax Work-Off

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from other available funds the sum of eight thousand eight hundred dollars (\$8,800) for the Senior Tax Work-off Program, or act in relation thereto. (submitted by the Interim Town Manager)

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

Vote: Approved by majority to raise and appropriate the sum of \$8,800 for the FY2022 Senior Work Off Program. 7:17pm

ARTICLE 5 Non Profit Assistance

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from other available funds the sum of \$25,000 as a grant to the non-profit, Community Action Committee, Inc., 273 Central Street, Winchendon, in consideration of the numerous services provided to the Town, or act in relation thereto.

(submitted by the Interim Town Manager)

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

Vote: Approved by majority to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 as a grant to the Community Action Committee, 273 Central Street, Winchendon, in consideration of the numerous services provided to the Town, and in connection therewith authorize the Board of Selectmen and Town Manager to enter into a grant agreement with the Committee setting forth the terms and conditions thereof. 7:19pm

USUAL AND CUSTOMARY GENERAL GOVERNMENT BUDGET ARTICLE
(majority vote required)

ARTICLE 6 General Government

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and transfer from other available funds the sum of \$16,185,796 for the operating budget of the Town for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021, or act in relation thereto. (usual and customary article)

(submitted by the Interim Town Manager)

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

Town of Winchendon
Summary of Other Available Funds

Cemetery Trust	\$3,444
Title V Liens Redemption	\$16,747
Infrastructure Investment Fund	\$20,000
Use of Free Cash	\$453,763
CvRF for SPED Transporation	\$495,000
Water Indirect Costs	\$146,063
Wastewater Indirect Costs	\$138,739
Transfer Station Indirect Costs	\$22,797
TOTAL OTHER AVAILABLE FUNDS	\$ 1,296,553.00

GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATION SUMMARY

	2021	2021	2022		
	<u>APPROVED</u>	<u>EXPENDED</u>	<u>PROPOSED</u>	<u>INCREASE</u>	<u>PERCENTAGE</u>
	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>(DECREASE)</u>	<u>CHANGE</u>
		<u>12/31/21</u>			
SCHOOL					
TRANSPORTATION	\$1,377,829	\$150,012	\$1,847,050	\$469,221	34.06%
TOTAL SCHOOL					
TRANSPORTATION	\$1,377,829	\$150,012	\$1,847,050	\$469,221	34.06%
YMCA	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000	\$0	0.00%
TOTAL YMCA	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000	\$0	0.00%
SELECTMEN					
EXPENSES	\$15,240	\$2,423	\$15,240	\$0	0.00%
TOTAL SELECTMEN	\$15,240	\$2,423	\$15,240	\$0	0.00%
TOWN MANAGER					
PERSONNEL	\$253,058	\$132,908	\$244,629	-\$8,429	-3.33%
EXPENSES	\$21,250	\$7,231	\$17,440	-\$3,810	-17.93%
TOTAL TOWN MANAGER	\$274,308	\$140,138	\$262,069	-\$12,239	-4.46%
FINANCE COMMITTEE					
PERSONNEL	\$1,500	\$500	\$1,500	\$0	0.00%
EXPENSES	\$498,636	\$287	\$174,860	-\$323,776	-64.93%
TOTAL FINANCE COMMITTEE	\$500,136	\$787	\$176,360	-\$323,776	-64.74%
ACCOUNTING					
PERSONNEL	\$132,973	\$60,432	\$131,583	-\$1,390	-1.05%
EXPENSES	\$500	\$80	\$8,500	\$8,000	1600.00%
TOTAL ACCOUNTING	\$133,473	\$60,512	\$140,083	\$6,610	4.95%
ASSESSOR EXTENSES	\$98,693	\$54,804	\$100,900	\$2,207	2.24%
TOTAL ASSESSOR	\$98,693	\$54,804	\$100,900	\$2,207	2.24%
COLLECTOR/TREASURER					
PERSONNEL	\$159,123	\$77,891	\$147,209	-\$11,914	-7.49%
EXPENSES	\$70,560	\$30,098	\$70,560	\$0	0.00%
TOTAL COLL/TREAS.	\$229,683	\$107,989	\$217,769	-\$11,914	-5.19%
LEGAL EXPENSE					
EXPENSES	\$45,000	\$16,105	\$45,000	\$0	0.00%
TOTAL LEGAL	\$45,000	\$16,105	\$45,000	\$0	0.00%
DATA PROCESSING					
EXPENSES	\$52,400	\$42,884	\$52,900	\$500	0.95%
TOTAL DATA PROCESS.	\$52,400	\$42,884	\$52,900	\$500	0.95%

TECHNOLOGY					
PERSONNEL	\$75,656	\$36,713	\$77,555	\$1,899	2.51%
EXPENSES	\$27,020	\$10,008	\$31,000	\$3,980	14.73%
TOTAL TECHNOLOGY	\$102,676	\$46,721	\$108,555	\$5,879	5.73%
COMMUNICATIONS COM					
PERSONNEL	\$15,000	\$6,364	\$15,000	\$0	0.00%
EXPENSES	\$27,000	\$7,624	\$27,000	\$0	0.00%
TOTAL COMMUNICAITONS	\$42,000	\$13,988	\$42,000	\$0	0.00%
TOWN CLERK					
PERSONNEL	\$101,517	\$49,898	\$108,784	\$7,267	7.16%
EXPENSES	\$12,200	\$3,253	\$5,905	-\$6,295	-51.60%
TOTAL TOWN CLERK	\$113,717	\$53,151	\$114,689	\$972	0.85%
REGISTRAR OF VOTERS					
PERSONNEL	\$1,690	\$720	\$1,690	\$0	0.00%
EXPENSES	\$69,712	\$29,833	\$26,200	-\$43,512	-62.42%
TOTAL REG. OF VOTERS	\$71,402	\$30,553	\$27,890	-\$43,512	-60.94%
CONSERVATION					
PERSONNEL	\$1,200	\$0	\$1,200	\$0	0.00%
EXPENSES	\$250	\$250	\$550	\$300	120.00%
TOTAL CONSERVATION	\$1,450	\$250	\$1,750	\$300	20.69%
PLANNING BOARD					
PERSONNEL	\$2,250	\$0	\$2,250	\$0	0.00%
EXPENSES	\$5,100	\$1,798	\$5,100	\$0	0.00%
TOTAL PLANNING BD.	\$7,350	\$1,798	\$7,350	\$0	0.00%
ZONING BOARD					
PERSONNEL	\$1,400	\$0	\$1,400	\$0	0.00%
EXPENSES	\$750	\$0	\$750	\$0	0.00%
TOTAL ZONING BOARD	\$2,150	\$0	\$2,150	\$0	0.00%
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMNT					
PERSONNEL	\$156,266	\$77,831	\$154,886	-\$1,381	-0.88%
EXPENSES	\$9,550	\$49	\$9,550	\$0	0.00%
TOTAL COMMUNITY DEV.	\$165,816	\$77,880	\$164,436	-\$1,381	-0.83%
TOWN HALL					
PERSONNEL	\$34,319	\$15,510	\$35,106	\$787	2.29%
EXPENSES	\$81,278	\$27,638	\$77,381	-\$3,897	-4.79%

TOTAL TOWN HALL	\$115,597	\$43,147	\$112,487	-\$3,110	-2.69%
POLICE					
PERSONNEL	\$1,354,091	\$697,960	\$1,394,517	\$40,426	2.99%
EXPENSES	\$155,119	\$67,091	\$153,870	-\$1,249	-0.81%
TOTAL POLICE	\$1,509,210	\$765,051	\$1,548,387	\$39,177	2.60%
DISPATCH					
PERSONNEL	\$273,200	\$132,852	\$282,049	\$8,849	3.24%
EXPENSES	\$2,200	\$511	\$2,200	\$0	0.00%
TOTAL DISPATCH	\$275,400	\$133,364	\$284,249	\$8,849	3.21%
FIRE					
PERSONNEL	\$1,013,564	\$592,763	\$1,204,719	\$191,155	18.86%
EXPENSES	\$155,628	\$32,312	\$131,680	-\$23,948	-15.39%
TOTAL FIRE	\$1,169,192	\$625,074	\$1,336,399	\$167,207	14.30%
AMBULANCE					
PERSONNEL	\$13,000	\$975	\$15,000	\$2,000	15.38%
EXPENSES	\$123,750	\$47,794	\$122,200	-\$1,550	-1.25%
TOTAL AMBULANCE	\$136,750	\$48,769	\$137,200	\$450	0.33%
LAND USE					
PERSONNEL	\$112,987	\$53,203	\$113,015	\$29	0.03%
EXPENSES	\$9,009	\$2,144	\$8,986	-\$23	-0.26%
TOTAL LAND USE	\$121,996	\$55,347	\$122,001	\$6	0.00%
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT					
PERSONNEL	\$2,548	\$1,174	\$2,548	\$0	0.00%
EXPENSES	\$1,400	\$1,000	\$1,400	\$0	0.00%
TOTAL EMERG. MGMT.	\$3,948	\$2,174	\$3,948	\$0	0.00%
ANIMAL CONTROL					
PERSONNEL	\$3,200	\$0	\$3,200	\$0	0.00%
EXPENSES	\$52,322	\$24,327	\$53,117	\$795	1.52%
TOTAL ANIMAL CONTROL	\$55,522	\$24,327	\$56,317	\$795	1.43%
DPW ADMIN					
PERSONNEL	\$213,438	\$88,348	\$156,784	-\$56,654	-26.54%
EXPENSES	\$15,400	\$12,171	\$15,600	\$200	1.30%
TOTAL DPW ADMIN	\$228,838	\$100,519	\$172,384	-\$56,454	-24.67%
DPW HIGHWAY					
PERSONNEL	\$236,605	\$113,787	\$349,560	\$112,955	47.74%
EXPENSES	\$229,075	\$114,742	\$217,100	-\$11,975	-5.23%

TOTAL DPW HIGHWAY	\$465,680	\$228,528	\$566,660	\$100,980	21.68%
DPW FLEET MAINT					
PERSONNEL	\$105,453	\$42,352	\$110,477	\$5,024	4.76%
EXPENSES	\$109,356	\$40,919	\$112,550	\$3,194	2.92%
TOTAL DPW FLEET MAINT	\$214,809	\$83,272	\$223,027	\$8,218	3.83%
DPW SNOW & ICE					
PERSONNEL	\$60,000	\$14,542	\$60,000	\$0	0.00%
EXPENSES	\$150,000	\$83,403	\$150,000	\$0	0.00%
TOTAL DPW SNOW/ ICE	\$210,000	\$97,945	\$210,000	\$0	0.00%
DPW STREET LIGHTING					
EXPENSES	\$32,000	\$12,100	\$35,000	\$3,000	9.38%
TOTAL DPW ST. LIGHTING	\$32,000	\$12,100	\$35,000	\$3,000	9.38%
LANDFILL					
EXPENSES	\$27,267	\$5,548	\$22,500	-\$4,767	-17.48%
TOTAL LANDFILL	\$27,267	\$5,548	\$22,500	-\$4,767	-17.48%
DPW CEMETERY					
PERSONNEL	\$106,175	\$46,764	\$106,616	\$441	0.42%
EXPENSES	\$11,000	\$4,585	\$10,000	-\$1,000	-9.09%
TOTAL CEMETERY	\$117,175	\$51,349	\$116,616	-\$559	-0.48%
DPW TREE TRIMMING					
EXPENSES	\$2,000	\$1,500	\$7,500	\$5,500	275%
TOTAL TREE TRIMMING	\$2,000	\$1,500	\$7,500	\$5,500	275%
HEALTH DEPARTMENT					
PERSONNEL	\$51,549	\$24,625	\$52,217	\$668	1.29%
EXPENSES	\$4,805	\$1,493	\$7,305	\$2,500	52.03%
TOTAL HEALTH DEPT.	\$56,354	\$26,118	\$59,522	\$3,168	5.62%
BOARD OF HEALTH OUTSIDE SERVICE					
EXPENSES	\$2,150	\$0	\$2,150	\$0	0.00%
TOTAL HEALTH OUTSIDE SERVICE	\$2,150	\$0	\$2,150	\$0	0.00%
BOARD OF HEALTH VISITING NURSE					
EXPENSES	\$8,500	\$0	\$8,500	\$0	0.00%
TOTAL HEALTH VISITING N	\$8,500	\$0	\$8,500	\$0	0.00%
COUNCIL ON AGING					
PERSONNEL	\$180,020	\$80,682	\$182,407	\$2,387	1.33%

EXPENSES	\$42,088	\$7,772	\$37,500	-\$4,588	-10.90%
TOTAL COA	\$222,108	\$88,454	\$219,907	-\$2,201	-0.99%
VETERANS SERVICES					
PERSONNEL	\$17,257	\$8,314	\$17,680	\$423	2.45%
EXPENSES	\$398,292	\$146,217	\$377,590	-\$20,702	-5.20%
TOTAL VETERANS SERV.	\$415,549	\$154,531	\$395,270	-\$20,279	-4.88%
BEALS LIBRARY					
PERSONNEL	\$170,332	\$84,727	\$180,377	\$10,044	5.90%
EXPENSES	\$52,735	\$25,954	\$53,800	\$1,065	2.02%
TOTAL BEALS LIBRARY	\$223,067	\$110,680	\$234,177	\$11,109	4.98%
RECREATION COMMITTEE					
EXPENSES	\$4,036	\$0	\$4,036	\$0	0.00%
TOTAL RECREATION COMM	\$4,036	\$0	\$4,036	\$0	0.00%
HISTORIC COMMISSION					
EXPENSES	\$1,000	\$150	\$1,000	\$0	0.00%
TOTAL HISTORIC COMM.	\$1,000	\$150	\$1,000	\$0	0.00%
DEBT SERVICE PRINCIPAL					
EXPENSES	\$788,863	\$451,973	\$703,772	-\$85,091	-10.79%
TOTAL DEBT SERVICE PRINCIPAL	\$788,863	\$451,973	\$703,772	-\$85,091	-10.79%
DEBT SERVICE INTEREST					
EXPENSES	\$154,920	\$44,871	\$111,697	-\$43,223	-27.90%
TOTAL DEBT SERVICE INTEREST	\$154,920	\$44,871	\$111,697	-\$43,223	-27.90%
STATE ASSESSMENT EXPENSE					
EXPENSES	\$1,315,861	\$626,839	\$1,225,225	-\$90,636	-6.89%
TOTAL STATE ASSESSMENT	\$1,315,861	\$626,839	\$1,225,225	-\$90,636	-6.89%
OTHER STATE ASSESSMENT EXPENSES					
EXPENSES	\$20,248	\$10,212	\$20,317	\$69	0.34%
TOTAL OTHER STATE ASSESSMENTS	\$20,248	\$10,212	\$20,317	\$69	0.34%
OTHER REGIONAL ASSESSMENT					
EXPENSES	\$38,822	\$18,819	\$40,700	\$1,878	4.84%
TOTAL REGIONAL ASSESSMENT	\$38,822	\$18,819	\$40,700	\$1,878	4.84%

PENSION					
EXPENSES	\$1,706,683	\$1,706,683	\$1,933,573	\$226,890	13.29%
TOTAL PENSION	\$1,706,683	\$1,706,683	\$1,933,573	\$226,890	13.29%
WORKERS					
COMPENSATION					
EXPENSES	\$146,431	\$147,564	\$158,000	\$11,569	7.90%
TOTAL WORKERS					
COMPENSATION	\$146,431	\$147,564	\$158,000	\$11,569	7.90%
UNEMPLOYMENT					
INSURANCE					
EXPENSES	\$275,774	\$3,772	\$45,000	-\$230,774	-83.68%
TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT					
INSURANCE	\$275,774	\$3,772	\$45,000	-\$230,774	-83.68%
HEALTH INSURANCE - EMPLOYER					
EXPENSES	\$1,854,345	\$887,502	\$1,962,000	\$107,655	5.81%
TOTAL HEALTH					
INSURANCE-EMPLOYER	\$1,854,345	\$887,502	\$1,962,000	\$107,655	5.81%
LIFE INSURANCE -					
EMPLOYER					
EXPENSES	\$13,000	\$6,810	\$13,000	\$0	0.00%
TOTAL LIFE INSURANCE					
EMPLOYER	\$13,000	\$6,810	\$13,000	\$0	0.00%
MEDICARE TAX					
EXPENSES	\$225,251	\$98,376	\$234,000	\$8,749	3.88%
TOTAL MEDICARE TAX	\$225,251	\$98,376	\$234,000	\$8,749	3.88%
PROPERTY / LIABILITY INSURANCE					
EXPENSES	\$277,301	\$250,091	\$288,500	\$11,199	4.04%
TOTAL					
PROPERTY/LIABILITY					
INSURNACE	\$277,301	\$250,091	\$288,500	\$11,199	4.04%
CAPITAL					
IMPROVEMENTS	\$421,157	\$421,157	\$234,584	-\$186,573	-44.30%
TOTAL CAPITAL					
IMPROVEMENTS	\$421,157	\$421,157	\$234,584	-\$186,573	-44.30%
GRAND TOTAL	\$16,100,128	\$8,132,611	\$16,185,796	\$85,668	0.53%

Vote: Approved by majority that the Town vote to raise and appropriate and transfer from other available funds the total sum of \$16,185,796 for the operating budget of the Town for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021, all as set forth in the warrant under Article 6, with each line item in the budget as appearing in the warrant to be approved as a separate appropriation. 7:29pm

USUAL AND CUSTOMARY WATER ENTERPRISE ARTICLE
(majority vote required)

ARTICLE 7 Water Enterprise

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$967,915 for direct costs of the Water Department Enterprise Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021, and that indirect costs of \$146,063 appropriated in the general government budget be funded by Water Receipts, or act in relation thereto.

(submitted by the Interim Town Manager)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 4-1

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 5-0

Vote: Approved by majority that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$967,915 (Water Receipts) for direct costs of the Water Department Enterprise Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021 and that indirect costs of \$146,063 appropriated on the general government budget be funded by water receipts. 7:30pm

USUAL AND CUSTOMARY WASTEWATER ENTERPRISE ARTICLE
(majority vote required)

ARTICLE 8 Wastewater Enterprise

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$1,373,427 (Wastewater Receipts of \$1,202,166 and Betterment Revenues of \$310,000) for the direct costs of the Wastewater Treatment Department Enterprise Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021, and that indirect costs of \$138,739 appropriated in the general government budget be funded by Wastewater Receipts, or act in relation thereto.

(submitted by the Interim Town Manager)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 4-1

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 5-0

Vote: Approved by majority that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$1,373,427 (Wastewater Receipts of \$1,202,166 and Betterment Revenues of \$310,000) for the direct costs of the Wastewater Treatment Department Enterprise Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021 and that indirect costs of \$138,379 appropriated on the general government budget be funded by wastewater receipts. 7:33pm

USUAL AND CUSTOMARY TRANSFER STATION ENTERPRISE ARTICLES
(majority vote required)

ARTICLE 9 Transfer Station Enterprise

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$192,028 from Transfer Station Receipts for direct costs of the Transfer Station Enterprise Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021; and that indirect costs of \$22,797 appropriated in the general government budget be funded by Transfer Station Receipts, or act in relation thereto.

(submitted by the Interim Town Manager)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 5-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 5-0

Vote: Approved by majority that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$192,028 from Transfer Station Receipts for the direct costs of the Transfer Station Enterprise Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021 and that indirect costs of \$22,797 appropriated on the general government budget be funded by Transfer Station receipts. 7:35pm

USUAL AND CUSTOMARY EDUCATION BUDGET ARTICLE

(majority vote required)

ARTICLE 10 School Department Budget

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the sum of \$14,242,642 (Required Net School Spending of \$17,036,655 plus \$356,606.29 prior year override that includes a 2.5% escalator in increased funding plus \$63,000 which represents a portion of the solar PILOT revenues for FY22 less \$3,213,619.65 for net school spending and eligible indirect costs budgeted in the general government budget for School Expenses) for the operating budget of the Winchendon Public Schools for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021, or act in relation thereto.

(Submitted by the School Department)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 5-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 5-0

Vote: Approved by majority that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$14,242,642 (Required Net School Spending of \$17,036,655 plus \$356,606.29 prior year override including a 2.5% escalator plus \$63,000 from Solar PILOT revenues for FY22 less \$3,213,619.65 for net school spending eligible indirect costs budgeted in the general government budget for School Expenses) for the operating budget of the Winchendon Public Schools for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021. 7:37pm

ANNUAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL ASSESSMENT ARTICLE

(majority vote required)

ARTICLE 11 Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$784,000 to fund the Town's assessment for its share of the Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021, or act in relation thereto.

(Submitted by the Interim Town Manager)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 5-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 5-0

Vote: Approved by majority that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$784,000 to fund the Town's assessment for the Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021. 7:38pm

CAPITAL ARTICLES

ARTICLE 12 DPW Truck, Lease/Purchase

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Manager, in accordance with the provisions of G.L. c.44, §21C to enter into a lease purchase agreement for a term of four years for the acquisition and equipping of a Ten Wheel Dump Truck, with plow with sander insert for use by the Department of Public Works, or act in relation thereto. (Total cost of the lease over 4 years estimated at \$236,360)

(submitted by the Interim Town Manager) (2/3 vote required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 5-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 5-0

Vote: Approved by 2/3rds vote to authorize the Town Manager, in accordance with the provisions of G.L. c.44, §21C to enter into a lease purchase agreement for a term of four years for the acquisition and equipping of a ten wheel dump truck, with plow and with sander insert for use by the Department of Public Works. 7:40pm

ARTICLE 13 Police Cruisers

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, and/or borrow the sum of \$95,000 for the acquisition and equipping of two Police Department Cruisers, or act in relation thereto.

(submitted by the Interim Town Manager) (majority vote required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 5-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 5-0

Vote: On an amended motion, the Town voted by majority to appropriate from Article 6 the sum of \$95,000 for the acquisition and equipping of two Police Department Cruisers. 7:48pm

ARTICLE 14 Beals Memorial Library Repairs/Upgrades

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds and/or borrow the sum of \$597,247 for Beals Memorial Library for upgrades to the electrical system and the installation of a fire suppression system, with \$300,000 transferred from Free Cash and the balance to be borrowed for a term of five years, or act in relation thereto.

(submitted by the Interim Town Manager) (2/3 vote required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 5-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 5-0

Vote: On an amended motion, it was voted by 2/3rds vote that the borrowed amount was reduced to \$100,000 due to an award received by the Robinson Broadhurst Foundation in the amount of \$200,000. 7:52pm

Vote: Approved by 2/3rds vote the Town appropriate the sum of \$597,247 for the purpose of funding upgrades to the electrical system and the installation of a fire suppression system at the Beals Memorial Library, and as funding, therefore that the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, be authorized to borrow up to \$100,000, and issue

bonds and notes therefore pursuant to G. L. c. 44, s7 or any other enabling authority; and further that any premium received by the Town upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this vote, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs approved by this vote in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20 of the General Laws, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs by a like amount, and further that the sum of \$300,000 be appropriated from Free Cash to fund the balance of the request.
7:52pm

ARTICLE 15 Senior Center Repairs

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds and/or borrow the sum of \$1,560,000 for critical repairs to the Senior Center building, or act in relation thereto. Proposed Repairs include ventilation and operating chimney repairs, selective roof repairs, clock tower window replacement and hazardous material survey and abatement. An amount of \$608,000 has been requested from the Robinson-Broadhurst Foundation for masonry repairs to the clock tower. If any funds are received from the Foundation for these repairs, the amount to be borrowed would be reduced by that amount. (It is proposed that the sum be borrowed for a term of 6 to 10 years.)

(submitted by the Interim Town Manager) (2/3 vote required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 4-1

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 5-0

Vote: On an amended motion, it was voted by 2/3rds vote that the appropriated amount be reduced by \$604,000 over the next 2 years due to an award received by the Robinson Broadhurst Foundation.

Vote: Approved by 2/3rds vote to appropriate the sum of \$956,000 for the purpose of making repairs for Phase 1 of three phases for the Old Murdock Senior Center, including the payment of all costs coincidental and related thereto; and as funding therefore that the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, be authorized to borrow said sum and issue bonds and notes therefor pursuant to G. L. c44, s7 or any other enabling authority; and further that any premium received by the Town upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this vote, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs approved by this vote in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20 of the General Laws, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs by a like amount, further that any grant funds received for the project will reduce the amount that is actually borrowed for the project. 8:00pm

ARTICLE 16 Toy Town Elementary School, Emergency Generator

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$100,000 to purchase and install an emergency generator at Toy Town Elementary School, or act in relation thereto.

(submitted by the Interim Town Manager) (majority vote required)
(correction from warrant printing which lists majority vote) (2/3 vote required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 5-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 5-0

Vote: Approved by 2/3rds vote to appropriate from Free Cash the sum of \$100,000 to purchase and install an emergency generator at Toy Town Elementary School. 8:05pm

ARTICLE 17 Replacement of Water Meters

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, and/or authorize the borrowing of \$800,000 to replace water meters throughout the system, and that the payments for such meter replacement be made through the Water Fund Enterprise budget. (Borrowing term: 10 years)

(submitted by the Interim Town Manager) (2/3 vote required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 4-1

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 5-0

Vote: Motion was defeated by required 2/3rds vote not received. 8:13pm

OTHER ARTICLES

ARTICLE 18 Design Costs for Grants

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds the sum of \$40,000 for design costs required for grant programs, or act in relation thereto.

(Explanation: Design costs are often required as part of a transportation/roadway application program. Without a readily available source of funds, the design costs are often charged to the only available/eligible source of funds, the Chapter 90 roads fund, which if utilized for design, would not be available for necessary road maintenance.)

(submitted by the Interim Town Manager) (majority vote required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 4-1

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 5-0

Vote: Approved by majority that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$40,000 for design costs required as part of various grant submissions. 8:16pm

ARTICLE 19 Mellen Rd. Acceptance

To see if the Town will vote to accept Mellen Road as a public town way, for all purposes customary as a public way including maintenance and repair, in the location laid out by the Board of Selectmen, on plan noted as Mellen Road Roadway Acceptance Plan, dated April 23, 2021, and drawn by McCarty Engineering Inc., with reference points noted at southerly border at 565 Mellen Road, extending northerly to 215 Mellen Road, said layout having been placed on file with the Town Clerk as required by law no less than seven (7) days prior to a vote hereon, or take any other action relative thereto.

(submitted by the Interim Town Manager) (2/3 vote required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 3-1-1

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 4-0-1

Vote: Motion was defeated by required 2/3rds vote which was not received. 8:22pm

ARTICLE 20 Mellen Road - Act Authorizing the Conveyance of an Easement

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire, by purchase, gift, eminent domain or otherwise, for public way purposes, easements or other interests in land in the location more or less depicted as “Mellen Road” on the plan entitled: “Mellen Road Roadway Acceptance Plan, dated April 23, 2021”, as said plan may be amended, a copy of which has been placed on file with the Town Clerk, to enable the Town to lay out and accept said Mellen Road as a public way in the Town, and further to see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court for special legislation in the form set forth below, provided that the General Court shall make changes of form only to the bill unless the Board of Selectmen approves amendments to the bill before enactment by the General Court within the scope of the general public objectives of the petition, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to approve such amendments, or take any other action relative thereto.

**AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE CONVEYANCE OF AN EASEMENT IN LAND
IN THE TOWN OF WINCHENDON**

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding sections 32 to 37 of chapter 7C of the General Laws or any other general or special law to the contrary, the division of capital asset management and maintenance, in consultation with the department of conservation and recreation, may convey to the town of Winchendon an permanent easement for public way purposes in an existing way identified as Mellen Road on a layout plan prepared by the town, as it abuts land known as the Winchendon State Forest located in the town, which land is under the care and control of the department and held for conservation and recreation purposes, and is identified on the town of Winchendon’s assessors’ maps as parcel 12-0-37, subject to such additional terms and conditions consistent with this act as the commissioner of capital asset management and maintenance, in consultation with the commissioner of conservation and recreation, may prescribe. The deed or other instrument conveying the easement to the town of Winchendon shall provide that the easement shall be used solely for public way purposes.

SECTION 2. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the town of Winchendon shall be responsible for all costs and expenses of the conveyance of the easement to the town pursuant to section 1 of this act as determined by the commissioner of capital asset management and maintenance, which shall include, but not limited to, the costs of any engineering, surveys, recording fees and deed preparation related to the conveyance of said parcel to the town of Winchendon.

or take any other action relative thereto.
(submitted by the Interim Town Manager)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 3-1-1
FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 4-0-1

Vote: Motion was defeated by majority vote. 8:45pm

ARTICLE 21 Town Charter

To see if the Town will vote pursuant to G.L. c.43B, §10(a) to amend the Town Charter as recommended by the Charter Bylaw Review Committee in a document entitled, “2021 Proposed Charter Revisions”, on file in the office of the Town Clerk and available on the Town’s website at <http://www.townofwinchendon.com/>, with text to be inserted underlined

and text to be deleted shown in the margins; revisions include but are not limited to: ministerial and clerical amendments such as grammar, capitalization, gender neutrality, internal consistency, and references to and updates based upon state law and other matters; or act in relation thereto.

(Submitted by Charter Bylaw Review Committee) (2/3 vote required)

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

Vote: Approved by 2/3rds vote that the Town vote pursuant to G.L. c.43B, s10(a) to amend the Town Charter as recommended by the Charter Bylaw Review Committee in a document entitled, "2021 Proposed Charter Revisions", on file in the office of the Town Clerk and available on the Town's website at <http://www.townofwinchendon.com>, with text to be inserted underlined and text to be deleted shown in the margins. 8:47pm

ARTICLE 22 General Bylaws

To see if the Town will vote to amend the General Bylaws of the Town of Winchendon as recommended by the Charter Bylaw Review Committee in a document entitled "2021 Proposed Bylaw Revisions" on file in the office of the Town Clerk and available on the Town's website at <http://www.townofwinchendon.com> with text to be inserted underlined and text to be deleted shown in the margins; revisions include but are not limited to: ministerial and clerical amendments such as grammar, capitalization, gender neutrality, internal consistency, and references to and updates based upon state law; as well as certain substantive revisions, such as an update and/or replacement of Articles 12 and 31 per M. G. L. or to clarify language and other matters; or act in relation thereto.

(Submitted by Charter Bylaw Review Committee) (majority vote)

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

Vote: Approved by majority vote that the Town vote to amend the General Bylaws of the Town of Winchendon as recommended by the Charter Bylaw Review Committee in a document entitled "2021 Proposed Bylaw Revisions" on file in the office of the Town Clerk and available on the Town's website at <http://www.townofwinchendon.com> with text to be inserted underlined and text to be deleted shown in the margins. 8:53pm

ACCEPT DEED IN LIEU OF FORECLOSURE HALL STREET AND LINCOLN AVENUE (majority vote required)

ARTICLE 23 Deed in Lieu of Foreclosure

To see if the Town will vote to accept a deed in lieu of foreclosure from John D. Walker, or from the then current owner(s), pursuant to the provisions of G.L. Chapter 60, Section 77C, to three (3) parcels of land identified as (i) Assessor's Map 4D4-0-11, being 0.14 acres, more or less, located on Hall Street; (ii) Assessor's Map 2-0-72, being 0.15 acres, more or less, located on Lincoln Avenue; and (iii) Assessor's Map 2-0-73, being 0.30 acres, more or less, located on Lincoln Avenue, said property described in a deed recorded with the Worcester South Registry of Deeds in Book 4810, Page 40, which parcels are subject to tax

takings held by the Treasurer/Collector for unpaid real estate taxes, said parcels to be under the care, custody, control and management of the Board of Selectmen for general municipal purposes, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept and record the deed, provided the Board of Selectmen determines that the deed and the acceptance shall comply with the provisions of G.L. Chapter 60, Section 77C, or act in relation thereto.

