

REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

Money handled by the Town Clerk for 1984 is as follows:

Item	\$ Collected	\$ Town Received
Dog Licenses	2878.00	341.25
Sporting Licenses	4248.85	147.10
Recordings	570.00	570.00
Certified Copies	268.30	268.30
Marriages and Business Certificates	124.00	124.00
Total	8089.15	1450.65

The Town Clerk's office dispensed 442 dog licenses in 1984. Dog licenses must be obtained annually, effective April 1. Cost for licenses for male and female dogs is \$10.00. If a female is spayed or if a male is neutered, the cost is \$4.00. A rabies clinic is held in April each year at the Town Garage. A rabies vaccination is good for three years except that dogs initially vaccinated between three and twelve months of age must receive the first booster one year later.

In November, 1984, upon request from the Town of Hampden, and as voted at Town Meeting of April, 1984, the State Senate and House of Representatives in General Court passed an Act whereby the Town of Hampden would conduct its own dog licensing through the office of the Town Clerk. In the past, the County supplied the Town with licenses and tags and in return received approximately 90 per cent of the money collected for dog licensing, leaving only 10 per cent in the Town. Now, all money collected will remain in Hampden.

Vital Statistics recorded in the Town's records are as follows:

	1982	1983	1984
Births	49	55	53
Deaths	40	41	30
Marriages	15	24	34

Respectfully submitted,

Rita A. Vail, Town Clerk

IN APPRECIATION OF 32 YEARS OF SERVICE



FAYE W. FLYNN

*Mrs. Flynn has decided, after 32 continuous years of service on the Board of Registrars, to resign from that position. It was in 1952 when her father-in-law, John J. Flynn, found it necessary to retire from the Board in mid-term, that she took over his unfinished time and has remained an integral part of the Board to the present day.*

*The dictionary defines appreciation as an "expression of admiration, approval and gratitude". Certainly these words convey the feeling of all of us in the Town of Hampden who know and have worked with Faye and realize the time and devotion she has given, not only to the Board of Registrars but also to so many other phases of the Town's growth and activities. She performed her work with efficiency and integrity but always remained a gentle woman.*

*We wish her well.*

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF REGISTRARS

The Board of Registrars is a four member board responsible, each year, for an accurate local census (published as the Street List) and for an accurate Voting List each election day. The Registrars must hold special voter registration sessions for every election and town meeting.

For two years now voter information has been stored and updated on computer. This has not only saved the Board of Registrars many hours of physically readjusting card files but also has allowed completely updated Voters' Lists (without supplements) to be used on election days. Hampden has accomplished this with no extra expense to the Town, due to the generous donation of computer time from Hampden Engineering Corporation located in East Longmeadow. The Board is grateful.

Poll hours for all elections, except local, has increased one hour from 7 AM to 8 PM. Local elections poll hours continue to be 8 AM to 8 PM.

Number of registered voters January 1, 1984	2,446
Number of registered voters December 31, 1984	2,746

Voter attendance during the year 1984:

Presidential Primary, March 13	
Republican Vote	76
Democratic Vote	275
Republican Caucus, April 5	21
Democratic Caucus, April 6	27
Annual Town Meeting, April 30	253
Town Election, May 7	284
State Primary, September 18	
Democratic Vote	246
Republican Vote	256
State Election, November 6	2,265

Poll workers appointed for 1983-84 are as follows:

WARDEN	William G. Ertel, Jr.
DEPUTY WARDEN	Helena Kullberg
CLERK	Helen LaVallee
DEPUTY CLERK	Virginia Schneider

INSPECTORS

<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democratic</u>
Emma Bandoski	Sheila Flynn
Andree Crowley	Judith Jackson
Irene Cutting	Evelyn Schmidt
Helena Kullberg	Rita Southworth
Elva Jenkins	Patricia Booth

TELLERS

Republican

Evelyn Ackerman  
Beryl Doten  
Ernestine Johnson  
Florence Kirk  
Joyce Libby  
Nancy Salerno  
Betty Sutcliffe

Democratic

Brenda Ahlberg  
Gloria Belanger  
Marilyn Blizard  
Carol Collins  
Bert Nietupski

ALTERNATES--TELLERS OR INSPECTORS

Beth Burger  
Edith Casey  
Mary Dunkley  
Eleanor Hapgood  
Helene Hesser  
Nancy Ryan  
Carolyn Whipple

Mary Berrett  
Ann Burian  
Nancy Downey  
Gloria Fabbri  
Carolyn Howlett  
Sally Kealy  
Gail Lefebvre  
Naomi Matthews  
Margaret Rochford

Respectfully Submitted,

Faye Flynn, Chairman  
Frank J. T. Kirk  
Mary E. Connors  
Rita A. Vail, Clerk

## 1984 REPORT OF THE BOARD OF APPEALS

The Board of Appeals held thirteen (13) public hearings during 1984.

There were five (5) Special Permits issued and one (1) request allowed to withdraw without prejudice:

A Special Permit was issued to Mr. James Kibbe to allow removal of gravel.

A Special Permit was reissued to Mr. Carl Libby to allow removal of earth.

Special Permits were issued to Mr. & Mrs. Neil Hilt and Mr. Dana Pixley to allow expansion of an existing non-conforming use.

A Special Permit was issued to B.T. Energy to allow alteration of a non-conforming use.

There were seven (7) petitions for Variances from the Zoning By-Laws of which six (6) were granted and one (1) was denied:

Variances were granted from the minimum lot frontage requirement to Mr. & Mrs. Brett Minahan, Mr. Jeffrey Benoit, and Mr. & Mrs. Michael Downing/Miodonka.

Variances were granted from the minimum front set-back requirements to Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Dufault and Mr. Scott Hesser.

A Variance was granted from the minimum side set-back requirement to Mr. Timothy Dreyer.

A Variance for additional sign coverage was denied to Auto Parts Wholesalers Inc.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel Shooshan, Chairman  
Dalton Philpott, Vice Chairman  
Kenneth Lefebvre, Clerk  
Bert Nietupski  
Bryce Norwood  
Gayle Reddington  
Clifford Keeney (Alternate)  
Lawrence Smith (Alternate)  
Charles Schmitt (Alternate)

HAMPDEN ARTS LOTTERY COUNCIL

When you purchase a Megabucks ticket, you are helping to promote and advance the arts in Massachusetts. After administrative expenses and within the maximum requirements for distribution, Megabucks money is distributed among the cities and towns of Massachusetts who have local or regional Arts Lottery Councils.

