



1973
TOWN REPORT

HAMPDEN, MASSACHUSETTS



Presentation of gold headed cane to Lewis S. Calkins, 96, oldest resident in town.

ANNUAL REPORTS
OF THE
TOWN OFFICERS
OF THE
TOWN OF HAMPDEN



AND OF THE
RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES
FOR THE YEAR ENDING
December 31, 1973

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INFORMATION FOR HAMPDEN RESIDENTS

Population of Hampden, January 1, 1970

Federal Census — 4,572

State Census, January 1, 1971 — 4,293

Geographic Area — 19.64 sq. mi.

Senators in U.S. Senate

Edward W. Brooke

Edward Kennedy

Address: United States Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510

Representative in Congress

Edward P. Boland

Address: U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. 20515

State Senator

Frederick W. Schlossteen, Jr.

Worcester, Hampden and Hampshire District

Address: State House, Boston, Mass. 02133 Room 236

Tel. 617-727-5200

or

Warren, Mass.

(413) 436-5490

Representative in General Court

Alexander Lolas

First Hampden District

(617) 727-5428

Address: Room 481, State House, Boston, Mass. 02133

or

Upper Hampden Rd., Monson, Mass. 01057

Annual Town Meeting

First Monday in March

Annual Election of Officers of Hampden

Second Monday in March

Business Hours of Town Officers and Committees, unless otherwise announced:

Town Clerk	Wednesdays 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. Available at her home 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. other days	Tel. 566-3214
Town Treasurer	Tuesdays and Wednesdays 9 A.M. to 5 P.M.	Tel. 566-3214
Collector of Taxes	Tuesdays and Thursdays 9 A.M. to 2:30 P.M.	Tel. 566-3214
Board of Assessors	Meets second Tuesday of each month at 8 P.M. Clerk in office every Monday 9 A.M. to 5 P.M., Wednesday 2 to 5 P.M. and Friday 2 to 5 P.M.	Tel. 566-3223

Police Department	Open Monday through Friday 8 A.M. to 5 P.M. and Friday, and Saturday evenings 6 P.M. to 1 A.M.	Tel. 566-3535
Board of Selectmen	Meets every Monday at 8 P.M. Secretary in office every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 9 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.; every Wednesday and Friday 9 A.M. to 12 Noon	Tel. 566-3713
Advisory Committee	Meets second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 P.M.	
Conservation Commission	Meets second Monday of each month at 8 P.M.	
Park Commission	1st and 3rd Tuesday at 7:30 P.M.	Tel. 566-3214
Planning Board	Meets second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at 7:30 P.M.	Tel. 566-8814
School Committee	Meets first and third Mondays of each month at 7:30 P.M.	Tel. 566-8814
Regional School Committee	Meets 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month at 7:30 P.M.	Tel. 596-6161

Hours of Hampden Free Public Library

Monday	12:30 P.M. to 5 P.M. and 7 P.M. to 9 P.M.
Wednesday	12:30 P.M. to 5 P.M. and 7 P.M. to 9 P.M.
Thursday	10:30 A.M. to 5 P.M.
Saturday	12:30 P.M. to 5 P.M.
The library will be closed Saturdays during July and August.	

Hours of Laughing Brook

Tuesday through Saturday, 10 A.M. to 5 P.M.
 Sunday, 1 P.M. to 5 P.M.

Hours of Town Dump

February 1, 1972

Tuesday	12 Noon to 6 P.M.
Saturday	9 A.M. to 6 P.M.

Publications Available

Subdivision Control Laws	\$1.50 each
Zoning By-Laws	2.00 each
If mailed	3.50 each

The following may be obtained from Town Clerk:

Certified copy of birth	\$1.00
Certified copy of death	1.00
Certified copy of marriage	1.00
Marriage license — resident	4.00
Trade Name registration	1.25
Street list	3.00
Voting list	1.25

	<i>Term Expires</i>
<i>Constables</i>	PAUL A. BOUCHARD..... 1974
	MILES M. HAPGOOD, JR..... 1974
	MYRON F. STONE..... 1974
<i>Cemetery Commissioners</i>	HOMER FULLER, Chairman..... 1976
	ARTHUR GERRISH..... 1974
	ERNESTINE F. JOHNSON..... 1975
<i>Planning Board</i>	CARL F. LIBBY, Chairman..... 1978
	CLIFFORD KEENEY..... 1976
	FREDERICK MAHER, Vice Chairman..... 1975
	DUDLEY E. BLISS, JR..... 1974
	HENRY F. HANMER..... 1977
<i>Clerk to the Planning Board</i> — JUDITH JACKSON	
<i>Tree Warden</i>	HOMER FULLER..... 1974
<i>Park Commissioners</i>	WILBUR J. JENKINS, Chairman..... 1975
	JAMES CAREY..... 1974
	HOWARD C. CUTTING..... 1974
	FREDERICK WATERHOUSE..... 1976
	JAMES WHIPPLE..... 1976
<i>Clerk to Park Commissioners</i> — LUCILLE McGUILL	