Or act in relation thereto.

(Submitted by the Interim Town Manager)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 5-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 5-0

Vote: Approved by majority that the Town will vote to accept a deed in lieu of foreclosure from John D. Walker, or from the then current owner(s), pursuant to the provisions of G.L. Chapter 60, Section 77C, to three (3) parcels of land identified as (i) Assessor's Map 4D4-0-11, being 0.14 acres, more or less, located on Hall Street; (ii) Assessor's Map 2-0-72, being 0.15 acres, more or less, located on Lincoln Avenue; and (iii) Assessor's Map 2-0-73, being 0.30 acres, more or less, located on Lincoln Avenue, said property described in a deed recorded with the Worcester South Registry of Deeds in Book 4810, Page 40, which parcels are subject to tax takings held by the Treasurer/Collector for unpaid real estate taxes, said parcels to be under the care, custody, control and management of the Board of Selectmen for general municipal purposes, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept and record the deed, provided the Board of Selectmen determines that the deed and the acceptance shall comply with the provisions of G.L. Chapter 60, Section 77C. 8:56pm

CITIZEN PETITION

(majority vote required)

Vote: 2/3 required

(correction from warrant printing which lists majority vote)

ARTICLE 24

The residents of Mellen Road are not waiving: earlier public designations/recognitions, ANR, public nature by prescription, and/or other actions/omissions and/or statements that the road is a public way, and the residents of Mellen Road reserve all remedies for the Town of Winchendon attempting to change positions, including, but not limited to, damages and attorneys' fees.

Subject to the foregoing reservations and notice of non-waiver, in order to stop the Town of Winchendon from continuing to avoid its obligations, the residents of Mellon Road hereby present this Petition.

Petition subject to notice of nonwaiver: To see if the Town will vote to accept Mellon Road from the Southern border of Winchendon town line adjacent to the property #565 extending northernmost border of property #215 to the end of new pavement as shown on the existing conditions plan 204-405 Mellen Road, Winchendon MA prepared for McCarty Companies by Tauper Land Survey, Inc. File: 20-383 215-405 Mellen Rd., Winchendon, Ma McCarty, for all purposes for which public ways are used in the Town of Winchendon and for the purpose of maintenance and repair.

(Submitted by Citizen's Petition)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: NOT RECOMMEND 3-1-1
FINANCE COMMITTEE: NOT RECOMMEND 4-0-1

Vote: Motion was defeated by required 2/3rds vote which was not received. 9:13pm

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn the Annual Town Meeting at 9:16pm

Total voters present: 130

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 seven 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 26th day of April 2021.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

Michael Barbaro, Chairman
Rick Ward, Vice-Chairman
Barbara Anderson
Audrey LaBrie
Amy Salter



**TOWN OF WINCHENDON
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
November 8, 2021**

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, NOVEMBER 8, 2021
AT 7:00 P.M.**

then and there to act on the following articles:

Met at the Murdock Middle/High School at 7pm at which time the quorum was not met. Quorum was achieved with 80 voters present and meeting was opened at 7:13pm by Moderator Dr. Coral Grout. Attorney Brian Riley was present representing Town Counsel Kopelman and Paige.

REPORTS AND COMMITTEES

ARTICLE 1

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

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 5-0
FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 6-0**

Finance Chair Tom Kane read the Finance Committee Report.

VOTED: Approved (Majority) that the Town vote to hear and act on the report of the Finance Committee.

Yes: 99% No: 1% Passed at 7:25pm

ARTICLE 2

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$1,621.25 for the payment of bills of a prior fiscal year as follows:

Fiscal Year	Name	<u>Invoice Amount</u>
FY2019	Votacall	\$500.00
FY2019	eCity Systems, LLC	\$515.00
FY2020	eCity Systems, LLC	\$104.00

FY2020	Votacall	\$125.00
FY2020	Votacall	<u>\$377.25</u>
Total		\$1,621.25

or act in relation thereto. (Submitted by the Town Manager)
(Nine tenths vote required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 5-0
FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 6-0

VOTED: Approved (9/10ths) that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$1,621.25 for the payment of bills of a prior fiscal year as presented.

Yes: 99% No: 1% Passed at 7:27pm

CAPITAL ARTICLES

ARTICLE 3

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$65,000 for the construction of a Municipal Parking Lot to be located on Town-owned Parcel 5B2-0-300.

(submitted by the Town Manager)

(Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 5-0
FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 6-0

VOTED: Approved (Majority) that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$65,000 for the construction of a Municipal Parking Lot to be located on Town-owned Parcel 5B2-0-300 as presented.

Yes: 86% No: 14% Passed at 7:28pm

ARTICLE 4

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$66,735.27 for the acquisition of a replacement 1 Ton Truck for the DPW.

(submitted by the Town Manager)

(Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 5-0
FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 6-0

VOTED: Approved (Majority) that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$66,735.27 for the acquisition of a replacement 1 Ton Truck for the DPW as presented.

Yes: 96% No: 4% Passed at 7:30pm

FINANCIAL ARTICLES

ARTICLE 5

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$81,562.65 to fund the FY21 operating deficit of the Water Department, or act in relation thereto.

(submitted by the Town Manager)

(Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 5-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 6-0

VOTED: Approved (Majority) that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$81,562.65 to fund the FY21 operating deficit for the Water Department as presented.

Yes: 85% No: 15% Passed at 7:34pm

ARTICLE 6

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$154,131.98 to fund the FY21 operating deficit of the Wastewater Department, or act in relation thereto.

(submitted by the Town Manager)

(Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 5-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 6-0

VOTED: Approved (Majority) that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$154,131.98 to fund the FY21 operating deficit for the Wastewater Department as presented.

Yes: 81% No: 19% Passed at 7:39pm

ARTICLE 7

To see if the Town will vote to raise or transfer from available funds the additional sum of \$114,406 to fund the anticipated revenue shortfall of the Water Budget voted under Article 7 of the May 17, 2021 Annual Town Meeting, and to decrease the FY2022 Water Budget \$70,000 from \$1,113,978 to \$1,043,978, or act in relation thereto.

(submitted by the Town Manager)

(Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 3-2

FINANCE COMMITTEE: NOT RECOMMEND 6-0

VOTED: Approved (Majority) that the Town vote to transfer from ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) Funds the sum of \$51,664.02 to fund the projected FY22 operating deficit for the Water Department, and to decrease the FY22 Water Budget as voted in Article 7 of the May 17, 2021 Annual Town Meeting by \$70,000 from \$1,113,978 to \$1,043,978 as presented.

Yes: 70% No: 30% Passed at 8:11pm

ARTICLE 8

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the additional sum of \$199,217 to fund the anticipated revenue shortfall of the Wastewater Budget voted under Article 8 of the May 17, 2021 Annual Town Meeting, and to decrease the FY2022 Wastewater Budget \$100,000 from \$1,512,166 to \$1,412,166 or act in relation thereto.

(submitted by the Town Manager)

(Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 3-2
FINANCE COMMITTEE: NOT RECOMMEND 6-0

Voted: Approved (Majority) that the Town vote to transfer from ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) Funds the sum of \$26,127.33 to fund the projected FY22 operating deficit for the Wastewater Department, and to decrease the FY22 Wastewater Budget as voted in Article 8 of the May 17, 2021 Annual Town Meeting by \$100,000 from \$1,512,166 to \$1,412,166 as presented.

Yes: 71% No: 29% Passed at 8:17pm

ARTICLE 9

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the additional sum of \$1,553.30 to be added to the Vets Service Director Personnel Account voted under Article 6 of the May 17, 2021 Annual Town Meeting, for a total appropriation for FY2022 of \$18,928.30, or act in relation thereto.

(submitted by the Town Manager)

(Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 5-0
FINANCE COMMITTEE: NOT RECOMMEND 6-0

Voted: Approved (Majority) that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$1,553.30 to the FY22 Veteran's Service Director Personnel Account as presented.

Yes: 81% No: 19% Passed at 8:21pm

ARTICLE 10

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$50,000 to the OPEB Trust Account that was established to mitigate the Town's liability for Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB), or act in relation thereto.

(submitted by the Finance Committee)

(Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 5-0
FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 6-0

Voted: Approved (Majority) that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$50,000 to the OPEB Trust Account as presented.

Yes: 92% No: 8% Passed at 8:23pm

ARTICLE 11

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$50,000 to a Reserve Account established to mitigate the Town's liability for Contractual Separation Pay-outs, or act in relation thereto.

(submitted by the Finance Committee)

(Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 5-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 6-0

Voted: Approved (Majority) that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$50,000 to a reserve Account established to mitigate the Town's liability for Contractual Separation Pay-outs as presented.

Yes: 93% No: 7% Passed at 8:24pm

ARTICLE 12

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$130,000 to the Stabilization Fund, or act in relation thereto.

(submitted by the Finance Committee)

(Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 5-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 6-0

Voted: Approved (Majority) that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$130,000 to the Stabilization Account as presented.

Yes: 99% No: 1% Passed at 8:26pm

GENERAL BUSINESS ARTICLES

ARTICLE 13

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Manager, in accordance with the provisions of G.L. c.44, §21C to enter into a lease purchase agreement for a term of three years for the acquisition and equipping of a Cracksealer for use by the Department of Public Works, or act in relation thereto.

(Purchase is already funded for year 1 through Annual Operating Budget at \$31,000 a year, no additional cost. Year 2 and 3 will be the same amount and proposed at the Annual Town Meeting)

(submitted by the Town Manager)

(Two-thirds Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 5-0 with Amendment to include the total cost of the lease to be \$93,000.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 6-0 with Amendment to include the total cost of the lease to be \$93,000.

Voted: Approved (2/3rds) that the Town authorize the Town Manager, in accordance with the provisions of MGL c.44, s21C to enter into a lease purchase agreement for a term of three years for the acquisition and equipping of a Cracksealer for use by the Department of Public Works at a total cost of \$93,382.16.

Yes: 99% No: 1% Passed at 8:28pm

REQUEST TO AQUIRE PROPERTY

ARTICLE 14

To see if the Town will vote to accept a deed(s) in lieu of foreclosure from Michael L. Therrien and Bonnie Therrien, or from the then current owner(s), pursuant to the provisions of G.L. Chapter 60, Section 77C, two (2) parcels of land, with the improvements thereon, identified as (i) Assessors Map 5C3-0-20, located at 3 Beech Street, and Assessors Map 5C3-0-220, located at 11 Beech Street, which properties are subject to tax takings held by the Treasurer/Collector for unpaid real estate taxes, said parcels to be under the care, custody, control and management of the Board of Selectmen for general municipal purposes, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept and record the deed or deeds therefor, provided the Board of Selectmen determines that the deed or deeds and the acceptance shall comply with the provisions of G.L. Chapter 60, Section 77C, or act in relation thereto.

(submitted by the Town Manager)

(Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 5-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 5-1

Voted: Approved (Majority) to accept a deed(s) in lieu of foreclosure from Michael L. Therrien and Bonnie Therrien, or from the then current owner(s), pursuant to the provisions of MGL c.60, s77C, two (2) parcents of land, with the improvements thereon, identified as (i) Assessors Map 5C3-0-20, located at 3 Beech Street and Assessors Map 5C3-0-220, located at 11 Beech Street as presented.

Yes: 87% No: 13% Passed at 8:33pm

REQUEST TO SELL/TRADE TOWN PROPERTY

ARTICLE 15

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to convey the Town-owned property located at 3 Beech Street and 11 Beech Street, as shown as Assessors Map 5C3 Parcel 0-20, and Assessors Map 5C3 Parcel 0-220 respectively, for such consideration, and upon such other terms and conditions as the Board deems appropriate, and to take such additional action as may be needed to effectuate the purposes of this vote, including but not limited to execution of instruments and documents to convey said property, or act in relation thereto.

(submitted by the Town Manager)

(Two-thirds Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 5-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 6-0

Voted: An amendment was made and voted to include “to the Winchendon Redevelopment Authority”

Yes: 97% No: 3% Amendment was Passed at 8:35pm

Voted: Approved (2/3rd) to authorize the Board of Selectmen to convey the Town-owned property located at 3 Beech Street and 11 Beech Street, as shown as Assessors Map 5C3 Parcel 0-20, and Assessors Map 5C3 Parcel 0-200, respectively to the Winchendon Redevelopment Authority, for such consideration, including nominal consideration, and upon such other terms and conditions as the Board deems appropriate, and to take such additional action as may be needed to effectuate the purposes of this vote, including but not limited to execution of instruments and documents as presented.

Yes: 97% No: 3% Passed at 8:39pm

ARTICLE 16

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to convey the Town-owned property located at 4 Summer Drive, and shown as Assessors Map 5B3 Parcel 0-153, for such consideration, and upon such other terms and conditions as the Board deems appropriate, and to take such additional action as may be needed to effectuate the purposes of this vote, including but not limited to execution of instruments and documents to convey said real property or act in relation thereto.

(submitted by the Town Manager)

(Two-thirds Vote Required)

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 5-0
FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 6-0**

Voted: An amendment was made and voted to include “to Bull Spit Brewing Company”

Yes: 93% No: 7% Amendment was passed at 8:42pm

Voted: Approved (2/3rds) to authorize the Board of Selectmen to convey the Town-owned property located at 4 Summer Drive, and shown as Assessors Map 5B3 Parcel 0-153 to Bull Spit Brewing Company, for such consideration, and upon such other terms and conditions as the Board deems appropriate, and to take such additional action as may be needed to effectuate the purposes of this vote, including but not limited to execution of instruments and documents to convey said real property as presented.

Yes: 95% No: 5% Passed at 8:44pm

ARTICLE 17

To see if the Town will vote to accept Madison Avenue as a public town way, for all purposes customary as a public way including maintenance and repair, in the location laid out by the Board of Selectmen, on plan noted as Madison Avenue Subdivision Plan, dated October 14, 2008, and drawn by Hamwey Engineering Inc., said plan having been placed on file with the Town Clerk, and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept such all necessary property interest, or act in relation thereto.

(submitted by the Town Manager)

(Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 5-0
FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 6-0

Voted: Approved (Majority) to accept Madison Avenue as a public town way, for all purposes customary as a public way including maintenance and repair, in the location laid out by the Board of Selectmen, on plan noted as Madison Avenue Subdivision Plan, dated October 14, 2008, and drawn by Hamwey Engineering Inc., said plan having been placed on file with the Town Clerk, and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept all such necessary property interest for said public way as presented.

Yes: 97% No: 3% Passed at 8:46pm

The Special Town Meeting was adjourned at 8:46pm

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 notice with information on how and where a copy of the warrant can be obtained and where it can be viewed (electronically and/or in person) to be mailed to each household owned or occupied by a registered voter of the Town. Immediately upon posting of the warrant, copies shall be provided to citizens on request and the warrant shall be posted on any Town electronic bulletin board and on the Town website 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 12th day of October 2021.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

Audrey LaBrie, Chair
Rick Ward, Vice-Chair
Barbara Anderson
Danielle LaPointe
Amy Salter

TOWN ACCOUNTANT				
In accordance with Chapter 41, Section 61 of the M.G.L., the following report				
reflects the change in Town debts, the receipts and expenditures of the General Fund,				
and a statement of financial position for all funds for the period ended June 30, 2020				
Respectfully submitted,				
Joanne L. Goguen				
Town Accountant				
	<u>Account #</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Account #</u>
<u>GENERAL FUND:</u>				
Title V	017102-591000	7,809	-	017512-591500
Landfill CWS98-130	017102-591000	48,888	-	017512-591500
MWPAT Sewer 03-04	017102-591000	154,397	8,669	017512-591500
MWPAT Allonge 03-04a	017102-591000	50,099	-	017512-591500
USDA Water Route 140 (1/2)	017102-591000	6,676	11,899	017512-591500
Police Dept - Station Building	017102-591000	150,000	67,312	017512-591500
BANS	017102-591000	326,098	19,321	017512-592500
Fire Dept - Ladder Truck	017102-591000	65,000	18,769	017512-591500
		-	-	
		808,967	125,970	
<u>WATER FUND:</u>				
Ash-Winchendon 3M DW99-20	604503-591000	130,940	-	604503-591500
Allonge \$233,098. DW99-20A	604503-591000	14,139	-	604503-591500
BANS	604503-591000	27,510	1,977	604503-591500
USDA Water System IMPR A 11	604503-591000	27,289	27,095	604503-591500
USDA Water Route 140 (1/2)	604503-591000	6,676	11,899	604503-591500
		206,554	40,971	
<u>SEWER FUND:</u>				
MWPAT Sewer 02-05	654403-591000	165,904	10,081	654403-591500
MWPAT Sewer 01-22	654403-591000	204,946	12,690	654403-591500
USDA Pump Station Sewer 92-01	654403-591000	6,782	5,051	654403-591500
		377,632	27,822	
Debt Payments - Town (Above)		1,393,153	194,763	
L/T Debt Payments - State Subsidy		276,314	-	
S/T Debt Issued -Sally Port/Street Lights			-	
<u>Net Decrease in Debt</u>		<u>1,669,467</u>		
<u>SUMMARY OF INDEBTEDNESS</u>				
	Beg Balance			Ending Balance
	7/1/2019	Increases	Decreases	6/30/2020
ShortTerm Debt	1,055,021		353,608	701,413
Long Term Debt	8,491,948	-	1,315,859	7,176,089
	\$ 9,546,969	-	1,669,467	\$ 7,877,502

REPORTS OF THE TOWN ACCOUNTANT

TOWN OF WINCHENDON, MA			
FY 21 STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS & EXPENDITURES			
GENERAL FUND			
Budgeted Sources & Actual Receipts			
	Final	Actual	
	Budget	Receipts	Variance
Real and Personal Property Taxes	13,116,968	12,886,496	(230,472)
Intergovernmental Revenues - State Aid	13,747,737	13,716,561	(31,176)
Motor Vehicle excise Taxes	1,227,133	1,323,307	96,174
In Lieu of Taxes	53,045	56,306	3,261
Meals Taxes	60,000	85,890	25,890
Licenses and Permits	192,756	273,073	80,317
Ambulance & Other Dept. Revenues	941,300	986,004	44,704
Penalties and interest on taxes	160,000	198,082	38,082
Fines and forfeits	22,950	20,146	(2,804)
Investment income	80,000	41,807	(38,193)
Appropriated from free cash & Other G/F Equity		-	-
Operating Transfers (Cemetery Trust)	3,344	3,344	-
Operating Transfers (Title V Liens)	16,581	16,581	-
Operating Transfers (Stab. - Infrastr.)	20,000	20,000	-
Operating Transfers (Other Funds)	-	14,682	14,682
Operating Transfers - indirect costs water	153,023	153,023	-
Operating Transfers - indirect costs sewer	138,824	138,824	-
Operating Transfers - indirect costs transp	21,569	21,569	-
<u>Grand Total Sources</u>	<u>\$ 29,955,230</u>	<u>\$ 29,955,695</u>	<u>\$ 465</u>

Appropriations & Actual Expenditures			
	Final	Actual	
General Government	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Selectmen	31,240	29,958	1,282
Town Manager	290,808	275,238	15,570
Finance Committee	78,942	1,292	77,650
General Government Special Articles	60,126	34,329	25,797
Accountant	133,473	124,325	9,148
Assessors	98,693	98,082	611
Treasurer	260,083	245,769	14,314
Audit	40,000	38,500	1,500
Legal	45,000	45,000	-
Data Processing	54,400	52,905	1,495
Technology	102,676	99,776	2,900
Communications Committee	42,000	25,000	17,000
Town Clerk	113,717	111,755	1,962
Registrar of Voters	71,402	44,675	26,727
Conservation Commission	1,450	250	1,200
Planning Board	32,350	2,778	29,572
Zoning Board of Appeals	2,150	-	2,150
Community Development	192,016	157,193	34,823
Town Hall	135,520	108,268	27,252
Property and Liability Insurance	277,301	251,871	25,430
	<u>2,063,347</u>	<u>1,746,964</u>	<u>316,383</u>
Public Safety			
Police Department	1,509,935	1,462,358	47,577
Dispatch	275,400	274,860	540
Fire Department	1,274,449	1,228,651	45,798
Ambulance	119,150	100,421	18,729
Land Use	122,004	112,460	9,544
Emergency Management	3,948	3,348	600
Animal Control	55,533	51,488	4,045
	<u>3,360,419</u>	<u>3,233,586</u>	<u>126,833</u>

	Final	Actual	
Education	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>Variance</u>
School Budget	13,883,851	13,089,691	794,160
Bus Transportation & Crossing Guards	1,377,829	1,132,613	245,216
School Special Article - Prior Year Bills	-	-	-
Montachusett Regional District Assessment	837,901	836,655	1,246
	<u>16,099,581</u>	<u>15,058,959</u>	<u>1,040,622</u>
Public Works			
DPW	208,838	176,860	31,978
Highway Department	493,680	456,050	37,630
Fleet	208,830	183,208	25,622
Snow & Ice Removal	360,671	360,671	-
Street Lighting	32,000	27,011	4,989
Landfill	27,267	25,666	1,601
Cemetery	117,175	105,059	12,116
Tree Trimming	2,000	1,899	101
	<u>1,450,461</u>	<u>1,336,424</u>	<u>114,037</u>
Health and Human Sevices			
Health Department	56,354	52,864	3,490
Board of Health	2,150	-	2,150
Visiting Nurse	8,500	2,450	6,050
Council on Aging	320,980	288,237	32,743
Veterans Service	416,253	321,192	95,061
	<u>804,237</u>	<u>664,743</u>	<u>139,494</u>
Culture and Recreation			
Public Library	223,160	214,575	8,585
Recreation	4,036	-	4,036
Historical Commis sion	1,000	450	550
	<u>228,196</u>	<u>215,025</u>	<u>13,171</u>

Debt Service			
Debt Service Principal	788,863	782,681	6,182
Debt Service Interest	154,920	117,441	37,479
	943,783	900,122	43,661
State Assessments			
State and County Assessments	\$ 1,374,931	1,256,009	118,922
	\$ 1,374,931	\$ 1,256,009	\$ 118,922
Pension and Fringe Benefits			
Retirement	1,706,683	1,706,683	-
Workers' Compensation	147,564	147,564	-
Unemployment	194,295	9,802	184,493
Health Insurance	1,854,345	1,792,581	61,764
Life Insurance	14,075	13,509	566
Medicare	225,251	225,218	33
	4,142,213	3,895,357	246,856
Other Uses			
Prior Year Deficits	-		-
Transfers Out - Enterprise	40,046	40,046	
Transfers Out - Spec Rev Funds			-
Transfers Out - Capital Project Funds	421,157	421,157	-
	461,203	461,203	-
<u>Grand Total Uses</u>	<u>\$ 30,928,371</u>	<u>\$ 28,768,392</u>	<u>\$ 2,159,979</u>
Net Addition to Fund Balance			\$ 1,187,306
General Fund Equity - July 1, 2020			<u>2,584,586</u>
<u>General Fund Equity - June 30, 2021</u>			<u>\$ 3,771,892</u>

TOWN OF WINCHENDON, MA	
FY 21 STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS & EXPENDITURES	
SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	
Actual Receipts	
	Actual Receipts
FUND 15-CDBG	
CDBG	\$ 33,490.88
FUND 19 REVOLVING	
Agriculture	\$ 160.00
Housing Rehab	\$ 0.73
Library Book Fines	\$ 471.57
Library Copy Fees	\$ 333.34
Damaged Books	\$ 29,006.00
Insurance Recovery	\$ 19,782.50
Arts Lottery	\$ 9,405.15
Wetland Fees	\$ 4,381.29
Fema- Cares- COVID 19	\$ 961,998.00
ARPA - COVID 19	\$ 570,705.29
FUND 20 RESERVED FOR APPROPRIATION	
Cemetery Sale of Lots	\$ 12,800.00
Sale of Surplus Building/Land	\$ 5,001.00
TNC Surcharge	\$ 9.80
FUND 21 SCHOOL STATE & FEDERAL GRANTS	
Title II A (140)	\$ 36,525.00
Coordinated Family & Community Engagement (237)	\$ 38,083.00
IDEA (240)	\$ 481,047.00
Early Childhood Entitlement (262)	\$ 28,867.00
Early Childhood SPED (298)	\$ 10,932.00
Title I(305)	\$ 401,168.00
Title V (309)	\$ 50,418.00
Student Access to Mental Health	\$ 47,235.00
Turnaround Assistance (325)	\$ 104,000.00
Inclusive Preschool (391)	\$ 5,000.00
Rural Aid	\$ 66,144.00
Barr Foundation	\$ 24,816.00

ESSER	\$	292,387.00
Virtual Course Access (423)	\$	13,962.00
IDEA (274)	\$	12,916.00
Early Literacy (734)	\$	58,400.00
Digital Literacy (134)	\$	1,753.00
Finanail Literacy (104)	\$	5,220.00
COVID- Earmark- Prevention-Reopening	\$	451,871.00
FUND 22 SCHOOL LUNCH		
School Lunch	\$	400,217.01
FUND 23 CHAPTER 90		
Chapter 90	\$	416,893.83
FUND 25 TOWN FEDERAL & STATE GRANTS		
Safe - Fire Dept.	\$	4,692.00
Senior Safe- Fire dept	\$	2,480.00
Green Communities	\$	142,254.75
Primary Election	\$	6,532.03
CTCL Election	\$	6,011.56
Early voting	\$	11,931.18
EMD 911 Training- Dispatch	\$	13,350.54
Safer - Fire Dept.	\$	80,211.10
MIIA Flex	\$	3,799.00
COA State	\$	20,760.00
DFS Fire Grant	\$	6,250.00
BML	\$	23,499.49
Police S& I	\$	142,661.48
DEP Recycling	\$	4,200.00
FEMA	\$	20,750.00
CC Bridge & Culvert Grant	\$	29,000.00
Shared Streets and Space	\$	243,600.00
FUND 28 ROBINSON /BROADHURST		
Police - Radio and Mics	\$	25,000.00
School- COVID relief	\$	55,000.00
School- Technology * Academics	\$	200,000.00
Recreation- Ingleside Enhancement	\$	500,000.00

DPW - Repave Sidewalks	\$	100,000.00
Culture- Large Scale Toys	\$	10,000.00
COA - Senior Barbecue	\$	3,450.00
FUND 29 GIFTS		
COA Mart	\$	21,615.37
K-9 Gift	\$	24,802.92
COA Gift	\$	8,335.16
Fire Dept-Gift	\$	2,205.00
Newmans Own- Coat and Boots	\$	5,000.00
Ingleside Gift	\$	620.00
250 th Anniversary Gift	\$	0.31
Drug Task Force	\$	1,634.42
Old Murdock Preservation- Senior Center	\$	2.47
Police Department-	\$	1,200.00
Toy Town Partnership- Pole Flags	\$	570.00
ACO Gift	\$	835.00
WWI Memorial Bricks	\$	75.00
Grout Family Park		
FUND 84 CIRCUIT BREAKER		
Circuit Breaker	\$	264,855.00
	\$	-
FUND 0300 MURDOCK TRUST		
Murdock Trust	\$	181,609.73
FUND 401 SCHOOL BUILDING RENTAL		
School Building Rental	\$	5,163.00
FUND 403 SCHOOL CHOICE TUITION		
School Choice Tuition	\$	338,093.00
FUND 410 ATHLETICS REVOLVING		
Athletics Revolving	\$	11,198.25

FUND 81 NONEXPENDABLE TRUSTS	
Cemetery	\$ 1,350.00
FUND 82 EXPENDABLE TRUSTS	
Cemetery	\$ 4,252.71
Tucker Scholarship	\$ 6,742.99
Hildreth	\$ 56.76
Wheeler Poland School	\$ 718.35
Wheeler Poor	\$ 488.40
Converse Prize	\$ 50.19
Militia Training	\$ 881.05
Converse 100 Year	\$ 921.33
Converse Library	\$ 150.06
Converse Sleigh	\$ 134.14
Whitney Library	\$ 33.22
Converse Pleasure	\$ 204.14
Soldiers Monument	\$ 9.07
Mellon Flagpole	\$ 18.47
Field Library	\$ 215.88
Howard Library	\$ 42.09
Beals Library Book	\$ 609.98
Gendron Scholarship	\$ 2,680.45
ARVO Solander	\$ 968.27
FUND 83 OPEB TRUST	
OPEB Trust	\$ 428.36
FUND 85 OTHER TRUSTS	
Conservation	\$ 366.85
Murdock Athletic	\$ 75.44
Library Gift	\$ 752.93
Stabilization	\$ 20,174.91
Infrastructure	\$ 8,370.73
Churchill Bequest- Library	\$ 412.93

FUND 86 LIBRARY TRUSTS	
Ester Myers	\$ 93.67
George Beals Memorial	\$ 191.55
FUND 0030 CAPITAL PROJECTS	
Capital Projects	\$ 715,741.79
Actual Expenditures	
FUND 15-CDBG	
CDBG	\$ 1,019.28
FUND 19 REVOLVING	
Agriculture	\$ 247.01
Housing Rehab	\$ 2,335.00
Library Book Fines	\$ 1,381.73
Library Copy Fees	\$ 2,243.03
Damaged Books	\$ 554.00
Insurance Recovery	\$ 84,176.12
Arts Lottery	\$ 1,400.00
Title V Liens Redeemed	\$ 16,581.00
Wetland Fees	\$ 2,453.00
Fema- Cares- COVID 19	\$ 665,439.97
FUND 20 RESERVED FOR APPROPRIATION	
Sale of Surplus Building/Land	\$ 14,000.00
FUND 21 SCHOOL STATE & FEDERAL GRANTS	
Title II A (140)	\$ 14,476.92
Coordinated Family & Community Engagement (237)	\$ 32,436.86
Student Access to Mental Health	\$ 21,160.67
ESSER	\$ 209,505.37
IDEA (240	\$ 462,590.88
Rural Aid	\$ 20,393.52

Early Childhood Entitlement (262)	\$	18,297.45
Title I(305)	\$	128,501.74
Title V (309)	\$	7,277.04
Turnaround Assistance (325)	\$	63,280.89
Early Literacy (734)	\$	48,626.23
Early childhood SPED (298)	\$	8,870.97
Virtual Course Access	\$	8,564.00
Breakfast in the Classroom	\$	1,596.29
IDEA (274)	\$	12,707.73
Barr Foundation	\$	34,047.08
COVID- Reopening-Prevention - Earmark	\$	478,800.47
Financial Literacy (104)	\$	1,791.17
FUND 22 SCHOOL LUNCH		
School Lunch	\$	469,686.74
FUND 23 CHAPTER 90		
Chapter 90	\$	320,284.71
FUND 25 TOWN FEDERAL & STATE GRANTS		
Safe - Fire Dept.	\$	3,344.67
Green Communities	\$	142,457.00
Primary Election	\$	4,708.36
CTCL Election	\$	6,011.56
Early Voting	\$	11,931.18
EMD 911 Training- Dispatch	\$	8,684.44
Safer - Fire Dept.	\$	2,651.00
FF Safety Equipment	\$	14,900.00
MIIA Flex	\$	3,799.00
CC Bridge & Culvert	\$	1,900.30
Shared Streets & Space	\$	180,110.05
BML	\$	21,984.07
DSLFF State	\$	2,610.00
Police S& I	\$	142,661.48
FM Global	\$	2,200.00
FEMA	\$	20,750.00
MVP Grant	\$	27,300.00

FUND 28 ROBINSON /BROADHURST	
Town Clerk- General Code	\$ 1,195.00
Police- License Reader	\$ 11,500.00
School- Technology * Academics	\$ 167,016.83
Recreation- Ingleside Enhancement	\$ 182,882.37
DPW Repave sidewalks	\$ 122,006.79
Police - Radio & Mics	\$ 25,000.00
School- COVID Relief	\$ 55,000.00
Police- Cruiser Cameras	\$ 35,000.00
Culture- Large Scale Toys	\$ 10,000.00
Fire Dept- Patrol Rhino	\$ 2,704.60
FUND 29 GIFTS	
COA gift	\$ 17,570.81
COA Mart	\$ 21,466.41
K-9 Gift	\$ 16,309.25
Exxon Mobil Science Gift- School	\$ 119.95
Toy Town Playground Gift	\$ 1,456.45
Drug Task force	\$ 2,985.23
Police Dept gift	\$ 1,000.00
Converse 100 Year Fund park Gifts	\$ 18,322.92
Converse 100 year Fund Ingleside Park Promotion	\$ 928.56
Converse 100 year Fund Cemetery Gifts	\$ 946.33
Fall Festival Support	\$ 111.87
Beano Crossing Guards Protective Vests	\$ 485.00
Misc.Fire Department	\$ 1,909.83
Project Bread	\$ 199.00
School 3rd Party Reimbursement	\$ 5,402.19
Misc School Gift	\$ 100.00
Toy Town Partnership- Pole Flags	\$ 2,240.54
ACO Gift	\$ 429.35
WWI Memorial Bricks	\$ 66.50
Toy Town Fuel Up	\$ 719.95
Grout Family Park	\$ 1,921.26
Newmans Own Coat & Boots	\$ 1,256.07
Ingleside Gift	\$ 200.00
GAR Park Trees	\$ 980.00

FUND 84 CIRCUIT BREAKER	
Circuit Breaker	\$ 282,067.57
FUND 0300 MURDOCK TRUST	
Murdock Trust	\$ 332,752.08
FUND 403 SCHOOL CHOICE TUITION	
School Choice Tuition	\$ 16,162.90
FUND 410 ATHLETICS REVOLVING	
Athletics Revolving	\$ 299.94
FUND 82 EXPENDABLE TRUSTS	
Cemetery	\$ 3,344.00
Tucker Scholarship	\$ 10,250.00
Gendron Scholarship	\$ 250.00
Annie Evans White	\$ 4,711.80
FUND 85 OTHER TRUSTS	
Infrastructure	\$ 20,000.00
Capital Projects	\$ 427,374.93

TOWN OF WINCHENDON										
BALANCE SHEET										
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021										
	General Fund	Special Revenue Funds	Capital Fund	Water Enterprise	Sewer Enterprise	Transfer Station Enterprise	Trust & Agency Fund	Long Term Debt Account Group	Total	
									(memorandum)	
Cash	3,813,792	4,274,390	1,178,754	(53,228)	551,523	128,779	2,982,730		12,876,740	
Real Estate Tax Receivables	787,293								787,293	
Personal Property Tax Receivable	125,703								125,703	
Provision for Abatements/Exemptions	(41,337)								(41,337)	
Tax liens	1,389,977								1,389,977	
Tax foreclosures	235,792								235,792	
Due from Commonwealth/Other	15,151	40,316							55,467	
Motor Vehicle Excise Receivables	313,449								313,449	
Ambulance Receivable	643,190								643,190	
Water User Charges				83,799					83,799	
Water Liens				13,640					13,640	
Water Liens in Tax Title				44,809					44,809	
Clean Water Assessment				213					213	
Other Water Receivable				220					220	
Sewer User Charges					107,341				107,341	
Sewer Liens					12,226				12,226	
Sewer Liens in Tax Title					48,186				48,186	
Betterments added to Tax					23,100				23,100	
Title V Liens		4,917							4,917	
Unapportioned Betterments not due					1,562,047				1,562,047	
Betterments In Tax Title					57,407				57,407	
Sewer Betterment Deferral					24,788				24,788	
Amount to be Provided for LT Debt								6,106,885	6,106,885	
Total Assets	7,283,010	4,319,623	1,178,754	89,453	2,386,618	128,779	2,982,730	6,106,885	24,475,852	

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. Open positions exist, and we welcome new members.