Recent legislation makes it mandatory to distribute these receipts twice a year to each city and town; Hampden is guaranteed a minimum of \$500 twice a year, at this writing.

Locally this money is administered by a committee appointed by the Selectmen, and composed of those whose names appear at the end of this report. During calendar 1984 receipts and distributions of Arts Lottery money were as follows:

Hampden Historical Society.....	\$250
Thornton Burgess Jr. High School Band....	\$500
Hampden Free Public Library.....	\$746
Minnechaug High School Band.....	\$295
Hampden PTO.....	\$200
Thornton Burgess Jr. High School Art Dept...	\$100

In prior years distribution was also made to the following organizations:

Hampden Centennial Chorus.....	\$150
Falcon Players, Minnechaug Regional High School	\$100
Hampden Historical Society.....	\$225
Hampden Free Public Library.....	\$175
Thornton Burgess Jr. High School Band.....	\$200

Any person or organization wishing to apply for these funds may obtain an application at the Selectmen's office, and watch news releases for the date when such applications will be received and considered for grants, in each disbursement period, or contact any member of the Hampden Arts Lottery Council.

Chris Bandoski, Chairman  
William Blizard  
Joan Letendre  
Ruth W. Woods  
Flora M. Chechile  
Janet Brehaut  
HAMPDEN ARTS LOTTERY COUNCIL

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

1984 PROVED TO BE A CHALLENGING YEAR FOR THE HAMPDEN ASSESSORS, WE UPDATED OUR VALUED TO 100% ON OUR TWO YEAR CONTRACT WITH MUNICIPAL APPRAISAL. THE NEW LAWS PASSED BY THE LEGISLATURE GIVE CITIES AND TOWNS UP TO THREE YEARS TO UPDATE NOW.

THE ASSESSORS LEARNED IN LATE NOVEMBER 1984 THAT THE APPRAISAL COMPANY THAT HAMPDEN HAS BEEN USING HAD BEEN SOLD TO A LARGER COMPANY CALLED M.M.C. INC. OF TEWKSBURY, MASS. IT IS A REPUTABLE COMPANY THAT SERVICES 130 OF THE 351 CITIES AND TOWNS INCLUDING; EAST LONGMEADOW, LONGMEADOW, LUDLOW AND WILBRAHAM.

THE HAMPDEN BOARD OF ASSESSORS HAVE ENTERED INTO A 1 YEAR CONTRACT ON A CATALOG TYPE BASIS AND THAT COMPANY WILL MAINTAIN OUR FILE. HOWEVER, ON THE UPDATE YEAR, 2½ YEARS FROM NOW, M.M.C. WOULD LIKE TO CONVERT HAMPDEN TO THE M.M.C. SYSTEM.

MEANWHILE THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE HAS GIVEN THE TOWN OF HAMPDEN WARNING THAT IT WILL NOT CERTIFY ANY UPDATE UNTIL THE TOWN COMPLETES ITS MAPPING PROGRAM. WE HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED WITH A THREE YEAR TIMING NOTICE.

M.M.C. APPRAISAL COMPANY HAS TOLD THE HAMPDEN BOARD OF ASSESSORS THAT BEFORE WE CONVERT WE SHOULD HAVE THE MAPPING SYSTEM IN EFFECT, IT WOULD SAVE US AN ADDITIONAL \$2,000 CONVERSION COST.

THEREFORE, WE WILL NEED THAT MAP MONEY THAT WE WILL BE ASKING FOR AT THE TOWN MEETING SO WE CAN ENTER INTO A MAPPING CONTRACT THAT WILL TAKE APPROXIMATELY 2 YEARS.

YOUR KIND CONSIDERATION WILL BE APPRECIATED AND ALSO YOUR SUPPORT AT THE TOWN MEETING.

THANKING THE TAX PAYERS OF HAMPDEN, WE ARE

RICHARD JALBERT  
STANLEY WITKOP  
HENRY BAUSH

THE HAMPDEN BOARD OF ASSESSORS

BOARD OF ASSESSORS - ANNUAL TOWN REPORT

TOTAL APPROPRIATION TO BE RAISED		\$3,399,396.00
OFFSETS TO CHERRY SHEET ESTIMATED RECEIPTS		
SCHOOL LUNCH		2,540.00
FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY		2,373.00
RACIAL IMBALANCE PROGRAM		67,674.00
OTHER AMOUNTS TO BE RAISED		
VETERAN'S SERVICE		4,574.40
LOWER PIONEER VALLEY REGIONAL		711.75
REVENUE DEFICITS		25,016.03
REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY		3,200.00
PRIOR YEAR UNDER ESTIMATES		806.00
COUNTY TAX		104,678.00
STATE RECREATION AREA		19,572.00
MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE		742.00
AIR POLLUTION CONTROL		793.00
OVERLAY OF CURRENT FISCAL YEAR		74,951.04
GROSS AMOUNT TO BE RAISED		<u>\$3,707,027.22</u>
1985 ESTIMATED RECEIPTS CERTIFIED BY CHERRY SHEET		<u>\$1,165,451.00</u>
LOCAL ESTIMATED RECEIPTS		
MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE		125,034.00
LICENSES		11,609.00
FINES		21,220.00
GENERAL GOVERNMENT		5,181.00
PROTECTION OF PERSONS & PROPERTY		1,144.00
LIBRARIES		428.00
FARM ANIMAL		524.00
CEMETERIES		177.00
RECREATION		2,695.00
INTEREST		40,406.00
DOG POUND		462.00
COUNCIL ON AGING		1,121.00
METCO		20,784.00
XEROX USAGE INCOME		564.00
TELEPHONE INCOME		47.00
SCHOOL (LOCAL RECEIPTS OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE)		251.00
TOWN PROPERTY		14.00
		<u>231,661.00</u>
OTHER SOURCES		<u>180,534.00</u>
TOTAL ESTIMATED RECEIPTS & AVAILABLE FUNDS	TOTAL ABOVE	1,577,646.00
NET AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY TAXATION		
REAL ESTATE PROPERTY	\$2,052,887.46	
PERSONAL PROPERTY	76,493.76	2,129,381.22
	GRAND TOTAL	<u>\$3,707,027.22</u>

