

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 Wednesdays from 9am – 12noon, and is also available at Selectboard meetings, or by appointment (339-4091).

Tax Collector:

Elizabeth Nichols holds weekly office hours on Thursdays 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



2018
Annual Report

Annual Report
By the Town Officers



◇ 2018 ◇

Town of
HAWLEY

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DEDICATION

SARAH J. "SALLY" RICH

December 20, 1941 to March 26, 2019

HAWLEY'S FIRST (AND ONLY) FEMALE SELECTMAN



In March of 2019, Hawley lost a great pillar in the community. The surviving Selectmen, therefore, see it only fitting and proper to dedicate the 2018 Town Report to our departed and dearly loved colleague, Sarah J. Rich, or "Sally," as she liked to be called. Sally lived in Hawley from the mid-1970s onwards, along with her husband David, whose family had somewhat older roots in the Town. During that time, she took on many roles serving the community, including multiple terms as Selectman; (she preferred the traditional term over "select-woman" or

“select-person”); a position she was very proudly the first and, thus far only, woman in the history of Hawley to hold. After a period of “retirement,” she returned to the Board in May of 2018. Her energy, experience, dedication, and lively optimism were traits we had hoped would invigorate our Board for some years to come and, even in the short period for which she held office, her wisdom and unreserved willingness to share her opinions had a major positive impact upon our discourse. Sally will be sorely missed.

At the time of her passing, she also served on the Hawlemont Regional School Committee; the Hawley Council on Aging; and the Hawley Conservation Commission. She devoted diligent attention to all of these roles. In times past, she was additionally a Registrar of Voters; the Polls Constable; the Representative to the Franklin Regional Council of Governments; a Representative to the Mohawk Municipal Advisory Committee; and even the Town Clerk, (serving briefly after having been elected in a write-in campaign instigated entirely without her prior knowledge by some influential personalities in Town). During Tropical Storm Irene, in 2011, she helped coordinate the response to the damage that occurred in West Hawley and was instrumental in helping to communicate critical information about that damage to outside authorities at a time when many lines of communication were compromised.

Though a traditionalist and conservative in many respects, Sally was actually ahead of her time and a true innovator on several key issues. For example, more than two decades ago, she accurately predicted that the MSBA-fueled initiative to build numerous new schools in the area was unsupported by population trends and was going to lead to a financially unsustainable situation. Her position conflicted with that of many local and State officials and even demographers at the time. Looking back from today, as rural areas deal with declining enrollments and some of those “brand new” schools close, she has been proven correct. She was also a strong voice for more equitable funding for rural school districts at a time before that became the hot-button issue it is today. A strong advocate of local control, she repeatedly fought successfully to maintain the independence of the Hawlemont Regional K-6 School District against multiple campaigns for K-12 regionalization. Though that may have seemed controversial to some in 1993, or even 2009, no one can argue that Hawlemont today, with its innovative

agricultural programming, is a major success, both educationally and fiscally. That success is likely to only grow as Heath takes steps towards ditching the K-12 model and joining the Hawlemont District in the next couple of years; another initiative Sally supported. Hers was an early voice sounding the alarm about the loss of tax dollars as a result of an ever larger percentage of land area in western Massachusetts communities becoming State owned and she advocated strongly for better payments in lieu of taxes (PILOT). Today, this is another hot-button issue. And, though she didn't invent the concept, she was also an early proponent of bringing in affordable broadband through innovative technologies, such as wireless, that were cheaper and less damage-prone than fiber optics.

Sally used to say "Hawley is a maverick town." The reference meant that we did things our own way. And, thanks in part to her activism, that statement was often true. When we look at the innovative new broadband system we are building, or the success of the Hawlemont School, that independent spirit should make us all proud.

Aside from public service, Sally was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, and friend. She was married to her husband David for 56 years and she set the example that got her grandson Hussain, (one of the Selectmen writing this dedication), involved in politics, bringing him to Town meetings when he was four years old. One of her sayings was, "if you don't vote, you don't have a right to complain about what happened." She was a prolific political activist, deeply involved in a number of regional, state, and national level campaigns and on a first name basis with quite a few State and Federal elected officials. At different times, she worked at the phone company, the law library, and in marketing and sales promotion. She was a fun loving woman who played golf, went bowling, and enjoyed gardening and spending time with her horse. She was a strong woman who could run a bulldozer or power saw as readily as she could address a room full of people on an important matter of public policy. She was a kind hearted and generous soul who baked for her friends and neighbors, volunteered her time to causes like the Council on Aging, and donated to a number of charities including ones helping veterans, Native American children, the poor, and those afflicted with chronic illnesses. She was a model of integrity and civility, admired and respected even by those with whom she occasionally disagreed. In short, she was an inspiration to us all.

We cannot ever replace Sally, nor would we want to. She was one of a kind; a truly special person. What we can do is to keep

ourselves and Hawley moving forward in a positive direction, looking to her example and wisdom as a guiding light. We are thankful for the time we had with Sally Rich. May God bless her and give her peace.



In the aftermath of Hurricane Irene (August 2011), Sarah “Sally” Rich stands with other officials and participants in Hawley’s response. Left to Right: Richard “Dick” Desmarais; Sally Rich; Lisa Turner; Richie Gould; Darwin Clark; Hussain Hamdan.

TOWN OFFICIALS – ELECTED

Selectmen/Board of Health (3-year term)		
	Hussain Hamdan, Chair	Term expires 2019
	Robert Root	Term expires 2020
	Sarah J. Rich	Term expires 2021
Town Clerk (3-year term)		
	Pamela Shrimpton	Term expires 2020
Assessors (3-year term)		
	Rick Kean, Chair	Term expires 2020
	Ed Brady	Term expires 2019
	Eugene Lavalley	Term expires 2021
Hawlemont School Committee (3-year term)		
	Courtney Hoyt	Term expires 2021
	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 2021
	(vacant) Peggy Travers served through 12/2018.	Term expires 2020
Non-Parent Member LEC for Hawlemont District (3-year term)		
	Suzanne Crawford	Term expires 2019
Moderator		
	Kirby (“Lark”) Thwing	Term expires 2019
Auditor		
	Carla Clark	Term expires 2019

**BOARDS AND COMMITTEES
APPOINTED BY SELECTMEN**

(Unless otherwise indicated, terms are for one year)

Planning Board (5-year term)

Henry Eggert, Chair	Term expires 2020
Lloyd Crawford	Term expires 2022
Kathryn Sternstein	Term expires 2019
Paul Norcross	Term expires 2021
Charles Cutler	Term expires 2023

Board of Appeals (Selectboard – 3 year term)

(vacant)	Term expires 2019
(vacant)	Term expires 2020
(vacant)	Term expires 2021

Conservation Commission (3-year term)

Lloyd Crawford, Chair	Term expires 2021
Robert Taylor	Term expires 2019
Williams Cosby	Term expires 2021
Sally Rich	Term expires 2020
Robert Root	Term expires 2019

Historical Commission (3-year term)

Pamela Shrimpton, Chair	Term expires 2020
Lark Thwing	Term expires 2021
Suzy Groden	Term expires 2020
John Sears	Term expires 2019
Bob Root	Term expires 2019

Registrar of Voters (term expires March 31)

Pamela Shrimpton	Daniel Hoyt
Melanie Poudrier	John Sears
Margaret Eggert	

Election Officers (term expires August 31)

Gloria Decker	Christine Hicks
Melanie Poudrier	Tammy Schofield
Elvira Scott	Juanita Clark
Mary Gelinis	Jerome Sternstein

Trina Sternstein
Lorraine McCarthy
Anne Hamilton-Kean
Susan Olsen
Paul Norcross
Jane Grant

Beth Thwing
Lark Thwing
CourtneyAnn Hoyt
Margaret Eggert
Suzy Groden

Council on Aging

Ann Falwell
Sally Rich
Elaine Thomson

Term expires 2019
Term expires 2019
Term expires 2019

Burial Agent

Pamela Shrimpton

Term expires 2019

Measurer of Wood and Surveyor of Lumber

Gregory Cox

Term expires 2019

Agricultural Commission (3-year term)

(vacant)
Peter Mitchell
(vacant)

Term expires 2019
Term expires 2020
Term expires 2021

Communications Committee

Lark Thwing, Chair
Hussain Hamdan
Pamela Shrimpton

Rick Kean
Connie Emmett
Craig Shrimpton

Personnel Committee

Lark 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 2023
Carla Clark	Term expires 2019
Jane Grant	Term expires 2021
Tammy Schofield	Term expires 2022

Town of Hawley

ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION WARRANT

MAY 6, 2019

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 sixth day of May, 2019.

The following officers are to be elected 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)
- Non-Parent Member LEC/Hawlemont School District (3 year term).
- 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 sixteenth day of April, 2019.

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT
MAY 13, 2019**

There follows a list of business to come before the Annual Town Meeting, May 13, 2019. 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 thirteenth day of May, 2019 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	1,900.00
Selectboard members (2)	1,700.00
Town Clerk	8,755.00
Chairman of Assessors	1,380.00
Assessors members (2)	1,175.00
Auditor	120.00
Moderator	120.00

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 \$1,035,378.54.
 (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).

	Dept	Acct Name	
1	Moderator		120.00
2		Salaries & wages	120.00
3	Board of Selectmen		26,700.00
4		Salaries & wages	20,300.00
5		Expenses	3,000.00
6		Drug & Alcohol testing	500.00
7		Legal Service	1,000.00
8		Town Reports	1,400.00
9		Board of Health expenses	500.00
10	Finance Committee		150.00
11		Expenses	150.00
12	Town Auditor		120.00
13		Salaries & wages	120.00
14	Board of Assessors		10,680.00
15		Salaries & wages	3,730.00
16		Expenses	6,950.00
17	Treasurer/Financial Administrator		41,900.00
18		Salaries & wages	40,000.00
19		Expenses	1,900.00
20	Collector		8,777.54
21		Salaries & wages	6,202.54
22		Expenses	2,575.00
23	Technology/Internet		3,900.00
24		Expenses	3,900.00

25	Town Clerk	11,255.00
26	Salaries & wages	10,255.00
27	Expenses	1,000.00
28	Town Buildings	13,005.00
29	Purchased Services	1,000.00
30	Repairs & Maintenance	0.00
31	Expenses	12,005.00
32	Employee Benefits	64,536.00
33	Insurance	30,000.00
34	Retirement	29,886.00
35	Accrued sick pay	4,650.00
36	Police Department	1,450.00
37	Salaries & wages	1,200.00
38	Expenses	250.00
39	Fire Department	29,725.00
40	Salaries & wages	7,575.00
41	Purchased Services	3,000.00
42	Repairs & Maintenance	4,400.00
43	Expenses	9,550.00
44	EMS	3,000.00
45	Capital outlay	2,200.00
46	Emergency Mgmt	1,300.00
47	Salaries & wages	1,050.00
48	Purchased Services	150.00
49	Expenses	100.00
50	Franklin Regional Council of Govts	10,756.00
51	FRCOG Assessments	10,756.00
52	School - Vocational	45,000.00
53	Transportation	10,000.00
54	Tuition	35,000.00

55	School - Hawlemont		250,385.00
56	Operating assessment	341,525.00	
57	Capital outlay	8,860.00	
58	School - MTRSD		198,244.00
59	Operating assessment	193,193.00	
60	Capital outlay	5,051.00	
61	DPW - Highway		264,900.00
62	Salaries & wages	140,000.00	
63	Repairs & Maintenance	45,000.00	
64	DPW Equipment Purchase	500.00	
65	Expenses - Roads	70,000.00	
66	Expenses - Garage	7,900.00	
67	Care of Cemeteries	1,500.00	
68	Solid Waste		20,200.00
69	Ashfield Transfer Station	14,400.00	
70	Frank. Cty Solid Waste Mgt Dist	1,500.00	
71	Tri-Town Landfill Maintenance	4,300.00	
72	Animal Inspector		250.00
73	Expenses	250.00	
74	Veterans Services		2,850.00
75	District assessment	703.42	
76	Veterans Benefits/expenses	2,100.00	
77	Boards, Committees		1,825.00
78	Conservation Comm. Expenses	125.00	
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	

83	Unclassified	27,350.00
84	Prop & Liab insurance	19,000.00
85	Surety bonds	1,000.00
86	Massachusetts unemployment	350.00
87	FICA/Medicare	7,000.00
88	TOTAL	1,035,378.54

Article 4: To see if the Town will vote to accept \$175,120 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 \$1,500 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 \$600 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 FY20 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 \$15,000 from Free Cash to the Highway Department Stabilization Fund, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 10: To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$15,000 from Free Cash to the General Stabilization Fund, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 11: 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, 2019 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 12: To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum from the FY19 Vocational Tuition or Transportation accounts into the Vocational Education Stabilization Fund, 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 \$35,000 to the FY19 Snow & Ice (Snow Roads) accounts, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 14: To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40, section 57 allowing for the denial, revocation or suspension of a building permit or any local license or permit for a person, corporation or business enterprise for non-payment or delinquent payment of taxes or other municipal charges, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 15: To see if the Town will vote to adopt the following bylaw for the “Revocation or Suspension of Local Licenses”, or take any other action in relation thereto:

- (a) The Tax Collector or other municipal official responsible for records of all municipal taxes, assessments, betterments and other municipal charges, hereinafter referred to as the Tax Collector, shall annually and may periodically furnish to each department, board, commission or division, hereinafter referred to as the Licensing Authority, that issues licenses or permits including renewals and transfers, a list of any person, corporation, or business enterprise, hereinafter referred to as the Party, that has neglected or refused to pay any local taxes, fees, assessments, betterments or other municipal charges for not less

than a six month period, and that such Party has not filed in good faith a pending application for an abatement of such tax or has a pending petition before the appellate tax board.

- (b) The Licensing Authority shall deny, revoke or suspend any license or permit, including renewals and transfers of any party whose name appears on said list furnished to the licensing authority from the Tax Collector; provided, however, that written notice is given to the Party and the Tax Collector, as required by applicable provisions of law, and the Party is given a hearing, to be held not earlier than fourteen days after said notice. Said list shall be prima facie evidence for denial, revocation or suspension of said license or permit to any Party. The Tax Collector shall have the right to intervene in any hearing conducted with respect to such license denial, revocation or suspension. Any findings made by the Licensing Authority with respect to such license denial, revocation or suspension shall be made only for the purposes of such proceeding and shall not be relevant to or introduced in any other proceeding at law, except for any appeal from such license denial, revocation or suspension. Any license or permit denied, suspended or revoked under this section shall not be issued or renewed until the Licensing Authority receives a certificate issued by the Tax Collector that the Party is in good standing with respect to any and all local taxes, fees, assessments, betterments or other municipal charges payable to the municipality as of the date of issuance of said certificate.
- (c) Any Party shall be given an opportunity to enter into a payment agreement with the Tax Collector, thereby allowing the Licensing Authority to issue a certificate indicating said limitations to the license or permit and the validity of said license shall be conditioned upon the satisfactory compliance with said agreement. Failure to comply with said agreement shall

be grounds for the suspension or revocation of said license or permit; provided, however, that the holder be given notice and a hearing as required by applicable provisions of law.

- (d) The Board of Selectmen may waive such denial, suspension or revocation if it finds there is no direct or indirect business interest by the property owner, its officers or stockholders, if any, or members of his immediate family, as defined in section one of chapter two hundred and sixty-eight A in the business or activity conducted in or on said property.
- (e) This section shall not apply to the following licenses and permits granted under the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts: Open burning; section thirteen of chapter forty-eight; bicycle permits; section eleven A of Chapter eighty-five; sales of articles for charitable purposes; section thirty-three of chapter one hundred and one; children work permits; section sixty-nine of chapter one hundred and forty-nine; clubs, associations dispensing food or beverage license; section twenty-one E of chapter one hundred and forty; dog licenses; section one hundred and thirty-seven of chapter one hundred and forty; fishing, hunting, trapping licenses; section twelve of chapter one hundred and thirty-one; marriage licenses; section twenty-eight of chapter two hundred and seven; and theatrical events, public exhibition permits; section one hundred and eighty-one of chapter one hundred and forty.

Article 16: To transact any other business that legally may come before the Town Meeting.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Town of Hawley

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES

MAY 14, 2018

The meeting was convened at 7:00 p.m. by Moderator Lark Thwing. 29 registered voters were present.

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 fourteenth day of May, 2018 at seven o'clock in the evening to act on the following articles,

The following officers were elected by ballot on Monday, the first day of May, 2018:

Selectman for three years:	Sarah Rich
Moderator for one year:	Lark Thwing
Auditor for one year:	Carla Clark
Assessor for three years:	Eugene LaValley
Rep K-12 Committee for three years:	Suzanne Crawford
Rep K-12 Committee for two years:	Peggy Travers
Hawlemont School Committee for three years:	CourtneyAnn Hoyt

Suzanne Crawford made a motion to move to Articles 16 through 21 which refer to School issues so that School Superintendent Michael Buoniconti can address the articles.

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. **After an explanation by Michael Buoniconti, the article was approved unanimously.**

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. **Approved unanimously.**

Article 18: To see if the Town will vote to allow the Mohawk Trail Regional School District to borrow a sum of money (cost to be borne by the Towns of Buckland and Shelburne) 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. **Suzanne Crawford moved to pass over the article. Approved unanimously.**

Article 19: To see if the Town will vote to accept the following amendments to the Mohawk Trail Regional Agreement to restructure the District's tuition relationship with the Town of Rowe (note: the amendments are to be effective July 1, 2018). *Full text available at the Hawley Town Office.* **Michael Buoniconti explained the tuition calculations detailed in the agreement, which does not reflect the actual cost. Approved unanimously.**

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 Pupil transportation. *Full text available at the Hawley Town Office.* **Michael Buoniconti explained that four towns, including Hawley, do not belong to the Vocational School. Approved unanimously.**

Article 21: To see if the Town will vote to accept the following amendments to the Mohawk Trail Regional School Agreement to permit the integration of Mohawk District 6th grade students into the Mohawk Middle School. *Full text available at the Hawley Town Office.* **Article passed over.**

The meeting returned to Article 1.

