



**1974**  
**TOWN REPORT**

HAMPDEN, MASSACHUSETTS

Cover photograph by Donald M. Safford.

Cover: Laughing Brook Award Winning Float sponsored by the Town of Hampden and the Hampden Lions Club. Float was constructed by members of the Hampden Lions Club.

**ANNUAL REPORTS**  
OF THE  
**TOWN OFFICERS**  
OF THE  
**TOWN OF HAMPDEN**



AND OF THE  
**RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES**  
FOR THE YEAR ENDING  
December 31, 1974

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## HAMPDEN'S GOLD HEADED CANE

*As related to Carol Collins by Gertrude Lyons*

The tradition of the gold headed cane began for Hampden and other New England towns in 1909. It was in that year that the publisher of the Boston Post sent to Hampden and 430 other New England towns a gold headed ebony cane to be presented to the oldest citizen of the town, to be used by him as long as he lives (or moves from the town) and, at his death, to be handed down to the next oldest citizen.

The canes were made by a New York manufacturer from ebony shipped in seven foot lengths from the Congo in Africa. They were cut to cane length, seasoned for six months, turned on lathes to the correct thickness, coated and polished. The two inch long, 14 karat gold filled head was engraved with this inscription: "Presented by the Boston Post to the Oldest Citizen of Hampden — to be Transmitted." The selectmen were to be the trustees of the cane, and keep it always in the possession of the oldest citizen.

Hampden's gold headed cane has been carefully preserved over the last sixty five years. During that time it has been held by fourteen residents of Hampden, five women and nine men, who were an average age of eighty eight at the time they received the cane.

The first holder of the cane was Alanson Chaffee. He received the cane on August 23, 1909, at the age of eighty seven years. A party was given on this occasion, and the following poem was read:

"We bring to him who is Chief in Years  
Our friend with the silver crown.  
This staff a golden one, the gift  
Of the Boston Post to our town.  
  
An eight of tens and seven more  
His anniversaries tell,  
And Heaven may grant that he yet complete  
His century's measure well.  
  
In his way of wit and wisdom still,  
In his watch of men and things  
May care omnipotent keep in time  
His harp of a thousand strings.  
  
Who next will stand as our Chief in Years  
In an eight or nine of tens  
We may not know but there always wait  
One oldest of citizens."

*Author — Lucy Chaffee Alden*

Sumner Smith Esquire was presented the cane on October 2, 1911. He was eighty six years old. Mr. Smith was a Town Clerk and Treasurer of Hampden, a selectman, and also a state representative in Boston.

Mr. William Johnson, at the age of 87, became the third holder of the cane. He lived at 459 Main Street and for a time ran Burt's Mill.

In 1924, the cane was presented to Patrick Lyons, grandfather of Gertrude Lyons, who had sailed from County Cork, Ireland on a sailing vessel, "The United America" in 1848. He became a citizen of the U.S. in 1872. Patrick and his wife had settled on the Lyons Place — 308 Glendale Road.

From 1929 to 1943 Elliot Bradway was the holder of the cane. He was the father of Stella Howlett who lives on 37 Howlett Heights off Chapin Road.

The next custodian of the cane was Albert W. Lee who received it in 1943 at the age of eighty eight.

From Mr. Lee, the cane passed to Nelson M. Carew who owned the old charcoal kiln on Scantic. He also was a selectman for forty years and was well known in the real estate field. Mr. Carew held the cane from 1947 to 1952 when he died at the age of 94.

In May, 1952, Mrs. Julia O'Brien became the first woman to hold the cane. It was hers until May 4, 1959, when she died at age 94.

For one year, 1959 - 1960, Mrs. Marie Hayes had the cane. She was 92 years old.

Minnie Chase was the tenth recipient of the cane in 1960, followed at an undetermined date by Mrs. Nancy Rogers who lived at 119 Allen Street. Mrs. Rogers was well known for her fine raspberries and was talented in fine hemstitching and reciting poetry. She died in 1970 at the age of 94.

Miss Mary Driscoll was the only person ever to refuse the gold headed cane saying it was a man's cane, and besides, she liked to use her mother's cane — it was stronger.

From 1970 until his death in 1973 Olney H. Harris, the towns only surviving Spanish American War Veteran, was the holder of the cane. Mr. Harris operated a large dairy farm at Ames and Glendale Roads with his son Earl H. Harris, Sr.

