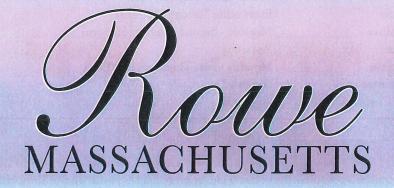


2008 Annual Town Report



Town of Rowe - Town Information and Meeting Schedules

Town Hall	Phone:	413-339-5520	
PO Box 462	Fax Number:	413-339-5316	
321 Zoar Road	Email:	admin@rowe-ma.gov	
Rowe MA 01367	Web Site:	www.rowe-ma.gov	
		ing Top	
Board of Selectmen	339-5520	Emergency	9-1-1
Town Coordinator/Town Accountant	339-5520	Police Chief Office	339-5546
Assessors' Clerk	339-5520	Fire Station	339-4001
Board of Health	339-5520	Animal Inspector	339-8429
Nurse Practitioner	339-9943	Dog Officer	339-5533
Tax Collector	339-5520	Environmental Officer	339-5588 or 339-8591
Town Clerk	339-4249 or 339-5520	Inspector of Buildings	339-8393
Treasurer	339-8587 or 339-5520	Plumbing Inspector	772-2026 x 125
		Wiring Inspector	772-2026 x 126

Administrative Office	Mon – Thurs	8:00 am to Noon and 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm
Assessors' Clerk	Wednesday	9:00 am to Noon
Police Chief	Tuesday	7:00 pm
Town Clerk	Tuesday	8:30 am to 12:00 Noon (or as otherwise posted)
Tax Collector	Thursday	9:00 am to Noon
Treasurer	Wednesday	9:00 am to Noon
Town Nurse	Wednesday	9:00 am to 5:00 pm (home visits by appointment)
	Friday	9:00 am to 5:00 pm (home visits by appointment)
Library	3 Days/Week:	Tuesday 10 am–5 pm, Wednesday 10 am–8 pm, Saturday 10 am–5 pm

Wednesday 7-10 am and 4-7 pm, Saturday 10 am-4 pm, Sunday 12 noon-4 pm

Transfer Station

3 Days/Week:

Board/Commission	Frequency	Location
Board of Selectmen	Alternate Tuesdays (8:00 am)	Rowe Town Hall
Assessors	Fourth Wednesday (6:00 pm)	Rowe Town Hall
Board of Health	Every other Tuesday (7:00 pm)	Rowe Town Hall
School Committee	Monthly - Second Tuesday (6:30 pm)	Rowe Elementary School
Library Trustees	As posted	Rowe Town Library
Council on Aging	Monthly - First Thursday (10:00 am)	Rowe Town Hall
Finance Committee	As posted	Rowe Town Hall
Conservation Commission	As posted	Rowe Town Hall
Park Commission	Every other Thursday (6:30 pm)	Rowe Town Hall
Planning Board	Monthly - First Thursday (10:00 am)	Rowe Town Hall

All other Committee, Commission and Board meetings are held as posted on the Town Hall Bulletin Board at least 48 hours (not including Sundays or legal holidays) prior to the time and date of the meeting. Please check official bulletin board as meeting dates/times may change. All meetings are public and citizens are encouraged to attend. :

Two Hundred and Twenty-Second

Annual Report

Of the

Town of Rowe Massachusetts



For the Year Ending

December 31, 2008

Compiled by: Ellen L. Babcock Printed by: Adams Specialty & Printing Co. Adams MA 01220

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In Fond Remembrance

Neil Dennis Halberg

September 7, 1952 – October 9, 2008 Place of Death: Greenfield, MA



Photo by Ellen Babcock

Neil's front yard on beautiful Pelham Lake

Town of Rowe

County of Franklin Commonwealth of Massachusetts

(First Settlement—Fort Pelham 1744 – Originally Known as the Plantation of Myrifield) Incorporated February 9, 1785

Population: 407
Total Area: 24.07 Square Miles
Land Area: 23.55 Square Miles
Public Roads: 45.30 Miles
Elevation: 1,370 Feet
Longitude: W 072 53 55
Latitude: N 42 41 42

FORM OF GOVERNMENT:

Board of Selectmen, Open Town Meeting

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING:

Second Monday in May

ANNUAL ELECTION:

First Saturday following Annual Town Meeting

Fiscal Year 2008 Tax Rates and Assessed Valuations:

CLASS	TAX RATE	VALUATION	LEVY	% OF TOTAL
Residential	\$4.52 per thousand	\$ 48,143,917.00	\$ 217,610.50	7.913%
Commercial	9.64 per thousand	320,368.00	3,088.35	0.112%
Industrial	9.64 per thousand	156,703,064.00	1,510,617.54	54.927%
Personal Property	9.64 per thousand	105,694,320.00	1,018,893.24	37.048%
Total	3	10,861,669.00	2,750,209.63	100.000%
Fiscal Year 2008 Re	venue Sources			
Tax L	•		2,750,209.63	
	Receipts		83,060.00	
	ry Sheet		176,085.00	
	r Available Funds		1,335,806.00 *	
Free (97,031.00	
Tot	cal		4,442,191.63	
Fiscal Year 2008 Ap	propriations and Charges			
	opriations		4,307,831.00 *	
Cherr	ry Sheet Offsets		95,951.00	
	ry Sheet Charges		13,471.00	
	& Ice Deficit		0.00	
	ance for Abatements & Exemp	otions	24,938.63	
Tot	al		4,442,191.63	

^{*} Includes transfer of \$1,100,000 from Stabilization Fund to create Capital Stabilization Fund.

Rowe - At a Glance

Socioeconomic

County	Franklin
School Structure	K-6; 7-12 Tuitioned
Form of Government	Selectmen / Open Town Meeting
2007 Population	347
2009 Labor Force	179
2009 Unemployment Rate	5.6
1999 Per Capita Income	28,134
2007 Population Per Square Mile	14.7
2008 Housing Units Per Square Mile	8.9
2008 Paved Road Miles	36.24
EQV Per Capita (2008 EQV/2007 Population)	910,794
Number of Registered Vehicles (January 2008)	502
Average Age of Vehicles (January 2008)	11.68
Number of Registered Voters (Dec 2008)	308

Fiscal Year 2009 Tax Classification

Tax Classification	Assessed Values	Tax Levy	Tax Rate
Residential Open Space Commercial Industrial	49,074,971 0 426,946 151,162,269 115,474,770	223,782 0 4,158 1,472,321 1,124,724	4.56 0.00 9.74 9.74 9.74
Personal Property Total	316,138,956	2,824,985	7.7 1

Revenue by Sources

	FY08	3	FY0	9
Revenue Source	Amount	% of Total	Amount	% of Total
Tax Levy	2,750,210	61.91	2,824,985	80.16
State Aid	176,085	3.96	216,322	6.14
Local Receipts	83,060	1.87	74,880	2.12
Other Available	1,432,837	32.26	407,839	11.57
Total	4,442,192	100.0	3,524,026	100.0

Proposition 21/2 Levy Capacity

	FY08	FY09
New Growth	14,386	8,062
Override	0	0
Debt Exclusion	0	0
Levy Limit	2,750,592	2,827,419
Excess Capacity	382	2,434
Ceiling	7,771,542	7,903,474
Override Capacity	5,170,950	5,229,805

Bond Ratings

Moody's as of Dec 2008 and S&P as of Dec 2008

Not rated

Other Available Funds

7/1/2	2008
Free	Casl
220	,567

FY2008 Stabilization Fund 2,299,194

FY2009 Overlay Reserve 17,680

Rowe Average Single Family Tax Bill (tax bills issued semi-annually)

	FY05	FY06	FY07	FY08	FY09
Number of Single Family Parcels	206	202	204	208	208
Assessed Value of Single Family	142,572	172,068	189,871	195,061	200,174
Average Single Family Tax Bill	512	705	780	882	913

State Average Single Family Tax Bill

	FY05	FY06	FY07	FY08
Average Assessed Value Single Family	352,820	385,502	406,673	403,705
Average Single Family Tax Bill	3,588	3,801	3,962	4,110

Certification

Most Recent Next Scheduled

2009 2012

Cherry Sheet Aid

	FY08	FY09
Education Aid	164,552	201,971
General Government	11,533	14,351
Total Receipts	176,085	216,322
Total Assessments	-13,471	-33,546
Net State Aid	162,614	182,776

Fiscal Year 2008 Schedule A – Actual Revenues and Expenditures

	General Fund	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Enterprise Funds	Trust Revenue	Total All Funds
Revenues	3,075,333	272,906	0	0	103,826	3,452,065
Expenditures	2,729,073	260,837	0	0	10,418	3,000,328
Police	25,213	0	0	0	0	25,213
Fire	54,401	0	0	0	0	54,401
Education	1,075,778	147,542	0	0	Ö	1,223,320
Public Works	596,476	97,411	0	0	0	693,887
Gen'l Fund Debt Service	0					0,007
Health Ins	294,147	0	0	0	0	294.147
Pension	104,815	0	0	0	0	104,815
All Other	578,243	15,884	0	0	10,418	604,545

Data does **not** reflect any transfers to or from other funds. Data should not be used to calculate an ending fund balance.

2008 Total Revenues and Expenditures Per Capita

	General	Special	Capital	Enterprise	Trust	Total
	Fund	Revenue	Projects	Funds	Revenue	All Funds
Revenues	8,862.00	786.50	0.0	0.0	299.20	9,948.30
Expenditures	7,864.30	751.70	0.0	0.0	30.00	8,646.50

Elected Town Officials

BOARD OF ASSESSORS		MODERATOR	
Carrie Y. Silva	2009	Robert J. Clancy	2010
Heidi Cousineau	2010	•	
Frederick N. Williams, Chair	2011	PARK COMMISSION	
Trouble 11. The same		Earl P. Carlow	2009
BOARD OF HEALTH		Russell W. Jolly, Chair	2010
Angela F. Foshay	2009	MaryJo A. Phelps	2011
Daniel P. Poplawski, Chair	2010	,	
Catherine T. Snyder	2011	PLANNING BOARD	
Cutilities II Say the		David A. Roberson, Chair	2009
BOARD OF SELECTMEN		Angela F. Foshay	2010
Susan C. Wood	2009	Ellynn B. Packard	2011
James D. Brown, Chair	2010	Jo-ann M. Brown	2012
William E. Loomis	2011	Robert Dykeman	2013
CEMETERY COMMISSION		SCHOOL COMMITTEE	
Richard A. Tower	2009	Lisa A. Danek-Burke	2009
James H. Williams, Chair	2010	Rebecca F. Richardson	2010
James W. Taylor	2011	Margaret B. Rice, Chair	2011
CONSTABLE		TAX COLLECTOR	
Christine A. Tower	2011	Sandra P. Daviau	2010
FINANCE COMMITTEE		TOWN CLERK	
Cara Morano, Chair	2009	Carrie Y. Silva	2011
Cynthia M. Laffond	2009		
David Dvore	2010	TREASURER	
Anne E. Besgen	2011	Heidi Cousineau	2009
[Vacant]	2011		
LIBRARY TRUSTEES			
Jo-ann M. Brown	2009		
Melissa S. Quinn	2010		
Ellynn B. Packard, Chair	2011		
Lily IIII D. Lackara, Citari			

Appointed Town Officials/Employees

(Unless otherwise specified, appointments are made by Board of Selectmen and expire June 2009)

TOWN COORDINATOR (3 yrs—expires 2011)

Ellen L. Babcock (6/24/08)

TOWN ACCOUNTANT (3 yrs—expires 2011)

Ellen L. Babcock (6/24/08)

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT/ ASSISTANT TO ACCOUNTANT

Sandra P. Daviau (6-24-08)

CHIEF PROCUREMENT OFFICER

Ellen L. Babcock (6-24-08)

TOWN COUNSEL

Kopelman and Paige (6-24-08)

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS SUPERINTENDENT

James W. Taylor (6-24-08)

ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICER

James W. Taylor (6-24-08)

TREE WARDEN

James W. Taylor (6-24-08)

SUPERINTENDENT OF INSECT PEST/ELM DISEASE CONTROL

James W. Taylor (6-24-08)

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR

Edwin L. May (6-24-08)

FIRE CHIEF

Edwin L. May (6-24-08)

FIRE DEPARTMENT OFFICERS (6-24-08)

Daniel J. Miller, Deputy Chief Dennis F. May, Captain Paul McLatchy, Captain Jonathan Lively, Lieutenant William N. Reardon, Lieutenant James A. White, Lieutenant

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE COORDINATOR

Edwin L. May (6-24-08)

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS CONTROL OFFICER

Edwin L. May (6-24-08)

SPECIAL POLICE OFFICER - CHIEF

Henry J. Dandeneau (6-24-08)

SPECIAL POLICE OFFICERS (6-24-08)

Charles Bellows
Jared Bellows
Melinda Herzig
Holland Herzig
Christopher Selmi Hyytinen
Gail May
David Rich
Diane B. Wilder

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (6-24-08)

Gail May, EMT, EMS Coordinator Christopher Selmi Hyytinen, EMT

INSPECTOR OF BUILDINGS

William G. Foster (6-24-08)

INSPECTOR OF PLUMBING & GAS

FCCIP/Andrew French (6-24-08)

INSPECTOR OF WIRING

FCCIP/James Slowinski (6-24-08)

CONSTABLE

Roger L. Brown (6-24-08)

DOG OFFICER

Russell Powers (6-24-08)

ANIMAL INSPECTOR

Laura S. Roberson (nominated 3-19-08) (Appt'd by MA Agri Resources-Animal Health Div 05-01-08)

CONSERVATION COMMISSION (3-vr term stag)

Myra B. Carlow (6-24-08) exp 6/2011 Robert R. Rice (6/27/06) exp 6/2009 Robert J. Clancy (7-10-07) exp 6/2010 Prudence Berry (8-21-07) exp 6/2010 Nancy A. Brown (8-21-07) exp 6/2010

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

3-yr term, staggered
Carol F. Lively (3 yrs – expires 2011) (6/24/08)
Laura S. Roberson (3 yrs—expires 2011) (6/24/08)
Debra Crowningshield (3 yrs—expires 2009) (7/27/06)
Jonathon Lively (3 yrs – expires 2010) (7-10-07)
MaryJo A. Phelps (3 yrs – expires 2010) (10-16-07)

MEASURERS OF WOOD, BARK & LUMBER (3)

Ellsworth E. Palmer (6-24-08) James H. Williams (6-24-08) Thomas P. Danek, Jr. (6-24-08)

FENCE VIEWERS (2)

Earl P. Carlow (6-24-08)

[Vacant]

OLD HOME DAY COMMITTEE (6-11-08)

Anne E. Besgen

Io-ann M. Brown

Thomas L. Chiofalo

Helene S. Glass

David W. Lenth

Mary E. Lenth

Carol F. Lively

William A. Loomis, Chair

Mary E. Paige

Michael J. Phillips

Margaret B. Rice

Robert R. Rice

Christine A. Tower

REGISTRARS OF VOTERS (8-5-08)

Lisa L. Miller

(D) (8-19-08)

Judith A. Pierce

(R)

Helen R. Shields Carrie Y. Silva

(D) (R)

ELECTION TELLERS/WORKERS (8-5-08)

Linda J. Bickford

(D)

Earl Carlow

(D)(U) Resigned 10-21-08

Heidi Cousineau

(U)

Laurie L. Laffond Claudine M. Poplawski

(U)

Rebecca F. Richardson

(D)

Kristen C. Swenson

(R)

Carole A. Veber

(R)

Shirley Veber

(R)

CULTURAL COUNCIL Max 2 (3) yr terms

Terms must be staggered

Jo-ann M. Brown (7-10-07) (max 2010)

Barbara J. Roche (6/27/06) (max June 2012)

Elizabeth Vernes (6//27/06) (max June 2012)

Jennifer Y. Wood (10-17-06) (max Oct 2012)

Kerri L. McLatchy (11-13-07) (max Nov 2013)

Meghan K. McLatchy (11-13-07) (max Nov 2013)

BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE (6-11-08)

Marilyn H. Belval

Jo-ann M. Brown

Nancy A. Brown

David W. Lenth

MaryJo A. Phelps

Richard A. Tower

John H. Williams

COUNCIL ON AGING (6-11-08)

Marilyn Belval

Jo-ann M. Brown, Secretary

Sandy P. Daviau, Co-Chair & Treasurer

Mary Ann Dykeman

Ellynn B. Packard Resigned 12-3-08

Christine A. Tower, Co-Chair

Shirley Veber

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS (3-year term)

Lillian H. Danek, Term Expires 2009 (7/25/06)

Floyd W. Smith, Term Expires 2009 (7/25/06)

Roger L. Brown, Term Expires 2010 (7-24-07)

Judith A. Pierce, Term Expires 2010 (7-24-07)

Marilyn Wilson, Term Expires 2011 (09-30-08)

ZBA ALTERNATES – two (3 year terms)

Myra B. Carlow, Term Expires 2010 (7-24-07)

Leonard J. Laffond, Term Expires 2011 (09-30-08)

AGENT FOR VETERANS

James D. Brown (6-24-08)

Susan C. Wood, Acting Veterans' Agent (9-16-08)

BY-LAW REVIEW COMMITTEE (6-24-08)

Myra B. Carlow

Angela F. Foshay

Ellynn B. Packard

John H. Williams

ROWE HISTORICAL COMMISSION

3-yr term, staggered

John H. Williams 3-Yr Term Exp 2010 (7-10-07)

Sharon C. Hudson 3-Yr Term Exp 2011 (10-15-08)

Judith A. Pierce 1-Yr Term Exp 2009 (10-15-08)

ROWE ENERGY COMMITTEE

John R. H. Packard (6-11-08)

James D. Brown (6-24-08)

Lisa A. Danek-Burke (6-24-08)

William A. Loomis (8-5-08)

FIELD DRIVERS (2)

Sandra P. Daviau (6-24-08)

[Vacant]

POUNDKEEPER

Sandra P. Daviau (6-24-08)

YANKEE ATOMIC ELECTRIC CO. CAB

(Citizen Advisory Board)

Leonard J. Laffond

YANKEE LAND COMMITTEE (12-9-08)

Leonard J. Laffond

David W. Lenth

William A. Loomis

Cara Morano

Walter J. Quist

David A. Roberson

Frederick N. Williams

John H. Williams

BROADBAND COMMITTEE (6-24-08)

Evelyn L. Dandeneau

David Dvore

Russell Jolly

Raymond Wilson

Daniel Wessman

ROWE-HEATH EDUCATION EXPLORATORY COMMITTEE

David Dvore (6-24-08)
Gerrit C. White (6-24-08)
[Vacant]

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLANNING COMM

William A. Loomis – BOS (10-15-08)
Cara Morano – FinCom (10-15-08)
David Roberson – Planning Bd (10-15-08)
Margaret B. Rice – Sch Supt or designee (10-15-08)
Myra B. Carlow – at large (10-15-08)
Frederick N. Williams – Assessor (10-28-08)
Ellen L. Babcock (Twn Acctnt—ex-officio) (8-5-08)

GRACY HOUSE COMMITTEE (10-28-08)

Marilyn H. Belval William C. Belval Mary Ann Dykeman Robert Dykeman Sharon C. Hudson Cynthia M. Laffond Leonard J. Laffond Judith A. Pierce John H. Williams

Regional Committees

CARL NILMAN SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Rebecca Bradley (6-24-08)

CDBG 2007 HOUSING REHAB PROGRAM CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Mary E. Paige, Rowe Representative (6-24-08)

CDBG 2008 HOUSING REHAB PROGRAM CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Mary E. Paige, Rowe Representative (10-28-08)

FRANKLIN REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS, REPRESENTATIVE TO

James D. Brown (6-24-08)

FRANKLIN REGIONAL PLANNING BOARD, Representative to

David Roberson (6-24-08)

FRANKLIN REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY REPRESENTATIVE

Mary Ann Dykeman (6-24-08)

MMAC (MOHAWK MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE), Representative to

[Vacant]

Appointments to Fill Elected Position Vacancies

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Carrie Y. Silva (3-11-08)
(Joint appointment—BOS and Assessors)

FINANCE COMMITTEE

James E. Sousa (3-11-08)
(Joint appointment—BOS and FinCom)

Note: These terms expired at the Annual Town Election May 17, 2008.

Resignations of Elected Officials

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Ellen L. Babcock *(2-16-08)*

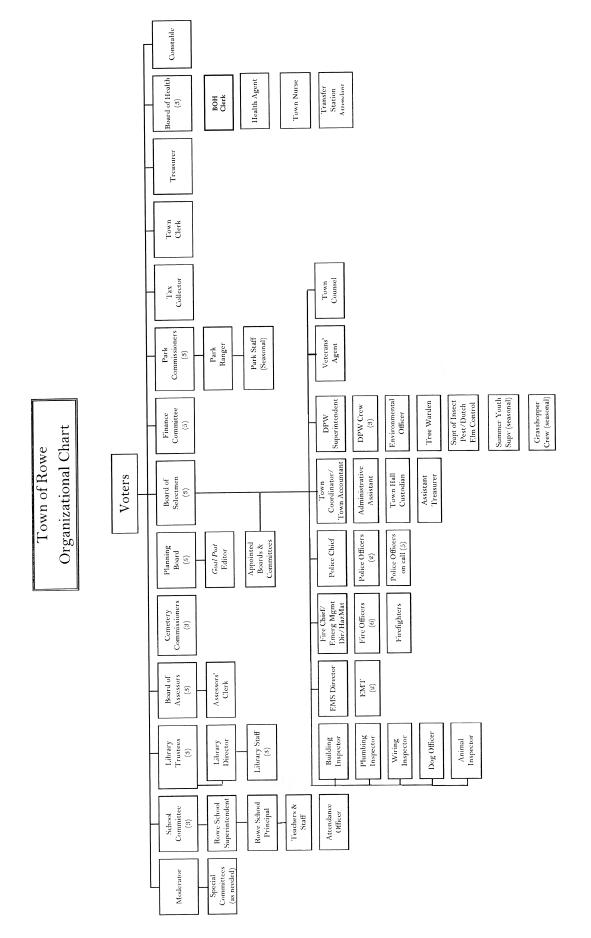
Other Appointments

ASSISTANT TOWN TREASURER

Susan B. Taylor (appt'd by Treasurer 6-20-08) (Approved by the Selectboard)

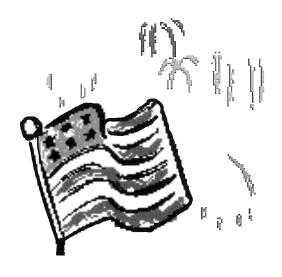
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR

Ellen L. Babcock (appt'd by the Registrar 6-18-08)



Town of Rowe Appointed Boards, Committees & Other Positions

Schools	Carl Nilman Scholarship Fund	MMAC Representative	Culture & Recreation	Cultural Council	Old Home Day Committee	
Public Safety	Building Code Board of Appeals	Fence Viewers	Field Drivers	Pound Keepers	Measurers of Wood, Bark & Lumber	
Human Services	Council on Aging	FCCA Representative	FCHCC Representative	FCSWMD Representative	Veterans' Agent	
Planning & Environment	Agricultural Commission	Broadband Internet Committee	Conservation	Energy Committee	Rowe Historical Commission	Zoning Board of Appeals
Elections	Election Officers	Election Workers	Registrars of Voters			
Administration & Finance	By-Law Review Committee	FRCOG Representative	Public Works	Beautification Committee	Gracy House Study Committee	



PART I

Reports of Committees, Departments and Boards

Board of Selectmen

William Loomis was welcomed to the Board of Selectmen in May 2008 by members James Brown and Susan Wood. Susan Wood declined the honor of being Chair of the Board and nominated James Brown, who was elected unanimously by the Board. Unfortunately, due to an ongoing family emergency Chair Brown was unable to attend meetings after July of 2008. Susan Wood agreed to act as Chair in Mr. Brown's absence.

We have continued to work on the projects and issues related to efforts providing for the future stability and needs of the Town, for the present and the future.

The Capital Improvement Plan/ Capital Stabilization Fund

This plan and fund are the mechanisms by which the town continues to hold increases in the operating budgets to approximately $2^{1}/{2}$ % per year and accumulate sufficient savings to ensure the continuing preservation of the assets that the town is so fortunate to own. We are in the everfluid process of developing and maintaining a list of all the capital items (items with a useful life of five years or more) in the town, the age of each item, the replacement cost, and how and when it should be replaced.

In the Spring of 2008 the Selectboard voted unanimously to add \$153,750 to the Capital Stabilization Fund for FY2009 (which represents the original \$150,000, plus 2.5%). Continuing the practice in the Spring of 2009, the board has added \$157,594 to the FY2010 budget for this fund. The Capital Stabilization Fund will be used for the substantial repair and replacement of the town's capital items for at least the next twenty years. These items are no longer added into the budget of Town departments each year, as the monies for replacement items are being taken from the Capital Stabilization Fund.

The Select Board, working in conjunction with the Finance Committee, requested that each department, committee, commission and board with responsibility for capital assets carefully review the Capital Improvement Plan and discuss with them any recommended changes. The Capital Improvement Plan continues to be revised, as necessary, to reflect adjustments and corrections in information and assumptions.

Telephone Service Provided by Verizon New England

The Select Board members continued to receive complaints from town residents about the continued poor telephone service many of them receive; i.e., noise and static on the line, frequent dropped calls, lengthy interruptions in service, and delays in repairs. This was verified by a survey, the results of which were sent to our Town Counsel, who continued to represent us as plaintiffs against Verizon. Subsequently, we have joined the Department of Telecommunications and Cable's regional investigation into Verizon's basic telephone service quality in Berkshire,

Hampden, Hampshire and Franklin counties, consolidating Rowe's complaint with many others towns in Western MA.

High-speed Internet Service/Broadband Access

Broadband DSL came to Rowe in 2009!! It has made quite a difference to many households. What a dramatic change! Unfortunately, there are still many households unserved. The Broadband and Telecom Committee has been working on this challenge. (Please see their separate report.) We appreciate their efforts and hope they will soon have success. It is important that ALL households in Rowe be served.

Energy Building Improvements in Town Buildings

The Energy Committee has had a very busy year. (Please see their separate report.) As a result of their tremendous effort, the town entered into an Energy Savings Performance Contract with Siemens Building Technologies of Canton, MA. The upgrade of heating, air handling and lighting systems and buttoning up of buildings began during the summer. Most work took place at the Rowe Elementary School. Other buildings involved were the Town Hall, Fire Station, Library and DPW Garage. The town has already begun to realize energy savings. Thank you to the Energy Committee—Jack Packard, Lisa Danek-Burke and Bill Loomis—for putting in many, many hours. Without you this program could not have happened.

Community Development Block Grant Funds

The Selectboard thanks Ellen Babcock for preparing and submitting the documents necessary to continue the town's eligibility for CDBG funds used by eligible families to make improvements in their homes. We are happy to report that 13 Rowe households have been able to take advantage of this worthwhile program.

Gracy House

The Gracy House has been undergoing a makeover by many, many dedicated volunteer townspeople and local contractors. Structural and carpentry improvements have been completed by Steve Crowningshield of Rowe, electrical wiring updates and installation of an alarm system was done by Jerry Ferguson of Heath, and the plumbing has been updated by Richie Codogni of Readsboro.

Work inside the building has been ongoing by the Gracy House Committee... Bill & Marilyn Belval, Bob & Maryann Dykeman and Cindy & Lenny Laffond. Dick Quinn has also pitched in. They've done a marvelous job. The yard was spruced up by volunteers Dave Lenth, Rosie Gordon, Lenny Laffond, Carol Lively, Christina Lively, Anne Besgen, Jodi Brown, our Road Crew and others. Many thanks to all of you. If there's anyone we failed to mention, please accept our apologies. We do appreciate what everyone has done.

The building should be ready for use in early Spring 2009.

Public Safety

We are fortunate to count among our residents skilled and conscientious Police, Fire and EMS personnel. We extend our thanks to them for the many hours they give to the Town receiving training and responding, at all hours, to emergencies. Thank you for all you do to: Police Chief Henry Dandeneau, Fire Chief/Emergency Management Director Ed May, EMS Coordinator Gail May, the firefighters, the first responders and members of the police force. A special thank you to Kathy May for all the delicious home baked treats she and Ed provide for the monthly Monday night Firefighter Training Meetings!

Department of Public Works

We thank the 'Road Crew' for being so helpful to residents and guests, for maintaining our roads, and for all the 'little' tasks they perform to give us such an excellent quality of life in the country.

December 11th Ice Storm

A special thank you goes to the public safety personnel, the DPW crew, and to those townspeople that helped out following the December 11th Ice Storm. The emergency centers at the Rowe School and the Rowe Fire Station were manned by volunteers during the five day power outage following the event. These centers provided heat, shelter, showers and food to many townspeople. We extend a heartfelt thank you to all who volunteered to help out their neighbors in need.

Thank you to our Staff

We gratefully thank Julie Shippee, Sandy Daviau and Ellen Babcock for attending to the details that make up the work and days of the Town Hall. To Ellen Babcock we owe an additional debt of gratitude for stepping up to the plate in assisting the Selectboard with her expertise and willingness to research, make calls, ask questions and find answers. And congratulations to Ellen for winning again at the MMA's Annual Town Report contest. Rowe's report for 2007 Rowe came in third.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan C. Wood, Acting Chair William A. Loomis James D. Brown, in absentia

Agricultural Commission

In April of 2008 the Rowe Agricultural Commission finalized the language and approved the draft "Right-to Farm" bylaw. It will be included with the set of bylaw revisions to be voted on in an upcoming special town meeting. The Commission also had its first experience as mediator between two households concerning loose livestock and this was peacefully resolved.

In November the Commission discussed attending the first Massachusetts Agricultural Commission Conference held in Worcester. Unfortunately, none of the members were able to attend due to time conflicts. This conversation led to what projects we might like to pursue in the future such as clinics or mailings, and it was decided that we would ask the Town for a modest sum to fund such activities. In December voters approved a budget request for \$250 at the special town meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Roberson, Chairman Deb Crowningshield Carol Lively Jonathon Lively MaryJo Phelps

Animal Inspector

Cattle: Dairy	12	
Cattle: Beef	27	
Cattle: Steer/Oxen	2	
Goats	41	
Sheep	7	
Horses/Ponies	27	
Chickens	171	
Turkeys	2	
Waterfowl	10	
Rabbits	32	

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Roberson Animal Inspector

Beautification

2008 gave us a hard and icy winter. "Yours truly" cut her hands freeing her croci from their icy glaze. Their little heads were straining for a glimpse of the pale lemon sun.

Indeed, this makes the advent of Spring all the more satisfying and glorious!! First the carpet of mixed croci spilling down the hill beside the Library. Then the side garden daffodils at the Town Hall and the Veterans' Memorial, and the Tunnel Road silver and gold display (compliments of Babcock, Lenth, Laffond, Besgen, et.al.).

Jodi Brown and Marilyn Belval waited for the red and yellow tulip array to fade, and then planted dusty miller, hearty marigolds and the deep purple petunia waves near the Town Hall. Scarlet geraniums were purchased and placed in the wishing well and the window boxes of the Library. They were left potted to be planted by the town veterans (Rowe Community Church) to complete a red, white and blue theme (geraniums, allysum and ageratum) in front of the Verterans' Memorial on Memorial Day.

We were fortunate to be joined this year by the vigorous, avid gardener David Lenth, making it possible to have a quorum at our meetings.

The committee met and voted for Sean Loomis' GreenCare Landscape service to again weed, mulch, prepare and fertilize. We had more workshops than meetings. A Spring walk through with arborist Alan White and Tree Warden Jim Taylor led to our decisions regarding which tree and where, which should lead to a spectacular Spring show.

It was member Nancy Brown who researched and found arborist White who gave an informative workshop regarding trees to our members. Alan also collaborated closely with Tree Warden/DPW Superintendent Jim Taylor who deserves "kudos" for his patience, time and actual labor with crew (Lance, Rick and Matt) planting and watering the new saplings.

Nancy deserved much credit for her expertise in Latin and knowledge regarding the vast varieties offered. The committee deeply regrets her absence due to illness. Husband and Selectman Jim Brown was also involved in this project, and Rosie Gordon was a volunteer (waterer and weeder). Thanks again Rosie.

David Lenth organized a work bee behind the Gracy House. He also did battle with some wasps there. Marilyn Belval, Lenny Laffond, Anne Besgen, Carol Lively, Christine Lively, Dave Lenth and Rosie de-minted a vast area in the humid heat of August.

I believe it was Carol who maintained the gorgeous impatiens' area greeting those who enter town. Jodi tried to keep up with watering the hanging baskets of the gazebo.

Dave cared for and staked the peonies this year. Cindy Laffond kicked off the "Knock Out" roses with her skilled pruning. The committee thanks the Selectboard (Jim, Sue & Bill) for having a new section of split rail fence installed next to the Veterans' Memorial. It will be planted with more "Knock Out" roses in Spring 2009. Thank you to the Town Crew also for the fence installation.

Pumpkins, scarecrows, window-box gourds, corn stalks a la Dick, and mums kept our Autumn days festive. Dave planted perennial sedum at Brittingham Hill island.

MaryJo festooned the town areas with garland and bows in December, and member Lenth presented us with two hand-carved deer that resided over the Town Green near the wishing well.

I apologize for any unintended "omissions" of thanks.

Respectfully submitted,

Jodi Brown

Members:
Jodi Brown, Chair
Marilyn Belval
Nancy Brown
David Lenth
MaryJo Phelps
Dick Tower
Jack Williams

Board of Health

The Board of Heath would like to thank **Danette Reynolds-Gallaghar** for her tireless and exemplary service. She not only performed her duties as Board member and Chairperson but took on most of the pertinent administrative tasks, spending countless hours in the office and the field. Thank you, Danette. With Danette's departure, the board elected **Dan Poplawski** as Chairman. Danette's vacancy left a Board seat open during the spring election. The Board welcomed new member **Cathy Snyder**. Cathy has proved to be hard working and has made herself valuable to the Board. She comes to us with 34 years of nursing and health care experience. Her expertise in the field has afforded us the ability to make many decisions without uncertainty or indecision.

Board of Health Clerk

From January 1 until June 30, 2008 **Ellen Babcock** served as the Board of Health Clerk. Ellen had done an excellent job as clerk and the Board is appreciative of her years of service. In July, The Board appointed **Linda Bickford** as their new clerk. Linda comes to us with many years of experience and has worked well in organizing the office and performing all tasks that are asked of her. Her positive attitude and energy is an asset to our Board and we thank her for accepting the position.