APPOINTED TOWN OFFICERS — 1972

<i>Town Accountant</i>	THEODORE I. BALLARD..... 1974
<i>Dog Officer</i>	PAUL BOUCHARD..... 1974
<i>Forest Fire Warden</i>	RICHARD J. BOYNTON..... 1974
<i>Inspector of Animals</i>	HOMER FULLER..... 1974
<i>Superintendent of Insect Pest Control</i>	JAMES A. REARDON..... 1974
<i>Veterans' Graves Officer</i>	RICHARD WIENCEK..... 1974
<i>Board of Health Agent and Investigator</i>	ROBERT H. SABBIDES..... 1974
<i>Agent for Veterans' Benefits</i>	RICHARD N. BILLODEAU..... 1974
<i>Civil Defense Director</i>	DOUGLAS G. VERNEY..... 1974
<i>Deputy C.D. Director</i>	GEORGE K. STONE, JR..... 1974
<i>Pound Keeper and Field Driver</i>	HOMER FULLER..... 1974
<i>Fence Viewers</i>	DONALD E. DICKINSON..... 1974
	NEIL KIBBE..... 1974
	WILLIAM H. PATRIC..... 1974
<i>Welfare Agent</i>	ALBERT R. DUPSHA..... 1974
<i>Town Counsel</i>	JOSEPH R. JENNINGS..... 1974
<i>Superintendent of Streets</i>	HOMER FULLER..... 1974

	<i>Term Expires</i>
<i>Building Commissioner</i>	GORDON J. E. WILLCUT 1974
<i>Electrical Inspector</i>	ALBERT W. MIREAULT 1974
<i>Plumbing Inspector</i>	WILLIAM P. PATULLO 1974
<i>Board of Appeals</i>	FRANCIS T. BUCKLEY, Chairman 1975
	DALTON PHILPOTT 1974
	BERT NIETUPSKI 1976
	WALTER W. LUNDEN 1974
	FREDERICK W. BERRY 1976
<i>Alternates</i>	BRYCE NORWOOD 1976
	TERRY HESSER 1975
<i>Clerk to Board of Appeals</i> — MONA PLAATEN	
<i>Hampden-Wilbraham Regional</i>	
<i>School District Committee</i>	YORKE PHILLIPS 1974
<i>Advisory Committee</i>	RAYMOND A. BARKHUFF, Chairman 1975
	JOHN L. MATTHEWS, JR. 1976
	DANIEL M. FLYNN 1974
	ROLLYN HATCH 1976
	ROBERT J. SICBALDI 1975
<i>Clerk to Advisory Committee</i> — JANE WYMAN	
<i>Board of Registrars</i>	MARIE V. KROOK, Town Clerk
	FAYE FLYNN, Chairman 1976
	CECELIA MELVILLE 1974
	MARGARET ROCHFORD 1975
<i>Chief of Police</i>	GEORGE K. STONE, JR.
<i>Patrolmen</i>	JOHN HAHN
	JAMES KIRK
	ROBERT A. NEWTON
<i>Special Officers</i>	ARTHUR BOOTH
	PAUL A. BOUCHARD
	MILES E. HAPGOOD, JR.
	DONALD HARATY
	LAWRENCE HATCH
	ROLAND W. HODGON
	DANIEL KNOWLES
	JAMES OLEND
	CHARLES ROGERS
	MYRON STONE
	ALFRED S. TAYLOR
	RICHARD THAYER
	GEORGE VERMETTE
DOUGLAS VERNEY	
<i>Special Policewomen</i>	JOYCE B. BETHEL
	RUTH W. WOODS
<i>School Crossing Guard</i>	FRANCIS B. MORSE
<i>Special Sanitary Landfill Officer</i>	WALTER J. LYONS

