TOWN OF ERVING

2017 ANNUAL TOWN REPORT

MANY THANKS TO

CHARLES ZILINSKI

AND

JACQUELYN BOYDEN

FOR SUPPLYING THE COVER PHOTOS
FOR THIS YEAR'S ANNUAL TOWN REPORT

AND TO ALL WHO SUBMITTED DEPARTMENTAL
AND REGIONAL REPORTS

ANNUAL REPORT

TOWN OF ERVING
MASSACHUSETTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDING
DECEMBER 31, 2017

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DEDICATION

This 2017 edition of the Annual Town Report, with pride, is dedicated to:

Our Community

There are so many ways, every day, that we witness the wonders of our 'community'. What about you? The neighbor helping another neighbor mow the lawn, shovel the driveway, carry their groceries, etc. – thank you. And to those of you who just see fit to lend a hand when you see someone struggling or are asked of a favor and you happily oblige – thank you.

How about all of you wonderful volunteers and elected officials in our community who offer your time to serve on a committee, board or commission and to offer your valuable knowledge, ideas and opinions? Without you, important decisions couldn't be made. Like the building projects in town; the new Senior/Community Center, the Riverfront Park, the upcoming new Library and planning for new Senior Housing, just to name a few. More projects will be coming and again the Town will need dedicated people who volunteer to help move them forward. There are too many tasks to list that allow so many things to happen year after year because of all of our volunteers, elected boards, commissions and committees. To all of you past, present and future volunteers and elected officials – thank you.

There are many events that happen in town that are successful because our community makes them successful. Our 'Friends' groups make them possible and the many volunteers that take the time to serve at an event makes it a success. The many Library events that are exciting and new and draw people in; the Recreation Commission events like the Annual Fall Festival, Halloween events, Christmas with Santa, the Easter Egg Hunt and with a brand new Riverfront Park in the Center of town with a band shell and grand lawn the possibilities are endless. The Senior/Community Center with their Tuesday meals, their many classes, St. Patrick's Day and Thanksgiving Dinners and bus trips, amongst other events. All of these events are successful because of you, the volunteers – thank you.

Our community also includes the employees of the town. Every town department is made up of hardworking, dedicated individuals who do their best to make sure that every day responsibilities are handled professionally and successfully. Town of Erving employees are

proud to help and serve the people of Erving. All ages call upon Town Hall, Senior/Community Center, Public Library, Elementary School, Recreation Center, Fire Stations #1 and #2, Police Department, Highway Department and Wastewater/Water Departments. To you the employees – thank you.

We all make up this wonderful 'Town of Erving community'. We are a team. We come together and make things happen. We laugh, we commiserate, we work and we play. And with pride our community makes Erving a "great place to live."

It is with honor that this 2017 Annual Town Report is dedicated to our wonderful community in the Town of Erving.

TOWN CLERK REPORTS

ELECTED TOWN OFFICIALS

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Jacob A. Smith (Chair)	Term Expires 2018
Scott M. Bastarache	Term Expires 2019
William A. Bembury	Term Expires 2020

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Daniel B. Hammock	Term Expires 2018
Mark D. Burnett	Term Expires 2019
Jeffrey A. Rollins	Term Expires 2020

TOWN CLERK

Richard W. Newton	Term Expires 2018

TOWN TREASURER

Julie A. Wonkka	Term Expires 2020

TAX COLLECTOR

Michele M. Turner	Term Expires 2019

LIBRARY TRUSTEE

Holly A. Fitzpatrick (Resigned 1/1/2018)	Term Expires 2018
Peter B. Roy-Clark	Term Expires 2019
Mackensey L. Bailey	Term Expires 2020

MODERATOR

Richard K. Peabody	Term Expires 2018

ERVING SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Katelyn G. Mailloux-Little	Term Expires 2018
Opening	Term Expires 2018
David L. Chagnon, Jr. (Appointed 6/20/2017)	
Renee A. Tela (Resigned 9/22/2017)	Term Expires 2019
Jennifer L. Eichorn (Appointed 10/23/2017)	
Erik R. Semb	Term Expires 2020
Opening	Term Expires 2020
Brian N. Guerin (Appointed 6/20/2017)	

TOWN CLERK REPORTS

TREE WARDEN

Christopher J. St. Hilaire	Term Expires 2018

CONSTABLES

Daniel B. Hammock	Term Expires 2018
Richard W. Newton	Term Expires 2019
Arthur A. Kaczenski	Term Expires 2020

PLANNING BOARD

Son Hui May	Term Expires 2018
Jacquelyn M. Boyden	Term Expires 2019
Michael M. Shaffer	Term Expires 2019
Debra L. Smith	Term Expires 2020
George Moonlight Davis	Term Expires 2020

RECREATION COMMISSION

Mark D. Burnett (Resigned 1/17/2017)	Term Expires 2018
Opening	Term Expires 2018
Jillian Betters	Term Expires 2019
Jeffrey A. Rollins	Term Expires 2019

RECREATION COMMISSION (CONT'D)

Renee A. Tela (Chair)	Term Expires 2020
Erik J. Eichorn	Term Expires 2020

BOARD OF HEALTH

Michael J. Gralenski	Term Expires 2018
Leo J. Parent, Jr.	Term Expires 2019
Bruce W. Scott	Term Expires 2020

APPOINTMENTS BY THE ERVING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL COMMITTEE

GILL-MONTAGUE REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES

Marisa Dalmaso-Rhode
2 Vacancies

SCHOOL UNION 28 REPRESENTATIVES

Erik Semb, Chair	Brian Guerin
Katelyn Mailloux-Little, Secretary	David Chagnon, Jr.
Jennifer L. Eichorn	

TOWN CLERK REPORTS

JOINT SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE

Voting Members:	Alternate Members:
Erik Semb	David Chagnon, Jr.
Katelyn Mailloux-Little	Jennifer Eichorn
Brian Guerin	

ERVING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL COUNCIL

James Trill, Principal	Sydney Carlo, Parent
Stephanie Barry, Teacher	Jessica Galvin, Parent
Tracy Saharceski, Teacher	

COMMITTEES OR REPRESENTATIVES APPOINTED BY THE MODERATOR

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Benjamin Fellows	Term Expires 2018
Arthur Johnson	Term Expires 2019
Shirley Holmes	Term Expires 2019
Eugene Klepadlo (Resigned 10/30/2017)	Term Expires 2020
Daniel Hammock	Term Expires 2020

FRANKLIN COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOL DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES

Robert Bitzer	Term Expires 2020

ERVING PUBLIC LIBRARY – APPOINTED BY THE LIBRARY TRUSTEES

Barbara Friedman, Director	Jean Daley, Assistant

TOWN OFFICIALS APPOINTED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

ADMINISTRATIVE

Bryan Smith	Administrative Coordinator
Elizabeth Sicard	Municipal Clerk
Deborah Mero	Accountant
Jacob Smith	IT Support
Jacquelyn Boyden	IT Coordinator
Donna MacNicol	Town Counsel

ANIMAL CONTROL and ANIMAL INSPECTOR

Arthur Johnson	Term Expires 06/30/2018

TOWN CLERK REPORTS

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PRESERVATION OFFICER

David Brule	Term Expires 06/30/2018
Bruce Scott	Term Expires 06/30/2018

BOARD OF REGISTRARS

Warren Boyden	Theresa Dodge
Richard Newton	Elizabeth Sicard

CABLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

William Bembury	Phillip Johnson
Richard Newton	

CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

Scott Bastarache	Linda Downs-Bembury
Benjamin Fellows	Peter Mallet
Deb Smith	

CENTRAL FRANKLIN COUNTY VETERAN'S COMMITTEE

Leo Parent, Jr.	Bruce Bezio

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Carol Gregory	Term Expires 2018
Laura Herbert	Term Expires 2018
Beth Bazler	Term Expires 2019
Peter Sanders	Term Expires 2019
David Brule	Term Expires 2020
Bruce Scott	Term Expires 2020

COUNCIL ON AGING

Kathy Curnick	Expires 2018
Denise Maynard	Expires 2018
Bill Meuse	Expires 2019
Dennis Wonsey	Expires 2019
Sarah Meuse, Chair	Expires 2020
Joseph Bucci	Expires 2020
Gary Betters	Expires 2020

TOWN CLERK REPORTS

CULTURAL COUNCIL

Marcia Bernard, Chair	Expires 2020
Laura Bezio	Expires 2020
Rinky Black	Expires 2020
Bradley Peters	Expires 2020
Michele Turner	Expires 2020

E911 PLANNING COMMITTEE

Richard Newton	Expires 2018
Philip Wonkka	Expires 2018

ELECTION INSPECTION & TELLERS

Jane Carpenter	Expires 2018
June Graves	Expires 2018
Joyce Newton	Expires 2018
Clemma Savage	Expires 2018

ELECTION WORKERS

Leslie Brown, Warden	Expires 2018
Nancy Kruzlic, Clerk	Expires 2018

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Philip Wonkka, Director	Donna LaClaire, Deputy

ENERGY COMMITTEE

Laura Herbert	Expires 2018
Michael Shaffer	Expires 2018
Charlies Zilinski	Expires 2018
2 Vacancies	

FIRE DEPARTMENT – FULL TIME FIREFIGHTERS

Philip Wonkka, Chief	Expires 2020
Ryan Betters	Brandon R. Breault

CALL FORCE FIREFIGHTERS

Tim Cronin	Todd Czernich
Phillip Dupell	Levin Dupree
Just Fellows	Spencer Harris
Melinda Hodgkins	Jeremy Klepadlo
Shaina Kosloski	Jonathan LaClaire

CALL FORCE FIREFIGHTERS (Continued)

Mitchell LaClaire, Sr.	Mitchell LaClaire, Jr.
Peter McDonough	Cody Pease
Joseph Reed, Jr.	Jacob Smith
Carolyn Wager-Czernich	

FRANKLIN REGIONAL PLANNING BOARD

Bryan Smith	Expires 2018

FRANKLIN COUNTY COOPERATIVE INSPECTION PROGRAM

Jacquelyn Boyden	Expires 2018

FRANKLIN COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Peter Sanders	Expires 2018

FRCOG REPRESENTATIVE

William Bembury	Expires 2018
Bryan Smith, Alternate	Expires 2018

GOLDEN CANE COMMITTEE

Leo Parent, Jr.	Expires 2018
Bruce Bezio	Expires 2018
David Brule	Expires 2018

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Glenn McCrory, Foreman	James Paulin
Michael Gordon	Thomas Duffy
Rebecca Walsh, Custodian	Peter Walsh, Bldg Maintenance
Bryant Stewart, Cemetery	Julie Wonkka, Secretary

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Carol Gregory	Expires 2018
John Rice	Expires 2019
Sara Campbell	Expires 2019
Bradley Peters	Expires 2019
David Brule	Expires 2020
Eric Duffy	Expires 2020
Bruce Scott	Expires 2020

TOWN CLERK REPORTS

HRA HOUSING REHAB CITIZEN ADVISORY BOARD
Vacancy

LIBRARY BUILDING COMMITTEE

Marcia Bernard	Jacquelyn Boyden
Sara Campbell	Rebecca Hubbard
Peter Mallet	Cynthia Roy-Clark
Deb Smith	Charlies Zilinski

MEMORIAL DAY COMMITTEE
Vacancy

OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

Scott Bastarache	Select Board Representative
Beth Bazler	Jacquelyn Boyden
Joseph Bucci	Eric Duffy
Jillian Betters	

ORANGE AMBULANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Philip Wonkka	Expires 2018

PERSONNEL RELATIONS REVIEW BOARD
5 Vacancies

PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENT

Christopher Blair, Chief	Robert Holst, Sergeant
Bethann Bezio (resigned 4/14/17)	Nemours Duteau
Brent W. Griffin	James Loynd
Adam Paicos	

RECREATION COMMISSION
Alison Rollins, Assistant

SENIOR/COMMUNITY CENTER

Paula Betters, Director	Harold Jenson, Van Driver
Paul Wasielewski, Custodian	William Meuse, Van Driver

TOWN CLERK REPORTS

SENIOR HOUSING COMMITTEE

William Bembury	Keith Ball
Gary Betters	Jacquelyn Boyden
Paula Betters	Linda Downs-Bembury
Rebecca Hubbard	Denise Maynard

TAX/WATER COLLECTOR'S OFFICE

Ann Petrain, Assistant

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

Elizabeth Sicard, Assistant

TREASURER'S OFFICE

Jean Fountain, Assistant

USHER PLANT REUSE COMMITTEE

Jeannie Schermesser	Melissa Shiner
Jeff Dubay	Deb Lapinski

VETERAN'S COMMITTEE

Daniel Hammock	Expires 2018
Leo Parent, Jr.	Expires 2018
Arthur Kaczenski	Expires 2018

WASTEWATER TREATMENT

Peter Sanders, Chief Operator	Darby Chagnon, Asst. Operator
Peter Walsh	Ryan Henderson

WATER DEPARTMENT

Peter Sanders, Chief Water Operator	Michael Brown, Water Operator

WORKERS' COMPENSATION TREASURER

Julie Wonkka

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Vacancy	Expires 2018
Deborah Mero	Expires 2018
Arthur Johnson	Expires 2020
Daniel Hammock, Chair	Expires 2021

TOWN CLERK REPORTS

VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS – A total of 14 births were recorded in the Town of Erving for this year.

MARRIAGES – A total of 7 marriages were recorded in the Town of Erving for this year.

DEATHS – A total of 13 deaths were recorded in the Town of Erving for this year.

REPORTS OF BOARDS AND DEPARTMENTS

- Board of Selectmen
- Administrative Coordinator
- Fire Department
- Police Department
- Erving Recreation Commission
- Erving Public Library
- Council on Aging
- Board of Health

REPORTS OF BOARDS AND DEPARTMENTS

BOARD OF SELECTMEN REPORT

We wish to thank the community for allowing us the opportunity to serve you as your elected officials. The Board is proud to serve a community that works together and supports each other; through times of great opportunity and as well as great loss. We are consistently reminded that the Town of Erving is truly a "Great Place to Live."

The Board of Selectmen have had the opportunity to work with many departments, boards, commissions, and citizens on several projects in 2017.

- Phase 1 of the Riverfront Park construction was completed in June 2017. The Usher Mill Re-Use Committee and various Town departments collaborated on a successful grand opening to celebrate this milestone.
- Senior Housing efforts continued under the leadership of the Senior Housing Committee in collaboration with the Franklin Regional Council of Governments and the Franklin County Regional Housing and Redevelopment Authority. Studies are completed and a "roadmap" for the project has been developed.
- The Board collaborated with the Finance Committee and the Franklin Regional Council of Governments to develop a planning process that considers the Town's capital needs in a comprehensive manner and created a Capital Planning Committee. This process was used to prepare the FY2019 budget proposal and will be used to form a multiyear plan. This project was funded by the Commonwealth through the Community Compact program.
- The Board continues to work with regional and state stakeholders on opportunities to redevelop the former International Paper Mill and return it to productive use. The Town's Planning Board, Historical Commission, Conservation Commission, Finance Committee, and Capital Planning Committee have been invited into the process.
- The Board has continued to work with staff to address technology needs with the goal of increasing efficiencies. The Board investigated licensing software and in December began implementation that will continue into the beginning of 2018.
- The Library Building Committee, Board of Library Trustees, and Library Director Barbara Friedman successfully submitted a Library Building grant application. The Town has been notified that application was approved and the Town's project is on the waiting list for funding. We are hopeful that news of the funding award will be made in 2018.

In the coming year we look forward to working with staff and citizens to continue to make progress on these initiatives as well as new initiatives. Transportation safety will be a primary focus in the coming year.

Jacob A. Smith, Chair William Bembury Scott Bastarache

Erving Board of Selectmen

REPORTS OF BOARDS AND DEPARTMENTS

ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR REPORT

2017 proved to be an active year in the Town of Erving. These efforts are only made possible by the dedicated service of community members, volunteers, and staff. Below is a summary of the projects and initiatives that occurred in 2017 and that will set the stage for work in 2018.

Highlights from 2017

Capital Planning- the Board of Selectmen and the Finance Committee worked jointly with the Franklin Regional Council of Governments to develop the Capital Planning Committee, establishing a framework for the development of a multiyear capital plan for improved fiscal planning as well as greater transparency. This work was funded through the Community Compact program which is an initiative of Lieutenant Governor Polito's office.

Financial Audit Results: In the summer of 2017, Scanlon & Associates CPA presented the findings of the financial audit for Fiscal Year 2016 that was conducted. The overall findings were positive regarding the financial health of the Town; both in regards to the savings that have been achieved in stabilization and in the funding of post-employment benefits as well as the processes and the financial controls that are in place. These positive findings are the result of the work of the members of our financial team including Deb Mero, Accountant, and Margaret Sullivan, retired Treasurer.

Erving Riverfront Park- the Town's newest municipal park completed phase 1 of construction. The Usher Mill Re-use Committee celebrated the milestone with a well-attended grand-opening event on June 24, 2017. The new park features environmental and cultural informational displays, an environmentally themed play area, a picnic pavilion, and a band shell with the great lawn. The park was constructed by Mountain View Landscapes and designed by Milone & MacBroom. This achievement is the result of many years of dedicated service of the Usher Mill Re-use Committee members along with support from the staff of the Highway Department.

Designated a Green Community & reformed the Energy Committee- In March 2017, Erving was officially designated by the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources as a Green Community with a plan to achieve a 20% reduction in energy consumption within 5 years. The designation came with a $142,905 grant for efficiency projects. Additionally, the Town was included in a LED Streetlight retrofit project that will convert all Town-owned street lights to energy saving LED fixtures. Finally, the Energy Committee was officially reformed in July 2017 to review energy efficiency. The Town continues to work with consultants to finalize retrofit proposals that will take place in early 2018.

Proposed New Erving Public Library- In May 2017, at the Annual Town Meeting, the voters of Erving authorized the Town to fund the planning and construction of a new library if the Library

Building Grant was awarded by the Massachusetts Library Building Commission. In July 2017 the Town was notified that the grant submission for the planning and construction of a new Public Library had been accepted. The Town was listed as #7 on the waiting list out of 32 projects. We expect to receive an update from the State in 2018 allowing the project to proceed. This exciting occasion is the result of many years of work from Barbara Friedman, Library Director, the members of the Library Feasibility and Building Committees, and the Library Trustees.

Transportation Planning & Safety- the Town has continued to work with citizens and various stakeholders on a range of transportation related safety concerns. The condition of sidewalks in Town have been registered as a concern. For several years the Massachusetts Department of Transportation has been working on the plans for an improved streetscape on Route 63 from the beginning of Lester Street, extending the sidewalk in front of the Elementary School to the Senior & Community Center. The Town has supported this effort and the project has finally moved through the 25% design phase and the public hearing. Mass DOT states this project should be advertised for the spring of 2019. Additionally the Highway Department has been working to remove problematic trees that have raised sidewalk panels throughout Town. In 2018 the Department will be working on sidewalk panel replacement.

Concerns about the vehicular speed through Erving Center have been raised. The Highway and Police Departments have worked to address these concerns with the installation of speed monitoring equipment, increased signage and the repainting of crosswalks. In 2018, additional pavement markings and the reestablishment of a crosswalk on Church Street to the playground have been scheduled.

These concerns are not stand alone matters and require comprehensive solutions. Therefore the Board of Selectmen have made transportation planning a priority for 2018. We have begun to work with State and regional stakeholders to reconvene the Route 2 Taskforce to address safety concerns in Erving Center and Farley. Additionally, the Town has applied for two (2) Community Compact projects with the Lieutenant Governor's office: (1) The development of a Complete Streets Plan that will require the Town to consider multimodal transportation throughout town and (2) the inventorying and maintenance planning of all municipally owned bridges and culverts. The Lieutenant Governor's office has approved the projects and work will begin in 2018.

Full-time Staffing at the Fire Department- In the 2nd half of 2017 the Town transitioned from a Fire Department with a part-time Chief and an all call volunteer staff to a Department with a full-time Chief and two (2) full-time Firefighters to work day shifts to compliment the call force. This decision was made after a year of considering the future of the public safety presence within Town; including public forums with residents, the review of regional fire service data provided by Franklin

Regional Council of Governments, and several public meetings to consider a range of options that included maintaining the status quo to the staffing plan that was selected.

Senior Housing- the Town has long sought the development of a senior housing complex. The Town secured land adjacent to the Senior & Community Center and the proposed Public Library off of Care Drive for the development. In 2017 the Senior Housing Committee and the Board of Selectmen worked with the Franklin County Regional Housing and Redevelopment Authority conduct an existing conditions study for the site as well as tour various senior housing complexes throughout Western Massachusetts. Simultaneously, the Town worked with Franklin Regional Council of Governments and the Massachusetts Housing Partnership to identify next steps in the development of the project. In 2018 the Town expects to hold community forums with residents to identify design priorities for the project that will be included in the request for proposals (RFP) process. The RFP process will be used to select a developer who will finance, construct and manage the project

Again, these are merely highlights of the many efforts that are in the works within the Town of Erving. Additional work involved revisions to personnel practices, researching technology to improve municipal practices and achieve efficiencies, meeting with citizens regarding concerns and trying to work towards solutions. The people who work, volunteer, and live in Erving make this a great community! I am looking forward to seeing what will be accomplished in 2018 as we continue to work with these stakeholders.

Bryan Smith, *Administrative Coordinator*

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

In opening the report of the Fire Department for the year 2017, I would like to thank the many residents that supported the department throughout the year.

Investment in the Department:

This year the Town invested in the increased hours of personnel to be available during the daytime hours. This has increased the Town's readiness to deploy needed resources in a much faster timeframe should the need arise. This gives the Department an additional benefit by being able to service the equipment owned by the Town in house reducing down time and cost.

Staff Development:

The Department staff has been increased this year starting in July to include 3 fulltime personnel. This augments our ability to deploy at a minimum of 2 personnel to an incident during the day time hours. Members of the Department attended the Public Fire and Life Safety Education class so we may begin to offer a much more robust public education program through all grades at the School and to give the Department the starting point for a program at the senior center.

Community Education:

The Department continued our partnership with Erving Elementary School to further our community education efforts. Fire prevention classes were held at the School to educate the children and staff on how to react in case of any emergencies. Additionally, we preformed fire drills throughout the year to make sure the children are aware of what is to happen in the event of an emergency.

Department Calls:

Below is a breakdown of all calls received by the Department throughout the year:

Total Reported calls	186
Medical Emergency/MVA	102
Fires Related	30
Motor Vehicle Accidents	25
Calls for Service	19
Mutual Aid (Out of Town)	10

In closing I would like to say thank you for supporting the Fire Department throughout the year.

Respectfully,

Philip Wonkka, Fire Chief

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT REPORT

We welcomed two new staff members to Highway last year. Rebecca Walsh joined us as Building Custodian and Thomas Duffy as Building/Grounds Maintenance. Both of them have stepped up to the plate and have become a huge asset for the Town Of Erving Highway Department Team!

This year projects included drainage and road repair on Wheelock Street. Milling and Paving was also completed at the following locations, Erving Elementary School, Fire Station 2, 18 Pleasant Street Recreation and Union 28 Admin Building, and the Highway / Treatment Plant. These project were able to be completed thanks to many contributors including the Erving Police Department, the Highway Department, J and R Tree Service and Warner Brothers. The Highway Department installed a new catch basin on North Street to prevent ice buildup in the road during the winter months.

Many roads had tree trimming done to help visibility. We will continue with the tree trimming in troubled areas.

Tree removal will continue in the areas that are raising the sidewalks. We will remove or grind stumps and roots so the sidewalks can be repaired.

This past Fall we excavated and built the new walking track at the Erving Elementary School.

The Highway Department was involved with many safety improvements on Church and North Street, installing solar speed notification signs, bus stop signs, crosswalk signs, yield ahead signs and road paint markings. All Town owned crosswalks had new paint applied as well.

We continue to use the brush chipper to keep intersections and other bad areas clear and more visible without having to make many trips back to the yard. D.E.P. no longer allows highway departments to burn those piles.

The Highway Department was involved in updating the wiring and helped install the new security camera system at the Erving Fire Station 2

With all these projects that happened we still had our seasonal duties that were completed also.

Catch basin cleaning, roadside mowing, mowing the Maple Ave landfill, line painting, almost anything goes, street sweeping, town building and park maintenance, setting up tents for the summer program and fall festival, picking up Christmas trees, the fall leaf collection, streetlight repair, plowing and treating the roads. The new leaf machine worked wonderful! We would especially like to thank the residents for reading the Around Town notice on not including other yard waste in the leaf piles this year.

The Highway Department would like to thank everyone for their support and we look forward to helping and working with all departments again in the upcoming year.

Respectfully Submitted,

Glenn McCrory, Highway Foreman

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

In 2017 the department was dispatched to (1,279) One Thousand Two Hundred Seventy-nine calls for service, resulting in (387) Three Hundred Eighty-seven incident reports. In addition to these calls we had (322) Three Hundred Twenty-two arrests and criminal complaints. The department investigated (49) Forty-nine motor vehicle crashes and issued (807) Eight Hundred Seven traffic citations. The traffic citations fines resulted in ($61,250.00) Sixty-one Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Dollars in fines that were issued. The town's (ACO) Animal Control Officer responded to (70) Seventy calls for service.

Officer Bethann Kaczenski left the town of Erving for a position in another town. Officer Brent griffin was hired to fill the vacate position. He came to Erving fully certified having self-sponsored himself at the academy and is now currently working the midnight shifts.

A major development affected Erving this year with the legalization of recreational marijuana. Recreational use of marijuana was approved by citizen's petition and became law at the beginning of the year. This law modeled the consumption of marijuana closely with how alcoholic beverages are regulated. This department witnessed a surge in the consumption and possession of open containers of marijuana while in or operating motor vehicles. Because of the dramatic increase of impaired operators three officers were trained in (ARIDE) Advanced Roadside Impairment Detection Enforcement and two of those officers were further certified as (DRE) Drug Recognition Experts.

North Street and Church Street have always been known to the local population to save a few minutes on a trip to Vermont or New Hampshire. Smartphone technology has enabled operators of vehicles to have turn by turn directions. Most of the population now has smart phones and this has greatly increased the traffic on these (2) two roads. This department has received numerous complaints from the residence regarding erratic operation and high speeds. the purchase of (3) three permanently mounted traffic data signs display the operator's speed and flashes white strobe lights when the operator is above the posted limit. One of the signs also records the speeds of vehicles and the number of vehicles. Collection of this data has been helpful in our goal to respond to citizens' concerns and address the increase in motor vehicle complaints.