Article 1: To act on the reports of the Town Officers, or take any other action relative thereto. **Per Virginia, corrections made to the Town Report: Treasurer's Report was reprinted to correct the inconsistent formatting in the Town Report. The Finance Committee report on page 66 of the Town Report showed a tax rate of \$15.00, whereas the tax rate is actually \$15.50. Approved unanimously.**

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.

Salaries to be voted on are as follows:

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

Approved unanimously.

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).

	Dept	Acct Name	
1	Moderator		118.50
2		Salaries & wages	118.50
3	Board of Selectmen		65,300.00
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
10	Finance Committee		150.00
11		Expenses	150.00
12	Town Auditor		118.50
13		Salaries & wages	118.50
14	Board of Assessors		10,125.00

15	Salaries & wages	3,605.00
16	Expenses	6,520.00
17	Treasurer	1,885.00
18	Salaries & wages	0.00
19	Expenses	1,885.00
20	Collector	8,581.88
21	Salaries & wages	6,021.88
22	Expenses	2,560.00
23	Technology/Internet	3,500.00
24	Expenses	3,500.00
25	Town Clerk	12,055.00
26	Salaries & wages	10,055.00
27	Expenses	2,000.00
28	Town Buildings	13,505.00
29	Purchased Services	1,000.00
30	Repairs & Maintenance	0.00
31	Expenses	12,505.00
32	Employee Benefits	56,138.00
33	Insurance	28,500.00
34	Retirement	27,638.00
35	Accrued sick pay	3,500.00
36	Police Department	1,250.00
37	Salaries & wages	1,000.00
38	Expenses	250.00
39	Fire Department	25,500.00
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

46	Emergency Mgmt	1,250.00
47	Salaries & wages	1,000.00
48	Purchased Services	150.00
49	Expenses	100.00
50	Franklin Regional Council of Govts	10,957.00
51	FRCOG Assessments	10,957.00
52	School - Vocational	45,000.00
53	Transportation	10,000.00
54	Tuition	35,000.00
55	School - Hawlemont	246,043.00
56	Operating assessment	236,751.00
57	Capital outlay	9,292.00
58	School - MTRSD	181,414.00
59	Operating assessment	176,253.00
60	Capital outlay	5,161.00
61	DPW - Highway	243,900.00
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
68	Solid Waste	20,400.00
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
72	Animal Inspector	500.00
73	Expenses	500.00
74	Veterans Services	2,703.42
75	District assessment	703.42
76	Veterans Benefits	2,000.00

77	Boards, Committees	1,800.00
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
83	Unclassified	25,000.00
84	Prop & Liab insurance	17,000.00
85	Surety bonds	1,000.00
86	Massachusetts unemployment	300.00
87	FICA/Medicare	6,700.00
88	TOTAL	977,194.30

Motion was made to vote on the article in its entirety. 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 Massachusetts Department of Transportation. **Approved unanimously.**

Article 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000 for the FY20 Assessors Revaluation. **Until last year, the assessors re-evaluated every three years. The State changed this to every five years. It was suggested to appropriate \$1000 each year instead of every few years. Approved unanimously.**

Article 6: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$2,000 for the Reserve Fund. **Approved unanimously.**

Article 7: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$1,200 for Interest Expenses. **Approved unanimously.**

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. **Approved unanimously.**

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. **Greg explained that we**

would put money into the stabilization fund to replace the 1981 pumper in East Hawley. Approved unanimously.

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. **Approved unanimously.**

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. **Article passed over.**

Article 12: To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum from Free Cash to the FY18 Snow & Ice (Snow Roads) accounts. **Per Virginia Gabert: \$26,213.70. Approved unanimously.**

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. **Approved unanimously.**

Article 14: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$2,622 to the FY18 Employee Health Insurance account. **Approved unanimously.**

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.

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. **Approved unanimously.**

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

Per Virginia, we have received composters, recycling bins and reusable grocery bags which are available to Hawley residents.

Per Lark, there will be a Special Town Meeting on June 21st. We will vote to approve temporary funding of broadband, to be reimbursed by MBI. The total amount will be \$520,000. The wireless plan would cost the town no additional money. There will be a meeting at the Town Hall on May 24th at 6 pm where a second provider will present their tower options.

Per Lark, he attended a FRCOG meeting regarding the 2020 census which is extra important since funds from the government are based on the census data.

Per Lark, Tinky Weisblat will be holding a Rhubarb Day on May 26th at her home. The Selectboard proclaimed May 26, 2018 Rhubarb Day in Hawley.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm.

**Respectfully submitted,
Pamela Shrimpton
Hawley Town Clerk**

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Town of Hawley
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES
MAY 21, 2018**

The meeting was convened at 7:00 pm by Moderator Lark Thwing. 32 registered voters were present.

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 twenty-first day of May, 2018** at seven o'clock in the evening to act on the following articles,

Hussain Hamdan presented changes to the wording of the Articles. See new wording directly below (past wording following new wording). The Communications Committee is in the process of exploring a new potential vendor, hence the updated wording.

FLOOR AMENDMENTS

**Amendments proposed by Hussain A. Hamdan
Selectman/Member Communications Committee**

ARTICLE 1 (AS AMENDED):

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to pursue the installation of a wireless high speed Internet system to serve Hawley residents, provided said project is approved for funding by the Massachusetts Broadband Institute, or any other agency with valid jurisdiction. **Motion to accept amended article approved unanimously. Article approved unanimously.**

ARTICLE 2 (AS AMENDED):

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer with the approval of the Selectmen, to borrow up to \$495,000 in anticipation of reimbursement from Massachusetts Broadband Institute, or another agency, for the installation of a wireless high speed Internet system in

accordance with the provisions of the General Laws Chapter 44 Section 4 and to issue a note or notes payable within one year and to renew any note or notes as may be given for a period of less than one year, in accordance with the provisions of the General Laws Chapter 44 Section 17; however, said funds shall not be borrowed until such time as (1) the Town receives written assurances from the Massachusetts Broadband Institute, and or any other agency with valid jurisdiction, that the project has been approved for State funding in the amount borrowed or greater and that the Town will in fact be reimbursed accordingly upon successful completion of the project, and (2) the Town receives evidence that any vendor or vendors to be contracted with are bonded for the full amount(s) the Town will pay to them or greater in case the project is not successfully completed. **Mark Mizula proposed holding an additional meeting since these amendments were not made public until tonight and since some people work nights. Hussain advised that the funds will not affect the tax base. Motion to accept amended article approved unanimously. Article approved unanimously.**

ARTICLE 3 (AS AMENDED):

To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$25,000 from the General Stabilization Fund to fund the balance of the installation of a wireless high speed Internet system; such funds to be returned to the General Stabilization Fund upon receipt of reimbursement from Massachusetts Broadband Institute, or another agency. **Jane Grant asked why the amount in the past has been more than \$25,000. It was explained that \$520,000 would come from the state coffers and the amount may be less but would not be more. Motion to accept amended article approved unanimously. Article approved unanimously.**

ORIGINAL ARTICLES prior to amendments,

Article 1: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to pursue the installation of a wireless high speed Internet system to serve Hawley residents, in accordance with the proposal submitted earlier this year to the Town and the Massachusetts Broadband Institute by Wi Valley of Keene, New Hampshire, (*a copy of which proposal is available on request at the Town Office*), provided that said project is approved for funding by the Massachusetts Broadband Institute.

Article 2: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer with the approval of the Selectmen, to borrow up to \$495,000 in

anticipation of reimbursement from Massachusetts Broadband Institute for the installation of a wireless high speed Internet system in accordance with the provisions of the General Laws Chapter 44 section 4 and to issue a note or notes payable within one year and to renew any note or notes as may be given for a period of less than one year, in accordance with M.G.L Chapter 44 section 17; however, said funds shall not be borrowed until such time as the Town receives written assurances from the Massachusetts Broadband Institute, and or any other agency with valid jurisdiction, that the project has been approved for State funding in the amount borrowed or greater and that the Town will in fact be reimbursed accordingly upon successful completion of the project.

Article 3: To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$25,000 from the General Stabilization Fund to fund the balance of the installation of a wireless high speed Internet system; such funds to be returned to the General Stabilization Fund upon receipt of reimbursement from the Massachusetts Broadband Institute.

Article 4: To transact any other business that legally may come before the Town Meeting.

There being no additional business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

**Respectfully submitted,
Pamela Shrimpton
Town Clerk**

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Town of Hawley
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 19, 2018**

The meeting was convened by Lark Thwing at 7:00 p.m. 11 registered voters were present.

ARTICLE 1: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$3,000 for FY19 Emergency Medical Services expenses. **Bob Root asked if the cost is for Michael Poirier and Virginia advised that it is for the cost of reformatting some items which were not included in the total previously. Passed unanimously.**

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$3,500 to cover accrued sick pay. **Cost is in the budget but was not previously calculated into the totals. Passed unanimously.**

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$200 for FY19 Website and Domain Hosting expenses. **Cost is in the budget but was not previously calculated into the totals. Passed unanimously.**

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or otherwise provide a sum or sums to cover engineering expenses for the repair of a damaged portion of Rte 8A near Pudding Hollow Road. **Per Virginia, the expenses will total \$28,100 to be taken out of free cash. Passed unanimously.**

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or otherwise provide a sum or sums to cover engineering expenses for the replacement of a culvert under Rte 8A near Sears Road. **The amount is \$18,720 to be taken out of free cash. Passed unanimously.**

There being no other business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

**Respectfully submitted,
Pamela Shrimpton
Town Clerk**



Lt. Governor Karen Polito (center) and Nathaniel Thomas (MassWorks Project Manager, right), with Will Cosby of Hawley (Green Communities Co-coordinator, far right) and Justin Littlewood, Peter Saladino, and Tyler Hunter (Franklin County Technical School Electrical Program students, far left). Photo courtesy of Pamela Shrimpton

TREASURER’S REPORT FY18

Our new budget setting process is already underway for FY20 to provide more time for Finance Committee and Selectboard review before coming before the voters at Annual Town Meeting. An effort is being made to continue to minimize the tax burden while providing the services needed in town and keeping up with the changing times.

Financial reports on the next pages provide the following information:

- **FY19 Budget Overview**: An overview of FY18 and FY19 approved budgets – where the money is coming from and where it will be going.

- FY19 Budget: Shows the actual expenditures from FY17 and FY18 and approved appropriations for FY19 by Department and account category, as well as any balances carried from FY18.
- Accounting of Free Cash FY18: 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.
- FY18 Balance Sheet.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Virginia Gabert, Treasurer/Financial Administrator

FY19 BUDGET OVERVIEW

<u>Revenues</u>	FY18 Approved Budget	FY19 Approved Budget
Property Tax Levy	805,117	824,729
State Aid	138,695	127,270
Local Receipts	45,400	43,400
Free Cash	70,493	149,586
Chapter 90	177,126	177,126
	1,236,831	1,322,111
 <u>Appropriations</u>		
Raise & Appropriate		
Article 3 - Omnibus	975,898	981,894
Article 4 - Ch 90	177,126	177,126
Article 5 – Reval.	1,000	1,000
Article 6 - Audit	2,000	0
	1,156,024	1,160,020
Free Cash		
Art. 7 - Reserve	2,000	2,000

Art. 8 - Interest	1,800	1,200
Art. 9 - Truck loan	30,000	30,000
Hwy Equip Purchase	6,500	0
Animal Inspector exp	500	0
Transfer to Fire Stabilization	0	40,000
Current FY Snow Over	29,693	26,214
Current FY Other Over	0	3,352
Firefighter Stipends (addn)	0	2,000
Hwy Projects Engineering	0	46,820
	70,493	151,586
Other amounts to be raised		
*Cherry sht charge/offset	2,175	2,243
**Allowance for overlay	8,139	8,262
(Amt certified for Tax Title)	0	0
	10,314	10,505
	1,236,831	1,322,111
difference (revenue - approp.)	0	0

*What are Cherry Sheet charges/offsets? State assessments (air pollution; RMV non-renewal surcharge; regional transit), and offset is for State Aid to Public Libraries (SAPL) - according to Chapter 46, Acts of 2015, this amount 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 amounts on the Cherry Sheets are estimates, and are still being worked on, but these are the most recent figures.

**What is 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.

FY19 BUDGET

Department Acct Name	FY17 Expended	FY18 Expended	FY19 Appropriated	FY18 Bal. Forward
Moderator				
Salaries & wages	118.50	118.50	118.50	
Board of Selectmen		20,604.94	22,601.71	26,600.00
Salaries & wages	16,017.50	17,972.55	19,650.00	
Expenses	1,725.69	1,905.01	2,550.00	
Drug & Alcohol testing	285.00	457.00	500.00	
Legal Service	1,074.75	562.50	2,000.00	
Town Reports	1,282.00	1,254.65	1,400.00	
Board of Health expenses	220.00	450.00	500.00	
Finance Committee		81.00	85.00	150.00
Expenses	81.00	85.00	150.00	
Town Auditor				
Salaries & wages	118.50	118.50	118.50	
Board of Assessors	7,678.91	7,703.66	10,125.00	
Salaries & wages	3,605.00	3,605.00	3,605.00	
Expenses	4,073.91	4,098.66	6,520.00	
Treasurer/Financial Admin.	33,061.47	38,938.57	40,585.00	
Salaries & wages	31,571.57	37,494.60	38,700.00	
Expenses	1,489.90	1,443.97	1,885.00	
Collector	7,596.95	8,144.51	8,581.88	
Salaries & wages	5,700.00	5,875.00	6,021.88	
Expenses	1,896.95	2,269.51	2,560.00	
Technology/Internet	2,172.60	2,172.60	8,180.17	
Expenses	2,172.60	2,172.60	8,180.17	4,480.17
Town Clerk	10,942.47	9,970.35	12,055.00	
Salaries & wages	10,356.45	9,398.50	10,055.00	
Expenses	586.02	571.85	2,000.00	
Town Buildings	12,235.82	13,465.05	13,505.00	
Purchased Services	840.00	735.00	1,000.00	
Repairs & Maintenance	325.26			
Expenses	11,070.56	12,730.05	12,505.00	

Department Acct Name	FY17 Expended	FY18 Expended	FY19 Appropriated	FY18 Bal. Forward
Employee Benefits	54,455.77	52,525.45	69,323.92	
Insurance	22,138.77	28,043.45	28,500.00	
Retirement	22,037.00	24,482.00	27,638.00	
Sick Pay(accrued sick pay)	10,280.00	0.00	13,185.92	8,585.92
Police	999.00	1,000.00	1,250.00	
Salaries & wages	999.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	
Expenses			250.00	
Fire	20,462.32	22,254.83	30,500.00	
Salaries & wages	4,912.00	4,744.00	7,250.00	
Purchased Services	2,452.38	2,902.14	3,000.00	
Repairs & Maintenance	1,944.43	3,706.41	4,400.00	
Expenses	8,096.12	8,183.70	7,650.00	
EMS	1,372.39	1,719.06	3,000.00	
Capital outlay	1,685.00	999.52	5,200.00	
Emergency Mgmt	1,350.00	1,290.90	1,250.00	
Salaries & wages	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	
Purchased Services	150.00	150.00	150.00	
Expenses	200.00	140.90	100.00	
Fr Reg Co of Govts	10,101.00	10,654.00	10,957.00	
FRCOG Assessments	10,101.00	10,654.00	10,957.00	
School - Vocational	40,193.18	24,629.66	45,000.00	
Transportation	6,193.18	7,901.66	10,000.00	
Tuition	34,000.00	16,728.00	35,000.00	
School – Hawlemont	244,416.00	263,677.00	246,043.00	
Operating assessment	243,876.00	254,195.00	236,751.00	
Capital outlay	540.00	9,482.00	9,292.00	
School - MTRSD	154,716.00	173,801.00	181,414.00	
Operating assessment	152,223.00	169,248.00	176,253.00	
Capital outlay	2,493.00	4,553.00	5,161.00	

Department Acct Name	FY17 Expended	FY18 Expended	FY19 Appropriated	FY18 Bal. Forward
DPW - Highway	235,043.96	264,259.40	250,800.00	
Salaries & wages	138,079.76	156,269.98	137,100.00	
Repairs & Maintenance	31,200.82	36,897.91	42,000.00	
DPW Equipment Purchase	6,351.95	10,000.00	500.00	
Hwy Equip purchase	5,301.95	10,000.00	0.00	
Expenses - Roads	57,455.82	58,864.94	60,000.00	
Expenses - Garage	828.11	1,099.07	9,700.00	
Care of Cemeteries	1,127.50	1,127.50	1,500.00	
Solid Waste	20,058.23	19,696.33	20,400.00	
Expenses	20,058.23	19,696.33	20,400.00	
Animal Inspector	84.83	0.00	500.00	
Expenses	84.83	0.00	500.00	
Veterans Services	548.79	714.66	2,703.42	
District assessment	548.79	714.66	703.42	
Veterans Benefits			2,000.00	
Veterans expenses				
Boards, Committees..	1,883.42	1,680.63	1,800.00	
Conservation Comm	85.00	100.00	100.00	
Planning Board		0.00	50.00	
Zoning Bd of Appeals		0.00	50.00	
Council on Aging grant match	598.42	380.63	400.00	
Tyler Memorial Library	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,200.00	
Unclassified	23,906.00	22,878.14	25,000.00	
Prop & Liab insurance	16,182.00	15,868.00	17,000.00	
Surety bonds	898.57	870.00	1,000.00	
Mass. unemployment	282.03	227.94	300.00	
FICA/Medicare	6,543.40	5,912.20	6,700.00	
TOTAL	902,829.66	962,380.45	1,006,960.39	
Separate articles:				
Raise & Appropriate	8,658.71	13,446.24	38,553.83	
Continuing Ed	986.05	145.00	2,409.83	2,409.83
Independent Audit	0.00	0.00	14,840.00	14,840.00
Assessors Reval	0.00	2,500.00	2,289.73	1,289.73

