

Town of Great Barrington

Massachusetts



Annual Reports

for the Fiscal Year 2016

July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016

IN MEMORIAM

During the year, we were saddened by the passing of the following former Town officials during the Fiscal year (July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016) and dedicate this Annual Report to their memory:

Orville B. Brazie

Department of Public Works and Police Officer

August 2015

Elinor Reilly

MMRHS Secretary and Elderly Transportation

September 2015

David Charles Benham, Sr.

Great Barrington Fire Department

November 2015

Ryan A. Storti

Police Officer

May 2016

Louis W. Sinico, Sr.

Police Officer

May 2016

About the Town Report... The Town Report was typed and formatted entirely in-house, with thanks to Amy Pulver for formatting and typing and to Helen Kuziemko for proofreading. Printing and binding was done by Kwik Print.

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CURRENT UNITED STATES CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION

Governor Charlie Baker

www.state.ma.us.gov

Boston, MA
Massachusetts State House
Office of Governor
Room 280
Boston, MA 02133

Office: 888-870-7770

Springfield, MA
Western Mass
Office of Governor
436 Dwight Street
Suite 300
Springfield, MA 01103
413-784-1200

Washington, DC
Office of Governor
44 N. Capitol Street
Suite 208
Washington, DC 20001
202-624-7713

U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren

www.warren.senate.gov

317 Hart Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20510

Office: 202-224-4543

Springfield Federal Bldg.
1500 Main Street Ste. 406
Springfield, MA 01101
413-788-2690

2400 JFK Fed Bldg.
15 New Sudbury St.
Boston, MA 02203
617-565-3170

U.S. Senator Edward J. Markey

www.markey.senate.gov

218 Russell Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20510

Office: 202-224-2742

Springfield Federal Bldg.
1550 Main Street 4th FL
Springfield, MA 01101
413-785-4610

975 JFK Fed Bldg.
15 New Sudbury St.
Boston, MA 02203
617-565-8519

U. S. Representative Richard Neal

www.neal.house.gov

2208 Rayburn Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20515
Office: 202-225-5601

300 State St Ste. 200
Springfield, MA 01105
413-785-0325

78 Center St
Pittsfield, MA 01201
(413) 442-0946

State Senator Adam Hinds

Adam.Hinds@masenate.gov

24 Beacon Street, Room 413-F
Boston, MA 02133
Office: 617-722-1625

State Representative William Smitty Pignatelli

Smitty.Pignatelli@mahouse.gov

24 Beacon Street, Room 466
Boston, MA 02133
Office: 617-722-2017

Lenox Town Hall
PO Box 2228
Lenox MA 01240
413-637-0631



FACTS ABOUT GREAT BARRINGTON

Settled	1726
Incorporated	1761
Location	Southwest Corner of Massachusetts
Population	6,957 (Annual Town Census)
Legal Voters	4,371
Form of Government	Selectboard/Town Manager
	Open Town Meeting
Tax Rate	\$14.60 Fiscal 2017
Public Schools	Berkshire Hills Regional School District
Police	Chief, Two Sergeants Fourteen Patrol Officers
Town Highways	91.01 Miles, 162 Streets
Public Libraries	Mason Public Library, Great Barrington Ramsdell Public Library, Housatonic
State Forests	7,264 Acres
Altitude	721 Feet at Railroad Station
Area	45.86 Square Miles
Web Site	www.townofgb.org
Annual Town Meeting	Monday May 1, 2017
Annual Town Election	Tuesday May 9, 2017

CURRENT ELECTED OFFICIALS

Selectboard

Edward Abrahams	Term Expires 2017
Sean Stanton	Term Expires 2018
William Cooke	Term Expires 2018
Stephen Bannon	Term Expires 2019
Daniel Bailly	Term Expires 2019

Berkshire Hills Regional School Committee

Diane Singer	Term Expires 2020 (State Election)
Richard Dohoney	Term Expires 2020 (State Election)
Anne Hutchinson	Term Expires 2020 (State Election)
Stephen C. Bannon	Term Expired 2018 (State Election)
William Fields	Term Expires 2018 (State Election)

Board of Health

Dr. Ruby Chang	Term Expires 2017
Peter Stanton	Term Expires 2018
Michael Lanoue	Term Expires 2019

Constables

Walter F. Atwood, III	Term Expires 2018
John Broderick, Jr.	Term Expires 2018

Finance Committee

Michael Wise, Resigned February 2017	Term Expires 2017
Walter F. Atwood, III	Term Expires 2018
Eugene W. Curletti	Term Expires 2018
Thomas Blauvelt	Term Expires 2019
Janet R. Lee	Term Expires 2019

Great Barrington Housing Authority

Josh Risen	Term Expires 2017
Nan Wile	Term Expires 2020
Ann Condon	Term Expires 2021
Veronica Cunningham	Term Expires 2021

Library Trustees

Hilda Banks Shapiro	Term Expires 2017
Adam Gudeon	Term Expires 2017
Kathleen Plungis	Term Expires 2018
G. Patrick Hollenbeck	Term Expires 2018
Dana Coleman	Term Expires 2019
Lauren E. Clark	Term Expires 2019

Moderator

Michael Wise	Term Expires 2017
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Planning Board

Malcom Fick	Term Expires 2017
Jonathan Hankin	Term Expires 2017
Jack Musgrove	Term Expires 2018
Brandee K. Nelson	Term Expires 2019
Jeremy K. Higa	Term Expires 2019

Zoning Board of Appeals

Ron Majdalany	Term Expires 2017
Michael Wise	Term Expires 2017
Madonna Meagher	Term Expires 2018
Kathleen Kotleski	Term Expires 2018
Carolyn Ivory	Term Expires 2019

CURRENT APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Agricultural Commission

Devan M. Arnold	Term Expires 2017
Luke Pryjma- Resigned	Term Expires 2018
Hilda Banks Shapiro (Alternate)	Term Expires 2017
Laurily Epstein	Term Expires 2019
Vivian Orłowski	Term Expires 2019

Animal Control Officer

Shepley Evans	Term Indefinite
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Animal Inspector

L. Locke Larkin

Term Expires 2017

Assessor, Principal

Christopher Lamarre

Term Indefinite

Board of Assessors

Christopher Lamarre

Term Indefinite

Bruce Firger

Term Expires 2017

John Katz

Term Expires 2019

Board of Registrars

Marie Ryan

Term Indefinite

Ellen Smith

Term Expires 2018

Linda A. Coons

Term Expires 2019

Deborah Ball

Term Expires 2020

Cable Television Advisory Committee

Thomas Hatch

Term Indefinite

Cemetery Commissioners

Marilyn Bisiewicz

Term Expires 2017

Walter F. Atwood, III

Term Expires 2017

Stephen Bannon

Term Expires 2018

Chief Procurement Officer

Jennifer Tabakin

Term Indefinite

CDBG Housing Rehabilitation Program Citizens Advisory Committee

G. Patrick Hollenbeck

Term Expires 2017

Gaetan Lachance

Term Expires 2017

Christopher Rembold

Term Expires 2017

Community Preservation Committee

Edward Abrahams

Term Expires 2017

Thomas Blauvelt

Term Expires 2019

Community Preservation Committee (continued)

Jessica Dezieck	Term Expires 2019
Martha Fick	Term Expires 2019
Jeremy Higa	Term Expires 2019
Kathleen Jackson	Term Expires 2019
William Nappo	Term Expires 2019
Karen Smith	Term Expires 2017
Nan Wile	Term Expires 2019

Conservation Commission

Jeffrey Cohen	Term Expires 2017
Jessica Dezieck	Term Expires 2018
Lisa Bozzuto	Term Expires 2018
Gaetan Lachance	Term Expires 2019
Andrew Mankin	Term Expires 2019
David Shanahan	Term Expires 2019

Conservation Commission Agent

Shepley Evans	Term Indefinite
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Council on Aging

Cara Holcomb	Term Expires 2017
Jane Green	Term Expires 2017
Barbara Bailly	Term Expires 2018
Amy Rutstein	Term Expires 2018
David Rutstein	Term Expires 2018
Grace Zbell	Term Expires 2018
Eileen Gaarn	Term Expires 2019
Michele Gilligan	Term Expires 2019
Patricia Kinne	Term Expires 2019

Council on Aging, Director

Polly Mann Salenovich	Term Indefinite
Jennifer Bailly, Assistant Director	Term Indefinite

Cultural Council

Rose Tannenbaum	Term Expires 2019
Susan Pettee	Term Expires 2017
Ellen Shanahan	Term Expires 2018
Sherry Steiner	Term Expires 2018
Charlsie Niemiec	Term Expires 2019
Laura Clark	Term Expires 2018

Design Advisory Committee

Edwin May	Ex-Officio
Gaetan LaChance	Term Expires 2017
Stephan Green	Term Expires 2019
Lisa Landry	Term Expires 2019
Stephen Dietemann	Term Expires 2020
Jonathan Hankin (Planning Board Member)	Term Expires 2017
Pedro Pachano (Planning Board Member)	Term Expires 2019
James Mercer (Historic Dist Com Member)	Term Expires 2019

Emergency Management Director

William R. Walsh, Jr.	Term Indefinite
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Energy Committee

Alana Chernila	Term Expires 2017
Brandee Nelson	Term Expires 2018

Fence Viewers

Kurt Barbieri	Term Expires 2017
Bernard Drew	Term Expires 2017

Fire Department

Charles Burger, Chief	Term Indefinite
Terrance Chamberland, Deputy Chief	Term Indefinite
Steven Hall, Deputy Chief	Term Indefinite
Edward G. McCormick, Deputy Chief, Resigned 2017	Term Indefinite
James Mead, Captain	Term Indefinite
Alan Anderson, Lieutenant	Term Indefinite

Fire Department (continued)

Robert Hammer, Jr. Lieutenant	Term Indefinite
Darryl Marks. Lieutenant	Term Indefinite
Joshua A. Seile, Lieutenant	Term Indefinite
Richard Aloisi	Term Indefinite
Justin Bona	Term Indefinite
Jacob Borden	Term Indefinite
Joseph Bozza	Term Indefinite
Marco Cando	Term Indefinite
James Carr	Term Indefinite
Elias Casey	Term Indefinite
Jessica Dezieck	Term Indefinite
Robert Gaughran	Term Indefinite
Randall Higgins	Term Indefinite
George Houghtlin	Term Indefinite
Sam Hungate	Term Indefinite
Christopher Laramee	Term Indefinite
Thomas Lovett, Jr.	Term Indefinite
Sean McMahon	Term Indefinite
Brian Mead	Term Indefinite
Mohamed Morell	Term Indefinite
Chris Nelson	Term Indefinite
Justin Osak	Term Indefinite
Matthew Pevzner	Term Indefinite
Michael Powell	Term Indefinite
James Reynolds	Term Indefinite
Louis Stark	Term Indefinite
Cameron Stephenson	Term Indefinite
Timothy Stevens	Term Indefinite
Joel Timm	Term Indefinite
John Woodard	Term Indefinite

Gas Inspector

Robert L. Gennari	Term Indefinite
Robert Krupski, Deputy	Term Indefinite

Health Agent

Jayne Smith, Resigned 2016

Term Indefinite

Health Inspector

L. Locke Larkin

Term Indefinite

Historical Commission

Paul Ivory

Term Expires 2017

William Nappo

Term Expires 2017

Marilyn Bisiewicz

Term Expires 2018

Gary Leveille

Term Expires 2018

Malcolm Fick

Term Expires 2018

Donald Howe

Term Expires 2019

David Rutstein

Term Expires 2019

Historic District Commission

Daniel Bailly- Resigned

Term Expires 2017

Abby Schroeder (Alternate)

Term Expires 2017

Barbara A. Syer

Term Expires 2017

Donald Howe

Term Expires 2018

Holly Troiano

Term Expires 2018

James Mercer

Term Expires 2019

Patricia Ryan

Term Expires 2017

Julie Fagan (Alternate)

Term Expires 2019

GB Technology Committee

Vacant

Term Indefinite

Great Barrington Housing Authority Director

Barbara Heaphy , Resigned 2017

Term Indefinite

Inspector of Buildings

Edwin May

Term Indefinite

Ned Baldwin, Alternate Asst.

Term Indefinite

Keeper of the Lock-up

William Walsh, Jr.

Term Indefinite

Lake Mansfield Improvement Task Force

Christine Ward, Chair	William Cooke	Deb Phillips
Nina Evans	Kathleen Plungis	Dale Abrams
Jessica Dezieck	Brandee Nelson	

Library Director

Amanda DeGiorgis	Term Indefinite
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Parking Clerk

Deborah Ball	Term Indefinite
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Parks Commissioners

Thomas Norton	Term Expires 2017
Kathleen Plungis	Term Expires 2017
Patricia Salvi	Term Expires 2017
Paul Gibbons, Chairman	Term Expires 2017
Karen Smith	Term Expires 2017
Anthony Troiano	Term Expires 2017
Stephen Bannon	Term Expires 2018
Charles Bouteiller	Term Expires 2018

Planning Board (Associate Member)

Pedro Rafael Pachano	Term Expires 2018
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Plumbing Inspector

Robert Krupski	Term Indefinite
Robert Gennari, Deputy	Term Indefinite

Police Officers

William Walsh, Jr., Chief	Term Indefinite
Paul Storti, Sergeant	Term Indefinite
Adam J. Carlotto, Sergeant	Term Indefinite
Kristopher M. Balestro	Term Indefinite
Daniel Bartini	Term Indefinite
James Bragdon	Term Indefinite
Jonathan Finnerty	Term Indefinite
Andreas Huertas	Term Indefinite

Police Officers (continued)

Richard Keefner	Term Indefinite
Jason LaForest	Term Indefinite
Christopher Peebles	Term Indefinite
Joseph A. O' Brien	Term Indefinite
Chad Shimmon	Term Indefinite
Samuel Stolzar	Term Indefinite
Timothy Ullrich	Term Indefinite
Victor Zucco	Term Indefinite

Police Officers, Special

Brian Arnold	Term Indefinite
Edward Hearn	Term Indefinite
Olivia Cobb	Term Indefinite

Police Officers, Details Only

Daniel Bersaw	Term Indefinite
Paul Harvey	Term Indefinite
Paul Montgomery	Term Indefinite
Timothy Roy	Term Indefinite
Craig Scott	Term Indefinite

Sanitary Inspector

Jayne Smith, Resigned 2016	Term Indefinite
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Sealer of Weights and Measures

Vacant	Term Indefinite
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Sign Officer

Edwin May	Term Indefinite
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Town Accountant

Robert Patterson	Term Indefinite
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Town Clerk

Marie Y. Ryan	Term Indefinite
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Town Collector

Karen Fink

Term Indefinite

Town Counsel

Kopelman & Paige

Town Manager

Jennifer Tabakin

Term Indefinite

Town Treasurer

Karen Fink

Term Indefinite

Tree Committee

Lisa Bozzuto

Term Expires 2017

Beth Moser

Term Expires 2017

Hilda Banks Shapiro

Term Expires 2019

Michael Wise

Term Expires 2019

Michael Peretti

Term Expires 2018

JB Brodeur

Term Expires 2019

Tree Warden

Michael Peretti

Term Indefinite

Truck Weighers

Daniel Bersaw

Term Indefinite

Paul Storti

Term Indefinite

Veteran's Agent

Laurie Hils

Term Indefinite

Wire Inspector

Theodore Piontek

Term Indefinite

Zoning Board of Appeals (Associate Members)

Donald Hagberg

Term Expires 2018

John Katz

Term Expires 2017

BUSINESS HOURS OF TOWN OFFICES

Assessor's Office	Monday-Friday	8:30 A.M.	4:00 P.M.
DPW Superintendent	Monday-Friday	8:30 A.M.	4:00 P.M.
Health Agent	Monday-Friday	8:30 A.M.	4:00 P.M.
Inspector of Buildings	Monday-Friday	8:30 A.M.	4:00 P.M.
Selectboard's Office	Monday-Friday	8:30 A.M.	4:00 P.M.
Town Accountant	Monday-Friday	8:30 A.M.	4:00 P.M.
Town Clerk	Monday-Friday	8:30 A.M.	4:00 P.M.
Town Collector/Treasurer	Monday-Friday	8:30 A.M.	4:00 P.M.
Town Manager's Office	Monday-Friday	8:30 A.M.	4:00 P.M.
Town Planner's Office	Monday-Friday	8:30 A.M.	4:00 P.M.
Transfer Center	Fri. 8 A.M. - 3 P.M.	Sat. 7 A.M. - 3 P.M.	Sun. 10 A.M. - 3 P.M.
Veteran's Office	Monday-Thursday	9:00 A.M.	12:00 P.M. (or by appointment)

COMMITTEE AND BOARD MEETING INFORMATION

(meetings are held at 334 Main Street, Town Hall unless otherwise specified)

Agricultural Commission	Call of Chair
Board of Assessors	As needed
Board of Health	First Thursday of each month at 7:00 P.M.
Selectboard	Typically 2 nd & 4 th Mondays at 7:00 P.M., call to verify
Cable Advisory Committee	First Monday of each month at 7:30 PM, location Varies
Cemetery Commission	Call of the Chair
Community Preservation Committee	Call of the Chair at GB Fire Station, 37 State Rd.
Conservation Commission	Fourth Wednesday of each month at 7:00 P.M.
Council on Aging	Last Wednesday of each month at 1:15 P.M. , Claire Teague Center Senior
Cultural Council	Call of the Chair
Design Advisory Committee	Call of the Chair
Energy Committee	Call of the Chair
Finance Committee	Call of the Chair
Historical Commission	Call of the Chair
Historic District Commission	Call of the Chair
Housing Authority	Third Thursday of each month at 2:15 P.M., 2 Bernard Gibbons Drive
Library Trustees	Second Thursday of each month at 5:30 P.M., at the Mason Library
Parks Commission	Second Monday of each month at 5:00 P.M., at the Mason Library
Planning Board	Second & Fourth Thursdays of each month at 7:00 P.M.
School Committee	Twice a month at 7:00 P.M., location to be determined for each meeting
Tree Committee	First Wednesday of each month at 5:15 P.M. at the Mason Library
Zoning Board of Appeals	Call of the Chair

REPORT OF THE SELECTBOARD AND TOWN MANAGER

The Town of Great Barrington has an open Town Meeting form of government, where all registered voters may attend Town Meeting to vote on legislative and budget matters. The Town's executive authority is held by a five-member elected Selectboard, who appoint a Town Manager to serve as the Chief Administrative Officer. The Selectboard sets goals, policy and long-range plans for the Town and exercises, through the Town Manager, general supervision over all matters affecting the Town's interest and welfare. For fiscal year 2016, the Selectboard elected Sean Stanton to serve as Chair and Stephen Bannon to serve as Vice Chair. Board members Stephen Bannon and Daniel Bailly were both reelected in the 2016 election.

Summer 2015: The Main Street Reconstruction Project was ongoing through the summer, with the work completed in early 2016. Concurrently, Great Barrington was active with summer events including: Summer Bandstand Series concerts, the Main Street Car Show, Dig and Dine party, Pet Parade, Main Street Artist Parade, Josh Billings Race, Rotary's Fly In, and Summer Fest, which was held at Butternut. The Farmer's Market moved to downtown Great Barrington in Iredale's parking lot. At Town Hall, the Selectboard and Finance Committee held a workshop to evaluate tax classification options to address affordability issues for residents; work progressed to complete an overhaul of the Town's web site; and new programs that offered on line bill payments were implemented. In addition to providing traffic details during construction, the Police Department addressed public safety issues with an increased focus on speeding enforcement, started a new parking enforcement plan and led a campaign to promote gun locks.

Fall 2015: Several construction milestones were achieved including: completion of the paving of Alford Road; the completion of the first phase of the Wastewater Treatment plant renovation; design of the George Street culvert; and design of the Front Street drainage project. Work on Dewey Courthouse was ongoing and Main Street work was wrapping up. The Planning Board completed the plan to rezone the village of Housatonic, to preserve its historic scale and encourage appropriately- scaled development. The 2015 holiday season in Great Barrington was boosted by the donation from Great Barrington Rotary that sponsored holiday lights for the Town. In December, newly-elected Governor Baker and Lieutenant Governor Karyn Polito visited Great Barrington Town Hall for the signing of the community compacts shared-service agreement, which brought together 17 Berkshire towns.

Winter 2016: The Selectboard held several special permit hearings and approved the development of the Barrington Hotel at the former Searles High School. In the winter, the Regional Agreement Amendment Committee, with members from Great Barrington, Stockbridge and West Stockbridge met to focus on legal updates and cost sharing issues. In March, Ramsdell Library was opened on Sundays for a pilot program.

Spring 2016: The Town received a \$2.1 million dollar Mass Works Grant for the rehabilitation of the Bridge Street corridor and received an additional \$1.5 million dollar commitment from Mass DOT to renovate the Bridge Street Bridge. Paving was completed on Park, Quarry, Pine, Crosby, Grove, Humphrey, and Higgins Streets. Work on the North Plain Road retaining wall was finished. Environmental evaluation and monitoring at the former Reid Cleaners started, with funding from Mass Development. Members of the Downtown Improvement District Steering Committee coordinated an outreach campaign, with a consultant, hired with funds from the Massachusetts Downtown Initiative Program. KZLA, Landscape Architects, led a public outreach effort, coordinated by the Lake Mansfield Improvement Task Force, to seek input in the design of the Lake Mansfield Improvement Plan. The Board of Health and the Police Department took leading roles in several opioid abuse prevention task forces and partnered with the Railroad Street Youth on study of substance abuse prevention. Over 90 trees were planted on Main Street. The Mass DOT presented the design for the Park Street Bridge. The Selectboard took action with the Rest of River Committee to demand that the EPA's permit to General Electric to clean up the Housatonic River mandate that contamination be stored in a licensed out of state facility.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Tabakin

Town Manager

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF ASSESSORS

To the Honorable Selectboard:

The following is a report from the Assessors for the Fiscal Year 2016.

