

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

TO GET A BURNING PERMIT: 339-5526, 339-5592 or 339-8650

TO GET ON THE CHIMNEY CLEANING LIST: Call Greg Cox 339-5526

Police Department Information

The Police Chief holds monthly office hours at the Town Office on the second Tuesday of each month from 6-8pm (unless otherwise posted).

FOR EMERGENCIES: Call 911

Town Clerk:

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

Tax Collector:

Betty Nichols holds weekly office hours on Wednesday 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.

Their assistant can be contacted at the Town Office (339-5518) on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 1:00pm-5:00pm, 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.

Their assistant can be contacted at the Town Office (339-5518) on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 10:00am-5:00pm, unless otherwise posted.

Town of
HAWLEY
Massachusetts



2014
Annual Report

Annual Report
By the
Town Officers



~ 2014 ~

Town of Hawley

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Dedication



The Board of Selectmen hereby dedicates the 2014 Annual Town Report to Charlie Stetson in recognition of his long and committed service to the Town of Hawley.

Charlie served the Town steadily in many capacities – including:

School Committee	from the mid 90s until 2012
And numerous committees and sub-committees	
Treasurer	from 1997 to 2014
Tax Collector	from 1999 to 2014
Tax Title Custodian	from 2012 to 2014
Board of Appeals	from 2002 to 2013
Finance Committee	from 2007 to 2012

And in several other ways as well

Charlie regularly negotiated vocational school bussing contracts to keep the transportation expenses manageable for our small town. He also managed much of the paperwork and projects associated with the recovery effort after the 2008 Ice Storm as well as for Tropical Storm Irene.

Thank you, Charlie, for all your years of devoted service! We wish you well in your retirement.

Message from the Board of Selectmen:

There are vacancies on several of our town boards and committees that we are having difficulty filling. If you are interested in serving the Town, and being appointed to one of these positions, 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 welcome any newcomers.

TOWN OFFICIALS – ELECTED

Selectmen/Board of Health (3-year term)		
Philip Keenan, Chairman		Term expires 2016
John Sears		Term expires 2017
Robert MacLean		Term expires 2015
Town Clerk (3-year term)		
Pamela Shrimpton		Term expires 2017
Assessors (3-year terms)		
Henry Eggert, Chairman		Term expires 2015
Jason Velazquez (resigned Feb 2015)		Term expires 2016
Rick Kean		Term expires 2017
School Committee (3-year terms)		
Regina Velazquez (resigned Feb. 2015)		Term expires 2015
Hussain Hamdan		Term expires
2016		
Sarah Rich		Term expires 2017
Representative to K-12 Committee for Mohawk Trail District (3-year terms)		
Kirby Thwing Jr.		Term expires
2017		
Suzanne Crawford		Term expires 2015
Non-Parent Member LEC for Hawlemont District (3-year term)		
Suzanne Crawford		Term expires 2016
Moderator		
Kirby (“Lark”) Thwing		Term expires 2015
Auditor		
Carla Clark		Term expires 2015

TOWN OFFICIALS – APPOINTED BY SELECTMEN

(Unless otherwise indicated, terms are for 1 year)

Treasurer (1-yr term)
Elizabeth Nichols Term expires 2015

Tax Title Custodian (1-yr term)
Elizabeth Nichols Term expires 2015

Tax Collector (3-yr term)
Elizabeth Nichols Term expires 2015
(to fill Charles Stetson term)

Administrative Assistant/Assistant Treasurer
Virginia Gabert

Superintendent of Streets
Richard Gould

Tree Warden
Richard Gould

Police Chief
Stephen Deane

Police Officer
David Rich

Fire Chief/Forest Fire Warden/Emergency Management Director
Gregory Cox

Animal Control Officer
Chris Tirone

Constable
George Rice

Inspectors:
Franklin County Cooperative Building Inspector Program
James D. Hawkins, Commissioner
James Cerone, Inspector

Franklin County Cooperative Wiring Inspector
Thomas McDonald

Franklin County Cooperative Plumbing and Gas Inspector
Andrew French

Inspector of Animals
Jason Velazquez

Representative to Veterans Service Center
Chris Tirone & Kevin Richardson

Boards and Committees:

(Unless otherwise indicated, terms are for one year)

Planning Board

Lloyd Crawford	Term expires 2018
Margaret Fitzpatrick	Term expires 2017
Peter Beck	Term expires 2016
Henry Eggert	Term expires 2015
Kathryn Sternstein	Term expires 2019

Board of Appeals

(vacant)	Term expires 2015
(vacant)	Term expires 2016
(vacant)	Term expires 2017

Conservation Commission

Lloyd Crawford, Chairman	Term expires 2017
Margaret Fitzpatrick	Term expires 2017
Robert Taylor	Term expires 2016
(vacant)	Term expires 2016
(vacant)	Term expires 2015

Historical Commission

Kirby Thwing, Jr.	Term expires 2015
Ray Gotta	Term expires 2015
John Sears	Term expires 2016
Bob Root	Term expires 2016
Pamela Shrimpton	Term expires 2017

Registrar of Voters (terms expire March 31)

Pamela Shrimpton
Melanie Poudrier
Margaret Eggert
Daniel Hoyt

Election Officers (terms expire August 31)

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

Council on Aging

Joyce Charland
Lisa Turner
Ann Falwell

Burial Agent

Pamela Shrimpton

Measurer of Wood and Surveyor of Lumber

Gregory Cox

Town Counsel

Donna MacNicol

Representative to LEPC

Gregory Cox

Representative to Nilman Scholarship Fund (3-year term)

Alice Parker Term expires 2015

Representative to Franklin Regional Council of Governments
Philip Keenan

Representative to Franklin County Cooperative Inspection Program
Philip Keenan

Agricultural Commission	
Jason Velazquez	Term expires 2016
Peter Mitchell	Term expires 2017
Lisa Turner	Term expires 2015

Communications Committee
Jason Velazquez (resigned Feb. 2015)
Rick Kean
Kirby Thwing
Susan Olson
Craig Shrimpton

TOWN OFFICIALS – APPOINTED BY MODERATOR

Finance Committee:	
Lloyd Crawford	Term expires 2018
Carla Clark	Term expires 2019
Kirby Thwing, Jr.	Term expires 2015
Jane Grant	Term expires 2016
Tammy Schofield	Term expires 2017

Message from the Board of Selectmen:

There are vacancies on several of our town boards and committees that we are having difficulty filling. If you are interested in serving the Town, and being appointed to one of these positions, 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 welcome any newcomers.

**ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION WARRANT
(MAY 4, 2015)**

The following officers are to be elected by ballot on **Monday, the fourth day of May, 2015**, for which purpose the polls will be open at 11:45 a.m. and close at 7:00 p.m.:

Selectman (3-year term)
Assessor (3-year term)
Assessor (1-year term)
Auditor (1-year term)
Moderator (1-year term)
Rep to K-12 Committee for Mohawk Trail District (3-year term)
Hawlemont School Committee (3-year term)

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT
(MAY 11, 2015)**

There follows a list of business to come before the Annual Town Meeting. This is a preliminary one, and the final warrant, as posted, may contain additions or alterations.

At **seven o'clock in the evening on Monday, the eleventh day of May, 2015** 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 in relation thereto.

Article 2: To see if the Town will vote to fix the salaries or compensation of the following officers of the Town as provided in Section 108 of Chapter 41, General Laws, as amended, and raise and appropriate the sum of \$71,000.00 for payment of the same, together with such clerical and other office help as the Selectmen may approve, or take any other action relative thereto.

Salaries being voted on are as follows:

Chairman of Selectboard	1,854.00
Selectboard members	1,648.00
Town Clerk	8,755.00
Chairman of Assessors	1,339.00
Assessors members	1,133.00
Tax Collector	5,562.00
Treasurer	7,570.50

Auditor	118.50
Moderator	118.50

Article 3: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following appropriations as recommended by the Selectboard:

	FY15	FY16
Snow Roads	78,800.00	85,000.00
Employee Vacations	8,200.00	8,000.00
Employee Holidays (11)	4,870.00	5,015.00
Employee Sick Days (5)	2,500.00	2,250.00
Employee Health Insurance	24,300.00	24,000.00
Drug and Alcohol Testing	500.00	500.00
Town Insurances	27,000.00	24,000.00
Massachusetts Unemployment	3,000.00	250.00
FICA/Medicare (Town's share)	4,500.00	4,600.00
Town Building Expenses	15,500.00	15,500.00
Selectboard Expenses	2,000.00	2,000.00
Treasurer Expenses	2,000.00	2,000.00
Town Clerk Expenses	600.00	1,000.00
Outside Utilities	200.00	200.00
Finance Committee Expenses	250.00	250.00
Conservation Comm. Expenses	100.00	100.00
Historical Comm. Expenses	100.00	0.00
Planning Board Expenses	100.00	100.00
Zoning Board of Appeal Expenses	500.00	200.00
Assessor's Expenses	4,700.00	3,700.00
Tax Collector Expenses	2,000.00	2,000.00
Board of Health Expenses	250.00	250.00
Town Reports	1,500.00	1,600.00
Bonding	600.00	650.00
Police Department	1,250.00	1,250.00
Emergency Management Expenses	200.00	200.00
Emergency Management Director Salary	1,000.00	1,000.00
Fire Department	10,000.00	10,000.00
Firefighter Stipends	2,000.00	2,000.00
Fire Chief's Salary	2,500.00	2,500.00
Emergency Medical Services	2,500.00	5,000.00
Insect Pest Control	182.00	182.00
Veterans Benefits	2,000.00	2,000.00
Care of Cemeteries	2,000.00	1,500.00
Interest	4,000.00	0.00

The following items do not require a vote, but nevertheless represent amounts which will have to be raised:

W. Franklin Veterans Service Center	766.00	780.00
Franklin County Retirement System	21,112.00	20,505.00
 Total for Article 3	 232,580.00	 230,082.00

Article 4: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$175,000.00 to cover its share of operating expenses of the Hawlemont Regional School District, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$0.00 to cover its share of the capital expenses for the renovations of the Hawlemont Regional School District, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or otherwise provide \$1,800.00 for the purpose of paying certain costs associated with the Hawlemont preschool program or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$133,894.00 to cover its share of the operating expenses of the Mohawk Regional School District, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,944.00 to cover its share of the capital expenses for the renovations of the Mohawk Trail Regional School District, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 9: To see if the Town will vote to allow the Mohawk Trail Regional School District to borrow a sum of money, not to exceed \$250,700 to be expended under the direction of the School Building Committee for repair work to the Mohawk Trail Regional Middle and High School located at 26 Ashfield Road in Buckland, Massachusetts, to include: boiler, doors, locker room, security, ventilation, and window upgrades totaling \$250,700. The proposed repair project would materially extend the useful life of the

school and preserve an asset that otherwise is capable of supporting the required education program, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 10: To see if the Town will vote to allow the Mohawk Trail Regional School District to borrow a sum of money, not to exceed \$90,000 to be expended under the direction of the School Building Committee to purchase a school bus to be used district wide totaling \$90,000. The bus would replace a bus owned by the District in excess of ten years. Or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 11: To see if the Town will vote to amend the MOHAWK TRAIL REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT – REGIONAL DISTRICT AGREEMENT by striking the following language contained in Section III(B):

Subject to the provisions of this section, it is intended that all residents of the member towns of Ashfield, Buckland, Colrain, Heath, Plainfield, and Shelburne (the “K-12 Member Towns”) in grades kindergarten to six, inclusive, will receive their education in facilities located in the District: Ashfield and Plainfield residents at Sanderson Academy; Colrain residents at the Colrain Central School; Buckland and Shelburne residents at the Buckland-Shelburne Regional School and Heath residents at the Heath Elementary School.

And replacing said language with the following:

Subject to the provisions of this section, it is intended that elementary students residing in the member towns of Ashfield, Buckland, Colrain, Heath, Plainfield, and Shelburne (the “K-12 Member Towns”) will receive their education in facilities located in the District and will be assigned as follows: Ashfield and Plainfield residents to Sanderson Academy; Colrain residents to Colrain Central School; Buckland and Shelburne residents to Buckland Shelburne Elementary School and Heath residents to Heath Elementary School. Notwithstanding the above, students may be educated in a District school other than as assigned above upon (i) a majority vote of the School Committee, and (ii) an affirmative vote by both (a) the member town or towns whose students are so assigned, and (b) the member town or towns served by the District school to which such students will be assigned, acceptance by each town to be a majority vote at an annual or special town meeting.

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

Or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 12: To see if the Town will vote to accept the amended Mohawk Trail Regional Agreement (full text available at the Town Office) which provides for the addition of the Town of Rowe as a 7-12 member of the District effective July 1, 2016. Or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$100,000.00, to cover the cost of tuition for students attending vocational schools, any unexpended balance to be carried into the next fiscal year, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000.00 to cover the cost of transportation for students attending vocational schools, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,200.00 for the Tyler Memorial Library, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 16: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$14,400.00 to meet the cost of solid waste disposal in the year beginning July 1, 2015, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 17: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,362.00 to cover its allocated share of the budget for the Franklin County Solid Waste Management District, including household hazardous waste, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 18: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$80,000.00 for the General Highways Account, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 19: To see if the Town will vote to accept any amount available in Chapter 90 road funds available subject to conditions detailed by the Massachusetts Highway Department, with any unexpended balances to be carried forward into the next fiscal year, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 20: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,000.00 for the Reserve Fund, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 21: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to employ counsel and to defend any suit that may be brought against the Town and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,000.00 for the purpose, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 22: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$450.00 for the Right-to-Know budget in anticipation of reimbursement from the State for this expenditure, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 23: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$40,000.00 for Machinery Maintenance, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 24: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$300.00 for use by the Council on Aging, such sum to help the COA qualify for a \$3,500.00 Council on Aging formula grant, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 25: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000.00 for new equipment and grant matching funds for the Fire Department, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 26: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000.00 for a gasoline account, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 27: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,000.00 for internet service expenses, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 28: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000.00 for internet equipment and website expenses, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 29: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,201.00 for its share of the statutory charges (\$193.00); regional services assessments (\$2,858.00); and Regional Emergency Planning Committee assessment (\$150.00) of the FRCOG, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 30: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,364.00 for the Regional Health Agent Program, services provided by the Franklin Regional Council of Governments, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 31: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,500.00 to cover Hawley's share of the compensation for the Franklin County Cooperative Inspector Program, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 32: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,606.53 for Blackboard Connect Notification System, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 33: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$833.24 to cover expenses relating to Emergency Communications Maintenance Assessment, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 34: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$2,000.00 for Landfill Maintenance, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 35: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000.00 for the Town Computer Account to cover periodic upgrades and repairs, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 36: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,200.00 for the FY18 Assessors Revaluation, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 37: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000.00 for periodic independent audits, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 38: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$6,500.00 for Interest Expenses, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 39: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$20,000.00 to make a payment against the Storm Damage loan, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 40: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000.00 to cover the final payment for the purchase of the McCloud property, or take any other action in relation thereto.

(Note: Articles 41 and 42 are still being evaluated by the Finance Committee and Board of Selectmen. These articles will be different on the final Annual Town Meeting Warrant.)

Article 41: To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum from the Highway Equipment Stabilization Fund to pay off the Highway Department truck purchase, or take any other action in relation thereto. (Alternate article: To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum from Free Cash into the Highway Equipment Stabilization Fund, or take any other action in relation thereto.)

Article 42: To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum from the Fire Equipment Stabilization Fund, and a sum from Free Cash to pay off the Fire Pumper purchase, or take any other action in relation thereto. (Alternate article: To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum from Free Cash into the Fire Equipment Stabilization Fund, or take any other action in relation thereto.)

Article 43: To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum from Free Cash into the General Stabilization Fund, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 44: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$30,000.00 required for the FY16 payment for the purchase of the

used Fire Pumper and 1-ton truck, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 45: To see if the Town will vote to authorize a revolving account pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, section 53E ½ for which revenues from fees or fines related to the licensing and care of dogs will be deposited into the fund and expended to purchase dog tags; pay for various expenses in relation to licensing, care and other related dog control expenses under the direction of the Town Clerk, and total expenditures for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2014 will be limited to \$1,000, with all money remaining in the fund at the end of each fiscal year, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 46: To see if the Town will vote to establish a Vocational Education Stabilization Fund, and to transfer any remaining balance in the FY15 Vocational Tuition and Vocational Transportation accounts into said Fund, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 47: To see if the Town will vote to transfer the \$2,000.00 appropriation for a propane heater for the Town Office into the Town Building Maintenance/Renovation account, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 48: To see if the Town will vote to carry the balances in the following accounts over into FY16, or take any other action in relation thereto. (Amounts listed are as of March 31. Actual amounts at the end of the Fiscal Year may be less.)

Audit	840.00
Tax Title & Foreclosure Costs	8,530.50
Town Building Maintenance/Renovation	12,111.83
(plus \$2,000 from article 47)	
Surplus Equipment	900.00
Employee Sick Pay	16,005.44
Continuing Education (Town Officers)	3,898.88
Assessors Revaluation	89.73
Council on Aging	1,898.98
General Highways – carry over	33,031.98

Article 49: To see if the Town will vote to close the balances in the following accounts to Surplus Revenue, or take any other action in relation

thereto. (Amounts listed are as of March 31. Actual amounts at the end of the Fiscal Year may be less.)

Land Sale/Auction Expenses	2,760.11
Town Computer Account	864.12
Tri-Town Landfill	6,336.33
Tri-Town Landfill/McCloud Purchase	21,765.58
Handicap Access Town Buildings	786.05
Dry Hydrants	400.00
Town Garage Construction	23,798.87
Fire Equipment/Grant Match	1,116.78

Article 50: To see if the Town will vote to accept as public way the Roadway layout shown on a plan entitled "Savoy Road" prepared for the Town of Hawley by McFarland Johnson, Inc. dated April _____ 2015 and recorded in the Franklin County Registry of Deeds in Book _____ Page _____ or take any action in relation thereto.

Article 51: To see if the Town will vote to accept all Temporary and Permanent easements shown on a plan entitled "Savoy Road" prepared for the Town of Hawley by McFarland Johnson, Inc. dated April _____ 2015 and recorded in the Franklin County Registry of Deeds in Book _____ Page _____ or take any action in relation thereto.

Article 52: To see if the Town will vote to adopt a Personnel Committee to oversee Position Description maintenance (drafting and updating); Personnel Policy interpretation and administration; candidate search and new employee orientation. The Selectboard will appoint five members to this Committee, two for one-year; two for two-years and one for three-years. Thereafter the terms will be set for three years. Or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 53: To transact any other business that legally may come before the Town Meeting.