The Commission is organized as follows: Audrey LaBrie, Chair, Sherri Haley, Vice Chair, Olivia Tarleton, Jordyn Lynds, Alicia Tricket, Janet Lee, and Taylor Field. Alternate member is June Girouard.

For a second year in a row, the COVID-19 pandemic was a challenge for the Toy Town Outdoor Market, which is overseen by the Agricultural Commission. This year, the market was in a new location, at the American Legion Park on the corner of Front Street and Pleasant Street. The new location brought in new vendors, and with the increased visibility due to being seen from Front Street, an increase in foot traffic and sales. The Market was held late-May through early October, rain or shine, Thursdays from 4 – 7 P.M. and Saturdays from 10 – 1. Products and services offered included meat, produce, plants, crafts, baked goods and animal products. Some vendors accepted WIC and Senior Citizen coupons.

Collaboration between the Commission and the organizations Heal Winchendon and Growing Places is ongoing. We continue to work to address the “food desert” designation that was applied to Winchendon a few years ago.

The Commission is looking forward to a great year. The commission meets as needed at the Winchendon Town Hall. We hope you will stop by the Toy Town Outdoor Market and support our local farmers and craftspeople.

Respectfully submitted,

Audrey LaBrie, Chair

WINCHENDON REGIONAL ANIMAL CONTROL

I, hereby, submit the Annual Report of the Winchendon Animal Control Department for the year ending December 31, 2021:

Suzan Kowaleski	Animal Control Officer
Cassandra Tompkins	Asst. Animal Control Officer
Patti Lessard	Asst. Animal Control Officer

Total Licenses Issued	1,661
Total amount received for dog licenses	\$20,900
Total amount received for fines issued	\$1,690

Animal Control Calls For Service:	
Animal Complaint	409
Animal Investigation	158
Animal Noise Complaint	12
Abuse/Neglect	5
Dog Bite	14
Rescue	7
Total Animal Control Calls	605

The Winchendon Regional Animal Control Department consists of one Animal Control Officer and two assistant Animal Control Officers. They are responsible for all animal related incidents in both Winchendon and Templeton, including those involving domestic animals, wildlife, and farm animals. This is accomplished through the coordinated efforts of Animal Control and other local and state agencies.

Animal Control relies heavily on donations for unforeseen expenses related to the care of injured, neglected and abused animals. Although support is received from Ahimsa Haven, The Animal Rescue League of Boston, and the MSPCA, donations are still needed and very much appreciated. Any donation can be made to The Winchendon Animal Control Gift Account at the Winchendon Police Department.

Respectfully Submitted,
David P. Walsh, Chief of Police

WINCHENDON ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

The Board holds public hearings on applications, in the form of an Administrative Appeal, from persons aggrieved because they were unable to obtain a building permit or an enforcement action from the Building Inspector related to interpretation(s) of the Winchendon Zoning Bylaws. Public hearings are also held on applications for Special Permits as provided for in the Zoning Bylaws as well as requests for Variances from certain, clearly specified, provisions of the Bylaws. The process takes a minimum of two months from the time of the application to the time of a signed decision. Hearings are held at regularly scheduled Board meetings on the first and third Wednesday evening of each month. The hearings must be published in a local newspaper at least 14 days before the hearing. Notices of the hearing, as well as the resulting decision, are sent by first class mail to all property owners on the same side of the street within 300 feet of the subject property as well as to those property owners located directly across the street of the subject property. After a decision is written, signed, and filed with the Town Clerk, parties aggrieved by the Board's decision have 20 days in which to appeal the decision in Superior Court.

The volunteer Board is composed of Chair Cynthia Carvill, Clerk Raymond Benoit, and Members Robert Bushey, Richard Stancombe, and Bryan Vaine. There are two Alternate Member Positions held by Brandon Fournier and Evelyn Higgins.

The Zoning Board of Appeals held hearings virtually via Zoom meetings to discuss the following:

- January 20 Variance 215 Beachview Dr. – Glenn Hayward ; continued
- February 17 Special Permit for a garage on West Shore Drive – granted
- March 17 215 Beachview Drive shed, Variance granted
- April 28 Comprehensive Permit 40B for Veterans Housing in the former Streeter and Poland Schools building - meeting opened site visits scheduled.
- May 19 75 First Street Special Permit modified site plan to alter a pre-existing non-conforming use was reviewed due to change of building plans. No further action needed as plans are within the scope of the original special permit.

Veterans Housing application continued pending a peer review. Site visit summarized.

Special Permit for allowing go kart, racing on Spring Street- meeting continued

MEETINGS resumed in person at the Town Hall in June.

- June 23 Comprehensive Permit reopened, more information presented, and continued July 21

Special Permit to raze and reconstruct a single family dwelling 86 Second Street was granted to William Miller.

- July 21

Comprehensive Permit reopened much new information presented and discussed, final review to be held during the next several weeks and it was anticipated that the permit would be granted in August.

Winchendon Community Park at Ingleside Special Permit was continued to allow time for a site visit. There was a great deal of public input and deliberation. Included parking and recreational use.

Three hearings were opened and continued due to problems with advertising the hearings in the Gardner News: Campbell, variance on Washington Ave to convert a single family to a two family home; Klauzinski, Hale Street side set back Variance, and AJ Baker, Mill Street to Special Permit to keep a horse.

- September 15 continued hearings opened, and discussed. Campbell variance granted. Klauzinski variance granted and Baker special permit granted with many conditions.

Application of Cindy Fitch, Island Road for a variance of dimensional requirements was opened and continued until the October meeting.

- October 20

Variance for Cindy Fitch meeting opened, plans presented and discussed, site visit scheduled for November 15.

Melissa Woolfrey of 56 Chase Lane variances for a side setback, pre-existing non-conforming lot was opened and continued until November 17.

- November 17

Melissa Woolfrey was granted a variance for side set backs on 56 Chase Lane.

Cindy Fitch variance was continued until December to allow for a full board consideration.

- December 15

Cindy Fitch motioned to withdraw her application without prejudice, motion granted.

BOARD OF ASSESSORS 2021 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, 2020 and ending June 30, 2021.

Motor Vehicle Excise Taxes Committed	\$ 1,341,204.97
MVE COM 5-20,149.66	
MVE COM 4-44,792.84	
MVE COM 3-66,776.65	
MVE COM 2-269,475.57	
MVE COM 1-940,010.25	
Real Estate Taxes Committed	\$ 12,635,415.62
Personal Property Taxes Committed	\$ 481,770.34
Title 5 Sewer Liens Committed	00.00
Sewer Betterments Committed	\$ 199,337.47
Water Liens Added to Taxes	\$ 49,223.63
Sewer Liens Added to Taxes	\$ 55,583.17
I & E Penalties	00.00
Total Committed for Collection	\$ <u>14,762,535.20</u>

Real Estate Exemptions Granted:

Clause 22D Veterans	1	\$ 3834.11	
Clause 17D Elderly	3	\$ 525.00	
Clause 22 Veterans	42	\$ 16,800.00	
Clause 22E Veterans	31	\$31,000.00	
Clause 37 Blind Persons	3	\$ 1,312.50	
Clause 41C Elderly	38	<u>\$ 19,000.00</u>	
Total Exemptions Granted		\$ 72,471.61	\$ 72,471.61
Real Estate Abatements Granted			11,308.65
Personal Property Abatements Granted			64.04
Motor Vehicle Abatements Granted			<u>26,701.70</u>
Total Exemptions and Abatements Granted			\$ <u>110,546.00</u>

Respectfully submitted,

Harald Scheid

George Bourgault

Board of Assessors

BOARD OF HEALTH AGENT

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 that include the proper storage of solid waste. The Board is also responsible for enforcing State Sanitary Codes that cover recreational camps, ice rinks, and public swimming pools. The Board is also responsible for enforcement of the State Environmental codes regarding the disposal of solid waste and proper subsurface sewage disposal under Title 5.

PERSONNEL

The Town of Winchendon Board of Health is a five-member elected Board who works along with a Health Agent, James Abare, R.S. Members of the Board are elected at the annual Town election in May. Current membership with the year their term expires is:

Garrett Wante	May 2022
Edward Bond	May 2023
Tina Santos	May 2023
Lionel Cloutier	May 2024
Keith Kent	May 2024

PUBLIC HEALTH

The Town of Winchendon through The Board of Health is part of 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 has also joined the Montachusett Public Health Network. The MPHNN is a network of thirteen Health Departments from the Montachusett Region which meets monthly and is committed to making the Montachusett Region the healthiest region in Massachusetts.

The Health Department Staff witness soil testing for septic systems and reviews and approves septic system plans, inspects the installation of septic tanks, pump chambers, pumps, distribution boxes and leaching areas. Residents can meet with staff during regular office hours.

The Health Department Staff also conduct restaurant and retail food store inspections as well as housing inspections on a regular basis in addition to investigating trash and nuisance complaints. Educational material is available to the public in the Board of Health office on a wide range of issues including quitting tobacco use, diet and nutrition, reducing heart disease and stroke, and strategies for lowering risk of contracting various diseases.

Annual Report			
The following is a report of the activities of the Board of Health for the calendar year 2021			
<u>PURPOSE OF PERMIT</u>			
			Count#
Subsurface Sewage Disposal Inspections			62
Soil Testing for repairs			20
Soil Testing for new lots			11
Reviewed and approved Septic System plans			33
Restaurant Inspections			80
Housing Inspections			16
Trash complaints			14
Public Swimming Pool Inspections			2
Recreational Camp for Children Inspections			1
		Total:	239
Total Departmental Payments to Treasurer			\$32,538.66

BOARD OF HEALTH

On behalf of our Board of Health and our town, it is with both my pleasure and belief in dedication to public health that I must simultaneously both happily and sadly submit this report for our Town of Winchendon, as it has been forced to continue dealing with a global viral pandemic completing its second year, through 2021, and now entering its third year as of time of this report.

Previously beginning on March 10, 2020, Gov. Charlie Baker declared a state of emergency as cases of COVID-19 began to spike in Massachusetts. Extending in to and completely through 2021, public health was dealt a harsh reality entering the year dealing with the Delta Variant, a contagious and deadlier viral variant, and closing out 2021 with viral positivity levels not thought by many believed to be possibly entering 2022, with the less deadly, but yet still very dangerous and much more contagious Omicron viral variant.

As the Commonwealth previously moved from mask and facial mandates to masking recommendations in both the public and private sector, first ever COVID-19 viral vaccinations were released to the public at large under emergency United States CDC dispensation. These vaccinations came in two forms. First, a 2 shot or injection dosage by two competing and contributing companies in both Pfizer and Moderna, and a 1 injection dosage by Janssen Pharmaceutical, a division of Johnson & Johnson, which could then also be used as a heterologous or “mix and match” single booster dose for individuals 18 years of age and older, following completion of primary vaccination with one of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccinations.

It is with great regret, I must report in the year of 2021, the Town of Winchendon was documented as one of the “Ten lowest vaccinated municipalities in the Commonwealth” generating a consistent yearlong viral positivity testing average at 2 to 3 times higher than that of the rest of the commonwealth average. Simply put, many residents allowed the issue of vaccination to become far too political. This was despite, being the only documented municipality in the commonwealth, to publish weekly viral updates in our town’s online news publication, the Winchendon Courier, along with a town wide Code Red public health warning phone call, to make every attempt by the Board of Health to keep residents both continuously educated and informed, along with the town passing out state supplied home viral testing kits.

It needs to be documented for our town history, our town and commonwealth realized significant public health setbacks in 2021, and even leading in to early 2022, combating skyrocketing viral positivity testing rates. In the fall of 2021, with colder months approaching in conjunction with upcoming larger indoor gatherings, the BOH and Town Manager, instituted a town wide municipal town owned buildings masking mandate beginning Monday, October 4, 2021, in an attempt to protect all municipal workers, in the hope that town governmental offices could safely continue their vital work completing the business of

the town. Simultaneously, all public schools were still mandating masking, per order of DESE, the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

As fall and winter 2021 indoor gathering frequencies expanded beginning with Halloween festivities, followed by all several holiday family gatherings and or following parties, town viral positivity levels as predicted began to spike locally, as followed at both the commonwealth and national levels. With lower vaccination rates helping pave the way to a local public health catastrophe, our town realized positivity testing rates jumping from 8 and 10 percent in November, 2021, to 14.47 percent by December 30, 2021. At that time, Winchendon as a town, realized 53 percent of its residents fully vaccinated, and 60 percent partially vaccinated for 5,701 and 6,465 of its Mass DPH listed 10,765 residents, ending the year with a Mass DPH reported 14.13 percent testing positivity level.

Setting yet another sad December, 2021 benchmark for our town and public health history, the BOH was left with no choice, but to hold an “Emergency Public Health Meeting” on Tuesday, December 14, 2021, voting close the High School portion of Murdock Middle High School, as of some roughly 265 students, 53 students were COVID-19 viral positive, another 47 were on quarantine, and 100 students who had been exposed were on the DESE Test and Stay program. The Middle School portion of the building was highly unaffected as both student bodies realized strong degrees of interpersonal separation. The High School portion of MMHS, became the first public school of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to have to close, while at the same time requiring special DESE dispensation to temporarily return to online learning in 2021, during the period of Thursday, December 16, through December 23, 2021, and returning to in-person learning at the end of the winter holiday break, on Monday, January 3, 2022.

This event was just a month later, followed by an all-time record high town wide pandemic testing positivity record of 21.74 percent as a Thursday, January 20, 2022 report by the Mass Department of Public Health in its weekly update, as the still dangerous but thankfully less deadly Omicron variant which quickly replaced the Delta variant, took over as the dominant viral strain. These numbers did not even include the non-mandated positivity reporting of both publically provided, and store purchased COVID-19 home testing kits, which could have conservatively added an additional 5 percent positivity through 2021 and in to 2022.

Seemingly as quickly as Omicron took over the latter half of 2021 with its “Super-Surge” it almost as quickly began to drop off again in single digits. Joined together by the Omicron variant, the all-time testing high of 21.74, dropped to single digits by February 17, 2022 at 8.79 percent positivity.

For any future public health members, or town historians, please know while it may not seem, this has been a very measured report as there were nearly countless facets the pandemic the BOH either continuously monitored, or was actively involved in behind the scenes. As Chair, please learn from the mistakes of your municipal human ancestors, and do not let public

health become so political. Our town as many in 2021, fell constant victim to unprecedented levels of the dissemination of false information on the internet which proved overall to be the most detrimental, public health counterproductive barrier and hurdle imaginable. Both internet social media giants as well as those taking advantage on them utilizing false information and dishonest platforms, had no shame, little accountability, and little to no remorse, causing our town, as well as many, great public health harm.

I would like to extend my thanks to my fellow Board of Health members, Vice Chair Garrett Wante, Past Chair Lionel Cloutier, Clerk Tina Santos, and Past Vice Chair and Past Clerk, Edward Bond, for their great care and concern for their community. I would also like to thank my Health Agent, James Abare, for all of the complexities he as a professional Health Agent has experienced like none other in his position before him in our town. I would also like to extend my deepest gratitude to our Town Manager, Justin Sultzbach, for his ever available ear and valuable time, extending vigilant concern in his efforts working with the Chair and Board of Health in its mission to better aid and improve public health the Town of Winchendon, during what has been a public pandemic health crisis experienced like no other Board of Health previously before it in our town history.

In closing, serving others before self is a unique honor and privilege, and our members have given it everything we collectively had during unprecedented times, working with both the tools and knowledge available to us. Until then, I remain. Dum Spiro, Spero, Docendo, Discimus.

Respectfully submitted,

Keith Kent
Chairperson
Board of Health

COLLECTOR/TREASURER									
TO THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN AND									
TO THE CITIZENS OF THE TOWN OF WINCHENDON									
I HEREBY SUBMIT MY ANNUAL REPORT									
		BALANCE AS OF JULY 1, 2020	COMMITMENTS	ABT/EXEM	REFUNDS	TAX TITLE & ADJ.	COLLECTIONS	BALANCE AS OF JUNE 30, 2021	
		\$ 567,108.36	\$ 12,635,415.62	\$ (86,038.30)	\$ 49,184.96	\$ (11,199.27)	\$ (12,367,178.52)	\$ 787,292.85	
	SEWER BETTERMENTS	\$ 1,861,958.78				\$ (1,143.38)	\$ (275,669.24)	\$ 1,585,146.16	
	WATER LIENS	\$ 9,196.33	\$ 49,223.63				\$ (44,780.17)	\$ 13,639.79	
	SEWER LIENS	\$ 4,049.10	\$ 55,583.17				\$ (47,406.22)	\$ 12,226.05	
	PERSONAL PROPERTY	\$ 30,779.56	\$ 543,216.18	\$ (64.04)	\$ 190.91		\$ (448,419.83)	\$ 125,702.78	
	M.V. EXCISE	\$ 328,944.38	\$ 1,351,097.07	\$ (44,967.82)	\$ 25,799.81		\$ (1,347,424.46)	\$ 313,448.98	
	TITLE V	\$ -						\$ -	
	TOTALS	\$ 2,802,036.51	\$ 14,634,535.67	\$ (131,070.16)	\$ 75,175.68	\$ (12,342.65)	\$ (14,530,878.44)	\$ 2,837,456.61	
	RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,								
	LYNN NYSTROM								
	TREASURER/COLLECTOR								

WINCHENDON COMMUNITY ACTION COMMITTEE, INC.

Winchendon Community Action Committee Inc. is a Human Service Agency dedicated to helping families and individuals in crisis, and economically disadvantaged families in need of emergency services which may include transportation, advocacy, food, or educational programs. Throughout the year we have served 1884 families and 4337 individuals which includes food, personal care items, paper products, clothing, etc.

Here at the CAC we are always looking into new and improved programs in order to keep our services in line with the community needs and requests. Delivery is one of the most used new service due to such a lack of transportation and those with a disability whether it be temporary or permanent need this service. All our food programs are now self-choice and self-shop model which is much more dignified than CAC staff and volunteers pre-packing and choosing patrons food items. SWAP (supporting wellness at pantries) has been slowly also being implemented slowly which is a label process with pictures and words for our food items. These labels are easy to read and understand and are also offered in Spanish for our Spanish speaking patrons.

CAC Farm Stand is coming along and lots have been done to prepare for the opening in 2022. We are all very excited to take on this endeavor and give our SNAP and HIP patrons an affordable, quality, and quantity of fresh produce from many local area farms within Massachusetts. HIP has not been a viable option for so many in the community just for the mere lack of the licensing process, equipment expenses etc. I hope to bring the very best product and service to this new venture.

COVID has forced many tough decisions for so many and we continue to navigate through all the regulations, rise in positivity, and protecting the health and safety of all who walk through our doors. The CAC has not had to close through any of this epidemic and all the staff here works diligently cleaning, disinfecting, enforcing our mask policy, and keeping with the local trending numbers.

Winchenstock was able to go off without a hitch and it was a fantastic fundraiser which raised us so much needed funds. HEAL joined the event with us and helped us tremendously with the kids play area and also were able to set up with their youth changemakers selling coffee. Dave Lapointe, Doreen Lapointe a huge part of our great day with the chicken BBQ done by Doreen and the awesome music line up by Dave.

As our year closed and the holidays were upon us we made the decision to go ahead with kids Christmas party, the American Legion graciously donated the upstairs hall for the festivities. Our biggest supporters in the community for this event was Cumberland Farms, Subway, Christos, C & S pizza, and Gabbys and we thank them sincerely. Seventy-three children were in attendance with their family we served them pizza, drinks, dessert, while the children participated in coloring contests, letter writing to Santa, and other crafty creations.

Holiday Baskets both for Thanksgiving and Christmas were distributed to our families and these are complete with everything from Turkey, sides, desserts, and beverages. Toys for 132 children in the community were given for Christmas morning as well as stocking

stuffers given to us from Dollar tree. In closing our year was very successful and productive all who come through the doors of the Winchendon Community Action Committee Inc. is treated with great dignity and respect. We thrive to be a welcoming smile to those who seek our services at all times.



CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Winchendon Conservation Commission is a five-member appointed volunteer board that meets monthly and is responsible for the local administration and enforcement of the Massachusetts Wetland Protection Act (Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 131, Section 40) and the Town of Winchendon Wetlands Protection Bylaw. Generally, the Commission's regulatory authority is triggered when alterations or construction are 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.

Throughout 2021, the Commission met remotely using www.zoom.com to discuss projects and render decisions. Springtime found numerous projects underway without permission and educational outreach is ongoing in response. Ultimately, the Commission reviewed over thirty Notices of Intent and more than twenty Requests for Determination. The processes and review parameters are very tightly prescribed by the State. Permissions, when issued allowing work, go hand-in-hand with conditions and requirements that protect the wetlands and ensure that there is no inadvertent impact to our resources.

Cooperation, communication, and proper filing procedure are key to the successful review and evaluation of proposed activities. The review and evaluation and the necessary project amendments that result can take several months to complete and applicants are encouraged to apply well in advance of anticipated construction. The Commission reviews violations and has the authority to levy fines if work is non-compliant with a permit or done without a permit.

The public is welcome to attend the Conservation Commission's regularly scheduled meetings, held the second Thursday of each month. Additional information on the Conservation Commission and its statutory responsibilities can also be found on the Commission's page on the Town website.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kyle Bradley, Chairman

COUNCIL ON AGING

The Winchendon Council on Aging is located at 52 Murdock Avenue. We are funded by the Town of Winchendon, MART and by a formula grant. I wish to thank my staff, Dave, Admin Asst.; Artie, Meals on Wheels Driver; Joe, MART Van Driver; Art, General Support; Cindy, Dispatch/Driver; Jen, Kitchen, Food Pantry and Clothes Closet. These are dedicated people who continually provide excellent customer service and support for the elders of Winchendon. I am proud of all they do for our elders while operating within a very-limited budget.

We can all agree that 2020-2021 was a tough year but we banded together, and, with additional assistance from Heywood Hospital and Growing Places, kept our seniors well fed. All Center employees are CPR First Aid and ServSafe certified. The mission of the Winchendon Council on Aging is to enrich the lives of the community senior population while providing education programs, recreational activities, referral and social services assistance and to advocate for our seniors while educating the community on the needs of elderly.



The Council on Aging provides activities that promote good health, independence, and support to provide adequate housing and living conditions. We provide education and information on matters affecting our seniors through individual support and group sessions. We have created an environment that provides love and support, a place of caring and acceptance with activities that promote independence. We will continue to provide resources, support groups and information on housing referrals, meal programs, food pantry, clothes closet, outreach, exercise, health and wellness programs and recreational activities

despite COVID and are looking forward to gathering at the Center.

Our SHINE representative has been able to assist seniors with their health insurance needs and issues.

Even with COVID, our meals program provided 21,902 meals. While transportation was limited, we still drove 20,976.9 miles, bringing 1,222 passengers to 517 medical appointments; 261 lunch; 22 shopping and 18 other destinations.

Due to the COVID-19 virus we have had limited programs at the Center. We look forward to holding our annual Cake Auction at some point, as well as our annual Wellness Day and our indoor yard sale. The Center provided the following services at the Center:

Daily Meals	Insurance Counseling (including Mass Health and Medicare)
Transportation- Medical, Social, Recreational	Fuel Assistance Services
Caregiver Support Resource information	Applications for Fuel Assistance and SNAP (Food Stamps)
Housing Assistance	Tax Preparation
Nursing home information with placements; Adult day care placements; counseling and direction	Caregiver's Support Group Classes – computer, yoga, chair exercise, crafts
Caregivers; Dealing with Alzheimer's Medication Management; Weight Loss Program; Veteran's Support Group; Eat Right for a Healthy Heart Lecture; Food Drive	Yoga, BINGO, cards, pool, shuffleboard games, Valentine's, Halloween celebrations; Peanut Auction; Three Christmas Programs; Wii bowling;

Identify Theft Prevention; Beach Party; Mardi Gras Celebration	Birthday and holiday celebrations, daily coffee hour; Knitting/Crocheting Group
Medicare Part D, SHINE, Flu Clinic, Fuel Assistance and Food Stamps; Blood Pressure Clinics; Eye & Lasik (vision exams); Miracle Ear (hearing aid exams); Fallon representative; Pizza Party; Monthly Cookie Booths	GVNA Programs; It's Real Cool Swing! (musical presentation)

A new program we have is a Volunteer/Escort/Companion Program, which is designed to help homebound seniors remain independent. Volunteers provide companion services to relieve loneliness. Volunteers also provide essential services including shopping assistance, escort to appointments, respite for care givers, SHINE (Serving Health Information Needs of Elders) counseling and telephone reassurance.

Without our staff and our group of dedicated volunteers we could not have offered the activities that we do at the Center. We are grateful for all the help we have had this year and especially wish to thank the Robinson Broadhurst Foundation for their continued support and generosity in providing funding for the Winchendon Senior Center.

The Friends of Old Murdock Senior Center continue to offer fundraisers with proceeds going towards donations to the food pantry, and an annual free lunch for the seniors. We invite you to join this fun and active group.

We remain proud to continue serving the Senior Citizens of Winchendon.

Respectfully submitted
Sheila Bettro,
Director, Winchendon Council on Aging



CULTURAL COUNCIL

The Massachusetts Cultural Council is funded by appropriations from State Legislature and the National Endowment for the Arts. Funds are distributed to Local Cultural Councils to distribute to individuals and organizations in their communities. The Local Cultural Council Program is the largest grassroots cultural funding network in the nation supporting thousands of community-based projects in the arts, humanities and sciences annually.

Yearly the Winchendon Cultural Council (WCC) meets in the fall to review and award grants to cultural programs town-wide. This year we received 35 applications and were pleased to allocate over \$16,000 which will partially or fully fund 20 of those programs. Our funded programs include:

- Beals Memorial Library – Town-Wide Read, Youth Programs, Poetry Contest, Movies on the Lawn
- Murdock High School – Salem Field Trip
- HEAL Winchendon – Toy Town Elementary Skillshare Program & Taste of Winchendon Festival
- Winchendon School & GALA – Community Mural Projects
- Winchendon Music Festival – Concert Series
- Winchendon Winds Professional Concert Band – Concert Series
- Unitarian Universalist Church – Pipe Organ and Brass Concerts



For a complete listing of grantees and dollar amounts awarded, please visit www.mass-culture.org/Winchendon, or contact the WCC Chair listed below. We encourage the community to attend these wonderful local programs, all of which are free or low-cost.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jill Nicholson Sackett, Chair/Treasurer (224) 567-3635

Current Council Members:		
Jill Sackett, Chair/Treasurer	Linsey Laserte	Molly Velasco
Miranda Jennings, Secretary	Linda Hofhaug	Camille Hart

FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Winchendon Finance Committee is pleased to present its annual report for the 2021 fiscal year. The Finance Committee began the year with a full committee of seven members, including Thomas Kane, Chairman, Dr. Maureen Ward, Vice Chairman, David Alexander, Charles Cortis, Douglas Delay, Keith Kent and Philip Levine.. Over the course of the year, the Finance Committee met twenty-one times in regular or joint meetings and public hearings. Our recording secretary, Brianna Roberts, resigned in September 2020 and Taylor Tower assumed those duties.

