



**MIDDLEFIELD ANNUAL TOWN REPORT 2010**

## **Middlefield Town Offices and Department**

Middlefield Town Hall  
188 Skyline Trail, PO Box 238  
Middlefield, MA 01243  
[www.middlefieldma.us](http://www.middlefieldma.us)

### **Accountant**

Terry Walker  
413-623-2079  
Thursdays 10-5 p.m.  
[tlwalkernbbc@aol.com](mailto:tlwalkernbbc@aol.com)

### **Assessors' Office**

Wednesdays 6-8 p.m.  
Saturdays 9-11 a.m.  
413-623-8966  
FX 413-623-6108  
[assessors@middlefieldma.us](mailto:assessors@middlefieldma.us)

### **Board of Health**

Mondays 7 p.m.  
413-623-2079  
Or call: Chair of Select Board  
Noreen Suriner  
413-623-8788  
[Selectboard@middlefieldma.us](mailto:Selectboard@middlefieldma.us)

### **Building Inspector**

Paul Tacy  
413-296-0127  
<http://hampshirecog.org/buildinginspection.html>  
(Permit applications on outside wall of  
Assessors office in Town Hall)

### **Fire Department-emergency 911**

Larry Pease, Fire Chief  
413-623-5060  
Ron Radwich, Deputy Chief  
413-623-6456

### **Treasurer: Jane Thielen**

Saturday 10-3 p.m.  
413-623-2079

### **Library**

Cyndy Oigny, Librarian  
Mondays 4-7 p.m.  
Wednesdays 4-7 p.m.  
Saturdays 9-3 p.m.  
[librarian@middlefieldma.us](mailto:librarian@middlefieldma.us)

### **Police Department-emergency 911**

Thomas Austin, Chief  
413-623-0005  
[middlefieldpd@gmail.net](mailto:middlefieldpd@gmail.net)

### **Senior Center-Council on Aging**

Wednesday mornings  
Wednesday lunch  
12 noon at Senior Center  
Susan Baker Donnelly  
Reservations: call 413-623-6080  
Center phone: 413-623-9990

### **Tax Collector**

Mary Ann Pease  
Fridays 1:30-6 p.m.  
413-623-5182  
Fx 413-623-6108  
[taxcollector@middlefieldma.us](mailto:taxcollector@middlefieldma.us)

### **Town Clerk**

Marjorie Batorski  
Mondays 7-9 p.m.  
Mondays & Saturdays 9-12  
Hours by appointment  
413-623-2079

### **Town Garage**

Skip Savery, Highway Superintendent  
413-623-5532



# 2010 Annual Report

Town of Middlefield  
Massachusetts

photo: Noreen Suriner

**Fiscal Year from July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010**

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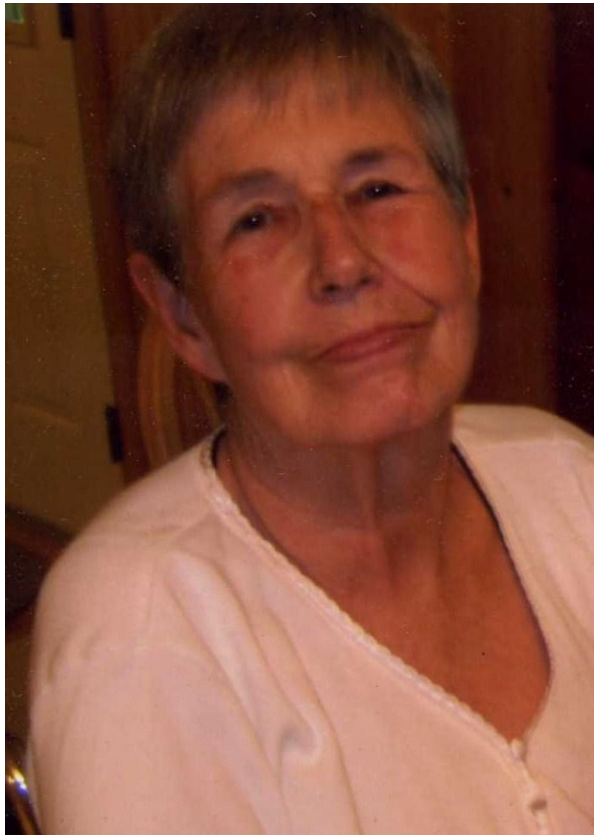
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**NOTE: While not included in this year’s report, the full Scanlon Auditor’s report and the full Department of Revenue Technical Review are available on line on the Select Board’s web page.**

**Grateful appreciation goes to the many people who have served this community with enthusiasm and skill. Thank you to all who have contributed to the success of this town year. Thank you to all who contributed to the making of this report. Specifically we desire to:**

Thank the authors of the reports  
 Vicki Reed for the Cover  
 Carol Waag Swift for the Inside Cover  
 The Savery family and the Suriner family for loved one’s photos  
 Dan Cawthron for the photo of Scott Will’s house fire.  
 Cameron McQuaid who drew the cartoons and the Middlefield map ‘borrowed’ from the 1987 Town Report  
 Thank you to editors Steve Harris, Leanne Every, Alan Vint, and Suzanne Lemeiux, and for compiling the report, Noreen Suriner

# IN MEMORIUM



This Annual Town Report is dedicated  
in loving memory to

Shirley Savery December 29, 1932-January 1, 2011  
and Wayne Suriner, July 27, 1921 – February 18, 2011

long standing residents of Middlefield, whose lives reflected the goodness of town values and a lifelong commitment to community. They are missed both by family and friends.



## Town of Middlefield Board of Selectmen

P.O. Box 238, Middlefield, MA 01243

Tel: 413-623-2079

Fax: 413-623-6108

Dear Neighbors,

Your new Select Board has worked diligently to become informed of its responsibilities and the major Town issues. While it has been challenging as new Select Board members, it has also been rewarding. Thank you for your trust in us. The following is a summary of the actions taken during the seven months we have served.

**TRANSFER STATION:** Eric Weiss and Kathy O'Brien, transfer station attendant, presented both the regional as well as the local aspects of the operation. Eric explained how metal scrap is used to help purchase town bins. He also spoke about how paving and adding another bin would make the Transfer site more convenient. However to purchase the bin would be about \$5,500, not including paving. Additionally, a storage shed for electronics and one for rummage should be built to protect re-usable items.

Thanks to Skip Savery and the highway department for constructing the warming shed for the attendant. Kathy O'Brien now has a warm, dry place to be during inclement and cold weather.

Selectman Mitch Feldmesser made a temporary sign notifying patrons that metal salvage is not allowed because the town benefits from the metal disposal. At this point, we don't want to charge for bags as many towns do or increase the cost of permits. However, in the future we may need to increase use charges.

**EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS:** State wide emergency preparedness is a matter of life and death. Middlefield has a plan but few know of it. To help residents know and understand it, citizens have been invited to participate and prepare for an updated plan. (The last one was lost due to water damage). Regional health and safety representatives Mary Kersell, Hampshire Public Health Preparedness Coalition Coordinator, Don Snyder, Regional Coordinator of Mass. Dept. of Health, and Stephanie Bozigian Merrick, Western Mass Department of Public Health, have led seminars to help Middlefield understand the issues and prepare a way to help one another in time of crisis.

The Select Board/ Board of Health must be concerned with local and regional emergencies that might have local implications. For local concerns, we are a fairly self-reliant group of people and naturally help each other out, however, regional events could pose additional problems for which we may not be currently prepared.

The Select Board is grateful to the Council on Aging for getting the COA building outfitted for an emergency situation. Currently one or two families could be housed there. We are working to outfit the Town Hall. When we are clear what needs to happen we will contact the Red Cross to help us.

**PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY RESPONSE (PHER)/HOMELAND**

**SECURITY:** Each year Middlefield receives a \$900 mini grant as well as another \$7000 grant. We are hoping the Senior Center with the refurbished generator will be the recipient of the mini grant. Additionally the Select Board is looking into getting an emergency radio with the larger grant, in addition to paying for the repairs to the outside Town Hall sign and reimbursing Gateway High School for the NIH1 costs. Additional information is being researched to determine if reverse 911 is the best use for these funds within the limitations of the grant.

**EMERGENCY READINESS:** At the Special Town Meeting in January 2011, \$25,000 was appropriated to cover costs to replace or reprogram emergency radios and beepers due to FCC regulations shortening the bandwidth.

**FIRE MONITORING:** The fire monitoring service was installed a few years ago. This Select Board has now activated the system for the Town Hall. A citizen is looking into the cost of protecting the Council on Aging building/museum and we are searching for a grant to install it.

**GRANTS:** Thanks to Joe Kearns and Eric Weiss, Middlefield was able to win a grant for a new boiler and new windows for the Town Hall. Both are now installed!! The \$18000 overage was taken from the Building Fund to cover additional asbestos abatement costs as well as insulation. However, it is to be noted that the insulation is not complete and this does not cover window treatments. These will be additional expenses at a later time.

**INSURANCE: Massachusetts Interlocal Insurance Association (MIIA)** Michael Garrold, our insurance agent for Middlefield, came to explain our insurance coverage and costs. We discovered we had a strong insurance policy but added an Employee Assistance Program (EAP) and discovered the possibility of grant money through the insurance company. Your Select Board is seeking information to request that money for the added security of our buildings.

**LOCKS:** Sadly, the Select Board records are not in good shape. Items that should be there are not and material that should not be there is. Some records have arbitrarily been dumped. The Select Board has purchased locks and keys to insure that the appropriate records are kept and properly protected.

**BOARD OF HEALTH;** When there is no official BOH appointed, the Select Board becomes the de facto BOH. Charles Hunter is the agent and much work was accomplished. The functions of the Board of Health are much greater than simply a septic system or kitchen inspection. The Select Board has agreed to explore the possibility of a Regional Board of Health and/or agent. This grant has now been approved as of April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011. At this point we are under no obligation except to explore the cost/benefit returns of regionalization. We, along with several other towns, are participating with this grant request.

**PERMITS/LICENSES:** In researching the granting of permits and licenses it is clear that we must follow our own Zoning Bylaws. We urge anyone with a business or needing a permit or license to be sure all zoning bylaws are followed and if they are not, then to petition for a correction.

**TOWN BYLAWS:** It has been since 1987 when the Town Bylaws were last addressed. While the Select Board has reviewed the Bylaws, it will take a massive overhaul to update them. Beginning next year the Bylaws will slowly be addressed over the next few years until they are all completely reviewed, edited, and updated. We hope a group of citizens will volunteer and work with the Select Board in accomplishing this task. The result will become the Bylaws of the year it is finally completed. Hearings, ample time for discussion and reflection will allow citizen input to be sure our Bylaws reflect our community's current wishes and desires.

**FINANCES:** Thanks to the finance committee, Middlefield has had a careful process for paying the bills. However, analyzing the long-term trends and developing projections for the future has not been done in some time. It is hoped that by the inception of the 2013 budget we can access that information and make intelligent decisions based on those trends and projections.

Middlefield has had a difficult history financially. It is imperative that the auditor's management letters and the Department of Revenue's technical review be addressed and that the issues noted be corrected. You can find copies of both on the Select Board website.

**BUDGET:** With the anticipated reduction of State Funding by at least 7% from last year, the majority of town budget expenses have been projected to be held to the same or similar amounts or reduced, with a few exceptions.

We carefully analyzed the expenses over the past four years, identifying areas to cut or eliminate as well as scrutinize prospective budget increases. These financial goals established by the Finance Committee and the Select Board will hopefully move Middlefield forward in spite of austerity measures. Like everyone else, Middlefield must do more with less.

**STRAP GRANT:** Skip Savery, the Highway Superintendent, will be able to re-submit the Strap Grant proposal for road work on Chester Road. If successful, this half million dollar grant will go a long way to improving the road.

**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION:** With a stimulus grant the DEP did additional clean up at the Old General Store site. At this writing, a final report has not been made. However, as soon as one is available, it will be shared with all.

While this reports most of the actions taken during the past seven months, there remains more to be done. Should you desire to help see our town become the community that cares for one another and wants to help make that happen, please volunteer to serve on an appropriate committee.

Thank you, Noreen Suriner, Chair, Alan Vint and Mitch Feldmesser

## **Report of the Town Clerk**

### **BIRTHS**

ELLA CATHERINE ZISKOWSKI 12/13/ 2010  
Daughter of Jonathan Edward Ziskowski

### **MARRIAGES**

Scott Michael Levine  
Amy Caren Lieberman 5/16/2010

Nathan Alan Kruszyna  
Crystal Lee Jones 5/22/2010

Jason Rhede Cook  
Sophie Curtis Church 9/25/2010

### **DEATHS**

Joseph L. White 65 years 3/27/2010

Leonard Lester Daigneault 89 years 7/11/2010

Doris Lorraine Mechare 82 years 11/17/2010

## Dog Report

Dogs	Cost per dog	Total	Fee for Town	Total to Town
23 Neutered Males	\$3.00	\$69.00	\$.50 Per Dog	\$34.50
14 Intact male dogs	\$ 6.00	\$84.00	\$.50 Per Dog	\$7.00
6 Female dogs	\$6.00	\$36.00	\$.50	\$3.00
28 Spayed Female Dogs	\$3.00	\$84.00	\$.50	\$14.00
3 Kennel Licenses with 4 or less dogs	\$10.00 per kennel	\$30.00	\$.50 fee per kennel	\$1.50
4 Kennel licenses with 10 dogs or less	\$25.00 per Kennel	\$100.00	\$.50 Fee per Kennel	\$2.00

Along with giving food and water to your dogs, make sure your dogs are licensed. If your dogs get lost or injured, the tag number helps in identifying the dog. License period runs from March 31 to April 1 of the following year. They must be licensed each year.

### About the Finance Committee

The Finance Committee is a five-member advisory board elected to three-year terms on a rotating basis. The committee meets with other town departments and boards to make budget and financial recommendations for Annual and Special Town Meetings. The committee also has oversight responsibility for authorizing expenditures from the Reserve Fund to meet shortfalls during the year.

## Finance Committee Annual Report for FY 2011

To the Citizens of the Middlefield:

As we look toward FY 2012 that starts on July 1, 2011, the Town has many challenges. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts has serious issues in balancing its budget. Revenues from the Commonwealth support less than 10% of the levy in Middlefield. The final state budget will

probably mean a loss of revenue to the Town of \$10,000. The Town budget is currently about \$1.4 million.

Many Commonwealth issues affect the Town of Middlefield. On the state level, there is a \$1B to \$2B gap in the FY 2012 budget. Proposals are in place to fill the gap. Over the last 10 years the Medicaid and Health Care share of the state budget has gone from 21% to 37%. At this time, the state reimburses hospital expenses 70 cents on the dollar. The increase of the state sales tax from 5% to 6¼% has resulted in \$1B in tax revenues. Some of the recent months have come in over estimates. The state has to deal with a \$200M increase in pension costs and a \$300M increase in interest costs. When the current crisis started in FY2009, the state lost \$1.5B in capital gains taxes due to the stock market collapse. This all bodes poorly for any increase in state aid for the next few years.

Moving up to the national level, there are several issues to note. Estimates suggest that we will not see a drop to 8% unemployment until 2014 to 2015. In the last decade, the state has only been 4<sup>th</sup> out of the 50 states in job growth.

On the world level, China is the 2<sup>nd</sup> biggest national economy, within striking distance of the US. Probably they soon pass us. India and Brazil are on target to pass the US economy.

On the local level, much of what comes before Town Meeting is a list of future bills that need to be paid. The majority of expenses cover education and maintenance of Town roads. Current education costs take up about half of the Town budget. The Finance Committee receives requests for the budget. These requests are then reviewed by the Finance Committee. A vote of the Committee is taken on each request to provide a recommendation to the citizens of Middlefield.