Philip C. Keenan, **Chairman**

John Sears

Robert MacLean

Selectboard

NOTE: There will be an informational meeting on Tuesday, May 5, 2015 at 7:00pm at the Hawley Town Office.

REVIEW OF TOWN MEETINGS AND ELECTIONS IN 2014

Annual Town Meeting Minutes May 5, 2014

The following officers were elected by ballot and the following questions were voted on by ballot:

Selectman (3-year term) **elected: John Sears**
Assessor (3-year term) **elected: Rick Kean**
Town Clerk (3-year term) **elected: Pamela Shrimpton**
Auditor (1-year term) **elected: Kirby Lark Thwing**
Moderator (1-year term) **elected: Kirby Lark Thwing**
Rep to K-12 Committee for Mohawk Trail District (3-year term)
TBD
Hawlemont School Committee (3-year term) **TBD**

Question 1: Shall the Town of Hawley be allowed to exempt from the provision of Proposition two and one-half, so called, the amounts required to pay for the bond issued in order to purchase a new Highway Department Truck? Yes ___ No ___ **YES**

Question 2: Shall the Town vote to have its elected Tree Warden become an appointed Tree Warden of the town? Yes ___ No ___ **YES**

At eight o'clock in the evening the meeting will convene to act on the following articles, following a brief demonstration of the high speed internet by the Communications Committee:

A demonstration of high speed internet was conducted by Rick Kean of the Communications Committee outside of the Town Office while waiting for the election results to be calculated.

The meeting convened at 9:30 pm outside the Town Office due to the fact that the Election Officers were calculating the results and the hour was getting late. Shortly after 9:30 pm, the meeting moved inside. 28 registered voters were present.

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

Article 2: To see if the Town will vote to fix the salaries or compensation of the following officers of the Town as provided in Section 108 of Chapter 41, General Laws, as amended, and raise and appropriate the sum of \$68,500.00 for payment of the same, together with such clerical and other office help as the Selectmen may approve.

Salaries being voted on are as follows:

Chairman of Selectboard	1854.00
Selectboard members	1648.00
Town Clerk	8755.00
Chairman of Assessors	1339.00
Assessors members	1133.00
Tax Collector	5562.00
Auditor	118.50
Moderator	118.50
Treasurer	7570.50

Passed unanimously.

Article 3: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following appropriations as recommended by the Selectboard:

Snow Roads	78,800.00
Employee Vacations	8,200.00
Employee Holidays (11)	4,870.00
Employee Sick Days (5)	2,500.00
Employee Health Insurance	24,300.00
Drug and Alcohol Testing	500.00
Town Insurances	27,000.00
Massachusetts Unemployment	3,000.00
FICA/Medicare (Town's share)	4,500.00
Town Building Expenses	15,500.00
Selectboard Expenses	2,000.00
Treasurer Expenses	2,000.00
Town Clerk Expenses	600.00
Outside Utilities	200.00
Finance Committee Expenses	250.00
Conservation Comm. Expenses	100.00

Historical Comm. Expenses	100.00
Planning Board Expenses	100.00
Zoning Board of Appeal Expenses	500.00
Assessor's Expenses	4,700.00
Tax Collector Expenses	2,000.00
Board of Health Expenses	250.00
Town Reports	1,500.00
Bonding	600.00
Police Department	1,250.00
Emergency Management Expenses	200.00
Emergency Management Director Salary	1,000.00
Fire Department	10,000.00
Firefighter Stipends	2,000.00
Fire Chief's Salary	2,500.00
EMT Equipment	2,500.00
Insect Pest Control	182.00
Veterans Benefits	2,000.00
Care of Cemeteries	2,000.00
Interest	4,000.00

The following items do not require a vote, but nevertheless represent amounts which will have to be raised:

W. Franklin Veterans Service Center	766.00
Franklin County Retirement System	21,112.00

Total for Article 3 232,580.00

Correction to the Assessor's expenses: \$3,700. Total remains the same.

Passed unanimously.

Article 4: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$165,042.00 to cover its share of operating expenses of the Hawlemont Regional School District. **Passed unanimously.**

Article 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$0.00 to cover its share of the capital expenses for the renovations of the Hawlemont Regional School District. **Passed unanimously.**

Article 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or otherwise provide \$1,800.00 for the purpose of paying certain costs associated with the Hawlemont preschool program. **Removed the words “or otherwise provide.” Language revised to “raise and appropriate.” Passed unanimously.**

Article 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$146,290.00 to cover its share of the operating expenses of the Mohawk Regional School District. **Passed unanimously.**

Article 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,455.00 to cover its share of the capital expenses for the renovations of the Mohawk Trail Regional School District. **Passed unanimously.**

Article 9: To see if the Town will vote to allow the Mohawk Trail Regional School District to borrow a sum of money not to exceed \$542,778 to be expended under the direction of the School Building Committee for repair work to the Mohawk Trail Regional Middle & High School located at 26 Ashfield Road in Buckland, Massachusetts, to include drainage upgrades, parking lot resurfacing, re-pointing/re-caulking work, floor replacements, heating, ventilation and air condition upgrades, auditorium lighting equipment upgrades and installation of a second means of egress from main electrical switchgear room totaling \$542,778. The proposed repair project would materially extend the useful life of the school and preserve an asset that otherwise is capable of supporting the required education program. **A discussion ensued and the School Superintendent reviewed the article. Charles Stetson made a motion to table until more information is obtained. Motion was opposed by majority vote. Greg Cox made a motion to amend the article subject to passage of a debt exclusion. The language was revised to include that the article be subject to passage of a debt exclusion. Amended article passed unanimously.**

Article 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$95,000.00, and transfer \$40,000 from Free Cash, to cover the cost of tuition for students attending vocational schools, any unexpended balance to be carried into the next fiscal year. **Tedd White made a motion to amend the article to make the entire sum appropriated**

and leave the free cash alone – motion to amend was opposed by majority vote. Original article passed – 1 abstention and 2 opposed.

Article 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$40,000.00 to cover the cost of transportation for students attending vocational schools. **Passed unanimously.**

Article 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,200.00 for the Tyler Memorial Library. **Passed unanimously.**

Article 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$14,400.00 to meet the cost of solid waste disposal in the year beginning July 1, 2014. **Passed unanimously.**

Article 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,250.00 to cover its allocated share of the budget for the Franklin County Solid Waste Management District, including household hazardous waste. **Passed unanimously.**

Article 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$80,000.00 for the General Highways Account. **Passed unanimously.**

Article 16: To see if the Town will vote to accept any amount available in Chapter 90 road funds available subject to conditions detailed by the Massachusetts Highway Department, with any unexpended balances to be carried forward into the next fiscal year. **Passed unanimously.**

Article 17: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$2,000.00 for the Reserve Fund. **Passed unanimously.**

Article 18: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to employ counsel and to defend any suit that may be brought against the Town and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,500.00 for the purpose. **Passed unanimously.**

Article 19: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$450.00 for the Right-to-Know budget in anticipation of reimbursement from the State for this expenditure. **Passed unanimously.**

Article 20: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$47,000.00 for Machinery Maintenance. **Passed unanimously.**

Article 21: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$300.00 for use by the Council on Aging, such sum to help the COA qualify for a \$3,500.00 Council on Aging formula grant. **Passed unanimously.**

Article 22: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000.00 for new equipment and grant matching funds for the Fire Department. **Passed unanimously.**

Article 23: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000.00 for a gasoline account. **Passed unanimously.**

Article 24: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,800.00 for internet service expenses. **Passed unanimously.**

Article 25: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or otherwise provide the sum of \$1,000.00 for WiredWest. **Charles Stetson stated that he was under the impression that towns would not have to contribute to WiredWest. Susan Olson explained that the project has morphed and is now partially funded by the state and federal governments. Hussain Hamdan pointed out that bringing fiber to all homes is a 100 million dollar project. Craig Shrimpton asked if the \$1000 would be a fee or a donation and Susan explained it is assessed as a membership fee to the coop. Hussain gave his ideas for other possible technologies. Dave Rich pointed out that things always cost more than initially expected. Susan pointed out there has always been the expectation that there would be a cost to this project. Hussain is skeptical of WW and does believe 100 million will be enough. Rick Kean stated that WW is the only entity fighting to get high speed internet here. Passed – 2 opposed.**

Article 26: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,567.00 for its share of the statutory charges (\$1,537.00); regional services assessments (\$1,930.00); and Regional Emergency Planning Committee assessment (\$100.00) of the FRCOG. **Passed unanimously.**

Article 27: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,364.34 for the Regional Health Agent Program, services provided by the Franklin Regional Council of Governments. **Passed unanimously.**

Article 28: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,500.00 to cover Hawley's share of the compensation for the Franklin County Cooperative Inspector Program. **Passed unanimously.**

Article 29: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,600.00 for Blackboard Connect Notification System. **Passed unanimously.**

Article 30: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$772.22 to cover expenses relating to Emergency Communications Maintenance Assessment. **Passed unanimously.**

Article 31: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$21,440.00 to cover this year's payment for the purchase of the McCloud property (principal payment of \$20,000.00 and interest payment of \$1,440.00). **Passed unanimously.**

Article 32: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$23,454.25 to cover this year's payment for the purchase of the loader (principal payment of \$23,000.00 and interest payment of \$454.25). **Passed unanimously.**

Article 33: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum required for the FY15 payment for the purchase of a used Fire Pumper. **Tedd White motioned to table the article. Motion to table article opposed by majority vote. The Finance Committee recommended taking \$10,000 from the Fire Department Stabilization Fund and \$12,425 from free cash. Motion approved. Article passed unanimously.**

Article 34: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or otherwise provide a sum or sums for the Town Computer Account to cover periodic upgrades and repairs, with any unexpended balance to be carried into the next fiscal year. **Hussain motioned to table until a**

specific sum is established. Motion to table the article passed unanimously.

Article 35: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or otherwise provide a sum or sums for the Town Building maintenance and renovation account, with any unexpended balance to be carried into the next fiscal year. **Motion to table the article passed unanimously.**

Article 36: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000.00 to cover continuing education and conferences expenses for town officers in FY15 with any remaining balance to be carried into the next fiscal year, expenditures from this account to be approved in advance by the Board of Selectmen. **Passed unanimously.**

Article 37: To see if the Town will vote to authorize a revolving account pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, section 53E ½ for which revenues from fees or fines related to the licensing and care of dogs will be deposited into the fund and expended to purchase dog tags; pay for various expenses in relation to licensing, care and other related dog control expenses under the direction of the Town Clerk, and total expenditures for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2014 will be limited to \$1,000, with all money remaining in the fund at the end of each fiscal year. **Passed unanimously.**

Article 38: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$5,000.00 for Landfill Maintenance. **Passed unanimously.**

Article 39: To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$10,000.00 from Free Cash to the Fire Equipment Stabilization Fund. **Lloyd Crawford made a motion to table the article. Motion to table the article passed unanimously.**

Article 40: To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$10,000.00 from Free Cash to the Highway Equipment Stabilization Fund. **Passed unanimously.**

Article 41: To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$12,000.00 from Free Cash to the Interest Account to cover interest on the Storm Damage loan. **Passed unanimously.**

Article 42: To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$10,000.00 from Free Cash to make a payment on the Storm Damage loan. **Passed unanimously.**

Article 43: To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$10,308.33 from Free Cash to the FY14 Snow Roads account. **Passed unanimously.**

Article 44: To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$2,000.00 from Free Cash to replace the propane heater at the Town Office. **Passed unanimously.**

Article 45: To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$2,500.00 from Free Cash to the FY14 Town Buildings account. **Passed unanimously.**

Motion was made to reverse the order of Articles 46 and 47. Motion passed unanimously.

Article 46: To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum from the Highway Department Equipment Stabilization Fund for the purchase of a new Highway Department Truck. **Discussion ensued as to the need to specify a sum. Unanimous vote to table the article.**

Article 47: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and borrow a sum of money not to exceed \$150,000.00 to purchase a new Highway Department Truck, and to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, to issue any bonds or notes that may be necessary for that purpose, as authorized by General Laws Chapter 44, section 7(9), or any other general or special law, for a period not to exceed five years, provided, however, that this appropriation and debt authorization be contingent upon passage of a Proposition 2 ½ debt exclusion referendum under General Laws Chapter 59, section 21C (i½). **Hussain made a motion to table the article – opposed. Motion to table the article passed with 1 abstention.**

Article 48: To transact any other business that legally may come before the Town Meeting. **No other town meeting business was brought before the town.**

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Pamela Shrimpton
Town Clerk

**Special Town Meeting Minutes
October 16, 2014**

The meeting was convened at 7:00 p.m. 38 registered voters were present.

Article 1: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the selectmen, pursuant to M.G.L. c. 41, section 55, to *appoint a town Accountant* **(amended to: create the position of Town Accountant*)** for a term of *one year* **(amended to three years*)** for the Town of Hawley, who shall perform the duties and possess the powers of a town auditor, faithfully perform his/her duties, and hold no other town office involving the receipt or disbursement of money; and, further that the Town vote to abolish the position of Town Auditor.

Tedd White made a motion to table Article 1. After much discussion, a vote was taken by hand. 12 votes Yes to table, 23 No not to table. Per Tedd's request, a paper vote was taken. 14 votes Yes to table, 23 votes No to not table, 1 abstention. Motion to table defeated. Changes to the language of Article 1 were discussed. A motion to vote on said changes was made. A vote was taken by hand to revise the language and accept the changes – *see bolded text above. Changes accepted by a majority vote of hands. A new vote to table the article was taken. 13 votes Yes to table, 25 votes No to not table. Second Motion to table defeated. After more discussion regarding Article 1 a paper vote was taken. 18 votes Yes and 14 votes No. Article 1 was passed.

Article 2: To see if the Town will vote to set the salary for the Town Accountant for FY15, and further to raise and appropriate a sum to cover compensation for a partial year.

Tedd made a motion to table Article 2. After much heated discussion, a paper vote was taken. 11 votes Yes to table, 17 vote No to not table. Motion to table defeated. Rick Kean made a motion to adjourn the meeting and the general consensus was in favor of adjourning. Article 2 was not resolved.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m. To be continued at a later date, to be determined.

Article 3: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$300 additional for the Bonding account for FY15, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 4: To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum from Free Cash to purchase municipal accounting software, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 5: To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$2,500 from Free Cash to purchase office equipment for the Treasurer/Collectors office, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 6: To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$6,000 from Free Cash to cover an “Agreed Upon Procedural Engagement” (in place of a comprehensive audit), or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 7: To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$4,000 from Free Cash to cover costs associated with the Assessors Reval, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 8: To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$12,000 from Free Cash to cover engine repairs for the 1995 L8000 truck, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 9: To see if the Town will vote to establish an EMT Training Fund, and to transfer \$2,000 from Free Cash for such fund, with any balance remaining at the end of the fiscal year to be carried forward to future fiscal years, or take any other action in relation thereto

Article 10: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Assessors to negotiate, on behalf of the Town, a PILOT agreement with All Earth Renewables for the solar installation at Berkshire East, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 11: To see if the Town will vote to approve the PILOT agreement drafted by the Board of Assessors with AllEarth Renewables

for the solar installation at Berkshire East, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 12: To see if the Town will vote to rescind Article 20 from the Annual Town Meeting of March 1, 1976, setting the date of the Annual Town Meeting to the first Monday in May.

Article 13: To see if the Town will vote to change the Annual Town Meeting date to the second Monday in May, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 14: To see if the Town will vote to adopt a Personnel Committee to oversee Position Description maintenance (drafting and updating); Personnel Policy interpretation and administration; candidate search and new employee orientation. The Selectboard will appoint five members to this Committee, two for one-year; two for two-years and one for three-years. Thereafter the terms will be set for three years. Or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 15: To transact any other business that legally may come before the Town Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Pamela Shrimpton
Town Clerk

**Special Town Meeting Minutes
November 13, 2014**

The meeting was convened at 7:00 pm. 62 registered voters were present.

Article 1: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Assessors to negotiate, on behalf of the Town, a PPTA (Personal Property Tax Agreement) with AllEarth Services, LLC for the solar installation at Berkshire East.

Approved with 1 opposed.

Article 2: To see if the Town will vote to approve the PPTA (Personal Property Tax Agreement) drafted by the Board of Assessors with AllEarth Services, LLC for the solar installation at Berkshire East.
Approved unanimously.

Article 3: To see if the Town will vote to rescind Article 20 from the Annual Town Meeting of March 1, 1976, setting the date of the Annual Town Meeting to the first Monday in May.
Approved unanimously.

Article 4: To see if the Town will vote to change the Annual Town Meeting date to the second Monday in May.
Approved unanimously.

Article 5: To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$6,000 from Free Cash to cover an “Agreed Upon Procedural Engagement” (in place of an independent comprehensive audit).
Approved with 5 opposed and 5 abstentions.

Article 6: To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$12,000 from Free Cash to cover engine repairs for the 1995 L8000 truck.
Approved unanimously.

Article 7: (included by petition) To see if the Town will vote to repeal Article 1 of the Town Meeting of October 16, 2014, which Article had established the appointed position of Town Accountant; to thereby abolish said position of Town Accountant; and furthermore, to re-establish the elected office of Town Auditor, which had been abolished by said Article.
Approved (by paper vote) by 30 votes with 29 opposed and 3 abstentions.