<i>Fire Chief</i>	JAMES A. REARDON	
<i>Building Code Revision</i>		
<i>Survey Committee</i>	GORDON J. E. WILLCUTT, Chairman WILLIAM P. PATULLO ALBERT W. MIREAULT HAROLD F. HELBERG ROBERT M. FORTUNE CHARLES P. SHARPLES CHARLES R. MELVILLE, SR. ex-officio	
<i>Academy Hall Restoration</i>		
<i>Committee</i>	JOHN M. FLYNN, Chairman BERYL DOTEN FRANCES S. JONES SHERWOOD CRONK FRANK J. T. KIRK MARGARET HELBERG HAROLD HELBERG ARTHUR GERRISH LEONARD DICKINSON BEN F. LIBBY NEIL S. KIBBE MARY E. DUNLEA JAMES SULHAM BETTY ANN JOHNSON A. CARLETON JOHNSON	
		<i>Term Expires</i>
<i>Conservation Commission</i>	LELAND PROCTER, Chairman.....	1975
	EMORY FORD.....	1976
	BENJAMIN BUMP.....	1976
	ARTHUR GERRISH.....	1975
	JOHN MIKKOLA.....	1974
	LOUIS SICBALDI.....	1974
<i>Insurance Committee</i>	WILLIAM T. OLMSTEAD, Chairman BERNICE BAKER GERALD HINCH	
<i>Town Report Committee</i>	DAVID GIBB, Chairman GORDON BUFFETT HENRY BAUSH DON SAFFORD	
<i>Hampden Housing Authority</i> ...	DONALD WILCOX, Chairman HELEN LARSON, Vice Chairman GERTRUDE LYONS VIRGINIA FASTH WILLIAM T. OLMSTEAD.....	1976
<i>Sidewalk Study Committee</i>	CAROL COLLINS, Chairman ROBERT BURGER CLIFFORD KEENEY ROWLAND FAWTHROP MICHAEL R. GRANCIO	

IN MEMORIAM

EDWARD H. DAYTON
*Former Assessor for nine years
and a member of the
Hampden Historical Society*

**VOTERS LIABLE FOR JURY DUTY
FOR THE YEAR BEGINNING AUGUST 1, 1973**

ROGER BANDOSKI	GEORGE MILLER
ARTHUR A. BEAUMIER	CHARLES MONTEFUSCO
JAMES D. CAREY	RAYMOND SCHMUCK
KEITH J. DALLAS	JOSEPH SIMON
DONALD P. DECKER	OSCAR STICKLES
THOMAS FLEMING	FRANK H. SULHAM
EMORY B. FORD	SCOTT TAYLOR
EARLE HEWINSON	LAWRENCE E. WALL
RICHARD A. JALBERT	EDWARD E. BERRETT
DOUGLAS E. KELLEY	JAMES J. BRENNAN
THEODORE KULLBERG	CHARLOTTE AUDREN
EDWARD MAJKUT	ELIZABETH CRONK
EARL MERRILL	JEANNETTE S. GREEN
	FLORA NEEDHAM

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING — June 11, 1973

ARTICLE 1. To see if the Town will vote to rescind the vote taken under Article 4 at the Annual Town Meeting of March 5, 1973, and to amend the vote taken under Article 3 of said Annual Town Meeting as follows:

By designating tax revenue as the source for the entire appropriation under

- Item 7.1 — Property and Liability Insurance
- Item 7.2 — Employee Benefits Insurance
- Item 32 — Town House Maintenance, and

By designating Revenue Sharing Funds in the sum of \$101,440.00, if available, for the entire appropriation for

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------|
| Item 23 — Dump Maintenance | \$25,850. |
| Item 26 — Library | 17,090. |
| Item 42 — Road Maintenance | 22,500. |
| Item 43 — Snow and Ice Removal | 36,000. |

Or take any other action in relation thereto.

Approved.

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING — March 5, 6, 1973

ARTICLE 1. Voted to accept Annual Reports as contained in the Annual Town Report for year 1972; Elementary School Building Committee and 1972 Extended School Use Feasibility Study Committee (45-15) submitted reports; committees disbanded with thanks.

ARTICLE 2. Voted to raise and appropriate \$21,005.79 to pay off borrowing ordered by the Court to satisfy judgment in Regional Budget case.

ARTICLE 3. Voted to raise and appropriate \$2,810,696.02 to cover budget items 1.0 through 69.1; with changes.

ARTICLE 4. Voted to expend Revenue Sharing funds equally on following accounts: Present amount: \$49,905.

- Item 7.1 Property and Liability Insurance
- Item 7.2 Employee Benefits Insurance
- Item 23.0 Dump Maintenance
- Item 32.0 Town House Maintenance
- Item 43.0 Snow and Ice

ARTICLE 5. Voted to raise and appropriate \$750. for 1978 Centennial.