The cane is presently in the possession of Lewis S. Calkins, who is 98 years old, and the father of Mrs. Carl Larson. Mr. Calkins was an electrician and later went into his own carpentry and repair business. He was seen shingling a roof when in his eighties. When asked for a clue to his longevity he replied, "I never worry about anything".

The continuity of the transmission of our Boston Post Gold Headed cane in Hampden has been very impressive. A 1968 survey found only 20 canes in Massachusetts and, of them, only fourteen in the hands of their proper custodians. Many have been lost or stored away and forgotten. Hopefully, our good record will continue — and which of us may one day be Hampden's "Chief in Years" and holder of the cane.

## 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*

John B. Perry  
First Hampden District  
(413) 267-3769

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

or

Margaret St., Monson, Mass., 01057

*Annual Town Meeting*

Last Monday in April

*Annual Election of Officers of Hampden*

First Monday in May

*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	Monday Noon to 4 P.M. 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 7 A.M. to 1 A.M. and Saturday evenings 8 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.....	3.00 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

*Telephones*

Green Meadows Elementary School, North Road.....	566-3263
Superintendent of Schools, Thornton Burgess Intermediate School.....	566-8814
Junior High School, Thornton Burgess Intermediate School.....	566-3931
Highway Department, Main Street.....	566-8842
Library, Main Street.....	566-3047
Minnechaug Regional High School, Wilbraham.....	596-6161
Welfare Department, 191 Main St., Monson.....	267-3717
Veterans Service Department, 200 Main St., Monson.....	267-9903

*Church Directory*

Federal Community Church, Main Street.....	566-3711
Rev. Sanford Fasth, Pastor.....	566-3402
St. Mary's Church, Somers Road	
Rev. Edmund Walsh, Pastor.....	566-8843

## ELECTED TOWN OFFICERS — 1974

	<i>Term Expires</i>
Moderator.....	DALTON E. PHILPOTT..... 1975
Town Clerk.....	MARIE V. KROOK..... 1977
Town Treasurer.....	GRACE L. KIBBE..... 1977
Board of Selectmen.....	ARTHUR A. BOOTH, JR., Chairman..... 1977 JOHN M. FLYNN..... 1976 SHERWOOD W. CRONK..... 1975
Board of Health.....	JOHN M. FLYNN, Chairman SHERWOOD W. CRONK ARTHUR A. BOOTH, JR.
<i>Secretary to Selectmen and Board of Health — RUTH W. WOODS</i>	
Assessors.....	RICHARD A. JALBERT, Chairman..... 1975 STANLEY W. WITKOP, JR..... 1977 HENRY BAUSH..... 1976
<i>Clerk to the Assessors — ALICE FULLER</i>	
School Committee.....	CARL A. SABIN, Chairman..... 1976 ROBERT SULLIVAN, Vice-Chairman..... 1977 YORK PHILLIPS..... 1975 ROLAND P. FAWTHROP..... 1977 JUDITH A. WITKOP..... 1975
<i>Secretary to School Committee — DR. MAURICE HEFFERNAN</i>	
Hampden-Wilbraham Regional School District Committee.....	KENNETH RAINEY..... 1975
Trustees of the Hampden Free Public Library.....	ELSIE W. THERRIEN, Chairman..... 1975 MIRIAM P. BRYANS..... 1976 CECILIA C. MELVILLE..... 1977
Collector of Taxes.....	DOROTHY S. FLYNN..... 1977
Hampden Housing Authority.....	DONALD E. WILCOX, Chairman..... 1978 CLIFFORD E. ATTLETON..... 1977 WILLIAM T. OLMSTEAD..... 1976 GEORGE J. KEALY..... 1976 FLORENCE E. KIRK..... 1975
Constables.....	PAUL A. BOUCHARD..... 1977 MILES M. HAPGOOD, JR..... 1977 MYRON F. STONE..... 1977
Cemetery Commissioners.....	HOMER FULLER, Chairman..... 1976 ARTHUR GERRISH..... 1977 ERNESTINE F. JOHNSON..... 1975