Article 8: To transact any other business that legally may come before the Town Meeting.
There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Pamela Shrimpton
Town Clerk

REPORT OF DISBURSEMENTS (FY2014)

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

TOWN OFFICERS

Appropriated	\$62,000.00
Extended Polling Hours	\$1,451.00
Expended	\$52,956.93
Balance to Surplus Revenue	\$10,494.07

EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE

Appropriated	\$24,300.00
Expended	\$19,858.20
Balance to Surplus Revenue	\$4,441.80

DRUG & ALCOHOL TESTING

Appropriated	\$500.00
Expended	\$267.00
Balance to Surplus Revenue	\$233.00

TOWN INSURANCE

Appropriated	\$27,000.00
Expended	\$21,921.62
Balance to Surplus Revenue	\$5,078.38

MASS UNEMPLOYMENT

Appropriated	\$3,000.00
Expended	\$215.51
Balance to Surplus Revenue	\$2,784.49

FICA/ MEDICARE

Appropriated	\$4,000.00
Transferred from Reserve	\$154.13
Expended	\$4,154.13

TOWN BUILDING EXPENSE

Appropriated	\$13,000.00
Transferred from Reserve	\$589.85
Expended	\$13,589.85

TOWN REPORTS

Appropriated	\$1,500.00
Expended	\$1,440.45
Balance to Surplus Revenue	\$59.55

BONDING		
Appropriated		\$500.00
Transferred from Reserve		\$209.48
Expended	\$709.48	
SELECTBOARD EXPENSES		
Appropriated		\$2,000.00
Expended	\$1,772.12	
Balance to Surplus Revenue		\$227.88
TREASURER EXPENSES		
Appropriated		\$2,000.00
Expended	\$1,829.43	
Balance to Surplus Revenue		\$170.57
TAX COLLECTOR EXPENSES		
Appropriated		\$2,000.00
Expended	\$1,296.20	
Balance to Surplus Revenue		\$703.80
ASSESSORS EXPENSES		
Appropriated		\$3,500.00
Expended	\$2,926.75	
Balance to Surplus Revenue		\$573.25
ASSESSORS REVAL		
Balance from FY 13		\$3,444.03
Balance to FY 15		\$3,444.03
TOWN CLERK EXPENSE		
Appropriated		\$600.00
Transferred from Reserve		\$80.29
Expended	\$680.29	
OUTSIDE UTILITIES		
Appropriated		\$200.00
Expended	\$138.84	
Balance to Surplus Revenue		\$61.16
FINANCE COMMITTEE EXPENSE		
Appropriated		\$250.00
Expended	\$81.00	
Balance to Surplus Revenue		\$169.00

CONSERVATION COMMISSION EXPENSE		
Appropriated		\$100.00
Expended	\$79.00	
Balance to Surplus Revenue		\$21.00
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS EXPENSE		
Appropriated		\$500.00
Expended	\$64.92	
Balance to Surplus Revenue		\$435.08
HISTORICAL COMMISSION EXPENSE		
Appropriated		\$100.00
Balance from FY 13		\$2,716.89
Balance to FY 15		\$2,816.89
PLANNING BOARD EXPENSE		
Appropriated		\$100.00
Expended	\$0.00	
Balance to Surplus Revenue		\$100.00
BOARD OF HEATH EXPENSE		
Appropriated		\$1,000.00
Expended	\$241.84	
Balance to Surplus Revenue		\$758.16
INSECT PEST CONTROL		
Appropriated		\$182.00
Balance to Surplus Revenue		\$182.00
VETERANS BENEFITS		
Appropriated		\$2,000.00
Expended	\$0.00	
Balance to Surplus Revenue		\$2,000.00
WEST FRANKLIN VETERANS SEVICE CENTER		
Appropriated		\$744.00
Expended	\$735.00	
Balance to Surplus Revenue		\$9.00
CARE OF CEMETERIES		
Appropriated		\$2,000.00
Expended	\$1,260.00	
Balance to Surplus Revenue		\$740.00

INTEREST

Interest on Short Term Debt

Appropriated	\$4,000.00
From Free Cash	\$12,000.00
Expended	
loader	\$908.50
storm damage	\$4,113.54
McCloud Prop.	\$2,160.00
Balance to Surplus Revenue	\$8,817.96

Interest on Long Term Debt

Appropriated	\$3,560.00
Expended	\$454.25
Balance to Surplus Revenue	\$3,105.75

FRANKLIN COUNTY RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Appropriated	\$20,875.00
Expended	\$20,487.00
Balance to Surplus Revenue	\$388.00

TYLER MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Appropriated	\$1,000.00
Expended	\$1,000.00
Balance to Surplus Revenue	\$0.00

FRANKLIN COUNTY COOP BUILDING INSPECTION PROGRAM

Appropriated	\$3,500.00
Expended	\$3,500.00
Balance to Surplus Revenue	\$0.00

SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL

Appropriated	\$14,400.00
Expended	\$14,400.00
Balance to Surplus Revenue	\$0.00

FRANKLIN COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Appropriated	\$1,145.00
Expended	\$945.00
Balance to Surplus Revenue	\$200.00

RESERVE FUND

Appropriated	\$2,000.00
Expended	\$891.54
Balance to Surplus Revenue	\$1,108.46

LEGAL COUNSEL		
Appropriated		\$5,000.00
Expended	\$1,062.91	
Balance to Surplus Revenue		\$3,937.09
RIGHT TO KNOW		
Appropriated from Free Cash		\$450.00
Balance to Surplus Revenue		\$450.00
FRCOG ASSESSMENTS		
Appropriated		\$3,380.00
Expended	\$3,380.00	
Balance to Surplus Revenue		\$0.00
COMMUNITY PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM		
Appropriated		\$1,954.00
Expended	\$1,954.00	
Balance to Surplus Revenue		\$0.00
TOWN BUILDING MAINTENANCE & RENOVATIONS		
Balance from FY 13		\$12,813.04
Expended	\$637.40	
Balance to FY 15		\$12,175.64
HANDICAP ACCESS		
Balance from FY 13		\$786.05
Balance to FY 15		\$786.05
COMPUTER ACCOUNT		
Appropriated		\$2,000.00
Balance from FY 13		\$1,371.81
Expended	\$1,442.71	
Balance to FY 15		\$1,929.10
INTERNET SERVICE EXPENSE		
Appropriated		\$1,800.00
Transferred from Reserve		\$67.27
Expended	\$1,867.27	
INTERNET ACCESS (INSTALLATION/EQUIPMENT)		
From Free Cash		\$1,500.00
Expended	\$1,416.83	
Balance to FY 15		\$83.17

COUNCIL ON AGING		
Balance from FY 13		\$4,298.98
Appropriated		\$300.00
Donation		\$50.00
Expended	\$3,050.00	
Balance to FY 15		\$1,598.98

COUNCIL ON AGING (GRANT)		
Balance from FY 13		\$3,746.14
Grant		\$3,918.14
Expended	\$4,167.58	
Balance to FY 15		\$3,496.70

HCI GRANT		
Balance from FY 13		\$3,150.94
Balance to FY 15		\$3,150.94

AUDIT		
Balance from FY 13		\$14,941.25
Expended	\$14,101.25	
Balance to FY 15		\$840.00

LANDFILL CLOSURE/MAINTENANCE		
Appropriated		\$5,000.00
Balance from FY 13		\$24.59
Expended	\$1,938.27	
Balance to FY 15		\$3,086.32

TRI-TOWN LANDFILL/MC CLOUD PURCHASE		
Balance from FY 13		\$21,765.58
Balance to FY 15		\$21,765.58

SURPLUS EQUIPMENT		
Balance from FY 13		\$900.00
Balance to FY 15		\$900.00

TAX TITLE/FORECLOSURE COSTS		
Balance from FY 13		\$6,030.50
Appropriated	\$2,500.00	
Balance to FY 15		\$8,530.50

LAND SALES/AUCTION		
Balance from FY 13		\$2,760.11
Balance to FY 15		\$2,760.11

CONTINUING EDUCATION TOWN OFFICERS

Appropriated		\$1,000.00
Balance from FY 13		\$2,232.00
Expended	\$50.00	
Balance to FY 15		\$3,182.00

DOG FUND

Balance from FY 13		\$3,167.43
Receipts		585.00
Expended	\$68.57	
Balance to FY 15		\$3,638.86

POLICE DEPARTMENT

POLICE DEPARTMENT EXPENSE

Appropriated		\$1,250.00
Expended	\$1,046.25	
Balance to Surplus Revenue		\$203.75

DARE GRANT

Balance from FY 13		\$929.02
Balance to FY 15		\$929.02

COMMUNITY POLICING GRANT

Balance from FY 13		\$3,975.59
Expended	\$585.00	
Balance to FY 15		\$3,390.59

FIRE DEPARTMENT

FIRE DEPARTMENT GENERAL

Appropriated		\$10,000.00
Expended	\$9,493.62	
Balance to Surplus Revenue		\$506.38

FIRE CHIEF SALARY

Appropriated		\$2,500.00
Expended	\$2,500.00	

EMT EQUIPMENT

Appropriated		\$2,500.00
Expended	\$248.71	
Balance to Surplus Revenue		\$2,251.29

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT		
Appropriated		\$200.00
Expended	\$108.03	
Balance to Surplus Revenue		\$91.97
REGIONAL EMERG. MANAGEMENT PLANNING COMMITTEE		
Appropriated		\$100.00
Expended	\$100.00	
EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS		
Appropriated		\$2,154.04
Expended	\$2,154.04	
DRY HYDRANTS		
Balance from FY 13		\$400.00
Balance to FY 15		\$400.00
FIRE EQUIPMENT GRANT		
Balance from FY 13		\$801.43
Appropriated		\$1,000.00
Expended	\$884.65	
Balance to FY 15		\$916.78
NIMS EDUCATION		
Balance from FY 13		\$500.00
Balance to FY 15		\$500.00
HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT		
GENERAL HIGHWAYS		
Balance from FY 13		\$24,065.15
Appropriated		\$78,500.00
Expended		
Labor	\$56,814.15	
Materials	\$17,780.35	
Chapter 90	\$758.50	
Balance to FY 15		\$28,729.15
CHAPTER 90		
Balance from FY 13		\$348,891.59
Received Comm of Mass		\$207,141.00
Expended	\$251,298.05	
Balance to FY 15		\$304,734.54

SNOW ROADS		
Appropriated		\$75,800.00
From Free Cash		\$10,308.33
Expended		
Labor	\$39,749.14	
Materials	\$46,359.19	

MACHINERY MAINTENANCE		
Appropriated		\$48,000.00
Expended	\$36,887.30	
Balance to Surplus Revenue		\$11,112.70

EMPLOYEE VACATION PAY		
Carried from FY 13		\$2,713.52
Appropriated		\$8,460.00
Expended	\$7,306.68	
R Gould	\$3,487.68	
W Clark	\$2,401.20	
V Gabert	\$1,417.80	
Carried to FY 15		\$1,153.32
Balance to Surplus Revenue		\$2,713.52

EMPLOYEE HOLIDAY PAY		
Appropriated		\$4,727.00
Expended	\$4,225.84	
Balance to Surplus Revenue		\$501.16

EMPLOYEE SICK PAY		
Balance from FY 13		\$14,351.04
Appropriated		\$2,500.00
Expended	\$2,156.72	
R Gould	\$1,356.32	
W Clark	\$800.40	
V Gabert	\$0.00	
Balance to FY 15		\$14,694.32

GASOLINE ACCOUNT		
Appropriated		\$3,000.00
Expended	\$2,915.36	
Balance to Surplus Revenue		\$84.64

TOWN GARAGE CONSTRUCTION		
Balance from 2013		\$23,798.87
Balance to 2015		\$23,798.87

HIGHWAY LOADER PAYMENT

Appropriated	\$23,000.00
Expended	\$23,000.00

SCHOOL DEPARTMENTS

HAWLEMONT OPERATING

Appropriated	\$153,129.00
Expended	\$153,128.62
Balance to Surplus Revenue	\$0.38

HAWLEMONT CAPITAL

Appropriated	\$1,492.00
Expended	\$1,492.00

MOHAWK OPERATING

Appropriated	\$139,145.00
Expended	\$139,144.92
Balance to Surplus Revenue	\$0.08

MOHAWK CAPITAL

Appropriated	\$4,480.00
Expended	\$4,479.39
Balance to Surplus Revenue	\$0.61

VOCATIONAL TUITION

Appropriated	\$57,000.00
Expended	\$52,790.00
Balance to Surplus Revenue	\$4,210.00

VOCATIONAL TRANSPORTATION

Appropriated	\$40,000.00
Expended	\$18,533.03
Balance to Surplus Revenue	\$21,466.97

HAWLEMONT PRESCHOOL

Appropriated	\$1,800.00
Expended	\$1,800.00

ACCOUNTING OF FREE CASH FY2014

FREE CASH CERTIFIED AS OF 07-01-2013		\$ 201,738.00
5/5/2014	VOCATIONAL TUITION	40,000.00
(ATM)	RESERVE FUND	2,000.00
	RIGHT TO KNOW	450.00
	INTEREST STORM DAMAGE LOAN	12,000.00
	PUMPER PAYMENT	12,425.00
	STORM DAMAGE LOAN PAYMENT	10,000.00
	HWY EQUIPMENT STABILIZATION	10,000.00
	PROPANE HEATER FOR TOWN OFFICE	2,000.00
	FY14 SNOW ROADS EXP	10,308.33
	FY14 TOWN BUILDINGS	2,500.00
TOTAL TRANSFERS		\$ 101,683.33
BALANCE OF FREE CASH AS OF 6-30-14		\$ 100,054.67

ACCOUNTS CLOSED TO SURPLUS REVENUE FY2014

Reserve Fund	1,108.46	Mohawk capital exp	0.61
Reconciliation Discrepancies	0.69	Hawlemont operating exp	-0.38
Accountant/Auditor Salary	115.00	Mohawk operating exp	-0.08
Treasurer Salary	1,225.00	Vocational Transportation	21,466.97
Other Officers Salaries	9,154.07	Vocational tuition	4,210.00
Extended polling hours	1,451.00	Machinery Maintenance	11,028.06
Town Reports	59.55	Gasoline	84.64
Bonding	-209.48	Solid Waste (FCSWMD)	200.00
Selectboard Expenses	227.88	Outside Utilities	61.16
Tax Collector Expenses	703.80	Insect Pest Control	182.00
Treasurer Expenses	170.57	Veterans Benefits	2,000.00
Assessors Expenses	573.25	W. Franklin Veterans Serv Ctr	9.00
Finance Committee Expenses	169.00	Interest on Long-term Debt	3,105.75
Conservation Comm. Exp	21.00	Interest on Short-term debt	8,817.96
Zoning Board Expenses	435.08	Mass. Unemployment	2,784.49
Planning Board Expenses	100.00	Employee Health Insurance	4,441.80
Care of Cemeteries	740.00	Employee holiday pay	501.16
Town Counsel	3,937.09	Insurance	5,078.38
Board of Health Expenses	758.16	Franklin Cty Retirement Syst	388.00
Drug & Alcohol Testing	279.30	Right to know	450.00
Fire Department	506.38	Tailings	1,358.46
Emergency Managment	91.97	Town Counsel	553.94
EMT Equipment	2,251.29	<u>Highway Dept plow</u>	<u>213.65</u>
Police Department	203.75	TOTAL	\$91,008.38

**TREASURER'S REPORT
07-01-13 THRU 06-30-14**

Balance as of 7/1/13	\$1,368,322.37
Receipts:	
Tax Collections:	
Real Estate Taxes	\$717,322.63
Personal Property Taxes	\$23,690.48
Motor Vehicle Taxes	\$35,952.15
In Lieu of Taxes	\$900.00
Penalties & Interest on Taxes	\$5,409.80
PERMITS/FEES/LICENSES:	
Tax Collector Fees	\$2,190.00
Town Clerk Fees	\$218.00
Police Department Fees	\$1,125.00
Copies/Fax/Assessors Reports	\$25.18
Zipline Permit	\$500.00
Board of Health Permits	\$1,912.00
Planning Board Filing Fees	\$175.00
ZBA Filing Fees	\$100.00
Trash Bags/Permits	\$3,004.00
Building Permits	\$0.00
Fire Department Permits	\$110.00
Business/Marriage Licenses	\$200.00
Dog Licenses & Late Fees	\$540.00
Wetland Protection Fees	\$387.50
Bulky Waste Fees	\$387.60
PAYROLL WITHHOLDINGS:	
Federal Tax Withheld	\$18,113.00
FICA/Medicare Withheld	\$4,154.13
Mass Tax Withheld	\$8,422.23
County Retirement Withheld	\$9,735.28
Employee Health Insurance W/H	\$6,634.16
OTHER:	
Vocational Transportation	\$21,264.91
Disaster Assistance	\$5,558.21
Refunds	\$1,473.86
Refund - HRA	\$15,231.38
Surplus Equipment Sale	\$150.00

Interest on Accounts	\$3,931.98
Trust Fund Interest	\$106.80
Donations	\$50.00
Bonding	\$100.00

GRANTS:

Fire Dept Grants	\$3,284.66
COA Grant	\$3,918.14
DEP Recycling Grant	\$499.60

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS:

Chapter 70	\$34,714.00
School Transportation	\$18,657.00
Exemptions (Veterans/Blind)	\$441.00
Exemptions (Elderly)	\$378.00
Unrestricted General Aid	\$37,471.00
SAPL 12 (Library)	\$1,302.95
Extended Polling Hours	\$1,451.00
State Land	\$35,533.00
Cherry Sheet Charges	
Chp. 90 Reimbursement	\$251,298.05
Registry of Motor Vehicles	\$37.50

Historical Comm II account	\$2,293.89
Tailings recognized	\$1,406.90

TOTAL RECEIPTS:	\$1,281,761.97
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BALANCE PLUS RECEIPTS:	\$2,650,084.34
LESS SELECTMEN'S WARRANTS:	\$1,623,443.76
	\$1,026,640.58

BANK ACCOUNT BALANCES AS OF 6/30/14:

Checking Accounts	\$44,495.13
Storm Damage Account	\$13,448.66
Savings Accounts	\$783,112.07
Bicentennial Fund	\$8,721.86
Historical Commission	\$2,294.37

TRUST FUNDS:

Stabilization Account	\$167,483.07
Other Trust Funds	\$7,085.42

\$1,026,640.58

Respectfully submitted,
Elizabeth Nichols, **Treasurer**

BALANCE SHEET

GENERAL FUND

ASSETS

Current Assets		787,998.06
Accounts Receivable		
Personal Property Taxes		
PP Taxes fy09	773.93	
PP Taxes FY10	692.36	
PP Taxes FY11	692.36	
PP Taxes FY12	843.55	
PP Taxes FY13	1,501.52	
PP Taxes FY14	2,021.93	
Total Personal Property Taxes	6,525.65	
Real Estate Taxes		
RE Taxes FY09	1,117.77	
RE Taxes FY10	2,450.69	
RE Taxes FY11	7,420.65	
RE Taxes FY12	8,468.99	
RE Taxes FY13	17,672.05	
RE Taxes FY14	35,501.06	
Total Real Estate Taxes	72,631.21	
Total Taxes due (PP, RE)		79,156.86
Excise Taxes		
Motor Vehicle 2005	26.25	
Motor Vehicle 2006	46.25	
Motor Vehicle 2007	210.21	
Motor Vehicle 2008	142.29	
Motor Vehicle 2009	97.50	
Motor Vehicle 2010	125.83	
Motor Vehicle 2011	255.42	
Motor Vehicle 2012	304.07	
Motor Vehicle 2013	1,528.13	
Motor Vehicle 2014	2,030.83	
Total Excise Taxes	4,766.78	
Total Taxes due (other)		4,766.78
Other tax collections		
Tax Possessions	18,117.48	
Total Other tax collections		18,117.48
State Aid to Highways (a/r)	304,734.54	
Grants (receivable)		
EMPG Grant FFY12	1,790.00	
Total Grants (receivable)		1,790.00
Loans Authorized (asset)		2,678,000.00
Total Current Assets		3,874,563.72

