

# TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON

MASSACHUSETTS



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## ANNUAL REPORTS

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30,  
**2012**

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

## **IN MEMORIAM**

During the year, we were saddened by the passing of the following former Town officials during the Fiscal year (July 1, 2011-June 30, 2012) and dedicate this Annual Report to their memory:

**Ann C. Walsh**  
Library Trustee  
July 28, 2011

**Burt Ball, III**  
Election Worker  
August 15, 2011

**Lila Parrish**  
Historical Commission  
Great Barrington Historical Society  
Asst. Registrar of Deeds  
November 23, 2011

**Mortimer Cavanaugh**  
Great Barrington Fire District  
Great Barrington Fire Chief  
February 19, 2012

**Francis “Frank” X. Mackoul**  
Special Police Officer  
Great Barrington Fire Department  
Health Inspector  
Weights and Measures Inspector  
March 14, 2012

**Thomas A. Teggi, Sr.**  
Berkshire Hills Regional School Committee  
April 8, 2012

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## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR USE IN 2013**

### **Governor**

Deval L. Patrick

### **United States Senators**

Elizabeth Warren, Boston

John F. Kerry, Boston

### **Congressman**

Richard Neal, Springfield

First Congressional District

### **Councilor**

Michael J. Albano, Springfield

Eighth Councilor District

### **State Senator**

Benjamin Downing, Pittsfield

Berkshire Senatorial District

### **Representative in General Court**

William "Smitty" Pignatelli

Fourth Berkshire Representative District

### **Annual Town Election**

May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2012

### **Annual Town Meeting**

May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2012

**UNITED STATES CONGRESS  
CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION**

**GOVERNOR**

Massachusetts State House	Deval L. Patrick	
Office of Governor	<a href="http://state.ma.us.gov/">http://state.ma.us.gov/</a>	
Room 280	Western Mass	Office of Governor
Boston, MA 02133	Office of Governor	44 N. Capitol Street
	436 Dwight Street	Suite 208
	Suite 300	Washington, DC 20001
	Springfield, MA 01103	
Office: 888-870-7770	413-784-1200	202-624-7713

**U.S. SENATORS**

	Elizabeth Warren	
	<a href="http://warren.senate.gov/">http://warren.senate.gov/</a>	
22 Russell Courtyard	Springfield Federal Building	2400 JFK Fed Bldg
Washington, DC 20510	1500 Main Street Ste. 406	15 New Sudbury St.
Office: 202-224-4543	Springfield, MA 01103	Boston, MA 02203
		717-563-3170

	John F. Kerry:	
	<a href="http://kerry.senate.gov/">http://kerry.senate.gov/</a>	
218 Russell Senate Office Building	Springfield Federal Building	
Washington, DC 20510	1550 Main Street Ste. 304	
	Springfield, MA 01103	
Office: 202-224-2742	413-532-6543	

**U.S. REPRESENTATIVE**

	Richard Neal	
	<a href="http://www.house.gov/writerep">www.house.gov/writerep</a>	
	<a href="http://neal.house.gov/">http://neal.house.gov/</a>	
2208 Rayburn Ofc Building	300 State St. Ste. 200	78 Center St.
Washington, DC 20515	Springfield, Ma 01105	Pittsfield, MA 01201
Office: 202-225-5601	413-785-0325	413-442-0946

**STATE SENATOR**

	Benjamin B. Downing	
	Email: <a href="mailto:benjamin.downing@masenate.gov">benjamin.downing@masenate.gov</a>	
Room 413F	7 North Street, Suite 307	
Boston, MA 02133	Pittsfield, MA 01201	
Office: 617-722-1625	413-442-4008	

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**

	William "Smitty" Pignatelli	
	Email: <a href="mailto:rep.smitty@mahouse.gov">rep.smitty@mahouse.gov</a>	
Room 448	Lenox Town Hall, PO Box 2228	
Boston, MA 02133	Lenox, MA 01240	
Office: 617-722-2582	413-637-0631	



## FACTS ABOUT GREAT BARRINGTON

<b>Settled</b>	1726
<b>Incorporated</b>	1761
<b>Location</b>	Southwest Corner of Massachusetts
<b>Population</b>	6,705 (Annual Town Census)
<b>Legal Voters</b>	4,378
<b>Form of Government</b>	Board of Selectmen/Town Manager Open Town Meeting
<b>Tax Rate</b>	\$13.14 Fiscal 2013
<b>Public Schools</b>	Berkshire Hills Regional School District
<b>Police</b>	Chief, Two Sergeants and Fourteen Patrol Officers Telephone: 528-0306
<b>Town Highways</b>	91.01 Miles, 162 Streets
<b>Public Libraries</b>	Mason Public Library Great Barrington  Ramsdell Public Library Housatonic
<b>State Forests</b>	7,264 Acres
<b>Altitude</b>	721 Feet at Railroad Station
<b>Area</b>	45.86 Square Miles
<b>Web Site</b>	<a href="http://www.townofgb.org">www.townofgb.org</a>

## **TOWN OFFICERS**

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### **ELECTED OFFICIALS**

#### **Selectmen**

Stephen C. Bannon	Term Expires 2013
Alana Chernila	Term Expires 2013
Andrew D. Blechman	Term Expires 2014
Deborah Phillips	Term Expires 2015
Sean Stanton	Term Expires 2015

#### **Berkshire Hills Regional School Committee**

Deborah Kain	Term Expired 2014 (State Election)
Stephen C. Bannon	Term Expires 2014 (State Election)
Frederick Clark	Term Expires 2015 (State Election)
Richard Dohoney	Term Expires 2015 (State Election)
Christine Reilly Shelton	Term Expires 2015 (State Election)

#### **Board of Health**

Frederick P. Conforti	Term Expires 2013
Claudia A. Ryan	Term Expires 2014
Ron Majdalany	Term Expires 2015

#### **Constables**

Walter F. Atwood, III	Term Expires 2015
John Broderick, Jr.	Term Expires 2015

#### **Finance Committee**

Thomas Blauvelt	Term Expires 2013
Andrew Moro	Term Expires 2013
Mark Lefenfeld	Term Expires 2014
Walter F. Atwood, III	Term Expires 2015
Sharon Gregory	Term Expires 2015

#### **Great Barrington Housing Authority**

William Drumm	Term Expires 2013
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Dana DelGrande	Term Expires 2013
Ariane Blanchard	Term Expires 2015
Ann Condon (Appointed Dec 2012)	Term Expires 2013

### **Library Trustees**

Edward Abrahams (Appointed 2012)	Term Expires 2013
Mary Pat Akers (Appointed 2012)	Term Expires 2013
Thomas Blauvelt (Resigned 2012)	Term Expires 2013
Veronica Colley Cunningham (Resigned 2012)	Term Expires 2013
Holly Hamer	Term Expires 2014
Hilda Banks Shapiro	Term Expires 2014
Kathleen Plungis	Term Expires 2015
Emily Shaw	Term Expires 2015

### **Moderator**

Edward G. McCormick	Term Expires 2013
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### **Planning Board**

Richard M. Dohoney	Term Expires 2013
Suzanne Fowle Schroeder	Term Expires 2013
Ethan Culleton	Term Expires 2014
Jonathan Hankin	Term Expires 2014
Jack Musgrove	Term Expires 2015

### **Zoning Board of Appeals**

Carolyn Ivory	Term Expires 2013
Ron Majdalany	Term Expires 2014
Michael Wise	Term Expires 2014
Madonna Meagher	Term Expires 2015
Kathleen Kotleski	Term Expires 2015

## **TOWN OFFICERS**

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### **APPOINTED OFFICIALS**

#### **Agricultural Commission**

Mary Beth Merritt (Resigned 2012)	Term Expires 2013
Vivian Orlowski	Term Expires 2013
Barbara Zheutlin	Term Expires 2013
Luke Pryjma	Term Expires 2015
Hilda Banks Shapiro (Alternate)	Term Expires 2015

#### **Animal Control Officer**

Olivia VanSant	Term Indefinite
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#### **Animal Inspector**

Mark Pruhenski	Term Expires 2013
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#### **Assessor, Principal**

Christopher Lamarre	Term Indefinite
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#### **Board of Assessors**

John Katz	Term Expires 2013
Bruce Firger	Term Expires 2014
Robert Guidi	Ex-Officio

#### **Board of Registrars**

Marie Ryan	Term Indefinite
Linda A. Coons	Term Expires 2013
Ellen Smith	Term Expires 2015

#### **Cable Television Advisory Committee**

Thomas Hatch	Term Indefinite
Linda Miller	Term Indefinite
Robert O'Haver	Term Indefinite

**Cemetery Commissioners**

Marilyn Bisiewicz	Term Expires 2014
Stephen C. Bannon	Term Expires 2015
Walter F. Atwood, III	Term Expires 2014

**Chief Procurement Officer**

Kevin O'Donnell	Term Indefinite
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**Conservation Commission**

Jennifer Connell	Term Expires 2013
Bruce Gore	Term Expires 2013
Andrew Mankin	Term Expires 2013
David Shanahan	Term Expires 2013
Patricia B. Kinne (Resigned May 2012)	Term Expires 2014
Orit Kadosh	Term Expires 2013
Jessica Dezieck	Term Expires 2015

**Conservation Commission Agent**

Amanda Sewall	Term Indefinite
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**Council on Aging**

Eileen Gaarn	Term Expires 2013
Michele Gilligan	Term Expires 2013
Jane Green	Term Expires 2013
Mel Greenberg (Alford)	Term Expires 2013
Trudy Weaver Miller (Sheffield)	Term Expires 2014
Cory Hines (Mt. Washington)	Term Expires 2013
Barbara Bailly	Term Expires 2015
Amy Rutstein	Term Expires 2015
David Rutstein	Term Expires 2015
Grace Zbell	Term Expires 2015
Sandra Sokul	Term Expires 2014
Julia Hearn	Term Expires 2014

**Council on Aging, Director**

Polly Mann	Term Indefinite
Rebecca Tillinghast (Resigned May 2012)	Term Indefinite

### **Cultural Council**

Hilda Banks Shapiro	Term Expires 2013
Michael Wise	Term Expires 2013
John Kilner	Term Expires 2013
Lee Rogers	Term Expires 2014
Jonathan Williams	Term Expires 2014
Patricia Navarino	Term Expires 2015
Marcia Stamell	Term Expires 2015
Sherry Steiner	Term Expires 2015

### **Design Advisory Committee**

Edwin May	Term Indefinite
Jonathan Hankin	Term Expires 2014
Stephan Green	Term Expires 2014
Olga May Milligan	Term Expires 2014
Craig Okerstrom-Lang	Term Expires 2014
Stephen Dietemann	Term Expires 2015
Gaetan LaChance	Term Expires 2017
Daniel Bailly	Term Expires 2013
Holly Troiano	Term Expires 2013

### **Downtown Parking Task Force**

Betsy Andrus	Robin Helfand
Walter F. Atwood, III	Tom Levin
Thomas Blauvelt	Robert Navarino
Jennifer Clark	Craig Okerstrom-Lang
William Cooke	Richard Stanley
Sharon Gregory	

### **Emergency Management Director**

William R. Walsh, Jr.	Term Indefinite
William Brinker, Asst. Director	Term Indefinite

### **Energy Committee**

Peter Greer	Term Expires 2013
Diego Gutierrez	Term Expires 2013
Nancy Maurice Rogers	Term Expires 2013
Alana Chernila	Term Expires 2014
Ryan Caruso	Term Expires 2014
Michele DiSimone	Term Expires 2014
Beth Moser	Term Expires 2014
Brandee Nelson	Term Expires 2015

Christopher Vlcek

Term Expires 2015

**Fence Viewers**

Andrew D. Blechman  
Harold Shaw

Term Expires 2013  
Term Expires 2013

**Fire Department**

Charles Burger, Chief	Term Indefinite
Harry Jennings, Chief (Resigned 2012)	Term Indefinite
Steven Hall, Deputy Chief	Term Indefinite
Edward G. McCormick, Deputy Chief	Term Indefinite
Terrance Chamberland, Deputy Chief	Term Indefinite
David Benham, Captain	Term Indefinite
James Mead, Captain	Term Indefinite
Ryan Brown, Lieutenant	Term Indefinite
Peter Dumont, Lieutenant	Term Indefinite
Robert Hammer, Jr. Lieutenant	Term Indefinite
Darryl Marks, Lieutenant	Term Indefinite
Marc Palumbo, Lieutenant	Term Indefinite
Chad Shimmmon, Lieutenant	Term Indefinite
Jeffrey Aloisi	Term Indefinite
Richard Aloisi	Term Indefinite
Alan Anderson	Term Indefinite
Christopher Bangs	Term Indefinite
Justin Bona	Term Indefinite
Joseph Bozza	Term Indefinite
Derek Burger	Term Indefinite
Marco Cando	Term Indefinite
Elias Casey	Term Indefinite
Kevin Fitzpatrick	Term Indefinite
Robert Gaughran	Term Indefinite
Matt Heckendorn	Term Indefinite
Randall Higgins	Term Indefinite
George Houghtlin	Term Indefinite
Sam Hungate	Term Indefinite
Joseph Keefner, Jr.	Term Indefinite
Christopher Laramée	Term Indefinite
Mark Longo	Term Indefinite
Thomas Lovett, Jr.	Term Indefinite
Sean McMahon	Term Indefinite
Adam Mead	Term Indefinite
Brian Mead	Term Indefinite
Peter Montana	Term Indefinite
Chris Nelson	Term Indefinite
Justin Osak	Term Indefinite

Matthew Pevzner	Term Indefinite
David Renner	Term Indefinite
James Reynolds	Term Indefinite
Joshua A. Seile	Term Indefinite
Louis Stark	Term Indefinite
Timothy Stevens	Term Indefinite
John Woodard	Term Indefinite

### **Fire Inspectors**

Alan Anderson	Term Indefinite
Charles Burger	Term Indefinite
Peter Dumont	Term Indefinite
Steven Hall	Term Indefinite
Thomas Lovett	Term Indefinite
Darrell Marks	Term Indefinite
Justin Osak	Term Indefinite
Joshua Seile	Term Indefinite

### **Gas Inspector**

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

### **Health Agent**

Mark Pruhenski	Term Indefinite
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### **Health Inspector**

L. Locke Larkin	Term Indefinite
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### **Historical Commission**

Donald Howe	Term Expires 2013
David Rutstein	Term Expires 2013
Paul Ivory	Term Expires 2014
William Nappo	Term Expires 2014
Marilyn Bisiewicz	Term Expires 2015
Gary Leveille	Term Expires 2015
Malcolm Fick	Term Expires 2015

### **Historic District Commission**

James Mercer	Term Expires 2013
Barbara A. Syer	Term Expires 2014
William Nappo	Term Expires 2014

Craig Okerstrom-Lang	Term Expires 2014
Donald Howe	Term Expires 2015
Holly Troiano	Term Expires 2015
Daniel Bailly (Alternate)	Term Expires 2013
Patricia Ryan (Alternate)	Term Expires 2015
Marilyn Kalish (Alternate)	Term Expires 2014

### **Great Barrington Housing Authority Director**

Barbara Heaphy	Term Indefinite
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### **Inspector of Buildings**

Edwin May	Term Indefinite
Paul Greene, Assistant	Term Indefinite
Ned Baldwin, Alternate Asst.	Term Indefinite

### **Keeper of the Lock-up**

William Walsh, Jr.	Term Indefinite
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### **Library Director**

Kathleen Deviny	Term Indefinite
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### **Master Plan Committee**

Barbara Bailly	Term Indefinite
Andrew D. Blechman	Term Indefinite
Charles Bouteiller	Term Indefinite
Ryan Caruso	Term Indefinite
Ethan Culleton	Term Indefinite
Richard Dohoney	Term Indefinite
Shepley Evans	Term Indefinite
Michele Gilligan	Term Indefinite
Jonathan Hankin	Term Indefinite
Paul Ivory	Term Indefinite
William Meier	Term Indefinite
Vivian Orłowski	Term Indefinite
Deborah Phillips	Term Indefinite
David Shanahan	Term Indefinite
Michael Wise	Term Indefinite
Suzanne Fowle (Alternate)	Term Indefinite
David Rutstein (Alternate)	Term Indefinite

**Parking Clerk**

Deborah Ball

Term Indefinite

**Parking Enforcement Officer**

Sharon Nourse

Term Indefinite

**Parks Commissioners**

Paul Gibbons, Chairman

Term Expires 2013

Karen Smith

Term Expires 2013

Eliza Crescentini (Resigned Oct. 2012)

Term Expires 2014

Thomas Norton

Term Expires 2014

Kathleen Plungis

Term Expires 2014

Patricia Salvi

Term Expires 2014

Stephen Bannon

Term Expires 2015

Charles Bouteiller

Term Expires 2015

**Planning Board**

Brandee Nelson (Associate Member)

Term Expires 2015

**Plumbing Inspector**

Robert Krupski

Term Indefinite

Robert Gennari, Deputy

Term Indefinite

**Police Officers**

William Walsh, Jr., Chief

Term Indefinite

William Bartini, Sergeant

Term Indefinite

Paul Storti, Sergeant

Term Indefinite

Kristopher M. Balestro

Term Indefinite

Daniel Bersaw

Term Indefinite

James Bragdon

Term Indefinite

Adam J. Carlotto

Term Indefinite

Jonathan Finnerty

Term Indefinite

Richard Keefner

Term Indefinite

Jason LaForest

Term Indefinite

Paul Montgomery

Term Indefinite

Christopher Peebles

Term Indefinite

Joseph A. O' Brien

Term Indefinite

Chad Shimmon

Term Indefinite

Samuel Stolz

Term Indefinite

Timothy Ullrich

Term Indefinite

Victor Zucco

Term Indefinite

**Police Officers, Special**

Brian Arnold	Term Indefinite
Daniel Bartini	Term Indefinite
Michael Bertelli	Term Indefinite
Richard Congdon	Term Indefinite
Edward Hearn	Term Indefinite
Ryan Quinto	Term Indefinite
Timothy Roy	Term Indefinite
Ryan Storti	Term Indefinite

**Police Officers, Details Only**

Richard Gardella	Term Indefinite
Paul Harvey	Term Indefinite
Edward Scarbro	Term Indefinite
Craig Scott	Term Indefinite
Louis Sinico, Sr.	Term Indefinite

**Sanitary Inspector**

Mark Pruhenski	Term Indefinite
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**Sealer of Weights and Measures**

Paul Vacchina	Term Indefinite
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**Sign Officer**

Edwin May	Term Indefinite
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**Tree Committee**

Abby Schroeder	Term Expires 2013
Hilda Banks Shapiro	Term Expires 2013
Jessica Wikle	Term Expires 2013
Michael Wise	Term Expires 2013
Steve Adams	Term Expires 2014
Maria Ahlin	Term Expires 2014
Lisa Bozzuto	Term Expires 2014
Beth Moser	Term Expires 2014
Craig Okerstrom-Lang	Term Expires 2014
Judith Dillon	Term Expires 2015
Dennis Gibbons	Term Expires 2015
Susan Sheridan	Term Expires 2015

**Town Accountant/Financial Coordinator**

Lauren M. Sartori

Term Indefinite

**Town Clerk**

Marie Y. Ryan

Term Indefinite

**Town Collector**

Sandra C. Larkin

Term Indefinite

**Town Counsel**

Kopelman &amp; Paige, P.C.