	<i>Term Expires</i>
<i>Planning Board</i> . . . . .	CARL F. LIBBY, Chairman . . . . . 1978
	CLIFFORD KEENEY . . . . . 1976
	FREDERICK MAHER, Vice Chairman . . . . . 1975
	DUDLEY E. BLISS, JR. . . . . 1979
	HENRY F. HANMER . . . . . 1977
<i>Clerk to the Planning Board</i> — JUDITH JACKSON	
<i>Tree Warden</i> . . . . .	HOMER FULLER . . . . . 1974
<i>Park Commissioners</i> . . . . .	JAMES WHIPPLE, Chairman . . . . . 1976
	HELENE HESSER . . . . . 1977
	HOWARD C. CUTTING . . . . . 1975
	FREDERICK WATERHOUSE . . . . . 1976
	WILBER J. JENKINS . . . . . 1975
<i>Clerk to Park Commissioners</i> -- LUCILLE MCGUILL	

#### APPOINTED TOWN OFFICERS — 1974

<i>Town Accountant</i> . . . . .	CLIFFORD BOMBARD . . . . . 1977
<i>Dog Officer</i> . . . . .	PAUL BOUCHARD . . . . . 1975
<i>Forest Fire Warden</i> . . . . .	RICHARD J. BOYNTON . . . . . 1975
<i>Inspector of Animals</i> . . . . .	HOMER FULLER . . . . . 1975
<i>Superintendent of Insect Pest Control</i> . . . . .	JAMES A. REARDON . . . . . 1975
<i>Veterans' Graves Officer</i> . . . . .	RICHARD WIENCEK . . . . . 1975
<i>Board of Health Agent and Investigator</i> . . . . .	ROBERT H. SABBIDES . . . . . 1975
<i>Agent for Veterans' Benefits</i> . . . . .	RICHARD N. BILLODEAU . . . . . 1975
<i>Acting Civil Defense Director</i> . . . . .	GEORGE K. STONE, JR. . . . . 1975
<i>Pound Keeper and Field Driver</i> . . . . .	HOMER FULLER . . . . . 1975
<i>Fence Viewers</i> . . . . .	DONALD E. DICKINSON . . . . . 1975
	NEIL KIBBE . . . . . 1975
	WILLIAM H. PATRIC . . . . . 1975
<i>Welfare Agent</i> . . . . .	ALBERT R. DUPSHA . . . . . 1975
<i>Town Counsel</i> . . . . .	JOSEPH R. JENNINGS . . . . . 1975
<i>Superintendent of Streets</i> . . . . .	HOMER FULLER . . . . . 1975
<i>Building Commissioner</i> . . . . .	GORDON J. E. WILLCUT, SR. . . . . 1975
<i>Electrical Inspector</i> . . . . .	ALBERT W. MIREAULT . . . . . 1975
<i>Plumbing Inspector</i> . . . . .	WILLIAM P. PATULLO . . . . . 1975

	<i>Term Expires</i>
<i>Board of Appeals</i> . . . . .	FRANCIS T. BUCKLEY, Chairman . . . . . 1975
	DALTON PHILPOTT . . . . . 1977
	BERT NIETUPSKI . . . . . 1976
	WALTER W. LUNDEN . . . . . 1977
	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 . . . . . 1975
<i>Advisory Committee</i> . . . . .	ROLLYN HATCH, Chairman . . . . . 1976
	JOHN L. MATTHEWS, JR. . . . . 1976
	FRANK WATSON . . . . . 1977
	RAYMOND A. BARKHUFF . . . . . 1975
	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
	FRANK J. T. KIRK . . . . . 1977
	MARGARET ROCHFORD . . . . . 1975
<i>Chief of Police</i> . . . . .	GEORGE K. STONE, JR.
<i>Patrolmen</i> . . . . .	JAMES KIRK
	DANIEL KNOWLES
	ROBERT A. NEWTON
	ROBERT TOULSON
<i>Police Dispatcher</i> . . . . .	ALFRED S. TAYLOR
<i>Special Officers</i> . . . . .	PAUL A. BOUCHARD
	MILES E. HAPGOOD, JR.
	DONALD HARATY
<i>Reserve Police Officers</i> . . . . .	MYRON STONE
	DAVID CESAN
	RICHARD THAYER
	CLIFFORD THIBEAULT
	GEORGE VERMETTE
	MICHAEL WEINER
	CHARLES ROGERS
	JOHN REYNOLDS
	FRANK PANETTA
	DANIEL ISHAM
	ANTHONY DiNOIA
	DONALD CHAPUT
<i>Reserves in Training</i> . . . . .	MICHAEL DOYLE
	BARRY GOODRICH
	PETER MARKHARD