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Liabilities

Other Current Liabilities

Due to Trust(from Gen.)	22.73	
Due to Stabiliz.(from Gen.)	44,246.49	
Temp. Storm Damage Loan	500,000.00	
		544,269.22

Overlay

Overlay fy09	2,495.55	
Overlay fy10	4,593.49	
Overlay fy11	4,159.24	
Overlay fy12	8,970.80	
Overlay fy13	9,366.49	
Overlay FY14	596.73	
Total Overlay control		30,182.30

Deferred Revenue

Motor Vehicle	4,766.78	
Tax Title	0.00	
Tax Possession	18,117.48	
Total Deferred Revenue		22,884.26

Receipts Reserved

Sale-CemeteryLot	2,825.00	
Sale-Real Estate	1,650.00	
Total Receipts Reserved		4,475.00

Payroll Liabilities

283.36

Other continuing appropriations

Audit	840.00
TaxTitle&Forclos.	8,530.50
Land Sale/Auction	2,760.11
Computer Account	1,929.10
Tri-Town Landfill	3,086.32
Tri-Town Landfill/McCloud purch	21,765.58

Town Building maint/renov

12,175.64

Fire Pumper purchase -97,500.00

Handicap Access Town Bldgs

786.05

Internet Access (instal/equip) 83.17

Surplus Equipment 900.00

Dry Hydrants 400.00

Gen. Hwys (carry over) 28,729.15

Garage Construction 23,798.87

Vacation pay carry over 3,866.84

Employee Sick Pay 14,694.32

Continuing Ed.	3,182.00	
Assessors reval	3,444.03	
Historical Comm Exp	2,816.89	
Council on Aging	2,293.89	
Town Counsel (carry over)	1,598.98	
Total Other continuing approp.		40,181.44
Special Revenue liability funds		
Bicentennial Fund	4,016.00	
Hawley Ridge Cons. Fund	1,435.00	
Donations	276.65	
Total Special Revenue liability funds		5,727.65
Revolving Funds		
Dog Fund	3,638.86	
Wetland Protection Fund	1,147.50	
Total Revolving Funds		4,786.36
Additional State/Fed Assistance		
Disaster Assistance	-172,981.88	
Total State/Fed Assistance		-172,981.88
State Revenue		
Pothole funding	27,018.00	
Chapter 90	277,716.54	
Total State Revenue		304,734.54
Grants		
Community Policing	3,390.59	
DARE Grant	929.02	
COA Grant	3,496.70	
HCI Grant	3,150.94	
NIMS education	500.00	
Fire Dept Eq/Grant Match	916.78	
Total Grants		12,384.03
Insurance Reimbursement (theft)		1,021.30
Insurance Reimbursement (flood)		12,084.10
Total Other Current Liabilities		810,031.68
Long Term Liabilities		
Loan Authorized/Unissued	2,678,000.00	
Equity		2,678,000.00
Budget of FY15	86,875.00	
Surplus revenue	299,657.04	
Total Equity		386,532.04
TOTAL LIAB & EQUITY		3,874,563.72

TRUST FUNDS

Trust Funds – cash		
Hoosac CD (Library)	3,697.21	
BWM CD (Cemetery 1)	1,752.53	
BWM CD (Cemetery 2)	1,635.68	
GSB (Stabilization)	167,483.07	
GSB Green Action	61,692.51	
GSB Green Action	2,381.52	
Total Trust Funds - cash		238,642.52
Due from General Fund (to Trust)		22.73
Due from General (toStabiliz)		44,246.49
Total Trust Funds - assets		282,911.74

Trust Funds (equity)		
Library fund	3,697.21	
Cemetery 1 fund	1,775.26	
Cemetery 2 Fund	1,510.68	
Stabilization Fund	105,928.59	
Hwy Dept Eq. Stabiliz. Fund		110,000.00
FireEq. Stabiliz Fund		60,000.00
Total Trust Funds (equity)		282,911.74
Total Trust Funds - liab & equity		282,911.74

DEBT

Long Term Liabilities		
Net Funded Fixed Debt	-63,000.00	63,000.00
Notes Payable		
Note payable - Loader	23,000.00	
Note payable - McCloud land pur	40,000.00	63,000.00

**TAX COLLECTORS REPORT
7-01-13 THRU 6-30-14**

REAL ESTATE	FY	BALANCE ON 07/01/13	COMMITTED AFTER 06/30/14	COLLECTED	ABATED	EXEMPTED	REFUNDED	TAX TAKINGS	OVER PAYMENT	BALANCE ON 06/30/14
	2014	\$0.00	\$741,759.45	\$702,637.74	\$2,640.32	\$4,612.50	\$3,632.17	\$0.00		\$35,501.06
	2013	\$28,425.19		\$11,726.08	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$972.94	\$0.00		\$17,672.05
	2012	\$11,261.03		\$2,820.74			\$28.70			\$8,468.99
	2011	\$7,550.90		\$130.25						\$7,420.65
	2010	\$2,450.69		\$0.00						\$2,450.69
	2009	\$1,125.14		\$7.37						\$1,117.77
PERSONAL PROPERTY		BALANCE ON 07/01/13	COMMITTED AFTER 06/30/13	COLLECTED	ABATED	EXEMPTED	REFUNDED	TAX TAKINGS	OVER PAYMENT	CALCULATED
	FY 2014	\$0.00	\$24,432.69	\$22,490.49					\$79.73	\$2,021.93
	2013	\$2,012.12		\$510.60						\$1,501.52
	2012	\$1,067.94		\$224.39						\$843.55
	2011	\$868.16		\$175.80						\$692.36
	2010	\$868.16		\$175.80						\$692.36
	2009	\$868.68		\$114.75						\$773.93
MOTOR VEHICLE EX		BALANCE ON 07/01/13	COMMITTED AFTER 06/30/13	COLLECTED	ABATED	EXEMPTED	REFUNDED	TAX TAKINGS	OVER PAYMENT	CALCULATED
	FY 2014	\$0.00	\$30,725.85	\$27,730.74	\$1,221.89		\$257.61			\$2,030.83
	2013	\$4,533.66	\$3,156.29	\$6,036.62	\$419.26		\$294.06			\$1,528.13
	2012	\$697.40		\$410.00						\$287.40
	2011	\$1,673.13		\$1,401.04						\$272.09
	2010	\$130.83		\$5.00						\$125.83
	2009	\$97.50								\$97.50
	2008	\$142.29								\$142.29
	2007	\$210.21								\$210.21

BOARD OF ASSESSORS REPORT

The Board of Assessors holds monthly meetings at the Town Office at 7:00pm on the first Wednesday of each month (unless otherwise posted).

2014 was a busy year for the Board of Assessors. In addition to our reval process we had to deal with several new and time consuming activities.

First, we would like to thank all of the taxpayers of Hawley for their cooperation and understanding during our revaluation process over the past year. During the “reval” year, we were required to do in-depth statistical analyses of our valuations. This analysis revealed the necessity to make some general changes to how we value land. This is all based on sales data and is reviewed and confirmed by the Department of Revenue. The changes included: the value of a basic house lot with septic and water was increased slightly (from \$53,000 to \$56,000). The Marshall and Swift “cost tables” were updated. This update caused building values to increase throughout town, which was partially offset by changing the “market adjustment” for single family homes and mobile homes to 85% of the Marshall & Swift calculated value (down from 90% and 95% respectively).

We started the year in a court case. In January, the Supreme Judicial Court (SJC) heard a case between the New England Forestry Foundation and the Town of Hawley (docket SJC-11432: NEFF vs. Hawley Board of Assessors) over the issue of what constitutes tax-exempt land, the result of which was a major disappointment. Despite the fact that an earlier Appellate Tax Board hearing found in favor of the Town on issues that were directly germane to the case, the SJC accepted a much broader definition of the issues. This definition was put forth by NEFF, with the support of a significant array of high-profile conservation organizations, (who saw Hawley vs. NEFF as the ‘test case’ they had been seeking for several years). In the end, the SJC reversed the earlier ruling by the Appellate Tax Board, finding in favor of NEFF and against our Town.

As things now stand, forestry organizations around the State can successfully present their activities as charitable by their very nature and thereby enjoy tax-free status. This is a major setback for Towns throughout the State, particularly those, like Hawley, which have large tracts of land, but also some with much smaller holdings, that are owned by groups that can now operate tax-free. Not surprisingly, many Assessors’ organizations

have expressed their dismay at the decision and have indicated their support of efforts to address the problem via legislation.

The Franklin County Assessors Association and the Massachusetts Association of Assessing Officers recognize the burden the SJC decision has placed on small, rural communities like Hawley, and are supporting our efforts to try to find a solution that will help protect the economic viability of our communities while being consistent with the overall goals of land conservation.

As part of this effort, the Hawley Board of Assessors, with a great deal of administrative help and support from Virginia Gabert, hosted a meeting in September at the Town Office with Senator Benjamin Downing and Representative Paul Mark, Assessors from surrounding Towns and representatives of the Assessors' organizations. At that meeting, several proposals were presented for handling the problem legislatively. At its conclusion, Sen. Downing and Rep. Mark agreed to pursue legislative remedies early in 2015.

We continue our efforts to reconcile our State Owned Land (SOL) data. The Department of Revenue has requested copies of all acquisition deeds and property record cards. As these cover 61 acquisitions between 1923 and 2009, this project is apt to take some time.

We ended the year by successfully negotiating a Personal Property Tax Agreement (PPTA) with All-Earth Services for the approximately 11 acre solar field located on land owned by Berkshire East. Instead of requiring periodic costly appraisals, with fluctuating values, we will be able to count on a specified sum in taxes for the term of the agreement.

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 our assistant, 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 be forced to make their best determination based on exterior data collection.

Any townspeople with questions about their assessments, abatements, or any other related issues are welcome to contact our assistant, Virginia Gabert, at the Town Office. If she is unable to answer your inquiries, she will gather the necessary information, present it to us and contact you with our response.

To assist taxpayers in fulfilling filing requirements, we do an annual mailing early each year to most taxpayers which includes any of the following forms: “Form of List” for those required to pay personal property taxes; “Exemption Application” for certain elderly; blind; veterans; and farmers; and “Form 3ABC” for charitable organizations. Abatement applications are mailed out upon request. The prompt filing of these forms may result in a reduction in taxes, in some cases, and may preserve your right to a full abatement in the case of overvaluation or the avoidance of 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 decreased to \$15.75. We will continue to keep a very close eye on property values and any possible new growth in Hawley over the next year and do interim year adjustments if indicated.

	Personal Property	Real Property	Total Property	Tax Rate per \$1000
2005/2006	1,650,743	29,306,800	30,957,543	18.50
2006/2007	1,221,468	29,737,000	30,958,468	17.99
2007/2008	1,191,180	37,847,900	39,039,080	14.75
2008/2009	1,813,045	45,291,000	47,104,045	13.25
2009/2010	1,810,555	45,280,400	47,090,955	14.65
2010/2011	1,767,315	45,764,500	47,531,815	14.65
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

Real property valuations by location are listed below:

Primary Owner	Property Address	Tax Value
CLARK, BRIAN & SUSAN	0 ASHFIELD ROAD	5,600
DELUCA, ELLEN	0 ASHFIELD ROAD	300
HAY, BENJAMIN & DOUGLAS	0 ASHFIELD ROAD	84,800
LAVALLEY, TANNER	0 ASHFIELD ROAD	28,000
MASSACHUSETTS LAND LEAGUE	0 ASHFIELD ROAD	10,600
MIZULA, MARK & SANDRA	5 ASHFIELD ROAD	137,600
FAY, JOHN C & GLORIA C	12 ASHFIELD ROAD	188,400
SUMNER, STUART & DONNA	17 ASHFIELD ROAD	231,100
LAVALLEY, EUGENE & ARLENE	18 ASHFIELD ROAD	187,900
CLARK, DARWIN, JR.	7 BOZRAH ROAD	220,000
CLARK, ANGELA	17 BOZRAH ROAD	199,800
GRIFFIN, PAUL S. & ELIZABETH H.	19 BOZRAH ROAD	95,600
LATSHANG, EILEEN WESTON	24 BOZRAH ROAD	149,500
BIZZI, RICHARD A	0 BUCKLAND ROAD	34,300
BOGART, MATTHEW M.	0 BUCKLAND ROAD	31,500
BOUFFARD, DENIS & KAREN	0 BUCKLAND ROAD	28,000
CLARK, THOMAS	0 BUCKLAND ROAD	29,400
GRANT, STEPHEN & ELLEN J	0 BUCKLAND ROAD	53,200
RICHARD, MELANIE	0 BUCKLAND ROAD	28,000
ROSENBAUM, LYNNEL & KIM	0 BUCKLAND ROAD	29,100
ROSENBAUM, LYNNEL & KIM	0 BUCKLAND ROAD	31,000
SCHOFIELD, MICHAEL	0 BUCKLAND ROAD	28,200
ULLIAN, KIT JESSE & SHARI	41 BUCKLAND ROAD	281,200
ORZECKOWSKI, PAUL & KIMBERLY	115 BUCKLAND ROAD	141,900
CLARK, DAVID A. & CARLA C.	121 BUCKLAND ROAD	148,500
ULLIAN, FRANK	7 CLARK ROAD	576,800
COTHEY, EDWARD & PAMELA	15 DODGE BRANCH ROAD	714,200
FARROW, RICHARD	0 DODGE CORNER ROAD	29,000
LOWELL, DAVID E. & TAMMY M.	0 DODGE CORNER ROAD	15,700
RICHARDSON, KEVIN	0 DODGE CORNER ROAD	29,600
FRANKLIN LAND TRUST	3 DODGE CORNER ROAD	106,100
HARRIS, WILLIAM R. & CONSTANC	26 DODGE CORNER ROAD	258,900
FARROW, RICHARD & EVELYN	5 DODGE ROAD	215,200
FAIT, HAROLD C.	29 DODGE ROAD	191,300
RICHARDSON, KEVIN	32 DODGE ROAD	280,900
WEEKS, BARBARA	71 DODGE ROAD	103,300
APREA, FERDINAND & GARY	0 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	120,500
C TO THE THIRD POWER, LLC	0 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	54,000
COBB, CHERYL	0 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	500
COBB, CHERYL	0 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	4,400
CULVER, HARRY	0 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	28,800
CULVER, HARRY	0 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	44,800
CULVER, HARRY	0 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	84,600
ESTATE OF GEORGE RICHARDSON	0 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	2,500
FAUFAW, KRISTIE	0 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	34,000

HYYTINEN, SHIRLEY	0 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	28,000
LAWLESS, WILLIAM S	0 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	67,600
QUINNEHTUK COMPANY	0 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	1,000
ROOT, ROBERT W. & SERRA A.	0 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	63,900
MENDE, ROBERT & SHIRLEY	5 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	169,800
WALSH, JAMES & KATHLEEN	8 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	123,900
DUPUIS, SANDRA	24 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	136,000
DUPUIS, RONALD & SANDRA	28 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	214,800
CLARK, MITCHELL	29 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	89,900
GRISWOLD, GORDON & JANICE	31 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	240,400
LEMIEUX, JULIA	42 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	177,100
CLARK, DOROTHY (HEIRS OF)	45 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	125,200
KAMENIDES, MARK P. (ESTATE OF)	49 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	238,500
PARRA, PHILIP W. & PATRICIA JEAN	52 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	249,500
RICE, JAMES & FLORA	54 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	333,800
TANGUAY, EUGENE & PATRICIA	59 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	376,900
BOUCIAS, GREGG & JEAN	67 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	125,400
CLARK, KYLE & DAPHNE	69 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	288,500
CAPLAN, ROBERT	74 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	225,500
ISAACSEN, KIMBERLY TANGUAY	78 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	173,200
TANGUAY, WILLIAM	81 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	264,400
CLARK, TIMOTHY & ROBIN	86 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	131,300
NICOLE PATLIN MILLER REALTY TR	95 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	512,800
EDMONSON, NANCY	98 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	114,700
MCLAUGHLIN, CHRISTINE	103 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	144,000
TRUEHART, LEROY (ESTATE)	104 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	143,300
THOMSON, ELAINE & RAYMOND	106 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	210,600
HOWE, ADAM & KELLY	112 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	199,400
HAGEN, SUSAN & SINTIRIS, WILLIA	115 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	93,800
CARPENTER, PAUL S. & SHERRY A.	116 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	168,500
SHUTTA, STEVEN	120 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	215,100
GARVEY, HOLLY	124 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	237,400
BROWN, LOOCIE & SOMMERS, ELIZ	127 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	201,100
FAUFAW, KRISTIE & SISUM, MICHA	128 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	390,400
OLEFSKY, PAUL & HAI ZHENG	153 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	281,300
SPRING, PATRICIA	168 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	97,700
GOTTA, RAYMOND	235 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	126,300
COLE, WILLIAM G., TRUSTEE	252 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	76,400
SWOPE, JAMES & SUSAN	254 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	175,100
KAPSINOW, JAY	259 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	240,600
SWOPE, JAMES & SUSAN	262 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	73,100
MCGRATH, JAMES & CAROL	270 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	241,100
BELLOWS, KEVIN	282 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	400,700
YATES, RICHARD & CHERYL	292 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	280,300
GRANT, STEPHEN & ELLEN JANE	319 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	252,900
WILSON, PAULA	324 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	177,500
ROOT, ROBERT W. & SERRA A.	330 EAST HAWLEY ROAD	128,100
BERKSHIRE EAST SKI RESORT, LLC	0 EAST ROAD	1,056,200