**Town Manager**

Kevin O'Donnell

Term Indefinite

**Town Treasurer**

Sandra C. Larkin

Term Indefinite

**Tree Warden**

Michael Peretti

Term Indefinite

**Truck Weighers**Daniel Bersaw  
Paul StortiTerm Indefinite  
Term Indefinite**Veteran's Agent**

Laurie Hils

Term Indefinite

**Wire Inspector**

Theodore Piontek

Term Indefinite

**Zoning Board of Appeals**Donald Hagberg, Associate Member  
John Katz, Associate MemberTerm Expires 2014  
Term Expires 2013

## **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.
Recycling Center	<b>Fri.</b> 8 AM-3 PM, <b>Sat.</b> 7 AM- 3 PM, <b>Sun.</b> 10 AM- 3 PM	
Selectmen/Town Manager	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 Planner's Office	Monday-Friday	8:30 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.
Veteran's Office	Monday-Friday	7:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

## **COMMITTEE AND BOARD MEETING INFORMATION**

Agricultural Commission	Quarterly – Call of Chairman
Board of Assessors	As Needed
Board of Health	First Thursday of Each Month at 7:30 P.M.
Board of Selectmen	Second and Fourth Monday of Each Month at 7:00 P.M.
Cable Advisory Committee	First Monday of Each Month at 7:30 PM
Cemetery Commission	Call of the Chairman
Conservation Commission	Fourth Wednesday of Each Month at 7:00 P.M.
Council on Aging	Last Wednesday of Each Month at 1:30 P.M. @ Senior Ctr
Cultural Council	Call of the Chairman
Design Advisory Committee	Call of the Chairman
Energy Committee	Call of the Chairman
Finance Committee	Call of the Chairman
Historical Commission	Call of the Chairman
Historic District Commission	Third Thursday of Each Month at 6:30 P.M.
Housing Authority	Third Thursday of Each Month at 2:15 P.M. At Bernard Gibbons Drive
Library Trustees	Second Thursday of Each Month at 5:30 P.M. At the Mason Library, Main Street
Master Plan Committee	Fourth Thursday of Each Month at 7:30 PM. At the Fire Station, State Road
Parks Commission	Third Monday of Each Month at 6:00 P.M. At the Mason Library, Main Street
Planning Board	Second Thursday of Each Month at 7:00 P.M. @ Town Hall Fourth Thursday of Each Month at 6:00 PM. At the Fire Station, State Road
School Committee	First Thursday of Each Month at 7:00 P.M. Monument Mountain Regional High School
Tree Committee	First Wednesday of Each Month at 5:15 P.M. At the Mason Library, Main Street
Zoning Board of Appeals	Call of the Chairman

## **GENERAL GOVERNMENT**

### **REPORT OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN AND TOWN MANAGER**

FY 2012 could be termed the time when many significant projects continued to move forward and started to be regarded as more than merely planning. The Select board undertook a self-evaluation process for the first time. As a result, the Select board recognized the need for additional training in the policy governance model. The first “Mini-Town Meeting” was undertaken to provide a more detailed explanation of the budget document by the Town Manager and also as an additional outreach to the community to participate in the formal legislative process for town government in Massachusetts, the Annual Town Meeting. Approximately 50 citizens attended the “Mini-Town Meeting” held at the Great Barrington Fire Station.

The Town of Great Barrington had the changing of the guard with the retirement of Bob Guidi, after 58 years of service on the Board of Assessors. It is believed that Bob’s tenure in public service is not only a record in Great Barrington but within the Commonwealth itself. It is hard to imagine that record being broken. Anne Just retired after approximately 5 years of service as Library Director. Kate Deviny was appointed by the Town Manager as the new Library Director in December, 2011 and immediately met the challenge. She has engaged the community in new fresh innovative approaches to guide the department; especially addressing the challenge of finding a proper niche for the Ramsdell facility.

After years of discussion, Lake Mansfield has been deeded to the Town of Great Barrington. This enables Town staff, principally through the effort of the Town Planner and Public Works Superintendent, to improve the boat launch facility at this pristine, natural wonder of the community. Although the first round to secure Commonwealth funding was denied, staff working closely with the Lake Mansfield Association has placed the Town in an excellent position, to continue to move ahead further enhancing the recreational opportunities for all to enjoy. Part of the 2013 Town Meeting, Article 21, seeks voter approval to continue in this important project.

The Fire Department, the highest quality trained volunteer department in the Berkshires, again working hand in hand with Mother Nature, provided the community with an excellent Antique Car Show in the downtown. Those of you that wish to serve the community and earn some extra dollars should consider joining the department as a volunteer firefighter. The training is rigorous yet the rewards and friendships are truly priceless.

The Police Department, which is second to none in the County, earned a highly prestigious award from the Massachusetts Police Accreditation Commission. The department is the 51<sup>st</sup> within the Commonwealth and first and only in Berkshire County. In the next few years, it’s the department’s goal to reach full certification. The Police Chief, his command staff and the entire personnel deserve well-earned congratulations! The department also established, at no tax payer expense, through the generosity of this community a K-9 patrol. “Officer Juri” is a pure bred German Shepard and has already found several missing persons, helped in getting illegal drugs off the streets and has been an invaluable partner in the department’s community policing program. Next time you see the K-9 patrol, ask about the baseball cards with safety tips on it.

The Town Manager, employing the civic engagement process, appointed the Housatonic School Campus Task Force, which was comprised of 9 citizens from Great Barrington; putting in over 70 hours over, inclusive of a citizen survey with an amazing 10%+ response rate. This resulted in an excellent report containing 3 recommendations on adoptive school reuse to the Select board for consideration.

The Select-board formally established a sister city relationship with Fada N’Gourma, a country in western Africa. The Barka Foundation working with the Town Manager undertook further steps to solidify the relationship with new signage proudly displaying this special partnership. A citizen steering committee has been established and needs your involvement to get to the next level.

The Select board established a Tree Committee, which has been working with the Town Manager's staff assisted in tree placement and selected species type to repopulate trees removal throughout the Town with a \$15,000 grant from National Grid. The Committee also played a significant role in the species selection for the trees to be planted as part of the Main Street Reconstruction Project.

In the spirit of solid local government cooperation, the School Superintendent and Town Manager worked together resulting in Kathleen Sheridan winning second place in the Massachusetts Municipal Association 6<sup>th</sup> grade essay contest entitled "If I was a local government leader what would I do". Kathleen's award winning essay was the first time a winner was selected from Great Barrington. Congratulations Kathleen Sheridan - you made your community proud with recognition due to her teacher, Kim Cormier, for her efforts in this endeavor.

Wired West and the Massachusetts Broadband Institute (MBI) continued their efforts to bring high speed reliable fiber optics to the western end of the Commonwealth. As recently as March, 2013 MBI was able to light up segments of the middle mile in the Berkshires. Later in 2013 it should be coming to Great Barrington.

The Town received designation as a "Green Community" under the Commonwealth's initiative for energy reduction. A grant in the amount of \$142,700 was awarded to enable the Town to start on a 5 year 20% energy reduction plan for the Town government. The Public Works Department will be working with the Energy Committee, to coordinate these activities.

The Main Street Reconstruction project continued to move in the design planning after receiving significant community input. The \$5,150,000 is anticipated to go to bid in the summer of 2013 with construction commencing around fall.

FY 2012 was a busy year laying the groundwork for an even busier year in FY 2013. The Town continues to be in good financial shape with a solid "AA" bond rating. Citizen involvement is important for the success of the community. It is hoped you will find the time to get involved by volunteering to serve on one or more of the Town's numerous boards or committees. Visit the Town website [www.townofgb.org](http://www.townofgb.org) which is always being enhanced, for the notices on the latest openings. Your active involvement is critical for the Town of Great Barrington continued success.

On behalf of the Town of Great Barrington

The Select board and Town Manager

Select board: Sean Stanton, Chairman, Deb Phillips, Vice-chair, Steve Bannon, Alana Chernila, Andrew D. Blechman

Kevin O'Donnell, Town Manager

# **FINANCES**

## **REPORT OF THE BOARD OF ASSESSORS**

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

The following is the report of the Assessors for the Fiscal Year 2012.

Fiscal Year 2012 Recapitulation:

A. <u>Total Appropriations to be Raised by Taxation</u>		\$ 23,676,984.00
B. 1. Other amounts to be raised by Taxation		124,772.28
2. State & County Sheets Charges		77,447.00
3. Overlay		166,030.83
Total Amount to be Raised		\$ 24,045,234.11

C. <u>Estimated Sources Appropriated</u>		
Estimated Receipts – State Cherry Sheet	\$ 900,714.00	
Total Estimated State Receipts		<u>\$ 900,714.00</u>

Estimated Receipts – Local

1. Motor Vehicle	\$ 420,000.00
2. Other Excise	200,000.00
3. Penalties & interest on taxes & excise	40,000.00
4. Payment in lieu of taxes	2,000.00
5. Rentals	87,062.00
6. Dept. of Revenue-libraries	5,000.00
7. Dept. of Revenue-cemeteries	5,000.00
8. Other Dept. of Revenue	305,938.00
9. Licenses & Permits	50,000.00
10. Fines & Forfeits	40,000.00
11. Investment Income	<u>45,000.00</u>
	\$ 1,200,000.00

13. Enterprise Funds	<u>\$ 1,765,994.00</u>	<u>\$ 2,965,994.00</u>
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D. Revenue Sources Appropriated for Particular Purposes:

1. Free Cash	0.00
2. Other Available Funds	\$381,500.00

Total Available Funds	<u>\$381,500.00</u>
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E. Other Revenue Sources Appropriated  
to Reduce the Tax Rate

1. Free Cash appropriated before 6-30-11	\$2,054,640.00	
2. Other Source	\$9,108.00	<u>\$ 2,063,748.00</u>

F. Total Estimated Receipts & Other Revenue Sources	<u>\$ 6,311,956.00</u>
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	<u>Tax Rate Summary FY 2012</u>	
A. Total Amount to be Raised		<u>\$24,045,234.11</u>
A. Revenue Sources	\$ 6,311,956.00	

B. Total Real & Personal Property Tax Levy

\$17,733,278.11

TAX RATE FISCAL YEAR 2012

<u>CLASS</u>	<u>LEVY BY</u> <u>%</u>	<u>VALUATION</u> <u>BY CLASS</u>	<u>TAX</u> <u>RATE</u>	<u>LEVY BY</u> <u>%</u>
RESIDENTIAL	79.2290	\$1,070,876,282	13.12	\$14,049,896.82
OPEN SPACE	0.	0	0	0
COMMERCIAL	17.2605	\$233,296,342	13.12	\$3,060,848.01
INDUSTRIAL	0.7439	\$10,054,400	13.12	\$131,913.73
PERS. PROPERTY	<u>2.7666</u>	<u>\$37,394,783</u>	13.12	<u>\$490,619.55</u>
TOTALS	100.0000	\$ 1,351,621,807		\$17,733,278.11

TAX RATE FISCAL YEAR 2011

<u>CLASS</u>	<u>LEVY BY</u> <u>%</u>	<u>VALUATION</u> <u>BY CLASS</u>	<u>TAX</u> <u>RATE</u>	<u>LEVY BY</u> <u>%</u>
RESIDENTIAL	79.7497	\$ 1,110,132,706	12.16	\$ 13,499,213.70
OPEN SPACE	0.	0	0	0
COMMERCIAL	16.8572	\$234,655,868	12.16	\$2,853,415.35
INDUSTRIAL	0.7467	\$10,393,500	12.16	\$126,384.96
PERS. PROPERTY	<u>2.6464</u>	<u>\$36,838,772</u>	12.16	<u>\$447,959.47</u>
TOTALS	100.0000	\$ 1,392,020,846		\$ 16,926,973.48

Respectfully Submitted,

Christopher J. Lamarre  
Principal Assessor

Board of Assessors  
Bruce Firger, Member  
John Katz, Member

TEN LARGEST TAXPAYERS IN FISCAL YEAR 2012

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ASSESSED VALUE</u>	<u>AMOUNT OF TAX</u>
1. Pinewood Realty Trust	\$10,766,300	\$141,469.18
2. Massachusetts Electric	\$ 8,212,304	\$ 107,909.67
3. Kimco Great Barrington 609 Inc.	\$ 8,079,900	\$ 106,169.89
4. Educational Consultants	\$ 7,674,900	\$ 100,848.19
5. Berkshire Bank	\$ 7,147,100	\$ 93,912.89
6. Verizon New England	\$ 6,402,000	\$ 84,122.28
7. Ken Alpart/Jen Bonjean	\$ 5,166,100	\$ 67,882.55
8. Butternut Basin	\$ 4,519,600	\$ 59,387.54
9. KSNS Stockbridge Rd. Realty	\$ 3,830,400	\$ 50,331.46
10. Stockbridge Road Realty	\$ 3,599,500	\$ 47,297.43

FIRE DISTRICT TAX RATE FISCAL YEAR 2012

<u>CLASS</u>	<u>LEVY BY</u> <u>%</u>	<u>VALUATION</u> <u>BY CLASS</u>	<u>TAX</u> <u>RATE</u>	<u>LEVY BY</u> <u>%</u>
RESIDENTIAL	67.4591	\$462,442,125	\$0.80	\$369,953.70
OPEN SPACE	0	0	0	0
COMMERCIAL	29.3725	\$201,352,555	0.80	\$161,082.04
INDUSTRIAL	0.5711	\$3,915,200	0.80	\$3,132.16
PERS. PROPERTY	<u>2.5973</u>	<u>\$17,804,900</u>	0.80	<u>\$14,243.92</u>
TOTALS	100.0000	\$ 685,514,780		\$ 548,411.82

FIRE DISTRICT TAX RATE FISCAL YEAR 2011

<u>CLASS</u>	<u>LEVY BY</u> <u>%</u>	<u>VALUATION</u> <u>BY CLASS</u>	<u>TAX</u> <u>RATE</u>	<u>LEVY BY</u> <u>%</u>
RESIDENTIAL	69.0602	\$483,738,894	\$1.12	\$541,787.56
OPEN SPACE	0	0	0	0
COMMERCIAL	27.9591	\$195,842,385	1.12	\$219,343.47
INDUSTRIAL	0.5710	\$3,999,400	1.12	\$4,479.33
PERS. PROPERTY	<u>2.4097</u>	<u>\$16,879,078</u>	1.12	<u>\$18,904.57</u>
TOTALS	100.0000	\$ 700,459,757		\$784,514.93

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher J. Lamarre  
Principal Assessor

Board of Assessors  
Bruce Firger, Member  
John Katz, Member

**REPORT OF THE TOWN ACCOUNTANT**

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

I am honored to herewith submit my report as Town Accountant for 2012 which includes the following balance sheet. Additional financial information is on the Town website at [www.townofgb.org](http://www.townofgb.org).

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

Respectfully submitted,

Lauren M. Sartori, C.P.A.  
Town Accountant



## **REPORT OF THE TREASURER/COLLECTOR**

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

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 2012.