Fiscal Year 2016 Recapitulation:

A. <u>Total Appropriations to be Raised by Taxation</u>	\$ 27,674,125.00	
B. 1. Other Amounts to be Raised by Taxation	168,470.23	
2. State & County Cherry Sheet Charges	71,366.00	
3. Overlay	<u>165,277.22</u>	
Total Amount to be Raised		\$ 28,079,238.45

C. <u>Estimated Sources Appropriated</u>		
Estimated Receipts – State Cherry Sheet	\$ 1,026,035.00	
Total Estimated State Receipts		<u>\$1,026,035.00</u>

Estimated Receipts – Local

1. Motor Vehicle	\$420,000.00	
2. Other Excise (Meals & Room)	\$470,000.00	
3. Penalties & interest on taxes & excise	\$40,000.00	
4. Payment in lieu of taxes	\$2,000.00	
5. Rentals	\$117,062.00	
6. Dept. of Revenue-libraries	\$15,000.00	
7. Dept. of Revenue-cemeteries	\$10,000.00	
8. Other Dept. of Revenue	\$350,938.00	
9. Licenses & Permits	\$55,000.00	
10. Fines & Forfeits	\$35,000.00	
11. Investment Income	\$20,000.00	
	\$ 1,525,000.00	
12. Enterprise Funds	<u>\$ 1,888,023.00</u>	<u>\$ 1,888,023.00</u>

D. Revenue Sources Appropriated for Particular Purposes:

1. Free Cash	\$0	
2. Other Available Funds	\$152,536.00	
Total Available Funds		<u>\$152,536.00</u>

E. Other Revenue Sources Appropriated to Reduce the Tax Rate

1. Free Cash appropriated before 6-30-14	\$2,350,000.00	
2. Other Source	\$11,641.00	<u>\$ 2,361,641.00</u>

F. Total Estimated Receipts & Other Revenue Sources \$8,270,375.00

Tax Rate Summary FY 2016

A. Total Amount to be Raised \$26,462,862.11

A. Revenue Sources \$ 8,270,375.00

B. Total Real & Personal Property Tax Levy \$19,808,863.45

TAX RATE FISCAL YEAR 2016

<u>CLASS</u>	<u>LEVY BY %</u>	<u>VALUATION BY CLASS</u>	<u>TAX RATE</u>	<u>LEVY BY CLASS</u>
RESIDENTIAL	78.8525%	\$1,093,057,135	14.29	\$15,619,786.46
OPEN SPACE	0	0	0	0
COMMERCIAL	17.2842%	\$239,594,572	14.29	\$3,423,806.43
INDUSTRIAL	0.7775%	\$10,776,922	14.29	\$154,002.22
<u>PERS. PROPERTY</u>	<u>3.0858%</u>	<u>\$42,775,951</u>	<u>14.29</u>	<u>\$611,268.34</u>
TOTALS	100.0000%	\$1,386,204,580		\$19,808,863.45

TAX RATE FISCAL YEAR 2015

<u>CLASS</u>	<u>LEVY BY %</u>	<u>VALUATION BY CLASS</u>	<u>TAX RATE</u>	<u>LEVY BY CLASS</u>
RESIDENTIAL	78.7144%	\$1,078,780,208	13.72	\$14,800,864.45
OPEN SPACE	0	0	0	0
COMMERCIAL	17.5923%	\$241,102,060	13.72	\$3,307,920.26
INDUSTRIAL	0.7826%	\$10,725,322	13.72	\$147,151.42
<u>PERS. PROPERTY</u>	<u>2.9107%</u>	<u>\$39,891,544</u>	<u>13.72</u>	<u>\$547,311.98</u>
TOTALS	100.0000%	\$1,370,499,134		\$18,803,248.11

TEN LARGEST TAXPAYERS IN FISCAL YEAR 2016

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ASSESSED VALUE</u>	<u>AMOUNT OF TAX</u>
1. Big Y Foods, Inc	\$ 12,262,980	\$175,237.98
2. Massachusetts Electric Co.	\$10,758,200	\$153,734.68
3. Stockbridge Road Realty, LLC	\$9,548,350	\$136,445.92
4. KIMCO Great Barrington 609, Inc.	\$9,513,600	\$135,949.34
5. Berkshire Bank	\$7,764,600	\$110,956.13

TEN LARGEST TAXPAYERS IN FISCAL YEAR 2016 (continued)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ASSESSED VALUE</u>	<u>AMOUNT OF TAX</u>
6. Educational Consultants	\$7,715,500	\$105,886.13
7. Butternut Basin	\$6,252,750	\$89,351.80
8. KSNS Stockbridge Rd Realty Trust	\$5,583,350	\$79,786.07
9. Kenneth Alpart & Jennifer Bonjean	\$5,224,456	\$74,657.48
10. Beech Tree Apartments	\$5,215,300	\$74,526.64

FIRE DISTRICT TAX RATE FISCAL YEAR 2016

<u>CLASS</u>	<u>LEVY BY %</u>	<u>VALUATION BY CLASS</u>	<u>TAX RATE</u>	<u>LEVY BY CLASS</u>
RESIDENTIAL	67.1965%	\$477,836,253	13.72	\$14,800,864.45
OPEN SPACE	0	0	0	0
COMMERCIAL	29.4800%	\$209,632,738	13.72	\$3,307,920.26
INDUSTRIAL	0.5177%	\$3,681,622	13.72	\$147,151.42
<u>PERS. PROPERTY</u>	<u>2.8058%</u>	<u>\$19,951,822</u>	<u>13.72</u>	<u>\$547,311.98</u>
TOTALS	100.0000%	\$1,370,499,134		\$18,803,248.11

FIRE DISTRICT TAX RATE FISCAL YEAR 2015

<u>CLASS</u>	<u>LEVY BY %</u>	<u>VALUATION BY CLASS</u>	<u>TAX RATE</u>	<u>LEVY BY CLASS</u>
RESIDENTIAL	69.9738%	\$470,338,556	13.72	\$399,787.77
OPEN SPACE	0	0	0	0
COMMERCIAL	29.9079%	\$210,035,335	13.72	\$178,530.03
INDUSTRIAL	0.5162%	\$3,625,122	13.72	\$3,081.35
<u>PERS. PROPERTY</u>	<u>2.6021%</u>	<u>\$18,297,950</u>	<u>13.72</u>	<u>\$15,532.86</u>
TOTALS	100.0000%	\$702,272,693		\$596,932.01

Respectfully submitted,
Christopher J. Lamarre, MAA

Principal Assessor
Board of Assessors
Bruce Firger, Member
John Katz, Member

REPORT OF THE TOWN ACCOUNTANT

To the Honorable Selectboard:

I am honored to herewith submit my report as Town Accountant for fiscal 2016 which includes the following unaudited balance sheet as of June 30, 2016. Audited financial statements and other additional financial information will be made available on the Town website www.townofgb.org.

I would like to thank all Town Departments for their support during the year.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Patterson

Town Accountant

TOWN OF GREAT BARINGTON COMBINED BALANCE SHEET - (UNAUDITED)
JUNE 30, 2016

	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Enterprise WWTP	Trust	Debt	Total
<u>Assets</u>							
Cash and Investments	\$ 6,631,262	\$ 2,591,126	\$ 1,407,474	\$ 4,545,729	\$ 2,043,464	\$ -	\$ 17,219,055
Receivables:							
Property Taxes	771,771	-	-	-	-	-	771,771
Excises	151,039	-	-	-	-	-	151,039
Tax Liens	601,862	-	-	-	-	-	601,862
Tax Possessions	49,326	-	-	-	-	-	49,326
Departmental	157,048	40,512	-	432,771	-	-	630,331
Due From other Governments	-	571,315	11,518	-	-	-	582,833
Due From other Funds	8,110	-	-	-	-	-	8,110
Amount to be provided-Town	-	-	-	-	-	10,645,000	10,645,000
Total Assets	\$ 8,370,418	\$ 3,202,952	\$ 1,418,993	\$ 4,978,500	\$ 2,043,464	\$ 10,645,000	\$ 30,659,327
<u>Liabilities and Fund Equity</u>							
Liabilities:							
Warrants Payable	\$ 182,875	\$ 572,476	\$ 409,148	\$ 74,139	\$ 2,418	\$ -	\$ 1,241,055
Deferred Revenue	1,592,244	40,512	-	-	-	-	1,632,756
Accrued Liabilities	2,204	-	-	-	-	-	2,204
Due to other Funds	-	8,110	-	-	-	-	8,110
Other Liabilities	138,802	-	-	-	-	-	138,802
Landfill Closure	-	-	-	-	-	180,000	180,000
BANS/GANS Payable	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bonds Payable	-	-	-	-	-	10,465,000	10,465,000
Total Liabilities	\$ 1,916,125	\$ 621,097	\$ 409,148	\$ 74,139	\$ 2,418	\$ 10,645,000	\$ 13,667,927
<u>Fund Equity:</u>							
Retained Earnings	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,350,971	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,350,971
Reserve for Encumbrances	931,649	-	-	553,391	-	-	1,485,039
Reserve for Expenditures	2,150,000	2,553,991	-	-	-	-	4,703,991
Reserve for Endowments	-	-	-	-	281,665	-	281,665
Reserve for Capital Projects	-	-	1,009,845	-	-	-	1,009,845
Unreserved, Undesignated	3,343,576	27,863	-	-	1,759,381	-	5,130,820
Reserved Bond premium/debt	29,068	-	-	-	-	-	29,068
Designated for deficits	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Fund Equity	\$ 6,454,293	\$ 2,581,855	\$ 1,009,845	\$ 4,904,361	\$ 2,041,046	\$ -	\$ 16,991,400
Total Liabilities and Fund Equity	\$ 8,370,418	\$ 3,202,952	\$ 1,418,993	\$ 4,978,500	\$ 2,043,464	\$ 10,645,000	\$ 30,659,327

REPORT OF THE TREASURER/COLLECTOR

To the Honorable Selectboard:

I respectfully submit the following reports consisting of outstanding tax balances and monies collected by the Great Barrington Tax Collector's Office and Treasurer's Office for the Fiscal Year 2016.

I am honored to serve the people of the Town of Great Barrington and the Village of Housatonic as their Treasurer/Collector, and will continue to do my best to provide them with the best of services.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen D. Fink

Treasurer/Collector

TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON
Schedule of Taxes Receivable for Fiscal Year 2016

<u>Taxes</u>	<u>Balance 7/1/2015</u>	<u>Commitments</u>	<u>Abatements Adjustments</u>	<u>Transfers Tax Titles</u>	<u>Net Collections</u>	<u>Balance 6/30/2014</u>
Real Estate						
2016	-	19,201,048.99	(78,576.33)	(142,281.95)	(18,245,177.70)	735,013.01
2015	622,303.24	1,264.85	(39.31)	(56,106.01)	(567,422.77)	0.00
						-
	622,303.24	19,202,313.84	(78,615.64)	(198,387.96)	(18,812,600.47)	735,013.01
Personal Property						
2016		630,404.74	(582.37)		(611,147.32)	18,675.05
2015	24,933.80		(263.20)		(17,252.83)	7,417.77
2014	7,051.25				(3,228.37)	3,822.88
2013	4,314.35				(703.30)	3,611.05
2012	4,057.98				(1,318.90)	2,739.08
2011	2,544.71				(2,104.49)	440.22
2010	345.18				(310.86)	34.32
2009	329.57				(311.81)	17.76
	43,576.84	630,404.74	(845.57)	-	(636,377.88)	36,758.13
Motor Vehicle						
2016	-	772,522.37	(13,567.74)		(708,918.36)	50,036.27
2014/2015	64,402.78	85,806.46	(5,340.59)		(127,280.42)	17,588.23
2013	5,190.23				(1,193.35)	3,996.88
2012	5,995.85				(791.04)	5,204.81
2011	5,597.52				(357.19)	5,240.33
2010	4,605.10				(55.52)	4,549.58
2009	5,345.21					5,345.21
2008	7,223.88					7,223.88
2007	6,096.48				(26.25)	6,070.23
2006	4,748.03					4,748.03
2005	5,912.72					5,912.72
2004	4,935.74					4,935.74
2003	4,432.27	62.81			(90.31)	4,404.77
2002	4,951.80				(27.50)	4,924.30
2001	4,811.58				(5.00)	4,806.58
2000	3,514.19				(16.25)	3,497.94
1999	4,205.86				(27.50)	4,178.36
1998	8,400.33				(25.00)	8,375.33
1981-1997		91.56			(91.56)	-
	150,369.57	858,483.20	(18,908.33)	-	(838,905.25)	151,039.19
Other Collections				Sewer Collections		
Municipal Lien Certificates		6,275.00		User Fees	1,655,954.61	
Tag Sale Permits		340.00		Nightsoil	264,671.00	
Parking Tickets		3,550.00		Connections	9,400.00	
Parking Ticket Late Penalties		280.00		Penalties	21,799.14	
Mark & Clear Charges		5,040.00		Liens	70,675.71	
Demand & Warrant Fees		19,970.00				
I & E PENALTIES		29,400.00		Recycling	35,088.63	

TOWN TREASURER REPORT OF RECEIPTS FISCAL YEAR 2016
JULY 1, 2015 to JUNE 30, 2016

STATE TREASURER

State Owned Land	\$	188,519.00
Abatement to Blind	\$	-
Abatements to Elderly	\$	10,917.00
Abatements to Veterans	\$	2,637.00
Lottery	\$	699,614.00
Hotel/Motel Tax	\$	490,448.98
Meals Tax	\$	283,722.11
Other Revenue	\$	116,528.00
Fines & Forfeitures	\$	11,907.50
Total State Revenue	\$	1,804,293.59

TAX COLLECTOR

Personal Property Taxes	\$	636,403.74
Real Estate Taxes	\$	18,815,267.40
Motor Vehicle Excise	\$	838,096.32
Interest Penalties	\$	125,622.27
Collector's Fees	\$	19,970.00
I & E Penalties	\$	29,700.00
Municipal Lien Certificate	\$	6,275.00
Tag Sale Permits	\$	340.00
Parking Tickets	\$	3,550.00
Parking Late Fees	\$	280.00
Mark & Clear Fees	\$	5,040.00
Research Charges	\$	1,857.00
Misc. Other	\$	27,101.13
Recycling Fees	\$	35,088.63
Total	\$	20,544,591.49

TOWN TREASURER

Tax Liens Redeemed	\$	217,082.70
Penalties on Tax Liens	\$	81,991.25
Payment in lieu of Taxes	\$	24,518.34
Earnings on Investments	\$	23,912.19
Bad check charge	\$	-
Bond interest	\$	1,984.38
Premium form sale of bond	\$	30,045.82
Sale of Foreclosed Land	\$	20,000.00
Misc. Other	\$	195,197.57
Total	\$	594,732.25

SELECTBOARD

Alcohol Licenses	\$	47,264.00
Other Licenses & Permits	\$	16,007.89
Total	\$	63,271.89

TOWN CLERK

Birth Certificates	\$	5,775.00
Marriage Certificates	\$	2,075.00
Death Certificates	\$	6,400.00
Dog Licenses	\$	8,805.00
UCC Filing Fees	\$	3,650.00
Marriage Intentions	\$	2,100.00
Other	\$	1,593.80
Total	\$	30,398.80

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Permits	\$	2,386.43
Alarms	\$	40,750.00
Mutual Aid	\$	5,200.00
Insurance Reports	\$	1,161.00
Revolving Fund Charges	\$	17,054.25
Drug Reimbursement		
Total	\$	66,551.68

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Building Inspector	\$	183,050.07
Weights & Measures	\$	1,810.00
Total	\$	184,860.07

LIBRARY

Fees	\$	6,456.82
Fines	\$	15,645.34
Ramsdell Computer	\$	-
Total	\$	22,102.16

OTHER DEPARTMENTS

Historic District Commission	\$	240.00
Zoning Board of Appeals	\$	600.00
Assessors	\$	1,141.82
Conservation Commission	\$	1,150.00
Planning Board	\$	1,325.00
Planning/Community Development	\$	500.00
Board of Health	\$	51,073.50
Fire Department	\$	14,699.42
Cemetery	\$	17,024.76
Total	\$	87,754.50

GENERAL FUND RECEIPTS TOTAL

State Revenues	\$	1,804,293.59
Tax Collector	\$	20,544,591.49
Treasurer	\$	594,732.25
Other Departments	\$	87,754.50
Selectboard	\$	63,271.89
Town Clerk	\$	30,398.80
Police Department	\$	66,551.68
Building Inspections	\$	184,860.07
Library	\$	22,102.16
Revolving Funds	\$	6,167.13
Total Receipts General Fund	\$	23,404,723.56

REVOLVING FUND RECEIPTS

Electrical Inspector	\$	3,749.12
Gas Inspector	\$	1,057.01
Plumbing	\$	1,361.00
Total	\$	6,167.13

SEWER ENTERPRISE FUND

User Fees	\$	1,726,630.32
Connection Fees	\$	9,400.00
Septic Nightsoil	\$	264,671.00
Interest Income	\$	14,090.74
Interest Penalties	\$	21,799.14
MWPAT revenue	\$	9,557.78
Returns & refunds	\$	16,425.14
Sewer Rate Relief	\$	-
Bond Premium	\$	21,007.91
Total Receipts Sewer	\$	2,083,582.03

Respectfully submitted,

Karen D. Fink
Town Treasurer

FISCAL YEAR 2016 POLICE PAYROLL

NAME	SALARY	OVERTIME*	REVOLVING**	TOTAL
Balestro, Kristopher	\$ 65,988.82	\$ 11,877.47	\$ 12,238.42	\$ 90,104.71
Bartini, Daniel	\$ 31,186.72	\$ 8,549.24	\$ 30,358.49	\$ 70,094.45
Bragdon, James	\$ 65,628.81	\$ 7,356.78	\$ -	\$ 72,985.59
Carlotto, Adam	\$ 65,311.69	\$ 34,330.08	\$ 19,402.96	\$ 119,044.73
Finnerty, Jonathan	\$ 63,453.57	\$ 17,549.95	\$ 6,059.64	\$ 87,063.16
Keefner, Richard	\$ 68,847.66	\$ 4,971.12	\$ 8,853.48	\$ 82,672.26
LaForest, Jason	\$ 63,830.96	\$ 14,004.54	\$ 21,544.30	\$ 99,379.80
Montgomery, Paul	\$ 60,873.78	\$ 14,948.91	\$ 59,403.26	\$ 135,225.95
O'Brien, Joseph	\$ 67,106.47	\$ 15,823.72	\$ 7,249.45	\$ 90,179.64
Peebles, Christopher	\$ 60,367.99	\$ 17,626.53	\$ 726.72	\$ 78,721.24
Shimmon, Chad	\$ 64,574.23	\$ 30,012.28	\$ 8,904.46	\$ 103,490.97
Stolzar, Samuel	\$ 61,924.79	\$ 32,014.03	\$ 1,453.44	\$ 95,392.26
Storti, Paul	\$ 81,820.43	\$ 38,311.31	\$ 4,214.20	\$ 124,345.94
Storti, Ryan	\$ 60,280.81	\$ 5,538.87	\$ 5,259.84	\$ 71,079.52
Ullrich, Timothy	\$ 68,042.38	\$ 25,323.67	\$ 18,045.55	\$ 111,411.60
Walsh, William Jr.	\$ 86,645.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 86,645.00
Zucco, Victor	\$ 71,973.30	\$ 12,055.65	\$ 3,252.48	\$ 87,281.43
TOTAL	\$ 1,107,857.41	\$ 290,294.15	\$ 206,966.69	\$ 1,605,118.25

NAME	SPECIAL DETAIL	REVOLVING	TOTAL
Arnold, Bryan	\$ 2,842.66	\$ -	\$ 2,842.66
Bersaw, Daniel	\$ -	\$ 22,629.40	\$ 22,629.40
Congdon, Richard	\$ 181.68	\$ 14,174.33	\$ 14,356.01
Gardella, Richard	\$ -	\$ 16,927.30	\$ 16,927.30
Griffin, Dalton	\$ 17,805.04	\$ 17,644.52	\$ 35,449.56
Harvey, Paul	\$ -	\$ 6,154.59	\$ 6,154.59
Hearn, Edward	\$ 5,191.06	\$ 1,090.08	\$ 6,281.14
Huertas, Andres	\$ 12,945.76	\$ -	\$ 12,945.76
Quinto, Ryan	\$ 865.32	\$ -	\$ 865.32
Roy, Timothy	\$ 132.02	\$ 3,020.43	\$ 3,152.45
Scott, Craig	\$ -	\$ 24,278.12	\$ 24,278.12
TOTAL	\$ 39,963.54	\$ 105,918.77	\$ 145,882.31

* Overtime includes State Grants.

