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At Your Service

TOWN OF AMHERST DEPARTMENTS AND SERVICES

In Case of Emergency CALL 911 for Fire, Police, or Ambulance

Accounting	259-3026
Aging Services	259-3060
Ambulance-Emergencies Only	911
Animal Welfare Officer	478-7084
Assessments	259-3024
Building Permits, Inspections	259-3030
Cherry Hill Golf Course	256-4071
Community Services Depart	259-3074
Conservation Services	259-3045
Council on Aging	259-3060
Design Review Board	259-3040
Engineering	259-3050
Finance Director	259-3287
Fire Department--	
..... To Report a Fire	911
..... Other Business	259-3082
General Information	259-3002
Health Board, Health Dept	259-3077
Highways, Water, Sewer, Trees	259-3050
Housing Planner	259-3322
Housing Authority	256-0206
Human Resources	259-3009
Human Rights	259-3079
Information Technology	259-3098
Leisure Services	259-3065
Libraries: Hours and events	259-3090
Jones Library	259-3090
Munson Library	259-3095
North Amherst Library	259-3099
English as a Second Language	259-3093
Licenses	259-3035
Maintenance	259-3039
Parks, Playgrounds, Pools	259-3065
Planning Department/Board	259-3040
Police Department:	259-3000
Chief of Police	259-3014
Detective Bureau	259-3015
Records Bureau	259-3016
Rape Hotline	259-3011
Public Works Department	259-3050
Recreation Department	259-3065
Recycling	259-3050
Redevelopment Authority	259-3040
Refuse Collection	259-3050
Schools:	
..... Administration	362-1810
..... Crocker Farm	362-1600
..... Fort River	253-9731
..... Mark's Meadow	549-1507
..... Wildwood	362-1400
..... Regional High	362-1700
..... Regional Middle	362-1850
Select Board	259-3001
Senior Center	259-3060
Town Clerk	259-3035
Town Manager	259-3002
Treasurer/Collector	259-3020
Veterans' Services	259-3028
Vital Statistics and Records	259-3035
Voting, Registration	259-3035
Wastewater Treatment Plant	259-3050
Weights and Measures	259-3030
Wiring Permits	259-3030
Zoning Permits	259-3030

DEPARTMENT E-MAIL ADDRESSES

Name	E-mail Addresses
Accounting	accounting@amherstma.gov
Assessor's Office	assessors@amherstma.gov
Collector/Treasurer	collector@amherstma.gov
Council on Aging/Senior Center	seniorcenter@amherstma.gov
Conservation	conservation@amherstma.gov
Fire Department	fire@amherstma.gov
Health Department	health@amherstma.gov
Human Resources	humanresources@amherstma.gov
Human Rights	humanrights@amherstma.gov
Information Technology	info@amherstma.gov
Inspection Services	inspections@amherstma.gov
Leisure Services	lsse@amherstma.gov
Maintenance	maintenance@amherstma.gov
Parking	police@amherstma.gov
Planning	planning@amherstma.gov
Police	police@amherstma.gov
Public Works	publicworks@amherstma.gov
Select Board	selectboard@amherstma.gov
Town Clerk	townclerk@amherstma.gov
Town Manager	townmanager@amherstma.gov
Veterans' Services	veterans@amherstsma.gov

AMHERST LEGISLATORS
AND FACTS 2015

U.S. SENATOR
Elizabeth Warren
317 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
Phone: (202) 224-4543

U.S. SENATOR
Ed Markey
218 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
Phone: (202) 224-2742

U.S. REPRESENTATIVE 2nd District
James P. McGovern
438 Cannon HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515
Phone: (202--225-5759

STATE SENATOR
Stanley C. Rosenberg
(Hampshire and Franklin District)
Room 320, State House
Boston, MA 02133
Phone: (617)722-1532

STATE REPRESENTATIVE
Ellen Story
(3rd Hampshire District)
Room 167, State House
Boston, MA 02133
Phone: (617)722-2012

FY 15 TAX RATE: $20.54/$1,000.00

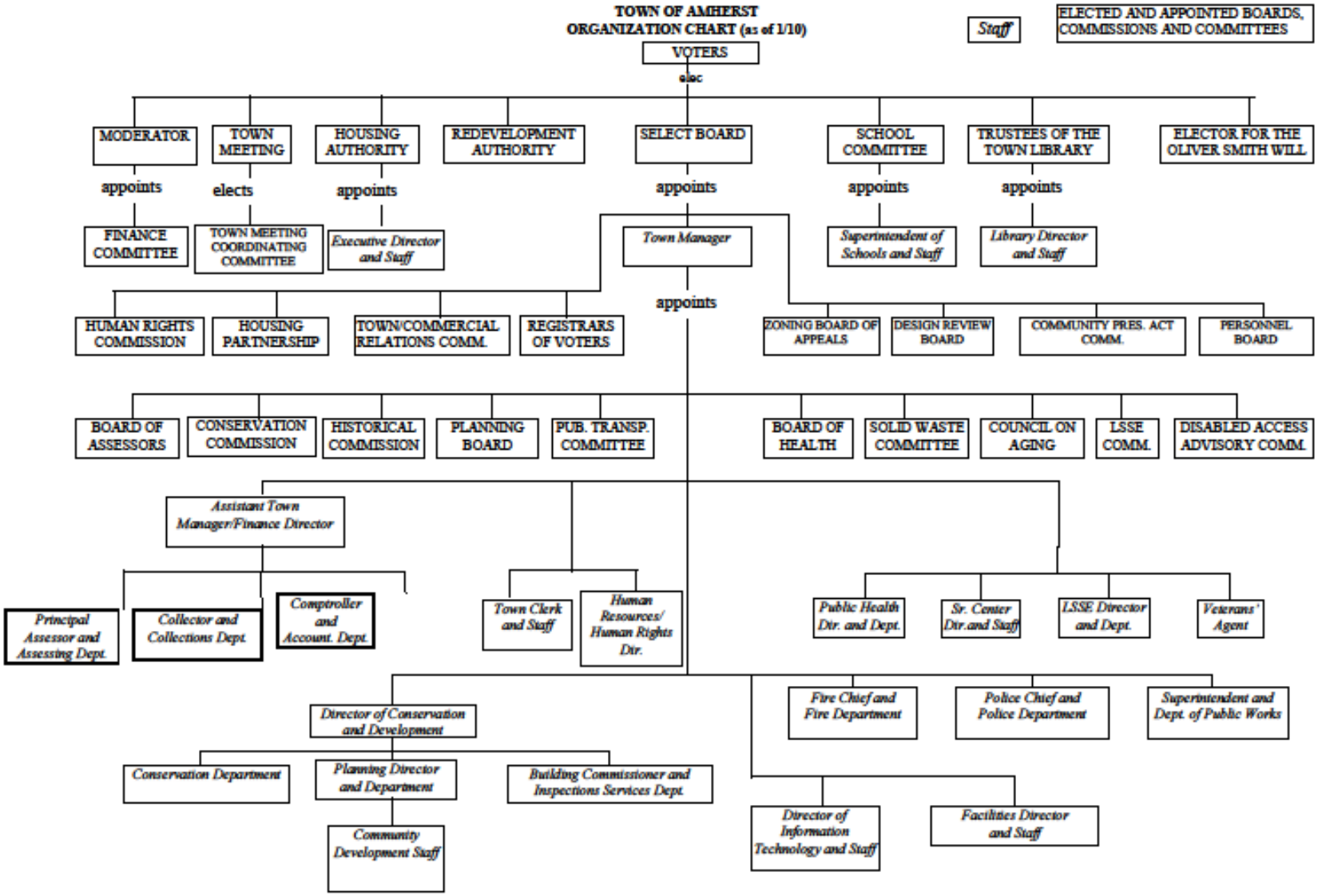
AREA 27.79 square miles

ELEVATION – 313 feet above sea level at Town Hall

LOCATION
Geodetic position of Town Hall:
Latitude – 42 degrees 22'00"
Longitude – 72 degrees 30'30"

ROAD MILEAGE
137.30 Miles
(not including state highways - 105.56 Miles)

POPULATION – 37,819 (source: 2010 Federal Census)


TOWN OF AMHERST
ORGANIZATION CHART (as of 1/10)
Staff
ELECTED AND APPOINTED BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES
VOTERS
elec
MODERATOR
TOWN MEETING
HOUSING AUTHORITY
REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
SELECT BOARD
SCHOOL COMMITTEE
TRUSTEES OF THE TOWN LIBRARY
ELECTOR FOR THE OLIVER SMITH WILL
appoints
elects
appoints
appoints
appoints
appoints
FINANCE COMMITTEE
TOWN MEETING COORDINATING COMMITTEE
Executive Director and Staff
Town Manager
Superintendent of Schools and Staff
Library Director and Staff
appoints
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
HOUSING PARTNERSHIP
TOWN/COMMERCIAL RELATIONS COMM.
REGISTRARS OF VOTERS
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
DESIGN REVIEW BOARD
COMMUNITY PRES. ACT COMM.
PERSONNEL BOARD
BOARD OF ASSESSORS
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
HISTORICAL COMMISSION
PLANNING BOARD
PUB. TRANSP. COMMITTEE
BOARD OF HEALTH
SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE
COUNCIL ON AGING
LSSE COMM.
DISABLED ACCESS ADVISORY COMM.
Assistant Town Manager/Finance Director
Principal Assessor and Assessing Dept.
Collector and Collections Dept.
Comptroller and Account. Dept.
Town Clerk and Staff
Human Resources/ Human Rights Dir.
Public Health Dir. and Dept.
Sr. Center Dir.and Staff
LSSE Director and Dept.
Veterans' Agent
Director of Conservation and Development
Fire Chief and Fire Department
Police Chief and Police Department
Superintendent and Dept. of Public Works
Conservation Department
Planning Director and Department
Building Commissioner and Inspections Services Dept.
Community Development Staff
Director of Information Technology and Staff
Facilities Director and Staff

APPOINTED MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES
FY 2015

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

TOWN MANAGER

John P. Musante★	Town Manager
Puppel, Debra A.	Asst. to the Town Manager
Moyston, Jennifer	Administrative Assistant
Zlogar, Kay	Trust Manager/Labor Relations

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Sanford Pooler	Finance Director

ACCOUNTING

Sonia R. Aldrich	Comptroller
Bowser, Holly M.	Asst. to the Comptroller
Fleurent, Theresa M.	Payroll & Benefits Coordinator
Littman, Kim M.	Customer Service Assistant II

TREASURER/COLLECTOR

Claire E. McGinnis	Collector
Boucher, Cheryl A.	Asst. Treasurer
LaFountain, Jennifer T.★★	Asst. Collector
Cary, Cynthia A	Customer Service Assistant II
Goodhind, Susan E	Customer Service Assistant II
Ricker-Horton, Melissa A.	Customer Service Assistant II

ASSESSORS

David W. Burgess	Principal Assessor
Bouthilette-Sarna, Theresa	Administrative Assistant
Turati, Lori J.	Administrative Assistant

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES

*Kristopher J. Pacunas, Sr.	Director
Hannon, Sean P.	Interim Director
Olkin, Michael D.★	GIS Administrator
Racca, Maria C.	Financial Analyst
Glover, William P.★	Network Systems Analyst
Dudkiewicz, Richard T.★★	Network Systems Specialist
Owen, Gabriel	Information Systems Specialist

HUMAN RIGHTS & RESOURCES

Deborah B. Radway	Director

TOWN CLERK

Sandra J. Burgess	Town Clerk
Audette, Susan	Asst. Town Clerk
+Olanyk, Patricia J.	Customer Service Assistant II

PUBLIC SAFETY

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Walter "Tim" Nelson	Chief
Stromgren, Lindsay E.	Assistant Chief
McKay, Donald R.★★★★★★	Assistant Chief
Gordon, Deborah A.	Administrative Assistant

Captains

Dunn, William T.	Goodhind, Timothy S.
Ingram, John S.	Miner, David P.
Olmstead, Jeffrey D.★★★	Sterling, Brian C.
Tebo, Lawrence	Theilman, Paul

Firefighters

Aldrich, Monica E.	Bascomb, Christopher D.
Bergeron, Casey M.	Burgess, Nathanael R.
Chandler, Steven A. Jr.	Chirekos, Nicholas J.
Clooney, David	Cormier, Adam
Dion, David J.★★	Flaherty, Robert
Flynn, Gary M.	Gaughan, Stephen P.
Gillispie, George	Goodhind, Christopher B.
Graham, Benjamin	Gwyther, Ryan R.
Kasal, Ari J.	Kennedy, John P.
Konetzny, Michael J.	L'Italien, Kevin M.
*LaCourse, Joseph P.	Lagasse, Joseph D.
*Lees, Jacob R.	Martell, David
McComb, Laurie L.	Messer, Thomas F.
Messer, William	Parr, Jeffrey F.
Roe, Sarah M.	Roy, Michael E.
Ryczek, Ronald E.	Singh, Jayant D.★
Snowden, James W.	Sposito, Matthew F.
Szewczynski, Michael J.	Valle, Thomas L.
Vazquez, Kaylan R.	

CALL FORCE

Mientka, Edward	Deputy Chief
Arbour, Bruce T.	Chaplin
Webster, William B.	Captain
Wilkinson, Clifford L.	Captain

Call Lieutenants

Holmes, David C.	Lindberg, Kristen A.
*Shumway, Philip W.	Visniewski, Michael J.

Call Firefighters

Allen, Reed FF.	*Bakare, Toheeb O.
Bernal Corzo, Cesar	*Casey, Christopher F.
Cloutier, David R.	Cook, Brian J.
Goddard, Jackson D.	Holmes, Averill H.
*Kasal, Daniel O.	Kennedy, Randy A.
Miller, Benjamin C.	Nympha, Samson
*Ragle, Jeffrey	Sanchez, Daniel A.
Starrett, Joseph R.	Stone, Emily

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Scott P. Livingstone	Chief
Matuszko, Michele A.	Administrative Assistant
Jolie, Joy A.	Records Clerk
++Sullivan, Amber	Crime Analyst
Gundersen, Jennifer A.★★★	Captain
Pronovost, Christopher G.★★★★	Captain

Lieutenants

Knightly, David R.	Menard, William N.★★★

Millar, Jerry
+O'Connor, Robert J.
Young, Ronald A.

Sergeants

Arocho, Jesus E.
Daly, Brian C.
Foster, David W.★★★
Johnson, Brian
Lang, Todd S.★★★
MacLean, Richard P.
Ting, Gabriel

Patrol Officers

Barone, Michael J.
Boyle, Michael
Carr, Benton J.
Chandler, Nicholas J.
Chudzik, John M.
Clark, Thomas W.
Contrado, Rita M.
Corsetti, Dominick A.
Damon, Jessica L.
Damouras, James A.★★★
Feliciano, Felipe★
Feliciano, Yvonne M.★
Forcum, Michael W.
Fullam, Brandon C.
Frydryk, Matthew R.
Gallagher, Scott E.
Geary, Douglas J.★★★
Harris, Joshua S.
Hebb, Samuel W.
Hulse, Andrew C.
Humber, Marcus A.
Jackson, Glenn M.
Knightly, Christina B.★★★★
Laramee, William R.★★★
Lopez, Janet
Medrano, Johanlet
Nagle, Kasey J.
+Newcomb, Linda
Reardon, Jamie P.
Rhoades, David A.
Soverino, Scott M.
Thurston, Scott C.
Welch, Daniel J.
Wise, Gregory D.

ANIMAL WELFARE

Carol A. Hepburn — Animal Welfare Officer

COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

Curtin, Michael F. — Division Supervisor

Emergency Dispatchers

Chudzik, Elizabeth A.
Cicia, Joshua
DelPozzo, Scott P.
Everett, Stephanie A.
*Gleason, Kevin P.
Oles, Emily
Pronovost, Jessica L.
Rushford, Jason S.
Sharp, Janet M.
Spedding, Patrick T.
Worthley, William B.

PARKING ENFORCEMENT

Reynolds, Jennifer A. — Enforcement Officer
Sarna, Thomas J. — Enforcement Officer

FACILITIES MAINTENANCE/CUSTODIAL STAFF

Imbimbo, John E. — Facilities Supervisor
Cormier, Debra R. — Building Supervisor
Fuller, Richard A. — Building Supervisor
Bailly, Nancy P. — Building Maintenance Asst.
Decker, Mary G. — Building Maintenance Asst.
Thun, Robert — Building Maintenance Asst.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & SERVICES

Taylor, Ruth L.★ — Administrative Assistant
Berry, Denise J. — Management Assistant II

CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT

M. David Ziomek★ — Assistant Town Manager/ Dir. Conservation & Devel.
Lass, Elizabeth J. — Program Assistant
Ciccarello, Stephanie — Sustainability Coordinator
Willson, Elizabeth — Wetland Administrator
Bordewieck, Bradley W. — Land Management Asst.
Hall, Chester H. — Asst. Land Manager

INSPECTION SERVICES

Robert A. Morra — Building Commissioner
*Shepardson, Paul — Electrical Inspector
Shen, Christina — Electrical Inspector
Sunryd, Brianna — Management Assistant II

Building Inspectors

*Avery, Terry
Cody, David
*Fein, Peter F.
Thompson, Jon
Waskiewicz, David J.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Jonathan Tucker — Planning Director
Bagg, Jeffrey — Senior Planner
Brestrup, Christine M. — Senior Planner
Malloy, Nathaniel J. — Senior Planner
*Britt, Lindsey — Program Assistant
Gannett, Jennifer — Program Assistant

HUMAN SERVICES

COUNCIL ON AGING & SENIOR CENTER

Nancy H. Pagano — Senior Center Director
Erman Karen R. — Management Assistant II
Plante, Maura E.★★★★ — Program Director
MacMellon, Helen E. — Social Worker

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Julie C. Federman — Health Director
Brown, Jennifer — Health Nurse
Smith, Edmund R. — Assistant Sanitarian
Sullivan, Elizabeth — Assistant Sanitarian
Field-Sadler, Pamela J. — Management Assistant II

LEISURE SERVICES & SUPPLEMENTAL EDUCATION

Linda L. Chalfant — Director
Bilz, Barbara J.★★ — Asst. Director
Lecuivre, Anastasia★★ — Program Director
Valeri, Nathaniel — Program Director
Coelho, John — Crew Supervisor
Weston, Gail V. — Operations Manager
Roy, Donna L. — Administrative Assistant
Desmarais, Patrice — Customer Service Assistant
Marczuk, Grazyna — Site Coordinator
Abelli, Nicole — Site Coordinator

LIBRARY SERVICES

Sharon A. Sharry — Director
Radosh, Sondra — Children's Librarian
Wentworth, Linda C. — Collections Librarian
Anaya, Amy — Circulation Librarian
+Kimball, Tevis L. — Curator, Special Collections
Harbeson, Cynthia D. — Curator, Special Collections
Ryan, Janet L.★ — Reference Librarian
Berube, Matthew — Info. Services Library
Spiegel, Marjorie N.★★ — North Amherst Librarian
Hugus, Susan E. — Munson Memorial Librarian
Platt, Carolyn B. — Tech. Services Librarian

Allan, Henry	Computer Technician
Swift, Tina M.	Management Assistant II
Weintraub, Lynne K.★★★★	ESL Coordinator
Stokes, Lace C.	Circulation Supervisor
Rothberg, Seth M.	Circulation Supervisor
Verts, Catherine	Audiovisual Specialist
White, Christine H.★★	Cataloging Technician
Boyle, Cathy A.	Special Collections Specialist
Slocum, Lisa A.	Clerk/Receptionist
Hicks, George F.	Building Supervisor
Otero, Miguel A.	Building Maintenance Assistant
Paredes, Jose	Building Maintenance Assistant

Library Assistants

*Atteridge, Theresa I.	Boyd, Roxanne
Cooke, Clare	Hurwitz, Ralph D.
Lamson, Jessica	Lincoln, Judith H.
Pinder, Garrett C.	Pyfrom, Joan E.

PUBLIC WORKS

ADMINISTRATION

Guilford B. Mooring, II	Superintendent
Rusiecki, Amy B.	Asst. Supt. Operations
Skeels, Jason O.	Town Engineer
Dethier, Paul G.	Civil Engineer
Jordan, James J.	Engineering Technician
*Marshall, Elizabeth L.	Engineering Technician
Kurth, Gabrielle E.	Environmental Scientist
McCarthy, Cheryl A.	Asst. to the Superintendent
Murphy, Nancy M.★★	Management Assistant II

EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE

Willis, Rodney W.	Division Director
+MacDonald, Robert	Mechanic
O'Brien, Cody T.	Mechanic
Perez, Michael J.	Mechanic

HIGHWAY DIVISION

Mercier, Joseph A.	Division Director
Longto, Keith W.	Crew Supervisor II
Woynar, Mark A.	Crew Supervisor II
Burrows, Glenn★	Crew Supervisor I
Tidlund, Janice	Roadway Sign & Paint Tech.

Equipment Operators

Boucher, John C.	Clark, Joshua M.
Gormely, Patrick M.	Stacy, Gary L.

Skilled Laborer/Truck Drivers

Bardwell, Erik A.	Henry, Walter J. III
Isabelle, Joseph W.	Jacque, Michael
Kilpatrick, Matthew Z.	

LANDFILL AND RECYCLING

Telega, Steven E.	Crew Supervisor II
*Waite, Susan M.	Recycling Coordinator
Zakaitis, Robert J.	Equipment Operator
Skribiski, David J.	Skilled Laborer/Truck Dr.

STREET & TRAFFIC LIGHTS

Hartwell, Frederic P.	Division Director
Frost, Sean M.	Electrician

TREE & GROUNDS

Snow, Alan	Division Director
Colby, Joshua	Tree Maint. Worker
Feltman, Adam	Maintenance Worker
+Bartus, Kenneth J.	Maintenance Worker
Waterman, Thomas R.	Skilled Laborer/Truck Dr.
Forbes, Brian J.	Skilled Laborer/Truck Dr.
Mitchell, Stanley L.	Laborer
Gancorz, David Jr.	Laborer
Gauthier, Cheryl A.	Laborer

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT & PUMPING STATIONS

+Laford, James W.	Division Director
Klimczyk, Duane	Division Director
Delgado, Robert	Division Supervisor
Olanyk, Kelly P.	Crew Supervisor II
Coombs, Russell E.	Mechanic/Supervisor
Crowley, John L.	Mechanic
Knightly, Brian M.	Mechanic
Bowser, Jeffrey L.	Maintenance Worker
Vecchiarelli, Mark W.	Maintenance Worker II
*Warren, Ashley	Lab Technician
Bergeron, Kimberly	Lab Technician
Miraglia, Joseph J.	Treatment Operator
Ritter, Harry J.	Treatment Operator
Griffin, Joseph J.	Operator in Training
Rodriguez, Oscar L.	Operator in Training

WATER DIVISION

+Luippold, Thomas F.	Division Director
Sampson, Kevin	Division Director
Call, Stephen T.	Crew Supervisor III
Burke, Conor S.	Treatment Operator II
Drake, Charles E. III	Equipment Operator
Barton, Robin D.	Maintenance Worker
Carlson, Peter A.	Maintenance Worker
Feltovic, Stephen R.	Meter Reader
Orrell, Robert J.	Treatment Operator
Szwed, Michael T.	Treatment Operator
Bergmann, Everett	Skilled Laborer/Truck Driver
Yoder, Matthew A.	Operator in Training
Willis, Dakota	Laborer

KEY:

+	Retired	*	Resigned/ Terminated
++	Laid Off	**	Leave of Absence
#	Deceased		

★	Denotes recognition of 10 years of service
★★	Denotes recognition of 15 years of service.
★★★	Denotes recognition of 20 years of service.
★★★★	Denotes recognition of 25 years of service.
★★★★★	Denotes recognition of 30 years of service.
★★★★★★	Denotes recognition of 35 years of service.
★★★★★★★	Denotes recognition of 40 years of service.

TOWN OF AMHERST BOARDS AND COMMITTEES
Fiscal Year 2015

KEY:

SB	=	Select Board Appointment	D	=	Deceased
TM	=	Town Manager Appointment	G-A	=	Governor Appointee
M	=	Moderator Appointment	R	=	Resigned
CC	=	Conservation Commission Appointment	TC	=	Term Completion
ALT	=	Alternate	V-C	=	Vice Chair
C	=	Chair			

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Select Board

	Elected	Expires
Alisa V. Brewer	2013	2016
Aaron A. Hayden	2012	2015
Constance Kruger	2014	2017
Andrew Steinberg	2014	2017
James J. Wald	2013	2016

Amherst School Committee

Katherine G. Appy	2014	2017
Richard Blake Hood	2013	2016
Kathleen G. Traphagen	2013	2016
Lawrence O'Brien	2012	2015
Amilcar Shabazz	2012	2015

Jones Library Trustee

Austin Sarat	2012	2015
Michael Wolff	2014	2017
Christopher J. Hoffmann	2014	2017
Tamson M. Ely	2012	2015
Jonathan McCabe	2013	2016
Robert Pam	2013	2016

Moderator

James W. Pistrang	2014	2015

Redevelopment Authority

Margaret R. Roberts	2013	2018
Pamela S. Rooney	2014	2019
Aaron A. Hayden	2011	2016
Patricia Holland	2012	2017
+Jeanne M. Traester	2010	2015

Elector, Oliver Smith Will

John W. Coull	2013	2014

Housing Authority

Paul Bobrowski	2010	2015
Judy H. Brooks	2011	2016
Peter Jessop	2014	2019
Laura L. Quinn	2012	2017
+Constance Kruger	2012	2017

Town Meeting Coordinating Committee

Margaret R. Roberts	2014
Nonny Burack	2014
Patricia G. Holland	2015
Mary Streeter	2014
Tracylee SG Boutilier	2015
Melissa H. Perot	2014
Alan W. Powell	2015

+ Appointed by Governor

Elected Expires

APPOINTED OFFICIALS 2015

	Term
Amherst Affordable Housing Trust	
TraceyLee Boutilier	2015-17
John Coull	2015-17
Jeffrey DeSantis	2015-16
Jan Dizard	2015-17
Thomas Kegelman	2015-16
Constance Kruger	2015-16
Caroline Murray	2015-17
Amherst Cultural Council	
Georgia Barnhill	2015-18
Andrea Battle	2015-18
Courtney Campbell	2013-16
Honore' David , Co-Chair	2011-15
Lynda Faye	2013-16
Gretchen Fox	2011-17
Arnold Friedmann	2010-16
Ellen Kosmer	2011-17
Shirley Stevens	2011-17
ACTV Board of Directors	
Adrienne Terrizzi	2014-17
Agricultural Commission	
Bernard Brennan	2012-17
Glenroy Buchanan	2014-17
Rebecca Fricke	2013-18
Shannon Nichols	2014-17
Stephen Schreiber	2014-15
Joseph Swartz	2010-16
Jaime Tidlund Wagner	2007-16
Veronica Wagner	2012-18
ARSD Planning Committee	
Katherine Appy	2011-16
Alisa Brewer	2011-16
Andrew Steinberg	2011-16
Public Art Commission	
Eric Broudy	2013-16
Rosario Gaddier	2010-16
Daniel Grant	2014-17
Bonnie Isman	2011-17
Rene Theberge, Chair	2012-18
Board of Assessors	
John Kick	2011-17
Carl Mailler,	2009-16
Jeffrey Morgan	2013-18

	Term
Board of Health	
Diane Amsterdam	2013-16
Marco Boscardin	2013-18
Nancy Gilbert	2007-16
Julie Marcus	2012-18
John Tobiason	2014-17
Cable Advisory Committee	
Donald Courtemanche	2013-16
Joan Golowich	2015-18
Kristopher Pacunas	2015-18
Demetria Shabazz	2015-18
Adrienne Terrizzi	2015-18
CDBG Advisory	
Nancy Gregg	2011-16
Mary Jane Laus	2011-16
Jana McClure,	2011-16
Claude Tellier	2011-16
Council on Aging	
Timothy Atteridge	2014-17
Daniel Clapp,	2006-18
Susan Dierks	2011-17
Norma Hallock	2014-18
Mary Hough	2015-18
Richard Kofler	2014-17
John Magarian	2013-16
Etta Walsh	2015-17
John Wollensak	2010-16
Conservation Commission	
Harvey Allen	2006-18
Briony Angus, Chair	2008-18
Paris Boice	2011-17
Robert Brooks	2013-17
Brett Butler	2014-18
Fletcher Clark	2014-17
Christiane Meyer Healey	2012-16

Community Preservation Act Committee

Marilyn Blaustein	At Large	2011-17
Paris Boice	Conservation	2011-15
James Brissette	LSSE	2013-17
Peter Jessop	Housing	2001-15
Ellen Kosmer	At Large	2008-15
Laura Lovett	Hist.	2014-16
James Oldham M	At Large	2013-18
Richard Roznoy	PB Rep	2015-18
Diana Stein	At Large	2015-18
Mary Streeter	At Large	2007-16

Disability Access Advisory Committee

Irene Barrelet	2008-16
Patricia Branch	2015-17
Seren Derin	1991-18
Victoria Dixon	2011-16
Katarina Hallonblad	2013-17
Joseph Tringali	2013-16
Gerald Weiss, Chair	2010-16

Dickinson Local Historic District

Sarah Allaback	2015-18
Thomas Ehrgood	2012-18
Murray Schwartz	2012-15
Philip Shaver	2012-16

Design Review Board

Derek Noble	2010-16
Catharine Porter	2015-18
Jonathan Salvon Architect	2008-15

Finance Committee

Stephen Braun	2014-17
Bernard Kubiak	2014-17
Kay Moran	2013-16
Tim Neale	2015-18
Janice Ratner	2013-16
Anurag Sharma	2011-18
Marylou Theilman	2008-17

Historical Commission

Laura Lovett	2012-16
Janet Marquardt	2015-17
Margaret Vickery	2012-17

Housing and Sheltering Committee

Andrea Battle	2012-17
Nancy Gregg	2012-16
John Hornik	2012-17
Thomas Kegelman	2013-16
Denise LeDuc	2012-18
Greg Stutsman	2012-18

Human Rights Commission

Ingrid Askew	2012-17
Gregory Bascom	2011-16
Matthew Charity	2015-16
Sidonio Ferreira	2013-16
Priya Ghosh	2014-17
Carol Ross	2012-17

Hampshire Regional Emergency Planning

Denise Baberet	2007-16
Katherine Vorwerk Feldman	2010-16

Kanegasaki Sister City Committee

Denise Boyd	2004-16
Florence Boynton	2000-17
Naomi Elliott	2015-18
Cynthia Harbeson	2015-18
Aaron Kropf	2009-18
Helen MacMellon	2006-16
Nancy Pagano	2013-16
William Stenzel	2012-18
Tina Swift	2012-15
CArlyjane Dunn Watson	2015-18

La Paz Centro, Nicaragua Sister City Committee

Liz Etheridge	2010-16
Victoria Feyre Febonio	2012-15
Olivia Feyre Febonio	2012-15
Charles Milch	2004-16
Nancy Milch	2004-16
Walter Mullin	2006-15
Kathleen Mullin	2006-15
Mary Santiago	2012-15
Anne Stanek	2004-16
Edward Stanek	2004-16
Lydia Vernon-Jones	2010-16
Carol Wood	2010-16

LSLHD Study Committee

Bonnie Bascomb-MacCracken	2015-17
Steven Bloom	2014-17
Suzannah Fabing	2014-17
Gretchen Fox	2014-17
William Gillen	2014-17
Philip Shaver	2014-17
Ann Sutliff	2014-17

Leisure Services & Supplemental Education

Alan Bonneau	2009-15
James Brissette	2012-17
Nate Buddington	2013-16
Jon Foster	2012-17
Angela Mills	2014-16
Anna-Beth Winograd	2010-15

Munson Memorial Building Trustees

Johannes Bronger	2003-16
Mary Jo Moses	2014-17
Janice Ratner	2007-18

Norwottuck Rail Trail Advisory Committee

Robert Kusner	2007-16
Frances VanTreese	2007-16

Nyeri, Kenya Sister City Committee

Julie Jones	2007-16

Personnel Board

Ronald Bell	2011-16
D. Anthony Butterfield	2006-18
Christopher Hoffmann	2008-17
Charles Scherpa	2011-17
Rebecca Woodland	2013-16

Planning Board

Bruce Carson	2008-16
Robert Crowner	2009-18
Pari Riahi	2015-18
Richard Roznoy	2009-18
Stephen Schreiber	2009-18
Greg Stutsman	2013-16
David Webber	2009-16

Public Works Committee

Erwin Kelly	2015-18
Richard Fein	2012-18
Christine Gray-Mullen	2010-16
William Mullin	2012-18
Donald Wise	2013-16

Pioneer Valley Planning Commission

Bruce Carson	2014-16
Constance Kruger	2014-16

Recycling & Refuse Management

Arnold Alper	2013-16
Christina Cox Fernades	2011-17
Laurel Dickey	2011-16
Brenda Kennedy-Davies	2011-17
Susan Morrello	2011-17
John Root	2012-15

Registrar of Voters

Sandra Burgess (Town Clerk)	2006
Joyce Crouch	2008-17
Sylvia Cuomo	2013-16
Susan Lowenstein	2012-16

Public Shade Tree Committee

Nonny Burack	2011-16
Robert Erwin	2004-16
Roger Fega	2000-18
Nancy Higgins	2011-18
Henry Lappen	2011-17
Melissa Perot	2014-17

TMEVSC

Sandra Burgess	2015-16
Mandi Jo Hanneke	2015-16
Sean Hannon	2015-16
Jonathan O'Keefe	2015-16
James Pistrang	2015-16
Alan Powell	2015-16
Christopher Riddle	2015-16

Transportation Plan Task Force

Robert Crowner	2012-16
Richard Fein	2012-16
Christine Gray-Mullen	2012-15
Aaron Hayden	2015-16
Richard Roznoy	2012-16

Public Transportation & Bicycle Committee

Richard Fein	2009-16
Aaron Hayden	2015-18
Karen Jones	2014-17
Karen Kowles	2006-16
Frances VanTreese	2007-16
Eve Vogel	2010-16

Water Supply Protection Committee

Steve Dunn	2007-16
Rebecca Fricke	2013-16
Stephen Mabee	2007-15
Jesse Schwalbaum	2007-15
John Tobiason	2007-16
Lyons Witten	2007-15
Brian Yellen	2012-17

Zoning Board of Appeals

Thomas Ehrgood	2012-18
Yuri Friman	2012-16
Carolyn Holstein	2011-16
Keith Langsdale	2015-18
Mark Parent	2009-16

SELECT BOARD ANNUAL REPORT
Fiscal Year 2015

As the Town's chief elected officials, the Select Board has many predictable, often annual, responsibilities, including: reviewing the Town Manager's performance; approving various types of business licenses, including annual renewals; approving temporary and permanent parking restrictions; granting temporary and permanent easements; authorizing the execution of mutual aid and intermunicipal agreements; acting on Chapter 61 right of first refusal; approving bond sales; setting the annual water and sewer rates; holding the annual tax classification hearing including selection of minimum residential factor; authorizing the annual non-union personnel Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA); endorsing the Town Manager's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application priorities after the CDBG Advisory Committee process; providing budget policy guidelines to the Town Manager in advance of his development of the annual budget; offering recommendations to Town Meeting on all warrant articles; appointing and confirming the appointment of committee, board, and commission members to over thirty public bodies subject to Open Meeting Law; attending a variety of appointed body meetings in a liaison role; serving on various other bodies, including Joint Capital Planning Committee and Budget Coordinating Group; participating in Four Boards (Select Board, Finance Committee, School Committee, and Library Trustees) meetings; participating in Four Towns meetings (Regional School Committee, Select Board, and Finance Committees from our 7-12 Regional partners Amherst, Pelham, Leverett, and Shutesbury); participating in community events; addressing resident concerns; taking positions on local, regional, and Commonwealth issues as identified by the Massachusetts Municipal Association (MMA), Select Board members, and residents.

The fact that these Annual Reports are frequently written more than a year after the events have taken place means not everything noteworthy may be recalled by the author. However, we are fortunate in that all Select Board Minutes and complete Meeting Packets are available on the award-winning Town website. Many residents watch Select Board meetings via live broadcasts produced by Amherst Media/ Amherst Community Television, and during their regular rebroadcasts on Channel 17, and several years' worth of Select Board meetings are also available on demand for online viewing. There were (33) Select Board meetings between July 1, 2014 and June 30, 2015.

Town Manager's Performance

The Select Board has detailed written policy and procedure for annual evaluation of the Town Manager during open session of regular Select Board meetings, and makes incremental improvements in that process annually. Feedback on the Town Manager's performance is actively solicited each summer from all boards and committees, Representative Town Meeting members, Town staff, and the general public. All performance evaluation materials, except those few considered personnel records (e.g., anonymous feedback from other Town staff), are available on the Town website. These include FY 14 Town Manager Performance Goals (October 1, 2013), FY 14 Town Manager Performance Goals – Progress Report (January 6, 2014), Self-Evaluation & FY 14 Town Manager Performance Goals – Progress Report (July 3, 2014), Evaluation Memo FY 14 (August 25, 2014), as well as individual evaluation forms completed by each Select Board members.

On September 8, 2014, we approved the Town Manager's contract with a 2% increase in salary effective October 1, 2014 and added longevity pay in conformance with the Town of Amherst Personnel Procedures Manual (Press Release August 27, 2014). This was John P. Musante's fourth annual evaluation as Town Manager, and he again received high marks across all evaluation areas: Fiscal Management, Relationship with the Board, Long Range Planning, Staff and Personnel Relations, Community and Intergovernmental Relations, and General Expectations.
During FY 14 we also began the evaluation process for FY 15, including the issuance of FY 15 Town Manager Performance Goals (December 1, 2014), FY 16 Budget Policy Guidelines (December 16, 2014), and the Town Manager provided his FY 15 Town Manager Performance Goals – Progress Report (February 23, 2015) and Self-Evaluation & FY 15 Town Manager Performance Goals –

Progress Report (June 8, 2015). The FY 15 Town Manager Evaluation will be summarized in the FY 16 Select Board Annual Report.

As FY 15 wrapped up, the Town Manager was about to embark on his long-awaited professional development opportunity at the intensive July 6-24, 2015 three-week Senior Executives in State and Local Government Program at the Harvard Kennedy School in Cambridge. The curriculum is to focus on leadership, cooperative governance and problem solving, decision making, and negotiation.

Policy

The Select Board is also a policy making body, with the Town Manager responsible for the implementation of such policies. While there are some very clear Select Board policies and procedures for some issues, we have found that other policies have been created over many years that have not been effectively curated or updated. This is an area we hope to spend more time on. We have an excellent base to work from, as our former Chair, Stephanie O'Keeffe, gathered what we could find into one document, the Select Board Handbook of March 24, 2014.

We realized we do not yet have a policy on Select Board sponsorship of events and programs.

While we do not yet have a policy, after discussion at the Select Board meeting March 23, 2015, we continue to list the individual lead petitioner on Town Meeting articles submitted by petitioner signatures, rather than the name of their organization, to provide transparency and clarity.

We did explore a more formal policy around Public Comment at Select Board meetings, using examples of best practices from elsewhere, including the Amherst-Pelham Regional School Committee's policy available on their website, and distributed at their meetings, but did not complete that review. See Select Board meetings of September 8, 2014, September 22, 2014, October 6, 2014, October 20, 2014, and December 15, 2014.

We did explore some revisions to the Appointed Committee Handbook, which was last revised on September 14, 2011, due mainly to the herculean efforts of former Select Board member Diana Stein. One area we discussed was the role of Select Board liaison at the meetings of other committees, boards, and commissions, but we did not complete that review; see Select Board meetings of June 23, 2014 and July 7, 2014.

We reviewed the rate history and number of reserved spaces since the opening of the lower level of the parking garage, from March 11, 2002 through February 24, 2014. After the required public hearing, we increased the annual rate for lease of a reserved space in the lower level of the Boltwood Garage from $950.00 to $1,000.00 per year, effective July 1, 2015.

We asked staff to review whether the $5.00 per day per bagged meter fee should be raised. These bagging actions are requested sporadically by businesses during renovations and by the Lord Jeffery Inn for especially large events. Staff surveyed other communities as well as the projected revenue lost as well as considered administrative costs incurred by multiple departments. Based on staff recommendation, and after the required public hearing, we increased the daily fee from $5.00 to $10.00. We noted that events presented by nonprofit organizations, e.g., Amherst Family Center, Big Brothers/ Big Sisters, the Taste of Amherst, Rotary Community Fair, etc. remain exempt from paying for bagged meters.

Resident Request and Advocacy Highlights

We reviewed the purpose of the public comment period traditionally held at the beginning of each regular Select Board meeting. We affirmed that complaints about Town staff are not appropriate material for public comment, and should continue to be taken to the Town Manager.

We participated in the UMass Homecoming Parade.

While we normally attend the Amherst Area Chamber of Commerce Annual A+ Awards, we were especially honored to contribute to the video for former Select Board Chair Stephanie O'Keeffe's recognition.

We granted permission to the Hampshire County Young Life group to maintain plantings in one of the new Atkins Roundabout islands, as there was no budget for preventing this area from becoming unsightly and the group was looking for a community service project. We also discussed the role green space plays in future road planning, management of volunteer groups that donate labor, and other possible partners for assistance, as current basic mowing and weeding are insufficient for an area that serves as a gateway to the Town.

We approved the installation of speed humps for traffic calming on Cottage Street.

We prohibited parking on a portion of the west side of High Street due to sight lines and congestion per the Amherst-Pelham Regional Schools request.

We approved implementation of the Town Engineer's four recommendations related to safety concerns on Old Farm Road, near Stavros.

We heard a one year update on the Residential Rental Property Permitting program, including the vast amount of material available online for both property owners and renters, including how to create a parking plan and an interactive Code Violations and Complaints Map. We have not yet discussed the formation of a Rental Appeals Board.

We appointed members to the new Lincoln-Sunset Local Historic District (LHD) Study Committee, and they began their work. The North Amherst LHD Study Committee is not being populated until we have additional applicants and available staff support. Both of these LHD Study Committees had previously been approved (on April 22, 2013, and October 15, 2012, respectively) but neither had been populated, as essential staff resources to support the bodies were not available.

We adopted the Personnel Board's recommended new Salary Schedule for Part Time Hourly Employees effective January 1, 2015. Many residents had been surprised to learn that while Town of Amherst employees are covered by federal minimum wage laws, they are not covered by the state's higher minimum wage, according to the Department of Labor Standards Opinion Letter MW-2002-004.

We also adopted the Personnel Board's recommended sick and personal leave benefit for eligible part-time employees effective July 1, 2015, in keeping with the Town’s goal of being an employer of choice in western Massachusetts.

We hosted the newly reinstituted Amherst Historical Commission Historic Preservation Awards at the December 15, 2014 Select Board meeting.

We hosted the Fire Department Hero Award Presentation February 23, 2015 for two young graduates of our exemplary SAFE program who acted calmly and decisively in response to a medical emergency at their home.

We facilitated a productive series of conversations between the Agricultural Commission and the Amherst Farmers Market regarding effective participation by more Amherst farmers in the market that runs on Saturdays from April through November in the Spring Street parking lot. We continued the tradition of not assessing the Amherst Farmers Market any fee in lieu of the Spring Street parking lot revenue.

Some Select Board members attended Massachusetts Municipal Association (MMA) meetings held in Western Massachusetts, and several Select Board members and staff participated in the January 23-24, 2015 MMA Annual Meeting in Boston for educational and advocacy purposes.

Select Board members again participated in the annual Senator Stan Rosenberg Municipal Conference in Northampton held with HCOG and FRCOG. A lively discussion of the practical challenges of the current Open Meeting Law was widely publicized.

Amherst has not been a member of the Hampshire Council of Governments (HCOG) since FY 03. However, Select Board members have sporadically participated in programs presented by HCOG and by the Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG). Amherst is a member of the Hampshire County Select Boards Association (HCSBA), although no HCSBA Dues have been assessed since FY 14. Alisa Brewer was elected secretary of HCSBA on June 11, 2015.

We wrote letters to Senator Rosenberg and Representative Story asking that they take appropriate steps to enact any legislation now pending that would enable Amherst to grant local voting rights for legal permanent non-citizen residing in the Town, as most recently resolved by Article 44 of the 2013 Annual Town Meeting.

We voted Resolutions and Proclamations, including the November 5, 2014 Puerto Rican Day, December 10, 2014 Human Rights Day, February 1, 2015 Irish Heritage Day, February 14, 2015 flag raising in honor of February 2015 as Black History Month, two Arbor Days (April 18, 2015 and April 25, 2015), ceremony to Commemorate the Centennial of the Armenian genocide April 30, 2015.

We regularly mentioned the exemplary work of Town staff on the community's behalf, including congratulations for 28 years' recognition as a Tree City USA, highlighting the work of Tree Warden Alan Snow and the Public Shade Tree Committee.

We approved the Conservation Commission's acceptance of the Epstein's donated 20-acre parcel located off Bay Road, noting that no Town funds were necessary to facilitate this purchase or the permanent agricultural restriction on the 52-acre Mitchell property at Route 116, highlighting both family's generosity.

State and Local Referendums

We took positions on three of the six November 4, 2014 ballot questions. We opposed Question 1 Eliminate Gas Tax Indexing, supported Question 2 Expanding the Beverage Container Deposit Law (Bottle Bill), and supported local Question 5 increasing the CPA surcharge from 1.5% to 3%.

Town Meeting

We provided feedback to the Town Meeting Coordinating Committee (TMCC) and Moderator regarding Annual Town Meeting 2014 via memo of July 7, 2014, and regarding the one night fall Special Town Meeting via memo as amended at the December 15, 2014 Select Board meeting.

We were especially proud to advocate for the creative tool developed by the Town Manager and Finance Director for Affordable Housing Property Tax Incentives, and Annual Town Meeting Article 21 passed 117 – 66 on May 11, 2015 (albeit without a separate revised inclusionary zoning bylaw), authorizing the Select Board to file a Special Act with the General Court which shall authorize the Select Board to enter into agreements allowing for the phasing in of the increase in assessed property value resulting from developments of residential or mixed uses with 10 or more dwelling units, in which at least 10 percent of the units are low or moderate income housing and subject to an affordable housing restriction (per section 31 of chapter 184 of the General Laws), such increases to be phased in increments over a period of up to ten years to the full assessed value of the property, provided further that the maximum property tax incentive shall be based on the difference in net operating income for such development with affordable units and the net operating income without such affordable units.

We took positions on most Town Meeting articles.

Ongoing Areas of Attention

The Select Board was surprised by the July 2014 hiring of a new joint position for the schools and Town, a Media & Climate Communications Specialist to create Amherst Together, especially as no mention had been made of the position in the Long Term Staffing Plan provided at Select Board July 7, 2014. We were advised that Human Rights Commissioner Carol Ross, who attended Amherst public schools in her youth, will work to launch Amherst Together, an initiative that will serve as a foundation for building equity in Amherst through community collaboration. The effort aims to bring together a wider range of Amherst community interests to develop a collective vision for serving the whole. This position is expected to last two to three years, and the Select Board looks forward to hearing more about how we will measure progress. The first Amherst Together presentation to the Select Board was March 23, 2015.

Select Board members served with Finance Committee and School Committee members on the new version of the Regional Assessment Method Working Group, another attempt to address concerns expressed by the four towns of Amherst, Pelham, Leverett, and Shutesbury regarding the sixty-year-old regional agreement financial model and the current best way to pay for the grades 7-12 regional schools.

Two members also continued to serve on the Regional Agreement Working Group (RAWG), a four-town evolution of the previous Amherst Regional School District Planning Committee and four town Regional School District Planning Board. RAWG presented a report to the Amherst-Pelham Regional School Committee on January 13, 2015, recommending amendment of the four-town grades 7-12 regional schools agreement from the 1950s to include grades preK-6. This followed previous elementary regionalization discussions from 1968, 1976, 1992, and 2009. Select Board member Andrew Steinberg chaired this four town multi-year effort of twelve members from School Committees, Select Boards, and Finance Committees.

The Town received the DTC's (Department of Telecommunications and Cable, Commonwealth of Massachusetts) License Expiration Notice for October 16, 2016 on September 11, 2013. The Town Manager advised Comcast on May 14, 2014 that the Town would be conducting public ascertainment proceedings, although the Select Board did not see that letter until August 25, 2014. The Comcast 10 year Cable Television Renewal License process made progress with the approval of the Town Manager's Cable Advisory Committee Charge on March 23, 2015. Unfortunately, the first Cable Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting was not held until June 16, 2015.

We continued to review the complex design of sidewalks and new crosswalks created by the Pine Street reconstruction, including the need for significant additional signage as the new sidewalks force pedestrians to cross the roadway.

We received a presentation about the new pavement management system that will interface with our already impressive GIS mapping system.

We received a presentation about the Amherst Connect program using SeeClickFix software to manage resident concerns about potholes, street trees, street signs, etc. and provide feedback to residents regarding project completion.

We continued to hear concerns about the proposed North Amherst subdivision student housing project by Landmark on Cowls property known as The Retreat.

At the September 22, 2014 Select Board meeting we began discussing the Davis Report – A Safer Community Through Partnership commissioned by UMass after the March 8, 2014 so-called “Blarney Blowout.” We affirmed a focus on community policing, including improved communication and collaboration with student leaders and local business owners as well as between APD and UMPD, in addition to the work done by the ongoing Campus and Community Coalition to Reduce High Risk Drinking (CCC). There was no significant March disturbance associated with St Patrick's Day 2015. The Town Manager indicated that the extensive planning, preparation and collaboration with community

stakeholders, as well as cooperation of the students and the efforts of police in promoting safe and responsible behavior throughout Amherst on March 7 was instrumental in the overall success. UMass created a new Neighborhood Liaison position to work with APD and UMPD to help address ongoing neighborhood quality of life issues. We were advised on June 8, 2015 that the Town has been awarded a grant for $92,164.29 from the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG - EOPS). The grant will provide one year of salary, benefits, and operational funds to allow a veteran police officer in a community policing role to work in partnership with the three colleges within the neighborhoods who have been affected by the student population.

We began a series of three interactive Downtown Parking forums designed by the Planning Department and co-sponsored by the Select Board and Planning Board. The forums were held on September 23, 2014 and January 20, 2015 at the Unitarian Universalist Society, and on March 24, 2015 at the Bangs Community Center. Forums were taped for later broadcast and online viewing by Amherst Media, and extensive materials were posted on the Town website. A draft report was previewed at the Select Board June 15, 2015, with a final report expected soon.

The Transportation Plan Task Force began working with Nelson/Nygaard, and presented their Draft Plan to the Select Board briefly in a pre-Town Meeting session on May 4, 2015.

On October 21, 2014, Governor Patrick came to downtown Amherst to announce that the Town had been awarded a $1.5 million Mass Works infrastructure grant to bury 4000 feet of primary and secondary electrical, cable and telephone wires on East Pleasant, North Pleasant, Triangle, and Pray Streets to facilitate new multistory development, including One East Pleasant, a 84-unit mixed use structure at the former Carriage Shops. Across from Kendrick Park, North Downtown offers a wonderful opportunity for Amherst to redevelop a very important section of downtown into an economically vibrant, 21st century innovation district for our knowledge-based economy, anchored by new housing and innovative collaboration and live/work spaces. Burial of those utility wires is expected to be completed in 2015.

The Town Manager briefed the Select Board December 1, 2014 on his impending creation of an Amherst Center Recreation Working Group comprised of Town staff, LSSE Commission, and community members to meet for a period of up to one year to assess and make recommendations to the Town Manager for the focus area that includes Town-owned Community Field, Town-owned Hawthorne property at 235 East Pleasant Street, the athletic fields and open space associated with Amherst-Pelham Regional High School and Amherst-Pelham Regional Middle School, and the fields associated with Wildwood Elementary School.

The Town-Gown Steering committee of UMass and Town representatives completed its work in December 4, 2014. Among its recommendations are to create a University-Town of Amherst Collaborative (UTAC or U-TAC) to coordinate continuing efforts. Applicants to subcommittees focused on housing, on economic development, and on arts, culture, and entertainment were sought in the spring.

The five-year UMass Strategic Partnership Agreement of 2007-2012 was only extended through June 2013, but the Town Manager continues negotiations with UMass on a renewal agreement while the old terms remain in effect.

In response to discussion at a Select Board meeting December 15, 2014, the Town Manager offered to do further research on Select Board and Moderator stipends in other municipalities and report back to the Select Board at a future date. The current $300 per year per Select Board member stipend has been in place for many years and appears low in a recent survey by the Hampshire Council of Governments. The Select Board is also interested in information on the Moderator's stipend, which has been $100 per year for many years. Various gathered materials were discussed on June 8, 2015, and two members were directed to discuss next steps with the Finance Committee.

We approved the Moderator's Charge of the new Town Meeting Electronic Voting Study Committee (TMEVSC, also known as Town Meeting Electronic Voting Committee) on January 5, 2015. The Moderator will make appointments from the usual online Citizen Activity Form (CAF), and expects the body will complete its work within 18 months. Their first meeting was held February 19, 2015.

We were kept apprised of the effort to hire Amherst's first Economic Development Director, a position both the Select Board and Town Meeting clearly supported. The Economic Development Director is expected to identify opportunities that build upon the economic engines of UMass, Amherst College, and Hampshire College, our highly educated population, and our unique community environment.

We were advised that two restaurants had been unable to open due to the Berkshire Gas moratorium, which also affected both residential and commercial customers who moved into locations that already had the same natural gas service under a previous account holder.

Solar panel installation on the older of the two closed landfills continues to be a challenge. The community was not informed that WMECO removed this project from their approved list in June 2014, until that was mentioned at the June 8, 2015 select Board meeting. The June 8, 2015 FY 15 Town Manager Performance Goals – Progress Report says "The Town is considering next steps, including the possible issuance of a RFP for prospective roof and ground mounted solar on municipal properties and buildings," and the Select Board gave very clear direction at the June 8, 2015 Select Board meeting that the equivalent of an RFP (one or more documents, if need to maximize responses from separate ground & roof providers) will be issued well before the end of December 2015.
We again requested updated assessments about the relative priority of addressing significant capital considerations, specifically including a new fire station, downtown parking facility, public works garage, Jones Library, and Wildwood Elementary School. The Town Manager plans to construct a detailed town-wide project sequencing and financing plan by early 2016.

We briefly reviewed a template the Town Manager is developing with staff for a one-page description of each Town owned building, toward his fulfilling a Town Manager performance goal that continues since the time of his predecessor, for a detailed assessment of Town owned buildings regarding their current use, and anticipated future benefit and liability. We have been advised to expect a complete document soon.

We requested that use of the electric vehicle charger recently installed in the Town Hall lot, resulting in two fewer public spaces as those are now restricted to electric vehicles while charging, be evaluated both by calculation on the use of the metered parking space and the increased use of electricity.

We were advised that in response to 2015 Annual Town Meeting appropriated funds of $105,000.00 for reduced program fees for lower income participants, LSSE Commission and staff are reviewing best practices for fee policies of similar programs for use in the current year and to help inform planning for next year's budget. It was acknowledged that there needs to an educational component in the review to address the understanding that there is a limited availability for subsidies as a budgeted fixed amount.

We were advised that the Puffer's Pond 2020 recommendations are being revisited, with a focus on public safety, parking, and future dredging. Some modest improvements were planned to replacement of the cribbing to hold the sand on the beaches, improvements to the ADA beach access, the perimeter trail, and safety fencing at the cliff and dam with Town Meeting funding and a matching federal grant.

We received a staff proposal to further restrict parking on Lincoln Avenue in order to improve sight lines at intersections and improve access by some emergency vehicles. We continued the public hearing to July 27, 2015 as the presentation failed to provide sufficient rationale for this proposal, expressing the need for a much more comprehensive look at the downtown area and further information from the fire chief and the committees involved in the Transportation Plan.

We began a new series of joint discussions with the Planning Board and Public Works Committee about the North Amherst Village Center Intersection (not focused on where Meadow and Pine streets intersect with North Pleasant at the traffic signal, but rather where Montague and Sunderland roads intersect just north of there at the triangular area in front of the North Amherst Library), with a standing room only crowd at the public forum held at 7 pm June 24, 2015 at the Amherst Survival Center.

A number of residents began exploring the signature gathering process for a Charter Commission to examine our current form of government. The most recent Charter Commission was formed by the same process in 2001.

Town Manager/Select Board Support
We again offer our thanks for the great deal of support and assistance we receive from Debra (Roussel) Puppel and Jennifer Moyston. Ms. Puppel also continues to create our Select Board Minutes based on notes taken by the Town Manager during our meetings.

IT Director Kris Pacunas provided brief individual training to each Select Board member on their newly issued Town iPads. Since we did not develop consistently useful ways to take notes on the documents we could access on the iPads, and meeting packet materials continued to be made available only on the Friday prior to our Monday meetings, we continued to receive hardcopy packets delivered to our homes each Friday evening that preceded a Monday meeting.

Composition of the Select Board July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015

This year Aaron Hayden concluded his service that began with the special election of November 4, 2008, and included a year as Chair 2014-2015, as he did not seek re-election in 2015. A reception honoring his service was held at Town Hall before his last meeting on March 23, 2015, where many spoke about their appreciation for his work and for the opportunity to serve with him.

Douglas Slaughter won the Annual Town Election on March 31, 2015. Alisa Brewer (2007-), Constance Kruger (2014-), Andrew Steinberg (2014-), and James Wald (2010-) all continued their Select Board service.

In the Select Board's annual reorganization vote on April 6, 2015, Alisa Brewer was elected Chair, Andrew Steinberg was re-elected Clerk, and the body voted to continue the practice of rotating the Vice Chair position alphabetically by last name each month.

It has been an honor for all of us to serve Amherst in this capacity for another year.

Respectfully submitted

Alisa V. Brewer, Chair

BOARD OF ASSESSORS
FISCAL YEAR 2015

The members of the Board of Assessor's for Fiscal Year 15 were, Jeffrey Morgan, John Kick and Carl Mailler.

FY 15 was an interim year for the Town of Amherst and values were approved by the Department of Revenue at the end of November 2014. In general values stayed the same. There were no significant value changes in FY 15.

The Board met on December 1st 2014 with the Select Board to discuss consideration of a split residential commercial rate and the possible adoption of the Residential Exemption. The Select Board must make a determination for each of these options each year. The Principal Assessor and the Board of Assessors provide information and recommendation regarding the annual determination. In FY 15 the Board Assessors recommended against the split rate because its adoption could further dampen the vitality of Amherst's business sector the Board also voted against the Residential Exemption.

FY 15 TAX RATE RECAPITULATION

(A) Class	(B) Levy Percentage	(C) Levy by Class	(D) Valuation Class	(E) Tax Rate (C)-(D) X1000(A)
Residential	89.7846%	40,397,175.51	1,966,756,470	20.54
Open Space				
Commercial	7.1340%	3,209,831.64	150,328,496	20.54
Industrial	0.2132%	95,926.00	4,669,400	20.54
Personal Prop.	2.8682%	1,290,501.70	62,830,000	20.54
TOTAL	100.00%		2,190,527,500	*****

BOARD OF ASSESSORS
Fiscal Year 2015

The Amherst Board of Assessors held 9 public meetings during FY 15. Board activities associated with these meetings are summarized in the following report. Details on the information in this report can be found in the minutes of the Board of Assessors meetings. The Board also had joint meetings with the Select Board to discuss a potential residential exemption and the classification hearing.

REAL/PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX

Commitments/Warrants

The Board signed summary FY 15 property tax commitments and water/sewer warrants for the following:

Real Estate Tax	$ 65,201,696.74
CPA	$ 1,167,454.23
Personal Property	$ 1,965,096.25
Water Liens Interest	$ 7,338.51
Water Liens	$ 98,299.22
Sewer Liens	$ 57,935.20
Sewer Liens Interest	$ 6,223.66

Personal Exemptions and Deferrals

The Board signed a form that was submitted to the Department of Revenue for partial reimbursement of FY 15 personal exemptions. For FY 15 there were a total of 102 personal exemptions and deferrals totaling $106,611.23, as follows:

	#	Value		#	Value
Clause 17D	3	$ 1,281.60	Clause 37A	10	$ 8,479.91
Clause 18	0	0.00	Clause 41C	23	34,155.85
Clause 22	58	55,193.87	Clause 41A	1	4,000.00
Clause 50	7	3,500.00			

MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE TAX

Abatements

The following total amounts of motor vehicle excise tax abatements for July 2014 through June 2015 were signed by the Board:

2007	30,124.04
2008	11,642.51
2012	439.79
2013	2,349.91
2014	80,134.65
2015	188,849.89

Commitments/Warrants

Motor Vehicle excise tax commitments and warrants for the following yearly totals were signed by the Board:

2012	98.75
2013	302.50
2014	234,602.49
2015	485,719.93

SPECIAL MEETINGS

The Select Board is responsible for allocation of the tax rate (Minimum Residential Factor): whether or not to have a Residential Exemption, and other distributions of the tax burden within classes as allowed by the law. The required public meeting to discuss these issues was held on December 1, 2014 in the Town Hall. Board of Assessors recommendations included not to have a split rate and not to exercise the Residential Exemption. The Select Board approved a single tax rate for all classes and no shifts of the tax burden within classes.

TAX RATE/ETC.

Board members signed the Tax Rate Recapitulation form for FY 15 on December 1, 2014, showing a tax rate of $20.54 The rate was reviewed and approved by the Department of Revenue (DOR) on December 9, 2014.
Prepared from the Board meeting minutes.

For: Carl Mailler
Jeffrey Morgan
John Kick

Amherst Board of Assessors

COLLECTOR/TREASURER
Fiscal Year 2015

Fiscal year 2015 was a stable and successful year for the Treasurer/Collector's office and Central Services.

Earnings on general fund investments rebounded slightly in FY 15, $90,482, due to the relocation of our checking accounts and funds on hand following a competitive bid process. Several local banks offered the Town advantageous rates on Certificate of Deposit and Money Market type accounts, which contributed as well. As a well-managed municipality, the treasury has significant funds to invest according to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws.

Our decision to invest with the State Retiree Benefits Trust Fund (SRBTF) with investment management provided by the state Pension Reserves Investment Management Board (PRIM) has paid off for the fund, as FY 15 growth in the trust was 4.56%, a rate well beyond what the Town would accomplish if managing locally. Growth in our OPEB trust fund when including contributions as appropriated in the FY 15 budget was 35%, ending the year at over $2.2 million.

Although low rates hurt when investing our funds, we also borrowed very affordably this year. Our bond issue in March benefitted from this rate environment. We issued long term bonds to purchase affordable housing restrictions at Rolling Green apartment complex and to renovate the former school building on East Street. Our bonds were sold in the market 1.43% total interest cost.

The Treasurer continued to bill and collect funds for the Amherst Business Improvement District (BID). Through the end of FY 15, $769,450 was collected and turned over to the BID to support the BID mission.

Billing and collections continue on throughout the year for the Town's taxes, transfer station, police outside detail, ambulance service, water and sewer utility, and parking violations. Significant levies are summarized in the report on the following page. For a second year, property owners now have the option to enroll to receive real estate and utility bills by email, although this option has not proven very popular. Online payment for most bill types is available at www.amherstma.gov, which continues to grow in use by the Amherst population.

This office continues to work toward increasing our use of electronic payment options as we pay both employees and vendors. Our banking set-up and central software system provide these tools to help improve our efficiency and reduce fraud risk.

Respectfully submitted,

Claire McGinnis
Treasurer/Collector

Fiscal Year 2015 Treasurer/Collector Accounts Receivable

	Rate	6/30/2014	New Bills	Abated	Transferred	Collected	6/30/2015
Real Estate Tax							
FY07	15.68	$82		82			$0
FY08	16.02	$84		84			0
FY09	15.82	$63		63			0
FY10	16.95	$59		59			0
FY11	18.20	$63		63			0
FY12	19.74	$2,097		69	2,028		0
FY13	20.39	$16,802		15,626	8,098	(6,926)	4
FY14	20.97	$497,645		260	196,932	297,116	3,337
FY15	20.54	$43,702,907		242,858		42,895,642	564,407
		$516,895	$0	$16,306	$207,058	$290,190	$3,341
Other Real Estate Based Taxes							
Supplemental Taxes		0					$0
Rollback Taxes		0	3,209			3,209	0
ProForma/ProRata		0	4,176			4,176	0
		$0	$7,385	$0	$0	$7,385	$0
Personal Property Tax							
FY09	15.82	$985					985
FY10	16.95	$951					951
FY11	18.20	$3,581				104	3,477
FY12	19.74	$2,047				113	1,934
FY13	20.39	$1,598				61	1,537
FY14	20.97	$3,501				1,599	1,902
FY15	20.54		1,290,528	156		1,274,343	16,029
		$16,393	$0	$0	$0	$1,877	$14,516
Motor Vehicle Excise							
FY07	25.00	$30,185		30,124		61	0
FY08	25.00	$11,746		11,643		103	0
FY09	25.00	$11,147				278	10,869
FY10	25.00	$12,033				1,178	10,855
FY11	25.00	$12,477				1,200	11,277
FY12	25.00	$16,069	99	440		2,992	12,736
FY13	25.00	$20,855	303	2,350		7,268	11,540
FY14	25.00	$68,659	234,602	80,135		196,078	27,048
FY15	25.00	$0	1,675,952	188,850		1,411,852	75,250
		$183,171	$235,004	$124,692	$0	$209,158	$84,325

Fiscal Year 2015 Treasurer/Collector Accounts Receivable

	Rate	6/30/2014	New Bills	Abated	Transferred	Collected	6/30/2015
Water Recievables							
Water Bills		$419,125	4,045,607.19	40,763.45		$3,993,209	$430,760
Liens		$10,430	75,638	5,478		67,710	12,880
		$429,555	$4,121,245	$46,241	$0	$4,060,919	$443,640
Sewer Recievables							
Sewer Bills		$413,553	3,990,434	22,313		3,962,035	419,639
Liens		$9,106	64,159	4,580		57,024	11,661
		$422,659	$4,054,593	$26,893	$0	$4,019,059	$431,300
Ambulance Bills		1,065,792	$3,746,161	1,351,671		2,016,489	1,443,793
Collected after abate						2,402	
		$1,065,792	$3,746,161	$1,351,671	$0	$2,018,891	$1,443,793
Refuse		$12,076	$93,945	$2,331		$95,561	$8,129
Refuse Liens		$0					0
		$12,076	$93,945	$2,331	$0	$95,561	$8,129
Parking Violations		$315,426	343,965	36,695		280,776	341,920
Collected after abate						1,225	0
		$315,426	$343,965	$36,695	$0	$282,001	$341,920
Community Preservation Surcharge							
FY13	1.5	$91		1	47	43	0
FY14	1.5	$4,075		1,295	410	2,370	0
FY15	3.0		941,268	6,660		924,759	9,849
		$4,166	$0	$1,296	$457	$2,413	$0
Treasurer Recievables							
Tax Title Accounts		640,814	242,840			207,502	676,152
Deferred Tax Accounts		119,023	4,000			21,640	101,383
		$759,837	$246,840	$0	$0	$229,142	$777,535

Levies with zero balances will no longer be displayed in subsequent years.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT COMMITTEE
Fiscal Year 2015

The Community Preservation Act (CPA) was adopted by Amherst voters in April 2001, which established a local fund based on a 1% tax surcharge on property valuations above $100,000 *"for the acquisition, creation and preservation of open space; for the acquisition, preservation, rehabilitation and restoration of historic resources; for the acquisition, creation and preservation of land for recreational use; for the creation, preservation and support of community housing; and for the rehabilitation or restoration of open space, land for recreational use and community housing that is acquired or created."* In November 2014, Amherst voters approved an increase to 3% tax surcharge, which came into effect retroactively for July 1, 2014.The law also established a State Trust Fund, from which annual allocations are made to towns that have accepted the Act, partially or fully matching local appropriations. This has allowed for a wide range of projects to be undertaken. Local allocations have were matched 32% by the state for FY 15.