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,

Sandra C. Larkin  
Treasurer/Collector





















## **REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE**

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

### Mission Statement:

The Great Barrington Finance Committee shall provide advice and assistance to the Town Manager, Select Board 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.

### Background:

Towns in Massachusetts created finance committees to review departmental budgets and make recommendations to the citizens at Town Meetings. Another important role of the Finance Committee is to approve any transfer of money from the Town's reserve fund. Great Barrington's by-laws further authorize the Finance Committee to hold public hearings before any Town Meeting on any warrant article that proposes spending money or disposing of any Town property.

Historically, the Great Barrington Finance Committee met seasonally during budget preparation season. However your Finance Committee recognizes that the complexities of governing the Town now require a much more active committee. Consequently, the current Finance Committee decided to institute more frequent meetings to review the state of the Town's finances, highlight potential systemic needs to contain finances and to participate in other town-wide initiatives. We seek to work closely with the Select Board, the Town Manager, the Town Accountant and School Committee to provide effective guidance and safeguard the Great Barrington's financial well being.

### Highlights:

Finance Committee members participated throughout the year in many different projects and meetings. Presented below are some of the more noteworthy items:

- All members completed mandatory state training on Ethics and Conflict of Interest rules.
- Worked with Town Manager and Board of Selectmen to develop and adopt the 2014 Budget Policy. This includes redirecting the Financial Policy document to set a different tone whereby reductions in operating and capital expenditure plans were requested.
- Authorized the drawdown of the reserve fund in an amount not to exceed \$5,000 to pay for unforeseen communication expenses needed for improvements at the Butternut Tower.
- Advocated for a much more aggressive policy in collecting overdue property taxes. Received assurances from the Tax Collector that together with the Town Manager they will develop and implement a more robust collection strategy, including a plan with milestones to reverse the looming trend.
- Participated in a presentation from the accounting firm of Melanson, Heath & Company regarding the audit for the town's Financial Statements and Management Letter. The auditors expressed a concern about the growth in the overdue / unpaid property taxes. But overall the town is in excellent financial condition.
- Attended the State Association of Finance Committee Conference to share ideas as to how other towns have reduced expenditures and developed more effective planning processes
- Said goodbye to L. James Stark. The Committee wishes to thank Jim for his dedicated service and greatly appreciated the way in which he gave so freely of his time and talents. We welcomed Sharon Gregory to the Committee. She possesses a wealth of knowledge regarding budgeting and finance and will be a great addition to the committee.

Residents are encouraged to attend Finance Committee meetings, held at least quarterly (and more often during the months before Town Meeting) to learn more about its work and to make their voices heard. Visit <http://www.townofgb.org> or call Town Hall at (413) 528-1619 to learn when the next meeting will be held. Or send a message directly to the Finance Committee at: [financecommittee@townofgb.org](mailto:financecommittee@townofgb.org).

Tax Title Account Balances as of 6/30/2012 provided by the Tax Collector/Treasurer's office follows this report.

Respectfully Submitted:

Thomas A. Blauvelt, Chairman  
Walter F. Atwood, III  
Sharon Gregory  
Mark Lefenfeld  
Andrew Moro





## **HISTORIC**

### **REPORT OF THE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION**

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

During Fiscal Year 2012 the Historic District Commission held regular meetings the third Thursday of each month.

The Commission reviewed several projects within the Historic District including the town's proposed redesign of Main Street. After several lengthy public hearings during which we received input from concerned citizens the Commission issued a certificate of appropriateness for the project.

We have all heard the expression that change is the only constant. People care about history and historic places and we believe that this project will enliven and enhance Great Barrington and make it the kind of place people will choose for living, shopping and visiting for generations to come.

Respectfully submitted,

James J. Mercer, Chairman  
Craig Okerstrom-Lang, Secretary  
Barbara Syer  
Dan Bailly  
Donald V. Howe  
Marilyn Kalish  
Patricia Ryan  
Holly Troiano

### **REPORT OF THE HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

In FY'12 the Historical Commission continued to carry out its charges under Massachusetts General Laws. Our activities focused on four operational areas.

1. Fulfill the general purposes of the Historical Commission to protect and develop Great Barrington's historic resources.
  - Completed report of comments on MassBroadband project: installation and equipment does not impair the architectural integrity of the historic buildings listed.
  - Participated in "Sustainable Berkshires Regional Plan, Historic Preservation Forum," held by Berkshire County Regional Planning Commission.
  - Served on Master Plan and Community Preservation Act committees
  - Welcomed Malcolm Fick and Bill Nappo as new Commission members
2. Manage and care for town museum collection in accordance with professional museum procedures.
  - Documented New England Log Homes' site (formerly Great Barrington Manufacturing Co. buildings) and rescued artifacts and architectural fragments for town museum before razing of buildings on the campus.
  - Established long and short range goals for town historical collection.
  - Received and started accession inventory of major gift of late 19<sup>th</sup>-early 20<sup>th</sup> century Great Barrington artifacts, photographs, newspapers and library and archival materials relating to Amos Baldwin, from Mr. and Mrs. John Mahaney, Santa Cruz, CA.

3. Market historic assets: develop programs that heighten public appreciation of the town's rich architectural and historical resources.
  - With a \$5,000 grant from Housatonic Heritage, and matched by in-kind contributions, produced a Smartphone walking tour of Great Barrington's Main Street business district.
  - Exhibited Episcopal Bell (bronze, 1766) as a part of the Great Barrington Historical Society's joint program with the town of Ingersoll, Ontario to better understand 18<sup>th</sup> century connections between the two towns.
  - Conducted historic walking tours of Great Barrington and contributed regular local history articles to the *Grapevine*.
4. Historic Preservation: promote the preservation of significant structures in town
  - Sent letter to MassDOT and spoke at public hearing encouraging the preservation of a WPA-era bridge on Alford Rd., or at least elements that constitute its character.
  - Submitted recommendations to Selectmen to preserve historic character of Castle St railroad tunnel overstructure.
  - Submitted letters of support for Monument Mills Revitalization's and St. James Place's applications for Massachusetts Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credits for proposed redevelopment of Monument Mills (various c. 1850-1917) and project to renovate and restore St. James Episcopal Church (1857-58).
  - Completed extensive research and submitted to Selectmen report documenting the chronology of street lights in central business district and recommending installation of period-appropriate models as part of Main Street reconstruction project.
  - Worked with CDC to save the base and the lower portion of the Great Barrington Manufacturing Co.'s smokestack and treat as an historic ruin on the New England Log Homes site.

Respectfully Submitted,

Paul W. Ivory, Chairman  
Marilyn Bisiewicz  
Malcolm Fick  
Don Howe  
Gary Leveille  
Bill Nappo  
David Rutstein

## **HUMAN SERVICES/CULTURAL**

### **DISTRICT DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' SERVICES (DDVS)**

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.

This past year we have seen a slight increase in all areas of operation and currently have 38 active Chapter 115 claims.

Chapter 115 Submissions and Return from the State:

<b>Town</b>	<b>FY 2012 Submitted 7/01/11-6/30/12</b>	<b>Pmt Due in FY 2013 -FY 2012 - 75%</b>
Great Barrington	\$80,504.21	\$60,378.16

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

Applications for VA Health Care	55
ALS/Disability/A&A/Appeals/Life Insurance	107
Other Request (DD 214s/Markers/Medals)	71
Flags to funerals homes for veterans	33
Assisted with Dr. appointments	41
Home and Office Visits	616
Veterans Services Phone Calls	1593

Fiscal year 2013 District budget has been 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 2013 DVS budget was \$27,740.94 – this number was based on population percentage on the 2010 Census.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laurie J. Hils  
District Director

### **REPORT OF THE CULTURAL COUNCIL**

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

This report covers the fiscal year period from July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012.

The purpose of the Great Barrington Cultural Council is to provide grants to support the arts, humanities, and interpretive sciences for the direct benefit of the residents of Great Barrington and Housatonic. Sources of revenue comes from the Massachusetts Cultural Council. The council receives no financial support from the budget of the Town of Great Barrington. Grants are awarded after being reviewed by the council, typically grants range

from \$50 to \$500.

During the fall of 2011 the council considered a total of 42 applications of which 23 were awarded grants totaling \$4,120. A complete list of grants awarded is available at the Select Board office in the Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Lee Rogers, Co-Chair

Jonathan Williams, Co-Chair

Great Barrington Cultural Council

Current members: Hilda Banks Shapiro, Michael Wise, Sherry Steiner, John Kilner, Pat Navarino, Marcia Stamell

## **SOUTHERN BERKSHIRE ELDERLY TRANSPORTATION CORP.**

To The Honorable Board of Selectmen:

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 27 years. We are a life-line for many people in Southern Berkshire County which enhances their quality of life and emotional well-being.

Our consortium includes nine towns in Southern Berkshire. They are Alford, Egremont, Great Barrington, Mt. Washington, New Marlborough, Otis, Sandisfield, Sheffield and Monterey. SBETC's restructuring has been a great work in progress and we want to thank the towns for their continued support. Our annual mailing has been successful this year, thank you all for your donations. A special thanks goes out to: The Barrington Foundation, Berkshire Bank Foundation, The Thursday Morning Club, AARP Great Barrington Chapter, Sheffield Kiwanis, First Congregational Church of Gt. Barrington, Mt. Everett Foundation, Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation, Rotary Club of Great Barrington, Greylock Federal Credit Union, Church of Christ of Mt. Washington and all of those who lost a loved one and was generous enough to remember us. 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.

This past year we transported a total of 10,359 persons, making 12,419 trips and covering 43,621 miles. We will shovel your path if needed, tie shoes, button coats, carry groceries, etc. Most of our travels are taking seniors, disabled and nursing home persons to doctors and dentists 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 take the Lunch Bunch Group and Berkshire South Dinners once a month and many weekly activities outside of the Senior Center. We also take 10-14 passengers to many local functions, Monument Mountain High School Concerts, and Plays, Picnic at Lake Mansfield, The Bridge Restaurant in Sheffield, McHayden Theatre in Chatham in NY and many others.

We cannot thank the Town of Great Barrington enough for giving us the space in the Senior Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Valinaggi, E.D.

Board of Directors: Fran Premierlani, Chairperson: Jane Green, Great Barrington; Barbara Whalen, Alford; Rachael Shaw, Egremont; Prudence Spaulding, New Marlborough; Pat Ryan, Otis; Mary Slater, Sandisfield; John Arthur Miller, Sheffield and Cynthia Weber, Monterey.

## **REPORT OF THE CLAIRE W. TEAGUE SENIOR CENTER**

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

“It shall be the mission of the Council on Aging to evaluate, promote and encourage new and existing activities and services which enhance the quality of life for elders in the Town of Great Barrington.”

We have support groups, nutritional programs, healthy living, exercise, social interaction, mental health assistance, entertainment, activities, health insurance counseling, trips, interactive clubs and collaboration with youth programs.

Support Groups include Caregiver support, breast cancer support, AA, and Al-Anon.

Meals are served Monday through Friday with an average of 150 seniors attending per week; we also serve as a drop off point for seniors who receive meals at home. The Brown Bag program for seniors and disabled is a monthly bag of assorted groceries that is delivered to the senior center every second Wednesday of the month at a suggested donation of \$3.00. Local supermarkets and local shops also generously donate breads and cakes and donuts to our seniors.

A variety of exercise classes are offered Mondays through Friday including Yoga, Tai Chi, Strength Training and chair exercises. Classes in painting, knitting groups, sewing and folk art are also available.

Musicians, dog shows, picnics, guest speakers, book clubs authors, art exhibits and more are offered at the senior center over the year.

The Claire Teague Senior Center is always appreciative for the In-Kind donations, made by individuals who donate their time, skills, crafts and expertise to our seniors. The tax abatement program is very beneficial to the center, offering a popular genealogy class, computer classes and office reception. The volunteer program is very important to the senior center as our 25 volunteers are invaluable to the running of the senior center.

The Berkshire Taconic Foundation awarded us a grant to purchase and construct a raised bed garden organized the Friends of the Claire Teague Senior Center. The raised beds will be ready for use the summer of 2013.

Fiscal year 2012 saw several staff changes. In May of 2012, a fond farewell was said to former director Rebecca Tillinghast who brought much to the senior center. New director Polly Mann and administrative assistant Nancy Schuler will be working together to continue the goals of the senior center. The goal this year is to provide more trips, music jams and groups, a resource room, entitlement assistance and educational programs.

Respectfully submitted,

Polly Mann  
Director

Council on Aging Board Members: Cory Hines Chair, Barbara Bailly, Trudy Miller Weaver, Amy Rutstein, David Rutstein, Sandra Sokul, Winnie Veretto, Michele Gilligan, Mel Greenberg, Eileen Gaarn, Carolyn Carr, Jane Green and Nancy Heady.

## **REPORT OF THE GREAT BARRINGTON LIBRARIES**

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen,

I hereby submit the report of the Great Barrington Libraries (Ramsdell and Mason) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012

**Donations:**

While, we cannot list all the people who have been kind enough to give us newish books on CD, DVDs, or books that have helped augment our collection, and we cannot name all of those who have generously dropped a monetary donation when checking out materials, we wish to thank everyone for supporting the Great Barrington libraries. The major contributions this year were:

- Friends of The Great Barrington Libraries contributed many hours creating & hosting events, especially the First Thursday Films and the Creative Film Series at Mason and Ramsdell Libraries
- \$500 from Berkshire International Film Festival
- \$400 from the Thursday Morning Club (for Ramsdell & Mason Library)
- Smithsonian subscription from Claire Richardson
- Allen Timmons was gracious and gave a talk on birds' nests and lent us his collection for a few months so that we could marvel at the differences.

**Staff:**

Dawn Barbieri retired after 16 years of dedicated service to Ramsdell Library. Her tireless work with promoting Ramsdell, providing great customer service, and her creative and artistic endeavors were a boon to Ramsdell Library and Housatonic.

Anne Just retired in August after 5 years of service. She joined GB Libraries as Mason Library moved from Searles School back to the newly expanded Mason Library, overseeing the weeding of the collection. She also worked with Dawn Barbieri to find grant monies so that Ramsdell Library might enjoy a similar renovation.

Jessica Magelaner was acting director for a few months before Kate Deviny began on December 1, 2011.

It was with great sorrow that we lost a favorite volunteer, David Ripley, this past year due to his unexpected death. David was a dedicated volunteer who came in at least once a week to brighten our day and to shelve & put in order our children's books at Mason Library.

**News:**

This has been a year of technological growth. Electronic book readers (Nooks) were added to the libraries this year, giving patrons an opportunity to try out electronic readers and a very portable library. Originally installed with 250 classic books, new books are added quarterly.

New computers were installed at both Mason and Ramsdell which has been a great boon to our patrons and staff. Adding more computers to both libraries has ended patrons waiting for computers. Ramsdell's 4 stationary desk-top computers were replaced with 6 laptops which allow patrons to sit in a wide variety of sitting areas to do their work or play.

Our computers were used over 1,000 times at Ramsdell and 18,000 times at Mason Library. Both libraries continue to be a hub where people check their email while on vacation as well as the standard place to plug in personal laptops for Internet access here in the Berkshire Hills.

CWMARS switched to Evergreen software, which like most open-source software, has caused a sharp learning curve for patrons and staff. We hope that time and development will improve our circulation software.

Apple iPad tablets were added to the both libraries to enable patrons' access to new material in electronic format and to satisfy patron requests for Apple computers. Of the 12 purchased, there are 4 circulating to adults, 2 to Young Adults, and 3 to children at Mason. Ramsdell Library circulates 3 iPads.

To aid in genealogy research, the Ancestry database was leased for patrons to explore genealogy and a new microfilm scanner replaced our old broken microfilm reader. The new ScanPro 2000 allows for much easier reading of microfilm, finding of information and the ability to transfer images to a flash or thumb drive for more in-depth reading at home.

Learning was emphasized this year as the libraries offered Chinese classes for children and Spanish classes to teens and adults. These well-attended programs will continue as the desire for understanding Spanish and Chinese people who live and work in our community. Computer classes have also been offered at Mason so that patrons could learn how to use our computers and programs; classes were offered on Word, Excel, Publisher, E-mail, attachments and other skills that are necessary in today's communication world.

Mason Library has served as a community space by offering meeting space for the Cultural Council, Tree Committee, Parks Committee, Thyroid Support group, and other groups hold public meetings monthly. Our meeting rooms and quiet rooms were used over 1,864 times this year.

We had an exciting summer program at Great Barrington Libraries this year called, "Dream Big, Read!" This was the second year that Great Barrington Libraries joined the Massachusetts Library System-sponsored national CSLP (Collaborative Summer Library Program). Our 233 registered participants' ages ranged from babies to 8th graders. Our active younger readers logged almost 25,000 minutes, while our 3rd grade and older readers logged close to 7,700 chapters. Since CSLP offered a new early literacy program this year, we collaborated with CHP (Children's Health Program) to have a teacher once per week come to Mason for the summer's eight weeks for Little Lads and Lasses Literacy. This mutually promoted program was popular. Other program highlights include family movies and picnics, a popular child author visit, a magic show with juggling workshop, a week-long comic book camp, and three live animal programs. There were weekly crafts where children made mobiles, constellation banners, dream boxes, clay pots and other crafts to inspire dreaming big. We offered a total of 64 children's programs, with 1165 persons attending.

