

## **Fire Department Information**

The Fire Department holds meetings every Wednesday night at 7:30pm at the fire station on Plainfield Road. Anyone who wishes to volunteer to become a firefighter or EMT is welcome, but they will be required to take certain training.

**TO REPORT A FIRE: Call 911**

**TO CALL AN AMBULANCE: Call 911**

**OBTAIN A BURNING PERMIT: 339-5526, 339-5592 or 339-8650**

**CHIMNEY CLEANING LIST: Greg Cox 339-5526**

## **Town Clerk:**

The Town Clerk holds weekly office hours on Wednesday from 9am – 12noon, and is also available at Selectboard meetings, or by appointment (339-4091).

## **Tax Collector:**

Elizabeth Nichols holds weekly office hours on Thursday from 4-6pm.

## **Board of Selectmen:**

The Board of Selectmen holds meetings every other Tuesday evening at 7:30pm at the Town Office on Pudding Hollow Road. The Administrative Assistant, Cass Nawrocki, can be contacted at the Town Office (339-5518) on Tuesday afternoons, and Wednesday and Friday mornings, unless otherwise posted.

## **Board of Assessors:**

The Board of Assessors holds meetings on the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00pm at the Town Office on Pudding Hollow Road. The Assessor's Clerk, Virginia Gabert, can be contacted at the Town Office (339-5518) on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 1:00pm-5:00pm, unless otherwise posted.

Town of  
HAWLEY  
Massachusetts



2017  
Annual Report



Annual Report  
By the  
Town Officers



~ 2017 ~

Town of Hawley



**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Remembrance / Appreciation.....4

Town Officials

Elected.....6

Appointed .....7

Annual Town Meeting Warrant (May 14, 2018) ..... 11

Review of Town Meetings and Elections in 2017 ..... 19

Financial Reports

Treasurer's Report – FY17.....33

FY18 Budget.....35

Accounting of Free Cash.....40

Surplus Revenue FY2017 .....41

Treasurer's Revenues and Account Balances Report.....42

Balance Sheet .....44

Town Collector's Report .....49

Board of Assessors Report .....50

Administrative Reports

Board of Selectmen .....59

Finance Committee .....66

Town Clerk.....67

Franklin Regional Council of Governments.....68

Franklin Regional Retirement System.....70

Boards and Committees / Public Safety & Public Health

Conservation Commission .....71

Planning Board.....73

Historical Commission .....75

Council in Aging .....76

Communications Committee .....78

Cultural Council .....82

Personnel Committee .....83

Hawley Volunteer Fire Department .....84

Emergency Management Report .....87

Franklin County Solid Waste Management District.....89

Department of Veterans Services .....91

Franklin County Community Public Health Service .....92

Franklin County Cooperative Inspection Program.....94

Schools – Hawlemont/Mohawk Trail Regional School Districts

Superintendent of Schools- Hawlemont/MTRHS .....96

Report of Principal– Hawlemont Regional Elementary School .....99

Report of Co-Principals– Mohawk Trail Regional High School.....102

Special Education Department .....105

Mary Lyon Educational Fund.....107

Carl Nilman Scholarship Fund .....108

## REMEMBRANCE

*In memory of the following residents and persons with close ties to Hawley who passed away over the course of the last year. We have included photos where available.*

**Joanne M. Clark (of Hawley)**

Feb 20, 1940 – Mar 1, 2017



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**Ivan “Ivy” E. Donovan (of Hawley)**

Aug 29, 1949 – Oct 24, 2017

Veteran, United States Army



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**Sol Lerner (of New York)**

Died Nov 2, 2017 Aged 94

Veteran, United States Army



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**Richard “Dick” D. Sears (of N. Carolina)**

Died Sep 27, 2017, Aged 83

Veteran, United States Army



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**Charles “Charlie” A. Stetson (of Rowe)**

June 7, 1942 – Nov 11, 2017

Veteran, United States Army

*Charlie held numerous elected and appointed positions in Hawley, including Tax Collector, Treasurer, and School Committee Chairman*



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**Stuart H. Sumner (of Hawley)**

Died Oct 7, 2017, Aged 79

*Stuart formerly served as Hawley’s Police Chief*

## APPRECIATION

*We would like to express our appreciation of two Town officials who have given Hawley much service and who will be “retiring” from elected office this year.*

### ASSESSOR HENRY “HANK” EGGERT:



*Hank will be stepping down from his Assessor’s seat which he has served in for many years. Hank also sits on the Planning Board and has played a role in drafting several Town bylaws. His contributions to Hawley in these and in many other respects are appreciated.*

### SELECTMAN ROBERT “BOB” MACLEAN:



*Bob joined the Board in 2013 to fill a partial term and was reelected in 2015. He will not be seeking reelection this year. Respected by his colleagues, Bob has a reputation for listening more than he speaks; but when he does speak, pay attention, because his words are carefully chosen and his conclusions are well reasoned.*



## **TOWN OFFICIALS – ELECTED**

Selectmen/Board of Health (3-year term)		
Hussain Hamdan, Chair		Term expires 2019
Robert Root		Term expires 2020
Robert MacLean		Term expires 2018
Town Clerk (3-year term)		
Pamela Shrimpton		Term expires 2020
Assessors (3-year term)		
Rick Kean		Term expires 2020
Ed Brady		Term expires 2019
Henry Eggert, Chair		Term expires 2018
Hawlemont School Committee (3-year term)		
Courtney Hoyt		Term expires 2018
Hussain Hamdan		Term expires 2019
Sarah Rich		Term expires 2020
Representative K-12 Com for Mohawk Trail Dist. (3-year term)		
Suzanne Crawford		Term expires 2018
(vacant)		Term expires 2020
Non-Parent Member LEC for Hawlemont District (3-year term)		
Suzanne Crawford		Term expires 2019
Moderator		
Kirby (“Lark”) Thwing		Term expires 2018
Auditor		
Carla Clark		Term expires 2018

**TOWN OFFICIALS – APPOINTED BY SELECTMEN**

(Unless otherwise indicated, terms are for 1 year)

Treasurer

Virginia Gabert

Tax Title Custodian

Virginia Gabert

Tax Collector (3-yr term)

Elizabeth Nichols

Term expires 2018

Administrative Assistant

Cassandra Nawrocki

Highway Superintendent / Tree Warden

Gary Mitchell

Police Chief

Jared Bellows

Fire Chief / Forest Fire Warden / Emergency Management Director

Gregory Cox

Term expires 2018

Animal Control Officer

Chris Tirone

Term expires 2018

Constable

George Rice

Term expires 2018

Inspectors:

Franklin County Cooperative Building Inspector Program

James D. Hawkins, Commissioner

James Cerone, Inspector

Franklin County Cooperative Wiring Inspector, Thomas McDonald

Franklin County Cooperative Plumbing and Gas Inspector, Andrew French

Inspector of Animals  
Chris Tirone  
Term expires 2018

Representative to Veterans Service Center  
Chris Tirone  
Kevin Richardson  
Term expires 2018  
Term expires 2018

**BOARDS AND COMMITTEES  
APPOINTED BY SELECTMEN**

(Unless otherwise indicated, terms are for one year)

Planning Board (5-year term)  
Henry Eggert, Chair  
Lloyd Crawford  
Kathryn Sternstein  
Paul Norcross  
Charles Cutler  
Term expires 2020  
Term expires 2022  
Term expires 2019  
Term expires 2021  
Term expires 2023

Board of Appeals (3-year term)  
(vacant)  
(vacant)  
(vacant)  
Term expires 2019  
Term expires 2020  
Term expires 2018

Conservation Commission (3-year term)  
Lloyd Crawford, Chair  
Robert Taylor  
Williams Cosby  
Sally Rich  
Robert Root  
Term expires 2020  
Term expires 2019  
Term expires 2018  
Term expires 2020  
Term expires 2019

Historical Commission (3-year term)  
Pamela Shrimpton, Chair  
Lark Thwing  
Suzy Groden  
John Sears  
Bob Root  
Term expires 2020  
Term expires 2018  
Term expires 2020  
Term expires 2019  
Term expires 2019

Registrar of Voters (term expires March 31)

Pamela Shrimpton  
Melanie Poudrier  
Margaret Eggert  
Daniel Hoyt

Election Officers (term expires August 31)

Gloria Decker	Lorraine McCarthy
Melanie Poudrier	Anne Hamilton-Kean
Elvira Scott	Susan Olsen
Mary Gelinis	Paul Norcross
Christine Hicks	Jane Grant
Tammy Schofield	Beth Thwing
Juanita Clark	Lark Thwing
Jerome Sternstein	CourtneyAnn Hoyt
Trina Sternstein	Margaret Eggert

Council on Aging

Ann Falwell	Term expires 2018
Sally Rich	Term expires 2018
Elaine Thomson	Term expires 2018

Burial Agent

Pamela Shrimpton	Term expires 2018
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Measurer of Wood and Surveyor of Lumber

Gregory Cox	Term expires 2018
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Agricultural Commission (3-year term)

(vacant)	Term expires 2019
Peter Mitchell	Term expires 2020
(vacant)	Term expires 2018

Communications Committee

Kirby Thwing, Chair	Rick Kean
Hussain Hamdan	Gregory Rowehl
Pamela Shrimpton	
Craig Shrimpton	

Personnel Committee

Kirby Thwing  
John Sears  
Rick Kean

Town Counsel

Donna MacNicol

**TOWN OFFICIALS – APPOINTED BY MODERATOR**

Finance Committee: (5-year term)

Kirby Thwing, Jr, Chair	Term expires 2020
Lloyd Crawford	Term expires 2018
Carla Clark	Term expires 2019
Jane Grant	Term expires 2021
Tammy Schofield	Term expires 2022



John Sears & Trina Sternstein at Open House

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Town of Hawley

**ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION WARRANT MAY 7, 2018**

FRANKLIN SS:

To George A. Rice, Constable of the Town of Hawley,  
GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are directed to notify and warn said inhabitants of the Town of Hawley qualified to vote in elections and in town affairs, to meet at the Hawley Town Office in said Hawley on Monday, the seventh day of May, 2018.

The following officers are to be elected by ballot and the following question is to be voted on by ballot, for which purpose the polls will be open at 11:45 a.m. and close at 7:00 p.m.:

Selectman/Board of Health (3-year term)  
Assessor (3-year term)  
Representative to Hawlemont School Committee (3-year term)  
Representative to K-12 Committee for MTRSD (3-year term) – 2  
openings  
Town Moderator (1-year term)  
Town Auditor (1-year term)

And you are directed to serve this warrant by posting attested copies thereof, one at the West Hawley Town Garage, one at the Hawley Town Office, and one at the Hawley Fire Station, seven days at least before time of holding said election.

Given under our hands this fourth day of April, 2017.

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT MAY 14, 2018**

**There follows a list of business to come before the Annual Town Meeting, May 14, 2018. This is a preliminary warrant, and the final warrant, as posted, will likely contain additions and alterations.**

At seven o'clock in the evening on Monday, the fourteenth day of May, 2018 the meeting will convene to act on the following articles,

**Article 1:** To act on the reports of the Town Officers, or take any other action relative thereto.

**Article 2:** To see if the Town will vote to fix the salaries and compensation of the following offices of the Town as provided in Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 41, Section 108, as amended, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Salaries to be voted on are as follows:

Chairman of Selectboard	1,854.00
Selectboard members (2)	1,648.00
Town Clerk	8,755.00
Chairman of Assessors	1,339.00
Assessors members (2)	1,133.00
Auditor	118.50
Moderator	118.50

**Article 3:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following general operation appropriations, or take any other action in relation thereto. Total for Article 3 is \$977,194.30. (This budget can be voted on in its entirety; by Department; or by line. Any balances remaining in these appropriations will close to Surplus Revenue at the end of the fiscal year).

	<b>Dept</b>	<b>Acct Name</b>	
<b>1</b>	<b>Moderator</b>		<b>118.50</b>
2		Salaries & wages	118.50

<b>3</b>	<b>Board of Selectmen</b>	<b>65,300.00</b>
4	Salaries & wages	58,350.00
5	Expenses	2,550.00
6	Drug & Alcohol testing	500.00
7	Legal Service	2,000.00
8	Town Reports	1,400.00
9	Board of Health expenses	500.00
<b>10</b>	<b>Finance Committee</b>	<b>150.00</b>
11	Expenses	150.00
<b>12</b>	<b>Town Auditor</b>	<b>118.50</b>
13	Salaries & wages	118.50
<b>14</b>	<b>Board of Assessors</b>	<b>10,125.00</b>
15	Salaries & wages	3,605.00
16	Expenses	6,520.00
<b>17</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>1,885.00</b>
18	Salaries & wages	0.00
19	Expenses	1,885.00
<b>20</b>	<b>Collector</b>	<b>8,581.88</b>
21	Salaries & wages	6,021.88
22	Expenses	2,560.00
<b>23</b>	<b>Technology/Internet</b>	<b>3,500.00</b>
24	Expenses	3,500.00
<b>25</b>	<b>Town Clerk</b>	<b>12,055.00</b>
26	Salaries & wages	10,055.00
27	Expenses	2,000.00
<b>28</b>	<b>Town Buildings</b>	<b>13,505.00</b>
29	Purchased Services	1,000.00
30	Repairs & Maintenance	0.00
31	Expenses	12,505.00



<b>32</b>	<b>Employee Benefits</b>	<b>56,138.00</b>
33	Insurance	28,500.00
34	Retirement	27,638.00
35	Accrued sick pay	3,500.00
<b>36</b>	<b>Police Deptment</b>	<b>1,250.00</b>
37	Salaries & wages	1,000.00
38	Expenses	250.00
<b>39</b>	<b>Fire Department</b>	<b>25,500.00</b>
40	Salaries & wages	5,250.00
41	Purchased Services	3,000.00
42	Repairs & Maintenance	4,400.00
43	Expenses	7,650.00
44	EMS	3,000.00
45	Capital outlay	5,200.00
<b>46</b>	<b>Emergency Mgmt</b>	<b>1,250.00</b>
47	Salaries & wages	1,000.00
48	Purchased Services	150.00
49	Expenses	100.00
<b>50</b>	<b>Franklin Regional Council of Govts</b>	<b>10,957.00</b>
51	FRCOG Assessments	10,957.00
<b>52</b>	<b>School - Vocational</b>	<b>45,000.00</b>
53	Transportation	10,000.00
54	Tuition	35,000.00
<b>55</b>	<b>School - Hawlemont</b>	<b>246,043.00</b>
56	Operating assessment	236,751.00
57	Capital outlay	9,292.00
<b>58</b>	<b>School - MTRSD</b>	<b>181,414.00</b>
59	Operating assessment	176,253.00
60	Capital outlay	5,161.00

<b>61</b>	<b>DPW - Highway</b>		<b>243,900.00</b>
62	Salaries & wages	138,200.00	
63	Repairs & Maintenance	42,000.00	
64	DPW Equipment Purchase	500.00	
65	Expenses - Roads	60,000.00	
66	Expenses - Garage	1,700.00	
67	Care of Cemeteries	1,500.00	
<b>68</b>	<b>Solid Waste</b>		<b>20,400.00</b>
69	Ashfield Transfer Station	14,400.00	
70	Frank. Cty Solid Waste Mgt Dist	1,500.00	
71	Tri-Town Landfill Maintenance	4,500.00	
<b>72</b>	<b>Animal Inspector</b>		<b>500.00</b>
73	Expenses	500.00	
<b>74</b>	<b>Veterans Services</b>		<b>2,703.42</b>
75	District assessment	703.42	
76	Veterans Benefits	2,000.00	
<b>77</b>	<b>Boards, Committees</b>		<b>1,800.00</b>
78	Conservation Comm. Expenses	100.00	
79	Planning Board Expenses	50.00	
80	Zoning Board of Appeals Expenses	50.00	
81	Council on Aging Grant Match	400.00	
82	Tyler Memorial Library	1,200.00	
<b>83</b>	<b>Unclassified</b>		<b>25,000.00</b>
84	Prop & Liab insurance	17,000.00	
85	Surety bonds	1,000.00	
86	Massachusetts unemployment	300.00	
87	FICA/Medicare	6,700.00	
<b>88</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>977,194.30</b>

**Article 4:** To see if the Town will vote to accept \$177,126 in Chapter 90 road funds available subject to conditions detailed by Massachusetts Department of Transportation, or take any other action in relation thereto.

**Article 5:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000 for the FY20 Assessors Revaluation, or take any other action in relation thereto.

**Article 6:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$2,000 for the Reserve Fund, or take any other action in relation thereto.

**Article 7:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$1,200 for Interest Expenses, or take any other action in relation thereto.

**Article 8:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$30,000 required for the FY19 payment for the purchase of the used Fire Pumper and 1-ton truck, or take any other action in relation thereto.

**Article 9:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$40,000 from Free Cash to the Fire Department Stabilization Fund, or take any other action in relation thereto.

**Article 10:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize a revolving account pursuant to MGL Chapter 44, section 53E ½ for which revenues from fees or fines related to licensing and care of dogs will be deposited into the fund and expended to purchase dog tags; pay for various expenses in relation to licensing, care and other related dog control expenses, under the direction of the Town Clerk, and total expenditures for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2018 will be limited to \$2,000, with all money remaining in the fund at the end of the fiscal year, or take any other action in relation thereto.

**Article 11:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum from the FY18 Vocational Tuition or Transportation accounts into the Vocational Education Stabilization Fund, or take any other action in relation thereto.

**Article 12:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$25,000 to the FY18 Snow & Ice (Snow Roads) accounts, or take any other action in relation thereto.

**Article 13:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$730 to the FY18 Workers Comp Insurance account, or take any other action in relation thereto.

**Article 14:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$2,320 to the FY18 Employee Health Insurance account, or take any other action in relation thereto.

**Article 15:** To see if the Town will vote to accept MGL Ch60, Section 3 F to allow the town to collect voluntary donations for a Veterans' Assistance Fund to be used by eligible town Veterans and their families, through designation on municipal property tax or motor vehicle excise bills, or take any other action in relation thereto.

The Town will designate a place on its municipal property tax bills or motor vehicle excise bills or mail with such bills a separate form whereby taxpayers of the town may voluntarily check off and donate an amount of money which shall increase the amount already due, to establish and fund a municipal veterans assistance fund. This fund shall be under the supervision of the town Tax Collector and town Treasurer.

Any amounts donated to the fund shall be deposited into a special account in the general treasury and shall be in the custody of the Treasurer. The Treasurer shall invest the funds in a lawful and prudent manner. The fund and any interest thereon shall be used for the purposes of this section without further appropriation.

Money in the fund shall be used to provide support for veterans and their dependents in need of immediate assistance with food, transportation, heat and oil expenses. The town's veterans' services department shall: (i) establish an application process for veterans and their dependents to obtain assistance; (ii) establish standards for acceptable documentation of veteran status or dependent status; and (iii) establish financial eligibility criteria for determining need and amount of assistance for eligible applicants. The veterans' services department shall be responsible for reviewing each applicant and fairly applying the eligibility and level-of-need standards.

**Article 16:** To see if the Town will vote to support a Feasibility Study regarding the Town of Heath joining the Hawlemont Regional School District and to hear said report once completed, or to take any action related thereto.

**Article 17:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to appoint a Committee to represent the Town in discussions and negotiations relating to the Town of Heath joining the Hawlemont Regional School District at the elementary school level and to any consequent amendments to the Hawlemont or Mohawk Regional Agreements, or to take any action in relation thereto.

**Article 18:** To see if the Town will vote to allow the Mohawk Trail Regional School District to Borrow, a sum of money, not to exceed \$230,000 for repair work to Buckland-Shelburne Elementary School located at 75 Mechanic Street, Shelburne, Massachusetts, to include asbestos abatement and floor replacement and including the payment of costs incidental or related thereto, which purpose of the repair project will materially extend the useful life of the school and preserve the asset capable of supporting the required educational program, or take any other action in relation thereto.

**Article 19:** To see if the Town will vote to accept the following amendments to the Mohawk Trail Regional Agreement (note: the amendments below are to be effective July 1, 2018) to allow tuitioning of students from the Town of Rowe, or take any other action in relation thereto. *Full text available at the Hawley Town Office.*

**Article 20:** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Mohawk Trail Regional School District – Regional District Agreement by striking specific language contained in Section III(E) regarding Vocational and Trade School Pupils, or take any other action in relation thereto. *Full text available at the Hawley Town Office.*

**Article 21:** To see if the Town will vote to accept the following amendments to the Mohawk Trail Regional School Agreement relative to sixth grade students attending Mohawk Middle School, or take any other action in relation thereto. *Full text available at the Hawley Town Office.*

**Article 22:** To transact any other business that legally may come before the Town Meeting.

And you are directed to serve this warrant by posting attested copies thereof, one at the West Hawley Town Garage, one at the Hawley Town Office, and one at the Hawley Fire Station, seven days at least before time of holding said meeting.

Given under our hands this fourteenth day of May, 2018.