** Revolving is paid by outside contractors.

FISCAL YEAR 2016
PERSONS TO WHOM MAONEY WAS PAID, NON-SALARY OR WAGES OVER \$600.00

5-Alarm Fire	\$	3,069.95	Berk. Regional Planning Comm.	\$	541,168.17
20 Castle Street	\$	32,516.03	Berk. South Community Ctr.	\$	68,349.22
A & A Cemetery	\$	850.00	Berkshire Stump Grinding	\$	980.00
A. W. Chesterton	\$	884.64	Big Toys	\$	20,370.41
Adam Carlotto	\$	1,783.52	Big Y Foods	\$	3,487.12
Adam Medina	\$	982.14	Blackstone Audio Books	\$	5,714.71
Adams Plumbing and Heating	\$	184,559.18	Bluetarp Financial, Inc.	\$	1,996.04
Aerial Testing Company	\$	2,458.15	Bobby Sweet	\$	650.00
AFLAC	\$	29,653.08	Borden & Remington, Corp.	\$	21,907.09
AFSCME Council 93	\$	12,623.64	Boston Mutual Life Insurance	\$	7,369.10
Air Equipment	\$	783.00	Boston Mutual Insurance	\$	2,785.80
Alert Scientific	\$	680.00	Brentwood Industries, Inc.	\$	2,324.20
All American Fence	\$	700.00	C.N. Wood, Inc	\$	1,362.98
Amazon	\$	3,016.28	CSS Ventures	\$	37,731.00
Amer. Aluminum Accessories	\$	1,236.31	CTC Inc.	\$	2,450.00
American Legion Post #298	\$	2,760.00	C.T. Swicker	\$	1,040.97
American Ramp Company	\$	1,568.62	C.W. Mars	\$	23,615.00
Anthony Barnaba	\$	897.08	Caligary Supply	\$	1,427.43
Applied Concepts, Inc.	\$	14,412.00	Canaan Auto Supply	\$	19,430.45
Arthur P. Jones & Associates	\$	12,882.00	Carberry Auto Parts	\$	1,333.22
Atlantic Coast Polymers	\$	5,198.60	Carlson Auto Body	\$	1,498.80
Automated Logic Corp.	\$	1,731.70	Carolyn Calandro	\$	1,023.00
Automatic Door Doctor	\$	1,012.90	Carr Hardware & Supply	\$	12,619.43
B-G Mechanical Service	\$	4,870.45	Carrott Top Industries	\$	2,813.80
Baker & Taylor	\$	1,052.59	Center for Ecological Technology	\$	4,086.00
Bart Truck Equipment Co.	\$	8,310.00	Center Point Large Print	\$	2,608.80
Barthe & Wahrman	\$	3,000.00	Century Bank	\$	376,083.33
Bay State Elevator	\$	7,515.57	Chad Shimmer	\$	953.62
Beaver Solutions	\$	648.00	Charles Brown	\$	3,868.25
Ben Funk	\$	6,137.67	Charles Burger	\$	1,565.00
Benjamin Corbett	\$	1,000.00	Christine Faber	\$	1,695.00
Benson Crane Service	\$	2,940.00	Christopher Lamarre	\$	1,445.58
Berenson & Bloom	\$	15,224.24	Christopher Rembold	\$	1,370.29
Berk. Center for Justice	\$	1,000.00	Chubb & Son	\$	70,707.00
Berkshire Communicators	\$	930.00	Cintas	\$	8,740.82
Berk. County Retirement Syst.	\$	1,022,674.19	City of North Adams	\$	600.00
Berk. County Sheriff's Dept.	\$	1,160.43	Clare O'Brien	\$	1,242.24
Berkshire Engineering	\$	1,540.00	Clark & Green, Inc.	\$	23,810.00
Berkshire Gas	\$	29,303.23	Clayton Davenport Trucking	\$	30,057.67
Berkshire Graphics	\$	1,223.59	Clifton Park Welding	\$	5,686.00
Berkshire Health Group	\$	1,368,952.00	Colarusso Blacktop	\$	15,879.86
Berk. Hills Reg. School Dist.	\$	13,524,704.00	Commonwealth of MA	\$	1,180.00
Berkshire Medical Center	\$	1,595.00	Comm. of MA Dept. Env. Protect	\$	980.00
Berk. Public Health Alliance	\$	1,000.00	Comm. MA Dept. Crim. Justice	\$	5,350.00
Berkshire Record	\$	13,253.36	Comm. of MA Unemploy. Asst.	\$	9,623.58
Community Health Programs	\$	3,500.00	Franklin Paint Co.	\$	1,304.63
Comm. Preservation Coalition	\$	1,750.00	Frost Manufacturing	\$	1,145.87
Communtiy Software Consortium	\$	2,300.00	Full Circle Technologies	\$	21,705.00
Concept Seating	\$	1,261.00	Fuss & O'Neill	\$	36,933.03
Construct	\$	1,800.00	Future Supply Company	\$	1,712.17
Corstal Traffic Inc.	\$	6,876.00	Gall's Inc.	\$	744.00

Cranes Outdoor Power Equip.	\$	19,270.50	Gallagher Fluid Seal	\$	1,320.62
Critical Knowledge Inc.	\$	1,875.00	Garrison Fire & Rescue	\$	670.88
Cummins Northeast	\$	1,504.59	General Code	\$	1,195.00
D. E. Wilber Elect. Contract.	\$	7,619.02	General Code Publishers	\$	5,830.00
Daedalus Inc.	\$	22,190.00	Gennari Plumbing & Heating	\$	931.24
David Grover	\$	4,000.00	Gentlemen's Painting	\$	770.00
David Lotto	\$	1,569.00	Gilmore's Heating, Plumbing A/C	\$	30,805.42
David Prickett Consulting	\$	65,116.40	Gorham & Norton	\$	921.20
Delsignore Blacktop Paving Inc.	\$	62,025.83	Grainger	\$	6,625.81
Demco	\$	4,076.50	Great Barrington Auto Supply	\$	2,810.44
Dist. Dept. of Vets Services	\$	29,739.00	Great Barrington Bagel	\$	648.50
Donovan & O'Connor	\$	3,118.46	Gt. Barrington Fire Distriect	\$	695,431.47
Dr. Claire Blanchard	\$	1,088.15	Gt. Barrington Historical Society	\$	45,000.00
Dresser-Hull Co.	\$	1,663.75	Great Barrington Land Conserv.	\$	1,000.00
Dukes Root Control	\$	4,999.72	Great Barrington Police Assoc.	\$	4,750.00
E. Caligari & Son Inc.	\$	10,175.21	Great West Life	\$	122,937.09
ECO Genesis	\$	993.24	Guardian Energy Mgmt. Solutions	\$	27,750.00
EDC Educational Services	\$	638.83	Guardian Uniform & Supply	\$	24,385.34
Eagle Shoe Repair	\$	8,269.95	Grundfos	\$	2,552.29
East Coast Containers	\$	4,800.00	Hannon Lerner	\$	1,290.00
Edwin May	\$	1,545.01	Hacros Chemicals	\$	23,700.60
Elder Services	\$	1,000.00	Haupt Tree Company	\$	53,698.83
Election Systems & Software	\$	758.67	Health Resources	\$	1,649.60
Elizabeth Freeman Center	\$	2,300.00	Herrington's	\$	3,955.25
Emerg. Services Marketing	\$	800.00	Hi-Way Safety Systems Inc.	\$	2,538.74
Employers Assoc. of the N. East	\$	994.00	High Pressure Systems	\$	1,280.00
Envirosystems, Inc.	\$	5,906.00	Holland Company	\$	3,600.00
Eustis Chair	\$	10,473.50	Honda Lease Trust	\$	950.53
F.M. Generator	\$	1,750.00	Hous. Basin Sampling & Testing	\$	1,740.00
F. R. Mahoney & Associates	\$	1,201.04	Housatonic Water Works	\$	36,208.47
Facility Dude	\$	2,139.16	Humane Restraint	\$	725.20
Fastenal Company	\$	1,135.68	I & C Systems Engineering	\$	7,866.00
Fiber Connect	\$	1,188.00	Individual Laundry	\$	730.00
Finnerty & Stevens Funeral	\$	2,000.00	Industrial Protection Services	\$	960.99
Fire Tech & Safety	\$	7,202.72	Ingram Library Services	\$	46,960.69
Firematic Manufacturing	\$	3,941.00	Insite Instrumental Group	\$	1,718.00
Firematic Supply Co.	\$	11,728.00	Institute of Police	\$	2,850.00
Fisher Scientific	\$	4,664.80	Integration Partners Corp.	\$	730.00
Flying Cloud Institute	\$	1,000.00	International Acad. Emerg. Serv.	\$	1,085.00
Foremost Promotions	\$	1,860.76	J.F. McDermott Co.	\$	5,745.84
Foresight Land Services	\$	3,350.00	J. H. Maximillian Inc.	\$	2,515.00
Fort Miller Co.	\$	13,950.00	J & J Lock	\$	7,709.00
JWC Environmental	\$	10,948.54	Macfarlane Office Products	\$	7,653.83
Jacquier Welding	\$	5,800.54	Madsen Overhead Door	\$	5,386.30
James Schumacher	\$	1,077.06	Mahaiwe Chiropractic	\$	1,020.00
Jayne Smith	\$	1,747.81	Mahaiwe Performing Arts	\$	30,000.00
Jennifer Tabakin	\$	2,139.17	Maintenance Man, Inc.	\$	12,750.00
Jeffrey Homeyer	\$	627.36	Malcom Fick	\$	990.00
Jerry Smith	\$	5,842.00	Marcotte Ford Sales, Inc.	\$	3,615.97
Joe Wilkenson Excavating	\$	90,992.06	Margaret Cherin	\$	875.00
Joe's Mobile Repair Service	\$	3,492.50	Margery Kirchner	\$	3,053.84
John Guilfoil Public Relations	\$	1,600.00	Marie Ryan	\$	1,716.58
John S. Lane Construction	\$	3,637.67	Markings, Inc.	\$	18,384.06
John's Garage	\$	9,324.93	MA Chiefs of Police	\$	1,084.00
Johnson Packings	\$	2,640.28	MA Coalition of Police	\$	8,496.00

Julia Gottlieb	\$	1,650.60	MA Div. of Unemployment	\$	3,565.84
Junior Library Guild	\$	2,217.25	MA Library Association	\$	3,000.00
Jurek Brothers	\$	3,675.00	MA Library System	\$	3,000.00
KME Fire Apparatus	\$	37,016.32	MA Municipal	\$	2,205.00
Karl Bergman	\$	2,010.47	MA Police Accreditation	\$	1,275.00
Kathi Casey	\$	600.00	Masiom Corporation	\$	15,000.00
Kelly, Grainger & Parsons	\$	1,800.00	Matilda Mann	\$	920.00
Kofile Preservation	\$	3,500.00	Matthew Bender & Company	\$	4,020.33
Komline-Sanderson	\$	3,379.28	Mayflower Valuation LTD	\$	8,900.00
Konica Minolta Business	\$	10,527.33	Meadow Farm LLC	\$	1,232.00
Kopelman & Paige	\$	58,143.64	Melanson Heath & Co.	\$	21,500.00
Kwik Print	\$	9,297.33	Microbac Laboratories	\$	2,004.00
Kyle Zick Landscaping	\$	36,800.00	Midwest Tapes	\$	24,244.09
L.B. Corp.	\$	557,862.53	Miller's Petroleum	\$	10,725.76
L. A. Police Gear	\$	1,355.64	Millerton Co-Op Inc.	\$	691.93
L. Locke Larkin	\$	812.97	Moore Medical Corp.	\$	630.86
Lane Construction Corp.	\$	133,061.20	Morphotrust USA	\$	29,529.00
Larkin Ltd. Auto Detailing	\$	2,590.00	Morton Salt	\$	91,854.38
Lauren Sartori Hobgood	\$	1,011.63	Motion Industries	\$	2,222.71
Law Enforcement Dimensions	\$	1,885.00	Motorola Inc.	\$	8,100.18
Lawrence Charette Electric	\$	1,571.00	Mount Everett Sanitation	\$	5,185.00
Lawson Products Inc.	\$	1,574.17	Municipal Emergency Serv.	\$	7,543.77
Lee Audio 'N Security	\$	8,795.95	Murals Your Way	\$	840.75
Lee Hardware	\$	9,132.90	Murphy & Company	\$	1,845.53
LHS Associates	\$	4,088.85	N.E Environmental	\$	23,949.00
Lipton Energy	\$	54,736.99	N.E. Interstate Pollution Ctrl.	\$	670.00
Locke Lord LLP	\$	27,500.00	Nancy Boden	\$	1,096.94
Louis Juska	\$	690.00	Nathan Spangler	\$	993.41
Lubrication Engineers	\$	2,796.20	National Grid	\$	329,486.83
M. Mahoney	\$	635.90	Neopost	\$	21,317.58
MHQ Municipal Vehicles	\$	216,587.00	New England Clerk's Institute	\$	925.00
MIIA	\$	889.95	New England Newspapers Inc.	\$	1,453.40
MIIA Property & Casualty	\$	136,223.25	Nick Kachulis	\$	600.00
MIIA Workers' Comp.	\$	35,135.91	Nicole Siomos	\$	962.86
MM Brandston & Co.	\$	3,000.00	Northeast Fasteners	\$	860.50
Northeast Slope Mowing	\$	2,000.00	Shamrock Pipe Tools Inc.	\$	906.62
O'Connell Oil Assoc.	\$	38,042.07	Shepley Evans	\$	1,497.06
Olde Village Monogramming	\$	1,564.20	Shipman's Fire Equipment	\$	1,704.00
Office of the Inspector General	\$	695.00	Shoppers' Guide	\$	3,084.50
Osterman Propane	\$	843.25	Simon's Rock College of Bard	\$	18,750.00
Ott to Print Green	\$	1,520.00	SimplexGrinnell	\$	7,368.02
PCMG	\$	3,441.86	So. Berk. Chamber of Comm.	\$	1,260.00
PMAM Corporation	\$	600.00	So. Berk. Elderly Trans.	\$	84,451.00
Patriot Freightliner	\$	192,408.26	So. Berkshire Power Equip.	\$	2,489.75
Paul Storti	\$	3,398.20	So. Berk. Registry of Deeds	\$	1,550.00
Penguin Management	\$	1,548.00	Standard & Poor's	\$	13,500.00
Penguin Random House	\$	833.91	Stantec Consulting Services	\$	11,600.00
Peoples' United Bank	\$	297,328.30	Staples	\$	4,495.34
Perma Line of New England	\$	15,144.36	Steve's Auto Repair	\$	3,903.56
Pitney Bowes	\$	2,923.66	Stockman Associates	\$	2,987.50
Pittsfield Communication Sys.	\$	9,667.75	Studio One	\$	6,565.92
Pittsfield Fire & Safety	\$	2,443.55	Superior Industrial	\$	3,664.33
Pittsfield News	\$	4,672.40	Superior Spring & Mfg.	\$	5,204.00
Pleasant & Main	\$	756.00	Synagro Northeast	\$	99,054.94
Plimpton & Hills	\$	1,920.07	Taser International	\$	1,340.19

Power America Cleaning	\$	4,470.00	Taylor Rental Center	\$	1,002.53
Preferred Print Solutions	\$	1,808.34	The Brien Center	\$	1,000.00
Priority Dispatch	\$	1,266.00	The Food Bank of W. MA	\$	845.00
Propet Distributors	\$	779.20	The Gorman Group	\$	1,213.34
Quill	\$	5,326.93	The Marketplace Kitchen	\$	1,638.76
R.I. Baker	\$	13,242.06	The Nutrition Center	\$	1,400.00
R.W.S Inc.	\$	1,520.00	Theresa Cronk Decker	\$	645.00
Railroad Street Youth Project	\$	1,600.00	Thomas Godwin	\$	2,180.00
Real Estate Research Consult.	\$	1,000.00	Thomas Schulz	\$	925.48
Recorded Books, Inc.	\$	1,628.22	Thomson Gale	\$	4,822.30
Red Technologies	\$	794.04	Tighe & Bond	\$	112,331.36
Republic Services #955	\$	2,229.14	Time Warner Cable	\$	6,622.76
Retrofit Technologies	\$	1,033.38	Toce Brothers	\$	1,744.64
Rd. Island Computer Museum	\$	600.00	Toni Bergins	\$	1,990.53
Ribco Supply	\$	1,747.88	Town of Great Barrington	\$	7,259.64
Richard Tilles	\$	2,566.00	Town of Egremont	\$	2,387.03
Robin Road Consulting	\$	8,984.57	Town of Lanesborough	\$	1,435.68
Rock-N-Rescue	\$	830.55	Town of Lee	\$	1,044.66
Roger Wall	\$	4,290.00	Town of Monterey	\$	39,038.25
S. & A. Wholesalers	\$	13,688.51	Town of New Marlboro	\$	4,240.12
SW Roofing & Gutters	\$	2,800.00	Town of Otis	\$	3,168.05
Safety First Fire Testing	\$	3,551.20	Town of Sheffield	\$	5,864.14
Safety -Kleen Corp.	\$	2,193.87	Town of Stockbridge	\$	1,440.12
Saint James Place	\$	135,000.00	Town of West Stockbridge	\$	6,570.11
School Outfitters	\$	3,466.56	Toyota Motor Credit	\$	1,103.67
Segal	\$	3,500.00	Tracey Faggioni	\$	2,273.84
Sentry Uniforms	\$	3,448.50	Tri-Town Paving	\$	4,620.00
Seward's Tires	\$	2,120.04	Tritech Software Systems	\$	16,265.00
Trustees of Tufts	\$	2,794.77	W.E. Aubuchon	\$	1,373.40
Tyler Technologies	\$	30,341.58	W. M. Schultz Construction	\$	1,946,034.67
US Bank NA	\$	1,561,294.91	WSS Inc.	\$	163,533.20
US Treasury DHHS, CMS	\$	2,136.10	Waco Products	\$	3,075.00
USA Bluebook	\$	2,567.30	Ward's Nursery	\$	7,903.03
Unibank Fiscal Advisory Services	\$	23,149.50	West Farm Equipment	\$	1,370.28
United States Treasury	\$	1,668.62	West Group	\$	2,709.73
Univar USA	\$	5,722.56	Wheeler & Taylor, Inc.	\$	4,662.31
University Conference Service	\$	879.40	Wildflowers	\$	620.00
VHB	\$	18,600.00	William H. Parsons	\$	4,000.00
Valley Communications	\$	780.00	William Walsh	\$	666.43
Valley Roll-Off	\$	26,677.20	Wise Company	\$	955.40
Verizon	\$	23,388.37	Witmer Pulic Safety Group	\$	3,322.43
Verizon Wireless	\$	13,088.16	Xavus Solutions	\$	1,200.00
Virtual Town Hall Holdings	\$	3,275.00	Xerox Corportation	\$	4,295.00
Volunteers in Medicine	\$	2,600.00	Zee Medical Service	\$	1,038.01
W. B. Mason Company	\$	16,671.51	Zwack, Inc.	\$	4,006.39
				TOTAL	\$ 26,732,356.59

Fiscal Year 2016
Salaries and Wages

Abrahams, Edward	\$	1,500.00	Dymek, Patricia	\$	157.00
Allen, William	\$	999.25	Ely, Paula	\$	57,715.74
Aloisi, Richard	\$	2,069.80	Erwin, Marie	\$	79.88
Anderson, Alan	\$	4,698.57	Evans, Shelpey	\$	27,076.48
Arienti, Judith	\$	117.00	Farmum, Susan	\$	151.00
Attarian, Cheryl	\$	28,442.79	Fields, William	\$	270.00
Atwood, Marlene	\$	157.50	Fink, Karen	\$	25,282.58
Atwood, Thomas	\$	999.50	Firger, Bruce	\$	600.00
Austin, Darryl	\$	56,907.71	Fitzpatrick, Kevin	\$	369.90
Avery, Maureen	\$	742.00	Flynn, Denise	\$	180.00
Bailly, Barbara	\$	716.75	Gaughran, Robert	\$	3,937.00
Bailly, Bruce	\$	283.50	Gennari, Robert	\$	9,540.74
Bailly, Daniel	\$	1,500.00	Germain, Roxanne	\$	7,004.00
Bailly, Jennifer	\$	40,093.25	Gibbons, Paul	\$	20.00
Ball, Deborah	\$	49,232.64	Gore, Bryan	\$	39,590.31
Ball, Michael	\$	51,779.19	Graham, Phyllis	\$	276.75
Bannon, Stephen	\$	1,500.00	Greene, Paul	\$	250.67
Bara, Irene	\$	20.00	Hall, Steven	\$	6,407.14
Barnaba, Anthony	\$	19,401.73	Hammer, Robert	\$	5,268.80
Barnard, Jane	\$	12,592.22	Harrison, Laurie	\$	42,015.98
Barry, Marion	\$	108.00	Hassett, Margaret	\$	23,790.00
Becker, Cara	\$	35,614.55	Higgins, Randall	\$	1,314.40
Bisiewicz, Marilyn	\$	54.00	Holcomb, Jeanne	\$	1,106.75
Bona, Justin	\$	5,624.55	Houghtlin, George	\$	2,609.80
Borden, Jacob	\$	1,364.00	Howe, Donald	\$	108.00
Bozza, Joseph	\$	2,774.50	Hungate, Robert	\$	2,466.90
Brinker, William	\$	1,500.00	Hunt, Edward	\$	13,207.68
Brown, Donna	\$	37,879.79	Ingram, William	\$	62,331.69
Burger, Charles	\$	71,495.00	Ivory, Carolyn	\$	63.00
Burt, Clinton	\$	34,169.26	Ivory, Paul	\$	270.00
Cando, Marco	\$	594.00	Jacobs, Laura	\$	800.00
Carr, James	\$	1,135.50	Jangrow, John	\$	6,376.26
Casey, Elias	\$	1,287.00	Jurczyk, Rebecca	\$	243.75
Chamberland, Terrence	\$	7,369.20	Katz, John	\$	600.00
Cooke, William	\$	1,500.00	Kelleher, Francine	\$	492.75
Coons, Christine	\$	265.00	Kelleher, John	\$	272.25
Coons, Linda	\$	15,051.00	Kinne, Cathleen	\$	63.00
Coons, Richard	\$	20.00	Kotleski, Kathleen	\$	117.00
Corbett, Judith	\$	117.00	Krupski, Robert	\$	13,654.34
Degiorgis, Amanda	\$	44,335.87	Kujawski, Patricia	\$	831.75
Dezieck, Jessisca	\$	225.00	Kuziemko, Helen	\$	52,307.74
Drew, Bernard	\$	1,420.43	Kuziemko, Matthew	\$	918.00
Drumm, Timothy	\$	74,222.00	Lagowski, Robert	\$	11,929.54
Dumont, Peter	\$	549.08	Lamarre, Christopher	\$	75,646.00
Dymek, Frederick	\$	117.00	Laramée, Christopher	\$	4,054.58
Larkin, L. Locke	\$	7,451.94	Rivest, Charles	\$	48,831.32
Larkin, Lois	\$	108.00	Rockefeller, Elizabeth	\$	48.00
Larkin, Sandra	\$	55,195.96	Rogers, Courtney	\$	252.00
Leodari, Talya	\$	43,012.61	Ryan, Marie	\$	50,728.00