Children's garden has been enclosed so that in the next year plantings, chairs, tables and sculpture will be donated/purchased for parents and children to enjoy crafts and reading in the sunshine.

Two new book clubs started at Mason this last year (Mystery Book Club and Fiction Lover's Book club) and an Anime club for enthusiasts who watch episodes of popular Japanese animation in their original language with English subtitles, and enjoy Japanese food.

Both Mason and Ramsdell Libraries have been re-configured to allow more comfortable and easy places to read and study which people are enjoying. Often times, the tables and comfy chairs are full through the afternoon and early evening hours. A Young Adult room has been created in the downstairs conference room to accommodate that population and genre of books.

### **Hours:**

Ramsdell Library's hours were changed a little at the beginning of the year, and it is open Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday 12-6pm; Wednesday 12-8:30pm; Saturday 10-5pm. Ramsdell Library was open a total of 1,759 hours and had 9,377 patrons visit.

Mason Library is open 10-7pm Monday –Friday and 10-3pm on Saturday. Mason Library was open a total of 2,600 hours and 164,218 patron visitors.

### **Circulation:**

Books, especially adult and children's books are the highest used collections-then adult movies. Because movies are borrowed for a shorter term (1 week), their circulation is naturally quite high.

GB Libraries	Total Circulations	% of items		% of items	
		Mason	circulation	Ramsdell	circulation
Adult	Books	36,524	30%	6,392	39%
Children's	Books	39,505	32.5%	2,638	16%
Adult	Movies	19,214	16%	4,067	25%
Adult	Audio books	8,994	7%	829	5%
Children's	Movies	7,581	6%	86	.5%
Young Adult	Books	3,327	3%	506	3%
Children's	Audio books	2,946	2.4%	17	
Adult	Magazines	1,751	1.5%	59	.3%

Circulation of Adult material totals higher than children's, but children's circulations are significant, especially considering the smaller number of children card holders. Adult items circulated 81,148 times; children items circulated 53,771 times; Young adult items circulated 4,383 times. Mason's total circulation was 121,433 items; Ramsdell's total circulation was 16,235.

Card holders	Adult	Young Adult	Children
Mason	3,558	312	504
Ramsdell	608	51	78

We circulated 994 items to people who live out-of-state; 2,607 items to people who live in decertified towns; and 35,903 to non-residents.

This year saw GB libraries narrowing the gap between borrowing and loaning items from other libraries. We received 15,462 items and provided 12,004 items. Interlibrary Loan through Central/Western Massachusetts Automated Resource Sharing continues to be a fundamental way for our patrons to obtain all the materials they need or desire.

### **Total Holdings:**

Although it looks like GB Libraries grew our collections (from 72,606 to 78,472), the rise is due to CWMARS heavily investing in downloadable audio books and videos. If we deduct those downloadables owned by CWMARS, the libraries collections shrank to 65,169 – this mirrors the weeding we have done as we have deleted materials that are broken or damaged, have incorrect or out-of-date information. Much of the legal and medical information has been updated to better meet patron's needs.

Ramsdell Library holds 20,417 items, while Mason Library holds 45,022 items. In order to use shelf space wisely, specific non-fiction collections have been identified and located at either Ramsdell or Mason Library. Ramsdell holds our extensive Art & Architecture, Native American collections, while Mason holds our large poetry, medical, and history collections. We have also bought the best of the Independent Press to introduce to our patrons and better meet their eclectic needs.

**Materials in the library**

Adult books	34,052	YA books	3,155
Magazines	1,025	YA Magazines	42
Audio books	1,897	YA Audio books	222
Movies	2,327	YA Movies	63
E-books	9,757	YA Misc.	7
Downloadable audio books, music	3,549		
Microfilm	131		
Misc.	415		
Kids' books	19,333		
Kids' Magazines	273	Kid' Movies	1,247
Kids' Audio books	965	Kids' Misc.	12

**Number & type of materials purchased 2013**

Adult books	2477	Kids' books	1477	YA books	544
Adult audio	275	Kids' audio	157	YA audio	2
Adult DVDs	654	Kids' DVDs	697	YA DVDs	38

**Library card holders-profile and use**

Typical of a town that has 84% of its population over 18 years of age, our largest library card holders are adults. However, please note the small number of children's card (582) in relation to their circulating a total of 53,340 items. Young Adult remains the smallest number of users and circulations, but there are only 401 Middle and High school students enrolled at the regional schools, so that population is small. The numbers indicate that we have 61% of the Great Barrington population has a library card, which is a very high percentage.

**Programs/Events:**

GB Libraries sponsored a total of 380 events/programs and had about 4,463 people come to those events. (The previous year had 229 events/programs with 1,859 people attending.) These events occurred through the energy of the staff, Friends and Trustees-all were necessary to make such a huge leap in attendance and number of events.

The most attended events were:

Reception & GB reads	Mason Adult	215
GB Reads Party	Ramsdell Adult	211
Haunted House	Mason Children's	100
SRP Kick Off with Bruce the Balloon Man!	Mason Children's	90
Chinese New Year's Dragon craft/parade & lunch buffet	Mason Children's	73
Birds of Prey/Hawks and Owls	Mason Children's	71
Scott Jameson Magic Show	Mason Children's	68

Curious George Morning	Mason Children's	68
Finland Phenomenon	Mason Adult	65
Llama Visit	Mason Children's	65
Young Child Week & "We Read" Duck on a Bike	Mason Children's	60
Howlariious Halloween by Mary Jo Maicheck,	Mason Children's	51
Shadows Around the World by Nappy's Puppets	Mason Children's	50
Nutshell Playhouse presents, "Pirates."	Mason Children's	50

### **Finances:**

On July 1, 2011, GB Libraries had \$34,539.41 in State Aid money. We spent \$15,373.05 last year and received \$8,567.47. As of July 1, 2012 we have \$27,733.83 in that account. This account largely pays for programs, advertising for programs, and other expenses (such as Mango Languages, our website address and any help for the website, movie licensing, unpaid bills from previous years, and this last year it paid for patron counters and a scanner for books). It is governed by the Trustees of Great Barrington Libraries.

Through fines and fees the Libraries were able to turn back to the town \$22,064.

Lastly, the staff and I wish to thank all our volunteers who faithfully come in every week (or when they can) and shelve or find our books, bind or label our materials, host and help clean up after programs. We could not serve those 173,595 people without you helping behind the scenes: Joey, Margaret, David, Francine, Nima, Natalie, David, Mary, Nina, Karin, Rose, Rebecca, Ruth, Rosemary, Karen, Ellie, Hilda, Holly, Pat, Bonnie, Ann, Beth, Mary, and Ron.

Respectfully submitted,

Kate Deviny, Director

## **REPORT OF THE FIVE TOWN CABLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

The powers of the CAC are derived from the select boards of the 5 towns that created the committee: Great Barrington, Lee, Lenox, Sheffield and Stockbridge. Each member town can have up to three representatives who are appointed by the BOS of their respective towns. We have our regular meetings quarterly, but work as needed all year round in order to help the cable subscribers in our own town resolve issues that arise.

Generally the CAC has the responsibility to:

- Provide advice and oversight to Time Warner Cable, our only licensee right now.
- Review and monitor Time Warner Cable's compliance with the terms and conditions of their cable Franchise license.
- Advocate for the subscribers in the member towns.
- Provide advice and guidance to the member towns in cable-related matters.

Since June, 2010, we have been working on a renewal of the existing, 10 year Cable Franchise License with Time Warner Cable. The current license is set to expire in March of 2013. We started with quarterly, went to monthly,

then semi-monthly, followed by weekly meetings with Time Warner Cable and have negotiated our way toward a 10 year contract that we all hope will work well for all parties involved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Z. Miller  
Chairman  
Five Town Cable Advisory Committee  
Representative from Great Barrington

# **PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT**

## **REPORT OF THE PLANNING BOARD**

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

Throughout the time period between July 1, 2011 and June 30, 2012 the Planning Board's regular meetings were held on the second and fourth Thursday of each month. Additional meetings were scheduled, as necessary. One meeting was held at the fire station in Housatonic.

The Planning Board drafted two revisions to the zoning bylaws—adding language allowing consideration for contextual front yard setbacks, which had been omitted in the last major rewrite, and revising the review period from 15 to 30 days for applications filed under the Wireless Telecommunications Overlay District. In addition, a public hearing was held for a zoning change, by petition, of Nolan Drive from residential back to industrial. All zoning amendments were adopted by the Annual Town Meeting, passing by at least a two-thirds majority vote, and have been approved by the Attorney General.

Over the course of the year, the Planning Board endorsed nine ANR plans that created a total of only three new building lots. Two development projects were proposed, both under the Open Space Residential Design portion of our bylaw. The one on Lake Buel Road seems to be in abeyance or abandoned. The larger of the two, Barrington Brook, formerly known as Burning Tree, is ongoing and still in public hearings as of this writing.

The Planning Board made five formal site visits, conducted eight Site Plan Reviews, and made seven recommendations on special permits or variance proceedings to other boards.

Prospective applicants for a building permit for a large commercial photovoltaic array on the Shaw farm on Round Hill Road appeared before the Planning Board to discuss the project. This discussion brought to light a zoning exemption under state law previously unrecognized by the Board. The application was never filed, but did engender much discussion at a number of boards and committees, as well as a quite exhaustive look by the Planning Board, Town Planner, and Berkshire Regional Planning Commission at the feasibility of creating an overlay district. Ultimately, this proved unfeasible and no further action has been taken.

The drafting of the Master Plan by the Town Planner and the Master Plan Committee is ongoing.

In recognition of the large number of non-conforming lots and structures and the hurdles that can pose to property improvement, the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission, assisted by the Town Planner, is conducting a Housatonic Village Zoning Analysis. This report will inform the Board as we look at zoning changes that need to be made to encourage investment in the village and facilitate redevelopment.

The Planning Board, along with members of the Board of Selectmen, collectively and individually, remain defendants in a lawsuit brought by abutters to the Highfield on South Main development project, which was granted a special permit in 2008.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Hankin, Chairman  
Suzanne Fowle Schroeder, Vice Chairman  
Jack Musgrove  
Richard Dohoney  
Ethan Culleton  
Brandee Nelson, Associate Member

## REPORT OF THE TOWN PLANNER

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

The Town Planner provides support and technical assistance to applicants, businesses, Town staff and Boards regarding planning and development matters. Fiscal Year 2012 (FY 12) activities of this Department included:

*Master Plan:* The Master Plan Committee began its work of updating the Town's Master Plan in November 2010 and has met monthly since that time. In July 2011, the Committee hosted a town-wide workshop at the Fire Station, in which 70 citizens came together to provide input about how the town should move ahead in the next 20 years. That workshop was followed with neighborhood meetings throughout town, which gathered additional feedback from a variety of people. In April 2012, a workshop was held to discuss open space and recreation. In June 2012, another town-wide workshop was held to review a series of goals and strategies for each Master Plan chapter.

In all, the Master Plan Committee met 11 times in FY 12, held 3 public workshops, 12 neighborhood meetings, and interviewed youth, seniors, non-English speakers, stakeholders and business leaders, and has taken input from hundreds of citizens. In FY 13 the Committee will be finalizing the plan and presenting it for approval. The Master Plan Committee page on the Town website has more information including draft chapters.

*Planning and Zoning:* Working with the Planning Board, wrote two minor zoning amendments approved at the Annual Town Meeting in May 2012. Also, on the initiative of a landowner petition, voters amended the zoning of Nolan Drive from residential to industrial.

Began work on two separate grant-funded projects with Berkshire Regional Planning Commission (BRPC). The first involves citizen surveys and field work to investigate where sidewalk, crosswalk, and other mobility-related improvements could increase pedestrian safety and promote walking in Housatonic village. It will be finalized in FY 13 and will inform both the Master Plan and DPW's capital improvement planning. The second is an analysis of zoning in Housatonic village, to determine whether the existing regulations, instituted in 1960, remain relevant today and encourage investment and redevelopment. It will be finalized in FY 13 and presented to the Planning Board. Recommendations will inform the Master Plan.

A large photovoltaic array, or solar farm, was being considered on Round Hill and Seekonk Road. The application was never filed, and the proponents have withdrawn, but it did generate a good deal of discussion about land use, zoning exemptions, and whether the Town should or should not regulate large scale solar energy facilities. This office, working with BRPC, presented an exhaustive analysis about solar siting to the Planning Board. The Planning Board, Board of Selectmen, Agricultural Committee, and Energy Committee met to discuss the issue, but as yet there has been no agreement about siting guidelines for large scale solar facilities.

Several special permits were processed and approved. A special permit seeking additional units at the Burning Tree subdivision was received at the end of FY 12 and is still in process in FY 13.

*Lake Mansfield:* Working with the Lake Mansfield Improvement Task Force, completed conceptual designs to control runoff pollution from Knob Hill and the boat launch, and, finalized construction plans for a new stormwater system on Castle Hill Avenue.

*Development Review:* The staff Development Review Team (Building Inspector, Conservation Agent, DPW Superintendent, Fire Chief, Health Agent, Police Chief, and Town Planner) continues to meet twice per month to review permit and development proposals and guide homeowners and businesses through the permit process.

I look forward to another year of positive action for our town.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher Rembold, AICP  
Town Planner

## **REPORT OF THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

The Conservation Commission is charged with the following:

- To administer and uphold both the Wetlands Protection Act, the Great Barrington Wetland Bylaws, and the Scenic Mountain Act
- To educate homeowners, business owners and land owners regarding regulations and help them navigate decision making within jurisdictional areas.
- To help homeowners, business owners and land owners to follow the permitting process through availability, communication and assistance.
- 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 Mountain 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 the Conservation Commission issued:

- 8 Wetland Protection Act Requests for Determination of Applicability
- 14 Wetland Protection Act Notices of Intent
- 1 Berkshire Scenic Mountains Act Requests for Determination of Applicability
- 4 Berkshire Scenic Mountains Act Notices of Intent
- 12 Enforcement Orders
- 4 Applications for Access to Public Way
- 5 Special Permits
- 2 Beaver Permits
- 12 Certificates of Compliance
- 6 Amended Order of Conditions
- 4 Emergency Orders
- 4 Forest Cutting Plans

This year the Commission experienced the retirement of its Chairperson of seven years, Patricia Kinne. Though Pat is sorely missed, we've managed to stay on task with monthly public hearings and our mission to uphold the WPA and SMA regulations.

We continue to have active membership on both the Lake Mansfield Alliance and Lake Mansfield Improvement Task force and to help oversee the Lake Mansfield property. We hear monthly updates from the Task Force and support the Alliance and Task Force whenever possible.

This year we utilized the Wetland's Protection Fund to officially flag and map the wetlands in the McAllister Wildlife Refuge and have begun to map the extensive trail system that currently exists within the park as well. We will be installing a Kiosk made for us by the Greenagers funded through a Housatonic Heritage Grant in the spring.

In the winter of 2012, the commission began rewriting the Scenic Mountains Act in order to update the Act to reflect the need for more clarity of its definitions and performance standards. We have been working with surrounding Towns to review improvements that they have also made since the acceptance of the Act in November 2006.

Through our daily activities and through the above mentioned groups, we work with a number of local conservation councils, commissions and citizen groups in order to have an active role in open space planning and the ecological footprint being laid for the Town of Great Barrington.

We continue to offer administrative support to homeowners, small businesses and environmental organizations to make the permitting process as smooth as possible.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew Mankin, Chair  
David Shanahan  
Jessica Dezieck  
Bruce Gore  
Jennifer Connell  
Lisa Bozzuto

## **REPORT OF THE LAKE MANSFIELD IMPROVEMENT TASK FORCE**

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

### **2012 Task Force Members:**

Christine Ward, Chair (Citizen at Large), Ron Dlugosz, co-chair (Citizen at Large), Deborah Phillips (Select Board), Joseph Sokul (DPW Superintendent), Dale Abrams (Lake Mansfield Alliance) Nina Evans (Lake Mansfield Alliance alternate), Jessica Dezieck (Conservation Commission), Suzanne Fowle Schroeder (Planning Board), Amanda Sewall (Conservation Agent, ex-officio) Chris Rembold (Town Planner, ex officio). No representative served from the Parks and Recreation Commission

In March 2006, the Lake Mansfield Improvement Task Force was created by the Board of Selectmen and charged with the development and implementation of a Lake Improvement Plan. The plan would provide for public safety, use and accessibility, water quality improvements, protection of the watershed and stewardship of the Resource area. In 2012, the Task Force continued to meet in order to provide guidance and direction for the care of the Lake Mansfield Recreation area. Below is a report on this effort as well as actions and goals for 2013.

### **I. Water Quality Improvements and Assessments:**

- a. One of the major threats to the Lake's health, runoff from the Castle Hill Avenue storm drain system, will be addressed by a \$266,500 grant from Massachusetts DEP. This project will reconstruct the catch basins and storm drains on Castle Hill Avenue, to better catch and filter the runoff before it empties into the Lake. Engineering work and bid documents were prepared in 2012. Construction is planned to begin in April 2013. The grant will be matched at 40% by Town funds including volunteer and staff time. The Task Force and the Town Planner will work to educate the public about the scope of work and impact on regular traffic in the area of upper Castle Hill Avenue preceding the commencement of work. This work will have a significant impact on the water quality at Lake Mansfield by eliminating the significant annual contribution of sediments to the lake.
- b. The unpaved parking area at the beach continues to contribute sediments the lake in form of unfiltered run-off during storm events. Unmitigated storm water is also a concern along Lake Mansfield Road and where Knob Hill enters Lake Mansfield Road in the boat launch area.