HERRSHAFT, WILLIAM & JUDITH	0 EAST ROAD	1,800
HOLM, LOIS	0 EAST ROAD	55,500
HUGHES, HELENA	0 EAST ROAD	89,700
KLAGSBRUN, EDWARD	0 EAST ROAD	188,500
MAHA SIDDHA NYINGMAPA	0 EAST ROAD	2,500
MITIZIAK, BRUCE	0 EAST ROAD	29,200
SKELTON, ROBERT	0 EAST ROAD	17,000
CLARK, KEVIN	22 EAST ROAD	152,800
CHURCHILL, MICHAEL & RACHEL	26 EAST ROAD	161,500
LEVINE, PAUL	40 EAST ROAD	35,100
BILLIEL, DARLENE	42 EAST ROAD	128,400
ALBRIGHT, LINDA	43 EAST ROAD	221,800
BERLINER, EDWIN	49 EAST ROAD	321,200
GRISWOLD, DANA	54 EAST ROAD	88,600
KIMBALL, CHRISTINE	58 EAST ROAD	198,200
KIMBALL, CHRISTINE	58 EAST ROAD	2,500
TEPEDINO, MICHAEL	131 EAST ROAD	510,900
FITZROY, ROBERT & DANIEL	0 FORGE HILL ROAD	6,700
GOSELIN, KENNETH & MARK	0 FORGE HILL ROAD	33,600
SINGING BROOK FARM TRUST	0 FORGE HILL ROAD	47,200
FITZROY, KIM	5 FORGE HILL ROAD	229,600
SHRIMPTON, CRAIG & PAMELA	10 FORGE HILL ROAD	57,500
SHRIMPTON, PAMELA & CRAIG	12 FORGE HILL ROAD	249,000
KOZODOY, NEAL & MAUD	0 FORGET ROAD	44,900
CHURCHILL, JOHN W.	5 FORGET ROAD	172,400
GUILD, WILLIAM	21 FORGET ROAD	187,300
MORTIMER, JADE	26 FORGET ROAD	259,700
ABRASHKIN, WILLIAM	29 FORGET ROAD	50,700
NIGROSH, BARRY	29 FORGET ROAD	264,200
BRADY, EDWARD	30 FORGET ROAD	301,400
BRYANT, TANYA ZOE	35 FORGET ROAD	205,100
DONOVAN, IVAN & CYNTHIA	49 FORGET ROAD	392,700
LACINSKI, PAUL M & KLIPPENSTEIN	58 FORGET ROAD	607,300
LACINSKI, PAUL & KLIPPENSTEIN, A	59 FORGET ROAD	286,800
BEGA, KATHRYN	86 FORGET ROAD	105,200
KOZODOY, NEAL	90 FORGET ROAD	488,600
GELINAS, MARY	97 FORGET ROAD	354,100
NELSON, RONALD	101 FORGET ROAD	234,300
HOPKINS, SUSAN & BERNARD	107 FORGET ROAD	236,400
MITCHELL, PETER	112 FORGET ROAD	279,500
KEAN, RICHARD	117 FORGET ROAD	185,600
KEAN, RICHARD	121 FORGET ROAD	402,900
AUBREY, SUZANNE	7 GROUT ROAD	165,500
BLAKESLEE, DUANE & LISA	20 GROUT ROAD	304,100
CLARK, BRIAN	0 HAWLEY ROAD	53,000
COOPER, PAUL R (TRUSTEE)	13 HOWES ROAD	479,100
BURSTEIN, MERWYN	0 HUNT ROAD	29,000
DEFRIESSE, GEORGETTE	0 HUNT ROAD	29,000

GURSKI, FRANK	0 HUNT ROAD	29,000
MCNERNEY, MICHAEL	0 HUNT ROAD	29,000
WALCZAK, MARGARET	0 HUNT ROAD	29,000
GOULD, RICHARD	3 HUNT ROAD	217,400
HYYTINEN, SHIRLEY	9 HUNT ROAD	204,500
SCOTT, JOHN	11 HUNT ROAD	183,200
DEFRIESSE, GEORGETTE	15 HUNT ROAD	56,900
DREHER, SARAH	17 HUNT ROAD	70,800
AUBREY, TODD & BRIAN	19 HUNT ROAD	99,500
KAPLAN, DAVID A.	0 LABELLE ROAD	72,900
LABELLE, CURTIS W. & NORMA J.	0 LABELLE ROAD	2,200
MILT, ELLEN	0 LABELLE ROAD	13,200
OHMANN, RICHARD M.	0 LABELLE ROAD	3,900
OHMANN, RICHARD	53 LABELLE ROAD	268,800
KING, MICHAEL & EVELYN	62 LABELLE ROAD	375,800
BEARFOOT REALITY TRUST	80 LABELLE ROAD	236,600
HERBERT, KRING	19 LOWER FORGET ROAD	126,400
PURINTON, SCOTT	0 MIDDLE ROAD	7,400
PURINTON, SCOTT R. & ELLEN S.	0 MIDDLE ROAD	6,300
RANDALL, CHRISTOPHER & JULIA &	0 MIDDLE ROAD	78,500
TAYLOR, ROBERT & HOLT, PATRICI	0 MIDDLE ROAD	1,500
MACLEAN, ROBERT & JOANNE	25 MIDDLE ROAD	177,200
ATKINS, CARLOS	35 MIDDLE ROAD	238,700
TAYLOR, ROBERT	38 MIDDLE ROAD	165,100
PURDY, PETER & SUSAN	45 MIDDLE ROAD	161,500
SINGING BROOK FARM TRUST	53 MIDDLE ROAD	622,200
SINGING BROOK FARM TRUST	54 MIDDLE ROAD	346,100
ANDERSON, MARI-AN	79 MIDDLE ROAD	229,700
GILLAN, DUNCAN & RUTH	81 MIDDLE ROAD	196,800
WEISBLAT, TINKY	84 MIDDLE ROAD	277,500
ANDERSON, DENNIS	92 MIDDLE ROAD	251,600
PYLE, DAVID & ELIZABETH	96 MIDDLE ROAD	282,800
ASHFIELD ROD & GUN CLUB	0 PLAINFIELD ROAD	2,900
ESTATE OF JOHN THOMPSON III	0 PLAINFIELD ROAD	400
SCHOFIELD, MICHAEL	3 PLAINFIELD ROAD	212,100
KEENAN, PHILIP	4 PLAINFIELD ROAD	229,700
SHAFFER, MARY	21 PLAINFIELD ROAD	151,500
SLOSSER, GAIUS BRANDT	23 PLAINFIELD ROAD	89,400
CARANTIT, JEFFREY & JULIE	38 PLAINFIELD ROAD	400,000
CHAFFEE, KENNETH & SHIELA	68 PLAINFIELD ROAD	272,300
SCOTT, RAYMOND	79 PLAINFIELD ROAD	163,700
SCOTT, JAMES	86 PLAINFIELD ROAD	229,900
AUSTIN, JUDITH	102 PLAINFIELD ROAD	262,900
MAPLESTONE, LLC	118 PLAINFIELD ROAD	339,200
COX, GREGORY	0 POND ROAD	18,600
POUDRIER, RAYMOND & MELANIE	0 POND ROAD	3,000
THWING, KIRBY & ELIZABETH	6 POND ROAD	157,000
COX, GREGORY & DRAVES, SUSAN	13 POND ROAD	189,900

THWING, KIRBY JR & ELIZABETH	15 POND ROAD	233,600
POUDRIER, RAYMOND	29 POND ROAD	416,700
VELAZQUEZ, JASON, REGINA & SHE	7 PUDDING HOLLOW RD	115,100
CROSSIN, CLARA ESTATE	0 PUDDING HOLLOW RD	25,000
SEARS, PAUL	0 PUDDING HOLLOW RD	28,000
WHITE, DOUGLAS	0 PUDDING HOLLOW RD	61,900
WHITE, MARK	0 PUDDING HOLLOW RD	12,900
BECK, R. PETER & BERTSCH, KENNE	6 PUDDING HOLLOW RD	292,800
MCMULLIN, GEORGE & MARY	12 PUDDING HOLLOW RD	478,500
RICH, DAVID & SARAH	45 PUDDING HOLLOW RD	290,700
DEFOUGEROLLES, ANTONIN & PAU	61 PUDDING HOLLOW RD	792,900
STERNSTEIN, JEROME & KATHRYN	73 PUDDING HOLLOW RD	187,800
SEARS, JOHN F & RICHARD D	87 PUDDING HOLLOW RD	26,000
SEARS, RICHARD & ILENE	87 PUDDING HOLLOW RD	296,000
SEARS, JOHN F.	100 PUDDING HOLLOW RD	235,700
CUTLER, CHARLES	0 SAVOY ROAD	67,500
SEYMOUR, ROSANNE T.	2 SAVOY ROAD	169,900
CUTLER, CHARLES	22 SAVOY ROAD	315,600
DWIGHT, WILLIAM & LEWIS, LIDA	36 SAVOY ROAD	103,700
WHITE, MARK	0 SEARS ROAD	38,900
CHARLAND, JOYCE M	21 SEARS ROAD	157,700
LANOUE, NELSON & BRENDA	0 SOUTH RIVER ROAD	20,000
OVITT, BRIAN	0 SOUTH RIVER ROAD	11,500
SHIELDS, EDWARD & GERTRUDE	0 SOUTH RIVER ROAD	14,000
NEWELL, DAVID & VIRGINIA	0 SOUTH ROAD	29,400
TAVERN TOP TRUST	0 SOUTH ROAD	5,900
YATES, JEFFREY	0 SOUTH ROAD	39,600
CLARK, CLIFFORD JR	133 SOUTH ROAD	48,400
CLARK, SARA & WALL, KENNETH	133 SOUTH ROAD	139,900
SHIPPEE, MURIEL	0 STETSON ROAD	48,000
ONDIS, PAUL	2 STETSON ROAD	99,400
BRISSETTE, BARBARA	7 STETSON ROAD	62,800
KIMBALL, STEPHEN & SUSAN	9 STETSON ROAD	212,900
KIMBALL, STEPHEN & SUSAN	13 STETSON ROAD	183,500
MCCULLOCH, ANN	0 WATSON ROAD	600
SCHREIBER, THOMAS & SHIRLEY	0 WATSON ROAD	1,500
POPE, O. EARL	7 WATSON ROAD	255,300
BERTSCH, KENNETH & BECK, R. PET	0 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	1,800
DESMARAIS, DEAN F. & MARIA C.	0 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	39,000
EICHHOLZ, MARY & TIMOTHY	0 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	3,900
GORMLEY, JUNE	0 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	36,000
HOLMES, TOBY A.O.	0 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	32,300
NGUYEN, LEIM THANH	0 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	13,000
NORCROSS, PAUL & RITA	0 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	30,500
PURINTON, SCOTT R.	0 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	13,100
SPOFFORD, BEVERLY	0 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	500
STREETER, PAUL	0 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	79,600
WHITE, TEDD	0 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	44,300

WHITE, MARK	10 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	238,600
WHITE, TEDD & TURNER, LISA	28 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	358,000
EGGERT, HENRY	48 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	292,500
EMMETT, CONSTANCE & GRODEN,	50 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	195,300
ALEXANDER, ROBERT & LINDA	54 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	72,300
PURINTON, SCOTT & ELLEN	60 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	340,800
OLSON, SUSAN	70 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	238,800
FALWELL, RICHARD L & ANN J	74 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	92,100
DESMARAIS, DEAN	76 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	190,900
DESMARAIS, DEAN	76 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	81,700
DESROCHERS, JAMES & KATHLEEN	90 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	165,000
LEMOINE, DONNA	94 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	84,800
LEMOINE, DONNA	96 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	57,000
STETSON, CHARLES & CYNTHIA	108 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	384,300
HANECAK, NANCY AND VIENS, JOS	128 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	103,300
BENOIT, GERMAIN	136 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	188,000
PARENT, RICHARD F. & ELIZABETH	138 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	86,000
BONNETTE, DONALD	140 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	69,300
BONNETTE, DONALD	144 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	194,100
YOUMELL, DEBORAH & JAMES	197 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	29,900
CLARK, WAYNE & ROBIN	198 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	136,900
MACNICOLL, SAMANTHA & STEVE	200 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	129,200
ROBERTS, BRYAN	201 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	257,300
MARX-SINGER, LORRAINE	213 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	188,600
DESMARAIS, DAVID	214 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	35,600
SOULE, PETER & CHRISTOPHER	228 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	252,500
BROWNE, MARGARET	232 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	348,400
HICKS, CHRISTINE & TIRONE, CHRIS	240 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	185,000
GORMLEY, JUNE	264 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	323,400
SMITH, WILLIAM	282 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	201,000
LERNER, LYNNE	298 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	300,300
LAMOUNTAIN, ROBERT & PATRICIA	319 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	64,000
ROWEHL, GREGORY	324 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	203,100
LAMOUNTAIN, ROBERT & PATRICIA	325 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	48,400
HOYT, THOMAS & VIOLA	326 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	132,800
VAN BATENBURG, DEBORAH	330 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	54,100
SCHMITT, MICHAEL	334 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	116,000
DECKER, DOUGLAS & GLORIA	335 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	74,700
DECKER, DOUGLAS G. & GLORIA J.	336 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	71,300
HODGKINS, GUY & MARIE	337 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	93,000
STONE, ROBERT (ESTATE OF)	339 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	97,700
HOYT, WILLIAM	340 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	86,800
NORCROSS, PAUL D & RITA M	380 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	132,200
NORCROSS, PAUL & RITA	382 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	310,000
BIGELOW, MARK	390 WEST HAWLEY ROAD	182,800
BRADLEY, DOUGLAS & DEBORAH	0 WEST HILL ROAD	40,000
BUTHMAN, NANCY	0 WEST HILL ROAD	40,000
LARIVIERE, SUSAN	0 WEST HILL ROAD	22,000

PALMER, SHEILA	0 WEST HILL ROAD	31,000
RICE, WALTER & BETTY	0 WEST HILL ROAD	20,000
MCCARTHY, GERARD & LORRAINE	7 WEST HILL ROAD	218,300
RICE, WALTER & GEORGE	20 WEST HILL ROAD	452,500
RICE, GAIL	28 WEST HILL ROAD	171,900
SAVOIE, JOSEPH & LINDA	40 WEST HILL ROAD	215,600
WRIGHT, MICHAEL & MEWIS, RUTH	43 WEST HILL ROAD	64,400
CRAWFORD, LLOYD & SUZANNE	63 WEST HILL ROAD	443,900
CRAWFORD, LLOYD & SUZANNE	64 WEST HILL ROAD	265,100
HARDING, ROBERT R. & CARDWELL	86 WEST HILL ROAD	647,400
CARLE, ROLF	91 WEST HILL ROAD	356,100
LARIVIERE, SUSAN	120 WEST HILL ROAD	133,900
	Total:	48,537,200

Respectfully submitted,
Henry Eggert, **Chairman**
Jason Velazquez
Rick Kean
Board of Assessors

SELECTBOARD REPORT

Greetings Hawleyites,

This past year has been one of steady positive progress for the town. The Select Board and Town Committees have been actively pursuing efforts to bring Hawley into the next century while maintaining its autonomy and connection to its history and traditions. As time goes by, Hawley's unique character becomes ever more fragile in light of the transitions taking place on the outside.

The world seems to be fundamentally shifting, with an ever increasing dependence on expanding outreach for survival. That is to say, everything is becoming more complicated from a bureaucratic standpoint - every move must be substantiated, and every request filed and substantiated ad nauseam, while everything is becoming more costly. We, as a town must keep up, with our limited resources, to be able to continue to maintain our infrastructure and protect our citizens. As more is expected from us, we strive to adjust. We press for help in repairing our storm damaged roads and our state owned resources that have suffered neglect. Thanks to Virginia Gabert's persistence, repairs to East Road were completed in the fall and we anticipate that Forge Hill Road will be repaired this summer. The Select Board will continue to press the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) to repair Middle and Hunt Roads. We lobby for fairness in our efforts to connect Hawley to the new virtual reality, which is fast becoming the platform for financial and social interaction. There is undoubtedly fear and misunderstanding that follows shifts of this magnitude, and we are committed to making sensible choices, responsibly moving forward and preserving the peaceful harmony I believe we all cherish.

We in the hills are often forgotten in the larger halls of government. Our population is aging, our schools are becoming under-utilized, and our way of life threatened. Due to this aging, we are facing serious dilemmas, such as a shortage of qualified personnel to man our ambulances and fire trucks.

Fortunately, our elementary school is taking steps to remain sustainable. Hawlemont has gone "out of the box" by initiating a fantastic curriculum involving farming and other traditional aspects of our rural life. By all accounts it is succeeding beyond expectation. The school is also planning to convert its heating system to wood - a move that will result in substantial cost savings. The Long-Range Planning Committee for the Mohawk

Regional School District, on which John Sears served, strongly recommended that all the schools in the district convert to wood heat and solar electricity and this recommendation is in the process of being implemented. Thanks to this committee for its hard work and recommendations for making our schools sustainable. The Vocational Education Advisory Committee, which Charlie Stetson chaired and John Sears is now on, negotiated an agreement with H. M. Kuzmeskus, the school bus company, which lowered vocational transportation costs this year considerably by purchasing gasoline for the buses from the Ashfield Highway Department rather than having H. M. Kuzmeskus supply it. These are the sorts of innovative solutions needed to hold down expenses and prevent tax increases.

Bob Maclean and Richie Gould worked together this year to extend the life of Hawley's highway equipment. Last year we expected to have to replace the large truck, but Bob and Richie determined that if we overhauled its engine, the truck could continue to reliably serve the town. They recommended replacing the small truck instead, which we did. They have now recommended that by building a new body out of wood for the old small truck, we can extend its life as well. Holding on to that truck will mean that the town only needs to hire a driver, rather than a driver and his truck to help with snowplowing in the winter. These decisions will save the town thousands of dollars.

We have been very involved in the effort to provide broadband internet connectivity into the rural corners of Massachusetts via the continued efforts of Wired West. It is felt by every community in the hills and beyond, that this fiber optic connection is our best shot at economic growth, for without it, it is virtually impossible for most young families to consider locating in a town such as Hawley. To stay on a level playing field with students elsewhere, our kids need a fast, broadband connection to the Internet that can perform in this hilly terrain. This connection also opens our farms and craftsmen and artisans to a world market, increasing their chances of sustainability. Kudos to the Wired West Committee and the Communication Committee for their hard work and diligence in their efforts to make sure that we have a voice and a seat at the table as this effort proceeds. Our needs are simple, the path to achieving them, complicated.

We bid Charlie Stetson a fond farewell as he embarks on what we hope is a relaxing and enjoyable retirement. Words cannot do justice to the gratitude

we feel for his many years of care and concern for the purse strings of our little town. Thanks, Charlie.