Rowe Health Agent

Lisa Danek-Burke accepted reappointment as Health Agent for the town. She conducts inspections (food establishment, bed and breakfast, children's camps, and housing), performs soil evaluations, and reviews all septic system plans. She is a Registered Sanitarian, is *Serv-Safe* certified, is our Title 5 Inspector, and is a Certified Soil Evaluator. Her knowledge is often sought by the Board and we greatly appreciate her efforts.

Title 5

The Board reviewed all building permit applications submitted for review by the Building Inspector, as required by state Title 5 regulations. Title 5 septic system and soils evaluations/percolation tests are a major portion of the Board's workload. -[Details are on the next page.]

Transfer Station/Solid Waste Disposal

Dick Tower has once again been reappointed to Transfer Station Attendant. When Dick has been unable to work, **Jim Lively** and **Ted Palmer** have continued to share in the responsibilities of filling in for Dick. All of their hard work is greatly appreciated.

The Board thanks **Jan Ameen** and the staff at Franklin County Solid Waste Management District (FCSWMD) for providing us with such good service. FCSWMD manages all

of our solid waste, recycling and hauling contracts; the regional hazardous waste collection days; and our sharps and bio-hazard waste collection. They also compile all necessary reports and statistics throughout the year as well as respond promptly to our questions and requests. [Please see their report in the *Regional* section.]

Recycling

The Board is very pleased to see that our recycling rate for paper, glass and plastic was up 2.4% from last year (2008 - 24.7% vs. 2007 - 22.3%). Rowe is still ranked near the bottom of the nineteen FCSWMD towns, but we are very pleased with everyone's efforts. Thank you. Earnings from recycling are held in escrow by the FCSWMD and used to purchase copy paper for the town offices and offset our annual assessment from FCSWMD.

Water Management

Bill Enser and Berkshire-Enviro Labs of Lee, MA continued to serve as our Certified Water Operator for our four (4) Public Water Supplies—the Town Hall well, the Rowe Elementary School well, the Avery Fountain and the well at Pelham Lake Park. Berkshire-Enviro Labs conducts monthly testing on these four water supplies as well as weekly testing at the swimming area at Pelham Lake Park during the swimming season.

Town Nurse

Sheila Litchfield was reappointed as the town nurse. Sheila continues to serve the many town residents that seek medical attention. Sheila continues to maintain a positive relationship with our medical consultant, Dr. Richard Warner, writes articles for the *Goal Post*, and provides the board with monthly summary reports. The monthly reports are very useful to the Board in assessing how the residents are served and to justify the position and the hours that Sheila is working. We would like to thank Sheila for her hard work and dedication to the residents she serves.

In Closing...

The Board of Health has faced both triumphs and challenges in this calendar year. Through everything, we continue to perform our duties as Board members by valuing team effort and making what we feel are the best decisions possible for the town and the residents of Rowe. Thank you all for your continued support and hard work.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel Poplawski, Chair Angela F. Foshay Catherine T. Snyder

Board of Health - Inspection, Permit and Test Data

TITLE 5 INSPECTIONS

Map 09 Lot 19	Tunnel Rd. (Houghtaling)	Conditionally Passed
Map 12 Lot 55	Potter Rd (Pike)	Passad

Map 11 Lot 80 Ford Hill Rd. (May) Failed (Distribution box to be replaced)

TITLE 5 SOIL EVALUATIONS/PERCOLATION TESTS

Map 11 Lot 61	Stone Hill Rd. (Woodward	Passed
Map 01 Lot 58	Newell Cross Rd. (Feldman)	Passed
Map 12 Lot 89	Ford Hill Rd. (Travis)	Passed
Map 11 Lot 08	Stone Rd. (Carey)	Not passed
Map 11 Lot 08	Stone Rd. (Carey)	Passed
M 1 00 T . 00	TX 1 7 7 1 17	rabbea

Map 03 Lot 03 Hazelton Rd. (Bryant) Evaluation pending

SEPTIC SYSTEM INSTALLATION PERMITS ISSUED

Map 09 Lot 19	Tunnel Rd. (Houghtaling)	Repair
Map 11 Lot 61	Stone Hill Rd. (Woodward)	Repair
Map 11 Lot 80	Ford Hill Rd. (May)	Repair

SEPTIC SYSTEM INSTALLATION FINAL INSPECTIONS

Map 09 Lot 19	Tunnel Rd. (Houghtaling)
Map 11 Lot 61	Stone Hill Rd. (Woodward)
Map 11 Lot 80	Ford Hill Rd (May)
Map 04 Lot 22	Brittingham Hill Rd. (Pierce)

SEPTIC PUMPING RECORDS

Map 11 Lot 18 Map 13 Lot 26 Map 08 Lot 07 Map 11 Lot 18 Map 11 Lot 87 Map 11 Lot 80 Map 07 Lot 26 Map 03 Lot 28 Map 11 Lot 61 Map 11 Lot 19	Cross Rd. (Williams College) Hazelton Rd. (Besgen) Petrie Rd. (Lively) Cross Rd. (Williams College) Potter Rd. (Donelson) Ford Hill Rd. (May) Davenport Rd. (Katz) Zoar Rd. (Veber) Stone Hill Rd. (Woodward) Cross Rd. (May)	1000 gal. 1000 gal. 1000 gal. 2500 gal. 1500 gal. 1000 gal. 1000 gal. 1000 gal.	Good Good Good Good Condition not determined Okay Okay Okay
		1000 gal. 1000 gal.	
Map 11 Lot 19 Map 11 Lot 116	Cross Rd. (May) Old Cyrus Stage Rd. (Lowell)	1000 gal 1500 gal	Good Good
Map 04 Lot 11 Map 11 Lot 18	County Rd. (Brown) Cross Rd. (Williams College)	1250 gal.	Good
1714p 11 LOC 10	Cross ita. (willtallis College)	2500 gal.	Good

PERMITS ISSUED

Food Establishments:

Rowe Camp & Conference Center (2) - Farm House Kitchen; Rec Hall Kitchen

Maple House Bed & Breakfast - Bed & Breakfast/Catering Rowe Elementary School - Kitchen

Food Service, Temporary:

Rowe Community Church

Rowe Camp & Conference Center

Rowe Elementary School (Relay for Life)

Rowe Council on Aging

Readsboro Lions Club

Halifax Community Club

Council on Aging

Recreational Camps for Children:
Rowe Camp & Conference Center (3)
Sr. High Camp
Young People's Transition Camp
Jr. High Camp
Septic Hauler/Pumper:
Bostley Sanitary Service
Greg's Wastewater Removal
Houghton Sanitary Service
A-1 Enterprises

Septic Installer:

Danek Excavating
James H. Williams

Board of Health - Town Nurse

I want to thank you for the opportunity to provide Town Nursing Services to the residents of Rowe during 2008. During this period, Dr. Warner has continued as consulting physician for this office.

Since May 2008 an average of 62 residents have been seen monthly, excluding the month of October when 126 persons visited the office, half of these for influenza vaccination. Throughout the year a variety of nursing services and support to residents has been provided, enhancing the ability of residents to remain healthy and independent.

Sincerely, Sheila M. Litchfield RN, BSN, COHN-S, COHC

Broadband and Telecom Committee

The big news this year, of course, is that Verizon brought DSL broadband to approximately 60% of the residents. The Broadband and Telecom Committee (BTC) monitored this development and challenged Verizon's claim of bringing service to 88% of the Town. We identified the covered and not covered areas and determined that mainly there are two clusters without DSL service...a small group of houses in the Davis Mine area and a larger region along and around Zoar Road southwest of the Town Hall. We have been working on an RFP to use the \$35,000 allocated by the Town to bring Broadband to the Davis Mine area. We have also considered strategies for approaching the much larger project of addressing the Zoar Road problem. We have had contact with a

Verizon VP who is willing to discuss possibilities with us, though Verizon currently has no plans to expand DSL beyond the current deployment.

The BTC provided technical support to the Selectmen in negotiating with Verizon regarding Rowe's quality of service complaint with the DTC. We offered suggestions to use the complaint as leverage to get Verizon to expand the DSL coverage. We had no success with that, but we did get the attention of a Verizon VP willing to discuss it further.

Ray Wilson resigned after a short tenure. He brought some interesting perspectives to the committee and we thank him for his service. He was replaced by Greg Poehlein who has brought enthusiasm, especially for the Zoar Road unserved area that affects him. The atmosphere of the BTC continues to be spirited, congenial, and innovative. The folks on the BTC are a joy to work with.

David Dvore, Chair Evie Dandeneau, Secretary Dan Wessman Russ Jolly Greg Poehlein

Building Inspector

During the year 2008, 51 building permits were issued (up from 31 the previous year):

New Building/additions	8
New Siding	2
New Windows	10
Demolitions	1
New roofs	11
Wood Stoves	2
Repairs	4
Interior Renovations	7
Handicapped Ramps	4
Swimming Pools	1
Solar Panels	1
Total	51

In addition, 45 Certificates of Inspection were issued (up from 31 the previous year).

Respectfully submitted,

William Foster, Inspector of Buildings 413-339-8393

Cemetery Commission

This year the driveway into the East Cemetery received a much needed repaving. Felton Paving out of Millers Falls MA were contracted to do this project.

Levin Hardison continues to work on rebuilding the stone walls in the North Cemetery. The commission really appreciates Levin's quality of work on this project.

The Cemetery Commission would like to thank Al Morse and Terry and Carole Veber for their hard work maintaining the cemetery grounds.

Cemetery lots are available in the East and West cemeteries. Please contact Chairman Jim Williams at 339-4731 for additional information concerning purchasing a lot(s).

Anyone with question or comments, please contact any commissioner.

Respectfully submitted,

James H. Williams, Chair James W. Taylor Richard A. Tower, Sr.

Council on Aging

The year 2008 was a busy but enjoyable one for all the members of the Rowe Council on Aging.

The COA continued to sponsor the winter shoveling program. Seth Jackman began the 2008 program in January and Presley Veber offered to do the snow shoveling for our seniors in December 2008 to present. Thank you Seth and Presley for a job well done. The COA sponsored the senior portion of the weekly school lunch program that is open to the townspeople. The once a week bus ride for our seniors is provided by Franklin Regional Transit Authority and paid in part by the COA Grant. We are fortunate to have this service for our seniors and encourage the use of the bus. The COA reimbursed a few seniors for minor repairs based on a sliding scale. Reimbursement was also made for mileage for seniors that had extended trips for medical procedures. The COA was happy to extend to our seniors in need, the use of medical equipment (i.e. wheelchairs, walkers, hospital beds, etc) through our loaner program.

This year our co-chairs collaborated with the selectmen, Jim Brown, in regard to the Gracy House as a site where seniors could meet; as social interaction remains a top priority when one dwells in the distant hills. A Gracy House Committee was formed in November with the selectmen appointing Marilyn Belval as Chairman.

Chris Tower was pro-active in bringing emergency signs to all seniors and non-seniors who signed up for them. A special thank you was extended to Fire Chief Ed May for installing the signs. Another round of requests was made for more emergency signs with the result of additional signs being ordered and is awaiting installation, which will take place when the ground thaws in the spring of 2009.

Senator John Kerry sent a thank you to the committee for our support letter (thanks to Jodi) regarding Preserving Patient Access to Inpatient Rehabilitation Hospital Act of 2007.

An inventory of all medical equipment (available for loan) was conducted by Jodi Brown, Shirley Veber and Nurse Sheila Litchfield. This equipment is available for our non-seniors as well. Our inventory continues to grow due to the donations of our friends and neighbors. Many thanks for their useful donations.

In 2008 the COA increased its membership to 7 members. All of whom have been CORI checked. The new members include Mary Ann Dykeman and Shirley Veber. Mary Ann is our representative for the FRTA bus and continues to do an excellent job. She has informed the COA that the bus has changed ownership which resulted in some changes to the way the bus is being run.

2008 was a year full of festive and frequent events. There were two events held in February, each accompanied by inclement weather. The first event was coffee and donuts held at the Rowe Town Hall. A Valentine party was held at the Mohawk Park Restaurant and was well attended.

In March a Pizza Party was held at the Gracy House. Attendance was up due to Shirley Veber's transportation service with her trusty Tracker. At this event we got to try out our new tables and chairs. A Safety Presentation was given by Triad Officer Mo Grossberger who presented some very interesting information.

In April the committee put on a scrumptious brunch at the Rowe Elementary School featuring Finnish Pancakes, Canadian bacon with some additional help from Anne Besgen and Judy Pierce.

May 1st was a return to the Mohawk Park Restaurant where a delicious meal was served and entertainment sponsored by the Cultural Council. Ruth Harcovicz a songstress who entertained us and who even got two of our Irishmen to waltz with her.

After recessing for the summer, we returned rejuvenated in September and sponsored two trips for our seniors, one to the Bennington Vermont Car Show and the other to the Bennington Quilt Show. A delicious brown bag lunch was provided by the Readsboro General Store to those that went to either show.

We returned in November for donuts, coffee and cider. We were able to use the Gracy House for this affair. A presentation was made by Angela Taylor, RN on How To Beat The Winter Blues.

Finally in December we held our Christmas Party at the Mohawk Park Restaurant. Some of our members had "hot glue" fun at Chris's house, as they made the favors for the place settings. Chris Tower's decorations are always innovative and terrific.

We bid adieu to member Ellynn Packard who has retired from her duties as COA member. We will miss her input and ideas.

At present, Marilyn Belval, Chairman of the Gracy House Committee is keeping the COA up to date on the progress of the work being done at the Gracy House to bring the building up to code. The COA is looking forward to the day when we can spend more time at the Gracy House.

It has been a pleasure to serve our senior community. The COA committee welcomes all residents to attend our monthly meetings. Remember the lucky number is "60". Come and join us as we look forward to another fun filled and interesting year.

Respectfully submitted, Jodi Brown, Secretary

Members:
Sandy Daviau, Co-Chair
Chris Tower, Co-Chair
Marilyn Belval
Jodi Brown
Mary Ann Dykeman
Shirley Veber



Photo by Sandy Daviau A recent Council on Aging dinner for seniors at Mohawk Park in Charlemont, MA



Photo by Sandy Daviau

Many seniors attend the weekly luncheons at Rowe School sponsored by the Rowe Council on Aging

Cultural Council

Grants Management INCOME				REQUESTS	Applications	Total Amt
	Total to				Received	Requested
	Be Granted		Now	ICC Applications		•
Interest Revenue	\$ 0	\$	0	LCC Applications PASS Applications	(28)	\$ 12,080
Locally Raised Revenue				LCC-Originated Applications	(0)	U
Municipal	0		0			# 1000
Foundation	0		0	Total	(28)	\$ 12,080
Individual	0		0	DECICIONIC		
Other	0		0	DECISIONS	(1.5)	# 4.000
Total	0		0	Approved: Denied	(15)	\$ 4,800
Encumbered MCC Money	315			Undecided	(13) (0)	7,280
Unencumbered MCC Money	500		500			# 10 000
Total in Local Account	815		500	Total	(28)	\$ 12,080
Allocation		4	4,300			
Total Income			,800			
EXPENSES						
Total Administrative Funds						
(not to exceed 5% of FY alloc	cation)	\$	0			
LCC Projects approved	(15)	4	4,800			
PASS Projects approved LCC-Originated Projects appro	(0) oved (0)		0			
Total Expenses	•	\$ 4	,800			

Grants Awarded

Name	Kind	Project	Discipline	Amount
Academy at Charlemont	LCC	Summer Theater Workshop	Theater	\$ 500
Ashfield Community Thtre	LCC	Play Production	Theater	100
Ashfield Community Thtre	LCC	Summer Arts Program	Visual Arts	00
Deerfield River Watershed	LCC	Deerfield Riverfest: 21st Annual	Science	200
Heath Agricultural Society	LCC	Heath Fair Music	Music	100
Jackson, Gary	LCC	Contempaissance - Flute & Guitar	Music	500
Mankita, Jay	LCC	Eat Like a Rainbow	Music	400
Mohawk Trail Concerts	LCC	40 th Annual Summer Festival	Music	250
Morin, Guy	LCC	French & Indian War Provincial Soldier	History	250
Pothole Pictures	LCC	Pothole Pictures Film Series	Theatre	150
RavenWood Freedom Farm				100
and Learning Center	LCC	Through the Lens	Photography	200
Root, John	LCC	Exploring Outer Space	Science	400
Rowe Elementary School	LCC	Jennifer Lee – Native America Studies	History	200
Rowe Elementary School	LCC	Veronica Robles – Mexican Studies	Multidisciplinary	1,000
Thomas, Bob	LCC	Generations: Grandma, Vaudeville & Me	Storytelling	450
	TOT	AL AWARDED		\$4,800

RCC Members Jennifer Y. Wood, Chair Jo-ann M. Brown Kerri L. McLatchy Meghan K. McLatchy Barbara J. Roche Elizabeth Vernes

Dog Officer

This year brings a new kennel to be located at the end of Sibley Road. I have yet to project costs, being subject to size, style, etc. Type of heat is also still to be decided.

The year's dog-related instances were as follows:

- Dog complaint on Hazelton Road. On investigation, dog officer is bitten by dog who is then sentenced to home confinement for 10 days. Four days into his confinement dog gets loose and strays. State officials order dog to be taken and kenneled in Greenfield for his 10 day quarantine.
- Lost dog found at Bear Swamp Power Plant on the

- eastern shore near the tunnel exit. Dog housed at our house until owner located in Monroe.
- Two dogs found sitting on the front steps of a Stone Hill Road resident. Dogs housed at our house until the owner from Whitingham VT retrieved them the next day.
- Lost dog found on Tunnel Road by Rowe resident. Wonderful dog spent 3 days on our sofa until his owner came for him!

Respectfully,

Russell Powers Dog Officer

Department of Public Works

The Rowe Highway Department helped in the planting of 26 new trees in town (see tree warden report). Most of the trees were planted around the Town Center. These trees will in years to come certainly add to the beauty of our Town.

Equipment maintenance was a major priority during the year. Truck #5 Mack (1984) and the 1999 Ford 550 had brake work done. Truck #3 Mack (1986) had the front fenders replaced and repainted. Many other repairs and preventive maintenances are preformed in our facility. Routine maintenance during the year included:

- Cleaning and repair of shoulders and catch basins
- Street sweeping
- Line painting
- Waterway repaving
- Roadside mowing
- Brush clearing
- Tree maintenance
- Upkeep of Town Common and traffic islands

Special projects undertaken during 2008 were:

- Paving took place on Pond and Leshure Rds
- Transfer Station: Prepared site for installation of a cement retaining wall and pad.
- Repaired paved ditch on Brittingham Hill Road, and other locations in town.

The **December 11th Ice Storm** was a major event in central and western Massachusetts. Rowe was not spared. The Selectboard declared a State of Emergency that lasted from Dec 12th through Dec 16th. All Rowe homes were without power for five days...some many days more. As this was a

federally declared disaster, the town will be receiving FEMA funds for the woody debris cleanup work that will take place in the spring/summer 2009.

Thank you to Ellen Babcock, Sandy Daviau and the Highway Department crew and Selectmen for all of your help and support this year.

Respectfully submitted, James W. Taylor, DPW Superintendent



Photo by Jim Taylor Debri left behind by the December 11th Ice Storm

DPW - Summer Youth Employment

The "Grasshopper" program, under the direction of SYE Superintendent Sam Howe of Shelburne Falls again did a great job trimming and cleaning our roadsides this past summer. Our crew should be very proud of the excellent job they did. This is very hard work under hot and humid conditions. Please know that you are appreciated very much.

Thanks go to the Supervisors Andrew Lively and Abigail Phelps and crew members Presley Veber and Samantha Veber.

There are 43.5 miles of roads in Rowe. When you double that for each side of the road that needs trimming...that adds up to 90.6 miles that needs mowing, trimming and cleaning in seven short (usually very hot) weeks! At the same time the crew also pays particular attention to saving certain ferns, flowers and shrubs. They are very conscientious. Great job everyone!

And special thanks again go to **Ted Palmer** for performing his annual Poison Ivy eradication. The Grasshoppers appreciate you taking care of this for them.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Babcock, Town Coordinator Jim Taylor, DPW Superintendent

DPW - Tree Warden

During the past year Judy Newman and David Holt proposed the removal of a few roadside trees to reopen the old meadow in front of their house. The Public Hearing was held in August in coordination with the Planning Board and permission was granted.

With the Grant funds received from the National Grid Partnership grant, the Town was able to purchase and plant 26 trees. With the help of the Beautification committee a wide variety of trees were selected. (malus (crabapple), maple, river birch, weeping crap, dog wood, elm, horse chestnut, sycramore, willow, and magnolia.) The plantings took place in early June. Allen Snow from the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) helped advise myself and the Highway Dept. on proper planting and watering techniques.

Anyone with questions or concerns about roadside trees please contact me at 413-339-5588.

Respectfully submitted,

James W. Taylor Tree Warden

Emergency Medical Services [EMS]

Another year has passed. December brought with it many weather challenges to our area with lots of snow and an ice storm to be remembered. Through the efforts of many we were able to provide food, water, showers and shelter at the school and at the fire station to those in need during the power outage. I would like to thank everyone for their help, cooperation and kindness shown to their neighbors and friends during a very stressful time.

Once again our EMS personnel have done an outstanding job responding to all EMS calls this year. I am proud to be part of such a caring group of individuals. Their families play an important role in the work we do because of the support they give our team throughout the year. Your dedication is admirable. I appreciate all you do and the time you take out of your personal lives for training and responding to calls. In order to meet the requirements of a first responder one must complete an 80 hour course and pass a written and practical exam. Recertification is required every three years. EMT certification requires completion of a 110 hour course and successfully passing a state exam which also includes a written and practical exam. Recertification is required every two years and consists of a 24 hour refresher

course and an additional 28 hours of continuing education classes.

We currently have 2 certified EMTs and 11 first responders. This year our EMTs and first responders responded to 8 medical emergencies and 1 motor vehicle accident. Our EMTs and first responders continue to respond in a timely manner to any situation and deliver the highest quality of care.

If you have an emergency it is extremely important to dial 911 immediately. Calling a knowledgeable friend or an EMT/first responder will only delay the initiation of EMS. For our new residents in town and those that may not have ever utilized the 911 system, I would like to explain the sequence of events once a 911 call has been made. When 911 has been dialed a dispatcher from Shelburne Control will answer your call. He or she will ask the nature of your emergency and at that time determine the level of care needed for your emergency. The dispatcher will then notify Charlemont Ambulance and Rowe EMTs and first responders. If your emergency requires Advanced Life Support a paramedic unit will be dispatched from Greenfield at the same time. Considering the rural area in which we live, this

response system has worked well in the past. If 911 is activated and you then decide you do not want or need the ambulance, or if you have dialed 911 by mistake, please stay on the line and explain the situation. Otherwise, you can expect a visit from the police department who will be dispatched to verify that an emergency situation does not exist

Rowe EMS personnel will respond to your emergency with both the knowledge and equipment necessary to help stabilize a patient before and during transport to the hospital by ambulance. As rural as the town of Rowe is, our first responders play a critical role in the outcome of your emergency and thus are an important part of the chain of

survival. Rowe EMS works closely with Rowe Fire Department. Most of our members are crossed-trained as medical, fire and /or police personnel. We respond to both fire and police scenes to aid and support those departments. If there is anyone who is EMT certified or would be interested in becoming an EMT or is currently a first responder and would like to join our department please notify me at 339-5761. Our ambulance service is in great need for more EMTs.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail May EMS Coordinator

Energy Committee

In February, 2008, the Town of Rowe signed a letter of intent with Siemens Building Technologies (the winning company of the four that responded to our Request for Qualifications) to proceed with an investment-grade energy audit of the School, Town Hall, Library, Town Garage and Fire Station to determine if a Guaranteed Savings Energy Performance Contract would be able to pay for itself out of energy savings produced over a 20-year period by energy conservation measures. On the basis of that audit (still in progress), on June 30, 2008, in a Special Town Meeting, on the recommendation of the Energy Committee and Selectmen, the town agreed to authorize the Selectmen to enter into such a performance contract with Siemens and to use a 20-year Tax-Exempt Municipal Lease of not over \$950,000 to fund the project. Loan principal and interest were to be paid out of annual energy savings.

During the spring and summer the Energy Committee and Siemens negotiated all the details of the contract. The task: to fit the cost of all the recommended energy conservation measures into the total savings they would be guaranteed to create; this process required that we drop some desired projects (school window replacement, the boiler replacement at the garage, and a solar project among them). Delays in obtaining final cost and savings figures from Siemens, and other challenges led to the need to install the new boiler in the Elementary School after classes had begun, creating additional project costs for a temporary hot water system and increased air-quality monitoring during the removal of asbestos from the boiler room. The replacement boiler was operating by the middle of October. Shortly thereafter, final elements of the contract were agreed to and signed by all parties.

Final arrangements for the Tax-Exempt Lease were under way when the sudden "credit crunch" hit the markets in the fall of 2008. The 20-year loan interest rate, which the Town had counted on being about 4%, jumped to nearly 7%, causing the 20-year cost of interest to balloon to \$760,000. Always having intended to explore early payoff to avoid interest burdens, the Energy Committee now studied alternate ways to fund the project from the outset. In the end, the Committee proposed, with the endorsement of

the Selectmen and Finance Committee, to use \$315,000 from Capital Stabilization as a down payment, thereby allowing the Town to reduce the amount to be borrowed (\$715,000) to \$408,000, the term of the loan to 11 years, and the rate of interest to 5.78%. In a Special Town meeting on December 18, 2008, the voters unanimously approved this solution, saving the Town of Rowe approximately \$616,000 in interest, now to total \$144,000. This loan was planned to be signed in early 2009.

During that December Special Town Meeting, responding to Rowe's request that the company share some of the increased project costs at the School for which we felt the company was partly responsible, Roland Butzke, of Siemens Building Technologies, announced that the company would discount the project cost by \$9,725. This gesture by Siemens was given a public expression of appreciation by those present at the meeting.

All conservation measures will be completed by the end of the summer of 2009. Thereafter, the Town of Rowe will experience more comfortable and efficient public spaces, a yearly decrease in oil consumption of 41%, in electrical consumption of 9%, and the reduction, over the next 20 years, of over $4^{1}/_{2}$ million pounds (over 2,300 tons) of carbon dioxide pollution.

The entire cost for this project will be regained by Rowe over approximately 15 years by the reduced costs of energy that result from the insulation, lighting, heating, ventilation, and energy management control improvements in our major Town buildings.

The Committee gratefully recognizes former members who served during 2008, Earl Carlow, Carlos Heiligmann, David Roberson, Jim Brown, and Myra Carlow for their invaluable contributions this year.

The Rowe Energy Committee

Jack Packard, Chair Lisa Danek-Burke Bill Loomis

Fire Department

During the last report period the Fire Department responded to fifty-six (56) calls (up from 42 the previous year):

- 10 Medical Emergencies
- 1 Home Generator Would Not Start
- 1 Vehicle Fire
- 2 Brush Fires
- 2 Mutual Aid Calls
- 9 Fire Detection Alarms
- 2 Carbon Monoxide Detector Alarms
- 4 Power Lines Down
- 2 Vehicle Accidents
- 20 Flooded Basements
- 3 Fill Swimming Pool

As a result of the Department's chimney cleaning program, ten homes' chimneys were inspected and/or cleaned this year. In the coming year, as in the past, we will clean the chimneys of the elderly and assist able-bodied residents. We will attempt to conduct the cleaning in August and September, before the heating season, so names should be submitted early.

In the event of an emergency – fire, police, or medical—call 9-1-1 immediately. Do not waste precious time trying to contact a friend, neighbor or member of the Department directly. Enhanced 9-1-1 has been a highly effective and beneficial service to the town; any call to 9-1-1 automatically provides the dispatcher with the telephone number and the name and address listed for that number. If you have special needs or concerns, please contact me directly and I will provide the necessary information to the Dispatch Center

The 450 MHz radio system has been operational since December of 2006 and proven to be a substantial improvement over the old low band system. The Franklin Regional Council of Governments maintains the radio license and equipment. Each of the 26 towns' police, fire and EMS are assessed an annul fee to support the operation and maintenance of the county equipment. The new radio system allows fire, police, medical and other emergency personnel throughout the four counties in Western Massachusetts to communicate with one another as the situation requires.

On February 28, 2003, President Bush issued Homeland Security Presidential Directive 5 (HSPD-5), which directed the Secretary of Homeland Security to develop and administer a National Incident Management System (NIMS). NIMS provides a consistent nationwide template to enable all government, private-sector and nongovernmental organizations to work together during domestic incidents. HSPD-5 required federal departments and agencies to make the adoption of NIMS by state and local organizations a condition for federal preparedness assistance (grants, contracts and other activities) by fiscal year 2005.

The Town complied by adopting the Incident Command System (ICS) and NIMS. The ICS was developed in the

1970s and was adopted by most fire departments. The ICS is a standardized, on-scene, all-hazard incident management concept which allows its users to adopt an integrated organizational structure to match the complexities and demands of single or multiple incidents without being hindered by jurisdictional boundaries. ICS has considerable internal flexibility. It can grow or shrink to meet different needs. This flexibility makes it a very cost-effective and efficient management approach for both small and large situations.

Members of the Highway, Police and Fire Departments, elected officials and Town administration staff received NIMS 700, ICS 100 and ICS 200 level training to comply with both HSPD-5 and Governor Mitt Romney Executive Order No. 469. Currently Daniel Miller, James White and I have completed ICS 300. Daniel Miller and I have also completed ICS 400.

The Franklin County Regional Emergency Planning Committee (REPC) has completed a Hazardous Materials Emergency Plan. This plan was approved by all towns in Franklin County, and was then submitted and subsequently approved by the State.

The Franklin County REPC was formed to enhance cooperative regional emergency planning and to address Federal SARA Title III, which states that all communities must have active Local Emergency Planning Committees, procedures to deal with hazardous materials emergencies, meet right-to-know requirements, and encourage community awareness. With the leadership and administrative support of the Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG) all 26 Franklin County towns opted into a regional effort beginning in the year 2000.

Early on the Committee elected an "all hazards" approach to emergency planning which not only addresses our responsibility for aiding towns in planning for "haz mat" emergencies but also other natural, technological, and man-made events that call for a similar inter-town, inter-disciplinary response.

During the open burning season for 2008 there were a total of 104 permits issued. Article 310 CMR 7.07 contains the Massachusetts regulation defining allowable open burning: the disposal of brush, cane, driftwood and forestry debris, excluding grass, hay and leaves, during the period from January 15 to (and including) May 1 at 4:00 PM, provided a valid permit from the local fire department or fire warden has been obtained. The burning is allowed on the land proximate to the place of generation, at a location greater than 75 feet from any dwelling, between the hours of 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM, except during periods of adverse meteorological conditions. This regulation does not apply to: open burning for the purpose of combating or backfiring an existing fire by persons affiliated with an official fire fighting agency; open burning conducted primarily for cooking purposes; open burning related to the operation of devices such as blowtorches and welding torches, for which no

alternative source of heat can be used, provided that such devices do not cause a condition of air pollution.

Burning for agricultural purposes are controlled by a separate section of this regulation and define agriculture as those practices involved with the cultivation of soil for the purpose of crop production and/or the raising of livestock, when such crops are produced primarily for commercial food, and such livestock are raised primarily for commercial foodstuff or for work purposes. Agricultural operations as defined as those operations which raise commercial foodstuffs and/or livestock on an area larger than one acre.

The emergency generator project at the Rowe Elementary School was completed this year. The generator, through an automatic throw-over switch, provides electricity to the school automatically on a loss of power. Upon restoration of normal power the throw-over switch will transfer to the normal power supply and the diesel generator will shut down. The generator is currently programmed to automatically start and provide power to the school every Friday morning for 30 minutes.

At approximately 10:15 PM on Thursday, December 11th, the area was experiencing a significant ice storm that ultimately caused trees to fall and break the power lines on Zoar Road, interrupting the supply of electricity to the majority of the Town. At 10:30 PM, Rowe's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) was activated in the fire station. Ice buildup continued throughout the night and into the next day, destroying large numbers of trees, snapping power lines and blocking roads and driveways. At 7:15 AM on Friday, December 12th, the Selectboard declared a State of Emergency and notified the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA).

The Town's emergency generator supplied power to the school, which was opened as a shelter for the duration of the outage. The Highway Department had most roads opened sufficiently to allow vehicular passage in and out of town Friday. By Friday evening, utility line crews had repaired and re-powered the supply trunk line up Zoar Road, Pond Road, and Cyrus Stage Road to Heath. Leshure Road and part of Hazelton Road were also re-powered during this repair activity period. Tree removal crews (supplied by the utility company) began removing trees from the power lines Monday, December 14th. On the evening of this day, the shelter at the school closed for the night, as it was no longer needed as a sleeping site. On Tuesday, December 15th, line crews began repairing and re-powering streets off the trunk line. By Wednesday, December 16th, every home in Rowe had power restored. The State of Emergency was lifted at 5:00 PM December 16th and the EOC shutdown operation at 6:00 PM.

Solidarity and stalwartness were much in evidence during this difficult time, as the town's citizens did whatever was necessary to help one another until power could be restored to all. Bob Clancy and Dan and Deb Miller set up shelter operations at the school. Rick Williams and Laurie Pike assisted Bob and Dan at the shelter. Jim White manned the EOC during its entire period of operation. Deb Miller and Gail May made the initial phone calls to town residents to determine if they required assistance from the EOC. Henry Dandeneau and Gail May of the Police Department monitored town residents to ensure they were not in jeopardy. Jim Taylor and the Road Crew did an excellent job maintaining the roads before, during and after the storm. Selectman Bill Loomis and Clayton Miller assisted the Police and Fire Departments with many needed tasks. Ellen Babcock kept the Selectmen informed with the most current information obtainable and contacted town residents via the telephone notification system. I would like to thank all who helped for their efforts.

The Fire Department is made up completely of volunteers from town. The effectiveness of this organization is determined by the number of individuals it can train and maintain in a state of readiness, and by the condition of its equipment. We welcome anyone who is interested in protecting lives and property from the devastating effects of fire. Not all of the activities required to prepare for and combat a fire involve hands-on fire fighting. There is plenty of other work with which we could use help. Our program of regular monthly training/meetings is conducted the first Monday of the month. These sessions are approximately one to two hours in length—a small investment of your time when weighed against the benefit that may be derived from your membership. The officers of the Department would like to thank all members who participate in our activities regularly, and ask other members of the town to become involved.