Locke, Frances	\$	108.00	Ryce, Mary	\$	8,752.22
Louison, Barbara	\$	108.00	Santos, Linda	\$	108.00
Lovett, Thomas	\$	6,299.40	Sartori-Hobgood, Lauren	\$	94,681.00
Magelaner, Jessica	\$	30,005.75	Scapin, Victor	\$	64,270.50
Malumphy, John	\$	57,707.42	Seile, Joshua	\$	4,544.77
Mann, Pauline	\$	47,348.00	Shaw, Kimberly	\$	4,529.95
Marks, Darrel	\$	23,246.74	Shepardson, Sheila	\$	117.00
Martin, Dennis	\$	408.00	Shimmon, Michelle	\$	2,320.58
Martin, James	\$	15,266.28	Shimmon, Richard	\$	10,288.44
May, Edward	\$	59,749.00	Shimmon, Ryan	\$	3,420.85
McCormick, Edward	\$	2,077.60	Sicotte, Karen	\$	1,385.50
McFall, Molly	\$	14,386.13	Smith, Ellen	\$	9,994.98
McMahon, Sean	\$	3,890.50	Smith, Jayne	\$	54,000.00
McMeekin, Linda	\$	623.00	Smith, Karen	\$	3,434.00
Mead, Adam	\$	176.40	Smith, Terry	\$	148.00
Mead, Brian	\$	3,721.60	Sokul, Joseph	\$	81,417.99
Mead, James	\$	3,916.50	Soule, Margaret	\$	1,107.75
Meagher, Madonna	\$	117.00	Soules, David	\$	58,022.06
Meier, Elizabeth	\$	838.53	Soules, Lee	\$	48,353.46
Meltzer, Leslie	\$	34,536.13	Soules, Peter	\$	67,255.68
Montana, Peter	\$	39.30	Sparks, Corey	\$	47,283.60
Morelli, Bruce	\$	171.00	Sporn, Jay	\$	25,920.00
Morey, Jerry	\$	50,793.83	Stanton, Sean	\$	1,500.00
Moser, William	\$	638.75	Stark, Louis	\$	1,617.10
Needelman, Richard	\$	517.00	Stephenson, Cameron	\$	524.00
Nelson, Christopher	\$	2,614.90	Stevens, Timothy	\$	1,016.40
Osak, Justin	\$	1,644.30	Storti, Connor	\$	1,358.50
Ostrander, John	\$	48,158.29	Strommer, Carol	\$	39,815.88
Palumbo, Marc	\$	1,678.10	Strommer, Stephen	\$	912.00
Parsons, Stephen	\$	56,161.84	Tabakin, Jennifer	\$	123,165.65
Passetto, John	\$	137.00	Tarnawa, Francis	\$	7,500.00
Peretti, Michael	\$	5,000.00	Thomson, Charles	\$	56,664.71
Pevzner, Matthew	\$	59,650.33	Timm, Joel	\$	1,325.00
Pickert, Edward	\$	51,140.53	Tossavainen, John	\$	54.00
Piontek, Theodore	\$	38,675.79	Vacchina, Paul	\$	3,700.00
Premarlani, Frances	\$	148.00	Vogel, Terry	\$	58,207.62
Premarlani, Lawrence	\$	74.00	Walker, Terry	\$	379.50
Pulver, Amy	\$	22,477.55	Warner, Katherine	\$	28,669.93
Rackowski, Michelle	\$	639.04	Weigle, Travis	\$	45,185.78
Rembisz, Donald	\$	108.00	Wichmann, Carolyn	\$	34,661.19
Rembold, Christopher	\$	79,944.00	Woodard, John	\$	1,706.30
Reynolds, James	\$	197.40			
			TOTAL	\$	3,044,400.93

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

To the Honorable Selectboard:

The mission of the Great Barrington Finance Committee is to provide advice and assistance to the Town Manager, Selectboard and other Town officials on financial matters by efficiently identifying, analyzing and making recommendations on financial matters that have a material impact on the well-being of the Town of Great Barrington. Under the Town's bylaws, the Finance Committee "shall consider any and all financial questions for the purpose of making reports or recommendations to the Town," it shall hold a public hearing before Town meeting on any warrant article that proposes spending money or disposing of any town property, and it "shall meet quarterly to review receipts and expenditures of all departments under its jurisdiction." Under Massachusetts law, the Town finance committee recommends the budget to the Town meeting, and its approval is required to transfer money from the Town's reserve fund.

Highlights of the Finance Committee's work this year include:

- Tax policy: The Town manager and assessor presented a workshop on tax policy issues in August, 2015, particularly the variety of exemptions from property tax that are potentially available under state law. The Committee heard public comments on the implications of the residential exemption and "split rate" options at its August 20, 2015 meeting. The Committee voted to recommend that for FY2017 the Selectboard adopt a single rate and no residential exemption. The Committee also recommended that the Town expand the exemptions available to seniors under MGL Ch. 59, Sec. 5, Clause 41C to the statutory maxima, by raising the exemption amount to \$1000 and expanding eligibility by providing for an annual inflation adjustment to the income limit and raising the asset limits. These changes were endorsed by the Board of Assessors and presented to the annual Town Meeting, which adopted them.
- Health care and insurance costs: The Committee examined the Town's participation in the Berkshire Health Group and compared it to the other ways provided by state law for the Town to provide health care coverage for its employees. The Committee concluded, based on the briefing from Town staff, that participating in BHG spreads risks and costs and gains access to networks and expertise at reasonable cost. The management fee attributable to Great Barrington is low, and dealing directly with the insurer (Blue Cross-Blue Shield) might yield no financial savings or other advantages.
- Bylaw review: At the request of the Selectboard, the Committee examined the provisions of the Town code dealing with the Finance Committee and found none that should be changed.
- Reviews of spending and budget performance were carried out at the end of FY2015 and for the first and third quarters of FY2016. The mid-year review coincided, as usual, with the detailed reviews of the budget preparation process.
- Audit policy: The Committee voted to recommend to the Selectboard that, to implement a policy of rotating auditors periodically, the Town should request proposals for audit work from other providers after the current contract expires.
- Budget and spending comparisons with other Towns: The Committee considered a presentation about how Great Barrington's fiscal situation compares with other Towns in the state. In peer group of 15 Towns that are about the same size and in the same economic situation, Great Barrington stands out as the only "hub" Town: all the others are adjacent to much larger Towns or cities. Great Barrington is the largest (in area) and least densely populated, with an unusually extensive road network. It also has the lowest personal income. Great Barrington tends to spend more on police, public works, education, culture and general government, but less on fire protection, and it has relatively strong financial reserves (combining free cash and stabilization funds).
- Reserve fund transfers: The Committee approved four transfers from the reserve fund toward the end of the fiscal year: \$12,000 for unanticipated legal expenditures, \$5000 for training for three unanticipated new hires, \$5460 for parks and recreation for programming for an extra week of summer that had not been planned in the original budget, and up to \$7000, if needed, for the salary line for the Town treasurer to cover expenses due to the turnover in that office during the year.

- Finance Committee membership: In May 2016 the Committee thanked outgoing member Leigh Davis and welcomed new member Janet Lee.

Respectfully submitted:

Michael Wise, Chair

Walter F. Atwood, III
Thomas Blauvelt, Vice Chair
Will Curletti
Janet Lee

REPORT OF THE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

To the Honorable Selectboard:

The Commission has continued working with property owners and the community who are an integral part of the Historic District which focuses on parts of the Downtown.

- (1) Revised signage for various tenants at Castle and Main.
- (2) Revised signage for the Well.
- (3) Review of the proposed Demolition Delay bylaws.
- (4) Banners for the Berkshire International Film Festival.

The Commission also continues to review other Town properties which are significant entities in the Historic District.

- (1) Deteriorated Roof Railings at the Peak of the Mason Library are proposed to replace with new Synthetic Materials including flashings.

The Commission worked with Joseph Sokul to obtain an initial quote for repairs and restoration of the Brownstone Step at the front, right side and rear of Town Hall.

Proposals were also obtained for the periodic maintenance of the Winged Victory Statue and restoration including repairs of the Exedra Seating in the Front of Town Hall. This work will hopefully take place in the Fall of 2016.

We are still looking for candidates for the vacant position on our board for a regular member. The required positions of Building Owner, Realtor and Architect are currently represented.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald V Howe, Chair

James Mercer, Vice-Chair
Holly M Troiano, Secretary
Barbara A Syer, Member
Patricia Ryan, Alternate
Abby Schroder, Alternate

GREAT BARRINGTON HISTORICAL COMMISSION

To the Honorable Selectboard:

In FY16 the Historical Commission continued to carry out its charges under Massachusetts General Laws. Our activities focused on four strategic areas.

1. Fulfill the general purpose of the Historical Commission to protect and develop Great Barrington's historic resources.
 - Advocated the preservation of Searles High School building (1898)
 - >Assisted Selectboard draft preservation section of Special Permit Findings and Motions for 79 Bridge Street Realty to include maintenance of identifying architectural features that define its visual character and give the building its distinctive identity, rescue of architectural fragments and artifacts and documentation of interior and exterior of building.
 - >Prepared a request for architectural features and artifacts from the Gym and hyphens for deposit in the Town Historical Collection that the Commission believes would help represent and interpret these sections of the complex that are to be razed.
 - >Photographed Gym and attendant spaces to document their appearance and for deposit in the Town Historical Collection.
 - >Through letters, media releases, and comment at public meetings, advocated the preservation and adaptive use of the building.
 - >Based on belief that bylaw 7.10.2 was intended to preserve, not demolish, historic buildings, requested Town Counsel issue an opinion on the interpretation of the bylaw.
 - As part of a Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, commented on Empire Telecom's installation on Fairview Hospital, 29 Lewis Ave. The Commission reviewed their specifications and determined that the project will not adversely impact the building's historicity.
 - As a means to protect properties listed on the Historic Resources Survey, researched and drafted Demolition Delay Bylaw proposal for inclusion on town meeting warrant.
 - At the request of the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission and CDBG Program, and to ensure compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, completed site surveys, photography, basic research and evaluation of historic significance and impact of project work on architectural character of five residences scheduled for rehabilitation as part of the Great Barrington-Sheffield Housing Rehabilitation Program (funded by a FY14 Community Development Block Grant).
 - Submitted letter of support for Great Barrington Historical Society's application to the Massachusetts Cultural Council for a grant to fund measures insure compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and renovations for office and archival space at the Wheeler House Farmstead.
 - Provided research file on Castle St. pedestrian tunnel and over-structure to local architect exploring restoration of structure.
2. Manage and Care for Town Museum Collection
 - Explored alternatives for stabilizing fluctuations in the temperature and relative humidity in the Town Historical Collection storage and work areas on the second floor of the Ramsdell Library.
 - With funding from a CPA grant and a donation from the Great Barrington Historical Society, hired Daedalus Art Conservators to complete comprehensive conservation treatment of the Newsboy statue and pedestal (1895). Gilmore Heating and Plumbing cleaned the fountain water lines and installed a new re-circulating pump and Bailey Landscaping completed the first phase of a landscape restoration.
 - With the Great Barrington Historical Society, packed, inventoried and secured for future cataloguing and public access, 180 storage boxes of the Don Victor Collection, a unique and important photographic record of Great Barrington in the late 20th and early 21st centuries.
 - Hired part-time contract archivist to work with Commission members and other volunteers to continue management and care of Town Historical Collection, a sizable resource of objects, records and archival materials documenting the history of Great Barrington, located on the second floor of the Ramsdell Library

- Researched options and cost of preserving, scanning and digitizing Veterans Graves Books, compiled as part of a WPA project to record information about veterans' graves in town, and making them publicly accessible and searchable on-line.
- Organized an oral history program in which eight local women who grew up in Great Barrington to help identify the large number of wedding photographs in the Marie Tassone collection.

3. Market Historic Assets

- Develop programs that heighten public appreciation of the town's rich architectural and historical resources.
- Collaborated with the Sheffield and Great Barrington Historical Societies on special exhibition and talk, *Streetcar to Sheffield: History of the Berkshire Street Railway*, at the Sheffield Historical Society Old Stone Store. Exhibition included display of trolley rails and ties rescued by the Commission from Main Street reconstruction project, and a talk by Commission member Gary Leveille.
- Presented fourth year of Smartphone walking tour of Great Barrington's Main Street business district. The new edition was significantly updated in visual quality and the addition of period photo images and an option of a Great Barrington Trails 3 1/2 mile route around the town.
- Established link to Commission's Facebook page on Town website.
- Commission member David Rutstein lead a walking tour of the history and buildings in the vicinity of the Town Hall.

4. Historic Preservation: Promote the preservation of significant structures in town

- Submitted letters of support for Monument Mills Revitalization's and Saint James Place's applications for Massachusetts Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credits for proposed redevelopment of Monument Mills (various c. 1850-1917) and adaptive use of Saint James Church (1857-58).
- Submitted Massachusetts Historical Commission Form B - *Building* for the Housatonic School (1908), prepared by consultant architectural historian, as the basis for determining if it is *eligible for listing* on the National Register. A certification will make the building eligible for historic rehabilitation tax credits, an enticing advantage for developers.
- In response to the Massachusetts Historical Commission's request for additional photographs and information about the Housatonic School and the Housatonic Community Center ("Housy Dome"), assembled a thorough portfolio of interior and exterior documentary photographs of the building and landscape, wrote a history of the Housy Dome and drafted the town's cover letter for the reply package.
- Awarded grants totaling \$30,000 from the Community Preservation Act and Massachusetts Historical Commission to fund phase 1 of the updating of the town's Historic Resources Survey, an indispensable planning tool.
- Wrote letter to CDC of South Berkshire and ZBA recommending the remaining portion of the once imposing smokestack of the Great Barrington Manufacturing Co. be preserved and integrated into the program plans for 100 Bridge Street.

Respectfully Submitted,

Paul W. Ivory, Chairman

Marilyn Bisiewicz,

Malcom Fick

Don Howe

Gary Leveille

Bill Nappo

David Rutstein

REPORT OF THE SOUTHERN BERKSHIRE DISTRICT DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' SERVICES

To the Honorable Selectboard:

Thank you for allowing me to service the member towns, their veterans, and widows. We have made great strides in reaching out to our veterans in our local area, letting them know the various services available to them from Elderly Services, Community Actions and also the local senior centers. During FY 2016 we have seen a slight decrease in all areas of operation and currently have 37 active Chapter 115 claims.

Chapter 115 Submissions and Return from the State:

Town	FY 2016 Submitted 7/01/15-6/30/16	Pmt Due in FY 2017 -FY 2016 - 75%
Great Barrington	\$129,979.94	\$97,484.95

Over the last year we have completed the following for our member town's veterans:

Applications for VA Health Care	49
ALS/Disability/A&A/Appeals/Life Insurance	66
DD 214s	34
Request for Grave Markers	25
Tax Abatements/SS help/other requests	18
Flags to funerals homes for veterans	72
Assisted with Dr. appointments	32
Home and Office Visits	442
Veterans Services Phone Calls	1472

For FY 2016 District budget was reduced by the reserve resulting in a smaller assessment for the member towns. During these trying financial times all veterans and widows are encouraged to contact this office or the US Department of Veterans Affairs and review current entitlements as many changes have taken place. Great Barrington's apportionment towards the FY 2016 DVS budget was \$29,739.46— this number was based on population percentage on the 2010 Census.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laurie J. Hils,

District Director

REPORT OF THE GREAT BARRINGTON CULTURAL COUNCIL

To the Honorable Selectboard:

The purpose of the Cultural Council is to provide grants to support the arts, humanities and interpretative sciences for the direct benefit of the residents of Great Barrington and Housatonic. Sources of revenue come from the

Massachusetts Cultural Council. The council receives no financial support from the town of Great Barrington. Grants are awarded after being reviewed by the council typically from \$50 to \$500.

During the fall of 2015 the council considered 42 applications of which 18 were awarded totaling \$6971. A complete list of grants awarded is available at the Select Board office in the Town Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rose Tannenbaum, Co-Chair

Council Members: Sherry Steiner (Co-Chair), Susan Pettee, Ellen Shanahan, Scott Pezza, Lauren Clark, Charlsie Niemiec

SOUTHERN BERKSHIRE ELDERLY TRANSPORTATION CORPORATION

To The Honorable Board of Selectboard:

S.B.E.T.C. has been providing transportation to seniors, 55 years of age and older and disabled persons of any age for over 30 years. We are a life-line for many people in Southern Berkshire County which allows them to reside in their homes which then enhances their quality of life and emotional well-being. This past year we expanded our service as far north as Pittsfield, which we are glad to say has been a success! We will be continuing this service!

The towns we serve in Southern Berkshire County are: Alford, Egremont, Great Barrington/Housatonic, Clayton/Hartsville/Mill River/New Marlborough/Southfield, Otis, Sandisfield and Monterey. SBETC would like to thank the towns for their continued support and for giving their residents a very special service that most in the Berkshires do not have. We are like an insurance policy, there when you need it. Our annual mailing has been a success for another year, thank you all for your donations. A special thanks goes out to: The Barrington Foundation, The Thursday Morning Club, Sheffield Kiwanis, Great Barrington Rotary Club, Katharine & Winthrop Crane Foundation, Greylock Federal Credit Union and a generous donation from Berkshire Health System for our advertising expenses. All of those who supported our fundraiser and all of those who lost a loved one and were kind enough to remember us. We received a grant from the Berkshire Bank Foundation, the Mt. Everett Fund, the MarTap Grant and the 5310 Grant. We also received an Incentive and Formula Grant from the Town of Great Barrington. If anyone has not been mentioned please accept our apologies and know that you are also greatly appreciated.

Again this past year we were very busy, making over 11,000 trips and covering 46,716 miles. We are a true door to door service; we call ourselves "caregivers on wheels." We will shovel your path if needed, tie shoes, button coats, carry groceries, etc. Most of our travels are taking seniors, disabled of any age and nursing home persons to doctor and dentist appointments, physical therapy, hairdressers, shopping, to the hospital or to the Senior Center for lunch and activities and to Adult Day Care at Fairview Commons. We are also here for those of any age who have a temporary disability and need transportation.

We work with Berkshire Travelers and the Claire Teague Senior Center on trips. Tanglewood on Parade, Susan Anthony Museum, Octoberfest in Chicopee, Bennington Vermont, Huke-Lau, Pittsfield Colonial Theatre and The Sharon Playhouse in Sharon Ct.

We cannot thank the Town of Great Barrington and the Claire Teague Senior Center enough for their continued support.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Valinaggi, E.D.

Board of Directors: Grace Zbell, Chairperson: Hilda Banks Shapiro, Vice Chairperson Jane Green & Amy Rutstein, Great Barrington; Cathy Walker, Alford; Bruce Bernstein, Egremont; Prudence Spaulding, New Marlborough; Pat Ryan, Otis; Linda Riiska, Sandisfield and Cynthia Weber, Monterey. FY'16

REPORT OF THE CLAIRE W. TEAGUE SENIOR CENTER

To the Honorable Selectboard:

Staff: The Claire W. Teague Senior Center is staffed by a Director and an Assistant Director/Outreach Coordinator. The center also depends on many volunteers, Senior Property Tax Work Off workers, Council on Aging board members and the Friends of the Claire W. Teague Senior Center to keep the center running on a daily basis.

Goals: The Claire Teague Senior Center serves the needs and promotes the total wellbeing of the seniors of Great Barrington. The center is available to seniors over the age of 55 and offers a wide variety of services and events to the many seniors living in the Town of Great Barrington.

Activity Measures:	Unit of Measure	2015	2016	Forecasted for 2017
<u>Elder Nutrition:</u> Meals served on site Home delivered meals	# meals served through Elder Services	3660	4000	4200
Brown Bag	# food bags distributed	1008	864	880
Exercise	# exercise participants	90	90	90
Health Clinics	# clinic participants	80	90	90
Support Groups	# group participants	240	245	250
Education	# participants in educational programs	140	150	150
Social	# participants	280	270	280
Health Insurance Counseling	# one on one insurance counseling sessions	800	850	1140

Hours & Meals: The center is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 am - 3:30 pm. Meals are served Monday through Friday from 11:30 am - 12:00 pm. The suggested donation is \$2.00 for those ages 60 and over. Meals are prepared and served through Elder Services of Berkshire County with the exception of the meals on Wednesday's, which are prepared on site by the center's staff.

Services: The Senior Center provides many programs for seniors including, free tax preparation, \$2.00 lunches 5 days a week for those 60 and over, foot nurse visits, hearing testing, blood pressure checks, informational presentations on many important topics, the Brown Bag Program, Medicare Health Insurance counseling and monthly Senior Safety meetings (TRIAD). Ten exercise classes are available for a nominal fee which includes Tap Dancing, Tai Chi, Strength Training, Cross Training, Balance and Movement, Pilates, Breathing and Movement, Yoga, Chair exercises, and Feldenkrais. Learning opportunities include keyboard lessons, art classes, a computer class, discussion groups and genealogy research.

Social Events: We like to have lots of fun at the senior center. There are cook-outs, trips, monthly lunch outings (Out to Lunch Bunch) and dinner outings (Gad Abouts), live entertainment, Bingo, Bridge for both beginners and established players, dominoes, crossword puzzles, musical performances, community entertainment from local schools and daily coffee & treats donated by Big Y.

New in 2016: Two new exercise classes, Pilates and Breathing and Movement were added in 2016. The Wednesday meals are now being prepared on site which has increased our Wednesday meal attendance by 50%. Our Teague Tap Dance group has grown and presented a very successful Tap Fest hosting other tap groups from the area. We have a new art class taught by Eunice Agar, coordinated a health fair with over 18 vendors. A.G.E. TRIAD held a fun and important event providing safety vest for seniors and outfitting scooters with safety features. We have held Hoe Downs, Craft Fairs, basketry classes, and beginning keyboard.

Support Groups & Building Use: The Senior Center continues to provide space for a number of groups including a women's breast cancer support group, caregivers support group and grief support groups. We offer space to five AA meeting groups, the Great Barrington Historical Society and other Town sponsored events and meetings.

Trips: The senior center provided nine trips including: Barrington Stage, Tanglewood on Parade, Birds of Prey at Berkshire Botanical Gardens, Susan B Anthony House, Trip to Pennsylvania Amish, Bennington Museum, Trip to the HU-KE-LL Ventfort Hall, Program at Colonial Theater and Sharon Theater.

Respectfully Submitted,

Polly Mann Salenovich, Director

Great Barrington Council on Aging: Barbara Bailly (Chair), David Rutstein (Vice Chair), Amy Rutstein (Secretary), Grace Zbell (Treasurer), Eileen Gaarn, Jane Green, Cara Holcomb, Michele Gilligan

REPORT OF THE GREAT BARRINGTON LIBRARIES

To the Honorable Selectboard:

Friends and Trustees: Both the Friends of The Great Barrington Libraries and the Library Trustees have continued to contribute many hours hosting events, raising awareness of the libraries and purchasing passes to the local museums for use by library patrons [The Friends]. We value their support and input.

Staff: 2016 saw the departure of Assistant Director of Operations, Jessica Magelaner. Donna Brown, the former Adult Circulation Supervisor, was promoted in early 2016 to take over the vacant assistant director position. We were short staffed for much of the year but the staff banded together to keep the libraries open and running. Thanks to their tireless work, our patrons saw no disruption to the excellent service they have come to expect from our libraries.