- c. The Conservation Commission funded a Lake Mansfield 2012 Aquatic Vegetation Survey prepared by Geosyntac in September 2012. This report provides an updated assessment of the composition and distribution Lake Mansfield's aquatic vegetation community, to aid lake management planning efforts.
- d. The summer season's water testing results, provided weekly by The Town's Health Agent, showed that Lake Mansfield waters were healthy for swimmers throughout the 2012 swimming season.
- e. New signage and a dispenser for Clean Boat Certification Forms were maintained at the beach area, providing information on ways to protect the lake from the threat of zebra mussels and other invasive species. Clean Boat Certification Forms, required to be completed by all boaters, are made available at the kiosk and are also provided at [www.mass.gov/lakesandponds](http://www.mass.gov/lakesandponds).
- f. A grant through the Massachusetts Environmental Trust was sought but declined in 2012. The proposed project was designed to determine the lake's overall water quality and chemistry; to judge the impact of nonpoint source stormwater on lake health; to judge the impacts and benefits of the Town's nonpoint source stormwater improvements; and to establish an educational partnership program with college students of Bard College at Simon's Rock. Alternative ways to accomplish this work must be sought in 2013.

**II. Protecting the Buffer Zone and Sensitive Habitats – Application of the Massachusetts Wetland Protection Act**

- a. 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 successfully applied in 2012
- b. A small stand of invasive phragmites south of the outlet brook has been targeted for removal. The task force has requested that the Conservation Commission seek and fund services aimed at eliminating this invasive plant species in 2013.

**III. Use and Accessibility – 2012 once again saw an increase in Recreation use of the lake, beach area, forest trails and Lake Mansfield Road for Recreation. Although the greatest number of users are noted in the summer season, the Recreation Area in a popular destination throughout the year. The task force was without a representative from the Parks and Recreation Department in 2012. It will be important to work at filling this seat in 2013.**

- a. The strong summer programming provided through the Parks Commission is essential to our safe and well maintained waterfront. In 2012, lifeguards logged 15,670 Lake Mansfield visitors May 31<sup>st</sup> through August and 52 children were provided with swimming instruction.
- b. Improvement of the cross walk speed hump, recommended for the safer crossing from the parking area to the beach area scheduled for April 2012 was not able to be accomplished. The Task force strongly urges that this work be completed as early as possible in 2013 in order to enhance the safety of these much used space.
- c. Trails in the Lake Mansfield Conservation Forest are improved and maintained through the efforts of Lake Mansfield Alliance (LMA), a project of Great Barrington Land Conservancy, and the oversight of the Conservation Commission. This work, overseen by Lake Mansfield Alliance, is provided by volunteers, LMA donations & grant funding. 2012 efforts included regular trail maintenance, clearing of fallen trees due to storm damage, hand-pulling and cutting of invasive species and the development of an improved

trail map and trail brochure (accomplished in partnership with Housatonic Heritage through the grant supported GB Trails 2012 Collaborative Trail Project). A number of community volunteers and local students were engaged in the work. Greenagers was hired by LMA for summer a ½ day of summer trail maintenance. Goals for 2013 include the continuation of trail maintenance and efforts aimed at invasive species control, the installation of benches to provide resting spaces for trail users, and the development of Trail Internships aimed at connecting with and developing the skills of our future resource area stewards.

IV. **Public Safety** - While use increases, the safety of recreational users continues to be a priority for the Task Force.

- a. Obsolete telephone poles, carrying only two telephone lines and constricting the roadway and pose potential risks, long targeted for removal, were removed in 2012.
- b. The condition of Lake Mansfield Road, including the degradation of the bank and road surface which challenge motorists and makes multi-use (two-lane traffic, pedestrians, bicyclists, etc.) passage difficult, continues to be of primary concern. The task force strongly urges that these conditions continue to be carefully monitored and that solutions be provided for in upcoming planning & budgeting. An engineering study to be funded through Chapter 90 funds is proposed by the DPW for 2013. This study is essential to providing the community with the information needed to plan for the future improvement of this much challenged area.

V. **Continued work In the Coming Year** - The Lake Mansfield Improvement Task Force (LMITF) 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.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Ward, chair

## **REPORT OF THE ENERGY COMMITTEE**

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

The Energy Committee convened 14 times in FY 2012. Our focus during our 2<sup>nd</sup> year was again on the requirements of becoming a designated Green Community, and specifically Criteria No. 3: The Energy Reduction Plan to reduce the Town's energy usage by 20% over 5 years. Without direct funding yet available, we began on our own to conduct walk-through audits, and completed (6) reports for town buildings. In the meantime, the town made available approx. \$25,000 for professional energy audits. Over the fall/winter of 2011, we worked with the DPW Superintendent and the Town Manager to refine the Town Energy Audit RFP, review submissions, interview applicants, and select an energy consultant for the town.

Through the spring of 2012 we worked with Steve Weisman of Peregrine Energy Group Inc. to review their Comprehensive Energy Study, and review/prepare the Energy Reduction Plan. The town's final submission to the DOER, including all (5) criteria was made in June of 2012, and Great Barrington received official designation as a Green Community in July.

In addition to pursuing the requirements of Green Communities designation, in FY 2012 the Energy Committee discussed solar PV issues including the possibility of a Solar Siting Bylaw, the market for SREC's, as well as

participating in special joint meeting of boards to discuss renewable energy, land use and agriculture. We also began to consider town properties that could be suitable for solar installations.

In terms of outreach to the public regarding energy use, we scheduled a presentation by CET at the Mason Library in March of 2012 to encourage homeowners to take advantage of state funded programs for home energy retrofit upgrades, such as weatherization and improved insulation.

In November 2011, the Energy Committee board size was increased from (7) to (9) members, and currently is composed of (8) members.

Looking forward to FY 2013, the Energy Committee will begin to focus on implementing the Energy Reduction Plan, and continue our investigation and recommendations toward renewable energy opportunities.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher Vlcek, Chairman  
Beth Moser, Vice-Chair  
Brandee Nelson, Secretary  
Alana Chernila  
Nancy Rogers  
Michele DiSimone  
Ryan Caruso  
Peter Greer

## **REPORT OF THE AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION**

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

Beginning in January 2012, the Great Barrington Agricultural Commission, consisting of members Hilda Banks Shapiro, Barbara Zheutlin, Vivian Orlowski, Dennis and Mary Elizabeth Merritt, then current chairwoman, re-committed to the work of launching the KeepBerkshiresFarming initiative at a meeting held at Hancock Shaker Village. While there, members also attended the annual meeting of the Massachusetts Association of Agricultural Commissions where presentations by The State Commissioner, Scott Soares, Glynwood and Kathy Orlando of the Sheffield Land Trust were made. It was apparent that there is a lot of interest by farmers in receiving support for their important work. Contacts were made to farmers outside of Great Barrington so that they were made aware of the work our Agricultural Commission is doing and the possibilities of collaborating.

An important adjunctive aspect of our work was to assist a local effort in bringing a food sovereignty bill forward to be place on the Town Warrant at the May Town Meeting. The text of that document is below. The by-law was successfully passed by a unanimous vote and was considered a first step in progress towards a local, sustainable food system.

*We, the undersigned registered voters of the Town of Great Barrington, hereby propose a motion to be placed on the Warrant for the May 7, 2012 Town Meeting:*

*In recognition of Great Barrington's traditional agricultural heritage, we declare the right of the people of Great Barrington to produce, process, sell, and purchase affordable, nutritious, and sustainably grown local foods.*

*By empowering a responsible local food system, we can provide our community with accessible healthy food, support local producers and the local economy, create jobs and opportunities for the diverse members of our town, and protect our environment.*

*However, we are concerned that there are significant barriers that must be addressed in order to ensure the security of a sustainable local food system.*

*Accordingly, we move that the Board of Selectmen, Planning Board, Board of Health, and Agricultural Commission facilitate dialogue with local farmers, consumers, retailers, public health officials, schools, healthcare providers and other interested citizens by holding public hearings to direct and formulate town policies to increase economic opportunities for small local producers, increase access to healthy produce for the entire community, and facilitate small producers' sales.*

At the May annual town meeting we also introduced food surveys to residents of the town to complement the research the KeepBerkshiresFarming group is performing. In total, about 300 resident surveys have been completed along with surveys from food security/distribution sites, farmers and local retailers. This data has been presented to the townspeople, farmers and food purveyors at forums where ideas have been generated to pursue the original goals of developing food security, promoting farming as an economic activity, and creating the infrastructure to support such. At this meeting, the Town also overwhelmingly supported our budget request of \$2000 to provide the means to do our work.

Additionally, the GB Ag Comm was represented on the Master Planning Commission by MaryBeth and Vivian. The following were the draft goals of the Master Planning Commission as developed by input from townspeople at forums, the Town Planner and the Ag Comm:

Community Master Plan  
Great Barrington, MA

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**DRAFT GOALS AND STRATEGIES**

For consideration May 24, 2012

**AGRICULTURE**

*A few trends and key data to keep in mind:*

- Keep Berkshires Farming is now surveying farmers to estimate, the number of farms, farmers, and what is actually being grown or produced
- Land use data estimates between 10% of town land, or 3,000 acres, and 6%, or 2,000 acres, are actually in agricultural production. (In the 1950's about 6,000 acres were in production.)
- A large portion of former farm land remains undeveloped; however, Assessor's parcelization and land use data reveals that much of that has probably been divided and sold off as single family lots
- Agricultural land, whether in production or not, contributes to the unique character of our town. Pastoral vistas provide food, or scenic vistas, or both.
- America's growing dependence on foreign oil and the expense of transporting any goods over long distances may necessitate a drastic shift towards local food and local energy.

*Some highlights of public input and interviews:*

- More and more people are seeking out local food sources, at restaurants, grocery stores, and at farmers markets, both for the quality of the food and the satisfaction of support local agriculture
- There is a significant opportunity for future growth in the local food sector of the economy
- There is a disconnect between prospective farmers and available farms. Young farmers are seeking land, and there is land available for production
- Agriculture support services, such as marketing, food processing, and business/legal issues need to be improved and expanded

*A few draft goals and strategies to get you thinking:*

- Permanently preserve existing farmland, using CPA funds and land conservancy partnerships
- Revise zoning to support and protect farmland, including, for example, agricultural resource areas to require clustering of new homes, revise minimum or maximum setbacks, and common driveways, require protection of agricultural soils, benefits to local food system, etc.
- Ensure zoning regulations support diverse income streams for working farms, including, for example, special events, farm restaurants, farm stands, renewable energy
- Promote community and backyard gardens, including, for example, chickens, Greenagers-type residential food garden programs, and community support agriculture
- Support, encourage, promote local farms, and the restaurants and stores that sell their products

- Recognize agriculture's links to economy, open space, health, climate
- Develop "agri-tourism" and hospitality industry
- Aim for bulk of food production within the region
- Indoor / year round farmers market

It will be the role of the Agricultural Commission to promote and pursue these goals once the Master Planning commission issues its final report and it is approved by the Planning Board and the townspeople at the next annual meeting.

The initiative of the Great Barrington Agricultural Commission has led to the widespread involvement of farmers and citizens throughout the county with the support of Glynwood and the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission to realize goals that were mentioned previously. This has been the result of commitment by local people working with us to further those goals.

Finally, MaryBeth stepped aside as Chairwoman and member of the Agricultural Commission and Luke Pryjma was appointed and elected as the new Chair. We wish him well.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Elizabeth Merritt, Past Chair, Great Barrington Agricultural Commission  
 Luke Pryjma, Chair, Agricultural Commission

## **REPORT OF THE TREE COMMITTEE**

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

The Fiscal Year 2012 was the inaugural session for the newly formed Tree Committee. The Committee has 11 members and meets regularly on the first Wednesday of each month. Additional meetings were scheduled to meet timelines on the Main Street Reconstruction plans as well as other projects.

Members elected Dennis Gibbons Committee Chairman, Craig Okerstrom-Lang Vice-Chairman and Michael Wise Secretary. The Committee replaced one absentee member. In its first year the Committee was active in its mission. We submit the following as evidence of an effort to complete our stated goals.

The Tree Committee collaborated with the Main Street Reconstruction Design Team to revise and diversify the Main Street project's tree selections and worked on establishing an official Recommended Tree List with guidelines for placement with regard to overhead utilities. Implementing a tree inventory to assist the DPW and Tree Warden with the efficient use of their management funds was discussed for the near future. A tree inventory will gauge the health of our urban forest as well as create a plan for action and tree management.

In addition to our mission several other tree related endeavors occurred. Arbor Day was celebrated and marked with several initiatives undertaken by various volunteers from the Committee and community members. Notably Haupt Tree Co. for pruning work at the Newsboy Statue Park, Ward's Nursery for donating a tree for a "favorite tree" raffle and Windy Hill Farm for donating a tree for planting at Castranova Park. The Committee evaluated the tree canopy of Gilmore Avenue at the request of the DPW and offered recommendations for action. An educational display to alert the public of pending insect infestations was created at the Mason Library with informational handouts as well as visual displays loaned from the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources. The Tree Committee also assisted the Town DPW with selecting tree species and placement for a tree planting grant attained through the combined efforts of the Department of Conservation Recreation and National Grid Power Co. Aftercare initiatives were also created and enacted on by volunteer members of the Committee as well as the public.

The Committee seeks to continue in its efforts to complete its mission in the coming Fiscal Year and look forward to educating the public about the beauty and value of our urban forest.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis Gibbons, Chairman  
Craig Okerstrom- Lang, Vice Chair  
Michael Wise, Secretary  
Hilda Banks Shapiro  
Judith Dillon

Beth Moser  
Steve Adams  
Maria Ahlin  
Jonathan Hankin  
Jess Wikle

Lisa Bozzutto

## **REPORT OF THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

The Great Barrington Zoning Board of Appeals from July 2011 to June 2012 dealt with four petitions.

The board heard an appeal by Gary O'Brien Property Services LLC of a building commissioner cease-and-desist order regarding use of property on Blue Hill Road, Great Barrington, to store and maintain vehicles and outdoor equipment. The board in a 3-2 vote failed the necessary four votes to overturn the action of the building commissioner. Thus the building commissioner's order stood.

The board supported the appeal of Cumberland Farms for an internally activated exterior price sign with changing gasoline prices at a service station on Main Street, Great Barrington.

The board approved a special permit application by Edward S. Lucas, Linda A. Lucas and Jennifer A. Lucas to build porch additions onto a pre-existing, non-conforming dwelling at 32 Sumner St., Great Barrington.

And the board approved a petition by the Roger G. Imhoff Jr. estate regarding the Form A division of land (with two dwellings on a single lot and a garage straddling a proposed new boundary) at 309 State Road, Great Barrington.

On another matter, the Danny Bells LLC, Daniel J. Bell and Claudia J. Shapiro appeal of the ZBA's upholding of a building commissioner cease-and-desist order for operation of an auto body shop on Route 71, Great Barrington, was found in the ZBA's favor in Berkshire Superior Court in Pittsfield on Jan. 5, 2012. Bell/Shapiro filed an appeal of the decision to Massachusetts Appellate Court.

Respectfully submitted,

Ron Madjalany, Chairman  
Carolyn Ivory, Vice-chairman  
Kathy Kotleski, Clerk  
Madonna Meagher  
Michael Wise  
Donald G. Hagberg, Associate Member  
John Katz, Associate Member

# **PUBLIC SAFETY AND INSPECTIONS**

## **REPORT OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT**

To The Honorable Board of Selectmen:

The following is a list of arrests, investigations and activities by the Great Barrington Police Department for fiscal year 2012:

Arrests:	180
Protective Custody:	41
Accidents:	270
Breaking & Entering:	76
Larcenies:	256
Shoplifting:	26
Malicious Destruction:	65
Assaults:	76
Sexual Assaults:	12

Fines collected from parking tickets: \$8,550  
Revenue from issued firearm licenses: \$6,675  
Fines returned from the courts for motor vehicle citations & other fines: \$21,471  
Revenue from administrative fees assessed for paid details: \$18,995  
Revenue from regional dispatching/lock-up agreements: \$7,415  
Junk car permits, copies of reports etc. \$2,530  
Alarm permits and false alarm charges: \$44,400  
Insurance reports: \$1,038

### Grants:

Grant from District's Attorney's Office for Berkshire County Drug Task Force investigations: \$11,620  
Federal grant for body armor: \$1,750  
Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency Grant for 2 portable radios: \$2,000  
Expected to receive from State 911 Department toward dispatcher salaries: \$31,400  
Expected to receive from State 911 Department for Emergency Medical Dispatching Training: \$15,500  
Community donations for new service weapon purchases: \$6,850

Through the efforts of Officer James Bragdon all officers received new service weapons and duty belt equipment. Our former service weapons were seventeen years old. Funds were raised through community donations in the amount of \$6,850. Thank you Officer Bragdon.