As was true for much of life, Fiscal Year 2020 was impacted in many ways by the Covid-19 pandemic. The business of conducting the Town's finances was no exception. The Annual Town Meeting, held each year in May, was not held at the usual time in 2020. With the economy on hold with many businesses closed and schools closed while student learned how to participate remotely, Winchendon, along with most Massachusetts cities and towns, was unable to develop a budget for FY21 due to the uncertainty of state aid and local receipts. The legislature passed legislation allowing local governments to operate in the new FY21 fiscal year on a month-to-month budgets based on one twelfth of the FY20 budget, which was how the Town operated from July through September. The Finance Committee met several times in August and September, often jointly with the Board of Selectmen and the Town Manager to reconstruct the budget that had been initially developed prior to the pandemic. Several actions were taken by the Town Manager to reduce the budget while maintaining services. These included reducing the property tax increase from 2 ½ % to 1¼%, reduced expectations for local revenues and increases in the unemployment account and cuts in recommended capital purchases. Also, an act of the legislature allowed the Town to access the special reserve account that had been established as part of the deficit bail-out legislation. The revised budget was finalized at a joint meeting on September 2, 2020 and the Finance Committee held a public hearing on the warrant on Sept. 8. The Town Meeting was held on September 28. The Finance Committee Report presented at the meeting focused on illustrating where the Town's revenues come from, particularly highlighting the fact that nearly half of the revenue comes in the form of State Aid. The second part of the report reviewed the Town's reserve accounts balances, Stabilization, Free Cash and the Special Reserve Fund totaling nearly \$3 million and urged the Town to keep these reserves intact in these fiscally uncertain times. At the Town Meeting, the Town approved the revised FY2021 budget and added the Special Reserve account to the Finance Committee's contingency accounts.

The impact of Covid-19 on the Town's financial picture was eased in large part by increases in aid at both the state and federal levels. The governor and the legislature passed a budget in September that included nearly level funding in state aid to the Town. In addition, the Federal government's CARES act provided nearly \$1 million which was split almost evenly between town government and the schools. The aid came with several limitations on what

it could be spent. The school department used CARES funds to equip the remote learning strategies, food delivery expenses, purchase of PPE equipment and supplies and work to improve air circulation in some school buildings. Town expenditures included staff overtime for EMT's and personal protection equipment and supplies.

The Finance Committee oversaw the annual contingency fund of \$45,000, the snow and ice reserve fund of \$93,000 and the special reserve fund of \$323,776. In November the Finance Committee approved a request for \$5,000 to be added to the Fuel Assistance program overseen by the Council on Aging. In January, the Committee approved release of the Snow and Ice contingency of \$93,000 to the Public Works Department. It also approved a request for \$6,000 to the Board of Selectmen Contingency account for expenses related to the Town Manager search and \$16,500 to the Old Murdock Building Repair account for emergency work on the building. The Committee also approved a request from the Town Manager for \$82,242 for repair work on the Old Murdock building.

In February, 2021, the Finance Committee received a request from the Fire Chief for \$87,452 from the special reserve fund to help cover a \$163,000 shortfall in the Fire Department salary accounts with the balance of \$75,770 to be covered by freezing certain fire department expense accounts. The Finance Committee reluctantly approved the request but looked for answers as to why the shortfall existed and wasn't acted on until seven months into the fiscal year. A subsequent report identified several factors for the shortfall: (1) Reductions in the housemen account from the original pre-pandemic budget to the budget approved in September; (2) The practice of scheduling 72 hours a week of "open shifts", which was not known nor budgeted for by the Town Accountant; and (3) poor administration of the expenditure of the Safer Grant.

The development of the FY22 budget began in January 2021 with the presentation of a draft budget developed by Town Manager Keith Hickey. This process was interrupted by the resignation of Mr. Hickey and the hiring of an interim Town Manager, Mr. Stephen Delaney. The Finance Committee met jointly with the Board of Selectmen to review a revised budget on March 22, 2021. Mr. Delany reviewed the budget proposal of \$16,185,796 and identified steps taken to resolve an approximately \$500,000 shortfall from the first draft budget. DOR's disallowance of anticipated revenue from the new cannabis outlet and an increase in the town's educational assessment contributed to the shortfall. A combination of budget reductions and use of free cash was employed to close the budget gap. The Finance Committee met with Monty Tech Superintendent Sheila Harrity and Business Manager Tammy Crockett on March 11 to review the Monty Tech budget. The total budget was \$29,114,049, an increase of 1.04% over the FY21 budget. The Town's assessment of \$783,962 was a decrease from FY21 due to a drop in enrollment from 130 students to 116 students. On March 25, the Fincom met with Superintendent Joan Landers and Interim Superintendent Thad King to review the School Department budget which included \$14,134,669 from the General Fund and \$895,180 in grants and trust contributions. On April 27, 2021 The Committee held a public hearing of the Town Meeting Warrant. The

Committee recommended approval of all the Articles except for a citizen's petition concerning the improvement of Mellon Road that the Committee considered redundant. The Finance Committee Report at the Town Meeting held on May 17, 2021 focused on proposed expenditures from free cash on the Warrant and an accounting of the transfers from the Special Reserve Fund.

The Committee welcomed new Town Manager Justin Sultzbach at its June 8 meeting and approved end of the year budget transfers including \$51,800 from various fire department expense accounts to the Houseman salary account. At its final meeting of the fiscal year on June 28, the Committee approved several transfers from the Special Reserve Fund requested by Mr. Sultzbach, including \$25,000 for a study of the Blair Square traffic issues, \$26,200 for a hazard study of blighted properties in the downtown area, and \$17,500 for repairs to the Town Hall.

As the year ended, Keith Kent submitted his resignation from the Finance Committee, noting that he would be taking on additional responsibilities on the Board of Health. The Finance Committee thanks him for his contributions to the Committee's work over the last two years.

Respectfully Submitted:

Thomas Kane, Chairman
Dr. Maureen Ward, Vice-Chairman
David Alexander
Charles Corts
Douglas Delay
Keith Kent
Philip Levine.

Fire Department Town Report 2021

I am pleased to submit the following Annual Report
Chief Thomas J. Smith

Mission Statement

“The Winchendon Fire Department shall endeavor to protect life and property through emergency response and non-emergency assistance. We will strive to promote public safety through inspection, enforcement, and education”.

Department Statistics:

From Jan.1, 2021 - December 31, 2021, the Department responded to 2,136 requests for services as shown below. Even though each year consistently stretches our resources, the Fire Department proudly and professionally continues to protect the citizens of Winchendon. The table below gives what the call actually turned out to be. Quite often a call is dispatched as one thing due to the information given only to actually be something different upon arrival. This is just another part of our department’s challenge to protect the community.

INCIDENT TYPE	QTY
Fire / Explosion	44
Overpressure / Rupture	1
Ambulance / Rescue Calls	1566
Hazardous Conditions	54
Service Calls	199
Good Intent Call	93
False Call	179
TOTAL	2136

Fire Losses

Fire property loss for 2021 was approximately just under \$**700,000.00**. This does not include any dollar value on personnel or homeowner pain and suffering. The amount in no way shows the many lives that were affected by emergency calls throughout our community.

Personnel:

Over the past year the Winchendon Fire Department has proudly served your community to the best of its ability. Forty-one men and women make up the fire department and have provided the Town of Winchendon with emergency services whenever requested to the best of their ability and availability. As members of the fire department, these dedicated individuals have spent numerous hours training on both fire and medical topics in an effort to best be able to protect the community. This past year has been especially stressful to these responders having to not only deal with the constant emergencies but also the continuing COVID-19 pandemic. This pandemic continues to put the lives of every responder and their families on the line during every call. Nothing could have ever prepared these responders for the extended pandemic conditions they have faced. The mental toll of the pandemic has continued but there has been no hesitation to put the citizens before

themselves while the entire community pushed through the pandemic. The families and friends of these members have had to make their own sacrifices by having their loved ones away for hours at a time helping others without knowing if they would safely return. Without this understanding, our firefighters and Emergency Medical Technicians would not be able to demonstrate the commitment necessary to be a member of the Winchendon Fire Department.

Fire Chief Thomas J. Smith has now been on board for almost ten years leading the department in the best direction possible to protect the citizens of Winchendon. Over this past year there have been many new policies and procedures implemented, especially due to COVID-19. With the rules of the pandemic changing almost daily adjustments had to be made to every phase of the emergency process in an effort to function properly to protect both responders and patients. Keeping the department updated on these changes was an ongoing project that without the entire command structure, would not have been possible. The training committee has continued to be led by Captain Bryan Vaine in an effort to improve the overall training of the department. The years training peaked in October with a live-fire training exercise at 86 Ingleside Drive. This training burn not only allowed many departments from the area to work with their crews in actual fire conditions but also paved the way for a new amphitheater project for the community. These training opportunities are the backbone of the Winchendon Fire Department.

The following list shows the rank and individual by name so they can be properly recognized for their many sacrifices. Some members may have only been on the department for brief periods during the year but you can be assured that in one way or another they helped mold the Winchendon Fire Department into the highly respected department we are today. One of the most common statements around the station is that everyone is appreciated for their contributions and efforts to the department no matter how big or small.

Fire Chief –	Thomas Smith
Captains –	William Brown, Bryan Vaine
Lieutenants -	Richard Sevigny, Brian Croteau, William Davis, Andrew Harding, Mark Vitale
Chaplain -	Calvin Miller
Firefighters & EMTs -	Janie Anderson, Joseph Arsenault, Stephen Ashmore, Troy Ashmore, James Bevilacqua, Kyle Blouin, Daniel Brown, Heather Butler, Tamie Charbonneau, Patrick Connor, Edward Coulter, John Cyganiewicz, Joshua Emerson, Mark Fleming, Natan Hagopian, Everard Hayes, Rebecca Hicks, Clayton Landry, Emily Latour, Corey Leary, Andrew LeBel, Ray Lemek, Betty-Jane Nicholson, James Nicholson, Tyler Pelkey, Nathan Schulz, Justin Scott, Martin Scott, Andrew Seamans, Justin Sevigny, Melissa Vaine, Dan Voutila, Garrett Wante, James Watkins
	Admin Assistant – Sheila Beane

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 is always looking to the community for ideas that could improve our services or additional services that should be provided. It is especially encouraging how well the fire department comes together under any circumstance to ensure the safety of Winchendon residents and guests. Our firefighters have been ecstatic that visits to the station have resumed during the past year. These times of being able to share “our house” with the public are very special to the department members.

Permits:

231	Brush Burning
5	Blasting / Tanks
15	Fire Safety Inspections
13	Liquor License
69	L.P. Gas
84	Oil burner
180	Smoke Detector
Total	597
Total Permit Revenue Collected: \$ 15,560.00	

Continued use of our electronic inspection systems (Station Smarts and PS Trax) has allowed more accurate and consistent inspection processes which is welcomed by our firefighters and customers alike. Both of these systems are now expanding which will allow our department to become even more efficient than our current well-oiled machine.

Grants Received:

The Winchendon Fire Department continues to recognize the difficult financial times that are facing the community for various reasons.. It is because of this that we have worked harder than ever in an effort to secure various grant funding. We are proud to have been successful in the following grants during 2021 totaling **over \$22,132.00** for just this one year, along with another **\$230,000** in shared grants with the Winchendon Police Department and the Winchendon DPW.

SAFE Grant – (\$4,692.00). This grant comes from the Executive of Public Safety Department of Fire Services. The main focus of the grant is to provide fire prevention education to children of the community in an effort to reduce child fire risks and injuries. This money is used for fire prevention materials given out to the children at the elementary schools and at other events throughout the year.

SENIOR SAFE Grant – (\$2,480.00). This grant comes from the Executive of Public Safety Department of Fire Services. This grant is focused on the senior members of the community. This grant allows our department to get information out to the elders of our community in the areas of cooking safety and home hazard reduction. We have given out cooking safety kits along with pamphlets on reducing hazards. File of Life packets have also been distributed to those in need to help give a consistent place for their medical information both at home and in their wallets or purses. We have also started a lockbox program to assist elders if they have a medical emergency and are unable to unlock their door.

Firefighter Safety Equipment Grant – (\$14,960.00) This grant comes to the Winchendon Fire Department through the Executive of Public Safety Department of Fire Services. With

this grant the department was able to purchase two battery powered vent fans, two Honda generator lights, firefighter accountability tags for every firefighter and six new SCBA masks to complete our project of assigning every interior firefighter their own mask.

Robinson-Broadhurst Foundation Grant – (\$230,000.00). This gracious grant which is being managed by the Winchendon Police Department allows the Winchendon Fire Department, along with the Winchendon Police Department and Winchendon DPW to fill a desperate need that has been unable to be addressed through budgetary methods. These funds, combined with town fund, will be basically replacing the town’s communication systems from the ground up. This improved communication equipment will greatly improve the safety of all the responders that are out there every day protecting the citizens of Winchendon. Winchendon has been extremely fortunate to be continuously supported by the Robinson-Broadhurst Foundation.

Covid-19 Pandemic Funding – Although these funds were technically not grants the funding supplied by the federal and state governments did play a large part in the purchase of items for the fire department. With proper planning and extensive research our financial team has continued to traverse the mountains of paperwork to make these purchases possible.

Emergency Medical / Rescue Services:

In calendar year 2021, the Winchendon Fire Department responded to one thousand five hundred and sixty-six (1566) requests for some type of medical assistance or rescue. Outside of these medical/rescue calls, there were many times that our ambulance personnel assisted at fire related incidents as well. Transports resulting from these ambulance requests brought in \$573,445.26 in ambulance receipts to the town coffers. This is a slight increase over the previous year.

Ambulance Apparatus:

Description	Year	Funding Source	Condition	Replacement
Ambulance 2	2021	Town Funds	Excellent	2029
Ambulance 1	2016	Robinson-Broadhurst	Good	2024

In 2021 the community received its new 2021 PL Custom ambulance. This ambulance was desperately needed and will serve the community for many years to come.

Fire Apparatus:

The following chart illustrates the state of the department’s fire apparatus. A column has been included on funding sources so that you may understand how lucky we have been to benefit from the Robinson Broadhurst Foundation. The Fire Department is also extremely fortunate to have such support from the community. The town has stepped up and recognized the need to replace a majority of the large apparatus over the past four years. This cost to taxation has been sizeable but citizens have shown their desire to ensure their safety through proper vehicle replacement.

Apparatus	Year	Funding/Donation Source	Condition	Replacement Year
Engine 1	2019 KME	Taxation	Very Good	2038
Engine 2	2002 Ford E-1	R/B *	Very Poor	2020
Engine 3	1996 E-1	R/B *	Very Poor	2022
Tower 1	2014 KME	Taxation	Very Good	2039
Forestry 1	2014 F350	Taxation	Good	2024
Forestry 2	1969 Mack1500 gal	DEM **	Poor	2010
Car 1	2019	R/B *	Very Good	2028
Car 2	2008	Refurbed Housing	Very Poor	2021

* R/B = Robinson Broadhurst Foundation Grant

** DEM = Department of Environmental Management Surplus Equipment Program

As you can see by the above list there are several important pieces of apparatus that are needing replacement. The replacement years have passed on a few which eventually will create very expensive repairs and safety concerns for the town if not addressed soon.

Building Needs:

The building was erected in 1978 and has served the town proudly for well over forty years. Currently the fire department has outgrown the fire station. The necessary apparatus has not only become larger but also the need for additional equipment has caused us to leave equipment outside many times throughout the year. In the winter months our only tanker must come out of service due to the freezing temperatures outside where the truck is stored. The station living quarters are currently inadequate also, with all the bunk beds in one large room. The need for a training area is exceptional along with additional safety items throughout the station. The firefighters are working hard to make this building last as long as possible during these tough financial times without jeopardizing the public safety of the community or the safety of your firefighters; however the need for a fire station replacement has arrived. With the changing of Town Managers for Winchendon in 2021 the fire station project was revitalized. Town Manager Justin Sultzbach and Chief Thomas Smith began the tedious project of scaling the project to a size and cost that Winchendon will be able to afford while not reducing services. The plan that was produced was nothing short of amazing and will be coming before the various town boards and citizens over the upcoming months.

Contact Information:

The Fire Station is located at 405 Central Street Winchendon, MA 01475

Phone: 978-297-2324 (non-emergency) Email: wfd@townofwinchendon.com

911 – **EMERGENCY CALLS**

Closing Statement:

The Winchendon Fire Department would like to take this opportunity to thank the citizens for their continued support of the fire department and its members. Our firefighters and medical personnel strive to provide you all with the best service possible in extremely stressful situations. As a department, we look forward to continuing our good working relationship with not only the other town departments but also each and every citizen in need of our services. We are committed to making Winchendon the best possible community it can be.

**REPORT OF THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT
FISCAL YEAR 2021
JULY 1, 2020 - JUNE 30, 2021**

PURPOSE OF PERMIT	NO. OF PERMITS
Building Permits	196
New Single Family	32
Additions/Alteration	12
Garage Additions	10
Deck	
Addition/Repairs	14
Sheet Metal	4
Solar Panels	32
Sheds	2
Pool	17
Roofs	70
Demolitions	6
Signs	9
Plumbing	121
Gas	114
Electrical	228
Pellet Stove	1
Foundation Only	3
Sign`	9
Wood Stoves	17
	888
	Total Departmental Payments to Town Treasurer
Building	\$103,795.00
Wire	\$26,700.00
Plumbing	\$18,715.00
Gas	\$7,415.00
Sheet Metal	\$205.00
TOTAL	\$156,830.00

The Land Use Department issued a total of 888 permits, with an estimated construction cost of 14,497,667.00 in fees collected.

The preceding report indicates the permitting activity for Fiscal Year 2021.

I completed in this same twelve (12) month period 810 inspections, logging 383 miles on my personal vehicle. There were 4 after hour calls which my presence was requested by the Winchendon Fire Department. There were 35 annual inspections of local businesses conducted.

I worked closely with the Board of Health Agent, Planning and Development Office and the Conservation Agent to address concerns that residents brought forward to our Land Use Department.

The Health Agent, Jim Abare and myself addressed numerous concerns with many issues dealing with the collection of junk on properties in the Town of Winchendon.

I look forward serving the inhabitants of the Town of Winchendon in the following year.

Respectfully submitted,

Geoffrey L. Newton
Building Commissioner/Zoning Enforcement Officer



BEALS MEMORIAL LIBRARY

In 2021 the Beals Memorial Library continued to serve the Town as a resource for the informational, cultural, educational and recreational needs of its residents through its collection of books, DVDs, audio books, e-resources, streaming video, databases, magazines and newspapers, as well as through its programs, events and activities. Our membership in the C/W MARS resource sharing network and the Massachusetts Library System allows our patrons access to materials from hundreds of other libraries throughout the state and around the country.

Working Toward the Future:

In May of 2021 the Robinson-Broadhurst Foundation awarded the library a grant of \$200,000, and the Town approved \$400,000 to upgrade the library's outdated electrical system, to install a new fire suppression system, and to repair and paint cracked and peeling plaster walls. The project is scheduled to start in the fall of 2022.

Highlights for 2021:

The library re-opened its doors on Monday, March 22 after a full year of being inaccessible to patrons due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Despite these extraordinary circumstances, the Library did an excellent job of providing patron access to its collection, while creating virtual events and activities to fill the void of our normal programming. The highlight of this virtual programming was our Stuck@Home Storytime accessible from the library's website. Other virtual programs included Blind Date with a Bundle in February, and Winchendon Reads Across America in March.

In May we resumed in-person programming with our annual "May is Mystery Month" Reading Challenge. May also brought an Interactive Swordsmanship Demonstration for the teens in the Dungeons & Dragons Club. In June the D&D group took part in a prop making workshop, and later engaged in a Live Action Role Playing (LARP) game using the props they made in the workshop.

The Summer Reading Club (SRC) kicked off in late June with a Jungle Boogie Dance Party. Other SRC events included Animal Adventures, Stories in the Shade, programs about raising bees and backyard chickens, a Build-a-Friend Story time, a family story walk, an adult story share, a Little Justice Leaders playgroup, a Mad Science Lab, a program on the Lore of the Night Sky, and three outdoor movie nights with live music beforehand.

In early October we observed the 108th anniversary of the Library with the Beals Birthday Bash Celebration and Open House. As a part of that celebration, the Friends group installed a bench under the large oak tree next to the Library, with a commemorative plaque in memory of long-time Friend of the Library, Barbara Lafrennie. October also saw the return of the Beals Prize for Poetry, where ten finalists from around the commonwealth vied for the prize money. Paula Sayward of Hatfield was the winner. A Kid's Halloween Party ended the month. In November the library hosted a Shadow Puppet Show, and an Author Talk by local author Kate Zebrowski.

We ended the year with the third annual Toy Town Tree Festival, a successful, two-week event that raised over \$1,100.00 toward the construction of a new children's library.

On-going Programs:

On-going Library programs included the Fun & Games Club, the Teen Fandom Club, the Dungeons & Dragon Club, the Beals Teen Advisory Board, the On the Same Page Book Club, the Beals Book Club, Yoga for adults & teens, and movie and documentary film showings for adults, teens and kids.

Circulation Statistics:

5,714 patrons visited the Library in 2021. Circulation totaled 18,351 items. The Library circulated 11,585 books, 5,573 DVDs, 189 magazines, 155 audio books, 141 music CDs and 86 video games. Beals patrons received 4,226 items through interlibrary loan and other libraries were loaned 4,858 items from our collection. In 2021 the Library had 4,262 registered patrons and held 19,627 items in its physical collection with a total value of \$447,561.00. Also in 2021, the Library re-qualified for a total of \$23,499.49 in State Aid.

Fee-based Services:

Fax service, printing and document scanning were also available. These fee-based services helped to defray the cost of maintaining the equipment.

Museum Passes:

Free museum passes or coupons for discounts on museum admission offered to patrons in 2021 included the New England Aquarium, the Boston Museum of Science (funded by the Friends of the Library), the U.S.S. Constitution Museum, and the MassParks Pass.

The Friends:

The Friends of the Beals Memorial Library continued to offer the on-going Book Sale in the Library basement. The proceeds helped to support the many programs that the library provided for the residents of Winchendon. Call or drop by the library to find out how you can become a member of this active group as they plan future library events and programs.

Thank You:

We would like to thank our faithful volunteers, especially Esther Grimes, Suzanne Rader, and Meghan Thayer. Thanks also to the Winchendon Cultural Council for funding many of the programs we offer.

We send a special not of thanks to Rick Ward who left the Library Board of Trustees to become a member of the Town's Select Board. Rick worked tirelessly and effectively as a Trustee for many years, and we wish him all the best.

We also wish to thank the Library staff for all they do to serve the people of Winchendon within an extremely limited budget.

Respectfully submitted, The Board of Library Trustees

Ron Muse, Chair (2022)
Cindy Darcy, Vice Chair (2022)
Suzanne Rader, Clerk (2024)
Camille Hart (Student Representative)

Robert Courtemanche (2024)
Jane LaPointe (2023)
Caela Provost (2023)



Photo: Library Trustees and Santa Claus
Festival of Lights – December 2021

MASTER PLAN IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE (MPIC)

The Master Plan Implementation Committee was newly formed this past year.

The Winchendon Master Plan describes the will of the people of Winchendon. All town boards, commissions, committees, staff and citizens should use this Plan to guide their work in creating the future everyone seeks. The MPIC is charged with overseeing its execution and will work with the Town Manager and Responsible Leads.

MPIC specific responsibilities include:

- Coordinate and monitor implementation
- Collaborate with players to develop and track execution goals
- Assist with goals that require additional resources
- Encourage ongoing citizen engagement
- Assess status of specific actions, evaluate priorities, and suggest new implementation techniques where appropriate
- Identify successful strategies and barriers to progress
- Periodically evaluate the plan
- Create a mechanism to provide updates and progress reports to the Board of Selectmen

The full Master Plan is posted on our Town web page:

<https://www.townofwinchendon.com/master-plan-implementation-committee>

There are roles both big and small for Winchendon residents to help execute our Master Plan. If you'd like to get involved, please contact the Chair below.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jill Nicholson Sackett, Chair (224) 567-3635

Current MPIC Members:
Jill Sackett, Chair
Kyle Bradley, Vice Chair
Amanda Phillips, Secretary
Nikki Nickerson, Project Manager
Guy Corbosiero, Member
Erika Eitland, Member
Miranda Jennings, Member



COMMUNITY MASTER PLAN

Town of Winchendon, MA
December 2020



**MONTACHUSETT REGIONAL VOCATIONAL
TECHNICAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
1050 Westminster St., Fitchburg, Mass.**

When schools across the country shuttered in March of 2020, no one could imagine the long-term effects the pandemic would have on our school systems. The summer of 2020 was spent purchasing and installing air filtration systems and plexiglass barriers, sourcing mass quantities of PPE and working with local departments of public health to determine how to safely bring students and staff into the building. When guidance from the state's Department of Elementary and Secondary Education was released, school leaders were faced with rolling out a learning and instruction model that had never been attempted before. We would offer a Hybrid Learning Model, and a rotating daily schedule that would allow half of the student body to come into the building, while the other half would learn from home.

Still, the beginning of the 2020-2021 school year was fraught with concern for student, faculty and staff safety and a deep-rooted knowledge of how students learn best – in-person. School leaders worked tirelessly to develop a schedule that would bring as many students back into the building as possible, safely, while attempting to balance academic and vocational in-person learning time. Instructors were provided with additional technology supports and added professional development days, to write and create curriculum that could be delivered remotely. This, in itself, would be a challenge. How do you teach a student how to prepare and present a meal, or demonstrate fine-motor skills required to give a haircut, in a virtual learning environment? How do you assess a student's understanding of residential electrical wiring, without having the ability to observe and manipulate his/her work? How can you teach students to safely restrain an animal, with no pet interaction? I am proud to say that the Monty Tech instructors rose to this incredible challenge, and for much of the 2020-2021 school year, delivered an effective educational program, using the resources that were available to them.

While face-to-face instruction was provided, that, too, looked and felt different to students and staff. On those days when students were scheduled to attend in-person lessons, they found things had changed. Traffic patterns were rerouted, and signage on floors, hallways and doors reminded them to wear a mask and maintain distance. Seating on busses and in the cafeteria was assigned and closely monitored. A place that had always encouraged connection with fellow classmates was now insisting on distance. Though it may have been uncomfortable for both students and staff, the school wide adherence to these new rules seemed to be a quiet demonstration of their understanding. And on May 3, 2021, their compliance was rewarded - Monty Tech was allowed to return to full, in-person learning. With just over a month remaining in the 2020-2021 school year, students and staff welcomed the change, anxious for the halls and classrooms to return to a more normal capacity. While masks, social distancing and numerous hand sanitizing stations were still present, the return of students into the building was a welcome sight for all.

In 2020-2021, it was disappointing that so many traditional annual events had to be cancelled, including VIP, Tour Day, College Fair, and Career Awareness Night; however, where possible, the district continued to operate at a high level. Examples include:

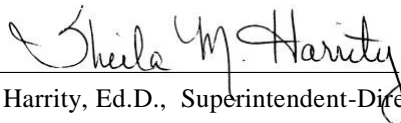
- To help our faculty and staff return to work, daycare issues had to be addressed,

and, as a result, an important relationship with the Boys and Girls Club of Fitchburg and Leominster developed. The club provided daycare and homework help, Monday through Friday, to school age children of Monty Tech faculty and staff.

- Thanks to more than \$670,000 in competitive grant awards, Monty Tech was able to renovate and expand the welding/metal fabrication shop and retrofit one science lab. The school launched an all new evening training program that provided no-cost training and job placement to qualified participants. With grant funds, we also established a Safe and Supportive Schools Team to review school policies and procedures and target those in need of improvement, with an overarching goal of providing all students with safe and appropriate learning environments.
- In an effort to build connections with our school supporters and to “show off” the talents of our students, we held our first Holiday Sale, which quickly sold out! More than 400 charcuterie trays, designed and handcrafted by our Cabinetmaking students were sold, and all proceeds went to the Class of 2021 Scholarship Fund.

The 2020-2021 school year was unexpected, challenging, and at times, disappointing, yet there were so many moments to be proud of. I remain humbled and honored to lead such an outstanding organization, and thank you for your continued support.

Respectfully submitted,



Sheila M. Harrity, Ed.D., Superintendent-Director



Our Mission

Every student will graduate from Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School with the skills, knowledge, and abilities to be a productive and effective member of an ever-changing society.

Our District

Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School is a four-year career and technical high school serving the member towns of:

Ashburnham	Harvard	Princeton
Ashby	Holden	Royalston
Athol	Hubbardston	Sterling
Barre	Lunenburg	Templeton
Fitchburg	Petersham	Westminster
Gardner	Phillipston	Winchendon

Leadership

The leadership team at Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School is comprised of ten talented administrators whose varied educational backgrounds, professional experiences, and areas of expertise contribute to the success of the school. Working collaboratively, and under the direction of the Superintendent and Principal, the team has transformed the school into one of the most sought-after high schools in North Central Massachusetts.

Sheila M. Harrity, Superintendent-Director

Tom Browne, Principal

Dayana Carlson, Assistant Principal

Tammy Crockett, Business Manager

Christina Favreau, Director of Academic Programs

Jim Hachey, Director of Vocational Programs

Michael Gormley, Director of Facilities

Donald Kitzmiller, Director of Technology

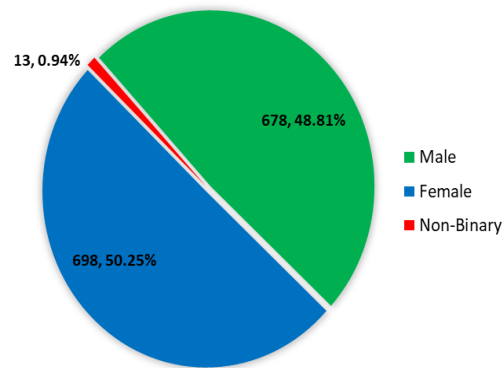
Katy Whitaker, Development Coordinator

Victoria Zarozinski, Director of Student Support Services

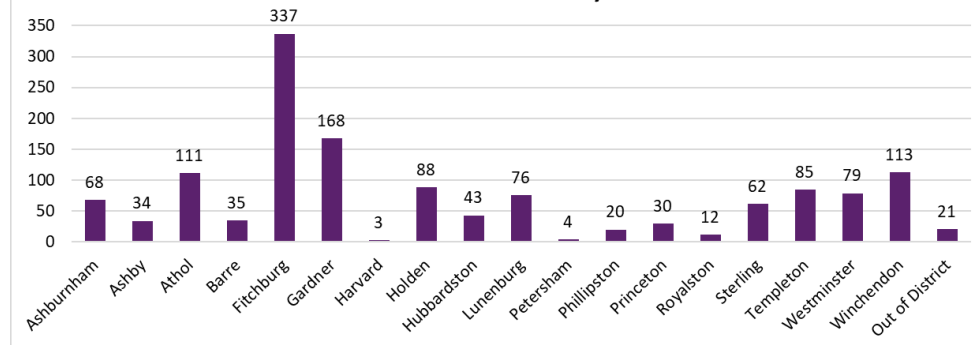
Enrollment

On June 1, 2021, student enrollment at Monty Tech included 1,389 students in grades nine through twelve, representing each of the district's eighteen sending communities. Each class of students is comprised of a relatively equal balance of male vs. female students, and each student attending Monty Tech has elected to do so, prepared to explore an interest in one of the school's twenty-one rigorous vocational-technical programs. While the school currently offers only five programs non-traditional for male students, and twelve programs non-traditional for female students, we are proud to have a student population that is well-balanced by gender and a variety of academic interests and achievements.

2020-2021 STUDENT ENROLLMENT



2020-2021 Enrollment by Town



Class of 2021 Awards

Members of the Class of 2021 were awarded approximately \$200,000 in scholarships, tools, and equipment. The Monty Tech Foundation generously provided \$35,500 in scholarships to graduating seniors, ranging in amounts of \$250 to \$2,000. The Foundation also awarded \$3,250 to the Practical Nursing graduates. Once again, local and state organizations, as well as generous individuals, continue to recognize the ability and potential of Monty Tech graduates in the form of financial donations. The School Committee, administration, faculty, and graduates are grateful for this support.

