# 2014 TOWN REPORT



# 250th ANNIVERSARY 1764-2014 Town of Winchendon

W I N C H E N D O N

A N U A L

R E P O R T

# "250 Years - In Color"

With the help of many spirited Town employees, residents and businesses, Town Hall was dressed in grand patriotic fashion for the celebration of Winchendon's 250<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Combinations of traditional and custom designed decorations were chosen to create a glorious red white and blue story board paying tribute to Winchendon's well documented past.

Hanging high between the large auditorium windows on the front of Town Hall were four custom made U.S. Historic Flags with 13 stars, 15 stars, 35 stars and 48 stars respectively. Each represented the flag which once graced the skies of Winchendon during past anniversary milestones of 25, 50, 100 and 150 years.

The front wall silently illustrated Winchendon's patriotism, bravery and perseverance throughout its course of development. Everyone should remember that the freedom we have today came with a price paid for by generations before us.

On the left side of Town Hall, a giant banner spanning 24 feet was recreated as a tribute to Winchendon's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 1914. History books show the 150<sup>th</sup> celebration was an elaborate event and deservingly so since the Centennial Celebrations were cancelled due to the Civil War. Morton E. Converse unveiled his large scale "Toy Town Rocking Horse" in the parade that year. The famed horse, which took 9 pine trees to construct, helped give Winchendon its long lasting identity

Finally, the building's right face featured a giant bow of patriotic five-stripe ribbon. The one of a kind creation, hand crafted by Town Hall employees, measured three feet wide and thirteen feet across with tails hanging ten feet long. Originally destined to be on a Town float in the 250 Parade, it was ultimately decided to become the "Celebration Ribbon" mounted high on Town Hall for all to see.

In closing, I would like to thank my friend and fellow co-worker Art Amenta for graciously sharing his vast collection of old Town artifacts and photos with me. These inspirations ultimately led to the celebration theme "250 Years – In Color"

I'm sure I speak for everyone when I say I was proud to be a part of the 250<sup>th</sup> celebrations!

Respectfully Submitted,

Kevin Cormier, Town Hall Building Superintendent

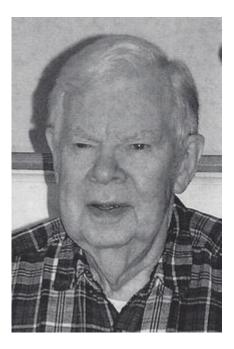
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Agricultural Commission.81Animal Control.82Appointed Officers.7Board of Appeals (Zoning).83Board of Assessors.84Board of Health.85Board of Selectmen.16Collector/Treasurer.87Community Action Committee.88Comservation Commission.92Council On Aging.94Cultural Council.96Elected Government Officials.6
Appointed Officers.7Board of Appeals (Zoning).83Board of Appeals (Zoning).84Board of Assessors.84Board of Health.85Board of Selectmen.16Collector/Treasurer.87Community Action Committee.88Community Profile.5Conservation Commission.92Council On Aging.94Cultural Council.96
Board of Appeals (Zoning).83Board of Assessors.84Board of Assessors.84Board of Health.85Board of Selectmen.16Collector/Treasurer.87Community Action Committee.88Community Profile.5Conservation Commission.92Council On Aging.94Cultural Council.96
Board of Assessors.84Board of Health.85Board of Selectmen.16Collector/Treasurer.87Community Action Committee.88Community Profile.5Conservation Commission.92Council On Aging.94Cultural Council.96
Board of Health.85Board of Selectmen.16Collector/Treasurer.87Community Action Committee.88Community Profile.5Conservation Commission.92Council On Aging.94Cultural Council.96
Board of Selectmen.16Collector/Treasurer.87Community Action Committee.88Community Profile.5Conservation Commission.92Council On Aging.94Cultural Council.96
Collector/Treasurer.87Community Action Committee.88Community Profile.5Conservation Commission.92Council On Aging.94Cultural Council.96
Community Action Committee.88Community Profile.5Conservation Commission.92Council On Aging.94Cultural Council.96
Community Profile.5Conservation Commission.92Council On Aging.94Cultural Council.96
Community Profile.5Conservation Commission.92Council On Aging.94Cultural Council.96
Conservation Commission92Council On Aging94Cultural Council96
Cultural Council
Elected Government Officials 6
Elected Officers of the Town
Elections: Town Annual Election May 5, 2014 19
Special Town Election – June 28, 2014. 45
State Primary Election Sept. 9, 2014
Town Election – Nov. 4, 2014
Town Election – Dec. 20, 2014
Finance Committee
Fire Department
Housing Authority
Land Use Department. 108
Library
Beals Memorial Library
Memoriam
Parks and Recreation Commission. 136
Planning and Development
Planning Board
Police Department. 141
Public Works Department
Solid Waste Facility
Schools
Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School
Winchendon Public Schools
Sealer of Weights & Measures. 155
Town Meetings:
Annual Town Meeting – May 12, 2014
Special Town Meeting – May 12, 2014
Special Town Meeting – Aug. 4, 2014
Special Town Meeting – Nov. 24, 2014
Toy Town Partnership Committee
Veterans' Services
Winchendon 250 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee
Winchendon Redevelopment Authority. 158
Front Cover - Town Hall - Picture taken by Kevin Cormier

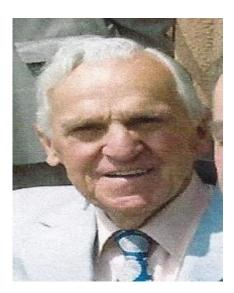
ANNUAL REPORTS of the OFFICERS of the Town of Winchendon Massachusetts 2014



# In Memoríam



Richard Olsen Born April 8, 1927 Died May 5, 2014 Richard was a member of Winchendon Spring Lake Association and was a former trustee of Beals Memorial Library. Richard proudly served his country during World War Two as a member of the United States Navy.



Edward J. Robillard Born Dec. 23, 1919 Died Oct. 29, 2014

Ed worked as a custodian for Winchendon Public Schools until his retirement. He proudly served his country during World War II, as a member of the United States Army and also received the Purple Heart



Ríta N. Saveall Born Dec. 25, 1927 Díed Jan. 9, 2015

Until recently, Rita worked as the curator of Winchendon Historical Society. Her hobbies included working in her flower gardens and doing needlework. Her greatest enjoyment was spending time with her family and grandchildren..



# **COMMUNITY PROFILE**

Town Incorporated		1764
Form of Government		Open Town Meeting
Annual Town Meeting (Bylaw Art	icle)	No Earlier than First Monday in May. No later than 2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday in June.
Annual Election (Bylaw Article)	First M	onday in May each year
Population (2014)		9,055
Number of Water Customers Rate: \$4.77 h.c.f.		2,059
Number of Sewer Customers Rate: \$7.57 h.c.f		1,313
Numbers of Households: Single I	Family	2,809
	Condos	62
	2 Family Units	222
	3 Family Units	37
	4 to 8 Family Un	nit 51
Number of Commercial Parcels		160
Mix Use (resident/business combine)		121
Industrial Parcels	<i>,</i>	71
Tax Rate FY14	\$16.72	per \$1,000 valuation
Highest Elevation	Mt. Ple	asant, 1,267 feet
Miles of Town Roads		135
Square Miles of Area		42

# **UNITED STATES SENATORS**

Senator Elizabeth Warren 359 Dirksen Senate Office Building United States Senate Washington, DC 20510 202-224-4543 15 New Sudbury St. Boston, MA 02203 617-565-3170

Senator Edward Markey 365 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510 202-224-2742

# 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 508-831-7356 FAX: 508-754-0982

# 3<sup>rd</sup> MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Precinct 1A, 2 & 3

Congresswomen Niki Tsongas 1607 Longworth HOB Washington DC 20515 (202) 225-3411 FAX 202-226-0771 Acton Office 492 Main Street Action, MA 01720 978-263-1951

#### GOVERNOR

Governor Charlie Baker Executive Office 800-392-6090 Boston, MA 02133 STATE CITIZEN Governor's INFORMATION State House, Room 360

In State: 888-870-7770

# 2<sup>nd</sup> WORCESTER DISTRICT

Senator Anne M. Gobi Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire and Franklin Dist. Room 410, State House Boston, MA 02133-1053 617-722-1540 FAX: 617-722-1078

Representative Jon Zlotnik. State House, Room 437 Boston, MA 02133-1054 617-722-2425

# **ELECTED OFFICIALS**

#### **MODERATOR**

Richard L. Morin Sr.

May 2016

#### SELECTMEN

	SELECTIVIEN
Keith Barrows	May 2015
Robert O'Keefe	May 2015
C. Jackson Blair (resigned)	May 2016
Fedor Berndt	May 2016
Elizabeth Hunt	May 2017

# SCHOOL COMMITTEE

SCHOOL COMMITTE	
Andrea Suchocki	May 2015
Susan Burdsall	May 2015
Dawn Harris	May 2015
Christopher McDonald (resigned)	May 2016
Michael Barbaro	May 2017
Michael Niles	May 2017

#### **BOARD OF HEALTH**

Lionel E. Cloutier	May 2015
John Shepardson	May 2015
Edward Bond	May 2016
Diane L. Cosentino	May 2017
Jason Moury	May 2017

#### HOUSING AUTHORITY

Burton E. Gould Jr., (state appointed)	May 2015
Virginia A. Sibley	May 2016
Jacquelyn Flynn	May 2017
Leston J. Goodrich	May 2017
David A. Johnson	May 2019

# **APPOINTED OFFICERS**

# ACCOUNTANT

Donna Allard

# AGRICULTURAL COUNCIL

Olivia Tarleton June Girouard, Alt. Audrey LaBrie Kenneth Girouard June 2014 June 2014 June 2016 June 2016

# ANIMAL CONTROL

Wachusett Animal Hospital Mark Ransom Monica Kebler

June 2014

## **ANIMAL INSPECTOR**

Wachusett Animal Hospital

Indef.

#### ASSESSORS

Harald Scheiid Jeff Reynolds

# **BEALS LIBRARY IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE**

Julia White-Cardinal Burton E. Gould Jr. Ronald Muse

# **BUILDING COMMISSIONER**

Paul Blanchard

# **CAPITAL PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

John White Robert O'Keefe Robert A. Guenther June 2014 June 2014 June 2014

# **TOWN CLERK**

Judy A. Ruschioni

June 2017

#### **COLLECTOR/TREASURER**

Donna L. Spellman

June 2016

# **CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

David Koonce, Agent Lionel Cloutier Garrett Davieu Scott Burns Becky Hupfeld David Whitaker Stephen Chace Kyle Bradley

June 2014 June 2014 June 2014 June 2015 June 2016 June 2016 June 2016

# **CONSTABLES**

Frederick Cloutier Robert Hertubise Michael Young( Robert Shea June 2014 June 2014 June 2014 June 2015

# **COUNCIL ON AGING**

Judith Mizhir Gloria LaBrack Ottmar Rau F. Richard Ladeau Jacqueline Flynn Cynthia Sylvester Sheila Bettro, Coordinator Lila Dorval Jean Joyal Penny Maliska Rudolph Arlig Betty Russell

#### **TOWN COUNSEL**

Kopelman and Paige

# **FENCE VIEWER/FIELD DRIVER**

**Raymond Harris** 

June 2014

# FINANCE COMMITTEE

Thomas J. Kane Jr. Christian Orobello Cynthia Leroy Darlene Rossi Ulysse Maillet Ottmar Rau Robert A. Guenther

Membership Roster -

June 2014 June 2015 June 2015 June 2015 June 2016 June 2016 June 2016

# FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Chief –	Thomas Smith	
Deputy Chief –	Ricci Ruschioni	
Captains –	Martin Brooks	
	William Brown	
Lieutenants -	Maurice Bateman	
	Michael Mullen	
	Scott Parkinson	
	Frederick Peters	
	Robert Soucy	
Firefighters and EMTs -	Karen Armstrong Hurton	Mark Fleming
-	Melissa Beauvais	Scott Florio
	Brittany Bevilacqua	Jonathan Guinto
	James Bevilacqua	Patrick Higgins
	David Bilodeau	Jason Hurton
	Corey Bohan	Clayton Landry
	Matthew Bosworth	Benjamin Miller
	Kayla Boutell	Alec Moulton
	Kyle Bradley	Adam Tenney
	Daniel Brown	Marty Scott
	Lance Budka	Richard Sevigny
	Bryan Clayton	Chrysten Starrett
	Jason Clegg	Bryan Vaine
	Brian Croteau	
	John Cyganiewicz	
	Carl Davis	
	William Davis	
Fire Department Chaplain -	Thomas Clinkscale	
College Intern -	Bennett Chadbourne	
High School Intern -	Antonio Barbaro	

# **HEALTH AGENT**

James D. Abare, Inspector

# HISTORICAL COMMISSION/HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Lois Abare	June 2014
Shirley Parks	June 2014
Peggy Corbosiero	June 2014
Yvonne G. Harrington	June 2015
James McCrohon	June 2015
Corey Bohan	June 2016

# LIBRARY TRUSTEES

Chris Caldwell (Resigned) Ronald Klash, Jr. Suzanne Rader Cindy Darcy Ronald Muse June 2014 June 2014 June 2015 June 2016 June 2016

#### **INSURANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Lois A. Abare David Elliot George LaBarge Jamie Holden Alan Ross Joanne Bunnell Anne Cataldo Linda Daigle Rick Bedard Patty Jackson Marty Brooks Marcia Meyer-Krul

# **TOWN MANAGER**

James M. Kreidler Jr.

# **REP. MONTACHUSETT REG. PLANNING**

Guy Corbosiero James M. Kreidler Jr. (Alt.) June 2014

# **REP. MONTACHUSETT OPPORTUNITY COUNCIL**

Robert O'Keefe

Dec. 2014

# **REP. MONTACHUSETT REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY**

Fedor Berndt

June 2014

## **REP. TO MONTY TECH SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

Burton E. Gould, Jr.

June 2017

## **MEASURER OF LUMBER**

Vacant

# PARKS AND RECREATION

George Ladeau Noel Veilleux Laura Gaydos Diana Ringer Brian Dickens June 2014 June 2015 June 2015 June 2016 June 2016

#### PLANNING BOARD

Gregory Vine James McCrohan Mark Shea, (Alt.) John H. White Guy Corbosiero Fedor Berndt June 2014 June 2014 June 2014 June 2015 June 2015 June 2016

# PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Tracy Murphy, Planning Agent

# **PLUMBING & GAS INSPECTOR**

Donald Desmarais Robert O'Brien (Alt)

# **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Scott Livingston, Chief David Walsh, Lt. Det. Kevin Wolski Sgt. Raymond Anair Sgt. Gerald Gagne Ptl. Richard Oinonen Ptl. Derek Blair Ptl. Martin Rose Ptl. Alan Ross Ptl. James Wironen Sgt.. James Spofford SRO. Tracy Flagg

Dispatchers:

Robert Coulombe Wayne Gelinas Jamie Holden Brian Wightman Michael Lafortune, Per Diem Dispatch Sabrina Simoncic, Per Diem Dispatch

Administrative Assistant: Marla Driscoll Reserves:

Ptl. Thomas Perry Ptl. Brennan Jacoby

Ptl. Daniel Wolski

# **REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

Indef.
Indef.
June 2015
June 2015
June 2016
June 2016
June 2016

# **REGISTRARS OF VOTERS**

Vicki Connor	June 2014
Teresa Lupien	June 2015
David Connor	June 2016

Judy A. Ruschioni, Clerk

# **ELECTIONS**

John Morris, Warden Priscilla Johnson, Deputy Clerk Indef. Indef.

# **SEALER, WEIGHTS & MEASURES**

Stephen Slocum

June 2014

# TOY TOWN LOCAL PARTNERSHIP

Elaine Mroz George J. Ladeau Cynthia Boucher Lee Cloutier Janet Galat Ed Galat Peter Newton

# **TREE WARDEN**

John Deline

#### **VETERANS SERVICE DIRECTOR**

Scott Gauthier

# **VETERANS CEMETERY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Henry Doody F. Richard Ladeau John Walker Priscilla Draeger

# WINCHENDON CULTURAL COUNCIL

Doreen Poulin Julia White Cardinal Gregory Vine David LaDeau Corol M. Grout Theresa Hillman June 2014 June 2015 June 2015 June 2015 June 2016 June 2016

#### WINCHENDON EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

James D. Abare, Director Thomas J. Smith, Fire Department Representative Scott Livingston, Police Department Representative John Deline, DPW Representative Peter Laperriere, Communications Frederick Hardy, Transportation

# WINCHENDON 250<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

David Ladeau Maureen Provost Lynn Murray Kris Provost Rochelle Lafortune Martin Rose Don O'Neil Barbara Lafrennie Cindy Darcy Suzanne Rader Janet Corbosiero Laura LaBrack

# WIRING INSPECTOR

Robert Marshall Evan Kaiser, Alternate June 2013

# **ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**

Mary Martorella	June 2014
Joseph Snow	June 2014
Raymond Radar (Alt.)	June 2014
Raymond Benoit	June 2015
Cynthia Carvill	June 2015
Mike Potvin	June 2016

#### Annual Report of the Board of Selectmen

Dear Residents of Winchendon,

It gives me great pleasure to share with you the annual report of your Board of Selectman for calendar year 2014.

The Board of Selectmen is composed of five elected residents who provide leadership to the community through the setting of broad based policies and management of your local government. Your elected members include; Elizabeth (Beth) Hunt, Fedor Berndt, C. Jackson Blair, Robert O' Keefe and Keith Barrows. During the annual elections in May, Beth Hunt was returned to her seat by the voters for another three year term.

In addition to regularly scheduled public meetings, joint meetings, and public hearings, your Board of Selectmen tended to a wide array of issues and events impacting the town. 2014 proved to be a year of excitement, uncertainty, joy, sorrow, determination, resilience, and hope. A brief summary of highlights are shared below:

In the month of January, Winchendon lost one of her most dedicated sons. John Henry White, a fixture in Winchendon's local government since the early 1970s passed away. Mr. White served on numerous boards and committees including; Board of Selectmen, Planning Board, School Committee, Finance Committee, and Winchendon's Charter Commission to name a few. We are indebted to Mr. White for his years of service and contributions toward making Winchendon a better place for all her residents.

The year-long celebration to mark Winchendon's 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary began with a bon fire, pig roast and surprise fireworks in late January. Other events leading up to the town wide celebration included a Gala Ball at the Senior Center, a Car & Motorcycle Show, the presence of the Vietnam Moving Wall Memorial, Charter Day and Art Walk which included the unearthing of the Winchendon time capsule.

The 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary parade, carnival, music festival and fireworks display brought many spectators from out of town and presented a great opportunity for all residents to show their Winchendon pride. There were a number of other events held which continued the celebration into the late fall. It was a great moment in history for the town and the members of the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary committee who worked tirelessly to bring us such wonderful events and memories deserve our sincere thanks!

2014 also saw the retirement of two long serving leaders. Julia White-Cardinal, Winchendon's Library Director for nearly 36 years celebrated her retirement and received a proclamation from the Board of Selectmen for her years of dedicated service. Massachusetts State Senator Stephen Brewer (Barre, MA) also decided to retire after a distinguished career in the Commonwealth's General Court. Senator Brewer was a tireless advocate for Winchendon and made many appearances to provide status updates on actions being considered in Boston which could affect us here locally. Best wishes to both Mrs. White-Cardinal and Mr. Brewer for health and happiness during their retirement.

The year 2014 did not conclude without it's challenges however. Winchendon faced the threat of a natural gas pipeline being constructed through many environmentally sensitive areas in town. The Kinder Morgan Tennessee Gas Pipeline proposal was met with significant opposition by Winchendon and surrounding communities. After many meetings, public information sessions and special town meeting votes by several communities, we have been successful, to date, at defeating the plan for construction through Winchendon. Many thanks to the concerned citizens who banded together and proved to be the driving force behind this successful effort!

In late September, a serious financial deficit was identified by our recently hired Town Accountant and the Town's independent auditing firm Roselli & Clark. This deficit had the potential to negatively impact the Town's cash reserves and future borrowing ability. The issue was traced back to the Town's Health Insurance Trust account which was found to be in substantial deficit due to a large number of catastrophic medical claims over an 18 month period. Following detailed, independent audits by Roselli & Clark, as well as, the Massachusetts Department of Revenue, several internal control deficiencies were identified as the root cause of the problem. A combination of antiquated accounting software, complete turnover in key financial staff positions, and communication challenges resulted in a lack of visibility to a deficit of nearly \$3 million dollars. Though, it was cited numerous times by the Department of Revenue and the Town's independent auditors, that no one person was responsible for the deficit, a vocal group of residents began to call for the termination of Winchendon's Town Manager and removal of all members of the Board of Selectmen as they felt that they were all responsible. Demonstrating both resiliency and a commitment to fixing the financial problem, the Board of Selectmen and Town Manager worked together to develop a plan to eliminate the deficit and place Winchendon on firm financial ground. In late November, special legislation was passed at a special town meeting to approve Winchendon's deficit elimination plan. Under the plan, which was approved by our Honorable Governor, Winchendon was approved to borrow funds necessary to eliminate the deficit and take advantage of below market interest rates to fund the previously approved Police Station project and new ladder truck for the fire department. The fiscal deficit was the focus of the balance of the year and though it's something we wish never happened, Winchendon has improved its policies, procedures and has a plan in place to pay off the deficit without mortgaging the Town's future. The Board of Selectmen is confident that Winchendon will emerge from this challenge all the stronger because of it.

In conclusion, I'd like to comment on a few other accomplishments achieved during 2014.

- A municipal power supply aggregation plan was approved at Town Meeting which will benefit residents with lower electrical bills.
- The Senior Tax Work off program has continued; which allows qualifying seniors to offset their real estate tax bills in exchange for service to the community
- In an effort to provide greater environmental stewardship for the community, an Underground Fuel Storage Tank regulation was enacted.

- Town Meeting approved the creation of Capital Fund. Revenue from payment in lieu of taxes (PILOT) programs will be deposited in this fund. These funds can be appropriated for necessary capital expenditures at a later date.
- Town Meeting approved the Library Accessibility upgrade project which will insure our town library complies with requirements under the Americans With Disabilities Act and remains open for all residents to enjoy.

With the challenges and achievements of 2014 now behind us, I look forward to the opportunities that lie ahead for Winchendon in 2015.

For the Board of Selectmen, I am.

Fedor Berndt

Chairman, Board of Selectman

#### MEMO FOR THE TOWN OF WINCHENDON

# ELECTION: May 5, 2014

Met at Murdock Senior Center at: 7:30 a.m.

Polls declared open at: 8:00 a.m. By: Warden, John Morris

Election officers were sworn in and assigned to their respective stations.

Official Ballots:

Precinct 1A:	450
Precinct 1:	450
Precinct 2:	450
Precinct 3:	450

Cards of instruction and voting lists delivered to the presiding officer. The Specimen ballots and cards of instruction were displayed in the hall and at the entrance.

Ballot boxes checked and set at zero. Keys to same turned over to officer.

Polls were declared closed at 8 p.m. at the close of polls the registers on the ballot boxes read:

Prec. 1 & 1A: 91		Absentee ballots: 1 & 6		
Prec. 2	51	Absentee ballots: 8		
Prec. 3	95	Absentee ballots: 18		

The Total voters was: 237

After being counted, the result of the balloting was announced at: 8:30 p.m.

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

The result of the Election is as follows:

	P- 1 & 1A	P-2	P-3	TOTAL
<b>SELECTMAN</b> BLANK	22	4	11	37
ELIZABETH R.	22	4	11	57
HUNT	62	47	80	100
WRITE INS	62 7	47	80 4	<b>189</b> 11
W KITE IINS				
SCHOOL COMM	91	51	95	237
SCHOOL COMM.				
(2) BLANK	74	22	50	154
	/4	22	58	154
MICHAEL	57	25	50	150
BARBARO	57	35	58	150
MICHAEL E. NILES	49	45	70	164
WRITE IN	2	0	4	6
	182	102	190	474
<b>BOARD OF</b>				
HEALTH (2)				
BLANK	55	27	54	136
DIANE L.				
COSENTINO	48	31	48	127
JASON I.				
GAUTHIER	33	26	42	101
JASON P. MOURY	42	18	46	106
WRITE IN	4	0	0	4
	182	102	190	474
HOUSING				
AUTHORITY				
BLANK	14	1	9	24
DAVID A.				
JOHNSON	76	50	85	211
		-		
WRITE IN	1	0	1	2

Attest:

Judy A. Ruschioni

Winchendon Town Clerk

# TOWN OF WINCHENDON ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MAY 12, 2014

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 12, 2014 AT 7:00 P.M.

then and there to act on the following articles:

#### Warden John Morris announced that a quorum was present.

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Moderator, Richard L. Morin Sr.

# <u>REPORTS AND COMMITTEES</u> (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: 5-0 Recommend FINANCE COMMITTEE: 6-0 Recommend VOTED: (unanimously) to approve the report read by Ulysses Maillet, Chairman of Finance Committee.

#### **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:5-0 RecommendFINANCE COMMITTEE:6-0 RecommendVOTED:(unanimously) to approve. No reports available.

#### <u>REVOLVING FUNDS AUTHORIZATION ARTICLE</u> (majority vote required)

#### **ARTICLE 3**

To see if the Town will vote to establish the following revolving accounts as provided for under the provisions of section 53E  $\frac{1}{2}$  of Chapter 44 of the Massachusetts General Laws, for the purposes specified and each not to exceed \$20,000.00 in fiscal year 2015:

<u>Hazardous Materials Fees under G.L. c.21E, §4</u> - the Fire Chief shall be authorized to expend said fund for the purchase of supplies and material relating to hazardous material recovery;

<u>Student Parking Fees-</u> the Winchendon Public Schools shall be authorized to expend said fund for establishing and operating parking permit program and maintenance of parking lot and/or proposed parking lot expansion;

Land Use Restitution and/or Insurance Reimbursement Receipts - the Land Use Office shall be authorized to expend said fund for any lawful purpose relating to its department;

<u>Athletics Advertising Fees-</u> the School Athletic Department shall be authorized to expend said fund for any lawful purpose relating to its department;

<u>Agricultural Commission Fees-</u> the Agricultural Commission shall be authorized to expend said fund for any lawful purpose relating to its department;

<u>Public Health Clean-up Lien Receipts Received in Connection with Board of Health Property Clean-up</u> - the Board of Health shall be authorized to expend said fund for any lawful purpose relating to such clean-ups; and

<u>Planning and Development Large Format Copier and Plotter Fees</u> - the Office of Planning and Development shall be authorized to expend said fund for any lawful purpose relating to the Large Format Copier and Plotter.

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

#### BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 5-0 Recommend FINANCE COMMITTEE: 6-0 Recommend

# <u>USUAL AND CUSTOMARY FINANCIAL ARTICLES</u> (majority and/or two-thirds vote required)

#### SENIOR TAX WORK-OFF ARTICLE

#### **ARTICLE 4**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for the Senior Tax Work-off Program, or act in relation thereto. (submitted by the Town Manager)

#### BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 5-0 Recommend FINANCE COMMITTEE: 6-0 Recommend *VOTED: (unanimously) to approve the article as printed.*

At 7:15 the Annual Town Meeting was recessed for the Special Town Meeting. It was voted (unanimously) to continue with the Annual Town meeting.

#### NON-PROFIT ASSISTANCE ARTICLES

#### **ARTICLE 5**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$28,000.00 as grants to the following non-profit entities in consideration of the numerous services provided to the Town:

\$18,000- Community Action Committee \$10,000- Clark Memorial YMCA.

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

BOARD OF SELECTMEN:4-0-1 RecommendFINANCE COMMITTEE:4-0-2 RecommendVOTED:(two-thirds) approve to raise and appropriate the article as printed.

#### OTHER POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFIT (OPEB) FUND ARTICLE

#### **ARTICLE 6**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$10,000.00 to the Other Post Employment Benefit (OPEB) Fund, or act in relation thereto. (Submitted by the Town Manager)

#### BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 5-0-0 Recommned FINANCE COMMITTEE: 6-0 Recommend *VOTED:* (unanimously) approve to raise and appropriate the article as printed.

# **STABILIZATION FUND ARTICLE**

#### **ARTICLE 7**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$10,000.00 to the Stabilization Fund, or act in relation thereto. (Submitted by the Town Manager)

#### BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 4-0-1 Recommend

#### FINANCE COMMITTEE: 6-0 Recommend

VOTED: (unanimously) approve to raise and appropriate the article as printed.

# USUAL AND CUSTOMARY GENERAL GOVERNMENT BUDGET <u>ARTICLE</u> (majority vote required)

#### ARTICLE 8

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and transfer from other available funds\* the sum of \$9,508,94 for the operating budget of the Town for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2014, or act in relation thereto. (usual and customary article)

#### **BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 5-0**

#### FINANCE COMMITTEE: 6-0 Recommend

\*Other Available Funds:

Cemetery Trust	\$ 3,000.00
Dog Fees	\$ 15,000.00
Title V Liens	
Redemption	\$ 7,810.00
Infrastructure Fund	\$ 85,000.00
	\$ 110,810.00

As has been practice, the format of the Fiscal Year 2015 budget that follows depicts the proposed expenditures for the various major components and then the total of the General Government budget. They are as follows:

- 1. Administration, Finance and Benefits
- 2. Regulatory Boards, Commissions and Departments
- 3. Public Safety
- 4. Public Works

- 5. Human Services
- 6. Debt Service
- 7. Regional Expenses
- 8. Total FY15 General Government Budget

The total for each component, numbers 1-8, appears in the budget in numbered and gray shaded lines.

Additional detailed information depicting the subcomponents within each major component also appears in the following budget. These subcomponent budget numbers provide a more detailed look into what makes up the expenditure of each major component. These numbers appear without shading, with asterisks (\*) and are for informational purposes only.

The "Total FY 15 General Government Budget", as identified as #8, is the budget number before you for your consideration and vote.