Notable: The libraries have continued to serve as a regular meeting space for Town and local organizations including Parks and Recreation, the Great Barrington Tree Committee, the Berkshire Center for Justice, and Great Barrington Trails and Greenways. Our meeting rooms and quiet rooms were used nearly 2,000 times this year.

Our computers were used 524 times at Ramsdell and 16,163 times at Mason Library. Both libraries serve as important technological resources in their respective communities. The public computers at Mason benefitted from new hard drives this year as well as improved maintenance software.

The Great Barrington Libraries joined the Massachusetts Library System-sponsored national CSLP (Collaborative Summer Library Program) for our fifth year. We had 199 registered children who read over 116,880 minutes. The theme for this year was "Every Hero Has a Story", which encouraged children to explore heroes (both imaginary and everyday) in the world. There were weekly activities where children created superhero comics, performed science experiments and learned about Revolutionary War heroes. In total, the libraries offered 55 children's summer reading programs with 897 persons attending.

Circulation: Great Barrington Libraries total circulation for FY 2015: 148,210 items.

	Adult	Young Adult	Children	Total
Mason	73,642	7,341	52,479	133,462
Ramsdell	10,850	281	3,617	14,748

Holdings: Total Holdings: 264,992 (this includes eBooks and eAudio available via C/W MARS)

- Mason Library holds 58,368 physical items.
- Ramsdell Library holds 21,248 physical items
- Both Libraries have access to 185,376 eBooks and eAudio

Materials Purchased in 2016: Mason					
Adult Books	1,646	Children's Books	1,626	YA Books	201
Adult Audio Books	188	Children's Audio Books	79	YA Audio Books	8
Adult DVDs	455	Children's DVDs	246	YA DVDs	36
Adult Serials	729	Children's Serials	82	YA Serials	6
Materials Purchased in 2016: Ramsdell					
Adult Books	714	Children's Books	342	YA Books	27
Adult Audio Books	74	Children's Audio Books	15	YA Audio Books	2
Adult DVDs	196	Children's DVDs	30	YA DVDs	-
Adult Serials	293	Children's Serials	-	YA Serials	1

Hours and Visitors: Ramsdell Library was open Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 10-5pm; Wednesday 12:30-8:30pm and Saturday 10-3pm. Ramsdell Library was open a total of 1,775 hours and had 8,613 patrons visit. For a period of eleven Sundays over the winter, Ramsdell was open from 1-4pm. The event was hosted by the Friends of the Great Barrington Libraries.

Mason Library continued to be open 10-7pm Monday –Friday and 10-3pm on Saturday. Mason Library was open a total of 2,514 hours with 121,622 visitors.

Programs/Events: The Great Barrington Libraries sponsored a total of 418 events/programs and had approximately 5,032 people attend these events.

Finances: On July 1, 2015, GB Libraries had \$36,886.69 in State Aid money. We spent \$8,254.77 last year and received \$12,550.96. As of July 1, 2016 we have \$41,182.88 in that account. This account largely pays for programs and advertising for programs. It is governed by the Trustees of the Great Barrington Libraries. Through fines and fees the Libraries were able to turn back to the town \$21,002.

I want to express my sincerest thanks to all the employees and volunteers of the libraries for their support, cooperation and hard work throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda M. DeGiorgis, Director

REPORT FROM THE FIVE TOWN CABLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

To the Honorable Selectboard:

The past year began with a period of waiting for the approval of the Time-Warner Charter merger and then grappling with the change in ownership and adherence to the ten-year contract that was approved by Time-Warner and the five towns in 2013.

The Committee continues to lobby for easier access to the PEG channels (Public/Education/Government channels). These were moved from channels 16, 17, and 18 to higher numbers forcing those who have basic cable and an older television to either miss these offerings or rent a converter box. This effort will continue.

Customer outreach is another area where the CAC will work with the cable company and the customer to resolve a problem. This past year we helped an individual whose property is on the Great Barrington/West Stockbridge line. Time-Warner would not provide service because the house was in West Stockbridge which has Charter as its carrier. Working together, the situation was resolved to the satisfaction of the customer.

With the FCC approval, Time-Warner was acquired by Charter Communication at the end of May and will soon be known as Spectrum. Law requires Spectrum to adhere to all current contracts in existence. This has led to some procedural problems regarding the 5-town contract. An item on our March agenda dealt with the up-coming three-year review, a part of the contract. One of the responsibilities of Time-Warner was to prepare a customer survey, sent to all subscribers. This was also brought up on the June agenda. Neither Time-Warner nor Charter prepared such a survey. It also came to light that Spectrum was planning on encrypting their signal, requiring customers without cable boxes to have an encryption box attached to each television. These boxes would be free for two years and then a \$6.99 monthly fee would be enacted. The committee is quite concerned about this possibility and is working to prevent it.

Finally, Spectrum has not been in compliance with a contractual requirement to give a full accounting of the PEG fees it has collected and is supposed to distribute to CTBS. Due to these situations, the CAC has requested funds from each town for legal fees in dealing with these matters.

There are three seats on the committee for each town. I am the only representative for Great Barrington/Housatonic. I would welcome anyone who wishes to join our group.

Respectfully Submitted,

Thomas Hatch

REPORT OF COMMUNITY TELEVISION FOR THE SOUTHERN BERKSHIRES

To the Honorable Selectboard:

The staff and directors of CTSB continue to be pleased with our progress over the past year. Since our new building opened in June 2014, our membership has more than tripled. Most of our growth in membership is attributable to word of mouth and is now over 130 members.

The Training Center in our new facility is led by Chris Graham, Operations Manager. Chris is a professional Video Engineer who brings considerable talent and abilities to his position at the station. Chris joined CTSB in September 2016, replacing Erica Spizz who served admirably in that position since June, 2014.

Classes related to developing and producing video shows are available to all members free of charge and include:

- Final Cut Pro 10x classes
- Introduction to field production
- Working with stills
- Multicam editing

- o Color correction

The entire membership fee structure was simplified in 2016. Currently, our membership fee is \$15 per year (that's \$1.25 per month) for everyone. Members can take any offered classes, learn camera operations and receive professional videography coaching. This is a superb offering to our community, and we're confident that cable listeners and others will become members, once they realize the incredible benefits of membership.

The Fall Festival of Shakespeare was once again a valuable fund raiser. In 2016, CTSB recorded 10 Shakespearian plays at Shakespeare and Company in Lenox. As a result, the station raised \$2,200 for the Scholarship Fund.

I continue to be proud of our professional staff: Leo Mahoney, Station Manager; Chris Graham, Operations Manager; and Steven Borns, Production Coordinator. Shane Bruno joined the station in a part-time administrative position and was made a full-time employee at the beginning of 2017. Prior to joining the station, Shane was one of our paid videographers, recording Town and Selectboard meetings.

CTSB is owned by the community, and it's important that South County residents know the station's capabilities. Our building at 40 Limestone Road in Lee is open Monday thru Friday from 9 to 5, and we invite residents to stop by to view the station's home and meet the staff.

Respectfully Submitted,

Will Ryan

CTSB Board President

REPORT OF THE GREAT BARRINGTON HOUSING AUTHORITY

To the Honorable Selectboard:

The Great Barrington Housing Authority (GBHA) administers state subsidized housing programs and manages housing properties for low-income seniors, families, and people with special needs. The properties are state assisted, therefore state regulations, local preference, priorities and eligibility requirements apply. Anyone who works or lives in Great Barrington or Housatonic receive local preference. There is also priority status for emergency applicants per state regulations

GBHA manages Brookside Manor, located at 909 South Main Street, Great Barrington, as well as Flagrock Village located at 2 Bernard Gibbons Drive, Housatonic. Both properties are state assisted housing for low income elderly (defined as age 60 in Massachusetts), and disabled adults (under 60 years of age).

Brookside Manor has consists of 31 one bedroom apartments for seniors. Flagrock Village consists of 32 one-bedroom apartments. There are eighteen units of family apartments, three wheel-chair accessible, housing 53 adults and dependants. There is one four-bedroom house for people with special needs.

GBHA manages Dewey Court in Sheffield for the Berkshire County Regional Housing Authority. Dewey Court consists of 22 one bedroom apartments and 8 family apartments located at 3 Dewey Way, Sheffield.

During the past year at Flagrock Village, the bathroom of the special needs house, has been renovated. At Brookside Manor, the roof on buildings 1 and 4 has been replaced.

Waitlists for elderly and family housing are in place. Applications and eligibility information regarding housing at Brookside Manor, Flagrock Village and Dewey Court are available at the office at 2 Bernard Gibbons Drive Housatonic or by calling 413-274-1142. There is also an office at Dewey Court, 413-229-8746.

The Housing Authority must ensure that all of our buildings are safe and secure for all of our residents. Thank you to all members of our Police, Fire and Ambulance departments for your dedication to protecting and serving our residents every day.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nan Wile, *Chair*

Ann Condon, *Vice Chair*

Veronica Colley Cunningham, *Treasurer*

Barbara Heaphy, *Interim Executive Director*

REPORT OF THE PLANNING BOARD

To the Honorable Selectboard:

Throughout the time period between July 1, 2015 and June 30, 2016 the Planning Board held regular meetings on the second and fourth Thursday of each month. Over the course of the year, the Planning Board endorsed eleven ANR (subdivision Approval Not Required) plans that created a total of seven new building lots. The Planning Board made seven formal site visits, conducted six Site Plan Reviews, made recommendations on nine special permits, and issued one special permit, for a sign at the Sunoco station.

This year we spent considerable time reviewing the proposal for the hotel in the former Searles School at 79 Bridge Street and the redevelopment of a portion of 100 Bridge Street for affordable housing. The Board also worked closely with the Town Planner to craft eight amendments to the Zoning Bylaw for the May 2016 Town Meeting. All zoning changes were in keeping with the Master Plan, adopted by the Town Meeting (passing by at least a two-thirds majority vote), and approved by the Attorney General.

One of the zoning amendments replaced parts of the B-2 zone on Main Street south of downtown with a new Mixed Use (MXD) zone. The new MXD is meant to preserve and enhance the mix of residential and retail uses in the area and to reflect the development context. It also updates dimensional and use regulations to cure a number of nonconforming lots and structures, allow for mixed-use and live-work use of properties by right, allow multi-family residential use by right up to 8 units, and 9 or more units by special permit, and cap by-right retail uses at 9,000 gross square feet, but allow retail up to 20,000 gross square feet by Special Permit from the Selectboard.

Another important zoning change now allows for small scale multifamily residential uses (up to 9 units) in dense residential areas near our village centers. It provides a path, which did not previously exist, to bring existing multi-family properties into conformance with the Zoning Bylaw, and, in so doing, make it possible to allow for the issuance of a building permit for much needed improvements.

Finally, a zoning amendment to the Water Quality Protection District cleaned up the text and also eliminated the Stream and Lake Protection Zone, since this regulation only served to burden properties that are already regulated the local Wetlands Bylaw and the Wetlands Protection Act.

The Planning Board continues its study of planning and zoning strategies to implement the goals and strategies of the Master Plan, including Chapter 40R, the Smart Growth Zoning Overlay District, which could create more affordable housing.

Planning Board member Suzie Fowle did not seek reelection in 2016, after serving on the Board since 2008 (beginning as the Associate Member) and as Vice Chair for several years. The Board is grateful for her service and hard work. The Board welcomed Jeremy Higa, who was elected in 2016 to her seat. Pedro Pachano was appointed jointly by the Planning Board and Selectboard as the latest Associate. And, after guiding the Board for five years as Chair, Jonathan Hankin passed the gavel to Brandee Nelson.

Also, Jeremy Higa replaced Suzie Fowle as the Board's representative on the Community Preservation Committee, and Brandee Nelson serves as the Board's representative on the Lake Mansfield Improvement Task Force. Malcom Fick serves the Board's Delegate to the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission.

Respectfully submitted,

Brandee Nelson, Chair

Members: Jonathan Hankin, Jeremy Higa, Malcolm Fick, Jack Musgrove,
Pedro Pachano, Associate Member, Kimberly Shaw, Secretary

REPORT OF PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

To the Honorable Selectboard:

This Department provides support and technical assistance to applicants, homeowners, businesses, and to Town staff and Boards regarding planning, zoning, and community and economic development matters. The work includes analyzing permit applications with staff and boards as well as promoting conservation and development in accordance with our Town's Master Plan. Fiscal Year (FY16) activity highlights include:

The department continued to coordinate the Town Manager's Development Review Team (Building Inspector, Conservation Agent, DPW Superintendent, Fire Chief, Health Agent, and Police Chief) to provide technical project reviews. The most visible development projects of FY16 were the hotel proposed for the former Searles School at 79 Bridge Street and the redevelopment of a portion of 100 Bridge Street for affordable housing. Both projects received the requested special permits, with conditions. Other permitted projects included a solar array on Van Deusenville Road on a new lot behind AmeriGas, a solar array at Guido's market, a new affordable housing site with 11 units on State Road, sponsored by Construct, and the planned addition of 20 rooms to the Holiday Inn on Stockbridge Road.

Zoning bylaw review continues with the Planning Board, to reduce outdated or duplicative regulations, and help implement the goals of the Master Plan.

Several important zoning amendments approved by Town Meeting in May 2016. This included a new zoning district, the MXD zone, to promote mixed use development on South Main Street. Other important zoning amendments included a special permit process to allow existing multifamily dwellings, an important source of lower cost rental housing, to come into conformance.

The Town received a \$2.1 million Mass Works grant to make important improvements to the Bridge Street corridor. These include street, sidewalk and utility improvements to support the new development planned on Bridge Street. We were honored to host the award ceremony in October 2015 on the steps of Town Hall. Work is scheduled to begin in early 2017 after the water main is replaced. Meanwhile, the State DOT agreed to paint and rehabilitate the bridge, in order to support the surrounding development and maintain this critical transportation link, saving the town at least \$1 million. The bridge work will begin in summer or fall of 2016.

In August 2015 we were awarded a second successive Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), this one for \$842,569 and focused on the drainage infrastructure on Front Street in Housatonic to correct drainage problems and support future mill redevelopment. It will also fund several housing rehabilitation projects for low and moderate-income homeowners. This work follows on the previous CDBG grant of \$803,100, which produced designs for the Front Street project and completed 19 housing rehab projects in Great Barrington and Sheffield. Additionally, in June 2016, we received a third-in-a-row CDBG grant, this one with Sheffield as the lead, for \$923,983. The work in Great Barrington will include more housing rehabs units as well as site plans and parking improvements around the Housatonic School and Community Center.

A feasibility study for a bike path between Housatonic and downtown was completed. It evaluated a variety of possible routes, including along the railroad and along the river, and provided recommendations on costs,

permitting, and funding options. In May, Town Meeting accepted the donation of the southern portion of the old State Line railroad branch for a portion of this future path. Also, as detailed in the Lake Mansfield Improvement Task Force FY16 report, I guided the planning process for a Comprehensive Plan for the Lake Mansfield area, and completed the MET water quality study with Simon's Rock College.

In seven years this Department has been responsible for securing nearly \$5 million in grants and assistance. The Town is entering a period of growth and change, and I look forward to continuing to work proactively to plan for and encourage the type of change that advances the vision and goals of the Master Plan.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher Rembold, AICP

REPORT OF THE COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

To the Honorable Selectboard:

The CPC is the town board that implements the Community Preservation Act (CPA), which was adopted by the voters of Great Barrington in 2012. Through the CPA, state and local funds are collected to fund open space, affordable housing, historic preservation, and recreation projects. The CPC is comprised of nine members: two citizens-at-large and one member each from the Conservation Commission, Historical Commission, Parks Commission, Housing Authority Board, Planning Board, Select Board, and Finance Committee. The CPC administers the community preservation fund, writes and adopts a Community Preservation Plan based on community input, receives proposals from the community for expenditures from the fund, and recommends projects to Town Meeting to be considered for funding. The voters at Town Meeting must approve all CPA funding.

The CPC met 15 times in FY16, and in the fall dedicated itself to reviewing CPA applications and preparing for Town Meeting. In September 2015, the CPC reviewed 16 projects for eligibility, and recommended eight projects to town Meeting for funding. In its recommendations, the CPC determined, among other things, that these projects meet the goals expressed Community Preservation Plan, provide a needed public benefit, demonstrate strong community support, and demonstrate that CPA funds will not be the only funds used for the project. The CPC prepared a report for Town Meeting that was included with the 2016 Annual Town Meeting Warrant, and made a presentation to the assembled voters. All eight projects were approved by Town Meeting. They are:

COMMUNITY HOUSING

316 State Road – creation of affordable housing	\$220,000
100 Bridge Street – creation of affordable housing	\$250,000

HISTORIC PRESERVATION

UUMSB, 1089 Main Street – restoration	\$60,000
Wheeler Farmstead – restoration/repairs	\$24,250
Historical Commission – historic resources survey	\$15,000

OPEN SPACE & RECREATION

CHP trails – creation of trails	\$10,000
Windy Hill Farm – agricultural preservation restriction	\$170,000
GBLC / River Walk – restoration of River Walk	<u>\$26,412</u>

TOTAL: \$775,662

The CPA program in Great Barrington has already completed several important projects, and helped make possible an array of long-deferred conservation and preservation projects. Some are very visible, like the preservation of St. James Place. Others, like the foundation of the Mahaiwe Theater, are unseen by many. But all of these are important to preserving our Town as a place that is affordable and attractive for years to come. We look forward to seeing these projects come to fruition, and we look forward to more worthy projects in the coming year.

This year we welcomed Jeremy Higa as the new Planning Board representative and Nan Wile as the new Housing Authority representative. They replace Suzie Fowle and Deborah Salem, whom we thank for their hard work. I would like to thank former Chair Karen W. Smith, the Town Planner, and all of the CPC members for their hard work and dedication in this endeavor.

For the Community Preservation Committee,

Thomas Blauvelt, Chair

REPORT OF THE GREAT BARRINGTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

To the Honorable Selectboard:

The Conservation Commission is charged with the following:

- To administer and uphold the Mass Wetlands Protection Act, The Great Barrington Wetland Bylaw and the Berkshire Scenic Mountains Act.
- To educate and assist homeowners, business owners and land owners regarding regulations and help them navigate the decision making and permit granting process within jurisdictional areas.
- To carefully review all applications utilizing assistance from the Department of Environmental Protection and other third party specialists when needed.
- To maintain ongoing contact with engineers, landscape architects, land owners and contractors to ensure site stabilization and permit compliance.
- To ensure a timely response to all emergencies and complaints.
- To issue Stop Work Orders and Enforcement Orders as needed to uphold the Wetlands Protection Act and the Scenic Mountains Act.
- To maintain ongoing communication and coordination with other Town Departments.
- To manage Conservation Properties: Lake Mansfield and the Lake Mansfield Conservation Forest and the McAllister Wildlife Refuge.

Last year, FY 2016, the Conservation Commission reviewed and/or issued:

- 18 Wetland Protection Act Requests for Determination of Applicability
- 12 Wetland Protection Act Notices of Intent
- 1 Berkshire Scenic Mountains Act Requests for Determination of Applicability
- 1 Berkshire Scenic Mountains Act Notice of Intent
- 2 Enforcement Orders
- 5 Special Permits
- 2 Beaver Permits
- 4 Emergency Certifications
- 8 Certificates of Compliance
- 2 Amended Orders of Conditions
- 12 Recommendations to various Town Departments or Boards
- 163 Non permit related outreach, letters, site visits and consultations

In February of 2016, Andrew Mankin, longtime chairman of the Conservation Commission retired his chairmanship and the Commission was pleased to elect Gaetan Lachance as its new Chairman. Mr. Lachance came to Great Barrington from Sheffield, where he had served on the Commission and for a short time as its Chairman. Jessica Dezieck was re-elected as Vice Chair and continues her service to the town on the Community Preservation Committee and at the Fire Department.

The Commission continues to have active membership on the Lake Mansfield Alliance and we support the Lake Mansfield Improvement Taskforce whenever possible. A member of the Commission serves on the Community Preservation Committee, and the Commission collaborates with numerous local conservation councils, boards and citizen groups to fulfill our role in open space planning and the long term clean-up and restoration of the Housatonic River. We look forward to an enlightened ecological future for Great Barrington.

As always, we continue to offer administrative support to homeowners, small businesses, farmers and environmental organizations to make the Wetland and Scenic Mountain permitting process as smooth as possible.

Respectfully submitted,

Gaetan Lachance, Chair & Jessica Dezieck, Vice Chair

REPORT OF THE LAKE MANSFIELD IMPROVEMENT TASK FORCE

To the Honorable Selectboard,

This year, with support from Kyle Zick Landscape Architecture (KZLA), the task force made great strides in the improvement planning for the Recreation Area with the goal of providing for public safety, use and accessibility, water quality improvements, protection of the watershed and stewardship of the resource area. Improvement planning was comprehensive and inclusive. After a series of community input meetings, site visits, task force meetings, and with support from the Planning Board, Conservation Commission, and parks Commission, KZLA presented a recommended Lake Mansfield Improvement Plan to the Selectboard on July 27, 2016.

The proposed plan provides a comprehensive solution to a complex problem. The goal of the plan and the months-long process LMIF and KZLA undertook with the community, was to develop a comprehensive solution for improvements in the recreation area. After further public input and careful consideration, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve this plan on September 26, 2016 with a multi-step motion:

Motion: That the Town Manager work with the Lake Mansfield Task Force to seek grant funding to support the recommended option.

That the Lake Mansfield Task Force report back to the Selectboard prior to submission of the grant applications; at the completion of additional surveys and studies; at key milestones of the design phase for future decision making points and with the results of grant decisions.

That the Selectboard recognize that the planning process started with the objective of addressing the environmental issues critical to preserving the health of the lake while providing safe access and recreational opportunities; that the study considered cost impacts; that the study considered the impacts on access and traffic; that the study was based on well researched options; that there were extensive opportunities to consider all comments seriously; and that the recommended preferred option is the best way to meet all of the public objectives.

That the Selectboard recognizes that not addressing the disrepair of the road will present serious problems for the lake and impact access to the beach, and that simple repair of the existing road is not feasible given the structural instability of the current road and will not produce beneficial or sustainable long term results.