This year the Town used three grants that offset the raising of taxes to pay expenses. A \$121,000 grant from the Department of Energy Resources (DOER) of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts was used to replace the boiler and windows in the Town Hall. Energy Conservation monies were received to cover 70% of the cost of new lighting in the Town Hall and Town Grange. The DOER also provided for Pioneer Valley Planning Commission costs to assist the Town in becoming a “green community”. This would allow the Town to apply for “green” funds.

The Gateway Regional School Committee is trying to respond to the “one-man, one-vote” issue. This will result in a reduced voice for the representatives of Middlefield. Action on this is long overdue, but it will have a bit of impact for the Town.

Going forward, there will need to be some improvements to at the Transfer Station. Recycling will become more important as the cost of trash disposal will rise with next year’s closing of the Northampton Landfill.

Respectfully submitted, Joe Kearns, Chair, Ed Vivier, Secretary, Scott Artioli, Gita Jozsef Harris and Tamarin Laurel Paine

**TREASURER'S REPORT**  
for Fiscal Year 2010

Balance in Treasury, July 1, 2009 \$ 440,642.10

Add:	Total Receipts for FY 2010	1,740,679.36	
Less:	Total Expenditures FY 2010	(1,622,656.54)	

Balance in Treasury, June 30, 2010

Cash on Hand	\$	1,085.28	
Checking Account inc. Deputy Collector's Account	\$	(9,344.03)	
Money Market Accounts	\$	566,923.67	\$ 558,664.92

**TRUST AND INVESTMENT FUNDS IN  
CUSTODY OF TREASURER**

**STABILIZATION FUND:**

Balance on Hand, July 1, 2009	\$	209,347.51	
Add: Interest Earned in FY '10	\$	1,255.96	
Add: Due to Stabilization Fund Appropriation	\$	225.33	
Less: Voted transfers at town meetings	\$	(29,900.00)	
Balance on Hand, June 30, 2010			\$ 180,928.80

**CEMETERY CARE FUND**

Balance on Hand, July 1, 2009	\$	28,307.96	
Add: Interest Earned in FY '10	\$	446.02	
Add: Due from General Fund	\$	300.00	
Add: Donation	\$	-	
Balance on Hand, June 30, 2010			\$ 29,053.98

**SALLY DICKSON SCHOOL FUND**

Balance on Hand, July 1, 2009	\$	25,031.57	
Add: Interest Earned in FY '10	\$	607.02	
Balance on Hand, June 30, 2010			\$ 25,638.59

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jane R. Thielen, Treasurer

**REPORT OF THE TAX COLLECTORS OFFICE  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2011**

As the Tax Collector it is my mission and sworn duty to ensure the efficient, effective and timely collection of all tax monies due the Town of Middlefield, while providing the highest level of customer service to Middlefield Taxpayers. Cash Flow is the most important and essential responsibility of this department.

I started this position July 30, 2010 and as such can't speak to the Tax Collector activity prior to this date. I can however report the outstanding balances due as of the June 30, 2010 audit and state that these are the outstanding balances I am trying to clear up by collection.

**REAL ESTATE:**

2010	\$45,508.92	2009	\$5,549.62
2008	1,449.37	2007	2,775.89
2006	-0-	2005	-0-
2004	943.05	2003	833.08
2002	2,491.72	2001	.01
2000	1,144.54	1999	433.26
1998	91.13		

**PERSONAL PROPERTY:**

2010     \$ 551.42

**MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE:**

2010	\$3,958.45	2009	\$1,511.46
2008	665.69	2007	721.44
2006	622.99		

As I go forward I will continue to pursue the Tax Dollars owed to the Town of Middlefield, and I appreciate the cooperation of the Towns People and the welcome I have received.

Respectfully Submitted:

Mary Ann T. Pease, Tax Collector

## Board of Assessors Annual Report for FY 2011

March 14, 2011

To the Citizens of the Town of Middlefield

The Board of Assessors (BOA) oversees real and personal property valuations upon which the property taxes are based. A part of the town government, the BOA is also overseen and regulated by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue (DOR), to ensure compliance with Massachusetts General Laws.

Approximately three-quarters of the town's budget is funded by property and automobile excise taxes. The dependence on property taxes, including the vital *new growth* component of the tax levy, underscores the importance of the Assessors' office in the effective and equitable administration of Massachusetts's property tax laws.

Assessors maintain extensive data on all the real and personal property in town, including exempt properties and personal exemptions. The BOA conducts a multi-year *Cyclical Inspection Program* to re-list and re-measure all properties in town, as required by the DOR. A current and accurate property inventory is critical to the determination of uniform, fair market values.

The town's property data is maintained using the State's computerized mass appraisal system (CAMA). This system not only assists in the analytical process of valuing the properties, but also contains property data, building sketches, photographs, ownership history, and additional data used by other departments. The database is linked to the State's Community Software Consortium system.

Assessors are also responsible for preparing and submitting an annual tax rate recapitulation to the DOR, to ensure that the town has a balanced budget within the limits of Proposition 2½. Once the assessors receive preliminary certification from the DOR, they then provide data for the Selectboard's annual tax classification hearing (to apportion the tax levy among various classes of property), prior to submitting the recap for final DOR certification.

FY 2011 assessed values for various classes of property and their share of the tax levy:

<b>Property Class</b>	<b>Valuation</b>	<b>Tax Rate</b>	<b>Levy</b>	<b>Levy %</b>
Residential	\$60,021,246	15.12%	\$907,251	91.24
Commercial	\$2,932,135	15.12%	\$44,334	4.46
Industrial	\$24,900	15.12%	\$376	0.04
Personal	\$2,807,299	15.12%	\$42,447	4.26
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$65,785,580</b>	<b>15.12%</b>	<b>\$994,678</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Motor Vehicle Excise bills for calendar year 2010 also generated \$39,488 in tax receivables.

Motor Vehicle Excise bills for calendar year 2010 also generated \$39,488 in tax receivables. Statutory exemptions for veterans, the blind and the elderly of \$5,550 were granted in FY 2011. Taxpayers experiencing financial hardship are encouraged to consult with the Assessors' office to determine eligibility for deferrals and exemptions to help them to remain in their homes.

Please visit the Assessors' page on the town's web site where you will find minutes of Assessors' meetings, forms, property record cards, printable tax maps, and links to helpful information. We welcome queries from townspeople and suggestions for further improvements.

Respectfully submitted, Gita Jozsef, Chair, John Richardson, Secretary, Laura Lafreniere, Assessor

### **Communication Committee FY 2010**

**Website:** We have made progress. Albeit, slow progress, but progress none the less. Increasingly people are becoming familiar with their emails and using them. There is still much to be done on the website and on all forms of communications.

Future goals include: 1. Keeping the web site up to date & accessible. 2. Maintaining connections with MBI and Wired West. 3. Improved Inter-town connectivity such as a hard copy of the town directory that is already found on the web site; email blasts for upcoming events and cell phone numbers for emergencies.

The wiring for technology equipment and internet is woefully inadequate. Wires are strung from post to post and have not been installed to industry standards. Additionally the electrical wiring needs review. Both should be done at the same time.

Much of the hardware is adequate as most staff have workable computers. We are reviewing staff needs to make sure they have the tools necessary to complete their jobs. We expect to make additional recommendations following this review.

Thanks to the PHER grant the outside roadside bulletin board will be repaired

**Wired West** is a multi-town collaborative that seeks to raise sufficient funds to make high speed fiber optics available to anyone in town that desires it. This necessary initiative, like the initiative taken 100 years ago to bring electricity to town when the big companies would not is history repeating itself. It was only a year ago that Wired West was born. At the town meeting a second to create the multi-town collaborative must pass again by a 2/3 majority. If we do not pay it, we do not belong nor will we receive internet services until all member towns have received it first. Each town that belongs to Wired West is asked to pay \$1000 membership.

Leanne Every and Steve Harris are our Web administrators and Noreen Suriner is our Wired West and MBI contact person. Submitted by Noreen Suriner, Chair

## **2010/2011 Annual Report Middlefield Council on Aging**

PO Box 183, Skyline Trail, Middlefield, MA 01243-0183

Susan Baker-Connelly, Chair

Board Members: Cathy Roth, Ed Vivier

Hours: Wednesday 9:30 to 3:00 p.m.

Congregate Meal

Phone: 413-623-9990 Wednesdays Only

Phone 413-623-6080 Monday prior for Wednesday Luncheon Reservations

### **Council on Aging Activities**

#### **Highland Valley Elder Services**

Luncheons are served to participating seniors on Wednesdays throughout the year.

Reservations/cancellations are requested by the end of the business day on the Monday prior to the lunch by calling COA Chair Susan Baker-Connelly at 413-623-6080. All those age 60+ are welcome. Guests of members, of any age, are also welcome.. A small donation to help defray the cost of the lunch is suggested. Come and get to know your Middlefield neighbors!

Cathy Roth's very able and caring help continues with our Wednesday luncheons and other programs which benefit not only seniors but the town at large. We also have had help from members The Rev. Connie Morrison, Jack Cobb, Janet Rock and Marge Batorski. My thanks for their assistance.

#### **New Members**

The two Ralph Bells' are back with us. You add so much to the fun on Wednesdays!

#### **Flu Clinic**

A Flu Clinic was held on October 13, 2010. It was open to all Middlefield residents and those from surrounding hill towns as time and vaccine availability permitted. The turnout increased to 22. Our thanks to the Lee VNA, state grants MASSPRO – MDPH Immunization Program and the CDC.

We are an information resource for seniors with regard to health insurance, home care, Medicare, and prescription coverage for seniors in Massachusetts. Wheelchairs, walkers and other medical equipment are available on temporary loan to Middlefield elders in need of them.

Our facilities are also used by various town committees including the Fair Committee and the Heritage Society. Again this past fall the seniors sponsored an ice-cream social for the town during our annual Heritage Days event.

Winter Storms have caused cancellation of several Wednesday luncheons. However, this year our holiday party was held as scheduled on December 11, 2010. Very well attended, our Christmas party included a roast beef dinner and gift exchange at the Senior Center. It was preceded by wine and appetizers at the Oliver Blush Tavern.

Ed Vivier's recent primer on strokes provided us all with important and timely information everyone should be aware of.

The Middlefield COA offered a pastel painting class, funded by our Cultural Council. It was held on October 26, 2010 and presented by Gregory Maichack. It was much enjoyed by those attending.

Thanks again to our Cultural Council, we will be entertained and mesmerized by Richard Clark performing "Atticus" (To Kill a Mockingbird). July 30<sup>th</sup>. Please save the date!

### **Exercise**

We are happy to be able to provide exercise equipment for the use of our seniors and others in town. Equipment includes a treadmill, two bikes and a stair-stepper. The Center is open by appointment for those who wish to use the equipment. Call Susan Baker-Donnelly for scheduling.

### **Brown Bag Program**

Groceries are provided to qualifying seniors and those on Social Security Disability once per month. They are bagged and picked up in Chester by a volunteer. Those eligible are called to arrange pick up or delivery. My special thanks to Ellen Miller for her help. Due to bad weather no Brown bags were delivered in January.

We currently have 7 families who receive additional groceries every month. If you would like to participate in the program or know someone who could benefit from it, please call Susan Baker-Donnelly for more information.

### **Staffing**

Middlefield's COA is staffed entirely by volunteers.

Susan Baker-Donnelly, Chair and Transportation Coordinator (Average hours per week: 15.

Additional volunteers: Cathy Roth, Ed Vivier, Vicki Reed, Sandy Dellea, Catherine Craig and Ellen Miller. Our thanks to all!

### **Budget Appropriations**

State Grant #5040 \$3,500; FRTA (Transportation) \$1000

Town Grant # 90541 Local Middlefield appropriation to COA \$1,350

Expenditures include \$800 to support our consortium/Regional Coordinator George Reichert:

Dues to MCOA (Massachusetts Council on Aging) \$125.00

Volunteers are reimbursed \$15.00 per trip (26 miles roundtrip to Huntington) to pick-up

Wednesday's meals. The brown bags are picked up in Chester and volunteers are reimbursed \$10.00. Cleaning the Center at an average of 3 hours per month, costs \$15.00 pr hour.

Volunteers serve the meal and clean-up as well as tally the donations. Volunteers average from 2-4 hours per week. Volunteers coordinate any repair work and maintenance needed with the town. Thanks to Skip Savery and his crew for all their help.

Because the water at the Center is undrinkable, we continue to purchase water from rainbow Distributing. Utilities: Propane, electricity and phone are our biggest expenses.

We will be installing a refurbished generator this year to better serve our senior and the whole community in the event of emergencies. The cost is being covered from our town and state grants.

**Franklin County Transit Authority (FRTA-\$1000) Rides for Seniors**

We are pleased to be able to offer rides for seniors for doctor's appointments and grocery shopping on a first come, first serve basis. Seniors should make their needs known as far in advance as possible by calling Susan Baker-Donnelly. There is a small fee for the service of this subsidized program. Providers of this service are CORI checked. Cathy and I are very grateful for help with rides for seniors. We are very fortunate to have two new volunteers this year: Sandy Dellea and Catherine Craig. Many thanks to them for joining us.

**Service Provided April 2010 through June 2010**

<b>Month</b>	<b>Trips</b>
April 2010	20
May 2010	2
June 2010	2

**Service Provided July 2010 to Present March 16, 2011**

<b>Month</b>	<b>Trips</b>
July 2010	4
August 2010	6
September 2010	0
October 2010	4
November 2010	6
December 2010	4
January 2011	0
February 2011	8
March 2011	4

Please remember we are here for you if the need arises.

Volunteers are needed for both the Luncheon and Rides Programs. Those wishing to volunteer should call Susan Baker-Donnelly 413-623-6080

Respectfully Submitted by Susan Baker-Donnelly, Chair, Middlefield Council on Aging.



Winter 2011

## **Middlefield Conservation Commission**

Conservation commissions in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts are charged with overseeing eight values listed in the Wetlands Protection Act. Those eight interests are private and public water supplies, ground water protection, pollution prevention, flood prevention, storm damage protection, land containing shellfish, fisheries, and wildlife habitat.

The Middlefield Conservation Commission has taken on an increasingly active role in assuming responsibility for managing and enforcing the Wetlands Protection Act in the Town of Middlefield.

The five member commission is appointed by the Board of Selectmen, however, the commission is accountable to the Department of Environmental Protection, not the town itself.

The members at present are chairman Alan Vint, Mitch Feldmesser, Kim Baker, Wayne Main, and Michael Feldberg.

The commissioners have been consistently active in attending monthly meetings, surveying sites, communicating with the public, and conducting public hearings as have been necessary.

Two of the commissioners have now completed the fundamentals for conservation commissioners training course, a series of eight separate units sponsored by the Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions, and have received their certificates. The other three commissioners have all attended some or most of the courses. Two commissioners have now embarked on the advanced training courses.

The commission considers that this training is essential so that they are able to carry out their duties in an effective and legal manner.

The commission had been working closely with representatives from the Department of Environmental Protection, the oversight branch of government for the conservation commission, to increase its effectiveness in administering its responsibilities.

The Middlefield Conservation Commission wishes to make it abundantly clear that the commission is primarily here to help and assist residents and others to conform to the regulations of the Wetlands Protection Act. The commission does not perceive itself, primarily, as a policing agency, however, the commission is charged by the commonwealth with the responsibility of enforcing the regulations of the Wetlands Protection Act.