*Special Policewomen* . . . . . JOYCE B. BETHEL  
 RUTH W. WOODS  
*School Crossing Guard* . . . . . FRANCES B. MORSE  
*Fire Chief* . . . . . JAMES A. REARDON  
*Academy Hall Restoration*  
*Committee* . . . . . 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

*Land Acquisition Committee* . . . . . WILBER JENKINS, Co-chairman  
 EMORY FORD, Co-chairman  
 DUDLEY E. BLISS, JR.  
 DANIEL M. FLYNN  
 MICHAEL GRANCIO  
 MICHAEL DOYLE  
 BRYCE NORWOOD

	<i>Term</i>
	<i>Expires</i>
<i>Conservation Commission</i> . . . . .	EARL MERRILL, Chairman . . . . . 1977
	EMORY FORD . . . . . 1976
	BENJAMIN BUMP . . . . . 1976
	ARTHUR GERRISH . . . . . 1975
	JOHN MIKKOLA . . . . . 1977
	LOUIS SICBALDI . . . . . 1977

*Insurance Committee* . . . . . WILLIAM T. OLMSTEAD, Chairman  
 BERNICE BAKER  
 GERALD HINCH

*Town Report Committee* . . . . . DAVID GIBB, Chairman  
 GORDON BUFFETT  
 HENRY BAUSH  
 DON SAFFORD  
 CAROL COLLINS

**VOTERS LIABLE FOR JURY DUTY  
FOR THE YEAR BEGINNING AUGUST 1, 1974**

JEROME T. ADAMS	FRANCES F. HOWLETT
CLIFFORD ATTLETON	WILLIAM G. JOY, SR.
ARTHUR A. BEAUMIER	EDWARD F. MAJKUT
DR. BERNARD G. BERENSON	CECILIA C. MELVILLE
EDWARD E. BERRETT	CHARLES MONTEFUSCO
DUDLEY E. BLISS, JR.	IRVING A. MORSE
EDWIN BOLZ	ROCKWELL K. MUNN
ROBERT H. CARLSON	RAYMOND A. SCHMUCK
EARL A. CONNORS	JOHN J. SHAY
ELMER N. FOX	DENNIS J. SMITH
LOUIS L. GIBEAU	JOHN L. SULLIVAN
JEANNETTE S. GREEN	ROBERT W. TURNER
HAROLD D. HEWINSON, SR.	LAWRENCE E. WALL

JOANNE MARIE BAUSH

**SPECIAL TOWN MEETING — March 18, 1974**

ARTICLE 1. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds in the Treasury the amount of \$2264. as the Town's share of Chapter 81 Highway program, for period January 1, 1974 to June 30, 1974, or take any other action in relation thereto. Approved.

ARTICLE 2. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds in the Treasury the sum of \$12,454. as the State's share of Chapter 81 Highway program money, for the period January 1, 1974 to June 30, 1974, or take any other action in relation thereto. Approved.

ARTICLE 3. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds in the Treasury the sum of \$4469. to Town House Maintenance Account, needed for unforeseen damage repair expense, said sum being balance of proceeds from insurance claim made for water damage to Town House in June, 1973, or take any other action in relation thereto. Approved.

ARTICLE 4. To see if the Town will vote to transfer any balance remaining in Revenue Sharing funds for period January 1, 1973 to June 30, 1974 for following accounts:

Dump Maintenance	Item 23
Library	Item 26
Road Maintenance	Item 42
Snow & Ice Removal	Item 43

or take any other action in relation thereto.

Voted to transfer sum of \$9,000 from Snow & Ice account into Revenue Sharing Account.

ARTICLE 5. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds in the Treasury a sum of money to use in gypsy moth control, or take any other action in relation thereto. Voted to transfer \$2,000 from Revenue Sharing Account for gypsy moth control.

ARTICLE 6. To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money to be used for the repair of the bridge at Memorial Park, or take any other action in relation thereto. Voted to transfer \$500 from available funds for this purpose.

#### **ANNUAL TOWN MEETING — April 16 and 18, 1974**

ARTICLE 1. Voted to accept Annual Reports as contained in the Annual Report for 1973.

ARTICLE 2. Voted to raise and appropriate \$2,170,206 to cover budget items 1 through 69.

ARTICLE 3. Voted to raise and appropriate \$500 for Centennial in 1978.

ARTICLE 4. Voted to take no action; no unpaid bills.

ARTICLE 5. Voted to transfer from available funds \$3,000 to be used in conjunction with State and County money, for Chapt. 90 Maint.