The Community Preservation Act Committee (CPAC) is charged with assessing the needs of the Town in those areas identified by the Act, and recommending relevant expenditures to Town Meeting. By state law, CPA funds are to be spent only on community housing, historic preservation, open space, and recreation.

In allocating the Community Preservation Act 3% surcharge and 32% matching state funds the Community Preservation Act Committee (CPAC) committed to:

a) Advancing projects currently underway
b) Projects broadly supported by the public, Town committees and departments, or
c) Meeting ongoing legal obligations

Under the Community Preservation Act, a minimum of 10% of the available funds (from the surcharge and the state match) must be set aside each year (although not necessarily spent) on each of the three following categories:

- Affordable Housing creation and support
- Historic Building and Landscape acquisition and preservation
- Open Space acquisition and preservation

Recreation is the fourth recipient, or beneficiary, but is not mandated to receive the minimum 10%. Therefore the remaining 70% may be directed toward any of the above three categories or for land used as Recreation Space.

CPAC members at the time the recommendations for FY 15 were voted:

Sandra Anderson	Planning Board
Marilyn Blaustein	at Large
Paris Boice	Conservation Commission
Jim Brissette	LSSE Commission
Peter Jessop (Chair)	Housing Authority
Ellen Kosmer	at Large
Laura Lovett	Historical Commission
Jim Oldham	at Large
Mary Streeter (V Chair)	at Large

Beginning Fund Balance July 1, 2014	**$ 310,297.42**
Current Year Tax Surcharge at 3%	$ 921,778.04
Actual State Reimbursement is 32% of FY14 Collected Surcharge	$ 138,981.00
Other	$ 102,122.39
Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2015	$ (499,058.00)
Ending Fund Balance June 30, 2015	**$ 974,120.85**

FY2015 APPROPRIATED BY CATEGORY	Community Housing	Historical Preservation	Open Space	Recreation	Admin. Other	Total Appropriation
Project						
Housing Choice Voucher Program	50,000					
Habitat for Humanity Hawthorne Farm	80,000					
332 West Street Barn Restoration		75,000				
Conservation Restrictions			40,000			
Conservation surveys and appraisals			25,000			
LSSE - Groff Park Wading Pool				4,000		
CPAC Administrative Expenses					2,000	
Saul Property			41,785			
Rolling Green Preservation of Affordable Housing Units (borrowing $1,250,000)						
Purchase 650-652 S. East street (Rock Farm) Debt (year 1 of 10)			7,284			
AHA Preservation of units at Ann Whalen Debt (year 1 of 10)			13,353			
Town Hall Masonry Debt (year 5 0f 10)		26,156				
Plum Brook Debt (year 10 of 10)				32,155		
Hawthorne Property - Debt Service 43% Housing, 57% Recreation (year 4 of 10)	25,639		33,986			
Amherst Housing Authority (year 3 of 10)	42,700					
Total Appropriated for FY15	**$ 198,338.75**	**$ 101,156.00**	**$ 161,408.25**	**$ 36,155.00**	**$ 2,000.00**	**$ 499,058.00**

AMHERST COUNCIL ON AGING
Fiscal Year 2015

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES: Daniel Clapp completed three three-year terms and was re-appointed to serve again as Chair. Mary Jane Laus completed two three-year terms. Norma Hallock completed a partial one-year term as a short term after Barbara Sutherland passed away. Norma Hallock was reappointed for a full three-year term. Joel Gordon retired early as Vice-chair, having served for 7 years on the COA. New members appointed were Etta Walsh and Mary Hough each for a three-year term. Jack Wollensak, John Magarian, Tim Atteridge, Richard Kofler and Susan Dierks continue on the Board. Connie Kruger is serving as Select Board Liaison.

FY 15 HIGHLIGHTS

The Friends of the Amherst Senior Center raised contributions to benefit seniors in FY 15 totaling $31,551.54, of which $25,850 went directly to programs and services to benefit seniors. Fundraising activities included a White Elephant Sale at the Sustainability Festival, the Amherst Follies, Johnny's Tavern dinner (with 20% of the food bill going to the ASC), the Iraqi Young Leaders Program, the Singing Supper, the Indoors Farmers' Market, and the annual Census solicitation.

- **The Annual Volunteer Awards Program** was held in October. Norma Packard and the late Barbara Sutherland were honored with the Eveline Sears Senior Activist Awards 2015. David Stevens, MCOA Executive director was the speaker. Many of Barb's family flew in especially for this event.
- **The Massachusetts Council on Aging** held its annual conference in October in Falmouth, MA. Two members of the Amherst COA, Jack Wollensak and Sue Dierks, and two staff members, Maura Plante and Helen MacMellon, attended and gave reports to the COA.
- **The Boston Post Cane Award** was presented to Marietta Iantosca, the oldest citizen in Amherst at age 103. A new locking oak display cabinet for the cane was made by David Sully and hung on the wall in the lounge. A plaque listing the names of recipients will soon be installed.
- **The Caregivers Program** received a grant of $2000 from our Highland Valley Elder Services, our Area Agency on Aging, which enabled Peg Denault, a nurse, to assist Helen MacMellon, social worker, in providing regular support group meetings for caregivers in need of practical and emotional support with their challenge. As well, a library of resource books and informational pamphlets was made available to participants of the program.
- **The Senior Parking Program**, which began in 2012, continues to help seniors attending events and the many volunteers helping at the Center. 139 parking stickers were sold in FY 15.
- **The Convalescent Equipment Closet** continues to be a much–used and appreciated service with a heavy demand on transfer wheelchairs and walkers with seats and brakes amongst the many items available. While several purchases for equipment were made to keep up with the demand, 389 items were also donated with an estimated value of over $21,717. 224 seniors (unduplicated) or 296 seniors (duplicated) borrowed 397 pieces of convalescent equipment.
- **Senior Aide** Christine Stewart's hours were extended from 20 to 29 for five months. Christine assists Maura in organizing medical rides for seniors as well as finding deliverers for the Meals-on-Wheels program.
- **The Medical Wellness Ride Program** had to increase the fee schedule to avoid being in the red. Seniors needing transportation to medical appointments call two days in advance to book their rides ranging from in town to as far away as Greenfield and West Springfield. The PVTA van service also continues to offer an option.
- **HVES New Director** Allen Ouimet visited the ASC and discussed some ideas for meal changes, as well as the possibility of Highland Valley giving ASC the $ to purchase the meals from UMass.

- **The Elder Nutrition Program** through Highland Valley Elder Services changed the formula used to fund the Center's Lunch Site Director to $.95 for each meal delivered or eaten at the senior center. It is hoped that this change will reduce our budget deficit for the lunch site. Suggested donations from clients have been raised to $2 per meal at the congregate site.
- **Senior Center Emergency Funds** received a generous donation of $1500 from the Amherst Club. This donation enables the SC to continue to assist seniors with paying for utility and rent arrears, medical/dental bills, medically necessary equipment, emergency home/furnace repairs, housing situations where the eviction or condemnation process has been started, and miscellaneous situations on a case-by-case basis.
- **The seven-passenger van** continues to provide transportation for outreach home visits, emergency rides, occasional meal deliver, picking up supplies, mailing the newsletter trays and taking seniors grocery shopping on a weekly basis. The van, purchased by the Friends of the Amherst Senior Center, has a Town seal on the side and is parked in the Boltwood garage.
- **Town Manager John Musante** visited the COA to discuss several items including his Bangs "reorganization initiative", the Satellite Health Center initiative, and his FY 16 budget proposal. John continues his commitment to transition our Administrative Assistant (Office Manager) off the Department of Elder Affairs' Formula Grant onto Town funds and using a lesser amount of the Friends budget to pay for our second Social Worker's salary (otherwise funded by the Formula Grant.) John has agreed to have the Town fund benefits for this 30 hr/wk position as well. With the Community Development Block funds will be available for renovations in the Bangs Center including the six bathrooms. The Health Director, Julie Federman will work with Nancy and the Vets to better coordinate services, programming and spacing at the Bangs Center.
- **Ron Bohonowicz** gave several updates on the proposed renovations in the Bangs Center: the 6 bathrooms, the windows and blinds in the SC Lounge, wider access into the lounge for wheelchairs, new chairs to replace the couches in the lobby, flooring in the hallway and the large activity room.
- **Architect Lawson Wulsin,** from the firm of Jones Whitsett Architects, visited the COA with Ron Bohonowicz to describe the work to be done on the renovations of the 6 bathrooms in the Bangs Center.
- **Safety Issues for Seniors** at the Bangs Center became a great concern during the past year. New cameras at the outside doors were installed to discourage inappropriate behavior by the doors. The couches in the lobby were removed as used needles were found in them. A door-lock system using the MySeniorCenter scan card is being looked at as a way to keep the bathrooms more secure. All Bangs doors are locked at 4:30 except for the front door. New NO Smoking signs have been placed by all the entrances to the Bangs Center.
- **Craig's Doors Director Rebekah Wilder** visited the COA to discuss the homeless program offered in Amherst during the winter months and its impact on the SC when homeless folk seek places to be during the day hours when the seasonal shelter is not open. One of those places is the Bangs Center.
- **Director of Information Technology,** Kris Pacunas, visited the COA to describe the services offered to the community and the improvements at the Bangs Center: the large wall TV in the computer room is mounted for training; flat screen TV's will be installed in meeting rooms in the lower level of the Bangs Center; some of the computers in the public computer room may be changed; the Town's website is being made mobile-friendly and easier for seniors to navigate.
- **The Long-Range Planning Committee** continues to investigate possibilities for planning a new senior center. The sub-committee has made visits to 15 new senior centers and 3 older ones in the area since the beginning of their research from 2011 to 2015. During the MCOA Conference two members of the sub-committee visited three new senior centers on the Cape. These visits help give the sub-committee information and direction for planning ASC new center.

- **Barbara Sutherland's passing** was a sad loss to the COA and the Amherst community at large. Her dedication and service to the ASC was commemorated at her Memorial Service and the Annual Volunteers
Award Program.

FY 16 FUTURE PLANS

- The Senior Center will continue to explore the possibilities and funding for a new stand-alone senior center that would better accommodate the growing senior population for their social, physical and psychological well being.
- The COA remains committed to maintain the home delivery of meals to elders in need despite the continual financial constraints.
- The COA will continue to work toward incorporating an Adult Social Day Care program into any new space we might acquire at the Senior Center.
- The COA will continue to work with and support the Friends of the Amherst Senior Center in their fundraising events.
- The COA is committed to an ongoing collaborative relationship with the Select Board and other Town agencies as we seek to provide updated stimulating activities and aid for the seniors of our Town.

AMHERST SENIOR CENTER

PRINCIPAL GOAL: To run a multi-purpose Senior Center that serves as the community focal point for the provision of services to the elderly. The S. C. works to initiate, facilitate, coordinate, and/or provide those services which in the broadest sense enhance dignity, support independence, maintain health, and promote the involvement of Amherst's elderly in the general community.

THE SENIOR CENTER: A VITAL COMMUNITY RESOURCE
Whether it's simply reading our 16-page **bi-monthly newsletter, *THE SENIOR SPIRIT***, or coming in daily for the hot lunch program, Amherst's older residents have come to rely on the Senior Center. Here are examples of some of our program and service offerings in FY 15:

CLINICS AND SPECIAL HEALTH - RELATED SERVICES: Weekly foot care and ear irrigation clinics with RN Sharon Beaulieu, bi-monthly ear irrigation clinics with Dr. Daniel Clapp, weekly massage clinics, weekly blood pressure clinics, flu immunization clinic with Health Department, hearing aid repair, hearing loss screening, free consultations two days a week with Lisa White R.N., BSN, psychological counseling, monthly "Tooth Fairy" teeth cleaning clinics with Marcie Foreman, Free Convalescent Equipment Loan Closet, Medical Rides, acupuncture clinics, Physical Therapist Free Consultations, AARP "We Need to Talk: When Is It Time to Give Up Driving"

FITNESS PROGRAMS/CLASSES: Gentle Fitness, Tai Chi, Folkdance, Line dancing, Ballroom dancing, Osteoporosis Progressive Resistance Training Exercise, Function Well, Morning Yoga, Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program, Level One Yoga Mat Classes, Zumba Gold classes, Dance for Fun & Fitness

ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES, EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS/WORKSHOPS
HEALTH SEMINARS: "Total Joint Replacements" with Dr. McBride; "Lyme and Other Tickborne Illness—Be 'Tick Smart'"" by Lisa White, RN,BSN; "Emotion and Aging" by Genna Santorelli; "How to Care for an Aging Spouse or Relative" by Bryan McKeever of The Roche Associates; "Tips to Stay Healthy in Spite of Mosquitos";"MOLST—Medical Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment" by Jeanne Ryan; "Blossoming Into Light"—Transformational Healing Services; "Achieving Optimal Health Through Age Management Medicine" by Dr. Bruce Goderez and Meg Hartmann, N.D.; "Chronic Disease Self Management" Classes; "Chronic Pain Self Management" classes; "Aging and Health Support and Learning Group"; "Diabetes Self Management" classes; "Visions of Independence—A Resource for People With Low Vision"; "Preventing Falls in Older Adults" Education Series Offered by VNA & Hospice of Cooley Dickinson; "Planning for Medicare" Seminar of Blue Cross Blue Shield; Mini Health Fair by UMass Nursing Stu-

dents; "Joint Pain & Treatment Options" by Dr. Daniel Sage; "Cancer Surviving and Thriving" Series; **FINANCIAL and LEGAL PROGRAMS**: "Maximizing Your Social Security Benefits" with Kylie Johnson of Merrill Lunch; "Reaching Your Goals: Wealth Management Strategies for Women" by Kylie Johnson; "Women and Money: Putting Yourself First"; "Making the Most of your Retirement Assets", "Investing in a 'Transforming World' ", "Essential Estate Planning" with Attorney Seunghee Cha; Ayaz Mahmud's monthly "Money Talk"; Edward Jones' Financial Seminars, Monthly Legal Clinics with Attorney Ed Smith; Two Part Housing Series on Moving to Assisted Living; Blue Cross Blue Shield's "Planning for Medicare" Seminar **WRITING, MUSIC and LITERATURE COURSES** Hector Berlioz: The Artist as Hero" Series; weekly Memoir Writing workshops, *Shakespeare's* Antony and Cleopatra; *Shakespeare's* Trolius and Cressida; *Shakespeare's* King Lear, "What Would Alice Do-- How to Fight Brain-Melt" book discussion; *Shakespeare's* Macbeth; *Shakespeare's* Cymbeline**;** "Richard Strauss and His Musical World" Course; **ART and CRAFTS CLASSES** "Techniques With Various Mediums"; "The Magic of Paper Marbling" with Dan and Regina St. John; "The Joy of Japanese Prints"; "Poetic Art Forms: Early Twentieth Century Styles in Film and Painting Series; Drawing People Class; Back to Basic Drawing Class; The Value of Value Class; Texture Class; Basic Color Theory; Colored Pencil Techniques; Holiday Themes, Drawing Fabric, Pen and Ink/Water Soluble, Drawing People, Introduction to Pen and Ink, Introduction to Scratchboard, Collage, Drawing Trees, Grass and Small Shrubs; Drawing Flowers, Birds and Butterflies, Color Theory, Colored Pencils/Watercolor Pencils, Oil Pastel/Water Soluble Oil Pastels, Basic Transparent Watercolor, Formal One & Two Point Perspective; **COSMOLOGY CLASSES** "Beyond the Big Bang"; Quantum Gravity & CCC Conformal Cyclic Cosmology; Road to Quantum, Realistic Reality; Explosions of Stars—Why Do Stars Explode?; Entropy, The Second Law of Thermodynamics, Its importance in Theoretical Physics and Cosmology; An Illusion: Randomness and a Relationship to Possible Multiverse Unification; **OTHER CLASSES and SEMINARS** Beginning Bridge Classes; American Mah Johngg Classes; "Cooking Class with Tina Berins"; Amherst Fire Department Safety Seminars: Fall Prevention; Kitchen Safety; Fire Prevention; 911; "Evolution of a Photographic Vision with Michael Zide"; "I Wish I Had Asked" Seminars; Weekly New Options Discussions; Telling Your Life Story discussions; "Try Out a Bike" Seminar; AARP Smart Driver Course; "Mannerism" Seminar by Richard O'Brien; "Concerns About Global Warming and Radioactivity From a Philosopher's Perspective" presented by Professor Emeritus James van Luik; Japanese Culture Classes (8): Origami, Furoshiko, Japanese Calligraphy, Kimono, Changes in Japan, Tea Ceremony, Flower Arrangement, and Incense Ceremony; Sustainable Energy presentation by Coop Power; "Secrets of Successful Portrait Photography" with Michael Zide; "Why Our Stories Matter" a seminar with Thatcher Freund; and hundreds of one-on-one computer tutoring lessons. CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP MEETINGS;

SOCIAL RECREATION: MUSIC PROGRAMS "Listen to Music and Live Better and Longer" Seminar with Eric Weld; Concert with Bill Foley; Concert with Roger Tincknell; Eric Weld on the Piano; "Hector Berlioz: the Artist As Hero" Part II Seminars; "Name That Tune" bi-monthly series; "Music is Love" with Dawn Kelley & Dick Miller Concert; The Gray Divas Concert; Dan Daniels Concert; Concert with Laurie Festa; Len Solomon Concert; Concert with Lisa Woods, Teri LaFleur & Jerry Noble; Concert with Dawn Kelley & Dick Miller; weekly Name That Tune singing and dancing session, lunchtime weekly piano entertainment by Gerry Weinstein; **GAMES** bridge, scrabble, billiards, chess, Chinese Mahjongg, weekly cribbage classes/games, Mexican Train Dominos, ping pong. **TRIPS:** Culinary Institute of America and Roosevelt Home and Library; Boston Pops at Tanglewood; Day in Rockport, Williamstown Shopping/ Lunch & Sterline & Francine Clark Art Institute; Boston Symphony Orchestra Concerts; Spain Classics 11-day trip; The National September 11 Memorial Museum at the Word Trade Center in NYC; Boston Symphony Orchestra Concert; Day on Your Own in Boston; Irving Berlin's "White Christmas" Musical in Boston and lunch at Maggiano's; Cinemark Movie & Dinner at Goten; Gould's Sugar House & Kringle Candle; Boston Symphony Orchestra Concert; "America's Music Cities" 8-day tour; "Discover Scotland" 10 day tour; Eastern States Exposition; Steaming Tender Luncheon in Palmer; "Art in Bloom" at the Boston Museum of Fine Arts; Boston Symphony Spring Concert; Red Lobster Restaurant& Wadsworth Atheneum; Lake Winnipesaukee Cruise and On-Board Buffet; **SPECIAL EVENTS**: Iraqi Student Fundraiser; Annual Volunteer Awards Tea; Thanksgiving Dinner; Annual Holiday Party; Amherst College "Ageless" Singing Suppers, Fifth Annual Spring Follies, Root Beer Ice Cream Float Social with Entertainment by Donna Lee En-

tertainment, Public Safety Picnic at Hadley Young Men's Club; Ice Cream Social with Eric Weld Enterainment; "How About a Little Humor?" Comedy Social with David Shikes

SERVICES TO INDIVIDUALS: HVES (Highland Valley Elder Services) Title III Congregate hot lunch program, Meals on Wheels evening hot supper through the University of Massachusetts, HVES Title III Home Delivered hot lunch, AARP Tax Assistance, leaf raking and help with snow/ice removal, personal care/homemaking referral, friendly visitor program, social worker counseling/I+R, Brown Bag monthly groceries through Western Mass. Food Bank, Food Box monthly groceries through Amherst Survival Center, free weekly bread/produce giveaway, fuel assistance, emergency food pantry, volunteer driving to doctor's appointments, SHINE health insurance counseling, Convalescent Loan Closet, Tax Work-Off Plan intake, & placement, subsidized van ticket sales, wellness grants, farmers' market coupon distribution, medical rides, free medical equipment loan closet, and partnership with the SALT Council to provide services such as house numbering, RUOK, File of Life, Drug Take Back Day, SAFE Elder project), Salvation Army Office Hours for Emergency Assistance, H.E.L.P. (Hampshire Elder Law Program) Assistance, Prescription Pick-Up and Delivery, PVTA ID cards photos, private pay home help, parking sticker program, home safety assessments, Free Bi-Monthly Newsletter.

PARTICIPATION IN FREE/LOW COST FOOD PROGRAMS

Name of Program	FY 11	FY 12	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15
Congregate Hot Lunch	5804 (2.8% decrease caused by 7 snow days i.e. 150 meals otherwise the program had no measurable change)	5285 (8% decrease This year we lost a number of daily diners. Seven went into nursing homes or moved and one who died.)	5669 (6% increase as more people seek to cut their grocery bills)	5798 (2% increase as more people seek to cut their grocery bills)	6,123 (15% increase as more people seek to cut their grocery bills)
Meals on Wheels (UMass food delivered mid-afternoon)	4,867 (5.3% increase if there had been no snow days the count would have been 5009 meals or a 8.4% increase)	6,074 (19% increase) (More community awareness with discharge planners)	6,068 No change	6,435 (Several people have had to switch from the HVES home delivered meals which are no longer available to them)	7,625 (18% increase as many people had to switch from the HVES home delivered meals or do not qualify for them)
Home delivered meals (HVES food delivered at 11 AM)	13,924 (8.3% decrease) partially due to 4 days of weather issues = 245 meals. (Otherwise 6.7 % decrease)	10,805 (22% decrease) meals for 30 people were suspended or terminated by HVES for various reasons.)	10,231 (9% decrease because many people are no longer eligible for this grant-funded program managed by HVES	8,327 (8% decrease because many people are no longer eligible for this grant-funded program managed by HVES	5,838 (29% decrease because many people are no longer eligible for this grant-funded program managed by HVES)

Name of Program	FY 11	FY 12	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15
Brown Bag (Western Mass Food Bank)	979 (7.2% decrease)	820 (16% decrease b/c the Western Mass Food Bank is following the income guidelines more closely as food resources are more limited.	862 Food costs have increased and this program provides more food security.	927 Food costs have increased and this program provides more food security.	840 (9% decrease because currently the food is canned or prepackaged and has high sodium content)
Senior Mobile Pantry (Survival Center food)	429 (8.4 % decrease)	421 (More seniors are opting to go to the Survival Center where they can be more selective about their food choices.)	468 Food costs have increased and this program provides more food security.	475 Food costs have increased and this program provides more food security.	479 No significant change.
Free Bread & Produce Giveaway	2,262 (6.3% increase) The program would have seen a 15.7% increase if we didn't have to cancel 4 weeks due to snow and elections	2007 (11% decrease probably because there is less food to go around. Merchants are trying not to overstock and overbake.)	2403 Food costs have increased and this program provides more food security.	2,891 Food costs have increased and this program provides more food security.	3,038 Food costs have increased and this program provides more food security
Grocery Pantry Emergency Food Give-away	37 (12% decrease because more people are participating in the weekly free bread and Produce program.)	29 (21% decrease in visits b/c more people are going to the Survival Center where there is a larger emergency pantry.)	38 Many seniors live on limited incomes and are having a hard time making their money last through the month.	30 This decrease is due to increases in other free food programs.	29 Other food programs usually are sufficient to carry folks through the month.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND PROGRESS (THIS LIST IS NOT EXHAUSTIVE)

SOCIAL WORKER - The Town is now in year two of transitioning the grant-funded portion of our administrative assistant (office manager) off the EOEA Formula Grant so that that money can provide greater support to paying for increased hours for our now 30-hour a week second social worker. The Friends have been supporting a large portion of this second social worker's wage because of the huge need for increased outreach/case management hours here. The Town agreed to fund pro-rated benefits additionally in FY 15.

CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP - A Title 3 Grant for $2,000 from Highland Valley Elder Services allowed us to provide a Caregivers Support Group from October 1, 2014 – September 30, 2015. The support group is co-facilitated by an LCSW and an RN and has grown to 25 unduplicated members. Over 9 months, 19 support group sessions have been provided with members also utilizing the Caregivers Lending Library and 1:1 meetings with staff social workers for additional emotional support, information and referral.

UMASS MEALS ON WHEELS - Another delivery route was added to this self-supporting home delivered meals program for Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. The total number of meals delivered has increased to 50 on the days when 3 routes are delivered and 30-40 on the other 2 days. Participants pay $5.25 per day for a hot evening meal and a brown bag lunch for the next day. UMass Dining Services also added vegetarian options for both meals which, at this time, are utilized by a small portion of the participants.

THE CONVALESCENT EQUIPMENT LOAN CLOSET continues to be a much–used and appreciated service with a heavy demand on transfer wheelchairs and walkers with seats and brakes amongst the many items available. While several purchases for equipment were made to keep up with the demand, 389 items were also donated with an estimated value of over $21,717. 224 seniors (unduplicated) or 296 seniors (duplicated) borrowed 397 pieces of convalescent equipment.

MASS COUNCIL ON AGING CONFERENCE - Three COA members and two staff members attended the October conference in Falmouth. Registration was paid by the Friends of the Amherst Senior Center. COA members visited three Cape Cod senior centers to gain more ideas for our hoped-for new facility.

THE MEDICAL WELLNESS RIDE PROGRAM - This fee-based self-supporting program has 13 volunteer drivers who provide medical appointment rides to Amherst seniors age 60+ who are capable of independent decision-making and planning. All participants must ambulate independently and not need any assistance. In order to be self-supporting, we instituted a flat-fee schedule for the rides depending on the destination. The collected fees are utilized as a stipend for the driver's mileage. For FY 15, the drivers provided 229 rides to 58 seniors.

THE NOONTIME NUTRITION PROGRAM grant-funded by our Area Agency on Aging, Highland Valley Elder Services, is operating with an amended funding formula this year. Previously we received $1.19 reimbursement for each home-delivered meal, but now we are paid $.95 for each meal delivered or eaten at the senior center. The new formula is an improvement, but appears to still fall short of covering the cost of the Site Director even though the number of congregate meals served has increased. The shortfalls at the end of the Town's FY 15 fiscal year have had to be covered by funds from our UMass Meals on Wheels Program. In FY 16, the per-meal dollar amount will have to be adjusted by our AAA as the home-delivered meals count continues to steadily decrease. Funds from the Friends cover all other nutrition program-related expenses, e.g. coffee, some condiments, paper goods, new equipment/supplies and decorations.

SENIOR CENTER EMERGENCY FUNDS received a generous donation of $1,500 from the Amherst Club. This donation enables the SC to continue to assist seniors with paying for utility and rent arrears, medical/dental bills, medically necessary equipment, emergency home/furnace repairs, housing situations where the eviction or condemnation process has been started, and miscellaneous situations on a case-by-case basis.**THE FRIENDS OF THE AMHERST SENIOR CENTER** raised contributions to benefit seniors in FY 15 totaling $31,551.54, of which $25,850 went directly to programs and services to benefit seniors. Fundraising activities included a White Elephant Sale at the Sustainability Festival, the Amherst Follies, Johnny's Tavern dinner (with 20% of the food bill going to the ASC), the Iraqi Young Leaders Program, Florence Bank Community Choices Funding, the Singing Supper, the Indoor Farmers' Market, an Election Day Bake Sale, and the annual Census solicitation.

THE COA LONG-RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE continues to investigate possibilities for building a new senior center. The sub-committee has made visits to 15 new senior centers and 3 older ones in the area since the beginning of their research in 2011. During the MCOA Conference two members of the sub-committee visited three new senior centers on the Cape. These visits help give the sub-committee information and direction for planning.

In FY 15 approximately 13,323 hours of volunteer time was given by 294 volunteers in the following categories:

# of Hours Given	# of Volunteers
20 hours/week or more	1
5 hrs/wk up to 19.5 hrs/wk	8
1-5 hrs/wk	69
10hrs/yr to 50hrs/yr	76
Less than 10 hrs/yr	69

In-kind donations represent tangible goods or services generally considered essential for the Senior Center's operations, but not paid for out of its budget. See the table looking at some FY 15 in-kind donations (this list is not exhaustive.) The estimated in-kind total for FY 15 is $519,226.

In-Kind Donation	Estimated Value
Rent/Space (gross square feet=13,505)	$152,250
Gas donated by meals deliverers, staff	$4,307
Utilities	$23,000
Van, Gas & Service	$2,041
Custodial/Maintenance	$28,762
Plowing/Outside Maintenance	$16,607
Durable Medical Equipment	$21,700
Donated Goods	$896 (non-food)
Program Supplies	$2,651
Recognition Event	$666
Furniture/Equipment	$2,679
Office Supplies	$3,949
Entertainers	$3,375
MSC® Service Annual Fee	$1,170
Luncheons, food for all nutrition programs	$207,227
Cable TV Service, Golden Age Raio	$718
Books/Videos/Magazines/Puzzles	$1,500
Piano tuning	$100
Nursing Center Expenses	$13,845
Newsletter	$11,207
Lunch Site Director	$11,031
Water Cooler/Heater Rental	$240
ADs	$5,665
Equipment Repair	$1,015
Parking Expenses	$250
Conference Fees/Membership Dues	$1,295
Senior Aide	$10,926

Respectfully submitted, Nancy Hirsh Pagano, Director

CULTURAL COUNCIL
Fiscal Year 2015

Amherst Cultural Council was grateful for the allocation of $25,300 in state funding for 2015-16, which enabled us to assist a wide variety of cultural events from Folk Traditions to Handel's Messiah. We made 70 grants, ranging from $100 to $1400, with the average amount allocated being $250. Many of the very small grants funded projects in full, for example a single musician or storyteller performing for an audience of 20 to 30. The larger grants partially funded projects. Our aim was/is to support as many worthwhile projects as we can within the constraints of our budget. The total of grant monies requested was more than twice our state funded amount. Though we do make grants to artists or programs that reside out of town, the emphasis in our grants is to support those projects that make significant contributions to the artistic and cultural life of everyone in Amherst.

Our largest grant ($1400) went to the Public Arts Commission of Amherst, which at the time of the grant application was petitioning the Mass Cultural Council to establish a cultural district in downtown Amherst. The Council felt that establishment of a cultural district would boost tourism, support economic development and further enhance the cultural appeal of our town. We were very pleased to be able to make a significant contribution and we are happy to say that this spring the Mass Cultural Council approved a cultural district designation for Amherst.

Three other large grants went to proven successful applicants: Gallery A3, Hampshire Shakespeare Company, and the Eric Carle Picture Book Theater, all of which have been funded for several years and continue to demonstrate high quality and- of particular importance to us – have venues right here in Amherst. Gallery A3 not only provides exhibition space for Valley artists but it also organizes forums for dialogue between artists and the public. Hampshire Shakespeare offers outdoor summer productions of Shakespeare's plays for both youth and adult audiences on the grounds of the UMass Center for Renaissance Studies and the productions of the Picture Book Theater directed and designed by Therese Donahue bring Eric Carle's book illustrations to life for youthful audiences.

A project that reached out to a very wide and diverse population in the Valley was a stunning documentary film illustrating a type of dance called contact improvisation. This film, ***Intimate Dance*** created by Sanford Lewis of Amherst had its premiere this spring at the Academy of Music in Northampton.

It took five years and hundreds of hours of filming and editing to complete the film's theme of inclusivity in dance and embodiment. Meant to build a bridge between college students, dancers from the community and typically excluded populations such as the disabled and elderly, the film served as a platform for discussion after the performance about boundaries, cultural norms, healing, and expression of self through body movement and contact.

Involved in the project was dance faculty Steve Paxton of Amherst, founder of contact improvisation; a postdoctoral student in neuroimaging from Harvard, other neuroscientists from Smith College and the University of California, as well as evolutionary scientist Alito Alessi, creator of Dance Ability.

The Cultural Council also supported K through 6 school trips to the Fine Arts Center for a variety of multi-cultural productions and school field trips to historic Deerfield and Sturbridge Village.

Our business meetings began in the fall with an information session on September 19, attended by Council members and three interested artists from the Amherst community. We explained the process used to evaluate proposals, and the importance of having a professional member as part of the application as well as having specific dates and venues for activities, as well as the importance of a confirming letter for the venue, all weaknesses found in past applications.

After setting dates for reviewing applications, we then met from late October though December to read 85 applications, we funded 70, and denied 10. Five applicants who had submitted incomplete applications decided to withdraw.

We lost our liaison with the town, librarian Sondra Radosh, through retirement, though we were pleased to welcome her as a member of our Council. Our new town liaison, also a librarian at the Jones is Mia Cabana.

Arnold Friedmann having fulfilled two terms as member of the Council will no longer be with us this new granting cycle. Arnold and his always sage advice and thoughtful commentary will be missed.
We also elected a new secretary: Gigi Barnhill, and a new treasurer Andrea Battle.
We look forward to adding new members to the Council and are now planning an informational meeting for our new members for the coming year. We appreciate the state council's suggestions and assistance and look forward to a cultural new season!

Ellen Kosmer, Co-chair
Honore David, Co-chair

FINANCE COMMITTEE
Fiscal Year 2015

The Finance Committee advises the Town on matters affecting Town finances and makes transfers from the Reserve Fund to cover extraordinary or unforeseen expenses. The primary focus of the Committee's responsibility and work consists of adopting guidelines for managing the Town's money and recommending a comprehensive budget consistent with those guidelines to the Annual Town Meeting. In doing so, we consider recent-year trends, projections for the next few years, and prudent financial management practices. The Committee oversees the formulation and implementation of sound financial management policies. The Committee also advises Town Meeting about articles having financial implications.

The Finance Committee's recommended preliminary budget guidelines are presented in the fall to the Town Manager, Superintendent of Schools, and Library Director to provide them with information on the level of resources expected to be available for spending on operating and capital budgets in the next fiscal year. As we develop the guidelines, we consider the revenue expected from taxation, state aid including Chapter 70 education funds, and other sources. We also consider projections for revenue and expenses in future years, longer-term financial demands on the Town, and the need to maintain appropriate levels of reserves in the form of Free Cash and the Stabilization Fund. The guidelines are developed from the Finance Director's projections of revenues and spending for the previous, current, and next three to five fiscal years.

Changes to the guidelines sometimes occur as new information about funding sources and service needs becomes available during the budget process. Such changes might be to the amount of available resources and/or particular needs to support municipal services, elementary schools, regional schools, library services, and/or the capital budget. The Committee may change the recommended proportion of the total going to these different sections of the overall Town operating budget.

We get advice throughout the budget process from other boards and committees, staff, and the general public, including the Budget Coordinating Group and the Joint Capital Planning Committee. Two Finance Committee members serve on Budget Coordinating Group, two on the Joint Capital Planning Committee, and one on the Audit Committee. Committee members are also designated as liaisons to the Select Board, School Committees, and Library Trustees to facilitate a coordinated budget process and understand the challenges and needs of all Town programs and services.

Fiscal year 2016 guidelines and budget

The development of the FY 16 budget began in October 2014 with financial projections from Finance Director Sanford Pooler. Mr. Pooler projected a 2.9% revenue increase for FY 16. Our preliminary guidelines asked for operating budgets from the Town Manager and the elementary schools that would increase by 2.5% from current year (FY 15) levels and, from the libraries and Amherst Pelham Regional School district, budgets consistent with a 2.5% increase in Amherst's financial support. In addition, the guidelines proposed capital expenditures totaling 7.5% of the property tax levy. When the preliminary guidelines were developed, we projected that the budget would be balanced without use of Free Cash or Stabilization Funds. The General Fund budget approved by the 2015 Annual Town Meeting differed from the preliminary guidelines in several ways. First, the increase was slightly higher, due in part to an increase in state aid estimates. Second, the elementary school budget presented by the School Committee and Superintendent and recommended by the Finance Committee increased by only 1.8% from FY 15. Third, the municipal portion of the budget approved by Town Meeting increased by 3.0%, due in part to a successful motion by a Town Meeting member to add $105,000 to the recommended Community Services budget.

Property tax revenue is predictable since, without an override, it can increase by only 2.5% plus any additional taxation generated by new growth. The second largest source of revenue is from state aid,

mostly Chapter 70 funding for education and Unrestricted General Government Aid. As we developed our budget recommendation for Town Meeting, we initially assumed that there would be a 2.1% increase in state aid from the previous year. By the time of the Annual Town Meeting, the Legislature had still not approved its budget, but news from the House and Senate led us to predict an increase of 3.0% in state aid to Amherst.

Reserves
The Town has been spending reserves to support operating budgets, in varying amounts, from FY 02 through FY 15. For the FY 15 budget, the Finance Committee recommended and the 2015 Annual Town Meeting voted to use $125,000 from Free Cash to fund social services activities, after the last-minute loss of a Community Development Block Grant that would have paid for them. The Fall (2014) Town Meeting appropriated from Free Cash $170,073 in Medicare D reimbursements to the Town of Amherst's Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB) Trust, the Town of Pelham, and the Amherst-Pelham Regional School District, in proportion to their number of retirees receiving the benefit. (In addition, $1,354,023 was transferred from Free Cash to the Stabilization Fund, but this was a transfer between the two components of reserves and did not reduce the total.) The Department of Revenue certified Free Cash at the end of FY 15 at $4,322,441. That plus the Stabilization Fund ($5,603,245) meant that on June 30, 2015, the end of FY 15, total reserves were $9,925,686, which is 13.8% of General Fund operating revenues.

The section of the Finance Committee's 2008 Financial Management Policies and Objectives regarding reserves states "reserves, including the combined balance of Free Cash and Stabilization Fund, should be maintained at 5-15% of general fund operating revenues. The primary objective of the Town's reserve policy is to provide the Town the flexibility to sustain service levels despite the adverse financial impacts of economic downturns and unforeseen and extraordinary expenses." This goal is a widely accepted measure of good financial standing and a key factor in Amherst's bond rating

Fiscal year 2015 Reserve Fund transfer
The Reserve Fund is used by the Finance Committee to cover extraordinary or unforeseen expenses of the Town. An amount is appropriated at each Annual Town Meeting for this purpose. As in most years, the regular appropriation for FY 15 was $100,000. In addition, the 2015 Annual Town Meeting transferred $265,498 from Overlay Surplus to the FY 15 Reserve Fund. When the Committee met on July 9, 2015, we voted to transfer $251,176 from the Reserve Fund to the Department of Public Works functional area budget to make up for a deficit in the Snow and Ice removal budget resulting from this past winter's frequent and heavy snowfalls. That meant that $114,322 was returned to the Undesignated Fund Balance at the end of FY 15 and became Free Cash.

Other Post-employment Benefits (OPEB)
The Finance Committee recommended that the 2014 Fall Special Town Meeting appropriate $102,583 to the OPEB Trust from Medicare Part D reimbursements. Town Meeting made that appropriation as recommended. The 2015 Annual Town Meeting appropriated $200,000 from the FY 16 budget as the second annual appropriation from the General Fund to the OPEB Trust Fund, as we had recommended. Budget allocations totaling $255,902 within Water, Sewer, and Transportation Enterprise Funds were also made to the OPEB Trust Fund. The OPEB Trust was established at the 2010 Fall Special Town Meeting to enable the Town to hold funds to meet the large unfunded future obligation to provide health insurance for retirees. As of June 2014 the Town's OPEB liability was $95.7 million.

Meetings
The Committee held 20 meetings during the year, including a combined meeting with the Select Board, School Committee, and Jones Library Trustees, and meetings with the Amherst Select Board, Amherst School Committee, and representatives from the other three Regional School District towns (Pelham, Leverett, and Shutesbury). In addition, the committee co-sponsored with the Town Meeting Coordinating Committee a February public forum on understanding the budgeting process.

Members of the Committee
Members who served diligently and with great thoughtfulness were Stephen Braun, Bernard Kubiak, Kay Moran (Chair), Janice Ratner, Anurag Sharma, Douglas Slaughter, and Marylou Theilman (Vice-chair). Upon being elected to the Select Board in late March, Mr. Slaughter resigned from the Finance Committee. Timothy Neale was appointed to fill the empty seat as of July 1, 2015.

Thanks
The Committee required a great deal of staff support to gather information and to present it to Town Meeting. Sanford Pooler gave us invaluable support as Finance Director. He and the staff of the Finance Department provided necessary information about the Town's financial history and current situation. He contributed knowledge, experience, perspective, analysis and advice. Financial Analyst Maria Racca organized information for us and also produced our reports, usually under acute deadline pressure. Comptroller Sonia Aldrich provided timely, accurate and informative reports about town revenues and expenses, which enabled us to monitor the Town's financial performance as it operated on budgets adopted by the Town Meeting.

We rely on assistance of the Town Manager's office staff to help organize our operation. The committee's review and evaluation of the various parts of the Town's budget depends on the assistance of the Town Manager, School Superintendent, Library Director, and members of their staffs, along with department heads and other staff responsible for municipal services. Contributions of the Select Board, School Committee, and Jones Library Trustees are essential to arriving at an acceptable budget to recommend to Town Meeting. We thank them all for their generous assistance.

The Finance Committee organizes and presents financial information to Town Meeting members so that they can carry out their duty to determine spending policies and appropriate funding for Town, School, Library, and capital needs of the Town. We appreciate the comments and guidance they give us, both as individual members and as a group, the appropriating authority of the Town.

Kay Moran, Chair

FINANCE DIRECTOR
Fiscal Year 2015

The Finance Director is responsible for the coordination of all financial activities of the Town, managing and coordinating the activities of the Finance Department (Accounting, Assessing, Collections, and Treasury), developing operating and capital budgets and appropriate budgetary controls, and for effective financial planning and management of debt and debt policies. He also serves as the primary staff liaison to the Finance Committee, Joint Capital Planning Committee, and the Budget Coordinating Group.

FY 15 Budget
Town Meeting passed a General Fund budget of $71,394,757, an increase of 2.5% from the previous year. The tax rate was set to tax at the full levy limit. State Aid increased 1.9% from FY 14. A significant factor contributing to a balanced budget was the Town's favorable experience with health insurance. The health insurance trust fund had strong balances, and claims data for the year were modest enough that it was possible to have no rate increase for either the active employee plans or the retiree plans for the fourth year in a row, notwithstanding industry rate increases of 10% or higher.

The fiscal year closed with a surplus of $1.1 million (on an unaudited basis), which was equal to 1.5% of revenue. These figures are slightly higher than surpluses of previous years, and predominantly resulted from one time sources. The remaining surplus results from unspent expense budgets, typically due to short term vacancies in personnel. Departments expended 99.7% of their budgets, resulting in a turn-back of $237,896.

In FY 15 the total appropriated to the Town's Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) Trust Fund to meet the long term costs associated with health insurance benefits for retired Town employees was $502,583, across General Fund and all Enterprise Funds. The State certified Free Cash at $4,860,062, and the Fall Special Town Meeting transferred $1,354,023 to the Stabilization Fund, in accordance with the Town's Financial Policies that recommend transferring any amount of Free Cash in excess of 5% of the operating budget to the Stabilization Fund. Total Reserves, Free Cash and Stabilization Fund, ended the year at $8,919,211, or 12.5% of the General Fund budget. This metric is at the upper end of the range established by the Town's policy, which provides a floor and ceiling, 5% and 15% respectively, for reserves as percentage of total revenue.

Bond Sale and Rating Increase
In March 2015, the Town conducted a very successful bond sale, selling $1.95 million in bonds. $1.25 million of this was to purchase the Affordable Housing Restrictions to 41 units at Rolling Green apartment complex, and the remaining $700,000 to renovate the East Street School Building and bring it into compliance with the American's with Disabilities Act (ADA). The interest rate on the bonds was 1.43%. Standard & Poor's confirmed the Town's bond rating at AA+, its second highest rating. The ongoing work of conservative forecasting, reserve fund ratio maintenance, contributions to OPEB and Stabilization, in general, our adherence to the financial policies of the Town continues to reflect well in this annual metric.

Acknowledgements
As always, we acknowledge the hardworking employees in the Finance Department who perform necessary, critical, and often thankless work in the Accounting, Billing, Collection, Assessing, and Treasury functions in support of Town services. They are highly skilled and professional, dedicated to their jobs, and willing to solve the problems and challenges that arise in these offices. Their success has been acknowledged by our independent auditors who report timely and accurate financial reporting, strong cash management and investment practices, and sound internal controls. The Town's finances are well managed by this excellent staff.

Submitted by,

Co-Interim Finance Directors
Claire McGinnis, Treasurer/Collector and Sonia Aldrich, Comptroller

On behalf of: Sanford M. Pooler, Finance Director

HEALTH DEPARTMENT & BOARD OF HEALTH
Fiscal Year 2015

Working through the Health Department, the mission of the Amherst Board of Health, is to promote the health and wellbeing of the Amherst community. We fulfill this mission through the four core functions of public health: Assessment; Assurance; Promotion; Policy Development.

1. Assurance: ensuring all Amherst residents have the services necessary to maintain or restore good health either by coordinating the delivery of services by other agencies, by policy or regulation development, or by providing services directly.
2. Assessment: systematically collecting, assembling, analyzing, and making available information regarding the health of the community, including statistics on health status, community health needs, and epidemiological studies of health problems.
3. Promotion: providing services and educational opportunities that encourage healthy environments and healthy lifestyles.
4. Policy Development: development and implementation of comprehensive public health policies, regulations and legislation.

Attuned with the core functions established by the Board of Health, the Amherst Health Department's work is organized into three major areas: Access to Health Care; Infectious Disease Control, Prevention and Education; and Health Policy.

I. Access to Health Care

Ensuring access to health care for all Amherst residents is a priority for the Health Department. Despite the ambitious health care reform legislation passed in 2006, families and individuals continue to face the burden of finding affordable health insurance options. The Health Department is committed to providing resources to those in need of assistance to successfully navigate the health insurance system.

Hampshire Health Connect (HHC) is a local nonprofit organization actively assisting residents living without sufficient health insurance coverage. Created by a group of citizens and health care providers, as well as representatives of local government, business and insurers, HHC aims to link families and individuals who need complete or supplemental coverage with insurance programs they may be eligible for. HCC also connects people with medical professionals providing services for HHC patients at no charge or on a sliding fee scale.

HHC is housed at Cooley Dickinson Hospital; however, HHC provides a Latina caseworker to serve Amherst one afternoon per week. The HHC caseworker utilizes workspace within the Amherst Health Department offices supporting all Amherst residents with the enrollment process, but in particular those whose first language is Spanish profit from the HHC assistance. The enactment of Health Care Reform has had a great impact on the work of Hampshire Health Connect. Many who believed they were ineligible for state benefits are now seeking the help of HHC to enroll in the Commonwealth Care Programs. As a result, Amherst residents' participation in HHC, and the number of Latino clients served by HHC continues to rise. During FY 15, 217 Amherst residents accessed HHC services at the Bangs Community Center.

II. Infectious Disease Control, Disease Prevention, and Health Promotion

Controlling the spread of communicable diseases and food-borne illnesses is an important function of the Health Department.

Infectious Disease Surveillance and Control during FY 15 included the following:

- 0 cases of active Tuberculosis (Tb),
- 24 cases of Tb prevention and control,
- One senior flu clinic in conjunction with the Council on Aging: 88 doses of seasonal influenza vaccine administered,
- Two influenza clinics for Town employees and their families: 350 doses of vaccine administered,
- Five outreach influenza clinics for underserved populations: 80 doses of vaccine administered,
- Monthly immunization clinics
  Total individuals served: 193
  Youth under age 19: 158 Age 19 and above: 35.

The Public Health Nurse provided case management and/or follow up for 115 reportable infectious diseases:
Babesiosis: 2, Campylobacteriosis: 7; Ehrlichiosis: 3, Giardiasis: 1, Group B Strep: 2; Hepatitis A: 1, Hepatitis B: 6, Hepatitis C: 11, Human Granulocytic Anaplasmosis: 11; Influenza: 27; Lyme: 50, Measles: 1, Meningococcal Disease: 1, Pertussis: 4, Salmonella: 5; Shiga toxin producing organism: 1, Shigellosis: 1 Streptococcus Pneumonia: 2; Varicella: 2, Viral Hemorrhagic Fever: 3

Town of Amherst Handicapped Permits are available to residents of Amherst who have a temporary or chronic condition that substantially limits their mobility. This permit allows residents to park in handicapped spaces within the Town of Amherst. This permit WILL NOT extend parking privileges beyond Town limits or the area colleges. A permit may be obtained from the Amherst Health Department. A doctor's certificate stating the condition and the expected duration of the disability is required.

Environmental Issues

The Health Department performs varied duties relating to the protection of public health, disease control and the enforcement of sanitary living conditions. The Health Department's inspectional staff consists of two Inspectors: one full-time and one part-time. The Health Inspectors are responsible for regulating the laws, administering permits and performing inspections of residences and businesses relating to food. During FY 15, the Department successfully conducted 1,155 inspections and issued 367 health permits

Food Safety

The Health Department inspected 431 food handlers during the 2015 fiscal year. We issue and monitor permits for all food handlers encompassing: restaurants, recreational camps, bed and breakfast operations, residential kitchens, college institutions, hotels, motels, retail food stores, schools, mobile food units, temporary events, caterers, bakeries, and frozen food establishments.

The Department's routine inspections and follow-up are crucial to protecting the public health's welfare. Health Inspectors enforce Chapter X of the State Sanitary Code: Minimum Standard for Food Establishments, 105 CMR 590.000. These state laws allow the Town of Amherst to conduct inspections, issue orders and suspend or revoke permits where necessary.

Health Department staff work collaboratively with local restaurants to ensure compliance with the Federal Food Code. The code requires all restaurants to maintain a person in charge (PIC) who is knowledgeable of food-borne disease prevention and application of the Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) principles. Inspectors continue to monitor food managers to ensure the Food Manager Certification is obtained as well as to develop a food protection program.

Body Art Establishments

There were 2 Body Art Establishments and 2 licensed practitioners in Amherst. There was 1 inspection of each establishment which included the practitioner's workstation and verification of credentials, for a total of 2 inspections.

Swimming Pools

No person shall operate or maintain any swimming, wading, or special purpose pool without obtaining a permit from the Health Department. The permit shall be subject to the requirements of 105 CMR 435.00 and to any regulations as may be adopted by the Board of Health, provided however, said local Board of Health regulations shall not be applicable to a state owned or operated swimming, wading or special purpose pool. The Health Department issued 14 swimming pool permits, and conducted 20 inspections.

Recreational Camps

Throughout the year we receive new information from the Community Sanitation Program. The Department makes every effort to forward the new material and information to all of our camp operators in a timely manner and these packets are now made available online. We continue to extensively monitoring and perform inspections to sustain quality and assurance of compliance of recreational camps. This fiscal year there were 20 recreational camps. The number of recorded inspections conducted for FY 15 recreational camps is 38.

Housing

The Health Department responds to nuisance and housing complaints, and enforces Chapter II of the State Sanitary Code: Minimum Standards of Fitness for Human Habitation, M.G.L. c.111, ss. 127A and 127B: 105 CMR 410.000. Upon request or upon the Department's initiative the Health Department can certify violations, issue orders, hold hearings, grant variances and institute court proceedings if needed to enforce orders. This fiscal year the Inspectors conducted 133 inspections including fraternities, sororities and voucher program related issues.

M.G.L. c.111, s.122, allows the Health Department to investigate nuisances which in the Board's opinion may be injurious to the public health. The Health Department may destroy, prevent or remove such nuisances and make regulations relative to these issues. There were 46 nuisance complaints primarily involving trash. All nuisance complaints were addressed and abated.

Septic System and Waste Hauling

The Environmental Health Department enforces the State 310 CMR 15.000, Environmental Code, Title 5: Standard requirements for the siting, construction, inspection, upgrade, expansion of on-site sewage treatment, for the transport and disposal of septage. This fiscal year the Inspectors conducted 14 soil evaluations with percolation tests and 61 septic system final inspections. In FY 15, 16 permits for the removal or transportation of garbage and offal were issued.

III. Health Policy and Planning

During FY 15 the Board of Health was comprised of the following members: Chair Nancy Gilbert, Diane Amsterdam, MD, Marco Boscardin, Julie Marcus, and John Tobiason. The Board of Health, under Massachusetts General Laws (M.G.L.) as well as state and local regulations, is responsible for setting, composing and enforcing policies and regulations which promote and protect the public health of Amherst residents and visitors.

The Board of Health considered two local building project proposals: R. W. Kern Center and the Hitchcock Center for the Environment Education Center. These are two separate projects, however, both are located on the Hampshire College campus. The two buildings endeavor to become certified under the Living Building Challenge which is a framework for design and construction aimed to achieve high sustainability standards. The Living Building certification requires meeting the goal of zero net water—meaning 100% of the project's water supply must come from on-site sources. The zero net water status will be achieved through the implementation of a rainwater harvest system and an on-site

grey water treatment system. After presentations by the project architect and design team, the Board of Health agreed to provide a letter supporting these new buildings which is required for the application process.

The Board of Health engaged in tobacco policy discussions which culminated in the new regulation entitled *Regulation of the Town of Amherst Board of Health Regulation Restricting the Sale of Tobacco Products*. This regulation amends the definition of tobacco, includes restrictions on the sale of flavored tobacco products, increases the minimum legal sales age to twenty-one, bans the sale of tobacco products within 500 ft. of a school, and amends cigar pricing/packaging restrictions. The penalty section of the regulation includes possible revocation of the tobacco sales permit after multiple offences. After a public hearing, the Board of Health unanimously approved the regulation becoming effective on August 15, 2015.

The Board of Health is committed to extensive research and discussions to assess the current scientific data regarding the public health benefits of Community Water Fluoridation programs. Community residents, local professionals and the Board of Health engaged in multiple conversations sharing opinions and insights regarding the continuance of the Amherst's fluoridation program. Ultimately, the Board of Health, through a unanimous vote, agreed to continue supporting the Amherst Community Water Fluoridation program as an effective public health measure impacting oral health across the community.

FY 15 Board of Health
Nancy Gilbert, Chair
Diane Amsterdam, MD
Marco Boscardin
Julie Marcus
John Tobiason

AMHERST HOUSING AUTHORITY
Fiscal Year 2015

The Amherst Housing Authority respectfully submits its Annual Report to the citizens of the Town of Amherst, Ms. Chrystal Kornegay, Undersecretary of the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development, the Secretary's Representative of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and State Auditor Suzanne Bump for the year ending March 31, 2015.

The Board of Commissioners and staff of the Amherst Housing Authority continue to reaffirm their continued commitment to serve all the citizens of Amherst, including those who reside in the several buildings that the Authority owns, the AHA tenants who reside in privately owned buildings in the Town of Amherst, and the voucher holders of the Federal Housing Choice Voucher Program.

Sincerely, Paul Bobrowski Chair

BOARD OF COMMSSIONERS

The Amherst Housing Authority was organized under Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 121B where the voters of the Town of Amherst elect four members of the Board at large and the Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts appoints one member. All members serve five-year terms. The members establish policies regulating the operation of the Amherst Housing Authority. Regular Board meetings are held on the fourth Monday of the month in the community room at Ann Whalen Apartments, or at other times as scheduled. Members of the Amherst Housing Authority Board of Commissioners are:

Commissioner	Term Expiration
Paul Bobrowski	April 2015
Constance Kruger(Governor's Appointee)	May 2017
Laura Quinn	April 2017
Peter Jessop	April 2019
Judy Brooks	April 2016

Peter Jessop is the Authority's appointee to the Town's Community Preservation Act committee.

At their annual meeting held in April, Paul Bobrowski was elected Chair, Judy Brooks Vice Chair, Laura Quinn Treasurer, Peter Jessop Assistant Treasurer and Constance Kruger Member.

Amherst Housing Authority Highlights

The AHA continues to receive high marks from the Real Estate Assessment Center Team (REAC) and Section Eight Management Assessment Program (SEMAP), deeming the AHA to be a High Performer in both areas. The AHA had several inspections during the year from various state and regulatory entities with the results being favorable for the AHA.

Modernization Projects:

The AHA continues to be successful in its pursuit of state and local funding. During this fiscal year the following projects were in process or completed.

- The installation of a heating and hot water systems at the Ann Whalen Apartments are in process of being completed.

- A funding offset in the amount of $65,000 was acquired from Berkshire Gas.
- Architectural plans for the renovations of kitchens and some baths of the 79 apartments at Ann Whalen have been approved by AHA and DHCD. The project is currently out to bid with the anticipation that the renovations will begin in early summer 2015. This HILAPP project has $110,000 of local CPA funds and $165,000 of CDBG funds, with up to a 2:1 match by DHCD.
- The AHA was awarded $38,100 of CDBG funds that were re-purposed to renovate a two bedroom wheelchair accessible bathroom in our federal public housing development known as Watson Farms. This project was completed in December 2014.
- A grant from Community Action's WMECO Low Income sustainability funds enabled the AHA to upgrade the parking lot and exterior building lighting at the Ann Whalen Apartments in January 2015. The value of this grant was $14,146.00.
- DHCD's Health and Safety funds were used to repair two sections of damaged ssidewalks at Chestnut Court in June 2014. The value of this project was $5,254.50.
- Architectural plans for the interior renovation of all five wheelchair accessible apartments at John Nutting (689) property were completed. This HILAPP project has a combination of DOER funds $241,243, HILAPP Cap of $482,486 and Vacancy funds of $74,250. This project was initially proposed to have a geo-thermal system; however the bids for the geo-thermal exceeded the project budget and were removed from the scope.
- A new foundation drainage system will be installed at three of the five Chestnut Court apartment buildings. The drainage system will address the problem of standing water in the crawlspaces of these three buildings. Sidewalks, parking lots and the roadway will also be repaved with this contract. The award has been made to the low bidder and the work will begin in late May.
- Extensive renovations to three apartments at a managed property (Pomeroy Lane Cooperative) were completed in the late fall of 2014.

The following projects have received funding approval during this fiscal year and are in queue to be done in the near future:

- The AHA applied for CDBG funds through the town of Amherst (a mini-entitlement community) in the amount of $162,980 to renovate two apartments, one wheelchair accessible bathroom and carpeting in both foyers.
- The FY 15 Health and Safety Funds will be completed by June 30, 2015 and will address repairs to three catch basins at our 705 property on Fairfield and the 667 property at Ann Whalen. These funds will also take care of extensive tree trimming at Chestnut Court, in an effort to keep the property safe from falling trees/limbs.

The AHA rolling five-year capital plan was approved by the Board of Commissioners at the March 2015 meeting and subsequently sent to DHCD for approval. A dozen residents participated in the discussion of the capital plan. The following items are on the plan for the near future:

- Installation of surveillance cameras at exterior entrances to the Ann Whalen Apartments
- Renovation of a bathroom at 36 Sunrise Avenue (689) property
- Replacement of five boilers at Chestnut Court (667) property
- Removal of an underground de-commissioned oil tank and restoration of a retaining wall at the Jean Elder Apartments

Management at the AHA will continue to look for available community resources to identify funds to address capital improvement projects.

AMHERST HOUSING AUTHORITY STAFF

Administrative Personnel

Executive Director	Denise LeDuc
Director of Asset Management	Nancy Schroeder
Director of Housing Programs	Debbie Turgeon
Housing Manager	Kristen Comeau
Leased Housing Representative	Angela Russell
Staff Accountant	Clara Rowan
Support Service Coordinator	Juana Truillo *
Leased Housing Administrator	Erin Guzowski
Administrative Coordinator	Jason Berry
Applications Clerk	Eleanor Mielosyk *

* Part-time

Maintenance Personnel

Maintenance Foreman	John Summers
Maintenance Mechanic	Pedro Ortega
Groundskeeper/Custodian	Dana Glazier
Maintenance Laborer	Chad Howard

Contract Staff

Fee Accountants	Chaput & Feeney, LLP
Counsel-State Programs	Patricia LaFore, Esq.

AMHERST HOUSING AUTHORITY HOUSING

NAME OF BUILDING	# OF UNITS	FUNDING TYPE	BUILDING NUMBER	DATE OF OCCUPANCY
ELDERLY/ HANDICAPPED				
Chestnut Court Apts.	30	State	667-1	1962
Ann Whalen Apts.	80	State	667-2	1975
Jean Elder House	23	State-Private	667-3	1980
FAMILY				
Watson Farms Apts.	15	Federal	085-1	1982
Stanley St.	2	State	705-2	1988
Jenks St.	4	State	705-3	1989
Olympia Drive	4	State	705-1	1992
Fairfield St.	6	State	705-1	1992
Bridge St./ Market Hill	6	State	705-1	1992
99 Bridge Street	4	Private	Section 8 vouchers	2003
Tamarack Drive	4	Private	Section 8 vouchers	2006
HANDICAPPED				
John C. Nutting	5	State	689-1	1981
Moreau House	8	State	689-2	1990
TOTAL UNITS OWNED	**191**			

HOUSING UNDER MANAGEMENT CONTRACT

NAME OF BUILDING	# OF UNITS	FUNDING TYPE	BUILDING NUMBER	DATE OF OCCUPANCY
Valley Main Street 683/687	11	Private	Section 8 Vouchers and HOME	2008
Pomeroy Lane Cooperative	25	**Private**	Section 8 Vouchers & Market Rents	2011 (management contract)
TOTAL UNITS	36			

Maintenance/Improvements

The maintenance staff prepared 21 vacant units for occupancy and completed a total of 1,112 work orders. The staff also maintains the grounds and buildings at the Authority's fifteen properties that the AHA owns and or manages.

The AHA continues to emphasize preventative maintenance, and through annual inspections of the units the staff is able to address areas that are in need, or may become an issue.

Property Management meetings are held weekly to discuss and map out a plan for maintenance and unit turnovers to ensure that both management and maintenance are working together on the priorities of each development.

Management

The Authority maintained 9 waiting lists, all of which are currently open. Every two years the AHA updates the waiting lists to ensure that people who have applied are still interested in remaining on the waiting lists. Currently there are a total of 1,866 waiting list applicants, 575 are applicants for elderly/disabled housing and 1,291 have applied for family housing.

As of March 31, 2015, the following units that are owned or managed by the AHA were vacant: 8 units at Ann Whalen Apartments (these are being held open for relocation during renovation) 2 units at John C. Nutting which will be undergoing rehabilitation in the next few months 2 units at the Jean Elder apartments which are being held until the CDBG funds are available to begin the renovation project.

The AHA staff processed 170 income recertification's for state aided tenants; signed leases with 14 new households residing in AHA owned properties and conducted 174 unit inspections.

Pomeroy Lane Cooperative

The Authority completed the fourth year of the management agreement with Pomeroy Lane Cooperative.

Main Street

The Authority continued its current management agreement with Valley Main Street LLC.

In addition to the day-to-day management, maintenance, and administration of the Authority's programs, the AHA staff provides information to the general public, local and state agencies and boards on the services the AHA provides

Rental Assistance Programs

The AHA administers four rental assistance programs: the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the Massachusetts Rental Voucher Program (MRVP), the Alternative Housing Voucher Program (AHVP), and the Department of Mental Health Subsidy Program all funded by the Department of Housing and Community Development. All of these programs permit eligible households to occupy privately owned units. The Authority pays part of the monthly rent directly to the owner, with approximately 133 owners participating in the programs.

The AHA found that it was almost back to pre-sequestration funding that occurred in calendar year 2013 which affected housing authorities across the country. The major challenge the AHA continues to face are the continued increased costs of the subsidy payments. The average housing assistance payment in calendar year 2013 was $631.34 per voucher month on lease, versus $656.66 in 2014 and $661.49 in March of 2015. Due to the increased per unit per month voucher

cost, the AHA is unable to lease the entire portfolio of 413 authorized vouchers by HUD. On an average Housing Assistance subsidy payment of $657.41 (projected in FY 16 budget) the maximum number of vouchers the AHA would be able to lease would be 390 out of the 413 authorized. The average HAP has already increased above the $657.41 projected HAP cost, therefore the number of vouchers may need to decrease to approximately 388.

The Town of Amherst is located in the northern most tier of the Springfield MSA and its rents are significantly higher than those in the central and southern metropolitan area. The town recently had a study completed for a Housing Production Plan and a Housing Marketing Study which statistics shows the University of Massachusetts (UMASS) had a student enrollment of 27,569 in 2010, and that number is expected to increase another 3300 students in the years ahead. Approximately 37% or 10,200 of UMASS students live off campus, which has created a supply and demand issue which in turn has affected the cost of rentals in the area. Amherst has historically had lower than a 1% vacancy rate, and housing studies show that high prices and an inadequate housing supply have been a severe problem in Amherst for the past twenty years.

In October 2014 HUD decreased the Fair Market Rents for the Springfield MA MSA, which Amherst is part of. The AHA board voted to keep the payment standards that were previously approved by HUD the same as 2013 however, it has had an impact on program participants due to annual rent increases. The payment standards were approved by HUD at 120% of the 2013 Fair Market Rents and are:

BDRM. SIZE	HUD PUBLISHED FMRs SPRINGFIELD, MA. MSA	120% of Fair Market Rents
0	624	748
1	748	897
2	935	1122
3	1167	1400
4	1330	1596

Even at these increased payment standards it is extremely difficult for program participants to find affordable housing in the community of Amherst, causing program participants to leave the community should they wish to relocate to a new apartment.

During FY 15 there were 17 new admissions in the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher program and 3 Project Based. The Leased Housing staff processed the following new admissions into other AHA programs: 9 DMH participants, 1 Main Street HOME, 6 MRVP and1 Watson Farms tenants were processed for admission in FY 15. AHA staff completed 403 annual reexaminations for the Housing Choice Voucher Program, 17 for Watson Farms, 3 in the MRVP program, and 4 in the DMH program. In addition, staff processed 321 Section 8 interim reexaminations; 2 for Watson Farms; 2 for MVRP; and 3 for DMH. There were 76 moves during the fiscal year, and 28 participants came off the program either permanently or were transferred permanently to another Housing Authority that could absorb them within their Housing Assistance Payment Budget.

During this fiscal year, 372 annual inspections were completed along with 76 move-in inspections.

The Authority continues to receive a high performer rating by HUD for the Section 8 Management Assessment Program. (SEMAP)

RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS UNDER CONTRACT
As of 3/31/15

NAME OF PROGRAM	UNITS	TYPE
Section 8 Rental (413) Max	386	Federal
Mass. Rental Voucher Program ** (8) Max	8	State
Department of Mental Health Subsidy Program	10	State
Federal Public Housing	15	Federal
TOTAL	**415**	

** Six (6) vouchers were un-frozen by DHCD in FY 15 allowing more families to obtain housing assistance.

Resident Services

A primary goal for the Amherst Housing Authority (AHA) is to create a supportive environment for our elderly tenants so they can live at home as long as possible. A coalition of tenants, AHA staff and community people created the Wellness Program to address the issues of aging in place for AHA elderly tenants.

The Amherst Housing Authority (AHA) has a proven track record of successfully running a Wellness Program. The Wellness program provides funding for educational and recreational programs to the residents of Ann Whalen Apartments and Chestnut Court. Lisa White, Town Nurse holds weekly clinics, providing blood pressure screening and health information. Home visits are made to tenants that are homebound.