That the Selectboard recognizes that a narrower road option is critical to preservation of the water's edge and shore line, but the Selectboard hereby directs the Task Force to also study and/or test opportunities such as a two-way road shared by all users, a seasonal sharing of the road, or a plan to alternate the direction of the road.

Next Steps: The approval and adoption of the Lake Mansfield Improvement Plan allows for town personnel to move forward with the next phases of engineering, permitting and grant seeking that are required.

In addition, the following observations, accomplishments, and assessments were reviewed:

- I. Water Quality Improvements and Assessments: The two year water quality study funded by the Massachusetts Environmental Trust ended in June 2016. This program was a joint effort of the Town, Bard

College at Simon's Rock, the Berkshire Environmental Research Center, and the Lake Mansfield Alliance. College students and advisors completed the field work, incorporated the monitoring program into the aquatic ecology and limnology classes, and involved approximately 20 students in this monitoring effort. Five students have been formally trained in the field sampling protocols as well as in the wet lab analysis procedures. Overall lake chemistry is good, but nonpoint storm water runoff continues to impact the lake in certain areas. Storm water run-off entering the lake from Knob Hill and the boat launch, along Lake Mansfield Road, and at the beach area, poses the greatest challenge to lake health. The adopted improvement plan will provide much needed solutions in these areas.

- II. Protecting the Buffer Zone and Sensitive Habitats – Application of the Massachusetts Wetland Protection Act: The mowing policy developed for the Lake Mansfield Recreation Area aimed at supporting sensitive habitat area and encouraging plant growth that can help prevent erosion was followed in 2015/16, no summer mowing was required due to drought conditions. A small recurrence of the invasive plant, Phragmites, was noted following the invasive control treatment program. This has been brought to the attention of the Conservation Commission
- III. Use and Accessibility – Recreational use of the lake, beach area, forest trails and Lake Mansfield continues to increase annually with number of users noted in the summer season. Current parking was inadequate during several peak weekends in 2016. A complete summer use report will be provided through the Parks and Recreation Commission including a description of the strong summer programming and waterfront safety is essential to our at the lake. The Parks Commission and Lake Mansfield Alliance collaborated to fund the installation of a new bear-proof Trash/Recycle bin. The work was coordinated by the DPW Superintendent. Lake Mansfield Alliance (LMA), a project of Great Barrington Land Conservancy, engaged volunteers in the care of the recreation area and provided over \$4,000 in funding support. Efforts included support funding for the new trash/recycle container, sponsoring the annual clean-up day, volunteer days for community and student groups, regular trail maintenance, hand-pulling and cutting of invasive species, and the installation of a new roadside planting at the Christian Hill Entrance. A Greenagers trail crew was hired by LMA for a day of summer trail maintenance. In addition, LMA maintains an informative Lake Mansfield website, produces an annual Lake Mansfield newsletter and provided for recreational opportunities including guided hikes, summer yoga and a Birds of Prey program at Lake Mansfield.
- IV. Public Safety: While use increases, the safety of recreational users continues to be a priority for the Task Force. Concern over the continuing road degradation, flooding and freezing at the outlet area and whale rock, and the imperative of supporting safe use along Lake Mansfield Road are of primary concern to the task force and is a focal point for the upcoming efforts as outlined in the approved improvement plan.
- V. Continued work In the Coming Year: Fiscal year 2017 will be a very important year as the town implements the first stages of the Improvement Plan. The task force will support the town planner and DPW superintendent as engineering, permitting, and grant applications are addressed.

The Lake Mansfield Improvement Task Force will continue to work to provide for the health and safe recreational use of the Lake Mansfield Recreation Area. We appreciate the Town's dedication to this invaluable natural resource and recreation area. We welcome and invite community input as we confront the complex issues inherent in the care and improvement of this much valued open space.

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Ward, Chair

Deb Philips (Citizen at Large), Bill Cooke (Select Board), Joseph Sokul (DPW Superintendent), Dale Abrams (Lake Mansfield Alliance), Nina Evans (Lake Mansfield Alliance alternate), Gaetan Lachance (Conservation Commission), Brandee Nelson (Planning Board), Kathy Plungis (Parks and Recreation), Shep Evans (Conservation Agent, ex-officio) and Chris Rembold (Town Planner, ex-officio)

REPORT OF THE AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

To the Honorable Selectboard:

The Great Barrington Agricultural Commission continues to advance the Great Barrington Master Plan's vision to create a thriving local food economy and environment. During fiscal year 2016, we focused on positive ways to promote agricultural awareness and education to a wider audience through local schools, colleges and community.

Based on the "Keep Berkshires Farming" collaborative approach used by the Great Barrington Master Plan and by the Sustainable Berkshires report of Berkshire Regional Planning Commission, the Agricultural Commission sought opportunities for multi-sector and regional cooperation.

Specific activities included:

- Starting in October 2015 and throughout the school year, the Agricultural Commission participated in Berkshire Hills Regional School District's Farm to School Program Committee.
- November 7, 2015: The Agricultural Commission co-sponsored a presentation on "Gardening to Save the Planet: How to Unlock the Power of Our Farms, Forests and Gardens to Grow Healthy Food, Slow Climate Change and Build a Resilient Economy." This free public event, at the Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center in partnership with the Berkshire Co-op Market, featured a presentation by Connor Stedman, agroforestry specialist and associate faculty at the University of Vermont Leadership for Sustainability program.
- January 13, 2016: Ag Comm Chair Luke Pryjma resigned and Vivian Orlowski was unanimously elected as the new Chair of the Agricultural Commission.
- February 20, 2016: Ag Comm Chair represented the Great Barrington Agricultural Commission at Berkshire Botanical Garden's event on "Pollinator-Attracting Landscapes."
- Throughout the spring, Agricultural Commission members engaged in research, development and outreach for the Agricultural Commission's Warrant Article Resolution Declaring Great Barrington to be a Pollinator-Friendly Community. We also collaborated with our State Representative Smitty Pignatelli on pending state legislation to support pollinator protection throughout the Commonwealth.
- March 19, 2016: Ag Comm Chair represented the Great Barrington Agricultural Commission at the Western Massachusetts Agricultural Commissions Roundtable in Pittsfield.
- March 28, 2016: Two members of the Agricultural Commission received approval from the Selectboard on the proposed Warrant Article Resolution Declaring the Town of Great Barrington to be a Pollinator-Friendly Community.
- April 9, 2016: Ag Comm Chair represented Great Barrington Agricultural Commission at the ThinkFOOD Conference sponsored by the Center for Food Studies at Bard College at Simon's Rock.
- May 9, 2016: Great Barrington Town Meeting unanimously passed the Warrant Article Resolution Declaring the Town of Great Barrington to be a Pollinator-Friendly Community. This advisory resolution urges all Great Barrington property owners, residents, businesses, institutions and neighborhoods to become more pollinator-friendly by committing to avoiding use of systemic insecticides on their property, avoiding planting of flowering plants treated with systemic insecticides, planting more pollinator-supporting forage and adopting organic or chemical-free lawn and landscaping practices. The purpose is to encourage awareness, education and voluntary action in support of pollinators. Bees, butterflies and other pollinators are vital parts of our ecosystem, provide essential services for valued crops (about 1/3 of the food we eat) and thus contribute to our local agricultural economy.

Respectfully submitted,

Vivian Orlowski, Chair

REPORT OF THE TREE COMMITTEE

To the Honorable Board of Selectboard:

During the fiscal year 2016 the Great Barrington Tree Committee met regularly at the Mason Library on the first Wednesday of each month except July 2015 and March 2016. No additional meetings were scheduled although individual members frequently met in groups of 2 to complete specific tasks.

The committee successfully met the requirements for re-application to Tree City USA. We have now been awarded this designation 4 years in a row and will re-apply again in fiscal year 2017.

The Committee wrote a new tree by-law that was subsequently approved by the Town. This by-law provides guidance for the installation, removal and maintenance of Town trees. It also recommends replacement of trees that are cut down or destroyed by nature, subject to available funding.

The DCR grant that the Committee submitted in fiscal year 2015 was approved, and in early June, 8 trees and shrubs were installed on Stockbridge Rd between Belcher Square and Berkshire Bank. The writing of and implementation of this grant required collaboration between DOT, DPW, the Tree Warden, store owners, committee members and volunteers. The trees are being watered by the DPW and will be monitored for 3 years by the Committee. The Committee also offered consultation on the selection and number of elm trees installed as part of the Main Street Renovation Project.

In addition to these accomplishments the Committee celebrated Arbor Day with an annual Arbor Day Proclamation and with a display of artwork by students from the Great Barrington Waldorf High School and tree related poetry by Hilda Shapiro at the Mason Library.

Jessica Wilke served as chairperson for this Committee during fiscal year 2015. She has resigned from this position and is replaced by Lisa Bozzuto, who has served on this Committee since 2011. Mike Peretti, Tree Warden, officially joined the Committee in May 2016.

The Great Barrington Tree Committee will continue its' efforts to complete their mission in the coming fiscal year and looks forward to educating the public about the beauty and value of our urban forest.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Bozzuto, Chairperson

Michael Wise, Secretary

Hilda Banks Shapiro

Beth Moser

Michael Piretti, Tree Warden

REPORT OF THE DESIGN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

To the Honorable Selectboard:

The Design Advisory Committee (DAC) is responsible for reviewing changes to the exterior of buildings, including additions, changes in or installation of signage, changes in the painting of facades, and changes in lighting within the Village Center Overlay District (VCOD) to ensure that any changes conform to the general principles as outlined in the Great Barrington Zoning Bylaws. The goal is to "encourage improvements of 1900's buildings and new buildings to be of complementary height and style for mixed use (commercial, retail and residential)."

In the past year, the DAC reviewed 13 sign applications. We reviewed and commented on the proposal for 100 Bridge Street as well as The Berkshire Hotel at the Searles School building. We also reviewed the proposal to renovate 47 Railroad St. into retail space and housing.

Respectfully submitted,

Gaetan Lachance, Chairman

REPORT OF THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

To the Honorable Selectboard

During the reporting year July 1, 2015, to June 30, 2016, the Great Barrington Zoning Board of Appeals:

- Approved with conditions a Comprehensive Permit for Construct Inc. for 11 dwelling units in three buildings at 316 State Road.
- Granted a special permit to Zachary Culbreth and Sridevi Reddy to rebuild a non-conforming garage at 170 Taconic Ave.
- Granted a special permit to John Tracy and Linda Hoddy, 224 North Plain Road, for a deck between the house and garage.
- Approved the special permit application of Navin Shah, trustee, KSNS Stockbridge Road Realty Trust, to build a third story and add 20 guest rooms at 415 Stockbridge Road.
- Approved a special permit for Tune Street (Luke Germain) to change the use of a pre-existing, non-conforming barn at 117 State Road to commercial.
- And beginning in January 2016 held a series of public hearings on the Comprehensive Permit application of Community Development Corp. of South Berkshire for affordable housing, market-rate housing, retail and office buildings on the former New England Log Homes property, 100 Bridge St. The board approved the application, with conditions, in fiscal 2017 (August 2016) after the plan was modified to cover just 45 affordable housing units in three buildings on 2 acres at the south end of the parcel. Town Planner Chris Rembold and Town Counsel David Doneski assisted with technical issues.

Three lawsuits involving the ZBA were resolved:

- The Superior Court case of Claudia Shapiro vs. Zoning Board of Appeals over its failure to act on her appeal of a 2013 decision of the building inspector involving an interpretation of the zoning bylaw as it applied to the Great Barrington Airport was settled upon remand to the ZBA, which held a public hearing and heard Shapiro's appeal July 28, 2015. The board unanimously upheld the building inspector.
- The Superior Court case of Claudia Shapiro/Daniel Bell vs. Great Barrington Zoning Board of Appeals and Berkshire Aviation, regarding a 2013 special permit for a deck and handicapped-accessible bathroom at the airport office building, was heard by Judge Daniel Ford in Pittsfield on August 20, 2015. The appellants presented many documents but no witnesses or other evidence, and the judge accepted the motion of defense counsel for Berkshire Aviation to issue a directed verdict in favor of the defendants as the appellants had failed to prove their standing.
- And the Land Court case of Lynn Hutchinson/Brian Schwab vs. Great Barrington Zoning Board of Appeals and the building inspector was resolved in September 2015 with dismissal with the understanding that the Conservation Commission's order of conditions to restore vegetation cut on their and Great Barrington Land Trust property within the buffer zone of Long Pond remains in force; that escrow funds would be set aside from sale proceeds to assure compliance; and that the building inspector's cease and desist order would become moot with sale to new owners of the Long Pond Road property and therefore would be withdrawn the date of closing.

Madonna Meagher left the board for personal reasons in autumn 2016. The board thanks her for her faithful and diligent service.

Ron Majdalany, Chairman

Carolyn Ivory, Vice-chairman

Kathy Kotleski

Michael Wise

Don Hagberg, Alternate

John Katz, Alternate

REPORT OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

To The Honorable Board of Selectboard:

The Great Barrington Police Department is organized into a Chief, two sergeants and fourteen police officers. The sergeants work on both night shifts. On shifts not covered by a command staff member we institute an officer-in-charge system to supervise the officers. We also have four reserve officers.

The following is a list of arrests, investigations and activities by the Great Barrington Police Department for Fiscal Year 2016:

911 Calls:	2,298
Arrests:	157
Protective Custody:	22
Accidents:	252
Breaking & Entering:	18
Larcenies:	156
Malicious Destruction:	35
Assaults:	63
Sexual Assaults:	7
Stolen Vehicles	3
Summons Arrests:	100 (people charged with a crime via a summons, not arrested.)

Fines collected from parking tickets: \$3,550

Revenue from issued firearm licenses and junk car permits: \$2,375

Fines returned from the courts for motor vehicle citations & other fines: \$11,907

Revenue from administrative fees assessed for paid details: \$17,054

Revenue from regional dispatching/lock-up agreements: \$5,200

Alarm permits and false alarm charges: \$40,750

Grants:

Grant from the District Attorney's Office for Berkshire County Law Enforcement Task Force investigations: \$15,394.

Federal grant for body armor: \$1,952

Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency Grant to purchase one portable radio and one computer system for our Booking Area: \$2,220

State 911 Department toward all new dispatch console and furniture: \$31,633

State 911 Department for Emergency Medical Dispatching Training: \$6,846

I'd like to mention some of the highlights and projects the department has worked on in the past year.

Community Policing Programs: TRIAD—National Prescription Take Back Day-Gun Lock Program-Summer DARE Ropes Challenge Course-School Internships-House Checks. We invite local groups to use our Community Room by calling us to reserve it.

We invite everyone to check out our website and FACEBOOK under www.townofgb.org. We're located under Town Departments. You can find information on firearms licensing, sex offender information, department activities, various forms and press releases.

Complaint Procedures: The procedures that the public may follow to file an employee complaint can be found on the GBPD website or in the lobby of the police station.

In May we mourned the death of Officer Ryan Storti who died in a motor vehicle accident while off-duty. His death was a great loss to the Department. Officer Storti was a wonderful young man and well-liked by so many people in the community. He was also an excellent police officer. My thanks to everyone in Town who helped us through this difficult time.

In summary, the future holds many challenges but the ability to meet those challenges is what makes us strong and vital. To all our residents and visitors, thank you for allowing us to serve and protect a GREAT community.

Respectfully submitted,

William R. Walsh, Jr.

Chief of Police

REPORT OF THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

To the Honorable Board of Selectboard:

We continued to collaborate with local schools, colleges and other institutions in developing safety plans to better respond to critical incidents.

The fire and police departments participated in one training exercise with Fairview Hospital and the Southern Berkshire Volunteer Ambulance Squad.

With a \$2,500 grant from the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency we purchased a computer work station and console furniture.

All applicable new town employees were trained in the Incident Command System 100 and the National Incident Management System 700 classes.

We participate in monthly meetings with the Southern Berkshire Regional Emergency Planning Committee to coordinate critical incident response with ten other towns.

Respectfully submitted,

William R. Walsh, Jr.

Emergency Management Director

REPORT OF THE GREAT BARRINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

To the Honorable Selectboard:

The Great Barrington Fire Department responded to 541 incidents in Fiscal Year 2016. The breakdown by category is shown:

Structure Fires:	8
Other Fires:	31
Motor Vehicle Accidents	28
Rescues:	12
Hazmat:	23
Medical:	153
Service:	71
False Alarms:	187
Other:	28

One of our most rewarding incidents was rescuing three people out of Lake Mansfield who fell through thin ice 500 feet from shore on a warm February day. Other notable incidents were a structure fire in Martin's restaurant which was quickly extinguished, saving a prominent historic downtown building, and a fatal car verses locomotive crash on Maple Ave.

Fire prevention continues to be a priority for the Department. A total of 766 inspections were performed in accordance with Massachusetts General Law. The following breakdown shows the inspections by type:

Periodic Safety	345
Liquor License	44
Smoke & CO Detectors	109
Final for C of O	40
Sprinkler Systems	4
Fire Alarm Systems	9
Blasting/Fireworks	3
Tank Removals	15
Oil Furnaces	19
Propane Tanks	62
Plan Reviews	51

Complaints	11
Other	54

Safety Education continues as a focus of the department as time permits. Muddy Brook Elementary School hosted us during Fire Prevention Week in October. As always, the students in each class were enthusiastic and engaged in discussions on how they can prevent fires and what to do if an emergency situation arises. We returned again in the spring for Safety Day. Firefighters volunteered their time to team up with the Police Department and Southern Berkshire Ambulance for an interactive day with the students. The objectives were to teach a wide variety of safety awareness, provide hands on activities relating to our jobs, and initiate positive relationships with emergency responders at a young age. We had multiple students state it was the best day of the school year!

We are always looking for ways to better serve the community. This year we worked through the lengthy process to obtain a Controlled Substance Registration from the state for us to carry and administer Epinephrine and Naloxone. The drugs are used to treat patients who have overdosed on opioids or are in anaphylactic shock. I would like to thank Lieutenant Alan Anderson for spearheading the effort.

The Department believes well trained firefighters are the most important component of providing quality services to the community. In total over 7,300 hours were dedicated to training by Great Barrington firefighters. Training consists of night and weekend programs from the Massachusetts Fire Academy and conferences lead by nationally recognized experts, along with weekly Department drills. We had two new recruits, firefighters Jacob Borden and Joel Timm, graduate from the Massachusetts Fire Academy, earning their Firefighter 1 & 2 certifications. We are happy to have them on board.

Firefighters also work hard to raise funds for training. Through generous donations from the community we were able to purchase three substantial props—an industrial smoke machine, a fire simulator, and a forcible entry door. These props greatly improve the quality of training and better prepare us to meet the challenges we routinely face.

Adequate staffing is an increasing challenge which we are trying to meet. We have implemented several recruitment initiatives including large banners on the stations and planning community events and activities at the high school. Also, training has focused on maximizing the efficient use of all personnel at emergencies and finding ways to perform tasks safely with the fewest firefighter's possible. One of our most creative solutions has been a health and wellness initiative. A healthy firefighter can perform more work on an emergency scene, thus increasing our 'manpower' without adding a single firefighter. Many firefighters have voluntarily jumped on board with exercise, healthy diets, and participating in fun competitions throughout the year.

Another component of our Health and Wellness initiative implemented over the past year is on scene medical rehabilitation. Medical emergencies for poor health and over exertion are the number one killer of firefighters. We worked with Southern Berkshire Ambulance and our Support Group to develop a policy which meets national standards and has been effectively used at several incidents and drills. While rehab is included in every national standard Great Barrington is one of the only departments in the state to implement an effective, mandatory, system. I would like to thank both Southern Berkshire Ambulance and our Support Group for their willingness to provide this necessary service.

I had the honor of being appointed by Governor Baker to the Massachusetts Fire Training Council after being endorsed by the Fire Chief's Association of Massachusetts. It is the body which sets the training and certification standards and oversees the Massachusetts Fire Academy. I believe it is very important for western Massachusetts and the call and volunteer departments to have a voice at the state level.

In January Captain Marc Palumbo retired from the department after 15 years of dedicated service. One of his many strengths was developing a solution for every problem he identified and being willing to implement it. He cared greatly about the community and particularly about each firefighter. His enthusiasm and leadership are greatly missed. Thank you Captain and we wish you the best!

We are always looking to recruit more firefighters. If you are interested, talk to a firefighter you know, stop in the station, or call 413-528-0788 for more information. It is a challenging and rewarding way to serve your community.

I would like to thank the community for its support and the officers and members of the Department for their hard work and dedication. This is what makes the Great Barrington Fire Department a truly outstanding resource ready to respond to whatever the need is in our community.

Respectfully Submitted,
Charles Burger
Fire Chief

REPORT OF THE GREAT BARRINGTON BOARD OF HEALTH

To the Honorable Selectboard:

The Board of Health continues to provide high quality services to the Town of Great Barrington during FY16 with a wide and constantly growing breadth of responsibilities. In addition to conducting inspections and issuing permits for a wide variety of activities related to public health, we also take lead on public health issues such as substance abuse, emergency management, drinking water quality, tobacco use by teens, providing healthy housing and tracking/preventing communicable diseases.

Health inspection functions in Great Barrington are mandated by State laws and regulations and local Board of Health Regulations with additional priorities set by the Board of Health and Town Manager. While Health Departments across the country are regionalized on a county or state level, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts leaves it up to each city/town to provide their own health services. In a small town like Great Barrington, this creates a scenario where the staff need to be able to be general practitioners of public health in order to adequately respond to the wide variety of questions and needs they are faced with each day.

The following is A-Z breakdown of the many responsibilities under the Board of Health’s umbrella.

Beaver Nuisances	Lodging
Body Art Establishments/Practitioners	Nail/Tanning Salons
Camps for Children	Public Nuisances
Demolition Inspections (rodents/hazardous)	Onsite Wells
General Complaints	Opioid Addiction
Emergency Management	Public/Semi-public Pools
Flu Clinics	Public Beaches
Food Establishments	Rabies
Funeral Directors	Septage Haulers
Garbage Haulers	Septic Systems
Housing Inspections and Complaints	Temporary Food Events
Infectious Diseases	Tobacco

In all, the Board of Health office issued 381 licenses and permits and conducted a total of 660 inspections (470 food and 190 general) during FY16 - all with the very limited staff of one full-time agent and an 8-hour a week inspector.

