

Annual Report Town of Hopkinton, New Hampshire 2011



PUBLIC NOTICE

Restoration of Involuntary Merged Lots

If you own real estate lots that were involuntarily merged by municipal action, you may be able to have those lots restored to their pre-merger status.

Your property may qualify if two or more lots were involuntarily merged for zoning, assessing, or taxation purposes and the merger occurred:

- During your ownership, without your consent, or
- Prior to your ownership, if no previous owner consented to the merger.

To restore your property to pre-merger status, you must:

- Make a request to the local governing body
- No later than December 31, 2016.

Once restored:

- Your properties will once again become separate lots; however, they must still conform to applicable land use ordinances. Restoration does not cure non-conformity.

This notice must be:

- Posted continuously in a public place from January 1, 2012 until December 31, 2016, and
- Published in the 2011 through 2015 Annual Report.

Read the full statute at [RSA 674:39-aa Restoration of Involuntary Merged Lots](#).

About the Front Cover:

Photographs (top left to right)

Hopkinton Ladder Truck (photo: Rick Schaefer)
St. Andrew's Church (photo: Robin Buchanan)
View from top of Gould Hill (photo: Robin Buchanan)

(bottom left to right) Contoocook River at Bohanan Farm (photo: Bob LaPree)
Hopkinton Historical Society (photo: Robin Buchanan)
Hopkinton Police Dept. Sign (photo: Robin Buchanan)

About the Back Cover:

Photograph

Contoocook River

Thank you to all the photographers for their contribution to this report.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Individual reports are written by the Department Heads and the Committee and Board Chairs. The School District reports are prepared by school staff and elected officials. School Business Administrator Michelle Clark prepared the graphs for the school financial section. The Town Report is assembled by Administrative Assessing Assistant Robin Buchanan. Thank you to all who helped create this report.



HOPKINTON



Annual Town and School Report 2011

Incorporated: 1765
Website: www.hopkinton-nh.gov

Population: 5,589 (EOP Estimate)
Land Area: 43.3 square miles

Dedication

A Sense of Community

What is a “Sense of Community”? Many of us use the term. But what does it mean? One definition that we like is: *A feeling that members have of belonging, a feeling that members matter to one another and to the group, and a shared faith that members’ needs will be met through their commitment to be together.*¹ A question that follows is: How would we know if Hopkinton has this quality?

The current recession reminds us that some of our residents live “on the edge”. Their basic economic well-being, the ability to feed their families and heat their homes, is in doubt when the economy slows down. Regardless of the economic condition, we’re also reminded of how we all live “on the edge”. Personal tragedies can cause us to make changes we would never have previously considered. Think serious injuries, death of a family member or a fire that destroys a home.

Part of the definition above was “*a feeling that members matter to one another and to the group*”. How would our Townspeople respond to their neighbors who were pushed over the edge? Would they volunteer their services to help others who need help? Would they give financial assistance to those who need it, if they are able?

The Board of Selectmen would like to share with you the “random acts of kindness” we learned of during 2011. Needless to say, there have been many more.

- More than 1 anonymous donor helped residents with tragic personal circumstances
- A man walking in off the street giving money and saying use it for someone who needs it
- People giving money to use toward taxes of those having difficulty
- Neighbors from all around helping a family whose home was devastated by fire
- 30 volunteers split and put up 20 cords of wood at the Sean Powers Wood Bank
- Residents willing to do small jobs for elderly who have no one to help them
- 150 residents give \$19,000 to The Contoocook Carry Fund for fuel assistance
- A person who delivers cooked meals to many at Thanksgiving and baskets at Christmas
- The Food Bank continues its many year history of weekly food distributions
- High School Interact students volunteer to help our seniors when necessary
- Neighbors shoveling walkways during heavy snowstorms
- Coat drives
- A firefighter on his own time delivering his own wood to a person with no power and then helping to start stove
- Giving out backpacks and supplies to school age children

Dedication-Continued

- The police buying groceries for an elderly couple with money collected among the department
- All the churches in town helping in many ways
- The highway department sanding areas for first responders in emergency situations
- The many good works of community organizations

“A feeling that members matter to one another and to the group”. That seems right to us. It makes us proud and happy to live in a town where “A Sense of Community” is alive and well. For that reason, we would like to dedicate this Annual Report to the people of Hopkinton, for their generosity and volunteer service.

1. McMillan, D. (1976). Sense of community: An attempt at definition. Unpublished manuscript, George Peabody College for Teachers, Nashville, TN.



Volunteers working at the Sean Powers Wood Bank at the Transfer Station one Saturday in October.

In Appreciation

The Town of Hopkinton is fortunate to have a very dedicated talented staff who are managed on a day-to-day basis by Department Heads. This year, four of the Department Heads left the Town after varying years of service. We would like to thank them for their service to the Town and wish them well in their future endeavors.

Name	Position	Years of Service
Justin LaVigne	Recreation Director	4
Robert “Bob” Blanchette	Finance Director	9
Harold “Herm” Blanchette	Superintendent of Public Works	25
Sue Strickford	Town Clerk/Tax Collector	40



Sue Strickford received her 35 year membership award from the NH Tax Collector’s Association from George West in October 2008.

Table of Contents

Dedication	1
In Appreciation	3
Town Officials and Employees	
Town Officials	8
Town Employees	14
Results of the 2011 Town Meeting	
2011 Town Meeting Minutes	18
2011 Administrative Reports	
Report of the Board of Selectmen	36
Report of the Town Administrator	37
2011 Department, Board, Committee and Supported Organization Reports	
Budget Committee	40
Capital Area Fire Compact	41
Cemetery Trustees	43
Conservation Commission	43
Central NH Regional Planning Commission	45
Economic Development Committee	47
Greener Hopkinton	47
Hopkinton/Webster Recycling Committee	48
Hopkinton Rescue Squad	49
Fire Department	50
Fire Station Study Committee	51
Fire Wardens Report	52
Human Services	53
Library	54
Open Space Committee	55
Planning Department	56
Parks & Recreation Department	58
Police Department	59
Public Works Department	
Highways	61
Building & Grounds	61
Wastewater Department	62
Hopkinton/Webster Municipal Solid Waste	63
Town Clerk/Tax Collector	66
Items for Action at Town Meeting (BLUE PAGES)	
2012 Town Meeting Warrant and Narrative Warrant	
2012 Town Meeting Warrant	68
2012 Narrative Warrant	74
2012 Proposed Budget (MS-7)	82

Table of Contents - Continued

Financials

Report of the Treasurer	92
Detailed Statement of Expenditures – 2011	93
Tax Collector Report (MS-61)	103
Town Clerk Report	104
Library Financial Report	105
Conservation Commission Financial Report	105
Capital Reserve Fund Account Balances	106
Trust Fund Reports	
Trust Fund, Expendable and Precinct Fund (MS-9)	107
Statement of Assets (MS-10)	109
Assessing Report	111
Schedule of Town, School and Precinct Property	113
2011 Tax Rate Calculations	115
Schedule of Debt	117

2010 Independent Auditor's Report

Audit Table of Contents	121
-------------------------	-----

2011 Vital Statistics

Births	162
Deaths	163
Marriages	164

Contoocook Village Precinct

Report of the Precinct Commissioners	166
Budget of the Village Precinct (MS-37)	167

Hopkinton Village Precinct

Budget of the Village Precinct (MS-37)	174
2012 Precinct Meeting Warrant	180

Hopkinton School District Report (GREEN PAGES)

School District Table of Contents	182 – S2
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Notes

Town Officials and Employees



Town Officials

Elected Town Officials

BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

George A. Langwasser, Vice Chair	Term Expires 2012
Tom Congoran	Term Expires 2013
Bryan Pellerin	Term Expires 2013
Denis Goddard	Term Expires 2014
James O'Brien, Chair	Term Expires 2014

BUDGET COMMITTEE:

David Lancaster	Term Expires 2012
Timothy Carney	Term Expires 2013
Karen Irwin	Term Expires 2013
Janet Krzyzaniak, Chair	Term Expires 2013
John Greabe (resigned 10/2011)	Term Expires 2014
Lance Whitehead (to replace Greabe until March 2012)	
Michael Montore	Term Expires 2014
Tom Congoran	For the Select Board
Thomas O'Donnell	For the Hopkinton Village Precinct
Mark Hemmerlein	For the Contoocook Village Precinct
David Luneau	For the School Board
Denise A. Damour	Recording Secretary

CEMETERY TRUSTEES:

Sara McNeil, Chair	Term Expires 2012
Patricia A. Cass Smith	Term Expires 2013
Nancy Miner	Term Expires 2014

LIBRARY TRUSTEES:

Peter Gagnon	Term Expires 2012
Barry Needleman, Chair	Term Expires 2012
Jeff Eitrem	Term Expires 2013
Christine Hamm	Term Expires 2014
Elaine Loft	Term Expires 2014

MODERATOR:

Gary Richardson	Term Expires 2013
Bruce Ellsworth, Assistant	Appointed

SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST:

Sandra J. Smart	Term Expires 2012
Sharon C. Baker	Term Expires 2014
Carol McCann	Term Expires 2016

TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR:

Sue Strickford	Term Expires 2013
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Town Officials - continued

TREASURER:

Bonita Cressy	Term Expires 2014
Nancy Remick, Deputy	Appointed

TRUSTEES OF TRUST FUNDS:

Christine B. Hoyt	Term Expires 2012
Christine Barton	Term Expires 2013
James Lewis	Term Expires 2014

Appointed Town Officials

CENTRAL NH REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION:

Bethann McCarthy	Term Expires 2013
Timothy Britain, Alternate	

CHIEF OF POLICE

Stephen Pecora

CONSERVATION COMMISSION:

Erick Leadbeater	Term Expires 2012
Jed Merrow, Treasurer	Term Expires 2012
Leland Wilder	Term Expires 2012
Ronald Klemarczyk	Term Expires 2013
Robert Knight	Term Expires 2013
Derek Owen, Chair	Term Expires 2014
Tim White	Term Expires 2014
Byron Carr, Alternate	Term Expires 2012
Lori Sommers, Alternate	Term Expires 2013

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE:

Bruce Ellsworth	Term Expires 2012
Josh Katteff	Term Expires 2012
Darrah Madden	Term Expires 2012
Bob Gerseny, Chair	Term Expires 2013
Judy Hampe	Term Expires 2013
Cettie Connolly, Secretary	Term Expires 2014
Christopher Hodgdon	Term Expires 2014
Brian Lavoie	Term Expires 2014
Bryan Pellerin	For the Select Board

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR

Stephen Pecora

FENCE VIEWERS

Richard Drescher	Richard Strickford
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Town Officials - continued

FINANCE DIRECTOR

Robert Blanchette (Resigned 9/2011)

Deborah Gallant (Effective 10/2011)

FIRE CHIEF

Richard Schaefer

FIRE STATION STUDY COMMITTEE (Ad-hoc – Appointed by the Selectmen)

Jane Bradstreet

Danny Coen

Lester Cressy

Robert Daprice

Tom Krzyzaniak

Jason LaCombe

John Pianka

FIREWARDS:

Tom Krzyzaniak

Robert White

FOREST FIRE WARDEN

Robert White

DEPUTY FOREST FIRE WARDENS:

Christopher Boudette

Matthew Cox

Christopher Gow

Ryan Hughes

Richard Schaefer

Kevin Culpon

Sean Weldon

Douglas Mumford

Nate Martel

GREENER HOPKINTON COMMITTEE:

Chris Aslin

Risa Evans

Judy Fayre

Nancy Jackson-Reno

Mary Leadbeater

Bethann McCarthy, Chair

Jack Ruderman

Denis Goddard, For the Select Board

HEALTH OFFICER

Neal Cass

HOPKINTON-WEBSTER REFUSE COMMITTEE:

Hopkinton Representatives:

Bob LaPree

Term Expires 2012

Karen Irwin

Term Expires 2013

Richard Kennedy

Term Expires 2014

Webster Representatives:

Tom Mullins

Term Expires 2012

Bob Drown, Sr.

Term Expires 2013

Barbara Corliss, Chair

Term Expires 2014

Ellen Kontinos-Cilley, Alternate

Term Expires 2012

David Klum, Alternate

Term Expires 2013

Sally Embley, Alternate

Term Expires 2014

Steve Clough, Asst. Superintendent (ex-officio)

Town Officials - continued

HUMAN SERVICES DIRECTOR

Marilyn Ceriello Bresaw

LIBRARY DIRECTOR

Donna Dunlop

OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE:

Lucia Kittredge	Term Expires 2012
Susan Zankel	Term Expires 2012
Dijit Taylor, Chair	Term Expires 2013
Ronald Klemarczyk	Term Expires 2014
Denis Goddard	For the Select Board

MUNICIPAL OPERATIONS IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE (MOIC)

Joy Bloomfield	Term Expires 2012
Anthony Walker	Term Expires 2012
Jason Lacombe, Chair	Term Expires 2013
Lester Cressy	Term Expires 2014
Vacant	Term Expires 2014

PLANNING BOARD:

Jane Bradstreet	Term Expires 2012
Bruce Ellsworth, Chair	Term Expires 2012
Beth Ann McCarthy	Term Expires 2012
Timothy Britain, Vice Chair	Term Expires 2013
Michael Wilkey	Term Expires 2013
Celeste Hemingson	Term Expires 2014
George Langwasser	For the Select Board

Alternates:

Vacant	Term Expires 2012
Cettie Connolly	Term Expires 2013
Edwin Taylor	Term Expires 2014

PLANNING DIRECTOR

Karen Robertson

RECREATION COMMITTEE:

Steve Crawford	Term Expires 2012
Jim Lewis	Term Expires 2012
Vernon Miller	Term Expires 2012
Louise Carr	Term Expires 2013
Ed Kerr, Chair	Term Expires 2013
Jim Martin	Term Expires 2013
Mark Newton	Term Expires 2014
Ann Wayland	Term Expires 2014
Vacant	Term Expires 2014
James O'Brien	For the Select Board
Jessica Bailey, Recreation Director (ex-officio)	

Town Officials - continued

RECREATION DIRECTOR

Justin LaVigne (Resigned 5/2011)

Jessica Bailey (Effective 5/2011)

RECYCLING COMMITTEE:

Ginni Haines	Term Expires 2012
Mary Leadbeater	Term Expires 2012
Sara Crane	Term Expires 2013
Vacant	Term Expires 2013
Bob LaPree	Term Expires 2014
Katherine Mitchell	Term Expires 2014
Denis Goddard	For the Select Board
Sally Embley	Webster Representative
Steve Clough, Asst. Superintendent (ex-officio)	

SENIOR RECREATION COUNCIL

Judy Sanborn	Term Expires 2012
Joanne Woodward	Term Expires 2012
Marilyn Bresaw	Term Expires 2013
Gloria Symonds, Chair	Term Expires 2013
June Garvin	Term Expires 2014
Elaine Lambert	Term Expires 2014
Jack Ward	Term Expires 2014

SEWER COMMITTEE:

Lloyd Holmes	Term Expires 2012
Richard Strickford	Term Expires 2013
Richard Drescher	Term Expires 2014
Stuart Nelson	Term Expires 2014
George Langwasser	For the Select Board
Steve Clough, Asst. Superintendent (ex-officio)	

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Harold (Herm) Blanchette (Resigned 10/2011)

John Thayer (Effective 1/2012)

ASST. SUPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS: BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

Greg Roberts

ASST. SUPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS: HIGHWAYS

Robert McCabe

ASST. SUPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS: WASTE

Steve Clough

Town Employees

DEPARTMENT	POSITION	STATUS
CEMETERIES		
Jerrold Babson	Sexton	Part Time
FIRE DEPARTMENT		
Matthew Cox	FF/EMT I	Full Time
Kevin Culpon	Lieutenant/FF/Paramedic	Full Time
Donald Delude		Part Time
Christopher Gow	FF/EMT I	Full Time
Thatcher Plante		Part Time
Ryan Hughes	FF/Paramedic	Full Time
Nate Martel	FF/Paramedic	Full Time
Doug Mumford	FF/Paramedic	Full Time
Rick Schaefer	Fire Chief/FF/EMT	Full Time
LIBRARY		
Charlotte De Bell	Reference Librarian	Part Time
Karen Dixon	Reference Librarian	Full Time
Donna V. Dunlop	Library Director	Full Time
Missy (Bernice)Dustin (Resigned 6/2011)	Reference Librarian	Part Time
Patrice Gerseny (Resigned 4/2011)	Library Aide II	Part Time
Leigh Maynard	Children's Librarian	Part Time
Nancy Nobis	Library Aide I	Part Time
Nancy Raymond	Library Aide I	Part Time
Emily Welsh	Library Floater	Part Time
RECREATION		
Jessica Bailey	Recreation Director	Full Time
PLANNING, ZONING, CODE ENFORCEMENT		
Karen Robertson	Planning Director	Full Time
John Pianka	Code Enforcement	Part Time
POLICE DEPARTEMENT		
Robert Arseneault	Corporal	Full Time
Frederick Finnerty	Animal Control Officer	Part Time
Patricia Finnerty	Secretary	Part Time
Thomas Hennessey	Corporal	Full Time
Phillip Hill	Patrolman	Part Time
Nicholas McNutt	Patrolman	Full Time
Brian O'Connor	Patrolman	Full Time
Stephen Pecora	Police Chief	Full Time
William Simpson	Sergeant	Full Time

Town Employees - Continued

DEPARTMENT	POSITION	STATUS
PUBLIC WORKS – BUILDINGS & GROUNDS		
Garrett Hoyt	Bldg. Maint./Equip. Operator I	Full Time
Robert Poole	Custodian	Part Time
Greg Roberts	Asst. Supt. PW-Bldgs & Grounds	Full Time
David Story	Equipment Operator I	Part Time
PUBLIC WORKS – HIGHWAYS		
Kent Barton	Mechanic	Full Time
Daniel Blanchette	Equipment Operator II	Full Time
Herm Blanchette (Resigned 10/11)	Supt. of Public Works	Full Time
Brian Cayer	Equipment Operator II	Full Time
Thomas John Geer	Equipment Operator I	Full Time
James Henley	Equipment Operator II	Part Time
Robert McCabe	Asst. Supt. PW-Highway	Full Time
Adam Pearson	Equipment Operator I	Part Time
John Poole	Equipment Operator I	Full Time
PUBLIC WORKS – WASTEWATER/MSW/TRANSFER STATION		
Stephen Clough	Asst. Supt. PW-Waste	Full Time
Jolene Cochrane	MSW Facility Supervisor	Full Time
Christina Crawford	MSW Facility Operator	Full Time
Joseph Crawford	MSW Facility Attendant	Part Time
Robert Davis	MSW Facility Attendant	Part Time
Lindsay Emerson	MSW Facility Attendant	Part Time
Harb Harrison	MSW Facility Attendant	Part Time
Nicolay Hubbard	MSW Facility Attendant	Part-time
Tammy Junkins	MSW Facility Attendant	Part Time
Elizabeth A Murphy	MSW Facility Attendant	Part Time
Justin Robie	MSW Facility Attendant	Part Time
Jason Silver	MSW Facility Attendant	Part Time
SELECTMEN'S OFFICE		
Robert Blanchette (Resigned 9/2011)	Financial Director	Full Time
Deborah Gallant (Effective 10/2011)	Financial Director	Full Time
Marilyn Ceriello Bresaw	Human Services Director	Full Time
Robin Buchanan	Administrative Assessing Assistant	Full Time
Neal A. Cass	Town Administrator	Full Time
Bonnie Cressy	Finance Clerk	Part Time
Denise Damour	Budget Recording Secretary	Part Time
TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR'S OFFICE		
Melissa Courser	Assistant	Full Time
Carol Harless	Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector	Full Time
Patrice LaVigne	Town Meeting Scribe	Part Time
Sue Strickford	Town Clerk/Tax Collector	Full Time

Notes

Results of the 2011 Town Meeting



Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting – March 8 & 19, 2011

Moderator Gary Richardson called the Annual Meeting of the Town of Hopkinton to order on March 19, 2011, at 9:05 a.m. in the Hopkinton High School gymnasium. Boy Scout Troop 77 and Cub Scout Pack 77 presented the flag and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Kathy Donohoe sang the National Anthem. The moderator introduced the officials present: Selectman Chairman James O'Brien, Selectman Thomas Congoran, Selectman George Langwasser, Selectman Christopher Lawless, Selectman Bryan Pellerin, Town Administrator Neal Cass and Finance Director Robert Blanchette. The moderator introduced Town Counsel, Sharon Somers, who is present should legal questions arise. The moderator introduced the Town Clerk/Tax Collector, Sue Strickford, her assistant scribe, Patrice La Vigne, and Bruce Ellsworth, the Town's assistant moderator. The moderator introduced those at the Supervisor's Table—Carol McCann, Sandra Smart, Sharon Baker and Bonnie Cressy.

The moderator recognized those who helped with the meeting logistics, including Rick Fortier and the custodial staff at the school, Steve Lux for doing the sound and the Highway Department for help setting up the room.

The moderator went over parliamentary procedures and reviewed differences from the School District Meeting. He said when someone makes a motion to reconsider an article, the person needs to be on the prevailing side of the vote and the item will be reconsidered today. He also noted that any 5 voters can request a written ballot and need to be present at the meeting. He explained for written ballots, there will be 4 boxes and 2 clerks at each box. One clerk will put a check mark on the voter's sticker and the other clerk will handle the paper ballot. No one is allowed within 8 feet of the box. Any person can make a motion to move the question in order to end debate, but the moderator will consider allowing people already standing in line to speak.

The moderator read the results of the March 8 election and noted that all articles on the written ballot passed.

Selectmen – Two for a 3-year term

DENIS GODDARD – 368

JAMES O'BRIEN – 372

Treasurer – One for a 3-year term

BONITA CRESSY - 462

Budget Committee – Two for a 3-year term

JOHN GREABE – 362

MICHAEL MONTORE – 371

Library Trustee – Two for a 3-year term

CHRISTINE HAMM – 454

ELAINE LOFT - 80

Cemetery Trustee – One for a 3-year term

NANCY MINER – 439

Trustee of Trust Funds – One for a 3-year term

JAMES LEWIS - 40

Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting – March 8 & 19, 2011 - continued

Article 2: To see what action the Town will take with respect to the following proposed amendments to the Hopkinton Zoning Ordinance by ballot vote upon the following questions:

- Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 1 as proposed by the Planning Board (6-0) for the Town of Hopkinton Zoning Ordinance as follows:

Amend Section VII. Sign Ordinance by repealing the current Sign Ordinance and replacing it with a new ordinance entitles the same. The new ordinance addresses signs prohibited, signs allowed and exempt from permit requirements, signs requiring permits, design, construction and maintenance of signs, non-residential lot signage plan, sign area and height computations, signs permitted in residential and non-residential districts, signs for multiple principal uses or building on a lot, free-standing directory signs, temporary off-premises signs, agriculture and farming signs, sign illumination, architectural design review, and change of tenet signs.

(The Planning Board recommends this amendment).

Yes - 388 No - 96

- 2. Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 2 as proposed by the Planning Board (6-0) for the Town of Hopkinton Zoning Ordinance as follows:

Amend Section II. Definitions by replacing the current definitions of various signs with new definition so that the language coincides with the types of signage referenced in amended Section VII of the Zoning Ordinance. This amendment will also include a definition of the word “person” and will require the renumbering of all subsequent definitions.

(The Planning Board recommends this amendment).

Yes - 390 No – 93

Article 3: The moderator recognized Chairman O’Brien for the purpose of moving Article 3, seconded by Selectman Langwasser, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the budget committee’s recommended amount of **\$1,014,625** for General Government Operations.

(Majority vote required)

<u>General Government Functions</u>	<u>Budget Committee and Selectmen</u>
Executive	\$ 226,055
Election, Registrations, Vital Stats. & Tax Coll.	260,297
Financial Administration	119,207
Assessing	57,800
Legal	28,500
Personnel Administration	22,500
Planning & Zoning Departments	116,713
Cemeteries	43,524
Insurance	138,029
Economic Development Committee	<u>2,000</u>
TOTAL	\$ 1,014,625

Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting – March 8 & 19, 2011 - continued

Chairman O'Brien first recognized Selectman Lawless, who has been on the Board of Selectman for three years and decided not to run for a second term. Chairman O'Brien said the job of a Selectman can be challenging at times, with unplanned conversations with other residents to discuss town business at the grocery store or gas station, in addition to the long Monday night meetings. He said Selectman Lawless was often on the opposing side of the vote at the Board of Selectmen meetings, always watching the bottom line and guiding the financial decisions. Chairman O'Brien gave Selectman Lawless a plaque as a token of appreciation for his service.

Chairman O'Brien presented a general overview of the 2011 budget. He said they started the process back in October and even beforehand, when the Board of Selectmen asked the department heads to submit their budgets. From there, the Board of Selectmen put together their budget recommendations, warrant articles, capital improvement program and worked with the Budget Committee to come up with the lowest increase for taxpayers to present at Town Meeting. He directed the Town to note that the Town budget represents 19% of the overall budget, in comparison to more than 60% for the school. The biggest increase in the Town's operating budget were the line items for the paving of roads, which was underfunded last year even though the Public Works Department is the Town's largest department, bond payments, benefit costs, and certain wage salary increases, as a salary survey revealed some town employees were underpaid. Overall, the operating budget increased 2.1 percent, or \$114,614, from \$5.4 million to \$5.5 million. In terms of warrant articles and capital improvement funding, there's an increase of \$174,236 for 2011, mainly due to fully funding capital reserve and trust fund accounts and the payoff of the Bohanan Farm. This year, the Board of Selectmen is recommending using up to \$580,537 from the 2010 unreserved fund balance, which represents funds leftover from specific line items under each town department. This will offset the taxes. Chairman O'Brien said there is an increase in the Town's budget this year, but the 2011 tax level was still able to remain at \$5.05 per \$1,000 of assessed value, which is the same as 2010. For 2011, though, less revenue is expected and the Board of Selectmen plan to make sure all town departments are spending their money well and will go over each line item in great detail.

Karen Irwin from the Budget Committee added that the increase in the overall budget is \$288,850, or 4.8%.

The moderator called for a voice vote and declared Article 3 passed.

Article 4: The moderator called on Selectman Congoran for the purpose of moving Article 4, seconded by Selectman Langwasser, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the budget committee's recommended amount of **\$1,466,105** for Public Safety Operations.

(Majority Vote Required)

The Board of Selectmen recommends this article (5-0).

Budget Committee recommends this article (9-0).

<u>Public Safety Operations</u>	<u>Budget Committee and Selectmen</u>
Police Department	\$ 670,249
Animal Control	7,255
Ambulance	539,713

Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting – March 8 & 19, 2011 - continued

Fire Department	240,112
Rescue Squad	8,775
Emergency Management	1
TOTAL	\$ 1,466,105

There was no debate on the article.

The moderator called for a voice vote and declared Article 4 passed.

Article 5: The moderator recognized Selectman Langwasser for the purpose of moving Article 5, seconded by Selectman Pellerin, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the budget committee’s recommended amount of **\$2,112,536** for Public Works Operations.

(Majority Vote Required)

<u>Public Works Operations</u>	<u>Budget Committee and Selectmen</u>
Highway Administration	\$ 566,873
Highways & Streets	632,000
Buildings & Grounds	226,083
Street Lighting	1,800
Transfer Station Operations	534,325
Landfill Maintenance & Monitoring	47,500
Sewer Department	103,955
TOTAL	\$ 2,112,536

There was no debate on the article.

The moderator called for a voice vote and declared Article 5 passed.

Article 6: The moderator called on Selectman Pellerin for the purpose of moving Article 6, seconded by Selectman Congoran, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the budget committee’s recommended amount of **\$123,489** for Health and Human Services Operations.

(Majority Vote Required)

<u>Health & Human Services Operations</u>	<u>Budget Committee and Selectmen</u>
Community Action Program (CAP)	\$ 5,552
Human Services Administration	65,687
Human Services Vendors	52,250
TOTAL	\$ 123,489

There was no debate on the article.

The moderator called for a voice vote and declared Article 6 passed.

Article 7: The moderator recognized Selectman Lawless for the purpose of moving Article 7, seconded by Chairman O’Brien, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the budget committee’s recommended amount of **\$123,593** for Recreation Operations.