		FY14	FY15	%	
	ACCOUNT	ACTUAL	PROPOSED	CHANGE	COMMENTS:
	ADMINISTRATI	<b>DN, FINANC</b>	E AND		
1	<b>BENEFITS:</b>	,			
	SELECTMEN				
*	OFFICE	24,000	24,000.00	0%	No Change
	TOWN				
	MANAGER				3% raises (except
*	OFFICE	259,671.00	261,507.00	1%	TM)
	FINANCE				
*	COMMITTEE	47,860.00	47,860.00	0%	No Change
	ACCOUNTING				Assistant to Full-
*	OFFICE	86,469.00	117,363.00	36%	Time
	ASSESSORS				Contract Service
*	OFFICE	77,889.00	78,658.00	1%	Rate
	COLLECTOR/				3% raises plus
*	TREASURER	166,217.00	173,336.00	4%	postage
*	AUDIT EXPENSE	34,000.00	34,000.00	0%	Actual Expense
	LEGAL				
*	EXPENSE	60,000.00	60,000.00	0%	No Change
	DATA				
*	PROCESSING	39,300.00	39,300.00	0%	No Change
*	TECHNOLOGY	17,904.00	31,415.00	75%	Part-time IT Person
	COMM.				
*	COMMITTEE	33,500.00	33,500.00	0%	No Change
	TOWN CLERK				3% raise but new
*	OFFICE	89,04300	88,635.00	0%	hire rate
	REGISTRAR OF				
*	VOTERS	18,610.00	27,625.00	48%	More Elections
•			25		

I					Rate plus o/t
*	TOWN HALL	115,268.00	118,214.00	3%	Allowance
*	PENSIONS	958,573.00	1,125,350.00	17%	Actual Assessment
	COMP AND	,	, ,		
*	UNEMPLOY	131,372.00	225,339.00	72%	Actual Expense
*	HEALTH INS.	1,761,590.00	2,000,856.00	16%	Projected Expense
	LIFE				
*	INSURANCE	25,300.00	25,300.00	0%	Actual Expense
*	MEDICARE	196,050.00	196,050.00	0%	Projected Expense
	PROPERTY/LIAB				
*	ILITY INS.	177,905.00	224,130.00	26%	Actual Expense
	SEPERATION				
*	BENEFITS	78,848.00			Actual Expense
	TOTAL ADMIN.				
1	AND FINANCE	4,369,373.00	4,932,438.00	13%	\$563,065.00
2	REGULATORY				
*	CONSERVATION	15,515.00	15,932.00	3%	3% Raise
	PLANNING				Reduced outside
*	BOARD	6,000.00	5,500.00	-8%	services
*	ZONING BOARD	1,918.00	1,918.00	0%	No Change
	COMMUNITY	00.004.00	< <b>5</b> 00 <b>2</b> 00	2.464	Grant picked up
*	DEV.	99,224.00	65,983.00	-34%	expenses
*	LAND USE OFFICE	93,472.00	95,065.00	2%	3% raise
	OFFICE	93,472.00	95,005.00	2.70	5% Taise
	TOTAL				
2	REGULATORY	216,129.00	184,398.00	-15%	\$(31.831.00)
-	REGULATORI	210,129.00	104,570.00	-1370	φ(31.031.00)
	PUBLIC SAFETY				
3	DEPARTMENTS				
	POLICE/				
*	DISPATCH/ACO	1,326,925.00	1,367,989.00	3%	3% raise
	FIRE/				Prior Yr. Wage
*	AMBULANCE	676,257.00	769,823.00	14%	Scale Fix
					Misc. Minor
*	CIVIL DEFENSE	4,877.00	4,943.00	1%	Increases
	BOARD OF	<b>FF A C L C T</b>	<b>FO</b> 1 <b>F</b> O OF	<i></i>	3% raise + incr
*	HEALTH	55,381.00	58,438.00	6%	.prof. services
2	TOTAL PUBLIC	2 0 6 2 4 4 0 0 0	2 201 102 00	70/	¢127 752 00
3	SAFETY	2,063,440.00	2,201,193.00	7%	\$137,753.00
4	PUBLIC WORKS				
		52.252.00	<u>(0.001.00</u>	100/	3% raise & Dam
*	ADMINISTRATION	53,262.00	60,091.00	13%	Inspection
*	HIGHWAY	301,009.00	309,634.00	3%	3% raise

I	FLEET				3% raise + increase
*	MAINTENANCE	223,307.00	246,319.00	10%	fuel
*	CEMETERY	89,962.00	92,213.00	3%	3% raise
*	SNOW AND ICE	101,000.00	101,000.00	0%	No Change
					Utility Increase +
*	STREET LIGHTS	58,500.00	65,000.00	11%	More Lights
	LANDFILL				
*	EXPENSE	23,000.00	23,000.00	0%	No Change
*	TREE TRIMMING	5,000.00	5,000.00	0%	No Change
	TOTAL PUBLIC				
4	WORKS	855,040.00	902,257.00	6%	\$47,217.00
5	HUMAN SERVICES				
	COUNCIL ON				
*	AGING	140,411.00	142,348.00	1%	3% raise
					Increased Veteran
*	VETERANS	341,390.00	391,642.00	15%	benefits
*	LIBRARY	164,601.00	169,568.00	3%	3% raise
	RECREATION				
*	COMMITTEE	3,400.00	3,400.00	0%	No Change
	HISTORICAL			0.01	
*	COMMISSION	500.00	500.00	0%	No Change
5	TOTAL HUMAN SERVICES	650,302.00	707,458.00	9%	\$57,156.00
5	SERVICES	050,502.00	707,458.00	J /0	\$57,150.00
(					
6	DEBT SERVICE	0.50 054 00	570 207 00	2204	4 . 15
*	DEBT SERVICE	852,274.00	578,207.00	-32%	Actual Expense
	TOTAL DEBT	0.50 074 00	570 207 00	220/	(\$254.0(5.00)
6	SERVICE	852,274.00	578,207.00	-32%	(\$274,067.00)
	DECIONAL				
7	REGIONAL EXPENSES				
	REGIONAL				
*	PLANNING	3,033.00	3,033.00	0%	Actual Assessment
1	MONTY TECH	3,033.00	5,055.00	070	Actual Assessment
*	ASSESSMENT	666,218.00		-100%	Actual Assessment
	TOTAL			10070	- Iotaur / Issessment
	REGIONAL				
7	EXPENSES	669,251.00	3,033.00	-100%	\$(666,218.00)
	TOTAL RAISE &				
8	APPROPRIATE	9,675,809.00	9,508,984.00	2%	\$(166,825.00)
		, ,	, ,		

**VOTED:** (unanimously) to approve the article as printed.

# USUAL AND CUSTOMARY WATER ENTERPRISE ARTICLE<sup>1</sup>

#### (majority vote required)

#### **ARTICLE 9**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$990,219.00 (Water Receipts-\$850,000 and Water Retained Earnings- \$140,219.00) for the operating budget of the Water Department enterprise fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2014, or act in relation thereto. (usual and customary article)

#### BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 5-0 Recommend FINANCE COMMITTEE: 6-0 Recommend

VOTED: (unanimously) to approve the motion to appropriate the sum of \$970,219.00

(Water Receipts \$850,000 and Water Retained Earnings \$120,219.00)

#### <u>USUAL AND CUSTOMARY WASTEWATER ENTERPRISE</u> <u>ARTICLE<sup>2</sup></u> (majority vote required)

#### **ARTICLE 10**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$1,108,464.00 (Sewer Receipts-\$837,576.00 and Betterment Revenues- \$270,000.00) for the operating budget of the Wastewater Treatment Department enterprise fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2014, or act in relation thereto. (usual and customary article)

#### BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 5-0 Recommend FINANCE COMMITTEE: 6-0 Recommend *VOTED: (unanimously) to approve the article as printed.*

# USUAL AND CUSTOMARY TRANSFER STATION ENTERPRISE <u>ARTICLES<sup>3</sup></u>

#### (majority vote required)

#### **ARTICLE 11**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$185,083.00 from Transfer Station Receipts for the operating budget of the Transfer Station enterprise fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2014, or act in relation thereto. (submitted by the Town Manager)

# **BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 5-0 Recommend**

#### FINANCE COMMITTEE: 6-0 Recommend

**VOTED:** (unanimously) to approve the article as printed.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> No rate increase required to support this budget.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> No rate increase required to support this budget.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> No rate increase required to support this budget.

It was moved seconded and (unanimously) approved to take Article 21 out of order at this time.

#### **ARTICLE 21**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer and appropriate a sum of money from available funds to the School Department for the operating budget for Fiscal Year 2015, or take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 5-0 Not Recommend FINANCE COMMITTEE: 5-0-1 Not Recommend *VOTED: to amend Article 21 into two parts as follows:* 

VOTED: (unanimously) to approve as amended: PARTA: To raise and appropriate the sum of \$12,876,674 to the School Department as part of its operating budget for Fiscal Year 2015.

VOTED: (two-thirds) to approve as amended:

PART B: To transfer from the Stabilization Fund an amount not to exceed \$395,500 to fund any Net school spending shortfall and that such transfer be conditioned such that no funds shall be expended until the final shortfall figure is determined once the FY14 end of year report is finalized with the Department of Elementary and Secondary education on or about September 30, 2014.

# USUAL AND CUSTOMARY EDUCATION BUDGET ARTICLE

#### (majority vote required)

#### **ARTICLE 12**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer the sum of \$12,876,674 (Required Net School Spending of \$16,166,194.00 less \$3,289,520.00 for net school spending eligible indirect costs budgeted in the general government budget for School Expenses) for the School Department for the operating budget of the Winchendon Public Schools for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2014, or take any action thereon. (Submitted by the Town Manager)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 5-0 Recommend FINANCE COMMITTEE: 5-0-1 Recommend *VOTED: (unanimously) to Pass over this article.* 

# <u>ANNUAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL</u> <u>ASSESSMENT ARTICLE</u>

**ARTICLE 13** 

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$784,205 to fund the Town's assessment to the Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School, or act in relation thereto. (submitted by the Town Manager)

# BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 5-0 Recommend

FINANCE COMMITTEE: 6-0 Recommend

*VOTED:* (two-thirds) to approve the motion to raise and appropriate the sum of \$779,205.00 to fund the Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School.

## SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION BUDGET ARTICLE

#### **ARTICLE 14**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$1,243,260.00 (raise and appropriate \$1,143,260 and appropriate by transfer from Municipal Medicaid Reimbursement receipts \$100,000) for School Transportation for the following purposes:

In town Transportation:	\$ 692,100.00
Special Education Transportation:	\$ 540,000.00
Crossing Guards:	\$ 11,160.00

said sum to be expended by the School Committee, or act in relation thereto. (submitted by the Town Manager, usual and customary article)

#### **BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 5-0 Recommend**

FINANCE COMMITTEE: 5-0-1 Recommend

**VOTED:** (unanimously) to approve the article as printed.

#### SCHOOL DEPARTMENT SUBMITTED ARTICLES

#### **ARTICLE 15**

To see if the Town will vote to further amend the vote taken under Article 10 of the May 20,2013 Annual Town Meeting, as previously amended under Article 3 of the December 30, 2013 Special Town Meeting, by increasing the appropriation to the Winchendon Public Schools for the Fiscal Year ending on June 30, 2014 by a certain sum of money, through transfer among accounts, through transfer from prior appropriations under articles, through transfer from available funds, or through otherwise providing said sum of money, or take any action thereon. (Submitted by School Committee)

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 5-0 Not Recommend FINANCE COMMITTEE: 4-0-2 Not Recommend** *VOTED: (unanimously) to pass over this article.* 

#### **ARTICLE 16**

To see if the Town will vote to transfer to the School Committee the sum of \$14,962.42 from available funds to defray costs associated with Murdock Middle/High School, or act in relation thereto. (Submitted by School Committee).

#### BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 5-0 Recommend FINANCE COMMITTEE: 5-0-1 Recommend as amended to include the words "Boiler Repair" after High School VOTED: (unanimously) to approve the article as amended:

The Town will transfer to the School Committee the sum of \$14,962.42 from available funds from Account No. 30300300.597924 (the remaining balance from Article 26<sup>th</sup> of the May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2010 annual town meeting) to defray costs associated with the Murdock Middle/High School boiler repair.

#### **ARTICLE 17**

To see if the Town will vote to transfer to the School Committee the sum of \$26,889.60 as reimbursement for expenses and revenue generated from the Municipal Medical Reimbursement Program during Fiscal Year 2010, by amending Article 16 from the Annual Town Meeting held on May 23, 2011 or by transferring from available funds for said reimbursement, or act in relation thereto. (Submitted by School Committee).

#### **BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 5-0 Not Recommend FINANCE COMMITTEE: 5-0-1 Not Recommend** *VOTED: (unanimously) to pass over this article.*

#### **ARTICLE 18**

To see if the Town will vote to transfer to the School Committee the sum of \$37,564.00 as reimbursement for expenses and revenue generated from the Municipal Medical Reimbursement Program during Fiscal Year 2011, by amending Article 8 from the Special Town Meeting held on October 29, 2012 or by transferring from available funds for said reimbursement, or act in relation thereto. (Submitted by School Committee).

#### **BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 5-0 Not Recommend FINANCE COMMITTEE: 5-0-1 Not Recommend** *VOTED: (unanimously) to pass over this article.*

#### **ARTICLE 19**

To see if the Town will vote to transfer to the School Committee the sum of \$36,816.20 as reimbursement for expenses and revenue generated from the Municipal Medical Reimbursement Program during Fiscal Year 2012, or from available funds for said reimbursement, or act in relation thereto. (Submitted by School Committee).

#### BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 5-0 Recommend FINANCE COMMITTEE: 4-1-1 Not Recommend-Approved to be Amended

*VOTED:* (unanimously) to approve the article as amended:

That the town will vote to transfer to the School Committee the sum of \$36,816.20 as reimbursement for expenses and revenue generated from the Municipal Medicaid Reimbursement Program during Fiscal Year 2012, from the Stabilization Account with the following condition:

said funds shall not be available to be expended if an equal dollar amount is appropriated to the School Committee from an alternate source on or before December 31, 2014 in which case this authorization to transfer shall be null and void.

#### **ARTICLE 20**

To see if the Town will vote to transfer to the School Committee the sum of \$26,245.60 as reimbursement for expenses and revenue generated from the Municipal Medical Reimbursement Program during Fiscal Year 2013, or from available funds for said reimbursement, or act in relation thereto. (Submitted by School Committee).

#### **BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 5-0 Recommend**

**FINANCE COMMITTEE:** 4-1-1 Not Recommend- Approved to be Amended *VOTED:* (*unanimously*) to approve the article as amended:

That the Town will vote to transfer to the School Committee the sum of \$26,245.60 as reimbursement for expenses and revenue generated from the Municipal Medical Reimbursement Program during Fiscal Year 2013, from the Stabilization Account with the following condition:

said funds shall not be available to be expended if an equal dollar amount is appropriated to the School Committee from an alternate source on or before December 31, 2014 in which case this authorization to transfer shall be null and void.

#### CAPITAL ARTICLES

#### (majority and/or two-thirds vote required)

#### **ARTICLE 22**

To see if the town will vote petition the Legislature for the creation of a Town of Winchendon Capital Stabilization Fund and to provide that all of the revenue received in accordance with any Solar Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) agreements will henceforth be placed into said Winchendon Capital Stabilization Fund, and to authorize Town Counsel to draft such petition; or act in relation thereto. (Submitted by the Town Manager)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 5-0 Recommend FINANCE COMMITTEE: 6-0 Recommend *VOTED: (unanimously) to approve the article as printed.* 

At 9:19 p.m., it was moved and seconded (unanimously approved) to suspend the Annual Town Meeting and open the Special Town Meeting.

### At 9:30 p.m. the Annual Town Meeting continued.

### **ARTICLE 23**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow or transfer from available funds the sum of \$80,000.00 to be used for all costs associated with certain capital improvements at the Fire Department's Central Street headquarters; or act in relation thereto. (Submitted by the Capital Planning Advisory Committee)

### **BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 5-0 Recommend**

# **FINANCE COMMITTEE: 6-0 Recommend as amended by removing "certain capital improvements" and replace with "roof replacement"**

*VOTED:* (Unanimously) approve to raise and appropriate the article and amend by adding after capital improvements -(replace the roof and the emergency generator).

### **ARTICLE 24**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow or transfer from available funds the sum of \$19,000.00 to be used for all costs associated with the upgrade and/or replacement of computers and associated equipment in the Town Hall; or act in relation thereto. (Submitted by the Capital Planning Advisory Committee)

### BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 5-0 Recommend FINANCE COMMITTEE: 6-0 Recommend VOTED: (unanimously) approve to raise and appropriate the article as printed.

### **ARTICLE 25**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$75,000 for the purpose shown below; and as funding therefor, 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. c.44, \$7 or any other enabling authority; provided, however, that the amounts appropriated hereunder shall be expressly contingent upon approval by the voters of a Proposition 2  $\frac{1}{2}$ , so-called, debt exclusion question pursuant to G.L. c.59, \$21C (k),

• \$75,000.00 – Install an emergency generator at the Toytown Elementary school, including all costs incidental and related thereto,

or act in relation thereto. (Submitted by the Capital Planning Advisory Committee)

### BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 5-0 Recommend FINANCE COMMITTEE: 5-0-1 Recommend VOTED: (unanimously) to approve the article as printed.

### **ARTICLE 26**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of 65,000 for the purpose shown below; and as funding therefor 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. c.44, 7 or any other enabling authority; provided, however, that the amounts appropriated hereunder shall be expressly contingent upon approval by the voters of a Proposition 2 ½, so-called, debt exclusion question pursuant to G.L. c.59, 21C (k), •\$65,000.00 – Purchase of one ton dump truck with plow and sander for the Cemetery Department

or act in relation thereto. (Submitted by the Capital Planning Advisory Committee)

### BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 5-0 Recommend FINANCE COMMITTEE: 6-0 Recommend

### *VOTED:* (unanimously) to approve the article as printed.

### **ARTICLE 27**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$300,000 for the purpose shown below; and as funding therefor 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. c.44, \$7 or any other enabling authority; provided, however, that the amounts appropriated hereunder shall be expressly contingent upon approval by the voters of a Proposition 2 ½, so-called, debt exclusion question pursuant to G.L. c.59, \$21C (k),

•\$300,000.00 –for costs associated with the accessibility upgrades to the Beals Memorial Library, including all costs incidental and related thereto

or act in relation thereto. (Submitted by the Capital Planning Advisory Committee)

### BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 5-0 Recommend FINANCE COMMITTEE: 5-0-1 Recommend VOTED: (unanimously) to approve the article as printed.

### **ARTICLE 28**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow or transfer from available funds the sum of \$196,000.00 to be used for costs associated with the accessibility upgrades to the Beals Memorial Library, including all costs incidental thereto; or act in relation thereto. (Submitted by the Capital Planning Advisory Committee)

### BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 5-0 Recommend FINANCE COMMITTEE: 6-0 Recommend VOTED: (unanimously) approve to borrow the sum of \$196,000.00

### **ARTICLE 29**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow or transfer from available funds the sum of \$91,245.00 to be used for costs associated with the removal and replacement of the Town Hall boiler, including all costs incidental thereto; or act in relation thereto. (Submitted by the Capital Planning Advisory Committee)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 5-0 Recommend FINANCE COMMITTEE: 6-0 Recommend VOTED: (unanimously) approve to borrow the sum of \$91,245.00

## **<u>GENERAL BUSINESS ARTICLES</u>** (majority vote required)

### **ARTICLE 30**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$450,000 for the purpose shown below; and as funding therefor 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. c.44, §7 or any other enabling authority; provided, however, that the amounts appropriated hereunder shall be expressly contingent upon approval by the voters of a Proposition 2  $\frac{1}{2}$ , so-called, debt exclusion question pursuant to G.L. c.59, §21C (k),

•\$450,000 – Purchase of 43.1 acres of land located at 86 Ingleside Drive, Map 5A3, Parcel 348 on Whitney Pond including a building, detached garage and large barn to be studied and developed into a "Community Center" for the residents of Winchendon to include. recreational, educational and social gatherings

and provided further that the funds appropriated hereunder shall be reduced by any grants received for this purchase; or act in relation thereto. (Submitted by DPW Supt. John Deline)

### BOARD OF SELECTMEN: N/A FINANCE COMMITTEE: 3-2 Recommend VOTED: (unanimously) to pass over this article.

### **ARTICLE 31**

To see if the Town will vote in accordance with G.L. c.59, §38H to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) agreement with West Street Solar, LLC for a period of twenty (20) years and to approve said agreement, under which West Street Solar, LLC will pay the Town \$140,000.00 per year related to the construction of a six (6) Megawatt solar farm on private property, as on file with the Town Clerk, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen and Town Manager to take such other actions as may be necessary to carry out the vote taken hereunder or act in relation thereto. (Submitted by the Town Manager)

### BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 5-0 Recommend FINANCE COMMITTEE: 6-0 Recommend *VOTED: (unanimously) to approve the article as printed.*

### **ARTICLE 32**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to convey to the Winchendon Redevelopment Authority, on such terms and consideration as the Board of Selectmen deems appropriate, one parcels of land, 1 with residence, 1 with residence/business and 1 vacant parcel described as follows:

Map 5A3 0 342:

A certain parcel of land situated in Winchendon on Vine Street and shown on the assessor's map as map 5A3, parcel 342. Parcel consisting of approximately .52 acres. Parcel is further described in deed recorded in Book 4385, Page 427 of the Registry of Deeds, Worcester District.

### Map 10 0 54:

A certain parcel of land situated in Winchendon on Baldwinville State Rd. and shown on the assessor's map as map 10, parcel 54. Parcel consists of 1.72 acres. Parcel is further described in deed recorded in Book 12979, Page 109 of the Registry of Deeds, Worcester District.

### Map 10 0 71:

A certain parcel of land situated in Winchendon on Stoddard Rd. and shown on the assessor's map as map 10, parcel 71. Parcel consists of 6.32 acres. Parcel is further described in deed recorded in Book 23599, Page 7 of the Registry of Deeds, Worcester District.

Said parcels of residentially and Neighborhood Commercially-zoned, Municipal land for the purpose of resale to further promote community/economic development, or act in relation thereto. (Submitted by the Winchendon Redevelopment Authority)

### **BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 5-0 Recommend FINANCE COMMITTEE: 6-0 Recommend**

*VOTED:* (unanimously) to approve the article by adding "Said parcels of land shall not be sold to Public/Private utility companies".

### **ARTICLE 33**

To see if the Town will vote to accept General Laws Chapter 44B Sections 3 to 7, known as the Community Preservation Act, which establishes a special Community Preservation Fund that may be appropriated and spent for certain historic resources, open space, recreation, and affordable housing purposes, to approve a property tax surcharge in the amount of three per cent (3%) of the taxes assessed annually on real property, which shall be dedicated to the fund, such surcharge to be imposed on taxes assessed for fiscal years beginning on or after July 1, 2014 and to exempt from the surcharge the following:

 Property owned and occupied as a domicile by a person who would qualify for low income housing or low or moderate income senior housing in the community

or act in relation thereto. (Submitted by the Winchendon Historic Commission)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN:5-0 Not RecommendFINANCE COMMITTEE:6-0 Not Recommend

### **CONSERVATION COMMISSION: 4-0 Recommend**

VOTED: (unanimously) to pass over the article.

## <u>GENERAL BYLAW ARTICLES</u> (majority vote required)

### **ARTICLE 34**

To see if the Town will vote to amend General Bylaw Article 17 by deleting section 17.2, C. (3) and to adopt a new General Bylaw to be numbered #\_\_\_\_.

### **Regulations for the Removal and Disposal of Canine Waste**

### (Pooper-Scooper Law)

### **SECTION 1 – AUTHORITY**

1. These regulations are made pursuant to Chapter III of Massachusetts General Law MGL), Section 31, to protect the public health of the residents of Winchendon.

2. Evidence demonstrates that canine waste can cause serious health problems.

### SECTION 2 - REMOVAL AND DISPOSAL OF CANINE WASTE

### A. Removal/Disposal

It shall be the duty of each person who owns, possesses or controls a dog to remove and dispose of any feces left by his/her dog on any sidewalk, gutter, street, park or other public area, or on ay private property neither owned nor occupied by said person. No person who owns, possesses or controls such dog shall appear with such dog on any sidewalk, gutter, street, park or other public area, or on any private property neither owned nor occupied by said person, without the means of removal of any feces left b such dog. For the purpose of this section, the means of removal shall by any tool, implement or other device carried for the purpose of picking up or containing such feces in a manner that such feces shall be unexposed to said person in public. Disposal shall be accomplished by transporting such feces to a suitable place.

### **B.** Penalties

Any person who violates or permits a violation of this CHAPTER shall be subject to a fine of FIFTY (\$50.00) DOLLARS to be assessed for each and every violation. All fines shall be payable to the Town of Winchendon through the Town Clerk's office. The Chief of Police may, as an alternative to initiating criminal proceedings, treat violations of this chapter in a non-criminal manner pursuant to the provision of MGL CH 40, sec 21D.

### **C. Authorized Enforcement Personnel**

The following persons shall be authorized enforcement: Police officer, Animal Control Officer or Board of Health Agent, or act in relation thereto. (submitted by the Board of Health)

### **BOARD OF SELECTMEN:** No Recommendation **FINANCE COMMITTEE:** 6-0 Recommend *VOTED:* (two-thirds) to approve the article as printed.

### ARTICLE 35

To see if the Town will vote to adopt a new general bylaw to be numbered \_\_\_\_:

### FUEL STORAGE SYSTEM REGULATION

Whereas, leaking fuel storage systems pose an immediate and serious threat to ground water, public and private wells, and,

Whereas, the Town of Winchendon does not have records to locate all such systems installed within the Town,

Therefore, under Chapter 111, Section 31, of the Massachusetts General Laws, the Town of Winchendon hereby adopts the following bylaw to protect the ground and surface waters from contamination with liquid toxic or hazardous materials.

DEFINITION: "Toxic or hazardous materials" shall be defined as all liquid hydrocarbon products including, but not limited to, gasoline, fuel and diesel oil, and any other toxic or corrosive chemicals, radioactive materials or other substance controlled as being toxic or hazardous by the Division of Hazardous Waste of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, under the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 21C, Section 1, et. Seq.

The following regulations apply to all toxic or hazardous materials storage:

### Section 1., Installation of Fuel Storage Tanks

1-1. Following the effective date of this regulation, the installation of all underground fuel, gasoline, or other chemical storage tanks shall conform with the following criteria: In that the United States Environmental Protection Agency designated the Town of Winchendon as overlying a sole source aquifer, secondary containment of tank and piping and an approved in-tank and interstitial space monitoring system shall be required for new or replacement tanks.

1-2. Following the effective date of this regulation, all tanks installed above ground outside shall be of material approved for outside use. All tanks shall be properly installed as per Massachusetts Fire Regulations and manufacturer's specifications, under the direction of the head of the Fire Department. Tanks shall be approved design and protected from internal and external corrosion. The following tank construction systems are considered to provide adequate corrosion protection: all fiberglass construction; steel with bonded fiberglass or enamel coating and internal lining; and the Steel Tank Institute 3-Way Protection System. Any other system must be shown to provide equivalent protection.

1-3. All tank installations within four feet of maximum high water table or within one hundred feet of a surface water body or wetland shall be of fiberglass construction. The Fire Chief and the Board of Health Shall determine if additional protective measures are necessary.

1-4. Underground storage tanks shall not be installed within Water Resource Districts or Zones of Contributions of Public Water Supply Wells or within 150 feet of a private well.

### Section 2., Tank Registration

The following regulations shall apply to A) all underground tanks containing toxic or hazardous materials as defined above which are not currently regulated under 527 CMR 9.26 – Tanks and Containers, to B) all tanks containing fuel oil, whose contents are used exclusively for consumption on the premises, and to C) farm and residential tanks of 1,100 gallon capacity or less, used for storing motor fuel for non-commercial purposes.

2-1. Owners shall file with the Board of Health, within 30 days of the date of publishing of this regulation, the size and type, age and location of each tank, and the type of fuel or chemical stored in them. Evidence of date of purchase and installation, including Fire Department permit, if any, shall be included along with a sketch map showing the location of such tanks on the property. Upon registering the tank with the Board of Health, the tank owner will receive a permanent metal or plastic tag, embossed with a registration number unique to that tank. This registration tag must be affixed to the fill pipe or in such a location as to be visible to any distributor when filling the tank and to any inspector authorized by the Town.

2-2. Within 30 days of the date of the publishing of this regulation, every petroleum and other chemical distributor, when filling an underground storage tank, shall note on the invoice or bill for the product delivered, the registration number appearing on the tag affixed to the tank which was filled. Every petroleum and other chemical distributor shall notify the Board of Health of the existence and location of any unregistered or untagged tank which they are requested to fill. Such notification must be completed within two (2) working days of the time the distributor discovers that the tank registration tag is not present.

2-3. Prior to the sale of a property containing an underground storage tank, the Fire Department must receive from the current owner a change of ownership form for the registration of the underground storage tank. Such form can be obtained from the Fire Department.

### Section 3., Testing

3-1. The tank owner shall have each tank and its piping tested for tightness fifteen and twenty years after installation and annually thereafter. A tank shall be tested for any final or precision test, not involving air pressure, that can accurately detect a leak of 0.05 gal/hr, after adjustment for relevant variables, such as temperature change and tank end deflection, or by any other testing system approved by the Board of Health, as providing equivalent safety and effectiveness. Piping shall be tested hydrostatically to 150 percent of the maximum anticipated pressure of the system. Certification of the testing shall be submitted to the Board of Health by the owner, at the owner's expense. Those tanks subject to the testing requirements of this regulation shall submit the certification of testing to the Board. Tanks which are currently tested under the provisions of 527 CMR 9.13 are exempt from this section. For purposes of this section, tanks of unknown age are assumed to be twenty (20) years of age. All tanks and piping within water resource protection districts or zones of contribution of public water supply wells shall be subject to the above testing procedure ten (10) years after installation and annually thereafter. Certification of testing shall be submitted to the Board of Health by the owner, at the owner's expense.

3-2. Owners of tanks for which evidence of installation date is not available shall, at the order of the Board of Health, have such tanks tested or uncovered for inspection. If, in the opinion of the agent of the Board of Health or head of the Fire Department, the tank is not product tight, it shall be removed.

3-3. Owners of all commercial subsurface fuel storage facilities shall submit quarterly to the Board of Health a statement certifying that daily inventory records have been maintained and reconciled.

### Section 4., Maintenance of Fuel Storage System

4-1. All underground fuel lines which do not have secondary containment shall be replaced with an approved double-containment system at which time any service to the system requiring a permit is performed.

4-2. All above-ground elements of a fuel storage system shall be maintained free of leaks and visible rust.

4-3. All in-tank or interstitial-space monitoring systems shall be checked on a monthly basis to verify system integrity. Records of these checks shall be sent to the Board of Health on an annual basis.

### Section 5., Report of Leaks or Spills

5-1. Any person who is aware of a spill, loss of product, or unaccounted for increase in consumption which may indicate a leak shall report such spill, loss or increase immediately to the head of the Fire Department and to the Board of Health.

5-2. All leaking tanks must be emptied within 12 hours of leak detection, and removed in a time period to be determined by the Fire Chief and the Board of Health.

5-3. All tanks shall be removed or secured as per Fire Department specifications at the owner's expense within six months following discontinuation of use.

### Section 6., Tank Removal

6-1. All fuel, gasoline or other chemical tanks not regulated under 527 CMR 9.00 (farm or residential tanks of 1,100 gallons or less and underground tanks storing fuel for consumptive use at the property) in service on the effective date of this regulation, shall be removed twenty-one (21) years after the date of installation. If the date of installation is unknown, the tank shall be assumed to be twenty (20) years old. All underground storage tanks currently subject to the removal regulation (21 years or older) must be removed within 90 days of the date the publishing of this regulation.

6-2. Prior to the removal of an underground storage tank governed by this regulation, the owner of shall first obtain permit from the head of the Fire Department, pursuant to M.G.L., 148.

6-3. Any person granted a permit by the Marshall or the head of a local Fire Department to remove a tank under the provisions of M.G.L., C. 148 or 527 CMR 9.00, shall within 72 hours provide the permit granting authority with a receipt for delivery of said tank to the site designated on the permit.

6-4. Before any person is granted a permit by the Marshall or the head of a local Fire Department to remove a tank under the provisions of M.G.L., C. 148 or 527 CMR 9.00, and said tank is not being transported to an approved tank yard, the person requesting the permit shall provide the permit-granting authority with written approval from the owner/manager of the disposal site. (Reference: 502 CMR 3.00 for tank removal and disposal procedure).

### Section 7.0., Costs

7-1. In every case, the owner shall assume responsibility for costs incurred necessary to comply with this regulation.

### Section 8.0., Variances

8-1. Variances from this regulation may be granted by the Board of Health after a hearing at which the applicant establishes the following: (1) the enforcement thereof would do manifest injustice: and (2) installation or use of an underground storage tank will not adversely affect public or private water resources. In granting a variance, the Board will take into consideration the direction of the groundwater flow, soil conditions, depth to groundwater, size, shape and slope of the lot, and existing and known future water supplies.

### Section 9.0., Severability

9-1. Provisions of this regulation are severable and if any provision hereof shall be held invalid under any circumstances, such invalidity shall not affect any other provisions or circumstances.

\* A failure to comply with any element of this regulation will result in the levy of a fine

of \$50.00.

Each 24-hour period of non-compliance shall constitute a separate offense. (submitted by the Town Manager)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 3-2 Not Recommend FINANCE COMMITTEE: 5-0-1 Not Recommend VOTED: (two-thirds) to approve the article with the following amendments:

Delete - Section 3 – Testing Delete - Section 4 – Maintenance of Fuel Storage System Change –in Section 6 – Tank Removal -6.1 change removal regulation from 90 days to two (2) years. It was moved, seconded and unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting at 10:43 p.m.

Attest:

### Judy A. Ruschioni/Town Clerk

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 28<sup>th</sup> day of April 2014.

### **BOARD OF SELECTMEN:**

Robert M. O'Keefe, Chair Elizabeth R. Hunt, Vice Chair C. Jackson Blair Keith R. Barrows Fedor Berndt

### FINANCE COMMITTEE PUBLIC HEARING Tuesday, April 8, 2014 at 7:00 PM Town Hall, 109 Front Street

## **TOWN OF WINCHENDON** SPECIAL TOWN MEETING May 12, 2014

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 12, 2014** AT 7:15 P.M.

then and there to act on the following articles:

At 7:15 p.m. the Annual Town Meeting was recessed for the Special Town Meeting. It was voted (unanimously) to continue with the Annual Town meeting.

At 9:19 p.m it was moved and seconded and unanimously approved to open the Special Town Meeting.

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

### **ARTICLE 1**

**Committee Reports** 

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: 5-0 Recommend** 6-0 Recommend FINANCE COMMITTEE: **VOTED:** (unanimously) to pass over this article.

### **ARTICLE 2:**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$300,000.00, in addition to the amount appropriated under FY15 Net School Spending Article of the 2014 Annual Town Meeting, to supplement the operating budget for the school department for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2014, provided that this supplemental appropriation shall be contingent on the passage of a proposition 2 and  $\frac{1}{2}$  override vote. (submitted by the Selectboard, School Committee and Town Manager)

# BOARD OF SELECTMEN:3-2 RecommendFINANCE COMMITTEE:6-0 RecommendVOTED:(two-thirds) to approve the article as amended by removing the word NETbefore School Spending.

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 28<sup>th</sup> day of April 2014.

AT 9:30 P.M. It was moved, seconded and unanimously approved to adjourn the Special Town Meeting and continue with the Annual Town Meeting.

### **BOARD OF SELECTMEN:**

Robert M. O'Keefe, Chair Elizabeth R. Hunt, Vice Chair C. Jackson Blair Keith R. Barrows Fedor Berndt

> FINANCE COMMITTEE PUBLIC HEARING Tuesday, May 6, 2014 at 7:00 PM Town Hall, 109 Front Street

## TOWN OF WINCHENDON REPORT SPECIAL TOWN ELECTION: June 28, 2014

Met at Murdock Senior Center at: 8:30 A.M. Polls declared open at: 9:00 A.M. By: Warden John Morris Election officers sworn and assigned to their respective stations. Official Ballots:

Precinct 1A:	745
Precinct 1:	745
Precinct 2:	745
Precinct 3:	745

Cards of instruction and voting lists delivered to the presiding officer. The Specimen ballots and cards of instruction were placed on display in the hall and at the entrance.