In addition to the above, the Board of Health office/Animal inspector responded to 34 rabies incidents, including quarantines, coordination with other jurisdictions and submissions of samples to the state lab for rabies testing. As part of his duties, the Animal Inspector conducted 25 Barn Inspections.

During FY16, we collected a total of \$50,663.50 in permitting and inspectional fees from our various activities and that money offset the expenses associated with staffing and running the Health office.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jayne E. Smith, Registered Sanitarian

Health Agent for the Great Barrington Board of Health

REPORT OF THE BUILDING INSPECTOR

To the Honorable Selectboard:

I hereby submit to you the Inspector of Buildings Report for fiscal year 2016.

<u>BUILDING PERMITS 7/1/15 TO 6/30/16</u>			
<u>BUILDING PERMITS</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>CONSTRUCTION COST</u>	<u>CONSTRUCTION FEE</u>
NEW STRUCTURE/FOUNDATION	18	\$ 3,580,100.00	\$ 24,227.00
ADD/ALT/REPAIR	142	\$ 6,166,161.00	\$ 39,578.00
WINDOWS/SIDING/INSUL	59	\$ 647,392.30	\$ 4,431.00
ROOFING	53	\$ 663,297.00	\$ 3,654.00
PHOTOVOLTAIC	24	\$ 6,756,430.00	\$ 46,466.00
SIGN	51	\$ 61,142.00	\$ 1,345.00
COMMERCIAL	81	\$ 6,909,039.00	\$ 44,770.00
TENT/SHED	19	\$ 6,850.00	\$ 595.00
SELECTIVE DEMO/DEMO	7	\$ 107,600.00	\$ 484.00
SHEET METAL	11	\$ 368,750.00	\$ 882.00
COI/OR CO	110	\$ -	\$ 6,009.00
TRENCH	42	\$ -	\$ 1,340.00
STOVES/CHIMNEY/LINERS	20	\$ 65,061.00	\$ 785.00
POOL/DEMO POOL			
<u>TOTALS</u>	<u>637</u>	<u>\$ 25,331,822.30</u>	<u>\$ 174,566.00</u>

Respectfully submitted,

Edwin A. May, Building Commissioner

REPORT OF THE PLUMBING INSPECTOR

To the Honorable Selectboard:

During the year July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016 this department did 231 inspections and collected \$13,880.00 in fees.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Krupski, Plumbing Inspector

REPORT OF THE GAS INSPECTOR

To the Honorable Selectboard:

During the year July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016 this department did 184 inspections and collected \$11,035.00 in fees.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert Gennari , Gas Inspector

REPORT OF THE WIRE INSPECTOR

To the Honorable Selectboard:

During the year July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016 this department did 709 inspections and collected \$42,544.00 in fees.

Respectfully submitted,

Ted Piontek, Wire Inspector

REPORT OF THE SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

To the Honorable Selectboard:

I hereby submit to you the report of the Sealer of Weights and Measures. 87 retail scales were inspected and certified. There were also 76 gasoline pumps that were tested and certified.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul K. Vacchina, Sealer of Weights and Measures

REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

To the Honorable Selectboard:

I am pleased to submit for your review the annual report of the Department of Public Works for fiscal year 2016. The Department of Public Works (DPW) includes the Divisions of Highway, Wastewater, Public Grounds (cemeteries, parks, and public buildings grounds), Public Buildings (facilities). The Department also manages Solid Waste Transfer and Recycling and Engineering design projects for the Town. The annual report for the Wastewater Division will be covered in a separate document.

Highway Division: The highway division operations include winter road maintenance (approx 98 miles), pavement repairs, roadside mowing, clearing road sides, street sweeping, litter removal, line painting (70 miles ± plus 50+ cross-walks), traffic sign maintenance, re-establishing drainage ditches, reconstructing catch basins (1000±), servicing and maintaining all equipment. Unscheduled work included answering emergency calls for automobile accidents and oil spills, fallen trees, flooding, washouts, and road icing. The division is also responsible for the overseeing of all roadway capital improvement projects. The department is on call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

Public Grounds Division: (Cemeteries, parks, public building grounds) along with providing support for the Highway Department during winter maintenance activities, maintains approximately 130 acres ± of cemeteries (7), parks and green areas and building grounds throughout the Town. This includes weekly maintenance and repairs. Other work done by the division includes building picnic tables for park areas, erecting bleachers and repairing facilities in and around park areas. The Division is also responsible for the sale of cemetery lots and provides assistance during services.

Public Buildings Division: Maintains the public buildings in town including; Town Hall, Mason Library, Ramsdell Library, Claire W. Teague Senior Center, Southern Berkshire District Court, Police Station, Great Barrington Fire Station, Housatonic Fire Station, and Housatonic Community Center. The staff of the division provides daily support and responds to building emergencies and alarms when necessary. The staff provides additional support for the highway division during winter maintenance activities

The Solid Waste Transfer and Recycling center is open Friday 8:00am - 3:00pm, Saturday 7:00am - 3:00pm, and Sunday 10:00am – 3:00pm. The Town continues to hold two Bulky Waste Collections days during the year for the residents. The Town also participates in the Southern Berkshire Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program with continued support and participation from Great Barrington residents. Comprehensive collection days for south county residents and several mini collection days are held throughout the year.

The DPW completed several planned road and improvement projects including:

- Repaving of Alford Road to the Alford Town Line
- Drainage improvements on Taconic Avenue
- Provided support for the installation of the new dynamic speed sign at Monument High School
- Completed investigation for the Town Hall roof replacement project.

New equipment purchased by the Department included:

- Freightliner dump truck
- F350 & F450 trucks
- Cemetery Mower

Ongoing projects included:

- Southern Berkshire District Court heating and cooling equipment replacement
- Highway Garage remediation
- Senior Center improvements

Projects under design for future improvements include:

- Front Street Drainage Improvements
- George Street Culvert Replacement
- District Court Window Replacement
- Castle Street Pedestrian tunnel rehabilitation

Annual contracts managed by the Department include:

- FY 16 Custodial Supplies
- FY 16 WWTP Chemicals – Various suppliers
- FY 16 Sludge Management Contract
- FY 16 Catch Basin Cleaning
- FY 16 Refuse Collection (buildings)
- FY 16 Diesel Fuel
- FY 16 Heating Oil
- FY 16 Gasoline (87 Octane)

- FY 16 Elevator Service
- FY 16 Building Alarm Services
- FY 16 Building Sprinkler Systems Service
- FY 16 Landfill monitoring
- FY 16 Uniform Services
- FY 16 Backup Generators annual maintenance contracts
- FY 16 Annual Boiler Maintenance

This will be the last annual report submitted by me. It has been my pleasure to serve the residents of the Town of Great Barrington. I also want again to express my sincerest gratitude and thanks to all employees of the DPW for their support, cooperation and hard work over the last eight years.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joseph W. Sokul, DPW Superintendent (Retired)

REPORT OF THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITIES

To The Honorable Selectboard:

The Wastewater Division received at its treatment facilities some 282 million gallons of wastewater and 2.10 million gallons of septic tank waste from January 2016 through December 2016. The treatment of the wastewater removed 96.5% of the biological oxygen demand and 97.8% of the suspended solids before it was discharged to the Housatonic River. Additionally, some 1,200 tons of sludge cake was processed and removed off site

Throughout the fiscal year, many wastewater issues were addressed and projects completed on the premises and throughout the town.

All pumps and equipment were maintained throughout the fiscal year.

The department is in the process of the phase two at the wastewater facilities which involves a influent station upgrade. The upgrade involves new pumps and screening system, also the recycling of the plant effluent for process water.

Several feet of sewer main was televised for its condition and recorded for priority of repair and or replacement in coming construction seasons.

Considerable amounts of storm water were removed from the sanitary sewer at the completion of the Main Street Project.

Sanitary sewer main were replaced on Bridge Street and Pine Street, manholes were rebuild and various point repairs were made to the sewer system.

The department developed cost savings measures by utilizing its preventive maintenance program. This program is ongoing and will have energy saving options as it progresses.

For the public's help, the wastewater division is asking that sewer users please dispose of sanitary and cleaning wipes in the trash and NOT the toilet. These items along with disposable diapers have become a serious issue to the extent they are causing numerous pump failures and resulting in costly repairs that will affect the sewer rates.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy Drumm, Wastewater Superintendent

REPORT OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

To the Honorable Board of Selectboard:

The Parks and Recreation Commission has overview of and responsibility for the various parks and playgrounds of the town. As always, we are grateful for the financial support provided us by the citizens of Great Barrington at the Annual Town Meeting.

During this past year we concentrated our efforts on completing the various upgrades to the Alice Bubriski Playground at the Housatonic Commons. We had previously installed playground equipment, a water fountain, and benches. In addition, we have planted various tree species which will ultimately provide shade for several locations in the Commons.

We have also installed adult fitness equipment and in conjunction with a donation from the Norton family will be completing the construction of a family picnic area.

We are grateful for the input from our local citizens, as well as volunteer help in maintaining this addition to the town's recreational areas. We are also indebted to the Great Barrington DPW for their help in providing both guidance and manpower to complete the work.

In addition we are in the process of installing various species of trees, to both provide shade for the playground as well as to enhance the attractiveness of the park for the community. We have worked in concert with the neighbors and users of the park to provide an area that will be the focal point of the community. We expect to complete this project in the early spring of 2017.

We continue to contract with Berkshire South Regional Community Center to offer programming and supervision at the Memorial Field Skate Park as well as the Bubriski Playground. Their experienced leadership and staff have been invaluable to allow us to provide these services to our citizens and their children.

Berkshire South has also been instrumental in providing supervision and lifeguarding at Lake Mansfield. This popular summer-time location attracts hundreds of residents and non-residents alike who enjoy the cool waters of the lake during our warm days. There are also picnic tables and grills which are well-used for parties or just an informal afternoon or evening cook-out.

Berkshire South also provides free swimming lessons at Lake Mansfield. (Residents can check the town website to obtain further information on dates and times.)

We are grateful to the citizens of Great Barrington who have been supportive of our efforts by voting financial support for these programs. Without this support our successes would not be realized.

We will continue to upgrade our other parks, such as the baseball and softball fields at Olympian Meadows, the Grove Street Park and numerous other parks. We welcome the input of the various users of these parks and invite anyone to either contact our members or attend one of our monthly meetings (usually the second Monday of each month at the Mason Library).

As mentioned in last year's report, we intend a major upgrade of the facilities at Memorial Field. This project has the potential of providing easier access to the field, as well as increased parking for our physically-challenged citizens. Memorial Field and its associated skate park provide much-used recreational programs for both our older and younger citizens.

Future objectives will also include development of a plan for public restrooms.

We also would like to thank the cemetery division of the DPW for maintaining the parks and playgrounds. It is often a thankless, and certainly a difficult, task to keep our numerous parks and playgrounds in good repair and we are grateful for all their efforts and time. On behalf of the public, we loudly proclaim "Thanks!"

We would be remiss if we did not also thank the individuals who volunteer their time and efforts to support our mission. Among the many volunteer groups are members of the Great Barrington Little League, the Lake

Mansfield Alliance, the Greenagers, the Great Barrington Garden Club and the Great Barrington Millers Adult Baseball Team. Without them we would be unable to provide our citizens with the opportunity for enjoyable sporting and recreational activities.

Before concluding this brief report we want to thank our now-retired DPW superintendent Joseph Sokul. His cooperation and wealth of knowledge over the past many years have allowed us to continue our efforts to provide the town and its citizens with the multitude of programs that are essential to the quality of life that Great Barrington offers.

Finally, the Parks & Recreation Commissioners thank the citizens of Great Barrington for the opportunity to serve their recreational needs and, of course, their financial support at the Annual Town Meeting. We are always open to suggestions and gratefully accept all offers of volunteer support.

Please visit the town website at www.townofgb.org to obtain the latest information on the location of our parks and playgrounds and the various programs we offer.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Gibbons, Chair

REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

To the Honorable Selectboard:

During the fiscal year that began July 1, 2015 and ended June 30, 2016 there were two Elections and one Annual Town Meeting and one Special Town Meeting.

	<u>Registered Voter</u>	<u>Ballots Cast</u>	<u>% Voted</u>
Presidential Primary Election March 1, 2016	4468	2135	48%
Annual Town Meeting May 9, 2016	4590	410	11%
Annual Town Election May 17, 2016	4590	576	12.5%
Special Town Meeting June 13, 2016	4491	250	6%

The Annual Town Meeting was held May 9th, 2016 with voters (12.5%) acting on 34 warrant articles, including several bylaw changes. The articles of note were: approval of Community Preservation projects, updated Zoning Bylaws and revised map, Demolition Delay Bylaw, a new Tree Management and Replacement Bylaw and an increase in the to increase the property tax exemption for Seniors. The zoning articles were all approved by the Attorney General’s Office.

There were 83 marriages, 134 births and 130 deaths recorded during the fiscal year. The Annual Census was 6957 with 4,371 registered voters in the Town of Great Barrington at the end of the fiscal year.

Fees amounting to \$55,649.80 were turned over to the Treasurer for the sale of birth, marriage and death records, the filing of marriage intentions, the recording of business certificates, fuel storage registrations, pole locations, the sale of zoning bylaws, photo copies, raffle permits, dog license fees and transfer station fees. Credit Card payments totaled \$9,376.70 in the office and online. The total turned over for the fiscal year was \$65,026.50.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Ryan, CMC, CMMC
Town Clerk

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF REGISTRARS

To the Honorable Selectboard:

During the fiscal Year there were three voter registration sessions. As of June 30, 2016 there were 4,371 registered voters in Great Barrington. Registered voters by party affiliation were:

American Ind.	1
Conservative	1
Democrats	1,839
Green Party USA	3
Green Rainbow	9
Libertarian	9
Republicans	309
Unenrolled	2,171
United Independent Party	29

The annual census/street list was completed in June. Based on the forms that were returned to the office, our resident count as of June 30, 2016 was 6,957

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Ryan, Town Clerk

Linda Coons

Ellen Smith

Board of Registrars

TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
AT MONUMENT MOUNTAIN REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM
STOCKBRIDGE ROAD
MAY 9, 2016 AT 6:00 PM
MINUTES

In pursuance of the foregoing warrant the inhabitants of the Town of Great Barrington qualified to vote in Town Meetings proceeded to vote at the above named meeting place with the following results. The meeting was duly called to order at 6:10 P.M. by Moderator Edward McCormick who welcomed everyone to the 256th Great Barrington Annual Town Meeting. He noted that he hoped to conclude all business this evening but will make a determination later in the meeting if this is not possible and the meeting will be adjourned to Thursday, May 12th. Mr. McCormick stated that there was a quorum present and noted the return and service of the warrant. He announced that the meeting is being taped for broadcast at a later date and any use of social media during the meeting is prohibited. Mr. McCormick requested that everyone stand and join him in the Pledge of Allegiance led by Myles Houle, boy scout from Troop 23 from Great Barrington. Mr. McCormick requested a moment of silence for recently deceased Great Barrington Police Officer, Ryan Storti. A moment of silence was requested for the following town officials who passed away from July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015; Mary A. Seelig, Nola Watson Lawrence, John Edward Hassett, Catherine S. Mielke, William H. Mooney, Roberta Lucy Wheeler, Ruth Siok, Aldo L. Oggiani, Elizabeth W. Long, Paul M. Baumann, Sr., Benjamin A. Koldys, Jr., Natalie W. Goranson and Jane Finn. Mr. McCormick introduced the Town Officials seated on the stage; Town Clerk Marie Ryan, Town Accountant Lauren Sartori Hobgood, Town Counsel David Doneski, Town Manager Jennifer Tabakin, Selectboard Chair Sean Stanton, Selectboard: Stephen Bannon, Daniel Bailly, Edward Abrahams and William Cooke; Finance Committee Members: Michael Wise, Chair, Thomas Blauvelt, Walter Atwood, III, Leigh Davis and Eugene Curletti.

The rules of the meeting were explained by Mr. McCormick. The meeting will be governed by the Massachusetts General Laws, the Bylaws of the Town of Great Barrington and Town Meeting Time. More specifically, Mr. McCormick reminded everyone of the fire/safety regulations and requested that there be no standing or sitting in the aisles. Only registered voters of the town may participate in the meeting unless permission is granted by the moderator. Before anyone addresses the Town Meeting, he/she must proceed to the microphone and when recognized by the moderator state their name and address. Mr. McCormick requested that voters speak only once per motion and limit their comments to three minutes. Comments should be limited to the merits of the motion and should not be repeated. All motions and amendments must be made in writing and any motion to reconsider must be made within 15 minutes of the announced vote. All questions are to be addressed to the moderator who will ask the appropriate person to respond. All votes to raise and appropriate by borrowing shall be done by secret ballot. Any funds in excess of the Finance Committee recommendation will be by secret ballot if twenty or more voters request it. If twenty or more voters request a secret ballot on any issue, the moderator will determine if one is necessary. Each voter has received a warrant, a green card and a packet of yes/no cards. Mr. McCormick will instruct voters when these are to be used and what color to use. He noted that a counter has been assigned to each section of the auditorium and will report their numbers to the Town Clerk.

Mr. McCormick then explained that he would need to excuse himself from articles 6, 23 and 25. He then made a motion to accept Richard Dohoney to step in as moderator for those articles, motion seconded by the Lauren Sartori Hobgood. He asked if there was any discussion, seeing none, asked for a vote. All were in favor.

Selectboard Chair, Sean Stanton then took over the microphone. He announced that this was Mr. McCormick's final Town Meeting as Moderator and thanked him for his 21 years of service as an exceptional Moderator. He presented him with a clock and a proclamation from the Town. Mr. McCormick thanked everyone.

Mr. McCormick introduced Town Manager Jennifer Tabakin who presented a power point slide presentation in regards to the articles.

Mr. McCormick requested that any preliminary motions be made at this time.

A motion was made by Lauren Sartori Hobgood, seconded by Sean Stanton to dispense with the reading of the warrant.

VOTED AT 6:34 PM

ARTICLE 1:

On a motion by Leigh Davis seconded by Lauren Sartori Hobgood, voted that the Town authorize the use of revolving funds for the following programs and purposes:

- a. Plumbing Inspector (\$15,000)
- b. Wire Inspector (\$50,000)
- c.. Gas Inspector (\$15,000)
- d. Town Code Printing (\$10,000)
- e. Parks Commission (\$5,000)
- f. Recycling/Green Product Sales (\$5,000)
- g. Cemetery (\$5,000)
- h. Fire Inspectors (\$5,000)

which revolving funds together shall not exceed the sum of One Hundred Ten Thousand Dollars (\$110,000.00), which shall be under the control of the Town Treasurer, which shall be accounted for separately and to which shall be credited only the departmental receipts received in connection with the programs supported by each revolving fund; further to authorize the Town Treasurer to expend from such funds in accordance with Chapter 44, §53 E 1/2 of the General Laws, provided however that said expenditures for all revolving funds shall not exceed the receipts for such funds.

VOTED AT 6:38 PM

ARTICLE 2:

On a motion by Thomas Blauvelt seconded by Lauren Sartori Hobgood, voted that the Town fix the salaries of all elected officials for the period of July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017 as indicated below:

Elected Officials Salaries:

Selectmen: \$7,500 (\$1,500 per Selectman)

Asa Hardcastle made a motion to amend this article to change the amount from \$7,500 to \$12,500 and (\$1,500 per Selectman) to (\$2,500 per Selectman). This amendment was seconded by the audience.

Anthony Dapolito and Sean Stanton spoke on this amendment and there was no further discussion. The Moderator called for the vote.

VOTED AS AMENDED AT 6:41 PM

Mr. McCormick then called for the vote on the article as amended.

VOTED AT 6:42 PM

ARTICLE 3:

On a motion by Walter Atwood, III seconded by someone in the audience, voted that the Town accept any and all funds being provided by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Division of Transportation (Mass DOT), under the provisions of Chapter 90 of the General Laws, to pay for such costs as allowed by appropriate legislation in connection with the maintenance, repair, and construction of Town ways and bridges.

VOTED AT 6:42 PM

ARTICLE 4:

On a motion by Michael Wise seconded by Lauren Sartori Hobgood, voted that the sum of \$2,638,250 is appropriated to (i) pay the costs of acquiring five voting machines at a cost of approximately \$33,000, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto, (ii) pay the costs of purchasing and equipping one new police cruiser at a cost of approximately \$45,600, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto, (iii) pay the costs of acquiring Air Packs for the Fire Department at a cost of approximately \$200,000, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto, (iv) pay the costs of acquiring new Computers and new Phone system for the Police Department at an approximate cost of \$94,300, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto, and (v) pay the costs of acquiring two new Radio Consoles for the Police Department at an approximate cost of \$216,000, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto, (vi)) pay the costs of purchasing and equipping one new Pickup Truck at a cost of approximately \$45,000, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto, (vii)) pay the costs of purchasing and equipping one new Dump Truck at a cost of approximately \$225,000, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto, (viii) pay the costs of Town buildings improvements at an approximate cost of \$91,000, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto, (ix) pay the costs of various roadway and drainage improvements at a cost of approximately \$608,350, (x)) pay the costs of various Bridge Repairs and painting at a cost of approximately \$1,080,000, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto, and the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectboard, is authorized to borrow \$2,638,250 pursuant to chapter 44, Sections 7 and 8 of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor. The amount authorized to be borrowed pursuant to this vote shall be reduced to the extent of any grants received by the Town on account of the expenditure or expenditures approved by this vote.

Mr. McCormick then read each item and told the audience if they had any questions or holds to yell it out as he read each item. There were no questions or holds on any item. The Moderator stated that this vote has to be a 2/3rd majority vote by secret ballot. He then instructed the voters to go to the ballot boxes with their pink yes/no slips.

DECLARED 2/3RD MAJORITY VOTE AT 7:06 PM

YES – 266 NO – 86

ARTICLE 5:

On a motion by Eugene Curletti seconded by Karen Smith, voted that the Town raise and appropriate \$78,200 for the following General Fund Capital Items excepting the sum of \$14,000 which is to be transferred from cemetery perpetual care interest account for the cemetery mower and the sum of \$7,200 from the police drug forfeiture account for the license plate reader.