Department Acct Name	FY17 Expended	FY18 Expended	FY19 Appropriated	FY18 Bal. Forward
Tax Title & Forclosure	7,347.40	4,397.14	13,026.86	13,026.86
Town Bldg Maint & Renov	325.26	6,404.10	5,987.41	5,987.41
Chapter 90			534,399.00	357,273.00
Free Cash	485,443.00	32,211.86	300,020.00	
Reserve		411.86	2,000.00	
Debt Service	485,443.00	31,800.00	31,200.00	
Transfer to Fire Stabilization			40,000.00	
Hwy Repair project			46,820.00	
Hwy Dept Truck replacement			180,000.00	
Total Appropriations	1,396,931.37	1,008,038.55	1,879,933.22	

ACCOUNTING OF FREE CASH FY2018

FREE CASH CERTIFIED AS OF 7/1/2017		204,975.00
5/14/2018 ATM		
Reserve Fund	2,000.00	
Interest Expense	1,200.00	
Truck loan payment	30,000.00	
Fire Dept Stabilization	40,000.00	
FY18 Snow & Ice	26,213.70	
FY18 Workers Comp	730.00	
FY18 Health Insurance	2,622.00	
TOTAL ATM TRANSFERS		102,765.70
6/19/18 STM		
Engineering - 8A/PH Rd	28,100.00	
Engineering - 8A/Sears Rd	18,720.00	
TOTAL STM TRANSFERS		46,820.00
Balance of Free Cash as of 6/30/18		55,389.30

SURPLUS REVENUE

BALANCE AS OF 7/1/2017		221,346.25
7/3/2017	Richardson tax title disclaimed	39.38
7/3/2017	Thompson tax title disclaimed	6.30
7/13/2017	Tax title pmt	100.63
8/7/2017	Tax title pmt	193.69
9/6/2017	Tax title pmt	156.88
9/6/2017	Tax title pmt	221.03
10/12/2017	Tax title pmt	223.97
11/9/2017	post abatement MVE excise collected from 2011	16.67
11/30/2017	post abatement MVE excise collected from 2011	26.25
5/10/2018	sale of surplus property (lights)	10.00
5/10/2018	Hoyt May tax title pmt	184.65
5/14/2018	Free cash transfers for FY18 budget clean up (on FY19 ATM)	-29,565.70
5/14/2018	FC transfers for FY19 budget	-73,200.00
5/31/2018	post abatement mve collected	5.00
6/14/2018	Accounts added to tax title	-10,095.88
6/19/2018	Free cash used for FY19 budget engineering exp	-46,820.00
6/28/2018	Tax title pmt	153.06
6/29/2018	FY17 and CY17 tailings closed to Surplus Revenue	73.30
6/30/2018	Adj. for minor difference between estimated and actual commitment	4.08
6/30/2018	Receipts in excess of budget	- 913.86
6/30/2018	Balance in appropriation accts	102,702.89
6/30/2018	Library offset	2,176.00
6/30/2018	correction to Gen Hwys encumbered balance from FY17	- 4,375.00
Balance as of 6/30/2018		162,669.59

**TREASURER'S REVENUES & ACCOUNT BALANCES
REPORT
7/1/2017 – 6/30/2018**

BALANCE AS OF 7/1/17	833,620
RECEIPTS:	
TAX COLLECTIONS:	
Real Estate Taxes	745,947
Personal Property Taxes	33,294
Motor Vehicle Taxes	36,274
In Lieu of Taxes	1,000
Tax Title payments	1,234
Penalties & Interest on Taxes	4,080
Penalties & Interest on Tax Titles	2,681
Other tax collection	48
PERMITS/FEES/LICENSES:	
Tax Collector Fees	1,636
Deputy Collector Fees	676
Mark/Dup. Bill Fees	385
Town Clerk Fees	275
Police Department Fees	2,025
Copies/Fax	19
Zipline Permit	500
Trash Bags/Permits	3,148
Fire Department Permits	145
Dog Licenses & Late Fees	495
Class III Permit	50
WPA Fees	800
Planning Board Filing Fees	140
OTHER:	
Bank Charges reimbursed	35
Insurance proceeds	1,012
Sale of Cemetery Lots	1,600
Refunds	1,688
Interest on Accounts	935
Trust Fund Interest	583
Retiree Health Insurance	3,629

Proceeds from Sale of Surplus	10
Tailings	73

GRANTS:

Fire Dept Grants (EMPG)	2,200
COA Grant	5,000
DEP Recycling Grant	497
HMPG – Bank Stabilization	165,634
MassWorks – Bank Stabilization	86,248
DOER – Green Community	102,690
Rebates	2,914

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS:

Chapter 70	26,465
Exemptions (Veterans/Blind/Elderly)	506
Unrestricted General Aid	43,233
SAPL 12 (Library)	1,814
State Land	63,452
Chp. 90 Reimbursement	0
Registry of Motor Vehicles	50
School Transportation	354
TOTAL RECEIPTS:	1,345,455

BALANCE PLUS RECEIPTS:	2,179,075
LESS SELECTMEN'S WARRANTS:	1,347,871
	831,237

BANK ACCOUNT BALANCES AS OF 6/30/18:

GENERAL FUND:	
Checking Accounts	40,185
Savings Accounts	379,919
TRUST FUNDS:	
Stabilization Account	391,870
Other Trust Funds	19,263
TOTAL:	831,237

Respectfully submitted,
Virginia Gabert, Treasurer

BALANCE SHEET

GENERAL FUND

Current Assets (Bank Accounts)		420,103.96
Accounts Receivable		
Personal Property Taxes		
PP Taxes FY16	230.85	
PP Taxes FY17	186.00	
PP Taxes FY18	4,256.19	
PP Taxes FY19	0.00	
Total Personal Property Taxes	4,673.04	
Real Estate Taxes		
RE Taxes FY18	20,271.73	
RE Taxes FY19	0.00	
Total Real Estate Taxes	20,271.73	
Total Taxes due (PP, RE)		24,944.77
Taxes due (Excise Taxes)		
Motor Vehicle 2013	381.25	
Motor Vehicle 2014	279.37	
Motor Vehicle 2015	549.27	
Motor Vehicle 2016	746.46	
Motor Vehicle 2017	516.78	
Motor Vehicle 2018	7,099.70	
Total Taxes due (excise)		9,572.83
Other tax collections		
Tax Titles	59,981.02	
Tax Possessions	17,874.88	
Total Other tax collections		77,855.90
Due from Federal Govt		
EOC Grant	631.68	
EMPG Grant	2,220.00	
HMPG - Garage (a/r)	52,228.16	
Total due from Federal Gov.		55,079.84
Due from Commonwealth		
Green Comm. Grant	34,230.00	
MassWorks - Garage	1,408.87	
Total due from Commonwealth		35,638.87

Capital Projects Receivable		
State Aid to Highways	390,778.93	
Total Capital Proj.	390,778.93	
Loans Authorized (asset)	1,000,000.00	
Due from Stabilization (toGen)	10,000.00	
Due from Trust (toGen)	88.28	
Total Current Assets		2,024,063.38

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Liabilities

Other Current Liabilities

Due to Trust(from Gen.)	0.00	
Due to Stabilization(from Gen.)	40,000.00	
Temporary Storm Damage Loan	0.00	

40,000.00

Overlay	31,154.68	
Payroll Liabilities	54.13	

Federal Grants

Disaster Assistance	25,000.00	
EOC Grant	631.64	
HMPG - Garage	52,228.16	
Total Federal Grants	77,859.80	

State Grants

Community Policing	1,585.34	
DARE Grant	929.02	
HCI Grant	2,893.80	
Green Comm. Grant	74,908.41	
IT Grant	697.57	
MassWorks - Garage	1,408.87	
Library (SAPL) Fund	4,512.90	
NIMS education	500.00	
EMPG grant	280.00	
Total State Grants	87,715.91	

Receipts Reserved for Appropri.

Sale of Cemetery lots	1,600.00	
Sale of Real Estate	1,650.00	
Wetland Protect. Fund	3,620.54	

Police Dept (FID/LTC)	387.50	
Total Receipts Reserved	7,258.04	
Revolving Funds		
Dog Fund	3,852.00	
Total Revolving Funds	3,852.00	
Special Revenue liability funds		
Donations	276.65	
Total Special Rev. liability funds	276.65	
Capital Projects		
Chapter 90	390,778.93	
Total Capital Projects	390,778.93	
Deferred Revenue		
Motor Vehicle	9,572.83	
Tax Title	59,981.02	
Tax Possession	17,874.88	
Total Deferred Revenue	87,428.73	
Total Other Current Liabilities	726,378.87	
Long Term Liabilities		
Loan Authorized/Unissued	1,000,000.00	
		1,000,000.00
Equity		
Surplus revenue	162,669.59	
Other continuing appropriations		
Audit	14,840.00	
Continuing Ed.	2,409.83	
Assessors reval	1,289.73	
Tax Title/Foreclosure	13,026.86	
Town Bldg maint/renov	5,987.41	
Internet Access (ins/equip)	4,480.17	
Vacation pay carry over	4,375.00	
Employee Sick Pay	8,585.92	
Total Other cont. appropriations	54,994.92	
Free Cash - allocated	80,020.00	
Total Equity		297,684.51
TOTAL LIAB & EQUITY		2,024,063.38

TRUST FUNDS

Trust Funds - cash		
Gfld Coop CD (Library)	3,777.01	
PUB Historical Comm	462.07	
PUB Bicentennial CD	8,860.13	
PUB CD (Cemetery 1)	1,752.53	
PUB CD (Cemetery 2)	1,661.61	
PUB (Care of Cemeteries)	2,749.60	
GSB General Stabilization	106,153.62	
GSB Highway Dept Stabiliz.	120,217.75	
GSB Fire Dept Stabilization	60,068.82	
PUB Vocational Stabilization	105,430.20	
Total Trust Funds - cash	411,133.34	
Due from General Fund (to Trust)		
Due from General (to Stabiliz)	40,000.00	
Total Trust Funds - assets		451,133.34
Due to General Fund(from Stab)	10,000.00	
Due to General Fund(from trust)	88.28	
Trust Funds (equity)		
Library fund	3,777.01	
Historical Commission trust	9,233.92	
Cemetery Fund	6,163.74	
Stabilization Fund	106,153.62	
Hwy Dpt Equip Stabiliz.	110,217.75	
FireEquip Stabiliz. Fund	100,068.82	
Vocational Ed. Stabiliz.	105,430.20	
Total Trust Funds equity	441,045.06	
Total Trust Funds - liab & equity		451,133.34

DEBT

Long Term Liabilities		
Net Funded Fixed Debt	-60,000.00	
		60,000.00
Note Payable - trucks	60,000.00	
		60,000.00

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT - 2018

REAL ESTATE	BALANCE ON BAL 07/01/17	COMMITTED AFTER 06/30/17	COLLECTED	ABATED	EXEMPTED	REFUNDED	TAX TAKINGS	BALANCE 6/30/2018
FY 2019		\$383,090.67						\$383,090.67
FY 2018	\$380,774.51	\$386,882.48	\$731,639.83	\$1,889.45	\$6,437.50	\$2,541.82	\$9,960.30	\$20,271.73
FY 2017	\$14,352.26	\$0.00	\$14,307.31	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$44.95	\$0.00
PERSONAL PROPERTY	BALANCE ON BAL 07/01/17	COMMITTED AFTER 06/30/17	COLLECTED	ABATED	EXEMPTED	REFUNDED	TAX TAKINGS	CALCULATED
FY 2019		\$19,401.35						\$19,401.35
FY 2018	\$18,615.49	\$18,820.32	\$33,259.31	\$0.00		\$79.69		\$4,256.19
FY 2017	\$287.77	\$0.00	\$35.17	\$66.60		\$0.00		\$186.00
FY 2016	\$230.85	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00		\$230.85
MOTOR VEHICLE EX	BALANCE ON BAL 07/01/17	COMMITTED AFTER 06/30/17	COLLECTED	ABATED	EXEMPTED	REFUNDED	TAX TAKINGS	CALCULATED
FY 2018	\$0.00	\$34,182.61	\$27,024.58	\$243.46		\$185.13		\$7,099.70
FY 2017	\$6,117.10	\$2,768.13	\$8,132.05	\$1,688.84		\$1,452.44		\$516.78
FY 2016	\$1,424.90	\$0.00	\$678.44	\$0.00		\$0.00		\$746.46
FY 2015	\$704.90	\$0.00	\$155.63	\$0.00		\$0.00		\$549.27
FY 2014	\$446.87	\$0.00	\$167.50	\$0.00		\$0.00		\$279.37
2013	\$493.75	\$0.00	\$112.50	\$0.00		\$0.00		\$381.25

BOARD OF ASSESSORS REPORT – 2018

The Board of Assessors holds monthly meetings at the Town Office at 7:00 pm on the first Wednesday of each month (unless otherwise posted). The Board currently consists of Ed Brady, Rick Kean, and Gene LaValley, with Rick serving as Chair. Even though it was his plan to retire from his assessing duties at the end of 2017, given delays in finding a replacement, Hank Eggert graciously served the Board for several months in 2018. Hank also sits on the Planning Board and he has played a role in drafting several Town bylaws. His contributions to Hawley in these and in many other respects are appreciated.

In May, 2018, the Board was fortunate to add Gene LaValley to the team, and Hank Eggert was finally able to retire. Gene has had over twelve years' prior experience as a Hawley Assessor. In addition, Virginia Gabert continues to provide her invaluable services as the Assistant to the Board, and holds office hours at the Town Office on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 1-5pm.

The Massachusetts Department of Revenue (DOR) has provided Towns like Hawley with an invaluable resource during 2018 in the form of online training and certification. Having access to this program means that Hawley Assessors can become certified without having to commute to Amherst or some other, more distant location for a week to receive the equivalent training and certification. Two of our number have already completed the online coursework and the third is working his way through it. This resource was a long time in coming, but is very welcome now that it is here. Along with the resource, however, have come several challenges that the Board will be facing during the 2020 fiscal year. They include:

- Decreasing property values. These critical numbers decreased in 2018 by 3.6 percent and are likely to decrease further in 2019.
- Adverse tax decisions. The Appellate Tax Board recently made some confusing decisions regarding the taxation of commercial solar generation sites. We are working on getting clarification.
- Reduction in State reimbursements for lands under State control.
- Delays in the projected software conversion.

- And we will be doing a 5-year Revaluation in FY20, which may require some sweeping changes to our Land Schedule (how we value land throughout town). Regardless, in the fall we will be doing a “public disclosure” to explain any changes that are made.

Despite the challenges, the Board will endeavor to make the next year as smooth as possible for the taxpayers of Hawley, and appreciates 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.

Townspesople 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). Abatement applications are mailed out separately, upon request. :

- “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

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 increased to \$16.48/1,000 – largely due to declining property values. 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 continued valuation decline in FY20, although the impact of improved internet access, and apparent interest in development possibilities is yet to be seen. We remain hopeful that these may offset the current declining values in following years – we will continue to discuss ways to stabilize the tax rate and minimize impact on tax bills.