Ballot boxes checked and set at zero. Keys to same turned over to the officer on duty.

Polls were declared closed at 1 p.m. at the close of polls the registers on the ballot boxes read:

Prec. 1 & 1A:	291	Absentee ballots:	P1-26 & P1A-15
Prec. 2	262	Absentee ballots:	38
Prec. 3	298	Absentee ballots:	43

The total voter turnout was 851.

After being counted, the result of the balloting was announced at: 1:20 P.M.

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

The election results were:

Shall the Town of Winchendon be allowed to assess an additional \$300,000 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purposes of supplementing the operating budget for the School Department for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2014?

**YES 459** NO 389 Shall the Town of Winchendon be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one half, so-called, the amounts required to pay for the bond issued in order to install an emergency generator at the Toytown Elementary school, including all costs incidental and related thereto?

**YES 481** NO 363

Shall the Town of Winchendon be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one half, so-called, the amounts required to pay for the bond issued in order to purchase a one -ton dump truck with plow and sander for the Cemetery Department, including all costs incidental and related thereto?

YES 390

### NO 453

Shall the Town of Winchendon be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one half, so-called, the amounts required to pay for the bond issued for costs associated with the accessibility upgrades to the Beals Memorial Library, including all costs incidental an related thereto?

YES	523
NO	321

ATTEST: Judy A. Ruschioni Town Clerk

## TOWN OF WINCHENDON SPECIAL TOWN MEETING August 4, 2014

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, AUGUST 4, 2014 AT 7:00 P.M.

Warden John Morris announced that a quorum was present. Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Moderator, Richard L. Morin Sr.

then and there to act on the following articles:

## **REPORTS AND COMMITTEES**

(majority vote required)

### **ARTICLE 1**

<u>Committee Reports</u> 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: Recommend 4-0 FINANCE COMMITTEE: Recommend 6-0 VOTED: Unanimously to pass over the article

### **ARTICLE 2**

To see if the Town will vote to discontinue Oak Way (so-called), to the extent that said Oak Way is or ever was a public Town way or a public footway, and to transfer the care, custody, and control of said discontinued Oak Way from the Board of Selectmen for public way/footway purposes to the Board of Selectmen for general municipal purposes and/or for the relocation of the Police Station and the purpose of conveyance, and, further, to authorize the Board of Selectmen to convey said discontinued Town way/footway or any interests thereon on such terms and conditions, and for such consideration, which may be nominal consideration, as the Board of Selectmen deems appropriate; or act in relation thereto. (submitted by the Town Manager)

### BOARD OF SELECTMEN: Recommend 4-0 FINANCE COMMITTEE: Recommend 6-0 VOTED: (unanimously) to approve the article as written

### **ARTICLE 3**

To see if the Town will vote to adopt the Sex Offender Residency Bylaw as included herein, or act in relation thereto. (Submitted by the Town Manager)

### SEX OFFENDER RESIDENCY BYLAW

### Section 1. Determinations and Intent.

A. It is the intent of this by-law to protect the Town's interest to promote and protect the public health, safety and welfare of the inhabitants of the Town of Winchendon by creating areas around locales where children and the elderly regularly congregate and wherein certain sex offenders are prohibited from establishing temporary or permanent residence.

B. It is determined that this by-law is the most narrowly crafted means of restricting to the fullest extent possible the opportunity for registered sex offenders to approach or interact with children and the elderly where they routinely and naturally congregate and that the protections of the health and safety of our children is a compelling public and governmental interest.

C. This by-law is intended to create a civil nonpunitive regulatory scheme in order to protect children and the elderly to the greatest extent possible under the circumstances of public welfare protections and not as a punitive measure of any kind.

D. Registered sex offenders pose a clear threat to children and the elderly as vulnerable groups residing in or visiting the Town. Because registered sex offenders are more likely than any other type of offender to re-offend for another sexual offense, the Town desires to impose safety precautions in furthering the public purpose of protecting these groups. The purpose of this by- law is to mitigate the potential risk of harm to children and the elderly of the Winchendon community by deterring the ability for registered sex offenders to be in contact with unsuspecting individuals in locations that are primarily utilized by such groups. The Town desires to add location restrictions on such offenders where state law is silent.

### Section 2. Definitions

1. "Park" means public land designated for active or passive recreational or athletic use by the Town of Winchendon, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts or other governmental subdivision, and located within the Town of Winchendon.

2. "School" means any public or private educational facility that provides services to children in grades kindergarten - 12.

3. "Day care center" means an establishment, whether public or private, which provides care for children and is registered with and licensed pursuant to the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts by the Office of Child Care Services.

4. "Elderly housing facility" means a building or buildings on the same lot containing four or more dwelling units restricted to occupancy by households having one or more members fifty- five years of age or older.

5. "Place of worship" means a structure used for religious worship or religious education purposes on land owned by, or held in trust for the use of, any religious organization.

6. "Sex offender" means a person who resides, works or attends an institution of higher learning in the commonwealth and who has been convicted of a sex offense or who has been adjudicated as a youthful offender or as a delinquent juvenile by reason of a sex offense or a person released from incarceration or parole or probation supervision or custody with the Department of Youth Services for such a conviction or adjudication or a person who has been adjudicated a sexually dangerous person under G.L. c. 123A, §14, as in force at the time of adjudication, or a person released from civil commitment pursuant to section 9 of said chapter

123A, whichever last occurs, on or after August 1, 1981.

7. "Sex offender registry" means the collected information and data that is received by the criminal history systems board pursuant to Sections 178C to 178P, inclusive, as such information and data is modified or amended by the sex offender registry board or a court of competent jurisdiction pursuant to said Sections 178C to 178P, inclusive.

8. "Permanent residence" means a place where a person lives, abides, lodges, or resides for five (5) or more consecutive days or fourteen (14) or more days in the aggregate during any calendar year.

9. "Temporary residence" means a place where a person lives, abides, lodges, or resides for a period of less than five (5) consecutive days or fourteen (14) days in the aggregate during any calendar year, which is not the person's permanent address or place where the person routinely lives, abides, lodges, or resides and which is not the person's permanent residence.

10. "Establishing a residence" means to set up or bring into being a dwelling place or an abode where a person sleeps, which may include more than one location, and may be mobile or transitory, or by means of purchasing real property or entering into a lease or rental agreement for real property (including a renewal or extension of a prior agreement whether through written execution or automatic renewal).

### Section 3. Sexual Offender Residence Prohibition; Penalties; Exceptions

a. It is unlawful for any sex offender who is finally classified as a level 2 or 3 offender pursuant to the guidelines of the Sex Offender Registry Board, to establish a permanent residence within two thousand (2,000) feet of any school, day care center, park, elderly housing facility or place of worship, if, after notice and a hearing before the Police Chief and/or his designee, the Police Chief and/or his designee determines that the sex offender poses a risk to the public and, therefore, residency should be limited in accordance with this section.

b. For purposes of determining the minimum distance separation, the requirement shall be measured by following a straight line from the outer property line of the permanent residence to the nearest outer property line of a school, day care center or park, elderly housing facility or place of worship.

c. Notice to move. Any registered level 2 or level 3 sex offender who establishes a permanent residence within two thousand (2,000) feet of any school, day care center, park, elderly housing facility or place of worship shall be in violation of this section and shall, within thirty (30) days of receipt of written notice of the sex offender's noncompliance with this chapter, move from said location to a new location, but said location may not be within two thousand (2,000) feet of any school, day care center, park, elderly housing facility or place of worship. It shall constitute a separate violation for each day beyond the thirty (30) days the sex offender continues to reside within two thousand (2,000) feet of any school, day care center, park, elderly housing facility or place of worship. Furthermore it shall be a separate violation each day that a sex offender shall move from one location in the Town of Winchendon to another that is within two thousand (2,000) feet of any school, day care center, park, elderly housing facility or place of worship.

d. Penalties. Violation of this bylaw, or of any regulations adopted hereunder, may be enforced through any lawful means in law or in equity by the Board of Selectmen, the Town Manager, or their duly authorized agents, or any police officer of the Town of Winchendon including, but not limited to, enforcement by non-criminal disposition pursuant to G.L. c. 40,

§21D. Each day a violation exists shall constitute a separate violation. The penalties shall be as follows:

i. First Offense: Notification to offender that he/she has thirty (30) days to move, if, after

notice and a hearing before the Police Chief and/or his designee, the Police Chief and/or his designee determines that the sex offender poses a risk to the public and, therefore, residency should be limited in accordance with this by-law.

ii. Subsequent Offense: This shall be apply to any offender served or supplied with a notification of a first offense and a hearing that has failed to comply with all requirements of the notification within the thirty (30) day period. Non-criminal fine pursuant to the Town of Winchendon's General By-laws and notification to the offender's landlord, parole officer and/or probation officer and the Commonwealth's Sex Offender Registry Board that the person has violated a municipal ordinance. Such a subsequent offence constitutes a breach of the peace for which the offender is also subject to immediate arrest.

e. Exceptions. A person residing within 2,000 feet of any school, day care center, park, playground, elderly housing facility or place of worship does not commit a violation of this section if any of the following apply:

i. The person established the permanent residence and reported and registered the residence prior to the effective date of this by-law.

ii. The person was a minor when he/she committed the offense and was not convicted as an adult.

iii. The person is a minor.

iv. The school, day care center, park, elderly housing facility or place of worship within 2,000 feet of the personal permanent residence was established after the person established the permanent residence and reported and registered the residence pursuant to the Sex Offender Registry Law.

v. The person is required to serve a sentence at a jail, prison, juvenile facility, or other correctional institution or facility.

vi. The person is admitted to and/or subject to an order of commitment at a public or private facility for the care and treatment of mentally ill persons pursuant to G.L. c. 123.

vii. The person is a mentally ill person subject to guardianship pursuant to G.L. c. 201, §6 or a mentally retarded person subject to guardianship pursuant to G.L. c. 201, §6A, residing with his or her guardian or residing within a group residence that is professionally staffed and supervised

24 hours a day.

# BOARD OF SELECTMEN:Recommend 4-0 as amendedFINANCE COMMITTEE:Recommend 5-1

*VOTED:* (2/3rds) to approve the article with the following amendments:

Section 3. Sexual Offender Residence Prohibition; Penalties; Exceptions

- a. Delete the following language: "if, after notice and a hearing before the Police Chief and/or his designee, the Police Chief and/or his designee determines that the sex offender poses a risk to the public and, therefore, residency should be limited in accordance with this section".
- b. Penalties

*i.* Delete the following language: "if, after notice and a hearing before the Police Chief and/or his designee, the Police Chief and/or his designee determines that the sex offender poses a risk to the public and, therefore, residency should be limited in accordance with this by-law.

*Replace all buffer areas that read two thousand feet (2,000) to read one thousand feet (1,000)* 

### **ARTICLE 4**

To see if the Town will vote to adopt the citizen's petition resolution as included herein, or act in relation thereto. (submitted by Citizen Petition)

### WINCHENDON: BAN THE PROPOSED GAS PIPELINE THAT THREATENS OUR TOWN, OUR PROPERTY VALUES, OUR PRISTINE ENVIRONMENT, AND WE WILL PAY TO HAVE IT BUILT.

Our children and future generations will thank us for taking action now to protect our land, air and water.

We, the undersigned registered voters of Winchendon, call for a Special Town Meeting to pass a Resolution to Ban the Tennessee Gas Pipeline from coming through our town, or to instruct our Board of Selectmen to act accordingly:

1: More than fifteen communities along the proposed route have put such resolutions into effect. Other resolutions are in process. We need to show a unified front for something that affects the Commonwealth at large.

2: The proposed 30"- 42" high-pressure pipeline brings the threat of leaks, ruptures and explosions causing damage to property and lives. T GP has ways to skirt this issue and cannot be held liable for damage to property or lives.

3: Winchendon is responsible financially for the upgrade in emergency responder equipment and training.

4: The New England Council of Governors has proposed a tariff on all New England electric rate payers to finance construction of the pipeline; if approved, TGP/Kinder-Morgan will make no investment but reap all the profit.

5: This pipeline will go through Dennison State Park, as well as bisecting family farms, new and established residence and housing developments, and disturbing wooded areas, wetlands and wildlife habitat.

6: Winchendon residents will experience no benefit from this pipeline and in fact will almost certainly suffer financial risk and risk to health and well-being from poorly maintained, leaking gas pipes.

The pipeline affects ALL of us, not just the people living along the proposed route. This hits us directly in our pocketbooks and in our way of life. Sign the petition and come to the Special Town Meeting to pass this Resolution!

### **BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 4-0**

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Not Recommend 6-0 –\*FC amended at the Special Town Meeting,

to recommend this article with the motion..

Voted: (unanimously) the following motion:

To adopt the following Resolution Opposing the Northeast Expansion of the Tennessee Gas Pipeline in Massachusetts

WHEREAS, the so-called Northeast Expansion of the Tennessee Gas Pipeline is a high-pressure natural gas pipeline (hereafter "the Pipeline") proposed by Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, a subsidiary of Kinder Morgan, Inc. that would run through many communities in Central Massachusetts; and WHEREAS, the Town of Winchendon has a regional interest in protecting the environment in Massachusetts and in the United States, and the public health generally; and

WHEREAS, the pipeline would transport natural gas obtained through hydraulic fracturing, a drilling method well known for its potential for ground water contamination, impact on air quality, and the harmful health effects of its chemical byproducts, among others; and

WHEREAS, pipelines of this kind carry inherent risks such as leaks and ruptures, and, as conveyors of flammable gas, can cause accidents such as the 2010 explosion in a residential neighborhood in San Bruno, California that resulted in the death of 8 people and the destruction of 38 homes; and

WHEREAS, the pipeline may pass through environmentally sensitive areas in our region such as forests and wetlands, as well as across Dennison State Park, Winchendon Forest; and

WHEREAS, Winchendon residents will experience no benefit from the pipeline; and

WHEREAS, taxpayer money would pay for evacuations and emergency response in the event of explosions, fires or other accidents; and

WHEREAS, our energy challenges are better addressed through investments in green and renewable energy solutions.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Selectmen, Winchendon Massachusetts

- 1. Stands in opposition to the Northeast Expansion of the Tennessee Gas Pipeline and all similar projects that may be later proposed.
- 2. Stands in solidarity with nearby communities working to disallow the Pipeline within their borders.
- 3. Affirms the need for public policy at the local, state and federal levels to encourage renewable energy and combat climate change, and supports legislation to ban or impose a long-term moratorium on hydraulic fracturing as well as storage, treatment or disposal of hydraulic fracturing fluid or byproducts within the Commonwealth.
- 4. Shall cause a copy of this resolution to be presented to the area legislative representatives and the Governor, asking them to take action to prevent the construction of the Pipeline within the borders of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.
- 5. Recognizes the expressed will of the assembly as demonstrated in numbers 1 through 4 directly above, but notwithstanding said expression, shall in its capacity as the chief elected executive board of the community, act at all times as it deems most protective of and in the best interest of the community."

It was moved, seconded and unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:59 p.m.

ATTEST: Judy A . LaJoie Winchendon Town Clerk

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

Hereof, fail not and make due return of said warrant with your doings thereon at the time and place of the meeting aforesaid. Given under our hands and seal this 21<sup>st</sup> day of July 2014.

### **BOARD OF SELECTMEN:**

C. Jackson Blair, Chairman Elizabeth R. Hunt, Vice Chairwoman Robert M. O'Keefe, Selectman Keith R. Barrows, Selectman Fedor Berndt, Selectman

### FINANCE COMMITTEE PUBLIC HEARING WEDNESDAY, JULY 23, 2014 AT 7:00 PM SECOND FLOOR AUDITORIUM TOWN HALL

## RECORD OF THE STATE PRIMARY ELECTION TOWN OF WINCHENDON September 9, 2014

Met at The Murdock Senior Center at 6:30 a.m. Polls declared open at 7 a.m. by John Morris, Warden.

Election officers were sworn in and assigned to their respective stations.

Official ballots; P1 - 600, P1A -600, P2 - 600, P3 -600 distributed to all four Precincts. Cards of instruction and voting lists delivered to the presiding officer. Specimen ballots and cards of instruction were posted in the hall and at the entrance.

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

Polls were declared closed at 8 p.m. At the close of polls, the registers on the ballot boxes read in Precinct 1;123 in Precinct 1A; 49, in Precinct 2; 168 and in Precinct 3; 209. These totals include absentee ballots, Precinct 1 - 1, Precinct 1A - 5, Precinct 2 - 4, Precinct 3 - 17. The total voter's for the Primary was 549.

After being counted, the result of the balloting was announced at 10:15 p.m. Ballots cast and not cast and check lists sealed in proper containers and delivered to the Town Clerk.

		Р-			
DEMOCRATIC-TOTALS	P-1	1A	P-2	<b>P-3</b>	TOTAL
SENATOR IN					
CONGRESS					
BLANK	19	10	11	18	58
EDWARD MARKEY	45	23	94	86	248
WRITE IN	3	0	0	2	5
	67	33	105	106	311
GOVERNOR					
BLANK	0	0	0	0	0
DONALD BERWICK	7	5	7	26	45
MARTHA COAKLEY	34	15	58	47	154
STEVEN GROSSMAN	25	13	40	32	110
WRITE IN	1	0	0	1	2
	67	33	105	106	311

The results were:

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR					
BLANK	6	3	14	10	33
LELAND CHEUNG	12	2	16	16	46
STEPHEN KERRIGAN	44	26	62	73	205
MICHAEL LAKE	5	2	13	5	25
WRITE IN	0	0	0	2	25
	67	33	105	106	311
	07	55	105	100	511
ATTY GENERAL					
BLANK	0	1	3	5	9
MAURA HEALEY	49	17	68	66	200
WARREN TOLMAN	18	15	34	34	101
WRITE IN	0	0	0	1	1
	67	33	105	106	311
SECRETARY OF STATE					
BLANK	15	7	15	16	53
WILLIAM GALVIN	51	26	90	87	254
WRITE IN	1	0	0	3	4
	67	33	105	106	311
TREASURER					
BLANK	2	0	16	6	24
THOMAS CONROY	19	9	17	15	60
BARRY FINEGOLD	27	14	43	37	121
DEBORAH GOLDBERG	19	10	29	47	105
WRITE IN	0	0	0	1	1
	67	33	105	106	311
AUDITOR					
BLANK	21	9	19	22	71
SUZANNE BUMP	44	24	86	82	236
WRITE IN	2	0	0	2	4
	67	33	105	106	311
<b>REP IN CONGRESS-3RD</b>					
BLANK		7	11	17	35
NICOLA TSONGAS		26	94	87	207

WRITE IN		33	105	106	2
		66	210	210	244
<b>REP IN CONGRESS-2ND</b>					
BLANK	15				
JAMES MCGOVERN	50				
WRITE IN	2				67
	67				311
COUNCILLOR					
BLANK	58	33	83	88	262
WRITE IN	9	0	22	18	49
	67	33	105	106	311
SENATOR GENERAL COURT					
BLANK	17	7	15	22	62
	17 49		13 90	23	62 244
ANN GOBI	-	25		80	
WRITE IN	1	1	0	3	5
<b>REP IN GENERAL</b>	67	33	105	106	311
COURT					
BLANK	17	7	15	23	62
JONATHAN ZLOTNIK	49	25	90	80	244
WRITE IN	1	1	0	3	5
	67	33	105	106	311
DISTRICT ATTORNEY					
BLANK	15	6	17	21	59
JOSEPH EARLY JR.	51	27	88	83	249
WRITE IN	1	0	0	2	3
	67	33	105	106	311
REGISTER OF					
PROBATE	•	-			
BLANK	20	7	22	23	72
STEPHEN ABRAHAM	46	26	83	82	237
WRITE IN	1	0	0	1	2
	67	33	105	106	311

		P-			
<b>REPUBLICAN-TOTALS</b>	P-1	1A	<b>P-2</b>	P-3	TOTAL
SENATOR IN					
CONGRESS					
BLANK	7	3	14	21	45
BRIAN J. HERR	48	13	49	82	192
WRITE IN	1	0	0	0	1
	56	16	63	103	238
GOVERNOR					
BLANK	3	1	2	4	10
CHARLES BAKER	37	13	39	77	166
MARK FISHER	16	2	22	22	62
	56	16	63	103	238
LIEUTENANT					
GOVERNOR					
BLANK	10	4	15	16	45
KARYN POLITO	46	12	48	87	193
	56	16	63	103	238
ATTY GENERAL					
BLANK	12	4	18	22	56
JOHN B. MILLER	44	12	45	81	182
	56	16	63	103	238
SECRETARY OF STATE					
BLANK	11	4	17	22	54
DAVID DARCANGELO	45	12	46	81	184
	56	16	63	103	238
TREASURER					
BLANK	11	4	17	24	56
MICHAEL HEFFERNAN	45	12	46	78	181
WRITE IN	0	0	0	1	1
	56	16	63	103	238
AUDITOR					
BLANK	12	4	22	25	63
PATRICIA ST. AUBIN	44	12	41	78	175
	56	16	63	103	238
REP IN CONGRESS-3RD		_			
BLANK		5	20	25	50
ROSEANN WOFFORD		11	43	78	132
		16	63	103	
<b>REP IN CONGRESS-2ND</b>					

BLANK

WRITE IN	7				56
	56			-	238
COUNCILLOR					
BLANK	11	5	22	24	62
JENNIE CAISSIE	45	11	41	79	176
	56	16	63	103	238
SENATOR IN					
GEN/COURT					
BLANK	3	1	4	7	15
JAMES EHRHARD	25	6	29	48	108
MICHAEL VALANZOLA	28	9	30	48	115
	56	16	63	103	238
<b>REP/GENERAL COURT 2</b>	ND				
BLANK	4	2	13	11	30
GARRET SHETRAWSKI	52	14	50	92	208
	56	16	63	103	238
DISTRICT ATTORNEY					
BLANK	48	15	54	88	205
WRITE IN	8	1	9	15	33
	56	16	63	103	238
<b>REGISTER OF</b>					
PROBATE					
BLANK	12	3	21	24	60
STEPHANIE FATTMAN	44	13	42	79	178
	56	16	63	103	238

### ATTEST:

*Judy A. LaJoie* Winchendon Town Clerk

## **RECORD FOR THE TOWN OF WINCHENDON ELECTION:** November 4, 2014

Met at Murdock Senior Center at: 6:30 a.m.

Polls declared open at: 7:00 a.m.

By: Warden John Morris

Election officers sworn and assigned to their respective stations.

Office Ballots:

Precinct 1A: 600 Precinct 1: 600 Precinct 2: 600 Precinct 3: 600

Cards of instruction and voting lists delivered to the presiding officer. Specimen ballots and cards of instruction in the hall and at the entrance.

Ballot boxes checked and set at zero. Keys to same turned over to Officer.

Polls were declared closed at 8 p.m. at the close of pools the registers on the ballot boxes read:

Prec. 1 & 1A: 882	Absentee ballots: 31
Prec. 2: 946	Absentee ballots: 32
Prec. 3: 953	Absentee ballots: 47

Total Voters, 2,781

After being counted, the result of the balloting was announced at:10:00 P.M.

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

The results of the balloting was as follows:

	P-1	P-1A	P-2	P-3	TOT AL
SENATOR IN CONGRESS					
BLANK	25	10	36	29	100
EDWARD J. MARKEY	317	115	416	447	1295
BRIAN J. HERR	325	88	492	475	1380
WRITE IN	2		2	2	6
	669	213	946	953	2781
	60				

GOVERNOR/LT. GOVERNOR					
BLANK	11	2	10	9	32
BAKER & POLITO	387	116	551	564	1618
COAKLEY & KERRIGAN	222	87	314	316	939
FALCHUK & JENNINGS	27	6	44	36	113
LIVELY & SAUNDERS	9	1	14	18	42
MCCORMICK & POST	12	1	8	9	30
WRITE IN	1	0	5	1	7
	669	213	946	953	2781
ATTY GENERAL					
BLANK	19	10	43	42	114
MAURA HEALEY	304	113	414	428	1259
JOHN B MILLER	344	89	487	482	1402
WRITE IN	2	1	2	1	6
	669	213	946	953	2781
SEC OF STATE					
BLANK	23	9	44	35	111
WILLIAM GALVIN	340	131	493	514	1478
DAVID DARCANGELO	276	66	365	355	1062
DANIEL FACTOR	28	6	42	49	125
WRITE IN	2	1	2	0	5
	669	213	946	953	2781
TREASURER					
BLANK	31	13	51	42	137
DEBORAH GOLDBERG	272	100	369	385	1126
MICHAEL HEFFERNAN	336	87	473	482	1378
IAN JACKSON	29	12	51	44	136
WRITE IN	1	1	2	0	4
	669	213	946	953	2781
AUDITOR	40	14	(2	<b>5</b> 0	175
BLANK	40	14	63	58	175

SUZANNE BUMP	286	104	371	396	1157		
PATRICIA ST. AUBIN	317	85	463	447	1312		
MK MERELICE	26	10	47	52	135		
WRITE IN	0	0	2	0	2		
	669	213	946	953	2781		
REP IN CONGRESS-P1A-2-3							
BLANK		11	42	35	88		
NICOLA TSONGAS	-	128	484	501	1113		
ROSEANN WOFFORD		74	418	416	908		
WRITE IN		0	2	1	3		
						213	946
REP IN CONGRESS-P1							
BLANK	204				204		
JAMES MCGOVERN	447				447		
WRITE IN	18				18		
	669				669		
COUNCILLOR							
BLANK	169	59	227	222	677		
JENNIE CAISSIE	490	151	705	724	2070		
WRITE IN	10	3	14	7	34		
	669	213	946	953	2781		
SENATOR GENERAL COURT							
BLANK	41	12	46	41	140		
ANN GOBI	297	101	419	427	1244		
MICHAEL VALANZOLA							
	329	100	479	483	1391		
WRITE IN		100		483 2	<b>1391</b> 6		
WRITE IN	329	100 213	479				
	329 2		479 2	2	6		
WRITE IN <b>REP IN GENERAL COURT</b> BLANK	329 2		479 2	2	6		
REP IN GENERAL COURT	329 2 669	213	479 2 946	2 953	<u>6</u> 2781		

6 953

WRITE IN	2	1	2	1	<u>6</u>
	669	213	946	953	2781
DISTRICT ATTORNEY					
BLANK	193	43	256	262	754
JOSEPH EARLY JR.	463	168	683	675	1989
WRITE IN	<u>13</u>	2	7	<u>16</u>	<u>38</u>
	669	213	946	953	2781
<b>REG OF PROBATE</b>					
BLANK	48	15	57	64	184
STEPHEN ABRAHAM	273	94	352	379	1098
STEPANIE FATTMAN	347	103	535	509	1494
WRITE IN	<u>1</u>	1	2	1	5
	669	213	946	953	2781
<b>QUESTION 1-GAS TAX</b>					
BLANK	26	11	25	21	83
YES	353	111	526	472	1462
NO	<u>290</u>	91	<u>395</u>	460	1236
	669	213	946	953	2781
<b>QUESTION 2-BEV. CONTAI</b>	NER				
BLANK	13	6	12	17	48
YES	95	25	129	137	386
NO	<u>561</u>	182	805	799	<u>2347</u>
	669	213	946	953	2781
<b>QUESTION 3-CASINO</b>					
BLANK	19	6	17	24	66
YES	172	50	233	211	666
NO	<u>478</u>	157	<u>696</u>	718	<u>2049</u>
	669	213	946	953	2781
<b>QUESTION 4-SICK TIME</b>					
BLANK	19	5	21	26	71
YES	351	119	485	465	1420
NO	299	89	440	462	1290
*	669	213	946	953	2781
Attest					

Attest:

Judy A. LaJoie, Winchendon Town Clerk

## TOWN OF WINCHENDON SPECIAL TOWN MEETING November 24, 2014

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 24, 2014**

AT 7:00 P.M.

then and there to act on the following articles:

Met at Murdock Middle/High School at 7 p.m. Meeting was called to order by Moderator Richard L. Morin Sr. with a quorum present. John Giorgio was present representing Town Counsel Kopelman and Paige.

## **REPORTS AND COMMITTEES**

(majority vote required)

### **ARTICLE 1**

**Committee Reports** 

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

- Finance Committee
- Winchendon Enhancement Committee

## BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 4-0 Recommend FINANCE COMMITTEE: 5-0 Recommend

*VOTED:* (unanimously) to hear the reports of the Finance Committee and Winchendon Enhancement Committee. It was moved, seconded to take Article 16 & 17 out of order.

### **ARTICLE 16**

To see if the Town will vote to advise the board of selectmen to take affirmative action terminating or otherwise removing the current Town Manager from his position, including but not limited to seeking and accepting the Town Manager's resignation or voting to terminate him, or act in relation thereto. (submitted by citizen petition)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN:4-0 Not RecommendFINANCE COMMITTEE:5-0 Not Recommend

Board of Selectmen Keith Barrows read appoint of order that articles 16 & 17 are out of order and may not come before the assembly. (statement attached)

Since this was a citizen's petition, Moderator Richard Morin allowed the Article to be voted on but no discussion would be allowed. It was moved, seconded to vote on Article 16 by secret ballot.

VOTED: APPROVED (YES-294 Votes, NO-139 votes)

### ARTICLE 17

To see if the town will vote to approve a non-binding Resolution as follows:

Whereas, the town's independent auditors identified a multi-million dollar deficit in fiscal 2013; and

Whereas, the Town Manager failed or refused to share that information with the selectmen immediately upon his receipt of same; and

Whereas, when the auditor's finding became public, the Town Manager stated that the deficit was approximately 2.3 million dollars; and

Whereas, following its review of the town's finances the Massachusetts department of Revenue (DOR) has stated that the deficit is likely 5.7 million dollars; and

Whereas, the deficit appears to be attributable in large part to the health insurance trust fund being underfunded; and

Whereas, the auditors have publicly stated that the insurance trust fund deficit was caused by various failures including poor communication, inaccurate accounting, inaccurate reports, and a significant problem with the town's financial software system (MUNIS) resulting in permanently damaged records; and

Whereas, the DOR notified the town on October 10, 2014 that it had no funds to meet its half million dollar payroll, nor the ability to make 1.4 million dollars in vendor payments at that time; and

Whereas, the DOR is requiring the town's officials to prepare and submit a plan to the DOR to address the deficit which is equal to approximately one third of the town's operating budget; and

Whereas, under the town's Charter, the Town Manager is the "chief administrative officer' of the town; and

Whereas, the duties of the Town Manager include keeping the Board of selectmen fully informed as to the financial condition and needs of the town, and assuring that full and complete records of the financial and administrative activities' of the town are kept;

Now therefore, be it Resolved that:

The voters express their lack of confidence in the Town Manager and call upon him to resign; and

The voters seek affirmative action by the Board of Selectmen to achieve the Town Manager's resignation, or otherwise terminate him from his position forthwith; (submitted by citizen petition)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 4-0 Not Recommend FINANCE COMMITTEE: 5-0 Not Recommend VOTED: (2/3rds) to table this article for the Results of Article 16.

*VOTED:* Due to the results of Article 16, it was moved, seconded and APPROVED (2/3rds) to postpone this article indefinitely.

### **ARTICLE 2**

To see if the Town will vote to change the format of the previously voted and currently existing FY15 general government budget approved under Article 8 of the May 12, 2014 Annual Town Meeting as follows: from a bottom-line budget, to a department level budget with separate lines for the total of each department's salaries and expenses and the informational amounts included in said Article 8 serving as the total budget amounts for each department; and provided further that any action taken hereunder shall be expressly limited to the form of said budget only, with the departmental appropriations and the total appropriations to remain unchanged from such amount appropriated under said Article 8; or act in relation thereto.

### BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 4-0 Recommend FINANCE COMMITTEE: 5-0 Recommend

VOTED: (2/3rds) to APPROVE the article as written and shown on the handout titled "Article 2" with the departmental appropriations and the total appropriations to remain unchanged from such amount appropriated under said Article 8 of the May 12, 2014 Annual Town Meeting.

### **ARTICLE 3**

To see if the town will vote to make the following FY15 General Government budget cuts, or act in relation thereto.