**REVIEW OF TOWN MEETINGS AND ELECTIONS IN 2017**

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Town of Hawley  
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES  
MAY 8, 2017

The following officers were elected by ballot on Monday, the first day of May, 2017.

Selectman (3-year term): Robert Root  
Assessor (3-year term): Richard Kean  
Town Clerk (3-year term): Pamela Shrimpton  
Auditor (1-year term): Carla Clark  
Moderator (1-year term): Kirby "Lark" Thwing  
Rep to K-12 Committee for Mohawk Trail District  
(3-year term): TBD  
Hawlemont School Committee (3-year term): Sarah Rich

The Annual Town Meeting was convened at 7:03 pm by Lark Thwing. 38 registered voters were present.

Article 1: To act on the reports of the Town Officers.  
Approved unanimously.

Article 2: To see if the Town will vote to fix the salaries or compensation of the following elected officers of the Town:

Chairman of Selectboard	1,854.00	
Members of Selectboard (2)	1,648.00	(each)
Town Clerk	8,755.00	
Chairman of Assessors	1,339.00	
Member of Assessors (2)	1,133.00	(each)
Auditor	118.50	
Moderator	118.50	

It was noted that there is to be no cost of living increase for the elected officers this year. Approved unanimously.

Article 3: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following general operating appropriations. Total for Article 3: \$975,897.78

(This budget can be voted on in its entirety; by section; or by line. Any balances in these appropriations will close to Surplus Revenue at the end of the fiscal year)

Department/Acct	<u>FY16</u> Expended	<u>FY17</u> Approp.	<u>FY18</u> Recomm.
Moderator	118.50	118.50	118.50
1 Salary & wages	118.50	118.50	118.50
Board of Selectmen	48,852.23	59,520.00	62,920.00
2 Salary & wages	43,417.94	53,170.00	56,270.00
3 Expenses	2,004.29	2,000.00	2,100.00
4 Drug/Alcohol testing	431.00	500.00	500.00
5 Legal Service	1,375.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
6 Town Reports	1,574.00	1,600.00	1,600.00
7 Brd of Health expenses	50.00	250.00	450.00
Finance Committee	81.00	250.00	250.00
8 Expenses	81.00	250.00	250.00
Town Auditor	118.50	118.50	118.50
9 Salary & wages	118.50	118.50	118.50
Board of Assessors	6674.69	8,105.00	8,545.00
10 Salary & wages	3,605.00	3,605.00	3,605.00
11 Expenses	3,069.69	4,500.00	4,940.00
Treasurer	5,234.89	2,000.00	2,100.00
12 Salary & wages	3,246.89	0.00	0.00
13 Expenses	1,988.00	2,000.00	2,100.00
Tax Collector	7,519.87	7,900.00	8,285.00
14 Salary & wages	5,562.00	5,700.00	5,875.00



15 Expenses	1,957.870	2,200.00	2,410.00
Technology/Internet	2,624.57	6,800.00	4,300.00
16 Expenses	2,624.57	6,800.00	4,300.00
Town Clerk	10,480.65	12,283.50	12,055.00
17 Salary & wages	10,019.96	10,083.50	10,055.00
18 Expenses	10,019.96	2,200.00	2,000.00
Town Buildings	11,392.62	17,600.00	13,905.00
19 Purchased Services	515.00	1,000.00	1,200.00
20 Repairs & Maint	1,395.06	0.00	0.00
21 Expenses	9,482.56	16,600.00	12,705.00
Employee Benefits	38,412.79	46,948.00	49,539.00
22 Insurance	18,283.79	24,500.00	24,600.00
23 Retirement	20,129.00	22,448.00	24,939.00
Police	1,000.00	1,250.00	1,250.00
24 Salary & wages	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
25 Expenses	0.00	250.00	250.00
Fire	22,314.77	24,950.00	24,850.00
26 Salary & wages	5,080.00	5,000.00	5,250.00
27 Purchased Services	2,439.77	2,550.00	3,000.00
28 Repairs & Maint	2,610.99	2,000.00	4,400.00
29 Expenses	11,211.52	14,200.00	10,000.00
30 Capital outlay	972.49	1,200.00	2,200.00
Emergency Management	1,150.00	1,200.00	1,250.00
31 Salary & wages	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
32 Purchased Services	150.00	100.00	150.00
33 Expenses	0.00	100.00	1,100.00
	* 100.00		
FRCOG	8,915.00	10,101.00	10,654.00
34 FRCOG Assessment	8,915.00	10,101.00	10,654.00

School – Vocational	72,949.69	100,000.00	45,000.00
35 Transportation	20,287.69	25,000.00	10,000.00
36 Tuition	52,662.00	75,000.00	35,000.00
School- Hawlemont	212,531.00	244,416.00	263,677.00
37 Operating assess	212,531.00	243,876.00	254,195.00
38 Capital outlay	0.00	540.00	9,482.00
School- MTRSD	136,838.00	154,716.00	173,801.00
39 Operating assessment	133,894.00	152,223.00	169,148.00
40 Capital outlay	2,944.00	2,493.00	4,553.00
DPW - Highway	205,066.38	232,450.00	243,180.00
41 Salary & wages	114,796.49	111,450.00	128,000.00
42 Repairs & Maint	38,600.05	42,000.00	42,000.00
43 Expenses- Roads	49,701.48	75,000.00	70,000.00
44 Expenses- Garage	518.14	2,200.00	1,680.00
45 Care of Cemeteries	1,450.22	1,500.00	1,500.00
Solid Waste	18,859.32	20,367.00	20,410.00
46 Expenses	18,859.32	20,367.00	20,410.00
Animal Inspector	0.00	0.00	500.00
47 Expenses	0.00	0.00	500.00
Veterans Services	780.00	2,563.64	2,689.78
48 District assessment	780.00	563.64	689.78
49 Veterans Benefits	0.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
Boards/ Committees	2,424.93	1,750.00	1,750.00
50 Cons. Comm. Expenses	98.00	100.00	100.00
51 Planning Board Expenses	0.00	0.00	50.00
52 Zoning Board of Appeals	0.00	100.00	50.00
53 COA Grant match	1,126.93	350.00	350.00
54 Tyler Memorial Library	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,200.00
Unclassified	21,056.70	22,850.00	24,750.00

55 Prop & Liability Insurance	15,651.00	17,000.00	17,000.00
56 Surety bonds	665.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
57 Mass. Unemployment	184.94	250.00	250.00
58 FICA/Medicare	4,555.76	4,600.00	6,500.00

TOTAL 835,396.10 978,757.14 975,897.78

\*One correction was made to line 33 - \$1,100 should read \$100.

This will not change the total. Approved unanimously.

Article 4: To see if the Town will vote to accept \$177,126 in Chapter 90 road funds available subject to conditions detailed by the Massachusetts Department of Transportation. Approved unanimously.

Article 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000.00 for the FY20 Assessors Revaluation. Approved unanimously.

Article 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,000.00 for periodic independent audits. Approved unanimously.

Article 7: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$2,000.00 for the Reserve Fund. Approved unanimously.

Article 8: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$1,800.00 for Interest Expenses. Approved unanimously.

Article 9: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$30,000.00 required for the FY18 payment for the purchase of the used Fire Pumper and 1-ton truck. Approved unanimously.

Article 10: To see if the Town will vote to authorize a revolving account pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws

Chapter 44, section 53E ½ for which revenues from fees or fines related to the licensing and care of dogs will be deposited into the fund and expended to purchase dog tags; pay for various expenses in relation to licensing, care and other related dog control expenses under the direction of the Town Clerk, and total expenditures for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2017 will be limited to \$2,000, with all money remaining in the fund at the end of each fiscal year. Approved unanimously.

Article 11: To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum from the FY17 Vocational Tuition and Vocational Transportation accounts into the Vocational Education Stabilization Fund. Noted by Hussain Hamdan –the sum is \$40,000 from tuition and \$15,000 from transportation. Approved unanimously.

Article 12: To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum from Free Cash to the Highway Equipment Stabilization Fund. The article was passed over. The Selectboard and Finance Committee do not recommend a transfer this year.

Article 13: To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum from Free Cash to the Fire Equipment Stabilization Fund. The article was passed over. The Selectboard and Finance Committee do not recommend a transfer this year.

Article 14: To see if the Town will vote to amend the MOHAWK TRAIL REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT – REGIONAL DISTRICT AGREEMENT by striking the following language contained in Section III(B):

Subject to the provisions of this section, it is intended that elementary students residing in the member towns of Ashfield, Buckland, Colrain, Heath, Plainfield and Shelburne (the “pre-K-12 Member Towns”) will receive their education in facilities located in the District and will be assigned as follows: Ashfield and Plainfield residents to Sanderson Academy; Colrain residents to Colrain Central School; Buckland and Shelburne residents to Buckland Shelburne Elementary School; and Heath residents to

Heath Elementary School. Notwithstanding the above, students may be educated in a District school other than as assigned above upon (i) a majority vote of the School Committee, and (ii) an affirmative vote by both (a) the member town or towns whose students are so assigned, and (b) the member town or towns served by the District school to which such students will be assigned, acceptance by each town to be a majority vote at an annual or special town meeting.

However, it is also the intent of this Agreement that the closure of a District elementary school building and the reassignment of all students being educated in that building may not be accomplished under this section. Rather such action requires an amendment to this Agreement, the process for which is contained in Section XII.

and replacing said language with the following:

The pre-K-12 Member Towns are defined as Ashfield, Buckland, Colrain, Plainfield, Heath, and Shelburne. Subject to the provisions of this section, it is intended that elementary students residing in the member towns of Ashfield, Buckland, Colrain, Plainfield and Shelburne will receive their education in facilities located in the District and will be assigned as follows: Ashfield and Plainfield residents to Sanderson Academy; Colrain residents to Colrain Central School; and Buckland and Shelburne residents to Buckland Shelburne Elementary School. Elementary students residing in Heath will receive their education in the Hawlemont Regional School District pursuant to a tuition agreement between the Mohawk Trail Regional School District and the Hawlemont Regional School District through no longer than June 30, 2023. During the period of such tuition agreement, the Town of Heath shall seek in good faith to negotiate with the Hawlemont Regional School District regarding joinder of the Town of Heath into the Hawlemont Regional School District for elementary education. The tuition agreement shall constitute a binding financial obligation of the Mohawk Trail Regional School District pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 40, § 4A and/or any other enabling

legislation. Heath may withdraw from the Mohawk Trail Regional School District for grades PK-6 in accordance with the “Withdrawal” section of this Agreement. Heath shall remain responsible for its outstanding indebtedness, if any, including but not limited to OPEB, to the Mohawk Trail Regional School District despite such withdrawal in accordance with the terms of the Regional Agreement.

If, upon the expiration of such tuition agreement, as may be extended, Heath and the Hawlemont Regional School District have failed to reach agreement as to the joinder of Heath into the Hawlemont Regional School District, elementary students residing in Heath will receive their education in facilities located in the Mohawk Trail Regional School District, the specific location(s) to be decided as provided herein. The Mohawk Trail Regional School Committee will offer at least two (2) facilities located in the District as options for educating the elementary students of Heath and the Heath members of the Committee will determine which one (1) facility to recommend to the Committee for the placement of all Heath resident elementary students. No facility will be approved by the Committee without the affirmative votes of both Heath Committee representatives, provided however that in the event of a tie vote between such Heath representatives, or in the event that there are vacancies in the positions of Heath representatives, a majority vote of the Committee will prevail. The determination must occur no later than November 1<sup>st</sup> of the school year prior to the change.

Notwithstanding the above, students may be educated in a District school other than as assigned above upon (i) a majority vote of the School Committee, and (ii) an affirmative vote by both (a) the member town or towns whose students are so assigned, and (b) the member town or towns served by the District school to which such students will be assigned, acceptance by each town to be a majority vote at an annual or special town meeting. However, it is also the intent of this Agreement that the closure of a District elementary school building (other than the Heath Elementary School which was closed as of June 30, 2017) and the reassignment of all students being educated in that building may

not be accomplished under this section. Rather such action requires an amendment to this Agreement, the process for which is contained in Section XII. Suzanne Crawford made a motion to consolidate Articles 14, 15 and 16 into one Article and discussed how the three Articles are related. All three need to pass for one to pass. Voted unanimously to consolidate the three Articles. School Superintendent Michael Buoniconti summarized the Articles. All towns voted in favor of accepting Heath into our system, excepting Charlemont which has not voted yet. Approved unanimously.

Article 15: To see if the Town will vote to amend the MOHAWK TRAIL REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT – REGIONAL DISTRICT AGREEMENT by striking the following language contained in Section IV(E)(3):

(3) Capital costs incurred by the Committee and associated with grades pre-Kindergarten to six, inclusive, of any District school or schools which may be constructed by the Committee to serve pupils from the Town of Heath shall, after deducting any receipts from the Commonwealth or other revenue source relating thereto, be assessed to the Town of Heath. Capital costs representing payments of principal and interest on bonds, notes or other obligations as issued by the Mohawk Trail Regional School District or the Committee to finance expenses in the nature of capital outlay for the purpose of construction at the site of, or reconstruction to, the Heath Elementary School or upon any Premises as may be purchased by the Mohawk Trail Regional School District for the purpose of providing facilities primarily for the education of Heath pupils only shall be borne by the Town of Heath.

and replacing said language with the following:

(3) The Heath Elementary School Building shall be returned to the Town of Heath on July 1, 2017, and the Lease between the parties shall terminate as of said date. In exchange for termination of the lease, the District shall pay to the Town of Heath a total sum of \$240,000.00, such payment to be made in no

fewer than three (3) annual installments. The amounts and timing of such installments shall be as agreed upon in writing by the School Committee and the Town of Heath, provided however that the final installment shall be due no later than June 30, 2020. Any outstanding debt payments associated with the Heath Elementary School shall remain the responsibility of the Town of Heath, and the Town of Heath shall continue to be assessed for said debt in accordance with the terms of this Agreement. See Article 14 results.

Article 16: To see if the Town will vote to amend the MOHAWK TRAIL REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT – REGIONAL DISTRICT AGREEMENT by striking the following language contained in Section XI(A)(2):

2. The inhabitants of Heath shall lease the Heath School to the District for the sum of \$1.00 annually, for an initial term of twenty years, with an option for an extension of an additional twenty years, and upon such further terms as the parties thereto shall later specify. See Article 14 results.

Article 17: To see if the Town will vote to accept the addition of the Town of Rowe as a 7-12 member of the District effective July 1, 2018 by making certain amendments to the Mohawk Trail Regional Agreement (*full wording available at the Hawley Town Office or at [townofhawley.com](http://townofhawley.com)*). Suzanne Crawford explained that the towns voted last year but not in time, and therefore the towns all needed to vote again for 2018. Approved unanimously. The new principal of Hawlemont, Samantha Rutz, was introduced and welcomed aboard.

Article 18: To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum from Free Cash to the FY17 Snow Roads accounts. The sum is \$27,692.94. Approved unanimously.

Article 19: To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$2,000 from Free Cash to the FY17 FICA/Medicare account. Approved unanimously.



Article 20: To see if the Town will vote to rescind the unissued balance of \$78,000 of debt authorized by Article 39 of the May 4, 2009 Annual Town Meeting to pay emergency expenses related to the December 2008 Ice Storm (\$250,000 debt authorized; \$172,000 borrowed). Approved unanimously.

Article 21: To see if the Town will vote to rescind the unissued balance of \$2,500 of debt authorized by Article 39 of the June 26, 2013 Special Town Meeting to purchase a used Fire Pumper (\$100,000 debt authorized; \$97,500 borrowed). Approved unanimously.

Article 22: To see if the Town will vote to rescind the unissued balance of \$97,500 of debt authorized by Article 47 of the May 5, 2014 Annual Town Meeting to purchase a new Highway Department truck (\$150,000 debt authorized; \$52,500 borrowed). Chris Tirone questioned where the balance would be returned to. Virginia Gabert explained that we were authorized to borrow more than we actually needed, and therefore we are negating the additional authorization for money we never actually borrowed. Approved unanimously.

Article 23: To transact any other business that legally may come before the Town Meeting.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Pamela Shrimpton  
Hawley Town Clerk

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Town of Hawley  
Special Town Meeting Minutes – December 12, 2017

Eleven registered voters were ultimately in attendance, although several phone calls had to be made prior to a quorum of at least ten being reached. Selectman MacLean returned home to pick up his wife. Will Cosby did the same and additionally picked up Sarah Rich.

The list of those in attendance is as follows: Margaret Eggert, Henry Eggert, Rick Kean, Selectman Hussain Hamdan, Selectman Robert Root, Selectman Robert MacLean, Joann MacLean, Lisa Johnson, Bryan Clark, Will Cosby, and Sarah Rich. In addition to the registered voters, the following non-voters were present: Administrative Assistant Cass Nawrocki and Financial Administrator Virginia Gabert.

A quorum being reached, the meeting commenced at about 6:45PM.

Mr. Kean explained that the Town Clerk, Pamela Shrimpton, could not make it, thus a Temporary Town Clerk needed to be elected. Ms. Johnson nominated Hussain Hamdan to fill this role and Mr. Cosby seconded the nomination. All voted in favor.

Mr. Hamdan explained that because Moderator Lark Thwing could not be present, a Temporary Moderator needed to be elected. It was noted that Mr. Thwing had suggested Mr. Kean serve in this role. Mrs. Rich nominated Mr. Kean and Mr. Root seconded. All voted in favor.

**ARTICLE 1:** *To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town's Zoning Bylaw by adding a new Section 57, TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA ESTABLISHMENTS, that would provide as follows, and further to amend the Table of Contents to add Section 57, "Temporary Moratorium on Recreational Marijuana Establishments:"*

*Section 57      Purpose*

*On November 8, 2016, the voters of the Commonwealth approved a law regulating the cultivation, processing, distribution, possession and use of marijuana for recreational purposes (new G.L. c. 94G, Regulation of the Use and Distribution of Marijuana Not Medically Prescribed). The law, which allows certain personal use and possession of marijuana, took effect on December 15, 2016 and (as amended on December 30, 2016 by Chapter 351 of the Acts of 2016 and thereafter, on July 28, 2017 by Chapter 55 of the Acts of 2017) requires a Cannabis Control Commission to issue regulations regarding the licensing of commercial activities by March 15, 2018 and to begin accepting applications for licenses no later than April 1, 2018. Currently under the Zoning Bylaw, a non-medical Marijuana Establishment (hereinafter, a “Recreational Marijuana Establishment”), as defined in G.L. c. 94G, §1, is not specifically addressed in the Zoning Bylaw. Regulations to be promulgated by the Cannabis Control Commission may provide guidance on certain aspects of local regulation of Recreational Marijuana Establishments. The regulation of recreational marijuana raises novel legal, planning, and public safety issues, and the Town needs time to study and consider the regulation of Recreational Marijuana Establishments and address such issues, as well as to address the potential impact of the State regulations on local zoning and to undertake a planning process to consider amending the Zoning Bylaw regarding regulation of Recreational Marijuana Establishments. The Town intends to adopt a temporary moratorium on the use of land and structures in the Town for Recreational Marijuana Establishments so as to allow sufficient time to address the effects of such structures and uses in the Town and to enact bylaws in a consistent manner.*

*Section 57      Definition*

*“Recreational Marijuana Establishment” shall mean a “marijuana cultivator, independent testing laboratory, marijuana product manufacturer, marijuana retailer or any other type of licensed marijuana related business.”*

*Section 57      Temporary Moratorium*

*For the reasons set forth above and notwithstanding any other provision of the Zoning Bylaw to the contrary, the Town hereby adopts a temporary moratorium on the use of land or structures for a Recreational Marijuana Establishment and other uses related to recreational marijuana. The moratorium shall be in effect through December 31, 2018 or until such time as the Town adopts Zoning Bylaw amendments that regulate Recreational Marijuana Establishments, whichever occurs earlier. During the moratorium period, the Town shall undertake a planning process to address the potential impacts of recreational marijuana in the Town, and to consider the Cannabis Control Commission regulations regarding Recreational Marijuana Establishments, and shall consider adopting new Zoning Bylaws in response to these new issues.*

**Mr. Hamdan read Article 1, the Marijuana Moratorium. Mrs. Johnson moved the Article and Mrs. MacLean seconded. Mr. Eggert, representing the Planning Board, explained that this was a temporary moratorium, lasting until December of 2018, and was necessary to give the Town time to research and develop appropriate regulations concerning marijuana. Time has been short since Massachusetts implemented its legalization regime and many Towns have felt the need for more time figure this out. Mr. Eggert explained that the temporary ban would apply to all types of commercial marijuana enterprises, including retail, farming, and labs, but would not apply to non-commercial growing for personal use. All voted in favor. Unanimous vote to pass Article 1, the temporary moratorium.**

*ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$10,000 from the Highway Department Equipment Stabilization Fund, or another available fund, for the purchase of a plow.*

**Mr. Hamdan read Article 2, authorizing funding for the snow plow. Mr. Cosby moved the Article presented with the specific directive that the sum of \$10,000 be authorized for transfer from the Highway Stabilization Account. Mr. Root seconded. Mr. Kean stated that a two thirds vote was required for passage. All voted in favor. Unanimous vote to authorize Article 2.**

There being no further business, Mr. Cosby moved to adjourn.  
Mrs. Rich seconded. All voted in favor.