BOARD OF ASSESSORS - PAGE 2

TAXES ABATED IN 1984

<u>1984</u> FISCAL PERSONAL PROPERTY	98.44
<u>1983</u> FISCAL REAL ESTATE	13,954.00
<u>1984</u> FISCAL REAL ESTATE	26,362.57

STATUTORY EXEMPTIONS GRANTED IN 1984 ON REAL ESTATE

<u>1983</u> FISCAL REAL ESTATE	100.00
<u>1984</u> FISCAL REAL ESTATE	13,370.00

MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE COMMITTED IN 1984

<u>1983</u> COMMITMENT	4,001.37
<u>1984</u> COMMITMENT	149,274.76

MOTOR VEHICLES EXCISE ABATED IN 1984

<u>1982</u> COMMITMENT	10.00
<u>1983</u> COMMITMENT	562.86
<u>1984</u> COMMITMENT	8,532.44

THE TOWN OWNS THE FOLLOWING REAL ESTATE:

AMES ROAD	6.00 ACRES
BALDWIN LOT 122	1.06 ACRES
CROSS ROAD (DUMP)	13.42 ACRES
MAIN STREET	.29 ACRES
MARTIN FARM ROAD (LOT 50)	.78 ACRES
MARTIN FARM ROAD (LOT 51)	.80 ACRES
MILL ROAD	1.50 ACRES
MILL ROAD	4.00 ACRES
NORTH ROAD	.25 ACRES
SESSIONS DR	.71 ACRES
THRESHER ROAD	4.00 ACRES
WILBRAHAM RD	22.00 ACRES

REPORT OF THE BUILDING COMMISSIONER

For the year ending December 31, 1984 there were two hundred and two permits granted:

These were as follows:

Building:

New houses	17
New barn	1
New garages	6
New sheds	7
New professional building	1
Detention cell	1
Additions to houses	31
Addition to nursing home	1
Addition to barn	1
Alterations to houses	10
Alterations to garage	1
Alterations to stores	3
Alterations to gas station	1
Alterations to bank	1
Swimming pools	7
Stoves	7
Remove barn	1

Electrical:

New houses	13
Additions and renovations	29
Service changes	6
Swimming pools	9

Plumbing:

New houses	15
Additions and alterations	24
Gas	9

Respectfully submitted:  
Gordon J. E. Willcutt, Sr.  
Building Commissioner

REPORT OF DOG OFFICER

During the year 1984, a total of 41 dogs were impounded at Palmer Kennels. These dogs were all in violation of the restraining order and a good many of these dogs were unlicensed. Of the 41 dogs impounded, 4 dogs were sold at \$5.00 each; 20 were redeemed by their owners at a cost of \$7.50 each; the remaining 17 dogs were kept the required number of days and then destroyed at a cost to the Town of \$841. The Town was reimbursed by the County \$544 and received \$20 for dogs sold. The total cost to the Town for boarding dogs at Palmer kennels was \$1405.

I would like to remind all residents of the Town of Hampden that your dog or dogs must be licensed each year on April 1. Dog licenses can be obtained at the Town Clerk's office. I would also like to remind all dog owners in Hampden that there is a restraining order in effect and all dogs must be kept under control of the owner at all times.

Any resident in Hampden who is experiencing a problem with dogs can reach me at my home, 65 Allen Street, Hampden, Ma., telephone #566-8509.

Respectfully submitted,  
Geraldine Schmuck  
Dog Officer

REPORT OF ANIMAL INSPECTOR

The Animal Inspector wishes to report that she has inspected the barns and animals which are required by State Law.

The following number animals were found:

Dairy cows over two years.....	42
Dairy heifers one to two years.....	26
Dairy heifer calves under one year.....	25
Dairy bulls.....	4
Dairy herds.....	2
Beef cattle.....	37
Beef herds.....	6
Horses.....	45
Ponies.....	5
Goats.....	5
Sheep.....	26

Respectfully submitted,  
Geraldine Schmuck  
Animal Inspector

## REPORT OF THE COUNCIL ON AGING:

Hampden's 605 senior citizens enjoyed their 7th year of services from the COUNCIL ON AGING whose stated goal is to enhance elder's lives and to keep the frail in their own homes as long as possible.

One of our priorities is to provide reliable transportation for the Town's Elders and Handicapped. Our driver, Carl Hatch, logged 4,275 total rides for 95 different individuals to medical appointments, therapy, shopping, meals, hair appointments, visiting, classes, clinics, and personal business. We contracted directly with the PVTa for the 4th year to reduce middle costs while maintaining service levels.

Keeping morning office hours, our federally funded senior aide, June Bandoski, worked to provide daily information and referral telephone service, as well as taking reservations and keeping records.

We were pleased to distribute Government surplus cheese, butter, milk and honey to eligible families of all ages three times during the year. The Council on Aging Director handled Fuel Assistance Intake for the Valley Opportunity Council for the Town's Elderly and Handicapped, with the Hampden Emergency Fuel Fund as back-up. A grant-funded Outreach program was continued to acquaint seniors with our services while filling out the Vial-of-Life Emergency Medical Forms.

Through Home Care Corporation, 4880 meals were served by 20 volunteers under the supervision of a site manager in the Melville Room where "the food is good but the company is better." Five different volunteers delivered 2,969 home meals to shut-ins.

Our Health Services included monthly Health Clinics through the Visiting Nurses, under contract with Home Care Corporation, as well as referrals for homemakers, health aides and housing placements. Forty-eight seniors attended our Foot Care Service, seven received free Eye Exams from the Springfield Optometrics, and 171 made reservations at the Town Flu Clinic. Medical Equipment was borrowed from our Loan Closet by several people.

Seniors were encouraged to keep active in weekly programs: A YMCA Exercise class was conducted at the Town House and a Swimming Program was held at Trinity Church. Costs of these programs are supported in whole or in part by the participants themselves. To keep Council expenses minimal we were very fortunate to have the following seniors VOLUNTEER as instructors in various programs: Helen Tower - Art Class, Julia Terzi - Crochet, Alice Moriarty - Chicken Scratch Workshop, and Edna Slater - Needlework. Over the year speakers were heard on pertinent issues and an Income Tax service was set up with volunteer AARP Tax Counselors.