ARTICLE 6. Voted to raise and appropriate \$220.05 to pay two unpaid bills of Police Department.

ARTICLE 7. Voted to raise and appropriate \$4,500. to be used in conjunction with money allotted by State or County, or both, for Chapter 90 Maintenance.

ARTICLE 8. Voted to raise and appropriate \$5,775. to be used in conjunction with any money allotted by the State or County, or both, for Chapter 90 Construction on Main Street.

ARTICLE 9. Voted to raise and appropriate \$3398. for repair and maintenance of town roads.

ARTICLE 10. Voted to borrow \$45,008 for State share of Chapter 81 and State and County share of Chapter 90 Highway programs.

ARTICLE 11. Voted to raise and appropriate \$25,000 to resurface a portion of Wilbraham Road.

ARTICLE 12. Voted to appropriate \$17,710. for intersection and traffic control work at intersection of Main Street and Somers Road, said money to be borrowed and returned to Treasury when reimbursed by the Commonwealth.

ARTICLE 13. Voted to appropriate \$17,587. for intersection and traffic island work at intersection of Allen Street, East Longmeadow Road, Somers Road and Wilbraham Road, said money to be borrowed and returned to Treasury when reimbursed by the Commonwealth.

ARTICLE 14. Voted to acquire by deed or take by eminent domain parcel of land described in Warrant and supposedly owned by Andersen Realty Trust, located at Allen Street, East Longmeadow Road, Somers Road and Wilbraham Road, for highway purposes.

ARTICLE 15. Voted to appropriate \$10,000 to construct and install traffic controls at intersection of Allen Street and Stony Hill Road, said money to be borrowed and returned to Treasury when reimbursed by the Commonwealth.

ARTICLE 16. (Amended.) Voted to authorize Selectmen to appoint a study committee for sidewalk study, said committee to consist of five members, two representing the Planning Board, and one representing the School Committee; this committee to report back to next Annual Town Meeting.

ARTICLE 17. Voted to raise and appropriate \$4,500. and transfer \$7,000 from Highway Machinery Account to purchase a new truck for Highway Dept.

ARTICLE 18. Voted to raise and appropriate \$6,700. to purchase two sander bodies to be mounted on presently owned Town trucks.

ARTICLE 19. Voted to amend Title II, Section 1 of General By-laws of Hampden to change date of Annual Town Meeting to third Monday in April.

ARTICLE 20. Voted to amend Title II, Section of General By-laws of Hampden to make annual town election date the fourth Monday in April.

ARTICLE 21. (Amended.) Voted to set aside the amendment to Town By-laws as proposed in this article.

ARTICLE 22. Voted to revise General By-laws of Hampden by replacing the last sentence of Section 4 under Part III, Advisory Committee, with "After due consideration of the subject matters in such articles, said committee shall report thereon, in print or otherwise, to the Town Meeting its recommendations on all articles pertaining to appropriations, the expenditure of money and the incurring of debts. The Committee may make recommendations on any other articles it deems appropriate," and by adding to Section 7 under Part III, Advisory Committee, a phrase so that Section 7 now reads:

"It shall be the duty of the Advisory Committee to make an annual report

of its activities to be contained in the Annual Town Report, or a supplement thereto.”

ARTICLE 23. (Amended.) Voted, after considering the shortage of safe or sanitary dwellings available for elderly persons of low income at rentals which they can afford, will determine that a housing authority is needed for the purpose of providing housing for elderly persons of low income, and vote to establish the Hampden Housing Authority under General Laws, Chapter 121B, Section 3 for that purpose; and the Board of Selectmen appoint four members to the Housing Authority until the next Annual Town Meeting.

ARTICLE 24. Voted to transfer care, custody, management and control of a described tax titled parcel of land to Conservation Commission for use in its program for the promotion and development of natural resources in the town. (“The Ballard lot” off Wilbraham Road — 22 acres, more or less.)

ARTICLE 25. Article defeated. Concerned printing of Real Estate Valuation Book.

ARTICLE 26. (Amended.) Voted to transfer \$25,000 from Free Cash to Reserve Fund.

ARTICLE 27. (Amended.) Voted not to transfer money into Stabilization Fund.

ARTICLE 28. Voted that Dog Fund money in the amount of \$544.35 be expended by Library Trustees at their discretion.

ARTICLE 29. Voted to transfer State Aid of \$1714.50 from Library Fund to be used by Library Trustees at their discretion.

ARTICLE 30. (Amended.) Voted to amend the Zoning By-law for Hampden by additions, deletions or substitutions as defined in the Warrant with some corrections.