During the past year the commission has been very active in administrating enforcement of the Wetlands Protection Act, which has included lobbying the DEP to enforce its own guidelines. The commission responded to complaints by Middlefield residents of illegal activities that ultimately resulted in significant fines and other punitive and restorative actions by DEP.

The chairman wishes to thank the other commissioners for their consistent presence at meetings and their willingness to be active and productive members throughout the year.

Alan Vint, Chairman



Glendale Falls, Middlefield, MA

## **Westfield River Wild & Scenic Advisory Committee 2010 Annual Report**

The Westfield River Wild & Scenic Advisory Committee (WRWSAC) works to preserve, protect, and enhance the special qualities and outstanding natural resources of the Westfield River Watershed in concert with local communities.

Surrounded by the peaceful setting of the historic Warner Farm in Cummington, WRWSAC conducted a 2-day retreat to develop a 5-Year Strategic Plan. The plan outlines the key strategies and actions the Committee will take over the next five years to fulfill its mission. A summary and copy of the plan can be found on WRWSAC's website listed below.

Shortly after the retreat was held, 119 acres of Warner Farm, including portions of a coldwater stream and extensive wildlife habitat, were protected under a Conservation Restriction held by the Hilltown Land Trust and achieved with funding assistance from the WRWSAC's Riparian Conservation Grant program. Funds from this important grant program support transaction costs associated with land protection projects, including surveys, deed research, monitoring funds, and appraisals. In order for landowners to donate a Conservation Restriction several thousand dollars

in funds are needed. This grant program helps offset some of these costs to make donations like these possible.

In 2010, over 68 volunteers contributed over 330 volunteer hours on the “One Step at a Time” campaign at Glendale Falls in Middlefield to establish a designated trail and staircase to the base of the falls. In addition, 13 new volunteers adopted 23 miles of the 78 designated Wild & Scenic miles. As stewards of these river segments, these volunteers will assist in recording observations, including the location of invasive species, habitat features, and water quality indicators.

The engineering study to survey 42 miles of roads along the Westfield River to identify locations of contaminated run-off and erosion was completed and the report is being distributed to the participating communities. The study developed conceptual designs and cost estimates on ways to improve water quality entering the river. Communities taking part in the study, included Becket, Chester, Huntington, Middlefield, Washington, Windsor and Worthington. Upon completion, the Committee allocated \$12,000 to make drainage improvements at the end of Main Street where road runoff drains directly to the West Branch. These funds were also included as a match for the Town of Becket’s Community Development Block Grant application and will further enhance the community development projects proposed in this location.

WRWSAC hosted an intern this past summer as part of the Westfield River Invasive Species Partnership’s (WISP) project to survey invasive species in the watershed. The intern collected 1804 waypoints representing 24 different types of invasive species in two of the Wild & Scenic towns – Worthington and Chester. This information will be used to prioritize early-detection and eradication efforts in the watershed.

Our committee meets once a month and all meetings are open to the public. We encourage you to take part in any of our sponsored activities, including stream teams, river clean-ups, land protection, and workshops. To learn more about what is happening in the watershed, visit our website at [www.westfieldriverwildscenic.org](http://www.westfieldriverwildscenic.org).

For more information contact [coordinator@westfieldriverwildscenic.org](mailto:coordinator@westfieldriverwildscenic.org) or (413) 579-3015.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carl Lafreniere, Town Representative

## **Middlefield Agriculture Commission March 2010**

The Middlefield Agriculture Commission is a seven member board presently with five members. It serves as an advisory board to other committees and boards of the town of Middlefield.

This past year the agriculture commission was asked by the Board of Selectmen to help in the resolution of two separate complaints which involved fencing problems.

In the upcoming year the members are hopeful that the towns agriculture maps that they have been working on will be completed.

Any news or agriculture information is posted on the bulletin board at the town hall.

Respectfully submitted, Glennis Austin-Chair, Cheryl Harper-Miller-secretary, Maureen Sullivan, Mitch Feldmesser, Heather Bayliss

## **Animal Inspection Report FY' 2011**

I am fairly certain that this is the first time a report from the Animal Inspector has been submitted for the Town's Annual Report, and am hopeful that it will become tradition.

The Animal Inspector is a yearly appointment made by the Select Board, yet the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources has to approve the appointment before inspections can be conducted from October 1<sup>st</sup> thru December 31<sup>st</sup>. The main focus of the yearly inspections are to record and to report to the Department of Agricultural Resources each location, condition and a count of all livestock; cattle, goats, sheep, swine, llamas, alpacas, equines, donkeys, mules, poultry, rabbits, ratites (Ostrich, Emu), waterfowl, and game birds.

Since 2007 I have become quite familiar with Middlefield's animal owners and their animal husbandry practices, I do not usually insist on an up close inspection of each animal. It is important that I do not put your animals at risk by any unnecessary contact when conducting farm visits. If I were to observe a possible disease problem I am obliged to report this to the Department of Agriculture. Also, if someone were to refuse my visit or not answer my requests for a visit, then a State Animal Inspector would be sent to conduct the inspection.



**Middlefield's Animal count as of December 31, 2010;**

Alpacas 28	Chickens 58	Dairy/Beef cattle 63	Donkeys 9
Ducks 67	Goats 104	Guinea Hens 9	Horses 58
Llamas 2	Pigs 2	Rabbits 10	Sheep 21

The goal of the Dept. of Agriculture's animal inspections is to be able to implement a response plan as a result of any potential disease outbreaks, or catastrophic natural disasters in any given area of the Commonwealth. The gathered information is critical, and thus far the majority of animal owners in town have been most cooperative.

I have also been asked to help educate the public regarding the state requirements for the licensing of horse riding stables and riding instructors. MGL Chapter 128, sec 2B states: **"Every person engaged in the business of operating a riding school or a stable where horses are kept for hire, shall obtain a license..."**. It is also important that any person providing any type of instruction to the general public aboard or attached to any equine must have a Massachusetts Riding Instructors license. This is separate from the required stable license.

Besides the barn inspections, the primary duty of the Animal Inspector has recently become rabies control in the domestic animal population, and has the authority to quarantine animals with strict protocol. Other duties of the Animal Inspector is to check ear tag numbers and date of arrival of cattle from out of state and to report this information on the Animal Inspector's copy of the Cattle and Llama Permit which is furnished to the Animal Inspector by the Department of Agricultural Resources. Municipal Animal Inspectors are also be called by Veterinarians to assist with other domestic animal disease quarantines in the event of an outbreak of rabies.

If you would like more information please go to:  
<http://www.mass.gov/agr/animalhealth/inspectors/duties.htm>

If I have overlooked your farm or you have just acquired animals, please contact me so that next year you animals will be considered.

Respectfully submitted, Mary Wheeler, Animal Inspector

## THE HISTORICAL MUSEUM REPORT

The members of the Historical Museum are still working hard to keep the Museum going and open. The members are still filing away articles and pictures that people contribute to us. Thanks to them.

This past year we had to replace many of the venetian blinds at the windows. The hot summer sun seems to make the blinds brittle and therefore, many of them collapse. There are still some remaining windows to be done.

During the weekend of the fair, the antique farm equipment building was manned by the museum. It was tastefully done by Chairman, Jack Cobb. There were old tools, kitchen utensils, old pictures from the late 1800's to the early 1900's and many more things, too many to mention. Some items were donated and others came from the museum. Judging by the response of the fairgoers, this was a very popular attraction.

The museum is open on holiday weekends and also during the Heritage Days held in October. On request, just call Jack Cobb at 413-623-5264, or Marge Batorski at 623-8904

This year Lois Leonard-Bell resigned after many years of service. Thanks Lois!! We welcome aboard Howard Knickerbocker and John Savery as new members, and Rita Doktor as an Associate Member.

Jack Cobb, Chairman	Roy Haapala
Marge Batorski	Howard Knickerbocker
John Savery	Rita Doktor, Associate

### Report of the Cemetery Commission FY 2010

Another year has passed and our cemeteries have endured another harsh winter. As history shows, they have survived another New England winter. As spring approaches once again, flowers will show and warm memories of our lost loved ones will be with us. We may visit their place of rest once again. As always our cemeteries have been well taken care of. Thank you to Don Savery for doing such a nice job. Memorial Day is near and as usual flowers were planted and flags were placed at the graves of Veterans having gone before us. This is done with helpers led by Ray and Charlene Gero in remembrance of those who have served in various Wars through the years. Thank you all for being a part of that.

Sincerely,

Larry Pease      Mark Doane      Tim Pease



New windows at the Town Hall

### **PLANNING BOARD 2010 ANNUAL REPORT**

Taking into consideration the potential wind energy resources of the town, the Planning Board focused its efforts this past year on drafting a wind turbine bylaw to present to the town's voters during 2010-2011. The board began this process by reviewing model bylaws and bylaws adopted by other communities, made a site visit to the top of Jiminy Peak to observe and learn about the 1.5 megawatt wind turbine installed there and spoke with professionals in the wind energy field, all done for the purpose of learning about the technology as well as the benefits and drawbacks of utilizing wind energy. The board also attended a Washington, MA public hearing on that town's proposed wind turbine bylaw. The Middlefield Planning board has used the information it gained through this process to craft a draft bylaw that it feels will serve the best interest of the community as a whole. The board anticipates that it will present this proposed bylaw to the town before the end of this fiscal year.

As part of the town's consideration of the Green Communities Initiative the Planning Board worked to modify a model Large-scale Photovoltaic Installation bylaw to make it better suite the needs and concerns of the town. In addition to the PVPC, the Planning Board consulted with Paul Tacy, Middlefield's Building Commissioner and Code Enforcement Officer. Paul helped the board fashion a more enforceable and defensible bylaw.

Jay Swift, Chairman, Michael Hale, Secretary, Terry Crean, Maureen Sullivan, Alan Vint



**Gateway Regional High School**

## **School Committee Report**

**Separate document includes school budget**



**Town Transfer hours are: 5-8 Wednesday from Beginning May 1  
Sundays 10-1 year 'round**

## **Report of the Zoning Board of Appeals FY 2010**

The Zoning Board of Appeals is a 3- member elected board. It has two separate functions. One is to hear the requests for variances from what are called the “intensity regulations” of the local zoning by-laws, regarding setbacks, driveway placement, etc. The other function is to rule on an application for a special permit to operate a business when the town by-laws require.

The Zoning Board of Appeals is the lowest branch of the judicial system. As a 3-member board it must vote unanimously to either grant a variance or issue a Special Permit. Its decisions are appealable to higher courts.

The Zoning Board of Appeals in a small town such as Middlefield is in a difficult situation because it may go for years with nothing coming before it, and then have an application that is complex with town-wide implications.

The current board is in transition, with one member having served 2 years, one serving one year, and the 3-year member not seeking re-election this year. The current members would like to get some training and have access to Town Counsel when needed, to be able to serve the people of Middlefield as well as possible. The ZBA heard only one request this year, from Ron Skipper, 185 E. River Rd., for a variance from the setback requirements for the construction of a garage. This request was denied in a 3-0 vote. A copy of the decision was filed with the Town Clerk.

Mitch Feldmesser, Chair  
Terry Crean, Secretary  
Steve Cummings

## Board of Health

Our Board of Health Department is to comply with the state regulations for all issues that pertain to this department and new laws that are added by the state each year. The BOH has made many improvements to our system with help from the DEP and BOH representatives from other towns. We continue to improve our system as we learn and move forward in the upcoming years.

Today's technologies in disposal systems, food, health, daycare, and new CMR laws/regulations require the need for continuing upgrades, which makes training become more important to keep up with these laws and regulations. Training can be accomplished by attending seminar programs and computer classes that are held by DEP and other outside firms that are classified by the state in the program fields in which they are speaking or teaching.

At this time, Title V's and Disposal systems (new and repairs), are still trending on a growing side in our town.

Food permits and inspections	11
Permits for Disposal pumping	4
Installer permits	4
Application	
Disposal Construction permits	9
Compliance permits	4
Title V	8
Title V Extensions	
Percs	5
Complaints	4
Assistant calls	1
Emergency Well	1

Respectfully submitted,  
Charles H. Hunter, BOH Agent



Dan Cawthron for the photo of  
Scott Wills' house fire

## Middlefield Fire Department Report FY 2010

It has been a pretty much normal year for calls. As usual we have more medical calls than others. Having been through another long winter, typical of New England, it is nice to see spring in nearby with warmer weather. The cold weather is the most difficult to deal with as we all know. As in the past, people have been very careful, and that makes our job a little easier. So from that I wish to say thank you for being mindful of the way you do things especially when our lives are so busy. People have always been supportive of our department and it is so much appreciated.

Our calls were as follows:

12 medical	1 Fire alarm activate
1 chimney fire	1 smell of smoke
2 mutual aid	1 smell of propane
1 Car accident	1 brush fire
1 CO detector activate	

Sincerely  
 Larry Pease, Fire Chief      Ronald Radwich, Assistant Fire Chief

## MIDDLEFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT May 2011

Then Middlefield Police Department continues to provide local law enforcement coverage for the Town. Officers are trained on a variety of law enforcement topics including domestic violence, incident command, use of force and receive annual training to comply with Commonwealth of Massachusetts standards for police officers.

This year the department, along with the fire department received word that the Federal Communications Commission was changing the structure of radio communications and bandwidth for public emergency agencies throughout the country. This will require the replacement of many town radios and the reprogramming of others in order to comply with the mandatory changes. Without making the changes, both departments could lose their radio frequency and vital radio communications. The police department routinely uses the state police for backup and assistance in answering calls. The department has been advised that the state police will also be changing their frequencies as part of a plan to improve statewide communications and to establish a more consistent emergency communications system. This will also require the purchase of and additional radio for the department. The upgrades could not have come at a worse economic time but are necessary to provide protection to the residents of the town. The members of the department want to thank residents for their recent support of these initiatives.

Over the past ten years, the department has been able to defer some of the annual costs to run the department by applying for funding from grants. These have included Homeland Security Grants and Massachusetts Community Policing Grants. Unfortunately, these grant programs continue to be discontinued due to the economic condition of the state and country. Department expenses include maintenance and repairs to the cruiser, new equipment required to meet changes in Massachusetts police investigatory regulations, radio maintenance expenses, police reporting software and costs to belong to several police organizations such as the Massachusetts Police Chiefs Association and the Tri-County Law Enforcement Association. The department continues to have one of the lowest annual budgets in the Hill Towns.

The department provides service to the town utilizing an entirely part-time police force including the Chief. There may come a day in the not too distant future when this may not be possible. The department continues to foster a very positive relationship with and wants to thank the Massachusetts State Police for their continued assistance in helping to provide police services to the town. The department wants to thank the Troopers and Commander of the Russell Barracks for their support and assistance in recognizing the importance of local police departments. The Commander continues to develop partnerships with local police departments and to support the Southern Hill Town Domestic Violence Taskforce.

The department also wants to thank the entire Middlefield community for their support and assistance in keeping Middlefield safe. Without your diligence in reporting suspicious activity and support at the annual town meeting it would be impossible to that the Department. The Chief holds office hours at the Town Hall on most Monday evenings. You may also email the department at [MiddlefieldPD@gmail.net](mailto:MiddlefieldPD@gmail.net).