Articulation Agreements with local colleges also play an important role in helping reduce the cost of higher education. Qualified Monty Tech students are eligible to receive college credits through a number of articulation agreements with public and private colleges across

the country. Approximately 36% of the graduating class of 2021 reported plans to enroll at a 4-year college/university upon graduation. By earning college credits while still in high school, these students will save both time and money as they pursue advanced educational programs.

Financial Report

In an effort to develop a cost-effective budget for the fiscal year 2020-2021, a great deal of effort was put forth by the School Committee, administration, and staff. The final fiscal year 2020-2021 Educational Plan totaled \$28,814,865 which represents a 0.19% increase over the 2019-2020 Educational Plan. The District's FY21 budget only exceeds the minimum spending required by Massachusetts General Law Chapter 70 by \$899,640 or 3.5%.

The District was audited in December 2021 as part of the yearly financial audit by the accounting firm of Melanson, Heath and Co. from Greenfield, MA and expects to receive a good report.

Grants and Contracts

Monty Tech continues to pursue grant funding on an annual basis. These funds help provide many educational and social services to the student population. For fiscal year 2021, state and federal grant sources provided the school with \$2,037,076. Programs funded by these grants include: Coronavirus Prevention and Relief, Improving Teacher Quality, Special Education Services and Program Improvement, Title I Support, Perkins Occupational Education, Vocational Capital Equipment initiatives, Student Support and Academic Enrichment and Marine Corp Junior Reserve Officer Training.

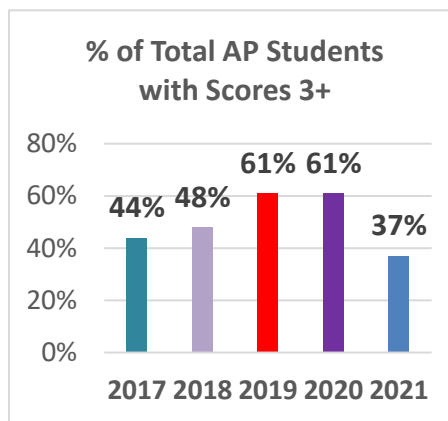
Academic Achievement

During the spring of 2021, administration of MCAS examinations was disrupted due to the pandemic and changes to educational delivery across the Commonwealth. Here at Monty Tech, 284 Freshman students qualified to take the Biology MCAS exam, having successfully completed the Grade 9 Biology course - 3 of whom were classified as Remote Learning Only. 349 students in Grade 10 took only the ELA and Math MCAS exam - 39 of those students were classified as Remote Learning Only. Finally, 32 Juniors opted to complete both the English and Math MCAS exams, in order to qualify them for scholarship opportunities such as the John and Abigail Adams Award.

Monty Tech remains committed to providing students with rigorous STEM learning opportunities, and so when an opportunity to apply for a Massachusetts Life Science Center grant presented itself, instructors were eager to apply. Working closely with the school's Development Coordinator, science instructors proposed the addition of an all-new science course that would introduce students to Microbiology and career pathways that are emerging in this recent health crisis. After developing a comprehensive proposal, and soliciting (and acquiring) support from business partner Bristol Meyers Squibb, the school's MLSC application was approved for funding, infusing the Monty Tech science department with approximately \$110,000. These funds will be used to renovate a science lab (replicating a biomedical facility), purchase all new course materials, equipment and

technology, and provide opportunities for instructors to attend the National Science Teachers Association's national conference in 2022.

During the spring of 2021, students at Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School continued to demonstrate high academic achievement, earning commendable scores on AP exams, though we did see our first decline in students who scored a 3 or better on the exam. It is important to remember that these exams took place during a difficult year of Hybrid Learning and Instruction. We anticipate a return to improved performance in the coming years, as students return to full-time, in-person learning.



The school is in its 9th year of administering Advanced Placement exams, and students

	Spring 2017 (SY16-17)	Spring 2018 (SY17-18)	Spring 2019 (SY18-19)	Spring 2020 (SY19-20)	Spring 2021 (SY20-21)
MT AP Courses	6	7	7	7	7
MT AP Student Enrollment	151	135	157	179	187
Students with Qualifying Scores	53 (44%)	46 (48%)	68 (61%)	89 (61%)	70 (37%)
AP Test Takers	120	95	111	146	188
Total # of Qualifying Exams	65 (44%)	58 (43%)	79 (54%)	75 (71%)	60 (43%)
Total # of AP Exams	148	134	146	106	140

enrolled in AP courses continue to improve their performance.

- In the spring of 2021, 70 out of 188 (37%) exams earned qualifying credit - the highest number of test takers the school has ever seen.
- This year, more than half of the students who tested in the following subjects received qualifying scores: Computer Science Principles, AP Language and Composition, and AP US History. Qualifying scores by these students exceeded the “state” averages in Massachusetts. In addition, students who completed the AP US History exam exceeded “global” averages.
- The AP subject with the highest number of students with qualifying scores was AP Language & Composition with 26 out of 44 students (59%).

Vocational Projects in the District Communities

2020-2021 challenged vocational instructors to rewrite curriculum, so that any lesson may be delivered effectively remotely. For so many years, the value of a Monty Tech vocational education has been our commitment to hands-on learning, which, due to the pandemic and an inability to safely have all students in the building, was limited. However, instructors

across the school worked with local municipalities, community service agencies, and within the building to find meaningful opportunities for students to demonstrate their technical skills and proficiency. While projects may have been smaller and even taken a bit longer to complete in 2020-2021, their educational value was immense, and we are forever grateful to our vocational instructors for their diligence in reimagining vocational education under these challenging and unforeseen circumstances.

Advanced Manufacturing: Beginning 2020-2021, what was formerly known as Machine Technology would now be called Advanced Manufacturing, a name that better aligns with local workforce needs, job titles and qualifications, and may aide in job placement for qualified students and program graduates. In FY21, program instructors also adopted the newly revised frameworks, and reviewed and developed curriculum to address any changes noted. 124 NC3 Certifications were earned by students, now skilled in Advanced & Precision Measuring Instrument (PMI). Advanced fusion CAD/CAM software training was completed, and Makerbot Method Carbon was also added to the training program. All Freshman students successfully completed safety training, earning an OSHA 10-hour general industry certification. Eight Seniors earned co-op placements, working and learning in area machine shops. (Total student enrollment: 46)

Auto Body Collision Repair Technology: Monty Tech Auto Body students and instructors prioritized earning valuable credentials in 2020-2021. Students earned the OSHA 10 hour general industry card, EPA 6H Rule spray certification, I-Car Pro Level One in Refinishing and I-Car Pro Level One in Non-Structural Repair. Five Seniors also earned co-op placements, and were reported to be valuable contributors in local repairs shops in the area. Due to the pandemic, the program restricted shop work to that of Monty Tech staff, but remained surprisingly busy throughout the year. Students performed quite well at the SkillsUSA District competition, earning a gold medal and a bronze in Collision Repair; which several students for the State competition. (Total student enrollment: 62)

Automotive Technology: Automotive Technology students benefited from the addition of two new certification opportunities (digital multimeters and scan tool applications) that were made available to students, using the newly purchased Snap-On NC3 certified training equipment. These industry-recognized credentials and the new equipment will enhance the students' level of competency within the automotive industry for years to come. Due to the pandemic, hands-on learning opportunities and in-house repairs were limited to faculty, staff, school, and student vehicles only; yet, surprisingly, the shop remained very busy. Students performed repairs that included transmission replacements, intake manifolds, brake work, and various other technical repairs, demonstrating technical skills that are required for any service technician in our area. Three Seniors and two Juniors earned co-op placements, while instructors continued to utilize e-learning program options to keep the remaining students on track and engaged during the hybrid schedule. (Total student enrollment: 66)

Business Technology: Monty Tech's Business Technology program continues to benefit from a unique partnership with Workers Credit Union. The opportunity to participate in teller training and financial literacy workshops has been met with great enthusiasm from students, who completed nine modules and earned a financial literacy certificate. Instructors, in collaboration with their post-secondary colleagues, continue to refine and develop new articulation agreements. The agreement with Mount Wachusett Community College will provide qualified students with college credits at no cost to the student. Students are eligible to receive 24 credits from Mount Wachusett Community College. Unfortunately, due to the

pandemic, the Gear House School Store and the Monty Tech Greenhouse were not operational. Program instructors hope to reopen these important training facilities in the coming year, allowing all freshmen, sophomores, and juniors to be successfully trained in the day-to-day operations of retail sales. Four Seniors and three Juniors were out on co-op placements during the 2020-2021 school year. (Total student enrollment: 64)

Cabinetmaking: Monty Tech Cabinetmaking students are called upon for a number of projects small and large, across the campus and beyond. During the 2020-2021 school year, students completed projects that included: designing and constructing Barre Cemetery arches, manufacturing button chairs for the town of Royalston's Phineas S. Newton Library, and designing and installing cabinetry for the Fitchburg Fire Department kitchen. Student work was featured during the school's first-ever Holiday Sale, where 400 charcuterie trays that were designed and handcrafted by our students were sold to community members. The items were so well received that they sold out quickly, and community members have requested similar sales in the future, so that they may benefit from the creative and beautiful work done by these students. Eight Seniors and seven Juniors earned co-op placements, representing the program so well. A sophomore student also won gold in the SkillsUSA District Competition. (Total student enrollment: 62)

CAD/Drafting & Design: In 2020-2021, Monty Tech CAD/Drafting & Design students adjusted quite well to the Hybrid Learning Model, and were able to complete the curriculum easily through the online platform. Students were also able to achieve a number of valuable industry-recognized certifications, including AutoCAD, Inventor, Revit, and Solidworks. While the school's COVID protocol curtailed the number of community service jobs that these students could complete, the senior class was able to work on an important community design project for the Town of Lunenburg. One student competed in the SkillsUSA States competition, representing the program well, while two Senior students were proud to earn coveted co-op placements. (Total student enrollment: 62)

Cosmetology: The Monty Tech Cosmetology program is one of the only programs that students may leave and directly enter the industry, fully-licensed and ready for a career. The state-approved program is rigorous and provides students with countless opportunities to refine their cosmetology skills on clientele who understand and appreciate the learning environment. During the 2020-2021, instructors collaborated with college partners to develop and sign articulation agreements with Mount Wachusett Community College & Quinsigamond Community College that will grant qualified students with college credits, should they choose to pursue advanced training and education. 17 out of 22 Seniors earned their cosmetology licenses, as the Juniors look forward to scheduling their own exams. Seniors also earned certifications in COVID Barbicide, and Pravana. Two Seniors were out on co-op, which was beneficial to their training, as COVID prohibited the opening of our own on-site Salon until May 2021. (Total student enrollment: 82)

Culinary Arts: In a typical year, Monty Tech Culinary Arts students and instructors operate a full-service restaurant and bakery, serving 90-120 patrons daily. They might also showcase their talents at regional events and fundraisers, working side-by-side with some of the area's finest chefs. But 2020-2021 was a different year. Due to COVID, and the hybrid schedule, the school's Mountain Room Restaurant opened to offer take-out meals only to faculty and staff, three days per week. This also included bakery items and desserts. In April, the restaurant was approved to open to the public, though on a

very limited basis. Students and instructors found creative ways to keep busy, applying their talents. In February 2021, Culinary Arts students baked more than thousand cookies and chocolates for the Monty Tech Foundation Valentine fundraiser. These “cookie boxes” were extremely popular, providing community members with an opportunity to support the school and students, while also enjoying a sweet treat. All proceeds benefitted student scholarships. The program also continued to donate leftover baked goods to Our Father's House in Fitchburg. Curriculum was reimagined, from a traditional in-person format to the required virtual platform, which proved to be challenging for the culinary trade. Instructors were dedicated to their craft and their students and performed well with the resources that were available to them, seeking meaningful opportunities for students to continue to develop in their chosen trade. Junior Students had an opportunity to earn ServSafe Certifications, Sophomores earned the Massachusetts Allergen Training, and Freshmen earned their OSHA 10 hour Culinary certification. (Total student enrollment: 93)

Dental Assisting: Monty Tech Dental Assisting instructors have emphasized the need for students to earn valuable industry-recognized credentials, as a means to demonstrate technical skill and proficiency. As a result, all students work and prepare for Dental Assisting National Board (DANB) certification exams. In 2020-2021, 93% of Sophomores passed the DANB Infection Control exam, and 100% of the class passed the DANB Radiology exam. This excellent pass rate is a true testament to the high quality instruction in the Monty Tech Dental Assisting program, and something the school continues to be so proud of. A total of 14 students (nine Seniors and five Juniors) earned co-op placements, while the remaining Juniors and Seniors remained in-house, due to COVID restrictions; affiliation/externship experiences in area dental clinics and offices were postponed due to the pandemic. All Seniors & Sophomores received the American Red Cross CPR/AED certification. One Senior won the gold medal at SkillsUSA districts and went on to compete at the state competition. (Total student enrollment: 61)

Early Childhood Education: Students and instructors in the Monty Tech Early Childhood Education program are committed to community service activities, but due to the pandemic, were only able to work on in-house on student-centered projects. Three students earned co-op placements, gaining valuable experience working with young children in area daycare and educational centers. Six Seniors earned the National Child Development Associate credential, while all 13 seniors qualified and applied for the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care Teacher certification. One student was awarded a Gold medal in the SkillsUSA district competition. In 2020-2021, the Monty Tech Child Care Center continued to operate on a much smaller scale (due to enrollment protocols), providing meaningful hands-on learning opportunities for all students in the Early Childhood Education program. (Total student enrollment: 55)

Electrical: Throughout 2020-2021, students and instructors in the Monty Tech Electrical program wired numerous machines, equipment, computers, and lights throughout the school. Students and instructors successfully transitioned lighting in the Auto Body welding stations and the Welding/Metal Fabrication shop to all LED lights. Students also successfully wired a new sand blaster and car lift in Automotive Technology, helping complete a much-needed update in that shop. Students worked in Lunenburg, installing, servicing and adding lighting and electrical plugs to the garage associated with the town's cemetery. With guidance from program instructors, students also began wiring the Habitat for Humanity house being built in Athol. Sixteen Seniors and seven Juniors earned co-op placements, which allowed them

to gain important on-the-job skills and additional training in the industry. The Freshman class was filled with 24 first choice students, and all successfully completed the 10-hour OSHA training and certification. (Total student enrollment: 93)

Engineering Technology: The Engineering Technology program at Monty Tech is a rigorous program, infused with a nationally certified curriculum provided by Project Lead the Way, and countless hands-on learning opportunities that provide students with opportunities to demonstrate creativity, make connections with prior learning, and earn college credits. Engineering Technology students continue to benefit from the new technology available in the A.R.M. Lab, including three Amatrol tabletop mechatronics learning systems with Pegasus robots, one Fanuc LR Mate 200ID/4S robot, one Festo MPS 203 mechatronics system, and one Stratasys F270 3D printer. New lessons and training available because of the added technology will only open additional career pathways for students interested in pursuing engineering as an occupation. All Freshmen student completed the OSHA 10-hour General Industry training and certification program, while five Seniors participated in meaningful co-op placements. (Total student enrollment: 54)

Graphic Communications: Throughout the 2020-2021 school year, students in the Graphic Communications program produced numerous projects for our district cities and towns, and a variety of non-profit organizations within the district. As the COVID-19 pandemic continued, hands-on learning opportunities and time spent in the school were limited by the change to a Hybrid Learning Program, so students were unable to complete all community service projects that were requested of them. One Senior and one Junior pursued and earned co-op placements, which allowed them to continue their on-the-job training in a real world work setting. Of the twenty-one talented Seniors who graduated from the Graphic Communication program in 2021, 17 were accepted to college, and four entered the workforce in related careers. Graphics students consistently perform well at SkillsUSA competitions, and 2020-2021 was no exception, with students taking gold, silver & bronze medals at the state competition in in screen printing; a gold medal was also earned in photography, a bronze was awarded in Advertising Design, and silver and bronze medals were achieved in Graphic Imaging Sublimation, making program instructors quite proud. (Total student enrollment: 85)

Health Occupations: The Health Occupations program continues to be one of the more competitive programs here at Monty Tech, providing a rigorous education grounded in current medical knowledge and practice, balanced by hands-on learning opportunities in the on-site Sim Lab and through the use of state-of-the-art Anatomage technology. As our shop continues to utilize the Skills Capital Grant of \$180,246 that was awarded in the summer of 2019, we continued to improve the instructional spaces, technology and equipment for student training purposes. 14 Seniors were partnered with area clinics, through the co-op program, where they continued to learn and flourish in their chosen field, while back on campus, students focused on achieving important industry-recognized credentials. All Juniors and Sophomores obtained their CPR and First Aid certifications. 29 Sophomores and 26 Juniors received Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, CMS targeted Covid-19 training for Frontline Nursing Home Staff certifications. Eight Seniors obtained their Home Health Aide Certification, and 19 seniors took the NHA Clinical Medical Assistant Certification (CCMA) exam and passed. (Total student enrollment: 108)

House Carpentry: Though the school has shifted to a Hybrid Learning Model, opportunities to support communities in the district were ever-present. The Monty Tech House Carpentry

program completed a number of projects, large and small during this challenging time, that included: constructing and installing the little free library for Ruggles Lane School, and building an 8'x12' cooling shed for the Harvest Community Project – both projects were completed by Sophomores. These Sophomore students also handcrafted a number of beautiful Adirondack chairs, which will be used for charitable donations in the months to come. Juniors and Seniors, meanwhile, completed the Habitat for Humanity building project in Ashburnham, and also framed, installed a roof, and sided the equipment garage for the Town of Lunenburg Cemetery Department. Students and instructors assisted with framing of the Habitat for Humanity house in Athol, installed a complete truss roof system, all exterior trim details, and roofing and siding materials. 13 Juniors received their HotWorks certifications, while four Senior students earned co-op placements, and enjoyed working with area businesses representing the carpentry and construction trades. (Total student enrollment: 56)

HVAC & Property Maintenance: To complement the programs theory and technical skill lessons, Monty Tech HVAC and Property Maintenance students and instructors participate in the home building project each year, installing the HVAC system and a number of other tasks associated with residential construction efforts. In 2020-2021, Monty Tech HVAC students and instructors works with other trades at the school to complete the Ashburnham Habitat for Humanity community service project. In addition, the venting was completed in the Habitat for Humanity house in Athol. On campus, students removed and installed the mini split system in the school's Bakery. Four Seniors and three Juniors were placed in area businesses through the school's popular co-op program. All Juniors earned EPA 608 Certification, and two Sophomores and one Junior performed well, earning honors at the SkillsUSA State competition. (Total student enrollment: 55)

Information Technology: The Information Technology program continues to offer students opportunities to earn a wide range of industry-recognized certifications that affirm the technical skill proficiency needed for entry-level careers in networking and information technology. In 2020-2021, all Freshmen completed the OSHA 10-hour General Industry training. Sophomore students passed the Test-out PC Pro Certificate exam, the Cisco IT Essential course for computer repair and maintenance, and the Introduction to Networking course. All Juniors completed the CIW Web Curriculum, and Seniors completed the Cisco Python Programming curriculum. Seven seniors completed the AP-CSP curriculum, and five took the finishing exam. Juniors in the program participated and did quite well in the Cyberpatriot and CyberStart America cybersecurity competitions. Two Seniors were on co-op placements applying their technical skills in area businesses. In total, approximately 100 hours of technical support were completed at the program's Help Desk, where students worked on hardware and software troubleshooting on desktops, laptops, printers, and mobile devices. (Total student enrollment: 31)

Masonry: The talents of Monty Tech Masonry students are on display throughout district communities, as projects that were completed during the 2020-2021 school year include: constructing scaffolding at the Habitat for Humanity house in Athol, replacing a concrete walk at Hubbardston Council on Aging, and repairing a granite wall at the Fay Club in Fitchburg. A creative solution to restrictive in-person guidelines, Monty Tech Masonry students and instructors designed, placed and finished a 24 'x 24' concrete slab outside, creating an outdoor classroom so that students could continue to work on important projects, yet remain socially distant and safe. Students continued to maintain the OSHA silica standard, in a program that operates in compliance with all trade regulations. Three Seniors

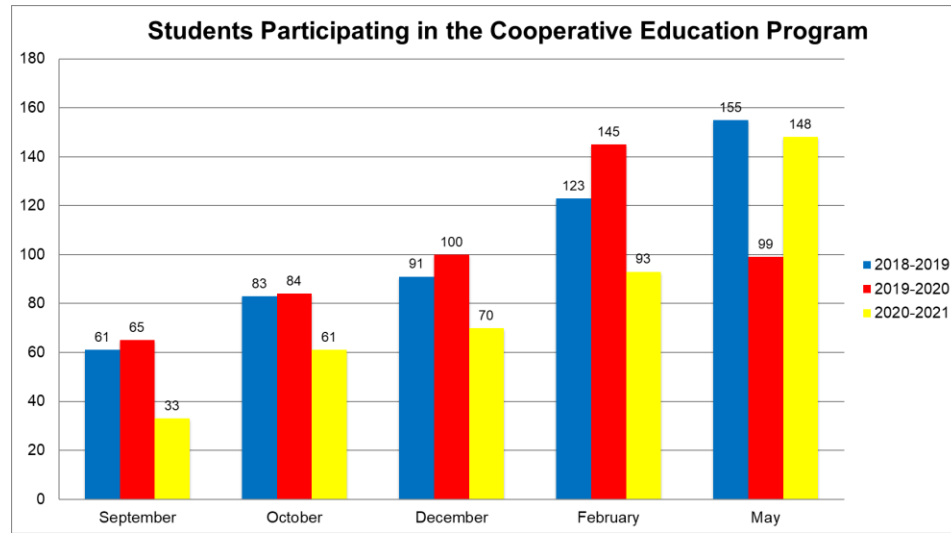
earned co-op placements, and continued to refine their skills working with business partners through the school's co-op program. One Senior won a silver medal at the SkillsUSA State competition, and all juniors completed the industry-standard HotWorks Certification. (Total student enrollment: 45)

Plumbing: Like programs across the school, the Monty Tech Plumbing program struggled with delivering hands-on lessons that would rival their in-person instruction. However, talented instructors in the school's popular shop worked diligently to rewrite curriculum and design lessons that could be adapted. With a focus on theory and technical knowledge, instructors aimed to embed certification opportunities where possible. To that end, students in grades 10, 11 and 12 successfully completed their HotWorks safety training and earned that important credential. Freshmen also completed the 10-hour OSHA general industry safety training, while Sophomore students completed the 10-hour OSHA Construction safety training and certification. Students and instructors collaborated with other trades to complete two single family house building projects, both located in Ashburnham. Students and instructors also began rough plumbing for the Habitat for Humanity single family home in Athol. Back on campus, students replaced three water coolers with combination filtered bubbler/bottle filler units. Seven students (four Seniors and three Juniors) earned co-op placements, which allowed them to continue to grow in the trade, working with plumbing professionals in the area. All graduates received either a Tier 1 or Tier 2 completion toward MA plumbing licensure. (Total student enrollment: 67)

Veterinary Science: 2020-2021 was the 4th year for the school's newest vocational training program - Veterinary Science. Unfortunately, due to COVID restrictions, traffic in the community clinic was somewhat limited. The clinic did, though, provide low cost veterinary care to 421 families with 635 pets within our district. 14 Seniors earned the CVA (Certified Veterinary Assistant) certification; 20 Seniors achieved their Recover CPR Certification; 21 Juniors achieved their Fear Free Certification; and 22 Freshman successfully completed OSHA 10-hour Healthcare training and certification. Freshmen and Sophomores learned about the use of animals, anatomy, disease, laboratory skills and client service. Junior and Senior lessons in pharmacology, surgical and nursing care, and anesthesiology proved to be invaluable to the students working in the clinic, applying their knowledge with purpose alongside veterinarians and veterinary technicians. (Total student enrollment: 85)

Welding/Metal Fabrication: The 2020-2021 school year brought some exciting news to the Welding/metal Fabrication program. Thanks to a partnership developed while working on a Skills Capital Grant, the Monty Tech Welding/Metal Fabrication program became the first pre-apprenticeship program in the school's history. This 5-year agreement with the Plumbers & Pipefitters Union #4 will help create a meaningful pathway for students to enter into a registered apprenticeship program leading them into high-wage, high-skill career opportunities. Numerous projects were completed by talented students, including more than fifty requests for individual projects from community members residing in the school's sending district. Students also fabricated and installed copper inlay on two archways for the Barre cemetery, fabricated an aluminum cupola for the Town of Royalston gazebo, fabricated two art display racks for Fitchburg Riverfront Park, and fabricated and welded three clothing racks for the Town of Hubbardston Senior Center. Five Seniors and four Juniors participated in the popular co-op program, and eight Seniors earned the AWS D1.1 Structural Welding Code Qualification Test. All grade 9 students completed 10 Hour OSHA training. (Total student enrollment: 57)

Co-operative Education and Student Placement



The Cooperative Education Program is an extension of the student's technical education that combines classroom instruction with on-the-job-training. The Co-op Program provides students with an opportunity to further develop academic, technical and employability skills in an industry work environment. All students are eligible to participate in the Co-op Program, provided they satisfy state and school grade, attendance and performance requirements. All Co-op students have completed the OSHA recognized Career Safe online health and safety course.

The Cooperative Education Program is beneficial for both student and employer. For the student, it is a chance to gain on-the-job training that improves both their technical and employability skills. Additionally, making industry connections enhances post-graduate employment opportunities. The Co-op Program allows students to earn while they learn.

Employer benefits include addressing workforce needs in an efficient manner. Co-op students provide a pool of temporary and potential full-time employees who are already trained, thus reducing employer training costs. Co-op work hours may be tailored to suit the needs of partnering employers. While overall co-op placements experienced a slight decline, due primarily to business closures in response to the recent pandemic, qualified students (Juniors and Seniors) continue to work, learn and apply their technical skills in businesses across North Central Massachusetts.

Student Support Services

The 2020-2021 school year forced the world to respond to a pandemic with ripple effects to be felt for years to come. It goes without saying that we needed to pull together, respond, and unite as partners in order to ensure our special populations, and all students regardless of identified disability, remained at the center of decisions. Individuals needed to be met where they were at and all services provided needed to allow for individual needs to be met

in new and innovative ways. The health and safety of our school community and their families dictated our decisions and actions. As the district responded to the unforeseen COVID-19 related closure, the hybrid model, and reopening events that occurred throughout the 2020-2021 school year, it did not go unnoticed that our Student Support Service staff, students, and families displayed great resilience as they worked together to address individual needs and tackle these challenging times. While we hope to never experience these events again, we did share a number of experiences that have proven to increase communication and collaboration. Some of our greatest lessons learned came from this experience and we want to extend our sincere gratitude for the efforts put forth during such unprecedented times.

During the 2020-2021 school year, Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School District provided special services to approximately three hundred students – measuring progress of over two hundred students on Individual Education Plans (IEPs) and just under one hundred students adhering to individualized Section 504 plans. While the Student Support Services (SSS) Department encompasses special education, the department provides support and is available to all Monty Tech students.

The department includes a full-time nursing staff that responded to, and continues to respond to, COVID-19 data, administers medications, performs state-mandated health screening exams, and provides, when necessary, health information to the special education team for a student's IEP meeting. The department benefits from a full-time school social worker that participates in departmental meetings and assists students who have needs concerning finances, family issues, homelessness, maternity, health issues, and proper food and clothing. During the 2020-2021 school year, the department in conjunction with our School Social Worker, doubled down on our efforts to address food insecurity and ensure community agency supports were extended to families in need. The school is also fortunate to have on staff a full-time psychologist, whose role it is to evaluate all students referred for an initial evaluation or who require a three-year re-evaluation. In addition, we have a full-time speech language pathologist, who is available to assist students with disabilities, assess these students and consult with teachers. Our students also have access to the services of a full-time adjustment counselor and part-time school psychologist. All of these individuals are available for scheduled counseling sessions, mental health emergency treatment, medical/mental health re-entry and transition support services, as well as crisis intervention.

The school's Director of Student Support Services oversees the District's Special Education Program, which is reviewed annually in May, in accordance with regulatory requirements. The comprehensive review and evaluation are done in collaboration with the Parent Advisory Council, and the results of the evaluation are used to improve the special education procedures and programs in place at Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School.

During the 2020-2021 Montachusett Regional Technical School District's Department of Student Support Services made a concerted effort to increase social, emotional, and community based supports. In addition to our current re-entry and school based counseling services, Monty Tech and LUK, Inc. joined forces with the help of the Department of Public Health to provide services to at-risk students and their families. Further, the district partnered with LUK to create a direct pipeline for Telehealth referrals and access to counseling supports. Couple this with the further expansion of our partnership with the SHINE Initiative, it has allowed the district to build upon our mission to provide opportunities for

all students to be engaged, lead, and access the supports necessary to improve their social and emotional wellbeing. The Department of Student Support Services has taken the necessary measures to ensure Social Emotional Learning (SEL) is in the forefront of conversations when supporting students as they acclimate to returning to school full time after lengthy periods of time experiencing various educational models throughout the pandemic. As we establish a full time school routine, we recognize the experiences all students have had over the past few years has varied. Courses and activities designed to promote mindfulness, understanding, and social emotional wellness are part of the many course offerings. Yoga and Meditative Art, Visual Arts, Directed Studies with Social Emotional Learning lessons are all part of the efforts being implemented to ensure we address the needs of all students and support their individual growth and development in a post pandemic world. More about tiered interventions can be found on our website. However, it is worth noting that we continue to build and refine our services for all students as we recognize the importance of developing the whole student and ensuring they are equipped with the necessary to become productive citizens that can compete and adapt in a rapidly changing economy.

Technology

The 2020-2021 school year proved to be a test in many ways for the Monty Tech educational community, requiring flexibility as students and instructors balanced both in-person and remote learning expectations. The shift in instructional delivery, however, was no match for the school's Technology Department. Because of forward thinking on the part of the department's Director and the school's leadership team, 2020-2021 was the school's 5th year for the 1:1 Chromebook initiative, so students and instructors had previous experience with the tools and technology needed to learn in a remote or hybrid setting. To support the additional and now required use of this technology, the Technology Department spent countless hours during the school year upgrading the network and increasing the bandwidth coming into the school to sustain video and audio conferencing.

Department personnel upgraded the learning experience for students, by purchasing laptops for students and teachers, building new iMacs for the Graphic Communications program, and rebuilding surplus computers for full remote students in CAD Drafting & Design, Graphic Communications, Business Technology, and Engineering, so that they may work from home on their vocational assignments. A ZOOM license was purchased, and the Instructional Technologist worked diligently to purchase and deploy software for all teachers. Camcorders, wireless headsets, interactive displays and a variety of apps were purchased, installed, and put into the hands of our educators to engage learners at all levels.

Finally, to ensure "business as usual," we invested in Splashtop, VPN client and configured the firewall, so that faculty and staff laptops could be fixed remotely if a software issue presented itself, and so that the Business Office would have remote access into the school to maintain a secure working environment, even when the building was closed.

Marine Corps JROTC

The Monty Tech Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (MCJROTC) remains one of the school's most worthwhile and engaging programs available to our students. This outstanding leadership program, based on the foundations of instilling a value of citizenship, service to the United States, personal responsibility, and a sense of accomplishment, provides

students with countless opportunities to serve as ambassadors in their communities, through the routine demonstration of student leadership development, volunteerism, perseverance, and dedication.