ARTICLE 31. Voted to amend Section 6.7 of Zoning By-law of Hampden by deleting the entire section and substituting, as defined in the Warrant with some additions and deletions.

ARTICLE 32. Voted to accept proposed amendment to Hampden Zoning By-law and Zoning District Map which establishes a Wetland District as set forth by Planning Board.

ARTICLE 33. Voted to authorize Treasurer, with approval of Selectmen, to borrow money in anticipation of revenue for the 18 month period beginning January 1, 1973, in accordance with General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 4 and acts in amendment thereof, and including also Chapter 849 of the Acts of 1969, as amended, and to renew notes for less than one year.

ARTICLE 34. Voted to raise and appropriate \$8,000. to resurface 4 tennis courts and repair fence surrounding same at Thornton Burgess School.

ARTICLE 35. Voted to accept provisions of Chapter 44, Section 53C. (Police Dept. revolving fund.)

MODERATOR'S REPORT

The town meeting held in March 1973 was unique in that expenditures and budgets were projected and approved for an eighteen-month period. This was necessary in order to bring city and town governments into line with the fiscal year corresponding to the State Government. This was quite an undertaking and necessitated much research, and many hours of extra time on the part of most elected and appointed town officials. In particular, the selectmen, Advisory Board, and school committees faced a challenging task.

Obviously, they were successful in their accomplishments, since Hampden has experienced only minor difficulties during this transition period. Other communities were not as fortunate. The townspeople attending the Town Meeting are also to be commended for the expedient manner in which they disposed of the Articles in the Warrant for the 1973 Town Meeting. (It required an average of slightly over eleven minutes per article.)

A total of thirty five articles, many of a controversial nature, were voted on in approximately six and one-half hours.

However: there was one disappointing feature of the 1973 Town Meeting. This was the lack of registered voters. Approximately one of five registered voters were present at the first night's session, and only one voter out of ten for the second session. The political structure of our town denotes a town meeting form of government. In reality, it is a non-elected representative type. If only ten per cent of the registered votes are present, the person voting represents nine absent voters. Do you trust your vote to a stranger? You do if you fail to attend and vote! The tax rate is determined by affirmative action at town meetings. It's your money. Even more important, the results of the vote on special articles determine our environmental surroundings, the caliber of our educational facilities, and the success or failure of special interests' groups.

There is an old adage: "People get the type of government they deserve." I think Hampden deserves the best. Your attendance at all future town meetings will assure it!

DALTON E. PHILPOTT, *Moderator*



Dalton Philpott
Town Moderator

REPORT OF SIDEWALK STUDY COMMITTEE

The committee has researched the issue of sidewalks for Hampden from several points of view: initial cost, cost of maintenance, town sentiment, and safety.

The approximate cost of constructing four foot wide bituminous sidewalks would be \$6600.00 per mile. An estimated figure for maintenance would be \$320.00 per mile per year. Use of cement would quadruple initial cost.

The committee wishes to thank those who responded to our questionnaire which was included in the fall newsletter. Of the ninety-three questionnaires returned, there were thirty-eight indications of interest in sidewalks in specific areas of town. Only five were in favor of sidewalks throughout Hampden. Less than fifty per cent of the responses indicated interest in bicycle paths. The two most frequent anti-sidewalk arguments involved cost and the preservation of the rural nature of the town.

The committee has also taken into consideration estimated pedestrian traffic and police department accident reports which would bear on the issue.

Based upon the foregoing information and considerations, the committee recommends that the construction of sidewalks not be undertaken at this time. We do feel, however, that this issue should be reviewed periodically as the town grows.

Respectfully submitted,

CAROL J. COLLINS, *Chairman*
MICHAEL R. GRANCIO
ROLAND P. FAWTHROP
CLIFFORD E. KEENEY

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF REGISTRARS

Number of registered voters January 1, 1973.	2,300
Number of new voters during 1973.	67
	<hr/>
	2,367
Number of voters dropped from voting list during the year.	210
	<hr/>
Number of registered voters December 31, 1973.	2,157
Voter attendance at elections during the year:	
Republican Caucus.	1972 1973
Democratic Caucus.	61 33
Town election.	56 60
	1,020 593

The annual street list of residents of voting age was completed as of April 15. The number listed was 2,763.

Respectfully submitted,

FAYE W. FLYNN, *Chairman*
MARGARET C. ROCHFORD
CECILIA C. MELVILLE
MARIE V. KROOK, *Clerk*

REPORT OF FIRE DEPARTMENT

During the year 1973 the Hampden Volunteer Fire Department responded to a total of 72 alarms of which there were:

Grass and Brush	32
Dump (Brush pile)	4
House	18
Car	6
Shed	4
Garage	3
Other emergencies	5

It was necessary to call for mutual aid assistance from other towns 5 times during 1973.