	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
2018/2019	2,349,038	47,695,182	50,044,220	16.48

Real property valuations by location are listed below:

Primary Owner	Property Address	Tax value
CLARK, BRIAN	0 ASHFIELD ROAD	7,800
LAVALLEY, TANNER	0 ASHFIELD ROAD	25,000
DELUCA, ELLEN	0 ASHFIELD ROAD	300
MASSACHUSETTS LAND LEAGUE	0 ASHFIELD ROAD	8,200
HAY, BENJAMIN & DOUGLAS	0 ASHFIELD ROAD	221,100
MIZULA, MARK & SANDRA	5 ASHFIELD ROAD	130,200
FAY, JOHN C & GLORIA C	12 ASHFIELD ROAD	179,200

DEWKETT, NANCY E. & TODD R.	13 ASHFIELD ROAD	31,300
SUMNER, STUART & DONNA	17 ASHFIELD ROAD	228,000
LAVALLEY, EUGENE & ARLENE	18 ASHFIELD ROAD	179,600
CLARK, KYLE & DAPHNE	0 BOZRAH ROAD	67,200
CLARK, JUANITA	7 BOZRAH ROAD	220,000
CLARK, ANGELA M.	17 BOZRAH ROAD	191,500
BESHARA, DOROTHY A.	18 BOZRAH ROAD	26,400
GRIFFIN, PAUL S. & ELIZABETH H.	19 BOZRAH ROAD	92,700
LATSHANG, EILEEN WESTON	24 BOZRAH ROAD	167,500
SCHOFIELD, MICHAEL	0 BUCKLAND ROAD	25,200
GRANT, STEPHEN & ELLEN J	0 BUCKLAND ROAD	50,200
ROSENBAUM, LYNNEL & KIM	0 BUCKLAND ROAD	28,000
ROSENBAUM, LYNNEL & KIM	0 BUCKLAND ROAD	26,100
CLARK, THOMAS	0 BUCKLAND ROAD	26,400
BOUFFARD, DENIS & KAREN	0 BUCKLAND ROAD	25,000
BOGART, MATTHEW M.	0 BUCKLAND ROAD	28,500
WOLCOTT, BRITTANY & ELLSWORT	28 BUCKLAND ROAD	25,000
ULLIAN, KIT JESSE & SHARI	41 BUCKLAND ROAD	267,700
ORZECKOWSKI, PAUL & KIMBERLY	115 BUCKLAND ROAD	138,900
CLARK, DAVID A. & CARLA C.	121 BUCKLAND ROAD	128,000
ULLIAN, FRANK	7 CLARK ROAD	553,000
COTHEY, PAMELA STEWART	15 DODGE BRANCH RD	8,800
COTHEY, PAMELA S	15 DODGE BRANCH RD	661,500
HOWLAND, STEVEN L. & PARLAND	0 DODGE CORNER RD	29,000
LOWELL, DAVID E. & TAMMY M.	0 DODGE CORNER RD	15,700
RICHARDSON, KEVIN	0 DODGE CORNER RD	26,600
FAIT, HAROLD C	3 DODGE CORNER RD	95,100
HARRIS, WILLIAM R. & CONSTANC	26 DODGE CORNER RD	249,100
FARROW, RICHARD & EVELYN	5 DODGE ROAD	209,100
FAIT, HAROLD C.	29 DODGE ROAD	180,900
RICHARDSON, KEVIN	32 DODGE ROAD	275,300
WEEKS, BARBARA	71 DODGE ROAD	100,500
COBB, CHERYL	0 EAST HAWLEY RD	4,400
COBB, CHERYL	0 EAST HAWLEY RD	500
QUINNEHTUK COMPANY	0 EAST HAWLEY RD	1,000
MCLAUGHLIN, CHRISTINE	0 EAST HAWLEY RD	29,100
FAUFAW, KRISTIE	0 EAST HAWLEY RD	31,000
C TO THE THIRD POWER, LLC	0 EAST HAWLEY RD	51,000
APREA, FERDINAND & GARY	0 EAST HAWLEY RD	117,500
CULVER, HARRY	0 EAST HAWLEY RD	25,800
CULVER, HARRY	0 EAST HAWLEY RD	41,800
LAWLESS, WILLIAM S	0 EAST HAWLEY RD	64,600
CULVER, HARRY	0 EAST HAWLEY RD	81,600
HEIRS & DIVISEES OF GEORGE RICHA	0 EAST HAWLEY RD	2,500

SIDEHILL FARM LLC	0 EAST HAWLEY RD	25,000
ROOT, ROBERT W. & SERRA A.	0 EAST HAWLEY RD	60,900
MENDE, ROBERT & SHIRLEY	5 EAST HAWLEY RD	163,300
WALSH, JAMES & KATHLEEN	8 EAST HAWLEY RD	117,800
DUPUIS, SANDRA	24 EAST HAWLEY RD	134,400
DUPUIS, RONALD & SANDRA	28 EAST HAWLEY RD	204,000
CLARK, MITCHELL	29 EAST HAWLEY RD	82,600
GRISWOLD, GORDON & JANICE	31 EAST HAWLEY RD	238,300
LEMIEUX, JULIA	42 EAST HAWLEY RD	184,300
SWOPE, WESTON & NOLAN, ANDRE	45 EAST HAWLEY RD	114,700
SWOPE, WESTON J.	49 EAST HAWLEY RD	225,100
PARRA, PHILIP W. & PATRICIA JEAN	52 EAST HAWLEY RD	211,500
CLARK, TIMOTHY J. & ROBYN DEE	54 EAST HAWLEY RD	333,800
SCHAEFER, JONATHAN & MARIA L	59 EAST HAWLEY RD	418,800
BOUCIAS, GREGG & JEAN	67 EAST HAWLEY RD	128,600
CLARK, KYLE & DAPHNE	69 EAST HAWLEY RD	280,300
LORENZEN, MARIANNE & R. BRUCE	74 EAST HAWLEY RD	213,100
ISAACSEN, KIMBERLY TANGUAY	78 EAST HAWLEY RD	165,800
TANGUAY, WILLIAM	81 EAST HAWLEY RD	251,600
CLARK, TIMOTHY & ROBIN	86 EAST HAWLEY RD	128,300
GREEN, HAROLD F.	95 EAST HAWLEY RD	344,000
EDMONSON, NANCY	98 EAST HAWLEY RD	108,200
MCLAUGHLIN, CHRISTINE	103 EAST HAWLEY RD	128,700
GERRY, CODY	104 EAST HAWLEY RD	161,700
THOMSON, ELAINE & RAYMOND	106 EAST HAWLEY RD	204,400
HOWE, ADAM & KELLY	112 EAST HAWLEY RD	188,200
HAGEN, SUSAN & SINTIRIS, WILLIA	115 EAST HAWLEY RD	80,700
SEGAL, YVETTE	116 EAST HAWLEY RD	159,200
SHUTTA, STEVEN	120 EAST HAWLEY RD	203,000
PETERS, CASEY M. & SONJA M.	124 EAST HAWLEY RD	223,900
BROWN, LOOCIE & SOMMERS, ELIZ	127 EAST HAWLEY RD	193,500
FAUFAW, KRISTIE & SISUM, MICHA	128 EAST HAWLEY RD	373,200
OLEFSKY, HAI ZHENG & MAXINE M	153 EAST HAWLEY RD	269,500
SPRING, PATRICIA	168 EAST HAWLEY RD	93,600
GOTTA, PHYLLIS	235 EAST HAWLEY RD	124,100
COLE, WILLIAM G., TRUSTEE	252 EAST HAWLEY RD	73,600
SWOPE, JAMES & SUSAN	254 EAST HAWLEY RD	165,300
KAPSINOW, JAY & TERESITA	259 EAST HAWLEY RD	229,800
SWOPE, JAMES & SUSAN	262 EAST HAWLEY RD	66,900
BILLINGS, SHAWN R. & ELIZABETH	270 EAST HAWLEY RD	231,900
BELLOWS, KEVIN	282 EAST HAWLEY RD	389,000
YATES, RICHARD & CHERYL	292 EAST HAWLEY RD	274,700
GRANT, STEPHEN & ELLEN JANE	319 EAST HAWLEY RD	241,900
HARRISON, DREW & ASHLEY	324 EAST HAWLEY RD	167,900

ROOT, ROBERT W. & SERRA A.	330 EAST HAWLEY RD	121,300
HERRSHAFT, WILLIAM & JUDITH	0 EAST ROAD	1,800
SKELTON, ROBERT	0 EAST ROAD	14,800
HOLM, LOIS	0 EAST ROAD	52,500
KLAGSBRUN, EDWARD	0 EAST ROAD	185,500
MAHA SIDDHA NYINGMAPA	0 EAST ROAD	2,500
HUGHES, HELENA	0 EAST ROAD	86,700
BERKSHIRE EAST SKI RESORT, LLC	0 EAST ROAD	1,275,300
BERKSHIRE HIGHLANDS LLC	0 EAST ROAD	26,200
CLARK, KEVIN	22 EAST ROAD	145,700
CHURCHILL, MICHAEL & RACHEL	26 EAST ROAD	145,100
LEVINE, PAUL	40 EAST ROAD	202,200
BILLIEL, DARLENE	42 EAST ROAD	120,400
ALBRIGHT, LINDA	43 EAST ROAD	212,000
SCHAEFER, JAMES & JONATHAN	49 EAST ROAD	306,500
GRISWOLD, DANA	54 EAST ROAD	84,500
KIMBALL, CHRISTINE & SPOONER, A	58 EAST ROAD	181,100
KIMBALL, CHRISTINE & SPOONER, A	58 EAST ROAD	2,500
TEPEDINO, MICHAEL	131 EAST ROAD	485,700
SINGING BROOK FARM TRUST	0 FORGE HILL ROAD	39,200
FITZROY, ROBERT & DANIEL	0 FORGE HILL ROAD	6,700
GOSSELIN, KENNETH & PAUL	0 FORGE HILL ROAD	56,600
FITZROY, KIM	5 FORGE HILL ROAD	227,500
SHRIMPTON, CRAIG & PAMELA	10 FORGE HILL ROAD	55,400
SHRIMPTON, PAMELA & CRAIG	12 FORGE HILL ROAD	278,500
KOZODOY, NEAL & MAUD	0 FORGET ROAD	41,900
CHURCHILL, GERTRUDE E.	5 FORGET ROAD	170,000
DONELSON, LAURI	21 FORGET ROAD	175,600
STEWARD, HOLLY B.	26 FORGET ROAD	245,800
ABRASHKIN, WILLIAM	29 FORGET ROAD	1,000
NIGROSH, BARRY	29 FORGET ROAD	236,800
BRADY, EDWARD	30 FORGET ROAD	287,600
BRYANT, TANYA ZOE	35 FORGET ROAD	196,100
DONOVAN, CYNTHIA	49 FORGET ROAD	425,500
LACINSKI, PAUL M & KLIPPENSTEIN	58 FORGET ROAD	559,400
LACINSKI, PAUL & KLIPPENSTEIN, A	59 FORGET ROAD	291,600
BEGA, KATHRYN	86 FORGET ROAD	99,300
KOZODOY, NEAL & MAUD N	90 FORGET ROAD	466,400
GELINAS, MARY	97 FORGET ROAD	341,600
NELSON, RONALD	101 FORGET ROAD	222,400
HOPKINS, SUSAN & BERNARD	107 FORGET ROAD	223,800
MITCHELL, PETER	112 FORGET ROAD	187,000
KEAN, RICHARD	117 FORGET ROAD	170,900
KEAN, RICHARD	121 FORGET ROAD	382,500

AUBREY, SUZANNE	7 GROUT ROAD	158,200
HOFFMAN, KAREN	20 GROUT ROAD	294,800
CLARK, BRIAN	0 HAWLEY ROAD	39,400
COOPER, PAUL R (TRUSTEE)	13 HOWES ROAD	682,800
BURSTEIN, MERWYN	0 HUNT ROAD	26,000
GURSKI, FRANK	0 HUNT ROAD	26,000
WALCZAK, MARGARET	0 HUNT ROAD	26,000
MCNERNEY, MICHAEL	0 HUNT ROAD	26,000
DEFRIESSE, GEORGETTE	0 HUNT ROAD	26,000
GOULD, RICHARD	3 HUNT ROAD	205,100
SIDEHILL FARM LLC	9 HUNT ROAD	194,000
SCOTT, JOHN	11 HUNT ROAD	177,800
DEFRIESSE, GEORGETTE	15 HUNT ROAD	190,200
DREHER, SARAH (HEIRS AND DIVISE	17 HUNT ROAD	68,000
AUBREY, TODD & KIMBERLY	19 HUNT ROAD	98,800
OHMANN, SARAH	0 LABELLE ROAD	5,200
MILT, ELLEN	0 LABELLE ROAD	17,600
LABELLE, CURTIS W. & NORMA J.	0 LABELLE ROAD	3,000
KAPLAN, DAVID A.	0 LABELLE ROAD	69,900
OHMANN, SARAH	53 LABELLE ROAD	260,500
KING, MICHAEL & EVELYN	62 LABELLE ROAD	357,700
BEARFOOT REALITY TRUST	80 LABELLE ROAD	233,700
EASTWOOD, BRUCE	19 LOWER FORGET RD	120,900
PURINTON, SCOTT	0 MIDDLE ROAD	9,900
TAYLOR, ROBERT & HOLT, PATRICI	0 MIDDLE ROAD	1,500
PURINTON, SCOTT R. & ELLEN S.	0 MIDDLE ROAD	8,300
MACLEAN, ROBERT & JOANNE	25 MIDDLE ROAD	154,000
ATKINS, CARLOS	35 MIDDLE ROAD	230,300
TAYLOR, ROBERT	38 MIDDLE ROAD	179,200
PURDY, PETER & SUSAN	45 MIDDLE ROAD	152,400
STEJSKAL, JIRI & MARY	51 MIDDLE ROAD	85,700
SINGING BROOK FARM TRUST	54 MIDDLE ROAD	326,200
COSBY, WILLIAMS C. & JOHNSON, L	59 MIDDLE ROAD	462,600
SMART, ELISE C & JOHN III	79 MIDDLE ROAD	216,900
GILLAN, DUNCAN & RUTH	81 MIDDLE ROAD	234,000
WEISBLAT, TINKY	84 MIDDLE ROAD	263,000
CLARK, LESLIE	92 MIDDLE ROAD	238,600
PYLE, DAVID & ELIZABETH	96 MIDDLE ROAD	266,700
ASHFIELD ROD & GUN CLUB	0 PLAINFIELD ROAD	3,900
HEIRS & DIVISEES OF JOHN THOMPS	0 PLAINFIELD ROAD	400
SCHOFIELD, MICHAEL & TAMMY	3 PLAINFIELD ROAD	185,400
O'CONNOR, JANE M.	4 PLAINFIELD ROAD	229,800
SHAFFER INVESTMENT TRUST	21 PLAINFIELD ROAD	160,900
MCSPARRAN, CRAIG	23 PLAINFIELD ROAD	79,600

CARANTIT, JEFFREY & JULIE	38 PLAINFIELD ROAD	380,500
CHAFFEE, KENNETH & SHIELA	68 PLAINFIELD ROAD	258,800
SCOTT, RAYMOND	79 PLAINFIELD ROAD	154,400
SCOTT, JAMES	86 PLAINFIELD ROAD	225,900
AUSTIN, JUDITH	102 PLAINFIELD ROAD	250,800
MAPLESTONE, LLC	118 PLAINFIELD ROAD	347,100
COX, GREGORY	0 POND ROAD	19,700
POUDRIER, RAYMOND & MELANIE	0 POND ROAD	3,000
ORZECZOWSKI, PAUL & KIMBERLY	0 POND ROAD	35,900
THWING, KIRBY & ELIZABETH	6 POND ROAD	148,500
COX, GREGORY & DRAVES, SUSAN	13 POND ROAD	179,000
THWING, KIRBY JR & ELIZABETH	15 POND ROAD	222,700
POUDRIER, RAYMOND	29 POND ROAD	398,100
VELAZQUEZ, JASON, REGINA & SHE	7 PUDDING HOLLOW	111,400
SEARS, JOHN F. & RICHARD	0 PUDDING HOLLOW	24,100
SEARS, PAUL	0 PUDDING HOLLOW	25,000
WHITE, DOUGLAS	0 PUDDING HOLLOW	9,900
WHITE, MARK	0 PUDDING HOLLOW	16,300
BERTSCH, KENNETH	0 PUDDING HOLLOW	37,600
MCDERMOTT, SEAN P. & EVA S.	0 PUDDING HOLLOW	103,400
CROSSIN, CLARA ESTATE	0 PUDDING HOLLOW	25,000
BECK, R. PETER & BERTSCH, KENNE	6 PUDDING HOLLOW	276,800
BERTSCH, KENNETH	12 PUDDING HOLLOW	285,500
RICH, DAVID & SARAH	45 PUDDING HOLLOW	279,800
DEFOUGEROLLES, ANTONIN & PAU	61 PUDDING HOLLOW	753,100
STERNSTEIN, JEROME & KATHRYN	73 PUDDING HOLLOW	179,800
SEARS, ILENE	87 PUDDING HOLLOW	285,300
SEARS, JOHN F.	100 PUDDING HOLLOW	236,400
CUTLER, CHARLES	0 SAVOY ROAD	64,500
SCHOCH, AMY	2 SAVOY ROAD	128,200
CUTLER, CHARLES	22 SAVOY ROAD	302,800
DWIGHT, WILLIAM & LEWIS, LIDA	36 SAVOY ROAD	100,200
WHITE, MARK	0 SEARS ROAD	38,100
CHARLAND, JOYCE M	21 SEARS ROAD	149,800
SINGING BROOK FARM TRUST	17 SINGING BROOK LN	310,300
OVITT, BRIAN	0 SOUTH RIVER RD	11,500
LANOUE, NELSON & BRENDA	0 SOUTH RIVER RD	20,000
BERKSHIRE HIGHLANDS LLC	0 SOUTH RIVER RD	14,000
YATES, JEFFREY & LAURA	0 SOUTH ROAD	36,600
NEWELL, DAVID & VIRGINIA	0 SOUTH ROAD	26,400
TAVERN TOP TRUST	0 SOUTH ROAD	7,900
CLARK, CLIFFORD JR	0 SOUTH ROAD	45,400
CLARK, SARA & WALL, KENNETH	133 SOUTH ROAD	178,700
SHIPPEE, MURIEL	0 STETSON ROAD	45,000