Respectfully Submitted, Thomas Austin, Chief, Curt Robie, Sergeant, Matthew Radwich, Officer



The following is a report of the services performed in the Town of Middlefield during the fiscal year 7/01/2009 – 6/30/2010:

<u>HOME VISITS</u>	<u>VISITS</u>	
Skilled Nursing	97	
Physical Therapy	28	
Occupational Therapy	26	
Speech Therapy	0	
Medical Social Work	7	
Maternal Child Health	0	
Nutrition Services	0	
Home Health Aide	17	
<b>COMMUNICABLE DISEASE</b>		
• Confirmed	1	
• Probable	1	
• Suspected	4	
<i>Three nurses trained in Maven.</i>		
<b>NON-BILLABLE HOME VISITS</b>	0	
<u>CLINICS</u>	<u>SESSIONS</u>	<u>ATTENDANCE</u>
Flu/Pneumonia	1	20

Respectfully submitted,

*Holly Ann Chaffee RN BSN MSN*

Holly Ann Chaffee, RN, BSN, MSN  
Chief Executive Officer



HAMPSHIRE INSPECTION PROGRAM  
P.O. BOX 175 - 422 MAIN ROAD  
CHESTERFIELD, MA 01012

Paul F. Tacy, Building Commissioner  
Phone: (413) 296-0127  
Fax: (413) 296-0147

## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE HAMPSHIRE INSPECTION PROGRAM

Two hundred and nine building permits were issued throughout the member towns of the Hampshire Inspection Program in 2010. Of these, twelve permits were for new homes.

The breakdown of permit activity for the member towns is as follows:

<u>Town collected</u>	<u>Total permits</u>	<u>New homes</u>	<u>Total permit fees</u>
Chesterfield	63	5	\$ 18,083.39
Goshen	49	3	\$ 10,953.92
Huntington	47	1	\$ 11,146.22
Middlefield	17	3	\$ 6,016.95

Due to the seemingly endless recession, permit activity has been slow for the past two years; therefore permit fees collected by all towns were lower than normal. Understanding that our members rely on permit fees to offset the cost of our program, our payroll has been cut drastically, and overhead reduced to the minimum in an effort to keep costs under control. While there seems to be no end in sight at this time, we remain hopeful. It is our goal in the coming year to bring more towns into the program in an effort to help share expenses and keep the program affordable.

A new Executive Director has been hired for the Hampshire Council of Governments, and a strategic plan for future guidance has been endorsed. We feel these measures will assist not only the Hampshire Inspection Program, but the Hampshire Council of Governments as a whole in furthering its role as a provider of essential services to member towns. With new leadership and clear goals established, it is our hope that the Hampshire Inspection Program will soon be able to fulfill its potential.

I would once again like to express my sincere thanks to Tara Ussailis, my administrative assistant.

Our office is located at the Davenport School Building, 422 Main Road in Chesterfield, and is open Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings to serve residents of all member towns. Residents may phone anytime at (413) 296-0127. Permit applications are available at our

Chesterfield office, Huntington town offices and Goshen town offices. Call Tara to get town websites where applications can be downloaded.

Respectfully submitted, Paul Tacy Building Commissioner  
No reports from town inspectors: electrical or plumbing

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE  
HAMPSHIRE COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010**

The Hampshire Council of Governments is a membership based organization that solves common challenges through regional solutions while retaining local control over local affairs. The combined dues for the Council of Governments in Fiscal Year 2010 were \$37,206. Dues for all member towns have been reduced to ease the financial burden to the municipalities while increasing the stability of the Council membership. The dues collected help support Council programs, services, and assistance to a variety of programs. It is the continued goal of the Council to increase revenues from a variety of sources to offset the reduced assessment and to expand services.

The Council achieved several key goals in 2010.

- A strategic planning process was completed, with input from all towns in our service area. The Council will continue to refine this planning process and will work with our membership to create specific services and programs to meet the most pressing needs of the Towns.
- Hampshire Power continues its impressive expansion. It now serves the electricity needs of towns, schools, and businesses in the five Western Counties of Massachusetts - Hampshire, Franklin, Hampden, Worcester, and Berkshire.
- Hampshire Power is aggressively pursuing Municipal Aggregation, which will eventually strive to serve residential customers, expanding the benefit of our electricity cost saving model.
- Hampshire Care and the Hampshire Park property were sold to the Masonic Health System of Massachusetts.
- The Council Cooperative Purchasing Program saved the participants in this program approximately \$718,110.
- The Hampshire County Group Insurance Trust held down costs once again, keeping to single digit health care increases in a climate of double digit increases. The Trust remains the pinnacle of health insurance in the Commonwealth.
- The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) provided 124,000 hours of service to our communities, equaling a contribution of more than \$2.58 million.

- The Councilors established a scholarship fund to help support high school students who have demonstrated civic and community involvement

### **Hampshire Power**

Hampshire Power continued to expand with the number of customers increasing to almost 100. The energy load increased from 4 to 6 MWs during FY2010. More towns and districts in Worcester and Berkshire Counties joined the Program and the renewal rate of contracts was 100%. A new rate plan was added during the year which resulted in three choices for customers – the new Fixed, the Real Time, and the Profit Share. During FY2010, Real Time Rate customers saved a total of \$410,000 compared to the utilities' rates. The Municipal Aggregation Initiative was launched with the hiring of a staff person to research regulations, meet with towns' Boards of Selectmen, develop the necessary plan for the Department of Public Utilities, and commence aggregation for a number of towns. The Green Committee, a sub-committee of the Electricity Committee, was revived and green options for customers, sustainability, and renewable energy programs continue to be researched. To decrease the risk involved in purchasing electricity, staff had reviewed proposals and met with consultants in order to contract for purchasing services in the new fiscal year.

### **Cooperative Purchasing**

The Cooperative Purchasing program, now in its 30th year, coordinates and administers a formal bidding process on behalf of Council departments, municipalities, school districts, human service agencies, and miscellaneous governmental entities throughout the Berkshire, Franklin, Hampden, and Hampshire County region. Buying in bulk generates added savings over lone bidding efforts while complying with state procurement statutes and eliminating duplication of administrative work. The total purchasing volume for goods and services for Fiscal Year 2010 was \$4.6 million with a projected savings of \$718,110.

### **Hampshire County Group Insurance Trust**

In a year when many towns are facing double-digit rate increases in health insurance premiums, our towns once again held their costs to single-digit increases. The Hampshire Councilors serve as the trustees of the Hampshire County Group Insurance Trust, a cooperative effort to provide health and life insurance with excellent benefits at competitive rates. An Insurance Advisory Committee, made up of representatives of all participating units, meets regularly to discuss problems and possible solutions and to explore new ideas. The Trust manages a self-funded group of health insurance products. In the Insurance Year 2010 (April 1, 2009, to March 31, 2010), the collective premium for the Trust was \$45M. Through the efforts and expertise of the Trust management, the volume of participation in the program, and the participation of the town representatives on the Advisory Board, the Insurance Trust is successful at managing costs while providing excellent benefits.

### **Retired and Senior Volunteer Program**

RSVP (Retired & Senior Volunteer Program) of Hampshire & Franklin Counties is the Council's community service program that mobilizes adults age 55+ to meet community needs by recruiting, placing, and supporting volunteers in a diverse array of service

opportunities at local non-profit and public agencies. RSVP matches people with experience and skills to offer with organizations that need their help. The program benefits the senior population by keeping them active and engaged, and benefits our region by bringing these volunteers' dedication, wisdom, and expertise to bear on our communities' most pressing needs.

During FY10, RSVP brought on 141 new volunteers bringing our total volunteer force to 653. These volunteers gave more than 124,000 hours of service to our communities, equaling a contribution of more than \$2.58 million. RSVP Volunteers serve at hospitals, nursing homes, schools, libraries, after school programs, survival centers, and senior centers in towns across the two counties.

The following are some examples of the impact RSVP volunteers are having on our communities:

- During the reporting period 20 volunteers worked with 203 students in schools and after school programs to improve academic skills. 74% of students increased their interest in reading and 776% improved their academic skills.
- Through RSVP's Osteoporosis Exercise Program, 32 volunteers led strength training classes for 242 seniors. 85% of class participants improved their physical health and 97% improved their ability to avoid falls or broken bones.
- 128 volunteers increased food security in our region by providing food to more than 800 elders.
- 255 volunteers improved the quality of life for more than 10,000 seniors by leading activities and providing information at senior centers.

### **Regional Services**

The Regional Services Department develops regional approaches to problems shared by Hampshire County municipalities. The department secured surplus federal equipment for various Massachusetts municipalities and state entities. The current net savings of property delivered to member communities for Fiscal Year 2010, after fees and delivery charges, totaled \$4,400.00. Net program income from fees was \$6,350.00. Member communities receive a 50% discount off the Council portion of the fee, as well as the right of first refusal on higher quality pieces of equipment obtained through the surplus program. The department arranges workshops and seminars on topics of interest to local officials.

### **Hampshire Inspection Program**

Now in its sixteenth year, the Hampshire Inspection Program is a fee for service building inspection and zoning enforcement program serving Chesterfield, Goshen, Huntington, and Middlefield. Annual assessments are based on building permit and zoning activity. Two hundred and ninety-eight building permits were issued in FY2010, of which twenty-five permits were for new homes. Annual assessments to member towns are based on hours spent on building permit and zoning activity. All administrative, clerical, and travel

expenses are shared equally by member towns. The program offers a fully certified inspector who regularly attends training and educational seminars.

### **Wellness Initiative Program**

The Wellness Initiative is a worksite wellness program working with 70 municipal units to identify the needs and interests of subscribers and to provide information, education and programs promoting healthier choices. The Wellness Initiative launched several new programs including: Being a wise health care consumer; Mediterranean Diet Nutrition class and sampling; and Walking challenges in several communities. The Initiative also piloted 4 wellness teams to assess the health risks, needs and interests of employees in their work place and identify programs and strategies to meet these health needs

### **The Tobacco Free Community Partnership**

The Tobacco Free Community Partnership conducts compliance checks to monitor the illegal sale of tobacco products to minors, and provides education on the health and economic effects of tobacco. In addition the program sponsors a western mass smoke free apartment website for both landlords interested in making their buildings smoke free and tenants interested in finding smoke free apartments. Landlords can list their smoke free apartments for free. The website can be found at [www.smokefree.hampshirecog.org](http://www.smokefree.hampshirecog.org),

For further information on Council programs, expenses, and revenues, please contact the Councilors' Office at 413-584-1300 ext. 2. You may also visit the Council website at [www.hampshirecog.org](http://www.hampshirecog.org).

## **Hilltown Community Development Corporation**

The Hilltown Community Development Corporation (Hilltown CDC) was created in 1981 with a mission to *“improve the quality of life for hilltown residents by addressing economic, housing, educational, social and community needs while preserving the rural character of the area.”* Its core service area includes the ten towns of Chester, Chesterfield, Cummington, Goshen, Huntington, Middlefield, Plainfield, Westhampton, Williamsburg and Worthington. In recent years its small business assistance program has expanded to serve 20 Hilltowns. Hilltown CDC's four major program areas are affordable housing, small business assistance, social services and community facilities development. Hilltown CDC also writes applications for and manages Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds on behalf of Hilltown communities. In Fiscal Year 2010, Hilltown CDC helped the eight towns of Chesterfield, Cummington, Goshen, Peru, Plainfield, Westhampton, Worthington and Williamsburg secure \$2.035 million in CDBG funds to support the programs highlighted below.

**Social Services:** Hilltown CDC's Hilltown Elder Network (HEN) Program delivered 7,000 hours of in-home caregiving assistance (primarily chore and transportation assistance) to over

120 low-income Hilltown elders at no cost to the participants. HEN staff provided 20,000 miles of transportation for medical visits and other purposes, and \$10,000 in snow removal help. Hilltown CDC also secured CDBG funding for three locally-based social service programs:

- **The Health Outreach Program for Elders (HOPE)**, administered by Hilltown Community Health Centers (HCHC), provided free in-home nursing care and podiatric services to nearly 250 eligible homebound elders.
- **The Hilltown Food Pantry** distributed 63,000 pounds of food to 287 eligible hilltown individuals. The Pantry is administered by the Northampton Survival Center at the Goshen Town Hall. Call 586-6564 or 268-7578 for information.
- **Families Together**, another HCHC program, offered training and peer support activities focused on family issues such as parenting, family dynamics, and family health education to 52 hilltown households.

**Economic Development:** Hilltown CDC, from July 2009 to June 2010:

- Provided individualized consulting and/or training workshops to 176 small businesses.
- Published the 2010 Hilltown Business Directory, distributed to 13,500 hilltown households in 20 towns, listing 290 hilltown businesses, 80 regional resource agencies, and contact information for officials of 20 towns. The Directory is also on-line at [www.hilltowncdc.org](http://www.hilltowncdc.org).
- Organized the 4th annual Hilltown Spring Festival at the Cummington Fairgrounds, gathering 2,000 hilltowners to enjoy 17 local music and dance groups, food from 7 local vendors, and displays by 55 local businesses and 15 non-profit organizations.

**Affordable Housing:** We actively pursue opportunities to preserve and create affordable housing to meet the needs of low and moderate income Hilltown residents.

- **Westhampton Woods Senior Housing:** Hilltown CDC conducted a feasibility study to expand this senior rental housing complex we built in 2005 from seven to fifteen units.
- **Chesterfield Senior Housing:** Hilltown CDC worked with the Chesterfield Senior Housing Committee to identify a site and obtain funds for a small senior housing project.
- **Rental Housing:** Hilltown CDC improved management of its 30 units of scarce affordable rental housing in Williamsburg, Huntington, Westhampton and Chesterfield.
- **New Project Development:** Hilltown CDC investigated a number of other potential sites in an ongoing effort to develop additional rental housing for seniors and families in the region.

**First-time Homebuyer Program:** Hilltown CDC provided individual homebuyer counseling and workshops to 118 households to help them prepare for the purchase of homes. In addition, CDBG funding enabled 5 income-eligible households to secure grants and deferred payment loans to help them buy homes in the Hilltowns.

**Housing Rehabilitation Program:** provides zero percent interest, deferred-payment loans to income eligible homeowners for use in making a wide variety of repairs to their homes, including roofs, septic systems, electrical, plumbing, and heating. In addition, the program provides a source of steady year round employment for area contractors. In FY 2010 HCDC:

- Rehabilitated 11 houses in the towns of Chesterfield, Cummington, Goshen, Westhampton and Williamsburg and Worthington using deferred payment loans for home repairs and lead paint removal totaling \$213,134.

**Community Facilities:** Hilltown CDC works with municipalities and a wide range of community groups in the public and private sector. The Community Facilities Program provides project management services for development and the construction of buildings or infrastructure projects, large or small. We provide guidance to building committees and town officials. We also assist by researching and completing applications for project funding. Below is a list of FY 2010 Accomplishments in the Community Facilities Program:

- Procured architectural services to develop construction documents for an elevator project at Nash Hill Place. Worked with an Advisory Committee appointed by the town of Williamsburg to oversee the work. An application was submitted to the CDBG Program for FY10 funding to construct the project.
- Entered into a fee for service contract with the town of Chesterfield to provide project management services for the construction of a new Highway Garage. Procured architectural services and coordinated funding applications with USDA Rural Development and with The Recovery Zone Economic Development Bond Fund Programs.
- Assisted the town of Plainfield with the procurement and delivery of a new police cruiser valued at \$35,041.

**Community Planning:** We also work closely with municipalities and community groups in our service area to plan for, raise funds for and/or manage a range of projects. During FY10 HCDC:

- Provided planning assistance to the Northern Hilltowns of Chesterfield, Cummington, Goshen, Plainfield, Westhampton, Williamsburg, and Worthington for preparing and updating their Community Development Strategies. A number of new community needs were identified, along with projects to be included in future CDBG funding applications.
- Secured a second \$15,000 grant from the Mass. Service Alliance to engage three part-time Commonwealth Corps volunteers who provided planning and logistical support to expand the Elder Small Home Repair program and to create a new youth pilot project.