Respectfully submitted,

Edwin L. May
Fire Chief
Emergency Management Director
Community Emergency Response
Coordinator
Hazardous Materials Control Officer

Gracy House Committee

New electric wall plugs, overhead lights installed. New fire alarms and exit signs completed. Work bee was held in August. Volunteers spent the day cleaning the grounds. They pulled brush, branches and ivy off the chimney. The nice old apple tree in the back yard was trimmed and pruned, and the beds around the yard spruced up. Our helpful Town Crew took the away debris.

In November the Gracy House Committee was formed. Meetings were held November 24th and December 15th.

Local contractor Steve Crowningshield widened four doorways on the first floor for handicapped accessibility. He installed 12 new posts in the basement that replaced loley columns. He installed new carrying beams, floor joists, and

replaced the cellar stairs. He built a handicapped ramp and new steps at the back (kitchen) door. Steve also re-pointed the stone walls in the cellar to keep cold air and mice out, and fixed the drafty cellar windows.

Meetings were held to plan improvements to the interior. A plan of action was put in place for 2009.

Respectfully submitted, Marilyn Belval, Chairman Robert Dykeman, Vice Chairman Cindy Laffond, Secretary William Belval Mary Ann Dykeman Lenny Laffond

Historical Commission

The Historical Commission was reactivated in 2008 with the selectmen's appointments of two new members, Judy Pierce and Sharon Hudson. These new members are very enthusiastic about the goals and projects of the Town of Rowe to identify and protect its heritage and to preserve its historic character.

This commission fully supports the Rowe Historical SOCIETY in all its efforts, its museum and Ft. Pelham site, which are among the greatest assets of this community. The 50-year old Historical Society itself is one of the finest community organizations anywhere in this area. The Town Historical Commission, as an official town department, serves a different purpose, but has access to grants and services which will enhance the overall good of the town. (Certain designations and grants might even help the Society in maintaining their properties and projects.)

In cooperation with the Massachusetts Historical Commission and other State departments, recently there is enthusiastic interest in many area communities to preserve the vital historical character of each town and city for future generations to appreciate and enjoy.

The Town of Rowe has begun the preservation and restoration of the town-owned Gracy House next to the Town Hall, to be used as a Community Center / Senior Center, with the superb efforts of some super-dedicated volunteers. In addition, with the support of the Selectmen, town funding has permitted some basic structural work utilizing town funds. This work includes a handicapped entrance ramp, etc., aiming to make it fully accessible as soon as possible. This Commission is seeking grant funds to apply to other major improvements for this project over the next few years.

Beginning in April 2009, with the help of MHC intern Jamie Duncan, a project to photograph all the buildings for an inventory of our dwellings for historical record purposes will commence.

In addition, the Rowe Historical Commission will offer a "cooperative purchasing program" at a reasonable cost, to any homeowner who desires to place a standardized sign on their home to display the "ca. year" it was built. (In keeping with the standard historical procedures, some "proof" of the date will be required, and local historians will be available to help.)

The commission is anxious to involve as many community members as possible in the many worthwhile projects to promote the goals of defining and preserving Rowe's Historic and Cultural sites, as well as our Heritage Landscapes. The Commission will be meeting monthly beginning in April 2009, and welcomes suggestions and volunteer support from every resident, including seasonal residents. 2009 will be a very interesting year in Rowe.

Respectfully submitted,

ROWE HISTORICAL COMMISSION Jack Williams, Chair Sharon Hudson Judy Pierce

Library

2008 was a busy year with the Library more than meeting state certification requirements by being open 24 hours per week to provide adult and children's services. We continue to weed unused items and to purchase newer, more current materials. We own about 13,000 items for loan or use here. We provide books, magazines, DVDs, videos, audiocassettes and CDs. We have begun the process of inventorying our holdings as we prepare to update our antiquated circulation system, hopefully in the next fiscal year.

We now provide wireless internet service by HughesNet satellite. Library dish acquired with state funding and with three library computers available for patron use.

The Book Club meets at the library and, in the fall, Leith Cohen gave a talk on books of perennial interest. In addition, children and adults volunteered to select materials from the Western Massachusetts Regional Library System's Bookmobile and to decorate the library for Christmas.

The Beautification Committee continues to make the grounds shine from the excitement of the crocus in spring to the autumn decorations on our front steps. We continued our Winter Art Gallery featuring works of local artists.

The Trustees meet at least monthly at the library, and citizens are always welcome to attend. Meetings are posted at the Town Hall and at the Library. Library hours are:

Tuesday 10 am to 5 pm Wednesday 10 am to 8 pm Saturday 10 am to 5 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Library Trustees Ellynn B. Packard, Chair Jo-ann M. Brown Melissa S. Quinn

Library Director Susan P. Gleason

Old Home Day Committee

Another great Old Home Day was held on Saturday, July 12th, and the weather cooperated, which always helps everyone enjoy themselves.

The day started off with the Fishing Derby, which was held at the Loomis pond on Hazelton Road. Trout for the event were donated by Jim Daneker, who has sponsored this event for many, many years. Thank you, Jim. The kids all enjoyed themselves.

The Rowe Post Office held a special "Old Home Day" cancellation stamp contest for the Rowe School students, which was won by Caitlyn Wilkins of Heath. The Old Home Day Committee had a tough job picking the winning entry. There were so many wonderful drawings to choose from. Thanks to Terri Peters for coming up with this great idea.

The annual parade, themed "Anything Goes", was well attended and was led off by Rachel Richardson singing the National Anthem. Thank you, Rachel. You did an outstanding job. After the parade the Shelburne Falls Military Band gave a nice concert on the school grounds. This was followed by a performance by the energetic Colrain Cloggers.

The Western MA Eyemobile was on hand to perform free vision and hearing testing and blood pressure screening, compliments of the Charlemont Lions Club. This was a very helpful service for townspeople. Thank you Lions, and thank you to Bob Dykeman for arranging this.

The "Flower Power" exhibit of work by Rowe artists/crafters at the Browning Bench Tool Factory was hosted by local artist Helene Glass. Thank you all who exhibited your artwork and handiwork.

Hay rides around the various venues were provided by Dohn Sherman. Mary Paige spearheaded the kids' games at the Park and did a great job. In addition, face painting was offered, the Bouncy Castle was set up at the park, and there was a climbing wall at the Rowe School.

The Rowe Community Church held their annual auction and raffle, which were both quite successful. They also had their hamburger/hot dog booth and Strawberry Shortcake booth for all to enjoy.

The Rowe Historical Society's wonderful museum was open from 2 pm to 4 pm, and a *Civil War Soldier* historical re-enactment was held on a grassy area across from the museum.

Entertainment was provided by magician Jay McMahon and local band *Small Change*. While diners enjoyed the tasty barbeque chicken prepared by the Readsboro Lions Club dinner music was provided by *Contempaissance*. And this was all followed by the popular Fireworks display over the lake.

Sunday activities began with the Rowe Community Church service at the lake. From 11 am to 4 pm there was a self-tour of Rowe gardens and farms. The Bouncy Castle saw more action, and the Rowe Historical Society's museum was again open to the public from 2 pm to 5 pm.

We had a great committee and lots of other volunteers that made the weekend a great success. Thank you to all who helped out.

Bill Loomis, Chair Committee members: Anne E. Besgen Jo-ann M. Brown Thomas L. Chiofalo Helene S. Glass David W. Lenth Mary E. Lenth Carol F. Lively William A. Loomis Mary E. Paige Michael J. Phillips Margaret B. Rice Robert R. Rice Christine A. Tower



Caitlyn Wilkin's winning entry in the Old Home Day special cancellation stamp contest.

Park Commission

Pelham Lake Park was busy as usual this year with activities and maintenance.

Special thanks to the employees:

Park Rangers

Brittani Sprague, Ken Bradley, Max Chattin, Nancy Phelps, Josh Taylor, and Sarah Burke

Lifeguards

Pat Bradley and Jacob Smead

Rec Program staff

Carol Lively, Mary Paige, Carol Schotte, Dana Williams, Becca Hobbs and Sarah Burke

Sports Program Director/Tennis Instructor

Charles Gabriel

YMCA

Swim Staff/Instructors

Fitness Instructor

Jodi Fontaine

Fitness Center Monitors

Roger Brown

The park underwent a few major maintenance projects this year. All the projects brought excitement and new life to the park. We constructed a new bridge on the Beach Trail and rerouted the tennis Court Trail just north of the original trail in order to place the new bridge in the best location. The summer kids helped paint all new blazes on the trails in the park identifying them by the following colors:

White blazes indicate trails that are relatively flat Red blazes indicate there will be some elevation gain Blue blaze indicates it is a spur trail

The Northwest View trail that once led hikers on a short spur off of the Adams Mountain Trail to beautiful scenery of the Town Center, Pelham Lake and north Rowe was re-opened. At the View we did selective cutting of smaller growth and of upper branches to maximize view with the least amount of damage.

The Park sponsored a tree identification workshop led by Walker Korby. Following the workshop, the Meadow Trail was turned into an interpretive trail by placing placards on trees to identify them.

Thanks to Bruce Cowie, a town resident, who designed the new metal trail maps located on all trail heads and major intersections in the park.

Several construction projects occurred over the year: a new roof was installed on the wood shed. Steve Crowningshield completed much needed major renovations at the Browning Bench Tool Factory.

The tennis courts were resurfaced by Advantage Tennis from St. Johnsbury Vermont.

Carol Lively and her crew led a creative energetic summer program with a Native American theme that included: Native American Garden located at the riding ring, Bluebird house construction, homemade hula hoops, drums and many games. A highlight of the program was the *Birds of Prey* presentation by local bird rehabilitator Tom Riccardi. Parents, grandparents and kids all reported they had a wonderful time.

The two-week sports program led by Rowe School gym teacher Mr. "G," (Charles Garbiel) included cooperative games, soccer, scooters in the gym (when it rained), and Mr.



Photo by Bob Clancy

A bald eagle at the Pelham Lake Park Causeway Pond

"G" also gave 2-week tennis lessons. Once again the YMCA taught swimming lessons. In addition, Zoar Outdoor provided an opportunity for kayak lessons on the lake.

The park put on five senior picnics at the park with an average attendance of 30 people. It is always a great opportunity for folks to get together and socialize.

The fitness center was busy both at the lake and at town hall. Jodi Fontaine and Mary Essert taught water aerobics at the lake. I'm sure there were days the water was a bit cold for everyone. Jodi also provided weekly Pilates, strength, and yoga classes at the Town Fitness Center.

Other wonderful events that happened at the park this year included the Gymkhana sponsored by the Rowe Riders, where many local riders and non-riders turned out to watch and get a chance to ride a horse. The Tail Gate Trick-or-Treat and Haunted House co-sponsored by the Rowe PTP was a great success. And the Indian Head Snowmobile Club hosted a snowmobile fun day at the park.

One of the biggest stories in Western Massachusetts was the December ice storm. The park suffered extensive damage to the trail system. Clean-up was underway the Friday after the storm just trying to gain access into the park. The following week the main focus of clearing was done on the snowmobile and cross country ski trails. The clean up was slowed by more and more snow. The damage done to the canopy on the upper portions of the park was devastating. Clean-up will continue into the summer and we hope that most of the trees recover.

We learned this year that the bathrooms will need to be replaced due to health concerns. We are looking into a composting system that is earth friendly. The Park Commission is hoping to get started within the next year. You will be kept informed through the monthly article in the *Goal Post*.

Once again the park had a busy and successful year. The Park Commissioners welcome any feedback and suggestions for park usage.

Thanks, as always, to the staff and volunteers for a job well done!

Respectfully submitted,

Russell Jolly, Chair

Planning Board

In 2008 the Planning Board continued its review of the Town's bylaws, worked to improve and streamline publication of the Goal Post, held two tree hearings, and conducted general business of a more or less routine nature.

In May, new member Robert Dykeman of Tunnel Road was elected to a five-year position on the Board, and Ellynn Packard of Stone Hill Road was elected to fill the remaining three years of the previously-vacant seat to which she had been appointed in 2007. This marked a welcome return to a fully-constituted five-member board.

The Board signed off on a lot division of land of Anne Carey with frontage on Stone Road and Stone Hill Road as "Approval Not Required". Because the surveyor subsequently twice reported changes in his survey, this lot division was brought before the Board and approved on three separate occasions.

It came to the Board's attention that extensive tree trimming and removal was being conducted throughout town by National Grid in the absence of the required public hearing and Planning Board approval. Work was halted until a hearing could be held and approval given in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 87 and M.G.L. Chapter 40. As has occurred in the past, the utility challenged the Planning Board's jurisdiction and argued that the laws did not apply, however the Planning Board relied on several documents from state agencies and other municipalities which supported our position. (In January of 2009, Town counsel sent a helpful memorandum to all its municipal clients which supported the Planning Board's interpretation of the law.) Ultimately the Planning Board approved the tree trimming after the public hearing, reaching an agreement with Tree Warden Jim Taylor that he would keep a close watch on the cutting operation to ensure that agreed-upon standards were not violated. Among these is that the utility will not "top" trees (a procedure whereby the main stem of a tree is lopped off to stunt its growth, which results in a weakened and unsightly tree).

Another tree hearing was held in September concerning a request to cut trees on Shippee Road. The Tree Warden and a Planning Board member met with the landowners and pointed out several large and picturesque oak trees on this road; the landowners agreed that the cutting plan would be limited to smaller, weak and/or diseased trees. These were subsequently marked and advertised, and with no objections raised at the public hearing, the Planning Board approved the tree cutting. No cutting has taken place along this road as of the date this report was written.

In August the Planning Board received a request from the Board of Selectman that a representative be selected to serve on a new "Capital Improvements Planning Committee". While some Board members questioned whether such a committee was necessary in Rowe, it was agreed that the Planning Board should be represented on the committee if it were to be formed. David Roberson agreed to represent the Planning Board on this committee.

Publication of the *Goal Post* has required more attention from the Planning Board than had generally been the case in previous years. Production and layout is ably handled by Lynne Rudié of Montague, whom the Board hired in 2007, with final editorial approval and proofreading undertaken by Planning Board members. Subscription lists were reviewed and measures implemented to reduce the cost of publication without compromising the quality of the *Goal Post*. All boards, committees and residents are invited to submit articles for consideration.

Revision of zoning bylaws and subdivision regulations is ongoing, and drafts have been submitted to legal counsel for review. Because of the significance of these documents for the Town and the need to word them carefully to ensure both compliance with state law and protection for the citizens of Rowe, this process has been much longer and more complicated than any of us had anticipated. However, it is expected that public hearings will be held and the final documents presented to voters at a Special Town Meeting later this year.

The Planning Board holds monthly meetings at the Town Hall. All are welcome to attend.

Respectfully submitted,

David A. Roberson, Chairman Jo-ann M. Brown Robert Dykeman Angela F. Foshay Ellynn B. Packard

Police Department

Accidents (1 car)	4
Medical Assistance	3
Breaking & Entering	1
Vandalism	3
9-1-1 Hang Ups	5
Larceny	3
Animal Complaints	5
Domestics	2
Requests for Assistance	5
Permits Issued	26
Reported Incidents	58
Unfounded Incidents	16

The number of complaints increased quite a lot from previous years. The number of reported crimes decreased again in 2008. The seriousness of the crimes decreased significantly this year. Most crimes were cleared through investigation and charges were filed. I would like to thank the police officers of Rowe for accomplishing this with such professionalism.

Respectfully submitted, Henry J. Dandeneau Chief of Police

Report of the Town Clerk – Vital Statistics - 2008

BIRTHS	LICENSES AND PERMITS SOLD	
Mass. General Law prohibits release of info for persons under 17 without parental permission Kameron R. Crowningshield Jenna M. Plante Matthew R. Crowningshield DEATHS	DOG LICENSES 28 - Males@ \$3.00 17 - Neutered Males @ \$3.00 7 - Females @ \$6.00 51 - Spayed Females @ \$3.00 1 - Kennel (4 dogs or less) @\$10.00 2 - Kennels (10 dogs or less) @ \$25.00	\$84.00 51.00 42.00 153.00 10.00 50.00
Neil Dennis Halberg September 7, 1952 – October 9, 2008 Died in Greenfield, MA	 2 – Late Charges @ \$25.00 TOTAL DOG LICENSES & Late Charges Less fees retained by Town Clerk 	440.00 -79.50
MARRIAGES	Total Paid to Town Treasurer	\$360.50
Naomi Nakajima Nicholas Joseph Soviecke April 18, 2008 Married in Rowe BUSINESS CERTIFICATES ISSUED 1. Glenn M. White (renewed) Issued 12-4-2008 – Expires 12-4-2012 dba White Heating 245 Leshure Road, Rowe MA 2. Barbara J. Roche (new) Issued 8-5-2008 – Expires 8-5-2012 dba Fiftyshift.com 37 Davenport Branch Rd, Rowe MA Fees Collected - Two (2) @ \$1.00 Total Paid to Town Treasurer \$2.00 CLOSED BUSINESSES 1. Kelle J. Quist	$-$ SI - Resident Sporting (α \$45.00 (25)	\$467.50 0.00 32.50 Free 150.00 117.50 25.00 0.00 165.00 0.00 497.50 0.00 1,035.00 75.00 Free 0.00 2.50 0.00
Closed Effective 10/01/08 dba Ginger Pear Gourmet	TOTAL SPORTING LICENSES	\$2,567.50
4 Ford Hill Road, Rowe MA Fee Collected - One (1) @ \$0.50 Total Paid to Town Treasurer RAFFLE PERMITS One (1) Rowe Community Church @ \$10.00 Total Paid to Town Treasurer \$10.00	M1 - Archery @ \$5.10 (13) M2 - Waterfowl Stamp @ \$5.00 (4) M3 - Primitive Firearms Stamp @ \$5.10 (17) TOTAL STAMPS	66.30 20.00 86.70 \$173.00 \$2,740.50 -37.50
	TOTAL PAID TO MASS WILDLIFE	\$2,703.00

Appointees Sworn to Duty

AGENT FOR VETERANS, ACTING

Susan C. Wood - 10-28-08

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT/ ASSISTANT TO ACCOUNTANT

Sandra P. Daviau - 7-1-08

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

Carol Lively – 7-1-08 Laura Roberson – 7-1-08

BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

Jo-ann M. Brown – 6-17-08 Mary Jo A. Phelps – 6-18-08 David W. Lenth – 6-18-08 John H. Williams – 7-2-08 Marilyn Belval – 7-8-08 Richard A. Tower – 7-16-08

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Carrie Y. Silva – 3-12-08

BOARD OF HEALTH CLERK

Linda Bickford – 6-27-08

BROADBAND COMMITTEE

David Dvore – 6-27-08 Evelyn L. Dandeneau – 7-8-08 Raymond Wilson – 7-31-08 Russell Jolly – 8-31-08

BY-LAW REVIEW COMMITTEE

Myra B. Carlow – 6-30-08 John H. Williams – 7-2-08 Angela F. Foshay – 7-10-08 Ellynn B. Packard – 7-16-08

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLANNING (CIP) COMMITTEE

Accountant - Ellen L. Babcock. – 10-17-08 Assessors - Frederick N. Williams – 11-18-08 At Large - Myra B. Carlow – 10-21-08 Finance Committee - Cara Morano – 11-4-08 Planning Board - David A. Roberson – 10-21-08 School Committee - Margaret B. Rice - 11-4-08 Selectboard - William A. Loomis – 10-28-08

CDBG 2007 HOUSING REHAB PROGRAM CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Mary E. Paige, Rowe Representative – 7-2-08

CDBG 2008 HOUSING REHAB PROGRAM CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Mary E. Paige, Rowe Representative – 12-2-08

CHIEF PROCUREMENT OFFICER

Ellen L. Babcock – 7-1-08

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE COORDINATOR

Edwin L. May – 7-1-08

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Myra B. Carlow - 6-30-08

CONSTABLE

Roger L. Brown – 7-1-08

COUNCIL ON AGING

MaryAnn Dykeman – 6-12-08 Christine A. Tower – 6-16-08 Shirley Veber – 6-16-08 Jo-ann M. Brown – 6-17-08 Sandra P. Daviau – 6-17-08 Ellynn B. Packard – 6-28-08

DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF

Daniel J. Miller - 7-25-08

DOG OFFICER

Russell Powers – 11-25-08

DPW SUPERINTENDENT

James W. Taylor – 7-2-08

ELECTION TELLERS / WORKERS

Heidi Cousineau – 8-11-08 Rebecca F. Richardson – 8-12-08 Shirley Veber – 8-12-08 Carole A. Veber – 8-12-08 Kristen C. Swenson – 8-12-08 Claudine M. Poplawski – 8-12-08 Linda J. Bickford – 8-19-08 Laurie L. Laffond – 9-2-08 Earl Carlow – 9-3-08

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT TECHNICIANS

Gail May – 6-30-08 C. Selmi Hyytinen – 7-12-08

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR

Edwin L. May – 7-1-08

EMS COORDINATOR

Gail May – 6-30-08

ENERGY COMMITTEE

Myra Carlow – 6-30-08 Lisa Danek-Burke – 8-5-08 John R. H. Packard – 6-28-08

ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICER

James W. Taylor – 7-2-08

FENCE VIEWER

Earl Carlow - 6-30-08

FIELD DRIVER

Sandra P. Daviau – 7-1-08

FINANCE COMMITTEE

James E. Sousa – 3-14-08

FIRE CHIEF

Edwin L. May - 7-1-08

FIRE DEPARTMENT CAPTAINS

Paul McLatchy – 7-2-08 Dennis May – 7-22-08

FIRE LIEUTENANTS

Jonathan Lively – 7-2-08 William Reardon – 9-2-08 James White – 12-5-08

FRANKLIN REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (FRCOG) PLANNING BOARD

David Roberson, Rowe Representative – 7-9-08

FRANKLIN REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY (FRTA)

MaryAnn Dykeman, Rowe Rep. – 7-2-08

GRACY HOUSE COMMITTEE

Robert Dykeman – November 18, 2008 Leonard J. Laffond – November 18, 2008 Cynthia M. Laffond – November 18, 2008 Marilyn H. Belval – November 20, 2008 William C. Belval – November 20, 2008 MaryAnn Dykeman – November 20, 2008 John H. Williams – December 16, 2008

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS CONTROL OFFICER

Edwin L. May - 7-1-08

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Sharon C. Hudson – 19-17-08 Judith A. Pierce – 10-22-08

INSPECTOR OF BUILDINGS

William Foster – 6-30-08

ALTERNATE INSPECTOR OF BUILDINGS

James Hawkins – July 14, 2008

MEASURERS OF WOOD, BARK & LUMBER

Thomas P. Danek, Jr. – 6-30-08 James H. Williams – 7-9-08

OLD HOME DAY COMMITTEE

William A. Loomis – 6-16-08 Christine A. Tower – 6-16-08 Jo-ann M. Brown – 6-17-08 Anne E. Besgen – 6-17-08 Mary E. "Betty" Lenth – 6-18-08 Michael J. Phillips – 6-18-08 David W. Lenth – 6-18-08 Carol F. Lively – 6-23-08 Helene S. Glass – 6-25-08 Robert R. Rice – 6-30-08 Margaret B. Rice – 6-30-08 Mary E. Paige – 6-30-08

POUND KEEPER

Sandra P. Daviau – 7-1-08

PLUMBING & GAS INSPECTOR

Andrew French - 7-7-08

REGISTRARS OF VOTERS

Carrie Y. Silva – 8-19-08 Judith A. Pierce – 8-26-08 Lisa L. Miller – 9-12-08 Helen R. Shields – 9-16-08

REGISTRARS OF VOTERS, ASSISTANT

Ellen L. Babcock – 6-18-08

ROWE/HEATH EDUCATION EXPLORATORY COMMITTEE

David Dvore – 6-27-08

SPECIAL POLICE OFFICER / CHIEF

Henry J. Dandeneau – 7-8-08

SPECIAL POLICE OFFICERS

Gail May – 6-30-08 Diane B. Wilder – 7-2-08 C. Selmi Hyytinen – 7-12-08 David Rich – 7-12-08 Charles Bellows – 7-12-08 Jared Bellows – 7-12-08

SUPERINTENDENT OF INSECT, PEST AND ELM DISEASE CONTROL

James W. Taylor – 7-2-08

TOWN ACCOUNTANT

Ellen L. Babcock – 7-1-08

TOWN COORDINATOR

Ellen L. Babcock – 7-1-08

TOWN COUNSEL

Janet H. Pumphrey, Kopelman and Paige, P.C. – N/A

TOWN NURSE

Sheila Litchfield - 3-31-08

TREE WARDEN

James W. Taylor – 7-2-08

WIRING INSPECTOR

James Slowinski – 7-8-08

YANKEE ATOMIC ELECTRIC COMPANY – COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD (CAB)

Leonard J. Laffond, Rowe Rep. – 7-2-08

YANKEE LAND COMMITTEE

John H. Williams – 12-16-08 Leonard J. Laffond – 12-16-08 Frederick N. Williams – 12-16-08 William A. Loomis – 12-16-08 David W. Lenth – 12-16-08 Walter J. Quist – 12-16-08

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Marilyn Wilson – 10-9-08

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS – ALTERNATE MEMBER

Leonard J. Laffond - 11-18-08

Resignations by Appointees

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Cynthia M. Laffond – 11-18-08

COUNCIL ON AGING

James M. McKee – 4-28-08 Ellynn B. Packard – 12-3-08

ELECTION TELLER / WORKER

Heidi Cousineau – 10-21-08

ENERGY COMMITTEE

Myra Bennett Carlow – 9-2-08

OLD HOME DAY COMMITTEE FY08

Jo-ann M. Brown – 7-10-08

Elected Officials Sworn to Duty

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Carrie Y. Silva – 5-20-08 Frederick N. Williams – 5-28-08

BOARD OF HEALTH

Catherine T. Snyder – 5-21-08

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

William A. Loomis – 5-19-08

CEMETERY COMMISSION

James W. Taylor – 5-19-08

CONSTABLE

Christine A. Tower – 6-16-08

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Anne E. Besgen – 5-12-08

LIBRARY TRUSTEE

Ellynn B. Packard – 6-16-08

PARK COMMISSIONER

Mary Jo A. Phelps – 5-19-08

PLANNING BOARD

Robert Dykeman – 5-21-08 Jo-ann M. Brown – 5-21-08 Ellynn B. Packard – 6-16-08

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Margaret B. Rice – 5-23-08

TOWN CLERK

Carrie Y. Silva - 5-19-08

Resignation by Elected Official

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Ellen L. Babcock - 2-16-08

Rowe Voters List - December 31, 2008

A lix, Richard E	U	Clancy, Robert J	D	Glass, Helene S	D	Loomis, William A	U
Andognini, Arlene	Q	Cooper-Quevedo,		Glass, Herbert L	D	Lowell, Frederick K.	D
Appel, Jamie Beth	D	Paige Anne	D	Gleason, Susan P	D		
Ash, Brian S	Ũ	Corarito, Arthur D	U	Gordon, Ronald P	U	M arkert, Karen	D
Ash, Laurie L	Ŭ	Corarito, Maryann	Ū	Gordon, Rosemary R	U	Markert, Robert T	U
	Ď	Cousineau, David A	Ŭ	Grogan, Barbara	Ř	May, Dennis F	U
Avery, Charles L	L	Cousineau, Heidi	Ŭ	Grogari, Daroara	- `	May, Edwin L	R
Avery, Linda Eileen			D	H ardison, Billy L	D	May, Gail	Û
Avery, Marion A	U	Cowie, Bruce W			U	May, Katherine E	R
- 1 TH T	T T	Cowie, Janet L B	D	Hardison, Justin Lane	Ü	May, Kristina A	R
B abcock, Ellen L	Ü	Crowningshield,	T T	Hardison, Leonda Iris			R
Baker, Roberta T	U	Debra Ann	U	Heiligmann, Carlos	D	May, Paul E	U
Baker, William J	U	Crowningshield,	* *	Heiligmann, Katherine S	D	May, Seth A	U
Barish, Jane L	U	Howard C	U	Houghtaling, Melissa A	U	McKee, James M	U
Belval, Marilyn Hurd	U	Crowningshield,		Houghtaling, Timothy L	Ŋ	McLatchy, Kerri L	
Belval, William C	U	Jeanette	U	Hudson, Gary H	D	McLatchy, Lesley K	U
Benson, Francis S	U	Crowningshield,		Hudson, Sharon C	D	McLatchy,	_
Benson, Luella M	U	Matthew R	U	Hyytinen,		Megan Kristine	D
Bergeron-Larsen,Linda	U	Crowningshield,		Čhristopher Selmi	U	McLatchy, Paul, Jr	U
Berry, Prudence	D	Steven Robert	U	Hyytinen, Tabitha J	U	McLatchy, Paul III	S
Besgen, Anne E	U					McLatchy, Wendy K	D
Bickford, Linda Jean	D	D andeneau, Evelyn L	D	Jackman, Seth T	U	Miceli, Steven M	U
Bjork, Alan W	R	Dandeneau, Henry G	U	Jackson, Crystal Ann	U	Miller, Daniel J	U
Bjork, Florence M	R	Dandeneau, Henry J.	U	Jackson, Darlene A	U	Miller, Deborah	U
Bjork, Timothy J	U	Dandeneau, Marion E	U	Jackson, Lisa Marie	U	Miller, Kirk L	U
Booth, Robin	Ď	Danek, Helen Elizabeth	U	Jackson, Oral L	U	Miller, Linda M	U
Bouthonis, Arulamma	Ď	Danek, Lillian H	D	Johnston, Robin Lee	U	Miller, Lisa Lynn	D
Boutwell, Joyce A H	Ũ	Danek, Thomas P, Jr	Ū	Jolly, Russell W	D	Miller, Nicolé P	U
Boutwell, Raymond L	Ŭ	Danek-Burke, Lisa Ann	Ŭ	, , - , - , - , - , - , - , - , -		Morano, Cara	U
Boyd, Irene M	Ŭ	Daviau, Edward A	Ď	K alaus, Dorothy M	U	Morano, Chris	U
Boyd, William M	Ŭ	Daviau, Sandra P	Ď	Kalaus, Warren	Ū	Morse, Alfred C, Jr	U
	Ü	Dionne, Loretta Irene	Ď	Katz, Deborah Booth	Ŭ	Morse, Marjorie H	U
Bradley, Kenneth	U	Donelson, Brian A	R	Katz, Esther D	Ŭ	Morse-Sprague, Jennifer	Ď
Bradley, Michael F	U		R	Katz, Rebecca Leah	Ď	iviorite opragae, jerminer	~
Bradley, Patrick M	U	Donelson, Norma J	D	Katz, Rebecca Lean Keppler, David J	Ü	P ackard, Ellynn Baxter	D
Bradley, Rebecca P		Donovan, Eugene J	U	Repplet, David)	O	Packard, John R H	Ď
Brown, Christopher M	U	Donovan, Sandra A	U	L affond, Cynthia M	U	Page, Dorothy F	Ũ
Brown, James D	U	Dunnell, Dale W	R	Laffond, Laurie L	Ŭ	Paige, Clifford III	Ŭ
Brown, Jo-ann M	D	Dunnell, Paul P	U		Ü	Paige, Mary Eve	Ŭ
Brown, June W	R	Dvore, David	U	Laffond, Leonard J	Ü	Palmer, Edwin A	Ü
Brown, Leonard J, Jr	R	Dykeman, Mary Ann		Laffond, Michael S	U	Palmer, Ellsworth E	Ü
Brown, Lillian Norma	R	Dykeman, Robert L	U	Lager, Joan Selby			Ü
Brown, Nancy A	Ū	T 1 C 1 H	D	Landry, Phyllis J	U	Parent, Jeffery E	U
Brown, Roger L	Ď	E arle, Sarah Ilyza	D	Larned, Danielle M	D	Parent, Margaret G	U
Brown, Willian M	R	Essert, Mary B	Ü	Larned, Lance P	U	Parent, Willian Morse	U
Bryant, Lisa A	D	Essert, Robert	U	Lenth, David W	R	Petersen, Daureen W	
Buck, Elizabeth Victoria	U			Lenth, Mary E	Ũ	Phelps, Abigail M	U
Buck, Philip Edward	U	F aivre, Audrey I	U	Lesure, Lawrence M	Ñ	Phelps, Daniel R, Jr	U
Burdick, Joann M	D	Fensky, Doris C	U	Levitre, Cristine	U	Phelps, MaryJo Anne	Ũ
Burke, Daniel J	U	Fensky, Kenneth G	U	Lively, Abigail R	U	Phillips, Michael J	Ū
		Flagg, Donna J	U	Lively, Andrew J	U	Pickett, Felicity	Ď
C arlow, Earl	D	Foberg, Benjamin A	U	Lively, Carol F	U	Pierce, Judith A	R
Carlow, Myra Bennett	D	Foberg, Kirsten Ellen	U	Lively, Deborah L	U	Pike, Laurie Jean	U
Cascone, Nancy J	U	Foshay, Angela F	D	Lively, Dennis G	U	Plante, Jenna M	U
Chattin, Amy	U	Foster, Bernice A	U	Lively, James W	U	Poehlein, David Gregory	U
Chattin, Jillian F	U	Foster, William G	U	Lively, Jonathan A	U	Poplawski,	
Chattin, Maxwell P	U	,		Lively, Sandra Julia	U	Ćlaudine Micheala	U
Chattin, Michael	Ū	G allaghar, Robert L	U	Loomis, Leann Zavotka	U	Poplawski, Daniel Paul	U
Chiofalo, Thomas L	Ū	Gary, Virginia P	D	Loomis, Ruth E	U	Powers, Russell L	U
Cirinna, Geoffrey T	Ď	Gaudry, George L	R	Loomis, Sean R	U	•	
January George 1	~			,			

Q uinn, Melissa S	D	T aylor, James W	U
Quinn, Richard K	$\widetilde{\mathbb{D}}$	Taylor, Sharon L	U
Quist, Kelle J	Ũ	Taylor, Susan Berry	U
Quist, Walter J	Ŭ	Thurber, Jacob A	U
	0	Tower, Christine A	R
R eardon, Crystal J	U	Tower, Richard A., Sr	R
Reardon, Mary A	Ŭ	Tower, Idenaid 11., 51	1\
Reardon, Tiffany J	Ŭ	Vadeboncoeur,	
Reardon, William Neil	Ŭ	Joseph A	U
Reed, Robin W	Ď	VanDyke, Barbara L	D
Reynolds-Gallaghar,	D		U
Danette L	U	VanItallie, JeanClaude	
Rice, Bradley J	Ü	Veber, Carole A	R U
Rice, Dean T	R	Veber, Florence M	
Rice, Donald A	R	Veber, Shirley Veber, Terry	R
Rice, Jennifer L	R	Veber, Tiffany R	R
Rice, Margaret B	Ü		R
Rice, Robert R	Ü	Vernes, Elizabeth Anna	D
Richardson, Rebecca F	Ď	Vernes, Ian Arie	U
Roberson, David A	U	Volland, Phyllis E	D
Roberson, Laura S	Ü	Waxna David D	D
Roche, Barbara J	D	Wayne, David B	D
Rode, Christina M	R	Webster, Gideon K	U
	R	Wessman, Daniel J	U
Rooney, Francis C Ross, Daniel Caleb	D	Wessman, Samantha E	U
Rossi, John F		White, Gerrit C	U
Rossi, Martha	R U	White, Glenn M	U
NOSSI, Martina	U	White, Marguerite S	D
Scrivens Rotty D	ΤŢ	White, Susan M	D
S crivens, Betty R Scrivens, David F	U U	Williams, Albert R	U
	U	Williams,	т т
Sena, Josephine A	D	Frederick Newton	U
Shaw, Crystal L	U	Williams, James H	R
Sherman, Connie Anne	Ü	Williams, James Thomas	R
Sherman, Dohn Wayne Shields, Helen R	D	Williams, John H	R
Shippee, Julie J	R	Williams, Nancy N	R
Shippee, Kenneth R	R	Williams, Robert O	U
Silva, Carrie Y	R	Williams, Susan A	U
Silva, Edward J	U	Williams, Valerie Ann	U
Silva, Robert A	U	Wilson, Douglas Rev	D
Silva, Sandra J	Ü	Wilson, Marilyn	D
Smith, Floyd W	Ü	Wilson, Raymond	D
Smith, Phyllis T	Ü	Wood	
Snyder, Catherine T	Ü	Wood,	D
Snyder, Timothy C	R	Jennifer Younglove	D
Sousa, James E	D	Woodyward Florian I	
Soviecke, Anna	U	Woodward, Eleanor L	U
Soviecke, Karen	U	Woodward, Martin V	U
Soviecke, Mitchell	Ü	7 iolonka Stanlay D	ΤT
Soviecke, Nicholas J	Ď	Z ielonka, Stanley R	U
Sprague, Brittani ME	U		
Sprague, Katherine D	R		
Sprague, Kevin D	U		
Stetson, Jane B	U		
Stetson, Wendell L	U		
Stickney, Barbara	R		
Strules, Jennifer E	U		
	D		
Sutherland, Jennie R Sutherland, Wendy S	D		
Swenson, Kristen C	R		
	1/		

Town of Rowe Voters List 12/31/08

Enrolled in a Party:

U - Unenrolled	197
D - Democrat	68
R - Republican	40

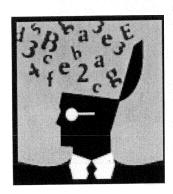
Enrolled under a Designation:

G - Green	0
L - Libertarian	1
Q - Independent	1
S - Socialist	1
Total Voters	308



PART II

Education



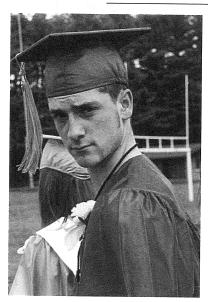
Congratulations Graduates - 2008

Mohawk Trail Regional High School

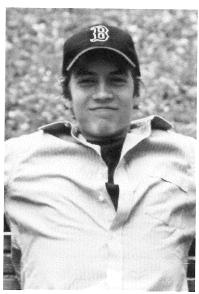
Franklin Regional Technical High School



Tiffany R. Veber



Kenneth Bradley



Maxwell P. Chattin

Rowe Elementary School - 6th Grade Class



L to R: Mark Buck, Kyle Shippee, Puja Kranz-Howe, Heidi Phelps, Jennieke Kranz-Howe and Kendra Crockwell

School Committee

The Rowe School Committee again is very proud of all that the students, teachers, parents and community members have contributed to make our school a school of excellence.