11222	571000	SELECTMEN TRAVEL	\$	2,000.00
11232	571000	TOWN MANAGER IN STATE TRAVEL	\$	1,000.00
11452	571000	COLL-TREASURER IN STATE TRAVEL	\$	300.00
11512	530040	LEGAL	\$	5,000.00
11592	534032	COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE	\$	3,500.00
11712	571000	CONSERVATION IN STATE TRAVEL	\$	100.00
11922	527000	TH COPIER	\$	1,000.00
11821	511020	COMM DEVELOPMENT P/T CLERK	\$	7,489.00
11821	511020	PRINCIPAL PLANNER	\$	2,250.00
11821	511660	WRA STIPEND	\$	3,325.00
12101	511022	POLICE PATROLMEN	\$ 2	23,923.00
12101	513000	POLICE OVERTIME	\$ 2	0,000.00
12201	513000	FIRE OVERTIME	\$ 2	4,500.00

12201	519040	FIRE UNIFORMS / CLOTHING ALLOW	\$ 1,500.00
12202	523000	FIRE WATER CHARGES	\$ 250.00
12202	523500	FIRE SEWER CHARGES	\$ 250.00
12202	534012	FIRE CELL PHONES	\$ 1,200.00
12202	550000	FIRE NEW RECRUITS	\$ 1,000.00
12202	558020	FIRE WATER SUPPLIES	\$ 250.00
14211	511036	DPW HIGHWAY OPERATORS	\$ 62,963.00
14911	511035	DPW CEMETERY SUMMER HELP	\$ 3,700.00
14212	553000	HIGHWAY MATERIALS & SUPPLIES	\$ 8,000.00
16101	511010	BML LIBRARIAN	\$ 1,500.00

\$175,000.00

### BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 4-0 Recommend

FINANCE COMMITTEE: 4-1 Recommend

VOTED: (2/3rds) to APPROVE the article as printed with the exception of the proposed reduction in line 14911 511035-Cemetery Summer Help, and reduce accordingly the amounts raised and appropriated for the FY15 General Government Budget for a total reduction of \$171,300.00

### **ARTICLE 4**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court for special legislation to address the Town's fiscal condition, including, but not limited to, authorization for the Town to borrow a sum or sums of money for periods of not more than 10 years for the purpose of maintaining and operating the Town while it adjusts its level of expenses and revenues so as to achieve balanced budgets and fiscal stability and to fully fund such other special funds or outstanding obligations of the Town as may be required, including covering FY14 deficits and structural underfunding of certain accounts to allow for a balanced budget in FY15 and FY16, and establishment of a special fund or funds into which the proceeds of such borrowing are to be deposited, all as deemed necessary and appropriate by the Board of Selectmen after consultation with the Director of Accounts at the Massachusetts Department of Revenue Division of Local Services, with the expenditure of the proceeds of any such borrowing to be in accordance with procedural safeguards established by such legislation, and with enhanced regular reporting to the Department of Revenue while the so-called "deficit bonds" are outstanding; and further, to authorize the General Court to make clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the Board of Selectmen approve amendments to bill before enactment by the General Court; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to approve amendments which shall be within the scope of the general public objectives of this petition; and further, to appropriate such sum or sums of money as may be needed for these purposes, and authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow said sum and issue bonds and notes therefor in accordance with G.L. c.44 or any other enabling authority; provided, however, that any appropriation made hereunder shall be expressly contingent upon enactment of the special legislation requested hereunder; or act in relation thereto.

## BOARD OF SELECTMEN:4-0 RecommendFINANCE COMMITTEE:5-0 Recommend

VOTED: (2/3rds) to APPROVE as set forth in the warrant, provided that said special legislation authorized hereunder shall include authorization for the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow a sum of \$6,000,000 and issue bonds and notes therefor, under such terms and conditions, and subject to such procedural safeguards as the Department of Revenue, through the Director of Accounts or otherwise, shall determine is appropriate.

### **ARTICLE 5**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum or sums of money for increases to appropriations for certain FY15 operating accounts identified by the Department of Revenue to be in deficit; provided, however, that the appropriation made hereunder shall be expressly contingent upon approval by the Town at an election of a Proposition 2  $\frac{1}{2}$ , so-called, override for the operating budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2014; or act in relation thereto.

### **BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 4-0 No Recommendation FINANCE COMMITTEE: 4-1 Not Recommended** *VOTED: (2/3rds) to DISAPPROVE this article.*

### **ARTICLE 6**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to file special legislation to repeal Chapter 300 of the Acts of 1995, *Infrastructure Investment Fund in the Town of Winchendon* and to provide that any residual balance remaining in the fund shall be available for all lawful municipal purposes, or act in relation thereto.

### **BOARD OF SELECTMEN:** 4-0 Recommend FINANCE COMMITTEE: 5-0 Recommend *VOTED: (2/3rds) to DISAPPROVE the article.*

### **ARTICLE 7**

To see if the Town will vote to adopt Chapter 64L, section 2a of the Massachusetts General Laws relating to the adoption of the Massachusetts Meals Tax, or act in relation thereto.

### BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 4-0 Recommend FINANCE COMMITTEE: 5-0 Recommend VOTED: (2/3rds) to APPROVE the Article as printed.

### ARTICLE 8

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow, transfer from available funds, or otherwise provide the sum of an amount not to exceed Fifty Thousand Dollars and zero cents (\$50,000) for the purpose of an investigative/forensic audit to be conducted by the Office of the State Auditor, which shall include but not be limited to an audit of the Health Insurance Trust Fund, Special Revenue and Trust funds, and the financial accounting system operation, or act in relation thereto. (submitted by the Winchendon School Committee.)

# BOARD OF SELECTMEN:4-0 Not RecommendFINANCE COMMITTEE:5-0 Not RecommendVOTED:(2/3rds) APPROVE to indefinitely postpone the article.

#### **ARTICLE 9**

To see if the Town will vote to amend Article \_\_\_\_\_ of the Town Meeting of \_\_\_\_\_\_ by which the town voted to accept M.G.L. Ch. 40, Section 8C regarding the establishment of a Conservation Commission, by changing the words "seven members" to "five members" and by adding the following new language: "The Conservation Commission shall be reduced from seven members to five members by attrition through the expiration of members' terms or resignation of members.", or act in relation thereto. (submitted by the Conservation Commission)

#### **BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 4-0 Recommend FINANCE COMMITTEE: 5-0 Recommend**

VOTED: (Unanimously) To APPROVE to amend the vote taken in the Annual Town Meeting in 1958 by which the Town voted to Accept. G.L. c.40, §8C and create a seven member Conservation Commission, to reduce the size of the Conservation Commission from seven members to five members, and further, to provide that such reduction in the size of the Commission shall be accomplished by attrition, through the expiration of term, or sooner resignation, of two members of said Commission.

#### **ARTICLE 10**

To see if the Town will vote to exempt itself from the provision of the Town Zoning Bylaw 9.5 SIGNS PROHIBITED IN ALL ZONES, section 4, "Blinking, flashing, intermittent lighted, moving, animated or rotating signs including electronic message center signs." for public safety and informational purposes, or act in relation thereto. (submitted by Public Works Director John Deline)

#### BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 4-0 Recommend FINANCE COMMITTEE: 5-0 Recommend VOTED: (Unanimously) to PASSOVER the article.

#### **ARTICLE 11**

To see if the town will amend the zoning bylaw by changing the title of **Article 12** from **Site Plan Review** to **Site Plan Review and Special Permits** and to add a new section to **Article 12** to include;

#### 12.10 SPECIAL PERMITS

**12.10.1 Granting Authority**. Special permits may be granted by the Planning Board or by the Board of Zoning Appeal as specified elsewhere in this Bylaw. Each of said boards shall be considered a "permit granting authority"

**12.10.2 Criteria.** Special permits will normally be granted where specific provisions of this Bylaw are met, except when particulars of the location or use, not generally true of the district or of the uses permitted in it, would cause granting of such permit to be to the detriment of the public interest because:

A. It appears that requirements of the Bylaws cannot or will not be met, or

- B. Traffic generated or patterns of access or egress would cause congestion, hazard, or substantial change in established neighborhood character, or
- C. The continued operation of or the development of adjacent uses as permitted in the Zoning Bylaw would be adversely affected by the nature of the proposed use, or
- D. Nuisance or hazard would be created to the detriment of the health, safety and/or welfare of the occupant of the proposed use or the citizens of the Town, or
- E. For other reasons, the proposed use would impair the integrity of the district or adjoining district, or otherwise derogate from the intent and purpose of this Bylaw.

**12.10.3 Conditions.** In acting upon special permits the special permit granting authority shall take into account the general purpose and intent of this Bylaw and, in order to preserve community values, may impose conditions and safeguards deemed necessary to protect the surrounding neighborhood, in addition to the applicable requirements of this Bylaw, such as, but not limited to the following:

- A. Front, side or rear yards greater than the minimum required by this Bylaw.
- B. Screening of parking areas or other parts of the premises from adjoining premises or from
  - the street by specified walls, fences, planting, or other devices.
- C. Modification of the exterior features or appearance of the structure.
- D. Limitations of size, number of occupants, method or time or operation, or extent of facilities.
- E. Requirement of off street parking or other special features beyond the minimum

required by this or other applicable codes or regulations.

- F. Control of the number, location, size and lighting of signs.
- G. Requirement of number, design, and location of access drives or other traffic features.

**12.10.4** Any development application requiring a special permit from the Planning Board that contains elements requiring a special permit from the Board of Zoning Appeal may be allowed by the Planning Board within the scope of the Planning Board special permit and shall not re- quire a separate application to the Board of Zoning Appeal.

Or act in relation thereto. (submitted by the Planning Board)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN:4-0 RecommendFINANCE COMMITTEE:5-0 Recommend

*VOTED:* (2/3rds) to APPROVE as printed in the warrant, provided that the first paragraph of Section 12.10.2 shall provide as follows:

Special permits may, in the discretion of the permit granting authority, be granted where specific provisions of this Bylaw are met, except when particulars of the location

or use would cause granting of such permit to be to the detriment of the public interest because:

#### **ARTICLE 12**

To see if the town will amend the zoning bylaw by adding the following definitions to Article 2 to include;

OPEN-AIR SALVAGE YARD - Open-air storage of materials, merchandise, products or equipment needed in connection with an individual or entity engaged in the business of acquiring or owning salvage automobiles for resale in their entirety or as spare parts.

MOTOR VEHICLE AND EQUIPMENT SALES - Salesroom and related facilities, including

but not limited to open-air display, for the sale or lease of automobiles, motorcycles, recreational

vehicles and similar vehicles, boats, or light industrial or farm equipment.

CONTRACTOR'S YARD - A facility used for the provision of general contracting services associated with business which may include office and workshop areas and areas for the storage of equipment, including but not limited to motorized vehicles, machinery, and/or materials used in association with the contractor's business.

GVW - The gross vehicle weight rating established by a manufacturer when applied to a motor vehicle, trailer, semi-trailer or semi-trailer unit, including the gross combination weight rating, if any, when applied to a semi-trailer unit or to a tractor-trailer combination.

#### LICENSES GRANTED UNDER MA GEN LAW CHAPTER 140 SEC 59 & 59A -

Class 1 – Refer to MGL Chapter 140 Section 58

Class 2 – Refer to MGL Chapter 140 Section 58

Class 3 - Refer to MGL Chapter 140 Section 58

FABRICATION - Manufacturing Process in which an item is made (fabricated) from raw or semi-finished materials instead of being assembled from ready-made component parts. Product may be part of or a finished item.

HYDROPOWER - Power derived from the force of energy of moving water

SIGN, INTERMITTENT LIGHTED - Light alternately ceasing and beginning again sequentially or alternately at predetermined intervals.

SIGN, BLINKING – To light intermittently.

SIGN, FLASHING - Rhythmic light and darkness at predetermined intervals.

Or act in relation thereto. (submitted by the Planning Board)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN:4-0 RecommendFINANCE COMMITTEE:5-0 Recommend

#### *VOTED:* (2/3rds) to APPROVE the article as printed.

#### **ARTICLE 13**

To see if the town will amend its zoning bylaw by deleting the dimensional requirement in Article 6 Section.2.3 and adding "**does not create any new nonconformity**";

A. Any lawful pre-existing nonconforming structures or buildings or uses may be reconstructed, extended or altered provided that such alteration or extension **does not create any new nonconformity** and further provided that no such reconstruction, extension or alteration shall be permitted unless the Zoning Board of Appeals determines, by special permit, that such reconstruction, extension or alteration shall not be substantially more detrimental than the existing nonconforming use or structure to the neighborhood. No special permit is needed if the reconstruction, extension or alteration is to be a nonconforming single or two-family dwelling and said reconstruction, extension or alteration or alteration does not increase the nonconforming nature of the dwelling. In addition, no such building shall be added to, enlarged, or reconstructed to an extent greater than fifty percent (50%) of its area at the time of the adoption of this Bylaw or such amendment or except as provided for in Section 4.7.2M.

Or act in relation thereto. (submitted by the Planning Board)

#### BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 4-0 Recommend FINANCE COMMITTEE: 5-0 Recommend VOTED: (2/3rds) to APPROVE the article as printed.

#### **ARTICLE 14**

To see if the town will amend the zoning bylaw by changing **Section 5.2.5** C. of the use table to allow recreational activity conducted commercially, i.e. campground, ski area or golf course in the Industrial Zone (I) by **Special Permit**;

5.2.5 Principal Use Categories			Zonii	ng Distric	ts		
Conservation and Recreation	R80	R40	R10	C1 Hwy Comm	C2 Nbhd Bus.	Ι	PD
C. Recreational activity conducted commercially, i.e. campground, ski area or golf course	SP	SP	SP	SP	N	SP	SP

or act in relation thereto. (submitted by the Planning Board)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 4-0 Recommend FINANCE COMMITTEE: 5-0 Recommend *VOTED: (2/3rds) to APPROVE the article as printed.* 

#### **ARTICLE 15**

To see if the town will amend the zoning bylaw by changing **Section 5.2.2 X.** of the use table to allow retail sales & services facility for boats and marine equipment in the Neighborhood Commercial District (C2) by **Special Permit.** 

5.2.2 Principal Use Categories			Zo	ning Dis	tricts		
Commercial Uses	<b>R80</b>	R40	R10	C1 Hwy Com m	C2 Nbhd Bus.	I	PD
X. Retail sales & service facility for boats and marine equipment Or act in relation thereto. (submitte	N ed by the	N e Planni	N ing Boa	Y rd)	SP	S	N

# BOARD OF SELECTMEN:2-0-2 No RecommendationFINANCE COMMITTEE:5-0 RecommendVOTED:(2/3rds) to APPROVE the article as printed.

At 9:25 p.m. it was moved, seconded and APPROVED to Adjourn the Special Town Meeting.

#### ATTEST:

*Judy A. LaJoie* Winchendon Town Clerk

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

Hereof, fail not and make due return of said warrant with your doings thereon at the time and place of the meeting aforesaid. Given under our hands and seal this 10<sup>th</sup> day of November 2014.

#### **BOARD OF SELECTMEN:**

Fedor Berndt, Chairman Elizabeth R. Hunt, Vice Chairwoman Robert M. O'Keefe, Selectman Keith R. Barrows, Selectman

> FINANCE COMMITTEE PUBLIC HEARING WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2014 AT 7:00 PM SECOND FLOOR AUDITORIUM, TOWN HALL

# MEMO FOR THE TOWN OF WINCHENDON ELECTION: December 20, 2014

Met at Murdock Senior Center at: 8:00 a.m.

Polls declared open at: 9:00 a.m. By: Warden John Morris

Election officers sworn and assigned to their respective stations.

Office Ballots:

Precinct 1A:	600
Precinct 1:	600
Precinct 2:	600
Precinct 3:	600

Cards of instruction and voting lists delivered to the presiding officer. Specimen ballots and cards of instruction were posted in the hall and at the entrance.

Ballot boxes checked and set at zero. Keys to same turned over to the Police Officer on duty.

Polls were declared closed at 1 p.m. at the close of polls the registers on the ballot boxes read:

Prec. 1 & 1A:	380	Absentee ballots: 22
Prec. 2	296	Absentee ballots: 23
Prec. 3	415	Absentee ballots: 34

Total Ballots cast: 1091

After being counted, the result of the balloting was announced at: 1:15 P.M.

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

The Election results were:

Shall the Town of Winchendon be allowed to assess an additional \$ 700,000.00 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purposes of funding the operating budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014?

#### YES 105 NO 986

Attest: Judy A. LaJoie Winchendon Town Clerk TO: The Board of Selectmen:

#### FROM: Town Clerk

The following sums of money were voted to be raised and appropriated or appropriated by transfer or by borrowing for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2014, at the Annual Town meeting which convened on May 12, 2014.

## ADMINISTRATION, FINANCE AND BENEFITS

SELECTMEN OFFICE	\$ 24,000.00	
TOWN MANAGER OFFICE	261,507.00	
FINANCE COMMITTEE	47,860.00	
ACCOUNTING OFFICE	117,363.00	
ASSESSORS OFFICE	78,658.00	
COLLECTOR/TREASURER	173,336.00	
AUDIT EXPENSE	34,000.00	
LEGAL EXPENSE	60,000.00	
DATA PROCESSING	39,300.00	
TECHNOLOGY	31,415.00	
COMM. COMMITTEE	33,500.00	
TOWN CLERK OFFICE	88,635.00	
REGISTRAR OF VOTERS	27,625.00	
TOWN HALL	118,214.00	
PENSIONS	1,125,350.00	
COMP & UNEMPLOYMENT	225,339.00	
HEALTH INSURANCE	2,000,856.00	
LIFE INSURANCE	25,300.00	
MEDICARE	196,050.00	
PROPERTY/LIABILITY INS.	224,130.00	
SEPARATION BENEFITS		
TOTAL ADMIN. AND FINAN	NCE	\$

\$ 4,932,438.00

REGULATORY		
CONSERVATION	15,932.00	
PLANNING BOARD	5,500.00	
ZONING BOARD	1,918.00	
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	65,983.00	
LAND USE OFFICE	95,065.00	
TOTAL REGULATORY	\$	184,398.00

#### PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENTS

POLICE/DISPATCH/ACO	1,367,989.00
FIRE/AMBULANCE	769,823.00
CIVIL DEFENSE	4,943.00
BOARD OF HEALTH	58,438.00

PUBLIC WORKS	
ADMINISTRATION	\$ 60,091.00
HIGHWAY	309,634.00
FLEET MAINTENANCE	246,319.00
CEMETERY	92,213.00
SNOW AND ICE	101,000.00
STREET LIGHTS	65,000.00
LANDFILL EXPENSE	23,000.00
TREE TRIMMING	5,000.00

TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY \$ 2,201,193.00

# TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS\$ 902,257.00HUMAN SERVICES<br/>COUNCIL ON AGING\$ 142,348.00

VETERANS 39	1,642.00
LIBRARY 16	59,568.00
RECREATION COMMITTEE	3,400.00
HISTORICAL COMMISSION	500.00

TOTAL HUMAN SERVICES	\$	707,458.00
----------------------	----	------------

#### **DEBT SERVICE**

DEBT SERVICE \$ 578,207.00

TOTAL DEBT SERVICE \$ 578,207.00

#### REGIONAL EXPENSES

REGIONAL PLANNING \$ 3,033.00 TOTAL REGIONAL EXPENSES

\$ 3,033.00

**TOTAL RAISE & APPROPRIATE** \$9,508,894.00 (Art. 8)

Appropriations by available funds (Art. 8) \$ 110,810.00

#### TOTAL TOWN BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS TO TAXATION \$9,398,084.00

#### **REVOLVING FUND**

Hazardous Materials Fees	\$20,000.00
Student Parking Fees	\$20,000.00
Land Use Restitution	\$20,000.00
Athletics Advertising Fees	\$20,000.00
Agricultural Comm. Fees	\$20,000.00
Public Health Clean-up	\$20,000.00
Planning and Development Plotter fees	\$20,000.00

#### TOTAL REVOLVING FUND

#### \$140.000.00

#### **OTHER APPROPRIATIONS BY TAXATION**

Art. 4	Senior Work off	\$ 5,000.00	
Art. 5	Non-Profit Support	28,000.00	
Art. 6	OPEB Fund	10,000.00	
Art. 7	Stabilization Fund	10,000.00	
Art. 21	School Budget	12,876.674.00	
Art. 13	Monty Tech	779,205.00	
Art. 14	School Transportation	1,243,260.00	
Art. 23	Fire Dept's roof	80,000.00	
Art. 24	Town Hall Computers	 19,000.00	

TOTAL OTHER APPROPRIATIONS	\$ 15,051,139.00
GRAND TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS BY TAXATION	\$ 24,449,223.00
TRANSFERS FROM AVAILABLE FUNDS	

Art. 16 MMHS Defray c	osts \$ 14,962.42
ENTERPRISE FUNDS	
Art. 9 Water Receipts	\$ 850,000.00
Water retained earnings	120,219.00
	\$ 970,219.00
Art. 10 Sewer receipts	838,464.00
Betterments	270,000.00
	\$ 1,108,464.00
Art. 11 Transfer Station rev. to	185,083.00
Transfer Station Dept.	
1	Water retained earnings (120,219.00)

## TOTAL ENTERPRISE FUNDS \$ 2,143,547.00

#### **APPROPRIATIONS BY BORROWING**

Art. 25 ToyTown School Generator \$	75,000.00
( Debt Exclusion) Art. 27 Beal's Memorial Library Upgrades	300 000 00
(Debt Exclusion)	500,000.00
Art. 28 Beal's Library Upgrades	196,000.00
Art. 29 Town Hall Boiler replacement	<u>91,245.99</u>
TOTAL BORROWING	\$ 662,245.00
Art. 2 School budget-2015-override	\$ 300,000.00

#### ATTEST:

Judy A. LaJoie Winchendon Town Clerk

Insert Town Account Report here 1 page

Insert Town Account Combined balanced sheet 1 page

# TOWN ACCOUNTANT COMBINED BALANCED SHEET 2 Page

# Winchendon Agricultural Commission 2014 Annual Report

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

The Commission is organized as follows: Audrey LaBrie, Chair, Paul Kachinsky, Vice Chair. Members are Ken Girouard, Olivia Tarleton and Sherri Haley. Alternate member is June Girouard.

The Commission's focus was the Toy Town Farmers' Market. The Market was held late-May through early October, rain or shine, Thursdays from 4 - 7 P.M. and Saturdays from 10 - 1. Unlike last year when the market opened at its previous location and moved to Central Street some weeks in, the market season got off to a great start with vendors setting up in the very visible location on Central Street. Previous issues with visibility and parking were non-existent as people driving or walking down Central Street had a clear view of the market and immediate access to the vendors through parking on Central Street. Multiple times during the season the market complemented events held by the church on the lawn. Fourteen vendor applications were received and accepted, with an average of 6 vendors selling each week. Products and services offered included produce, plants, crafts, baked goods and animal products. Some vendors accepted WIC and Senior Citizen coupons. The response from the town was tremendous, with many customers coming back each week.

The Commission is looking forward to a great year. As needed, the commission meets the second Wednesday of the month, 7:00 P.M. in the  $4^{th}$  floor conference room at Town Hall. We hope you will stop by the Toy Town Farmers' Market and support our local farmers and craftspeople.

Respectfully submitted,

Audrey LaBrie, Chair Paul Kachinsky, Vice Chair Ken Girouard, Member Olivia Tarleton, Member Sherri Haley, Member June Girouard, Alternate

# ANIMAL CONTROL

# Year End Report 2014

For the calendar year of 2014, Winchendon Animal Control reports the following:

Approximate number of dogs licensed:	1,727
Licensing fee collected:	\$22,610
Fines collected	\$10,630
Number of animal related calls:	249
Number of dog's adopted:	1



## Zoning Board of Appeals

During calendar year 2014 (1/1/14-12/31/14), the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) experienced a slightly below normal than expected number of applications. This was primarily due to the slow-down of construction work. The applications can be categorized as follows:

	Applied	<b>Granted</b>	Denied	<u>Withdrawn</u>	Extended
Special Permits	4	4	0	0	0
Special Permit Re-application	0	0	0	0	0
Variances	2	2	0	0	0
Administrative Appeal	1	1	0	0	0

It was extremely gratifying to again note that of all of the decisions rendered by the Board during this calendar year that the process went smoothly with the Board in total agreement over the cases heard. This Board contains a very diverse background in its membership which lends to a detailed and objective evaluation of all applications which come before them.

Membership on the Board only changed slightly for this year as one member was appointed as an alternate. Votes on these issues coming before the Board require a "Super Majority" to pass, which equate to 4 of the 5 members; so making a full Board at the hearings is vital to the Board and to the applicant ensuring an expeditious hearing. The new member appointed to the Board to fill the alternate vacancy was Doneen Durling who also works as the Boards recorder.

The current structure of the Board has remained the same and is as follows: Cynthia Carvill as Chairperson, Mary Chace as Vice Chairperson and Michael Potvin as Clerk. The

Board feels that it is extremely important for the residents of Winchendon to

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

The Board encourages your attendance at our meetings, held the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month (only when hearings are scheduled) in the Town Hall Auditorium. Please see the posting board in Town Hall, the posting book at the police station dispatch office or the Town's website for the agenda of the upcoming meeting. We also encourage and invite interested citizens to volunteer for membership on the Board. We can guarantee you interesting meetings and a vital stake in the critical role the Board plays in shaping Winchendon's future.

#### Respectfully submitted by the CY 2015 Board,

Cynthia Carvill, Chair	Mary Chase, Vice Chair	Michael Potvin, Clerk		
Joseph Snow, Member	Raymond Benoit, Member			
Dense Dallas Alternation Manlas				

Doneen Durling, Alternate Member

# **BOARD OF ASSESSORS** 2014 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, 2013 and ending June 30, 2014.

Motor Vehicle Excise Taxes Committed	\$1,042,553.40
Real Estate Taxes Committed	9,883,629.46
Personal Property Taxes Committed	267,889.21
Title 5 Sewer Liens Committed	7,163.06
Sewer Betterments Committed	269,426.09
Water Liens Added to Taxes	168,884.66
Sewer Liens Added to Taxes	213,683.50
I & E Penalties	00.00
Total Committed for Collection	\$ 11,853,229.38
Real Estate Exemptions Granted:Clause 17D Statutory\$ 7,175.00Clause 22 Veterans34,224.82Clause 37 Blind Persons2,187.50Clause 41C Elderly13,500.00Total Exemptions Granted\$57,087.32Real Estate Abatements Granted	\$ 57,087.32 19,658.84
Personal Property Abatements Granted	2,900.36
Motor Vehicle Abatements Granted	22,607.74
Total Exemptions and Abatements Granted	\$102,254.26

Respectfully submitted,

Harald Scheid

Jeffrey Reynolds

Board of Assessors

# BOARD OF HEALTH Annual Report

#### January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014

#### **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:

Lionel Cloutier	(2015)
John Shepardson	(2015)
Edward Bond	(2016)
Diane Cosentino	(2017)
Jason Moury	(2017)

#### 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 also continues its contractual relationship with the Gardner Visiting Nurses Association to provide Public Health nursing services. It is through this contract that monthly blood pressure clinics are held at Senior Center and annual flu shots are provided. The Public Health Nurse holds monthly office hours at the Ipswich Drive Community Building on the second Tuesday of each month from 12:30PM – 1:30PM. The nurse also does follow up of reportable communicable diseases, working with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

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 2014

#### PURPOSE OF PERMIT

		Count#
Subsurface Sewage Disposal Inspections		54
Soil Testing for repairs		14
Soil Testing for new lots		4
Reviewed and approved Septic System plans		30
Restaurant Inspections		89
Housing Inspections		38
Trash complaints		22
Environmental Samplings		1
Public Swimming Pool Inspections		1
Recreational Camp for Children Inspections		4
Beaver Complaints		4
	Total	262

**Total Departmental Payments to** Treasurer

\$19,957.00

INSERT COLLECTOR/TREASURER'S REPORT FROM EXCEL

87

# Annual Report FY 2014 Winchendon Community Action Committee, Inc. (WCAC)

The Winchendon Community Action Committee, Inc. (WCAC) is a Human Service Agency dedicated to helping families and individuals in crisis, and the economically disadvantaged in need of emergency services. The WCAC provides a way for the community to examine and act on problems of poverty, assess community needs, initiate programs to meet those needs and coordinate with area agencies and local government to provide appropriate services. These services may include advocacy and referral, emergency assistance, medical transportation, food, counseling and educational programs.

#### **Community Service Building**

The WCAC Community Service Building currently houses multiple Social Service Agencies that provide varied services to town residents. Agencies, groups, and individuals sharing space at the Community Service Building include:

Mount Wachusett Community College – Pre-GED, GED, and Adult Basic Educational programs available (Classes held Tuesday and Thursday evenings)

- Association of Independent Psychologists, Inc. Individual and family counseling services including after school counseling for children and anger management counseling
- New England Farm Workers Council Fuel Assistance (Application intake by appointment during winter months only)
- WIC (Women with Infants and Children) Program Assists families with infants and children through age 5 to ensure that youngsters get a healthy start (By appointment - 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month)

Action Health Services - Behavioral health care provided by appointment to no/low income individuals and families on Mondays and Tuesdays. Referrals provided for dental/medical care along with application assistance for Mass Health, Medicare, etc.

#### **Youth Services**

Project Contact summer day camp provided an opportunity for local children to participate in their program during the month of August free of charge or for a nominal fee. Children enjoyed two weeks of fun and recreation at Camp Collier in Gardner. Each child received breakfast, a healthy snack and lunch daily. There was swimming, arts & crafts and the opportunity to participate in several team sports. Transportation via bus from Winchendon was also provided.

#### **Educational Programs**

The WCAC hosted financial management programs. Classes were held over the course of an eight week period. The program was offered free of charge and included all learning materials that students were able to keep at the end of the program for future reference.

#### **Holiday Programs**

During the Thanksgiving holiday 175 individuals and families received baskets that included a turkey and all the fixings. In addition to fresh seasonal produce donated by local farmers, baskets included food items from the Worcester County Food Bank, Hannaford, Market Basket and many generous donors. Christmas baskets were provided to 148 individuals and families. Baskets provided a family with a turkey and all the trimmings for a bountiful holiday meal. Due to the generosity of partner organizations and clubs, selected individuals and families received gift certificates from Hannaford and Market Basket as well as other holiday related items.

The holiday Christmas party for local children was held on Wednesday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at the Legion. Entertainment was provided by Faire Stories and included an interactive theatre performance that both children and adults alike thoroughly enjoyed. The Winchendon Police Department provided delicious pizzas from C&S, McDonald's provided soft drinks, Subway provided cookies, and Dunkin' Donuts provided coffee, munchkins and donuts. In addition, several area eateries (Gabby's & Christos) provided pizza and due to the hard work of so-o-o many, we had an abundance of baked goods. We were joined by Santa, Mrs. Claus and even some of their elves who stopped by to sing Christmas carols and to give out beautifully wrapped holiday packages to 102 anxious children. Warm winter hats, mittens, and scarves as well as a variety of sports balls were also given out. Last, thanks to Lori Bishop (Spirit of Christmas), parents along with their children were able to choose toys, games, etc. from several tables full of goodies provided for the children through her organization.

The Telegram and Gazette Santa Program also provided holiday gifts to local children that were given to parents to put under the tree. A total of 168 children from 123 families received large gift bags full of toys that included an array of gender/age appropriate items such as games, dolls, trucks, craft kits, books, stuffed toys and sports equipment.

#### Housing

FEMA funding of \$4896 helped to assist several families with rental/mortgage and utility payments. Referrals were also made to Montachusett Opportunity Council and RCAP Solutions to help additional families.

#### **Emergency Services**

One of the WCAC's primary purposes is to help to meet the emergency needs of individuals and families in the Winchendon community. Crisis situations need immediate response. FEMA funds along with donations from the private sector enabled the WCAC to assist 52 individuals/families with home heating fuel, mortgage/rental assistance and/or utility payments.

FEMA funds were allocated for food from the Worcester County Food Bank. The Food Pantry was able to serve a total of 3,585 people including 1160 children, 2,172 adults and 253 elderly residents with commodities obtained from the Food Bank. Items received from local grocers and growers provided sustenance for additional individuals/families.

Food donations were received through the US Postal Service community collection, local schools, colleges and universities, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, churches, businesses, clubs and day care centers. "Thank you" to all who helped to keep our pantry full this year. Hannaford Food Markets donated fresh bread, pastry, meats and produce on a weekly basis. Fresh milk was received monthly and distributed on a revolving basis to local families with children and to seniors. Local farms i.e. Noonday Farm, Sunset View Farm and Covenant Evangelical Church in Barre donated fresh seasonal produce from spring through fall and an on-site vegetable garden yielded fresh produce that was shared with clients. The WCAC also received several large deliveries of fresh produce that was shared with the Senior Center and the Hyde Park and Ipswich Drive developments.

Donated clothing, footwear, accessories, household items, furniture, etc. were available to the public at no cost throughout the year. All donations not used at the WCAC are given to the Salvation Army. Many volunteers help to sort, clean, repair and display items received. Without the help of dedicated volunteers this could not be accomplished.

#### **Robinson-Broadhurst Foundation**

The Robinson-Broadhurst Foundation generously provided funding to assist with operational expenses, technology upgrades and capital improvements.

#### **Our Neighbor's Kitchen**

On the last Thursday of each month, the WCAC partners with the Unitarian Universalist Church on Central Street to provide a nutritious hot meal to all who are hungry at "Our Neighbor's Kitchen". Volunteers prepare and serve a free/low cost meal to on average 65 people each month. Youth from the Winchendon School, members of local clubs/organizations and church members serve and clean up.

#### **Medical Transportation**

Many elderly and low-income families and individuals rely on the CAC for their medical transportation which the WCAC provides to doctors appointments, hospital visits, and clinics. During FY2013-14, the WCAC provided 193 one way runs for medical purposes.