In FY 2010, Hilltown CDC generated over \$1.6 million in revenue to support the above projects and its members elected five new Board representatives: Bill Adams (Plainfield), Michele Morris (Williamsburg), Andy Myers (Chester), Laura Porter (Haydenville), Cathy Roth (Middlefield) We also bid farewell to two members retiring from Board service: Bob Heath, (Huntington) and Marjorie Snyder (Williamsburg). Thanks to you all for your dedicated service to the Hilltowns! Respectfully submitted by: Catherine Roegge, Executive Director, Hilltown Community Development Corporation



## **Results of the Annual Town Meeting May 1, 2010**

The Annual town meeting was opened at 1:30 P.M. by the Moderator, Joseph Kearns. Mr Kearns led the assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance, then he read the Town Meeting Warrant.

Under Article 1.A- those chosen to be on the ballot for the term of three years:

Selectman	Noreen Suriner
Assessor	Laura Lafreniere
Library Trustee	Christine Bresnahan
Zoning Board of Appeals	Mitchell Feldmesser
Finance Committee	Scott Artioli
Finance Committee	Edward Vivier
School Committee	Charles Hanshaw
Planning Board	Maureen Sullivan
Cemetery Commissioner	Mark Doane
Constable	Charles Hunter

For the term of one year:

Moderator	Joseph Kearns
Town Clerk	Marjorie Batorski

1.C.-Shall the town of Middlefield be allowed to assess an additional \$90,000.00 in Real Estate and personal property Taxes for the purpose of partially covering additional vocational school expenses(\$50,000), and to compensate for the elimination of the Community Policing Grant (\$10,000) and the reduction of state Aid (\$61,789), for fiscal year 2011, beginning July 1, 2010?

YES — 38; NO — 97. The ballot question failed.

Article 2. A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to transfer \$60,000 from Free Cash to offset the tax levy.

A amendment to the motion was made and seconded to amend the Article to transfer from Free Cash \$100,000 instead of \$60,000. At this point, Mary Courtney, Selectwoman, spoke on the

legality of the the ballot question.(Art 1C.) She said she had spoken to Town Council and the office of the Secretary of State, and the ballot question as written was not legal. Much more discussion. Finally a motion was made and seconded to vote on the amended article. The amended article is as follows: ~~To~~ transfer \$100,000 from Free Cash instead of \$60,000 to offset the tax levy. The motion was passed unanimously.

Article 3. A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to transfer \$65,000 from Stabilization fund to offset the tax levy. An amendment to the motion was made to reduce the \$65,000 to \$50,000. A motion was then made to table Article 3. This will require a 2/3 vote. After much discussion a motion to table was voted. YES to table 36; NO to table 25. The motion to table this Article failed. It needed 2/3 vote.

Another motion was made and seconded to reduce the \$65,000 to \$50,000. The amended article now reads to see if the Town will vote to transfer \$50,000 from Stabilization fund to offset the tax levy. After much more discussion, a standing voice counting vote was taken and the results are as follows: Yes to pass as amended – 54; No to amend motion –11. Article 3 passed.

Article 4. To hear the report of the Selectmen, Treasurer, Accountant, Tax Collector, Assessors, and the School Committee and act thereon.

Each one gave a short report and also stated that their individual reports are in the Town Report.

Article 5. A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to fix the salaries and compensation of all elected officers of the town for Fiscal 2011 as provided in Section 108 of chapter 41 of the Massachusetts General Laws, as amended.

This Article generated a great deal of discussion. A motion was made and seconded to amend the Town Clerk’s salary from \$4,120 to \$4,000. A member of the Finance Committee spoke and pointed out that the Selectmen voluntarily reduced their salary by 10% from \$1,500 to \$1,350. The member also suggested that maybe the Assessors would reduce their salary in line with the Selectmen. Much more discussion followed .A motion was made and seconded to call the question and Article 5 was voted on with the following salaries:

Moderator	100
Town Clerk	4,000
Assessor, chair	2,700
Assessor, 2 <sup>nd</sup>	2,700
Assessor, 3 <sup>rd</sup>	2,700
Selectman, chair	1,350
Selectman, 1 <sup>st</sup>	1,350
Selectman, 2 <sup>nd</sup> 1	1,350
Constable, 1 <sup>st</sup>	90
Constable, 2 <sup>nd</sup>	90

This Article passed with the amendments in place. Total: \$16,430. The Moderator declared this motion passed on a voice vote.

Article 6. A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the salaries and compensation of appointed staff for FY 2011.

This Article also raised a great deal of conversation and many questions were asked. A member of the finance Committee spoke again and was hoping again that the salaries of the appointed officials could be reduced by 10%.

Suggested amounts were:

Treasurer:	from 7,000 to 6,300
Tax Collector:	from 10,000 to 9,000
Administrative Asst:	from 5,000 to 0
Town Accountant:	from 11,000 to 9,900

The Tax Collector spoke defending his salary. There questions asked what were the duties of the Administrative Assistant? Two members of the Board of Selectmen spoke, detailing the duties. A motion was made and seconded that the Administrative still be maintained at \$5,000. A seconded motion was made and seconded that the FY 2011 requested amounts be accepted.

Following are the amounts:

Treasurer	7,000
Tax Collector	10,000
Town Accountant	11,000
Assistant Assessor	5,400
Administrative Asst.	5,000
BOS Recording Secretary	3,200
Town Hall Custodian	3,000

Total: \$44,600.00. The motion passed on a voice vote.

A member of the audience spoke up and said that the meeting brings to mind a former member of the Board of Selectmen, by the name of Ann Jewett, who would humorously say –Grow Up” after some of the discussions that could be generated by some of the Articles.(Ann died several years ago.)

Article 7. A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of money for General Government. Total being \$109,730. It was a unanimous vote.

Article 8. A motion was made and seconded to see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of money for the expense accounts.

A question was raised about how many copies have been made on the copies. Answer was 81,680 copies since we have had the copier, and the income from the copies has been around \$50. Being no more discussion the vote was taken and it was unanimous. The total amount was \$34,190.

Article 9. A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of money for the Highways.

It was noted that the Highway Supt. had reduced Highway Maintenance of \$35,000 requested to \$30,000. Being no more discussion, the vote was taken and it was in favor. The total amount was \$322,568.

Article 10. A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of money to the Library, Veterans and Cemetery Accounts. Being no discussion, the vote was taken and it was in favor. Total: \$9,300.

Article 11. A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of money for Protection of Persons and Property Accounts. Being no discussion, the vote was taken and it in favor. The total amount was \$41,188

Article 12. A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of money for Health and Sanitation. Discussion concerning the Hilltown Resource Management, the figure amount should be \$1,690, not \$1,610. Being no further discussion, the vote was taken and it was in favor. The total amount was \$28,510.

Article 13. A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of money for debt and Interest. Being no discussion, the vote was taken and it was in favor. The total amount was \$21,500.

Article 14. A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of money for the Miscellaneous Accounts. The Council on Aging was reduced to \$1350 from \$1500 and the Recreation Committee was reduced from \$1000 to \$750. Being no further discussion, the vote was taken and it was in favor. The total amount was \$8,247.

Article 15. A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$340,420 for Middlefield's minimum contribution of the budget for the Gateway Regional School district. It was mentioned that this was a bill that comes to the Town and it has to be paid. The vote was taken and it was in favor.

Article 16. A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of \$120,495 for Middlefield's share of the above minimum contribution to the budget for the Gateway Regional School District, or take any other action relative thereto. There was some discussion concerning this; the assessment has gone up and the State Aid has gone down. There was a self counted standing vote taken. Yes: 39; No: 18. The Article passed.

Article 17. A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$114,399 for Middlefield's share of the Non-Discretionary portion (Transportation and Debt Service) of the budget for the Gateway Regional School District for the period July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011. There was some discussion. The vote was taken and it was a majority vote in favor. The Article passed.

Article 18. A motion was made and seconded to see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$120,000 for vocational education. It was mentioned that the Town now has three students at the Vocational School and that there will be five students next year. A vote was taken after a bit more discussion, and it was unanimous. The Article passed.

Article 19. A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to authorize a revolving fund account pursuant to MGL, chapter 44, section 53E ½ to authorize the receiving of inspection fees to be expended during FY 2011 without further appropriation for the purpose of administrative duties. The following Accounts will be capped at:

Board of Health Inspector	2,500
Electrical Inspector	2,500
Conservation Commission	1,000

It was mentioned that maybe the conservation Commission Account be changed to \$500 and agreed to the lower amount. Vote was taken and it was unanimous.

Article 20. A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to transfer from overlay surplus \$7,800 for FY2011 triennial certification project, or take any other action relative thereto. No discussion and it was in favor. The Article passed.

Article 21. A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to transfer from overlay surplus \$1,800 for FY2011 Commercial/Open permit Appraisals, or take any other action relative thereto. There was a –friendly” amendment made to reduce the amount \$1,800 from overlay surplus to \$1,200. The amendment was seconded then the Article with the amendment was voted on and it was in favor.

Article 22. A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to transfer \$5,980 from Free Cash to fund the first payment of the Highway Truck loan. The accountant stated that there is more than \$20,000 in the Free Cash account. The Moderator also said that this Article would require a 2/3 vote to pass. After a great deal more discussion, it was voted on and seconded to table this Article until another time. The vote was unanimous. It will be taken up at a Special Town Meeting.

Article 23. A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to create a Policy By Law Review by Town Counsel Account in the sum of \$2,500 to be raised and appropriated. The amount of \$2,500 was amended to \$1,500 and it was an unanimous vote to amend the amount. The Article with the amendment was voted on and it was in favor.

Article 24. A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to transfer from the Refunded Dog Tax Fund the sum of \$161.73 to the Library Account. It was a unanimous vote and the Article passed.

Article 25. A motion was made and seconded to see if the town will vote to authorize a revolving fund under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44, Section 53E ½ , which may be spent on the Transfer Station without further appropriation during FY2011. Collected Transfer Station fees may be used for the Transfer Station attendant’s salary, for capital equipment, grounds improvement or other related expenses to benefit the Transfer Station. The Selectmen may spend up to \$6,000 in revolving fund monies for the transfer station during FY2011 and retain in this account all collected fees. Being no discussion, the vote was taken and it was in favor.

Article 26. A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Assessors to appoint a member of the Board or some other person, if the Board so desires. To serve as the assistant assessor at the salary fixed and voted on by the Town, or take any other action relative thereto. This Article raised a great deal of discussion; questions like what does the assistant assessor does, how does she get paid? After all the questions were asked and answers were given, a vote was taken by a self-counted standing vote and the Article was passed by a majority vote.

Article 27. A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to continue membership in the Hampshire council of governments for the Fiscal year 2011 through Fiscal year 2014 with a 25% reduction from the FY 2007 Four-year annual dues assessment, or take another action relative thereto. Being no discussion, the Article was passed and it was unanimous.

Article 28. A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to add to Chapter III, ~~–Town Officers~~”, of the Town of Middlefield General By-Laws a new entry titled ~~–Personnel Committee~~” with the following sections; or take any other action relative thereto:

SECTION 1. There shall be a Personnel Committee consisting of five (5) members: one member of the Selectboard, selected annually by a vote of the Selectboard, one member of the Finance Committee selected annually by a vote of the Finance Committee, who shall not be a Town employee or hold a Town Office paying more than \$500 per year, one Town employee working 20 hours or more per week elected annually by regular employees of the Town working 20 hours or more per week, one member, who shall be a registered voter of the Town, selected annually by the Town Moderator, and the Payroll Officer/Town Treasurer.

SECTION 2. The Personnel Committee shall recommend to the Selectboard personnel policies and procedures, job descriptions, compensation and fringe benefit policies and/or practices and organizational changes.

SECTION 3. The members of the Personnel Committee shall choose their own officers and shall serve without pay. A true record shall be kept of the Committee’s proceedings.

A question was asked as to how this Article was put on the Town Meeting warrant? The answer was that it was put on by a petition signed by some of the Townspeople. There was then an amendment made to Section 1 stating that the first three members elect the last two members. Also to have an organizational meeting in July. After much more discussion, the vote was taken. It was a self-counting vote was taken on the amended Article. The results are as follows: YES: 19; NO: 19. Because the vote was a tie, the Article failed.

Article 29. A motion was made and seconded to see if the town will vote to replace SECTION 2 of Chapter VI, ~~–Contracts~~”, of the Town of Middlefield General By-Laws with the following section;

SECTION 2. The awarding of contracts for any work or service to be performed for the town, and the purchase of materials, supplies, and equipment, shall be done in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws.

(Current Section 2): No contract shall be awarded for any work or service to be performed for the town, and no purchase of materials, supplies, or equipment shall be made, the estimated cost of which is Four Thousand Dollars(\$4000) or more, unless competitive bids have been invited by advertising at least twice in a newspaper of general circulation in the town. The selectmen may exempt a purchase or contract from any or all of the provisions of this section when, in their opinion, an emergency exists requiring immediate action to protect the health and safety of persons or property, or when no reasonable substitute can be obtained for the article or service to be purchased or contracted for. Evidence indicating that such an emergency exists, or that no reasonable substitute for a purchase or service can be obtained, shall be furnished in writing by the Selectmen, and shall be kept on file with other records of such transactions.

An amendment was moved and seconded: Any situation requiring solicited, written sealed bids shall be labeled and delivered directly to the Selectboard. All bids shall be opened and publicly read aloud at a time and date specified by the Selectboard at a regularly scheduled Selectboard meeting. After discussion, the amendment was passed on a vote of 32 in favor and 8 opposed. The vote was announced by the Moderator.

A second amendment was made to the original motion and second. It proposed to add Article III penalties from the Town By-Laws, all 3 sections to the new by-law about contracts.

After discussion, the amendment was defeated 17 to 19 on a self counted standing vote led by the Moderator. The Moderator declared the amendment failed.

A third amendment was made and seconded to the original —Contracts” motion: All such bids as previously defined and/or contracts must be approved by the Board of Selectmen. After discussion, the third amendment was passed ; 25 in favor and 14 opposed on a self-counted standing vote. The moderator declared the third amendment passed.

A discussion followed on the use of ~~Massachusetts General Laws~~” in the original motion. After debate with the aid of one informed citizen, it was agreed to not add any specific laws for MGL.

A vote was taken by a self-counting standing vote led by the Moderator on the original ~~contracts~~” by-law with two amendments. The vote was 28 in favor and 12 opposed. This article was declared passed by the Moderator.

Article 30. To see if the Town will vote to accept Chapter 90 funds and all other grant funds. Being no discussion, a vote was taken and the Article passed. It was a unanimous vote.

Article 31. A motion was made and seconded to see if the town will vote to enter into immediate discussions with other Western Massachusetts municipalities with the intent of entering an inter-municipal agreement, by and through the Selectboard, pursuant to Chapter 40, Section 4A of the Massachusetts General Laws, for the purpose of establishing a universal, open access, financially self-sustaining communication system for the provision of broadband service, including high-speed Internet access, telephone and cable television, to all the residents, businesses and institutions of these municipalities. Being no discussion, the Article passed. It was unanimous.

Article 32. A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to accept Franklin Regional Transit Authority as the official transportation agent for the Council on Aging. Being no discussion, the vote was taken and it was unanimous.

Article 33. To transact any other business to come said meeting. Thanks were extended to Joe Kearns for securing a grant of \$121,000 to replace the boiler and windows in the Town Hall. A motion was made and seconded to adjourn this meeting. Meeting adjourned at 6:40 pm.

Respectfully Submitted: Town Clerk, Marjorie Batorski



## **Results of the Special Town Meeting February 1, 2010**

The Special Town Meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by the moderator, Joseph Kearns. Mr. Kearns led the assembled in the pledge of allegiance, then he read the warrant. There were 33 people in attendance.