ONDIS, PAUL	2 STETSON ROAD	94,000
BRISSETTE, BARBARA	7 STETSON ROAD	59,400
KELLOGG, BARBARA E.	9 STETSON ROAD	201,700
KIMBALL, STEPHEN & SUSAN	13 STETSON ROAD	176,000
SCHREIBER, THOMAS & SHIRLEY	0 WATSON ROAD	1,600
MCCULLOCH, DAVID J.	0 WATSON ROAD	700
POPE, BENJAMIN L. & DANIEL C.	7 WATSON ROAD	241,400
NGUYEN, LEIM THANH	0 WEST HAWLEY RD	13,000
BERTSCH, KENNETH & BECK, R. PET	0 WEST HAWLEY RD	1,800
STREETER, PAUL	0 WEST HAWLEY RD	76,600
NORCROSS, PAUL & RITA	0 WEST HAWLEY RD	27,500
DESMARAIS, DEAN F. & MARIA C.	0 WEST HAWLEY RD	36,000
PURINTON, SCOTT R.	0 WEST HAWLEY RD	17,000
SPOFFORD, BEVERLY	0 WEST HAWLEY RD	500
GORMLEY, JUNE	0 WEST HAWLEY RD	33,000
HOLMES, TOBY A.O.	0 WEST HAWLEY RD	29,300
EICHHOLZ, MARY & TIMOTHY	0 WEST HAWLEY RD	5,200
WHITE, TEDD	0 WEST HAWLEY RD	42,500
WHITE, MARK	10 WEST HAWLEY RD	233,700
WHITE, TEDD F.	28 WEST HAWLEY RD	295,600
EGGERT, HENRY	48 WEST HAWLEY RD	279,900
GRODEN, SUZY Q & EMMETT, CONS	50 WEST HAWLEY RD	183,300
GRODEN, SUZY Q & EMMETT, CONS	54 WEST HAWLEY RD	59,300
PURINTON, SCOTT & ELLEN	60 WEST HAWLEY RD	355,200
BROWNELL, RYAN	70 WEST HAWLEY RD	225,700
FALWELL, RICHARD L & ANN J	74 WEST HAWLEY RD	87,600
DESMARAIS, DEAN	76 WEST HAWLEY RD	78,700
DESMARAIS, DEAN	76 WEST HAWLEY RD	175,600
DESROCHERS, JAMES & KATHLEEN	90 WEST HAWLEY RD	155,600
DONNA M. LEMOINE LIVING TRUST	94 WEST HAWLEY RD	78,700
DONNA M. LEMOINE LIVING TRUST	96 WEST HAWLEY RD	54,000
TRAVERS, GRAHAME & PEGGY	108 WEST HAWLEY RD	366,000
HANECAK, NANCY AND VIENS, JOS	128 WEST HAWLEY RD	100,300
BENOIT, GERMAIN	136 WEST HAWLEY RD	177,400
WEST HAWLEY RD REALTY TRU	138 WEST HAWLEY RD	96,000
BONNETTE, DONALD	140 WEST HAWLEY RD	66,300
BONNETTE, DONALD	144 WEST HAWLEY RD	171,600
YOUMELL, DEBORAH & JAMES	197 WEST HAWLEY RD	26,900
CLARK, WAYNE & ROBIN	198 WEST HAWLEY RD	136,000
MACNICOLL, SAM	200 WEST HAWLEY RD	93,500
ROBERTS, BRYAN	201 WEST HAWLEY RD	261,100
FRIED, RICHARD G	213 WEST HAWLEY RD	177,600
DESMARAIS, DAVID	214 WEST HAWLEY RD	32,600
SOULE, PETER & CHRISTOPHER	228 WEST HAWLEY RD	270,200

BROWNE, MARGARET	232 WEST HAWLEY RD	334,800
HICKS, CHRISTINE & TIRONE, CHRIS	240 WEST HAWLEY RD	175,400
GORMLEY, JUNE	264 WEST HAWLEY RD	305,100
SMITH, WILLIAM	282 WEST HAWLEY RD	340,700
SARLY, ANNA	298 WEST HAWLEY RD	290,000
LAMOUNTAIN, ROBERT & PATRICIA	319 WEST HAWLEY RD	61,000
ROWEHL, GREGORY	324 WEST HAWLEY RD	196,800
LAMOUNTAIN, ROBERT & PATRICIA	325 WEST HAWLEY RD	45,800
HOYT, THOMAS & VIOLA	326 WEST HAWLEY RD	130,400
VAN BATENBURG, DEBORAH	330 WEST HAWLEY RD	53,500
SCHMITT, MICHAEL	334 WEST HAWLEY RD	107,700
DECKER, DOUGLAS & GLORIA	335 WEST HAWLEY RD	75,200
DECKER, DOUGLAS G. & GLORIA J.	336 WEST HAWLEY RD	63,900
HODGKINS, GUY & MARIE	337 WEST HAWLEY RD	86,200
STONE, ROBERT (ESTATE OF)	339 WEST HAWLEY RD	93,200
HOYT, WILLIAM	340 WEST HAWLEY RD	84,300
NORCROSS, PAUL D & RITA M	380 WEST HAWLEY RD	127,100
NORCROSS, PAUL & RITA	382 WEST HAWLEY RD	340,700
BIGELOW, MARK	390 WEST HAWLEY RD	172,700
DOYLE, KAREN	0 WEST HILL ROAD	20,000
BRADLEY, DOUGLAS & DEBORAH	0 WEST HILL ROAD	37,000
PALMER, SHEILA	0 WEST HILL ROAD	28,000
BUTHMAN, NANCY & WAGNER, ELE	0 WEST HILL ROAD	37,000
LARIVIERE, SUSAN	0 WEST HILL ROAD	22,000
MCCARTHY, GERARD & LORRAINE	7 WEST HILL ROAD	209,000
RICE, GEORGE	20 WEST HILL ROAD	446,200
RICE, GAIL	28 WEST HILL ROAD	163,000
SAVOIE, JOSEPH & LINDA	40 WEST HILL ROAD	205,600
WRIGHT, MICHAEL & MEWIS, RUTH	43 WEST HILL ROAD	60,800
CRAWFORD, LLOYD & SUZANNE	63 WEST HILL ROAD	402,100
CRAWFORD, LLOYD & SUZANNE	64 WEST HILL ROAD	221,700
HARDING, ROBERT R. & CARDWELL	86 WEST HILL ROAD	615,900
CARLE, ROLF	91 WEST HILL ROAD	346,700
LARIVIERE, SUSAN	120 WEST HILL ROAD	129,000

47,695,100

Respectfully submitted,
Rick Kean, Chairman
Ed Brady
Gene Lavalley
Board of Assessors

SELECT BOARD REPORT 2018

The past year has been a mixed bag. We've made a number of positive forward steps and also experienced some sadness and loss.

Remembering Our Colleague Sally Rich:

In May of 2018, our Board of Selectmen was joined by Sarah J. Rich, or "Sally," as she liked to be called. She had served on the Board—the first woman to do so—and in many other capacities, in years past and it was great to have her experience, wisdom, kindness, and outspoken honesty guiding us once again. We could feel how she energized our Board and its meetings. Unfortunately, as none of us, Sally included, could have known, her last term was fated to be a short one. Sally passed away on March 26, 2019 after a heart attack and a bout of pneumonia. For a more detailed discussion of her many contributions to the Town, please see the "Dedication" section at the beginning of this Report. For purposes here, let it suffice to say that she will be sorely missed and that the example she set is one deserving to be followed. There are some people you just don't replace. She was one of them.

One thing we are sure of, however, is that Sally would have wanted us to also share the good news from the past year. So let's do that now.

Broadband and High Speed Internet:

No longer just a matter of abstract discussion, the Four Town wireless network, which includes Hawley, as well as Florida, Monroe, and Savoy, is now under construction! Many details had to be worked out, agreements negotiated and signed, and State funding confirmed. There were long hours spent in meetings, hearing proposals, and driving great distances around our region and State. An Oversight Committee was formed to ensure unified governance and uniform standards throughout the network. Pole hearings were held by Select Boards in all four communities to review and permit the installation of the necessary communications equipment. Throughout all of this, Hawley played a major role, being designated "lead Town" for purposes of funding and project management.

We understand that customers in the Four Town area will begin to be hooked up in the coming months. Rates will be very economical—much more so than fiber—and there will be no data caps. Different

options will be offered for speeds; the often cited standard of 25Mbps will be easily possible for most subscribers.

Let us give a big “thank you” to the dedicated members of our Communications Committee and to our colleagues in the three other Towns. Let us also thank our partners at WiValley and Otelco (the vendors who will be serving us), who invested much time, money, and effort into working with us and proposing and designing this high quality network at a time when the direction we would be taking, and whether the State would back it, was still uncertain. And thank you to the folks at the Mass. Broadband Institute, Mass. Technology Collaborative, and State Government who finally came through with the money to make this project possible. We are hopeful that State funding allocations will cover the entire cost of the project build, or near to it, and that local expenses will be minimal, if anything at all. Let’s hear it for Hawley innovation!

Hawlemont-Heath Proposed Regionalization:

At this point, leaders in Hawley, Heath, and Charlemont are all enthusiastic about bringing Heath into the Hawlemont District. As you know, this process follows on the heels of Heath (presently a member of the Mohawk pre-K-12 District) closing its elementary school building and sending students to Hawlemont under a temporary tuition agreement.

A Regionalization Study Group was formed with representatives from all three communities and members of the Hawlemont School Committee. The members are Hussain Hamdan (Hawley), Marguerite Rancourt and Beth Flaherty (Charlemont), and Budge Litchfield and Robert Gruen (Heath). It met initially on June 28, 2018 and arrived at the following five point framework, subsequently also supported by the local Select Boards, for what any new district would look like: (1) A six member School Committee would be retained, but each Town would have two representatives instead of three. (2) Representation would be equal between the Towns, as is present practice within Hawlemont, regardless of population size. (3) Operating Assessments would be calculated such that each Town paid its State mandated minimum contribution with the overall remainder of the budget being apportioned between the three Towns based on a five year rolling average of student enrollment. (4) All future amendments to the Regional Agreement, with the exception of unilateral withdrawal, would need to be approved by the Town Meetings of all member Towns. (5) A process for a Town to leave the District unilaterally would be allowed, subject to strong provisions to protect the other Towns and the District financially; that is,

the exiting Town would either have met all of its outstanding financial liabilities or have entered an agreement to do so.

Since that time, many discussions have occurred. A draft Regional Agreement has been written up. Overall, feelings have been very positive and strong consensus has driven most of the Study Group's decisions.

There are a few stumbling blocks yet to be worked out. First, is the question of voting on the newly constituted School Committee. Though the current School Committee, Study Group, and at least two of the Select Boards support preserving equal, non-weighted voting—a system that has worked for Hawley and Charlemont since 1952 and which Heath has found very attractive—current State laws are geared toward weighting votes on regional school committees based on population across the member communities. This would be very concerning, especially for Hawley, given the size of our counterparts in the new District and, to an extent, for Heath as well. As a result of this, the Study Group initially thought special legislation would be needed to override the State model. However, there was some pushback from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and, additionally, another question came up. By transitioning from a two to a three Town district, especially one with equal voting, the concern arose that Hawley and Heath might be able to vote disagreeably high budgets over the objections of Charlemont which, as the largest community, would be left holding the bag for the highest assessments. Those budgets could then be ratified by Town Meetings in two thirds of the Towns, (presumably Hawley and Heath), again over Charlemont's objections. That raised the question as to whether another piece of special legislation, requiring all three Town Meetings to approve any budget, (as opposed to the statutory two thirds), would be needed. A great deal of convoluted drama indeed and, one yet to be resolved.

There may, however, be a compromise that doesn't require any special legislation, in which we adopt a weighted vote on the School Committee, but require the assent of at least one representative from each member Town for any vote of the Committee to be given effect. That, in turn, preserves a "veto" for each member Town and accords, perhaps even more protection to the individual Towns than they have now. The proposal is now under discussion.

The second issue—which has more to do with Heath's relationship with the Mohawk District—involves Mohawk compensating staff for "Other Post Employment Benefits" (or OPEB). Essentially,

Heath and Mohawk have to work out an arrangement that enables Heath to exit the Mohawk District on the pre-K-6 level while addressing its financial liabilities. This is not so much an issue of arguments as it is one of extreme complexity. We will keep you posted as it evolves.

We hope that we will get all of these issues resolved to the satisfaction of all three member Towns and that the Hawlemont Regional School District will soon be the Hawlemont-Heath Regional School District. In the meantime, Budge Litchfield of Heath attends all of the Hawlemont School Committee meetings and, though not a formal voting member, the Committee treats him much as though he were one.

Green Communities:

Hawley has continued to use the grant funding it received in 2017 as a result of being designated a “Green Community.” During 2018, lighting and wiring upgrades were carried out at the Town Office, Town Garage, and East Hawley Fire Station with the much appreciated help of the electrical students of the Franklin County Technical School. All three buildings are now outfitted with high efficiency LED lighting, resulting in tremendous energy savings. Additionally, at the Town Office, two Air Source Heat Pump units have been installed. These efficient, electric-driven, devices do well to maintain climate control during moderate weather; the propane heater has been kept for cases of extreme cold. Importantly, the power consumption of the Air Source units is significantly offset by the power generated by the solar array at the Town Garage. As of the writing of this Report, we are waiting to open bids for the installation of a wood pellet heating system at the Town Garage. This would increase heat efficiency and usage of renewable local fuel. We are also investigating the possibility of installing a ground mounted solar system at the Town Office site, in an effort to close out the current Green Community grant.

Roads:

Perhaps some of you have recently seen a green truck with Hawley markings painted on it. Weren't all the Town trucks red? Not anymore. On December 26, 2018, voters at a Special Town Meeting authorized \$180,000 for the purchase of a new truck to replace the 1995 Ford L8000, which had sustained cab damage in an accident. It is worth noting that the Town's capital plan had designated that truck to be replaced shortly anyway, so we had already been saving money. The new truck, a brand new green Freightliner, has many great features and

we hope to get years of service out of it. In the meantime, we are keeping the old L8000, and plan to use available funds to do an in-house rebuild of the cab, at which point it will be a desirable backup.

In 2018, Hawley and Charlemont entered into an expanded Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) enabling the Towns to share highway equipment, subject to the approval of both Road Bosses on a case by case basis. An earlier agreement applied only to Charlemont's wood chipper and Hawley's mower; the current arrangement is more expansive. This sharing of resources benefits both communities, as there are many expensive pieces of machinery which neither Town needs to have all of the time.

An ongoing problem is the road slump on Rt. 8A (West Hawley Road), in the vicinity of the Pudding Hollow Road intersection. We have been temporarily "band aiding" this slump by dumping fill on it. However, the Town recently received a MassWorks grant to conduct more permanent repairs, including improved drainage. Expect construction in the fall of 2019.

We are fortunate that construction on the Route 112 overpass in Buckland has been completed. During the construction in 2018, many large trucks were routed on a detour along Rt. 8A through the notorious "Dugway," where a number of accidents occurred, unsurprisingly. The Fire Department and local emergency services were kept busy. One notable case was on July 9, 2018, when a Coca Cola truck snagged power lines in the Dugway, resulting in the road being closed more than three hours. Several other trailer trucks using the same detour came down from Plainfield before the Fire Department could establish a roadblock at Rt. 116 with the help of the Plainfield Police and, due to the narrow and curved nature of 8A, were unable to turn around and instead had to wait until the power company finished its work.

2018 also saw the DCR-funded project to repair Middle Road in the State Forest substantially completed. All of the major washouts have been addressed and the road can be traveled by motor vehicles when the gates are open. This closes a saga which has been ongoing since Tropical Storm Irene did devastating damage in 2011. Along with Hunt Road, (repaired in 2017), Middle Road now makes it possible to travel from East to West Hawley without leaving Town. The Town will be handling general maintenance; the road will be seasonal and will not be plowed in the winter months, during which time it may be utilized by snowmobiles. It will also be closed during the mud season. We thank our legislators, including Representative Mark and Senator Hinds for

working so hard to secure the necessary funding, as well as DCR Commissioner Leo Roy, for making this a priority.

Search and Rescue:

The Fire Department's New Specialization?

In December of 2018, the Select Board lent its support to the creation of a specialized Wilderness/Back-Country Search and Rescue Unit within the Fire Department. As part of this process, four new people joined the Department. The team, (presently six members strong), is in the early stages of training and it will be some time before it is fully operational, although it had already conducted one exercise in the State Forest as of February, 2019.

Several factors led to the creation of this Unit. These included the rural character of Hawley and the increased recreational usage of the State Forest, which implies that there will be more emergency incidents going forward. There has also been a realization that, as the push for regionalization gets ever stronger, the ability of local emergency services to survive may well depend upon their possessing unique specialized capabilities that they can offer to the larger area via mutual aid. The same logic will, we hope, increase our standing in pursuing various grant opportunities.

Of Solar Fields, Cannabis, and Special Permit Bylaws

Hawley's marijuana moratorium expired in December of 2018 without any new local regulations being imposed. So far, the world hasn't ended; then again, no retailers have, (at least to our knowledge), opened up shop in Town so far. Additionally, there have been three proposed solar developments in East Hawley which are in the very early stages of review before the Conservation Commission with respect to wetlands issues. Again, there are no special local regulations relating to solar. Additionally, we have become deeply concerned by certain recent rulings of the Appellate Tax Board, that call into question the ability of local governments to tax solar fields. We are currently advocating for special legislation to clarify some overly broad loopholes. As broadband rolls out, we can only speculate that Hawley will become a more attractive location for any number of different businesses.

As a result of all of the above, Hawley has found it worthwhile to revisit our protective bylaws. This Board has no desire to make doing business in Hawley onerous or difficult. Indeed, we recognize that bringing new businesses to Town will provide an important source of tax

revenue. However, we do see merit in having some permitting process to ensure that large commercial installations in general, (not just solar or marijuana), will conduct their business in a safe and non-disruptive manner that protects the health and character of our community. To that end, we have established a Bylaw Study Group consisting of individuals who we feel represent a wide cross section of viewpoints and interests in the community, including local business people. In the coming months, they will work with the Select Board and Planning Board to evaluate our current regulations and propose any new ones. This will be an interesting and lively discussion, given the varying opinions on regulation that can be found within Hawley. Yet the two main goals at least sound simple: (1) Protect the Town and, (2) Write a bylaw that two thirds of the voters at a Town Meeting would be comfortable passing.

Conclusion

In spite of the loss of our dear colleague and friend, Hawley is moving forward in a positive direction. We plan to continue to.