2013-2014 ANNUAL TOWN REPORT - WORCESTER COUNTY FOOD BANK					
			f People Ser		
	1 <sup>st</sup> Qtr.	2 <sup>nd</sup> Qtr.	3 <sup>rd</sup> Qtr.	4 <sup>th</sup> Qtr.	Total 13-14
Households	376	396	369	346	1487
People	913	1005	856	811	3585
Child	302	356	255	247	1160
Adult	557	586	542	487	2172
Elder	54	63	59	77	253
Employed	52	62	47	52	213
Unemployed	39	54	31	18	142
Social Security	250	228	233	219	930
TANF EADC	12	10	14	11	47
No Income	12	30	33	30	105
Food Stamps	315	262	284	263	1124
WIC	50	54	33	39	176
New	391	104	56	54	605

Respectfully submitted, Colleen Laperriere, Executive Director

#### **Board of Directors 2013-2014**

President: Mr. William Stewart, Jr. Treasurer: Ms. Marcy Silva Secretary: Ms. Michelle Smith Mr. Armand Sylvester Ms. Kelli Bator Ms. Nancy Romanowski Ms. Donna Knowlton Ms. Gail Casavant

Honorary Board Member Mr. James Kreidler, Town Manager

# CONSERVATION COMMISSION 2014 ANNUAL REPORT JANUARY 1, 2014 TO DECEMBER 31, 2014

The Winchendon Conservation Commission is a seven-member volunteer board 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. Under the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act and Town of Winchendon Wetlands Protection Bylaw, the Commission is required to issue decisions that provide for the following eight interests:

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

The Town of Winchendon Wetlands Protection Bylaw, approved by voters at the 2007 Annual Town Meeting, includes some stronger provisions over and above those found in the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act, primarily in the form of greater no-build and no-disturb setback distances from wetland resource areas. Regulation under the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act and Town of Winchendon Wetlands Protection Bylaw entails reviewing plans, wetland and floodplain maps, and research prior to issuing Determinations of Applicability or Orders of Conditions that adequately protect the environment and the public interest. The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) provides policy guidance, administrative oversight, and training and DEP also issues final rulings on appeals of Conservation technical assistance. Commission decisions. The Commission would like to stress that cooperation, communication, and proper filing procedure are key to the successful review and evaluation of proposed activities under the Commission's jurisdiction; most construction activities can usually be modified slightly and/or conditioned to protect the above eight wetland interests.

The Winchendon Conservation Commission currently consists of five very environmentally concerned citizens led by Chairman Garrett Davieau, with the professional assistance of Conservation Agent David Koonce and Recording Secretary Patty Driscoll. Each member of the Commission is also a member of the Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions, (MACC) and attends the MACC annual meeting held in Worcester. MACC's annual meeting provides for many varied training sessions pertaining to the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act and related environmental issues.

In October 2014, the Commission regretfully accepted the resignation of longtime member Steven Chace. On behalf of the people of Winchendon, the current members of the Commission, Agent Koonce, and Secretary Driscoll all gratefully thank Stephen for his many hears of devoted service working to protect Winchendon's natural environment. At the Special Town Meeting held on November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2014, the Conservation Commission asked for and received approval from Winchendon voters to reduce the size of the Conservation Commission from seven members to five. The reduction in the number of members will make it easier to reach a quorum for the Commission's official meetings.

In 2014, the Commission held fifteen (15) meetings twelve (12) regularly scheduled monthly meetings plus three (3) extra meetings in order to accommodate statutory requirements for application deadlines. Several site visits were conducted incident to the meetings. Applicants submitting Notices of Intent were issued Orders of Conditions, while Requests for Determinations of Applicability were generally approved if submitted plans conformed to the requirements of the Town of Winchendon Wetlands Protection Bylaw and indicated the proper mitigation to adequately protect the wetlands during construction. The Commission issued ten (10) Orders of Conditions for projects including, but by no means limited to, construction of new single family homes and driveways, and septic system repairs/upgrades. Twenty-one (21) Determinations of Applicability were also issued, as were several Certificates of Compliance and Extensions to orders of Conditions.

The public is welcome to attend the Conservation Commission's regularly scheduled meetings, which are normally held at 109 Front Street on the fourth Thursday of every month at 7pm. The Commission encourages any member of the public who is concerned with protecting the Town's precious wetlands and floodplains, and who would like to learn more about serving on the Conservation Commission, to contact the Town Manager, any member(s) of the Commission, and/or the Conservation Agent. The Agent is available at the Town Hall on Monday and Thursday mornings 9am – 12noon, except for 3pm – 6pm on days when the Commission meets. Any questions that you might have regarding any proposed or observed activities possibly impacting wetlands or floodplains should be brought to the attention of the Commission and/or the Agent. Additional information on the Conservation Commission and its statutory responsibilities can also be found on the Commission's page on the Town website:

http://www.townofwinchendon.com/Pages/WinchendonMA\_BComm/Conservation/index

Respectfully Submitted, David Koonce, Conservation Agent Patty Driscoll, Recording Secretary Kyle Bradley, Member Sebastian Valera, Member

Garrett Davieau, Chairman Lionel Cloutier, Vice Chairman Stephen Chace, Member David Whitaker, Member

# Winchendon Council on Aging Annual Town Report

The Winchendon Council on Aging is located at 52 Murdock Avenue, near the downtown business district. We are funded by the Town of Winchendon, and by a formula grant. Our staff includes one full time director, two part time van drivers, a part time, Meals on Wheels driver, a kitchen staff, dispatcher and two part time general support workers. All employees are CPR, first aid and ServeSave trained.

The Council on Aging has made a great number of changes to the Senior Center over the past year. Each day, seniors stop me in the hallways and express their gratitude for the beautiful building, the wonderful services, and the many programs that are available for participation. With all the wonderful changes that have taken place, we still have more projects that need completing in order to enhance our services even more. 2014 was an incredibly busy year and without our staff and our group of dedicated volunteers we could not have held the activities that we do at the Senior Center. We are grateful for all the help we have had this year.

Meals	Insurance Counseling (including Mass Health and Medicare)
Transportation	Fuel Assistance Services
Caregiver Support Resource information	Applications for Fuel Assistant and SNAP (Food Stamps)
Housing Assistant	Tax Preparation
Nursing home information with placements; Adult day care placements; counseling and direction	Computer tutoring Caregiver's Support Group Classes – computer, yoga, chair exercise, crafts

The Center provides the following services at the Center:

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

Caregivers; Dealing with	Painting classes, line dancing,
Alzheimer's Medication	yoga, quilting, BINGO, cards,
Management; AARP Tax	pool, shuffleboard games,
Assistance; AARP Safe Driver	Valentine's, Halloween
Family Pharmacy (twice);	celebrations; Peanut Auction;
Weight Loss Program;	Cake/Pie Auctions; Quilting;
Volunteer Appreciation	Three Christmas Programs; Wii

Luncheon. Open House for Senator Brewer; Veteran's	bowling;
Support Group; Eat Right for a	
Healthy Heart Lecture; Food	
Drive	
Identify Theft Prevention,	Birthday and holiday celebrations,
Senior Wellness Day; Computer	daily coffee hour;
Classes; Animal Craze; Beach	Knitting/Crocheting Group;
Party; Mardi Gras Celebration	Victorian Tea
Medicare Part D, SHINE, Flu	Thanksgiving and Christmas
Clinic, Fuel Assistance and	dinners; GVNA Programs; Indoor
Food Stamps; Blood Pressure	Yard Sale; Travelling Tooth Fairy;
Clinics; Dr. Mateik (vision	International Veteran's Chorus;
exams); Miracle Ear (hearing	250 <sup>th</sup> Gala Ball
aid exams) ; Fallon	
representative; Pizza Party;	
Monthly Cookie Booths	

We especially want to thank all the volunteers again who work in the kitchen daily, help keep our building spotless or work at the many functions we host.

We are proud to serve the Senior Citizens of Winchendon.

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

#### **REPORT OF THE WINCHENDON CULTURAL COUNCIL**

#### To the Citizens and Taxpayers of Winchendon:

The members of the Winchendon Cultural Council (WCC) are happy to provide this report on our activities for the 2014 fiscal year. The Massachusetts Cultural Council operates one of the largest re-granting programs in the country. Each year, cities and towns are awarded money, based on population, which local councils re-grant for local programs in the arts, humanities, and interpretive sciences. Local councils must have at least five members, but can have up to 19 members. We have room for anyone interested in serving—feel free to speak with Chairman David LaDeau or Secretary Julia White Cardinal. The busiest time for the WCC is from October 15 of each year (when Applications are due), until the end of January. We do encourage members to attend and applaud the programs for which grants are awarded. It's always fun!

This year, Austin Cyganiewicz was appointed to the Council.

For FY 2014 we had a balance of \$653.03. We received a total of 16 grant applications. The Massachusetts Cultural Council allocated Winchendon \$4710.00. \$53 was budgeted for Council administrative expenses.

The following proposals were funded at the stated amounts:

The Village School (Children's Book Festival)		\$300
Fitchburg Art Museum		100
Surround Sound Chapter of Harmony Inc.		450
Toy Town Elementary (Field Trip (School House of Rock)		552
Winchendon Historical Society		300
Phil Simon (Old 78 Farm Fall Festival)		100
John Root (Organic Gardening)		300
Beals Memorial Library (New England Aquarium)		600
Beals Memorial Library (Museum of Science)		600
Beals Memorial Library (Eric Carle Museum)		125
Beals Memorial Library (Discovery Museums)		500
Beals Memorial Library (Animal Adventures)		330
Beals Memorial Library (Ecotarium discount)		200
Beals Memorial Library (Museum of Fine Arts)		200
	Total	\$4657

If you enjoyed a free program, used one of the many museum discount coupons from the Beals Memorial Library, then why not consider joining the WCC? Help keep these programs available to and for people in Winchendon. For more information on the work of the Massachusetts Cultural Council, please visit <u>www.massculturalcouncil.org</u>.

Respectfully submitted,	
David LaDeau, Chair (2015)	Julia-White Cardinal, Secretary (2015)
Dr. Coral Grout, Treasurer (2016)	Doreen Poulin (2015)
Greg Vine (2015	Austin Cyganiewicz (2017)

# The Winchendon Finance Committee Annual Report For FY2014

The Winchendon Finance Committee is pleased to present our annual report for the 2014 fiscal year, July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014.

The Finance Committee meetings are generally held on the second Tuesday of each month at the Town hall. At its first meeting of the fiscal year on September 10, 2013, Chairman Ulysse Maillet introduced Christian Orobello as the newly appointed Finance Committee member. This brought the Committee to full membership, including Chairman Ulysse Maillet, Vice-Chairman Robert Guenther, Cynthia Leroy, Ottmar Rau, Darlene Rossi and Thomas Kane.

The Finance Committee focused much of its work during the fall on the development of a fiscal policy to guide the town's fiscal management. At the October 8 meeting, Chairman Maillet spoke of the need for the Town to adopt a fiscal policy that would address: 1. Balanced Budget; 2. Revenue; 3. Financial Reserves; 4 Debt; and 5. Capital Improvement. At the November 12 meeting, a subcommittee was established to research fiscal policies from other communities and to develop a policy draft. The subcommittee presented a draft at the December 10 meeting and voted to recommend the proposed fiscal policy to the Board of Selectmen at the January 14 meeting. However, as the Town focused its efforts on developing the FY15 budget, a joint meeting with the Board of Selectmen to review the proposed policy was not held.

On December 19, 2013, the Finance Committee held a public hearing on the warrant for the December 30 Special Town Meeting. The Town Meeting addressed 21 articles.

The Finance Committee held several meetings during March 2014 to review key budget proposals for the FY15 town budget. On March 11, the Superintendent of Schools, Salah Khelfaoui, presented a proposed budget of \$19,596,255 of which \$4,914,309 would be the Town's portion. On March 18, Monty Tech Superintendent Steven Sharek reviewed the FY15 budget that included an assessment of \$784,205 for Winchendon. On March 25, Town Manager James Kreidler reviewed the proposed FY 15 general government budget of \$9,675,809 and a total Town budget of \$28,222,856.

The Finance Committee held a public hearing on April 8, 2014 to allow discussion on the Town Meeting Warrant. Discussions included unresolved issues about net school spending requirements, indirect costs assessed to net school spending and medicaid reimbursement allocations. At the Annual Town Meeting held on May 12, the Town voted to request a Proposition 2 1/2 override for \$300,000 to increase the School Department budget. The Override passed in a special election held on June 28, 2014.

At the March 25, 2014 meeting, the Finance Committee voted to transfer \$35,000 to Veteran Services at the request of Veterans' Agent Scott Gauthier. The Finance Committee transferred another \$10,000 to Veterans' Services at the June 1, 2015 meeting.

At the June 10, 2015 meeting, Chairman Maillet announced that he would step down from the chairmanship but continue his service on the Finance Committee. The Committee voted Thomas Kane as Chairman and Robert Guenther as Vice-Chairman and thanked Mr. Maillet for his years of leadership to the Finance Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Kane, Chairman Robert Guenther, Vice-Chairman Ulysse Maillet, Ottmar Rau, Cynthia Leroy, Darlene Rossi and Christian Orobello

# Winchendon Fire Department Town Report 2014

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, 2014-December 31, 2014, the Department responded to 1715 requests for services as shown below:

services as shown below.	QTY	SITUATION TYPE	QTY
SITUATION			
ТҮРЕ			
Assist invalid	26	Lockout	13
Assist police	5	MVA	148
Brush Fire	8	No incident found	37
Building Fire	5	Odor of smoke	28
Burner/Boiler problem	2	Passenger vehicle fire	1
Canceled en route	41	Person in distress	10
Carbon monoxide incident	7	Police matter	2
Chimney fire	7	Power line down	10
CO detector activation	13	Public service	35
Controlled Burn	2	Search	1
Cooking fires incidents	10	Smoke detector activation	36
Cover assignment/standby	29	Smoke or order removal	15
Electrical wiring problem	15	Sprinkler activation no fire	4
EMS (ALS) call	490	System malfunction	15
EMS (BLS) call	558	Trash or rubbish fire	5
Explosive/Bomb Incident	2	Unauthorized burning	б
False alarm of false call	16	Unintentional transmission	36
Fire, Other	4	Water or steam leak	6
Flammable gas or liquid	7	Water problem	10
Gasoline/flammables	4	Water Related Incident	2
General Service Call	14	Weather Incident (lightning strike)	2
Good Intent Call	10		
Hazardous Materials Investigation	1		
Heat Detector Malfunction	2		

#### **Fire Losses**

Fire property loss for 2014 was approximately \$250,000.00. This 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. Over 40 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. As members of the fire department, these dedicated individuals have spent numerous hours training on both fire and medical topics. Every member of the department has shown the commitment needed to provide the citizens of Winchendon with the protection they deserve. A special thank you should also go out to the families of these members who have had to make their own sacrifices by having their loved ones away for hours at a time helping others. Without this understanding, our firefighters would not be able to demonstrate the commitment necessary to be a fire department member.

Leadership is something that our fire department has been able to continually increase during the past year. Fire Chief Thomas J. Smith has now been with the Winchendon Fire Department for three years getting to know both the department members as well as many fine individuals in the community. Over this past year there have been many new ideas implemented within the department. These ideas will certainly lead to improved public safety within the community. Many of the officers from within the fire department have continued to expand their knowledge base through intense training classes at various training sites throughout the state.

#### Membership Roster -

Fire Chief –	Thomas Smith	
Deputy Chief –	Ricci Ruschioni	
Captains –	Martin Brooks	
-	William Brown	
Lieutenants -	Maurice Bateman	
	Michael Mullen	
	Scott Parkinson	
	Frederick Peters	
	Robert Soucy	
Firefighters and EMTs -	Karen Armstrong Hurton	John Cyganiewicz
-	Antonio Barbaro	Carl Davis
	Melissa Beauvais	William Davis
	Brittany Bevilacqua	Mark Fleming
	James Bevilacqua	Scott Florio
	David Bilodeau	Jonathan Guinto
	Corey Bohan	Patrick Higgins
	Matthew Bosworth	Jason Hurton
	Kayla Boutell	Clayton Landry
	Kyle Bradley	Benjamin Miller
	Daniel Brown	Alec Moulton

100

	Lance Budka	Adam Tenney
	Bennett Chadbourne	Marty Scott
	Bryan Clayton	Richard Sevigny
	Jason Clegg	Chrysten Starrett
	Patrick Connor	Bryan Vaine
	Brian Croteau	
Fire Department Chaplain -	Thomas Clinkscale	

#### **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 encourages any feedback from the citizens as to how well we are delivering these services, as well as any suggestions for improvement.

#### **Permits:**

Brush Burning	200
Blasting / Tanks	11
Fire Safety Inspections	25
Fire Suppression Systems	12
Fireworks	3
Liquor License	14
L.P. Gas	52
Oil Burner	65
Smoke Detector	158
Total	540

#### Total Permit Revenue Collected: \$11,855.00

#### **Emergency Medical Services:**

In calendar year 2014, the Winchendon Ambulance Service responded to one thousand and forty-eight (1048) requests for some type of medical assistance. Outside of these medical calls, there were many times that our ambulance personnel assisted at fire related incidents as well. Transports resulting from these ambulance requests brought in \$418,960.67 in ambulance receipts to the town coffers.

Throughout the year our emergency medical technicians have provided medical coverage at many events throughout the community, none of which proved more challenging than the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration in June. This day went off without a hitch due to the cumulated efforts of many fine individuals as well as assistance from neighboring communities. Captain Brown organized EMS coverage for our department at events such as school sporting events and area hockey games. Without such dedication that is needed for this coverage it is definite that the children of the community would suffer greatly.

#### **Ambulance Apparatus:**

Description	Year	Funding Source	Condition	<b>Replacement Year</b>
Ambulance 2	2012	Robinson-Broadhurst/Town	Good	2020
Ambulance 1	2005	Robinson-Broadhurst	Poor	2014

#### **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. As the fire department moves forward in its need to begin replacing our larger pieces of apparatus, the tax payers in the community recognized the need to step up and provide some much needed revenues through override votes in 2013 which led to our fire department receiving its 2014 KME 102' Aerial Platform at the cost of \$850,000 in June 2014. After months of training on this apparatus the firefighters are proud to have this important aerial device in service, providing improved safety to our community. The Winchendon Fire Department would like to thank the citizens of Winchendon for providing us with this important apparatus.

Apparatus	s Year	Funding/Donation Source	Condition	Replacement Year
Engine 2	2002 Ford E-1	R/B *	Good	2017
Engine 3	1996 E-1	R/B *	Good	2019
Engine 4	1991 Central States	R/B *	Fair	2014
Tower 1	201 KME	Taxation	Excellent	2039
Forestry 1	2014 F350	Taxation	Excellent	2024
Forestry 6	1969 Mack1500 gal	DEM **	Poor	2010
Car 1	2007 Ford Expedition	R/B *	Good	2018
Car 2	2000 Ford Explorer	R/B *	Very Poor	2012
* R/B = Robinson Broadhurst Foundation Grant				

\*\* DEM = Department of Environmental Management Surplus Equipment Program

A lot of our motorized equipment is in need of replacement as several pieces are in poor condition and others are quickly approaching the end of their service life. The ISO (Insurance Overwriters) recommend that fire apparatus be placed as a backup once it reaches between 10-15 years of age. Many of our apparatus is well past this recommendation. The safety of our community and the firefighters that protect it must come first, even in these tough financial times.

#### **Building Needs:**

The current state of the fire station is generally in decent shape. The building was erected in 1978 and has served the town proudly for the past thirty-six years 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.

#### **Community Programs:**

Throughout the past year the Winchendon Fire Department has made it a goal of ours to expand on the community programs offered through the department. Community CPR programs have been conducted for many organizations in town. Blood pressure clinics have been conducted at the Elder Service fairs. File of Life packets have been distributed throughout the community to not only senior members but also those younger citizens who may have more frequent medical needs than most. There has been a form put in place for members of the community to fil out if there are individuals with some tye of disability in their home who would require additional assistance from the fire department during an emergency. This was the direct result of a suggestion from a community suggestions. Continued community notifications through the town's CodeRed system has allowed the fire department tow work closely with many departments to provide the best public safety possible for Winchendon citizens.

A partnership was continued to be worked on with both the high school and the Mount Wachusett Community College for internship programs. Both of these programs will flourish in the upcoming years, not only helping with the education of our youth but also providing an effective recruiting tool for future firefighters and medical personnel.

#### **Contact Information:**

The Fire Station is located at 405 Central Street Winchendon, MA 01475 Phone: 978-297-2323 Email: fire@town.winchendon.ma.us

#### **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. 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.

# HOUSING AUTHORITY

The Winchendon Housing Authority hereby presents its Annual Report for our fiscal year ending September 30, 2014.

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 53 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 2014 the election of officers was held and as follows:

Name of Officer	Term of Office
Burton E. Gould	April, 2015
Jacquelyn Flynn	May, 2017
Virginia C. Sibley	May, 2016
David A .Johnson	May, 2019
Leston J. Goodrich	May, 2018
David P. Connor	Contractual
	Burton E. Gould Jacquelyn Flynn Virginia C. Sibley David A .Johnson Leston J. Goodrich

The Board of Commissioners meet between the Ipswich Drive Community Building, Hyde Park Community Building or Pearl Drive Community Building on the  $2^{nd}$  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 and Ipswich Drive office for anyone wanting to attend our public Board meetings.

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

The Winchendon Housing Authority's office is located at **108 Ipswich Drive** in Winchendon and is open to the public between the hours of **8** AM and **4** PM Monday through Friday unless otherwise posted. The staff at the housing authority at the end of fiscal year 2014 is as follows,

#### WHA Staff:

Ms. Michelle Sweeney Housing Administrator

Ms. Cyndee LaFreniere

Mr. Rocky Flint Hyde Park Maintenance Mechanic/HQS Inspector

Mr. James Bevilacqua

	Mechanic	
Ms. Linda Tenney	Mr. Michael Field	
Tenant Coordinator	Ipswich/14-16 Ready Dr.	
	Maintenance Mechanic	
Ms. Linda Bond	Mr. Marc LeBlanc	
Groundskeeper/Maintenance	Scattered Sites / 1-12	
Mechanic	Ready Drive	
	Maintenance Mech./Oil	
	Burner Technician	
Housing Mission Statement:		

Pearl Drive Maintenance

Financial/Procurement Coordinator

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

## **Federal Housing:**

There is a total of 131 units of public housing breaking down as follows, 80 units of conventional 1 bedroom Elderly housing at Ipswich Drive, 34 units of conventional 1-2-3 - 4 bedroom Family housing at Pearl Drive, 17 units of conventional scattered site 1,2,3,4 bedroom Elderly and Family housing throughout the community. The Housing Authority has a waiting list for all applicants that meet the income requirements for Federal Housing. The Winchendon Housing Authority has been designated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development as a **HIGH PERFOMRER** for our administration and oversight of this program as well.

We also have 35 Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers program that is used to help extremely low and very low-income people keep or find apartments within the private housing market. This type of assistance is becoming more popular for people that want to keep living in a neighborhood environment and help landlords get the fair market rents (FMR) for that area the apartment is located. Of the 35 vouchers there are 4 of them participating in our FSS program. This program allows each resident an opportunity to save money and use it to help them transition from rental assistance. In this program the WHA has been designated as a **HIGH PERFORMER** for our administration and oversight of this program as well.

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

# **Federal Modernization:**

We have 2 active program of federal modernization:

## **Capital Fund FY 2013:**

We were awarded \$130,928 in March 2013. These funds will be used to complete the following work items.

**Ipswich Drive** Roofing Upgrade Payment 504 Upgrade Scattered Sites Retaining Wall Design at Bond 244 Front St, 71 Maple St. Bond Payment 504 Upgrade

**Pearl Drive** Bond Payment 504 Upgrade

### Capital Fund FY 2014:

We were awarded \$144,744 in August 2014. These funds will be used to complete the following work items.

**Ipswich Drive** Roofing Upgrade Scattered Sites Siding upgrade at our Oak Street Garage

**Pearl Drive** 

Bond Payment 504 Upgrade Architectural Work Bathroom Upgrade

Over the past 13 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:**

In 2011 the Winchendon Housing Authority was designated by the Department of Housing and Community Development as one of the first five in the state as an AIMM (Accelerated Independent Modernization and Management) Housing Authority. This designation allow the WHA to streamline its modernization and operations with less DHCD oversight.

There are a total of 119 units of public housing breaking down as follows, 77 units of conventional 1 bedroom Elderly/ Handicap housing at Hyde Park Drive. 10 units of Congregate 1 bedroom Elderly/ Handicap housing at Ready Drive, There is 12 units of conventional 2 - 3 bedroom Family housing at Ready Drive. 12 units of conventional scattered site Family housing units within Winchendon and 8 units of Physical and Mentally Handicapped housing of which the Winchendon Housing Authority has

contracted the department of Mental Health to manage these units for us. Again we have a waiting list for these units and people need to fill out an application.

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

We also have 8 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 2014 from the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) funds in the amount of **\$312,000** for work to be performed at Hyde Park Drive and our other State Scattered sites here in Winchendon over fiscal years 2016 and 2017. For the past 14 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 and State Senator working together for the benefit of our residents at Hyde Park Drive.

Anyone interested in applying for Housing and that meet the eligibility requirements for any of our units please feel free to come see us at 108 Ipswich Drive or call us at (978) 297-2280 or via email at <u>wha@net1plus.com</u> 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 <u>www.winha.org</u> 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

# ANNUAL REPORT LAND USE DEPARTMENT

January 1, 2014 – December 31, 2014 Building Department

PURPOSE OF		
PERMIT	NO. OF PERMITS	
Dwelling Units	7	
Foundations	2	
Additions/Alterations	149	
Garage Additions	8	
Deck Addition/Repairs	22	
Sheds	12	
Roofs	40	
Swimming Pools	6	
Demolitions	4	
Signs	6	
Safety Inspections	2	
Plumbing	75	
Gas	40	
Electrical	188	
Wood Stoves	19	
Pellet Stove	32	
	612	

# **Total Departmental Payments to Town Treasurer**

Building	\$52,255.00
Wire	\$13,792.00
Plumbing	\$ 5,470.00
Gas	\$ 2,230.00
Weights & Measures	\$ 2,595.00
Sheet Metal	\$ 100.00
Occupancy	\$ 165.00
Cert. Of Inspections	<u>\$ 760.00</u>
TOTAL	\$77,367.00

The Land Use Department issued a total of 612 permits, with a total of \$119,112.00 in fees collected.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Blanchard, Building Commissioner

# Beals Memorial Library Winchendon, Massachusetts

# TO THE CITIZENS OF WINCHENDON:

#### **Ongoing Activities**

During 2014, the Beals Memorial Library continued to serve Winchendon residents of all ages, as a resource to meet informational, educational, and recreational needs. For adults and children, we provide collections of books, magazines, DVDs, recorded books (including CD, and MP3 formats, along with pre-recorded MP3 devices with the trade name "Playaways.") Through our bibliographic network, we provided electronic access to growing collections of "downloadable" audio and e-books (for Kindles, Nooks, Sony E-readers, Androaid Smartphones and Tablets) along with streaming video. The Central and Western Massachusetts Automated Resource Sharing (C/W MARS) network is our bibliographic provider. Patrons must have an active library card and the requisite equipment to make use of digital download titles.

We continue to depend upon C/W MARS for circulation functions. Our membership in C/W MARS is subsidized by a Small Libraries in Networks grant from the Board of Library Commissioners. This system allows patrons on-line access to their accounts, and the ability to request the titles they want. The optional Wowbrary service continues to be provided, so patrons may sign up to receive a free, weekly e-mail notification describing new acquisitions. Through the C/W MARS network and the Massachusetts Virtual Catalog, supported by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners, access is also provided to the holdings of the vast majority of other Massachusetts public libraries, so patrons may electronically place requests for titles in distant Massachusetts communities. Requested items can then be picked up and returned locally. Patrons continue to enjoy the use of other Central and Western Massachusetts libraries which participate in C/W MARS, using the same card at all member institutions. Mediated Inter-Library Loan is offered for items not available via the Victual Catalog. This means local library staff work with the Massachusetts Library System to obtain, if possible, materials from libraries nation-wide. We don't always succeed, but we promise to try.

Circulation for FY 2014 totaled 45,795 items of which there were 15,412 video items, and 2,417 audio items. We loaned 8,068 items to people who use other Massachusetts libraries. We reported holding 38,159 physical items. We obtained 7,120 items from other libraries for loan from our building. These functions are almost all facilitated by Winchendon's membership in the C/W MARS (Central/Western Massachusetts Automated Resource Sharing) network and MLS (the Massachusetts Library System) continues to provide the transportation which actually gets library materials around the Commonwealth.

Due to our building's lack of handicapped access, library staff members continue to do home delivery and pick up for people who are unable to visit the library in person. Other services for the disabled include Talking Book demonstrations, a digital magnifier, and curb-side service, arranged by phone.

Still popular with library users are Saturday hours, when we are open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Labor Day until Memorial Day. We are also open Mondays through Thursdays 1-8 p.m., and Fridays 9-5. The library is closed on Sundays, legal holidays, and Saturdays during the summer.

Our 2014 Summer Reading Program, FIZZ, BOOM, READ! was offered with some materials supplied by the Massachusetts Library System. We are grateful for local support from the Friends of the Library, and Winchendon's Subway Sandwich Shop. The program also had state -wide support from the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners. Our 2014 Winter Program, Find Treasure at Your Library, was offered January through March. Library Director Julia White Cardinal was again invited to participate in Memorial School's Fun Day, making presentations to promote the library, and the Summer Reading Program. She made similar visits to Toy Town Elementary School.

The Library continued to offer Preschoolers' Story Hours for children ages 3-5, last season, switching to the 6-7 p.m. time slot, which wasn't as successful as we hoped it would be. Beginning in January 2015, the programs will again be offered on Friday Staff member Melissa Thayer is usually the presenter for these free mornings. In the Spring, the Winchendon Pre-K to offered Wednesday mornings programs. playgroups for ages birth - 2 in Memorial Hall. These programs are supported, in part, by a CFCE (Coordinated Family and Community Engagement) grant. Mrs. Cardinal presented the program when Pre-K personnel are not available. In addition, the CFCE program also supported Friday afternoon Play Groups for children 2-4, during the Spring. In the Fall, the Winchendon Pre-K regretfully relocated their programs to Murdock Middle High School, where the Middle School principal offered them accessible space. Parents reported that the library's 24 steps to the Hall were a barrier. So, Toddler Time (for intrepid parents of children ages 3 and under) has returned to the Library on Friday mornings, from 9:15 to 10 a.m. The Library continues to offer Story/Craft programs for children in Kindergarten and up, on Thursday afternoons at 4 p.m., and the response has been good. Check on vacation week programs.

February vacation week story/craft programs were also offered. Mrs. Linda Bredberg participated in "Read Across America Day" at Memorial School. Patti Stanko conducted a children's summer book group that considered *Wonder* by R.J. Palacio. A total of 96 programs were offered, with total attendance amounting to 961.

As in the past, we took advantage of the Internal Revenue Service distribution program to commonly requested federal income tax forms, along with basic state forms. We have been advised that both state and federal forms distribution programs will be scaled back even more, as more and more residents switch to on-line filing. However, because numerous librarians (and probably other folks as well) complained, the IRS re-thought their decision to eliminate the 1040EZ form, and have announced its continued availability, at least for this year. That is a great boon to first-time filers, and those who have a very simple tax liability.

Winchendon again qualified for both a Library Incentive Grant and a Municipal Equalization Grant, totaling <u>\$12 138</u> from the Commonwealth. This is a direct benefit of our Library's certification under the Massachusetts Minimum Standards for Free Public Library Service, and filing the required documents with the Board of Library Commissioners. Standards for a town of Winchendon's population include being open at least 40 hours per week (at least 5 days per week, and at least some evening hours); loaning materials, without charge, to residents of other certified communities; spending at least 16% of the municipal appropriation for materials; employing a qualified librarian; and having a municipal appropriation for the coming year which is at least 2.5% above the average for the prior three years. This money is large portion of our budget for new library materials.

Discount museum coupons offered this year included Museum of Fine Arts, the Ecotarium (in Worcester) the Museum of Science, and the New England Aquarium. New this year is a discount coupon for Old Sturbridge Village, and discount coupons for Zoo New England, which admit visitors to either the Stone Zoo in Stoneham, or the Franklin Park Zoo in Boston. With the exception of the New England Aquarium discount pass (which was donated by the Friends of the Library) these programs were supported, in part, by grants from the Massachusetts Cultural Council, administered locally by the Winchendon Cultural Council. The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation provided a free parking pass and two additional Parks passes 93funded by the Friends of the Library. These passes were very popular over the summer, especially on week-ends when the weather was fair.

The Library continues to provide computers, and Internet access to an average of 93 people per week. In addition, we offer wireless Internet access for patrons who have their own equipment. Some users even manage to use the service from outside the building--after hours. We are grateful to Comcast for providing the Internet connection for the public to use.