Due to outstanding performance throughout the year, Monty Tech's Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps program was, once again, designated as a Marine Corps Honor School. Selection for the Marine Corps Honor School means that the school's Marine Corps JROTC program was in the top 15% of the 68 other programs in Region 1, which includes schools from the mid-Atlantic and Northeast U.S. The selection is based on several criteria including:

- *Inspector General's inspection results*
- *Number of cadets in the program*
- *Number of community service hours conducted*
- *Number of public affairs events attended by cadets*
- *Number of academic awards presented to cadets*
- *Participation in drill team competitions, marksmanship competitions, physical fitness competitions, and field trips that support the growth and development of the cadet*

During the 2020 - 2021 school year, MCJROTC Cadets participated in more than 5,000 hours of community service and volunteerism. Cadets assisted the Salvation Army by collecting more than \$25,000 in donations, which were used to countless families in need during the holiday season. These donations will go on to support community members that are in need of assistance, especially during the holiday season.

The Monty Tech MCJROTC has assisted with color guards and participation in community parades, which provides the cadets and community members the opportunity to be involved with civic and veteran ceremonies.

Finally, the Monty Tech Cadet Corps provided 11 Color Guards for local civic and veteran ceremonies, a highlight for students and instructors alike.

Monty Tech School of Continuing Education

The Monty Tech School of Continuing Education had an exciting FY21, receiving the program's first-ever training grants. School leaders applied for and received Career Technical Initiative Grants (Rounds 1 & 3), totaling \$290,000, as well as a \$30,000 Rapid Reemployment Grant. These grants allowed the School of Continuing Education to rollout new training programs, offered to qualified participants (must be unemployed or underemployed) at no charge. In addition, each participant who successfully completed the training would be offered job placement with a business partner. Comprehensive 200-300 hour programs that culminated in industry-recognized credentials in Welding, HVAC and Allied Health were developed and advertised. While the Allied Health (CNA) program did not see enough interested participants to field a cohort, HVAC and Welding were successful in their initial endeavor. Program leaders continue to track student progress and placements, and expect to pursue additional funding for future offerings.

As we continue to monitor workforce needs and skills gaps, the School of Continuing Education works closely with the MassHire North Central Career Center to determine specific training programs that are most in-demand. Our overarching goal to support the North Central Massachusetts workforce readiness pipeline with an increase in career and licensure courses is evident in new programs that are developed, existing programs that are refined and in traditional journeyman/apprenticeship programs that remain a hallmark of our institution.

The pivot to a hybrid learning model seemed to be beneficial to both our career/licensure students as well as our personal enrichment students. During the Fall 2020 and Spring 2021 sessions, we realized the resiliency of our students and their willingness to persevere with their training despite the challenges. Our instructors worked tirelessly to maintain training programs timelines.

Our medical students' skill set was and continues to be in high demand due to the pandemic. We were able to support our local medical facilities with newly licensed healthcare workers, to include Pharmacy Technicians, Medical Billing and Coding Specialists, EKG Technicians, Phlebotomists, and Patient Care Technicians. We hope to offer another CNA training program in the future, as the need for trained Assistants remains great.

Practical Nursing Program

The Monty Tech Practical Nursing Program is designed to prepare graduates to practice safely and ethically in a caring manner for patients who are experiencing common variations in health status in diverse health care settings.

On June 24, 2021 a graduating class of 28 students completed the Practical Nursing Program and entered the nursing profession. The class has thus far achieved a pass rate of 75% graduates passing the NCLEX-PN exam (National Council Licensure Examination for Practical Nurses). Program graduates are currently employed in the health care profession throughout Massachusetts, working in various health care settings, such as long-term care, sub-acute care, mental health/substance abuse facilities, physician's offices and correctional medicine.

The Monty Tech Practical Nursing Program continues to strengthen the "LPN to BSN (Bachelor of Science in Nursing) Bridge" relationship with Fitchburg State University (FSU). Former graduates have successfully transferred into seats in the LPN to BSN Bridge program at FSU and will continue their education to a Bachelor's of Science in Nursing (BSN). Many class applicants cited their attraction to Monty Tech as the opportunity to complete a ten-month accelerated program and then bridge to Fitchburg State University. In the seven -year history of the Bridge Program, all of Monty Tech's Practical Nursing graduates reaching graduation at FSU have passed their NCLEX-RN exam. These former graduates have gone on to work in hospital settings including Lahey, Beth Israel, and Baystate Medical Center, while others have pursued advanced degrees as Critical Care Nurse Practitioners, Nurse Educators, and Family Practice Nurse Practitioners.

In 2020-2021, Monty Tech Practical Nursing students were asked to complete patient scenarios in the Sim Lab on a weekly basis in Terms 2 and 3. The Faculty Sim team has

implemented National League of Nursing (NLN) patient scenarios and authored several others consistent with the National Council of State Board of Nursing Detailed Test Plan. Instructors have also utilized the Sim lab setting to instruct students in developing nursing skills that they may not be experiencing in the clinical setting.

By successfully developing and implementing a vast library of scenarios reflecting INASCAL Standards (International Association for Clinical Simulation and Learning), we hope to prepare our students for any experience they may encounter as a newly licensed Practice Nurse. In Maternity Sim Lab Boot Camp, for example, students utilize the simulation models to imitate the birthing process, from obstetric office visits through labor and common postpartum complications. Well newborn care is also taught. Student feedback has been positive regarding these maternity scenarios, stating it better prepares them for an unexpected outcome during a delivery. This expanded content also better prepares students for NACE (Nursing Acceleration Challenge Exam) success at FSU.

Substance abuse and the mental health setting job opportunities have increased with more funding being provided to combat the opiate crisis. In addition to having specialty clinical rotations, students participate in simulation scenarios involving substance abuse and mental health clients, to help to prepare our graduates to work in a substance abuse clinical setting.

The Monty Tech practical Nursing Program recently completed an accreditation visit from the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Nursing, highlighting goals that include stabilization of faculty positions and pursuance of ACEN (Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing) accreditation to more accurately reflect the changing environment in nursing education.

Looking Ahead

Undoubtedly, the 2020-2021 school year was challenging and difficult for students and staff, yet the school community demonstrated a remarkable resilience and commitment to education and service that proves, yet again, that Monty Tech is truly a special place to work and learn. While adapting curriculum to the needs of all students both at home and in-person, adhering to state and federal safety and health guidelines, and finding opportunities for students to demonstrate their creativity and technical skills, certainly kept staff busy, there was always an element of improvement, vision, and forward-thinking that kept moving the school forward. Successful grant applications, new coursework, and increased school-to-business partnerships that came about during this difficult year are a few of the more notable initiatives that we expect to have a positive impact on our school and students in the coming years:

Grant funding to improve and expand training programs: Monty Tech has applied for and received six Skills Capital Grants, totaling \$2,029,686. School officials anticipate a FY22 application may be forthcoming, and as a result, have met to determine which program is in need of a shop renovation, updated equipment, and/or new technology that reflects current industry standards. The school's Dental Assisting program, which effectively prepares students to enter the dental field may be the next vocational program to benefit from grant funding, should an application be approved. Instructors have advocated for a renovated instructional space, as well as new chairs, tools, and equipment, so that students are trained using the exact instruments and technology found in area clinics. This improved facility

would certainly benefit our high school students, and would also allow Monty Tech's School of Continuing Education to develop an all-new evening training program, which would help address the critical shortage for trained Dental Assistants in North Central Massachusetts. We look forward to an opportunity to apply for grant funding that would allow us to extend this training opportunity to young adults in our area, who may not have had the benefit of a vocational high school experience.

New coursework that aligns to STEM career pathways: With the successful application of the FY21 Massachusetts Life Science Center Grant, school officials have been working to renovate an outdated science lab to create a more state-of-the-art instructional space that replicates a microbiology laboratory. As the school looks to update classrooms and vocational areas, it is critical that we do so in a manner that will allow our instructors to deliver information and train students in careers that present high-skill, high-wage job opportunities. The proposed Microbiology course, which was developed by Monty Tech science instructors as a means to engage students in the sciences, may be more critical now than ever before. Seeking partnerships with biomedical companies in our area, so that our instructors may work and learn from skilled scientists will not only benefit our students and strengthen the Monty Tech academic educational program, it may also help feed a struggling STEM workforce pipeline. Whether learning from our industry-immersed colleagues, or gaining new instructional resources and techniques from colleagues attending the National Science Teachers Association's national conference, Monty Tech science instructors are prepared to deliver new course materials that engage students in important and timely science concepts.

Building partnerships for improved job placement: 2020-2021 brought the school's first-ever approval for a Pre-Apprenticeship program – a designation that we expect may improve our graduates' chances of retaining employment with a framework for upward mobility. While Welding/Metal Fabrication students already enjoy this new appellation, school officials may consider seeking approval for other programs in the coming years. To do so, we must first seek and acquire an approved Apprentice Sponsor. This sponsorship and collaboration will serve as a testimony to the strength of Monty Tech's vocational programming, and will increase student opportunities for employment and continued education and training. Business partners that serve on Program Advisory Boards, as Co-Op employers, or who even graduates who now own and operate their own businesses may be interested in such a unique collaboration. In an effort to prepare students for careers, it is incumbent on us to ensure that training does not stop when a student leave Monty Tech, and an approved apprenticeship would ensure students will have continued support and training as they enter a competitive and demanding workforce.

The Monty Tech School Committee

The Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School District Committee is comprised of twenty-two dedicated individuals, whose expertise proves invaluable in advising the district's operations, policies, and procedures. Our students continue to benefit from the broad scope of their experiences and varying perspectives, and we are thankful to the following members of the 2020-2021 School Committee for their outstanding service.

Eric Olson, Phillipston
Chair

Melanie Weeks, Fitchburg
Vice Chair

Julie Marynok
Secretary

Norman J. LeBlanc
District Treasurer

Diane Swenson, Ashburnham
Peter Capone, Ashby
Toni L. Phillips, Athol
Whitney Marshall, Barre
Robert Campbell, Fitchburg
Dr. Ronald Tourigny, Fitchburg
Brian J. Walker, Fitchburg
Matthew Vance, Gardner
James S. Boone, Gardner
Amy Morton, Harvard

James Cournoyer, Holden
Kathleen Airoidi, Hubbardston
Barbara Reynolds, Lunenburg
Edward Simms, Petersham
John P. Mollica, Princeton
Mary C. Barclay, Royalston
William Brassard, Sterling
John Columbus, Templeton
Ross Barber, Westminster
Dr. Maureen Ward, Winchendon

Respectfully Submitted By:

Sheila M. Harrity, Ed.D., Superintendent-Director January 21, 2022

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

The Department of Planning and Development serves as the Town's planning, community and economic development office. The Department provides staff support to the Toy Town Community Partnership, Zoning Board of Appeals, Planning Board, Winchendon Redevelopment Authority, and the Conservation Commission. Annual reports of the Zoning Board of Appeals, Planning Board, Redevelopment Authority, Toy Town Community Partnership and the Conservation Commission appear separately.

Staffing: The Planning and Development Department is staffed with two full time positions and one shared position. Those positions are, myself as the Director of Planning and Development, the Planning Agent and the Land Use Coordinator.

Ms. Alison Manugian served in the Planning Agent position until October 2021. Despite advertising the position in multiple places, the position remained vacant through the remainder of 2021. Ms. Nicole Roberts continues to serve in the shared fulltime position of Land Use Coordinator. In this position, Ms. Roberts unifies building and development procedures by serving both the Planning and Land Use departments.

In the aftermath of closing at the height of the COVID19 pandemic many of the functions of the department have been modified to accommodate an "on line" application and submission process. The Planning & Development Department appreciates all who remain patient while we continue to perfect "new normal" processes.

Functions: In addition to providing staff support for the above listed committees and commissions, the Department of Planning and Development oversees the preparation and administration of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), the Green Communities Grant, numerous other grant programs (see below), facilitates the preparation and update of various municipal planning documents, coordinates project design review, and assists in the administration of various Municipal development activities. The Department works closely with regional planning commissions (RPC) as well as with local Commerce and Social Service agencies in all areas of Planning, Community and Economic Development.

Grant Activity: Open grants during 2021 are as follows:

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program

2020 CDBG – CDF – \$715,510.00 Railroad Street Reconstruction & fuel assistance

CDBG-CV program – \$131,500.00 (Winchendon's share) Small business & homelessness assistance

Total CDBG Awards (since 2016): **\$2,404,376.00**

Green Communities Grant program

FY21 Green Communities Grant: **\$196,510.00**

\$84,043, Memorial School— LED lighting, phase 2

\$42,875, Murdock High School— Building controls update

\$57,412, DPW— Infrared heaters, fuel conversion

\$10,000, Town — Hybrid cruiser purchase (2)
\$2,180, Town—Building Operator Certification training
Total Green Communities Awards to date: **\$ 809,255.00**

Brownsfield Assessment/Remediation – Mass Development

4 Summer Dr.

\$150,200.00 Building materials remediation and additional soil assessment
Total Brownsfield Assessment/remediation to date: **\$233,000.00**

Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP)

MVP Planning Grant -\$36,400.00

Total MVP grant to date: **\$36,400.00**

Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund - Emergency Assistance –

\$50,000.00 Old Murdock Senior Repairs

Total Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund Awards (since 2016): **\$50,000.00**

Mass DOT Shared Streets grant –

\$ 243,000.00 Construction of ADA ramps/pavement markings/bus shelters

Total Shared Streets Awards to date: **\$243,000.00**

Mass DOT Complete Streets grant-

\$399,831.00 Central St/Maple Street Intersection Redesign

Total Complete Streets Awards to date: **\$449,831.00**

Robinson Broadhurst Foundation –

\$ 21,500.00 – 2 MP Chapters and printing of the document

Total Robinson Broadhurst Foundation grants (since 2016): **\$21,500.00**

Total open grants in 2021: **\$2,014,251.00**

Additional grant opportunities are sought as appropriate or directed by the Town Manager.

In addition to grant activity, the Department has 3 primary focus areas; Economic Development, Community Development & Planning. Much of the work performed in the Department interrelates with multiple offices, committees and initiatives. To promote these areas of focus, some of the projects the Planning & Development department were part of throughout 2021 include:

1. 4 Summer Dr. – Master Plan Strategy (MPS) ED 5.1, 5.2
2. Gateway Park design – Lake St. MPS OS, 5.1 OS 5.2
3. Blair Sq. redesign – MPS ED 2.3
4. Maple St/Central St intersection redesign – MPS ED 2.3, TR 4.3
5. Upper Central St ADA facilities & shelters– MPS TR 4.3, HO 4.1, HW 2.2
6. Develop Municipal Vulnerability Plan – MPS SF 6.2
7. Railroad St. reconstruction – MPS TR4.3, HO 3.1 HO 4.1
8. Wayfinding and Branding implementation – MPS ED 2.5, TR 1.1
9. ARPA Funded Water/Sewer assistance program – MP Goal HW 5
10. CDBG Supplemental Fuel Assistance, MP Goal HW 5

11. Hillview Business Park -business development MPS ED 2.13
12. Central Street reconstruction easements – MPS ED 5.5, TR 2.2
13. Research Extending Bike Trail Network – MPS OS 2.1, OS 2.2
14. Safe Routes to Schools Bike Rodeo/Grant – MPS HO 4.2
15. Green Communities Individual Projects – MPS LU 2.1, SF 6.1
16. Fallfest 2021– Oct. 9, 2021 MPS ED 2.7, 2.10
17. Revitalization of Beech Street properties – MPS ED 2.6, OS 5.2

Looking Ahead: The Department of Planning and Development remains committed to playing an important role in the vitality of Winchendon. One measurement of our success is indicated by the opportunities provided to the town. We are excited to see many of the revitalization projects that we have worked on with your help, come to fruition in the coming year. As our guide, the department will continue to work towards providing additional opportunities to the town by following the goals and strategies outlined in the Winchendon Master Plan. The first projects slated in 2022 include an update to the Zoning Bylaws (MPS LU 1.4, ED 5.4, HO 2.2), Design Guidelines (MPS ED 2.4) and compiling a Housing Production Plan (MPS HO 1.1, HO 1.2, HO 2.4, HW 3.1, HW 3.2). We encourage anyone interested in being involved in these projects to attend Planning Board meetings, reach out to any Planning Board member with comments or questions, or contact Department of Planning & Development staff.

Our success is only possible with the support of the Town Manager, The Select Board, fellow town departments and staff, and the numerous townspeople who remain engaged in the municipal process. We look forward to continuing to work with you in 2022.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tracy Murphy
Director of Planning and Development

PLANNING BOARD

This year's Board started out with Guy Corbosiero (Chair), Lester Goodrich, Burton E Gould Jr., Art Armenta, Joseph Sackett and Alternate Garrett Wante. In June, Joseph Sackett's term expired and he did not renew his appointment so Garrett moved into the vacated full time position.

The Board was well served in 2021 and could not have succeeded without the help of Planning Agent, Alison Manugian, who also took on the role of recording secretary until mid-year when Brianna Roberts resumed the duties of Recording Secretary, Land Use/Planning Clerk Nicole Roberts and Director of Development/Planning Tracy Murphy. In mid-October Ms. Manugian left for a new position so Tracy Murphy took on her duties with the assistance of Nicole Roberts.

The Board's regular schedule had them meeting twice a month but with the decline in activity due to Covid-19, the board only met on an average of once a month. The Board started the year continuing to meet virtually via Zoom but in June, the Board resumed meeting again in person. In 2021, they held eighteen (18) meetings. After resuming meeting in person, meetings were carried on cable TV. We appreciate this exposure as we want and the citizens of Winchendon need to know what we are doing as their representatives. This is especially true since we have frequently have no live audiences. Citizen participation is essential in making our Board and all board's actions a mirror of the wants and needs of the community.

APPOINTMENTS: Guy Corbosiero continued his appointment on the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission along with being appointed to the MJTC. Garrett Wante took on the Board's appointment to Winchendon's Capital Planning Committee, Ms. Murphy was appointed the Planning Board's representative on the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO).

TRAINING: The spring training conference in Worcester conducted by the Citizen Planner Training Collaborative was again canceled due to Covid-19 and replaced by virtual classes. The Board always urges members to take advantage of the various training opportunities available and all have at various times. The Board continued their membership in the American Planning Association so they could take advantage of the numerous training and educational benefits offered.

APPROVAL NOT REQUIRED PLANS: ANR plans are a process unique to the Massachusetts Subdivision Control Law. This year six (6) ANR plans were submitted and endorsed, slightly higher number of plans as endorsed in each of the last couple of year.

SUBDIVISIONS: No new subdivision plans were submitted this year. Last year we closed out the Millers Run sub division and once everything was confirmed complete we released

the bond putting that in the rear view mirror. There are also some older subdivisions, some going back a decade or more, that are incomplete.

LOOKING AHEAD: The Board tries to see the long-range view when taking on a project. We feel the need to plan well into the future, not just short term, it is our wish to leave Winchendon a better place at the end of the day. Our purview is not limited to just land use and zoning issues, though those occupy the largest portion of our time.

The board is very appreciative of the support and assistance of Ms. Tracy Murphy, Director of Development; Alison Manugian, Planning Director; Brianna Roberts Recording Secretary; Nicole Roberts; David Partridge, P.E. and Jean E. Cristy, P.E. from Tighe and Bond, engineering consultant for the Board; the Conservation Commission and the other town boards and officials that have assisted in the work of this Board.

Respectfully submitted,

Guy C. Corbosiero, Chairman



THE WINCHENDON POLICE DEPARTMENT AND REGIONAL COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

I, hereby, submit the Annual Report of the Winchendon Police Department for the year ending December 31, 2021:

Chief David Walsh
Lt. Kevin Wolski
Sgt. Raymond Anair
Sgt. Gerald Gagne
Sgt. Daniel Wolski
Det. Alan Ross
SRO. Tracy Flagg
Ptl. James Wironen K-9 Handler

Executive Assistant

Marla Driscoll

Reserve Officers

Ptl. Paul Betourney
Ptl. Thomas Perry Jr.

Dispatchers

Robert Coulombe, Head Dispatcher
Jaime Holden, Admin Dispatcher
Jennifer Caisse
Dillon Walsh
Dylan Mei

Ptl. Derek Blair
Ptl. Richard Oinonen
Ptl. Brennan Jacoby
Ptl. Caleb Similia
Ptl. Joseph Champney III
Ptl. James Maynard
Ptl. Brandon Lucier

Ptl. Dylan Mei
Ptl. Daniel Caputi
Ptl. Justin Smith

Per Diem Dispatchers

Marla Driscoll
Melissa Vaine
Richard Ward
Mary Martineau
Deena LeBlanc

WINCHENDON DETAILED CRIME REPORT 2021

Rape/Sexual Assault	21
Aggravated Assault	19
Simple Assault	58
Intimidation	14
Kidnapping/Abduction	1
Robbery	1
Burglary/Breaking and Entering	18
Larceny Shoplifting	1
Larceny from Building	8
Larceny from Motor Vehicle	4
All Other Larceny	31
Motor Vehicle Theft	7
Counterfeiting/Forgery	1
Fraud False Pretenses/Swindle	12
Fraud Credit Card/ATM	3
Fraud Impersonation	18
Stolen Property Offenses	3
Destruction/Damage/Vandalism	50
Drug/Narcotics Violations	21
Pornography/Obscene Material	3
Weapon Law Violations	6
Disorderly Conduct	10
Drunkenness	3
Driving Under the Influence	16
Liquor Law Violations	4
Family Non Violent Offenses	1
Trespass of Real Property	10
All Other Offenses (Except Traffic)	219

ACCIDENTS FOR YEAR 2021

Fatal Injury	0
Non-fatal injury-Incapacitating	4
Non-fatal injury-non-incapacitating	29
Non-fatal injury-possible	6
No Injury	264
School Bus Related	3
Total Accidents Reports Processed	173

VEHICLE CITATIONS ISSUED FOR YEAR 2021

Civil Charges	107
Criminal Complaints	212
Arrests (Traffic)	49
Warnings	269
Fine Total	\$12,245.00

PARKING CITATIONS ISSUED FOR YEAR 2021

Violation Issued	13
Fine Total	\$40.00

GRANTS FOR THE YEAR 2021

FY22 E911 Support/Incentive Grant	\$139,932.00
FY22 E911 Training Grant	\$18,328.20
FY21 Robinson-Broadhurst Foundation License Plate Reader Grant	\$12,125.00
FY21 Department of Justice Bullet Proof Vest Grant	\$13,425.00

FUNDS COLLECTED FOR YEAR 2021

License to Carry/FID Fee Town Share	\$7,262.50
Special Agency Administration Fee	\$9,237.08

EMERGENCY DISPATCH CENTER

Answered Calls for Service	15,707
Total E911 Calls Answered	2,712

The Winchendon Police Department consists of fifteen full time officers and five reserve, or part time officers. The Police Department is responsible for public safety within the 42 square miles and 135 road miles that comprise the Town of Winchendon. The Winchendon Communication Center, located within the Winchendon Police Department, consists of five full time dispatchers and five per diem dispatchers. The Winchendon Communication Center is responsible for dispatching Police, Fire and EMS for both the Town of Winchendon and the Town of Royalston.

This year as in past years the Police Department has continued to address staffing issues. Unfortunately, we continue to struggle with the demands of high call volume and are often faced with the inability to provide timely responses to service calls. This issue has been addressed to some extent with the hiring of more Reserve Officers in 2020. What has not been addressed is the demands placed upon the Emergency 911 Dispatchers. We presently have one E911 Dispatcher on duty at any given time. These E911 Dispatchers handle over 15,000 calls per year. They are responsible for the communications of the on duty Police, Fire, E.M.S. and Department of Public Works for both Winchendon and Royalston. Beginning this year we plan to supplement the E911 Dispatching staff by hiring additional part time help which would provide additional coverage during peak hours on the evening shift. It is our hope that with these new positions will have a positive effect on the department and the community as we will be able to improve our response times and provide a better service.

In 2021, K-9 Clyde and his handler Officer James Wironen now in their seventh year together have continued their outstanding work providing K-9 services for the Winchendon Police Department and surrounding towns. Our K-9 Unit remains very popular within the community, and with area departments, they are very well-liked and well respected. K-9 Clyde and Officer Wironen are assigned to the evening shift. In addition to their regular patrol responsibilities, Clyde and Officer Wironen have demonstrated Clyde's skills in evidence recovery and suspect apprehension. K-9 Clyde was excited to attend the Fall Festival again this year to show his skills to the public. A few other demonstrations K-9 Clyde participated in were for a Murdock High School class, a junior police academy, a senior police academy, and a children's safety day.



Throughout the year, K-9 Clyde continued to assist the department with patrol and narcotic functions. An example of Clyde's success in detecting narcotics would include assisting Officers on a motor vehicle stops by performing a narcotics sniff of the vehicles. On one occasion K-9 Clyde sniffed the vehicle and indicated that there were narcotics inside. K-9 Clyde showed a positive alert on the driver-side front seat. The area was searched by hand, and narcotics were located under the seat. K-9 Clyde also assisted area departments through mutual aid calls. On another occasion, K-9 Clyde was requested to sniff a vehicle for a neighboring agency. When the suspect saw K-9 Clyde show an obvious positive alert to the vehicle, he spontaneously admitted to the officers that K-9 Clyde alerted to the area he hid his narcotics while transporting them.

Another example of a particularly successful deployment of K-9 Clyde, was when he responded to a domestic violence call where the victim fled the house for their safety. After speaking with the victim, officers responded to the residence to arrest the suspect. A negative search of the residence indicated the suspect had fled the area. The suspect's vehicle was still

at the residence, suggesting they had fled on foot. K-9 Clyde was brought to the scene and immediately acquired a track. K-9 Clyde pulled through the backyard and into the woods behind the house, which led to the high-tension power lines. After this initial brief track that lasted approximately 5 minutes, K-9 Clyde continued into the wood line on the other side of the power lines and quickly showed a proximity alert. K-9 Clyde was held up, and announcements were made for the suspect to make themselves visible and surrender, or K-9 Clyde would apprehend them. The suspect quickly revealed themselves from the thick brush they were concealed in with their hands up. The suspect was taken into custody without further incident

K9 Clyde continues to train regularly with the Massachusetts State Police K9 Unit and successfully passed his annual narcotics and patrol duties certification. Clyde also trains annually with the NorthEast Houndsmen and attended a five-day tracking and man trailing training seminar. The seminar was hosted by the NorthEast Houndsmen and was participated in by K-9 teams and master trainers from across the country. Representatives from the Winchendon Fire Department also took part in a one-day K-9 medical course on how to treat K-9 Clyde if he were injured in the line of duty.

K-9 Clyde continues to be monitored by Dr. Romansik at both the Animal Cancer Care Center in Westford, MA, and the Gardner Animal Care Center in Gardner, MA, as he tries to keep his cancer (lymphoma) in remission. K-9 Clyde remains in remission and continues to serve the community each night. All expenses related to Clyde, his training, and the required equipment are wholly funded through donations. Once again, this year, we continued to receive tremendous support from the community through donations and regular fundraising events such as K-9 Clyde support T-shirt sales and a mailer requesting funds. The raised money has been put directly toward K-9 Clyde's cancer treatment, regular veterinary care, food, and training/equipment.

The Winchendon Police Department and Law Enforcement in general as previously stated has had to continue to evolve. The challenges confronting Law Enforcement today are vastly different than those from even a few years ago. These challenges will require focus and commitment to community engagement. In a continued effort to increase transparency the Police Department applied for and received a grant through the Executive Office of Public Safety for the purchase of twenty body worn cameras. This system is compatible with and will supplement our existing cruiser camera system implemented in 2020. This past year also saw the renewal of some of our education and outreach programs. We were able to offer one RAD (rape aggression defense) program training class for women that was well attended. We continue to provide the POST (Post Overdose Support Team) program providing follow up and offering education and treatment to all Winchendon residents with substance abuse disorder who have recently overdosed. Additionally, we are considering instituting RAD Kids, which is safety education program for children, and reinstituting an updated version of the DARE (drug awareness resistance education) program. Lastly we will continue to offer education and outreach programs to the community's elderly population. The goal of the department is to promote a positive relationship with the community through community engagement including establishing a collective vision for the betterment of the community through collaboration efforts and positive change.

Respectfully submitted
David P. Walsh, Chief of Police

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

Brian Croteau

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

Carlene Breen / Taylor Tower

CLERK

Shelley Berry

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Working Foreman - Paul Hachey and Phillip Tousignant

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Phillip Tousignant, Kyle Clarey, Nick Blair, Austin Lyman, Chris Duval, Seth Cochran

The Town's Highway Department maintains more than 130 miles of primary and secondary roadways. The majority of these roadways are paved while there are several miles of dirt/unpaved roadways. The equipment utilized for maintaining these roads is comprised of thirteen pieces: 2 front-end loaders, 1 backhoe, 4 truck/sander combinations, 2 one-ton dump trucks, 3 one-ton pickup trucks and 1 grader. During snow storms, we also may use Water Department equipment, if needed.

During the course of the year, the Highway Department graded all public gravel roads several times, painted crosswalks, repaired and installed new regulatory and street signs throughout town, swept streets and sidewalks, patched potholes, cleaned catch basins and drop inlets, cut and chipped brush from town roads, removed numerous large dead or dying hazardous trees, and repaired or replaced culverts and storm drains throughout town. In addition, DPW personnel plowed and sanded all town-owned roadways and removed snow from the downtown area as necessary. We also plow a section of the bike path, the Winchendon Community Park and Grout Park. A total of approximately 2,712.52 tons of salt and 524.62 tons of sand were utilized to treat roadways during the 2021 winter season. This year we used our bucket truck to cut trees and board up abandoned buildings.

There were three major roadway projects completed in 2021. They were Town Farm, Mill Glenn and Baldwinville Road. In addition, trees and brush were trimmed back and larger hazardous trees were also removed.

The work that has been completed from summer through the fall of 2021 included cutting back trees and brush alongside the roadway, removal of excess soils at the road edge. We also had crack sealing done in town for the roads that were on the edge of saving; which should give these roads two or three extra years before needing to be completely repaved.

The Winchendon DPW continued with its program of repairing/rebuilding catch basins and culverts in areas that have been chronically plagued with drainage issues. A number of catch basins or drop inlet structures were reconstructed and should provide many years of service while minimizing the maintenance issues that have been associated with them in the past.

In 2021, the DPW continued the town-wide hazardous tree removal program in which efforts were made to identify and remove trees along town roadways or on town-owned land that posed a hazard to the public because they were dead, decaying, cracked/damaged, etc. Many of the trees were removed by DPW personnel. In addition, small trees/brush were cut back on several roads in town to improve safety and visibility and reduce the possibility of roadways being blocked by branches/leaning trees during snow or ice storms.

CHAPTER 90 / ARPA / GRANT FUNDS

The Department of Public Works, along with the assistance of the Director of Planning & Development and the Town Manager, is passionate in pursuing grant or state funding to better the Town. In FY21, we received \$456,901 in Chapter 90 funding which was utilized in the form of engineering for pavement management, reconstruction of the High Street bridge, the re-design of Central Street, resurfacing various roads, re-design of Central, Elmwood and Grove Street sidewalks, resurfacing Old Baldwinville Road, River Street and Glenallen Street, reconstruction of various roads, reconstruction of Chestnut Street, and much more. Robinson Broadhurst generously granted the DPW \$60,983.78 which was used toward Central Street improvements. In April 2021, Winchendon was awarded \$243,600 from the Mass DOT Shared Streets Program. The Reimagined Central Street and Elmwood Road Project, including Safe Routes to Schools and Safe Routes for seniors, will create an ADA compliant, safe, vital route connecting the Murdock High School, Memorial Elementary School, Broadview Assisted Living Center to the downtown commercial area of Winchendon where vital daily services are provided. To compliment the project, 2 (two) Montachusett Area Regional Transit (MART) bus shelters are proposed at the vicinity of the Fire Station and the Town Hall/Library, a rapid flashing beacon at the entrance to the schools, signage, improved pavement markings with additional markings alerting motorists to reduced speed limits and the location of crosswalks. In July 2021, the Town received \$339,831 in Complete Streets funding to redesign the Maple Street/Central Street intersection to close network gaps and create connectivity to and between public amenities and vital services. This will be done by implementing a lane diet (a technique in transportation planning whereby the number of travel lanes and/or effective width of the road is reduced in order to achieve systemic improvements) and new pedestrian and bicyclist accommodations. In late 2021, the DPW was awarded \$43,934 towards the purchase of a new Front end loader, replacing a 1997 Volvo loader. This grant was funded by The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) and was helped along by Senator Anne M. Gobi and State Representative Jonathan Zlotnik. The Town of Winchendon was also awarded Community Development Block Grant and Chapter 90 funds to make repairs to Railroad and Spruce Streets. GEG Construction of Springfield was been contracted to complete the work and began in late 2021.