The Erving police department provides service to the town (24) twenty-four hours a day and (7) seven days a week. The station is open for general business Monday thru Thursday 7:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Sincerely,

Christopher W. Blair

WASTEWATER TREATMENT REPORT

In 2017 there were some changes in both the Wastewater (POTW#1), and Water Department. POTW# 1 is currently staffed by Peter Sanders (Chief Operator), Darby Chagnon (Assistant Chief Operator), and Peter Walsh (Operator). Pete Walsh is new to the department this year. He recently passed his Grade 3 exam and will be going for his Grade 5 soon. Pete has been with the town for 4 years as the Building Maintenance Person before moving to the Wastewater Dept.

POTW# 1 has made some improvements to some Pump Stations. River St. Pump Station has had VFD's (Variable Frequency Drives) installed to help save on electrical cost, and wear and tear on the pumps. We also replaced some worn out valves. Renovators Pump Station also has had some work done. The 2 chopper pumps which were original, have been replaced along with new rails for the pumps. We also had a couple of inspections this year from DEP and EPA. Both of which went very well. There were **No** NON's (notice of non-compliance). We also had a Pretreatment Audit with the EPA for POTW# 2 (paper mill wastewater plant). The Audit went very well.

The plant and pump stations are all performing well. We are currently involved in an I&I study (Inflow and Infiltration) on our sewer collection system. This will help us determine if we have illegal hook ups (sump pumps) to our sewer system, and any cracks or leaks allowing ground water in, which would cost more to treat.

The Erving Water Department is staffed by Peter Sanders (Water Superintendent) and Mike Brown (Assistant Water Operator). The Water Department had 3 Sanitary Survey Inspections with DEP (1 for each system) in which we did very well, **No** NON's. The department continues to meet all standards set by DEP and EPA in providing the best drinking water we can to our residents.

Peter Sanders

Chief Operator / Water Superintendent

REPORTS OF BOARDS AND DEPARTMENTS

ERVING PUBLIC LIBRARY REPORT

Annual

Report

2017

What people say about the Erving Library!

"Staff goes above and beyond"

"Everyone is helpful in finding what I want to find."

"Always welcoming"

"Everyone is so very helpful and friendly!"

"Love our library."

"Wonderful people, excellent community resource."

10 YEAR COMPARISON OF ERVING LIBRARY SERVICE	FY07	FY17	FY07 VS. FY 17 (ENDING 6/30/17)
Hours Open per week	**21**	**30**	**30 % increase**
Staff Hours per week	**30**	**39**	**23% increase**
Visits to the Library	**4856**	**6392**	**31% increase**
Physical Items on Shelves	**6951**	**11208**	**50% increase**
Erving Residents with C/W MARS cards	**537**	**856**	**60% increase + The Library serves many non-residents**
Circulation = Item Checkout or Electronic Download*			
At the Erving Library Desk	**9671**	**13365**	**38% increase**
Digital Downloads	**0**	**3240**	**Service did not exist in FY07**
Interlibrary Loan to Other Libraries	**20**	**2699**	**Service barely existed in FY07**
Interlibrary Loan from Other Libraries	**467**	**2811**	**500% increase**
All Circulation	**7843**	**19416**	**137% increase**
Programs	**9**	**38**	**320% increase**
Attendance at Programs	**261**	**758**	**190% increase**

Statistics do not include Erving residents use at other libraries or downloads of items from Boston Public Library. *Circulation at the Erving Public Library is ever-changing. Ten years ago a significant amount*

of VHS tapes and audio cassette tapes were still in demand. Now gone, the demand for streaming video, ebooks, digital Audiobooks continues to increase.

Value of Erving Items over the Erving circulation desk = $207,184.73
*Calculated by the Central/Western Massachusetts Automated Resource Sharing (C/W MARS)
Value of Items received from other libraries $66,759.65 Value of Items owned by Erving Public Library $140,425.08 TOTAL $207,184.73

New Services added in 2017 – FREE WITH AN ERVING PUBLIC LIBRARY CARD
Freegal (FREE digital music) https://ervingma.freegalmusic.com/homes/index
Hoopla (FREE ebooks, digital audiobooks and streaming videos https://www.hoopladigital.com

Links to other digital resources* supported by federal, state and local funding:

For FREE ebooks, digital audiobooks and streaming videos

https://cwmars.overdrive.com/

For FREE research databases:

http://www.galepages.com/mlin_w_erving

Find FREE library materials in the Central and Western Massachusetts Libraries:

http://bark.cwmars.org

For all library items in the state of Massachusetts

https://commonwealthcatalog.org/MVC/

New titles at the Erving Library

http://wowbrary.org

*Digital Content adds hundreds of thousands of items to the Erving Library Collection

Programs during calendar year 2017

The Library staff continued to place a high emphasis programs that bring science to the Erving residents of all ages. For small and school-aged children, Library Lego Lady (aka Jean Daley) offered Lego Days, coding sessions using Little Bits, Makey-Makey and a Muttbot robot. Jungle Jim brought his Minecraft show with high intensity balloon tricks.

The Erving Cultural Council supported the following library programs:

The Curious Giraffe Show: Building A Better World	$240
Learn to Play the Harmonica	$450
Minecraft-Hack Your Library	$300
Architecture for Kids	$100

Workshops, Makerspace 3D Design & Printing / Robotics Workshop$325

Also offered were STEM programs for adults: Neuro-Fitness for the Mature Brain and a series of sessions on Eating with Mindfulness, one supported by a grant from New Salem Academy and one from a federal grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). Also supported through IMLS funding is a telescope that will circulate to families in Erving. The Museum of Science (Boston) brought their Night Sky traveling planetarium program for people of all ages at no cost to the town.

Eclipse Day (August 21st) was the highlight of the summer when more than 150 people gathered to watch and learn about the eclipse. Viewing glasses were distributed and author visits, eclipse related crafts were part of the fun. Prizes for best summer readers were given in a late evening ceremony. More than 200 readers participated in the summer reading program in 2017.

Programs offered in cooperation with the Erving Elementary School included the annual first-grade first library card visit and several kindergarten visits. The Library also offers resources for the Extreme Reading Program. Librarians Barbara Friedman and Jane Urban of Erving Elementary School meet on a regular basis to share resources.

We are grateful to the staffs at the Massachusetts Library System for Interlibrary Loan delivery and for continuing education opportunities, the members of the Erving Cultural Council for their commitment of $1415 towards programming, to the Western Massachusetts Regional Library System for their contributions to cooperation, the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners for their assistance in library construction planning, and to all of our participants who truly made the summer memorable. The theme *Build a Better World* is also the mission of the Erving Public Library as we continue to help make Erving *A Great Place to Live*. And to Mary Anne Antonellis, the Library Director of the M.N. Spears Library, Shutesbury, who coordinated the Institute for Museum and Library Service grant bringing an additional $2000 to programming and services offered in 2017.

Staff

Barbara Friedman, MLIS, Library Director

- Barbara Friedman has completed her 9th year at the Erving Public Library. Among her accomplishments are:
- Wrote successful $2.7 million grant for new library construction
- Enlisted and trained new staff
- Improved technology by adding Windows 10 computers, more print capabilities, and laptops for "gamers"
- Added nearly 1000 items to the Library's collection & added digital services.
- Executed grant requirements for several grant programs

Planning and Design Grant (2015 to 2017)	$75,000
Erving Cultural Council	$1,415
Small Libraries in Networks	$2,100.
State Aid to Libraries	$2,244
IMLS Grant for STEM programs & materials	$2,000

Jean Daley

- Jean Daley has completed her 5th year at the Erving Public Library.
- Developed and offered 3 unique STEM programs
- Wrote Cultural Council grants
- Supervised new staff
- Increased leadership role at the library
- "Weeded" the collection of over 500 items that were out-of-date

Shannon Compton, summer unpaid intern, Substitute Library Assistant

Judy Hall, Substitute Library Assistant

John Wheeler, Student Library Assistant, supported through Community Action grant

We want to thank our new maintenance person, Rebecca Walsh who has made a serious impact on the comfort level at the library. And our sincerest thank you to Bryan Smith and Betsy Sicard and all the folks at Town Hall who help in so many ways.

Friends of the Library

The small dedicated member group is lead by Rebecca Hubbard (President), Arlene Wonsey (Treasurer), Ann Lucas, Carol Gregory, Elaine Stafford, Phyllis Stone and the members who contribute monetarily through annual membership dues.

The Friend of the Library raised and contributed over $3000 to support the Library in 2017. Their fundraising efforts included a Valentine Candy Sale, the Annual Book and Plant Sale, Fall Houseplant Sale, and membership drive.

The Friends were granted 501(c) 3, the federal status recognizing the group as a public charity. Members lobbied for funding at Legislative Day at the State House and raised money for their projects and the new Library by participating for the first time in *Valley Gives*, an annual giving campaign for non-profits in western Massachusetts.

The Friends coordinated and funded the following events: Pot-luck dinners, monthly craft sessions and co-sponsored a magic show held during the Summer Park program.

A major project for the year was the construction and placement of a *Little Library* in the Riverfront Park. The Friends continuously monitor and stock the Little Library with help from Annmarie Newton.

Volunteers

The Library Staff is assisted by many residents that offer countless hours of volunteerism.

Ann Lucas, now completing her 9th year at the Library

Mackensey Bailey created the *Eclipse* cake

Mercedes Bailey shared her origami skills

Maggie Fidanza developed and offered monthly craft days

Becky Hubbard and Arlene Wonsey offered holiday craft days

Atsuko Harding demonstrated how to make sushi

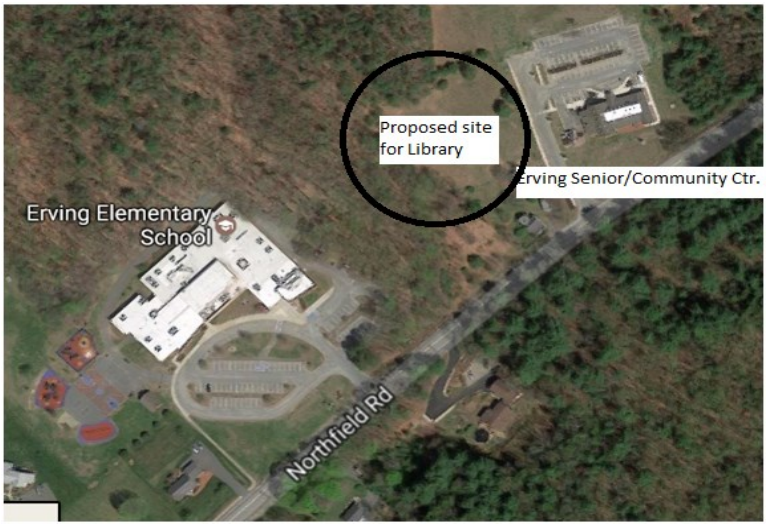
Shannon Compton served during the summer as an unpaid intern. She has started has started working toward her Masters Degree at Simmons University, School of Library and Information Science.

Committees

Library Building Committee

Marcia Bernard, Librarian, Jacquelyn Boyden, Town Assistant Assessor, Sara Campbell, Consulting Civil Engineer, Rebecca Hubbard, EPL Friends President, Peter " Rupert" Roy-Clark, Trustee and Supervisor, UMass Amherst Physical Plant , Deb Smith, Planning Board, Charles Zilinski, Telecommunication Technician/ Electrical Apprentice . Cynthia Roy-Clark, student, who will serve as an ex-officio member.

The Library Building Committee will be assisted by William Bembury, Board of Selectmen, liaison to this Committee, Mackensey Bailey, Erving Library Trustee Chairperson. Barbara Friedman, MLIS, Library Director is a non-voting member of the Committee, Daniel Pallotta, P3, Inc., is Erving's OPM (Owner's Project Manager), Phil O'Brien, LEED AP Principal, and Stewart Roberts, AIA Principal, architects with Johnson/Roberts Associates.



The Building Committee held organizational meetings, wrote informative articles for the Around Town, held public awareness meetings, created a detailed brochure which was distributed town wide and presented information at the Annual Town meeting securing funding for the $5 million new library construction. On July 18th, the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners put the Erving Library at 7th on their waiting list of projects. However, with Town support already approved and support for more state construction money, it is very possible that Erving will move quickly up the list.

Prepared by Barbara Friedman, MLIS, Library Director

Respectfully submitted,

Mackensey Bailey, Chairperson
Rupert Roy-Clark, Secretary
Holly Fitzpatrick

COUNCIL ON AGING REPORT

Erving Senior

Community Center

Council on Aging

2017 Was an Inspiring Year at the Center

Our attendance was up 1%. With that said we were up 42% in 2016 so the increase of 1% was promising. We are happy to see so many new faces participating in our weekly programs. In 2017 we have added a few new classes. Chair Yoga and M3 exclusively taught in Erving (music, magic & mayhem) M3 is like no other class we offer. It gets RAVE reviews. A Facebook page was created. This has been an excellent addition to the center. We are able to post our monthly calendar, programs, bus trips, and any new happenings. What's great is our seniors like seeing their photo and sharing it with family and friends about their day at the center. Erving Senior Community Center is beautiful place to be. It feels very welcoming. If you have not stopped in please do so you will be amazed. Looking forward to seeing more baby boomers. As a reminder we are the next generation to attend this active center and perpetuate its future.

The Center is open daily 8:00 to 4:00 (Rule is remember if the school is closed so are we)

Bad weather policy: Best to call before you come in. 413-423-3649

Monthly Calendar: Each month a **new** calendar is posted on the town's website www.erving-ma.org It can be viewed under directory," Senior Center COA". The calendar is also posted on our **Erving Senior Facebook page**. Friend us and you will receive the calendar automatically. This ever changing calendar lists all programs and events for the month to help you plan your time with us in advance.

PROGRAMS: We had 9 exercise programs in 2017 See below for their tidal and instructors.

Tai Chi: Funded partly by the Church Street grant supported by FCHCC. Instructor: Marcia Gobeil

Osteoporosis focused exercise: Supported by the volunteers from RSVP: Instructor Sue Sharbaugh, Priscilla Caouette & Clyde Perkins.

Line Dancing, Chair Aerobics & Impact Aerobics. Instructor Linda Allis supported in part by the Formula Grant EOEA. Line dancing fun, Chair aerobics all ages, Impact aerobics for the active participant.

Healthy Bones & Muscles: Instructor: Sandy Kosterman. A great low impact exercise program for all ages.

Chair Yoga: Instructor Ann Skowron. Relaxing way to reduce stress, improve posture and balance.

Stretch & Balance: Instructor: Ann Skowron. A combination of Platies, Yoga & low impact stretches

M3 (music, magic & mayhem). Instructor: Ann Skowron. Exercise, dancing, laughing, games, ever-changing movements, brain teasing and more.

PROGRAMS: Friday bowling, quilting workshop, craft workshop, card games, bingo, puzzle making, gardening, movies, computer class, creative coloring, RAD self- defense class, bridges together talks, family feud, WI Sports, walking, knitting, painting workshop, billiards, professional exercise equipment. Free WiFi, laptop Computers. Handyman Services for Erving residents.

Yearly Activities

The Friends plan going out to lunch at a local restaurant monthly. Other luncheons include Poet Seat Health Care, Buckley Health Care and Quabbin Valley Health Care. Each facility provides a lunch twice a year for the seniors at no charge to them. This is a great way to visit our Erving Seniors that are now living at the different health facilities. Homemade lunch is served every Tuesday. Other big holidays lunches served is Thanksgiving and St Patrick's Day. A very BIG thanks to our volunteers. There is a lot of work to plan, prepare, serve and clean up after over 60 plus people. In April we celebrated Easter with a designer bonnet parade, lots of Easter treats followed by an egg hunt with prizes. Halloween we celebrated with a themed lunch. Followed by a costume contest and special prizes for the winners. Our Christmas Lunch this year was at the French King Restaurant. After lunch we had a Yankee Swap. Fun was had by all. Our Erving Pre-school children delivered creative treats for the seniors on four different occasions. Everyone really appreciated seeing the children. It is so wonderful to have such thoughtful teachers and neighbors.

Events: We sponsored a Flu Clinic. The Friends rented a table at the Health & Safety Expo sponsored by TRIAD we received rave reviews. The seniors attended the TRAID Fall Picnic. Our gardeners planted flowers, vegetables & herbs. We had a diverse harvest shared with many. Singing Vocalist Dusti Dufresne preformed at one of our luncheons. We attended an Elvis Presley Impersonation at Poet Seat Health Care. English Country Dancers entertained at our BBQ in July. Birds of Prey was presented at Poet Seat. We hosted Lunch and Laughs with comedian David Shikes. Program Mothballs in my Attic journey back to childhood was a fun presentation. We sponsored three Red Cross Community Blood Drives each one reaching our pint goals. Our Holiday Bazaar sponsored by the Friends of Erving was our best ever to date. Thanks to all who participated.

Several BIG occasions and sad losses of Erving Friends: Thelma Downs turned 99 years young and still going. Our faithful Erving friends Elizabeth Adams and Bernie Niedzwiedz passed away. They are missed. Jean Black, Louise Golosh, Beth Mackenzie and Corina Bezio are now residing in health care facilities. We visit and send cards and notes as often as we can.

Nana's Attic: Continues to help The Friends stay vital. This has been a great opportunity for them to learn the many aspects of retail and contribute to their donation fund for programs and events for the year.

Holiday Bazaar: This year we dedicated it to Bernie Niedzwiedz. There was a small group of hard working friends who prepared for these very busy days. We had a wonderful turnout. We cannot succeed alone so we thank all who donated baked goods, gift certificates, auction prizes, crafts and more. A special thank you to all who volunteered their time to this annual event. We had our best year yet! You made us proud!

Happy Birthday Thelma

Volunteers preparing for our senior community Thanksgiving Dinner. Over 70

Other Services

Provided by the COA

Congregate meals: Provided by the LifePath. The meals are severed Wednesday and Thursday. LifePath provides a certified kitchen staff to prepare the lunch. The food is delivered by a catering service to our facility the evening before. All food is ready to heat and serve to our seniors. The menu is posted monthly and sign-up is required. A donation of $3.00 is suggested.

Home Cooked meal: The center purchases, prepares, serves and cleans up weekly. Our Tuesday lunch has been greatly received. We average 24 people & up on these lunch days. Just $4.00 we serve a hearty hot lunch & dessert.

FRTA Van Service for Erving Seniors

COA works cohesively with the FRTA providing transportation services for the seniors of Erving. The van is owned by the FRTA and operated by the COA. Our drivers have been certified in defensive driving and safety. Trained in lift use and securement. Our center has provided over 2,000 duplicated riders on the demand response rides. This service provides rides to and from the center Dr. appointments, shopping and other locations seniors may need to attend in order to live independently. The cost is minimal. If you are a client of LifePath your cost for the service is free. The procedure is simple. Call the Center and a ride can be arranged. Med-rides must call FRTA direct and they will dispatch a van per your request.

The Brown Bag Service:

The Center provides a monthly distribution program to all seniors income eligible through the Western Mass Food Bank. The first Thursday of every month the Food Bank delivers an assortment of food to the Center. Our center volunteers create an assembly line and the bags are filled and ready to be picked up. A donation of $3.00 is suggested. Applications are available anytime the center is open. This program is a perfect way to help supplement the high cost of food for our active seniors. **SNAP:** The center will post on our monthly calendar when a Snap Councilor will be available. You may come to the center where applications as well as information can be provided to you about this program.

Out Reach Programs

Community Blood Drive:

The Center sponsored 3 Blood Drives. April, July and October. Each drive we achieved our pint goals. The Red Cross was very pleased with the location and our accommodations. We have been encouraged to continue to offer this program on a quarterly basis. Thank you all for supporting this excellent cause.

The Center can help provide referral services for many programs available call Paula Betters 413-423-3649

Medical Related Programs at the Center

COA provides monthly **Blood Pressure Clinic** at no charge to seniors. No need for an appointment. Clinic is held first Wednesday of every month at the center**. A Foot Clinic is** held the first Thursday of every month. This program supports happy and healthy feet. Clinics are supported by the Erving Board of

Health. **Flu, Pneumonia Clinic:** Conducted in September drew in a lot of new visitors and was very successful.

Senior Center help: Linda Johnston: Comes to us from and is paid by The Catholic Charities program. She works 20 hours per week. Linda has been a great asset helping where ever and whenever needed. I plan on continuing this program as long as we can.

The Center could not do it alone without our **faithful volunteers**. We need their help in so many aspects to make this center as warm and welcoming as it has become. Positive attitude is key. Everyone wants to make a difference. It feels good to be part of a team. I personally make a point to thank each and every one daily. Letting them know I am are grateful for all they contribute, making this a wonderful center to be part of. Erving residents you should be very thankful to our town for supporting such a special place.

Friends of the Erving Senior Center

The Friends Group: An organization that consists of the following officers. President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. Business meetings are the third Tuesday of every month. The purpose of the Friends organization is to enhance the quality of services, programs and events for persons over 55.The ability to fundraise and expand social programs and services to seniors permissible under Chapter 180 of the General Laws of the Commonwealth and section 501(c)(3).

Department of Veteran Services

A Veterans Service Officer sets up at the Center first Wednesday of every month @ 1:00 – 3:00. No appointment needed. Chris is here to help any veteran with questions or services you may be entitled to as a veteran served or serving in the military. It is for your benefit.

UPPER PIONEER VALLEY
VETERANS' SERVICES

Paul Wasielewski: Our part-time maintenance and custodial person has been doing a fantastic job. He has been an asset to the Center. It is a pleasure to come in each day and knowing everything is in its place and looking great.

Bus Trips we had Four: Vermont, Maine, Rhode Island Twice!

All trips were great. We had lots of fun and created lots of memories

REPORTS OF BOARDS AND DEPARTMENTS

Council on Aging (COA) The COA consists of 7 members: President Sarah Meuse, Joseph Bucci, Denise Maynard, Kathie Curnick, Gary Betters, William Meuse and Dennis Wonsey. Liaison: William Bembury

The COA members meet the second Tuesday of every month at 9:30 One Care Drive Erving MA. All meeting agenda's posted prior to meetings. All minutes posted on line @ website www.erving-ma.orgs

Erving Senior Community Center. This Center is here for **YOU! Erving residents & anyone from surrounding areas 55 years young.** There are no fees and it is a great place to meet new & old friends.

Community Functions: Erving residents rented the space for many private functions. The Recreation Committee, Library and Town Offices also welcomed the Community Center for their meetings as well as performances and events.

New at the Center: Exercise Equipment. 2 Treadmills, 2 Recumbent Bikes and Elliptical Machine. Perfect for a daily workout. It is here for you and your health. **Come check it out.**

Thank you Erving & Friends for all your support. We have a very **Welcoming** Center. Everyone should appreciate and be very proud to have this in our fine community.

Sincerely,

Paula D Betters

Director

RECREATION COMMISSION REPORT

Another year has been added to the history books, and the Erving Recreation Commission has done it's best to fill it full of exciting opportunities for our community children and adults. From the slippery slopes at Berkshire East and trip to UMASS Basketball to the glowing orange neon socks on the soccer fields, we hope it's been as fun for everyone else as it has been for us!

Man Down: The Commission has functioned with four seats filled this year. Mark Burnett stepped down, leaving Jill Betters and Renee Tela to man the ship. Soon after, we welcomed Erik Eichorn and Jeff Rollins who were elected in the last election. Renee Tela continues as chairman. Alison Rollins continues to support the Rec Commission in administrative duties.

Winter: January always finds us at the beginning of our competitive Eagles Basketball Season. The four Erving Teams put up a good fight, and had a great learning year with fabulous coaches and parent support. We tried a new Family Adventure this year at Berkshire East. Many families from our community gathered at the slopes for a morning of sledding and fun. With over 50 Erving residents the day was a great success and will hopefully be repeated in 2018. We also decided to host a Umass Basketball trip in February, which drew in attendees from Erving and Montague as well.

Spring: Erving baseball had another successful season, with one Erving Junior team representing our town in the Tri County League and an instructional t-ball team. Unfortunately, the Senior team was not able to play due to lack of other teams. Some players joined Greenfield teams and Newt Guilbault teams and had winning seasons. This year we hosted the Tri-County Baseball All-star game at Ziliniski Field. We also offered several family movie nights at the Rec Center during the spring months. This June in partnerships with the town and Usher reuse committee we opened a new park at the site of the old Usher mill in Erving side. It showcases a Band Shell, a small playground, Pavilion and historical markers. The event was attended by 300 people. Many local and state representatives spoke along with townspeople. A number of groups had booths and food was provided by the Erving Fire Fighters Association. The day ended with an ice-cream social which young and old enjoyed.

Summer: We welcomed Marisa Spaulding as the Director this year, who was full of great new ideas for the day to day running of Summer Park. We were fully staffed with 8 counselors. Crafts, games, weekly fieldtrips to Laurel Lake and trips to Interskate 91, French King Bowling Center, Greenfield Garden Cinema, Ecotarium, Skyzone and Animal Adventures were appreciated by kids and parents alike. We were happy to introduce the free meals program this summer, which enabled every Summer Park child and Erving resident under the age of 18, to have breakfast and lunch, free of charge. Youth Beats, Flying High Frisbee Dogs, Color Wars, Facepainting and Science Tellers were more of the weekly offerings at camp this summer.

This year we hosted a British Soccer Camp from Challenger Sports. Two instructors from Great Britain and one from Connecticut spent the week challenging local kids, teaching them new skills and increasing their love for the sport. They will be coming back in July 2018.

Fall: Even in the rain the Annual Fall Festival was a hit, as we gathered at Veterans Field for a day of coming together as a community, to celebrate the closeness and small town feel that Erving is known for. Due to the rain and cold temperatures the Erving Relay for life team served soups. The Erving Firefighters Association and Chef Ryan treated us with delectable dishes and yummy treats to keep our tummies satisfied as we raced on the rock walls, bounced in the Euro Bounce, attempted the obstacle course and spent the day laughing and catching up with old friends. The Erving PD, Library and Democratic Party had booths. Great fall produce and Maple syrup were available from the Boyden Family. New this year we added a Band and a beer tent for the older crowd to spend the evening socializing and dancing.

The 100 Mile Club continues to be a success. The partnership with Erving Elementary School promote a healthy lifestyle, by challenging children and adults to complete 100 miles of walking before the end of the school year. This year we planned once a month, Sunday themed walks which were a hit until darker nights and cooler weather kept us indoors.