The Life Skills students, teachers, and aides from Murdock Middle High School visited the library regularly during the school year. In addition, the library hosted visits from two groups of ESL students from the Winchendon School. Meeting room's space was regularly used by Winchendon's 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee, and the Robinson-Broadhurst Engagement Committee.

Fax service, initiated last year, continues to be patronized by library users. The fee is \$2 for the first page, and \$1 for each additional sheet sent. Faxes may be received on behalf of patrons. The usual print-out charges of \$0.20 for black on white copies, and \$0.50 for color copies applies.

We are grateful to Colonial Co-Operative Bank, for again donating bookmarks, and sleeves for our plastic library cards. Both are printed with the library's hours and telephone number, for the convenience of our patrons.

Mrs. Cardinal again made several visits to family day care homes in Winchendon, brining stories and activities to youngsters and caregivers. She was also invited to participate in the local McDonald's Café Tuesday family night, providing an opportunity to showcase library offerings for children and families. The YMCA Clark Memorial invited Mrs. Cardinal to visit with two groups of their summer campers, to tell about local history.

The Friends of the Library continue to offer book sales utilizing the basement space in the library. With the proceeds, they support reading programs, activities, and other purchases to help the library, such as printers and computer tables.

#### Notable for 2014

This year, in collaboration with the new Memorial School Principal, Nina Schlikin, the library offered all Memorial Schools students the opportunity to get a library card, and use it during a visit to our library. Transportation was provided by the bus company, at no charge. Mrs. Cardinal made several school visits to explain the privileges and responsibilities of owning a library card. We are grateful to for the assistance of Memorial School's teachers without whom the program would not have been possible.

This year, the library continued the project to re-allocate use of some interior spaces with more extensive weeding volumes that were dated or little use, this year focusing on the non-fiction collections. During the coming year, we plan to shift the library's computers to the present reference room.

We were fortunate to have the services of Mrs. Jeannettte Spaulding, who began working in the library in the fall, under Winchendon's Senior Work-Off program. This year brought the retirement of our long-term volunteer, Miss Lisa Beauvais, after 30 years of service. We were pleased to see that the Winchendon Board of Selectmen honored her service to the community with a Proclamation.

Our Library Accessibility Project was brought before town meeting, and, with support from Winchendon's Capital Planning Committee, approved by the voters for a Proposition 2 and a half over-ride vote, which was held in July, and, we are pleased to report, was successful. The Friends contributed a Thank You banner which was displayed in front of the library. Our application to the Robinson-Broadhurst Foundation for a portion of the of the project's funding was awarded, to be paid over three years. The first installment has been received.

We were saddened to learn of former Library Trustee Richard Olsen's passing. Memorial Donations of over \$350 were received for the Library Building Fund. We are grateful to Richard's family for thinking of the library, and extend to them our sympathy. The Friends of the Library presented a fascinating program on Winchendon's Native American "Foot Prints" in June. Also offered was an art deco mesh wreath making workshop, with Tricia David, which was enjoyed by all. The Friends continue to make use of basement space for an ongoing book sale. This year, with help from Local resident David Plummer showed slides documenting his discoveries in the woods of Winchendon. He is currently involved in efforts to further research and protect these unique artifacts. The Friends have enjoyed the volunteer assistance of Wendy Fournier, who has worked to organize materials for this year's book sale.

On the advice of Tree Warden John Deline, the large arbor vitae was removed from the front of the library. It was threatening the library roof. The work was done by a tree service retained by the Winchendon DPW.

In the Summer, the Library received the donation of a telescope for loan, donated by Jim and Kate Zebrowski, in memory of Jim's late parents. This was arranged through the Aldrich Astronomical Society, which provided the specially adapted telescopes, and training for the staff. Lending rules were developed.

In the Fall, we were fortunate to have the volunteer services of Ms. Cassandra Mizhir, who organizing the Lewis Hine photographs of children who worked at the White Mills around 1910. Researcher Joe Manning found out "whatever happened" to many of the people, and their families, and presented his findings on his website, Mornings on Maple Street. Cassandra spent many hours downloading and printing out the pictures and reports, and assembling them into a binder for the perusal of library patrons.

This year, Microsoft announced they were discontinuing maintaining Windows XP, an operating system run of many of the library's PC's. We were able to purchase 2 new machines, and new a new wireless access point. It is planned that we will moved the public access computers to a secure wireless network, eliminating the need for cabling. This will facilitate the relocation of computers from the small computer room to the present Reference Room.

The Cultural Council funded a visit from the Blue Sky Planetarium to kick off the Summer Reading Program. The Friends of the Library supported a yoga program for children in Grades 3-5, presented by Paula Brisbois, and a summer series of visits from Jean Dailey, the Lego Lady. All these programs were held in conjunction with the Summer Reading Program, along with story/craft programs organized by library staff members.

As we write this report, we bid farewell to Library Director Julia White Cardinal, who serviced the Beals Memorial Library for nearly 36 years. We join with our patrons, and members of the Friends and staff, to wish her a happy retirement.

### **Board News**

Mr. Ronald Klash relocated out of Winchendon, so his tenure on the Board ended. As we write this report, we also welcome Jane LaPointe to the Board of Trustees. Her vast

experience, not only as a school librarian, but as a researcher, and coordinator of various workplace will be welcome.

This year, the Board voted to contribute to the availability of parking on the library's neighborhood by contributing \$15,000 from the Churchill Bequest, to help the Winchendon Redevelopment Authority purchase the vacant lot across from the library that belonged to Mrs. Denis Wall. While not all the library needs in the way of parking, we feel it will certainly help to make it easier for library users to access the building.

We wish to especially thank the members of the Friends of the Library for their ongoing support and involvement. We are also grateful to the individuals who have made cash contributions this year, and to the many volunteers and friends who have donated time, books, magazines, and miscellaneous materials. Next, we wish to thank our other faithful volunteers: Michael Ringwood, Grace McNamara, Abbey Higgins, Ryan Brooks, Esther Grimes, Amanda Mackie, and Kyle Woodward (who helped upgrade an XP computer to Windows 7) Ariana Deery. As always, we have many people to thank for another successful year. The Board wishes to acknowledge the dedication and hard work of the entire library staff: Linda Bredberg, Julia White Cardinal, Patricia Stanko, Melissa Thayer and Custodian Keith Bussiere, Sr.

It is our staff members who actually provide library services to the public. Without them, the Beals Memorial Library would simply be a building full of books, DVDs, magazines, computers, etc. We think these folks do a very good job of providing the services expected of a modern public library, within our extremely limited budget and 100-year old physical plant. Please consider this: according to the "Public Library Share of the FY2010 Massachusetts Municipal Pie\*" average local library appropriations amounted to 1.3 % of the state-wide total. In comparison, Winchendon's library appropriation is only 0.65% of the town's total, or 50% below the state average.

Respectfully submitted,

The Board of Library Trustees

Ron Muse (2016) Suzanne Rader, (2015) Cindy Darcy (2016) Jane LaPointe (2017) vacancy vacancy

\*See http://mblc.state.ma.us/advisory/statistics/public/repmunicpie/mp\_pop\_group.pdf

# Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School

Having only been recently named the Superintendent-Director of Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School, I am honored and delighted to present the district's 2013-2014 annual report. It was a year marked by student achievement, faculty and staff distinctions, and leadership development - as well as transition. Compiling information for the enclosed report has provided me with an opportunity to get to know the students, faculty and staff that comprise this wonderful school, and to reflect upon their tremendous achievements and activities. I am fortunate to work closely with a talented leadership team, many of whom have contributed to this report, and given great insight into some of the more notable highlights of the 2013-2014 academic year, including:

- Students at Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School continued to demonstrate high academic achievement. In the spring of 2014, Monty Tech's passing rate on the MCAS English Language Arts exam was 100%, Mathematics 98%, and Biology 99%.
- Competing in three categories: network security, digital forensics, and Cisco networking, a team of six talented students captured second place at the CyberPatriot event, a national high school cyber defense competition, founded by the Air Force Association.
- Class of 2014 graduate, Jessica Shattuck of Fitchburg was presented with the *Legion* of Valor award, the highest award a JROTC cadet may receive, recognizing academic excellence and extraordinary leadership skills. Ten students advanced through local, district and state competitions to earn the right to compete at the National SkillsUSA Conference in Kansas City, Missouri. The Monty Tech national delegation returned with a bronze medal in Action Skills.
- Monty Tech continues to participate in the highly selective Student Spaceflight Experiment Program, representing the only vocational school in the nation to have a student science experiment launch into space, and providing students with an opportunity to study the effects of gravity on their science project.

As you know, a Monty Tech education is grounded in workforce preparedness, balanced by a rigorous academic curriculum. Every day at Monty Tech, one guiding principle is evident - our students must be ready for both college <u>and</u> career. Students are prepared with industry-recognized credentials and skills to be successful in the world of work. And for those students whose future may include higher education, Monty Tech offers dual enrollment courses, articulation agreements, and Advanced Placement courses that may significantly reduce the amount of time and money spent on a college education.

We are so proud of the educational programs offered here at Monty Tech, yet we continually strive to improve upon them. Collaborating with area colleges and universities, we are ensuring our curriculum and instruction is rigorous and relevant. Sharing best practices with vocational-technical colleagues from across the state – and nation – we give and take some of the best ideas, with one thing in mind – what is best for our students.

We hope you will find this report a comprehensive review of the quality education you have come to know and expect from Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School. You may notice that each of the eighteen member cities and towns are reflected

in this report, and that students performed services in almost every community last year. Providing our students with an opportunity to give back to the communities that support them – and support our school – is a pleasure.

I am honored to serve as Superintendent-Director of Monty Tech, a school that continues to transform secondary education in North Central Massachusetts, bringing to life lessons learned in a classroom, at the workplace, and in the community – all while consistently maintaining high standards of fiscal responsibility. Our FY14 Annual Budget was unanimously accepted by each of the eighteen member communities, and reflected only a 2.0% increase over the 2012-2013 Educational Plan. We recognize that we are in the midst of some difficult economic times faced by public education and so we will continue to seek creative ways to reduce member town assessments, while maintaining our high standards of academic and vocational-technical success.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila M. Harrity Sheila M. Harrity, Ed.D.

#### **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

#### <u>Leadership</u>

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 been able to transform the school into one of the most sought-after high schools in North Central Massachusetts.

Sheila M. Harrity, Superintendent-Director Tom Browne, Principal Tammy Crockett, Business Manager Christina Favreau, Director of Academic Programs Jim Hachey, Director of Vocational Programs Richard Ikonen, Director of Facilities

#### <u>Enrollment</u>

On June 1, 2014, student enrollment at Monty Tech included 1,403 students in grades nine through twelve. Students are represented from every community in the district: Ashburnham (54), Ashby (37), Athol (93), Barre (35), Fitchburg (364), Gardner (158), Harvard (3), Holden (68), Hubbardston (61), Lunenburg (70), Petersham (4), Phillipston (21), Princeton (17), Royalston (22), Sterling (56), Templeton (100), Westminster (77), and Winchendon (133). The remaining thirty students were from out-of-district towns, including Clinton, Leominster, Natick, Orange, Pepperell, Rutland, Shirley, West Boylston, and Worcester.

Throughout 2013-2014, Monty Tech offered a variety of opportunities for students, parents, and community members to learn about and visit the school. In October 2013, approximately 1,000 district eighth graders participated in the annual "Tour Day" event. Students toured our twenty-vocational/technical areas and learned about the school's challenging academic offerings and exciting athletic and extracurricular programs. Career Awareness Night offered interested students the opportunity to return in the evening with their family members, to further explore the facilities and talk with staff members.

Each year, the Dean of Admissions conducts school visits, student interviews, and accepts applications for admissions. 2013-2014 proved to be an exceptionally busy year for her, as the school received 730 applications for admission. Of those, 642 were from students hoping to enter our incoming freshman class. The balance of the applications came from students hoping to enter the school as upperclassmen. Because there are only a limited number of students the school can accept each year, 367 freshmen and 19 upperclassmen were admitted.

The Vocational Interest Program (V.I.P.) offers area seventh and eighth grade students the chance to visit Monty Tech after school, and participate in hands-on learning experiences across a variety of vocational/technical areas. The program continued to attract a large number of students during the 2013-2014 school year, serving approximately 600 area students.

#### Class of 2014 Awards

Members of the Class of 2014 were awarded approximately \$50,000 in scholarships. The Monty Tech Foundation generously provided \$34,000 in scholarships to graduating seniors, ranging in amounts of \$250 to \$2,500. The Foundation also awarded \$6,000 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 themselves, 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. Well over 60% of the graduating class of 2014 reported plans to enroll at either a 2-year college, 4-year college/university, or a technical/trade school upon graduation. By earning college credits while still in high school, these students will benefit by saving both time and money as they pursue advanced educational programs.

#### <u>Financial Report</u>

In an effort to develop a cost-effective budget for the fiscal year 2013-2014, a great deal of effort was put forth by the School Committee, administration and staff. The final fiscal year 2013-2014 Educational Plan totaled \$24,785,280, which represents a 2.0% increase over the 2012-2013 Educational Plan. As a result of changes to the final FY14 State budget and the District's decision not to increase the already-approved community assessments, the District's FY14 budget was approximately \$200,000 below the minimum spending required by Massachusetts General Law Chapter 70.

The District was audited in August 2014 as part of the yearly financial audit by the accounting firm of Melanson, Heath and Co. from Greenfield, MA and a very good report is anticipated.

#### Grants and Contracts

Monty Tech continues to pursue grant funding on an annual basis. These funds assist in providing many educational and social services to the student population. For fiscal year 2014, state and federal grant sources provided the school with \$842,780. Programs funded by these grants include: Essential Health Services, Social Intervention and Mediation, Improving Teacher Quality, Special Education Services and Program Improvement, Title I Support, Perkins Occupational Education, and Summer Academic Support.

In addition to state and federal grant sources, Monty Tech was also the recipient of private and competitive grant awards totaling \$525,000. Included in that total are a number of highly competitive awards, including a \$400,000 award from the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, used to provide training in the new vocational-technical education frameworks to over 350 educators across the Commonwealth, and a \$42,500 award from the Executive Office for Administration and Finance, used to purchase one adult patient simulator, which will provide our Health Occupations students with unprecedented training opportunities, as the device manifests vital signs, clinical signs and symptoms. Allocation and competitive grants totaled \$1,367,780 for fiscal year 2014.

#### Academic Achievement

In 2013-2014, students at Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School continued to demonstrate high academic achievement, earning commendable MCAS scores in English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Biology. In the spring of 2014, Monty Tech's passing rate on the English Language Arts exam was 100%, Mathematics 98%, and Biology 99%

English Language Arts	2012	2013	2014
Students Tested	361	352	364
Passing	100%	99%	100%
Advanced/ Proficient	95%	95%	95%
Needs Improvement	5%	5%	5%
Failing	0%	1%	0%

Mathematics	2012	2013	2014
Students Tested	360	352	366
Passing	99%	98%	98%
Advanced/Proficient	87%	80%	84%
Needs Improvement	12%	18%	14%
Failing	1%	2%	2%

Biology	2012	2013	2014
Students Tested	361	398	351
Passing	98%	97%	99%
Advanced/ Proficient	73%	73%	74%
Needs Improvement	24%	24%	25%
Failing	2%	3%	1%

The district continues to make progress toward narrowing proficiency gaps. Students in all subgroups have met their progress and performance targets, continuing the school'

Student Group	On Target = 75 or higher	Performance	Progress
All Students		81	Met Target
High Needs		79	Met Target
Low Income		84	Met Target
ELL and Former ELL		-	-
Students with Disabilities		81	Met Target
American Indian/ Alaska Native		-	-
Asian		-	-
African/American/Black		-	-
Hispanic/ Latino		93	Met Target
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander		-	-
White		84	Met Target

#### Vocational Projects in the District Communities

Unlike students in traditional, comprehensive high schools, students at Monty Tech are asked to put their education into practice on a daily basis. Students across the twenty different vocational-technical education programs are building homes, reconstructing damaged properties, repairing service vehicles, making walkways more accessible, and performing countless community services.

The 2013-2014 school year was a busy one for our vocational educators, as each trade aimed to provide practical, hands-on learning experiences for our students, while helping to improve each of the eighteen member communities.

<u>Auto Body: Collision Repair Technology:</u> Throughout 2013-2014, the program completed seventy requests for service and repair work. Students detailed police vehicles, installed new fenders and repainted several town vehicles, benefiting the school, police and fire departments in local communities. With assistance from several other departments, the program hosted the annual car show, which was a tremendous success. Students also competed in the *World of Wheels* competition, held in Boston, and were awarded first place in the pedal car building competition. (Total enrollment: 60; 36 males, 24 females)

<u>Automotive Technology</u>: The Automotive Technology program saw a very busy year, marked by curriculum changes that instructors believe will benefit every student. Aligning state frameworks with NATEF standards, instructors purchased new textbooks and developed new lessons, designed to enhance the learning experience. The program also successfully completed the NATEF Master Automobile Service Technology recertification process, which occurs every five years. Because the Monty Tech program continues to hold this rigorous certification, students qualify for articulated credits at area colleges upon program completion. A top student, Brian Nielsen of Ashby was awarded a gold medal at the SkillsUSA state competition, and traveled to the national competition in June 2014. The program also supported eight students in the co-operative education program, and a total of fourteen students were employed within the industry. These students gained valuable workplace experience, applying the skills they learned in the rigorous automotive technology program, and received high praise from their employers. Finally, in addition to all of these accomplishments, program students and instructors completed work on more than 400 vehicles, including those of faculty, staff, retirees, district residents, and municipal vehicles. (Total enrollment: 54; 44 males, 10 females)

<u>Business Technology</u>: Students and instructors in the Business Technology program continue to enjoy an increased presence in the school community, providing assistance to shops and offices throughout the school by coordinating bulk mailing, labeling, organizing, and collating jobs. Offices that receive direct support from the Business Technology program include: Monty Tech Nurses' Office, front office, Monty Tech Tea Room, and Student Support Services. Students also assist wherever there is a customer service need, as in the annual greenhouse project, directed by Mr. Dylan Hager. Students serve as customer service representatives and cashiers for this very busy seasonal operation. Students also run a successful school store, The Gear House, refining their skills in cash handling, customer service, organization, and marketing. (Total enrollment: 76; 14 males, 62 females)

<u>Cabinetmaking:</u> The Monty Tech Cabinetmaking program is delighted to report the acquisition of a new and much-needed piece of equipment – a CNC Machining Center, which effectively utilizes a variety of software programs. Having this new equipment will allow instructors to teach specific skills that the industry and area employers demand. Throughout the year, students spent a great deal of time building and installing cabinetry in a number of public offices throughout the Monty Tech district, including: Westminster Town Hall weights and measure scale cabinet; Cherry sign for the Fitchburg Fire Department; two podiums for the Town of Athol; a cherry buffet for the United Way offices in Fitchburg; display cases for the Gardner Elks; and counter tops built and installed at the Barre Police Station. Finally, the program saw nine students benefit from co-operative learning experiences with area employers. Both students and employers reported enjoying the mutually beneficial experience. (Total enrollment: 72; 46 males, 26 females)

<u>Cosmetology:</u> Providing students with opportunities to earn industry-recognized credentials and certifications is a guiding principle in the Cosmetology department. Twenty-three seniors sat for the State Board Exams, and all twenty-three passed and are now licensed cosmetologists. More than half of the graduating seniors remain in the industry. Students in their junior year of the program, who are primarily responsible for managing the "clinic floor", provided numerous services that resulted in total sales in excess of \$9,000. Monty Tech Cosmetology instructors continued to promote community service, and as a result, this year the program supported a classmate's Youth Venture Club project, raising more than \$650 for this very worthwhile organization. (Total enrollment: 90; 1 male, 89 females)

<u>Culinary Arts:</u> Students and instructors in the Monty Tech Culinary Arts program are among the busiest in our school. In addition to operating a full-service dining room and bakery, which serves 90-120 patrons daily, culinary students showcase their talents at trade shows and competitions throughout the year. In 2013-2014, culinary arts students

participated in three hot food competitions, and placed first on two of the events, where they were competing against area hotels, restaurants, and professional chefs. The program provided breakfast, lunch, and dinner, as well as support staff, for a number of events for public organizations, including: Fitchburg Rotary Club, Montachusett Home Health Care, Senate Ways and Means Committee, Gardner AARP, and the Fitchburg City Council. The program was also fortunate to receive new equipment, including a combination steam convection oven, a kitchen video monitoring system, two new butcherblock tables, and a custom stainless steel bench with power supply. (Total enrollment: 101; 35 males, 66 females)

Dental Assisting: During 2013-2014, the Dental Assisting program placed 3 students in co-operative educational placements, working with area dentists. Fourteen students earned externships, while twelve students participated in affiliation. All sophomore, junior, and senior students attended the Yankee Dental Convention in Boston, and learned about the most current trends and practices in the field. While national passing averages for Dental Assisting National Board (DANB) exams range from 69% - 78%, the Monty Tech dental students earned a 94% passing rate on the Infection Control exam and an outstanding 100% passing rate on the Radiology exam. The program supported four students who traveled to the SkillsUSA national competitions. For the fourth consecutive year, Monty Tech welcomed Community Health Connections, a school-based dental hygiene program whose goal is to provide dental services to students in need. Through this initiative, thirty-two students were examined by a dentist, had their teeth cleaned, and had sealants or temporary fillings applied as needed. Monty Tech Dental Assisting students were given hands-on, practical experience, as they assisted the staff from CHC during each dental procedure that was performed. (Total enrollment: 62; 5 males, 57 females)

Drafting Technology: Students in the Drafting Technology program earned well-deserved recognition for their achievements in 2013-2014. Four seniors held co-op positions, four students were recognized for outstanding SkillsUSA achievements, and 90% of the program's graduating seniors continue in the field of drafting, either by selecting a related college major or by entering the workforce in a related field. The shop continued to provide countless community services in the form of banners, signage, building plans, interior design plans, and decorating for school-sponsored events. Some of the more notable projects in 2013-2014 included: railings design for Harvard Public Schools; designed a Habitat for Humanity duplex in Fitchburg (*to be built by Monty Tech students and instructors 2014-2015*); landscape design services for the Forbush Library in Westminster; and completing the Fitchburg Fire Department seal. (Total enrollment: 56; 33 males, 23 females)

Early Childhood Education: Jordan Patricks earned a gold medal at the 2014 SkillsUSA state competitions in Action Skills. From there, she traveled to the national competitions, placing 3<sup>rd</sup>. She was accompanied by her classmate, Jessica Shattuck, who served as a National Voting Delegate and was also awarded the President's Volunteer Service Award. These students represent the Monty Tech Early Childhood Education program well, as the

program is known for a strong emphasis on community service, academic and vocationaltechnical excellence, and a commitment to continued education. During 2013-2014, Early Childhood Education students participated in the Massachusetts Association for the Education of Young Children's Recognition Dinner, constructing twenty 3-dimensional children's games to serve as centerpieces for the event. Students volunteered at the *Boston Strong* relay held in Winchendon, organized and led children's activities at the annual ARC Christmas Party, and provided child care services for the mental health symposium held here at Monty Tech in May 2014. The Monty Tech Childcare Center continues to operate at full capacity, serves as a co-operative education site for two students, and successfully prepares their young students for transition into Kindergarten. The Center's Director, Ms. Kelley Booth, visits with prospective parents almost daily and handles frequent calls for Fall placement. (Total enrollment: 65; 2 males, 63 females)

<u>Electrical</u>: The Electrical program at Monty Tech continues to be one of the busiest trades in the school. During the 2013-2014 year, students and instructors completed a number of "outside projects" that include: installing new lighting at the Turkey Hill Middle School in Lunenburg, adding additional lighting receptacles at the Bromfield School in Harvard, adding additional receptacles and internet outlets in Barre, and rewiring a data network in Winchendon. Countless electrical projects were also completed in-house, including: library renovations, LED lighting on the outside of the school, and new equipment installations in a variety of vocational programs. The Electrical program is also particularly proud to have trained fourteen students who benefited from a co-op placement during the 2013-2014 school year, successfully applying what they have learned at Monty Tech in workplaces across North Central Massachusetts. (Total enrollment: 87; 76 males, 11 females)

Engineering Technology: The Monty Tech Engineering program continued to enhance their curriculum and instruction by embedding three Project Lead the Way courses into the already rigorous vocational-technical curriculum. Students performed quite well on the end of course assessments affiliated with the Project Lead the Way coursework, with nine students earning college credit in Principles of Engineering, seven students earning college credit in Introduction to Engineering Design, and eight students earning credit in Digital Electronics. These students may apply these credits at colleges and universities across the country. The exploratory program during the 2013-2014 school year yielded positive results for the program, with 12 students selecting Engineering Technology as their first choice. All thirteen seniors graduated, and reported plans to continue their education or continue working in the engineering field. Finally, instructors were pleased with the work done in their instructional space, citing better organization and increased safety. Instructors also look forward to further renovations in the instructional space, including a dropped ceiling, refinishing the floor, new work benches, and the installation of a second SMARTboard. (Total enrollment: 57; 45 males, 12 females)

<u>Graphic Communications</u>: The Monty Tech Graphic Communications program is pleased to have graduated twenty students, all of whom were accepted at a variety of colleges, including 2-year, 4-year, public, and private institutions. Throughout the 2013-2014

school year, the shop continued to produce large quantities of print projects for district towns and community service organizations. This year, the shop produced approximately three hundred twenty "outside" print projects, billing in excess of \$18,000 and saving area town offices and school districts over \$125,000. The shop also produced yearbooks for local institutions, saving each school approximately \$8,000 - \$10,000, as the billing only reflects the cost of materials. The Graphic Communications program also completed numerous "in house" projects in our student-operated copy center, including: over two million black and white copies, two hundred fifty thousand color copies, and over five hundred wide format prints. By industry standards, this would cost the district \$275,000. Our cost to complete these projects was only \$55,000, which resulted in a substantial savings of \$219,500. The program was fortunate to receive a number of equipment upgrades and pieces of new technology, including: Konica Minolta High Speed Copier, a Konica Minolta Office Color Copier, and ten (10) new iMac computers, each equipped with CS6 software. (Total enrollment: 83; 28 males, 55 females)

Health Occupations: The Health Occupations program at Monty Tech continues to educate a large number of students, providing a rigorous education grounded in current medical knowledge and practice. With guest speakers including a mortician, an emergency room physician, the American Red Cross and representatives from Battered Women's Resources, instructors aim to provide students with critical exposure to a variety of healthrelated career options. The program, which boasts an enrollment of more than one hundred students, continues to participate in community service programs, including Red Cross Blood Drives, Pediatric Day (in conjunction with students from the Early Childhood Education program), and a "baby shower" for women living in a local battered women's The Health Occupations program is dedicated to providing all students with shelter. opportunities to earn industry-recognized credentials, and as a result, students earn the following credentials: Medical Terminology Certificate; Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 10-hour certification; Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and First Aid Certificate through the American Heart Association; Certified Nursing Assistant License through the American Red Cross; and Certified Clinical Medical Assistant credential through the certifying board of the National Healthcare Association. (Total enrollment: 103; 7 males, 96 females)

<u>House Carpentry:</u> Most of the work done by the students and instructors in the Monty Tech House Carpentry program is done off-campus, completing renovation, building, and repair work for member communities. Some of the more notable projects from the 2013-2014 school year include: building two baseball dugouts (wood frame and asphalt shingle roofs) for Phillipston Elementary school; building four dugouts (wood frame, corrugated metal roofs, and PVCF trim); installing interior wall partitions, renovating exterior walls, and installing new windows at the Templeton Senior Center; building and installing cabinets at the Templeton Food Pantry; renovating the "booking room" at the Barre Police Station; installing a guard rail, small shed, handicapped ramp guardrail, and Police Station sign for the Town of Hubbardston; replacing deteriorated aluminum trim around the school entrance at the Lunenburg Primary School; and reconstructing and reroofing the West Fitchburg Gazebo. (Total enrollment: 61; 36 males, 25 females)

Industrial Technology: In 2013-2014, the Monty Tech Industrial Technology program added instructor Matt McGee to the talented team of educators. Mr. McGee's great enthusiasm for the subject matter has been a welcome addition to the program, as he brings a wealth of both industry and teaching experience. Additionally, his immediate contributions to the program have resulted in revised and improved curriculum in interpreting technical drawings and prints, and troubleshooting problems in heating and cooling systems. In a program where students are called on for "a little bit of everything," a great deal of work was done to assist local municipal offices in building upgrades and renovations. Some of the more notable outside projects include: conducting an energy audit for the Sterling Municipal Light Department, and making necessary upgrades to the Department of Public Works main building, in an effort to reduce energy consumption at this aging facility. The co-operative education program continues to be a highlight for students in the Industrial Technology program, as seven students were awarded co-op placements during the year. (Total enrollment: 54; 47 males, 7 females)

Information Technology: As with any school, Information Technology provides key services to the educational community. In addition to the critical in-house Help Desk services offered by the program, students and instructors performed in excess of four hundred hours of repair, upgrading, and troubleshooting computer problems for Monty Tech community members. Competing in three categories: network security, digital forensics, and Cisco networking, a team of six talented students (led by instructor Richard Duncan) captured second place at the CyberPatriot event, a national high school cyber defense competition, founded by the Air Force Association. A team of seven Information Technology students travelled to Fitchburg State University, and participated in a highly competitive programming event. The team placed 5<sup>th</sup> in a field of more than forty teams. Finally, to ensure program graduates are armed with valuable industry-recognized certifications, program instructors offer students the following certification opportunities: CIW Web Foundation certification (passing rate 56%), TestOut PC Pro certification (passing rate 69%), IC3 certification (passing rate 75%), Discover I Networking course (passing100%), and Cisco IT Essential Course for Computer Repair and Maintenance (passing rate 88%). (Total enrollment: 60; 55 males, 5 females)

<u>Machine Technology:</u> The Monty Tech Machine Technology department was pleased to add a new piece of equipment to the training program, a Sinker Electrical Discharge Machine (EDM), which will enable instructors to better prepare students to enter the workforce, and making them more marketable to area machine shops that utilize similar equipment. Two students advanced from the SkillsUSA district competition to compete at the state level, one in Precision Machining and the other in CNC Milling. The program is particularly proud of student efforts in Precision Machining at the state SkillsUSA competition, where a Monty Tech student won a bronze medal. A total of thirteen (13) students were offered co-op employment, and were able to put their vocational education into practice at area machine shops. Students who remained at the school refined their skills by completing a number of special projects, including: manufacturing brass plaques to mark projects within the school and outside projects in Monty Tech communities, laser engraving plaques for the school's annual car show, and collaborating with Auto Body students to manufacture the rims, steering wheel, pedals, dashboard, and license plate for the pedal car that was entered into the *World of Wheels* competition, winning first prize. (Total enrollment: 63; 58 males, 5 females)

Masonry: Students and instructors in the Monty Tech Masonry program were busy on our campus, as well as in many of the member communities throughout the 2013-2014 school year. Community services included: building four block dugouts at Quabbin High School in Barre, installing concrete anchors for a batting cage at Ashburnham's Little League field, installing stone veneer on a concrete wall at Bromfield School for Harvard Access Television, installing a tile floor at the Barre Police Station, replacing a concrete floor for the Winchendon Housing Authority, completing tile and concrete repairs at Lunenburg High School, installing benches for Phillipston and Templeton Little League, and tiling three bathrooms and a stone veneer at the Westminster Senior Center. When students weren't busy in our district communities, they were preparing for and competing in the Massachusetts Trowel Trades Association (MTTA) competition. The annual event was held at Monty Tech, which brought seventy-two competitors and a total of two hundred fifty people to our campus in the spring of 2014. Finally, Masonry students performed particularly well in the district and state SkillsUSA competitions, where one student was awarded a gold medal and earned the right to travel to the national event in Kansas City, Missouri in June 2014. (Total enrollment: 71; 60 males, 11 females)

Plumbing: The Plumbing program welcomed a new instructor, Ms. Melissa Blanchard to the team of talented instructors, filling a vacancy that was left after longtime Plumbing instructor, Mr. John Dolen, retired after more than twenty years of service. Ms. Blanchard is a welcome addition to the program, whose depth of both industry and instructional experience is a steady and valuable resource for students and instructors alike. Prioritizing employability, the Plumbing instructors worked closely with the district's Co-Op Coordinator, Ken Baer, to provide all students in their junior year an opportunity to develop a comprehensive professional resume, and participate in the mock interview program. This experience will help students as they transition into the world of work. The Plumbing program is particularly proud to have trained seven students (more than 20% of the junior and senior class) who were given an opportunity to demonstrate their technical skills in a co-operative educational placement. The Monty Tech Plumbing program, like others throughout the school, is committed to community service, and as a result, during the 2013-2014 school year, students and instructors completed rough drainage work at the Templeton Senior Center, and installed plumbing and heating systems in an unused space at the Bromfield School in Harvard, which is now home to the Harvard Community Cable Access Group. The Monty Tech Plumbing program proudly graduated sixteen students in the Class of 2014. Two students, in particular, received prestigious trade awards/recognitions: Matthew Parmenter (Winchendon) was named a Vocational-Technical All-Star by the Plumbing, Heating and Cooling Contractors

Association of Massachusetts; and Shane Lashua (Westminster) was awarded the highly competitive Central Massachusetts Plumbing & Gas Fitting Inspectors Association scholarship. (Total enrollment: 69; 67 males, 2 females)

Welding/Metal Fabrication: The Welding/Metal Fabrication program is charged with successfully completing numerous projects on the Monty Tech campus, including repair work, layout, design, and installation. In conjunction with other trades at the school, students and instructors in the Welding/Metal Fabrication program are instrumental in the successful completion of many of the school's building renovation initiatives. In addition to the more than 60 miscellaneous projects successfully completed by students during the 2013-2014 school year, students and instructors worked collaboratively to complete the following community service projects: fabricated and welded a 31 ft. multi-section guard rail for the Bromfield School in Harvard; rebuilt a 10 ft. plow for the Winchendon Schools; fabricated and welded edge protectors for the Winchendon Housing Authority; fabricated and welded a handrail for the Hubbardston Slade Building; fabricated signs for the Town of Ashburnham fields; designed, fabricated, and welded six park benches for the Johnny Appleseed Trail Association in Fitchburg; and fabricated and welded wall mount brackets for the Fitchburg Fire Department. The program was pleased to place ten top students in co-operative education work experiences across the district. (Total enrollment: 59; 52 males, 7 females)

#### <u>Special Services</u>

During the 2013-2014 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 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 who participates in departmental meetings and assists students who have needs concerning finances, family issues, homelessness, maternity, health issues, and proper food and clothing. 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 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 and mental health emergency treatment, 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.