The AHA sponsors a variety of educational/entertainment/social activities, including:

- In partnership with the VNA/Hospice at the Cooley Dickinson Hospital
- Participating in Nutritional workshops, Cooking Matters, led by UMass nutrition majors.
- Partnered with the VNA/ Cooley Dickinson Hospital's Geriatric Services. The goal of the program is to address the complex needs of older adults, focus on health and promotion, prevent and manage diseases and disabilities in the 55+ population.
- An Alcoholic Anonymous group for residents and community people meets daily at Ann Whalen's community room.
- Weekly evening bible study classes on Monday nights.
- Chair exercise for the elderly – 3 times per week
- Crafts every other Wednesday of the month
- Tuesday Night WII Bowling
- Thursday afternoon coffee hour
- Bingo every Friday
- Sunday morning multi-cultural/non - denominational services
- Holiday potlucks
- Tenant run/management supported picnics/cookout

- Survival Center – food distribution
- Sr. Aide Program
- Franklin/Hampshire County Home Care participant
- Planning musical fundraising event for the Summer '15

Collaboration with town and social service agencies has been key in establishing successful services/programs for Amherst Housing Authority tenants. Our local partners include:

- Amherst Survival Center – The AHA works closely with the Survival Center, referring tenants for an array of social services. This includes the free clinic, noon time free lunch, and clothing. The AHA also coordinates the Survival Center's food distribution program at Ann Whalen and Chestnut Court.
- Amherst Senior Center – Professional partnerships continue with Maura Plante and Helen MacMillian, both Social Workers at the Senior Center. This partnership enables staff at the AHA and Senior Center to assist tenants with many issues, including elders at risk, referrals to doctors, hospitals and nursing homes.
- Highland Valley Elder Service –The AHA refers tenants for Meals on Wheels, PCA and homemaker services offered by Highland Valley. We have also partnered with Highland Valley to identify elders at risk, and request coordination of services for these elders.
- Department of Mental Health – Ongoing case management and mental health counseling is provided to tenants in need of these services.
- Senior Aide Program-The AHA has partnered with this program for the past six (6) years
- Franklin County Home Care Corp.- Networking with FCHCC to help residents to stay in their homes, or return to their homes after a hospitalization or nursing home stay.

The AHA Resident Services Coordinator, Juana Trujillo, routinely assists the elderly/disabled populations with assistance in the form of referrals, coordination and direct involvement on the following areas of need:

Benefit Assistance
Case Management
Domestic Violence Problem
Issue Drug/Alcohol Problem
Employment/Voc. Services
Financial Problem
Group Activities /Function
Health and Safety Threats
Hoarding
Home/Healthcare Provider
Housekeeping
Individual Information Sharing
Isolation Problem
Language Related
Lease Related Issues
Legal Issues
Maintenance Problems
Medical Problems
Mental Health Problems
Mental Retardation Problem
Neighbor Dispute

Nursing Home Placement
Nutrition Related
Personal Hygiene
Reasonable Accommodation Issue
Rent Arrearage Issues
Tenant Move
Unauthorized Guest

Personnel and Community Involvement

The AHA welcomed three new staff this year. Housing Manager, Kristen Comeau came onboard in June, and came to AHA from a smaller local housing authority, and has several years' previous experience in Housing Management; she has brought a ton of energy and has great knowledge of DHCD regulations. Leased Housing Administrator, Erin Guzowski was hired in November and along with previous housing authority experience was a paralegal for several years. Maintenance Mechanic, Pedro Ortega was hired in December and has 25 years' experience in property maintenance with several years working with properties subject to REAC inspections.

Denise LeDuc serves on the Town of Amherst's Housing and Sheltering Committee, and is a member of the following organizations: Western Massachusetts Executive Director's Association: MassNAHRO; CHAPA; NAHRO; and the Western Massachusetts Coalition to End Homelessness.

Juana Trujillo is an active member of the Council on Aging (COA) and the Senior Health Advisory Group (SHAG), both of which meet monthly.

Human Resources
Fiscal Year 2015

There were 274 regular full and part time employees of the town and library in FY 15, 100 part time staff, 102 election workers and 250 retirees. During the year, there were 26 regular new hires. 20 staff members departed town employment, including the retirements of 35 year veteran DPW Waste Water Division Director Jim Laford, Library Special Collections Head Tevis Kimball, 31 year DPW Mechanic Robert McDonald 34 year veteran Police Lieutenant Robert O'Connor, Patrol Officer Linda Newcomb, Building Inspector Peter Fein, DPW Water Division Director Thomas Luippold and Library Assistant Theresa Atteridge. At the December 2015 Holiday Party, the following employees were recognized for their years of service to the Town:

30 Years

Jonathan Tucker	Planning
Cheryl A. Boucher	Treasurer/Collector

25 Years

Maura E. Plante	Council on Aging
Lawrence Tebo	Fire
Maria C. Racca	Information Technologies
Christopher G. Pronovost	Police

20 Years

William R. Laramee	Police
Keith W. Longto	Public Works

15 Years

Elizabeth Chudzik	Communications Center
Jessica L. Pronovost	Communications Center
Stephanie Ciccarello	Conservation
Karen R. Erman	Council on Aging
Robert Thun	Facilities Maintenance
David J. Dion	Fire
David Clooney	Fire
Ralph D. Hurwitz	Library
Henry J. Allan	Library
Barbara J. Bilz	LSSE
Anastasia B. Lecuivre	LSSE
Jamie P. Reardon	Police
Russell E. Coombs	Public Works

10 Years

Scott DelPozzo	Communications Center
Ruth Taylor	Community Development
Jayant D. Singh	Fire
Stephen P. Gaughan	Fire
Thomas L. Valle	Fire
Gary M. Flynn	Fire
Sean P. Hannon	Information Technologies

10 Years

Yvonne M. Feliciano	Police
Marcus A. Humber	Police
Scott E. Gallagher	Police
Dominick A. Corsetti	Police
Glenn Burrows	Public Works
Susan Audette	Town Clerk
Richard T. Dudkiewicz	Information Technologies

During FY 15, the HR Department worked with the Personnel Board and Town Meeting to develop and launch a model sick and personal leave benefit for regular part time employees who work less than 20 hours per week. The Department also worked with the Personnel Board to implement the new statewide minimum wage for hourly workers and create a 3 year plan to raise the minimum wage by $1.00 per year, to $11.00/hour on January 1, 2017.

Professional development of town staff continued with 8 supervisors from multiple departments participating in the UMASS Supervisory Leadership Development Program.

The Human Resources Department led a vigorous United Way Campaign which resulted in another record year of employee giving.

For the 4th consecutive year, health insurance premium rates for employees and retirees of the Amherst Pelham Health Insurance Trust were stable with a 3% increase in PPO rates offset by a 5% decrease in HMO rates. The Town's ability to control health care costs was a major factor in in enabling a transfer of almost $2,487,570 since FY 13to the OPEB fund to pay future retiree health insurance.

The Human Resources Department, in collaboration with the Superintendent of Schools and the Town Manager initiated the Amherst Together collaborative and hired Carol Ross as its Media and Climate Communications Specialist. The Amherst Together initiative is a town wide project intended to creatively advance community, collaboration, equity, and inclusion by bringing fresh voices and perspectives. IN FY 15, Amherst Together partnered with UMASS Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning students to conduct a research study and report in an effort to engage the Amherst community in a dialogue about values, identity and wellbeing. The anonymous study provided an opportunity to understand how residents perceive the community and their overall quality of life, based on reliable and validated data collection. Results are available on the Amherst Together and Town of Amherst websites.

PERSONNEL BOARD
FY 2015

The Personnel Board was active and met 10 times during the year, with D. Anthony Butterfield continuing to serve as Board Chair. The Board's major focus during the year was to adopt a new part-time employee wage schedule that is consistent with the state minimum wage for the next three years, and to research and draft a model part time earned leave benefit for certain regular part time employees as requested by Town Meeting. The Board also supported the Select Board's implementation of their new non-union compensation plan on July 1, 2014.

HUMAN RIGHTS
Fiscal Year 2015

There were many highlights in FY 15 for the Human Rights Commission.

The Commission continued to build its presence on social media with a Facebook page and Human Rights Commission blog on the town website. The Commission held 9 public meetings throughout the fiscal year, culminating in its Human rights Heroes Awards on June 14, 2015.

The 2015 individual recipients are Sajo Jefferson, Liam Brodigan, Larenz Harris and Shekenah Rocke, 2015 ARHS graduates, Noreen Swan, ARHS 11th grader , Crocker Farm School 6th graders Khalila Lord-Arond and Yabanex Toro-Rodriguez, Fort River School 6th grders Celia Malone and Seo-Ho Lee, Crocker Farm School 3rd grader Lauren Joy and 2nd grader Kouta Ueki. Receiving a first ever Class Award is the 18 student Pelham Elementary School 4th grade, which completed a food drive to benefit the Amherst Survival Center at the end of 3rd grade after last year's winners were announced. Nominators included teachers, advisors, students and community members. All winners received a certificate and a glass globe symbolizing our common and fragile humanity.
2015 individual winners accomplished many achievements to inspire their nominations, including organizing a 350 student walk out to dialogue about individual and institutional racism, serving for 3 years on the town Human Rights Commission, organizing a panel of guest speakers to talk about racism, taken a stand against bullying and for student identity, displays empathy and caring to other students, completing a model food drive for the survival center, serving as mentors throughout the school system, becoming MSAN scholars and demonstrating general leadership attributes.
Other Commission activities included its annual celebration of Human Rights Day on December 10, collaborations with Amherst Together, a celebration of Black History Month, supported and sponsored Town Meeting petition articles on drones and the Right of Employers to Organize, a celebration of the raising of the Puerto Rican Flag and regional Puerto Rican culture, and a reading of the Frederick Douglass speech "The Meaning of the Fourth of July for the Negro" on June 28th on the Amherst Town Common.

The Director reviewed or investigated and responded to 7 inquiries or complaints brought to her attention during the year.

Commission members: Greg Bascomb, Chair, Lois Raj, Kathleen Anderson, Carol Ross Ingrid Askew, Emily Jung, Liam Brodigan, Damon Mallory and Sid Ferreira. Deborah Radway is Director of Human Resources and Human Rights.

JOINT CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE
Fiscal Year 2015

FY 16 Recommendation Summary

Recommendations for Fiscal Year 2016 capital plan funding total $3,140,457 and include $1,764,024 for equipment, $544,550 for buildings and $831,883 for facilities. In addition the spreadsheets show an additional $523,346 in projects funded by the Community Preservation Act.

The Joint Capital Planning Committee (JCPC) recommends that 7.5% of the local property tax levy be committed to the capital plan for Fiscal Year 2016, no change from FY 15. This maintains the level of tax support for capital for Fiscal Year 2016 but it brings it no closer to the optimum level of 10% of the levy proposed in the Town's financial policies.

In addition to property taxes, money for the recommended Five Year Capital Plan will come from ambulance receipts, grant funds from the federal and state government, and unexpended balances from previously authorized capital projects. The Enterprise Funds contain their own capital appropriations and are not included in this report.

Besides funding outright purchases, the capital budget pays off debt incurred previously for capital projects; for instance, the FY 16 plan includes the fifth year of debt service on $4.5 million in borrowing Town Meeting approved in November 2010 to start repairing the Town's deteriorating roads. The capital budget also includes the Town's share of debt service on capital expenditures authorized by the Amherst-Pelham Regional School Committee ($31,388 in FY 16).

Another source for capital spending is the Community Preservation Act (CPA) fund. CPA projects are recommended by the Community Preservation Act Committee as detailed in its separate report to Town Meeting. These FY 16 projects are shown with a purple background in the later pages of this JCPC report, as is a total of $321,537 for repayment in FY 16 from CPA funds of debt incurred for previously approved CPA projects.

Why Capital Planning?

JCPC, comprising two representatives each from the Select Board, School Committee, Jones Library Board of Trustees, and Finance Committee, advises the Town Manager, Finance Committee, and Town Meeting on the capital needs of the Town. It was organized in 1992 as the Town began to recover from the fiscal crisis of the early 1990s, when state aid was reduced, property tax limits were imposed, and the Town used reserves and unexpended capital appropriations to balance three years of operating budgets. Capital needs were neglected. It has taken 23 years of careful planning and management to get equipment on regular replacement schedules and buildings free of some of the health and safety problems that arose from failure to keep up those facilities during that period.

After several years of decreased state aid, many cities and towns, including Amherst, are faced with often-conflicting needs to meet increasing operating expenses, provide for pensions and other post-employment benefits (OPEB), satisfy capital needs, and rebuild reserves. The Financial Management Policies and Objectives, adopted by the Finance Committee in January 2008 and reviewed by JCPC, acknowledge the need to adequately fund a viable multi-year capital plan to maintain infrastructure, replace worn equipment, and provide for other long-range capital assets.

While we have been funding a capital plan for many years to great success, in recent years the funding has remained below the target of 10% of the local property tax levy. As such, we are falling behind where we need to be in order to fully maintain our capital assets. In order to balance our current five year capital plan we will need to increase the percentage of the tax levy used to support

capital by 0.5% per year (i.e., to 8% in FY 17, 8.5% in FY 18, etc.). However, only one of the four major capital projects beginning to be discussed is even shown in the current five year plan, the Fire Station (and the number shown is a rough estimate from several years ago). The Wildwood School project, the Jones Library project, and the DPW facility are all currently getting underway. The timelines for these four projects and the funding sources to pay for them are yet to be fully determined, however, significant help is available from the state for both the school and the library. Needless to say, the Town will need to commit significant funding from many different sources to these large capital projects over the next several years while at the same time trying to maintain our commitment to other capital needs. JCPC will be actively working to inform the public about these projects and their progress.

What are Capital Improvements?

A capital improvement is a tangible asset or project with an estimated useful life of five (5) years or more, and a cost of $5,000 or more. Among the items properly classified as capital improvements are:

- New public buildings, or additions to existing buildings, including land acquisition costs and equipment needed to furnish the new building or addition for the first time;
- Major alterations, renovations, or improvements to existing buildings that extend the useful life of the existing buildings by ten (10) years;
- Land acquisition and /or improvement, unrelated to a public building, but necessary for conservation or park and recreation purposes;
- Major equipment acquisition, replacement or refurbishment, including but not limited to vehicles, furnishings, and information technology systems' hardware and software; or other items that combined in purpose together make it a Capital Project;
- New construction or major improvements to Town's physical infrastructure, including streets, sidewalks, storm water drains, the water distribution system, and the sanitary sewer system. Infrastructure improvements must extend the useful life of the infrastructure by at least ten (10) years to be appropriately classified as a capital improvement
- A feasibility study, engineering design services, or consultant services which are ancillary to a future capital improvement project.

How Are Capital Needs Prioritized?

JCPC reviews requests for capital plan funding that meet several criteria. Successful capital planning facilitates postponing some capital expenditures in favor of others as part of the planning process. JCPC has adopted the following guidelines for prioritizing capital projects, with examples listed in parentheses. The guidelines themselves are not necessarily listed in priority order:

- Imminent threat to health and safety of citizens, employees or property (police cruisers and radios, self-contained breathing apparatus for firefighters, building repairs, improving accessibility for people with disabilities);
- Maintenance and improvement of capital assets (major repairs of buildings, replacement of vehicles and equipment, park and play area renovations);
- Requirement of state or federal law (asbestos cleanup program mandated by federal law in 1986, removal of gas tanks, etc.);
- Improvement of the infrastructure (streets and sidewalks, water and sewer programs);
- Improvement/maintenance of productivity (equipment replacement, computer hardware / software);
- Improvement of an overburdened situation (Town Hall renovations, cemetery expansion program);
- Newly identified need (recreation fields);

- Priority assigned by Department (Very High, High, Medium, Low); and
- Consistency with and in furtherance of long-term planning objectives of the Town (Master Plan, Climate Action Plan, Historic Preservation Plan, Disability Access Transition Plan, etc.).

Where Does The Money Come From?

Funds for the recommended Five Year Capital Plan will come from the same sources as before: property taxes, enterprise and other special purpose funds of the Town, grant funds from the federal and state government, and unexpended balances from previously authorized capital projects. This plan assumes commitment of 7.5% of the local property tax levy in FY 16. Earlier capital plans used as much as 10% of the tax levy, which along with the other resources was enough to keep up with renovation and maintenance of existing buildings and equipment replacement, but not enough to cover significant new projects. We haven't come close to this goal since FY 07 and will need to increase the funding level for capital projects in subsequent years or we will fall significantly behind in preserving and maintaining our capital assets.

The Recommended Capital Plan – A One-Year Budget, A Five Year Plan

The General Fund Five Year Capital Plan for FY 16-20 includes voted appropriations from FY 15, a proposed budget for FY 16, and a tentative plan of capital investment for the period FY 17-20.

Next year JCPC will update the plan to balance projected expenditures with projected available

revenues for subsequent years. The total capital budget in any fiscal year is comprised of direct cash expenditures for capital items, debt service (interest and principal) on all prior bonded expenditures, and debt service on new authorized and issued bonds, if any. The plan is organized into three categories of projects: major equipment (vehicles, technology, etc.), building needs, and facility needs (road maintenance, parks, open space, etc.). Included in the plan are recommendations developed by the Community Preservation Act (CPA) Committee for eligible community housing, open space, historic preservation, and recreation projects funded from the local voter-approved 3% property tax CPA surcharge and matching state funds. JCPC appreciates the CPA Committee's cooperation and coordination of their recommendations to allow presentation of both plans at the Annual Town Meeting. Recommendations for FY 16 capital plan funding total $3,140,457, plus new Community Preservation Act projects of $523,326 and include the following:

Equipment [Note: Included in 2015 ATM Article 13 and Article 15]

JCPC recommends a total of $1,764,024 for equipment items. Of this total, the Ambulance Fund supplies $77,000 for a defibrillators, computers, and stretchers; borrowing accounts for $416,000 for Fire and Police equipment; repurposed prior year appropriations make up $115,000 for computer equipment, and taxation funds the remaining $1,006,024.

Cost	Item and Description
$8,000	Photocopier
	Fire Department photocopier
$123,000	Computer equipment
	Annual Computer equipment replacement, including servers, PCs, printers, routers, switches, and other technology systems. This year there will be a focus on replacing desktop computers.
$60,000	Core Switches
	Replace the core switches (Town Hall and the Police Station) that run all the Town's servers. (Repurposed appropriations)

$55,000	Building Switch
	Replace the building switches that connect and power computers, phones, cameras, wireless access points, door access and HVAC systems with in the buildings. (Repurposed appropriations)
$35,000	Software
	New Munis modules for on-line permitting, work order tracking, and Human Resources open employee self-enrollment.
$105,000	Police Vehicles
	Replace three Police cruisers as part of the department's ongoing vehicle replacement program. The Amherst Police Department currently utilizes 11 marked police vehicles (black and white) and 3 unmarked police vehicles (silver) for routine patrol. Department protocol is to replace patrol vehicles after they reach approximately 100,000 miles and administrative vehicles after they reach approximately 120,000 miles.
$12,000	Police in Car Video System
	Equipment to record video and audio all motor vehicle stops to protect both the public and police personnel. Two units.
$15,000	Ambulance Laptop Computers
	Purchase three laptops that are used in the ambulances to collect data on and write patient care reports. (Ambulance Fund)
$17,000	Automatic External Defibrillators
	Replace eight aging defibrillators that are carried in police cruisers and fire engines (Ambulance Fund)
$306,000	Fire Breathing Apparatus Replacement
	Replace oxgen bottles, masks, and other related equipment for firefighters. Their current self-contained breathing apparatus is reaching the end of its 15 year retirement age. The new equipment will be smaller ,lighter, and will contain more oxygen than the present equipment . (Debt)
$30,000	EMS Defibrillators
	Purchase of a defibrillator for the ambulance fleet. This type of defibrillator also acts as a monitor for a patient being transported in an ambulance.
$20,000	Fire Protective Gear
	Replacement of firefighter protective gear (helmet, coat, bunker pants, boots) as part of an ongoing program to keep the gear up to date and replace worn equipment.

$45,000	Jaws of Life
	Replace hydraulic extrication tools, known as "Jaws of Life," on both front line engines. These tools are used primarily at motor vehicle accidents for extricating patients trapped in damaged motor vehicles. The existing tools are approximately 15 years old and one failed last year.
$18,000	Fire Hose
	Periodic replacement of fire hose. Project is to purchase new fire hose, including forestry lines, 1¾" and 2½" attack lines, and some 4" supply lines.
$5,000	Scoop Stretchers
	Scoop stretchers are small and portable, allowing firefighters to carry patients out of narrow or confined spaces. Newer models are ergonomically designed for greater comfort and stability as well as to accommodate use of automatic CPR devices. (Ambulance Fund)
$30,000	Staff Vehicle
	Replaced a 2004 vehicle. Normal replacement of Fire Department staff cars as they reach or surpass use of 10 years or more. This unit is an 11 year old, eight- cylinder vehicle with more than 122,000 total mileage. The vehicle will be auctioned, traded in, or donated to a vocational school program. The vehicle presently used by the Assistant Chief for Operations & Training will transition to the staff vehicle role. The replacement vehicle will become the Assistant Fire Chief's Command vehicle. The replacement vehicle will be similar to the fuel efficient, six-cylinder vehicles presently used by the Fire Chief and Assistant Chief for Operations and Training.

$10,000	Stair Chairs
	The stair chairs are used to carry a patient up or down a flight of stairs. The current stair chairs have a load capacity of 350 pounds. The Fire Department has experienced the need for increased load carrying capacity as well as better stair chair technology for navigating stairwells with heavier patients. The new stair chairs have a load rating of 500 pounds and come with a mechanism that controls the descent of the stair chair down a staircase and minimizes the amount of lifting during the descent. (Ambulance Fund)
$26,790	Fire Utility Van
	This vehicle replace a 1997 one presently used primarily for the Call and Student Force Firefighters. It was a used vehicle when the Fire Department obtained it in 2000. The vehicle is used for emergency response to bring additional personnel to incident scenes, for weekly drills, and for transport of personnel to varied training venues. The present vehicle has more than 82,000 miles and its maintenance needs are increasing. Major engine and frame work will be necessary in the next year.
$110,000	Dispatch Center Console Radios
	The communication center's current PC based radio system is 7 years old. The equipment runs the Windows XP operating system which is no longer supported. This equipment has reached its life expectancy and the vendor cannot guarantee that repairs will be available if equipment fails in the future. Current equipment is also limited in its channel and digital capabilities. (Debt)
$45,000	Pick-Up Truck
	Replace a ¾ ton pick-up truck with a plow for the DPW Highway Division.
$150,000	DPW Large Truck
	Replace a large dump/sander truck in the Highway Division. (Chapter 90 funds)
$20,000	Sander Equipment
	Plowing and sanding equipment necessary for the DPW Large truck to be used to fight snow and ice.
$50,000	One Ton Dump Truck
	Replace a one ton dump truck in the DPW Trees and Grounds Division.
$45,000	Pick-Up Truck
	Replace a ¾ ton pick-up truck in the DPW Trees and Grounds Division.
$20,000	Electrical Equipment on Town Common
	Replace small equipment in the parks and commons areas. For FY16, the DPW will also purchase, so called, spider boxes to be used on the Common to provide electricity during events. The current system of allowing users to choose how they wire the Common often conflicts with the safety of the system and causes circuits to trip during events.
$17,334	Conservation Department Tractor
	Conservation Department staff maintain more than 5,000 acres of conservation and watershed protection land in 3 towns while caring for 80 miles of trails, and mowing 250 acres of open space. The existing tractor is 14 years old and is in poor condition. It was undersized when it was purchased. Conservation staff have done all they can to extend the life of this equipment. (Lease payment)

$11,000	Greens Mower – Cherry Hill Golf Course
	This piece of equipment will replace a 1993 Toro 3000 that was purchased with an estimated ten year life span. It has over 4,700 hours on it (mileage equivalent of over 283,000). It has a significant hydraulic oil leak which cannot be repaired in-house. (First year of a three year lease payment)
$12,500	Rough Mower – Cherry Hill Golf Course
	Final year of a three year lease payment to purchase a rough mower.
$5,000	Furniture
	Annual allocation to buy desks, chairs, tables, cabinets, or other furniture in various buildings throughout the Town, on an as needed basis.
$25,000	Library Technology Equipment Replacement
	The infrastructure replacements are a critical part of maintaining a reliable technology infrastructure in the Jones Library. These replacements will include servers, routers, switches, printers, and desktop computers and laptops.
$15,000	Jones Library Website Upgrade
	Upgrade the Jones Library website to the same platform (CivicPlus) on which the Town's website runs.
$5,000	Jones Library Copier
	Replace the photocopier in the Jones Library's main office.
$92,500	School Bus
	Replace the oldest bus in the fleet, a 2003 bus. The School Department's goal is a ten year replacement rotation. The fleet is almost on track to be on schedule for the plan. The fleet consists of eight full time buses and one spare.
$33,000	School SPED Van
	Replaces a SPED van, which is used to transport special education students.
$5,000	School Furniture
	Replace school furniture in the elementary schools, as needed.
$12,400	Crocker Farm Photocopier
	Replace the photocopier at the Crocker Farm Elementary School. The copier makes over 560,000 copies per year and in nearing its useful life expectancy.
$161,500	School Computer Replacements
	This appropriation will cover replacement of computers, laptops, tablets, printers, monitors, servers, switches, and other related equipment throughout the elementary schools.
$8,000	School Multimedia Equipment
	Whiteboards, document cameras, and other multimedia equipment.

Buildings [Note: Included in 2015 ATM 14]

JCPC recommends a total of $544,550 for building repairs and renovations, $17,879 to be funded through reappropriating prior year capital balances and $526,671 to be funded through taxation.

Cost	Item and Description
$25,000	Building Envelope Repairs
	Annual allocation to general building repairs. The Facilities Director asked that this sum continue to be set aside annually to cover the costs of unexpected repairs to roofs, HVAC units, and other items that arise during the course of the year.
$20,000	Town Hall Exterior Repairs
	The Town Hall needs roof and brick work to keep the building in excellent working order and to repair leaks that developed this winter.
$33,000	Bangs Center Window Repair
	This will repair, replace, and clean window mechanisms. The windows are in bad condition. They do not close or open and there are many with no insulation.
$25,000	Bangs Center Flooring
	The entrance floor is cracked. New Vinyl Coated Tile (VCT) will be used to replace the existing ceramic tile. Also these funds will be used to replace flooring in the kitchen area and the large activity room. Flooring type will be selected by what is best for the space and ongoing maintenance.
$25,000	Clinic Space
	This request is to support the mission of the Bangs Community Center and the opening of a community health center there. This will allow reconfiguring of spaces in the building.
$35,000	Munson Library Exterior Maintenance
	Shutters and exterior wood needs to be glazed, painted, and repaired. Doors need repair and weather proofing. All this should extend the life of the asset and reduce he energy consumption.
$4,550	Monson Access Control
	Add card access to doors within the building, thereby eliminating keys and improving the monitoring of the building usage. This building is heavily used by many community groups. The new keyless access system will increase building security.
$30,000	Monson Library Walkways
	The front walks have heaved and are spalling. They have become a hazard. This appropriation is for new concrete and brick work. The current patches last only a year due to the New England weather and frost heaves.
$25,000	East Street School Sign
	Install a sign for LSSE's new home at the East Street School.
$50,000	South Amherst Campus Western Structures
	There are three rotted structures enclosing exits on the west side of the building that need to be replaced. They serve as emergency exits. The structures, concrete work, and brickwork need to be repaired or replaced.

$10,000	Police Station Interior Repairs
	The police station was built in 1989. It is showing its age and high level of use. These funds will be used for paint and to replace carpet, flooring, ceiling tiles, interior doors, and hardware.
$20,000	Police Building Infrastructure
	The furnaces, chiller, generator, fan coil units, and other key heating and cooling controls date from 1989. These funds will be used to evaluate and engineer the eventual replacement of these items.
$5,000	Public Works Facilities
	$5,000 is for ongoing facility improvements/repairs at the DPW Garage.
$7,000	Cherry Hill Clubhouse Roof Repair
	The Chery Hill Gold Course clubhouse roof developed a major leak this winter and these funds will be used to repair it.
$75,000	Crocker Farm Parking Lot Repair and Reconfiguration
	Consolidating the four elementary schools into three increased the number of students and staff at Crocker Farm. There is a need for more parking. This money would be used to expand the parking area by up to 20 spaces. The work would be combined with the DPW paving contract. The Planning Board has approved the project.
$25,000	Crocker Farm Playground
	Remove barriers at the Crocker Farm Pre-School Playground to make it ADA accessible. Install ramp and level the grounds within the playground.
$15,000	Fort River Exterior Doors
	The exterior doors are rotting out from the New England weather. The doors are not completely secure doors due to the design of the crash bars. The plan has been to change doors systematically, starting on the worst doors. This has been working out well and the new doors that have gone in are performing very well.
$70,000	Fort River Barn Roof
	The Fort River barn is used to store surplus school equipment. Its roof leaks. This request is for the funds to replace the roof. (Partial funding from repurposed debt appropriations)
$45,000	Fort River Fire Alarm System
	The fire alarm system was installed in 1973 and is reaching the end of its useful life. It has passed annual tests every year. During recent testing, however, the system required multiple attempts to reset. This appropriation will replace the fire alarm system with a modern system.

Facilities [Note: Included in 2015 ATM Article 14]

A total of $831,883 is recommended for facilities' needs, of which $140,000 is funded via taxation. Additional road maintenance and repairs will be done with $691,883 in Chapter 90 funds from the State.

Cost	Item and Description
$10,000	Downtown Signage
	The Town is working with the Amherst Business Improvement District and Amherst Area Chamber of Commerce on a new downtown sign system. This year's appropriation will serve as a match for a state grant, which was received, to create a signage system.
$10,000	North Amherst Center Studies
	The Town is embarking on a project to improve the North Pleasant/Meadow/Pine Streets and North Pleasant/Montague/Sunderland Road intersections. Part of that project will be a community planning process to examine the layout, pedestrian flow, public uses, and opportunities for revitalizing private uses in the village center which lies south of the Mill River. These funds will be used to support that public process.
$40,000	Boltwood Walk Replacement
	The public walkway between the Unitarian Meetinghouse plaza on North Pleasant Street and the Bangs Community Center is one of the most heavily - travelled walk-ways in Amherst. The walkway was installed in 1979 and has been in poor condition for years. The recent expansion of the Unitarian Meetinghouse required demolition of portions of the walkway between the church and the commercial building to the south. Both the Unitarian Society and the abutting property owner (Barry Roberts) will share the cost to redesign and improvement of the walkway. This request represents the Town's share of the replacement cost.
$30,000	Sidewalk Improvements
	This is a multi-year project to tackle a backlog of sidewalk repairs. This money will be pool with other money to address the sidewalks on town streets. Chapter 90 will pay for sidewalks that are on roads that are being repaved. This money will be used for sidewalks that are not on the Chapter 90 list and sidewalks on streets that are having other work completed. This money may also be used to extend new sidewalks as approved by the Select Board.
$691,883	Road Maintenance and Improvements
	This is the amount of the annual Chapter 90 state road repair program monies that will be dedicated to repaving. (Chapter 90)
$50,000	Road Repair and Improvements
	This is a multi-year project to tackle the backlog of localized street repairs. This money will be used to hire a paving machine and to do localized repairs to existing roads to improves the ride on the road and extend the time needed before a major resurfacing job.

Key Capital Planning Issues Going Forward

The Five Year Capital Plan is in balance, if spending on capital increases by 0.5% of the property tax levy each year through FY 19. One project requested for FY 16 was moved to later years; $281,000 in requested items were completely removed from the Plan because of lack of funds or because other funds, such as grants or the Community Preservation Act may be more appropriate sources of funding. The Plan identifies several major projects on the horizon, including repairs and renovations of Fort River and Wildwood elementary schools; dredging and beach and trail improvements at Puffer's Pond; a new fire headquarters; renovating or replacing the 19th century Department of Public Works facility; and major renovation of the Jones Library. Many other projects large and small will compete for scarce resources. Because Amherst's debt level is much lower than that of communities with comparably high bond ratings, larger projects might prudently be financed by borrowing, with debt repayments included in the capital plan for future years. But this will be possible only if the Town increases funding allocations to the capital budget over a period of years as recommended by the JCPC and the Finance Committee, either through increased general tax support or earmarked property tax support via a debt exclusion override. An adequately funded capital plan should be a critical component of any long-term financial plan for the Town.

Joint Capital Planning Committee

Katherine Appy, School Committee
Tamson Ely, Library Trustees
Richard Hood, School Committee
Connie Kruger, Select Board
Jonathan McCabe, Library Trustees
Kay Moran (Chair), Finance Committee
Doug Slaughter, Finance Committee
Jim Wald, Select Board

Staff Liaisons:
Sanford Pooler, Finance Director
Sonia Aldrich, Comptroller

JOINT CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE
General Fund Five Year Capital Plan
Fiscal Years 2016-2020

	FY 15	FY 16	FY 17	FY 18	FY 19	FY 20	FY 16-20	Unfunded
	Approved						Total	List
% of Levy	3,354,071	3,491,190	3,623,470	3,759,057	3,898,033	4,040,484	18,812,233	
Less Current Debt	(1,855,535)	(2,129,429)	(2,238,742)	(2,111,906)	(1,724,188)	(1,319,880)	(9,524,144)	
Less Proposed Debt	(20,000)	(10,000)	(111,520)	(313,031)	(393,100)	(467,868)	(1,295,519)	
Total Taxes Available	1,478,536	1,351,761	1,273,208	1,334,120	1,780,746	2,252,736	7,992,571	
CPA Funds	498,522	844,883	293,068	286,808	280,431	273,940	1,979,130	
Other Available Funds	60,000	132,879	50,000	490,000	250,000	-	922,879	
Grants	600,000	-	-	-	2,075,000	-	2,075,000	
Borrowing	1,422,411	416,000	85,000	1,800,000	620,000	3,600,000	6,521,000	
Debt Exclusion	-	-	-	12,000,000	-	-	12,000,000	
Chapter 90	841,883	841,883	841,883	841,883	841,883	991,883	4,359,415	
Ambulance	346,600	77,000	230,000	-	235,000	-	542,000	
Total Available For Capital	**5,247,952**	**3,664,406**	**2,773,159**	**16,752,811**	**6,083,060**	**7,118,559**	**36,391,995**	
Total Equipment	1,734,211	1,764,024	1,358,081	2,214,587	1,309,567	1,344,567	7,990,825	10,000
Total Buildings	2,100,000	544,550	362,000	13,743,500	1,307,500	1,297,500	17,255,050	30,000
Total Facilities	1,415,668	1,355,229	1,257,883	1,262,883	3,860,383	5,517,883	13,254,261	241,000
Total Requests	**5,249,879**	**3,663,803**	**2,977,964**	**17,220,970**	**6,477,450**	**8,159,950**	**38,500,136**	**281,000**
If % of Levy to capital equals:	**7.50%**	**7.50%**	**7.50%**	**7.50%**	**7.50%**	**7.50%**		
(Over) / Under	**(1,927)**	**603**	**(204,805)**	**(468,159)**	**(394,390)**	**(1,041,391)**	**(2,108,141)**	
available capital funds								
If INCREASE % of Levy to:	**7.50%**	**7.50%**	**8.00%**	**8.50%**	**9.00%**	**9.50%**		
Increase Available for Capital	**-**	**-**	**241,565**	**501,208**	**779,607**	**1,346,828**	**2,869,207**	
(Over) / Under	**(1,927)**	**603**	**36,760**	**33,049**	**385,217**	**305,437**	**761,066**	
available capital funds								
Legend								
Year of Request								
The font color of a request signifies the year when a department originally requested the project.								
Projects moved to a later year retain the color of the year when they were originally requested.								
FY 15 Green								
FY 16 Orange								
FY 17 Dark Blue								
FY 18 Tan								
FY 19 Purple								
FY 20 Brick Red								
Source of Funds								
The background color of a request signifies the source of funds.								
General Fund Revenue								
CPA Funds								
Other Available Funds								
Grants								
Borrowing								
Debt Exclusion								
Chapter 90								
Ambulance								

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAM EQUIPMENT
FY 2016- 2020

		FY 15	FY 16	FY 17	FY 18	FY 19	FY 20	TOTAL	Unfunded
	EQUIPMENT:	Approved						FY16 - FY20	List
1	**Information Technology**								
2	Photocopiers	15,000	8,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	68,000	
3	Infrastructure	123,000	123,000	123,000	123,000	123,000	123,000	615,000	
4	Document/Records/Images Scanning				25,000	25,000	25,000	75,000	
5	Disaster Recovery Systems and Plan			20,000				20,000	
6	Indoor/Outdoor Wireless Systems Upgrades	20,000	-			16,000		16,000	
7	Core Switch Replacement	60,000	60,000					60,000	
8	Building Switch Replacements		55,000	75,000	75,000			205,000	
9	Building Rewiring				50,000			50,000	
10	Virtual Desktops					50,000		50,000	
11	Electric Vehicle	30,000						-	
12	Information Systems - Other Depts.	60,000	35,000	65,000				100,000	
13	Total	308,000	281,000	298,000	288,000	229,000	163,000	1,259,000	
14									
15	**Town Clerk**								
16	Accuvote Tabulators				90,000			90,000	
17	GEMS Central Tabulation System			9,000				9,000	
18	Total	-	-	9,000	90,000	-	-	99,000	
19									
20	**Police**								
21	Fingerprint Machine							-	
22	Cruisers	105,000	105,000	140,000	105,000	105,000	105,000	560,000	
23	Fingerprint Scanner System	15,000						-	
24	Crowd Management Tools, Protective Gear			4,247	5,353			9,600	
25	Mountable & Mobile Surveillance Cameras			24,000				24,000	
26	Firearms Training Steal Target System				3,000			3,000	
27	In Car Video System		12,000		12,000			24,000	
28	Total	120,000	117,000	168,247	125,353	105,000	105,000	620,600	
29								-	
30	**Fire**								
31	All Terrain Vehicle				22,000			22,000	
32	Ambulance	255,000		230,000		235,000		465,000	
33	Ambulance Laptop Computers		15,000		15,000		15,000	45,000	
34	Automatic External Defibrillators		17,000					17,000	
35	Breathing Apparatus Replacement		306,000					306,000	
36	Building Furnishings					15,000		15,000	
37	EMS Defibrillators (5)		30,000				150,000	180,000	
38	Equipment for New Pumper	20,000						-	
39	Pickup Truck (4 wd)	35,000				30,000		30,000	
40	Portable Radios	14,000						-	
41	Power Loaders for Ambulances	91,600						-	
42	Protective Gear	40,000	20,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	180,000	
43	Pumper (replace 1999 pumper)				400,000			400,000	
44	Replace "Jaws of Life" for E-1 and E-2		45,000					45,000	
45	Replace 1984 Brush Fire Truck				24,000			24,000	
46	Replace Fueling System @ North Station	20,000						-	
47	Replace hose		18,000		18,000		18,000	54,000	
48	Scoop Stretchers		5,000					5,000	
49	Shift Supervisor Vehicle (new)				35,000			35,000	
50	Staff Vehicle		30,000		30,000		30,000	90,000	
51	Stair Chairs		10,000					10,000	
52	Thermal Imaging Camera				21,000		21,000	42,000	
53	Van (Used)		26,790					26,790	
54	Total	475,600	522,790	270,000	605,000	320,000	274,000	1,991,790	
55									
56	**Communication Center**								
57	Communication Console Radio Replacement		110,000					110,000	
58	Total	-	110,000	-	-	-	-	110,000	
59									
60	**Public Works**								
61	**Highway**								
62	Sidewalk Plow (highway)				150,000			150,000	
63	One Ton Dump 4x4 Plow (highway)	60,500		60,500		60,000		120,500	
64	3/4 Ton Pickup with Plow (highway)		45,000	45,000	45,000	45,000	45,000	225,000	
65	Dump/Sander Truck	-	150,000		150,000		150,000	450,000	
66	Dump/Sander Truck Equipment		20,000		20,000		20,000	60,000	
67	Air Compressor (highway)	12,000						-	
68	John Deer 544K Loader (highway)	185,850						-	
69	**Tree and Grounds**								
70	One Ton Dump 4x4 Plow w/ Garbage Body (t&g)		50,000		40,000		45,000	135,000	
71	3/4 Ton Pickup with Plow (t&g)	42,000			42,000		42,000	84,000	
72	3/4 Ton Pickup with Plow (t&g)		45,000				45,000	90,000	
73	5 ft Scag Mower				18,500			18,500	

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAM - EQUIIPMENT
FY 2016 - 2020

		FY 15	FY 16	FY 17	FY 18	FY 19	FY 20	TOTAL	Unfunded
	EQUIPMENT:	Approved						FY16 - FY20	List
74	Toro 580D Replacement	136,561						-	
75	Park Replacement Equipment		20,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	40,000	
76	**Solid Waste**								
77	Trash Truck				180,000			180,000	
78	Total	436,911	330,000	110,500	680,500	110,000	382,000	1,553,000	
79									
80	**Conservation**								
81	Tractor		17,334	17,334	17,334			52,002	
82	Forestry Mower					30,000		30,000	
83	Brush Hog	5,000						-	
84	Trailer	5,000						-	
85	Dump Trailer				10,000			10,000	
86	Harrow			5,000				5,000	
87	Total	10,000	17,334	22,334	27,334	30,000		97,002	
88									
89	**LSSE**								
90	Pickup Truck and Trailer	15,000						-	
91	Tee Box, Collar and Greens Mower - Cherry Hill		11,000	11,000	11,000			33,000	
92	Workman Utility Vehicle - Cherry Hill						16,000	16,000	
93	Rough Mower - Cherry Hill	12,500	12,500					12,500	
94	Greens Mower - Cherry Hill					11,667	11,667	23,333	
95	Total	27,500	23,500	11,000	11,000	11,667	27,667	84,833	
96									
97	**Building Maintenance**								
98	Furniture (all buildings)	10,000	5,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	45,000	10,000
99	Total	10,000	5,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	45,000	
100									
101	**Library**								
102	Self-checkout equipment					20,000		20,000	
103	Snow-blower	4,000						-	
104	Truck with Plow						40,000	40,000	
105	Infrastructure Replacements	20,000	25,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	105,000	
106	Website Migration to Civicplus		15,000	15,000				30,000	
107	Security System	10,000						-	
108	Public Disability Access Computer					10,000		10,000	
109	Copier/printer/scanner	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	25,000	
110	Total	39,000	45,000	40,000	25,000	55,000	65,000	230,000	
111									
112	**Schools**							-	*
113	Buses		92,500		93,000	95,000	95,000	375,500	
114	SPED Vans	32,000	33,000	34,000	35,000	36,000	36,000	174,000	
115	Handicap Van			50,000				50,000	
116	Maintenance Feet Vehicles			35,000		35,000		70,000	
117	Bus/Van Security	54,000						-	
118	Replace Kitchen Equipment (FR & WW)	10,000						-	
119	Furniture (all schools)	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	25,000	
120	Backup Generators (FR & WW)			85,000		75,000		160,000	
121	Telecommunications	3,900	-	6,100	6,100	3,900	3,900	20,000	
122	Copiers	18,400	12,400		27,850	6,000	25,000	71,250	
123	Computer Technology	175,900	161,500	195,900	195,900	175,000	175,000	903,300	
124	Multimedia - Audio/Visual	8,000	8,000	8,000	19,550	8,000	8,000	51,550	
125	Total	307,200	312,400	419,000	382,400	438,900	347,900	1,900,600	
126	TOTAL EQUIPMENT	1,734,211	1,764,024	1,358,081	2,214,587	1,309,567	1,344,567	7,990,825	10,000
127	Less Chapter 90	-	150,000	-	150,000	-	150,000	450,000	
128	Less Grants							-	
129	Less Ambulance	346,000	77,000	230,000	-	235,000	-	542,000	
130	Less Borrowing	322,411	416,000		550,000			966,000	
131	Less Debt Exclusion							-	
132	Less Other Available Funds		115,000	-	180,000			295,000	
133	**TOTAL TAX SUPPORTED EQUIPMENT**	1,065,200	1,006,024	1,128,081	1,334,587	1,074,567	1,194,567	5,737,825	

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAM - BUILDINGS
FY 2016 - 2020

		FY 15	FY 16	FY 17	FY 18	FY 19	FY 20	TOTAL	Unfunded
	MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS:	Approved						FY16 - FY20	List
134	**Building Envelope Repairs (all buildings)**	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	125,000	
135									
136	**Town Hall**								
137	Exterior Maintenance		20,000					20,000	
138	Interior Maintenance				20,000	25,000		45,000	
139									
140	**Bangs Community Center**								
141	Exterior Maintenance				10,000		10,000	20,000	
142	Security System					20,000		20,000	
143	Interior Maintenance	60,000		25,000	10,000	55,000		100,000	
144	Patio Repair				35,000			35,000	
145	Window Repairs		33,000	7,000				40,000	
146	Flooring		25,000			25,000	25,000	75,000	
147	Clinic Space		25,000	10,000				35,000	
148	LAR Dividing Wall						40,000	40,000	
149									
150	**North Amherst School**								
151	Exterior Maintenance			5,000	5,000			10,000	
152	Interior Maintenance						5,000	5,000	
153	Basement Baseline Renovation	50,000						-	
154									
155	**Child Care Facility**								
156	Exterior Maintenance						10,000	10,000	
157	Paving					30,000		30,000	
158	Natural Gas Conversion				25,000			25,000	
159									
160	**Munson Library**								
161	Window Repairs				40,000			40,000	
162	Exterior Maintenance	5,000	35,000					35,000	
163	Access Control		4,550					4,550	
164	Interior Maintenance			25,000				25,000	
165	Hall Air Conditioner						75,000	75,000	
166	Bathrooms			15,000				15,000	
167	Walkway Reconstruction		30,000					30,000	
168	Flooring			25,000				25,000	
169	ADA Lift						100,000	100,000	
170									
171	**East Street School**								
172	Build out and Roof	700,000						-	
173	Ngas Conversion				20,000			20,000	
174	Exterior Brick and Trim					35,000	350,000	385,000	
175	Signs		25,000					25,000	
176									
177	**South Amherst Campus**								
178	South Wall				100,000			100,000	
179	Basketball / Rec Area						60,000	60,000	
180	Roof					12,000	125,000	137,000	
181	Parking Area						60,000	60,000	
182	West Structures and Doors		50,000					50,000	
183	Heating Condensate Modifications			5,000				5,000	
184									
185	**Fire Stations**								
186	Design/Construction-Fire HQ				12,000,000			12,000,000	
187	North Station Underground Gasoline Tank	80,000						-	
188	Boiler - North Station						79,000	79,000	
189	Rooftop HVAC North Station						60,000	60,000	
190									
191	**Police Station**								
192	Interior Maintenance	15,000	10,000					10,000	
193	Exterior Maintenance			35,000				35,000	
194	Building Infrastructure		20,000					20,000	
195	Roof Design and Repair				15,000	185,000		200,000	
196	Front Walk/Front Door	25,000						-	
197	Gasoline Tank	30,000						-	
198									
199	**Public Works Facility**								
200	Renovations	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	25,000	
201	Security System					20,000	20,000	40,000	
202									
203	**Conservation Building**								
204	Hitchcock Center - Sewer Connection				15,000			15,000	

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAM - BUILDINGS
FY 2016 2020

		FY 15	FY 16	FY 17	FY 18	FY 19	FY 20	TOTAL	Unfunded
	MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS:	Approved						FY16 - FY20	List
205	Hitchcock Center - Site Design						10,000	10,000	
206									
207	**Cherry Hill Golf Course**								
208	Clubhouse Roof Repair		7,000						
209									
210	**Jones Library**								
211	HVAC Improvements					435,000		435,000	
212	Carpet	10,000				30,000		30,000	
213	Planning and Design Grant Match	25,000						-	
214	Interior plaster and painting						50,000	50,000	
215	Jones Insulation Upgrade						25,000	25,000	
216	Exterior Lighting						5,000	5,000	
217	Exterior Renovations: Painting, Storm Windows, & Repointing Stonework					30,000		30,000	
218	Interlibrary Loan Delivery Room Redesign					5,000		5,000	
219	Parking Lot Project					20,000		20,000	
220									
221	**North Amherst Library Rehabilitation**								
222									
223	**SCHOOL BUILDINGS:**								
224	School Security			25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	100,000	
225	Energy Management Upgrade			10,000	10,000		5,000	25,000	
226	Interior Upgrades	30,000	0	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	120,000	30,000
227	Amherst Schools Asbestos Management			5,000	5,000		2,500	12,500	
228	Feasibility (MSBA)	1,000,000						-	
229									
230	**Crocker Farm**								
231	Exterior Maintenance	15,000						-	
232	New Front Sign						25,000	25,000	
233	Grounds (Parking)		75,000					75,000	
234	Upgrade Parking Lot Lighting					15,000		15,000	
235	Preschool Playground (ADA)		25,000					25,000	
236									
237	**Fort River**								
238	Repave lot						71,000	71,000	
239	Upgrade Parking Lot Lighting			15,000				15,000	
240	Roof			70,000	1,250,000			1,320,000	
241	Exterior Doors	15,000	15,000	15,000	8,500	8,500		47,000	
242	Outside Air Grills	6,000						-	
243	Barn Roof	4,000	70,000					70,000	
244	Fire Alarm System		45,000					45,000	
245									
246	**Wildwood**								
247	Upgrade Parking Lot Lighting				15,000			15,000	
248	Repave lot				60,000	272,000		332,000	
249	Exterior Doors				15,000			15,000	
250	**TOTAL BUILDINGS**	2,100,000	544,550	362,000	13,743,500	1,307,500	1,297,500	17,255,050	30,000
251	Less CPA							-	
252	Less Grants	600,000						-	
253	Less Ambulance							-	
254	Less Borrowing	1,100,000		85,000	1,250,000	620,000	350,000	2,305,000	
255	Less Debt Exclusion				12,000,000			12,000,000	
256	Less Other Available Funds		17,879		60,000			77,879	
257	**Total Tax Supported Buildings**	400,000	526,671	277,000	433,500	687,500	947,500	2,872,171	

GENERAL FUND CPAITAL PROGRAM - FACILITIES
FY 2016 - 2020

		FY 15	FY 16	FY 17	FY 18	FY 19	FY 20	TOTAL	Unfunded
	MUNICIPAL FACILITIES:	Approved						FY16 - FY20	List
258	Downtown Improvements								
259	Downtown Improvements Matching Fund					10,000	10,000	20,000	
260	Downtown Wayfinding Sign System		10,000	10,000		5,000	5,000	30,000	
261									
262	Village Center Design/Improvements					10,000	10,000	20,000	
263									
264	East Village Plan and Rezoning					35,000		35,000	
265									
266	Cushman Village Plan and Rezoning						35,000	35,000	
267									
268	Gatehouse Village Plan and Rezoning						35,000	35,000	
269									
270	Town-Wide GIS Mapping/Flood Area Analysi	52,000						-	
271									
272	No. Amherst center studies & improvements		10,000			30,000		40,000	
273									
274	Boltwood Walk walkway replacement		40,000					40,000	
275									
276	North downtown streetscape improvements					100,000		100,000	
277									
278	Assessing								
279	Triennial Revaluation Consulting Services	60,000							
280									
281	School Crossing Light (DPW)	10,000			10,000			10,000	
282									
283	Street and Traffic Lights								
284	Purchase Streetlights	6,000	0	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	24,000	6,000
285									
286	Sidewalks								
287	Around Town	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	150,000	
288									
289	Road Maintenance/Improvements	841,883	691,883	841,883	691,883	841,883	841,883	3,909,415	
290									
291	Road Repairs	100,000	50,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	450,000	
292									
293	Mill Street Bridge					2,075,000		2,075,000	
294									
295	Tree Removal Support			20,000	40,000	20,000	40,000	120,000	
296									
297	Transportation Plan					50,000	50,000	100,000	50,000
298									
299	NPDES Program Implementation			100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	400,000	
300									
301	Transfer Station								
302	Engineering			50,000				50,000	
303	Construction				250,000	250,000		500,000	
304									
305	Land Acquisition								
306	Open Space	25,000	25,000					25,000	
307									
308	Mill River								
309	Resurfacing and liner							-	150,000
310	Surfacing for Playgrounds							-	5,000
311	Aquatic Climbing Wall								30,000
312	Amherst Baseball - Improvements to Fields		127,351					127,351	
313								-	
314	Groff Park								
315	Wading Pool (REC)	4,000						-	
316									
317	Kiwanis Park								
318	Comfort Station (ADA)						145,000	145,000	
319									
320	Cherry Hill								
321	Parking Lot Resurfacing					90,000		90,000	
322	Fence Replacement					7,500		7,500	
323	Irrigation Pond Dredging						60,000	60,000	
324	Roof Replacement						15,000	15,000	
325									
326	Kendrick Park						3,250,000	3,250,000	
327									
328	North Amherst Field		50,000						

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAM - FACILITIES
FY 2016 - 2020

	MUNICIPAL FACILITIES:	FY 15 Approved	FY 16	FY 17	FY 18	FY 19	FY 20	TOTAL FY16 - FY20	Unfunded List
329									
330	**Miscellaneous**								
331	Master Plan Implementation				35,000		35,000	70,000	
332	HCVP Funding Voucher Program (AH)	50,000						-	
333	PVHH Hawthorne Farm (AH)	80,000						-	
334	332 West Street Barn Restoration	75,000						-	
335	Conservation Restrictions	40,000						-	
336	Saul Property Purchase	41,785						-	
337	Hall Property Acquisition		105,995					105,995	
338	Amherst Affordable Housing Trust		25,000					25,000	
339	Amherst Community Land Trust - NACF Property		95,000					95,000	
340	Cook Fountain Resortation Study		20,000					20,000	
341	AHS Strong House - Archaelogy Survey		25,000					25,000	
342	AHS Strong House - Painting		25,000					25,000	
343	Goodwin Memorial AME Zion Church-Survery, Study, Planning		25,000					25,000	
344									
345	**Conservation**								
346	Puffer's Pond Dredging-Permitting			100,000			750,000	850,000	
347	Puffer's Beach/Trail Improvements					100,000		100,000	
348									
349	TOTAL FACILITIES	1,415,068	1,355,229	1,257,883	1,262,883	3,860,383	5,517,883	13,254,261	241,000
350	Less Chapter 90	841,883	691,883	841,883	691,883	841,883	841,883	3,909,415	
350	Less CPA	315,785	523,346					523,346	
352	Less Grants					2,075,000		2,075,000	
353	Less Borrowing						3,250,000	3,250,000	
354	Less Debt Exclusion							-	
355	Less Other Available Funds	60,000	-	50,000	250,000	250,000		550,000	
356	**Total Tax Supported Facilities**	198,000	140,000	366,000	321,000	693,500	1,426,000	2,946,500	

% of Tax Levy Calculation for Capital Plan

	FY 14 Budget	FY 15 Budget	FY 16 Projected	FY 16 Variance vs 7.5%	FY 17 Projected	FY 18 Projected	FY 19 Projected	FY 20 Projected	FY 21 Projected	
Prior Year Levy Limit	41,550,978	43,044,827	44,828,489		46,549,201	48,312,931	50,120,755	51,973,774	53,873,118	
+ 2.5% Allowable Increase	1,038,774	1,076,121	1,120,712		1,163,730	1,207,823	1,253,019	1,299,344	1,346,828	
ESTIMATED New Growth	455,075	707,541	600,000		600,000	600,000	600,000	600,000	600,001	
ESTIMATED Levy Limit	43,044,827	44,828,489	46,549,201		48,312,931	50,120,755	51,973,774	53,873,118	55,819,947	
10.0% (Funding Goal)	4,304,483	4,472,095	4,654,920	1,163,730	4,831,293	5,012,075	5,197,377	5,387,312	**5,581,995**	
9.5%	4,089,259	4,248,490	4,422,174	930,984	4,589,728	4,761,472	4,937,508	**5,117,946**	5,302,895	
9.0%	3,874,034	4,024,885	4,189,428	698,238	4,348,164	4,510,868	**4,677,640**	4,848,581	5,023,795	
8.5%	3,658,810	3,801,281	3,956,682	465,492	4,106,599	**4,260,264**	4,417,771	4,579,215	4,744,695	
8.0%	3,443,586	3,577,676	3,723,936	232,746	**3,865,035**	4,009,660	4,157,902	4,309,849	4,465,596	
7.5% **(FY15)**	3,228,362	**3,354,071**	**3,491,190**	0	**3,623,470**	**3,759,057**	**3,898,033**	**4,040,484**	**4,186,496**	
7.25% (FY09)	3,120,750	3,242,269	3,374,817	(116,373)	3,502,688	3,633,755	3,768,099	3,905,801	4,046,946	
7.0% (FY08 and FY14)	**3,013,138**	3,130,466	3,258,444	(232,746)	3,381,905	3,508,453	3,638,164	3,771,118	3,907,396	
6.5% (FY10, FY12 & FY13)	2,797,914	2,906,862	3,025,698	(465,492)	3,140,341	3,257,849	3,378,295	3,501,753	3,628,297	
6.25% (FY11 projected)	2,690,302	2,795,059	2,909,325	(581,865)	3,019,558	3,132,547	3,248,361	3,367,070	3,488,747	
6.0%	2,582,690	2,683,257	2,792,952	(698,238)	2,898,776	3,007,245	3,118,426	3,232,387	3,349,197	
5.64% (FY11 approved)	2,427,728	2,522,261	2,625,375	(865,815)	2,724,849	2,826,811	2,931,321	3,038,444	3,148,245	
Variance vs 7.5%			0		241,565	501,208	779,607	1,077,462	1,395,499	3,995,340
Increase from previous year		340,933	137,119		132,280	135,587	138,976	142,451	146,012	695,306
Total Increase		***340,933***	137,119		373,844	636,794	918,583	1,219,913	1,541,511	Total FY17-21

LONG TERM DEBT SERVICE - TOWN OF AMHERST

Issue	Maturity Date	FY 2015 Budget	**FY 2016 Projected**	FY 2017 Projected	FY 2018 Projected	FY 2019 Projected	FY 2020 Projected	FY 2021 Projected	FY 2022 Projected	FY 2023 Projected	FY 2024 Projected
General Fund Debt:											
Municipal:											
Town Hall Refunding	FY 16	167,200	156,000								
Crocker Farm School	FY 19	235,500	225,325	209,325	198,550	192,850					
Plum Brook Recreation Area	FY 15	16,565									
Town Hall Exterior (General Fund)	FY 20	32,550	31,815	31,150	30,380	29,540	28,560				
DPW - Roads Reconstruction	FY 21	536,625	525,375	513,563	500,625	487,125	473,625	458,438			
Bangs Community Center Roof/HVAC	FY 20	39,274	56,244	55,069	53,708	52,223	50,490				
Marks Meadow Portable Classrooms	FY 19	34,050	33,150	27,250	26,500	25,750					
South Amherst School Renovation	FY 22	23,900	23,300	22,700	22,100	16,500	16,050	15,600	15,300		
Tree Planting	FY 18	67,320	65,790	63,954	62,118						
DPW Sander	FY 18	33,000	32,250	31,350	30,450						
Central Fire Station Repairs	FY 24	22,816	22,356	21,804	21,252	20,700	20,148	19,596	19,044	18,584	
Police Radios	FY 18	27,500	26,875	26,125	25,375						
Road Repair	FY 24	124,000	121,500	118,500	115,500	112,500	109,500	106,500	103,500	101,000	
Trees, part II	FY 19	68,850	66,096	64,872	63,648	62,424					
DPW Trucks	FY 19	93,500	91,800	90,100	88,400	86,700					
AFD Pumper Truck	FY 24	54,000	48,000	47,200	46,400	45,600	44,800	44,000	43,200		
East St School Renovations	FY 25		95,060	92,400	88,900	85,400	82,600	79,800	77,000	74,200	72,800
Wildwood Feasibility Study (31.6%)	FY 18		41,653	179,546	108,853						
2 Mowers	FY 18		48,548	47,632	46,716						
Loader	FY 18		65,367	64,134	62,900						
Subtotal Municipal Debt		**1,576,650**	**1,776,504**	**1,706,674**	**1,592,375**	**1,217,312**	**825,773**	**723,934**	**258,044**	**193,784**	**72,800**
Regional School District Debt (Amherst Share):											
High School Renovations & Additions **	FY 18	171,480	125,377	83,238	37,329						
High School Roof	FY 15	96,148									
Regional Projects FY 13 - 15	FY 26		31,388	239,000	232,723	226,445	220,167	213,890	207,612	201,334	195,057
Subtotal Regional School District Debt		**267,628**	**156,765**	**322,238**	**270,052**	**226,445**	**220,167**	**213,890**	**207,612**	**201,334**	**195,057**
CPA Debt											
CPA 66% Plum Brook	FY 15	32,155									
CPA $225k Town Hall	FY 20	26,157	25,566	25,032	24,413	23,738	22,950				
CPA Hawthorne Acquisition	FY 21	59,625	58,375	57,063	55,625	54,125	52,625	50,938			
CPA Housing Authority	FY 22	42,700	41,650	40,600	39,550	38,500	37,450	36,400	35,700		
S. East St Land acquisition	FY 24	7,800	7,200	7,080	6,960	6,840	6,720	6,600	6,480		
Ann Whalen Unit Preservation (Housing)	FY 24	14,300	13,200	12,980	12,760	12,540	12,320	12,100	11,880		
Rolling Green Unit Preservation (Housing)	FY 25		175,546	150,313	147,500	144,688	141,875	139,063	136,250		
Subtotal CPA Debt		**182,737**	**321,537**	**293,068**	**286,808**	**280,431**	**273,940**	**245,101**	**190,310**	**0**	**0**
TOTAL GENERAL FUND DEBT		**2,027,015**	**2,254,806**	**2,321,980**	**2,149,235**	**1,724,188**	**1,319,880**	**1,182,925**	**655,966**	**395,118**	**267,857**

*** Funded via temporary property tax increase from Proposition 2 1/2 Debt Exclusion.*

SHORT-TERM DEBT & PROPOSED / PROJECTED DEBT

	FY 16	FY 17	FY 18	FY 19	FY 20
Short-Term Interest (budgeted)	10,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
Fire Stations - Option 1 (FSSC 8/06)					
New Substation So. Amherst				600,000	600,000
$12,00,000 @ 5% (20 years)				600,000	570,000
Fire Station Debt Exclusion (for discussion only)				(1,200,000)	(1,170,000)
Breathing Apparatus		61,200	61,200	61,200	61,200
$306,000 @ 2% (5 years)		6,120	4,896	3,672	2,448
Police Communications Equipment		22,000	22,000	22,000	22,000
$110,000 @ 2% (5 years)		2,200	1,760	1,320	880
Fort River Roof			132,000	132,000	132,000
$1,250,000 @ 3.5% (10 Years)			46,200	41,580	36,960
Police Station Roof Repair			18,500	18,500	18,500
$185,000 @ 3.5% (10 Years)			6,475	5,828	5,180
Fire Pumper				40,000	40,000
$400,000 @ 3.5% (10 Years)				14,000	12,600
Police Roof					18,500
$185,000 @ 3.5% (10 Years)					6,475
DPW Sidewalk Plow				30,000	30,000
$150,000 @ 2% (5 Years)				3,000	2,400
Library HVAC					43,500
$435,000 @ 3.5% (10 Years)					15,225
Total	**10,000**	**111,520**	**313,031**	**393,100**	**467,868**

KANEGASAKI SISTER CITY COMMITTEE
Fiscal Year 2015

<u>Committee Members</u>: Denise Boyd, Florence Boynton, Aaron Kropf (Chairperson), Helen MacMellon (Secretary), Nancy Pagano (Treasurer and Staff Liaison), Kathleen Woods Masalski, Tina Swift, William Stenzel, Carlyjane Watson, Naomi Elliott, and Andy Steinberg (Select Board Liaison).

Between July 1, 2014 and June 30, 2015, the Kanegasaki Sister City Committee (KSCC) remained dedicated to its purpose: to promote friendship and ongoing relations with the Town of Kanegasaki, Japan, Amherst's Sister City since 1993. To accomplish this purpose, the Committee maintained communication and contacts amongst residents, educational and governmental bodies of the two communities that continues to be of mutual benefit. One of the committee goals is to try to resume sending Amherst students over to Kanegasaki on a regular basis to maintain a true student exchange with our Sister City. The following rough chronology of events covers the highlights of the KSCC activities for the fiscal year 2015.

Our sister city communication and cultural understanding continues to benefit from American and bi-lingual speaker Daniel Degrasse, JET teacher in Kanegasaki, being hired as a Special Assistant to Mayor Takahashi and as our official liaison with Kanegasaki. One of Daniel's many duties is to escort the Kanegasaki Middle students when they visit Amherst each year and handle all translating needs.

Throughout this year again, Kathleen Woods Masalski (former KSCC Chairperson) continued with her diligent efforts to organize the KSCC Archives located in the Jones Library Special Collections. We will miss her wisdom, historical and thoughtful contributions when her term ends this June 30th. Carlyjane Watson and Naomi Elliott were appointed as new KSCC members in the spring.

In Oct. 2014, Aaron reported on initial plans to organize a 10-day trip to Kanegasaki for 9th-11th grade AHS students to take place in June 2016. Priority will be given to those students who hosted Japanese students in the past. With the cost per student amounting to approximately $2,500, fundraising by the students and their families as well as grant applications will be needed.

In February 2015 and early March 2015, the committee met to discuss the annual March visit of Kanegasaki Middle School students. Denise Boyd, Middle School guidance counselor, and Aaron Kropf, High School Physics teacher, coordinated all in-school activities and Denise organized all of the student home-stays. Committee members planned and hosted activities and dinners for the trip chaperones.

Discussion took place regarding the personal expense of hosting the chaperones annually for dinners and activities and whether that is an impediment to KSCC recruiting new members. The Committee agreed to fund one KSCC dinner per visit where all hosts and chaperones dinners are paid in full (excluding alcohol) with a limit of up to 3 ***active*** members having their meals paid for as hosts with a cap of $30 per person per meal. The visitors from Kanegasaki have relayed to the committee (through teacher/translator Daniel Degrasse) that they come with government funds to cover many of their expenses including meals.

Also in March, Select Board Chair, Aaron Hayden, and KSCC Chair, Aaron Kropf, received "hold the date letters" for the Oct. 10TH 60th anniversary of Kanegasaki being established as a town.

In April 2015, the committee met and discussed another successful visit from the Kanegasaki Middle School. Eighteen Japanese students visited Amherst along with their three chaperones which included Daniel Degrasse, translator and liaison. Denise reported that all of the homestays and outings in the

community went well. The farewell potluck dinner was enjoyed by all with the Japanese students performing traditional dances as usual.

The committee also discussed Kanegasaki's upcoming 60th anniversary celebration Oct. 10th and who on the committee was interested in attending the special event. Aaron Kropf and Denise Boyd (both teachers) expressed interest in attending the anniversary weekend. Because of the expense of the trip to Japan, the committee discussed the possibility of small scholarships for KSCC members attending the event. Future fundraisers were a natural follow-up topic as the committee has an ongoing need to replenish the KSCC treasury. Some ideas for fundraisers were a formal dinner at the Jones Library, a gift booth at the Farmers Market, and a fundraising dinner at Ginger Garden or Johnny's Tavern.