Soccer was a big hit this year. We had two teams competing in the largest Tri-county league in many years. 29 teams played in the Junior and senior leagues. Ending with the Soccer Jamboree at Veteran's field. 15 teams played on a foggy Saturday morning that turned into a beautiful day. The Erving Relay for life team had coffee, hot chocolate and Donuts. Once again, the Erving Fire Fighters association with Chef Ryan wowed us with their amazing dishes. As the nights got cooler, we geared up for our first ever TRUNK or TREAT at the New Usher Mill Park, which brought in over 150 goblins, fairies and superheroes! We were so grateful to the many Erving Residents who showed up to dress up their car trunks and pass out candy.

"Snacks with Santa" finished out the year, with donuts and hot chocolate and a visit from Jolly Old St. Nick! As we sit and finish this report, we are planning our next tubing trip...so the circle continues!

Sincerely,

Jill Betters, Renee Tela, Erik Eichorn, Jeff Rollins and Alison Rollins

BOARD OF HEALTH REPORT

The Erving Board of Health issued the following license types in 2017:

- 17 Septage Hauler Permits
- 12 Active Food Establishment Permits
- 1 Semi-Public Pool Permit
- 2 Outdoor Wood Burning Boiler Permits

Septage Hauler permits allows septic hauling companies to dispose of waste at the Erving Center Treatment Plant and/or at the Erving side Wastewater Facility. The waste from residents' septic systems can be disposed of without charge at the Erving side Plant. The septage hauler must call the facility in advance at 413-423-3354.

Erving recently had a change of Health Agents. Due to unforeseen circumstances, Health Agents Deborah Palmer and David Zarozinski retired on June 1, 2017. We would like to thank Debbie and Dave for all of their years of service, guidance and kindness. We wish them well in their retirement.

Our new Health Agents, Claudia Lucas and Charlie Kaniecki have been very busy since they came aboard in June of 2017. Not only have they addressed the normal concerns of calls and complaints, and the inspections of our food establishments, but with the expertise and experience that Claudia and Charlie bring with them, Erving's Board of Health is addressing the abandoned buildings here in Town. This has kept the local Board and our Health Agents very busy. Thank you Claudia and Charlie for the knowledge you bring to the table and for helping us in the process of cleaning up this growing problem and for your patience as we learn.

The Board of Health is always open to any questions, concerns or problems regarding health issues in our town. Please feel free to call anytime at 413-422-2800 ext. 101; or you may email the Board of Health Clerk, Betsy Sicard, at municlerk@erving-ma.org or contact our local board of health members at boh@erving-ma.org .

Respectfully submitted,

Cyd Scott, Chair

Leo Parent, Jr.

Michael Gralenski

Erving Board of Health

EDUCATION

- Erving Elementary School
- Gill-Montague Regional School
- Franklin County Technical School

EDUCATION

ERVING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL REPORT

Erving Elementary School (EES) enjoys a rich history of academic and cultural excellence that is the result of a collegial partnership between the school staff, parents and members of the community, each providing a diversity of experiences for our students. Visitors to our school find this close working relationship, and focus upon what is best for children, to clearly exist.

Erving is often characterized as a 'jewel', when parents and educators are carefully considering the qualities that must be present in order to educate the whole child, and prepare them for the challenges of the 21st century.

Our educational programs are academically and artistically challenging, engaging each student by linking the curriculum to prior knowledge and experience. Faculty and staff work extremely hard to provide exciting, expanded opportunities for our students to explore new ideas, and acquire the skills to become productive citizens in a vastly changing society.

I can honestly say that in all of my years working and being connected to educational settings, there is no other school that compares to Erving Elementary School. Respect, politeness, and down-to-earth genuine compassion for all, is clearly evident everywhere you go. Our staff and students are game changers! They change the world by everything they do. Upon entering the school you will see the following statements on the wall. Our first grade students wrote them about famous people. I think they could be written about our staff and students.

"They make change in the world"

"They are brave"

They change people's minds"

They make our world a better place"

They are first"

"They keep us safe and peaceful"

The total enrollment of the school is 142 students in grades preschool through grade 6. New additions to the staff this year are Chris Williams (P.E. Teacher) and Carlo LaBianca (Assistant Custodian),

Massachusetts Board of Elementary and Secondary Education has decided to replace MCAS and PARCC with the next-generation MCAS. This test was given for the first time in the spring of 2017

and used items from both PARCC and MCAS, along with items developed specifically for the Massachusetts test. Students in grade 4 were required to take a computer test, while grades 3, 5, and 6 took a paper test. As we have done with previous assessments, we will use the spring 2017 data to reflect on our students' areas of strength and on areas where they may need additional support.

The School Council meets monthly to create a shared vision, discuss how the school can improve student outcomes, and, plan a school environment which unites all members of the school community in a sense of belonging, commitment and growth.

The faculty continues to work on developing a clear understanding of the Standards for Mathematical Practice. This important groundwork lays the foundation for Math Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment at EES. In grades K through 5 EES adopted the 2017 math (curriculum) program called Investigations, while Grade 6 implemented the 2017 C.M.P. program that is used by a number of the local middle schools.

Erving Elementary 'Preschool' is extremely popular. Our full-day program attracts the attention of many Franklin County residents; some of who are relocating to the town to ensure their child experiences a quality early childhood education. We have two preschool classrooms to accommodate the increase in student numbers, and respect the value of a low student to teacher ratio. The ratio in each classroom ensures children attending Erving receive the finest opportunity to start their educational journey.

Grade 6 students attended Nature's Classroom in Hancock, New Hampshire. The classroom is a 5-day residential outdoor education program. Parents, teachers and children who attend speak of its impact for years.

Students attending our Afterschool program are exposed to a number of incredible, engaging, and fun activities. The new year brings a chance for students to enjoy some new exciting activities, including Martial Arts, Hula-Hoop making, Robotics, Yoga, Cooking, Academic Tutoring, Mad Science, and so much more. Thank you to Michelle Fisher, Collin Mailloux, and Taylor Flaherty for making all of these opportunities available for the students.

Phase 1 of the walking/running track has been completed. Thank you to the team at the Town of Erving Highway Department for working on this project. During the Fall, the track was marked out, excavated, and material laid and compacted. Phase 2 will occur Spring 2018. This second phase will include; re-compacting of material, surrounding grass verges will be manicured, and the track will be lined. During this first winter we do expect some shifting of material, along with a possible encroachment of the grass verge, while everything settles in. Students, staff, and members of the Erving community are free to walk on the track in its current state. All we ask is that you clean the

soles of your shoes when exiting the area. On behalf of the students and staff, we wish to extend a special thank you to the Erving Recreation Commission for their support in providing our students with a wonderful opportunity to live a healthy lifestyle.

Technology – Tom Smith (Technology Director) has updated our new website (www.erving.com). The school provides iPad training workshops for staff, students and members of the community. To cope with the worldwide technological advance, our After School Academy has a S.T.E.A.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Math) focus.

Erving Elementary School Community Events are a vital part of the schools daily life. Our Winter Concert and Cookie Exchange is a clear example of the extent to which the Erving community goes to demonstrate their care of, and respect for each other. The gym is always packed with standing room only, people squeezing into every space along the walls. We are treated to an instrumental and choral extravaganza, beautiful voices courtesy of the hard work of students and staff. Bravo Ms. B.C. for a well orchestrated event. Thank you Katelyn Mailloux and a host of P.T.O. volunteers who spent many hours setting up, and ensuring every person received a bag of goodies at the end of the concert. Another community event is the All-School Play. This year we were treated to The Ugly Duckling. A tale reflecting a journey that could be experienced by students. Throughout their lives students face many challenging adventures. They meet friends along the way, and together they face their challenges and grow to become incredible adults who will make our world a better place. The play was yet another of those special moments, when all of the feathers were aligned and the (black) lights shone brightly on the talents of our incredible children. The students worked hard to learn intricate routines, chorus numbers, and of course the many lines they need to Honk! Quack! Squawk! and Tweet! In Erving, we are so very fortunate to have a rich and varied pool of opportunities for our students to excel and realize their potential. The hard work and dedication demonstrated by each and every student reflected that same commitment by the staff/instructors, mentors, and of course their parents, guardians, and grandparents. The 'Erving Elementary School Play' is a rite of passage in the truest sense of what a community event should be. It is recognized as one of those requisites we should always provide. As one parent put it "My child would never have this kind of opportunity at another school!" Thank you Ms. B.C. for your leadership, and dedication to the arts. Thank you Emily Stewart for your involvement and the many hours dedicated to putting on the show!

Rinky Black and Pam Ososky were recognized at the local Langstroth Bee Festival. Former Governor Deval Patrick was on hand to congratulate Rinky and Pam, as our Butterfly Garden was being recognized for its beauty and an indicator of a healthy environment and healthy ecosystems. Our garden provides a wide range of environmental benefits, including pollination and natural pest control.

EDUCATION

Erving Elementary School was a successful recipient of a STARS residency grant. The $5000 grant will cover the costs to bring Motoko, the recipient of the National Storytelling Network's 2017 Circle of Excellence Award to EES. Motoko has enchanted audiences of every age since 1993. She trained with master mime Tony Montanaro (1927-2002) and renowned Appalachian storyteller Elizabeth Ellis. Motoko's repertoire includes Asian folktales, Rakugo and Zen tales, ghost stories, mime vignettes, as well as oral memoirs from her childhood in Osaka and her life as an immigrant in the U.S. Motoko has appeared on PBS' Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood, and toured Miyazaki, Japan, as part of CarnegieKids in Miyazaki Project, sponsored by Carnegie Hall. She has been featured in festivals and theaters across the U.S., most notably, the National Storytelling Festival, Timpanogos Storytelling Festival, Bay Area Storytelling Festival, and the Provincetown Playhouse at NYU. (See the list of her credits.) As a teaching artist, Motoko has been awarded numerous grants from the Massachusetts Cultural Council and New York State BOCES. Her story CDs have won a Parents' Choice Silver Honor Award, a Storytelling World Award, and a National Parenting Publications Award (NAPPA). She is the author of *A Year in Japan: Folktales, Songs and Art for the Classroom.*

Veterans Day: I feel that one of the most important educational messages we can convey to our students is that of respect. If every person in the world truly honored, valued, and respected each other, it would be clear that we would be living in a different world. I would like to share with the community how our students and staff at Erving Elementary School recently had the opportunity to spend some ***special time with 'friends'***, and demonstrate the value of respect. On Thursday, November 9, 2017 Erving Elementary School students and staff came together to honor and pay tribute to all American veterans, but especially to give thanks to living veterans who served our country honorably during war or peacetime. Our school was proud to honor the 41 special guests in attendance:

Safety: Captain Ryan Betters and Firefighter Brandon Breault visited each classroom to present all of our students with important Fire Safety and Prevention information. Erving Police Chief Chris Blair and members of the Erving police force accompanied a number of state troopers from the Commonwealth School Safety Task Force. They were at Erving to conduct a school-wide unannounced lockdown drill, and to provide us with feedback on our protocols for student and staff safety. Overall we did a wonderful job. Students and staff followed everything to the law and received an 'A' rating. Our guests were extremely impressed with the culture of respect that permeated the building. As you can imagine we are very proud of our students and staff.

It is reassuring that our local police officers take the time to build a rapport with our children, so that when they meet in public, children easily recognize them and feel comfortable talking with them. Sergeant Rob Holst comes along to talk with our Preschoolers about his role as a police office

here in the community, including how he uses his police cruiser. Rob does a wonderful job gearing his talk to their level and responding to the many questions asked by our students. A lot of the children get to sit in his cruiser and push the siren and lights! Sergeant Holst provides all students in grade 6 with a comprehensive D.A.R.E. program. DARE teaches students good decision-making skills to help them lead safe and healthy lives. Thank you Sergeant Rob.

On behalf of the students attending Erving Elementary School, thank you to Superintendent Jennifer Haggerty, Central Office staff, Director of Student Support Services Prudence Marsh, Business Manager Bruce Turner, Erving School Committee, PTO, School Council, Town Highway Department staff, Erving Town Officers, faculty and staff, families and community members. Your leadership, management, vision and support are all necessary to maintain the quality of education that our school provides for our children. It is imperative that we continue to provide our children with a safe, innovative and challenging environment to learn and grow as students and as people.

Thank you for providing our students with a safe, supportive and well cared for environment, where they can learn and grow. Our students deserve the best!

Respectfully Submitted

James D. Trill

Principal

GILL-MONTAGUE REGIONAL SCHOOL REPORT

SCHOOL COMMITTEE (May)	TERM EXPIRATION
Timmie Smith, Chair	2018
Jane Oakes, Vice Chair	2019
Mike Langknecht	2018
Lesley Cogswell	2018
Christina Postera	2018
Heather Katsoulis	2019
April Reipold	2020
Cassie Damkoehler	2020
Shawn Hubert	2020

Superintendent's Report

The Gill-Montague Regional School District vision is to be ***"A community that empowers every student for continuous learning, active citizenship, and personal fulfillment".*** Under the support and direction of the school committee, the district's faculty and staff collectively strive towards this shared vision. These aspirations are guided by the district's three-year strategic plan which began implementation in 2014-15. The plan's details may be found at our website: www.gmrsd.org and its main objectives are summarized below:

Strategic Plan Overarching Objectives:

1. **Readiness to Learn**: Provide social and emotional support and instruction to ensure all students fully engage in learning.
2. **Literacy Skills (elementary level)**: Refine our approaches to teaching reading, writing, and critical thinking.
3. **Critical Thinking (secondary level)**: Increase the frequency of tasks and assessments that require higher order thinking and authentic performance.
4. **Educator Learning**: Create a culture of adult learning grounded in a cycle of inquiry focused upon improved student achievement.
5. **Community Engagement**: Increase parental and stakeholder involvement and investment in district schools

We believe the combination of initiatives being undertaken as part of this strategy will result in increased student achievement, improved student enrollment trends, and more sustainable school finances.

Student Enrollment:

Total student enrollment had been on a long-term decline. However, this trend appears to be changing. Total enrollment has gone from 1,000 in the fall of 2014, to 947 in 2015, to 951 in 2016, to 978 in 2017. The distribution of student enrollment across the district in the fall of 2017 was as follows:

Gill Elementary (Grades K-6)	134
Hillcrest Elementary (Grades Pre K-1)	162
Sheffield Elementary (Grades 2-5)	216
Great Falls Middle School (Grades 6-8)	245
Turners Falls High School (Grades 9-12)	221
Total:	978

Finances:

In May, 2017, the citizens of Gill and Montague showed their support for the district with their approval of a FY18 Budget that reflected a 5.01% increase in local assessments from the prior year. The general fund budget for FY18 was $19,174,370, a 2.2% increase from the FY17 budget of $18,762,925.

Gill-Montague Regional School District – General Fund
Statement of Revenues and Other Sources, and Expenditures and Other Uses – Budget and Actual
For the Year Ended June 30, 2017 (Unaudited)

FY17	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual Amounts	Variance with Final Budget Positive/(Negative)
Revenues and Other Sources:				
Assessments to member towns	10,445,136	10,445,136	10,430,481	(14,655)
Tuition	900,000	900,000	763,044	(136,956)
Intergovernmental	6,614,489	6,614,489	6,597,671	(16,818)
Investment Income	3,300	3,300	4,232	932
Miscellaneous	0	0	134,133	134,133
Other Sources	800,000	800,000	672,820	(127,180)
		0		
Total Revenues and Other Sources	$18,762,925	$18,762,925	$18,602,381	-$160,544
Expenditures and Other Uses:				0
Administration	706,027	653,026	639,273	13,753
Instruction	8,293,200	8,327,528	8,218,333	109,195
Other School Services	1,282,556	1,255,456	1,225,123	30,333
Operation and maintenance	1,529,058	1,584,058	1,346,951	237,107
Fixed charges benefits	4,116,250	4,107,023	3,949,539	157,484
Debt Service	151,515	151,515	151,514	1
Acquisition	0	0	0	0
Special education tuitions	84,319	84,319	503,130	(418,811)
School choice/charter	2,600,000	2,600,000	2,405,905	194,095
Total Expenditures and Other Uses	$18,762,925	$18,762,925	$18,439,767	$323,158
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other sources over expenditure and other uses				$162,614

Gill Elementary School 2016/2017

Overview
Strong academic traditions continued last year at Gill Elementary. Gill students took the new state assessment MCAS 2.0 tests last year. Because this was the first year of the test, it did not affect the school's accountability status one way or another. The percentage of students meeting or exceeding expectations are shown in comparison to state averages below:

	School	State
3rd ELA	45%	47%
3rd Math	45%	49%
4th ELA	19%	48%
4th Math	19%	49%
5th ELA	50%	49%
5th Math	31%	46%
5th S/T/E	56%	46%
6th ELA	74%	50%
6th Math	60%	49%

Students and Staff
Gill Elementary School's enrollment grew slightly last year with an enrollment of 121 students. We had two students move out during the year and one move in. This, combined with seven students who moved into the district or choiced in over the summer was a counterpoint to a smaller kindergarten class. 53% of students resided in Gill, 28% were school choice students from Montague, and 18% were choice students from other communities. Student enrollment by grade was the following:

Kindergarten	16 Students
First Grade	19 Students
Second Grade	17 Students
Third Grade	22 Students
Fourth Grade	16 Students
Fifth Grade	16 Students
Sixth Grade	15 Students

Our faculty consisted of one teacher per grade level. We also had a special educator and three para-professionals. Additional staff included a principal, administrative assistant, custodian, nurse, and cafeteria worker. We shared our specials teachers (physical education, art, music, technology, and library) with Sheffield Elementary School and Hillcrest Elementary School. We also had an adjustment counselor three days a week, and a reading teacher two days a week.

Academic Program
Responsive Classroom continued to form the core of the social skills curriculum from first grade through sixth grade. Instructional programs continued to be supported with *Houghton-Mifflin Reading*, *Math Expressions* and *Tools of the Mind* in kindergarten. When possible, students also been used *Lexia* as a supplemental reading skills program. In addition to our in-school academic programs, we continued to run *Destination Imagination* after school and had 3rd, 5th and 6th grade teams, with one sixth grade team making it to global finals. We also had the *Mad Science* program available for students in all grades. The ACT program run by Amy Gordon ran again last spring as well, culminating with a performance at Town Hall.

School Council
The School Council drafted a new school improvement plan with a heavy focus on project-based learning. We spent time analyzing the previous improvement plan and action steps we've taken to meet our goals, and looking at next steps. Our members were- Conor Driscoll, Amy Gordon, David Grout, Kathryn Hayden, Sheri Little, and Cassandra Holmes. We are still seeking an additional parent member.

Family School Engagement
We continued to have an incredibly strong parent base at Gill Elementary. The PTO ran monthly events that were attended. These included a "Soup and Games" night and a crafts night. They also had several successful fundraisers and were able to donate to classes for field trips, provide $5 for every student to spend on books at the book fair, and purchase every teacher's classroom wish list at the book fair. We continued to hold monthly School Sings and All-School Meetings as well as to invite parents in on Fridays that didn't have one of those events. This was well received and all classrooms had parents volunteer throughout the year.

Improvements
Gill School continued to work with the town of Gill to resolve ongoing water concerns, replace the roof, and upgrade the electrical system in the building.

Hillcrest Elementary School, 2016-2017
We are pleased to present you with the School Annual Report, which provides key information about the 2016- 2017 progress at Hillcrest Elementary School.

Student Data
Statistics describing the student population served by Hillcrest Elementary School during the 2016-2107 school year may be found below:

- Hillcrest Elementary School served grades PK, K, and 1 with 3 preschool classes, 3 kindergarten classes, and 3 first grade classes, and a Therapeutic Special Education classroom.
- Average class size was 17.
- Average daily attendance rate was 93.7%
- There were 148 students enrolled during the school year.
- 56.8% of the students were economically disadvantaged.
- English Language Learners made up 18.2% of our student population.
- 18.9% of our students had educational disabilities.

Overview of School Improvement Goals 2016-2017: The 2016-2017 School Council

Summary of Goals
Goal 1: Develop a comprehensive approach to promoting our students' healthy social and emotional growth.

Goal 2: Work to increase family involvement in school events and to provide families with information about supporting children's literacy at home.

Goal 3: By June 2017, 60% of K & 1 students will demonstrate improved early literacy skills based on DIBELS Next Benchmarks. (Kindergarten measure: Phoneme Segmentation Fluency, first grade measure: Nonsense Word Fluency/Whole Words Read)

- **Healthy Social and Emotional Growth:** Ongoing practices include Responsive Classroom approaches from preschool to grade one, use of Buddy Classrooms, school-wide behavior expectations posted in common areas, monthly All School Meeting and All School Sing. Newly established practices included Cookie Connection to recognize first grade leadership, use of S'Cool Moves curriculum to provide sensory breaks, and the implementation of the Zones of Regulation curriculum in the Therapeutic Classroom.

- **Family Involvement:** The school hosted free family events including Movie Night, Cocoa, Cookies & Crafts Night, Read Across Hillcrest, and Family Game Night. The preschool teachers presented four family workshops focused on early literacy learning and Tools of the Mind practices which were very well-attended by preschool families. Friends of Hillcrest continued to add new events like a book drive, a food drive and playground playdates in the summer months. Friends of Hillcrest also funded enrichment opportunities, classroom projects and field trips at all grade levels. Incoming kindergarten families were provided with a Welcome to Kindergarten Tote Bag at Kindergarten Registration. These bags included a new book, a calendar of at-home learning activities and math games.

- **Improved Literacy Outcomes:** In June 2017, the end of year DIBELS assessments indicated that 87% of all kindergarten students scored at/above benchmark for phoneme segmentation fluency (PSF). Also, in June 2017, 78% of all first grade students scored at/above benchmark for nonsense word fluency/whole words read (NWF/WWR). In kindergarten, the establishment of reading intervention sessions three to five time per week was a key factor in student growth. Instructional practices to support these gains in first grade include a well-organized structure for the literacy block which included daily reading intervention, full implementation of *Fundations* and full implementation of *Calkins Writing*.

- **School and Community Connections:** The school continued to establish important connections with the Montague community. Through the CFCE grant, childcare was provided to families during Kindergarten Registration and two Get Ready for Kindergarten Workshop sessions were held at Hillcrest in July and August. The Hillcrest Art Teacher organized displays of student artwork at the Carnegie library. GMEF grant funding supported school field trips and the Welcome to Kindergarten Tote Bags. Community volunteers from the United Way, Turners Falls High School, Franklin County Technical School and Northfield Mount Hermon School supported Hillcrest students in our classrooms. The Greenfield Cooperative Bank continued its weekly school banking opportunities. And, the Franklin County Community Health Center provided free dental care at Hillcrest.

Sheffield Elementary School, 2016-2017
We are pleased to present you with the School Annual Report, which provides key information about the 2016-2017 educational progress for Sheffield Elementary School.

Student Data
Statistics describing the student population served by Sheffield Elementary School during the 2016-2017 school year may be found below:

- The Sheffield School served students in grades two through five, with 3 classrooms per grade level.
- Average class size was 18 students.
- Average daily attendance rate was 94.40%.
- There were 249 students enrolled during the school year.
- The English language learner population was 14%.
- The overall special education population was 23%. Two substantially separate programs for children with significant disabilities exist in the school; a therapeutic program for children with emotional disabilities and a life-skills program for children with developmental disabilities. Sheffield Elementary practices inclusion as well as pull-out for children with special needs.

In the state's standardized test driven accountability system, Sheffield was rated as a level 3 school.

Overview of School Improvement Goals 2016-2017: The Sheffield School Council identified three main focal points for the School Improvement Plan.

Goal 1: Improved Reading Performance - Development of a shared understanding of best practices in reading instruction and a common model of effective literacy instruction including tiered literacy at all grades.

Goal 2: Improved Readiness to Learn - Renewed commitment to Responsive Classroom approach and its school-wide teaching practices.

Goal 3: Improved Family Partnerships - Development of a Parent Program focused on increasing parental involvement.

Great Falls Middle School, 2016-2017
Great Falls Middle School provides a welcoming, nurturing, and academically challenging learning environment. Its program provides a supportive transition from elementary to secondary school and is specifically designed to empower early adolescents by helping them develop and recognize their value and place in the local and global community. In the state's accountability system, Great Falls Middle School was rated as a Level 1 school based upon its academic performance.

Great Falls Middle School enrolls approximately 250 students in grades six through eight. A team structure, common planning time, flexible scheduling, and a philosophy that addresses the needs of early adolescents are what set us apart from junior highs and many other middle schools. We take great pride in the quality of the education that we offer our students, and in the cooperative and respectful atmosphere where students and teachers work and learn together as a community.

EDUCATION

Great Falls Middle School is housed in the east side of the building shared with Turners Falls High School. While their classroom spaces are separated, the two schools share the library, gymnasium, pool, theater, music room, and cafeteria. The middle school is comprised of three interdisciplinary academic teams, one for sixth grade, one for seventh grade, and one for eighth grade. A fourth team is composed of the teachers of related arts classes that include Art, Physical Education, Technology Education, Health, Math Applications, Reading, Theatre (for grade 7) and World Languages (for grade 8). In addition to the four academic courses, all students participate in a study skills class where they learn and practice skills to help improve their overall academic performance.

All students also participate in *Developmental Designs,* a program designed to create networks of supportive relationships between students and staff and to promote a positive school culture. Students meet three days a week in a small "home base" group and two days a week in all-school morning meeting to build community. Like Turners Falls High School, we incorporate *Restorative Practices* into our approach to student behavior management -- a way to help students understand how their behavior impacts the people around them – and we have one of the longest standing student-led Peer Mediation programs in the state.

Students have many ways to get involved and explore interests beyond the classroom. The school offers marching band, concert band, chorus, photography club, table tennis club, and tea club, as well as Student Council, Hawkeye Literary Arts Magazine, and GSA. In addition, many students participate in the inter-scholastic athletics program which includes soccer, football, field hockey, cross country, cheer, volleyball, golf, basketball, swimming, baseball, softball, tennis, and track.

This past year was marked by many events that highlight the school's efforts to build community within and beyond the building:

- New Family Orientations: prior to school opening, families new to our school shared a meal and met the principal and assistant principal, teachers, and other students while getting familiar with the school building.

- The last day of the first week of school always includes the "Great Falls Challenge" field day, where mixed-grade student teams race to answer questions about school facts, figures and expectations.

- We are fortunate to have the support of the GFMS PTO who fundraise and organize community events. This year the PTO and other organizations from the local community hosted tables at our September back-to-school Open House, sponsored a spaghetti dinner and talent show, and organized a fun trip to Fenway for a Red Sox game.

- With the Gill-Montague Community School Partnership, we brought a screening of the film "Screenagers" to our theater, starting good conversations about growing up in the digital age and parenting young people in a technologically-driven world.