## REPORT OF THE COUNCIL ON AGING P2

Monthly bus trips were co-sponsored with the Scantic Senior Citizens Club, as well as a 10-team Bowling League -- all at no cost to the Town.

We are proud that our annual report to the state showed that we reached 344 (out of 605) different seniors in at least one of our programs in 1984!

All of our activities are detailed in the SCANTIC SCRIBE, a monthly six page newsletter sent to all senior households. The expenses are borne equally by the COA and the Scantic Senior Citizens Club. It is edited by the COA director with the Club President as associate editor. Numerous volunteers assist with printing, assembling and some delivery. Our SCRIBE is mailed out at a reduced postal rate through the non-profit organization, Friends of the Hampden Senior Citizens, who have also been busy raising money for a senior center with an army of volunteers.

The Council sent delegates to meetings of: Western Massachusetts Association of Councils on Aging, the State Directors' Association, the Silver Haired Legislature, Springfield Home Care Board, the Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council and PVRTA Elderly and Handicapped Van Operators.

We appreciate the support of the Selectmen and Townspeople, including the 50 regular volunteers and the many seniors who lend a hand to get each project off the ground. We still cherish the idea of having a senior center completely accessible to all who would wish to participate.

Respectfully submitted,

COUNCIL ON AGING BOARD:

Ralph Forsstrom, Chairman  
Dalton Philpott, Vice Chairman  
Arthur Booth, Treasurer  
Victoria Rich, Secretary  
Kathryn Conway  
Jean Prouty  
Ralph Miller  
Ida Lamb  
Caroline Harris, Asst. Treas.

OFFICE STAFF:

Rosalind Reardon Clark, Director  
June Bandoski, Senior Aide

MEAL SITE MANAGER

Janis DeGrandpre

"CENTENNIAL COMMONS"

While we had a meeting in January, 1984, things really didn't get started until early Spring here at Centennial Commons, when in April a Welcoming Tea was held for new tenants, then in May we had our usual Pot Luck supper. This is an event that everyone enjoys.

By now, those who planned on having a garden were well into seed catalogs and weather permitting, the garden was getting started. Thanks to our Maintenance man, who sees that its tilled and workable.

Our annual picnic was in September and due to bad weather we moved indoors which didn't dampen the enthusiasm for it.

Letters of appreciation were sent to the Police and Fire departments for the countless times they came to the Commons concerned for our safety.

Last but not least, everyone who was involved in putting together the Bazaar, Birthday parties, Bake Sale and Christmas Party receive our deep appreciation.

Election of officers were held in December with Harold McLean, President, Muriel Ryan, Vice President, Pauline Booth, Secretary, and Kathryn Conway, Treasurer. Quarterly Tenants Association meetings are in March, June, September and December.

Respectfully submitted,  
Pauline Booth  
Secretary

HAMPDEN HOUSING AUTHORITY

The Year 1984:

The present Town elected members of the Hampden Housing Authority are: Florence E. Kirk, Chairperson, Sherwood W. Cronk, Vice-Chairman, and State Appointee, Clifford E. Attleton, Treasurer, Charles T. Schmitt, Assistant Treasurer, and William J. Donnelly, Secretary. This group oversees the direction of the Centennial Commons Complex (Housing for the Elderly) at 26 Springmeadow Lane.

The Staff: Christopher M. Carr of Southern New England Management Corp. Executive Director — Olivia Parrish, Rental Manager until Oct. 12, when her husband's job transfer necessitated her leaving the area. The new Rental Manager is Carole Robert and the regular Maintenance Custodian is Irving Morse.

Meetings: The Authority meets on the third Wednesday of each month with intermittent special meetings when necessary. Notices of these meetings are posted according to regulations, on the Town House Bulletin Board.

Tenant's Organization: This is a very active unit at the Commons (see their report); and some of them attend the Authority meetings quite regularly.

Authority Activities: Water tests continue to be consistently satisfactory.

A formal "Vote of Completion" of the exterior painting at the Complex was made in mid fall. Painting of the interior of the units was approved and work was started in November to be completed in early 1985.

Plans for Phase 1 of the Landscaping Project has finally been approved by EOCD— (Executive Office of Communities & Development). This will encompass about 7 more parking areas around the circle near the Community Hall.

A Solar Hot Water System in the Community Hall will be the first project for 1985. Bids will go out in January.

Centennial Commons — This Complex, which was ready for renting in 1978, consists of 56 units, 6 of which are designed for the handicapped. There are 54 one bedroom units, 2 two bedroom units and a Community Hall which encompasses the laundry room, and also serves as a "meeting place" for activities of the residents and the meetings of Authority. At this time all units are rented and we have a waiting list.

EOCD The Authority is under the direct supervision of the Executive Offices of Community & Development in conjunction with our contract for 40 years, Section 8, Federal Sub- HUD: sidy with the Dept. of Housing and Urban Development for our Centennial Commons Complex Housing for the Elderly; and also in Contract for the Affirmative Fair Housing Marketing Plan.

Respectfully submitted,

Hampden Housing Authority

1985 REPORT OF THE COMPUTER STUDY COMMITTEE

The Computer Study Committee was charged by the selectmen to determine: a) If the town would benefit from having a computer system for town functions, and b) what these benefits would mean to the town in terms of savings in manpower and dollars.

During the past year, the Computer Study Committee started procedures designed to find out which town government functions, such as town clerk, assessors, school system, etc., could be better served by the addition of a computer system. To accomplish this, trips were scheduled to towns that were similar in area and population to Hampden so that we could see how these towns had approached this problem, and to see how their solutions were working for them. We have also contacted several prospective vendors and asked them to provide us with lists of materials, contacts, and samples of their systems' outputs.

In the coming year, we hope to finalize our recommendation to the town. If the recommendation is favorable, then a dollars and cents figure will be supplied with expected savings/costs and the anticipated payback period.

Respectfully submitted,

Computer Study Committee

## REPORT OF THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Conservation Commission is a board of seven members, appointed by the selectmen, but derives its authority from the Wetlands Protection Act, Mass. General Laws 131, Section 40. In the town of Hampden, the main concerns of the Commission, are to protect the quality of our water supplies, guard against flood damage, and the prevention of pollution.