In May 2015, the committee met to start planning a fundraising event to generate more funds to assist with trip related and gift expenses for the Oct. 2015 anniversary trip to Kanegasaki. A dinner at Ginger Garden was decided on as a fundraiser with Aaron Kropf as the coordinator. Discussion continued as to who might attend the Oct. celebration with Tina Swift and Cyndi Harbeson from the Jones Library expressing interest. Aaron Kropf reported that he received a letter from the Japanese Consulate in Boston seeking grant proposals through their "Inviting Proposals for Japan's New Initiative". Applications were due by June 16, 2015 and up to $5,000 could be awarded to Japanese-American friendship societies to implement exchange programs. The KSCC ended the fiscal year with plans to meet more frequently to organize both the fundraiser dinner as well as the Oct. 2015 visit to Kanegasaki.

Respectfully submitted,
Helen MacMellon, Secretary
Kanegasaki Sister City Committee

Amherst Town Libraries
The Jones Library, Munson Memorial Library, North Amherst Library
Fiscal Year 2015

Vision Statement

- The Jones Library staff will create a welcoming atmosphere for everyone, and will be deeply engaged and committed to maintaining the highest levels of professionalism and providing exceptional customer service.
- The Board of Trustees, Friends of the Jones Library System, and staff will provide visionary leadership so that the town of Amherst and its residents will continue to support the Library through financial and volunteer support.
- The Jones Library will help provide Amherst with a bridge to the latest state-of-the-art technologies and will provide those needing training with instruction and support.
- Special Collections, which includes works by Robert Frost and Emily Dickinson, will draw people from all over the world, helping to ensure a vibrant business community.
- A strong base of committed volunteers will augment the Library staff and be recognized for their important contributions, helping the Jones Library remain strong and connected to the entire community. Each volunteer will be matched with appropriate tasks so that their skills and interests are aligned with the needs of the library.
- The Jones Library will augment its effectiveness by developing and maintaining mutually beneficial relationships with other Amherst town departments, with libraries and other relevant departments and offices at surrounding colleges and universities, C/W MARS as well as with other local business and cultural entities.
- The Library will actively welcome and encourage access by members of our community with economic and social disadvantages.

Mission Statement

The Jones Library will be a community hub to a diverse population of Amherst residents, where books are celebrated and all members of the community can enhance their educational, cultural, and lifelong learning pursuits.

Borrower Services

- Five Homebound volunteers delivered 1,247 items (books, CDs, DVDs, Kindles, reference database printouts, and bibliographies) to 46 homebound patrons.
- Everyone is happy now that the newspaper sticks are gone! Our papers are now displayed on a nice rack against the wall, which also takes up much less floor space.
- Hosted "Food for Fines" during the month of January. Patrons brought in non-perishable food items to be donated to the Amherst Survival Center in lieu of paying overdue fines.
- Installed a new barcode scanner which reads Library card barcodes stored on iPhones.
- Contributed expertise to help the consortium improve the C/W MARS online circulation system.
- Installed an Online Public Access Catalog near the adult circulation desk to make it easier for patrons who want to check the catalog first when they enter the building.
- Continued to send welcome letters and give Library tours to all new Library card holders.
- Circulated 32,532 Jones Library items to satisfy system wide holds.
- Made books-on-CD easier to locate with newly added three-letter codes.

Collections

- New displays for courses, radio, and foreign language learning made nonfiction books-on-CD easier to browse.
- Added to our collection of Chinese books (our 2nd most popular foreign language after Spanish).
- Assisted with "On the Same Page - Amherst," by working closely with Carol Ross of the Amherst Public Schools.
- Began subscribing to the *New York Times Large Print Weekly.*
- Began using Wowbrary to promote Library events and topics.
- Held a popular program on the literary bestseller *Go Set a Watchman,* with Amherst College professor Barry O'Connell;
- Organized a Holiday Book Fair with the Friends of the Jones Library System.

Information Services

- The in-house Web Advisory Group designed and built a new, responsive website that highlights our collections, resources, and staff. The site will launch in early December 2015.
- The e-readers and tablets in our lending program circulated frequently over the past year, and have now circulated over 630 times since the beginning of the program.
- Delivered daily drop-in and by-appointment technology support sessions to help both patrons and staff access our expanding digital collections with their computers and devices.

Technology

- Updated and patched nearly all public and staff computer applications. Installed new applications in half the time using deployment software (PDQ). Upgraded all staff and public computers' Microsoft Office software.
- Configured and deployed ten additional systems (scanning station, digital media station, ESL student station, Youth Services desktop and laptop, North Amherst laptop, Woodbury Room laptop, two ESL iPads, staff breakroom, Technical Services laptop, Office laptop).
- Upgraded all Online Public Access Computers with better hardware.
- Upgraded all public computer operating systems from Windows XP to Windows 7.
- Upgraded all wireless access points.
- Helped numerous staff with technology problems and questions.
- Helped many patrons with technology in the Woodbury Room and Reference.

Programming and Outreach

- Hosted "The Forgiveness Project" which was a collaboration between the Jones Library and Art & Soul on the theme of forgiveness, including a mini-community read based on Desmond Tutu's *The Book of Forgiving* and a three-session film and discussion series (four programs in total).
- Collaborated with the Coming Together Project to bring a monthly film and discussion series to the public on issues of race and diversity (nine films and one panel discussion);
- Hosted the Parker String Quartet Concert for Families, a collaboration with Music at Amherst from Amherst College to make concerts by famous musicians accessible to families and the wider community during a free daytime concert.
- Collaborated with Amherst Together in a variety of ways, including making surveys and other materials available to the public, serving as a location for information and survey tables, and hosting several programs, including the short documentary *Aspirations.*
- Collaborated with the Amherst Regional Public Schools, including serving as a drop-off location for Project Backpack and hosting an information table at the "back to school" event on the Common.

- Organized, sponsored, and hosted many programs which were funded by the Friends of the Jones Library System including:
  - "On the Same Page - Amherst," a community read of *The Girl Who Fell From the Sky* by Heidi Durrow.
  - *jubilat*/Jones Poetry Reading Series.
  - Adult Summer Reading Program which included incentives and prizes.
- During Money Smart Week, we offered two adult programs and one children's story hour to support consumer financial literacy.
- Held a "Banned Book Week" program on intellectual freedom called "From 'Banned in Boston' to Ethnic Studies in Arizona."
- Hosted seven local author events.
- Offered a chocolate tasting by local cookbook author Dede Wilson.

Young Adult Services

- Hosted a popular young adult author panel featuring Sarah J Maas, Alexandra Bracken and Dawn Metcalf.
- Participated in the book launch for *The Iron Trial* by Cassandra Clare and Holly Black.
- Hosted a "Write Here! Write Now!" writing workshop for teens, featuring young adult authors Cammie McGovern, Dawn Metcalf, Page Morgan, local writer Heather Richard, and *Kirkus* Reviewer Ann Childs (six weekly sessions and one wrap-up party).
- Purchased a cart for new young adult books and a monthly book display.
- Established multiple social media accounts for teens @joneslibteens
- Acquired advanced reading copies of books for teens to take in exchange for book reviews.
- Hosted best-selling author Leigh Bardugo.
- Many thanks to the Friends of the Jones Library System for sponsoring the 2015 Teen Summer Reading Program, which included brining a group of teens to see Miranda Sings in concert!

Youth Services

- The youth room staff gracefully handled a year filled with transition as Sondra Radosh, Head of Youth Services for 43 years, retired. Their cooperative attitudes and dedication kept youth services running smoothly while dealing with lots of change. Weeding and cleaning efforts helped to hone the collection and the welcoming environment of the youth room remains one of our greatest strengths.
- Organized, sponsored, and hosted many programs which were funded by the Friends of the Jones Library System including:
  - "Sing with Your Baby," performed on Tuesday mornings by Wendy Plummer with an average of 50 people attending each week. There were a total of 20 "Sing with Your Baby" programs, in two 10-week sessions.
  - EveLynn Goodhind's Saturday art program for children ages 10-15, which has been consistently well-attended and enthusiastically received.
  - 2015 Youth Summer Reading Program featuring a superhero theme (Every Hero Has A Story). Inspired by the theme, the youth room showed two movies, *Big Hero 6* and *The Incredibles*. Other highlights of the Youth Summer Reading Program include the "Writing with Miss Emily" program; reading to Hachi the Listening Dog; and family storytimes at the Amherst Saturday Farmer's Market. A total of 110 kids participated in the youth 2015 summer reading program.
  - Local author and illustrator David Hyde Costello presented an interactive storytelling program that encouraged audience participation in the creation of art that was later donated to the Jones Library art collection.

- Little Bits Club and Jones Library Makerspace, which highlight inventive creativity, using robotics and STEM tools (plus the impressive imaginations of our youth room patrons) to produce everything from paper tube flashlights (that really work) to Perler bead artwork. We are grateful to Trevor Takayama, the technology teacher from Wildwood Elementary school, who volunteered to help get our Makerspace program up and running.

- The youth room also hosted literature programs that ranged from morning preschool storytimes to the afterschool comic book club.

Special Collections

- Cyndi Harbeson began work in January 2015 as Head of Special Collections. Cyndi is the first professionally educated and trained Archivist to be employed by The Jones.
- Upgraded Digital Amherst, our online site for digital collections, and added additional content, including the exhibit "Robert Francis, At Home & Abroad."
- Developed and installed a new exhibit, "Highways & Byways of the South: Photographs by Clifton Johnson," in the reference room. A reception was held in June 2015 to celebrate the exhibit's opening with 30 people in attendance.
- Hosted nine group visits to Special Collections including visits from Smith College Campus School sixth graders; Roberts Wesleyan College students; a Girl Scout troop; Lee University students; and the Worcester Women's History Project. We also hosted a workshop for the Emily Dickinson Museum guides.
- Developed exhibits for Special Collections including "Imaginings of Spring," an exhibit of Robert Frost-related material, and "And the Sammy Goes To…," honoring the 2015 Sammys awardees Julius Lester and Pat and Peter Schneider.
- Exhibited Special Collections materials at the TEDxAmherst Conference held at UMass in April 2015. Over 200 people viewed the exhibit.
- Received and inventoried many new acquisitions. Highlights include an addition to our Fine Arts Collection, "Cuts with Class" by Edward L. O'Gilvie; donations of historical photographs and scrapbooks from the Amherst Chamber of Commerce; and the poem *Icicles* written and autographed by Robert Francis.

English as a Second Language (ESL)

- 75 adult learners were placed with volunteer tutors and conversation partners.
- Conducted four year-round conversation circles four times per week (with an average attendance of 12 people per session).
- Four of our students became U.S. citizens. All were older women, and three of the four had no prior formal education. In addition, two students passed their driver's permit tests, and one passed her HiSet (high school equivalency) test.
- With some assistance from the ESL Center, one of our long-term Tibetan students received scholarship awards from two separate community groups and was admitted into the nursing school at Holyoke Community College.
- The UMass Community Campaign chose to highlight a Jones Library ESL success story, "From Refugee to Citizen" as the opening blog post for their new web site: https://www.umass.edu/umacc/blog/refugee-citize
- Filmed 13 new videos to be featured on the Library's new web page. In them, ESL volunteers and students talk about their experience in the program: https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLzi1dXIdetU_weXAlLcg1bpBc7yOfJ0-
- Lynne Weintraub's teaching suggestions were featured in ProLiteracy's membership journal, "Notes" (in an article about using children's literature in adult education contexts).

Munson Memorial Branch Library

- Woodbury Grant funding from the Friends combined with Munson Memorial Library Gift Funds enabled PC Doctor Hank and Branch Head Sue Hugus to help 129 people with computer,

eBook, cellphone, and tablet problems from October through May. Private contractor, PC Doctor Hank, has been well received by the public.

- Throughout the year, the Amherst Montessori School used the Munson Memorial Library for class projects.
- The Library hosted a Holiday Tea for the public in December.
- Summer Reading came to a close with a party in the Munson Memorial Library Garden. Sue Hugus read *Aunt Isabel Tells a Good One* by Kate Duke to the parents and children. 36 children received books and prizes for reading over the summer.
- The Munson Memorial Hall was the host for the "On the Same Page," program sponsored by the Friends of the Jones Library System.
- The Munson Memorial Library staff created a Facebook page to promote the Library's programing and book collections.
- Many classes and programs used the Munson Memorial Hall when the Library was closed, adding to the use of the building.
- Many thanks to the Friends for sponsoring the 2015 Munson Memorial Summer Reading Program!

North Amherst Branch Library

- The North Amherst Library building is an anchor to the North Amherst community, drawing visitors to both the lovely outdoor garden space as well as the well-stocked interior space filled with print, audiovisual and digital connections with access for all.
- The wonderful and popular children's story and craft program continued on Wednesday afternoons.
- The North Amherst Library staff, with their dedication to service, is one of our most valued resources, and is appreciated by the many patrons who visit us.
- Many thanks to the Friends for sponsoring the 2015 North Amherst Summer Reading Program!

Technical Services

- Improved the Library's book ordering process which enables patron-placed holds on the newest books, even before the Library receives them.
- Contributed expertise to help the consortium improve the C/W MARS Online Public Access Catalog.
- Began several new collections including "New Biography," "New Young Adult," and "UMass Press Publications" to help patrons browse.

Buildings and Facilities

- Coordinated the design and construction of a lighted built-in display case in the lobby for Library/Friends sales with partial funding provided by the Friends of the Jones Library System.
- Using Amherst Joint Capital Planning Committee (JCPC) funding, oversaw the installation of new railings and replacement of stairs at the entrance of the North Amherst Library.
- Hired a part time, seasonal gardener on staff to maintain the Kinsey and Jones Gardens.
- Using JCPC funding, oversaw the replacement of all carpeting in the North Amherst Library.
- Built and installed new covers for the basement exterior window vestibules in the original portion of The Jones building.
- Reconfigured the main Jones office and furnished a space for a receptionist.

The Burnett Gallery

The Burnett Gallery's monthly exhibits, juried by a volunteer committee, showcase the work of local artists. The purpose of the Burnett Gallery is to provide a place where community artists and crafts people, particularly those without the reputation or resources which would enable them to exhibit at museums or commercial galleries, can show their work. Collectively, the exhibits at the Burnett Gallery

reflect a variety of media, styles, cultural viewpoints, and levels of artistic experience. Applications to exhibit at the Burnett Gallery may be submitted by individuals or groups from Amherst and the towns of the Pioneer Valley.

The Burnett Gallery Committee is comprised of community members who oversee the overall operation of the Burnett Gallery; solicit artists to apply to exhibit at the Burnett Gallery; jury the applicant's works of art; and provide liaison assistance to the artists as they mount their exhibits.

The Burnett Gallery participates in the Amherst Art Walk which is usually held from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month.

We extend a special thank you to the Friends of the Jones Library System for the generous gift of a bench to the Burnett Gallery in 2015.

Community Partnerships

Thanks to the generosity of so many community partners, The Jones Library is able to provide superior services to Amherst area patrons. Many thanks to the following local organizations for their ongoing support of Library programs: Amherst Area Chamber of Commerce, Amherst Boys and Girls Club, Amherst College and the Frost Library, Amherst Community Connections, Amherst Historical Society, Amherst Media, Amherst Schools, Amherst Survival Center, Amherst Business Improvement District, Applewood, Emily Dickinson Museum, Hampshire College, Thursday Club, and the University of Massachusetts and the UMass Library.

The Jones Library continues to have a collaborative relationship with other Amherst Town departments. For example:

- The Library actively advertises and promotes Leisure Services and Supplemental Education (LSSE) camp programs in the lobby and sells tickets to LSSE musicals;
- The Library's Youth Services department co-sponsors the teen improvisational group, ACTSMART, which uses drama to address teen issues such as bullying, peer pressure and social and emotional issues;
- The Library hosts information tables at community events including the Schools' First Day Celebration and Latino Night Celebration;
- The Reference Department provides access to Town reports and other documents made available for public review; assists the schools in the selection of textbooks by making potential selections available for public review and comment; provides voter registration forms; and is available to assist Town Departments and officials with research projects;
- The Library supports town-wide surveys (e.g., Waste and Recycling Survey) by providing print copies to residents upon request and by assisting residents in completing online surveys;
- The Library's ESL Department works with the Cambodian Social Services Coordinator in sharing naturalization information to ensure that elderly disabled refugees can become citizens; and works with the ESL Department at the High School to make sure families have access to services;
- The Special Collections staff provides support to Amherst High School students, as they conduct research on Amherst buildings, as part of a long standing cooperative effort;
- The Library provides meeting room space to other town departments;
- And as the Munson Memorial Library building is the voting location for precinct 8, Library staff are able to help the Town Clerk's office during elections.

The Jones Library also directly benefits from the advocacy efforts of the Massachusetts Library Association (MLA), the Western Massachusetts Library Advocates (WMLA), the Central and Western Massachusetts Automated Resource Sharing Network (C/W MARS), and the Massachusetts Library System (MLS).

Donor Generosity

The Jones Library is fortunate to have many generous donors led by the Friends of the Jones Library System (volunteers) who donated over $33,000 for programs free to the public and an additional $12,000 for books and other circulating materials through their Beds for Books program and other fundraising activities. The Jones Library (elected) Trustees raised over $60,000 from many individual donors.

Other donors include: *Amherst Club* which supports the ESL program; *Amherst Cultural Council* which supports Library programming; *Amherst Garden Club* which donates money to be used for the purchase of gardening books; *Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts* which raises money for us annually through their online Valley Gives program; *Emily Dickinson Society* which donates money to the Special Collections Department; *Harpo Power,* owner of The Harp, for donating money to the North Amherst Library and the Youth Services Department; *UMass Amherst Community Campaign* which has been most helpful by enabling workers to use payroll deduction to send contributions directly to The Jones; *Yankee Candle* which support the ESL program; and the *Xeric Foundation* which donates money to the ESL program.

The Jones Library, Inc. Endowment

The Endowment's balance on June 30, 2015 was $7,567,845.59 and the separate Woodbury Fund totaled $618,213.34.

Trustees

Austin Sarat, President
Christopher Hoffmann, Vice President
Tamson Ely, Clerk
Robert Pam, Treasurer
Jon McCabe, Vice Treasurer
Michael Wolff

Special Thanks to the FRIENDS OF THE JONES LIBRARY SYSTEM!

Officers: Bonnie Isman, President; Lucy McMurrer, Past President; Mary Elizabeth Sitze, Vice President; Kathy Caputo, Treasurer; Nancy Gregg, Secretary.

Board Members: Edith Byron, Jean Jeffries, Miriam Jenkins, Mary Ellen Kelly, Lewis Mainzer, Dorothy Morse, Christine Stevens, Sidney Treyz, Bonnie Vigeland, and Barbara Ford (Beds for Books).

FY 2015 at a Glance

FY 15 Library Checkouts	
Books	294,521
Newspapers & Magazines	11,604
Audio & Visual Items	163875
Electronic & Other Materials	21,028

Cataloged Collections Available June 30, 2015	
Books	187,075
Newspapers & Magazines	352
Audio & Visual Items	25,805
Electronic & Other Materials	42,457

Amherst residents with C/W MARS library cards	19,162
Number of items circulated to non-Amherst residents	171,144
Total hours the Library was open on Saturdays	424
Total hours the Library was open on Sundays	136
Attendance	296,869
Number of reference transactions	31,093
Number of weekly users of Internet computers	1,000
Number of children's programs	165
Attendance at children's programs	4,562
Number of young adult programs	52
Attendance at young adult programs	1,459
Number of adult programs	283
Attendance at adult programs	5,715
Number of hours volunteered in Library system	21,617

The Jones Library, Inc.
43 Amity Street
Amherst, MA 01002
www.JonesLibrary.or
Follow us: twitter.com/JonesLibraryM
Like us: facebook.com/joneslibrar

Munson Memorial Library Building Trustees
Fiscal Year 2015

The trustees oversee the general use of the Munson Memorial Library Building and represent the building with respect to the town and the community. The trustees deal with scheduling and rental issues, and setting fees for the non-library use of the building. The actual scheduling and collection of rental fees is done through the Senior Center staff at the Bangs Center.

The trustees followed up on various issues related to clarifying appropriate uses of the facility, Trustees also welcomed a new trustee, who assumed the role of Secretary. Trustees continued participation in the process initiated by the Jones Library to envision an expanded use of the lower level of the building.

Trustees

Johannes Brongers, chair
Janice Ratner
Mary Jo Moses

Amherst Public Art Commission
Fiscal Year 2015

Recruitment of New Members/Organizational Issues

The Commission continued its outreach efforts to recruit new members, especially to communities not often represented. In July, Daniel Grant joined the Commission. Daniel served on the Amherst Cultural Council previously. In terms of future recruiting efforts, it was determined that there is no rule that requires a person to be a resident of Amherst in order to serve on Town Committees.

Rachel Hankinson completed her second term in June 2015 and left the Commission. Daniel Grant agreed to take over the Treasurer duties.

One of the Gallery artists, Martha Brower, donated an oil painting to the Town. It now hangs in the 1st Floor Meeting Room in Town Hall.

The Commission devoted a portion of its first few meetings to an open discussion of the meaning of the term 'Public Art' and the purpose of the Commission, as we see it. Ideas included: Public Art is understood to be located in a public space and is usually funded with public funds (but not always). Public Art may respond to the history of the space or its context, e.g. Amherst History Mural and A Poetic Dialogue. Public Art exists outside of private galleries. The Commission should be more involved in the promotion of public art and not in enforcing design rules, as this would be the role of other committees such as the Design Review Board. For the mapping project inventory and walking tour we can be more inclusive in order to promote Amherst as an arts destination. We also need to identify new spaces for public art and spaces to re-use. The Commission will also support ephemeral art and public performances.

The discussion turned to temporary or borrowed public art with examples from Sarasota, Fla. and Palo Alto, CA. This is a common practice nationwide. Costs are lower than creating a permanent sculpture garden. We agreed that this approach would be a good way to reuse existing sites, and that we should avail ourselves of these kinds of opportunities.

Funding for Public Art

The Commission voted to charge participating artists an exhibition fee of $20 starting in July 2015 to pay for Art Walk membership and advertising for the Town Hall Gallery. However, everyone agreed it would be best not to charge a fee, if our funding situation improves.

The Commission received grants of $500 from the Amherst Cultural Council and $2,000 from the BID for the Public Art Inventory and Mapping Project. The Commission also received a few hundred dollars in commissions from sales and exhibit fees to cover the cost of running the gallery.

Along with Amherst Together, The Commission investigated grant possibilities from the Bloomberg Foundation and the NEA, but ultimately decided not to pursue grant applications at this time.

Public Art Map of Amherst

Over the course of the year, work continued to complete the online public art map and produce a paper version. The Commission held several discussions on issues such as copyright of photos of the artwork, artist's visual rights, and the preservation, restoration or relocation of artwork coming down due to construction. Completing the inventory of public art and art venues in Amherst and then cataloguing it in a format for transfer to the web proved to be a much more time consuming task than the Commission had anticipated. Challenges included bad weather, obtaining photographic use rights as well as finding additional pieces not on our original list.

Perhaps even more challenging was the actual design of both the online map and the paper map.

Commission members worked intensively with Mike Olkin, GIS Administrator, and Susan LaPointe, graphic designer, hired to work on a print version of the map. By the end of this fiscal year, we were starting the final proofing of the online map, but still working on a paper map design that included all the art and venues in an easily understandable manner.

Public Art Forums and Focus Groups

October Stakeholders Meeting
As part of its effort to include public input, as well as input from a variety of public art stakeholders, the Commission launched a series of invitation only forums, open public meetings and focus groups over the course of the year.

In October 2014, the Commission held a meeting, under the sponsorship of the Town Manager, John Musante, with 23 people representing artists, town officials, the Amherst Schools, the business community, local galleries, museums and non-profits to discuss and help prioritize how Amherst should approach the development of public art in its downtown. The meeting considered whether to: establish a Cultural District in Amherst, as outlined and designated by the Massachusetts Cultural Council; a Percent for Art program to raise funds to support and maintain a public art program; coordinate the art efforts of such entities as the Amherst Art Walk, the Amherst Public Art Commission, the B.I.D., and the Amherst Area Chamber of Commerce; and finally whether and how to conduct a series of representative focus groups on what Amherst residents would like to see happen regarding the arts for Amherst. Following the meeting, a Summary Report was written and distributed to all participants.

Attendees were very interested in establishing a Cultural District, and nine people volunteered to help. The group also supported new arts funding via a % for Art. The need to coordinate efforts to promote the arts was another idea that drew support. We discussed whether or not to pursue the idea of organizing ten small focus groups or an online survey using Survey Monkey. It was felt that using one or more open meetings to solicit public opinion would be more feasible.

Public Art Forums
The Commission held three open public forums to discuss the future of public art in Amherst on January and February 2015. Articles on the forums appeared in local papers and they were announced on the Town webpage. However, due to heavy snow, attendance was sparse. The Commission then decided to hold a series of focus groups in the late spring.

June Focus Groups
The Commission scheduled a series of six focus groups on public art in Amherst during the first two weeks of June. These sessions were a follow-up to the October 23, 2014, Arts for Amherst meeting of some 20 stakeholders in the arts in Amherst. Both that meeting and these focus groups were designed to provide the Public Art Commission with a sense of what people who live and work in Amherst felt was important regarding public art and its place, if any, in our town.

The focus groups represented five somewhat overlapping constituencies: business (two groups), municipal/government employees, educators, artists, and non-profit institutions. Thirty-two people attended the six groups, plus four members of the Public Art Commission. The discussions centered on these seven questions regarding Amherst and public art:

1. Can/should Amherst be more of an arts destination? Why or why not?
2. What do you think of when you hear the words “public art”?
3. How can public art help a community? What are its benefits?
4. What kind of public art do you think Amherst should seek and display? What’s right for Amherst? Should it be permanent or temporary? Challenging or not?
5. Where should public art be displayed? What kinds of places?
6. Who should be responsible for deciding on what public art should be commissioned and where it should be placed?

7. How should it be funded?

Of course, a wide range of opinions was expressed during the various meetings, and a consensus was not solicited or even desired. While each group represented specific constituencies, there were significant commonalities --as well as differences--in the views expressed. A report on the focus groups was prepared and distributed to all the attendees.

Percent for Art Project

Following an intensive period of investigation led by Commission member Eric Broudy, the Commission began an initiative to create a Percent for Art program in Amherst in which a percentage (often 1%) of the cost of publicly funded construction (i.e. schools, firehouse, etc.) is devoted to public art. This initiative formally began with a meeting with staff from MassCreative, an arts advocacy group, to strategize on the process of getting support for this concept at Town Meeting.

This initial meeting was followed by efforts to draft a Town by-law to create a Percent for Art program and a one-page information sheet on "Why Public Art for Amherst?" Several meetings with Town Manager John Musante and Finance Director Sandy Pooler to discuss the draft Percent for Art bylaw provided technical assistance and suggestions for the ways and means to bring the proposed by-law to Town Meeting. Focus groups discussed earlier in this report were held to solicit public opinion on the value of this program.

At the end of this report period, the Commission had decided to spend the summer and fall preparing for and presenting this proposal to the various Town committees and the general public with the goal of bringing a warrant article for a Percent for Art Program to the spring 2016 Town Meeting.

Cultural District Project

The Commission began an initiative to establish a state approved Cultural District in Downtown Amherst. This effort involved a number of meetings with Town Manager John Musante, all of the major cultural organizations and business organizations in the proposed district (downtown Amherst) including the Business Improvement District, the Amherst Area Chamber of Commerce, the Amherst Historical The Emily Dickinson Museum, the Jones Library, and the Amherst Cinema as well as representatives from UMass.

To learn what is required and the process for becoming a cultural district, Commission members consulted with existing cultural districts in Northampton, Easthampton, Shelburne Falls and staff from the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

Two key elements for approval from the Mass. Cultural Council (MCC) will be setting appropriate boundaries and keeping the district a 'walk able' size. Boundaries will likely coincide with the downtown historic district and the Business Improvement District, although a site visit from MCC will be required, and they may make changes to the proposed boundaries.

An application will be submitted in the fall of 2015 following a series of convening meetings and a process of gathering public input.

Town Hall Exhibits

This year the Town Hall Gallery had a full range of exhibits, some of which were favorably reviewed in local newspapers. Exhibit opportunities were announced in the Valley Arts Newsletter and at Galley A3.

Exhibits for 2014 - 2015:

July/Aug – Lawrence Siddall – Color Photography
Sept/Oct - Betzi Slyvan – Fiber Art
Nov/Dec – Jieun Shin: Recent Watercolors
Jan/Feb - Martha Brower – oil paintings
Mar/Apr - Alex Markiewicz - charcoal drawings

May/June - Bob Hallock – black & white photos

As part of our continuing effort to analyze and evaluate what we are doing, we held a discussion on the benefits versus the amount of work needed to maintain the Town Hall Gallery. Commission members brought up their views as well as relating the views of patrons and artists. After a discussion that carried over two meetings, it was agreed to continue the gallery, but that se needed more effort to recruit artists of quality and that we needed to research making improvements to the gallery itself.

Collaborative Efforts

The Commission has continued its outreach efforts to collaborate with other organizations and individuals.

We worked with Carol Ross and Amherst Together to revitalize the Poetry Windows in the Boltwood parking lot. The old and non-functioning video screens were replaced with new technology and new poetry.

We met with Amherst Cultural Council to talk about the work of each organization and how we might support each other.

Commission Chair, Rene Theberge, attended the Amherst Historical Commission meeting in the fall to discuss the Amherst History Mural on the Carriage Shops and to offer our support for keeping or restoring the mural in its original form following construction. The Historical Commission urged APAC to create online access to information about the people in the mural.

Commission Chair, Rene Theberge, met with Loretta Yarlow of the University Museum of Contemporary Art to discuss the possibility of a joint project with the Commission to develop a show of public art by UMass faculty and students for 2016. Commission member Eric Broudy also met with Dee Boyle-Clapp, director of the UMass Arts Extension Institute, Loretta Yarlow and Eva Fierst from the University Contemporary Art Museum concerning additional efforts to work collaboratively to bring UMass and the Town of Amherst into closer alliance regarding the arts and culture in Town.

Commission members met with Mollye Wolahan, Cowls' VP of Real Estate and Development, who is looking for new uses for two barns in The Mill District in North Amherst. We discussed possible uses of these barns for art studios or performance spaces.

PUBLIC SHADE TREE COMMITTEE
Fiscal Year 2015

As our mission statement says, "The Amherst Public Shade Tree Committee preserves, protects and promotes town shade trees." To this end, we advise and help our wonderful Tree Warden, Alan Snow. We speak and write about trees to educate our neighbors about the importance of them. And we organize tree plantings throughout town.

We've had a busy year! Here are some highlights of things we've done in 2014/15:

1. Henry Lappen met with the head of one of Amherst's larger management companies to see about adding trees along the roads in front of their properties.
2. Michael Hutton-Woodland worked with the BID to put in tree planters along Main Street, downtown, adding trees to a place where there was no room to dig or plant in the ground.
3. Nancy Higgins met with people in different neighborhoods and helped them apply for our ANTS program. Each year we select one area for intensive plantings where the whole neighborhood pitches in. This past October we joined with a large group of residents to plant a dozen or so trees along Harris and Fisher Streets. Food and drink were delivered to people hard at work!
4. Bob Erwin coordinated our First Saturday of the Month plantings. Some locations planted this year include Crocker Farm Schoolyard and along the corner of Route 9 and Snell St. Everyone is certainly welcome to grab a shovel and help us in the coming year!
5. Town meeting member Melissa Perot kept an eye on commercial development and town bureaus so that we have a chance to comment on how new developments affect existing trees, while Nonny Burack has been writing articles and letters about the importance of trees ecologically and aesthetically.
6. And Henry also worked with teacher Karen Murphy from the South Amherst Campus of the High School to put in an orchard there. We helped students and staff plant apples, Asian pears, persimmons, pawpaws and raspberries. The kids will take care of the trees, then harvest the fruit to eat and also to use in their cooking class.

Meanwhile, the town is finishing up planting 2000 trees through the DPW. When done, we will have come a long way in restoring Amherst's tree canopy. But even as we plant more, trees keep coming down. Some are dying naturally, victims of disease. But many meet their end because of humans. Road widening and sidewalk projects are one cause. Think Pine St. here. Another cause comes from homeowners. While we get a lot of requests from people to plant new trees in their yards, we also get lots of requests to remove them - for construction of additions and new driveways, and even for access to the sun for solar panels. A third cause of tree loss comes from the company formerly known as Western Mass. Electric. They have been more diligently clearing trees that threaten power lines. The rep from Eversource visits our meetings regularly and we try to strike a balance between keeping our trees while protecting the grid. But as you can see, it's a hard job keeping healthy trees growing along our streets.

A large shade tree brings huge benefits to the environment - clean air, clean water, carbon storage, erosion prevention and more. It's a difficult struggle to keep Amherst green and beautiful. We will keep trying to find the right tree for the right location and keep the planting going. And we hope the town will do everything in its power to support us. Please drive down the streets of town and look at all the new trees. Then imagine how glorious they will look in ten, twenty or fifty years. We invite everyone to visit us at one of our monthly meetings which are usually the second Tuesday of the month at town hall at 4 PM.

Public Transportation, Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee, Fiscal Year 2015

We seek to make bicycling, walking and public transportation integral parts of daily life in Amherst, so that persons of all ages, abilities and circumstances use these modes of transportation for all types of trips instead of driving.

We want to recognize the work that Dorie Goldman and John Bamberger did in service to the Town on the Public Transportation Committee. They were both special people and we will miss them.

The PTBPC started the year as the Public Transportation and Bicycle Committee. In recognition that walking is also an essential alternative to the car the PTBC successfully petitioned the Annual Town Meeting to add pedestrians to its advocacy (ATM 2015, Art 20) and became the Public Transportation, Bicycle and **Pedestrian** Committee.

The expanded role of the Committee provides a good forum for keeping the Town abreast of the issues that affect those who chose not to drive and to help Amherst incorporate best transportation practices into its planning and provision of services to citizens. Every year our understanding of the incredible damage our over reliance on the car causes to our health, environment and the dislocations to our economy gets ahead of our actions to repair that damage and dislocation. Certainly walking and creating walkable neighborhoods and commercial districts is a valuable addition to public transportation and bicycling in this effort.

The Committee had representation on the Public Transportation Task Force as they did their work to create the Transportation Plan we have in hand. (We'd like to thank Eve who was our representative on the Task Force as she leaves us to take her sabbatical year.) We continue to be represented as the Task Force moves forward with implementing the findings in the report.
Also the Committee participated in the Public Works Committee's efforts for redesigning repairs at Pine Street at their hearings and in discussions with the Select Board. The PTBPC was disappointed that physical restraints on the project precluded full bike lanes or a contiguous multi-use path but accepts the compromise solutions eventually found.

Last year the PTBC gave input to the PVTA in their study that eventually created new routes in Amherst. This year we have been monitoring the affect of those changes with an eye toward the efficacy of the process that created the routes which included computer modeling and taking in public input in various different venues. So far the new routes seem successful; ridership is significantly up along the pieces of routes that were retained; there are new riders from areas newly served; and resources used on routes with almost zero ridership are handling more riders.

The PTBPC continues to press for the completion of the North Amherst Bike path that would connect UMass northward as far as Meadow Street. North Pleasant Street carries a great deal of traffic between these two areas that would move to this alternate route and away from automobiles. There are a few complications and concerns of abutters that need to be worked out but we are hopeful that when the benefits are weighed against any of these concerns the value of this route would be clear.

Department of Public Works
Fiscal Year 2015

In looking back over the year it occurred to me that almost 50% of the work force at the DPW has been with the Town 10 years or less. While that has its benefits, it also shows that the loss of experience is happening even in the world of public works. The challenge over the next few years will be to continue to attract and retain new employees. This is made more difficult with the lapses in our national and local education systems that for years have shunned the trade industries for the higher paying college oriented industries. At the same time jobs in the Public Works industry have become more technical as computers have invaded every aspect of our industry. This lack of training has made it difficult to find fully qualified workers in our more technical positions and has placed the burden on Amherst to provide more training than in the past. This training makes our younger employees more valuable to Amherst and unfortunately more valuable on the area job market. We will have to find some method to offer some type of incentives to retain new and stimulate existing employees or our number of employees with less than 10 years of service will grow as they jump from employer to employer for money.

This year we have had 4 employees retire or resign. Tom Luipold the new Water Division Director retired after serving 24years; Susan Waite the Recycling Coordinator resigned after 6 years; Elizabeth Marshall one of our Engineering Techs resigned after 11 years and Kenny Bartus retired after 16 years of service. We wish all of these former employees well in their retirement and/or future endeavors.

Again for this department to function it requires employees to repair, maintain and operate many of the systems that we as residents, citizens and visitors use every day without thinking. Working from home when you do not feel well, or the weather is bad is not an option for the employees of this Department. For the Department to function it takes dedicated employees like these to make the system work seamless and effortless.

Respectfully submitted,

Guilford B. Mooring II, P.E.

Guilford B. Mooring II, P.E.
Superintendent of Public Works

CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE

The personnel of the Highway Division in addition to their normal maintenance, completed the following projects during FY 2015.

Oversaw the annual paving contract that paved Berkshire Terrace, Farview Way, Valley Lane, Fairfield Street, Moorland Street, Old Town Road, paved the top course on Cottage Street, and the placed the base course on Pine Street. Upgraded the High School entrance off Gray Street for the Regional School System. This was for a total of 13,141 feet of paving.

Completed the design of the roadway improvements for Pine Street and began construction.

Completed the design of the Northampton Road water main replacement project, 4,100 feet of 12 inch ductile iron pipe, 9 cross connects to existing water mains, multiple hydrant up grades and service connections

Prepared a successful grant application under the Department of Environmental Protection Watershed protection program or the DPW to purchase 26+- acres of land in the zone A & B of the Atkins Reservoir. The Grant was for a total of $256,125.

Provided the Engineering support for the successful Mass Works Grant for $1,500,000 to underground the utilities on East Pleasant and Triangle Streets in the downtown area. Working with CDM Smith the DPW is preparing final utility plans and intersection plans for this project.

Completed the construction oversight of the Harkness Road Sewer projects. This project consisted of installing
3,280 feet of new 8 inch ductile iron water main and 3,400 feet of 8 inch PVC sewer main with one sewer pump station. Construction cost was $800,000.

Continued to reduce the DPW's dependence on project money to fund the Highway division staff. The FY 13 budget called for $135,000 to come from capital projects. This number was reduced for the FY 15 budget to $65,679

DPW workers assisted with the Tree Planting, performed additional pothole repairs, and catch basin repairs.

Added temporary staffing and reorganized the main office to address the increased administrative workload on the current two person office staff. The increased reporting and record keeping of many state agencies combined with the desire of many residents to have instant updates on work requests and questions is proving to be more than our current office staff can accommodate.

Continued our participation in the University of Massachusetts, Boston Edward J. Collins Center for Public Management performance management program to create performance measurement data for the Department, with an initial focus on the work order system.

Provided support to the very successful 3rd annual Business Improvement District Block Party.

Recruiting and maintaining a qualified and capable DPW staff in a geographic region that is experiencing significant retirement based turnover in the public works field.
To prepare to enter into the Environmental Protection Agency's Phase II stormwater program.
This is a five year permit that will require assessment, inventorying, identifying deficiencies, and preparing projects to correct deficiencies in the Town's municipally owned stormwater sewer system.
It is anticipated that in late FY 16 the Town will have to submit a permit application to be covered in this program for the permit years of FY 17 thru FY 22. This program will require the addition of funds and resources to hire staff or consultants to carry out the various parts of the program.

STREETS THAT WERE PAVED

Cottage Street - from Triangle to Chestnut
Old Town Road – All
Berkshire Terrace – All
Moorland St - All
Farview Way – All
Fairfield St.- All
Valley Lane – All

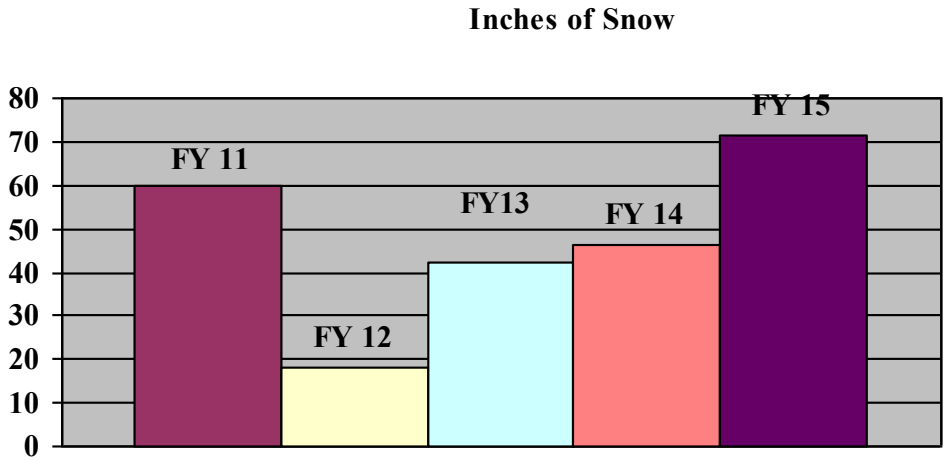
SEWER MAINTENANCE

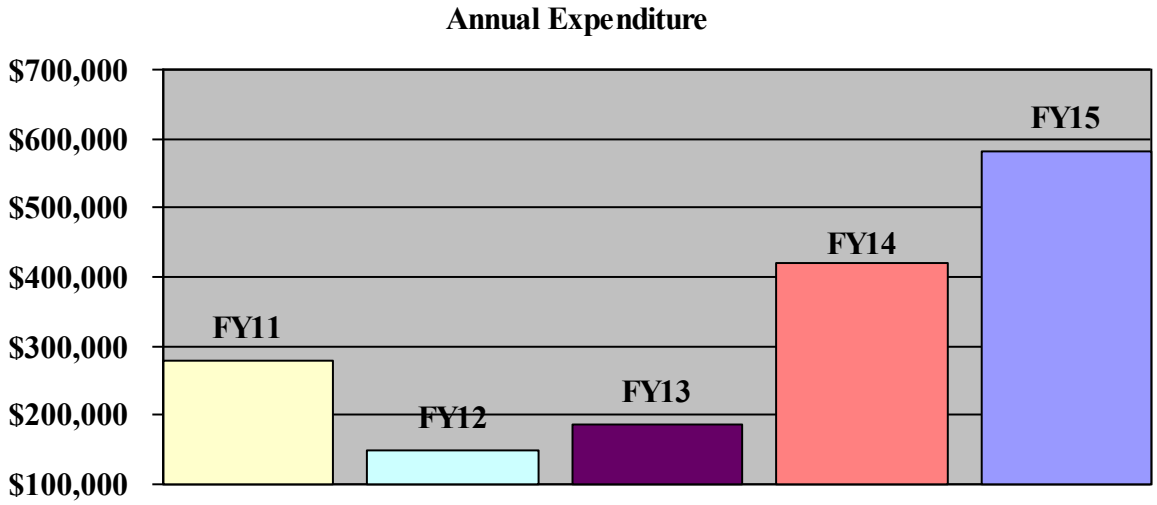
Investigated 41 Sewer Backups

SNOW AND ICE REMOVAL

There were 55 snow and ice storms, with a total of 71.6 inches of snow.
224 tons of sand was used and 3267 tons of salt was used.
8,500 gallons of Ice Band Magic were used on the roadways and sidewalks.

Year	Cost	Snow (inches)	No. of Storms
FY 11	$280,081	60	31
FY 12	$150,238	17.9	14
FY 13	$187,280	42.5	28
FY 14	$418,813	46.4	32
FY 15	$531.586	71.6	55





Highway Division Director

Tree and Grounds Division

The Tree & Grounds Division has eight full time employees and is divided into two main working groups; a 2 person Tree Crew and 5 person Grounds Crew, the Division Director who also acts as the towns Tree Warden is responsible for enforcing M.G.L. Chapter 87 and the Scenic Roads Act.

The Tree Crew currently consists of a Tree Maintenance Worker and a Laborer whose primary task is to manage the towns Public Shade Trees along town roads, commons, parks and cemeteries. The tree crew's duties include inspecting and assessing, pruning, removing and planting of public shade trees as well as the operating and maintenance of the town's three cemeteries. The crew is also responsible for hanging the community events banners downtown which flies over the road next to the Main Common.

Burials in FY 2015

West Cemetery	0
North Cemetery	10
South Cemetery	8

The Grounds Crew consists of a Forman, Parks Maintenance worker, Pool Maintenance Worker, Truck Driver and a Laborer. During the growing season May through August two seasonal employees are hired to assist with maintenance. The Grounds Crew is responsible for maintaining the Town's; 6 athletic fields areas, 8 school athletic field areas, 5 parks, 3 commons, 2 swimming pools, 3 wading pools, 3 comfort stations, parking garage and over 15 other smaller public spaces around town. Grounds Crew is also responsible for mowing at numerous road side intersections around town and the daily removal of trash receptacles from the downtown business district including all the trash receptacles at parks commons and public spaces.

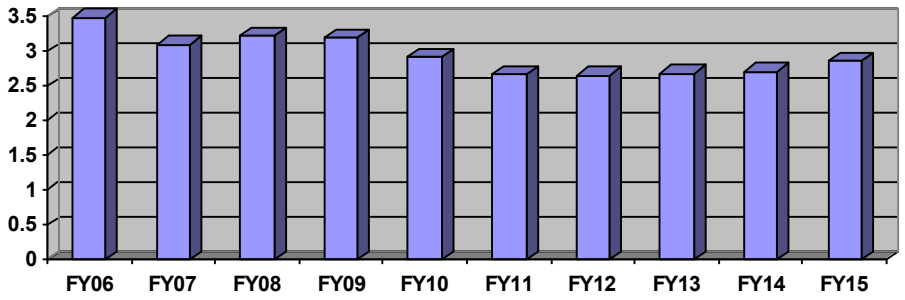
During the winter months the Tree & Grounds Division is responsible for snow removal at the parking garage and numerous side walks around town. Staff also assist the Highway Division with regular plow routes.

WATER TREATMENT & DISTRIBUTION

Water Consumption: The average daily water consumption for FY 15 was 2.860 million gallons; the peak day, September 6, 2014, was 3.972 million gallons. The total FY 2015 rainfall was 45.81 inches well over the annual average of 42 inches.

The figures below summarize the amount of water pumped, the revenue generated and the chemicals used to treat the water. Chlorine, ozone and ammonia are used for disinfection. Potassium permanganate is used for iron and manganese removal at Well #4. Polymer is used for water treatment at the Atkins and Centennial water treatment plants. Fluoride is added at a level of 1 part per million to reduce tooth decay and sodium hydroxide is used to elevate the pH of the water for corrosion control.

DAILY WATER CONSUMPTION IN MILLION GALLONS



WATER SERVICES

	FY 12	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15
New Services Installed	7	15	7	32
Total Water Sevices	6,263	6,278	6,285	6,317
#Meters Replaced	850	433	457	305
Hydrants Replaced/Repaired	15/27	5/15	11/30	14/16
Water Main Breaks	6	6	1	9

CHEMICAL USAGE - ALL SITES

	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	
CHLORINE (LBS.)	21,407	19,990	19,559	20,519	
SODIUN HYDRIXIDE (GALS)	11,321	11,904	11,138	12,300	
POLYMER (GALS)	3,195	2,730	3,057	3,254	
POTASSIUM PERMANGANATE(LBS)	538	340	430	782	
AMMONIA (LBS)	4,073	3,826	4,444	4,491	
SODIUM FLUORIDE (LBS.)	15,170	16,030	13,740	12,300	
OZONE	0	0	0	0	

Monthly Finished Water Pumping in Million Gallons

Month	FY 12	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15
July	95.243	91.777	83.643	79.544
August	82.693	81.891	84.427	80.792
September	92.701	96.210	102.411	100.921
October	89.978	90.745	99.295	92.611
November	79.931	77.593	83.064	85.178
December	73.262	68.115	69.821	69.565
January	69.512	68.402	72.086	73.587
February	78.187	75.964	77.871	85.345
March	77.260	76.844	79.336	86.461
April	87.535	86.308	84.149	91.864
May	77.871	80.424	77.156	91.710
June	71.564	68.946	74.159	70.676
Total	**975.737**	**963.219**	**987.418**	**1008.254**
Daily Average	2.666	2.639	2.698	2.755
Maximum Daily	4.147 (7/23/2011)	4.185 (7/19/2012)	3.845 (8/23/2013)	3.364 (9/6/14)
Minimum Daily	0.901 (10/31/2011)	1.502 (12/26/2012)	1.399 (12/27/2013)	2.244 (12/26/14)

Water Pumped by Source Million-Gallons

Source	FY 12	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15
Wells #1 & #2	100	202	135	86
Well #3	219	217	220	261
Well #4	75	70	108	147
Well #5	1	1	1	13
Pelham Reservoirs	209	186	189	190
Atkins Reservoir	369	284	333	311
Total Water Pumped	975	960	987	1,008
Average Daily (millions)	2.666	2.639	2.698	2.755

Water Billed Cubic	FY 12	FY 13	FY14	FY15
UMass	37,174,900	37,413,400	35,242,900	42,225,100
Amherst College	4,510,900	4,158,100	5,503,300	6,273,400
Hampshire College	2,096,200	2,040,000	2,021,800	2,277,400
Town	75,145,000	67,721,200	64,288,200	64,257,800
Municipal	834,200	1,056,900	961,200	1,077,200
Special Water Readings	179,300	197,100	232,700	442,900
Other –Reuse, Misc	2,802,000	3,031,500	5,626,900	3,171,500
Un-metered Use	---	---	---	
Adjustments (minus)	(231,900)	(627,600)	(807,200)	(4,798,700)
Total Metered (ft^3)	122,510,600	144,990,600	113,069,800	114,926,600
Total Metered (million gals.)	---	---	---	
% Unaccounted	---	---	---	

Adjusted for meter error*

Total Revenue Rounded Dollars		FY 12	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15
UMass	Water	$1,195,068	$1,277,008	$1,293,073	1,462,129
	Sewer	$1,245,339	$1,290,904	$1,345,170	1,541,369
Amherst College	Water	$152,087	$144,380	$189,949	219,314
	Sewer	$151,557	$143,555	$195,442	224,423
Hampshire College	Water	$70,115	$70,381	$69,705	75,571
	Sewer	$70,183	$70,421	$71,785	83,147
Town	Water	$2,228,863	$2,344,510	$2,224,580	2,264,984
	Sewer	$2,010,273	$2,106,966	$2,092,417	2,159,009
Municipal	Water	$31,751	$40,025	$36,766	41,214
	Sewer	$27,849	$36,132	$33,984	39,073
Special Reading	Water & Sewer	$12,310	$14,531	$15,476	32,098
Abatements	Water & Sewer	$18,384	($46,896)	($49,464)	(195,924)
Other	Water & Sewer	$184,489	$207,692	$209,448	216,004
Total Revenue		$7,398,268	$7,669,607	$7,728,330	7,972,919

WATER QUALITY DATA

Bacterial Samples: Bimonthly samples were analyzed from 21 DEP approved sites around town. All sampled were negative for total coliform, fecal or e.coli bacteria.

Fluoride: Fluoride was added to all sources at a level of 0.8 ppm to prevent tooth decay.

Treatment Plant Performance: Both the Atkins and Centennial (Pelham) Water Treatment plants produced water that meet the requirements set by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The average turbidity from Atkins was 0.11 N.T.U. and from Centennial 0.09 N.T.U. The EPA requires that

these readings be less than 0.3 N.T.U. in 95% of the samples. Total Trihalomethanes, a byproduct of chlorine disinfection, averaged 47.6 ppb from quarterly sampling at eight different sights around town. The EPA limit is 80 ppb. Haloacetic acids, another by product of chlorine disinfection, were also analyzed quarterly at 8 different locations and the average value was 33.7 ppm, well below the EPA limit of 60 ppm.

Water Rate: The water rate for FY 15 was $3.45 hundred cubic feet (HCF)

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

The Wastewater Treatment Plant is a advanced secondary treatment process utilizing biological nutrient removal that continues to produce clean effluent pumped to the Connecticut River. The twenty pumping stations bring wastewater to the plant are well-maintained. Construction of the plant was completed in 1978, and nearly all major equipment has been upgraded for energy savings. The FY 2015 sewer rate is $3.65 per hundred cubic feet (750 gallons) used. The average household cost in Amherst is approximately $438 per year.

Flow Data

The Wastewater Treatment Plant treated 1.37 billion gallons of wastewater in FY 15. The average daily flow was 3.75 million gallons. The highest flow to the plant in one day was 7.27 million gallons on December 9, 2015. The lowest flow was 2.49 million gallons on August 10, 2014. Chlorine is used to disinfect the clean effluent prior to discharge into the Connecticut river and occasionally for controlling undesirable organisms in our treatment process. Polymer is used to thicken sludge prior to disposal. Potassium permanganate is used for control of odors associated with sludge processing.

Rainfall and Flow Data

	FY 12	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15
Inches of Rainfall	52.00	47.61	43.28	45.81
Average Daily Flow in Million Gallons	4.55	4.11	3.85	3.75
Highest Day, Total in Million Gallons	10.48 12/08/2011	8.44 (6/14/2014)	8.54 (5/1/2014)	7.27 (12/9/2015)
Chemicals Used				
Chlorine (lbs.)	9,775	10,275	8,935	9857
Polymer (lbs.)	3,448	3,068	3,223	3762
Potassium Permanganate (lbs.)	2,750	2,915	2,805	2695

Chlorine is used to disinfect the clean effluent prior to discharge into the Connecticut River and occasionally for controlling undesirable organisms in our treatment process. Polymer is used to thicken sludge prior to disposal. Potassium Permanganate is used for odor control associated with sludge processing.

Treatment Efficiency

Wastewater is tested in our laboratory. A few specialized tests are performed by contract laboratories. Testing performed on wastewater is tested as it enters the facility, after primary treatment, and prior to the cleaned effluent to exiting the facility. In addition, many process control tests are performed to optimize treatment and produce the best quality effluent possible. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) monitor our activities and measure our effectiveness by the parameters listed below (annual averages).

Parameter	EPA Limit	FY 12	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (mg/L)	25	3.0	4.0	2.0	2.0
Total Suspended Solids (mg/L)	30	3.0	4.0	3.0	2.0
Chlorine Residual (mg/L)	1.0	.58	0.31	0.47	0.62

Septage Received

The treatment plant receives septage from residential septic tanks pumped from the towns of Amherst, Pelham and Shutesbury. Below is a summary of the number of septic tanks (usually 1000 gallons each) that were pumped.

Town	FY 12	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15
Amherst	134	104	96	86
Pelham	57	57	60	46
Shutesbury	117	102	98	77
Total	308	263	254	209

Wastewater Reuse

The University of Massachusetts presently takes approximately 120-180 gallons per minute of our clean effluent, performs advanced treatment, then uses it as boiler make-up water at their Central Heating Plant to reduce their demand for Amherst water.

	FY 12	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15
Million Gallons	Est. 70	46.1	39.1	43.1

Sludge Data

Sludge is the residual organic material left after the wastewater is treated. We currently thicken these solids on-site, and Casella Waste Management is under contract to deliver the liquid sludge to an EPA-approved sludge incinerator. Sludge in FY 14 and FY 15was transported to an incineration facility in Hartford CT.

Sludge Data	FY 12	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15
Total Gallons (transported)	4,086,000	*4,974,300	4,216,300	4,120,884
Total Dry Tons	1,106	1,034	1,035	1,038
% Solids	6.5	*5.0	5.9	6.1

*Primary disposal site (Fitchburg) incinerator was offline a substantial amount of FY 13 requiring us to relay on secondary disposal site. The secondary sites could not handle as high percent solids resulting in more loads being transported.

Month	Total Gallons	Ave. % Solids	Total Dry Tons	Dry Tons Per Day
July	274,500	5.9	67.26	2.17
August	213,500	6.4	56.35	1.82
September	373,000	5.9	91.29	3.04
October	481,000	5.8	115.25	3.72
November	408,200	5.8	99.62	3.32
December	358,600	5.8	85.76	2.76
January	274,900	5.8	66.32	2.14
February	396,700	5.8	96.48	3.45
March	369,500	6.0	92.93	3.0
April	431,500	6.1	109.43	3.65
May	374,200	5.7	90.07	2.91
June	260,700	5.9	63.94	2.13
Total	4,216,300	--	1034.71	--
Average	351,358	5.9	86.2	2.84

	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15
Avg. kWh/month	108,274	120,736	123.652
Avg. kW Demand	242	323	292
KWH/Million Gallons	870	1031	1083

Power Consumption
* New Nitrogen requirement requires more electrical usage.

Nitrogen Removal

Parameters	Limit	FY 13	FY 14
Total Nitrogen	546.5 lbs/day	*NA	497.9 lbs/day

The Town of Amherst was issued a new permit as of September 1, 2012. This new permit requires our facility to maintain the limit of 546.5 pounds per day total nitrogen. This new requirement resulted in the plant being re-graded to a grade VII facility. Our goal is to attain permit levels year round, with existing structure, instrumentation, lab work and process control. We have researched bioaugmentation and chemical addition; however we are making every effort to make the process work without added cost. *Data will be accumulated going forward.

Special Activities:

1. The previous Director of the facility retired in July 2014.
2. Replaced the Blackberry Lane pump station emergency generator control wiring.
3. The D.P.W. electrical department :
   a. replaced the variable frequency drive for pump #1 at our Stanley Street pump station.
   b. installed surge protection for the laboratory electrical wiring
   c. replaced the obsolete flow measuring devices for the parshal flumes
4. The plant staff installed a new auger for the for the channel monster grinder
5. Staff also installed a new grit screw
6. Replaced the mechanical seal, bearings and impellor for pump #3 at the West Street pump station. The new impellor was coated with ceramics and dynamically balanced prior to installation.
7. Improvement were made to the supervisory control and data acquisition system that run the different plant processes

Duane Klimczyk
Division Director, Wastewater

FY 15 Solid Waste and Recycling Annual Report

In May 2014 the Transfer Station's computer crashed, its data deemed unsalvageable. The Station was operating using paper records until a new computer was purchased as of July 1, 2015. This has created better tracking of data and an easier billing system.

Grants

Massachusetts DEP Sustainable Materials Recovery Program awarded a total of $7500.00. A portion of that was used to purchase 180 – 14 gallon recycling bins and 5 Clear Stream Public Event Collection Centers.

In November 2015 a grant for $10,000 was awarded to recycle mattresses, this will be effective in 2016.

Additional Initiatives

With the help of Gold Circuit E-Cycling the Amherst Transfer Station will now be accepting clean, white, "block" & "preformed" Styrofoam for recycling.

The Amherst Transfer Station is pleased to announce that free composting is now available to Amherst, Pelham & Shutesbury residents who hold a current Transfer Station vehicle sticker.

Waste Collection and Landfill Diversion

Curbside pickup of trash and recyclables in Amherst continues to be provided by private trash haulers, however, households requesting variances are allowed to bring their recycling and trash directly to the Transfer Station in pre-paid bags.
Earth Machine composting units, kitchen counter compost pails, recycling bins, and safe needle collection containers continue to be available for purchase at the Transfer Station.

The Recycling Center and Transfer Station continues to support other landfill diversion programs and the following items are accepted at no charge from residents with current vehicle stickers:

Clothing (goes to Salvation Army)
Automotive & rechargeable batteries
Waste automotive oil
Leaves & grass clippings
Christmas trees
Printer Cartridges & cell phones
Mixed containers
Mixed paper
Mercury-bearing items such as thermometers & thermostats
Large Styrofoam Chunks
Residential Compost
Packing Peanuts
Egg Cartons

The option to donate return deposit drink containers to the local food bank continues with a designated bin. Fluorescent bulbs, brush, electronics, household solid waste (bulky items), construction/demolition waste, scrap metal, asphalt, bricks, concrete, wood, tires, appliances and propane tanks are all accepted for recycling/disposal after payment of associated fees.

The Take It or Leave It and Book Sheds, which allow Vehicle Sticker owners to swap books and household items, remain popular. Parking challenges continue.

A household hazardous waste (HHW) collection event was held on Sunday, September 20, 2015. Approximately 110 Amherst households participated from Amherst, Pelham, Shutesbury, and Hadley.

The Recycling and Refuse Management Committee has finished their draft of the Solid Waste Master Plan and the Town is working towards accepting the plan.

RECYCLING AND REFUSE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
Fiscal Year 2015

Arlene Miller, MassDEP Municipal Assistance Coordinator for Western Massachusetts, assisted the RRMC in the project of preparing a Solid Waste Master Plan for the Town of Amherst in response to Town Manager John Musante's request for input about the management due to concerns about the solvency of the Transfer Station as administered by the Solid Waste Enterprise Fund and the closing of area landfills.

Three task forces addressed the issues of promoting organics recycling, promoting downtown recycling, and Transfer Station options. Recommendations for increasing revenue and decreasing expenses were made to the Town of Amherst DPW. The Committee proposed that recycling bins be paired with all public trash receptacles.

The Committee organized a textile collection and promoted public recycling awareness at the April, 2015 Sustainability Festival.

AMHERST SCHOOLS
Fiscal Year 2015

AMHERST SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Katherine Appy, Chair
Vira Douangmany Cage
Phoebe Hazzard
Rick Hood
Kathleen Traphagen

The Amherst School Committee is an elected body responsible for the public education of all children in kindergarten through grade six and of pre-school children with substantial special needs in our community. The Committee meets regularly on the third Tuesday of each month and welcomes citizen participation at each meeting. The members of this committee also serve as Amherst's members of the Regional School Committee which has responsibility for the educational programs for children in grades seven through twelve.

STUDENT ENROLLMENT

The following demographic data is based on official enrollment numbers as of October 1, 2014.

	Crocker Farm	Fort River	Wildwood	District Totals
Preschool				
Total Enrollment	65	N/A	N/A	65
Special Education	26	N/A	N/A	26
ELE	0	N/A	N/A	0
Free/Reduced Lunch	24	N/A	N/A	24
Kindergarten				
Total Enrollment	59	40	53	152
Special Education	3	5	7	15
ELE	16	12	8	36
Free/Reduced Lunch	31	19	19	69
Grade One				
Total Enrollment	43	59	63	165
Special Education	3	13	5	21
ELE	6	9	14	29
Free/Reduced Lunch	18	20	27	65
Grade Two				
Total Enrollment	57	55	48	160
Special Education	6	11	9	26
ELE	9	14	2	25
Free/Reduced Lunch	18	25	19	62
Grade Three				
Total Enrollment	54	38	49	141
Special Education	11	9	7	27
ELE	12	7	7	26
Free/Reduced Lunch	24	19	21	64
Grade Four				
Total Enrollment	45	61	61	167
Special Education	7	13	12	32
ELE	6	5	6	17
Free/Reduced Lunch	9	24	20	53
Grade Five				
Total Enrollment	66	56	69	191
Special Education	16	12	14	42
ELE	8	8	5	21
Free/Reduced Lunch	27	17	22	66
Grade Six				
Total Enrollment	46	59	64	169
Special Education	11	14	10	35
ELE	6	7	2	15
Free/Reduced Lunch	18	15	25	58
TOTALS				
Total Enrollment	435	368	407	1210
Special Education	83 / 19%	77 / 21%	64 / 16%	224 / 19%
ELE	63 / 15%	62 / 17%	44 / 11%	169 / 14%
Free/Reduced Lunch	169 / 39%	139 / 38%	153 / 38%	461 / 38%

Seventy-seven children from Seventy-seven children from Amherst attended Charter Schools and 19 Amherst children attended other school districts under the School Choice program.

2014-2015 Highlights

The core mission of the Amherst Public Schools is to "provide all students with a high quality education that enables them to be contributing members of a multiethnic, multicultural, pluralistic society." This informs everything we do as educators, and during FY 15, we continued to move toward our districtwide, long-term goals.

- The District took steps to improve the school climate for students. All elementary schools successfully revised the code of conduct for student behavior, which has significantly reduced the number of suspensions to date. In conjunction with the new code of conduct, the schools are using Restorative Practices to resolve conflicts and repair relationships between students. Routine disciplinary data checks have become common practice at both the school and district level.
- The District implemented a reading program in kindergarten and first grade to provide structured and balanced early reading skills to our young students. The program was selected based on a strong research base and an analysis of what our students needed based on longitudinal achievement results.
- Dr. Pat Romney, a clinical and organization psychologist and equity consultant as well as community member, has been supporting equity professional development work at the school and district level. The District partnered with Mariana Cruz, Paul Wiley, and Barry Brooks to support this development work at the schools' faculty meetings.
- The District was accepted into the Massachusetts School Building Authority's process for the Wildwood building project. Amherst Town Meeting agreed to fund their portion of the feasibility project for the school. A team of staff members, parents/guardians, community members, town employees, and school administrators were formed and began the work required to complete the feasibility study process.
- An ALANA staff affinity group was formed and meets on a monthly basis, led by Monica Hall, Dr. Marta Guevara, and Dr. Pat Romney. The group has been able to offer feedback to the District on a variety of topics as well as be a supportive network for each other.
- Engaging, standards-based units in Science and Social Studies were implemented in all schools.
- The Amherst Integrated Arts Initiative was implemented in all elementary schools, with arts specialists and classroom teachers working together to provide meaningful experiences for our students in a variety of areas. The District also partnered with the Enchanted Circle Theater f or a fifth grade social studies integrated project at all schools.
- The District's continued implementation of the State mandated Educator Evaluation Model for teachers and administrators included the development and implementation of District Determined Measures, a student achievement component, as well as student and staff surveys to inform educators' evaluations.
- A Climate Advisory Committee was formed and meets monthly to work on projects such as reviewing disciplinary data and adding behavioral questions to the interview protocol to screen for cultural competence; the group started to connect with the School Equity Task Force to share perspectives and suggestions for the District.
- An expanded professional development model was implemented in FY 15. Two new course pathways for internal professional development—ARPS-U and PLC—were launched. These courses ranged from differentiation in heterogeneous classrooms to using technology to enhance the instructional program.
- The District partnered with local police departments, fire departments, and other districts to have Dr. Dewey Cornell come to the District to train the group on completing risk assessments that improve school safety. The methodology has already been put into use in the District and follow-up with local police and fire departments was planned.

- Amherst Together, a joint schools-town partnership, started with gathering data from a broad set of stakeholders to understand the diverse perspectives that residents in our town have of living and working together.

Initiatives in Process in 2015-2016

We continuously strive to improve our schools so that we meet the ever-changing strengths, challenges, and interests of our student population. We adapt to the required expectations from the State and Federal Government, and implement what is considered current best practice in public education. In addition to our ongoing cycle of improvement, we are in a unique moment in our school system. There are a number of converging factors which make it necessary to explore systemic adjustments. These factors are:

- A decline in enrollment,
- Financial gaps, and
- Outdated and ineffective facilities.

We must address these issues in the short-term while maintaining a long-term view so that we create a school system that is financially sustainable for our communities, is educationally strong, and positions itself to continue to adapt to future needs. We are currently exploring three systemic projects as a means of meeting our goals:

- We are exploring Pre-K-12 Regionalization;
- We are engaged in an Elementary Building Project through the Massachusetts School Building Authority; and
- We are engaged in a Revisioning and Potential Consolidation of our secondary schools.