We welcome our new Treasurer and Tax Collector, Betty Nichols. We hope to make her comfortable in her new digs and look forward to working together.

Financially, we are steadily gaining ground. Many thanks to the Finance Committee for their skill and diligence in this effort. We were able to reduce the tax rate, maintain a reasonable reserve, and substantially reduce our debt load, at least for the moment. We have fought back from Irene's onslaught, and are creating efficiencies and frugal policy that should help protect us going forward. We thank all of you for your support as we work our way into the future, while preserving our meaningful past, which we all cherish. God Bless

Respectfully submitted,
Philip C. Keenan, **Chairman**
John Sears
Robert Maclean
Board of Selectmen

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

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

The committee has met numerous times in the past year. It participated in planning for the replacement of longtime Treasurer and Tax Collector Charlie Stetson, who retired this summer. Betty Nichols took over those duties in September. Among other finance matters, the committee participated in seeking to create a position of Town Accountant that failed at town meeting. Betty Nichols and Virginia Gabert have since absorbed the responsibilities of that position.

The Finance Committee spent time this year creating *Financial Policy Guidelines* for the town's use. These guidelines will be posted on the town website and available in the Town Office, as soon as they are approved by the Selectboard.

We have also been creating a five-year history of the town budget and expenditures to be used as a budget planning tool. As a result, this year's budget will be organized a bit differently than in the past.

The capital budget for 2016 will be higher than usual at about \$70,000, because in 2016, the town is committed to paying the final \$20,000 on the McCloud property, as well as \$19,400 on the new fire pumper, \$10,169 on the new town pickup, and hopefully, \$20,000 to start paying down what the town owes on the storm damage loan. The Finance Committee normally tries to keep the capital budget at no more than \$50,000, and after 2016, it will return to the \$50,000 level.

Carla Clark has assumed the duties of town auditor, and we hope she will run again at the annual town elections. She's very experienced as the bookkeeper for a charter school, as well as having learned much about the auditor's role from her mother, a former town treasurer.

This year, the Finance Committee is proposing a budget that is just under the levy limit, but as costs go up for schools and for other expenses that typically rise each year, this committee will have a harder time staying under the levy limit.

With high speed Internet available at the Town Office, Cloud-based municipal accounting software might be in our future. The Community Software Consortium (CSC) is developing such a system, and Hawley is scheduled to be a beta test site, starting sometime this year. Hawley already uses several CSC programs for tax collecting and assessing. Cloud-based software would provide a very affordable solution to a complex problem for small towns.

WiredWest has been another topic of discussion, because towns are being asked for bond authorization for building broadband infrastructure. Hawley's proposed share of the total bond is now at \$1 million maximum. Even though Broadband is essential for the economic viability of our town, a bond authorization of even \$500,000 would be nearly impossible right now, given our current capital commitments. We and other small towns in similar positions are appealing to the Commonwealth for help in reducing the large financial burden the smallest towns are being asked to bear.

For those who are interested, minutes of all Finance Committee meetings are now being posted on the town website under **Finance Committee Minutes**.

To learn more about the Role of the Finance Committee, visit the town website and click on the Finance Committee link or go to <http://www.townofhawley.com/?q=node/14>

Lark Thwing, **Chair**
Finance Committee

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

MARRIAGES:	0	
BIRTHS:	2 FEMALES	
DEATHS:	0 FEMALE	1 MALE
CURRENTS # OF RESIDENTS:		347
CURRENT # OF REGISTERED VOTERS:		260

I would like to give a special thanks to my Election Officers. They are a dedicated and professional group who receive very small compensation for the long hours and painstaking work on election days. The days can be either hectic or long and slow, but we all make the most of it and by the end of Election Day, we hand count and double check every ballot and every position, which is no easy task.

Thank you Melanie Poudrier (Deputy Warden), Christine Hicks (Constable), Gloria Decker (Constable), Tammy Schofield (Election Clerk), Juanita Clark, Margaret Eggert, Mary Gelinas, Elvira Scott, Jerome Sternstein, Trina Sternstein, Courtney Hoyt, Jane Grant, Anne Hamilton-Kean, Paul Norcross, Lorraine McCarthy, Susan Olson, Lark Thwing, Beth Thwing, Shinichi Miyazaki and the late Kevin Malone.

Respectfully Submitted,
Pamela Shrimpton, **Town Clerk**



Franklin Regional Council of Governments

The Franklin Regional Council of Governments is pleased to present its **2014 Top Ten Accomplishments and Services** to the towns, residents and region of Franklin County. For more information about these projects and more, please refer to:

the FRCOG Annual Report;

our web site, www.frcog.org;

visit us on Facebook,

www.facebook.com/FranklinRegionalCouncilofGovernments;

or follow us on Twitter: @FranklinCOG.

1	Legislation passed that transferred FRCOG employees from Franklin Regional Retirement System to the Massachusetts State Retirement System. The FRCOG will no longer pay a share of the retirement system's unfunded liability, saving approximately \$240,000/year. In FY16, towns will see a considerable reduction to their membership assessments.
2	Passenger Rail returns to Franklin County. As a long-time goal, the FRCOG helped to: ensure that the region's intermodal center was built next to train tracks; secured funding for what is now the John W. Olver Transit Center; assisted in securing ARRA funds for upgrading of the rail lines; and is now working to bring commuter rail to Greenfield in 2016.
3	Regional Preparedness Program expands disaster response network. In times of disaster or emergency, religious and human service organizations are often closest to the people in need. The FRCOG worked with 92 of these entities in western MA to ensure that they are prepared to collaborate to efficiently and effectively support emergency response and recovery.
4	Purchasing Program introduces new cooperative purchases, saving towns money! 15-30% savings on prices of fire hose in our cooperative bid for fire depts. 50% off traffic signs by buying in bulk as part of a new initiative in our Highway Products & Services program.

5	<p>Connecticut River Tri-State Bike Map created. Working with our regional partners in NH and VT, a continuous bicycling route connecting Greenfield, Keene and Brattleboro was created. Hard copy and on-line maps identify the route and resources, such as bike shops, water locations, parking and restrooms. Look for trailblazing signs in Spring of 2015.</p>
6	<p>Promoting and protecting the economic value of forest land. The FRCOG and BRPC are working with 20 communities to study how the federal and state government can help private landowners conserve forests and promote the value of forest products leading to a grant from the USDA to Massachusetts to increase forest resiliency and develop economic opportunities for forest products and a grant to study how to increase energy efficient renewable wood heat.</p>
7	<p>FRCOG's Partnership for Youth Presents at the White House. Representing the Communities That Care Coalition, FRCOG staff presented successful approaches in preventing youth substance abuse and promoting academic success. The Coalition received high praise for its efforts and outcomes from the acting Drug Czar and from the Director of the Center for Substance Abuse Services.</p>
8	<p>Out ahead of Lyme Disease – CPHS tick testing. FRCOG's Cooperative Public Health Service partnered with UMass to implement a Lyme Disease Awareness Program that included billboards, outreach, trail signs and tick testing. Residents are now able to send ticks found on them for lab analysis and get early treatment for potential debilitating diseases.</p>
9	<p>Regional Brownfield Program Continues – The FRCOG was awarded \$300,000 from the EPA to continue its Brownfield Program to assess properties potentially impacted by hazardous materials or petroleum products leading to their clean-up and reuse.</p>
10	<p>Aiding in the effort to reduce opioid and heroin addiction. The FRCOG led the Franklin County Opioid Task Force Healthcare Committee, working with area physicians and pharmacists to develop the Safe Prescriber Pledge that asks prescribers to adopt practices that ensure safe prescribing practices of potentially addictive medications.</p>

FRANKLIN REGIONAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM
Annual Report for the Calendar Year Ending December 31, 2013

To the reader:

The Franklin Regional Retirement System is a government agency that serves the 487 retirees, 42 beneficiaries, 946 active employees, and 561 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), which audits our operations and financial records every three years. We are also audited by independent auditors in the two intervening years, as well as a complete actuarial valuation every two years.

The retirement benefit we provide replaces participation in the Social Security system and is described as a “defined benefit”, which means that we pay monthly retirement benefits based on the age, salary, and number of years worked at the time a member of our system retires. To be a member, an employee in one of our government units must be working in a permanent position scheduled at 20 hours or more per week and earning \$5,000 or greater annually. Funding of these benefits begins with deductions from the member, and, combined with matching funds from the employing unit, are invested in a mix of stocks, bonds, and indexed funds. Investment earnings are a large part of the funding of retirement benefits, and the allocation of those funds are spread to a variety of sectors to take advantage of positive activity as it occurs in each sector. Please make note of our investment performance percentages in the chart on the next page.

Up until 1988, we were a “pay-as-you-go” system. In 1988 it was legislated that we begin saving to become “fully funded” over the ensuing 40 years. Fully funded means we have enough in reserves to pay for all the current and future potential benefits of our present membership. At the end of 2013, we are 84% funded at 25 years (63%) into the 40 year mandate.

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

What follows is a synopsis of our annual report, as filed with our State oversight commission, PERAC. The full report can be read on our website.

	CY 2013	CY 2012	CY 2011
Balances			
Cash	2,107,878	1,335,467	844,585
Investments	112,129,229	94,448,777	83,539,939
Receivables	272,477	431,106	375,266
Payables	100,714	114,075	212,403
Annuity Savings (members)	27,949,619	27,352,296	26,819,919
Retirement Reserves	86,459,252	68,748,979	57,727,469
Revenues			
Member's contributions	3,187,508	3,224,578	3,202,132
Towns, Schools, Agencies	5,605,588	5,202,569	5,009,154
Retirement Cost Sharing	439,735	375,647	382,475
Miscellaneous Revenue	20,752	66,657	9,161
Investment Income (net)	18,879,116	11,727,623	434,442
Expenses			
Retirement Benefits	7,437,506	6,840,923	6,158,541
Operating Expenses	373,095	398,662	356,933
Investment Expenses	657,782	538,484	472,198
Retirement Cost Sharing	960,334	723,503	740,517
Refunds to Members	396,387	541,614	594,635
Investment Performance			
Target	7.88%	7.88%	7.88%
Since 1984	8.59%	8.21%	8.02%
10 years	7.28%	7.04%	4.78%
5 years	13.33%	2.69%	2.28%
Current Year	19.80%	13.39%	0.92%
Demographics			
	01/01/2014	01/01/2012	01/01/2010
Members' Average Age	48.30	49.00	48.10
Members' Average Service	10.50	10.90	10.10
Members' Average Salary	33,249.00	32,333.00	30,400.00
Retirees' Average Age	72.10	72.10	71.90
Retirees' Average Pension	14,164.00	12,931.00	12,109.00
Disabled Members' Average Age	56.40	n/a	n/a
Disabled Members' Average Pension	26,052.00	n/a	n/a

Respectfully submitted,
Dale Kowacki, Executive Director
Franklin Regional Retirement System

CONSERVATION COMMISSION REPORT

The Conservation Commission held hearings on Notices of Intent filed for East Road Repairs, Forge Hill Road repairs and Middle Road reconstruction. In each case, an Order of Conditions was issued. East Road repairs have been completed. Work on the other two roads may take place in 2015. In addition, a new Order of Conditions was issued to Paul Levine in response to a new Notice of Intent he filed in 2014. The Commission also issued a Negative Determination of Applicability to Berkshire East allowing the construction of downhill mountain biking trails to proceed. Members attended training sessions on the newly amended Wetlands Regulations (310 CMR) as well as a DEP workshop on erosion and sedimentation problems at existing large scale solar facilities around the state.

A couple of years ago, in response to a potentially critical delay in permitting Side Hill Farm construction, the Hawley Conservation Commission directed the Building Inspector to not require Conservation Commission sign off on building permit applications. For the Commission to sign off, applicants are required to file paperwork, public hearings need to be held, issuance of certificates may be required and appeal periods must be observed before construction can begin. This move has helped to streamline permitting for simple projects in Hawley. HOWEVER, IT SHOULD BE NOTED that issuance of building permit DOES NOT imply compliance with wetlands regulations. If you are considering any kind of work, whether it requires a building permit or not, WE STRONGLY URGE you to contact us early in the planning phase to discuss potential wetlands issues. We will help you figure out the best strategy for negotiating the regulations.

Respectfully submitted,
Lloyd Crawford, **Chairman**
Conservation Commission

PLANNING BOARD REPORT

The primary work of the Planning Board in 2014 was drafting and soliciting public input on a draft bylaw amendment that addresses Large Scale Ground Mounted Solar installations. A planning grant was applied for and received allowing the board to access the professional planning services of FRCOG without any additional expense to the town.

Several maps were produced by FRCOG to identify potential locations where large scale solar developments theoretically could occur. In an effort to gain feedback from the town, an informal public listening session was held in the spring of 2014 followed by a mailing to all town residents. Individual comments were discussed and changes were made to the working draft.

In addition, the board processed several ANR requests. An ANR determination from the planning board is needed whenever a property is divided to certify that the division complies with Hawley's Protective Bylaw and Subdivision Regulations. Requests were approved for the Tanguay property, the Levine property, the Ohmann property, Sears properties and lands that are part of Singing Brook Farm Trust.

The planning board welcomes your suggestions with regards to how local regulations concerning the use of land can be improved.

Respectfully submitted,
Lloyd Crawford, **Chair**
Planning Board

HISTORICAL COMMISSION REPORT

The current members of the Historical Commission are Lark Thwing, John Sears, Ray Gotta, Bob Root, and Pam Shrimpton. All of the activities of the Historical Commission are conducted in cooperation with the Sons & Daughters of Hawley.

Sanford Tavern Archeology Field Training Program. During the first two weeks of August, SDH conducted an archeology field training program at the site of the Sanford Tavern at Hawley's Old Town Common in cooperation with Mohawk Trail Regional High School. This was the third dig at the site, but the first conducted as a summer program. Laura Masur, an archaeologist finishing graduate work at Boston University, trained the students and oversaw the work with the assistance of Ivan Grail, a Mohawk social studies teacher. John Sears provided historical background on the tavern and led tours of the common and Lark Thwing was on site every day helping supervise the students and documenting the work with a camera. SDH was somewhat disappointed with the number of students in the program (nine), but Laura found it a very good size group to work with. The students were very engaged with the work, learned the basic principles and methods of archaeological excavation, and turned up an abundance of artifacts that will be stored at the Grove once Laura has completed cataloging them. The program was supported by a generous grant from MassHumanities, a small grant from the Mary Lyon Foundation, donations raised through Kickstarter, and fees charged to those students who could afford it.

Archives Organization & Preservation Project. In the spring of 2014 the Sons & Daughters of Hawley received a \$1,000 grant from the State Historical Records Advisory Board (SHRAB) Roving Archivist program to bring an archivist to Hawley to examine SDH's collection of historical documents and artifacts and to advise SDH about how to organize, catalogue, and care for this material. SDH board members spread out the SDH collection on the long tables in the Grove building and when Rachel Onuf, the archivist, came to Hawley at the end of July, she reviewed the material, made suggestions, and later wrote a report, including recommendations. SDH has also received a \$400 grant in the fall of 2014 from the Charlemont-Hawley Cultural Council to purchase acid-free file folders and boxes in which to store the historical documents and artifacts. SDH plans to purchase these items this winter and to begin filing and boxing the historical materials in the summer. SDH plans to apply for a second

SHRAB grant to get help setting up a computerized cataloging program so that the materials can be cataloged as they are being stored. Lark Thwing completed the first stage of renovations to the rooms at the west end of the Grove building where SDH plans to establish a small museum and to store the historical and archaeological artifact collections.

Hawley's Own Story Corps. SDH conducted videotaped interviews in the East Hawley Meetinghouse with a number of Hawley residents on Hawley Day in 2013 and 2014. These interviews were videotaped by Jane O'Connor and will be added to the SDH archives at the Grove building. SDH expects to continue this project in coming years.

Renovation and Maintenance of Historic Buildings. Prisoners from the Franklin County Jail painted the East Hawley Meetinghouse in September 2014. SDH purchased the paint; the County Jail provided the labor. SDH is very grateful to the prisoners for their fine work.

Submitted by
Lark Thwing, **Chair**
John Sears
Historical Commission

COUNCIL ON AGING REPORT

The COA tries to raise awareness of the various programs, activities and assistance offered through the county, using the annual state grant received. Some of the activities for the past year include: an Ice Cream Social at the Mary Lyons Church; delivery of 5 welcome bags to new residents and a 'welcome' to 2 babies born during the year; delivery of sand buckets, shovels and sand to all who requested them courtesy of the Hawley Town Garage; a picnic at Mohawk State Forest in tandem with the Charlemont COA; purchase and delivery of fire extinguishers and first aid kits to those responding to the offer; fruit baskets delivered to those with health problems; checking on shut-ins; working with Charlemont on the annual flu clinic and the purchase of refreshments for those getting shots; newsletters published and mailed to all seniors; a gift certificate for all seniors for fruits and vegetables at Atherton Farms; and a ride on the Mountain Coaster at Berkshire East Resort.

The Hawley-Charlemont COA's and Board of Health help to sponsor the visiting nurse who is available at the Charlemont Senior Center on the 2nd Tuesday of each month.

We are looking into a possible second partnership with the Shelburne Senior Center where more activities and programs might be available. Our COA will pay for any donations for programs as needed. Cathy Buntin attended a Hawley Selectboard meeting to discuss payment options.

Cyndie Stetson had resigned after 7 years of being on the COA Board. Ann Falwell has volunteered to take her place.

Lisa Turner
Joyce Charland
Ann Falwell
Hawley COA

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

The Hawley Communications Committee was formed in early 2012 to build the Town website and to advise the Selectboard on matters related to the Internet and computerization. Later, the Committee was also given the charge to liaise with the Massachusetts Broadband Initiative (MBI) and WiredWest, and to bring high-speed Internet (a.k.a. “Broadband”) to the Town Office. This report will present specific activities and accomplishments that related to these activities in 2014 and early 2015.

Focus in 2014

During 2014, the Communications Committee pursued two major objectives:

1. To continue to develop and enhance the Official Town Website, www.Townofhawley.com; and
2. To fully implement high-speed Internet at the Town Office, taking advantage of the fiber-optic capabilities installed at the Office under the auspices of MBI.