- The GFMS/TFHS musical production of *The Lion King* in March provided middle school students with the opportunity to help produce or perform in a great show.

- The entire 6th grade gathered in the theater for a Poetry Aloud competition, featuring 15 students reciting self-selected poems from memory with raucous support from their peers and families.

- 7th grade students invited families and the larger community to celebrate their year-long research and web-page creation project focused on the history of the Patch neighborhood.

EDUCATION

Turners Falls High School, 2016-2017
Turners Falls High School (TFHS) is a four-year, comprehensive high school accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges. There were approximately 230 students enrolled in 2016-17. TFHS distinguishes itself as a small school with an amazing array of offerings for its size. In addition to course offerings in English, mathematics, science, and social studies, the school offers diverse elective courses including three world languages (Latin, Spanish, and French), business and technology education (including graphic arts, computer-aided design, digital filmmaking, television studio production and a Maker Lab with 3D printing and full wood shop), health education, physical education, art, and music. Many Advanced Placement courses that offer students the opportunity to earn college credit are also part of the curriculum. In addition, the school has partnered with Greenfield Community College's Educational Transitions Program to provide students with dual enrollment opportunities at no or low cost to their families. Recognizing the importance of providing students with insight into the world of work, internships and school-to-work opportunities are provided for students who want hands-on opportunities for credit.

The high school's hallmarks include a commitment to excellence, a caring atmosphere promoted by students and staff, and a strong sense of community. Students participate in leadership opportunities including Student Council, National Honor Society, and Rise Up, a program which allows students to work on a variety of community service efforts and charitable undertakings. Each Tuesday, the entire community gathers for morning meeting. Each Thursday, students participate in an Advisory that includes team building, upstander/anti-bullying curriculum, and academic check-ins. The Advisory group and their Advisor stay together for four years.

Athletic highlights of 2016-17 included:

- Football won the league title and the Western Mass D8 Championship versus Mt. Greylock.
- Field Hockey Qualified for the post season D3 tourney for the first time since 2013.
- Volleyball made the post season again, reaching the quarterfinals.
- Boys Basketball qualified for the D4 tourney again and made a run to the semifinals where they lost to Hopkins at the Cage in Amherst.
- Girls basketball qualified for the tournament and made it to the semifinals at the Cage in Amherst.
- 4 individual swimmers qualified for the Western Mass Championships.
- Baseball qualified for the D4 playoffs.
- Softball qualified for the D3 playoffs, won Western Mass for the 19th time, and the State Championship for the 9th time.
- Tennis qualified for the D3 playoffs.
- Owen Ortiz broke the school record in the triple jump and Won Western Mass D2 in the Triple Jump
- Numerous athletes made all league and all western mass teams.
- Student-athletes participated in various community service projects such as reading to elementary school kids, facility clean ups and sports clinics.
- An average of 80% of our athletes made the honor roll over the academic year.

Students and staff also participated in a variety of co-curricular and extracurricular activities in and beyond school:

- We recognized the first student and staff recipients of the McGraw Uplift Award, named in honor of our late Assistant Principal, Mr. Earl McGraw, to keep alive his spirit of respect, love and laughter.
- TFHS/GFMS and Four Rivers school received a grant for science teachers to study new science standards through hands-on learning at the Hitchcock Center for the Environment and in a Clark University "Next Generation Science Exemplars" course.

- TFHS continued to participate in the grant-funded Summer Jobs and Beyond program as part of a partnership with the Franklin Hampshire Regional Employment Board, one of only eleven funded nationally, to support students in career readiness and access to the workforce.
- High school students led the way as visiting readers in local elementary schools, after-school program helpers, sports coaches and refs, food drive organizers, and more.
- Several TFHS students and staff participated in the One Mission Buzz Off fundraiser for families with a child going through cancer, and helped rock the house when Rob Gronkowski came to Sheffield to recognize us for our efforts.
- Annual traditions such as the Advisory college door-decorating contest, the Thanksgiving Bonfire, the Ugly Holiday Sweater Contest, the All-District Performing Arts Concert, and Unity Day kept school spirit high.
- For the second year, the Senior Walk-though, took our Seniors on a tour of their elementary schools, where they were welcomed and cheered by students and staff as they walked the halls in their caps and gowns.

Turners Falls High School appreciates the community's support of our many activities, athletic events, fundraisers, concerts, musical productions, and field trips and the help of the many volunteers who assist our school.

Contributors to the Annual Report
Michael Sullivan, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools
Joanne Blier, Director of Business and Operations
Conor Driscoll, Principal, Gill Elementary School
Melissa Pitrat, Principal, Sheffield Elementary School
Sarah Burstein, Principal, Hillcrest Elementary School
Annie Leonard, Principal, Great Falls Middle School/Turners Falls High School

FRANKLIN COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOL REPORT

We submit this annual report for 2017 on behalf of the Franklin County Technical School District and its administration, faculty, staff and students.

Enrollment for member towns as of October 1, 2017 was 446 students with town breakouts as follows:

Bernardston	27	Erving	29	Montague	76	Sunderland	10
Buckland	7	Gill	10	New Salem	3	Warwick	10
Colrain	17	Greenfield	97	Northfield	30	Wendell	9
Conway	9	Heath	13	Orange	63	Whately	9
Deerfield	14	Leyden	7	Shelburne	6		

Franklin County Technical School awarded 112 diplomas to our seniors in June of 2017. Massachusetts students are required to pass the MCAS in order to receive a high school diploma and once again our students were very successful in meeting this high academic standard. FCTS has maintained Level 2 Accountability status for the last four years. Our overall Progress and Performance Index (PPI) moved from 17% in 2012 (Level III) to 31% in 2014 (Level II) and have maintained Level II status ever since, with nearly 30% growth each year. Additionally, the district met the goals set by the Department of Education for passing rates of students of high risk with disabilities.

Franklin County Technical School has distributed high school diplomas to more than 97% of its students with nearly 70% joining the regional workforce and 30% moving on to post-secondary education or armed services. The FCTS dropout rate is significantly below the state average.

On June 23, 2015 Franklin County Technical School District was fortunate to have received approval from all nineteen member towns to participate in a bond authorization which allowed FCTS to fund the MSBA 73.89% reimbursed Window and Door Replacement Project, as well as afford FCTS the opportunity to repair its twenty year-old roof and ensure paving upgrades of its forty year old driveway, track, parking lot and associated areas, which were original to the school in 1976. Payment for the bond will begin to impact member towns in FY19. FCTS now has state-of-the-art exterior energy efficient doors and windows, new parking lot paving and lights, track, basketball courts and a new silicone roof coating. In addition, FCTS has added new interior doors and handles to bring us into ADA compliance. FCTS administration and teachers were instrumental in utilizing vocational students to support electrical, plumbing, and landscaping associated with the projects. Students were digging trenches to lay conduit for lighting, running heavy equipment to support installation of parking lot lights, providing landscaping for courtyards, removing shrubs, trees, and replanting vegetation, which have saved the district an estimated $100,000.

Franklin County Technical School's technical programs have been busy with community-based projects that are used as learning opportunities. Every year the shop programs, with instructors and students, embrace the authentic work that is done in the communities. These activities engage students in a way that builds skills and pride on work sites. Project work is treated as an immersive activity, with guidance and professional direction by instructors. Due to the instructional nature of the work, duration of a project may increase, but costs associated with a project to our cities and towns are significantly decreased. Students from Electrical, Plumbing, Carpentry,

Landscaping/Horticulture, Auto Technology, Welding and Collision Repair are involved in repair and upgrading activities on campus that save FCTS money as compared to associated costs with hiring contractors. What follows are some examples of the ways in which we serve our communities: Annually, FCTS faculty, staff and students donate to food drives for needy families and organizations throughout Franklin County. This year, responding to the immense needs as a result of the hurricane that damaged Puerto Rico, students and staff participated in money drives and supplies for the island residents. Our Culinary Arts program again participated in the "Senior Safety Expo" at the Sheutzen Verien in Gill. This event, run by the Franklin County Sheriff's Office, focused on safety for our senior citizens. Seniors throughout Franklin County, and beyond, attend the event. Culinary also prepares soups for the Hope & Olive "Soup and Games" night that benefits various local organizations.

Our Pre-Employment or (PEP) program provides specialized instruction and training for students with disabilities, donates to the Dakin Animal Shelter and Ronald McDonald House.

In Greenfield, Carpentry students continue to build cabins at Camp Keewanee. They also built the new athletic storage building for Greenfield High School. The Electrical program continues to annually provide electrical and other setup activities for the Relay for Life, and they are assisting Habitat for Humanity with the electrical wiring for the house being built on Smith Street. The Landscaping/Horticulture program has worked on the Greenfield Veterans' Memorial Field, provided irrigation consultation for Lunt's Field, and the students and instructors have been going to Adult Day Health Services to work on floral design with the clients. Health Technology is very active in Greenfield, with students conducting clinical and community service work at GVNA Adult Day Health, Arbors Assisted Living Facility, NELCWIT/GVNA, Recovery Project, and Buckley Nursing Facility.

In Turners Falls & Millers Falls, the Landscaping/Horticulture program has worked on the Newt Guilbault fields to rework infields, conducted streetscape planting refurbishing and is now growing naturalized plants for the airport. Students also participate in the Source to Sea cleanup. The tree nursery is doing well, with the trees developing until their eventual planting in Turners/Montague and Greenfield.

In Shelburne, Landscaping/Horticulture does an annual clean-up of Hill Cemetery. Plumbing/Heating students installed AC units into St. Josephs; and in a joint project, the Landscaping program, Collision & Repair Program and Welding program are all working on the removal, repair, refurbishing and reinstallation of the Bridge of Flowers ornate collection boxes.

In Erving, Landscaping/Horticulture has an ongoing hardscaping project for the Riverfront Park. The FCTS house building project is taking place on Central Street in Erving. This project is building skills for carpentry, electrical, plumbing and landscaping students, and is adding a nice home to the community.

An assortment of activities in other communities took place that included the rebuilding of a sign for the Pine Notch Cemetery in Deerfield, building winserts for the Sunderland Town Energy Committee, greenhouse help for Charlemont-Hawlemont School, installing drip edge for the Charlemont town halls cleanup and pruning for the North Cemetery in Leyden, along with replacing their wishing well.

Our partnerships with our communities are important for our programs, and we thank those who allow our students the opportunity to practice their trades out in the field.

Respectfully,

Mr. Richard J. Kuklewicz
School Committee Chairman

Mr. Richard J. Martin
Superintendent-Director

Franklin County Technical School District Committee 2017

Bernardston-Lloyd J. Szulborski; Buckland-Laura J. Earl; Colrain-Nicole Slowinski; Conway-Brian Kuzmeskus; Deerfield-Vacancy; Erving-Robert F. Bitzer; Gill-Sandy Brown; Greenfield-Paul R. Doran, Christopher L. Joseph, Mark Leonard, Mark M. Maloney; Heath-Arthur A. Schwenger; Leyden-Gerald N. Levine; Montague-Richard J. Kuklewicz, Chairperson; Dennis L. Grader; New Salem-Angela Fournier; Northfield-Scott Milton; Orange-Clifford J. Fournier, Secretary; Linda R. Chapman; Shelburne-Angus Dun, Vice-Chairperson; Sunderland-James Bernotas; Warwick-A. George Day, Jr.; Wendell-Jeffrey D. Budine; Whately-Donald C. Sluter

TOWN ELECTIONS AND MEETINGS

- February 6, 2017 Special Town Meeting
- May 3, 2017 Annual Town Meeting
- May 8, 2017 Annual Town Elections
- June 20, 2017 Special Town Meeting

FEBRUARY 6, 2017 SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
COUNTY OF FRANKLIN
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
February 6, 2017

Pursuant to a warrant signed by the Erving Selectmen and duly posted, as directed by the vote of the Town, the legal voters met in the Erving Senior/Community Center, 1 Care Drive, Erving, Massachusetts, on Monday February 6, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. and conducted the following business. The meeting was called to order by Moderator Richard K. Peabody at 7:00 p.m. who noted that a quorum was present. The Moderator read the call and the Officer's return, and lead the body in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

CAPITAL ARTICLES

ARTICLE 1: TRANSFER FOR SPEED MONITORING EQUIPMENT

The Town voted unanimously to Transfer from Free Cash the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars and No Cents ($10,000.00) for the purpose of purchasing Safety Speed Monitoring Equipment for Church Street and North Street.

SUBMITTED BY: Police Chief
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

Article Information: *This request is submitted by the Police Department to allow for the purchase of three (3) LED solar powered RADAR signs to alert motorists of their speed. The signs would be installed on Church and North Streets to address concerns of speeding with increased traffic. Traffic counts on Church Street, conducted by FRCOG, show an average of 1,264 vehicles per day. Between January 1, 2016 and September 14, 2016 Erving Police Department issued 258 citations for speeding in this area.*

ARTICLE 2: TRANSFER FOR ELECTION EQUIPMENT

The Town voted unanimously to Transfer from Free Cash the sum of Fifteen Thousand Dollars and No Cents ($15,000.00) for the purpose of purchasing voting check-in devices and related equipment and training.

SUBMITTED BY: Town Clerk
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

Article Information*: The requested equipment would allow for quicker and more accurate check in at the polls and town meetings. Moreover it will automate much of the post voting work that is currently done manually.*

ARTICLE 3: TRANSFER FOR IP MILL SITE CLEAN UP
The Town voted unanimously to Transfer from Free Cash the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars and No Cents ($50,000.00) for the purpose of Hazardous Materials cleanup at the former IP Mill Site.

SUBMITTED BY: Board of Selectmen
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

Article Information: *The Town is preparing for the redevelopment of the former IP Mill site. Hazardous materials have been identified at the site and require abatement before reuse can occur. It is estimated that the abatement will cost approximately $200,000. The Town is applying for a Brownfields cleanup Grant for $200,000 that requires the Town to match at least 20%. This appropriation would provide the Town with more than the minimum match if the grant is approved, or would be a starting appropriation for cleanup activities if the grant is not approved.*

ARTICLE 4: TRANSFER FOR TOWN HALL SIDING
The Town voted by majority to Transfer from Free Cash the sum of Sixty Thousand Dollars and No Cents ($60,000.00) into account number 01-192-917-57800 for the purpose of repairing and replacing the siding on Town Hall.

SUBMITTED BY: Board of Selectmen
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

Article Information: *Previously $90,000 had been appropriated at Town Meeting for the re-siding of Town Hall. The project was put to bid and all responses exceeded the appropriation. This request would be added to the existing appropriation and allow the Town to rebid the project.*

ARTICLE 5: TRANSFER FOR OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION PLAN
The Town voted unanimously to Transfer from Free Cash the sum of Twenty Thousand, Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars and No Cents ($20,750.00) for the purpose of Updating the Erving Open Space and Recreation Plan.

SUBMITTED BY: Planning Board
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

Article Information: *The Town's current Open Space and Recreation Plan expires in January 2017. FRCOG has provide the Town with a proposal to update the plan. Once updated and approved by the State it lasts for seven (7) years.*

ARTICLE 6: TRANSFER FOR IP MILL SITE FEASABILITY STUDY
The Town voted unanimously to Transfer from Free Cash the Sum of Fifteen Thousand Dollars and No Cents ($15,000.00) into account number 01-192-915-57800 for the purpose of conducting a feasibility study of the IP Mill property.

SUBMITTED BY: Board of Selectmen
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

Article Information: *The Town has been working on the redevelopment options for the former IP Mill Site. Town has been approached by several businesses who are looking for light industrial space to expand. This request will fund a feasibility study for a light industrial reuse of the property.*

ARTICLE 7: TRANSFER FOR CARE DRIVE LAYOUT AND ACCEPTANCE
The Town voted unanimously to Transfer from Free Cash the Sum of Two Thousand Dollars and No Cents ($2,000.00) for the purpose of formalizing the layout of Care Drive and accepting as a public way.

SUBMITTED BY: Board of Selectmen
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

Article Information: *When Care Drive was developed for the Senior & Community Center it was not formally recorded with a layout and as a public way. The meets and bounds need to be identified and marked so that it can be accepted as a public way at Town Meeting and recorded with the Registry of Deeds. The requested funding will allow the Town to complete this work.*

FINANCIAL ARTICLES

ARTICLE 8: TRANSFER FOR FY 2016 POTW #1 EXPENSES
The Town voted unanimously to Transfer from Free Cash the sum of Fourteen Thousand, Four Hundred Forty-eight Dollars and Eight Cents ($14,448.08) for the purpose of paying Fiscal Year 2016 Invoices for POTW#1 Lighting Upgrades.

SUBMITTED BY: POTW Chief Operator
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

Article Information: *The Wastewater Department upgraded the lighting at POTW#1 to LED fixtures to help reduce the Town's energy consumption. The invoices are dated prior to June 30, 2016 but were received after July 1, 2016. Approval for expenditures in a previous fiscal year require 9/10 approval at Special Town Meeting per MGL Chapter 44 Section 64.*

ARTICLE 9: TRANSFER SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FUNDS
The Town voted unanimously to Transfer from 01-429-910-57800 Highway Utility Truck & Plow fund the sum of Four Thousand, Eight Hundred Four Dollars and No Cents ($4,804.00) for the purpose of purchasing a Fisher Sander.

SUBMITTED BY: Highway Foreman
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

Article Information: *This request is to repurpose the remaining funds from the purchase of a new highway truck and plow for the purchase of a sander. The sander will be used with the new truck.*

ARTICLE 10: TRANSFER FOR FY 2016 EXPENSES
The Town voted unanimously to Transfer from Free Cash the sum of Nine Hundred Ninety-three Dollars and Nineteen Cents ($993.19) for the purpose of paying Fiscal Year 2016 invoices for various Town office expenses.

SUBMITTED BY: Administrative Coordinator
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

Article Information: *Town offices share an account with Staples. The account showed a due balance, but did not articulate what invoices and transaction dates were outstanding. After working with Staples this fall a statement of outstanding invoices was provided and they identify invoices from the May 2016 billing cycle as being due. Approval for expenditures in a previous fiscal year require 9/10 approval at Special Town Meeting per MGL Chapter 44 Section 64.*

ARTICLE 11: TRANSFER FOR POTW #1 LOAN SERVICE ADMINSTRATIVE FEES
The Town voted unanimously to Transfer from the Wastewater Enterprise Fund Retained Earnings the sum of Four Thousand, Five Hundred Twenty-five Dollars and No Cents ($4,525.00) into account 60-751-201-57800 for the purpose of paying the Fiscal Year 2017 administrative fee expenses for the POTW#1 loan.

SUBMITTED BY: Administrative Coordinator
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

Article Information: *In the FY 2017 Wastewater Enterprise Fund budget, the required loan administration fee was not appropriated. This request will provide the necessary funding for this expense.*

31 registered voters attended this meeting. The meeting was dissolved at 8:02 p.m.

A true copy, ATTEST: Richard W. Newton
Richard W. Newton
Erving Town Clerk

MAY 3, 2017 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
WEDNESDAY MAY 3, 2017

Pursuant to a warrant signed by the Erving Selectmen and duly posted, as directed by the vote of the Town, the legal voters met in the Erving Elementary School, 28 Northfield Road, Erving, Massachusetts, on Wednesday May 3, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. and conducted the following business. The meeting was called to order by Moderator Richard K. Peabody at 7:07 p.m. and noted that a quorum was present. The Moderator read the call and the Officer's return, and lead the body in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

GENERAL ARTICLES

ARTICLE 1: ACCEPTANCE OF THE 2016 TOWN REPORT

The Town voted unanimously to accept the reports of the Town Officers for 2016.

SUBMITTED BY: Board of Selectmen
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: No Recommendation

Article Information: *Approval of this article will accept the 2016 Town Report as presented.*

ARTICLE 2: AUTHORIZATION TO APPLY FOR FEDERAL AND STATE GRANTS

The Town voted unanimously to authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for Federal or State grants and to expend any monies received, as set forth by the grant, and to follow the appropriate procedures.

SUBMITTED BY: Board of Selectmen
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

Article Information*: Approval of this article will allow the Board of Selectmen to apply for, receive, and take actions to comply with the requirements of grants throughout the year.*

ARTICLE 3: AUTHORIZATION TO DISPOSE OF SURPLUS PROPERTY

The Town voted unanimously to authorize the Town to dispose of any Town property that is declared surplus by the Board of Selectmen.

SUBMITTED BY: Board of Selectmen
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

Article Information: *Approval of this article will allow the Board of Selectmen to dispose of Town owned property that is determined to be surplus.*

FISCAL YEAR 2018 OPERATING BUDGET

ARTICLE 4: FY18 GENERAL OPERATING BUDGET

The Town voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the following itemized amounts, all for municipal purposes:

Line Item #1	General Government	$ 598,895
Line Item #2	Public Safety	$ 759,286
Line Item #3	Public Works	$ 551,863
Line Item #4	Health & Human Services	$ 175,198
Line Item #5	Culture & Recreation	$ 136,977
Line Item #6	Benefits	$ 1,529,100
	Grand Total	**$ 3,751,319**

SUBMITTED BY: Board of Selectmen
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

Article Information: *Supplemental budget information available.*

ARTICLE 5: ELECTED OFFICIAL COMPENSATION

The Town voted unanimously to raise and appropriate for fiscal year 2018, the sum of One Hundred Eight Thousand, Three Hundred Thirteen Dollars and No Cents ($108,313.00) and to authorize the sum of One Hundred Fifteen Thousand, Six Hundred Seventy-three Dollars and No Cents ($115,673.00) for Elected Officials' salaries, and vote that the following salary and compensation be paid from this sum to the following Elected Officers of the Town, as provided by Section 108, Chapter 41 of the General Laws, as amended by Chapter 540 of the Acts of 1947:

Assessor		$ 10,974.00	$ 3,658.00ea
Board of Health		$ 2,750.00	$ 916.67ea
Library Trustees		$ 1,500.00	$ 500.00ea
Moderator		$ 104.00	
Planning Board		$ 4,335.00	$ 867.00ea
Recreation Commission		$ 4,372.00	$ 874.40ea
School Committee		$ 6,611.00	$ 1,322.20ea
Selectmen/Water Commissioners	$ 11,498.00		
from Water Department	$ 828.00**		
Total Salary		$ 12,326.00	$ 4, 108.67ea
Tax Collector	$ 10,954.00		
Certification Award	$ 1,000.00*		
From Water Department	$ 1,834.00**		
Total Salary		$ 13,788.00	
Town Clerk	$ 9,126.00		
From Census Work	$ 1,000.00*		
Total Salary		$ 10,126.00	
Treasurer	$ 43,699.00		
Certification Award	$ 1,000.00*		
From Water Department	$ 1,698.00**		
Total Salary		$ 46,397.00	
Tree Warden		$ 2,390.00	
	Total Elected Official Salary	**$115,673.00**	

SUBMITTED BY: Board of Selectmen
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

Article Information: *This article outlines the compensation amounts for elected officials.*

*Funding for this compensation is raised & appropriated in the General Government line item

**Funding for this compensation is raised & appropriated in the Water Enterprise Fund article

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ARTICLE 6: FY 18 ERVING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FUNDING

The Town voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Million, Nine Hundred Forty-seven Thousand, Two Hundred Ninety-seven Dollars and No Cents ($2,947,297.00) for the expense and operation of the Erving Elementary School for fiscal year 2018, beginning July 1, 2017.

SUBMITTED BY: School Committee
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

Article Information: *This article provides funding for the Erving Elementary School. It reflects a $106,541 increase over the FY17 appropriation.*

ARTICLE 7: FY 18 SECONDARY EDUCATION FUNDING

The Town voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of One Million, Three Hundred Thirty-six Thousand, Five Hundred One Dollars and No Cents ($1,336,501.00) for tuition and expenses for secondary education for fiscal year 2018, beginning July 1, 2017.

SUBMITTED BY: School Committee
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

Article Information: *This article provides funding for Erving's secondary education costs of sending students in grades 7 through 12 to other districts, excluding the Technical school. This budget reflects a decrease of $283,283 from FY17.*

ARTICLE 8: FY 18 FRANKLIN COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOL FUNDING

The Town voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Hundred Ninety-six Thousand, Eight Hundred Fifty Dollars and No Cents ($596,850.00) for secondary education at the Franklin County Technical School for fiscal year 2018, beginning July 1, 2017.

SUBMITTED BY: School Committee
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

Article Information: *This article provides funding for Erving's assessment to the Technical School. It reflects a $52,198 increase from FY17.*

ARTICLE 9: FY 18 TECHNICAL SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVE STIPEND

The Town voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of One Thousand, Two Hundred Ninety Dollars and No Cents ($1,290.00) for a stipend to be paid to the appointed Town of Erving representative to the Franklin County Technical School.

SUBMITTED BY: School Committee
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

Article Information: *This article provides a stipend to the Erving representative on the Technical School Committee.*

ARTICLE 10: FY 18 WATER DEPARTMENT ENTERPRISE FUND

The Town voted unanimously to appropriate the sum of Ninety-two Thousand, Three Hundred Eighty-six Dollars and No Cents ($92,386.00) to the Water Enterprise Fund for fiscal year 2018 Water operations. Said money to be raised from receipts, revenues, and funds from any source derived from the activities of the Erving Water Department.

SUBMITTED BY: Water Commissioners
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

Article Information: *This article approves the operating budget for the water department and will allow the department to raise the necessary funds through water receipts and other activities. As an enterprise fund, unspent revenue at the close of the fiscal year will remain with the fund.*

ARTICLE 11: FY 18 WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT ENTERPRISE FUND

The Town voted unanimously to appropriate the sum of Seven Hundred and Eighteen Thousand, Eight Dollars and No Cents ($718,008.00) to the Wastewater Enterprise Fund for fiscal year 2018 Wastewater operations.

The $718,008.00 is to be raised as follows:

Town of Montague and other receipts	$ 203,703.14
Town of Erving (raise & appropriate)	$ 514,304.86
Total Wastewater Fund	**$ 718,008.00**

SUBMITTED BY: Board of Selectmen
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

Article Information: *This article approves the operating budget for the wastewater department and will allow the Town to raise the necessary funds through means stated. As an enterprise fund, unspent revenue at the close of the fiscal year will remain with the fund.*

REVOLVING ACCOUNT AUTHORIZATIONS

ARTICLE 12: AUTHORIZATION TO ESTABLISH THE COA FOOD SERVICE REVOLVING FUND

The Town voted unanimously to authorize the establishment of a revolving fund in accordance with Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44, Section 53 E 1/2, for the use of the Erving Council on Aging, during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2016. The fund shall receive payments for food services provided by the Council on Aging and will make expenditures related to the provision of the food service for participating Erving seniors. The fund will be under the control of the Council on Aging and the expenditures will be limited to Ten Thousand Dollars and No Cents ($10,000.00) or the total amount of the receipts, whichever is less. If this fund is not re-authorized for the following fiscal year, the remaining balance will be transferred to the general fund at the close of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017.