This year work on finances started in early September to get input from everyone as to the needs of the school. There was good communication on all fronts to improve format.

The outdoor classroom continued to be worked on with a couple of minor construction changes. This has become a real asset for the building and will be ready for classroom use in Spring 2009, and also for use by the community at large. This classroom was completely paid for out of grant monies and donations as part of "The Habitat" project.

The Habitat continues to be a focus, and more will be added during the next year to enhance the use of the environment around the school property.

The Rowe School family has again been very pleased with the enhancement of activities between the school and Rowe park. We are in a unique situation in Rowe for our students to have such a teaching opportunity right in our back yard.

The Rowe School Committee would like to thank the Energy Committee along with our own Lisa Danek-Burke for all of the hard work studying the energy needs of the elementary school. We as a committee are looking forward to both monetary and energy consumption savings for years to come.

The Rowe School Committee again would like to express our thanks to all Rowe townspeople for the support of our elementary and high school students. Please feel free to attend any of our meetings that are held the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm at Rowe Elementary School.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret Rice, Chairperson Lisa Danek-Burke, Vice Chairperson Rebecca Richardson, Secretary

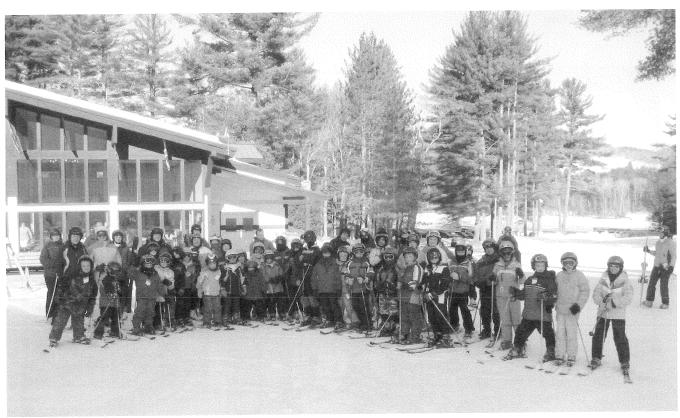


Photo By Bob Clancy

Rowe School Winter Enrichment Program At Berkshire East

School Enrollments

Rowe Elementary School

40

Rowe residents

24

School of Choice-In

(3) Buckland

(10) Charlemont

(2) Colrain

(2) Conway

(7) Heath

64 TOTAL

Mohawk Trail Regional Middle/High School

Franklin County Technical High School β

The Academy at Charlemont

Four Rivers Charter School

Home Schooled Students

8 Elementary Level

1 Middle/High School Level

School of Choice - Out



Photo by Bob Clancy Johanna Weinstein's Retirement Party Pelham Lake Park - June 2008



The new Outdoor Classroom at Rowe Elementary School

Photo by Bob Clancy

Rowe Elementary School - Principal's Report

It is my pleasure to submit the 2008 calendar year principal's report for Rowe Elementary School. The Rowe School Family continues to accomplish much in and out of the classroom. Student achievement is up as are the efforts of working towards making a difference in the local and global community.

Our students are more than the measure of the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System even though they continue to score in the "Very High" category for student accountability. The Spring 2008 MCAS test results for grades three through six once again showed an increase in student test scores even as the bar the Department of Education sets out gets progressively higher every year. In 2008 our students were given a targeted aggregate score to reach in English Language Arts of 85.4 out of 100 and our students reached 92 and in Mathematics the target was 76.4 and the students hit 90. Congratulations to our students, and our teachers, for the achievement.

Our accreditation by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges remains in good standing and thanks to the supportive and academically challenging curriculum in place and the good work by all, student performance continues to rise. We began a review of our mathematics program and added thirty minutes to daily instruction. Language arts will be the next area of curriculum review. Spanish continues to be taught to students from preschool through grade six and they are immersed as English is rarely spoken during this class time. As the parent of two students at Rowe School I appreciate greatly the opportunity afforded our students by having a world language taught at the elementary level. Research continues to show the importance of learning a second language at an early age will increase the success of children in their personal and professional lives.

Enrichment continues to be as important as the general curriculum. Students participate in vocal and instrumental music weekly and are provided opportunities to write and act in plays. Primary classroom students continue to perform environmentally based tales, which they write, about the importance of being good stewards of the earth. Grade three and four students performed a Mexican Cinderella folk tale that they wrote and the whole school cultural arts unit on Mexico included an outstanding evening performance of dance and song with artist-in-residence Veronica Robles paid for in part by a grant from the Rowe Cultural Arts Council. The third and fourth grade students visited Greenfield to experience the Pioneer Valley Symphony Orchestra and our fifth and sixth grade students spent five days in Yarmouthport out on Cape Cod at Nature's Classroom for the biannual trip. This trip held a focus on science with students probing ponds, saltwater marshes, sampling water from deep in the ocean, and challenging themselves with cooperative games and adventures while away from home for the first time for most.

Site improvements continue as the wild flower beds by the entrance to the school take hold, and construction of an outdoor classroom made progress.

Volunteerism continues as our students worked for local, national, and international relief efforts. Locally students collected food for the "Good Neighbors" pantry, money for "Adopt-A-Family," "Warm the Children," and "UNICEF," to name a few. The annual tradition of students cleaning up a section of the Deerfield River continued with their participation in the tenth year of the Deerfield River Cleanup at the Zoar picnic area. This sampling of the many connections made by the Rowe School Family demonstrates not only good will and service to the community but good moves towards effective citizenship.

Due to the ice storm in early December, the 10th Annual Holly Berry Craft Fair was cancelled. It was quite unfortunate as the event is looked forward to by all and the profits from the event help with the rising costs of field trips and enrichment programs such as the winter enrichment program at Berkshire East and the fifth and sixth grade five day field trip.

The SCA/AmeriCorps program that Rowe School has been very fortunate to be a part of each year continued as we hosted two new volunteers. This is well-spent federal money. The volunteers are great role models and bring with them an excitement about the environment that our students grab onto and relish for the three months the volunteers are with us.

June of 2008 marked the end of a very long and distinguished career for one of our teachers as Johanna Weinstein, also our head teacher, retired after twenty years with Rowe School. Johanna's presence and hand in the instruction of our students will be missed. June also saw the end of having a separate teacher for science after twelve years and our teachers look forward to its return to the classroom and the professional development that will assist in the transition.

The learning adventure continues thanks in part to the continued support of our Rowe School families and the citizens of Rowe. I thank the Town of Rowe for its continued support of its students at the Rowe Elementary School, the Mohawk Trail Regional Middle/High School, and the Franklin County Technical High School.

Respectfully submitted,
Bob Clancy, Principal

MTRSD - Report of the Superintendent

Mohawk Trail Regional School District - Hawlemont Regional School District - Rowe Elementary School

Mohawk celebrated its $40^{\rm th}$ year of operation in 2008 in an increasingly promising environment. With student enrollment stable and finances dramatically improved, the school system was able to focus sharply on the classroom and student achievement. Indeed, 2008 was a year of getting back to the basics.

District Educational Planning

With the goal of promoting student achievement, the school system continued to focus a great deal of energy toward educational planning in 2008. Administration continued the process of aligning district educational goals with district improvement plans and school improvement plans. All three districts adopted long-term educational goals and made substantial progress toward creating 3-year District Improvement Plans. The Districts are on-course to completing the alignment of their educational planning instruments in the 2009-2010 school year.

Educational Accountability

The 3-Districts performed reasonably well on the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) in 2008, which is used to hold districts and schools accountable for adequate yearly progress (AYP) toward the objective of the *No Child Left Behind* (NCLB) Law that all students be proficient in Reading and Mathematics by 2014. As we approach 2014, and the AYP threshold is raised higher and higher toward 100%, meeting AYP is becoming predictably more and more difficult. This increasing difficulty is evident across the Commonwealth. In 2008, 50% of all public schools and 23% of all public school districts have been identified for improvement, corrective action, or restructuring under the federal AYP accountability system. Within this context, I believe that the school system performed reasonably well in 2008.

District Level - Mohawk

The 2008 MTRSD MCAS results indicate that the district is on target. For the third consecutive year, the MTRSD met AYP requirements in both English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics both in the aggregate and subgroups.

School Level - Mohawk

At the individual school level, Sanderson Academy and Heath Elementary met all AYP targets in both ELA and Math. Because Sanderson met its targets for the second consecutive year, it exited its 2005-2006 NCLB accountability status of Improvement Year 1. Buckland-Shelburne Elementary (BSE) and Colrain Central School met all Math targets but did not meet ELA targets in either the aggregate or in subgroups. Because BSE missed the ELA targets for the second consecutive year, it has entered the NCLB accountability status of Improvement Year 1.

The High School met both the Math and ELA AYP targets in the aggregate; however, it did not meet either target in subgroups for the second consecutive year. As a result, within subgroups, the High School has entered the NCLB accountability status of Improvement Year 1. As required, the High School and BSE have modified their school improvement plans to help the schools improve their performance in 2009. The schools will need to meet the required AYP targets for two consecutive years in order to exit NCLB accountability.

School Level - Hawlemont

Unfortunately, Hawlemont did not meet any AYP targets in 2008. Because it did not meet the ELA AYP target in the aggregate for the second consecutive year, Hawlemont has entered the NCLB accountability status of Improvement Year 1. In addition to modifying its school improvement plan, Hawlemont has moved aggressively to modify its calendar to increase classroom time for the students prior to the 2009 MCAS. Three February vacation days have been converted to school days, and three half days have been converted to full school days.

School Level - Rowe

Rowe Elementary School's 2008 AYP results were very positive. As in 2007, the students substantially exceeded state performance targets in both English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics.

More Affordable Healthcare

Having taken advantage of new legislation, both Mohawk and Hawlemont joined the Group Insurance Commission (GIC) during the fall of 2007. This transition from their membership in the Franklin County Regional Schools Health Group enabled the districts to avoid substantial increases in health care costs in their 2008-2009 school budget proposals. Mohawk avoided approximately \$500,000 in expenses, and Hawlemont avoided approximately \$50,000 in expenses. These efficiencies enabled the districts to propose affordable budgets to the towns and resulted in a remarkably uneventful budget season.

Supplemental Financial State Aid

As a result of a collaborative effort with local legislators, particularly Senator Rosenberg, both Mohawk and Hawlemont were awarded substantial supplemental state aid in 2008 in the form of foundation reserve "pot hole" monies. Mohawk received \$448,000, and Hawlemont received \$44,000. This supplemental assistance also contributed substantially to the relatively smooth school budget process in 2008.

Bright Students - Bright Future

2008 was a terrific year for the students of the Mohawk, Hawlemont and Rowe School Districts. The classroom and student learning re-took their rightful place as the center of attention rather than chronic fiscal crisis. Student enrollment stabilized for the first time in a decade, and school

finances dramatically improved as a result of strong fiscal management. Within the classrooms, student learning flourished. Indeed, by all indications, the students of the Mohawk Trail Regional School System can look forward to another 40 years of educational excellence.

Michael A. Buoniconti Superintendent of Schools

Mohawk Trail Regional High School - Report of the Principal

I am very pleased to present the Annual Report of the Principal of Mohawk Trail Regional High School. Our enrollment is 599 students in grades 7-12, with 48 students coming to Mohawk through school choice. The outstanding and dedicated staff continues to provide a foundation of support for the remarkable accomplishments of our students.

The academic accomplishments of our students and the efforts of our staff continue to be exceptional. Mohawk students continue to get accepted to the nation's top colleges and universities. This past year, five Mohawk students received the prestigious honor of being recognized by the College Board as Advanced Placement Scholars. English teachers Scott Whitney and Neale Gay have begun an international exchange program where 23 Mohawk students will visit the Netherlands. This past fall, the same number of Dutch students have already stayed with families in our 9 towns and spent a week at MTRHS. Our teachers also continue to be innovative and are piloting courses in Outdoor Adventure, Media Studies and Horticulture along with internships in Landscaping and Sports Management.

Participation in extra-curricular activities continues to flourish. Last spring 219 students participated in after school sports, with another 260 students this past fall and 170 students in the current winter season. The Mohawk Field Hockey Team brought great pride to our community when they were crowned Western Mass Division 2 Champions and ended up second in the entire state to only Hopkinton. This year the Mohawk Music Program will see the retirement of its Director Nick Waynelovich. The excellence Mr. Waynelovich has brought to the program over the last several decades will conclude with a district-wide performance

of *Beauty and the Beast* this coming spring. Once again, the Mohawk Music Association and the Mohawk Athletic Association serve as the fundraising backbone of the extracurricular opportunities that our students enjoy throughout their years at Mohawk. I would like to extend my personal appreciation to all those from our communities who so selflessly serve with these groups to enhance their learning beyond the classroom.

Mohawk has discontinued our relationship with School Based Services, who had provided special education services in the form of the Walnut Hill Program. The district has developed its own program, now called Mohawk Supported Classrooms, under the leadership of Director Joey Kotright-Clark. Taking control of the program has not only saved the district a considerable amount of money but has also given the school control over the curriculum and increased the educational quality of the program. At the conclusion of this school year, Mohawk will provide the New England Association of Schools and Colleges with a special report outlining the self-study that the school community must conduct in preparation for its decennial accreditation evaluation visit in 2012.

Our commitment will remain to continue to improve an excellent school. It is through the support of the towns, the School Committee, and the members of our fundraising organizations that Mohawk's outstanding teaching staff is able to continue to improve on the excellent education we provide for our students.

Brian E. Beck Principal

MTRSD - Library/Media Services

School	Library Manager	Materials Circulated
Buckland Shelburne Element	ary Toni Wilcox	8,639
Colrain Central Elementary	Genie Shearer	6,250
Hawlemont Elementary	Mary Boehmer	7,624
Heath Elementary	Wanda Musacchio	3,052
Mohawk Trail Regional 7-12	Gina Wells	3,026
Rowe Elementary	Sue Kranz	1,865
Sanderson Academy Eileer	n McCusker Rauch	4,768

Buckland Shelburne Elementary: A highly successful book fair was held in October. There was an extra day of the Book Fair on a Saturday during the PTO's Fall Festival. Second graders learned how to do book reports. These students were introduced to a variety of short book report forms where they entered the author, title and a summary or opinion of the story. Third and fourth graders learned about title pages and call numbers. Fifth and sixth graders learned skills necessary for research projects and were involved in free choice reading.

Colrain Central Elementary: Highly successful book fairs were conducted in the spring and the fall. Each student was able to receive a book. There were extensive reading activities at the Colrain Elementary Summer Day Camp in July. Also active book "read alouds" were done all year long in K-6. In this program students predicted, listened and recapped a picture book. During the "Read Across America" celebration, students from Mohawk Trail Regional High School were guest readers to Colrain student audiences.

Hawlemont Elementary: Many activities were done in collaboration with Tyler Memorial Public Librarian, Bambi Miller: (1) "Remembrance of Our Past," abolitionist activities in Charlemont during the 1800's presented at the Shelburne Historical Society, (2) "Hands and Hearts to Cloth," the role of quilts during the period of the Underground Railroad, presented at the quilting store, A Notion to Quilt, (3) "Family Square Dance" at the Charlemont Fairgrounds Exhibition Hall, (4) walking tours for Hawlemont students of Charlemont's Tyler Memorial Library and (5) class visits to the East Charlemont School House where period re-enactors gave lessons on local history in colonial times. Folk singer Sarah Pirtle shared songs of freedom with kindergarten, first and fourth graders. Every student received a free book during the Book Give Away program. Mary Boehmer was recognized for receiving a Paralibrarian Recognition Award from the Massachusetts Library Association.

Heath Elementary: Black History Month was celebrated with stories featuring escapes from slavery and African-American musicians. In the "Read Across America" program Dr. Seuss' birthday was celebrated in a theatrical presentation of a birthday book. The annual Friends of the Heath School Library Book Fair was held in collaboration with The World Eye Book Shop. Funds were raised to buy more books for the library. Library Manager Wanda Musacchio received a Paralibrarian Recognition Award from the Massachusetts Library Association.

Mohawk Trail Regional School 7-12: Students in the Fantasy Book Club read The Golden Compass by Philip Pullman. Kris Holloway, author of the book, Monique and the Mango Rains Two Years with a Midwife in Mali, spoke in the Mohawk Library. Students in Lynn Dole's Global Explorations class created a videotape about Holloway's visit that was aired on Falls Cable. During Reading Celebration Day, students created posters and teachers gave short book talks about books they enjoyed. Students were introduced to the library's new audio books made possible from a \$5,000 grant from the Federal Institute of Library Services administered through the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners.

Rowe Elementary: The students made bookplates to put in their favorite books. To celebrate Library Month, the older students picked their favorite books and acted them out while the younger students guessed which books they were. Also, the town postmistress kicked off a reading incentive by providing the students with an ice cream party at Pelham Lake Park to celebrate all the books the students read. Claudine Poplawski's third and fourth grade classes researched Cinderella stories in many different cultures and wrote and acted out a play about an Aztec Cinderella story.

Sanderson Academy Elementary: Students in the After School Book Club read the book <u>The Thief Lord</u> by Cornelia Funke. There was an all-school read-a-thon to celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday. All the students were involved in age-appropriate information literacy activities. Library Manager Eileen Rauch received Highly Qualified *No Child Left Behind* Certification.

Submitted by Terry McConnell

MTRSD - Special Education and Pupil Services

The Mohawk Trail Regional School System has continued to provide a wide range of services to qualifying students from pre-school to graduation or aging out of the system at twenty-two years. Special education programs provide specialized and individualized instruction and classroom support for qualifying students in all grades. Related services, including speech and language therapy, occupational and physical therapy, assistive technology, and counseling are provided in each of the three districts.

Retraining of administrators and special education staff in eligibility criteria has been a major focus in the past year with the goal of streamlining the child study process and ensuring students on the special education rolls qualify for those services. This work has resulted in a decrease in the special education enrollment by 44 students, or three percent. The districts work to provide appropriate instruction to all students with special needs in the least restrictive environment, preferably their home school. The number of outside placements dropped from 2007, with some out-of-district students graduating, and others moving from the district, or returning to the district's own programs.

A significant programmatic change occurred in 2008 with the departure of the School Based Services contracted services. While the district initially benefited financially from the arrangement with SBS in the form of out of district tuition income, the financial benefit dissipated as programmatic conflicts increased. The district itself now provides small group instruction in a supported classroom environment for resident students with social and emotional needs. This program allows movement in and out of mainstream classes at both the elementary and secondary level. While the district supports more inclusion practices, resource rooms found in each building provide a setting for meeting the needs of individual students, as well. Specialized programs within the district include the Language-Based Classrooms in the middle and high school, the Mohawk Supported Classrooms, the Vocational Integration Program and Life Skills Program.

The district has currently completed all responses required by the Bureau of Secondary and Elementary Education in its Coordinated Program Review with the exception of teacher training for working with students with limited English language skills. This is a very small population in our schools but a compliance standard for our district to meet. As economic changes in the state challenge us to meet all students' needs in our schools with fewer financial resources, the district is looking ahead to training our own staff in the areas of assistive technology, autism spectrum disorders and other areas of identified need. In response to the inconsistent performance of the special education subgroup on the 2008 MCAS, the district is working to improve instruction and conduct interim assessment for these, and other under-performing students. All schools continue to assure compliance with section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and Title IX to prevent discrimination on the basis of race, gender, or disability in our educational process.

> Patricia Bell Director of Pupil Personnel Services

MTRSD - The Mary Lyon Foundation, Inc. Innovative Support of Local Education

This year we were pleased to introduce a new funding source for the future purchase of middle school library books at Mohawk Trail Regional School. The Gertrude Streeter Fund established by her family will ultimately provide an endowment with the capacity to strengthen and enhance the school library's collection of books for 7th and 8th graders. Gertrude Streeter was a beloved Colrain Central School teacher whose dedication to inspiring children to read was legendary.

Other school-designated initiatives include the Susan B. Todd Fund for environmental education at the Heath Elementary School, the Field Memorial Fund for professional development at Sanderson Academy and the Colrain Vision of Excellence for gifted and talented projects for all children at the Colrain Central School. The Agriculture Project for the greenhouse and community garden at Mohawk continues to be pro-actively funded through the generosity of the Greenfield Cooperative Bank.

The Mary Lyon Foundation once again raised significant funds for mini-grants for all our local schools through the 3rd annual Community Spelling Bee held in November; thirty teams representing public and private schools, youth groups, senior citizens, religious and civic organizations and businesses were led by Master of Ceremonies Jill Connolly and Spell Master Art Schwenger. We also continue to provide warm clothes, eyeglasses and prescriptions for children in need through our ongoing Student Assistance Fund. Graduating seniors benefit from the Dr. Davin, Temple Family, From the Heart, Bushey and Turner scholarships. We continue to provide in-kind support for our Sister Village partnership between Shelburne Falls and Mutianyu, China.

Our annual MTRS Outstanding Graduate award was presented at the Spring Lyonnaise to Arleen O'Donnell, formerly of Ashfield, for her dedication to the environment and its impact on our local communities. Another major event in 2008 was the 2nd distribution of new backpacks and books to elementary school children in all our schools. The flagship event was held at the BSE School with WHAI radio station providing music and entertainment.

Members of the Board of Directors for 2008 were Marion Taylor (President), Winston Healy, Pat Kerrins, Jim Pilgrim, Stephanie Purington, Sharon Hudson (Secretary), Nina Coler, Hugh Knox (Vice President), George Dole, Jr., Heather Viens, Tom and Karen Harmon, Dan Field, and MTRS student representatives Lauren Avery and Brittany Bissell. Business Manager is Gina Sieber. The Board of Directors joins me in thanking the many generous individuals and businesses in our community for making 2008 a highly successful year. The Mary Lyon Foundation is a 501(c)(3) community-based, non-profit organization that provides innovative support for education in our nine West County towns. Named in honor of Buckland-born educator Mary Lyon, who founded Mount Holyoke College, the organization continues to provide programs and services that greatly enhance the quality of local education.

> Dr. Susan B. Samoriski Founding Executive Director

MTRSD - Carl H. Nilman Scholarship Fund

The fund was established under the provisions of the will of Carl H. Nilman for the purpose of providing scholarships. Recipients shall reside in the school district and be graduates of the Mohawk Trail Regional High School who desire and are deemed worthy of post high school education or training and who are in need of financial assistance.

This year the Awards subcommittee read 104 applications. 40 were from seniors and 64 from previous graduates of Mohawk. \$37,775.00 is to be awarded using 30% for seniors and 70% for graduates. The committee feels that seniors have multiple scholarship opportunities from other sources, while graduates have far fewer resources. 31 scholarships totaling \$11,800 were awarded to seniors (77% of applicants). 40 scholarships totaling \$27,975.00 were given to graduates (63% of applicants). The awards committee is Sheila Graves, Marion Scott (Buckland), Marge Porrevecchio (Charlemont), Jim Pilgrim (Plainfield), and Michelle Hillman (Colrain).

From 1991-2008 a total of \$655,725.00 has been awarded in scholarships. Mohawk seniors have received \$203,475.00 and \$452,250.00 has been awarded to Mohawk graduates.

The Finance Committee is composed of Richard Bole, David Engle and Nancy Dole. Judy Hoyt is continuing her role as our financial advisor.

Other members of the committee are: Sarah Rich, Julia Aron, Ken Chaffee, and Rebecca Bradley.

This year we welcomed new members Robin Hartnett (past school committee), Jim Pilgrim (Plainfield), Eric Sumner (at-large) and Andrew Baker (current school committee).

The Mohawk community owes a debt of gratitude to Mr. Nilman for his foresight in supporting higher education for the students of Mohawk Trail Regional High School. The committee members are honored to bring the wishes of his will to fruition.

Students of any age who are graduates of Mohawk (and were living in the nine town area at the time of graduation) are encouraged to apply for scholarships to help meet their continuing education needs. Call the Guidance Office at Mohawk for information regarding requirements and deadlines.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle F. Hillman Secretary

Franklin County Technical School District

We submit this annual report for 2008 on behalf of the Franklin County Technical School District and its administration, faculty, staff and students.

Total enrollment as of October 1, 2008 was 517 students with town breakouts as follows:

m 1	1.0	A.4	60
Bernardston	16	Montague	68
Buckland	16	New Salem	5
Colrain	22	Northfield	28
Conway	10	Orange	59
Deerfield	22	Shelburne	16
Erving	10	Sunderland	22
Gill	8	Warwick	9
Greenfield	141	Wendell	7
Heath	6	Whately	8
Leyden	5	Non-District (3 from Rowe)	39

Franklin County Technical School awarded 135 diplomas to our seniors in June of 2008. This marked the seventh year that Massachusetts students were required to pass the MCAS in order to receive a high school diploma. Once again our students were very successful in meeting this high academic standard. The graduates also earned their vocational certificate along with their diploma. 42% of our graduates planned to go on to either a two or four year college, 35% joined the area work force, 1% planned to join the military,

11% went on to a post secondary trade/technical school, and 11% were unsure as to which of the above options they would pursue. We are proud of the accomplishments of the Class of 2008.

All schools in the Commonwealth are required by the federal *No Child Left Behind* Act (NCLB) to meet or exceed specific student performance standards in English/language arts, mathematics and beginning with the Class of 2010, science also. The Franklin County Technical School is proud to note that it met these adequate yearly progress determinations for the 2007 – 2008 school year.

During 2008, the students from various vocational programs performed a variety of service projects benefiting the city of Greenfield and many of our member towns. We plan to continue supplying our constituent towns with these services as they offer both the ideal learning laboratory for our students as well as an opportunity to contribute back to the communities that have supported us so well over the years. A small sample of recent projects include a sign for the Bernardston Public Library, a scoring table for the Greenfield High School Booster's Club, a timber frame boathouse for the town of Orange, installation of classroom projectors in Whately, Sunderland and Deerfield elementary schools and the restoration and painting of numerous municipal vehicles for the town of Montague. Students from

many shop areas also routinely assist our building maintenance department, supplying services that would otherwise be contracted to outside agencies.

We are in the final stages of a performance contract with the Energy Service Company (ESCO), Siemens Building Technologies, Inc. This project included the installation of energy efficient lighting and sensors, the conversion to high efficiency natural gas-fired boilers and roof top units for heating and ventilation, the sealing of the building envelope, and the installation of energy saving controllers for our computer network and the walk-in coolers/freezers along with a state-of-the-art energy management system to ensure our ability to maximize our savings throughout the life of these new systems. We are pleased to share that this five million dollar project has been completed without any capital request to our member towns. The cost of the project will be covered from the money saved in our utilities budget, ensuring a net zero impact on our overall operating budget. We have since fielded inquiries from many local municipalities and hosted visits from two school districts who are also keenly interested in performance contracting as the only viable means of addressing the issue of aging mechanical systems in the current economic climate.

Our application for a \$35,000 competitive grant from the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative was successful. The grant funds will allow us to acquire both solar thermal and photovoltaic training equipment as well as additional resources to enable further development of curriculum to be used to establish a Solar Energy Training Program. These funds will also be used to supplement the renewable energy

component of a required junior year science course. We believe that renewable energy systems are here to stay and we intend to be the premier site in Franklin County for the training of technicians needed to install and maintain these systems.

We continue to work with Greenfield Community College to offer evening courses at Franklin County Technical School. We offer an after-school program in conjunction with GCC that enables our seniors to experience the college environment first hand while obtaining three college credits. We also offer an EMT basic course for six college credits during the school day to our seniors in our Health Technology program. Six of our classroom instructors are upgrading their skills by taking the new renewable coursework offered at GCC. These new skill sets will translate to additional opportunities for their students to earn college level credits while attending Franklin County Tech.

We also continue to work with Franklin County businesses, the Regional Employment Board and the Franklin County Chamber of Commerce to make sure that our graduates are part of the economic development for Franklin County.

We thank each and every citizen of Franklin County for your continued support.

Respectfully submitted, Mr. Richard J. Kuklewicz Mr. Richard K. Lane School Committee Chairman Superintendent

Franklin County Technical School District Committee

Bernardston

Jeffrey B. Beckwith

Buckland

Laura J. Earl

Colrain

Vacancy

Conway

Jack R. Dixon

Jack It. Dinon

Deerfield Edward W. Pepyne, Jr.

Erving

Robert F. Bitzer

Gill

Clifford C. Hatch

Greenfield

Larry D. Geiser Jeffrey D. Hampton

Mark M. Maloney John A. Zon, Jr.

Heath

Arthur A. Schwenger

Leyden Gerald N. Levine

. .

MontagueRichard J. Kuklewicz, Chairperson

Dennis L. Grader

New Salem

Jeff D. Adams

Northfield

Gail V. Zukowski

Orange

Clifford J. Fournier, Secretary Vacancy

Shelburne

Eugene R. Butler

Sunderland

Vacancy

Warwick

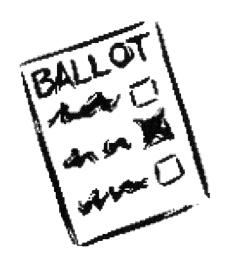
A. George Day, Jr., Vice-Chairperson

Wendell

Richard E. Drohen

Whately

Donald C. Sluter



PART III

Elections and Town Meetings

Recall Election Results - January 5, 2008

Town of Rowe, Massachusetts RECALL ELECTION RESULTS JANUARY 5, 2008 - ROWE TOWN HALL

208 residents, of 289 registered, voted

T 1	~	
Election	Officia	ıls.