In 1984, three Cease and Desist orders were issued by the Commission. Two of these orders have resulted in complete halting of the projects to date, while the third was halted until there was compliance with the Wetlands Protection Act.

Three Determination of Applicability were filled, with the Commission, in 1984. Public meetings were held for each case, and a determination for each case was issued.

One Notice of Intent was received by the Commission, but a continuance was requested by the applicant, prior to the public hearing. No further action has been taken by the applicant.

Again this year, spraying of herbicides along the power lines, was a issue to be delt with. Although the Commission does not approve of the use of any herbicide, the Wetlands Protection Act only restricts the use of highly toxic herbicides for normal maintenance of rights of way by utilities.

Western Mass. Electric, the utility company in this case, decided to use Krenite only. The Commission found no evidence, at this time, that Krenite was highly toxic.

During the year, the Commission was requested to view parcels of land, in order to inform the individuals, on how the Wetlands Protection Act would effect a project on this parcel. This reduced the chance of a financial hardship, by knowing what would be required to be in compliance with the Act. Any person considering work in or near a wetland, should contact the Commission before starting a project, for this assistance.

The Conservation Commission is looking for associate members. If you are interested please contact any member or the board of selectmen.

Respectfully submitted

Gary Newlin, Chairman  
James Smith, Vice Chairman  
Lynn Field, Secretary  
Paul Robitaille, Treasurer

Omer Talbot  
Arthur Gerrish

REPORT OF HAMPDEN TOWN COUNSEL

During 1984 there has been a considerable expenditure in the Federal Court case concerning class action suit against the County of Hampden and all advisory committee representatives of the County. In this case, the services of Attorney Thomas Donaghue had been engaged, for its active defense, along with the continued attention by Town Counsel. I am sure there will be, before June 30, 1985 substantial further bills on this matter.

The recent settlement of the 24 Country Club Appeals was welcome, but costly, in terms of trial appearances of Town Counsel and expert witnesses producing bills of about \$4,000.

There is an on-going case that will need more attention, which a resident has brought against the Hampden Board of Appeals and trial time will be needed in early 1985.

There has been attention to widely miscellaneous matters including energy saving, dog licenses, auto carriers, licensing guidelines, Hollow Road, gravel removal, Board of Appeals matters, Planning Board subdivisions, a safety study, liquified gas, the annual sleigh rally, service of alcoholic beverages, the Main Street service station, an auto body company, the dam behind R.A. Bouchard and Sons, Main Street, the so-called zoning freeze, etc.

All these matters, along with day to day advising of all Town Boards, have constituted calendar 1984 a busy year.

Joseph R. Jennings  
Hampden Town Counsel

## Report of the Energy Commission

This past year has focused on reorganizing the commission. Members are now appointed by the Selectmen for staggered 3-year terms so as to assure continuity. The reorganization team worked from February until June (1984) researching existing area energy committees, their activities, number of members, and then a statement of purpose was drawn up.

Our purpose is to serve as a conduit of energy information to town residents; hold energy education/information sessions and engage in any other energy related activity. An energy information board is maintained on the lower level of the Town House. Also, in cooperation with the library, there are energy related books available.

An Energy Fair was held in October as part of the state-wide observance of Energy Awareness Month. Highlights of the fair included posters done by Hampden students, and a visit by the Mass. Electric Energy Van. There were also exhibits and slide shows on solar and weatherization. Due to the limited attendance, commission members are looking for other ways to provide residents with energy information. Suggestions are always welcome. Please contact any commission member.

After the fair, the colorful posters were displayed along the library corridor. The model solar house made from a cardboard box by Mrs. Collings' third grade class was displayed inside the library.

Fuel Assistance: Applications for assistance to low-income households were taken this past winter by Barbara Burgess, a volunteer, and Rosalind Reardon Clark, Council on Aging Director. Both attended a training workshop at Holyoke Community College to learn about this year's program, which is administered by the Valley Opportunity Council (VOC). Thanks go to both for filling this local need.

Last winter (83-84) 52 households applied for VOC assistance with 45 of those being eligible. Hampden residents received a total of \$23,827 in assistance with an average of \$529.48 per household. Additionally, the Hampden Emergency Fuel Fund (HEFF) assisted those households facing emergency no-heat situations. HEFF is a private fund supported by organizational and individual contributions.

Roger Harris of the Hampden County Office of Energy and Management spent time checking the energy efficiency of the Town House and town garage last fall. In December, he presented a report with recommendations for energy conservation measures to the Selectmen. Some measures, such as weather-stripping the library windows, are under way; while other measures, such as a vestibule for the rear entrance door, are under consideration.

Any resident interested in serving on the commission may contact any member for further information.

Respectfully submitted,

George Audren

Toi Graham

Walt Johnson

Nancy Zebert, Acting Chairman

Frank Krzanik

Al Perusse

Brian McQuillan

REPORT OF THE HAMPDEN FIRE DEPARTMENT 1985

THE HAMPDEN VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN SERVING THE TOWN OF HAMPDEN FOR 55 YEARS. THE DEPARTMENT HAS 40 FIRE FIGHTERS AND 10 AUXILLARY FIRE FIGHTERS.

THE FIRE DEPARTMENT REMAINS ACTIVE IN THE HAMPDEN COUNTY MUTUAL AID PROGRAM. THIS YEAR THE HAMPDEN FIRE DEPARTMENT HOSTED THE NOVEMBER MONTHLY MEETING. ALSO IN 1984 WE RESPONDED TO 8 MUTUAL AID FIRE CALLS.

THE MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL LAW REQUIRES THAT SMOKE DETECTORS BE IN YOUR HOME AND IN GOOD WORKING ORDER BEFORE THE PROPERTY IS SOLD OR TRANSFERRED. PLEASE GIVE THE FIRE DEPARTMENT 2 WEEKS NOTICE PRIOR TO THE CLOSING DATE FOR THE PROPERTY FOR THE INSPECTION. TO OBTAIN ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CALL 566-3314. THIS YEAR THE DEPARTMENT INSPECTED 57 SMOKE DETECTORS.