ARTICLE 6. Voted to transfer from available funds \$3850. to be used in conjunction with money from State and County for Chapt. 90 Const.

ARTICLE 7. Voted to transfer from available funds \$2264. for work under Chapt. 81 on roads, to be used in conjunction with State money.

ARTICLE 8. Voted to borrow \$30,005, State and County share of highway money.

ARTICLE 9. Voted to use grant of \$26,299. received under Section 20 of Chapter 1140, Acts of 1973 on Wilbraham Road.

ARTICLE 10. Voted to use grant of \$43,831. received under Section 22 of Chapter 1140, Acts of 1973 on Wilbraham Road.

ARTICLE 11. Voted to raise and appropriate \$16,927.35 for use on Wilbraham Road.

ARTICLE 12. Voted to transfer from Stabilization Fund \$25,000 for use on Wilbraham Road.

ARTICLE 13. Voted to transfer from available funds \$3500 to replace and install new culvert and headwalls at Wehr Brook on Allen Street.

ARTICLE 14. Voted to transfer from available funds \$4,000 for sander body.

ARTICLE 15. Voted to amend Town by-laws so Annual Town Meeting will be held last Monday in April.

ARTICLE 16. Voted to amend Town by-laws so annual Town election will be held on the first Monday in May.

ARTICLE 17. Voted to appropriate \$65,000; \$21,000 to be transferred from available funds and \$44,000 to be borrowed by means of 5 year bonds, for purchase of 2 pieces of fire apparatus.

ARTICLE 18. Voted to raise and appropriate \$6,000 for purchase of an emergency power generator for the Town House.

ARTICLE 19. Voted to accept the provisions of Chapter 147, Section 13A of the General Laws to establish a reserve police force of 20 men.

ARTICLE 20. No action.

ARTICLE 21. Voted to expend Revenue Sharing funds as follows:

Item 23.	Dump Maintenance	\$22,700.	
Item 26.	Library	11,786.	
Item 42.	Road Maintenance	22,500.	
Item 43.	Snow and Ice Removal	20,000.	\$76,986.

ARTICLE 22. Article defeated; concerned taking by eminent domain 20.6 acres of land at corner Allen St. and Wilbraham Road.

ARTICLE 23. Voted to transfer \$15,000 from overlay reserve to Reserve Fund.

ARTICLE 24. Voted to accept and hold all fees designated from the Dog Fund; amount not available until end of fiscal year.

ARTICLE 25. Voted to transfer from Library Fund the State Aid money of \$1714.50 to Library Trustees for use at their discretion.

ARTICLE 26. Voted to authorize Treasurer to borrow in anticipation of revenue of fiscal year 1974-75.

ARTICLE 27. Voted to raise and appropriate \$7900 to be used by Park Commissioners for boys' baseball, girls' softball and boys' hockey.

ARTICLE 28. Article defeated; concerned lighting tennis courts at Thornton Burgess School.

ARTICLES 29 and 30 considered together. Both articles approved; concerned site selection for construction of a Housing for the Elderly complex, and zoning for same.

ARTICLE 31. Article defeated; concerned storm drain along Somers Road.

#### **SPECIAL TOWN MEETING — October 7, 1974**

ARTICLE 1. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the payment of any departmental bills of the transitional year 1973-74 or previous years, and will vote to transfer from available funds a sum of money therefor. Voted unanimously to transfer \$2328. to pay bill of Caldon Construction Co.

ARTICLE 2. To see if the Town will vote to decline to participate in the mosquito control district which encompasses the County of Hampden, created under provisions of Chapter 568 of the Acts of 1974, or take any other action relative thereto. Voted to decline participation.

ARTICLE 3. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds a sum of money for school transportation. Voted to transfer \$18,837.

ARTICLE 4. To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from available funds for Street Lighting for fiscal year 1974-75. Voted to transfer \$622.

ARTICLE 5. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds a sum of money to erect School Zone designations on Wilbraham Road, under Chapter 616 of the Acts of 1967, or take any other action relative thereto. Voted to transfer \$2600 for this purpose.

ARTICLE 6. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds a sum of money to be used for purchase of a generator for emergency power and the connection of same for operation at the Hampden Town House, or take any other action relative thereto. Article dismissed.