SUBMITTED BY: Board of Selectmen
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

Article Information: *The Senior & Community Center operates a weekly meal program, but does not currently have a dedicated fund to operate it out of. The establishment of this revolving account in FY17 will provide a dedicated fund to collect revenues and process related expenses separate from the rest of the departmental budget.*

ARTICLE 13: RE-AUTHORIZATION: COA FOOD SERVICE REVOLVING FUND

The Town voted unanimously to re-authorize the establishment of a revolving fund in accordance with Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44, Section 53 E 1/2, for the use of the Erving Council on Aging, during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2017. The fund shall receive payments for food services provided by the Council on Aging and will make expenditures related to the provision of the food service for participating Erving seniors. The fund will be under the control of the Council on Aging and the expenditures will be limited to Ten Thousand Dollars and No Cents ($10,000.00) or the total amount of the receipts, whichever is less. If this fund is not re-authorized for the following fiscal year, the remaining balance will be transferred to the general fund at the close of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018.

SUBMITTED BY: Board of Selectmen
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

Article Information: *The re-authorization of the revolving account for FY18 will allow the Senior & Community Center to continue to operate the weekly meal program through a dedicated fund that collects revenue and processes related expenses.*

ARTICLE 14: RE-AUTHORIZATION: COA FACILITY USE REVOLVING FUND

The Town voted unanimously to authorize the establishment of a revolving fund in accordance with Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44, Section 53 E 1/2, for the use of the Erving Council on Aging, during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2017. The fund shall receive facility use payments from outside groups. The fund will be under the control of the Council on Aging and the expenditures from the fund on maintenance and repair related to making the facility available for use by outside groups will be limited to Ten Thousand Dollars and No Cents ($10,000.00) or the total amount of the receipts, whichever is less. If this fund is not re-authorized for the following fiscal year, the remaining balance will be transferred to the general fund at the close of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018.

SUBMITTED BY: Board of Selectmen
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

Article Information: *The re-authorization of the revolving account for FY18 will allow the Senior & Community Center to continue to allow use of the facility and collect revenue and process related expenses through a dedicated fund.*

FISCAL YEAR 2018 RECURRING ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS

ARTICLE 15: TOWN BUILDING MAINTENANCE

The Town voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty Thousand Dollars and No Cents ($30,000.00) to the continuing appropriation in account number 01-192-903-57800 for the purpose of maintaining and improving town buildings.

SUBMITTED BY: Administrative Coordinator
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

Article Information: *This article provides the town with funding for the ongoing maintenance of all town owned properties.*

ARTICLE 16: PURCHASING SPACE IN THE AROUND TOWN

The Town voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars and No Cents ($7,500.00) into account number 01-199-901-57800 for the purpose of purchasing space in the Around Town newsletter.

SUBMITTED BY: Board of Selectmen
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

Article Information: *This article allows the town to purchase space in the Around Town newsletter for monthly communication with residents about upcoming projects and important notices.*

ARTICLE 17: COMPUTER SERVER MAINTENANCE / UPGRADE

The Town voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of Six Thousand Dollars and No Cents ($6,000.00) for the computer server maintenance / upgrade continuing appropriation in account number 01-155-903-57800.

SUBMITTED BY: Board of Selectmen
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

Article Information: *These funds will allow the replacement of Town Hall and Police Department computer servers every five to six years.*

ARTICLE 18: TOWN COMPUTER UPGRADE

The Town voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of Eight Thousand Dollars and No Cents ($8,000.00) for the computer upgrade continuing appropriation in account number 01-155-905-57800.

SUBMITTED BY: Board of Selectmen
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

Article Information: *These funds will allow the replacement of computers and related software in all departments (town hall, police, wastewater, highway, recreation, senior & community center, etc.) every three to four years.*

ARTICLE 19: TOWN FINANCIAL AUDIT EXPENSE

The Town voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Thousand Five Hundred Dollars and No Cents ($3,500.00) for the continuing appropriation for audit expenses in account number 01-135-901-53000.

SUBMITTED BY: Administrative Coordinator
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

Article Information: *This article provides continued funding for expenses related to the financial audit of the town.*

ARTICLE 20: STREETLIGHT REPAIR / REPLACE

The Town voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand Dollars and No Cents ($5,000.00) for the continuing appropriation for the purpose of repairing and replacing existing street lights in account number 01-424-901-57800.

SUBMITTED BY: Highway Department
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

Article Information: *This article provides continued funding for expenses related to the maintenance of town owned street lights.*

ARTICLE 21: REVALUATION

The Town voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars and No Cents ($25,000.00) for the continuing appropriation established for revaluation work by the Assessors in account number 01-142-901-5300.

SUBMITTED BY: Board of Assessors
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

Article Information: *This article provides the Board of Assessors with funding to contract for necessary revaluation services, in accordance with statutory requirements for all real and personal property.*

ARTICLE 22: ELEMENTARY SCHOOL COMPUTER UPGRADES STABILIZATION

The Town voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars and No Cents ($20,000.00) for the Special Stabilization Fund established for technical education supplies (such as computers and associated accessories at the Erving Elementary School).

SUBMITTED BY: School Committee
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

Article Information: *This article provides funding for the continuing appropriation for technology leases and related expenses for the Elementary School.*

ARTICLE 23: OPEB LIABILITY TRUST FUND

The Town voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Hundred Thousand Dollars and No Cents ($300,000.00) for the Other Post – Employment Benefits (OPEB) Liability Trust Fund.

SUBMITTED BY: Treasurer
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

Article Information: *This article provides the town with funding for the insurance costs of retirees. An OPEB study is being conducted this year as required and as a result future appropriations may change.*

ARTICLE 24: HIGHWAY ROAD WORK/ IMPROVEMENTS

The Town voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Fifty-five Thousand Dollars and No Cents ($155,000.00) for the continuing appropriation established for highway road work in account number 01-422-904-57800.

SUBMITTED BY: Highway Department
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

Article Information: *This article provides continued funding for improvements that include sidewalks, catch basins, grinding, paving, and conduit (if conduit is feasible). The funding will also pay for related Police detail expenses.*

ARTICLE 25: PERMANENT RECORD PRESERVATION

The Town voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars and No Cents ($20,000.00) for the purpose of restoring and/or preserving records which must be kept permanently by any Town office or department.

SUBMITTED BY: Town Clerk
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

Article Information: *This article would provide funding for the Town Clerk to work with all town departments to preserve permanent records as required by law.*

ARTICLE 26: TRANSFER TO RENOVATE /REPLACE LIBRARY

The Town voted unanimously to transfer from Free Cash the sum of Thirty Thousand Dollars and No Cents ($30,000.00) for the continuing appropriation for potential renovations or replacement (a new building) of the Library into account number 01-610-905-57800, subject to Library Trustee and Board of Selectmen approval.

SUBMITTED BY: Library Trustees
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

Article Information: *This article provides continued funding for potential repairs to the existing library or funding towards a new library if the town receives a state grant and voters approve the borrowing for the project.*

FISCAL YEAR 2018 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT BUDGET

ARTICLE 27: NEW LIBRARY FUNDING

The Town voted by the required 2/3 majority (YES 62, NO 16) to appropriate the sum of Four Million, Nine Hundred Thirty-three Thousand, Seven Dollars and No Cents ($4,933,007.00) for the purpose of constructing and equipping a new library to be located on parcel 4-8-7 of the Erving Assessors Map and to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, is hereby authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 7 (3) of the General Laws, or any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefore. This appropriation is contingent upon the Town being successful in being awarded a Massachusetts Library Construction Grant that is administered by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners. This grant is expected to be awarded in FY2018. If the grant is awarded, it will pay approximately 58% of eligible project costs.

SUBMITTED BY: Library Building Committee
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval (vote of 3 to 1)

Article Information: *This article would authorize the town to borrow the necessary funding to construct a new library. The authorization is conditioned on the town receiving a grant from the State to provide funding for the project. If approved, the project would be reimbursed by the State at a rate that is currently estimated to be approximately 58%, which would be $2,722,627.*

ARTICLE 28: TOWN BARN REPAIRS

The Town voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand Dollars and No Cents ($5,000.00) for the purpose of making repairs to the town barn.

SUBMITTED BY: Highway Department
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

Article Information: *This article would provide funding to repair the town owned barn on Moore Street. These repairs should extend the useful life of this structure.*

ARTICLE 29: REPLACE BULLET PROOF VESTS

The Town voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of Eight Thousand Dollars and No Cents ($8,000.00) for the purpose of replacing and purchasing bullet proof vests for the Police Department.

SUBMITTED BY: Police Department
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

Article Information: *This article provides funding for bullet resistant vests, which are generally replaced at (5) five year increments. Sweat and rain break down the vests ability to stop bullets. In the last few years we have hired several new police officers. These officers are wearing out dated or old vests handed down. Each vest is fitted to that officer so they may be wearing a vest that doesn't fit quite right. Next summer will be the fifth year that the rest of the Department had received their vest*

ARTICLE 30: POLICE DEPARTMENT CAR PORT

The Town voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand Dollars and No Cents ($5,000.00) for the purpose of installing a car port at the Police Department.

SUBMITTED BY: Police Department
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

Article Information: *This article would provide funding for the purchase and installation of an exterior carport that could accommodate two (2) vehicles. The police station has a garage with two (2) bays. One side is used to park a cruiser and the other side is a sally port. The sally port needs to remain open in the event of an arrest. The officer brings the prisoner into the sally port and closes the door to provide a secure place to escort the person into the station. Cruisers that are left outside in the elements receive sun damage. Hot summer days are very dangerous to the cruisers electronics. The video camera and computer are in view thru the windshield and side windows which are exposed*

to the sunlight and heat. In the winter the cruiser gets covered in snow and ice. Removal of snow and ice could potentially delay a response.

ARTICLE 31: ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TRACK

The Town voted by majority to raise and appropriate the sum of Fourteen Thousand Dollars and No Cents ($14,000.00) for the purpose of installing a walking/running track on the property of the Erving Elementary School.

SUBMITTED BY: Recreation Commission
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

Article Information: *The Recreation Commission has partnered with the Elementary School to encourage regular exercise and walking through the 100 Mile Club. The Commission would like to work with the School to install a running/walking track on the school property. This funding would be matched with existing funding that the Commission has dedicated to this project.*

ARTICLE 32: ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CLASSROOM FURNITURE

The Town voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of Twelve Thousand Dollars and No Cents ($12,000.00) for the purpose of replacing and purchasing classroom furniture.

SUBMITTED BY: School Committee
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

Article Information: *This article would provide the school with funding to replace outdated classroom furniture that is nearing the end of its useful life.*

ARTICLE 33: ELEMENTARY SCHOOL KITCHEN EQUIPMENT

The Town voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-six Thousand, Seven Hundred Dollars and No Cents ($26,700.00) for the purpose of replacing and purchasing kitchen equipment.

SUBMITTED BY: School Committee
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

Article Information: *This article would provide for funding to replace failing kitchen equipment. Specifically the steamer oven and cafeteria tables that are at the end of their life cycles.*

ARTICLE 34: TRANSFER FOR RIVERFRONT PARK LOAN PAYMENT

The Town voted unanimously to transfer from Free Cash the sum of One Hundred Seventy-five Thousand Dollars and No Cents ($175,000.00) for the purpose of paying expenses related to the Riverfront Park construction project and to reduce the borrowing authorized under Article 13 of the Special Town meeting on June 29, 2015 by the sum of One Hundred Seventy-five Thousand Dollars and No Cents ($175,000.00).

SUBMITTED BY: Treasurer
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

Article Information: *This article would provide funding for the town's share of expenses related to the Riverfront Park project to date. The project was approved with the condition of receiving a State grant that provides a 52% reimbursement of up to $400,000 for the park.*

OTHER FINANCIAL ARTICLES

ARTICLE 35: TRANSFER FOR WATER TANK INSPECTION

The Town voted unanimously to transfer from Water Retained Earnings the sum of Five Thousand Dollars and No Cents ($5,000.00) for the purpose of inspecting the water tank.

SUBMITTED BY: Water Department
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

Article Information: *This article provides funding for the town to have the water tank inspected. This inspection occurs approximately every five (5) years.*

ARTICLE 36: TRANSFER FOR PRIOR YEAR INVOICES FOR PAN AM RAILWAYS

The Town voted unanimously to transfer from Wastewater Retained Earnings the sum of Two Hundred Fifty Dollars and No Cents ($250.00) for the purpose of paying prior year real estate invoices from July 2011 in the amount of $200 and from July 2015 in the amount of $50, to Pan AM Southern LLC.

SUBMITTED BY: Board of Selectmen
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

Article Information: *On March 02, 2017 the Town was notified that 2 prior year real estate invoices from Pan AM Southern LLC were outstanding. This article provides the required funding to pay these invoices. Expenses from a prior fiscal year require approval at Town Meeting.*

ARTICLE 37: TRANSFER FOR STARTING BALANCE IN COA FOOD SERVICE FUND

The Town voted unanimously to transfer from Free Cash the sum of Three Thousand Dollars and No Cents ($3,000.00) for the purpose of providing a starting balance for the Council on Aging Food Service Revolving Fund in Fiscal Year 2017.

SUBMITTED BY: Board of Selectmen
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

Article Information: *This article provides funding for a beginning balance in the newly requested Council on Aging Food Service Revolving Fund.*

BYLAWS

ARTICLE 38: ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Town voted unanimously to adopt a General Bylaw to establish the Capital Planning Committee for the purpose of overseeing the Town's capital planning process.

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

1. In accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 41, §106B, there is hereby established a Capital Planning Committee ("Committee") comprised of five (5) members: one (1) Selectman or a designee appointed by the Board of Selectmen; two (2) Finance Committee members or designees appointed by the Finance Committee; and two (2) residents at-large appointed by the Board of Selectmen.

2. Committee members shall serve three (3) year terms which shall be staggered. The initial term for each original Committee member shall be one (1) Selectboard member for one (1) year, one (1) Finance Committee member and one (1) resident at-large for two (2) years, and one (1) Finance Committee member and one (1) resident at-large for three (3) years. All subsequent appointments shall be for a three-year term commencing on July 1. In the case of a mid-term vacancy, the appointing authority shall select a new member for the remainder of the unexpired term and may re-appoint that person or select another for the term beginning July 1. Each appointing authority shall notify the Town Clerk of all appointments and re-appointments in a timely fashion.

3. The Committee shall receive, evaluate and prioritize all capital expenditure requests for the next fiscal year and report out its recommendations in accordance with policies approved by the Finance Committee and adopted by the Board of Selectmen. The policies shall address, but are not be limited to:

a. the definition of a capital expenditure and under what circumstances the Committee may make exceptions;

b. the development and details of an annual capital budget calendar;
c. responsibility for developing a standardized request form, distributing forms and communicating with departments, boards, committees and commissions regarding submissions;
d. the treatment of expenditure requests submitted after established deadlines;
e. the process for evaluating and prioritizing requests, and the steps for recommending and approving capital expenditures for Town Meeting consideration;
f. the role of subjective opinion and objective criteria in the evaluation process;
g. potential funding sources;
h. the form a capital article or articles take in the Town Meeting Warrant;

4. With the exception of a request that the Board of Selectmen deems to be a time sensitive emergency or an article originating through the citizen petition process, a capital expenditure request shall not be placed before or considered by the Annual or a Special Town Meeting unless it has been formally presented to and reviewed by the Committee.

5. The Committee shall develop a multi-year capital plan based on information submitted by town departments, boards, committees and commissions and shall revisit and update the plan annually. Policies approved by the Finance Committee and adopted by the Board of Selectmen are not limited to, but shall include:

a. assign the number of years that comprise the long range plan;
b. determine the plan format;
c. specify the information to be included;
d. address whether and how the long range plan shall be posted or distributed.

SUBMITTED BY: Board of Selectmen
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

Article Information: *Approval of this bylaw would establish a Capital Planning Committee that would oversee the Town's capital improvement planning process, maintain a multi-year plan, and will make recommendations to the Finance Committee and the Board of Selectmen for future projects.*

ARTICLE 39: RESCIND ARTICLE 21 of 1903

The Town voted by majority to rescind Article 21 that was adopted at Town Meeting in 1903, which reads "to see if the town will vote to compel abutters on concrete sidewalks to keep them clear of snow and ice or pass any vote in relation thereto."

SUBMITTED BY: Board of Selectmen
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: No Recommendation

Article Information: *This article would rescind Article 21 that was passed in 1903. The existing bylaw is limited in scope and is not specific to the expectations of a clear sidewalk. The bylaw also does not*

provide the Town with any mechanisms to enforce the bylaw. This makes it difficult for the Town to respond to citizens' concerns after a snow event.

ARTICLE 40: RESCIND ARTICLE 33 SNOW REMOVAL BYLAW of MAY 9, 1979

The Town voted unanimously to rescind Article 33 Snow Removal Bylaw that was adopted at Town Meeting on May 9, 1979, which reads "No person shall shovel, push, cast or cause to be thrown or plow any snow or ice from any privately owned property into any street, public way or Town owned land. Whoever violates this bylaw shall be punished by a fine of $25.00 for each offense."

SUBMITTED BY: Board of Selectmen
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: No Recommendation

Article Information: *This article would rescind Article 33 that was passed on May 9, 1979. The existing bylaw is limited in scope and the Board of Selectmen are proposing to replace this bylaw with a comprehensive bylaw.*

ARTICLE 41: WINTER SNOW, ICE, SLEET AND PARKING BYLAW

The Town voted by majority to adopt a General Bylaw entitled the "Winter Snow, Ice, Sleet and Parking Bylaw".

Winter Snow, Ice, Sleet and Parking Bylaw

1. Sidewalks abutting Town property

The Town shall cause snow, ice or sleet to be removed from the full width of sidewalks abutting all Town property.

2. Responsibilities of Property Owners to Remove Snow and Ice from Sidewalks and Fire Hydrants

1. The owner of any real estate abutting any Town or public way where there is a sidewalk, shall within twenty-four (24) hours after the ceasing to fall or form of the accumulation from any other cause of any snow, ice or sleet upon said sidewalk, cause the same to be removed from the full width of the sidewalk.

2. The owner or persons occupying any real estate abutting upon any town or public way where there is a fire hydrant, shall within twenty-four (24) hours after the ceasing to fall or form, or the accumulation from any other cause, of any snow, ice or sleet surrounding said fire hydrant, cause the same to be removed to a width of two (2) feet around said fire

hydrant except that there shall be kept clear a direct path at least two (2) feet wide to the open Town or public way for access by the Fire Department.

3. Throwing of Snow onto Public Ways, Fire Hydrants, and Catch Basins Prohibited

No person shall throw or put or cause to be thrown or put any snow, ice or sleet from any privately owned property into any street, sidewalk, or public way. Further, no person shall throw or put or cause to be thrown or put any snow, ice or sleet or any other substance upon or against any fire hydrant or catch basin in any street, lane, alley, or park in the Town.

4. Approval required for sledding or coasting on public ways

No person shall course, coast or slide upon any sled, board, or other contrivance upon any sidewalk, foot walk, street or highway in the Town without approval of the Board of Selectmen.

5. Notification

Whenever any way, sidewalk, public parking place or fire hydrant shall be encumbered with snow, ice or sleet contrary to the provisions of this bylaw, the Chief of Police, or his designee shall notify the owner or person having care of the land abutting thereon, to cause such way, sidewalk, public parking place or fire hydrant to be made safe and/or convenient for travel by removing the snow, and as far as practical the ice therefrom, within twenty-four (24) hours from the time of receiving such notice.

6. Parking During a Snow Event

During a snow event no vehicle may be parked on the streets or public parking lots listed below, except for emergency situations involving medical, police, or fire personnel. The snow event is defined as beginning at the start of snow fall and ending six (6) hours after the cessation of all snow fall.

Parking Prohibited:

A. On all streets and roads
B. All municipal parking lots

Notice of Snow Event

After a winter snow event has begun, whenever possible, notice will be given to residents through the reverse 911 system and may include other available media. It is the responsibility of each vehicle owner to ensure removal of his or her vehicle from the restricted areas during a snow event whether or not he or she has received notice.

7. Enforcement

The Chief of Police or designee shall enforce the provisions of this bylaw.

8. Violations and Penalties

Whoever violates any provision of the bylaw may be punished by a fine not exceeding twenty-five dollars ($25.00) for the first offense, fifty dollars ($50.00) for the second offense, and seventy-five dollars ($75.00) for the third and each subsequent offenses in one (1) fiscal year.

This bylaw is in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40 Section 21D, which pertains to the noncriminal disposition of ordinance, bylaw, rule or regulation violations.

SUBMITTED BY: Board of Selectmen
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: No Recommendation

Article Information: *This article would establish a bylaw to provide guidance for the removal of snow and ice from sidewalks, fire hydrants, and other public structures and provide the Town with a mechanism to enforce the provisions.*

93 registered voters attended this meeting. The meeting was dissolved at 10:14 p.m.

A true copy, ATTEST: Richard W. Newton
Richard W. Newton
Erving Town Clerk

MAY 8, 2017 ANNUAL TOWN ELECTIONS

ANNUAL TOWN ELECTIONS
WEDNESDAY MAY 8, 2017

To either of the Constables of the Town of Erving:

Greetings: In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Erving, qualified to vote in town affairs to meet in the meeting room at the Town Hall in Erving Center on Monday, May 8, 2017, at 10:00AM then and there to bring in their votes for the following town officers and ballot questions:

One Selectman for three years
One Assessor for three years
One Treasurer for three years
One Library Trustee for three years
One Library Trustee for one year
One Moderator for one year
Two School Committee Members for three years
Two School Committee Members for one year

One Tree Warden for one year
One Constable for three years
Two Planning Board Members for three years
Two Recreation Commissioners for three years
One Recreation Commissioner for one year
One Board of Health Member for three years

The polls will close at 8:00PM.

2017 TOWN ELECTION RESULTS

OFFICE	VOTES
Selectman – 3 Years – Vote For One	
William A. Bembury	113
Gary Betters	1
Others	1
Blanks	12
Total	127
Assessor – 3 Years – Vote For One	
Jeffrey A. Rollins	112
Others	0
Blanks	15
Total	127
Treasurer– 3 Years – Vote For One	
Julie A. Wonkka	114
Others	0
Blanks	13
Total	127
Library Trustee – 3 Years – Vote For One	
Michele M. Turner	6
Kathleen McAndrews	8
Daniel B. Hammock	3
Mackensey L. Bailey	9
Paula Betters	2
Others	5
Blanks	94
Total	127
Library Trustee – 1 Year – Vote For One	

Holly A. Fitzpatrick	112
Kathleen McAndrews	2
Others	0
Blanks	13
Total	127

Moderator– 1 Year – Vote For One

Richard K. Peabody	108
Gary Betters	1
Ralph Semb	2
Others	1
Blanks	15
Total	127

School Committee – 3 Years – Vote For Two

Erik R. Semb	112
Katelyn G. Mailloux-Little	11
Dulcie McAndrews	2
Others	2
Blanks	127
Total	254

School Committee – 1 Year – Vote For One

Katelyn G. Mailloux-Little	10
Dulcie McAndrews	4
Jennifer Eichorn	1
Others	4
Blanks	108
Total	127

Tree Warden – 1 Year – Vote For One

William F. Lemieux	104
Michael Gordon	6
Others	0
Blanks	17
Total	127

Constable – 3 Years – Vote For One

Arthur A. Kaczenski	111
Others	0
Blanks	16
Total	127

Planning Board – 3 Years – Vote For Two

Debra L. Smith	109
George Moonlight Davis	3
Others	3
Blanks	139
Total	254

Recreation Commission – 3 Years – Vote For Two

Renee A. Tela	99
Erik J. Eichorn	97
Others	0
Blanks	58
Total	254

Recreation Commission – 2 Years – Vote For One

Jeffrey A. Rollins	111
Others	0
Blanks	16
Total	127

Board of Health – 3 Years – Vote For One

Bruce W. Scott	112
Others	0
Blanks	15
Total	127

Board of Health – 2 Years – Vote For One

Mike Gralenski	5
Others	18
Blanks	229
Total	252

Question 1: Nonbinding Advisory High School Mascot

We advise that Turners Falls High School retain its Indian logo but alter the image to be more consistent with indigenous cultures in our region. We also advise the Gill-Montague School District implement this change in conjunction with the expansion of its curriculum to include Native American history and culture, collaborating with tribes and Indian organizations in the region in this effort.

Yes	93
No	23
Blanks	11
Total	127

JUNE 20, 2017 SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
COUNTY OF FRANKLIN
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
June 20, 2017

Pursuant to a warrant signed by the Erving Selectmen and duly posted, as directed by the vote of the Town, the legal voters met in the Erving Senior/Community Center, 1 Care Drive, Erving, Massachusetts, on Tuesday June 20, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. and conducted the following business. The meeting was called to order by Moderator Richard K. Peabody at 7:03 p.m. who noted that a quorum was present. The Moderator read the call and the Officer's return, and lead the body in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

GENERAL ARTICLES

ARTICLE 1: ACCEPTANCE OF CARE DRIVE
The Town voted unanimously to accept Care Drive as a public way by the following description:

Care Drive, Erving, MA

Beginning at a point on the north line of Route 63 (Northfield Rd.) a 1929 Mass. State Highway Layout. Said point being 162.96 feet northeasterly from a Mass. State Highway Bound at Sta. 65 + 60.49.

Thence N16°29'24"W, along land now or formerly of the Town of Erving, a distance of 1.18 feet to a stone bound.

Thence continuing N16°29'24"W, along land now or formerly of the Town of Erving, a distance of 337.47 feet to an iron pin.

Thence N73°30'36"E, along land now or formerly of the Town of Erving, a distance of 40.00 feet to a concrete bound.

Thence S16°29'24"E, along land now or formerly of the Town of Erving, a distance of 212.54 feet to a concrete bound.

Thence on a curve to the left having a radius of 185.00 feet, a distance of 71.85 feet to a concrete bound.

Thence S38°44'38"E, along land now or formerly of the Town of Erving, a distance of 20.04 feet to a concrete bound.

Thence on a curve to the left having a radius of 24.00 feet, a distance 13.54 feet to a concrete bound on the North line of Route 63 (Northfield Rd.).