Respectfully,  
Hussain A. Hamdan  
Acting as Temporary Town Clerk

### **TREASURER'S REPORT FY17**

The conversion of the financial records is nearing completion. Our new budget setting process is underway for FY19 and should provide time for more review by the Finance Committee as well as the Selectboard.

I continue to attend educational programs through the Massachusetts Collectors & Treasurer's Association as well as the Massachusetts Municipal Auditors and Accountants Association to further enhance my knowledge of municipal accounting. These programs will enable me to continue to serve the Town efficiently and effectively as well as keep up with changing rules and regulations that affect us.

Several parcels that have outstanding tax balances have been progressing through the Tax Title process, and are moving toward foreclosure. Once the Town has title to the properties, they will be reviewed and many will be offered by auction - hopefully to be held later on this year.

Financial reports provide the following information:

- FY18 Budget Overview: An overview of FY17 and FY18 approved budgets – where the money is coming from and where it will be going.
- FY18 Budget: Shows the actual expenditures from FY16 and FY17 and approved appropriations for FY18 by Department and account

category. Accounts that had balances carried from FY17 are also indicated. Notes are provide at the end of the report.

- Accounting of Free Cash FY17: Shows the amount of Free Cash certified, how much was used, and for what purpose.
- Treasurer’s Revenues and Account Balances: Shows the cash balance at the beginning of the year; all money that was received; minus the total of the Treasury Warrants. The balance of cash at the end of the year is verified against the bank balances.
- FY17 Balance Sheet

I am enjoying continuing to serve the townspeople (residents and property owners) of Hawley.

Respectfully submitted,  
Virginia Gabert, Treasurer/Financial Administrator



### FY18 BUDGET OVERVIEW

	FY17	FY18
<u>Revenues</u>	Approved Budget	Approved Budget
Property Tax Levy	715,838	805,117
State Aid	145,458	138,695
Local Receipts	40,000	45,400
Free Cash	249,835	70,493
Chapter 90	180,147	177,126
	1,331,278	1,236,831
 <u>Appropriations</u>		
Raise & Appropriate		
Omnibus	891,110	975,898
Ch 90	180,147	177,126
Computer	1,000	0
Assessors Reval	1,500	1,000
Audit	3,000	2,000
	1,076,757	1,156,024
 Free Cash		
Reserve	2,000	2,000
Interest	6,000	1,800
Storm Damage	100,000	0
Truck loan	30,000	30,000
10/17/16 STM Debt ser.	104,835	0
11/15/16 STM Sander	6,500	6,500
11/15/16 STM An. Insp. Exp	500	500
5/8/2017 FY17 Snow Rds/FICA		29,693
	249,835	70,493
 Other amounts to be raised		
*Cherry sht ch/offsets	1,961	2,175
**Allowance for Overlay	2,725	8,139
	4,686	10,314
	1,331,278	1,236,831
difference (revenue - approp.)	0	0

\* Cherry Sheet charges/offsets? State assessments totaling \$369. Offset is for State Aid to Public Libraries (SAPL), this amount (\$1,807) is to be held so that it can be "expended by the public library ... without appropriation". Essentially, SAPL is money the Town receives that the public library is able to access. Thus, it is included as a Cherry Sheet receipt, but then also as an expense (or offset) because the town cannot use the money for any other purpose. The Cherry Sheet amounts are estimates, and are still being worked on, but these are the most recent figures.

\*\* Allowance for Overlay? It is an amount that is raised on the recap sheet when the tax rate is being set. It is to cover real estate and personal property tax abatements and

exemptions. So, the amount of RE and PP taxes that are estimated to be exempted or abated is covered by Overlay.

### FY18 BUDGET

Department	FY16 Exp.	FY17 Exp.	FY18 Approp.	FY17 Bal Forw.	Note
Moderator					
Salaries & wages	118.50	118.50	118.50		
Board of Selectmen	44,529.38	56,763.95	62,920.00		
Salaries & wages	39,099.38	52,176.51	56,270.00		1
Expenses	2,000.00	1,725.69	2,100.00		
Drug & Alc. Testing	431.00	285.00	500.00		
Legal Service	1,375.00	1,074.75	2,000.00		
Town Reports	1,574.00	1,282.00	1,600.00		
Board of Health exp	50.00	220.00	450.00		
Finance Committee	81.00	81.00	250.00		
Expenses	81.00	81.00	250.00		
Town Auditor	118.50	118.50	118.50		
Salaries & wages	118.50	118.50	118.50		
Board of Assessors	6,674.69	7,678.91	8,545.00		
Salaries & wages	3,605.00	3,605.00	3,605.00		
Expenses	3,069.69	4,073.91	4,940.00		
Treasurer	9,553.45	1,489.90	2,100.00		
Salaries & wages	7,565.45	0.00	0.00		2
Expenses	1,988.00	1,489.90	2,100.00		
Collector	7,519.87	7,596.95	8,285.00		
Salaries & wages	5,562.00	5,700.00	5,875.00		
Expenses	1,957.87	1,896.95	2,410.00		
Technology/Internet	3,069.57	2,172.60	4,300.00		
Expenses	3,069.57	2,172.60	4,300.00	3,559.17	



Town Clerk	10,480.65	10,942.47	12,055.00
Salaries & wages	10,019.96	10,356.45	10,055.00
Expenses	460.69	586.02	2,000.00

3

Town Buildings	11,396.91	12,561.08	13,905.00
Purchased Services	0.00	840.00	1,200.00
Repairs & Maint.	1,395.06	325.26	
Expenses	10,001.85	11,395.82	12,705.00

Employee Benefits	38,412.79	44,175.77	49,539.00
Insurance	18,283.79	22,138.77	24,600.00
Retirement	20,129.00	22,037.00	24,939.00

Police	1,000.00	999.00	1,250.00
Salaries & wages	1,000.00	999.00	1,000.00
Expenses	0.00	0.00	250.00

Fire	22,314.77	20,462.32	24,850.00
Salaries & wages	5,080.00	4,912.00	5,250.00
Purchased Services	2,439.77	2,452.38	3,000.00
Repairs & Maint.	0.00	2,594.43	4,400.00
Expenses	13,822.51	7,446.12	6,000.00
Capital outlay	972.49	1,685.00	2,200.00
EMS		1,372.39	4,000.00

Emergency Mgmt	1,150.00	1,350.00	1,250.00
Salaries & wages	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Purchased Services	150.00	150.00	150.00
Expenses	0.00	200.00	100.00

Franklin Regional Council of Govts

	8,915.00	10,101.00	10,654.00
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FRCOG Assessments:

Building Insp. Prog	3,500.00	4,500.00	4,500.00
Coop. Public Health	2,364.00	2,482.00	2,965.00
Regional Services	2,858.00	2,907.00	2,955.00
Statutory Charges	193.00	212.00	234.00

School – Vocat’nal	72,949.69	40,193.18	45,000.00	
Transportation	20,287.69	6,193.18	10,000.00	
Tuition	52,662.00	34,000.00	35,000.00	
School - Hawlemont	212,531.00	244,416.00	263,677.00	
Operating assessment				
Hawlemont	210,731.00	240,876.00	251,195.00	
Preschool	1,800.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	
Capital outlay	0.00	540.00	9,482.00	
School - MTRSD	136,838.00	154,716.00	173,801.00	
Operating assess.	133,894.00	152,223.00	169,248.00	
Capital outlay	2,944.00	2,493.00	4,553.00	
DPW - Highway	205,066.38	228,692.01	243,180.00	
Salaries & wages	114,796.49	138,079.76	128,000.00	
General Hwy	63,193.25	71,619.43	83,000.00	31,130.57   4
Snow & Ice	51,603.24	66,460.33	45,000.00	
Repairs & Maint	39,118.19	31,200.82	42,000.00	
Expenses – Roads	49,701.48	57,455.82	70,000.00	
General Hwy	16,593.82	11,223.21	30,000.00	19,272.15   5
Snow & Ice	33,107.66	46,232.61	40,000.00	
Expenses - Garage	0.00	828.11	1,680.00	
Gen blg supplies		379.38	750.00	
Technology		448.73	900.00	
Dues			30.00	
Care of Cemeteries	1,450.22	1,127.50	1,500.00	
Solid Waste	18,859.32	20,058.23	20,410.00	
Expenses	18,859.32	20,058.23	20,410.00	
Animal Inspector				
Animal Inspector Expenses		84.83	500.00	
Veterans Services	780.00	548.79	2,689.78	
District assessment	780.00	548.79	689.78	

Veterans Benefits	0.00	0.00	2,000.00
Boards, Committees, etc.	2,424.93	1,883.42	1,750.00
Conservation Commission	98.00	85.00	100.00
Planning Board	0.00	0.00	50.00
Zoning Board of Appeals	0.00	0.00	50.00
COA Grant match	1,126.93	598.42	350.00
Tyler Memorial Library	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,200.00
Unclassified	21,056.70	23,906.00	24,750.00
Prop & Liab ins.	15,651.00	16,182.00	17,000.00
Surety bonds	665.00	898.57	1,000.00
Mass. Unemployment	184.94	282.03	250.00
FICA/Medicare	4,555.76	6,543.40	6,500.00
OMNIBUS BUDGET	835,841.10	891,110.41	975,897.78

**Separate articles:**

Raise & Approp.	258,773.17	18,613.45	180,126.00
Chapter 90	257,779.20	0.00	177,126.00
Computer	585.97	0.00	0.00
Assessors Reval	0.00	0.00	1,000.00
Independent Audit	0.00	0.00	2,000.00
Continuing Ed	333.00	986.05	0.00
Tax Title & Foreclosure	75.00	7,347.40	0.00
Town bldgs maint/renov	1,395.06	0.00	0.00
Surplus equip	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sick pay banked	0.00	10,280.00	0.00
Free Cash	76,156.39	141,794.95	33,800.00
Reserve	0.00	0.00	2,000.00
Debt Service	76,156.39	135,443.00	31,800.00
DPW Equip Purchase	0.00	6,351.95	0.00

6

Total Expenditures/Appropriations  
 \$1,170,770.66 \$1,051,518.81 \$1,189,823.78 \$289,644.88

Notes: 1 - Selectboard Salaries include Selectboard members as well as Administrative Assistant and Financial Administrator - new to FY17. Also includes balance carried from FY16 for unused vacation time that was approved to be carried.  
 2 - Treasurer's salary is now part of Financial Administrator salary, under the Selectboard's oversight.  
 3 - Town Clerk expenses now includes additional funds to cover Help America Vote Act expense.  
 4,5 - General Highways balance carried over from prior years - can be used for General Highways salaries or expenses.  
 6 - Only debt remaining at end of FY17 is \$30,000/year for the Highway and Fire Dept trucks loan.

**ACCOUNTING OF FREE CASH FY2017**

FREE CASH CERTIFIED AS OF 7/1/2016		224,860.00
10/17/2016	Storm damage pmt	104,834.61
11/15/2016	Animal Inspector exp	500.00
	Road Sander	6,500.00
5/8/17	ATM Reserve	2,000.00
	Fire Pumper/Hwy truck	30,000.00
	Interest	1,800.00
	FY17 FICA/Medicare	2,000.00
	FY17 Snow Roads	27,692.94
TOTAL TRANSFERS		175,327.55
BALANCE OF FREE CASH AS OF 6/30/2017		49,532.45
PREVIEW FOR FY2018:		
FREE CASH CERTIFIED AS OF 7/1/2017		204,975.00

The difference between the balance at the end of FY17 and Free Cash Certified for FY18 is primarily due amounts closed to surplus Revenue as well as reduction in outstanding receivables and liabilities.

### SURPLUS REVENUE

BALANCE AS OF 7/1/2017		251,147.45
07/03/2016	Tax title payment	200.28
09/03/2016	Tax title payment	396.10
09/15/2016	FY16 Ch 90 reimburs. rec. 9/15/16	18,124.98
10/15/2016	Tax title pmt	328.73
10/18/2016	FY16 FC used at 10/18/16 STM-	104,834.61
11/15/2016	FY16 FC used at 11/15/16 STM	-7,000.00
11/18/2016	2005 GMC Sierra truck sold	4,653.00
11/18/2016	Tax title pmt	170.71
12/03/2016	Tax title redemption	8,628.27
12/28/2016	Tax title pmt	199.31
01/18/2017	Tax title redemption	36,913.49
01/26/2017	Tax title pmt	176.25
03/02/2017	Tax title pmt	1,195.72
03/23/2017	Tax title pmt	153.80
05/04/2017	Tax title pmt	98.18
05/08/2017	FY16 FC used for FY18 budget	-33,800.00
05/08/2017	FY16 FC used at 5/8/17 ATM	-29,692.94
06/08/2017	Acct added to tax title	-973.40
06/08/2017	Acct added to tax title	-4,344.65
06/20/2017	Acct added to tax title	-967.20
06/20/2017	Acct added to tax title	-508.78
06/20/2017	Acct added to tax title	-449.50
06/20/2017	Acct added to tax title	-1,540.70
06/20/2017	Acct added to tax title	-1,514.35
06/20/2017	Acct added to tax title	-449.50
06/20/2017	Acct added to tax title	-4,344.65
06/22/2017	Tax title redemption	2,387.71

06/30/2017	FY15 tailings closed to Surp Rev	630.69
06/30/2017	Return. FY15 pumper pmt approp.	12,425.00
06/30/2017	FY16 tailings closed to Surp Rev	773.94
06/30/2017	Balance in appropriation accounts	46,727.34
06/30/2017	SAPL/Cherry sheet charges (recap)	1,961.00
06/30/2017	Actual receipts in excess of est.	24,472.90
06/30/2017	Adj. for est. tax levy vs actual	1.68
	Balance as of 6/30/2017	221,346.25

**TREASURER'S REVENUES AND ACCOUNT BALANCES  
REPORT 7/1/2016 – 6/30/2017**

BALANCE AS OF 7/1/16 953,908

RECEIPTS:

TAX COLLECTIONS:

Real Estate Taxes	758,669
Personal Property Taxes	38,058
Motor Vehicle Taxes	33,169
In Lieu of Taxes	1,000
Tax Title payments	50,849
Penalties & Interest on Taxes	5,316
Penalties & Interest on Tax Titles	11,893
Other tax collection	0

PERMITS/FEES/LICENSES:

Tax Collector Fees	2,122
Deputy Collector Fees	222
Mark/Dup. Bill Fees	185
Tax Title fees redeemed	1638
Town Clerk Fees	359
Police Department Fees	750
Copies/Fax	10
Zipline Permit	0
Trash Bags/Permits	2,917
Fire Department Permits	40
Dog Licenses & Late Fees	461

Class III Permit	50	
WPA Fees	263	
OTHER:		
Vocational Transportation	0	
Disaster Assistance	0	
Refunds	757	
Interest on Accounts	1,009	
Trust Fund Interest	330	
Retiree Health Insurance	2488	
Proceeds from Sale of Truck	4,653	
Tailings		771
GRANTS:		
Fire Dept Grants	26,963	
COA Grant	5,000	
DEP Recycling Grant	500	
HMPG – Garage	15,129	
IT Grant	2,500	
DOER – Green Community	4,732	
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS:		
Chapter 70	34,807	
Exemptions (Veterans/Blind/Elderly)	6232	
Unrestricted General Aid	41,610	
SAPL 12 (Library)	1,796	
Extended Polling Hours	628	
State Land	62,740	
Forest Product on SOL	5293	
Chp. 90 Reimbursement	223,071	
Registry of Motor Vehicles	25	
School Transportation	3,509	
TOTAL RECEIPTS:	1,352,514	
BALANCE PLUS RECEIPTS:	2,306,422	
LESS SELECTMEN'S WARRANTS:	1,472,802	
		833,620
BANK ACCOUNT BALANCES AS OF 6/30/17:		
Checking Accounts	43,668	
Savings Accounts	379,369	

TRUST FUNDS:		
Stabilization Account	391,372	
Other Trust Funds	19,211	
TOTAL:		833,620

Respectfully submitted,  
Virginia Gabert, Treasurer

### BALANCE SHEET

#### GENERAL FUND:

#### ASSETS

Current Assets		423,036.47
Accounts Receivable		
Taxes due (PP, RE)		
Personal Property Taxes		
PP Taxes FY16	230.85	
PP Taxes FY17	287.77	
Total Personal Property Taxes		518.62
Real Estate Taxes		
RE Taxes FY16	44.95	
RE Taxes FY17	14,352.26	
RE Taxes FY18	-28.57	
Total Real Estate Taxes		14,368.64
Total Taxes due (PP, RE)		14,887.26
Taxes due (other)		
Excise Taxes		
Motor Vehicle 2013	493.75	
Motor Vehicle 2014	446.87	
Motor Vehicle 2015	704.90	
Motor Vehicle 2016	1,424.90	
Motor Vehicle 2017	6,117.10	
Total Excise Taxes		9,187.52
Total Taxes due (other)		9,187.52
Other tax collections		
Tax Titles	50,527.54	



Tax Possessions	17,874.88	
Total Other tax collections		68,402.42
Due from Federal Govt		
HMPG - Garage (a/r)	217,862.31	
		217,862.31
Due from Commonwealth		
EOC Grant	631.68	
2016 MEMA EMPG gran	2,220.00	
DOER-Green Com Grant1	36,920.00	
MassWorks Grant	87,657.00	
		227,428.68
Capital Projects Receivable		
State Aid to Highways	390,778.93	
		390,778.93
Loans Authorized (asset)	1,000,000.00	
Due from Stabilization (toGen)		0.00
Due from Trust (toGen)		0.00
		1,904,472.34
Total Current Assets		
		2,351,583.59

## LIABILITIES & EQUITY

### Liabilities

#### Other Current Liabilities

##### Overlay control

Overlay fy09	1,117.62
Overlay fy10	1,477.98
Overlay fy11	2,426.57
Overlay fy12	4,645.46
Overlay fy13	8,454.43
Overlay FY14	3,888.09
Overlay FY15	4,778.97
Overlay FY16	10,653.56
Overlay FY17	-6,032.96

Total Overlay control 31,409.72

Payroll Liabilities 276.56

Federal Grants

Disaster Assistance	25,000.00	
EOC Grant	631.64	
HMPG - Garage	217,862.31	
Total Federal Grants		243,493.95
State Grants		
Comm. Policing Grant	1,585.34	
DARE Grant	929.02	
HCI Grant	2,893.80	
DOER - Green Comm	136,920.00	
IT Grant	697.57	
MassWorks	87,657.00	
Library (SAPL) Fund	2,699.39	
NIMS education	500.00	
2016 MEMA EMPG grant	765.00	
Total State Grants		234,647.12
Receipts Reserved for Appr.		
Sale of Real Estate	1,650.00	
WPA Fund	2,845.00	
Police Dept (FID/LTC)	525.00	
Total Receipts Reserved for Approp		5,020.00
Revolving Funds		
Dog Fund	3,446.59	
Total Revolving Funds		3,446.59
Special Revenue liability funds		
Donations	276.65	
Total Special Revenue liability funds		276.65
Capital Projects		
Chapter 90	390,778.93	
Total Capital Projects		390,778.93
Deferred Revenue		
MV deferred revenue	9,187.52	
Tax Title	50,527.54	
Tax Possession	17,874.88	
Total Deferred Revenue		77,589.94
Total Other Current Liabilities		986,939.46
Long Term Liabilities		
Loan Authorized and Unissued	1,000,000.00	

Debt paydown auth - Pumper	0.00
	1,000,000.00
Equity	
Surplus revenue	221,346.25
Other continuing appropriations	
Audit	12,840.00
Continuing Ed. (Officer)	2,554.83
Assessors reval	2,789.73
Tax Title & Foreclosure	17,424.00
Town Bldg maint/renov	12,391.51
Gen. Hwys (carry over)	46,027.72
Internet Access (inst/eq)	3,559.17
Vacation pay carry over	4,375.00
Employee Sick Pay	7,535.92
Total Other continuing appropriations	109,497.88
Free Cash - allocated	33,800.00
Total Equity	364,644.13
TOTAL LIAB & EQUITY	2,351,583.59

Trust Funds

Trust Funds - cash	
Gfld Coop CD (Library)	3,769.86
PUB Historical Comm	461.84
PUB Bicentennial CD	8,829.26
PUB CD (Cemetery 1)	1,752.53
PUB CD (Cemetery 2)	1,655.82
PUB (Care of Cemeteries)	2,742.11
GSB General Stabilization	106,100.68
GSB Highway Dept Stabilization	120,157.84
GSB Fire Dept Stabilization	60,050.86
PUB Vocational Stabilization	105,062.85
Total Trust Funds - cash	410,583.65
Total Trust Funds - assets	410,583.65

Trust Funds (equity)