Deputy Warden: Earl Carlow Clerk: Robin Reed, Cle

Constable:

Robin Reed, Clerk Christine Tower Town Clerk: Heidi Cousineau Tellers: Shirley Veber

Shirley Veber Carole Veber Kristen Swenson

BOARD OF HEALTH (UNEXPIRED TERM TO MAY 2009)

FOR THE RECALL OF Angela F. Foshay	91
AGAINST THE RECALL OF Angela F. Foshay	114
BLANKS	3

CANDIDATES FOR BOARD OF HEALTH (FOR UNEXPIRED TERM - MAY 2009)

	((A
Angela F. Foshay		98
Lisa L. Miller		96
Blanks		13
Write/In- Judith A. Pierce		1

BOARD OF HEALTH (UNEXPIRED TERM TO MAY 2008)

FOR THE RECALL OF Danette Reynolds-Gallaghar	84
AGAINST THE RECALL OF Danette Reynolds-Gallaghar	120
BLANKS	4

CANDIDATES FOR BOARD OF HEALTH (FOR UNEXPIRED TERM - MAY 2008)

The second of th	TTILL
Danette Reynolds-Gallaghar	106
Carol F. Lively	88
Blanks	12
Write-In - Judith A. Pierce	1
Write-In - Lisa L. Miller	1

A true copy,

Attest: Heidi Cousineau, Town Clerk

January 5, 2008

Presidendial Primary Election Results - February 5, 2008

Town of Rowe, Massachusetts PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS February 5, 2008

134 voted, of 296 registered voters

Town Clerk: Heidi Cousineau Clerk Robin Reed Warden: Earl Carlow Constable: Christine Tower

Tellers: Shirley Veber, Kristen Swenson, Carole Veber, Linda Bickford

REPUBLICAN PARTY **DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY** PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE 24 7 John McCain John R. Edwards 0 Hillary Clinton 36 Fred Thompson Tom Tancredo Joseph R. Biden, Jr 0 0 Duncan Hunter Christopher J. Dodd 0 Mike Huckabee Mike Gravel 0 13 Mitt Romney 45 Barak Obama Dennis J. Kuchinich 0 Ron Paul 1 Rudy Giuliani 1 0 Bill Richardson 0 No Preference-Blank 0 No Preference-Blank STATE COMMITTEE MAN STATE COMMITTEE MAN 46 41 Blank Peter G. Arlos (candidate for re-election) 18 STATE COMMITTEE WOMAN Matt L. Barron 46 29 Blank Blank TOWN COMMITTEE STATE COMMITTEE WOMAN 46 60 Margaret Johnson Ware Blank (candidate for re-election) 28 Blank A true copy, **TOWN COMMITTEE** Attest: Heidi Cousineau, Town Clerk 88 Blank February 5, 2008

Annual Town Election - May 17, 2008

Town of Rowe, Massachusetts ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION RESULTS MAY 17, 2008 - ROWE TOWN HALL

198 residents, of 296 registered, voted

Election Officials:	Earl Carlow - Warden	Robin Reed - Clerk
	Shirley Veber- Teller	Carole Veber – Teller
	Roger Brown Constable	Haidi Canainana Ta

Roger Brown- Constable Heidi Cousineau - Town Clerk

	OWII COIIstaol	c Fieldi Cousilleau - Towli Clerk	
BOARD OF ASSESSORS (3 YEARS)		LIBRARY TRUSTEE (3 YEARS)	
Frederick N. Williams (incumbent)	179	Ellynn B. Packard (incumbent)	167
Blanks	19	Blanks	31
	~*		01
BOARD OF ASSESSORS (1 YEAR)		PARK COMMISSIONER (3 YEARS)	
Carrie Y. Silva	122	Mary Jo Phelps	106
Daniel J. Burke	68	Walter J. Quist	90
Blanks	8	Blanks	2
BOARD OF HEALTH (3 YEARS)		PLANNING BOARD (5 YEARS)	
Catherine T. Snyder	168	Robert Dykeman	55
Blanks	30	Jennifer Wood	43
		Blanks	100
BOARD OF SELECTMEN (3 YEARS)		Diamo	100
Myra B. Carlow (incumbent)	94	PLANNING BOARD (4 YEARS)	
William A. Loomis	101	Jo-ann M. Brown	158
Blanks	3	Blanks	40.
CEMETERY COMMISSION (3 YEARS)		DI ANNING POADD (2 VEADS)	70
James W. Taylor	187	PLANNING BOARD (3 YEARS) Ellynn B. Packard	1.61
Blanks	11	Blanks	161
Dianko	11	DIAIIKS	37
CONSTABLE (3 YEARS)		SCHOOL COMMITTEE (3 YEARS)	
Christine A. Tower (incumbent)	176	Margaret B. Rice (incumbent)	154
Blanks	22	Blanks	44
FINANCE COMMITTEE (3 YEARS)		TOWN CLERK (3 YEARS)	
Anne E. Besgen	152	Linda J. Bickford	70
Blanks	46	Carrie Y. Silva	73
Diamo	40	Blanks	118
FINANCE COMMITTEE (3 YEARS)		Dialiks	7
William A Loomis	31		
Robert Dykeman	6		
Blanks	161	A true copy,	
	101	Attest: Heidi Cousineau	
		May 17, 2008	
		1.14, 17, 2000	

State Primaary Election Results - September 16, 2008

Town of Rowe, Massachusetts MASSACHUSETTS STATE PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS September 16, 2008

55 voted, of 295 registered voters

Town Clerk: Clerk: Warden:

Blanks

Blanks

Blanks

REGISTER OF PROBATE

REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT

Constable:

DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Carrie Silva Carole Veber Earl Carlow Christine Tower Tellers: Shirley Veber Heidi Cousineau Linda Bickford

GREEN-RAINBOW PARTY

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SENATOR IN CONGRESS SENATOR IN CONGRESS 31 Blanks John F. Kerry REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS 14 Edward J. O'Reilly 0 Blanks Blanks **COUNCILLOR** REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS 30 John W. Olver Blanks SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT Robert A. Feuer 12 3 Blanks REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT **COUNCILLOR** Thomas T. Merrigan 38 Blanks REGISTER OF PROBATE Blanks SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT Blanks 35 Benjamin Brackett Downing **WORKING FAMILIES PARTY** 10 Blanks REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT 33 Daniel E. Bosley **SENATOR IN CONGRESS** 12 Blanks Blanks REGISTER OF PROBATE REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS 39 John F. Merrigan Blanks б Blanks **COUNCILLOR** Blanks **REPUBLICAN PARTY** SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT **SENATOR IN CONGRESS** 9 Blanks Jeffrey K. Beatty 1 REGISTER OF PROBATE Blanks REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS Blanks 10 Nathan A. Bech Blanks COUNCILLOR A True Copy, 9 Michael Franco 1 Blanks SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT

10

10

10

Attest: Carrie Silva, Town Clerk September 16, 2008

Official Election Results - November 4, 2008

Town of Rowe, Massachusetts MASSACHUSETTS FEDERAL and STATE ELECTION OFFICIAL ELECTION RESULTS

November 4, 2008

264 voted, of 301 registered voters

Constable: Tellers:	Christine Tower Shirley Veber, Kris Swenso	on, Carole Veber
ELECTORS OF PR BALDWIN and BARR and ROO McCAIN and PA McKINNEY and NADER and GC OBAMA and BI All Other Blanks	OT ALIN I CLEMENTE DNZALEZ	ESIDENT 0 5 104 0 5 140 1 9
SENATOR IN CON JOHN F. KERRY JEFFREY K. BEA ROBERT J. UNI All Other Blanks	, atty	162 84 10 2 6
REPRESENTATIVI JOHN W. OLVEI NATHAN A. BE All Other Blanks	R	162 93 0 9
COUNCILLOR THOMAS T. ME MICHAEL FRAN All Other Blanks		177 73 0 14
SENATOR IN GEN	ERAL COURT	

Carrie Silva

Earl Carlow

Linda Bickford

Town Clerk:

Clerk:

Warden:

REGISTER OF PROBATE JOHN F. MERRIGAN All Other Blanks	214 0 50
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE	
Write/In – ANN BANASH	6
Write/In – DAN MILLER	1
Write/In – THOMAS MERRIGAN	1
Write/In – STEPHAN RACZ	1
All Other	0
Blanks	255

QUESTION ONE:

LAW PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION

Do you approve of a law summarized below, on which no vote was taken by the Senate or the House of Representatives before May 6, 2008?

SUMMARY

195

1

68

207

0

57

This proposed law would reduce the state personal income tax rate to 2.65% for all categories of taxable income for the tax year beginning on or after January 1, 2009, and would eliminate the tax for all tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2010.

The personal income tax applies to income received or gain realized by individuals and married couples, by estates of deceased persons, by certain trustees and other fiduciaries, by persons who are partners in and receive income from partnerships, by corporate trusts, and by persons who receive income as shareholders of "S corporations" as defined under federal tax law. The proposed law would not affect the tax due on income or gain realized in a tax year beginning before January 1, 2009.

The proposed law states that if any of its parts were declared invalid, the other parts would stay in effect.

A YES VOTE would reduce the state personal income tax rate to 2.65% for the tax year beginning on January 1, 2009.

DANIEL E. BOSLEY

All Other

All Other

Blanks

Blanks

BENJAMIN BRACKETT DOWNING

REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT

and would eliminate the tax for all tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2010.

A NO VOTE would make no change in state income tax laws.

YES	50
NO	207
BLANKS	7

QUESTION TWO:

LAW PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION

Do you approve of a law summarized below, on which no vote was taken by the Senate or the House of Representatives before May 6, 2008?

SUMMARY

This proposed law would replace the criminal penalties for possession of one ounce or less of marijuana with a new system of civil penalties, to be enforced by issuing citations, and would exclude information regarding this civil offense from the state's criminal record information system. Offenders age 18 or older would be subject to forfeiture of the marijuana plus a civil penalty of \$100. Offenders under the age of 18 would be subject to the same forfeiture and, if they complete a drug awareness program within one year of the offense, the same \$100 penalty.

Offenders under 18 and their parents or legal guardian would be notified of the offense and the option for the offender to complete a drug awareness program developed by the state Department of Youth Services. Such programs would include ten hours of community service and at least four hours of instruction or group discussion concerning the use and abuse of marijuana and other drugs and emphasizing early detection and prevention of substance abuse.

The penalty for offenders under 18 who fail to complete such a program within one year could be increased to as much as \$1,000, unless the offender showed an inability to pay, an inability to participate in such a program, or the unavailability of such a program. Such an offender's parents could also be held liable for the increased penalty. Failure by an offender under 17 to complete such a program could also be a basis for a delinquency proceeding.

The proposed law would define possession of one ounce or less of marijuana as including possession of one ounce or less of tetrahydrocannibinol ("THC"), or having metabolized products of marijuana or THC in one's body.

Under the proposed law, possessing an ounce or less of marijuana could not be grounds for state or local government entities imposing any other penalty, sanction, or disqualification, such as denying student financial aid, public housing, public financial assistance including unemployment benefits, the right to operate a motor vehicle, or the opportunity to serve as a foster or adoptive parent. The proposed law would allow local ordinances or bylaws that prohibit the public use of marijuana, and would not affect existing laws, practices, or policies concerning operating a motor

vehicle or taking other actions while under the influence of marijuana, unlawful possession of prescription forms of marijuana, or selling, manufacturing, or trafficking in marijuana.

The money received from the new civil penalties would go to the city or town where the offense occurred.

A YES VOTE would replace the criminal penalties for possession of one ounce or less of marijuana with a new system of civil penalties.

A NO VOTE would make no change in state criminal laws concerning possession of marijuana.

YES	158
NO	100
BLANKS	6

QUESTION THREE:

LAW PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION

Do you approve of a law summarized below, on which no vote was taken by the Senate or the House of Representatives before May 6, 2008?

SUMMARY

This proposed law would prohibit any dog racing or racing meeting in Massachusetts where any form of betting or wagering on the speed or ability of dogs occurs.

The State Racing Commission would be prohibited from accepting or approving any application or request for racing dates for dog racing.

Any person violating the proposed law could be required to pay a civil penalty of not less than \$20,000 to the Commission. The penalty would be used for the Commission's administrative purposes, subject to appropriation by the state Legislature. All existing parts of the chapter of the state's General laws concerning dog and horse racing meetings would be interpreted as if they did not refer to dogs.

These changes would take effect January 1, 2010. The proposed law states that if any of its parts were declared invalid, the other parts would stay in effect.

A YES VOTE would prohibit dog races on which betting or wagering occurs, effective January 1, 2010.

A NO VOTE would make no change in the laws governing dog racing.

YES	169
NO	85
BLANKS	10

A true copy,

Attest: Carrie Silva, Town Clerk

November 14, 2008

Special Town Meeting - March 31, 2008

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING OFFICIAL RESULTS - FY2008

March 31, 2008 Town of Rowe Commonwealth of Massachusetts

The Special Town Meeting was held at the Rowe Elementary School on March 31, 2008.

Present: Moderator Robert Clancy, Town Clerk Heidi Cousineau, Selectboard Myra Carlow, James Brown and Susan Wood.

The Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm, a quorum being present.

The following tellers were sworn in by the Moderator: Robin Reed, Marilyn Wilson, Jo-ann Brown and Russell Jolly.

ARTICLE 1: A motion was made and seconded to APPRO-PRIATE from FREE CASH the sum of \$7,850.00, for an energy audit of five (5) town buildings (town hall, town garage, fire station, library, and school).

SHOW OF HANDS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 2: A motion was made and seconded to TRANS-FER the sum of \$2,000.00 from the Park New Fitness Equipment account to the Park Tennis Court Resurface account.

SHOW OF HANDS UNANIMOUS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 3: A motion was made and seconded to TRANS-FER the sum of \$900.07 from the Park Insurance Reimbursement for Property Damage account to the Park Browning Bench Structural Repairs account.

SHOW OF HANDS UNANIMOUS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 4: A motion was made and seconded to TRANS-FER the sum of \$4,669.41 from the Highway Insurance Property Damage Reimbursement account to the Highway Fuel for Town Vehicles account.

SHOW OF HANDS UNANIMOUS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 5: A motion was made and seconded to TRANS-FER the sum of \$6,190.88 from the Highway Wages account to the Highway Operations and Maintenance account.

SHOW OF HANDS UNANIMOUS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 6: A motion was made and seconded to APPRO-PRIATE from FREE CASH the sum of \$4,000.00 for the Legal Expenses account.

A motion was made and seconded to AMEND Article 6 to read: To see if the town will vote to APPROPRIATE from FREE CASH the sum of \$2,000.00 for the Legal Expenses account.

SHOW OF HANDS VOTE ON AMENDMENT

YES - 17 - NO - 16

MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED PASSED BY SHOW OF HANDS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

Meeting adjourned at 7:32 pm.

A true copy, Attest: Heidi Cousineau, Town Clerk March 31, 2008

RECAPITULATION OF SPECIAL TOWN MEETING ARTICLES FY2008

March 31, 2008

(Recapitulation is for information only)

Appropriations from Taxation

0.00

Appropriations from Free Cash

Energy Audit for Five (5) Town Buildings

7,850.00

Legal Expenses Account

2,000.00

Total Appropriations from Free Cash

Appropriations from Available Funds

0.00

Appropriations from Stabilization

0.00

TOTAL FY2008 BUDGET ALL FUNDS

\$ 9,850.00

Annual Town Meeting - May 12, 2008

Annual Town Meeting Official Results – FY09

May 12, 2008
Town of Rowe
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

The Annual Town Meeting was held at the Rowe Elementary School on Monday May 12, 2008.

Moderator Robert Clancy called meeting to order at 7:26 PM, a quorum being present.

Present: Moderator Robert Clancy, Town Clerk Heidi Cousineau, Selectboard Myra Carlow, Susan Wood and James Brown, and Town Counsel Janet H. Pumphrey.

Tellers Sandra Daviau, Rebecca Richardson, Robin Reed and Roger Brown were sworn in by the Moderator. Warrant was posted April 25, 2008.

19,400.00

The Moderator asked for a moment of silence to honor town residents who had passed on since last year's Annual Town Meeting.

ARTICLE 1: A motion was	s made and seconded to accept
	officers and committees as
submitted.	

SHOW OF HANDS UNANIMOUS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 2: A motion was made and seconded to authorize the Board of Selectmen to appoint all necessary officers not elected by ballot for the ensuing year.

SHOW OF HANDS UNANIMOUS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 3: A motion was made and seconded to **RAISE** and **APPROPRIATE** the following sums for the conduct of **General Government,** including the charges and expenses of the various town offices, and compensation for elected and appointed officials for the 2009 fiscal year.

Administration

Legal Expenses	\$ 10,000.00
General Administration	30,320.00
Town Officer Expenses	1,568.00
Print Town Reports	3,398.00
Municipal Audit	12,000.00
Town Coordinator/	,
Town Accountant Salary	54,534.00
Administrative Asst/	,
Acctg Asst Compensation	10,025.00
FRCOG Regional Services Assessment	13,866.00
FRCOG Statutory Assessment	6,455.00
IT Hardware/Software	11,000.00
FRCOG – Fees for Services	100.00
Bank Charges/Loan Interest	500.00
Bonding and Insurance	45,000.00
Town-wide Notification System	1,000.00
Subtotal Administration	199,766.00
Assessors Office	
Assessors Clerk Compensation	12,500.00
Assessors Operations	6,900.00

Planning Board	
Planning Board Operations	500.00
Goal Post Publication	16,700.00
Planning Board Legal Expenses	4,000.00
Subtotal Planning Board	21,200.00
Other	
Conservation Commission Operations	200.00
Council on Aging	5,500.00
Subtotal Other	5,700.00
Stipends	
Selectmen Stipends	5,562.00
Assessors Stipends	5,100.00
Board of Health Stipends	4,635.00
School Committee Stipends	4,284.00
Tax Collector Stipend	6,531.00
Town Clerk Stipend	6,531.00
Treasurer	7,161.00
Miscellaneous Officers Stipends	440.00
Moderator	412.00
Constable	515.00
Animal Inspector	515.00
Dog Officer	618.00
Subtotal Stipends	41,864.00
Other Compensation/Expenses	
Assistant Treasurer Compensation	100.00
Election/Teller Expenses	4,000.00
Registrars & Census Takers Compensation	350.00
Subtotal Other Compensation/Expenses	4,450.00
Veterans' Services	
Veterans' Agent Stipend	500.00
Operations	400.00
Veterans' Benefits	100.00
Subtotal Veterans' Services	1,000.00
TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT	

293,380.00

FROM TAXATION

Subtotal Assessors Office

A motion was made and seconded to **AMEND Article 3** to **REDUCE line item Administration—Legal Expenses** from \$12,000.00 to \$10,000.00. (Overall Total Government from Taxation remains the same.)

MOTION TO AMEND
PASSED BY SHOW OF HANDS VOTE
YES - 37 NO - 23
ARTICLE 3- MAIN MOTION, AS AMENDED,
PASSED BY SHOW OF HANDS
UNANIMOUS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 4: A motion was made and seconded to **APPROPRIATE from FREE CASH** the following sums for the conduct of **General Government** for the 2009 fiscal year.

Computer Network Support	16,000.00
Assessors Triennial Revaluation	17,100.00
TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT FROM FREE CASH	33,100.00

SHOW OF HANDS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT 326,480.00

ARTICLE 5: A motion was made and seconded to **RAISE** and **APPROPRIATE** the following sums for the operation and maintenance of **Public Works and Facilities** for the 2009 fiscal year:

Highway Department

162,069.00
72,028.00
37,640.00
30,000.00
45,000.00
35,000.00
65,867.00
447,604.00

Cemeteries Maintenance 12,000.00

Other Public Works & Facilities

Summer Youth Employment Program	25,500.00
Municipal Center Custodian Wages	12,276.00
Municipal Center Operations/Maintenanc	e 22,550.00
Elevator Maintenance Contract	3,996.00
Municipal Center Fuel Oil	7,600.00
Gracy House Maintenance	3,300.00
Beautification Committee	3,000.00
Dam Maintenance, Inspections & Repairs	2,000.00
Sub-Total Other Public Works & Facilities	80,222.00

SUB-TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS & FACILITIES FROM TAXATION

CILITIES FROM TAXATION 539,826.00

SHOW OF HANDS UNANIMOUS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE ARTICLE 6: Amotion was made and seconded to APPRO-PRIATE from AVAILABLE FUNDS the sum of \$111,796.00, for the maintenance, repair, improvement and construction of town highways, or any other purpose allowed under Chapter 90, which amounts shall be reimbursed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts through funds made available by Chapter 90.

SHOW OF HANDS UNANIMOUS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 7: A motion was made and seconded to **APPROPRIATE from FREE CASH** the following sums for the 2009 fiscal year:

Street Lighting	5,125.00
Avery Fountain Rebuild	1,500.00
Subtotal from Free Cash	6,125.00 * 6,625.00

^{*} Typographical error. Moderator has made following ruling:

After the close of the FY09 Annual Town Meeting, a typographical error was found in the "Subtotal from Free Cash" line in Article 7. My finding is that the article passed with <u>Street Lighting at 5,125 and Avery Fountain Rebuild at 1,500</u> as verbally moved, seconded, discussed and passed. There were no questions regarding the individual lines' amounts, the subtotal was correctly listed in the Recapitulation at the end of the warrant and on the budget worksheet, and as such was a known amount for appropriation from Free Cash. Article 7 passes with a total value of \$6,625.00.

Robert J. Clancy, Moderator 5/22/08

TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS & FACILITIES ALL FUNDS

657,747.00

9,252.00

8,202.00

ARTICLE 8: A motion was made and seconded to **RAISE** and **APPROPRIATE** the following sums for **Public Safety** for the 2009 fiscal year:

n 1	•	T
PΛΙ	100	Llangutmant
10	ILCE	Department

Police Chief Stipend

Police Officers Compensation Operations	14,826.00 6,950.00
Subtotal Police Department	31,028.00
Fire Department	
Fire Chief Stipend	6,531.00
Fire Officers Ŝtipends	6,300.00
Firefighter Reimbursements	7,150.00
Fire Department General Operations	24,300.00
Emergency Management	1,000.00
Forest Fire Control	100.00
Hazardous Material Control	1,000.00
Subtotal Fire Department	46,381.00
Emergency Medical Services	
EMS Coordinator Stipend	1,902.00
EMS Operations and Maintenance	2,500.00
Emergency Personnel Stipends/Expenses	3,800.00

Subtotal Emergency Medical Service

Inspections

Building Inspector Fees (Estimated)	5,000.00
FCCIP Plumbing/Gas Inspec Program	1,376.00
FCCIP Electrical Inspection Program	2,712.00
Subtotal Inspections	9,088.00

SUBTOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY FROM TAXATION

94,699.00

SHOW OF HANDS UNANIMOUS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 9: A motion was made and seconded to **APPRO-PRIATE from FREE CASH** the sum of \$5000.00 for **Fire Pond Maintenance** for the 2009 fiscal year.

SHOW OF HANDS UNANIMOUS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 10: A motion was made and seconded to APPROPRIATE from FREE CASH to the STABILIZATION FUND the sum of \$11,500.00 for future equipment.

SHOW OF HANDS AFFIRMATIVE 2/3 VOTE (UNANIMOUS)

TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY ALL FUNDS

111,199.00

ARTICLE 11: A motion was made and seconded to **RAISE** and **APPROPRIATE** the following sums for **Public Health and Sanitation** for the 2009 fiscal year:

Public Health & Sanitation

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day	500.00
Refuse Garden Operations	50,500.00
Transfer Station Attendant Compensation	13,855.00
FCSWMD Administration Assessment (partial)	1,856.00
Board of Health Operations	16,900.00
Board of Health Clerk Wages	3,120.00
Town Nurse Wages	33,135.00
Health Services Operation	6,200.00
Physician's Stipend	1,000.00
Subtotal Public Health and Sanitation	127,066.00

A motion was made and seconded to AMEND Article 11 to REDUCE line item-Town Nurse Wages from \$36,255.00 to \$33,135.00 and add new line item-Board of Health Clerk Wages for \$3,120.00. (Overall Sub-total for Public Health and Sanitation remains the same.)

MOTION TO AMEND, PASSED BY SHOW OF HANDS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE MAIN MOTION PASSED BY SHOW OF HANDS UNANIMOUS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 12: A motion was made and seconded to authorize the Board of Health, pursuant to MGL Chapter 44, Section 53E¹/₂, to use a **revolving fund with a limit of** \$3,500.00 for the 2009 fiscal year to accept receipts from

the Medicare Roster Billing Program for the purpose of **providing vaccine services**, in which any remaining funds may be rolled over into a similar revolving fund for fiscal year 2010.

SHOW OF HANDS UNANIMOUS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

TOTAL PUBLIC HEALTH AND SANITATION FROM TAXATION

127,066.00

ARTICLE 13: A motion was made and seconded to **RAISE** and **APPROPRIATE** the following sums for **Public Schools** for the 2009 fiscal year:

,	
Rowe School Local Budget	467,940.00
Instructional Programs	6,219.00
Instructional Staff Training	8,620.00
Special Education and Other Tuitions	54,410.00
Speech Pathology & Audiology	15,587.00
Psychological Services	13,584.00
Library Services	40,231.00
Health Services	62,882.00
School Committee	4,825.00
Principals Office	97,541.00
Food Services	29,801.00
Plant Operations	126,980.00
Subtotal Rowe School Local	928,620.00
Shared Services Budget	
Gen Admin	32,242.00
Instructional Services	12,545.00
Technology	9,883.00

Gen Admin	32,242.00
Instructional Services	12,545.00
Technology	9,883.00
Facilities	1,064.00
Insurance, Benefits	22,359.00
Pupil Transportation	16,429.00
Sp. Ed Transportation	5,411.00
Subtotal Shared Services	99 933 00

TOTAL K-6 Budget 1,028,553.00

High School Budget (Mohawk/FC Tech)

- Mohawk Tuition	20,919.00
- Tech Tuition	43,500.00
- Spanish Teacher @ Middle School	15,000.00
- Mohawk Late Bus	16,145.00

TOTAL High School Budget

SUBTOTAL Public Schools 1,230,430.00 Less School Choice Estimated Receipts (105,800.00)

TOTAL PUBLIC SCHOOLS FROM TAXATION

1,124,630.00

201,877.00

SHOW OF HANDS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 14: A motion was made and seconded to **RAISE** and **APPROPRIATE** the following sums for the **Rowe Town Library** for the 2009 fiscal year:

Library Director Compensation	20,919.00
Library Staff Wages	13,468.00

Library Operations and Maintenance

21,700.00

TOTAL ROWE TOWN LIBRARY

56,087.00

SHOW OF HANDS UNANIMOUS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 15: A motion was made and seconded to RAISE and APPROPRIATE the sum of \$4000.00 for Old Home Day celebrations.

SHOW OF HANDS UNANIMOUS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 16: A motion was made and seconded to authorize the Old Home Day Committee, pursuant to MGL Chapter 44, Section 53E¹/₂, to use a revolving fund with a limit of \$4,000.00 for the 2009 fiscal year to accept departmental receipts generated by Old Home Day activities and programs for the purpose of defraying expenses of Old Home Day, in which any remaining funds may be rolled over into a similar revolving fund for fiscal year 2010.

SHOW OF HANDS UNANIMOUS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 17: A motion was made and seconded to RAISE and APPROPRIATE the sum of \$250.00, or any other sum, and to authorize the Rowe Historical Commission to pursue an "Historic Landscapes Identification Program" in cooperation with the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), the Massachusetts Historical Commission and /or others; such program might include the Town Common, the Cemeteries, the Town Park, Fort Pelham, Pulpit Rock, etc., and might help the town to secure State or other grants in the future. In addition, to authorize the Rowe Historical Commission to initiate a local program to offer Standardized House Markers, based upon a one-time group purchase, at a discounted price to homeowners, who wish to cooperatively identify and display the date their home was built, etc.

SHOW OF HANDS UNANIMOUS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 18: A motion was made and seconded to **RAISE** and **APPROPRIATE** the following sums for the management and operation of Pelham Lake Park for the 2009 fiscal year:

TOTAL PARK	102,157.00
Park Wages Head Ranger Wage Operation and Maintenance	39,807.00 39,450.00 22,900.00

SHOW OF HANDS UNANIMOUS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 19: A motion was made and seconded to **APPROPRIATE from FREE CASH** the following sums for the 2009 fiscal year:

Library Facility Improvements Studies Old Home Day Fireworks 2,500.00 5,000.00

TOTAL FROM FREE CASH

7,500.00

SHOW OF HANDS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

TOTAL CULTURE AND RECREATION ALL FUNDS

169,994.00

ARTICLE 20: A motion was made and seconded to **RAISE** and **APPROPRIATE** the following sums for **Pensions** and **Insurance** for the 2009 fiscal year:

Franklin County Retirement Assessment	95,716.00*
Unemployment Insurance	1,000.00
Group Health Insurance	325,500.00**
FICA/Medicare Tax	35,886.00**

TOTAL PENSIONS AND INSURANCE

458,102.00

* Excludes pension costs regarding teachers

** Includes costs for all employees

SHOW OF HANDS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 21: A motion was made and seconded to APPROPRIATE from FREE CASH the sum of \$35,000.00 to provide high-speed internet service to some unserved areas of town.

SHOW OF HANDS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 22: A motion was made and seconded to **APPROPRIATE from FREE CASH** the sum of **\$20,000.00** to be used as a Reserve Fund for extraordinary or unforeseen expenditures for the 2009 fiscal year.

SHOW OF HANDS UNANIMOUS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 23: A motion was made and seconded to **APPROPRIATE from the MUNICIPAL CAPITALIZATION FUND**, the following sums for capital repairs and improvements:

Gen Admin – New Town Hall Copier	12,500.00
BOH - Concrete Work at Transfer Station	5,000.00
CEM – Pave East Cemetery Driveway	9,000.00
DPW – Soule Barn Roof	5,800.00
DPW – Soule Foundation Wall	4,500.00
Park – Browning Bench Tool	
Factory Structural Repair	20,000.00

TOTAL CAPITAL STABILIZATION FUND

66,800.00

SHOW OF HANDS AFFIRMATIVE 2/3 VOTE

ARTICLE 24: A motion was made and seconded to take a **sense of the meeting** regarding the possible establishment of a **Special Stabilization Fund** that would be used only in the case of severe loss of non-residential valuation, such as the closing of a major utility. Such a fund

would be funded during the years that residents are only paying a small fraction of our tax levy and would be used to keep residential tax rates reasonable in the years following major loss of non-residential tax revenue.

SHOW OF HANDS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE *

*(Sense of the meeting is to continue further study and plan for a Special Stabilization Fund)

ARTICLE 25: A motion was made and seconded to authorize the Board of Selectmen to negotiate a contract with the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Charlemont to **salt, sand and plow approximately .5 miles of Zoar Road,** lying within the Town of Charlemont, for one (1) winter season beginning November 1, 2008.

SHOW OF HANDS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 26: Any other business...

- Leonard Laffond commended Town Coordinator Ellen Babcock for the outstanding work on the 2007 Annual Town Report. The audience responded with applause.
- Rosemarie Gordon requested that the budget graphic available at this Annual Town Meeting be done regularly and perhaps be a part of the Annual Town Report.

Meeting adjourned at 9:26 pm.

A true copy,

Attest: Heidi Cousineau, Town Clerk

May 12, 2008

RECAPITULATION OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING ARTICLES - FY2009

May 12, 2008

	n is for information only)	
Appropriations from Taxation		
General Government	293,380.00	
Public Works and Facilities	539,826.00	
Public Safety	94,699.00	
Public Health/Sanitation	127,066.00	
Schools	1,124,630.00	
Library	56,087.00	
Old Home Day	4,000.00	
Historical Commission	250.00	
Park Department	102,157.00	
Pensions and Insurance	458,102.00	
Total Appropriations from Taxation		\$ 2,800,197.00
Appropriations from Available Funds Chapter 90	111,796.00	
Total Appropriations from Available Funds		111,796.00
		777,/90.00

T Consultant	Appropriations from Free Cash		
Street Lighting			
Avery Fountain Rebuild	Assessors Triennial Revaluation		
Fire Pond Maintenance	Street Lighting		
Library Facilities Improvements Studies 5,000.00 Old Home Day Fireworks 5,000.00 Stabilization – Future Equipment 11,500.00 High Speed Internet Service 35,000.00 Reserve Fund 20,000.00 Total Appropriations from Free Cash 118,725.00 Appropriations from Stabilization Fund None 0.00 Total Appropriations from Stabilization Fund None 12,500.00 Appropriations from Municipal Capital Stabilization Fund 15,000.00 Appropriations from Municipal Capital Stabilization Fund 15,000.00 Refuse Garden Concrete Pads 15,000.00 Pave East Cemetery 9,000.00 Soule Barn 10,300.00 Browning Bench Structural Repairs 20,000.00 Total Appropriations from Municipal Capital Stabilization Fund 66,800.00 Total Appropriations from Municipal Capital Stabilization Fund 58,000.00 Total Appropriations from Municipal Capital Stabilization Fund 67,000.00 TOTAL FY2009 BUDGET ALL FUNDS \$3,097,518.00 -111,796.00 Less c. 90 Funds \$3,500.00 Old Home Day \$3,500.00 Old Home Day \$3,500.00			
Old Home Day Fireworks			
Stabilization - Future Equipment High Speed Internet Service 35,000.00 Reserve Fund 20,000.00	Library Facilities Improvements Studies		
High Speed Internet Service 35,000.00 20,000.00 Reserve Fund			
Reserve Fund 20,000.00 Total Appropriations from Free Cash 118,725.00 Appropriations from Stabilization Fund None 0.00 Total Appropriations from Stabilization Fund 0.00 Appropriations from Municipal Capital Stabilization Fund 12,500.00 Refuse Garden Concrete Pads 15,000.00 Pave East Cemetery 9,000.00 Soule Barn 10,300.00 Browning Bench Structural Repairs 20,000.00 Total Appropriations from Municipal Capital Stabilization Fund 06,800.00 Total Appropriations from Municipal Capital Stabilization Fund 06,800.00 Total Appropriations from Municipal Capital Stabilization Fund 06,800.00 TOTAL FY2009 BUDGET ALL FUNDS \$3,097,518.00 -111,796.00 TOTAL FY2009 Funds \$3,500.00 Old Home Day 4,000.00			
Total Appropriations from Free Cash 118,725.00	High Speed Internet Service		•
Appropriations from Stabilization Fund None Total Appropriations from Stabilization Fund Appropriations from Municipal Capital Stabilization Fund Town Hall Copier Refuse Garden Concrete Pads Pave East Cemetery Soule Barn Browning Bench Structural Repairs Total Appropriations from Municipal Capital Stabilization Fund Total Appropriations from Municipal Capital Stabilization Fund Total Appropriations from Municipal Capital Stabilization Fund Total Py2009 BUDGET ALL FUNDS Less c. 90 Funds Total Fy2009 Revolving Fund Authorizations Board of Health – Vaccine Services Old Home Day Appropriations from Stabilization Fund 50.00 60.800.00 82,985,722.00	Reserve Fund	20,000.00	
None 0.00	Total Appropriations from Free Cash		118,725.00
None 0.00	Appropriations from Stabilization Fund		
Appropriations from Municipal Capital Stabilization Fund Town Hall Copier 12,500.00 Refuse Garden Concrete Pads 15,000.00 Pave East Cemetery 9,000.00 Soule Barn 10,300.00 Browning Bench Structural Repairs 20,000.00 Total Appropriations from Municipal Capital Stabilization Fund 66,800.00 TOTAL FY2009 BUDGET ALL FUNDS Less c. 90 Funds \$3,097,518.00 -111,796.00 Revolving Fund Authorizations Board of Health – Vaccine Services \$3,500.00 Old Home Day 4,000.00		0.00	
Town Hall Copier	Total Appropriations from Stabilization Fund		0.00
Town Hall Copier	Appropriations from Municipal Capital Stabilization Fund		
Refuse Garden Concrete Pads		12,500.00	
Soule Barn Browning Bench Structural Repairs Total Appropriations from Municipal Capital Stabilization Fund TOTAL FY2009 BUDGET ALL FUNDS Less c. 90 Funds TOTAL FY2009 Revolving Fund Authorizations Board of Health – Vaccine Services Old Home Day 10,300.00 20,000.00 83,097,518.00 -111,796.00 \$2,985,722.00	Refuse Garden Concrete Pads	15,000.00	
Browning Bench Structural Repairs 20,000.00 Total Appropriations from Municipal Capital Stabilization Fund 66,800.00 TOTAL FY2009 BUDGET ALL FUNDS Less c. 90 Funds \$3,097,518.00 -111,796.00 TOTAL FY2009 \$2,985,722.00 Revolving Fund Authorizations Board of Health – Vaccine Services \$3,500.00 Old Home Day 4,000.00	Pave East Cemetery		
Total Appropriations from Municipal Capital Stabilization Fund TOTAL FY2009 BUDGET ALL FUNDS Less c. 90 Funds TOTAL FY2009 TOTAL FY2009 Revolving Fund Authorizations Board of Health – Vaccine Services Old Home Day Old Home Day 66,800.00 \$3,097,518.00 -111,796.00 \$2,985,722.00			
TOTAL FY2009 BUDGET ALL FUNDS Less c. 90 Funds \$3,097,518.00 -111,796.00 TOTAL FY2009 \$2,985,722.00 Revolving Fund Authorizations Board of Health – Vaccine Services Old Home Day \$3,500.00 4,000.00	Browning Bench Structural Repairs	20,000.00	
Less c. 90 Funds TOTAL FY2009 Revolving Fund Authorizations Board of Health – Vaccine Services Old Home Day Sample 111,796.00 \$2,985,722.00	Total Appropriations from Municipal Capital Stabilization F	fund	66,800.00
Less c. 90 Funds TOTAL FY2009 Revolving Fund Authorizations Board of Health – Vaccine Services Old Home Day Sample 111,796.00 \$2,985,722.00	TOTAL EV2009 RUDGET ALL FUNDS		\$3 097 518 00
TOTAL FY2009 Revolving Fund Authorizations Board of Health – Vaccine Services Old Home Day \$2,985,722.00 \$3,500.00 4,000.00			
Revolving Fund Authorizations Board of Health – Vaccine Services Old Home Day \$ 3,500.00 4,000.00	Less c. 70 I dilds		
Board of Health – Vaccine Services \$ 3,500.00 Old Home Day 4,000.00	TOTAL FY2009		\$2,985,722.00
Board of Health – Vaccine Services \$ 3,500.00 Old Home Day 4,000.00	Revolving Fund Authorizations		
	Board of Health – Vaccine Services		
Total Revolving Funds Authorized \$ 7,500.00	Old Home Day	4,000.00	
	Total Revolving Funds Authorized	\$ 7,500.00	

Special Town Meeting - June 30, 2008

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING OFFICIAL RESULTS - FY09

June 30, 2008 Town of Rowe COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

The Special Town Meeting was held at the Rowe Elementary School on June 30, 2008.