Thence southwesterly on Route 63 (Northfield Rd.) on a curve to the left having a radius of 2030.00 feet, a distance of 74.73 feet to the point of beginning.

Being more particularly shown on a plan entitled Layout Plan prepared for the Town of Erving" dated March 15, 2017 by Edward C. Muszynski, PLS.

Being on a portion of the premises (Tract A) taken by the Town of Erving by Order of Taking dated September 9th 1994 and recorded in the Franklin County Registry of Deeds in Book 3150 Page 259.

SUBMITTED BY: Board of Selectmen
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: No Recommendation

Article Information: *This article provides for the official acceptance of Care Drive as a public way in the Town of Erving. The Planning Board and the Board of Selectmen have already voted to approve the public way as proposed in the layout. Approval of this article will allow the Town to formally record this road with the Franklin County Registry of Deeds. A majority vote is required to approve this article.*

BYLAW ARTICLES

ARTICLE 2: REVOLVING ACCOUNTS

The Town voted unanimously to amend the general by-laws of the Town of Erving by adding a new section to establish and authorize revolving funds for use by certain town departments, boards, committees, agencies or officers under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, § 53E1/2.

DEPARTMENTAL REVOLVING FUNDS

1. Purpose. This by-law establishes and authorizes revolving funds for use by town departments, boards, committees, agencies or officers in connection with the operation of programs or activities that generate fees, charges or other receipts to support all or some of the expenses of those programs or activities. These revolving funds are established under and governed by General Laws Chapter 44 § 53E1/2.

2. Expenditure Limitations. An authorized department or agency head, board, committee or officer may incur liabilities against and spend monies from a revolving fund established and authorized by this by-law without appropriation subject to the following limitations:
   A. Fringe benefits of full-time employees whose salaries or wages are paid from the fund shall also be paid from the fund (except for those employed as school bus drivers.)
   B. No liability shall be incurred in excess of the available balance of the fund.
   C. The total amount spent during a fiscal year shall not exceed the amount authorized by this by-law, or town meeting on or before July 1 of that fiscal year, or any increased amount of that authorization that is later approved during that fiscal year by the Selectboard and Finance Committee.

3. Interest. Interest earned on monies credited to a revolving fund established by this by-law shall be credited to the general fund.

4. Procedures and reports. Except as provided in General Laws Chapter 44 §53E1/2 and this by-law, the laws, by-laws, rules, regulations, policies or procedures that govern the receipt and custody of town monies and the expenditure and payment of town funds shall apply to the use of a revolving fund established and authorized by this by-law. The Town Accountant shall include a statement on the collections credited to each fund, the encumbrances and expenditures charged to the fund and the balance available for expenditure in the regular report the town accountant provides the department, board, committee, agency or officer on appropriations made for its use.

5. Authorized Revolving Funds. The Table establishes:
   A. Each revolving fund authorized for use by a town department, board, committee, agency or officer.
   B. The department or agency head, board, committee or officer authorized to spend from each fund.
   C. The fees, charges and other monies charged and received by the department, board, committee, agency or officer in connection with the program or activity for which the fund is established that shall be credited to each fund by the Town Accountant.
   D. The expenses of the program or activity for which each fund may be used.
   E. Any restrictions or conditions on expenditures from each fund.
   F. Any reporting or other requirements that apply to each fund, and
   G. The fiscal years each fund shall operate under this by-law.

Revolving Fund	Entity Authorized to Spend from Fund	Fees, Charges, or Receipts Credited to Fund	Program or Activity Expenses Payable from Fund	Restrictions or Conditions on Expenses Payable from Fund	Other Requirements/ Reports	Fiscal Years
Food Service	Council on Aging	Receipts Related to the food service program at the Council on Aging	Operation of a food Service Program	Limit of $10,000.00		Fiscal Year 2018 and Subsequent Years
Facility Use	Council on Aging	Receipts Related to the use of the Senior & Community Center	Maintenance, staffing and repair related to making the facility available for use by outside groups.	Limit of $10,000.00		Fiscal Year 2018 and Subsequent Years

SUBMITTED BY: Board of Selectmen
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

Article Information: *The Municipal Modernization Act of 2016 requires that Towns adopt local bylaws to authorize the establishment of revolving accounts for use by the Town. The wording of this bylaw was recommended by the State. A majority vote is required to adopt or amend the general by-laws.*

FINANCIAL ARTICLES

ARTICLE 3: FREE CASH TRANSFER FOR FY2018 STABILIZATION – ORIGINAL ARTICLE

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of Three Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars and No Cents ($350,00.00) into the General Stabilization account, or take any other action relative thereto.

SUBMITTED BY: Board of Selectmen
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

Amendment: To change the amount from $350,000.00 to $146,000.00. Moved and Seconded. The amendment passed unanimously.

Article 3 passed unanimously as amended.

Article Information: *Approval of this article will transfer the stated amount of money from certified Free Cash into the general stabilization account. A majority vote is required to approve this article.*

ARTICLE 4: RAISE & APPROPRIATE FOR FY2018 STABILIZATION

The Town voted unanimously to Raise and Appropriate the sum of One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars and No Cents ($150,000.00) into the General Stabilization account.

SUBMITTED BY: Board of Selectmen
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

Article Information: *Approval of this article would authorize the Town to raise and appropriate the stated amount of money for the general stabilization account. A majority vote is required to approve this article.*

FISCAL YEAR 2018 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT BUDGET

ARTICLE 5: REPLACE BACKHOE EQUIPMENT

The Town voted unanimously to transfer from Free Cash the sum of One Hundred Twenty-five Thousand, Dollars and No Cents ($125,000.00) for the purchase of a John Deere Backhoe.

SUBMITTED BY: Highway Foreman
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

Article Information: *The Town's current John Deere backhoe was purchased in 1997. The equipment has required several repairs in recent years, some of which are safety concerns. A quote to replace many*

of the aging components was received for approximately $70,000. This work would not guarantee a useful life of the equipment and would not extend a warranty for future maintenance issues that arise. The Highway Department is recommending the replacement of the equipment.

ARTICLE 6: STREET LIGHT LED UPGRADE PROJECT

The Town voted unanimously to transfer from Free Cash the sum of Thirty Thousand Dollars and No Cents ($30,000.00) for the purpose of repairing and replacing existing street lights in account number 01-424-901-57800.

SUBMITTED BY: Administrative Coordinator
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

Article Information: *The Town of Erving has been approved by the State for funding to support the replacement of 163 cobra head style street lights with LED fixtures. The Town is working with the Metropolitan Planning Council on the project. The Project is estimated to cost a total of $58, 617.00. The State grant is scheduled to reimburse the Town $13,154.85. Utility Company incentives are estimated to reimburse the Town $ 7,432.50. It is projected that the LED fixtures will reduce the Town's energy consumption by 29,730 kWh. The funding of this Article will be added to the existing fund for street light repairs (which should have a balance of $32,800 on July 1, 2017) and will provide sufficient funding to conduct the upgrade and await reimbursements. A majority vote is required to approve this article.*

ARTICLE 7: ERVING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL COMPUTER UPGRADES

The Town voted unanimously to transfer from the Special Stabilization fund established for technical educational supplies (such as computers and associated accessories at Erving Elementary School) the Sum of Twenty Eight Thousand Dollars and No Cents ($28,000.00).

SUBMITTED BY: School Committee
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

Article Information: *This request is to withdraw funds necessary to replace 6 of the iMac computers in our lab for $8,000 and to begin a new 4 year lease for the IPad and Mac Air computers for $20,000. A 2/3 vote is required to approve this article.*

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26 registered voters attended this meeting. The meeting was dissolved at 7:33 p.m.

A true copy, ATTEST: Richard W. Newton
Richard W. Newton
Erving Town Clerk

FINANCIAL REPORTS

- Board of Assessors
- Tax and Water Collector
- Treasurer

BOARD OF ASSESSOR'S REPORT

TOTAL AMOUNT TO BE RAISED FOR FY 2018		**$11,691,155.87**
LESS RECEIPTS & REVENUE		**$ 2,007,611.41**
Estimated Receipts from Cherry Sheet	$ 615,744.00	
Local Estimated Receipts	$ 356,008.00	
Free Cash	$ 697,191.27	
Enterprise Fund	$ 305,864.14	
NET AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY TAXATION		**$ 9,683,544.46**

ASSESSED VALUATIONS

Residential	121,914,075
Open Space	468,700
Commercial	7,179,082
Industrial	598,761,410
Personal Property	151,699,200
Total Taxable Value	**880,022,467**

CLASSIFIED TAX RATES FOR FY 2018

Our Fiscal Year 2018 Tax Rate was finalized by the Department of Revenue on September 13, 2017.

Residential & Open Space	**$ 7.15**
Commercial, Industrial & Personal Property	**$11.63**

ABATEMENTS AND EXEMPTIONS GRANTED FROM FISCAL YEAR 2017

#		TOTAL AMOUNT
12	Veteran's Exemption 22 (a-f)	$ 4,800.00
1	Veteran's Exemption 22A	$ 750.00
8	Veteran's Exemption 22E	$ 7,971.55
2	Blind Exemption	$ 1,000.00
22	Persons 65 & Over Exemption	$ 21,010.82
12	Persons 70+ & Surviving Spouse	$ 2,100.00
57	**Total (as of 6/30/17)**	**$ 37,632.37**

ABATEMENTS GRANTED IN FISCAL YEAR 2017

2010	Personal Property Abatement	1
	Total Amount Granted	$1,293.14
2011	Personal Property Abatement	1
	Total Amount Granted	$ 1,252.85
2014	Real Estate Abatements	1
	Total Amount Granted	$ 375,000.00

MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE ASSESSED IN CALENDAR YEAR 2017

1988	Levy (Recommitted)	
	Number of Vehicles	2
	Total Valuation	00
	Total Tax	$17.61
2016	Levy	
	Number of Vehicles	28
	Total Valuation	205,950.00
	Total Tax	$476.07
2017	Levy	
	Number of Vehicles	1909
	Total Valuation	7,954,500.00
	Total Tax	$175,775.23
	Total of Commitments	**$176,268.91**

MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE ABATEMENTS GRANTED IN CALENDAR YEAR 2017

2015	Levy	
	Number of Abatements	2
	Total Amount Granted	$ 98.65
2016	Levy	
	Number of Abatements	4
	Total Amount Granted	$ 150.31
2017	Levy	
	Number of Abatements	51
	Total Amount Granted	$ 3,363.04

Respectfully Submitted,

The Erving Board of Assessors
Daniel B. Hammock, Chair
Mark Burnett
Jeffrey Rollins

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

Levy Year	Tax / Fee / Lien	Balance 7/1/2016	Levy Commitment	Collections Net of Refunds & Tax Title	Abatements Exemptions Adjustments	Balance 6/30/2017
2017	Real Estate		7,704,146.21	7,640,675.48	37,632.37	25,838.36
2016	Real Estate	14,918.88		13,068.09		1,850.79
2015	Real Estate	31,209.93		31,209.93		-
2014	Real Estate	654.03		(374,345.97)	375,000.00	-
		46,782.84				27,689.15
2017	Personal Property		1,732,936.00	1,731,622.67		1,313.33
2016	Personal Property	1,064.53		168.33		896.20
2015	Personal Property	999.32				999.32
2014	Personal Property	1,106.78		370.23		736.55
2013	Personal Property	617.16		9.41		607.75
2012	Personal Property	-				-
2011	Personal Property	93.98		(1,252.85)	1,252.85	93.98
2010	Personal Property	-		(1,293.14)	1,293.14	-
2009	Personal Property	133.71				133.71
2008	Personal Property	176.76				176.76
2007	Personal Property	68.99				68.99
		4,261.23				5,026.59
2017	Motor Vehicle Excise		160,658.05	139,484.54	2,365.30	18,808.21
2016	Motor Vehicle Excise	17,974.16	17,183.21	30,532.66	860.32	3,764.39
2015	Motor Vehicle Excise	3,338.96		1,493.65		1,845.31
2014	Motor Vehicle Excise	2,165.20		579.89		1,585.31
2013	Motor Vehicle Excise	1,395.47		369.74		1,025.73
2012	Motor Vehicle Excise	1,202.93		128.54		1,074.39
2011	Motor Vehicle Excise	1,148.65		46.25		1,102.40
2010	Motor Vehicle Excise	902.93		38.54		864.39
2009	Motor Vehicle Excise	940.52				940.52
2008	Motor Vehicle Excise	1,159.70				1,159.70
2007	Motor Vehicle Excise	260.42				260.42
2006	Motor Vehicle Excise	567.19			32.50	534.69
2005	Motor Vehicle Excise	280.21			18.96	261.25
2004	Motor Vehicle Excise	1,025.93				1,025.93
2003	Motor Vehicle Excise	321.88			32.50	289.38
2002	Motor Vehicle Excise	42.51			20.63	21.88
		32,726.66				34,563.90

Interest Collected on Past Due Taxes	11,795.26
Collection Fees and Charges	10,412.64
Water Liens (cost, interest & water)	-
Mobile Home Fees In Lieu of Taxes	864.00
Municipal Lien Certificates	1,400.00
TOTAL COLLECTIONS FY 2017	**$ 9,237,377.89**

Respectfully submitted,

Michele M. Turner
Tax Collector

FINANCIAL REPORTS

TREASURER'S REPORT

I was elected to the Treasurer's position in May of 2017. Jean Fountain, formerly the Clerk, was appointed as my Assistant by the Board of Selectmen in June of 2017.

The Treasurer's office is responsible for producing payroll on a bi-weekly basis and includes the administration of all Health, Life, Dental and Optional benefits. Unemployment, State and Federal taxes are paid on the same week as payroll is finished and Union 28 employee benefits are also reconciled by this office.

Health, Life, Dental and Optional Insurance plans are offered to eligible active employees at 84% paid by the town and to retired employees at 77% paid by the town. Our insurance carrier is Hampshire County Group Insurance Trust and is administered by BC/BS of Massachusetts.

Vendor bills are processed on the opposite week of payroll. This consists of printing the vendor checks, matching to the bills and posting and mailing the bills.

Money gets turned over by various departments within the town. The State automatically deposits grant money and revenue from other sources such as the RMV fines, COA van program and all School grant monies. The school brings over lunch money and after school program funds weekly; The Selectboard turns in receipts from licenses; The Fire Department turns in money from permits; Recreation department turns in money for programs; and money is received from septage and disposal of white goods. Cash is posted and reconciled with the Accountant on a monthly basis.

As of January 1, 2017 the Tax Title balance was approximately $55,175.44. In April, 3 properties were sent to Land Court as there had been no tax payments for approximately 6 years on each. The total taxes owed on these 3 parcels was $38,108.00. We had 2 redemptions of other parcels, one in January for $2,595.00 and another in April for $4,507.00.

The total Tax Title Balance (including land court parcels) as of December 31, 2017 is $60,544.33.

The Town of Erving continues to be the lead town for the Northern Tier Ten Town Economic Development Program. We have a contract with the Franklin County Community Development Corporation (FCCDC) to administer the money and I reconcile those monies quarterly.

Julie Wonkka
Treasurer

Composition of Treasurer's Cash from January 1 through December 31, 2017

Prepared by: Julie Wonkka, Treasurer Elected May, 2017

Greenfield Coop Bank		**$1,742,143.87**
Investment Account	$857,979.95	
Ten Town Loan Fund	$169,744.55	
Water Department Enterprise Fund	$322,312.36	
POTW #1 Enterprise Fund	$373,146.41	
Recreation	$17,153.97	
Cultural Council	$1,806.63	
Easthampton Savings Bank		**$201,961.02**
Bartholomew & Co. Inc. Trust Account		**$9,717,770.81**
Post War Rehabilitation Fund	$22,585.26	
Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund	$42,408.72	
Stabilization Fund	$9,562,271.70	
Stabilization Fire Truck	$28,418.97	
Stabilization EES Computers	$52,848.36	
Conservation	$9,237.80	
Bartholomew & Co. Inc. OPEB Account		**$3,233,558.41**
Employee Benefits	$158,625.87	
Retiree Insurance	$3,074,932.54	
Hometown Bank		**$3,256,464.98**
Investment	$2,825,277.44	
Vendor	$325,445.45	
School Vendor	$105,742.09	
Unibank		**$602,368.42**
Investment	$543,736.35	
Payroll	$58,632.07	
Total Cash on Hand December 31, 2017		**$18,754,267.51**

ACCOUNTANT'S REPORTS

TOWN OF ERVING, MASSACHUSETTS
COMBINED BALANCE SHEET - ALL FUND TYPES AND ACCOUNT GROUPS
FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2017

	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Enterprise	Trust and Agency	Long Term Debt	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Assets							
Cash and Investments	$ 2,946,490.42	$ 498,442.88	$ (421,441.28)	1,746,892.04	$ 12,764,449.01	$ -	$ 17,534,833.07
Accounts Receivable:							
Overpayment Refund	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Property Taxes	32,714.88	-	-	-	-	-	32,714.88
Excise Taxes	38,987.30	-	-	-	-	-	38,987.30
Tax Liens	34,002.93	-	-	-	-	-	34,002.93
Tax Foreclosures	185,328.43	-	-	-	-	-	185,328.43
User Charges	-	-	-	13,183.81	-	-	13,183.81
Less: Allowance for Uncollectible Accounts	(304,564.20)	-	-	-	-	-	(304,564.20)
Due from Other Governments	-	185,999.68	218,050.79	-	-	-	404,050.47
Due from Other Funds	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Amount to be Provided for the Payment of Debt	-	-		-	-	2,969,725.00	2,969,725.00
Total Assets	$ 2,932,959.76	$ 684,442.56	$ (203,390.49)	$ 1,760,075.85	$ 12,764,449.01	$ 2,969,725.00	$ 20,908,261.69
Liabilities and Fund Equity							
Liabilities:							
Warrants & Payrolls Payable	$ 328,186.27	$ -		$ 838.72		$ -	$ 329,024.99
Employee Withholdings	21,049.00	-	-	-	-	-	21,049.00
Due to Others	850.79	-	-	-	4,020.50	-	4,871.29
Due to Student Groups	-	-	-	-	21,620.38	-	21,620.38
Deferred Revenue:							
Property Taxes	(271,849.32)	-	-	-	-	-	(271,849.32)
Other	258,318.66	185,999.68	218,050.79	13,183.81	-	-	675,552.94
Due to Other Funds	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bond Indebtedness	-	-	-	-	-	2,969,725.00	2,969,725.00
Total Liabilities	336,555.40	185,999.68	218,050.79	14,022.53	25,640.88	2,969,725.00	3,749,994.28
Fund Equity:							
Retained Earnings:							
Reserved for Encumbrances	-	-	-	166,239.24	-	-	166,239.24
Unreserved:							
Designated for Subsequent Years' Expenditures				-			-
Undesignated				1,579,814.08			1,579,814.08
Fund Balance:							
Reserved for Encumbrances	1,040,957.59	-	(421,441.28)	-	-	-	619,516.31
Reserved for Nonexpendable Trust Principal	-	-	-	-	9,840.18	-	9,840.18
Unreserved:							
Designated for Subsequent Years' Expenditures	301,000.00	-	-	-		-	301,000.00
Undesignated	1,254,446.77	498,442.88	-	-	12,728,967.95	-	14,481,857.60
Total Fund Equity	2,596,404.36	498,442.88	(421,441.28)	1,746,053.32	12,738,808.13	-	17,158,267.41
Total Liabilities and Fund Equity	$ 2,932,959.76	$ 684,442.56	$ (203,390.49)	$ 1,760,075.85	$ 12,764,449.01	$ 2,969,725.00	$ 20,908,261.69

TOWN OF ERVING, MASSACHUSETTS
COMBINED STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES -
BUDGET AND ACTUAL - GENERAL FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017

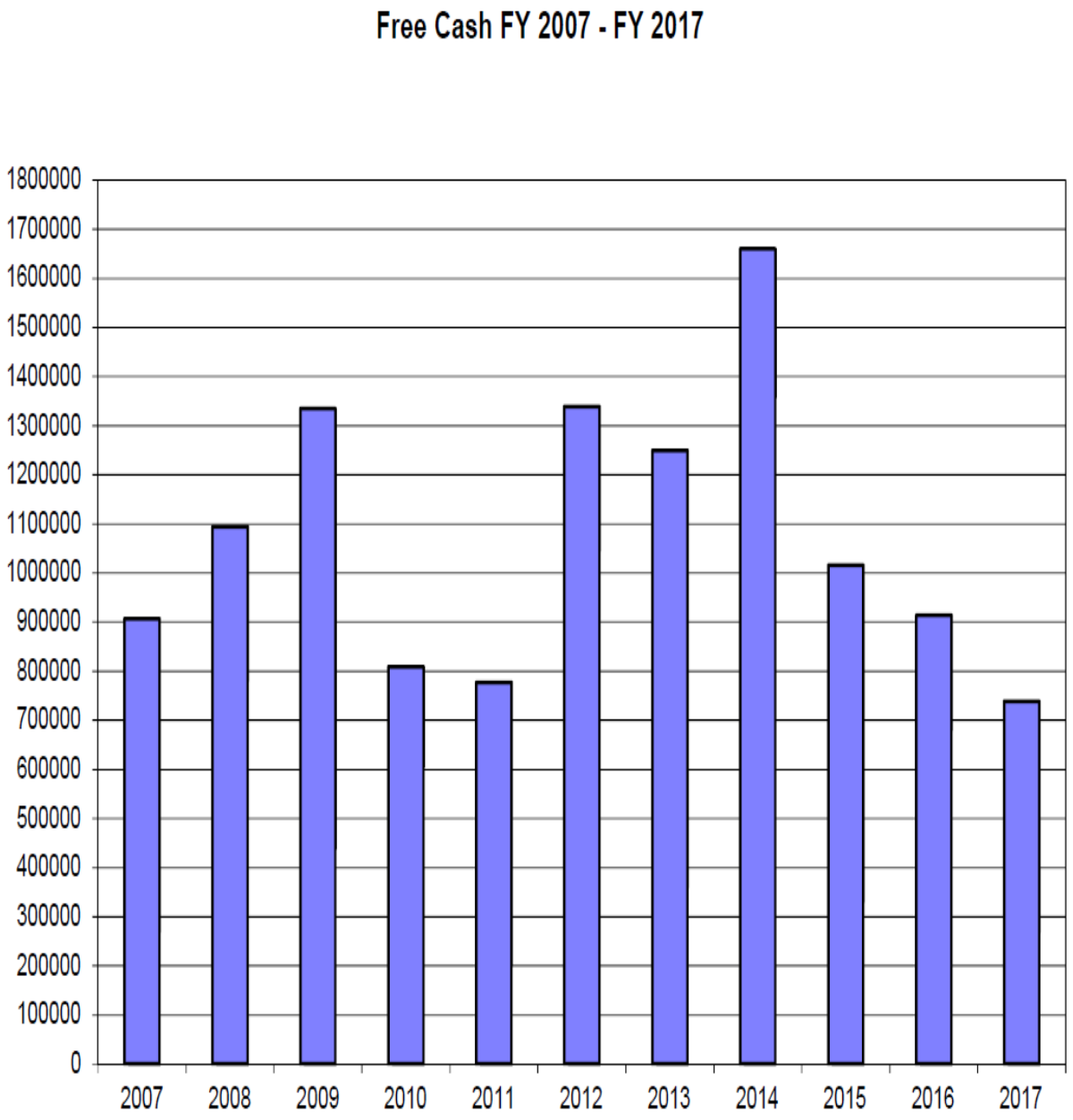
	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Amounts Carried Forward to Next Year	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
Revenues:					
Taxes	$ 9,278,196.23	9,278,196.23	$ 9,017,902.89	$ -	$ (260,293.34)
State Receipts	608,774.00	608,774.00	622,270.68	-	13,496.68
Excise and Other Taxes	160,936.00	160,936.00	170,783.82	-	9,847.82
Licenses, Permits, Fees, Fines, Misc	103,917.00	103,917.00	134,307.05	-	30,390.05
Interest on Delinquent Taxes	7,400.00	7,400.00	6,061.54	-	(1,338.46)
Interest on Investments	11,400.00	11,400.00	42,008.26	-	30,608.26
Total Revenues	10,170,623.23	10,170,623.23	9,993,334.24	-	(177,288.99)
	^	^	^		
Expenditures:					
Current:					
General Government	$1,215,232.05	$1,369,338.24	748,290.95	551,667.29	69,380.00
Public Safety	902,395.46	912,395.46	791,540.61	74,738.81	46,116.04
Public Works	824,826.50	826,826.50	605,704.61	168,137.60	52,984.29
Education	5,224,071.21	5,229,796.21	4,665,520.26	125,876.74	438,399.21
Health and Human Services	188,918.00	188,918.00	158,633.34	9,200.00	21,084.66
Culture and Recreation	228,227.24	258,227.24	142,765.05	111,337.15	4,125.04
Employee Benefits and Insurance	1,328,856.00	1,330,768.00	1,295,664.06	-	35,103.94
State Assessments	384,969.00	384,969.00	491,658.00	-	(106,689.00)
Debt Service:					
Principal	-	-	-	-	-
Interest and Fiscal Charges	-	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	10,297,495.46	10,501,238.65	8,899,776.88	1,040,957.59	560,504.18
Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	(126,872.23)	(330,615.42)	1,093,557.36	(1,040,957.59)	383,215.19
Other Financing Sources (Uses):					
Operating Transfers In	27,546.00	27,546.00	143,741.17	-	116,195.17
Operating Transfers Out	(1,714,085.23)	(1,906,533.31)	(1,935,733.31)	-	(29,200.00)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses	(1,686,539.23)	(1,878,987.31)	(1,791,992.14)	-	86,995.17
Budget Variance:					
Excess of Revenues and Other Financing Sources Over (Under) Expenditures and Other Financing Uses	$ (1,813,411.46)	$ (2,209,602.73)	$ (698,434.78)	$ (1,040,957.59)	$ 470,210.36
Fund Balances, End of Year	$ 2,596,404.36	$ 498,442.88	$ (421,441.28)	$ 12,738,808.13	$ 15,412,214.09

TOWN OF ERVING, MASSACHUSETTS
COMBINING STATEMENT OF CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017

	Fund Balances July 1, 2016	Revenues	Expenditures	Other Financing Sources (Uses)	Fund Balances June 30, 2017
Erving Elementary School Construction	$ 44,648.95	$ -	$ 44,648.95		$ -
Erving Senior Community Center	$ 16,000.00	$ -	$ -	(16,000.00)	(0.00)
Riverfront Park-Arch St	$ (63,676.33)	145,433.23	678,198.18	175,000.00	(421,441.28)
	$ 266,919.18	$ 145,433.23	$ 722,847.13	$ 159,000.00	$ (421,441.28)

TOWN OF ERVING, MASSACHUSETTS
COMBINING STATEMENT OF TRUST FUND REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - EXPENDABLE TRUST FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017

	Fund Balances July 1, 2016	Revenues	Expenditures	Other Financing Sources (Uses)	Fund Balances June 30, 2017
Stabilization Fund:					
General	$ 8,470,742.02	$ 153,026.27		$ 901,984.00	$ 9,525,752.29
Fire Truck	27,937.43	373.01			28,310.44
Elem Sch Computers	51,485.04	707.49		454.00	52,646.53
OPEB Trust Fund	2,588,211.60	193,421.73		300,000.00	3,081,633.33
Cemetery Perpetual Care:					
Non-Expendable	9,840.18				9,840.18
Expendable	32,310.07	562.78			32,872.85
Conservation Fund	9,081.25	121.26	1,450.00		7,752.51
	$ 11,189,607.59	$ 348,212.54	$ 1,450.00	$ 1,202,438.00	$ 12,738,808.13


Free Cash FY 2007 - FY 2017
1800000
1700000
1600000
1500000
1400000
1300000
1200000
1100000
1000000
900000
800000
700000
600000
500000
400000
300000
200000
100000
0
2007
2008
2009
2010
2011
2012
2013
2014
2015
2016
2017

REGIONAL REPORTS

- Franklin County Solid Waste Management District
- Eastern Franklin County Health District
- Veteran's Services
- FRCOG Services to Erving
- Franklin County Sheriff's Office Regional Dog Shelter

REGIONAL REPORTS

FRANKLIN COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

To the Residents of the Solid Waste District:

The Solid Waste District was formed in 1989 to help Franklin County towns manage all aspects of their solid waste – recyclables, organics, hazardous waste, wastewater treatment sludge, and trash. We continue to provide assistance to twenty-two member towns through administrative support, professional consultation, trainings, and outreach to residents and businesses.