The year proved to be a very busy year for the Fire Department with a total increase of 30 alarms answered over 1972. There was an increase in every type of fire with grass and brush showing the largest increase, 22 over 1972, house fires increased by 2.

Related to the energy crises was the increased use of fireplaces, wood burning stoves and the use of candles and kerosene lamps. I would like to caution everyone to be extra careful when using these energy saving items. We have had several fires in the past year where the cause was found to be related to the careless use of a fireplace.

I would like to impress on everyone how important it is to notify the Fire Department immediately when you have a fire of any type, the early detections and calls to the Fire Department have been a great help to us during the past year in averting what could have been many more serious fires than were experienced.

Respectfully submitted,

CHIEF JAMES A. REARDON

REPORT OF TOWN COUNSEL

(January 1, 1973 to January 1, 1974)

The regular attention of Town Counsel to the problems and questions of the Town Boards during the year produced opinions on Alcoholic Beverage Licenses, the Anderson Mall, Town Meeting Articles, Housing Authority, Building Regulations, occupations conducted at home, subdivision problems, fences bordering highways, assessments, the general liability for damages, of public officials, the Lord's Day statute, the question of Official Town Seal, reimbursement from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts of certain expenditures, problems connected with the so-called Hunter property, drainage problems, the new Drug Law and controls under it, electric street lighting, legal place of residence of Town Officials, etc.

In other more time consuming actions, there were reviews of many Appeal Board decisions, attention to a court case on the Ingle's Woods engineering bill against the Town, the Markham sign case involving a Zoning Law violation, some minor tax appeal cases, as well as the more important series of eight Gas Light Company appeals (settled at \$22,000.00 from the

original demand that would have amounted to about \$97,000.00), the so-called Country Club court case involving action of the developer without obtaining prior approval of the Town (case now appears amicably disposed of).

There were also many matters relating to the schools having our attention, including teacher relationships, painting contracts, general management of school affairs, pupil relationships, replacement of oil burner, etc.

The Town's legal affairs become annually more complex, diversified and numerous, and it is expected that the trend, and the rise in the cost for attending to the same, will continue.

JOSEPH R. JENNINGS, *Town Counsel*

REPORT OF THE FOREST FIRE WARDEN

In the year from January 1, 1973 to December 31, 1973 there were 36 (thirty-six) grass and brush fires. Four of these were the brush pile at the Hampden Sanitary Land Fill.

I would like to caution all residents and hunters in Hampden to be extra careful while walking in the woods. Two of our worst fires were on top of mountains where it was very hard to get to, therefore, burned a large number of acres.

Respectfully submitted,

RICHARD J. BOYNTON
Forest Fire Warden

REPORT OF THE HAMPDEN HOUSING AUTHORITY

Background information on State supported Housing for the Elderly of Limited Income was included in the Study Committee reports of 1970 and 1972 which are to be found in the Town Reports for those years.

The first step toward starting a Housing Project was taken at the 1973 Town Meeting when it was voted to establish a Housing Authority and to authorize the Selectmen to appoint the four town members, who with the Governor's appointee of one make up the membership of the Authority. Appointments to the Authority were made by the Selectmen and by the Governor and the Authority received its Certificate of Organization in July.

Steps were taken at once to obtain the names of persons who would wish to make application for apartments when they became available. At the date of this writing (January 17, 1974) there have been recorded the following indications of requests for housing:

Couples — 23
Singles — 30
Total Units — 53

These have not been definitely screened as to eligibility.

A number of possible sites were visited keeping in mind the desirability of having the facility in a location where it would be within walking distance of shopping and service areas, of churches, and of bus connections. Also that it should be so situated that it would involve no unreasonable grades and no undue traffic hazards.

With several site possibilities in mind, application was made to the Department of Community Affairs for tentative approval for the building of a 48 unit, two story facility. That tentative approval was given December 18th under nine specific conditions which were reviewed with the Board of Selectmen prior to acceptance by the Authority.

After interviewing several architectural firms, the Authority selected, subject to approval of the Department of Community Affairs, the firm of Reinhardt Associates Inc. of 55 State Street, Springfield, Mass. This firm has had wide experience in this type of development and it has already demonstrated the tremendous help that it can be to the Authority.