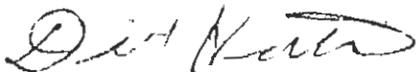
OUTDOOR BURNING REMAINS FROM JANUARY 15TH TO MAY 1ST FROM 10 A.M. TO 4 P.M. BURNING PERMITS ARE ISSUED DAILY, ON THE DAY THE BURNING IS TO BE DONE. YOU CAN OBTAIN A PERMIT BY CALLING 566-3314 MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY. WEEK END PERMITS ARE ISSUED BY CALLING 566-3963 OR 566-3776.

THE DEPARTMENT RESPONDED TO 70 CALLS IN 1984.

HOUSE	-	13	CHIMNEY	-	13
BRUSH	-	13	CAR	-	3
FALSE ALARMS	2		STORE	-	2
EMERGENCY	-	3	MUTUAL AID	-	8

HOUSING FOR THE ELDERLY - 13

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,



RICHARD HATCH  
FIRE CHIEF

## REPORT OF THE FOREST FIRE WARDEN

In 1984 there were 13 brush-grass fires. Outdoor burning remains restricted to January 15th through May 1st. We wish to thank all the residents of Hampden for their co-operation in complying with the burning restrictions. Also a special thanks to all individuals who stopped and helped put out grass and brush fires.

Respectfully submitted,  
Richard A. Hatch  
Forest Fire Warden

## REPORT OF CEMETERY COMMISSIONERS

The Cemetery Commissioners held their quarterly meetings at the Town House the second Tuesday of January, April, July and October at 7:30 PM. Trees were removed at the request of a lot owner at Prospect Hill. General maintenance of both Old and Prospect Hill cemeteries were maintained.

Corinne Dunwoody has been contracted to update deeds and records.

Anyone wishing assistance at either cemetery may contact any member of the Board of Cemetery Commissioners.

Respectfully submitted,  
Robert F. Sazama, Jr., Chairman  
Frank Prouty  
Arthur H. Gerrish  
Cemetery Commissioners

## REPORT OF HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT

The winter of 1983-84 was a winter of moderate snow but a good deal of ice.

The usual work of patching holes and grading the gravel roads was done as well as scraping the shoulder of the roads.

This past winter rip rapping was done on a section of the Scantic River behind the homes on River Park Drive for a distance of 750 feet. The work will be continued to complete the project.

Construction this past year consisted of rebuilding Scantic Road for a distance of 1100 feet and South Road for a distance of 900 feet. The following roads were resurfaced: Glendale from the junction of Ames Road for one mile. Hickory Lane, Old Coach Road and Edward Street were resurfaced with pea stone and liquid asphalt. Glendale Road was resurfaced with bituminous concrete from Bennett Road junction northeast for about  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile.

The roadsides were trimmed of brush and low hanging branches.

Due to the building on Rock A Dundee Road we will be trimming and widening the road a section at a time.

## REPORT OF TREE WARDEN

The Tree Warden wishes to report the following trees were taken down:

One large maple on the Town Common; two maples on Mountain Road; 3 maples on Bennett Road; one large pine tree on Main Street; two maples on Wilbraham Road.

Dead wood was trimmed from trees on Main Street and North Road.

Respectfully submitted,

Homer L. Fuller  
Highway Superintendent  
Tree Warden

## REPORT OF LIBRARY - 1984

More books circulated and library attendance increased by 13.4% at the Hampden Public Library in 1984.

The library continued to benefit from the services of the Western Massachusetts Regional Library System. The system's bookmobile delivered a book collection to supplement our own every eight weeks. In addition our library was able to borrow 297 books through the system's inter library loan department. The library staff took advantage of several workshops offered by the Western Massachusetts Regional Library System. Topics included reference materials, children's programming, and genealogy.

In 1984, the library received an Arts Lottery Grant to be used to preserve historical Hampden news clippings dating from 1874 on microfilm. The library keeps these clippings up to date in an annual scrapbook.

The 1984 Summer Reading Program, "Summer Reading Champions," was very successful. Sixty children completed the program. Each received a special "Summer Reading Champions" button and an ice cream certificate donated by Friendly Ice Cream Corporation. During the summer these children illustrated their favorite stories with "sidewalk art" around the Town Hall and attended a special movie at the end of the Program. Thanks again to Elinor King for the summer reading bulletin board.

The library showed weekly vacation movies for children during the summer of 1984.

Preschool children attended several storyhour and craft sessions during the year and Santa Claus visited the library in December.

We want to thank Mrs. Bittner's class at Green Meadows School for decorating the library with their art work.

We also want to thank all our patrons who donated books, magazines, and other items, and supported the library during 1984.

The Library Trustees meet on the third Wednesday of the month.

### LIBRARY HOURS

Monday	11:00 AM to 5:00 PM and 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM
Wednesday	11:00 AM to 5:00 PM and 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM
Thursday	11:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Saturday	10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

THE LIBRARY WILL BE CLOSED SATURDAYS DURING JULY, AUGUST, AND SEPTEMBER.

LIBRARY STATISTICS

General Services

Circulation	
Books.....	20,944
Periodicals.....	2,891
Recordings.....	641
Inter library loan.....	297
	<u>24,773</u>
Volumes Added.....	828
Volumes Discarded.....	45
Total Collection.....	14,349
Magazine Subscriptions.....	58
Total Attendance.....	14,349
Bookmobile.....	1,653

Finances

Receipts	
Revenue Sharing.....	\$21,285
State Aid.....	2,372
Additional State Aid.....	1,376
	<u>\$25,033</u>

Expenditures

Wages.....	\$15,721
Media Materials.....	8,013
Supplies, Telephone, Incidentals.....	1,299
	<u>\$25,033</u>

Respectfully submitted,  
 Ann Byron, Chairman, Trustee  
 Miriam P. Bryans, Trustee  
 Mary Barkhuff, Trustee  
 Joanne Clarke, Librarian

## REPORT OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

The Hampden Parks and Recreation Commission met regularly during 1984.

Mr. Ronald Morissette and Mr. Art Thomas were duly elected to the commission in 1984 giving us five permanent members for the first time in several years. Our new secretary is Mrs. Beverly Carroll.

As in past years the commission sponsored a 6 week summer recreation program for young people at Memorial Park. This remains our major contribution to the youth of Hampden. Vandalism remains a serious problem at the park despite precautions which have been taken. The necessary repairs represent a continuous cost to the taxpayers of the town.