These projects are interconnected and, if implemented, can address financial gaps and set an adaptable foundation that can adjust to future needs. An essential element of these projects involves substantial stakeholder engagement. Through focus groups, forums, surveys, and summits, we are gathering information that will inform decisions to be made and will be used to inform development of a 3-5 year strategic District Improvement Plan. While exploring and engaging around these structural projects, we are raising questions regarding what we want our schools to become. We are living in a rapidly changing world, which requires a revisioning of public education and the models we use to educate students for an increasingly complex global world. What are the skills that position students to be successful in the world today? How should we organize our schools to meet today's challenges while being flexible enough to adapt to the world of tomorrow? While we are steeped in the process of stakeholder engagement and revisioning, we continue implementation of strategies that build on our prior work, are consistent with our foundational models and best practice in education, and move our schools forward. Our District Improvement Plan focuses on improving teaching and learning within our schools and, therefore, is not inclusive of all of the improvement efforts of the system. Some of the areas of focus for FY 16 are:

- Mapping the current communities of practice within the District and schools to identify areas of strength, gaps, and redundancies in order to inform reconfiguration and improvement efforts;
- Participating in the Equity Professional Learning Network held by the MA Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, a network of eight school districts from across the state that shares resources and strategies to address areas of identified need in equity;
- Implementing effective co-teaching practices across the District, with co-teaching pairs utilizing instructional and assistive technology to promote student engagement and access to learning;
- Engaging Year 2 teachers across the District in professional learning designed to develop their culturally responsive teaching practices and foster an academic mindset for all learners;

- Utilizing the Perspectives of a Diverse America curriculum as a means to integrate the Teaching Tolerance Anti-bias Framework into core content areas of the current curriculum;
- Providing a professional learning community for teachers of color that is exploring ways to diversify our curriculum to represent the many cultures in the school system, to recruit and retain staff of color and to foster an equitable work and learning environment;
- Engaging staff in all positions across the District in equity dialogues to foster a culture of learning;
- Regularly reviewing practices and data through the school-based Climate Teams, which work to develop support systems and sustained implementation of a data-driven, problem-solving model that helps student become socially-skilled learners;
- Implementing a gardening curriculum, which addresses many educational standards across various content areas, at each of the elementary schools;
- Strengthening and expanding the School/Family Engagement Review Process, particularly developing procedures for two-way communication between schools and families;
- Piloting the ARPS Parent Teacher Home Visit Model, implementing it for kindergarten students;
- Collaborating with the Special Education Advisory Council to promote parent involvement and engagement in educational programming;
- Implementing phase two of the Amherst Together Initiative, including community focus groups and working with an Advisory Team to develop collaboration priorities and action steps;
- Expanding opportunities to support students in envisioning their future selves by implementing initiatives including:
    - "They Made It, So Can I" project in all grade six classrooms so students can hear from community members with multiple, varied experiences;
    - Steps to Success weekly student groups with a focus on lessons regarding self-esteem, social skills, self-advocacy, and academic success;
    - Success after High School afterschool support program to assist students and families with the college or other after-graduation options; to Middle School Student Athlete Lunch Group;
    - Creating an engagement process regarding the Amherst Elementary Building Project that provides for varied strategies, provide clear information, and stays consistent with the expectations of the Massachusetts School Building Authority; and
    - Utilizing research-based practices and surveys to better understand the experiences of teachers, students, and other stakeholders, including working with UChicago Impact to gather benchmark data that will serve as the basis for a multi-year plan to continue areas of strength and address areas in need of support.

AMHERST-PELHAM REGIONAL SCHOOLS
Fiscal Year 2015

AMHERST-PELHAM REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Shutesbury Representative
Stephen Sullivan
Amherst Representatives
Katherine Appy
Vira Douangmany Cage
Phoebe Hazzard
Rick Hood
Kathleen Traphagen, Vice-Chair

Leverett Representative
Kip Fonsh
Pelham Representatives
Trevor Baptiste, Chair
Dan Robb

The Regional School Committee represents the four communities that comprise the Amherst-Pelham Regional School District: Amherst, Leverett, Pelham, and Shutesbury. It is responsible for the direction and support of the educational programs for students in Grades 7 through 12 from each of these towns. Committee meetings are open to the public, except for executive sessions as prescribed by law, and are held regularly on the second and fourth Tuesday evenings of each month. Opportunity is available at every meeting for public participation.

STUDENTS

The following demographic data is based on official enrollment numbers as of October 1, 2014.

	Amherst Regional Middle School	Amherst Regional High School	District Totals
Grade 7			
Total Enrollment	223	N/A	223
Special Education	45	N/A	45
ELE	15	N/A	15
Free/Reduced Lunch	60	N/A	60
Grade 8			
Total Enrollment	243	N/A	243
Special Education	50	N/A	50
ELE	4	N/A	4
Free/Reduced Lunch	78	N/A	78
Grade 9			
Total Enrollment	N/A	247	244
Special Education	N/A	39	39
ELE	N/A	12	12
Free/Reduced Lunch	N/A	71	71
Grade 10			
Total Enrollment	N/A	233	233
Special Education	N/A	36	36
ELE	N/A	9	9
Free/Reduced Lunch	N/A	65	65
Grade 11			
Total Enrollment	N/A	234	234
Special Education	N/A	47	47
ELE	N/A	7	7
Free/Reduced Lunch	N/A	68	68
Grade 12			
Total Enrollment	N/A	266	266
Special Education	N/A	52	52
ELE	N/A	19	19
Free/Reduced Lunch	N/A	85	85
TOTALS			
Total Enrollment	468	996	1464
Special Education	97 / 21%	190 / 19%	287 / 20%
ELE	19 / 04%	47 / 05%	66 / 05%
Free/Reduced Lunch	139 / 30%	294 / 30%	433 / 30%

Enrollments on October 1 over the last ten years were as follows:

2005-2006—1,924	2010-2011—1,592
2006-2007—1,877	2011-2012—1,546
2007-2008—1,817	2012-2013—1,527
2008-2009—1,764	2013-2014—1,478
2009-2010—1,691	2014-2015—1,464

In addition, 49 Regional students were enrolled in Vocational Schools in FY 2015. Thirty-one students attended other school districts under the state's School Choice Program, and 78 students were enrolled at charter schools. Tuition for district students to attend these schools is paid by the Regional School District.

HIGHLIGHTS IN 2014-2015

The core mission of the Amherst-Pelham Regional Schools is to "provide all students with a high quality education that enables them to be contributing members of a multiethnic, multicultural, pluralistic society." This informs everything we do as educators, and during fiscal year 2015, we continued to move toward our district-wide, long-term goals:

- The district took steps to improve the school climate for students. The Regional Schools successfully revised the code of conduct for student behavior, which has significantly reduced the number of suspensions to date. In conjunction with the new code of conduct, the schools are using Restorative Practices to resolve conflicts and repair relationships between students. Furthermore, School Climate surveys, developed by Dr. Chris Overtree, were administered to both students and faculty members for analysis and school improvement efforts. Routine disciplinary data checks have become common practice at both the school and district level.
- Dr. Pat Romney, a clinical and organization psychologist and equity consultant as well as community member, has been supporting equity professional development work at the school and district level. This has included a series of faculty meetings focused on Diversity Flashpoints to provide development for staff on teaching and working in our diverse community.
- The district successfully implemented the BRYT program, a research-based approach to then through the re-entry process to school. The program provides clinical care, support and information, helps families negotiate the social service network, facilitates communication with health care personnel and therapists, and liaisons between students, teachers, and tutors. A specialized "Home-base" classroom located right in the high school serves as a safe place where students can check in as needed during the day, receive tutoring, and get counseling and academic support such as organizing and completing school work.
- An ALANA staff affinity group has been formed and is meeting on a monthly basis, led by Monica Hall, Dr. Marta Guevara, and Dr. Pat Romney. The group has been able to offer feedback to the district on a variety of topics as well as be a supportive network for each other.
- The district's continued implementation of the state mandated Educator Evaluation Model for teachers and administrators included the development and implementation of District Determined Measures, a student achievement component, as well as student and staff surveys to inform educators' evaluations.
- A Climate Advisory Committee has been formed and meets monthly to work on projects such as reviewing disciplinary data and adding behavioral questions to our interview protocol to screen for cultural competence; the group has started to connect with the School Equity Task Force to share perspectives and suggestions for the district.
- The district developed a partnership with Amherst College on the Equity Project, a mentoring program that brings our students together with college students. Grounded in social justice thinking, the Equity Project will build capacity and power for students to change their environment and address issues of racial climate and culture.

- An expanded professional development model was implemented in FY 2015. Two new course pathways for internal professional development—ARPS-U and PLC—were launched. These courses have already enrolled over 100 staff members as of January 1, 2015 in courses ranging from differentiation in a heterogeneous secondary classroom to using technology to enhance the instructional program.
- The district partnered with local police departments, fire departments, and other districts to have Dr. Dewey Cornell come to the district to train the group on completing risk assessments that improve school safety. The methodology has already been put into use in the district and follow-up with local police and fire departments has been planned.
- The Regional Assessment Method Working Group met to examine and explore the different ways that the Region could be supported by the four towns. The group came to a clear consensus on this complex issue that the current assessment methodology should be maintained due to its clarity and fairness.
- Amherst Together, a joint schools-town partnership, has started with gathering data from a broad set of stakeholders to understand the diverse perspectives that residents in our town have of living and working together.
- The process of exploring, and potentially implementing, a new educational governance structure based on recommendations by the RSDPB to the Regional School Committee continued.

INITIATIVES AND FOCUS IN 2015-2016

The core mission of the Amherst-Pelham Regional Schools is to "provide all students with a high quality education that enables them to be contributing members of a multiethnic, multicultural, pluralistic society." This informs everything we do as educators, and during fiscal year 2016, we have continued to move toward our district-wide, long-term goals.

We continuously strive to improve our schools so that we meet the ever-changing strengths, challenges, and interests of our student population. We adapt to the required expectations from the State and Federal Government, and implement what is considered current best practice in public education. In addition to our ongoing cycle of improvement, we are in a unique moment in our school system. There are a number of converging factors which make it necessary to explore systemic adjustments. These factors are:

- A decline in enrollment,
- Financial gaps, and
- Outdated and ineffective facilities.

We must address these issues in the short-term while maintaining a long-term view so that we create a school system that is financially sustainable for our communities, is educationally strong, and positions itself to continue to adapt to future needs. We are currently exploring three systemic projects as a means of meeting our goals:

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- We are engaged in an Elementary Building Project through the Massachusetts School Building Authority; and
- We are engaged in a Revisioning and Potential Consolidation of our secondary schools.

These projects are interconnected and, if implemented, can address financial gaps and set an adaptable foundation that can adjust to future needs. An essential element of these projects involves substantial stakeholder engagement. Through focus groups, forums, surveys and summits, we are gathering information that will inform decisions to be made and will be used to inform development of a 3-5 year strategic District Improvement Plan.

While exploring and engaging around these structural projects, we are raising questions regarding what we want our schools to become. We are living in a rapidly changing world, which requires a revisioning of public education and the models we use to educate students for an increasingly complex global world. What are the skills that position students to be successful in the world today? How should we organize our schools to meet today's challenges while being flexible enough to adapt to the world of tomorrow?

While we are steeped in the process of stakeholder engagement and revisioning, we continue implementation of strategies that build on our prior work, are consistent with our foundational models and best practice in education, and move our schools forward. Our District Improvement Pla focuses on improving teaching and learning within our schools and, therefore, is not inclusive of all of the

improvement efforts of the system. Some of the areas of focus for FY 2016 are:

- Mapping the current communities of practice within the district and schools to identify areas of strength, gaps and redundancies in order to inform reconfiguration and improvement efforts;
- Participating in the Equity Professional Learning Network held by the MA Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, a network of eight school districts from across the state that shares resources and strategies to address areas of identified need in equity;
- Implementing effective co-teaching practices across the district, with co-teaching pairs utilizing instructional and assistive technology to promote student engagement and access to learning;
- Engaging Year 2 teachers across the district in professional learning designed to develop their culturally responsive teaching practices and foster an academic mindset for all learners;
- Utilizing the *Perspectives of a Diverse America* curriculum as a means to integrate the *Teaching Tolerance Anti-bias Framework* into core content areas of the current curriculum;
- Providing a professional learning community for teachers of color that is exploring ways to diversify our curriculum to represent the many cultures in the school system, to recruit and retain staff or color and to foster an equitable work and learning environment;
- Engaging staff in all positions across the district in equity dialogues to foster a culture of learning;
- Regularly reviewing practices and data through the school-based Climate Teams, which work to develop support systems and sustained implementation of a data-driven, problem-solving model that helps student become socially-skilled learners;
- Implementing arts integration at the middle school in both grades seven and eight;
- Strengthening and expanding the School/Family Engagement Review Process, particularly developing procedures for two-way communication between schools and families;
- Piloting the ARPS Parent Teacher Home Visit Model, implementing it for kindergarten students;
- Collaborating with the Special Education Advisory Council to promote parent involvement and engagement in educational programming;
- Implementing phase two of the Amherst Together Initiative, including community focus groups and working with an Advisory Team to develop collaboration priorities and action steps;
- Expanding opportunities to support students in envisioning their future selves by implementing initiatives including:
  - "They Made It, So Can I" project in all grade six classrooms so students can hear from community members with multiple, varied experiences;
  - Steps to Success weekly student groups with a focus on lessons regarding self-esteem, social skills, self-advocacy and academic success;
  - Success after High School afterschool support program to assist students and families with the college or other after-graduation options; and

- Middle School Student Athlete Lunch Group.

- Creating an engagement process that explores the benefits and challenges of consolidating grades 7-12 into one building and contributes to the revisioning conversation regarding our Pre-K-12 education programming; and
- Utilizing research-based practices and surveys to better understand the experiences of teachers, students and other stakeholders, including working with UChicago Impact to gather benchmark data that will serve as the basis for a multi-year plan to continue areas of strength and address areas in need of support.

TOWN MEETING COORDINATING COMMITTEE
Fiscal Year 2015

The Town Meeting Coordinating Committee (TMCC) works to help Town Meetings to function well as Amherst's legislative body. The 7 members are elected by Town Meeting for 2-year staggered terms. The committee spends most of its time helping Town Meeting members have access to information that will make it possible for them to make informed votes on warrant articles. It also reaches out to the public about Town Meeting. In addition, TMCC works to make sure that procedures and facilities for Town Meeting will serve sessions as well as possible. Sixteen regular meetings were held this year and additional work sessions spent on particular projects or special events.

During the year our work included:

- organizing an informational program about the town budget. Town Finance Director Sandy Pooler, Finance Committee Chair Kay Moran, School Finance Director Sean Mangano and previous member of the Select Board Gerry Weiss spoke about the different parts of the budget and how the final budget is formed. This was broadcast on Amherst Media many times.
- studying the results of our survey of how Town Meeting Members get information for town meetings
- creating and updating documents such as "How to Bring a Petition Article to Town Meeting" and other information to educate Town Meeting members and the public.
- hosting Fall and Spring Warrant Review meetings, cosponsored by the League of Women Voters, to introduce articles coming to town meetings. These were broadcast live and rebroadcast many times by Amherst Media.
- holding a Bus Tour for members of Town Meeting to visit sites related to articles coming to Annual Town Meeting. This was recorded for broadcast on Amherst Media.
- beginning efforts to find how to make Bus Tours accessible for members with physical limitations.
- reviewing the evaluation forms from people attending TMCC events.
- meeting with Moderator Jim Pistrang to discuss town meetings in the fall and spring.
- speaking at a hearing to support Amherst Media's need for a fair renewal of the financial contract with its cable source, Comcast, because Amherst citizens depend so much on local television coverage of town committee meetings and events for information about town government.
- holding precinct meetings before fall and spring town meetings.
- Preparing pages of information for the Town Meeting Packets sent to Town Meeting members before the fall and spring meetings.
- contacting Town Meeting members about expiring terms.
- calling new Town Meeting members to welcome them and answer questions they might have.
- hosting an Orientation Meeting for new Town Meeting members before the opening of the first session of Annual Town Meeting with Moderator Jim Pistrang and Barbara Ford to explain details of Town Meeting and answer questions.
- continuing to post the number of documents and presentations relative to warrant articles.
- providing information about Town Meeting on the town website.
- emailing timely information about Town Meeting to members subscribed to the TMCC listserv and discussion list.
- sending publicity and calendar listings about Town Meeting events to newspapers, the Town website and Amherst Media.

- trying again to bring electronic voting to Town Meeting. TMCC members volunteered to serve on the Moderator's Town Meeting Electronic Voting Study Committee.
- inquiring again about an improvement of lighting control in the auditorium and better equipment to help the hearing impaired.
- answering questions received about Town Meeting and responding to suggestions and concerns.

TMCC Members

Margaret Roberts	Chair
Mary Streeter	Vice-chair
Patricia Holland	Clerk
Nonny Burack	Stacker
Tracy Lee Boutilier	
Melissa Perot	
Alan Powell	

Town of Amherst Massachusetts
ACCOUNTING

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Report of the Comptroller

The accompanying pages include the Town of Amherst's unaudited financial statements for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2015

Respectfully submitted,

Sonia Aldrich

Sonia Aldrich

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Comptroller

TOWN OF AMHERST, MASSACHUSETTS
Combined Balance Sheet – All Fund Types and Account Groups
On June 30, 2015
(Unaudited)

	Governmental Fund Types			Proprietary Fund Types		Fiduciary Fund Types	Account Groups	Totals
ASSETS	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Enterprise	Internal Services	Trust and Agency	Long-term Debt	(Memorandum Only)
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 7,509,661.04	$ 5,693,444.86	$ 4,450,400.35	$ 7,754,500.58	$ 8,502,732.67	$ 6,457,613.89		$ 40,368,353.39
Investments	-	-	-	-	-	-		-
Receivables:								
Property taxes	699,676.16	-	-	24,539.83	-	-		724,215.99
Special assessments	-	484,611.23	-	-	-	-		484,611.23
Tax liens and foreclosures	793,522.79	4,778.74	-	29,705.98	-	-		828,007.51
Excises	159,577.12	-	-	-	-	-		159,577.12
Utility Charges	-	-	-	858,527.16	-	-		858,527.16
Departmental	8,045.81	1,446,495.77	-	341,919.60	-	36,542.65		1,833,003.83
Deposits receivable	-	-	-	-	-	-		-
Other receivables	59,752.26	17,500.35	-	-	-	-		77,252.61
Due from other governments	160,839.66	853,955.00	-	-	-	-		1,014,794.66
Cash and cash equivalents (LSSE Prepaids)		56,488.25						56,488.25
Inventory	-	-	-	-	-	-		-
Fixed assets, net of accumulated depreciation	26,893,237.49	-	-	24,691,642.86	-	-		51,584,880.35
Amounts to be provided – payment of bonds	-	26,050.00	-	9,271,400.00	-	-	$ 9,243,600.00	18,541,050.00
Amounts to be provided – vacation and sick leave	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Assets	$ 36,284,312.33	$ 8,583,324.20	$ 4,450,400.35	$ 42,972,236.01	$ 8,502,732.67	$ 6,494,156.54	$ 9,243,600.00	$ 116,530,762.10
LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY								
Liabilities:								
Deferred revenue	$ 1,620,312.72	$ 2,390,467.45	$ -	$ 1,254,692.57	$ -	$ 36,542.65		$ 5,302,015.39
Provision for abatements and exemptions	201,348.82	-	-	-	-	-		201,348.82
Accounts payable	-	-	-	-	1,758,783.00	-		1,758,783.00
Accrued payroll and withholdings	2,081,092.46	64,818.07	-	-	-	-		2,145,910.53
Other liabilities	606,454.95	-	-	-	-	257,274.83		863,729.78
Bonds payable	-	26,050.00	-	9,271,400.00	-	-	$ 9,243,600.00	18,541,050.00
Notes payable	-	-	350,000.00	-	-	-		350,000.00
Vacation and sick leave liability	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Liabilities	4,509,208.95	2,481,335.52	350,000.00	10,526,092.57	1,758,783.00	293,817.48	9,243,600.00	29,162,837.52
Fund Equity:								
Reserved for encumbrances	299,972.20	128,302.07	790,305.08	776,415.19	3,071.00	-		1,998,065.54
Reserved for expenditures	-	2,592,292.00	-	-	-	-		2,592,292.00
Reserved for continuing appropriations	-	-	3,310,095.27	3,600,689.77	-	-		6,910,785.04
Reserved for Revenue deficit				-				-
Reserved for appropriation deficit	-	-	-	-	-	-		-
Reserved for Debt Service	-							-
Reserved for endowments	-	-	-	-	-	333,207.41		333,207.41
Unreserved, designated	-	-	-	-	-	-		-
Unreserved, undesignated	4,582,043.46	3,381,394.61	-	-	6,740,878.67	5,867,131.65		20,571,448.39
Unreserved retained earnings	-	-	-	3,377,395.62	-	-		3,377,395.62
Investment in capital assets	26,893,237.49	-	-	24,691,642.86	-	-		51,584,880.35
Reserved for overlay deficits	(149.77)	-	-	-	-	-		(149.77)
Reserved for over/under assessments	-	-	-	-	-	-		-
Total Fund Equity	31,775,103.38	6,101,988.68	4,100,400.35	32,446,143.44	6,743,949.67	6,200,339.06	-	87,367,924.58
Total Liabilities and Fund Equity	$ 36,284,312.33	$ 8,583,324.20	$ 4,450,400.35	$ 42,972,236.01	$ 8,502,732.67	$ 6,494,156.54	$ 9,243,600.00	$ 116,530,762.10

TOWN OF AMHERST, MASSACHUSETTS
Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Equity
All Governmental Fund Types and Expendable Trust Funds
For the Year Ended June 30, 2015
(Unaudited)

	Governmental Fund Types			Fiduciary Fund Types	Totals
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Expendable Trust	(Memorandum Only)
Revenues:					
Property taxes	44,662,815.57	935,920.89	-	-	45,598,736.46
Excise	2,327,781.78	-	-	-	2,327,781.78
Interest, penalties and other taxes	1,171,811.35	-	-	-	1,171,811.35
Charges for services	-	3,887,646.58	-	-	3,887,646.58
Licenses and permits	1,301,754.04	-	-	-	1,301,754.04
Intergovernmental	14,636,717.09	4,102,692.63	-	-	18,739,409.72
Fines and forfeits	147,562.01	-	-	-	147,562.01
Interest earnings	96,608.13	2,379.04	-	61,953.63	160,940.80
Miscellaneous	1,650,362.73	310,182.73	-	54,548.15	2,015,093.61
Audit Adjustment					-
Contributions	-	258,336.81	-	-	258,336.81
Total Revenues	65,995,412.70	9,497,158.68	-	116,501.78	75,609,073.16
Expenditures:					
General Government	10,154,576.87	191,185.01	510,733.37	30,817.70	10,887,312.95
Public Safety	9,580,831.83	464,047.54	1,144,559.51	-	11,189,438.88
Public Works	2,310,081.18	1,260,025.16	992,764.68	-	4,562,871.02
Planning, Conservation and Inspections	1,124,036.68	591,664.07	255,487.29	-	1,971,188.04
Community Services	1,863,372.74	993,036.63	47,660.22	-	2,904,069.59
Library Services	1,788,532.26	25,335.09	42,088.03	-	1,855,955.38
Education	36,200,944.59	1,684,500.11	372,938.24	-	38,258,382.94
Debt Service	1,750,541.54	5,305.00	-	-	1,755,846.54
Intergovernmental	2,418,896.85	-	-	-	2,418,896.85
Total Expenditures	67,191,814.54	5,215,098.61	3,366,231.34	30,817.70	75,803,962.19
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(1,196,401.84)	4,282,060.07	(3,366,231.34)	85,684.08	(194,889.03)
Other Financing Sources (Uses):					
Bond Proceeds	-	-	1,950,000.00	-	1,950,000.00
Operating transfers in	4,302,561.91	85,709.16	2,764,785.00	1,354,023.00	8,507,079.07
Operating transfers (out)	(3,926,406.00)	(3,569,569.91)	(462,909.16)	-	(7,958,885.07)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	376,155.91	(3,483,860.75)	4,251,875.84	1,354,023.00	2,498,194.00
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other sources over expenditures and other uses	(820,245.93)	798,199.32	885,644.50	1,439,707.08	2,303,304.97
Fund Equity, July 1, 2014	5,702,111.82	5,303,789.36	3,214,755.85	4,301,734.65	18,522,391.68
	-				-
Fund Equity, June 30, 2015	$ 4,881,865.89	$ 6,101,988.68	$ 4,100,400.35	$ 5,741,441.73	$ 20,825,696.65

TOWN OF AMHERST, MASSACHUSETTS
Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and
Changes in Fund Equity
All Proprietary Fund and Similar Trust Funds
For the Year Ended June 30, 2015
(Unaudited)

	Enterprise	Internal Service	Fiduciary Fund Types Non-expendable Trust Funds	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Revenues:				
Property taxes	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Excise	-	-	-	-
Interest, penalties and other taxes	-	-	-	-
Charges for services	9,685,786.30	14,545,103.07	-	24,230,889.37
Licenses and permits	-	-	-	-
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-
Fines and forfeits	-	-	-	-
Interest earnings	16,218.93	126,842.53	8,235.92	151,297.38
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-
Contributions	-	-	-	-
Total Revenues	9,702,005.23	14,671,945.60	8,235.92	24,382,186.75
Expenditures:				
General Government	-	16,443,941.08	-	16,443,941.08
Public Safety	-	-	-	-
Public Works	11,537,275.80	-	-	11,537,275.80
Planning, Conservation and Inspections	-	-	-	-
Community Services	-	-	1,576.02	1,576.02
Library Services	-	-	-	-
Education	-	-	1,000.00	1,000.00
Debt Service	823,877.89	-	-	823,877.89
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	12,361,153.69	16,443,941.08	2,576.02	28,807,670.79
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(2,659,148.46)	(1,771,995.48)	5,659.90	(4,425,484.04)
Other Financing Sources (Uses):				
Bond Proceeds	-	-	-	-
Operating transfers in	911,250.00	502,583.00	-	1,413,833.00
Operating transfers (out)	(1,962,027.00)	-	-	(1,962,027.00)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	(1,050,777.00)	502,583.00	-	(548,194.00)
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other sources over expenditures and other uses	(3,709,925.46)	(1,269,412.48)	5,659.90	(4,973,678.04)
Fund Equity, July 1, 2014	11,464,426.04	7,812,675.15	453,237.43	19,730,338.62
Net IBNR Adjustment from FY14 to FY15	-	200,687.00		200,687.00
Fund Equity, June 30, 2015	$ 7,754,500.58	$ 6,743,949.67	$ 458,897.33	$ 14,957,347.58

TOWN OF AMHERST, MASSACHUSETTS
Statement of Revenues and Other Sources and Expenditures and Other Uses
Budget and Actual - General Fund
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2015
(Unaudited)

	Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
Revenues and Other Sources:			
Property taxes	-	44,662,815.57	44,662,815.57
Excise	-	2,327,781.78	2,327,781.78
Penalties, interest and other taxes	-	1,171,811.35	1,171,811.35
Licenses and permits	-	1,301,754.04	1,301,754.04
Intergovernmental	-	14,867,796.00	14,867,796.00
Fines and forfeits	-	147,562.01	147,562.01
Interest earnings	-	96,608.13	96,608.13
Miscellaneous	-	1,650,362.73	1,650,362.73
Contributions			-
Transfers in	-	4,071,483.00	4,071,483.00
Other Sources (free cash and overlay)	-	1,974,593.76	1,974,593.76
Total Revenues and Other Sources	-	72,272,568.37	72,272,568.37
Expenditures and Other Uses:			
General Government	10,903,188.76	10,643,323.23	259,865.53
Public Safety	9,626,152.00	9,602,498.65	23,653.35
Public Works	2,328,173.00	2,328,165.03	7.97
Planning, Conservation and Inspections	1,161,383.00	1,137,522.52	23,860.48
Community Services	1,903,749.00	1,866,613.42	37,135.58
Library Services	1,788,533.00	1,788,532.26	0.74
Education	36,222,099.00	36,196,944.59	25,154.41
Debt Service	1,770,542.00	1,750,541.54	20,000.46
Region and Deferred Teachers Pay			-
Intergovernmental-Assessments	2,267,114.00	2,418,896.85	(151,782.85)
Transfers Out (Capital)	3,423,823.00	3,423,823.00	-
Total Expenditures and Other Uses	71,394,756.76	71,156,861.09	237,895.67
Excess of revenues and other sources over expenditures and other uses	(71,394,756.76)	1,115,707.28	72,510,464.04

TOWN OF AMHERST, MASSACHUSETTS
Statement of Revenues and Other Sources,
and Expenses and Other Uses
Budget and Actual - Sewer Fund
For the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2015

	Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
Revenues and Other Sources:			
Charges for services	3,996,750.00	3,904,099.66	(92,650.34)
Interest earnings	6,000.00	11,418.47	5,418.47
Other sources	149,739.00	156,891.41	7,152.41
Total Revenues and Other Sources	4,152,489.00	4,072,409.54	(80,079.46)
Expenses and Other Uses:			
Personnel	1,703,422.00	1,648,407.42	55,014.58
Purchase of services	1,042,417.00	1,015,991.60	26,425.40
Supplies	93,700.00	70,074.64	23,625.36
Other charges and expenses	319,726.00	295,188.87	24,537.13
Transfers	348,920.00	348,920.00	-
Capital outlay	240,000.00	240,000.00	-
Debt service	404,304.00	397,937.61	6,366.39
Other uses			-
Total Expenses and Other Uses	4,152,489.00	4,016,520.14	135,968.86
Excess of revenues and other sources over expenses and other uses	-	55,889.40	55,889.40

TOWN OF AMHERST, MASSACHUSETTS
Statement of Revenues and Other Sources,
and Expenses and Other Uses
Budget and Actual - Water Fund
For the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2015
(Unaudited)

	Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
Revenues and Other Sources:			
Charges for services	4,095,067.00	3,924,910.77	(170,156.23)
Interest earnings	5,000.00	6,390.39	1,390.39
Other sources	656,000.00	877,446.22	221,446.22
Total Revenues and Other Sources	4,756,067.00	4,808,747.38	52,680.38
Expenses and Other Uses:			
Personnel	1,686,500.00	1,645,323.48	41,176.52
Purchase of services	676,267.00	674,264.34	2,002.66
Supplies	183,100.00	133,865.93	49,234.07
Other charges and expenses	669,571.00	669,423.23	147.77
Transfers	454,779.00	454,779.00	-
Capital outlay	720,000.00	470,000.00	250,000.00
Debt service	365,850.00	368,315.28	(2,465.28)
Other uses			-
Total Expenses and Other Uses	4,756,067.00	4,415,971.26	340,095.74
Excess of revenues and other sources over expenses and other uses	-	392,776.12	392,776.12

TOWN OF AMHERST, MASSACHUSETTS
Statement of Revenues and Other Sources,
and Expenses and Other Uses
Budget and Actual - Solid Waste Fund
For the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2015
(Unaudited)

	Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
evenues and Other Sources:			
Charges for services	412,000.00	439,378.67	27,378.67
Intergovernmental			-
Interest earnings	-	76.86	76.86
Other sources	79,133.00	62,560.85	(16,572.15)
Total Revenues and Other Sources	491,133.00	502,016.38	10,883.38
xpenses and Other Uses:			
Personnel	282,179.00	281,756.95	422.05
Purchase of services	181,752.00	181,237.54	514.46
Supplies	5,200.00	2,596.35	2,603.65
Other charges and expenses	22,002.00	25,505.70	(3,503.70)
Transfers			-
Capital outlay			-
Debt service			-
Other uses			-
Total Expenses and Other Uses	491,133.00	491,096.54	36.46
xcess of revenues and other sources over expenses and other uses	-	10,919.84	10,919.84

TOWN OF AMHERST, MASSACHUSETTS
Statement of Revenues and Other Sources,
and Expenses and Other Uses
Budget and Actual -Transportation Fund
For the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2015
(Unaudited)

	Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
Revenues and Other Sources:			
Charges for services	500,795.00	534,841.49	34,046.49
Intergovernmental			-
Interest earnings	1,000.00	522.44	(477.56)
Other sources	462,000.00	479,311.00	17,311.00
Total Revenues and Other Sources	963,795.00	1,014,674.93	50,879.93
Expenses and Other Uses:			
Personnel	273,371.00	280,803.60	(7,432.60)
Purchase of services	91,300.00	169,932.08	(78,632.08)
Supplies	7,500.00	27,136.99	(19,636.99)
Other charges and expenses	99,481.00	93,764.20	5,716.80
Transfers	247,078.00	247,078.00	-
Capital outlay	20,000.00	20,000.00	-
Debt service	57,625.00	57,625.00	-
Public Transportation	167,440.00	57,167.75	110,272.25
Other uses			-
Total Expenses and Other Uses	963,795.00	953,507.62	10,287.38
Excess of revenues and other sources over expenses and other uses	-	61,167.31	61,167.31

TOWN OF AMHERST, MASSACHUSETTS
Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Equity
All Internal Service Funds
For the Year Ended June 30, 2015
(Unaudited)

	7400 OPEB Retiree Health Ins	**7401** Health Insurance	**7402** Workers' Compensation	Total
Revenues:				
Property taxes				-
Excise				-
Interest, penalties and other taxes				-
Charges for services		14,478,024.17	67,078.90	14,545,103.07
Licenses and permits				-
Intergovernmental				-
Fines and forfeits				-
Interest earnings	74,445.25	51,899.92	497.36	126,842.53
Miscellaneous				-
Contributions				-
Total Revenues	74,445.25	14,529,924.09	67,576.26	14,671,945.60
Expenditures:				
General Government		16,340,987.41	102,953.67	16,443,941.08
Public Safety				-
Public Works				-
Planning, Conservation and Inspections				-
Community Services				-
Library Services				-
Education				-
Debt Service				-
Intergovernmental				-
Total Expenditures	-	16,340,987.41	102,953.67	16,443,941.08
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	74,445.25	(1,811,063.32)	(35,377.41)	(1,771,995.48)
Other Financing Sources (Uses):				
Bond Proceeds				-
Operating transfers in	502,583.00			502,583.00
Operating transfers (out)				-
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	502,583.00	-	-	502,583.00
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other sources over expenditures and other uses	577,028.25	(1,811,063.32)	(35,377.41)	(1,269,412.48)
Fund Equity, July 1, 2014	1,632,217.92	5,943,503.67	236,953.56	7,812,675.15
Net IBNR Adjustment from FY14 to FY15		200,687.00		200,687.00
Fund Equity, June 30, 2015	$ 2,209,246.17	$ 4,333,127.35	$ 201,576.15	$ 6,743,949.67

Revenues and Expenditure recorded in the month they posted to the General Ledger.

	ACTUAL Jul-14	ACTUAL Aug-14	ACTUAL Sep-14	ACTUAL Oct-14	ACTUAL Nov-14	ACTUAL Dec-14	ACTUAL Jan-15	ACTUAL Feb-15	ACTUAL Mar-15	ACTUAL Apr-15	ACTUAL May-15	ACTUAL Jun-15	TOTALS
Fund Balance Beginning of Month	**$ 7,902,973.67**	**$ 7,972,775.00**	**$ 8,133,423.62**	**$ 8,037,237.63**	**$ 8,154,289.31**	**$ 7,418,126.69**	**$ 7,086,967.44**	**$ 7,193,241.46**	**$ 6,824,913.90**	**$ 6,542,305.49**	**$ 6,450,892.17**	**$ 6,201,764.72**	
Premium Revenue BC/BS:													
Town of Amherst-PPO	$ 31,082.36	$ 30,298.80	$ 31,334.56	$ 31,334.56	$ 29,794.40	$ 29,794.40	$ 29,150.42	$ 27,610.26	$ 29,150.42	$ 27,610.26	$ 27,610.26	$ 27,610.26	$ 352,380.96
Retirees-PPO	$ 59,501.94	$ 59,782.30	$ 58,494.34	$ 62,862.62	$ 58,494.34	$ 60,034.50	$ 60,678.48	$ 60,678.48	$ 58,746.54	$ 54,909.62	$ 57,598.16	$ 56,954.18	$ 708,735.50
TEFRA													$ -
Amherst School-PPO	$ 42,115.68	$ 38,783.16	$ 38,783.16	$ 39,679.34	$ 39,679.34	$ 39,679.34	$ 39,679.34	$ 42,759.66	$ 39,679.34	$ 39,679.34	$ 39,679.34	$ 39,679.34	$ 479,876.38
Regional School-PPO	$ 26,461.88	$ 27,105.86	$ 27,105.86	$ 24,669.52	$ 27,749.84	$ 26,209.68	$ 24,025.54	$ 23,381.56	$ 23,381.56	$ 23,381.56	$ 23,381.56	$ 23,381.56	$ 300,235.98
Town of Pelham-PPO	$ 1,931.94	$ 1,931.94	$ 1,931.94	$ 1,287.96	$ 1,287.96	$ 1,287.96	$ 1,287.96	$ 1,287.96	$ 1,287.96	$ 1,287.96	$ 1,287.96	$ 1,287.96	$ 17,387.46
Town of Amherst-HMO	$ 42,132.48	$ 39,451.92	$ 39,451.92	$ 39,451.92	$ 38,672.04	$ 36,771.36	$ 36,771.36	$ 40,913.64	$ 46,396.20	$ 40,913.64	$ 42,814.32	$ 42,814.32	$ 486,555.12
Amherst School-HMO	$ 72,081.00	$ 72,081.00	$ 76,540.80	$ 86,044.20	$ 88,724.76	$ 83,924.04	$ 85,824.72	$ 86,945.52	$ 84,264.96	$ 85,605.24	$ 87,725.40	$ 87,725.40	$ 997,487.04
Regional School-HMO	$ 90,209.88	$ 90,989.76	$ 90,989.76	$ 94,011.24	$ 92,890.44	$ 98,811.96	$ 96,131.40	$ 96,131.40	$ 96,911.28	$ 96,911.28	$ 94,791.12	$ 94,791.12	$ 1,133,570.64
Town of Pelham-HMO	$ 12,403.44	$ 12,403.44	$ 12,403.44	$ 12,403.44	$ 12,403.44	$ 12,403.44	$ 13,743.72	$ 13,743.72	$ 13,743.72	$ 13,743.72	$ 13,743.72	$ 12,622.92	$ 155,762.16
Retirees-HMO	$ 22,410.96	$ 22,410.36	$ 22,286.28	$ 22,369.20	$ 22,929.60	$ 22,929.60	$ 24,269.88	$ 23,149.08	$ 24,830.28	$ 24,269.88	$ 24,269.88	$ 23,709.48	$ 279,834.48
OME	$ 113,592.76	$ 111,628.76	$ 113,592.76	$ 110,554.52	$ 112,833.20	$ 112,833.20	$ 112,444.12	$ 113,222.28	$ 114,389.52	$ 113,222.28	$ 112,833.20	$ 113,222.28	$ 1,354,368.88
Premium Revenue HP:													
Town of Amherst-PPO	$ 108,256.90	$ 106,716.74	$ 106,072.76	$ 106,072.76	$ 106,072.76	$ 102,992.44	$ 101,452.28	$ 101,452.28	$ 101,452.28	$ 101,452.28	$ 101,452.28	$ 101,452.28	$ 1,244,898.04
Retirees-PPO	$ 125,374.48	$ 126,382.98	$ 127,930.04	$ 133,194.50	$ 134,885.00	$ 132,974.62	$ 136,170.26	$ 134,630.10	$ 134,630.10	$ 133,733.92	$ 132,582.84	$ 136,473.64	$ 1,588,962.48
Amherst School-PPO	$ 92,323.94	$ 92,323.94	$ 92,323.94	$ 88,599.64	$ 88,599.64	$ 88,599.64	$ 88,599.64	$ 88,599.64	$ 88,599.64	$ 87,703.46	$ 87,703.46	$ 87,703.46	$ 1,071,680.04
Regional School-PPO	$ 104,924.38	$ 104,924.38	$ 105,176.58	$ 101,452.28	$ 100,556.10	$ 99,015.94	$ 99,015.94	$ 99,015.94	$ 98,119.76	$ 98,119.76	$ 99,015.94	$ 99,015.94	$ 1,208,352.94
Town of Pelham-PPO	$ 11,425.10	$ 11,425.10	$ 11,425.10	$ 11,425.10	$ 11,425.10	$ 11,425.10	$ 11,425.10	$ 11,425.10	$ 11,425.10	$ 11,425.10	$ 11,425.10	$ 11,425.10	$ 137,101.20
Town of Amherst-HMO	$ 92,087.16	$ 92,087.16	$ 92,867.04	$ 92,087.16	$ 90,746.88	$ 91,867.68	$ 89,967.00	$ 90,527.40	$ 94,328.76	$ 97,569.72	$ 96,229.44	$ 97,009.32	$ 1,117,374.72
Amherst School-HMO	$ 44,252.64	$ 44,252.64	$ 41,572.08	$ 41,011.68	$ 41,011.68	$ 41,011.68	$ 41,011.68	$ 41,011.68	$ 41,011.68	$ 39,671.40	$ 39,671.40	$ 40,451.28	$ 495,941.52
Regional School-HMO	$ 72,982.32	$ 73,542.72	$ 73,542.72	$ 70,082.28	$ 70,862.16	$ 71,081.64	$ 71,081.64	$ 71,081.64	$ 69,741.36	$ 69,741.36	$ 69,741.36	$ 68,961.48	$ 852,442.68
Town of Pelham-HMO	$ 5,141.64	$ 5,141.64	$ 5,141.64	$ 5,702.04	$ 5,702.04	$ 5,702.04	$ 5,702.04	$ 5,702.04	$ 5,702.04	$ 6,262.44	$ 6,262.44	$ 6,262.44	$ 68,424.48
Retirees-HMO	$ 26,179.92	$ 25,283.28	$ 25,731.60	$ 25,731.60	$ 24,269.88	$ 23,709.48	$ 24,830.28	$ 24,830.28	$ 24,830.28	$ 26,170.56	$ 26,170.56	$ 20,566.56	$ 298,304.28
Other Revenue:													
Interest	$ 625.38	$ 332.09	$ 11,537.44	$ 229.24	$ 53.22	$ 12,043.22	$ 349.50	$ 343.97	$ 11,579.94	$ 239.96	$ 230.27	$ 14,335.69	$ 51,899.92
Misc.													$ -
Wellness Program Revenues					$ 7,162.50	$ 5,212.50	$ 112.50	$ 225.00	$ 75.00	$ 375.00	$ 412.50	$ 412.50	$ 13,987.50
Stop Loss Reimbursements						.						$ 114,359.69	$ 114,359.69
Total Revenue:	$ 1,197,498.18	$ 1,189,279.97	$ 1,206,235.76	$ 1,200,256.80	$ 1,206,806.32	$ 1,210,315.46	$ 1,193,724.80	$ 1,198,668.63	$ 1,214,277.72	$ 1,193,999.74	$ 1,196,632.51	$ 1,322,228.20	$ 14,529,924.09
Expenditures:													
Salaries	$ 10,386.09	$ 7,696.30	$ 16,116.35	$ 13,789.65	$ 17,764.38	$ 9,198.70	$ 19,192.01	$ 10,808.92	$ 9,245.45	$ 9,257.20	$ 22,597.29	$ 19,270.59	$ 165,322.93
Fringe Benefits			$ 4,446.30		$ 1,624.10	$ 4,608.48	$ 1,646.94		$ 4,486.85		$ 1,626.51	$ 6,096.76	$ 24,535.94
Management Services BC/BS-PPO	$ 19,522.85	$ 20,367.55	$ 20,015.36	$ 19,791.84	$ 19,925.04	$ 19,835.19	$ 19,788.45	$ 20,498.65	$ 19,628.87	$ 19,777.69	$ 20,028.73	$ 21,954.18	$ 241,134.40
Management Services HP-PPO	$ 29,082.97	$ 28,758.35	$ 29,020.92	$ 28,890.30	$ 29,031.00	$ 28,673.64	$ 28,755.42	$ 28,663.56	$ 28,610.46	$ 28,504.26	$ 28,504.26	$ 28,891.86	$ 345,387.00
Claims exp - BC/BS-PPO	$ 286,886.44	$ 237,264.70	$ 398,926.56	$ 271,245.75	$ 454,191.95	$ 379,807.63	$ 240,247.70	$ 382,241.37	$ 295,154.80	$ 303,031.66	$ 328,859.72	$ 342,185.70	$ 3,920,043.98
Claims exp - HP-PPO	$ 343,829.15	$ 340,799.31	$ 437,811.50	$ 424,799.24	$ 343,454.22	$ 464,088.75	$ 212,218.10	$ 601,582.46	$ 569,052.99	$ 426,309.72	$ 448,719.68	$ 459,093.83	$ 5,071,758.95
Management Services BC/BS-HMO	$ 17,264.94	$ 17,339.68	$ 17,190.20	$ 17,264.94	$ 18,311.30	$ 18,386.04	$ 18,685.00	$ 18,610.26	$ 19,058.70	$ 19,133.44	$ 19,133.44	$ 19,208.18	$ 219,586.12
Management Services HP-HMO	$ 16,432.73	$ 16,571.28	$ 16,348.80	$ 16,111.98	$ 15,971.28	$ 16,024.38	$ 15,971.28	$ 16,010.04	$ 16,179.42	$ 16,401.90	$ 16,440.66	$ 15,753.06	$ 194,216.81
Claims exp - BC/BS-HMO	$ 207,072.27	$ 120,199.26	$ 189,828.87	$ 76,161.46	$ 333,112.64	$ 257,074.95	$ 198,682.00	$ 232,193.03	$ 245,173.09	$ 275,458.72	$ 330,396.08	$ 267,897.93	$ 2,733,250.30
Claims exp - HP-HMO	$ 156,859.74	$ 199,406.19	$ 138,016.53	$ 174,301.72	$ 155,715.50	$ 233,056.54	$ 225,119.96	$ 266,285.62	$ 262,151.75	$ 156,398.14	$ 192,102.04	$ 212,798.45	$ 2,372,212.18
Amherst Meds	$ 7,552.40	$ 7,496.20	$ 5,429.70	$ 11,696.30	$ 6,057.80	$ 5,134.60	$ 9,705.90	$ 6,081.80		$ 3,926.70	$ 10,059.50	$ 6,194.30	$ 79,335.20
Reinsurance	$ 25,974.34	$ 25,949.20	$ 26,028.00	$ 26,216.46	$ 26,078.90		$ 52,157.84	$ 25,664.80	$ 26,150.42	$ 25,930.30	$ 26,008.72	$ 25,861.54	$ 312,020.52
Miscellaneous-Prof Svcs	$ 4,283.33	$ 6,783.33	$ 1,283.33	$ 1,283.33	$ 1,283.33	$ 1,283.33	$ 2,283.33	$ 1,283.33	$ 1,783.33	$ 1,283.33	$ 1,283.33	$ 1,283.33	$ 25,399.96
Miscellaneous Expenses	$ 2,549.60		$ 1,959.33	$ 1,652.15		$ 83,052.48		$ 69.20	$ 210.00			$ 5,592.86	$ 95,085.62
Prepaid Claims Exp- BC/BS					$ 520,400.00	$ -	$ 42,996.85	$ (42,996.85)			$ -		$ 520,400.00
Wellness Program Expenses					$ 47.50	$ 21,250.00							$ 21,297.50
Total Expenditures:	$ 1,127,696.85	$ 1,028,631.35	$ 1,302,421.75	$ 1,083,205.12	$ 1,942,968.94	$ 1,541,474.71	$ 1,087,450.78	$ 1,566,996.19	$ 1,496,886.13	$ 1,285,413.06	$ 1,445,759.96	$ 1,432,082.57	$ 16,340,987.41
Income (Loss) from Operations	$ 69,801.33	$ 160,648.62	$ (96,185.99)	$ 117,051.68	$ (736,162.62)	$ (331,159.25)	$ 106,274.02	$ (368,327.56)	$ (282,608.41)	$ (91,413.32)	$ (249,127.45)	$ (109,854.37)	$ (1,811,063.32)
Fund Balance end of Month:	**$ 7,972,775.00**	**$ 8,133,423.62**	**$ 8,037,237.63**	**$ 8,154,289.31**	**$ 7,418,126.69**	**$ 7,086,967.44**	**$ 7,193,241.46**	**$ 6,824,913.90**	**$ 6,542,305.49**	**$ 6,450,892.17**	**$ 6,201,764.72**	**$ 6,091,910.35**	
Cash Balance end of Month:	**$ 69,801.33**	**$ 230,449.95**	**$ 134,263.96**	**$ 635,779.63**	**$ 425,548.02**	**$ 94,388.77**	**$ 200,662.79**	**$ (167,664.77)**	**$ (450,273.18)**	**$ (541,686.50)**	**$ (790,813.95)**	**$ (900,668.32)**	

TOWN OF AMHERST, MASSACHUSETTS
Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Equity
Stabilization Fund and Property Casualty Insurance Claims
All Expendable Trust Funds
For the Year Ended June 30, 2015
(unaudited)

	8004 Stabilization Fund	**8406** Insurance Claims	Total
Revenues:			
Property taxes			-
Excise			-
Interest, penalties and other taxes			-
Charges for services			-
Licenses and permits			-
Intergovernmental			-
Fines and forfeits			-
Interest earnings	61,939.54	14.09	61,953.63
Miscellaneous		54,548.15	54,548.15
Contributions			-
Total Revenues	61,939.54	54,562.24	116,501.78
Expenditures:			
General Government		30,817.70	30,817.70
Public Safety			-
Public Works			-
Planning, Conservation and Inspections			-
Community Services			-
Library Services			-
Education			-
Debt Service			-
Intergovernmental			-
Total Expenditures	-	30,817.70	30,817.70
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	61,939.54	23,744.54	85,684.08
Other Financing Sources (Uses):			
Bond Proceeds			-
Operating transfers in	1,354,023.00		1,354,023.00
Operating transfers (out)			-
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	1,354,023.00	-	1,354,023.00
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other sources over expenditures and other uses	1,415,962.54	23,744.54	1,439,707.08
Fund Equity, July 1, 2014	4,292,282.54	9,452.11	4,301,734.65
Fund Equity, June 30, 2015	$ 5,708,245.08	$ 33,196.65	$ 5,741,441.73

TOWN OF AMHERST, MASSACHUSETTS
Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Equity
All Non-Expendable Trust Funds
For the Year Ended June 30, 2015
(unaudited)

	8401 Trust Principal	**8402** Trust Income	Total
Revenues:			
Property taxes			-
Excise			-
Interest, penalties and other taxes			-
Charges for services			-
Licenses and permits			-
Intergovernmental			-
Fines and forfeits			-
Interest earnings	2,950.76	5,285.16	8,235.92
Miscellaneous			-
Contributions			-
Total Revenues	2,950.76	5,285.16	8,235.92
Expenditures:			
General Government			-
Public Safety			-
Public Works			-
Planning, Conservation and Inspections			-
Community Services		1,576.02	1,576.02
Library Services			-
Education		1,000.00	1,000.00
Debt Service			-
Intergovernmental			-
Total Expenditures	-	2,576.02	2,576.02
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	2,950.76	2,709.14	5,659.90
Other Financing Sources (Uses):			
Bond Proceeds			-
Operating transfers in			-
Operating transfers (out)			-
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	-	-	-
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other sources over expenditures and other uses	2,950.76	2,709.14	5,659.90
Fund Equity, July 1, 2014	330,256.65	122,980.78	453,237.43
Fund Equity, June 30, 2015	$ 333,207.41	$ 125,689.92	$ 458,897.33

TOWN OF AMHERST, MASSACHUSETTS
Combining Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Equity
Expendable and Non-Expendable Trust Funds
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2015
(Unaudited)

	Interest	Other Revenues	Total Resources	Operating Expenditures	Excess (Deficiency)	Transfers In	Transfers Out	Net Change in Fund Balance	Fund Balance June 30, 2014	Fund Balance June 30, 2015
Martha D. Bianchi Fund			-		-			$ -	1,025.00	1,025.00
Alice C. Burnham Fund			-		-			-	15,020.66	15,020.66
Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund		$ 2,800.00	2,800.00		2,800.00			2,800.00	112,137.64	114,937.64
Ephraim Y. Cosby Fund			-		-			-	500.00	500.00
Florence B. Cutler Fund			-		-			-	2,000.00	2,000.00
S. White Dickinson Fund			-		-			-	5,000.00	5,000.00
George S. Kendrick Fund			-		-			-	1,899.15	1,899.15
Herbert B. Adams Fund			-		-			-	2,814.31	2,814.31
R. J. D. Westcott Fund			-		-			-	3,000.00	3,000.00
Alfred F. Field Jr. Fund			-		-			-	82,442.15	82,442.15
William E. Smith Fund			-		-			-	1,899.15	1,899.15
Whiting Street Fund			-		-			-	9,040.61	9,040.61
E. F. Cook Fountain Fund			-		-			-	2,346.54	2,346.54
Barbara Smith Hospital Fund	150.76		150.76		150.76			150.76	12,627.27	12,778.03
Betty Jane Donley Fund			-		-			-	78,504.17	78,504.17
Total Non-expendable income	150.76	2,800.00	2,950.76	$ -	2,950.76	$ -	$ -	2,950.76	330,256.65	333,207.41
Martha Dickinson Bianchi Memorial	28.18		28.18		28.18			28.18	1,344.85	1,373.03
Alice C. Burnham-West Cemetery Gate	483.22		483.22		483.22			483.22	25,425.52	25,908.74
Cemetery Perpetual Care	2,178.12		2,178.12		2,178.12			2,178.12	68,026.44	70,204.56
Ephraim Y. Cosby-West Cemetery	15.28		15.28		15.28			15.28	790.45	805.73
Florence B. Cutler-West Cemetery	58.73		58.73		58.73			58.73	2,926.56	2,985.29
S. White Dickinson Cemetery Fund	146.55		146.55		146.55			146.55	7,274.95	7,421.50
George S. Kendrick-West Cemetery	40.15		40.15		40.15			40.15	1,472.09	1,512.24
Alfred E. Field, Jr.	996.04		996.04	955.02	41.02			41.02	914.59	955.61
William E. Smith	25.05		25.05	221.00	(195.95)			(195.95)	208.99	13.04
Whiting Street Fund	112.80		112.80	400.00	(287.20)			(287.20)	408.98	121.78
Herbert B. Adams	38.34		38.34		38.34			38.34	405.39	443.73
R.J.D. Westcott	39.71		39.71		39.71			39.71	334.66	374.37
E.F. Cook Fountain	$ 60.58		60.58		60.58			60.58	2,734.55	2,795.13
Betty Jane Donley Fund	1,062.41		1,062.41	1,000.00	62.41			62.41	10,712.76	10,775.17
Total Expendable income	5,285.16	-	5,285.16	2,576.02	2,709.14	-	-	2,709.14	122,980.78	125,689.92
Total Expendable and Non-expendable Trust Funds	$ 5,435.92	$ 2,800.00	$ 8,235.92	$ 2,576.02	$ 5,659.90	$ -	$ -	$ 5,659.90	$447,416.44	$458,897.33

TOWN OF AMHERST, MASSACHUSETTS

FY 2015 Approved Budget

General Fund

OPERATING BUDGETS	FY2015 ATM April-June 2014	RECAP Adjustments	STM Nov-14	FY2016 ATM April-June 2015	Fin Com Jul-15	Final Approved Budget
General Government:						
Select Board/Town Manager	269,535.00					269,535
Finance Committee (Reserve Fund Included)	101,900.00			265,497.76	(251,176.00)	116,222
Finance Department	955,709.00	$ 10,000.00				965,709
Elections and Registration	47,613.00					47,613
Town Clerk's Office	197,803.00					197,803
Legal Services	110,000.00					110,000
Human Resources	163,893.00					163,893
Employee Benefits including Retirement assessment	7,457,946.00		$ 170,073.00	(29,200.00)		7,598,819
Information systems	514,864.00					514,864
Facilities Maintenance	512,748.00					512,748
General Services	405,983.00					405,983
Court Judgment raised on Recap						-
Budget Reserve						-
Total General Government	10,737,994.00	$ 10,000.00	$ 170,073.00	236,297.76	(251,176.00)	10,903,189
Public Safety:						
Police	4,350,551.00			29,200.00		4,379,751
Police Facility	191,796.00					191,796
Fire/Emergency Medical Services	4,358,412.00					4,358,412
Communications Center	639,774.00					639,774
Animal Control	56,419.00					56,419
Budget Reserve						-
Total Public Safety	9,596,952.00	$ -	$ -	29,200.00	-	9,626,152
Public Works:						
Public Works Administration	308,746.00					308,746
Construction and Maintenance	658,138.00					658,138
Snow and Ice Removal	280,410.00				251,176.00	531,586
Street and Traffic Lights	99,650.00					99,650
Equipment Maintenance	256,304.00					256,304
Tree and Grounds Maintenance	473,749.00					473,749
Budget Reserve						-
Total Public Works	2,076,997.00	$ -	$ -	-	251,176.00	2,328,173

TOWN OF AMHERST, MASSACHUSETTS
FY 2015 Approved Budget
General Fund

OPERATING BUDGETS	FY2015 ATM April-June 2014	RECAP Adjustments	STM Nov-14	FY2016 ATM April-June 2015	Fin Com Jul-15	Final Approved Budget
Planning, Conservation and Inspections:						-
Inspection Services	524,156.00					524,156
Conservation Commission and Department	309,498.00					309,498
Planning Department	327,729.00					327,729
Total Planning, Conservation and Inspections	1,161,383.00	-	-	-	-	1,161,383
Community Services:						-
Public Health	286,483.00					286,483
Senior Center	199,133.00					199,133
Veterans' Services and Benefits	330,769.00					330,769
Public Assistance	125,000.00					125,000
Leisure Services and Supplemental Education	529,299.00					529,299
Budget Reserve						-
Cherry Hill Golf	242,949.00					242,949
Total Community Services	1,903,749.00	-	-	-	-	1,903,749
Library Services:						
Jones Library	1,788,533.00					1,788,533
Total Library Services	1,788,533.00	-	-	-	-	1,788,533

TOWN OF AMHERST, MASSACHUSETTS
FY 2015 Approved Budget
General Fund

OPERATING BUDGETS	FY2015 ATM April-June 2014	RECAP Adjustments	STM Nov-14	FY2016 ATM April-June 2015	Fin Com Jul-15	Final Approved Budget
Public Education:						-
Elementary Schools	21,490,563.00					21,490,563
Regional School District	14,463,908.00					14,463,908
Total Public Education	**35,954,471.00**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**-**	**-**	**35,954,471**
Debt Service:						
Debt Principal						-
General	1,257,800.00					1,257,800
Elementary Schools	260,000.00					260,000
Regional Schools	255,932.00					255,932
Debt Interest						-
General	199,292.00					199,292
Elementary Schools	33,450.00					33,450
Regional Schools	11,696.00					11,696
Temporary Debt/Borrowing Costs	**20,000.00**					**20,000**
Total Debt Service	**2,038,170.00**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**-**	**-**	**2,038,170**
Transfers:						
Art 5B Library Feasibility Study	25,000.00					25,000
Art 14 Capital Program -Equipment	1,411,800.00					1,411,800
Art 15 Capital Program- Facilities	633,000.00					633,000
STM Art 3A OPEB Transfer fro Free Cash (170,073 recorded in Employee Benefits above)			$ 170,073.00			-
STM Art 3B transfer to Sabilization Fund			$ 1,354,023.00			1,354,023
Total Transfers	2,069,800.00	$ -	$ 1,524,096.00	-	-	3,423,823
Unpaid Bills:						
Town						-
Art unpaid bills ATM (dismissed)						-
						-
Total Unpaid Bills	-	$ -	$ -	-	-	-
Assessments:						
State						-
Special Education						-
Energy Conservation Program						-
Motor Vehicle Parking Surcharge		$ 65,860.00				65,860
Air Pollution Control Districts		$ 8,482.00				8,482
Other						-
Regional Transit Authorities		$ 823,383.00				823,383
School Choice Sending Tuition		$ 134,019.00				134,019
Charter School Assessment		$ 1,193,769.00				1,193,769
Special Education						-
Pioneer Valley Planning Commission		$ 5,673.00				5,673
Hampshire County Regional Lock -up	35,928.00					35,928
Total Assessments	35,928.00	$ 2,231,186.00	$ -	-	-	2,267,114
Deficits:						
Revenue Deficit						-
Grant Deficit						-
Overlay Deficit						-
Total Deficits	-	-	-	-	-	-
GRAND TOTAL GENERAL FUND	$ 67,363,977.00	$ 2,241,186.00	$ 1,694,169.00	265,497.76	$ -	71,394,757

OFFICE OF THE TOWN CLERK
Fiscal Year 2015

The Town Clerk's office prepared for and conducted three elections in FY15: the September 9, 2014 State Primary, the November 4, 2014 State Election, and the Annual Town Election on March 31, 2015. A voter registration session was held twenty days prior to each of the elections and the Town Clerk office was open from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. to facilitate voter registration.

There was one Special Town Meeting in addition to the Annual Town Meeting. The November 5, 2014 Fall (Special) Town Meeting discussed and voted on six articles in one session. The Annual Town Meeting, which began on April 27, 2015, required eight sessions to deliberate on thirty articles, including the Town Manager's recommended FY16 budget which included a full-time Economic Development Director, and an article authorizing the Select Board to file a Special Act with the State Legislature to provide local property tax incentives to property owners who build affordable housing units in Amherst.

In FY15 the Town Clerk's office finished a project which began in 2007.
The primary goal of the project was to transition to an electronic index system and to eliminate paper index cards. The purpose was twofold; to free up valuable space in the Town Clerk vault, and to ensure that every vital record (birth, death, and marriage) on file in the Town Clerk's office was accurately and informatively indexed. Hundreds of small corrections were made such as adding maiden names and middle names. Hundreds of significant corrections, the nature of which would have precluded finding the record, were also made. Many duplicate records were deleted, and hundreds of records, for which no index card had been made, were added.

FY15 also saw the implementation of the Electronic Death Registration System. All death records in Massachusetts are now created electronically. The most immediate advantage to the Town Clerk's office is that typed records no longer have to be rejected because of mistakes.
If an electronic record has an error it can be returned to the funeral director or certifying physician electronically and corrected in a much more timely manner than rejecting a hard copy record which would have to be re-typed and re-signed by the attending physician; a process which required a lot of time and travel on the part of the funeral director.

2014 Vitals
(The Town Clerk is required to report to the Registry of Vital Records and Statistics on a calendar-year basis)

Births	143
Deaths	209
Marriages	126

Respectfully submitted,
Sandra J. Burgess, CMC, CMMC
Town Clerk

BOARD OF REGISTRARS

Voter Totals as of November 5, 2015

Pct.	D	E	F	G	H	J	L	O	R	S	U	X	Z	Grand Total
1	728					12	7		94	1	896		1	**1739**
2	1100			2		7	3	1	109		1278			**2500**
3	703			1		9	3		122	2	1097			**1937**
4	777			1		5	6		189		1256			**2234**
5	844					10	1		86		775	1	1	**1718**
6	1124		2			17	4		113		966	1		**2227**
7	1094	1			1	14	9		84	1	942		1	**2147**
8	1456			1		14	2		127	1	944			**2545**
9	1086					13	5		83	2	1196			**2385**
10	732					7	5		149	1	1104			**1998**
Grand Totals	**9644**	**1**	**2**	**5**	**1**	**108**	**45**	**1**	**1156**	**8**	**10454**	**2**	**3**	**21430**

D = Democratic Party
E = Reform Party
F = Rainbow Coalition
G = Green Party USA
H=We The People
J = Green Rainbow
L = Libertarian Party
O = MA Independent Party
R = Republican Party
S = Socialist
U = Unenrolled
X = Pirate Party
Z = Working Families

In addition to the Political Parties and Political Designations identified above the following Political Designations also exist in Massachusetts at this time.

A = Conservative Party
B = Natural Law Party
C = New World Council
K = Constitution Party
M = Timesizing Not Downsizing
N = New Alliance Party
P = Prohibition Party
Q = American Independent Party
T = Interdependent 3rd Party
V = America First Party
W = Veterans Party America
Y = World Citizens Party
AA = Pizza Party
BB=American Term Limits
CC=United Independent Party
DD=Twelve Visions Party

3,003 voters were registered and 2,811 voters were deleted between July 1, 2014 and June 30, 2015.

Respectfully submitted,
Sandra J. Burgess, CMC, CMMC
Clerk to the Board of Registrars

WARRANT
STATE PRIMARY
September 9, 2014

Hampshire, ss.

To one of the Constables of the Town of Amherst

GREETING:
In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Amherst who are qualified to vote in Elections to vote at:

Precinct 1	North Congregational Church Hall	Precinct 6	Fort River School
Precinct 2	North Fire Station	Precinct 7	Crocker Farm School
Precinct 3	Immanuel Lutheran Church	Precinct 8	Munson Memorial Library
Precinct 4	Large Activity Room, Bangs Community Center	Precinct 9	Wildwood School
Precinct 5	Large Activity Room, Bangs Community Center	Precinct 10	Glass Room, Bangs Community Center

on **TUESDAY, THE NINTH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2014** from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. for the following purpose:

To cast their votes in the State Primaries for the candidates of political parties for the following offices:

SENATOR IN CONGRESS .....FOR THIS COMMONWEALTH
GOVERNOR .....FOR THIS COMMONWEALTH
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR .....FOR THIS COMMONWEALTH
ATTORNEY GENERAL.....FOR THIS COMMONWEALTH
SECRETARY OF STATE.....FOR THIS COMMONWEALTH
TREASURER AND RECEIVER GENERAL .....FOR THIS COMMONWEALTH
AUDITOR.....FOR THIS COMMONWEALTH
REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS .....SECOND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
COUNCILLOR .....EIGHTH DISTRICT
SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT .....HAMPSHIRE & FRANKLIN DISTRICT
REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT .....THIRD HAMPSHIRE DISTRICT
DISTRICT ATTORNEY .....NORTHWESTERN DISTRICT
REGISTER OF PROBATE.....HAMPSHIRE DISTRICT

Hereof fail not and make return of this warrant with your doings thereon at the time and place of said voting. Given under our hands this 25th day of August, 2014.

Aaron A. Hayden
Alisa V. Brewer
Andrew J. Steinberg
Constance E. Kruger
James J. Wald
Select Board, Town of Amherst

September 2, 2014
Hampshire, ss.