To accommodate the proposed project, an amendment to the Town's Zoning By-Laws will be needed. With that in prospect, the Authority has requested the Planning Board to suggest an amendment which, it is hoped, can be included as an article in the warrant for the Town Meeting in April 1974.

The Selectmen's budget for the 18 month period ending June 30, 1974 included \$500.00 under the heading "Housing For the Elderly". Through December 31, 1973 there had been used \$168.50, broken down as follows:

Postage, cards and other communications	\$39.92
File Cabinet	93.00
Minute book and Seal	27.70
Clerical help	7.88

Respectfully submitted,

DONALD E. WILCOX — *Chairman*
 HELEN E. LARSON — *Vice-Chairman*
 GERTRUDE M. LYONS — *Temporary Secretary*
 WILLIAM T. OLMSTEAD — *Treasurer*
 VIRGINIA FASTH — *Assistant Treasurer*

REPORT OF THE BUILDING COMMISSIONER

For the year ending December 31, 1973 there were three hundred and eighteen permits granted.

These were as follows:

Building:	
new houses	26
bank	1
golf club house	1
pavillion	1
greenhouses	2
hen house	1
garages	10
barns	2
sheds	5
swimming pools	21
additions to houses	23

alterations to houses.....	7
addition to barn.....	1
finish stores.....	4
addition to drive-in.....	1
signs.....	3
remove house.....	1
remove Hampden House.....	1
remove garages.....	2
remove swimming pool.....	1
Electrical:	
new houses.....	25
appliances.....	10
additions and alterations.....	30
swimming pools.....	3
service changes.....	8
commercial.....	8
barn.....	1
Plumbing:	
new houses.....	22
bank.....	1
alterations and additions.....	13
gas.....	83

Respectfully submitted,

GORDON J. E. WILLCUTT, SR.
Building Commissioner

REPORT OF DOG OFFICER

During 1973, 83 stray dogs were picked up and confined to the dog pound; 45 were redeemed and the rest destroyed after the required 5 day period. It should be noted that the law now requires only this 5 day period of confinement before destroying, so anyone whose dog is taken to the pound must redeem it within that period. There is now insufficient time to advertise these dogs in the newspapers.

Funds available will carry over until June 30, 1974. During 1973, there was income to the Town Treasury as follows: \$200 in pound fees for redeemed dogs, and \$616. in reimbursement from County Commissioners. The approved dog trap has helped in apprehending stray dogs.

Residents are reminded that dogs are to be under the control of the owner at all times. Cooperation in carrying out this regulation will result in a savings to the citizens in the amount of time required for answering complaints and picking up strays.

Respectfully submitted,

PAUL A. BOUCHARD
Dog Officer

REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

Dogs licensed in 1973:

224 Male.....	\$ 672.00
38 Female.....	228.00
155 Spayed Female.....	465.00
2 Kennel at \$10.....	20.00
2 Kennel at \$25.....	50.00
2 Kennel at \$50.....	100.00

\$1,535.00

Fees paid to Treasurer..... 148.05

Paid to County Treasurer..... \$1,386.95

Clerk fees paid to Treasurer:

Sporting licenses (490 issued at \$4,356.90) fees.....	\$ 114.90
Dog licenses and Kennels (423 issued at \$1,535) fees.....	148.05
Recordings.....	323.00
Certified copies.....	149.50
Marriages.....	132.00
Trade in Name.....	8.75

\$ 876.20

VITAL STATISTICS

	1971	1972	1973
Births recorded.....	68	47	44
Deaths recorded.....	42	24	30
Marriages recorded.....	37	47	47