(Majority Vote Required)

<u>Recreation Operations</u>	<u>Budget Committee and Selectmen</u>
Recreation Department	\$ 120,843
Patriotic Purposes	2,750
TOTAL	\$ 123,593

Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting – March 8 & 19, 2011 - continued

Selectman Lawless recognized that the recreation director said three years ago he would work to fully fund summer camp out of the recreation department revolving fund. Beginning this year, as promised, the department will solely fund summer camp and no taxpayer money will go toward the camp. He added that the recreation budget is actually lower than it was three years ago.

There was no further discussion on the article.

The moderator called for a voice vote and declared Article 7 passed.

Article 8: The moderator recognized Chairman O'Brien for the purpose of moving Article 8, seconded by Selectman Langwasser, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the budget committee's recommended amount of **\$281,265** for the Hopkinton Library.

(Majority Vote Required)

<u>Library Operations</u>	<u>Budget Committee and Selectmen</u>
Hopkinton Library	\$ 281,265
TOTAL	\$ 281,265

There was no debate on the article.

The moderator called for a voice vote and declared Article 8 passed.

Article 9: The moderator called on Selectman Congoran for the purpose of moving Article 9, seconded by Selectman Lawless, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the budget committee's recommended amount of **\$1** for Conservation.

(Majority Vote Required)

<u>Conservation</u>	<u>Budget Committee and Selectmen</u>
Conservation Commission	\$ 1
TOTAL	\$ 1

There was no debate on the article.

The moderator called for a voice vote and declared Article 9 passed.

Article 10: The moderator called on Selectman Langwasser for the purpose of moving Article 10, seconded by Chairman O'Brien, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the budget committee's recommended amount of **\$400,152** for payment of Principle and Interest of long-term debt.

(Majority Vote Required)

<u>Long-term Debt & TAN Interest</u>	<u>Budget Committee and Selectmen</u>
Principle – Bonds and Notes	\$ 291,363
Interest – Bonds and Notes	106,789
Interest – TAN	2,000
TOTAL	\$ 400,152

There was no debate on the article.

The moderator called for a voice vote and declared Article 10 passed.

Article 11: The moderator called on Selectman Pellerin for the purpose of moving Article 11, seconded by Selectman Congoran, to see if the Town will vote to amend the purpose of the Public Safety Services Revolving Fund established pursuant to RSA 31:95-h I (c) in March 2006 such that the purpose shall be for public safety special details and fire and police vehicle

Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting – March 8 & 19, 2011 - continued

replacement. All revenues received for public safety special details will be deposited into the fund and the money in the fund shall be allowed to accumulate from year to year, and shall not be considered part of the town's general fund unreserved fund balance. The town treasurer shall have custody of all moneys in the fund, and shall pay out the same only upon order of the selectmen and no further approval is required by the legislative body to expend. Such funds may be expended only for the purpose as stated in this article.

(Majority Vote Required)

There was no debate on this article.

The moderator called for a voice vote and declared Article 11 passed.

Article 12: The moderator called on Chairman O'Brien for the purpose of moving Article 12, seconded by Selectman Langwasser, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of three hundred twenty-seven thousand (**\$327,000**) to be placed in previously established Capital Reserve funds. \$224,000 to come from fund balance (surplus) and the remainder to be raised from taxation. Funds to be placed in the Capital Reserve Funds as follows:

<u>Capital Reserve Accounts</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Fire Vehicles and Equipment	\$ 105,000
Public Works Vehicles and Equipment	115,000
Police Radio Replacement	7,000
Replacement of Transfer Station Equipment	25,000
Police Cruiser and Accessories Equipment	25,000
Expansion of the Highway Garage	17,000
Library Replacement Building Systems	15,000
Town Hall Renovations	9,000
Sludge Removal	<u>9,000</u>
TOTAL	\$327,000

(Majority Vote Required)

Chairman O'Brien made a motion to amend Article 12 by removing the police cruiser and accessories line item of \$25,000, thus changing the total amount to be appropriated to \$302,000 and the amount to come from fund balance to \$199,000. Selectman Lawless seconded the motion.

Chairman O'Brien explained that the reason for the amendment is because the Town voted yes on Article 11 for the police cruiser.

The moderator called for a voice vote on the motion to amend and declared the motion passed. There was no further amendment or discussion.

The moderator called for a voice vote and declared Article 12 as amended passed.

Article 13: The moderator called on Selectman Lawless for the purpose of moving Article 13, seconded by Chairman O'Brien, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of twelve thousand dollars (**\$12,000**) to be placed in previously established Expendable General Trust Funds as follows:

Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting – March 8 & 19, 2011 - continued

<u>Expendable General Trust Funds</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Hopkinton Library Technology	\$ 5,000
Recreation Facilities	2,000
Library Building/Grounds	<u>5,000</u>
TOTAL	\$ 12,000

(Majority Vote Required)

There was no discussion on Article 13.

The moderator called for a voice vote and declared Article 13 passed.

Article 14: The moderator called on Selectman Congoran for the purpose of moving Article 14, seconded by Chairman O'Brien, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of fifty-eight thousand, nine hundred sixty-five dollars (**\$58,965**) for the purpose of offsetting the cost of collection and disposal of residential solid waste and such other direct costs as budgeted annually and to authorize the withdrawal of this sum from the Pay by Bag Fund (Revenue Fund) established for this purpose at the 2010 town meeting to fund this appropriation. No funds to be raised by taxation.

(Majority Vote Required)

Selectman Congoran said that this fund contains the revenue from the sale of pay-by-bag bags and this article allows these funds to be used to offset the costs of the Transfer Station. .

Arnold Coda asked if these funds represented all the money set aside from the pay-by-bag program or if there were still funds left elsewhere. Mr. Blanchette said there will be a zero balance in this account after the vote is passed. David Lancaster asked if this was the amount as of today or as of the day it was presented to the Budget Committee. Town Administrator Neal Cass said this is the amount as of Jan. 31. There is some money that has come in since then.

Jeff Marance asked what was the exact amount in the account as of today. He also asked what happened if pay-by-bag was rescinded. Selectman Congoran said if the pay-by-bag program was rescinded, they would have to move that money out of the fund.

Neal Cass said there is \$4,650 in additional revenue in February back sales.

David Boughton submitted a written motion to amend Article 14 by adding the language “on the current balance in the fund, whichever is greater” after \$58,965. David Lancaster seconded the motion to amend.

The moderator called for a voice vote twice on the motion to amend the article and said it was too close to tell. He then called for a standing vote.

There were 220 ayes and 100 nays in the standing vote, so the moderator declared the motion to amend Article 14 passed.

There was no further discussion on Article 14.

The moderator called for a voice vote on Article 14, as amended, and declared it passed.

Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting – March 8 & 19, 2011 - continued

Article 15: The moderator recognized Ken Wilkens for the purpose of moving Article 15, seconded by Beth Taylor, to see if the Town will vote to rescind Article 19 as amended that was approved at the March 2010 Hopkinton Town Meeting. Passage of this new 2011 warrant article will end the so-called “Pay by Bag” trash disposal program in its entirety. Cancellation of “Pay by Bag” will become effective on April 15, 2011.

*Submitted by Petition
(Majority Vote Required)*

The moderator said there had been a written petition for a paper ballot vote on Articles 15 and 16.

Denis Goddard gave a short presentation on the program to show that the pay-by-bag program is working. He said based on several months’ data since its implementation, the program has increased recycling rates and cut trash volume at the transfer station. He added that the Town needs a full year to see the benefits of the program. By extrapolating some of the data, he said there should be a \$0.13 reduction in tax burden this year.

Marion Paxton said she is not opposed to recycling, but opposed to the pay-by-bag program because it is an aggressive form of taxation on people with lower income. The savings on the tax bill will be less for residents who own lower-price range properties.

Cameron Ford asked the Selectmen if we are subsidizing Webster’s trash to be hauled away to the incinerator, since they do not participate in the pay-by-bag program. Selectman Langwasser said both towns pay \$70/ton, regardless of participation in the pay-by-bag program. Cameron Ford argued it does make a difference because they are not recycling. Selectman Langwasser said there are no statistics on how many people in Webster recycle.

George Camp asked how many residents in the Town of Hopkinton were participating in the program. Chairman O’Brien said all the residential trash in the Town that goes through the transfer station is required to be in the green bags under the program. George Camp asked again how many people in the Town were actually doing the program. Selectman Congoran said there are independent haulers hired by residents to pick up trash, so he cannot speak to how many residents participate in the pay-by-bag program.

Wendy Hayden supports recycling, but said the pay-by-bag program is flawed. The bags are expensive, yet they fall apart.

Karen Irwin, Chairman of the Landfill Committee, said the committee includes 3 Hopkinton residents and 3 Webster residents, and the Town should not anticipate that Webster will ever vote for a pay-by-bag program in their town. She said the committee asked that they contribute 24% to recycling revenue special fund, but they still have not put that warrant article up for a vote.

Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting – March 8 & 19, 2011 - continued

Cindy White said her family recycles everything they can, but the Town needs to expand what can be recycled.

Selectman Langwasser said the Board of Selectmen does not recommend rescinding the program. He said he himself was against the pay-by-bag program last year, but went along with it when the Town voted to support it. Now, his household has reduced their waste output from two 55-gallon containers to one 13-gallon bag per week. He understands the bags are not the best, but people are trying to cram too much into them. He stressed that the program has only been in effect since October and needs some time to show its benefits and stabilize trash costs at the transfer station. He said the Board of Selectmen will continue to work on the flaws of the program, including the bags.

David Lancaster wanted to clear up some misconceptions. People can go to Marilyn Ceriello Bresaw at Human Services for subsidized bags if they cannot afford them. Also, there are many Town residents who choose to utilize independent haulers. We are not subsidizing Webster because they pay for the transfer station costs through their property taxes. He also said a curbside recycling program is estimated to cost the Town \$250,000.

Vernon Miller made a motion to move the question.

The moderator ended discussion and instructed people to place their ballot vote.

Arnold Coda made a motion to skip over Articles 16 and 17 while the votes for Article 15 were counted. Lloyd Holmes seconded the motion.

The final count for Article 15 was 254 votes in the affirmative and 270 votes in the negative. There were 534 voters registered at the time of the vote.

The moderator declared Article 15 failed.

Janet Krzyzaniak made a motion to restrict reconsideration on Article 15, seconded by Louise Carr.

The moderator called for a voice vote and declared the motion passed.

Article 16: The moderator called on Bart Korbet for the purpose of moving Article 16, seconded by Jim Sykes, to see if the Town will rescind the “pay by bag” solid waste disposal program, which was passed as Article 19 at the 2010 Town Meeting. This program would be rescinded and shall be brought forward again only when and if all parties using the Hopkinton/Webster transfer station would participate.

*Submitted by Petition
(Majority Vote Required)*

Selectman Congoran asked Town Counsel Sharon Somers to step in and explain how this article would work, since it is conditional on other towns.

Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting – March 8 & 19, 2011 - continued

Sharon Somers said this article is almost identical to Article 15, but it is saying that the pay-by-bag program can only be brought back up if Webster also participates. She said, however, it would still be appropriate for the Town to bring the pay-by-bag program up at a Town Meeting and future meetings can undo the requirement. She said the Town of Hopkinton has no jurisdiction on another town.

Ron Klemarczyk said from what they are hearing, Webster is not excited about a pay-by-bag program, so the Town should vote Article 16 down. In the future, we need to consider “divorcing’ Webster.

Lloyd Holmes asked how long the Town’s contract with Webster was. Selectman Congoran said it was in perpetuity. He added the Town has investigated breaking the contract with Webster, but it has to be mutually negotiated by both towns, making it complicated and expensive.

David Boughton asked if the bag income reduced Webster’s costs. Selectman Congoran said indirectly it does.

Luciele Gaskill said Hopkinton and Webster go way back and it would be sad if the towns couldn’t work out an agreement and had to end our relationship, especially on this one issue.

Matt Taylor said the pay-by-bag program forces a user fee and where do you draw the line when you ask for user fees. The residents pay property taxes and expect certain services to be included in those costs.

The moderator called for the ballot vote to take place.

Arnold Coda made a motion to continue the meeting while waiting for the results. Charlie Desmarais seconded the motion.

The final count for Article 16 was 210 votes in the affirmative and 240 votes in the negative. There were 547 registered voters at the time of the vote.

The moderator declared Article 16 failed.

State representative Derek Owen made a motion to reconsider Article 16. Selectman Congoran seconded the motion.

The moderator called for a voice vote and declared the motion defeated.

Article 17: The moderator recognized Selectman Pellerin for the purpose of moving Article 17, seconded by Selectman Congoran, to see if the Town will vote to set the price of the official Pay-by-Bag bags as follows:

13 gallon bags	\$ 0.75
33 gallon bags	\$ 1.25

(Majority Vote Required)

Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting – March 8 & 19, 2011 - continued

Jim Hayes suggested in the future the Town think about free distribution of bags.

Nancy Rosborough asked if commercial properties used these bags. Selectman Pellerin said no, the pay-by-bag program was only for residential trash.

Louise Carr said the bag revenue thus far was \$58,000, so next year, it should be close to \$200,000. If the Town gave residents free bags, there would be no money to put toward the transfer station costs and the program would cost more.

David Lancaster suggested the Town vote yes to set the prices, but asked if the Board of Selectmen and the Recycling Committee could look into a better bag in the future.

Selectman Langwasser said they had heard the Town's complaints about the bags and they plan to look into the quality of the bags.

The moderator called for a voice vote and declared Article 17 passed.

Article 18: The moderator recognized Selectman Lawless for the purpose of moving Article 18, seconded by Chairman O'Brien, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred sixty-seven thousand dollars (**\$167,000**) to pay off the Bohanan Farm open space loan. This sum to come from fund balance (surplus) and no amount to be raised from taxation. *(Majority Vote Required)*

There was no discussion on Article 18.

The moderator called for a voice vote and declared Article 18 passed.

Article 19: The moderator called on Selectman Langwasser for the purpose of moving Article 19, seconded by Selectman Congoran, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred nine thousand seventy-four dollars (**\$109,074**) to purchase and install an emergency back-up power generator at the Hopkinton Middle/High School which serves as the community shelter and regional point of distribution (POD). Half this sum (\$54,537) to come from a grant from the NH Department of Safety, Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management with the other half (\$54,537) to come from fund balance (surplus) and no amount to be raised from taxation. Expenditure of these funds is contingent upon final grant approval and authorization. *(Majority Vote Required)*

Selectman Congoran explained that this vote was split among the Board of Selectmen. The ones who voted in favor of it thought it would be a good idea to take advantage of the Homeland Security funding. They cannot withdraw their vote, but they do feel that maybe this is not a good time in the economy to ask the town to pay for the generator.