Library fund	3,769.86
Historical Commission trust	9,291.10

Cemetery Fund	6,150.46	
Stabilization Fund	106,100.68	
Hwy Dept Equip Stabiliz. Fund	120,157.84	
FireEquip Stabiliz. Fund	60,050.86	
Vocational Ed. Stabiliz. Fund	105,062.85	
Total Trust Funds (equity)	410,583.65	
Total Trust Funds - liab & equity	410,583.65	

Debt

Long Term Liabilities

Net Funded Fixed Debt	90,000.00	90,000.00
Note payable - McCloud land pur	0.00	
Note Payable - trucks	90,000.00	90,000.00



W. Hawley Road Barn –Courtesy of Pamela Shrimpton

## TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT - FY2017

REAL ESTATE	BALANCE ON BAL 07/01/16	COMMITTED AFTER 06/30/16	COLLECTED	ABATED	EXEMPTED	REFUNDED	TAX TAKINGS	OVER PAYMENT	PREV OVERPYMT BROUGHT FORWARD	BALANCE
FY 2018	\$0.00	\$380,803.08	\$28.57	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00			\$380,774.51
FY 2017	\$378,943.64	\$384,868.46	\$738,389.05	\$556.45	\$6,285.20	\$5,545.54	\$9,774.68			\$14,352.26
FY 2016	\$25,653.22	\$0.00	\$20,290.22	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,363.00			\$0.00
<b>PERSONAL PROPERTY</b>	<b>BALANCE ON BAL 07/01/16</b>	<b>COMMITTED AFTER 06/30/16</b>	<b>COLLECTED</b>	<b>ABATED</b>	<b>EXEMPTED</b>	<b>REFUNDED</b>	<b>TAX TAKINGS</b>	<b>OVER PAYMENT</b>	<b>PRE PAYMENTS</b>	<b>CALCULATED</b>
FY 2018	\$0.00	\$18,615.49	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00				\$18,615.49
FY 2017	\$18,409.29	\$19,765.83	\$37,897.04	\$1,916.71		\$1,926.40				\$287.77
FY 2016	\$392.13	\$0.00	\$161.28	\$0.00		\$0.00				\$230.85
2014	\$83.78	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$83.78		\$0.00				\$0.00
2013	\$158.26	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$158.26		\$0.00				\$0.00
<b>MOTOR VEHICLE</b>	<b>BALANCE ON BAL 07/01/16</b>	<b>COMMITTED AFTER 06/30/16</b>	<b>COLLECTED</b>	<b>ABATED</b>	<b>EXEMPTED</b>	<b>REFUNDED</b>	<b>TAX TAKINGS</b>	<b>OVER PAYMENT</b>	<b>PRE PAYMENTS</b>	<b>CALCULATED</b>
FY 2017	\$0.00	\$35,220.65	\$27,774.80	\$2,053.38		\$724.63				\$6,117.10
FY 2016	\$3,059.07	\$4,610.96	\$5,240.31	\$1,753.43		\$748.61				\$1,424.90
FY 2015	\$768.03	\$0.00	\$63.13	\$0.00		\$0.00				\$704.90
FY 2014	\$498.12	\$0.00	\$51.25	\$0.00		\$0.00				\$446.87
2013	\$493.75	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00				\$493.75
2012	\$45.21	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$45.21		\$0.00				\$0.00
2011	\$165.42	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$165.42		\$0.00				\$0.00
2010	\$125.83	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$125.83		\$0.00				\$0.00

## **BOARD OF ASSESSORS REPORT - 2017**

The Board of Assessors holds monthly meetings at the Town Office at 7:00pm on the first Wednesday of each month (unless otherwise posted). The Board consists of Rick Kean, Henry Eggert and Ed Brady. Henry Eggert resigned as Chairman effective December 31, 2016, and Rick Kean assumed that role effective January 1. Virginia Gabert continues to be the Assistant to the Board, and holds office hours at the Town Office on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 1-5pm.

In September 2017, we nominated Virginia to be considered for the “Lucille Bayes Clerk of the Year” for the western region – an honor that she was granted! In August and September 2018, she will be instrumental in the oversight of the software conversion, as we will be switching over to a new assessment program. During much of 2019, the Assessors will be busy on the FY2020 revaluation year (now on a five-year cycle). The Board endeavors to make the next couple of years as smooth as possible for the taxpayers of Hawley, and appreciate your assistance if we require any additional data.

The Assessors review approximately 1/3 of the properties in town each year, generally during the spring and summer months. To ensure most accurate assessments, they need to have access to residences in order to perform interior data collection. Any residents who would like to have the Assessors confirm or update the data on file are welcome to contact Virginia Gabert, at the Town Office to set up an appointment. Otherwise, approximately once every three years, all residents can expect a visit. If access is not available, or is denied, the Assessor’s will make their best determination based on exterior data collection.

Townsppeople with questions about their assessments, abatements, or any other related issues are welcome to contact Virginia Gabert at the Town Office. If she is unable to answer your inquiries, you are invited to attend a meeting of the Board of Assessors and discuss directly with them, or Virginia will gather the necessary information, present it to the Board and contact you with the response.

To assist taxpayers in fulfilling filing requirements, early each year we do a mailing which may include any of the following forms (also available at the Town Office or on the website):

- “Form of List” for those required to pay personal property taxes
- “Exemption Application” for certain elderly; blind; veterans; and farmers
- “Form 3ABC” for charitable organizations

Abatement applications are mailed out separately, upon request. Timely filing of these forms:

- may result in a reduction in taxes, in some cases;
- may preserve your right to a full abatement in the case of an overvaluation; and,
- may help you avoid penalties due to late filing.

If you did not receive the correct form; if you have any questions about them; or if you think that you may qualify for an exemption and did not receive an application, please contact Virginia in the Town Office.

All of these forms have important deadlines – many of which the Board of Assessors do not have the authority to extend. Although we mail forms to most landowners, it is the sole responsibility of the landowner to obtain the necessary forms and file them prior to the respective deadlines.

The following chart shows the overall property value of the town in recent years. This past year, the tax rate remained at \$15.50/1,000. We will continue to keep a very close eye on property values and any possible new growth in order to minimize impacts on taxpayers as much as possible. We anticipate some valuation decline in FY19, although the proposed future development near Berkshire East may offset this decline in following years – we will be discussing ways to stabilize the tax rate to avoid the potential tax increase in FY19.

	Personal Property	Real Property	Total Property	Tax Rate per \$1000
2011/2012	1,596,367	44,934,700	46,531,067	16.30
2012/2013	1,566,967	45,737,400	47,304,367	15.95
2013/2014	1,522,285	46,215,500	47,737,785	16.05
2014/2015	2,573,397	48,537,200	51,110,597	15.75
2015/2016	2,384,902	48,944,500	51,329,402	15.50
2016/2017	2,462,909	49,278,200	51,741,109	15.50
2017/2018	2,415,209	49,528,100	51,943,309	15.50

Real property valuations by location are listed below:

Primary Owner	Property Address	Tax value
CLARK, BRIAN	0 ASHFIELD RD	7,000
LAVALLEY, TANNER	0 ASHFIELD RD	28,000
DELUCA, ELLEN	0 ASHFIELD RD	300

MASSACHUSETTS LAND LEAGUE	0 ASHFIELD RD	7,300
HAY, BENJAMIN & DOUGLAS	0 ASHFIELD RD	166,400
MIZULA, MARK & SANDRA	5 ASHFIELD RD	137,600
FAY, JOHN C & GLORIA C	12 ASHFIELD RD	188,400
DEWKETT, NANCY	13 ASHFIELD RD	34,300
SUMNER, STUART & DONNA	17 ASHFIELD RD	240,100
LAVALLEY, EUGENE & ARLENE	18 ASHFIELD RD	187,900
CLARK, KYLE & DAPHNE	0 BOZRAH RD	70,200
CLARK, JUANITA	7 BOZRAH RD	225,900
CLARK, ANGELA M.	17 BOZRAH RD	199,800
BESHARA, DOROTHY A.	18 BOZRAH RD	29,400
GRIFFIN, PAUL S. & ELIZABETH H.	19 BOZRAH RD	95,600
LATSHANG, EILEEN WESTON	24 BOZRAH RD	149,500
SCHOFIELD, MICHAEL	0 BUCKLAND RD	28,200
GRANT, STEPHEN & ELLEN J	0 BUCKLAND RD	53,200
ROSENBAUM, LYNNE & KIM	0 BUCKLAND RD	31,000
ROSENBAUM, LYNNE & KIM	0 BUCKLAND RD	29,100
CLARK, THOMAS	0 BUCKLAND RD	29,400
RICHARD, MELANIE	0 BUCKLAND RD	28,000
BOUFFARD, DENIS & KAREN	0 BUCKLAND RD	28,000
BOGART, MATTHEW M.	0 BUCKLAND RD	31,500
ULLIAN, KIT JESSE & SHARI	41 BUCKLAND RD	281,200
ORZECKOWSKI, PAUL & KIMBERLY	115 BUCKLAND RD	141,900
CLARK, DAVID A. & CARLA C.	121 BUCKLAND RD	148,500
ULLIAN, FRANK	7 CLARK RD	576,800
COTHEY, PAMELA STEWART	15 DODGE BRANCH	8,100
COTHEY, PAMELA S	15 DODGE BRANCH	686,800
HOWLAND, STEVEN L. & PARLAND	0 DODGE CORNER	29,000
LOWELL, DAVID E. & TAMMY M.	0 DODGE CORNER	15,700
RICHARDSON, KEVIN	0 DODGE CORNER	29,600
FAIT, HAROLD C	3 DODGE CORNER	92,200
HARRIS, WILLIAM R. & CONSTANC	26 DODGE CORNER	258,900
FARROW, RICHARD & EVELYN	5 DODGE RD	215,200
FAIT, HAROLD C.	29 DODGE RD	191,300
RICHARDSON, KEVIN	32 DODGE RD	282,800
WEEKS, BARBARA	71 DODGE RD	101,700
MCLAUGHLIN, CHRISTINE	0 EAST HAWLEY RD	32,100
COBB, CHERYL	0 EAST HAWLEY RD	4,400
C TO THE THIRD POWER, LLC	0 EAST HAWLEY RD	54,000
APREA, FERDINAND & GARY	0 EAST HAWLEY RD	120,500
CULVER, HARRY	0 EAST HAWLEY RD	28,800
CULVER, HARRY	0 EAST HAWLEY RD	44,800
LAWLESS, WILLIAM S	0 EAST HAWLEY RD	67,600
CULVER, HARRY	0 EAST HAWLEY RD	84,600



HEIRS & DIVISEES OF GEO. RICHA	0 EAST HAWLEY RD	2,500
HYYTINEN, SHIRLEY	0 EAST HAWLEY RD	28,000
ROOT, ROBERT W. & SERRA A.	0 EAST HAWLEY RD	63,900
QUINNEHTUK COMPANY	0 EAST HAWLEY RD	1,000
FAUFAW, KRISTIE	0 EAST HAWLEY RD	34,000
COBB, CHERYL	0 EAST HAWLEY RD	500
MENDE, ROBERT & SHIRLEY	5 EAST HAWLEY RD	169,800
WALSH, JAMES & KATHLEEN	8 EAST HAWLEY RD	123,900
DUPUIS, SANDRA	24 EAST HAWLEY RD	139,200
DUPUIS, RONALD & SANDRA	28 EAST HAWLEY RD	214,800
CLARK, MITCHELL	29 EAST HAWLEY RD	86,700
GRISWOLD, GORDON & JANICE	31 EAST HAWLEY RD	245,000
LEMIEUX, JULIA	42 EAST HAWLEY RD	193,800
CLARK, DOROTHY (HEIRS OF)	45 EAST HAWLEY RD	125,200
SWOPE, WESTON J.	49 EAST HAWLEY RD	238,500
PARRA, PHILIP W. & PATRICIA JEAN	52 EAST HAWLEY RD	200,200
CLARK, TIMOTHY J. & ROBYN DEE	54 EAST HAWLEY RD	344,200
SCHAEFER, JONATHAN & MARIA L	59 EAST HAWLEY RD	325,700
BOUCIAS, GREGG & JEAN	67 EAST HAWLEY RD	135,500
CLARK, KYLE & DAPHNE	69 EAST HAWLEY RD	288,500
LORENZEN, MARIANNE & R. BRUCE	74 EAST HAWLEY RD	225,500
ISAACSEN, KIMBERLY TANGUAY	78 EAST HAWLEY RD	173,200
TANGUAY, WILLIAM	81 EAST HAWLEY RD	264,400
CLARK, TIMOTHY & ROBIN	86 EAST HAWLEY RD	135,000
GREEN, HAROLD	95 EAST HAWLEY RD	363,500
EDMONSON, NANCY	98 EAST HAWLEY RD	114,700
MCLAUGHLIN, CHRISTINE	103 EAST HAWLEY RD	135,600
GERRY, CODY	104 EAST HAWLEY RD	171,400
THOMSON, ELAINE & RAYMOND	106 EAST HAWLEY RD	212,000
HOWE, ADAM & KELLY	112 EAST HAWLEY RD	199,100
HAGEN, SUSAN & SINTIRIS, WILLIA	115 EAST HAWLEY RD	83,700
SEGAL, YVETTE	116 EAST HAWLEY RD	168,500
SHUTTA, STEVEN	120 EAST HAWLEY RD	215,100
PETERS, CASEY M. & SONJA M.	124 EAST HAWLEY RD	237,400
BROWN, LOOCIE & SOMMERS, ELIZ	127 EAST HAWLEY RD	203,100
FAUFAW, KRISTIE & SISUM, MICHA	128 EAST HAWLEY RD	395,500
OLEFSKY, HAI ZHENG & MAXINE M	153 EAST HAWLEY RD	282,600
SPRING, PATRICIA	168 EAST HAWLEY RD	98,200
GOTTA, PHYLLIS	235 EAST HAWLEY RD	129,600
COLE, WILLIAM G., TRUSTEE	252 EAST HAWLEY RD	76,400
SWOPE, JAMES & SUSAN	254 EAST HAWLEY RD	175,100
KAPSINOW, JAY	259 EAST HAWLEY RD	236,100
SWOPE, JAMES & SUSAN	262 EAST HAWLEY RD	69,900
BILLINGS, SHAWN R. & ELIZABETH	270 EAST HAWLEY RD	241,100

BELLOWS, KEVIN	282 EAST HAWLEY RD	400,700
YATES, RICHARD & CHERYL	292 EAST HAWLEY RD	280,300
GRANT, STEPHEN & ELLEN JANE	319 EAST HAWLEY RD	252,900
HARRISON, DREW & ASHLEY	324 EAST HAWLEY RD	177,500
ROOT, ROBERT W. & SERRA A.	330 EAST HAWLEY RD	128,100
HOLM, LOIS	0 EAST RD	55,500
KLAGSBRUN, EDWARD	0 EAST RD	188,500
BERKSHIRE EAST SKI RESORT, LLC	0 EAST RD	1,294,800
HERRSHAFT, WILLIAM & JUDITH	0 EAST RD	1,800
SKELTON, ROBERT	0 EAST RD	17,000
BERKSHIRE HIGHLANDS LLC	0 EAST RD	29,200
MAHA SIDDHA NYINGMAPA	0 EAST RD	2,500
HUGHES, HELENA	0 EAST RD	89,700
CLARK, KEVIN	22 EAST RD	154,400
CHURCHILL, MICHAEL & RACHEL	26 EAST RD	153,600
LEVINE, PAUL	40 EAST RD	214,600
BILLIEL, DARLENE	42 EAST RD	127,200
ALBRIGHT, LINDA	43 EAST RD	221,800
SCHAEFER, JAMES & JONATHAN	49 EAST RD	321,200
GRISWOLD, DANA	54 EAST RD	88,800
KIMBALL, CHRISTINE	58 EAST RD	2,500
KIMBALL, CHRISTINE	58 EAST RD	198,200
TEPEDINO, MICHAEL	131 EAST RD	508,900
GOSSELIN, KENNETH & PAUL	0 FORGE HILL RD	59,600
SINGING BROOK FARM TRUST	0 FORGE HILL RD	41,000
FITZROY, ROBERT & DANIEL	0 FORGE HILL RD	6,700
FITZROY, KIM	5 FORGE HILL RD	229,600
SHRIMPTON, CRAIG & PAMELA	10 FORGE HILL RD	57,500
SHRIMPTON, PAMELA & CRAIG	12 FORGE HILL RD	291,900
KOZODOY, NEAL & MAUD	0 FORGET RD	44,900
CORBOSIERO, ANNE MARIE	5 FORGET RD	173,800
DONELSON, LAURI	21 FORGET RD	187,300
STEWART, HOLLY B.	26 FORGET RD	259,700
ABRASHKIN, WILLIAM	29 FORGET RD	36,000
NIGROSH, BARRY	29 FORGET RD	278,400
BRADY, EDWARD	30 FORGET RD	301,400
BRYANT, TANYA ZOE	35 FORGET RD	205,100
DONOVAN, IVAN & CYNTHIA	49 FORGET RD	443,500
LACINSKI, PAUL M & KLIPPENSTEIN	58 FORGET RD	559,600
LACINSKI, PAUL & KLIPPENSTEIN, A	59 FORGET RD	304,900
BEGA, KATHRYN	86 FORGET RD	105,200
KOZODOY, NEAL & MAUD N	90 FORGET RD	488,600
GELINAS, MARY	97 FORGET RD	354,100
NELSON, RONALD	101 FORGET RD	234,300

HOPKINS, SUSAN & BERNARD	107 FORGET RD	236,400
MITCHELL, PETER	112 FORGET RD	194,400
KEAN, RICHARD	117 FORGET RD	185,600
KEAN, RICHARD	121 FORGET RD	402,900
AUBREY, SUZANNE	7 GROUT RD	165,500
HOFFMAN, KAREN	20 GROUT RD	306,900
CLARK, BRIAN	0 HAWLEY RD	26,000
COOPER, PAUL R (TRUSTEE)	13 HOWES RD	479,100
DEFRIESSE, GEORGETTE	0 HUNT RD	29,000
MCNERNEY, MICHAEL	0 HUNT RD	29,000
WALCZAK, MARGARET	0 HUNT RD	29,000
BURSTEIN, MERWYN	0 HUNT RD	29,000
GURSKI, FRANK	0 HUNT RD	29,000
GOULD, RICHARD	3 HUNT RD	217,400
HYYTINEN, SHIRLEY	9 HUNT RD	204,500
SCOTT, JOHN	11 HUNT RD	183,500
DEFRIESSE, GEORGETTE	15 HUNT RD	201,700
DREHER, SARAH (ESTATE OF)	17 HUNT RD	70,800
AUBREY, TODD & KIMBERLY	19 HUNT RD	104,200
OHMANN, SARAH	0 LABELLE RD	4,600
MILT, ELLEN	0 LABELLE RD	15,700
LABELLE, CURTIS W. & NORMA J.	0 LABELLE RD	2,700
KAPLAN, DAVID A.	0 LABELLE RD	72,900
OHMANN, SARAH	53 LABELLE RD	270,100
KING, MICHAEL & EVELYN	62 LABELLE RD	375,800
BEARFOOT REALITY TRUST	80 LABELLE RD	246,700
EASTWOOD, BRUCE	19 LOWER FORGET RD	126,400
RANDALL, CHRISTOPHER & JULIA &	0 MIDDLE RD	78,500
PURINTON, SCOTT	0 MIDDLE RD	8,800
TAYLOR, ROBERT & HOLT, PATRICI	0 MIDDLE RD	1,500
PURINTON, SCOTT R. & ELLEN S.	0 MIDDLE RD	7,500
MACLEAN, ROBERT & JOANNE	25 MIDDLE RD	162,000
ATKINS, CARLOS	35 MIDDLE RD	237,500
TAYLOR, ROBERT	38 MIDDLE RD	187,100
PURDY, PETER & SUSAN	45 MIDDLE RD	161,500
STEJSKAL, JIRI & MARY	51 MIDDLE RD	90,300
SINGING BROOK FARM TRUST	54 MIDDLE RD	343,700
COSBY, WILLIAMS C. & JOHNSON, L	59 MIDDLE RD	485,800
SMART, ELISE C & JOHN III	79 MIDDLE RD	229,700
GILLAN, DUNCAN & RUTH	81 MIDDLE RD	246,300
WEISBLAT, TINKY	84 MIDDLE RD	277,500
CLARK, LESLIE	92 MIDDLE RD	251,600
PYLE, DAVID & ELIZABETH	96 MIDDLE RD	282,800
ASHFIELD ROD & GUN CLUB	0 PLAINFIELD RD	3,400