#### <u>Technology</u>

In 2013-2014 Monty Tech continued the process of improving our network infrastructure to meet future needs. The Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's initiative to replace the current MCAS student assessment testing system with PARCC, an online student assessment testing system, is the driving force for such improvements in school districts across the state.

Monty Tech has completed the upgrade of the network core switch and other network switches throughout the building. Internet bandwidth was increased, and will increase further in 2014-2015. A second firewall was added to reduce the possibility of internet downtime. In July 2013, the school installed building-wide wireless access. We believe these improvements put the school in a position of being ready for the new PARCC assessment pilot testing scheduled for Spring 2015. In December 2013, the library reopened after a lengthy renovation. The library is equipped with laptops and a high-resolution projection system, and is home to two "quiet rooms" and one classroom, equipped with laptops and a SMARTboard.

Monty Tech continues to replace and add technology equipment and software so that students and staff gain experience with newer technology. The school added SMARTboards in several classrooms during the year. In addition, the Special Education department began using iPods as an e-reader assistive technology tool. Administrators began using iPads and Teachpoint teacher evaluation software to meet the reporting requirements of the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) educator evaluation system.

#### <u>SkillsUSA</u>

SkillsUSA is a partnership of students, teachers and industry working together to ensure America had a skilled workforce. Through our association with Skills USA, our students develop job skills, leadership and professional skills, as well as provide community service.

Led by co-advisors, Ms. Kelsey Moskowitz, English teacher, Anne Marie Cataldo, Early Childhood Education Instructor, and Brad Pelletier, Special Education teacher, 2013-2014 proved to be a remarkable year for the Monty Tech SkillsUSA chapter. Highlights of the year include:

- Fitchburg resident, and Dental Assisting student, Brittany Velez, served as SkillsUSA National Secretary.
- Fifteen students attended the Annual Fall State Leadership Conference. The conference spanned three days, and presented the students with an opportunity to develop leadership skills and perform community service at an area YMCA Day Camp.

- The SkillsUSA local competition was held in December 2013/ January 2014. The competitions took place over a three-week period, and included leadership competitions as well as technical and skill based competitions. The event culminated in a Local Awards Ceremony, held at the school on January 29, 2014.
- Winners from the local competition advanced to the district competitions, held at Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical School. There, a grand total of thirty-nine (39) medals were captured by Monty Tech students fourteen (14) gold, fourteen (14) silver, and eleven (11) bronze medals. Three students also qualified to run for the State Executive Council.
- Two students, Jessica Shattuck (Early Childhood Education) and Cassandra Campbell (Drafting Technology), served on the State Advisory Committee to help aid in the planning of the State Conference.
- A total of sixty-seven (67) students attended the State Leadership and Skills Conference, also held at Blackstone Valley Vocational Technical School. Traveling to the highly competitive conference were twenty-nine (29) District Medalist and qualifiers, thirteen (13) local leadership contestants, three (3) state officer candidates, and twenty-two (22) voting delegates. The event culminated with fourteen (14) medals and ten (10) students earning the right to compete at the National Leadership & Skills Conference held in Kansas City, Missouri in late June. Russell Holbert, Jessica Shattuck and Cassandra Campbell were selected to be national voting delegates.
- Five students also traveled to the National Conference, where they received the coveted President's Volunteer Service Award.
- In June 2014, fifteen students and six instructors attended the National Leadership & Skills Conference in Kansas City, Mo. There, Jordan Patricks, a junior in Early Childhood Education (from Holden) received a bronze medal in Action Skills.
- Throughout the year, students participated in a number of community service projects, including: a "Change for Children" Campaign; a holiday party and celebration for children in the Fitchburg area; Salvation Army "Christmas Angels" were distributed to collect toys and gifts for underprivileged children; Raffle to benefit Be Like Brit Foundation and The Doug Flutie Jr. Foundation for Autism.

#### Marine Corps JROTC

The Monty Tech Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (MCJROTC) had an eventful school year with enrollment exceeding 190 students. For the first time in its twelve-year history, the Monty Tech program was proud to see a cadet awarded the *Legion Of Valor* award. This is the highest award a deserving cadet may receive, recognizing academic excellence and extraordinary leadership skills. The *Legion of Valor* award was presented to Jessica Shattuck of Fitchburg by the Commanding General of Marine Corps Training and Education Command.

The JROTC Cyber Security Team, led by First Sergeant Paul Jornet and Information Technology Instructor Richard Duncan, once again captured national recognition by placing second in the Air Force Association's National Cyber Security Competition held in Washington, DC.

The 2013-2014 Corps of Cadets completed over eighty-six hundred hours (8,600+) of community service throughout the district. The corps conducted a major canned food drive, worked side-by-side with the Marine Corps in a national Toys 4 Tots campaign, and spent four weekends working with the Salvation Army. The cadets also supported their adopted charity, Canines For Combat Veterans, raising more than \$21,000 through its annual "March-A-Thon".

One hundred Monty Tech cadets attended adventure training and leadership camps, hosted on Cape Cod and Boswell, Pennsylvania, where they were joined by cadets other JROTC units from across New England. Both camps provided cadets with both individual and team development opportunities.

During the summer of 2014, our Cyber Team was again asked to support three Cyber STEM camps. The Cyber Team coordinated the implementation of three, one-week long camps that focused on defending cyber networks from attacks. The camps also offered an introduction to robotics programming using the VEX Robotics System. The camps were attended by 300 students, representing twenty states.

The Monty Tech JROTC program was honored by a recent invitation issued by Senator Brewer, who asked the unit's Color Guard to present colors in the senate chamber for the 2014 Memorial Day observation at the Massachusetts State House. This recognition was a true honor for our cadets. The Cadet Corps continues to support community and patriotic functions throughout the district.

#### Women in Technology

The past year marked the 12th year that the North Central Massachusetts Women In Technology program has been providing opportunities for young women from area high schools to learn firsthand about careers in high-tech and business. Participants spent two days a month working on real-world work projects under the mentorship of company managers at SimplexGrinnell and Tyco Safety Products in Westminster, subsidiaries of Tyco International, a Fortune 500 company.

Students from Monty Tech, Leominster's Center for Technical Education Innovation, Oakmont, Quabbin, Gardner, Fitchburg and Narragansett participate in the program. Their completed projects are unveiled at an annual end-of-the-year presentation held in Monty Tech's Performing Arts Center. Corporate sponsors, along with families, friends and teachers, are invited to attend and see what the students have accomplished during the school year.

This long-standing program continues to offer opportunities to young ladies interested in gaining work experience in a corporate setting. Affiliation with the program, and skills acquired through participation in the Women in Technology program, open doors to career opportunities not otherwise available to high school students. Graduates of the program are also equipped with a foundation to better meet the challenges of an ever-changing and demanding work force.

Each year, graduates of the program go on to rewarding and well-paying careers, made possible by this unique experience.

#### Student Athletics

The Monty Tech athletic program continues to expand in scope and skill each year. More students and teams compete every season. In fact, during the 2013-2014 school year, the Monty Tech Athletic program saw a record number of student athletes participating in competitive sports programs, more than 450 participants! During the fall of 2013, Monty Tech was well-represented by eighteen teams. In the winter months, there were thirteen teams, and wrapping up the year, spring saw fourteen teams come together at Monty Tech.

Last fall, the Varsity Football team started out strong, winning 5 of their first 7 games to qualify for the playoffs in the new football playoff system. They played a very tough game against St. Bernard's, losing 29-22. This may have taken a bit out of their sails as they finished the season 5 - 6. The JV Football team was 8 - 1 - 2 and the Freshmen Football team was 3 - 4. The Varsity Boys Soccer team finished at 8 - 6 - 3, qualifying for the post-season tournament, where they lost to Douglas, 3 - 0. The JV Boys Soccer team was 8 - 5 - 1, another improvement over the last year. The Varsity Golf team was 5 -11 - 1 overall, while the JV Golf team participated in three tournaments, gaining valuable experience on the links. The Varsity Field Hockey team was 12 - 4 - 2, qualifying for the Central Mass Tournament for the fourth consecutive year. They beat Blackstone Valley, 2 - 1, in the first round, and lost to Narragansett 2 - 0 in the quarter finals. The JV Field Hockey team finished at 6 - 5 - 1. The Boys Cross Country team was 11 - 3 and finished 2nd in the Colonial Athletic League with a 5 - 2 record. The Girls Cross Country team was 9 - 3 overall and 5 - 1 in the Colonial Athletic League, finishing 2nd. The Varsity Girls Volleyball team went 4 - 16. They had their annual Bump-Set-Spike competition in October, raising more than \$3,000 to help the fight against Breast Cancer. The JV Girls Volleyball team was 10 - 10 and the Freshmen Girls team continued to improve with an 8 - 6 record. The Varsity Girls Soccer team

The Girls Varsity Basketball finished at 11 - 8 on the season, qualifying for the Central Mass Tournament in Steve Newingham's last season as coach. They lost to South Lancaster Academy, 51 - 46 in the first round. The JV Girls were 11 - 6 and the Freshmen Girls were 10 - 5. The Varsity Boys Basketball team finished at 9 - 10, missing an opportunity for the post season because of a snowed out game. The JV Boys Basketball team was 15 - 4. The Freshmen Boys were 13 - 6. The Wrestling team (a co-op team comprised of students from Fitchburg, Oakmont, Murdock, and Monty Tech) participated in many dual meets and tournaments finishing at 3 - 8. Tyler Popp, a freshman, participated in the State Tournament at the end of the year. The Ice Hockey team (a co-op team comprised of students from Fitchburg and Monty Tech) missed the playoffs for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row. The JV Ice Hockey team played very well and we should be better next year. We participated in a Co-op Swim team with Leominster, North Middlesex and Oakmont and had 7 swimmers from Monty Tech participating. They swim at the Fitchburg State University pool, one of the best in the area. Indoor Track & Field student athletes each participated in 7 meets, and recorded some fine individual performances.

In the spring, the Varsity Softball team qualified for the Central Mass Tournament with a 12 - 8 record. They beat AMSA, 14 - 1 and lost to Assabet 11 - 5. The JV Softball team was 8 - 5. The Varsity Boys Volleyball team was 17 - 3 and 10 - 0 in the Colonial Athletic League, winning the league title for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row. They beat Worcester Tech 3 - 0 in the first round of the State Voctional Tournmanet, before losing to greater New Bedford Vocation 3 - 0 in the finals. The JV Boys Volleyball team played strong all year and finished at 13 - 1. The Varsity Baseball team finished at 10 -10 and qualified for the post-season tournament, where they lost to Auburn, 8 - 0. The JV Baseball team was 13 - 4 and the Freshmen Baseball team was 9 - 5. Due to poor field conditions, both the Varsity and JV teams played a lot of home games away using the Fitchburg State University and Oakmont fields for games, while the freshmen played a number of their games at the Westminster Babe Ruth field. The Boys Track & Field team was 7 - 1, placing  $2^{nd}$  in the Colonial Athletic league with a 6 – 1 record. The Girls Track & Field team was 6 - 2, also placing  $2^{nd}$  in the Colonial Athletic League with a 5 - 2 record. The Varsity Boys Lacrosse team played in 17 games going 2 – 15. The JV Boys Lacrosse was 10 - 3 - 2, as we look to the future. The Girls Lacrosse team, a co-op with North Central Charter School, finished at 2 - 11 on the year. We had two boys and seven girls play for Fitchburg High School in Boys and Girls Tennis in a Co-Op agreement. He made the Sentinel and Enterprise All-Star team his first year on the team. We may try to add girls to the Co-Op at Fitchburg in tennis next spring.

Congratulations to the Outstanding Male and Female athletes for 2013-2014, Patrick Fenton and Brandi Richard.

## Postgraduate and Continuing Studies

The Postgraduate & Continuing Studies Program, also known as Monty Tech Nites, continues to update and add courses that emphasize a commitment to excellence by offering affordable, quality, and enjoyable educational experiences. For the Fall of 2013, Monty Tech offered 101 courses "in-house" and another 400+ were offered online. Approximately 840 seats were sold for Fall 2013 courses. In comparison, there were 92 "in-house" courses and, again, over 400 on-line courses offered during the Spring 2014 semester. Approximately 790 seats were sold for Spring 2013 courses.

In March 2014 the postgraduate program successfully graduated our third class of fifteen Emergency Medical Technicians. The students took their practical exam at Monty Tech and proceeded to take their written exam at a state-designated facility. Several graduates have already found employment in their chosen field.

The Director of the Postgraduate & Continuing Studies Program actively seeks information to develop new (and expand existing) certificate and licensure programs that align with regional workforce needs and employment trends.

#### Practical Nursing Program

The Practical Nursing Program is designed to prepare graduates to practice safely, ethically and in a caring manner for patients who are experiencing common variations in health status in diverse health care settings. This mission, which is consistent with the philosophy and goals of the Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School District, accomplished the following:

- Identifies a strong relationship between academic and vocational preparation
- Stresses the importance of developing critical thinking skills to function safely, effectively, and productively in an ever-changing technical and diverse society
- Supports the maintenance of a positive and caring learning and practice environment

In June 2014, thirty-three (33) students graduated and entered the nursing profession. The class achieved an initial NCLEX pass rate of 88%, and just over 91% of the 2014 graduates are currently working in the North Central area as LPNs in various health care settings from long term care, sub-acute care, clinics and prison health care.

The Monty Tech Practical Nursing Program continues to develop the "LPN to BSN Bridge" relationship with Fitchburg State University. Additionally, the program is proud to report an expanded partnership with Fitchburg State University, as both institutions were recently awarded a grant known as the "Nurse of the Future" initiative, awarded by the state Department of Higher Education. The grant funding will assist veterans hoping to transition from military to civilian healthcare fields, granting academic credits for previous military training and experience in related fields. The goal of this unique partnership is to have five students enrolled in the program at both Monty Tech and Fitchburg State University annually.

#### . Looking Ahead

While the Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School District educational community is certainly proud of the achievements of our talented students, faculty, and staff, we continue to have an eye toward the future, always committed to improving our vocational and academic programming, strengthening key partnerships, and maintaining facilities that contribute to student success and achievement. As we look ahead, there are a number of programs and initiatives that we expect will have a positive impact on our school and students for years to come.

Expand partnerships with area colleges and universities: Building upon an already strong partnership with area colleges, Monty Tech hopes to bring additional vocational-technical training opportunities to students that may result in articulated credits. Providing students with an opportunity to earn college credits while still in high school will not only save the students time and money, it validates they very rigorous educational programs in place here at Monty Tech. In 2014-2015, school officials hope to work closely with area college leaders to also accomplish the following:

- Embed MWCC's Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) certificate program into Monty Tech's Health Occupations program, which would result in students earning an additional eight (8) college credits before leaving Monty Tech;
- Work closely with MWCC and Becker College to develop a Cyber Security certificate and/or degree program that aligns with Monty Tech's already very successful Information Technology (and Cyber Security) program;
- Establish a branch office of a financial institution (*to be named later*), which would allow instructors in the school's Business Technology program to expand the scope of their curriculum to include financial literacy, bank teller employability training, as well as provide a much-needed service to the Monty Tech educational community. Upon the establishment of this banking institution, Monty Tech school officials will

work to develop articulation agreements with area colleges who will honor the valuable experiences learned from the expanded curriculum;

• Continue discussions regarding the development of a \$30,000 Baccalaureate Degree program with leaders at four Central Massachusetts public higher educational institutions: Fitchburg State University, Mount Wachusett Community College, Quinsigamond Community College, and Worcester State University. Upon completion, Monty Tech graduates will benefit from an agreement that outlines a "stackable pathway" of college credits that are guaranteed to transfer across these institutions, saving students in Central Massachusetts time and money as they pursue advanced education and training.

Expand AP offerings: While Monty Tech currently offers a limited menu of Advanced Placement coursework, district officials anticipate expanding AP offerings in the coming years. Grounded in the belief that because today's vocational programs are rigorous and complex, high school academic offerings should be as well. To that end, administrators have considered introducing courses such as AP Environmental Science, AP United States History, and even AP Computer Science Principles (*available Fall 2016*).

Seek grant funds to support the addition of cutting edge vocational-technical educational programming: In an effort to maintain currency, appeal to a broad spectrum of students, and address documented, regional workforce needs, Monty Tech officials are actively seeking grant funding that would support the establishment of a new vocational-technical program, Animal Science/ Vet Tech. District officials, in collaboration with post-secondary partners, seek to establish a cutting edge veterinary science program, addressing a documented need in the career/technical education offerings in North Central Massachusetts, significantly bolster the local workforce, and create an opportunity for students to successfully bridge from secondary to post-secondary education. There are only five Chapter 74 animal science programs in high schools across the Commonwealth, and students in the Monty Tech sending districts do not have access to any of these programs. As a result, our students are at a distinct disadvantage for related employment opportunities.

Expand Summer Camp offerings: The school's Dean of Admissions has developed an expanded Summer Camp program that will bring additional opportunities to interested  $6^{th} - 8^{th}$  grade students in our eighteen sending communities. Students will be invited to attend one of eight innovative summer enrichment programs, each designed to introduce students to vocational programming, familiarize them with our school, and culminate in an exciting field trip! Additionally, thanks to the continued generosity of the Monty Tech Foundation, scholarships will be available to students who qualify for free/reduced lunches, and all costs associated with the field trip will be covered for every participant.

#### <u>The Monty Tech School Committee</u>

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 experience and varying perspectives, and we are thankful to the following members of the 2013-2014 School Committee for their outstanding service.

Eric Olson, Phillipston Chair

Barbara Reynolds, Lunenburg Vice Chair

Diane Swenson, Ashburnham	TBD, Harvard
Peter Capone, Ashby	James Coumoyer, Holden
Toni L. Phillips, Athol	Kathleen Airoldi, Hubbardston
John Scott, Barre	Edward Simms, Petersham
Claudia Holbert, Fitchburg	Joan P. Mollica, Princeton
Brian J. Walker, Fitchburg	Mary C. Barclay, Royalston
Ronald Tourigny, Fitchburg	Dr. Kenneth I.H. Williams, Sterling
LeRoy Clark., Fitchburg	James M. Gilbert, Templeton
Helen Lepkowski, Gardner	Walter Taylor, Westminster
Eric D. Commodore, Gardner	Burton E. Gould, Jr., Winchendon

Terri Hillman, Winchendon Secretary Norman J. LeBlanc District Treasurer

# Winchendon Parks & Recreation Annual Report

The Winchendon Parks and Recreation is a five member adult and 2 student board. We have a yearly appropriation of \$3400.00. This money that is appropriated is used for variety of family oriented events that enrich the lives of citizens of our community.

The annual events we sponsor are held throughout the year:

The Easter Egg Hunt is held at the Militia Field and Old Center. We had approximately 200 children attend this past year's annual event and is always well attended by the children of Winchendon who are delighted to see the Easter Bunny and parents were welcomed to take photographs. Every child receives a generous amount of treats during the hunt and a lucky 50 children found eggs hidden throughout the field which were turned in for a small prize.

The Summer Series are held at the town's gazebo for 6 weeks on Friday evenings. We host a wonderful collection of musical bands, individual musicians and educational programs . We are a community rich in musical talent and once again enjoyed local popular groups this past summer including The Big RanDom, Deacon Express and the Parks and Recreation's very own Noel Vellieux who is an annual favorite. Our newest member Brian Dickens also graced the stage at the Gazebo and we also added a couple new bands which included the Boston band Cold Chocolate.

Closing out the year with the town's Christmas Tree Lighting was Santa and a few of his elves (shhhh Andy Brooks and company) generously take the time to deliver Santa and the hay-wagons filled with slightly chilled but very happy children. It was unfortunate this year there was inclement weather forcing the cancellations of hay wagon rides last minute but Santa arrived just the same! Songs were sung under the direction of Noel Vellieux and the Murdock Middle High School Chorus and the tree was lit. A quick visit with Santa and a small goody given to each child completed our small town tradition we have all grown to love. This past year's tree lighting was a collaboration of the Winchendon Park and Recreation and the Town 250th Anniversary Committee!

We are very appreciative to the volunteers who give their time and help to make these events successful. A special thank you to the Haley family who volunteers every year with the Easter Egg Hunt and to Andy Brooks and his helpers who have been part of the Christmas Tree Lighting year in and year out. A special thanks to Gardner Wood for the many years of being Santa's helper (wink). We are lucky to have such wonderful residents who give their time to our community and without them organizing these events would not be possible.

We look forward to continuing to sponsor events that bring entertainment and enjoyment to our community. It is our continue hope to have more people participate and attend these events.

Diana Ringer Noel Vellieux Laura Gaydos Brian Dickens

# Department of Planning and Development 2014 Report

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

The Department took a cut in hours as of 12/31/14. The Administrative Assistant which totaled 18 hours was cut completely and will remain vacant until funds are appropriated. The Planning Agent was cut by two hours a week bringing the hours to 28.

Currently, the Department is undergoing a Master Plan and Open Space and Recreation Plan rewrite. Work on the Master Plan has been supplemented by funding through the District Local Technical Assistance (DLTA) grant administered by the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission (MRPC). The Department secured funding through this program in both the January 2014 and March 2014 rounds and will seek funding through this source in 2015 to continue the update of subsequent sections of the Master Plan. The update of both of the simultaneous projects involve two separate committees combined with several sub-committees working with the community to develop comprehensive plans. These plans are community based and are the product of many long hours of meetings, research, coordination, public meetings, drafts and rewrites. These two plans are the Town's main public based planning documents that are used by numerous offices in daily operations. Having these documents up to date and approved by the appropriate state agencies opens the doors to numerous grants for community development as well as open space and recreation. Grants equate to a savings to the tax paying residents of Winchendon.

The office in coordination with the Planning Board and the Winchendon Redevelopment Authority recently contracted with the graduate class of UMass Amherst to conduct an in depth downtown study to identify needs and develop strategies to revitalize Winchendon's business district. This 3 month process involved six graduate students with a staff of two professors to complete. They delivered a comprehensive study to the Town outlining multiple needs as well as strategies to accomplish them, identifying the probable impacts to the economic base to the Town. This process was funded by the Planning Board and the Winchendon Redevelopment Authority. The report is available for review on the Town's website, townofwinchendon.com. The department administers the town's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) activities. This program is a critical source of funding for municipal, community and economic development projects. Since 1985 the Town has sought, received and invested well over \$19 million in CDBG grants to correct housing code violations for approximately 358 local residents as well as to upgrade some of the Town's neediest road surfaces and the underground utilities. CDBG funds can be used to contract with non-profit agencies to provide "First Time Homebuyer's Seminars" to some of the Town's low-to-moderate income families and to develop "Affordable Housing" which is then sold to Low-to-Moderate income families. This creation of Affordable Housing also benefits the Town as it counts towards the Subsidized Housing Inventory.

The Town was last awarded \$900,000 as a result of the FY 13 CDBG/CDF application for the reconstruction of North Vine Street, a residential roadway running off of Highland Avenue. It will completely reconstruct the road bed, water, sewer and drainage lines, new paving and curbing. There is additional funding to rehab of five residential units. The Department was notified that a pre-application for an Economic Development Fund grant had been approved and the Town was invited to apply for up to \$842,000 to create up to six rental units to be added to the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of 212 Central Street (RHI Building). The Town is in preparation for this grant which would be awarded in 2015.

The department has also applied for a CDBG FY 15 grant of \$900,000 to completely reconstruct Walnut and Chestnut Streets and to include underground utilities. If awarded, this project will compliment other Town projects scheduled for Central Street creating a much friendlier vehicular and pedestrian travel route as well as replacing all of the aging and inefficient underground utilities.

The Department continues to assist the Toy Town Partnership with technical support for the Converse Garden Restoration Plan. While the department has secured over \$36,500 in the past, we continue to seek grants through agencies such as USDA-Rural Development to augment existing Robinson Broadhurst Grants in this venture.

Since the year 2000 the department has managed over \$12 million in grant funds for municipal purposes; prepared and proposed major zoning reforms; pursued new economic development in our downtown and industrial areas; and the expansion of new parks and recreation facilities to enhance our quality of living. We took part in the 140 corridor study as well as assisted in the traffic control redevelopment to provide safer travel. This record of accomplishment was only possible due to the faithful and professional work of our department staff and in particular the work of numerous town volunteers. We offer them our thanks and appreciation.

Respectfully submitted,

Gerald White, Director of Development Tracy Murphy, Planning Agent Jenelle Sroczynski, Financial Manager Ashlyn White, Administrative Assistant

# **Report of the Planning Board for 2014**

January 2014 saw the passing of our long time Chairman and mentor to us all, John Henry White. Under his leadership Planning and Zoning regulations were brought into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. He worked diligently to update the Board's regulations for doing business. He revised site plan regulations, instituted low impact development regulations, and crafted solar energy and Residential Development bylaws amongst many other accomplishments. Although he will be missed, the Planning Board and the Town of Winchendon will reap the benefits of Mr. White's sharp mind and tireless work for many years to come.

MEMBERSHIP: Fedor Berndt, Guy C. Corbosiero, James McCrohon and Gregory Vine served throughout the year. Mark Shea continued as our associate member until his term expired in June where he did not wish to be reappointed. At the annual reorganization Mr. Berndt was reelected chair. Mr. Corbosiero was reelected vice chairman and Mr. James McCrohan was elected as board secretary.

The Board is served by Planning Agent, Tracy Murphy and Recording Secretary, Doneen Durling

MEETINGS: The board held 21 meetings during the year. Three meetings were omitted for lack of business or because of holidays. Most meetings were carried on cable TV. We appreciate this exposure as we want to keep our work in the open. The citizens of Winchendon are entitled to know what we are doing as their representatives. This is especially true as we have frequently had no live audiences.

APPOINTMENTS: Mr. Corbosiero continued on the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission. Vine was appointed to the town Capital Planning Committee and Mr. Berndt was appointed to the Montachusett Joint Transportation Committee.

TRAINING: Most of the board and staff members attended the spring training conference in Worcester which was conducted by the Citizen Planner Training Collaborative. The Board always urges members to take advantage of the various training opportunities available and all have at various times. The Board continued the American Planning Association at public expense so they could take advantage of the numerous benefits offered.

APPROVAL NOT REQUIRED PLANS: Seven ANR plans were submitted and endorsed. This is an Increase over recent years.

SUBDIVISIONS: No new subdivision plans were submitted during the year. We saw some building activity in two existing subdivisions Millers Run, Toy Town Heights, but two others are completely unbuilt. There are also some older subdivisions, some going back a decade or more, that are incomplete. SPECIAL PERMITS & SITE PLAN APPROVALS: Site Plan reviews and Special Permits constitute the most time consuming aspect of the board's business during the year. The board reviewed 2 site plans with the largest project being the proposed Police Station on Central St.

LOOKING AHEAD: The Planning Board tries to take a long range view. We feel the need to plan well into the future, not just short term. Neither is our purview limited to land use and zoning issues, though those occupy the largest portion of our time.

The current Winchendon Master Plan was written in 2001. Though its major land use provisions are still a good guide for development, many areas need updating. The need exists to encourage further commercial development to broaden our tax base and provide more jobs while enhancing existing cultural, economic and environmental resources. The board is very interested in encouraging infill development in the village areas mixing commercial and residential uses to provide a more vibrant, walkable environment.

During 2014 work began to update the Winchendon Master Plan. The Board appointed a 7 member Master Plan Committee with 3 alternate positions. The Committee along with the Planning Agent worked with the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission through funding by the Local District Technical Assistance (DLTA) grant program to compile information to begin to update the Economic Development and Housing Chapters. Work updating subsequent chapters and holding numerous public forums will continue through 2015 and into 2016 with the projected date of completion in the late 2016.

The board is very appreciative of the support and assistance of Ms. Tracy Murphy, Planning Agent; Gerald White, Director of Planning and Development, Doneen Durling, Recording Secretary; David Partridge P.E., from Tighe and Bond, engineering consultant for the board; Building Commissioner Paul Blanchard; the Conservation Commission and the other town boards and officials that have assisted in the work of the board.

Respectfully submitted,

Fedor W Berndt, Chairman

# THE WINCHENDON POLICE DEPARTMENT AND EMERGENCY DISPATCH CENTER ANNUAL REPORT

I, hereby, submit the Annual Report of the Winchendon Police Department for the year ending December 31, 2013:

ending December 51, 2015.			
DETAILED CRIME REPORT 2012			
Forcible Rate	3	Forcible Fondling	4
Aggravated Assault	15	Simple Assault	50
Intimidation	30	Arson	2
Burglary/Breaking & Entering	23	Shoplifting	2
Theft from Building	93	Theft from Motor Vehicle	33
All Other Larceny	93	Motor Vehicle Theft	13
Counterfeiting/Forgery	3	False Pretenses/Swindle	21
Credit Card/Automatic Teller	5	Impersonation	13
Stolen Property Offences	5	Destruction/Damage/Vandalism	139
Drug/Narcotics Violations	3	Statutory Rape	8
Pornography/Obscene Material	3	Weapon Law Violations	3
Bad Check	3	Disorderly Conduct	6
Drunkenness	1	Liquor Law Violations	1
Runaway	1	Trespass of Real Property	23
All Other Offenses (Except Traffic)	142	Traffic, Town By-Laws, Misc. Offenses	27
GRANTS FOR THE YEAR 2014			42 18 263 137 73 307 30,980.00
911 Regional Communic		evelopment Grant	218,621.00
E911 Support/Incentive			110,000.00
Robinson/Broadhurst Servers/Computer Upgrade14,063.4FUNDS COLLECTED FOR YEAR 201414		14,063.48	
License to Carry/FID Fee Town Share		3,112.50	
		1,987.75	
Special Agency Administrative Fees 5,768		5,768.80	
EMERGENCY DISPATCH CENTER			
Answered Calls for Servi	ce		14,358
		1,702	
10tai 127-1-1 Calls Allsweleu 1,702			

Respectfully Submitted, Scott M. Livingston, Chief of Police

# DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS ANNUAL REPORT JOHN M. DELINE, JR. PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

Wendy Stevens	Executive Assistant	
Randy Paul LaBarge Stephen Neal Richard Pezzolesi Albert Gallant Leon Rice	Working Foreman, Chief Operator, Wa Chief Operator, Wa	Highway Dept. George Cemetery/Parks Dept. ter Distribution System stewater Treatment Plant eet Maintenance Dept. Transfer Station
Paul Anderson Maurice Leblanc Ryan Scoville	Michael Antonellis David Letendre Leonard Tenney	Mark Frye Patrick McCarthy Steven Valliere

#### **HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

The Town's Highway Department maintains more than 100 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 14 pieces: one motor grader, two front-end loaders, two loader-backhoes, four truck/sander combinations, one heavy dump truck (a six-wheeler), three one-ton dump trucks, and two three-quarter ton pickup trucks.

The Highway Department has one working foreman (reduced from two working foremen in past years) and four truck/equipment operators (reduced from six in past years) for plowing and sanding. In addition, the Cemetery Department foreman and operator, the Transfer Station foreman and operator, Fleet Maintenance personnel (Chief Mechanic and Assistant Mechanic), water system operators, and wastewater treatment plant operators supplement plowing, sanding, and snow removal operations as needed.

During the course of the year, the Highway Department graded all public gravel roads several times, painted all crosswalks, repaired and installed new regulatory and street signs throughout town, swept streets and sidewalks, patched potholes, cleaned 922 catch basins and drop inlets, cut and chipped brush from several town roads, removed numerous, large dead or dying hazard trees, and repaired or replaced culverts and storm drains throughout town. In addition, DPW personnel plowed and sanded all town-owned roadways and sidewalks, and removed snow from the downtown area as necessary. A total of approximately 2,165 tons of salt and 3,850 tons of sand were utilized to treat roadways during the 2013/2014 winter season. Overall, the winter season of 2013/2014 was characterized by above average snow fall with numerous storm events that resulted in frequent icing conditions on roadways that required treatment. There was not any significant or widespread tree and/or property damage with any of the winter storms as has occurred in past years.