Respectfully,

THE HAWLEY BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Hussain A. Hamdan (Chairman)

Robert Root

*Special message from the
Board of Selectmen*

If you are interested in serving the Town in 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.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT
Calendar Year (CY) 2018

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 2018:

- Jan 5, to review mid-year budget to actuals, and to discuss with Personnel Committee how to determine the proper and correct way to establish salaries for town non full time employees,
- Feb 2, with Personnel committee to continue discussion and reach recommendation on non-full time salaries,
- Feb 16, review research on non-full time employees salaries, and numerous items relating to this upcoming budget,
- March 9, finalize FY 2019 budget recommendation, finalize FY 2019 Capital budget, discuss Community Compact grant for Capital Planning,
- April 13, mostly discussed the STM on May 21 to deal only with WiValley /MBI proposal,
- Sep 21, Review the new Capital Planning tool developed as result of Community Compact Grant. Found it to be a great help.
- Dec 7, reviewed possible urgent need for new truck and how we would recommend funding it for late Dec STM. Truck was entirely funded from stabilization funds and free cash.

Town auditor, Carla Clark reviewed the town financials and found them in order.

As of December 31, 2018, the current balances in the stabilization accounts were:

General Stabilization \$56,288 after transferring \$50,000 for new truck
Highway Stabilization \$30,358 after transferring \$80,000 for new truck
Fire Department Stabilization \$100,191
Vocational School Stabilization \$105,617

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. The Finance

Committee tries to keep the capital budget at no more than \$50,000/yr. In 2018 we were approved for a grant from Community Compact and developed a best practices capital planning spreadsheet.

Budget planning for FY 2020 will begin with Virginia in late November and the FinCom gets involved in the beginning of the new calendar year with a goal of having the budget to the selectmen by mid March. The town warrant needs to be finalized by April 15.

To learn more about the role of the Finance Committee, go to www.townofhawley.com/?q=node/14. Minutes of all FinCom meetings are now being posted on the town website under Finance Committee Minutes. Minutes for FinCom meetings can be found on the town website at www.townofhawley.com/finance-committee/#minutes.

Lark Thwing
Finance Committee Chair



Photo courtesy of Gary Mitchell

**REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK
2018**

VITAL STATISTICS

Births	None
Deaths	None
Marriages	None
Current number of residents:	310
Current number/registered voters:	253

One of my biggest jobs as Hawley Town Clerk is the running of all elections, town and state, and I could not do that without my trusted Election Officers. A big thanks to: Melanie Poudrier, Suzy Groden, Gloria Decker, Elvira Scott, Christine Hicks, Mary Gelinis, Juanita Clark, Lorraine McCarthy, Anne Hamilton-Kean, Jane Grant, Paul Norcross, Lark Thwing, Beth Thwing, Margaret Eggert, Tammy Schofield, Trina Sternstein, Jerome Sternstein, Susan Olson, and Courtney Ann Hoyt. Your service to the town is greatly appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,
Pamela Shrimpton
Town Clerk





West Hawley Lupine Photo courtesy of Cass Nawrocki

FRANKLIN REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS Services provided in 2018

The Franklin Regional Council of Governments provides a variety of services, programming, and advocacy to the municipalities of Franklin County. FRCOG provided the following specific services to Hawley in 2018:

Collective Bidding & Purchasing Program

- Assisted the Town with the Dog Tags and Licenses collective bid program.
- Worked with the Hawley Energy Committee to bid construction services for building improvements funded by the 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.

- Assisted with Title-5 (septic) related activities including 1 Soil Evaluation for septic systems, 3 septic system plan reviews (Including 1 having a Local Upgrade Approval) including site

visits and final inspections of installations, and witnessing 4 Title-5 Inspections prior to property transfer.

- Conducted 1 retail food inspection and 1 summer camp inspection.
- Reviewed requests for approval of Building Permits, ensuring public health compliance.
- Assisted with implementation of on-line permitting, issuing all annual and regular BOH permits.
- 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.
- Held 11 walk-in wellness clinics at the Charlemont Federated Church where 12 area residents made 35 visits with the nurse for health screening services. In addition, 5 residents received 11 home visits.
- Provided nursing services to attendees of 10 “Good Neighbors” food distribution at the Charlemont Federated Church where 37 area residents made 70 visits with the nurse for health screening services.
- Completed state-mandated infectious disease investigations, reporting and monitoring 178 CPHS district cases, 1 of which was from Hawley.
- Coordinated flu vaccine/supplies availability for Council on Aging Flu Clinic, serving 83 area residents.
- Coordinated flu vaccine/supplies availability for a Hawlemont School Flu Clinic serving 47 area residents.
- Coordinated vaccine/staffing for a flu clinic and Hawlemont Regional Emergency Response Drill for Charlemont, Hawley, Heath, Monroe, and Rowe. A total of 16 area residents were vaccinated.
- Offered medication lock box, pill sorter, mercury thermometer collection and exchange; and sharps disposal and container exchange. Exchanged were 136 containers and 5 thermometers.
- Provided 6 residents tick tests using a Board of Health subsidy, saving \$210. 67% of ticks tested positive for Lyme. The nurse provided prevention materials and helped residents access the on-line system.

Emergency Preparedness Program

- Provided technical assistance and facilitation to Charlemont, Hawley, Heath, and Rowe Select board members and police chiefs who met to discuss the possibility of sharing police services.

Franklin County Cooperative Inspection Program

- Issued 6 Certificates of Inspection; and 19 building, 11 electrical, and 12 plumbing/gas permits.

Partnership for Youth

- Conducted a Teen Health Survey assessing student attitudes and behaviors. Reported to Mohawk District administrators on results from 173 students, representing 88% of the 8th, 10th, and 12th grade classes. Data meets school federal requirements and is valuable for grant-writing and program planning.
- Provided a consultant to the Mohawk District for technical assistance on school nutrition best practices.
- Trained, assisted with tech, and evaluated the District's substance use prevention curriculum.

Planning and Development Department

- Prepared a building permit data report for the Town to submit to the Secretary of the Commonwealth.
- Reformatted the town profile for the State's marketing of Opportunity Zones.
- Updated and redistributed the Walk Franklin County Map.
- Began mapping and assessing the town's culverts.
- Assisted with drafting project narratives for Hawley's Green Communities designation grant.
- Assisted with completing Hawley's first Green Communities Annual Report.
- Helped pass state legislation to create a designation for the Mohawk Trail Woodlands Partnership 11-town region, including Hawley, to bring additional financial and technical resources to support natural resource based economic development, forest conservation & municipal financial sustainability.
- Provided technical assistance on recreational marijuana legislation.

Special Projects

- Assisted the Town in considering a shared electricity aggregation consultant in a regional project with 13 towns working together to procure the supply of electricity for residents and businesses.
- Assisted the Town in development of a long range capital improvement. Capital needs and potential revenue sources ten-years out were identified, poising Hawley to anticipate, prioritize and fund buildings, rolling stock, roads, equipment, and infrastructure improvements.

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.

Cooperative Public Health Service

Vaping and Marijuana Use – 2

Emergency Preparedness & Response

State of Preparedness in Franklin County – 3

Municipal Official Continuing Education

Cannabis Control Commission – 1

Census “Complete Count”– 1

Municipal Workforce Succession – 1

FRANKLIN REGIONAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM Annual Report for 2018

The Franklin Regional Retirement System is a government agency that serves the 549 retirees, 52 beneficiaries, 972 active employees, and 614 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).

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. 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 2017, we are 84.7% funded at 29 years (72.5%) 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.

HAWLEY CONSERVATION COMMISSION Annual Report 2018

A variety of issues came before the Conservation Commission in 2018.

There was ongoing monitoring of the bank stabilization project at the Town Garage.

The Order of Conditions governing seasonal maintenance at the pond at Singing Brook Farm was renewed.

Beaver dams in the King Corner area created problems for land owners, the highway and fire departments. The Commission worked with all involved parties to develop a plan to restore fire hydrant capacity and

reduce the threat of flooding along 8A that could have resulted from culvert failure.

A meeting was held with town officials, the highway department and DEP to devise a plan to bring road maintenance into greater compliance with the Wetlands Protection Act. The Commission is exploring improving mapping tools to help identify work areas that require permitting. General permits developed for other towns were examined to see if a model suitable for use in Hawley already exists. As so many of our roads follow streams, a practical and affordable solution remains elusive.

In November, Cypress Creek Renewables asked the Commission to verify wetlands boundaries on 3 parcels of land in East Hawley to determine their suitability for large scale solar development. A similar request was made by ASD Hawley Solar for a fourth project. The early arrival of snow and frozen ground prevented the Conservation Commission from doing the field work necessary to take action. The Commission will address these requests as soon as possible after the ground thaws in early spring 2019.

Submitted,
Lloyd Crawford
Conservation Commission Chair

PLANNING BOARD Report for 2018

2018 was a slow year for the Planning Board, with only one property transfer and no property subdivisions.

The proposed Berkshire East 25-30 unit cluster housing project has been dormant and no further meetings were held in 2018. The formal application was not submitted in the spring as anticipated. This is probably in large part due to Berkshire East's purchase of Catamount Ski Area in Egremont this past summer.

The Planning Board met and agreed that in view of the lack of any permitting controls on marijuana establishments or any other non-residential or non-agricultural projects other than large activity centers that it would be prudent to prepare a protective bylaw amendment requiring any such proposed project to, as a minimum, obtain a special permit and that this was an ideal time to accomplish this. After presentation to the Selectboard, it was decided by the Selectmen that it would be appropriate to appoint a committee made up of a cross section of Hawley residents to discuss the appropriateness of this item. To date there have been no committee meetings held. The marijuana moratorium, adopted at Town Meeting in December of 2017, expired on December 31, 2018.

In December an informal exploratory meeting was held with an out-of-state solar developer that was considering the construction of three (3) large scale solar farms in Hawley and Ashfield; however no further meetings have been held on this.

The Board still has room for one more permanent member and one associate member.

Henry Eggert
Chairman

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Report for 2018

The current members of the Historical Commission are Pamela Shrimpton (Chair), Bob Root, John Sears, Suzy Groden, and Lark Thwing, Jr. All of the activities of the Historical Commission are conducted in cooperation with the Sons & Daughters of Hawley (SDH).

Report on the Doane Cemetery Workshop. With the support of a grant from the State Historic Records Advisory Board (SHRAB) to restore the gravestones of veterans buried in Doane Cemetery, SDH hired Jonathan Appell, a leading specialist in gravestone restoration and conservation, to teach a small group of SDH volunteers how to safely clean gravestones and right the ones that lean at odd angles or have fallen over. Jon

provided the proper tools and a non-toxic, biological cleaner and showed the volunteers how to gently remove lichen, mildew, and algae from the stones. Jon also showed the group how to knit together a stone that had split in half using a powerful epoxy. As the work proceeded, the group discovered the gravestone of Colonel Edmund Longley, who fought under General George Washington in the Revolution. His stone was lying face down. Now that volunteers have been trained and have the necessary equipment, SDH plans to reset this stone as well as to continue to clean and reset other stones in the cemetery in 2019. SDH hopes eventually to move on to other town cemeteries, all of which need attention.

1858 Wedding Dress. SDH received the gift of a wedding dress worn by Martha Tryphosa Sears when she married Willis Vincent in Hawley in 1858. The dress, which had been passed down, somewhat altered, and worn by several members of the family over the years, was donated to SDH by Susan W. Anderson of Holiday, Florida, a descendant of Martha's younger brother. After receiving the gift, SDH applied for and received a grant from the Charlemont-Hawley Cultural Council to buy an acid-free box to store the dress in. SDH and the Historical Commission plan to display the dress on Hawley Day and at other town gatherings.

Archives Project. With an earlier grant from the Charlemont-Hawley Cultural Council, SDH purchased a scanner/copier, which it will use to scan and preserve old newspaper clippings and other deteriorating documents in its collection. SDH plans to try to complete the work of preserving and cataloguing its collection of document and artifacts related to Hawley in 2019 or 2020. Suzy Groden has continued to work on transcribing SDH's collection of oral history tapes.

Renovation and Maintenance of Historic Buildings. The Historical Commission and SDH continue to maintain the East Hawley Meetinghouse and the Grove Building. Plans to repair the most seriously damaged or missing plaster in the meetinghouse were delayed in 2018 because the workman scheduled to do the work was no longer available. The SDH hopes the work can be completed in 2019.

Respectfully submitted,
John Sears and Pamela Shrimpton

HAWLEY COUNCIL ON AGING 2018 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 these activities included:

- ▶ Hussain A. Hamdan, Esq. and Selectman, provided a free presentation on elder law, which proved to be very informative.
- ▶ Hawleyites attended a chicken parmesan luncheon at Mohawk Park and was enjoyed by all.
- ▶ We also enjoyed an "order what you want" gathering at Cold River Cafe which was well attended.
- ▶ 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 (9:30-11:30AM) for a walk-in wellness clinic. A flu clinic was also offered this year and was well attended.
- ▶ Ongoing activities at the Charlemont-Hawley Senior Center are held each Wednesday at 9:30 AM. This is followed by a lunch at noon. In addition to ongoing socializing, many programs are also offered.

We encourage you to check the Charlemont Town website for Senior Center events or check the Post Office for a listing of monthly events.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Falwell, Chair 339-5729
Sally Rich 339-4312
Elaine Thomson 339-4438

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE Report for 2018

The Hawley Communications Committee is composed of the following members:

Lark Thwing, Chairman	Hussain Hamdan, Member
Rick Kean, Member -Webmaster	Pamela Shrimpton, Member
Constance Emmett- new Member in 2018	
Craig Shrimpton, Member -Technical and Security Issues	

Broadband Efforts

During 2018, the prime focus of the Hawley Communications Committee was 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.

The solution, which was provisionally approved by the Hawley Selectboard on February 21, 2018, was to join with Savoy, Florida and Monroe in a multi-town wireless network built entirely with existing State funding by WiValley of Keene, NH, with consulting by Interisle Consulting Group of Boston. WyValley later partnered with Otelco to provide the Communications Services (ISP).

In June, the state (MBI) accepted the WyValley/Otelco proposal and we were in business. There were many legal hoops to jump through and we had accomplished most of them by year end. Part of the agreement with MBI was for them to provide us with \$116,000 in grant funding to hire a lawyer to handle the legal aspects of the project and a

Customer's Project Manager to handle the oversight of the entire project for the towns.

Hawley was selected as the lead town and Lark Thwing was elected to chair the FH\MS Four Town Broadband Network Committee and be the single point of contact for the towns.

Beginning in July, the four towns' representatives met every two weeks as needed to keep everything moving forward. Bear in mind that there were from 2 to 7 entities involved in decision making and there were four lawyers representing the main players (MBI, WyValley, Otelco and the Four Town Network).

Between June and December, the four town network :

1. Hired Ferriter Law to represent us,
2. Contracted with Design Nine to be our Project Manager,
3. Created an Inter-Municipal Agreement with the four towns and amended it once,
4. Finalized a Professional Services Grant Agreement with MBI (for \$116,000),
5. Created a Telecommunications Facilities Easement Agreement (for installing poles, towers and huts on town owned right of ways),
6. Completed an Action Plan which defined what each of the parties needed to do before MBI would release any of the funding,
7. Petitioned Hawley, Florida, Savoy for pole locations, all of which were approved.
8. Drafter a Network Service Agreement with WyValley and Otelco which will be finalized in the first week of March 2019.

Other Committee Activities

In addition to the broadband efforts, the Communications Committee maintains the Town Website and email system (www.TownofHawley.com -- info@townofhawley.com) and gets involved in other activities related to computers and Information Technology.

We also met with town office staff to discuss the need for IT services and if we could contract for them through Mohawk Trail Region School District. This is ongoing in 2019.

Communications Committee Meetings

Meetings are called as needed and are posted on the Hawley website. Meetings held in 2018: April 27, June 6, and Sept 19.

Respectfully submitted,
Lark Thwing

CHARLEMONT-HAWLEY CULTURAL COUNCIL REPORT FOR 2018

The Cultural Council WELCOMES YOUR FEEDBACK! If you have questions, suggestions, or comments about any of our activities, please contact any member of the council. In Charlemont, that would be John Hoffman, Esther Purinton, Kate Stevens, and Julia White; in Hawley, Ryan Brownell, Lisa Johnson, Pamela Shrimpton, and Tinky Weisblat. Of course, Hawley residents may talk to Charlemont members and Charlemont residents may talk to Hawley members! Go to www.facebook.com/charlemonthawleyculturalcouncil to view our Facebook page.

Meanwhile, here is a brief report on what we have been up to. The year 2018 was productive for the Charlemont/Hawley 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 craft program at the Charlemont Senior Center, local theatrical productions, the ongoing Sunday series at the Tyler Memorial Library, the Hilltown Youth Recovery Workshop in Charlemont, and a local cookbook.

With the \$8800 awarded by the state for 2019, the Council looks forward to another slate of varied programs. These will include several school activities, the Charlemont Forum, events at the Art Garden, the Sons & Daughters of Hawley Pudding Festival, the 50th summer season of Mohawk Trail Concerts, and a theatrical performance at the Senior Center.

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. 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 local cultural events as possible.

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

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE 2018

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.

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

- New hires – which constituted our primary activity during the past two years – did not take place during 2018.
- There were a handful of disciplinary issues, but these were handled directly by the Selectboard, most in Executive Session.

The Hawley Personnel Committee is seeking new members to add to its ranks during 2019-2020. The Committee currently consists of three members: Rick Kean, Chair ; John Sears ; and, Lark Thwing.