A review of recycling tonnage for 2017 shows an increase in the amount of recycling tonnage compared to 2016. District residents recycled almost 1,800 tons of paper and 1,200 tons of mixed containers, which were processed at the Springfield Materials Recycling Facility.

In 2017, the District sponsored spring and fall "Clean Sweep" collections for bulky items, electronics, tires, appliances, and anything too big to fit into a trash bag. Over 56 tons of material were recycled or disposed of from the two collections. A total of 576 households participated in these collection events.

We held our annual household hazardous waste collection in September 2017. This event allows residents to properly dispose of toxic cleaners, automotive products, pesticides, and other toxic products. A total of 360 households participated in this event. 52% of participants were using the collection for the first time.

We applied for and received grants from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection worth $84,400 for District towns. Some grant funding is a result of a town's successful waste management infrastructure. Other grants include equipment to make town transfer stations more efficient.

We continued to bale wood pellet bags and agricultural plastic in our second year of this recycling program. We manage the recycling and composting program at the Franklin County Fair and assist other events with waste reduction efforts. We work in each school system helping with waste management bids and with fostering sustainable waste reduction programs.

If you have questions about District programs, call us at 413-772-2438 (MA Relay for the hearing impaired: 711 or 1-800-439-2370 TTY/TDD), visit our website at www.franklincountywastedistrict.org or visit us at 50 Miles Street in Greenfield.

Jan Ameen - *Executive Director*
Chris Boutwell, Montague - *Vice-Chair*
Jonathan Lagreze, Colrain - *Chair*
MA Swedlund, Deerfield – *Treasurer*

REGIONAL REPORTS

EASTERN FRANKLIN COUNTY HEALTH DISTRICT

The Eastern Franklin County Health District is responsible for conducting inspections and enforcement of state and local health regulations. In addition, the District works with the Erving Board of Health in consultation to formulate and enact policies that carry out the intent of the Board for municipal health protection. The Eastern Franklin County Health District has provided public health services for the Town of Erving since its inception in 1985.

In June of 2017, Deb Palmer and her husband David Zarozinski stepped down as the Eastern Franklin County Health agents due to unforeseen circumstances. Claudia Lucas and Charlie Kaniecki, both formerly employed by the state Department of Public Health and Charlie was your District Agent back from 1990 – 99, were subsequently appointed to fill the positions which were vacated in July of 2017.

The issue of abandoned and derelict housing as well as potential public health issues relating to infractions by homeowners has taken the forefront in the past year. Working with the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office Abandoned Housing Initiative, agents Lucas and Kaniecki have been addressing these concerns and placing non-code compliant properties into receivership programs for upgrades and renovation. There are presently 12 active housing files out of which two are in receivership and two more in the planning stages. We further, have condemn some 6 dwelling for not meeting the minimum standards of fitness for human habitation.

One of the primary responsibilities of the agents continues to be inspection related. Food Establishments, recreational camps, pools, and certain other services are required to be inspected annually on different schedules regulated by state law. Erving has two pools, a motel, and several restaurants/retail food sale vendors.

As it has historically, the District continues to accept calls from citizens with questions or health concerns, as well as from the towns under jurisdiction of the Eastern Franklin County Health District on topics as varied as water quality, indoor air quality, mold, rodents and insects, septic system maintenance, community public health resources, and funding for maintaining minimum standards for housing. We look forward with working with your Community in the coming year.

Claudia Lucas, District Health Agent

Charlie Kaniecki, Assistant District Agent

REGIONAL REPORTS

VETERAN'S SERVICES REPORT

Member Towns

Ashfield
Bernardston
Buckland
Charlemont
Colrain
Conway
Deerfield
Erving
Gill
Greenfield
Hawley
Heath
Leverett
Leyden
Monroe
Montague
New Salem
Northfield
Plainfield
Rowe
Shelburne
Shutesbury
Sunderland
Warwick
Wendell
Whately

We ended the year by being named "Veterans' Services District of the Year" by the state. Our district has now been in operation for 2 ½ years. We are the largest district by community count and square miles covered in the state. Below are just some of the programs and services we help veterans' and their dependents with:

- M.G.L. Ch 115 benefit – Needs based program of financial and medical assistance to eligible veterans and their dependents
- Assistance to veterans and dependents to help file for health care, pensions, and service-connected disabilities
- Homeless prevention assistance to veterans and their families
- Employment help with job searches, resumes, and job interview skills
- Burial assistance to include government markers, flag holders, internment, and VA burial reimbursement
- Veterans records retrieval and storage
- Referral to other public and private agencies to include housing, fuel assistance, employment, training, education
- Attend area outreach events(fairs, festivals, health care expos)

We have continued to work hard helping veterans and dependents file for VA benefits due them. Our awarded claims have outpaced CY16 bringing in close to $423,000.00 in new claim money for our clients. Overall the district has over $1,923,000.00 in VA awards flowing into our towns on a monthly basis.

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

For the coming year we will continue to assist veterans, and will emphasize programs for the dependents of veterans, particularly the elderly population. Our major projects for the future involve veterans' gravesites locations and conditions, and training 1st responders on veterans' issues and resources.

Timothy Niejadlik, Director
Upper Pioneer Valley Veterans' Services District

REGIONAL REPORTS

FRCOG SERVICES TO ERVING

The Franklin Regional Council of Governments provides a variety of services, programming, and advocacy to the municipalities of Franklin County and to the greater Franklin County region. Our Planning Department assists with local planning issues, such as zoning and local hazard mitigation planning, and also works on larger regional projects. Our municipal service programs — Collective Purchasing, Cooperative Public Health, Cooperative Inspection, and Town Accounting — are available to any municipality that needs them. Partnership for Youth continues to provide substance use and chronic disease prevention. And our Regional Preparedness and Homeland Security Programs provide a variety of aid and assistance to our first responders and health emergency officials. The *FRCOG's 2017 Annual Report*, available in April of 2018 and on www.frcog.org shortly thereafter, will highlight our work over the past year. Specific services to the Town of Erving in 2017 are listed below.

Collective Bidding & Purchasing Program

- Erving contracted with the FRCOG to receive collective bid pricing for up to 24 different Highway Products and Services. Total estimated highway needs for FY18 is $175,259.
- Erving participates in the Dog Tags and Licenses collective bid program.

Franklin County Cooperative Inspection Program

- Staff issued 74 building permits, 30 electrical permits & 24 plumbing/gas permits for Erving in 2017. Eleven (11) Certificates of Inspection were issued.

Partnership for Youth

Staff conducted a Teen Health Survey to assess teen attitudes and behavior among middle and high school students. Staff reported to Gill-Montague Regional School administrators on results from 118 Gill-Montague students, representing 61% of the 8th, 10th, and 12th grade classes. Survey data meets federal requirements for the school and is valuable for grant-writing and program planning.

Staff used grant funding to provide a nutrition consultant to the Erving Elementary School to advise on healthy food choices and behaviors.

Planning and Development Department

- Staff met with the Town Administrator and Highway Superintendent to discuss traffic circulation concerns in the Church Street/North Street area.
- Staff met with the Town Administrator and Highway Superintendent to review the history and current status of Route 2 Safety Improvements in Erving.
- Staff facilitated a meeting of the Route 2 Task Force.
- Staff provided the Selectboard with a GIS map of Town-owned properties categorized by land use.
- Staff provided technical assistance with the update of the Erving Open Space and Recreation Plan with funds from the 2017 District Local Technical Assistance (DLTA) grant program.
- Staff assisted the FRTA with route and schedule changes for the fixed route system.

- Staff worked with the Franklin Land Trust to protect agricultural, natural and scenic land on the Mohawk Trail Scenic Byway with funding provided through the National Scenic Byway Program.
- Staff met with the Town Administrator and Housing Committee to help assess next steps for the proposed senior housing project behind the Erving Senior Center.
- Staff provided technical assistance related to the FERC relicensing of the Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage project and the Turners Falls Dam hydroelectric project.
- Staff provided technical assistance to support the redevelopment of the IP Millers Falls Papermill site, which included coordinating a meeting with MassDevelopment, participating in multi-board meetings, providing an outline of grant and financing opportunities, and next steps.
- Staff provided support and assistance in moving the Ervingside Route 63 Streetscape Improvement Project through the MassDOT design process.
- Staff provided 10 new, free bike racks for Church Street Park, Park Street Park, Riverfront Park, Erving Public Library, and Erving Senior & Community Center through the regional Bicycle Parking Program coordinated by the FRCOG.
- Staff provided technical assistance to the Planning Board with respect to recreational marijuana legislation and zoning.

Special Projects

- As part of the Community Compact Best Practices Program, staff worked with the Selectboard and the Town Administrator on the development of a long-range capital plan that projects capital needs, estimated costs, and potential funding sources to implement the plan.

Workshops & Training

The following list represents the FRCOG workshops and training sessions that Erving public officials, staff, and residents attended, and the number in attendance.

Municipal Official Continuing Education Series
Marijuana Legislation Update — 2
Climate Change Adaptation — 2
Marijuana Legalization: Municipal Roles and Options — 1

Planning, Conservation, and Development
New Market Tax Credit — 2

Emergency Preparedness & Response
Chemical Safety — 2

Partnership for Youth
Social Justice: Health Equity & Race —3 from Gill-Montague Regional School District
Farm to Institution for Food Service Directors —1 from Gill-Montague Regional School District

FRANKLIN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE REGIONAL DOG SHELTER

The Shelter Works for Franklin County

Intake:

•Law Enforcement, including Animal Control Officers, can bring dogs into Shelter 24 hours a day, seven days a week

•Residents may "Owner Surrender" their dog(s), thereby transferring ownership to the Shelter

•Dogs sick and/or suspicious for contagious infectious disease are often diverted to a veterinary clinic for diagnostics and treatment before Shelter intake

•Some dogs are bathed right away, if needed, for flea or tick infestations, filthy coats, etc.

•Dogs whose fur is severely and painfully matted will be professionally groomed

Stray Dogs with Identified Owners Will Not Be Released Until:

•Proof of dog license within their town of residence is presented to Shelter

•Proof of current rabies vaccine is provided by owner. The Shelter will transport dogs to the veterinarian's office for rabies vaccine if necessary

•The Shelter will work with towns and residents to obtain dog licenses to facilitate Return To Owner

All Dogs Receive:

•Good quality food

•Clean, dry, temperature controlled and safe housing

•Fresh Water, outdoor runs, large play yards

•Walks out side of their kennels by staff and Volunteers two to three times a day (excepting dangerous dogs) with frequent off site group hikes

•Basic diagnostics, preventative medicines, treatments and microchip implantation performed in-house

•Spay and neuter surgeries prior to adoption

Dog with Special Needs May Receive:

•Professional dog training to enhance their adoptability

•Enrichment programming for physical, social and emotional well-being and improved adoptability

•Foster placement for dogs with compromised health and behavioral issues

The Shelter Further Contributes to Franklin County by:

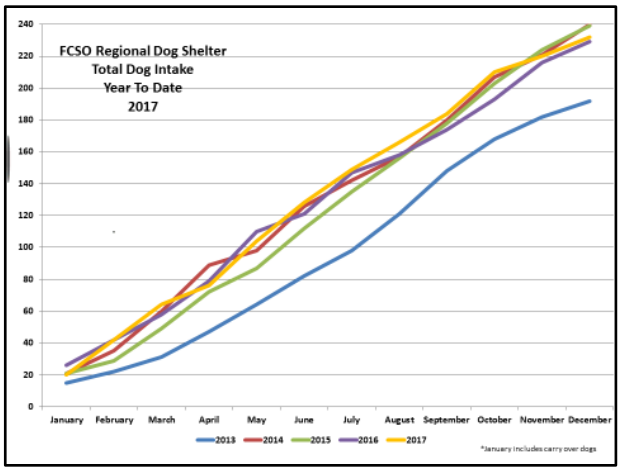
•Holding low cost rabies and toe nail clinics

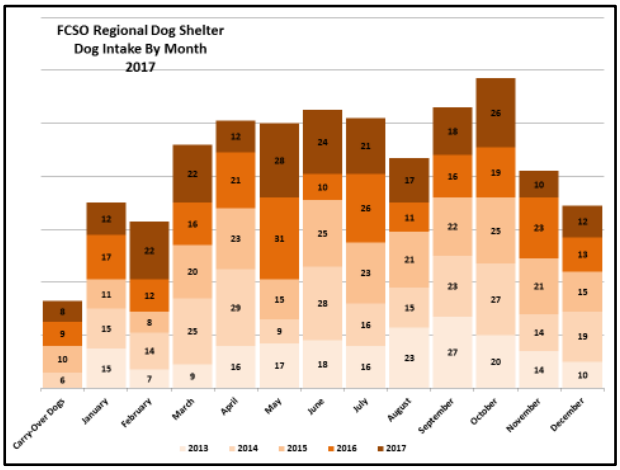
•Providing Dog food for County residents to help them keep their dog(s) in the home

•Promotion of adoptable and lost dogs at events, in print, electronic and social media

•Assist families, on case-by-case basis, with lower cost spay and neuter surgeries

REGIONAL REPORTS





Data Sheet--% Franklin County Population % Total Dogs -- Contract Towns*

Contracted Franklin County Towns	% Franklin County Population	% Total Dogs	Number of Dogs	% Franklin County Population	2010 Federal Census Population
Greenfield	24%	32%	75	24.46%	17,456
Montague	12%	18%	43	11.82%	8,437
Deerfield	7%	7%	17	7.18%	5,125
Sunderland	5%	1%	3	5.16%	3,684
Northfield	4%	1%	3	4.25%	3,032
Bernardston	3%	4%	10	2.98%	2,129
Buckland	3%	2%	4	2.66%	1,902
Conway	3%	3%	6	2.66%	1,897
Shelburne	3%	1%	2	2.65%	1,893
Erving	3%	7%	17	2.52%	1,800
Colrain	2%	1%	3	2.34%	1,671
Whately	2%	2%	5	2.10%	1,496
Ashfield	2%	1%	1	2.43%	1,737
Charlemont	2%	1%	3	1.77%	1,266
Wendell	1%	5%	11	1.19%	848
Warwick	1%	1%	3	1.09%	780
Leyden	1%	1%	3	1%	711
Heath	1%	1%	2	0.99%	706

*Gill, Leverett, Rowe– no dogs in 2017

Data Sheet---Identifying Category of Group Presenting dogs---Contracted Towns

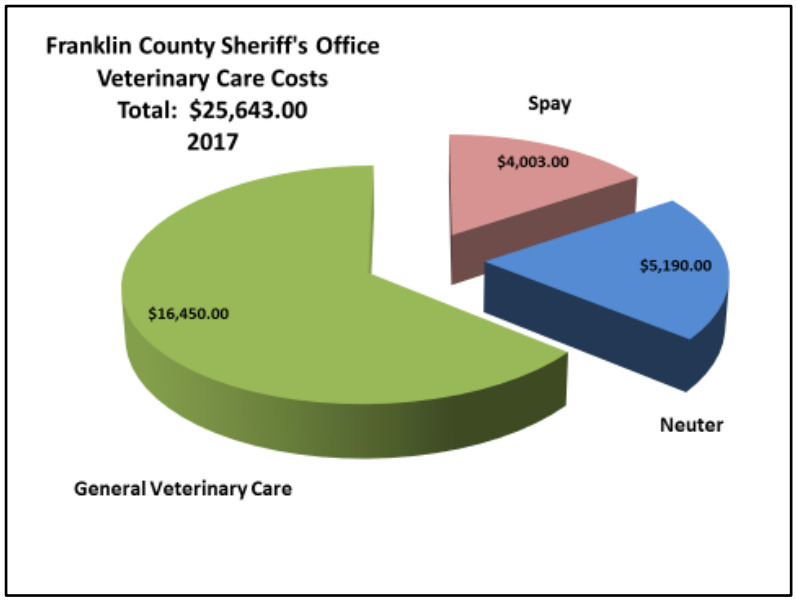
SOURCE	Ashfield	Bernardston	Buckland	Charlemont	Colrain	Conway
Law Enforcement		6		2		
Animal Control Officer	1	4	3		2	6
Resident						
Owner Surrender			1	1	1	

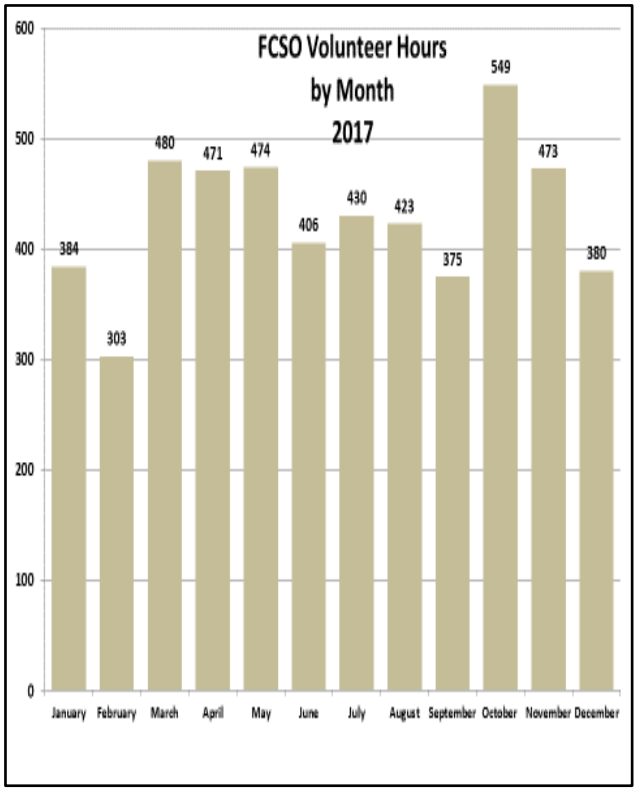
SOURCE	Deerfield	Erving	Greenfield	Heath	Leyden	Montague*
Law Enforcement	2		11			8
Animal Control Officer	10	16	39	2	2	5
Resident	3		15			18
Owner Surrender	2	1	10			8

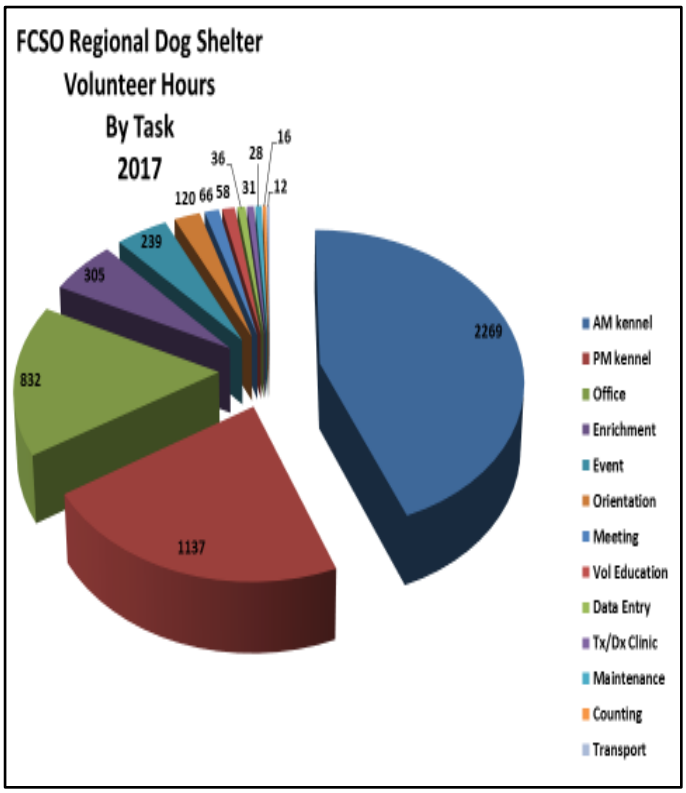
*One additional dog turned himself in

SOURCE	Northfield	Shelburne	Sunderland	Warwick	Wendell	Whately
Law Enforcement	1		2			1
Animal Control Officer	1	1	1	1	10	3
Resident						
Owner Surrender	1	1		2	1	1

REGIONAL REPORTS





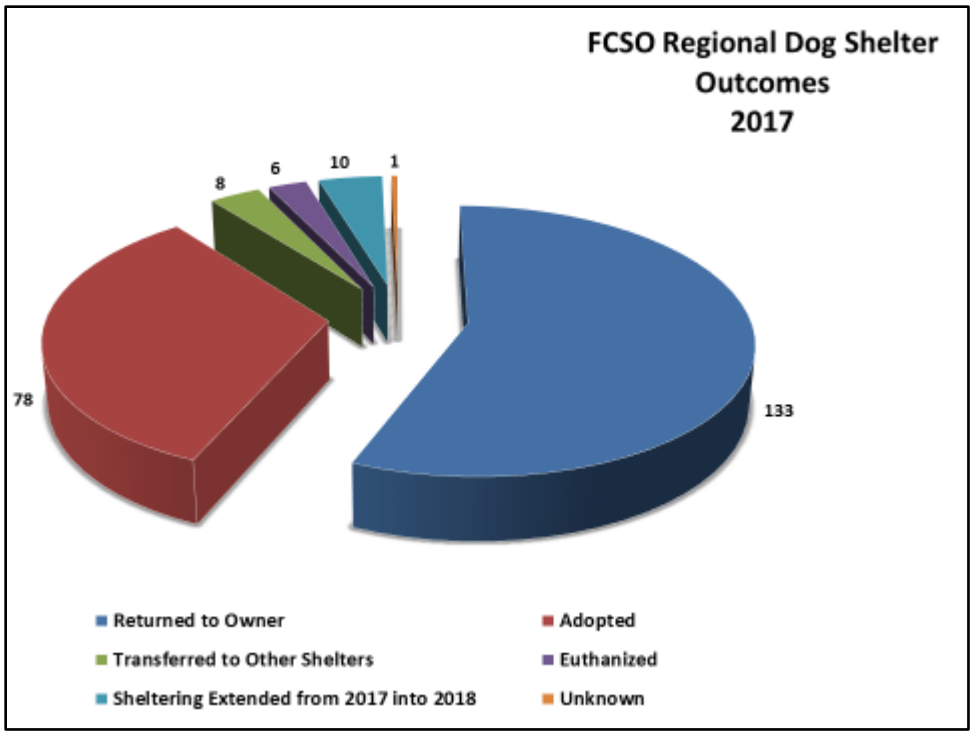


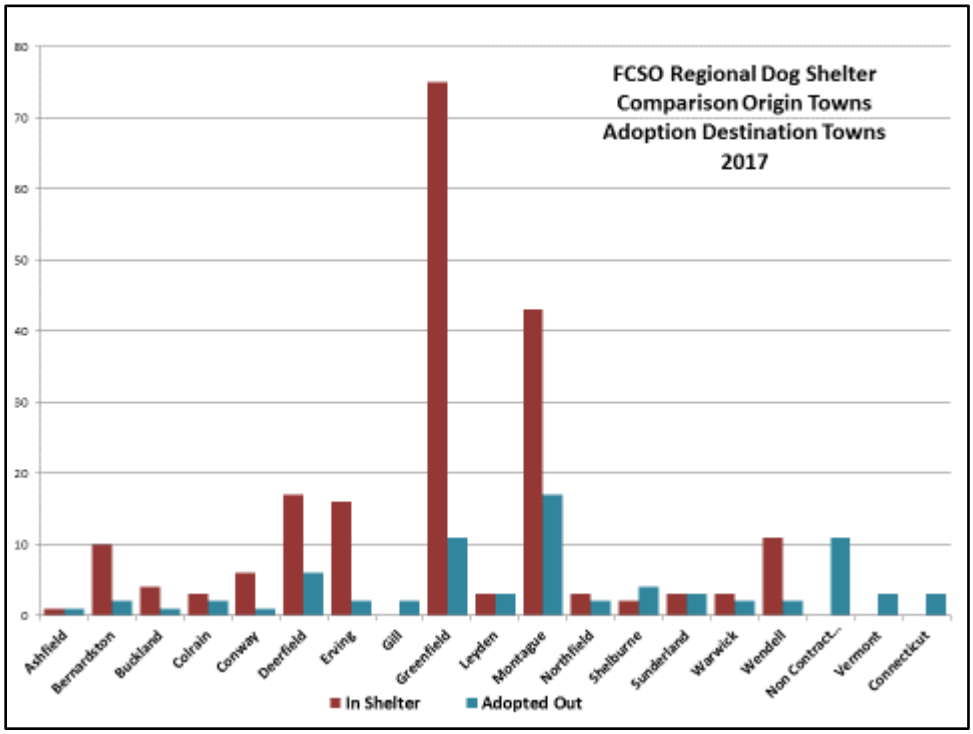
REGIONAL REPORTS

Breed	Length of Stay	Gender	Cause
Pit Mix	8 Days	Neutered Male	Bit Child, Police Case
Pit Mix	10 Days	Neutered Male	Sick, Unsalvageable
Pit Mix	5 Days	Spayed Female	Bite, Police, Owner Intended Euthanasia
Pit Mix	37 Days	Neutered Male	Dog Aggressive
Pit Mix	7 Days	Male	Shelter Bites, Owner Intended Euthanasia
Pit Mix	10 Days	Female	Bite, Town Requested Quarantine, Owner Intended Euthanasia

Total Number of Dogs Sheltered 2017	236	
Total Dog Days	3337	
Long Length of Stay Dogs Over 100 Days	4	
Average Length of Stay	14.1	(Dog Days 3339/ Total Dogs236)
Average Length of Stay - dog stays < 100 days	11.4	(Dog Days 2636/ Dogs 232)
Average Daily Census	9.1	(Dog Days/ 365 Days)
Median Length of Stay	2	Days
Southern Dogs *OR* Dogs Imported from out of state	24	
Owner Illness	5	
Police Owner Arrest	9	
Town Quarantine Request --- Bites	2	
Town Nuisance	2	
Police Livestock Attack	1	

REGIONAL REPORTS





GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND CONDITIONS

ACCOUNTANT

The town accountant maintains custody of all town contracts and keeps a detailed record of the town debt, including the reasons for borrowing, the rate of interest when due, and payment provisions (41:57). She/he is bound as well to keep a complete set of municipal books including each specific appropriation, the amounts and purposes of each expenditure, and the receipts from each source of income.