Fire Chief Rick Schaefer said he filled out the paperwork for the matching government grant shortly after 9/11. The one thing the Town does not have to fulfill the requirements for the emergency community shelter was a generator. He has tried to get the Board of Selectmen to

Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting – March 8 & 19, 2011 - continued

agree on funding it and after many years, it finally made it to the floor. He stressed the importance of having an emergency community shelter with a generator because in past disaster situations, the Fire Department has not been able to help people.

Josh Kettaff asked if other towns would use the shelter and would they contribute funds.

Rick Schaefer said other towns would not contribute funds. Because the school is a Point of Distribution (POD) for surrounding towns, they would come to the school to receive medication distribution if needed. He noted that this was one of the reasons the Town got the application approved because it would be able to help other towns as well.

Merle Dustin asked what the operational costs for the generator were.

Selectman Lawless said it would be approximately \$1,000 annually for testing and fuel during the first 3 years. The electricity of the generator would be \$800 per year, but that cost would be absorbed by the school board budget.

Richard Gourley asked if this includes all the installation costs and a full load.

Selectman Lawless said yes, this includes the complete installation and one test, plus a full load of 250 kilowatts capacity.

The moderator called for a voice vote and declared Article 19 passed.

Article 20: The moderator recognized Selectman Pellerin for the purpose of moving Article 20, seconded by Chairman O'Brien, to see if the Town will vote to modify the Elderly Exemptions from property tax in the Town of Hopkinton based on assessed value, for qualified taxpayers, to be as follows: For a person 65 years of age up to 75 years, \$60,000; For a person 75 years of age up to 80 years, \$80,000; For a person 80 years of age or older, \$100,000. To qualify, the person must have been a New Hampshire resident for 5 consecutive years, own the real estate individually or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by such person's spouse, they must have been married for at least 5 consecutive years. In addition, the taxpayer must have a net income of not more than \$30,000 or, if married, a combined net income of not more than \$40,000; and own net assets not in excess of \$150,000 (excluding the value of the person's residence).
(Majority Vote Required)

David Boughton asked what the Town was changing from. Selectman Pellerin said the Town changed from a flat rate exemption of \$60,000 for people aged older than 65 years. Dan Dustin asked if the exemption would apply to people with farmland. Selectman Pellerin said the exemption would only apply to residences.

The moderator called for a voice vote and declared Article 20 passed.

Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting – March 8 & 19, 2011 - continued

Article 21: The moderator recognized Selectman Langwasser for the purpose of moving Article 21, seconded by Chairman O'Brien, to see if the Town will vote to discontinue the following Capital Reserve Funds with said funds with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal, to be transferred to the Town's general fund.

<u>Capital Reserve Fund</u>	<u>Date Established</u>	<u>Amount in Fund</u>
Expansion Construction of Old Hopkinton Cemetery	March 14, 2009	\$ 1.00
Construction at Blackwater Cemetery	March 13, 2002	5,947.00
Contoocook Village Cemetery Improvements	March 10, 2004	<u>23,289.00</u>
TOTAL		\$ 29,237.00

(Majority Vote Required)

There was no discussion on Article 21.

The moderator called for a voice vote and declared Article 21 passed.

Article 22: The moderator recognized Selectman Langwasser for the purpose of moving Article 22, seconded by Selectman Congoran, to see if the Town will vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provision of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of cemetery maintenance, construction and expansion and to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty-nine thousand, two hundred thirty-seven (**\$29,237**) to be placed in this fund, and appoint the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from this fund.

(Majority Vote Required)

There was no discussion on Article 22.

The moderator called for a voice vote and declared Article 22 passed.

Article 23: The moderator recognized Selectman Lawless for the purpose of moving Article 23, seconded by Selectman Pellerin, to see if the Town will vote to discontinue the Ambulance Services Revolving fund created in 2006. Said funds, with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal are to be transferred to the town's general fund. Approximate amount in fund is \$4,003.

(Majority Vote Required)

Robert Koch asked the Board of Selectmen to explain this article. Selectman Lawless said before this, the Town had a percentage fee, but now they want to have a set fee.

The moderator called for a voice vote and declared Article 23 passed.

Article 24: The moderator recognized Selectman Lawless for the purpose of moving Article 24, seconded by Selectman Congoran, to see if the Town will vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of replacement and equipping of an ambulance, to raise and appropriate fifty thousand dollars (**\$50,000**) to be placed in this fund, and to appoint the selectmen as agents to expend from this fund.

(Majority Vote Required)

There was no discussion on Article 24.

The moderator called for a voice vote and declared Article 24 passed.

Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting – March 8 & 19, 2011 - continued

Article 25: The moderator recognized Chairman O'Brien for the purpose of moving Article 25, seconded by Selectman Langwasser, to see if the Town will vote to change the purpose of the existing Replacement of Transfer Station Equipment Capital Reserve Fund (established March 14, 2001) to the Transfer Station Equipment and Facilities Capital Reserve Fund and to appoint the selectmen as agents to expend from said fund.

(2/3 Vote Required)

Matt Taylor asked if this means the Board of Selectmen would decide what to do with the money. Chairman O'Brien responded yes. Matt Taylor said he is worried they would use the money to construct a major facility or something. Selectman Lawless said the improvements could be anything from painting to parking to structural.

The moderator called for a voice vote and declared Article 25 passed.

Article 26: The moderator recognized Selectman Congoran for the purpose of moving Article 26, seconded by Selectman Pellerin, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of nine hundred sixty dollars (\$960) for the purpose of offsetting operational and maintenance costs of the Slusser Senior Center and to authorize the withdrawal of this sum from the Senior Center Rental Fund (Revenue Fund) established for this purpose at the 2009 town meeting to fund this appropriation. No funds to be raised by taxation.

(Majority Vote Required)

There was no debate on Article 26.

The moderator called for a voice vote and declared Article 26 passed.

Article 27: The moderator recognized Selectman Pellerin for the purpose of moving Article 27, seconded by Chairman O'Brien, to see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to convey a conservation easement deed to Five Rivers Conservation Trust for property owned by the Town, known as the Rice lot, and totaling approximately 210 acres, upon such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen deem to be in the best interest of the Town.

(Majority Vote Required)

David Lancaster asked the Board of Selectmen to explain why these next few articles were necessary. Selectman Pellerin said a previous Board of Selectman had conveyed some of these properties without knowing that they did not have the authorization. This article would reopen these properties purchased by the Town to consider what to do with them.

The moderator called for a voice vote and declared Article 27 passed.

Article 28: The moderator called on Selectman Pellerin for the purpose of moving Article 28, seconded by Chairman O'Brien, to see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to convey a conservation easement deed to the New Hampshire Audubon Society or other suitable organization for property owned by the Town, known as the Beyer lot, and totaling approximately 14.2 acres, upon such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen deem to be in the best interest of the Town.

(Majority Vote Required)

There was no discussion on Article 28.

The moderator called for a voice vote and declared Article 28 passed.

Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting – March 8 & 19, 2011 - continued

Article 29: The moderator called on Selectman Pellerin for the purpose of moving Article 29, seconded by Chairman O'Brien, to see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to convey a conservation easement deed to Five Rivers Conservation Trust for property owned by the Town, known as the Rollins lot, and totaling approximately 46.78 acres, upon such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen deem to be in the best interest of the Town.

(Majority Vote Required)

There was no discussion on Article 29.

The moderator called for a voice vote and declared Article 29 passed.

Article 30: The moderator called on Selectman Congoran for the purpose of moving Article 30, seconded by Chairman O'Brien, to see if the Town will vote to ratify the conveyance of a conservation easement executed on June 5, 2006 to Five Rivers Conservation Trust on the "Carson property", such property being conveyed to the Town of Hopkinton on January 11, 2005. The Conservation Easement Deed was executed on June 5, 2006 by the Board of Selectmen who believed they had authority to execute the deed: passage of this warrant article will create such authority after the fact.

(Majority Vote Required)

Karen Irwin made a motion to amend Article 30 by adding the word "renegotiated" before conservation easement. George Camp seconded the motion.

Selectman Congoran asked Town Counsel Sharon Somers to explain more about the article.

Sharon Somers said several years ago, the Town acquired properties in three instances and named them "subject to conservation easement," which puts restrictions on them. The Town wanted the properties to remain undeveloped, but the Board of Selectmen at that time inadvertently did not go through the right process to get the conservation easement. So the current Board of Selectmen is asking the Town's permission in retrospect to grant conservation easements on the properties.

Selectman Congoran asked Town Counsel to explain what extent the Town has to renegotiate the terms of the conservation easement. Sharon Somers said if the article failed, it would open up the question of the validity of these deeds, which could lead to discussions with Five Rivers Conservation Trust. It is possible for the Town to seek to renegotiate, but she said it is not practical.

Mark Zankel from Five Rivers asked the town to vote the amendment to add "renegotiated" down because they have already been through the negotiation process. The easement has already been recorded and processed, so renegotiation would be costly to the Town. However, if it is what the Town wants, Five Rivers will comply.

The moderator called for a voice vote on the amendment and declared it defeated.

The moderator called for a voice vote on Article 30 and declared it passed.

Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting – March 8 & 19, 2011 - continued

Article 31: The moderator recognized Selectman Congoran for the purpose of moving Article 31, seconded by Chairman O'Brien, to see if the Town will vote to ratify the conveyance of a conservation easement executed on June 5, 2006 by the Hopkinton Board of Selectmen to Five Rivers Conservation Trust on the "Harris/Myron" property, such property being conveyed to the Town of Hopkinton on November 15, 2005.

The Conservation Easement Deed was executed on June 5, 2006 by the Board of Selectmen who believed they had authority to execute the deed: passage of this warrant article will create such authority after the fact.

(Majority Vote Required)

There was no discussion on Article 31.

The moderator called for a voice vote and declared Article 31 passed.

Article 32: The moderator recognized Selectman Congoran for the purpose of moving Article 32, seconded by Chairman O'Brien, to see if the Town will vote to ratify the conveyance of a conservation easement executed on October 5, 2006 by the Hopkinton Board of Selectmen to Five Rivers Conservation Trust on the "Ransmeier" property, such property being conveyed to the Town of Hopkinton on October 5, 2006.

The Conservation Easement Deed was executed on October 5, 2006 by the Board of Selectmen who believed they had authority to execute the deed: passage of this warrant article will create such authority after the fact.

(Majority Vote Required)

There was no discussion on Article 32.

The moderator called for a voice vote and declared Article 32 passed.

Article 33: The moderator recognized Selectman Langwasser for the purpose of moving Article 33, seconded by Chairman O'Brien, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$4,000** in the interest of public health and safety to provide winter plowing and sanding on the following roads during the winter months:

South Shore Drive	1500 feet	Ridge Lane	900 feet	Rolfe Pond Road	2000 feet
Salachar Road	500 feet	Perch Lane	700 feet	Sparrow Lane	1000 feet
Robin Lane	400 feet	Loop Road (off Spring Street	800 feet		

This action shall in no way be interpreted as changing the status of these roads from "private" to "public" roads. It is the general policy of the Town that no work will be done on any private or Class VI highway.

Submitted by Petition

(Majority Vote Required)

Selectman Langwasser moved to table this article. Chairman O'Brien seconded the motion.

Selectman Langwasser said in the past, the Town always voted about plowing these roads, but they just became aware of an RSA that said the Town could have a public hearing to declare these roads Emergency Lanes. On March 14, they had that public hearing and the majority of residents who lived on the roads were present to give their testimony. The Board of Selectmen unanimously voted to accept these roads as Emergency Lanes at that public meeting, so this article has no meaning and that's the reason for the request to table it.

The moderator called for a voice vote to table Article 33 and declared it tabled.

2011 Administrative Reports



Report of the Board of Selectmen

The true character of a community can be measured in the generosity of its residents. In this respect, Hopkinton is a very special place to live.

Over the years, the Hopkinton community has come together time and again to meet the needs of the town. That is why the Board of Selectmen found it very fitting to dedicate the 2011 annual Town Report to the volunteer spirit that is so persuasive throughout the community. Whether it is volunteering at one of our schools, helping to stack wood at the Sean Powers Wood Bank, donating blood at a Red Cross sponsored blood drive, serving on a town committee, or volunteering with a local church or service club, Hopkinton residents always seem to have the capacity and willingness to give more of their precious time, money and talent to move the town forward.

Thanks in large part to our dedicated employees and voters at Town Meeting, Hopkinton has been able to keep the municipal portion of our tax rate generally flat these past few years. While the town portion of Hopkinton's tax rate is only about 20% of the total, the Selectmen and town employees work hard to ensure that every dollar is well spent and justified within the budget. While the challenging economic situation facing the State and the nation requires our town to reexamine its budgetary priorities, this challenge also provides opportunities for us to think about how we can conduct town business more efficiently in order to live within the financial realities we all are facing. This is not an easy task, nor are the decisions easy to make. But, town governments, including Hopkinton's, need to respond to the new fiscal reality and plan accordingly in order to meet the current and future needs of our residents while continuing to offer the high level of services that we have come to expect and are all proud of.

Our town did see several long serving staff move on to new opportunities in 2011. We are thankful for the service and lasting contributions made by each of these department heads and wish them the very best: Recreation Director Justin LaVigne; Superintendent of Public Works Herm Blanchette; Finance Director Bob Blanchette; and our Town Clerk/ Tax Collector of 40 years Sue Strickford. While transitions and the loss of a staff can be difficult, we welcome our leadership team members Deb Gallant, Jessica Bailey and John Thayer and look forward to working with them in the months and years ahead.

The Board of Selectmen sincerely wants to thank all residents for making 2011 a great year for the town, and we wish everyone continued success in 2012!

For the Board of Selectmen,

Jim O'Brien, Chair

Report of the Town Administrator

The goal of our town government is to provide required services in the most effective and cost efficient way. With the economy as it now is, and with the downshifting of cost and loss of revenue from the State, this has become more challenging. Due in large part to our dedicated, talented staff the challenges are being met.