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 2019 - 2020 will be on:

- "Personnel" issues as directed by the Selectboard.
- Reorganization, and/or repurposing, of the Committee.

Respectfully submitted,



Rick Kean

VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT 2018

The Hawley Fire Department was busy in 2018, with firefighters taking part in training, adding new equipment, and responding to emergency calls. In 2018, we had 52 calls, up from 42 in 2017, including a brush fire, 21 medical calls, 12 calls for wires or trees down, 6 auto accidents, and 6 calls to help other towns. The lingering effects of the 2008 ice storm doubled the number of calls for trees & wires blocking Route 8A. Hopefully the tree trimming National Grid is now doing will reduce the number of times we have to respond there this year.

Firefighters also put on demonstrations at Hawley Day, 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 hurricanes in September, firefighters spent time checking and adjusting equipment to make sure we were ready if one came north. Thankfully none did.

Our firefighters were recertified in First Responder skills thanks to the efforts of Mike Poirier, and firefighters also took training in fire behavior, lightweight building construction, and hydraulic extrication.

We repaired three of our dry hydrants thanks to the efforts of Chris Tirone and installed a remote control at the West Hawley station doorway to minimize delays going to a call. We plan to replace windows at the East Hawley station this spring.

Thanks to Lloyd Crawford's and Will Cosby's work with the Green Communities grant, the electrical system and lights at the East

Hawley station were brought up to code with energy efficient LEDs – it is amazing how much better the lighting is.

We were able to replace two sets of our firefighters' turnout gear in 2018 and plan to replace 1 or 2 more sets in 2019 with assistance from a Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency grant. We are working with other local departments to develop the ability to wash our gear after serious calls to minimize exposure of firefighters to hazardous chemicals in soot.

Our 1986 brush truck was out of service in 2018 due to a transmission problem – we are now using its equipment to equip another truck we have obtained. We also did some repairs to our 1981 pumper to reduce leakage of water until a replacement truck can be found that meets our needs.

In 2019, the fire department will be working on two new issues. In February Massachusetts became subject to OSHA safety regulations. We are working on ways to bring the fire stations and fire equipment into compliance with the federal regulations. Some of the changes are minor, others more significant (and costly). Also, the radio system which emergency responders in Franklin County use when responding to calls is suffering from age – Franklin Regional Council of Governments has recommended switching to a state system when it is expanded, but to do so would require us to replace 30 of the department's radios as well as our pagers, which could result in a \$90,000 cost upfront. An alternative solution that would rebuild the tower and transmitter system to improve reception and improve reliability would have higher annual costs but avoid the large initial cost. At this point, it isn't possible to say which alternative will work out, but there are likely to be significant changes in the radio system in the next couple years.

Anyone who'd like to serve as a firefighter or Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) should come to the East Hawley station on Wednesday nights at 7:30, or call me at 339-5526. We have added 2 additional firefighters in the last year, thanks to the efforts of Hussain Hamdan, but we would welcome more. 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

as of March 2019

Chief	Greg Cox	EMTs	Mike Poirier & Yvette Segal
Assist. Chief	Bob Root		
Captain	Chris Tirone		
Lieutenant	Dan Hoyt		

Medical Training Coordinator Mike Poirier

Firefighters	Jane Grant	Doug Hoyt
	Hussain Hamdan	Mike Poirier
	Courtney Hoyt	Ryan Crochetiere
	Brandon Root	Shawn Billings
	Jeremiah Jones	

Junior Firefighters	Jeffrey Hoyt
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EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REPORT 2018

What will be the next emergency to affect Hawley? Will it be a flood like in 1987 or 2011? Will it be a windstorm as happened in 1995, or an ice storm like in 2008. Perhaps a hurricane like Irene, or maybe something exotic like a tornado or a truck accident that spills toxic materials.

The truth is that while we know that some type of emergency will affect the town sometime, we never know what or when. While hurricanes and ice storms give us a little time to prepare, other events, such as flash floods or tornadoes, can arise in minutes or hours, and if we are lucky, we can get out of the way to safety in time.

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. This means by the logic of averages that we are overdue now for the next one. Flooding occurs anytime that we have precipitation or stream flows that exceed the capacity of the stream beds to hold the water.

While we all hope that disasters like floods or tornadoes never occur, a little preparation on our own ahead of time can mean the difference between a close call or a disaster when those waters rise again. That's why the town periodically reviews its emergency plans and preparations, to try to be ready when our number next comes up.

To help Hawley prepare for the next disaster, this year we are revising Hawley's Multi-Hazard Mitigation plan as required by FEMA in order to be eligible for federal assistance in reducing hazards in the future. Hawley used similar assistance to reinforce the bank behind the town garage against damage from future floods.

We also have sent out a one-page survey to town residents about what help they might need if a disaster struck, whether they have medical conditions we need to keep in mind when responding to emergencies, and whether they have generators or wood heat they can use during a major power outage. If you haven't returned your survey to Pam Shrimpton, please do.

While the town takes steps every year to prepare for the next emergency to strike Hawley, every resident should take some steps also to be ready when the winds blow hard or the streams rise.

Here are some steps we all can take:

- **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.
- **Make sure your home drainage is open and working properly** – if your basement is prone to seepage or flooding, test your sump pump to make sure it works and clean the screens so they 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.
- **Monitor the trees near your home** or other buildings for rot or insect damage. If a tree has been weakened, consider taking it down to avoid having it come down during a storm, damaging your home or affecting your power.

Gregory Cox
Emergency Management Director

**FRANKLIN COUNTY SOLID WASTE
MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
2018 REPORT**

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-one member towns through administrative support, professional consultation, trainings, and outreach to residents and businesses.

A review of recycling tonnage for 2018 shows a level amount of recycling tonnage compared to 2017. District residents recycled just over 3,000 tons of paper and containers. The recyclables were processed at the Springfield Materials Recycling Facility and sold for reuse at domestic mills. Because of a long-term contract, town recycling programs have not been directly affected by the market disruptions in China.

In 2018, 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 60 tons of material were recycled or disposed of from the two collections. A total of 627 households participated in these collection events. That is 8% more participation than in 2017.

We held our annual household hazardous waste collection in September 2018. This event allows residents to properly dispose of toxic cleaners, automotive products, pesticides, and other toxic products. A total of 300 households participated in this event. 41% of participants were using the collection for the first time.

We applied for and received grants from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection worth \$90,000 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.

Jan Ameen - *Executive Director*
Jonathan Lagreze, *Chair* Chris Boutwell, *Vice-Chair*
MA Swedlund, *Treasurer* Robbie Chiodo, *Clerk*

VETERANS' SERVICES DISTRICT
Hawley Annual Report 2018

Our district has now been in operation for 3 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 VA 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. Hawley now has around \$8656.18 in monthly Federal VA payments being paid to approximately 6 Hawley residents. This is tax-free income paid due to service-connected injuries, low-income or survivor status.

We forecast Hawley's M.G.L. Ch115 caseload to remain flat for the foreseeable future. This is Massachusetts's low income assistance program for veterans and their dependents. Although reimbursed back to the towns at 75%, this process takes over a year to happen.

For the coming year we will continue to assist veterans, and will emphasize programs for the dependents of veterans, particularly the elderly population. Our long-term goals include up dated hardware and expanding satellite hours in the district.

Timothy Niejadlik,
Director Upper Pioneer Valley Veterans' Services District



COOPERATIVE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

Activities in Hawley – 2018

Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

The Town is a comprehensive member of the CPHS, a health district based at the Franklin Regional Council of Governments. Other neighboring towns sharing the same public health staff include Charlemont, Buckland, Heath, Rowe, Monroe, Leyden, Gill, and as of November 2018, the Town of Shelburne.

In 2018 the district marked the retirement of longtime Health Director Glen Ayers, and welcomed new Director Andrea Crete. CPHS activities in Hawley during 2018 included the following:

- The Regional Health Director provided coverage for all Title-5 (septic) activities including 1 Soil Evaluation for septic systems, 3 septic system plan reviews (Including 1 having a Local Upgrade Approval), site visits and final inspections of installations, and witnessing 4 Title-5 Inspections prior to property transfer.
- The Public Health Nurse coordinated vaccine availability and supplies for a Charlemont and Hawley Councils on Aging Flu Clinic held at the Charlemont Federated Church, serving 83 area residents, and one for families at the Hawlemont School that served 47 area residents.
- The Regional Health Director reviewed requests for Board of Health approval of Building Permits, and ensured compliance with public health requirements.
- The Public Health Nurse provided nursing services to attendees of 10 monthly “Good Neighbors” food distribution at the Charlemont Federated Church where 37 area residents made 70 visits with the nurse for health screening services.
- Staff assisted with the implementation of a digital on-line permitting system and issued all annual and regular BOH permits.

- The Regional Health Director met with the Board of Health as needed and provided technical assistance to the Board with the implementation of their local regulations.
- The Public Health Nurse held 11 monthly “Second Tuesday” walk-in clinics at the Charlemont Federated Church where 12 area residents made 35 visits with the nurse for health screening services and 5 residents received 11 home visits.
- The Public Health Nurse completed state-mandated infectious disease investigations, reporting and monitoring of 178 CPHS district cases.
- The Regional Health Director conducted 1 retail food inspection and 1 summer camp inspection.
- The Public Health Nurse coordinated vaccine and staffing for a flu clinic and Hawlemont Regional Emergency Response Drill for Charlemont, Hawley, Heath, Monroe, and Rowe.
- The Public Health Nurse offered medication lock boxes, pill sorters, mercury thermometer collection and exchange, and sharps disposal and container exchange to residents. One hundred thirty-six (136) sharps containers and 5 thermometers were exchanged over the year.
- Six (6) Hawley residents received low-cost tick tests in 2018 through a local Board of Health subsidy, a savings of \$210. Sixty seven percent (67%) 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.
- The Regional Health Agent issued 2 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.

Hawley’s representatives to the 2018 CPHS Oversight Board were Cass Nawrocki, Town Coordinator, and Hussain Hamdan, Board of Health.

**FRANKLIN REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
FC COOPERATIVE BUILDING INSPECTION PROGRAM
2018 ANNUAL REPORT**

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-three 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 2018 we issued 2,461 permits, including a significant number of insulation upgrade, solar array and wood/pellet stove permits. A total of 24 new dwelling units were constructed in our 15 member towns.

Our online permitting program went live on July 1, 2011 and has issued 18,425 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 5,066 registered users. You can find it at 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 2018, the FCCIP processed the following permits for Hawley:

Residential Building Permits	16
Commercial Building Permits	1
Sheet Metal/Duct Permits	0
Electrical Permits	11
Plumbing Permits	4
Gas Permits	8
Certificates of Inspection	2
Solid Fuel	1
Fire Protection	0
Tents	1

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 113.

James D. Hawkins
Building Commissioner

David Roberts
Building Inspector

Andy French
Electrical Inspector

Tom McDonald
Plumb/Gas Inspector

**2018 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
Mohawk Trail Regional School District
Hawlemont Regional School District**

During 2018, Mohawk and Hawlemont continued to lead the Massachusetts Rural Schools Coalition, which has been advocating on behalf of rural public schools across the Commonwealth since 2016. 2018 marked a major progress milestone for the coalition with the establishment of Rural School Aid within the Massachusetts FY19 budget at a funding level of \$1.5 million. Of these funds, Mohawk received \$132,932 and Hawlemont received \$23,096. Both districts used the new Rural School Aid to fund the purchase of Chromebooks in order to support an increased educational focus on our students' digital literacy. Mohawk implemented a 1:1 program so that all of its students in grades 7-12 are now equipped with a Chromebook as part of their educational resources. In both Mohawk and Hawlemont, a sufficient number of Chromebooks were purchased so that students in grades 3-6 would have access to a Chromebook in their classrooms.

By the end of 2018, Mohawk and Hawlemont were again leading the charge to support educational equity in Massachusetts' rural public

schools. The MA Rural Public Schools Coalition proposed the introduction of a rurality factor in the Massachusetts Chapter 70 educational funding formula, which would be a more permanent fix to the current financial crisis in rural public schools within the Commonwealth. Our rural story includes the following major elements.

FINANCIAL – EDUCATIONAL CRISIS - While Massachusetts is among the least rural states in the U.S., according to the National Center for Education Statistics, nearly 10% of its 950,000 public school students attend school in rural communities. Within the natural beauty of these rural communities, an educational funding crisis that began during the late 1990s, has been quietly reaching epidemic proportions throughout much of Western Massachusetts and Cape Cod. In many ways, the Mohawk Trail Regional School District and the Hawlemont Regional School District, located within Franklin County in northwestern Massachusetts, have become the poster child of the unique challenges facing rural public schools within the Commonwealth.

DECLINING ENROLLMENT - At the center of the crisis is a severe drop in student enrollment. In the late 1990s, Mohawk's student enrollment exceeded 1,700 students in grades K-12. Today, Mohawk's enrollment has dipped below 1,000 including its pre-school students. Similarly, Hawlemont's K-6 enrollment exceeded 200 in the late 1990s and dipped below 100 in 2011. More recently, Hawlemont's enrollment has exceeded 150 with the introduction of Heath students following the closure of Heath Elementary School.

FLAT STATE EDUCATIONAL AID - Because the Massachusetts public education funding formula, Chapter 70, is based largely on enrollment, rural public school districts experiencing enrollment decline such as Mohawk and Hawlemont, have been receiving essentially flat state education funding for nearly 20 years.

LACK OF ECONOMIES OF SCALE - During this time, Mohawk and Hawlemont have struggled mightily to reduce costs. In 2008, in a desperate effort to contain runaway health care costs, Mohawk and

Hawlemont were among the first regional school districts in Massachusetts to join the state's Group Insurance Commission (GIC). Additionally, in 2017, Mohawk closed one of its elementary schools (Heath Elementary). Despite such concerted efforts to reduce costs, both Mohawk's and Hawlemont's operating expenditures have slowly but persistently increased over time, which highlights a characteristic unique to rural public schools- lack of scale.

HIGH FIXED COSTS - Whether in Massachusetts or the Midwest, rural public school districts have higher fixed costs on a per pupil basis compared to urban and suburban districts. The reason for these higher fixed costs is their fundamental lack of scale. Take Colrain Central School within the Mohawk district as an illustration. Like many rural elementary schools in Massachusetts, Colrain is comprised of one class per grade. Let us imagine that enrollment in Colrain's first grade class drops from 20 to 15. While enrollment may have declined 25%, the staffing requirement cannot be reduced proportionately. Colrain's first grade class requires a full-time teacher.

HIGH TRANSPORTATION COSTS - Beyond fixed staffing costs, rural public school districts often face uniquely expensive transportation costs. Mohawk serves nine towns and encompasses an area greater than 250 square miles. Many of its secondary students already endure bus rides in excess of one hour to and from school. More than two hours per day on a school bus. The bottom line is that rural Massachusetts public school districts like Mohawk and Hawlemont are financially and thus, educationally, unsustainable. On the front lines of this crisis are the superintendents of schools serving these rural school districts.

ESTABLISHING RURAL VOICE – ADVOCATING - In the spring of 2016, a group of these superintendents established the Massachusetts Coalition of Rural Schools and have been advocating for changes in the Commonwealth's educational funding formula that factor in the unique operating conditions of rural public schools. At the heart of our advocacy is the introduction of a rurality factor in the Chapter 70 formula

that would enable rural Massachusetts public school districts to provide an adequate and equitable education for our students. The Massachusetts Coalition of Rural Schools points to the state of Wisconsin's Sparsity Aid Program as a model for the Commonwealth. Wisconsin currently provides \$400 per student to its rural public school districts. If Massachusetts were to fund its more economically disadvantaged rural public school districts at a similar level, the total cost would be approximately \$15 million annually.

***CALL TO ACTION** - Because the Massachusetts state legislature will be addressing the recommendations of the Foundation Budget Review Commission during 2019, the time to address the needs of its rural public school students is now. While the recommendations of the Foundation Budget Review Commission would increase the state's educational funding by more than one billion dollars, none of this huge increase would address the financial unsustainability of rural Massachusetts public schools. The time is now for Massachusetts political and educational leadership to do right by our rural public school students. It is imperative that a rurality factor be introduced into the Commonwealth's Chapter 70 educational funding formula. Rural Massachusetts public school students deserve an adequate and equitable education!

On behalf of our students, I thank the entire Mohawk and Hawlemont school communities for your dedicated support of our children's education. We need your support as we continue to lead the efforts of the MA Rural Schools Coalition to achieve a level of state education funding that supports an adequate and equitable education for all rural students.

Respectfully submitted, Michael A. Buoniconti
Superintendent of Schools, Mohawk Trail Regional School
District - Hawlemont Regional School District; Chairman, MA
Rural Schools Coalition

PRINCIPAL - HAWLEMONT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL Report for 2018

Hawlemont Elementary School's vision is a community of learners where everyone will flourish. To flourish, we will work together to foster positive emotions, active engagement, strong relationships, meaning in our work, and acknowledge accomplishments. Our mission statement is: Hawlemont Elementary School provides students with high quality authentic learning experiences in partnership with families and community. Currently, our enrollment is 150 students, which includes preschool through Grade 6.

This is my first year as your principal. This year I focused on building a strong sense of community focused on GRIT (Goodwill, Responsibility, Integrity and Teamwork). This work has benefited both staff and students as we work together to support children as they grow.

We are pleased to announce that the following students will be graduating from Hawlemont Elementary School in June of 2019:Carolynn Aubrey, Oleander Brenizer, Jacqueline Churchill, Silas Freeman, Tucker Hicks, Jaxon Kotright-Clark, Hunter Lanoue, Raia LeBreux, Katy Lengieza, Chayim Mojallali, Aiyannah Norwood, Hannah Phillips, Jenna Platek, Patrick Russell, Ari Santos, Makayla Tatro, Emma Thrower, Phineas Tuttmann, and Safiya Yaseen.