Article 1. It was moved and seconded to see if the town will vote to accept the accessory dwelling unit bylaw (in-law apartment) presented and endorsed by the planning board, or take any other action relative thereto. Alan Vint, a member of the planning board, read the bylaw in its' entirety. Jay Waag-Swift then explained the bylaw, stating that the wish was to keep the family homes in Middlefield, and at the same time help those families who are elderly, or living alone. There was some discussion concerning the bylaw. It was also mentioned that this bylaw maybe should have been a subject for the Annual Town Meeting because it is such an important issue, and that it wasn't advertised very widely. The moderator then stated that this could be voted on at the Special Town Meeting and that it was not a town bylaw but a zoning bylaw. Following some more discussion, the vote was taken by count. Yes – 26; No – 5. The article passed.

Article 2. A motion was made and seconded to see if the town will vote to transfer \$5,600.00 from free cash to purchase doors for the firehouse, or take any other action relative thereto. Larry Pease, the fire chief, explained that the doors have been there since 1979, they are made of fiberglass, and they are beginning to come apart. Question was asked if they could be repaired? Answer no because the panels are riveted. Chief Pease said that he had quotes of \$5600.00 from a firm in Chicopee, another quote from a firm in New York of \$5114.00 and a third quote from Pittsfield overhead door co. of \$5030.00. Being no further discussion. The vote was taken and it was unanimous.

Article 3. A motion was made and seconded to see if the town will vote to transfer \$708.60 from free cash to fund a prior year invoice to the police department account, or take any other action relative thereto. The moderator said that because this was a last year bill that a 9/10 vote was needed. Being no discussion, the vote was taken and it was unanimous. The article passed.

Article 4. A motion was made and seconded to see if the town will vote to transfer \$3,000.00 from free cash to the police department salary compensation account or take any other action relative thereto. Chief Austin explained that because the salary was low, that the officers have been living off a grant of \$11000.00 that is used for training. Being no discussion the vote was taken and it unanimous. The article passed.

Article 5. A motion was made and seconded to see if the town will vote to transfer \$500.00 from free cash to fund the copier account or take any other action relative thereto. Not being much discussion, a vote was taken and the article passed. It was unanimous.

Article 6. A motion was made and seconded to see if the town will vote to transfer \$5000.00 from free cash to fund the Town Counsel account or take any other action relative thereto. Mary Courtney, selectman, explained that last year we voted \$7500.00 and that so far we have used \$6000.00, and that the selectmen have a December and January bill. When that is paid, there will be only about \$500.00 in the account. We still have some ongoing matters in town; property owners dispute with a claim against the town, and the Harry Pease road issue. (That issue has been resolved and now it is the property owners' issue. This after conclusive information.) It was also brought forth that maybe the town ought to investigate getting another attorney in place of Kopelman and Paige because some feel that they are rather expensive. Then it was stated that that firm charges only \$175.00 per hour. Another question was asked what procedure is followed when it comes time to call town counsel? No more discussion or questions. The vote by numbers was taken. Yes – 17; No – 11. The article passed.

Article 7. Under this article, Jay Waag-Swift said that he would donate his time to mount a bronze plaque with Skip Savery's help in honor of Jeremy Bouffard, a Middlefield resident who was killed in action in the Iraq War. Approximate cost of plaque would be about \$1500.00. Also it was asked if the town could use the web site and the outside sign more to get news out.

Then a motion was made and seconded to dissolve the meeting. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting dissolved at 9:00 p.m.

Marjorie Batorski  
Town Clerk

## **Results of the special town meeting June 21, 2010**

The Special Town Meeting was called to order by the Moderator, Joseph Kearns at 8:PM. There were 38 people in attendance. The Moderator led the assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Article 1. A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to rescind the borrowing authorized by the approval of Article 1 at the Special Town Meeting held on September 30, 2009 to purchase a used 1996 truck, transfer \$30,000.00 from the Stabilization

Fund. There was some discussion concerning this, and a friendly amendment was made to have the \$30,000.00 read \$29,900.00. The Moderator reminded those that a 2/3 vote was required. A standing vote count was taken and the results are 19 in favor and 9 not in favor. This Article passed.

Article 2. A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to transfer \$5,980.00 from Free Cash to fund the first payment of the Highway Truck loan. As this business was taken care of in Article 1, a motion was made and seconded to pass over this Article. It was a unanimous vote.

Article 3. A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to transfer \$7,804.89 from Free Cash to fund the Snow account. The Snow account was run over this winter. There was \$35,000.00 appropriated and \$42,800 was spent on Snow removal. After discussion, the vote was taken and it was unanimous.

Article 4. A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to transfer \$5,616.19 from the MEMA Flood Money Account to establish a Generator Installation account. After some discussion, the vote was taken and it was unanimous and the Article passed.

Article 5. A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to transfer \$100.00 from Free Cash to fund travel expense account. A vote was taken and it was unanimous and the Article passed.

Article 6. A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to adopt the following –Resolution to Seek Lower Electric Rates in a Competitive Electricity Market.

Resolution:

Whereas, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, by enacting the Chapter 164 of the Acts of 1997, has established a competitive marketplace through deregulation and restructuring of the electric utility industry; and whereas, Middlefield's residential and business consumers are interested in reducing their electric rates; Be it therefore resolved, that Town Meeting Members of Middlefield grant the Board of Selectmen authority to develop and participate in a contract, or contracts for power supply and other related services, independently, or in joint action with other municipalities. If such contracts are to be approved, individual consumers would retain the option not to participate and choose any alternative for service they desire; and, be it further resolved, that the Board of Selectmen, will appoint a representative to a countywide committee to oversee such joint action, and to appropriate a sum of money for the work of this committee. To see if the Town will vote to support Residential Electrical Aggregation, as per the vote taken at the 1998 Annual Town Meeting. The Moderator did a wonderful job in explaining this Resolution. After the explanation, the vote was taken and it was a unanimous vote.

Article 7. Under this Article, a motion was made and seconded to see if the Special Town Meeting be dissolved. It was a unanimous vote and the meeting was dissolved at 8:22 pm. (The longest day of the year)

Marjorie Batorski

Town Clerk

**Town of Middlefield**  
**Balance Sheet GENERAL ACCOUNTS ASSETS**  
**From 07/01/2009 to 06/30/2010**

**ASSETS**

CASH	Assets	Liabilities
General Cash	558,664.92	
<b>TOTAL FOR CASH</b>		<b>558,664.92</b>

PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES	Assets	Liabilities
Personal Prop Taxes F2004	0.33	
Personal Prop Taxes F2010	548.33	
<b>TOTAL FOR PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES</b>		<b>548.66</b>

REAL ESTATE TAXES	Assets	Liabilities
Real Estate Taxes F2000	1,144.54	
Real Estate Taxes F2001	0.01	
Real Estate Taxes F2002	2,491.72	
Real Estate Taxes F2003	800.88	
Real Estate Taxes F2004	943.05	
Real Estate Taxes F2007	2,755.69	
Real Estate Taxes F2008	1,544.17	
Real Estate Taxes F2009	5,549.62	
Real Estate Taxes F2010	64,941.47	
Real Estate Taxes F1998	91.13	
Real Estate Taxes F1999	433.26	
<b>TOTAL FOR REAL ESTATE TAXES</b>		<b>80,695.54</b>

MOTOR VEHICLE EX TAXES	Assets	Liabilities
Motor Vehicle Ex 2006	622.99	
Motor Vehicle Ex 2007	721.44	
Motor Vehicle Ex 2008	458.73	
Motor Vehicle Ex 2009	1,511.46	
Motor Vehicle Ex 2010	5,550.23	
<b>TOTAL FOR MOTOR VEHICLE EX TAXES</b>		<b>8,864.85</b>

TAX TITLES & POSSESSIONS	Assets	Liabilities
Tax Titles	122,936.69	
<b>TOTAL FOR TAX TITLES &amp; POSSESSIONS</b>		<b>122,936.69</b>

ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE	Assets	Liabilities
CHAPTER 90 REIMBURSEMENT	88,136.99	
<b>TOTAL FOR ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE</b>		<b>88,136.99</b>

ESTIMATED RECEIPTS	Assets	Liabilities
Loans Authorized-Town Hall	130,000.00	
<b>TOTAL FOR ESTIMATED RECEIPTS</b>		<b>130,000.00</b>

**Town of Middlefield**  
**Balance Sheet GENERAL ACCOUNTS ASSETS**  
**From 07/01/2009 to 06/30/2010**

REVOLVING	Assets	Liabilities
Electrical Inspector Revolving	320.00	
<b>TOTAL FOR REVOLVING</b>		<b>320.00</b>
OVERLAYS RES FOR ABATE	Assets	Liabilities
Overlay F2001	124.18	
Overlay F2002	237.52	
Overlay F1998	111.58	
Overlay F1999	343.33	
<b>TOTAL FOR OVERLAYS RES FOR ABATE</b>		<b>816.61</b>
	<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>990,984.26</b>

**Town of Middlefield**  
**Balance Sheet GENERAL ACCOUNTS LIABILITIES**  
**From 07/01/2009 to 06/30/2010**

<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES	Assets	Liabilities
Personal Prop Taxes F2005		8.33
Personal Prop Taxes F2006		29.15
Personal Prop Taxes F2009		0.85
<b>TOTAL FOR PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES</b>		<b>38.33</b>
REAL ESTATE TAXES	Assets	Liabilities
Real Estate Taxes F2006		446.27
<b>TOTAL FOR REAL ESTATE TAXES</b>		<b>446.27</b>
REVENUE	Assets	Liabilities
Revenue Fiscal 2011		100,000.00
<b>TOTAL FOR REVENUE</b>		<b>100,000.00</b>
ESTIMATED RECEIPTS	Assets	Liabilities
Unauthorized/Unissued		130,000.00
<b>TOTAL FOR ESTIMATED RECEIPTS</b>		<b>130,000.00</b>

AGENCY	Assets	Liabilities
Tax Collector Fees-Monson		111.59
Deputy Collector Fees		702.00
Town Clerk Agency		119.95
Health Ins Deduct		1,014.09
Police Permits Due State		1,650.00
Unclaimed Checks		22,878.17
Town Hall Improvements		6,691.50
Kitchen Repair Donation		10,000.00
Recreation-Basketball Ct		145.46
COA DONATIONS		534.00
library Gifts		2,513.75
<b>TOTAL FOR AGENCY</b>		<b>46,360.51</b>

GRANTS	Assets	Liabilities
Heritage Days-Rec		40.00
St. Aid to Libraries		1,540.22
MA Cultural Council		6,819.52
Sarah Gillett COA Grant		240.00
Community Policing		956.72
Fire Safety Grant		500.10
FY09 Fire Equip Grant		1,993.50
ICE STORM DEC. 2008		31,898.19
Dept of Energy Grant		54,575.10
Emergency Preparedness Grt		1,715.00
<b>TOTAL FOR GRANTS</b>		<b>100,278.35</b>

### Balance Sheet GENERAL ACCOUNTS LIABILITIES

From 07/01/2009 to 06/30/2010

REVOLVING	Assets	Liabilities
Police Outside Detail		480.00
Conservation Comm Revolv		799.69
Transfer Station Revolving		6,483.00
Electrical Inspector Revolving		320.00
<b>TOTAL FOR REVOLVING</b>		<b>8,082.69</b>

RCPTS RESVRD FOR APPROP	Assets	Liabilities
Sale of Cemetery Lots		4,050.00
Refunded Dog Tax		161.73
<b>TOTAL FOR RCPTS RESVRD FOR APPROP</b>		<b>4,211.73</b>

OVERLAYS RES FOR ABATE	Assets	Liabilities
Overlay F2000		492.26
Overlay F2003		2,329.71
Overlay F2004		2,504.57
Overlay F2005		4,419.49
Overlay Fiscal 2007		358.54
Overlay F2008		9,436.28
Overlay F2009		14,964.28
Overlay F2010		11,260.61
Overlay F1995		1,904.81
Overlay F1996		2,396.79
Overlay F1997		5,630.70
<b>TOTAL FOR OVERLAYS RES FOR ABATE</b>		<b>55,698.04</b>

REVENUE RESERVED UNTIL COL	Assets	Liabilities
Tax Title & Poss. Revenue		122,936.69
Motor Vehicle Excise Rev		8,864.85
<b>TOTAL FOR REVENUE RESERVED UNTIL COL</b>		<b>131,801.54</b>

<b>SURPLUS REVENUE</b>		<b>Assets</b>	<b>Liabilities</b>
Overlay Surplus			9,000.00
Surplus Revenue			273,060.37
<b>TOTAL FOR SURPLUS REVENUE</b>			<b>282,060.37</b>

<b>APPROPRIATIONS BALANCES</b>		<b>Assets</b>	<b>Liabilities</b>
Selectmen's Secretary Sal			10.00
Assessor's Appraisal Contract			650.00
Assessors' Revaluation			452.30
Tax Collector Expenses			188.76
Chapter 90			10,173.15
Highway Chapter 291D			24,000.36
Town Highway Maintenance			1,495.71
Machinery Expenses			4,211.66
Generator Installation Exp			5,616.19

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**Town of Middlefield**  
**Balance Sheet GENERAL ACCOUNTS LIABILITIES**  
**From 07/01/2009 to 06/30/2010**

<b>APPROPRIATIONS BALANCES</b>		<b>Assets</b>	<b>Liabilities</b>
Vacations			1,837.50
Unpaved Roads Material			1,201.81
Town Garage Improvements			3,025.98
Town Garage Testing			4,417.00
Library Expenses			349.60
Fire House Doors			5,600.00
Disposal Area			393.00
Capping Old Dump			31,095.40
Transfer Station Building			16,288.01
Town Hall Improvements			21,000.00
<b>TOTAL FOR APPROPRIATIONS BALANCES</b>			<b>132,006.43</b>
		<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>990,984.26</b>

**Town of Middlefield**  
**Balance Sheet TRUST FUNDS ACCOUNTS**  
**From 07/01/2009 to 06/30/2010**

<b>TRUST FUNDS</b>		<b>Assets</b>	<b>Liabilities</b>
Trust Cash		235,621.37	
Stabilization			180,928.80
Dickson Charity Fund			25,638.59
Cemetery PC			29,053.98
<b>TOTAL FOR TRUST FUNDS</b>		<b>235,621.37</b>	<b>235,621.37</b>

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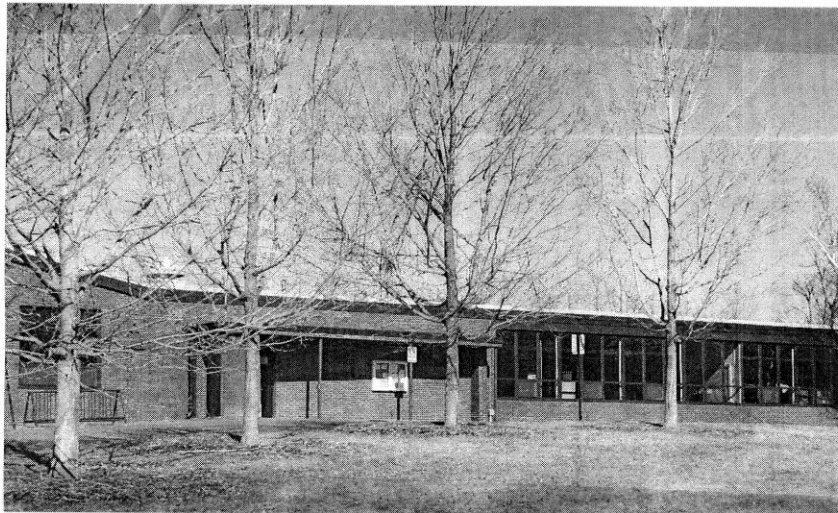
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***Town of Middlefield***  
**Balance Sheet DEBT BALANCE ACCOUNTS**  
**From 07/01/2009 to 06/30/2010**