Present: Moderator Robert Clancy, Town Clerk Carrie Y. Silva, Selectboard James Brown, William Loomis, Susan C. Wood. The Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm, a quorum being present.

The tellers were sworn in by the Moderator: Heidi Cousineau, Rebecca Richardson, Cynthia Laffond and James W. Taylor.

ARTICLE 1: A motion was made and seconded to **authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into the following agreements** upon such terms and conditions that Board of Selectmen deems appropriate:

- a Performance Contracting Agreement with Siemens Building Technologies, Inc., for the procurement of energy management services intended to reduce operation and maintenance costs incurred by the Town of Rowe;
- a Tax Exempt Lease Purchase Agreement for the acquisition of equipment and all other services necessary to accomplish the energy management services project, and through this lease purchase agreement that the Town borrow a sum of money, not to exceed \$950,000 to fund these projects and authorize the Treasurer with the approval of the Board of Selectmen to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefore; and
- an Escrow Agreement concerning the release of project funds to Siemens and other providers due under the Tax Exempt Lease Purchase Agreement;

and that the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen be authorized to execute any and all documents necessary or appropriate to accomplish the above purposes relating to the Performance Contracting Agreement, the Tax Exempt Lease Purchase Agreement, and the Escrow Agreement;

and that the Board of Selectmen be authorized to take all other action necessary or appropriate to carry out the above purposes including seeking and obtaining any state and federal grants, aid, or loans which may be available for the above projects;

and that all sums necessary or appropriate to fund the above projects be spent under the direction of the Board of Selectmen.

PASSED BY SHOW OF HANDS 2/3 AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 2: A motion was made and seconded to authorize the Selectmen to enter into a Letter of Intent with Siemens Building Technologies for the purchase of heating and ventilation equipment, materials and supplies for the Rowe Elementary School, under which the funds to pay for these items will ultimately come from savings derived from energy conservation mea-

sures related to a twenty (20) year Energy Savings Performance Contract between the Town and Siemens Building Technologies. The equipment, materials and supplies anticipated to be purchased and the anticipated cost, as of the date of this Warrant, are as follows:

Rowe Elementary School

Boilers Pumps Stack	\$ 43,984.44 5,758.67 6,816.98
Subtotal	56,560.09
Air Heat Exchange Unit Induction Units Condensing Unit	39,418.50 24,750.00 7,200.00
Subtotal	71,368.50
TOTAL:	\$127,928,59

PASSED BY SHOW OF HANDS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 3: A motion was made and seconded to authorize the Selectmen to enter into a Letter of Intent with Siemens Building Technologies and APPROPRIATE a sum of money from the CAPITAL STABILIZATION FUND for the purchase of heating and ventilation equipment, materials and supplies for the Rowe Elementary School. This article is proposed in the unlikely event that the energy savings performance contract is ultimately not approved by the Board of Selectmen. The equipment, materials and supplies anticipated to be purchased and the anticipated cost, as of the date of this Warrant, are as follows:

Rowe Elementary School

Boilers Pumps Stack	\$ 43,984.44 5,758.67 6,816.98
Subtotal	56,560.09
Air Heat Exchange Unit Induction Units Condensing Unit	39,418.50 24,750.00 7,200.00
Subtotal	71,368.50
TOTAL:	\$127.928.59

PASSED BY SHOW OF HANDS 2/3 AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 4: A motion was made and seconded to change the name of the Library Facilities Improvements Studies account to the Library Facilities Improvements & Studies account for the fiscal year 2009.

PASSED BY SHOW OF HANDS UNANIMOUS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE **ARTICLE 5:** No business was transacted under this article.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

A true copy, Attest: Carrie Y. Silva, Town Clerk June 30, 2008

RECAPITULATION OF SPECIAL TOWN MEETING ARTICLES - FY2009

June 30, 2008 (Recapitulation is for information only) APPROPRIATIONS FROM TAXATION 0.00 None 0.00 TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS FROM TAXATION APPROPRIATIONS FROM FREE CASH 0.00 None 0.00 TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS FROM FREE CASH APPROPRIATIONS FROM AVAILABLE FUNDS 0.00 None 0.00 TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS FROM AVAILABLE FUNDS APPROPRIATIONS FROM STABILIZATION FUND 0.00 None 0.00 TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS FROM STABILIZATION FUND APPROPRIATIONS FROM CAPITAL STABILIZATION FUND Rowe Elementary School \$127,928.59 TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS FROM CAPITAL STABILIZATION FUND \$127,928.59 TOTAL FY2009 BUDGET ALL FUNDS \$127,928.59

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE TAX RATE RECAPITULATION

of

FISCAL 2008

ROWE

City/Town/District

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	i.	н.	Д	. х	ĸ	u		~1	11	vI.	IVI.		ĸ	- 1	٠.

Ia. Total amount to be raised (from IIe)

\$ 4,442,191.63

Ib. Total estimated receipts and other revenue sources (from IIIe) $\,$

1,691,982.00 2,750,209.63

Ic. Tax levy (Ia minus Ib)

Id. Distribution of Tax Rates and levies

CLASS	(b) Levy percentage (from LA-5)	(c) IC above times each percent in col (b)	(d) Valuation by class (from LA-5)	(e) Tax Rates (c) / (d) x 1000	(f) Levy by class (d) x (e) / 1000
Residential	7.9062%	217,437.07	48,143,917	4.52	217,610.50
Exempt					
Open Space	0.0000%	0.00	0		
Commercial	0.1124%	3,091.24	320,368	9.64	3,088.35
Exempt					
Industrial	54.9311%	1,510,720.40	156,703,064	9.64	1,510,617.54
SUBTOTAL	62.9497%		205,167,349		1,731,316.39
Personal	37.0503%	1,018,960.92	105,694,320	9.64	1,018,893.24
TOTAL	100.0000%		310,861,669		2,750,209.63

Board of Assessors of ROWE	Nov 7,2007	413-339-5520
Fredul Whilliams Cole	uf. babcock	Tel. No.
Do Not Write Below	This Line For Department	t of Revenue Use Only
Reviewed By		
Date	<u> </u>	
Approved:	Director of Accounts	Date

II. Amounts to be raised

lia. Appropriations (col. (b) through col. (e) from Page 4)			\$4,307,831.00	
Ilb. Other amounts to be raised 1. Amounts certified for tax title purposes 2. Debt and interest charges not included on page 4 3. Final court judgments 4. Total overlay deficits of prior years 5. Total cherry sheet offsets (see cherry sheet 1-ER) 6. Revenue deficits 7. Offset receipts deficits Ch. 44, Sec. 53E 8. Authorized deferral of teachers' pay 9. Snow and ice deficit Ch. 44 Sec. 31D 10. Other (specify on separate letter)		95,951.00		
TOTAL IIb (Total lines 1 through 10)			95,951.00	
IIc. State and county cherry sheet charge (C.S. 1-EC) IId. Allowance for abatements and exemptions (overlay) IIe. Total amount to be raised (Total IIa through IId)		:	13,471.00 24,938.63 \$ 4,442,191.63	
III. Estimated receipts and other revenue sources				
IIIa. Estimated receipts - State 1. Cherry sheet estimated receipts (C.S. 1-ER Total) 2. Massachusetts School Building Authority Payments TOTAL IIIa	\$	176,085.00	176,085.00	
IIIb. Estimated receipts - Local 1. Local receipts not allocated (Page 3, col. (b), Line 23) 2. Offset receipts (See Schedule A-1) 3. Enterprise funds (See Schedule A-2) 4. Community preservation funds (See Schedule A-4) TOTAL IIIb		83,060.00 0.00 0.00 0.00	83,060.00	
IIIc. Revenue sources appropriated for particular purposes				
 Free cash (Page 4, col. (c)) Other available funds (Page 4, col. (d)) TOTAL Illo 		27,000.00 1,335,806.00	1,362,806.00	
Illd. Other revenue sources appropriated specifically to reduce the 1. a. Free cashappropriated on or before June 30, 2007 b. Free cashappropriated on or after July 1, 2007 2. Municipal light source 3. Teachers' pay deferral 4. Other source:	ax rate	70,031.00	70,031.00	
Ille. Total estimated receipts and other revenue sources (Total Illa through Illd)		\$	1,691,982.00	
IV. Summary of total amount to be raised and total receipts from all	source	es		
 a. Total amount to be raised (from IIe) b. Total estimated receipts and other revenue sources (from IIIe) 	\$	\$ 	4,442,191.63	
c. Total real and personal property tax levy (from Ic) d. Total receipts from all sources (total IVb plus IVc)	\$	2,750,209.63	4,442,191.63	

LOCAL RECEIPTS NOT ALLOCATED *

	(a) Actual Receipts Fiscal 2007	(b) Estimated Receipts Fiscal 2008
→ 1. Motor vehicle excise → 2. Other excise	\$44,284.13	\$\$44,000.00
 3. Penalties and interest on taxes and excises 4. Payments in lieu of taxes 	1,228.07	1,000.00
5. Charges for Services - water6. Charges for Services - sewer		
7. Charges for Services - hospital		
Charges for Services - trash disposal Other charges for services		
10. Fees		
11. Rentals	4,495.69	5,000.00
12. Departmental revenue - Schools		
13. Departmental revenue - Libraries		
Departmental revenue - Cemeteries		
15. Departmental revenue - Recreation	590.00	500.00
Other departmental revenue	1,535.35	1,500.00
17. Licenses and permits	468.50	400.00
18. Special assessments		
19. Fines and forfeits	<u> </u>	
→ 20. Investment income	22,149.79	18,000.00
→ 21. Miscellaneous recurring (please specify)	14,865.55	11,380.00
22. Miscellaneous non-recurring (please specify		1,280.00
23. TOTALS	\$ 93,244.25	\$83,060.00

I hereby certify that the actual receipts as shown in column (a) are, to the best of my knowledge correct and complete, and I further certify that I have examined the entries made on page 4 of the fiscal 2008 tax rate recapitulation form by the City/Town/District Clerk and hereby acknowledge that such entries correctly reflect the appropriations made and the sources from which such appropriations are to be met.

11-7-2007 Eller F. Babcocle 413-339-5520
Date Accountant/Auditor Tel. No.

- Do not include receipts in columns (a) or (b) that were voted by the City/Town/District Council or Town Meeting as offset receipts on Schedule A-1, enterprise funds on Schedule A-2, or revolving funds on Schedule A-3. Written documentation must be submitted to support increases / decreases of estimated receipts to actual receipts.
- → Written documentation must be submitted to support increases/decreases of FY2007 estimated receipts to FY2008 estimated receipts to be used in calculating the municipal revenue growth factor.

							AUTHORIZATIONS	ATIONS
			AF	APPROPRIATIONS			MEMO ONLY	NLY
City/Town		(a)	(q)	(2)	(d) From	(e) Emm Offset Receints	£) {	(B)
Council or		Total	From Raise		Other		Revolving	Borrowing
Town		Appropriations	and	Free	Available		Funds	Authorization
Meeting	¥	Of Each			Funds		See A-3	(Other)
Dates		Meeting	(Tax Levy)		See B-2			
02/10/07	2007	18,500.00		00.0	18,500,00		0.00	
05/14/07	2008	4,282,331.00	2,945,025.00	20,000.00	1,317,306.00		4,000,00	
05/14/07	2007	6,000.00		00'000'9	00.0		0.00	
05/14/07	2008	1,000.00	00:00	1,000.00	00.0		0.00	
06/28/07	2008	0.00		0.00	0.00		4,600.00	
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		. 00'0						
Totals		4,307,831.00	2,945,025.00	27,000.00	1,335,806.00	00.0		
		Must Equal						
	_	Cols. (b) thru (e)						

 $^{^{\}star}$ Enter the fiscal year to which the appropriation relates, i.e., fiscal year 2007 or fiscal 2008.

I hereby certify that the appropriations correctly reflect the votes taken by City/Town/District Council.

413-339-5520 Tel. No. ROWE City/Town

^{**} Appropriations included in column (b) must not be reduced by local receipts or any other funding source.
Appropriations must be entered gross to avoid a duplication in the use of estimated or other sources of receipts.

^{***} Include only revolving funds pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 53 E 1/2.

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE TAX RATE RECAPITULATION

of

FISCAL 2009

ROWE

City/Town/District

1	TAX	RATE	SUMMARY	1

Ia. Total amount to be raised (from IIe)	\$	3,524,026.26
Ib. Total estimated receipts and other revenue sources (from IIIe)	-	699,041.18
Ic. Tax levy (Ia minus Ib)	\$ 	2,824,985.08
Id. Distribution of Tax Rates and levies		

CLASS	(b) Levy percentage (from LA-5)	(c) IC above times each percent in col (b)	(d) Valuation by class (from LA-5)	(e) Tax Rates (c)/(d) x 1000	(f) Levy by class (d) x (e) / 1000
Residential	7.9203%	223,747.29	49,074,971	4.56	223,781.87
Exempt					
Open Space	0.0000%	0.00	0		
Commercial	0.1472%	4,158.38	426,946	9.74	4,158.45
Exempt					
Industrial	52.1185%	1,472,339.85	151,162,269	9.74	1,472,320.50
SUBTOTAL	60.1860%		200,664,186		1,700,260.82
Personal	39.8140%	1,124,739.56	115,474,770	9.74	1,124,724.26
TOTAL	100.0000%		316,138,956		2,824,985.08

Board of Assessors of ROWE	December 16, 2008	413-339-5520
Fighel W leitliams City or Town	Date Heid Consinear	Tel. No.
Do Not Write Bel	low This Line For Department of Rev	venue Use Only
Reviewed By		
Date		
Approved:	Director of Accounts	Date

II. Amounts to be raised

IIa. Appropriations (col. (b) through col. (e) from Page 4)			\$	3,208,036.18
llb. Other amounts to be raised				
 Amounts certified for tax title purposes 			-	
2. Debt and interest charges not included on page 4		4	•	
Final court judgments				
 Total overlay deficits of prior years 			-	
5. Total cherry sheet offsets (see cherry sheet 1-ER)		111,014.00	•	
6. Revenue deficits			•	
7. Offset receipts deficits Ch. 44, Sec. 53E			•	
8. Authorized deferral of teachers' pay			•	
9. Snow and ice deficit Ch. 44 Sec. 31D		0.00		
10. Other (specify on separate letter)		153,750.00		
TOTAL IIb (Total lines 1 through 10)				264,764.00
Ilc. State and county cherry sheet charge (C.S. 1-EC)				33.546.00
				33,546.00
lid. Allowance for abatements and exemptions (overlay)			<u></u>	17,680.08
lie. Total amount to be raised (Total IIa through IId)			» <u></u>	3,524,026.26
III. Estimated receipts and other revenue sources				
IIIa. Estimated receipts - State				
1. Cherry sheet estimated receipts (C.S. 1-ER Total)	\$	216,322.00		
Massachusetts School Building Authority Payments	•	3.0,022.00		
TOTAL Illa				216,322.00
101AL IIId			24	210,022,00
IIIb. Estimated receipts - Local				
·		74 000 00		
1. Local receipts not allocated (Page 3, col. (b), Line 23)		74,880.00		
Offset receipts (See Schedule A-1)	-	0.00		
Enterprise funds (See Schedule A-2)		0.00		
 Community preservation funds (See Schedule A-4) 	_	0.00		
TOTAL IIIb			,	74,880.00
IIIc. Revenue sources appropriated for particular purposes				
 Free cash (Page 4, col. (c)) 	_	156,782.82		
Other available funds (Page 4, col. (d))	_	251,056.36		
TOTAL IIIc				407,839.18
IIId. Other revenue sources appropriated specifically to reduce the	tax rate			
 a. Free cashappropriated on or before June 30, 2008 	_			
b. Free cashappropriated on or after July 1, 2008	_			
Municipal light source	_			
3. Teachers' pay deferral	_			
4. Other source :	-			
TOTAL IIId	_			0.00
Illo. Total antimated regaints and other revenue accuracy				
Ille. Total estimated receipts and other revenue sources		d		000 044 40
(Total Illa through Illd)		3	·	699,041.18
IV. Summary of total amount to be raised and total receipts from al	l sources	i		
a. Total amount to be raised (from IIe)		9	6	3,524,026.26
b. Total estimated receipts and other	\$	699,041.18		-,,,,
revenue sources (from Ille)	· _	000,071,10		
	e	2 224 00# 00		
c. Total real and personal property tax levy (from lc)	\$_	2,824,985.08	,	2 504 000 00
d. Total receipts from all sources (total IVb plus IVc)		\$	-	3,524,026.26

LOCAL RECEIPTS NOT ALLOCATED *

		(a) Actual Receipts Fiscal 2008	(b) Estimated Receipts Fiscal 2009
→ 1. Motor vehicle excise→ 2. Other excise	\$ <u></u>	39,585.88 \$	38,240.00
 3. Penalties and interest on taxes and excises 4. Payments in lieu of taxes 5. Charges for Services - water 6. Charges for Services - sewer 		1,113.12	1,000.00
7. Charges for Services - hospital8. Charges for Services - trash disposal9. Other charges for services10. Fees			
 11. Rentals 12. Departmental revenue - Schools 13. Departmental revenue - Libraries 14. Departmental revenue - Cemeteries 		5,741.71	5,300.00
15. Departmental revenue - Recreation		370.00	360.00
16. Other departmental revenue		495.24	500.00
17. Licenses and permits18. Special assessments		1,499.50	1,400.00
→ 19. Fines and forfeits	·	155.00	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
→ 20. Investment income		14,401.92	12,000.00
→ 21. Miscellaneous recurring (please specify)		15,636.01	15,480.00
22. Miscellaneous non-recurring (please specify)		2,839.76	600.00
23. TOTALS	\$	81,838.14 \$	74,880.00

I hereby certify that the actual receipts as shown in column (a) are, to the best of my knowledge correct and complete, and I further certify that I have examined the entries made on page 4 of the fiscal 2009 tax rate recapitulation form by the City/Town/District Clerk and hereby acknowledge that such entries correctly reflect the appropriations made and the sources from which such appropriations are to be met.

Date Accountant/Auditor Tel. No.

Do not include receipts in columns (a) or (b) that were voted by the City/Town/District Council or Town Meeting as offset receipts on Schedule A-1, enterprise funds on Schedule A-2, or revolving funds on Schedule A-3. Written documentation must be submitted to support increases / decreases of estimated receipts to actual receipts.

[→] Written documentation must be submitted to support increases/decreases of FY2008 estimated receipts to FY2009 estimated receipts to be used in calculating the municipal revenue growth factor.

City/Town								
City/Tawn				TIONS			MEMO ONLY	NLY
		(a)	(a) *		(d) From	(e) From Offset Receipts	(J)	(B)
Council or		Total		From	Other		Revolving	Borrowing
ייייייי	í	Appropriations	and		Available		Funds	Authorization
Weeting	<u>.</u>	Of Each			Funds		See A-3	(Other)
Dates		Meeting			See B-2			
03/31/08	2008	23,610,36	00.00	9,850,00	13,760,36		000	
05/12/08	. 2008	86,907.82		28,207,82	58,700,00		00.0	
05/12/08	2009	3,097,518.00	2,800,197,00	118,725.00	178.596.00		7 500 00	
06/30/08	2009	00.0	00:00	00.00	000		0000	
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Totals		3,208,036,18	2,800,197.00	156,782.82	251,056,36	2 00 0		
		Must Equal						
		Cols. (b) thru (e)						

 $^{^{\}star}\,$ Enter the fiscal year to which the appropriation relates, i.e., fiscal year 2008 or fiscal 2009.

I hereby certify that the appropriations correctly reflect the votes taken by City/Town/District Council.

ROWE December 11, 2008

Carried Liber

413-339-5530 Tel. No.

^{**} Appropriations included in column (b) must not be reduced by local receipts or any other funding source.
Appropriations must be entered gross to avoid a duplication in the use of estimated or other sources of receipts.

^{***} Include only revolving funds pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 53 E 1/2.

MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE BUREAU OF LOCAL ASSESSMENT FINAL 2008 EQUALIZATION STUDY

January 31, 2009

ROWE

Class	Assessed Value	Assessment Ratio	Estimated Full Value
Residential	\$48,143,917	0.93	\$51,767,700
Open Space	0		0
Commercial	320,368	0.94	341,500
Industrial	156,703,064	1.00	156,826,200
Personal Property	105,694,320	1.00	105,694,300
Total Real/Personal Property	\$310,861,669	0.99	\$314,629,700
Estimated Growth		0.45%	1,415,800
Proposed Equalized Valuation			\$316,045,500
Chapter 121A			0
2008 Final Equalized Valuation			\$316,045,500

Board of Assessors

The Board of Assessors reluctantly accepted the resignation of **Ellen Babcock** effective February 16, 2008. Ellen had faithfully served on the Board continuously since January 1994 including numerous stints as Chair. Her resignation was prompted by a conflict with Mass General Law (MGL) Chapter 41 Section 23A which restricts an Executive Secretary/Town Administrator from holding elective office. The issue, initially identified by the Board of Selectmen, was ultimately confirmed by the Department of Revenue as being applicable to the Town Coordinator, a position which Ellen had held since January 2004. Her experience and expertise will be sorely missed on the Board.

Carrie Silva was appointed on March 11, 2008, to fill Ellen's position until the annual elections in mid-May 2008. At the annual elections, Carrie was elected to fill the remaining one year balance of Ellen's term and Rick Williams was re-elected to a three year term. Carrie joined fellow Board member Heidi Cousineau in nominating and electing Rick Williams to serve again as Chairman.

As always, the Board would again like to thank **Sandy Daviau**, Assessors' Clerk, for her handling of the day-to-day tasks in the Assessors Office. 2008 was a very busy year for Sandy due to extra work load associated with the new tax mapping system, the full measure and list campaign, and the FY09 triennial revaluation. Sandy has a good deal of contact with the public and always manages to be gracious and helpful to everyone.

The Assessors' Office continues to use the **Patriot Properties'** assessing software *Assess Pro*. Duane Adams of **Mayflower Valuations** continues to provide residential appraisal consulting services.

At the routine monthly meetings, the following items were addressed, as needed: **building permits** received from the building inspector were reviewed and field inspections were conducted as necessary to make any adjustments to property cards...**deeds** recording property transfers and **survey plans** received from the Franklin County Registry of Deeds were reviewed and compared to tax maps for verification of data and adjustments were made to property cards...**tax map changes** were documented and forwarded to the mapping company for update...and **property and excise tax bill commitments and abatements** were reviewed and approved, as required.

Several major projects were completed this year:

Mayflower Valuations personnel completed the statemandated Full Measure and List review of all real property in town in July 2008. This campaign, initiated in the fall of 2007, involved a best effort to conduct exterior measurements and interior inspections of <u>all</u> dwellings and buildings in town. Such inspections are required to be performed at least once every 9 years to ensure that property card information is accurate and up-to-date.

A new state-of-the-art Geographic Information System (GIS) **tax map system**, produced by **Cartographics Associates Inc.**, of Littleton NH, utilizing *ArcGIS* and *Query*

Manager software, vas implemented in October 2008. Based on an extensive review and recompilation of all current deeds and survey plans, this new tax map system consists of digitized maps combined with aerial photography which is linked to the existing Assessors property record card software to provide a fully integrated property information system. Other changes associated with the new mapping system included a new map/lot numbering convention and the splitting out of previously combined parcels onto separate property cards. Individual parcel acreage (used for tax assessment purposes) was also recalculated as a result of this more accurate mapping system.

In support of the **FY09 Triennial Revaluation**, the services of several professional appraisal consultants were utilized this year. George Lagasse of **Mainstream Associates** was contracted jointly by the Towns of Rowe, Monroe, and Florida to conduct appraisals of the hydroelectric generating facilities owned by TransCanada and Brookfield Power. Glenn Walker of **G.E. Sansoucy**, **PE** was contracted to conduct an appraisal of the Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (ISFSI) owned by Yankee Atomic Electric Company.

The **FY09 total town valuation** increased by 1.7% to \$316,138,957. The **FY09 tax rates** of \$4.56 for Residential and \$9.74 for Commercial/Industrial/Personal Property (CIP) were set in mid-December 2008. This contrasts to the previous fiscal year tax rates of \$4.52 for Residential and \$9.64 for CIP.

For FY09, according to Mass Department of Revenue records, Rowe has the 6th lowest residential tax rate and the 2nd lowest average single family tax bill (\$913) in the state.

Reminder...the so-called **Proposition 2**¹/₂ **Levy Limit** continues to restrict the amount of money that Rowe can raise from taxation in any given year. By law this limit only increases by $2^{1}/_{2}\%$ (currently about \$67,000) per year. Despite our enviable low tax rate and low tax bills, the Town has been bumping up against its Prop 21/2 Levy Limit for a number of years and has had to pit department against department to make cuts, defer projects, or utilize other "available funds" from Free Cash and the Stabilization Fund to balance the regular operating budget and to pay for special projects. A significant action was taken at the FY08 Annual Town Meeting in May 2007 where a \$150,000 Proposition $2^{1/2}$ Override was approved for the creation of a Capital Stabilization Fund. This decision authorized a continuing annual increase in the Levy Limit for the express purpose of setting aside money into "savings" for municipal capital improvement projects. This has helped take some of the pressure off the regular operating budgets versus special projects competition for funds. This action reestablished and formalized something the town historically used to do on an informal basis before being artificially constrained by the Prop 2¹/₂ Levy Limit.

Please feel free to visit the Assessors' Office during posted office hours or posted meeting times, or contact any of us directly.

Respectfully submitted, Frederick N. (Rick) Williams, Chairman Heidi Cousineau & Carrie Y. Silva

Board of Assessors – Property Transfers

GRODD, STUART and **VELMA** of CT, for consideration of \$55,000.00, grant to **GRODD, ARTHUR and KAUFFMANN, ILENE** of MA, Trustees of the Pond Road Realty Trust, property located at 56 Pond Road.

BROWN, WILLIAN M., Trustee of the BROWN, WILLIAN M. Revocable Trust of Rowe, for consideration paid of \$1.00, grant to BROWN, WILLIAN M. of Rowe, property located at 60 Shippee Road.

BROWN, WILLIAN M. of Rowe, for consideration paid of \$1.00, grant to **MORSE, MARJORIE H.**, of Rowe, property located at 60 Shippee Road.

SITTINGER, ROBERT G. and **NANCY E.** of Rowe, for consideration paid of \$45,000.00, grant to **TRAVIS, WILLIAM R.** and **FAITH R.**, of Leyden, MA, property located on Ford Hill Road (Map 201 Lot 15).

PIKE, ERIC and MICHELLE of Rowe, to NATIONAL CITY MORTGAGE, for \$381,300.00 paid, grant to MAY, DENNIS F. and GAIL of Rowe, property located at 14 Potter Road.

CAREY, ANNE S. of Farmington, CT, in consideration of \$40,000.00, grant to **HAMILTON**, **RICHARD** and **DENOUDEN**, **NICOLE** of Tenant's Harbor, ME, property located on Stone Hill Road (Map 402 Lot 47).

WALTERMINE, KENNETH FLAGG and ROBERT GEORGE, of Fort Collins, CO, in consideration of \$1.00, grant to **WALTERMIRE, ROBERT G.** of Fort Collins, CO and **ETHAN** of Bellvue, CO, property located on Davis Mine Road (Map 408 Lots 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 16, 28).

MAY, DENNIS F. and GAIL, of Rowe, for consideration paid of \$205,000.00, grant to VAN DYKE, BARBARA L. of Shelburne Falls, MA, property located at 22 Ford Hill Road.

NEWMAN, MURRAY L. JR. & JANICE H. of Heath, for consideration of \$1.00, grant to NEWMAN, MURRAY L., JR. of Heath, NEWMAN MARTIN S. of Buckland, MA, NEWMAN, NANCY ELISE of Baltimore, MD, property located off Leshure Road (Map 402 Lot 72).

ESSERT, ROBERT D. SR & MARY B. of Rowe, for consideration paid of \$260,000.00, grant to **WOOTTON**, **JAMES M. & ELLEN E**. of Bethesda, MD, property located at 112 Ford Hill Road.

SITTINGER, ROBERT G. & NANCY E. of Rowe MA, in consideration of \$18,000.00, grant to **SILVA, EDWARD J. & SANDRA J.** of Rowe, property located on Ford Hill Road (Map 201 Lot 15.1).

WESTON, VIVIAN of Bristol, VT, in consideration of \$30,000.00, grant to **CROWNINGSHIELD, STEVEN R.** & **DEBRA A.** & **MATTHEW R**. of Rowe, property located on Zoar Road (Map 410 Lot 29).

CONSENSUAL ORDER OF TAKING

MUNROE, CARL A. of Somerset, MA to COMMON-WEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS (DIVISION of FISH and GAME) of Boston, MA, Award of \$154,000.00, property located on Tatro Road (Map 409 Lot 7, 11, 12).

DECLARATION OF RESTRICTION AGAINST RESIDENTIAL USE

By YANKEE ATOMIC ELECTRIC CO. of Rowe, property located off Yankee Road (Map 401 Lots 9 & 11).

EASEMENTS

By ADAMS, PAUL E. & JEANETTE H. of Belleview, Fl to VERIZON NEW ENGLAND, INC. of Boston, MA, property located on 476 Tunnel Road.

By WILLIAMS, ROBERT O., Trustee of the SKYLINE LAND TRUST of Rowe to VERIZON NEW ENGLAND, INC. of Boston, MA, property located on Hazelton Road (Map 204 Lot 2).

Rowe Average Single Family Tax Bill - State Ranking - 21-Year History

Fiscal Year	Assessed Value	Number of Parcels	Average Value	Тах	Rate	Single Family Tax Bill	State Hi-Lo Rank	Number of MA Towns Included
2009	\$ 41,636,100	208	\$ 200,174	\$	4.56	\$ 913	318	319
2008	\$ 40,572,700	208	\$ 195,061	\$	4.52	\$ 882	309	310
2007	\$ 38,733,700	204	\$ 189,871	\$	4.11	\$ 780	307	307
2006	\$ 34,757,700	202	\$ 172,068	\$	4.10	\$ 705	307	307
2005	\$ 29,369,900	206	\$ 142,572	\$	3.59	\$ 512	340	340
2004	\$ 26,365,100	202	\$ 130,520	\$	3.59	\$ 469	340	340
2003	\$ 26,309,900	203	\$ 129,605	\$	3.49	\$ 452	340	340
2002	\$ 22,164,900	205	\$ 108,121	\$	3.44	\$ 372	340	340
2001	\$ 21,735,900	204	\$ 106,549	\$	3.36	\$ 358	339	340
2000	\$ 21,195,600	202	\$ 104,929	\$	3.22	\$ 338	339	340
1999	\$ 22,065,700	204	\$ 108,165	\$	5.36	\$ 580	340	340
1998	\$ 21,941,500	204	\$ 107,556	\$	5.35	\$ 575	340	340
1997	\$ 21,543,200	201	\$ 107,180	\$	5.34	\$ 572	340	340
1996	\$ 22,144,400	203	\$ 109,086	\$	4.89	\$ 533	340	340
1995	\$ 21,580,400	200	\$ 107,902	\$	5.61	\$ 605	340	340
1994	\$ 21,566,700	203	\$ 106,240	\$	5.25	\$ 558	339	340
1993	\$ 23,152,453	204	\$ 113,492	\$	5.98	\$ 679	336	339
1992	\$ 22,842,280	203	\$ 112,524	\$	4.86	\$ 547	338	339
1991	\$ 22,817,970	215	\$ 106,130	\$	4.52	\$ 480	265	265
1990	\$ 19,477,857	213	\$ 91,445	\$	4.53	\$ 414	323	323
1989	\$ 18,892,237	201	\$ 93,991	\$	4.56	\$ 429	297	297

Finance Committee

The year 2008 will be remembered for its financial upheaval. Many municipalities in the Commonwealth have been severely affected. Fortunately for Rowe, our economic base, Bear Swamp Hydroelectric power plant, remains stable and our dependence on State aid is minimal. However, with many of our residents in their retirement and the economic prospects for others, the Finance Committee was acutely aware of the impact its recommendations would make on our taxpayers.