Many things happen during the course of a year, and this year was no exception. In the spring the town attorney held a session with all board and committee members invited, to review RSA 91-A, "The Right to Know" law. Following this law and keeping residents informed is vital to good government. Time was spent during the year beginning to update policies and ordinances. The goal is to be reviewing these on regular basis to assure they are compliant with the law and written to accomplish what they are designed to accomplish. A merit pay plan was put into place basing raises on employee evaluations. The Town website was updated to be more user friendly. A plan was developed to maintain and replace our computer systems assuring that they are always efficient and that costs are kept level from year to year. After many years of discussion and planning, the emergency generator is installed and operational at the high school. The entire school can be run on generator power without interruption. We always hope it is never needed, but we know it is there and ready to use if needed. Constructed by our own highway crew, the addition to the highway garage has been accomplished. This provides space for the Buildings & Grounds Department, parts storage, office space, a bunk room, and a larger break room. Under \$35,000 was spent on this addition that would have cost at least \$150,000 if not constructed by our own crew. Their talent saves the Town money and serves us well.

In order to continue to provide quality service at a reasonable cost, we have been working to increase our collaboration with other towns and the school district. We already share a transfer station with Webster, provide ambulance service to Warner and Webster and share dispatch services with other towns and the county. In the year ahead we will continue to work to see if there are other areas where services or buying power can be shared. We will be joining the meetings of a group of many towns that is already meeting to see where we can work together. We have continued to strengthen our joint efforts with the school district buying fuel and insurance together, providing plowing and field maintenance, and joining together for a staff appreciation picnic in the summer.

In the coming year effort will be put into reviewing all town property (over 100) to determine what is useful to the Town and what should be put back on the tax rolls. All job descriptions will be updated and we will continue to update policies and ordinances. The Road Committee will be reactivated and we will continue to look for ways to be more efficient. Also, we will be looking closely at the advantages and disadvantages of changing to a fiscal year running from July 1 to June 1 in place of our present calendar year system.

I cannot say enough how fortunate I feel to work with such a great staff. Their abilities and knowledge are invaluable to the Town. I thank them for all that they do each and every day. Thanks also go to the Board of Selectmen for their support and understanding.

Respectfully submitted,
Neal A. Cass

Notes

2011 Department, Board, Committee and Supported Organization Reports



Report of the Budget Committee

The purpose of the budget committee is “to assist voters in the prudent appropriation of public funds” (RSA32.1). Throughout the year, the committee works toward producing its ultimate assignment: the budgets presented to voters at the March Annual Meeting.

The budget process is dynamic and comprised of many steps. At monthly meetings (2nd Wednesday, 6:30, Town Hall) five governing bodies provide periodic financial data to the budget committee, keeping its members current as to actual expenditures and revenues as well as anticipated activity. As the ‘budget season’ ensues department heads submit estimated expenses and receipts to their respective governing body which, after multiple reviews and evaluations, create their budget recommendations.

In Hopkinton, the five governing bodies, all advocates of their budgets are: The School Board, Board of Selectmen, Library Board of Trustees, Contoocook Precinct Commissioners and Hopkinton Precinct Commissioners. Beginning in December, each of these governing bodies presents its proposed budget along with relevant detail to the budget committee.

The budget committee reviews all proposed budgets, analyzes the requests as a whole and balances these requests against a manageable tax load. The committee determines budgets to be presented to the voters.

However, prior to annual meetings, the budget committee holds a public hearing. At this event, the Committee’s proposed budgets are reviewed and there is time for comments and questions from the public. After the public hearing, cognizant of public comments expressed, the budget committee conducts deliberative sessions during which it completes its budget recommendations.

The budgets presented in the warrant articles and voted on at Town, School and Precinct Annual Meetings are the budget committee’s recommendations. At this time it is your, the voter’s responsibility to determine the final budgets. The budget committee recommends, Hopkinton voters, sitting as the town’s legislative body, decide on and approve budgets.

We encourage each of you to participate in public hearings as well as the School, Town and Precinct Meetings.

(Written by Patrice Gerseny for Hopkinton Budget Committee)

Janet Krzyzaniak, Chair

Timothy Carney

Michael Montore

David Luneau, For the School Board

Mark Hemmerlein, For the Contoocook Precinct

Thomas O’Donnell, For the Hopkinton Village Precinct

Denise Damour, Secretary

Karen Irwin, Vice-Chair

David Lancaster

Lance Whitehead

Tom Congoran, For the Select Board

Capital Area Fire Compact

2011 Annual Report of the Board of Directors

The 2011 annual report is prepared for the Board of Directors of the Capital Area Fire Compact as a summary of general activities for the 2011 calendar year. It is also forwarded to the Town offices of the Compact's member communities for information and distribution as desired.

This organization was created forty five years ago when a handful of fire chiefs decided they needed to work together by sharing equipment and personnel resources to provide better fire protection and quicker responses to their communities. In addition to fire protection, fire departments now provide emergency medical services as well. Approximately 70% of the Compact's call volume represents medical emergency responses.

The Compact provides 24/7 emergency dispatch service to its twenty member communities. This service is contracted with the City of Concord Fire Department's Communications Center utilizing eight shift dispatchers and the Dispatch Supervisor. Fire and Emergency Medical dispatched calls totaled 21,127 in 2011, an increase of 1.7% from the previous year. The detailed activity report by agency is attached.

The Compact's operational area is currently 711 square miles with an estimated resident population of 125,004. The latest Equalized Property Valuation published by NH Department of Revenue Administration is 12.2 billion dollars for our member area. All departments participate in automatic responses to other communities as needed.

The Chief Coordinator responded to 173 incidents in 2011, and provided command post assistance on major incidents. He also aids all departments with response planning and updating addressing information.

Current Compact officers, elected in January 2011, are:

President, Chief Ray Fisher, Boscawen
Vice President, Chief George Ashford, Northwood
Secretary, Chief Alan Quimby, Chichester
Treasurer, Chief Daniel Andrus, Concord

Installation of the Homeland Security funded microwave point-to-point communications was completed in 2011. We also have grant approval for cross training of dispatchers of the Capital Area Fire Compact with the dispatchers of the Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid dispatch center in Laconia. This provides redundancy for both systems in the event of a major failure for any reason at either site. These two dispatch centers provide fire and EMS dispatching to a large area of Central New Hampshire.

The 2011 Compact operating budget was \$ 932,187. All Compact operations, including the Chief Coordinator's position, office, command vehicle, and dispatch services are provided by the member communities based on local property valuations and population.

The Training Committee chaired by Assistant Chief Dick Pistey, with members Chiefs Keith Gilbert, Gary Johnson, and Peter Angwin assisted all departments with mutual aid exercises. These joint drills provide valuable training in the delivery of our emergency services.

Capital Area Fire Compact
2011 Annual Report of the Board of Directors - continued

The Central New Hampshire HazMat Team represents 56 communities in Capital Area and the Lakes Region area and is ready to assist or respond to hazardous materials incidents in our combined area. Hazardous Materials Team Chief Bill Weinhold encourages all communities to participate in the Regional Emergency Response Commission (REPC) planning programs and to take advantage of hazardous materials training for local departments.

All departments are encouraged to send representation to all Compact meetings. Your input is Needed and your members need to be informed of all Compact activities and planning.

We thank all departments for your cooperation. Please contact any Compact officer or the Chief Coordinator if we may be of assistance.

Dick Wright, Chief Coordinator
 CAPITAL AREA FIRE COMPACT

Capital Area Mutual Aid Fire Compact 2010 Incidents vs. 2011 Incidents				
ID #	Town	2010 Incidents	2011 Incidents	% Change
50	Allenstown	675	697	3.3%
51	Boscawen	177	175	-1.1%
52	Bow	1178	1083	-8.1%
53	Canterbury	236	238	0.8%
54	Chichester	468	399	-14.7%
55	Concord	7002	7526	7.5%
56	Epsom	887	869	-2.0%
57	Dunbarton	222	224	0.9%
58	Henniker	706	802	13.6%
60	Hopkinton	1016	1191	17.2%
61	Loudon	983	818	-16.8%
62	Pembroke	360	340	-5.6%
63	Hooksett	2159	2292	6.2%
64	Penacook RSQ	695	775	11.5%
65	Webster	174	161	-7.5%
66	Central NH Haz Mat	5	10	100.0%
71	Northwood	603	660	9.5%
72	Pittsfield	811	747	-7.9%
74	Salisbury	128	131	2.3%
79	Tri-Town Ambulance	1447	1132	-21.8%
80	Warner	340	367	7.9%
82	Bradford	272	265	-2.6%
84	Deering	230	225	-2.2%
		20774	21127	1.7%

Report of the Cemetery Trustees

The Cemetery Trustees oversee twelve cemeteries in Town with burials permitted during good weather in five of these (Old Hopkinton, New Hopkinton, Contoocook Village, Stumpfield and Blackwater). Our meetings are held from 9:00 am to 9:30 am at the Town Hall on the first Tuesday of each month from May through December.

Gravestone Services of New England continued to provide restoration of monuments in Old and New Hopkinton, Contoocook Village, Blackwater and Putney Hill cemeteries. Concord Custom Lawn Care treated Contoocook Village and parts of Old and New Hopkinton cemeteries for grub problems. We were fortunate to have workers from the Merrimack County Department of Corrections here for nine days in the Contoocook Village Cemetery resetting flush and corner markers. Additionally, they scraped and painted the storage building.

Next year we are planning major tree work in Contoocook Village and Old and New Hopkinton cemeteries. We expect to continue our campaign to remove non-native species.

Once again Gerry Babson has served as our sexton. We truly appreciate his services and his commitment to that position.

Closing our cemeteries to vehicles prevents damage to the roadways and gravesites. People with dogs are required to have them leashed and must pick up and carry out their refuse. We wish to remind people to be respectful during their visits to our cemeteries.

Sara McNeil has announced that she will not seek another term as a Trustee so the continuing Trustees Patti Cass Smith and Nancy Minor wish to thank Sara McNeil for her 12 years of service and dedication to the Town and the Cemetery Trustees.

Respectfully submitted,
Sara McNeil
Nancy Miner
Patti Cass Smith

Report of the Conservation Commission

The Conservation Commission spent another year addressing a wide variety of issues, programs and projects. The hiking trails on the Hawthorne Forest, Ransmeier Woods and at the Kimball Lake Recreation Area were maintained by Commission members. Conservation Commission members also assisted the Open Space Committee with developing hiking routes and erecting signs and trail markers at the Bohanan Farm and provided input for the new web site. We would like to thank volunteer Bob Lapree for his help on those projects. The Stevens rail trail was used by a logger to access an abutting woodlot as the owner had a deeded right-of-way on the old rail

Report of the Conservation Commission - continued

bed. The Commission requested a bond from the logger which was later returned when the logger repaired the minor ruts that were created by trucking during some wet weather.

Several Town-owned tracts of land were inventoried for invasive species. A variety of invasive species were found at the Houston Fields, Rollins Town Forest, Bermuda-Harris Town Forest, Ransmeier Woods, and on the Transfer Station and Police Station tracts. The Commission will start to develop a management and control strategy for some of those areas. The Japanese Knotweed was again treated on the Hawthorne Forest and is close to being eradicated from that site.

Hay was harvested from the field at Ransmeier Woods by a local farmer. He plans to restore the fields to a more productive status by re-seeding and fertilizing the site. Having the farmer hay the field saves the Commission the cost of mowing to keep it open. We ask the public to please walk around the very edges of the field while accessing the trail system.

The Commission reviewed several wetland Dredge and Fill permit applications for logging operations and culvert installations. We would like to remind residents that State-issued permits are needed to dredge, fill or alter any stream or wetland. The Commission continues to be involved with the North Branch Advisory Committee to help improve and protect the water quality of the Contoocook River.

The Brockway, Hawthorne and Ransmeier Forests as well as the privately owned Janeway and Rose tracts were monitored to insure compliance with the terms of the Conservation Easements that cover those properties. Conservation easements were placed on the Rice and Rollins tracts and easements were confirmed at the last Town Meeting for the Bermuda-Harris, Carson and Ransmeier lots. The NH Audubon Society proposed to do a long-term phenological study on the Brockway Forest to help document the effects on the local environment from normal forest succession as well as climatic changes.

One Hopkinton student was sponsored at the Barry Conservation Camp. Several Commission members attended conservation related workshops throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,
Hopkinton Conservation Commission

Derek Owen, *Chair*

Jed Merrow

Rob Knight

Ron Klemarczyk

Lee Wilder

Erick Leadbeater

Tim White

Report of Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission

28 Commercial Street Suite 3 ❖ Concord, New Hampshire 03301
❖ phone: (603) 226-6020 ❖ fax: (603) 226-6023 ❖ www.cnhrpc.org

Established in accordance with state law, the Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission (CNHRPC) is a voluntary association of 20 communities in Merrimack and Hillsborough Counties. The Town of Hopkinton is a member in good standing of the Commission.

CNHRPC's mission is to comply with State statute by preparing and adopting regional land use and transportation plans and a regional housing needs assessment. CNHRPC also evaluates developments of regional impact and provides data, information, training, and high-quality, cost-effective services to our member communities. CNHRPC advocates for member communities and assists and encourages them in both municipal and regional endeavors.

In 2011, the Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission undertook the following local and region-wide activities:

- Provided technical assistance services for member communities, including zoning ordinance development, grant writing assistance, plan review services, local master plan development, and planning board process training.
- Undertook Hazard Mitigation Plan update development assistance in twelve communities through funding from the NH Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (NH HSEM).
- Provided assistance to the Suncook River Community Planning Team through funding and local match provided by NH HSEM and the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NH DES). Staff also initiated work with the Suncook River Nomination Committee to seek designation of the river into the NH Rivers Management and Protection Program. More information on the project can be found at www.suncookriver.org.
- Undertook energy planning assistance in local communities through the New Hampshire Energy Technical Assistance and Planning Program (ETAP) using ARRA funding provided through the NH Office of Energy and Planning (NH OEP). In Hopkinton, CNHRPC staff coordinated site visits and follow-up from Peregrine Energy Group to assess the Town's municipal buildings and provide specific recommendations relating to Highway Garage improvements. CNHRPC also completed a Land Use and Energy Regulatory Audit of Town and Hopkinton Village Precinct ordinances and regulations.
- Continued to support the activities of the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Committee in Hopkinton.
- Coordinated the activities of the CNHRPC Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC).
- CNHRPC staff worked with the TAC to complete the preparation of the 2013-2022 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Information related to the TIP update process can be found at www.cnhrpc.org/transportation/transportation-improvement-program-tip.html.
- Conducted 265 traffic counts throughout the region, including five in the Town of Hopkinton. Based on individual requests, these counts can consist of volume, speed,

Report of Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission - continued

vehicle classification and direction. Historical traffic counts by town are available at www.cnhrpc.org/gis-a-data/traffic-count-data.html.