The accountant must inform town officers of unexpended balances in their appropriations (41:58), immediately upon the close of the calendar year, she/he must prepare statements detailing the preceding fiscal year's appropriations and expenditures, appropriations for the current fiscal year, and expenditures incurred during its first six months, as well as estimated expenditures for the second six months and estimates for the ensuing fiscal year. By August 1, the accountant or treasurer must furnish the assessors with a written report of the money received other than from taxes, loans, and trust funds for the preceding fiscal years (41:54A).

A critical function of the town accountant (41.56) relates to the payment of the bills and payrolls, which must be examined for the requisite oaths and approvals. Should any claims be deemed fraudulent, unlawful, or excessive, payment authorization may be withheld. In such instances, a statement must be filed with the town treasurer, outlining the reasons for the refusal. Alternatively, if all is in order, the accountant will draw a warrant upon the treasury for payment.

APPROPRIATION

An authorization granted by a legislative body to make expenditures and to incur obligations for specific purposes. An appropriation is usually limited in amount as to the time when it may be expended. Only a town meeting or the school committee can authorize money appropriated for one purpose to be used for another. Any part of a "general" appropriation not spent or encumbered by June 30 automatically reverts to surplus. A "specific" or "particular" appropriation is carried forward from year to year until spent for the designated purpose or transferred by town meeting vote to another account.

ASSESSED VALUATION

The value placed on a particular property by the local board of assessors for the purpose of apportioning the town's tax levy among individual property owners equitably and in accordance with the legal requirement that property be assessed at "full and fair cash value," as certified periodically by the state commissioner of revenue.

ASSESSOR

The board of assessors is responsible for the valuation of real and personal property for the purposes of levying the property tax: Generally, the required training, the responsibility for maintaining assessment at full and fair cash value and the required revaluation of property every three years have placed an added burden on assessing offices. As part of their function, the assessors must maintain an extensive database on each parcel of property in town. The assessors are also responsible for establishing a tax

rate within the levy limit established by Proposition 2 1/2. They must perform the formal calculation of the tax rate(s) for the town on the "tax rate recapitulation sheet." The role of the assessors is important because they maintain and administer the tax base, a major source of revenue for the town.

CHERRY SHEET
Traditionally printed on cherry-colored paper, this financial statement from the State still retains its nickname in spite of being pink and green. This form fists all the estimated State and County assessments reduced by any money the State expects to return to the Town. This "Cherry Sheet" must be received by the Assessors before the new tax rate can be set.

DEPARTMENT HEAD
Department heads (either appointed, i.e., I-Highway Superintendent, or elected, i.e., Town Clerk) usually prepare their own budgets. Each departmental budget is prepared within the framework and guidelines set by the financial team. Another major role is in the capital planning process. In order to monitor spending activity, department heads must have access to and use interim financial reports. The department head identifies capital needs and usually has the best information regarding level of utilization and specifications for the acquisition. Department heads should meet periodically with the financial team to inform these teammates in the financial management process of major issues facing the department.

EXCLUSIONS
There are two types of exclusions; debt and capital outlay expenditure. These are temporary increases in the levy limit. For debt exclusion, the additional amount for the payment of debt service is added to the levy limit for the life of the debt only. The additional amount for the payment of the capital project cost is added to the levy limit only for the year in which the project is being undertaken.

FY-FISCAL YEAR
July 1st to June 30th. At the Annual Town Meeting in May, 2015, we vote on the budget for FY2016 which starts on July 1, 2015. FY2016 taxes are assessed as of January 1, 2015 and billed according to the Fiscal Year July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016.

FINANCE COMMITTEE
The finance committee is the official fiscal watchdog for the town. Finance committees were established so that a representative group of taxpayers could conduct a thorough review of any or all municipal questions on behalf of all the citizens. The finance committee is primarily responsible for submitting its recommendations on the annual budget to the town meeting. The committee is commonly involved in the preparation process involving the development of the budget forms and, in many communities, the establishment of guidelines for department heads. Their statutory authority is limited to making transfers from the town's reserve fund to other line items in the budget as requested.

FREE CASH
Free cash is a term which generally represents the amount of community funds that are unrestricted and available for appropriation. Free cash is generated when actual revenue collections are more than

budgeted and when expenditures are less than appropriations, or both. Once certified, that amount can only be used through 6/30 of the fiscal year. Free Cash must be certified each year.

LEVY
The property tax levy is the revenue a community actually raises through real and personal property taxes. The property tax levy is the largest source of revenue for most towns.

LEVY CEILING
The levy ceiling is 2.5% of the total full and fair cash value of all taxable real and personal property in the community. (This is equal to a $25.00 tax rate.)

LEVY LIMIT
The levy limit is the amount the town can raise. This limit is increased from year to year as long as it remains below the levy ceiling. Permanent increases in the levy limit result from the following-. Automatic 2.5% increase yearly; new growth resulting from new construction and overrides.

LOAN INTEREST
If the Town has to borrow money, we have to pay back the loan plus interest. The amount voted for Treasurer Loan Interest would be a part of these payments.

MEDICARE
Wages of local government employees hired after March 31, 1986, are generally subject to the hospital insurance (Medicare) portion of the social security tax under the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act which became effective on April 1, 1986. The tax is equal to 1.45% of the employee's pay. The employer is required to contribute an amount equal to that deducted from the employee's pay (An additional 1.45%).

NEW GROWTH
New growth is generated by a substantial improvement to a property (generally, any new dwelling unit or an addition adding at least 50% to the value of residential property and not less than $100,000 or 50% for commercial, industrial and personal property) in a particular year. New growth is calculated by multiplying the allowable new valuation times the prior year's tax rate. It directly increases the levy limit of a community. This is especially important for towns experiencing significant new construction, since growth frequently brings with it a need for increased services.

OMNIBUS ARTICLE
A Town Meeting Warrant Article which consolidates budget items for various departments. At the Annual Meeting the Moderator reads the total budget allowing a "question" to be called if more discussion is wanted on a certain item. A vote will be taken first on the total of items not questioned then each questioned item will be voted separately.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND CONDITIONS

OVERLAY
Overlay is a reserve account which is established by the assessors annually prior to setting the tax rate. The amount established for overlay should reflect the expected amount that will eventually have to be provided to taxpayers as a result of abatements or exemptions for property taxes. The overlay should be reasonable and be based on historical trends.

OVERLAY SURPLUS
Overlay surplus is the balance in the overlay for a particular year that is an excess of the amount remaining to be collected or abated. The assessors release this excess amount from overlay to overlay surplus. As a result of new legislation, these funds may be appropriated by town meeting for any purpose for which a town may expend funds. At the close of the fiscal year, any balance in the overlay surplus account becomes part of surplus revenue.

OVERRIDE
A community can permanently increase its levy limit by successfully voting an override. The amount of the override becomes a permanent part of the levy limit base. On a ballot, override questions must be presented in dollar terms and must specify the purpose of the override. Overrides may only be presented at an election and require a majority vote for approval.

RESERVE FUND
The reserve fund is a contingency fund usually created as part of the annual budget appropriations which is used to fund extraordinary and unforeseen expenses. It is disbursed through transfers approved by the finance committee. In general, extraordinary and unforeseen items such as an increased insurance premium or a new police cruiser are acceptable. Salary increases are generally not an acceptable use of this reserve.

RESOLUTION AID
Resolution aid refers to the amounts allocated to each city, town and regional school district as stated in the Legislative Resolution in March. It includes direct, flexible aid under the Cherry Sheet program headings Chapter 70, Additional Assistance, and any others so designed by the Legislature. Although Resolution Aid represents the bulk of Cherry Sheet Aid, the terms are not synonymous. Cherry Sheet aid represents the total of all programs appearing on the Cherry Sheet, Resolution Aid represents a portion of this aid.

REVENUE SHARING
Federal tax dollars paid to a town to be used for any purpose which is permissible use of its own revenue. Public Hearings are required before the sums may be appropriated to individual accounts at the Annual Town Meeting.

SCHOOL DEPARTMENT
School departments have a special status concerning a municipality's budget. Under state law (71:34), the legislative body of a town (town meeting) shall establish the total appropriation for the support of

the public schools, but may not limit the authority of the school committee to determine expenditures within the total appropriation.

SELECTMEN

The Selectmen are the closest thing a town has to a chief executive. They have overall responsibility for the general operations of town government. As chief executive body of the town, the selectmen develop guidelines consistent with policy, at the same time taking into consideration the available financial resources of the town. As the budget is the single most important policy document that a town develops each year, participation by the selectmen is essential to their maintaining a leadership role in the town. They should review all the budget requests and develop a good understanding of the finance committee's position on the budget. The selectmen should establish policy priorities and provide leadership in the constant debate between the needs of the departments for sufficient resources to deliver public services and what the taxpayer can afford.

SOFTWARE SUPPORT FEES (TAX COLLECTOR)

Money for the purpose of tape conversions (a process which converts the excise tax information at the Registry of Motor Vehicles to the Tax Collector's computer software data structures) and software updates required for the Tax Collector in order to comply with applicable laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

STABILIZATION

The stabilization fund may be created pursuant to 40:5B. Any interest earned shall be added to and become a part of the fund. This fund may be appropriated for any lawful purpose. The fund may be appropriated in a town at the annual town meeting or a special town meeting by a 2/3 vote.

TAX COLLECTOR

The collector is charged with the responsibility for collecting all taxes owed to the municipality. This requires maintaining a good record keeping system and organization to deposit revenue into town accounts as soon as possible. All receipts must be turned over to the treasurer at least once a week (or more often during heavy collection periods). Another major responsibility of the collector is the processing of motor vehicle excise bills. These bills are generated by the Registry of Motor Vehicles and sent to the town for distribution and collection. Timely action pursuing delinquent accounts dramatically increases the likelihood of eventual collection of the tax or payment due.

TAX TITLE FORECLOSURE

Foreclosures in the Land Court are, generally speaking, the main avenue by which the treasurer will either be able to force the delinquent taxpayer to redeem the tax title or, if payment is not made, to acquire title to the property for the municipality through foreclosure proceedings.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND CONDITIONS

TOWN CLERK

The town clerk certifies town meeting vote, to the treasurer, assessors and accounting officer, with each appropriation in detail including how each appropriation is to be funded. The town clerk certifies all town meeting actions, debt, and overrides to the Department of Revenue.

TREASURER

The treasurer is the custodian of all town funds. The position is responsible for the deposit, investment and disbursement of town funds. The treasurer is empowered by town meeting to issue debt on behalf of the town with the approval of the selectmen. During the year, the treasurer must determine the cash needs of the town (i.e., when money will be available to invest and when money will have to be borrowed to meet expenses.) Treasurers should maintain a cash flow budget which is updated and adjusted on a monthly basis. They should review the banking services that are available and competitively seek those that are most cost effective. Investments should be made in accordance with a written investment policy which is reviewed with the selectmen and the finance committee. A strong record keeping system is also important to document performance.

WARRANT

There are three types:

1. Treasurer's Warrant, which is signed by the board of selectmen which authorizes the treasurer's to pay a list of bills (41:56)
2. Assessor's Warrant to Collect, which authorizes the collector to collect the amount of tax that has been committed to the collector
(59:55)
3. Town Meeting Warrant. All town meetings must be called by a warrant that state the time and place of the meeting and lists all items of business to be acted upon. The warrant must be posted seven (7) days prior the annual town meeting and 14 days prior to a special town meeting (39:10)

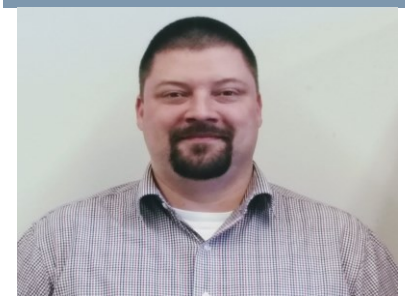
IN MEMORY OF THOSE WE'VE LOST IN 2017

Lester G. Mandigo	*10/24/1941 – 01/02/2017*
Rita A. Gagne	*10/13/1958 – 01/06/2017*
Mary Louise Rhodes	*08/07/1930 – 02/08/2017*
Elizabeth E. Adams	*11/08/1925 – 02/09/2017*
Theophile J. Mailloux, Jr.	*11/17/1934 – 02/09/2017*
James F. Betters	*07/17/1922 – 02/23/2017*
Bernard B. Niedzwiedz	*01/24/1948 – 04/14/2017*
Gloria A. Betters	*06/02/1923 – 05/31/2017*
Dora Jean Fellows	*12/23/1937 - 06/07/2017*
Robert Harry Haselton	*08/12/1940 – 06/16/2017*
Dorothy E. Niedzwiedz	*05/23/1929 – 06/16/2017*
Steven Edward Sliva	*05/04/1952 – 09/07/2017*
Lillian Blanche Rosewarne	*03/17/1919 – 12/28/2017*

TOWN BUILDINGS CONTACT INFORMATION

BOARD OF SELECTMEN/STAFF

JACOB SMITH
SELECT BOARD CHAIRMAN



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WILLIAM BEMBURY
SELECTMAN

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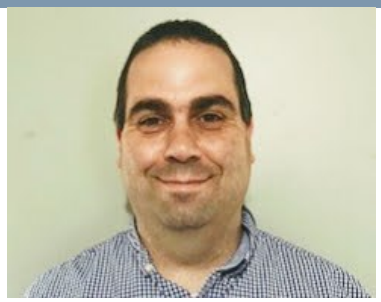
SCOTT BASTARACHE
SELECTMAN



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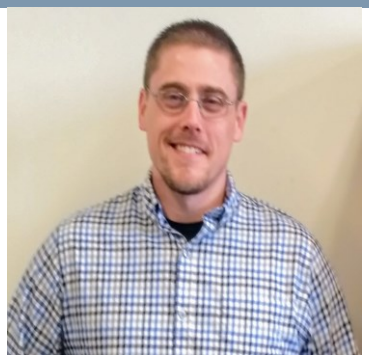
BRYAN SMITH
ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR



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BETSY SICARD
MUNICIPAL CLERK

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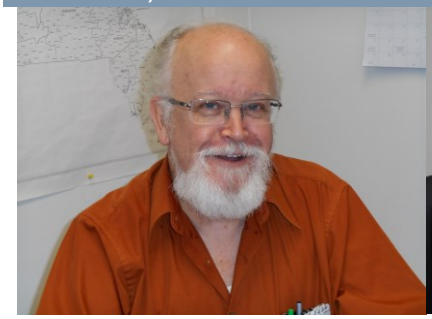
TOWN BUILDINGS CONTACT INFORMATION

BOARD OF ASSESSORS/STAFF

DANIEL HAMMOCK
ASSESSOR, CHAIR



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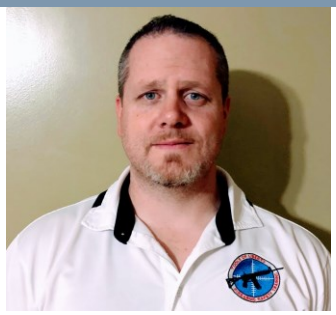
JEFF ROLLINS
ASSESSOR



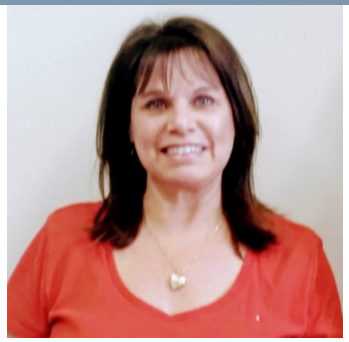
Tel 413-422-2800 Ext. 107
Fax 413-422-2808
assessors.jeff.rollins@erving-ma.org

JACQUELYN BOYDEN
ASSISTANT ASSESSOR

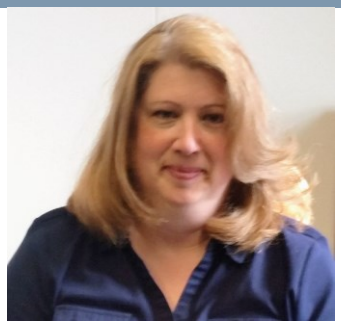
Tel 413-422-2800 Ext. 107
Fax 413-422-2808
erving.assessor@erving-ma.org

TOWN BUILDINGS CONTACT INFORMATION

COLLECTOR/STAFF

MICHELE TURNER TAX / WATER COLLECTOR	ANN PETRAIN ASSISTANT COLLECTOR
	
Tel 413-422-2800 Ext. 104 taxcol.michele.turner@erving-ma.org	**Tel** 413-422-2800 Ext. 104 taxcol@erving-ma.org

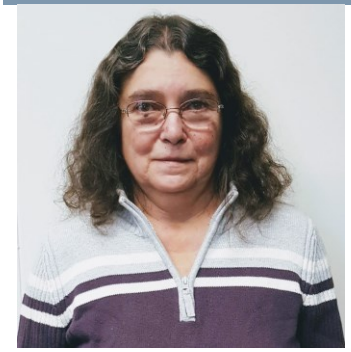
TREASURER/STAFF

JULIE WONKKA TREASURER	JEAN FOUNTAIN ASSISTANT TREASURER
	
Tel 413-422-2800 Ext. 112 treasurer@erving.ma.org	**Tel** 413-422-2800 Ext. 114 assisttreas@erving-ma.org

TOWN BUILDINGS CONTACT INFORMATION

ACCOUNTANT

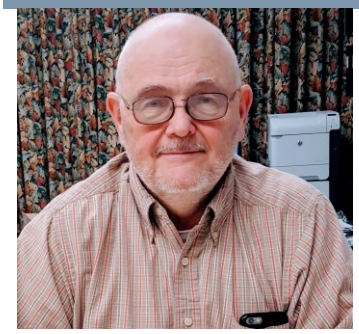
DEBORAH MERO
TOWN ACCOUNTANT



Tel 413-422-2800 Est. 103
accountant@erving-ma.org

TOWN CLERK

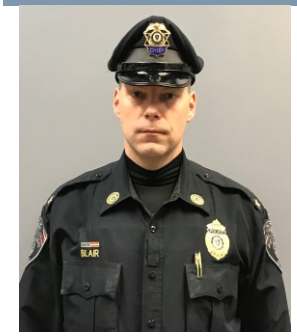
RICHARD W. NEWTON
TOWN CLERK



Tel 413-422-2800 Ext. 106
townclerk@erving-ma.org

POLICE DEPARTMENT

CHRISTOPHER BLAIR
CHIEF

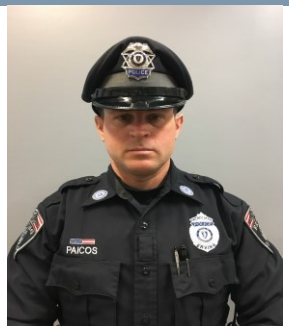


Tel 413-4233-3310
policechief@erving-ma.org

ROBERT HOLST
SERGEANT

Tel 413-423-3310
police@erving-ma.org

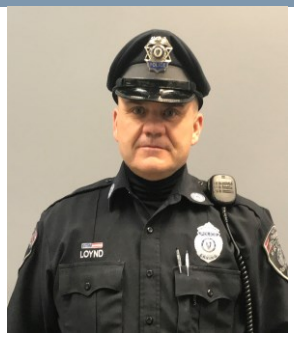
ADAM PAICOS
FULL TIME OFFICER



Tel 413-423-3310
police@erving-ma.org

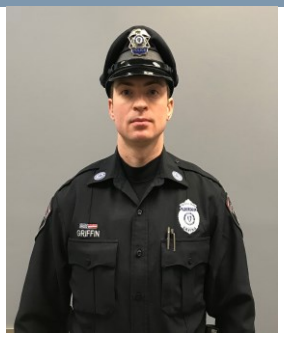
TOWN BUILDINGS CONTACT INFORMATION

JAMES LOYND
FULL TIME OFFICER



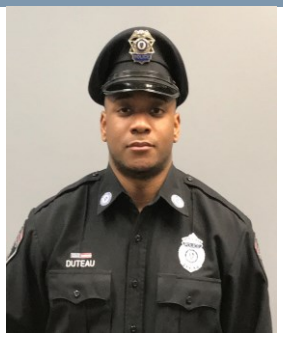
Tel 413-423-3310
police@erving--ma.org

BRENT GRIFFIN
FULL TIME OFFICER



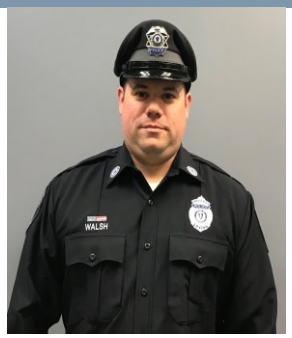
Tel 413-423-3310
police@erving-ma.org

NEMOURS DUTEAU
PART TIME OFFICER



Tel 413-423-3310
police@erving-ma.org

PETER WALSH
PART TIME OFFICER



Tel 413-423-3310
police@erving-ma.org

ARTHUR JOHNSON
ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

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aco@erving-ma.org

TOWN BUILDINGS CONTACT INFORMATION

SENIOR & COMMUNITY CENTER/ COUNCIL ON AGING

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SARAH MEUSE
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JOSEPH BUCCI
COUNCIL ON AGING

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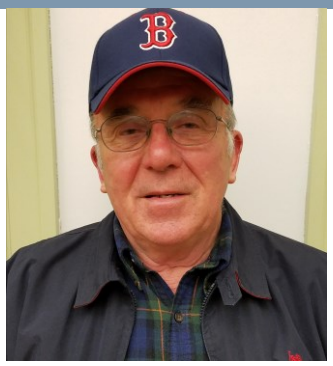
coa@erving-ma.org

DENNIS WONSEY
COUNCIL ON AGING



Tel 413-423-3649
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GARY BETTERS
COUNCIL ON AGING

Tel 413-423-3649
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WILLIAM MEUSE
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TOWN BUILDINGS CONTACT INFORMATION

KATHIE CURNICK
COUNCIL ON AGING

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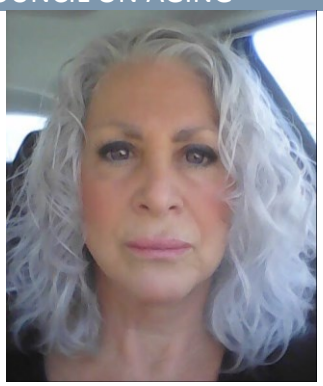
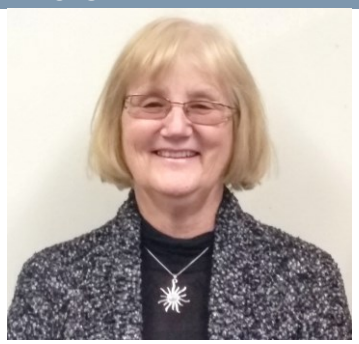
DENISE MAYNARD
COUNCIL ON AGING



Tel 413-423-3649
coa@erving-ma.org

PUBLIC LIBRARY / BOARD OF TRUSTEES

BARBARA FRIEDMAN
DIRECTOR



Tel 413-423-3348
library.barbara.friedman@erving-ma.org

JEAN DALEY
ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN

PHOTO UNAVAILABLE

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TOWN BUILDINGS CONTACT INFORMATION

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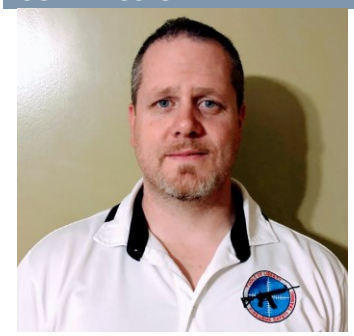
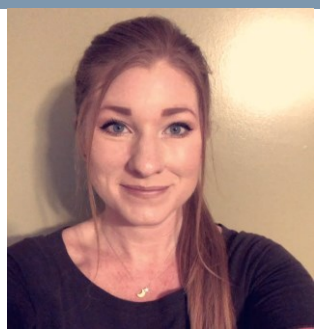
PHOTO UNAVAILABLE	PHOTO UNAVAILABLE	PHOTO UNAVAILABLE
Tel 413-423-3348 libtrustee@erving-ma.org	**Tel** 413-423-3348 libtrustee@erving-ma.org	**Tel** telephone libtrustee@erving-ma.org

RECREATION COMMISSION

RENEE TELA RECREATION COMMISSION CHAIR	JILL BETTERS RECREATION COMMISSIONER	ERIK EICHORN RECREATION COMMISSIONER
PHOTO UNAVAILABLE		
Tel 413-422-1187 recreation@erving-ma.org	**Tel** 413-422-1187 recreation@erving-ma.org	**Tel** 413-422-1187 recreation@erving-ma.org

TOWN BUILDINGS CONTACT INFORMATION

JEFF ROLLINS RECREATION COMMISSIONER	ALISON ROLLINS RECREATION ASSISTANT
	
Tel 413-422-1187 recreation@erving-ma.org	**Tel** telephone recreation@erving-ma.org

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Springfield, MA 01103
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United States Junior Senator
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United States Congressman
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Northampton, MA 01060
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Governor of Massachusetts
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State House – Room 280
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Senator in General Court
Stan Rosenberg
State House – Room 320
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