TRANSFER STATION

Foreman - Josh Harris
Attendant – Sue Garno

This year, the Transfer Station continued the popular program of Single Stream Recycling. Templeton residents with a purchased dump sticker continued to utilize the Transfer Station, increasing revenue to help pay the rising cost of operating a transfer station.

WATER DEPARTMENT

Chief Operator - Mark Frye

Operators - Charles Weaver & Richard Garno

The Water Department maintains Winchendon's 61 miles of water mains, water service connections, 336 fire hydrants, two water storage tanks, and three water booster/pump stations. We began a new initiative to update water meters in Town to allow more efficient reads. Another benefit of the new meters is the ability for homeowners to have a unique insight to their water usage. These meters come with an app that users can download on their phones. These meters also have the ability to notify homeowners and the Water Department of astronomical increases in water usage, catching leaks early and saving money and water. Currently, we have 2,199 water and 1,389 sewer customers.

Water Department and Public Works Department personnel responded to a total of seventeen (17) water main breaks over the course of 2021. Water main breaks are primarily the result of aging water mains that Winchendon and most other cities/towns are facing across the country. Breaks can be exacerbated by inconsistent weather which causes the ground to freeze and then thaw, thus heaving the pipes and placing stress on already aging water mains and pipes. DPW employees assisted on each water main break to facilitate the repair and return water service as quickly as possible. Upon the repair of each break, impacted water mains were thoroughly flushed and returned to service. Roadways damaged and/or excavated during the repair of each water main break were patched and restored to the fullest extent possible by DPW employees.

Water Department personnel also responded to a number of water service line and fire sprinkler system leaks/breaks (serving individual buildings/houses) over the course of 2021. In these situations, water was shut off at the street so that the respective property owner could have repairs completed by us or a contractor or plumber, depending upon the location of the leak.

In 2021, we continued the flushing of all fire hydrants routinely to ensure clean water to all residents on the water system. Seven (7) hydrants were replaced or repaired as needed.

All cross connection control and backflow prevention devices in town were inspected and tested in accordance with Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection Cross Connection Control regulations. Owners of failed devices were required to make repairs and return the equipment to operable service in a timely manner to ensure that the Town's water system was properly protected from contamination by back-siphonage. DPW Clerk Shelley Berry worked hard on her initiative to update Backflow records and create a more efficient process for the Water Department and DPW office to follow.

WATER TREATMENT FACILITIES

AWJWT

The Ashburnham/Winchendon Joint Water Treatment Plant on Lake Road in Ashburnham treats water from Upper Naukeag Lake for distribution to the Towns of Winchendon and Ashburnham. Veolia Water North America of Houston, TX is contracted by Winchendon/Ashburnham to operate, maintain, and repair the water treatment plant and is required to do so in accordance with the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act and Massachusetts

Drinking Water Regulations. The costs of operating and maintaining the treatment plant are divided between Winchendon and Ashburnham based on the quantity of water delivered to each town. During 2021, a total of 266,053,284 of water was treated and pumped to Winchendon, for an average of 728,913 gallons per day.

WATER QUALITY TESTING

The Water Department collects 9 drinking water samples each month at predetermined locations throughout the distribution system for microbiological testing. These samples are analyzed by a state-certified laboratory and the results reported to the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MA DEP). The Town also samples the drinking water for asbestos, disinfection-byproducts (DBPs), volatile organic compounds (VOC's), inorganic compounds (IOC's), nitrates, nitrites, radionuclides, and synthetic organic compounds (SOC's). The sampling schedule and locations are approved by MA DEP.

LEAD AND COPPER

Winchendon's testing requirements for lead and copper have been reduced by MA DEP from 20 samples once a year to 20 samples every (3) three years due to the fact that samples were below the 90th percentile for several consecutive monitoring periods. In accordance with the sampling plan approved by MA DEP, sampling/testing for lead and copper were collected/analyzed in 2021. The report found us to be in compliance on both lead and copper. The drinking water is tested for lead and copper in order to evaluate the effectiveness of the corrosion control program employed at the Ashburnham/Winchendon Joint Water Authority Treatment Plant. The next lead and copper testing will be done in September of 2022.

SEWER/WATER DEPARTMENT

While the Town contracts with Veolia on the treatment of water and sewer, Town staff is still responsible for the distribution of water and the maintenance of the equipment and infrastructure used to distribute water and sewer to and from the treatment plants. The town's sewer collection system consists of all sewer interceptors and collection mains, manholes, and two lift/pump stations. The two sewer lift/pump stations, located on Spring Street and Spring Place, are inspected on a daily basis, including weekends and holidays. Water Department personnel are also responsible for clearing the occasional blockages that occur in sewer collection mains, typically utilizing a high-pressure water jet flushing machine. As preventative maintenance, sewer manholes and collection mains are also inspected, utilizing remote video equipment when necessary, and maintenance completed as needed, including cleaning of partially-blocked sewer lines before back-ups occur. More comprehensive rehabilitation work is completed on sewer collection mains and manholes when problems arise or are identified during preventative maintenance inspections. There were five sewer main backups in 2021. All sewer backups were cleared by Water Department personnel by jetting/flushing/rodding the blockages. Typically, these blockages are the result of grease buildup in the sewer collection system.

SUMP PUMPS AND OTHER ILLEGAL DISCHARGES

Over the course of recent years, it has been observed that flows to the wastewater treatment plant have not increased this year significantly. The fact that water usage in town, as indicated by flows from the water treatment plant in Ashburnham, have generally been in a downward trend over the last year. In past years, Sewer/Water Department personnel have made efforts to identify sump pumps in homes/businesses that were illegally connected to the sanitary sewer system. Owners were required to disconnect these sump pumps and find an alternate

means of disposing of the discharge from the sump pumps. Discharges from sump pumps to the sewer system are not permitted as they generate additional flows that must be treated at the wastewater treatment plant. These additional flows impact the operation of the plant and increasing electrical, chemical, and sludge disposal costs, resulting in higher sewer rates for all users.

**CEMETERY & PARKS DEPARTMENT
CEMETERY FORMAN - George Labarge
EQUIPMENT OPERATOR – Mike Breau**

The Cemetery and Parks Department includes a Working Foreman and one Equipment Operator. These personnel are responsible for maintaining the bike path, Riverside, Old Centre, and New Boston Cemeteries, along with Legion Park, VFW Park, GAR Park, Old Centre Common, Norcross Square, Grout Park and the Winchendon Community Park. In addition, lawn areas at Old Murdock and Poland/Streeter School buildings are also mowed and trimmed regularly. In total, there are approximately 110 acres of cemeteries and parks that are maintained by the two employees of the Cemetery and Parks Department. During the summer months, when the budget allows, two temporary employees are hired to assist the Cemetery/Parks Department during the peak grass growing season.

Depending upon the season of the year, employees mowed, trimmed and maintained all grounds, picked up trash and litter, installed monument foundations and Veterans' markers, planted flowers, trimmed hedges and trees, removed fallen leaves and wood debris, dug, back-filled and restored burial plots, filled in sunken grave sites, and reseeded fall/winter burials along with damaged lawn areas. Workers also continue to improve and expand the new section of Riverside Cemetery, which is located behind the Glen Cafe on Glenn Allen Street. Repairing, up-righting, and straightening headstones in town-owned cemeteries was continued.

WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLAN

The Town of Winchendon's Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP), is located on River Street, and is operated by Veolia of North America.

An upgrade of the WWTP was completed in 2005, increasing the design flow rate from 0.5 million gallons per day (MGD) to 1.1 MGD. The upgraded plant, together with the replacement of the main sewer interceptor line from Lake Street to the WWTP on River Street, allowed the Town to gain the additional capacity necessary to allow new sewer connections for both business and residential customers and also improve the quality of the effluent discharged to Millers River.

The WWTP processes the Town's raw sewage and treats it to standards required by the Town's NPDES (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) permit issued by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection. In 2021, the total amount of treated sewer was 7.81 million gallons.

The sewage and waste treated by the WWTP include both inorganic and organic solids. Inorganic solids do not break down or decompose in the system and are retained in the settled sludge or discharged in plant effluent. Inorganic solids retained in the system are collected in

the various treatment units (primary and secondary clarifiers and aeration basins), then removed (pumped to a tanker truck) for offsite disposal. The organic wastes break down and decompose and settle in the primary and secondary clarifiers. The aeration basins provide an environment for the breakdown of organic solids by bacteria. The decomposed organic solids contained in the aeration basin effluent (mixed liquor) are removed as settled sludge in the secondary clarifiers and disposed of off-site along with the inorganic solids. However, a portion of the settled solids is returned to the aeration basin for maintaining the bacteria population.

FLEET MAINTENANCE
CHIEF MECHANIC – George Brooks
MECHANIC – Edwardo Jiminez

The DPW's Fleet Maintenance Department consists of a Chief Mechanic and an Assistant Mechanic. The Fleet Maintenance Department services and repairs all town-owned light/heavy motor equipment and vehicles, including those operated by: Public Works, Police, Fire/Ambulance, and Council on Aging, School Department, Town Hall, and Civil Defense. Detailed service records are maintained by the Chief Mechanic for all equipment and vehicles. The Fleet Maintenance Department has a fully equipped repair area at the town's public works garage on Glen Allen Street. The Fleet Maintenance Department is also responsible for maintaining the town garage, which houses all DPW equipment, and generators at water pump and sewer lift stations.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Croteau
Public Works Director
Town of Winchendon



TOWN OF WINCHENDON				
TRANSFER STATION YEARLY REPORT				
FROM JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 2021				
Material	Tons	Disposal Point	Disposal Method	
Municipal Solid Waste	334.00	Win Waste Innovations	50% Landfill 50% Incinerated	
Bulk & Construction Demo	159.96	Win Waste Innovations	80% Landfill 20% Incinerated	
Single Stream Recycling	213.67	Win Waste Innovations	Sorted & Recycled	
Light Steel & Iron	1.29	Scrap-It, Marlborough, NH	Recycled Steel	
Non Ferrous Metals		Scrap-It, Marlborough, NH	Sorted and Recycled	
Textiles (Used Clothes)	5.65	Planet-Aid, Holliston, MA	Sorted, Cleaned and Redistributed	
Waste Oil	2.00	CYN Environmental, Stoughton, MA	Fuel Blending for Indust. Furnaces	
CRT's Televisions, Monitors	6.08	Raw Material Rec Co, Gardner, MA	Disassembled and Recycled	
Appliances w/ Freon	3943.17	Raw Material Rec Co, Gardner, MA	Freon Recovered, Metal Recycled	
Tires	5.68	Bob's Tire, Mattapoisett, MA	Shredded and Recycled	
Liquid Propane Tanks	0.98	Mighty Flame, Rindge, NH	Tested, Recertified and Reused	
Florescent Bulbs/Ballasts	5 boxes	Safety Klean Systems, Inc.	Mercury Recovered and Recycled	
Lead Acid & Rechargeable Batteries		Scrap-It, Marlborough, NH	Acid Recovered and Lead Recycled	
Brush/Leaves		Composted On Site	Town Projects	

TOWN OF WINCHENDON				
TRANSFER STATION YEARLY REPORT				
FROM JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 2021				
Total Recycled	4176.52	Tons	Glass, Electronics, Metals, Textiles, Tires, Brush, Single Stream, etc.	
MSW Disposed	334.00	Tons	Regular Household Trash	
Total Processed Less C&D	4510.52		Total Processed = Total Accepted Tons	4670.48
			LESS C&D Tons	159.96
			EQUALS Total Tons Processed	4510.52
			Total Recycled Tons	4176.52
C&D	159.96	Tons	DIVIDED BY Total Processed Tons	4510.52
Recycled	4176.52	Tons	EQUALS % Recycling Rate at the Transfer Station	93%
MSW	334.00	Tons		
Total Accepted 2021	4670.48		Waste Oil Gallons (Not Used For Recycling Rate)	500
			Waste Oil Tons (Not Used for Recycling Rate)	2
Days Open to Public 2021	151	Days	Submitted by Brian Croteau, DPW Director	
Average Waste Per Day	3.27	Tons	Joshua Harris, Transfer Station Foreman	
Average Recycling Per Day	27.66	Tons	Report prepared by Taylor Tower, Executive Assistant	

RECREATION COMMISSION

The Committee was formed by and is part of the Town Bylaws. Our Commission has 7 seats including 2 student seats.

Goals and Duties of the Commission

The Commission acts in an advisory capacity in matters pertaining to public recreation, makes annual budget recommendations, and assists in planning a recreation program to stimulate public interest. The stated primary function of the Commission is to expand and enhance the recreation opportunities for the residents of Winchendon.

2021 Initiatives

- To increase our Recreation programming for the Town we added a Town wide scavenger hunt, The Tour de Winchendon, Halloween Pet Parade, and even added a pie eating and pie baking contest to the Fall Festival line up
- We expanded the length of our Summer Concert Series and were able to expand on the activities offered to include lawn games and some food and drink vendors
- We were able to purchase some signage to get our programming out to more people
- We have grown our social media following and included an IG account which has really increased our participation in our programming events
- We were able to secure a bulletin board at Town Hall to post all recreation events happening around town.



Priorities for 2022

- Continue with our current list of events
- Add a Food Truck Festival and Battle of the Bands event
- Grow interest for a subcommittee to bring back the Winchendon Fireworks
- Build a base of volunteers from the community to help complete putting on these events.
- Purchase new signage to help grow participation in Town Programming
- Recruit new members to fill all spots on the committee
- Work with the Town Managers office to help create a possible Recreation Director position

Members

Laura Gaydos (Chair), Tiffany Newton (Treasurer), Linda Hofhaug, Debra Bradley (Secretary), Emily Bradley, Abigail Bradley

If you have specific questions, ideas or are interested in volunteer opportunities, please contact us on our Facebook page, Winchendon Recreation Commission.

To stay current on the Winchendon Recreation Commission, visit, our Facebook page, Winchendon Recreation Commission or the townofwinchendon.com website and find the Winchendon Recreation Commission under Boards & Committees.

WINCHENDON PUBLIC SCHOOLS REPORT

Superintendent of Schools Office

175 Grove Street
Telephone: (978) 297-0031

Memorial School

32 Elmwood Road
Telephone: (978) 297-1305

Toy Town Elementary School

175 Grove Street
Telephone: (978) 297-2005

Murdock Middle School

Murdock High School

3 Memorial Drive
Telephone: (978) 297-1256

Murdock Academy for Success

175 Grove Street
Telephone: (978) 616-1477

WINCHENDON SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Lawrence Murphy, Chair	Term Expires 2023
Karen Kast-McBride, Vice-Chair	Term Expires 2024
Ryan Forsythe	Term Expires 2024
Greg Vine	Term Expires 2024
Mike Barbaro	Term Expires 2022

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION

Thaddeus King	Superintendent of Schools
Nicole Heroux	Director of Pupil Services
Martin Johnson	Director of Facilities
Bill Clinton	Director of Technology
Heidi Bevacqua	Director of Murdock Academy
Jenna Whitaker	Athletic Director
Megan Weeks	Murdock High School Principal
Doug Sochovka	Murdock High School Assistant Principal
Jessica Vezina	Murdock Middle School Principal
Anne Diaz	Toy Town Elementary Principal
Chante Jillson	Memorial Elementary Principal

STUDENT ENROLLMENT INFORMATION

Breakdown of Pupil Enrollment (As of October
1, 2021)

Pre-Kindergarten	72
Kindergarten	111
Grades 1 – 2	184
Grades 3 – 5	296
Grades 6 – 8	257
Grades 9 - 12	281

Total Enrollment: 1201

**Resident students: Home Instruction 76

SCHOOL BUDGET 2020 – 2021

School Committee	\$40,950
Districtwide/Central Office	\$3,294,051
Special Education Department	\$1,629,533
Murdock High School	\$2,986,295
Murdock Middle School	\$2,132,504
Toy Town Elementary	\$2,499,437
Memorial School	\$3,027,603

Total School Dept. Operating Budget:	\$15,610,373
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Town Assessment Indirect Cost:	\$3,166,083
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WINCHENDON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Special Education

The Winchendon Public School District is committed to providing each student with access to educational learning within its community schools. Students can access learning through various options, from full inclusion programs to specifically designed, substantially separate programs. From preschool through high school, students are afforded a spectrum of programs that provide for their unique needs and learning styles.

The Special Education Department is currently conducting an audit of the Special Needs Program to determine how we can improve the educational needs of all our students. Along with the audit, we have contracted with Ms. Jessica Minahan, a board-certified behavior analyst and Special Educator who is the Director of Behavioral service at Neuropsychology and Education Services for Children and Adolescent in Newton. Jessica is also a well known author of The Behavior Code. Jessica will be training and supporting our teachers and classrooms.

According to the 2021-2022 accountability data, Winchendon's total student enrollment Pre-K - 12 was 1,178, with 22.0% of enrollment representing students with disabilities (this reflects a .2% increase in relation to students with disabilities from the previous year). Eligible students can enter special education programming at age three and continue to receive services until age twenty-two.

Winchendon provides all students with access to a variety of specialized services which includes but is not limited to: speech and language, occupational, physical, behavioral, therapeutic mental health, vision, hearing, assistive technology, specialized academic instruction, English Language Learning, life skills, vocational training, and job coaching. Winchendon understands the importance of continuity for student learning and provides Extended School Year (ESY) programs for eligible students to prevent regression of acquired skills during the summer months.

The Winchendon Public Schools has provided professional development activities for staff that promote inclusionary practices so that students with disabilities have the same access to learning as their neuro-typically developing peers. The special education department assures that each student must be placed in the least restrictive setting. By providing inclusionary practices in the general education classroom by highly trained staff, students are more likely to participate successfully in the learning environment. Additional emphasis has been placed on trauma-informed practices to further support the individual needs of students within the general education setting. This year we have developed partnership with the Center of Child Wellbeing and Trauma. With this cohort we will be trained to develop and apply Trauma -informed practices in the district. The efforts of the district to promote teacher excellence have attributed to the overall success of educating students within the school district community. The Winchendon Public Schools utilizes a district-wide tiered system of supports to meet the student's social, emotional and behavioral needs. The tiered system is a data driven, prevention-based framework for improving learning outcomes for every student through a layered scale of evidence-based practices and systems.

For more information about Special Education Services and Programs, please contact Nicole Heroux, Director of Pupil Services at 978-616-1453 or email, at nheroux@winchendonk12.org or through the district website www.winchendonk12.org

Preschool at Winchendon Pre-K Program

The Winchendon Public Schools offers a PK inclusive program to support students with typical and diverse learning needs. Currently, the PK program has seven partial day class options which include a 2 day morning program, a 4 day morning program or 4 day afternoon programming. The program has seventy-one 3 and 4 year old students enrolled. Our PK students successfully access an educational learning environment that provide developmentally appropriate lessons and all special education services as required. COVID restrictions are requiring students and staff to take necessary safety precautions. Our PK friends are handling these expectations like the champions they are!

Community residents may register for the annual lottery to enroll in either a three year-old or four year-old classroom. Students are randomly selected and notified of either acceptance into the program or if the student is placed on the waitlist in June of each year for the following school year. In order to meet the program age guidelines, students must turn age three or four by August 31st of that year. Families of eligible students, made available to the program through the Town Hall, receive a packet in April explaining the enrollment and lottery process. Within the paperwork, there is a voluntary Pre-K Developmental Screening registration form. Any family that suspects their child may have a disability or would like to learn more about their child's development is welcome to participate in the screening. Screenings are scheduled annually in May or June. Should a student be identified for further evaluation to determine if they have a suspected disability, families are provided a consent to evaluate form for the school to formally complete the evaluation process with the student.

The Winchendon Pre-K Program is tuition-free for all residents. We believe it is important to provide early educational experiences for all students, regardless of income. Transportation services are available for students with an identified disability, for which Special education services are required, free of charge. Students without identified special needs are able to apply for transportation on a first come, first served basis for a small fee. The Winchendon Pre-K Program is committed to a developmentally appropriate approach to early education, which offers a combination of play-based, socially supportive and academically rigorous curriculum. The curriculum is aligned to the standards established by the Massachusetts State Department of Early Education and Care (EEC) and the Guidelines for Preschool Learning Experiences. Our program believes in nurturing the whole child. It is our goal to foster the social-emotional, academic and physical development needed in order to provide all students with the opportunity to learn from each other and build a foundation for respecting human differences and embracing cultural competencies.

The Winchendon Pre-K Program offers a supportive structure which utilizes Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS). This PBIS philosophy explicitly teaches behavioral expectations, provides each student the opportunity to learn appropriate, real world understanding of emotions, problem solving and emotional regulation. Students are also able to access specific social skills groups to practice with an on staff behavior specialist. Students are provided the opportunity to make choices within the classroom between several learning centers in which to explore pre-readiness skills that foster future school success.

Students experience outdoor play, in class gross motor and movement activities, small and large group learning tasks, and multiple activities to promote early literacy and mathematical knowledge. Each classroom is staffed with a certified teacher and para-educators, depending on student needs. The program is supported by a speech and language pathologist, occupational therapist, physical therapist, behavior specialist, BCBA, school adjustment counselor and psychologist.

The Winchendon Public Schools, in collaboration with funding by EEC through the Coordinated Family and Community Engagement, hosts weekly Community Playgroups for children from birth to age five at Memorial School. The playgroups emphasized parents as a child's first teacher and provided evidence-based approaches to early literacy. All residents remain welcome to engage in the Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ), in which families are provided an age appropriate questionnaire to complete based on their expert knowledge of their child's development. The ASQ provides information about how the child is progressing in all developmental domains and provides tips and suggestions for further growth in each area. For more information on the Community Playgroups or the Ages and Stages Questionnaire, please contact Kristen Moran at 978-297-3436 or via email at kmoran@winchendonk12.org or via the Winchendon Community Playgroups Facebook page.

For more information about the Winchendon Pre-K Program, please contact Nicole Heroux, Winchendon Student Support Director via email at nheroux@winchendonk12.org or by accessing the district website www.winchendonk12.org

Memorial School

The staff and administration at Memorial School create a safe, supportive and respectful learning environment for all students. Our curriculum, programs and initiatives support students' growth in the areas of social, emotional, behavioral, and academics. By focusing on these areas, students have a solid foundation for their educational journey.

Memorial provides a Multi-Tier System of Support, allowing students have access to assistance so they can be successful learners. Grade level teams use all types of student data to inform instructional planning. All students receive Tier One instruction in the areas of English/Language Arts, Math, Science and Social Studies. Instructional units are aligned to the MA Curriculum Frameworks. Students are given Universal Screeners to assess progress based on benchmarks in the Fall, Winter and Spring that align to the MA Standards for Reading and Math. Intervention support is provided to students who do not demonstrate effective progress on these universal screeners. Intervention teachers, Special Education teachers and tutors meet with classroom teachers and administration to discuss benchmark data and students in need of additional support or more small group instruction. Intervention instruction focuses on targeted skills and strategies so students can make progress and growth in their academic areas of need. Student progress is monitored toward the goals set and intervention plans are realigned according to the progress monitoring data.

Our PBIS programming supports the social, emotional and behavioral growth of our Memorial School students. At Memorial, we practice P.A.W.S. behaviors. P.A.W.S. is an antonym that reminds everyone of the expected behaviors at school: **P**actice Safety, **A**cept Responsibility, **W**ork Together, **S**how Respect. This is also a multi-tier system of support

so students can gain and practice the necessary social, emotional and behavioral expectations that create a community of learners.

The TIER 1 team and the TIER 2 PBIS behavior team meet to review data and/or behavior concerns. The focus of the TIER 1 team is to review data on a monthly basis to determine areas of concern and/or changes that may need to occur in the different areas of the school building. The Tier 2 team meets individual students who need additional support and intervention. The same process is followed as with academic support. A detailed and targeted plan is made for students in need of support and specific staff members are identified to provide additional support to each student, as well as daily or weekly “check-ins.” Progress is monitored and adjusted as needed to support each student's success.

Social Emotional Learning (SEL) continues to be a priority due to the ongoing pandemic. Students are experiencing more trauma and anxiety due to the dramatic changes in their daily routines as brought on by COVID-19. Students need additional support, not only academically but also socially, emotionally, and behaviorally, in order to ensure their continued academic success.

Memorial staff will be provided with professional development opportunities, curriculum, and lessons in order to support student needs. Currently, Grades 1 and 2 teachers are working with Hill for Literacy. They are getting extensive support and coaching in Enhanced Core Reading Instruction (ERCI) targeting the foundational skills area of phonics. This direct and explicit instructional model provided consistent routines and repeated practice opportunities for all students so they have the necessary skills in reading and writing.

All grade levels have implemented the use of Heggerty Phonemic Awareness Curriculum which focuses on eight phonemic awareness skills, along with two additional activities to develop letter and sound recognition, and language awareness. Phonemic Awareness is an essential foundational reading skill.

Teachers continue to work with Looney Math Associates to align math curriculum to the standards, build mathematical conceptual thinking skills and strategies that allow students to have a solid foundation for mathematical reasoning and problem solving. Student Number talks and using a math workshop model of instruction are this professional development focus.

Toy Town Elementary

At Toy Town Elementary School, our mission is to support all learners—academically, socially, and emotionally. After an extensive root-cause analysis, Toy Town Elementary School has approached the 2021-2022 school year with three goals. These are to establish organizational structures that support a shared leadership model, strengthen Tier 1 instruction using data-driven planning, and improve our practices' consistency and effectiveness in supporting our most at-risk learners.

This year, Toy Town Elementary welcomed new principal, Anne Diaz. Over the summer, Mrs. Diaz sent a survey to staff and parents to get to know the community. In addition, she offered community “meet and greet” opportunities. The results from these inquiries revealed that people were most concerned about maladaptive behavior and a lack

of school community. The staff then worked together to create WINN (What I Need Now) blocks to develop community and provide students with small groups to meet their academic and social-emotional needs, post-COVID. Additionally, staff teams utilize data-driven planning to guide instruction using data from data maps, DIBELS, and teacher-created assessments to establish small Tier 2 intervention groups. Staff also implemented Tier 2 intervention groups targeting behavior and socio-emotional needs.

In the Tier 1 classrooms, teachers use the 2021-2022 school year to assess their curriculum and track the Massachusetts State Standards to adjust their practices to cover the standards effectively. Teachers also have a variety of data points available to analyze gaps in learning. In addition, grade-level teams will meet to collaborate and create a vertical alignment that allows all Toy Town students to have equal access to standards and curriculum. Finally, the staff is in the process of creating and updating an inventory of books and other supplies throughout the school to provide current and engaging materials for students.

Toy Town Elementary has continued to work with the Early Literacy Grant, MTSS Literacy Academy, and Looney Math Consultants to refine rigorous curriculum maps. In addition, teachers have attended Professional Development in Zones of Regulation, Safety Care, phonics instruction, Illustrative Math, MCAS-Alt, and Co-Teaching. We also oversee several student teachers from Franklin Pierce University.



**Toy Town Elementary School
United Way Youth Venture
Afterschool Program**



Murdock Middle School

At Murdock Middle School, we work to ensure that every individual is equipped with the skills, knowledge, and habits necessary to persevere and realize their unique potential upon leaving middle school. We strive to create an environment in which all students can be successful socially, emotionally, and academically, and prepared for high school. We continue to focus on the social and emotional learning of our students through the implementation of our mentoring program and our Positive Behavior Intervention Supports (PBIS) program. In addition, we strive to foster an academic mindset that encourages a personalized pathway for success. We continually explore opportunities to provide optimal learning experiences for every student in the classroom and beyond. Our core values of Pride, Accountability, Respect and Teamwork (PART) in all academic and social settings of our school, set the tone for this productive learning.

Murdock Middle School adopted a personalized learning model utilizing the Summit Learning Program in 2017. This approach to teaching and learning is based on developing three key student outcomes: Cognitive Skills, Content Knowledge, and Habits of Success. We focus on these three outcomes because of what learning science tells us about how students learn best. At MMS we emphasize the development of students' cognitive skills, which equip students with essential and transferable lifelong skills to navigate college and careers. Students need a broad Content Knowledge base in order to put Cognitive Skills to work. Lastly, Habits of Success are social and emotional mindsets and behaviors - resilience, social awareness, a sense of belonging, a sense of purpose, etc. - that support a student's academic and non-academic pursuits.

We've created an experience based on three components to help drive these outcomes: Mentoring, Projects, and Self-Direction. During mentoring, students work with their mentor to set long and short term goals and receive feedback on their progress. Project Time is where students apply the content they've learned to rich, real-world projects, developing essential and transferable lifelong skills. Lastly, during Self-Directed Learning time, students make their way through a range of resources, choosing how they want to learn content in line with their personal needs and preferences. Students are empowered to set goals and deeply understand content by consuming it in a way that is best for them.

Adopting this model has allowed us to provide a stable, rigorous curriculum and structure for our students. To be able to do all of this; deeply mentor students, track goals and reflections, access lots of different learning resources 24/7, dive into projects that connect directly back to the content students are learning, we utilize the Summit Learning Platform. This free online tool, developed by teachers, doesn't replace teachers or face-to-face instruction. With the platform, teachers have complete access to see how their students are performing on a daily basis and use that data to personalize instruction and provide additional support through mentoring and coaching. Parents also have unparalleled access to their child's educational experience. They have direct access to their student's platform and can view what students are working on a daily basis along with the curriculum for the year.

Our use of an online platform for our curriculum, allowed Murdock Middle School teachers and students to make a seamless transition to remote learning in March 2020. Teachers were able to maintain the rigor of their curriculum and students continued to be held accountable for their school work with little learning loss.

During the summer of 2020, a task force was created that included teachers, students, Administration and community members. This task force developed a reopening plan that included the state guidelines for reopening, health and safety expectations, changes in transportation and food services. At Murdock Middle School we created our own remote learning handbook to ensure a common understanding of expectations for students, teachers and parents/guardians. As the first day of school for the 20-21 school year approached, we were informed that we would begin fully remote. In order to share information with students and families, we prepared a virtual presentation series on projects, grading systems, mentoring and self-direction. We also held a virtual open house. Students were provided with virtual planners that were completed weekly by their teachers which included their links to classes, assignments and other relevant class information. On December 14, 2020, MMS was able to reopen in a hybrid model.

Throughout the pandemic, Murdock Middle School has stayed true to our vision, mission, and core values of Community, Engagement, Equity, High Expectations, Respect, and Responsibility. Our teachers and staff maintained high expectations and rigorous instruction while creating a safe environment for student success.

In the Spring of 2021, Murdock Middle School applied for and was awarded a Project Lead the Way grant to bring their Gateway Program to the middle school. PLTW represents an opportunity to strengthen hands-on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) learning for all students. The grant enables us to provide engineering modules to all 6th, 7th and 8th grade students. Programming through PLTW at MMS includes the following:

- Design and Modeling (21-22 Roll-out): Students discover the design process and develop an understanding of the influence of creativity and innovation in their lives. They are then challenged and empowered to use and apply what they've learned throughout the unit to design a therapeutic toy for a child who has cerebral palsy.
- Automation and Robotics (22-23 Roll-out): Students learn about the history and impact of automation and robotics as they explore mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation, and computer control systems. Using the VEX Robotics® platform, students apply what they know to design and program traffic lights, robotic arms, and more.
- App Creators (23-24 Roll-out): Students will be exposed to computer science as a means of computationally analyzing and developing solutions to authentic problems through mobile app development, and will convey the positive impact of the application of computer science to other disciplines and to society.