In obedience to the within Warrant, I have this day as directed posted true and attested copies thereof at the following designated places, to wit:

Precinct 1 North Amherst Post Office	Precinct 6 Fort River School
Precinct 2 North Fire Station	Precinct 7 Crocker Farm School
Precinct 3 Immanuel Lutheran Church	Precinct 8 Munson Memorial Library
Precinct 4 Amherst Post Office	Precinct 9 Wildwood School
Precinct 5 Town Hall	Precinct 10 Campus Center, UMass

Alison Fenton
Constable, Town of Amherst

RESULTS
STATE PRIMARY
September 9, 2014

In accordance with the Warrant the polls were opened at 7:00 a.m. and closed at 8:00 p.m. The voters cast their ballots in their respective precincts. The results were as follows:

DEMOCRATIC

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	TOTAL
SENATOR IN CONGRESS											
EDWARD J. MARKEY	144	313	116	92	220	383	324	558	267	120	2537
All Others	1	0	2	1	1	2	1	1	0	0	9
Blanks	25	45	16	14	34	57	55	79	42	11	378
TOTAL	170	358	134	107	255	442	380	638	309	131	2924
GOVERNOR											
DONALD M. BERWICK	123	205	78	68	162	263	242	389	203	93	1826
MARTHA COAKLEY	26	84	36	18	46	93	69	122	57	22	573
STEVEN GROSSMAN	21	67	20	18	43	85	65	125	47	15	506
All Others	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Blanks	0	1	0	2	4	1	4	2	2	1	17
TOTAL	170	358	134	107	255	442	380	638	309	131	2924
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR											
LELAND CHEUNG	75	140	51	35	77	185	127	241	132	42	1105
STEPHEN J. KERRIGAN	44	88	31	23	71	114	117	163	76	31	758
MICHAEL E. LAKE	10	33	20	10	19	45	40	44	19	13	253
All Others	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	3
Blanks	41	96	32	38	88	98	96	189	82	45	805
TOTAL	170	358	134	107	255	442	380	638	309	131	2924
ATTORNEY GENERAL											
MAURA HEALEY	128	288	107	86	200	343	291	484	256	100	2283
WARREN E. TOLMAN	32	51	19	12	46	80	75	122	39	21	497
All Others	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Blanks	9	19	8	8	9	19	14	32	14	10	142
TOTAL	170	358	134	107	255	442	380	638	309	131	2924
SECRETARY OF STATE											
WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN	121	265	102	74	190	327	289	471	224	95	2158
All Others	2	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	1	0	7
Blanks	47	93	32	32	64	113	91	167	84	36	759
TOTAL	170	358	134	107	255	442	380	638	309	131	2924

TREASURER											
THOMAS P. CONROY	27	57	19	22	48	86	76	119	67	23	544
BARRY R. FINEGOLD	32	80	23	10	40	78	65	129	57	35	549
DEBORAH B. GOLDBERG	64	121	64	41	93	181	145	212	107	38	1066
All Others	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Blanks	46	100	28	33	74	97	94	178	78	35	763
TOTAL	170	358	134	107	255	442	380	638	309	131	2924
AUDITOR											
SUZANNE M. BUMP	112	237	93	68	161	303	247	412	202	85	1920
All Others	1	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	5
Blanks	57	121	41	38	93	137	133	226	107	46	999
TOTAL	170	358	134	107	255	442	380	638	309	131	2924
REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS											
JAMES P. McGOVERN	126	282	107	84	206	370	308	506	251	114	2354
All Others	0	1	0	1	2	2	0	0	0	0	6
Blanks	44	75	27	22	47	70	72	132	58	17	564
TOTAL	170	358	134	107	255	442	380	638	309	131	2924
COUNCILLOR											
MICHAEL J. ALBANO	98	218	87	61	145	278	236	391	189	78	1781
All Others	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	2	4	1	11
Blanks	72	140	46	45	109	163	144	245	116	52	1132
TOTAL	170	358	134	107	255	442	380	638	309	131	2924
SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT											
STANLEY C. ROSENBERG	148	308	117	94	220	391	337	562	272	117	2566
All Others	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	4
Blanks	21	50	17	12	34	51	43	75	37	14	354
TOTAL	170	358	134	107	255	442	380	638	309	131	2924
REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT											
ELLEN STORY	142	307	120	91	213	387	332	562	272	116	2542
All Others	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	3	0	0	7
Blanks	27	50	14	15	42	54	48	73	37	15	375
TOTAL	170	358	134	107	255	442	380	638	309	131	2924
DISTRICT ATTORNEY											
DAVID E. SULLIVAN	122	266	104	78	191	332	302	476	233	104	2208
All Others	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	4
Blanks	46	92	30	28	63	110	78	162	76	27	712
TOTAL	170	358	134	107	255	442	380	638	309	131	2924

REGISTER OF PROBATE											
MICHAEL J. CAREY	106	231	98	67	168	298	259	426	205	84	1942
All Others	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	4
Blanks	64	127	36	39	86	143	121	212	103	47	978
TOTAL	170	358	134	107	255	442	380	638	309	131	2924

REPUBLICAN

	1	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**6**	**7**	**8**	**9**	**10**	**TOTAL**
SENATOR IN CONGRESS											
BRIAN J. HERR	4	12	5	4	5	18	13	20	7	4	92
All Others	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Blanks	2	3	4	1	3	3	8	7	0	0	31
TOTAL	**6**	**15**	**9**	**5**	**8**	**21**	**21**	**28**	**7**	**4**	**124**
GOVERNOR											
CHARLES D. BAKER	6	13	9	5	5	18	16	18	5	4	99
MARK R. FISHER	0	2	0	0	3	3	5	8	2	0	23
All Others	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Blanks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
TOTAL	**6**	**15**	**9**	**5**	**8**	**21**	**21**	**28**	**7**	**4**	**124**
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR											
KARYN E. POLITO	6	12	7	4	5	19	16	22	7	4	102
All Others	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Blanks	0	3	2	1	3	2	5	6	0	0	22
TOTAL	**6**	**15**	**9**	**5**	**8**	**21**	**21**	**28**	**7**	**4**	**124**
ATTORNEY GENERAL											
JOHN B. MILLER	5	12	5	4	5	19	15	23	7	4	99
All Others	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Blanks	1	3	4	1	3	2	6	5	0	0	25
TOTAL	**6**	**15**	**9**	**5**	**8**	**21**	**21**	**28**	**7**	**4**	**124**
SECRETARY OF STATE											
DAVID D'ARCANGELO	5	12	4	4	5	19	13	22	7	4	95
All Others	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Blanks	1	3	5	1	3	2	8	6	0	0	29
TOTAL	**6**	**15**	**9**	**5**	**8**	**21**	**21**	**28**	**7**	**4**	**124**
TREASURER											
MICHAEL JAMES EFFERNAN	5	11	4	4	6	16	12	21	7	4	90
All Others	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Blanks	1	4	5	1	2	5	9	7	0	0	34
TOTAL	**6**	**15**	**9**	**5**	**8**	**21**	**21**	**28**	**7**	**4**	**124**

AUDITOR											
PATRICIA S. SAINT AUBIN	5	12	3	4	4	16	12	20	7	4	87
All Others	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Blanks	1	3	6	1	4	5	9	8	0	0	37
TOTAL	**6**	**15**	**9**	**5**	**8**	**21**	**21**	**28**	**7**	**4**	**124**
REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS											
All Others	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	3
Blanks	6	14	9	5	8	19	21	28	7	4	121
TOTAL	**6**	**15**	**9**	**5**	**8**	**21**	**21**	**28**	**7**	**4**	**124**
COUNCILLOR											
All Others	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Blanks	6	15	9	5	8	21	21	28	7	4	124
TOTAL	**6**	**15**	**9**	**5**	**8**	**21**	**21**	**28**	**7**	**4**	**124**
SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT											
All Others	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Blanks	6	14	9	5	8	21	21	28	7	4	123
TOTAL	**6**	**15**	**9**	**5**	**8**	**21**	**21**	**28**	**7**	**4**	**124**
REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT											
All Others	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Blanks	6	15	9	5	8	21	21	28	7	4	124
TOTAL	**6**	**15**	**9**	**5**	**8**	**21**	**21**	**28**	**7**	**4**	**124**
DISTRICT ATTORNEY											
All Others	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Blanks	6	15	9	5	8	21	21	28	7	4	124
TOTAL	**6**	**15**	**9**	**5**	**8**	**21**	**21**	**28**	**7**	**4**	**124**
REGISTER OF PROBATE											
All Others	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Blanks	6	15	9	5	8	21	21	28	7	4	124
TOTAL	**6**	**15**	**9**	**5**	**8**	**21**	**21**	**28**	**7**	**4**	**124**

Pct.	Reporting Time	Total Eligible Voters	Machine Count		Hand Count		Total Votes Cast		Total Vote	% Voting
			D	R	D	R	D	R		
1	9:42	1638	165	7	1	0	166	7	173	10.56
2	10:02	2125	354	15	0	0	354	15	369	17.36
3	10:00	1643	132	9	0	0	132	9	141	8.58
4	9:32	1729	105	5	1	0	106	5	111	6.42
5	9:15	1695	255	8	0	0	255	8	263	15.52
6	9:04	2185	439	21	0	0	439	21	460	21.05
7	9:42	2096	379	21	2	0	381	21	402	19.18
8	9”25	2513	635	28	0	0	635	28	663	26.38
9	10:03	2092	309	7	0	0	309	7	316	15.11
10	9:32	1516	130	4	0	0	130	4	134	8384
TOTAL		**19232**	**2903**	**125**	**4**	**0**	**2907**	**125**	**3032**	**15.77**

The public announcement was made at 10:08 p.m. on September 9, 2014. 3,048 ballots were cast, representing 16% of those qualified to vote in this election.

PRECINCT 9

In accordance with Section 1.5421 of the Amherst Town Government Act a notice of vacancies in the full membership of elected town meeting members was published in the newspaper and mailed to the remaining elected town meeting members in each precinct in which a vacancy existed. Two nominations were received for Precinct 9. Ballots were prepared and mailed to the remaining town meeting members in Precinct 9. On October 27, 2014 a public meeting was held in the Town Clerk’s office for the purpose of counting the ballots.

The Town Clerk conducted the meeting and certified the election of Nancy E. Higgins, 558 Main Street, and Richard T. Roznoy, 11 Strong Street to fill the two vacancies in Precinct 9 until the next Annual Town Election.

WARRANT
STATE ELECTION
November 4, 2014

Hampshire, ss.

To one of the Constables of the Town of Amherst

GREETING:
In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Amherst who are qualified to vote in Elections to vote at:

Precinct 1 North Congregational Church Hall
Precinct 2 North Fire Station
Precinct 3 Immanuel Lutheran Church
Precinct 4 Large Activity Room, Bangs Community Center
Precinct 5 Large Activity Room, Bangs Community Center
Precinct 6 Fort River School
Precinct 7 Crocker Farm School
Precinct 8 Munson Memorial Library
Precinct 9 Wildwood School
Precinct 10 Glass Room, Bangs Community Center

on **TUESDAY, THE FOURTH DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2014,** from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. for the following purpose:

To cast their votes in the State Election for the candidates for the following offices and questions:

SENATOR IN CONGRESS.....FOR THIS COMMONWEALTH
GOVERNOR AND LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR.....FOR THIS COMMONWEALTH
ATTORNEY GENERAL.....FOR THIS COMMONWEALTH
SECRETARY OF STATE.....FOR THIS COMMONWEALTH
TREASURER.....FOR THIS COMMONWEALTH
AUDITOR.....FOR THIS COMMONWEALTH
REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS.....SECOND DISTRICT
COUNCILLOR.....EIGHTH DISTRICT
SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT..... HAMPSHIRE, FRANKLIN & WORCESTER DISTRICT
REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT.....THIRD HAMPSHIRE DISTRICT
DISTRICT ATTORNEY..... NORTHWESTERN DISTRICT
REGISTER OF PROBATE.....HAMPSHIRE COUNTY

QUESTION 1: 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 on or before May 6, 2014?

SUMMARY

This proposed law would eliminate the requirement that the state's gasoline tax, which was 24 cents per gallon as of September 2013, (1) be adjusted every year by the percentage change in the Consumer Price Index over the preceding year, but (2) not be adjusted below 21.5 cents per gallon.

A YES VOTE would eliminate the requirement that the state's gas tax be adjusted annually based on the Consumer Price Index.

A NO VOTE would make no change in the laws regarding the gas tax.

QUESTION 2: 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 on or before May 6, 2014?

SUMMARY

This proposed law would expand the state's beverage container deposit law, also known as the Bottle Bill, to require deposits on containers for all non-alcoholic non-carbonated drinks in liquid form intended for human consumption, except beverages primarily derived from dairy products, infant formula, and FDA approved medicines. The proposed law would not cover containers made of paper-based biodegradable material and aseptic multi-material packages such as juice boxes or pouches.

The proposed law would require the state Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) to adjust the container deposit amount every five years to reflect (to the nearest whole cent) changes in the consumer price index, but the value could not be set below five cents.

The proposed law would increase the minimum handling fee that beverage distributors must pay dealers for each properly returned empty beverage container, which was 2¼ cents as of September 2013, to 3½ cents. It would also increase the minimum handling fee that bottlers must pay distributors and dealers for each properly returned empty reusable beverage container, which was 1 cent as of September 2013, to 3½ cents. The Secretary of EEA would review the fee amounts every five years and make appropriate adjustments to reflect changes in the consumer price index as well as changes in the costs incurred by redemption centers. The proposed law defines a redemption center as any business whose primary purpose is the redemption of beverage containers and that is not ancillary to any other business.

The proposed law would direct the Secretary of EEA to issue regulations allowing small dealers to seek exemptions from accepting empty deposit containers. The proposed law would define small dealer as any person or business, including the operator of a vending machine, who sells beverages in beverage containers to consumers, with a contiguous retail space of 3,000 square feet or less, excluding office and stock room space; and fewer than four locations under the same ownership in the Commonwealth. The proposed law would require that the regulations consider at least the health, safety, and convenience of the public, including the distribution of dealers and redemption centers by population or by distance or both.

The proposed law would set up a state Clean Environment Fund to receive certain unclaimed container deposits. The Fund would be used, subject to appropriation by the state Legislature, to support programs such as the proper management of solid waste, water resource protection, parkland, urban forestry, air quality and climate protection.

The proposed law would allow a dealer, distributor, redemption center or bottler to refuse to accept any beverage container that is not marked as being refundable in Massachusetts.

The proposed law would take effect on April 22, 2015.

A YES VOTE would expand the state's beverage container deposit law to require deposits on containers for all non-alcoholic, non-carbonated drinks with certain exceptions, increase the associated handling fees, and make other changes to the law.

A NO VOTE would make no change in the laws regarding beverage container deposits.

QUESTION 3: 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 on or before May 6, 2014?

SUMMARY

This proposed law would (1) prohibit the Massachusetts Gaming Commission from issuing any license for a casino or other gaming establishment with table games and slot machines, or any license for a gaming establishment with slot machines; (2) prohibit any such casino or slots gaming under any such licenses that the Commission might have issued before the proposed law took effect; and (3) prohibit wagering on the simulcasting of live greyhound races.

The proposed law would change the definition of "illegal gaming" under Massachusetts law to include wagering on the simulcasting of live greyhound races, as well as table games and slot machines at Commission-licensed casinos, and slot machines at other Commission-licensed gaming establishments. This would make those types of gaming subject to existing state laws providing criminal penalties for, or otherwise regulating or prohibiting, activities involving illegal gaming.

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 casinos, any gaming establishment with slot machines, and wagering on simulcast greyhound races.

A NO VOTE would make no change in the current laws regarding gaming.

QUESTION 4: 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 on or before May 6, 2014?

SUMMARY

This proposed law would entitle employees in Massachusetts to earn and use sick time according to certain conditions.

Employees who work for employers having eleven or more employees could earn and use up to 40 hours of paid sick time per calendar year, while employees working for smaller employers could earn and use up to 40 hours of unpaid sick time per calendar year.

An employee could use earned sick time if required to miss work in order (1) to care for a physical or mental illness, injury or medical condition affecting the employee or the employee's child, spouse, parent, or parent of a spouse; (2) to attend routine medical appointments of the employee or the employee's child, spouse, parent, or parent of a spouse; or (3) to address the effects of domestic violence on the employee or the employee's dependent child. Employees would earn one hour of sick time for every 30 hours worked, and would begin accruing those hours on the date of hire or on July 1, 2015, whichever is later. Employees could begin to use earned sick time on the 90th day after hire.

The proposed law would cover both private and public employers, except that employees of a particular city or town would be covered only if, as required by the state constitution, the proposed law were made applicable by local or state legislative vote or by appropriation of sufficient funds to pay for the benefit. Earned paid sick time would be compensated at the same hourly rate paid to the employee when the sick time is used.

Employees could carry over up to 40 hours of unused sick time to the next calendar year, but could not use more than 40 hours in a calendar year. Employers would not have to pay employees for unused sick time at the end of their employment. If an employee missed work for a reason eligible for earned sick time, but agreed with the employer to work the same number of hours or shifts in the same or next pay period, the employee would not have to use earned sick time for the missed time, and the employer would not have to pay for that missed time. Employers would be prohibited from requiring such an employee to work additional hours to make up for missed time, or to find a replacement employee.

Employers could require certification of the need for sick time if an employee used sick time for more than 24 consecutively scheduled work hours. Employers could not delay the taking of or payment for earned sick time because they have not received the certification. Employees would have to make a good faith effort to notify the employer in advance if the need for earned sick time is foreseeable.

Employers would be prohibited from interfering with or retaliating based on an employee's exercise of earned sick time rights, and from retaliating based on an employee's support of another employee's exercise of such rights.

The proposed law would not override employers' obligations under any contract or benefit plan with more generous provisions than those in the proposed law. Employers that have their own policies providing as much paid time off, usable for the same purposes and under the same conditions, as the proposed law would not be required to provide additional paid sick time.

The Attorney General would enforce the proposed law, using the same enforcement procedures applicable to other state wage laws, and employees could file suits in court to enforce their earned sick time rights. The Attorney General would have to prepare a multilingual notice regarding the right to earned sick time, and employers would be required to post the notice in a conspicuous location and to provide a copy to employees. The state Executive Office of Health and Human Services, in consultation with the Attorney General, would develop a multilingual outreach program to inform the public of the availability of earned sick time.

The proposed law would take effect on July 1, 2015, and states that if any of its parts were declared invalid, the other parts would stay in effect.

A YES VOTE would entitle employees in Massachusetts to earn and use sick time according to certain conditions.

A NO VOTE would make no change in the laws regarding earned sick time.

QUESTION 5: COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT

Shall this Town amend its acceptance of sections 3 to 7, inclusive of chapter 44B of the General Laws, as approved by its legislative body?

SUMMARY

This question involves amendment of the Town's acceptance of G.L. c.44B, §§3-7, also known as the Community Preservation Act (the "Act"), by increasing the surcharge imposed on real property from one and one-half percent (1½ %) to three percent (3%) of the tax levy, as determined annually by the Board of Assessors. The Act allows municipalities to impose a surcharge on real property to establish a dedicated source of funds for the three purposes of the Act: open space, including land for recreational use; historic resources; and community housing. Acceptance of the Act also entitles municipalities to receive an annual distribution from the Massachusetts Community Preservation Trust Fund, which supplements the funds collected pursuant to the surcharge imposed by the Town and increases the available funds for eligible projects.

As approved under Article 2 of the February 12, 2001 Special Town Meeting and by the voters at the 2001 Annual Town Election, the surcharge was initially fixed at one percent (1%) of the annual property tax assessed on real property. An increase in the surcharge to one and one-half percent (1½ %) was later approved under Article 38 of the May 1, 2006 Annual Town Meeting and by the voters at the 2006 biennial state election. On a motion made under Article 37 of the April 28, 2014 Annual Town Meeting, the Amherst Town Meeting voted to increase the surcharge to three percent (3%). If approved, the additional surcharge would be imposed on taxes assessed for fiscal years beginning July 1, 2014.

The Act contains certain mandatory exemptions and also allows municipalities to approve certain optional exemptions. The Town has adopted two such optional exemptions from the surcharge: (1) any property owned and occupied as a domicile by a person who would qualify for low income housing or low or moderate income senior housing in Amherst; and, (2) one hundred thousand dollars ($100,000.00) of the value of each taxable parcel of residential real property. Regardless of whether this question passes or fails, these exemptions will continue to be applicable in the Town of Amherst.

QUESTION 6: THIS QUESTION IS NOT BINDING

Shall the state senator from this district be instructed to vote in favor of legislation that would prohibit candidates for state or local office from taking campaign contributions from industries regulated by such offices; regulate campaign spending by corporations; require increased disclosure of contributions to, and spending by, groups unaffiliated with candidates or political parties; provide voters with a tax rebate to make contributions to their preferred candidates; prohibit elected officials and their senior staff from negotiating a future job while in office and engaging in any lobbying activity for five years once they leave office; and increase penalties for candidates and groups that violate campaign finance laws?

Hereof fail not and make return of this warrant with your doings thereon at the time and place of said voting.

Given under our hands this 6th day of October, 2014.

Aaron A. Hayden
Andrew J. Steinberg
Constance E. Kruger
Select Board

October 9, 2014

Hampshire, ss.

In obedience to the within Warrant, I have this day as directed posted true and attested copies thereof at the following designated places, to wit:

Precinct 1 North Amherst Post Office
Precinct 2 North Fire Station
Precinct 3 Immanuel Lutheran Church
Precinct 4 Amherst Post Office
Precinct 5 Town Hall
Precinct 6 Fort River School
Precinct 7 Crocker Farm School
Precinct 8 Munson Memorial Library
Precinct 9 Wildwood School
Precinct 10 Campus Center, UMass

Jennifer A. Reynolds
Constable, Town of Amherst

RESULTS
STATE ELECTION
November 4, 2014

In accordance with the Warrant the polls were opened at 7:00 a.m. and closed at 8:00 p.m. The voters cast their ballots in their respective precincts. The results were as follows:

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	TO-
SENATOR IN CONGRESS											
EDWARD J. MARKEY	463	883	375	313	623	959	850	1182	779	382	6809
BRIAN J. HERR	57	125	61	63	56	117	105	165	56	47	852
All Others	1	5	2	0	0	4	1	2	1	2	18
Blanks	13	24	12	11	32	30	40	43	26	24	255
TOTAL	**534**	**1037**	**450**	**387**	**711**	**1110**	**996**	**1392**	**862**	**455**	**7934**
GOVERNOR and LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR											
BAKER and POLITO	75	191	85	87	99	173	160	229	92	78	1269
COAKLEY and KERRIGAN	412	770	333	272	568	872	755	1078	695	337	6092
FALCHUK and JENNINGS	23	46	21	10	21	38	42	43	40	18	302
LIVELY and SAUNDERS	4	6	2	7	5	10	8	6	9	6	63
McCORMICK and POST	3	7	3	2	0	3	3	10	6	5	42
Donald Berwick*	2	2				2	3		1	1	11
All Others	0	3	0	1	1	0	0	2	0	1	8
Blanks	15	12	6	8	17	12	25	24	19	9	147
TOTAL	**534**	**1037**	**450**	**387**	**711**	**1110**	**996**	**1392**	**862**	**455**	**7934**
ATTORNEY GENERAL											
MAURA HEALEY	445	851	365	300	620	932	844	1158	762	375	6652
JOHN B. MILLER	70	150	64	67	62	130	111	182	71	50	957
All Others	1	2	2	2	0	2	1	2	3	1	16
Blanks	18	34	19	18	29	46	40	50	26	29	309
TOTAL	**534**	**1037**	**450**	**387**	**711**	**1110**	**996**	**1392**	**862**	**455**	**7934**
SECRETARY OF STATE											
WILLIAM FRANCIS GAL-	396	817	325	292	580	874	789	1108	671	336	6188
DAVID D'ARCANGELO	49	103	53	56	42	99	82	131	53	38	706
DANIEL L. FACTOR	58	72	51	17	50	81	75	87	103	46	640
All Others	0	2	3	1	0	2	1	0	1	1	11
Blanks	31	43	18	21	39	54	49	66	34	34	389
TOTAL	**534**	**1037**	**450**	**387**	**711**	**1110**	**996**	**1392**	**862**	**455**	**7934**

TREASURER	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	TOTAL
DEBORAH B. GOLDBERG	367	760	307	271	548	824	726	1046	645	305	5799
MICHAEL JAMES HEFFER-NAN	58	135	64	74	62	129	114	180	68	44	928
IAN T. JACKSON	68	78	52	17	50	88	95	87	101	62	698
All Others	0	2	3	2	0	1	1	0	1	2	12
Blanks	41	62	24	23	51	68	60	79	47	42	497
TOTAL	**534**	**1037**	**450**	**387**	**711**	**1110**	**996**	**1392**	**862**	**455**	**7934**

AUDITOR											
SUZANNE M. BUMP	374	756	311	274	543	823	708	1032	635	304	5760
PATRICIA S. SAINT AUBIN	49	126	54	62	59	123	105	156	67	45	846
MK MERELICE	72	72	50	19	43	90	102	92	104	57	701
All Others	0	4	2	2	0	1	1	2	1	1	14
Blanks	39	79	33	30	66	73	80	110	55	48	613
TOTAL	**534**	**1037**	**450**	**387**	**711**	**1110**	**996**	**1392**	**862**	**455**	**7934**

REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS											
JAMES P. McGOVERN	457	903	379	338	623	964	860	1196	773	400	6893
James Joyce			5								5
All Others	5	6	3	6	7	8	7	12	9	3	66
Blanks	72	128	63	43	81	138	129	184	80	52	970
TOTAL	**534**	**1037**	**450**	**387**	**711**	**1110**	**996**	**1392**	**862**	**455**	**7934**

COUNCILLOR											
MICHAEL J. ALBANO	417	839	360	318	570	886	768	1079	710	365	6312
All Others	3	7	7	3	6	8	8	12	11	6	71
Blanks	114	191	83	66	135	216	220	301	141	84	1551
TOTAL	**534**	**1037**	**450**	**387**	**711**	**1110**	**996**	**1392**	**862**	**455**	**7934**

SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT											
STANLEY C. ROSENBERG	461	928	381	338	629	988	866	1230	778	393	6992
All Others	3	6	8	4	5	3	7	7	9	4	56
Blanks	70	103	61	45	77	119	123	155	75	58	886
TOTAL	**534**	**1037**	**450**	**387**	**711**	**1110**	**996**	**1392**	**862**	**455**	**7934**

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	TOTAL
REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT											
ELLEN STORY	461	885	364	318	625	955	854	1197	746	363	6768
KENNETH J. ROBERTS, JR.	36	86	38	38	35	84	70	119	65	39	610
All Others	0	2	4	1	1	5	1	3	2	2	21
Blanks	37	64	44	30	50	66	71	73	49	51	535
TOTAL	**534**	**1037**	**450**	**387**	**711**	**1110**	**996**	**1392**	**862**	**455**	**7934**
DISTRICT ATTORNEY											
DAVID E. SULLIVAN	436	874	369	328	600	927	836	1156	758	384	6668
All Others	2	5	6	3	3	6	5	5	7	1	43
Blanks	96	158	75	56	108	177	155	231	97	70	1223
TOTAL	**534**	**1037**	**450**	**387**	**711**	**1110**	**996**	**1392**	**862**	**455**	**7934**
REGISTER OF PROBATE											
MICHAEL J. CAREY	418	845	352	314	583	909	794	1115	736	375	6441
All Others	4	6	8	3	3	4	6	6	8	2	50
Blanks	112	186	90	70	125	197	196	271	118	78	1443
TOTAL	**534**	**1037**	**450**	**387**	**711**	**1110**	**996**	**1392**	**862**	**455**	**7934**
QUESTION #1											
YES	142	304	130	116	171	323	306	354	217	146	2209
NO	365	678	297	249	470	727	634	966	604	287	5277
Blanks	27	55	23	22	70	60	56	72	41	22	448
TOTAL	**534**	**1037**	**450**	**387**	**711**	**1110**	**996**	**1392**	**862**	**455**	**7934**
QUESTION #2											
YES	381	704	326	256	456	717	643	905	664	347	5399
NO	143	317	119	124	230	379	332	464	184	101	2393
Blanks	10	16	5	7	25	14	21	23	14	7	142
TOTAL	**534**	**1037**	**450**	**387**	**711**	**1110**	**996**	**1392**	**862**	**455**	**7934**
QUESTION #3											
YES	314	632	299	235	427	676	602	930	558	277	4950
NO	205	380	141	140	257	407	367	439	280	164	2780
Blanks	15	25	10	12	27	27	27	23	24	14	204
TOTAL	**534**	**1037**	**450**	**387**	**711**	**1110**	**996**	**1392**	**862**	**455**	**7934**

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	TOTAL
QUESTION #4											
YES	430	848	364	302	547	866	794	1079	721	381	6332
NO	83	161	72	79	126	194	168	262	114	62	1321
Blanks	21	28	14	6	38	50	34	51	27	12	281
TOTAL	**534**	**1037**	**450**	**387**	**711**	**1110**	**996**	**1392**	**862**	**455**	**7934**
QUESTION #5											
YES	278	473	214	167	324	472	419	598	452	244	3641
NO	177	400	173	163	276	493	439	619	298	130	3168
Blanks	79	164	63	57	111	145	138	175	112	81	1125
TOTAL	**534**	**1037**	**450**	**387**	**711**	**1110**	**996**	**1392**	**862**	**455**	**7934**
QUESTION #6											
YES	433	780	354	273	516	838	763	1087	710	350	6104
NO	38	110	40	64	82	133	104	143	78	38	830
Blanks	63	147	56	50	113	139	129	162	74	67	1000
TOTAL	**534**	**1037**	**450**	**387**	**711**	**1110**	**996**	**1392**	**862**	**455**	**7934**

PCT.	REPORTING TIME	TOTAL REGIS-TERED VOTERS	MACHINE VOTES	HAND COUNTED	TOTAL VOTES	% VOTING
1	9:55	1,739	530	3	533	30.65%
2	10:01	2,500	1033	1	1034	41.36%
3	10:06	1937	447	0	447	23.08%
4	9:45	2234	386	0	386	17.28%
5	9:10	1,718	710	0	710	41.33%
6	9:16	2,227	1103	2	1105	49.62%
7	10:43	2,147	983	8	991	46.16%
8	9:08	2,545	1387	1	1388	54.54%
9	9:31	2,385	859	0	859	36.02%
10	9:19	1,998	452	0	452	22.62%
TOTAL		21,430	7,890	15	7,905	36.89%

The public announcement was made at 10:47 p.m. on November 4, 2014. 7,934 ballots were cast, representing 37% of those qualified to vote in this election.

PRECINCT 1

In accordance with Section 1.5422 of the Amherst Town Government Act a petition signed by no fewer than 10 elected town meeting members from Precinct 1 was filed with the Town Clerk.

A meeting was held on November 5, 2014, in the auditorium of the Amherst Regional Middle School. A quorum was declared and the Town clerk called the meeting to order. The remaining Precinct 1 town meeting members elected from their own a number a chair and a clerk for the purpose of conducting the election. The Chair and the Clerk counted the ballots and certified Yusef Awad of 188 Pine Street was elected by the required majority to serve until the next annual town election.

PRECINCT 5

In accordance with Section 1.5422 of the Amherst Town Government Act a petition signed by no fewer than 10 elected town meeting members from Precinct 5 was filed with the Town Clerk.

A meeting was held on November 5, 2014, in the auditorium of the Amherst Regional Middle School. A quorum was declared and the Town clerk called the meeting to order. The remaining Precinct 5 town meeting members elected from their own a number a chair and a clerk for the purpose of conducting the election. The Chair and the Clerk counted the ballots and certified Mark A. Kelly, 48 Memorial Drive was elected by the required majority to serve until the next annual town election.

PRECINCT 10

In accordance with Section 1.5422 of the Amherst Town Government Act a petition signed by no fewer than 10 elected town meeting members from Precinct 10 was filed with the Town Clerk.

A meeting was held on November 5, 2014, in the auditorium of the Amherst Regional Middle School. A quorum was declared and the Town clerk called the meeting to order. The remaining Precinct 10 town meeting members elected from their own a number a chair and a clerk for the purpose of conducting the election. The Chair and the Clerk counted the ballots and certified Carolyn S. Bentley, 24 North Prospect Street was elected by the required majority to serve until the next annual town election.

WARRANT
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
November 5, 2014

Hampshire, ss.

To one of the Constables of the Town of Amherst, in said county, Greetings:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are hereby directed to notify the registered voters of the Town of Amherst of the **Special Town Meeting** to be held in the Auditorium of the Amherst Regional Middle School in said Amherst at seven o'clock p.m. on **Wednesday, the Fifth day of November, Two Thousand and Fourteen**, when the following articles will be acted upon by Town Meeting members:

ARTICLE 1. Reports of Boards and Committees (Select Board)
To see if the Town will hear those reports of Town officers, the Finance Committee, and any other Town boards or committees which are not available in written form.

ARTICLE 2. Transfer of Funds – Unpaid Bills (Finance Committee)
To see if the Town will, in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 64 of the Massachusetts General Laws, appropriate and transfer a sum of money to pay unpaid bills of previous years.

ARTICLE 3. Free Cash (Finance Committee)
A. To see if the Town will appropriate and transfer $170,073 from Free Cash in the Undesignated Fund Balance of the General Fund to the following accounts: $102,583 to the OPEB Trust Fund of the Town of Amherst; $4,206 to the Town of Pelham; and $63,284 to the Amherst-Pelham Regional School District to account for Medicare Part D reimbursements received by the Town of Amherst for prescription drug costs incurred by the Health Claims Trust Fund for Town of Amherst, Amherst-Pelham Regional School District, and Town of Pelham members.

B. To see if the Town will appropriate and transfer a sum of money from Free Cash in the Undesignated Fund Balance to the Stabilization Fund.

ARTICLE 4. Zoning Amendment – Special Districts Reorganization (Planning Board)
To see if the Town will amend Articles 2, 3, 4, 10 and 11, and the Table of Contents of the Zoning Bylaw, as follows:

Amend and reorganize Section 3.2, Special Districts, from Section 3.22 on, by deleting the ~~lined out~~ language, adding the language in *bold italics*, re-enumerating existing sections as shown (replacing existing numerals with the numerals shown), and amending the Table of Contents accordingly, as follows:

3.22 Resource Protection Districts

3.220 Flood Prone - Conservancy (FPC) District

3.2200 This section does not authorize any person to trespass, infringe upon or injure the property of another, and it does not excuse any person of the necessity of complying with other sections of this Bylaw or other applicable laws, regulations and bylaws.

The invalidity of any portion of the FPC District shall not invalidate any other portion or provision thereof.

3.2201 The purposes of this District are:

To provide that lands in the Town of Amherst subject to seasonal or periodic flooding as described hereinafter shall not be used for

residences or other purposes in such a manner as to endanger the health or safety of the occupants thereof.

To protect persons and property within the Town of Amherst from the hazards of flood inundation by assuring the continuation of natural flow patterns and the maintenance of adequate and safe floodwater storage capacity.

To protect the community against pollution and costs which may be incurred when unsuitable uses occur along water courses, wetlands, ponds and reservoirs, or in areas subject to flooding.

3.2201 The FPC District shall consist of those geographical areas hereinafter delineated which by virtue of their relationship to components of the natural hydrology of the Town of Amherst, have substantial importance to the protection of life and property against the hazards of floods, erosion, and pollution, and in general are essential to the public health, safety, and welfare. Those geographical areas include flood prone areas, natural water storage areas adjacent to ponds, rivers, streams and wetlands as well as reservoirs.

The FPC District is considered to be:

All areas designated as the FPC District on the Official Zoning Map on file in the Town Clerk's Office. The FPC District is determined by the following information: Department of Interior Map of Flood Prone Areas 1969; Soils Survey, 1965; Wetlands Map, 1973; Town of Amherst base map, 1972, as revised; historical flood information; hydrologic surveys; U.S.G.S. topographic maps; and other topographic surveys.

All land within a minimum of 75 feet horizontally of the crest of the bank of the Mill River.

All land within a minimum of 50 feet horizontally of the crest of the bank of Cushman Brook, Amethyst Brook, Adams Brook, Hearthstone Brook, Swamp Brook, and Hawley Brook downstream from North East Street.

All land within a minimum of 25 feet horizontally of the crest of the bank of flowing and intermittent streams not otherwise specified in Section ~~3.2230, 3.2231, 3.2232~~ ***3.2201, 1., 2., and 3.***, but designated on the Town Base Map, 1972 as revised.

3.2202 The reference documents for the FPC District shall be the Official Zoning Map and the Town of Amherst base map, dated 1972, as revised, for determining the name and location of streams and other water bodies. The Town Base Map shall be on file in the Town Clerk's office.

3.2203 Where an elevation above mean sea level (MSL) is a boundary for the FPC District, the planimetric representation of that elevation

shall be determined by the most recent topographic survey of the area. The topographic survey must be done by a registered land surveyor, or other professional approved by the Planning Board.

3.2204 If any portion of a lot falls within the FPC District, that portion may be used to meet the lot area and yard requirements for the district in which the remainder of the lot is situated.

3.2205 Where a water body may be subject to more than one of the preceding designations, the more stringent shall apply. All water bodies or wetlands encircled by an area designated above are hereby included within the FPC District. The Building Commissioner shall determine the "crest of the banks" of streams when necessary.

3.2206 In instances where the Planning Board is authorized to issue a Site Plan approval in the FPC District, the following factors shall be considered in assuring the protection from flood hazards:

Drainage
Elevation of buildings
Adequacy of sewage and refuse disposal
Control of erosion and sedimentation
Location of equipment
Storage of buoyant material
Extent of paving
Effect of fill, roadways or other encroachments on flood runoff and flow
Storage of chemicals and other hazardous substances

3.2207 In instances where the Special Permit Granting Authority issues a Special Permit in the FPC District said Authority must find that such factors as those listed in Section ~~3.228~~ ***3.2206*** above will not appreciably affect the water table or water quality, reduce flood storage capacity, or interfere with the natural flow and drainage pattern of the area.

3.2208 No dumping, filling, channeling, or alteration of the natural course of a water body or stream shall be permitted within the FPC District except where it is demonstrated that such use is consistent with agricultural or conservation purposes and public health and safety. Such use shall not appreciably affect the water table, reduce flood storage capacity, or interfere with the natural flow and drainage pattern of the area.

3.2209 Structures associated with the allowable uses indicated in Section 3.3, and accessory structures, shall not be located within the Flood Prone-Conservancy District without a Special Permit from the Zoning Board of Appeals.

3.221 Watershed Protection (WP) District

3.2210 General

The Watershed Protection District is an overlay district and shall be superimposed on other districts established by this Bylaw. Restrictions and prohibitions of land use in the underlying district shall remain in full force and shall not be modified by the conditions of the WP District unless superseded by the restrictions and prohibitions of the WP District.

3.2211 Establishment of District

The Watershed Protection District shall consist of those geographic areas shown by the Official Zoning Map. This District is configured to include those lands, which by virtue of their natural slope and soils, relate directly to the public water supply system, insofar as being areas where water flows overland into the ~~recharge areas as defined by the ARP District in Section 3.25 and into the~~ Atkins Reservoir.

3.2212 Purpose

The purpose of this district is to protect the public health by preventing contamination of the surface water flowing overland into Atkins Reservoir ~~or into the aquifer of the Lawrence Swamp Basin~~.

3.2213 Restrictions and Prohibitions

The following are restricted or prohibited, as the case may be, in the WP District, except as part of normal agricultural operations.

The release upon or within any land or water in the WP District of any hazardous materials is prohibited, except otherwise provided in Section 3.24.

Industrial or commercial uses which involve, as their primary business activity, hazardous material in amounts exceeding the minimum threshold amount requiring compliance with the Mass. Dept. of Environmental ***Protection*** ~~Quality Engineering~~ Hazardous Waste Regulations, 310 CMR 30, as amended, are prohibited.

Commercial uses which involve, as their primary business activity, hazardous materials, including but not limited to, truck or bus terminals, car washes, gasoline sales, motor vehicle service and repair shops, fuel oil storage and sales, and wood preserving, stripping and refinishing operations are prohibited.

The use of septic system chemical cleaners which contain hazardous materials, including but not limited to methylene chloride and 1-1-1 trichlorethane is prohibited.

Underground storage and/or transmission of oil or other petroleum products not in a containment structure approved by the Permit

Granting Board, except for liquified petroleum gases and gasoline which shall require a Special Permit in accordance with Section ~~3.244~~ ***3.2213, 7.***, is prohibited.

Industrial or commercial storage of sodium chloride and other de-icing materials, pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers, and other hazardous lawn and garden chemicals is prohibited.

Sodium chloride, if used for ice control, shall be used at the minimum level consistent with public highway safety standards. The base ratio shall be 1 part salt to 10 parts sand, with higher levels of salt used only where necessary to maintain public safety.

Calcium chloride, chemically treated abrasives and other alternative de-icing materials shall be used to the maximum extent feasible for winter road maintenance. Municipal storage of all such snow and ice chemicals shall occur on a paved surface, with berms, within a covered structure designed to prevent the generation and escape of contamination run-off or leachate.

The outdoor storage of de-icing materials or pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers, and other hazardous lawn and garden chemicals for home use is prohibited.

Industrial or commercial uses which involve the storage, use or presence of any oil, petrochemical product, pesticide, herbicide, fertilizer, or other hazardous leachable materials on any site within the WP District shall require a Special Permit from the Zoning Board of Appeals. A Special Permit shall be issued only upon a specific finding that the hazardous material(s) will be transported, stored, used and disposed of in a manner that will not constitute a threat to ~~the Lawrence Swamp Aquifer or~~ the Atkins Reservoir.

Pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers and other leachable lawn and garden chemicals shall be used in accordance with ***the applicable*** ~~Lawn Care R~~ ***r***egulations of the Massachusetts Pesticide Board, 333 CMR ~~10.03 (30, 31)~~, as amended.

Runoff water shall not be diverted from land in this district into another watershed basin.

Any uses of land or related activities specifically restricted or prohibited under 310 CMR 22, including 310 CMR 22. 20A-20G and 22.21, as amended, and all such Amherst Board of Health regulations as may apply.

3.2214 Special Permits/Site Plan Review

For all uses which require either a Special Permit or Site Plan Review in accordance with Section 3.3, and that are located in the

WP District, the following information shall be required as part of the application submission:

A site plan which shall show, at a minimum:

Drainage plans, showing location of drainage facilities and direction in which surface water is to be drained

Erosion and sedimentation control measures

Measures to prevent contamination of surface drainage from any potential on-site pollutants

In addition, for any commercial or industrial use involving hazardous materials, a written operating plan shall be filed which shall include physical and management provisions for:

Protecting hazardous materials from vandalism

Prevention of corrosion of containers or piping and subsequent leakage of hazardous materials

Indoor storage of all hazardous materials

Storage area features such as impervious floor surfaces with no interior drains

Measures to prevent hazardous material spills during transport, transfer or use

Notification, containment and clean-up in the event of hazardous materials spills

Evidence of insurance, bonding or other financial security adequate to cover the cost containment and clean-up of any hazardous material spills

The availability and feasibility of proposed disposal methods

Safe storage, transfer, and disposal of accumulated hazardous waste materials

The operating plan shall identify all chemicals, pesticides, fuels and other hazardous materials and estimates of the amounts of such materials to be used each month for the first two years of operation. Following approval of a permit, records shall thereafter be retained showing the actual amounts used each month.

Uses permitted by either a Special Permit or Site Plan Review shall submit two (2) copies of an annual report containing actual data for each month and describing any changes in the operation or

physical conditions on the premises. The annual report shall also describe any changes in operations or conditions expected or proposed for the upcoming year. One copy of the annual report shall be forwarded to the Board of Health. Annual reports shall be due on the anniversary of the granting of the approval, or within fourteen (14) working days of that date.

The applicant shall file ~~six (6)~~ ***the required number of*** copies of the proposed operating plan with the ~~Zoning Board of Appeals (Special Permit)/Planning Board (Site Plan Review)~~ ***Permit Granting Board or Special Permit Granting Authority***. Copies shall be transmitted, within 7 days, to the ZBA/Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Board of Health, and Building Commissioner, for their review and recommendations.

The ~~Zoning Board of Appeals and Planning Board~~ ***Permit Granting Board or Special Permit Granting Authority*** may require reasonable additional information it finds necessary for adequate assessment of the proposed use.

The ***Permit Granting Board or Special Permit Granting Authority shall make the*** following findings ~~shall be made~~ for any approvals granted:

The ~~permit granting board shall find that the~~ proposal either is in harmony or is not in harmony with the purposes and intent of this section and must specify reasons therefore.

The ~~permit granting board shall find that the~~ proposed use provides for adequate sewage disposal and water service systems.

The ~~permit granting board shall find that the~~ proposed use will not have an adverse environmental impact on any watershed, watercourse or waterbody in the WP District during construction.

The ~~permit granting board shall find that the~~ proposed use will not adversely affect the quality and quantity of water in the ~~Lawrence Swamp Basin or the~~ Atkins Reservoir.

3.2215 Exemptions

In any instance where a property owner disputes the inclusion of their property in the WP District, the owner may engage a professional hydrogeologist, or engineer or geologist with experience in hydrogeology to determine if that property should be included in the WP District, based on the definition of and purposes of the district and on the characteristics of the property. Based on this determination, the property owner may apply to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a Special Permit for any use that would otherwise be permitted in the underlying zoning district but which is prohibited or constrained

by the restrictions of the WP District. The Board shall find, based on Sections ~~3.241~~ ***3.2211*** and ~~3.242~~ ***3.2212***, that the property either is or is not exempt from the provisions of Section ~~3.24~~ ***3.221*** and may, therefore, issue a Special Permit.

~~Residential Development~~

~~For all parcels of land which are located in that area of the WP Overlay District which is associated with the Lawrence Swamp Aquifer, the following requirements shall be met:~~

> ~~Residential subdivisions requiring approval under M.G.L. Ch. 41, the Subdivision Control Law, shall be laid out as cluster developments in accordance with Section 4.3 of the Zoning Bylaw.~~

Aquifer Recharge Protection (ARP) District

3.2220 General

The Aquifer Recharge Protection (ARP) District is an overlay district and shall be superimposed on other districts established by this Bylaw. Restrictions and prohibitions of land use in the underlying district shall remain in full force, and shall not be modified by the conditions of the ARP District unless superseded by the restrictions and prohibitions of the ARP District.

3.2221 Establishment of District

The Aquifer Recharge Protection (ARP) District shall consist of those geographic areas shown on the Official Zoning Map. This District is configured to include all those lands which by virtue of their natural slope, soils, subsurficial geology and water tables relate directly to the recharge of groundwater into the large aquifer located in the Lawrence Swamp basin consisting of the Zones I, II and III aquifer recharge areas for the Town of Amherst's public wells.

3.2222 Purpose

The purpose of this district is to protect the public health by preventing contamination of the ground and surface water flowing into the aquifer of the Lawrence Swamp Basin, which is the major water supply for the Town.

3.2223 Prohibitions

The following uses are prohibited in the ARP District, except as part of normal agricultural operations.

Business and industrial uses, including but not limited to metal plating, chemical manufacturing, wood preserving, furniture stripping, dry cleaning and auto body repair, which generate, treat,

process, store or dispose of hazardous waste, except for the following:

Very small quantity generators of hazardous waste, as defined by 310 CMR 30.00, as amended, may be allowed by the Special Permit Granting Authority in accordance with Section ~~3.250~~ ***3.2220*** of this bylaw;

Household hazardous waste collection centers or events operated pursuant to 310 CMR 30.390, as amended;

Waste oil retention facilities required by M.G.L. Ch. 21, Sec. 52A, as amended, and;

Treatment works approved by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection and designed in accordance with 314 CMR 5.00, as amended, for the treatment of contaminated ground or surface waters.

2. Industrial or commercial uses which dispose of process waste waters on site.

3. Truck or bus terminals, car washes, gasoline sales, motor vehicle service and repair shops, commercial fuel oil storage and sales, solid waste landfills, dumps, auto recycling, auto graveyards, junk and salvage yards, landfilling or storage of sludge and septage, with the exception of the disposal of brush or stumps.

4. Underground storage of liquid petroleum products, except for the following:

Storage for normal household use, outdoor maintenance, and heating of a structure;

Waste oil facilities required by statute, rule or regulation;

Emergency generators required by statute, rule or regulation;

Treatment works approved under 315 CMR 5.00 for treatment of ground or surface waters;

Underground storage tanks for gasoline which existed at the time of adoption of this bylaw may be replaced, provided that any such replacement tank is of no greater volume, and shall be provided with a secondary containment system in compliance with the Massachusetts Fire Safety Code (527 CMR); provided that such storage, listed in items a. through e. above, is in free standing containers within buildings or above ground and in either case is provided with secondary containment facilities, impermeable and capable of holding a spill equal to 1.5 times the total volume of the primary container. The replacement of any underground storage tanks for heating oil which

existed at the time of adoption of this bylaw shall meet the requirements of the Board of Health.

The outdoor storage of salt, de-icing materials, pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers and other hazardous lawn and garden chemicals for home use is also prohibited.

Dumping or disposal on the ground, in water bodies, or in residential septic systems of any toxic chemical including but not limited to septic system chemical cleaners which contain toxic chemicals such as methylene chloride and 1-1-1 trichlorethane, or other household hazardous waste.

Stockpiling and disposal of snow or ice removed from highways or streets located outside the ARP District that contains sodium chloride, calcium chloride, chemically treated abrasives or other chemicals used for snow and ice removal.

Wastewater treatment plants or works subject to a groundwater discharge permit under 310 CMR 5.00, except for the following:

The replacement or repair of an existing system that will not result in any increase in the design capacity of said system;

The replacement of an existing subsurface sewage disposal system with wastewater treatment works that will not result in any increase over the design capacity of the existing system, and;

Treatment works designed for the treatment of contaminated ground or surface waters subject to 314 CMR 5.00, as amended.

Industrial or commercial storage of sodium chloride and other de-icing materials, pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers, and other hazardous lawn and garden chemicals is prohibited.

Excavation of earth, sand, gravel and other soils or geologic materials shall not extend closer than ten (10) feet above the long-term (20 year) average annual high water table on the site, except to provide for structural foundations, utility conduits and public works. This prohibition also shall not apply to the installation or maintenance of on-site septic systems.

3.2224 Restricted Uses

The following uses are restricted in the ARP District:

Sodium chloride, if used for ice control, shall be used at the minimum level consistent with public highway safety standards. The base ratio shall be 1 part salt to 10 parts sand, with higher levels of salt used only where necessary to maintain public safety. Cal-

cium chloride, chemically treated abrasives and other alternative de-icing materials shall be used to the maximum extent feasible for winter road maintenance. Municipal storage of all such snow and ice control chemicals shall occur on a paved surface, with berms, within a covered structure designed to prevent the generation and escape of contamination run-off or leachate.

Fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides and other leachable lawn and garden chemicals shall be used in accordance with the ***applicable*** ~~Lawn Care R~~ ***r***egulations of the Massachusetts Pesticide Board, 333 CMR ~~10.03 (30,31)~~, as amended, with manufacturer's label instructions, and all other necessary precautions to minimize adverse impacts on surface and groundwater.

Industrial or commercial uses which involve the storage, use or presence of any oil, petrochemical product, pesticide, herbicide, fertilizer, or other hazardous leachable materials on any site within the ARP District, shall require a Special Permit from the Zoning Board of Appeals. A Special Permit shall be issued only upon a specific finding that the hazardous material(s) will be transported, stored, used and disposed of in a manner that will not constitute a threat to the Lawrence Swamp Aquifer. Any facility for the storage of such materials shall have secondary containment and shall be covered.

3.2225 Drainage

To the extent possible, runoff from impervious surfaces shall be recharged on the site by being diverted to areas covered with vegetation for surface infiltration. No more than 15% of the net runoff from a lot, calculated after development, may be diverted out of the ARP District. All detention or retention basins, ponds and similar drainage structures shall be permanently maintained in full working order by the property owner, unless otherwise specified by the permit granting authority.

The rendering impervious of more than 15% of the lot area or 2,500 square feet, whichever is greater, is permitted under a Special Permit, provided that a system for artificial recharge of precipitation to groundwater is developed which the Special Permit Granting Authority finds adequately protects against the degradation of groundwater quality. For non-residential uses, recharge shall be storm water infiltration basins or similar systems covered with natural vegetation. Dry wells shall be used only when other methods are infeasible. For all non-residential uses, all such basins and wells shall be preceded by oil, grease and sediments traps to facilitate removal of contamination. Any and all recharge areas, basins, wells and traps shall be permanently maintained in full working order by the property owner.

3.2226 Split Zoning

For any lot that is divided by the ARP District boundary, whose frontage is not located in the ARP District and for which a proposed use (allowed by the underlying zoning district) is restricted by either the location of the District boundary or the dimensional requirements of the ARP District, an owner may apply to the Zoning Board of Appeals, for a Special Permit for a waiver of the restrictions or dimensional requirements of the ARP District provided the Board makes the findings required in Section ~~3.2585~~ ***3.2228, 6***.

3.2227 Dimensional Regulations

Lot Coverage

Maximum lot coverage for residentially zoned land--15%
Maximum lot coverage for PRP zoned land--50%

Building Coverage

Maximum building coverage for residentially zoned land--10%
Maximum building coverage for PRP zoned land--25%

3.2228 Special Permits/Site Plan Review in the ARP District

For all uses which require either a Special Permit or Site Plan Review in accordance with Section 3.3, the following shall be required as part of the application submission:

A site plan which shall show, at a minimum:

Drainage recharge features and provisions to prevent loss of recharge.

Erosion and sedimentation control measures.

c. Provisions to prevent soil compaction.

Measures to prevent contamination from petroleum products or hazardous chemicals.

e. Provisions to prevent seepage from sewage disposal systems.

a. In addition, for any commercial or industrial use involving hazardous materials, a written operating plan shall be filed which shall include physical and management provisions for:

Protecting hazardous materials from vandalism.

Prevention of corrosion of containers or piping and subsequent leakage of hazardous materials.

Indoor storage of all hazardous materials.

Storage area features such as impervious floor surfaces with no interior drains.

Measures to prevent hazardous materials spills during transport, transfer or use.

Notification, containment and clean-up in the event of hazardous materials spills.

Evidence of insurance, bonding, or other financial security adequate to cover the cost of containment and clean-up of hazardous materials spills.

The availability and feasibility of proposed disposal methods.

Safe storage, transfer, and disposal of accumulated hazardous waste materials.

b. The operating plan shall identify completely all chemicals, pesticides, fuels and other hazardous materials and estimates of the amounts of such materials to be used each month for the first two years of operation. Following approval of a permit, records shall thereafter be retained showing the actual amounts used each month.

Uses permitted by either a Special Permit or Site Plan Review shall submit two (2) copies of an annual report containing actual data for each month and describing any changes in the operation or physical conditions on the premises.

The annual report shall also describe any changes in operations or conditions expected or proposed for the upcoming year. One copy of the annual report shall be forwarded to the Board of Health. Annual reports shall be due on the anniversary of the granting of the approval, or within fourteen (14) working days of that date.

The applicant shall file ~~six (6)~~ ***the required number of*** copies of the proposed operating plan with the ~~Zoning Board of Appeals (Special Permit)/Planning Board (Site Plan Review)~~ ***Permit Granting Board or Special Permit Granting Authority***. Copies will be transmitted, within 7 days, to the ZBA/Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Aquifer Protection Committee, Department of Public Works, Board of Health, and Building Commissioner, for their review and recommendations.

The ~~Zoning Board of Appeals and Planning Board~~ ***Permit Granting Board or Special Permit Granting Authority*** may require such additional information as they find necessary for adequate assessment of the proposed use~~. The Zoning Board of Appeals and~~

~~Planning Board~~ ***and*** may, consistent with their regulations adopted pursuant to M.G.L. Ch. 44, ***Section*** 53G, employ outside consultants, including, but not limited to hydrogeologists, in the review of the proposed use.

The ***Permit Granting Board or Special Permit Granting Authority shall make*** following findings ~~shall be made~~ for any approvals granted:

The ~~permit granting board shall find that the~~ proposal either is in harmony or is not in harmony with the purposes and intent of this section and must specify reasons therefore.

The ~~permit granting board shall find that the~~ proposed use provides for adequate sewage disposal and water service systems.

The ~~permit granting board shall find that the~~ proposed use will not have an adverse environmental impact on any watershed, watercourse or waterbody in the ARP District during construction.

The ~~permit granting board shall find that the~~ proposed use will not adversely affect the quality and quantity of water in the Lawrence Swamp basin.

3.2229 Exemptions & Residential Development

Exemptions

In any instance where a property owner disputes the inclusion of their property in the ARP District, the owner may engage a professional hydrogeologist or groundwater engineer to determine if that property should be included in the ARP District based on the definition and purposes of the district and on the characteristics of the property.

Based on this determination, the property owner may apply to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a Special Permit for any use that would otherwise be permitted in the underlying zoning district but which is prohibited or constrained by the restrictions in the ARP District. Sections ~~3.2583~~ ***3.2228, 4.***, and ~~3.2584~~ ***3.2228, 5.*** of this bylaw shall apply to all applications for exemption under this section. The Board shall find, based on Sections ~~3.251~~ ***3.2221*** and ~~3.252~~ ***3.2222***, that the property either is or is not exempt from the provisions of Section ~~3.25~~ ***3.222*** and may therefore issue a Special Permit.

Residential Development

For all parcels of land which are located in both the ARP District and the Low Density Residence District (R-LD), the following requirements shall be met:

Residential subdivisions requiring approval under M.G.L. Ch. 41, The Subdivision Control Law, shall be laid out as cluster developments in accordance with Section 4.3 of the Zoning Bylaw.

Farmland Conservation (FC) District

3.2230 General

The Farmland Conservation District is an overlay district and shall be superimposed on other districts established by this Bylaw. Restrictions and prohibitions of land use in the underlying districts shall remain in full force and shall not be modified by the conditions of the FC District unless superseded by the restrictions and conditions of the FC District.

3.2231 Establishment of District

The Farmland Conservation District shall consist of those geographic areas shown as FC District on the Official Zoning Map. This District is configured to include those lands which, by virtue of their soils, acreage, location adjacent to and contiguous with other farmland forming discrete blocks, and lack of protection under existing zoning, comprise the critical farmland areas of the Town of Amherst.

3.2232 Purpose

The purposes of the Farmland Conservation District are to:

Promote and protect the practice and continued economic viability of farming through conservation of those lands on which farming is most viable while allowing development of other portions of farm properties for residential and other non-farming use;

Maintain an adequate base of agricultural land and activity in Amherst to help ensure the continued economic viability of local farming and thereby contribute to the continued availability of agricultural support services;

Preserve the continued economic value of land for farmers and farmland owners by retaining portions of farm properties as developable for residential and other non-farm purposes, thereby supporting the continued economic viability of individual farms and farming in Amherst;

Preserve the culture and landscape of farming, which help define the character of Amherst

3.2233 Residential Development

Residential subdivisions requiring approval under M.G.L., Ch. 41, Subdivision Control Law, shall be laid out as cluster developments in accordance with the provisions of this section and Section 4.3, Cluster Development, or as open space community developments in accordance with Section 4.5, Open Space Community Development (OSCD), of the Zoning Bylaw.

Cluster developments in the FC District shall conform to the provisions of Sections ~~3.284~~ ***3.2234*** and ~~3.285~~ ***3.2235*** of this bylaw.

For flag lots with frontage located outside the FC District and a majority of lot area within the FC District, the lot area requirements for these lots are as follows:

Minimum lot area 20,000 sq. ft.
Maximum lot area 30,000 sq. ft.

All other dimensional requirements for these lots shall be the same as those specified in Table 3 for Cluster Development flag lots in the R-N District.

3.2234 Standards for ~~Planning Board~~ Site Plan Review (SPR)

The ~~Planning Board~~ ***Permit Granting Board*** shall grant Site Plan Review (SPR) Approval for a cluster development in the FC District provided it finds that***,*** in addition to meeting the provisions of Section 11.2 and 11.3 of the Zoning Bylaw, the proposed use conforms to the provisions of Section ~~3.285~~ ***3.2235***, Farmland Conservation Development Standards and Section 4.38, Cluster Development Design Standards, of this Bylaw.

3.2235 Farmland Conservation Development Standards

To the maximum practical extent, all buildings and roads shall be located on that portion of the site with soils least suitable for the production of crops or livestock. This provision shall not apply to the location of on-site septic disposal facilities, which must be placed in soils meeting the Massachusetts Environmental Code.

To assist the ~~p~~ ***P***ermit ~~g~~ ***G***ranting ~~b~~ ***B***oard ***or Special Permit Granting Authority*** in making its determination, copies of the application and site plan shall be transmitted to the ~~Farm Committee~~ ***Agricultural Commission***, which shall have thirty-five (35) days to report its findings. Upon notification by the ~~p~~ ***P***ermit ~~g~~ ***G***ranting ~~b~~ ***B***oard ***or Special Permit Granting Authority***, the ~~Farm Committee~~ ***Agricultural Commission*** shall assemble an expert panel consisting of professional agronomists, soils scientists and other qualified professionals to evaluate and report on the suitability of

soils, including but not limited to the historical uses thereof, and the overall agricultural viability of the farm property, consistent with the purposes of the bylaw. Failure to report in the allotted time shall constitute approval by the ~~Farm Committee~~ ***Agricultural Commission***. The ~~p~~ ***P***ermit ~~g~~ ***G***ranting ~~b~~ ***B***oard ***or Special Permit Granting Authority*** may grant at least one extension of this time period in response to a written request from the ~~Farm Committee~~ ***Agricultural Commission*** for such an extension based on a need for additional time resulting from parcel size, project complexity, time of year, or other factors.

The ~~p~~ ***P***ermit ~~g~~ ***G***ranting ~~b~~ ***B***oard ***or Special Permit Granting Authority*** may, consistent with its regulations adopted pursuant to M.G.L., Ch. 44, ***Section*** 53G, engage the service of independent professional agronomists, soils scientists, or other qualified consultants at the cost of the applicant, to assist in evaluating a site or project.

Individual or multi-unit community septic systems may be allowed in cluster developments in the FC District where public sanitary service is not reasonably available, subject to Board of Health approval, conditions and restrictions.

Within the common land provided in the Cluster Development, a maximum of 5,000 square feet per dwelling unit shall be set aside as usable open space for active and passive recreation.

Upon request of the applicant, the ~~Planning Board~~ ***Permit Granting Board or Special Permit Granting Authority*** may waive ***or modify*** this maximum, where such a change would be consistent with the purposes of this Bylaw. In making ~~their~~ ***its*** decision, the ~~Planning~~ Board ***or Authority*** shall consider whether the maximum feasible amount of common land has been set aside as permanently preserved farmland, while maintaining adequate amounts of usable open space for active and passive recreation for the Cluster Development.

Common land set aside as permanently preserved open farmland shall have appropriate contiguous acreage, configuration and access to enable continued viable farmland operations.

All roadways, drainage systems and utilities shall be laid out in a manner so as to have the least possible impact on adjacent or on-site agricultural lands or uses.

No building containing dwelling units shall intrude into a minimum 150 foot buffer strip separating residential uses from adjacent or on-site farmland. Said buffer strip may include private property and Common Land. The ~~p~~ ***P***ermit ~~g~~ ***G***ranting ~~b~~ ***B***oard or ***Special Permit Granting A***~~a~~uthority***, as applicable,*** may reduce this distance requirement where screening, substantial vegetation,

land contour or other features of the site are deemed to provide sufficient buffering, and where such a change is consistent with the purposes of this Bylaw. An exception to this distance requirement shall be permitted for no more than one (1) dwelling unit associated with the management and operation of agricultural uses of the farmland. Said dwelling unit shall be included in the maximum number of lots provided for under Section 4.327.

The ~~p~~ ***P***ermit ~~g~~ ***G***ranting ~~b~~ ***B***oard or ***Special Permit Granting A***~~a~~uthority***, as applicable,*** may approve the use of portions of the 150 foot buffer strip between the residential and farmland portions of a cluster development as usable open space for the recreational use of cluster development residents, provided the board or authority determines such use will not impact adversely on adjacent farming activity and is consistent with Section 4.31 of the Zoning Bylaw.

Every reasonable effort shall be made to maintain views of open agricultural lands from nearby public ways.

Each dwelling unit and structure shall be integrated into the existing landscape through use of building placement, landform treatment and screening.

Applicants are encouraged to site dwelling units and other structures:

Within any woodland contained on the parcel;

Into woodlands along the edges of fields;

In locations where new construction can be visually screened or absorbed into natural vegetative or topographic features;

In locations where the greatest number of units can take advantage of solar heating, summer breezes, vegetative wind screens, and other climatic site characteristics that can be utilized through siting and design.

3.23 Residential Special Districts

3.230 Planned Unit Residential Development (PURD) District.

~~This~~ ***The PURD D***istrict is an overlay district and shall be superimposed on the other districts as indicated in Table 2 Development Methods in this Bylaw. See Section 4.4, Planned Unit Residential Development.

3.24 Business Special Districts

3.240 Municipal Parking ***(MP)*** District

See Section 7.4 of this Bylaw for Purpose and Requirements.

3.241 Research & Development (RD) District

3.2410 General

The Research & Development (R&D) District is an overlay district and shall be superimposed on other districts established by this Bylaw. Restrictions and prohibitions of land use in the underlying districts shall remain in full force and shall not be modified by the conditions of the R&D District unless superseded by the restrictions and conditions of the R&D District.

3.2411 Establishment of District

The Research & Development (R&D) District shall consist of those geographic areas shown as R&D District on the Official Zoning Map. This District is configured to include those lands which, by virtue of their location with respect to institutions of higher learning, transportation corridors, utilities, village centers, services, and other factors, are appropriate for the siting of research, development, and testing businesses.

3.2412 Purpose

The purposes of the Research & Development (R&D) District are to:

1. Facilitate and promote the establishment, development, and expansion of information-and technology-intensive research and development businesses in Amherst.

2. Provide opportunities for the establishment of research and development businesses, including but not limited to those derived from or associated with the research and testing activities of departments or agencies of the University of Massachusetts, Amherst College, and Hampshire College.

3. Require that any research and development businesses established in Amherst are located, designed, and operated in conformance with all federal, state and local regulations regarding public health and safety.

4. Expand employment opportunities for Amherst residents in the fields of research and development.

5. Broaden and diversify the community's property tax base.

3.2413 Permit Required

Within the R&D District, any uses under Sections 3.372.0 and 3.372.1 directly involved or associated with research, development and testing activities, including any associated accessory light manufacturing which would otherwise be regulated in the underlying

zoning district under a Special Permit (SP) by the Zoning Board of Appeals shall instead be regulated under Site Plan Review (SPR) approval by the Planning Board. An exception shall be any accessory research or testing to be conducted outdoors, which shall require a Special Permit granted by the Special

Permit Granting Authority authorized to act under the applicable section of the Bylaw.

3.2414 Review Period

Notwithstanding the provisions of Sections 10.323 and 11.230, within the R&D District, the Fire Chief, Building Commissioner, Board of Health, Town Engineer, and Conservation Department shall have forty-five (45) days to report their findings on any application made under Sections 3.372.0 and 3.372.1 which involves the use, production or storage of materials identified as flammable, toxic, hazardous or explosive.

Amend Articles 2, 3, 4, 10 and 11, by re-numbering all references to subsections of Section 3.22 that are located in existing sections elsewhere in the Bylaw, by deleting the ~~lined out~~ language and adding the language in *bold italics*, as follows:

Section 2.25

2.25 For boundary interpretations in the Flood Prone Conservancy district, see also Section 3.22~~3~~***01***, 3.224***02*** [Note: the number 4 is lined out], 3.22~~5~~***03***, and 3.22~~7~~***05*** of this Bylaw.

Section 3.11

3.11 Building Near Ponds

No permanent structure shall be located within 100 feet of any pond or Surface Water Impoundment of flood retention area without a Special Permit from the Zoning Board of Appeals permitting such structure within 100 feet. Such Permit shall not be issued unless the Zoning Board of Appeals takes into consideration the following in addition to the findings required by Section 3.22***0***, if applicable, and by Article 10.

Section 4.360 (Cluster Review and Approval Process)

4.360 Approval shall be by Site Plan Review by the Planning Board, in accordance with the standards set forth in Section 11.2 and 11.3, with the purposes of Cluster Development as set forth in Sections ~~3.28~~ ***3.223*** and 4.31, as applicable, and with the design requirements of Section ~~3.285~~ ***3.2235*** and 4.38, as applicable.