HEIRS & DIVISEES OF JOHN THOMPS	0 PLAINFIELD RD	400
SCHOFIELD, MICHAEL & TAMMY	3 PLAINFIELD RD	196,000
O'CONNOR, JANE M.	4 PLAINFIELD RD	243,000
SHAFFER, MARY	21 PLAINFIELD RD	168,900
SLOSSER, GAIUS BRANDT	23 PLAINFIELD RD	83,600
CARANTIT, JEFFREY & JULIE	38 PLAINFIELD RD	400,000
CHAFFEE, KENNETH & SHIELA	68 PLAINFIELD RD	272,300
SCOTT, RAYMOND	79 PLAINFIELD RD	163,700
SCOTT, JAMES	86 PLAINFIELD RD	232,500
AUSTIN, JUDITH	102 PLAINFIELD RD	262,900
MAPLESTONE, LLC	118 PLAINFIELD RD	360,100
COX, GREGORY	0 POND RD	19,300
POUDRIER, RAYMOND & MELANIE	0 POND RD	3,000
THWING, KIRBY & ELIZABETH	6 POND RD	157,000
COX, GREGORY & DRAVES, SUSAN	13 POND RD	189,800
THWING, KIRBY JR & ELIZABETH	15 POND RD	235,900
POUDRIER, RAYMOND	29 POND RD	421,900
VELAZQUEZ, JASON, REGINA & SHE	7 PUDDING HOLLOW	115,100
SEARS, PAUL	0 PUDDING HOLLOW	28,000
CROSSIN, CLARA ESTATE	0 PUDDING HOLLOW	25,000
MCDERMOTT, SEAN P. & EVA S.	0 PUDDING HOLLOW	106,400
WHITE, MARK	0 PUDDING HOLLOW	15,800
SEARS, JOHN F. & RICHARD	0 PUDDING HOLLOW	26,500
WHITE, DOUGLAS	0 PUDDING HOLLOW	8,800
BECK, R. PETER & BERTSCH, KENNE	6 PUDDING HOLLOW	292,800
BERTSCH, KENNETH	12 PUDDING HOLLOW	401,700
RICH, DAVID & SARAH	45 PUDDING HOLLOW	290,700
DEFOUGEROLLES, ANTONIN & PAU	61 PUDDING HOLLOW	792,900
STERNSTEIN, JEROME & KATHRYN	73 PUDDING HOLLOW	189,700
SEARS, RICHARD & ILENE	87 PUDDING HOLLOW	296,200
SEARS, JOHN F.	100 PUDDING HOLLOW	249,900
CUTLER, CHARLES	0 SAVOY RD	67,500
SCHOCH, AMY	2 SAVOY RD	134,000
CUTLER, CHARLES	22 SAVOY RD	318,000
DWIGHT, WILLIAM & LEWIS, LIDA	36 SAVOY RD	104,800
WHITE, MARK	0 SEARS RD	40,600
CHARLAND, JOYCE M	21 SEARS RD	157,700
SINGING BROOK FARM TRUST	17 SINGING BROOK LN	321,000
LANOUE, NELSON & BRENDA	0 SOUTH RIVER RD	20,000
OVITT, BRIAN	0 SOUTH RIVER RD	11,500
BERKSHIRE HIGHLANDS LLC	0 SOUTH RIVER RD	1,200
NEWELL, DAVID & VIRGINIA	0 SOUTH RD	29,400
YATES, JEFFREY & LAURA	0 SOUTH RD	39,600
TAVERN TOP TRUST	0 SOUTH RD	7,000

CLARK, CLIFFORD JR	0 SOUTH RD	48,400
CLARK, SARA & WALL, KENNETH	133 SOUTH RD	189,000
SHIPPEE, MURIEL	0 STETSON RD	48,000
ONDIS, PAUL	2 STETSON RD	99,400
BRISSETTE, BARBARA	7 STETSON RD	62,400
KELLOGG, BARBARA E.	9 STETSON RD	212,100
KIMBALL, STEPHEN & SUSAN	13 STETSON RD	183,500
SCHREIBER, THOMAS & SHIRLEY	0 WATSON RD	1,700
MCCULLOCH, ANN	0 WATSON RD	700
POPE, BENJAMIN L. & DANIEL C.	7 WATSON RD	255,300
SPOFFORD, BEVERLY	0 WEST HAWLEY RD	500
GORMLEY, JUNE	0 WEST HAWLEY RD	36,000
HOLMES, TOBY A.O.	0 WEST HAWLEY RD	32,300
DESMARAIS, DEAN F. & MARIA C.	0 WEST HAWLEY RD	39,000
EICHHOLZ, MARY & TIMOTHY	0 WEST HAWLEY RD	4,700
PURINTON, SCOTT R.	0 WEST HAWLEY RD	15,400
NGUYEN, LEIM THANH	0 WEST HAWLEY RD	13,000
WHITE, TEDD	0 WEST HAWLEY RD	45,000
NORCROSS, PAUL & RITA	0 WEST HAWLEY RD	30,500
BERTSCH, KENNETH & BECK, R. PET	0 WEST HAWLEY RD	1,800
STREETER, PAUL	0 WEST HAWLEY RD	79,600
WHITE, MARK	10 WEST HAWLEY RD	241,200
WHITE, TEDD F.	28 WEST HAWLEY RD	306,600
EGGERT, HENRY	48 WEST HAWLEY RD	294,000
GRODEN, SUZY & EMMETT, CONSTA	50 WEST HAWLEY RD	194,100
GRODEN, SUZY & EMMETT, CONSTA	54 WEST HAWLEY RD	62,300
PURINTON, SCOTT & ELLEN	60 WEST HAWLEY RD	369,900
BROWNELL, RYAN	70 WEST HAWLEY RD	238,800
FALWELL, RICHARD L & ANN J	74 WEST HAWLEY RD	91,900
DESMARAIS, DEAN	76 WEST HAWLEY RD	81,700
DESMARAIS, DEAN	76 WEST HAWLEY RD	183,000
DESROCHERS, JAMES & KATHLEEN	90 WEST HAWLEY RD	165,000
LEMOINE, DONNA	94 WEST HAWLEY RD	81,700
LEMOINE, DONNA	96 WEST HAWLEY RD	57,000
TRAVERS, GRAHAME & PEGGY	108 WEST HAWLEY RD	381,100
HANECAK, NANCY AND VIENS, JOS	128 WEST HAWLEY RD	103,300
BENOIT, GERMAIN	136 WEST HAWLEY RD	188,000
PARENT, RICHARD F. & ELIZABETH	138 WEST HAWLEY RD	99,000
BONNETTE, DONALD	140 WEST HAWLEY RD	69,300
BONNETTE, DONALD	144 WEST HAWLEY RD	181,800
YOUMELL, DEBORAH & JAMES	197 WEST HAWLEY RD	29,900
CLARK, WAYNE & ROBIN	198 WEST HAWLEY RD	139,000
MACNICOLL, SAMANTHA & STEVE	200 WEST HAWLEY RD	129,200
ROBERTS, BRYAN	201 WEST HAWLEY RD	290,200

FRIED, RICHARD G	213 WEST HAWLEY RD	180,600
DESMARAIS, DAVID	214 WEST HAWLEY RD	35,600
SOULE, PETER & CHRISTOPHER	228 WEST HAWLEY RD	285,000
BROWNE, MARGARET	232 WEST HAWLEY RD	348,400
HICKS, CHRISTINE & TIRONE, CHRIS	240 WEST HAWLEY RD	185,000
GORMLEY, JUNE	264 WEST HAWLEY RD	323,400
SMITH, WILLIAM	282 WEST HAWLEY RD	281,600
SARLY, ANNA	298 WEST HAWLEY RD	300,300
LAMOUNTAIN, ROBERT & PATRICIA	319 WEST HAWLEY RD	64,000
ROWEHL, GREGORY	324 WEST HAWLEY RD	207,500
LAMOUNTAIN, ROBERT & PATRICIA	325 WEST HAWLEY RD	48,400
HOYT, THOMAS & VIOLA	326 WEST HAWLEY RD	136,400
VAN BATENBURG, DEBORAH	330 WEST HAWLEY RD	55,700
SCHMITT, MICHAEL	334 WEST HAWLEY RD	110,500
DECKER, DOUGLAS & GLORIA	335 WEST HAWLEY RD	77,400
DECKER, DOUGLAS G. & GLORIA J.	336 WEST HAWLEY RD	66,900
HODGKINS, GUY & MARIE	337 WEST HAWLEY RD	91,400
STONE, ROBERT (ESTATE OF)	339 WEST HAWLEY RD	96,200
HOYT, WILLIAM	340 WEST HAWLEY RD	86,800
NORCROSS, PAUL D & RITA M	380 WEST HAWLEY RD	133,300
NORCROSS, PAUL & RITA	382 WEST HAWLEY RD	349,200
BIGELOW, MARK	390 WEST HAWLEY RD	182,800
DOYLE, KAREN	0 WEST HILL RD	20,000
BRADLEY, DOUGLAS & DEBORAH	0 WEST HILL RD	40,000
PALMER, SHEILA	0 WEST HILL RD	31,000
BUTHMAN, NANCY & WAGNER, ELE	0 WEST HILL RD	40,000
LARIVIERE, SUSAN	0 WEST HILL RD	22,000
MCCARTHY, GERARD & LORRAINE	7 WEST HILL RD	220,000
RICE, GEORGE	20 WEST HILL RD	452,500
RICE, GAIL	28 WEST HILL RD	171,900
SAVOIE, JOSEPH & LINDA	40 WEST HILL RD	215,600
WRIGHT, MICHAEL & MEWIS, RUTH	43 WEST HILL RD	64,400
CRAWFORD, LLOYD & SUZANNE	63 WEST HILL RD	404,300
CRAWFORD, LLOYD & SUZANNE	64 WEST HILL RD	228,800
HARDING, ROBERT R. & CARDWELL	86 WEST HILL RD	647,400
CARLE, ROLF	91 WEST HILL RD	356,100
LARIVIERE, SUSAN	120 WEST HILL RD	132,000

Respectfully submitted,  
Rick Kean, Chairman  
Henry Eggert  
Ed Brady  
Board of Assessors

## **HAWLEY BOARD OF SELECTMEN** **2017 REPORT**

It has been an interesting and relatively good year for the Town of Hawley. Many exciting things have happened and much has been accomplished. Below, please find a few highlights:

**THE BOARD AND ITS MEMBERS:** In May of 2017, Bob Root—who also serves as Deputy Fire Chief—joined the Board as our latest Selectman. At this point, all three of us are somewhat new to the business—our most senior member, Bob MacLean, was elected first in 2013 and Hussain Hamdan came on in 2016. Even more turnover is in the wind, as Selectman MacLean, whose term is ending this year, is not seeking reelection. His colleagues and the Town appreciate his service and we wish him the best going forward. Yet, despite our being relatively new, we like to think we have been doing a pretty good job. The Board works well together and its individual members bring a wealth of experience from different fields and represent a wide cross section of people and opinions. We learn a lot from one another.

**GREEN COMMUNITIES:** As part of the Green Communities program, State grant money was used to install solar panels on the Town Garage. This has enabled us to reduce our electrical expenditures at that building, as well as benefiting the environment. We also installed an air source heat pump at the Town Office, which is not only energy efficient, but also a lot less noisy during meetings than the propane heater, (which we kept as a backup, but which now runs a lot less often). We are additionally working on projects to install low consumption LED lighting within various Town buildings and to better insulate these facilities, starting with the Town Office. All of this work will save Hawley money in the long run. Of course, this discussion would be incomplete without recognizing the contributions of those who have put many hours into these projects, including Will Cosby, Administrative Assistant Cass Nawrocki, and Lloyd Crawford. We also appreciate the ongoing help we have been receiving from the Franklin County Technical School and its students, who are assisting us with projects such as the lighting

upgrades, thereby saving us money while also sharpening their own trade skills.

**BROADBAND (Finally, some light at the end of the tunnel):**

We have also seen considerable progress toward identifying and pursuing a solution to bring affordable high speed Internet service to all Hawley residents who want it. Early this year, after much research and hours of meetings, the Communications Committee and Select Board agreed that the ideal solution would be a fixed wireless system, as offered by Wi-Valley, a communications vendor with more than a decade of experience in this field, and with whom we have been having discussions for some time now. Our decision to pursue the wireless option was informed by the following considerations: (1) It will be substantially less expensive to build out, costing about a third as much as a fiber optic equivalent. (2) It will be able to offer service to everyone in Hawley at competitive speeds far faster than what is currently available. Other proposals we reviewed would only cover a portion of the Town. (3) It will take less time to build than a fiber optic network would. (4) The monthly subscriber rates associated with Wi-Valley's proposal are lower than any other now before us. (Ballpark: \$60-\$70 per month for a basic package, versus well over \$100 per month from other proposals). (5) This system is more likely to survive storms and natural disasters and will cost less to repair than would a cabled equivalent.

In order to benefit from economies of scale, we have been working jointly toward a regional network that will be shared with Savoy and possibly also Florida and Monroe. Middlefield and Worthington have also been investigating a similar program through the same vendor and Middlefield representatives have been meeting with us regularly to share information and best practices. **We anticipate that we can build this network entirely using State broadband funding allocations, without drawing on the local tax base. And, if all goes as planned, we hope to have it up and running by 2019, or earlier.** We think this network will be a tremendous benefit to many of our residents; especially those seeking to do business from Hawley. A big Thank You to the Communications Committee for all their hard work.

**LOCAL EDUCATION:** In terms of the schools, we are pleased to call attention to the recent collaboration between the Hawlemont



and Mohawk Districts, which resulted in an agreement to educate students from Heath Elementary at Hawlemont. This has increased Hawlemont's enrollment figures and sustainability, while resulting in savings for everyone. Indeed, this collaboration and the resultant tuition revenue, has been a major factor in enabling Hawlemont to keep its overall assessment to its constituent Towns flat this year. In the near future, we hope to work with Heath and Charlemont to develop a more permanent solution, by which Heath will be allowed to join the Hawlemont District at the elementary level as a full voting member.

We would also like to reflect on the leadership role the Mohawk District and its Superintendent, Michael Buoniconti, have played in recent advocacy for rural districts at the State level. The Rural Schools Coalition, which they have played a significant role in creating and leading, has done much to call attention to the unique funding challenges faced by geographically large, yet population sparse, school systems in Western Massachusetts and elsewhere. Lately, there has been quite a bit of legislative action aimed at studying and resolving some of these challenges. Ideally, the end result would include, among other things, better funding for regional school transportation and "sparsity aid" for rural districts; a practice already implemented in other States.

**STATE FOREST ROAD REPAIRS:** This last fall, after a couple of years of meetings and negotiations with Town officials, the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) finally repaired Hunt Road, making it possible to once again drive between East and West Hawley without leaving Town—at least in the warmer months, if you don't count snowmobiles. We would like to express our appreciation of the DCR and particularly, Commissioner Leo Roy, for their efforts to work with us and make this project a reality. We also appreciate the significant efforts made by current and former members of our legislative delegation to get the ball rolling, including Representatives Mark and Kulik and Senators Downing and Hinds.

The portion of Middle Road that runs through the Dubuque State Forest is next on the agenda to be rebuilt and, ideally, the work will occur this summer. However, we have recently run into some complications relating to Middle Road's archaic status as a "County Road." DCR would like this status removed (and for the road to

belong to the State Forest) before it initiates repairs; however, from our end, Hawley first needs to assure that this change in status will not result in a loss of State road funding (Chapter 90) for that portion of road, which we will still have a responsibility to maintain (see below). Hopefully, a solution will be worked out shortly.

As part of the arrangement with DCR, Hawley's Highway Department plans to perform day-to-day maintenance of both Middle and Hunt Roads, once they are repaired, with help and materials contributed by DCR. Part of the reason for this arrangement is that Hawley has more suitable equipment for dealing with dirt roads than DCR does. As some of you will recall, the Town used to carry out this maintenance until the State took it over, circa 1982-'83, (and unfortunately, then proceeded to leave the roads in relative neglect until they were totally destroyed during Tropical Storm Irene in 2011). We anticipate that it will take about a week in the spring and another week in the fall to grade the roads and clear ditches. We do not plan to plow these roads in the winter—they will be open for snowmobiling.

Overall, we do not anticipate that assuming these maintenance responsibilities will create a substantial additional burden for our Highway Department. On the flip side of the coin, recreational opportunities in the State Forest and, more importantly, the ability of our emergency responders to attend to medical calls and other incidents occurring therein—which are more frequent than you might think—will be greatly enhanced.

**HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT:** This last fall, a project to armor the bank of the Chickley River behind the Town Garage was completed, funded through State and Federal grant money. Hopefully, this will increase the survivability of the building, which also serves as the West Hawley Fire Station, in the event of another flood like Irene.

We also welcomed Chris Tirone as the latest member of the Highway Department. Chris lives right next to the Town Garage, so getting to work on time, even in the worst of weather, is not likely to be much of a problem. He is also a Captain on the Fire Department, which is convenient, since Engine 1 is stationed in the motor bay right next to where he works, readily accessible in the event of an emergency. (The Select Board has a policy of permitting Firefighters otherwise employed by the Town to respond to calls during work

hours when it is safe do so; e.g. provided dangerous machinery will not be left unsecured).

This has been a tough winter, both in terms of temperature and snowfall. Our Highway Department has certainly been kept busy and, as of the writing of this report, our Snow Roads account, (the only one we are legally allowed to overspend), was already in a deficit. However, on the whole, we have done relatively well at keeping up with the weather and have continued to learn and make improvements with each event. Our free cash reserves are in a strong position at the moment, therefore, we should be able to balance the Snow Roads account by the end of the fiscal year without significant damage or any resultant tax increase.

**REFLECTIONS ON TAXES:** Due to recent home sales at lower than expected prices, we estimate that the valuation of homes in Hawley is going to decrease slightly in the coming year. As a result, the tax rate will rise somewhat, but since the rate is being applied to the lower valuations, the actual dollar figure paid by each family will not increase on account of this change. However, there may be some modest increases in the tax bills for other reasons: The budget has risen slightly due to factors beyond our control, for instance the rising cost of employee benefits. We are also looking at a projected loss of revenue associated with a change in ownership of the solar field on Berkshire East. The Select Board, along with the Finance Committee and Assessors are diligently attempting to minimize this impact, but we cannot work miracles. Presently, we are expecting a rise in the tax rate of about a half dollar on the thousand, which, after adjusting for the above noted drop in valuation, would translate to an increase of about \$60 for the average household next year (assuming a valuation of \$224,000).

On the other hand, if new homes and businesses come to Hawley—something which is a lot more likely once we build the broadband network—we may be able to improve the property tax situation in the long term. Indeed, given the tide of rising costs, combined with the fact that a large percentage of our population is living on fixed incomes, the only way to keep taxes under control in the long term is to develop new sources of tax revenue. Recently, we have had a few new families move in and several new businesses have been established over the past decade. Hawley is not becoming

a ghost town any time soon. As to the future, we are cautiously optimistic.

It is worth mentioning that there have again been rumblings about a potential subdivision project, associated with Berkshire East, in the eastern part of Town. Thus far, there is nothing concrete to report. Rest assured that the Select Board, as well as the Assessors, Planning Board, Fire Department, Highway Department, and Conservation Commission are monitoring the situation diligently and with full attention to the best interests of our Town, its residents and their safety and quality of life, and the tax base. We will let you know more, if and when the situation materializes further.

**A FEW THANK-YOUS:** We would like to end this report by saying thank you to a number of people. We benefit tremendously from the help of our Town Office Staff including Administrative Assistant Cass Nawrocki, Treasurer/Financial Officer Virginia Gabert, Town Clerk Pam Shrimpton, and Tax Collector Elizabeth Nichols. We also greatly appreciate the contributions of all our colleagues on other Town Boards, both elected and appointed, who selflessly contribute to the wellbeing of our Town and its residents on a daily basis. Their names are listed in this report, but it is doubtful that any writing, however long, could ever really do justice to their contributions. It goes without saying that a debt of gratitude is owed to our Volunteer Firefighters, EMTs, and emergency responders. Once again, it would be difficult to find words to adequately credit them. We thank our road crew for their ongoing hard work. And we thank all of our residents and taxpayers, especially those who frequently contribute time, resources, and effort, officially and unofficially, to Town related activities. Together, these people make Hawley a great place to live.

Sincerely,

**THE HAWLEY BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

*Hussain A. Hamdan, Chairman*

*Robert MacLean*

*Robert Root*

### **Special message from the Board of Selectmen**

If you are interested in serving the Town on some capacity, please notify the Board of Selectmen. Anyone interested in learning more can inquire at the Town Office, or contact one of the committee members directly.

On behalf of the Town, we would like to extend our appreciation to all those who have served the Town over the years, and we welcome any newcomers.



**Photovoltaic installation at the Highway Garage**

**FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**  
**Calendar Year (CY) 2017**

The Hawley Finance Committee is fully staffed. It is composed of Lloyd Crawford, Jane Grant, Carla Clark, Tammy Schofield, and Lark Thwing (chair).

The committee met numerous times in 2017:

- Jan 6, to review mid-year budget to actuals,
- March 17, to review status of FY17 budget to date, review of draft FY 18 budget, cost to take over the maintenance of state forest roads, possible third man on highway crew, capital budget status and update, and Green Communities update,
- April 7, review Virginia's info as requested by Lloyd and Lark, recommend changes to budget to bring tax rate back down, recommend funds to go into stabilization accounts, make changes or additions to 5-year capital plan, discuss Community Compact grant to develop best practices in Capital Planning.