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<b>LONG TERM DEBT</b>	<b>Assets</b>	<b>Liabilities</b>
Inside Debt Limit	146,790.00	
Notes Payable Town Building		146,790.00
<b>TOTAL FOR LONG TERM DEBT</b>	<b>146,790.00</b>	<b>146,790.00</b>



**Town of Middlefield**  
**Treasury Receipts Summary Report**

From 07/01/2009 to 06/30/2010

TR Code/Description	Amount
1100.06 Personal Prop Taxes F2006	34.32
1100.07 Personal Prop Taxes F2007	23.35
1100.08 Personal Prop Taxes F2008	71.05
1100.09 Personal Prop Taxes F2009	123.59
1100.10 Personal Prop Taxes F2010	45,783.25
1200.00 Real Estate Taxes F2000	10.00
1200.01 Real Estate Taxes F2001	446.98
1200.02 Real Estate Taxes F2002	10.00
1200.04 Real Estate Taxes F2004	291.70
1200.05 Real Estate Taxes F2005	13.90
1200.06 Real Estate Taxes F2006	72.98
1200.07 Real Estate Taxes F2007	2,872.96
1200.08 Real Estate Taxes F2008	8,838.64
1200.09 Real Estate Taxes F2009	43,253.37
1200.10 Real Estate Taxes F2010	946,092.43
1300.06 Motor Vehicle Ex 2006	175.21
1300.07 Motor Vehicle Ex 2007	60.42
1300.08 Motor Vehicle Ex 2008	2,969.58
1300.09 Motor Vehicle Ex 2009	9,048.72
1300.10 Motor Vehicle Ex 2010	41,076.76
1562.00 Tax Titles	7,999.16
1607.08 Ch 90 Reimbursement	54,518.37
1800.00.4171 Interest on Prop Taxes	7,890.85
1800.00.4172 Interest on Excise Taxes	1,262.06
1800.00.4173 Interest on Tax Titles	1,380.61
1800.00.4247 Garbage/Trash Charges	146.00
1800.00.4320 Motor Vehicle Flag Fee	1,080.00
1800.00.4372 Rental Income	5,625.00
1800.00.4418 Board of Health Permits	309.00
1800.00.4420 Building Insp Permits	2,632.00
1800.00.4421 Dog Licenses	176.85
1800.00.4423 Driveway Permits	100.00
1800.00.4424 Forest Prod Tax State	2,006.69
1800.00.4428 Fire Dept. Permits	300.00
1800.00.4430 Gas Inspection Permits	35.00
1800.00.4432 Planning Board Permits	70.00
1800.00.4434 Plumbing Permits	5.00
1800.00.4436 Police Dept Permits	250.00
1800.00.4439 Other Licenses & Permits	225.00

**Town of Middlefield**  
**Treasury Receipts Summary Report**

From 07/01/2009 to 06/30/2010

TR Code/Description	Amount
1800.00.4483 Copier Receipts	115.72
1800.00.4611 State Owned Land	116,520.00
1800.00.4616 Elderly Abatements	1,500.00
1800.00.4620 School Aid Ch. 70	16,128.00
1800.00.4621 Ch 70 Voke Trans Reim	3,107.00
1800.00.4671 Lottery	46,839.00
1800.00.4695 Court Fines	70.00
1800.00.4730 Rcvd. Frm. Other Gov	658.70
1800.00.4811 Hwy Dept. Scrap Metal	2,647.50
1800.00.4820 Interest on Savings	3,285.59
1800.00.4840 Misc. Revenues	2,266.00
1852.00 Due frm Stabilization Fnd	29,900.00
3052.00 Tax Collector Fees-Monson	3,165.00
3053.01 Deputy Collector Fees	2,569.00
3054.00 Town Clerk Agency	1,284.20
3055.01 Health Ins Deduct	7,980.30
3055.02 Retirement Deduct	14,272.31
3069.00 Police Permits Due State	750.00
3097.00 COA DONATIONS	534.00
3099.00 library Gifts	934.00
5002.00 Elections - State	1,040.00
5006.00 St. Aid to Libraries	1,460.85
5036.00 MA Cultural Council	4,000.00
5040.00 Council on Aging - State	3,500.00
5050.10 Police Safety Audit Grant	480.00
5058.08 ICE STORM DEC. 2008	65,959.66
5070.11 Dept of Energy Grant	60,639.00
5102.00 Emergency Prparedness Grt	0.00
5102.10 H1N1 Mini Grant	600.00
5506.00 Electrical Inspector Revo	200.00
5520.00 Police Outside Detail	4,312.00
5550.00 Conservation Comm Revolv	590.00
5567.10 BOH Revolving	1,656.00
5577.00 Transfer Station Revolvin	6,483.00
5590.09 Tmp Twn Hall Renov Loan	146,790.00
5599.00 Electrical Inspector Revo	400.00
7012.00 Sale of Cemetery Lots	600.00
7014.00 Refunded Dog Tax	161.73

# Town of Middlefield

## 2010 Expense Report

07/01/2009 to 06/30/2010

### 10011.00 Elected Town Officers

CHARLES HUNTER	90.00
GITA JOZSEF	3,000.00
JOHN RICHARDSON	3,000.00
JOSEPH KEARNS	100.00
LARRAY PEASE	125.00
LARRY PEASE	1,375.00
LAURA LAFRENIERE	3,000.00
MARJORIE BATORSKI	4,000.00
MARY COURTNEY	1,250.00
NOREEN SURINER	250.00
ROBERT GAZDA	1,500.00
EDWARD VIVIER	90.00
	<b>\$ 17,780.00</b>

### 10111.00 Town Counsel

KOPELMAN & PAIGE, P.C.	10,188.64
	<b>\$ 10,188.64</b>

### 10122.01 Selectmens Expenses

POSTMASTER	44.00
PIONEER VALLEY PLANNING COMM	80.50
STAPLES CREDIT PLAN	1,635.02
TURLEY PUBLICATIONS, INC	114.00
TERRY WALKER	99.34
ATFC	79.00
MMA	444.00
MMPA	100.00
QUILL CORPORATION	85.49
SOUTHWOODS PRINTING	95.60
	<b>\$ 2,776.95</b>

### 10122.02 Selectmen's Secretary Sal

SUZANNE LEMIEUX	2,528.50
	<b>\$ 2,528.50</b>

### 10122.03 Copier Expense

MACFARLANE OFFICE PRODUCTS	857.44
STAPLES CREDIT PLAN	218.96
QUILL CORPORATION	173.54
W.B. MASON CO., INC.	94.50
	<b>\$ 1,344.44</b>

### 10122.07 Administrative Assistant

TERRY WALKER	5,000.00
	<b>\$ 5,000.00</b>

### 10135.00 Town Accountant Salary

TERRY WALKER	11,000.00
	<b>\$ 11,000.00</b>

### 10135.01 Town Account Expenses

STAPLES CREDIT PLAN	619.77
UNIVERSITY OF MASS	50.00
TERRY WALKER	127.88
UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS	150.00
QUILL CORPORATION	143.49
U/MASS Conference Services CS# 10-84	255.00
HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS	331.74
CAREERTRACK	79.00
MMA&AA, INC	40.00
	<b>\$ 1,796.88</b>

### 10141.01 Assistant Assessor

LAURA LAFRENIERE	5,400.00
	<b>\$ 5,400.00</b>

### 10141.02 Assessors Expenses

DAILY HAMPSHIRE GAZETTE	57.08
M A A O	75.00
GITA JOZSEF	2,267.23
MAYFLOWER VALUATION, LTD	1,400.00
JOHN RICHARDSON	272.68
UNIVERSITY CONF SERVICES	760.00
HHCAA	30.00
	<b>\$ 4,861.99</b>

### 10141.10 Commercial/Open Permit Appr

MAYFLOWER VALUATION, LTD	900.00
	<b>\$ 900.00</b>

### 10141.14 Assesors Tax Map Update

CARTOGRAPHICS ASSOC, INC	1,000.00
	<b>\$ 1,000.00</b>

### 10141.55 Annual Interim Certification

MAYFLOWER VALUATION, LTD	1,800.00
	<b>\$ 1,800.00</b>

### 10141.77 CAMA Software Support

FRCOG/Com Software Consort.	1,550.00
	<b>\$ 1,550.00</b>

### 10145.00 Treasurer Salary

JANE THEILEN	583.33
JANE THIELEN	6,416.67
	<b>\$ 7,000.00</b>

### 10145.01 Treasurer Expenses

HAMP/FRANK COLL/TREAS ASSN	10.00
POSTMASTER	132.00
STAPLES CREDIT PLAN	134.65
COMMONWEALTH OF MASS	15.00
U S POSTMASTER	88.00
MCTA	60.00

<b>10145.01 Treasurer Expenses</b>	
N.E.I.S., INC. HARTFORD	138.60
JANE THIELEN	18.14
United Bank	5.00
U S POSTAL SERVICE	220.00
QUILL CORPORATION	50.00
	<b>\$ 871.39</b>

<b>10145.05 Treas/Accountant Software Supp</b>	
SoftRight	3,866.22
	<b>\$ 3,866.22</b>

<b>10146.00 Tax Collector Salary</b>	
RICHARD WADE	10,000.00
	<b>\$ 10,000.00</b>

<b>10146.01 Tax Collector Expenses</b>	
FRCOG/Comm Software Consort	1,000.00
HAMP/FRANK COLL/TREAS ASSN	10.00
POSTMASTER	40.00
STAPLES CREDIT PLAN	595.93
MCTA	45.00
BCARC, INC	496.33
RICHARD WADE	590.04
QUILL CORPORATION	113.03
	<b>\$ 2,890.33</b>

<b>10146.04 Tax Title Expenses</b>	
HAMPSHIRE COUNTY REG OF DEEDS	825.00
TURLEY PUBLICATIONS, INC	321.98
	<b>\$ 1,146.98</b>

<b>10161.01 Town Clerk Expenses</b>	
MARJORIE BATORSK	1 61.54
HOBBS & WARREN	358.00
N'OREst DocConser CT	25.00
POSTMASTER	144.00
CECILE ROBERT	34.00
STAPLES CREDIT PLAN	53.05
TERRY WALKER	24.63
NEACTC	25.00
Elect STEMS AND SOFTWARE INC	35.96
WESTMA City & Town Clerk' Assoc	10.00
MASS TOWN CLERKS' ASSOC	20.00
QUILL CORPORATION	20.99
	<b>\$ 812.17</b>

<b>10162.00 Election &amp; Registration</b>	
SUSAN BAKER-DONNELLY	142.00
ELLEN MILLER	94.00
CECILE ROBERT	120.00
EDWARD VIVIER	104.00
NOREEN SURINER	112.00
CRYSTAL JONES	36.00
JUDITH WHITE	80.00
ELEANOR DOYLE	216.00
CHERYL HARPER-MILLER	56.00

DORIS LINES	40.00
	<b>\$ 1,000.00</b>

<b>10175.00 Planning Board</b>	
TURLEY PUBLICATIONS, INC	8.54
CPTC	100.00
	<b>\$ 108.54</b>

<b>10177.08 Conservation Commission Exp</b>	
MACC	808.00
STAPLES CREDIT PLAN	409.99
Alan Vint	13.86
	<b>\$ 1,231.85</b>

<b>20109.10 Chapter 90</b>	
JOHN DEERE CREDIT	53,963.48
PALMER PAVING CORP	54,518.37
	<b>\$ 108,481.85</b>

<b>20420.00 Highway Department Wages</b>	
ANDREW SULIKOWSKI	1,280.00
ANDY RADWICH	1,280.00
ANDY SULIKOWSKI	29,256.00
MATT RADWICH	33,311.50
RODNEY SAVERY	42,496.52
	<b>\$ 107,624.02</b>

<b>20420.02 Town Highway Maintenance</b>	
TERRY WALKER	4,172.00
Berk County Hywy SUPT ASSOC	195.00
BERKSHIRE EAGLE	201.20
BRISTOL UNIFORM	1,664.00
CAL CONTRACTORS SUPPLES	149.00
COMMONWEALTH OF MASS	800.00
MARK COUCH	5,850.00
DICKSONS AUTO PARTS	252.87
DONOVAN BROTHERS	2,407.20
KEN & LANA HALL	4,800.00
THE LANE CONSTRUCTION CORP	5,103.44
JOHN S LANE & SON INC	2,461.54
L.P.ADAMS CO INC	107.45
MASS HIGHWAY ASSOC	40.00
PITTSFIELD FIRE & SAFETY CO	96.70
POSTMASTER	56.00
MATTHEW RADWICH	9.55
RAINBOW DISTRIBUTORS	392.00
RIBCO SUPPLY CO	2,913.54
RODNEY SAVERY	16.53
STAPLES CREDIT PLAN	134.33
TONLINO & SONS, LLC	557.75
TOWN OF PERU	500.00
TURLEY PUBLICATIONS, INC	110.39
UNIVERSITY OF MASS	150.00
TERRY WALKER	181.48
WESTFIELD EQUIPMENT SERVICE	2,709.94

MA TRI-CNTY Hwy Asso	0.00
HOME DEPOT CREDIT SERVICES	54.06
UNIV OF MA	100.00
ROBERT MILLER	87.50
QUILL CORPORATION	9.52
MEEHAN CONSTRUCTION CO, INC	3,262.31
SOUTHWOODS PRINTING	18.12
UNDERGROUND SUPPLY INC	1,930.40
Scott Artioil	132.50
	<b>\$ 41,626.32</b>

**20421.01 Machinery Expenses**

ATCO INTERNATIONAL	974.80
BOB'S AUTO RADIATOR	575.00
CA CONTRACTORS SUPPLES	454.52
CHASE AUTO ELECTRIC	270.00
CASEY & DUPUIS EQUIPMENT CORP	318.03
C & C HYDRAULICS, INC	5,498.12
CITY TIRE CO., INC.	23.80
DICKSONS AUTO PARTS	3,130.46
DUFOUR INC	249.00
ERC WIPING PRODUCTS, INC	94.40
FASTENAL COMPANY	471.47
FASTENAL	39.97
LAWSON PRODUCTS, INC	1,085.50
L.P.ADAMS CO INC	192.83
PITTSFIELD LAWN & TRACTOR	629.65
PRO-TECH SUPPLY	240.04
RIBCO SUPPLY CO	2,887.28
SAFETY-KLEEN	686.26
SPRINGFIELD MACK INC	409.98
SUPERIOR SPRING & MFG CO INC	734.45
TOCE BROTHERS, INC	2,659.86
WESTFIELD EQUIPMENT SERVICE	434.44
ZWACK, INC	823.00
COUNTY-WIDE RENTALS	620.62
SMITH SLED SHOP, INC	104.50
BACHER CORP OF CONN	281.28
INNOV PRECISION MACH	520.63
FREADMAN STEEL, INC	1,825.00
HOME DEPOT CREDIT SERVICES	619.44
AIRGAS EAST	1,956.62
COOK BUILDERS' SUPPLY CO	333.00
HOWARD P. FAIRFIELD, LLC	814.16
HSBC BUSINESS SOLUTIONS	309.50
J.M.S. INDUSTRIAL SUPPLY, INC	194.31
GRAY MANUFACTURING CO, INC	340.00
	<b>\$ 30,801.92</b>