Respectfully submitted,

MARIE V. KROOK, *Town Clerk*



Town Treasurer, Town Clerk and Collector of Taxes

REPORT OF COLLECTOR OF TAXES

1972 REAL ESTATE TAXES		
Balance due January 1, 1973.....		\$ 49,252.78
	Refunds	123.63
		\$ 49,376.41
Collected and paid Town Treasurer.....	\$ 45,791.28	
Abatements.....	349.95	46,141.23
		46,141.23
Balance due January 1, 1974		3,235.18
1972 MOTOR VEHICLE AND TRAILER EXCISE		
Balance due January 1, 1973.....		20,817.16
	commitments in 1973	43,480.22
	payments after abatements	180.13
	refunds	1,174.32
		65,651.83
Collected and paid Town Treasurer.....	\$ 55,590.88	
Abatements.....	9,394.33	64,985.21
		64,985.21
Balance due January 1, 1974		666.62
1972 PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES		
Balance due January 1, 1973.....		1,886.83
	Refunds	3,406.30
		5,293.13
Collected and paid Town Treasurer.....	1,785.43	
Abatements.....	3,507.70	5,293.13
		5,293.13
1973 FARM ANIMAL EXCISE		
Total Commitments.....		210.95
Collected and paid Town Treasurer.....		210.95
		210.95
1973 PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES		
Total Commitments.....		78,867.92
	Refunds	2,077.19
		80,945.11
Collected and paid Town Treasurer.....	\$ 75,504.26	
Abatements.....	3,320.30	78,824.56
		78,824.56
Balance due January 1, 1974		2,120.55
1973 REAL ESTATE TAXES		
Total Commitments.....		1,210,980.78
	Refunds	3,716.82
		1,214,697.60
Collected and paid Town Treasurer.....	\$1,135,184.31	
Abatements.....	21,656.90	
Transferred to Tax Title Account.....	601.57	1,157,442.78
		1,157,442.78
Balance due January 1, 1974		57,254.82
1973 MOTOR VEHICLE AND TRAILER EXCISE		
Total commitments.....		\$ 120,394.19

	Refunds	1,397.92
	Payments after abatements	33.00
		<hr/>
		\$ 121,825.11
Collected and paid Town Treasurer	89,507.89	
Abatements	11,244.37	100,752.26
		<hr/>
	Balance due January 1, 1974	21,072.85
ITEMS COLLECTED AND PAID TOWN TREASURER BUT NOT COMMITTED		
Interest on delinquent taxes		2,302.10
Fees on delinquent taxes		960.00
		<hr/>
		3,262.10

Respectfully submitted,

DOROTHY S. FLYNN
Collector of Taxes

TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance January 1, 1973	\$ 243,669.25
Receipts	3,167,757.71
	<hr/>
Disbursements	3,411,426.96
	3,006,478.27
	<hr/>
Balance December 31, 1973	\$ 404,948.69
Holt Library Fund:	
Balance January 1, 1973	\$ 579.35
Interest	31.57
	<hr/>
Balance December 31, 1973	610.92
Library Fund:	
Balance January 1, 1973	\$ 4,821.98
Interest	282.76
	<hr/>
Balance December 31, 1973	5,104.74
Bumstead Cemetery Fund:	
Balance January 1, 1973	\$ 2,106.68
Interest	115.15
	<hr/>
Balance December 31, 1973	2,221.83
Day Library Fund:	
Balance January 1, 1973	\$ 612.53
Interest	33.41
	<hr/>
	645.94
Withdrawn	26.56
	<hr/>
Balance December 31, 1973	619.69

Town Common:	
Balance January 1, 1973	\$ 995.56
Interest	49.94
	<hr/>
	1,045.50
Withdrawn	61.79
	<hr/>
Balance December 31, 1973	983.71
Centennial Fund:	
Balance January 1, 1973	\$ 3,552.54
Interest	240.18
Appropriation	750.00
	<hr/>
Balance December 31, 1973	4,542.72
Stabilization Fund:	
Balance January 1, 1973	\$ 115,074.79
Interest	6,723.07
	<hr/>
Balance December 31, 1973	121,797.86
Perpetual Care Trust Funds	\$ 12,466.14
Building Permits issued 228	\$ 3,272.00

Respectfully submitted,

GRACE L. KIBBE
Treasurer

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF STREETS

Most of the 1973 Highway money was spent for general maintenance of all roads, such as scrapping, drainage, brush cutting, patching, resurfacing, etc. Chapter 81 money contributed largely to this work.

Chapter 90 Maintenance Funds, which is made up by the town, county and state each contributing equally was \$9,000 last year. Six tenths of a mile on East Longmeadow Road was paved with Bituminous concrete. Also, 800' was paved on North Monson Road.

The roads resurfaced with liquid asphalt and pea stone covered were: one quarter mile on North Rd., eight tenths mile on South Road, all of Crestwood Lane, one half mile of Sessions Drive, all of Hickory Lane and Old Coach Circle, All of Cedar Oak Lane, and 400' of Chapin Road.

Roads built with town funds included drainage on South Road for 800 feet, at Hampden Memorial Park drainage installed, and liquid asphalt and pea stone on driveway and parking lot to Maintenance Building. Wilbraham Road was completed from the Thornton Burgess School to Raymond Drive. Shoulders were seeded and graded, berms were installed on both sides of the road. A stone wall was built in front of the Frank Munsell Property.

The town's winter work has become a major problem as new streets are being accepted by the town every year. The public today insists upon bare pavement year round which adds to the cost of snow removal. The cost for snow removal this past year was \$17,000.