The Recreation Association of Hampden sponsored and directed baseball, basketball, soccer and softball teams for both boys and girls with some financial help from the commission. The town owes a debt of gratitude to those interested and involved citizens. Memorial Park was the site of the Old Engine Show sponsored by the Hampden Volunteer Fire Dept. in July and the Hampden Days Celebration run by the Businessman's Association in September. On July 4 your commission organized a town celebration which included sports events, booth games and other activities. Many thanks to the Lions Club and to the other town organizations which participated. Hampden's Recreation Director, Mr. Normand Proulx organized and supervised an adult recreation program during the winter months.

The commission looks forward to serving the citizens of Hampden in the coming year.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jim Whipple, Chairman  
Maureen Coughlin  
Steve LeClair  
Ron Morissette  
Art Thomas

Planning Board Annual Report - 1984

The Board reviewed and signed many plot plans this year. As building lots become scarcer, we see more and more parcels put before us that do not have the required 200' (R-6) or 170' (R-4) frontage minimum. These cannot be approved and are considered denied. It is up to the landowner to then determine what he can best do with this land. In the case of parcels with large acreage, it is often beneficial to go before the Board of Appeals and request permission to build just one home on the parcel.

Since each house lot in Town must have its own well and septic system, careful and intelligent study of building and homesite development is required.

The owner of the Gulf Station on Somers Rd. has attended several informational meetings with the Board to share concerns prior to putting up his lighted awning over the self-service gas pumps and opening a small convenience store.

A Mill Rd. wetlands site was finally approved after the owner and prospective buyer went through proper channels required by the Wetlands Act, the DEQE and the Hampden Conservation Commission, to prove that a home could be built on the site.

Prior to the Annual Town Meeting, our Board met with the Board of Assessors to discuss their proposed mapping project. We have found our large Town Map a useful tool in affording us a quick overview of areas under discussion. Since funds have been approved by the Town to allow the Assessors to contract for a mapping project, we will not use the monies budgeted to us for Town Map update in Fiscal '84 and '85.

At the annual Town Meeting, a petition to change the property at 522 Main St. from Business to Multi-Unit Dwelling was voted down. The Board could not support the petition. It would still have been non-conforming according to plans presented by the petitioner; it would have meant a major loss to the business area; and might have been interpreted as "spot zoning" by the Attorney General.

The Board did support a citizen's request to have a small piece of property at 7 Wilbraham Rd. changed from Business to Residential. His whole lot is now in Residential-4.

We have noted an increase in persons using their homes for a small business called a "Home Occupation". The Zoning Bylaws are very specific about what is interpreted as such. The Board urges any person anticipating starting a "Home Occupation" to attend a meeting to ward off inadvertently violating a Zoning Bylaw.

Respectfully submitted by:	Karl D. Sternberg, Chairman	'86
	John L. Partyka, Vice-Ch.	'87
	Frederick Maher, Jr.	'85
Judith M. Jackson,	Donald J. Collins	'88
Secretary	John D. Mikkola	'89

## REPORT OF POLICE DEPARTMENT

I submit herewith the Annual Report for the Police Department for the year ending December 31, 1984.

During the year the Police Department recorded 4,228 log entries. Of these 2,399 required further investigation. The calls received by the department were for assistance, complaints and for the reporting of crimes. The following is a general breakdown of the type of complaints received and investigated by the Police Department.

B&E forcible entry	16	Citizen assists	382
B&E attempted forcible entry	2	Suspicious activity	195
Larceny over \$100	22	Motor vehicle complaints	238
Larceny under \$100	20	Youth problems	63
Vandalism	102	Assist other police departments	105
Ambulance assists	76	Protective custody	5
Fire Department assists	63	Assist Highway Department	64
Family problems	49	Animal complaints	85
Bicycles reported stolen	8	General services	137
Bicycles recovered	2	Bomb scares	1
Buildings found open	65	Assault	10
Burglar alarms answered	134	Attempted suicide	1
Stolen cars reported	4	Armed robbery	1
Stolen cars recovered	6	Disorderly conduct	1
Stolen motorcycles reported	2	Weapons, carrying, possessing etc.	17
Stolen property recovered	6	Reported deaths	6
Prowlers	7	Annoying telephone calls	21
Missing persons	10	Dog bites	6
Obscene telephone calls	16	Violation of liquor laws	2
Dog complaints	46	Possession of fireworks	2
Arrests for other departments	15	Noise complaints	52
Recreational vehicle complaints	49	Disturbance	71
		Sex offenses	3

During the year 142 persons were arrested and a total of 337 complaints were filed against them in the following categories.

B&E daytime w/int. com. a misd.	4	Leaving scene of m/v accident	3
B&E daytime w/int.com. a felony	2	Altering a license	1
Larceny over \$100	5	Failure to report address change	1
Poss. class D sub. w/int. dist.	2	Burning rubber	2
Poss. class D Sub.	6	Stop sign	12
Receiving stolen property	4	Arrest warrants, ours & other PDs	30
Disorderly person	3	Opr. under influence of alcohol	47
Disorderly conduct	2	Opr. m/v without a license	2
A&B on a police officer	9	Opr. m/v, no license in poss.	6
Assault w/dangerous weapon	3	Opr. m/v w/o authority	4
Shoplifting	3	Opr. m/v after license suspension	3
Mal.distruction of property	2	Opr. after license revocation	1
Wanton, mal. dest.personal prop.	1	Speeding	16
Wilful & mal. dam. to building	6	Opr. m/v, no registration	4
Indecent A&B on child under 14	1	Opr. m/v, no insurance	3
Minor in poss. alcoholic beverage	25	Attaching plates	1

Police Department P2

Procuring alc. bev. for a minor	3	Failure to stay in marked lanes	21
Minor transporting alcoholic bev.	1	Operating to endanger	10
Del. alc. bev. to per. under 20	2	Receiving stolen property	3
Making arr. pur. alc. bev./minor	2	Opr. m/v without license	1
Assault in dwelling while armed	15	Failure to stop for police officer	5
Armed assault w/int. to murder	4	CHINS warrant	1
Carrying firearms w/o authority	5	No tail lights	2
Armed rob. while masked, disguised	11	No plate light	1
Armed burglary	10	Opr. motorcycle, no headgear	1
Consp. armed assault, dwelling	10	Opr. m/v, no registration in poss.	3
Consp. armed rob. while mask, dis.	10	Opr. m/v w/open container	1
Using false I.D.	1	Altering a license	1
Failure to inspect m/v	2	Trespassing	1

There were 68 motor vehicle accidents reported and investigated by this department involving 100 motor vehicles. As a result of these accidents 27 persons were injured and required medical treatment. Of the 27 people injured one was a pedestrian.