**20421.08 Highway Department Tools**

WESTFIELD EQUIPMENT SERVICE	1,800.00
	<b>\$ 1,800.00</b>

**20421.10 Highway Department Truck**

RODNEY SAVERY	1,000.00
Auto Wholesalers Used Trucks & Parts	28,900.00
	<b>\$ 29,900.00</b>

**20421.44 Holidays**

ANDY SULIKOWSKI	928.00
MATT RADWICH	986.00
RODNEY SAVERY	984.00
	<b>\$ 2,898.00</b>

**20421.55 Vacations**

ANDY SULIKOWSKI	1,344.00
MATT RADWICH	2,142.00
RODNEY SAVERY	676.50
	<b>\$ 4,162.50</b>

**20422.00 Fuels**

CHARLIES GARAGE	218.10
HINSDALE MOBIL	161.00
METRO FUEL INJECTION	193.35
RODNEY SAVERY	75.00
DENNIS K. BURKE, INC	19,190.17
MILLER'S PETROLEUM SYSTEMS, INC	58.24
	<b>\$ 19,895.86</b>

**20422.01 Unpaved Roads Material**

MARK COUCH	112.50
DONOVAN BROTHERS	3,035.70
JOHN S LANE & SON INC	2,900.14
TONLINO & SONS, LLC	7,749.85
	<b>\$ 13,798.19</b>

**20423.00 Snow Removal**

ANDREW SULIKOWSK	1 240.00
ANDY SULIKOWSKI	3,324.00
MATT RADWICH	4,870.50
RODNEY SAVERY	5,596.52
CARGILL INC	17,958.32
MARK COUCH	1,350.00
JOHN S LANE & SON INC	1,141.26
RIBCO SUPPLY CO	1,595.36
MEEHAN CONSTRUCT CO, INC	6,728.93
	<b>\$ 42,804.89</b>

**20424.00 Street Lights**

WMECO	202.27
	<b>\$ 202.27</b>

**30000.01 Gateway Reg Schl Assmnt**

GATEWAY REGIONAL SCHOOL	553,127.16
	<b>\$ 553,127.16</b>

**30000.04 Vocational Education**

CITY OF NORTHAMPTON	40,095.00
LECRENSKI BROS INC	22,500.00
	<b>\$ 62,595.00</b>

**30610.00 Library Expenses**

CYNTHIA OLIGNY	750.00
BAKER & TAYLOR	650.30

CYNTHIA OLIGNY	182.61				<b>\$ 500.00</b>
POSTMASTER	56.00				
QUALITY PAPERBACK BK CLB	292.25				
LIBRARY JOURNAL	157.99				
JUNIOR LIBRARY GUILD	61.25				
	<b>\$ 2,150.40</b>				
<b>40543.00 Veterans Agent Salary</b>					
RAYMOND GERO	100.00				
	<b>\$ 100.00</b>				
<b>40543.04 War Memorials/Playground</b>					
CHARLES WINN	3,940.00				
	<b>\$ 3,940.00</b>				
<b>50491.00 Cemetery Expense</b>					
DONALD DAVERY	738.00				
DONALD SAVERY	2,722.50				
CARROT-TOP INDUSTRIES INC	135.37				
	<b>\$ 3,595.87</b>				
<b>60210.00 Police Chiefs Salary</b>					
THOMAS AUSTIN	1,000.00				
	<b>\$ 1,000.00</b>				
<b>60210.01 Police Dept Expenses</b>					
TERRY WALKER	6.00				
CHESTER MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC	324.58				
CHESTER MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC	82.06				
JUREK BROTHERS, INC	878.55				
PITTSFIELD COMM SYSTEMS	77.27				
POSTMASTER	100.00				
SENTRY UNIFORM & EQUIPMENT	1,123.15				
SOUTH STREET SERVICENTER	1,022.10				
STAPLES CREDIT PLAN	725.92				
TRI-COUNTY LAW OFFICERS ASSN	120.00				
TMDE CALIBRATION LAB, INC	65.00				
VERIZON WIRELESS	195.66				
WESTFIELD EQUIPMENT SERVICE	179.90				
W MASS CHIEFS OF POLICE ASSOC	100.00				
HAMPSHIRE SHERIFF'S OFFICE	505.00				
MAS CHIEFS OF POLICE ASSOC	720.00				
HOME DEPOT CREDIT SERVICES	867.41				
V H BLACKINTON CO, INC	25.00				
VERIZON WIRELESS	1,028.39				
	<b>\$ 8,145.99</b>				
<b>60210.08 Police Officers' Compensation</b>					
CURT ROBIE	560.00				
MATT RADWICH	120.00				
THOMAS AUSTIN	2,415.00				
TOM AUSTIN	450.00				
	<b>\$ 3,545.00</b>				
<b>60220.00 Fire Chief/Forest Wrd Sal</b>					
LARRY PEASE	500.00				
<b>60220.01 Fire Dept Expenses</b>					
DICKSONS AUTO PARTS	77.81				
DINGEE MACHINE CO.	1,900.00				
L.P.ADAMS CO INC	79.32				
PITTSFIELD COMM SYS	1,495.00				
PITTSFIELD FIRE & SAFETY CO	186.40				
SOUTH STREET SERVICENTER	137.65				
WESTFIELD EQUIPMENT SERVICE	239.88				
AIRGAS EAST	382.76				
	<b>\$ 4,498.82</b>				
<b>60220.02 Fire Dept Insp Salary</b>					
LARRY PEASE	300.00				
	<b>\$ 300.00</b>				
<b>60220.04 Fire Dept Dispatch Srv</b>					
BERK County Sheriffs Comm. Ctr	6,366.35				
	<b>\$ 6,366.35</b>				
<b>60241.00 Building Inspector</b>					
HAMPSHIRE COUNCIL OF GOV	11,100.66				
HOG PURCHASING DEPT	3,700.22				
	<b>\$ 14,800.88</b>				
<b>60245.00 Electrical Inspector</b>					
ERIC MAIN	300.00				
	<b>\$ 300.00</b>				
<b>60246.00 Plumbing Insp Salary</b>					
WILLIAM ZEITLER	300.00				
	<b>\$ 300.00</b>				
<b>60292.01 Dog Expense</b>					
HILLTOWNS VET CLINIC	77.15				
	<b>\$ 77.15</b>				
<b>70231.00 Ambulance</b>					
HINSDALE FIREMAN'S ASSN.	1,200.00				
	<b>\$ 1,200.00</b>				
<b>70431.00 Disposal Area</b>					
KATHLEEN O'BRIEN	2,646.00				
KATHY O'BRIEN	1,662.00				
DAVE WICKLES TRUCKING	8,295.60				
HRMC	13,417.13				
LANCER LABEL	115.99				
L.P.ADAMS CO INC	612.45				
RIBCO SUPPLY CO	400.00				
SAVERY ELECTRIC	78.00				
KATHY O'BRIEN	32.97				
	<b>\$ 27,260.14</b>				
<b>70431.04 Hilltown Resource Mgmt</b>					
HRMC	1,778.40				
	<b>\$ 1,778.40</b>				

**70431.10 Transfer Station Building**  
 MARY F. COURTNEY 166.11  
 KEN & LANA HALL 1,500.00  
 L.P.ADAMS CO INC 589.55  
 KATHY O'BRIEN 127.99  
**\$ 2,383.65**

**70519.01 Board of Health Exp**  
 TERRY WALKER 78.00  
 STAPLES CREDIT PLAN 259.99  
**\$ 337.99**

**70522.00 Lee Visiting Nurse**  
 LEE REG VISITING NURSE ASSOC 1,050.00  
**\$ 1,050.00**

**80751.00 Building Project Loan**  
 United Bank 16,310.00  
**\$ 16,310.00**

**80752.00 Loan Interest**  
 United Bank 3,298.25  
**\$ 3,298.25**

**80753.00 INTEREST**  
 MARY CUCCINELLO 45.94  
 TAMARIN LAUREL-PAINE 100.15  
**\$ 146.09**

**90122.02 Audit**  
 THOMAS J. SCANLON & ASSOC 10,000.00  
**\$ 10,000.00**

**90192.01 Insurances**  
 MIIA PROP & CASUALTY 19,504.00  
 MIIA PROP & CASUALTY 3,767.00  
 USI INS. SERVICES OF MA., INC. 598.00  
 USI INS SERVICES OF MA INC 193.00  
 CHUBB & SON 6,866.00  
 RAIS 100.00  
**\$ 31,028.00**

**90192.02 Maint Public Buildings**  
 CHARLES WINN 20.00  
 JACK BAYLIS 2,395.80  
 HAMP COUNCIL PURCHASING 444.52  
 L.P.ADAMS CO INC 32.99  
 LARRY PEASE 13.98  
 PITTSFIELD FIRE & SAFETY CO 55.00  
 RIBCO SUPPLY CO 137.12  
 STAPLES CREDIT PLAN 27.98  
 VERIZON 305.87  
 WHITING ENERGY FUELS 15,631.58  
 RELIABLE OFFICE SUPPLIES 186.32  
 HOME DEPOT CREDIT SERVICES 29.99  
 WHITE WOLF TRUCKING 250.00  
 WMECO 9,297.99  
 OVERHEAD DOOR CO. 908.10

VERIZON 3,520.56  
 Jack Baylis 6.74  
 QUILL CORPORATION 84.58  
 MILLER'S PETROLEUM 625.34  
**\$ 33,974.46**

**90192.05 Payroll Contract**  
 N.E.I.S., INC. HARTFORD 1,396.00  
**\$ 1,396.00**

**90192.06 Technology Expenses**  
 CompuWorks 500.00  
**\$ 500.00**

**90192.99 Website**  
 DDGRAPHICS WEB MEDIA 880.00  
 CompuWorks 290.00  
**\$ 1,170.00**

**90541.00 Council on Aging**  
 SUSAN BAKER-DONNELLY 38.49  
 POSTMASTER 40.00  
 MANNY'S TV & APPLIANCES 818.95  
 KRISTEN M. HORNING 210.00  
 ANDRUS POWER SOLUTIONS INC 392.56  
**\$ 1,500.00**

**90630.00 Recreation Expense**  
 CHARLENE GERO 214.51  
 KIM SAVERY 80.11  
**\$ 294.62**

**90691.08 Agricultural Commission**  
 MAUREEN SULLIVAN 27.64  
**\$ 27.64**

**90911.00 County Retirement**  
 HAMP CTY RETIREMENT SYS 13,465.50  
 HAMP CTY RETIREMENT SYS 13,465.50  
**\$ 26,931.00**

**90912.00 Hampshire Council of Gvt**  
 HAMP COG 511.68  
 HAMP COUNCIL PURCHASING 170.56  
**\$ 682.24**

**90913.00 Unemployment Insurance**  
 MA DIV OF UNEMPLOYMENT 53.00  
**\$ 53.00**

**90916.00 Social Security/Twn Share**  
 INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE 387.83  
 US TREASURY 5,202.10  
**\$ 5,589.93**

**90919.00 Health Insurance**  
 HAMP CTY GROUP INS 40,466.76  
 ACSA GROUP INSURANCE 139.84  
**\$ 40,606.60**

**90947.00 Pioneer Valley Planning**  
 PIONEER VALLEY PLAN COMM 85.00  
**\$ 85.00**



## Elected Officials

### Select Board

Noreen Suriner, Chair	2010-2013
Alan Vint	2009-2012
<i>(Fulfilling Larry Pease's term)</i>	
Mitch Feldmesser	2008-2011
<i>(Fulfilling Robert Gazda's term)</i>	

(Select Board also serves as Board of Health, Field Drivers, and the Recreation Committee)

### Assessors:

Laura Lafreniere	2010-2013
John Richardson	2009-2012
Gita Jozsef-Harris	2008-2011

### Cemetery Commissioner:

Larry Pease	2009-2011
Timothy Pease	2009-2012
Mark Doane	2010-2013

### Constable:

Ed Vivier	2009-2012
Charles Hunter	2010-2013

### County Commissioner

Joseph Kearns	2009-2011
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### Library Trustee:

Susan Baker Donnelly	2008-2011
Susan Donnelly	2009-2012
Christine Bresnahan	2010-2013

### Finance Committee

Tamerin Laurel-Paine	2008-2011
Gita Jozsef Harris	2009-2012
Joseph Kearns	2009-2012
Scott Artioli	2010-2013
Ed Vivier	2010-2013

### Planning Board:

Alan Vint	2008-2011
Jay Waag-Swift	2009-2012
Michael Hale	2009-2012
Terrence Crean	2009-2012
Maureen Sullivan	2010-2013

### School Committee:

Tim Parker	2009-2012
Charles Henshaw	2010-2013

### Zoning Board of Appeals:

Mitch Feldmesser	2010-2013
Terrence Crean	2009-2012
Stephen Cummings	2008-2011
Alternate	

**Moderator:** Joseph Kearns 2010-2011

### Town Clerk:

Marjorie Batorski 2010-2011

### Bonded Appointees: 1 year term

**Tax Collector** - Mary Ann Pease

**Treasurer** – Jane Thielen

**Town Attorney** – Kopelman & Paige

### Annual Appointees:

**Accountant** - Terry Walker

**Animal Inspector** – Mary Wheeler

**Board of Health Agent-**

Charles Hunter

**Building Inspector** – Paul Tacy

**Civil Defense Warden** – Larry Pease

Thomas Austin (Asst Warden)

**Disposal Area** – Kathy O'Brien

**Dog Officer** –

**Fire & Forest Warden** – Larry Pease

Ronald Radwich

**Police Chief:** Thomas Austin

**Recycling Coordinator** – Joseph Kearns

**Select Board's Secretary** –

Suzanne Lemieux

**Smoke Alarm/Oil Burner Insp.** –

Larry Pease

**Road Superintendent** – Skip Savery  
**Tree Inspector-** Skip Savery  
**Veteran’s Agent** – Ray Gero

**Westfield River Advisory** –  
Carl Lefreniere  
John Richardson (alternate)

**Wild & Scenic Advisory** –  
Carl Lefreniere

**Wiring Inspector** – Eric Main  
(alternate) John Savery

**Wood/Bark Measurer** – Edward James

**Appointed Boards with  
three year staggered terms  
Agricultural Commission**

Cheryl Harper 2007-2010  
Maureen Sullivan 2008-2011  
Mitch Feldmesser 2008-2011  
Cindy Herman 2009-2012  
Glennis Austin 2009-2012  
Alternate

**Conservation Commission**

Alan Vint 2010-2013  
Stephen Cummings 2010-2013  
Kim Baker 2009-2011  
Mitch Feldmesser 2009-2011  
Wayne Main 2009-2011

**Communications Committee** –

Noreen Suriner 2008-2011  
Robert Gazda 2009-2010  
Leanne Every 2010-2013  
Steve Harris 2010-2013

**Cultural Council**

Sarah Foley, Chair 2010-2013  
Cyndy Oligny  
Jack Cobb  
Pat Robie

**Historical Commission**

Marjorie Batorski 2008-2011  
John Savery 2008-2011  
Howard Knickerbocker 2008-2011  
Alternate-Rita Doktor 2008-2011  
Jack Cobb, Chair 2009- 2012  
Roy Haapala, Sec. 2009-2012

**Recreation Sub-Committee**

Bea Basak  
Char Gero  
Eric Main  
Laurie Sico

**Registrar of Voters**

Marjorie Batorski, Town Clerk  
Anita Myers  
Cyndy Oligny  
Tamarin Laurel-Paine

**Police Department**

Thomas Austin, Chief  
Curt Robie  
Michael Pensivey  
Matt Radwich

Note: In compiling this report some information was not always available. If there are errors or mistakes, please make them known to the Select Board. Thank you.