The committee met each month with the primary focus being: 1) the status of the ongoing budgets, and 2) preparation for the FY2009 budget for the year beginning July 1, 2008. With the newly established Capital Stabilization Fund (CSF), we carefully evaluated the requests from the departments to ensure the requests for operating budgets and capital improvements were separate. Overall, the departments did a good job submitting their budgets and we expect following years to become more and more streamlined.

During the summer, our Committee welcomed Anne Besgen. However, a vacancy of one seat remains and is still open today.

During the initial stages of the FY10 budget process, which we began in late 2008, the Finance Committee, recognizing the severity of the financial climate, has committed to a

goal of keeping the Town budget at a 2.5% increase while maintaining the standard COLA rate set by the Social Security Administration.

We still are committed to increasing the Stabilization Fund and hope that, as the economy improves, our ability to execute that recommendation will be met with acceptance from the Selectmen. We believe the Town needs to build up more stabilization money, in the event that a disastrous situation shifts the tax burden from the Power Plant to residents. We have a rough idea for setting up a special stabilization fund with strict limits on use, but we have not had time to pursue it and thought that due to current circumstances, now is not the time to raise taxes for something like this.

The Town would probably save money by switching to the State GIC health insurance for employees. We need to investigate to make sure the benefits are comparable to our current ones.

Respectfully submitted,

Cara Morano, Chair Ann Besgen David Dvore Cindy Laffond

Tax Collector's Report - Fiscal Year 2008

July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008

Year/Tax	Outstandin 7/1/07	g Commit- ments	Abate- ments	Tax Title	Pay- ments	Refunds	Adjust ments*	Outstanding 6/30/08
00 MVE	-67.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-67.50
01 MVE	-72.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-72.50
02 MVE	-42.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-42.50
04 MVE	-220.42	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00#	-220.42
05 MVE	-556.25	-5.00	0.00	0.00	5.00	0.00	0.00	-556.25
06 MVE	-1,626.38	-45.00	23.13	0.00	81.88	-23.13	0.00	-1,589.50
07 MVE	-3242.10	-3,470.86	487.19	0.00	5,395.35	-487.19	0.00	-1,317.61
08 MVE	0.00	-39,932.32	179.58	0.00	34,764.71	-150.74	0.00	-5,138.77
05 PP	-26.29	0.00	0.00	0.00	26.29	0.00	0.00	0.00
06 PP	-29.18	0.00	0.00	0.00	29.18	0.00	0.00	0.00
07 PP	-32.35	0.00	0.00	0.00	32.35	0.00	0.00	0.00
08 PP	0.00	-1,018,893.25	0.00	0.00	1,018,889.11	0.00	0.00	-4.14
05 RE	-846.16	0.00	0.00	0.00	846.16	0.00	0.00	0.00
06 RE	-653.67	0.00	-43.64	0.00	683.60	0.00	0.00	-13.71
07 RE	-3112.55	0.00	-34.03	0.00	3115.01	0.00	0.00	-31.57
08 RE	0.00	-1731316.38	2989.39	63.73	1723246.09	0.00	0.00	-5,017.17
TOTALS	-10,527.85	-2,793,662.81	3,601.62	63.73	2,787,114.73	-661.06	0.00	-14,071.64

Miscellaneous Collections

\$350.00 Lien Fees

340.00 Demand/Warrant/Misc Fees

12.00 Deputy Collector Fees

0.00 Mark for Non Renewal

1,113.13 Interest on Overdue Tax Payments

0.00 NSF Fees Collected

80.00 Bank Interest

\$1,895.13

Respectfully Submitted, Sandra P. Daviau, Tax Collector

Town Accountant

All requisite reports were filed with the State and Federal authorities, including Schedule A, Free Cash Balance Sheet, cash reconciliations, employer state and federal tax reports, Franklin Regional Retirement monthly reports, Massachusetts Teachers' Retirement Reports, Department of Education reports, Department of Employment and Training reports, Division of Unemployment Assistance Reports, and Chapter 90 Reports. Required reports for the Tax Recap sheet were prepared and submitted for tax rate certification.

Payroll and Treasury Warrants were prepared on a biweekly basis, and the general ledger and budget ledger maintained. Department heads were supplied with budget vs. actual information on a monthly basis, and more often as needed.

I want to thank Sandy Daviau for her valued assistance during the past year.

Respectfully submitted, Ellen L. Babcock Town Accountant

Town Accountant – Revenue & Expenditures (c. 41, § 61)

General Fund – Revenue		Inter-fund Transfers	0
Taxes	4.040.065	Special Revenue Funds Transfers from Trust Funds	0 145,400
	1,018,865		
Motor Vehicle Excise	1,729,176 39,586	Total	145,400
Penalties/Interest	1,113	Total Consult For 1 D	
In Lieu of Taxes	0	Total General Fund Revenues and Other Financing Uses and Transfers	3,075,333
-	2,788,772	Other Thuncing Oses and Transfers	3,0/3,333
2000	2,7 00,7 7 2	General Fund – Expenditures	
* Personal Property Taxes and Real Estate	Taxes	Salary and Wages	526,995
are reported net of 60 day accruals		Expenditures	1,716,809
		Construction	, ,
Charges for Service/Other Departmental		Capital Outlay	57,050
Park & Recreation Revenues	370	Debt Service	0
Other Departmental Revenues	730	Unclassified	485,269
Total	1,100	General Fund – Expenditures - Total	2,786,123
Licenses, Permits and Fees		Other Financing Uses	
Licenses and Permits	1,050	Transfers to Other Fund	152,000
Total	1,050	Total Other Financing Uses	152,000
Federal Revenue	0	General Fund Expenditures and Other Financing Uses	2,938,123
Revenues from State			
Cherry Sheet, etc.	105,409	Special Revenue Funds	
Total	105,409	Revenues	
	,	Taxes and Excises	. 0
Revenues from Other Govts - Court Fines	155	Charges for Services	0
		Federal Revenue	0
Miscellaneous Revenues	10015	State Revenue	151,553
Miscellaneous Revenues	19,045	Miscellaneous Revenue	121,353
Interest from Investments	14,402	Total Revenues	272,906
Total	33,447	Other Financing Sources	2,2,,,,,
		Bond Proceeds	0
General Fund – Total Revenues	2,929,933	Transfers from Other Funds	0

Other Financing Sources	0	E
Total Other Financing Sources	0	
Total Revenues &		
Other Financing Sources	272,906	
Expenditures		
Salary and Wages	0	
Expenditures	260,837	O
Construction	0	
Capital Outlay	0	
Debt Service	0	
Total Expenditures	260,837	-
Other Financing Uses		Ta
Transfers to Other Funds	0	
Other Financing Uses	0	Es
Total Other Financing Uses	0	Fı
Total Expenditures &		A
Other Financing Uses	260,837	Fı
Excess (Deficiency)	12,069	
Fund Balance Beginning of Year	129,535	Α
Adjustments	0	
Fund Balance End of Year	141,604	
Capital Project Funds		_
Revenues	0	
Expenditures	0	P
Enterprise Funds		
Revenues	0	_
Expenditures	0	S
	0	S
Expenditures	0	S
Expenditures Trust Funds Revenues		S
Expenditures Trust Funds	0 0	S
Trust Funds Revenues Charges for Services Federal Revenue State Revenue	0	S
Trust Funds Revenues Charges for Services Federal Revenue State Revenue Miscellaneous Revenue	0 0 0 0 10,487	S
Trust Funds Revenues Charges for Services Federal Revenue State Revenue	0 0 0	S
Trust Funds Revenues Charges for Services Federal Revenue State Revenue Miscellaneous Revenue	0 0 0 0 10,487	S
Trust Funds Revenues Charges for Services Federal Revenue State Revenue Miscellaneous Revenue Earnings on Investments Total Revenues Other Financing Sources	0 0 0 10,487 93,339 103,826	S
Trust Funds Revenues Charges for Services Federal Revenue State Revenue Miscellaneous Revenue Earnings on Investments Total Revenues Other Financing Sources Transfers from Other Funds	0 0 0 10,487 93,339	S
Trust Funds Revenues Charges for Services Federal Revenue State Revenue Miscellaneous Revenue Earnings on Investments Total Revenues Other Financing Sources	0 0 0 10,487 93,339 103,826	S
Trust Funds Revenues Charges for Services Federal Revenue State Revenue Miscellaneous Revenue Earnings on Investments Total Revenues Other Financing Sources Transfers from Other Funds	0 0 0 10,487 93,339 103,826	S
Trust Funds Revenues Charges for Services Federal Revenue State Revenue Miscellaneous Revenue Earnings on Investments Total Revenues Other Financing Sources Transfers from Other Funds Other Financing Sources	0 0 0 10,487 93,339 103,826 152,000 0	S

Expenditures	
Salary and Wages	0
Expenditures	10,418
Construction	0
Capital Outlay	0
Debt Service	0
Total Expenditures	10,418
Other Financing Uses	
Transfers to Other Funds	145,400
Other Financing Uses	0
Total Other Financing Uses	145,400
Total Expenditures &	
Other Financing Uses	155,818
Excess (Deficiency)	100,008
Fund Balance Beginning of Year	2,270,696
Adjustments	0
Fund Balance End of Year	2,370,704
Agency Fund Balance Agency Fund Balance July 1, 2007 Additions Deductions	-2,679 35,216 -34,579
Agency Fund Balance June 30, 2008	-2,042
Personnel Expenditures as of Dec 1, 2008 Total Salaries and Wages Total Number of Employees	1,060,853 107
Schedule of Cash/Investments June 30, 2008	
General Fund Special Revenue Debt Service Fund Capital Project Funds Enterprise Funds Trust Funds Agency Funds	615,866 162,891 0 0 0 2,370,704 -2,042

Respectfully submitted, Ellen L. Babcock Town Accountant

3,147,419

Accountant's Report - Appropriation Balances June 30, 2008

Account No.	Account Name	Budget	Actual	Variance	% Remaining
(1) General C	Government				
01-5-101-110	Sel - Legal Expenses	12,513.22	(12,402.62)	110.60	0
01-5-101-120	Settlements & Judgments	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
01-5-101-220	Sel - Selectmen Stipend	5,562.00	(5,337.89)	224.11	21
01-5-101-290	Sel - Gen Administration	29,580.00	(22,517.42)	7,062.58	23
01-5-101-291	Sel - Microfilm Twn Records	4,000.00	0.00	4,000.00	100
01-5-101-292	Sel - Misc Officers' Stipends	2,060.00	(2,060.00)	0.00	0
01-5-101-293	Sel - Town Officers' Expenses	1,530.00	(1,530.00)	0.00	0
01-5-101-294	Sel - Print Town Reports	3,315.00	(3,315.00)	0.00	0
01-5-101-295	Sel - Municipal Audit	5,000.00	(5,000.00)	0.00	0
01-5-101-296 01-5-101-297	Sel - Summer Youth Employment Sel - SYE Encumb	25,500.00 2,282.50	(25,155.47) (2,282.50)	344.53 0.00	1 0
01-5-101-297	Council on Aging	5,500.00	(5,497.23)	2.77	0
01-5-101-298	Sel - Accnt/Admin Sal	53,308.00	(53,308.00)	0.00	0
01-5-101-350	Sel - Asst Acct/Clerk	9,800.00	(8,948.23)	851.77	8
01-5-101-352	Sel - AsstAcct Clrk Pay Encum	128.61	(128.61)	0.00	0
01-5-101-360	Sel - FRCOG Core Assessment	23,889.00	(23,323.75)	565.25	2
01-5-101-361	Sel - FRCOG Statutory Assessment	10,480.00	(10,480.00)	0.00	0
01-5-101-365	Sel - Computer Equip/Software	15,600.00	(15,600.00)	0.00	0
01-5-101-367	Sel - Computer Support	16,000.00	(16,000.00)	0.00	0
01-5-101-368	Sel - Broadband Analysis/Planning	18,500.00	(18,500.00)	0.00	0
01-5-101-370	Sel - FRCOG Fees	100.00	0.00	100.00	100
01-5-101-410	Assessor Stipends	5,100.00	(4,987.89)	112.11	2
01-5-101-411	Assessor Clerical Wage	10,000.00	(8,694.24)	1,305.76	13
01-5-101-412	Assessor Clrk Encumb Pay	238.30	(238.30)	0.00	0
01-5-101-413	Assessor Operations	6,150.00	(6,105.95)	44.05	0
01-5-101-418	Assessor GIS Mapping Project	5,738.78	(174.73)	5,564.05	96
01-5-101-420	Assessor Revaluation/	20 640 70	(0.055.60)	26 202 00	02
01-5-101-421	Property Updates	28,648.70	(2,255.62)	26,393.08	92 18
01-5-101-421	Assessor Full Measure & List Treasurer Stipend	11,475.00 7,000.00	(9,350.00) (7,000.00)	2,125.00 0.00	0
01-5-101-450	Assist. Treasurer Pay	100.00	0.00	100.00	100
01-5-101-460	Tax Collector Stipend	6,384.00	(6,384.00)	0.00	0
01-5-101-610	Town Clerk Stipend	6,384.00	(6,384.00)	0.00	ő
01-5-101-620	Election/Teller Expenses	2,818.86	(2,818.86)	0.00	ő
01-5-101-630	Registrar/Census Compensation	350.00	(350.00)	0.00	Ö
01-5-101-710	Conservation Comm Operations	200.00	(54.00)	146.00	73
01-5-101-750	Planning Board Operations	500.00	(392.51)	107.49	21
01-3-101-751	Planning Board Legal Expenses	2,000.00	(300.00)	1,700.00	85
01-5-101-752	Planning Board Goal Post Operations		(15,640.32)	3,059.68	6
01-5-101-800	Dog Officer Expenses	350.00	0.00	350.00	100
01-5-901-907	Energy Audit	<i>7,</i> 850.00	0.00	7,850.00	100
01-5-901-908	By-Law Printing	6,000.00	0.00	6,000.00	100
01-5-901-917	Soule Senior Center Feasibility Study		0.00	15,000.00	100
01-5-901-918	Energy Program Consultant	8,000.00	(4,625.00)	3,375.00	42
	Total	393,635.97	(307,142.14)	86,493.83	
(2) Public Wo	rks				
01-5-204-220		140,770.12	(138,086.92)	2,683.20	1
01-5-204-221	Hwy - Encumbered Wage	1,560.00	(1,560.00)	0.00	0
01-5-204-222	Hwy - Operations & Maintenance	42,910.88	(42,726.04)	184.84	0
01-5-204-224	Hwy - Fuel for Town Vehicles	32,669.41	(31,468.66)	1,200.75	3
01-5-204-228	Hwy - Road Maint/Reclamation	45,000.00	(45,000.00)	0.00	0
01-5-204-230	Hwy - Annual Projects	30,600.00	(30,463.79)	136.21	0
01-5-204-232	Hwy - Superintendent's Salary	70,409.00	(70,409.00)	0.00	0
01-5-204-237	Insurance Reimb for Property Damage	4,669.41	(4,669.41)	0.00	0

Account No.	Account Name	Budget	Actual	Variance	% Remaining
01-5-204-240	Hwy - Wash Station/				
	Yard Improvements	9,787.07	(2,993.21)	6,793.86	69
01-5-204-242	Hwy - New Garage Roof CSF	10,000.00	0.00	10,000.00	100
01-5-204-244	Hwy - New Tractor CSF	60,000.00	(53,809.12)	<i>6</i> ,190.88	10
01-5-204-250	Hwy - Winter Roads	79,467.82	(79,467.82)	0.00	0
01-5-204-251	Hwy - Winter Rd Overdraft	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
01-5-204-252	Street Lighting	5,000.00	(4,687.27)	312.73	6
01-5-504-910	Cemetery Maintenance	11,000.00	(11,000.00)	0.00	Ő
01-5-504-915	Cemetery Fence Repair	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
01-5-900-100		307.13	(307.13)	0.00	0
	Custodian Wage Encumbered				
01-5-901-901	Mncpl Cntr Custodian Wage	12,000.00	(5,932.27)	6,067.73	50
01-5-901-902	Mncpl Cntr Operations/	22 000 00	(04,005,04)	44476	0
04 5 004 000	Maintenance	22,000.00	(21,885.24)	114.76	0
01-5-901-903	Elevator Maintenance	5,900.00	(5,474.20)	425.80	7
01-5-901-904	Mncpl Center Fuel Oil	6,173.15	(6,169.07)	4.08	0
01-5-901-905	Gracy House Repair/Maintenance	2,000.00	(1,860.23)	139.77	6
01-5-901-906	Beautification Committee	2,000.00	(1,857.61)	142.39	7
01-5-901-912	Dam Maintenance/Repairs	3,000.00	0.00	3,000.00	100
01-5-901-913	Dam Engrg - Mill Pond CSF	9,000.00	(5,150.00)	3,850.00	42
01-5-901-914	Dam Engrg - Pelham Lake CSF	12,000.00	(8,350.00)	3,650.00	30
01-5-901-916	Gracy House/Soule	12,000.00	(0,000.00)	0,000.00	00
01 0 701 710	Barn Improvements	51,401.17	(8,343.68)	43,057.49	83
	Total	669,625.16	(581,670.67)	87,954.49	
(3) Public Saf	etv				
01-5-602-100	Police Chief Stipend	9,044.00	(9,044.00)	0.00	0
01-5-602-100	Police Officer Wages	14,493.00	(11,697.53)		19
				2,795.47	
01-5-602-104	Police Off Encumb Wage	1,315.08	(1,315.08)	0.00	0
01-5-602-105	Police Dept Operations	6,800.00	(4,044.97)	2,755.03	40
01-5-602-200	Fire Chief Stipend	6,384.00	(6,384.00)	0.00	0
01-5-602-201	Fire Officers' Stipends	6,180.00	(6,180.00)	0.00	0
01-5-602-202	Fire Fighters Reimbursements	7,000.00	(6,960.00)	40.00	0
01-5-602-203	Fire Dept Operations	23,500.00	(23,500.00)	0.00	0
01-5-602-204	Fire Extinguisher Testing	4,000.00	(3,864.51)	135.49	3
01-5-602-209	Fire Dept Air Compressor	4,126.33	0.00	4,126.33	100
01-5-602-214	Fire Dept Fire Pond Maintenance	7,621.98	(6,512.86)	1,109.12	14
01-5-602-400	Bldg Inspetor Fees/Reimbursement		(4,407.90)	592.10	11
01-5-602-430	Plumbing/Gas Inspection Programs		(1,288.00)	0.00	0
01-5-602-450	Electrical Inspection Program	1,018.00	(1,018.00)	0.00	Ő
01-5-602-901	Emergency Management	1,000.00	(1,000.00)	0.00	0
01-5-602-910					
	Emergency Notification System	1,000.00	(900.00)	100.00	10
01-5-602-940	Forest Fire Control	100.00	(100.00)	0.00	0
01-5-702-320	EMS Coordinator Stipend	1,859.00	(1,859.00)	0.00	0
01-5-702-321	EMS Operations	3,500.00	(827.18)	2,672.82	76
01-5-702-323	EMS Emergency Personnel	3,800.00	(3,200.00)	600.00	15
01-5-704-310	Fire Dept Haz Mat Control	1,000.00	(1,000.00)	0.00	0
	Total	110,029.39	(95,103.03)	14,926.36	
(4) Health an	d Sanitation				
01-5-602-942	Dutch Elm Disease	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
01-5-602-943	Insect Pest Control	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
01-5-704-312	Hazardous Waste Collection	700.00	(180.00)	520.00	74
01-5-704-330	Refuse Garden Operations	43,887.56	(34,240.98)	9,646.58	21
01-5-704-335	Transfer Station Attendants Wages	13,555.44	(13,539.36)	16.08	0
シェーシー/ ひサーひひひ					
	FCSWMD Assessment (50%)	1,760.00	(1,759.50)	0.50	0
01-5-704-336					
01-5-704-336 01-5-704-337	Attendant Wages Encumb	249.12	(249.12)	0.00	0
01-5-704-336 01-5-704-337 01-5-704-338	Attendant Wages Encumb Recycling Shed Improvements	1,600.00	(1,410.34)	189.66	11
01-5-704-336 01-5-704-337 01-5-704-338 01-5-705-090	Attendant Wages Encumb Recycling Shed Improvements BOH Stipends	1,600.00 4,635.00	(1,410.34) (4,635.00)	189.66 0.00	11 0
01-5-704-336 01-5-704-337 01-5-704-338	Attendant Wages Encumb Recycling Shed Improvements	1,600.00	(1,410.34)	189.66	11

Account No.	Account Name	Budget	Actual	Variance	% Remaining
01-5-705-220	Health Services Salary	41,919.00	(12,285.00)	29,634.00	70
01-5-705-222	Health Services Operation	13,741.00	(13,741.00)	0.00	0
01-5-705-223	Health Services Physician's Stipend	1,000.00	(1,000.00)	0.00	0
	Total	139,547.12	(94,627.72)	44,919.40	
(5) Education			(4.004.00)	0.00	0
01-5-300-001	School Committee Stipends	4,284.00	(4,284.00)	0.00	0
01-5-300-002		1,097,156.00	(1,097,156.00)	0.00	0
01-5-300-003	School Encumbered	68,848.00	(68,848.00)	0.00	0
01-5-300-009	Rowe Schl Capital Improvements_	1,188.73	0.00	1,188.73	100
		1,171,476.73	(1,170,288.00)	1,188.73	
	nd Recreation	20.440.00	(00.064.60)	004.40	4
01-5-306-100	Library Director Wages	20,449.00	(20,064.60)	384.40	1
01-5-306-101	Library Staff Wages	13,275.00	(12,154.39)	1,120.61	8
01-5-306-102	Library Operations	20,122.00	(20,088.54)	33.46	0
01-5-306-103	Library Wages Encumbered	226.20	(226.20)	0.00	0
01-5-306-104	Librarian's Wages Encumbered	412.80	(412.80)	0.00	0
01-5-306-105	Library Operations Encumbered	1,932.20	(1,932.20)	0.00	0
01-5-906-300	Old Home Day	4,000.00	(4,000.00)	0.00	0
01-5-906-305	Old Home Day Fireworks	5,000.00	(5,000.00)	0.00	0
01-5-906-500	Park Wages	38,207.00	(36,927.50)	1,279.50	3
01-5-906-501	Park Wages Encumbered	3,070.00	(3,070.00)	0.00	0
01-5-906-502	Park Operations	22,500.00	(22,144.31)	355.69	1
01-5-906-503	Park Ranger Salary	38 <i>,</i> 563.00	(38,563.00)	0.00	0
01-5-906-504	Park Operations Encumbered	797.50	(797.50)	0.00	0
01-5-906-505	Park Insurance Reimb				
	for Prop Damage	959.00	(959.00)	0.00	0
01-5-906-507	Park Tennis Court Repairs CSF	12,400.00	(3,241.25)	9,158.75	73
01-5-906-516	Park Browning Bench Repairs	3,267.42	0.00	3,267.42	100
01-5-906-517	Park Browning Bench Repairs CS_	5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00	100
	Total	190,181.12	(169,581.29)	20,599.83	
	and Insurance				
01-5-901-900	Bonding & Insurance	45,000.00	(34,599.56)	10,400.44	23
01-5-909-110	County Retirement	104,388.00	(104,388.00)	0.00	0
01-5-909-111	Retirement-Randolph	800.00	(427.33)	372.67	46
01-5-909-130	Unemployment Insurance	1,000.00	(45.11)	954.89	95
01-5-909-140	Group Medical/Medex	300,000.00	(294,147.28)	5,852.72	1
01-5-909-145	FICA/Medicare	33,075.00	(26,425.20)	6,649.80	20
	Total	484,263.00	(460,032.48)	24,230.52	
(8) Veterans	77 A C. 1	500.00	(500.00)	0.00	0
01-5-405-430	Veterans Agent Stipend	500.00	(500.00)	0.00	0
01-5-405-431	Veterans Admin Operations	400.00	(56.26)	343.74	85
01-5-405-432	Veterans Benefits	100.00	0.00	100.00	100
	Total	1,000.00	(556.26)	443.74	
(9) Debt Serv		500.00	(540.75)	10.75	
01-5-807-520	Bank Chrgs & Loan Interest	500.00	(518.75)	-18.75	0
	Total	500.00	(518.75)	-18.75	
(10.3) Transf				_	-
01-5-909-200	Stabilization Appropriation (to)	152,000.00	(152,000.00)	0.00	0
01-5-957-800	Reserve Fund FY2008	7,919.77	0.00	7,919.77	100
	Total	159,919.77	(152,000.00)	7,919.77	
(10.4) State (Charges				
01-5-907-001	State Charges Air Pollution	326.00	(326.00)	0.00	0
01-5-907-002	State Charges Regional Transit	3,085.00	(3,085.00)	0.00	0
, 0, 002		. ,	(-)/		

Account No.	Account Name	Budget	Actual	Variance	% Remaining
01-5-907-003 01-5-907-004 01-5-907-005	State Charges RMV Non-Renew State Charges School Choice State Charges Charter School	al 60.00 10,000.00 0.00	(40.00) 0.00 (21,786.00)	20.00 10,000.00 -21,786.00	33 100 0
	Total	13,471.00	(25,237.00)	-11,766.00	
	GRAND TOTAL	3,333,649.26	(3,056,757.34)	276,891.92	0.1

Ellen L. Babcock Town Accountant

Accountant's Report - Receipts FY2008

Account No.	Account Name	Budget	Actual	Variance	% Remaining
(10.0) Proper	rty Taxes				
01-4-110-000	Personal Property Taxes	1,018,893.24	1,018,897.38	4.14	0
01-4-120-000	Real Estate Taxes	1,706,377.76	1,729,175.52	22,797.76	0
01-4-615-000	Abatements - Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
	Total	2,725,271.00	2,748,072.90	22,801.90	
(10.1) State	Aid				
01-4-611-000	Abatements-Vets,Blind,SS	1,963.00	1,875.00	(88.00)	
01-4-661-000	Lottery Aid	4,903.00	4,903.00	0.00	
01-4-662-000	Add'l Ĺottery Aid	0.00	0.00	0.00	
01-4-663-000	Highway Aid	0.00	0.00	0.00	
01-4-670-000	Chapter 90 Reimbursement	0.00	0.00	0.00	
01-4-680-000	Other State Revenue	0.00	0.00	0.00	
	Total	6,866.00	6,778.00	(88.00)	0
(10.2) Estima	ated Receipts	0,000.00	0,770.00	(00.00)	U
01-4-150-000	Motor Vehicle Excise Revenue	44,000.00	39,585.88	-4,414.12	10
01-4-170-000	Penalty & Int. on Taxes	1,000.00	1,081.10	81.10	0
01-4-172-000	Penalty & Int. MVE	0.00	32.02	32.02	ő
01-4-325-000	Fees - Board of Health	0.00	450.00	450.00	Ö
01-4-330-100	Fees - Town Clerk	0.00	36.60	36.6	0
01-4-330-150	Fees - Police Dept	0.00	0.00	0.00	Ö
01-4-330-155	Fees - Copier/FAX	0.00	448.64	448.64	Ö
01-4-330-160	Fees - Misc	1,500.00	10.00	-1,490.00	99
01-4-330-170	Fees - Sch Music Lessons	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
01-4-330-175	Fees - After Sch Program	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
01-4-330-557	Fees - Pistol Permit (Town)	0.00	712.50	712.5	0
01-4-360-000	Rentals	5,000.00	5,741.71	741.71	0
01-4-369-000	Licenses & Permits	400.00	0.00	-400.00	100
01-4-442-000	Licenses - Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
01-4-445-000	Dog Licenses	0.00	337.00	337.00	0
01-4-450-000	Recycling Revenue	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
01-4-475-000	Election Hours	0.00	240.00	240.00	0
01-4-480-000	In Lieu of Taxes	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
01-4-610-000	Reimb State-Owned Land	2,794.00	2,794.00	0.00	0
01-4-618-000	Medicare Assistance-Sch	0.00	5,386.95	5,386.95	0

Account No.	Account Name	Budget	Actual	Variance	% Remaining
01-4-620-000	School Aid Chapter 70	70,474.00	70,474.00	0.00	0
01-4-621-000	School Transportation	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
01-4-622-000	Charter Sch Ässess Reimb	0.00	19,976.00	19,976.00	0
01-4-685-000	Library Fines	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
01-4-686-000	Park Programs - Fees	500.00	370.00	-130.00	26
01-4-770-000	NSF Fees	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
01-4-772-000	MVE Fines	0.00	155.00	155.00	0
01-4-815-000	Sale of Fixed Assets	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
01-4-822-000	Interest on Checking	18,000.00	14,401.92	-3,598.08	20
01-4-830-000	Refunds Misc	0.00	413.00	413.00	0
01-4-830-050	Refunds/Reimb MIIA	0.00	1,779.35	1,779.35	0
01-4-830-100	Refunds Prior Year	0.00	647.41	647.41	0
01-4-840-000	Misc Revenue	12,660.00	10,009.06	-2,650.94	20
01-4-840-100	Misc Revenue - School	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
	Total	156,328.00	175,082.14	18,754.14	
(10.3) Transf	ers and Other				
01-4-841-000	Free Cash	129,088.82	0.00	129,088.82	100
01-4-842-000 01-4-843-000	Available Funds Encumbrances Available Funds Continuing	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
01 1 0 10 000	Appropriations	161,356.62	0.00	161,356.62	100
01-4-971-000	Trans from Spec Rev Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
01-4-972-000	Trans from Trust Funds	145,400.00	145,400.00	0.00	0
01-4-974-000	Trans Recpts Reserved	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
	Total	435,845.44	145,400.00	290,445.44	
	Grand Total	3,324,310.44	3,075,333.04	-248,977.40	

Ellen L. Babcock Town Accountant

Treasurer's Report

Trust Funds FY2008

Name of Fund	Balance 7/1/07	Transfer In	Interest	Transfer Out	Balance 6/30/08
M. Wells Memorial Library	8,203.94		214.97		8,418.91
Cemetery	20,511.81	1,400.00	545.29	-1,347.00	21,110.10
Rowe Library Gift	399.58		10.47		410.05
Charles Wells Library	3,257.07		85.35		3,342.42
Preserved Smith Library	1,864.46		43.02	-150.00	1,757.48
Gould Library	15,809.75		414.26		16,224.01
Foster Donation	2,917.67		76.44		2,994.11
White Memorial Library	5,143.47		218.35		5,361.82
L. Tower/Jones Library	5,143.47		218.35		5,361.82
Rowe Memorial Scholarship	3,699.03		96.87	-25.00	3,770.90
TOTALS	66,950.25	1,400.00	1,923.37	-1,522.00	68,751.62

Stabilization Fund FY2008

Balance as of June 30, 2008	1,157,017.66	
Interest earned 7/1/06 to 6/30/07	51,918.08	returned to the fund when tax monies were received.
Transfers from General Fund	1,102,000.00	borrowing in anticipation of tax revenues, and was
Transfers to General Fund	(1,100,000.00)	<this (1,100,000.00)="" amount="" internal<="" represents="" td=""></this>
Transfers from Capitalization Stabilization Fund	150,000.00	
Transfers to Capitalization Stabilization Fund	(1,250,000.00)	
Beginning Balance 7/1/2007	2,203,099.58	

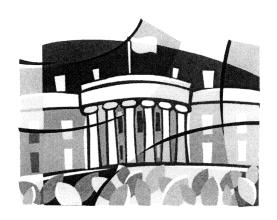
Capital Stabilization Fund FY2008

Transfers from General Fund Transfers to General Fund Interest 9/28/07 to 6/30/2008	150,000.00 (145,000.00) 37,575.91	
Interest 9/28/07 to 6/30/2008 Balance as of June 30, 2008	37,575.91 1,142,175.91	

School Agency Account FY2008

(7,657.27) 10.08
(7,657.27)
8,762.35
1,623.54

Respectfully submitted, Heidi Cousineau , Treasurer



PARTV

Regional Reports

FCCIP (Franklin County Cooperative Inspection Program) Plumbing/Gas Inspector's Report

I have included the Fiscal Year 2008 report at the bottom of this page which reflects plumbing/gas permits and fee activity for all member towns.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind town residents that the Mass State Plumbing & Gas Code and our inspection program are in place for the health and safety protection of all residents. Protection of potable water, proper installation of drainage systems and code compliant gas systems are three major responsibilities of licensed plumbers & plumbing/gas inspectors. After an accident insurance companies may not pay claims if a permit has not been issued for any repairs. Permits shall only be issued to licensed plumbers. You can contact me during office hours on Tuesday & Thursday mornings 7 a.m. - 9 a.m. at 772-2026, ext. 125 or email me at plumbing@frcog.org. You will find permits, fee schedules, and helpful information on our web site at wwww.frcog.org, under Franklin County Cooperative Inspection Program.

Once again, I would like to extend my appreciation to all town officials for your cooperation and assistance during the past year.

Andrew French Plumbing & Gas Inspector

July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008 FISCAL YEAR 2008 REPORT PERMIT FEE RECEIPTS FROM TOWNS

	Reinspection		Total
Towns	Fees	Permits	Fees
Ashfield	0.00	74	6,850.00
Bernardston	30.00	43	4,960.00
Buckland	0.00	45	4,605.00
Charlemont	85.00	28	4,015.00
Conway	30.00	38	3,545.00
Erving	200.00	37	4,005.00
Gill	0.00	46	4,505.00
Hawley	0.00	14	1,805.00
Heath	0.00	25	2,595.00
Leverett	0.00	59	5,280.00
Leyden	10.00	33	2,900.00
Rowe	0.00	9	750.00
Shelburne	10.00	50	5,410.00
Whately	25.00	46	4,965.00
TOTAL:	390.00	547	56,190.00
TOTAL AMO	UNT COLLECTED)	\$ 56,580.00

FCCIP (Franklin County Cooperative Inspection Program) Wiring Inspector's Report

I have included the Fiscal Year 2008 report at the bottom of this letter which reflects wiring permits and fee activity for all member towns.

In 2008 the State was the first to adopt the new electrical code. With the many changes, it took a great amount of time to educate the contractors on the new regulations. This is just another reason to hire a qualified licensed contractor. Also, there are a large number of outside wood boilers being installed without the proper permits. These are required to be wired by a licensed electrician.