1984 Motor Vehicle Citations

There were 1216 citations written: of these 829 were on radar.

WARNINGS

Speeding	160	Fail. to dim lgh beams	1
Stop sign	4	Uncovered load	1
No registration in possession	2	Offensive load	2
No license in possession	2	No proper plates	2
Operating w/o license	1	Studded tires out of season	1
Uninspected m/v	13	Failure to change address	2
Noisy mufflers	1	Defective equipment	4
Failure to stay to right	2	Unregistered m/v	1

NON CRIMINAL CITATIONS

Speeding	701	Defective equipment	32
Passing in no passing zone	9	No plates on m/v	1
Failure to stay right	25	Failure to change address	1
Stop sign	48	Studded tires out of season	2
No registration in possession	25	Weaving	3
Unregistered m/v	12	Offensive noise	11
No license in possession	39	Improper left turn	4
Operating w/o license	10	Operating m/c w/o helmet	1
Failure to stay w/in marked lane	1	Spilling load	1
Uninspected m/v	100	Failure to cover load	2
Noisy muffler	1	Failure to restrain child	1
Failure to grant right of way	1	Improper passing	4
Failure to stop for police off.	3	Violation license restrictions	5
Attaching plates	2		

CRIMINAL CITATIONS

Speeding	6	Operating w/o license plates	1
Failure to stop for police off.	4	Operating after suspension	11

Police Department P3

Attaching plates	4	Stop sign	6
Operating to endanger	7	Uninspected motor vehicle	2
Failure to stay to right	1	Using m/v w/o authority	2
Leaving scene of accident	3	Offensive noise	1
Operating w/o license	2	No registration in possession	1
Unregistered m/v	18	Failure to change address	1
Uninsured m/v	20	Violation license restrictions	1
No license in possession	2	Conceal I.D.	1

During the year \$1357.00 was turned over to the Town Treasurer for firearms identification cards, pistol permits and reports.

Total amounts of fines and sentences.

M/v fines returned to town	\$20,350.00
Traffic cases pending	348
Court costs	\$2625.00
Restitution	\$976.39
Show cause hearings requested	91
Defensive driving school	52
House of Correction, direct	7 years, 1 month, 7 days
House of Correction, suspended	3 years, 5 months
State Prison	45 years/75 years
Probation	22 years, 5 months
Department of Youth Services	1 year, 4 months
Victims fund	\$165.00

The following officers attended inservice training programs that were conducted by the Criminal Justice Training Council at Agawam. Sgt. William Chechile, DWI/Vehicular Homicide (32 hours), Medico-Legal Investigation of Death (24 hours), Supreme Court Decisions (8 hours), Officer Mark Reisner, PR-24 School (16 hours), Officer Raymond Schmuck, First Responder Instructor (40 hours), Officer Brian Basili, Radar Training (8 hours), OUI Enforcement, (8 hours), Interview & Interrogative Techniques (8 hours), Officer Michael Kozaczka OUI Enforcement (8 hours), PR-24, (16 hours), Officer Donald Snow, OUI Enforcement, (8 hours), Auto Theft (8 hours), Reserve Officer Eric Madison, First Responder Instructor (40 hours). Officer Mark Reisner and Reserve Officer James Collins both received recertification for their police dogs. They also attended monthly meetings for K9 inservice training. All officers and reserve officers also completed a revolver qualification course conducted by Officer Raymond Schmuck, Firearms Instructor.

I wish to thank the Board of Selectmen for their continued support and cooperation, all members and civilian employees of the police department, the Police Department, the Fire Chief and Highway Superintendent and citizens of the community for their continued cooperation throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,  
George K. Stone, Jr.  
Chief of Police

REPORT OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
AND SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

The Hampden School Committee is pleased to present its report for the year nineteen-hundred and eighty-four.

Educationally, the year was highlighted by the reorganization of Curriculum Committees for each subject area, the implementation of the "Prime" program for talented and gifted students, the development of a comprehensive kindergarten through grade twelve computer literacy program and the formation of the Volunteers in Service to the Hampden Public Schools.

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

To accentuate the importance of curriculum development, Curriculum Committees have been established in all content areas. The specific purposes for which the Committees have been organized are:

1. To develop a set of goals and objectives for each discipline.
2. To assess present programming relative to content and practice.
3. To effect better articulation within the subject area.
4. To develop appropriate curriculum materials and guides.

The Committees will be formally organized with a Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary. Meetings will be held monthly. Minutes of the meetings will be kept and copies of such minutes will be forwarded to the School Administration and the School Committee. Curriculum Committee minutes will be a continuing item on the School Committee agenda.

GIFTED AND TALENTED COMMITTEE

The Talented and Gifted Study Committee which was organized by a group of interested parents and teachers during 1983 continued its efforts and was able to implement a program for able students in September. The program accommodates twenty-six students from Grades One through Eight. These students were nominated by their teachers on the basis of classroom performance, their scores on the Iowa Test of Basic Skills and other tests commonly used to identify able students. Stringent criteria were established and only students that met all of the preconditions were accepted into the program. "Prime", as the program is called, functions as an adjunct to the students' regular program. The School Committee is pleased that it could implement this program and commends the members of the Talented and Gifted Study Committee for its work in this regard.

K-12 COMPUTER CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

The K-12 Computer Curriculum Committee was organized to develop a comprehensive computer instruction curriculum for Grade Kindergarten through Grade Twelve in Hampden, Wilbraham and at Minnechaug. The Committee began its deliberations in 1983 and continued them into 1984. By April, 1984, they had developed a broad list of instructional objectives, with an indication as to in what grade each objective was to be introduced, in what following grades it would be expanded and at what grade level it would be reasonable to assume student mastery. During the summer the Committee developed a detailed curriculum