- Provided staff support to the Currier & Ives Scenic Byway Council. For more information on the Council's activities see www.currierandivesbyway.org.
- Following the recommendations of the 2010 Coordinated Transit and Human Services Transportation Plan, CNHRPC assisted in the development of an expanded volunteer driver program in the region in coordination with the Mid-State Regional Coordinating Council. The volunteer driver program provides rides at no cost to seniors and disabled residents of the Central NH Region. For more information see www.midstatercc.org/volunteer-driver-program.
- Compiled information regarding the availability of broadband internet services throughout the region through funding provided by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA). Planning for future broadband services, including the organization of a regional broadband stakeholders group, was initiated in 2011.
- Continued to acquire, update, and utilize Geographic Information Systems (GIS) data for planning, cartography, and analysis across all projects.
- Completed assistance to the Contoocook and North Branch Rivers Local Advisory Committee (CNBRLAC) in the development of the Contoocook and North Branch Rivers Management Plan.
- Provided continuing technical assistance to the Upper Merrimack River Local Advisory Committee (UMRLAC), specifically working to implement additional objectives of the Upper Merrimack Management and Implementation Plan pertaining to buffer protection.
- Developed 2010 Census Data Fact Sheets for each community in the CNHRPC region. The fact sheets summarize population, housing, and race data for each community, the county, and the state from the 2010 Census. Fact Sheets are available at www.cnhrpc.org/gis-a-data/census-data.html.
- Continued to host and provide staff support to "PATH" - Program for Alternative Transportation and Health - which encourages and provides incentives for people to rideshare, bicycle, walk, or take transit to work. More information on PATH can be found at www.path-nh.org.

For additional information, please contact the CNHRPC staff or visit us at www.cnhrpc.org. CNHRPC Commission meetings are open to the public and interested citizens are encouraged to attend.

Report of the Economic Development Committee

The Economic Development Committee had a very successful year in 2011. The Committee was engaged in important and meaningful work to grow and diversify commercial interests in town including:

- Sponsored retailing consultant, Bruce Baker, in a two day free seminar for retailing establishments in Hopkinton. Bruce presented two programs on retailing technique and visited several shops to provide store exhibition consulting.
- Considered, in conjunction with the Municipal Operations Improvement Committee, the efficacy of introducing plasma arc technology into the town.
- Worked on compiling best practices for economic development websites to highlight development opportunities in town and to provide an easy avenue for developers to find information and assistance with projects.
- Continued to work establishing the Maple Street & US 89 area as a desirable location for development of commercial enterprises.
- Initiated a project to create imaginative signage and a directory for the Contoocook Village stores and craftshops.
- Applauded the plans to redevelopment the Columbia Hall site with a multi-use building.
- Considered the possibility of the relocation of the Fire Department from the current Contoocook building and what commercial ventures might be installed.

We are sorry to report that our long standing and capable Chairperson, Glen Ohlund, resigned due to both professional opportunities and personal developments. The Committee applauds Glen for his long tenure and excellent work.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bob Gerseny, Chair

Report of Greener Hopkinton

In 2011, Greener Hopkinton continued to assist the Selectmen in identifying energy efficiency opportunities in our municipal buildings. This year's Municipal Energy Assistance Program project included preparation of a heat load analysis for the Highway Garage. This was performed to assist the Town in planning for possible future energy improvements to this building. The MEAP was funded through the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission and the Regional Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reductions Fund (RGGI).

Through the Energy Technical Assistance & Planning program, funded by the NH Office of Energy & Planning, assessments of potential energy savings opportunities in five of the Town buildings were identified. These ranged from changing behavioral practices to more capital intensive recommendations. Greener Hopkinton will continue to communicate with Town staff to help in finding ways to implement some of these recommendations.

Report of Greener Hopkinton - continued

We continue to administer the Town's organic community garden, which was started in the summer of 2009. Greener Hopkinton assists the Town (with the help of Amy O'Brien) with the distribution of plots, fielding community gardener questions and providing for the application of soil amendments and fertilizer. Eighteen gardeners rented plots this year, at a cost of \$15 per plot. We can still accommodate more gardeners and will be allocating plots in the coming weeks. The committee was awarded a \$1500 grant from the New England Grassroots Environmental Fund (NEGREF) to assist in several efforts. Some of the funds were used for residential weatherization projects. With the help of a few volunteers, small groups went into homes to perform tasks such as caulking and installing weatherization strips and plastic insulation film for windows.

The grant was also used to further our outreach efforts, such as paying for a subscription for our e-newsletter platform. Other outreach efforts included hosting two organic gardening discussions and co-sponsoring events with the Town Library.

We're always looking for new members, so if you'd like to join us, contact one of the members listed below, or email us at greenerhopkinton@gmail.com.

Respectfully submitted,
Bethann McCarthy, Chair

Committee Members

Chris Aslin	Risa Evans	Judy Fayre	Nancy Jackson-Reno
Mary Leadbeater	Jack Ruderman	Denis Goddard, Selectmen's Representative	

Report of the Hopkinton/Webster Recycling Committee

The Recycling Committee (RC) spent the year tracking the first full year of the Pay-by-Bag (PbB) program, per the vote at Town Meeting. The PbB program has created a change in the trash disposal habits of the community. The rate of recycling has risen to 22%. There has also been a noticeable reduction in the volume of trash being disposed of at the transfer station. The net revenue and cost avoidance savings derived from household recyclables totaled \$87,374 which is a significant increase from 2010, due in part to increasing commodity prices.

In related activities, the committee was asked by the Board of Selectmen (BOS), in anticipation of the need to relieve traffic pressure at the transfer station, to provide suggestions and details regarding the establishment of a satellite drop-off facility for separated recyclables. Since no significant problem with traffic volume materialized, the BOS decided against the satellite drop-off proposal. Also, the RC requested that the Hopkinton/Webster Refuse Disposal Committee approve and fund, through the Recycling Revolving Fund, a swap shop facility at the transfer station. Although this specific request was declined, the RC continues to advocate for a swap shop as a way to increase re-use in the community.

Report of the Hopkinton/Webster Recycling Committee - continued

The RC sponsored another successful sale of compost bins. To coincide with America Recycles Day in the fall, the RC published a widely distributed America Recycles email flyer that offered suggestions for recycling. Additionally, the RC established the goal of involving the schools in comprehensive recycling programs. Members of the RC met with school superintendent Steve Chamberlin. He endorsed the effort and has begun several initiatives to increase recycling district-wide. Through committee contact with the high school Interact Club, the RC continued to encourage active student participation in expanding recycling at the school; a member of the club will attend our monthly meetings as his schedule allows. The RC also invited sixth grader Larsen Burack to share with us his Zero Waste Day presentation. He had presented this PowerPoint presentation to the students at the Maple Street School, enabling them to see the ease and effectiveness of specific techniques for reducing waste and for increasing recycling. Two members of the committee, Deb Augustine of Hopkinton and Mary Jo McGowan of Webster, resigned their positions, while Sara Crane, representing Hopkinton, joined the committee.

Respectfully submitted,
Sara Crane, Ginni Haines, Bob LaPree, Mary Leadbeater, Katherine Mitchell – Hopkinton;
Sally Embley – Webster

Report of the Hopkinton Rescue Squad

2011 has been a busy and productive year for the Hopkinton Rescue Squad. Our volunteers have responded to numerous emergency calls and have spent many hours maintaining and updating our equipment, vehicles and building. All of this is done in an effort to ensure proper safety and functioning for our volunteers and those we assist in an emergency. In addition, we purchased LED lights and updated our communication system within the rescue truck.

We continue to provide trainings to update and maintain the skills of our members. Outside of our usual monthly meeting and training updates, members attended a two day extrication course in Massachusetts this year.

The Hopkinton Rescue Squad is tremendously grateful for all of the support it receives from the community. We are always happy to be given the opportunity to give back to the community in activities outside of emergency situations. This year, our members have assisted with the Josh Russell Memorial Fishing Derby and participated in the July 4th parade.

We welcomed one new member, Ben Jorgensen, to the squad this year. Anyone that is interested in joining us is welcome to attend one of our monthly meetings held in our building on the third Tuesday of every month at 6:00pm.

Respectfully,
Greg Dockham, Captain

Report of the Fire Department

2011 was the busiest year in the history of the Hopkinton Fire Department. We had 1191 calls as shown below, but no motor vehicle fatalities. In August, “Irene” challenged the Department and I chose to staff both stations with a total of 15 firefighters for 9 hours. During that time we had 28 emergency calls.

In the fall the Hopkinton Firefighters Association did a mass mailing inviting all residents to our 2nd annual open house. It was a huge success and we look forward to seeing the residents again this October.

The Selectmen appointed the Fire Station Study Committee. This committee looked at the current and future space needs of the department. It was determined that the current facility does not meet needs now and cannot accommodate the needs of the future. The Town will be asked to appropriate \$15,000 to create conceptual drawings and cost estimates for a new fire station. Please come to the March Town Meeting to support this article. I would like to thank committee members Dan Coen, Lester Cressy, Rob Dapice, John Pianka, Tom Kryzaniank, Jane Bradstreet and Jason Lacombe who put in many hours looking into many different options.

We continue to have many emergency calls coming directly to our station. Please CALL 911. The 911 operator can locate your address and dispatch the appropriate vehicles needed for your emergency. We continue to have many properties that are not numbered. PLEASE number your mailbox (on both sides) or put your numbers on a sign, especially if your house cannot be seen from the road. Unmarked properties slow down our response time. If we cannot find you, we cannot help you. If you have any questions please call 746-3181.

I would like to thank the members of the Hopkinton Fire Department and Ambulance, Police, Highway, and Rescue Squad for their coordination efforts and dedication to serve the residents and visitors of Hopkinton.

Respectfully submitted
Rick Schaefer, Chief

Hopkinton Fire Department 2011 Calls			
Type of Call	No.	Type of Call	No.
Medical Aid Calls (including 60 motor vehicle accidents)	718	Chimney Fires	7
Fire Alarm Activations	61	Structure Fires	22
Brush and Non-permit Burns	8	Vehicle Fires	6
Service Calls/Assist Public/Good Intent Call	244	Other Fires	6
Carbon Monoxide Detector Activations	11	Hazardous Conditions (no fire)	7
Power Lines Down / Tree on Wires	40	Paramedic Intercepts	37
Fuel Leaks	10	Calls handled by Mutual Aid	8
Cover Truck	6		
		TOTAL	1191

Report of the Fire Station Study Committee

In May 2011, a committee was appointed by the Board of Selectmen to start the process of reviewing the current Hopkinton Fire Department (HFD) facilities and programs. After reviewing the current HFD properties, requesting input from the fire department leadership team and an overall review of programs and services offered, it is the opinion of this committee that the Contoocook station is inadequate to meet today's requirements of a full time fire and emergency medical services (EMS) facility. Additionally the station does not meet all the ADA requirements, or provide for a healthy work environment.

The needs and concerns considered were as follows:

- Personnel and administration work space
- Continuation of current programs and future program needs
- Adequate training facilities
- Apparatus size and addition of new apparatus
- ADA compliance
- Quantity of operational support equipment
- Centralized location
- Aging mechanical systems

As a committee, we believe that the most practical, cost effective method of addressing these items is to construct a new fire and EMS facility located on a town owned property off of Public Works Drive. The committee feels the current lot would not support an expansion sufficient for adequately sized apparatus bays, future storage required for expanding operational equipment needs, as well as parking. Previous expansion options reviewed which included the addition of a second story to the existing structure would meet only a few of the needs outlined above, and would also require significant upgrades to the aging mechanical systems.

After reviewing other properties in Hopkinton, the property located at Public Works Drive is centrally located in the town and offers very good access to major roadways, schools and the downtown area. There is ample land available for development and all necessary utilities are within close proximity.

After review of other stations in the state which were constructed within the past ten years that provided similar services to Hopkinton with a population size which is comparable to Hopkinton and input from the HFD leadership we feel that the long term needs of HFD could be met by a building of approximately 16,000-22,000 square feet.

As always, the cost of construction is a major component of any project. With the help of committee members, an approximate cost per square would be \$130-\$165/sq ft. as defined by basic and standard construction guidelines. These costs were developed using current cost estimating software. They do not include engineering or design costs. The chosen method of construction and site condition will affect these costs estimates.

Report of the Fire Station Study Committee - continued

Current conditions in the financial markets are more favorable for borrowing the funds to bond a project of this size. Additionally, the construction industry presents a more favorable climate to maximize the value received for estimated funding costs.

Our recommended timeline for this proposal is:

- Board of Selectmen put forward a recommendation to the Budget Committee for funding to cover the design and engineering costs in Fiscal Year 2012.
- If this funding is approved, present proposal to the voters in Fiscal Year 2013 for construction funding.

The committee feels there is no benefit long term or short term to spending monies for expanding the existing building to continue fire and EMS services. If the construction of a new facility moves forward, the committee feels the following could be potential uses of the existing facility:

- Consolidation of all town offices, to include the SAU offices.
- Community Center

Respectfully submitted
Daniel Coen, Chair

Report of the Forest Fire Warden

Brush and grass fire calls for the 2011 season were limited to five calls for the Hopkinton Fire Department. Above normal precipitation resulted in fewer forestry fire calls for not only the Town of Hopkinton but for the entire State of NH.

A reminder to all town residents, a burning permit is required at all times and must be obtained prior to any burning. Burn permits may be picked up at the Contoocook Fire Station seven days a week between the hours of 7 am and 5 pm. The only exception to this policy is during the winter months when the ground is completely covered by snow. Please note: when the ground is covered by snow a burning permit is not required, but you must call the fire station at 746-3181 and inform them of your intent to burn.