If you have any questions I can be reached during normal office hours on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, 7am-9am at 772-2026, ext. 126 or by email at electric@frcog.org. You will find permits, fee schedules, and helpful information on our website at www.frcog.org, under the Franklin County Cooperative Inspection Program.

James Slowinski Wiring Inspector

July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008 FISCAL YEAR 2008 REPORT PERMIT FEE RECEIPTS FROM TOWNS

Towns	Reinspection Fees	Permits	Total Fees
Ashfield	0.00	53	5,570.00
Bernardston	0.00	37	3,700.00
Buckland	0.00	48	4,665.00
Charlemont	0.00	43	4,120.00
Conway	0.00	46	4,685.00
Erving	280.00	41	,265.00
Gill	0.00	27	3,490.00
Hawley	0.00	11	1,220.00
Heath	0.00	24	2,485.00
Leverett	0.00	54	5,465.00
Rowe	0.00	13	1,740.00
Shelburne	200.00	56	4,865.00
Whately	0.00	54	6,560.00
TOTAL	480.00	507	52,830.00

TOTAL AMOUNT COLLECTED

\$ 53,310.00

Annual Report Of The Franklin County Regional Housing And Redevelopment Authority

October 1, 2007 - September 30, 2008

The last year was one of significant growth and many changes for the Franklin County Regional Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA). Perhaps the most significant of these changes was the retirement of Paul Douglas, HRA's executive director. Staff and friends of the HRA and Rural Development, Inc. met at Bella Notte in Bernardston, MA on August 5th to thank Paul for his 33 years of service and to wish him well in the next chapter of his life. Fortunately, during his tenure with HRA, Paul built the organization's capacity so that it could continue to meet its mission after his departure. It has been business as usual while the Boardappointed search committee has conducted a comprehensive search process to find a new executive director. Joanie Bernstein, HRA's assistant executive director, was appointed by the Board of Commissioners to the position of interim executive director until Paul's successor is installed.

Governor Patrick appointed two Franklin County residents to vacant slots on the Board of Commissioners. Jonathan Tuttle of Shutesbury, who has served the Board for many years as an appointee of the Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG), and Leslie McDonough of Buckland, were tapped by the governor to join the Board. Leo Parent of Erving, who just completed a term as a governor's appointee, and Bruce Parkin of Shutesbury, were appointed by the FRCOG. Other Commissioners are: Linda Hoer (Leverett), Sharon Tracy (Orange), Frank Cackowski (South Deerfield), John Murdock (Greenfield), JoAnne Sherburne (Colrain) and Denise DiPaolo (Turners Falls). We are grateful for the enthusiasm, compassion and commitment of our Commissioners, and especially for the extra time they have devoted to the executive director search process.

Accomplishments: Thanks to its supportive Board of Commissioners and dedicated staff, below is a list of some of HRA's accomplishments over the last year.

Areas of Growth:

- Grants totaling \$166,727 were awarded by the Commonwealth's Department of Housing and Community Development to modernize HRA's public housing inventory.
- 25 MA Rental Voucher Program subsidies were returned to HRA to assist low income families to find affordable housing. Of these, 7 were converted to project-based vouchers to assist the Positive Parenting Program, an offshoot of the ARC of Franklin & Hampshire Counties, secure an affordable home for its program.
- Proposals were solicited from area landlords interested in project-basing Section 8 vouchers to stabilize rental properties - 32 units in three properties were awarded youghers
- Athol was added to the list of towns where HRA gives a preference for application to the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher program

- Families relocating to Franklin County as a result of Hurricanes Rita and Katrina were assisted through a FEMA Disaster Housing program administered by HRA
- 2 Section 8 voucher holders purchased homes using their vouchers to pay a portion of their mortgages
- Foreclosure Prevention Counseling program started to assist homeowners facing foreclosure
- Downpayment Assistance program started, offering closing cost grants and post purchase workshops to first time homeowners in Greenfield
- Consulting to other agencies and towns:
 - o Development consultant to Dial Self, Inc. in Greenfield as they seek to convert their office building on Federal Street to 10 enhanced 0-bedroom units for homeless teens.
- o Financial services to Dial Self, Inc. for its Teen Housing development project in Turners Falls.
- o Wrote successful grant application for Dial Self, Inc. and secured a \$400,000 Federal Home Loan Bank grant for the Federal St. project
- o Provided CDBG program and fiscal management training to the Town of Greenfield
- Homeownership Program (Rural Development, Inc.) broke ground on the. Wisdom Way Solar Village -20 near-zero net energy condominiums in Greenfield after being awarded \$2,974,420 in grants and loans.
- Assisted many communities to prepare or update Community Development Statements in order to eligible for Community Development Block Grant funds.
- Created a position of Assistant Director of Finance, as we continue to ensure that the Fiscal Department has the personnel resources to keep track of and account for HRA's programs, which have grown both in number and complexity.
- Created and funded an escrow account for future retirees' health insurance premiums.

HRA's programs and services reached over 5,000 people in Franklin County this year:

- 82 people received \$134,952 from the Rental Assistance for Families in Transition program 7 were homeless, 18 were doubled up with friends or family; and 6 experienced domestic violence or child abuse.
- 3,440 families received information and referral services, attended workshops, and benefited from counseling from the HRA's Housing Consumer Education Center
- 64 homeowners facing foreclosure consulted HRA, and 61 homeowners received one-on-one counseling from HRA's foreclosure expert
- 820 households were able to affordably rent apartments from private landlords using federal Section 8 housing assistance payments totaling \$3,349,686

- 100 first-time homebuyers took classes to prepare them to buy a home.
- 118 households were housed in HRA's state-aided public housing for families, elders and people with disabilities
- 51 elder households found affordable housing at the Shelburne Housing Authority's state-aided public housing, managed by HRA.
- HRA managed rental properties for private owners in Turners Falls, Ashfield and Orange which provided affordable housing to 132 individuals and families.
- 128 homeowners borrowed deferred payment, interest free loans to rehabilitate their homes to code.
- The Dickinson Library in Northfield and the town hail in Leyden were renovated to provide accessibility to handicapped residents
- 243 residents of Orange and Montague benefited from a variety of social service programs supported by federal block grants secured and administered by HRA
- 104 residents of Orange saw infrastructure improvements to streets, sidewalks, drainage, sewer and water lines in their neighborhoods

• 19 women attended Do-It-Yourself Divas workshops - new this year - and received tools, manuals and hands-on instruction in home repair.

HRA moves into the next fiscal year with stable reserves and programs. We are constantly on the lookout for new resources with which to serve the towns and residents of Franklin County and the North Quabbin region, and understand the critical role our agency can play as we prepare for and react to what may be difficult times ahead. For example, our community development department is currently developing a program to assist homeowners to make energy-related improvements to their homes.

HRA is a valuable local resource - please contact us if we can assist your community with its housing or community development needs.

Respectfully submitted, Joan M. Bernstein Interim Executive Director

Franklin County Solid Waste Management District

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

Many people have read news articles about the decline in recycling markets at the end of 2008. Fortunately, most Franklin County towns have long-term contracts with the recycling processing facility. This contract guarantees a minimum base revenue to towns of \$15.67 per ton. When the markets were high in early and mid-2008, towns were also receiving additional market revenue. While that additional revenue is not currently being paid, towns will receive the base payment and will still save money through avoided disposal costs (not sending recyclables to a landfill or incinerator). Despite the downturn in market revenue, District towns collectively received well over \$100,000 for their recyclables in 2008.

In 2008, District towns recycled over 2,500 tons of paper and over 1,200 tons of mixed containers. By diverting a total of 3,700 tons of recyclables from landfills and incineration, District towns collectively saved over \$250,000 in disposal costs.

We continue to work with several schools to improve their recycling program as well as to implement a program to collect food waste for composting. The District also provides hands-on assistance to businesses and institutions that want to recycle or compost their waste.

We increased the number of special events (fairs, races, etc.) that separated recyclables from the trash from 10 in 2007 to 30 in 2008. Organizers of these public events borrowed our specialized recycling bins. Some events have also added bins to collect organic waste for composting.

The Solid Waste District held its annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection in September and its Clean Sweep Collection in October. These events are held at multiple sites in the county and are open to all District residents. We also continue to sell backyard compost bins and blue recycling bins from our office.

If you have questions District about programs, visit our website at www.franklincountywastedistrict.org; call us at 772-2438; or visit us at 50 Miles Street in Greenfield.

Jan Ameen - Executive Director Nathaniel L'Etoile, Northfield - Vice-Chair Becky Jurek, Bernardston – Chair Andrea Donlon, Buckland - Treasurer

Franklin Regional Retirement System

Annual Statement For The Year Ended December 31, 2008 Of The Conditions And Affairs

Organized under the Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to the PUBLIC EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT ADMINISTRATION COMMISSION

Date of Certificate: February 4, 1939 Effective Date: January 1, 1940

Administration Offices located at:

278 Main Street - Suite 311 Greenfield MA 01301

Telephone Number (413) 774-4837

We, the undersigned members of the Franklin Regional Board of Retirement, certify under the penalties of perjury, that we are the official board members of said retirement system, and that on the thirty-first day of December last all of the herein-described assets were the absolute property of said retirement system, free and clear from any liens or claims thereon, except as stated, and the following statements, with the schedules and explanations therein contained, annexed, or referred to, are a full and correct exhibit of all the assets, liabilities, income and disbursements, changes in fund balances and of the conditions and affairs of the said retirement system on the said thirty-first day of December last, and for the year ended on that date, according to the best of our information, knowledge and belief, respectively.

BOARD OF RETIREMENT

SANDRA R. HANKS

1st Member - Chair/Treasurer

HERBERT L. SANDERSON

2nd Member Appointed by Advisory Council -

Term Expires December 31, 2014 Term Expires December 31, 2009

MARY A. STOKARSKI DAVID R. GENDRON
3rd Elected Member 4th Elected Member

Term Expires December 31, 2011 Term Expires December 31, 2010

PAUL J. MOKRZECKI 5th Appointed Member Term Expires June 30, 2010

INVESTMENT MANAGERS

Daruma Asset Management, Inc.
80 West 40th Street, 9th Floor
84 State Street, Suite 250

New York, NY 10018 Boston MA 02109

Rothschild Asset Management Inc.

1251 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10020

Prudential Investment Management
8 Campus Drive
Parsippany NJ 07054

Income Research & Management Rhumbline Advisors 30 Rowe's Wharf, Suite 350

Boston MA 02110 Boston MA 02110

INVESTMENT CONSULTANT Dahab Associates, 450 Washington St, Dedham, MA

CUSTODIAN State Street Bank, 1200 Crown Colony Drive, Quincy MA

Annual Statement of the Franklin Regional Retirement System for the Year Ended December 31, 2008

ASSETS & LIABILITIES

			2008	2007	2006
1	1040	Cash	\$2,018,469.98	\$1,663,315.54	\$1,452,902.52
3	1180	Fixed Income Securities		0.00	0.00
4	1170	Equities (at market value)	7,355,697.59	11,134,539.73	9,765,996.26
6	1172	Pooled Domestic Equity Funds	4,037,845.62	5,561,288.13	5,265,959.35
7	1173	Pooled International Equity Funds		0.00	0.00
9	1181	Pooled Domestic Fixed Income Funds	8,937,352.66	9,763,998.77	8,417,154.48
13	1194	Pooled Real Estate Funds	3,535,008.44	4,061,779.57	3,456,279.76
17	1199	PRIT Fund	33,492,695.45	47,236,061.10	42,558,456.33
18	1550	Interest Due and Accrued	129.63	3,074.28	3,681.45
19	1398	Accounts Receivable (A)	1,021,557.97	1,257,830.46	1,606,869.39
20	2020	Accounts Payable (A)	(67,880.40)	(84,229.83)	(62,161.72)
		Total	60,330,876.94	80,597,657.75	72,465,137.82
Fun	ds:				
1	3293	Annuity Savings Fund	23,444,974.02	22,343,591.37	21,156,127.52
2	3294	Annuity Reserve Fund	5,820,678.55	5,291,941.86	5,139,745.79
3	3295	Military Service Fund	1,785.87	1,776.99	1,745.38
4	3296	Pension Fund	5,828,478.33	6,068,968.25	6,977,026.34
6	3297	Pension Reserve Fund	25,234,960.17	46,891,379.28	39,190,492.79
		Total Assets at Market Value	60,330,876.94	80,597,657.75	72,465,137.82

Annual Statement of the Franklin Regional Retirement System for the Year Ended December 31, 2008

RECEIPTS

	_	2008	2007	2006
1 Annu	ity Savings Fund:			
(a)	4891-Members Deductions	\$2,722,284.54	\$2,564,465.43	\$2,428,874.81
(b)	4892-Transfers From Other Systems	204,089.85	132,681.85	291,666.31
(c)	4893-Member Make Up Payments and Redeposits	35,412.82	38,853.24	41,687.44
(d)	4900-Member Payments from Rollovers	21,355.64	0.00	0.00
(e)	Investment Income Credited to Members Accounts	129,114.71	122,226.67	115,391.71
	Subtotal	3,112,257.56	2,858,227.19	2,877,620.27
2 Annu	ity Reserve Fund			
(a)	Investment Income Credited to Annuity Reserve Fund	159,920.82	155,589.25	149,940.46
	Subtotal	\$159,920.82	\$155,589.25	\$149,940.46
		# 2)2	4)	# ·- · · · /-
	on Fund			
(a)	4898-3(8)(c) Reimbursements From Other Systems	225,050.87	206,265.28	174,029.87
(b)	4899-Received From Commonwealth for COLA and Survivor Benefits	111,752.16	119,930.75	95,540.97
(c)	4894-Pension Fund Appropriation	3,779,153.00	3,632,343.00	4,295,275.00
(d)	4840 -Workers' Compensation Settlements	5,040.00		
	Subtotal	4,120,996.03	3,958,539.03	4,564,845.84
4 Milita	ary Service Fund			
(a)	4890-Contribution Received from			
	Municipality Investment Income Credited to	0.00	0.00	0.00
(b)	Military Service Fund	8.88	31.61	0.00
	Subtotal	8.88	31.61	0.00
5 Expe	nse Fund			
	4896-Expense Fund Appropriation Investment Income Credited to	0.00	0.00	0.00
(0)	Expense Fund	785,106.21	764,119.16	707,460.06
	Subtotal	785,106.21	764,119.16	707,460.06
6 Pensi	on Reserve Fund			
(a)	4897-Federal Grant Reimbursement	0.00	0.00	0.00
(b)	4895-Pension Reserve Appropriation	866,309.00	854,903.00	
(c)	4822-Interest Not Refunded	7,099.77	4,135.27	7,751.19
(d)	4825-Miscellaneous Income	2,556.83	7,740.00	5,721.34
(e)	Excess Investment Income	-22,532,551.79	6,829,979.92	7,235,387.10
	Subtotal	-21,656,586.19	7,696,758.19	7,248,859.63
то	TAL RECEIPTS	-13,478,296.69	15,433,264.43	15,548,726.26

Annual Statement of the Franklin Regional Retirement System for the Year Ended December 31, 2008

DISBURSEMENTS

			2008	2007	2006
1	Annu	ity Savings Fund:			
	(a)	5757-Refunds to Members	\$387,597.96	\$407,014.53	\$360,443.53
	(b)	5756-Transfers to Other Systems	\$451,161.61	\$534,412.54	\$457,217.42
	, ,	Subtotal	\$838,759.57	\$941,427.07	\$817,660.95
2	Anı	nuity Reserve Fund:			
	(a)	5750-Annuities Paid	\$777,444.77	\$711,520.71	\$663,983.65
	(b)	5759-Option B Refunds	\$25,687.62	\$16,075.07	\$0.00
		Subtotal	\$803,132.39	\$727,595.78	\$663,983.65
3	Pensio	on Fund:			
	(a)	5751-Pensions Paid Regular Pension Payments Survivorship Payments Ordinary Disability Payments Accidental Disability Payments Accidental Death Payments Section 101 Benefits	\$3,325,453.78 \$150,347.79 \$16,094.61 \$274,037.91 \$54,821.10	\$3,094,065.05 \$154,345.61 \$13,170.78 \$240,805.76 \$53,438.28	\$2,924,660.82 \$156,938.27 \$12,728.64 \$245,194.15 \$52,064.28
	(b)	5755-3(8)(c) Reimbursements to	#440.0E2.00*	#1 10E 041 07	#100 470 10
	(-)	Other Systems	\$448,852.99*	\$1,195,041.97	\$193,470.10
	(c) (d)	5752-COLA's Paid	\$91,877.77 Paid 0.00	\$116,735.04 0.00	\$131,284.90 0.00
	(u)	5753-Chapter 389 Beneficiary Increase F	\$4,361,485.95	\$4,867,602.49	\$3,716,341.16
4	Milita	ry Service Fund:	, .,,	" -, ,) ,
•	(a)	4890-Return to Municipality for Members who withdrew their funds	0.00	0.00	0.00
		Subtotal			
5	Expen	se Fund:			
	(a)	5118-Board Member Stipend	\$17,000.00	\$15,749.94	\$15,000.00
	(b)	5119-Salaries	\$220,594.21	\$181,585.60	\$186,352.12
	(c)	5304-Management Fees	\$375,395.87	\$412,645.66	\$302,581.26
	(d)	5305-Custodial Fees	\$16,774.17	\$13,330.67	\$4,000.00
	(e)	5307-Consultant Fees	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$25,000.00
	(f)	5308-Legal Expenses	\$23,760.00	\$17,015.00	\$21,748.37
	(g)	5309-Medical Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	(h)	5310-Fiduciary Insurance	\$8,469.00	\$8,208.00	\$7,499.06
	(i)	5311-Service Contracts	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	(j)	5312-Rent	\$10,500.00	\$10,500.00	\$10,500.00
	(k)	5589-Administrative Expenses	\$61,360.82	\$74,518.75	\$127,819.70
	(1)	5599-Furniture and Equipment	\$26,865.35	\$8,345.49	\$4,867.50
	(m)	5719-Travel	\$4,386.79	\$2,220.05	\$2,092.05
	•	Subtotal	\$785,106.21	\$764,119.16	\$707,460.06
		TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$6,788,484.12	\$7,300,744.50	\$5,905,445.82

Annual Statement of the Franklin Regional Retirement System for the Year Ended December 31, 2008

INVESTMENT INCOME

		2008	2007	2006
Investm	ent Income Received From:			
(a)	Cash (from Schedule 1)	\$30,274.50	\$88,242.89	\$143,517.08
(b)	Short Term Investments (from Schedule 2)	0.00	0.00	0.00
(c)	Fixed Income Securities (from Schedules 3A and 3C)	0.00	0.00	0.00
(d)	Equities (from schedules 4A and 4C)	98,353.42	85,680.66	97,292.02
(e)	Pooled Funds (from Schedule 5)	1,659,455.90	1,710,299.82	946,001.16
(f)	Commission Recapture		0.00	0.00
482	1- TOTAL INVESTMENT INCOME	\$1,788,083.82	1,884,223.37	1,186,810.26
Plus:				
488	4-Realized Gains (Profits)	990,448.76	4,361,827.69	2,235,021.76
	6-Unrealized Gains (Incr. in Market Value) 0-Interest Due and Accrued-	3,981,652.07	7,038,535.38	6,911,430.50
	O-Interest Due and Accided- Current Year	129.63	3,074.28	3,681.45
		4,972,230.46	11,403,437.35	9,150,133.71
Less:				
	3-Paid Accrued Interest on Fixed	0.00	0.00	0.00
	ncome Securites	0.00	0.00	0.00
	5-Realized Losses	(4,481,173.10)	(484,506.73)	(423,147.59)
7	7-Unrealized Losses (Decrease in Market Value)	(23,734,468.07)	(4,927,525.93)	(1,705,617.05)
	0-Interest Due and Accrued-			
P	rior Year	(3,074.28)	(3,681.45)	0.00
NE	T INVESTMENT INCOME	(21,458,401.17)	7,871,946.61	8,208,179.33
Inc	ome Required:			
	Annuity Savings Fund (From supplementary schedule)	129,114.71	122,226.67	115,391.71
	Annuity Reserve Fund	159,920.82	155,589.25	149,940.46
	Expense Fund	785,106.21	764,119.16	707,460.06
	Military Service Fund	8.88	31.61	0.00
	TOTAL INCOME REQUIRED	1,074,150.62	1,041,966.69	972,792.23
	Net Investment Income	-21,458,401.17	7,871,946.61	8,208,179.33
	Less Income Required:	(1,074,150.62)	(1,041,966.69)	(972,792.23)
	EXCESS INCOME TO PENSION RESERVE FUND	-22,532,551.79	6,829,979.92	\$7,235,387.10

Mohawk Area Public Health Coalition (MAPHCO)

The Mohawk Area Public Health Coalition (MAPHCO) is a regional coalition that represents the Boards of Health (BOH) from the following towns: Ashfield, Buckland, Bernardston, Charlemont, Colrain, Conway, Deerfield, Erving, Gill, Goshen, Greenfield, Hawley, Heath, Leverett, Leyden, Monroe, Montague, Northfield, Rowe, Shelburne, Shutesbury, Sunderland, Warwick, Whately, Williamsburg, and Wendell.

This coalition is responsible for public health emergency planning as mandated by the State Department of Public Health, and members work collaboratively to enhance communities' collective capacity to share resources and respond to public health threats and emergencies including terrorism and outbreaks of infectious diseases.

Oversight

An elected Steering Committee is the governing body that guides the work of MAPHCO and the Franklin Regional Council of Governments is the Host Agency serving as the Coalition's fiscal and administrative agent.

Currently the Steering Committee is comprised of the following selected representatives according to the following population districts:

Population 0-1,000: Rowe, Hawley, Heath, Monroe, Warwick, Leyden, Goshen, and Wendell

• Dawn Peters (Resigned 2008)

Population 1,001–2,000: Charlemont, Gill, Erving, Whately, Leverett, Ashfield, Conway, Shutesbury, Colrain, and Buckland

- Dave Chichester
- Carolyn Ness
- Bill Elliott (Co-Chair)
- Ruth Cannavo (Resigned mid-2008)

Population 2,001-7,000: Sunderland, Shelburne, Bernardston, Williamsburg, Northfield, and Deerfield

- Jon Pineo
- Donna Gibson

Population 7,001 or more: Greenfield and Montague

- Nicole Zabko
- Chris Boutwell (Co-Chair)
- Gina McNeely

EDS Organization

MAPCHO is organized into eight Emergency Dispensing Site Districts (EDS). An EDS is a location where mass vaccinations can be provided in the event of an outbreak or flu pandemic. Each district has a designated Emergency Dispensing Sites; this is where the Strategic National Stockpile system will deliver any medication:

District Name	Cities and Towns	EDS Location
Hawlemont	Towns of Charlemont, Hawley, Heath, Monroe,	
	and Rowe	Hawlemont School
Mohawk	Towns of Ashfield, Buckland,	
	Colrain, Shelburne	Mohawk High School
Pioneer	Town of Bernardston, Leyden,	
	Northfield, Warwick	Pioneer High School
Greenfield	City of Greenfield	Greenfield Middle/ High School
Montague	Towns of Erving, Gill,	O .
•	Montague, Wendell	Montague High School
Frontier	Towns of Conway,	
	Deerfield, Sunderland,	
	Whately	Frontier High School
Leverett & Shutesbury	Towns of Leverett and	Trontier ringin benioor
,	Shutesbury	Leverett Elementary School
Williamsburg & Goshen	Towns of Williamsburg	
5	and Goshen	Dunphy Elementary School

Exercises and EDS Planning

The Mohawk Area Public Health Coalition represents 64,671 people across the Pioneer Valley. In 2008, it served more than 78 percent of its residents with its planning and exercise program. This work was funded primarily by grant funds distributed through the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, but because these events were fully compliant with all applicable State and Federal guidelines, including the Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP), MAPHCO secured more than \$22,000 in additional funding from the Department of Homeland Security, for its efforts.

- Frontier (Conway, Deerfield, Sunderland, and Whately representing 18 percent of the region's population) was the most active district in the Franklin Region. The Towns of Conway and Sunderland ran full-scale Door2Door Exercises demonstrating that they could each serve more than 80 percent of their communities in a 12-hour period, while the Town of Deerfield developed a scaled down "test," delivering only to a select set of neighborhoods. Deerfield also ran a traditional EDS exercise, held in conjunction with a flu-clinic distributing nearly 900 vaccines to a wide cross section of its residents. The Town of Whately has an exercise scheduled for early 2009. The Town of Deerfield also executed an alert/call-down drill using CDC metrics, and participated in the first (anticipated) quarterly test of the HHAN network.
- Montague (Montague, Wendell, Erving, and Gill, representing 19 percent of the region's population) served more than 250 residents using a flu vaccine clinic to test its EDS plans.
- The <u>Town of Shutesbury</u> (representing two percent of the region's population) distributed vaccinations in its own EDS exercise and flu clinic.
- The <u>City of Greenfield</u> (representing 28 percent of the region's population) facilitated five workshops to update its EDS plan and prepare for a series of exercises in 2009.

- <u>Williamsburg and Goshen</u> (representing five percent of the region's population) are drafting an updated EDS plan as well with publication set for 2009.
- <u>Hawlemont</u> (Charlemont, Hawley, Rowe, Monroe, and Heath, representing four percent of the region's population) renewed its EDS planning with a "Jump-Start" program that convened its planning team and established a timeline for publication.

MAPHCO also participated in a regional public health emergency communications drill. This drill involved all the Public Health Coalitions in the four counties of Western Massachusetts and tested 24/7 communication systems.

Conferences and Training

During FY '08, MAPHCO members had the opportunity to attend multiple conferences and training events. In addition to Incident Command System (ICS) and National Incident Management System (NIMS) training, members attended training on:

- Public Information Officer (PIO) (sponsored by FRCOG with an eye toward building a regional crisis communications plan)
- The Strategic National Stockpile
- Infectious disease reporting (MAVEN)
- American Red Cross sheltering
- The Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP)

Additionally, MAPHCO staff presented different components of the Region's preparedness program at regional and national conferences.

Supplies and Equipment

In 2008, MAPHCO awarded more than \$26,000 in minigrants to its member cities and towns to enhance local public health capacity. Award amounts were based on population size. Projects ranged from technology purchases to hiring part-time public health nurses:

Ashfield	\$ 881.39	VHF Radios
Bernardston	\$ 920.44	Laptop computer
Buckland	\$ 921.86	VHF Radios
Colrain	\$ 884.15	Internet Service
Conway	\$ 883.30	Connect-CTY
Deerfield	\$1,506.45	"Crank" FM radios
Erving	\$ 810.83	EDS supplies
Gill	\$ 788.80	Laptop computer
Greenfield	\$4,349.51	Temporary Public Health Nurse
Hawley	\$ 571.19	Internet Service
Heath	\$ 670.57	Internet Service
Leverett	\$ 852.36	Laptop computer
Montague	\$2,298.68	Temporary Public Health Nurse
Northfield	\$1,125.27	Software and Internet Service
Shelburne	\$ 766.55	ICS Vests & HazMat Suits
Shutesbury	\$ 883.51	Hand-held scanner and computer
Sunderland	\$1,300.29	Connect-CTY
Wendell	\$ 708.92	Emergency (med and non-med) supplies
Whately	\$ 833.29	EDS Supplies
Williamsburg	\$1,015.73	"Crank" FM radios and water filters

Planning for Vulnerable Populations

Under funding provided by the National Association of City and County health Officials (NACCHO) and now the Western Massachusetts Homeland Security Advisory Council, the Coalition continued its Vulnerable Populations Emergency Preparedness Project. This project includes the development of a database of service agencies with can assist individuals requiring special assistance during times of emergencies, and develops/conducts personal preparedness trainings for service agency staff and consumers, as well as developing a training curriculum to educate emergency responders on the specific needs of differing populations.

Franklin County Regional Emergency Planning Committee (REPC)

A Franklin County LEPC was formed to enhance cooperative regional emergency planning, and address the Fèderal SARA Title III requirement that all communities have active Local Emergency Planning Committees, procedures to deal with hazardous materials ("hazmat") emergencies, meet right-to-know requirements, and encourage community awareness. In 2000, under the leadership and administrative support of the Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG), all 26 Franklin County towns opted into this regional committee and elected an "all hazards" approach to emergency planning. This approach addresses planning for hazmat emergencies as well as other natural, technological, and man-made events that call for a similar inter-town, inter-disciplinary response.

Since that time the Committee developed a Regional Hazardous Materials Emergency Plan (HMEP) which is a planning and guidance document that provides resources and recommendations for the development of individual community response plans. In addition, it established several subcommittees (including a Planning, Industry, and Training Subcommittee), elected an Executive Committee, and began to conduct regular meetings. The Committee provided trainings and exercises to emergency responders and local community leaders throughout Franklin County to meet local and state training requirements. These efforts resulted in the Committee being recognized by the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) and becoming a fully-certified Regional Emergency Planning Committee (REPC) in 2006.

The Franklin County REPC remains the largest of 23 REPCs in the Commonwealth. During 2008, the Committee continued its mandated activities:

- 1. Reviewing and Updating the HMEP annually.
- 2. Training emergency responders.
- 3. Exercising response plans.
- 4. Creating a system to collect, store and respond to public requests.

With the assistance of FRCOG, the committee Collected and recorded Tier II Hazardous Material data updates from 57 sites in Franklin County. Under the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act (EPCRA) facilities using, storing or manufacturing more than a certain amount of hazardous chemicals on-site at any time during a reporting year, are required to submit reports on their chemical inventories to state and local authorities.

Additionally, the Committee:

- Conducted trainings for local first responders, including a class on Hazardous Materials Awareness and four Incident Command System 100/700 classes.
- Purchased and distributed ICS Field Operations Guides and laminated Emergency Response Planning Maps to all member communities.

- Purchased digital aerial photography and mapping software and initiated a training program for all member cities and towns for use in emergency planning and response.
- Collected and recorded Tier II Hazardous Material data updates from 57 sites in Franklin County.
- Applied for, secured, and administered a Homeland Security grant of \$62,566 to aid two communities in updating generators and radio systems.

Lastly, the REPC, the FRCOG, and the Franklin County Solid Waste Management District, developed a Disaster Debris Planning Document with funding from the United States Department of Agriculture.

Your REPC membership currently consists of the following individuals who represent fourteen disciplines:

Fire Service: Walter Tibbits (Franklin

County Fire Chiefs)

Law Enforcement: Gary Sibilia (Franklin

County Police Chiefs)

Emergency Medical Services: Dave Hansen (Franklin

County EMS)

Board of Health: Dave Chichester/

Gina McNeeley (Mohawk Area Public Health Coali-

tion)

Hospitals: Fred Callahan (Franklin

Medical Center)

Transportation: Tina Cote (Franklin

Regional Transit Authority)

Media: George Claxton (The

Recorder)

Emergency Management: John Bartus (Town of

Orange)

Public Works: [Open]

Community Groups: Dawn Josefski (Franklin

County CERT Team)

Environmental: John Bourcier (MA Depart

ment of Environmental

Protection)

Elected Officials: Mark Gilmore (Town of

Deerfield)

Industry: Jim Field (University of

Massachusetts)

Schools: [Open]

In addition each of the member communities has designated an Emergency Response Coordinator who is the contact between the REPC and their town:

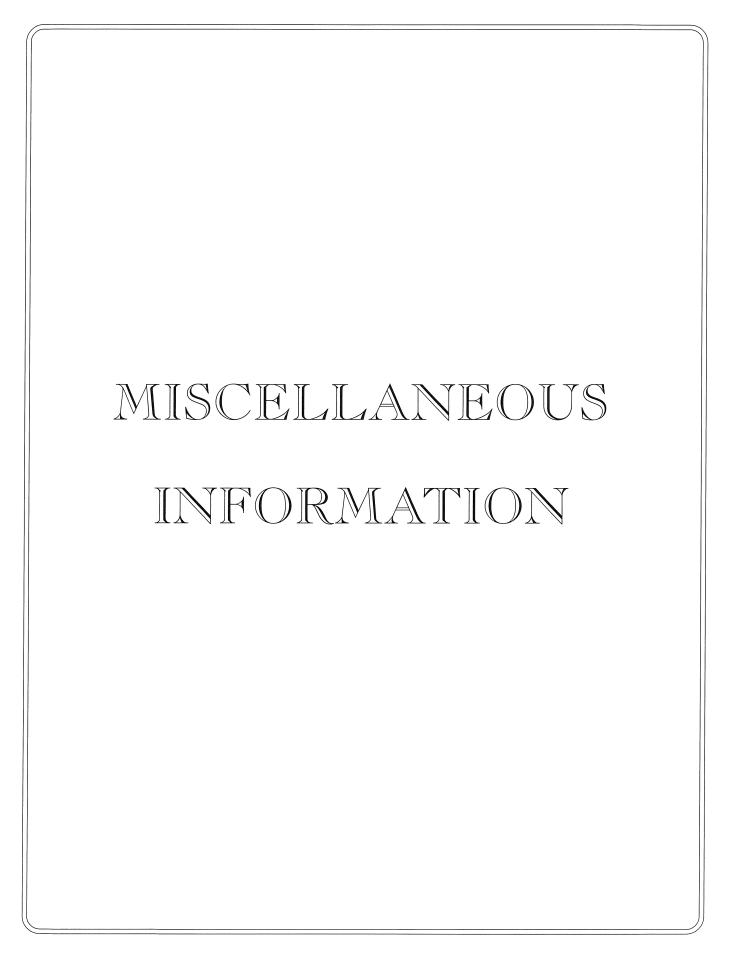
Ashfield:

Bernardston: Buckland: Doug Field Peter Shedd [unknown]

Charlemont: Charles Bellows Colrain: Scott Sullivan Conway: Robert Baker Deerfield: Mark Gilmore Erving: Mitchell LeClaire Gill: Joseph Elliott Greenfield: Michael Winn Hawley: Greg Cox Tim Lively Heath: Leverett: James Field Gilda Galvis Leyden: David Nash Monroe:: Bob Escott Montague: New Salem: Thomas Reidy Northfield: Scott Minckler Orange: Dennis Annear Rowe: Edwin May

Shelburne: Angus Dun III
Shutesbury: Walter Tibbits
Sunderland: Robert Ahearn
Warwick: Donald Matthews
Wendell: Everett Ricketts
Whately: Lynn Sibley

John Taylor (Shelburne), Chair Mark Gilmore (Deerfield), Vice Chair Lynn Sibley (Whately), Secretary Patricia Auchard (Greenfield), Treasurer John Bartus (Orange), Executive Comm Jim Field (Leverett), Executive Comm Michael Winn (Greenfield), Executive Comm



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