Section 4.536 (OSCD farm buffer zone)

4.536 A buffer zone of private property, common land and/or usable open space for active or passive recreation shall be provided along any edge of the residential portion of an OSCD that abuts adjacent or on-site farmland, in accordance with Sections~~ 3.2855 and 3.2856~~ ***3.2235, 6. and 7.***

Section 4.57

4.57 Open Space Community Development (OSCD) Design Requirements

4.570 Within an Open Space Community Development (OSCD), a minimum of 2,000 square feet per dwelling unit shall be usable open space for active and passive recreation. Usable open space shall be defined to include contiguous open space developed and available for play areas, tot lots, gardens, off-road trails (including but not limited to hiking, jogging, bridle and bicycle trails, as

well as those paths and easements which provide access or connection to such trails, regardless of location), ball or playing fields, basketball or tennis courts or similar facilities as are appropriate to the needs of the development. Usable open space shall not include parking areas, roadways, sidewalks or land within wetlands as determined by the Conservation Commission (except as hereinafter provided). Up to 40 percent of total usable open space may be located in an FPC District and/or wetlands, as appropriate to the intended recreation use(s), in accordance with the provisions of Section 3.22***0***, and as permitted by the Conservation Commission.

4.571 The design requirements of Section 4.38, Cluster Development Design requirements, shall apply to an OSCD.

4.572 For an OSCD within the FC district, the design requirements of Section ~~3.285~~ ***3.2235*** shall apply. For an OSCD outside of the FC District, the provisions of Sections ~~3.2850, 3.2853, 3.2854, 3.2857-3.2859~~ ***3.2235, 1., 4., 5., 8., 9. and 10.*** shall apply.

Section 10.390 (Special Permit Findings)

10.390 The proposal ensures protection from flood hazards as stated in Section ~~3.228~~ ***3.2206***, considering such factors as: elevation of buildings; drainage; adequacy of sewage disposal; erosion and sedimentation control; equipment location; refuse disposal; storage of buoyant materials; extent of paving; effect of fill, roadways or other encroachments on flood runoff and flow; storage of chemicals and other hazardous substances.

Section 11.2418 (Site Plan Review Criteria/Design Guidelines, Environmental)

11.2418 Protection from flood hazards as stated in Section 3.22***06***, considering such factors as: elevation of buildings; drainage; adequacy of sewage disposal; erosion and sedimentation control; equipment location; refuse disposal; storage of buoyant material; extent of paving; effect of fill, roadways or other encroachment on floor runoff and flow; storage of chemicals and other hazardous substances.

ARTICLE 5. Petition - Zoning Amendment – Inclusionary Zoning (Maurianne Adams et al)
To see if the Town will vote to Amend Section 15.10 of the Amherst Zoning Bylaw by adding the language in ***boldface italics.***

SECTION 15.1 REGULATIONS

To ensure the purposes of this section, the following regulations shall apply to residential development in Amherst:

15.10 All residential development requiring a Special Permit ***for any aspect of a proposed use or development, including, but not limited to, dimensional modifications,*** and resulting in additional new dwelling units shall provide affordable housing units at the following minimum rates:

Total Development Unit Count	Required Affordable Unit Provision
1-9 units	None*
10-14 units	Minimum one (1) dwelling unit
15-20 units	Minimum two (2) dwelling units
21 units	Minimum 12% of total unit count

*While provision of affordable units is not required for developments containing 1-9 units under this section, the Bylaw encourages affordability and provides for incentives. See Section 4.33 and 4.55.

Where two or more units are required to be provided under this section, a minimum of forty-nine percent (49%) of affordable units shall be eligible and countable for the purpose of the Commonwealth's 40B Subsidized Housing Inventory (SHI) or its successor. Calculation of the number of total affordable units or the number of SHI-eligible units shall, if the required percent of the total results in a fraction, be rounded up to the next whole number where the fractional portion

ARTICLE 6. Petition – Certification for Fluoridation of Amherst Town Water (Muthoni C. Magua et al

According to the Board of Health, Amherst, MA gets their fluoride for drinking water fluoridation from a Chinese source. The Natural News Forensic Food Lab, a reputable independent lab, recently obtained samples from different Chinese drinking water fluoride suppliers. Upon analysis they found the presence of aluminum, arsenic, strontium, lead, uranium, and tungsten in substantial quantities[1].

This raises serious questions about the purity of the fluoride added to the Amherst town water supply. Under conditions of continued exposure these toxic elements do not simply pass through the body but instead bioaccumulate and in some cases can persist in the body for decades. No matter how much any heavy metal is diluted, it adds to each person's body, a toxic load that accumulates with every glass of water consumed, as well as being absorbed and stored when bathing. Lead, for example, has been shown to have adverse effects on the nervous, cardiovascular, and urinary systems[2]. These effects are amplified when these body systems are developing, as in the case of children.

We, the undersigned voters of the Town of Amherst, MA, herby, request that the Amherst town water department be directed to: (a) only use fluoride from distributors that certify their product is free from heavy metal contamination and (b) test each shipment from the distributor to verify their claim of purity. In the event the above conditions cannot be met, the practice of adding fluoride to the Amherst, MA water supply should be halted.

You are hereby directed to serve this call by posting attested copies thereof at the usual places:

Prec. 1	North Amherst Post Office	Prec. 6	Fort River School
Prec. 2	North Fire Station	Prec. 7	Crocker Farm School
Prec. 3	Immanuel Lutheran Church	Prec. 8	Munson Memorial Library
Prec. 4	Amherst Post Office	Prec. 9	Wildwood School
Prec. 5	Town Hall	Prec. 10	Campus Center, UMass

Hereof fail not and make return of this warrant with your doings thereon at the time and place of said meeting.

Given under our hands on this **Sixth** day of **October**, 2014.

Aaron A. Hayden
Constance E. Krueger
Andrew J. Steinberg
Select Board

October 7, 2014

Hampshire, ss.

In obedience to the within warrant, I have this day as directed posted true and attested copies thereof at the above designated places, to wit:

Thomas J. Sarna
Constable, Town of Amherst

RESULTS
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
November 5, 2014

The meeting was televised by Amherst Community Television and shown on the Government Channel.

The Special Town Meeting was called to order by the Moderator, James W. Pistrang at 7:06 p.m. There were 248 town meeting members. 125 checked in and a quorum was declared. The call and return of the warrant was read by Town Clerk, Sandra J. Burgess.

The Moderator asked Town Meeting to rise and observe a moment of silence in memory of those town meeting members who had passed away since the last town meeting. Town Meeting stood in recognition of Leeta Bailey, Robert Grose, Otto Stein, Jack Wolf, Zella Harrington, Paulette Henderson-Brooks, Gale McClung, and Tony Mushovic, Jr.

Nonny Burack, Tim Neale, David Mullins, Richard Cairn, Pamela Rooney, and Adrienne Terrizzi were sworn in as tellers.

ARTICLE 1. Reports of Boards and Committees (Select Board)
VOTED to hear those reports of Town officers, the Finance Committee, and any other Town boards or committees which are not available in written form.
Action taken 11/5/2014
(Reports were presented by Kay Moran, Chair of the Finance Committee, Richard Roznoy, Chair of the Transportation Plan Task Force, David Webber, Chair of the Planning Board, and Rob Crowner, Chair of the Planning Board Zoning Subcommittee)

ARTICLE 2. Transfer of Funds – Unpaid Bills (Finance Committee)
VOTED unanimously to DISMISS
[To see if the Town will, in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 64 of the Massachusetts General Laws, appropriate and transfer a sum of money to pay unpaid bills of previous years.]
Action taken 11/5/2014

ARTICLE 3. Free Cash (Finance Committee)
A.
VOTED unanimously to appropriate and transfer $170,073 from Free Cash in the Undesignated Fund Balance of the General Fund to the following accounts: $102,583 to the OPEB Trust Fund of the Town of Amherst; $4,206 to the Town of Pelham; and $63,284 to the Amherst-Pelham Regional School District to account for Medicare Part D reimbursements received by the Town of Amherst for prescription drug costs incurred by the Health Claims Trust Fund for Town of Amherst, Amherst-Pelham Regional School District, and Town of Pelham members.
Action taken 11/5/2014

B.
VOTED by a declared two-thirds to appropriate and transfer the sum of $1,354,023 from Free Cash in the Undesignated Fund Balance of the General Fund to the Stabilization Fund.
Action taken 11/5/2014

ARTICLE 4. Zoning Amendment – Special Districts Reorganization (Planning Board)
VOTED to refer article back to Planning Board.
[To see if the Town will amend Articles 2, 3, 4, 10 and 11, and the Table of Contents of the Zoning Bylaw, as follows:

Amend and reorganize Section 3.2, Special Districts, from Section 3.22 on, by deleting the ~~lined out~~ language, adding the language in bold italics, re-enumerating existing sections as shown (replacing existing numerals with the numerals shown), and amending the Table of Contents accordingly, as follows:

3.22 Resource Protection Districts

3.220 Flood Prone - Conservancy (FPC) District

3.2200 This section does not authorize any person to trespass, infringe upon or injure the property of another, and it does not excuse any person of the necessity of complying with other sections of this Bylaw or other applicable laws, regulations and bylaws.

The invalidity of any portion of the FPC District shall not invalidate any other portion or provision thereof.

3.2201 The purposes of this District are:

To provide that lands in the Town of Amherst subject to seasonal or periodic flooding as described hereinafter shall not be used for residences or other purposes in such a manner as to endanger the health or safety of the occupants thereof.

To protect persons and property within the Town of Amherst from the hazards of flood inundation by assuring the continuation of natural flow patterns and the maintenance of adequate and safe floodwater storage capacity.

To protect the community against pollution and costs which may be incurred when unsuitable uses occur along water courses, wetlands, ponds and reservoirs, or in areas subject to flooding.

3.2201 The FPC District shall consist of those geographical areas hereinafter delineated which by virtue of their relationship to components of the natural hydrology of the Town of Amherst, have substantial importance to the protection of life and property against the hazards of floods, erosion, and pollution, and in general are essential to the public health, safety, and welfare. Those geographical areas include flood prone areas, natural water storage areas adjacent to ponds, rivers, streams and wetlands as well as reservoirs.

The FPC District is considered to be:

All areas designated as the FPC District on the Official Zoning Map on file in the Town Clerk's Office. The FPC District is determined by the following information: Department of Interior Map of Flood Prone Areas 1969; Soils Survey, 1965; Wetlands Map, 1973; Town of Amherst base map, 1972, as revised; historical flood information; hydrologic surveys; U.S.G.S. topographic maps; and other topographic surveys.

All land within a minimum of 75 feet horizontally of the crest of the bank of the Mill River.

All land within a minimum of 50 feet horizontally of the crest of the bank of Cushman Brook, Amethyst Brook, Adams Brook, Hearthstone Brook, Swamp Brook, and Hawley Brook downstream from North East Street.

All land within a minimum of 25 feet horizontally of the crest of the bank of flowing and intermittent streams not otherwise specified in Section ~~3.2230, 3.2231, 3.2232~~ **3.2201, 1., 2., and 3.**, but designated on the Town Base Map, 1972 as revised.

3.2202 The reference documents for the FPC District shall be the Official Zoning Map and the Town of Amherst base map, dated 1972, as revised, for determining the name and location of streams and other water bodies. The Town Base Map shall be on file in the Town Clerk's office.

3.2203 Where an elevation above mean sea level (MSL) is a boundary for the FPC District, the planimetric representation of that elevation shall be determined by the most recent topographic survey of the area. The topographic survey must

be done by a registered land surveyor, or other professional approved by the Planning Board.

3.2204 If any portion of a lot falls within the FPC District, that portion may be used to meet the lot area and yard requirements for the district in which the remainder of the lot is situated.

3.2205 Where a water body may be subject to more than one of the preceding designations, the more stringent shall apply. All water bodies or wetlands encircled by an area designated above are hereby included within the FPC District. The Building Commissioner shall determine the "crest of the banks" of streams when necessary.

3.2206 In instances where the Planning Board is authorized to issue a Site Plan approval in the FPC District, the following factors shall be considered in assuring the protection from flood hazards:

Drainage
Elevation of buildings
Adequacy of sewage and refuse disposal
Control of erosion and sedimentation
Location of equipment
Storage of buoyant material
Extent of paving
Effect of fill, roadways or other encroachments on flood runoff and flow
Storage of chemicals and other hazardous substances

3.2207 In instances where the Special Permit Granting Authority issues a Special Permit in the FPC District said Authority must find that such factors as those listed in Section ~~3.228~~ **3.2206** above will not appreciably affect the water table or water quality, reduce flood storage capacity, or interfere with the natural flow and drainage pattern of the area.

3.2208 No dumping, filling, channeling, or alteration of the natural course of a water body or stream shall be permitted within the FPC District except where it is demonstrated that such use is consistent with agricultural or conservation purposes and public health and safety. Such use shall not appreciably affect the water table, reduce flood storage capacity, or interfere with the natural flow and drainage pattern of the area.

3.2209 Structures associated with the allowable uses indicated in Section 3.3, and accessory structures, shall not be located within the Flood Prone-Conservancy District without a Special Permit from the Zoning Board of Appeals.

3.221 Watershed Protection (WP) District

3.2210 General

The Watershed Protection District is an overlay district and shall be superimposed on other districts established by this Bylaw. Restrictions and prohibitions of land use in the underlying district shall remain in full force and shall not be modified by the conditions of the WP District unless superseded by the restrictions and prohibitions of the WP District.

3.2211 Establishment of District

The Watershed Protection District shall consist of those geographic areas shown by the Official Zoning Map. This District is configured to include those lands, which by virtue of their natural slope and soils, relate directly to the public water supply system, insofar as being areas where water flows overland

into the ~~recharge areas as defined by the ARP District in Section 3.25 and into the~~ Atkins Reservoir.

3.2212 Purpose

The purpose of this district is to protect the public health by preventing contamination of the surface water flowing overland into Atkins Reservoir ~~or into the aquifer of the Lawrence Swamp Basin~~.

3.2213 Restrictions and Prohibitions

The following are restricted or prohibited, as the case may be, in the WP District, except as part of normal agricultural operations.

The release upon or within any land or water in the WP District of any hazardous materials is prohibited, except otherwise provided in Section 3.24.

Industrial or commercial uses which involve, as their primary business activity, hazardous material in amounts exceeding the minimum threshold amount requiring compliance with the Mass. Dept. of Environmental **Protection** ~~Quality Engineering~~ Hazardous Waste Regulations, 310 CMR 30, as amended, are prohibited.

Commercial uses which involve, as their primary business activity, hazardous materials, including but not limited to, truck or bus terminals, car washes, gasoline sales, motor vehicle service and repair shops, fuel oil storage and sales, and wood preserving, stripping and refinishing operations are prohibited.

The use of septic system chemical cleaners which contain hazardous materials, including but not limited to methylene chloride and 1-1-1 trichlorethane is prohibited.

Underground storage and/or transmission of oil or other petroleum products not in a containment structure approved by the Permit Granting Board, except for liquified petroleum gases and gasoline which shall require a Special Permit in accordance with Section ~~3.244~~ **3.2213, 7.**, is prohibited.

Industrial or commercial storage of sodium chloride and other de-icing materials, pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers, and other hazardous lawn and garden chemicals is prohibited.

Sodium chloride, if used for ice control, shall be used at the minimum level consistent with public highway safety standards. The base ratio shall be 1 part salt to 10 parts sand, with higher levels of salt used only where necessary to maintain public safety.

Calcium chloride, chemically treated abrasives and other alternative de-icing materials shall be used to the maximum extent feasible for winter road maintenance. Municipal storage of all such snow and ice chemicals shall occur on a paved surface, with berms, within a covered structure designed to prevent the generation and escape of contamination run-off or leachate.

The outdoor storage of de-icing materials or pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers, and other hazardous lawn and garden chemicals for home use is prohibited.

Industrial or commercial uses which involve the storage, use or presence of any oil, petrochemical product, pesticide, herbicide, fertilizer, or other

hazardous leachable materials on any site within the WP District shall require a Special Permit from the Zoning Board of Appeals. A Special Permit shall be issued only upon a specific finding that the hazardous material(s) will be transported, stored, used and disposed of in a manner that will not constitute a threat to ~~the Lawrence Swamp Aquifer or~~ the Atkins Reservoir.

Pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers and other leachable lawn and garden chemicals shall be used in accordance with **the applicable** ~~Lawn Care R~~ **r**egulations of the Massachusetts Pesticide Board, 333 CMR ~~10.03 (30, 31)~~, as amended.

Runoff water shall not be diverted from land in this district into another watershed basin.

Any uses of land or related activities specifically restricted or prohibited under 310 CMR 22, including 310 CMR 22. 20A-20G and 22.21, as amended, and all such Amherst Board of Health regulations as may apply.

3.2214 Special Permits/Site Plan Review

For all uses which require either a Special Permit or Site Plan Review in accordance with Section 3.3, and that are located in the WP District, the following information shall be required as part of the application submission:

A site plan which shall show, at a minimum:

Drainage plans, showing location of drainage facilities and direction in which surface water is to be drained

Erosion and sedimentation control measures

Measures to prevent contamination of surface drainage from any potential on-site pollutants

In addition, for any commercial or industrial use involving hazardous materials, a written operating plan shall be filed which shall include physical and management provisions for:

Protecting hazardous materials from vandalism

Prevention of corrosion of containers or piping and subsequent leakage of hazardous materials

Indoor storage of all hazardous materials

Storage area features such as impervious floor surfaces with no interior drains

Measures to prevent hazardous material spills during transport, transfer or use

Notification, containment and clean-up in the event of hazardous materials spills

Evidence of insurance, bonding or other financial security adequate to cover the cost containment and clean-up of any hazardous material spills

The availability and feasibility of proposed disposal methods

Safe storage, transfer, and disposal of accumulated hazardous waste materials

The operating plan shall identify all chemicals, pesticides, fuels and other hazardous materials and estimates of the amounts of such materials to be used each month for the first two years of operation. Following approval of a permit, records shall thereafter be retained showing the actual amounts used each month.

Uses permitted by either a Special Permit or Site Plan Review shall submit two (2) copies of an annual report containing actual data for each month and describing any changes in the operation or physical conditions on the premises. The annual report shall also describe any changes in operations or conditions expected or proposed for the upcoming year. One copy of the annual report shall be forwarded to the Board of Health. Annual reports shall be due on the anniversary of the granting of the approval, or within fourteen (14) working days of that date.

The applicant shall file ~~six (6)~~ **the required number of** copies of the proposed operating plan with the ~~Zoning Board of Appeals (Special Permit)/ Planning Board (Site Plan Review)~~ **Permit Granting Board or Special Permit Granting Authority**. Copies shall be transmitted, within 7 days, to the ZBA/Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Board of Health, and Building Commissioner, for their review and recommendations.

The ~~Zoning Board of Appeals and Planning Board~~ **Permit Granting Board or Special Permit Granting Authority** may require reasonable additional information it finds necessary for adequate assessment of the proposed use.

The **Permit Granting Board or Special Permit Granting Authority shall make the** following findings ~~shall be made~~ for any approvals granted:

The ~~permit granting board shall find that the~~ proposal either is in harmony or is not in harmony with the purposes and intent of this section and must specify reasons therefore.

The ~~permit granting board shall find that the~~ proposed use provides for adequate sewage disposal and water service systems.

The ~~permit granting board shall find that the~~ proposed use will not have an adverse environmental impact on any watershed, watercourse or waterbody in the WP District during construction.

The ~~permit granting board shall find that the~~ proposed use will not adversely affect the quality and quantity of water in the ~~Lawrence Swamp Basin or the~~ Atkins Reservoir.

3.2215 Exemptions

In any instance where a property owner disputes the inclusion of their property in the WP District, the owner may engage a professional hydrogeologist, or engineer or geologist with experience in hydrogeology to determine if that property should be included in the WP District, based on the definition of and purposes of the district and on the characteristics of the property. Based on this determination, the property owner may apply to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a Special Permit for any use that would otherwise be permitted in the un-

derlying zoning district but which is prohibited or constrained by the restrictions of the WP District. The Board shall find, based on Sections ~~3.241~~ **3.2211** and ~~3.242~~ **3.2212**, that the property either is or is not exempt from the provisions of Section ~~3.24~~ **3.221** and may, therefore, issue a Special Permit.

~~Residential Development~~

~~For all parcels of land which are located in that area of the WP Overlay District which is associated with the Lawrence Swamp Aquifer, the following requirements shall be met:~~

~~Residential subdivisions requiring approval under M.G.L. Ch. 41, the Subdivision Control Law, shall be laid out as cluster developments in accordance with Section 4.3 of the Zoning Bylaw.~~

Aquifer Recharge Protection (ARP) District

3.2220 General

The Aquifer Recharge Protection (ARP) District is an overlay district and shall be superimposed on other districts established by this Bylaw. Restrictions and prohibitions of land use in the underlying district shall remain in full force, and shall not be modified by the conditions of the ARP District unless superseded by the restrictions and prohibitions of the ARP District.

3.2221 Establishment of District

The Aquifer Recharge Protection (ARP) District shall consist of those geographic areas shown on the Official Zoning Map. This District is configured to include all those lands which by virtue of their natural slope, soils, subsurficial geology and water tables relate directly to the recharge of groundwater into the large aquifer located in the Lawrence Swamp basin consisting of the Zones I, II and III aquifer recharge areas for the Town of Amherst's public wells.

3.2222 Purpose

The purpose of this district is to protect the public health by preventing contamination of the ground and surface water flowing into the aquifer of the Lawrence Swamp Basin, which is the major water supply for the Town.

3.2223 Prohibitions

The following uses are prohibited in the ARP District, except as part of normal agricultural operations.

Business and industrial uses, including but not limited to metal plating, chemical manufacturing, wood preserving, furniture stripping, dry cleaning and auto body repair, which generate, treat, process, store or dispose of hazardous waste, except for the following:

Very small quantity generators of hazardous waste, as defined by 310 CMR 30.00, as amended, may be allowed by the Special Permit Granting Authority in accordance with Section ~~3.250~~ **3.2220** of this bylaw;

Household hazardous waste collection centers or events operated pursuant to 310 CMR 30.390, as amended;

Waste oil retention facilities required by M.G.L. Ch. 21, Sec. 52A, as amended, and;

Treatment works approved by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection and designed in accordance with 314 CMR 5.00, as amended, for the treatment of contaminated ground or surface waters.

2. Industrial or commercial uses which dispose of process waste waters on site.

3. Truck or bus terminals, car washes, gasoline sales, motor vehicle service and repair shops, commercial fuel oil storage and sales, solid waste landfills, dumps, auto recycling, auto graveyards, junk and salvage yards, landfilling or storage of sludge and septage, with the exception of the disposal of brush or stumps.

4. Underground storage of liquid petroleum products, except for the following:

Storage for normal household use, outdoor maintenance, and heating of a structure;

Waste oil facilities required by statute, rule or regulation;

Emergency generators required by statute, rule or regulation;

Treatment works approved under 315 CMR 5.00 for treatment of ground or surface waters;

Underground storage tanks for gasoline which existed at the time of adoption of this bylaw may be replaced, provided that any such replacement tank is of no greater volume, and shall be provided with a secondary containment system in compliance with the Massachusetts Fire Safety Code (527 CMR); provided that such storage, listed in items a. through e. above, is in free standing containers within buildings or above ground and in either case is provided with secondary containment facilities, impermeable and capable of holding a spill equal to 1.5 times the total volume of the primary container. The replacement of any underground storage tanks for heating oil which existed at the time of adoption of this bylaw shall meet the requirements of the Board of Health.

The outdoor storage of salt, de-icing materials, pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers and other hazardous lawn and garden chemicals for home use is also prohibited.

Dumping or disposal on the ground, in water bodies, or in residential septic systems of any toxic chemical including but not limited to septic system chemical cleaners which contain toxic chemicals such as methylene chloride and 1-1-1 trichlorethane, or other household hazardous waste.

Stockpiling and disposal of snow or ice removed from highways or streets located outside the ARP District that contains sodium chloride, calcium chloride, chemically treated abrasives or other chemicals used for snow and ice removal.

Wastewater treatment plants or works subject to a groundwater discharge permit under 310 CMR 5.00, except for the following:

The replacement or repair of an existing system that will not result in any increase in the design capacity of said system;

The replacement of an existing subsurface sewage disposal system with wastewater treatment works that will not result in any increase over the design capacity of the existing system, and;

Treatment works designed for the treatment of contaminated ground or surface waters subject to 314 CMR 5.00, as amended.

Industrial or commercial storage of sodium chloride and other de-icing materials, pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers, and other hazardous lawn and garden chemicals is prohibited.

Excavation of earth, sand, gravel and other soils or geologic materials shall not extend closer than ten (10) feet above the long-term (20 year) average annual high water table on the site, except to provide for structural foundations, utility conduits and public works. This prohibition also shall not apply to the installation or maintenance of on-site septic systems.

3.2224 Restricted Uses

The following uses are restricted in the ARP District:

Sodium chloride, if used for ice control, shall be used at the minimum level consistent with public highway safety standards. The base ratio shall be 1 part salt to 10 parts sand, with higher levels of salt used only where necessary to maintain public safety. Calcium chloride, chemically treated abrasives and other alternative de-icing materials shall be used to the maximum extent feasible for winter road maintenance. Municipal storage of all such snow and ice control chemicals shall occur on a paved surface, with berms, within a covered structure designed to prevent the generation and escape of contamination run-off or leachate.

Fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides and other leachable lawn and garden chemicals shall be used in accordance with the **applicable** ~~Lawn Care R~~ **r**egulations of the Massachusetts Pesticide Board, 333 CMR ~~10.03 (30,31)~~, as amended, with manufacturer's label instructions, and all other necessary precautions to minimize adverse impacts on surface and groundwater.

Industrial or commercial uses which involve the storage, use or presence of any oil, petrochemical product, pesticide, herbicide, fertilizer, or other hazardous leachable materials on any site within the ARP District, shall require a Special Permit from the Zoning Board of Appeals. A Special Permit shall be issued only upon a specific finding that the hazardous material(s) will be transported, stored, used and disposed of in a manner that will not constitute a threat to the Lawrence Swamp Aquifer. Any facility for the storage of such materials shall have secondary containment and shall be covered.

3.2225 Drainage

To the extent possible, runoff from impervious surfaces shall be recharged on the site by being diverted to areas covered with vegetation for surface infiltration. No more than 15% of the net runoff from a lot, calculated after development, may be diverted out of the ARP District. All detention or retention basins, ponds and similar drainage structures shall be permanently maintained in full working order by the property owner, unless otherwise specified by the permit granting authority.

The rendering impervious of more than 15% of the lot area or 2,500 square feet, whichever is greater, is permitted under a Special Permit, provided

that a system for artificial recharge of precipitation to groundwater is developed which the Special Permit Granting Authority finds adequately protects against the degradation of groundwater quality. For non-residential uses, recharge shall be storm water infiltration basins or similar systems covered with natural vegetation. Dry wells shall be used only when other methods are infeasible. For all non-residential uses, all such basins and wells shall be preceded by oil, grease and sediments traps to facilitate removal of contamination. Any and all recharge areas, basins, wells and traps shall be permanently maintained in full working order by the property owner.

3.2226 Split Zoning

For any lot that is divided by the ARP District boundary, whose frontage is not located in the ARP District and for which a proposed use (allowed by the underlying zoning district) is restricted by either the location of the District boundary or the dimensional requirements of the ARP District, an owner may apply to the Zoning Board of Appeals, for a Special Permit for a waiver of the restrictions or dimensional requirements of the ARP District provided the Board makes the findings required in Section ~~3.2585~~ **3.2228, 6**.

3.2227 Dimensional Regulations

Lot Coverage

Maximum lot coverage for residentially zoned land--15%
Maximum lot coverage for PRP zoned land--50%

Building Coverage

Maximum building coverage for residentially zoned land--10%
Maximum building coverage for PRP zoned land--25%

3.2228 Special Permits/Site Plan Review in the ARP District

For all uses which require either a Special Permit or Site Plan Review in accordance with Section 3.3, the following shall be required as part of the application submission:

A site plan which shall show, at a minimum:

Drainage recharge features and provisions to prevent loss of recharge.

Erosion and sedimentation control measures.

c. Provisions to prevent soil compaction.

Measures to prevent contamination from petroleum products or hazardous chemicals.

e. Provisions to prevent seepage from sewage disposal systems.

a. In addition, for any commercial or industrial use involving hazardous materials, a written operating plan shall be filed which shall include physical and management provisions for:

Protecting hazardous materials from vandalism.

Prevention of corrosion of containers or piping and subsequent leakage of hazardous materials.

Indoor storage of all hazardous materials.

Storage area features such as impervious floor surfaces with no interior drains.

Measures to prevent hazardous materials spills during transport, transfer or use.

Notification, containment and clean-up in the event of hazardous materials spills.

Evidence of insurance, bonding, or other financial security adequate to cover the cost of containment and clean-up of hazardous materials spills.

The availability and feasibility of proposed disposal methods.

Safe storage, transfer, and disposal of accumulated hazardous waste materials.

b. The operating plan shall identify completely all chemicals, pesticides, fuels and other hazardous materials and estimates of the amounts of such materials to be used each month for the first two years of operation. Following approval of a permit, records shall thereafter be retained showing the actual amounts used each month.

Uses permitted by either a Special Permit or Site Plan Review shall submit two (2) copies of an annual report containing actual data for each month and describing any changes in the operation or physical conditions on the premises.

The annual report shall also describe any changes in operations or conditions expected or proposed for the upcoming year. One copy of the annual report shall be forwarded to the Board of Health. Annual reports shall be due on the anniversary of the granting of the approval, or within fourteen (14) working days of that date.

The applicant shall file ~~six (6)~~ **the required number of** copies of the proposed operating plan with the ~~Zoning Board of Appeals (Special Permit)/ Planning Board (Site Plan Review)~~ **Permit Granting Board or Special Permit Granting Authority**. Copies will be transmitted, within 7 days, to the ZBA/Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Aquifer Protection Committee, Department of Public Works, Board of Health, and Building Commissioner, for their review and recommendations.

The ~~Zoning Board of Appeals and Planning Board~~ **Permit Granting Board or Special Permit Granting Authority** may require such additional information as they find necessary for adequate assessment of the proposed use~~. The Zoning Board of Appeals and Planning Board~~ **and** may, consistent with their regulations adopted pursuant to M.G.L. Ch. 44, **Section** 53G, employ outside consultants, including, but not limited to hydrogeologists, in the review of the proposed use.

The **Permit Granting Board or Special Permit Granting Authority shall make** following findings ~~shall be made~~ for any approvals granted:

The ~~permit granting board shall find that the~~ proposal either is in harmony or is not in harmony with the purposes and intent of this section and must specify reasons therefore.

The ~~permit granting board shall find that the~~ proposed use provides for adequate sewage disposal and water service systems.

The ~~permit granting board shall find that the~~ proposed use will not have an adverse environmental impact on any watershed, watercourse or waterbody in the ARP District during construction.

The ~~permit granting board shall find that the~~ proposed use will not adversely affect the quality and quantity of water in the Lawrence Swamp basin.

3.2229 Exemptions & Residential Development

Exemptions

In any instance where a property owner disputes the inclusion of their property in the ARP District, the owner may engage a professional hydrogeologist or groundwater engineer to determine if that property should be included in the ARP District based on the definition and purposes of the district and on the characteristics of the property.

Based on this determination, the property owner may apply to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a Special Permit for any use that would otherwise be permitted in the underlying zoning district but which is prohibited or constrained by the restrictions in the ARP District. Sections ~~3.2583~~ **3.2228, 4.**, and ~~3.2584~~ **3.2228, 5.** of this bylaw shall apply to all applications for exemption under this section. The Board shall find, based on Sections ~~3.251~~ **3.2221** and ~~3.252~~ **3.2222**, that the property either is or is not exempt from the provisions of Section ~~3.25~~ **3.222** and may therefore issue a Special Permit.

Residential Development

For all parcels of land which are located in both the ARP District and the Low Density Residence District (R-LD), the following requirements shall be met:

Residential subdivisions requiring approval under M.G.L. Ch. 41, The Subdivision Control Law, shall be laid out as cluster developments in accordance with Section 4.3 of the Zoning Bylaw.

Farmland Conservation (FC) District

3.2230 General

The Farmland Conservation District is an overlay district and shall be superimposed on other districts established by this Bylaw. Restrictions and prohibitions of land use in the underlying districts shall remain in full force and shall not be modified by the conditions of the FC District unless superseded by the restrictions and conditions of the FC District.

3.2231 Establishment of District

The Farmland Conservation District shall consist of those geographic areas shown as FC District on the Official Zoning Map. This District is configured to include those lands which, by virtue of their soils, acreage, location adjacent to and contiguous with other farmland forming discrete blocks, and lack of protection under existing zoning, comprise the critical farmland areas of the Town of Amherst.

3.2232 Purpose

The purposes of the Farmland Conservation District are to:

Promote and protect the practice and continued economic viability of farming through conservation of those lands on which farming is most viable while allowing development of other portions of farm properties for residential and other non-farming use;

Maintain an adequate base of agricultural land and activity in Amherst to help ensure the continued economic viability of local farming and thereby contribute to the continued availability of agricultural support services;

Preserve the continued economic value of land for farmers and farmland owners by retaining portions of farm properties as developable for residential and other non-farm purposes, thereby supporting the continued economic viability of individual farms and farming in Amherst;

Preserve the culture and landscape of farming, which help define the character of Amherst

3.2233 Residential Development

Residential subdivisions requiring approval under M.G.L., Ch. 41, Subdivision Control Law, shall be laid out as cluster developments in accordance with the provisions of this section and Section 4.3, Cluster Development, or as open space community developments in accordance with Section 4.5, Open Space Community Development (OSCD), of the Zoning Bylaw.

Cluster developments in the FC District shall conform to the provisions of Sections ~~3.284~~ **3.2234** and ~~3.285~~ **3.2235** of this bylaw.

For flag lots with frontage located outside the FC District and a majority of lot area within the FC District, the lot area requirements for these lots are as follows:

Minimum lot area 20,000 sq. ft.
Maximum lot area 30,000 sq. ft.

All other dimensional requirements for these lots shall be the same as those specified in Table 3 for Cluster Development flag lots in the R-N District.

3.2234 Standards for ~~Planning Board~~ Site Plan Review (SPR)

The ~~Planning Board~~ **Permit Granting Board** shall grant Site Plan Review (SPR) Approval for a cluster development in the FC District provided it finds that**,** in addition to meeting the provisions of Section 11.2 and 11.3 of the Zoning Bylaw, the proposed use conforms to the provisions of Section ~~3.285~~ **3.2235**, Farmland Conservation Development Standards and Section 4.38, Cluster Development Design Standards, of this Bylaw.

3.2235 Farmland Conservation Development Standards

To the maximum practical extent, all buildings and roads shall be located on that portion of the site with soils least suitable for the production of crops or livestock. This provision shall not apply to the location of on-site septic

disposal facilities, which must be placed in soils meeting the Massachusetts Environmental Code.

To assist the ~~p~~ **P**ermit ~~g~~ **G**ranting ~~b~~ **B**oard **or Special Permit Granting Authority** in making its determination, copies of the application and site plan shall be transmitted to the ~~Farm Committee~~ **Agricultural Commission**, which shall have thirty-five (35) days to report its findings. Upon notification by the ~~p~~ **P**ermit ~~g~~ **G**ranting ~~b~~ **B**oard **or Special Permit Granting Authority**, the ~~Farm Committee~~ **Agricultural Commission** shall assemble an expert panel consisting of professional agronomists, soils scientists and other qualified professionals to evaluate and report on the suitability of soils, including but not limited to the historical uses thereof, and the overall agricultural viability of the farm property, consistent with the purposes of the bylaw. Failure to report in the allotted time shall constitute approval by the ~~Farm Committee~~ **Agricultural Commission**. The ~~p~~ **P**ermit ~~g~~ **G**ranting ~~b~~ **B**oard **or Special Permit Granting Authority** may grant at least one extension of this time period in response to a written request from the ~~Farm Committee~~ **Agricultural Commission** for such an extension based on a need for additional time resulting from parcel size, project complexity, time of year, or other factors.

The ~~p~~ **P**ermit ~~g~~ **G**ranting ~~b~~ **B**oard **or Special Permit Granting Authority** may, consistent with its regulations adopted pursuant to M.G.L., Ch. 44, **Section** 53G, engage the service of independent professional agronomists, soils scientists, or other qualified consultants at the cost of the applicant, to assist in evaluating a site or project.

Individual or multi-unit community septic systems may be allowed in cluster developments in the FC District where public sanitary service is not reasonably available, subject to Board of Health approval, conditions and restrictions.

Within the common land provided in the Cluster Development, a maximum of 5,000 square feet per dwelling unit shall be set aside as usable open space for active and passive recreation.

Upon request of the applicant, the ~~Planning Board~~ **Permit Granting Board or Special Permit Granting Authority** may waive **or modify** this maximum, where such a change would be consistent with the purposes of this Bylaw. In making ~~their~~ **its** decision, the ~~Planning~~ Board **or Authority** shall consider whether the maximum feasible amount of common land has been set aside as permanently preserved farmland, while maintaining adequate amounts of usable open space for active and passive recreation for the Cluster Development.

Common land set aside as permanently preserved open farmland shall have appropriate contiguous acreage, configuration and access to enable continued viable farmland operations.

All roadways, drainage systems and utilities shall be laid out in a manner so as to have the least possible impact on adjacent or on-site agricultural lands or uses.

No building containing dwelling units shall intrude into a minimum 150 foot buffer strip separating residential uses from adjacent or on-site farmland. Said buffer strip may include private property and Common Land. The ~~p~~ **P**ermit ~~g~~ **G**ranting ~~b~~ **B**oard or **Special Permit Granting A**~~a~~uthority**, as applicable,** may reduce this distance requirement where screening, substantial vegetation, land contour or other features of the site are

deemed to provide sufficient buffering, and where such a change is consistent with the purposes of this Bylaw. An exception to this distance requirement shall be permitted for no more than one (1) dwelling unit associated with the management and operation of agricultural uses of the farmland. Said dwelling unit shall be included in the maximum number of lots provided for under Section 4.327.

The ~~p~~ **P**ermit ~~g~~ **G**ranting ~~b~~ **B**oard or **Special Permit Granting A~~a~~**uthority**, as applicable,** may approve the use of portions of the 150 foot buffer strip between the residential and farmland portions of a cluster development as usable open space for the recreational use of cluster development residents, provided the board or authority determines such use will not impact adversely on adjacent farming activity and is consistent with Section 4.31 of the Zoning Bylaw.

Every reasonable effort shall be made to maintain views of open agricultural lands from nearby public ways.

Each dwelling unit and structure shall be integrated into the existing landscape through use of building placement, landform treatment and screening.

Applicants are encouraged to site dwelling units and other structures:

Within any woodland contained on the parcel;

Into woodlands along the edges of fields;

In locations where new construction can be visually screened or absorbed into natural vegetative or topographic features;

In locations where the greatest number of units can take advantage of solar heating, summer breezes, vegetative wind screens, and other climatic site characteristics that can be utilized through siting and design.

3.23 Residential Special Districts

3.230 Planned Unit Residential Development (PURD) District.

~~This~~ **The PURD D**istrict is an overlay district and shall be superimposed on the other districts as indicated in Table 2 Development Methods in this Bylaw. See Section 4.4, Planned Unit Residential Development.

3.24 Business Special Districts

3.240 Municipal Parking **(MP)** District

See Section 7.4 of this Bylaw for Purpose and Requirements.

3.241 Research & Development (RD) District

3.2410 General

The Research & Development (R&D) District is an overlay district and shall be superimposed on other districts established by this Bylaw. Restrictions and prohibitions of land use in the underlying districts shall remain in full force and shall not be modified by the conditions of the R&D District unless superseded by the restrictions and conditions of the R&D District.

3.2411 Establishment of District

The Research & Development (R&D) District shall consist of those geographic areas shown as R&D District on the Official Zoning Map. This District is configured to include those lands which, by virtue of their location with respect to institutions of higher learning, transportation corridors, utilities, village centers, services, and other factors, are appropriate for the siting of research, development, and testing businesses.

3.2412 Purpose

The purposes of the Research & Development (R&D) District are to:

1. Facilitate and promote the establishment, development, and expansion of information-and technology-intensive research and development businesses in Amherst.

2. Provide opportunities for the establishment of research and development businesses, including but not limited to those derived from or associated with the research and testing activities of departments or agencies of the University of Massachusetts, Amherst College, and Hampshire College.

3. Require that any research and development businesses established in Amherst are located, designed, and operated in conformance with all federal, state and local regulations regarding public health and safety.

4. Expand employment opportunities for Amherst residents in the fields of research and development.

5. Broaden and diversify the community's property tax base.

3.2413 Permit Required

Within the R&D District, any uses under Sections 3.372.0 and 3.372.1 directly involved or associated with research, development and testing activities, including any associated accessory light manufacturing which would otherwise be regulated in the underlying zoning district under a Special Permit (SP) by the Zoning Board of Appeals shall instead be regulated under Site Plan Review (SPR) approval by the Planning Board. An exception shall be any accessory research or testing to be conducted outdoors, which shall require a Special Permit granted by the Special

Permit Granting Authority authorized to act under the applicable section of the Bylaw.

3.2414 Review Period

Notwithstanding the provisions of Sections 10.323 and 11.230, within the R&D District, the Fire Chief, Building Commissioner, Board of Health, Town Engineer, and Conservation Department shall have forty-five (45) days to report their findings on any application made under Sections 3.372.0 and 3.372.1 which involves the use, production or storage of materials identified as flammable, toxic, hazardous or explosive.

Amend Articles 2, 3, 4, 10 and 11, by re-numbering all references to subsections of Section 3.22 that are located in existing sections elsewhere in the Bylaw, by deleting the ~~lined out~~ language and adding the language in bold italics, as follows:

Section 2.25

2.25 For boundary interpretations in the Flood Prone Conservancy district, see also Section 3.22~~3~~**01**, 3.22~~4~~**02** [Note: the number 4 is lined out], 3.22~~5~~**03**, and 3.22~~7~~**05** of this Bylaw.

Section 3.11

3.11 Building Near Ponds

No permanent structure shall be located within 100 feet of any pond or Surface Water Impoundment of flood retention area without a Special Permit from the Zoning Board of Appeals permitting such structure within 100 feet. Such Permit shall not be issued unless the Zoning Board of Appeals takes into consideration the following in addition to the findings required by Section 3.22**0**, if applicable, and by Article 10.

Section 4.360 (Cluster Review and Approval Process)

4.360 Approval shall be by Site Plan Review by the Planning Board, in accordance with the standards set forth in Section 11.2 and 11.3, with the purposes of Cluster Development as set forth in Sections ~~3.28~~ **3.223** and 4.31, as applicable, and with the design requirements of Section ~~3.285~~ **3.2235** and 4.38, as applicable.

Section 4.536 (OSCD farm buffer zone)

4.536 A buffer zone of private property, common land and/or usable open space for active or passive recreation shall be provided along any edge of the residential portion of an OSCD that abuts adjacent or on-site farmland, in accordance with Section~~s 3.2855 and 3.2856~~ **3.2235, 6. and 7.**

Section 4.57

4.57 Open Space Community Development (OSCD) Design Requirements

4.570 Within an Open Space Community Development (OSCD), a minimum of 2,000 square feet per dwelling unit shall be usable open space for active and passive recreation. Usable open space shall be defined to include contiguous open space developed and available for play areas, tot lots, gardens, off-road trails (including but not limited to hiking, jogging, bridle and bicycle trails, as well as those paths and easements which provide access or connection to such trails, regardless of location), ball or playing fields, basketball or tennis courts or similar facilities as are appropriate to the needs of the development. Usable open space shall not include parking areas, roadways, sidewalks or land within wetlands as determined by the Conservation Commission (except as hereinafter provided). Up to 40 percent of total usable open space may be located in an FPC District and/or wetlands, as appropriate to the intended recreation use(s), in accordance with the provisions of Section 3.22**0**, and as permitted by the Conservation Commission.

4.571 The design requirements of Section 4.38, Cluster Development Design requirements, shall apply to an OSCD.

4.572 For an OSCD within the FC district, the design requirements of Section ~~3.285~~ **3.2235** shall apply. For an OSCD outside of the FC District, the provisions of Sections ~~3.2850, 3.2853, 3.2854, 3.2857-3.2859~~ **3.2235, 1., 4., 5., 8., 9. and 10.** shall apply.

Section 10.390 (Special Permit Findings)

10.390 The proposal ensures protection from flood hazards as stated in Section ~~3.228~~ **3.2206**, considering such factors as: elevation of buildings; drainage; adequacy of sewage disposal; erosion and sedimentation control; equipment location; refuse disposal; storage of buoyant materials; extent of paving; effect of fill, roadways or other encroachments on flood runoff and flow; storage of chemicals and other hazardous substances.

Section 11.2418 (Site Plan Review Criteria/Design Guidelines, Environmental)

11.2418 Protection from flood hazards as stated in Section 3.22**06**, considering such

factors as: elevation of buildings; drainage; adequacy of sewage disposal; erosion and sedimentation control; equipment location; refuse disposal; storage of buoyant material; extent of paving; effect of fill, roadways or other encroachment on floor runoff and flow; storage of chemicals and other hazardous substances.

Action taken 11/5/2014

ARTICLE 5. Petition – Zoning Amendment – Inclusionary Zoning (Maurianne Adams et al)
DEFEATED Yes 110, No 79

To see if the Town will vote to Amend Section 15.10 of the Amherst Zoning Bylaw by adding the language in ***boldface italics.***

SECTION 15.1 REGULATIONS

To ensure the purposes of this section, the following regulations shall apply to residential development in Amherst:

> 15.10 All residential development requiring a Special Permit ***for any aspect of a proposed use or development, including, but not limited to, dimensional modifications,*** and resulting in additional new dwelling units shall provide affordable housing units at the following minimum rates:

Total Development Unit Count	Required Affordable Unit Provision
1-9 units	None*
10-14 units	Minimum one (1) dwelling unit
15-20 units	Minimum two (2) dwelling units
21 units	Minimum 12% of total unit count

*While provision of affordable units is not required for developments containing 1-9 units under this section, the Bylaw encourages affordability and provides for incentives. See Section 4.33 and 4.55.

Where two or more units are required to be provided under this section, a minimum of forty-nine percent (49%) of affordable units shall be eligible and countable for the purpose of the Commonwealth's 40B Subsidized Housing Inventory (SHI) or its successor. Calculation of the number of total affordable units or the number of SHI-eligible units shall, if the required percent of the total results in a fraction, be rounded up to the next whole number where the fractional portion is less than 0.5.]

Action taken 11/5/2014.

(A motion to refer to the Planning Board for further study was defeated, Yes 83, No 107)

ARTICLE 6. Petition – Certification for Fluoridation of Amherst Town Water (Muthoni C. Magua et al)

DEFEATED

[That the town meeting request that the Select Board, in their role as the Water Commissioners for the Town, direct the Town Manager to arrange for testing of every shipment of fluoride obtained from whichever supplier utilized, China or otherwise, and provide certified documentation that shall be supplied to the Board of Health, the Department of Public Works, and the public that: The product is free from toxic heavy metals, by which is meant the undiluted fluoride powder is tested by an independent EPA certified U.S. based laboratory using Inductively Coupled Plasma-Mass Spectrometry (ICP-MS) instrumentation with part per trillion resolution and found to contain no more than 1 part per billion for each of the following: lead, arsenic, aluminum, strontium, tungsten, mercury, and uranium. The detailed reporting of such will be posted on the Department of Public Works website, as soon as the test results become available and no later than January 15, 2015.]

Action taken 11/5/2014

The business of the warrant having been completed, the meeting voted to dissolve at 10:51 p.m. on November 5, 2014. 197 town meeting members were checked in.

Attest:
Sandra J. Burgess
Town Clerk

WARRANT
ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION
MARCH 31, 2015

Hampshire, ss.

To one of the Constables of the Town of Amherst

Greetings:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Amherst who are qualified to vote in Elections to vote at:

Prec. 1	North Zion Church Hall	Prec. 6	Fort River School
Prec. 2	North Fire Station	Prec. 7	Crocker Farm School
Prec. 3	Immanuel Lutheran Church	Prec. 8	Munson Memorial Library
Prec. 4	Large Activity Room, Bangs Community Center	Prec. 9	Wildwood School
Prec. 5	Large Activity Room, Bangs Community Center	Prec. 10	Glass Room, Bangs Community Center

on **Tuesday, the 31st day of March 2015,** from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. for the following purpose: To cast their votes in the Annual Town Election for the candidates for the following offices:

Moderator, one for one year; Select Board, one for three years; School Committee, two for three years; Elector, Oliver Smith Will, one for one year; Jones Library Trustee, two for three years; Housing Authority, one for five years; Town Meeting Members: Precinct 1, eight for three years; Precinct 1, two for two years; Precinct 2, eight for three years; Precinct 2, one for one year; Precinct 3, eight for three years; Precinct 3, two for two years; Precinct 3, four for one year; Precinct 4, eight for three years; Precinct 4, one for one year; Precinct 5, eight for three years; Precinct 5, two for two years; Precinct 5, two for one year; Precinct 6, eight for three years; Precinct 6, one for one year; Precinct 7, eight for three years; Precinct 8, eight for three years; Precinct 9, eight for three years; Precinct 9, one for one year; Precinct 10, eight for three years; Precinct 10, one for one year.

The polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Hereof fail not and make return of this warrant with your doings thereon at the time and place of said voting.

Given under our hands this 23rd day of February, 2015.

Aaron A. Hayden
Constance E. Kruger
Alisa V. Brewer
James J. Wald
Andrew J. Steinberg
Select Board

February 26, 2015

Hampshire, ss.

In obedience to the within Warrant, I have this day as directed posted true and attested copies thereof at the following designated places, to wit:

Prec. 1	North Amherst Post Office	Prec. 6	Fort River School
Prec. 2	North Fire Station	Prec. 7	Crocker Farm School
Prec. 3	Immanuel Lutheran Church	Prec. 8	Munson Memorial Library
Prec. 4	Amherst Post Office	Prec. 9	Wildwood School
Prec. 5	Town Hall	Prec. 10	Campus Center, UMass

Thomas J. Sarna
Constable

RESULTS
ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION
March 31, 2015

In accordance with the Warrant, the polls were opened at 7:00 a.m. and closed at 8:00 p.m. The voters cast their ballots in their respective precincts. The results were as follows:

MODERATOR	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	**TOTAL**
James Pistrang	69	141	48	45	98	148	163	183	141	78	**1114**
All Others	3	0	0	1	1	1	1	3	1	1	**12**
Blank	40	36	9	15	37	48	41	60	35	25	**346**
TOTAL	**112**	**177**	**57**	**61**	**136**	**197**	**205**	**246**	**177**	**104**	**1472**
SELECT BOARD											
Douglas Wesley Slaughter	66	126	46	37	88	137	151	165	106	69	**991**
All Others	3	0	0	0	4	0	2	5	1	0	**15**
Blank	43	51	11	24	44	60	52	76	70	35	**466**
TOTAL	**112**	**177**	**57**	**61**	**136**	**197**	**205**	**246**	**177**	**104**	**1472**
SCHOOL COMMITTEE											
Viraphanh Douangmany	85	97	31	38	99	133	136	125	95	79	**918**
Phoebe F. Hazzard	55	123	49	47	67	120	135	178	116	58	**948**
Victor A. Nunez Ortiz*	35	32	5	6	28	41	23	31	33	25	**259**
Lawrence E. O'Brien*	4	7	7	7	2	4	18	33	24	3	**109**
All Others	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	**3**
Blank	45	95	22	23	76	96	97	124	86	43	**707**
TOTAL	**224**	**354**	**114**	**122**	**272**	**394**	**410**	**492**	**354**	**208**	**2944**
JONES LIBRARY TRUSTEE											
Austin D. Sarat	73	127	42	43	99	143	149	177	117	75	**1045**
Tamson M. Ely	60	111	40	40	76	129	136	157	102	71	**922**
All Others	2	0	0	0	1	1	2	5	1	0	**12**
Blank	89	116	32	39	96	121	123	153	134	62	**965**
TOTAL	**224**	**354**	**114**	**122**	**272**	**394**	**410**	**492**	**354**	**208**	**2944**
HOUSING AUTHORITY											
Tracylee S G Boutilier	72	102	28	26	82	124	118	127	96	72	**847**
Emilie Gail Hamilton	16	31	14	9	21	28	46	51	29	10	**255**
All Others	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	**4**
Blank	24	44	15	25	33	44	41	67	51	22	**366**
TOTAL	**112**	**177**	**57**	**61**	**136**	**197**	**205**	**246**	**177**	**104**	**1472**
ELECTOR, OLIVER SMITH WILL											
John W. Coull	67	125	43	40	91	137	150	170	119	72	1014
All Others	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	1	0	7
Blanks	43	52	14	21	45	60	54	73	57	32	451
TOTAL	**112**	**177**	**57**	**61**	**136**	**197**	**205**	**246**	**177**	**104**	**1472**

Precinct I, three years (8)				**Precinct I, two years (2)**	63
*Sharon T. Povinelli	37	Louis S. Greenbaum	57	Yusef Awad	48
Hilda B. Greenbaum	58	Merrylees Turner	55	Lawrence Francis Quigley, III	
Mary Jane Laus	63	Kenton F. Tharp	59		
Patricia G. Holland	65	Janet Keller	65		
Vincent J. O'Connor	59	*Kimberly May Mead	20		
*Steven D. Brewer	36				
Precinct II, three years (8)	112	*Charron M. Daughtry	59	**Precinct II, one year (1)**	98
Barbara C. Ford	106	Arnold L. Alper	101	Christopher E. Riddle	35
John W. Coull	78	Barbara M. Levine	112	*Cyrus E. Cox	
Matthew H. Charity	85	John P. Foster	61		
Joanna Wan	96				
Adrienne Levine					
Precinct III, three years (8)	46	**Precinct III, two years (2)**		**Precinct III, one year (4)**	2
Andrew M. Churchill	44			@Jordan M. Helzer	
Nancy N. Gregg	41				
Catharine C. Porter	28				
Richard Maximus Strahan	46				
Jacqueline C. Churchill					
Precinct IV, three years (8)	45	Baer Tierkel	46	**Precinct IV, one year (1)**	
Carol M. Johnson	32	@Margot Shea O'Con-	10		
H. Oldham Brooks	41	nor			
George E. Ryan	45				
Charles Moran					
Precinct V, three years (8)	76	Eva Rebecca Fairchild	70	**Precinct V, two years (2)**	70
Jacqueline Lucette Mai-	71	Michael Robert Dietrich	63	Kevin P. Collins	4
dana	78	Nancy H. Pagano	76	^@Nina Wishengrad	
Barry H. Federman	72	Leo C. Maley, III	70		
Patricia K. Church				**Precinct V, one year (2)**	68
James Burgess Oldham					84
				Frances L. Van Treese	
				Lydia J. Vernon-Jones	

One vacancy remained in Precinct 5 following the election. Mark Kelly and Nina Wishengrad each received four (4) write-in votes each. Section 1.541 of the Amherst Town Government Act states in part, "In the event of a vacancy in the full membership of town meeting following the annual town election . . . such vacancy shall be filled by the losing candidate at the same election with the largest number of votes in that precinct who shall serve only until the next annual town election. If there is a vote among two (2) or more such candidates, the remaining elected members of the same precinct shall, by ballot, choose from among those tied and the winner shall serve until the next annual town election." A tie-breaker election was held on April 21, 2015 and Ms. Wishengrad was elected to fill the vacancy.

Precinct VI, three years (8)				**Precinct VI, one year (1)**	
Ruth B. Smith	92	Marilyn Hecht Blaustein	119	Paul H. Kaplan	145
Andrew T. Melnechuk	89	Jeffrey D. Blaustein	113		
Gordon A. Freed	105	Faythe E. Turner	117		
Stephen W. Jefferson	89	James A. Brissette	93		
Vladimir Morales	98	*Gregory D. Bascomb, Sr.	82		

Section 2.211 of the Amherst Town Government Act states, in part, "Any elected town meeting member who becomes by appointment or election one (1) of the officers designated as town meeting members ex officio shall, upon such appointment or election, cease to be an elected town meeting member." Section 1.541 of the Amherst Town Government Act states in part, "In the event of a vacancy in the full membership of town meeting following the annual town election . . . such vacancy shall be filled by the losing candidate at the same election with the largest number of votes in that precinct who shall serve only until the next annual town election." Douglas Slaughter ceased to be an elected town meeting member when he was elected to the Select Board. AndrewT. Melnechuk and Stephen W. Jefferson tied for the 8th elected position. The Amherst Town Government Act makes no provision for breaking a tie between ballot candidates. Because a vacancy was created under 2.221 the Town Clerk, guided by other provisions in the Amherst Town Government Act for filling vacancies, determined the 8th remaining vacancy, plus the 2.211 vacancy created, would be filled by Mr. Melnechuk and Mr. Jefferson who would each serve until the next annual town election.

Precinct VII, three years (8)					
Janet W. Chevan	104	James E. Scott	108	Rebekah R. Demling	114
Adrienne M. Terrizzi	132	Louise R. Hammann	95	^Kevin H. Vanderleeden	82
Renee K. Morgan	84	Alice C. Swift	136	Marylou Theilman	109

Section 2.211 of the Amherst Town Government Act states, in part, "Any elected town meeting member who becomes by appointment or election one (1) of the officers designated as town meeting members ex officio shall, upon such appointment or election, cease to be an elected town meeting member." Section 1.541 of the Amherst Town Government Act states in part, "In the event of a vacancy in the full membership of town meeting following the annual town election . . . such vacancy shall be filled by the losing candidate at the same election with the largest number of votes in that precinct who shall serve only until the next annual town election." Viraphanh Douangmany ceased to be an elected town meeting member when she was elected to the School Committee. Kevin H. Vanderleeden was the losing candidate with the largest number of votes and was elected to fill the vacancy until the next annual town election.

Precinct VIII, three years (8)					
Glen P. Bertrand	154	Gerald S. Weiss	172	Clare E. Bertrand	152
Aaron A. Hayden	154	Shirley S. Markham	136	Joan M. Temkin	152
Emmanuel E. Morales	126	Mary Streeter	160		

Precinct IX, three years (8)				**Precinct IX, one year (1)**	
Niels P. LaCour	102	Gary Michael Tartakov	93	Susan D. Roznoy	101
Margaret R. Roberts	101	Robert M. Winston	90		
Richard T. Roznoy	86	Nancy E. Higgins	88		
Emilie Gail Hamilton	71	@Claudia A. Brown	24		

Precinct X, three years (8)				Precinct X, one year (1)	
Hwei-Ling Greeney	72	Maurianne Adams	77	Carolyn S. Bentley	80
*Philip S. Jackson	47	Elissa H. Rubinstein	74		
Lewis C. Mainzer	52	*Jennifer Ann Fronc	50		
Judy L. Simpson	70	Lenore Debbi Friedlander	72		
John O. Fox	77	Richard N. Bentley	59		

@ Write-In Candidate
* Defeated
^ 1.541

PCT.	PM RETURN TIME	REGISTERED VOTERS	MACHINE VOTES	HAND COUNTED VOTES	TOTAL VOTES CAST	% Turnout
1	9:22	1,531	112	1	113	7.38
2	9:09	2,386	177	0	177	7.42
3	9:28	1,660	27	0	27	1.63
4	9:30	2,014	61	0	61	3.03
5	9:05	1,622	136	0	136	8.38
6	8:45	2,081	197	0	197	9.47
7	9:15	2,023	205	5	210	10.38
8	9:40	2,410	246	0	246	10.21
9	10:03	2,193	177	0	177	8.07
10	9:59	1,786	104	0	104	5.82
TOTAL		**19,706**	**1,442**	**6**	**1,448**	**7.35**

The public announcement was made at 10:10 p.m. on March 31, 2015. 1,448 ballots were cast, representing 7.35% of the 19,706 voters registered.

Attest:

Sandra J. Burgess
Town Clerk

WARRANT
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
April 27, 2015

Hampshire, ss.

To one of the Constables of the Town of Amherst, in said county, Greetings:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are hereby directed to notify the registered voters of the Town of Amherst of the Annual **Town Meeting** to be held in the Auditorium of the Amherst Regional Middle School in said Amherst at seven o'clock p.m. on **Monday, the Twenty-seventh day of April, Two Thousand and Fifteen**, when the following articles will be acted upon by Town Meeting members:

ARTICLE 1. Reports of Boards and Committees (Select Board)
To see if the Town will hear those reports of Town officers, the Finance Committee, and any other Town boards or committees which are not available in written form.

ARTICLE 2. Transfer of Funds – Unpaid Bills (Finance Committee)
To see if the Town will, in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 64 of the Massachusetts General Laws, appropriate and transfer a sum of money to pay unpaid bills of previous years.

ARTICLE 3. Acceptance of Optional Tax Exemptions (Select Board)
To see if the Town will authorize a maximum additional exemption of up to 100 percent for taxpayers qualifying for exemption under Chapter 59, Section 5, Clauses 17D, 22, 37A, or 41C of the Massachusetts General Laws.

ARTICLE 4. Authorization for Compensating Balances (Select Board)
To see if the Town will accept the provisions of Chapter 44, Section 53F of the Massachusetts General Laws, which authorize the Treasurer to enter into written agreements with banking institutions pursuant to which the Treasurer agrees to maintain funds on deposit in exchange for banking services.

ARTICLE 5. FY 2015 Budget Amendments (Finance Committee)
To see if the Town will amend the budget voted under Article 12 of the 2014 Annual Town Meeting (FY 2015 Operating Budget) to transfer **sums of money** between General Government, Public Safety, Public Works, Conservation and Development, Community Services, and Debt Service accounts to balance the 2015 Fiscal Year.

A. To see if the Town will amend the action taken under Article 13 of the 2014 Annual Town Meeting (FY 2015 Reserve Fund) to appropriate and transfer a sum of money from the Fund Balance Reserved for Overlay Surplus account to the Reserve Fund to balance the 2015 Fiscal Year.

ARTICLE 6. Retirement Assessment (Select Board)
To see if the Town will raise and appropriate $4,528,702 for the Hampshire County Retirement System assessment.

ARTICLE 7. Regional Lockup Assessment (Select Board)
To see if the Town will raise and appropriate $35,928 for the Hampshire County Regional Lockup Facility assessment.

ARTICLE 8. Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) Trust Fund (Finance Committee)
To see if the Town will raise and appropriate $200,000 for the OPEB Trust Fund established under the provisions of Section 20 of Chapter 32B of the Massachusetts General Laws.

ARTICLE 9. Revolving Fund Reauthorization (Finance Committee)
To see if the Town will reauthorize a revolving fund pursuant to Chapter 44, §53E½ of the Massachusetts General Laws for the operation of an After School Program from which the receipts shall be credited for expenditure by the LSSE department as authorized by the Department Head of the LSSE or his/her designee for supplies and services, including salaries and benefits of staffing, and related administrative costs for the program operation with a limit of $400,000 that may be expended from said revolving fund in the fiscal year which begins on July 1, 2015.

ARTICLE 10. Amherst-Pelham Regional School District Assessment Method (Amherst-Pelham Regional School Committee)

To see if the Town will vote to approve following the existing Amherst-Pelham Regional School District Agreement for allocating the total amount to be contributed by each member town of the District for Fiscal Year 2016 as required by Section VI of the Regional Agreement.

ARTICLE 11. FY 2016 Operating Budget (Finance Committee)
To see if the Town will adopt a comprehensive operating budget for the ensuing year and raise and appropriate money therefor.

ARTICLE 12. Reserve Fund (Finance Committee)
To see if the Town will raise and appropriate $100,000 for the Reserve Fund for FY 2016.

ARTICLE 13. Capital Program – Equipment (Joint Capital Planning Committee)
To see if the Town will appropriate $1,198,024 to purchase, repair, and/or install new or replacement equipment and determine whether such appropriation shall be met by taxation, by the transfer of available funds, or otherwise and further to authorize the application for and acceptance of any gifts, bequests, or grants.

ARTICLE 14. Capital Program – Buildings and Facilities (Joint Capital Planning Committee)
To see if the Town will appropriate $684,550 to repair and/or improve buildings and facilities and determine whether such appropriation shall be met by taxation, by the transfer of available funds, or otherwise and further to authorize the application for and acceptance of any gifts, bequests, or grants.

ARTICLE 15. Capital Program – Bond Authorizations (Joint Capital Planning Committee)
A. To see of the Town will appropriate a $306,000 for purchasing Breathing Apparatus for the Fire Department and to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to MGL Chapter 44, Section 7 or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor.

B. To see of the Town will appropriate a $110,000 for purchasing Radio Equipment for the Communications Center in the Police Department and to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to MGL Chapter 44, Section 7 or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor.

ARTICLE 16. Capital Program – Debt Repurpose (Select Board)
To see if the Town will appropriate the following unexpended amounts of money that were initially borrowed to finance capital projects that are now complete, and for which no further liability remains, to pay a portion of the costs of roof replacement at Fort River School Barn Roof authorized by Article 14 of the Annual Town Meeting April 27, 2015 and to reduce by a like amount the portion of the Fort River School Barn Roof project funding to be raised by taxation, as permitted by Chapter 44, Section 20 of the General Laws:

Original	Repurposed	Unexpended	Repurpose
Wildwood School boiler	$17,878.98	$17,878.98	Fort River School Barn Roof

Previously Voted: ATM Article 8(C), June 18, 2007; STM Articles 8(B) and 8(C), Nov. 7, 2007; STM Article 6, November 4, 2013.

ARTICLE 17. Community Preservation Act (Community Preservation Act Committee)
To see if the Town will appropriate a sum of $419,101 for Community Preservation Act Purposes recommended by the Community Preservation Act Committee and that the following items 1–10 be appropriated or reserved from Community Preservation Act Funds as follows, and to authorize the Town to accept or convey property interests where applicable, as required under M.G.L. Chapter 44B, Section 12.

	Project	Total Appropriation	Source of Appropriation
	AFFORDABLE HOUSING		
1	Amherst Affordable Housing Trust – Surveys, Appraisals & Related Studies	$ 25,000	
2	Amherst Community Land Trust - Land Acquisition	$95,000	
	Total Affordable Housing	**$120,000**	**FY 16 Estimated Revenues**
	HISTORIC PRESERVATION		
3	Cook Fountain Assessment	$20,000	
4	Amherst Historical Society – Strong House Archaeology Survey	$25,000	
5	Amherst Historical Society – Strong House Painting	$25,000	
6	Goodwin Memorial AME Zion Church – Archaeological Survey	$25,000	
	Total Historic Preservation	**$95,000**	**FY16 Estimated Revenues**
	OPEN SPACE		
7	Surveys & Appraisals	$25,000	
	Total Open Space	**$25,000**	**FY16 Estimated Revenues**
	RECREATION		
8	North Amherst Field Improvements	$50,000	
9	Amherst Baseball Inc. - Mill River Baseball Fields Improvements	$127,351	
	Total Recreation	**$177,351**	**FY16 Estimated Revenues**
	ADMINISTRATIVE		
10	CPAC Administrative Expenses	$1,750	
	Total Administrative	**$1,750**	**FY16 Estimated Revenues**
	TOTAL FOR ARTICLE	**$419,101**	

B. OPEN SPACE - Hall Property Acquisition

C. To see if the Town will vote to: (a) authorize the Select Board to acquire by gift, purchase, and/or eminent domain, for open space purposes, all or a portion of the parcels of land located off Old Farm Road, shown on Assessors Map 18C as Parcels 20, 49 - 67, inclusive, and containing 31.60± acres in the aggregate, and described in deeds recorded with the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 3312, Page 1, Book 3565, Page 147, and Book 2198, Page 301, which parcels shall be under the care, custody, management and control of the Conservation Commission under the provisions of G.L. c. 40, §8C; (b) appropriate the sum of $341,650 for the acquisition of said parcels and costs related thereto, of which $105,995 shall be transferred from the Community Preservation Act Estimated Revenues; (c) authorize the Select Board, the Town Manager, and/or the Conservation Commission, as they deem appropriate, to accept, on behalf of the Town, funds granted under the LAND Program (G.L. c. 132A, §11) and/or any other funds, gifts, grants, under any federal and/or other state program, in any way connected with the scope of this acquisition, and to enter into any and all agreements and execute any and all instruments as may be necessary or appropriate to effectuate the foregoing acquisition; and, further, (d) authorize the Select Board and/or the Conservation Commission to convey a restriction on said land in accordance with G.L. c. 184, as required by G.L. c. 44B, §12(a).