The major roadway rehabilitation project completed in 2014 was a section of Ash Street from Hall Road southerly to Cross Road, a total of more than 9300 feet. The total cost of this project was \$376,000.00 (the Town of Winchendon typically receives approximately \$450,000 in Chapter 90 funding each year). Ash Street was selected based on the intensive maintenance that was required on a frequent basis, both in labor and materials (cold patch, grading), due to its extremely poor condition. The existing asphalt surface was completely reclaimed/pulverized to a depth of 1 foot, regraded/crowned, and then paved with a minimum compacted asphalt depth of 4 inches. Prior to the road being reconstructed, DPW personnel completed drainage improvements that included replacing/rebuilding existing deteriorated culverts and catchbasins and installing new catchbasins/culverts/drainage swales where needed. In addition, trees and brush were trimmed back and larger hazard trees also removed.

The Winchendon DPW also initiated reconstruction of an extremely deteriorated section of Bemis Road from its intersection with Liberty Lane southerly to the end of the travelled/maintained way, a distance of 1330 feet. The work completed from late summer through the fall of 2014 included cutting back trees and brush alongside the roadway, removal of excess soils at the road edges, and installation of more than 700 feet of 12-inch diameter HDPE culvert pipe, several drainage structures, and drainage swales. This work was completed in anticipation of reclaiming and repaving this section of road, which is scheduled for 2015. The source of the majority of the maintenance problems associated with this section of Bemis Road was the lack of drainage controls and failure to correct these issues prior to paving would have resulted in premature failure of the newly paved road.

Winchendon DPW personnel reconstructed several sections of sidewalks in 2014 including 566 feet on Spring Street and 320 feet on Front Street. The section on Spring Street was the last section remaining to be replaced between the intersection of Ash and Water Streets southerly along Spring Street to the beginning of the MA DOT section of roadway/sidewalk near the intersection of Glenallen Street. The sidewalk on Front Street also included the installation of new granite curbing along the roadway and at handicap ramps. Reconstruction of sidewalks involved the removal of existing asphalt sidewalks, excavation/removal of the underlying, unsuitable soils, placement of a compacted gravel base, and pouring/finishing of steel-reinforced concrete sidewalks five feet in width. All work was completed to maximize compliance with ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) accessibility requirements, including the installation of detectable warning pads at each street crossing for visually impaired individuals.

The Winchendon DPW continued with its program of repairing/rebuilding catchbasins and culverts in areas that have been chronically plagued with drainage issues. A number of catchbasins 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. Major culvert replacement projects were completed on Brooks Road and Benjamin Street. Each of these locations has been prone to flooding and erosion due to collapsed/failed culverts at the road crossings. At each location the existing culvert pipes were removed and replaced with HDPE culvert pipe. In the time since this work has been completed, there have been no issues with flooding or erosion at these locations whereas in the past these problems were a regular occurrence. Work was also initiated on correcting a drainage issue on Glenallen Street (Route 202) near the New Hampshire border that has been the source of icing issues in this area during the winter months. Drainage structures in this area were rehabilitated and cleaned and grading along the road edge was improved to promote the flow of surface water to the drainage structures. Additional work that needs to be completed in 2015 is the extension of the outfall pipe from these drainage structures. Improvement in drainage in this area was already observed at the beginning of the winter months (late 2014) and completion of this project in 2015 should eliminate drainage issues entirely, along with the resulting icing conditions that have frequently required mitigation (treatment with de-icing materials and scraping/removal of built-up ice) in the winter months.

In 2014, the DPW continued the town-wide hazardous tree removal program that began in 2012 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 with assistance by a private tree company only when absolutely necessary. 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. Roadways cut-back included sections of the following streets: Alger Street, Ash Street, Brooks Road, Hitchcock Road, Mill Glenn Road, and Old Baldwinville Road.

DPW personnel repaired the salt shed roof which was damaged over the winter of 2013-2014 when two of the metal roof panels were blown off by heavy winds. Completing this work in-house saved the cost of hiring an outside contractor.

## WATER DEPARTMENT

2014 was the first full year of the town returning to the operation and maintenance of Winchendon's water distribution system utilizing town employees. For several years, United Water NACO of Harrington Park, NJ was contracted by the Town of Winchendon to operate and maintain the town's water distribution and wastewater collection systems. When United Water's contract was set to expire early in 2013, the Town of Winchendon advertised an RFP (request for proposals) for a new contract to operate and maintain the town's water collection systems. Upon review of the submitted proposals, it was determined that the increased cost of the new contract would significantly exceed the costs associated with town directly employing the required personnel. Therefore, in the interest of operating the systems at the lowest costs to the water/wastewater ratepayers, it was decided that the town would hire the required employees to operate and maintain these systems. The required staff was hired May 2013.

The Water Department maintains Winchendon's 61 miles of water mains, water service connections, fire hydrants, two water storage tanks, and three water booster/pump stations. The Water Department has also nearly (99%) completed the water meter upgrade program that United Water had initiated. This work consisted of converting all water meters to a radio-read system. The new system has significantly improved efficiency in the reading of water meters and billing, and eliminated the need to physically go to each house/business/building to read each respective meter. All water meters are now read utilizing a laptop computer. Personnel drive throughout the area of the town served by the public water supply system and as they are doing this the laptop computer connects to the radio transmitter on each meter and downloads the readings. Collection of water meter readings now only take a fraction of the time (hours instead of weeks) it previously required manually and eliminates the need for a meter readings/usage)

is downloaded from the laptop computer to the Town's municipal accounting/billing software program. It is then analyzed and reviewed before being used to generate the bills for Winchendon's water/sewer customers.

Water Department and Public Works Department personnel responded to a total of six water main breaks over the course of 2014. For comparison, there were eleven water main breaks in 2013, eight in 2012, and five in 2011. Water main breaks are primarily the result of aging water mains that Winchendon and most other cities/towns are facing across the country. 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 main breaks occurred at the following locations in 2014:

٠	January 29, 2014	Ash St., near Hall Rd.	- 6" main
٠	May 6, 2014	Lake Rd., Ashburnham	- 12" main
٠	July 12, 2014	Alger St.	- 6" main
٠	July 29, 2014	Highland Ave. at Vine St.	- 6" main
٠	October 1, 2014	Mill Circle at culvert crossin	g- 10" main
٠	December 27, 2014	Hall St. at Main St.	- 6" main

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 2014. In these situations, water was shut off at the street so that the respective property owner could have repairs completed by a contractor or plumber, depending upon the location of the leak.

Fire hydrants throughout the town were flushed and exercised as part of the Water Department's annual flushing program. Markers were installed on fire hydrants to facilitate locating them during the winter months in the event of a fire, for removing snow around them, and for avoiding them during snow plowing operations. Several broken/damaged hydrants were repaired or replaced. Broken/missing gate valve and curbstop boxes were also repaired or replaced 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.

#### Water Treatment Facilities

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 2014, a total of 221,953,787 gallons (221.9 million gallons) of water was treated and pumped to Winchendon, for an average of 608,000 gallons per day. For comparison, 229.0 million gallons (MG) was

used in 2013 and 245.8 MG in 2012. The Town's current registered withdrawal permit for Upper Naukeag Lake is 0.67 MGD (670,000 gallons per day).

#### Water Quality Testing

The Water Department collects 10 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 90<sup>th</sup> percentile for several consecutive monitoring periods. In accordance with the sampling plan approved by MA DEP, sampling/testing for lead and copper was not completed in 2014; the next regulatory required sampling is scheduled for the third quarter of 2016. Samples for lead and copper were collected/analyzed in 2013 (testing for lead/copper was also not required by MA DEP in 2011 or 2012). 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 required round of lead and copper samples that was collected in the third quarter of 2013 included two (2) samples from public school buildings.

#### Water Quality Testing Results and Violations

The results for all sampling completed met MA Drinking Water Regulations throughout 2014 (no violations occurred). Analytical results are posted at the Town Hall, 109 Front Street, Winchendon, MA 01475 and copies are also available from the DPW office at Town Hall.

#### SEWER DEPARTMENT

As noted in the Water Department section of this report, in 2013 the Town of Winchendon transitioned back to a Water/Sewer Department staffed by town employees after several years of having a private contractor operate and maintain the town's water distribution and wastewater collection systems. 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. Sewer 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.

Three significant backups of sewer mains occurred in 2014:

- February 15, 2014 Front St. at easement crossing (grease/debris)
- March 18, 2014 Easement behind 231 River St. (grease/paper/debris)
- April 2, 2014 Front St./Tannery Hill easement (grease/paper)

In addition, minor sewer backups occurred on Woodlawn (at Maple Street) and North Street (at Linden Street) during the 2014.

All sewer backups were cleared by Sewer Department personnel by jetting/flushing/rodding the blockages. Typically, these blockages are the result of grease buildup in the sewer collection system. Those backups that resulted in a release of sewage to the environment are documented in detailed reports submitted to the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection and United States Environmental Protection Agency.

Sewer Department personnel inspected sewer collection mains utilizing a camera during 2014 on Central Street (563 feet) and Summer Street (412 feet). Inspections of sewer collection mains allow personnel to identify issues with the sewer collection system and correct them before sewer back-ups occur.

#### Sump Pumps and other Illegal Discharges

Over the course of 2014 it has been observed that flows to the wastewater treatment plant have increased significantly despite 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 several years. This combination of data may indicate that illegal connections (e.g., sump pumps) to the sewer collection system have occurred. In past years, Sewer 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**

The Cemetery and Parks Department includes a Working Foreman and one Equipment Operator. These personnel are responsible for maintaining Riverside, Old Centre, and New Boston Cemeteries, along with Legion Park, VFW Park, GAR Park, Old Centre Common, and Norcross Square. In addition, lawn areas at Old Murdock and Poland/Streeter School buildings are also mowed and trimmed regularly. In total, there are approximately 50 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 Café on Glenallen Street.

During 2014, a more intensive program of repairing, up-righting, and straightening headstones in town-owned cemeteries was initiated. A heavy-duty tripod lift courtesy of grant money obtained from the Robinson-Broadhurst Foundation by the Winchendon Historical Commission facilitated this work in areas not accessible by machinery. This tripod is a very useful piece of equipment for this type of work and will certainly be useful in the cemeteries for headstone rehabilitation in the coming years. Without it, this program could not have been initiated.

### WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

The Town of Winchendon's Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP), located on River Street, is operated by Town of Winchendon employees. The staff consists of one Chief Operator, one Senior Operator, and one Equipment Operator. The Equipment Operator position is shared with the Water/Sewer Department who is responsible for maintaining the town's water distribution and sewer collection systems. 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. For a number of years prior to the upgrade to the WWTP/sewer interceptor, no new sewer connections were permitted in accordance with a consent order issued by the US EPA/MA DEP.

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. A total of 205.4 million gallons of wastewater (an average of 562,740 gallons per day) of sewage was treated in 2014 (for comparison, 151.53 million gallons was treated in 2013 and 162 million gallons in 2012).

The sewage and wastes 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.

In addition to the physical unit operations, two chemicals are utilized in the treatment process. Poly-aluminum chloride (PAC) is used to enhance the separation of liquid and solid phases in the secondary clarifiers and sodium hydroxide is utilized for pH and alkalinity adjustment. Finally, secondary settling basin effluent is disinfected through the use of ultraviolet light prior to its discharge to the Millers River.

## FLEET MAINTENANCE

The DPW's Fleet Maintenance Department consists of a Chief Mechanic and an Assistant Mechanic. The Fleet Maintenance Department services and repairs all townowned light/heavy motor equipment and vehicles, including those operated by: Public Works, Police, Fire/Ambulance, 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 Glenallen 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,

John M. Deline, Jr. Public Works Director Town of Winchendon

# PLACE HOLDER FOR SOLID WASTE FACILITY REPORT 1 OF 2

# PLACE HOLDER FOR SOLID WASTE PAGES 20F2

# WINCHENDON PUBLIC SCHOOLS REPORT WINCHENDON SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Dawn Harris, Chair Susan Burdsall, Vice Chair Michael Niles Andrea Suchocki Michael Barbaro Term Expires 2016 Term Expires 2015 Term Expires 2017 Term Expires 2015 Term Expires 2017

## DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION

Salah E. Khelfaoui Cynthia Landanno Education Valorie Miller Services James Murphy Facilities **Bill Clinton** Technology Steven Haddad Academy Jenna Whitaker Joshua Romano J. Leonard Mackey Kathrvn Vanderhoof Nina Schlikin Michelle Atter Principal Ralph Borseth Principal Jessica Vezina Principal Laura Weiderman Principal

Superintendent Director of Special Dir. of Instructional Director of Director of Director of Dir. of Murdock Athletic Director MHS Principal MMS Principal TTE Principal Memorial Principal Memorial Asst. Assistant H.S. Assistant M.S. TTE Assistant

## From Winchendon Public Schools

Winchendon Public Schools continues to move forward with our academics, athletics, and fine arts. We have worked at upgrading our physical plants where possible. Among the several improvements we continue to enjoy, are the achievement accomplished by our students in testing in all of our schools. Despite the continued financial challenges we face, our teachers' dedication and hard word remains unshakeable. Our newly restructured Middle and High schools offer a nurturing, safe and engaging environment to our young adults. Memorial and ToyTown elementary schools are buzzing with many happy little ones surrounded with a most caring and dedicated staff.

In its first full year of operation, the Murdock Academy for Success is the latest addition to our family of schools with a proud tradition of student-centered schools. The academy is designed to provide an alternative learning environment in order to meet the needs of students who require a non-traditional school setting. Currently, the school serves students at the middle and high school level. The academy's mission is to serve students in the Winchendon Public Schools, but we will accept out of district placements. Students enrolled are pursuing a Murdock diploma and are eligible to participate in athletics and extra-curricular activities. We also offer a Virtual School program for students to work from home at their own pace. The district encourages as many students as possible to engage in school sponsored sports programs. As a result of the generous support from the Robinson-Broadhurst and Murdock Trust Foundations, we are able to maintain lower athletic user fees, which have enabled more students to participate in a greater number of sport activities.

The Winchendon Public Schools maintains a very active afterschool program. The Memorial and Toy Town Elementary Schools continue with a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers grant that provides students the opportunity to enhance their learning through programs including Robotics, Art, Yoga, Science & Nature, Literature, Sports and Fitness, Music and Drama. The Drama program finalizes their program with an annual theater production. Both schools now offer a before school program housed in their respective buildings. The Murdock Middle and High schools offer afterschool programs to provide academic assistance, as well as enhancement classes including Math games, Glee Club, Sewing, Art and Jewelry Making. This is the second year of the Murdock Ski Program and the Golf Program in conjunction with the Winchendon School Golf Course. Our newest programs include the Archery Program, which is supported by the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, and a pilot Wrestling Program. Our Murdock Middle School and Toy Town Elementary schools join together each spring to offer an American Red Cross Babysitting Course for students to earn babysitting certification. Busing has been made available for these programs. The 7<sup>th</sup> grade Camp Dakota trip has been a great success, which has inspired a repeat for the current 7<sup>th</sup> grade students and a great Boston trip for the 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

Winchendon Public Schools are proud of the hard work and dedication of all staff members. Through their efforts the district has had another successful school year. We appreciate the support of the community as we continue to provide the best educational opportunities for our students.

As always, should you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me at 175 Grove Street (978-297-0031).

Salah E. Khelfaoui, Ph.D. Superintendent of Schools

## **POINTS OF INTEREST**

The Winchendon Public Schools has contracted with Chartwells School Dining Service to provide both breakfast and lunches for our students. "Lunches in our cafes are ideal for every palate and every age group and we're bringing students' favorite foods from outside school inside, including fresh local fruits and vegetables, pizza, classic All-American burgers and foods with Asian flair and bold, BBQ flavors. All of our food is made with care and utilizes lean meats, low-fat cheeses and whole grains". The meal costs for 2014-2015 for the secondary and elementary students was \$2.75 for lunch and \$1.50 for breakfast. For those who qualify, there are free or reduced price lunches and breakfasts. The reduced lunch price for 2014-15 was \$.40 and breakfast was \$.30 at both the elementary and secondary levels.

The total enrollment as of October 1, 2014 was 1,345. Nineteen percent of the student population for 2014-15 was special needs students. During the 2014-15 school year approximately 1,041 students were transported to and from school.

Winchendon Public Schools participates in the "School Choice" program in

We Massachusetts. had 31 students who residents of other are Massachusettscommunities enrolled in our schools and 133 students from Winchendon attending schools in other communities.

Breakdown of Pupil Enrollment 2014-15 School Year (As of October 1, 2014)	
Pre-Kindergarten Kindergarten	85 87
Grades 1-2	212
Grades 3-5	278
Grades 6-8	353
Grades 9-12	<u>330</u>
Total	1345

Winchendon had 149 students attending Monty Tech during FY'14-15. There were an additional 104 Winchendon students matriculating in nearby private, parochial and charter schools and 48 other students being home schooled by parents.

# **GENERAL INFORMATION**

Pre-Kindergarten:	A.M. Session 9:00-11:15 P.M. Session 12:30-2:45
Memorial:	8:45 a.m3:05 p.m.
Toy Town:	8:35 a.m2:50 p.m.
Murdock Middle/High: and Murdock Academy	7:30 a.m2:05 p.m.

# SCHOOL BUDGET 2014-2015

School Committee	\$	39,250
District-wide Administration		2,484,136
Special Education Dept.		2,580,936
Murdock High School		2,759,233
Murdock Middle School		2,588,819
Toy Town Elementary		2,220,609
Memorial School		2,258,735
Food Services		493,616
District-Wide Facilities		940,860
Total School Dept. Operating Budget	:	\$16,166,194
Town Assessment Indirect Costs		\$3,002,139

## **Sealer of Weights & Measures**

2014 Annual Report

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen, Town Administrator and citizens of Winchendon, as the Sealer of Weights & Measures, I submit the following activity report for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014.

Scales21Inspected, 21 SealedFuel Pumps71 Inspected, 71 SealedScanners3 VerifiedFees collected\$2,340.00

Also, I attended the two-day annual conference of the Massachusetts Weights & Measures Association held in Marlborough, Massachusetts in September. This conference included training and briefings on regulations and procedures.

Special thanks to the Town Hall staff for their assistance during the year.

Respectfully submitted: Steven E. Slocum Sealer of Weights & Measures

## 2014 Annual Report - ToyTown Partnership

2014 was an eventful year for The Toy Town Partnership. Several long-delayed projects moved ahead, and new members were welcomed. Primary accomplishments included:

**North Central Pathway** After years of frustrating delays, all property ownership issues were resolved and a construction contract has been awarded for Phase V, the final section of the Pathway in Winchendon. This section will run southward from Glenallen St. roughly along the rail bed parallel with Spring Street and across Route 12 to connect with the Route 140 section near Old Gardner Road. Construction is expected to be completed mid-2015. We continue to seek volunteers for an independent Friends of the Pathway committee to help with ongoing upkeep of the Pathway.

**Converse Gardens** Thanks to the efforts of the Planning Department and the Winchendon Redevelopment Authority the town finally owns the 136 River St. parcel adjacent to the Gardens. This critical piece has been pursued for many years to provide parking and easier access to visitors. A Robinson-Broadhurst grant was submitted late in 2014 for materials to provide a pathway and apron. A volunteer has graciously offered to provide the labor for this project, if it is funded. We continue to seek help from other volunteers to help the garden take shape and grow.

**Toy Town Horse** More efforts were undertaken to improve the appearance of the Toy Town Horse via simple landscaping. Granite benches were donated and installed in the spring of 2014. The Partnership continues to raise money and accept funds for the ongoing support and maintenance of the horse. More landscaping help is being offered by volunteers.

**Kiosk** Thanks to help from the Planning and Development Office, there is an updated map in the kiosk outside of Town Hall next to Veterans' Park. This information kiosk at the corner of Pleasant and Central Street is now a good place for local groups and businesses to get information to both visitors and the community at large.

**Winchendon Enhancement Committee/Ingleside** During the fall of 2013, the Robinson-Broadhurst Foundation sponsored creation of a group of concerned people to identify opportunities that would be of benefit to the youth and citizens of the town. The resulting Winchendon Enhancement Committee (WEC) met weekly over subsequent months, and identified the Ingleside property on Maple Street, which has been offered for sale by the Winchendon School, as a golden opportunity for the Town to acquire. In late summer of 2014, the WEC approached the Partnership asking to join forces. The Partnership was happy to welcome WEC members to join, and to accept the WEC as a subcommittee. The WEC held a highly successful Fall Festival on the Ingleside property in September which was attended by an estimated 2000 people. The WEC continues to pursue its vision for the property and has requested funds from Robinson-Broadhurst in the 2015 grant cycle to cover grant writing for land acquisition sources, as well as outreach and maker space programs.

**Members** Myranda Bishop, Cynthia Boucher, Linda Daigle, John Deline, Steve Haddad, Ken Labrack, George Ladeau, Colleen Laperriere, Jane LaPointe, J. Lillie, Elaine Mroz, Peter Newton, Don O'Neil, and Dave Romanowski. Also participating in 2014 was Lee Cloutier. All interested members of the community are invited to participate.

# 2014 ANNUAL TOWN REPORT DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' SERVICES



2013 - We remembered all Winchendon residents who fought during World War II with a monumental ceremonial in Legion Park. In 2014, we remembered all Vietnam era veterans with the  $250^{\text{th}}$  Anniversary Committee sponsorship of the Vietnam Moving Wall (June 5<sup>th</sup> – June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014) in GAR Park. After a well-crafted opening ceremony on June 5<sup>th</sup>, hundreds of people visited the wall throughout the weekend; remembering and praying, for those who did or did not return home. As the town sponsored many events all year to honor our 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the few days of sponsorship in June helped put into perspective for all of us the sacrifices of war. A special thanks to all who were able to visit the Vietnam Moving Wall; along, with the countless many who volunteered their time to set-up, take down, and ensure somewhat was at the park from dusk to dawn from June 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>.

In 2014, Winchendon lost a champion with the passing of Paul Rice Jr. A local contractor for many years, Paul's expertise was utilized with the building of a base for the Vietnam Moving Wall. Paul Rice service the town in many capacities; however, those of us in the Veteran's world would call him a hero! A humble man and passed Commander of the American Legion Post 193, Paul was a war hero during Vietnam and the recipient of a Purple Heart. We thank you Paul Rice for your service to country & town!

The Eugene M. Connor, Post 193 hosted a bonfire on January  $18^{th}$  with the  $250^{th}$  Committee sponsoring fireworks on a snowy and cold Saturday evening. The fireworks display was spectacular! On June  $21^{st}$ , the town witnessed one of the largest parades in town history! Special thanks to the Waltham Legion Band & the Keene Legion Band for their participation; along, with the Eugene M. Connor Post 193 legionaires, son's, and auxiliary. Many thanks to all town residents for the involvement with a memorable year for the Town of Winchendon! Even with many exciting events, we never forget the true hero's – those who have worn a military uniform!

Scott J. Gauthier Director/Agent

# Winchendon Redevelopment Authority Annual Report 2014

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

The board has all five positions seated and is comprised of: Chairman David Connor, Vice Chair Sheila Donofrio, Beth Hunt/State Appointee, Dennis Casavant and Ken LaBrack, Clerk. As in past years, they become progressively more active in community and economic development. Their work now focuses on the Town's major planning documents in regards to the redevelopment of existing business as well as new ones and the creation of jobs and tax revenue.

The Board has been very aggressive and successful in taking parcels of land that have been inactive for years, providing no tax revenue and bidding them out and making them active again. To date, the WRA has put 18 properties out to bid and returned them to revenue producing status in residential terms to include one affordable home.

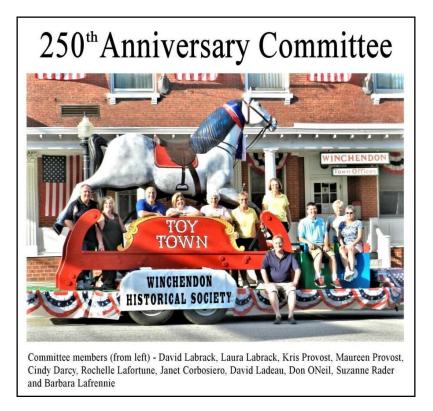
The Authority actively seeks out potential new commercial/industrial clients, communicating with them, attempting to sell the Town of Winchendon as their new home. The Town brochure completed by the Authority has become a successful tool for economic development for these negotiations. It has been distributed to local realtors and businesses in order to broaden the scope of exposure to potential business owners.

The calendar year of 2014 has been a busy year for the WRA in terms of development with the emphasis on community development. They acquired three parcels of property that has or will facilitate community development endeavors for the benefiting the Town and it residents. They were able to purchase a small parcel of property located adjacent to the downtown business district and will provide parking for the Library and downtown as well. In addition, it will provide a vital access/exit to the Town's new Police Station once it is complete. Additionally, the Authority purchased a parcel of property along River Street and adjacent to the Town's historic Converse Gardens. This much sought after and long awaited purchase of this property will serve as a parking lot for the Gardens. This will also provide accessibility to the Gardens meeting the ADA requirements. Having the access now will make the Gardens more applicable to other development grants to replicate the historic nature of its past. This will hopefully add to the many projects that are hoped to make Winchendon a destination for outside visitors. The Authority through grant funds, was able to purchase three small contiguous parcels that were the final piece of the puzzle needed to facilitate the final phase of Winchendon's Bike Path which will total approximately 13 miles in length. This pathway links the City of Gardner to the downtown of Winchendon. The Authority is in the final stages of working with a company to put a wind turbine on a piece of rural property it owns along highway 140. Hopefully this will then generate discounted power to a number of Winchendon businesses. It will also provide a revenue stream from the rental of the property to the company responsible for the construction and operation of

the wind turbine. The Authority also partnered up with the Winchendon Planning Board to fund a study of Winchendon's downtown business district to recommend revitalization efforts. This report was completed and available to the residents as well as posted on the Town's website.

The Authority currently holds \$972,600.00 in total assets. These assets are all in the form of property to be developed either residentially, commercially, industrially or recreationally. While this might sound like allot, the value is determined by the assessment and not what they might sell for. Some of the properties cannot be developed due to their status such as the old landfill.

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 new ideas and putting plans together to boost Winchendon's community development.



After much anticipation and hard work it was finally here -2014 and our  $250^{\text{th}}$  anniversary! We started the year with a pig roast and bonfire hosted by the American Legion and the  $250^{\text{th}}$  committee on January 18. We surprised everyone with a small fireworks display, a sample of what we had planned for June. It was a perfect night and a great beginning for our anniversary year.

On April 12, we were lucky to be able to have California's Jay Pulver, who has 35 years of parade experience, present a float seminar at the Winchendon Historical Society. It was a valuable program and everyone came away with great ideas for the parade.

The Gala Ball was held on April 26 at the Murdock Senior Center. The auditorium was magical with white lights and a live orchestra. Dinner was provided by Hagermeyer Catering and the packed hall danced the night away. It was a truly fabulous and memorable event.

In the month of May we enjoyed an event at the First Congregational Church in Old Centre, Meet Mary Rowlandson. Mary was the wife of the first minister of Lancaster and had an amazing story to tell about her life and her capture by Indians. The 17<sup>th</sup> found us back at the First Congregational Church enjoying the music of the Irish group, Jug O'Punch.

On May 18 we saw a Classic Car & Motorcycle Show at the Clark Memorial YMCA field. It was a great day and fun to see some of the classic cars.

The Friends of Old Murdock hosted an open house to honor our 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary on June 1 for returning "seniors" at the old school that is now our Senior Center.

One of the most special events of the year occurred during June, from the 5<sup>th</sup> through the 9<sup>th</sup>, when the Vietnam Moving Wall was brought to Winchendon and displayed at the GAR Park on Grove Street. It was open and manned by volunteers 24 hours a day during its stay. Many, many people stopped to find the name of a loved one, friend or just to pay their respects to those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

The Immaculate Heart of Mary Church hosted their 36<sup>th</sup> annual Strawberry Festival on June 13-15 with raffles, a country auction and plenty of food.

Charter Day was held on June 14 in conjunction with the first Art Walk held in the GAR Park. The theme was "All About Winchendon" and along with the art displayed, the contents of the unearthed time capsule were displayed. Murdock High School students wrote and performed a play about the beginnings of the town. They did an amazing job and the play was well received by all attending.

Finally, the big day, June 21, arrived with beautiful weather and full sun. The day started with the annual Morin Real Estate road race and family activities on the Clark field. At 4PM the parade, led by Grand Marshal, Henry "Hank" Doody, made its way down Central Street cheered by throngs of people lining the streets. The parade, which lasted two hours, had an amazing number of creative floats and wonderful musical groups. After the parade, everyone enjoyed live music on the Clark field provided by local musicians as we waited for the fireworks. The old-fashioned fireworks started at dusk and did not disappoint! They were set to music and seemed to go on forever. What a fabulous way to end the day.

The Winchendon Historical Society hosted a Pig Roast on July 19 which featured an authentic Civil War Band who had been part of the parade.

August brought the Kiwanis Family Fun Day which featured the Massachusetts State Chili Cook Off and a special event for our anniversary, a Firemen's Handtub Muster at the American Legion Post.

Casino Royale was held in September at the Orange Whitney House. Sponsored by the Winchendon Historical Society, it was a wonderful chance to dress up and play for the evening.

We concluded our celebration with a Golf Tournament at the Winchendon Golf Course on September 14, another day of fun and good food.

The committee would like to thank everyone who helped in any way, either with money or time donations to make our 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary a year to remember. A special thank you to the Robinson Broadhurst Foundation, the Town of Winchendon and the State of Massachusetts through Senator Stephen Brewer for their monetary contributions which helped to make this celebration so special.

A special thank you to Jane Hunt, Kevin Cormier and Don O'Neill for the following pictures capturing some of the events that happened throughout our celebration year.



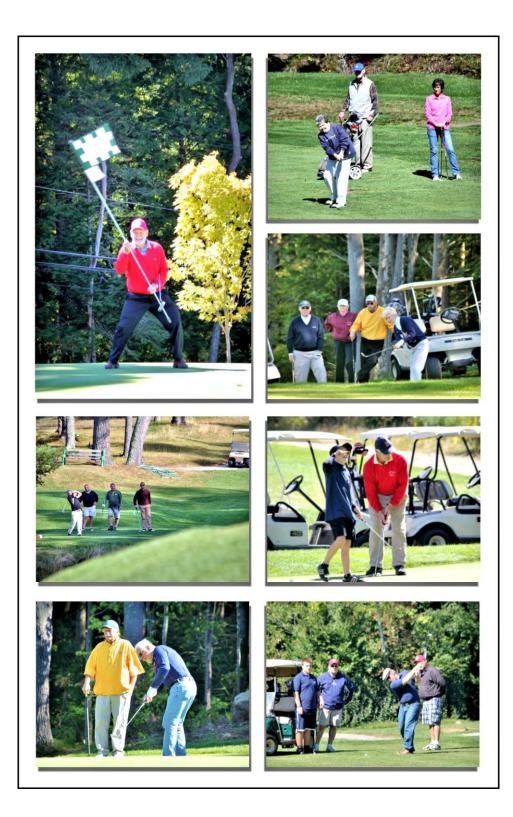
















## WINCHENDON TOWN HALL DIRECTORY

109 Front Street, Winchendon, MA 01475 Hours: Mon. 8:00-6:00; Tues.-Thurs. 8:00-5:00; Friday-CLOSED

## **EMERGENCY SERVICES: DIAL 911**

Town Manager	297-0085
Assessors	297-0155
Veterans Services	297-0500
Health Agent	.297-3537
Conservation Agent	297-3537
Dept. of Public Works	.297-0170
(Highway, Water, Sewer, L	andfill)
Beals Memorial Library	297-0300

Collector/Treasurer	297-0152
Town Clerk	297-2766
Town Accountant	297-0171
Planning/Development	297-3308
Land Use	297-3537
(Building Commissioner,	Wiring
Inspector, Plumbing/Gas	Inspector)

# SANITARY LANDFILL

653 River Street - 978-297-0395 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Thursday – Saturday Closed Sunday, Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday Vehicle Sticker Required

## **BOARDS AND COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULES**

Meetings begin at 7:00 P.M. in the Town Hall Auditorium unless otherwise noted.

Board of Selectmen	
Planning Board	$\dots .1^{st}$ & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month
Zoning Board of Appeals	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays as posted
Board of Health	3rd Monday and as posted
	4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month and as posted
Finance Committee	
Library Trustees	4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month,
	Beals Memorial Library, Pleasant St.
Board of Assessors	10:30 a.m. Thursday as scheduled,
	Assessors' Office
Housing Authority	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month, 108 Ipswich Dr.
School Committee	2nd and 4 <sup>th</sup> Thursdays of the month
Toy Town Partnership	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday, The Winchendon School on Ash
Agricultural Commission	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month
Redevelopment Authority	$\dots 2^{nd}$ Thursday of the month at 3:30 p.m.