As town auditor, Carla reviewed the town financials and found them in order. In December 2017, a Special Town Meeting approved the purchase of a new plow. Finally, as a reminder, the Tropical Storm Irene note was paid off in December 2016.

As of November 3, 2017, the current balances in the stabilization accounts were:

General Stabilization	\$106,114
Highway Stabilization	\$120,173
Fire Department Stabilization	\$60,055
Vocational School Stabilization	\$105,155

The tax rate for next year has been approved at \$15.00/thousand, same as last year. Free cash is estimated to be at about \$205,000.

As a reminder, the Finance Committee tries to keep the capital budget at no more than \$50,000/yr. In 2018 we have been approved for a grant from Community Compact for developing best practices in capital planning. Budget planning for FY 2019 begins with Virginia in late November and the FinCom gets involved in the beginning of the new calendar with a goal of having the budget to the selectmen by the second week of March. The town warrant needs to be finalized by April 15.

For those who are interested, minutes of all FinCom meetings are now being posted on the town website under Finance Committee Minutes. To learn more about the role of the Finance Committee, visit the town website and click on the Finance Committee link, or go to <http://www.townofhawley.com/?q=node/14>.

Lark Thwing  
Finance Committee Chair

## REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK - 2017

### Vital Statistics

#### Births (2)

4/1/17	Rachel Allis Billings
4/18/17	Dylan Jacob Michael Hoyt

#### Deaths (3)

3/1/17	Joanne Clark
10/7/17	Stuart Sumner
10/24/17	Ivan Donovan

**Marriages**      None

**Current number of residents:**                          337

**Current number of registered voters:**                  260

Respectfully submitted,  
Pamela Shrimpton, Town Clerk

## **FRANKLIN REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**

### **Services to Hawley – 2017**

The Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG) provides a variety of services, programming, and advocacy to the municipalities of Franklin County and to the greater Franklin County region. Our Planning Department assists with local planning issues, such as zoning and local hazard mitigation planning, and also works on larger regional projects. Our municipal service programs — Collective Purchasing, Cooperative Public Health, Cooperative Inspection, and Town Accounting — are available to any municipality that needs them. Partnership for Youth continues to provide substance use and chronic disease prevention. And our Regional Preparedness and Homeland Security Programs provide a variety of aid and assistance to our first responders and health emergency officials. The *FRCOG's 2017 Annual Report*, available in April of 2018 and on [www.frcog.org](http://www.frcog.org) shortly thereafter, will highlight our work over the past year. Specific services to the Town of Hawley in 2017 are listed below.

#### **Collective Bidding & Purchasing Program**

- Hawley participates in the Dog Tags and Licenses collective bid program.
- The Chief Procurement Officer worked with the Hawley Energy Committee to bid construction services to install Solar Panels at the Town Garage, and bid an Air Source Heat Pump system for the Town Office through their Green Communities grant.

#### **Cooperative Public Health Service Health District**

Hawley is a comprehensive member of the CPHS health district, sharing health agents and a public health nurse. *Please find the services provided by this program as a separate entry to the Hawley Town Report.*

#### **Franklin County Cooperative Inspection Program**

- Staff issued 23 building permits, 15 electrical permits & 14 plumbing/gas permits for Hawley in 2017. Four (4) Certificates of Inspection were issued.

#### **Partnership for Youth**

- Staff conducted a Teen Health Survey to assess teen attitudes and behavior among middle and high school students. Staff reported to Mohawk Trail Regional School administrators on results from 156 Mohawk students, representing 72% of the 8th,



10th, and 12th grade classes. Survey data meets federal requirements for the school and is valuable for grant-writing and program planning.

#### **Planning and Development Department**

- Staff assisted the Hawley Energy Committee with their Green Communities designation grant by developing project narratives for solar panels at the Town Garage and an air source heat pump at the Town Office.
- Staff coordinated with the Town of Hawley to host a workshop for beginning or strengthening agricultural commissions that was open to all agricultural commissions in the region.
- Staff conducted a traffic count on Plainfield Road as part of the Regional Traffic Counting Program.
- Staff pursued State Legislation to create a Special Designation for the Mohawk Trail Woodlands Partnership region covering 11 West County towns, including Hawley, to bring additional financial and technical resources to support Natural Resource Based Economic Development, Forest Conservation & Municipal Financial Sustainability.
- Staff provided technical assistance on recreational marijuana legislation.

#### **Regional Preparedness Program**

- Staff provided technical assistance and facilitation to Charlemont, Hawley, Heath, and Rowe Selectboard members and police chiefs who met to discuss the possibility of sharing police services.
- Six (6) Citizen Corps volunteers provided a total of 20 hours of assistance to the COG's public health nurse during 2 flu clinics.

#### **Special Projects**

- Staff assisted Town officials with a county road petition from the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) to discontinue a portion of Middle Road through the Kenneth Dubuque State Forest that would allow DCR to invest in repairing the road to facilitate emergency response to Hawley residents.

#### **Workshops & Training**

The following list represents the FRCOG workshops and training sessions that Hawley public officials, staff, and residents attended, and the number in attendance.

#### Municipal Official Continuing Education Series

Marijuana Legislation Update — 1  
Climate Change Adaptation — 3  
Public Records Law Update — 1  
Marijuana Legalization: Municipal Roles and Options — 1

Cooperative Public Health Service

Climate Change Resiliency — 3

Partnership for Youth

Social Justice: Health Equity & Race — 1 from the Mohawk  
Trail Regional School District

**FRANKLIN REGIONAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM  
Report for the Calendar Year Ending December 31, 2016**

The Franklin Regional Retirement System is a government agency that serves the 530 retirees, 51 beneficiaries, 987 active employees, and 557 inactive members of the towns and agencies in Franklin County. We are organized under Chapter 34b, and subject to the provisions of Chapter 32 of the Massachusetts General Laws. We receive oversight on the state level from the Public Employee Retirement Administration Commission (PERAC). We contract with an independent auditor to do a full audit of our system each year. We also contract with an actuary to perform a complete actuarial valuation every two years. PERAC audits our operations and financial records every three years.

The retirement benefit we provide replaces participation in the Social Security system and is described as a “defined benefit”, which means that we pay monthly retirement benefits based on the age, salary, and number of years worked at the time a member of our system retires. To be a member, an employee in one of our government units must be working in a permanent position scheduled at 20 hours or more per week and earning \$5,000 or greater annually. Funding of these benefits begins

with deductions from the member, and, combined with matching funds from the employing unit, are invested in a mix of stocks, bonds, and indexed funds. Investment earnings are a large part of the funding of retirement benefits, and the allocation of those funds are spread to a variety of sectors to take advantage of positive activity as it occurs in each sector. Please make note of our investment performance percentages in the chart on the next page.

Up until 1988, we were a “pay-as-you-go” system. In 1988 it was legislated that we begin saving to become “fully funded” over the ensuing 40 years. Fully funded means we have enough in reserves to pay for all the current and future potential benefits of our present membership. At the end of 2016, we are 75% funded at 28 years (70%) into the 40 year mandate.

Our fiscal year is the calendar year, therefore our annual report is not filed until May of the subsequent year, and as a consequence the information provided herein will be a year old by the time you read this. Current reports and information can be found on our website: [www.FRRSMA.com](http://www.FRRSMA.com).

## **2017 CONSERVATION COMMISSION REPORT**

The Hawley Conservation Commission conducted site visits, coordinated efforts with stakeholders on projects that involved several parties, held hearings and processed permits for several activities in 2017.

An Order of Conditions was issued for the rebuilding of the dam at Frank Ullian's residence on Clark Road in East Hawley.

The Commission attended meetings with contractors and monitored erosion control and planting details in accordance with the Order of Conditions associated with the Town Garage Bank Stabilization Project

The state Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) filed a Notice of Intent to rebuild Hunt Road from the gate on eastern edge of the Dubuque State Forest to the junction of Hunt and Middle Roads. Due to the close proximity of wetlands and endangered species habitat, input from multiple state agencies was required before a Notice of Intent could be issued. The Order of Conditions was issued and most of the work for this project was completed in November. To protect migrating salamanders that breed in vernal pools adjacent to the roadway, the road will be gated until the end of May each year.

An extension to the Order of Conditions for the long awaited rebuilding of Middle Road was issued in November. It is anticipated that this work will finally occur in 2018.

The Commission worked with landowners, Massachusetts Fish and Wildlife, the Department of Environmental Protection, and DCR to clarify and correct confusion relating to the relationship between Forest Cutting Plans and Orders of Conditions for forestry activities conducted in wetlands resource areas. A notice was sent to all property owners advising them that if they are contemplating work in these areas that they should apply with DCR to obtain a Forest Cutting Plan, even if their anticipated yields are below the thresholds required for filing to avoid the need to file for a Notice of Intent.

We remind Hawley residents and property owners that obtaining a Building Permit does not exempt you from the requirements of the Wetlands Protection Act. A phone call or an e-mail to the Conservation Commission to determine if there are any issues well in advance of commencing work will reduce or eliminate delays in construction.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lloyd Crawford  
Conservation Commission Chair

## **PLANNING BOARD**

### Report for 2017

The first half of the year was slow, with only one property subdivision and sale requiring review.

Midyear saw increased activity, starting with the resignation of longtime chairman Lloyd Crawford and member Margaret Fitzpatrick, leaving just 3 remaining board members. Our first order of business then became a meeting to elect officers of the remaining board. Henry Eggert was elected Chairman and Paul Norcross was re-elected Secretary. Trina Sternstein is the third board member.

Due to the pending legalization of recreational marijuana sales and the lack of any regulations governing same, it was deemed prudent to put a moratorium in effect to buy the time necessary to determine if additional protections would be necessary once the regulations were published in March 2018. So the Board next undertook the task of writing an Amendment to the Town's Bylaws to establish a moratorium until December 31, 2018, on recreational marijuana establishments. This was voted on and approved by town vote at a Special Town Meeting in November. The Board then undertook the writing of Planning Board Rules and Regulations for the Issuance of Special Permits, an item that had been lacking in our files. Also Charles Cutler joined the Board at this time.

Then, in December, we held our initial (informal) meetings with Berkshire East regarding the proposed development of a 25-30 unit cluster housing development off East Rd in Hawley. We anticipate a formal application to be submitted for this sizeable project in the Spring of 2018, which will require significant Planning Board involvement including engaging outside consultants, public hearings, etc.

Also in December, due to the significance of this project for the Town of Hawley, and his significant knowledge and background, Lloyd Crawford agreed to rejoin the Planning Board.

There is still room for one more member on the Board, who would start as an Associate Member with the plan of becoming a full member in the future.

Henry Eggert  
Chairman



Jerry McCarthy working in Doane Cemetery - Courtesy of C. Nawrocki

## **HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

### **Report for 2017**

The Historical Commission was very active in 2017, mostly due to cemetery projects. We worked hard on our new Town of Hawley Rules and Regulations and on our new Procedures (applicable to town-owned cemeteries only). The documents were not finalized by the Selectboard until February 6, 2018, and therefore will appear in the Town Report for 2018. Below is a summary of what we accomplished in 2017. The Commission in 2017 consisted of Pamela Shrimpton (Chair), John Sears, Suzy Groden, Lark Thwing, and Bob Root. We thank Jerry McCarthy, “Cemetery Man,” for his help and guidance.

1. Consulted with Jerry McCarthy about the measuring out of grave lots in Doane Cemetery, so that they can be added to the cemetery map for use by Hawley Administrative Assistant, Cass Nawrocki, when lots are to be sold. This included some Commissioners meeting him twice at the Doane Cemetery (July 7, 2017) and helping in the measuring and marking of the new lots.
2. Located (on the Internet) examples of “green burial” procedures and requirements employed by other towns in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for adoption in HHC documents.
3. Reviewed old procedures and rules and regulations documents for editing, and got information about the regulations used by one of the private cemeteries in Hawley and the cost of a grave lot and perpetual care in it.
4. Held a posted Commission meeting (September 5, 2017), with Jerry McCarthy and Cass Nawrocki attending, and reviewed the old documents, decided on changes, drafted language for the new documents, and worked out a time line for submission to the Board of Selectmen for approval.
5. Held a posted public hearing on the proposed procedures and rules and regulations documents (November 28, 2017), to hear the questions and concerns of Hawley citizens. Immediately

6. following the hearing, the Commission met to discuss the questions and concerns raised, and worked out new language for the final versions of the documents.
7. Visited the East Hawley Cemetery to examine and photograph graves about which some questions had been raised.
8. The Sons & Daughters of Hawley (SDH), with the collaboration of the Historical Commission and approval of the Selectboard, applied for and received a grant of \$2,000 from the State Historical Records Advisory Board (SHRAB). The money will be used to hire an expert on cleaning and resetting gravestones to run a workshop for SDH volunteers. The goal of the project is to clean and reset the gravestones of veterans buried in the town-owned Doane Cemetery in East Hawley.

Respectfully submitted,  
Pamela Shrimpton  
Chair, Hawley Historical Commission

## **HAWLEY COUNCIL ON AGING 2017 REPORT**

The annual grant from the Massachusetts Council on Aging again covered the cost of events, newsletters, annual dues to the Charlemont-Hawley Senior Center (located at the Federated Church in Charlemont), and supplies for other programs. The Town also generously contributed to our annual budget, which was greatly appreciated. Council on Aging events are generally free and we encourage all seniors to attend, meet neighbors, and have fun. We had a relatively exciting year. Some of the activities included:

- Participation in the annual Charlemont-Hawley picnic.



- Hawleyites attended a lunch at Berkshire Pizza, but due to busy schedules, did not get the opportunity to have a great dinner at Mohawk Park. This event has been rescheduled for spring or summer of 2018. Check the COA newsletter when it comes.
- Vouchers were sent to Hawley seniors for fruit, vegetables, or flowers at Atherton Farm, in Buckland. Also sent out were certificates to Avery's store in Charlemont, for personal use. Both proved to be very popular.
- The Hawley-Charlemont COA and Boards of Health helped to sponsor the visiting nurse, Lisa White, who is available at the Charlemont-Hawley Senior Center on the second Tuesday of each month from 9:30-11:30AM for a walk-in wellness clinic. A flu clinic was also offered and was well attended.
- Ongoing activities at the Charlemont-Hawley Senior Center are held each Wednesday at 9:30AM. This is followed by lunch at noon. In addition to ongoing socializing, some of the programs offered at the Senior Center have included:
  - A six week restorative yoga class;
  - An ongoing reflexology class—fee required;
  - Game playing;
  - Cooking and singing with Tinky Weisblat;
  - A talk by the Charlemont Ambulance Service;
  - A beekeeping program;
  - Informational sessions on available forms of transportation through the COA;
  - An ongoing foot clinic—small fee required; and
  - A brown bag lunch.

We encourage you to check the Charlemont Town website for Senior Center events.

Sincerely,

*Ann Falwell (Chair)*

*Sarah Rich*

*Elaine Thomson*

*HAWLEY COUNCIL ON AGING*

## **COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2017**

During 2017-2018, the prime focus of the Hawley Communications Committee has been to complete the process of securing viable Broadband funding and to build a system that would provide affordable, reliable, speedy Internet service to the Town and its residents.

While the path was dark and murky for a while, we are happy to report that we believe we have found a way. The solution is for Hawley to join with Savoy and other Towns in a multi-town wireless network, built entirely with existing State funding by WiValley of Keene, NH, and Interisle Consulting Group of Boston. This solution was provisionally approved by the Hawley Selectboard on February 21 (the approval is “Provisional” in the sense that more due diligence, i.e., background and performance checking, project budgeting and planning, etc., need to be done.)

### **Background**

When the 2016-2017 annual report was being written, two events had taken place that put the Committee in “pause” mode:

- The first was an economic analysis. Its conclusion was that although we could afford to build a fixed wireless system that would reach virtually all the town’s households and businesses, we could not afford to run it. There were not enough people who would sign up for the system at a high enough annual fee so the system could break even, let alone make enough money for the Town to provide for major upgrades, network extensions, or repairs.
- The second was a funding breakthrough. Due largely to the untiring efforts and masterful writing skill of Steve Harris of Middlefield, the Massachusetts Broadband Institute (MBI) finally agreed to make the full funding allocation available to the Towns, rather than just the “construction” portion. This meant that Hawley’s total usable allocation would be \$520,000 rather than a little less than half that amount.

At the same time, guidelines for using the added funds had not yet been issued, so the Communications Committee, as well as other Broadband committees in Western Mass, had to wait for further clarification.

January through March, 2017, was a relatively quiet time. We were beginning to receive proposals that were being generated by vendors in response to a series of Requests for Proposal (RFP's) circulated by MBI, but some of those were still in draft form. We were also concerned with news on the MBI front that Axia, the company that runs the MBI Middle Mile network, now renamed "KCST," was declaring bankruptcy and would have to be replaced by a different vendor. We penned a letter of concern that was signed by the Selectboard and sent to Governor Charlie Baker detailing the potential impact of interrupted service to our Town Office. In February, 2018, we received assurances from MBI Chair Peter Larkin that the negotiations for the transfer to a new vendor were just about complete

As to Hawley's internal Broadband needs, we were very interested in developing a relationship with a vendor who would not only build and own the Internet system, but also run it. Two vendors emerged who were willing to do this to one degree or another for Hawley – Crocker Communications (Crocker) and Westfield Gas and Electric (WG&E). The Committee subsequently analyzed both proposals and met with representatives from both.

However, we had yet to find a proposal that would meet our economic requirements: No added tax burden for the Town; Affordable construction cost; low household connect cost; and competitive monthly charges.

In addition to meeting these four economic criteria, the system installed in Hawley would also be required to have the following features: No data volume limits or slowdowns; minimal lag times; reasonable data speed.

### **Recent Developments**

In September, 2017, the Communications Committee met with John Tynan of Savoy, Steve Harris of Middlefield, Fred Goldstein of Interisle Consulting Group, and others. We had already met with these

individuals on a number of occasions in 2016, during our initial exploration of the wireless option, and it was Fred Goldstein who performed the initial wireless feasibility study for the Town. At that meeting, we learned that some members of this group were in the process of teaming together with hybrid wireless/fiber provider WiValley to propose a regional wireless/fiber solution for smaller towns like Hawley. This was in response to a “Notice of Funding Availability” issued by MBI “For Innovative Approaches to Provide Broadband Service to Unserved Towns in Western Massachusetts,” aka Flexible Grant Program (FGP).

WiValley-Interisle delivered the final draft of their proposal to MBI on November 10, 2017. To the best that the Committee could determine, it met all of the criteria:

1. Building the system could be accomplished within the \$520,000 allocation.
2. There would be no need for an added tax burden for the Town.
3. Cost to connect an individual household would be zero at inception; \$100 if later.
4. Monthly usage charges for the base plan would be \$70.00 or less.
5. There would be no limits or overage charges on data volume.
6. Data download speeds for most users would be in the 12 – 25 mbps range, depending on location and plan. Higher speeds available for a higher price.

At the Hawley Selectboard meeting on February 6, 2018, MBI Chairman Peter Larkin stated that WiValley-Interisle had submitted a proposal that was basically acceptable under the provisions of MBI’s FGP. On February 14, the Committee voted unanimously to make the following recommendation to the Hawley Selectboard:

“Our recommendation to pursue the WiValley proposal is based on the fact that it is the only proposal now before us that appears to meet the following criteria:

1. The service would be available to any resident who wants to subscribe;
2. The service would present minimal initial costs for subscribers to connect to the proposed network;
3. The service would be reasonably priced in terms of a monthly rate; AND,

4. The service would offer reasonably good capacity and data speeds; these speeds would be better than other options currently available to residents; and there is sufficient capacity to allow higher speeds above the baseline package for those who require it.”

There is a great deal more that could be said about the selection process and the vendor selected. The Committee is planning to hold a public informational session in March or early April, 2018 for those who are interested.

### **Other Committee Activities**

In addition to the Broadband search, the Communications Committee maintains the Town Website and email system and gets involved in other activities related to computers and Information Technology.

([www.TownofHawley.com](http://www.TownofHawley.com) -- [info@townofhawley.com](mailto:info@townofhawley.com))

### **Communications Committee Meetings**

Meetings are called as needed, and are posted at: [www.townofhawley.com/events-meetings/](http://www.townofhawley.com/events-meetings/). Here’s a list of the meetings for the past 13 months:

1. Feb. 10 2017	5. Aug. 21, 2017	9. Feb 1, 2018
2. Mar. 28, 2017	6. Sep. 14, 2017	10. Feb. 6, '18 (MBI-Selectboard)
3. Jul. 13, 2017	7. Nov. 9, 2017	11. Feb. 14, 2018
4. Jul. '18, 2017	8. Nov. 30, 2017	12. Feb. 21 2018 (SB Approval)

The Hawley Communications Committee is composed of the following members:

Lark Thwing, Chairman      Rick Kean, Member / Webmaster  
 Hussain Hamdan, Member      Pamela Shrimpton, Member  
 Craig Shrimpton, Member / Technical and Security Issues

If you would be interested in helping with our efforts, please send Lark an email at [kthwingjr@gmail.com](mailto:kthwingjr@gmail.com).