<u>General Fund</u>	
<u>Police</u>	
License Plate Reader	\$ 19,200
<u>Public Works</u>	
Cemetery-mower	14,000
<u>Parks</u>	
Improvements	45,000
Total Capital-General Fund	\$ 78,200

Mr. McCormick then read each item and told the audience if they had any questions or holds to yell it out as he read each item. There was a hold on the Police License Plate Reader and Parks Improvements.

Public Works – Cemetery Mower

Michelle Loubert spoke on this item of the article.

VOTED AT 6:53 PM

Police – License Plate Reader

Carol Diehl and Police Chief Walsh spoke on this item. Mr. McCormick then asked for a vote, which he then asked for a hand count by the counters.

DEFEATED AT 7:13 PM

YES – 171 NO – 187

Parks – Improvements

Karen Smith spoke on this item.

VOTED AT 7:08 PM

ARTICLE 6:

On a motion by Thomas Blauvelt seconded by Lauren Sartori Hobgood, voted that the sum of \$600,000, is appropriated to pay costs of purchasing and equipping a new fire truck, and for payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto, and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectboard, is authorized to borrow \$600,000 under and pursuant to Chapter 44, section 7(9) of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor; provided: the amount authorized to be borrowed pursuant to this vote shall be reduced to the extent of any grants received by the Town on account of the expenditure or expenditures approved by this vote, and further, that no sums shall be borrowed or expended hereunder until the Town shall have voted to exclude the amounts required to repay any borrowing authorized by this vote from the limitations on the levy of local property taxes contained in Chapter 59, Section 21C of the General Laws (Prop. 2 ½).

Mr. Richard Dohoney stepped in as Moderator for this article. He asked if there was any discussion and seeing none, stated that this vote has to be a 2/3rd majority vote by secret ballot. He then instructed the voters to precede to the ballot boxes with their purple yes/no slips.

DECLARED 2/3RD MAJORITY VOTE AT 8:08 PM

YES – 268 NO – 125

ARTICLE 7:

On a motion by Eugene Curletti seconded by someone in the audience, voted that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of Thirteen Million, Eight Hundred Twenty Seven Thousand, Two Hundred and Thirty Four Dollars (\$13,827,234.00) for the operating assessment, and Six Hundred Thirty Six Thousand One Hundred Sixty Five Dollars (\$636,165.00) for the capital assessment, for a total assessment of Fourteen Million, Four Hundred Sixty Three Thousand, Three Hundred and Ninety Nine Dollars (\$14,463,399.00) of the Berkshire Hills Regional School District.

Peter Dillon, Berkshire Hills Regional School District Superintendent presented a power point on the school budget. The following people spoke on this article:

George Beebe

Roselle Chartock

Gabrielle Senza

Marsha Weiner

Susan Higa

Daniel Bailly

Gene Kalish

Malcolm Fick

Karen Smith

Michael Ury

Ron Banks

Ellen Lahr

Sharon Gregory

Ruthie Lee

Leigh Davis

Marianne Young

Chip Elitzer

Peter Dillon

Mr. McCormick stated he believed that this article should be by secret ballot. He then asked voters to go to the ballot boxes with their white yes/no slips.

DEFEATED AT 8:17 PM

YES – 176 NO – 215

ARTICLE 8:

On a motion by Michael Wise seconded by someone in the audience, voted that the Town raise and appropriate such sums of money necessary for the operation of the several departments in the Town for the ensuing year as detailed in the FY17 Annual Budget for the General Fund.

The Moderator read each item and asked the voters to call out question or hold if they had any. Then we would vote on all non-held items and go back to discuss the held items. There were no questions or holds on any line item.

VOTED AT 8:13 PM

ARTICLE 9:

On a motion by Leigh Davis seconded by Lauren Sartori Hobgood, voted that the Town appropriate from the receipts of the Wastewater Treatment Plant such sums of money necessary for the operation of the Sewer Division for the ensuing year as detailed in the FY17 Annual Budget for the Sewer Fund.

VOTED AT 8:14 PM

ARTICLE 10:

On a motion by Walter Atwood, III seconded by Lauren Sartori Hobgood, voted that the Town appropriate and transfer the sum of \$155,919.03, the unexpended balance of the amount appropriated under Article 7 of the May 16, 2005 Town Meeting for remodeling, reconstructing, equipping and making extraordinary repairs to the Mason Library, to authorize expenditure for remodeling, reconstructing or making extraordinary repairs to any Town library or for any other Town library improvement purposes for which the Town is authorized to borrow in accordance with Section 20 of Chapter 44 of the General Laws, as it may be amended, or any other enabling authority.

VOTED AT 8:15 PM

ARTICLE 11:

On a motion by Leigh Davis seconded by Lauren Sartori Hobgood, voted that the Town authorize the use of \$2,150,000.00 in Free Cash to reduce the tax levy for Fiscal Year 2017.

VOTED AT 8:15 PM

ARTICLE 12:

On a motion by Karen Smith seconded by Lauren Sartori Hobgood, voted that the Town appropriate from the Community Preservation Fund annual revenues the following amounts recommended by the Community Preservation Committee for committee administrative expenses in fiscal year 2017 and for Budgeted Reserve, and reserve for future appropriation for community preservation projects the following reserve amounts, with each item to be considered a separate appropriation:

Reserves:

From FY 2017 revenues for historic resources reserve	\$ 43,050
From FY 2017 revenues for community housing reserve	\$ 43,050
From FY 2017 revenues for open space reserve	\$ 43,050

Appropriations:

From FY 2017 revenues for administrative expenses	\$ 19,178
From undesignated fund balance for 2017 budgeted reserve	\$ 250,000

VOTED AT 8:17 PM

ARTICLE 13:

On a motion by Karen Smith seconded by Chris Rembold, voted that the Town appropriate from the Community Preservation Fund for fiscal year 2017 the following amounts recommended by the Community Preservation Committee with each item to be considered a separate appropriation:

	Project	Total Appropriation	Source of Appropriation		
			2016 budgeted reserve	reserved funds balances (housing, open space, or	2017 revenues
	<u>AFFORDABLE HOUSING</u>				
1	100 Bridge Street - creation of affordable housing units	\$250,000	\$250,000		
2	316 State Road - creation of affordable housing units	\$220,000		\$64,555	\$155,445
3	Total Affordable Housing	\$470,000	\$250,000	\$64,555	\$155,445
	<u>HISTORIC PRESERVATION</u>				
4	Restoration of 1089 Main Street	\$60,000		\$60,000	
5	Wheeler Farmstead - preservation phase 1B	\$24,250		\$4,555	\$19,695
6	Historical Commission Town-wide historic resources survey	\$15,000			\$15,000
7	Total Historic Preservation	\$99,250	\$0	\$64,555	\$34,695
	<u>OPEN SPACE</u>				
8	Creation of trails at CHP campus	\$10,000			\$10,000
9	Agricultural Preservation of Windy Hill Farm	\$170,000	\$49,825	\$64,555	\$55,620
10	GBLC for River Walk restoration	\$26,412			\$26,412
11	Total OpenSpace	\$206,412	\$49,825	\$64,555	\$92,032
12	TOTAL	\$775,662	\$299,825	\$193,665	\$282,172

Chris Rembold, Town Planner, made a power point presentation on the projects for this article. Then the moderator read each item and asked for the voters to callout any questions or holds. One item #1 – questions by Patrick Fennell, John Breasted, Gabrielle Senza – and Tim Geller answered the questions. On item # 8 – questions by Eugene Warford and answered by Sean Stanton. There were holds placed on items #1, 4 and 9.

Mr. McCormick then asked for a vote on all other items.

VOTED AT 8:29 PM

#1 – 100 Bridge Street

Gabrielle Senza and Chris Rembold spoke on this item. Mr. McCormick asked for a hand counted vote.

VOTED AT 8:49 PM

YES – 155 NO – 100

#4 – 1089 Main Street

The following people spoke on this item:

Chris Rembold	Attorney David Doneski
Paul Ivory	Carol Diehl
Sharon Gregory	James Stark
Fred Clark	Ed Abrahams

VOTED AT 8:49 PM

#9 – Agricultural Preservation Windy Hill Farm

People who spoke on this article:

George Beebe	Karen Smith
Patrick Fennell	Ann Fredericks
Vivian Orlowski	

VOTED AT 9:00 PM

ARTICLE 14:

On a motion by Ed Abrahams seconded by Michael Wise, voted that the Town a) approve an increase in the property tax exemption amount under Clause 41C of Section 5 of Chapter 59 of the General Laws, Senior Exemption, from \$750 to \$1,000; b) increase the asset limits for eligibility for the exemption from \$28,000 to \$40,000 for a single person and from \$30,000 to \$55,000 for married persons; and c) accept Clause 41D of said Section 5 so as to approve tying the income limits for eligibility (currently \$20,000 for a single person and \$30,000 for married persons) and the asset limits (as adjusted hereunder) to the percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) published by the U.S. Department of Labor as reported by the Department of Revenue (DOR) each year.

VOTED AT 9:01 PM

ARTICLE 15:

On a motion by Daniel Bailly seconded by someone in the audience, voted that the Town authorize the Selectboard to acquire easements in and over land in the vicinity of Meadow Street and Front Street in the Village of Housatonic in connection with the Front Street Drainage Improvements Project, including portions of Lots 117A, 119, 120, and 121 as shown on Assessors' Map 1, and portions of Lots 9, 22, and 50 as shown on Assessors' Map 2, containing in total approximately 16,049 square feet and more particularly shown on a plan entitled "Easement Plan Front Street," dated October 5, 2015, prepared by Sherman & Frydryk, LLC, a copy of which is on file in the office of the Town Clerk; to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 1.00 for such acquisition; and authorize the Selectboard to execute all documents and take all actions necessary in connection therewith.

Mr. McCormick stated this article had to be by a 2/3rds majority vote.

DECLARED A 2/3RDS MAJORITY VOTE AT 9:03 PM

ARTICLE 16:

On a motion by Sean Stanton seconded by Michael Wise, voted that the Town authorize the Selectboard to acquire, by purchase or otherwise, a parcel of land lying between Main Street in Housatonic and Van Deusenville Road, identified as Lot 29A on Assessors' Map 26, containing in total approximately 3.34 acres and shown on a plan entitled "Plan of Land in Great Barrington, MA Prepared for Kirt Mayland," dated July 16, 2015, prepared by Whitman & Bingham Associates, LLC, a copy of which is on file in the office of the Town Clerk; to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 1.00 for such acquisition; and to authorize the Selectboard to execute all documents and take all actions necessary in connection therewith.

Patricia Ryan spoke on this article. The Moderator then stated this article had to pass by a 2/3rds majority vote.

DECLARED A 2/3RDS MAJORITY VOTE AT 9:04 PM

ARTICLE 17:

On a motion by Jeremy Higa seconded by someone in the audience, voted that the Town amend the Zoning Bylaw, Sections 2.1, 2.2, 7.12, and 11.0, as shown in Article 17 of the warrant for this Town Meeting.

The Moderator then stated this article had to pass by a 2/3rds majority vote. A Planning Board report was read by Jeremy Higa. There was no discussion.

DECLARED A 2/3RDS MAJORITY VOTE AT 9:06 PM

ARTICLE 18:

On a motion by Jeremy Higa seconded by Chris Rembold, voted that the Town amend the Zoning Bylaw, Section 5.7, as shown in Article 18 of the warrant for this Town Meeting.

The Moderator then stated this article had to pass by a 2/3rds majority vote. A Planning Board report was read by Jeremy Higa. There was no discussion.

DECLARED A 2/3RDS MAJORITY VOTE AT 9:07 PM

ARTICLE 19:

On a motion by Brandee Nelson seconded by Chris Rembold, voted that the Town amend the Zoning Bylaw, Section 8.2.2, as shown in Article 19 of the warrant for this Town Meeting.

A Planning Board report was read by Brandee Nelson. Patricia Ryan, Joseph Carini and Chris Rembold all spoke on this article.

Mr. Carini made a motion for an amendment: to delete the words "Abutters within 300 feet of" and replace it with "Immediate abutters having common boundaries with". This motion was seconded by someone in the audience. Jonathan Hankin, Jack Musgrove, Malcolm Fick, Carol Diehl and Pat Ryan spoke on this amendment. Then Mr. McCormick asked for a hand count vote on the amendment:

AMENDMENT DEFEATED AT 9:20 PM

YES – 69 NO – 90

The Moderator then stated this article had to pass by a 2/3rds majority vote.

DECLARED A 2/3RDS MAJORITY VOTE AT 9:20 PM

ARTICLE 20:

On a motion by Malcolm Fick seconded by Chris Rembold, voted that the Town amend the Zoning Bylaw, Section 7.10.2, as shown in Article 20 of the warrant for this Town Meeting.

The Moderator then stated this article had to pass by a 2/3rds majority vote. A Planning Board report was read by Malcolm Fick. There was no discussion.

DECLARED A 2/3RDS MAJORITY VOTE AT 9:19 PM

ARTICLE 21:

On a motion by Suzanne Fowle seconded by someone in the audience, voted that the Town amend the Zoning Bylaw by adding a new Section 9.11, Mixed Use Transitional Zone (MXD), and by revising Section 2.1.2, Section 3.1.4, Section 4.1.2, Section 8.3.6, Section 8.4.1, and Section 8.4.2, as shown in Article 21 of the warrant for this Town Meeting; and amend the Zoning Map accordingly, as described in said Article 21.

The Moderator then stated this article had to pass by a 2/3rds majority vote. A Planning Board report was read by Suzanne Fowle. There was no discussion.

DECLARED A 2/3RDS MAJORITY VOTE AT 9:23 PM

ARTICLE 22:

On a motion by Brandee Nelson seconded by someone in the audience, voted that the Town amend the Zoning Bylaw, Sections 3.1.4 and 8.3.3, as shown in Article 22 of the warrant for this Town Meeting.

The Moderator then stated this article had to pass by a 2/3rds majority vote. A Planning Board report was read by Brandee Nelson. There was no discussion.

DECLARED A 2/3RDS MAJORITY VOTE AT 9:26 PM

The Moderator stated that he would do article 24 and then stated that Mr. Dohoney will step in for him as moderator for article 23 and 25.

ARTICLE 23:

On a motion by Jack Musgrove seconded by Karen Smith, voted that the Town amend the Zoning Bylaw, Section 11.0, as shown in Article 23 of the warrant for this Town Meeting.

Richard Dohoney stepped in as Moderator for this article. The Moderator then stated this article had to pass by a 2/3rds majority vote. A Planning Board report was read by Jack Musgrove. There was no discussion.

DECLARED A 2/3RDS MAJORITY VOTE AT 9:30 PM

ARTICLE 24:

On a motion by Jonathan Hankin seconded by Chris Rembold, voted that the Town amend the Zoning Bylaw, Sections 9.2 and 11.0, as shown in Article 24 of the warrant for this Town Meeting.

The Moderator then stated this article had to pass by a 2/3rds majority vote. A Planning Board report was read by Jonathan Hankin. There was no discussion.

DECLARED A 2/3RDS MAJORITY VOTE AT 9:29 PM

ARTICLE 25:

On a motion by Stephen Bannon seconded by Sean Stanton, voted that the Town release any rights that may exist requiring the use and development of the property at 79 Bridge Street in conformance with the Purchase and Sale Agreement between Riverschool Redevelopment, LLC and the Town dated July 26, 2010.

John Breasted and Town Manager, Jennifer Tabakin spoke on this article and Richard Dohoney was the moderator.

VOTED AT 9:31 PM

ARTICLE 26:

On a motion by Sean Stanton seconded by Karen Smith, voted that the Town authorize the Selectboard to petition the Legislature to enact special legislation, to be effective upon passage, authorizing the Town of Great Barrington to adopt a local tax in an amount of 5 cents per gallon of gasoline and diesel fuel sold to the public, said tax to be administered by the Selectboard, with such receipts to be expended for the repair and maintenance of the Town's roads and bridges, provided, that the Legislature may reasonably vary from the form and substance of the requested legislation within the scope of the general public objectives of this petition.

Patrick Fennell, George Beebe, Sean Stanton and John Breasted all spoke on this article.

VOTED AT 9:36 PM

ARTICLE 27

On a motion by William Cooke seconded by Stephen Bannon, voted that the Town approve, and authorize the Selectboard to enter into, a Tax Agreement pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 59, section 38H(b), and Chapter 164, Section 1, and/or any other enabling authority with RT MA Solar, LLC or any successor lessee/operator for personal property taxes associated with the 2.1 megawatts ("MW") solar photovoltaic facility to be located on property at 67 Van Deusenville Road in the Village of Housatonic and shown on Assessors' Map 5 as Parcel 10, for a term of up to twenty (20) years, on such terms and conditions as the Select Board deems to be in the best interest of the Town, and to take any and all actions as may be necessary or convenient to accomplish the purpose of this article.

VOTED AT 9:37 PM

ARTICLE 28:

On a motion by Ed Abrahams seconded by Sean Stanton, voted that the Town adopt a demolition delay bylaw as set forth in Article 28 of the warrant for this Town Meeting, and authorize the Town Clerk to assign chapter and section numbers for the bylaw within Division 1, Part II of the Town Code.

Malcolm Fick presented a power point presentation. Jonathan Hankin, Patricia Ryan, Paul Ivory, Jack Musgrove, Brandee Nelson, and Diego Gutierrez all spoke on this article.

DEFEATED AT 9:51 PM

ARTICLE 29:

On a motion by Stephen Bannon seconded by Karen Smith, voted that the Town amend Chapter 163 of the Town Code, Trees, by adding a new section 3 as set forth in Article 29 of the warrant for this Town Meeting.

Tree Committee member, Jess Wikle spoke on this article.

VOTED AT 9:52 PM

ARTICLE 30:

On a motion by William Cooke seconded by someone in the audience, voted that the Town adopt the resolution declaring Great Barrington to be a Pollinator-Friendly Community as set forth in Article 30 of the warrant for this Town Meeting.

Vivian Orłowski spoke on this article.

VOTED AT 9:56 PM

ARTICLE 31:

On a motion by William Cooke seconded by Sean Stanton, voted that the Town adopt the resolution in favor of Massachusetts House Bill 2870 as set forth in Article 31 of the warrant for this Town Meeting.

Natalie Narotzky spoke on this article.

VOTED AT 9:58 PM

ARTICLE 32:

On a motion by Daniel Bailly seconded by Stephen Bannon, voted that the Town adopt the resolution in favor of Massachusetts House Bill 2871 as set forth in Article 32 of the warrant for this Town Meeting.

Natalie Narotzky spoke on this article.

VOTED AT 9:59 PM

ARTICLE 33:

On a motion by Sean Stanton seconded by Stephen Bannon, voted that the Town adopt the resolution regarding the Housatonic River Cleanup as set forth in Article 33 of the warrant for this Town Meeting.

VOTED AT 10:00 PM

ARTICLE 34: (by Petition)

On a motion by Eileen Mooney and seconded by Sean Stanton, voted that the Great Barrington Town Bylaws be amended to add the following: Within thirty-five (35) days of an open meeting of an elected or appointed board, minutes of the meeting must be posted on the town website and signed by the person who prepared them. If the board has not yet approved the minutes, "UNAPPROVED MINUTES" shall be written in large letters on the first page.

Eileen Mooney spoke on this article.

Town Manager Jennifer Tabakin made a motion to amend this article to delete "and signed by the person who prepared them". This was seconded by someone in the audience.

AMENDMENT PASSED AT 10:03 PM

Mr. McCormick asked for the vote on the amended article.

VOTED AS AMENDED AT 10:04 PM

Daniel Bailly made a motion for adjournment, seconded by the audience.

Adjourned at 10:04 PM.

There were 410 voters at the meeting out of the 4590 registered voters. (11%)

Respectfully Submitted,

Marie Y. Ryan, Town Clerk

TELEPHONE DIRECTORY OF TOWN SERVICES

Local Emergency Numbers

All Emergencies	911
Fire Department:	Great Barrington 528-0788
	Housatonic 274-3391
Ambulance	528-3900
Police	528-0306
State Police	243-0600

<u>DEPARTMENT:</u>	<u>CALL:</u>	<u>TELEPHONE:</u>
Board of Health	Health Inspector	528-0680
Cemeteries	Head Grounds Keeper	528-1800
DPW Superintendent	Sean VanDeusen	528-0867
Emergency Communications	William R. Walsh, Jr.	528-0306
Fence Viewers:	Bernard Drew	528-4953
	Kurt Barbieri	528-6278
Fire Chief	Charles Burger	528-0788
Gas Inspector	Robert Gennari	274-0267
Highway	Peter Soules	528-2500
Housatonic Community Center	Francis Tarnawa	274-8375
Housatonic Water Works Company	James Mercer	528-1780
Housing Authority	Nan Wile	274-1142
Inspector of Buildings	Edwin May	528-3206
Libraries: (Mason Library, GB)	Amanda DeGiorgis	528-2403
(Ramsdell, Housatonic)		274-3738
Plumbing Inspector	Robert Krupski	229-8019
Recycling Center	Friday's (8 AM - 3 PM)	528-5011
	Saturday's (7 AM - 3 PM)	
	Sunday's (10 AM - 3 PM)	
Schools- Berkshire Hills Regional	Monument Mountain High School	528-3346
	Monument Valley Middle	644-2300
	Muddy Brook Elementary	644-2350
School Superintendent	Peter Dillon	298-4017
Senior Center/Council on Aging	Polly Mann Salenovich	528-1881
Sewer Treatment Plant	Timothy Drumm	528-0650
TOWN HALL:		528-1619
Assessor's Office	Chris Lamarre	x 5
Conservation Commission	Shepley Evans, Agent	x 122
Selectmen	Helen Kuziemko	x 2
Town Accountant	Robert Patterson	x 6
Tax Collector/Treasurer	Karen Fink	x 4
<i>*Parking Clerk, Tag Sale Permits, Tax Bills (Real Estate & Motor Vehicle), Sewer Bills</i>		
Town Clerk	Marie Ryan	x 3
<i>*Birth/Marriage/Death Certificates, Dog Licenses, Voter Registration</i>		
Town Manager	Jennifer Tabakin	x 2
Town Planner	Christopher Rembold	x 7
Tree Warden	Michael Peretti	528-5552
Veteran's Services	Laurie Hils	528-1580
Water Department (G.B. Fire District)	Cindy Ullrich	528-0133
Wire Inspector	Theodore Piontek	274-6605