### 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.

The Police Department began a downtown Bicycle Patrol Unit in the summer of 2012. Duties include patrolling the Skate Park, Taconic Parking Lot and the River Walk. The goal of the program is to localize police coverage and bring the department closer in touch with the community. We hope to increase this presence starting this spring.

The Great Barrington Police Honor Guard was formed to serve as the ceremonial unit for the Department at appropriate public events. We are extremely proud of this most prestigious unit.

Animal Control Officer Mark Pruhenski resigned after several years of service and was replaced by Olivia VanSant. Mark was instrumental in developing protocols for the job and stricter enforcement of licensing requirements.

Officer Daniel Bersaw retired after 24 years of service to the community. Officer Bersaw spent his career anchoring down the midnight shift and keeping us safe and protected while we slept. He was a very good officer and I wish him well in future endeavors.

Reserve Police Officer Louis Sinico, Sr. retired after almost forty years of service. Whether in a cruiser or on a detail Officer Sinico represented us very well and was always faithful to the Department. Thank- you Louie for your service.

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

In September of 2011 we became the first police department in Berkshire County and the fifty-first in the State to receive certification status from the Massachusetts Police Accreditation Committee. This prestigious award is half-way to the full accreditation process and indeed a tribute to our members. It was made possible only through the daily commitment and professionalism of all our police officers and civilian employees. Town Manager Kevin O'Donnell always provided us encouragement and support in this mission. We continue to march towards full accreditation of the police department.

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  
Chief of Police

## **REPORT OF THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY**

To The Honorable Board of Selectmen:

This is the Great Barrington Emergency Management Agency report for fiscal 2012:

We installed a new antenna on top of Fairview Hospital to replace a twenty-one year old antenna that was malfunctioning.

A new fire department telephone line was installed for the communications tower at Butternut Basin Ski Area. This was a major project that involved many stakeholders and meetings, etc. It was a yearlong effort in cooperation with the Berkshire County Sheriff's Department. The Sheriff's Department has their own equipment on the tower and through a grant they built a housing unit to enclose both their equipment and ours. This security and protection from the elements cost the town nothing.

A grant in the amount of \$2,000 was obtained from MEMA which was used to purchase two portable radios.

We learned some things from the Ghent, N.Y. incident in August. Mainly our Alert Notification System was improved and made more user-friendly for the public. Approximately thirty-five new people have signed up for this service since then. I invite residents to sign up for this service through the town website. Overall there was a coordinated effort between effected local towns, MEMA and New York State authorities.

Storm Sandy provided us with another large challenge in October. Our Emergency Operations Center at the police station was well prepared and staffed. We coordinated storm relief efforts with appropriate town departments and Fairview Hospital as well as local nursing homes. It was a busy few days, but we got through it without any major incidents or injuries.

Through involvement with the Southern Berkshire Regional Emergency Planning Committee we continue to assist in the planning for a State recommended regional shelter at Simon's Rock Early College.

The Board of Selectmen signed a Statewide Public Works and Public Safety Mutual Aid Agreement to allow exchanges of resources across the State in major critical incidents.

The Board of Selectmen approved a Berkshire County Hazard Mitigation Plan prepared by the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission.

Respectfully submitted,

William R. Walsh  
Emergency Management Director

## **REPORT OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT**

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

Fiscal year 2012 was another busy year for the fire department. The department responded to 510 emergencies, including 45 fires, 39 rescues, and 34 hazardous materials incidents.

Fire prevention remains a priority with 652 inspections and plan reviews being conducted.

In June Chief Jennings retired after 38 years of service including 11 as chief. I would like to thank him for his dedication to the department and service to the community.

Grants and other alternative sources of funding continue to be aggressively pursued. The Fire Department was awarded one grant by the Department of Public Health which was used to buy pagers which alert our volunteers when there is an emergency.

I would like to thank our volunteers for their hard work and many hours of service. They continue to train to be prepared for the very diverse emergency services the Fire Department provides, including fire suppression, emergency medical care, hazardous material mitigation, motor vehicle extrication, and any type of search or rescue. In total, over 3,700 hours of training were dedicated.

I would like to thank the community for their continued support. We are always looking for volunteers. Anyone interested can call 413-528-0788 for more information.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles Burger  
Fire Chief

## **REPORT OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH**

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

The Board of Health and the Health Department continued to maintain the services we provide without increasing the cost to residents once again this year. This year's goal was focused on controlling our public health nursing costs while increasing our outreach and services. With the help of the Berkshire Public Health Alliance we were able to meet that goal and we hope to continue to increase our Health Promotion and Community Wellness programs in the coming year.

Despite the lack of Federal funding again this year, we were also able to continue to provide flu clinics to our residents with the help of Fairview Hospital, the Berkshire County Boards of Health Association, and the Berkshire Medical Reserve Corps (MRC). Without the help of our community partners this would not have been possible.

The Health department was once again active in planning for and responding to our community's emergencies this year. We continue to provide up-to-date information for our residents on our website and through our reverse 911 phone system whenever necessary.

### **Last year the Board of Health issued:**

- 175 Food Establishment Permits
- 83 Temporary Food Permits
- 21 Septic System Construction Permits
- 3 Well Construction Permits
- 18 Lodging Establishment Permits
- 19 Public and Semi-Public Pool Permits
- 17 Tobacco Sales Permits
- 4 Camp Permits
- 4 Beaver Trapping Permits
- 9 Septic Installer Permits
- 17 Septage and Garbage Hauler's Permits
- 18 Trench Permits

**In all, 388 licenses and permits were processed and a total of \$40,016.00 in permitting and inspectional fees was collected. A record 424 food inspections were also completed this year.**

In addition to the above, 33 Animal Inspector incidents were handled and a total of 26 Barn inspections were completed as required for the Department of Agricultural Resources, Bureau of Animal Health.

### **The following is a general breakdown of the many responsibilities handled on a regular basis by the Health Department staff:**

- Witnessing percolation tests and Title 5 inspections for all new and replacement septic systems;
- Permit review and on-site inspections for all septic repairs and installations;
- Routine inspections for all of the lodging houses, public pools, recreational camps, and the 175 plus Annual Food and many different Temporary Food Establishments;
- Housing code inspections and enforcement;
- Infectious disease investigation and reporting;
- Tobacco regulation enforcement, training, and employee certification;
- Weekly water testing and monitoring for our public beaches
- On-site inspections for all beaver conflict permits;
- Handling the numerous public health related questions and complaints

The Health Department is open Monday through Friday from 8:30am to 4:00pm or by appointment.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mark A. Pruhenski- Health Agent -Great Barrington Board of Health

## REPORT OF THE INSPECTOR OF BUILDINGS

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

I hereby submit to you the Inspector of Buildings report FY 2012

<b><u>BUILDING PERMITS</u></b>	<b><u>NUMBER</u></b>	<b><u>FEES</u></b>	<b><u>CONSTRUCTION COST</u></b>
New Dwellings	11	\$ 29,011.50	\$ 4,114,774.00
Additions/Alterations Accessory	141	\$ 31,037.13	\$ 4,177,558.00
Commercial	40	\$ 25,809.65	\$ 8,380,792.71
Windows/Insulation/Siding	87	\$ 4,668.00	\$ 536,741.00
Roofing	106	\$ 7,660.70	\$ 1,074,890.00
Stoves/Liners	32	\$ 1,155.00	\$ 30,980.00
Signs/Banners	61	\$ 2,340.00	\$ 0.00
Demo/Selective Demo	14	\$ 760.00	\$ 652,332.00
Tents/Temp Structure	16	\$ 585.00	0.00
Photovoltaic	01	\$ 119.00	\$ 17,000.00
Pools	03	\$ 300.00	\$ 122,000.00
Fences	01	\$ 35.00	0.00
Sheds	02	\$ 70.00	\$ 9,672.00
<b>Totals</b>	<b><u>515</u></b>	<b><u>\$103,550.98</u></b>	<b><u>\$19,116,739.71</u></b>

In total, 515 permits were issued. Building Permit fees for FY12 were \$103,550.98.

### **In addition to Building Permits:**

(66) Periodic Inspections - \$2,640.00  
(39) Annual Liquor License Inspections - \$1,560.00  
(24) Trench Permits - \$ 750.00  
(14) Sheet Metal Permits - \$ 490.00  
Other fees - \$141.00

Money collected in FY12 for FY 11 permits \$3,818.00

Money turned over to the Treasurer in FY 12 was \$113,480.98

Respectfully submitted,

Edwin A. May  
Building Inspector

## REPORT OF THE PLUMBING INSPECTOR

To The Honorable Board of Selectmen:

During the year July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012 this department issued 89 permits, did 164 on site Inspections and collected \$8,975.00 in fees.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Krupski  
Plumbing Inspector

## **REPORT OF THE GAS INSPECTOR**

To The Honorable Board of Selectmen:

During the year July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012 this department issued 136 permits, did 144 on site Inspections and collected \$7,940.00 in fees.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Gennari  
Gas Inspector

## **REPORT OF THE WIRE INSPECTOR**

To The Honorable Board of Selectmen:

During the year July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012 this department issued 228 permits, did 393 on site Inspections and collected \$17,318.00 in fees.

Respectfully submitted,

Ted Piontek  
Wire Inspector

## **REPORT OF THE SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES**

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

I hereby submit to you the report of the Sealer of Weights and Measures. 81 retail scales were inspected and certified. There were also 66 gasoline pumps that were tested and certified.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul K. Vacchina  
Sealer of Weights and Measures

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

### **REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

I am pleased to submit for your review the annual report of the Department of Public Works for FY 2012. 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 we 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  $\pm$  plus 239 x-walks), traffic sign maintenance, re-establishing drainage ditches, reconstructing catch basins (280 $\pm$ ), 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 roadway capital improvement projects. The department is on call "24/7"

**Public Grounds Division:** (Cemeteries, parks, public building grounds) along with providing support for the Highway Department during winter maintenance activities, maintains approximately 140 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, Police Station, Great Barrington Fire Station, Inspectional Services (former Castle Street FD) 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 continued operations on Saturdays only from 7:00 AM to 3:30 PM although discussions were started on opening up the Transfer Station more hours for the residents. The Town continues to hold two Bulky Waste Collections days during the year for the residents. The Town also participates in the South Berkshire Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program with continued support and participation from Great Barrington residents. Major collection days for south county residents and several mini collection days are held throughout the year.

The DPW completed several planned road improvement projects including, reclamation and paving of Locust Hill Road, installation of new culverts and paving of Blue Hill Road. New sidewalks were installed on South Street and Hollenbeck Avenue. New drainage was installed on Lewis and West Avenues. The Town did receive a State grant for the installation of new trees. Over 30 trees were planted in various locations throughout the Town.

Two weather events during the year kept the Department busy. Hurricane Irene left its mark with a roadway embankment failure on Seekonk Road and a culvert washout on Seekonk Cross Road. The town was successful in it obtaining 75% funding from FEMA to pay for the repairs. On October 29, 2011 an early winter storm dumped approximately 20 inches of snow in the area. Many trees came down during this storm including eight along the Main Street corridor. Again the Town was successful in obtain FEMA funding to cover 75% of the expense for the cleanup.

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

Respectfully Submitted,  
Joseph W. Sokul  
*DPW Superintendent*

## **REPORT OF THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITIES**

To The Honorable Board of Selectmen:

The Wastewater Department received at its treatment facilities some 350 million gallons of wastewater and 225,000 of septic tank waste from July 2011 through June 2012. The treatment of the wastewater removed 97.6% of the biological oxygen demand and 96.4% 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 one upgrade at the wastewater facilities which involves new electrical switchgear, solids handling and a bio-filter.

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

Sanitary sewer mains were relined in Main Street Great Barrington, upgrading them to a new condition.

The department developed cost savings measures by flow pacing chemical additions, reduction of run time of various pumps and utilizing high efficiency motors. This program is ongoing and will have energy saving options as it progresses.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy Drumm  
Wastewater Superintendent

## **REPORT OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

This is the report of the Commissioners for the past fiscal year.

First, we must express our thanks to the town employees of the Great Barrington DPW under the supervision and direction of Mr. Joseph Sokul. Without his assistance our parks would not be maintained as well as they are. He and his employees have been invaluable in our accomplishments this past year.

The Commissioners are responsible for the several parks owned by the residents of Great Barrington. Among the more prominent ones are the following: Olympian Meadows, Lake Mansfield Beach and Recreation Area, Memorial Field, the Memorial Field Skate Park, Grove Street Park, Giggle Park at the Town Hall, and the Housatonic School Park.

In addition there are several smaller parks that are maintained by the Commissioners: South Street Park, Castronova Park, Stanley Park, Parish Park, Belcher Square, Park Street Park and Tracy Park. We are also responsible for the care and maintenance of the Old Maids Swimming area.

The Commissioners are also very grateful and appreciative of the efforts of several groups of volunteers who have served to help maintain the above areas. Among them are the members of the Great Barrington Little League, the Great Barrington Babe Ruth League, the Great Barrington Millers Adult Baseball Team, the members of the Lake

Mansfield Alliance, the members of the Southern Berkshire Youth Football program, and any others who may have served without official recognition. We are indebted to their cooperative efforts.

A special note of appreciation and recognition must go to the members of the Sheffield Kiwanis who during the early spring contributed many hours of work to aid in preparing both Grove Street and Housatonic School Park for use.

#### -Capital Projects-

In addition to the routine maintenance of the several parks and playgrounds, the Commissioners have commenced a capital improvement plan for several of the parks. Foremost is the planned upgrade of the South Street Park by the installation of several pieces of outdoor fitness equipment. The equipment was purchased by the availability of capital funds approved by the Town Meeting. The several pieces will be installed after part of the current South Street Park is prepared in the 2013 fiscal year. The Commissioners are exploring the installation of adult fitness equipment at other sites in the future.

In addition to the major capital purchase of outdoor fitness equipment, the following projects were completed:

1. Removal of old swing set from Grove Street Park and installation of new swing set.
2. Replacement of fencing at Grove Street Park
3. Replacement of wood chips at both Grove Street Park and Housatonic School Playground (with the assistance of the Sheffield Kiwanis)
4. Purchase of additional infield mix for Olympian Meadows Little League complex (work completed by members of the Great Barrington Little League)

#### -Future Capital Improvement Projects-

In addition to the normal routine maintenance projects, the Commissioners are completing an assessment of the following to be completed in FY13:

1. Renovation of the Housatonic School Playground area, including upgrades to the basketball court area and the playground structures
2. Installation of permanent toilet facilities at Olympian Meadows
3. Installation of new playground equipment at Olympian Meadows, Lake Mansfield, Housatonic School Playground, and Giggle Park
4. Improvements in Handicapped Accessibility to Memorial Field
5. Improvements to the Memorial Field baseball diamond and the Memorial Field Skate Park

#### -Special Events-

1. Memorial Field served again as the site of SummerFest organized by volunteers from the Berkshire Co-op. This popular event is attended by hundreds of residents and non-residents alike.
2. Members of the Great Barrington Land Conservancy and other concerned residents participated in a clean-up of the Lake Mansfield beach area, after which a cook-out is held
3. Lake Mansfield also served as the site of the Elder Berry Bash, an event organized by the Claire Teague Senior Center and Lake Mansfield Alliance
4. Lake Mansfield Fishing Derby was held in early June, sponsored by Berkshire South

In addition to the Special Events above, the Commissioners continued the Summer Program as managed by Berkshire South. Organized events and supervision of these events are held during the summer school vacation weeks at Lake Mansfield, Memorial Field Skate Park, and Housatonic School Playground. This program has been offered for several years and we have contracted with Berkshire South to manage the program. We are appreciative of and grateful to the citizens of Great Barrington for their approval of funding for this program.

Of course, we must also mention the athletic programs sponsored and supervised by the Great Barrington Little League, the Great Barrington Babe Ruth League, and the Southern Berkshire Youth Football organization. We are indebted to their efforts to improve the sites at which they offer their programs.

The Great Barrington Millers are a relatively new program. They are a group of interested adults who play in an organized baseball league. In addition to providing a source of enjoyment for spectators at Memorial Field, they have cooperated with the Commissioners to maintain and improve the playing surface at Memorial Field.

Finally, the Commissioners have been charged with scheduling events at the Great Barrington Town Hall Gazebo. On most Saturday mornings throughout the summer months this area has served as the host site for many and varied musical events, for the pleasure of both our young residents and visitors as well as our older fellow citizens.

This completes the report of the Park Commissioners for FY12. We recognize the support given us by the Board of Selectmen, the Finance Committee, the Town Manager, and finally and most importantly, the citizens and taxpayers of Great Barrington.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Gibbons, Chairperson  
Karen Smith  
Charles Boutellier  
Kathy Plungis  
Tom Norton  
Eliza Crescentini  
Steve Bannon

# **TOWN CLERK**

## **REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK**

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

During the fiscal year that began July 1, 2011 and ended June 30, 2012 there were two elections and the annual town meeting.