Respectfully Submitted, Lark Thwing

## **CHARLEMONT-HAWLEY CULTURAL COUNCIL Report for 2017**

The year 2017 was productive for the Cultural Council. We distributed \$8800 in state funds allocated to our towns for the grant cycle.

Highlights among funded programs during the year included Hawlemont School events, a culinary program at the Charlemont Senior Center, local theatrical productions, the ongoing Sunday series at the Tyler Memorial Library, musical events like Mohawk Trail Concerts' summer program in Charlemont, and a historical SING with Hawley's Alice Parker.

The Council met in November to deliberate what to do with the \$8800 awarded by the state for 2018. We look forward to another slate of varied programs. These will include several school activities, the Charlemont Forum, events at the Art Garden, a trip for Hawlemont students to Hicks Family Farm corn maze, and a craft day at the Charlemont Senior Center.

We are not obliged to solicit feedback by law until 2019, but we are always interested in what the community thinks. Please feel free to contact any member of the council (in Charlemont: John Hoffman, Esther Purinton, Kate Stevens, and Julia White; in Hawley: Lisa Johnson, Pamela Shrimpton, and Tinky Weisblat) with your comments or questions.

A full list of programs our towns have funded, as well as our local guidelines and other information, may be found at <http://www.mass-culture.org/Charlemont-Hawley>. Our emphasis is on programs that take place in our two-town area, and we are politically neutral as required by the state: that is, we do not take politics into consideration when making decisions about grants. Our Facebook page may be found at <https://www.facebook.com/charlemonthawleyculturalcouncil>.

It is a pleasure to be able to help our towns support the arts in our communities. We encourage all townspeople to attend as many of local cultural events as possible.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tinky Weisblat, Chair of the Charlemont-Hawley Cultural Council

## **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE 2017**

Having been formally created by the Hawley Selectboard in 2014, the Hawley Personnel Committee has evolved from an *ad hoc* body with the sole purpose of reviewing and updating Position Descriptions to a more comprehensive level of service, where it participates in:

- Position descriptions;
- Maintenance, update and interpretation of the Town's Personnel Policy;
- Compensation research and recommendations; and,
- Hiring: advertising, recruiting, screening, interviews and reference verifications.

The Hawley Personnel Committee does not make personnel decisions, *per se*. Rather, it researches issues that come up and makes recommendations to the Selectboard.

### Committee Activities During 2017-2018

The Committee's activities during the past 12 months have included:

- Hiring of a Highway Department Worker.
- Development of a first-pass performance review form.
- Development of a draft cell phone policy.
- Compensation review in conjunction with the Finance Committee.

### The Committee

The Hawley Personnel Committee currently consists of three members:

- Rick Kean, Chair
- John Sears; and,
- Lark Thwing.

The Committee is seeking new members to add to its ranks during 2018-2019.

The Hawley Personnel Committee meets on an as-needed basis. All meetings are posted on the Town Website and at the Town Office, and minutes are taken.

The Committee's focus for 2018 - 2019 will be on:

- Completion of modifications to the Town's Personnel Policy, including changes to the sections on hiring procedures, harassment.
- Development and refinement of the Town's hiring procedure.
- New hires: search, recruiting, screening and reference checking.
- Other "Personnel" issues as directed by the Selectboard.

Respectfully submitted,



Rick Kean  
Rick Kean  
for the Hawley Personnel Committee

## **VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT - 2017**

The Hawley Fire Department was busy in 2017, with firefighters taking part in training, adding new equipment and responding to emergency calls.

In 2017, we had 42 calls, including a brush fire, a chimney fire, a stove fire, 21 medical calls, 6 calls for wires or trees down, 2 auto accidents, and 6 calls to help other towns. We also did 2 rescues, including one of a woman stranded in the state forest overnight. With the increased number of bikers in Hawley, we also had a surge in bicycle related accidents in 2017, with one call on Route 8A and 2 at Berkshire East.

Firefighters also helped protect the truck pulls at Cummington Fair in August, and cleaned chimneys at houses in East and West Hawley in November. With the threat of more than one hurricane in September, firefighters spent time checking and adjusting equipment to make sure



we were ready if one of the hurricanes ventured north. Thankfully none did.

Using a \$25,000 federal grant, we were able to replace 2,000 feet of supply and attack hose, as well as 5 nozzles, 9 air bottles, and a portable pump, at a cost to the town of only \$1,200. We were also able to replace 5 pagers and thanks to a donation from Amherst, add vehicle extrication equipment at no cost.

All of our firefighters were recertified in CPR thanks to the efforts of Mike Poirier, and firefighters also took training in using GPS, water supply, chainsaw safety, NIMS, and the use of vehicle extrication equipment. This winter we have begun retraining in First Responder skills as required by state law.

We repaired two hydrants and replaced another window at the East Hawley fire station. We have requested \$3,000 for the 2018 budget to allow us to replace 5 more windows at the fire station, and another \$1,500 to allow us to install a remote control to let West Hawley firefighters close the door at the fire station there without delays when going to a call.

With our 1981 pumper now 37 years old, we have recommended that the town start setting aside money to replace it with a younger truck as parts for its engine are no longer made and any problems may force us to take the truck out of service.

We are now working on developing a proposed design for an addition to the East Hawley fire station to let us house modern fire trucks like the one now based in West Hawley. When the station was built in 1984, it was designed for fire trucks as were built in the 1970's. Because modern fire trucks are much longer, we need at least one longer equipment bay to give us more options in housing trucks in the future.

We also need space for a bathroom and septic tank, and an ADA-compliant ground level training room. We would like to make the building more energy efficient.

Anyone who'd like to serve as a firefighter or EMT should come to the East Hawley station on Wednesday nights at 7:30, or call me at 339-5526. We have added a number of firefighters in the past 3 years, but we could use more, particularly from East Hawley.

Being a volunteer firefighter or EMT gives you a chance to help your neighbors when emergencies arise. It also provides young people employable job skills – many of our alumni are employed today as EMTs, paramedics or firefighters in other towns, using skills they first learned in Hawley.

## **FIRE DEPARTMENT ROSTER**

*March 2018*

Chief	Greg Cox	
Assistant Chief	Bob Root	
Captain	Chris Tirone	
Lieutenant	Dan Hoyt	
Firefighters	Jane Grant	Doug Hoyt
	Hussain Hamdan	Mike Poirier
	Courtney Hoyt	Ryan Crochetiere
	Paul Hoyt	
Junior Firefighters	Brandon Root	
EMTs	Mike Poirier	Yvette Segal
Medical Training Coordinator	Mike Poirier	

## **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REPORT 2017**

Are you prepared for Hawley's next flood?

Flooding is the most common form of disaster that affects Hawley. Since 1984, Hawley has had 5 serious floods, or one every 7 years on average, the most recent occurring during Tropical Storm Irene in 2011. Flooding occurs anytime that we have precipitation or stream flows that exceed the capacity of the stream beds to hold the water.

Flooding can occur any month of the year and does: in 1984 the flooding was in May, in 1987 in April, in 1996 in January, in 1998 in June, in 2005 in October, in 2011 in August. The worst flooding in New England in the last 100 years occurred in March 1936; the second worst was in November 1927.

The question is not whether we will have a serious flood again, but rather when will the next flood occur, and are we prepared for it? Given that 2018 is 7 years after 2011 and we have flooding every 7 years on average, you could say we are due for a flood this year, but Nature doesn't work on a schedule and while we know that another flood will occur sometime, we have no idea when the next time will be.

So how can we prepare for a flood?

On the town's basis, we prepare for excessive precipitation and flooding by keeping bridges, culverts, ditches and storm drains clear and working, replacing those which are failing, and maintaining others in good working order. We also keep the town's emergency plans and emergency equipment up to date and ready to use if flooding threatens. Since 2011, we have added an emergency notification system that allows us to send phone messages to all households in Hawley warning of impending flooding.

As residents, we can prepare for a possible flood by making sure our drainage is open and working properly – if your basement is prone to seepage or flooding, make sure your sump pump is working and the screens aren't blocked by debris. Clean out and flush out the culverts for your driveway and if you have access roads on your property that are

prone to erosion, make sure waterbars or other drainage is kept clear and working.

If your home or property is in one of the areas of Hawley where flooding often occurs, along the Chickley River, Mill Brook, Hawkes Brook, or the Upper Clesson Brook, you want to keep an eye on the stream levels during serious storms and be ready to evacuate should water levels start to threaten your home.

If you are warned that flooding is likely, take some time to get your possessions out of basements or other areas likely to flood.

One step you can take beforehand to help with a storm evacuation is to create a “go” bag to take with you if you need to suddenly evacuate your home. A “go” bag might include your wallet and keys, checkbook, important medications (and list of medications), your cell phone & charger, a flashlight, copies of your house deed, family birth certificates, health insurance cards, passports, or other important papers. By keeping those items in one spot ready to grab if a disaster occurs, you can save precious time.

We all hope disasters like a flood never occur, but a little preparation can mean the difference between a close call or a disaster when the waters rise again.

To help Hawley prepare for the next disaster, in 2017 we did the following:

- We used a \$2,200 Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) grant to buy some replacement pagers for our firefighters and EMTs.
- We worked with the state to get the critical road network in the state forest restored for emergency use – Hunt Road and the southern part of Middle Road were substantially upgraded last fall, and preparations have been made to rebuild and reopen the northern part of Middle Road this summer.
- We worked with Rowe, Charlemont, Heath and Monroe to put on an Emergency Dispensing Site drill and flu clinic at the

Hawlemont School in October to meet the federal requirements for EDS preparedness.

- We applied for another \$2,200 MEMA grant to replace more pagers.

Gregory Cox  
Emergency Management Director

### **FRANKLIN COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT - 2017**

To the Residents of the Solid Waste District:

The Solid Waste District was formed in 1989 to help Franklin County towns manage all aspects of their solid waste – recyclables, organics, hazardous waste, wastewater treatment sludge, and trash. We continue to provide assistance to twenty-two member towns through administrative support, professional consultation, trainings, and outreach to residents and businesses.

A review of recycling tonnage for 2017 shows an increase in the amount of recycling tonnage compared to 2016. District residents recycled almost 1,800 tons of paper and 1,200 tons of mixed containers, which were processed at the Springfield Materials Recycling Facility.

In 2017, the District sponsored spring and fall “Clean Sweep” collections for bulky items, electronics, tires, appliances, and anything too big to fit into a trash bag. Over 56 tons of material were recycled or disposed of from the two collections. A total of 576 households participated in these collection events.

We held our annual household hazardous waste collection in September 2017. This event allows residents to properly dispose of toxic cleaners, automotive products, pesticides, and other toxic products. A

total of 360 households participated in this event. 52% of participants were using the collection for the first time.

We applied for and received grants from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection worth \$84,400 for District towns. Some grant funding is a result of a town's successful waste management infrastructure. Other grants include equipment to make town transfer stations more efficient.

We continued to bale wood pellet bags and agricultural plastic in our second year of this recycling program. We manage the recycling and composting program at the Franklin County Fair and assist other events with waste reduction efforts. We work in each school system helping with waste management bids and with fostering sustainable waste reduction programs.

If you have questions about District programs, call us at 413-772-2438 (MA Relay for the hearing impaired: 711 or 1-800-439-2370 TTY/TDD), visit us at 50 Miles Street in Greenfield. or visit our website at [www.franklincountywastedistrict.org](http://www.franklincountywastedistrict.org)

Jan Ameen	<i>Executive Director</i>
Jonathan Lagreze, Colrain	<i>Chair</i>
Chris Boutwell, Montague	<i>Vice-Chair</i>
MA Swedlund, Deerfield	<i>Treasurer</i>

## VETERANS' SERVICES DISTRICT CY17

We ended the year by being named "Veterans' Services District of the Year" by the state. Our district has now been in operation for 2 ½ years. We are the largest district by community count and square miles covered in the state. Below are just some of the programs and services we help veterans' and their dependents with:

- M.G.L. Ch 115 benefit – Needs based program of financial and medical assistance to eligible veterans and their dependents
- Assistance to veterans and dependents to help file for health care, pensions, and service-connected disabilities
- Homeless prevention assistance to veterans and their families
- Employment help with job searches, resumes, and job interview skills
- Burial assistance to include government markers, flag holders, internment, and VA burial reimbursement
- Veterans records retrieval and storage
- Referral to other public and private agencies to include housing, fuel assistance, employment, training, education
- Attend area outreach events(fairs, festivals, health care expos)

We have continued to work hard helping veterans and dependents file for VA benefits due them. Our awarded claims have outpaced CY16 bringing in close to \$423,000.00 in new claim money for our clients. Overall the district has over \$1,923,000.00 in VA awards flowing into our towns on a monthly basis. We forecast the Ch115 caseload to remain flat for the foreseeable future for our towns. Although reimbursed back to the towns at 75%, this takes over a year to get back from the state, so reducing payouts up front has freed up funds for the member towns.

For the coming year we will continue to assist veterans, and will emphasize programs for the dependents of veterans, particularly the elderly population. Our major projects for the future involve veterans' gravesites locations and conditions, and training 1<sup>st</sup> responders on veterans' issues and resources.

Timothy Niejadlik, Director, Upper Pioneer Valley Veterans' Services District



## **Cooperative Public Health Service Activities in Hawley – 2017**

Hawley is a comprehensive member of the CPHS, a health district based at the Franklin Regional Council of Governments. CPHS activities in Hawley during 2017 included:

- The Regional Health Agent conducted 6 Title-5 (septic) related activities including witnessing Title-5 Inspections prior to property transfer, Soil Evaluations for on-lot septic systems, septic system plan reviews including site visits, issuing Local Upgrade Approvals and DSCP (septic) permits, completing final inspections of septic system installations, and preparing Certificates of Compliance.
- 5 Hawley residents received low-cost tick tests in 2017 through a local Board of Health subsidy, a savings of \$175. 20% of ticks tested in Hawley carried the Lyme pathogen. The Public Health Nurse provided tick prevention materials and helped residents access grant funded tick testing through the on-line system as needed.
- The Regional Health Agent reviewed requests for BOH sign-off on Building Permits and ensured compliance with public health requirements.
- The Public Health Nurse coordinated vaccine and supplies for flu clinics in CPHS towns serving 849 individuals with the help of Medical Reserve Corps members, GCC nursing students and community volunteers. Locally, a Charlemont and Hawley Councils on Aging Flu Clinic held at Charlemont Federated Church served 54 area residents and a Flu Clinic/Emergency Dispensing Site Drill



organized by town officials from Charlemont, Hawley, Rowe, Heath and Monroe held at Hawlemont School served 35 area residents.

- The Regional Health Agent conducted routine food inspections and a lodging inspection in compliance with State requirements.
- The Public Health Nurse held 11 monthly “Second Tuesday” walk-in wellness clinics at Charlemont Federated Church where 15 area residents made 52 visits with the nurse for health screening services, including 5 residents who received 8 home visits from the Public Health Nurse.
- The Regional Health Agent met with the Board of Health as needed and provided technical assistance to the Board with the implementation of their local septic regulations and private well regulations, including assisting homeowners to test their well water at the time of property transfer.
- The Regional Health Agent issued 3 private well permits for new wells.
- Through a FDA Food Safety Grant that will improve food inspection and data collection, the district offered Hawley residents low-cost food safety training.
- The Public Health Nurse provided services to attendees of monthly “Good Neighbors” food distribution at Charlemont Federated Church where 33 area residents made 72 visits with the nurse for health screening services.
- At regularly scheduled clinics and wellness events, The Public Health Nurse provided town residents with reference materials and health self-management supplies such as medication schedules, pill sorters, personal health records, Files of Life and medication lock boxes with assistance from a grant from the Franklin County Opioid Task Force.
- The Public Health Nurse completed state-mandated infectious disease investigations, reporting and case monitoring as needed for 220 CPHS district cases including 3 Hawley cases.
- The Regional Public Health Nurse assisted community Shingles vaccine clinics in coordination the Town Nurses of Rowe and Heath.

- The Public Health Nurse offered mercury thermometer collection and exchange and sharps disposal and container exchange in collaboration with the Franklin County Solid Waste Management District at all wellness clinics. 116 sharps containers and 6 thermometers were exchanged for CPHS residents over the year.
- Staff facilitated two “Planning Together for Healthy Aging” community conversations held at The Senior Center in Shelburne Falls inviting Boards of Health, Councils on Aging, LifePath, Inc. and other local and regional representatives.
- Staff assisted with implementation of digital on-line permitting system and issued all annual and regular BOH permits.

*Hawley’s representatives to the CPHS Oversight Board in 2017 were Cass Nawrocki, Administrative Assistant, and Hussain Hamdan, Board of Health and Select Board Chair. For more information about the Board or the district, visit [www.frcog.org](http://www.frcog.org)*

## **FRANKLIN REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS COOPERATIVE BUILDING INSPECTION PROGRAM 2017**

Dear Residents of Hawley:

As you know, your town receives building, plumbing, gas, and wiring inspection and zoning enforcement services through the Franklin County Cooperative Inspection Program (FCCIP), a forty-two year old shared service housed at the Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG). We thank your town for your continued participation in the FCCIP, which allows small towns to have access to professional staff and state-of-the-art technology.

In 2017 we issued 2,564 permits, including a significant number of insulation upgrade, solar array and wood/pellet stove permits. A total of 29 new dwelling units were constructed in our 15 member towns.

Our online permitting program went live on July 1, 2011 and has issued 16,072 building, electrical & plumbing/gas permits since then. The program allows you to apply, pay for, and track the progress of any permit online,

saving you time and visits to our office in Greenfield. The program has 4,574 registered users. You can find it at [www.frcog.org](http://www.frcog.org) under the Franklin County Cooperative Inspection Program. Our website also includes helpful information on inspection requirements, permit costs, and contractor licensing.

In 2017, the FCCIP processed the following permits for Hawley:

Residential Building Permits	19
Commercial Building Permits	2
Sheet Metal/Duct Permits	0
Electrical Permits	15
Plumbing Permits	7
Gas Permits	7
Certificates of Inspection	4
Solid Fuel	2
Fire Protection	0
Tents	0

We would like to remind all residents of the importance of applying for permits for work done. Building, Electrical and Plumbing/Gas permits are required by law and are an essential step in ensuring the safety of our communities. Please feel free to call our office with any building or zoning questions at 774-3167, extension 2.

James D. Hawkins	Building Commissioner	<a href="mailto:jhawkins@frcog.org">jhawkins@frcog.org</a>
James Cerone	Building Inspector	<a href="mailto:jcerone@frcog.org">jcerone@frcog.org</a>
Tom McDonald	Electrical Inspector	<a href="mailto:electric@frcog.org">electric@frcog.org</a>
Andy French	Plumbing/Gas Inspector	<a href="mailto:plumbing@frcog.org">plumbing@frcog.org</a>

## **2017 Annual Report of the Superintendent Mohawk Trail Regional & Hawlemont School Districts**

During 2017, the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (MA DESE) launched a celebration campaign to share the performance of MA public schools relative to the rest of the nation and the world. The big picture message put forth by MA DESE was that our public school students are performing at a very high level, which includes the Mohawk Trail Regional School District and the Hawlemont Regional School District.

MA public schools and students are #1 in the U.S. in reading and math according to the 2015 NAEP exam (National Assessment of Educational Progress), which is a national assessment of student knowledge in various subject areas. MA public schools are also #1 in the nation for the 4<sup>th</sup> straight year in the Education Week Research Center's annual *Quality Counts 2018* report.

- MA public schools and students are #1 in the world in reading according to the 2016 PISA exam (Program for International Student Assessment), which is an international assessment that measures 15-year-old students' reading, mathematics, and science literacy every three years.
- MA public schools and students are #1 in Advanced Placement (AP) success in the country (2017), which is measured by the percentage of students who scored 3 or higher on college level AP exams. Approximately 44.1% of the students in the Massachusetts' class of 2016 took at least one AP exam while they were in high school, and 31% of these students scored 3 or higher out of a possible 5. Many colleges and universities grant credit for scores of 3, 4 or 5 on AP exams.

The results of the 2017 MA Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) indicate that Mohawk students continued to meet the high bar reflected in Massachusetts' several #1 academic performance rankings

being touted by MA DESE. In order to graduate from high school, Mohawk students must demonstrate proficiency on the MCAS in three subject areas: (1) English Language Arts, (2) Mathematics and (3) Science, Technology and Engineering. In 2017, Mohawk high school students scored within 2 points, plus or minus, of the state average in all three subject areas.

In terms of college readiness, 70 Mohawk students took a total of 107 AP exams last year. These tests ranged from English to Math to Science to Social Studies. Of the 107 AP exams taken, 67.3% achieved a grade of 3 or higher, which was also within 2 percentage points of the state average. With regard to the SAT college entrance exam, Mohawk has outperformed the state in reading, writing and math over the past 5 years. Each year, approximately 80% of Mohawk graduates attend either a 4-year or 2-year college. Examples of colleges attended by Mohawk students in 2017 include George Washington University, Mount Holyoke College, Clarke University, Franklin Pierce University and UMASS Amherst (Commonwealth Honors College).