I would also like to ask you to please read and abide by all rules and regulations pertaining to burning brush, and remind you that you may be held responsible for all suppression costs if your fire gets out of control. The Hopkinton Fire Dept will write permits on Class 1 (low fire danger) and Class 2 (moderate fire danger) days. Fire danger conditions are posted in front of the Contoocook fire station next to Smokey the Bear. You may also go online to the NH Divisions of Forestry and Lands at www.nhdf.org for more information pertaining to burning.

Thank you for your support.
Respectfully submitted,
Bob White, Warden

Report of the Human Services Department

This office operates as mandated by state law RSA 165:1. Pursuant to law, citizens of our community are assisted and served or as law states “relieved and maintained”. The town human services department operates as the safety net.

The mission of this office is to enable individuals and families who find themselves in difficult situations to return to functioning as vital members of our society without relinquishing their dignity. The ultimate goal is to render assistance in a professional manner at the lowest cost to the town tax payers. Financial assistance is rendered in accordance with the guidelines adopted by the selectmen and governed by state law.

The breakdown for 2011 is as follows:

Food:	\$ 2,256.21 *
Housing:	\$ 31,591.56
Fuel:	\$ 30,892.34 **(oil, kerosene, propane and electric)
Medical:	\$ 7,404.76 (Prescription medications)
Misc:	\$ 4,485.95 (transportation)

Of the \$76630.82 total assistance, \$17,274.00 was from donated funds.

*Individual food vouchers beyond food pantry distribution.

**This figure does not reflect the \$54,881.00 in federal fuel assistance allocated in town by CAP.

One hundred forty-six households received direct financial assistance, while 210 households were assisted by other means. Support, education and guidance regarding Medicare and Medicaid issues were provided to over 80 individuals.

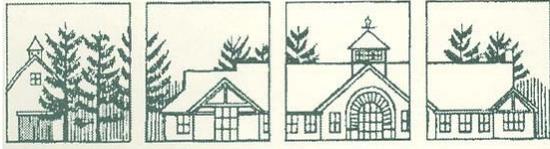
This office continues to utilize the Hopkinton Food Pantry, which saves the tax payers money thanks to the support of the community, our many generous benefactors, the coordination of Tamara Saltmarsh and all our capable volunteers.

Hopkinton Operation Christmas was again a great success. Even in these rough times many community members and organizations came forward and were most generous. On behalf of the many recipients, thank you all for your wonderful Christmas spirit. Ninety-one households were served this holiday season.

No person should be without food, shelter or medical attention in our community. Please do not hesitate to make referrals or inquiries. All information is confidential.

Respectfully submitted to the Citizens of Hopkinton
Marilyn Ceriello Bresaw

Report of the Hopkinton Town Library



Sometimes the words of members of the community tell the story more eloquently than any numbers can. Here is a sampling from 2011:

“Thanks to every one of you for your cheerful helpfulness to me all through the year (no matter how many times I’ve dropped my scribbled list of books on the floor planning to talk to you about them)! I appreciate the wonderful library we have here in Contoocook which all of you work at so faithfully for the pleasure of our community.” Wanda Eugenides

“When I was little my mom took me to the library every week. I knew my library number (1465) as readily as my phone number. As a parent, I now bring my four young children to the Hopkinton Town Library. My kids don’t know their card numbers, but they do know the names of the librarians. They also know where their favorite books are, where the puzzles go, and they know the songs and finger plays from story hour. They love the library, and I love having them see literacy in action--in all forms and for all ages.” Lissa Chapin

“When we were deciding where to live in the greater-Concord area, the Hopkinton Town Library’s friendly staff, wide-range of community activities, and welcoming and comfortable facility was an important factor in our decision to choose to live in Hopkinton.” Chris Aslin and Rachel Goldwasser

Staff: We were sad to say farewell to two stellar staff members, Patti Gerseny and Missy Dustin in 2011, but the loss was lessened with the formation of our new team. Our Reference Department is led ably by Karen Dixon, with part-time librarians Elissa Barr, Charlotte DeBell, and Emily Welsh. Leigh Maynard provides top notch Children’s Service and the Circulation Department is now in the capable hands of Nancy Nobis, assisted by new staffer Barb Diaz and veteran Nancy Raymond. And, as ever, we couldn’t do it without our 28 adult volunteers and almost 20 teen volunteers. Our Friends of the Library group continues to thrive with retiring President Susan Lawless and our Foundation (chaired by Gerry Youngman) helps us to provide programming and services that would not be possible within the confines of our annual budget. We are thankful for all of them and to the Town of Hopkinton, which we are here to serve.

Programs: Almost 6,800 people attended a range of wonderful programs in 2011, including book talks, film showings, musical and theatre offerings. A major accomplishment of the year was the establishment of an online community events calendar on our website (www.hopkintontownlibrary.org) where people can list local events across town and consult when planning new programs.

Report of the Hopkinton Town Library - continued

<i>Statistics</i>	2009	2010	2011
Items Circulated	67,645	68,216	67,717
E-Audiobook Downloads	1,340	1,706	2,241
Programs (Note, no Hopkinton READS in 2011)	292	352	334
Collection: Items added	2,962	2,714	2,562
Volunteer Hours	1,375	1,380+	1,380+
Community Use of Public Spaces	590	669	636
Gallons of Fuel Used: (In 2008 7905 gallons used.)	4839	5142	4011

Respectfully Submitted: Barry Needleman, Board Chair, Jeff Eitreim, Peter Gagnon, Christine Hamm, Elaine Loft, and Donna V. Dunlop, Library Director

Report of the Open Space Committee

The focus of the Open Space Committee in 2011 was to make information about the land protected by the town for conservation more accessible to the people of the town. With approval from the Conservation Commission to pay for the work, the Open Space Committee has been working with a GIS mapping specialist. The goal is to provide on the town's website a map that shows all of the land the town has acquired for conservation, with links to maps and photos of the properties that already have trails and parking in place. Working closely with the Conservation Commission, the parcels to be included on the map have been identified and maps have been prepared of the first two properties to be detailed. In conjunction with this effort, a walking route on the Bohanan Conservation Easement from Burrage Road to the Blackwater River and back has been cleared and marked. Text about the two selected properties has been drafted.

Efforts to provide access for non-motorized boats at the Bohanan property continue, with new prospects from the Natural Resource Conservation Services happening late in the year. In cooperation with Five Rivers Conservation Trust, new signs have been placed at both the Bohanan property and Ransmeier Woods.

The Open Space Committee thanks the Conservation Commission for its cooperation, and especially thanks committee volunteers Bob LaPree and Rob Knight for their ongoing assistance. The committee reluctantly accepted the resignation of Bill Chapin, one of the original committee members first appointed in 2003, with thanks for his years of service and sage advice to the committee.

The committee usually meets on the second Wednesday of the month. Meeting information is posted on the town's website. We welcome input and suggestions from towns people.

The Open Space Committee

Lucia Kittredge
Susan Zankel

Ron Klemarczyk
Dijit Taylor
Denis Goddard for the Select Board

Report of the Planning Department

The Planning Department reviews a wide variety of permit applications, ranging in type from building permits for new residential or commercial structures to temporary signage permits.

Applications	2009	2010	2011
Residential	9	5	4
Residential Additions, Conversions, Renovations	45	43	40
Garages, Barns, Sheds, Detached	15	40	19
Conversions (2-family/Multi-family)	0	0	1
Swimming Pools	3	5	1
Home Business/Occupation	2	1	3
Commercial—New, Additions, Renovations, Accessory, Change of Use	7	5	9
Demolition	5	4	5
Signs (permanent)	10	6	3
Other: PWSF, Solar, OWFB, Silos, Municipal, etc.	8	3	8
Total:	104	112	93

Code Enforcement reviewed Plumbing, Mechanical, Electrical and Building Permits. If you should have specific questions or would like to schedule an inspection, please contact the Code Enforcement Officer during the hours of 8 AM – 12 Noon, Mondays and Wednesdays. Telephone: (603) 783-1509.

Applications	2009	Inspections	2010	Inspections	2011	Inspections
Plumbing	69	28	35	24	32	59
Electrical	91	103	116	85	89	42
Mechanical	31	26	90	58	85	90
Building	104	150	112	100	93	266
Other	8	41	3	56	8	111
Total:	303	348	356	323	307	468

The **Planning Board** regularly meets once a month, on the 2nd Tuesday at 6:30 PM in the Town Hall to review and vote on various land use applications. In 2011, there were nine applications filed for consideration by the **Planning Board**. The majority of the applications were for site plan approval.

Applications	2009	Lots	2010	Lots	2011	Lots
Conservation Subdivisions	0	0	0	0	0	0
Conventional Subdivisions	4	2	1	1	1	2
Annexations/Lot Line Adjustments	0	0	5	0	3	0
Site Plan Reviews	6	0	9	0	5	0
Voluntary Mergers	0	0	1	0	0	0
Subdivision Revocations	1	-6	0	0	0	0
Conditional Use Permit	4	0	1	0	0	0
Extension Requests	2	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Roads (RSA 231:158)	0	0	1	0	0	0
Total:	16	-4	18	1	9	2

The **Zoning Board of Adjustment** is authorized to hear appeals from decisions or determinations made by an administrative official in administering provisions of the Zoning Ordinance. While the administrative officials must apply the Zoning Ordinance as it is written

Report of the Planning Department - continued

and cannot waive any provisions, the Board of Adjustment may grant Variances, where justified, but cannot amend the Zoning Ordinance or Zoning Map. In all cases, the Zoning Board of Adjustment acts in a quasi-judicial capacity, ruling on the merits of each case coming before it to ensure that the Zoning Ordinance is applied fairly and equitably to all property and property owners.

The Zoning Board of Adjustment regularly meets once a month, on the 1st Tuesday at 6:00 PM in the Town Hall to review and take action on various applications that include Variances, Special Exceptions, Equitable Waivers, Administrative Appeals, and Special Use Permits. In 2011, thirteen applications were filed with the Zoning Board of Adjustment. Of these thirteen cases, twelve were approved and one was denied.

Applications	2009	2010	2011
Variance	5	6	4
Special Exception	9	5	7
Special Use Permit	3	3	1
Equitable Waiver	0	1	0
Administrative Appeal	0	1	1
Motion for Rehearing	2	0	0
Rehearing	1	0	0
Total:	20	16	13

Revenue	2009	2010	2011
Building, Electrical, Plumbing, Mechanical, Inspection Fees	\$31,897	\$30,243	\$23,792
Planning Board Fees	\$2,377	\$1,051	\$2,820
Zoning Board of Adjustment Fees	\$2,205	\$1,310	\$2,106
Maps, Copies, etc	\$808	\$357	\$352
Ordinances	0	\$15	\$19
Total:	\$37,287	\$32,976	\$29,089

A reminder that you can view the Town's tax maps, obtain lists of abutters and print labels using our website www.hopkinton-nh.gov.

Planning Board

Bruce Ellsworth, Chairman
 Timothy Britain, Vice Chairman
 George Langwasser, Ex-Officio
 Bethann McCarthy
 Michael Wilkey
 Celeste Hemingson
 Jane Bradstreet
 Edwin Taylor, Alternate
 Cettie Connolly, Alternate

Zoning Board of Adjustment

Janet Krzyzaniak, Chairman
 Toni Gray
 Charles Koontz
 Harold Perkins
 Daniel Rinden
 Gregory McLeod, Alternate
 David Brock, Alternate
 Jessica Sheinman, Alternate

Planning/Zoning Director

Karen Robertson

Code Enforcement Officer

John Pianka

Report of the Parks and Recreation Department

In May Justin LaVigne resigned as the Hopkinton Parks and Recreation Director. He left behind a well-established and well-grounded department filled with successful programs and dedicated volunteers. It is my privilege to continue his efforts in serving the Hopkinton Community as the new Parks & Recreation Department Director.

The goal of the Hopkinton Recreation Department is to provide quality programming and special events for all our residents and to increase the value of life in Hopkinton. This is a team effort, a community effort, and it is with great pleasure that I begin by thanking the volunteers and community members who helped in obtaining this goal! Without their time, energy, and great ideas, many of the programs and events we offered would not have been possible. Unfortunately, I am unable to list everyone by name, but you know who you are! Many thanks!

This year, the Recreation Committee included Louise Carr, Vernon Miller, Ann Wayland, Mark Newton, Jim Martin, Jim Lewis, Steve Crawford, and Ed Kerr. I would like to thank Louise Carr for her years of service as the committee chair. Ed Kerr has accepted the role of chair. A sincere thank you to ALL the committee members. Your ongoing support of me and of the Recreation Department is endlessly appreciated!

The Recreation Committee works hard to provide the community with several special events throughout the year. They helped organized the Easter Egg Hunt, 2 Red Sox trips, the Sports Card Show, 3 'Movie in the Park' nights, the Summer Concert Series, the 4th of July Family Fun Day/Tookie Cookie Bake-off, the Halloween Holler, the Holiday Lights Contest, the Santa Calling Program, the Gingerbread House Workshop, and Breakfast with Santa, which resulted in a \$500 donation to Operation Christmas.

Ongoing programs for the community continued. Some of these included Tai Chi, Stained Glass Club, Community Scrapbooking, Adult Volleyball, Adult Indoor Soccer, Youth Lacrosse, Hershey's Track and Field, British Soccer Camp, and a newly added Zumba class. At Kimball Pond, Youth and Adult Swim Lessons were also offered.

A fun-filled Summer Day Camp was offered. Thank you to our Camp Director, Emily Kaplan, and her staff for a fantastic summer of smiles! The Recreation Department also oversees the Kimball Pond Beach during the summer. Thanks to our Pond Director, Anne Roberts, and her staff, the beach was kept safe and clean for community use.

As we now move into 2012, the Recreation Department has high hopes for the coming year. New programs are being added, such as the 'Hopkinton Snowball Sling-shot Jamboree' and the 'Youth Sculpt, Paint, & Pencil Program', and old programs will be improved upon. We are always looking for new volunteers and new ideas. Contact the Recreation Department if you would like to join the team!

Slusser Senior Center

Established in 2007, the Slusser Senior Center, overseen by the Recreation Department, has grown and flourished with successful programs and activities. It provides a place of community where the joy of friendship and social wellness can reach out to the Hopkinton Senior Community. In 2011, the Slusser Senior Center averaged 130+ visitors per week. Its success is

Report of the Parks and Recreation Department - continued

attributable to the many hours of dedicated service given freely by a large team of volunteers. Thank you to these volunteers. Again, I wish I could list you all by name... please know you are all greatly appreciated!