ARTICLE 18. Free Cash (Finance Committee)

To see if the Town will appropriate and transfer **a sum of money** from Free Cash in the Undesignated Fund Balance of the General Fund to balance the Fiscal Year 2016 Budget.

ARTICLE 19. Stabilization Fund (Finance Committee)
To see if the Town will appropriate and transfer **a sum of money** from the Stabilization Fund to balance the Fiscal Year 2016 Budget.

ARTICLE 20. Amendments to Charge, Composition and Name of Public Transportation and Bicycle Committee (PTBC)
To see if the Town will amend the actions taken under article 28 of the May 5, 1975 Annual Town Meeting and article 31 of the April 24,1995 Town Meeting votes that established the Public Transportation and Bicycle Committee, changing its title to the Public Transportation, Bicycle, and Pedestrian Committee, whose purpose will be to promote bicycling, walking and public transportation as integral parts of daily life in Amherst, so that persons of all ages, abilities and circumstances can safely, conveniently, and affordably use these modes of transportation for all types of trips, with seven (7) voting members to include, where possible, people who represent the perspectives of bicyclists, pedestrians, and public transit users, drawn from a range of geographical areas.

ARTICLE 21. Affordable Housing Property Tax Incentives (Select Board)
To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board to file a Special Act with the General Court which shall authorize the Select Board to enter into agreements allowing for the phasing in of the increase in assessed property value resulting from developments of residential or mixed uses with 10 or more dwelling units, in which at least 10 percent of the units are low or moderate income housing and subject to an affordable housing restriction (per section 31 of chapter 184 of the General Laws), such increases to be phased in increments over a period of up to ten years to the full assessed value of the property.

ARTICLE 22. Zoning – Inclusionary Zoning (Planning Board)
To see if the Town will amend Articles 4, 12, and 15 of the Zoning Bylaw by deleting existing sections, adding new sections, and by deleting the ~~lined out~~ language and adding the language in ***bold italics***, as follows:

A. Amend Article 12 by removing the text of Section 12.24 in its entirety and replacing it with the following two new subsections:

12.24 Housing, Affordable

12.240 Affordable Housing: Low Income or Moderate Income residential units subject to an Affordable Housing Restriction. For purposes of this Bylaw, Low Income shall mean a dwelling unit affordable to a household with income at or below 80% of area median income (AMI), and Moderate Income shall mean a dwelling unit affordable to a household with income above 80% of AMI and at or below 95% of AMI. All program eligibility and AMI levels are as determined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

12.241 Affordable Housing Restriction: A contract, mortgage agreement, deed restriction, or other legal instrument, acceptable in form and substance to the Town of Amherst, that restricts occupancy of an affordable housing unit to a low or moderate income purchaser or renter, and which provides for administration, monitoring, and enforcement of the restriction during the term of affordability. The restriction shall run with the land in perpetuity or for the maximum period of time allowed by law, and be enforceable under the provisions of MGL Chapter 184, Sections 31-32, as amended.

B. Remove the entirety of Article 15, and replace it with the following:

ARTICLE 15 INCLUSIONARY ZONING

SECTION 15.0 NEXUS STATEMENT
SECTION 15.1 PURPOSES & INTENT
SECTION 15.2 APPLICABILITY
SECTION 15.3 AFFORDABLE UNITS
SECTION 15.4 COST OFFSETS & INCENTIVES
SECTION 15.5 PRESERVATION OF AFFORDABILITY
SECTION 15.6 MODIFICATIONS & WAIVERS BY SPECIAL PERMIT
SECTION 15.7 REGULATIONS

15.0 NEXUS STATEMENT

Housing market conditions unique to Amherst have had a long-term detrimental effect on its affordable housing supply. Though a small, rural economic center, Amherst hosts Amherst College, Hampshire College, and the University of Massachusetts. They bring large and growing numbers of faculty, staff, and students seeking housing. They also create unique cultural and educational opportunities for retirees, professionals, and families. The resulting strong housing demand exceeds the existing housing stock, and there is very little remaining buildable land. Together, these forces severely limit the creation and preservation of affordable housing. Their cumulative effect is to diminish the supply of affordable housing in Amherst over time, as documented in Amherst's Housing Production Plan (March 2013) and Amherst Housing Market Study (March 2015).

Therefore, the Town of Amherst finds that, in order to supply housing for its low and moderate income residents, certain types of new market-rate housing development need to include affordable housing. This is consistent with the goals, objectives, and strategies of the 2010 Amherst Master Plan, which encourage mixed-income housing, seek to achieve a diverse and balanced community with housing available for households of all income levels as a matter of basic fairness, and encourage the use of reasonable cost offsets for developers who create affordable units.

15.1 PURPOSES & INTENT

The purposes of this Article are to create affordable housing in a lawful, equitable, and effective manner; to foster and support the development activity necessary to provide such housing; to promote the general welfare by providing for an economically integrated and diverse community; and to fulfill the goals of the Amherst Master Plan.

In addition, this Article is intended to serve the following community objectives:

15.10 To ensure that new residential developments generate affordable housing as defined in Article 12 of this Bylaw.

15.11 To create affordable housing that remains affordable in perpetuity or for the maximum period allowed by law.

15.12 To provide for geographic distribution of a full mix of housing types and affordable housing throughout Amherst.

15.2 APPLICABILITY

15.20 Any development (including but not limited to town houses, apartments, mixed-use buildings, Cluster Developments, PURDs, and OSCDs) resulting in 10 or more new dwelling units shall include simultaneous construction of affordable housing.

15.21 "New dwelling units" means any combination of units located in new buildings or additions to existing buildings, and any net increase in units resulting from reconstruction of existing buildings, except for units resulting from:

15.210 Affordable housing developments under M.G.L. Chapter 40B.

15.211 Conventional Residential Subdivision Developments under Section 4.2.

15.212 Any use permitted under Section 3.326 in the R-F District.

15.213 Institutional Uses under Section 3.33 containing residential dwelling units.

15.214 Housing constructed by a public agency or non-profit corporation using a federal, state, or local housing assistance program. Such housing may adhere to the requirements set forth by the funding agency provided that the purposes of these regulations are met.

15.215 Replacement of units after damage or destruction by fire, water, or natural disaster.

15.22 For the purposes of this Article, the Permit Granting Board or Special Permit Granting Authority authorized to issue the permit for the residential development under Section 3.3, Use Classification and Standards, or Article 4, Development Methods, shall be referred to as the "approving board."

15.23 Affordable housing resulting from this Article 15 shall be administered by the Town of Amherst, its designee, or other agency acceptable to the approving board.

15.3 AFFORDABLE UNITS

15.30 Number of Units. The required number of affordable units shall be 10 percent of the total units proposed, as calculated prior to the addition of any market rate offset units. If any calculation under this Article results in a fraction of a dwelling units, the result shall be rounded up to the next whole number for a fraction of 0.5 or greater, or down to the nearest whole number for a fraction less than 0.5.

15.31 Type of Units. Affordable housing units may be units for ownership or rent or any combination thereof approved by the approving board. All affordable units shall be Low Income units as defined under Article 12, except that in the B-G, B-VC, B-N districts, and those B-L districts abutting the B-G zoning district, the required affordable units may be Low Income or Moderate Income units as defined under Article 12, or both, as may be approved.

15.32 In the R-G District, the default Additional Lot Area/Family requirement of 2,500 sq. ft. per unit in Article 6, Table 3, Dimensional Regulations, shall apply to the total number of units in the project, as counted prior to the addition of any market rate offset units (see Section 15.4). Footnote m. shall not apply to residential uses or developments subject to this Article.

15.33 Location. Affordable units shall be dispersed throughout same premises as the proposed development ("on-site units"). On-site affordable units are required. No more than 50 percent of affordable units may be permitted to be located off-site by Special Permit under Section 15.60.

15.34 Design & Quality. Affordable units, wherever located, shall be of an equivalent design and quality as market rate units, including but not limited to exterior materials and finishes, energy efficiency, utilities, landscaping, and access to amenities and parking.

15.35 Unit Sizes. Affordable units shall be comparable to market rate units in terms of average size, habitable space, and number of bedrooms as market rate units, except as otherwise required by law.

15.36 Timing. Construction of and issuance of Certificates of Occupancy for affordable units shall be concurrent with that of market rate units.

15.4 COST OFFSETS & INCENTIVES

For developments where all affordable units are provided on-site, the following provisions apply in all zoning districts unless otherwise provided. The purpose of this section is allow for on-premises market rate cost offset units and to provide for their dimensional needs. If this section and Table 3 of Article 6 conflict, this section controls.

15.40 Additional Market Rate Offset Units. For each required affordable housing unit provided on-site, one and one half (1.5) additional market rate offset units shall be allowed.

15.41 Multi-Unit Residential Uses. To provide adequate space for market rate offset units in zoning districts where such uses are allowed, the approving board may increase the maximum number of dwelling units per building for multi-family uses under Sections 3.322 and 3.323 (town houses and apartments) to a maximum of 12 units per town house building and 30 units per apartment building. For cluster developments, the approving board may allow a maximum of 70 percent of total project units to be two family detached dwelling units and a maximum of 40% to be attached dwellings.

15.42 Lot Area. Table 3 of Article 6 controls the Basic Maximum Lot Area and Additional Lot Area/ Family, except that no Additional Lot Area/Family (sq. ft.) is required for market rate offset units in any district. See Section 15.32.

15.43 Maximum Building Coverage and Lot Coverage. The Maximum Building Coverage and Maximum Lot Coverage allowed by right shall be increased as follows to meet the dimensional needs of additional market rate cost offset units:

Zoning Districts	Maximum Increase
R-N, R-O, R-LD	+5 percentage points
R-VC, R-G	+10 percentage points
B-G, B-L, B-VC, B-N, COM	+15 percentage points.

[Example: Maximum building coverage is 35% by right in the B-VC District. Adding 15 percentage points would result in a new maximum building coverage of 50%.]

The only exception shall be that in the B-G and abutting B-L zoning districts, Maximum Lot Coverage shall not exceed 95 percent.

15.44 Maximum Height. In any district, the maximum height allowed by right under Table 3 of Article 6 shall be increased by 10 feet.

15.45 Maximum Floors. Except in the B-G and B-N Districts, the maximum number of floors allowed by right under Table 3 of Article 6 shall be increased by one (1) floor.

15.5 PRESERVATION OF AFFORDABILITY

Affordable units created under this Article shall remain affordable in perpetuity. Affordable units shall be subject to an affordable housing restriction as defined in Article 12. Such restriction shall be subject to review and approval as to form by Town Counsel and approved by the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD).

15.6 MODIFICATIONS & WAIVERS BY SPECIAL PERMIT

Where a minimum of 50% of required affordable units are proposed to be on-site units, the approving board may grant a Special Permit for modifications or waivers as provided below.

15.60 Off-site affordable units may be allowed for projects principally located in the B-G, B-VC, B-N, and those B-L districts abutting the B-G District. Off-site units shall be located within the same zoning district, or within 500 feet of the premises of the development, subject to the provisions of Section 15.34, 15.35, and 15.36, inclusive.

15.61 Modification of those dimensions (front setbacks and side and rear yard setbacks) under Footnote a. of Table 3 of Article 6 that are not altered under Section 15.4.

15.62 Any combination of the above that the Special Permit Granting Authority may deem appropriate.

15.63 Findings. A Special Permit may be granted under this section only if, in addition to making the findings required under Section 10.38, the Special Permit Granting Authority finds that the applicant has demonstrated that:

15.630 The development with the proposed modifications or waivers will serve the Purposes and Intent of this Article better than without; and

15.631 The proposed modifications or waivers would neither nullify nor substantially derogate from the Purposes and Intent of this Article, nor would they result in any other substantial detriment to the public good; and

15.632 The provisions of this Article would impose extreme hardship, financial or otherwise, that would otherwise render the project impossible.

15.64 The Special Permit Granting Authority may require the submission of whatever financial or other project-related documentation and information it deems necessary to make its determinations, including obtaining the services of an outside consultant under the provisions of MGL Ch. 44, Section 53G.

15.7 REGULATIONS

Approving boards shall adopt rules and regulations no less restrictive than the provision of this Article, including but not limited to submission requirements, procedures, standards, and criteria necessary to effectively implement the provisions of this Article.

C. Amend Article 4, Development Methods, by amending Sections 4.3, 4.4, and 4.5, deleting the ~~lined out~~ language and adding the language in *bold italics*, as follows:

<u>For Cluster Developments</u>:

4.323 Density/Setbacks

4.3230 Unless otherwise provided for, the Dimensional Regulations of Table 3 shall be complied with.

4.3231 ***Except as provided under Article 15,*** ~~T~~ ***t***he maximum density of a cluster subdivision, ~~except for an affordable cluster,~~ shall not exceed the allowed density for a standard subdivision in any zoning district, said density to be calculated by taking the parcel area, subtracting 10% of that area and dividing that number by the minimum lot area of the zoning district in which the parcel is located. See Section 4.12. In addition, it is the intention of this Section that ~~the~~ ***a*** cluster ~~subdivision~~ ***development*** not result in more lots than would be approved for a standard subdivision under a Definitive Subdivision Plan, except as ***provided under Article 15 or as*** may otherwise be authorized under this Bylaw.

4.3232 The Planning Board may reduce the frontage requirements for not more than 50 percent of the lots in the subdivision.

4.325 A minimum of 40% of the total dwelling units shall be single-family dwellings. A minimum of 20% of the total dwelling units shall be non-zero lot line, single family dwellings. A maximum of 60% of the dwelling units may be two-family dwellings. A maximum of 30% of the total dwelling units may be attached dwellings. There shall be no more than eight attached dwelling units allowed in one building. ***See Article 15.***

4.33 ~~Affordable Units~~ ***Affordability Requirements***

[Remove the entirety of this section, and replace it with the following.]

See Article 15.

For Planned Unit Residential Developments (PURDs):

4.421 In a Planned Unit Residential Development the following requirements relating to the density and intensity of land use shall be met~~:~~. ***See also Article 15.***

For Open Space Community Developments (OSCDs):

4.52 Density Standards

4.520 The maximum density allowed in an Open Space Community Development shall be calculated as follows: . . . .

3. Divide the remaining buildable land area by the minimum lot area required under the applicable zoning district(s). ***See also Article 15.***

4.53 Dimensional Standards . . .

[Add new subsection, as follows.]

4.537 See Article 15.

4.55 ~~Density Bonuses~~ ***Affordability Requirements***

[Remove the entirety of this section, and replace it with the following.]

See Article 15.

ARTICLE 23. Zoning Petition – Butterfield Terrace Rezoning (Alpert et al)
To see if the Town will amend the Official Zoning Map to change the zoning designation on Assessor's parcels 11A-66, 11A-67, 11A-71 and 11A-72 from Neighborhood Residence (R-N) to General Residence (R-G).

ARTICLE 24. Zoning Petition – Municipal Parking Districts Amended (Wentworth et al)
To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning By-Law as follows:

A. Deleting the ~~lined out~~ portion under SECTION 7.4 Municipal Parking District

7.43 Regulation

Notwithstanding the other provisions of Section 7.0, off-street parking spaces need not be provided for any principal or related accessory uses under the following categories of the Section 3.3, Use Chart: ~~Residential Use (Section 3.32)~~, Retail Business and Consumer Service Use (Section 3.35), and Research and Industrial Use (Section 3.37), located within the Municipal Parking District as herein defined. The following uses shall be required to meet the parking requirements of this Bylaw within the MP District: dormitory or similar college residence hall, hotel or motel, inn and all other principal and accessory uses under other categories of the Section 3.3, Use Chart.

AND

B. Adding the words in **bold** under SECTION 7.9 WAIVERS

7.91

With the exception of Residential Use in the Municipal Parking District,
parking space requirements under Section 7.0 may be modified when one or more of the following conditions are met to the satisfaction of the Permit Granting Board or Special Permit Granting Authority:

ARTICLE 25. Zoning Petition – Mixed Use Building Amendments (Wentworth et al)
To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning By-Law, Section 3.325 "Building containing dwelling units in combination with stores or other permitted business or commercial use" by changing the nature of the permits required in some zoning districts, amending the first paragraph under Standards and Conditions (deletions in ~~strike thru~~, additions in **bold face**) to create three separate, numbered paragraphs, and to designate the existing second paragraph by the number "4".

R-O/R-LD	R-N	R-VC	R-G	R-F	B-G	B-L	B-VC	B-N	COM	OP	LI	PRP	FPC
N	N	SP	N	N	SPR **SP**	SPR **SP**	SPR **SP**	SPR **SP**	SPR **SP**	N	N	N	N

Standards and Conditions

1. A management plan **shall include evaluation and calculations of the parking needs for each separate use, delivery and residential move-in and move-out requirements, and a plan to safely meet those needs and requirements in a manner that does not constitute a nuisance or substantial inconvenience or hazard to abutters, vehicles or pedestrians. That management plan shall be further** defined in terms of form and **additional** content in the Rules and Regulations adopted by the Permit Granting Authority **and** shall be included as an integral part of any application made under this section.

2. I**n the General Business (B-G) District and Limited Business (B-L) Districts adjacent to the General Business District, the retail and commercial gross floor area of each proposed structure of three (3) or less stories shall be at least 40% of the building's gross floor area, no residences shall be permitted on the ground floor or basement, and permitting shall be by Site Plan Review. In those same districts, proposed structures of four (4) to five (5) stories shall be authorized by Special Permit only. The ground and second floors of each such building, except for ancillary residential features such as elevators, stairwells, mailboxes, trash and recycling facilities, etc., shall be entirely devoted to retail and commercial uses, and at least 40% of the gross floor area of each building shall be restricted to retail and commercial use.**

3. In those Limited Business (B-L) Districts, et seq. – no changes

4. In the Commercial (COM) District, et seq. – no changes

ARTICLE 26. Petition – Earned Sick Leave (Spiegelman et al)
To see if the Town will authorize earned sick leave for all part-time, non-benefited Town employees, on the same basis as the voters of Massachusetts required by referendum in November, 2014, for employees of firms with eleven (11) or more employees, i.e. such employees are entitled to earn and use one hour of sick time for every 30 hours worked, and would begin accruing those hours on the date of hire or on July 1,2015, whichever is later, and to see if the Town will appropriate the funds necessary.

An employee could begin to use earned sick time on the 90th day after hire. An employee could use earned sick time, if required, to miss work in order:

(1) To care for a physical or mental illness, injury, or medical condition affecting the employee or the employee's child, spouse, parent, or parent of a spouse;

(2) To attend routine medical appointments of the employee or the employee's child, spouse, parent, or parent of a spouse; or

(3) To address the effects of domestic violence on the employee or the employee's dependent child.

Earned paid sick time would be compensated at the same hourly rate paid to the employee when the sick time is used.

Employees could carry over up to 40 hours of unused sick time to the next calendar year, but could not use more than 40 hours in a calendar year.

If an employee missed work for a reason eligible for earned sick time, but agreed with the supervisor to work the same number of hours or shifts in the same or next pay period, the employee would not have to use earned sick time for the missed time, and the Town would not have to pay for that missed time. Supervisors would be prohibited from requiring such an employee to work additional hours to make up for missed time, or to find a replacement employee. The Town would not have to pay employees for unused sick time at the end of their employment.

Supervisors would be prohibited from interfering with or retaliating based on an employee's exercise of earned sick time rights, and from retaliating based on an employee's support of another employee's exercise of such rights.

This article would not override the Town's obligations under any contract or benefit plan with more generous provisions than those proposed here.

ARTICLE 27. Petition – Mill Street Bridge (O'Connor et al)
To see if the Town will vote to request that the Select Board and Town Manager direct the Superintendent of Public Works and/or Town Engineer to prepare and submit to the Massachusetts Department of Transportation District #2 and Boston offices a request and plan to reopen the Mill Street Bridge in front of the Puffers Pond Dam for unsignalized, one-lane, two-way traffic while the Town awaits repair/reconstruction of that bridge.

ARTICLE 28. Petition – Resolution Towards a Human Rights Culture (Wronka et al)
WHEREAS, Article VI, Clause 2 of the US Constitution asserts: "All treaties made or shall be made…shall become the Supreme Law of the Land and the judges in every state shall be bound thereby...";

And, WHEREAS, the UN Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, as the authoritative statement of customary international law, and major UN human rights conventions have the status of international treaty,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: The Town of Amherst calls upon all federal state, and municipal legislative, executive, and judicial bodies to sign, ratify, and implement such conventions as they presently exist and evolve. This warrant article will be deposited with Representative Elizabeth Warren; President Obama; Samantha Powers, US Representative to the UN; Senator Bob Corker, Chair of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee; Charlie Baker, Governor of Massachusetts and other policy makers as appropriate in order that they take positive steps in that direction. Doing so, would be a step towards creating a human rights culture among the general populace, a "lived awareness" of human rights principles in our minds and hearts and carried into our everyday lives, ultimately resulting in socially just policies, where every person, everywhere can live with dignity and have their human rights realized.

ARTICLE 29. Petition – Race Amity Day Proclamation (Elliott et al)
WHEREAS the greatest asset of the Town of Amherst is its people; and

WHEREAS the Town of Amherst holds dear the motto of the United States of America, *E Pluribus Unum* (out of many, one), recognizing the principle of the oneness of the humankind, and the rich cultural, ethnic and racial diversity of its inhabitants; and

WHEREAS civility, respect, kindness and friendship are commonly shared values of the collective citizenry of the Town of Amherst; and

WHEREAS the Town of Amherst promotes communities and neighborhoods to join in reflection on the beauty and richness of our diverse cultures and ethnicities while reaching out with a spirit of amity toward one another,

NOW THEREFORE, the Town of Amherst hereby proclaims the second Sunday of June to be **Race Amity Day,**

And urges all the people of Amherst to recognize this event and to celebrate its annual observance.

ARTICLE 30. Petition – Resolution in Opposition to Construction of Proposed TGP Pipeline (Perkins et al)
To see if the Town will vote to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, a proposed high pressure pipeline carrying natural gas obtained through hydraulic fracturing ("fracked gas"), currently called the 'Northeast Energy Direct' project, of Kinder Morgan/Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, L.L.C. (the "TGP Pipeline"), would run through many communities in western Massachusetts;

WHEREAS, additional plans for other such new or expanded fracked gas pipelines have been proposed for other locations in the Commonwealth;

WHEREAS, the New England governors previously proposed a utility bill tariff or tax to help pay for new pipeline construction, which would have required ratepayers to invest in more fossil fuel infrastructure, although the prior Massachusetts administration stepped back from that proposal;

WHEREAS, in addition to the inherent risks of high pressure gas pipelines – possible ruptures, fires and explosions, and possible impacts to sensitive areas along the pipeline route – fracked gas may carry additional risks of

hydraulic fracturing ("fracking") chemicals; recognizing as well the added environmental burdens for communities that are the site of the fracking;

WHEREAS, there is growing concern regarding the impact of methane, the main component of natural gas, on global climate change, from gas leaks at drilling sites and along pipelines, in addition to the impact of the carbon dioxide produced when the gas is burned;
WHEREAS, instead of increasing our dependency on fossil fuels like natural gas, we are better served by embracing and strengthening the Commonwealth's commitments to combating global climate change through increased energy efficiency and renewable energy; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Amherst has a direct interest in protecting public health, public land and the environment in the Pioneer Valley, the Commonwealth, New England and our shared world;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Amherst through its Representative Town Meeting:

Opposes the construction of the proposed TGP Pipeline and any such new or expanded pipelines carrying fracked gas in the Commonwealth;
Opposes any tariffs that may be imposed on Massachusetts ratepayers to fund the TGP Pipeline or other such new or expanded fracked gas pipelines;
Stands in solidarity with communities opposing the TGP Pipeline and other such pipelines; and
Asks that our state and federal representatives and the Governor oppose the TGP Pipeline and any other such new or expanded pipelines carrying fracked gas in the Commonwealth and oppose any tariffs or taxes that may be imposed on ratepayers to fund any of the same; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Clerk shall, five days after the dissolution of Town Meeting, forward a copy of this resolution and the vote thereon to Governor Charlie Baker, President of the Senate Stanley Rosenberg, State Representative Ellen Story, Senator Elizabeth Warren, Senator Edward Markey, Congressman James McGovern, and the chair and commissioners of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

You are hereby directed to serve this call by posting attested copies thereof at the usual places:

Prec. 1	North Amherst Post Office	Prec. 6	Fort River School
Prec. 2	North Fire Station	Prec. 7	Crocker Farm School
Prec. 3	Immanuel Lutheran Church	Prec. 8	Munson Memorial Library
Prec. 4	Amherst Post Office	Prec. 9	Wildwood School
Prec. 5	Town Hall	Prec. 10	Campus Center, UMass

Hereof fail not and make return of this warrant with your doings thereon at the time and place of said meeting.

Given under our hands on this **Twenty-third** day of **March**, 2015.

Aaron A. Hayden
Constance E. Krueger
Alisa V. Brewer
James J. Wald
Andrew J. Steinberg
Select Board

March 24, 2015

Hampshire, ss.

In obedience to the within warrant, I have this day as directed posted true and attested copies thereof at the above designated places, to wit:

Thomas J. Sarna
Constable, Town of Amherst

RESULTS
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
April 27, 29, May 4, 6, 11, 13, 18 & 20, 2015

The meeting was televised by Amherst Community Television and shown on the government channel.

There were 241 town meeting members. 121 checked in and a quorum was declared. The 257th Annual Town Meeting was called to order by the Moderator, James W. Pistrang at 7:07 p.m.
The call and return of the warrant was read by Town Clerk, Sandra J. Burgess.

Newly elected and re-elected town meeting members were sworn to the faithful performance of their duties by the Moderator.

The Moderator congratulated those elected and re-elected to town wide office.

The Moderator asked Town Meeting to rise and observe a moment of silence in memory of George Richason who had passed away since the last town meeting.

The Moderator explained the purpose of, and criteria used, for inclusion of articles in the Consent Calendar. Articles 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 12 were selected because they were considered to be routine articles, their meaning could be clearly explained in the Finance Committee Report, and it was reasonable to expect they would pass with no controversy.

Article 8 – Other Post-Employment Benefits was removed at the request of five town meeting members.
Town Meeting voted unanimously: Articles 2 – To dismiss the Article; Article 3 – In terms of the Article; Article 4 – In terms of the Article; Article 6 – In terms of the Article; Article 7 – In terms of the Article; Article 9 – In terms of the Article; Article 12 – In terms of the Article.

ARTICLE 1. Reports of Boards and Committees (Select Board)
VOTED unanimously to hear those reports of Town officers, the Finance Committee, and any other Town boards or committees which are not available in written form.
Action taken 4/27/15.
(Richard Roznoy gave a report on behalf of the Transportation Plan Task Force, and Henry Lappen gave a report on behalf of the Public Shade Tree Committee.)

ARTICLE 2. Transfer of Funds – Unpaid Bills (Select Board)
VOTED unanimously to DISMISS.
[To see if the Town will, in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 64, of the Massachusetts General Laws, appropriate and transfer a sum of money to pay unpaid bills of previous years.]
Action taken 4/27/15.

ARTICLE 3. Optional Tax Exemptions (Select Board)
VOTED unanimously to authorize a maximum additional exemption of up to 100 percent for taxpayers qualifying for exemption under Chapter 59, Section 5, Clauses 17D, 22, 37A, or 41C of the Massachusetts General Laws.
Action taken 4/27/15.

ARTICLE 4. Authorization for Compensating Balances (Select Board)
VOTED unanimously to accept the provisions of Chapter 44, Section 53F of the Massachusetts General Laws, which authorize the Treasurer to enter into written agreements with banking institutions pursuant to which the Treasurer agrees to maintain funds on deposit in exchange for banking services.
Action taken 4/27/15.

ARTICLE 5. FY 2015 Budget Amendments (Finance Committee)
A. VOTED unanimously to amend the action taken under Article 12 of the 2014 Annual Town Meeting Fiscal Year 2015 Operating Budget by increasing the appropriations and the amounts to be raised by taxation for the Public Safety account by $29,200 and to meet such increased appropriation by decreasing the appropriation and the amount to be raised by taxation for General Government by $29,200.
Action taken 4/27/15.

B. VOTED unanimously to amend the action taken under Article 13 of the 2014 Annual Town Meeting Fiscal Year 15 Operating Budget by increasing the appropriations for the Reserve Fund account by $265,497.76 and to meet such increased appropriation by transferring $265,497.76 from the Fund Balance Reserved for Overlay Surplus account.
Action taken 4/27/2015.

ARTICLE 6. Retirement Assessment (Select Board)
VOTED unanimously to raise and appropriate $4,528,702 for the Hampshire County Retirement System assessment.
Action taken 4/27/15.

ARTICLE 7. Regional Lockup Assessment (Select Board)
VOTED unanimously to raise and appropriate $35,928 for the Hampshire County Regional Lockup Facility assessment.
Action taken 4/27/15.

ARTICLE 8. Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) Trust Fund (Finance Committee)
VOTED to raise and appropriate $200,000 for the OPEB Trust Fund established under the provisions of Section 20 of Chapter 32B of the Massachusetts General Laws.
Action taken 4/27/15.

ARTICLE 9. Revolving Fund Reauthorization (Finance Committee)
VOTED unanimously to reauthorize a revolving fund pursuant to Chapter 44, §53E½ of the Massachusetts General Laws for the operation of an After School Program from which the receipts shall be credited for expenditure by the LSSE department as authorized by the Department Head of the LSSE or his/her designee for supplies and services, including salaries and benefits of staffing, and related administrative costs for the program operation with a limit of $400,000 that may be expended from said revolving fund in the fiscal year which begins on July 1, 2015.
Action taken 4/27/15.

ARTICLE 10. Amherst-Pelham Regional School District Assessment Method (Amherst-Pelham Regional School Committee)
VOTED to approve following the existing Amherst-Pelham Regional School District Agreement for allocating the total amount to be contributed by each member town of the District for Fiscal Year 2016 as required by Section VI of the Regional Agreement.
Action taken 4/27/15.

ARTICLE 11. FY 2016 Operating Budget (Finance Committee)

LIBRARY SERVICES
Library Director Ms. Sharry gave a report prior to discussion of the Library Services portion of the FY16 Operating Budget.

VOTED to approve the Library Services operating budget of $2,411,805 and that the Town raise and appropriate $1,833,246 as its share of that budget.
Action taken 4/27/15.

COMMUNITY SERVICES
VOTED Yes 97, No 77 to raise and appropriate $1,829,276 for Community Services.
Action taken 4/27/15.
(Motion to increase the Community Services portion of the budget by $105,000 was made by Mr. Oldham. In accordance with Section 7 of the Rules of Order for Town Meeting, Town Meeting voted first on the higher amount. Mr. Oldham's motion to amend carried.)

At 10:02 p.m. on Monday, April 27, 2015 town meeting voted to adjourn to Wednesday, April 29 at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium of the Amherst Regional Middle School. 191 town meeting members were checked in.

The April 29, 2015 session was called to order by the Town Moderator, James Pistrang, at 7:05 p.m. 121 town meeting members were checked in.

CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT
VOTED to raise and appropriate $1,285,577 for Conservation and Development.
Action taken 4/29/15.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT
VOTED Yes 99, No 88, to appropriate $6,483,937 for General Government, that the salary of the Moderator be fixed at $100, that of the Select Board at $300 each, that of the Elector under the Oliver Smith Will at $20, and that to meet such appropriation, $6,374,924 be raised by taxation and $109,013 be transferred from the Ambulance Receipts Reserved For Appropriation Account.
Action taken 4/29/15.
(A motion to decrease the General Government portion of the budget by $85,901 was made by Mr. Burkart. In accordance with Section 7 of the Rules of Order for Town Meeting, Town Meeting voted first on the higher amount. Mr. Burkart's motion was defeated by default.)

DEBT SERVICE
VOTED unanimously to appropriate $2,264,807 for payment of the Town's General Fund indebtedness, and to meet such appropriation $1,943,270 be raised by taxation and $321,537 be appropriated and transferred from Community Preservation Fund annual revenues.
Action taken 4/29/15.

PUBLIC WORKS
VOTED unanimously to raise and appropriate $2,162,004 for Public Works.
Action taken 4/29/15.

WATER FUND
VOTED unanimously to appropriate $3,731,688 for the Water Fund and that to meet such appropriation $3,731,688 be made available from Water Fund revenues of the current year.
Action taken 4/29/15.

SEWER FUND
VOTED to appropriate $3,857,510 for the Sewer Fund and that to meet such appropriation $3,857,510 be made available from Sewer Fund revenues of the current year.
Action taken 4/29/15.

SOLID WASTE FUND
VOTED unanimously to appropriate $474,298 for the Solid Waste Fund and that to meet such appropriation $474,298 be made available from Solid Waste Fund revenues of the current year.
Action taken 4/29/15.

TRANSPORTATION FUND
VOTED unanimously to appropriate $716,751 for the Transportation Fund and that to meet such appropriation $716,751 be made available from Transportation Fund revenues of the current year.
Action taken 4/29/15.

PUBLIC SAFETY
VOTED to appropriate $9,943,955 for Public Safety and that to meet such appropriation $7,537,676 be raised by taxation and $2,406,279 be transferred from the Ambulance Receipts Reserved for Appropriation Account.
Action taken 4/29/15.

At 10:17 p.m. on Wednesday, April 29, 2015, town meeting voted to adjourn to Monday, May 4, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium of the Amherst Regional Middle School. 192 town meeting members were checked in.

The May 4, 2015 session was called to order by the Town Moderator, James Pistrang, at 7:10 p.m. 121 town meeting members were checked in.

SCHOOLS – ELEMENTARY

Superintendent Geryk gave a report to Town Meeting prior to discussion of the Elementary Schools portion of the operating budget.

VOTED to raise and appropriate $21,869,835 for the Amherst Elementary Schools.
Action taken 5/4/15.

SCHOOLS – REGIONAL

Superintendent Geryk gave a report to Town Meeting prior to discussion of the Regional Schools portion of the operating budget.

VOTED to approve the Amherst-Pelham Regional School District operating and capital budget of $30,022,840 and that the Town raise and appropriate $14,825,506 as its share of that budget.
Action taken 5/4/15.
[A motion by Vincent O'Connor to refer the Regional School Budget back to the Regional School Committee was defeated]

ARTICLE 12. Reserve Fund (Finance Committee)
VOTED unanimously to raise and appropriate $100,000 for the Reserve Fund for FY 2016.
Action taken 4/27/15.

ARTICLE 13. Capital Program – Equipment (Joint Capital Planning Committee)
VOTED to appropriate $1,198,024 to purchase, repair, and/or install new or replacement equipment and to meet such appropriation $1,006,024 be raised by taxation and $77,000 be transferred from the Ambulance Receipts Reserved for Appropriation account, and $115,000 be transferred from the Fund Balance Reserved for Capital account.
Action taken 5/4/15.

At 10:02 p.m. on Monday, May 4, 2015 town meeting voted to adjourn to Wednesday, May 6, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium of the Amherst Regional Middle School. 179 town meeting members were checked in.

The May 6, 2015 session was called to order by the Town Moderator, James Pistrang, at 7:09 p.m. 121 town meeting members were checked in.

ARTICLE 14. Capital Program – Buildings and Facilities (Joint Capital Planning Committee)
VOTED unanimously to raise and appropriate $684,550 to repair and/or improve buildings and facilities and to meet such appropriation $684,550 be raised by taxation.
Action taken 5/6/15.

ARTICLE 15. Capital Program – Bond Authorizations (Joint Capital Planning Committee)
VOTED by a declared two-thirds to:
A. Appropriate $306,000 for purchasing Breathing Apparatus for the Fire Department and to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to MGL Chapter 44, Section 7 or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor.

B. Appropriate $110,000 for purchasing Radio Equipment for the Communications Center in the Police Department and to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to MGL Chapter 44, Section 7 or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor.

Action taken 5/6/15.

ARTICLE 16. Capital Program – Debt Repurpose (Select Board)
VOTED to appropriate the following unexpended amounts of money that were initially borrowed to finance capital projects that are now complete, and for which no further liability remains, to pay a portion of the costs of roof replacement at Fort River School Barn Roof authorized by Article 14 of the Annual Town Meeting April 27, 2015 and to reduce by a like amount the portion of the Fort River School Barn Roof project funding to be raised by taxation, as permitted by Chapter 44, Section 20 of the General Laws:

Original	Repurposed	Unexpended	Repurpose
Wildwood School boiler	$17,878.98	$17,878.98	Fort River School Barn Roof

Previously Voted: ATM Article 8(C), June 18, 2007; STM Articles 8(B) and 8(C), Nov. 7, 2007; STM Article 6, November 4, 2013.
Action taken 5/6/15.

ARTICLE 17. Community Preservation Act (Community Preservation Act Committee)
A.
VOTED to appropriate a sum of $414,101 for Community Preservation Act Purposes as recommended by the Community Preservation Act Committee and that the following amounts (items 1-10) be appropriated from Community Preservation Act Fund Estimated Revenues:

	Project	Total Appropriation	Source of Appropriation
	AFFORDABLE HOUSING		
1	Amherst Affordable Housing Trust – Surveys, Appraisals & Related Studies	$ 25,000	
2	Amherst Community Land Trust - Land Acquisition	$95,000	
	Total Affordable Housing	**$120,000**	**FY 16 Estimated Revenues**
	HISTORIC PRESERVATION		
3	Cook Fountain Assessment	$20,000	
4	Amherst Historical Society – Strong House Archaeology Survey	$20,000	
5	Amherst Historical Society – Strong House Painting	$25,000	
6	Goodwin Memorial AME Zion Church – Archaeological Survey	$25,000	
	Total Historic Preservation	**$90,000**	**FY16 Estimated Revenues**
	OPEN SPACE		
7	Surveys & Appraisals	$25,000	
	Total Open Space	**$25,000**	**FY16 Estimated Revenues**
	RECREATION		
8	North Amherst Field Improvements	$50,000	
9	Amherst Baseball Inc. - Mill River Baseball Fields Improvements	$127,351	
	Total Recreation	**$177,351**	**FY16 Estimated Revenues**
	ADMINISTRATIVE		
10	CPAC Administrative Expenses	$1,750	
	Total Administrative	**$1,750**	**FY16 Estimated Revenues**
	TOTAL FOR ARTICLE	**$414,101**	

Action taken 5/6/15.
[A motion was made by Melissa Perot to divide the article by separating Part 8 – North Amherst Field Improvements. Article 17A, Parts 1-7 and 9-10, and Article 17A, Part 8 were discussed and voted separately.]

B.
OPEN SPACE - Hall Property Acquisition
VOTED by a declared two-thirds to (a) authorize the Select Board to acquire by gift, purchase, and/or eminent domain, for open space purposes, all or a portion of the parcels of land located off Old Farm Road, shown on Assessors Map 18C as Parcels 20, 49 - 67, inclusive, and containing 31.60± acres in the aggregate, and described in deeds recorded with the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 3312, Page 1, Book 3565, Page 147, and Book 2198, Page 301, which parcels shall be under the care, custody, management and control of the Conservation Commission under the provisions of G.L. c. 40, §8C; (b) appropriate the sum of $341,650 for the acquisition of said parcels and costs related thereto, of which $105,995 shall be transferred from the Community Preservation Act Estimated Revenues; (c) authorize the Select Board, the Town Manager, and/or the Conservation Commission, as they deem appropriate, to accept, on behalf of the Town, funds granted under the LAND Program (G.L. c. 132A, §11) and/or any other funds, gifts, grants, under any federal and/or other state program, in any way connected with the scope of this acquisition, and to enter into any and all agreements and execute any and all instruments

as may be necessary or appropriate to effectuate the foregoing acquisition; and, further, (d) authorize the Select Board and/or the Conservation Commission to convey a restriction on said land in accordance with G.L. c. 184, as required by G.L. c. 44B, §12(a).
Action taken 5/6/15.

Procedural Motion
Town Meeting voted to hear Articles 21 and 22 at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, May 11, 2015.

At 10:06 p.m. on Wednesday, May 6, 2015 town meeting voted to adjourn to Monday, May 11, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium of the Amherst Regional Middle School. 182 town meeting members were checked in.

The May 11, 2015 session was called to order by the Town Moderator, James Pistrang, at 7:04 p.m. 121 town meeting members were checked in.

Procedural Motion
On a motion made by Michael Birtwistle, town meeting voted to consider Article 22 before considering Article 21.

At 10:14 p.m. on Monday, May 11, 2015, town meeting voted to adjourn to Wednesday, May 13, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium of the Amherst Regional Middle School. 197 town meeting members were checked in.

The May 13, 2015 session was called to order by the Town Moderator, James Pistrang, at 7:10 p.m. 121 town meeting members were checked in.

Procedural Motion
Town Meeting voted to consider Article 19 before considering Article 18.

ARTICLE 18. Free Cash (Finance Committee)
VOTED unanimously to DISMISS
[To see if the Town will appropriate and transfer **a sum of money** from Free Cash in the Undesignated Fund Balance of the General Fund to balance the Fiscal Year 2016 Budget.]
Action taken 5/13/15.

ARTICLE 19. Stabilization Fund (Finance Committee)
VOTED by a declared two-thirds to appropriate and transfer from the Stabilization Fund the sum of $105,000 to balance the FY 16 Fiscal Year Budget.
Action taken 5/13/15.

ARTICLE 20. Amendments to Charge, Composition and Name of Public Transportation and Bicycle Committee (PTBC)
VOTED unanimously to amend the actions taken under article 28 of the May 5, 1975 Annual Town Meeting and article 31 of the April 24,1995 Town Meeting votes that established the Public Transportation and Bicycle Committee, changing its title to the Public Transportation, Bicycle, and Pedestrian Committee, whose purpose will be to promote bicycling, walking and public transportation as integral parts of daily life in Amherst, so that persons of all ages, abilities and circumstances can safely, conveniently, and affordably use these modes of transportation for all types of trips, with seven (7) voting members to include, where possible, people who represent the perspectives of bicyclists, pedestrians, and public transit users, drawn from a range of geographical areas.
Action taken 5/13/15.

ARTICLE 21. Affordable Housing Property Tax Incentives (Select Board)
VOTED Yes 117, No 66 to authorize the Select Board to file a Special Act with the General Court which shall authorize the Select Board to enter into agreements allowing for the phasing in of the increase in assessed property value resulting from developments of residential or mixed uses with 10 or more dwelling units, in which at least 10 percent of the units are low or moderate income housing and subject to an affordable housing restriction (per section 31 of chapter 184 of the General Laws), such increases to be phased in increments over a period of up to ten years to the full assessed value of the property, provided further that the maximum property tax incentive shall be based on the difference in net operating income for such development with affordable units and the net operating income without such affordable units.
Action taken 5/11/15.

ARTICLE 22. Zoning – Inclusionary Zoning (Planning Board)
DEFEATED Yes, 88, No 100
[To see if the Town will amend Articles 4, 12, and 15 of the Zoning Bylaw by deleting existing sections, adding new sections, and by deleting the ~~lined out~~ language and adding the language in ***bold italics***, as follows:

D. Amend Article 12 by removing the text of Section 12.24 in its entirety and replacing it with the following two new subsections:

12.24 Housing, Affordable

12.240 Affordable Housing: Low Income or Moderate Income residential units subject to an Affordable Housing Restriction. For purposes of this Bylaw, Low Income shall mean a dwelling unit affordable to a household with income at or below 80% of area median income (AMI), and Moderate Income shall mean a dwelling unit affordable to a household with income above 80% of AMI and at or below 95% of AMI. All program eligibility and AMI levels are as determined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

12.241 Affordable Housing Restriction: A contract, mortgage agreement, deed restriction, or other legal instrument, acceptable in form and substance to the Town of Amherst, that restricts occupancy of an affordable housing unit to a low or moderate income purchaser or renter, and which provides for administration, monitoring, and enforcement of the restriction during the term of affordability. The restriction shall run with the land in perpetuity or for the maximum period of time allowed by law, and be enforceable under the provisions of MGL Chapter 184, Sections 31-32, as amended.

E. Remove the entirety of Article 15, and replace it with the following:

ARTICLE 15 INCLUSIONARY ZONING
SECTION 15.0 NEXUS STATEMENT
SECTION 15.1 PURPOSES & INTENT
SECTION 15.2 APPLICABILITY
SECTION 15.3 AFFORDABLE UNITS
SECTION 15.4 COST OFFSETS & INCENTIVES
SECTION 15.5 PRESERVATION OF AFFORDABILITY
SECTION 15.6 MODIFICATIONS & WAIVERS BY SPECIAL PERMIT
SECTION 15.7 REGULATIONS

15.0 NEXUS STATEMENT

Housing market conditions unique to Amherst have had a long-term detrimental effect on its affordable housing supply. Though a small, rural economic center, Amherst hosts Amherst College, Hampshire College, and the University of Massachusetts. They bring large and growing numbers of faculty, staff, and students seeking housing. They also create unique cultural and educational opportunities for retirees, professionals, and families. The resulting strong housing demand exceeds the existing housing stock, and there is very little remaining buildable land. Together, these forces severely limit the creation and preservation of affordable housing. Their cumulative effect is to diminish the supply of affordable housing in Amherst over time, as documented in Amherst's Housing Production Plan (March 2013) and Amherst Housing Market Study (March 2015).

Therefore, the Town of Amherst finds that, in order to supply housing for its low and moderate income residents, certain types of new market-rate housing development need to include affordable housing. This is consistent with the goals, objectives, and strategies of the 2010 Amherst Master Plan, which encourage mixed-income housing, seek to achieve a diverse and balanced community with housing available for households of all income levels as a matter of basic fairness, and encourage the use of reasonable cost

offsets for developers who create affordable units.

15.1 PURPOSES & INTENT

The purposes of this Article are to create affordable housing in a lawful, equitable, and effective manner; to foster and support the development activity necessary to provide such housing; to promote the general welfare by providing for an economically integrated and diverse community; and to fulfill the goals of the Amherst Master Plan.

In addition, this Article is intended to serve the following community objectives:

15.13 To ensure that new residential developments generate affordable housing as defined in Article 12 of this Bylaw.

15.14 To create affordable housing that remains affordable in perpetuity or for the maximum period allowed by law.

15.15 To provide for geographic distribution of a full mix of housing types and affordable housing throughout Amherst.

15.2 APPLICABILITY

15.20 Any development (including but not limited to town houses, apartments, mixed-use buildings, Cluster Developments, PURDs, and OSCDs) resulting in 10 or more new dwelling units shall include simultaneous construction of affordable housing.

15.21 "New dwelling units" means any combination of units located in new buildings or additions to existing buildings, and any net increase in units resulting from reconstruction of existing buildings, except for units resulting from:

15.210 Affordable housing developments under M.G.L. Chapter 40B.
15.211 Conventional Residential Subdivision Developments under Section 4.2.
15.212 Any use permitted under Section 3.326 in the R-F District.
15.213 Institutional Uses under Section 3.33 containing residential dwelling units.
15.214 Housing constructed by a public agency or non-profit corporation using a federal, state, or local housing assistance program. Such housing may adhere to the requirements set forth by the funding agency provided that the purposes of these regulations are met.
15.215 Replacement of units after damage or destruction by fire, water, or natural disaster.

15.22 For the purposes of this Article, the Permit Granting Board or Special Permit Granting Authority authorized to issue the permit for the residential development under Section 3.3, Use Classification and Standards, or Article 4, Development Methods, shall be referred to as the “approving board.”

15.23 Affordable housing resulting from this Article 15 shall be administered by the Town of Amherst, its designee, or other agency acceptable to the approving board.

15.3 AFFORDABLE UNITS

15.30 Number of Units. The required number of affordable units shall be 10 percent of the total units proposed, as calculated prior to the addition of any market rate offset units. If any calculation under this Article results in a fraction of a dwelling units, the result shall be rounded up to the next whole number for a fraction of 0.5 or greater, or down to the nearest whole number for a fraction less than 0.5.

15.31 Type of Units. Affordable housing units may be units for ownership or rent or any combination thereof approved by the approving board. All affordable units shall be Low Income units as defined under Article 12, except that in the B-G, B-VC, B-N districts, and those B-L districts abutting the B-G zoning district, the required affordable units may be Low Income or Moderate Income units as defined under Article 12, or both, as may be approved.

15.32 RESERVED.

15.33 Location. Affordable units shall be dispersed throughout same premises as the proposed development ("on-site units"). On-site affordable units are required. No more than 50 percent of af-

fordable units may be permitted to be located off-site by Special Permit under Section 15.60.

15.34 Design & Quality. Affordable units, wherever located, shall be of an equivalent design and quality as market rate units, including but not limited to exterior materials and finishes, energy efficiency, utilities, landscaping, and access to amenities and parking.

15.35 Unit Sizes. Affordable units shall be comparable to market rate units in terms of average size, habitable space, and number of bedrooms as market rate units, except as otherwise required by law.

15.36 Timing. Construction of and issuance of Certificates of Occupancy for affordable units shall be concurrent with that of market rate units.

15.4 COST OFFSETS & INCENTIVES

For developments where all affordable units are provided on-site, the following provisions apply in all zoning districts unless otherwise provided. The purpose of this section is allow for on-premises market rate cost offset units and to provide for their dimensional needs. If this section and Table 3 of Article 6 conflict, this section controls.

15.40 Additional Market Rate Offset Units. For each required affordable housing unit provided on-site, one and one half (1.5) additional market rate offset units shall be allowed.

15.41 Multi-Unit Residential Uses. To provide adequate space for market rate offset units in zoning districts where such uses are allowed, the approving board may increase the maximum number of dwelling units per building for multi-family uses under Sections 3.322 and 3.323 (town houses and apartments) to a maximum of 12 units per town house building and 30 units per apartment building. For cluster developments, the approving board may allow a maximum of 70 percent of total project units to be two family detached dwelling units and a maximum of 40% to be attached dwellings.

15.42 Lot Area. Table 3 of Article 6 controls the Basic Maximum Lot Area and Additional Lot Area/ Family, except that no Additional Lot Area/Family (sq. ft.) is required for market rate offset units in any district. See Section 15.32.

15.43 Maximum Building Coverage and Lot Coverage. The Maximum Building Coverage and Maximum Lot Coverage allowed by right shall be increased as follows to meet the dimensional needs of additional market rate cost offset units:

Zoning Districts	Maximum Increase
R-N, R-O, R-LD	+5 percentage points
R-VC, R-G	+10 percentage points
B-G, B-L, B-VC, B-N, COM	+15 percentage points.

[Example: Maximum building coverage is 35% by right in the B-VC District. Adding 15 percentage points would result in a new maximum building coverage of 50%.]

The only exception shall be that in the B-G and abutting B-L zoning districts, Maximum Lot Coverage shall not exceed 95 percent.

15.44 Maximum Height. In ~~any district~~ ***the B-G, B-VC, B-L, and COM Districts only***, the maximum height allowed by right under Table 3 of Article 6 shall be increased by 10 feet.

15.45 Maximum Floors. ~~Except in the B-G and B-N~~ ***In the B-VC, B-L, and COM*** Districts ***only***, the maximum number of floors allowed by right under Table 3 of Article 6 shall be increased by one (1) floor.

15.5 PRESERVATION OF AFFORDABILITY

Affordable units created under this Article shall remain affordable in perpetuity. Affordable units shall be subject to an affordable housing restriction as defined in Article 12. Such restriction shall be subject to review and approval as to form by Town Counsel and approved by the Massachusetts Department of ousing and Community Development (DHCD).

15.6 MODIFICATIONS & WAIVERS BY SPECIAL PERMIT

Where a minimum of 50% of required affordable units are proposed to be on-site units, the approving board may grant a Special Permit for modifications or waivers as provided below.

15.60 Off-site affordable units may be allowed for projects principally located in the B-G, B-VC, B-N, and those B-L districts abutting the B-G District. Off-site units shall be located within the same zoning district, or within 500 feet of the premises of the development, subject to the provisions of Section 15.34, 15.35, and 15.36, inclusive.

15.61 Modification of those dimensions (front setbacks and side and rear yard setbacks) under Footnote a. of Table 3 of Article 6 that are not altered under Section 15.4.

15.62 Any combination of the above that the Special Permit Granting Authority may deem appropriate.

15.63 Findings. A Special Permit may be granted under this section only if, in addition to making the findings required under Section 10.38, the Special Permit Granting Authority finds that the applicant has demonstrated that:

15.630 The development with the proposed modifications or waivers will serve the Purposes and Intent of this Article better than without; and

15.631 The proposed modifications or waivers would neither nullify nor substantially derogate from the Purposes and Intent of this Article, nor would they result in any other substantial detriment to the public good; and

15.632 The provisions of this Article would impose extreme hardship, financial or otherwise, that would otherwise render the project impossible.

15.64 The Special Permit Granting Authority may require the submission of whatever financial or other project-related documentation and information it deems necessary to make its determinations, including obtaining the services of an outside consultant under the provisions of MGL Ch. 44, Section 53G.

15.7 REGULATIONS

Approving boards shall adopt rules and regulations no less restrictive than the provision of this Article, including but not limited to submission requirements, procedures, standards, and criteria necessary to effectively implement the provisions of this Article.

F. Amend Article 4, Development Methods, by amending Sections 4.3, 4.4, and 4.5, deleting the ~~lined out~~ language and adding the language in *bold italics*, as follows:

<u>For Cluster Developments</u>:

4.323 Density/Setbacks

4.3230 Unless otherwise provided for, the Dimensional Regulations of Table 3 shall be complied with.

4.3231 ***Except as provided under Article 15,*** ~~T~~ ***t***he maximum density of a cluster subdivision, ~~except for an affordable cluster,~~ shall not exceed the allowed density for a standard subdivision in any zoning district, said density to be calculated by taking the parcel area, subtracting 10% of that area and dividing that number by the minimum lot area of the zoning district in which the parcel is located. See Section 4.12. In addition, it is the intention of this Section that ~~the~~ ***a*** cluster ~~subdivision~~ ***development*** not result in more lots than would be approved for a standard subdivision under a Definitive Subdivision Plan, except as ***provided under Article 15 or as*** may otherwise be authorized under this Bylaw.

4.3232 The Planning Board may reduce the frontage requirements for not more than 50 percent of the lots in the subdivision.

4.325 A minimum of 40% of the total dwelling units shall be single-family dwellings. A minimum of 20% of the total dwelling units shall be non-zero lot line, single family dwellings. A maximum of 60% of the dwelling units may be two-family dwellings. A maximum of 30% of the total dwelling units may be attached dwellings. There shall be no more than eight attached dwelling units allowed in one building. ***See Article 15.***

4.33 ~~Affordable Units~~ ***Affordability Requirements***

[Remove the entirety of this section, and replace it with the following.]

See Article 15.

<u>For Planned Unit Residential Developments (PURDs)</u>:

4.421 In a Planned Unit Residential Development the following requirements relating to the density and intensity of land use shall be met~~:~~. ***See also Article 15.***

<u>For Open Space Community Developments (OSCDs)</u>:

4.52 Density Standards

4.520 The maximum density allowed in an Open Space Community Development shall be calculated as follows: . . . .

4. Divide the remaining buildable land area by the minimum lot area required under the applicable zoning district(s). ***See also Article 15.***

4.53 Dimensional Standards . . .

[Add new subsection, as follows.]

4.537 See Article 15.

4.55 ~~Density Bonuses~~ ***Affordability Requirements***

[Remove the entirety of this section, and replace it with the following.]
See Article 15.]

Action taken 5/11/15.

ARTICLE 23. Zoning Petition – Butterfield Terrace Rezoning (Alpert et al)

VOTED to DISMISS

[To see if the Town will amend the Official Zoning Map to change the zoning designation on Assessor's parcels 11A-66, 11A-67, 11A-71 and 11A-72 from Neighborhood Residence (R-N) to General Residence (R-G).]

Action taken 5/13/15.

ARTICLE 24. Zoning Petition – Municipal Parking Districts Amended (Wentworth et al)

DEFEATED Yes, 97, No 83 (Articled failed to achieve the required two-thirds)

[To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning By-Law as follows:

A. Deleting the ~~lined out~~ portion under SECTION 7.4 Municipal Parking District

7.43 Regulation

Notwithstanding the other provisions of Section 7.0, off-street parking spaces need not be provided for any principal or related accessory uses under the following categories of the Section 3.3, Use Chart: ~~Residential Use (Section 3.32)~~, Retail Business and Consumer Service Use (Section 3.35), and Research and Industrial Use (Section 3.37), located within the Municipal Parking District as herein defined. The following uses shall be required to meet the parking requirements of this Bylaw within the MP District: dormitory or similar college residence hall, hotel or motel, inn and all other principal and accessory uses under other categories of the Section 3.3, Use Chart.

AND

B. Adding the words in **bold** under SECTION 7.9 WAIVERS

7.91

With the exception of Residential Use in the Municipal Parking District,
parking space requirements under Section 7.0 may be modified when one or more of the following conditions are met to the satisfaction of the Permit Granting Board or Special Permit Granting Authority:]

Action taken 5/13/15.

At 10:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 13, 2015 town meeting voted to adjourn to Monday, May 18, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium of the Amherst Regional Middle School. 183 town meeting members were checked in.

The May 18, 2015 session was called to order by the Town Moderator, James Pistrang, at 7:11 p.m. 122 town meeting members were checked in.

ARTICLE 25. Zoning Petition – Mixed Use Building Amendments (Wentworth et al)
VOTED Yes 105, No 60 to refer to Planning Board.
[To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning By-Law, Section 3.325 "Building containing dwelling units in combination with stores or other permitted business or commercial use" by changing the nature of the permits required in some zoning districts, amending the first paragraph under Standards and Conditions (deletions in ~~strike thru~~, additions in **bold face**) to create three separate, numbered paragraphs, and to designate the existing second paragraph by the number "4".

Mixed-use building. A mixed-use building shall be a building containing dwelling unit(s) in combination with permitted retail, business, institutional, government, public service, consumer service, office or similar principal use(s) and lawful accessory use(s).

R-O/R-LD	R-N	R-VC	R-G	R-F	B-G	B-L	B-VC	B-N	COM	OP	LI	PRP	FPC
N	N	SP	N	N	SPR	SPR	SPR	SPR	SPR	N	N	N	N
					SP*	**SP***							

Standards and Conditions

A management plan **shall include evaluation and calculations of the parking needs for each separate use, delivery and residential move-in and move-out requirements, and a plan to safely meet those needs and requirements in a manner that does not constitute a nuisance or substantial inconvenience or hazard to abutters, vehicles or pedestrians. That management plan shall be further** defined in terms of form and **additional** content in the Rules and Regulations adopted by the Permit Granting Authority **and** shall be included as an integral part of any application made under this section.

In the General Business (B-G) District and Limited Business (B-L) Districts adjacent to the General Business District, the retail and commercial gross floor area of each proposed structure of three (3) or less stories shall be at least 40% of the building's gross floor area, no residences shall be permitted on the ground floor or basement, and permitting shall be by Site Plan Review. *In those same districts, proposed structures of four (4) to five (5) stories shall be authorized by Special Permit only. The ground and second floors of each such building, except for ancillary residential features such as elevators, stairwells, mailboxes, trash and recycling facilities, etc., shall be entirely devoted to retail and commercial uses, and at least 40% of the gross floor area of each building shall be restricted to retail and commercial use.

In those Limited Business (B-L) Districts, et seq. – no changes

In the Commercial (COM) District, et seq. – no changes]
Action taken 5/18/15.

ARTICLE 26. Petition – Earned Sick Leave (Spiegelman et al)
VOTED to refer back to the Amherst Personnel Board.
[To see if the Town will authorize earned sick leave for all part-time, non-benefited Town employees, on the same basis as the voters of Massachusetts required by referendum in November, 2014, for employees of firms with eleven (11) or more employees, i.e. such employees are entitled to earn and use one hour of sick time for every 30 hours worked, and would begin accruing those hours on the date of hire or on July 1,2015, whichever is later, and to see if the Town will appropriate the funds necessary.

An employee could begin to use earned sick time on the 90th day after hire. An employee could use earned sick time, if required, to miss work in order:

(4) To care for a physical or mental illness, injury, or medical condition affecting the employee or the employee's child, spouse, parent, or parent of a spouse;

(5) To attend routine medical appointments of the employee or the employee's child, spouse, parent, or parent of a spouse; or

(6) To address the effects of domestic violence on the employee or the employee's dependent child.

Earned paid sick time would be compensated at the same hourly rate paid to the employee when the sick time is used.

Employees could carry over up to 40 hours of unused sick time to the next calendar year, but could not use more than 40 hours in a calendar year.

If an employee missed work for a reason eligible for earned sick time, but agreed with the supervisor to work the same number of hours or shifts in the same or next pay period, the employee would not have to use earned sick time for the missed time, and the Town would not have to pay for that missed time. Supervisors would be prohibited from requiring such an employee to work additional hours to make up for missed time, or to find a replacement employee. The Town would not have to pay employees for unused sick time at the end of their employment.

Supervisors would be prohibited from interfering with or retaliating based on an employee's exercise of earned sick time rights, and from retaliating based on an employee's support of another employee's exercise of such rights.

This article would not override the Town's obligations under any contract or benefit plan with more generous provisions than those proposed here.]
Action taken 5/18/15.

ARTICLE 27. Petition – Mill Street Bridge (O'Connor et al)
VOTED to refer back to Public Works Committee and Planning Board.
[To see if the Town will vote to request that the Select Board and Town Manager direct the Superintendent of Public Works and/or Town Engineer to prepare and submit to the Massachusetts Department of Transportation District #2 and Boston offices a request and plan to reopen the Mill Street Bridge in front of the Puffers Pond Dam for unsignalized, one-lane, two-way traffic while the Town awaits repair/reconstruction of that bridge.]
Action taken 5/18/15.

At 10:09 p.m. on Monday, May 18, 2015 town meeting voted to adjourn to Wednesday, May 20, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium of the Amherst Regional Middle School. 168 town meeting members were checked in.

The May 20, 2015 session was called to order by the Town Moderator, James Pistrang, at 7:05 p.m. 122 town meeting members were checked in.

ARTICLE 28. Petition – Resolution Towards a Human Rights Culture (Wronka et al)
VOTED the following resolution:
WHEREAS, Article VI, Clause 2 of the US Constitution asserts: "All treaties made or shall be made…shall become the Supreme Law of the Land and the judges in every state shall be bound thereby...";

And, WHEREAS, the UN Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, as the authoritative statement of customary international law, and major UN human rights conventions have the status of international treaty,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: The Town of Amherst calls upon all federal state, and municipal legislative, executive, and judicial bodies to sign, ratify, and implement such conventions as they presently exist and evolve. This warrant article will be deposited with Representative Elizabeth Warren; President Obama; Samantha Powers, US Representative to the UN; Senator Bob Corker, Chair of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee; Charlie Baker, Governor of Massachusetts and other policy makers as appropriate in order that they take positive steps in that direction. Doing so, would be a step towards creating a human rights culture among the general populace, a "lived awareness" of human rights principles in our minds and hearts and carried into our everyday lives, ultimately resulting in socially just policies, where every person, everywhere can live with dignity and have their human rights realized.
Action taken 5/20/15.

ARTICLE 29. Petition – Race Amity Day Proclamation (Elliott et al)
VOTED unanimously:
WHEREAS the greatest asset of the Town of Amherst is its people; and

WHEREAS the Town of Amherst holds dear the motto of the United States of America, *E Pluribus Unum* (out of many, one), recognizing the principle of the oneness of the humankind, and the rich cultural, ethnic and racial diversity of its inhabitants; and

WHEREAS civility, respect, kindness and friendship are commonly shared values of the collective citizenry of the Town of Amherst; and

WHEREAS the Town of Amherst promotes communities and neighborhoods to join in reflection on the beauty and richness of our diverse cultures and ethnicities while reaching out with a spirit of amity toward one another,

NOW THEREFORE, the Town of Amherst hereby proclaims the second Sunday of June to be **Race Amity Day,** And urges all the people of Amherst to recognize this event and to celebrate its annual observance.
Action taken 5/20/15.

ARTICLE 30. Petition – Resolution in Opposition to Construction of Proposed Pipeline (Perkins et al)
VOTED Yes 133, No 7 to adopt the following resolution:
WHEREAS, a proposed high pressure pipeline carrying natural gas obtained through hydraulic fracturing ("fracked gas"), currently called the 'Northeast Energy Direct' project, of Kinder Morgan/Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, L.L.C. (the "TGP Pipeline"), would run through many communities in western Massachusetts;
WHEREAS, additional plans for other such new or expanded fracked gas pipelines have been proposed for other locations in the Commonwealth;
WHEREAS, the New England governors previously proposed a utility bill tariff or tax to help pay for new pipeline construction, which would have required ratepayers to invest in more fossil fuel infrastructure, although the prior Massachusetts administration stepped back from that proposal;
WHEREAS, in addition to the inherent risks of high pressure gas pipelines – possible ruptures, fires and explosions, and possible impacts to sensitive areas along the pipeline route – fracked gas may carry additional risks of hydraulic fracturing ("fracking") chemicals; recognizing as well the added environmental burdens for communities that are the site of the fracking;

WHEREAS, there is growing concern regarding the impact of methane, the main component of natural gas, on global climate change, from gas leaks at drilling sites and along pipelines, in addition to the impact of the carbon dioxide produced when the gas is burned;
WHEREAS, instead of increasing our dependency on fossil fuels like natural gas, we are better served by embracing and strengthening the Commonwealth's commitments to combating global climate change through increased energy efficiency and renewable energy; and
WHEREAS, the Town of Amherst has a direct interest in protecting public health, public land and the environment in the Pioneer Valley, the Commonwealth, New England and our shared world;
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Amherst through its Representative Town Meeting:

5) Opposes the construction of the proposed TGP Pipeline and any such new or expanded pipelines carrying fracked gas in the Commonwealth;
6) Opposes any tariffs that may be imposed on Massachusetts ratepayers to fund the TGP Pipeline or other such new or expanded fracked gas pipelines;
7) Stands in solidarity with communities opposing the TGP Pipeline and other such pipelines; and
8) Asks that our state and federal representatives and the Governor oppose the TGP Pipeline and any other such new or expanded pipelines carrying fracked gas in the Commonwealth and oppose any tariffs or taxes that may be imposed on ratepayers to fund any of the same; and

Action taken 5/20/15.

The business of the warrant having been completed, Town Meeting voted to dissolve at 8:25 p.m. 152 town meeting members were checked in.