Accomplishments to Date

1. The Website has been in continuous operation since 2011. It is still very much a work in progress, and is still totally supported through the contributions of time and resources of Communications Committee members. During the past 12 months the following features have been added to www.Townofhawley.com:
 - An expanded *Hawley News* section – updated at least once a week.
 - An expanded *Events and Meetings* section – also updated at least once a week.
 - A section with *Office Hours*, and exceptions, for the Administrative Assistant, Town Clerk and Chief of Police.
 - An expanded *Town Office* section – it includes lists of Town officers and detailed descriptions of most key Town positions.
 - A new *Town Services* section – includes who to contact for each service listed.
 - A new *Documents* section – includes an archive of approved Selectboard Meeting minutes going back to 2008, Town Bylaws, Chickley River documents, Annual Town Meeting and Warrants, over 250 documents in all.

- **Multiple downloads.** In addition to the Documents sections, links are laced throughout the other pages of the website to documents that can be downloaded to provide interested website users with additional information – usually in the form of a .pdf file -- about an event or topic.
 - A **Disclaimer** page, approved by unanimous vote of the Board of Selectmen, which helps limit the Town’s liability.
 - A **Hawley “Help Wanted”** page, our newest addition, lists Hawley paid and volunteer positions, as well as “Hawley-to-Hawley” jobs offered to local people by local employers. The page has already begun to do its job.
2. Website Conversion – During the next four months or so, the Communications Committee will be converting the website to a new web hosting service and a more user-friendly content management system (CMS). Most of the preliminary work has been done for that conversion, and while we are hopeful that all will go smoothly, the project will take a serious investment of time and attention to be properly completed.
 3. Broadband Internet – The fiber-optic-based Internet connection made available to Hawley via the auspices of the Massachusetts Broadband Institute has now been in place for just under a year. In that time, we have observed the following:
 - At 5 megabits per second, it remains the fastest Internet connection in the Town;
 - It is also one of the most reliable. So far, there has only been one instance of downtime – about 4 hours that was attributed to a network connection in Springfield or Eastern Massachusetts rather than to the Town’s equipment or connection. As soon as the network glitch was fixed, the Town was up and running again.
 - A number of Townspeople take advantage of the “guest” feature – i.e., a free, high-speed connection available within a 100-foot radius of the Town Office -- on a regular basis.
 - Not having to worry about the connection or the speed means that Town employees can focus on the task at hand rather than on the Internet connection that makes it possible to perform the task.
 4. Liaison Activities – We will continue to work with WiredWest to make Broadband Internet more available throughout the Town continues, although the focus has changed as Hawley gets closer to the time when a

decision will need to be made. Finances are at the forefront, now, and the Communications Committee is working with WiredWest to get those costs down, and with State Representative Paul Mark and with others in the legislature to generate additional funds.

We are also beginning to look for alternative ways to bring Broadband Internet to Hawley other than via fiber-optic cable.

The Committee

The Hawley Communications Committee is currently comprised of four members:

Rick Kean, Chair
Hussain Hamdan
Craig Shrimpton, MBI Liaison
Lark Thwing, WiredWest Liaison

All Committee appointments are for one year, and we are, of course, open to new members.

The Future

As we continue to grapple with the issue of Broadband Internet as well as the website conversion, we expect 2015-2016 to be a very active time for our Committee.

Respectfully submitted,
Rick Kean
For the **Hawley Communications Committee**
<http://www.townofhawley.com/?q=node/12>

HAWLEY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

2014 was a year of significant improvement for the Hawley Fire Department. After more than a year's search, we found a modern used pumper within Hawley's price range to replace our 1981 pumper, and after completing the required process of bidding, we were able to buy it for a little less than \$100,000 approved by town meeting.

The new (to us) fire truck is a 2001 Rosenbauer pumper with seating for five firefighters, a 1,000 gallon poly tank, a 1250 gallon per minute pump, and plenty of compartments to carry firefighter gear, air packs, a portable pump, and assorted equipment. It is equipped with a pre-piped deck gun to deliver large streams of water quickly, and a hydraulic generator to run equipment and lighting. Because it originally belonged to a New Hampshire fire department, it is also designed to keep the truck's pump warm in bitter cold weather, an important feature on calls in below zero weather. As part of the purchase contract, we had automatic snow chains installed to let us respond in treacherous conditions.

After driving to New Hampshire to pick up the truck in late June, we spent a month or so getting it equipped with radios, chargers, and some fittings, and teaching our firefighters how to drive and operate it. The pumper went into service on August 5th, based in West Hawley. The 1981 pumper is now based at the East Hawley fire station to respond to calls there along with our 2005 tanker and 1986 brush truck, improving our ability to respond to calls on either side of town.

While we upgraded our trucks in 2014, we also have added some badly needed new firefighters. Courtney Hoyt and Hussain Hamdan joined the fire department last year, along with junior firefighter Brandon Root, and have been steadily acquiring the skills needed to respond to emergencies. We could still use the addition of a couple of firefighters from East Hawley.

While we were busy upgrading our trucks and personnel in 2014, we actually had a relatively quiet year with just 31 calls, down from 45 in 2013, including 2 chimney fires, 2 outside fires, 2 auto accidents, 11 medical calls, 7 calls for wires or trees down, as well as 5 calls to help other towns with fires or rescues there. In March, we worked with Ashfield firefighters to successfully rescue a horse which had gone through the ice on a small pond.

Beside the dozen drills we had to train our firefighters how to operate the new truck, our firefighters took part in drills with Charlemont in August, Buckland in September, and Heath in October. Firefighters also held a Lifeflight demonstration for SCA in April, and assisted with the Berkshire Highlands Pentathlon in April and the Bonefrog Challenge at Berkshire East in May.

While we have improved our ability to respond to calls in the past year, we still need to upgrade the East Hawley fire station to add space and comply with federal and state laws. When it was built in 1984, it was designed to hold fire trucks as were built in the 1970's. Because modern fire trucks like our new pumper are much longer, we will need at least one longer equipment bay to give us more options in housing trucks in the future. We also need to install a bathroom and septic system, and a ground level training room. We would also like to make the building more energy efficient, and to install a sprinkler and alarm system to protect the town's investment.

Anyone who'd like to learn more about serving as a firefighter or EMT should come to the East Hawley station on Wednesday nights at 7:30, or call me at 339-5526. Being a volunteer firefighter or EMT gives you a chance to help your neighbors when emergencies arise: whether it is putting out a chimney fire or helping someone who is having trouble breathing, or even rescuing a horse from a pond. 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.

Respectfully submitted
 Gregory Cox, **Chief**

FIRE DEPARTMENT ROSTER
 March 2015

Chief	Greg Cox	EMTs	Justin Kimball
Assistant Chief	Bob Root		
Captain	Chris Tirone		
Lieutenant	Dan Hoyt		
Firefighters	Bill Hoyt		Jane Grant
	Doug Hoyt		Skip Chaffee
	Justin Kimball		Hussain Hamdan
	Courtney Hoyt		
Junior Firefighters	Brandon Root		



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REPORT

Hawley made progress in 2014 towards improving its emergency response capabilities. Here's a report on what was done:

- We used a \$1,790 grant from MEMA to survey residents about their experiences in the 2008 ice storm and Tropical Storm Irene in 2011, to update the town's Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan, and develop a short and clear Disaster Response Action Guide as well as related Emergency Response checklists to help officials plan for, prepare for, manage and respond to future emergencies based on the lessons learned from the 2008 ice storm and 2011 tropical storm.
- As part of that effort, we developed a list of suggested steps to improve operations at the town's Emergency Operations Center, which is located on the second floor of the East Hawley Fire Station.
- We then used those recommendations to apply for a two-year \$3,900 MEMA grant to upgrade and make EOC operations more efficient. This will let us replace the printer/fax, purchase window fans to improve summer ventilation, buy folding work tables to allow different configurations and work areas to be set up during emergency operations, install a pull down screen to project maps or photos, and get 5 new status boards to help anyone staffing the EOC to track and manage emergency operations more efficiently.
- The magnetic status boards would let us visually track where emergency problems are, what the status of the roads and power are, list the ongoing problems and which units are dispatched to them, list which residents in the area have been contacted for well-being checks, and list the status of requests for assistance and contacts for the various agencies.
- The grant was approved by MEMA and we will begin work to upgrade the EOC this spring.
- We worked with Rowe, Charlemont, Heath and Monroe to put on an Emergency Dispensing Site drill and flu clinic at the Hawlemont School in November to meet the federal requirements for EDS preparedness.

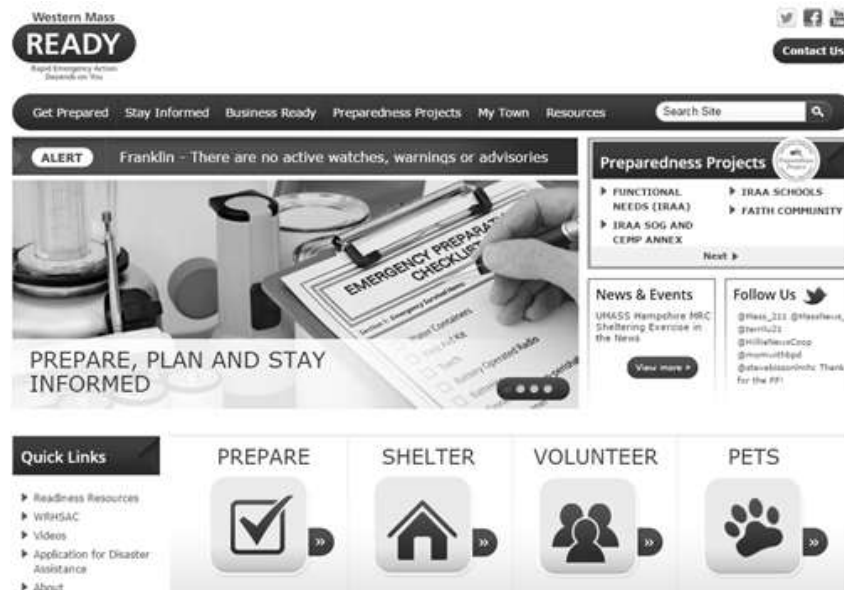
Upgrading the EOC will benefit us when the next serious event occurs, but we need East Hawley residents to become trained in operating the EOC.

This will free up firefighters and other responders to deal with emergency calls.

If you'd be willing to help, please call me at 339-5526.

Gregory Cox
Emergency Management Director

A good online resource for preparing for and handling emergencies:
www.westernmassready.org



2014 REPORT OF THE FRANKLIN COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

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

A review of recycling tonnage for 2014 shows almost an identical amount compared to 2013. District residents recycled over 1,700 tons of paper and over 1,100 tons of mixed containers, which were processed at the Springfield Materials Recycling Facility. Although market prices for recyclables remained low all year, District towns received a total of \$66,000 in revenue for their recyclables.

In 2013, 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 63 tons of material was recycled or disposed of from the two collections. A total of 560 households participated in these collection events.

We held our annual household hazardous waste collection in September 2014. This event allows residents to properly dispose of toxic cleaners, automotive products, pesticides, and other toxic products. A total of 325 households participated in this event. 42% of participants were using the collection for the first time.

We received a \$60,000 grant from the State to set up a recycling collection for wood pellet bags and for plastic waste generated at agricultural operations. We also helped member towns implement \$12,000 worth of small-scale initiative grants from MassDEP.

We continue to manage the recycling and composting program at the Franklin County Fair and to assist other events with waste reduction efforts. We continue to work in each school system helping with waste management bids and with fostering sustainable waste reduction programs.

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

Jan Ameen - *Executive Director*
Jonathan Lagreze, Colrain - *Chair*
Chris Boutwell, Montague - *Vice-Chair*
MA Swedlund, Deerfield - *Treasurer*

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS SERVICES

The Central Franklin County District was formed in 1940 and provides Veterans Services for twenty three towns within Franklin County. Currently we are providing support for 76 veterans who reside in your district

The mission of the Department of Veterans' Services (DVS) is to be the chief advocate for the nearly half-million veterans of the Commonwealth and their families.

Under Chapter 115 of Massachusetts General Laws (M.G.L. ch. 115), the Commonwealth provides a uniform program of financial and medical assistance for income eligible veterans and their dependents. Qualifying veterans and their dependents receive financial assistance for food, shelter, clothing, housing supplies, and medical care in accordance with a formula which takes into account the number of dependants and income from all sources. Eligible dependents of deceased veterans are provided with the same benefits as they would were the veteran still living.

Leo and Mark held our first annual Job Fair for Veterans at the French King Bowling Center with great success; as well as, a Veterans Administration Health Fair.

November 13th 2014 most member towns voted to dissolve this district and become a member of the new regional veteran's district, Upper Pioneer Veterans Services District 294 Main Street, Greenfield, Mass 01301. The new phone number is 4132-772-1571.

Many Veterans have been calling looking for the VA Web Sites here are a few for you.

Educational Benefits: www.gibill.va.gov

Home Loan Guaranty: www.homeloans.va.gov

Federal Jobs: www.usajobs.opm.gov

Returning Veterans: www.seamlesstranstion.va.gov

VA Home Page: www.va.gov

Government Jobs: www.usajobs.gov/opm

Massachusetts State Veterans Services: [MassVets Advisor](#)

Leo J. Parent, Director

Mark Fitzpatrick, VSO

**FRANKLIN COUNTY
COOPERATIVE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE**

- The Regional Health Agent conducted 13 Title-5 (septic) related activities including Soil Evaluations for on-lot septic systems, septic system plan reviews including site visits, issuing Local Upgrade Approvals and DSCP (septic) permits, completing final inspections of septic system installations, and preparing Certificates of Compliance.
- Hawley residents received 11 free tick tests in 2014 through a district grant, a savings of \$550. 35% of ticks tested in member towns carried the Lyme pathogen, and an additional 6% tested positive for either Anaplasmosis or Babesiosis. Staff provided tick prevention materials and helped residents access grant funded tick testing through the on-line system as needed.
- 2 Hawley residents received food safety training at a deep discount through a district ServSafe and Chokesaver certification.
- The Regional Health Agent reviewed requests for BOH sign-off on Building Permits and ensured compliance with public health requirements.
- The district released its first Community Health Needs Assessment, including a comprehensive look at the health status and needs of Hawley residents.
- Staff assisted with implementation of Web-based, digital on-line permitting system and trained town hall staff on how to use the system and issue annual permits.
- The Regional Health Agent conducted 2 routine food inspections.
- The Public Health Nurse held eight monthly walk-in wellness clinics at Charlemont Federated Church where 20 area residents made 60 visits with the nurse for health screening services, including 4 Hawley residents who made 7 visits with the nurse. At regularly scheduled clinics and wellness events, The Public Health Nurse provided town residents with reference materials and health self-management supplies such as medication schedules, pill sorters, personal health records and Files of Life provided by grants from Baystate Franklin Medical Center and Franklin County Home Care Corp.

- The Regional Health Agent provided technical assistance to the Board of Health with the implementation of their local septic regulations and private well regulations, including assisting homeowners to test their well water at the time of property transfer.
- The Public Health Nurse completed all state-mandated infectious disease investigation, reporting and case monitoring. Follow-up was provided as needed for 112 regional incidents of communicable illness.
- The Public Health Nurse provided coordinated vaccine and supplies for a Charlemont Council on Aging Senior Center Flu Clinic serving 57 area residents, including 18 Hawley residents, with the help of community volunteers.
- Staff responded to requests for program and regulatory information from the Board of Health or the Town, including assistance with permitting.
- The Public Health Nurse provided medication and chronic disease self-management services throughout the year, holding regular hours for all district residents in four community sites. The nurse is also available for home visits for those who need this service.
- The Public Health Nurse offered mercury thermometer collection and exchange and sharps disposal and sharps container exchange in collaboration with the Franklin County Solid Waste Management District, processing 80 sharps and 12 mercury thermometer exchanges for the district in 2014.
- The Public Health Nurse coordinated vaccine and supplies assisting town officials from Charlemont, Hawley, Rowe, Heath and Monroe to implement a Hawlemont Region Emergency Dispensing Site drill, at which 46 area residents, including 12 Hawley residents, were vaccinated for flu with the help of community staff and volunteers.

Hawley's representatives to the CPHS Oversight Board are Phil Keenan and Virginia Gabert. For more information visit: www.frcog.org

To reach the Hawley Health Agent: Glen Ayers, RS, CHO:
glenayers@frcog.org or (413) 774-3167 x 106

To reach the Hawley Public Health Nurse Lisa White, BS, RN:
lwhite@frcog.org or (413) 665-1400 x 114

**FRANKLIN REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
FRANKLIN COUNTY
COOPERATIVE BUILDING INSPECTION PROGRAM
2014 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 thirty-nine 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.

2014 was a busy year for the program. We issued 2,643 permits, including a significant number of insulation upgrade, solar array and wood/pellet stove permits. The number of permits was higher in 2014 than in the previous year, although the fees collected were slightly lower. A total of 33 new dwelling units were constructed in our 15 member towns.

Our new online permitting program went live on July 1, 2011 and has issued 9,501 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 3,046 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 2014, the FCCIP processed the following permits for Hawley:

Residential Building Permits	14
Commercial Building Permits	2
Sheet Metal/Duct Permits	0
Electrical Permits	10
Plumbing Permits	7
Gas Permits	4
Certificates of Inspection	3

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

James D. Hawkins
Building Commissioner
jhawkins@frcog.org

James Cerone
Building Inspector
jcerone@frcog.org

Tom McDonald
Electrical Inspector
electric@frcog.org

Andy French
Plumbing/Gas Inspector
plumbing@frcog.org

2014 Annual Report of the Superintendent Hawlemont Regional School District

During 2014 Hawlemont embarked on an exciting educational journey involving a shift toward an agriculturally-based curriculum. Hawlemont was awarded a competitive grant of \$130,000 through the Massachusetts' Community Innovation Challenge (CIC) program. Hawlemont is using this funding to reinvigorate the Hawlemont Regional School with a novel curriculum of hands-on learning that is focused on agriculture. By the end of 2014, thanks to a dedicated team of volunteers, the corner stone structures of Hawlemont's innovative program, a barn and greenhouse, were well on their way to completion.

Like many school districts in rural areas of Massachusetts, Hawlemont has experienced significant enrollment decline in recent years. As part of a strategy to increase enrollment and strengthen the school's vitality, Hawlemont leadership began pursuing an educational approach that proved remarkably successful for a small elementary school in rural Kansas with similar characteristics to Hawlemont. In 2006, Walton Elementary School's enrollment had declined to 100 students and was being considered for closure. To save Walton Elementary, district leadership shifted the school to an agriculturally-based, hands-on approach to learning. Since launching this initiative in 2007, Walton Elementary's enrollment and student achievement have increased significantly. Hawlemont leadership believes that, if it can be done in rural Kansas, why not rural Massachusetts?