The teaching and staff assignments for the 2018-2019 school year are as follows: Preschool ½ day: Bridget Lilly, Preschool Full Day: Janice Waldron-Hansen, Kindergarten: Sue Mead, First Grade: Marieanne Dambrov, Second Grade: Margaret Miller, Third Grade: Sarah Ricko, Fourth Grade: Abby Clark, Fifth Grade: Jennifer Sinistore, Sixth Grade: Stephen Bechtel, HAY Agriculture Coordinator: Amber Tulloch, Part time Agricultural Consultant: Jeanne Bruffee, Reading Specialist: Michelle Gajda, Special Education: Alyssa Collins & Valery Lively, Music Teacher: Rick Page, Music Substitute Teacher: Jonah Godfrey, Art/PE: Kylee Bourassa, ELL: Emily Eller and Psychologist/School Counselor: Anne Kaplan. We have paraprofessionals who provide additional support in classrooms including two 1:1 Paraprofessionals. Susan Annear is our School Secretary, Paul Dinicolantonio is the Custodian, the School Nurse is Sherry Hagar, and Rachel Gammell and Heather Lengieza are the Cafeteria Staff. Mary Boehmer is our Librarian.

Hawlemont's Local Educational Council (LEC) is comprised of two parents, two teachers, and myself. Together we approved a School Improvement Plan (SIP) that focuses on the following areas: Effective Instruction focusing on Educational Space, Student Empowerment and Meaningful Assessment, Professional Learning Communities and Ongoing Communication. During professional development times, teachers are able to focus on the set goals and continue to help improve our school.

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 has been working to give students opportunities both inside and outside the classroom. Six grade students have gone to Nature's Classroom in Rhode Island. The fifth grade works hard in our building to promote recycling and they are working on a biome project. In the spring fifth graders will also travel to Red Gate Farm. Fourth grade is studying states as well as learning about wind and wind turbines. The third grade spent the day at Magical Wings in Deerfield, MA to further their study of migration and insect life cycles. Second grade is researching different animals and their environments. 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.

The H.A.Y. (Hawlemont Agricultural and You) program is flourishing with many new and exciting initiatives this year. The H.A.Y. program has continued its weaving program for students to learn to weave as well as teaching students many different outdoor education topics. 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. We are working to start a Summer Eats Program to support students with free breakfast and lunch over the summer. The H.A.Y. program continues to be financially sustainable 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 allows 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.

I would like to thank the teachers, staff, parents, students, and community members for making this a great school where everyone shows goodwill, responsibility, integrity and teamwork. I look forward to next year and continued growth towards educational excellence at Hawlemont.

Respectfully submitted,
Lindsay Rodriguez - Principal

REPORT OF THE CO-PRINCIPALS FOR 2018 Mohawk Trail Regional High School

Reflecting on this year, we can see how efforts over years are being recognized and honored. An excellent example is the outstanding leadership of Coach Joe Chadwick, who began coaching at Mohawk in 1982. On December 14, 2018 Mohawk Coach Joe Chadwick broke the state record for the most wins of any coach in any sport in Massachusetts history. Joe has coached boys and girls cross-country, track, and indoor track over the years. To date, Mohawk teams Joe has coached have won 39 Western Massachusetts Championships and 5 State Championships. This year senior Meghan Davis broke the girls school course record in cross country; this was just one highlight of a season that saw the girls' cross-country team with a record of 9 wins and no losses for the league championship. We congratulate Coach Chadwick on his record of inspirational leadership and appreciate the generations of Mohawk runners who have contributed to this success.

This year Mohawk was awarded two substantial grants to support initiative and innovation as we bring together students, staff, families, and community members to reimagine how our school can better meet the needs of all students. In October a team of five, comprised of Mohawk Co-Principal Marisa Mendonsa, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) teachers Drue Johnson and Travis Minnick, Art teacher Rachel Silverman, and Mohawk parent

representative Tim Shearer, participated in the Mass IDEAS School Design Institute, a weekend opportunity for educators and other key stakeholders to come together to “rethink school within their communities.” This work served as the springboard for the two successful grant applications.

Mohawk was awarded a \$14,800 Mass IDEAS School Design Institute mini-grant to host a weekend school design institute in January 2019 to reimagine Mohawk’s graduation requirements. Students, parents, staff, and community members convened to envision alternative pathways for innovative learning experiences. Mohawk Mass IDEAS team member Rachel Silverman explained how instrumental this process will be in helping the team to move forward with their original project ideas. “Being chosen for this grant is an honor,” said Silverman. “It acknowledges the strength of our school community and the potential we have to move education forward with bold ideas. Our redesign process is rooted in the reality that one school path doesn’t work for every student. We are creating a model that allows each learner to customize their trail through high school.”

Mohawk also received a \$150,000 Mass IDEAS planning grant to further its work in redesigning Mohawk’s student experience. As one of five schools in the state to be awarded this competitive grant, Mohawk will use the planning grant to work with educational consultants and school stakeholders to create a comprehensive plan, which includes revised academic programming, professional development, and new opportunities for students to engage in internships and innovative coursework. Funding will be rolled-out during 2019. Both grants are funded by Mass IDEAS, an initiative of Next Generation Learning Challenges at EDUCAUSE, with generous support from the Barr Foundation and the Nellie Mae Education Foundation.

Several innovations this year have expanded opportunities for student learning and collaboration, while increasing equitability and access to resources for all students. This year Mohawk launched a Design Lab, repurposing space that had been used for storage and maintenance into a light-filled Makerspace where teachers can bring their classes for creative collaborative work, including using 3-D printers and other tools. The Design Lab is an example of how educators, like Arts Integration teacher Whitney Brooks and STEM teacher Travis Minnick, could float an idea in January that was embraced by the school leadership team and brought to fruition for the beginning of the school year in August, through the support of the school community, including

generous donors who helped to provide resources and tools. This year Mohawk began offering a Robotics course, taught by Mohawk teacher Downey Meyer, that students can take for college credit through Greenfield Community College (GCC). For years Mohawk students have been able to take college level courses at GCC while still in high school, but this is the first time such a course has been available in the Mohawk school building. In the fall, Mohawk issued Chromebooks to all students in grades 7-12, greatly increasing student access to online tools and resources for research and collaboration.

At the mid-point of the 2018-2019 school year, enrollment in grades 7-12 is 359. The seventh grade has 68 students and the eighth grade has 54 students. There are 65 students in grade 9, 51 in 10th grade, 50 juniors, and 66 seniors. Five students are enrolled in our post-graduate program.

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

SPECIAL EDUCATION / PUPIL SERVICES 2018 Annual 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. 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, Colrain and Sanderson transitioned to having one full-time Speech Pathologist versus a part-time Speech Pathologist and an assistant. This model has increased consistency and

support for our students, while being cost effective. Sanderson continues to have a Speech Pathologist. With an increased need for counseling services for all students, each school has begun to increase this level of support. BSE and Sanderson have a full-time School Psychologist, Colrain and BSE share an Adjustment Counselor and Hawlemont has a four-day per week School Psychologist, the Middle and High School have a full-time Adjustment Counselor and School Psychologist. The level of services in each building is based on population and the need and level of services legally required by an IEP.

The districts are legally obligated to support a SEPAC (Special Education Parent Advisory Committee). The meetings have not been well attended. The focus has been on providing workshops to parents such as: Transition to Middle School, Internet Safety, and Rights and Responsibilities in Special Education. The districts will continue to support workshops and informational sessions to parents. The districts continue to support several substantially separate programs for students:

- Students requiring the support of a 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 in excess of 70%.
- Mohawk Supported Classroom, located in the Middle and High School. The program supports students with social emotional needs. Students receive educational support both in the program and within the general education setting.
- Mohawk Vocational Program. Services students with Intellectual Disabilities who require a higher level of support. The program also supports those students who are eligible to remain in school until age 22, focusing on transition and vocational skills.

Respectfully Submitted,
Leann Loomis
Director of Pupil Personnel Services

MARY LYON FOUNDATION ANNUAL REPORT

Innovative Support of Local Education

Highlights of 2018 include the launch of the Guardian Angel Fund to benefit children and their families in difficult circumstances. An anonymous matching pledge of \$5,000 was received in memory of Anna Marie Townsend who was a student at the BSE school in the 1960's. The Mary Lyon Foundation received a Capacity Grant from the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts to develop a Strategic Plan. Also, in memory of Carlton Roberts, well-known local contractor, \$2,880 was donated to benefit the Mohawk wood shop.

The most successful annual Community Spelling Bee to date was held November 29 at Mohawk Trail Regional School. There were 30 teams of three participants vying for the coveted Grand Championship won in the final round by Jim Kessler, Jackie Walsh and Rick Leskowitz as the Pothole Pixies. Major Queen Bee sponsors of the event were the Greenfield Savings Bank and Clark's Corvair Parts. The spelling bee raises money for the Mary Lyon Foundation's popular Mini-Grant program which awards competitive grants to school district staff for educational, replicable, innovative school-based projects.

The Mary Lyon Foundation is always busy during the holiday season, and this year was no different. We are very fortunate to have so many supportive individuals and organizations right here in western Massachusetts helping us do our work. One such outstanding person is UMass track star Heather MacLean who organized our Track for Success program. Through her sponsorship with New Balance, Heather and fellow graduate student Sam Downes delivered a dozen pair of brand new sneakers that were distributed to Mohawk students by coaches Joe Chadwick and Tim Shearer.

For many years an anonymous local donor has brought two truckloads of Christmas trees for the Mary Lyon Foundation to distribute to families with children who need a little extra boost during the holiday season. Early in December the freshly cut trees were delivered to Mohawk where our office is located. With the help of the Mohawk Vocational Program the trees were decorated with paper snowflakes. The Betty Allen DAR chapter in Northampton provided brand new warm hats, mittens and scarves to also adorn the trees, so when families came to make their selection, they could take advantage of the colorful, wearable decorations.

Other agencies also provided unique support. Warm jackets were donated by the Knights of Columbus through St. Joseph's church in Shelburne Falls, a project spearheaded by Deacon Tom Rabbit and parishioner Larry Wells. The Greenfield Lodge of Elks brought baskets of Thanksgiving turkey dinners with all the trimmings for needy families, and the United Way of Franklin County donated brand new toys. Families were invited to the office to select toys for their children, then wrap and tag the presents. The festive occasion was organized by volunteer Sandy Gilbert, and everyone left with gifts ready to be placed under the tree.

We thank our many generous supporters including the Myrtle Atkinson Foundation, United Way of Franklin County, Mayhew Steel, Greenfield Savings Bank, Greenfield Northampton Cooperative Bank, Bristol Myers Squibb, Titan Roofing, Blackmer Insurance Agency and the countless individuals and businesses that support our work. We are especially grateful to the Mohawk Trail Regional School District for office space at the high school.

Members of the board during 2018 were Brenda Parrella, Nancy Eisenstein, Emily Willis, Marion Taylor, Sylvia Orcutt, Karen Fairbrother, Katherine McKay, Peter Stevens, and Laurie Benoit. Longtime board member Susan Schuman succumbed to a battle against cancer and will be remembered for her dedication to excellence in education. Student representatives to the board are Grace Poplawski and Mae Rice-Lesure. Bruce Willard, Sharon Hudson and Hugh Knox are Lifetime Honorary Board Members. Sandy Gilbert and Rita Jaros volunteer in the office; Phil Gilfeather-Girton is our Business Manager who replaces Gina Sieber.

Susan Samoriski and Sheila Damkoehler
Co-Executive Directors

CARL H. NILMAN SCHOLARSHIP FUND ANNUAL REPORT 2018

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 60 applications, 20 were from seniors and 40 were from graduates. The Committee feels that seniors have multiple scholarship opportunities from other sources while graduates have fewer resources. 19 scholarships totaling \$9,100 were awarded to seniors, 38 scholarships totaling \$21,000 were given to graduates.

There are fifteen members on the Carl H. Nilman Scholarship Fund, one from each of the nine member towns in the district; Sheila Graves (Ashfield), Marion Scott (Buckland), Marge Porrovecchio (Charlemont), Michelle Hillman (Colrain), Eric Sumner (Heath), Alice Parker Pyle (Hawley), Allen Irvine (Plainfield), Marion Taylor (Shelburne), and Laurie Pike (Rowe); three at large members appointed by the School Committee; Hussein Hamdan, David Engle and Gloria Fisher; a past School Committee member; Robin Hartnett; current School Committee member; Suzanne Crawford; and the chairman of the School Committee; Martha Thurber.

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. Applications are available online for the graduates and seniors can pick up applications at Mohawk.

Respectfully Submitted,
Marion E. Scott, Secretary

TYLER MEMORIAL LIBRARY FY 2018

Library Automation

In FY 2018 the library director and a group of dedicated volunteers completed the automation project, an important accomplishment for our library. 5581 titles are now available through the C/W MARS catalog. You can find the catalog in two places: as a link on the library's web page at <http://charlemont-ma.us/town/tyler-memorial-library> and on the Internet at www.cwmars.org. Cataloging of new materials will be ongoing.

Library Certification

Tyler Memorial Library has completed the FY 2019 Annual Report Information Survey (ARIS) and the FY 2019 State Aid to Public Libraries Financial Report for the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners. Tyler Memorial Library has been re-certified by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners.

Statistics

	Number of Patron Visits to Library	Number of Library Program Participants	Number of WI-FI Sessions
FY2016	1,624	256	206
FY 2017	1,734	316	371
FY 2018	2045	220	427

Circulation	Adults	Young Adults	Children	Totals
FY 2016	2,125	130	504	2,759
FY 2017	2,135	116	467	2,718
FY 2018	2,747	146	297	3,190

Collection Development

Tyler Memorial Library strives to meet the needs of patrons for information, education, and entertainment. Tyler Memorial Library purchased a total of 417 new books in FY 2018.

Hawley Representative Lisa Johnson and the librarian completed a weeding project of the adult fiction and literature and mystery collection. Books removed from the collection included those that had not been borrowed in six or more years as well as damaged items. The adult non-fiction collection continues to receive special attention with purchases of new books on a range of topics. All nonfiction titles now have spine labels and Dewey Decimal System call numbers providing better organization.

Tyler Memorial Library added magazines to its subscription collection for a total of 38 magazines covering many topics. All magazines can be borrowed.

Tyler Memorial Library is pleased to announce the receipt of a very generous donation in the amount of \$500.00. The donation allowed us to begin a poetry collection focusing on American poets. Books by award winning poets and poet laureates can now be found on our shelves. All books are available to be borrowed.

Programming

220 adults and children participated in library programs sponsored by the library during FY 2018. The fourth season of the Sunday Series took place from November 2018 to March 2019. Each event provided an opportunity for residents of Charlemont, Hawley, and surrounding towns to experience hands-on programs focused on art and culture. Programs in the Sunday Series included paper cutting, ash bark basket making, sourdough bread baking, introduction to block printing, and beginning techniques for hammered copper jewelry.

Tyler Tech entered its third year of programming, providing an opportunity for elementary school students to participate in **STEAM**. (science, technology, engineering, arts, and math) activities during the summer vacation. In July elementary school age children were offered two week-long programs on understanding circuits and coding through art activities such as sculpting, origami, sewing, weaving, and designing musical instruments.

In May 2018, Tyler Memorial Library became the first public library to receive funding from the Rural Technology Fund (RTF) < <http://ruraltechfund.org/>>. The library received just over \$4000 to support the purchase of laptops, an LCD projector, a robot, and additional materials. The Rural Technology Fund recognized the library for Tyler Tech. The funding will provide a makerspace that can pop-up whenever we need it to give kids hands-on opportunities to be creative and explore the intersection between the arts, technology, and the sciences.

In the fall of 2018, Tyler Memorial Library partnered with the Hawlemont School and the Digital Media Lab at UMASS Amherst. A small group of children in grades 5-6 attended a program at the library to learn Tinkercad, a 3-D design program. The group then traveled to the Digital Media Lab where they had a tour, listened to a talk about bees and pollinators Dr. John Burand, met UMASS Amherst student members of the Fernald Bee Club to learn about solitary bees and bee hotels, experienced a bee hive through virtual reality, and used the lab to design and print 3-D bee hotels. We walked on the campus, ate in the dining commons, and worked in the lab with college students. We went to college for the day!

Advocacy

The library director continues to advocate for the library at the state level. In 2018, the library director became a board member for the Western Massachusetts Library Advocates (WMLA). The WMLA helps organize local Library Legislative Breakfasts, providing a forum for librarians, trustees, and friends to meet state legislators and make a case for library funding during the budget season. The WMLA also participates in Library Legislative Day at the Massachusetts State House. Finally, the WMLA supports and facilitates networking amongst libraries.

Also in 2018, the library director presented on advocacy for libraries with a panel of librarians from across the state at the Massachusetts Library Association Annual Conference. The library director has also been asked to participate on a committee of the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners (MBLC). In 2018 the MBLC presented an in-depth report about libraries across the Commonwealth called *Public Libraries in Massachusetts: An Evolving*

Ecosystem. Using the report as a guide the committee will begin looking at future directions for libraries.

Tyler Memorial Library Board of Trustees

The library wishes to thank Tyler Memorial Library Trustee Chair Evie Locke, Trustees Esther Haskell and Andrea Santos, and Hawley Representative Lisa Johnson for their dedication to all of our ongoing projects. Meeting every four to six weeks the Trustees have provided guidance and assistance in all areas of library function.



Photo courtesy of Pamela Shrimpton