<b>ELECTIONS:</b>	<b><u>Registered Voters</u></b>	<b><u>Ballots Cast</u></b>	<b><u>% Voted</u></b>
Presidential Primary March 2012	4367	357	8 %
Annual Town Meeting	4305	351	12 %
Annual Town Election	4430	1026	23%

The Annual Town Meeting was held May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2012 with voters (12%) acting on 45 warrant articles, including several bylaw changes. The articles of note were: a Tax Increment Financing Agreement to be entered into by the Board of Selectmen with Castle Street, LLC in regards to property at 20 Castle Street (the old fire station), the Board of Selectmen to revoke the Tax Increment Agreement with Big Y Foods, Inc., and the Community Preservation Act. All of these articles were approved. The budget was also approved. The zoning articles were all approved by the Attorney General's Office.

There were 87 marriages, 174 births and 156 deaths recorded during the fiscal year. The Annual Census was 6,705 with 4,378 registered voters in the Town of Great Barrington during the fiscal year.

Fees amounting to \$35,684.30 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, and dog fees. A total of 1,063 dogs were licensed in town in 2012. During the fiscal year a total of \$3,892.25 was collected for the sale of hunting and fishing licenses and turned over to the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife. As of January 1, 2012, the Town Clerk's Office no longer sold hunting and fishing licenses due to the fact that the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife began to make these licenses available online or by an authorized agent only.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Ryan, CMMC  
Town Clerk

**TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON  
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING  
AT MONUMENT MOUMENT HIGH SCHOOL  
KATHLEEN MCDERMOTT AUDITORIUM  
MAY 7, 2012 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 6:00 P.M. by Moderator Edward McCormick who welcomed everyone to the 252<sup>nd</sup> 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 a later date. 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. Mr. McCormick requested that everyone stand and join him in the Pledge of Allegiance with members of the Housatonic VFW Post carrying the flags. A moment of silence was requested for the following town officials who passed away from July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011; Judy Stavisky, Edwin Farrington, Francis VanDeusen, Robert Barry, Emma Gray, William Webber and Terry Koldys. Mr. McCormick introduced the Town Officials seated on the stage; Town Clerk Marie Ryan, Town Accountant Lauren Sartori, Town Council David Doneski, Town Manager Kevin O'Donnell, Selectman Chair Sean Stanton, Selectmen: Deborah Phillips, Stephen Bannon, Alana Chernila, and Andrew Blechman. Finance Committee Members: Chair Thomas Blauvelt, Mark Lefenfeld, Walter Atwood, III, Andrew Moro and Louis J. Stark.

Mr. McCormick stated that the rules of the meeting were printed on bright yellow paper which was an insert in the warrant for the meeting. The meeting will be governed by the Massachusetts General Laws, the Bylaws of the Town of Great Barrington and Town Meeting Time. He noted that the budget was printed on page 30 of the warrant. Mr. McCormick stated that he will excuse himself as moderator for articles 6, 16 and 17 and that he would like to make a motion that Mr. Raymond Murray be the temporary moderator for those articles. Lauren Sartori seconded. There was no discussion.

**VOTED AT 6:05 P.M.**

A motion was made by Lauren Sartori, seconded by Kevin O'Donnell to dispense with the reading of the warrant.

**VOTED AT 6:05 P.M.**

Town Manager, Kevin O'Donnell proceeded to give a slide presentation on the Fiscal Year 2013 Budget to be voted upon for this Annual Town Meeting.

**ARTICLE 1:** On a motion by Thomas Blauvelt, seconded by Lauren Sartori voted that the

Town authorize the use of revolving funds for the following programs and purposes:

- a. Plumbing Inspector (\$15,000.)
- b. Wire Inspector (\$20,000.)
- 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 (\$5,000.)

which revolving funds together shall not exceed the sum of Eighty Thousand Dollars (\$80,000.00), 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 6:18 PM**

**ARTICLE 2:** On a motion by Thomas Blauvelt, seconded by Lauren Sartori voted that the Town fix the salaries of all elected officials for the period of July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013 as indicated below:

Elected Officials Salaries:  
Selectmen: \$7,500.00

**VOTED AT 6:19 PM**

**ARTICLE 3:** On a motion by Mark Lefenfeld seconded by Lauren Sartori voted that the Town accept any and all funds being provided by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Division of Transportation (MassDOT), 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 6:19 PM**

**ARTICLE 4:** On a motion by Mark Lefenfeld seconded by Kevin O'Donnell voted that the sum of \$722,000 is appropriated to (i) pay the costs of various roadway and drainage improvements at a cost of approximately \$500,000, 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 \$32,000, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto, (iii) pay the cost of engineering services related to the repair of bridges within the Town at an approximate cost of \$50,000, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto,

and (iv) acquire two new dump trucks for the use of the Department of Public Works (\$140,000), including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto, and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, is authorized to borrow said amount under and 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.

Mr. McCormick informed the audience that this article had to be a 2/3rds majority vote and also by secret ballot. There was no discussion on this article. Mr. McCormick then asked the Police Officer to check the ballot boxes and make sure they were empty. The audience was then instructed to proceed to the ballot boxes using their white yes/no slips to place their vote in the ballot boxes and return to their seats.

**VOTED 2/3rds MAJORITY AT 6:48 PM**  
**YES – 179      NO – 80**

**ARTICLE 5:** On a motion by Walter Atwood, III, seconded by Kevin O'Donnell voted that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$345,000 , excepting the following sums which are to be transferred: the sum of \$45,000 which is an unspent portion of the amount that was appropriated under Article 6 of the May 4, 2009 Annual Town Meeting and the sum of \$20,000 which is an unspent portion of the amount that was appropriated under Article 4 of the May 14, 2007 Annual Town Meeting; and appropriate \$40,000 from the Sewer Enterprise Fund Free Cash for the following Sewer Fund Capital Items:

<b>Police Department</b>	
Surveillance cameras/equipment	30,000.00
	<b>30,000.00</b>
<b>Public Works</b>	
Town Building Repair/Improvement Projects	165,000.00
Total	<b>165,000.00</b>
<b>Senior Center</b>	
Building repairs-bathrooms	25,000.00
Total	<b>25,000.00</b>
<b>Town Hall</b>	
Replace/upgrade computer systems	80,000.00
Total	<b>80,000.00</b>
<b>Parks</b>	
Improvements	45,000.00
Total	<b>45,000.00</b>
<b>Total Capital-General Fund</b>	<b>345,000.00</b>
<b>Waste Water Enterprise Fund Capital</b>	
Pickup with plow	40,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>40,000.00</b>

Mr. McCormick read the list of items in this article and asked that if anyone had any questions or concerns to yell out hold on that particular line item. There were holds placed on the Police Department (surveillance cameras/equipment), Public Works (Town Building Repair/Improvement Projects), and Town Hall (Replace/upgrade computer systems). The moderator then asked for a vote on all other items not held.

#### **VOTED AT 6:28 PM**

Mr. McCormick then asked for discussion on the following items one at a time:

#### **Police Department** (surveillance cameras/equipment)

Phil Timpane and Kevin O'Donnell spoke on this item.

#### **VOTED AT 6:29 PM**

#### **Public Works** (Town Building Repair/Improvement Projects)

Linda Ulmer spoke on this article. The moderator then asked for a vote and proceeded to ask the tellers to do a hand count.

**VOTED AT 6:48 PM**  
**Yes- 149 No- 102**

**Town Hall** (Replace/upgrade computer systems)  
There was no discussion.

**VOTED AT 6:34 PM**

Mr. McCormick then turned over the Town Meeting to Mr. Raymond Murray to moderate article 6 due to a conflict of interest.

**ARTICLE 6:** On a motion by Sean Stanton, seconded by Lauren Sartori voted that the sum of \$700,000, 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 Selectmen, is authorized to borrow \$700,000 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, however, 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. Murray stated that this article had to be a 2/3rds majority vote and also by secret ballot. The following people spoke on this article:

Paul Kleinwald	Harry Jennings
Walter Atwood, III	Lawrence Premerlani
Andrew Blechman	Nancy Shaw
June Johnson	

Mr. Murray then asked the Police Officer to check the ballot boxes and make sure they were empty. The audience was then instructed to proceed to the ballot boxes using their yellow yes/no slips to place their vote in the ballot boxes and return to their seats.

**MOTION FAILED AT 6:57 PM**  
**YES – 88 NO – 220**

**ARTICLE 7:** On a motion by Walter Atwood, III seconded by Kevin O'Donnell 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 FY 13 Annual Budget of the General Fund, excepting the sum of \$40,000 which is to be appropriated from overlay surplus.

Mr. McCormick asked the audience to turn to page 30 of the warrant to view the budget items. He read each total line item that the Finance Committee recommended. He asked if anyone had any issues on any line item to please put a hold on that item. The following items had holds placed on them: Technology, Council on Aging and Libraries. The moderator then asked for a vote on all other line items without holds place on them.

**VOTED AT 6:55 PM**

Mr. McCormick then asked for discussion on the following items one at a time:

**Technology:** Craig Okerstrom Lang and Lauren Sartori spoke on this item.

**VOTED AT 6:57 PM**

**Council on Aging:** Deborah Phillips made a motion for an amendment to this item. She asked for the voters to vote for the amount that the Selectmen recommended on line 193 to increase the salary of the assistant, change line item 193 to \$14,820 for a total of \$130,729.00. This was seconded by someone in the audience. The following people spoke on this item:

Sean Stanton	Michelle Gilligan
Andrew Moro	Craig Okerstrom Lang
Veronica Cunningham	Rebecca Tillinghast

**AMENDMENT VOTED AT 7:13 PM**

Mr. McCormick asked for a vote on the article with the amendment.

**VOTED AT 7:14 PM**

**ARTICLE 8:** On a motion by Walter Atwood, III seconded by Kevin O'Donnell 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 FY13 Annual Budget for the Sewer Fund.

Mr. McCormick informed the audience the information for this article is on page 41.

**VOTED AT 7:15 PM**

**ARTICLE 9:** On a motion by Andrew Moro seconded by Kevin O'Donnell voted that the sum of \$4,500,000 is hereby appropriated to pay costs of making sewer system improvements, and for the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto, and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 7(1), and Chapter 29C of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor; and in the event that all or any portion of this borrowing is to be accomplished through the Massachusetts Water Pollution Abatement Trust (the "Trust"), the Treasurer, Selectmen and any other appropriate officials of the Town are authorized to execute such documents as the Trust shall require in conjunction with the making of any such loan to the Town, including, but not limited to, a Loan Agreement and a Project Regulatory Agreement.

Mr. McCormick informed the audience that this article had to be a 2/3rds majority vote and also by secret ballot. The following people spoke on this article:

Craig Okerstrom Lang	Carol Purcell
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Kevin O'Donnell  
Dave Jaicks

Tim Drumm  
Kristie Lord

Mr. McCormick then asked the Police Officer to check the ballot boxes and make sure they were empty. The audience was then instructed to proceed to the ballot boxes using their pink yes/no slips to place their vote in the ballot boxes and return to their seats.

**VOTED 2/3rds MAJORITY AT 7:51 PM**  
**YES – 199 NO – 85**

**ARTICLE 10:** On a motion by Andrew Moro seconded by Lauren Sartori voted that the Town appropriate from Library Depository Funds the sum of \$8,809.50 for library purposes.

The following people spoke on this article:

Charles Williamson  
Holly Hamer

Kevin O'Donnell  
Kate Deviny, Library Dir.

**VOTED AT 7:30 PM**

**ARTICLE 11:** On a motion by Deborah Phillips seconded by Kevin O'Donnell voted that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Million, Nine Hundred Sixty One Thousand, One Hundred Fifty Three Dollars (\$10,961,153.00) for the operating assessment, and Six Hundred Thirty Seven Thousand Five Hundred Sixty Six Dollars (\$637,566.00) for the capital assessment, for a total assessment of Eleven Million, Five Hundred Ninety Eight Thousand, Seven Hundred Nineteen Dollars (\$11,598,719.00) of the Berkshire Hills Regional School District.

Mr. Peter Dillon, Berkshire Hills Regional School District Superintendent presented a short slide show on the school district. The following people spoke on this article:

Veronica Cunningham  
June Johnson  
Arnold Miller

Andrew Moro  
Michelle Gilligan  
Walter Atwood, III

Mr. McCormick asked for a vote for a secret ballot. There were indeed 20+ people that requested a secret ballot. Mr. McCormick then instructed the police officer to check the ballot boxes to make sure they were empty and then had the voters use their green yes/no slips to proceed to the ballot boxes and vote.

**VOTED AT 7:59 PM**  
**YES- 200 NO- 120**

**ARTICLE 12:** On a motion by Andrew Moro seconded by Lauren Sartori voted that the Town authorize the use of \$100,000 from the Pension Reserve Fund to reduce the FY13 appropriation required under Chapter 32 of the General Laws for the Berkshire Regional Retirement System.

**VOTED AT 7:51 PM**

**ARTICLE 13:** On a motion by Louis J. Stark seconded by Lauren Sartori voted that the Town authorize the use of \$2,150,000 in Free Cash to reduce the tax levy for Fiscal Year 2013.

**VOTED AT 7:52 PM**

**ARTICLE 14:** On a motion by Louis J. Stark seconded by Kevin O'Donnell voted that the Town authorize the use of \$80,000 from the Stabilization Fund to reduce the tax levy for Fiscal Year 2013.

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

**DECLARED 2/3<sup>rd</sup> MAJORITY AT 7:52 PM**

**ARTICLE 15:** On a motion by Louis J. Stark seconded by Kevin O'Donnell voted that the Town increase the fee that is charged for each written demand provided for by law that is issued by the Tax Collector from \$ 5.00 to \$10.00, which fee is to be added to and collected as part of the tax, as authorized by Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 60, Section 15, effective July 1, 2012.

Craig Okerstrom Lang spoke on this article.

**VOTED AT 7:54 PM**

At this point, Mr. McCormick excused himself and had Mr. Murray proceed to fill in as moderator for the next two articles.

**ARTICLE 16:** On a motion by Stephen Bannon seconded by Kevin O'Donnell voted that the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen to submit to the Massachusetts Economic Assistance Coordinating Council an application designating the property of Castle Street LLC or its Nominee, located at 20 Castle Street, Great Barrington, as described in an Economic Opportunity Area Application, as an Economic Opportunity Area, pursuant to the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 23A.

**VOTED AT 7:55 PM**

**ARTICLE 17:** On a motion by Stephen Bannon seconded by Kevin O'Donnell voted that the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a Tax Increment Financing Agreement and Tax Increment Financing Plan, and/or a Special Tax Assessment Agreement and related agreements, with Castle Street LLC or its nominee, pursuant to the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 40, Section 59, or any other enabling authority, in connection with the development of the property located at 20 Castle Street, Great Barrington.

The following people spoke on this article:

Mary Beth Merritt  
Gary Happ

Kevin O'Donnell  
Sean Stanton

**VOTED AT 7:59 PM**

**ARTICLE 18:** On a motion by Stephen Bannon seconded by Kevin O'Donnell voted that the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen to revoke the Tax Increment Financing Plan and Tax Increment Financing Agreement between the Town and Big Y Foods, Inc. and Pinewood Realty Trust of the Berkshires, LLC for the property located at 700 Main Street, Great Barrington.

**VOTED AT 8:00 PM**

**ARTICLE 19:** On a motion by Deborah Phillips seconded by Kevin O'Donnell voted that the Town approve the establishment of a Stabilization Fund by the Berkshire Hills Regional School District, beginning July 1, 2012, pursuant to Section 16G 1/2 of Chapter 71 of the Massachusetts General Laws.

The moderator explained that this article needs to pass in two of the three member towns in the Berkshire Hills Regional School District to get approval.

The following people spoke on this article:

Peter Dillon

Walter Atwood, III

Andrew Moro

Andrew Blechman

Mr. McCormick asked the tellers to do a hand count on the vote.

**MOTION FAILED AT 8:13 PM**

**YES – 115 NO – 151**

**ARTICLE 20:** On a motion by Jonathan Hankin seconded by Jack Musgrove voted that the Town amend Section 4.2.4 of the Zoning Bylaw, Contextual Setbacks, by adding a new paragraph 4, as shown in Article 20 of the warrant for the Annual Town Meeting of May 7, 2012, in order to allow homes to be built closer to the front lot line than normally allowed, if adjacent structures also were built closer to the front lot line.

Jonathan Hankin, Planning Board Chair, gave a short report from the Planning Board on this article. Jack Musgrove also spoke on this article.

Mr. McCormick stated this article needs a 2/3<sup>rd</sup> majority to be approved.

**DECLARED 2/3<sup>RD</sup> MAJORITY AT 8:09 PM**

**ARTICLE 21:** On a motion by Jonathan Hankin seconded by Jack Musgrove voted that the Town amend Section 9.3.11 of the Zoning Bylaw, Application Requirements for the Wireless Telecommunications Overlay District, by changing the 15 day comment period for the Board of Selectmen and Planning Board in connection with building permit applications to a 30 day comment period, as shown in Article 21 of the Warrant for the Annual Town Meeting of May 7, 2012.

Jonathan Hankin, Planning Board Chair, gave a short report from the Planning Board on this article. Jack Musgrove and Kathleen Favaloro also spoke on this article.

Mr. McCormick stated this article needs a 2/3<sup>rd</sup> majority to be approved.