2017 also marked the closing of Heath Elementary School, which was a recommendation that resulted from the 2016 strategic planning process entitled Building Educational Sustainability and Trust (BEST) led by the Mohawk School Committee. Ultimately, the voters of Heath decided that enrollment in their local school was too low and that their children would receive a higher quality education in nearby Hawlemont Regional Elementary School. In the fall of 2017, over 30 Heath students attended Hawlemont through a tuition agreement reached by the Mohawk and Hawlemont School Committees. This school building restructuring saved the Mohawk District approximately \$400,000 in expenses while simultaneously benefitting Hawlemont approximately \$350,000 in tuition revenues. Most importantly, the Heath elementary students are now attending a vibrant school and are receiving a high quality education.

Hawlemont Regional Elementary School is in the midst of a renaissance that has been driven largely by the school's transition to a hands-on, agriculturally-based curriculum, which is informally referred to as the HAY Program (Hawlemont, Agriculture and You). Since the introduction of the HAY Program just 2 years ago, enrollment at Hawlemont has increased dramatically from 102 students to 164 students! Approximately half of this growth is from families outside of the district choosing Hawlemont through School Choice, and the other half is from the tuitioning of Heath students to Hawlemont after the closure of Heath Elementary. All of this enrollment growth, however, is connected to the overwhelmingly positive community response to the HAY Program. Additionally, the influx of tuition revenues has strengthened both educational programming and the financial sustainability of Hawlemont.

Other highlights from 2017 include (1) the Mohawk District revised its vision, mission and core values; (2) preschool enrollment increases at Buckland-Shelburne Elementary School and Sanderson Academy are driving long-term growth in both schools; (3) Colrain Central School is exploring the creation of a service learning educational program; (4) Mohawk and Greenfield Community College collaborated to create a new high school Robotics course to be offered in the spring of 2018; (5) Mohawk began exploring the potential move of 6th grade to Mohawk in the fall of 2019; (6) the Mohawk and Hawlemont school communities expressed interest in exploring an alternative structured learning program more informally referred to as a Blizzard Bag program; (7) the Mohawk School Committee and the Mohawk District Education Association reached agreement on a new 3-year contract; (8) half of the BSE asbestos removal project was completed; and (9) the Mohawk and Hawlemont districts supported the MA Rural Schools Coalition efforts to advocate on behalf of rural public schools across the Commonwealth.

While every school year is chock-full of activity, I do wish to take a moment to express our collective sincere gratitude to our townspeople for making all of this important work possible. On behalf of our

students, I thank the entire Mohawk and Hawlemont school communities for your dedicated support of our children's education. THANK YOU!!

Respectfully submitted, Michael A. Buoniconti  
Superintendent of Schools

### **2017 Annual Report of the Principal Hawlemont Elementary School**

Hawlemont Elementary School is a community of learners where everyone is supported and encouraged to flourish in their own unique ways. To flourish, we will work together to foster positive emotions, active engagement, strong relationships, meaning in our work, and acknowledge accomplishments. Our mission is Hawlemont Elementary School provides students with high quality authentic learning experiences in partnership with families and community. Currently, our enrollment is 164 students, which includes preschool through Grade 6. This year's enrollment is the highest in 11 years and up by 62% from the previous two years. Much of the increase is due to the closure of the Heath school as well as the large percentage of school of choice students.

We are pleased to announce that the following students will be graduating from Hawlemont Elementary School in June of 2018: Brady Beckwith, Isabel Canon, Christian Eastman, Jacob Gilbert, Rachel Hayes, Madison Lent, Jacob Martin, Auriel Nalbandian, Rosco Palmer, Gabby Ryder, Hanna Sharaf, Sidney Sookey, Sierra Upton, Aiden Weis, Umi Burnes, Kaylin Sumner, Abigail Hawk-Wickline, Madison Gorrell and Kennel Securra-Velez.

This is my first year as your principal. Our core goal at Hawlemont this year is to create a community of learners recognizing the right of each individual to grow in a caring supportive environment. Together we will prepare our students for the lead role they will eventually play in their educational process. This year I focused on working closely with the students, staff, families and community of Hawlemont to improve communication and recognize staff strengths while providing consistency and shared decision making.

The teaching assignments for the 2017-2018 school year are as follows: Preschool 3/4: Preschool 4/5: Holly Taylor, Kindergarten: Sue Mead, First Grade: Samantha Baker, Second Grade: Michelle Gajda, Third Grade: Sarah Sookey, Fourth Grade: Amber Tulloch, Fifth Grade: Jennifer Sinistore, Sixth Grade: Stephen Bechtel, Agricultural Coordinator: Jeanne Bruffee, Special Education: Marge Gilbert & Valery Lively, Music Teacher: Rick Page, Art/PE: Kylee Bourassa, ELL: Phil Bragdon and School Counselor: Anne Kaplan. We have paraprofessionals who provide additional support in every classroom including two 1:1 paraprofessionals in grade 2. Susan Annear is our secretary, Paul Dinicolantonio is the custodian, the nurse is Sherry Hagar, and Rachel Gammell and Heather Lengieza are the cafeteria staff. Mary Boehmer is our librarian.

Hawlemont Elementary School is fortunate to offer many after school options including 4-H clubs, theater, dance, fitness and seasonal sports. This year there continues to be a 5-day extended day program that runs from 8:00 – 8:30 in the morning and 3:15 to 5:00 in the afternoon.

Hawlemont believes strongly in nature based experiential learning at all grade levels. Six grade student's have continued to research local Forests and will take part in an air quality study in partnership with UMass Amherst. The fifth grade toured the Western Massachusetts Recycling Center and the Charlemont Sewer District as part of their recycling project. In the spring fifth graders will also travel to Bear Path farm to learn about the composting business. Fourth grade continued their study of renewable and nonrenewable energy with a hike to Berkshire East's Wind Turbine and solar field. The third grade spent the day at Magical Wings in Deerfield, MA to further their study of migration and insect life cycles. Second grade learned about erosion building models indoors and out. Our first graders have learned about season changes along with the position of the sun in the sky. Kindergarten and preschool classes continue to explore nature on a daily basis. All classes have enjoyed our brand new outdoor classroom which was constructed over the summer as a place for students to learn and reflect.

Hawlemont's Local Educational Council (LEC) is comprised of three parents, two teachers, one community representative and myself.



Together we approved a school improvement plan that focused on the following areas: Effective Instruction focusing on Educational Space, Student Empowerment and Meaningful Assessment, Professional

Learning Communities and Ongoing Communication. During early release Wednesdays teachers focus on one more of the areas of our school improvement plan by defining SMART goals and working collaboratively on shared initiatives.

The H.A.Y. (Hawlemont Agricultural and You) program continues to flourish with many new and exciting initiatives this year. One new program is our fiber arts and history unit including the shearing of our sheep, weaving and other woolen activities. Our gardens have been expanding each year and now include a three sisters crop. Over the summer H.A.Y. initiated a very successful summer camp where day campers from around the hilltowns participated in many different agricultural activities. The H.A.Y. program continues to be financially stable by selling goods we grow and prepare at our Thursday farmers market, holding fundraisers like our Apple Cider Day and Mother's Day flower sale and through very generous donations from local community members and charitable foundations supporting agricultural initiatives. The H.A.Y. program allow us to provide an authentic, innovative and dynamic science-based education to all Hawlemont Elementary students. We would also like to express tremendous amount of gratitude for your continued community support.

Once again, I would like to thank the teachers, staff, parents, students, and community members for making this a great school. I look forward to 2018 and continued growth towards educational excellence.

Respectfully submitted,  
Samantha Rutz, Principal

## **2017 Annual Report of the Co-Principals Mohawk Trail Regional High School**

Over the course of this year, Mohawk faculty, students, and members of the Local Education Council (LEC), which is composed of parents, faculty, students, and community members, have been engaged in developing a graphic representation of our shared vision for a Mohawk graduate. Our evolving vision document features habits of mind such as perseverance, creativity, curiosity and self-reflection, as well as habits of the heart such as openness, integrity, kindness, and empathy, in addition to skills for college and career readiness, such as reasoning, problem-solving, research and evaluation of information, and effective written and oral communication. Through a series of conversations and professional collaboration, our school community has been examining how the curriculum and instruction can prepare students for the future/provide opportunities for all students to hone skills.

Mohawk's middle school is located in its own wing of the school, providing a supportive environment for students making the transition from elementary school. Middle school students spend most of their day in classes taught by a team of educators who have a common planning time and who work together to support and challenge students. Each middle school team is composed of teachers of core courses as well as a Learning Specialist with expertise in Special Education and instructional strategies. Adjustments to the middle school schedule this year provided for a daily homeroom/advisory period, as well as a body break for physical activity and social interaction. Middle school students also explore a variety of enrichment topics through the Related Arts programming that introduces them to subjects they can study in more depth in high school, including Spanish, French, woodshop, art, band, and chorus.

In the high school students have a variety of choices as they fulfill graduation requirements, including ten Advanced Placement (AP) offerings: Biology, Calculus AB, Calculus BC, English Language and Composition, English Literature and Composition, Environmental Science, Physics, U.S. History, and World History.

Many students take numerous Advanced Placement courses over their time at Mohawk, and the Class of 2017 had nine students who earned the designation of AP Scholar with Distinction, awarded to students who receive an average score of at least 3.5 (out of 5) on all AP exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams. Educators innovate by developing new courses and increasingly work together to support the needs of diverse learners.

As part of Mohawk's ongoing commitment to strong STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) education, this year the school is partnering with Greenfield Community College to offer a Robotics course at Mohawk that students can take for college credit. The STEM curriculum in 8th grade emphasizes engineering design and cross-disciplinary applications through project-based learning. All middle school students take a Digital Literacy course, assuring that they have a foundation of computer skills and critical literacy. High school students can take the Exploring Computer Science course which uses a national curriculum developed through university and industry collaboration with the National Science Foundation. Mohawk educators across disciplines frequently use Google Classrooms applications and Chromebooks in their instruction. Over the past few years we have shifted to a math curriculum that emphasizes inquiry and problem-solving, and we work closely with faculty from Westfield State University and neighboring school districts to support our teachers in the use of inquiry-based learning approaches.

Expanding our arts offerings, Mohawk introduced an Arts Integration position in the middle school this year. In addition to teaching a studio art course as part of the middle school Related Arts rotation, our Arts Integration teacher partners with classroom educators in the 7th and 8th grade on projects that integrate the arts with core curriculum, such as the 8th grade math lessons associated with the work of Sol LeWitt, the artist whose colorful mural graces Mohawk's front foyer. The Mohawk Arts and Education Council, composed of faculty and staff who are passionate about the arts, continues to provide leadership for our drama programming and other interdisciplinary artistic endeavors

at our school, including the all-school musical “Shrek” that featured performances by students from elementary to high school.

This year we introduced two new programs that will become annual traditions. In March Mohawk hosted its first Interactive Open House, featuring presentations and student work from students throughout our district, from elementary to high school. This event brought students, parents and community members into our school to experience the curriculum and participate in learning activities. Another innovation this year was the expansion of the annual Step Up Day activities in early June. Traditionally Step Up Day has focused on providing 6th grade students with an opportunity to visit the middle school in preparation for their experience as incoming 7th graders. This year we used the day as a Step Up Day for all grades. Current 7th grade students visited the 8th grade team of educators, 8th grade students visited high school classes, 9th and 10th graders all went on college visits (choosing among Westfield State University, the University of Massachusetts-Amherst, Williams College, and MCLA [Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts]) and the juniors began their planning for the Senior Capstone project they complete as a graduation requirement. On another day in June a team of educators led a field trip to visit a number of colleges in Boston, introducing students to more post-secondary options. Activities like the Interactive Open House and the expanded Step Up Day strengthen connections between our school and the community.

Mohawk’s diverse athletic programming offers many opportunities for students in grades 7-12 to participate. In the 2016-2017 school year, 60% of Mohawk students (259) participated in at least one afterschool sport.

At the mid-point of the 2017-2018 school year, enrollment in grades 7-12 is 398. The seventh grade has 55 students and the eighth grade has 82 students. There are 64 students in grade 9, 57 in 10<sup>th</sup> grade, 67 juniors, and 66 seniors. Seven students are enrolled in our post-graduate program.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lynn R. Dole and Marisa Mendonsa, Co-Principals

## **2017 Annual Report Special Education and Pupil Services Report**

The Mohawk Trail and Hawlemont Regional Special Education Department serves students in the Sanderson, Colrain, Hawlemont, Buckland-Shelburne, and Mohawk Middle and High Schools. The primary function is to ensure that students with an IEP (Individual Education Plan) or a 504 are being serviced at a level required to make effective progress with supports outlined in their IEP or 504. According to state data, The Mohawk Trail and Hawlemont district have about 21% and 24% respectively of their student population receiving special education services. Those services are in several areas; speech and language, occupational therapy (OT), physical therapy (PT), counseling and academics. With the closing of Heath Elementary for the school year 2017-18, the support services were shifted to the Hawlemont Elementary School. Every school has at least one special education teacher. The OT and PT spend about one day in each school, Mohawk has a full time Speech Language Assistant and a part time Speech Language Pathologist, BSE has a full time Speech Language Pathologist and Assistant, Colrain and Hawlemont share a full time Speech Language Pathologist and each have a full time Speech Assistant, and Sanderson has a four day a week Speech Pathologist. Sanderson has three days of a School Adjustment Counselor and is sharing a School Psychologist from the Middle School/High School one day a week, BSE and Colrain share an Adjustment Counselor and each have a School Psychologist two and one days a week respectively, Hawlemont has a four day a week School Psychologist, and the Middle and High School have a full time Adjustment Counselor and School Psychologist four days a week. The level of services in each building is based on population and level of services legally required by an IEP. Changes made from last year were due to the shifting of Heath students to Hawlemont and the increased population of Pre-School students at BSE, Sanderson and Hawlemont.

The district is legally obligated to support a SEPAC (Special Education Parent Advisory Committee). Over the past year the parents that had worked hard to initiate this group, have been unable to continue. We thank them for their support and for the best SEPAC the district has supported in many years. We continue to advocate for a SEPAC and offer parent workshops throughout the year.

The district continues to support a substantially separate program for students requiring the support of BCBA (Board Certified Behavior Analyst). The program is located at BSE and currently serves six students. When the program began, students spent more than 50% of their time within the program. Currently those students are in their mainstream classes more than 60% of the time.

The district initiated a Language Based Program at Colrain Elementary School this year. The LBP (Language Based Program), supports students with a primary disability in reading. They require a high level of support both in their general education classroom and direct reading instruction from a Special Education Teacher also certified as a Reading Specialist. The program is supported by Colrain's Special Education Teacher and a part time reading specialist.

To support students district-wide with a specific learning disability in reading; three teachers (Sanderson, Hawlemont, and BSE) took a summer intensive course and were certified in Orton Gillingham. Orton Gillingham is an instructional approach intended primarily for use with individuals who have difficulty with reading, spelling, and writing of the sort associated with dyslexia. It is most properly understood and practiced as an approach, not a method, program, system, or technique. In the hands of a well-trained and experienced instructor, it is a powerful tool of exceptional breadth, depth, and flexibility.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Leann Loomis, Director of Pupil Personnel Services

**2017 Annual Report of the Mary Lyon Foundation, Inc.**  
***Innovative Support of Local Education***

The Mary Lyon Foundation is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that provides innovative support for local education in the nine West County towns of Ashfield, Buckland, Charlemont, Colrain, Hawley, Heath, Plainfield, Rowe and Shelburne. Named in honor of Buckland-born educator Mary Lyon, who founded Mt. Holyoke College in 1837, the organization provides services and programs to enhance the quality of local education. We are generously supported by many individuals and businesses. Major support this year was provided by the United Way of Franklin County, the Myrtle Atkinson Foundation, People's United Community Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts. Our donors, grants and events help support the Harper Gerry Student Assistance Fund, scholarships, mini-grants, Gift Catalog for classroom supplies, annual Community Spelling Bee and a wide variety of pro-active programs.

We were privileged this year to host nationally acclaimed author Luis Urrea for the culmination of our Big Read program which featured his book *Into the Beautiful North*. Presentations were held at Greenfield Community College, Holyoke Community College and the Care Center. This program was funded by the National Endowment for the Arts.

Creative educational projects designed by teachers pre-K through grade 12 were awarded more than \$8,000 this year through the popular Mini-Grant program. Representatives from each school meet to select innovative, replicable, educational classroom projects. The Mini-Grant program is supported by the United Way and annual Community Spelling Bee which was held this year on November 16. Grand Champions were the Spelling Beans - Curtis Rich, Kathy Lytle and David Henry - sponsored by Shelburne Falls Coffee Roasters. Winner of the Best Dressed award was the Mohawk Team LED comprised of Lynn Dole, Emily Willis and Drue Johnson.

The student assistance program generated more than \$10,000 for needy children and their families for such basic necessities as eyeglasses, food vouchers, warm clothes and prescriptions. We received backpacks and school supplies from Blackmer Insurance Agency and the United Way and distributed bags of groceries through the United Way's *Supper for Six* program. This fall the Mary Lyon Foundation received slots for 50 children to participate in Warm the Children. An anonymous donor once again delivered two truckloads of Christmas trees that were decorated by the Mohawk Vocational Program and given to needy families, and the Betty Allen DAR chapter in Northampton contributed warm hats, mittens and scarves.

The Mary Lyon Foundation office is located at Mohawk Trail Regional School. Members of the Board of Directors are Marion Taylor (Past President), Sylvia Orcutt (President), Katherine McKay (Recording Secretary), Karen Fairbrother (Treasurer), Susan Schuman, Peter Stevens, Nancy Eisenstein, Brenda Parrella, Emily Willis and Mohawk Trail Regional School student representatives Violet Rawlings and London Summers. Longtime board members Sharon Hudson and Hugh Knox were recognized for their contributions to local education and given Honorary Lifetime Board of Directors status. Regular volunteers Sandy Gilbert and Rita Jaros are greatly appreciated! Gina Sieber is our Business Manager, and Co-Executive Directors are Sheila Damkoehler and Susan Samoriski.

### **2017 Annual Report Carl H. Nilman Scholarship Fund**

The Fund was established under the provisions of the will of Carl H. Nilman for the purpose of providing scholarships. Recipients shall reside in the School District and be graduates of the Mohawk Trail Regional High School who desire and are deemed worthy of post high school education or training and who are in need of financial assistance.



This year the Awards Subcommittee read 68 applications, 24 were from seniors and 44 were from graduates. \$34,150.00 was our allotment for scholarships which we used 30% for seniors and 70% for graduates. The Committee feels that seniors have multiple scholarship opportunities from other sources while graduates have fewer resources. 22 scholarships totaling \$10,000.00 were awarded to seniors (92% of applicants) and 32 scholarships totaling \$24,150.00 were given to graduates (73% of applicants). From 1991-2017 a total of \$944,125.00 has been awarded in scholarships. Mohawk seniors have received \$290,775.00 and \$653,350.00 has been awarded to graduates.

The same formula for determining what percentages of the fund should be distributed as scholarships, which had been established by the School Committee and the management firm of Bartholomew and Co., was used again this year. Once again the applications are available on line for the graduates and the seniors can pick up their application at Mohawk. Press releases were published in both the Independent and the Greenfield Recorder in March containing information about the Carl H. Nilman Scholarship Fund.

There are fifteen members on the Carl H. Nilman Scholarship Fund, one from each of the nine member towns in the district, three at large members appointed by the School Committee, plus a past School Committee, current School Committee member and the chairman of the School Committee Members from the nine towns are: Sheila Graves (Ashfield), Marion Scott (Buckland), Marge Porrovecchio (Charlemont), Michelle Hillman (Colrain), Gloria Fisher (Heath), Alice Parker (Hawley), Allen Irvine (Plainfield), Marion Taylor (Shelburne) and Laurie Pike (Rowe). Suzanne Crawford is the representative to the School Committee. Officers are: Marge Porrovecchio and Robin Hartnett, Co-Chairs. and Marion Scott is Secretary. Subcommittees are: Finance: Marion Taylor, Robin Hartnett and Eric Sumner. Scholarship: Marge Porrovecchio, Sheila Graves, Michelle Hillman, Marion Scott and Allen Irvine.

The Mohawk community owes a debt of gratitude to Mr. Nilman for his foresight in supporting higher education for the students of

the Mohawk Trail Regional High School. The committee members are honored to bring the wishes of his will to fruition. Students of any age who are graduates of Mohawk (and were living in the nine town area at the time of graduation) are encouraged to apply for scholarships to help meet their continuing education needs.. Please call the Guidance Office at Mohawk for information regarding requirements and deadlines.

Respectfully submitted, Marion E Scott, Secretary