Thanks were extended to Pat Dawson and Don Lane as they stepped down from the Senior Recreation Council. Jack Ward, June Garvin, and Elaine Lambert were welcomed to the Council after being appointed by the Select Board. Members on the Council are Joanne Woodward as Council Chair, Gloria Symonds, Judy Sanborn, Marilyn Ceriello Bresaw, Jack Ward, June Garvin, and Elaine Lambert. Many thanks to all the members for their continued dedication and service!

In April, the Annual Volunteer Banquet took place and the 2010 Volunteer of the Year Award was presented to Mrs. Pat Dawson & Mr. Bruce Dawson and Ms. Doris Shaban. Their names have been added to the Volunteer of the Year Award plaque which hangs in the entryway of the Slusser Senior Center. Congratulations to each of them.

During the year many established programs at the Slusser Senior Center continued to be successful including line dancing, bingo, movie Friday's, quilting, card making, bridge, dominoes, scrabble, ping pong, billiards, and several exercise programs. Six new exercise programs, including Zumba, core conditioning, and body sculpting were added. Seniors continued to enjoy the Senior to Senior Program with the Hopkinton High School and the Pen-Pal Program with the Harold Martin School 3rd graders. Lunch continues to be served every Wednesday with the support and generosity of businesses, community members, and non-profit groups in the area. Many thanks for their continued support of the senior lunch program!

Moving forward into 2012, the Recreation Department is looking forward to continuing their support of the Slusser Senior Center volunteers and Senior Recreation council. Plans are being made for another Yard Sale event in the spring and the 2011 Volunteer Awards Banquet in April. We are all looking forward to continued success throughout the New Year!

Report of the Police Department

To the Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Hopkinton, I submit the annual report of the Hopkinton Police Department.

The past year presented many of our residents and businesses with a difficult economic environment, as was the case across the country. It is during such times that increases in criminal activity generally occurs. The Hopkinton Police Department has worked extremely hard to protect the community from offenses such as burglary, thefts, and other forms of property crimes. Our commitment to keeping the community safe from criminal activity involves a proactive approach to deterring crime and working with our residents to keep the community one of the safest in the state.

Report of the Police Department - continued

As we actively strive to be a positive influence in the community and improve services one of our efforts involved the participation in a nationwide program to remove prescription drugs from the streets. It was our second program in as many years focused on deterring the abuse of prescription drugs. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention reported that deaths from painkiller overdoses tripled during the past decade. The drugs are a potential source of supply for illegal use and an unacceptable risk to public health and safety. The initiative resulted in the collection of over 100 pounds of prescription drugs.

The unique attributes that help make Hopkinton such a desirable place to live were exposed to an increase in certain crime statistics during the past year. The Police Department responded to 1,902 calls for service, a 9% increase over the previous year. Crimes against property were up which resulted in multiple arrests for burglaries, thefts, criminal trespassing, receiving stolen property, and conspiracy. Department activity in 2011 included:

Department Activity		
	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>
Total Arrests	187	194
DWI Arrests	27	32
Drug Arrests	22	21
Juvenile Arrests	15	11
Assaults	22	19
Sexual Assaults	2	3
Burglary	8	9
Criminal Mischief	33	30
Domestic Disturbance	37	46
Theft	31	52
Motor Vehicle Collisions	72	98
Citations	391	538
Warnings	5374	6261

The department continues our community policing efforts to reduce criminal activity while striving to provide professional, quality, and effective police services to the citizens of Hopkinton. I wish to extend my sincere gratitude to the townspeople, our departments, their employees and my staff for their continued support to make our community all that it is.

Respectfully submitted,
 Stephen S. Pecora
 Chief of Police

Report of the Department of Public Works - Highways

This past year ended with a major transition for the Highway Department. After many years as the Director of Public Works, Harold (Herm) Blanchette left the department to accept a sales position with no snow plowing. Herm has served the Town well and will be missed. We wish him well. John Thayer has been hired as the Highway Superintendent beginning in January 2012.

Along with all the regular road maintenance and plowing, several major projects took place during 2011 including total rebuilds of Dustin Road and Spring Street, and asphalt top coatings on Rollins Road, Stickney Hill Road and Gage Hill Road. The plan to readjust the Spring Street/Kearsarge Avenue intersection caused delays while waiting for the utility pole to be moved. The new intersection will be a "T" intersection requiring vehicles on Spring Street to stop before entering Kearsarge Avenue. This should slow traffic and make this heavily traveled area safer. Thank you to residents using Spring Street for their patience and we apologize for any inconvenience that was caused by the delays.

There is a great new addition on the highway barn built by our own highway crew. This addition adds much needed space. The addition was built at a much lower cost because of the talent and abilities of our crew. They did amazing work. Thanks go to them for all their effort on this project.

Work has begun to reactivate the Road Committee to assist with planning of road maintenance and rebuilds. This committee will meet approximately monthly with the Highway Superintendent to put together a comprehensive plan for our roads. If you have an interest in serving on this committee, please contact the Selectmen's Office.

Thank you to the entire Public Works Department staff for their dedication, work ethic and talent. Special thanks go to Bob McCabe for overseeing the department during the transition time. Your efforts are appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,
Neal Cass

Report of the Department of Public Works – Buildings & Grounds

The Building & Grounds Department had yet another wonderful year. What makes this a pleasurable job is the support and hard work from my employees Dave, Tom, Garrett and the DPW.

We started the year out yet again with snow removal from roads, sidewalks and roofs. In between snowstorms we were tending to the ice skating rink located at the Hopkinton Fair. This

Report of the Department of Public Works – Buildings & Grounds - continued

included plowing, snow blowing and sweeping off the rink in preparation for flooding and unfortunately this can only be done on the days that it is below freezing.

When spring came we began our routine spring clean-up which includes sand and debris removal from the lawns around town. Amongst this we swapped our equipment back over for summer, opened the bathhouses and charged the irrigation systems.

Besides the routine maintenance of the town buildings and grounds we were able to replace the roof at the Town Hall and paint the cupola. We repaired some erosion damage on the north end of the Slusser Senior Center from the rain gutters and installed drainage pipe, and replaced 100 feet of chain link fence at Georges Park.

We also replaced the roof on the highway garage and along with much help from the DPW the two departments have been able to do the majority of the work on the addition at the highway garage.

Respectfully submitted
Building & Grounds Department
Gregory Roberts

Report of the Department of Public Works - Wastewater

The Hopkinton Wastewater Department had another routine year of operation serving the residences, businesses, and public institutions in the Contoocook Village area. Millions of gallons of wastewater were treated and returned to the Contoocook River. The daily, weekly, monthly, and annual monitoring and testing insured that the water quality of the effluent met all standards. Monthly reports were sent to the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services to verify regulatory compliance. Operational and laboratory inspections were conducted and passed.

The National Pollution Discharge Elimination System General Permit was reissued in 2011. This permit spells out the extensive regulatory Environmental Protection Agency and NHDES requirements. This permit dictates water quality parameters, testing frequencies, discharge limitations, mandatory reporting and record keeping, and an array of other rules that govern the operation and Maintenance of the Wastewater Treatment Plant and sewer collection system.

There are some new requirements in the permit, such as mandatory electronic reporting to the EPA, that will be implemented but there are no changes that will lead to significant new expenses in the department. These state and federal mandates are always an operational and managerial challenge but they insure that the residents on the system get optimal service and that waterways like the Contoocook River continue to be natural resources.

Report of the Department of Public Works – Wastewater - continued

The department is funded entirely by user fees. There is an Operation and Maintenance Committee, which consists of two system users, two non-users, and one selectman, that reviews the budget, evaluates service fees, and considers long term planning. The committee makes recommendations to the Board of Selectmen who are the final authority as with all other town departments.

The Hopkinton Wastewater Department was established in 1985 when the new treatment plant and collection system was put on line. It has operated since then with no significant problems and continues to be a valuable asset to Contoocook Village and the Town of Hopkinton.

Steve Clough
Asst. PW Supt., Waste

Report of the Department of Public Works Report of the Hopkinton/Webster Municipal Solid Waste Facilities

The Hopkinton/Webster Municipal Solid Waste Facilities received and processed thousands of tons of waste materials in 2011. Trash, recyclables, construction & demolition debris, universal wastes, yard wastes, and brush were handled and/or shipped out for reuse or proper disposal. All of these services were available to the 7,500 residents of Hopkinton and Webster as well as the businesses that support these communities.

Groundwater quality has been monitored in and around the area of the MSW Facilities for over 25 years. There have been concerns that the municipal sanitary landfill on the site, which stopped accepting trash in 1989 and was closed for good in 1996, might be leaching contaminants that could threaten the local environment and nearby private drinking wells. The issue of residential well contamination was addressed in 2011.

A Community Water System, which was funded by the communities in 2010, was completed and began operating in March of 2011. The site and design was approved by the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services, the Hopkinton Public Works Department did all of the site work and installed a distribution system, and Infrastructure Construction Company of Bow built the well-house and installed the associated water supply equipment.

The residences in the Groundwater Management Zone are now receiving their drinking water from the new Community Water System. The water supplied from the new well has undergone a rigorous water quality sampling regimen involving monthly, quarterly, and annual testing for a wide variety of contaminants. All NHDES and EPA drinking water standards are being met. Employees at the MSW Facilities and the Hopkinton Highway Department have been trained, have taken classes and licensing exams, and are operating and maintaining the CWS on a daily basis.

Report of the Department of Public Works
Report of the Hopkinton/Webster Municipal Solid Waste Facilities - continued

There are constantly changing trends in the recycling and solid waste industries and evolving state and federal standards that make providing environmental services on a local level challenging. The Hopkinton/Webster Landfill Committee meets regularly to address policy, budgetary, and planning issues at the MSW Facilities. The Recycling Committee promotes environmental programs throughout the communities. The Town of Hopkinton employees who are charged with making everything work and meeting the demands of the communities are getting it done.

Steve Clough
 Asst. PW Supt., Waste

Recycling Income Statement
January 1 to December 31, 2011

Product	Weight	Revenue	Savings*
Aluminum	5.28 Tons	\$ 8,243.20	\$ 364.32
Tin	21.47 Tons	\$ 3,145.67	\$ 1,481.43
Glass	178.33 Tons	\$ 0.00	\$ 12,304.77
Plastic	18.33 Tons	\$ 10,937.41	\$ 1,264.77
Textiles	7.0 Tons	\$ 0.00	\$ 483.00
Electronics	43.648 Tons	Cost Below	\$ 3,011.71
Magazines, Mixed Paper Newspaper	350.19 Tons	\$ 31,293.58	\$ 24,163.11
Cardboard	186.65 Tons	\$ 27,923.20	\$ 12,878.85
TOTALS	810.898 Tons	\$ 81,543.06	\$ 55,951.96
*Incinerator Costs	\$ 69.00 /Ton Tipping Fee \$ Inc. /Ton Transportation \$ 69.00 /Ton Savings		

HEAVY METALS			
	Weight	Revenue	Transport, Rental & Fees
Bulk Metals	103.229 Tons	\$ 21,348.58	\$ 2,052.49
Separated Metals	1.5 Tons	\$ 2,693.34	\$ 0.00
TOTALS	104.729 Tons	\$ 24,041.92	\$ 2,052.49
Waste Oil	1,730 gallons		

Report of the Department of Public Works
Report of the Hopkinton/Webster Municipal Solid Waste Facilities - continued

Recycled fluorescent bulbs	0 (& misc.)	feet	(disposal costs \$) go out in 2012
Rechargeable batteries	500	pounds	No Disposal Costs
CFU removal	218	units	(disposal costs \$ 0.00)
Electronics			(disposal costs \$ 8,370.27)
Propane Tanks	93	units	(disposal costs \$ 0.00)
Antifreeze	150	gals.	(disposal costs \$ 170.00)

Liabilities		
Time Processing	2,195 Hours	\$ 27,437.50
Shipping (Truck Exp & Wages)	Mixed Paper/Alum & Tin Roll-offs	\$ 5,189.53
TOTAL LIABILITIES		\$ 32,627.03

Net Income/Savings	
Total Revenue and Savings	\$ 137,495.02
Total Liabilities	\$ 32,627.03
Net Income and Savings	\$ 104,867.99
Total Tons (excluding heavy metals and waste oil)	810.898 Tons
Net Income and Savings per Ton Processed	\$ 129.32

Report of the Town Clerk/Tax Collector

For the past 40 years I have enjoyed working with and for the people of Hopkinton. I can't imagine any other place to live.

I would like to thank the girls in my office, Barbara, Nancy, Laurie, Carol and Melissa for their dedicated and caring service to the town. Every office needs a team effort to provide the service that is required for this job.

I have worked with many boards during my terms and became fond of many of them for their concern for the Town and "going forward" especially Jack Prewitt and David Story. I had the pleasure of working and learning with Tom Johnson who is the most caring person I know.

One of the plusses of this job is that we get to meet all the newcomers at least once when they register their cars and we help in any way we can. We get to prepare birth certificates for all "our" Hopkinton born babies that we claim as ours. We notarize living wills and power of attorneys and process the college applications of first time students. It is such a pleasure to watch our youth grow up into men and women and come back to register to vote or raise their families, or register their first cars or buy their first homes.

There was a time when the total budget for the town was \$1,063,274, we had a resident tax and motor vehicle registrations brought in \$55,000. What a change we have all seen.

I have had the pleasure to work with the different departments in town. You won't find a more dedicated group of people than these. They are what make the town run. They care and work very hard to satisfy the needs of our residents. When my office was broken into Chief Pecora and his department worked diligently to get the suspects. Chief Schaefer always stresses safety and training to deal with falls or fires. Bob McCabe is always at our call if the driveway gets icy. Garrett is our #1 handyman and can fix anything from our furnace not firing to a door not closing. Tom is our favorite recyclable man and always keeps us smiling whether it be picking up rotten apples or trimming bushes. Steve Clough has a wealth of knowledge and is constantly trying to explain the water and sewer terms. Karen and Robin are always solving our problems.

I want to thank everyone that works for the town and also the residents. It was a pleasure to work for and with you. When people ask me what you are going to do I can answer "anything I want to?" Thanks for a wonderful learning experience.

Sincerely,

Sue