During the school year and summer, MMS offered additional academic support for students. While remote, teachers tutored students 1 on 1 or with a small group during "office hours". When returning to hybrid, teachers offered additional support for students after school and during the February and April School Vacations. During the summer, MMS offered summer school for students unable to complete their grade level curriculum in order to reduce learning gaps. MMS also implemented a Summer Bridge program to help mitigate summer regression of basic academic skills. This program was designed to help students develop and strengthen skills in Math, ELA/Reading and Science, with a blend of technology, small group instruction, manipulatives, hands-on labs and project-based learning. Over the course of the program, teachers reviewed middle school prerequisite content standards as set by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary

Education. The program also provided support for students allowing them to feel comfortable and confident for their transition to the next grade level in the fall.

Murdock Middle High School





Murdock Middle Students visit Hanover Theater to see A Christmas Carol Murdock Middle School Turkey Trot Event

Murdock High School

Murdock High School continues to be grounded in our mission to fulfill our collective responsibility of providing an opportunity for personal, academic and social success to each and every student who walks through our doors. With this goal in mind, we support all children in their efforts to determine what their personal dreams are, as we equip them with the tools that they need to achieve those dreams.

In 2021, Principal Megan Weeks and Assistant Principal Douglas Sochovka began the year working together to navigate these pursuits through the pandemic. During this time, we were able to make strategic hirings in key departments, bringing on two new history teachers, an English teacher, a math teacher, a new music teacher and a science teacher, all of whom bring vast experience to our staff. These staff members have quickly assumed leadership roles, many of whom have joined our Portrait of a Graduate (POG) and Diversity (DEIA) teams. We began the school year fully remote with staff navigating the challenges of zoom, transitioned to hybrid learning in the winter and were then able to fully reopen for students in the Spring. In fall 2021, Murdock began the school year fully reopened with in person classes, sports and clubs being offered to all students.

On October 1, 2021, our enrollment totaled 265 students, with 1443 male students, 121 female students, 1 non binary student and a student to teacher ratio of 12.4 to 1. We returned to MCAS testing in March of 2021; however, districts were held harmless in accountability ratings. Student test scores remained fairly consistent with 2019 results; 39% of grade 10 students exceeded or met state benchmarks in ELA and 43% of students exceeded or met state benchmarks in Math, although participation was low at 89%.

All 20 students who were enrolled in the 2019-2020 Worcester State University dual enrollment program passed their courses and received 18 college credits during their senior year. Thus far, all 21 students in the 2020-2021 cohort passed their first semester courses and are on track to pass their second semester courses as well. Building up the success of the Freshmen Scholar's team, in fall 2021, a Grade 10 team was formed in order to wrap around support for these students who experienced significant learning gaps over the past two school years. Murdock High School graduated 68 Seniors in the Class of 2021; 33.8% going to 4-year college; 11.8% going to 2-year college. Graduates unfortunately did not get to experience prom or alumni dinner again this year, but we were able to have the annual Powder Puff Football game, Scholar's Breakfast honoring their academic achievements, a "drive in" movie night held on the football field complete with all the food they could eat, Class Day and a wonderful outdoor graduation ceremony.

New to Murdock in the fall of 2021 were three major programs: Project Lead the Way (PLTW), a revamped advisory program, and a sociology and citizenship course. A cohort of 15 grade 9 students were selected for the PLTW program, which focuses one course a year on manufacturing and engineering and will provide robust opportunities for students to get into and receive significant college scholarships as well as training in manufacturing careers. For advisory, teachers are utilizing Character Strong and Naviance software to engage students in social emotional learning (SEL) monthly and also craft a FLEX block monthly to build important relationships. In Sociology and Citizenship, students are spending the year pushing into the community and learning how to make a difference. To date, students have worked with our food service professionals, developed a highly

successful hygiene product drive for the community and continue to work with local and state leaders on issues important to each of them. Moreover, Murdock has partnered with North Central Workforce beginning in the Spring of 2021 to allow students to have paid internships and build mentoring relationships at MMS, TTE and Memorial schools.

Murdock High School continues its relationship with the districts that surround us. In the Spring of 2021, we completed our Portrait of a Graduate and have spent the Fall of 2021 beginning implementation. This has been accomplished through the revision of curriculum, a book study on assessment as well as site visits to Worcester and New York City. The team of six teachers as well as the principal and vice principal continue to investigate further resources and strategies for success along these lines. Also, both Principal Weeks and Assistant Principal Sochovka, as well as the rest of the leadership team, continue their training by the Boston College Lynch School of Education, together with their North Central Massachusetts peers via a secondary grant through the Barr Foundation, which centered on strengthening administrative leadership. New partnerships in the Fall of 2021 include working closely with the CAC as well as HEAL Winchendon to further civic engagement and food stability for our students. We are appreciative of the CAC's help to fill the shelves of our food pantry on a weekly basis!

Both Spring 2021 and Fall 2021, parent-teacher conferences were again held on Zoom, and because of the flexibility this provided to working families, participation was three times higher than when completed in person. Students were able to participate in a full number of spring, fall and winter sports, showing their Blue Devil Pride while also continuing to adhere to necessary COVID protocols. Both our National Honor Society and Student Council have been extremely active, with students finding new and unique opportunities to support their fellow students, teachers and the wider Winchendon community. We have also joined the MIAA's Esports league, giving our video game loving students a chance to compete with schools from around the state.



Murdock High School National Honor Society 2021

Graduates of the Class of 2021:

Alexia	Allard	Laura	Holt	Samuel	Peckham
Vivian	Beauvais-Michaud	Ronan	Kast-McBride	Jonathan	Polcari
Nicole	Becotte	Kayla	Keating	Philip	Quinn
Jacob	Bolick	Brianna	Kelly	Andrew	Race
Briahna	Bouchard	Ahreeana	Kelly	Dominic	Reid
Cody	Bourque	Riley	Kimball	Jeffrey	Rivard Jr.
Brianna	Brewer	Meagan	Knight	Zain	Rivers-Norton
Wyatt	Cardarelli	Paige	Lafrennie	Paden	Roberts
Allison	Cobiski	Cameron	LaPlaca	Julio	Rodriguez
Morgan	Coderre	Kalieg	Lauziere	Jamieson	Rushia
Christopher	Dack	Joslynn	Laverdure	Jacquelyn	Sawtelle
Arianna	Dibble	Abigail	Leahey	Evan	Sawyer
Shaelyn	Dupuis	Jayke	LeBlanc	Lauren	Serratore
Christian	Duval	Rachael	Legault	Gardner	Sinclair IV
Nadav	Elouz	Kaitlyn	Losurdo	Abigail	Sohl
Colby	Gallant	Hannah	Lowe	Gavin	Stocking
Lillian	Gay	John	Maloney	Justin	Thira
Lexie	Gilbert	Joseph	Marobella	Summer	Turner
Jasmine	Girouard	Andrew	Methot	Lena	Wolski
Rebecca	Graves	Arielle	DoCarmo	Makayla	Wright
Eric	Hogan	Cameron	Miner	Cassie	Zoldak
Carter	Hughes	Kalib	Monette	Brendan	Zuppa
Rylie	Jean	Jessica	Montgomery		
			Murphy		



TOWN CLERK

Town Clerk – Wendy Stevens
Assistant Town Clerk – Debra Skinner

- Oversees all aspects of elections, voter registration, absentee balloting, early voting, certifies nomination papers and initiative petitions. The office maintains the voter list, street, school, and jury listings
- Records all vital records and marriage licenses; and sends information to the state. The Clerk assists with genealogical research
- The office is responsible for recording & certifying all official actions of the Town; town meeting, elections, Planning & Zoning Board decisions; submitting bylaws and zoning amendments to the Attorney General for approval.
- The Clerk administers the oath of office to all elected and appointed board and committee members and provides them with the Open Meeting and Conflict of Interest laws.
- Further responsibilities include: posting meetings of all government bodies, the keeper of official minutes, dog licenses, business certificates and burial permits, and other licenses.
- The Town Clerk also responds to inquiries from the general public and provides knowledge and assistance to all.



VETERANS SERVICES

Please allow me to take a moment to introduce myself. I am a Desert Shield/ Desert Storm Airforce Veteran. I served from 1993-1997. I was assigned to the 9th Special Operations Squadron and 16th Maintenance Squadron Eglin Air Force Base Florida. I was deployed to the Middle East. I am the recipient of the Air Force Achievement Medal for distinguished service in support of Operation Provide Comfort II and Operation Eagle Guard while deployed to the Middle East as well as a recipient of the Airforce Good Conduct medal.

I have been a resident of Gardner for close to 20 years where I have raised my two sons. My eldest son has carried on the family tradition of service to country and is currently enlisted in the United States Navy. My youngest son will be graduating Gardner High and will be attending trade school in the fall of 2022. I have been an active member of the veteran's community since arriving in Central Mass in 2002. I am a 2012 graduate of Mount Wachusett Community College with an Associate's degree in Human Services. I have spent the past 10 years working for local nonprofits to assist veterans of all eras in various capacities. I have an extensive background in VA benefits, case management and in home peer crisis services. I am a court certified veterans peer mediator. I received my certification as veteran's service officer for the State of Massachusetts in October 2021.

Since my appointment as Veterans Service Officer for the Town of Winchendon, I have redesigned and completely updated the Town of Winchendon's Veterans page to include self- assessment tools and current links to State, federal and local Veterans resources. I have increased hours of access to the Veteran's office to 5 nights a week with remote hours from 8 am to 9am daily. I have reviewed previously existing internal tracking systems and developed updated filing systems for all veterans seeking services. I am currently in the process of working with our accounting department to streamline billing and tracking of Chapter 115 financial information. I have worked with the town manager within the scope of this department's budget to update necessary office equipment to increase overall productivity. I have reviewed the existing budget and submitted a proposal to reflect the current and future needs of the Veterans Service office to include costs associated with necessary yearly trainings to remain effective in my post. I have recently completed a twice-yearly eligibility review of all cases for veterans receiving Chapter 115 benefits in the Town of Winchendon as required by law. Chapter 115 is an income-based benefit where the state reimburses the town up to 75% of the cost annually so these reviews do include an in-depth assessment of the recipients' finances with all individuals deemed ineligible being removed from the benefit according to established protocols. My current projected case load at the end of certifications will be 20 which is down from 32 at this time last year. My increased office presence has resulted in new veterans seeking services for Chapter 115 services so the need for services is present for those that are eligible. I have also seen an increase in individuals seeking assistance with access to VA disability benefits applications, burial benefits applications, and VA health care applications.

My future plans for this office include a community outreach effort to raise awareness

of the overall services available through this office. I have also begun the process of attaining national certification as a VA disability claims specialist which should be complete by fall of 2022. I am currently in the process of creating an in-office resource center that will include veteran and dependent resource literature on a wide range of pertinent topics. These overall improvements will create a one stop location for the veterans and dependents of the Town of Winchendon and greatly improve the quality of life for the veterans that I serve. I am early in my tenure, and I have enjoyed getting to know the veterans and dependents of Winchendon. I look forward to providing future updates on all these topics.

Respectfully,

Stephen Bassett
Veterans Agent



Members of Winchendon Boy Scouts Troop 193 of Winchendon and local Girl Scouts of America members pose for a group photo with just some of the 1,200-plus U.S. Flags removed from Veterans' and Service Members' graves at Calvary Cemetery on Saturday, November 13.
Photo by Keith Kent for *The Winchendon Courier*. (c) 2022 By Light Unseen Media



WENDELL P. CLARK MEMORIAL YMCA

It is my pleasure to recap the services that the Wendell P. Clark Memorial YMCA has provided to the town of Winchendon in accord with our Grant Services Agreement.

Facility Access:

The Clark YMCA provided the community with access to the YMCA outdoor facilities including:

- Access to the children's playground (for children ages 10 years and under)
- Year-Round Access to the ¼ mile walking track
- Seasonal access to the outdoor Basketball and Tennis courts
- Seasonal access to Clark YMCA Athletic fields
- Year-Round landing zone for a life-flight helicopter on the YMCA athletic field.

Emergency Services:

The YMCA is happy to have been available to provide other services when able such as serving as a location for an Emergency Station for showers during loss of water, cooling station in severe hot weather and as a warming station in winter during loss of heat and to work with the Board of Health to coordinate these services. The Clark YMCA has also made available to the Winchendon Fire Department for trainings with life-flight helicopter, and pool time for the WFD Dive Team.

Community Events:

While many of our large-scale community events were unable to take place this year due to the pandemic, we were able to organize a Halloween 'Trunk or Treat' event that was attended by more than 100 children, and we partnered with the town Recreation committee on several events including the Tour de' Winchendon. In September, we held the 17th Annual Charles E. Grout Memorial Golf Tournament – "Fore" The Kids!

We are also pleased to have been able to provide meeting space for: heal Winchendon - Community Heart & Soul, Change Makers, Kiwanis Club, Department of Children and Families, Parent Professional Advocacy League (PPAL), Lion's Club Coat Drive, United Parish Living Nativity, and WIC (Women, Infants and Children).

Youth Education:

The YMCA partnered with Winchendon Public Schools and the Department of Early and Secondary Education to provide summer learning programs in conjunction with wrap-around Day Camp services. We also partnered with The United Way of North Central Massachusetts to provide a Summer Step Up program for children k-2.

Youth Programs:

Additionally, the YMCA operated numerous programs and activities for youth such as Preschool Playground, Youth Soccer, Youth Basketball, Summer Day Camp, Youth Sports Camps, as well as our licensed Before & After-School Childcare program. Financial Assistance is available to qualifying families, as No one is turned away for inability to pay.

In closing, the Clark Memorial YMCA is proud to be a contributing member of the community and to put our mission into practice every day. We thank you for your continued collaboration in serving our great community.

Respectfully,



Michael Quinn
Executive Director



WINCHENDON COMMUNITY PARK INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

In June 2020, the Winchendon Community Park Committee was restructured into two committees: one focused on Park usage and programs and the other, this committee, focused on maintenance and development of the Park's physical infrastructure.

Mission

The mission is to enhance the quality of life in our community by providing leadership, guidance, and inclusive community involvement for the development and utilization of the Community Park in ways that will make Winchendon a better place for all who reside, visit and do business here.

The Park is intended to be an inclusive, intergenerational public place, with diverse appeal, where people can play and learn together to expand their interests, confidence, skills, sense of wellbeing and belonging and to have fun. The Park provides activities and opportunities that are either new for our community or that complement what already exists through a partnership with organizations and individuals to create a calendar/menu of opportunities. The Park enlivens our community connections and our downtown.

2021 Initiatives

Work continued in 2021 to make Park inviting, usable and accessible. Robinson-Broadhurst and Converse funds supported this work. Park committee members, volunteers, and the Department of Public Works took on the responsibility to accomplish this work. Due to ongoing Covid-19, there were limits in assembling volunteers.

1. Work on the observation deck at the Main Trailhead was completed, providing Park users with an easily accessible place to sit, enjoy, and share the experience of the Park.
2. Ongoing mowing of the field, Meadow Loop Trails, and lawns around the Park buildings.
3. Work on a kiosk at the Main Trailhead continues. This will provide access to Park Trail Maps, Park Rules/Guidelines and other relevant information regarding the Park and its usage.
4. Ongoing work to maintain security of the barn doors and windows.
5. Coordination with the Town on the planning and design of the Robinson-Broadhurst Foundation initiated project to build an outdoor performance space and supporting infrastructure at the Park. Final design, bidding documents and construction will commence in 2022 with the amphitheater open for use in 2023.
6. Coordination with the Town and Fire Department on the removal of the house. This site will be repurposed for community use.
7. In late 2020, the water flow problems at the Elm Street Trail bridge accelerated, making this footpath to the Park and to the eventual amphitheater a challenge.

Signs have been posted, closing the lower section of this path, as we continue to look for viable solutions.

Priorities for 2022

As funding, volunteers and in-kind donations are available and organized, the following projects have been identified:

1. Establish, with the Park Programming/Usage Committee, a network of Friends of the Park to insure proper maintenance of the Park and the expansion of trails, as well as community supported usage opportunities.
2. Continue to develop, maintain and improve trails for walking, snowshoeing, wildlife/nature viewing, exercising, and wellbeing.
3. Begin work on the Conservation Commission approved vista clearings around the accessible observation deck.
4. Continue to seek viable, cost-effective solutions to the water flow problems at the Elm Street Trail bridge as well as for water issues on the Forest Cove Trail.
5. Construct the Conservation Commission approved bridge across a small section of the Forest Cove Trail.
6. Install the four metal benches, purchased with Robinson-Broadhurst funds, to make the park more accessible and inviting.
7. Initiate a work plan and funding plan to protect the structural integrity and use of the barn and garage.
8. Complete the construction of the Robinson-Broadhurst Foundation funded outdoor performance area and supporting infrastructure (road, parking, lighting, access).
9. Identify options to locate permanent picnic areas that are accessible and ADA compliant, perhaps location of the former house.

Members

David Romanowski (Chair), Kenneth LaBrack, Jane LaPointe, Dylan Romanowski, Randy Tenney

If you have specific questions, ideas or are interested in volunteer opportunities, email the Committee at info@winchendoncommunitypark.org or visit the WCPC page on the Town Website and click the link “contact us”.

To stay current on the Winchendon Community Park, visit our website www.winchendonpark.org, our Facebook page, Winchendon Community Park or the townofwinchendon.com website and find the Winchendon Community Park Committee under Boards & Committees.

WINCHENDON COMMUNITY PARK PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE

The Committee was formed by the Board of Selectmen after the split of the Winchendon Community Park Committee into two different committees in 2020 aimed at different aspects of the park. The Park is a 43-acre property off Maple Street with three buildings (a large home, two story barn and multi-car garage) and with frontage on Whitney Pond. In 2018 the property was renamed Winchendon Community Park and in 2019 the Ingleside Utilization Committee was renamed the Winchendon Community Park Committee (WCPC). In 2020 the Winchendon Community Park Committee was split into two different committees: the Winchendon Community Park Infrastructure Committee and the Winchendon Community Park Programming Committee.

Mission - WCPC

The mission of the Winchendon Community Park Programming Committee is to enhance the quality of life in our community by providing opportunities for recreation, learning and inclusive community involvement for the utilization of the Community Park in ways that will make Winchendon a better place for all who reside, visit and do business here.

Mission – Winchendon Community Park

An inclusive, intergenerational public place, with diverse appeal, where people can play and learn together to expand their interests, confidence, skills, sense of wellbeing and belonging and to have fun.

The Park provides activities and opportunities that are either new for our community or that complement what already exists through a partnership with organizations and individuals to create a calendar/menu of opportunities. The Park enlivens our community connections and our downtown.

2021 Initiatives

- To hold monthly events and to create our Picnic in the Park programming
- We were able to hold a fundraiser for the park and have been working towards creating a Friends of the Park non -profit for fundraising.
- We have been working closely with the Town Manager to build our policies and guidelines which, are not yet completed at this time
- We were able to do some recruiting but still have an open seat on the committee
- We have grown our social media following and included an IG account which, has really increased our participation in our programming events
- Applying to Robinson-Broadhurst for grant funding to help the park maintain year round programming

Priorities for 2022

As funding, volunteers and in-kind donations are available and organized, the following projects have been identified:

Finalize, with the Town Manager and Board of Selectmen, Park usage policies and guidelines that will encourage the Park to be well-used for community, school and organization events and activities as well as for informal usage by individuals and friends.

- Continue our Monthly Programming starting in April or May of 2022

- Build a base of volunteers from the community to help complete putting on these events.
- Promote use of the park through social media and other outlets as necessary and available
- Recruit a new member to fill all spots on the committee
- Work to create and finalize the Friends of the Park non-profit
- Combine Programming and Infrastructure committees into one committee to represent the park.

Members

Tiffany Newton (Chair) Miranda Jennings, Dawn Bilodeau (Secretary), Camille Hart, Deb Kane (Alternate)

If you have specific questions, ideas or are interested in volunteer opportunities, email the Committee at info@winchendoncommunitypark.org or visit the WCPC page on the town website and click the link “contact us”.

To stay current on the Winchendon Community Park, visit our website www.winchendonpark.org, our Facebook page, Winchendon Community Park or the townofwinchendon.com website and find the Winchendon Community Park Committee under Boards & Committees





The Winchendon Housing Authority hereby presents its Annual Report for our fiscal year ending September 30, 2021.

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. We have over 59 Year of Service to the Town of Winchendon. The Board of Commissioners and Staff are looking to continue this service for many years to come.

At the annual meeting of the Board of Commissioners that was held in May 2019 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	Burton E. Gould	Apr 2025 (State Appointed)
Vice-Chairperson	David A. Johnson	May 2024
Treasurer	Leston J. Goodrich	May 2021
Asst-Treasurer	Jane Leavens	May 2022
Secretary	Nancy Romanowski	May 2026
Secretary ex-officio	David P. Connor	Contractual

The Board of Commissioners meet at the Ipswich Drive Community Building on the **2nd** Tuesday of each Month at **1:30pm** 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, Ipswich Drive office and the WHA Website for anyone wanting to attend our public Board meetings. During the pandemic we have used Go to Meetings for our board meetings. See monthly posting for electronic address.

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 unless otherwise posted. The staff at the housing authority at the end of Fiscal Year 2021 is as follows,

WHA Staff:

Ms. Michelle Sweeney
Housing Administrator

Mr. Rocky Flint
Hyde Park Maintenance
Mechanic 1/HQS Inspector

Ms. Cyndee LaFreniere
Financial/ Procurement Coordinator

Mr. Donald Graham
Pearl Drive Maintenance Mechanic

Ms. Amanda Phillips
Tenant Coordinator

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

Ms. Linda Bond
Groundskeeper/ Maintenance
Mechanic

Mr. Marc LeBlanc
Scattered Sites / 1-12 Ready Drive
Maintenance Mech / Oil Burner Tech

Ms. Maureen Hall
Resident Services Coordinator/ Admin Assistant

Mr. James Bevilacqua
Maintenance Mechanic/Carpenter

Housing Mission Statement:

To provide Decent, Safe and Sanitary housing that is in good repair within Winchendon and surrounding communities. To 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. The Winchendon Housing Authority has been designated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development as a **HIGH PERFORMER** for our administration and oversight of this program.

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.

In April of 2018 the WHA received a funding award from HUD for 6 VASH (Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing) vouchers that the WHA has partnered with MVOC (Montachusett Veterans Outreach Center) in Gardner to use the vouchers in our service area. These vouchers will help some local veterans that are receiving services from MVOC rental assistance while rebuilding their lives.

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

Federal Modernization:

We have 2 active programs of federal modernization:

Capital Fund FY 2020:

We were awarded \$271,000 in April 2020. These funds will be used to complete the following work items.

Ipswich Drive

Bond Payment 504 Upgrade

Scattered Sites

Site Paving Work

Pearl Drive

Bond Payment 504 Upgrade

Phase II Roofing Upgrade

Capital Fund FY 2021:

We were awarded \$285,000 in June 2021. These funds will be used to complete the following work items.

Ipswich Drive

Roofing Upgrade

Bond Payment 504 Upgrade

Scattered Sites

Site Paving Work

Pearl Drive

Bond Payment 504 Upgrade

Architectural Work Roofing Upgrade

Over the past 19 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 is a total of 119 units of State 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 10 congregate housing units at 16 Ready Drive have no vacancies currently. The WHA staff has work hard to fill these units and keep them filled. If you meet the eligibility requirements set by the MAT Team the Housing Authority will be able to lease you immediately. Anyone interested in a tour of the congregate units please call the office at 978-297-2280.

We also have 17 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 notification in February 2021 from the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) funds in the amount of **\$147,567** for work to be performed at Hyde Park Drive and our other State Scattered sites here in Winchendon over fiscal years 2019, 2020 and 2021. For the past 20 years the WHA has received over 3 million dollars in state modernization funding for Hyde Park Drive and our other State housing sites here in Winchendon. This is a great achievement from the combined efforts by the Local Board of Commissioners, our State Representative Jon Zlotnik and State Senator Anne Gobi are working together for the benefit of our residents at state housing programs

Anyone interested in applying for Housing for any of our units please feel free to come see us at 108 Ipswich Drive or call us at (978) 297-2280 we will be happy to answer any of your questions or help assist you in any of your housing needs. You can also visit our website at www.winha.org to find out more about our programs and services that we offer to our community and residents.

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

David P. Connor
Executive Director/ Secretary Ex-Officio



*Burton E. Gould Photo
Hyde Park Gazebo - Christmas 2019
Dedicated Fall 2019*

WINCHENDON REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

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 third Monday at 5:00 p.m., in the Town Hall fourth floor conference room, with an open invitation for all of Winchendon's residents.

The WRA's passion is to create and maintain an economic and residential base that will attract new opportunities for residents. They are committed to an effort to provide sustainable future growth, support an increase in job opportunities and provide tax revenues through economic development efforts.

The board has five appointed positions seated and is comprised of:

- Chairman – Kenneth LaBrack, klabrack@comcast.net
- Vice Chairman – Les Goodrich, ljgoodrich_01475@yahoo.com
- Clerk – Michael Barbaro, michaelbarbaro63@gmail.com
- State Appointee - Dave Connor, dconnor@winha.org
- Member - Garret Wante, gjwante@gmail.com
- Recording Secretary - Jenelle Sroczynski, Jenelle_sroczynski@msn.com

As in past years, they have become progressively more active in community and economic development. The Authority continues their work focusing on bringing new business to Town and attends all ribbon cutting ceremonies on grand openings.

The Authority currently holds \$972,994.39 in total assets, comprising land parcels (\$887,500), and bank accounts (\$85,494.39). These land assets are all in the form of property to be developed either residentially, commercially, industrially, or recreationally. While this looks like a lot, the property value is determined by the assessment and not what the WRA might sell them for. Some of the properties cannot be developed due to their environmental status such as the old landfill. However, the Authority is always actively collaborating with a local realtor to market those parcels that are viable to put back on the Town Tax Base.

The WRA works closely with the Town Manager actively pursuing potential new commercial/industrial clients, meeting and communicating with them, attempting to sell the Town of Winchendon as their new forever home.

The authority started the 2021-year meeting via zoom due to Covid. Below is a brief summary of what was accomplished:

- ✓ The authority sold the property at 154 Mill Street to place on the town's tax base.
- ✓ The WRA transferred the Spring St. Park (Grout Park) to the Town of Winchendon.
- ✓ The WRA had several meetings with Stephen Cefalo of Cefalo Real Estate, Broker/Owner, Fred Massa and John Padellaro in regard to a marijuana growing facility at Hillview Business Park. Interested in purchasing a parcel for a 100,000 sq. foot growing facility and 40,000 sq. foot distribution center. It was anticipated once built and at full capacity it would bring in 100 to 130 new jobs.

- ✓ Authority received an offer from Cefalo to purchase a parcel of land for the above, many meetings held about access to the parcel, and wetlands.
- ✓ WRA attended the Ribbon cutting of Stephanie Simon, Simply Grounded Yoga/Pilates
- ✓ WRA attended the Ribbon cutting ceremony of Appleberry Fabrics
- ✓ WRA approved and paid for the architect for a redesign of the fire station and for a storage container for the old fire engine.
- ✓ P & S signed for the parcel of land at Hillview, due to wetlands being larger than originally mapped, now interested in another parcel, continued engineering work to proceed.
- ✓ WRA paid for a large Advertisement in the 2021 Johnny Appleseed Brochure to reach close to 35,000 people for the Fall Festival.
- ✓ Beech Street Properties transferred to WRA

The Authority remains solidly committed to the Town of Winchendon and the successful development and redevelopment of its commercial, industrial, residential and recreational uses. They are constantly evaluating innovative ideas and putting plans together to boost Winchendon's community development.



Mary Lee Harrington, State Rep Jon Zlotnik, Owner Stephanie Simon, Senator Anne Gobi, Town Manager Justin Sultzbach, Selectmen Rick Ward attend the official ribbon cutting ceremony for Simply Grounded Yoga and Pilates Studio. Photo by Keith Kent for *The Winchendon Courier*. (c) 2022 By Light Unseen Media

UNITED STATES SENATORS

Senator Elizabeth Warren
317 Hart Senate
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510
202-224-4543

2400 JFK Federal Building
15 Sudbury Street
Boston, MA 02203
617-565-31700

Senator Edward Markey
255 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
202-224-2742

2nd MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT Precinct 1

Congressman James McGovern
438 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
202-225-6101 FAX: 202-225-5759

24 Church Street
Leominster, MA 01453
978-466-3552
FAX: 978-466-3973

3rd MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT Precinct 1A, 2 & 3

Lori Trahan
1607 Longworth HOB
Washington DC 20515
(202) 225-3411 FAX 202-226-0771

Fitchburg Office
FSU - Professional Studies
150B Main Street
Fitchburg, MA
202-225-3411

GOVERNOR

Governor Charlie Baker
Executive Office
800-392-6090
Boston, MA 02133

State Citizens Governor's
Information State House
Room 360
In State: 888-870-7770

2nd WORCESTER DISTRICT

Senator Anne M. Gobi
Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire and Franklin District
Room 513, State House
Boston, MA 02133
617-722-1540 FAX: 617-722-1078

Representative Jon Zlotnik
State House, Room 26
Boston, MA 02133
617-722-2425

District Office
26 City Hall 212
95 Pleasant Street
Gardner, MA 0144
978-410-9559

WINCHENDON TOWN HALL DIRECTORY

109 Front Street
Winchendon, MA 01475
Hours: Monday 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM
Tuesday -Thursday 8:00AM - 5:00 PM
Fridays - CLOSED

EMERGENCY SERVICES: DIAL 911

Town Manager	978-297-0085	Collector/Treasurer.....	978-297-0152
Assessor.....	978-297-0155	Town Clerk.....	978-297-2766
Veterans Services.....	978-297-0500	Town Accountant.....	978-297-5400
Health Agent.....	978-297-4179	Planning/Development....	978-297-5414
Conservation Agent.....	978-297-5410	Information Technology...	978-297-5403
Beals Memorial Library.....	978-297-0300	Land Use.....	978-297-3537
Dept. of Public Works.....	978-297-0170	<i>(Building Commissioner, Wiring Inspector, Plumbing/Gas Inspector)</i>	
<i>(Highway, Water, Sewer, Landfill)</i>			

TRANSFER STATION HOURS

653 River Street - 978-297-0395

Open Thursday through Saturday - 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Closed Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday

Additional Hours Open June 1st through October 1st
8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Thursdays

Vehicle Sticker Required

BOARDS AND COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULES

Meeting times can be found on corresponding posted agendas

Board of Selectmen	2 nd & 4 th Mondays of the month
Planning Board	1 st & 3 rd Tuesdays of the month
Zoning Board of Appeals.....	1 st Wednesday and as posted
Board of Health	1st Monday and as posted
Conservation Commission	2 nd Thursday of the month or as posted
Finance Committee	2 nd Tuesday of the month
Library Trustees	4 th Tuesday of the month
Board of Assessors	8:00 a.m. Thursdays as scheduled
Housing Authority	2 nd Tuesday of the month, 1:30 p.m. 108 Ipswich Drive
School Committee	1 st and 3 rd Thursdays of the month
Redevelopment Authority.....	3 rd Monday of the month