ARTICLE 7. To see if the Town will vote to rezone from R-6 Residential District to Golf Recreational District the following described parcel of land located on the east side of Wilbraham Road and owned by Northeast Land Development Trust: (description on file with Town Clerk, Planning Board and Selectmen). Article approved.

ARTICLE 8. To see if the Town will vote to rezone from R-4 Residential District to Business the property on Scantic Road owned by Carl H. and Barbara K. Hatch and described as follows: (description on file with Town Clerk, Planning Bd. and Selectmen). Article defeated.

ARTICLE 9. To see if the Town will vote to rezone from R-4 Residential District to Business the property located at 52 Somers Road and owned by Henry and Marion Ferst. (description on file with Town Clerk, Planning Board and Selectmen). Article defeated.

ARTICLE 10. To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from available funds for the payment of the purchase price of two units of fire apparatus, as voted in Article 17 of the 1974 Annual Town Meeting, instead of making payment, as voted, partly from available funds and partly from borrowed funds, or take any other action relative thereto. Article approved.

#### **MODERATOR'S REPORT**

The physical face of Hampden is changing. In reviewing articles appearing in the Warrants since becoming Moderator, I attempted to segregate those having the greatest permanent effect on the Town. Several categories such as the spiraling cost of General Government, enlargement of the Police Department and the seemingly all encompassing philosophy of the School Systems came in for a large share of attention, but zoning decisions seemed to have the greatest immediate and long range impact. During the past few years, we have approved a Golf Recreational District, a Limited Recreational District, a Business District for the Mini-Mall, a Housing for the Elderly zone change, and a Wetlands District. All of these except the latter either have changed or have the potential to change the physical image, and in so doing, change the environmental atmosphere of the Town. Numerous other articles requesting zone changes have been rejected by the Townspeople.

The 1974 Warrants for the annual, and one special town meeting contained ten articles dealing with zone changes or decisions. This is approximately 25% of the total number of articles and utilized more than 40% of the total

discussion time. Some of these articles either passed or were rejected by very narrow margins.

Hampden is, and will become even more, a prime target for developmental expansion. Growth is inevitable and in many instances desirable. Thus far, the results of zone changes have been extremely favorable; however, only by your involvement in the issues and participation at Town Meetings, can Hampden remain or become a community most desirable to the majority of its inhabitants. Our homes are the largest single investment most of us make during our lifetime. We pay high monetary premiums to protect its value against fire and other hazards, yet risk an insidious loss by failure to attend and vote at Town Meetings. Think about it.

DALTON E. PHILPOTT, *Moderator*



Dalton Philpott  
*Town Moderator*

**REPORT OF THE BOARD OF REGISTRARS**

Number of registered voters Jan. 1, 1974.....		2,157
Number of new voters during 1974.....		186
		<hr/>
		2,343
Number of voters dropped from voting list during the year.....		267
		<hr/>
Number of registered voters Dec. 31, 1974.....		2,076
Voter attendance at elections during the year:		
	1973	1974
Republican caucus.....	33	93
Democratic caucus.....	60	26
Town election.....	593	908
State Primary 9/10.....		529
State election 11/5.....		1,248

Respectfully submitted:

FAYE W. FLYNN, *Chairman*  
MARGARET C. ROCHFORD  
FRANK J. T. KIRK  
MARIE V. KROOK, *Clerk*

## REPORT OF FIRE DEPARTMENT

In 1974 the Hampden Volunteer Fire Department answered 48 calls, broken down as follows:

House.....	19
Forest and Grass.....	11
Automobile.....	7
Barn.....	2
Miscellaneous.....	5
False alarms.....	3
Brush pile at Sanitary Landfill.....	1

In the fall, the Town took delivery of our new Diamond Reo tank truck. This truck gives us a much needed 2,000 gallons of water. In mid-1975 we expect delivery of our new custom built Maxim pumper. When this truck is put into service, we feel we will have one of the best equipped fire departments in the area, our oldest piece of equipment in service at that time being the 1966 Howe Ford pumper. Many thanks are due the truck committee and the Board of Selectmen for the hours of work necessary to select the best type of fire fighting apparatus for our needs.

The 40 members of the Fire Department, as well as answering fire alarms, attend a monthly business meeting, a monthly training session, and devote much time and effort to keeping the equipment and station in good repair.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES A. REARDON  
*Chief of Fire Department*

## REPORT OF TOWN COUNSEL

(January 1, 1974 to January 1, 1975)

During the past year, services have been rendered by Town Counsel in the usual and evermore complicated and detailed problems involving the life of a modern Town.