**DECLARED 2/3<sup>RD</sup> MAJORITY AT 8:12 PM**

**ARTICLE 22:** (by petition) On a motion by Taj Monjiardo seconded by Jack Musgrove voted that the Town rezone the parcels identified on the Great Barrington Assessors Map 21, parcels 2.1 through 2.7, from R2, Residential, to I, Industrial, and to amend the Zoning Map accordingly.

Mr. McCormick noted that the map this article refers to is in the warrant on page 28 and that this need to be a 2/3<sup>rd</sup> majority vote for approval. Mr. Jonathan Hankin, Planning Board Chair proceeded to give a short Planning Board report.

**DECLARED 2/3<sup>RD</sup> MAJORITY AT 8:14 PM**

**ARTICLE 23:** On a motion by Deborah Phillips seconded by Kevin O'Donnell voted that the Town amend the Sign Bylaw, Chapter 146 of the Code of Great Barrington, by adding a new section, §146-21, Temporary Signs in Construction Zones, as shown in Article 23 of the warrant for the Annual Town Meeting of May 7, 2012, in order to provide that temporary signs, including but not limited to sandwich boards, "V" signs, and portable signs, may be exempt from the regulations of Chapter 146 within designated Construction Zones as determined by the Board of Selectmen.

**VOTED AT 8:16 PM**

**ARTICLE 24:** On a motion by Sean Stanton seconded by Kevin O'Donnell voted that the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire the parcels of land described in Exhibit B to the warrant for the May 7, 2012 Annual Town Meeting, and shown on plans entitled "Massachusetts Department of Transportation Highway Division plan of Main Street in the Town of Great Barrington Berkshire County" project file no. 602182, and/or rights in, over and through said parcels for the purpose of maintaining a secure and public right of way in Main Street in order to allow for the construction and roadway safety improvements for the Main Street Reconstruction Project, and further, to authorize the Selectmen to acquire such parcels or rights therein through all legal means, including donation, purchase or eminent domain.

Mr. McCormick stated that there was an insert in the warrant that listed all the parcels involved in this article. There was no discussion.

**VOTED AT 8:17 PM**

**ARTICLE 25:** On a motion by Sean Stanton seconded by Kevin O'Donnell voted that the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire the parcel of land shown on the Assessors' Maps as Map 33, Parcel 37, and/or rights in, over and through said parcel for the purpose of maintaining a secure and public right of way in order to allow for the construction and roadway safety improvements for the Alford-Great Barrington Bridge Replacement A-06-003, Alford Road Over Alford Brook, Project File No. 602859.

Michael Ury spoke on this article.

**VOTED AT 8:19 PM**

**ARTICLE 26:** On a motion by Alana Chernila seconded by Kevin O'Donnell voted that the Town initiate the process to aggregate electrical load, pursuant to M.G.L. c. 164, § 134, and further, to adopt the following resolution:

Whereas, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts is engaged in a process to establish a competitive market place through deregulation and restructuring of the electric utility industry;

Whereas, citizens of Great Barrington have a substantial economic and social interest at stake, and;

Whereas the Town of Great Barrington hereby finds that it may be in the interest of the electric ratepayers, both residential and commercial/industrial, to enter into an aggregation agreement,

Be it therefore resolved that the Town of Great Barrington hereby:

Publicly declares its intent to become an aggregator of electric power on behalf of its residential and business communities, and;

Intends to negotiate and enter into a contract for power supply independently or in joint action with other municipalities. If such a contract is effected, individual consumers would retain the option not to participate and to choose any alternatives they desire.

Kevin O'Donnell, Kathleen Favaloro and Michael Maguire spoke on this article.

**VOTED AT 8:23 PM**

**ARTICLE 27:** On a motion by Alana Chernila seconded by Kevin O'Donnell voted that the Town accept Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 54, Section 16A, which provides that if the warden, clerk or inspector, or deputy of any such officer, if any, is not present at the opening of the polls, the city or town clerk may appoint a person to fill such vacancy who shall be an

enrolled voter of the same political party as the absent officer, if any competent person enrolled in such party is present and willing to serve.

**VOTED AT 8:24 PM**

**ARTICLE 28:** On a motion by Alana Chernila seconded by Kevin O'Donnell voted that the Town officially designate Great Barrington a Compassionate City, as printed in article 28 of the warrant for the Annual Town Meeting of May 7, 2012.

The following people spoke on this article:

Shawn Baker	Richard Needelman
Andrew Moro	Veronica Cunningham
Paul Kleinwald	June Johnson
David Jaicks	Alana Chernila

**MOTION FAILED AT 8:34 PM**

**ARTICLE 29:** On a motion by Andrew Blechman seconded by Kevin O'Donnell voted that the Town adopt an amended bylaw as described in article 29 of the warrant for the Annual Town Meeting May 7, 2012, providing for the licensing of suitable persons to carry on the business of pawnbrokers, to be incorporated into the Code of the Town of Great Barrington as Chapter 120.

Paul Kleinwald and Sean Stanton spoke on this article.

**VOTED AT 8:37 PM**

**ARTICLE 30: (by petition)** On a motion by Sean Stanton seconded by Thomas Blauvelt this article is to be passed over. There was no discussion.

**VOTED TO BE PASSED OVER AT 8:38 PM**

**ARTICLE 31:** On a motion by Andrew Blechman seconded by Sean Stanton voted that the Town impose a temporary prohibition against any large-scale ground-mounted solar photovoltaic installation with a rated nameplate capacity greater than 250 kW on any single or contiguous parcel(s) until such time as the Town determines whether and under which circumstances such installations shall be permitted or June 1, 2013, whichever end date comes first.

The following people spoke on this article:

Stephen Bannon	Nancy Shaw
David Doneski	Sean Stanton
Philip Pechukas	Jonathan Hankin
Jack Musgrove	Barbara Zheutlin
Andrea Panaritis	Vivian Orlowski

Mr. McCormick asked the tellers for a hand count.

**MOTION FAILED AT 9:18 PM**

**YES – 120 NO – 125**

**ARTICLE 32: (by petition)** On a motion by Sean Stanton seconded by Lauren Sartori this article is to be passed over. There was no discussion.

**VOTED TO BE PASSED OVER AT 9:06 PM**

**ARTICLE 33: (by petition)** On a motion by Andrew Blechman seconded by someone in the audience to see if the Town will accept Sections 3 to 7, inclusive, of Chapter 44B of the General Laws, otherwise know as the Massachusetts Community Preservation Act, by approving a surcharge on real property for the purposed permitted by said Act, including the acquisition, creation, and preservation of open space, the acquisition, preservation, rehabilitation and restoration of historic resources, the acquisition, creation and preservation of land for recreational use, the acquisition, creation, preservation and support of community housing, and the rehabilitation and restoration of such open space, land for recreational use and community housing that is acquired or created as provided under said Act; that the amount of such surcharge on real property shall be 3% of the annual real estate tax levy against real property commencing in fiscal year 2014; and that the Town hereby accepts the following exemptions from such surcharge permitted under Section 3(e) of said Act: property owned and occupied as a domicile by any person who qualifies for low income housing or low or moderate income senior housing in the Town, as defined in Section 2 of said Act, and \$100,000 of the value of each taxable parcel of residential real property; or to take any other action relative thereto.

Dale Abrams did a short power point presentation on behalf of the Friends of the Great Barrington Community Preservation Act. The following people spoke on this article:

Paul Kleinwald  
Bill Nappo  
Shep Evans  
Cara Davis  
Patricia Ryan  
Andrew Moro  
John Hull  
David Dudek

Patrick Fennell  
Carol Noble  
Paul Ivory  
June Williamson  
Christine Ward  
Andrew Blechman  
Charles Williamson

Mr. McCormick stated he wanted this article to be by secret ballot. He then asked the Police Officer to check to make sure the ballot boxes were empty. Then he asked the voters to proceed to the nearest ballot box using their tan yes/no slips and place their vote in the boxes and return to their seats.

**VOTED AT 9:45 PM**

**YES- 151 NO- 99**

**ARTICLE 34: (by petition)** On a motion by Deborah Phillips seconded by someone in the audience vote that all Town of Great Barrington Property tax payers have the same right to speak at the Town's Annual Town Meeting and all other Town Meetings as those who are registered to vote in the Town of Great Barrington, subject to the right of the Great Barrington Town Moderator to maintain order at the Town Meeting.

Judith Lieberman, business owner in Great Barrington spoke on this article.

**VOTED AT 9:43 PM**

**ARTICLE 35: (by petition)** On a motion by Alex Freedman seconded by someone in the audience vote to move that the Board of Selectmen, Planning Board, Board of Health, and Agricultural Commission facilitate dialogue with local farmers, consumers, retailers, public health officials, schools, healthcare providers and other interested citizens by holding public hearings to direct and formulate town policies to increase economic opportunities for small local producers, increase access to healthy produce for the entire community, and facilitate small producers' sales.

Alex Freedman, Mary Beth Merritt, and Paul Kleinwald spoke on this article.

**VOTED AT 9:48 PM**

**ARTICLE 36: (by petition)** On a motion by David Magadini seconded by someone in the audience voted to substitute the preamble of Article 36 which petitioned for a Special Town Meeting to consider the following amendments to the Charter of Great Barrington in the Town Code and furthermore to instruct the Town Clerk to insert the amendments in the most appropriate section; with a brand new preamble authorizing the consideration of the amendments by the Annual Town Meeting of May 2012 while maintaining the exact same text as the proposed amendments to the Charter of Great Barrington which follows the brand new preamble. The text to be voted on shall be as follows:

To see if the Annual Town Meeting of 2012 will adopt the following amendments to the Charter of Great Barrington, in the Town Code, and instruct the Town Clerk to insert these amendments in the most appropriate chapter and section upon passage.

Seeing that it is in the public interest to increase access to the Annual Town Election, and the State and Federal Elections held in Great Barrington, the hours that the polls shall be opened shall be: 5:00 AM until midnight for the Annual Town Election and 12:01 AM until midnight for the State and Federal Elections.

**MOTION FAILED AT 9:51 PM**

**ARTICLE 37: (by petition)** On a motion by David Magadini seconded by someone in the audience voted to see if the Annual Town Meeting of Great Barrington of May 2012 will approve or take any other action related thereto regarding the proposed amendment to the Town Code of Great

Barrington proposed in article 37 entitled Election of The Moderator of the Town Meeting.

**MOTION FAILED AT 9:52 PM**

**ARTICLE 38:** (by petition) On a motion by David Magadini seconded by someone in the audience voted to see if the Great Barrington Annual Town Meeting will approve or take any other action thereto regarding the extension of time limits for submission of articles by citizen petition for inclusion in the next Annual Town Meeting as defined by article 38 of the Town of Great Barrington 2012 Annual Town Meeting Warrant.

**MOTION FAILED AT 9:54 PM**

**ARTICLE 39:** (by petition) On a motion by David Magadini seconded by someone in the audience voted to see if the Great Barrington Annual Town Meeting of 2012 will authorize the formation of a committee to study and take public comment on the 7 objectives enumerated in article 39, regarding the participation of understanding of the Town Meeting; and how citizens of Great Barrington can participate in the town meeting process; and to make a report to a future special town meeting as defined by article 39.

**MOTION FAILED AT 9:55 PM**

**ARTICLE 40:** (by petition) On a motion by David Magadini seconded by someone in the audience voted to substitute the language that is Article 40 starting with all seconding with:

All seconding of the articles sponsored by the Town of Great Barrington shall be done by a registered voter that is not a member of a town board, a town committee, a town subcommittee, a town commission, a town subcommission, nor is an employee of the Town of Great Barrington.

**MOTION FAILED AT 9:57 PM**

**ARTICLE 41:** (by petition) On a motion by David Magadini seconded by someone in the audience voted to see if the Annual Town Meeting will adopt or take any actions thereto regarding the proposed article, article 41, establishing the right of pet ownership in the Town of Great Barrington.

**MOTION FAILED AT 9:59 PM**

**ARTICLE 42:** (by petition) On a motion by David Magadini seconded by someone in the audience voted to see if the Annual Town Meeting of 2012 will adopt the new rule as proposed in article 42 entitled: Membership on Town Committee or a Town Subcommittee.

**MOTION FAILED AT 9:59 PM**

**ARTICLE 43:** (by petition) On a motion by David Magadini seconded by someone in the audience voted to see if the Annual Town Meeting of Great Barrington will vote to appropriate from available funds the amount of \$2952 to purchase a set of Massachusetts General Laws Annotated, along with a set of the United States Constitution Annotated, and a set of the Constitution of

Massachusetts Annotated, to be displayed in the reference section of the Mason Library in Great Barrington for use by the people of Great Barrington and shall also authorize that additional funds be spent for updates thereto, and appropriated on an annual basis therefore for a period of 10 years by the Board of Trustees of the Great Barrington Libraries as instructed by the Annual Town Meeting of 2012, so that the people of Great Barrington will be informed thereby of the rights and freedoms that they have and are enabled to exercise these rights under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Mary Beth Merritt, David Magadini, and Raymond Murray spoke on this article.

**MOTION FAILED AT 10:05 PM**

**ARTICLE 44:** (by petition) On a motion by David Magadini seconded by someone in the audience voted to see if the registered voters of this town meeting will approve the proposed bylaw as stated in article 44 of the warrant of the Great Barrington Town Meeting of 2012, to bring into effect the availability of hotel and motel rooms free of charge during severe and emergency weather conditions.

**MOTION FAILED AT 10:06 PM**

**ARTICLE 45:** (by petition) On a motion by David Magadini seconded by someone in the audience voted to see if the Great Barrington Annual Town Meeting of May 2012 will adopt and approve the following resolution and instruct the Town of Great Barrington to submit a request for special legislation to the General Court to bring into effect the following resolution as stated in article 45, establishing the Office of the Town Clerk as a free and independent office, and that furthermore the special legislation shall contain the exact same text.

**MOTION FAILED AT 10:07 PM**

A motion was made by Sean Stanton to adjourn and seconded by Kevin O'Donnell.

Mr. McCormick stated meeting adjourned at 10:07 PM.

A total of 351 voters attended this meeting out of 4305 registered voters (12%).

Respectfully submitted;

Marie Y. Ryan, CMMC  
Town Clerk

## REPORT OF THE BOARD OF REGISTRARS

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

During the fiscal year there were two voter registration sessions held. The Board certified 15 petitions for the Annual Town Meeting that was held in 2012.

As of June 30, 2012 there were 4,378 registered voters in Great Barrington. Registered voters by party affiliation were:

Democrats	1701	Libertarian	16	Green Rainbow	15
Republicans	359	American Ind.	1		
Unenrolled	2283	Constitution Party	1		
Inter 3 <sup>rd</sup> Party	1	Green Party USA	1		

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, 2012 was 6,705.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Ryan  
Linda Coons  
Ellen Smith  
Board of Registrars

**STRATEGIC PLANNING PRIORITIES  
UPDATED BY SELECTBOARD  
NOVEMBER 7, 2012**

- Seek long term lease with State for retention of court system in Dewey School
- Maintain proactive distressed building code compliance
- Achieving a high level of service with an efficient use of Town funds by utilizing the tool of the budget policy
- Continue to develop sustainability practices - Select board discussion 11-13-12
- Restructuring of the transfer station
- Review situation with Housatonic school campus
- Develop a landscape plan for Town owned properties

# TELEPHONE DIRECTORY OF TOWN SERVICES

## Local Emergency Numbers

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

<u>DEPARTMENT:</u>	<u>CALL:</u>	<u>TELEPHONE:</u>
Board of Health	Mark Pruhenski	528-0680
Cemeteries	Clinton Burt	528-1800
DPW Superintendent	Joseph Sokul	528-0867
Emergency Communications	William R. Walsh, Jr.	528-0306
Fence Viewers:	Harold Shaw	528-0652
	Andrew Blechman	
Fire Chief	Charles Burger	528-0788
Gas Inspector	Robert Gennari	274-0267
Highway	Peter Soules	528-2500
Historic District Commission	James Mercer	528-1780
Historical Commission	Paul Ivory	528-4384
Housatonic Community Center	Francis Tarnawa	274-8375
Housatonic Water Works Company	James Mercer	528-1780
Housing Authority	Barbara Heaphy	274-1142
Inspector of Buildings	Edwin May	528-3206
Libraries (Great Barrington)	Mason Library	528-2403
(Housatonic)	Ramsdell Library	274-3738
Planning Board	Christopher Rembold	528-1619 x7
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
Sealer of Weights & Measures	Paul Vacchina	637-2743
Senior Center/Council on Aging	Polly Mann	528-1881
Sewer Treatment Plant	Timothy Drumm	528-0650
TOWN HALL:		528-1619
<u>Assessors Office</u>	Chris Lamarre	x 5
<u>Conservation Commission</u>	Amanda Sewall, Agent	x 122
<u>Selectmen</u>	Helen Kuziemko	x 2
<u>Town Accountant</u>	Lauren Sartori	x 6
<u>Tax Collector/Treasurer</u>	Sandra Larkin	x 4
*Parking Clerk, Tag Sale Permits, Tax Bills (Real Estate & Motor Vehicle), Sewer Bills		
<u>Town Clerk</u>	Marie Ryan	x 3
*Birth/Marriage/Death Certificates, Dog Licenses/Voter Registration		
<u>Town Manager</u>	Kevin O'Donnell	x 2
<u>Town Planner</u>	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