Supported by a barn and greenhouse, which essentially serve as outdoor classrooms, the new Hawlemont curriculum includes (a) integration of food, agriculture, renewable resources, and environment, (b) infusion of the Common Core State Standards, and (c) use of the land. The agricultural content serves as an engaging vehicle for conveying the information that needs to be taught. Even during the construction phase, the initiative improved the learning environment,



stimulated innovative teaching methods, created new professional opportunities for teachers, and provided parents and pupils with greater choices among public schools. Additionally, Hawlemont's agricultural initiative began to improve parent, family and community involvement in the school by building shared experiences into our curriculum and partnering with local farmers.

Indeed, Hawlemont's agricultural initiative has created a buzz of excitement and the promise of great things to come! On behalf of our students, I thank our entire school community for your dedicated support of our children's education. THANK YOU!



Respectfully submitted,
Michael A. Buoniconti
Superintendent of Schools

2014 Annual Report of the Superintendent Mohawk Trail Regional School District

The quality of education within the Mohawk Trail Regional School District (MTRSD) continued to rise during 2014. According to the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education accountability and assessment system, the MTRSD is classified as a Level 2 district with all of its schools classified as Level 1 or Level 2. There are five classification levels within the Commonwealth's system with Level 1 being the highest rating. The MTRSD is striving to become one of the higher performing school districts in Massachusetts by achieving a Level 1 classification, which requires all of its schools to be Level 1. 2014 marked a significant step toward the MTRSD realizing this ambitious goal.

Mohawk District Highlights: Level 2

Mohawk students made gains in all three major content areas. Our English Language Arts (ELA) composite performance index (CPI) improved to 90.7; our mathematics CPI improved to 81.7; and our science CPI improved to 80.4.

Mohawk Middle School-High School Highlights: Level 2

The Mohawk Class of 2014 boasted a graduation rate of 84.1% with approximately 75% of the graduates attending a 4-year or a 2-year college.

For the past two years, 92% of Mohawk 10th graders scored at the proficient or advanced level in ELA. Over this same two-year period, 67% of Mohawk 10th graders scored at the advanced level in math compared to a 53% state-wide average. 75% of our HS Biology students scored at the proficient or advanced level with 40% scoring advanced, compared to a 30% state-wide average. The 8th grade students made significant gains in ELA, improving to 79% proficient or advanced. The 7th grade Student Growth Percentile (SGP) in math was a remarkable 79 compared to a state median of 50.

The Mohawk MS-HS athletic program flourished during 2014 with 37 teams and 19 sports. 311 students participated in at least one sport (62% of the student population). 144 students participated in multiple sports (29% of the student population). The Mohawk MS-HS music program was also vibrant with 109 students participating (23% of the student population). The Mohawk MS-HS Theater Program continued to grow with 74 students (16% of the student population) performing three productions including the Wizard of Oz. Espousing a global view, Mohawk received its first international tuition-paying student from China in 2014.

Buckland-Shelburne Elementary School: Level 1

BSE did not just have a good year, the school had a great year! The cumulative progress and performance index (CPPI) for all students increased 11 points to 88. CPPI for high needs students increased 19 points to 92! BSE's ELA CPI improved 2.0 points to 90, and its math CPI improved 4.9 points to 83.3. Beyond this incredible growth, it is important to note that many best practices are being developed within BSE that are being shared with our other schools.

Sanderson Academy. Level 2

Sanderson remains a very high performing school. With a 2014 CPPI of 69, Sanderson is just 6 points shy of Level 1 classification. Sanderson's ELA CPI improved 6.8 points to an impressive 95, which is the highest among the elementary schools within the District. Sanderson's math CPI improved 2.3 points to 87.7, also the highest in the District. Sanderson's science CPI improved 8.0 points to 90.5, again the highest in the District.

Colrain Central School. Level 2

Colrain Central took a giant step in a positive direction with a solid 17-point improvement in CPPI. This improvement was led by significant gains in ELA. Colrain's ELA CPI improved 11.6 points to 83.8.

Heath Elementary School. Level 1

Heath Elementary achieved its second consecutive year of Level 1 classification with a strong CPPI of 94. Beyond the classroom, 95% of Heath students participated in one of the schools many enrichment programs.

MTRSD student achievement during 2014 reflected very well on our students and our educational team. Our District continued to develop and implement fundamental educator support systems that generated positive learning outcomes for our students. The MTRSD operated at the forefront of educational innovation including Professional Learning Communities (PLCs), Learning Walkthroughs and Expanded Learning Opportunities (ELO). While there is certainly more work to be done, we have much to be proud of! On behalf of our students, I thank our entire school community for your dedicated support of our children's education. THANK YOU!

Respectfully submitted,
Michael A. Buoniconti
Superintendent of Schools

**2014 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL
Hawlemont Regional School**

The Hawlemont Regional School, serving students in grades preschool through sixth grade, is the vital first stage of a child's education in the Mohawk Trail Regional School System. Hawlemont Regional School is a community of learners. We believe in the innate goodness of every child, and we recognize the right of each individual to grow in an atmosphere of caring, to love life and learning, to develop a sense of discipline and responsibility, and to interact creatively with their world. Within our small community we practice justice and promote an allegiance to the democratic values on which our nation was founded. We affirm the right of our students to the knowledge and skills which will enable them to take their place as productive members in the larger society of which we are part. We strive to provide a safe, secure, inviting, and positive environment to support the academic, social, emotional, and physical growth of our students. We are dedicated to provide a high quality education to every child.

Enrollment:

Our state reports, submitted October 1, 2014, registered the following number of students per grade:

PK:	25	Grade 2:	10	Grade: 5	11
K:	15	Grade 3:	13	Grade: 6	19
1:	10	Grade 4:	6		

School Choice:

As of October 1, 2014, the number of elementary aged children who reside in either Hawley or Charlemont who chose to attend a school other than Hawlemont (School Choice Out) totaled fifteen. The number of students who reside in neighboring towns who chose to be educated at Hawlemont (School Choice In) totaled thirteen.

Achievement:

Hawlemont 2014 MCAS scores:

Grade /Subject	%Advanced	%Proficient	%Needs Improvement	%Warning	# Students Tested
3/Reading					6
3/Math					6
4/English	0	36	45	18	11
4/Math	9	18	64	9	11
5/English	0	47	47	6	17
5/Math	6	44	44	6	18
5/Science and Tech/Eng	0	67	22	11	18
6/English	7	50	36	7	14
6/Math	7	21	43	29	14

* **NOTE:** Achievement level percentages are not calculated for groups with fewer than 10 students

Graduates:

It is a pleasure to announce the June 2015 Sixth Grade Graduates. The following students will leave Hawlemont and continue their education adventure:

Nicholas Alletson, Isaiah Bergmark, Courtney Churchill, Hayley Cunningham, Megan Gamache-Nehring, Lily Gibson, JulieAnn Hall, Kavan Merrill-Wood, Raymond Mossman, Emma Ovitt, Jaxon Palmer, Michael

Ramsdell Jr., Samuel Rancourt, Logan Ricko, Amelie Rowehl, Cody Ryder, Lydia Sargent, Abigail Sinistore, and Grace Ward.

Parent Teacher Organization (PTO):

The Hawlemont Parent Teacher Organization continues to be an important link to enrichment opportunities for our community. The PTO, which is chaired by Crystal Annear, has raised a significant amount of money. The thirty-ninth annual Hobby Horse Bazaar was extremely successful, well-attended, and a fun event. Once again, our PTO has made a commitment to offering an after school program. This year, the after school program has occurred on Wednesdays that are early release days for students. In addition, the PTO funds continue to support student scholarships, field trips, classroom materials, and student assemblies.

Local Education Council (LEC):

The Local Education Council meets regularly to discuss, create, and assess school goals, compiled into the School Improvement Plan. The following are the LEC members for the 2014-2015 school year: Julia Aron, Suzanne Crawford, Mary Boehmer, Evie Locke, Michelle Gajda, and Travis Yagodzinski. The goals included in the 2014-2015 School Improvement Plan are:

1. Effective Instruction: To develop a common understanding of the criteria for effective instruction
2. Student Assessment: To use assessment data to place students, monitor progress, and drive timely interventions as part of a system of Tiered Instruction
3. Tiered Instruction: To integrate Differentiated Instruction so students learn key concepts through core instruction and provide flexible tiers of instruction
4. Students' Social, Emotional, and Health Needs: To continue to provide a safe school environment, continue implementation of the social curriculum, and provide an innovative elementary education through hands-on, experiential learning that combines agriculture and community involvement with traditional curriculum

Reviewing and Looking Ahead:

This year, Hawlemont structured the weekly schedule in order to improve the implementation of our Tiered Instruction model. The schedule was created in a way that allowed for smaller intervention groups, which allows staff to provide more intensive instruction that best meets the needs of each

student. Through the use of data, students are placed in flexible groups in order to receive extra support, practice, and enrichment. The assessment data is collected within the classroom on a regular basis, through progress monitoring, and through school-wide assessments.

During this year, staff also continued to align the curriculum in order to ensure that students are learning the newly adopted Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks for English Language Arts and Mathematics.

In addition to learning about reading, writing, mathematics, science, and social studies, students also attend weekly specials. The specials are art, music, physical education, library, and HAY (Hawlemont, Agriculture & You).

During the spring of 2014, Hawlemont received grant funding to create the HAY program (Hawlemont, Agriculture & You). The mission of the HAY program is to provide an innovative elementary education through hands-on, experiential learning that combines agriculture and community involvement with traditional curriculum. During the past year, Hawlemont began planning ways to improve students' education through teaching the state curriculum through hands-on, experiential learning that is focused on agriculture. All students attend a weekly HAY special, participate in farm chores, and use produce grown in our gardens for projects in our newly created Agriculture Kitchen. Outside the building, we have a chicken coup, barn, greenhouse, and multiple gardens that teachers can use for different learning activities.

I appreciate all of the support I have received from the staff, students, parents, School Committee, Superintendent Buoniconti, and community. We are fortunate to have a very dedicated staff at Hawlemont. Please know that you are always welcome in our Hawlemont community.

Respectfully submitted,
Travis Yagodzinski,
Principal

2014 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL
Mohawk Trail Regional High School

Mohawk graduates returned to our school in many ways this past year. The commencement speaker for the Class of 2014 was Elizabeth McGowan (Class of 1979); in 2013 she and two of her colleagues at *InsideClimate News* were awarded the Pulitzer Prize for distinguished reporting on national affairs, and at the graduation ceremony she spoke about her journey from Mohawk into the world of environmental journalism. Nearly 400 alumni and guests gathered for the “10+2 Reunion” for Mohawk classes 1968 – 1979 on the weekend of August 30-31, reminiscing and reconnecting with classmates. Mohawk graduate Jesse Porter-Henry, Class of 1999, joined our faculty as Assistant Principal this year. He brings a focus on restorative justice approaches to school culture and discipline. More than a dozen recent graduates participated in a round-table discussion about the transition to college in late December, sharing their experiences with current students.

This year Mohawk began to welcome tuition-paying students from overseas, beginning with two students from China. During the summer our school hosted two groups of Chinese students for short sessions and we look forward to continuing to expand our international programming.

We’ve added several new course offerings this year, including Economics, Latin, and Horticulture and Sustainable Agriculture. Our music program continues to thrive, with high school students studying Music Theory, Strings, Rock Band, and Electronic Music, in addition to more traditional music offerings. The Mohawk Music Association provides generous support for our music programs. Over the course of the year students presented three major theatrical productions: the all-school musical “The Wizard of Oz” in March that also featured elementary school performers, the spring “Two Roads” production, and Shakespeare’s “A Midsummer Night’s Dream” in December.

Our athletic programs, with the generous support of the Mohawk Athletic Association, continue to provide students with diverse and enriching opportunities. During the fall season, more than 45% of our students were engaged in afterschool athletic programs. Mohawk student-athletes had a successful year: the girls alpine skiing team won their league, the girls track team won the Western Massachusetts championships, the boys track team won their league, and the girls cross-country team won their league,

finishing third at Western Massachusetts. Mohawk retained the Frontier/Mohawk football trophy for the second year in a row.

At the midpoint of the 2014-2015 school year, enrollment in grades 7-12 is 464. There are 69 students in the seventh grade and 94 students in the eighth grade. There are 73 students in the ninth grade, 60 in the tenth grade, 74 students in the junior class, and 88 students in the senior class. Six students are enrolled in our post-graduate program.

Respectfully submitted,
Lynn R. Dole
Principal



**2014 ANNUAL REPORT
SPECIAL EDUCATION AND PUPIL SERVICES**

The districts continue to support and provide students with an identified disability an Individual Education Plan (IEP) or a Section 504 Plan. An IEP provides direct service with accommodations and modifications. A 504 Plan provides accommodations that allow a student access to the general curriculum. The district continues to increase the use of Response to Intervention (RTI). This model enables schools to provide support to students based on regular assessment and data aimed at targeting more specific areas of concern or need. A student does not require an IEP or a 504 to benefit. Data has suggested that all students, especially those with an identified disability benefit from an RTI model.

Districts are required to support a Parent Advisory Committee (PAC). A PAC is an advisory committee to the Director of Special Education. Both Mohawk Trail Regional and Hawlemont Regional School Districts were cited for not having an active PAC. The Director of Pupil Services asked for and was granted a waiver to allow the two districts to form one PAC. Although we continue to solicit more members and support, there is currently an active group meeting monthly.

Differentiation is the practice of modifying and adapting instruction, materials, content, student projects and products, and assessment to meet the learning needs of individual students. Over the course of the year, we have provided professional development to regular and special education teachers on differentiation, on the Wednesday professional learning days. This method allows the districts to provide the least restrictive environment, as required by law, while at the same time providing the necessary supports to all students.

Respectfully submitted,
Leann Loomis
Director of Pupil Personnel Services

2014 ANNUAL REPORT
THE MARY LYON FOUNDATION, INC.
Innovative Support of Local Education

Mary Lyon said, "Take care of your reading, writing and singing."

Since 1990 the Mary Lyon Foundation has been providing innovative support for local education to the schools and communities in West County. We are grateful for the incredible generosity which makes it possible for us to not only sustain a myriad of programs and services, but expand and strengthen them. We especially appreciate the continuing financial support of the Myrtle Atkinson Foundation, Cleveland Dodge Foundation, The Recorder, Bristol Myers Squibb, the Harper Gerry family and the many other generous donors who provide support for local education.

The 9th annual community spelling bee held on November 13 raised over \$7,000 for the Mini-Grant program for innovative, educational grants for local schools. The Grand Champions this year were the Spelling Beans (Curtis Rich, David Henry and Erin Morrisey) sponsored by Shelburne Falls Coffee Roasters. The winners of the best dressed costume award were The Artful Spellers (Nancy Baker, Nina Coler, and Denny Baker) sponsored by the Shelburne Falls Arts Co-Op, and the Queen Bee sponsor of the event was the Greenfield Savings Bank. It is a tribute to strong community spirit that teams from private and public educational, religious, political and civic organizations come together for this unique fundraiser.

Our annual spring Lyonnaise, a celebration of excellence in local education, was held in May at the Shelburne-Buckland Community Center and featured a powerful presentation by the 2014 Massachusetts Teacher of the Year, Anne Marie Osheyack. A special tribute was paid to the very first Massachusetts Teacher of the Year, Roy Frude, who taught science at Arms Academy. John Sloan received the Pat Kerrins Career Award; Kevin Hollister was honored as the Outstanding Mohawk Graduate; Leslie and Ed Grinnell received the Jim Boulger Spirit of Adventure Award sponsored by The Textile Company, and Berkshire East was the Business Award recipient.

The Mary Lyon Foundation sponsors scholarships and a wide variety of projects, programs and services including, for example, an annual Gift Catalog or wish list of requested school supplies, a Children's Literature Festival in August for grades K-6 and the Harper Gerry Student Assistance

Fund which provides warm clothing, eyeglasses, food and other basic necessities for children.

The Board of Directors was Marion Taylor, Past President; Stefan Kostka, President; Hugh Knox, Vice President; Sharon Hudson, Corresponding Secretary; Suzanne Conway Lagreze, Recording Secretary; Karen Fairbrother, Treasurer, Beth Bandy, Larry Wells, Robin Morgan Huntley, Sylvia Orcutt, Susan Schuman and Amy Love. Gina Sieber is the Business Manager, and Bruce Willard, past president, is an Honorary Lifetime Member. We remain grateful to the school district for a classroom at the Buckland-Shelburne Elementary School where our office is located. Thank you also to the many generous donors and volunteers who continue to help us make a positive difference for local education initiatives.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Samoriski, Ed.D.
Executive Director

2014 ANNUAL REPORT CARL H. NILMAN SCHOLARSHIP FUND

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

This year the Awards subcommittee read 70 applications, 30 were from seniors and 40 were from previous graduates of Mohawk. \$33,300.00 was using 30% for seniors and 70% for graduates. The Committee feels that seniors have multiple scholarship opportunities from other sources while graduates have far fewer resources. 25 scholarships totaling \$9,800.00 were awarded to seniors (84% of applicants). 38 scholarships totaling \$23,500.00 were given to graduates (95% of applicants).

From 1991 -2014 a total of \$843,425.00 has been awarded in scholarships. Mohawk seniors have received \$260,375.00 and \$583,050 has been awarded to Mohawk graduates.

The application is once again available on line to the graduates. Seniors can pick their applications up at Mohawk.

There are 15 members on the Carl H. Nilman Scholarship Committee. One from each of the nine member towns in the district, three at large members appointed by the School Committee, plus a past School Committee member, current School Committee member and the chairman of the School Committee. Membership is Sheila Graves (Ashfield), Marion Scott (Buckland), Marge Porrovecchio (Charlemont), Michelle Hillman (Colrain), Jonathan Diamond (Heath), Alice Parker (Hawley), Allen Irvine (Plainfield), Marion Taylor (Shelburne) and Rowe (open).

Officers are Marge Porrovecchio and Robin Hartnett, Co-Chair and Marion Scott, Secretary. Subcommittees: Finance, Marion Taylor, Robin Hartnett, David Engle/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. Call the Guidance Office at Mohawk for information regarding requirements and deadlines.

Respectfully submitted,
Marion E. Scott,
Secretary