There has been a series of conferences and opinions on the matter of a Regional Trade High School; review of a decision relating to a used car lot; further attention to illegally constructed buildings; litigation over a new home constructed with wooden shingles, in alleged violation of the Building Code; threats of litigation on the proposed construction of greenhouses in a Residence Zone; on a subdivision development; in School Department — teacher matters; in the taking of easements for Wilbraham Road drains; and in several other matters.

Considerable attention has been given to other items involving the Country Club; a new subdivision west of Martin Farms Road; the School Bus Re-Zoning controversy; planning for the bank building on Allen Street; and several zoning violations.

Finally and most recently, there have been court hearings on the litigation brought by the Town over an alleged improperly constructed garage on

Thresher Road; and the beginnings of Collective Bargaining with the Town employees, and especially the Police Union.

Town Counsel has given the usual attention to the preparations for and conduct of Town Meetings, and advice on day-to-day matters to the Selectmen, the School Department, the Planning Board, and the Board of Appeals, in particular.

Another busy and involved "law-year" for the Town appears for 1975.

JOSEPH R. JENNINGS, *Town Counsel*

### REPORT OF THE FOREST FIRE WARDEN

During the year 1974 there were 11 (eleven) grass and brush fires plus one at the brush pile at the sanitary land fill. I would like to thank the residents of Hampden for cooperating with the new state law prohibiting outside burning.

Respectfully submitted,

RICHARD J. BOYNTON  
*Forest Fire Warden*

### REPORT OF THE HAMPDEN HOUSING AUTHORITY

The Zoning By-Law amendment, needed to accommodate the proposed Housing For the Elderly project, and upon which affirmative action was taken by the 1974 Town Meeting, was approved by the State in August. The Authority had, in the meantime, continued to consult with its Architect and the Planning Board on preliminary plans for the complex — calling for a total of 56 Units. This would be located at the site off Somers Road as was discussed at the Town Meeting.

Some delay was experienced in arriving at an approved contract for legal services; but at the end of the year a contract had been entered into with Atty. Robert E. Kubicek of Springfield, Mass. He has had many years of experience as attorney for the East Longmeadow Housing Authority.

Also, by the end of the year, an Application for Financial Assistance had been submitted to the Department of Community Affairs together with a Preliminary Site Plan and a request for funding.

The Authority has continued to receive the names of persons who request that they be listed as applicants for apartments when they become available. At the end of the year the following requests had been recorded:

Couples	27
Singles	44
Total Units	<u>71</u>

As was indicated in last year's report, these have not been definitely screened as to eligibility, nor do we know whether every request will result in a final application. However, the evidence indicates an increasing need and an urgency to proceed as fast as the necessary approvals can be obtained.

The Selectmen's budget for the 18 month period ending June 30, 1974 included \$500.00 under the heading "Housing For the Elderly". Of this amount \$168.50 had been used through December 31, 1973. For the period January 1, 1974 through June 30, 1974 an additional \$135.67 was used, broken down as follows:

Stationery.....	\$ 49.67
Postage, etc.....	16.44
Clerical.....	17.06
Caldon Construction.....	52.50
	<u>\$135.67</u>

An amount of \$100.00 was also included in the Selectmen's budget for the 12 month period ending June 30, 1975. None of this had been used as of December 31, 1974.

Respectfully submitted,

DONALD E. WILCOX, *Chairman*  
 GEORGE J. KEALY, *Vice Chairman*  
 WILLIAM T. OLMSTEAD, *Treasurer*  
*and State Appointee*  
 CLIFFORD E. ATTLETON, *Asst. Treasurer*  
 FLORENCE E. KIRK, *Secretary*

### REPORT OF THE BUILDING COMMISSIONER

For the year ending December 31, 1974 there were one hundred and ninety one permits granted.

These were as follows:

Building:

New houses.....	16
New cabana at country club.....	1
New caretaker's house at country club.....	1
New barns.....	2
New greenhouse.....	1
New sheds.....	6
New storage buildings.....	2
New garages.....	5
Additions to houses.....	29
Alterations to houses.....	1
Addition to barn.....	1
Additions to business.....	2
Addition to Telephone Co.....	1
Swimming pools.....	19
Remove barn.....	1

Electrical:

New houses.....	16
New caretaker's house at country club.....	1
New bank.....	1
New cabana at country club.....	1